

County Pocket



A petition drive aims to 'Save the Deli,' which is in a dispute over its lease. **Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star**

Threatened end of Seaside Deli sparks anger, sorrow

By Joe Capozzi

The Seaside Deli & Market, the beloved County Pocket staple with a loyal following of billionaires and beach bums, is facing an uncertain future because of a legal fight with its landlord, a company owned by retired major league baseball player Rafael Belliard.

As lawyers for both sides try to negotiate a resolution, community leaders have launched a campaign to "Save the Deli," as a banner erected across the front says. More than 650 signatures have been collected on a petition.

If the deli can't remain in its familiar spot at 4635 N. Ocean Blvd., just south of Briny Breezes, owner Randy McCormick said he's hoping

See DELI on page 11



Yasmany Palomino, Morgan Clark, Rocco Orlandella, Kevin Conrad, Kennedy Dryden and Gabe Pearson (l-r) work out and enjoy the dawn most mornings at South Beach Park in Boca Raton. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

Here comes *the sun*

Stories of finding inspiration along the shore, pages 20-21

By John Pacenti

It's a sight to behold. Before dawn, these sun worshipers can be spotted streaming down Boca Raton's Palmetto Park Road — on foot, bicycle and vehicle. Their destination? The gazebo that overlooks South Beach Park — one of the best spots in South Florida to watch Helios catch fire.

As Mars danced with the full moon to the west and the sandpipers played catch-me-if-

you-can with the high tide to the east, dozens of early risers congregated at the gazebo and down by the ocean on a recent December morning.

Some were first-time visitors, attending a conference in Boca Raton, taking in the majestic Atlantic — which despite mild breakers had a lone surfer cutting a silhouette in a postcard homage.

There also was a smattering of children there before classes, including 10-year-old Colin

See SUNRISE on page 21

Delray Beach

Final cut: Iconic Delray hair salon closes after 36 years

By Rich Pollack

Hazel Butler tried to keep back the tears as she talked about 16 years in the rearview mirror and the few remaining days left before she stopped collecting memories at Rex's Hairstyling, the iconic Delray Beach shop with roots stretching back to 1986.

It didn't work.

Instead, Butler's eyes watered as she stood planted next to the saloon-style doors separating

her booth from the handful of others in the shop and talked about the closing of a landmark that had become a second home.

"I always knew the lights would be on," she said. "Now, I'm leaving Delray and all that's connected to it."

Those lights that had been on for almost four decades went dark on Dec. 31, when owner Rex Thayer closed the doors of Rex's, a barbershop and hair salon that served both men and women and was headquartered

inside a small business complex on North Federal Highway.

"Delray is never going to be quite the same without Rex's," says longtime Delray Beach resident and businessman Fred Bonardi, who'd been getting his hair cut there every Friday for decades. "It's old Delray and we're going to dearly miss it."

To grasp why the shop's closing will leave a huge emptiness in the literal and figurative heart of Delray, you

See BARBER on page 29



Hazel Butler (right) gets emotional as she reminisces with longtime customer and friend Mike Gauger and her co-worker Billie Christ. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

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Coastal Stars



Joseph Hurtuk, right, owner of the Boardwalk Italian Ice & Creamery in Boynton Beach, teamed up with his friend and fellow pilot Dr. Ian Goldbaum of Ocean Ridge to fly supplies to Hurricane Ian victims on Florida's Gulf Coast. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

Editor's Note

Savor the diverse mix of South Florida

Most of us don't choose our neighbors. We come from all over with diverse heritage, different walks of life. The mashup of humanity is a base ingredient of the South Florida stew.

We love Italian restaurants, taco trucks, French bakeries, roadside barbecue, gyros, falafels, cracked conch, sweet potato pie. And the people who bring us these delicacies — and myriad others — sometimes become our friends. We break bread together, sip rum or espresso as the meal ends, share sweets before parting.

Strangers grow to know each other across a counter or table — relationships formed by nothing more than a simple, shared experience.

Inside this edition of *The Coastal Star* are several examples of strangers forging friendships out of a chance

encounter, a conversation, a helping hand.

It's challenging to start conversations with random people, but worth the effort. As these stories illustrate, the end result can lead to savory (or sweet) experiences, to unforeseen good deeds.

As the sun rises on 2023, we all might gain from finding more ease with strangers — even our neighbors! Ask questions. Make eye contact. Smile. At all times, keep in mind everyone's just doing the best they can with what they were given. Be kind.

Unexpected friendships add flavor to the mashup of South Florida. Savor them.

Happy New Year!



— Mary Kate Leming, Editor

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Two men with passion for flying join mission to help hurricane victims

By Ron Hayes

On the morning of Friday, Oct. 28, an Ocean Ridge podiatrist and the owner of a Boynton Beach ice cream shop set out together on a mission of mercy.

Neither ice cream nor feet were involved.

What Dr. Ian Goldbaum and his friend Joseph Hurtuk have in common is aviation.

Goldbaum, 65, who owns a Piper PA-28 Cherokee, earned his pilot's license in 2021. Hurtuk, 77, has been flying a Cessna 172 since 1996.

Two years ago Hurtuk had a little problem with his heel, which made them doctor and patient, but airplanes made them friends and, on that October morning, missionaries of mercy.

They flew out of the Lantana airport at 7 a.m. in Goldbaum's Cherokee and touched down again about 4 p.m.

In the hours between, they landed at the Plant City airport in Hillsborough County, loaded the plane with paper towels and toilet paper, mac 'n' cheese and ramen noodles, and took off for Fort Myers.

Their work was not the only aerial mission to survivors of Hurricane Ian that day.

Goldbaum had learned on a YouTube channel about a project called Jimmy's World, popular with Florida aviators. Money was being collected to buy supplies at Costco and pilots were needed to fly the supplies from Plant City to Fort Myers.

Hurricane Ian was the bad Ian, Goldbaum thought. I'm going to be the good Ian.

He called his friend.

"Hey, Joe, are you making ice cream on Friday, Oct. 28?"

Different paths

The journeys that brought Goldbaum and Hurtuk to that day's journey couldn't have been more different.

NOMINATE SOMEONE TO BE A COASTAL STAR

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Raised in suburban Detroit, Goldbaum has practiced podiatry in Delray Beach for 37 years.

"My family owned a couple of hospitals in Michigan, so I knew I was going to go into medicine," he says, "but I didn't know what branch. Then one day when I was a student at Michigan State I went to visit a roommate's father's office. He was a podiatrist and that settled it.

"I became a doctor because I wanted to help people. I felt it was a calling."

Joe Hurtuk's work history did not scream ice cream.

He had been a fireman in the U.S. Air Force, a police captain at the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, and the chief of police operations for the Metro Washington D.C. Airport Authority, where in 1992 he created the Dulles Day Plane Pull.

Teams of 25 pay \$2,000 to take turns pulling an 82-ton plane 12 feet. Fastest time wins and the money goes to the Special Olympics.

In 2015, Hurtuk retired as the chief of regulatory compliance for the Department of Homeland Security at Palm Beach International Airport. And wondered what to do next.

"I decided I wanted to either run a car wash or open an ice cream shop," he says, "and I thought, are you ever really happy after a car wash?"

He leased a building at 209 N. Federal Highway and opened the Boardwalk Italian Ice & Creamery, the name inspired by childhood memories of ice cream treats on the Jersey shore. "Everybody told us we

weren't going to make it," recalls Hurtuk, who lives in Delray Beach.

Seven years later the shop offers about 150 flavors — not all at once — and boasts a 4.6 rating on Google reviews.

Serving survivors

Now the two friends would leave podiatry and ice cream behind for a day to serve survivors of the late-September hurricane instead.

They arrived in Plant City as one of 11 planes ready to load the \$50,000 in supplies Jimmy's World had collected.

"We took out the backseats and filled the plane," Goldbaum said. But they never made it to Fort Myers.

"All the planes were diverted to Punta Gorda," Hurtuk explained. "We never learned why, but I assume the Fort Myers airport was either damaged or too busy to accommodate us."

In Punta Gorda, they unloaded the supplies, had the plane refueled, and headed back to Lantana with Hurtuk at the controls.

Goldbaum was looking out his window.

"My fuel cap's not on tight," he announced.

Now, rather than fly directly toward Lantana, they altered their flight plan to stay near the LaBelle, Clewiston, Pahokee and Belle Glade airports, just in case.

The Piper Cherokee landed safely at the end of a mission that had lasted only nine hours, but now Goldbaum and Hurtuk were carrying a memory that would last the rest of their lives.

"You know," Goldbaum said, "I lost eight personal friends to COVID. You realize tomorrow's not guaranteed to anybody. So, you look back and ask what is it you accomplished in life. If you were fortunate enough to help others and didn't — well shame on you." ★

Local Voices

Statewide development code needed to reduce storm surge threat

Florida has a history of learning from damaging storms and adopting effective reforms

By John L. Renne

If history is a guide, Floridians will digest and respond to the lessons from Hurricanes Ian and Nicole, thus becoming more resilient.

Such was the case after the Great Miami Hurricane of 1926 and the Okeechobee hurricane in 1928, when an earthen dike around the lake collapsed and killed 2,500 people.

Then, the Florida Legislature created a flood control district to work with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to build new infrastructure, including floodway channels, control gates and the Herbert Hoover Dike around Lake Okeechobee.

In 1992, Hurricane Andrew devastated Homestead. In response, Florida adopted recommendations from the American Society of Civil Engineers related to wind ratings.

Florida was a leader in adopting these new building codes and has since been a model to other states in hurricane-prone areas.



Hurricane Ian was one of the top 10 most powerful storms to hit Florida and it caused significant damage from wind, storm surge and flooding.

Over the past five years, Hurricanes Irma and Michael punished our coasts with powerful winds and deadly storm surges. Hurricane Dorian would have been catastrophic to Florida, but the Category 5 storm turned north at the last moment, instead ravaging the Bahamas.

With the increasing frequency of major hurricanes, the state needs to develop a coastal resilience policy that is applied uniformly statewide to address storm surge zones.

This new policy should not be complex and must engage local municipalities. Cities, towns and counties should be required to engage with the public in developing and maintaining coastal resilience plans to minimize the effects of storm surges.

These plans should include flood control responses and development regulations to

ensure that zoning codes do not permit new construction unless the neighborhood is protected and ground-floor elevations are above maximum storm-surge levels.

They should include new infrastructure to harden flood-prone areas. The strategies should feature effective nature-based solutions — such as creating new barrier islands in strategic locations and restoring mangroves — and the building of sea walls and floodgates. These investments should also enhance the quality of life and recreational opportunities.

A coordinated and standard approach among local, state and federal agencies would not just protect and save lives and property, but also would begin to address the longer-term existential threat posed by climate change and sea-level rise.

The benefits of a coordinated response far outweigh a piecemeal approach from each local government. For example, the insurance industry, which has been in a crisis in Florida, should have a seat at the table along with real estate developers and financiers.

The development and insurance industries and

local governments have a vested stake in solving this problem. Reforms are needed to reduce insurance rates for homeowners.

Florida's real estate industry historically has followed a boom-bust cycle. Rapid inflation, an economic recession and major hurricanes could spawn a bust, especially if the state becomes uninsurable because of the persistent threats of significant storms and flooding.

As Floridians recover from Ian and Nicole this past fall, billions will be spent on recovery and restoration. It is vital to remember that the damage today was mitigated based on the flood control and building code improvements from past hurricanes.

Enhancing coastal development protection and resilience in the 2020s can

again set Florida apart as a leader for a nation that will face more and more natural disasters in the years ahead.

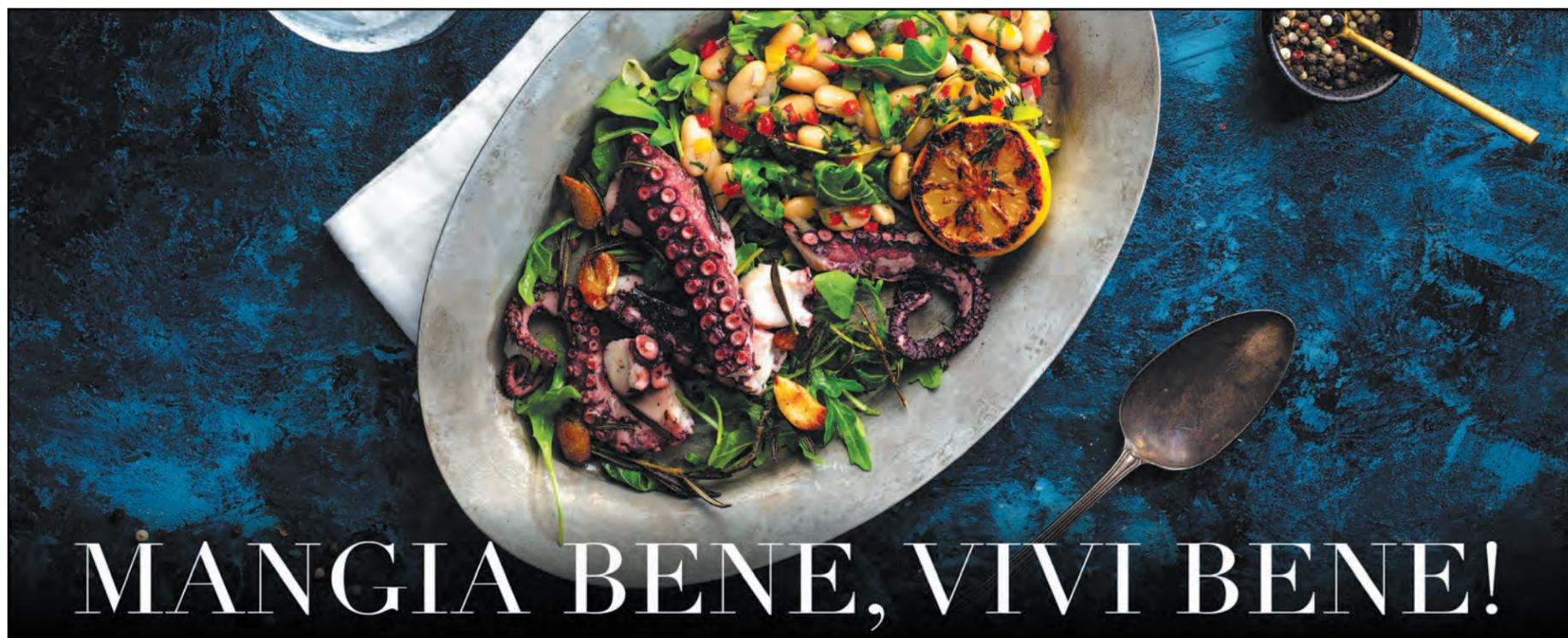
John L. Renne, Ph.D. is a professor of urban and regional planning and director of the Center for Urban and Environmental Solutions at Florida Atlantic University. He is the author of several books on resilience.



The opinions expressed here represent those of the individual author and not necessarily those of Florida Atlantic University.

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Along the Coast

Brightline christens new Boca station on schedule

By Mary Hladky

On Dec. 6, the promised end-of-year opening of Brightline's Boca Raton station looked like a deadline certain to be missed.

Construction workers were hard at work on both the station and parking garage, whose interiors were works in progress. Heavy equipment was in constant motion. Paved walkways had yet to be installed. The station sign was on the ground, wrapped in plastic.

But just two short weeks later, the \$56.2 million complex was largely completed and ready to accommodate passengers.

"How about a brand-new station for the holidays?" Brightline President Patrick Goddard asked a cheering crowd at a station ribbon-cutting ceremony on Dec. 20, one day before the long-awaited rail service began.

City, county and state officials gathered for the event were thrilled that the station is now a reality, three years after City Council members approved a deal that allowed the station and garage to be built on 1.8 acres of city-owned land and one year after construction began.

"This is a historic moment for Boca Raton," said Mayor Scott Singer. "We are going to



The station opened Dec. 21 as Boca Raton buyers led a surge in ticket demand. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

be seeing the benefits of this for decades."

Connection to a modern rail line running from Miami to West Palm Beach, and then to Orlando in 2023, will help local businesses attract employees and will bring visitors to the city's cultural institutions and restaurants, Singer said.

Early signs point to strong local interest, Goddard said.

When Brightline announced the station's opening on Dec. 15, "our website saw the most traffic we have ever seen," he said. "The majority of that interest was in the Boca station."

Seventy percent of advance bookings through the end of December were from Boca residents, he said. "We are very optimistic about this

system being of service to this community."

Troy McLellan, president and CEO of the Greater Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce, is among Brightline enthusiasts.

"It is a huge moment for us, for sure," he said. "It gives the ability for employees ... to get to their workplace without having to get on I-95. It provides accessibility to a broader and larger workforce."

In launching the service, Brightline is offering one-way tickets starting at \$10 through January. A round-trip to and from Fort Lauderdale or West Palm Beach costs riders a total of \$20, and a round trip to Miami costs \$25.

The daily parking rate for the 455-space garage is \$7 for riders

who purchase parking with their train ticket. Parking for those who do not purchase in advance, or who don't intend to ride the train, is \$6 for one hour up to \$15 for three to 24 hours. The station includes electric vehicle chargers. Dedicated parking spaces for patrons of the adjacent Downtown Library are free of charge.

A new station in Aventura also was scheduled to open on Dec. 21 but was delayed until Dec. 24 while construction inspections were finalized. Brightline now has five South Florida stations. No more will be added, Goddard said, and his company is now focused on rail service to Orlando, a project that is 88% completed.

Peter Ricci, director of Florida Atlantic University's Hospitality and Tourism Management program, said it is logical that Brightline built stations in Boca and Aventura.

"They were chosen, in my opinion, very strategically and make sense," he said. The Aventura station is near the Aventura Mall, with high-quality shopping and nearby first-class hotels. Similarly, Boca has the Town Center mall and The Boca Raton and Waterstone resorts.

The Boca station is located at 101 NW Fourth St., immediately east of the

Downtown Library — a four-block walk to Mizner Park. To make that walk more inviting and pedestrian-friendly, the city spent \$3.9 million on improvements along Northwest First Avenue and Second Street, including shade and palm trees.

For those who want to skip the walk, Brightline is offering two on-demand Brightline+ electric golf carts to transport people to the downtown.

At 22,000 square feet, the Boca station is Brightline's smallest. The Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach stations are 60,000 square feet, and Aventura's is 34,000 square feet.

Yet the Boca station offers the same amenities as the other stations, including free high-speed Wi-Fi and separate lounges for regular and premium-ticket riders.

The main difference is that the Boca station is on one floor, so riders need not go up an escalator or elevator to the lounges and then back down to board the train.

Trains will run more frequently during peak-travel morning and evening hours, generally once every half-hour or hour. At other times and on weekends, the trains will run about every other hour. ★

Schedule information is at www.gobrightline.com.

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Ocean Ridge

Police officers will start EMT training this month

By Joe Capozzi

Ocean Ridge's finest are about to take on another critical public-safety role.

The town's Police Department in January will start training its officers to be certified emergency medical technicians, under a \$50,000 pilot program paid for by the Starbright Civic Collective, an Ocean Ridge nonprofit.

"This brings us back to a place where the officers we have can do mostly everything. They literally save our lives day in and day out," Commissioner Geoff Pugh said before the Town Commission unanimously approved the program Dec. 5.

"This enhances our level of service tenfold," he said. "That's what we as residents deserve."

Public EMT services are typically provided by fire rescue departments. Ocean Ridge, a barrier island community, receives fire rescue service under a nearly \$1.4 million contract with Boynton Beach Fire Rescue.

While no one at the Dec. 5 Town Commission meeting criticized Boynton Beach Fire Rescue, Ocean Ridge Police Chief Richard Jones said his officers are always first on scene to calls, usually arriving in two to three minutes. Fire rescue crews at times can take seven to 12 minutes to arrive at a call on the island, he said.

"That means we have the ability to influence the decision as to whether or not someone has the ability to survive until they reach a hospital. Those golden minutes, as we refer to them, are what we care most about," said Jones, whose department also provides police services to Briny Breezes.

"Those minutes are critically important to survival rates and we want to make sure our staff is properly trained to provide a service that we are able to provide."

The EMT program will start in January with the training of four of Ocean Ridge's 16 officers, roughly one officer per shift. (The department usually has 19 officers but three positions are vacant.) Since Jones said he and two other officers are already certified EMTs, seven officers would be certified in 2023.

Jones said it will cost about \$50,000 a year to train four officers in consultation with a physician under Florida Department of Health rules for EMT certification, including medical supplies for patrol cars.

While the Starbright Civic Collective will pay for the first year, it likely will be up to commissioners to decide whether to use town tax dollars to continue paying the training costs for more officers in future years.

"There is a need in our town — I believe strongly as a resident who has benefited



Members of the Starbright Civic Collective present the town with a check for \$48,000 to cover the first year of EMT training. From left are Pati Maguire, Stella Kolb, Jean Burling (behind Kolb), Carol Besler, Mary Ziegenfuss, Diane Rose, Police Chief Richard Jones, Janet Schijns, Betty Bingham and Carolyn Cassidy. *Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star*

from it — for our police officers to be trained as EMTs so they can respond in an emergency and help save the lives of our residents until the Boynton teams can arrive," said Janet Schijns, president of the Starbright Civic Collective, who presented Jones with a ceremonial check for \$48,000.

Commissioners, who applauded the nonprofit for paying for the first year, seemed open to the idea of paying for training in future years.

"Not only do our residents deserve this, but as we start to cross-pollinate with our other neighbors to the north and the south, there may be a benefit eventually that we could help provide these services for others for a fee and really strengthen everything we do. I know the folks in Briny are extremely excited about this," Vice Mayor Kristine de Haseth said.

Although there are likely many police officers around Palm Beach County who are certified EMTs, Jones said he believes Ocean Ridge will be the first police department with a dedicated program.

"I think there is value in us providing our residents

with service that they can't get anywhere else," said Jones, whose department has a \$3.464 million budget. "That makes our community stand out from the communities around us as we move forward in the future."

Town manager search

Town commissioners expect to interview at least five finalists for the town manager's position on Jan. 31. On Dec. 5, they agreed to allow Colin Baenziger, their \$29,500 search consultant, to determine the finalists.

Commissioners want the new town manager to start no later than Feb. 20. The new hire would replace Tracey Stevens, who resigned Sept. 11 to accept the manager's job in Haverhill. Lynne Ladner has been serving as interim town manager.

Digitizing records

Commissioners will spend \$97,148 to scan and digitize hundreds of thousands of pages of town records that are currently occupying two rooms at Town Hall.

"We're pretty Flintstones right now and we're getting an electric car," Commissioner

Steve Coz said before the commission approved a digitization contract with MCCi, a Tallahassee-based digital recording firm.

The documents include

ordinances, resolutions and meeting minutes, but the majority are site plans, development proposals, permits and other Building Department records. ★

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Ocean Ridge

Beach access debate: Do signs like this violate the law?

By Joe Capozzi

The on-again, off-again issue of public beach access came up again at a Town Commission meeting last month when residents complained about “No Trespassing” signs outside an Ocean Ridge condominium complex.

At issue are signs east of the Turtle Beach of Ocean Ridge, a 26-unit condominium community along Old Ocean Boulevard bordered by Hersey Drive on the north and Tropical Drive on the south.

“It really communicates to everyone that you can’t cross the line going south into Turtle Beach,” James Connolly of Hersey Drive told commissioners.

The condo says it has ownership rights that extend to the beach’s mean high water line, generally the area of wet sand at the water’s edge. Florida law allows public access to the beach between the waterline and the erosion control line, an area generally near high tide.

At town meetings beachgoers have often complained of a proliferation of signs all along the beach in Ocean Ridge. And of special concern, they say some of the Turtle Beach signs are posted in the waterline and infringe on the rights of residents who live just north and south of the condo.

The signs at Turtle Beach face east and west with arrows pointing in both directions, which gives beachgoers like Connolly and others the impression that “no trespassing” applies to the entire beach.

“I don’t believe these signs are legal,” said Debbie Cook of Tropical Drive. “They are creating a compound, setting their boundaries and using my tax dollars to monitor their property.”

Some signs are so close to



Signs on the north and south ends of the Turtle Beach condominiums may give the impression that the complex’s private property extends both east and west of the signs, because of the arrows. Police typically define private property to be landward of ‘mean high tide,’ which on this day would have been left of this sign. *Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star*

the water that they’re often washed out to sea, where they pose a danger to swimmers and marine life, Connolly said.

“They are unnecessary and they’re unsightly and they’re unneighborly,” he said. “It creates kind of an aggressive hostile environment on the beach when people like to go down to the beach and chill.”

But not everyone goes to the beach to chill, which is why the signs went up in the first place, said Mark Feinstein, president of the Turtle Beach of Ocean Ridge Condominium Association.

“I’ve been living here since 2016 and I can tell you from personal experience we’ve had a number of problems” with beachgoers “becoming drunk and disorderly on the beach, causing problems with our residents, playing loud music or being otherwise obnoxious and not allowing us to enjoy our own beach,” he said in an interview.

“Nobody wants signs,” he said, “but when people don’t

respect property rights, what are you going to do?”

The association applied for and received a town permit for four signs, which were posted on the condo’s part of the beach. The signs don’t prohibit the public from “using the wet sand to go north and south,” Feinstein said.

“Just because your sand gets wet doesn’t mean that that’s the mean high tide water mark. The actual mark is much further east. We don’t have an issue with that. We haven’t stopped anybody from traversing across wet sand in water. It’s the people who think they can camp here.”

Other residents, though, claim they’ve seen as many as six signs outside Turtle Beach, including some in public access areas.

“My wife sent me a picture and the thing looks like it’s halfway into the ocean,” Commissioner Geoff Pugh said at the Dec. 5 meeting, adding that it’s “the second or third time these signs have showed

up in the same spot.”

He asked the town attorney if Ocean Ridge officials can remove the ill-placed signs.

“The town can remove signs from right of ways,” Pugh said. “What is the legality of the town removing a sign as egregious as one that’s eastward of the high mean waterline?”

The answer isn’t so simple, said Town Attorney Christy Goddeau.

“There’s a bundle of property rights in beach property, so trying to balance those property interests is always a struggle,” she said.

“The public trust doctrine gives the public the right to recreate, to swim, to walk across that area. It doesn’t give them the right to permanently camp there. ... There are competing property interests.”

Pugh said his main concerns are the location of the signs and whether that sets a precedent for “every other property owner up and down the beach to start putting signs all the way into the beach.”

Goddeau recommended town officials take a first step by reviewing Turtle Beach’s sign permit to make sure the association is in compliance and to see if the permit dictates exactly where the signs can be placed.

“Then, if the direction of the commission is to do more about it, to update your sign code, we can certainly pursue that,” she said.

Feinstein, who did not attend the Dec. 5 meeting, said he had not been contacted by town officials as of Dec. 14.

He said some signs, which cost \$300 each, have been removed by beachgoers.

Part of the problem, he said, is the “transient” nature of some residents who rent properties on Tropical Drive and beachgoers who come across the Woolbright Road bridge from the mainland.

“The other huge concern we have is there’s an apartment building going up over the bridge. One of their advertising brochures says, ‘Walk to the beach,’” Feinstein said.

“We are waiting for the onslaught when those apartments become occupied. It’s going to get a lot worse.”

Feinstein also said he thinks the complaints are politically motivated attacks against Mayor Susan Hurlburt, a Turtle Beach resident who is up for reelection in March.

Hurlburt, who did not participate in the sign debate at the Dec. 5 meeting, referred questions to Feinstein.

“I have always worked diligently at separating any and all of my private interests from town business,” she said in a statement to *The Coastal Star*.

“I absolutely avoid all involvement in my official capacity with the town that may give even the perception of wandering into self-interest.

“But as I am a resident of Turtle Beach, and with an election forthcoming, I have therefore become the point of negative focus for the beach sign issue.” ★



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DELI

Continued from page 1

to move it to a new space nearby instead of closing for good and putting his nine employees out of work.

"There is a chance we can negotiate the lease that will permit Seaside Deli to remain in the space," said Carl T. Williams, who until late December was McCormick's attorney. "We'd like to work with the landlord to the extent we can and try to find a solution that's good for everybody."

Accusations have been flying from both sides for more than a year. But Belliard's Ocean Blvd 14 LLC scored a victory Dec. 22 when Palm Beach County Circuit Judge Paige Gillman issued a written ruling giving the landlord possession of the space. The judge sided with the landlord's claim that Seaside Deli hadn't paid \$40,279 in back rent, in violation of an October court order.



McCormick

Although business at the Seaside Deli has been especially brisk in the two weeks since word got out about the deli's future,

McCormick said he wouldn't be surprised if the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office ordered the locks changed as early as the first week in January.

Despite Gillman's ruling, Williams and McCormick insist the landlord's claims are not true. Seaside Deli tried to make its monthly payments in 2022, they said, but Belliard family members and their attorney would not accept the money.

"We have never not paid our rent. My (lease) renewal would have started in March 2022," McCormick said. "I made that payment directly into their account. The next month, when I tried to deposit the rent, I was told that they closed their account. From that point on, I sent the rent every month certified mail, and they refused delivery every month, and I have those receipts."

Williams and McCormick believe the Belliards have refused to accept the money because they are trying to sell the building. McCormick said he spoke a year and a half ago to two potential buyers from Gulf Stream who discussed with him the possible terms of a new lease.

One of the potential buyers, who did not want to be identified or quoted, confirmed that he and some partners at one point spoke to the Belliards about buying the site and spoke to McCormick about a potential lease.

It's unclear whether there were formal negotiations.

'Beach bums to billionaires'

Leonora Belliard, who is Rafael's wife and handles Ocean Blvd 14's business affairs, did not return a phone call from *The Coastal Star*. "I have no



ABOVE: The drive to 'Save the Deli' began after a judge's ruling last month favored the landlord in the dispute over the lease. **LEFT:** Longtime store manager Chelsea Steen works the counter. **Photos by Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star**

knowledge at this moment," Ocean Blvd 14 attorney Joshua Pinsky said Dec. 20 when a reporter asked about the Belliards' plans for the property.

Rafael Belliard's eviction lawsuit, filed in July, was a counterclaim to a lawsuit filed in August 2021 by Seaside Deli. In that lawsuit, which is still open, Seaside Deli accused Ocean Blvd 14 of breaching the lease by trying to sell the property without giving McCormick the first right to negotiate a purchase, which is spelled out in the lease.

In a June 1 motion to dismiss, an attorney for Ocean Blvd 14 denied the claim, saying "there is no current contract or agreement to sell the subject property. ..."

The five-year lease expired March 31, but Seaside Deli has refused to vacate, Ocean Blvd 14 said in the July filing.

Meanwhile, word of the judge's ruling has sent shock waves around the County Pocket, where Seaside Deli is considered not only a neighborhood asset but one of the few remnants of Old Florida along State Road A1A in Palm Beach County.

Loyal customers who have come by over the years for fresh deli sandwiches, imported beer or a loaf of bread range from hockey great Mario Lemieux and singer Jimmy Buffett to landscape workers and surfers.

Just the other day, actor-comedian Kevin James popped in to pick up one of the deli's famous subs. And old-timers still remember the day New York Yankees star Derek Jeter and his then-girlfriend, singer

Mariah Carey, stopped in for snacks on their way to the beach.

"We get beach bums to billionaires. To me they're all the same. They're just good people," McCormick said.

The deli has been so popular, local Realtors over the years have included it in MLS listings as an amenity, a mom-and-pop alternative to having to cross the bridge to get to a Publix before the supermarket chain opened a store in Manalapan.

The deli extends accounts for local businesses, allowing their workers to pick up ice, drinks and food. For a while, it delivered lunch sandwiches for students at the private Gulf Stream School.

"It's become part of the fabric of the community," said Richie Podvesker, whose father, Fred, owned the deli and building since 1993 before selling it to the Belliards in 2014 for \$460,000.

"My dad put his all into it just as I put my heart and soul into it for more than 20 years, seven days a week," he said. "I just want to see it succeed."

An attraction for developers

Born in the Dominican Republic, Belliard played second base and shortstop from 1982 to 1998, the first nine years with the Pittsburgh Pirates and the last eight with the Atlanta Braves. He won a World Series ring with the 1995 Braves.

With Kevin Belliard, Rafael's son, at the helm, the Belliards ran the store for three years before selling it to McCormick in 2017 and retaining the building.

In 2019, both the Belliards'

company and Seaside Deli were sued in federal court for purportedly violating the Americans With Disabilities Act over a lack of handicapped parking and other issues.

A confidential settlement was reached, according to court records. But McCormick, in the lawsuit he filed against Ocean Blvd 14 in August 2021 in Palm Beach County Circuit Court, claimed the Belliards were in breach of the lease because they were responsible for the ADA improvements.

The Belliards have had three different offers for the building, according to County Pocket insiders, a claim *The Coastal Star* could not confirm.

If no resolution can be reached, many longtime residents are worried about the future of the pocket's Old Florida character.

"It's going to be a big loss for the community," said McCormick, who spoke in a tone of defeat. "When they tear this down and start developing it, it's going to change the whole face of this area. In 10 years you won't recognize this area."

If the Belliards do plan to sell, others don't blame them for wanting to cash in on land that has appreciated with the real estate boom. But for many

locals, the mere possibility of the Seaside Deli closing is the biggest scare since the mobile-home community of Briny Breezes was nearly sold to a developer in 2007.

"There are so many people moving to South Florida from up North who have large sums of money," said the attorney Williams, who grew up in Delray Beach. "They see property and the potential for development and just tear it down or develop it in a way that they see fit, and unfortunately it can destroy the character of a neighborhood or a community that have been in place for decades or longer."

Word of the deli's uncertain future did not reach a wide audience after the judge's oral ruling on Dec. 14, but a week later a full-blown awareness campaign started. A "Save the Seaside Deli" petition was posted next to the cash register and the banner was erected outside, visible to A1A passersby.

Other local merchants, such as Nomad Surf Shop, Surfside Orthopedics & Primary Care and the Texaco gas station, have set up petitions.

"So many people, from Manalapan all the way down to Delray, are committed to this place," said Kristine de Haseth, Ocean Ridge vice mayor and executive director for the Florida Coalition for Preservation, which is coordinating the petition drive and collecting signatures.

"They truly are a community asset. We are going to try to help them and see if we can buy them some time."

One regular said he'd gladly sign the petition.

"I am shocked" at the possibility the deli will close, Dan Funsch said after pulling up in his white Rolls-Royce to get an Italian sub.

