

Delray Beach/Highland Beach

Money battle igniting in fire-rescue breakup

By John Pacenti and Rich Pollack

Like many a divorce, the fire-rescue split between Highland Beach and Delray Beach is hardly amicable, but it really isn't about irreconcilable

differences. It's mostly about the money.

Highland Beach decided it would rather save what its consultants say could be several million dollars a year by having its own fire department, rather than pay Delray Beach Fire

Rescue more than \$5 million a year to staff the fire station in town and provide the town's fire-rescue services.

Now Highland Beach officials are balking at paying more than \$620,000 in additional charges Delray

Beach has demanded without getting more information first. Officials from the two sides met Jan. 24 to try to resolve the dispute.

The current arrangement, which dates back 30 years, is set to expire in May 2024, and

Highland Beach is well on its way to establishing its own fire department.

Here's what Delray Beach says is owed by Highland Beach above the monthly

See **FIRE-RESCUE** on page 24

Boca Raton

New Glades interchange puts motorists on other side of road

By Steve Plunkett



The interchange opened Jan. 30 amid traffic barrels likely to remain to some degree until May. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

State transportation officials urge motorists to do three things to navigate the new Diverging Diamond Interchange at Glades Road and Interstate 95:

Slow down as you approach the interchange from either highway.

Follow the markings on the pavement and the signs and signals overhead.

Do not depend on a GPS for up-to-date directions.

"I wouldn't rely on the GPS. It's definitely not going to work at least for the first week or two," said Ariam Galindo, senior project manager for the Florida Department of Transportation.

The Boca Raton interchange, the first of its kind in Palm Beach County, allows the two directions of traffic on Glades Road to temporarily cross to the opposite side of the roadway, which lets

See **GLADES** on page 21

Highland Beach

Octogenarian's unforgettable app sends vital reminders

By Rich Pollack

Like many people his age, Burt Firtel didn't always harness the technology he held in his hand.

In fact, he'll tell you that about the only time he looked at apps on his cellphone was when he went to remove them.

Today at the age of 83, Firtel may be one of the nation's oldest inventors of a cellphone app, one that not only saves people unnecessary steps but also one that can save lives.

Firtel is the creator of the Don't Forget app, a verbal warning system that reminds people getting out of a car to remember to take their phone, their groceries or even the baby in the back seat, before they get too far.

"This app can save users time, frustration and

even tragedy by verbally reminding drivers to grab stuff that can escape their mental checklist," he says, explaining that the app can be customized to provide specific instructions. "From babies and dogs to your cellphone, glasses and wallet, Don't Forget's customized verbal alert can easily be edited as needed and it can be a lifesaver."

Firtel, of Highland Beach, is perhaps an unlikely app developer, having little background in product development and even less in harnessing technology.

If necessity is the mother of invention, then in Firtel's case, convenience would take a close second.

At least two or three times a week, Firtel says, he would step out of his car, catch the elevator

See **APP** on page 26



Highland Beach resident Burt Firtel says his own experience with forgetting his phone in his car was the inspiration for development of the Don't Forget app. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

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Coastal Stars



Barbara and Mike Soroker have given about \$150,000 to the Boca Raton Police Foundation for training and equipment not in the city budget. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

Editor's Note

New push to sell Briny is shortsighted, deserves to fail

Here we go again. Remember back in 2007 when an “unbelievable” offer to buy Briny Breezes evaporated when the financing collapsed amid a volatile market? Remember 2018, when a small group of shareholders in the mobile home park failed in an attempt to get approval to market the park for sale?

Well, a small group of residents (some of them the same) wants to try again.

This time, they want to bring much of what most residents enjoy about this special place to a grinding halt for two entire years.

Here's some of what will happen if their proposal gains 67% of the vote at the park's Feb. 22 annual meeting:

- Friends and family, the typical purchasers of homes, won't buy into the park — only speculators will do so.

- Grants that the town has been pursuing to help with immediate infrastructure needs will dry up.

- Residents will no longer want to serve on corporate or town boards, since any discussions of the future will be moot.

- Every offer that's scared up by this “marketing” will require time and effort of staff and officials and cause upset among residents.

What sort of a vacation retreat does this leave?

I suspect the self-important residents behind the push to market the park for sale could not care less. Dangling billion-dollar dreams as short-term enjoyment of the park crumbles is unconscionable. Especially as Realtors position themselves to profit from speculators in the interim, regardless of some unlikely sale of the park.

The original founders of Briny Breezes had a vision for the park and it wasn't for self-enrichment. They found a way to keep viable all that they cherished about the coastal lifestyle.

Once they purchased the land by selling shares and setting up the corporation, they preserved their “trailer park” lifestyle by driving to Tallahassee (not easy in the early 1960s) and successfully lobbying to incorporate as a town.

It took commitment to their friends and neighbors and a vision for the future to pull this off.

That same dedication was evident when town leaders later sold bonds to install sewers — some of the first on the barrier island. Visionary leadership.

Briny is again in a position where vision will be necessary to move forward as climate change raises sea levels and delivers flooding rains. All of Florida faces these challenges. Briny's coastal neighbors are dealing with identical issues. They aren't giving up.

Many of Briny Breezes' elected, appointed and hired officials have roots back to the visionary leadership of the past and they, too, are looking at options to keep this lovely, thriving vacation community moving forward.

This latest selfish and shortsighted effort to market the community for sale should fail.

NOTE: Mary Kate Leming and her family have owned mobile homes in Briny Breezes since 1998.



— Mary Kate Leming, Editor

Police once saved 4-year-old's life; now Boca couple's donations say thanks

By Rich Pollack

Were it not for the quick thinking of two Boston cops, Mike Soroker might not have made it to his fifth birthday.

An obviously rambunctious 4-year-old who snuck out to track down the nearby ice-cream truck, Soroker was hit by a car as he headed back to the house where his family was visiting.

With no ambulance nearby, the two officers who responded quickly put Soroker in a police van, where they helped stop the bleeding and raced him to a hospital where he would stay for 11 months while recovering.

“Without them, I wouldn't be here today,” he said.

Now, more than seven decades later, Soroker and his wife of more than half a century, Barbara, have found a way of showing their appreciation for the work of police officers by supporting the Boca Raton Police Foundation and by helping to raise money for the organization.

The couple is relatively new to South Florida, having moved to Boca Raton in 2019 for health reasons. They gave a \$100,000 gift to the foundation after seeking it out in 2021 and then late last year created a \$50,000 matching gift challenge which raised close to \$109,000.

Money from the matching grant will be used to provide training tools for investigators that simulate high-risk scenarios involving people with mental health issues, according to Debbie Levine, executive director of the foundation,

which helps fund items and training not included in the city's budget.

The money raised also will help cover the cost of a training academy for families of law enforcement officers and will provide protective suits and gear for nonlethal force training as well as other items.

Soroker, who is now on the board of the foundation, says that in supporting the organization, he and Barbara wanted to make sure local law enforcement officers received the respect they deserve at a time when the phrase “defund the police” has become part of the national vernacular.

“It just seemed like the right thing to do at the right time,” Soroker said.

Soroker was meticulous in his research before he and his wife decided to support the foundation and the Police Department.

“I literally investigated them,” he said, adding that he spoke to several police officers to be sure the donation would be a worthwhile investment.

In one instance, Soroker walked up to a relatively new Boca Raton officer at Mizner Park and just asked him what he thought of the Police Department.

“He was really glowing about the management and felt that

he could grow,” Soroker said. “I walked away with a very comfortable feeling.”

Support of other causes

The Sorokers support Boca Helping Hands, another organization that passed the couple's tough scrutiny with flying colors.

The couple also supported their local synagogue and Goodwill chapter while living in Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

That home was one of 17 they owned over the years, with Mike Soroker's career taking him to cities in Canada, Japan as well as many in the U.S.

Soroker is an engineer who was a senior executive at a handful of international companies before buying Reliance Network, a company that specializes in building websites for real estate agents.

After leaving the corporate world — where he worked for companies including Playtex, Baxter Health Care and Benetton — Soroker in 2000 began consulting. One client was Reliance, a small, struggling organization at the time.

Soroker later bought the company and has overseen its growth to the point where it has between 80,000 and 90,000 agents in its network. Although he gave up his title as CEO a short time ago, Soroker remains chairman of the board and puts in 20 to 30 hours a week.

He will tell you that a piece of his success in business can be traced back to another interaction he had with police officers who mentored him while he was playing basketball with the Police Athletic League in New Haven, Connecticut.

“They gave me the confidence to do anything,” he said. “I've always kept that feeling.” ★

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Make a new request to vote by mail

Voters who want to vote by mail in the March 14 election must make a new request for a mail-in ballot because state law was changed.

Vote-by-Mail ballot requests made before the November 2022 general election expired on Dec. 31, according to the Supervisor of Elections Office. A new request will cover mail ballots for the 2023 through 2024 elections.

The deadline to ask for a mail-in ballot is March 4; the deadline to register to vote is Feb. 13. Early voting will not be offered for the March 14 election.

For more information go to www.votepalmbeach.gov

Boca Raton



Mayor Scott Singer cuts the ceremonial ribbon that stretches along the crosswalk on State Road A1A at the Yacht and Racquet Club of Boca Raton. Residents of the club and other members of the Beach Condo Association thanked Singer and the city for negotiating to take over the project from the Florida Department of Transportation, allowing it to be finished a couple of years sooner. **Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

Eleven new crosswalks shine safety beacons alongside A1A

By Mary Hladky

As Boca Raton police held back traffic, an enthusiastic crowd of beachside residents spanned A1A while Mayor Scott Singer cut a ribbon to recognize the completion of a project that added crosswalks along the busy thoroughfare.

The Jan. 12 event at a crosswalk in front of the Yacht and Racquet Club of Boca Raton capped more than a year of effort by the Beach Condo Association of Boca Raton, Highland Beach and Delray Beach and other beachside residents to improve pedestrian safety.

“The beach and BCA are so excited to have these safety precautions put in on the beach,” said BCA co-president Emily Gentile as she thanked city officials for making the improvements.

“When you ask for something, we do our best to respond,” Singer told the group.

Data gathered by the Palm Beach Transportation Planning Agency show that residents’ concerns about safety are justified.

During the five years ending in 2022, there were 133 crashes along the 2.5-mile stretch of State Road A1A between Palmetto Park Road and Spanish River Boulevard. They resulted in one fatality and three serious injuries. Twelve of the crashes involved bicyclists and six involved pedestrians.

Because A1A is a state road, the Florida Department of Transportation should have been the agency to take on this project. But FDOT officials told the city that if they agreed the work should be done, it would not start until 2025.

City officials and the BCA agreed that wasn’t soon enough. So the city negotiated with the state to take over the project at a cost of about \$260,000.

The result is 11 new crosswalks between Highland Beach and Deerfield Beach. Pedestrians who want to cross



People use the new crosswalk as they clear the road after the ceremony. A push of a button activates flashing lights (on pole at top right) that signal vehicles to stop. ‘I think it’s terrific,’ says resident Joan Epstein. ‘The cars come along so fast on A1A.’

can press a button to activate flashing lights alongside the road that alert motorists to stop.

“I think they are fabulous,” said Boca Towers resident Gilda Resnick. “It is a wonderful thing and overdue.”

“I think it’s terrific,” said Joan Epstein, a Yacht and Racquet Club resident. “The cars come along so fast on A1A.”

Immediately after the brief ceremony, it appeared that the lights, officially called rectangular rapid-flashing beacons, were working as intended. Pedestrians at several of the crosswalks activated the lights and motorists stopped to let them cross the road.

The project was completed just as pedestrian and bicyclist safety is drawing greater scrutiny in the county.

Data presented by the FDOT at the Dec. 15 Transportation Planning Agency meeting showed that bicycle and pedestrian fatalities in Palm Beach County have increased over the past five years, while those in Broward have generally decreased, with the most substantial drop

occurring from 2021 to 2022.

Broward, with a population about 25% greater than Palm Beach’s, saw 64 fatalities from 2021 to 2022, while Palm Beach had 62.

The data alarmed some TPA governing board members.

“What is Broward County doing that we are not?” asked Jupiter Mayor James Kuretski.

“Why are we going in the wrong direction?”

“These statistics are alarming,” said county Vice Mayor Maria Sachs, who asked for a report in six months to see what progress is being made to educate the public and improve roadway engineering.

TPA Executive Director Valerie Neilson said a report

would be presented to the governing board on Feb. 16 that would provide more information on pedestrian and bicyclist injuries and fatalities and give a better sense of whether the county is making progress on reducing them.

Without more information, those speaking at the meeting could not provide solid answers on why Palm Beach County is faring poorly compared to Broward.

FDOT District 4 Director of Transportation Development Steve Braun said Broward is several years ahead in implementing safety programs.

They include Complete Streets, an approach to planning, designing and maintaining streets to reduce risks for drivers, pedestrians, bicyclists and transit riders, and Vision Zero, a national campaign to improve safety with the goal of eliminating all severe injuries and fatalities on the roadways.

The Boca Raton City Council unanimously approved a resolution on Oct. 25 that designates Boca as a “Vision Zero city” and directed staff to create a plan to achieve that goal. ★

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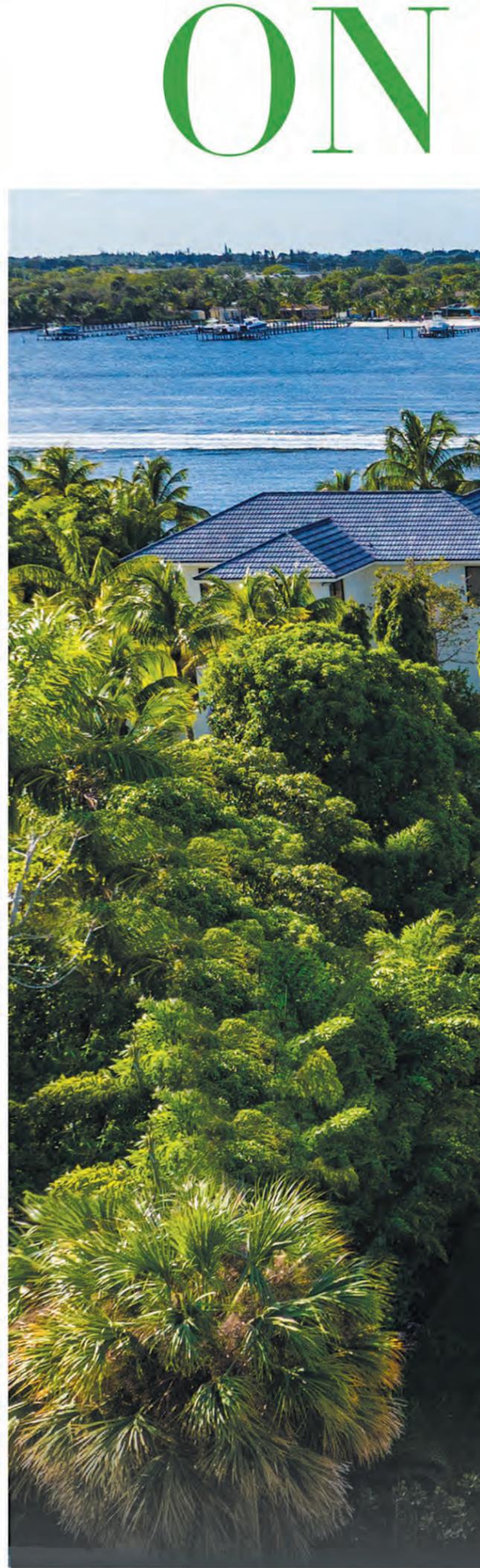
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Boca Raton

Beach-park district wants to cap payments to CRA

By Mary Hladky

Still smarting over its financial obligations to the city's Community Redevelopment Agency, the Greater Boca Raton Beach and Park District once again is seeking to control how much it must pay.

District commissioners unanimously voted on Jan. 3 to notify the city that they will hold a Feb. 21 public hearing when they are expected to vote on a resolution to cap payments so they do not exceed the \$2.3 million owed this fiscal year.

"We are not trying to get out of the obligation. We are trying to cap it," said Commissioner Robert Rollins Jr.

The CRA was created in 1980 to breathe new life into the then-moribund downtown. Its first major project was the development of Mizner Park.

A 1986 interlocal agreement between the district and city obligated the district to make payments for acquiring, operating and maintaining park and recreational facilities in the downtown.

It was amended in 1989 to allow the CRA to use the district payments to pay off \$68 million in bonds that financed the Mizner Park project.

District officials last raised the payment issue in 2020 when they sought to stop making them altogether, saying the money would be better spent on improving the many parks it operates.

They contended that since the Mizner Park bonds were paid off in 2019, they should no longer be obligated to make the payments.

The City Council swatted down that request. "Obligations are obligations," Mayor Scott Singer said at the time.

The district has revived the

issue now as its annual payment has jumped from \$1.4 million to \$2.3 million and could increase further.

"Our contribution has gone up significantly," Commissioner Craig Ehrnst said. "For us, it is a significant fee."

In addition, in 2020 the CRA was expected to cease to exist in 2025. But over the last two years, City Council members have discussed possibly extending the CRA's life, which would mean that the district's obligation would live on.

District officials now acknowledge that they can't simply stop paying the CRA, but say they are allowed under state law to cap future payments.

Assistant City Manager Chrissy Gibson said city officials will be better able to comment on the district's request once they hear what is said and decided at the Feb. 21 public hearing.

But she noted that the city's position remains that the state statute cited by the district applies only to CRAs created after 2006.

The district's public hearing will be held in conjunction with its regular board meeting in its office at the Swim and Racquet Center, 21618 St. Andrews Blvd., at 5:15 p.m.

In other business, district commissioners reelected Erin Wright as chair, Rollins as vice chair and Ehrnst as secretary-treasurer for calendar year 2023.

And Briann Helms, the district's executive director, said she will ask commissioners on Feb. 6 to approve a "soft opening" of Ocean Strand Park on State Road A1A with a ribbon-cutting to follow once signs are installed. The district is waiting for city approval to install the signs, she said. ★



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South Palm Beach

Council wants town manager to stick around a little longer

By Joe Capozzi

At a special meeting to discuss the process of finding a new town manager, South Palm Beach council members reached a consensus Jan. 30: They'd like the current town manager to stick around a little longer.

It could take at least four and as many as six months before the town hires a new town manager, council members were told during a presentation by an adviser with the International City/County Management Association.

Council members, who were also told they could expect 30 to 50 applicants, agreed it would be in the best interests of South Palm Beach if Manager Robert Kellogg agrees to stay until the new manager is hired.

At the Town Council's next meeting, Feb. 14, Kellogg will be asked to agree to a six-month extension during which he can be terminated with notice as soon as a new town manager is hired.

The council that day also will discuss whether to hire a professional recruiting firm, which can cost \$25,000, or use the ICMA services, which are free except for \$2,500 in background checks for each candidate and for meals and travels for the ICMA adviser.

Also that day, the council will discuss salary and qualifications for a new town manager. Kellogg, town manager since 2019, is making \$105,000 a year.

Kellogg, who did not attend the Jan. 30 meeting, announced in November that he planned to retire at the end of March. He made that decision a day after councilman Ray McMillan called for his termination, a request that got no support from other council members.

On Jan. 30, most council members said they didn't like the idea of hiring an interim town manager or of continuing to give Kellogg monthly extensions, as they have had for part of the past year, until a new manager is hired.

But McMillan didn't like the idea of Kellogg sticking around longer. "I feel like we're doing everything for him," he said.

Other council members didn't agree with McMillan's characterization.

"I think it's doing it for us," councilman Monte Berendes said. "We want to look good as a town. I think somebody new coming in is going to look at us like we're letting him go with nobody (in charge)."

Vice Mayor Bill LeRoy agreed, saying that if a town manager candidate finds out "we've got a manager from month to month, they're going to think, 'I don't want to work

for that town.'"

Near the end of the meeting, McMillan sternly asked why Kellogg didn't attend. "Why isn't he out here? Isn't that part of his job?"

Town Attorney Glen Torcivia said Kellogg didn't think it appropriate to attend a meeting that was called for the purpose of finding his replacement.

"It's embarrassing for him and for us," LeRoy added.

A majority of council members also agreed the town manager should be a full-time position, shooting down an idea broached at a previous meeting about hiring a part-time manager.

One potential candidate attended the Jan. 30 meeting: Philip Harris, an executive

director in the city manager's office in North Miami since 2022, according to his résumé. Harris, whom McMillan endorsed at two previous South Palm Beach Town Council meetings, worked in 2021 as an assistant to the city administrator in West Palm Beach.

Speaking during public comments at the end of the Jan. 30 meeting, Harris said he attended "just to observe the process" and was "very much interested in the town."

Former Ocean Ridge Town Manager Jamie Titcomb also attended. Although he told council members he was not interested in a full-time job, he said he was available to offer advice. ★



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Ocean Ridge

Interim town manager gets the full-time job

By Joe Capozzi

Ocean Ridge commissioners finally chose a new full-time town manager Jan. 31, capping a difficult six-month selection process marked by complications right up to the very end.

Lynne Ladner, who has held the post on an interim basis since Sept. 11 when former Town Manager Tracey Stevens resigned, will be offered a contract for the full-time job at the commission's next meeting Feb. 6.



Ladner

But Ladner wasn't the commission's first choice.

After a full day of interviews with six finalists — including private one-on-one sessions with individual commissioners in the morning and public interviews at a special meeting with the full commission in the afternoon — former St. Lucie County deputy administrator Alphonso Jefferson emerged as the top choice.

But during a recess, called so the town's recruiting consultant could discuss a contract with Jefferson, word spread among a half dozen residents at the meeting about Jefferson's demotion from his job in 2019 as assistant county administrator in Broward County.

Residents found articles online reporting that Jefferson was demoted and forced to take a \$30,000 pay cut after he was accused of sexual harassment by a former county employee. Although a county investigation determined the allegations were unsupported, Jefferson

was demoted for questionable judgment in maintaining a personal relationship with the employee and for sending inappropriate texts.

The allegations were included in a background report about Jefferson provided to Ocean Ridge commissioners Jan. 23 by Colin Baenziger & Associates, the recruiting firm the town hired for \$29,500 to find a new town manager.

"Broward's Office of Professional Standards found all allegations in [the woman's] complaint to be 'unsupported.' It did so in part because the complainant refused to provide her cell phone and because she did not supply any witnesses to corroborate her allegations. Mr. Jefferson could not provide the texts because they 'were no longer on his phone,'" the Baenziger report said.

The complainant "and Mr. Jefferson had some sort of relationship. We believe it was consensual, and Mr. Jefferson did send some inappropriate texts. It was clearly a mistake," the report said.

Baenziger's report also said: "We have been told that if you hire Mr. Jefferson, it is likely [the accuser] will resurface these allegations in an effort to cause Mr. Jefferson to lose his job."

According the report, Jefferson's supervisor in Broward County told Baenziger that Jefferson's "work was exemplary and he was always on top of his projects" and that his accuser "had made other allegations against other county employees."

Although the allegations were never brought up during the commission's public interview with Jefferson on Jan.

31, some commissioners said they asked about the report during one-on-one interviews with Jefferson in the morning and were satisfied with his answers.

But during the recess, some residents found a 2022 article in the Florida Bulldog blog that described salacious texts Jefferson allegedly sent the woman. Some residents loudly complained that the town's selection of Jefferson was "an embarrassment."

When the meeting reconvened, commissioners agreed to consider casting a new vote for town manager.

"Some material has come to light that perhaps all of the commissioners were not aware of, which is what is causing this brouhaha," Commissioner Steve Coz said, referring to the Florida Bulldog article. "Several townsfolk and commissioners thought everybody was aware of this. If they were, they maybe didn't interpret it fully."

Another recess was called while Baenziger met privately with Jefferson. When the meeting resumed a few minutes later, Baenziger said: "Mr. Jefferson has decided to withdraw. He felt that it wasn't the right fit at this point."