"Very upsetting, very upsetting. You see so many neighbors here. Constantly. I think a lot of people are going to be very, very upset." ★

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Gulf Stream

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Fifth-graders Valentina Autiero and Emma Imperatore stand beside the new duck-crossing sign outside the Gulf Stream School that they designed and promoted. A second sign was installed in front of Town Hall. The persistent students asked town commissioners in March 2020 and again in May 2022 to create the warnings after a Muscovy duck was run over and killed near their school. Photo provided by Rachel S. O'Hara/Gulf Stream School

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Edward Allen gave the Town Commission no details on why he is leaving the job, but Mayor Scott Morgan called it a retirement and praised Allen's integrity. Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star

Gulf Stream

Police chief sets Jan. 31 departure from department he joined in 1988

By Steve Plunkett

Gulf Stream is losing its longest tenured employee, Police Chief Edward Allen, who has served on the town's police force since 1988.

"Effective Jan. 31 ... I will be leaving my position here as the police chief," he announced at the Town Commission's December meeting without offering details on why.

Mayor Scott Morgan labeled it a retirement.

"You have been with this town for many, many years — decades — and, at least as long as I've been on this commission, you have led what is really one of the finest police departments on the barrier island and, frankly, beyond that," Morgan said. "I want to say that you've brought honesty, integrity to your position. Now you've instilled that in your officers and have made them what is a very special police department to our very special town.

"I think I speak for everyone here in congratulating you," the mayor said of Allen's "well deserved" retirement after almost 35 years working for the

town, "thanking you for your many years of service."

Allen, 63, joined the Gulf Stream Police Department on June 10, 1988, when he was 29 years old. He was promoted to chief on Dec. 9, 2016, after his predecessor, Garrett Ward, resigned for health reasons.

Allen supervised a police captain, two sergeants and 10 officers.

He started his police career in 1981 in Boynton Beach, where he was born and raised, and moved to the Ocean Ridge police force in 1986.

For years he also served as Santa Claus at Ocean Ridge's holiday party. His father, Ed Sr., was chief of the Boynton Beach Fire Department.

Allen's departure is coming only four months after the Sept. 30 retirement of Town Clerk Rita Taylor, then Gulf Stream's second-longest tenured employee. Taylor worked for the town for 32 years and nine months.

In other business at the Dec. 9 meeting:

- Commissioners were told that a 25-foot live oak

tree would be planted outside Town Hall, replacing the green buttonwood tree blown over by Hurricane Ian-related wind in late September.

- Town Manager Greg Dunham reminded commissioners that construction is restricted but not prohibited in Gulf Stream for the six-month winter season, and there is a lengthy list of exemptions. "Every year ... around Dec. 1 the staff deals with construction exemption requests on a daily basis basically," he said, noting that two noisy projects were nearing completion.

- An informational session with a security camera industry representative was scheduled for the commission's Jan. 13 meeting. The subject: the possibility of getting live feeds of nonresidents driving into town from citizens' security cameras. Resident Beau Delafield, who twice has lost vehicles to thefts, and Civic Association President Curtiss Roach asked commissioners to investigate.

- A new guardhouse at Place Au Soleil was approved. ★

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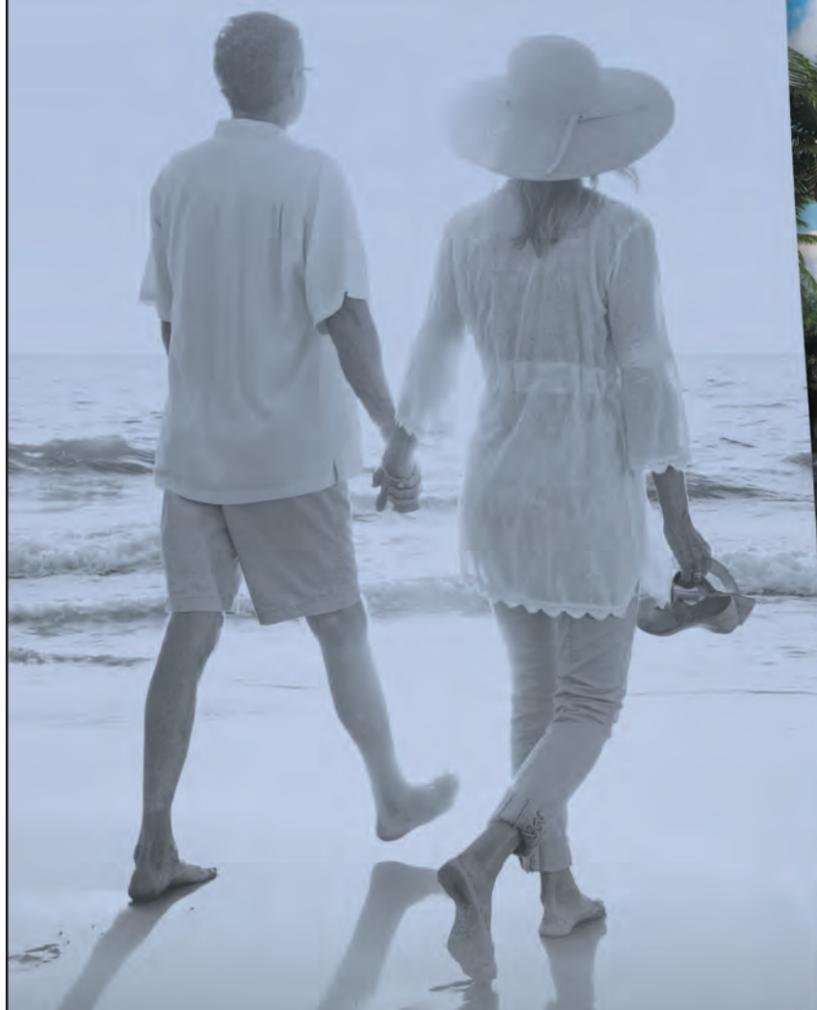


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Along the Coast

Scientific evidence leads to arrest in death of newborn found in Boynton Inlet

By Rich Pollack

For 4½ years, the identity of “Baby June” and the questions of how her tiny 2-day-old infant body ended up floating in the Boynton Inlet remained a mystery.

Despite relentless efforts by Palm Beach County Sheriff’s detectives searching for anyone who knew anything and tracking tip after tip to frustrating dead ends, there was little to go on.

Now thanks to the latest advances in DNA analysis technology using public databases, detectives have



Singh

the answers to questions that have long eluded them: A Boynton Beach woman — the mother of Baby June — is in custody on first-degree murder charges.

Last month, after an extensive investigation that included a covert DNA collection, sheriff’s detectives arrested 29-year-old Arya Singh and charged her with tossing the baby she had on May 30, 2018, into the ocean.

“There have been a lot of question marks about Baby June’s death and now we have an idea of what happened,” said lead detective Brittany Christoffel of the sheriff’s cold case unit. “It’s nice to have some answers.”

Christoffel said that the baby was a surprise to her mother and was thrown into the ocean shortly after she was born.

“She didn’t know she was pregnant up until the time she gave birth,” Christoffel said. “When the baby was born, she wasn’t sure if she was alive or dead, and that was that.

By the time the baby went into the inlet, she was already deceased.”

Ruled a homicide

However, the Palm Beach County Medical Examiner’s Office, according to court records, concluded that Baby June died of asphyxiation and ruled the death a homicide.

“Physical and toxicological findings support that infant was born alive and in a health care environment,” the medical examiner’s report said.

Investigators, according to published reports, believe that Baby June was born in a hotel room and discovered that Singh had searched online for hotels in the Boynton area eight times during a two-hour period the morning of May 30, the day the baby was born.

The infant was found by an off-duty Boynton Beach firefighter two days later, on June 1, and given the name Baby June by investigators.

Detectives believe that Singh acted alone and kept the birth of the baby and her actions in the aftermath a secret from most, including the baby’s father, a former boyfriend.

“She was fully responsible for the baby ending up in the Boynton Inlet,” Christoffel said.

Genetic testing technology gave detectives their first real break in the high-profile case.

Using forensic genetic genealogy — the same technology used to identify the Golden State Killer in California a few years ago — members of the sheriff’s forensic biology unit were able to identify relatives of the father.

Armed with the lead — gathered in part through a public database — detectives met with the father, who led

them to Singh.

“He knew nothing about the baby,” Christoffel said.

Building a case

Once the mother was identified and DNA evidence collected, investigators began building their case with search warrants that gave them access to Singh’s computer searches and GPS tracking information.

Court records show that detectives used Google location data to document her movements on the day the baby was born and discovered that she was at a lifeguard stand just south of the inlet shortly after 9:30 that night and stayed in the area until 10 p.m.

They also found that Singh had conducted numerous searches of news sites for about a month after Baby June was discovered.

In August, shortly after Singh was identified as a suspect, DNA found by undercover detectives on a discarded coffee cup confirmed that Singh was indeed the mother of Baby June.

Investigators did a subsequent DNA test and conducted several interviews to be certain of their findings before filing charges against Singh.

In court records, Christoffel said that the scientific evidence combined with information from the searches made it possible for her to conclude Singh was responsible for the baby’s death.

That Singh remained silent while detectives conducted extensive searches for the mother of the baby, also helped her reach that conclusion.

“At no time has Arya Singh reported her child missing to law enforcement,” Christoffel wrote. ★

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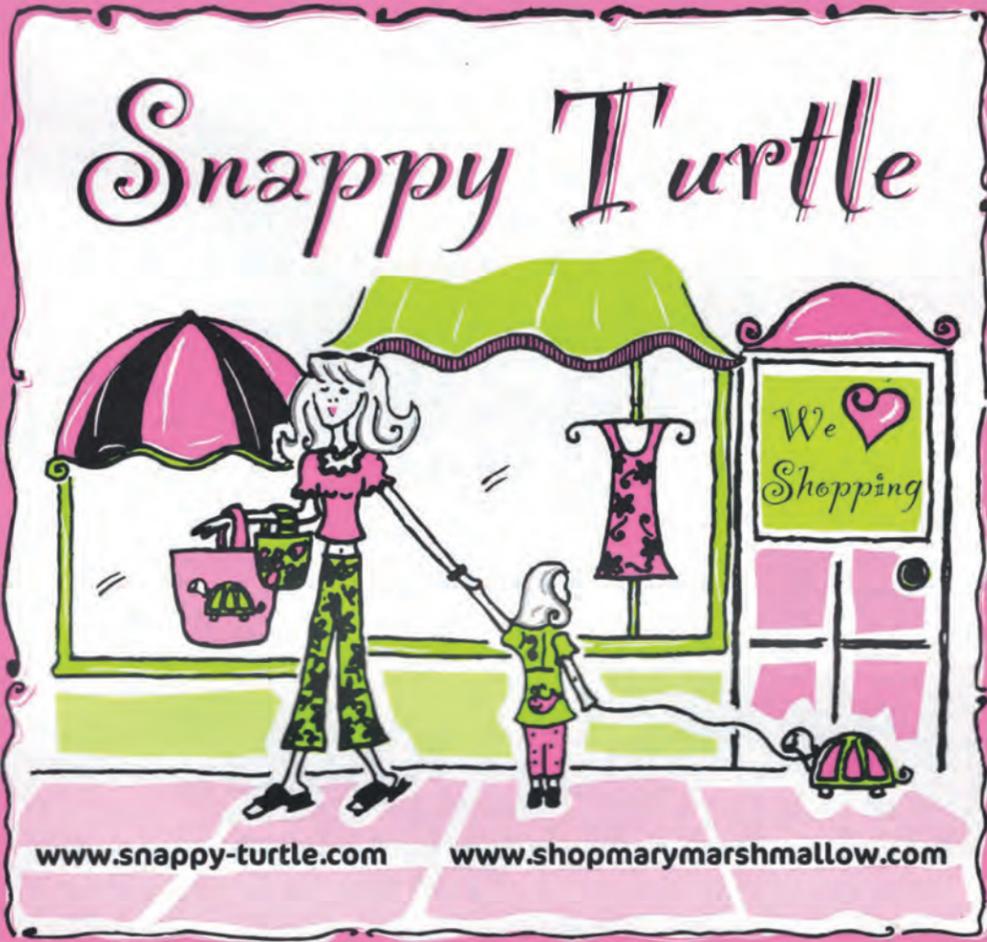
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Delray Beach

Parking changes coming for Veterans Park visitors

By Jane Smith

Parking for Veterans Park visitors likely will become less convenient as the massive Atlantic Crossing project next door prepares for a new phase of construction.

The Delray Beach park at the northwest corner of the Intracoastal Waterway and Atlantic Avenue may soon lose all parking spaces that sit adjacent to the Atlantic Crossing site to the west. Those spaces would instead be used as a construction staging area for the project's second phase on the Atlantic Plaza site if an agreement can be reached.

With a 3-2 consensus at its Dec. 6 meeting, the City Commission directed staff to continue negotiating with Edwards Companies, the owner of the 9-acre complex, about an interim parking plan. Commissioners will be able to review the plan after evaluation by a city advisory board, according to the city attorney.

The developer had suggested using an interim parking lot it owns on the north side of Northeast First Street, but that site was rejected by all commissioners. The street has been torn up for the past five years by heavy construction equipment traveling on it, making the lot problematic for park users, commissioners said.

"We would be mixing heavy equipment with pedestrians," said Mayor Shelly Petrolia, who, along with Deputy Vice Mayor Juli Casale, was not in favor of the new deal.

Another proposal, to create a new parking lot on the north side of the park, would mean the city may lose its shuffleboard and lawn bowling courts at the park.

Casale objected to that proposal, given the park's recent designation as a historic resource, saying it would take out historic buildings and replace them with a parking lot. She also did not approve of the request made by the developer to speed up construction at

Atlantic Crossing.

The project has nearly completed Phase I construction at the northeast corner of Northeast Sixth and Atlantic avenues, said Don DeVere, Edwards vice president. "We're not happy with the pace of construction. It's been far too slow," DeVere said.

Letting the needed heavy equipment use the western Veterans Park spaces would speed up the construction and allow two underground garages to be "dewatered at the same time," said Vince Testa, construction manager.

Vice Mayor Adam Frankel said Edwards has gone "above and beyond" what was required. He was in favor of working out an arrangement.

The Veterans Park shuffleboard courts have not been used in six years, said Sam Metott, the city's parks and recreation director. The lawn bowlers have a group of 25 to 30 people who use the courts seasonally, he said.

Staff could not say exactly how many parking spaces exist in Veterans Park or how many would be replaced by the proposed addition of parking spaces on the park's north side. Nearby residents estimated the park has 70 to 80 parking spaces.

Delray Yacht Cruises, which operates Intracoastal Waterway tours from the park aboard the *Lady Atlantic* and the *Lady Delray*, already advises its customers to use any available downtown parking facilities.

Amid the parking concerns, a monthly event at Veterans Park is being asked by the city to move to a new home because it has outgrown the park's footprint. The Coco Wellness Marketplace, held the first Sunday of the month, would prefer to stay.

"Veterans Park is the right location for us," Corey Heyman told commissioners during the public comment section of the meeting. "The shade from the trees and the breeze from the waterway" make it ideal.

She asked for more time to find a different location, saying a Jan. 1 expulsion was too soon, especially given that her group had a verbal agreement with the city to stay at Veterans Park through 2023. The commission agreed to allow the marketplace more time and to be at the park on the first Sundays of January and February.

Atlantic Crossing continues to draw criticism from the Marina Historic District across Atlantic Avenue from the massive project.

"It's not in the best interest of the city, its residents, its visitors or anybody else, but Atlantic Crossing," Sandy Zeller, a former historic district resident, said during the public comment portion of the commission meeting. ★



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Here Comes the Sun

Picture-perfect setting for couple to announce engagement

Christian McKeon didn't understand why his fiancée, Bianca LaParl, was waking him before sunup and telling him to get dressed and be ready to go out before the break of day.

Within 45 minutes, McKeon found himself on the beach in Delray next to LaParl, posing for engagement photos with a rising sun casting the backdrop.

"It had to be a surprise," said LaParl, explaining it had been almost exactly a year since the two had decided to tie the knot but still hadn't taken any quality engagement photos.

The timing also had to be perfect and luckily, they made it to the beach with just a few minutes to spare.

"The sunrise is about new beginnings," LaParl said. "This is about us taking a step in the right direction."

The idea for posing for the engagement photo on the beach came from Danielle Morien, LaParl's close friend and a photography hobbyist who has a love for capturing beautiful moments with a camera.

As she and LaParl were planning the engagement photo, Morien knew that it had to be taken as the sun was rising over the horizon and that it had to be by the ocean.

"Seeing the sunrise from the beach is one of the most beautiful scenes in the world," said Morien, who was born and raised in Delray Beach.

"The colors are never the same, they change every single day. Sometimes they are beautiful and vibrant, sometimes the sunrise is blocked with clouds, sometimes it is raining and



Bianca LaParl and Christian McKeon pose for photographer Danielle Morien at sunrise in Delray Beach.

sometimes you completely miss it because it rises so fast."

To Morien, sunrise is symbolic of life and the challenges that come with it.

"I thought this would be a perfect

start to their beautiful marriage," said Morien, who brought her 4-month-old daughter to the beach with her that morning so she too could see the sunrise. ★

**Stories by Rich Pollack
Photos by Tim Stepien/
The Coastal Star**

Posting sunrise photos is a daily ritual for 'Jeffflorida'



Greeting the sunrise, smartphone in hand, has evolved from a weekly to a daily ritual for Jeff Salviola.

Stroll along the beach in Delray before the sun comes up just about any morning and you're likely to see Jeff Salviola perched in his beach chair, just a few hundred yards south of Atlantic Avenue, anticipating another spectacular sunrise.

A frequent Sunday visitor to the beach for many years, Salviola started making everyday treks to the seashore soon after the start of the pandemic.

"Now it's a daily ritual," he says. "It's kind of a habit."

An early riser who has worked in the restaurant business for most of his adult life, Salviola says that watching

the sunrise is the perfect way to welcome a new day.

"I like the brightness and the colors that start the day," he says. "You get the feeling it's OK now and that it's going to be a good day."

For a few years now Salviola has been sharing the beauty he sees in the sunrise with others online, posting photos on Instagram under the moniker of Jeffflorida.

His photos can vary from ordinary to extraordinary.

"Every sunrise is different," he says, explaining that the formation and shifting of clouds add a bit of mystery.

Over his many days peering

out east over the Atlantic Ocean, Salviola has come to expect the unexpected.

"You always wonder, 'What's it going to be like today,'" he says.

While the sunrise is the magnet drawing him to the water's edge, Salviola says it's also the peacefulness that comes with being by the ocean and the wonders of nature that keep him coming back.

"I just like to sit and listen to the waves," he says, surveying the ocean and sky not long after watching a pod of dolphins glide through the water. ★

A first-time visit lifted her spirits

Fatima Steiner hadn't planned on spending her birthday on the beach in Delray waiting for the sun to rise.

Then the stars aligned and there she was, up to her ankles in seawater, her cellphone poised to catch a once-a-day magical moment.

"It was meant to be," she said.

A Brazilian by birth, Steiner has lived in Delray Beach for half a decade but had never ventured out to the beach at the crack of dawn to see the sunrise.

"I always see the sunsets but it's taken me five years to see the sunrise," she said.

It could have taken another couple of years if her husband's cardiologist hadn't scheduled an angioplasty for 6 a.m. that early December day.

Rather than go back home, Steiner chose to head to the beach and take in the blend of rising rays of sunlight with the gathering of clouds.

It was, she says, one way to take her mind off her worries about her husband's health, while at the same time, appreciate the connection between the sunrise and her birthday.

"The sunrise is the start

of a new day," she said. "My next year starts today with the sunrise."

Watching the rising sun was also a bit of a spiritual experience for Steiner.

"I'm here to thank God for one more year," she said.

Chances are she won't be waiting another five years — or for her husband to have another early morning doctor's visit — to be back on the beach waiting for the beginning of a new day.

"It's just so beautiful," she said. ★



'I'm here to thank God for one more year,' says Fatima Steiner.

Here Comes the Sun

'East Coast Sunrise Group' meets to greet dawn at Oceanfront Park

By Joe Capozzi

They call themselves the East Coast Sunrise Group, a self-explanatory name for a dozen or so strangers who've become fast friends because of a shared passion for watching sunrises at Boynton Beach's Oceanfront Park in Ocean Ridge.

"I'm the chairman of the board — because I provide the beach chairs," Tony Fierro, a Naples, Italy, native from Boynton Beach, said as he sat in the predawn darkness one December morning with Robert Claveau, a retired air traffic controller from Quebec City.

The others would be along soon — Jane, Rich, Ian, Nichole, to name a few. They'll grab a folded beach chair from the stack Fierro leaves on the boardwalk east of the parking lot, then make their way to the sand as the darkness over the ocean slowly gives way to light.

"We meet here every single morning. We never miss a day," Fierro said. "If it's raining, we meet at Starbucks."

It's been that way since about 2019, when Fierro showed up for sunrise one morning and befriended Rich Fitzgerald of Boynton Beach. The next day, they showed up again and met Jane Bartley.

Before long, other sunrise watchers were joining them, from nature-loving snowbirds to strangers battling personal demons.

They all exchange phone numbers and text each other in advance about weather conditions or if they won't be able to make it.

"We have grown together as a beach family and the sunrises have shaped me as a completely different person," said Nichole Angone, 36, a recovering addict who said she has been sober since she first met the group on the beach 2½ years ago.

"This group has really shaped me for who I am," she said. "To go and watch these sunrises



together has been so spiritual. It's like our church."

One morning before dawn a couple of years ago, the group saw Ian Levinson struggling in the darkness on two crutches. They took him in and gave him a chair. Now, he's a regular.

"It's the best way to start the morning. We enjoy the peace and quiet and beauty," said Levinson, 56, who said he suffered a spinal injury in a car accident the day after he graduated from high school in

southern California.

New members are always welcome. But fair warning to the ladies: Fierro can be a flirt.

"We start the day with a happy heart, meeting friends and watching the sunrise," Claveau said. "We all sit around gabbing, then at one point we all shut up and watch the sunrise."

He was right: The morning a reporter visited, the group was chatting away about the World Cup and the Miami

ABOVE: The East Coast Sunrise Group (clockwise) includes Jett Frieder and his golden doodle Romeo, Rich Fitzgerald, Ian Levinson, Jane Bartley, Tony Fierro, Margie Richards and Robert Claveau.

TOP RIGHT: 'Shellman' Ron Smaha and 'Bucket Boy' Brad Barnes. **Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

LEFT: Jane Bartley, Rich Fitzgerald, Nichole Angone and Tony Fierro (l-r) celebrate the sunrise on Sept. 24, the two-year anniversary of Angone's sobriety. **Photo provided**

Dolphins and the muffins Margie Richards just brought from Publix when suddenly a streak of orange burst over the horizon. The group, sitting in a half oval, went silent and took out their smartphones to capture the first glimmers of the day.

"It's like watching a painting that changes every minute. It's just spectacular and it's different every morning. And we bust each other's chops," said Fitzgerald.



"It's the best, cheapest entertainment you can get," he said. "The sunrises are breathtaking and it's great people-watching."

And they have nicknames for many of the people they watch — "Shellman," "Bucket Boy" and other beach walkers and joggers who may not formally sit with the group but will stop by for a minute every morning to pay their respects.

"Shellman" is 90-year-old Ron Smaha of Ocean Ridge, who strolls the shoreline at dawn in search of shells that his wife uses to make wreaths.

"Bucket Boy" is Brad Barnes of Boynton Beach, who said he takes a sunrise photo every morning so he can text it to a friend who is dying of cancer. When he arrives at Oceanfront Park, he grabs one of the plastic buckets provided by the Beach Bucket Foundation and collects trash along the shoreline.

"Those guys are a hoot," Barnes said about the East Coast Sunrise Group. "They even have a gang sign."

He demonstrates by sliding the three middle fingers (the rising sun) of his right hand up the side of his horizontal left palm (the ocean horizon).

Once the sun has risen, they say their goodbyes and go their separate ways to jobs and families and commitments.

Until tomorrow morning. "It's a breath of fresh air," said Jett Frieder, who brings Romeo, his golden doodle. He laughed and said the sunrises offer another big perk: "Nothing bad happens this early in the morning." ★



Meghan Nesom and her son, Colin, watch the sunrise from South Beach Park in Boca Raton. They stopped as Meghan drove Colin to school. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

SUNRISE

Continued from page 1

Nesom, who was there with his mother, Meghan, at the water's edge. He was bidding time before heading to Alexander D. Henderson University School.

"My husband usually takes him to school but he's out of town. So I got to take him today and if I'm going to get up this early, it's going to be worth it," said Meghan, who held an SLR camera in her hand to get the perfect photo.

About 20 yards from mother and son were a group of seven fit Florida Atlantic University students and would-be entrepreneurs. They can be found at South Beach Park almost every morning, meeting the sunrise while doing their exercise routine of sprinting 1.2 miles and suffering through 120 pushups and 100 situps.

While not in class, these zoomers go door-to-door selling solar panel systems. But this morning ritual is all about manifestation and becoming one with nature.

"We pray and meditate and go into the water," said Morgan Clark, 18, who hails originally from Jacksonville. "I encourage everybody to envision exactly what they want in life, exactly where they want to be."

Clark is the de facto leader of this group and co-founder of Almanac Solar Power. He listed his dorm's address as the business address. There also was Rocco Orlandella, 20, from Boston — who hates getting up early but doesn't want to catch grief from the others.

Then there was Gabe Pearson, who is Clark's business partner, aged 19, and also from Jacksonville. Kevin Conrad was the old man of the group at 21,

hailing from River Vale, New Jersey.

Emil Epps, a 20-year-old from Jacksonville, insisted on being called Tarzan and ended up diving in the ocean while others worked out. Rounding out the dude contingent of the group was Yasmany Palomino, whose deets remained elusive during the group interview — which was akin to herding cats in the dark.

Kennedy Dryden, 19, was the lone female present this particular morning. The Portsmouth, Virginia, native says greeting the sunrise "creates mental clarity for me." And as the members of the group left the beach, they each took at least one piece of trash.

"We just enjoy spending time out here in beautiful, beautiful, gorgeous nature. I mean, it really makes our day for sure," Clark said. ★

Briny Breezes

Town welcomes possible Ocean Ridge patrols in adjacent townhome community

By Joe Capozzi

Briny Breezes officials are endorsing a possible plan by the Ocean Ridge Police Department to patrol a private townhouse community just outside the town limits.

Ocean Ridge is in negotiations to provide police services to Gulf Stream Views, a community of 14 townhomes that opened in 2022 just south of Briny Breezes Boulevard in the County Pocket.

Ocean Ridge officers already patrol Briny Breezes under a contract with the mobile-home community, which is immediately south of Ocean Ridge.

If the Gulf Stream Views deal can be reached, it would offer an increased police presence in Briny Breezes, Ocean Ridge

Police Chief Richard Jones told the Town Council on Dec. 8.

“Based on what they are asking from us and what we would be providing, it is definitely an enhancement to the security within Briny Breezes,” he said.

Jones said he has spoken with officials at Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office, which patrols the roughly 2-acre Gulf Stream Views site, and was told they would have no objections to turning it over to Ocean Ridge if an agreement can be reached.

“I think it’s a great idea,” said Briny Mayor Gene Adams.

Adams also voiced his endorsement in a conversation with Ocean Ridge Vice Mayor Kristine de Haseth.

“Not only does it benefit the townhomes, but it benefits by default folks in Briny and

also folks in the surf pocket. I think it is a wonderful idea,” de Haseth said.

At the Dec. 5 Ocean Ridge Town Commission meeting, when Jones first mentioned publicly that Gulf Stream Views wants to negotiate with Ocean Ridge, no explanation was offered for why the townhouse community is exploring a new police service option instead of just sticking with PBSO.

Maria Beckett, president of the Gulf Stream Views Homeowners Association, told commissioners the community initially had private security brought in by the developer, but the association didn’t retain the security firm for budget reasons.

Jones told *The Coastal Star* he believes the community wants more frequent patrols and quicker response times. “They just want to feel safer and have a faster response time in general.”

Beckett said the townhomes recently installed two license-plate recognition cameras which will benefit the south end of Briny Breezes.

Ocean Ridge Commissioner Geoff Pugh said he supports the plan “as long as it doesn’t affect the level of service the police provide to Ocean Ridge and Briny Breezes.”

“I know the sheriff wants to get rid of the County Pocket, so you never know what comes down the line,” Pugh said.

Jones, who plans to bring back a formal proposal to the Ocean Ridge Town Commission in early 2023, said the level of service his department provides to Ocean Ridge and Briny Breezes would not be affected.

“It’s definitely an enhancement to the security in Briny Breezes,” the chief said. “This is a partnership more than anything and it’s beneficial to all three communities.”

Praise for town manager

Town Manager William Thrasher wanted the council to delete a provision in his contract requiring him to provide four weeks’ notice before taking any vacation. He got that and more as council members showered him with praise for his work before granting his request.

“I think our town manager is doing an incredible job and any questions or changes he may request should be granted,” Alderman Bill Birch said.

“In the short term I have been here, his work is awesome,” said Alderwoman Liz Loper.

Thrasher, who this month enters his fourth year as Briny Breezes’ town manager, said he appreciated the words of support. He said he asked the council to delete the advance-notice rule because it was nearly impossible for him to schedule any time off that far in advance.

“I thought it was time to clean that up because I felt a little guilty about it,” he said after the meeting. ★

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10 Questions

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR: Bill Lazer

College was not remotely on the radar for Bill Lazer as he grew up in the Canadian prairie city of Winnipeg. He finished high school, got a job at a garment factory and didn't think much about his future.

Then along came World War II and the then-18-year-old enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force in 1942. His assignment wasn't glamorous — he was stationed in Labrador, where ships traveling from the U.S. and Canada to Europe routinely stopped to refuel. But the Canadian version of the G.I. Bill gave him the chance to enroll at the University of Manitoba.

Lazer earned a degree in commerce, marking the beginning of a life ensconced in education, from earning master's and doctoral degrees to nearly 40 years as a professor at Michigan State and Florida Atlantic. He also served on boards and committees impacting a variety of aspects of American life.

"I never planned to go into teaching," said Lazer, who lives in coastal Boca Raton, "but once I got into it I was having a ball. It was, God, they're paying me for this? I was having an impact on the lives of people and it was utterly fantastic. I never dreamed I would enjoy it so much."

Lazer's first job after school was as assistant to the president of a knitting mill in Winnipeg, but the University of Manitoba needed a business professor and persuaded him to come aboard. After three years he moved on to Michigan State.

"The job was for one year and I stayed for 28," he said.

Many of his students were executives, whom he enjoyed more than his regular students.

"The students are afraid of you — they have to get a grade," Lazer said. "The executives don't have to get a grade. They'll tell you what they think, and I love it. As a result of Michigan State, I was able to deal with executives effectively."

Many of them also became friends, including Sam Walton, the founder of Walmart and Sam's Club; Japan's Masatoshi Ito, who built 7-Eleven into the giant of convenience stores, and Hoshiro Mitsunaga, who founded Dentsu's largest ad agency.

Lazer, 98, also enjoyed a 61-year marriage to Joyce, now deceased, who was trained as a classical pianist. Lazer said that none other than Arthur Rubinstein said he would have recommended her to any conservatory in the world.

"Fortunately for me she decided to study philosophy when she got to university, so she permitted me to do anything I was able to do," Lazer said. "Whenever I got an award I would introduce her from the audience. A fabulous partner."

Lazer also has a connection



Bill Lazer, 98, of Boca Raton became a business professor and taught for almost 40 years at Michigan State and Florida Atlantic universities. He made friends with business executives, including Walmart's Sam Walton. His condo has a limited edition wall hanging by Alexander Girard, who produced it for Herman Miller furniture. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

to jazz musician Dave Koz. He and Joyce were close friends with Koz's parents, Audrey and Norman. "He's like another son to me," Lazer said.

Lazer, who enjoys dining at Oceans 234 in Deerfield Beach, has two children, son Randy and daughter Simone. Randy is in real estate in Las Vegas and Simone has been involved as a writer and producer on Broadway and currently lives in Nashville.

— Brian Biggane

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

A: I started my college education after the war at the University of Manitoba, where I got a bachelor of commerce. That was an education in the British tradition, very specialized in business. I went to the University of Chicago for my master's in business administration. Then I got my doctorate at Ohio State University, which was the mecca for marketing at the time. That was a two-year course and I was able to get it in eight months. A few years later, I won a Ford Foundation scholarship that took me to Harvard and MIT for a year.

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

A: I've taught my whole adult life, and really appreciate all the awards I've gotten, but for a different reason than people might expect. By my wife doing what she did for the family, she

allowed me to do my thing. So, when I got an award, that was an opportunity to have her stand and introduce her to the audience. I won the highest academic award at Michigan State, became an honorary alumnus, got an honorary doctorate, became an honorary member of the Varsity Club. I don't know which was the best, but I was just so privileged.

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

A: Don't just go to school to get a degree, get an education. Learn how to learn, to keep learning throughout your life. Also, learn to deal with change because the situations are so different now. Companies change so rapidly. You have to adjust, adapt, look to the future and what you think is going to happen. Too many people go to college and don't care about the grades, they want a better job. Take advantage of the opportunity.

Q: How did you choose to make your home in Boca Raton?

A: My wife always wanted to play the piano and look at the ocean. We used to live on Highland Beach and it was the same thing. When we came to this building there was a vacant unit facing A1A and we said no thanks. We had to wait for one on the ocean, and moved here in 1994.

Q: What is your favorite part about living in coastal Boca Raton?

A: I love the ocean, the ever-

changing scene. And also, in this building there are three outstanding, kind people I really love. And Boca at one time had a village-type effect, but that's gone now. It's more like Fort Lauderdale now.

Q: What book are you reading now?

A: *Battle for the American Mind*, by Pete Hegseth and David Goodwin. Growing up in Canada we studied a lot of Canadian history and a lot of European stuff. Didn't read much American stuff. But it's about the battle for American education, how it's failed, how we got to where we are. At Michigan State, you couldn't be hired if you were a conservative. I lived that.

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

A: I like classical and smooth jazz. With my wife being a classical pianist, we used to have world-class musicians coming to the house. But our relationship with Dave Koz has really helped me appreciate smooth jazz. He's introduced me to a lot of those people. One time he played the Kravis Center and we were in the audience and he said, "My own mother and father are deceased so I want you to meet my other parents." And he had us stand up. Such a nice young man.

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

A: When I got to Ohio State to work on my doctorate I

studied with a world-famous instructor in marketing, Dr. Theodore Beckman, who was a distinguished professor. He became my adviser, my friend, and he certainly was a mentor for me. I owe him a lot.