Commissioners held a new vote and gave unanimous support to Ladner, who was the runner-up in the first round of votes that supported Jefferson, 3-2.

"I'm thrilled and excited and looking forward to continuing the progress we've made," Ladner said in an interview after the meeting.

"We have great ideas and a wonderful staff and I am really looking forward to the next several years," said Ladner,

whose interim contract was set to expire Feb. 28.

Commissioner Martin Wiescholek, who cast one of three votes for Jefferson, said after the meeting that the texts detailed in the Florida Bulldog were not included in the background report. If they had been, he said he might have cast a different vote.

After the meeting, Jefferson — who would have been Ocean Ridge's first African American town manager — emailed this statement to *The Coastal Star*: "I was excited about the opportunity to be the next town manager. This would have been an historic achievement for the Town and me. I respect the will of the distinguished commission, and I look forward to serving an organization that will benefit from my 31 years of public/private/military sector experience."

The search process started July 25 — 10 days after Stevens announced she was leaving Sept. 11 to take the town manager's job in Haverhill. At the time, commissioners expected to hire a new full-time manager by Thanksgiving at the latest.

They also opted to save money and rejected hiring a recruiting firm, relying instead on guidance from the Florida City and County Management Association's senior advisers program, which is less expensive.

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



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Boca Raton

Proposal to change development procedures shot down

By Mary Hladky

The City Council has shot down an ordinance proposed by Deputy Mayor Andrea O'Rourke that was aimed at preventing controversies like the one that enveloped a planned automated parking garage in the downtown.

The ordinance would have established procedures for processing proposed amendments to the city's zoning code, comprehensive plan and the ordinance governing downtown development.

Its intent was to get City Council input on such amendments early in the development approval process, rather than waiting until the council was about to vote on them.

The change was touted as a way to improve efficiency and save both the city and developers time and money. If a council majority opposed an amendment, developers would not spend time pursuing one and city staff would not have to vet it.

The current process is "backwards," O'Rourke said at a Jan. 9 meeting. The ordinance is "an additional streamlining effort to get things in the proper order. I think it is a very positive improvement."

But other council members did not buy in. The main objection was that three of the five council members could kill a good idea at the outset before it had been vetted. "I do think it will stifle innovation and being visionary," said council member Yvette Drucker.

Council member Monica Mayotte said that rather than streamlining the city's process, it would delay final decisions.

O'Rourke withdrew the proposed ordinance at the next night's council meeting, citing the lack of support.

The poster child for the problem that O'Rourke was seeking to prevent arose from

Compson Associates' proposal to build The Aletto at Sanborn Square in the downtown. Originally proposed as a high-rise apartment and office project, it now features only office space.

Aletto included what would have been the first fully automated parking garage in the downtown.

Developers already could build automated parking garages after getting city approval. But Mayotte sponsored an amendment to an existing ordinance that would have created a presumption that developers have a right to do so, making it easier for them to get approval.

The amendment drew concerns that the council was bending to a developer's will, and discussion of it spanned four city meetings. Council members eventually conceded they had not handled the matter well.

Adding fuel to the fire was that the amendment was written by the project's architect, although he had been asked by city staff to do so.

Because Mayotte had sponsored the amendment, city staff did not vet it. Mayotte said at the time that she had expected staff members to do so and was dumbfounded that they hadn't. She wants staff to be required to do so in the future.

The parking garage since has ceased to be an issue. The Aletto developer and architect now plan to build a conventional garage.

While O'Rourke's effort failed, city staff has moved forward with its own efforts to streamline the city's notoriously complicated and cumbersome development approval process.

The council on Jan. 10 approved a 74-page ordinance that Development Services Director Brandon Schaad described as "our most significant streamlining

legislation to date" and "the most significant progress in the ongoing land development code rewrite to date."

In the last three years, the council has approved at least 15 ordinances intended to make the process simpler, clearer and more efficient.

Among many other things, the new ordinance allows the city manager, rather than the council, to approve minor site plan amendments for new buildings or additions up to 50,000 square feet.

In other business:

- The council by a 3-2 vote approved a resolution requesting that Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections Wendy Link conduct the March 14 city election.

Since there are no contested City Council races, the only matter on the ballot will be a city charter change proposed by Mayor Scott Singer that would increase the terms of office for mayor and council members to four years from three years.

O'Rourke has repeatedly objected to holding the one-issue election, saying "it is not money well spent." New council member Fran Nachlas, who also voted no, has opposed the change that would benefit her with a longer term.

The cost of the election is

not yet known, but the city has budgeted \$225,000 to hold it.

- The council unanimously approved an ordinance that revises the city's building recertification program so that it is consistent with a state recertification law passed after the city adopted its own law. The revisions are minor.

The city required buildings

to be inspected to determine if they are safe two months after a Surfside condominium collapsed in 2021, claiming 98 lives.

The city has identified 191 buildings that meet the criteria for inspection. The first inspection reports were due to the city on Feb. 1. ★



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As your Commissioner, I will bring my strong expertise in engineering (Cornell, Class of 1985) and finance to the table. I will work to restore civility, reasonableness, and a Commission that fully respects residents' opinions. **I ask for your vote on March 14th, and I will never forget that I work for you!**

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Boca Raton

More people riding Brightline with new stations open

The opening of Brightline stations in Boca Raton and Aventura has boosted ridership.

The new stations generated 17,682 rides, representing 24% of Brightline's ridership since the Boca station opened on Dec. 21 and the Aventura station on Dec. 24, the company's year-end ridership and financial report said.

The ridership increase "revealed strong latent demand

for our service in those communities," Brightline's report said.

Brightline President Patrick Goddard, speaking during a ribbon-cutting for the Boca station on Dec. 20, said the company's website saw record traffic when the station's opening date was announced on Dec. 15.

During all of December, Brightline carried 183,920 passengers, an 87% increase over December 2021.

The cost to ride also is increasing.

The company hiked the price of a monthly pass by about 15% in November, to \$229 or \$339 depending on the start point and destination.

It expects to further raise prices "after we evaluate the increased demand expected" as a result of the new stations, the report said.

Brightline has started phasing out introductory one-way \$10 tickets announced when the two new stations opened. While they were still offered at the end of January, fewer were available then or in February.

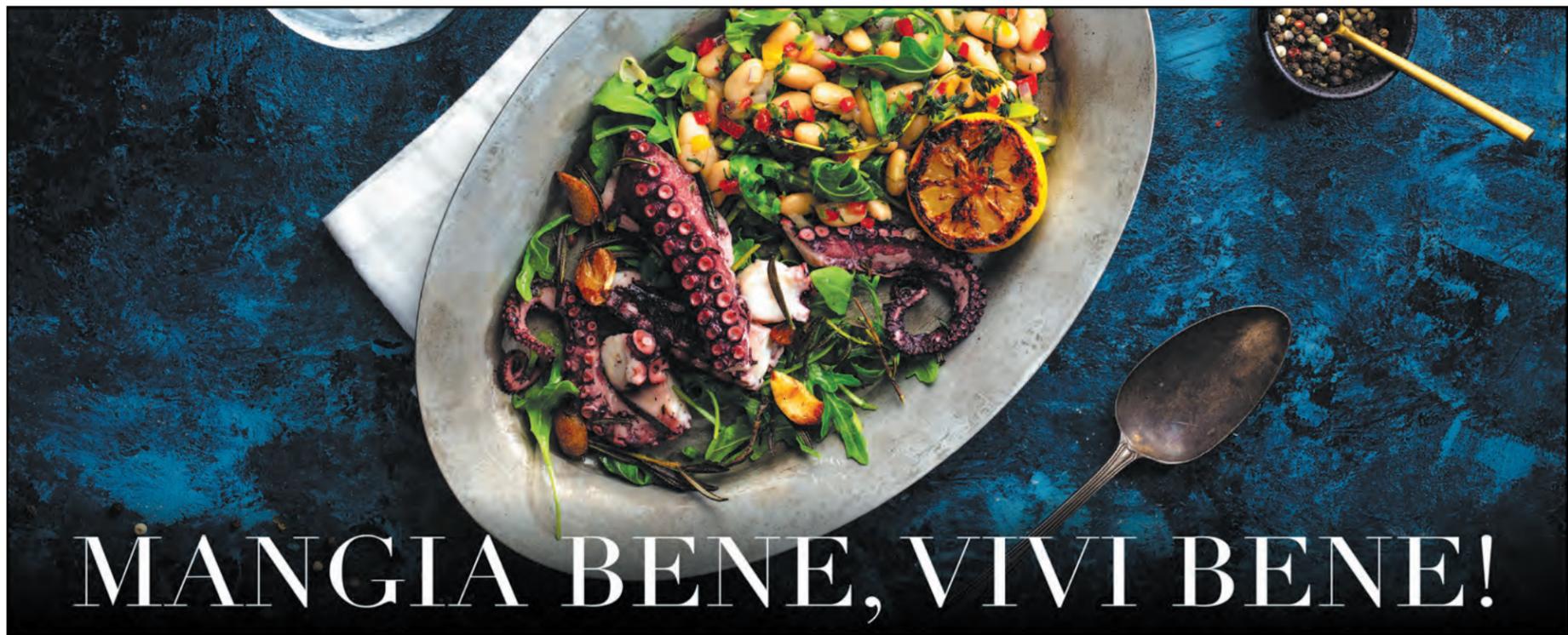
— Mary Hladky

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Manalapan

It's end of the road for damaged circle on Lands End Road

By Larry Barszewski

At the end of Lands End Road, residents are at their wits' end because delivery and construction trucks trying to navigate the cul-de-sac there have knocked down mailboxes, torn up front lawns and ridden roughshod over the landscaped circle in the middle of the road.

Neighbors Joe Imbesi and Dan Leever asked Manalapan town commissioners at their Jan. 24 meeting to fix the situation by reengineering the cul-de-sac and improving its look. They offered to pay for the cost of pavers to beautify the portion of the road in the cul-de-sac, though they said the town might consider stamped concrete that would probably look just as good and hold up better under the weight of the trucks riding over it.

The main problems, residents and staff said, are that the circle is too large and is off-center.

"The circle has got a diameter of 30 feet right now. That's 10 feet too much," Imbesi said. "If you would go down and look at the damage, it clearly delineates exactly where the circle should be. Because you can see that on the east side it's smashed down, on the south side it's smashed down. The west side and the north side are intact."

Commissioners were sympathetic and asked staff to have engineers come up with a fix, which they hope to consider at their Feb. 28 meeting. Town Manager Linda Stumpf said the town would have to check on what's possible, given that the circle must follow Florida Department of Transportation guidelines.

Imbesi suggested maybe the circle itself should be devoid of landscaping and just have pavers.

"Perhaps if we had stamped concrete, then the 20-foot diameter circle of beautiful pavers, it would be a better look," Imbesi said. "And it would last and it would stay good looking. You know Manalapan is such a beautiful community, this is atrocious, the way it looks."

The lone tree in the center of the circle won't face a death sentence, no matter what is done.

"The tree that's there currently will be relocated to either the Audubon Causeway or the library," Stumpf said. "We're not going to get rid of it. It was a donated tree."

Although Imbesi and Leever asked for final approval of the selected design since they could be putting up money for the decorative elements, town officials said they could only agree to consult with them on the plans.

"I'll work with them. I'd like to have their cooperation and input since they live there. It's in front of their houses," Stumpf said. "My intent is to make a beautiful cul-de-sac there that the residents that live around it will love."

In other news, Stumpf told commissioners that all work on a new water main crossing the Intracoastal Waterway between Point Manalapan and the beach should be completed within a few weeks. The crossing is finished, but the town was waiting on asphalt to put the finishing touches on portions of road that were damaged by the work. The new main should improve water pressure to homes along State Road A1A.

Progress is also being made on the town's sewer study, Stumpf said. The town now expects the requested 30% design work to be completed by April 1, several months earlier than originally estimated. ★



Tracks from vehicles that navigate the cul-de-sac have damaged the landscaped circle. Nearby residents have offered to pay for pavers, an alternative the Town Commission may consider. Photo provided



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Lantana

Threatening Facebook post on colleague outrages council member, stirs debate

By Mary Thurwachter

Kem Mason has had it with the hateful speech found on social media and directed at local public officials. During the Jan. 9 Town Council meeting, the first-term council member aimed his remarks at some postings on a private Facebook group called Lantana Raw.

His outburst was fueled by a comment made on the group's page about using "a vat of sulfuric acid" on an anonymous elected official, who the page's administrator Catherine Phillips said was stalking her.

In a complaint she filed with police, Phillips said she thought council member Mark Zeitler was stalking her because he drove by her home and remained at the stop sign near her house longer than needed before making a turn.

Mason decried the social media posts, saying "an attack against one town official is an attack against all of us," but Vice Mayor Lynn "Doc" Moorhouse said he for one didn't need anyone's help in being shielded from such attacks.

"I appreciate how you feel, I feel the same way, and there's no need to protect me, I protect me," Moorhouse told Mason. "I've been trashed for so many years, I'm good. I can take care of me."

Mason decided to speak out after a concerned citizen brought him a copy of the posts, which he shared by displaying them on a video screen. Zeitler — who at the time had not been publicly identified as the subject — said he would refrain from commenting beyond what Mason said.

Phillips wrote that she was experiencing "creepy behavior" from an unnamed elected official and so was her friend.

Underneath this statement was a picture of a person in a black hoodie with no face, but where the face would be is printed "stalker" in bold red letters.

"The next screen shot shows a comment from Chris Rodgers, one of the 2,600 followers of Lantana Raw, who wrote 'hmmmm, not good,'" Mason read. "Ms. Phillips says, 'nope, need you here to show him who's the boss.'"

"Rodgers wrote, 'A vat of sulfuric acid would work.' And Phillips replied: 'True.'"

"Instead of discouraging the comment, she supports his suggestion of an act of violence against a Town Council member," Mason said.

Mason said Phillips has a history of making defamatory

remarks about elected officials.

"You've called me a liar, a bully and a cheat, along with implying I was taking money for the Kmart project," he said.

Mason ignored the comments, hoping they would pass, he said, "but now you have gone too far by encouraging harm against an elected official."

In 2018, Phillips accused former Mayor Dave Stewart of misusing his position to obtain a sexual benefit for himself and soliciting sex from a constituent based on an understanding that his vote, official action or judgment would be influenced. A Florida Commission on Ethics judge found Stewart did not violate ethics law and threw out the claim.

Town or personal issue?

Mason asked Phillips to stop posting such things, "because these claims are nothing to be cavalier about. It hurts a person's reputation and creates doubt in the people's minds about their public officials."

Phillips, contacted by *The Coastal Star* after the meeting, criticized Mason for attacking her right of free speech.

"I find it very scary and disturbing that an elected official is not representing truths about private citizens such as myself," she wrote in an emailed response.

"Mr. Mason was elected as a Councilman to make policy decisions that affect Lantana and not to use his position as a pulpit to bully constituents."

At the meeting, Moorhouse, who said he was unaware of the postings and is a friend of Phillips, questioned whether addressing social media issues from the dais was appropriate. "Is it taking advantage of our official position for personal defense?" he asked Town Attorney Max Lohman.

"That's really not for me to say," Lohman said. "We could have different opinions on it, it's not really a legal question. If it were a matter of decorum, it'd be different."

"This is just a 'he said, she said' and goes on and on," Moorhouse said.

Lohman said this wasn't so much a legal issue as a personal issue to be dealt with by each council member. He said people could argue on whether it was beneficial to address.

"I know it's difficult to have things posted about you on social media and spread around, especially things that are not true," he said. "That's hurtful and it's hard to swallow. I think each person is going to have to deal with it differently. As a council,

you could come up with a policy on how you're going to deal with it as a body. But it still wouldn't prevent the individual from choosing to address it.

"The standard and the bar for proving defamation or slander for public officials, or someone who is in the public eye, is much higher than it is for regular citizens," Lohman said. "When you bring the tort of defamation or slander or libel, you typically have to show actual damages."

He said it is always very challenging "when it's something like this, it isn't necessarily about the way anybody's doing their job up here, it's an *ad hominem* attack. There's really no legal position on it because each one of you has the right and the ability to say what you're going to say ... and we can agree to disagree on whether it's wise or not wise to."

Mason and Zeitler had filed a police report on the postings and police did speak with Phillips.

As for her stalking complaint, police talked to Phillips and said they couldn't stop someone from driving on the streets of town.

Phillips previously lodged a complaint against Zeitler during the 2021 mayoral election, saying he threw down a political sign for the candidate she supported, former Mayor Robert Hagerty. That complaint was dismissed after Hagerty chose not to pursue it.

The Facebook posting referring to sulfuric acid has been removed from Lantana Raw, although Phillips told police she didn't know who took it down. The site lists one other administrator and two content moderators.

Mason wasn't backing down.

"She went over the line with the sulfuric acid posting," he said. "That's a real threat, a serious offense. I'm letting you all know that I'm not taking it. I'm taking something that's in the dark behind a keyboard and bringing it in the light. And, if you're going to say things about me, it's going right up there on the screen, every single time. I'm done with this."

In other news, Town Manager Brian Raducci announced that a ribbon cutting for the remodeled library is scheduled for 11 a.m. Feb. 22 at the library, 205 W. Ocean Ave. A community celebration will begin at noon March 11 with food trucks, story times and other children's activities. ★



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Briny Breezes

Cut tax rate + borrow \$2.5 million = \$22.25 million for resilience projects

Manager's numbers sound good to council, will get further study

By Larry Barszewski

It's not clear yet if Town Manager William Thrasher's proposed formula for paying for flood protection and sea wall restoration in Briny Breezes is innovative math or wishful-thinking algebra, but Town Council members are interested in seeing if his numbers really do add up.

Thrasher says that using his calculus, the town could cover the cost of critical projects — \$8.55 million to completely restore its sea walls and \$3.5 million to install an advanced drainage system to reduce flooding — and still have \$10.2 million available for other needed improvements.

"This is extremely complicated, but more interesting than anything I've ever worked on," Thrasher told Town Council members at their Jan. 26 meeting. His proposal is still early in the development stage and he called his figures "soft numbers" because more study is needed.

However, some of his equations are striking.

The town would have to

borrow only \$2.5 million to generate the \$22.25 million needed for the projects. The borrowed money would be combined with \$1 million in reserves to leverage much larger grants that would cover the bulk of the project costs.

At the same time, the town would cut its property tax rate more than 60%.

The tax rate drop would be offset possibly by the creation of a special assessment residents would pay for police and fire-rescue services, so the change would be a wash for residents. The change is needed to open up room in the town's property tax revenues — already assessed at the maximum level allowed by the state — to cover the cost of future loan payments.

"In order to invest into a sea wall and obtain a loan, you're going to have to lower the millage rate somehow," Thrasher said. "I'm suggesting that you direct me to find a way, either voluntarily through the corporation, or through a special assessment, fire assessment, to generate room in the millage rate in order for the town to apply for and receive and then make payment of a \$2.5 million loan, or in that range."

Council President Sue Thaler and other council members,

including Mayor Gene Adams, encouraged Thrasher to discuss the tax rate reduction and special assessment ideas with the corporation.

"I think we have to do it, because you have to get started somewhere. If you don't lower the millage rate, you're not going to get any kind of loan to be able to take care of it," Adams said.

"I think this is some very, very good information," Thaler said.

Thrasher also received support for beginning to meet directly with residents to explain his proposals and answer any questions they might have.

Since 2009, the Briny Breezes tax rate has been at the state cap of \$10 for every \$1,000 of taxable value. The way Thrasher sees it, the rate could be lowered to about \$3.83 for every \$1,000 of taxable value if there were a separate assessment — or a transfer from the corporation — to cover public safety and emergency services.

The drop may seem dramatic, but it's basically the reverse of a step the council took in 2009, when it almost tripled the tax rate to hit the cap. In the years before that increase, the town's corporation had been making transfers to the town budget

that usually covered between 70% and 80% of the town's fire, EMS and police costs, Thrasher said. With the higher tax rate, the transfer dropped to 29% of those costs in 2009.

Back then, residents received an income tax advantage from being able to deduct the higher property taxes, something they did not receive when paying for the services through the corporation, Thrasher said. That tax advantage for itemizing deductions isn't really there now for many residents given the changes in tax law over the past decade, he said.

As for taking out a loan to pay for needed work, Thrasher said borrowing money would not be unheard of in the town — even if it might be unusual — and it makes fiscal sense.

"We would be able to leverage what money we have to the greatest possible extent. That would be something we would use the loan money for," Thrasher said. "Briny has borrowed money before. I didn't realize it until studying some of the records. Briny borrowed approximately \$1 million to fund upgrades to the water/sewer back in 1994."

Thrasher emphasized the impact of the money would go far beyond a 50-50 match, where each local dollar is matched

by a grant dollar. Using other available grants — possibly from private sources, Palm Beach County, the U.S. Department of Transportation or the Federal Emergency Management Agency — as matching dollars for Resilient Florida program grants, Briny would only have to pay about 15½ cents for each dollar matched, he told council members.

In other action, the council decided to switch banks again, leaving PNC bank to return to TD Bank, which Thaler said is offering higher interest rates that could produce more than \$62,000 in additional income for the town over the next year. In the past, the town had been with TD Bank before switching to PNC bank, officials said. ★

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



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Highland Beach

Five candidates vie for two seats on commission

The Town Commission has five members, including a mayor, who usually serve three-year terms. But March 14, three candidates will vie for a term that expires in March 2024. David Stern occupies that seat after his appointment to replace Peggy Gossett-Seidman, who resigned last year to run for a seat in the state House. Incumbent John Shoemaker is challenged by newcomer Donald Peters for a three-year term ending in March 2026. Mayor Doug Hillman won reelection unopposed.

ONE-YEAR TERM



Maggie Chappellear

Personal: 66; master's and specialist degrees in education

from Florida State University and Florida Atlantic University; Highland Beach resident for 38 years; married, one grown child and three grandchildren.

Professional: Comptroller for Eastland Realty Partners, a commercial real estate investment company; licensed real estate broker since 1981.

Political experience: None.

Important issues: Wants to see the newly formed fire department get underway, complete with emergency vehicles; interested in the overall safety of Highland Beach residents.

Quote: "I don't just represent condo dwellers in a large building. I represent everyone — single-family homes, people living in multi-family quads, triplexes and townhouses. My goal is to go to each building once a month and find out what everyone's concerns are. I want to reach out to the community and have them tell me what it is they want and see what we can do about it. I am a problem solver. I made sure this town got a marine patrol boat. I'm on the Natural Resources Board. I'm actively involved in our community. I'm a year-round resident, so I don't do Zoom meetings. I am here, highly visible and highly easy to get hold of."

Mayor Doug Hillman ran unopposed and will serve another three-year term. Town Clerk Lanelda Gaskins confirmed there will be no ballot questions or charter amendments in this election. Polls will be open on March 14 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.



Judith M. Goldberg

Personal: 77; received her law degree, juris doctorate cum laude,

from Pace University School of Law; 8-year resident of Highland Beach; divorced, one adult child.

Professional: Has been actively engaged in the practice of law for 35 years and as a mediator for 27 years.

Political experience: Served as town attorney for two years in Patterson, New York.

Important issues: Effective growth planning; addressing the impact of Senate Bill 4-D and the municipal ordinance on high-rise recertification, easing their effects on Highland Beach condo owners; preservation of natural resources and property values; working with FDOT in implementing the rehabilitation project planned for State Road A1A; favors expansion of the Highland Beach Fire Department and emergency services; preservation of existing wetlands and green spaces, possibly adding Milani Park as a green space for future use; improving dialogue and frequency of communications between the town and the Natural Resources Preservation Advisory Board.