And when I was at Michigan State the president was John Hannah. He won the congressional Medal of Honor, he was in charge of civil rights under several presidents, he was in charge of manpower during World War II, he was a giant of a man. For whatever reason he took a liking to me and let me do my thing.

Q: Who/what makes you laugh?

A: I like some of the older comics. Sid Caesar, Johnny Carson. And recently I was watching the *All in the Family* show and they were classics. Norman Lear recently had a 100th birthday party and Dave Koz went and said he's still very sharp. Some of the stuff that passes for comedy now isn't funny.

Q: Is there something people don't know about you but should?

A: About a year-and-a-half ago the dean at the University of Manitoba asked if we could schedule a half-hour phone conversation. Two-and-a-half hours later he said, "I want you to write your memoir for the special collection." So that's what I'm doing now. It's taken a lot longer than I ever thought it would.

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Delray Beach

Cornell Art Museum reopens under reins of Downtown Development Authority

By Jane Smith

The historical Cornell Art Museum, closed for about 15 months in a dispute between the city and its previous operators, hosted a grand reopening reception on Dec. 28.

The Surfing Florida Museum has an exhibit on the top floor. On the ground floor is the #LoveDelray collection of artworks from Delray Beach-area artists.

The museum will be open and be free to the public on Thursdays and Fridays from 4 to 9 p.m., Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sundays from noon to 5 p.m.

It is now being operated by the Delray Beach Downtown Development Authority under a \$25,000 agreement approved by the City Commission.

At the Jan. 10 commission meeting, an overall agreement between the city and the DDA to oversee the Old School Square campus will be discussed. That deal would replace the DDA's current Cornell agreement with one that covers all five venues on the 4-acre campus: the Fieldhouse, the Pavilion, the Cornell, the Crest Theatre and associated arts classrooms.

The Surfing Florida Museum has been searching for a permanent home since it started 14 years ago, said Tom Warnke, its executive director. The Cornell exhibit will stay through June. "I'm hoping the exposure will lead to something permanent," Warnke said. "I'm beyond excited."

In late February, Surfing Florida also will open a

12-month exhibit at the renovated Lantana Public Library.

Separately, the commission agreed to pay \$1.2 million to finish the renovations of the Crest Theatre building. The city did not put the work out to bid but used a job-order process to speed construction and have a guaranteed price, Public Works Director Missie Barletto said at the commission's Dec. 6 meeting. It selected Harbour Construction Inc. of Miami.

Vice Mayor Adam Frankel said the commission did not like the previous contractor hired by Old School Square Center for the Arts — the former longtime operator — because the renovation was not put out for bids. He voted against the contract because there still was no bidding process for the work. Commissioner Shirley Johnson, who pulled the item from the Consent Agenda for discussion, also voted against the contract.

The Crest building renovations were started without expressed city approval as required in the lease and — combined with long-standing concerns as to how OSSCA was spending taxpayer dollars — led to the City Commission terminating its lease with OSSCA. The lease termination came on a 3-2 vote in August 2021.

Then, in November 2021, OSSCA sued the city and its elected officials for wrongful termination of the lease. That lawsuit is still pending.

OSSCA also filed papers in November 2021 to trademark the Old School Square name. After the city found out about the trademark application almost a year later, it hired an outside law firm to contest the trademark in November.

OSSCA filed its response to the city's challenge on Jan. 2. It claims the trademark is not tied to the Old School Square campus owned by the city.

The reply, done by attorney Allen Bennett, said the group is entitled to use the name, because it continues "to offer services in the vicinity of the historic, generally known geographic location referred to colloquially as the 'Old School Square.'"

OSSCA also filed papers to amend its November 2021 application to eliminate museum services from the list of services it provides — since it no longer controls the Cornell Museum space — and focus on arts education classes and rental of performing arts theaters.

The response said OSSCA's application didn't misrepresent its address as Old School Square's, because its lease was still in force when it applied for the trademark. ★



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Delray Beach

Doc's gets OK as historic site, but progress will cast a shadow over it

By Jane Smith

Doc's, a fast-food eatery that got its start in 1951 as a Dairy Queen franchise, unanimously won a historic designation from the Delray Beach City Commission — but the new complex it will be part of had a tougher time before the board.

"I couldn't picture Delray Beach without Doc's," Commissioner Ryan Boylston said at the commission's Dec. 6 meeting. "My grandparents took me there. I take my kids there."

Retired schoolteacher and longtime resident Yvonne Odom also supported saving Doc's, with its outdoor seating and walk-up window service.

"It has a lot of memories for those of us who grew up here and went to Doc's after football games," she said.

Doc's has been closed for nearly two years and will re-open by the end of 2023, said Pushkar Marathe, a chef hired for the restaurant by one of the partners, Steven Michael.

The new complex that will be adjacent to Doc's, City Center Delray, received 3-2 approval of its site plan. Mayor Shelly Petrolia and Deputy Vice Mayor Juli Casale voted no on the controversial project, which will house retail and office space.

Petrolia was concerned that the new building would overwhelm and compete with Doc's older structure. Doing so would violate U.S. Secretary of Interior standards for historic structures, she said.

The center's size of nearly 32,000 square feet is massive compared to the 1,600 square feet of Doc's.

Casale pointed out that the city's Historic Preservation Board recommended denial of the project by a 6-1 vote. Most of its board members were concerned the three-story building would overwhelm Doc's one-story height, said Michelle Hoyland, the city's historic preservation planner.

The three-story building will be constructed in the Streamline Moderne style, which some board members said did not fit with the architecture of the surrounding Old School Square Historic District. That district has Mediterranean Revival-style buildings with stucco walls and tiled roofs.

City Center Delray will sit



3D VIEW - W. ATLANTIC AVE & N. SWINTON AVE

Some say that the proposed City Center Delray will overwhelm Doc's and that its Streamline Moderne style will be out of touch with the Mediterranean Revival style of the Old School Square Historic District, in which the new project will sit. **Rendering provided**

across North Swinton Avenue from the Old School Square campus. The complex extends along Atlantic Avenue for a block west of Swinton to Northwest First Avenue.

Most of the 12 speakers talked glowingly about Michael,

a partner in City Center Delray. Their effusive comments prompted City Attorney Lynn Gelin to say, "What we are voting on is not the personality and character of Mr. Michael."

Two speakers, including barrier island resident Kelly

Barrette, talked about the federal standard that the new portion must be compatible with the surrounding designs. Barrette, like the other speakers, urged the commission to add Doc's to the city's register of historic places. She opposed the

larger City Center Delray plan.

Boylston said he did not like voting against the city's Historic Preservation Board, "but they have a narrow view. I look at the project as a whole. ... At what point do we push so hard that none of this becomes reality." ★

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BARBER

Continued from page 1

first have to understand that Rex's was much more than just a place to get your hair cut or styled. It was where the people inside were able to blend humor with humility and kindness with kinship — all done under the umbrella of a small-town feeling that once was Delray Beach's calling card.

Rex's, for instance, was where you'd find stylists covertly sprinkling hair from other customers under the barber chair of an all-but-totally-bald client so he wouldn't know just how little hair he actually had left.

It's where you'd meet both a stylist and a manicurist named Billie and of course find Hazel, who could easily be your favorite aunt.

It's where a neighbor's dog made a daily afternoon appearance to get a treat, and where customers were apt to bring goodies, such as homemade peanut brittle, during their regular visits.

It's also where you might think you stepped back in time. As you walked through the front door you'd see an old-fashioned barber pole — which Thayer received as a gift — on a wall next to newspaper clippings, some from decades ago. Nearby was a photo of Delray Beach's first barbershop — taken about a century ago — and framed pictures of local elected officials who had long since given up politics.

And Rex's was also where you'd hear stories of Thayer going to the home of a dying customer who wanted to look his best before meeting his maker.

Ask those who are struggling to find someplace else to go for a haircut or a new hairdo what made Rex's special and you'll be certain to hear an almost cliché analogy to an iconic fictional television bar.

"It's like *Cheers*, where everybody knows everybody else," said Mike Gauger, the retired chief deputy of the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office who traveled from Wellington twice a month to get his hair cut by Rex. "Minus the beer."

Gauger first met his longtime barber in 1979 while serving as the lead detective on a homicide in which Thayer was a friend of the victim. He had been coming to Rex ever since, at first when Thayer worked at another shop.

"We developed a friendship," Gauger says.

The two have gotten so close that when Gauger needs to put a team together for a charity bowling tournament, he knows he can count on Thayer, a former pro bowler, to serve as his "ringer." It comes as no surprise that they seem to win almost every tournament.

While their experiences come from different directions, Gauger and Bonardi have a common denominator also shared by former Delray Beach Police Chief Larry Schroeder. All three trusted Rex to cut their sons' hair.



Rex Thayer, owner of Rex's Hairstyling in Delray Beach, is surrounded by his long-time employees (l-r) Hazel Butler, Billie Christ and Billie Birmingham. Thayer, 73, retired at the end of December and closed the salon. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

"This is the only place their mother would let them get their hair cut," Bonardi said.

Schroeder even brought his grandson to Rex for his earliest haircuts.

As you might expect, there's no shortage of stories that you'll hear when you talk to customers or Thayer or any member of his team — Butler and the Billies, stylist Billie Birmingham and manicurist Billie Christ, who was with Rex's for 30 years.

Thayer shared his experience with a very demanding customer who wouldn't leave his apartment if his hair wasn't perfect.

When he first arrived, the 6-foot-5-inch customer with snow-white hair presented a 10-point list and suggested Thayer contact his barber in Boston for tips on how to make his hair perfect.

Thayer complied and ended up cutting that customer's hair every week for 28 years.

Longtime customer Wesley Moore says banter among the members of Rex's team provided entertainment while his hair was being trimmed.

"They're all up in each other's business," Moore said. "It's hilarious to listen to."

Over the years the clientele included billionaires, professional golfers, the children of tennis legends, baseball stars and of course, any local elected official who wanted to win.

Many of those politicians ended up in the chair of Karyn Premock. Thayer credits her for helping keep the business afloat in its early years when he was out of commission for several weeks following a traffic accident.

Premock retired three years ago and moved to Tennessee, where she was killed in a freak ATV accident in May. She is fondly included in many conversations about Rex's, especially when it comes to knowing what was really going on in town.

"Politicians came here to hear things about other politicians, especially in Karyn's chair," Butler said. "You never know what you're going to hear in

here."

Of course, you were also likely to hear a little gossip at Rex's.

"People had been coming here for so long, they felt like they could say anything," Thayer said.

For Schroeder, it's the friendship that he developed with Thayer while sitting in the barber's chair that kept him coming back.

"We shared, we laughed, and we became friends and that is why I never thought about going anywhere else," Schroeder said. "That is what I will miss the most."

At 73, Rex Thayer isn't quite ready to retire, but says his decision to close the shop is about family — the family that has been forged over the snipping of scissors, the buzzing of razors and laughter that filled the booths.

Thayer said that Butler, the two Billies and an assistant, Debbie Cooksey — are ready for a break and he couldn't imagine starting over without them.

"I've worked with these people my whole life," he said.

For the last six years, Butler has been commuting back and forth from her home in

Fellsmere, coming down on Tuesday, staying with friends, and driving back on Friday.

"I could still work but I can't drive I-95 anymore," she said.

As the curtain started coming down on Rex's, news spread and Birmingham recalls the reaction of one of her customers, who happened to be 93.

"She said, 'Now I know I've lived too long,'" Birmingham remembered.

Butler summed up the final days in just a few words.

"This is the closing of an era," she said. ★



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Lantana

Police get good report card — and license-plate recognition cameras

By Mary Thurwachter

Police Chief Sean Scheller shared a good report for his department with the Lantana Town Council on Dec. 12 — and council members gave him license-plate recognition cameras for squad cars.

Scheller said year-end numbers from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement — “basically our report card for the year” — showed the Police Department did very well, with crime dropping in town more than at the state or county level.

According to the FDLE, crime in Florida is down 8.3% and crime in Palm Beach County is down 10.2%.

“In Lantana, crime is down 19.9%,” said Scheller, who has been chief for 12 years. “We

are performing at a very high standard and you guys are getting exemplary level police work in this town.” He said this was a team effort and thanked everyone from his staff to the Town Council and residents.

Additionally, Lantana’s clearance rate, indicating how many cases were cleared, was 24.4% compared with the county’s 23%.

“You might think this is a small number,” he said, “but it’s actually a high number when you remember that when, for example, somebody parks their bike and it’s gone, we have no suspects, no lead.”

The FDLE report was met with cheers and applause.

Later in the meeting, the council voted to spend \$251,600 on license-plate recognition cameras for police cars and

another \$90,600 for 16 more cameras to be installed at predetermined locations around town. Cameras will be financed with federal American Rescue Plan Act funds.

“With this and in-car cameras, Big Brother’s going to be watching every move in this town,” Scheller said.

The council also agreed to spend \$44,375 for a bi-directional amplifier system from Stellar Communications Group, LLC, to boost radio signal reception in the police headquarters at 901 N. Eighth St., next to the sports park.

The building had been used previously “as a jail cell for delinquents and the whole building is basically solid brick wall,” Scheller said.

The radio signal strength, measured after impact-resistant windows and doors and a metal roof had been installed, was deemed “unacceptable” with several dead zones. The dead zones prevent police staff from effectively receiving radio communication throughout the building, Scheller said.

“The continued existence of these dead zones constitutes a threat-to-officer-safety issue, qualifying this acquisition for an emergency purchase which is exempt from competitive bidding,” Scheller said. “The

amplifier system will boost the signal to 100% connectivity.”

“We’ve got to keep safe the people who help keep us safe,” acting Mayor Karen Lythgoe said.

This amplifier system was not included in the budget and will be paid for with either available general fund reserve money or ARPA funds and will be included in the mid-year budget amendment, according to Town Manager Brian Raducci. The system may not meet the eligibility rules for the ARPA.

Agenda format to improve

The council approved spending \$57,255 for a three-year contract with Granicus, LLC, for agenda management software.

Town Clerk Kathleen Dominguez said the software will automate and streamline the creation of public agendas and minutes, publish meeting documents online and in an ADA-accessible format, livestream and record public meetings, and provide closed captioning of meeting audio for ADA accessibility.

Dominguez said a link will be provided on the town’s website where residents can search, find and review meeting recordings, agenda packets and

minutes. Citizens can also sign up to receive notifications of meetings and links to agendas when they are published.

Lantana does not have cameras to provide meeting video, but if the town decides to get them, the new software would be compatible, Dominguez said.

In other business, the council:

- Approved a \$212,959 contract with Baxter & Woodman, Inc., for engineering services related to development of the town’s proposed comprehensive plan for water, wastewater, roadway, sea wall, and parks and recreation facilities, along with a stormwater master plan. ARPA funds will be used to finance this expense.
- Presented the Employee of the Year Award to general maintenance worker Cesar Barrero for his “tireless efforts and dedication to the town while working in the utility division,”



Barrero

Lythgoe said. “Cesar always shows up where he’s needed and always has a smile on his face.”★

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Manalapan

Dermatology practice receives approval to be at Plaza del Mar

By Larry Barszewski

Plaza del Mar expects to welcome a medical tenant — Laser & Skin Center of Palm Beach — into remodeled space at its west end, based on an approval received at the Town Commission's Dec. 13 meeting.

The practice will be operated by Tatyana Nektalova, a board-certified dermatologist who previously worked in Tribeca and the Upper East Side in New York City. It will offer comprehensive medical, cosmetic and surgical care.

Nektalova needed Town Commission approval for a dermatological office at the plaza. The approval is required so the town can review the overall makeup of the plaza and make sure there aren't too many

non-commercial businesses there.

"It was set up originally so that could not just become a medical plaza," Mayor Keith Waters said of the approval process.

"I think it's timely and perfectly placed as an opportunity for the community," Waters said of the dermatology practice. "The idea is to keep a balance in that plaza. We don't want to overweight it with anything."

Commissioners unanimously approved the dermatology use in Unit 205, between the dry cleaners and nail salon. The practice will include minimally invasive procedures, such as removal of skin cancer and cysts.

In some ways, Nektalova is

following her former customers here. She told commissioners a number of her clients, some of whom she said worked at Goldman Sachs, were part of the pandemic migration that brought about an influx of New Yorkers to Southeast Florida.

Nektalova said she found a need for a practice on Palm Beach County's barrier islands.

"There currently is no dermatologist in the entire Palm Beach area, so from Palm Beach island to Manalapan all of the doctors are in West Palm Beach predominantly," Nektalova said. "There are some spas offering cosmetic services, but they're not board certified."

Besides approval of the dermatology operation, town commissioners in other action Dec. 13:

- Reviewed steps for a voter referendum that would require voter approval of any attempt to sell the town's water plant in the future, so a future commission couldn't take such an important step on its own. The referendum isn't expected to go before voters until March 2024, so it will probably be May or so before the commission starts working on language for the charter change.

- Discussed, but made no decision on, adjusting construction work hours to possibly require contractors to end earlier on Saturdays. Commissioner Aileen Carlucci said it might be of benefit for residents to have the allowed construction limit on Saturdays scaled back from 6:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. ★

South Palm Beach

Council begins search for new town manager

By Joe Capozzi

The Town Council will hold a special meeting Jan. 6 to review options for finding a new town manager to replace Robert Kellogg, who plans to resign at the end of March.

A representative with the International City/County Management Association will attend the meeting to offer suggestions, which may include finding an interim town manager until a full-time manager is hired.

The town could also consider hiring a recruiting firm, which Ocean Ridge has done in its search for a manager. A recruiting firm could cost \$25,000 to \$35,000, said Town Attorney Glen Torcivia, whose firm also provides town attorney services for Ocean Ridge.

Kellogg announced his plans to resign after councilman Ray McMillan unsuccessfully tried to fire him at the council's Nov. 15 meeting. McMillan's motion to terminate Kellogg failed when no other council members supported it.

At the Dec. 22 council meeting, Mayor Bonnie Fischer thanked Kellogg "for everything he does. I don't think he'll be going anywhere for a while because it's not an easy process to find a new town manager. It takes time. We've been through it three or four times."

Fischer added, "It's very bittersweet, the whole thing. Thank you, Bob, for everything."

"It's not over yet," replied council member Robert Gottlieb, who did not attend the Nov. 15 meeting when McMillan tried to fire Kellogg.

Gottlieb, looking ahead to 2023, offered praise for Kellogg.

"It's going to be a great new year for all of us, I hope. We're lucky to be here and help others," he said. "That's what this council is all about. It's

helping this town to be better, and Bob, you've been and are an important part of it and I appreciate you greatly."

New Town Hall

With no discussion, the council tabled consideration of a \$15,000 contract with Slattery & Associates to design a new Town Hall, a project that has been debated for more than five years.

The firm was ranked first among three that interviewed with the council in November, but town officials want to do more research to make sure the firm can design a facility that will be built with structural insulated panels.

"They have experience. We want to make sure if we hire them they are capable of providing the service that we want," Kellogg said after the meeting.

At the end of the meeting, Fischer said she hoped construction would start in 2023.

Fischer and Kellogg are working with Torcivia to overcome what the mayor called "a few glitches" and "to figure out what's best so we can move forward using SIPs. That's our focus to get that done. Once that gets started and we get moving, it should take off a lot quicker than regular traditional building," she said.

In other business:

- The council agreed to spend \$2,300 for new fuel lines to the aging generator at the lift station outside Town Hall. In the next year the council will consider a recommendation by a maintenance company to replace the generator.

A new generator could cost \$200,000 to \$250,000, some of which could come from grant money, Kellogg said.

"This is not something we can gamble with," Vice Mayor Bill LeRoy said. "We can't take a chance on not having it."

- Kellogg told the

council that the Dune Deck condominium received a state permit in early December to make repairs to an eroding sea wall. But he said he didn't think the town had issued a formal permit yet for the work. He said the condo, which applied for the state permit in June, is expected in January to seek relief from fines a special magistrate imposed in May. ★



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Boynton Beach

City approves settlement with Town Square developer

By Tao Woolfe

The Boynton Beach City Commission has approved a settlement agreement with JKM BTS Capital, LLC, the developer of the long-stalled public/private Town Square project that city officials had hoped would revitalize the downtown area. Here are the major terms of the agreement, which was reached after several court-mandated mediation sessions among the city manager, city attorneys and the developer:

- The city will be paid \$4.5 million by JKM.
- The developer will pay the city up to another \$100,000 in attorneys' fees for related litigation.
- JKM will sell three parcels of land conveyed by the city for the project to another private developer. As part of the purchase agreement, the new developer must provide sufficient parking for the project as well as sufficient public parking.
- In return, the city will dismiss its lawsuit against JKM. "If any of the conditions are not satisfied, the Settlement Agreement will become null and void," the agreement stipulates.

Time Equities, a New York City-based developer, has expressed interest in taking over the development of Town Square.

Under Boynton Beach's original agreement with JKM, the \$250 million project was to comprise a mix of municipal buildings and privately developed apartments, a hotel, restaurants and shops.

The developer was also expected to build two parking garages, providing some 2,000 spaces for use by residents, businesses and the general public. The project's 16.5-acre area sits between Boynton Beach Boulevard and Southeast Second Avenue.

In return, the city agreed to give JKM the three parcels of land, to pay almost \$2 million in cash to the developer and to provide underground water and sewer lines.

The developer, claiming the city had reneged on its commitments, failed to complete the project. The city filed suit against JKM in November 2020. ★

Commission OKs zoning change to limit building height

A new zoning district, allowing Boynton Beach to set height restrictions on mixed-use downtown buildings without angering current developers, has been approved by the City Commission.

The zoning code amendment will exempt any existing or in-progress development from having to comply with the new restrictions limiting new mixed-use projects to 85 feet in height.

Amanda Radigan, the city's principal planner, has told the commissioners that such a zoning change would allow the city to limit building height without risking lawsuits.

Commissioners have twice discussed imposing restrictions but shied away from a vote because they feared legal repercussions.

Commissioner Thomas Turkin introduced the idea of height restrictions in May, saying lower buildings would make the city more inviting. He cited Delray Beach's less imposing buildings as an example of good planning.

Current Boynton Beach height limits on the two mixed-use zones in the downtown core are 100 and 150 feet.

Residents have said that in recent years the city has become taller and denser at an unsustainable pace.

Residents at the Jan. 3 commission meeting applauded the move to lower building height and density, but said it did not go far enough.

"We had asked for a four-story maximum," said resident Susan Oyer, meaning 48 feet. "I'm incredibly disappointed."

The commissioners heard from two attorneys who warned that taking away developers' design options could result in very expensive lawsuits.

— Tao Woolfe

Oyer Park reopens with new boat ramps, docks

The boat ramp renovation at Boynton Beach's Harvey E. Oyer Jr. Park has been completed and the docks and the park have reopened.

"They look great," Kacy Young, the city's parks and recreation director, said of the three ramps. The site also has "new stations for cleaning fish that are already very popular," Young said.

The city held a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Dec. 17, which was attended by the public, city officials and city staff.

The \$1.25 million project was funded equally by the Palm Beach County penny sales tax — approved by voters to pay for park, road, bridge and other public projects — and the Florida Inland Navigation District. To accommodate the construction, the park was closed from mid-September through Dec. 1, 2022. — Tao Woolfe



Sports agent Phil Terrano, who played at the park as a kid, proposes to upgrade it and build a sports training facility there in partnership with the city. **Tao Woolfe/The Coastal Star**

Big changes coming to Little League park

By Tao Woolfe

As far back as Phil Terrano can remember, he's wanted to give something back to the park that launched his career.

More than two decades after playing his last baseball game at the East Boynton Beach Little League park, Terrano — now a successful sports agent — is on the verge of seeing his dream come true.

The Boynton Beach City Commission recently gave preliminary approval to Terrano's proposal to build an indoor training facility and add a new turf field to the 12.76-acre grounds of the park on Woolbright Road.

The commission is expected to give final approval to the project in the coming weeks.

"We are really hoping to break ground in January or February," Terrano said in an interview. "We'd like to have it done by the end of 2023, but it would be even better if it was done by summertime."

Terrano had proposed a 7,500-square-foot training facility, but city officials, after touring similar sites in South Florida, said they would like the building to be 12,000 square feet. The exact size of the for-profit facility has yet to be determined.

Through a partnership between Terrano and the city, the facility would offer strength and conditioning training for multiple sports, nutrition programs, batting cages, bullpen mounds, data assessment, physical therapy, chiropractic services, youth camps and scholarship programs.

The Cressey Sports Performance facility in Palm Beach Gardens offers similar services. Such specialized gyms — which cater to adult and school-age athletes willing to pay membership fees to improve their performance — are springing up around the country.

The Boynton Beach Parks and Recreation Department, as well as Building Department staff, are working on a master plan for the park that will include revamping the existing grass fields, adding T-ball and artificial turf fields, and upgrading the bathrooms and concession stands, said Kacy Young, the city's parks and recreation director.

Terrano told the city commissioners he would like the 17 Major League Baseball players he represents to train at the site. The presence of baseball pros would provide extra incentive for Little Leaguers to be their best, as well as offer opportunities for kids to collect autographs and insider tips.

Young said he likes Terrano's plan to have the major league players practicing alongside the



Terrano

Little Leaguers.

"It will be beautiful and we hope it will increase the usage of the park," Young said. "We feel the project would be a great benefit to the entire city."

The city acquired the park in the 1950s from the developer of High Point retirement village. It was envisioned as land that could be used eventually for expansion of the adjacent city-owned cemetery, according to city records.

By the late 1950s, however, Little League was outgrowing its original home at Galaxy Park, which had only one field, and the city decided to move league operations to Woolbright Road.

The East Boynton Beach Little League park lost its luster over the years, however, and the fields were often neglected and overgrown except for a rescue effort in 2006.

Shortly after Hurricane Wilma blew through South Florida and destroyed much of the park, the producers of the ABC home remodeling television show *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* stepped in to repair the home of the 2003 national Little League champions.

The renovation included repairing the northeast fields, replacing light poles, and installing a new irrigation system, fencing, signage and batting cages. Crews also repaired the roof and interior of the concession stand.

Terrano, 44, who grew up in Boynton Beach, said he played on the fields from age 10 until he was almost 20. He later coached teams, served on the Boynton Beach Little League's board of directors, and cooked hot dogs on weekends.

"People didn't believe in the park and never kept it up," Terrano said. "Volunteers did as much as they could, but most of them had full-time jobs and couldn't be here that much."

City officials hope this new injection of money and interest will turn things around.

Terrano, the CEO of Primetime Sports Group LLC, said he and investors he has enlisted will probably spend \$3 million to \$4 million to build and maintain the training facility and add the turf field. The city will do the rest and will maintain the fields, he said.

"I played here and it means a lot to me to give back," Terrano said. "If it wasn't for Boynton Beach Little League, I would never have gotten into a career with Major League Baseball."

Terrano now lives in Lake Worth Beach with his wife, Shiela, and his two sons, Dylan, 11, and Dominick, 6.

The training facility will be a for-profit operation, Terrano said, but the project is as much about bringing life back to the park as it is about the money.

"It is my field of dreams," he said. "I told the city commissioners:

"If you let me build it, they will come."★



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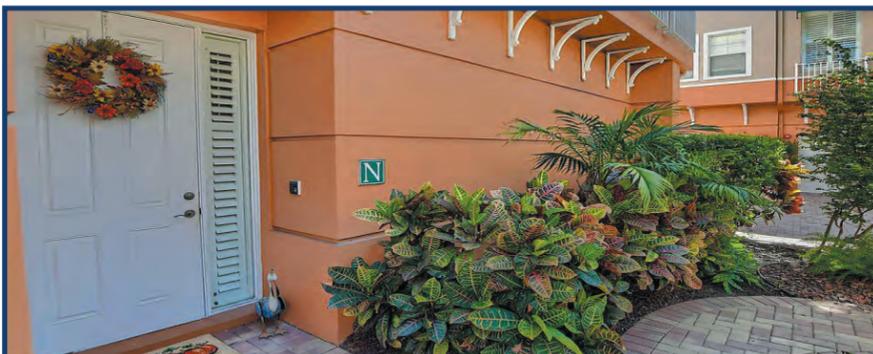
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Business Spotlight

Billy Joel's seaside estate on market for \$64.9 million



A Manalapan house bought by singer Billy Joel for \$22.1 million in 2015 is now on the market through Christian Angle Real Estate for \$64.9 million. Photo provided by Realtor.com

Piano man Billy Joel has listed his ocean-to-lake estate at 1110 S. Ocean Blvd., Manalapan, for \$64.9 million. Joel, using an ownership company, bought the compound in 2015 for \$22.1 million from Texas banking businessman Donald A. Adam.

Built in 2010, the nine-bedroom, 20,838-square-foot house sits on 1.6 acres with about 150 feet of frontage on the ocean and Intracoastal Waterway.

The compound includes a guest house and staff house.

The property went on the market in November. Details in the main house include a theater room, a pub room and bar, paneled library, 12-plus-car garage and wine cellar with a wet bar and tasting table. Broker Christian Angle of Christian Angle Real Estate holds the listing.

Mark Sherman's estate at 1140 S. Ocean Blvd., Manalapan, was listed for \$59 million with Douglas Elliman agents Pier Paolo Visconti and Claudia Llanes.

Sherman, CEO of Green Wave Electronics in Atlanta, with his ex-wife, Isabella Sherman, paid \$8 million for the house in December 2000.

The \$59 million price tag will be for a finished renovation that has been underway on and off since 2017 with a few permit extensions. According to Visconti, the renovations are expected to be completed in 14 to 16 months.

When finished, the residence, on 1.61 acres with 150 feet of waterfront on the ocean and Intracoastal Waterway, will have seven bedrooms and 12,420 square feet. Features will include a gym, library, home theater, a game room, wine storage for 1,000 bottles, and a garage that can be configured to accommodate 12 cars.

Prospective buyers have other purchase options, said Visconti. "If the buyer wants to buy it as is, obviously the price will be lower. Another possibility, we just made plans to build a 3,500-square-foot guest house on the property, and for that, the price would be adjusted as well," Visconti said.

Investors Bernard and Margaret Palmer sold the house at 404 E. Coconut Palm Road in Boca Raton to a trust managed by Lake Wales-based attorney Mark Warda for \$18.6 million in November, according to public records.

The Palmers bought the property for \$4.6 million in December 2020, demolished the existing house and commissioned Boca Raton-based SRD Building Corp. to build an 8,731-square-foot, six-bedroom estate, which was completed in 2022.

David Roberts of Royal Palm Properties represented the sellers, and Susan Rindley of One Sotheby's International Realty represented the buyer.

James and Kimberly Caccavo made two moves in the local real estate market in 2022. The more recent focuses on a Manalapan spec house, 71 Curlew Road, which they bought for \$10.5 million in a deal recorded Nov. 30.

The seller was listed as an LLC named for the address managed by Stephen Varga of Varga Homes, who bought the half-acre property, with 178 feet of water frontage, for \$1.9 million in 2020. Varga tore down the house and built a 10,500-square-foot home, which was completed in 2022.

Nick Malinosky and Randy Ely of Douglas Elliman represented both the buyer and the seller.

In June, the Caccavos flipped an oceanfront Gulf Stream

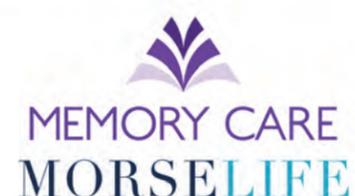
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estate at 3565 N. Ocean Blvd. to James and Estee Sausville for \$27.5 million, almost double what they bought it for the year prior.

James Caccavo is the founder and managing general partner of the California-based Steelpoint Capital Partners, a private equity firm. Kimberly Caccavo is founder of Face Your Grace, a motivational e-learning platform.

Darielle Singerman, who operates RedCon1 Gym in Boca Raton, sold her home at 4400 Sanctuary Lane to Andrew Cook and Fanjun Dai as trustees of the Zhang Family Trust for \$10.2 million. The deal was recorded Dec. 5.

Singerman bought the five-bedroom, 12,000-square-foot estate, with a pool and dock, for \$8.65 million in April 2021, records show.

Senada Adzem of Douglas Elliman had the Boca Raton listing, and Jeff Daly of Realty Home Advisors International brought the buyers, according to Realtor.com.

Singerman and her husband, Aaron Singerman, own a home at 4100 Sanctuary Lane, which they purchased in October 2021 for \$6 million, and a home at 16598 Fleur de Lis Way, Delray Beach, which they bought for \$2.3 million in 2016.

This current sale comes just after Aaron Singerman's release from federal prison on Dec. 1. He served a fraction of his 54-month sentence, which was handed down in January 2022, for selling illegal steroids through his brand, Blackstone Labs.

Selkirk Sport, an Idaho manufacturer of pickleball paddles and accessories, made an endorsement deal in November with James Ignatowich, 22, of Delray Beach.

Ignatowich is a newcomer to pickleball after playing tennis in the junior ranks and at Vanderbilt University.

He competed on Major League Pickleball's Team Ranchers in 2022 and has won several pro medals, including the gold in men's singles at the Beer City Open in July in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

He defeated Zane Navratil, 14-12, 12-10, for the championship after beating JW Johnson, Federico Staksrud and Navratil on his way to the final.

Then in August in Newport Beach, California, his Team Ranchers won the league championships, defeating BLQK, 3-0, and Ignatowich walked away with \$25,000.

Ignatowich, now a senior at Vanderbilt, said he switched from tennis to pickleball because "it's way more fun, and it's way easier to get started playing and you can get to the top really quickly. I am already

one of the top 10 players in the world."

When he's home from college, he practices at Caloosa Park in Boynton Beach.

As one of Selkirk Sport's lineup of brand ambassadors, he will be equipped with Selkirk's paddles and outfitted in branded Selkirk Sport apparel.

His two favorite paddles are the Vanguard Power Air Invikta and the Project 002 Invikta. "They provide a great amount of power and spin," he said.

Of interest to all those pickleball enthusiasts out there, he's posting tips and instructional videos on his Instagram, @jamesignatowich.

For people who have muscle cars and like showing them off, listen up and sign up.

Stingrays, Barracudas and other 1950s through 1970s muscle cars will be at Delray Beach's Old School Square on March 4 at the Muscle On the Beach car show.

This benefit for the Sandoway Discovery Center will be hosted by Mike Brewer of the Discovery/Motor Trend TV series *Wheeler Dealers*.

"A few years ago, we had an idea to raise money for the Sandoway Discovery Center's new stingray garden by gathering another kind of stingray — Chevrolet Corvettes," said George Walden, who is volunteer co-producer of the event with fellow classic car buff Jack Barrette.

"Now we've got the best examples of American muscle cars coming to downtown Delray," said Alex Ridley, president of Sandoway Discovery Center's board of directors. "The children of Palm Beach County need fun, interactive educational opportunities now more than ever — this event is a great opportunity for the community to support our work, and a lot of fun for attendees and volunteers."

For people who want to show their muscle car/truck/hot rod, or to be a sponsor or vendor, call 617-312-4701 or email Barrette at info@muscleonthebeach.com.

The Schmidt Boca Raton History Museum has announced several special happenings.

Jan. 7 kicks off the museum's Free Fun Saturdays, a continuing program slated for the first Saturday of every month in 2023. The admission fee will be waived on those days for all visitors.

Because the new Brightline station has opened, the museum will offer a \$2 discount off the regular admission to anyone with a Brightline ticket.

On Jan. 12 at the museum's Town Hall Talk, author and Lynn University professor Dr. Robert Watson will make a presentation on his book *Escape: The Story of the Confederacy's Infamous Libby*

Prison and the Civil War's Largest Jail Break. The talk will start at 6 p.m. with check-in and refreshments. The lecture begins at 6:30 p.m. Cost to attend is \$10.

Open through the end of June, the temporary exhibit *MiMo in Boca Raton: Mid-Century Modern Style, and the Architecture of Howard McCall* offers a look through architectural drawings and photos of the works of the longtime architect whose commercial and residential works helped shape Boca Raton.

McCall opened his office in Boca Raton in 1958 and was joined by partner Pat Lynch in the 1960s. McCall designed St. Gregory's Church, the Church on the Hill, and Advent Lutheran. He also developed the first Fifth Avenue Shops, local gas stations, commercial buildings and mid-century condos. The partners also designed most of the Camino Gardens models and the original houses of Royal Palm Yacht and Country Club.

The Schmidt Boca Raton History Museum, at 71 N. Federal Highway, is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. Admission is \$12 for adults, \$8 for students and seniors, and free for members and children 4 years old and under.

The League of Women Voters of Palm Beach County

will host Verdenia C. Baker, county administrator of Palm Beach County, at its Hot Topic Luncheon, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Jan. 18.

Baker oversees 6,800 positions and balances a \$6 billion annual budget. Since becoming county administrator, she led the voter-approved 2016 Infrastructure Sales Tax initiative that will generate \$2.7 billion for new and renovated schools, roads and facilities over a 10-year period; led initiatives such as the Mandatory Inclusionary Workforce Housing Program and Community Land Trust; and reimplemented the small/minority/women business enterprise program in 2019.

The luncheon will be held at Mel's Way Bistro, 3536 Via Poinciana, Lake Worth Beach; price to attend is \$35. Registration must be made at <https://lwvpsc.org/event/jan-hot-topic-state-of-the-county/>.

Florida Atlantic University's 2023 Alan B. and Charna Larkin Symposium on the American Presidency presents "A Conversation with Laura W. Bush and Barbara Pierce Bush" at 4 p.m. Feb. 11. The lecture, which will be moderated by presidential historian Timothy Naftali, will take place in the Carole and Barry Kaye Auditorium, FAU Student Union, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton campus. Tickets are \$35-\$125 and can be purchased at

www.fauvents.com or via 561-297-6124.

FAU's Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters will hold its third Culture, Arts and Society Today party at 6 p.m. Feb. 27 at the Polo Club of Boca Raton, 5400 Champion Blvd.

Tickets for this fundraiser are \$250 and can be purchased at <https://fauf.fau.edu/2023CAST> or by contacting Gail Vorsas at 561-297-2337.

The 2023 CAST party will honor Marta Batmasian and Marilyn Weinberg for their contributions to the arts in South Florida.

"The faculty and students in FAU's School of the Arts are world-renowned for their artistry," Batmasian said. "We are incredibly lucky to have them in our community to provide outstanding exhibitions, concerts and theater and dance performances."

To become a sponsor, contact Laurie Carney at lcarney@fau.edu or 561-297-3606.

For more information, visit www.fau.edu/cast-party.



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New Listing | 6520 N Ocean Blvd, 7 | Ocean Ridge
\$799,000 | Stunning water views from this 2 BR, 2 BA updated end unit across from the beach. **Web# RX-10846947**



Beachfront Boutique | 5700 Old Ocean Blvd R, Ocean Ridge | \$485,000 | Perfect spot for seaside pied-a-terre/full-time residence. **Web# RX-10805342**



Around Town

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January 2023

The Coastal  Star



Look up!

Favorite birdwatching spots in our neck of the woods

By Rich Pollack

Slip into the hidden Lantana Nature Preserve, sandwiched between the Intracoastal Waterway and the Atlantic Ocean, and you might catch a glimpse of an American redstart or even a bay-breasted warbler.

Stroll the boardwalk at the Green Cay Nature Center and Wetlands and there's a good chance of observing a roseate spoonbill or

maybe a least bittern or sora rail.

Stake out a spot on an aging wooden-planked dock along the eastern shore of Delray Beach's Lake Ida and an osprey, red-shouldered hawk and — if you're lucky — a bald eagle may soar in the sky above you.

Sprinkled throughout southern Palm Beach County are a few parks, refuges and natural areas that have become favorite hangouts for resident birds as well as migrating

See **BIRDS** on page AT8

TOP: Hundreds of European starlings, known as a murmuration, take flight at sunset at Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge west of Boynton Beach. Photo by Susan Wasserman ABOVE: Five young gallinules huddle near the shore of Lake Ida in Delray Beach. Photo by Peter W. Cross

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Pay It Forward

Spring Boutique & Trunk Show
Aloft Delray Beach



Feb. 14-16: The Wayside House fundraiser, supporting addiction-treatment services for women, will feature dozens of vendors from throughout the United States selling upscale merchandise. Time is 5-7 p.m. Feb. 14 for a preview party and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 15 and 16. Cost is \$125 for the party and free Feb. 15 and 16. Call 561-268-0055 or visit www.waysidehouse.net and click on 'events.' ABOVE: Co-Chairwomen Lisa Jankowski and Martha Grimm. Photo provided

Pay It Forward

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.

Saturday - 1/14 - The Rotary Club of Boca Raton's OPAL Awards at Boca West Country Club, 20583 Boca West Drive, Boca Raton. Celebrate Outstanding People and Leaders with cocktails and dinner. 6:30-11 pm. \$300. 561-477-7180 or opalawards.com or rotaryclubbocaraton.com.

Sunday - 1/15 - Boca Ballet Theatre's Stars of Dance Gala Performance and Dinner at Florida Atlantic University, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton and The Boca Raton, 501 E. Camino Real. Watch today's brightest ballet stars in action and then enjoy an elegant dinner to support the troupe. 3 pm. \$75 performance, \$375 performance and dinner. 561-995-0709 or

bocaballet.org.

Saturday - 1/21 - Boca Raton Regional Hospital's 60th Anniversary Ball at The Boca Raton, 501 E. Camino Real. Ring in the Diamond Jubilee, recognize 13 doctors for the multitude of philanthropic gifts made in their honor by grateful patients and enjoy entertainment by Lionel Richie. 6-11:30 pm. Sold out. 561-955-4142 or <https://donate.brrh.com>.

Friday - 1/27 - Dreyfoos School of the Arts Foundation's "The Main Event" at Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Raise a glass at the champagne and cocktail reception in the lobby of the Cohen Pavilion prior to entering the ballroom for a performance by students and alumni. 6 pm. \$1,000. 561-805-6298 or dreamsofdreyfoos.com.

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.

FEBRUARY

Wednesday - 2/1 - Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County's Lion of Judah Luncheon at The Polo Club of Boca Raton, 5400 Champion Blvd. Join keynote speaker, actress and pro-Israel activist Noa Tishby for an empowering luncheon that celebrates women who annually contribute \$5,000-plus to the federation. 10:45 am. \$125 couvert. 561-852-6061 or jewishboca.org/lionluncheon.

Wednesday - 2/8 - 9th Annual Brain Bowl Luncheon at Boca West Country Club, 20583 Boca West Drive, Boca Raton. Save the date for "The Super Bowl of All Lunches" that raises awareness about Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases and other types of dementia- and neurocognitive-related disorders. 11 am-1:30 pm. \$150. 561-496-4222 or brainbowlvents.com.

Thursday - 2/9 - Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County's Jacobson Jewish Community Foundation Professional Advisory Committee's Irving Eckhardt Mitzvah Society at Farmer's Table, 1901 N. Military Trail, Boca Raton. Honor William Miller as a professional who has been instrumental in leading clients to make planned gifts. 6 pm. \$80-95 couvert. 561-852-3114 or jewishboca.org/mitzvahsociety.

Saturday - 2/11 - George Snow Scholarship Fund's The "Rhinestone Cowboy" Ball: Boots & Bling at Boca West Country Club, 20583 Boca West Drive, Boca Raton. Help deserving students achieve their dream of attending college while enjoying casino games, live music, alligator wrestling, line dancing and more. 6-11 pm. \$325. 561-347-6799 or scholarship.org.

Tuesday-Thursday - 2/14-2/16 - Wayside House's Spring Boutique & Trunk Show at Aloft Delray Beach, 202 S.E. Fifth Ave. Shop among dozens of vendors from throughout the United States at the organization's premiere fundraiser supporting addiction-treatment services for women. 5-7 pm Feb. 14, 9 am-4 pm Feb. 15 and 16. \$125 Feb. 14. Free on Feb. 15 and 16. 561-268-0055 or waysidehouse.net.

Wednesday - 2/15 - Ruth & Norman Rales Jewish Family Services' Reflections of Hope Luncheon at Boca West Country Club, 20583 Boca West Drive, Boca Raton. Hear a keynote speech from actress Andie MacDowell at a benefit for behavioral-health services and substance-abuse programs. 11 am reception, 11:45 am luncheon. \$100. 561-852-5013 or ralesjfs.org.

Friday - 2/17 - Greater Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce's Diamond Awards Luncheon at Woodfield Country Club, 3650 Club Place, Boca Raton. Honor women who have achieved success in their professional career and continue to make a difference in the community. 11:30 a.m.-1:30 pm. \$100. 561-395-4433 or bocaratonchamber.com.

Monday - 2/27 - Florida Atlantic University's Culture, Arts and Society Today (CAST) Party at The Polo Club of Boca Raton, 5400 Champion Blvd. Take part in a festive fundraiser for student scholarships at the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters. 6-9 pm. \$250. 561-297-2337 or fauf.fau.edu/2023cast.



Dr. Joseph Gretzula has been a proud resident of Ocean Ridge and served his community through his astounding dermatological care for over 35 years. His most recent contribution to transforming East Boynton Beach is his new anti-aging and wellness center, Beauty Within. At Beauty Within, a stunning facility, located in the Boynton Harbor Marina, they believe "Aging is Optional." Here, patients receive personalized treatment plans using the most advanced technology to help them look and feel their best. The providers, with more than 57 years of combined expertise in aesthetic medicine, work cohesively to enhance the beauty within you.

Beauty Within is one of only three practices in Florida offering the newest laser technology in the world, UltraClear. UltraClear has the ability to treat fine lines, deep wrinkles, scarring, sun damage, skin texture and tone. This innovative technology is safe on ALL skin types, which is an unsurpassable advancement in aesthetics. Other services offered at Beauty Within include injectables, microneedling, skin tightening, facials and peels, lash extensions, body contouring, and customized weight loss programs.

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Pay it Forward

OPAL awards to raise money for scholarships at FAU, PBSC

By Amy Woods

Whether a billionaire philanthropist or a public-school teacher, any recipient of the Rotary Club of Boca Raton's Outstanding People and Leaders award exemplifies "service above self."

The club's motto not only has inspired its 80-plus members to come together and make the city a better place to live, work and play, but also forms the basis for honoring the citizenry.

"We honor people in the community who are the ones who make Boca Raton, Boca Raton," Co-Chairman Neil Saffer said of the annual OPAL awards. "The presentation itself: We try to make it as Grammy Award-ish as possible, with giant LED screens, to give these honorees their finest hour."

The major fundraiser will take place Jan. 14 at Boca West Country Club. Festivities include a cocktail reception, a seated dinner, a high-end auction and an uplifting program complete with videos celebrating the lives and achievements of the 2023 honorees.

"The food, drink and entertainment are always as good as it gets," Saffer said.



OPAL awards chairs and honorees include (l-r) Neil Saffer, Amy and Mike Kazma, Terry Fedele, Greg Hazle, Jan Savarick, Christine Lynn, Pia Giannone and Spencer Siegel. Photo provided

"Everything about it is first-class."

Honorees are community leader Terry Fedele, Boca Helping Hands Executive Director Greg Hazle, philanthropists Mike and Amy Kazma and theater impresario Marilyn Wick. Rotarian Pia Giannone also will receive an award.

Proceeds will benefit one of the club's most important missions: to fund scholarships at FAU and Palm Beach State College for students in both academics and trades.

"It's wherever we can make a difference, whether someone wants to be a plumber or someone wants to get a college degree," Saffer said. "We have

helped hundreds of students whose parents are happy, proud and grateful.

"It's a wonderful event, and it's dual-purpose," he said. "Those we honor support missions like ours and often become advocates for missions like ours. Some even guide our students if not hire them." ★

If You Go

What: Rotary Club of Boca Raton OPAL awards
When: 6:30 to 11 p.m. Jan. 14
Where: Boca West Country Club, 20583 Boca West Drive, Boca Raton
Cost: \$300
Information: 561-477-7180; opalawards.com or rotaryclubbocaraton.com

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Philanthropy Notes

Comprehensive plan aims to raise \$600 million for FAU

Florida Atlantic University has kicked off the public phase of its first comprehensive campaign in more than 20 years.

“Transcend Tomorrow: The Campaign for Florida Atlantic University” is an ambitious plan to raise \$600 million for the school and will focus on three fundraising priorities: health, the environment and scholarship/student success.

“Private support has played an important role in the genesis, development and growth of FAU,” said Chris Delisio, vice president of institutional advancement and CEO of the FAU Foundation. “Transcend Tomorrow provides us with an opportunity to focus our fundraising priorities as we plan and prepare for the needs of the future.”

For more information, call 561-297-6144 or visit transcendtomorrow.fau.edu.

Closing literacy gap

The Golden Bell Education Foundation, together with the Education Foundation of Palm Beach County and the School District of Palm Beach County, has distributed kits to Boca Raton Elementary School to kick off a reading program.

The kits are part of the S.P.I.R.E. program, for Specialized Program Individualizing Reading Excellence.

In addition, members of both foundations came together to present the district with a \$40,000 donation.

S.P.I.R.E. is a communitywide initiative to help close the literacy gap for underperforming students in kindergarten through third grade at all 13 public elementary schools in Boca Raton.

For more info, visit www.goldenbelleducationfoundation.org or call 561-395-4433, extension 232.



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

Impact 100 PBC addresses the needs of those with food insecurity in our community.

“When my favorite meal is delivered by the Soup Kitchen, it gives me feelings of comfort and security I otherwise wouldn’t have.”

In 2015 and again in 2022, the Soup Kitchen received **\$100,000 GRANTS** from Impact 100 PBC to fund high-impact food initiatives for the less fortunate in our community.



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To learn more, visit our website: www.impact100pbc.org

The next edition of *The Coastal Star* will be delivered the weekend of Feb. 4

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Celebrations

Mad Hatter Holiday Cocktail Party
Private home, Ocean Ridge — Dec. 11



The Ocean Ridge Garden Club kicked off the holiday season with a hat-wearing event that put all who attended in the spirit. Members reflected on the season and everything they accomplished, including raising money for the Ann Cody Camp Wekiva Scholarship Fund. Looking ahead, the club is planning field trips and environmental initiatives in 2023.



ABOVE: (l-r) Jill and John Shibles, Jen Pekowski and Virginia Sigety. **INSET:** Mary Ann Cody and Helen Smith. **Photos provided**

Golden Jubilee
The Boca Raton — Dec. 3



The YMCA of South Palm Beach County's 50th-anniversary gala drew 700-plus guests and raised a record-breaking \$2 million. 'We are so proud of the role that the Y has played in the transformation of Boca Raton over the past 50 years and look forward to even bigger contributions to all ages of our community in the future,' Chairwoman Terry Fedele said. Funds will help purchase buses and support a teen arts initiative and a cancer-care program. **ABOVE:** (l-r) Bill and Mary Donnell, Renee Feder, and Kathy and Paul Adkins. **INSET:** (l-r) Francesca Daniels, YMCA President and CEO Jason Hagensick, and Myrna Gordon Skurnick. **Photos provided by Carlos Aristizabal**





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Celebrations

Birthday proclamation

Town Hall, Ocean Ridge — Dec. 8

Dorothy Taylor (in front row) was recognized for her 100th birthday during a Town Commission meeting. Taylor, a nurse, was divorced when she moved to Florida from Illinois with her daughter in the 1960s. She became one of the first single women in Palm Beach County to apply for a permit to build a single-family home. She fought for a construction loan from the banks and to find an architect and contractor who took her plans seriously for her Ocean Ridge home, which was completed in 1969. **Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star**



Prism

Kravis Center, West Palm Beach — Dec. 6



The Dreyfoos School of the Arts staged its ninth-annual extravaganza, featuring more than 400 young musicians performing holiday classics. The 90-minute, sold-out show highlighted band, piano, orchestra and vocal students. Underwritten by James and Sue Patterson, the concert and its proceeds benefit the school's music department.

LEFT: (l-r) Nancy Hart, George Elmore and Marti LaTour. **RIGHT:** Lisa Marie Conte Browne and Ellen Liman. **Photos provided**

30th anniversary celebration

Kravis Center, West Palm Beach — Dec. 12



Dress Circle members of the performing arts center were honored during a special dinner attended by more than 250 supporters. After dinner, everyone enjoyed music by the duo Black Violin, a violist and a violinist who combine their classical training with hip-hop influences. 'Our 30th anniversary season is a great time to celebrate the Kravis Center's past, present and future,' CEO Diane Quinn said. 'Annual giving is a substantial part of our operations each year, and we simply could not offer the caliber of our educational programming without your support.' **LEFT:** Katherine and Gary Parr. **RIGHT:** Cindy and Ron McMackin. **Photos provided by CAPEHART**

Mayors Ball

Boca West Country Club, Boca Raton — Nov. 12



The Rotary Club Downtown Boca Raton presented its seventh-annual black-tie affair highlighted by a pair of live flamingos befitting the theme: 'Boca Raton, A Tropical Paradise.' More than \$320,000 was raised to support health and wellness needs in the community. Auctions, dancing and an awards ceremony rounded out the evening. **ABOVE:** Honorees Cliff and Eda Viner. **Photo provided by Gina Fontana**

Walk of Recognition

The Addison, Boca Raton — Nov. 29



The Boca Raton Historical Society / The Schmidt Boca Raton History Museum welcomed more than 100 supporters and dignitaries to the annual ceremony and reception honoring volunteers and organizations whose service has enriched the city and its residents. Honorees were Steven Abrams, Marta Batmasian, John and Arline McNally and Lynn Russell. The Addison received a special Historic Preservation Award. **ABOVE:** (l-r) Society Chairwoman Olivia Hollaus with Zoe Lanham, Rochelle LeCavalier and Rebecca DeMonte. **Photo provided by Tracey Benson Photography**

BIRDS

Continued from page AT1

species pausing as they flee the Northern chill for the warmth of South and Central America.

Those places have also been a magnet for people who enjoy the challenge of spotting a rare species, as well as those who find joy just seeing birds in their natural habitat.

“South County has some excellent birding spots,” says Chuck Weber, a longtime Palm Beach County birder, who coordinates the Christmas Bird Count for Audubon Everglades, the local branch of the national organization.

The Christmas Bird Count, held Jan. 2, encompassed an area 15 miles in diameter, including parts of the barrier island and a large chunk of South County.

While the consensus is that the number of birds in North America is down, Weber says that too many variables make it difficult to determine if this is the case here, although it is likely.

Still, last season there were 146 species identified in the count, similar to previous years, with the likelihood that the numbers will be close this time around.

One reason South County and the whole of Palm Beach County remain popular among birds is the diversity of habitat, which provides food, shelter and safety for many species.

For coastal shorebirds, South County offers miles of beaches, including some that do not get a lot of human visitors. Songbirds can find homes in coastal hammocks, while wading birds flock to both natural and man-made wetlands.

Local government agencies, says birder Sue Young, deserve a healthy dose of the credit for ensuring that natural habitat remains accessible to wildlife — and to people who enjoy witnessing them in action. “When we preserve these areas, the birds are going to show up,” she said.

Tucked between condos, townhomes and residential neighborhoods throughout South County are also small nature preserves, including the Hypoluxo Scrub Natural Area, Ocean Ridge Natural Area, the Seacrest Scrub Natural Area in Boynton Beach, the Delray Oaks Natural Area in Delray Beach, and the Pondhawk Natural Area in Boca Raton.

These spots provide habitat for many critters and don't always have the abundance of birds found at more recognized locations, but they are on many birders' lists of spots worth visiting occasionally.

Here are several popular birding spots in southern Palm Beach County.

Lantana Nature Preserve

440 E. Ocean Ave.

Drive too quickly along Ocean Avenue as you head west from State Road A1A and there's



Weber

a good chance

you'll scoot right past the entrance to the Lantana Nature Preserve, a 4.6-acre man-made oasis that has become a magnet for birds

traversing the East Coast.

“We think of it as a migration hot spot,” says longtime Palm Beach County birder Chuck Weber. “It's a beautiful little



A prothonotary warbler. Photo by Chuck Weber

spot.”

Weber credits the town of Lantana for creating the preserve — just west of the Carlisle home for seniors —

using mostly Florida trees and shrubs to transform a site that had been overgrown and strewn with litter into a peaceful refuge for birds and birders.

“They did a great job of creating a native coastal hammock,” Weber said. That's important, he says, because birds generally prefer native plants and trees for shelter and food.

What makes it special: The Lantana Nature Preserve is small and easily accessible. You'll find an abundance of native trees — from strangler figs and gumbo limbo to poisonwood and mangroves

— that draw mostly smaller songbirds during migrations.

What you'll see: Many of the birds you'll see at the preserve are usual suspects found in the area during migration periods, including blue-gray gnatcatchers, a variety of warblers and painted and indigo buntings.

In the fall, you might see a chestnut-sided warbler.

Rare sightings: A red-legged thrush was sighted there a few years back, and so was a La Sagras flycatcher.

“For such a small place, it has an impressive list of rarities,” Weber said.

Green Cay Nature Center and Wetlands

12800 Hagen Ranch Road
Boynton Beach

Wakodahatchee Wetlands

13270 Jog Road
Delray Beach

When Sue Young wants to show off Florida wildlife to visitors from the North, her first stop is typically Wakodahatchee Wetlands.

“The sheer spectacle of nesting birds there blows everyone away,” she says,



Young

explaining that wood storks, great blue herons and great egrets have created close-up rookeries hard to find anywhere else in the area. Like its neighbor Green Cay, Wakodahatchee is a man-made wetland filled with water from nearby county-operated water treatment plants. Both have boardwalks winding through them that escort visitors up close to avian visitors as well as an occasional alligator.

“They've taken Florida habitat and shrunk it down to a manageable size,” Young says.

While Wakodahatchee is smaller and may have birds



A roseate spoonbill. Photo by Sue Young

in greater concentrations, the 100-acre Green Cay has a bigger variety, partially because it includes a larger woodland habitat. Young has seen as many as 50 species in one day there.

What makes them special: The boardwalks bring visitors close to the birds, and over time, the wildlife have accepted people passing by.

“You have a chance to see natural behavior from a bird that would normally get spooked and fly away,” Young said.

What you'll see: Both locations have a similar assortment of wading birds and ducks, while pied-billed grebes, common gallinules, tricolored

herons, great blue herons and great egrets are abundant. At Wakodahatchee, you'll see more wood storks and great blue herons, while at Green Cay you're likely to see more warblers in the woodland areas.

Rare sightings: Green Cay has had barred owls and eastern screech owls visit, and a pair of Chuck-will's-widows have taken residence this season. In the past, Green Cay has seen a La Sagras flycatcher, a least grebe and a reddish egret. At Wakodahatchee, a golden-winged warbler — normally seen in South or Central America — was spotted several years ago, creating international interest among birders.

Spanish River Park

3001 N. Ocean Blvd.
Boca Raton

There are few remaining places for birders in Palm Beach County the size of Boca Raton's expansive Spanish River Park. Coastal shore birds are in



Miller

abundance east of State Road A1A, and migratory songbirds find shelter in the old Florida

growth on the west inside the oceanfront sanctuary. Not far offshore you'll find seabirds such as gannets, and on the west side of the park mangroves will attract an occasional egret or great blue heron.

“Spanish River Park is a great place to see birds because there's so many different species, both on the beach and in the park, on any given day,” says birder Kenny Miller, who can be seen



A piping plover. Photo by Kenny Miller

many mornings on the beach before sunrise and in the park shortly thereafter.

He is always on the lookout for hard-to-find species. During an October visit, he counted 49 bird species, including a rare, white-crowned pigeon.

The nearly 95-acre park — which has three tunnels, making it easy to navigate between the two habitats — also includes two trails winding through the coastal hammock.

There is a \$35 daily charge for parking inside the park and metered parking is available on Spanish River Boulevard at \$2 per hour.

What makes it special: Spanish River Park attracts a diversity of wildlife found in two very different habitats. Several species of coastal shorebirds patrol the beach while the coastal hammock draws songbirds and others during migration.

What you'll see: On the beach, you'll see laughing gulls, herring gulls, royal terns, sanderlings and an occasional willet, as well as a handful of other species. Peering out over the ocean, you'll see seagulls, gannets, perhaps a common loon and even a scoter. Migratory birds, including many species of warblers, can be found inside the park.

Rare sightings: The first Florida sighting of a hermit warbler took place at Spanish River Park several years ago. A mangrove cuckoo was discovered there, and piping plovers have been seen on the beach.

Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge

10216 Lee Road
Boynton Beach

Susan Wasserman often walks along the levee and marsh trails of the Loxahatchee Wildlife Refuge just before the sun sinks over the wetlands. She searches the trees and wetlands for elusive birds.

Wasserman tends to avoid the boardwalk that twists through a small hardwood portion of the park where the



Wasserman

Everglades meets urbanization, preferring solid ground instead. “You're not walking over the wetlands, you're walking in them,” she says. “I don't feel like an observer of the wildlife. I feel like I'm among it.”

A natural Everglades ecosystem, the refuge “is a mosaic of wet prairies, sawgrass ridges, sloughs, tree islands, cattail communities and a 400-acre cypress swamp,” according to the park literature.

To enter the refuge, a \$10 daily entry fee per car or a \$25 annual pass is required. The park offers a variety of recreational activities and includes a nature center.

What makes it special: This national wildlife refuge, covering over 225 square miles, is home to about 250 species of birds, including the Everglades snail kite, an endangered species.

What you'll see: Sandhill cranes, large pileated woodpeckers, wood ducks, monk parakeets and nanday parakeets are frequent visitors. Owls, including a great-horned owl and barred owls, also have been seen.

Rare sightings: Birders flocked to Loxahatchee a few years back when a vermilion flycatcher was spotted. But to make even a routine trip unforgettable, they can watch the hundreds, maybe thousands, of European starlings seemingly dance on cue through the sky — creating a murmuration at sunset.

Images from Lake Ida

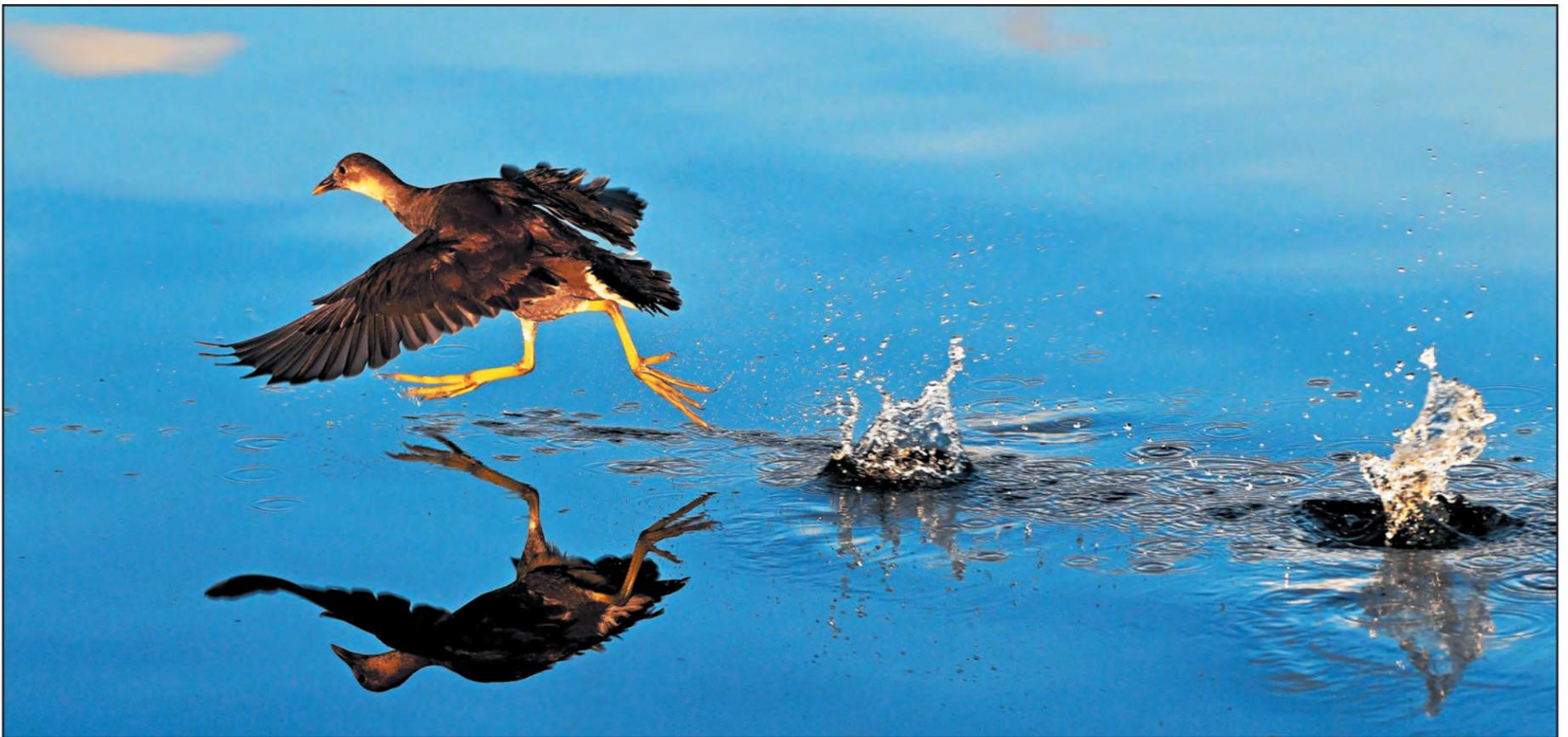
RIGHT: A red-eared slider turtle fends off a curious great blue heron.

FAR RIGHT: A spot-breasted oriole glows in the early morning light as it searches for a meal.

BELOW: A juvenile gallinule creates an image of itself as it takes off from the lake's placid waters.

BOTTOM RIGHT: An osprey carries off a largemouth bass for its breakfast.

Photos by Peter W. Cross



Lakeview Park
1100 Lake Drive
Delray Beach

It wasn't until the pandemic that retired photojournalist Peter W. Cross started paying attention to the birds visiting this small park tucked into the Lake Ida neighborhood.

During early morning visits with his yellow Labrador retriever Roxy, Cross noticed common wading birds such as egrets and herons. But as he became more attuned to the bird life around him, he recognized other species, including woodpeckers, warblers and even raptors.

"When the pandemic happened, all this wildlife came out," Cross said. "You'll see just about every type of bird."

The park is easily accessible on the eastern edge of the

natural lake and since the water is home to several species of fish — including peacock and largemouth bass — it is a favorite for birds, including an occasional raptor, Cross said.

What makes it special: The park is a hidden gem, where visitors can stand on a dock at the water's edge and see several species of resident birds, as well as a few migrating species.

What you'll see: Osprey, red-shouldered hawks and Cooper's hawks are frequent visitors, as are many types of warblers and woodpeckers common to the area. Limpkins pulling apple snails from their shells are often seen, and a roseate spoonbill may make an appearance.

Rare sightings: The park has attracted a spot-breasted oriole, and Cross has caught a glimpse of a bald eagle soaring over the lake, hunting for a morning meal.



Cross



Dining

Service fees one way restaurateurs cope with skyrocketing costs

Have you checked your dining check lately? In the past few months, diners may have noticed a service charge added to their bills, typically 18%.

That's an automatic tip for what chef Jeremy Hanlon of Benny's on the Beach at Lake Worth calls "support staff." It's a guaranteed amount for each table. Diners have the option of tipping more if they choose, and many do, Hanlon said.

Hanlon says all of the fee goes to people who serve, bus tables or tend bar. "If a server doesn't make their numbers for whatever reason, the others that are tipped out from their tables aren't losing out."

At most restaurants, the fee used to appear only on checks for parties of eight or more. It's now showing up on every check in many restaurants in Palm Beach County.

"This isn't something new," Hanlon said. "Miami's been

doing it forever. New York, other cities — it's always there. I think diners are beginning to accept it."

Service fees are but one way restaurant owners say they are coping with skyrocketing food costs, increased rent, and especially rising labor costs that are mandated by Florida law.

"It's a tough business right now. I ran the numbers," said Gary Rack.



Rack

"The minimum wage increase over the next five years will cost hundreds of thousands of dollars. That's labor alone for our three restaurants. And I'm just a small chain. It's going to hurt a lot of smaller full-serve restaurants."

Rack, CEO of the GR Restaurant Group, runs Rack's Farmhouse Kitchen in Boca Raton, and a Rack's Farmhouse

and Rack's Fish House in Delray Beach.

He said it's not only labor but food costs that have driven menu increases as well. "The consumer eventually is going to say, 'I can't go out.' We're a scratch kitchen. We use quality ingredients. But they've gotten out of control."

One of the best sellers on the menu at Farmhouse is a cauliflower flatbread. He uses a lot of the fresh vegetable weekly.