Quote: "We are seeing a flight out of Highland Beach caused by the unexpected heavy financial burdens now demanded by new state and municipal legislation. I can deliver my unique contribution as an advocate, lawyer, leader, mediator and entrepreneur to create a shared purpose and vision, and get things done. My achievements and professional acumen demonstrate my ability to collaborate, analyze and effectively lead and build consensus. I look forward to being an active member of the Highland Beach Commission to afford intelligent and compassionate resolution to a broad and complex problem that faces many residents of our town."



Peter Kosovsky

Personal: 67; received his BA cum laude from the University of

Pennsylvania; went on to New York Medical College; 5-year resident of Highland Beach; single, no children.

Professional: Retired radiologist.

Political experience: None.

Important issues: Keeping the citizens of Highland Beach safe; making sure their taxes are spent wisely and kept as low as possible; improving government transparency; reviewing the upcoming A1A reconstruction project with regard to drainage, bike lanes and preserving palm trees while minimizing delays; believes the town should explore installation of an automatic switch to bring power from one of its electrical feeds to any of the others that experience power loss to help resolve blackouts; would rewrite certain town charter amendments and tighten the language to separate town projects that need voter approval from those that don't and put realistic spending limits that conform to today's economic conditions; preserve the waterfront and explore the construction of a sea wall to prevent erosion; get insurance reductions for properties that build sea walls and strengthen their dunes; concerned with the proposed Milani Park — the size of the parking lots and the consequences that may ensue.

Quote: "Unlike many of the other candidates running for Peggy Gossett-Seidman's open commissioner's seat, I have been involved with town politics as a vocal critic of the prior administration where I helped defeat the disastrous and egotistical \$45 million bond plan with my personally funded mailing, along with other citizens and the Committee to Save Highland Beach. Unlike candidates who have recounted their curriculum vitae, I have proposed a platform of changes and projects in front of both this administration as well as the past administration. It is now time for me to transform from constructive critic to commissioner, where I can use my ability to form a consensus working with others to move forward while maintaining transparency and keeping our government from going off the rails."

THREE-YEAR TERM



Donald Peters

Personal: 76; B.S. and M.S. degrees in social science and

criminal justice from Boston University; 2½-year resident of Highland Beach; is in a long-term committed relationship; two grown children, four grandchildren.

Professional: Retired; was a police officer in Yorktown, New York, for 20 years and became supervisor (mayor) of the town; started a sporting goods store 45 years ago, which is still growing.

Political experience: Served as town supervisor of Yorktown from 2007-2009.

Important issues: Committed to keeping taxes down; concerned with high insurance costs; wants a transparent town government; concerned with maintenance of the town's aging infrastructure; wants to see the new Fire Department implemented responsibly.

Quote: "I love Highland Beach and I am proud to be living here. I feel that with my knowledge and experience I can help maintain the environment and safety of our community. I will work hard to keep taxes down and keep up with the infrastructure. My strengths are having the knowledge how a municipality works and listening to the residents. An open-door policy is very important. My 20 years working as a police officer and civil servant helps me to connect to an already great Police Department. Also, it will help in the building and hiring of our new Fire Department. I have the ability to look at a budget and find ways to do more with less. My goals would be connecting with the Highland Beach residents, making insurance affordable and forming our new Highland Beach Fire Department."



John Shoemaker
(Incumbent)

Personal: 76; bachelor's in business administration

and management at the University of Massachusetts and MBA at Suffolk University; 18-year resident of Highland Beach; married, two children and five grandchildren.

Professional: Spent 45 years in sales, marketing, customer service and field engineering for a number of high-tech companies. Helped form TransCore, Inc., best known for toll tag applications we know as SunPass in Florida. Has traveled the world giving seminars on active and passive wireless solutions.

Political experience: Town commissioner since 2020.

Important issues: Certification of all threshold buildings over three stories; protection of Highland Beach as a barrier island with dune restoration/preservation on the ocean side and appropriate heights of sea walls on the Intracoastal; establishing the town's independent fire and EMS organization; reconstruction of A1A combined with attending to flood/drainage issues and a sanitary sewer collection system project; created an expanded town website and a veterans display to go on the newly developed grounds for the fire house.

Quote: "I have taken the role of commissioner very seriously to bring commonsense solutions to town needs as expressed by the residents. I bring business savvy, a decisive nature that does not avoid problems, financial sensibility and a desire to give back to the community. We must ensure the safety and well-being of our community structures, infrastructure and residents with first-class police, fire, and emergency medical services and an effective building department with skilled inspectors — with minimal impact on our millage rate. We also have to ensure FDOT has an effective plan ... to rehabilitate A1A to minimize expected disruption to traffic and noise. We need to do more to protect boaters, residents and manatees along the waterway due to the dangers of speeding watercraft. We are in the process now to create a new marine accessories structures ordinance to address boat lifts, docks, piers and ladders on the walls along the ICW for boat safety, convenience and enjoyment."

Candidate profiles compiled by Steven J. Smith

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

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Gulf Stream

School disregarded town-imposed enrollment cap, but is forgiven

By Steve Plunkett

The head of the Gulf Stream School asked for — and received — permission to boost enrollment past the town's 250-student cap, but only after attendance exceeded the limit for more than two years.

The school currently has 293 students after enrolling 270 the last school year and 260 the previous year. Enrollment was 232 when Dr. Gray Smith took over as head of the school in 2019-20 amid COVID-related financial troubles, he said.

"Before I begin, I do want to acknowledge that the school is over-enrolled at this point," Smith told town commissioners on Jan. 13. "We can no longer meet budget at 250."

Gulf Stream and the school agreed to limit enrollment and future building when the town

OK'd construction of second-story classrooms in 1994.

Smith originally wanted to add a prefabricated 625-square-foot building in the parking lot to store food so he could offer students on-campus lunches. But when town officials and school representatives reviewed the proposal, they realized the 1994 agreement would have to be amended first to raise the enrollment cap and second to allow more construction.

"I do want to acknowledge that we're doing this backwards to some extent," Smith said. "I do apologize for that."

Smith said Gulf Stream School's current facilities can accommodate 300 students without adding any more buildings.

The school also tries to cover its expenses with tuition and fundraisers without touching

its endowment, he said.

Its expenses have skyrocketed since 1994, Smith said, going from \$42,376 for insurance to \$298,000, for example, and from zero dollars for technology to more than \$300,000. The school also now employs a full-time security professional and a full-time school nurse.

"Even at 300 students, we would project only a modest end-of-year budget surplus," Smith said.

He also said the school has minimized disruptions to its neighbors by altering the way parents drop off and pick up their children, with younger students channeled to Gulfstream Road and older ones to State Road A1A. As a result, morning arrivals are finished by 8:15 a.m. and afternoon dismissals take just 10 to 18 minutes.

Police Capt. John Haseley

said cars arriving early lead to backups.

"Like all parents, everybody wants to be first. That's what creates the lines," Haseley said. "Once the line starts flowing, it moves pretty rapidly."

About 20 students live close enough to walk to school, Smith said.

Commissioners Paul Lyons, Joan Orthwein and Thom Smith did not want to authorize a 300-student cap without more input from town residents.

Thom Smith, who was on the school's board of trustees when the 1994 agreement was reached, said negotiations went on for months.

"If you read the history of it, it was thought to be permanent," said Smith, who added that he was not opposed to amending the agreement.

Orthwein said: "I'd hate to see you next in 10 more years,

you say 350 or 400."

But Gray Smith called 300 students the "tipping point."

"If you're managing the school on a day-to-day basis and you're seeing the magic that happens there, yeah ... I would not want to see us move over 300," he said.

Michael Glennon, who lives at the corner of Gulfstream Road and Lakeview Drive, said the school was one of the reasons he and his wife bought their home in 2020.

"Being able to walk to school every morning is simply unmatched," he said. "I certainly am impacted by the car line which, you know, no question is sometimes a frustration, but kind of the price you pay."

To allow progress on the food storage building, commissioners agreed to make the limit 300 students for this school year only, and possibly extending it after hearing from the public. They also approved amending the agreement to allow for the new construction, which will still have to go through review by the Architectural Review and Planning Board and the commission again.

To alert residents, the town will include an item on the school's requests in its winter newsletter. ★

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Manalapan

Lecture series set to begin

The annual lecture and music series at Manalapan's J. Turner Moore Memorial Library features three nights of entertainment for library members and their guests. Author Donna Scott will start things off when she discusses topics from her historical fiction novels at the library at 6 p.m. Feb. 16.

The series continues at 6 p.m. March 2 with a musical interlude, Duo Arpeggione, with performances by pianist Catherine Lan and cellist Claudio Jaffe.

The series concludes at 6 p.m. April 13 with a lecture on Palm Beach's gilded age by the Historical Society of Palm Beach County, looking specifically at the Flagler Era when Henry Flagler's railroads began bringing wealthy guests and residents.

Library members can be either a resident (membership is \$35) or a non-resident (membership is \$50). Wine and appetizers are served at each of the events.

—Staff report



The new overpass of Glades Road at I-95 is intended to improve traffic flow and safety. Rendering provided by FDOT

GLADES

Continued from page 1

drivers turn left onto the interstate with no oncoming traffic.

It was scheduled to open at 6 a.m. Jan. 30, but rain fell overnight and workers had to wait to let the asphalt dry before placing final adhesive road markers and to fine-tune the timing of traffic signals.

Vehicles finally cruised the new configuration about 3:15 p.m. at speeds the FDOT found troublesome.

“Reminder: The speed limit is 35 mph” through the interchange, it said via Facebook and Twitter at 10 a.m. the next day. “FDOT is working with the (city) to optimize signal timing so that traffic can flow as smoothly as possible.”

Navigating the new interchange is “easy,” project spokeswoman Andi Pacini said.

“When driving straight through the new interchange, go through the first traffic light, staying in the lane that you’re in. The lane will guide you to the opposite side of the road. And before the lane crosses back to the right side of the road, you will encounter that one other traffic signal on the other side,” she said.

“If you’d like to take the right turn onto the I-95 entrance ramp, use the right-turn lane just like you do now.

“And then, when turning left into the I-95 entrance ramp, stay in the left lane and just follow that lane through the first traffic light to the other side of the road. And then before getting to the second traffic light, you would turn left onto the entrance ramp,” she said.

An FDOT video that gives a behind-the-steering-wheel view of the new lane pattern is at www.d4fdot.com/pb/fdot/glades_road_diverging_diamond_interchange.asp

The new interchange sports a separate pedestrian bridge over I-95 in the median of Glades Road, shorter pedestrian crosswalks with flashing lights at the I-95 ramps, 7-foot bike lanes each way, 18 new signal mast arms

and five new overhead sign structures.

Cameras help synchronize the interchange’s traffic signals to “facilitate the smooth crossing of traffic, alleviate traffic delays and congestion ... and reduce crashes at the interchange,” the FDOT said.

“We’ll have eyes on it around the clock,” Pacini said.

Traffic signals at a diverging roadway operate with fewer signal cycles. The new-style interchange also reduces the number of “conflict points,” where drivers see oncoming traffic, from 26 to 14.

Yamila Hernandez, a consulting engineer on the project, said state and city transportation officials are working together to fine-tune how quickly the lights change.

“The signal phasing is going to be probably a trouble-shooting exercise as we progress,” she said. “We’re going to be monitoring traffic and verifying how everything works and we can tweak it as we go along.”

The interchange is prepared if a hurricane knocks out electricity. Backup generators on automatic transfer switches were installed at the interchange to power the traffic signals in case of any outage.

Although the diverging interchange is open, construction is not completed, the FDOT said. A fourth lane in each direction on Glades Road will be opened once additional work is done, and a final layer of asphalt, which will result in a smoother road surface, still needs to be placed. Finally, the construction area around the entrance and exit ramps will remain cluttered until May.

Work started in March 2021 on the new interchange. The overall project, which includes express toll lanes from south of Glades Road to south of Linton Boulevard, is set to end this year at a cost of \$148 million.

Florida opened its first Diverging Diamond Interchange in Sarasota in 2009. “We’re a little late to the party,” Pacini said.

Future diverging interchanges are planned for I-95 interchanges at Lantana and Hypoluxo roads. ★

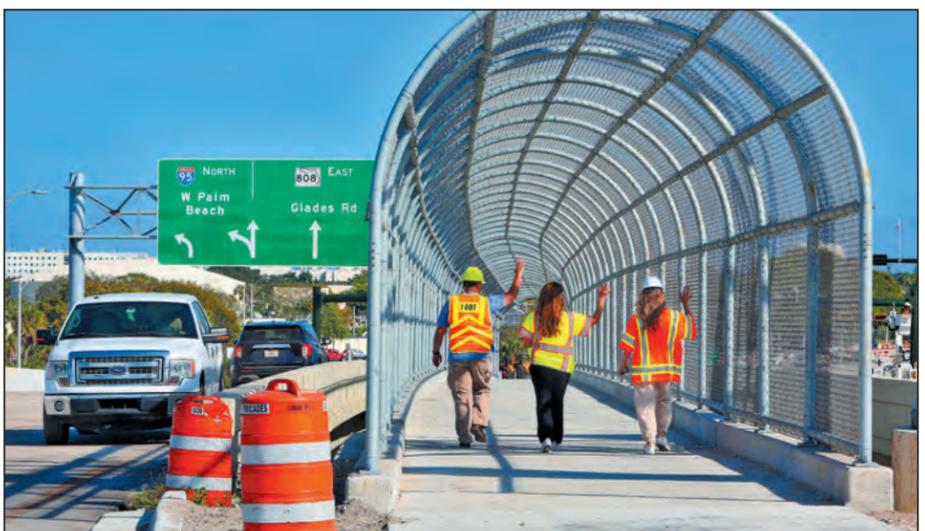


Last-minute push readies interchange

LEFT: The components that make up the traffic signal controller cabinet for the interchange were visible as adjustments were made on the opening day of use.

BELOW: The intersection is in the flight path for planes landing at Boca Raton Airport. BOTTOM: FDOT employees and contractors wave to other workers while using the covered walkway that runs through the middle of the overpass.

Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star



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Delray Beach

Officials, residents say Andrews Avenue has problems, but city proposal is not the answer

By John Pacenti

The Delray Beach City Commission threw cold water on a proposal to put in sidewalks and bike paths along Andrews Avenue, where beachgoers continue to snarl traffic and cause safety hazards as residents are forced to walk in the middle of the road.

There seemed to be no appetite for transforming the street that runs parallel to State Road A1A, a project that would require the city to reclaim right-of-way by bulldozing picturesque trees and removing homeowners' walls on a stretch of road that conveys undeniable beachside charm.

The commission would need to pursue funding through a grant from the Palm Beach County Transportation Planning Agency for the project.

The Coastal Star spoke to a handful of residents in the area — none of whom were in favor of the project. But Public Works Director Missie Barletto told the commission at its Jan. 10 meeting that a survey showed that residents liked the idea.

Barletto said 75% of the 114 responses to the survey favored building sidewalks and a majority wanted a bike path of some sort. She shared a comment from a resident who said it was “a terrific idea” to calm traffic.

But another resident responding to the survey called the proposal ridiculous. “These are quiet residential streets, which on weekends are already packed with beachgoers illegally parking and jamming the streets,” the resident wrote.

Jack Barrette lives on Seaspray Avenue and would see his manicured ficus hedge meet its demise if the road improvement project commenced.

“I don't think anyone understands what a ‘complete street’ project really means. It would take away old-growth trees, hedges and all kinds of other stuff that may be on easements,” he told *The Coastal Star*.

Barrette said the survey was poorly worded and included part-time residents, so that it did not reflect the unified disdain by homeowners of a project that would turn the quiet neighborhood on the narrow street into a construction zone from Atlantic Avenue to George Bush Boulevard.

At the Jan. 10 meeting, the prior night, Vice Mayor Adam Frankel expressed a similar viewpoint. “This seems to be an area where residents want less traffic and less people. This is just inviting the opposite.”

Deputy Vice Mayor Juli Casale said that while campaigning in the neighborhood for the March 14 election, she could not find one homeowner in favor of the



Installing sidewalks on both side of Andrews would mean that a lot of driveways, landscaping and utilities would need to be modified. **Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star**

project.

Commissioner Ryan Boylston said an Andrews Avenue revamp is a low priority for him.

The Beach Property Owners Association is taking a wait-and-see approach, wanting to see more details on any plan.

Mayor Shelly Petrolia said she was taken aback by the proposed scope of the project, claiming that the idea of putting in sidewalks started when former Mayor Cary Glickstein spoke to the commission last April and proposed sidewalks just near Atlantic Avenue.

“He was talking about a shorter area, I understand,” Petrolia said. “This body has not asked for this. I question whether the previous mayor actually asked for this because when he was up here speaking, I heard something very different.”

Glickstein told *The Coastal Star* he never asked for an overhaul of Andrews Avenue as was proposed, adding the survey was “a complete waste of time and lacked context.”

“I never asked for bike paths. There is no room for bike paths,” said Glickstein. The former mayor said he envisioned a sidewalk on one side of the road from Beach Drive to Atlantic Avenue where there is simply no room for pedestrians if there are two cars traveling in opposite directions on the road.

Andrews Avenue area residents who spoke to *The*

Coastal Star didn't want to give their names but said rogue parkers camp in front of their homes for hours, blocking service vehicles from entering and exiting the neighborhood.

And, indeed, while a *Coastal Star* reporter asked questions of residents, a bottled water truck was forced to back up on Seaspray Avenue, negotiating the space left by a parked SUV with Michigan plates that neighbors say is a daily beachgoer.

Commissioner Shirley Johnson said that the issue on Andrews Avenue encapsulates the entire problem on the barrier island with parking, forcing beachgoers to park on people's lawns, hoping they don't get towed.

“We haven't done anything to resolve it,” said Johnson, proposing the city build a parking facility near the beach.

In the meantime, commissioners said the city needs to explore erecting “No Parking” signs to keep beachgoers from parking on the easement and residential property on Andrews.

“Then you don't have that very narrow road where people are walking and biking. There are probably easier things we can do that could both accommodate the residents of the neighborhood and help alleviate some of the problem,” Casale said. ★

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10 Questions

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR: Lisa Morgan

Even the most well-intentioned people tend not to know a lot about the Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties. Lisa Morgan was one of them when she was nominated by a friend to serve on its board of directors six years ago.

“We jokingly say it’s the best-kept secret in town, but that’s not a good thing,” Morgan said. “You can only do good if people know about you and support you.”

Morgan, whose broad spectrum of philanthropic endeavors includes being a founding board member of Impact 100, soon learned that the Community Foundation, founded in 1972 by Winsome and Michael McIntosh, has awarded more than \$200 million in scholarships and grants on behalf of more than 9,000 donors and nonprofits.

Morgan, 62, became chairwoman of the scholarship committee five years ago, an appointment she said has “just grabbed my heart.”

“I felt this is where I need to be,” said Morgan, who has “come into contact with the most amazing young people.”

Fellow board member Tim Burke, the former publisher of *The Palm Beach Post* who serves as marketing director for the foundation, said Morgan is a huge asset in her work with scholarships.

“She’s a real champion of students in our area,” Burke said. “She’s amazingly passionate.”

The Glades is one area that has long been underserved by philanthropic efforts. The foundation has addressed that with the recent addition of Tammy Jackson-Moore — a community organizer, leader and founder of Guardians of the Glades — to the scholarship committee. Students are more typically identified with the help of high school guidance counselors throughout the region.

“People are often under the assumption that you can only be a philanthropist or establish a scholarship fund if you are a millionaire, but that is not true,” Morgan said. “The Community Foundation donors come from a wide variety of economic levels. It serves as a hub for our community aligning donors with the needs of our community.”

A resident of Gulf Stream since 1994, Morgan is married to Scott, the mayor of Gulf Stream. They have three children: Ashley, who resides in San Francisco; Charley, who is in Dallas; and Bennett, who is in Los Angeles.

In her free time, Morgan enjoys tennis, bridge, cooking, and walking A1A in the early morning to catch the sunrise.

— Brian Biggane



Lisa Morgan of Gulf Stream loves meeting students as scholarship committee chair of the Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

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

A: I grew up in Pennsylvania, but from an early age, I spent four months of the year in South Florida, usually attending school in a multigrade classroom with other seasonal students like myself where we each worked independently. I then attended Pine Crest School in Fort Lauderdale for high school, then Vanderbilt University where I earned a B.S. in molecular biology. After college I earned a JD by attending the Dickinson School of Law and the University of Pennsylvania School of Law. I also earned additional certification as a licensed patent and trademark attorney.

Growing up in central Pennsylvania had great impact on my approach to life and my core values. The people there are generally salt of the earth — patriotic, hardworking, kind and loyal. You could do business on a handshake. I have a great respect for many of the people I employed and did business with, and I still love doing business there.

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

A: I began as an attorney with the firm of Morgan,

Lewis & Bockius practicing litigation and patent law, and subsequently my husband and I opened our own firm. I left the practice of law to run a midsize raw materials company producing and selling aggregate, concrete, asphalt and building materials. I actually had a pink monogrammed hard hat that the employees gave me. Little did I know that in addition to being a nice gesture, it was also a way they had a heads up when I was on site because no one else had a pink hard hat! They only told me that years later. I left that industry when I moved to Florida in 1993, and have since been president of a commercial and industrial investment and development company.

In my professional career what I am most proud of is having succeeded in two industries that were at the time — and actually to some extent still are — male dominated. In my time in the construction industry, probably 99% of my employees and business contemporaries were male. In almost all of my interactions, I was the only woman. The same thing remains true in my commercial and industrial development dealings where nearly every principal of the development groups I have dealt with over the years has been male. I was just on a Zoom call this afternoon — six men and

me. It has been a challenging road at times to stand confident in the room and garner respect, but I definitely learned how to hold my own.

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

A: To understand that a career and success are not given to you — you earn them through hard work and perseverance. You need to have a strong work ethic. Also, young people should not feel that they are locked into the career they first choose. Life is full of opportunities and you can always pivot! Look at me: I went from science to law to business, and each one of those experiences gave me broader knowledge and shaped me as a person. When I graduated law school, my dad ended a note to me by saying “Go for it!” and I take his words to heart every day.

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

A: Gulf Stream School was the initial lure. What a unique and wonderful place to educate your children. But the feel of the neighborhood has kept us there. Understated, peaceful and a true sense of community among its residents. My husband and I always say that we are so lucky

to have found and live in this place.

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

A: The camaraderie and sense of community among the residents. The Gulf Stream Civic Association hosts a meet-and-greet event every year, and there is always a great turnout and a very convivial atmosphere that I think exemplifies the neighborhood. It also helps that I can walk to the beach and that groceries and Atlantic Avenue are only five minutes away.

Q: What book are you reading now?

A: I am reading two. One is for my book group — *Horse* by Geraldine Brooks — and the other one I have been wanting to read, *An Army at Dawn* by Rick Atkinson. I recently finished *The Code Breaker* about the woman who first figured out how to use CRISPR to alter genes which was the basis for the ultimate development of the mRNA vaccines. Amazing stuff. My nightstand has a pile of books in a queue.

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

A: My taste in music is actually quite eclectic. I am a country music fan and that is what is invariably playing in my car. For relaxation, however, I listen to James Morrison, Al Green or the Amos Lee station, and Kenny Loggins’ *House at Pooh Corner* is still a family favorite from when our kids were young. For inspiration, anything with a great beat, which can range from Motown to disco to the Rolling Stones.

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

A: My father was my biggest mentor and inspiration in my life decisions. He taught me the importance of education, to be independent, and the responsibility to actively give back to your community. He also emphasized to me that every person on this Earth has value and you can learn something from everyone. As a result, I would say my friends are as eclectic as my music.

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

A: I actually asked my college girlfriends about this one and some of the answers were very funny. But, the consensus was Reese Witherspoon because she is a strong woman who has a playful and fun side. I definitely have a playful side, as my friends will tell you!

Q: Who/what makes you laugh?

A: My husband makes me laugh every day. And my girlfriends.

FIRE-RESCUE

Continued from page 1

payments the town is making to the city:

- \$121,514 for services provided in fiscal year 2021 — due a year ago — for actual expenses that exceeded the city’s original estimates.
- \$396,140 billed in November to reconcile actual fiscal year 2022 costs.
- \$103,025 in ambulance transport fee reimbursements that the city says it paid in error to the town based on a software error by a third-party billing company.

When Highland Beach asked last year for specific details on how Delray Beach arrived at the fiscal year 2021 charge, Delray Beach told town officials to file a public records request — and then made the town pay for the documents the city provided.

“Is that any way to treat a partner after 30 years by asking for a formal public records request to obtain information the town rightfully deserves?” Highland Beach Commissioner John Shoemaker told *The Coastal Star*. “It’s absolutely silly.”

Town Manager Marshall Labadie said at his Town Commission’s Jan. 17 meeting that he didn’t know how best to describe the situation between the two municipalities: surprised, disappointed or shocked. “I don’t know if I have the right adjective at this moment,” he said.

During the Delray Beach City Commission meeting on Jan. 10, Deputy Vice Mayor Juli Casale stated, “We don’t have a great relationship with them right now.”

City Manager Terrence Moore declared that Highland Beach was in breach of contract at the meeting, claiming the city had handed over documents but still was being stiffed on the money owed for 2021.

Highland Beach questions extra charges

Delray Beach has billed Highland Beach more than \$500,000 in additional fire-rescue costs compared to its original estimates over the past two years. Highland Beach officials have requested additional information from Delray Beach about the increases before they would agree to pay the bills. Here are the estimated and actual costs and how that affected the overall charges.

Budget category		Estimate	Actual	Difference	Pct. change
Salaries	FY 21	\$2,144,514	\$2,233,472	\$78,958	3.68%
	FY 22	\$2,202,673	\$2,379,672	\$176,999	8.04%
Overtime	FY 21	\$160,426	\$197,745	\$37,319	23.26%
	FY 22	\$291,111	\$415,690	\$124,579	42.79%
Fringe benefits*	FY 21	\$1,542,278	\$1,610,678	\$68,401	4.44%
	FY 22	\$1,826,634	\$1,930,884	\$104,250	5.71%
Operating/overhead	FY 21	\$367,921	\$305,705	-\$62,216	-16.91%
	FY 22	\$363,243	\$321,475	-\$41,768	-11.5%
Vehicle apparatus	FY 21	\$220,240	\$213,506	-\$6,734	-3.06%
	FY 22	\$220,240	\$233,457	\$13,217	6%
5% admin. fee	FY 21	\$221,769	\$227,555	\$5,786	2.61%
	FY 22	\$245,195	\$264,059	\$18,864	7.69%
Total	FY 21	\$4,657,148	\$4,778,662	\$121,514	2.61%
	FY 22	\$5,149,097	\$5,545,237	\$396,140	7.69%

* Fringe benefits include retirement benefits; life, disability and health insurance; FICA wages and workers compensation insurance. Source: *Delray Beach Fire Rescue*

Since then, *The Coastal Star* has confirmed the two sides reached a detente where Delray Beach would provide the documents sought by its neighbor — such as a daily roster of employees at the station for each shift and payroll data. The Jan. 24 meeting included Moore and Labadie, along with their finance directors, attorneys and an assistant fire chief.

The bills are ‘true-ups’

So, how is it that Highland Beach has negotiated a contract to pay Delray Beach for fire-rescue services but still gets hit with an additional bill at the end of the year? Welcome to the world of “true-ups.”

A true-up bill comes at the end of each fiscal year, reconciling the difference between the original projected

costs on which payments were based and the actual costs for the services provided.

The disputed items surfaced after the town in May 2021 gave Delray Beach notice that it would be ending its contract with the city in three years. Highland Beach questioned the true-up bill that came in late 2021, and officials there were even more surprised when the 2022 true-up arrived in December for more than triple the 2021 cost.

“Since we terminated the contract, the true-up amounts have gotten quite large and warrant a more detailed review,” Labadie told *The Coastal Star*.

Labadie claims Delray Beach had stymied his town’s efforts to analyze the extra costs by first requiring Highland Beach to file public records requests

for the information and then not providing all it wanted for the analysis.

Moore, though, said Delray Beach Fire Rescue, the Finance Department and others involved provided Highland Beach with everything it needed in terms of analysis and billing. “Highland Beach just did not honor that obligation,” he said.

Prior to the Jan. 24 meeting, Labadie said what Delray Beach provided are only “just ‘trust us’ numbers.”

“We want details so we can see how they got to the number,” he said. “They just keep giving us totals.”

He hopes his recent meeting with Moore changes that.

“If everything is as we discussed, we could be making a recommendation to our commission regarding the

true-ups in a few weeks,” Labadie said.

City wants some cash back

Besides the true-up charges, Moore informed commissioners Jan. 10 that the city had sent Highland Beach a check for ambulance transport fee reimbursements totaling about \$114,000, which he said the city was now trying to get the town to pay back.

City Attorney Lynn Gelin told commissioners a software change with billing company Digitech is at the root of the overpayment; she said the payment was around \$15,000 in previous years.

Gelin said though Delray Beach shoulders some of the blame, Highland Beach “had a duty to call the city and question why it was so astronomically high when compared to prior years.”

Documents obtained by *The Coastal Star* show the payments have varied widely. The amounts were \$15,877 in fiscal year 2019 and \$88,343 in fiscal year 2018.

Of the 2022 amount sent to the town, Moore is seeking \$103,025 back from Highland Beach. Delray Beach commissioners appeared to be hearing about the issue for the first time at the Jan. 10 meeting even though it occurred almost a year ago.

Labadie questioned whether the EMS transport dollars were actually an overpayment. He said that if Delray Beach’s request for reimbursement was correct, then Highland Beach had only about \$8,000 in transports for the 2022 fiscal year — only between 30 or 40 residents being transferred by ambulance.

But information from Delray Beach Fire Rescue shows that the Highland Beach station conducted 289 medical transports from Highland Beach in 2022.

Town says breakup is final

What really burned Labadie was hearing that some in Delray Beach think Highland Beach won’t be able to establish its own fire department and that it will come back to the city hat in hand. He said that had no basis in reality since town voters overwhelmingly supported spending up to \$10 million to build a new station.

Labadie told *The Coastal Star* he thinks the disputes may boil down to a new interpretation of the contract by new leaders of the Delray Beach city administration. He and Moore are still hopeful there may be some mutually acceptable resolution to the dispute.

Either way, there remains a lack of trust.

“Every time I get information from them, I begin questioning the prior information that was provided,” Labadie said at Highland Beach’s Jan. 17 commission meeting. ★



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Boynton Beach

Riverwalk's luxury apartment building approaches opening

By Tao Woolfe

Workers were putting finishing touches on the grounds of the \$85.3 million Avion Riverwalk last month, laying stone walkways around newly planted palms and flowering trees.

The 10-story luxury apartment building at the southeast corner of Woolbright Road and Federal Highway is scheduled to open in late April or early May, according to a leasing agent who declined to give her name. The leasing office could be open as soon as next month, the agent said.

The building — with 326 units and 41,976 square feet of retail space — was approved by the City Commission in January 2017. Construction work on the building and on the tenants' parking garage — begun in 2021 — appears to be almost complete.

Earth-moving equipment and pallets of walkway stone occupied the grounds leading from the building to the Riverwalk Plaza parking lot late last month. Men in bright yellow vests kept visitors from walking inside the orange netting surrounding the work.

The project was the site of

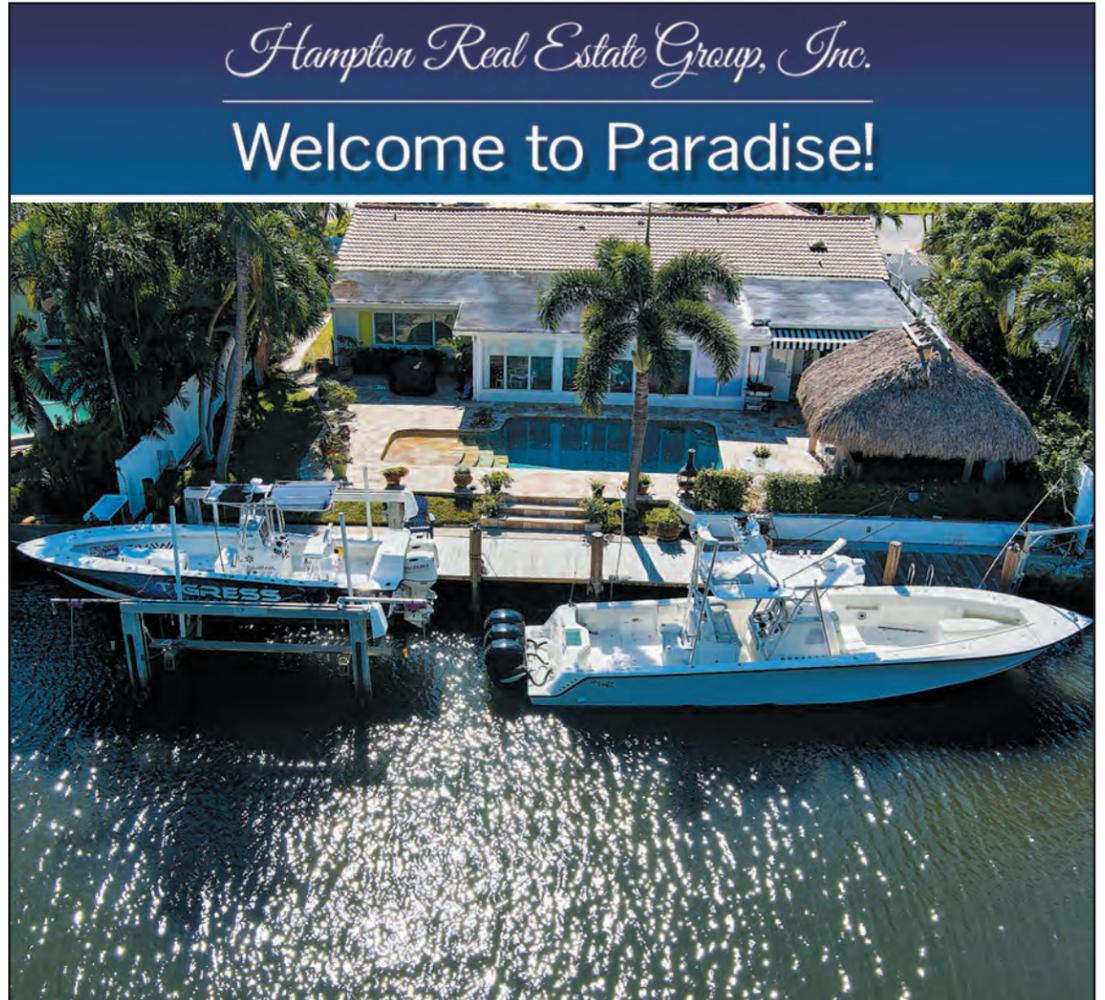
a construction accident last March that killed two workers.

Boynton Beach police and fire officials reported that part of the concrete structure had collapsed, crushing the workers, identified as Jeremias Mendez, 32, and Eduardo Cruz-Moran, 25, both of West Palm Beach.

The regional Occupational Safety and Health Administration office in Plantation, following a six-month investigation, cited subcontractor Riverblock Solution, LLC with three "serious" violations of workplace safety and fined the company about \$25,000.

The OSHA citations specified that Riverblock Solution:

- "Did not ensure the formwork was braced to support the vertical and lateral loads during the dismantling process."
- "Did not develop safety procedures to ensure formwork was adequately braced during its assembly and dismantling process."
- "Did not provide training to employees to recognize and avoid hazards associated with the assembly and dismantling of formwork, thus exposing employees to struck-by hazards." ★



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Highland Beach

Last chance to submit design ideas for town's welcome signs

By Rich Pollack

Time is running out for Highland Beach residents who want to make their mark on the town.

After Feb. 10 town leaders will no longer accept design ideas for gateway signs at each end of the town, all part of a contest meant to encourage residents to get involved in Highland Beach.

With the response to the

contest not as enthusiastic as Vice Mayor Natasha Moore had expected, entries coming in this month might still have a chance at being selected as a finalist before town residents vote on the winner.

As of the middle of last month just under a dozen entries had been submitted. Those entries, Moore said, include hand-made drawings as well as photographs of entry signs of other communities.

"This is an opportunity for residents to make an improvement in the town," said Moore, the driving force behind the initiative.

The contest was born out of concerns about how the existing entry signs are all but falling apart.

"They're made of wood and they're rotting," Moore said.

Although the town could easily ask for outside bids from commercial artists and

designers, town leaders chose to get input from residents first.

"There are a lot of creative people in town," Moore said.

People who are interested but have yet to submit designs can send their entries via email at townsign@highlandbeach.us or just drop them off at the town clerk's office.

All entries will be reviewed by the Town Commission on Feb. 21 and finalists will be selected. Residents will then

have until the end of March to choose their favorite.

Moore said town leaders will then work with a sign contractor to develop the concept.

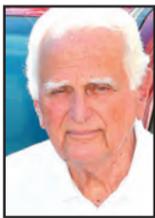
While there isn't a monetary award, the creator of the winning entry will have bragging rights and be named on plaques that will be placed near the entry signs.

"You get to claim it as your own," Moore said. ★

APP

Continued from page 1

to his fourth-floor apartment, prepare for bed or a task and then search for his cellphone. It was then he remembered that he had left it in the car.



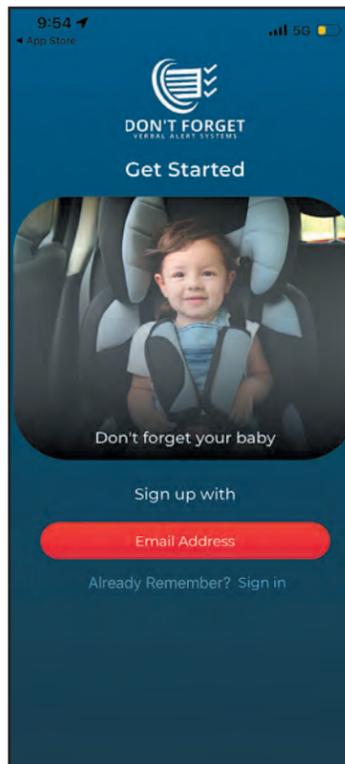
Firtel

"You have to go down to get the phone, then back up," he says. "I just wondered, 'Why doesn't somebody invent

something that tells you that you left something in the car?'"

He turned out to be that someone.

Early in the pandemic, when he put his golf game on hold, Firtel went to work and found nothing on the market that was quite what he envisioned. Working with patent attorneys and engineers, he developed a device that could be installed in a car or by the entrance to a home and did exactly what he had in mind.



The Don't Forget app comes loaded with five common items, but gives users the option to delete any of them or add others important to them.

When he consulted his grandsons, JD and Max, they reminded him that an app would probably be a better way



to go, since everybody has a cellphone these days.

Considering that option, Firtel met with a software

engineer and the Don't Forget app was created. The app, which connects to cellphones through Bluetooth, comes loaded with five common items, but gives users the option to delete any of them or add others important to them.

In addition to the app, Firtel has patents pending on a device that can plug into a port under the dashboard and another that uses a motion detector in the home to remind users to take what they need.

To market the app — which costs \$5.99 a month — to a national audience, Firtel and his two tech-savvy grandchildren traveled to the Las Vegas area in January and set up a booth at CES, formerly the Consumer Electronics Show, which is billed as "the most influential tech event in the world."

Longtime show watchers speculated that Firtel — likely the sole octogenarian exhibitor this year — may have been the oldest vendor in the show's 50-plus-year history.

His lack of technical acumen worked to his advantage in

developing his app.

"My not-so-savvy tech deficits actually came in handy — they kept me pushing to ensure Don't Forget was easy for anyone, any age to quickly download, customize and use as it is," he says.

Firtel invested his own money in development of the app and says he absolutely would do it again.

"My invention didn't come to me because I'm a tech genius," he says. "I just asked the question after always leaving my phone in the car. It's a practical invention."

Firtel is the author of a golf novel, *The Legend of the Cap*, which he hopes will be part of his legacy to his grandchildren, along with the app.

"Age doesn't matter when it comes to ideas," he says. "I hope other seniors with an idea and a spark remember that this time is called our golden years for a reason." ★

For more information about the Don't Forget app, visit dfdontforget.com.

Boca Raton

City making offers to end conversion therapy, beachfront construction suits

By Mary Hladky

In an effort to end protracted litigation over a now-repealed ordinance and a blocked effort by a landowner to build a single-family home on the beach, the City Council has authorized their attorneys to attempt to resolve the cases.

Council members voted unanimously on Jan. 24 to make "offers of judgment," which under the federal rules of civil procedure can be used to encourage case settlements.

One case involves a 2017 city ordinance that prohibited the use of conversion therapy on minors.

Many other cities and counties have passed similar ordinances, including Palm Beach County, whose ordinance was also challenged.

Conversion therapy seeks to change a person's sexual identity or sexual orientation. It is denounced

by many professional medical organizations for causing depression, hopelessness and suicide.

After a heated legal battle, a three-judge panel of the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled the city's and county's ordinances unconstitutionally violated the free-speech rights of two Palm Beach County therapists, and the full court declined to reconsider that decision.

The city and county decided not to appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court out of concerns that an adverse ruling there would jeopardize other conversion therapy bans in cities and counties outside the 11th Circuit's jurisdiction.

The city and county quickly repealed their ordinances to forestall additional litigation.

But that failed to end the legal brawling. The case was remanded to the U.S. District Court, where the therapists

are aggressively pursuing an amended lawsuit.

Under the offer, the city would pay Robert Otto of Boca Raton \$50,000 and Julie Hamilton of Palm Beach Gardens \$25,000, and a portion of their attorney's fees.

Helene Hvizd, the County Attorney's Office appellate practice chief, declined to say if the county would make a similar offer, noting the county does not comment on pending litigation.

Otto and Hamilton are represented by Liberty Counsel, whose website says the firm is "advancing religious freedom, the sanctity of human life and the family through strategic litigation."

Attorneys representing the therapists did not return a call for comment on the offer.

In the second case, Natural Lands LLC has long wanted to build a 48-foot-tall, 8,666-square-foot single-

family home on land it owns on the beach at 2500 N. Ocean Blvd.

The proposal caused a public outcry and prompted Jessica Gray, who then lived nearby, to found the group Boca Save our Beaches.

The City Council voted not to grant a variance allowing construction east of the city's Coastal Construction Control Line on July 23, 2019.

Natural Lands sued in U.S. District Court. In its amended complaint filed in 2020, Natural Lands contends that over eight years, the city erected roadblocks and took action intended to defeat its efforts to build the house, including requiring repeated reviews of its variance application to cause delays and diminish the value of the land.

As a result, the land "has been stripped of all economic and beneficial value," the suit says.

Natural Lands wants the court to determine that the city has taken its property without just compensation, determine the proper compensation and award it, along with attorney's fees and costs.

The suit also contends that Mayor Scott Singer and council members Andrea O'Rourke and Monica Mayotte made statements that they would not approve a variance, but did not recuse themselves from casting votes.

The city's offer would pay Natural Lands \$950,000, with that amount including Natural Lands' attorney's costs and fees, and Natural Lands would deed the land to the city. The lawsuit states that Natural Lands paid \$950,000 for the property in 2011.

Natural Lands attorney Keith Poliakoff did not return a call seeking comment on the offer. ★

South Palm Beach

Dune restoration delayed until 2024

By Joe Capozzi

The second half of the town's dune restoration project has been postponed until 2024 because of damage from Hurricane Nicole.

"We are basically out of luck for anything for dune restoration for another whole year and let's hope we don't get hit with any bad storms this summer," Mayor Bonnie Fischer said at the Town Council meeting on Jan. 10.

All beaches in South Palm Beach, a town roughly five-eighths of a mile long, abut private land. As a result, the town must rely on Lantana and Palm Beach to renourish its beaches and dunes.

Fischer and Town Manager Robert Kellogg learned about the delay in a phone call Jan. 9 with Lantana Town Manager Brian Raducci and Robert Weber, the coastal program manager for the town of Palm Beach.

Sand for the \$360,000 restoration project had been stockpiled about 3 miles north of South Palm Beach, on a berm next to the Palm Beach Par 3 Golf Course south of Phipps Ocean Park, Weber said. But it was washed away in November when Nicole approached South Florida and made landfall south of Vero Beach.

Officials are waiting to hear from FEMA if they can be reimbursed for the lost sand, Kellogg said in an interview.

Nicole also damaged the sea wall at the east end of Ocean Avenue at Lantana Municipal Beach, the access point for equipment for the dune restoration. It could be late fall before the sea wall is repaired, Kellogg said.

"It was unfortunate to hear that but there's nothing we can do because we are at the whim of what Palm Beach does and also Lantana," Fischer said. "We need both of them to even do anything on that beach."

The first phase of the dune restoration was completed in May 2021 for \$739,000. There is more sand — more beach — on the north end of town near Palmsea Condominiums than on the south end of town, where the limited beach allows surf to pound against condo sea walls.

"It's getting very scary," said Fischer, who lives in Imperial

House at the south end of town.

Town Hall architects

For the second time in three months, the Town Council is looking for architects to design a new Town Hall constructed with structural insulated panels.

In November, the council chose Slattery & Associates over two other firms to design the building. But on the advice of the town attorney Glen Torcivia, council members decided Jan. 10 not to offer Slattery & Associates a contract because of concerns with the firm's experience with the SIPs method.

The town has issued a new request for qualifications and the council could pick a new firm in March.

When council members interviewed Slattery & Associates, they were left with

the impression that the firm had experience designing buildings that could be constructed with structural insulated panels.

But after the November meeting, town officials took a closer look at the firm's experience with SIPs and determined "it's very minimal," Kellogg said. "We want to have someone that has significant experience in the design phase of installing SIPs."

Recertification rules

Town Council members Jan. 10 heard a presentation from Highland Beach building official Jeff Remas on new state recertification rules for coastal condominiums.