"Two weeks ago, cauliflower was \$95 a case — it used to be \$45. Food costs are brutal," Rack said. "Romaine lettuce was so expensive, we quit serving Caesar salads for a couple days because we couldn't afford to put the salad on the plate to make any money. Now, romaine has come down, but every day it's something. It's completely out of control."

George Patti, owner of M.E.A.T. in Boca Raton, said he's back in the kitchen in his restaurants because of a labor shortage. "I put myself back on the daily schedule," he said.

It's a crisis for hospitality, he said, one that started during the pandemic and shows no signs of letting up. Not only a lack of workers, but responsible workers: "ones who show up."

"It's a younger generation. They don't want to work. Silly kids. They want to play on their phone and make money. And guess what? They do. They stay at home and do TikTok or YouTube videos and make more than at a real job."

Patti also cites food delivery costs as well as the fluctuating prices of the food itself, such as chicken wings — \$185 for a 40-pound case a while back, then dropped to \$80, but soon to rise again with the Super Bowl around the corner.

"We can't sacrifice quality. Meat is our name," Patti said. "But there's no predicting costs. A 20-pound box of tomatoes is \$64; it used to be \$25. It's crazy."

To keep menu prices reasonable and within diners' perceptions of fair value, he's working in the kitchen, he said, and has signed up "with every delivery platform out there."

Takeout and delivery reduce meal costs where labor is concerned, though he has a dedicated person in the small eatery to handle all the takeout orders and deliveries.

He's adjusted again and found a niche in office deliveries and party catering. "We'll do \$400 deliveries at lunch to offices," Patti said. "It's definitely helped. We're just trying to make it."

Chef/owner Jimmy Everett of Driftwood, an 80-seat restaurant in Boynton Beach, has been trying for the last year "to figure things out. Things are changing all the time."

"It used to be there were industry standards that typically worked," he said. "There was a good way to make a sustainable profit. You knew that a 28-to-



Butterfly snapper is one of the dishes offered at Benny's on the Beach Oceanwalk in Lake Worth Beach. Photo provided

30% food cost was good. Now, a 25% cost is what it takes to just survive. Labor is 50%. That's terrible. We're trying to figure out how to balance it all out. There's no rulebook for this."

Driftwood makes meals from scratch. Food costs are unpredictable, though a flexible daily menu helps, he said. It's easier for him to adjust with a small restaurant.

But there's a line when it comes to charging the diner more. "In a matter of less than a week our cost of cauliflower went from \$45 to over \$100. I can't charge \$22 for a Buffalo cauliflower app. Either we take it off the menu or we replace it with something," Everett said.

Hidden costs that go into a meal, nonfood items such as appliance servicing and cleaning products and even ink and paper for printing daily menus, are straining budgets as well. "These are the things the diner doesn't see," Everett said.

But, he said, "My biggest concern is what's happening with the minimum wage law changes. It will have a huge impact on every single full-service restaurant and the front of the house who serves their products."

Florida's law raises minimum wage to \$15 for tipped workers over the next five years. That's a dollar-an-hour increase each year for five years.

"All of my wait staff make more money than I do," Everett said. "I'm fine with that. I know a lot of others won't be."

How to deal with it "will be a huge hurdle when it all plays out. I don't have an answer."

A service charge on the check is one thing he is considering, but it's part of a dilemma pitted against raising menu prices.

"If we change our tip structure, that can cause issues with our customers. Or the wait staff. The crowd we have, sure they look at prices, but people here come in for more than a plate of food to fill their stomachs. It's an experience."

Either way, higher menu prices or a service charge, he thinks people will figure it out. "At the end of the day, they'll say, 'I spent this much at this place and it was this much, and I spent the same amount at this place with a service charge.'"

For Everett, "it's making sure we're being honest. I want it to be fair. I want people to feel like they're getting value, whether they're spending \$20 or \$200."

He's preparing for the possibility that diners will eat out less frequently. He can't say it's happening yet, though he's observed that crowds may be thinner. Sales numbers are equal to last year's, however.

Driftwood opened only two years before the pandemic, so Everett can't compare sales records for years back.

"We're constantly assessing everything, every day," he said.

Benny's goes to land

Benny's on the Beach has expanded into the Lake Worth Casino plaza, taking over the spot of its former sister restaurant Viva La Playa.

Called Benny's on the Beach Oceanwalk, the 200-seat seafood restaurant and bar is an adjunct to the original on the Lake Worth Beach pier.

"We've redone the interior, provided a slightly modernized atmosphere," Hanlon said. "It will drive the beachside vibe all along the beach. But it's Benny's menu, with a few tweaks from my travels."

While Viva La Playa had a "specialness" to it, he said, "we felt it was taking the focus away from Benny's. We wanted to put all our eggs in one basket as a brand."

The menu is all of Benny's favorites, plus steak, more taco dishes, and some new style dishes Hanlon has concocted from traditional seafood dishes.

"We'll have different flavor combos," he said, representing his international cooking techniques and incorporating favorite flavors.

It is open for lunch and dinner, with reservations for dinner only at the moment. Breakfast is served on weekends starting at 10 a.m., but that may expand in season, he said.

Benny's on the Beach Oceanwalk, 10 S. Ocean Blvd., Lake Worth Beach. Open daily for lunch and dinner, breakfast Saturdays and Sundays. www.Bennysonthebeach.com.

In brief: According to a post on the Facebook page of the old Ellie's '50s Diner in Delray Beach, the owners of Bees Knees Diner of West Palm Beach are set to take over at Ellie's, which closed in 2022. Stay tuned.



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

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Film

Palm Beach Film Festival looks to be inclusive

By Jan Engoren

Palm Beach ArtsPaper Contributing Writer

Live film festivals are back, and a new one, the Donald M. Ephraim Palm Beach Film Festival, makes its debut Jan. 26 with the opening night film, the U.S. premiere of the French comedy *Two Tickets to Greece* at the Kravis Center Cohen Pavilion.

Directed by Marc Fitoussi, who is scheduled to attend the screening, the film stars Laure Calamy, Olivia Côte and Kristin Scott Thomas.

Presented by MorseLife, the festival runs through Feb. 16, offering dozens of international features, documentaries and short films from more than 20 countries.

“The festival will bring highly anticipated, critically acclaimed, and thought-provoking films to Palm Beach County,” says founder Donald M. Ephraim. “We look forward to featuring works of emerging and established filmmakers, a high-quality mix of independent films, documentaries and short films, offering something for every community and demographic.”

A number of films feature emerging women directors, such as Delray Beach-based Sasha Levinson (*Sylvie of the Sunshine State*); others appeal to LGBTQ+



LEFT: Sylviana Bellanca in *Sylvie of the Sunshine State* (Jan. 28). RIGHT: Charlotte Rampling in *Juniper* (Jan. 30, Feb. 5, 6 and 12). Photos provided



LEFT: A scene from *Calendar Girls* (Jan. 28, Feb. 4 and 7). RIGHT: South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu and the Dalai Lama in *Mission: Joy* (Jan. 31 and Feb. 13).



audiences (*No Straight Lines: The Rise of Queer Comics*); and a number of Israeli- and Jewish-themed films will screen, such as Marvin Samel's comedy *iMordecai*, starring Judd Hirsch and Carol Kane.

Films will show throughout the county, including at CMX at the Gardens, CMX Wellington, Movies of Lake Worth, Paragon at Delray Marketplace and the Regal Royal Palm Beach.

Highlights include “Dinner & a Movie” Jan. 29-31 at the IPIC theater in Boca Raton's Mizner Park, and Jan. 30, Feb. 6 and 13 at IPIC in Delray Beach, all featuring a three-course dinner at your seat alongside a specially curated film for \$56 per person.

The intent of the selected films is to encourage dialogue and interaction among attendees, says Ellen Wedner, festival director. “Our goal is

to foster collaboration with community partners, diverse populations and student filmmakers,” she said.

In the future, festival organizers plan to expand the event in response to feedback from the audience as well as film industry insiders, Wedner said.

Documentaries feature prominently in the festival and include Bryan Darling's *All Man: The International*

Male Story, a look back at the mail-order catalog's impact on fashion, masculinity and gay rights; Eric Hamburg's *Darryl Jones: In The Blood*, the story of the Rolling Stones bassist who replaced Bill Wyman; Geeta Gandbhir's *Lowndes County and the Road to Black Power*, a historical account of the road to voting rights and

See **FILM** on AT12

Music

Entrepreneur reopens Double Roads music tavern in Jupiter this month

By Bill Meredith

Palm Beach ArtsPaper Music Writer

Baby Boomer nostalgia seems to be fueling a lot of modern leisure and entertainment, especially in South Florida, but there are some things that can't be brought back.

Like Double Roads, the area along the ocean north of Marcinski Road in Juno Beach. That's where teens, many of whom are now in the Boomer age bracket, once congregated from the 1960s through the 1980s. There were evening bonfires on the beach, musical listening sessions, and various activities during that era, both in the sand and parked cars, that are no longer tolerated or ignored by local authorities.

Double Roads Tavern, on the other hand, returned to bring back a bit of such namesake nostalgia and beyond. Husband-and-wife co-owners Vince and Kelly Flora initially opened the club in 2014 at 251 U.S. 1 in Jupiter, where it became a mainstay restaurant and live music destination until a series of complications led to



A wheel of instruments graces the ceiling of the bar. Bill Meredith/ArtsPaper

its closure in 2021.

That closure practically became temporary for the sake of a new-and-improved makeover. Less than two years later, Double Roads reopens at 5 p.m. on Jan. 19 as more of a variety restaurant

See **DOUBLE ROADS** on AT13

Opera

PB Opera takes on cultural clash in 'Madama Butterfly'

By Greg Stepanich

Palm Beach ArtsPaper Editor

The opening of Japan to Western trade in the 1850s engendered a flurry of exotic-themed art in Europe and the United States. Painters and interior designers, dramatists and musicians created numerous works that evoked the mysteries of the land of the Chrysanthemum Throne.

Many of these works examined the clash of East and West, including a French novel, an American short story, and then an American play that told the story of a teenage geisha who marries a Western naval officer. For his sixth opera, *Madama Butterfly*, the Italian composer Giacomo Puccini drew on

the play, by David Belasco, to create a piece of theater that has been one of the world's favorite operas almost since its premiere in 1904.

But the story's basic premise — a young Japanese girl renounces her religion and culture to marry a U.S. Navy officer who considers the marriage to be only one of convenience until he can have a “real” marriage to an American girl — and its tragic ending are harder for today's audiences to accept in a time of global digital interconnectivity and heightened cultural sensitivity.

Which is why Palm Beach Opera, which will open its 61st season this month with three performances of *Madama*

See **OPERA** on AT15

FILM

Continued from page 11

black empowerment in rural Alabama in the early 1960s; and Louie Psihoyos's *Mission: Joy*, an exploration of the friendship between Archbishop Desmond Tutu and the Dalai Lama.

South Florida is represented with Levinson's *Sylvie of the Sunshine State*, a family story set during the COVID-19 pandemic, and *Calendar Girls*, a documentary shot by Swedish spouses Maria Loothufvud and Love Martinsen, following a group of retired women from the Fort Myers area who have a passion for dance and use it to raise money for charity.

The subjects are the Calendar Girls song and dance team, founded in 2005 by Katherine Shortlidge.

Dressed in full makeup and handmade costumes, the dancers, aged 55 to 82, give it everything they've got, performing in 150 shows a year all over Southwest Florida.

With a motto of "Maturity in Motion," the dance team raises money for Southeastern Guide Dogs in Palmetto, a charity that trains puppies and places them with children and veterans who have impaired vision.

The film, which tells the stories of four of the women, virtually world-premiered at Sundance in January and premiered at the Fort Myers Film Festival in May.



If You Go

The Palm Beach Film Festival runs Jan. 26 to Feb. 16, with more than 100 films shown. Venues include the Boca Raton and Delray Beach IPIC theaters and the Paragon at Delray Marketplace. **More info:** DMEPBFF.org, or call 561-867-3109 to request a brochure or join the Festival Film Society.

"We only realized this was something big when the film got accepted to Sundance," says Shortlidge, 71.

"Maria and Love shot a lot of footage, but we didn't know how it would all come together," she says. "The film has changed all our lives. When it screened in Fort Myers, all the husbands and community came out. They were so proud of us."

"It was great to see our families beaming at us. Without their support it would be hard to do."

The women have bonded, despite occasional "drama," and

will appear and perform live at Movies of Lake Worth on Jan. 28 after the screening.

Over the years the Calendar Girls have raised tens of thousands of dollars for the guide dogs organization, says Shortlidge.

"It's a feather in our cap to perform and raise money for Southeastern Guide Dogs," Shortlidge says.

"When you swap sweat, it bonds you for life. You don't have to be best friends but you have to work together as a team. We're different shapes and sizes, have different political and religious beliefs, but our love of dance unites us."

They have recently submitted a tape to *America's Got Talent* and have hopes they may be selected to appear on an upcoming season of the show.

"We're excited to come and perform at the Palm Beach Film Festival and honored to be featured in this film," says Shortlidge, who has a bit of a reputation as a drill sergeant. "In addition to our volunteerism and fundraising, this will always be a part of our legacy."

In addition to the eight documentaries, the festival will screen more than 29 feature films, including the closing night film, Jonathan Keijser's 2021 feature film from Canada, *Peace By Chocolate*, a heartwarming tale about Syrian refugees forging a new life in Canada.



Laure Calamy in the French-language *My Donkey, My Lover & I* (Jan. 29, Feb. 3 and 14).



(l-r) Laure Calamy, Kristin Scott Thomas and Olivia Côte in *Two Tickets to Greece* (Jan. 26).



Ayham Abou Ammar and Hatem Ali in *Peace by Chocolate* (Feb. 16). Photos provided

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DOUBLE ROADS

Continued from page 11

and club a stone's throw to the north — at the old Outback Steakhouse location in the Jupiter Square plaza at the corner of U.S. 1 and Indiantown Road.

"I had a seven-year lease at the old location and decided not to renew," Vince Flora says. "After COVID hit, it was just a bad mix of the politics and legalities of trying to present live music outdoors. Especially the noise ordinance, where one person can complain from anywhere and create a problem. I have a 10-year lease here, and the space to implement all the ideas I didn't have room for there, where I had about 2,700 square feet. Here, it's almost 7,000, and with better parking."

Flora knows what type of club he wants to present, because he has primarily performed as a vocalist and harmonica player in ones that weren't up to snuff. His past area blues/rock vehicles included The Hellhounds and Night Train; his current act, Big Vince and the Phat Cats, will continue the tradition of appearing occasionally at the new Double Roads.

Other traditions that will continue include a stylish, music-themed interior that includes instruments on the walls and even on the ceiling, a full-liquor bar, quality wines, and music-themed craft beers. There's an array of vintage LP covers on display, with the albums inside, that get put to use on the club's Tuesday



A mural inside the Double Roads celebrates the Jupiter lifestyle. **Bill Meredith/Arts-Paper**

"33½ Nights," and Sundays will again be reserved for jazz, with a brunch early and a jam afterward.

A new menu will feature Southern-style barbecue, seafood and burgers, plus pizzas from a separate wood-fired oven that will also be available as to-go orders, all with a Florida flair from an expansive kitchen.

"I always wanted to serve quality barbecue," Flora says. "There'll be brisket, pulled pork sandwiches, mac and cheese, collard greens, pickled foods, homemade bread from our pizza oven, and smoked shrimp, salmon, and fish dip. We just catered a wedding out in Jupiter Farms for 200 people."

A green room adjacent to the main stage on the north wall will be available for private VIP lounge party rentals for six to eight people for \$200. Additional LPs, instruments (some autographed), musical accessories, T-shirts and more will be for sale from a booth near the front doors, with 30% of the sales going toward the health insurance program Flora has set up for his employees.

Bob Dylan's signature line of

If You Go

See the Jake Walden Band from 6-8:30 p.m., and the Chris O'Leary Band 9:30 p.m.-1 a.m. on the opening night of Jan. 19. Multi-instrumentalist Tom Regis & Friends hosts the 'Jazz Brunch' noon-3 p.m. and a jazz jam from 5-9 p.m. on Sundays; guitarist/vocalist Frank Bang hosts Chicago blues jam sessions 7-11 p.m. Mondays, and The North 40 performs 7:30-11:30 p.m. on 'Western Whiskey Wednesdays' at Double Roads, 103 U.S. 1, Suite A1, Jupiter. **Info: 561-203-7061; doubleroadstavern.com.**

libation co-creations, Heaven's Door Whiskey, will be among the liquors available. "We wanted to create a collection of American whiskeys that, in their own way, tell a story," Dylan says on his website.

There's even a private 1920s-style, sound-proofed Heaven's Door speakeasy, with a separate entrance accessible only through a thumb print on the club's south end. It features Dylan's own welded iron metal gate sculptures, an additional bar, and a staging area for smaller live music acts.

"It's a Prohibition-era room with a jazz and blues theme," says Flora. "This is a membership club priced at \$1,500 per year. For that, you get an elevated level of service, with craft cocktail bartenders and a special food menu, and

the room will be event-driven for things like football games, happy hours, and corporate meetings. Chris Blackwell, from Island Records and Blackwell Rum, will be doing a James Bond night where we serve rum and show Bond films."

Anyone interested in membership can contact Double Roads by emailing heavensdoor speakeasyjupfl@gmail.com.

Much of the club's additional square footage is taken up by the speakeasy and kitchen, with the main room comparable to the entirety of the previous location. As always, that's where the Floras will continue to serve drinks, food and music seven nights per week, so patrons can expect blues, rock, jazz, country, bluegrass and rockabilly acts on additional themed nights like "Blues, Bourbon & Brisket" Thursdays. Seating at individual tables near the stage and dance floor, and at long community tables, can be reserved online.

"Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights will be \$10 to reserve a seat," Flora says. "Thursday, Friday, Saturday and

Sunday prices will vary, based on the band, from \$10 to \$25, and there'll be a \$25 minimum at all seats. We'll have local and national touring acts. Clients can refer to our website and subscribe to our mailing list to get weekly updates."

The club's main stage is sponsored by Santo Tequila, the new joint business venture between solo artist and former Van Halen front man Sammy Hagar and the Food Network's *Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives* TV host Guy Fieri. Weekend bookings were still taking shape in mid-December, but such acquaintances have Flora thinking beyond Jupiter.

"Sammy and Guy are going to help us buy entertainment and promote the club," he says. "Our goal is to open up five or six units like this, so touring acts can book mini-tours and loop through them. I'm looking at locations in Lake Worth Beach, Pompano Beach, southern Fort Lauderdale, Naples, Tampa, Sarasota, Sebastian, and St. Augustine."



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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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Reviews

A 'Cinderella' makeover and lots of laughs on way to 'Forum'

Here are excerpts of reviews as published on the Palm Beach ArtsPaper website. For the full reviews, visit palmbeachartspaper.com.

Cinderella (The Wick Theatre, Boca Raton, closed Dec. 24)

Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Cinderella*, which first enchanted TV audiences in 1957, is based on a fairy tale by Charles Perrault that has been captivating children of all ages since it was first written in 1697.

Nevertheless, when the musical was poised to make its Broadway debut in 2013, playwright Douglas Carter Beane was enlisted to give the script a makeover, injecting contemporary social issues into the timeless tale of the cruelly treated stepchild who captures the attention — and eventually wins the hand — of a charming prince.

Boca Raton's Wick Theatre served up this revised and expanded *Cinderella* as its holiday show, clearly targeting it to young theatergoers. They were probably weaned on various Disney princess stories, judging by the numerous tiara-topped tots in the audience at the matinee I attended.

But even if they were familiar



Mallory Newbrough in *Cinderella*. Photo provided by Amy Pasquantonio

with the tale of the glass slipper-wearing gal and her strict midnight curfew, they were probably taken aback by the subplots on income inequality and democratic elections, albeit tongue-in-cheek. Or perhaps their visible fidgeting was due to the production's kid-unfriendly 2½-hour running time.

Adults, on the other hand, were likely to be captivated by this cobwebs-dusted narrative, by Rodgers and Hammerstein's transporting score — *In My Own Little Corner*, *Ten Minutes Ago* and *Do I Love You Because You're Beautiful* are some of the standout songs — and by the theatrical magic in some of Travis Grant's costumes.

Early on, shabbily clad



Scott Cote (center) in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. Photo provided by Jason Nuttle

Ella (Mallory Newbrough or Daniella Mass, who alternate in the role) happens to meet Prince Topher (Elliot Mahon), little knowing that they are destined to be romantically entwined with one another.

Newbrough — last seen at the Wick miscast as an over-the-hill stripper in *Gypsy* — is far better suited to Ella. She sings like an angel, is no pushover for her stepsisters and cleans up nicely whenever she is palace-bound.

Prince Topher's role has been beefed up by Beane, and Mahon is well suited to the added dimensions. — *Hap Erstein*

A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum (Maltz Jupiter Theatre, Jupiter, closed

Dec. 18)

The late, great Stephen Sondheim is best remembered for his boundary-busting musicals brimming with angst and ambivalence. But you would never guess that from the first Broadway show to feature both his music and lyrics, 1962's *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*.

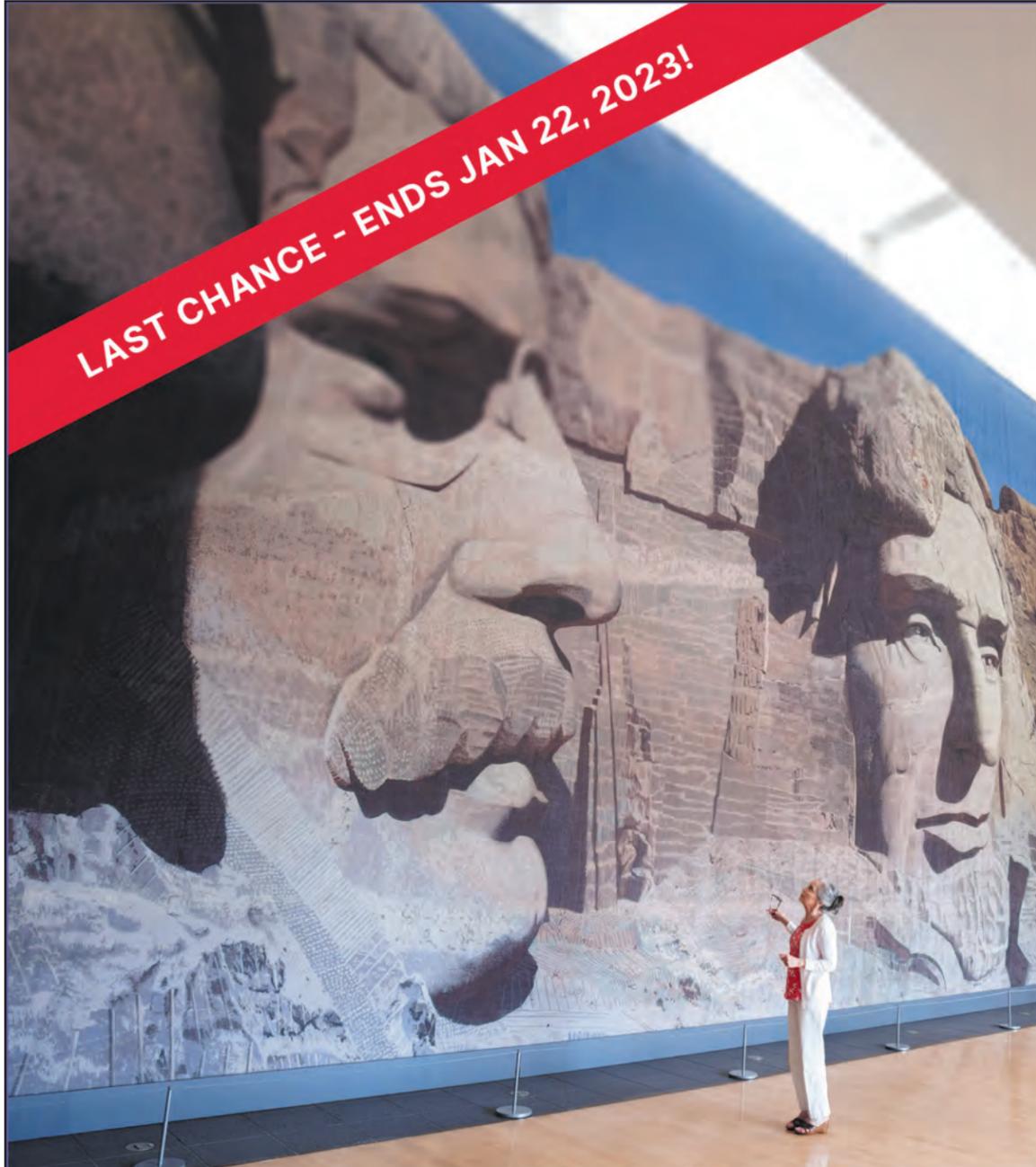
Sunny and silly, yet displaying early evidence of Sondheim's verbal mastery and penchant for unexpected melodic progressions, it is that theatrical rarity — a musical comedy that is genuinely funny. As the show's opening number promises, "Tragedy tomorrow" — his masterwork, *Sweeney Todd*, was still 17 years off in the

future, though its roots can be traced to this frisky farce.

While *Forum* lacks the emotional complexity of Sondheim's later work, that does not mean it is an easy show to pull off. But you would never sense the difficulty and precise timing required by the carefree, loose-limbed production directed with assurance by Jennifer Werner.

As you probably recall — *Forum* being Sondheim's longest-running Broadway show and one of his most performed musicals to this day — it revolves around a cunning, crafty Roman slave named Pseudolus (Scott Cote) and his efforts to gain his freedom by helping his young master Hero woo the naïve, virginal courtesan next door. In a little over two hours, the show packs in multiple mistaken identities, a few alchemical potions, a bit of cross-dressing and lots of pure vaudeville schtick.

Try as you might, it would be hard to find any deep meaning or thematic substance in *Forum*, but few have minded that absence during the past 60 years. The show is simply pure entertainment, with the laughter it generates being justification enough. — *Hap Erstein*



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THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

OPERA

Continued from page 11

Butterfly (Jan. 20-22) at the Kravis Center, has decided to tackle the issue head-on by hiring a cultural consultant.

“To ensure we are maintaining the delicate balance between honoring operatic tradition and respecting Japanese culture, PBO is collaborating with cultural consultant Satomi Hirano, the Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, and stage director Alison Moritz, who was specifically selected to direct this piece because of her experience with the work and her alignment with PBO’s initiative,” the company’s artistic director, David Walker, said in a prepared statement.

“We are embracing the opportunity to dive into everything from the costumes to the set to produce and experience this masterpiece with a new perspective,” he said. “We believe there is still much to be learned from ‘Madama Butterfly,’ and we aim to celebrate its beauty while continuing to reflect on how it resonates with us today.”

Moritz, 38, who has directed three previous productions of *Butterfly*, said she is happy to be working in opera at a time when it has left behind that part of its past in which the art form was geared only to an elite viewer. That allows her to take a fresher look at the stories of the individual operas.

“I am always looking for the



Jennifer Rowley and Toni Marie Palmertree sing the title character. Photo provided

power dynamic of the story, because I think that’s one of the fundamental things that opera is about,” Moritz said by phone from her home in Baltimore. Opera can “take something that is politically or socially problematic and examine it through the lens of the personal or familial. And I think ‘Butterfly’ does that really beautifully.”

Butterfly is set in Nagasaki in a time contemporaneous with the premiere, in the first years of the 20th century. Lt. Benjamin Franklin Pinkerton has concluded a deal with a marriage broker that will give him a house he can rent for 99 years, plus a Japanese bride with whom he can make a home. His bride will be a 15-year-old girl named Cio-Cio-San (pronounced Cho-Cho-San), or Butterfly. (Moritz says she

If You Go

Madama Butterfly will be performed at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 20; 7:30 p.m. Jan. 21; and 2 p.m. Jan. 22 in Dreyfoos Hall at the Kravis Center for the Performing Arts at 4000 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets start at \$25. Call 561-833-7888 or visit pbopera.org for more information.

thinks Butterfly is actually 18 or 19, and lies about her age.) After an unpleasant encounter with her uncle, a Buddhist priest who denounces Butterfly for rejecting her religion, the now-married Cio-Cio-San and Pinkerton sing a passionate love duet and go into their house.

In the second act, it’s three years later. Pinkerton, who left Japan after a few months, has not yet returned, but Butterfly is certain he will (she sings the celebrated aria “Un bel di,” or “One fine day”). The U.S. consul, Sharpless, arrives with a letter saying Pinkerton is on his way to Nagasaki, but with a new American wife, Kate. He tries unsuccessfully to tell Butterfly of her husband’s remarriage, but then a cannon shot is heard, announcing the return of Pinkerton’s ship, the *Abraham Lincoln*. Butterfly and her servant Suzuki go about preparing the house for his return, and then Butterfly keeps a vigil for him into the next day.

In the third act, Pinkerton and Sharpless arrive at the

house with Kate Pinkerton. The lieutenant is consumed by guilt and remorse, and leaves, after which Butterfly enters, only to find Kate, and learn that she and her husband are there to take Butterfly’s child, which she has named Trouble, back to the States. Butterfly agrees to give up her son if Pinkerton will come to get him. Alone in the house, she takes the same dagger with which her father killed himself, and commits suicide, as Pinkerton returns, calling for her.

Palm Beach Opera has double-cast its production. Soprano Jennifer Rowley sings Cio-Cio-San on Friday night and Sunday afternoon, and Toni Marie Palmertree sings the role Saturday night. Tenor Jonathan Burton is Pinkerton on Friday and Sunday, and Robert Watson takes over Saturday night. Singing Suzuki is mezzo Renee Tatum, and the role of Sharpless is sung by baritone Troy Cook. Carlo Montanaro will conduct.

Moritz, whose fascination with opera began as a 9-year-old in St. Louis, after seeing

a production of Offenbach’s operetta *La Belle Hélène*, points out that while Japanese culture is explored in the opera (for which Puccini borrowed authentic Japanese melodies to help set his scene), Butterfly is nevertheless a highly stylized drama and not a documentary.

“This is a very made-up world, a collision of American and Japanese cultures as seen through an Italian imagination,” she said. Besides, Cio-Cio-San transcends her culture.

“She is the most American character in the show. She is such an optimist. ... She is far more of an American woman, as I think about being an American woman, than Pinkerton is an American man,” Moritz said.

Moritz said she is pleased that Palm Beach Opera is willing to have a conversation about the issues raised by this beloved opera, which she says offers important perspectives despite its origins in a less enlightened past. “We want opera to be a safe space for dangerous stories,” she said.

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Book Review

Spies, lies and a big art prize

By Sharon Geltner

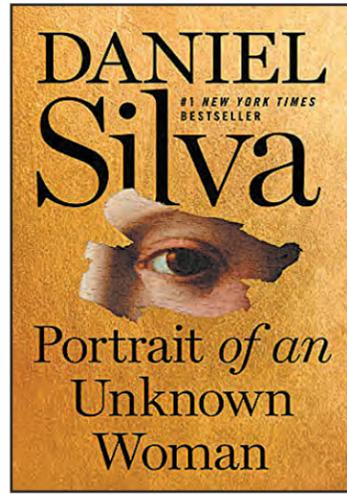
Gabriel Allon, legendary Israeli spy, has retired.

No more violence. Total serenity. A do-over.

He settles in Venice with his beautiful wife and two kids. He paints, enjoys classical music, gourmet home-cooked meals, happy times and a canal view. Soon he looks 30 years younger.

But no one reads Daniel Silva for domestic bliss. Readers want suspense, plot, intrigue. His 25th novel, *Portrait of an Unknown Woman*, delivers.

A woman is run off the road and murdered in France, on her way to meet an art dealer to expose a fake painting. The dealer, Gabriel's friend, asks him to investigate the rediscovery and authenticity of a 400-year-old Van Dyck painting, *Portrait of an Unknown Woman*. To get at the truth, Gabriel must set up a sting, deceiving experts in the



Portrait of an Unknown Woman, by Daniel Silva, HarperCollins, 431 pp., \$29.99

dark practices of art fraud.

Or as one of the characters says, "I know a provenance trap when I see one!"

Many thrillers have intricate plots. But Silva has much more: his humor, unusual way with words, a way of making

readers feel like they are in on the joke as he skewers Russian billionaires and Emirati princes.

At a café in Bordeaux, "He took stock of the other patrons ... none appeared to be French. The rest were tourists, primarily of the package variety."

Near the Gritti Palace in Venice, "There was not a tourist in sight. It was if a drain had opened ... and washed them out to sea."

Silva has us so totally into being deliciously snobby, effete Europeans that when Gabriel makes a side trip to the U.S. and gets coffee from Dunkin' Donuts, it is an affront.

Silva is steeped in sophistication in real life. In his acknowledgments he thanks friends such as Peggy Noonan, David Remnick, Henry Winkler, Marie Brenner, Bob Woodward and Anthony Scaramucci, founder of Skybridge Capital and director of communications at the Trump White House for 10 days in 2017.

The Mooch helped Silva "create a fraudulent art-based hedge fund." Ambiance.

Silva's descriptions of characters are entertaining.

Intelligence chiefs are "espiocrats."

Another character appears. "She was a slender woman of erect carriage, with short dark hair and the unblinking, too-wide eyes of an Apple emoji."

A Corsican don "launders the profits of death" and has "the brown-streaked eyes of a canine."

As for a Hamptons gold-digger, "She doesn't know a Van Dyck from a Van Gogh."

Silva moves with the times. There's a mysterious Spanish lady who arouses suspicion because she is not on LinkedIn.

Maybe the author had Gabriel retire at this late date because he was out of espionage options. He is now famous for having survived an assassination attempt by an addled U.S. congresswoman. Most everyone recognizes him.

As someone tells him, "For a man of the secret world, you have a rather famous face."

But Gabriel assures his friend that he has recovered from being shot and is left with "only an abiding concern for the future of American democracy."

Perhaps the worlds of politics and art have something in common: falling for the Big Lie.

Silva notes that the secret of the art world's success comes from "the gullibility of collectors and so-called experts and connoisseurs. The art world desperately wants to believe that there are lost masterpieces just waiting to be rediscovered."

This is the line that best sums up the book: "I'm an art dealer. ... If I was interested in ethics, I'd be working for Amnesty International."

Sharon Geltner is the author of *Charity Bashed*, a Palm Beach mystery and social satire, available on Amazon.

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Arts Calendar

Editor's note: Events listed through Feb. 3, 2023, were current as of Dec. 21, 2022. Check with the presenting agency for any changes. Ticket prices are single sales unless otherwise specified.