A summary of Remas' presentation will be shared with representatives of the 27 condominiums in South Palm Beach. ★

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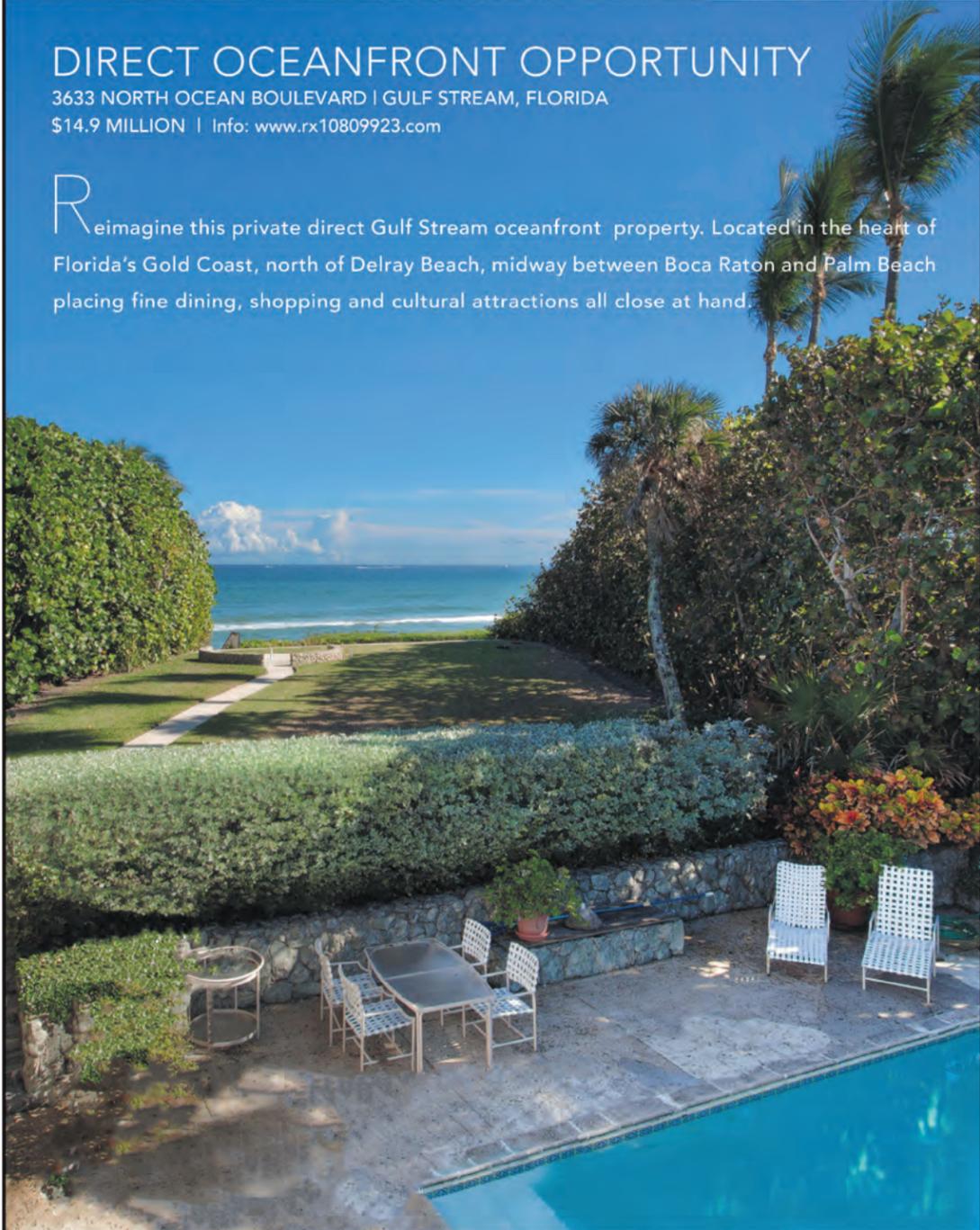
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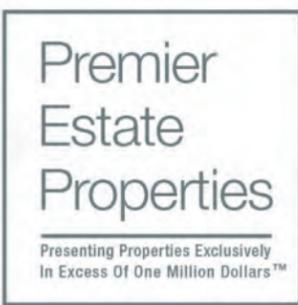


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Along the Coast

Coastal Star's coverage of aging condos takes a top honor in annual competition

By Larry Barszewski

The Coastal Star walked away with 15 awards in the annual Florida Press Club competition, including a top award for in-depth reporting. The awards were announced at a Jan. 14 ceremony in Daytona Beach.

The paper received the prestigious Lucy Morgan Award for In-Depth Reporting for its look at south Palm Beach County's aging condos following the 2021 collapse of the 12-story Champlain Towers South condominium in Surfside. The Classes B-C award is given to publications with under 40,000 circulation.

The award was one of three first-place prizes the paper received in its class. Coastal Star reporter Joe Capozzi won the other two first-place awards, one for a story about the heavy pace of burials at the Delray Beach Memorial Gardens Municipal Cemetery during the height of the coronavirus pandemic, and the other in the public safety writing category for articles about bicycle-riding dangers, regulations and enforcement on State Road A1A.

The Lucy Morgan Award is the third for The Coastal Star, which also received the award in 2015 for a package about the 1984 Karen Slattery murder and the status of her killer on Death Row, and in 2014 for an article about lessons officials learned from the coastal damage done by Hurricane Sandy.

Judges gave high marks this year for the paper's report on aging condos, a staff effort led by reporter Joel Engelhardt. The work in August 2021 also won the top in-depth reporting award from the separate Florida Press Association 2022 Weekly Newspaper Contest.

"A journalist's sacred duty is to distill the critical, but potentially deadly boring details in a way that connects our common humanity. I'm happy to say this has been accomplished," one Florida Press Club judge wrote of the paper's entry. "This is

a towering achievement in community news, in the scope of information offered, in its compelling prose and the way it grabbed the reader by the throat and wouldn't let go."

In the public safety category, another judge lauded Capozzi's coverage of bicycle hazards on A1A, saying he had "excellent use of first-person accounts to focus the issue."



The other Florida Press Club award winners this year from The Coastal Star are:

- Rich Pollack: second place for coronavirus reporting for his article about how charities dealt with fundraising during the pandemic lockdown; and second place for public safety reporting for his article about boating safety on the Intracoastal Waterway;
- Janis Fontaine: second place for her coverage of religion news and third place for education writing, the latter for her coverage of the dispute between St. Joseph's Episcopal School and St. Joseph's Episcopal Church;
- Brian Biggane: second place in the "That is so ... Florida" category for his article about iguanas on golf courses;
- Tim Stepien: second place in the portrait/personality photography category;
- Charles Elmore and Mary Hladky: second place in health writing for their package about a drop in overdose deaths and what local governments were doing to get money from large opioid lawsuit settlements;
- Ron Hayes: second place for light features based on a collection of his work;
- Jan Norris: third place for travel and tourism writing for her article about a tourism boom locally;
- Mary Kate Leming: third place for column writing for a collection of her Editor's Notes;
- Scott Simmons, Jerry Lower and Tracy Allerton: third place for feature page design layout;
- The Coastal Star staff: third place for special sections, for the paper's annual philanthropy and arts sections. ★

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Highland Beach



The New Florida Follies dancers go through a dress rehearsal Jan. 14 at the Countess de Hoernle Theatre in Boca Raton, the day before their 2023 debut performance. The Follies range in age from 50-somethings to 94 years old. Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

Backstage pro gets kick out of being in front of the curtain

By Sallie James

Highland Beach resident Holly Budney spent most of her professional career managing theater productions from backstage, so when she tapped her way into the spotlight with the New Florida Follies last month, the occasion was momentous.

Her dancing debut with the glitzy troupe marked the first time in more than 40 years that she found herself on the other side of the curtain. And performing for a crowd and bowing to applause that erupted from an audience of her own fans was a thrill.

"I hope I can do this for another 30 years and maybe I can," Budney said, laughing. "As a first-timer I was really welcomed into this sorority of dancers who help you be the best you can be."

At the tender age of 65, Budney may be on to something. She's one of the most junior dancers of the high-stepping troupe whose membership includes 50-somethings, 60-somethings, septuagenarians, octogenarians and a 94-year-old retiree who can do the splits on stage and get back up herself.

The cast includes former professionals from the Radio City Music Hall Rockettes, June Taylor dancers, NFL cheerleaders, Las Vegas and Latin Quarter showgirls and a range of amateur dance lovers for a total of 38 dancers.

The members dazzle in showy costumes, matching wigs, shimmering stockings and snazzy tap shoes. And, boy, can they dance, whether it's tap or jazz.



Holly Budney (center) is a new member of the New Florida Follies. Budney, 65, of Highland Beach, had a career managing theater productions before stepping out on stage last month.

Backstage, there's a flurry of activity as dancers scurry amid racks of feathered costumes, trays of accessories and fancy shoes. Wigs, makeup, makeup brushes, mirrors, tissues, duct tape and hats clutter dressing tables near more dress racks loaded with sequined finery.

On stage, iridescent blue and fuchsia streamers swirl in circles around dancers' bodies, creating a pinwheel effect.

"It's an absolute circus," Budney confessed with delight during a recent dress rehearsal. "I have always been behind the scenes directing, coordinating costumes and coordinating sets. I feel like I am back in seventh grade doing my seventh-grade dance club."

The Follies 2023 show

— Magic, Music & Mystery — kicked off Jan. 15 with a performance at the Countess de Hoernle Theatre at Spanish River Community High School in Boca Raton. Five other shows are scheduled in February and March at three locations in Palm Beach and Broward counties.

The nonprofit organization raises money for charities that benefit kids, primarily through contributions to the Children's Diagnostic & Treatment Center in Fort Lauderdale; Make A Wish Southern Florida Inc.; and Ukulele Kids Club Inc.

To date, the New Florida Follies has raised more than \$800,000, said director and choreographer Cheryl Steinthal, a former Rockette.

Steinthal, 68, joined the group in 2015 as a dancer, which she continues to be. She is hoping more "young" people like Budney join the Follies so they can keep the dance group going for a long time.

As a new member, Budney found that performing was an adventure made easier by the savvy backstage dressers who made sure the quick costume changes worked, even though at times it was all a "bit scary."

Steinthal said dancers like Budney are exactly who the Follies are hoping to recruit.

"We want to bring in young, vibrant people so we can keep this legacy going on forever," Steinthal said.

P.S. The New Florida Follies have a secret: Dancing keeps

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When: All shows 2 p.m.
 • Feb. 5, March 19 and March 26 at Countess de Hoernle Theatre at Spanish River Community High School, Boca Raton
 • Feb. 26 at Township Center for Performing Arts, Coconut Creek
 • Feb. 19 at Lillian S. Wells Hall at The Parker, Fort Lauderdale
Tickets: \$35
Information: 305-596-7394, www.TheNewFloridaFollies.com

them young and dancing keeps them going.

"I never would have imagined at this time in my life I would be dancing on stage the way I am," said Steinthal, who was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2020 and went on to perform after braving surgery and chemotherapy.

"We feel that dance keeps us vibrant, keeps us alive, keeps us going. If you get dizzy you sit down. You stop feeling dizzy, you get up and dance again. That is the way we really work. We won't let anything stop us."

Budney hopes her tap-dancing routines work the same magic for her in years to come, and connect her with the apparent fountain of youth her dance sisters have discovered.

"Theater and dance have been my passion since forever," Budney said. "It's funny, because when you are 65" in this group, "you are a kid. It's so much fun."★

Boynton Beach

Charges reduced in death of infant found in Boynton Inlet

By Rich Pollack

Charges against a 29-year-old Boynton Beach woman accused of killing her newborn daughter and later tossing her into the Boynton Inlet have been reduced to second-degree murder.

Prosecutors now say the death of the infant known as Baby June in 2018 does not appear to be premeditated.

Arya Singh, who was originally charged with first-degree murder by investigators at the Palm Beach Sheriff's Office, could face a maximum sentence of life in prison if convicted of the second-degree murder charges.

Prosecutors with the Palm Beach County State Attorney's Office have also charged Singh

with abuse of a dead human body, a second-degree felony punishable by up to 15 years in prison.

Detectives, in announcing the arrest of Singh late last year, said it appears that the baby — born two days before she was found in the water — was dead before she was put in the inlet.

In paperwork filed with the court, prosecutors accuse Singh of killing the baby by asphyxiation, "although without any premeditated design to effect the death of any particular individual."

Singh's arrest in mid-December came 4½ years after Baby June's body was found on June 1, 2018, by an off-duty Boynton Beach firefighter.

With no one claiming

responsibility for the infant's death, sheriff's detectives launched an exhaustive search that involved going over hundreds of birth records as well as making several public appeals for information.

The break in the case came when members of the sheriff's forensic biology unit identified relatives of the father using DNA evidence.

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

The father said he was unaware of Baby June's birth and has not been charged with a crime.

Singh last month entered a plea of not guilty. ★

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Gulf Stream

Little Club changes won't be needed to improve town's drainage

By Steve Plunkett

The Little Club's golf fairways have been saved.

The town adopted what it once called Plan B and will install water filtration trenches along its roadways to guide excess rainfall to the Intracoastal Waterway. It originally wanted the club to rejigger its fairways in order to enlarge a lake on the golf course to handle additional stormwater.

Gulf Stream "redesigned the project after some discussion with The Little Club to accommodate water quality within our right-of-way

through exfiltration trenches," Assistant Town Manager Trey Nazzaro told town commissioners on Jan. 13. "We have obviated the need for lake expansion."

The revised plan, good for another 20 years, and the town's capital improvement project to improve drainage throughout its Core district "will significantly reduce the amount of water that will need to discharge into the club," Nazzaro said.

"It will adequately allow the town to continue to discharge the limited amount of stormwater drainage in extenuating circumstances."

Mayor Scott Morgan called the earlier proposal to dig a wider lake "significantly problematic."

"The engineers went back and reworked it so that ... we would not need to enlarge the lake," he said. "So it works out, it's a win-win."

Last June, commissioners fretted that a demand by The Little Club to have its own engineer review the town's plans would add an extra year to Gulf Stream's 10-year capital improvement project. The club had agreed a year earlier to accept the town's plan.

The town's consulting engineers are scheduled to finish drawing up plans in the spring.

Gulf Stream intends to improve the streets, drainage and water mains on both the west and east sides of the Core. Part of the plan includes replacing a 24-inch drainage pipe from Polo Drive to a canal off the Intracoastal Waterway with a 48-inch pipe. To get the South Florida Water Management District to sign off, engineers proposed enlarging a quarter-acre lake at The Little Club to a half-acre.

The water management district does not consider a lake smaller than a half-acre as helping drainage.

At the time, Gulf Stream Commissioner Paul Lyons said he hoped to live longer than the construction.

"The 10-year CIP plan—that's a long time. I just want to be sure I have enough years to enjoy it," he said. ★

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Ocean Ridge

Flood-weary commission may consider raising sea walls, roads

By Joe Capozzi

Town officials may soon take a hard look at resiliency related policy changes to protect Ocean Ridge from future storms, flooding and climate-change projections.

Among possible changes for a coastal town that historically has battled drainage issues: raising the height on new and rebuilt sea walls, and raising the elevation on roads when they are repaved.

The ideas were discussed at a joint meeting of the Town Commission and advisory Planning and Zoning Board on Jan. 11, nearly two months after the town experienced serious flooding by Hurricane Nicole, which made landfall 80 miles north, near Vero Beach.

“For us, it is like the

eleventh hour at this point,” Commissioner Martin Wiescholek said. “It is unconscionable if we do not do anything about this right now.”

Nicole, a Category 1 storm, dumped 4.87 inches of rain over a two-day period on Ocean Ridge — the highest total of any town in Palm Beach County. Aside from the rain, the flooding was exacerbated by storm surge and king tides induced by a full moon.

In some neighborhoods, roads became impassable and water came within inches of breaching homes.

“The biggest problem beside the potential for it coming into people’s homes was that the roads became unnavigable,” said Vice Mayor Kristine de Haseth.

“The one that really concerned me was that the Ocean Avenue bridge was closed for 26 hours. If that storm had taken a sideways turn and gone from a 1 to a 3 and we all decided we’re finally going to heed the evacuation that was suggested, there wouldn’t have been the opportunity necessarily to use that bridge to get off.”

Town officials will review what Palm Beach County and other coastal towns require for sea wall height. Most new sea walls in Ocean Ridge are capped at 4 feet, said building official Durrani Guy.

“Hurricane Nicole had 2-foot swells and half the walls were breached,” he said. “We need to look at this and I do believe we need to mandate at least 5 feet for new sea walls.”

Raising the road elevations may create new problems, commissioners and board members agreed.

If street surfaces are raised an inch or two, in some cases they will be higher than residential driveways and yards, increasing the need for swales to prevent water from flowing into driveways and homes.

“There’s no easy answer, but I think we’d be remiss in continuing spending any municipal dollars at the level we are at knowing it’s already a problem and it’s a problem that’s going to continue to get worse,” de Haseth said.

“I don’t have a solution. I just want everybody to be conscious of it,” she said. “We just can’t keep doing what we (have done) and expecting

different outcomes.”

Nicole should serve as a wake-up call, Wiescholek said.

“We were on the good side of the hurricane. It was a Category 1 that didn’t hit us and we had water up to people’s front doorsteps. At some point we have to go: You know what, accept the reality. This is what’s happening, and we have to do something about it,” he said in an interview in November, a few days after Nicole made landfall.

“We need to shore up our sea walls, we need to bring the town higher, we need to raise the roads. None of that is cheap. Those are massive spending bills, but if we kick the can and say let’s look at it next year, we will always be behind the [eight-]ball.” ★

After 16 months in the job, police chief finally gets a contract

By Joe Capozzi

Police Chief Richard Jones was finally given a contract Jan. 9, more than 16 months after he took charge of the Ocean Ridge public safety department.

Jones, who makes \$115,763 a year, said he requested a contract when he replaced retiring chief Hal Hutchins in August 2022.

But he said he was told at the time by then-Town Manager Tracey Stevens that the commission did not want to issue him a contract.

That apparently was not true, an issue commissioners didn’t become aware of until Stevens announced her resignation last July.

At the time, some commissioners asked Jones if he would consider serving as interim town manager. But the chief declined because, among other reasons, he said he was never given a contract when

he took over for Hutchins. A contract, he said, would have offered protections.

Hutchins was given a contract when he became chief in 2015 after the forced resignation of Chris Yannuzzi, who also had a contract.

On Jan. 9, commissioners voted to give Jones a three-year contract that provides 16 weeks of severance pay if he is terminated without cause.

If the chief resigns, he must give the commission 90 days notice.

Vice Mayor Kristine de Haseth suggested changing town rules to require a supermajority of four votes, instead of the current three, to fire the chief, an idea other commissioners did not support.

Jones has received praise from commissioners and residents since taking over as chief, not only for his public-safety work but for his assistance on information technology issues.

In other action:

- Commissioners on

Feb. 6 will consider ways to regulate the placement of “No Trespassing” signs on the beach, which have generated controversy and heated debate off and on over the years.

Commissioners agreed to put the issue on the agenda after more than a dozen residents complained during public comments at the Jan. 6 meeting about signs outside the Turtle Beach condominium on Old Ocean Boulevard.

- Each of the town’s five commissioners will get town-issued cellphones dedicated to town business. Each phone will cost \$55 a month.

Commissioner Martin Wiescholek suggested the idea after attending annual ethics training for local elected leaders. Town-issued phones will allow commissioners to, among other things, avoid using their personal phones for town business, which will expedite public records requests by reducing the time needed to separate personal calls from town calls.

“Everything town related

is on there and we don’t need to use our personal phones for anything town related,” he said.

“Once a commissioner leaves, that phone is handed to the next commissioner.” ★



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Obituaries

Catherine S. Revelas

DELRAY BEACH — Catherine “Kay” S. Revelas, mother of 19-year Delray Beach resident Irene Revelas, died on Nov. 9 at Greenfields in Lancaster, New York. She was 91.



Mrs. Revelas was a proud Greek-American who expressed love of her heritage and culture through her extraordinary baking skills, mailing baked goods each December to friends, colleagues and family across the country.

The only child of Greek immigrants Glenn and Irene Calafates, Kay was born on March 29, 1931, in the historic Erie Barge Canal Village of Medina, New York, and graduated from Medina High School in 1954.

She married and had four children, eventually moving her family to nearby Lockport, New York.

Southeast Florida was always a part of Mrs. Revelas' life. Her maternal grandmother, Olga Asproditis, lived in Medina with Kay and her parents in the summer and fall, and with her uncle John White, owner of White's Candies in Surfside, during the winter and spring.

Mrs. Revelas' annual Miami Beach family visits as a child were followed by annual spring break family visits to Surfside with her children.

In the 1970s, Mrs. Revelas became manager of the Royal Sweet Shoppe family restaurant, and next opened Sweet Stuff, an artisanal confection and gift store, both in downtown Lockport. In the 1980s, Kay returned to her hometown as the executive director of the Medina Chamber of Commerce. She started with a focus on Main Street, where her father's Mayflower Restaurant had been located for decades.

Mrs. Revelas understood the importance of historic structures to the fabric of a downtown

community. She successfully pursued one of the first New York Main Street Alliance grants to help owners improve their historic buildings. This work resulted in a 1984 Preservation League of New York State Main Street Revitalization Award to Medina for its commercial façade program. Mrs. Revelas received a citation from the New York state Assembly in 1994, recognizing her for the successful Medina Main Street program.

Mrs. Revelas' next project was activation of the heritage tourism potential of Medina's Erie Barge Canal Basin. Under her leadership, a canal task force was formed and grants were obtained to develop the canal basin, including a docking system, park area and an annual “Woods 'N Wetlands Festival.”

On April 16, 1996, state Sen. George Maziarz issued a resolution paying tribute to Kay upon her retirement, “in recognition of her many years of community service and exemplary leadership.”

Although Mrs. Revelas was a busy volunteer for a variety of arts, culture and downtown development organizations, she found retirement didn't suit her and, at age 65, she started a new career in Buffalo with Univera as a Medicare specialist. During her 10-year career at Univera, Kay discovered Delray Beach through a National Trust for Historic Preservation magazine article about the Sundry House restoration. As a result, Kay became a regular annual visitor to Delray Beach long into her retirement years.

Mrs. Revelas is survived by four children, nine grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Donations in her memory may be made to the nonprofit Delray Beach Preservation Trust, 455 NE Fifth Ave., Suite D-250, Delray Beach, FL 33483.

— Obituary submitted by the family

Barbara Rewey Miner

BOCA RATON — Barbara Rewey Miner, known to all as “Gramma Barb,” died Jan.



12 surrounded by her loving family. She was 92.

Born in Flint, Michigan, on Feb. 3, 1930, to Ormond and

Blanche Rewey, Barbara began a long life well lived.

She married the love of her life, Frederick Bishop Miner, on Jan. 9, 1954, and together they became residents of Royal Palm Yacht and Country Club in 1964. The couple were avid anglers, world travelers and generous and gracious merrymakers.

Mrs. Miner had an infectious personality, a wicked sense of humor and was never afraid to speak her mind.

She was also one to never stand still. She was a Girl Scout troop leader, den mother for

Cub Scouts, Singing Pines volunteer, Junior League member, Boca Raton Museum of Art fundraiser, Garden Club member, founding member of the Boca Raton Regional Hospital and founding member of St. Gregory's Episcopal Church. In her spare time, she “crafted, sewed, knitted, quilted, stitched and bitched,” family said.

She is survived by her four children: Fritz, Doug (wife, Mary), Beth (husband, Brad Osborne), Bruce (wife, Jodi); 11 grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren.

Her celebration of life was held at St. Gregory's Episcopal Church followed by entombment at the Boca Raton Mausoleum.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly asks that donations be sent to St. Gregory's Episcopal Church in Boca Raton.

— Obituary submitted by the family

Wendy May Francis Bonner

BOCA RATON — Wendy May Francis Bonner died surrounded by her daughters and her grandson on Jan. 12. She was 79.



She was born on Jan. 2, 1944, the daughter of Victor Francis and Helene Francis.

She lived a wonderful life growing up here in Florida. She was a Boca Raton debutante and went to Pine Crest High School and was a pillar of the community.

Wendy lit up a room when she was in it, and always had a smile on her face even if times were hard. She had a wonderful sense of humor and a great sense of beauty and fashion.

She will be missed by her family and many friends. Wendy is survived by daughters Tammy Sue Hamilton and Victoria Francis Bonner Kelley and grandson Chad Victor Hamilton.

— Obituary submitted by the family

Beverly ‘Bev’ Hillman

By Rich Pollack

HIGHLAND BEACH — Highland Beach was a perfect match for Bev Hillman.

“She was a small-town person,” her husband, Highland Beach Mayor Doug



Hillman, said about his wife of 54 years, who died on Jan. 16. “She was always very comfortable in those places.”

Mrs. Hillman, who battled COPD for the last several years, was 76.

“She truly was the love of my life and my partner,” Mr. Hillman said.

Originally from Danbury, Connecticut, Beverly Hillman met her husband while both were in separate colleges. They spent a few years in Connecticut before moving to Maryland, where they remained for three decades.

During those years, Mrs. Hillman served as an informal adviser to her husband, a business executive who held several corporate positions including as president of London Fog, maker of raincoats and other apparel.

“I would always share business decisions with her,” Mr. Hillman said. “She was my

rock.”

It was in 2009, when the Hillmans decided to become snowbirds, that Mrs. Hillman fell in love with Highland Beach and with the condominium apartment they bought in the Boca Highland Beach Club & Marina.

“She was just incredibly happy here,” Mr. Hillman said. “She spent many of her days on the balcony overlooking the Intracoastal.”

Oftentimes she took a book or a crossword puzzle out there.

Mrs. Hillman was a golfer and boater who enjoyed vacations on the couple's boat. She loved to travel, with Venice, Italy, one of her favorite places. She and Mr. Hillman also spent parts of a dozen years vacationing with friends on the island of St. Croix in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Mrs. Hillman was at home surrounded by family when she died. She is survived by her husband; son Michael; daughter-in-law Michelle; granddaughter Molli, and grandson Miles.

A gathering and brief ceremony in Mrs. Hillman's memory were held at the Boca Highland Beach Club & Marina.

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Obituaries

Yvonne S. Boice-Zucaro

By Sallie James



BOCA RATON—Philanthropist, mentor, organizer, socialite, businesswoman, world traveler, beloved wife and mother. They all accurately describe the late Yvonne S. Boice-Zucaro, but her widowed husband, Al Zucaro, may have summed up her legacy best:

“She was a force of nature,” said

Mr. Zucaro, who married her in 2009, a second marriage for both and a union he described as “the best years of my life.” Mrs. Boice-Zucaro died on Jan. 13 at home of natural causes. She was 85.

“When she got interested in something she was willing to commit her time, her energy and her money to the course,” Mr. Zucaro said. “She was one of the best organizers that I ever met. She was incredible in terms of her commitment to many different platforms and her follow-through with all of these. I still keep uncovering things that she was involved with and doing that even surprised me.”

Born in New Brunswick, New Jersey, on Sept. 6, 1937, Mrs. Boice-Zucaro graduated from New York University with a bachelor’s degree in marketing. Education was one of her passions and over the years she received three honorary doctorate degrees, from three schools: Franklin Pierce University in Rindge, New Hampshire; Daemen College in Buffalo, New York; and Lynn University in Boca Raton. Her South Florida adventure began in 1983 when she moved to Boca Raton as the wife of real estate executive Grant Boice, who died a short time later. His unexpected death catapulted her into the business world. She rose to the occasion, successfully taking over management of the newly developed Shoppes at Village Pointe while also running her own pet project, Fugazy International Travel.

She met her future husband, Al Zucaro, on the Palm Beach County Film and Television Commission, where the two served as board members. They became friends, sharing common interests, passions and politics. After Mr. Zucaro’s wife died in 2008, the two became closer and eventually married a year later.

Mrs. Boice-Zucaro was always busy.

She was a world traveler who had visited more than 150 countries at the time of her death, believing that “the only way to true education was through travel.”

Mentoring women was also a huge passion throughout her life, and she was boldly outspoken about why it mattered. Mr. Zucaro recalled a time when his wife traveled to the Middle East with the State Department to speak at a conference about film, where she expressed concern about how women there were always portrayed as victims. A male attendee spoke out, saying, “That’s the way it is and the way it will always be.”

“(My wife) sort of put a fist down on the table and said, ‘Ladies, don’t believe it.’ Then she made

an offer to the women in the audience that if they produced a film that depicted Middle Eastern women differently, she would advance that film at the Palm Beach International Film Festival to help change attitudes,” Mr. Zucaro said. “That is the kind of spur-of-the-moment thing she would do.”

Mrs. Boice-Zucaro represented the United States at four high-profile overseas business conferences during her life: the Middle East and North African Women’s Conference in Abu Dhabi; the Global Summit of Women in Berlin; the Global Summit of Women in Hanoi; and she traveled to Bolivia to speak with an audience of indigenous women about small business ownership and political action.

Longtime friend Arlene Herson, also a Boca Raton philanthropist, said Mrs. Boice-Zucaro took her under her wing decades ago, introducing her to the movers and shakers in the community so she could make essential connections. The two spoke every day about everything.

“She was an amazing woman. She made me feel special. She once gave me a pillow for my birthday that said, ‘You are the friend everyone wishes they had,’ so I would say that about her,” Herson said. “She was an extraordinary woman. I will miss our daily calls.”

Mrs. Boice-Zucaro also produced galas for the Palm Beach International Film Festival; she was involved with the Centre for the Arts in Boca Raton; was an appointee to the Palm Beach County Film and Television Commission, and chaired the 50th anniversary celebration of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

She served on the Palm Beach State College Foundation Board and funded Lynn University scholarships to support international travel.

“She never stopped doing the things that she did,” her husband said. “She was dedicated to the things that she believed in and she worked very hard to make things happen. She was the first to step up to help someone, particularly if that someone was doing something that she was interested in.”

Her appearance was very polished — hair, nails, makeup and clothes were always in order, her husband noted, reflective of the way she lived her life.

“We had a storybook romance. We were absolutely committed to each other. We loved one another very much. We traveled the world together,” he said. “We had fun together. The 15 years that I had with Yvonne were the best years of my life.”

In addition to her husband, Mrs. Boice-Zucaro is survived by her daughter Lauren, in Boston. A celebration of life was held on Jan. 20 at Glick Family Funeral Home in Boca Raton.

Memorial donations can be made to Boice-Zucaro International Programs and Services at Lynn University or the STEAM scholarship program at Palm Beach State College.

Peter Blum

DELRAY BEACH — Peter Blum, a longtime resident of Palm Beach County, businessman and philanthropist, died Jan. 23, his beloved wife, Mary, by his side. He was 93.



Mr. Blum, a man dedicated to his family, faith and the welfare of all, was born Aug. 14, 1929, in Peoria, Illinois, to Peter Blum and Ruth (Sill) Blum. On May 8, 1948, he married his high school sweetheart, Maureen “Teena” Forbes. During their honeymoon in Florida, the seeds were planted for their eventual move in 1962.

Upon arriving in Boca Raton, Mr. Blum bought property on Federal Highway and opened a furniture and design studio, Blums of Boca.

While establishing his business, Mr. Blum became involved in the civic arena of Boca Raton. His many accomplishments include: founding member of the Boca Raton High School Booster Club, planning and zoning board member of Boca Raton, president of the Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce, member of the Boca Raton Community Hospital board where he served for 20 years (nine as chairman), founder of Sunrise Kiwanis Club of Boca Raton, member of the Bethesda Hospital Foundation board, member of the Foundation Board of FAU, member of the Manalapan Town Commission for more than 30 years, including multiple terms as mayor and vice mayor, named Outstanding Philanthropist of the Year by the National Society of Fund Raising Executives, Boca Raton Man of the Year, and Industrialist of the Year. He also established scholarships at St. John Paul II Academy, Bethesda Hospital, YMCA and Northwood University.

His childhood in Peoria led to his proudest accomplishment, when in 1970 he and other Boca Raton civic leaders started the planning process for the Boca Raton YMCA (now known as the Peter Blum Family YMCA). Because of his relationships with business leaders, he was a master fundraiser. Nothing brought Mr. Blum more pride and joy than walking into the Boca Raton YMCA, just as he did as a young boy at the Peoria Y. He loved reading to the toddlers with his beloved rescue dog, Lady, by his side.

In 2013, Mr. Blum married his best friend, Mary Morrell. They loved living in Delray Dunes, visiting with family, laughing and living life to its fullest. They were a true match, and their deep love was felt by everyone they encountered.

Mr. Blum enjoyed traveling, playing tennis, watching and singing along to Broadway musicals, reading, and watching Notre Dame football.

Mr. Blum is predeceased by wife Teena, his sons Peter and Larry, and his sister and brother-in-law Dodie and Bill Harris. He is survived by his son Randy (Debby), stepdaughter Caitlin (Brian) Moran, granddaughter Marlena (Rob) Pernet, and grandchildren Peter and Michael Blum and Lincoln and Ainsley Moran, as well as eight great-grandchildren.

A celebration of life will take place at St. Mark Roman Catholic Church, 643 NE Fourth Ave., Boynton Beach, on Feb. 6 at 1 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the YMCA, 6631 Palmetto Circle S., Boca Raton, FL 33433, or Bethesda Hospital Foundation, 2815 S. Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach, FL 33435.

— Obituary submitted by the family

Boynton Beach

City agrees to fund six additional police positions

By Tao Woolfe

The Boynton Beach Police Department, like other police departments across the nation, is struggling to recruit and retain officers.

Police Chief Joseph DeGiulio received some good news, however, when the City Commission on Jan. 17 approved enough money for the department to hire six more officers.

Though commissioners discussed no specific amount, the starting salary for new officers is \$56,825. The department is offering a \$5,000 signing bonus for certified police officers — those who have already received police academy training.

“We’re always catching up. As we’re hiring, people are leaving,” said Commissioner Aimee Kelley, who is

married to a Boynton Beach police captain. “We’re behind the eight-ball.”

Holly Picciano, the department’s public information officer, said after the meeting that the shortages run deeper than losing people through attrition or recent retirements from the force.

Boynton Beach is growing rapidly and calls for service have increased dramatically, Picciano said.

Further, she said, fewer people are interested in law enforcement careers in the wake of high-profile killings across the country and the resultant protests, calls for budget cuts, and increased scrutiny of police departments.

“Not a lot of people want to do this job anymore,” Picciano said. “We are constantly advertising for officers.”

Last spring the possibility of bringing

the Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office in to replace the Boynton Beach Police Department was raised following months of tumult and anger — especially from the Black community — after 13-year-old Stanley Davis III was killed during a Dec. 26, 2021, high-speed police chase. The teen was riding a dirt bike.

Residents had expressed frustration that an internal investigation was taking so long. Nevertheless, Black and white residents had repeatedly said at commission meetings that they did not want PBSO to replace the city’s police.

Instead, residents said, the local force should be winnowed of bad officers and more enlightened policies enacted.

The city opted to follow that advice and shortly after voting to retain and revamp the department, it fired Mark

Sohn, the officer involved in the deadly chase. He is fighting for reinstatement.

The City Commission’s recent unanimous vote to provide extra funds for new hires was welcome, and unexpected, Picciano said.

“We are happy to be able to add six positions,” Picciano said. “It will help.”

Even with those six extra positions, however, the department would need to hire another dozen officers to be at full capacity, she said.

The new hires will be placed on road patrol, Picciano said.

The department is recruiting separately to replace three officers and a service aide to restart the Community Redevelopment Agency’s Neighborhood Officer Program. It was halted last year because of staff shortages. ★

Business Spotlight

Delray Beach food hall closes until summer

Remodeling to make room for two nightspots as select vendors return

The Delray Beach Market closed Jan. 30 and is looking to reopen this summer, with the space to undergo a redesign for the Bounce Sporting Club nightspot and Lefkes Estiatorio, a Greek restaurant and nightclub.

“Delray Beach has always been such a celebrated home for destination dining and entertainment,” said Craig Menin, CEO of Menin Development, the company that developed and operates the 150,000-square-foot food hall at 33 SE Third Ave. “We are so thankful for our vendors and community as they brought Delray Beach Market to life.

“However, as we’ve had to look at where we started from and where we are today, we’re making decisions that aren’t easy in one respect. But in the other, we hope to create a unique and exciting experience for our guests, while continuing the opportunity we’ve been given for community growth and gathering.”

The re-imagining of the space is connected to



TOP: A few vendors were still serving lunch and drinks as of Jan. 20. LEFT: The Delray Beach Market opened in April 2021. ABOVE: A window sign promises improvements. Photos by Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star

several challenges faced since the onset of the pandemic, said Jordana Jarjura, Menin Development’s president and general counsel.

“Though we’ve accomplished so much despite the pandemic, it was the F&B industry — most significantly

small businesses and fast-casual restaurants — that could not sustain the increased food and labor costs, following the brutal global shutdown,” she said. “We have had to pivot from our original goal of being a mom-and-pop food incubator to finding

a delicate balance between small businesses and seasoned restaurateurs.”

The market opened in April 2021 with 29 vendors. The current vendors were informed in writing about the closing this past December, although conversations with vendors

Menin wanted to stay began in early summer and are ongoing.

Choice Mortgage Group celebrated the opening of its new corporate headquarters at 2424 N. Federal Highway, Suite 100, Boca Raton. The ribbon-cutting event was attended by members of the Greater Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce; Broward, the Palm Beaches and St. Lucie Realtors association; Florida Atlantic University cheer and dance team and mascot Owsley, plus staff and guests.

With the recent \$6 million purchase of the 2.47-acre Truist Bank property at 315 S. Federal Highway, Jim O’Neill owns almost an entire block of Boynton Beach. His land fronts on South Federal Highway and backs Southeast Fourth Street between Southeast Second Avenue and Southeast Fifth Avenue.

O’Neill, the previous owner of Acura/Hyundai dealerships on Federal Highway in Delray Beach, was represented in the sale by broker Merv McDonald, president and CEO of the Lancore Group. The deal was recorded on Jan. 4.

This was the last deal in a series of four on that block; it was supposed to be the deal

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that got the ball rolling four years ago. “We thought we had bought the bank property, but then SunTrust and BBT merged and became Truist, and we got shut down,” McDonald said. “Then COVID hit. You have to have a lot of patience because some projects take years to put together.”

In January 2022, O’Neill acquired the .38-acre parcel at 515 S. Federal Highway for \$5.9 million. The previous owner was Boynton Beach Group LLC and Boynton Beach Group 2 LLC, entities connected to Moshe Abramson.

Then in February 2022, O’Neill bought 412 and 420 SE Fourth St. The cost for 412 SE Fourth St. was \$820,000. The .49-acre parcel was previously owned by Ocean Hudson LLC, managed by Michael DuBose.

The purchase price of the .66-acre parcel at 420 SE Fourth St. was \$1.78 million. The previous owner was Exsorro One Inc., with DuBose signing as president.

That adds up to a recorded \$14.5 million for 4 acres zoned mixed-use-2 (50 units to the acre, with a bonus provision of 25% of the 50 for affordable housing), but the cash value was in excess of \$15 million including some commissions, closing costs, taxes and carrying costs.

The only other parcel remaining on the block is Flamingo Plaza at 407 S. Federal, which is owned by Behn and Rita Wilson.

“We are in discussions with Behn and no decisions have been made by either party,” McDonald said.

O’Neill says that after he sold his dealerships and properties on Federal Highway in Delray Beach, he was looking to buy commercial properties. “I tried being retired for about a week and didn’t like it at all. I like being busy. After only a week since I bought the Truist property, we’ve already been approached by a dozen major players,” he said. “I’m weighing all my options and working with the city of Boynton Beach. We want the city’s blessing.”

An ocean-to-lake turnkey compound in Manalapan called Villa Oceano Azul recently sold to Rama Raju Mantena and Padmaja Mantena for \$48.37 million. The property at **1400 S. Ocean Blvd.** has a 16,000-square-foot main house and a 1,200-square-foot guest house. Previous owners were Francis and Dolores Mennella.

The seven-bedroom estate was built on speculation by Manalapan Mayor Stewart Satter’s Carnegie Hill Development Corp. The listing was held by Philip Lyle Smith and Carla Ferreira-Smith, broker-owners of Luxury Resort Portfolio of Delray Beach. The Mantenas were



Eloise Kubli won an American Society of Interior Designers award for turning a Boca Raton warehouse into a residence for a classic-vehicles collector. Photo provided by Horton Photo

represented by agent Mark Griffin of Bear’s Club Sotheby’s International Realty.

The property has gone through a number of price changes. In January 2022 it was listed for \$74.99 million and it was reduced in October 2022 to \$62.988 million. The Mennellas paid \$25.2 million for the estate in 2016.

Then in 2018, they bought a 2-acre lot at 1940 S. Ocean Blvd., from a company controlled by Billy Joel, and built a new home.

“We were honored to represent the Mennellas on the purchase and sale of 1400 S. Ocean Blvd. and the purchase of the land at 1940 S. Ocean Blvd.,” Philip Lyle Smith said. “What made 1400 S. Ocean unique is that it has two pools and it’s on almost 2 acres with 200 feet on the ocean and Intracoastal. Most of the other parcels are 1.5 acres with 150 feet fronting the ocean and Intracoastal” along that strip.

“There are only a handful of properties in South Florida that have ocean and Intracoastal frontage, and Manalapan is one of them. Also it was a Marc-Michaels interior designed property.”

Edmund Schlacher, owner/publisher of City Publications South Florida, received the January Recognition Award from the Boynton Beach Professionals leads group in acknowledgement of his work for the group and community.



“I am very grateful for this reward, which is an excellent morale-booster that will encourage me to continue doing my best work,” Schlacher said.

“I am also very appreciative of those who recommended me and for the effort put into this monthly award process.”

Eloise Kubli, interior designer and president of the Plantation-based Collective Construction & Design Inc., won the ASID Florida South Chapter’s “Inclusion by Design” 2022 Design Excellence Award in the wild

card category for her Man Cave project. She took on the project, located east of Federal Highway in Boca Raton, with her husband, general contractor Art Kubli.

They were tasked with transforming a vacant warehouse without utilities into a dream retreat for a classic car and motorcycle collector. Besides room to house and display the collection, the warehouse has a lounge, bar and full apartment.

The welcoming of 2023 marks one year of operation for the marketing company **Fifth & Cor**, founded by Robin Dimond. Over that time, the company, which aims to make marketing an immersive experience, has developed strategies for 46 businesses, nurtured 28 strategic partnerships and published 16 case studies.



“This is not a one-person job and our success comes from our team working together to create results for our clients,” Dimond said.

Within South Florida, Fifth & Cor is a service provider for Nova Southeastern University’s Alan B. Levan Broward Center of Innovation. It also engages in philanthropic endeavors that include veteran-focused organizations.

At the League of Women Voters of Palm Beach County’s Hot Topics luncheon, Joe Ann Fletcher, executive director of **Dress For Success Palm Beaches**, will make a presentation from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Feb. 15. Her topic will be “Dress for Success: The Road to Resilience.”

Attendees are encouraged to donate to Fletcher’s organization by bringing new mascara, purses (especially black or brown), shoes (pumps or flats, especially size 10 or larger), costume jewelry, toiletries, and/or shopping bags from Marshalls or TJ Maxx.

Registrations, lunch choice and payments must be made in advance online at lwvpbc.org/event/hot-topic-dress-for-success-the-road-to-resilience/

recognized. Guest speaker will be Sylvie Légère, an internationally recognized social entrepreneur, philanthropist and investor committed to civic engagement. The honorary chair is Marti LaTour, and chair is Vicki Pugh. Nominations for the WILA awards are open through 5 p.m. March 3. Visit www.ewpb.org/nominations to download a nomination form. For more information or sponsorship opportunities, contact Pugh at Vpugh@advancementexperts.com or Tara Laxer at info@ewpb.org.

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



The Executive Women of the Palm Beaches Foundation will hold its 39th annual Women in Leadership Award on April 19 at the Kravis Center for the Performing Arts. Women will be honored for their accomplishments and an “Emerging Leader” will be



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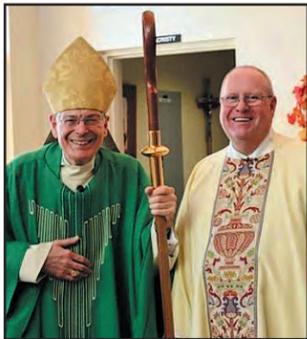
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Longtime Seaside Deli & Market manager Chelsea Steen rings up cyclists Ellie Beaulieu (left) and Marie Prevost during their final visit to the deli after a dispute over the lease forced it to close. Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

'Truly the end of an era'

Tears, heartbreak mark final days at Seaside Deli

By Joe Capozzi

The customers kept coming until the very end.

As they walked in that final weekend, it was hard for them to miss the eviction notice, taped across the front doors by a sheriff's deputy on Jan. 12. But they held out hope that surely a resolution could be reached so the Seaside Deli & Market, the "heartbeat" of the small but proud County Pocket, could continue to sell sandwiches, sodas and snacks to customers like bike riders, billionaires and beachgoers as it had since at least the 1980s.

"I was hopeful that this might just be a tenant dispute that can be resolved. We didn't realize it was really this imminent," Gulf Stream snowbird Darren Alcus said Jan. 14 as he watched employees clear the shelves of Fritos, Fruit Loops and other inventory while waiting on his sandwich order.

"It's terribly sad," he said. "It's truly the end of an era."

See DELI on page AT5



Owner Randy McCormick chats with Natalie Willoughby (left) and Cheryl Marier in the deli's final hours. He decided to retire rather than look for another location.

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Pay It Forward

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Note: Events are current as of 1/27. Please check with organizers for any changes.

FEBRUARY

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.

Friday - 2/10 - Delray Beach Public Library's Laugh with the Library at a private home in Delray Beach. Laugh out loud at this year's installment of an evening

of comedy, featuring Saturday Night Live's James Austin Johnson. 7:30-10:30 pm. \$450. 561-266-0798 or delraylibrary.org/laugh.

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.

Saturday - 2/11 - KOP Mentoring Network's Black Excellence Award at the 100 block of Northwest Fifth Avenue, Delray Beach. Honor five African-Americans who have excelled in their respective disciplines during an outdoor street party with food and live music. 6:30-9 pm. \$75. 561-665-0151 or kopmn.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. \$5 on Feb. 15 and 16. 561-278-0055 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 fau.fau.edu/2023cast.

MARCH

Wednesday - 3/1 - YMCA of South Palm Beach County's Inspiration Breakfast at Peter Blum Family YMCA of Boca Raton, 6631 Palmetto Circle South. Hear from former Florida Gator and Dallas Cowboy running back Emmitt Smith, the keynote speaker, while raising funds for the Y's financial-assistance program. 7:30-10 am. \$90. 561-237-0944 or ymcaspbc.org/inspirationbreakfast.

Thursday-Friday - 3/2-3/3 - Achievement Centers for Children & Families' #LoveDelray Fashion Experience 2023 at Old School Square, 51 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. Get into the Delray Beach Fashion Week spinoff that will include two events - "Bikinis to Ball Gowns" March 2 and "Love Your Way Through Delray" March 3. 10 am March 2, 6 pm March 3. \$75 March 2, \$25 March 3. 561-276-0520 or www.achievementcentersfl.org/lovedelray-fashion-experience.

Saturday - 3/4 - American Disabilities Foundation's Boating & Beach Bash for People with Disabilities at Spanish River Park, 3001 N. Ocean Blvd., Boca Raton. Watch participants engage in animal-therapy sessions and other beach activities while enjoying games, giveaways, lunch and live entertainment at an event that is the nation's largest for children and adults with special needs. 10 am-3 pm. Free. 561-715-2622 or boatingbeachbash.com.

Friday - 3/10 - 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.

Wednesday - 3/15 - Achievement Centers for Children & Families' Delray Beach Home Tour in the beachfront neighborhood north of Atlantic Avenue. Explore extraordinary residences, enjoy a catered luncheon and take advantage of trolley service or golf cart transportation along the route. 10 am-4 pm. \$100. 561-276-0520 or achievementcentersfl.org/delray-home-tour.

Sunday - 3/26 - LIFE's "Lady in Red" Gala at The Breakers, One S. County Road, Palm Beach. Celebrate with global music superstar Paul Anka and comedian extraordinaire Rita Rudner at the 29th-annual affair that benefits disabled veterans through American Humane's "Pups4Patriots" program and local children through Palm Beach County Food Bank's "Lois' Food4Kids" program. 6 pm. \$1,250. 561-582-8083 or life-edu.org.

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Pay It Forward

Spring Boutique, in new venue, welcomes favorite vendors

By Amy Woods

The Spring Boutique & Trunk Show, an annual fundraiser for Wayside House, will sport a new look this month as it unfolds in a new venue.

The event is set for Feb. 14 through 16 at the Aloft Delray Beach.

"Everyone will be on one floor," co-chairwoman Martha Grimm said, referring to the former location at the Old School Square Fieldhouse, where the market took place on two levels with steep stairs.

"Another great thing about the Aloft is they will provide almost everything that we had to provide — food, tables, chairs. There also will be valet parking."

The fresh digs will welcome the old vendors that patrons of the much-anticipated shopping opportunity have come to adore.