ART

Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens: Opens Jan. 4: *Figurative Masters of the Americas*, a collection of art by figurative masters of the 20th century including Andy Warhol, Fernando Botero, Diego Rivera and Cindy Sherman. Through Feb. 12. Through June in the Gardens: *Abundance of Riches by Luis Montoya and Leslie Ortiz, 1972-2022*, monumental sculptures of ordinary objects like a vine with two tomatoes, as created by the West Palm Beach artists. Open Wednesdays through Sundays from 10 am to 4 pm. Admission: \$15. 253 Barcelona Road, West Palm Beach. 561-832-5328. Info@ansg.org.

Armory Art Center: Through Jan. 6: Artists and Faculty 2022: A joint exhibition of works by Armory students and their teachers. Hours: Monday through Friday, 10 am to 4 pm, Saturday 10 am to 2 pm. Closed Sundays. Free admission. 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*, an exhibit of the huge painted backdrops for some of MGM's most iconic films, including *Singin' in the Rain*, *The Sound of Music* and *North by Northwest*. Through Jan. 29: *Reginald Cunningham: Black Pearls*, photos by the Washington, D.C.-based photographer of the historic Boca Raton neighborhood. Admission: \$12, seniors, \$10. Hours: 11 am to 7 pm Monday through Sunday. 501 Plaza Real (Mizner Park), Boca Raton. Call 561-392-2500 or visit www.bocamuseum.org.

Cultural Council for Palm Beach County: Through Jan. 14: *Contemporary Art of the Latin American Diaspora*, works by more than 20 Palm Beach County artists with Latin American origins. The Cultural Council is open Tuesday-Saturday, 12-5 p.m. Admission is free at the council's headquarters at 601 Lake Ave., Lake Worth Beach. Visit palmbeachculture.com/exhibitions.

Flagler Museum: The museum is open from 10 am to 5 pm daily except for Monday, and Sunday from 12 to 5 pm. Tickets: \$26; \$13 for children ages 6 to 12. Call 561-655-2833 or visit www.flaglermuseum.us for more information.

Lighthouse ArtCenter: Opens Jan. 19: Like Mind, large and small-scale work by Jason Newsted (he of Metallica fame) and his artist wife Nicole. Hours: 9 am to 5 pm Monday through Thursday; 9 am to 4 pm Friday; 10 am to 4 pm Saturday; closed Sunday. Admission: \$5 for non-members. Call 561-746-3101 or visit lighthousearts.org for more information.

Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens: Through April 2: *Washi Transformed: New Expressions in Japanese Paper*, more than 30 textured works using washi, a traditional form of Japanese paper. Through April 2. The western Delray Beach museum at 4000 Morikami Park Road is open from 10 am to 5 pm Tuesday through Sunday. Admission is \$15; seniors, \$13; children, \$9. Call 495-0233 or visit morikami.org.

Norton Museum of Art: Through Jan. 15: *Joseph Stella: Visionary Nature*, works featuring plant and animal life by the Italian-American artist most associated with images of industry; *Autumn Mountains and the Light of the Harvest Moon*, four paintings by Chinese artists from 1772 to 2006 that explore the tradition of landscape painting; through Feb. 12: *A Personal View on High Fashion and Street Style: Photographs from the Nicola Erni Collection, 1930s to Now*, works by eminent fashion and lifestyle photographers such as Irving Penn, Richard Avedon, Cindy Sherman and Helmut Newton, from the archive of an important Swiss collector; through March 12: *Henry Ossawa Tanner: Intimate Pictures*, works by the first African-American artist to achieve international recognition. Hours: Monday Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm; Friday, 10 am to 10 pm, Sunday, 11 am to 5 pm. Closed Wednesdays. Admission: \$18 adults, \$15 seniors, students, \$5, children 12 and under, free. 1450 S. Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach. Call 561-832-5196 or visit www.norton.org.

Society of the Four Arts: Through Jan. 22: *Hard Bodies: Contemporary Lacquer Sculpture*, 33 works by 16 Japanese artists who take the tradition of lacquer art to new places. At the Esther B. O'Keeffe Gallery; hours: Wednesday through Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm; Sundays 1 to 5 pm (gallery open Tuesday 1 to 5 pm for members only). Admission: \$10. Call 561-655-7226 or visit fourarts.org for more information.

CLASSICAL

Sunday, Jan. 8

Emanuel Ax: The celebrated pianist offers a program of music by Schubert and Liszt. 3 pm, Society of the Four Arts, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Tickets: \$40. Call 561-655-7226 or visit fourarts.org.

Tuesday, Jan. 10

Chamber Music Society of Palm Beach: The society celebrates its 10th anniversary with a concert of string octets: the well-known one by Mendelssohn, and the less familiar one by Max Bruch. Violinist James Ehnes joins fellow fiddlers Arnaud Sussmann, Amy Schwartz-Moretti and Grace Park; violists Paul Neubauer and Brian Chen; plus cellist Nicholas Canellakis and bassist Blake Hinson, for the dual eightsomes. 7 pm, Norton Museum of Art, 1450 S. Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$75. Call 561-379-6773 or visit www.cmspb.org for tickets.

Concerto Budapest Symphony Orchestra: Conductor Andras Keller is accompanied by pianist Zoltan Fejervari for the Third Piano Concerto of Bartok; the program also includes Liszt's Les Preludes and the Dvorak Eighth Symphony. 8 pm, Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets start at \$35. Call 561-832-7469 or visit www.kravis.org.

Wednesday, Jan. 11

Ulysses Quartet: Founded in 2015, this young New York-based quartet has already been in residence at Juilliard and will soon be in residence at Louisiana State University. The quartet opens the Classical Café series of chamber music concerts at the Duncan Theatre's Stage West on the campus of Palm Beach State College, 4200 Congress Ave., Lake Worth Beach. 2 pm. Tickets: \$35. Call 561-868-3309 or visit www.palmbeachstate.edu for more information.

Friday, Jan. 13

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra: Israeli pianist Tom Borrow is the soloist in Beethoven's Fourth Piano Concerto with the Atlantans and conductor Kazem Abdullah, who will also conduct the Seventh Symphony of Sibelius and a concert overture by the 19th-century French pianist and composer Louise Farrenc. 8 pm, Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets start at \$39. Call 561-832-7469 or visit www.kravis.org.

Sunday, Jan. 15

Calidore String Quartet: The much-esteemed quartet, which is in residence at Lincoln Center and about to embark on a recording cycle of the complete Beethoven quartets, presents Shostakovich's Eighth Quartet, Smetana's First Quartet (*From My Life*), and excerpts from Wynton Marsalis's First Quartet (*At the Octoroon Balls*). 3 pm, Society of the Four Arts, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Tickets: \$40. Call 561-655-7226 or visit fourarts.org.

Monday, Jan. 16

Vision Duo: Here's an unusual pair: Violinist Ariel Horowitz and percussionist Britton-Rene Collins. The young women offer contemporary music by Sheridan Seyfried, Matt Curlee and Connor Chee, along with arrangements of music by Bach, Piazzolla and jazz great Erroll Garner, whose "Misty" gets the Vision Duo treatment. 7:30 pm, Kravis Center's Rinker Playhouse, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$35. Call 561-832-7469 or visit www.kravis.org.

Wednesday, Jan. 18

Paul Huang and Anne-Marie McDermott: The fine young Taiwanese-American violinist and the great American pianist plan sonatas by Prokofiev, Mozart and Corigliano, as well as the popular *Spiegel im Spiegel* of the Estonian minimalist Arvo Pärt. 7:30 pm, Society of the Four Arts, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Tickets: \$40. Call 561-655-7226 or visit fourarts.org.

Sunday, Jan. 22

Romeros Guitar Quartet: The foursome, now led by second and third-generation members of the Romero family, offer a program of music from Spain, including pieces by Albeniz, Granados, Falla and others, as well as music by the Italian Luigi Boccherini, who worked for the Spanish court. 3 pm, Society of the Four Arts, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Tickets: \$40. Call 561-655-7226 or visit fourarts.org.

Monday, Jan. 23

Cleveland Orchestra: Franz Welser-Most leads his orchestra in two immortal canonic symphonies: Schubert's Eighth (*Unfinished*) and Tchaikovsky's Sixth (*Pathétique*). 8 pm, Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets start at \$39. Call 561-832-7469 or visit www.kravis.org.

Wednesday, Jan. 25

Merz Trio: This young Boston-based piano trio has raked in numerous top awards (Nanumburg, Fischhoff) in the chamber music field since its founding in 2016. In the Classical Café series at the Duncan Theatre's Stage West

on the campus of Palm Beach State College, 4200 Congress Ave., Lake Worth Beach. 2 pm. Tickets: \$35. Call 561-868-3309 or visit www.palmbeachstate.edu for more information.

Sunday, Jan. 29

Emerson String Quartet: Aficionados of the string quartet can't miss this one: After 47 years, the Emersons are on their farewell tour. They'll play quartets by Haydn (Op. 33, No. 5, in G), Mendelssohn (No. 1 in E-flat, Op. 12), and the second of the *Razumovsky* quartets by Beethoven (No. 8 in E minor, Op. 59, No. 2). 3 pm, Society of the Four Arts, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Tickets: \$40. Call 561-655-7226 or visit fourarts.org.

Monday, Jan. 30

Palm Beach Symphony: The celebrated mezzo-soprano Susan Graham joins Gerard Schwarz and the orchestra for arias by Mozart, Berlioz and Lehar, along with selections from the Great American Songbook. Also on the program is the Symphony No. 10 of Shostakovich, perhaps his greatest orchestral work. 8 pm, Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets start at \$25. Call 561-832-7469 or visit www.kravis.org.

Tuesday, Jan. 31

The Mutter Virtuosi: The stellar German violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter brings her 14-member ensemble of string proteges to perform classic Vivaldi string repertoire including the Concerto for Four Violins and the Four Seasons; she's also scheduled a violin concerto by the Mozart contemporary Joseph Bologne and the Gran Cadenza by the contemporary South Korean composer Unsuk Chin. 8 pm, Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets start at \$35. Call 561-832-7469 or visit www.kravis.org.

DANCE

Friday, Jan. 20-Saturday, Jan. 21

Dimensions Dance Theatre of Miami: The young company founded by two former stars of the Miami City Ballet opens the Duncan Theatre's annual dance series with some of their signature works. At the Duncan Theatre on the campus of Palm Beach State College, 4200 Congress Ave., Lake Worth Beach. 8 pm both nights. Tickets: \$45. Call 561-868-3309 or visit www.palmbeachstate.edu for more information.

JAZZ

Sunday, Jan. 8

Michael Feinberg Trio: The bassist and UM graduate fronts a trio that emulates the Keith Jarrett approach to American standards. 7 pm, Arts Garage, 94 N.E. 2nd Ave., Delray Beach. \$35-\$40. Call 561-450-6357 or visit artsgarage.org.

Wednesday, Jan. 11

Chuchito Valdes Quartet: The Cuban pianist, part of a piano-playing dynasty, appears on the Gold Coast Jazz Society series. 7:45 pm, Broward Center for the Performing Arts, 201 SW Fifth Ave., Fort Lauderdale. Tickets: \$65. Call 954-462-0222 or visit browardcenter.org.

Wednesday, Jan. 18

Shelly Berg Trio: The jazz pianist who doubles as dean of the University of Miami's Frost School of Music presents a program called "Best of Broadway" for the Gold Coast Jazz Society. 7:45 pm, Broward Center for the Performing Arts, 201 SW Fifth Ave., Fort Lauderdale. Tickets: \$65. Call 954-462-0222 or visit browardcenter.org.

Wednesday, Jan. 25

Chris Botti: The jazz trumpeter makes his annual winter visit to South Florida. 8 pm, Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets start at \$29. Call 561-832-7469 or visit www.kravis.org.

Saturday, Jan. 28

Copeland Davis: The jazz pianist, a South Florida local favorite, returns to the Arts Garage with his quartet. 8 pm, Arts Garage, 94 N.E. 2nd Ave., Delray Beach. \$45-\$50. Call 561-450-6357 or visit artsgarage.org.

Wednesday, Feb. 1

Sing and Swing: Our American Songbook: Trumpeters Bria Skonberg and Benny Benack III collaborate on a Great American Songbook project for Lincoln Center reviving the jazz partnerships of the top singers of the mid-20th century, including Ella Fitzgerald, Bing Crosby and Peggy Lee. 7:30 pm, Society of the Four Arts, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Tickets: \$40. Call 561-655-7226 or visit fourarts.org.

OPERA

Friday, Jan. 27-Sunday, Jan. 29

Madame Butterfly: Palm Beach Opera opens its new season with Giacomo Puccini's immortal 1904 weepie about the Japanese geisha who marries a callow U.S. Navy officer, with tragic results. With Jennifer Rowley as Cio-Cio-San and Jonathan Burton as Pinkerton (Friday and Sunday); on Saturday, Toni Marie Palmertree is Butterfly, and Robert Watson

is her beau. Renee Tatum sings Suzuki, and Troy Cook is Sharpless, the US consul. Alison Moritz directs, and the music is conducted by Carlo Montanaro. 7:30 pm Friday and Saturday, 2 pm Sunday, at the Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets start at \$25. Call 561-833-7888 or visit pbopera.org; or visit kravis.org.

POPULAR MUSIC

Saturday, Jan. 21

Jason Isbell and The 400 Unit: The country singer-songwriter first celebrated for his work with Drive-By Truckers has built a strong following with his follow-up project The 400 Unit. 8 pm at the Hard Rock Live, 1 Seminole Way, Hollywood. Available tickets range from \$55-\$105. Visit ticketmaster.com for tickets or more information.

Friday, Jan. 27

Billy Joel: The piano man himself, writer of some of pop radio's favorite songs in the 1970s and 1980s. 8 pm at the Hard Rock Live, 1 Seminole Way, Hollywood. Available tickets for this mostly sold-out show range from \$475-\$1,912. Visit ticketmaster.com for tickets or more information.

THEATER

Opens Friday, Jan. 6

Time Alone: Alessandro Camon's 2017 two-hander about a woman awaiting the execution of her boy's murderer and an inmate serving 50 years for a revenge killing. Through Jan. 23. A Boca Stage production at the Sol Theatre, 3333 N. Federal Highway, Boca Raton. For tickets, call 561-300-0152 or visit www.bocastage.net.

Opens Tuesday, Jan. 10

Sweet Charity: The 1966 Cy Coleman musical about a New York taxi dancer who runs into obstacles in her search for love. Through Jan. 29. At the Maltz Jupiter Theatre, 1001 E. Indiantown Road, Jupiter. Tickets: \$68-\$120. Call 561-575-2223 or visit jupitertheatre.org

Opens Thursday, Jan. 12

Anything Goes: Cole Porter's 1934 classic screwball comedy set aboard an ocean liner, and posing the question: Will true love win the day? Through Feb. 12 at the Wick Theatre, 7901 N. Federal Highway, Boca Raton. \$99. Call 561-995-2333 or visit thewick.org.

Opens Friday, Jan. 20

Guys and Dolls: Frank Loesser's 1950 musical about the machinations of the gambler Nathan Detroit, desperate for that big score. Through Feb. 5 at Lake Worth Playhouse. Call 561-586-6410 or visit lakeworthplayhouse.org for more information.

Opens Friday, Jan. 27

Something's Afoot: The 1972 musical by James McDonald, David Vos, and Robert Gerlach that spoofs the murder mysteries of Agatha Christie. Through Feb. 12. At the Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St., Delray Beach. Tickets: \$42. Call 561-272-1281, Ext. 5, or visit delraybeachplayhouse.com.

Opens Saturday, Jan. 28

Last Night in Inwood: A world premiere play by Alix Sobler about a natural disaster in Manhattan that brings a group of people fleeing it to a woman's apartment in Inwood. Through Feb. 12. At FAU Theatre Lab, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton. Tickets: \$32-\$45. Call 561-297-6124 or visit fauevents.com.

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Paws Up for Pets

Professional dog trainers unleash some savvy advice

With the holidays behind us, the schooling really begins ... for you and your dog. The reality is whether you adopted a puppy or dog from a shelter, rescue group or reputable breeder, your four-legged roommate did not come with built-in manners.

I'm betting by now that the doggy honeymoon is over and you are feeling frustrated by your canine's actions. Maybe he chewed your favorite pair of shoes, shredded your sofa pillow into confetti or regards leash walking as opportunities to yank and marathon bark at other dogs.

From a newly adopted dog's perspective, he finds himself trying to adjust in a new home with new people and having to learn a new language — human. From your viewpoint, you fell for his cuteness, but were not prepared for his doggy ways.

Dog training challenges occur year-round, but it is fitting that after the rush of holiday pet adoptions, January is designated as National Train Your Dog Month by the Association of Professional Dog Trainers. And, to mark its 10th anniversary, I reached out to a couple of professional dog trainers in Palm Beach County who were happy to unleash some savvy doggy advice.

Lori Hill, founder of Pawsitive Dog Training (pawsitivedogtrainingfl.com) based in Delray Beach, is a certified professional dog trainer and American Kennel Club Canine Good Citizen evaluator who offers private in-home programs as well as group classes.

"I am comfortable treating a myriad of behavioral issues, such as separation anxiety, marking, nuisance barking and chewing/mouthing," she says.



Lori Hill, founder of Pawsitive Dog Training, seen here with her dog Louie, offers programs that range from teaching manners to making your pet a 'dream dog.' **Photo provided**

"Our dogs desire to please us. Just like with people, dogs can learn bad manners and habits if they don't have the correct guidance."

Dara Wittenberg is the founder of Rescue Me Dog Training (www.rescuemetraining.com), based in Delray Beach. She is a certified professional dog trainer and Animal Behavior College-certified dog trainer whose programs focus on problem-solving and offering various levels of training.

"The reason I got into dog training was to keep dogs out of shelters," says Wittenberg, who was honored as Behavior Team volunteer of the year in 2016 at the Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League in West Palm Beach. "I try to get people to understand life from a puppy's perspective. My role is to teach people how to communicate with their dogs and teach their dogs how to communicate with them."

Wittenberg is a major advocate for proper crate training for canines of all ages. "Crate training should

start as soon as possible and the use of the crate is about management and not about punishment," Wittenberg says. "Associate the crate with positive things. Feed your dog in his crate with the door open at first and his bowl in the back of the crate. When playing fetch, throw the toy in the open crate for your dog to go in to retrieve the toy and then treat them."



Wittenberg

If a dog is still learning not to greet guests by jumping up on them, Wittenberg says ushering the dog into his crate and giving him a treat like peanut butter or frozen beef broth in a Kong proves to be a win-win. The dog is occupied and regards his crate as a welcoming safe place and the guests don't have to dodge leaping paws on them.

Wittenberg says it is important to work closely with dog trainers and veterinarians to accurately identify the triggers behind an unwanted

Learn more

All dogs benefit by being properly socialized and well trained. The Association of Professional Dog Trainers sports more than 6,000 members who teach dog-friendly training techniques. You can check out articles, videos and other resources on its site at <https://apdt.com>.

canine behavior. And, pay attention to how you react to these actions.

"Some dogs go crazy when they see another dog on a leash and the owner may hold her breath, hold tight on the leash and the dog then looks at his owner and senses something terrible may happen," Wittenberg says. "Dogs are very sensitive. They pick up on our emotions. Instead, try to be calm, take a deep breath and do not wrap the leash tightly around your hand. If you are uptight, your dog will be uptight."

At Pawsitive Dog Training, Hill offers a tiered-teaching approach that begins with what she calls the Well-Mannered Dog Program and accelerates to what she calls the Dream Dog Program.

The well-mannered program's goal is to teach the person how to train the dog to master loose-leash walking and obey these vital commands: watch me, sit, come, stay, drop it. Behaviors, including peeing in the house, chewing/mouthing, jumping up on people and nuisance barking are also addressed.

Hill says loose-leash walking with your dog is critical for social time, enrichment and exercise. Her top cues are "watch me" (ensuring your dog

is focused on you and giving you eye contact); "sit" (the please and thank-you from your dog); "come" (having a good recall is absolutely critical and could save your dog's life if he gets loose); and "drop it" (getting dogs or puppies to release items in their mouths, especially dangerous items).

"I also value the 'wait' or 'stay' as a must-learn cue so your dog is trained to wait at the door, wait before crossing the road and before eating, as this teaches impulse control," Hill says.

Hill describes the Dream Dog Program graduate as the well-trained, well-mannered dog "who is a delight in all circumstances and obeys even around heavy distractions."

Canine graduates of this program have mastered 14 commands, eight behaviors and make good candidates for the AKC Canine Good Citizen and therapy dog status.

Hill's parting advice is to identify what motivates your dog to learn.

"Some dogs like treats, tennis balls or praise," she says. "And, your attitude is everything. Training should be a fun process for both you and your dog. Always focus on the training, and the last cue you give your puppy should be completed with success."

Arden Moore is an author, speaker and master certified pet first-aid instructor. She hosts a nationally syndicated radio show, *Arden Moore's Four Legged Life* (www.fourleggedlife.com), and the popular Oh



Behave! podcast on *PetLifeRadio.com*. Learn more by visiting www.ardenmoore.com.

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Gardens

Tours, giveaways part of Boca club's 70th anniversary celebration

By Jan Engoren

The Boca Raton Garden Club turns 70 on Feb. 4. To commemorate, the club, headquartered at 4281 NW Third Ave., will celebrate its history of gardening, horticulture, conservation and floral design with a community celebration.

The public is invited to join the family friendly festivities, including garden tours, free seeds and plants, informational exhibits, games for children and adults, and raffles and prizes, along with a proclamation from Boca Raton Mayor Scott Singer.

With the theme of "70 Years Planting Seeds in Boca," the club aims to stimulate knowledge of gardens among amateurs and to encourage civic beautification, maintain Florida's natural beauty and further garden club programs.

"We're very excited about our anniversary and celebrating it with the community," says President Marie Young, 72. "We're having a big bash and we want everyone to come, learn something new and have some fun."

Young says that the club was established in 1953 "with the purpose of beautifying our town parks and improving the city's landscapes, and we're proud to carry on the legacy."

The club boasts 150 current members. Young joined in 2012, after she retired from a 40-year career as a teacher at both Advent Lutheran School and St. Joan of Arc Catholic School in Boca Raton.

Young attended an event at the club's Holiday House. The craft, baked goods and plant sale — where people created and sold angel figures made from palm fronds — prompted her to think: "I'd like to be a part of this."

The club cultivates 50 native orchid plants growing in trees, copperleaf hedges, crinum lilies, bromeliads, amaryllis, the tropical red passion vine, white alba begonia and Dutchman's pipe vine, among its rose and butterfly gardens.

A member of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs District X, the Boca Raton club participates in the Million Orchid Project created by the American Orchid Society and the Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden in Miami.

The club hosts a junior gardening program at Whispering Pines Elementary School in Boca Raton and a monthly garden therapy program at the FAU Memory and Wellness Center for Alzheimer's patients. Funds raised from club events send students and counselors from Boca schools to Wekiva Youth Camp in Apopka each year with the purpose of instilling a love and respect for nature.

The club contributes to Boca Helping Hands and to Boy Scout merit badge

Club meeting dates

- The Boca Raton Garden Club will hold its general meeting at 1 p.m. Feb. 7 in the BRGC clubhouse, 4281 NW Third Ave. Noted floral designer Susie Slater will present a program on "Traditional and Contemporary Spring Floral Designs." This program is free and open to the public.
- Visitors are welcome to attend all general monthly meetings at no charge. People wishing to join must attend two club events before they are eligible. These events can be general meetings or any community event or fundraiser. Dues are \$50 a year in addition to a one-time fee of \$12 that includes registration and a magnetic name badge.
- For more info, call 561-395-9376 or visit www.bocaratingardenclub.org.

projects. It partners with the city on conservation efforts and maintains the community garden.

Charlene Smith, 82, a former advertising and sales executive for a software company in Delray Beach, joined the Garden Club when she retired in 2012.

"My friends said, 'now you have no excuse,'" jokes Smith, who is now head of the club's publicity committee.

"I love every minute of it," she says. "I made friends and learned to create flower arrangements, which I love to give to friends or keep in the house."

Occasionally, she will bring her husband, Clarence Smith, 85, along to an event such as the "Paint & Pour" social in May, where members created paintings while sipping wine.

"Besides creating floral



Boca Raton Garden Club members Nancy Cavnar and Joan Witter prepare to do some gardening. Photos provided

If You Go

What: Boca Raton Garden Club 70th anniversary
When: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Feb. 4
Where: 4281 NW Third Ave.
Info: 561-395-9376 or www.bocaratingardenclub.org.

decorations, learning about native plants and visiting other gardens, the club is a great way to meet new people and make new friends. There's a lot of camaraderie," says Smith. "We look forward to seeing everyone on Feb. 4." ★



Members (l-r) Dellie Krebs, Jeanne O'Leary, Pat Bird and Juliana Corrine attend a general meeting of the club.

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Religion Notes

Christmas fun at St. Vincent Ferrer

The parishioners at St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church participated in a Christmas toy drive for about 350 children, most the children of migrant workers. The children have been attending CCD classes with Sister Mercedes Ysabel Dominguez, a Claretian nun at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church in Delray Beach.

Parishioners chose names off an "angel tree" and fulfilled the children's wishes, returning festively wrapped, brightly colored boxes and bags to the church. The children received their presents at a celebration Dec. 17 that included a Christmas play.

Angelica Aguilera, director of faith formation, said it was hard to tell who enjoyed the gift-giving more, but she thinks the givers did.



Joe Zupo, dressed as St. Nicholas, is surrounded by (l-r) Angelica Aguilera, Elaine Borrelli, Jack Warner, Brendan Hughes, Allison Hughes and Courtney Hughes at St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church in Delray Beach. Photo provided

Giving tree at St. Lucy benefits four organizations

The "giving tree" at St. Lucy Catholic Church of Highland Beach was adorned with donation requests for needy people for the holidays and no wish went unmet. The project was organized by the Council of Catholic Women of St. Lucy's.

Generous parishioners chose names from paper angels that covered the tree, then shopped for their recipient or donated the items requested.

CCW President Eleanor Hoffmann said this year's recipients were AVDA (Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse); Birthline/Lifeline, which helps pregnant women and their babies; Fisher House, a veterans assistance group; and St. Mary's Church of Pahokee.

Children's Enrichment Center breaks ground

The First Haitian Baptist Church of Belle Glade staged a ground-breaking ceremony on the site of its Children's Enrichment Center on Dec. 11.

The existing building is crumbling and beyond repair, but each day a van transports children to the center, where they receive a hot meal, enjoy playtime and then sit down for tutoring, which incorporates Bible verses and character-



Candace Tamposi (right) at the Children's Enrichment Center ground-breaking. Photo provided

building exercises.

During the ground-breaking, community members gathered at the site where classrooms and a music room are planned. The 4,000-square-foot facility will provide after-school tutoring, computers and music and art space for children ages 5-12.

A playground and covered patio will be outside.

The project is gaining momentum thanks to South County businesses. Rick Gonzalez of REG Architects is on board as the architect. You may know Gonzalez as the leader of the West Palm Beach history walks for the Historical

Society of Palm Beach County. The contractors — Messam Brothers, originally from Belle Glade — expect phase one, consisting of two classrooms, to be completed by spring.

Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem, Knights Hospitaller (Sovereign Order), Creative Waves Foundation, and foundation co-founders Ali and Candace Tamposi of Ocean Ridge are spearheading fundraising with a goal of \$1 million.

The new enrichment center will also get a boost from Les Girls of Palm Beach. The multinational, multilingual women's club will gather Jan. 24 for a luncheon to present a donation to the Creative Waves Foundation.

The foundation's mission is to provide funding for underserved children and programs that emphasize the arts and the environment. The luncheon will take place in Palm Beach and the check will be given to foundation President Candace Tamposi. Many of the club's 43 members from 31 countries are expected to attend. For more information, call 561-762-3052.

Send religion news to Janis Fontaine at fontaine423@outlook.com.

Religion Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 1/29. Please check with organizers for any changes.

JANUARY 8-14

Monday - 1/9 - 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

1/9 - Rosary for Peace at St Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church, 840 George Bush Blvd, Delray Beach. Every M 5:45 pm. Free. 561-276-6892; stvincentferrer.com

Tuesday - 1/10 - 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

Wednesday - 1/11 - Patriotic Rosary at St Lucy Catholic Church, 3510 S Ocean Blvd, Highland Beach. Every W after 8:30 am Mass. Free. 561-278-1280; stlucycommunity.com

1/11 - Wednesday Evening Meditation

Service at Unity of Delray Beach Church, 101 NW 22nd St. Led by Rev. Laurie Durgan. Masks optional, social distancing practiced. 6:30 pm. Free; love offering. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

1/11 - White Stone Ceremony at Unity of Delray Beach Church, 101 NW 22nd St. Masks optional, social distancing practiced. 7 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

Thursday - 1/12 - Thursday Morning Prosperity Coffee at Unity of Delray Beach Church, 101 NW 22nd St. Led by Charlene Wilkinson. Masks optional, social distancing practiced. 7 am 1st Th in person; phone meeting (720-740-9634, passcode 2152894) all but 1st Th. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

1/12 - Men's Fellowship at First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach, 33 Gleason St. Every Th 8:30 am. Free. 561-276-6338; firstdelray.com

1/12 - 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 - 1/13 - Legion of Mary at St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church, 840 George Bush Blvd, Delray Beach. Every F 5:30 pm. Free. 561-276-6892; stvincentferrer.com

1/13 - 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

JAN. 29-FEB. 4

Tuesday - 1/31 - Jewish Learning Institute: Panoramic Overview of Jewish Learning at Chabad of South Palm Beach, 224 S Ocean Blvd, Lantana. Every T through 2/28 6 pm. \$79. Register: 561-889-3499; chabadspb.org

Thursday - 2/2 - 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

Seminary's new spiritual director offers counsel of experience

How do we give purpose to our lives? For Father Kevin McQuone, the answer is serving God and the church.

This year, the 40-year-old priest will serve the church in a new way. Formerly a parish priest in Florida's Panhandle, McQuone has returned to his alma mater, St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary in Boynton Beach, to educate and prepare seminarians to take on the demands of a parish in these volatile, changing times.

Located on 43 acres along Military Trail just north of Woolbright Road, St. Vincent de Paul's is owned by the seven Florida dioceses. The seminary was established in 1963, became an archdiocesan seminary in 1971 and has been a regional seminary since 1981.

Named for St. Vincent de Paul, a pioneer in seminary education, it has graduated more than 650 priests and is the only fully bilingual theological seminary in the United States. For the 2022-2023 academic year, more than 120 seminarians are preparing to serve a parish.

The parish priest is where the rubber meets the road in the church. These men deal directly with the messiness of life and death among their congregants.

For McQuone, those challenges came in the form of Hurricane Michael, which devastated Florida's Panhandle in 2018, and a worldwide pandemic in 2020. His work was even more difficult as the sole priest in a parish that usually had a second priest to help shoulder the load.

Only about 5% of the Panhandle's population is Catholic, but much of the support after Michael came from Catholic Charities, which brought supplies and volunteer medical professionals. Most of the people McQuone helped were strangers to him, but not to his heart.

"We should see others as another self," McQuone said.

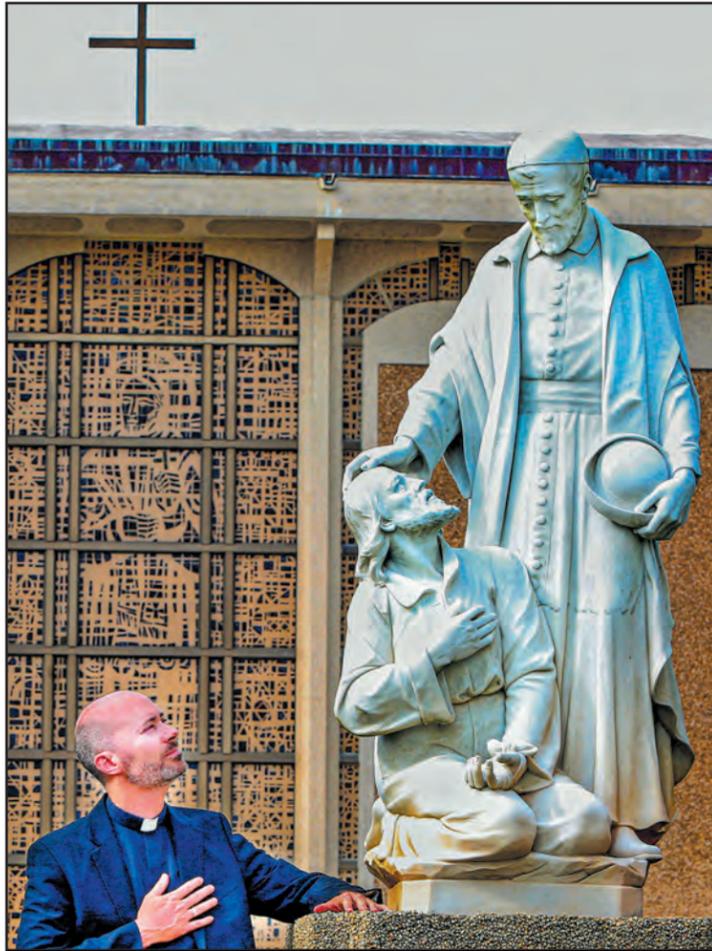
True charity happens without judgment or criticism. The golden rule shouldn't be exercised only when it's convenient or you're in the mood, and you shouldn't love your neighbor only if he looks and believes exactly as you do, he said.

In these socially charged times, it's hard to know when and where the rules should be strictly applied and when they should be changed. The church often seems weighted down, even hobbled by its own rules.

Today's climate runs contrary to some of what the church teaches. Consider its views on birth control, homosexuality and women priests.

"As priests, we wrestle with the gray areas and the messiness of life," McQuone said. "Balancing truth and mercy should be our goal."

When dealing with



Father Kevin McQuone, formerly a parish priest in the Panhandle, has returned to his alma mater at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary in Boynton Beach. Here he looks at a statue of St. Vincent on campus. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

important personal relationships (the devout mother who loves her gay son or the father whose beloved teenage daughter gets pregnant), compassion is the best tool, he said. McQuone wants to mend and not sever, bind and not break, and answer yes as often as he can.

"I believe in meeting the person where they are," he said.

No one is a perfect Catholic; a priest's opus is to find common ground and light the way. Consider the intent and the circumstances, he said.

McQuone said he didn't hear the call to the priesthood until he was in college. Born in Ohio but raised in Tallahassee, he got his undergrad degree in Spanish literature and international relations from Florida State in 2004.