"The vendors are very excited to be here," Grimm said. "This is their livelihood. I think our shoppers appreciate that there is so much to choose from under one roof. It makes shopping for everybody on their list easier."

Most vendors return year after year, making the trip from all across the country, with one coming from Germany. A total of 27 vendors will offer a variety of merchandise such as high-end clothing, designer jewelry, home décor and more.

"We're sort of hopeful couples will come and maybe a Valentine's Day present or two will be bought," co-chairwoman Lisa Jankowski said, noting the "Share the Love with Wayside" theme. "Because this show has been going for so many years, people really look forward to it. People actually tell me they are saving their money for the Wayside show."

Wayside House, founded in 1974, serves women in a residential drug-and-alcohol rehabilitation center in Delray Beach. It has expanded throughout the decades to include partial hospitalization and outpatient services. It is one of two facilities countywide that accepts pregnant women.

"What we're trying to do is address the whole picture for these women," Jankowski said. "We're trying to address the whole heart and soul, and one of the ways we do that is to make sure their families stay intact."

Among the programs that will benefit from the proceeds is parenting education.

"Women battling addiction who have children face specific challenges," spokeswoman Marlene Passell said. "Some have lost custody of their children because of their addiction, and many must

If You Go

What: Spring Boutique & Trunk Show

When: 5-7 p.m. Feb. 14 and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Feb. 15 and 16

Where: Aloft Delray Beach, 202 SE Fifth Ave.

Cost: \$125 Feb. 14, \$5 Feb. 15 and 16

Information: 561-278-0055 or www.waysidehouse.net

deal with guilt, grief and stress over how their addiction is impacting their children. We help them with much of that with services aimed at improving their parenting skills, interacting with their children, etc." ★

Send philanthropy news to Amy Woods at flamywoods@bellsouth.net



Tammie Sellman (left), Wayside House's chief development director, with Martha Grimm and Lisa Jankowski, who are co-chairing the event. Photo provided

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Philanthropy Notes

Boca couple donates \$5 million to improve FAU athletic facilities

Florida Atlantic University athletics has received a \$5 million gift from Michael and Michelle Hagerty of Boca Raton that will result in a series of improvements, renovations and upgrades.

The Hagerty Family Athletics

Village will be designated by signs and other means of recognition of the couple's generosity.

"We cannot thank Michelle and Michael enough for this incredible gift," said Brian White, FAU vice president and

director of athletics. "We have nearly 450 student athletes at Florida Atlantic, and every one of them will reap the benefits of this gift. This gift will truly be transformational for many of our facilities and sports programs."

The Hagerty Family Athletics Village includes:

- The Hagerty Family Track and Field Complex
- The Tom Oxley Athletic Center
- Abessinio Court at Eleanor R. Baldwin Arena
- Kimberly V. Strauss Tennis Center

Still available for naming rights in the village are the swimming facility, softball, soccer and baseball stadiums and the beach volleyball complex.

For more information about donating to FAU athletics, call 561-297-2683 or visit <https://fauf.fau.edu/paradise-club>.

continue to thrive. The gift creates the McNally Family Foundation Center for Patient Support Services.

"Boca Raton Regional Hospital considers itself extremely fortunate to have philanthropists like Arline and John," said CEO Lincoln Mendez said. "Their giving is steadfast and focused on the true well-being of our patients. Arline and John's personal involvement at Boca Regional and other select organizations is testimony of paying it forward."

For more information on the institute, call 561-955-5966 or visit <https://baptisthealth.net/locations/coe-hubs/lynn-cancer-institute---boca-raton>.

Gift to aid support services at Lynn Cancer Institute

Arline and John McNally's seven-figure donation to Boca Raton Regional Hospital's Lynn Cancer Institute will help with the organization of support programs and ensure that they

Boca West Children's Foundation gets grant

The Boca West Children's Foundation has been awarded \$5,000 as recipient of one of the American Fundraising Foundation's Golden Pear grants.

The announcement described a record-breaking \$250,000 distribution of funds and an additional \$100,000 of in-kind donations.

The Boca West Children's Foundation is a nonprofit that funds projects in Palm Beach County to help at-risk children and their families.

"We are absolutely delighted to receive a Golden Pear grant," Executive Director Pam Weinroth said. "This will enable us to help even more children in need in Palm Beach County."

For more information, call 561-488-6980 or visit www.bocawestfoundation.org.

Company gives makeover to Achievement Centers

Achievement Centers for Children & Families in Delray Beach has a newer look thanks to more than 100 employees of Gables Residential who took part in the company's Day of Service there.

Projects included a book drive, a food drive, reorganizing the library, installing blinds in all classrooms, cleaning the gymnasium, providing new furniture for the staff lounge, painting, building a bench for the playground and landscaping.

"ACCF benefits greatly from its many community partnerships and is so grateful for Gables' support and generosity," Chief Development Officer Jessica Hall said.

Gables Residential is a real estate developer and manager.

For more information on ACCF, call 561-266-0003 or visit www.achievementcentersfl.org.

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



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DELI

Continued from page AT1

That era, during which surfers, celebrities and generations of families like Alcus' came to regard the Seaside as an essential part of the community, ended a few hours later. On that chilly Saturday night, deli owner Randy McCormick rang up the final sales, turned off the lights and locked the doors.

"I am throwing my arms up and walking away," said McCormick, the latest and perhaps last operator of the convenience store at 4635 N. Ocean Blvd., in an unincorporated pocket just south of Briny Breezes.

When a judge ruled against Seaside on Dec. 22 in an eviction lawsuit brought by the building's landlord, McCormick briefly flirted with the idea of finding a new location for the deli but decided to retire.

"I don't have the resources to start anything again," he said. "I'm just going to call it a day."

McCormick and a few longtime staffers returned Jan. 15 to wipe down the shelves and mop up the floors in the empty 2,131-square-foot shop. Sometime after that, they would hand the keys over to a deputy to give to the landlord, a company owned by former major league baseball player Rafael Belliard.

Belliard, a Boca Raton resident who bought the Seaside building in 2014 and leased it to McCormick in 2017, played 17 years for the Pittsburgh Pirates and Atlanta Braves before retiring after the 1998 season.

McCormick and Seaside loyalists accuse the retired shortstop and his wife of turning a squeeze play that forced the beloved deli to shutter.

Although Palm Beach County Circuit Judge Paige Gillman sided with claims by Belliard's company, Ocean Blvd 14 LLC, that Seaside failed to pay \$40,279 in back rent, McCormick insisted that he tried to pay the rent.

In a complicated dispute over the lease, the Belliards refused to accept the payments, McCormick said.

McCormick said he has checks for the rent, and the sealed envelope Ocean Blvd 14's attorney would not open, to prove his point.

McCormick and others think the Belliards, who operated the deli for three years before turning it over to McCormick in 2017, didn't accept the rent payments because their long game is 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



The interior of the Seaside Deli & Market one day before it was forced to close. Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star



Fred Podvesker (right), former owner of the Seaside Deli & Market, reminisces with longtime customer Lawrie Bird.

lease.

Belliard's wife, Leonora, who handles the company's business dealings, said in a brief interview a week before Seaside closed that she "would like to have it rented," possibly to another deli or convenience store.

"We are trying to figure it out," she told *The Coastal Star*, declining to comment further.

Although the building that housed Seaside Deli stands on a small footprint, many locals worry it may be a piece of a larger plan developers are eyeing for high density, multifamily condos.

"The deli is located in the only unincorporated county pocket remaining on our barrier island. County rules for residential development are vastly different from Gulf Stream and Ocean Ridge, and even from Briny Breezes, which is undoubtedly destined to undergo significant change in the years ahead," the nonprofit Florida Coalition for Preservation said in a statement Jan. 12 after the eviction notice was posted.

Hub of the community

Seaside's next-door neighbor, Nomad Surf Shop, said developers should not bother approaching it. At least that was the message surf shop owner Ryan Heavyside said he was hoping to convey in a video posted on social media two weeks after the judge's ruling.

"We just want to say thank you to the Seaside Deli for being such great neighbors over the years. Most of you have heard they are moving on, so it's a pretty sad time for the community," Heavyside, whose father, Ron, opened the surf

shop in 1968 and died in 2018, says in the Instagram video.

"But we just also want to say Nomad's been here for 55 years. We are not going anywhere. We're going to be here for another 55."

The surf shop and the deli, tucked together at the southeast corner of State Road A1A and Briny Breezes Boulevard, served as the unofficial center of the community, a place where parched bicyclists mingled with barrier islanders who took pride in not going "OTB," meaning over the bridge, unless absolutely necessary.

Whether picking up Bloody Mary mix on a Sunday morning, a six-pack on a Saturday night or a lottery ticket, customers could always turn to the Seaside, as they called it.

It was a place where famous customers like retired hockey star Mario Lemieux, comedian Jim Carrey and baseball Hall of Famer Derek Jeter could pick up snacks and sandwiches without being hounded for autographs.

"This place is vital. It is an essential part of this area. This makes it a town. You remove this, now everyone has to start going further afield," longtime regular Harvey Brown of Delray Beach said Jan. 13.

"It's sort of like a little heartbeat here," he said. And when it closes, "I think everyone is going to realize what it meant to them."

Just before Christmas, the Florida Coalition for Preservation launched a campaign to "Save the Deli," as a banner on the building proclaimed. More than 1,000 signatures were gathered on a petition, which continued

collecting names after the eviction notice was posted.

'Destroying little people'

"I'm heartbroken," said Natalie Willoughby, a former Seaside clerk who returned to help McCormick pack up. "I think it's wrong, destroying all the little people. It's a sad, sad day."

Volunteers and employees spent Jan. 13 and 14 boxing the inventory and driving it south to Deerfield Beach, where McCormick donated the goods and supplies to the Second Avenue Deli. McCormick owned that store years ago but sold it when his wife died.

In 2017, he decided to go back into the bodega business and took over the Seaside Deli. He brought loyal workers like store manager Chelsea Steen and deli worker Emmy Brandt, both of whom quickly got on a first-name basis with regulars.

Steen, who usually wore casual clothes to work, put on a black dress on Jan. 13 — not so much a symbol of mourning, she said, but because she just felt that wearing something nice on her last Friday at the Seaside was the right thing to do.

"It's like the last day of school and you have to say goodbye to all your friends," she said.

Those final two days often felt like a class reunion, with former store owner Fred Podvesker and his son, Richie, stopping by to collect photos and knick-knacks from the walls and to pay final respects.

Coffee and sodas were given away for free that weekend, while wine, cigarettes and other items were sold at half price.

"I've got to get out of here or I'm going to start crying,"

said Fred Podvesker, who ran the place from 1993 until 2014 when he sold it to the Belliards.

No one is sure exactly how long a deli operated out of the space, but old-timers remember when it used to be a bar and a chicken restaurant. Heavyside said his mother waited tables there when it was a restaurant. Before Podvesker and his sons took over, it was called Seaside Superette, a name still used by many of the store's longtime suppliers.

"It was nice to get the support from so many people. It's heartwarming to know that everybody cared so much, not just for the store but the people who worked there," McCormick said.

Despite the gloom hanging over the place, there was no shortage of smiles and laughter as customers hugged Steen goodbye and tried to cheer her up with bad jokes.

One that made her smile: "Today is Friday but tomorrow is a sadder day." (Get it? A Saturday.)

The dumb joke turned out to be true, since Seaside's last day was a Saturday, with the deli's long menu of famous sandwiches reduced to a handful of choices made from whatever ingredients were left.

As Brandt and co-sandwich maker Casey Shugar took final orders that day, they heard something odd: their own voices echoing across the empty store.

"It was definitely one of those weird moments," Brandt said.

Brandt made the deli's last sandwich, a BLT without tomato, for longtime customer Brandon Martel of Ocean Ridge, then gave away small containers of the remaining chicken salad and tuna salad.

"There were people coming in when we had nothing left to sell," said Brandt. "One group of customers turned around and said, 'We're just going to go out to the parking lot to cry.'"

As customers walked out the door for the last time that final weekend, they received the same send-off that Steen repeated over and over on her last day behind the register.

"It's been a pleasure," she said. "Thank you for coming and being part of the family." ★

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Celebrations

Cocktails for the Club

The St. Andrews Club, Delray Beach — Dec. 6



A total of \$221,000 in proceeds from the fourth annual affair will boost the Boys & Girls of Club of Delray Beach's hunger-relief program. The program strives to serve 100,000 nutritious meals to children in the community. 'We are so excited that this year's Cocktails for the Club event was a huge success with a record-breaking year,' co-chairwoman Virginia Costa said. 'This event brought the Delray community together for a social and fun night to support the club that is near and dear to all of our hearts.'



TOP: (l-r) Jorgette Smith, Jennifer Coulter and Costa. **ABOVE LEFT:** Marc and Melissa deBaptiste. **ABOVE RIGHT:** Susan and Michael Mullin. **Photos provided**

Brice Makris Brunch

Boca West Country Club, Boca Raton — Dec. 11

The Hanley Foundation's second fundraiser chaired by John and Michelle Makris unfolded before a sold-out crowd of 250 guests. The brunch took place in honor of the Makrises' son, Brice, who died at age 23 from an overdose. Funds raised will benefit the foundation's Brice Makris Endowment Fund. One highlight was the presentation of the inaugural Brice Makris Community Spirit Award to Max Weinberg, long-time drummer for Bruce Springsteen.

RIGHT: Weinberg and April Lewis.
BELOW LEFT: Dana and Steve Clarfield.
BELOW RIGHT: Andrea Levine O'Rourke and George O'Rourke.
Photos provided



Celebrations

Woman Volunteer of the Year Luncheon

Boca West Country Club, Boca Raton — Nov. 4



Carly Yoost was named Woman Volunteer of the Year at the Junior League of Boca Raton's 35th annual extravaganza. Additionally, a Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Barbara Richardson. Nonprofits from across South Florida nominate one of their top volunteers each year to be considered for the honor at an affair that includes a New York-style fashion show and usually sells out. **ABOVE:** Nominees Kirsten Stephenson and N'Quaveh Velasquez. **Photo provided**

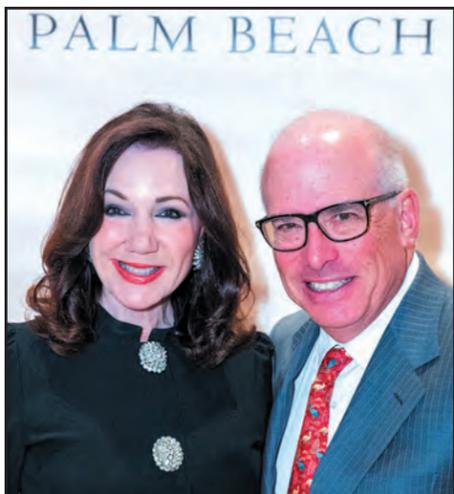
Archival Evening

Sailfish Club, Palm Beach — Dec. 1



The 20th annual benefit for the Historical Society of Palm Beach County recognized George Elmore and others whose achievements have helped shape the character of the region. Monies from the evening support the society's educational programs and the preservation of its collection, which inspires exhibits at the Richard and Pat Johnson Palm Beach County History Museum.

ABOVE: Marti LaTour and Elmore. **INSET:** Laurie Silvers and Mitchell Rubenstein. **Photos provided**



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February 13, 2023	Rochelle Walters	"Movies, Actors and More"
<i>February 20, 2023</i>	<i>NO SPEAKER</i>	<i>TOWN HALL CLOSED</i>
February 27, 2023	Attorney Joseph Karp	"Protecting your Children's and Grandchildren's Inheritance, during a Divorce"
March 6, 2023	Robert Krasnow	Laughter: "The Secret of Getting Through the Tough Times"
March 13, 2023	Ronald C. Glass	"The Age of Eisenhower: America and the World the 1950's"
March 20, 2023	Kathleen Crampton	The Electoral College: "Isn't it Time for Changes?"
March 27, 2023	Donald Singer	"How is our Constitution Holding Up?"

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Dining

Just in time for Valentine's Day: Love potions

Area mixologists are on double-time stirring and shaking up delectable love potions in anticipation of Valentine's Day.

Colorful, seductive and meant to complement food and atmosphere, the drinks are a range of flavors.

At the **Butcher and the Bar** in Boynton Beach, Eric Anderson and his team concocted the Mariposa.

With an edible butterfly pea flower as a garnish, the passion-purple shaded drink is made from a special black gin from Spain, Puerto de Indias.

"Our bartender fell in love with the gin and really wanted to make a drink with it, so he came up with this," Anderson said. "It's the flavor profile of a creamsicle. He pretty much hit it."

Along with the vanilla-scented gin, made dark from molasses, the drink contains lime juice and orange cream bitters. A subtle sweetness comes from the simple syrup infused with the butterfly pea flower, which is sourced locally, Anderson said.

"We spray the inside of the glass with vanilla extract, and use egg whites for the foam. A pea flower is used as garnish."

Meant to be served in a stemmed glass, it's a decidedly seductive drink. The bar has this as a special, Anderson said, which is changed out every few weeks.

What's Valentine's Day without some bubbles?

At the **Sea Spray bar** in the **Waterstone Hotel** in Boca Raton, mixologists have created the Sun of Venus, a nod to the goddess of love, often seen in a seashell. It marries the waterfront theme of the bar overlooking the Intracoastal Waterway.

Deep pink, from the herbal Campari, this drink gets its kick from Codigo mezcal and touch of sugar from sweet vermouth.

It's served with a playful orange twist.

At **Akira Back** in Delray Beach, the bartenders will be shaking up the Aikou, a gin-based drink mixed with pomegranate puree to give it a pink glow, topped with a rosé for bubbles.

A butterfly is poised on the rim of the glass, made from a rose petal.

The mixologist shared the recipe:

Aikou
1 ounce Roku gin



½ ounce lemon juice
½ ounce simple syrup
splash of pomegranate purée
pomegranate seeds, for garnish
rose petal, and mini wood clothespin, for rim
Shake together with ice in a mixing glass. Strain into a flute or coupe. Top with Moët Rosé. Garnish with pomegranate seeds. For the butterfly on the glass rim, use a rose petal pinched to wings with a mini clothespin
Makes 1 drink.



Other restaurants, such as Seagate Hotel's **Atlantic Grille**, will offer special cocktails, a dining menu and extras such as take-home gifts. The B in Love cocktail is made with Don Julio reposado tequila, beet shrub, lime and agave. The hotel will feature a special \$85 three-course, prix fixe menu, along with a chocolate dessert buffet.
At the Hospitality group of restaurants, a special Valentine's Day prix fixe menu includes a welcome cocktail and a drink with the multicourse meal.

ABOVE: Bartender Matthew Swig displays a Mariposa, a gin-based drink with butterfly pea flower, at the Butcher and the Bar in Boynton Beach.

FAR LEFT: The Aikou from Akira Back in Delray Beach.

NEAR LEFT: The Sun of Venus from the Waterstone in Boca Raton.

Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star and provided

Prices vary by locations. They include **Lemongrass Asian Bistro** (Boca Raton, Delray Beach, Boynton Beach), the **Sea Kitchen** (Delray Beach), and **Ramen Lab Eatery** (Boca Raton, West Boca Raton and Delray Beach).

The same restaurant group is bringing unique experiences to Valentine's Day at its concept, **Eat District** in Boca Raton. Lead chefs will give hands-on workshops for couples, teaching sushi rolls, pad Thai or dumpling making.

Along with the classes, \$59 per person, guests get welcome

appetizers, premium sake tasting, the main dish as lesson and meal, with dessert.

Dates for classes are Feb. 10, dumplings; Feb. 11, sushi, and Feb. 12, pad Thai.

Contact the restaurant for more details at 561-576-2046.

The dining scene in Lantana got a boost with the opening of **Dua**, a champagne and wine lounge at 118 E. Ocean Ave.

Albanian owner Diana Boga named the restaurant after her native phrase Te Dua, meaning "I love you," or just Dua — "want." Her love of hospitality and interest in charcuterie and wines brought her from New York to open a brick and mortar restaurant.

Small plates to accompany the wine choices include caviar, charcuterie boards, cheeses and olives. Dips, mezze platters and appetizers such as truffle steak crostini are on the menu.

The restaurant hosts special wine tastings and flights, as well as a happy hour from 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays, and a DJ spins music on weekends for late night entertainment.

Open-air seating is available. Dua, 118 E. Atlantic Ave., Lantana. 561-629-7979, or www.dualantana.com

Tickets for the **Savor the Avenue** street-long dinner in Delray Beach are on sale. Ten restaurants are listed on downtowndelraybeach.com/savortheave for the March 27 dine-under-the-stars event down the middle of Atlantic Avenue. Menus and information are online from the participating restaurants; tickets must be purchased from the restaurants. Seating is limited.

In brief

Le Colonial is a French Vietnamese restaurant going into the new Atlantic Crossing mixed-use site at Atlantic Avenue and Sixth Avenue in Delray Beach. Opening date is expected within the month. ...

The former Ellie's '50s Diner on Federal Highway in Delray Beach is now home to an outpost of the **Bees Knees** diner, which offers an upscale version of many of the old diner's favorites. Bees Knees also has locations in Lake Worth Beach and West Palm Beach.

Jan Norris is a food writer who can be reached at nativefla@gmail.com.



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Art



Paper trail

Musubu R (2012), by Kakuko Ishii, is on display in *Washi Transformed: New Expressions in Japanese Paper* at the Morikami Museum. Photo provided

Japanese *washi* art gives dimension to exhibit at Morikami

By Jan Engoren
Contributing Writer

The work of nine paper artists is on display at the Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens in an exhibit titled *Washi Transformed: New Expressions in Japanese Paper*, running through April 2.

A traveling exhibit curated by Los Angeles-based historian of Japanese art Meher McArthur, it features more than 30 highly textured,

two-dimensional works, expressive sculptures and dramatic installations that explore this traditional Japanese art.

“These nine contemporary Japanese artists are revisiting their nation’s traditional material and elevating it into a medium for expressive and often spectacular works of art,” says McArthur.

“The breathtaking creativity of these artistic visionaries deepens our understanding of how the past informs the present, and how it can build lasting cultural bridges out of something as seemingly simple and ephemeral as paper,” she says.

The artists were all born in Japan with the exception of Yuko Kimura,

who was born in California. The others are Hina Aoyama, Eriko Horiki, Kyoko Ibe, Yoshio Ikezaki, Kakuko Ishii, Yuko Nishimura, Takaaki Tanaka and Ayomi Yoshida.

Ikezaki, one of the two male artists (the other is Tanaka), earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in art from Florida State University and currently divides his time between the U.S. and Japan, where he studied traditional Japanese papermaking for six years with master papermakers Shigemi and Shigeyuki Matsuo.

Ikezaki makes his own *washi* paper and then uses the paper and sumi ink to create paintings and sculptures,

See **WASHI** on AT14

Theater

Theatre Lab’s ‘Last Night in Inwood’ mines comedy from catastrophe

By Hap Erstein
ArtsPaper Theater Writer

The year was 2016 and graduate student Alix Sobler needed to write a play for her master’s thesis.

“I write comedy, but the world was in a real state at that moment,” she recalls. “The election between Clinton and Trump was at its height. Things felt really off-balance and I wanted to reflect that onstage in a way that was going to be accessible to audiences.”

The result was *Last Night in Inwood*, an apocalyptic tale of a perfect storm of crises that threatened the world’s very existence, and a young woman named Danny who tries to keep the peace among her family members and neighbors who seek refuge in her apartment.

And, yes, it is a comedy. A very dark comedy.



Sobler

Just ask Avi Hoffman, the veteran South Florida actor who plays Danny’s father, Max, in the world premiere of *Last Night in Inwood* at Boca Raton’s Florida Atlantic University Theatre Lab.

As he says of the first time he read the play, “I laughed. I laughed a lot. And thought, ‘This is really serious. Why am I laughing?’ That to me was a great testament to Alix’s ability to take something so dystopian and depressing and terrible and turn it into funny.”