While he was there, he became active in the on-campus ministry. The more active he became, the more he wondered about a life devoted to serving God. Finally, he asked himself: "What does it look like if Jesus is the center of my life?"

His parents and four sisters were surprised. Although the family faithfully attended Mass, the priesthood wasn't a goal his parents ever suggested. He had always seen himself as a husband and father, a role he anticipated with joy and love.

His decision to forgo fatherhood hurt his sisters, who had always imagined family gatherings with his kids playing with their children. And he had doubts about living a life of celibacy and never being called Dad.

But the seminary's goal is to graduate quality and not quantity in priests. It doesn't

mind doubts. Priests-in-training go through weekly therapy to be sure they're suited for the job. Even though a seminarian's tuition and room and board (nearly \$50,000) are paid for by

'The moment I realized that God existed, I knew that I could not do otherwise than to live for him alone.'

— St. Charles de Foucauld
(Father McQuone's favorite quote)

the diocese, it would rather lose the investment than graduate a priest whose heart isn't pure.

McQuone estimates two or three out of 10 don't finish.

St. Vincent de Paul graduated 187 priests in the past decade. That's not enough to sustain the church. But it's hard to attract candidates when the sacrifices are tremendous and the pool is small to begin with.

In addition to his classroom teaching, McQuone serves as St. Vincent de Paul's spiritual director.

He meets one-on-one with seminarians to discuss their prayer lives, given that a significant part of a priest's time is spent in prayer and reflection, listening for God's voice, McQuone said.

They discuss the seminarians' joys and desires, fears and doubts, mental health and motivation.

Often these questions of faith are answered with more

questions designed to access the very core of the person.

"We use all the tools we have to help sort out his experiences," McQuone said.

These pastoral tools — skills like active listening, gentle corrections, mirroring and rephrasing, and asking delicately probing questions — are also the methods the seminarians will learn to help their own congregants some day.

"These are the practical skills of the ministry. They help us see around the blind spots," McQuone said.

"Faith is like a muscle you have to exercise," McQuone said. Like anything else we give our time and attention to, it grows, and moments spent in prayer, gratitude or reflection grow our faith.

McQuone has part of a verse he recalls when he is stressed, or afraid, or alone. "It helps me stay rooted on the path," he said. It's just five words from the Gospel of Matthew, 28:20: "I am with you always."

Janis Fontaine writes about people of faith, their congregations, causes and community events.



Contact her at fontaine423@outlook.com.

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Health & Harmony

Take small steps to stick to resolutions, doctors advise

Love 'em or hate 'em, New Year's resolutions are a long-standing American tradition.

After the decadence of the holiday season, people commit to making changes in their physical, spiritual and mental well-being at the start of a new year.

Quitting smoking, going on a diet, choosing healthier options, heading back to the gym and cutting down on alcohol are among the top New Year's resolutions.

But, is it a good idea to make these promises to ourselves or are we setting ourselves up for failure?

We asked a couple of experts.



Hall

Dr. Ashley Hall, a primary care physician in Boca Raton who specializes in preventive medicine, chronic disease management,

obesity medicine and women's health, sees no reason to wait until Jan. 1 to set goals.

Hall, who practices at Baptist Health Primary Care Boca Raton (Del Mar), advises setting a health or wellness goal once a month.

"Check in with yourself the first of each month to remind yourself of your goals and set

manageable, realistic steps to attain them," she says.

If you're trying to lose 20 pounds, for example, set incremental goals along the way, she says. If you are trying to get a promotion at work, communicate with your boss in ways that will lead to the desired goal.

Her own goals include spending more time with family and her significant other, Dr. Ionut Albu, also a primary care physician in Baptist Health Medical Group, and better managing her work/life balance.

"My goal is to be more present," she says.

Dr. Joanna L. Drowos, a professor at FAU's Schmidt



Drowos

College of Medicine, says setting New Year's goals "is a good idea."

"Obviously, we can all make changes to make ourselves healthier," she says. "The new year is a natural trigger to make these changes. Be thoughtful and make sure it's something within your ability to attain.

"Don't give up if you're not perfect each day," she says.

Drowos practices with FAU's Marcus Institute of Integrative Health, which uses

a holistic approach in making each patient a partner in health outcomes.

Based on the teachings of Dr. Andrew Weil, integrative health services include osteopathic manipulation and massage, yoga, meditation, culinary medicine and nutrition. Aside from the physical concerns, all of that is part of an effort to evaluate and treat the patient's mental, emotional, functional, social and community health.

Drowos made a number of health-related changes in her personal life during the coronavirus pandemic.

The married mother of two adolescents, Drowos changed to a plant-based diet, installed a gym in her home and invested in a Peloton. She resolved to eat green leafy vegetables more often and to bring salads for lunch.

As a front-line health care worker, she purchased an Oura Ring, originally to flag signs of COVID-19. She now uses it to track her sleep and activity habits.

"It monitors my heart rate variability, body temperature and sends me messages if I sit too long," she says. "It's another tool to use in goal-setting for my health.

"It's important to be a role model for my kids and patients and model good health habits,"

says Drowos, who rides her Peloton three or four times each week. "Even though my kids hate it when I blast the music, I enjoy it."

Drowos says a key component to making and keeping successful New Year's resolutions is the motivation and "readiness to change."

According to research, people who successfully change their behavior don't do it all at once, they go through a series of stages. The first step is to recognize where you are in the cycle of change, so you can set appropriate goals and the steps to achieve them.

"In our program, we talk about setting smart objectives," says Drowos. "Make specific changes. Set a measurable, attainable goal. Strive for something, know what it is you want and recognize when you achieve it.

"This makes it easier to move forward when you stumble," she says. "Set your goal so you're still able to move toward it; reward yourself for small goals and realize that it is not all or nothing."

For example, Drowos says, "if you have a piece of cake, don't punish yourself. Recognize you're human. Give yourself space to have that treat and resume your goals the next day."

Drowos believes in the

power of support.

"Don't go it alone," she says. "Have other people to support your endeavors. Get your family, spouse, friends and even your physician on board. You can be more successful when you have a team to encourage and back you."

What does Drowos suggest as ways to stick to your resolutions after January?

"Positive reinforcement such as coaching and support are useful," she says. "Identify resources to keep you focused. Be aware of the barriers and triggers that will prevent you from being successful and find strategies to navigate them and keep your commitment to yourself.

"Arm yourself with the best resources, be prepared and practice forgiveness," Drowos says. "If you match your goals to your readiness and stage of change, you will maximize your ability to be successful."

For more resources, visit www.faumedicine.org and <https://baptisthealth.net>

Jan Enogren writes about health and healthy living. Send column ideas to jengoren@hotmail.com.



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Caron Treatment Centers opened its new Keele Center in Delray Beach. Kathryn Keele and Caron CEO Brad Sorte were on hand for the ribbon cutting Dec. 8. Photo provided

Health Notes

Delray Medical adds AI to vascular tool kit

Delray Medical Center recently acquired the Viz Vascular Suite software that uses artificial intelligence to detect suspected pulmonary embolism, right/left ventricle dilation, aortic dissection and abdominal aortic aneurysm.

“Being able to identify a patient with a serious vascular condition, such as an abdominal aortic aneurysm, early — before they have an emergency — is a game changer and literally a lifesaver,” said Dr. Joseph Ricotta, national medical director of vascular surgery and endovascular therapy at Tenet



Ricotta

Healthcare, Delray Medical Center’s parent company.

“For example, there are roughly 1.5 million abdominal aortic aneurysms in the U.S. per year; however, only 10% get diagnosed and treated,” Ricotta said.

“We don’t often find out about them until it’s too late and, even then, there’s only a 25% chance of living through a ruptured aortic aneurysm.

“From my experience as an early adopter of this technology, the Viz Vascular Suite will help enhance screening and coordinate care across my vascular team.”

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Caron Treatment Centers held a sneak peek and ribbon cutting on Dec. 8 of its new Keele Center, 4575 Linton Blvd., Delray Beach.

Brad Sorte, CEO of Caron Treatment Centers, announced at the event that the nonprofit’s “Open the Door” campaign goal of \$30 million for the Keele Center was achieved. It is named in honor of philanthropist Kathryn Keele. The new center includes a medical detox unit, 40 beds for residential treatment programming, including an older adult program, as well as neurocognitive services, research and medical education.

For more information, visit www.caron.org/fl-medical-center.

Palm Health Foundation will match donations to its Nursing Advancement Fund through Jan. 31 up to \$150,000. People who want to support aspirations of low-income and first-generation nursing students in LPN, undergraduate, graduate and doctorate programs in Palm Beach County can donate between \$100 and \$5,000.

To donate, visit www.palmhealthfoundation.org/the-nursing-advancement-fund, or contact Carrie Browne, director of stewardship and strategic partnerships at carrieb@phfpubc.org or call 561-837-2281.

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



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Beautiful Custom Built home located on a rare “Double Waterfront” gated street with a total of 300 ft. of deepwater. (150 ft. front and 150 ft. back) Features lovely architectural details w/ soaring ceilings w/ wall of glass to bring in beautiful light and views of the water from almost every room. Custom built-in library, Den, coral fireplace, kitchen w/ granite, Wolf & Sub-zero appliances, wine bar, sunny breakfast room, Extensive outdoor living w/80ft covered patio, Newer Roof, 2 covered balconies, dining gazebo, summer kitchen, heated pool and spa, Lush landscaping, stone columns, old Chicago Brick drive and walkways, mosaics, and etched glass create a timeless charm. 2 new docks in front and back, new boat lift, jet ski lift and floating dock for kayaks and paddleboards. A true paradise **\$5,995,000**



Boca Raton – Walker’s Cay Deepwater Beauty
This Beautifully Redone Deepwater home, in the exclusive Walker’s Cay of Boca Bay Colony, has it all: A new Roof, All Impact Glass Doors and Windows, Custom Chef’s Viking Kitchen, 20+ SEER high efficient A/C’s w/ linear diffusers, two 48” refrigerators, fireplace, indoor/outdoor speakers, 12 perimeter cameras, generator, smart home, automated shades, high ceilings thru-out, 204 bottle wine cooler, cellular alarm system, toilet and free standing tub, A/C and dehumidified garage, tankless hot water heaters, LED lighting thru-out, built in safe, receptacles & USB outlets in drawers, jets in all showers, hidden bookshelf for Audio video closet, heated pool w/ spa and 16k boat lift all located on a super wide canal (110 ft) **\$3,899,000**



Gorgeous Townhome with Private Pool – Highland Beach
This beautifully redone 4 bedroom Townhome is Perfectly located across from the beach and on a wide canal with beautiful Intracoastal views! Features include a large private pool, partial impact glass, beautiful new white tile floors, great open kitchen, downstairs bedroom/ office with a full bath adjoining, Master bedroom with water views and a stunning master bath and walk in closet, 2 more spacious bedrooms upstairs and 2 baths, both with great “East” facing balconies. 2 car garage. **\$2,495,000**



Port de Mer – Hillsboro Beach
Enjoy living the Beach Life in this beautiful Oceanside Corner unit on the North End Hillsboro Mile! This unit features an open kitchen with Granite and Stainless-steel appliances, hardwood floors, wet bar, large bedrooms, Impact glass, and a Washer & Dryer in the unit. Complex features 2 Pools, garage parking and Pets allowed w/ weight restriction. All of this and blocks to all the fun restaurants, bars and shops of the “Deerfield Curve” **\$575,000**

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Health Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 1/29. Please check with organizers for any changes.

JANUARY 7

Saturday - Yoga Class at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. Every Sat 9 am. \$5/class. 561-588-8889; southpalmbeach.com
1/7 - Yoga at the Beach at Red Reef Park West, 1221 S Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Held on grass overlooking the Intracoastal. No cash accepted on-site. Every W 6:30-7:30 pm and 1st & 3rd Sat 10-11 am. \$10/class; 60-day membership \$65/resident, \$81.25/non-resident. 561-393-7807; myboca.us
1/7 - 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
1/7 - Judo Class at Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. Warm-up exercises, instruction, practice, tournament training. W 6:30-8:30 pm mixed ages/ranks; Sat 10 am-noon all groups. Per month \$21.50/resident; \$27/non-resident. 561-393-7807; myboca.us
1/7 - AA Meeting at Unity of Delray Beach, 101 NW 22nd St. Every Sat 5:30 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

JANUARY 8-14

Sunday - 1/8 - Yoga at the Museum at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. After class stay & walk through the exhibit. 9:30-11 am. \$10/member; \$40/non-member. Reservations: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org
1/8 - Yoga at the Beach at Red Reef Park East, 1400 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Held on grass overlooking the Intracoastal. No cash accepted on-site. Every Sun 4:30 pm. \$10/class; 60-day membership \$65/resident, \$81.25/non-resident. 561-393-7807; myboca.us
Monday - 1/9 - Positive Psychology: Applications from Well-Being & Resilience with Lana Jones 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 the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

fau.edu
1/9 - Brown Bag Speaker Series: Healthy Brain Aging at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Noon. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org
1/9 - Adult Zumba Class at Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. Every M 7-8 pm. Runs through 3/27. \$50/10 classes; \$6/1 class. 561-393-7807; myboca.us
Tuesday - 1/10 - Al Anon at St. Mark Catholic Church St. Clare Room, 643 NE 4th Ave, Boynton Beach. Every T 10 am. Free. 561-734-9330; stmarkboynton.com
1/10 - 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
Wednesday - 1/11 - 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
1/11 - LGBTQ AA Meeting at Unity of Delray Beach Fellowship Hall, 101 NW 22nd St. Every W 7 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

JANUARY 15-21

Wednesday - 1/18 - Scripps Research Front-Row Lecture Series: Understanding Biological Factors to Fuel Drug Discovery: Jamie Williamson, PhD. 1-hour virtual lecture. 4 pm. Free. Register for link: frontrow.scripps.edu

JANUARY 22-28

Monday - 1/23 - The Pain Won't Go Away: Chronic Pain Therapy Innovations in Pain Treatment with Julie Pilitsis 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
1/23 - Brown Bag Speaker Series: Shingles at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Noon. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

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Lifeguard training exercises

Boynton Inlet — Dec. 15

More than 20 lifeguards from around the state took part in beach and open water training. **RIGHT:** From Palm Beach County Ocean Rescue (l-r), Capt. John F. Meskiel and lifeguards Eddie Black and Jonathan Price watch the exercises.



BELOW: Eben Krigger, a Fort Lauderdale training officer, braces himself for impact after jumping from the bridge. Boynton Beach Fire Rescue dive team boat operator Chris Lemieux ensures the inlet is clear of other traffic. **BOTTOM:** A fisherman retrieves his bait so that lifeguards can swim past to the beach for debriefing. **Photos by Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star**

BOTTOM: A fisherman retrieves his bait so that lifeguards can swim past to the beach for debriefing. **Photos by Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star**



Outdoors Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 1/29. Please check with organizers for any changes.

JANUARY 7

Saturday - 1/7 - 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

1/7 - Outdoor Marine Aquarium Feedings at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. All ages; child must be accompanied by an adult. 12:30 pm daily. Free. 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

1/7 - 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. 2 pm daily. Free. 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

JANUARY 8-14

Sunday - 1/8 - Intra-coastal 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 1/21 & 3-4:30 pm 1/26. 9-10:30 am. \$20/resident & member; \$25/non-member. Registration: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

Tuesday - 1/10 - 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. All ages; child must be accompanied by an adult. 9:30-10:30 am. \$5/resident; \$8/non-resident. Reservations: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

Friday - 1/13 - Golden Hour Guided Tours at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean

Bldv, Boca Raton. After-hours guided tour through Sea Turtle Rehabilitation Facility, outdoor aquariums, open-air butterfly garden, nature trail; ends w/sunset views of the Intra-coastal Waterway from the beach by the Seminole Chiki. Age 7-adult; child under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Held again 1/17 & 27. 5-6:30 pm. \$10/resident & member; \$13/non-resident. Register: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

JANUARY 15-21

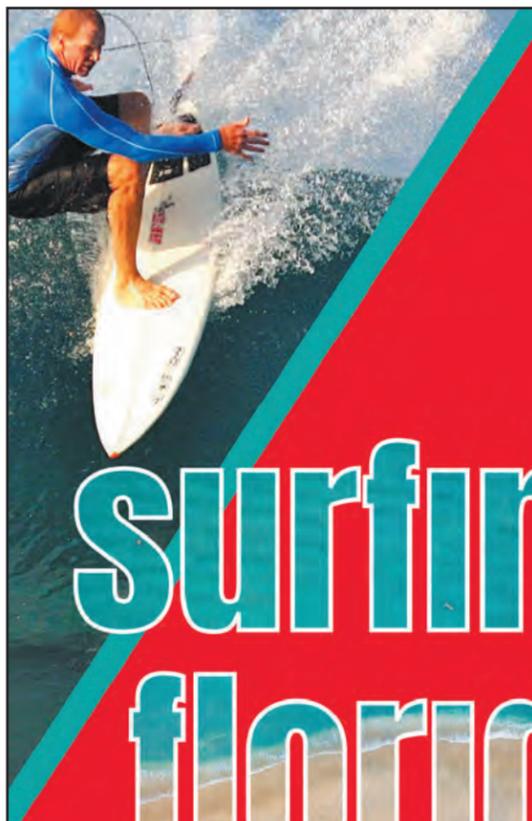
Sunday - 1/15 - Intra-coastal Adventures: Intro to Canoeing at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Includes short talk about South Florida's unique animals/ecosystems. Age 12-adult; child under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. 10-11:30 am. \$20/member; \$25/non-member. Reservations: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

JANUARY 22-28

Monday - 1/23 - Teal Kawana: Sea Turtle Conservation part of 2023 Robert Welstein Quest for Knowledge Series at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. 10:30 am. Free. 561-588-8889; southpalmbeach.com

Wednesday - 1/25 - Eco-Watch Lecture Series: Magnificent Manatees with Rachel Shanker from Manatee Lagoon 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. 6:30-8 pm. Reservations: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

Saturday - 1/28 - Sea Angels Beach Cleanup at Ocean Inlet Park, 6990 N Ocean Blvd, Ocean Ridge. Last Sat 8-9:30 am. Registration: 561-369-5501; seaangels.org



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The next edition of *The Coastal Star* will be delivered the weekend of Feb. 4

Tots & Teens

Boca native brings anti-bullying message to concert at FAU

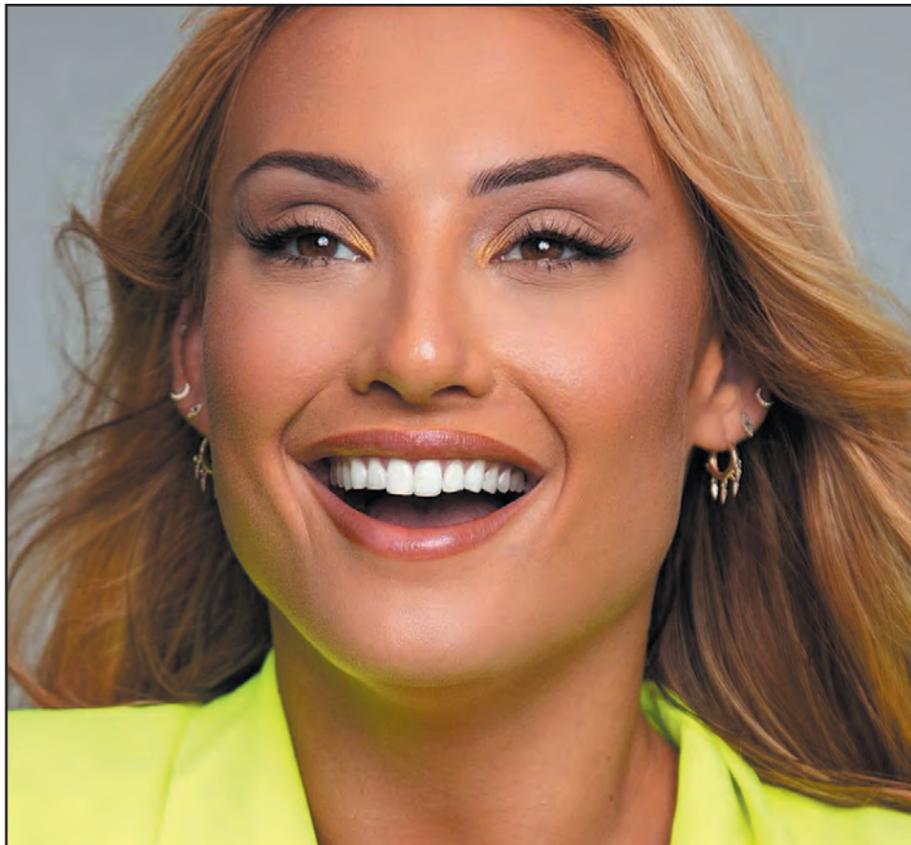
By Janis Fontaine

Boca Raton native Montana Tucker knows the best way to beat your bullies is to become what they said you'd never be.

The successful singer, dancer, actor and social media influencer works mostly in Los Angeles these days, but still keeps a house in Boca Raton. On Jan. 15, she'll work where she usually rests, headlining the Concert 4 Kindness at the Kaye Auditorium on Florida Atlantic University's Boca Raton campus.

By the time she was 8, Tucker was already doing national modeling and commercial work. Around age 12, her natural dance skill was discovered by choreographer Darrin Henson (JLo, NSYNC and Britney Spears) at a dance workshop in Orlando. He encouraged the family to move Tucker to L.A., but Tucker's mother, Michelle, opened a dance studio and hired top choreographers to teach there. A few years later, Tucker won the World Hip Hop Championships in Los Angeles.

Tucker's achievements — from playing Serena the mermaid in *Barney: The Land of Make Believe* to working with Terry Crews, the likable flute-playing football player-turned-actor and lovable host of *America's Got Talent* — have kept the doors opening for her.



Montana Tucker's songs and music videos aim to help people recognize the gift of their individuality. 'Being inclusive is an important part of my platform,' she says. 'I've always wanted to inspire people to go for their dreams.'

Photo provided

Tucker, 28, says she has always used her platforms to promote a kinder, more inclusive world and in her first hometown concert, Tucker says her goal is to amplify kindness in South Florida. "Being inclusive is an important part of my platform," Tucker said by phone. "I've always wanted to inspire people to go for their dreams."

Especially when someone says they can't.

She was chasing her dreams when she encountered bullying. Her hectic work schedule sometimes made her miss school, and her classmates noticed. "I was a little bigger than the other girls," she said, "so they called me MAN-tana because of my size."

Tucker says she began hiding in the bathroom during lunch to avoid bullies in the lunchroom. Their words could have crippled her — "I was so

sensitive!" she says now with a laugh — but instead they became her ammunition. She made having a positive body image, accepting people of all shapes and sizes, and not judging others as the weapons in her anti-bullying arsenal.

Tucker knew how to get her message out. She wrote, recorded and released two songs and music videos with her anti-bullying message. *I'm Not Alone*, released in 2018, was Tucker's debut single. The video features dancers with dwarfism, Down syndrome, spina bifida, facial deformities and deafness. The song has become known as "the song that saves lives" because its heartfelt message has reached people who were on the ledge.

The second song, *Be Myself*, released in 2021, features performer Todrick Hall and a flash mob in Times Square in the video. It was written to inspire self-acceptance and help people recognize the gift of their individuality.

Both songs will be featured at the multi-arts concert Jan. 15, which will include other local talent and video appearances by national artists. Performers, who are all donating their time, include Clarence Brooks, director of dance at FAU, BriGuel, a renowned bilingual duo from Spain and New York, and the Florida Singing Sons with Chorale Soleil.

Students and their mentors from Nat King Cole Generation Hope, a Boca Raton-based nonprofit that provides music education, mentoring and resources for youth, will also play.

The concert was organized by Bonnie and Jon Kaye of Kaye Communications in Boca Raton. Bonnie has been friends with Michelle Tucker since middle school.

"What impressed me about Montana was how she uses her platform for

If You Go

What: Concert 4 Kindness
When: 4 p.m. Jan. 15
Where: Carole and Barry Kaye Performing Arts Auditorium at FAU, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton.
Tickets: \$10-\$20, which will support the Make a Difference Fund for scholarships and programs at the future Kurt and Marilyn Wallach Holocaust and Jewish Studies building on FAU's Boca Raton campus.
Info: 561-297-6124 or www.fauevents.com.

change. Who better to change the next generation than a truly authentic person like Montana?" Bonnie Kaye said. "I'm hoping this concert will start the year off with a message of kindness, diversity and peace."

Challenge is uphill

The effort to stop bullying is valiant, but in the last 10 years, experts say not much has changed. A 2020 study by the Cyberbullying Research Center on tween cyberbullying is cringe-worthy: 49.8% of tweens 9 to 12 years old said they experienced bullying at school and 14.5% of tweens said they experienced bullying online. Nearly 70% of the tweens who were cyberbullied said it hurt their feelings about themselves and almost one-third said it affected their friendships.

To fight back, Tucker says, "I never respond to negative posts and messages, and I don't let negativity win. I have thick skin."

And whenever possible, she tries to educate others. In 2022, Tucker was named one of Maria Shriver's *Sunday Paper* Architects of Change for her work educating people about the Holocaust.

"Montana Tucker is on a mission to debunk Holocaust misinformation and denial and put an end to antisemitism, one TikTok viewer at a time," wrote Meghan Rabbitt, an editor at the paper.

Tucker filmed a series of 10 two-minute videos called *How To: Never Forget*, a Holocaust education docu-series for the TikTok generation. Tucker took her followers on a journey retracing her maternal grandmother's steps to the camp at Auschwitz.

Tucker would stop bullying tomorrow if it were that easy. It's not. She says, "I want kids to know if someone is going out of their way to hurt you, they're not confident or happy with themselves. It's about them."

"And one more thing: It's going to get better." ★

To share story ideas about Tots & Teens email Janis Fontaine at fontaine423@outlook.com.

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Tots & Teens Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 1/29. Please check with organizers for any changes.

JANUARY 7

Saturday - 1/7 - Handle Life Basketball at Hester Center, 1901 N Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Age 3-14. Every Sat through 2/11 9-10 am. \$70/resident; \$88/non-resident. 561-742-6550; boynton-beach.org

1/7 - 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

1/7 - Saturday Morning Art (smART) at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Studio workshops; families/intergenerational groups focus on artistic family fun to learn, create, enjoy visual arts. 10-11 am. \$5/member; \$10/non-member. Reservations: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

1/7 - Free Fun Saturday at The Schmidt Boca Raton History Museum, 71 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Museum hunt for kids; interactive exhibits, more. Family fare. 10 am-4 pm. Free. 561-395-6766 x100; bocahistory.org

1/7 - Pulp, Paper and Play Class at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 6-17. Held again 2/4 10:30 am-noon. Per class \$5/resident; \$7/non-resident. Registration: 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

1/7 - 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 1/21 & 2/4. Noon-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

1/7 - 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; spadmuseum.com

1/7 - Daily Aquarium Feedings at Sandoway Discovery Center, 142 S Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. All ages. T-Sun 2 pm. Free w/\$6 admission. 561-274-7263; sandoway.org

1/7 - Alligator Meet & Greet at Sandoway Discovery Center, 142 S Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. All ages. Every W & Sat 2:30 pm. Free w/\$6 admission. 561-274-7263; sandoway.org

JANUARY 8-14

Monday - 1/9 - Kindergarten Readiness Story Time with Ms. Tea at Catherine Strong Splash Park, 1500 SW 6th St, Delray Beach. Age 3-5. 2nd & 4th M 10 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/9 - Adventures in Reading with STEAM Activities at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Literacy enrichment through books w/related STEAM activities. Child attends independently. Age 4-6. Every M through 2/13. 3:30-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

1/9 - Broadway Babies: Disney Edition at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Introduces singing, expression, movement. Age 3-6. Every M 3:30-4:30 pm. \$380/18-week course. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

1/9 - Story Chasers Book Club at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. In person or Zoom. Grades 1-3. 3rd M 3:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/9 - PAWS to Read at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Join Ms. Rose & her therapy dog Cloud to practice reading. Age 5-12. Every M 4-5 pm. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/9 - Kids & Tweens Program: Bye Bye Birdie at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Age 8-15. Every M 4:45-7 pm. \$985/18-week course. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

1/9 - Introduction to Painting for Tweens at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 9-12. Every M through 2/13 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

Tuesday - 1/10 - Toddler Tales at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Literacy enrichment class: stories, music, movement. Age walking to 23 mos. Every T through 2/14 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

1/10 - Play & Learn for Toddlers at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Learn literacy skills during playtime. Age walking to 23 mos. Every T 10:30-11 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

1/10 - Bonjuo! Bilingual Creole Storytime at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Stories, rhymes, more. Ages 5-7. Held again 2/7. 3:30 pm. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/10 - Musical Theatre Kids: Cinema Stars Edition at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Age 7-11. Every T 3:45-4:45 pm. \$375/15-week course. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

1/10 - Teen Book Club at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. In

person & via Zoom. 1st & 3rd T 5-6:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/10 - Teen Tuesday at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 13-17. Every T 5-7 pm. Free. 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org

1/10 - Broadway Dance Class at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Age 7-11. Every T 5-6 pm. \$380/18 week course. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

1/10 - Improv Class at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 8-14. Every T through 3/14 5:30-6:30 pm. \$200/session. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

1/10 - Musical Theatre: Tweens & Teens at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Age 11-18. Every T 6-7 pm. \$418/18-week course. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

1/10 - 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

1/10 - 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

Wednesday - 1/11 - Oh Baby Story Time at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Pre-literacy class: music, stories, rhymes, lap bounces. Age 3 months-2.5 years. 1st, 2nd & 3rd W 10 am. Free. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/11 - Reading & Rhythm for 2-3s at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Literacy enrichment class: stories, music, movement. Child must be accompanied by an adult. Every W through 2/15 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

1/11 - Bilingual Outdoor Storytime at Boynton Beach City Library under the Banyan tree, 100 E Ocean Ave. Stories, rhymes, more. Held again 1/25. May be cancelled in inclement weather. 10-10:30 am. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/11 - Play & Learn for 2-3s at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Help your child learn literacy skills during playtime w/ literacy-based toys. Every W 10:30-11 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

1/11 - Little Artists at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age: preschool to kindergarten. Held again 1/25 10:30-11 am. Free. 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org

1/11 - Art Tales at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Story time & art activity. Age 4-8. 3:30-4:30 pm. \$5/member; \$10/non-member. Reservations: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

1/11 - 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

1/11 - Teen & Tween Crochet at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 9-18. Held again 1/25 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

1/11 - Tweens & Teens: Acting & Improv at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Age 11-18. Every W 6-7 pm. \$380/18-week course. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

1/11 - 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

1/11 - On-Camera Acting: Teens at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Age 12-18. Every W 7-9 pm. \$400/8-week course. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

Thursday - 1/12 - 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

1/12 - Black History Youth Art Contest at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 5-12. 3:30 pm. Free. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/12 - Rhyming Writers at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 6-8. Every Th through 2/16 3:30-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

1/12 - 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

1/12 - Shake-A-Stick Class at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Age 11-18. Every Th 5:45-6:45 pm. \$400/18-week course. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

Friday - 1/13 - Baby Bookworm at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Storytime for infants accompanied by an adult. Age 0 months to non-walking. Every F through 2/17 11-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7852; bocalibrary.org

1/13 - Play & Learn for Babies at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Learn literacy skills during playtime. Age 0 months to non-walking. Every F through 2/17 11:30 am-noon.

Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

1/13 - Animal Encounters at Sandoway Discovery Center, 142 S Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. All ages. Every F 3 pm. Free w/\$6 admission. 561-274-7263; sandoway.org

1/13 - Space Camp at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 8-12. 2nd & 4th F 3:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

Saturday - 1/14 - 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

1/14 - 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

1/14 - Got Gaming Club at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. Held again 1/28 3-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

JANUARY 15-21

Monday - 1/16 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day Tuesday - 1/17 - Community Superheroes at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 3-7. 3:30 pm. Free. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/17 - Manga Club at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. 5-6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/17 - Teen Crafting Hour: Soap Making at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 9-18. 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

Wednesday - 1/18 - Outdoor Storytime at Boynton Beach City Library under the banyan tree, 100 E Ocean Ave. Enjoy stories, rhymes, more. May be cancelled in inclement weather. 10-10:30 am. Free. 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org

1/18 - Young @ Art at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Create fun arts/crafts, learn the principles of art. Age 5-7. Held again 2/1. 3:30 pm. Free. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/18 - Acting Out Class at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 7-12. Every W

through 3/15 4-5 pm. \$185/session. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

1/18 - Tween Book Jam: Felix Yz by Lisa Bunker at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 9-12. 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

Thursday - 1/19 - STEAM Stars at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. S.T.E.A.M.-inspired activities, hands-on exploration. Age 8-12. Held again 2/2. 3:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/19 - Lego Lab at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 5-12. 4:30-5:30 pm. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

Friday - 1/20 - Snips, Snaps, Tales, & Tunes at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Join Ms. Lovely; story/related craft develops listening skills, print awareness, fine motor coordination. Age 3-5. 3:30 pm. Free. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

Saturday - 1/21 - Sharkfest at Sandoway Discovery Center, 142 S Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. All ages. 10 am-3 pm. \$5/person. 561-274-7263; sandowayhouse.org

1/21 - Basketball Combine at Hester Center, 1901 N Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Age 7-6. 10:30 am-3:30 pm. \$45/resident; \$56/non-resident. 561-742-6550; boynton-beach.org

1/21-22 - 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

JANUARY 22-28

Sunday - 1/22 - 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

1/22 - Rookie Rooks: Beginner Chess for Youth at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 8-12. 10:30-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

1/22 - 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

Tuesday - 1/24 - Booktastic Book Club: The Bad Guys by Aaron Blabey at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Free

copy of book upon registration. Child attends independently. Age 7-8. 3:30-4:15 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

1/24 - Anime Night at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 10-17. 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

Wednesday - 1/25 - Library on the Go! Global Music & Group Games at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Each month librarian Ms. Tea drives the Library on the Go golf cart to a different Delray location for an engaging pop-up library program & children's books to peruse/ enjoy. Age 3-7. 3:30 pm. Free. Sign-in sheet provided on site. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

Thursday - 1/26 - Special Guest Drop-In Family Storytime: Ocean Rescue Lifeguard at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Up to age 5. 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

1/26 - Picture Book Club at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 5-12. 4:30-5:30 pm. Free. 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org

1/26 - Musical Theatre Class at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 8-14. Every Th through 3/16 5:15-6:45 pm. \$180/session. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

JAN. 29-FEB. 4

Sunday - 1/29 - The Science of Nature at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Age 7-8. 10-11 am. \$5/resident & member; \$8/non-member. Reservations: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

Tuesday - 1/31 - Readers are Leaders Book Club at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Receive a free copy of the book to keep. Grades 4-7. Last T 4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

Thursday - 2/2 - Book the Audition Class at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Age 11-18. Every Th 4-5:30 pm. \$400/8 week course. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

2/2 - Make & Take at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 5-12. Held again 3/2 4:30-5:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

Friday - 2/3 - Preschool Playdate at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Interactive play. Age 1-7. 3:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org



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Community Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 1/29. Please check with organizers for any changes.

JANUARY 7

Saturday - 1/7 - 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

1/7 - 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

1/7 - Current Events Discussion at Highland Beach Library Community Room, 3618 S Ocean Blvd. Every Sat 10:30 am. Free. 561-266-9702; highlandbeach.us

1/7 - Workshop: Indigo Ferns in Watercolor at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 2-4 pm. \$40. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org

1/7 - Sick Puppies Improv Comedy Show at Doghouse Theater, 105 NW 5th Ave, Delray Beach. Every Sat through 1/28 7:30 & 8:30 pm. \$20-\$25. 954-667-7735; sickpuppiescomedy.com

1/7 - Selwyn Birchwood Returns at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$30-\$35. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

1/7-8 - Tapestry: The Carole King Songbook at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Sat/Sun 2 pm. \$45. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

JANUARY 8-14

Sunday - 1/8 - Friends Music Series: Randy Corinthian at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. 3 pm. Free. 561-393-7852; bocalibrary.org

1/8 - Music in the Museum: Marina Berberian, piano and Francisco Diaz, violin at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Limited seating. 3-4 pm. \$5/member; \$21/non-member. Reservations: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

1/8 - Concert: Bellissima at Temple Beth El Schaefer Family Campus, 333 SW 4th Ave, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$10-\$100. 561-391-8900; tbeboca.org

Monday - 1/9 - Hand Crafted Greeting Cards at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Create custom greeting cards. Adults. 10 am-noon. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/9 - Natalie Frenberg: Global and Local Sea Level Rise at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. Part of 2023 Robert Welstein Quest for Knowledge Series. 10:30 am. Free. 561-588-8889; southpalmbeach.com

1/9 - Bubbies For Broadway: Part 1 - Musical Theatre for the Young at Heart at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Age 55+. Every M 11 am-noon. \$380/18

classes. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

1/9 - Behind the Scenes of Theater Lab: Last Night in Inwood by **Alix Sobler with Matt Stabile** at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$40/member; \$50/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/9 - Towards a Middle East NATO? With Walid Phares at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every M through 2/6 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$60/member; \$80/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/9 - 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

1/9 - Computer Basics Class at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/9 - A Step in Time: Fred Astaire with Robert Wyatt 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

1/9 - Microsoft Excel Series: Basics & Formulas at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 6-7:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/9 - Catching Up On Award Winning Contemporary International Cinema: Part I with Shelly Isaacs at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every M through 2/6 7-9 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$60/member; \$80/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/9-10 - 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

1/9-12 - Adult ESOL Class: Beginners at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. For continuing students who have completed the Beginners course. Adults. Every M-Th 2-4. Free. Appointments required: 561-742-6387; boyntonlibrary.org

Tuesday - 1/10 - Career & Employment Help with CareerSource PBC at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Assistance w/employment, re-employment, resumes, filing for unemployment, career path assistance. Representative fluent in English, Creole, French. Adults. Every T 9 am-4 pm. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/10 - Computer Literacy Series at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults.

Municipal Meetings

1/9 - Ocean Ridge - First Monday at Ocean Ridge Town Hall, 6450 N Ocean Blvd. 6 pm. Agenda: oceanridgeflorida.com

1/9 & 1/23 - Lantana - Second & fourth Mondays at Lantana Town Hall, 500 Greynolds Cir. 6 pm. Agenda: lantana.org

1/10 - South Palm Beach - Second Tuesday at the South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. 4 pm. Agenda: southpalmbeach.com

1/10 & 1/24 - Boca Raton - Second & fourth Tuesday at the auditorium, 6500 Congress Ave. 6 pm. Agenda: myboca.us

1/13 - Gulf Stream - Second Friday at Gulf Stream Town Hall, 100 Sea Rd. 9 am. Agenda: gulf-stream.org

1/17 - Highland Beach - First Tuesday at Highland Beach Town Hall, 3614 S Ocean Blvd. 1:30 pm. Agenda: highlandbeach.us

1/17 - Delray Beach - First & third Tuesdays at Delray Beach City Hall, 100 NW 1st Ave. 4 pm. Agenda: delraybeachfl.gov

1/17 - Boynton Beach - First and third Tuesday at Boynton Beach City Hall, 100 E Ocean Ave. 6 pm. Agenda: boynton-beach.org

1/24 - Manalapan - Fourth Tuesday at Manalapan Town Hall, 600 S Ocean Blvd. 10 am. Agenda: manalapan.org

1/26 - Briny Breezes - Fourth Thursday at Briny Breezes Town Hall, 4802 N Ocean Blvd. 4 pm. Agenda: townofbrinybreezes-fl.com

Every T through 1/31 10-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/10 - A Discussion with Former U.S. Ambassador John Rakolta Jr.: Abraham Accords, Middle East Politics, & U.S. Foreign Policy with Robert 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

1/10 - An Hour to Kill Mystery Book Club: The Oxford Brotherhood by Guillermo Martinez 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

1/10 - Writing for the Stage: Short-Form Play at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Age 18+. Every T 11 am-1 pm. \$330/8 week course. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

1/10 - Israel: A Modern History with Stephen Berk at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every T through 1/31 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$60/member; \$80/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/10 - Resume Coaching at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Every T through 3/14 1-4 pm. Free. By appointment: 561-266-0196; delraylibrary.org

1/10 - 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

1/10 - Internet Basics Class at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/10 - Great Decisions Foreign Policy Lectures: Energy Geopolitics at Florida

Atlantic University Kaye Performing Arts Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 4 pm. \$25. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

1/10 - Jerry Herman: Defining the Golden Age of Broadway with Harvey Granat at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 4-5:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/10 - Interior Chinatown by Charles Yu at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Part of Tuesday Book Group. 6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/10 - Hand Crafted Greeting Cards: Evening Edition at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Create custom greeting cards. Adults. 6-8 pm. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/10/2023 - 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 - 1/11 - Objection! Current, Contentious, & Confusing Legal Battles with Irving Labovitz at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every W through 3/1 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$120/member; \$160/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/11 - The Adams Presidencies: John Adams & John Quincy Adams with Ronald Feinman 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

1/11 - Lunchbox Matinee: Harvey Granat sings Irving Berlin at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 12:30 pm. \$49. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

1/11 - Art's Great Salons with Terryl Lawrence at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every W through 2/8 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$60/member; \$80/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/11 - iPhone Basics for Beginners at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 1:30-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

1/11 - Microsoft Word Basics Class at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/11 - Music Americana: Old & New Favorites with Rod MacDonald at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every W through 3/8 3-5 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$120/member; \$160/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/11 - The History of Gravestones & Their Meaning with Dr. Sandra Norman at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

1/11 - 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

1/11 - Delray Beach Orchid Society Meeting at Veterans Park, 802 NE 1st St, Delray Beach. 2nd W 7 pm. Free. 561-573-2422; delraybeachorchidsociety.org

Thursday - 1/12 - Quilters meet at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Share quilting information, perpetuate quilting as a cultural & artistic form. Every Th 9 am-noon. \$1/lifetime membership. 561-742-6886; boyntonlibrary.org

1/12 - Introduction to Virtual Reality & 360 Videos Class at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 10 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/12 - The Unforgettable: Sports Figures Who Made a Difference with Joseph Dorinson at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every Th through 2/2 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$60/member; \$80/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/12 - Tech Talk Thursdays at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Every Th 10:30-11 am. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/12 - 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

1/12 - Female Comedy Pioneers: Laughter Wears a Dress! Episode Two with Lenny Dave at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-

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1/12 - If Men Were Angels: The Federalist Papers & American Politics with Burton Atkins at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 2:30-5:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$55-\$75/member; \$65-\$90/non-member. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/12 - Golden Shakespeare at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Age 55+. Every Th 2:30-4:30 pm. \$400/8-week course. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

1/12 - Hollywood's Dark Side: An Excursion into the World of Film Noir with Kurt F. Stone at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every Th through 2/2 3-5 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$60/member; \$80/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/12 - Town Hall Talk at The Schmidt Boca Raton History Museum, 71 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Speaker Dr. Robert Watson: The Story of Libby Prison. 6 pm. \$10/non-member. 561-395-6766 x100; bocahistory.org

1/12 - Leaf Studies in Watercolor at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 6:30-8:30 pm. \$40. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org

1/12 - Cash Unchained: The Ultimate Johnny Cash Tribute at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 7:30 pm. \$45. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

1/12-13 - Lunchbox Matinee: Ann Landers: The Lady With All The Answers at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Held again 1/15 12:30 pm. \$39-\$54. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

Friday - 1/13 - Great Books Discussion Group at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Every F 10 am. Free. 561-266-0798; delraylibrary.org

1/13 - The History of US-Israel Relations From Truman to Biden, Part I: The Evolution of a Special Relationship with Mitchell Bard 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

1/13 - Protect Yourself Against Scammers, Spammers & Hackers at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 10-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/13 - Adult Grand Slam Bridge at Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. Every F through 1/27 11:30 am-4 pm. Per class \$8/resident; \$10/non-resident. 561-393-7807; myboca.us

1/13 - The Four Pillars of Bel Canto & Romanticism: The Founding Fathers of the 19th Century Opera Tradition with Giuseppe Albanese at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every F through 3/3 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$120/member; \$160/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/13 - iPad Basics Class at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/13 - Basically Broadway Gless Club with Barbara Brilliant at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every F through 3/3 2:30-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$200/member; \$260/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/13 - Basic Orchid Care Class 1: How to Repot an Orchid at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0196; delraylibrary.org

1/13 - Mizner Park Friday Night Artisan Market at 327 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Every Friday 4-9 pm. 561-362-0606; miznerpark.com

1/13 - 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

1/13 - 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

1/13 - Chris Cortez and Friends at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$40-\$45. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

1/13 - Sick Puppies Stand-Up Comedy Show at Doghouse Theater, 105 NW 5th Ave, Delray Beach. Every F through 1/27 8 pm. \$25-\$30. 954-667-7735; sickpuppiescomedy.com

1/13 - Brothers Again Allman Brothers Tribute Concert at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 8 pm. \$45. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

Saturday - 1/14 - Inventors Society of South Florida Virtual Meeting. 2nd Sat 1

pm. 1st meeting free. Registration: 561-676-5677; inventorsociety.net

1/14 - Open Figure Studio with Model at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Age 18+. Held again 6:30-8:30 pm 1/26 & 2/4. 2-4 pm. \$15. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org

1/14 - Workshop: Intro to Clay at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 2-4 pm. \$75. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org

1/14 - Artist at Work: Sofia Vidal, Slip-casting & Mold-making at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 3-4 pm. \$5/member; \$10/non-member. Reservations: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

1/14 - Meet the Artist Store Event: Kumiko by Sofia Vidal at Boca Raton Museum of Art Store, 501 Plaza Real. Limited seating. 4-5 pm. Free with museum admission. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

1/14 - Ann Landers: The Lady With All The Answers at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 2 pm & 7:30 pm. \$39. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

1/14 - Story Central - A Jewish Journey: Confronting Ignorance & Hate at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 4-5:30 pm. Free. 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

1/14 - Aspen Nights: St. Vincent Ferrer School's 15th Annual Auction & Dinner at Delray Dunes Golf & Country Club, 12005 Dunes Rd, Boynton Beach. 6 pm. \$150. 561-278-3868; svfauction@stvfsschool.org

1/14 - Dante Vargas y su Cat Band at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$40-\$45. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

1/14-15 - 34th Annual Downtown Delray Beach Festival of the Arts on East Atlantic Avenue, Delray Beach. 200 artists, unique gift ideas. 10 am-5 pm. Free. 561-746-6615; artfestival.com

JANUARY 15-21

Sunday - 1/15 - Blackmer's Market at Spady Museum, 170 NW 5th Ave, Delray Beach. Food, clothing, accessories, community organizations, service providers. Family fare. 3rd Sun through 3/19 11 am-4 pm. Free/admission. 561-243-1077; downtowndelraybeach.com

1/15 - Friends Speaker Series: Coconuts, Beaches, Mosquitos, & Panthers: The Pioneer Era of Palm Beach County 1860-1893 at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 11:30 am-1 pm. Free. 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

1/15 - Exhibit Artists Reception: Communicate at Artist's Eye Gallery Boutique, 604 Lucerne Ave, Lake Worth. Runs through 2/4. 1-3 pm. Free. 561-586-8666; lwartleague.org

1/15 - Montana Tucker headlines Concert-4-Kindness at Florida Atlantic University Kaye Performing Arts Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 4 pm. \$10-\$20. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

1/15 - Story Central Storytelling Slam at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 4-5:30 pm. Free. 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

1/15 - Memphis Lightning at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7-8:30 pm. \$30-\$35. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

Monday - 1/16 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day 1/16 - City of Boca Raton Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration at MLK Jr. Monument, 200 NE Ruby St, marching to Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 E Plaza Real. Music, family activities, rides, vendors. 8-10 am community breakfast at Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church, 220 Ruby St.; 10 am march at MLK Jr. Monument; 10:30 am-3 pm ceremony & unity celebration at Mizner Park Amphitheater. Free. 561-391-8900; tbeoca.org

1/16 - Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Brunch at Indian Spring Country Club, 11501 El Clair Ranch Rd, Boynton Beach. Breakfast, entertainment, live music, poetry presentations, guest speakers. 10 am-noon. \$45/person; \$500/table. 561-279-8883; spadmuseum.com

1/16 - Poetry Night at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 3rd M 8-10 pm. \$5-\$10. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

1/16-2/18 - Exhibition by Artist Serge Strosberg: Veni, Vidi, Vici at Cultural Council of Palm Beach County, 601 Lake Ave, Lake Worth Beach. Exploring the life & influence of Henry Morrison Flagler. T-Sat noon-5 pm. Free. 561-471-2901; palmbeachculture.com

Tuesday - 1/17 - A Discussion with Dr. Irving Berkowitz with Robert 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

1/17 - Appy Hour: eBooks at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/17 - Danny Kaye: The Jester from Brooklyn with Paul Offenkrantz 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

1/17 - Great Decisions Foreign Policy Lectures: War Crimes at Florida Atlantic University Kaye Performing Arts Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 4 pm. \$25. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

1/17 - Intermediate Sewing Projects at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Requires previously completed beginners class. Adults. 6-8 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/17 - 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

Wednesday - 1/18 - League of Women Voters Hot Topics Discussion: State of the County at Mel's Way Bistro, 3536 Via Poinciana, Lake Worth. 11 am-1 pm. \$35/lunch. RSVP by 1/11: 561-276-4898; lwvpubc.org

1/18 - Russia, Ukraine & the United States with Ambassador William Taylor at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. VIP 12:30-2:45 pm \$75-\$90; General admission 12:30-2 pm \$55-\$65. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/18 - Sewing by Hand 101: Make a Plush & Practice Your Stitches! at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 1:30-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

1/18 - What is Canva? at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 2-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

Thursday - 1/19 - 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

1/19 - The Crystal Ball: A Deep Dive for Solutions with Cyndi Stein-Rubin 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 door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/19 - Workshop: Basics of Figure Drawing at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$50. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org

1/19 - Victims: A New and Innovative Exploration of the Israel-Palestinian Conflict with Samuel M. Edelman at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/19 - How to Start Your Creative Business at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. Held again 2/2. 1:30-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

1/19 - Ripped From The Headlines with Bill Gralnick at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every Th through 2/9 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$70/member; \$90/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/19 - Concert: Duo Beaux Arts - Classical Piano at Highland Beach Library, 3618 S Ocean Blvd. 5:30 pm. Free. 561-278-5455; highlandbeach.us

1/19 - An Evening of Comedy & Magic! With International Magician Harry Maurer at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 6:30-8 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$35/member; \$40/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/19 - Author Eleanor Reissa, The Letters Project: A Daughter's Journey at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$10. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

Friday - 1/20 - The History of US-Israel Relations From Truman to Biden, Part II: The Evolution of a Special Relationship with Mitchell Bard 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

1/20 - Guided Discussion: The Challenges in Our Neighborhood: Increasing Chinese, Russian & Iranian Influence in Latin America with Luis Fleischman at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every F through 2/24 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$150/member; \$195/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/20 - Image Compositing with Adobe

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

Mizner Park Farmer's and Artisans' Market every Sunday at 327 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 10 am-5 pm. 561-362-0606; miznerpark.com

Lantana Green Market every Sunday at The Courtyard, 204 E Ocean Ave, Lantana. 11 am-3 pm. 561-515-9919; shorelinegreenmarkets.com

Photoshop Class at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/20 - To Life 3 at Willow Theatre, 300 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton. Stories & music celebrating the contributions of Jewish composers to the great Hollywood musicals. 2 pm & 8 pm. Runs through 2/5. \$43. 561-347-3948; willowtheatre.org

1/20 - Friday Flicks: Sing 2 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

1/20 - Bonfire on the Beach at Lake Worth Casino & Beach Complex, 10 S Ocean Blvd. Bring beach chairs/blankets. Held again 2/3 6-10 pm. Free; metered parking. 561-533-7395; lakeworthbeachfl.gov

1/20 - Artist Blow Out features Glass Artist Laura Donefer at Benzaiten Center for Creative Arts, 1105 2nd Ave S, Lake Worth. 6:30-9:30 pm. \$15. 561-508-7315; benzaitencenter.org

1/20 - Cortadito: Tribute to Buena Vista Social Club at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$40-\$45. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

1/20-21 - Tea for Three at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. F 7:30 pm; Sat 2 pm. \$45. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

Saturday - 1/21 - Delray Beach Tree Giveaway at Spady Cultural Heritage Museum, 170 NW 5th Ave. City of Delray Beach gives away 250 native & fruit trees to local residents. First come first served; 2 trees per household. Must prove Delray residency. 9-11 am. Free. communitygreening.org

1/21 - Oceanfront Bark at Oceanfront Park, 6415 N Ocean Blvd, Boynton Beach. Well-behaved dogs welcome to "paw-ty" on the beach. Dogs allowed off leash on the beach & in the water. Dogs must be appropriately licensed and well-behaved. 9 am-noon. Free. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

1/21 - Workshop: Mixed Media Portraits in Street Art Style at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Age 16+. 10:30 am-3 pm. \$120. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org

1/21 - Virtual Saturday Morning Writers' Group presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 1st & 3rd Sat 11 am-12:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

1/21 - Workshop: Paint Your Pet Portrait at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 11 am-3 pm. \$110. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org

1/21 - Meet the Author: Sam Ron with Caren Neile at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/21 - Culture Talks: Gerard Schwarz in Conversation with Greg Stepanich at

Cultural Council of Palm Beach County, 601 Lake Ave, Lake Worth Beach. Hosted by *Palm Beach ArtsPaper*. 2-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-471-2901; palmbeachculture.com

1/21 - Ladies of Simone: Tribute to Nina Simone at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$45-\$50. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

1/21-22 - Boca Strawberry Festival at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Strawberry treats, shopping village, dog show, kids activities, more. 10 am-6 pm. \$15-\$22; \$35-\$55/ unlimited activities ticket; free/kids under 2. bocastrawberryfestival.com

1/21-2/11 - 33rd Annual Palm Beach Jewish Film Festival at 3 different cinemas: Cinemark 14/Boynton Beach; Regal/Royal Palm Beach; FAU Jupiter. 37 movies. Films available virtually. 2/12-18. Full schedule: 561-509-0117; pbjff.org

JANUARY 22-28

Sunday - 1/22 - Steps for Life 5k Run/Walk at Florida Atlantic University Lot #27, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Benefits Gift of Life Bone Marrow Registry. 7 am registration; 8 am opening ceremony; 8:30 am Superhero Sprint (kids under age 6); 8:45 am race start. \$30-\$35/ adult; \$20-\$35/student; free/child under 6. 800-962-7769; giftoflife.org

1/22 - The Composer's In The House by Michael Isaacson and Friends part of Music at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 188 S Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 2:30 pm. \$20/person; free/ age 18 & under. 561-276-4541; musicstpauls.org

1/22 - The Holy Rocka Rollz! at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7-8:30 pm. \$45-\$50. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

Monday - 1/23 - The Sentence by Louise Erdrich part of Afternoon Book Group at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. Free. 561-266-0196; delraylibrary.org

1/23 - Password Managers Class at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. Registration : 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/23 - Only Hope: A Survivor's Story of the Holocaust with Irv Lubliner at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-5 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$20/member; \$25/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

Tuesday - 1/24 - Russia & the New World (Dis)Order with Robert G. Rabil at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every T through 3/14 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$120/member; \$160/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

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1/24 - Friends Virtual Book Club: *Black Cake* by Charmaine Wilkerson presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 10:30-11:30 am. Free. Email for Zoom link: DTLbookclub@bocalibraryfriends.org; 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

1/24 - Crafting for Fun & Small Business: Design a Mug at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 1-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

1/24 - Appy Hour: Streaming Video at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/24 - The Observational Humor of Jerry Seinfeld with Ira Epstein 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

1/24 - Great Decisions Foreign Policy Lectures: China's Foreign Policy at Florida Atlantic University Kaye Performing Arts Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 4 pm. \$25. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

1/24 - Crafting in the Library: Introduction to Bookbinding at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 6-8 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/24 - Mix Tape Series: Croce Plays Croce at Duncan Theatre, 4200 Congress Ave, Lake Worth Beach. 8 pm. \$39. 561-868-3309; palmbeachstate.edu

Wednesday - 1/25 - Tech Workshop at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 10-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/25 - Jewish Resistance & the Post-Holocaust Generations with Riva Ginsburg 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

1/25 - Art & Jazz on the Avenue in Downtown Delray Beach Pineapple Grove neighborhood/NE 2nd Ave. Live music, art, dancing and dining in the street. 6-9:30 pm. Free. 561-243-1077; downtowndelraybeach.com/artandjazz

1/25 - Rat Pack Together Again: A Tony Sands Production at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. 7:30 pm. \$38. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

1/25-26 - Workshop: Drawing & Painting 101 at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 11 am-3 pm. \$225. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

Thursday - 1/26 - Groovy Tek "Tekfun:" Taking Control of Your Personal Technology with Bernard Nixon at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every Th through 3/2 10 am-12:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$100/member; \$130/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/26 - International Holocaust Memorial Day with Stephen Berk 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

1/26 - 3D Printing and Design with TinkerCAD Class at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0196; delraylibrary.org

1/26 - Launch Party at Beauty Within, 100 NE 6th St., Suite 104, Delray Beach. Giveaways, raffles, cocktails, lite bites, photo booth. 6-8 pm. Free. RSVP: beautywithinboynton@gmail.com; 561-810-4192

1/26 - Norwegian Film Series: *Two Lives* at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 6-8 pm. Free. 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

1/26 - The Miami City Ballet & Miami City Ballet School: Meet the Choreographer with Lourdes Lopez & Amy Hall Garner 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

1/26-2/16 - The Donald Ephraim Palm Beach Film Festival at 7 Palm Beach County theaters. Presented by Morse Life. 100+ screenings of acclaimed films from 20 different countries; 45 films include 35 national, state, local premieres. 561-559-5338; dmepbfff.org

Friday - 1/27 - Exhibition: Visualizing Climate Disruption at Cultural Council of Palm Beach County, 601 Lake Ave, Lake Worth Beach. Runs through 4/8. T-Sat noon-5 pm. Free. 561-471-2901; palmbeachculture.com

1/27 - Solo Gallery Exhibition: Molly Aubry at Cultural Council of Palm Beach County, 601 Lake Ave, Lake Worth Beach. Runs through 3/11. T-Sat Noon-5 pm. Free. 561-471-2901; palmbeachculture.com

1/27 - Apple CarPlay Class at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. iPad/iPhone basics required. 1 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/27 - Crafting for Fun & Small Business: Create a Candle to Take Home at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 2-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

1/27 - Digital Citizenship for 2023 at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 3-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/27 - Concert: Tedeschi Trucks Band at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 6:30 pm doors open; 7:30 pm show. Tickets start at \$65. 561-393-7890; myboca.us/2021/Mizner-Park-Amphitheater

1/27 - Thornetta Davis at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$45-\$50. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

1/27-29 - The Play About the Baby by Edward Albee at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Runs through 2/5. F/Sat 8 pm; Sun 2 pm. \$25. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

Saturday - 1/28 - Boynton Beach Tree Giveaway at Centennial Park, 120 E Ocean Ave. City of Boynton Beach gives away 200 native & fruit trees to local residents. First come first served; 2 trees per household. Must prove Boynton residency. 9-11 am. Free. communitygreening.org

1/28 - Greener with Gumbo: Sustainability Indoors at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Discover ways to live more sustainably. interactive presentation w/a DIY planet-friendly project to take home. Age 12-adult; child under 18 must participate with parent/guardian. 10-11 am. \$9/member; \$12/non-member. Reservations: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

1/28 - 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; artswarehouse.org

1/28 - Crafted on the Ave at Libby Wesley Plaza, 2 SW 5th Ave, Delray Beach. Open-air craft market highlights local small & microbusinesses, merchants/creators of handmade products, art, other crafts/goods. 1-5 pm. Free. 561-651-9565; delraycra.org/events

1/28 - Rock the Plaza at Ocean Plaza, 640 E Ocean Ave. Live music, activities, food offerings from restaurants in the plaza. 5-9 pm. Free. 561-600-9097; boyntonbeachcra.com

1/28-29 - Annual Boca Raton Fine Art Show at Sanborn Square Park, 72 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. 10 am-5 pm. Free. 941-755-3088; hotworks.org

JAN. 29-FEB. 4

Sunday - 1/29 - Yoko Sata Kothari, Pianist at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/29 - Steve Forbert Duo at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7-8:30 pm. \$40-\$45. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

Monday - 1/30 - Biden at the Halfway Point: Looking Forward, Looking Back 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

1/30 - Rabbi Barry Silver: Current Events at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. Part of 2023 Robert Weistein Quest for Knowledge Series. 10:30 am. Free. 561-588-8889; southpalmbeach.com

1/30 - Brown Bag Speaker Series: Mystery Author Mel Taylor at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Noon. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/30 - Marriage: The Good, The Bad & The Ugly Making Marriage Work with Bert Diamant at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$40/member; \$50/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/30 - A Brief History of Astronomy: From the Stone Age to the Renaissance with Kyle Jeter 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 the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/30 - Attention Grabbing Cover Letters at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 6-7:30 pm. Free. Registration 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/30-31 - Auditions for *Noises Off* (6 Men & 3 Women) at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 7:30 pm. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

Tuesday - 1/31 - An Introduction to Hinduism & Buddhism with Wes Ervin 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

1/31 - Great Decisions Foreign Policy Lectures: Economic Warfare at Florida Atlantic University Kaye Performing Arts Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 4 pm. \$25. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

1/31 - The Mamboniks: How American Jews were seduced by the song & dance of Cuba with Alexis Gillespie at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 4-5:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/31 - Les Ballets Trockadero De Monte Carlo at Duncan Theatre, 4200 Congress Ave, Lake Worth Beach. One night only. 8 pm. \$45. 561-868-3309; palmbeachstate.edu

Wednesday - 2/1 - Remembering Woodstock: Songs From a Seminal Event in an Upstate Pasture at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 2 pm. \$30. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

2/1 - Lincoln & the Fight for Peace with John Avlon at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. VIP: 2:30 pm, \$75-\$90; General admission: 4-5:30 pm, \$55-\$65. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

2/1 - 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

Thursday - 2/2 - OLLI Excursion: The Morikami Museum & Japanese Gardens at 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. 10 am-noon. \$60/annual membership; \$40/member; \$50/non-member. Register by 1/26: 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

2/2 - Workshop: Intro to Drawing at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$40. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

2/2 - Andy Warhol's Myth & Significance

with Karen Roberts 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

2/2 - Lunchbox Matinee: Harvey Granat sings Jerry Herman at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 12:30 pm. \$49. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

2/2 - Concert: Ben Rosenblum Trio - Jazz at Highland Beach Library, 3618 S Ocean Blvd. 5:30 pm. Free. 561-278-5455; highlandbeach.us

2/2 - Free Concert: Shane Duncan Band 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

2/2 - Celebrity Housewives Invade Delray Beach featuring Dolores Catania at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 7:30 pm. \$50-\$75. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

Friday - 2/3 - The Myth & Mystery of Edgar Allan Poe with Matt Klauza at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$40/member; \$50/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

2/3 - Food Truck Friday at Wildflower Park, 551 E Palmetto Park Rd, Boca Raton. 11 am-2 pm. Free. 561-367-7073; myboca.us/specialevents

2/3 - First Friday Art Walk presented by Delray Beach Art Trail. Self-guided tour through a myriad of styles in art, photography, furnishings, live entertainment. 1st F 6-9 pm. Free. 561-243-1077; downtowndelraybeach.com/ArtWalk

2/3 - Faculty Recital: Monica Berovides-Hidalgo, mezzo-soprano, Eerang Ahn, pianist at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$10-\$20. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

2/3 - Drive-In Movie Night at Lantana Sports Park, 903 N 8th St. Snacks/refreshments available for purchase. Limited parking. Family fare. 7 pm. 561-540-5754; lantana.org

2/3 - Tanyalee Davis: The Art of Laughter at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$45-\$50. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

2/3-4 - Modern Dance Series: Momix Alice at Duncan Theatre, 4200 Congress Ave, Lake Worth Beach. 8 pm. \$49. 561-868-3309; palmbeachstate.edu

Saturday - 2/4 - Tree Planting Event along Wallace Drive & SW 10th Ave, Delray Beach. City of Delray Beach partners w/ Community Greening. 9-11 am. Registration: communitygreening.org

2/4 - Boca Raton Garden Club 70th Anniversary Celebration: Planting Seeds at Boca Raton Garden Club, 4281 NW 3rd Ave. 9 am-2 pm. Free. 561-395-9376; bocaratongardenclub.org

2/4 - Briny Breezes Bazaar & Flea Market at 5000 N Ocean Blv. Clothes, housewares, jewelry, toys, books, furniture more. Food available for purchase. 9 am-2 pm. brinybreezes.us.com

2/4 - 2023 Florida Highwaymen Art Show & Sale at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Presented by Boynton Beach Historical Society in partnership w/ City of Boynton Beach. 11 am-3 pm. Free. boyntonhistory.org

2/4 - 2nd Annual Cornhole Tournament at Hoppotunities, 440 NE 5th Ave, Delray Beach. Presented by Achievement Centers for Children & Families. 1 pm. \$65/team. 561-276-0520; achievementcentersfl.org

2/4 - 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

2/4 - Drum Sermons: Folktales, Legends, & Myths from the Far Corners of Africa at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Family fare. 1:30-3:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

2/4 - Art Talk: Visualizing Climate Disruption Discussion with Environmental Arts Writer Mary Jo Agerstoun at Cultural Council of Palm Beach County, 601 Lake Ave, Lake Worth. 2-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-471-2901; palmbeachculture.com

2/4 - The Georgina Dieter Dennis Voice Honor Recital at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$5-\$10. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

2/4 - The Motowners: Ultimate Motown Tribute Show Experience at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$45-\$50. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

2/4-5 - 36th Annual Boca Raton Museum Art Festival at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 10 am-5 pm. Free. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

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House of the Month

The VIP suite of the guest house has a pecky cypress vaulted ceiling, boutique walk-in closet and attached marble bath.



The charming oceanview kitchen boasts a slanted tongue-and-groove ceiling, custom cabinetry, marble counters and top-tier appliances.



The oceanfront master suite encompasses an expansive bedroom with wood floor, antique English fire surround and French doors to a wrought iron balcony.

‘Miradero,’ an oceanfront compound in Gulf Stream

When Palm Beach socialite Lila Vanderbilt Webb conceived this Gulf Stream compound in 1931, in partnership with her son and with renowned architect Maurice Fatio, she sourced design ideas from Addison Mizner and materials (from tiles to stonework) from his local factory. Her vision, artfully realized by prominent Palm Beach builder C.G. Warner, had as its focal point a three-story tower residence crowned by the mirador, or lookout, that inspired its name. It was completed in 1933.

By 1941, the estate was split into two properties, both of which hold the mirador title. Reimagined in 2014 by architect Mark Marsh and a host of other designers, Miradero has been modernized, refined and expanded without compromising its architectural integrity or historic charm.

Today’s Miradero has its signature tower residence, the original guest house and a pool house addition, all complete with secure smart-house technology. There are five bedrooms, an oceanfront office, five full and two half baths, a Mario Nievera landscape with private beach access and an outdoor shower.

Offered at \$19,995,000. The Pascal Liguori Estate Group, 561-789-8300. Premier Estate Properties, 900 E. Atlantic Ave., #4, Delray Beach; pascal@premierestateproperties.com



The estate-sized oceanfront property is electronically gated, hedged and approached by a long paver drive from A1A.



A coral deck and resort-style pool with separate spa lie between the pool house and the tower residence framed with lush tropical gardens.

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



Manalapan
3060 S. Ocean Blvd. | \$17,900,000
Shelly Newman | 612.860.4599



Villa Magna | Highland Beach
2727 S. Ocean Blvd. 801 & 805 | \$5,600,000
Terri Berman | 561.445.2929
Laura Gallagher | 561.441.6111



Boca Raton
18457 Long Lake Drive | \$4,950,000
Matthew Bachrad | 917.628.4021
Danielle Stern | 818.216.2320



Delray Dunes | Boynton Beach
4834 S. Lake Drive | \$3,250,000
Margaret Russell | 561.358.1298



Delray Beach
800 Andrews Avenue 5 | \$1,750,000
Michael Mullin | 561.441.0635



Bermuda High West | Delray Beach
2150 S. Ocean Blvd. 2D | \$1,675,000
Terri Berman | 561.445.2929
Laura Gallagher | 561.441.6111



Marbella | Boca Raton
250 S. Ocean Blvd. 17G | \$1,599,000
Matthew Bachrad | 917.628.4021
Danielle Stern | 818.216.2320



Boca Raton
274 N.E. 28th Road | \$829,000
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