Although it has taken *Inwood* more than six years to gain a full production, Sobler feels it is more timely now. “When I started writing the play, it was almost sci-fi, it was a thought experiment — what if American cities are under water, what if there’s an uprising against our government, what if white nationalism is

See **INWOOD** on AT13

Music

Delray keyboardist, drummer a musical chameleon

By Bill Meredith
ArtsPaper Music Writer

As anyone who knows him realizes, Tom Regis literally wears a lot of different hats. And as anyone familiar with his work as a musician knows, he figuratively wears even more.

In his Delray Jazz Collective, the Swampscott, Mass., native and Delray Beach resident alternates between being the band’s keyboardist or drummer. That involves two hats. Yet Regis also plays acoustic and electric pianos, synthesizers, Hammond organ, and every other variety of keyboards, as well as guitar (although

that instrument can only be heard on his website, tomregismusic.net, so far).

With the hat rack already getting full, Regis’ collective spreads into so many jazz offshoots — from standards, swing and Beatles covers to fusion, Latin, soul and beyond with varying accompanying personnel — that a musical haberdashery could find trouble keeping up.

The well-traveled multi-instrumentalist, who’s lived and worked in New York City, Los Angeles, and Tel Aviv, comes by such dexterity naturally. Trained classically since age 6, and improvising from the start, he later studied under the tutelage of

Margaret Chaloff (who also taught keyboardists Keith Jarrett and Herbie Hancock) and Ran Blake, who started the Department of Third Stream with fellow educator Gunther Schuller at the New England Conservatory in Boston. Now called the Department of Contemporary Improvisation, it has long sought to bridge jazz and classical music through study, recording, and performance.

“Madame Chaloff was an amazing teacher,” Regis says, “and she was the one who said, ‘I must introduce you to Ran Blake.’ Once I met Ran, I was sort

See **REGIS** on AT15



Tom Regis performs on both the keyboard and the drums in his Delray Jazz Collective. Photo provided

Art

'Character' counts in this portrait collection

By Sharon Geltner
Contributing Writer

The man behind the exhibit *Contemplating Character: Portrait Drawings & Oil Sketches from Jacques-Louis David to Lucian Freud*, which opens at The Society of the Four Arts on Feb. 4, has led as interesting a life as many of the artists who created the fascinating 81 portraits in his collection dating back 250 years. And with R. Crumb and Lucian Freud in the mix, that's saying something.

Robert Flynn Johnson owns all the works in the show and is an author, lecturer and historian, with decades of curating experience in Baltimore and San Francisco. Since retiring several years ago, he has written four books, taught at Stanford University and is actively involved in the art world.

Along the way, he has mixed and mingled with talent as diverse and celebrated as Christopher Isherwood, Don Bachardy, Lucian Freud, Robert Crumb and Dita Von Teese and has uncovered and displayed the works of often anonymous or forgotten photographers, which he unearths at flea markets from London to Pasadena.

Johnson, who will lecture Feb. 27 on the origin stories behind his art, will be in Palm Beach for the first time. He has previously exhibited his collections, including works by Degas, at museums at the University of Miami, St. Petersburg and St. Augustine and nationwide.

Johnson emphasizes that instead of flattering portraits of the rich and powerful, these portraits emphasize personality, individuality and authenticity.

The curator's challenge:

Choose portraits that accurately portray physical appearance and capture the sitter's personality and soul.

Johnson made sense of the selected pieces by grouping them in themes: artists' self-portraits, images of family and friends, portraits of artists, anonymous sitters as subjects, scenes of drama and imagination, images of fame, and portraits of repose (sleep and death).

There's a portrait of George Washington done by a French patriot, another of author Washington Irving and a drawing of Oscar Wilde as Narcissus, staring into a pond and seeing a bag of money.

Johnson delights in a pair by 19th-century French artist Adolphe-Felix Cals, "Portrait of the Artist on a Good Day," and "Portrait of the Artist on a Bad Day." The two paintings



Mrs. George Rennie, 1824, watercolor on ivory by John Linnell (1792-1882). Photo courtesy of Landau Traveling Exhibitions

had been separated, but Johnson tracked down the missing one to reconnect the two.

Johnson stresses that although he is not wealthy, he is buying valuable works of art that others often overlook.

"One of the reasons I have this portrait collection is that

If You Go

Contemplating Character is on view through April 2 at The Society of the Four Arts, 100 Four Arts Plaza, in Palm Beach.

Lecture: Robert Flynn Johnson will discuss his collection and sign copies of the catalog at 11 a.m. Feb. 27. Free; reservations are required.

Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday and Wednesday through Saturday; 1-5 p.m. Sunday

Admission: \$10
Info: 561-655-7226, FourArts.org

portraits are not that expensive, relatively speaking. Nobody buys them except when it is Napoleon or Sarah Bernhardt. Portraits can be the most boring thing on earth, such as a bank president who hangs in the hallway and is never looked at. But of the top 10 most valuable paintings ever sold, portraits were 50 percent of them, including one for \$450 million. They can be really great!"

He added: "This collection was formed by a scholar on a scholar's salary. These were apples on branches I could reach financially."

But that serendipity adds to Johnson's delight when visitors discover artists they never heard of before. "I get excited when people enjoy artists such as Hubert von Herkomer, whose self-portrait is on the cover of the show catalog. He was the favorite artist of Van Gogh, who viewed him with great respect," Johnson said.

The exhibit includes works by Jacques-Louis David, Clotilde Martin-Pregnard, Dora Maar, François Guignet, Alfred Dehodencq, Aubrey Beardsley, Pierre Bonnard, William Merritt Chase, Edgar Degas, Alfred Hitchcock, Thomas Lawrence, Adolph von Menzel and Édouard Vuillard.

"Collecting is a journey, not a destination. One of the wonderful things about being a curator is getting to be friends with accomplished people such as Lucian Freud," Johnson said.

Freud (the grandson of psychoanalyst Sigmund Freud) fled to England with his family in 1933 to escape the Nazis. He became one of Britain's foremost painters, dying in 2011.

"He became a good friend," Johnson said. "For me, it was like a young actor being taken under the wing of Clark Gable." Johnson later arranged the first tour of Freud's art in the U.S.

Among Johnson's prized possessions are a David Levine caricature of Donald Trump that illustrated John Kenneth Galbraith's review of *The Art of the Deal* for the *New York Review of Books*; and a portrait of Johnson drawn by Don Bachardy, Christopher Isherwood's partner for 30 years (David Hockney introduced them). Freud gave him a portrait of his first wife and Robert Crumb gifted him a sketch he drew in front of him.

INWOOD

Continued from page 11

growing. And now it's become all too real," she says. "What if we have to worry about our health when going outside? What if we're trapped inside for a long time? So now it's more immediate. The laugh catches in the throat a little bit more. Or maybe it's funnier. I don't know."

Theatre Lab audiences know Sobler from *The Glass Piano*, a thought-provoking fairy tale that the company produced three years ago. While the two plays seem quite dissimilar, according to the playwright, "I think that they both reflect a deep inner anxiety, about our place in the world, our ability to cope, our understanding of who we are." Still, *Inwood* "is more immediate, speaking to more day-to-day concerns," she quickly adds.

For the central role of Danny, director Matt Stabile cast FAU MFA alumna Aubrey Elson.

As Elson says of her character: "She's so human, she's so complicated. I think the thing that I love about her is you do hear Alix's voice so clearly in it. She's a very honest, good but flawed sort of person.

"She's just trying to do her best and tries so hard to be the peacemaker. To navigate all these different people who are coming into her life, an impossible situation."

In short, Elson finds her to be an easy character to relate to. "Danny's situation with



Aubrey Elson (from left), Avi Hoffman, Paolo Pineda, Lynette Adames, Patti Gardner and Jovon Jacobs star in *Last Night in Inwood* at FAU's Theatre Lab. Photo by Robert Goodrich

her dad is on par with my own situation with my mom. I think a lot about the insecurity of navigating the world. That's something we've all felt in our lives," she says. "Fear of the unknown, fear of what happened with the pandemic, what happens when our normal gets turned on its head. I think we all had that existential crisis.

"In terms of differences, I think I definitely have more of a filter than Danny has. Danny's not afraid to express herself. But that's not to say when you're put in this situation, who knows what's going to come out."

Hoffman also identifies with his character, except for Max's arch-conservative beliefs. "Definitely the politics are very different, although I have experienced many friends and some relatives who have gone to the dark side," he notes.

"It's been a struggle to try and understand that. For me the challenge, which I love, is to play someone like this. I very

rarely get to play someone who is not necessarily a nice guy. Not because he's mean and nasty, he just has his way. He thinks he's right. He believes what he's saying. I find him a fascinating character to sink my teeth in."

Sobler initially sent the play out to many theaters and received lots of positive reactions, even awards, but no production offers. "When you have six characters onstage and it's a new play, theaters are wary of the risk and the expense," she concedes. "This play in particular deals with a lot of issues and it reflects a lot of political bents. I understand why some people were hesitant to produce it."

What *Last Night in Inwood* needed was a company that relished the challenges of new work — a company like Theatre Lab.

"Theatre Lab is a small but mighty theater. It does a lot of new stuff and is so invested in its artists," Sobler notes. "I love

coming here because it's such a supportive environment."

During the pandemic, Theatre Lab held a reading of the play by Zoom and scheduled a full production for last season, which was canceled by COVID. But even that has an upside, for Stabile believes *Inwood* fits better now.

"It's a continuation of what the theme of this season has become for me, which is that bad things are going to happen in the world and the only way

If You Go

Last Night in Inwood runs through Feb. 12 at FAU Theatre Lab, Parliament Hall, 777 Glades Road in Boca Raton.

Tickets: \$35 to \$45
Info: 561-297-6124

we're going to make it through is by still believing in each other," he says.

"That's what really happens in this play. These very different people with very different backgrounds and identities have to find a way to get through all that and help each other survive."

Asked why theatergoers should see *Last Night in Inwood*, Hoffman gets the last word. "Because it's damn good. You will not see another piece like this, where you can take such a serious subject and make it not only palatable but funny," he says. "You will come in and laugh your head off and then cry because, oh my god, it could happen."

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Photo by Nir Arieli

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The Telegraph Quartet (Eric Chin and Joseph Maile, violins; Pei-Ling Lin, viola; Jeremiah Shaw, cello) formed in 2013 with an equal passion for the standard chamber music repertoire and contemporary, non-standard works alike. Described by the *San Francisco Chronicle* as "...an incredibly valuable addition to the cultural landscape" and "powerfully adept... with a combination of brilliance and subtlety," the Telegraph Quartet was awarded the prestigious 2016 Walter W. Naumburg Chamber Music Award and the Grand Prize at the 2014 Fischhoff Chamber Music Competition.

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World premiere of the exhibition in Boca Raton is made possible with the generous support of the Gerald & Olivia Shapiro Family Foundation, our Leadership Fund Donors, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

IMAGE: Whitfield Lovell, *The Red XIII*, 2021, Conté on paper with attached found object. Museum purchase. Courtesy of American Federation of Arts, the artist, and DC Moore Gallery, New York



WASHI

Continued from page 11

into which he infuses his *ki*, or energy, giving his works a spiritual quality. That is evident in his piece at the Morikami titled *The Earth Breathes*, made from handmade mulberry paper and sumi ink.

Some of the artists come from a sculptural and architectural background, such as Horiki, Tanaka and Nishimura, and others such as

Aoyama are more focused on words, poetry and literature.

Now living in France, Aoyama has devoted herself to creating super-fine, lace-like cuttings that express concepts and imagery from many cultural traditions. Working with traditional origami paper, Aoyama cuts out minute details using very fine scissors and employs a meditative approach to forming her designs. Her subjects are drawn from sources as diverse

as nature, including intricate flowers and butterflies, to the philosophy of Voltaire and the poetry of Baudelaire.

Nishimura graduated from the architectural design program at Nihon University in Japan, and her love of architecture and form is evident in her paper work titled *Continuous Form*, a white, sculptural abstract design with meticulous pleats and folds, resembling a 1960s-era Pop art light fixture.

ABOVE: *Little Waves* (2020) by Yuko Kimura. **Photo provided**

Also sculptural and light-like are Horiki's *Washi Light Object*, fabricated from washi paper, resin mold and steel, creating an arrangement of four paper lights. Besides being a skilled papermaker, Horiki incorporates traditional washi paper into modern interior spaces.

Along with a team of paper

If You Go

Washi Transformed runs through April 2 at the Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Road, Delray Beach.

Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday

Admission: \$15; seniors, \$13; children, \$9

Info: 561-495-0233, morikami.org

artisans and artists, she creates large-scale sheets of textured paper that form the walls, room dividers, ceilings, windows and lamps of restaurants, hotel lobbies and public spaces throughout Japan.

On another note, fiber artist Ishii's *Japanese Paper Strings* creates a whimsical paper sculpture with decorative Japanese paper cords called "mizuhiki," sometimes used in ceremonial gift-giving. Resembling a vase, the cords hold red enoki mushroom-shaped fibers bursting out of the vase like so many red flowers.

California-born Kimura's 2020 etching and *onkōzo* handmade paper and *kōzobark* fiber, lace and thread piece, titled *Little Waves*, is part of this show. She has worked with printmaking, etching, aquatint and dyeing with indigo on pleated paper.

Typically, she collages together handmade washi paper with old, worm-eaten *mushikui* pages from Japanese books and worn fragments of cloth obtained in Japan from her grandmother, from whom she learned not to waste, exploring themes such as the passage of time, decay and renewal.

"For thousands of years in Japan, washi paper has been used not only for literature, painting, and printing, but also to create architectural elements (such as sliding shoji screens and lamps), sculptures, and even clothing," says Carla Stansifer, curator of Japanese art at the Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens.

"Now these contemporary artists are finding new and innovative ways to work with a very traditional material and I hope visitors will come away with an appreciation for the versatility of this all-natural material," she says.

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REGIS

Continued from page 11

of fast-tracked to go into New England Conservatory. A great school, and the program with him was fantastic.”

Those lessons, plus his playing experience in different styles, helped to create additional streams within the Delray Jazz Collective. It variously plays swing and Latin music (with guitarist Jim McCreavy and percussionist Tony Verdejo); old-time jazz (with vocalist Jill Lurie); soulful jazz (featuring saxophonist Ben Sparrow, bassist Hugh Burrows, and drummer Muff Cunningham); Hammond organ pieces (often with guitarists Jon Zeeman or Martin Hand); and originals and classics (with Regis on drums and Peter Primamore on keyboards).

Which is to say that practically anything is possible, from the Allman Brothers Band, Jeff Beck, and John Coltrane to the Mahavishnu Orchestra, Jimmy Smith, Weather Report and beyond.

The group started out with Regis applying his extensive knowledge of nuance, rhythm, and syncopation as its drummer, leaving the keyboard chair to Primamore. The resulting tributaries in instrumentation, repertoire, and personnel created a multi-faceted Delray Jazz Collective.

“Peter had commitments with other groups,” Regis notes. “It’s a modern problem with many of us, so instead of hiring subs for musicians with other priorities, we decided to create subsidiary bands.”

At a recent show at the Northwood Art & Music Warehouse in West Palm Beach, Regis played drums along with Primamore, Sparrow, and Burrows on material from the Beatles’s “Blackbird” to jazz chestnuts and original material. Ten days later, at the Blueprint Bar & Grill in Lake Worth Beach, Sparrow and Burrows returned, teaming with Cunningham on drums. And Regis showcased the influence of former Miles Davis keyboardists while calling out more fusion and groove-oriented material.

“We’re taking the name literally,” Regis says, “making it a collective of musicians

If You Go

See the **Delray Jazz Collective** at 8 p.m. Feb. 3 at Rudy’s, 21 S. J St., Lake Worth Beach (561-602-5307); noon-3 p.m., plus hosting the jazz jam every other Sunday (alternating with the Brad Keller Quartet), 5-9 p.m. Feb. 5 at Double Roads, 103 U.S. 1, Suite A1, Jupiter (561-203-7061); and the original quartet lineup with Regis, Primamore, Burrows and Cunningham at 7 p.m. Feb. 20 at Northwood Art & Music Warehouse, 933 28th St., West Palm Beach (561-425-9040).

that goes out in different configurations.”

Regis’s classical and jazz roots are also encapsulated in his self-published educational book *From Beethoven To Bill Evans: Western Harmony Simplified* (2011). In it, he presents an outline of the structure and components of Western diatonic musical harmony.

“The perfect answer for the self-taught or privately trained musician who wants to know and understand more,” writes fellow musician Peter Nardone in a testimonial. “I have read other books that explain the same principles, but in every case they were hard to follow and had lots of gaps in their explanations. This book is void of that problem, and as a result, if read carefully, it clearly makes sense of the seemingly obscure.”

Regis’ story includes composing commercial jingles, underscores, and cues for both TV and film, and recording and/or performing with major jazz, pop, Latin and gospel figures during his travels, including Michael and Randy Brecker, Celia Cruz, Marcus Miller, Patti Austin, Will Lee, Omar Hakim, Teddy Pendergrass, Eileen Seals, Eddie Gomez, and Gilberto Gil.

As for his drumming, it was his first actual band instrument starting at age 8, but only relatively recently became a primary focus.

“I started playing piano at age 5,” Regis says. “I didn’t start playing drums seriously again until around 2014, though I’d played them off and on for years. But there’s something about playing the drums that turns me into a child again.”



Eduard Angeli
Cities on Water

Eduard Angeli’s first exhibition in the United States features 18 large works depicting motifs from Venice, Istanbul, and St. Petersburg. Angeli is a landscape painter in his favored medium of charcoal. His motifs derive from but do not copy nature, instead conveying ideas or realities beyond appearances. His somber scenes, deprived of human beings, express a delicious, sentimental melancholy.

Eduard Angeli, The Redentore, 2013, charcoal on burlap, courtesy of the artist. © Eduard Angeli. Photo courtesy of Nikolaus Korab

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Arts Calendar

Editor's note: Events listed through March 3 were current as of Jan. 24. Check with the presenting agency for any changes. Ticket prices are single sales unless otherwise specified.

ART

Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens: Through Feb. 12: *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 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. \$15. 253 Barcelona Road, West Palm Beach. 10 am-4 pm W-Sun. 561-832-5328. Info@ansg.org.
Armory Art Center: Opens Feb. 9: *Artists-in-Residence Exhibition*, works by Tony Baker, Maria Camera-Smoth, Hannah Scrima and John Lark. Through March 3. Free. 10 am-4 pm M-F, 10 am-2 pm Sat. 561-832-1776 or armoryart.org.
Boca Raton Museum of Art: Opens Feb. 15: *Oswaldo Vigas*, works by the late Venezuelan modernist; *Whitfield Lovell: Passages*, drawings, assemblages and installations by the contemporary African-American artist; both through May 21. \$12; \$10 seniors. 11 am-7 pm daily.

561-392-2500, or bocamuseum.org.
Cultural Council for Palm Beach County: Through April 8: *Visualizing Climate Disruption*, works by 15 Palm Beach County examining the existential crisis of global warming. Free. noon-5 pm T-Sat. 601 Lake Ave., Lake Worth Beach. 561-471-2901, palmbeachculture.com/exhibitions.
Flagler Museum: Through April 23: *The American West During the Gilded Age*, an examination of aspects of the West during the late 19th and early 20th centuries that affected the character of the nation. \$26; \$13 ages 6-12. 10 am-5 pm M-Sat, noon-5 pm Sun. 1 Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. 561-655-2833, www.flaglermuseum.us
Lighthouse ArtCenter: Through March 1: *Like Mind*, large and small-scale work by Jason Newsted (he of Metallica fame) and his artist wife Nicole. \$5 non-members. 9 am-5 pm M-Th; 9 am-4 pm F; 10 am-4 pm Sat. 561-746-3101, lighthousearts.org.
Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens: Through April 2: *Washi Transformed: New Expressions in Japanese Paper*. \$15; \$13 seniors; \$9 children; free for members, ages 5 and under. 10 am-5 pm T-Sun. 4000 Morikami Park Road, Delray Beach. 561-495-0233, morikami.org.
Norton Museum of Art: Through Feb. 12: *A Personal View on High Fashion and Street Style: Photographs from the Nicola Erni Collection, 1930s to Now*; through March 19: *Henry Ossawa Tanner: Intimate Pictures*, works by the first African-American artist to achieve international recognition; *Form Forward: Brett Weston and Photographers of Things Unseen*, images by the American photographic abstractionist and like-minded colleagues; opens Feb. 11: *Symbolic Messages in Chinese Animal Paintings*, five works laden with political and social meaning, through June 4; opens Feb. 18: *New York Vanguard: Promised Gifts from Stephen and Madeline Anbinder*, ten mid-20th century paintings and drawings by major artists such as Helen Frankenthaler and Robert Motherwell, through June 11. 18 adults; \$15 seniors; \$5 students; free for ages 12 and under, 10 am-5 pm, M, T, Th, Sat; 10 am-10 pm F; 11 am-5 pm Sun. 1450 S. Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach. 561-832-5196, www.norton.org.
Society of the Four Arts: Opens Feb. 4: *Contemplating Character: Portrait Drawings and Oil Sketches from Jacques-Louis David to Lucian Freud*, 81 works on paper by 68 artists from the 18th century to the present. Through April 2. 10



Trombonist Delfeayo Marsalis brings his jazz quintet to the Broward Center on Feb. 8. Photo provided

am-5 pm daily. 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. 561-655-7226, fourarts.org.

CLASSICAL

Sunday, Feb. 12
Lucas and Arthur Jussen: The young matinee-idol Dutch duo-pianist brothers offer music by Mozart, Schubert, Debussy, Ravel and Rachmaninov. 3 pm, Society of the Four Arts, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. \$40. 561-655-7226 or fourarts.org.
 Monday, Feb. 13-Tuesday, Feb. 14
Philadelphia Orchestra: On Monday night, conductor Nathalie Stutzmann is joined by violinist Gil Shaham for an all-Brahms concert featuring the Violin Concerto and the First Symphony. On Tuesday afternoon, clarinetist Ricardo Morales and violist Choong-jin Chang join Stutzmann for the rarely heard Double Concerto for Clarinet and Viola by the German Romantic Max Bruch; Dvorak's *New World* Symphony (No. 9 in E minor) also is on the program. 8 pm Monday, 2 pm Tuesday, Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. \$35 and up. 561-832-7469 or www.kravis.org.
 Wednesday, Feb. 15
Charles Yang and Peter Dugan: Violinist Yang and pianist Dugan have been called the "classical-meets-rockstar duo"; their program for the Chamber Music Society of Palm Beach is

called *Bridges: Ravel to the Beatles*. 7 pm, Norton Museum of Art, 1450 S. Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach. \$75. Call 561-379-6773 or visit www.cmspb.org for tickets.
Atlantic Classical Orchestra: Pianist Drew Petersen joins conductor David Amado and his Fort Pierce-based ensemble for the Chopin Piano Concerto No. 2; the concert also includes Mendelssohn's overture to *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and the *Mother Goose* Suite of Maurice Ravel. 7:30 pm, First Presbyterian Church, 717 Prosperity Farms Road, North Palm Beach. \$35-\$60. 772-460-0851 or atlanticclassicalorchestra.com.
 Thursday, Feb. 16
Oliver Herbert: The rising young American cellist is joined by pianist Xiaohui Yang for sonatas by Beethoven, Brahms, Saint-Saëns and Fauré. 7:30 pm, Kravis Center's Rinker Playhouse, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. \$35. 561-832-7469 or www.kravis.org.
 Wednesday, Feb. 22
Miró Quartet: The Austin-based quartet is joined by clarinetist David Shifrin for program called "Rendezvous With Benny," a tribute to the jazz legend Benny Goodman. 7:30 pm, Society of the Four Arts, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. \$40. 561-655-7226 or fourarts.org.
Telegraph Quartet: The San Francisco-based foursome, now in its 10th year, has won the

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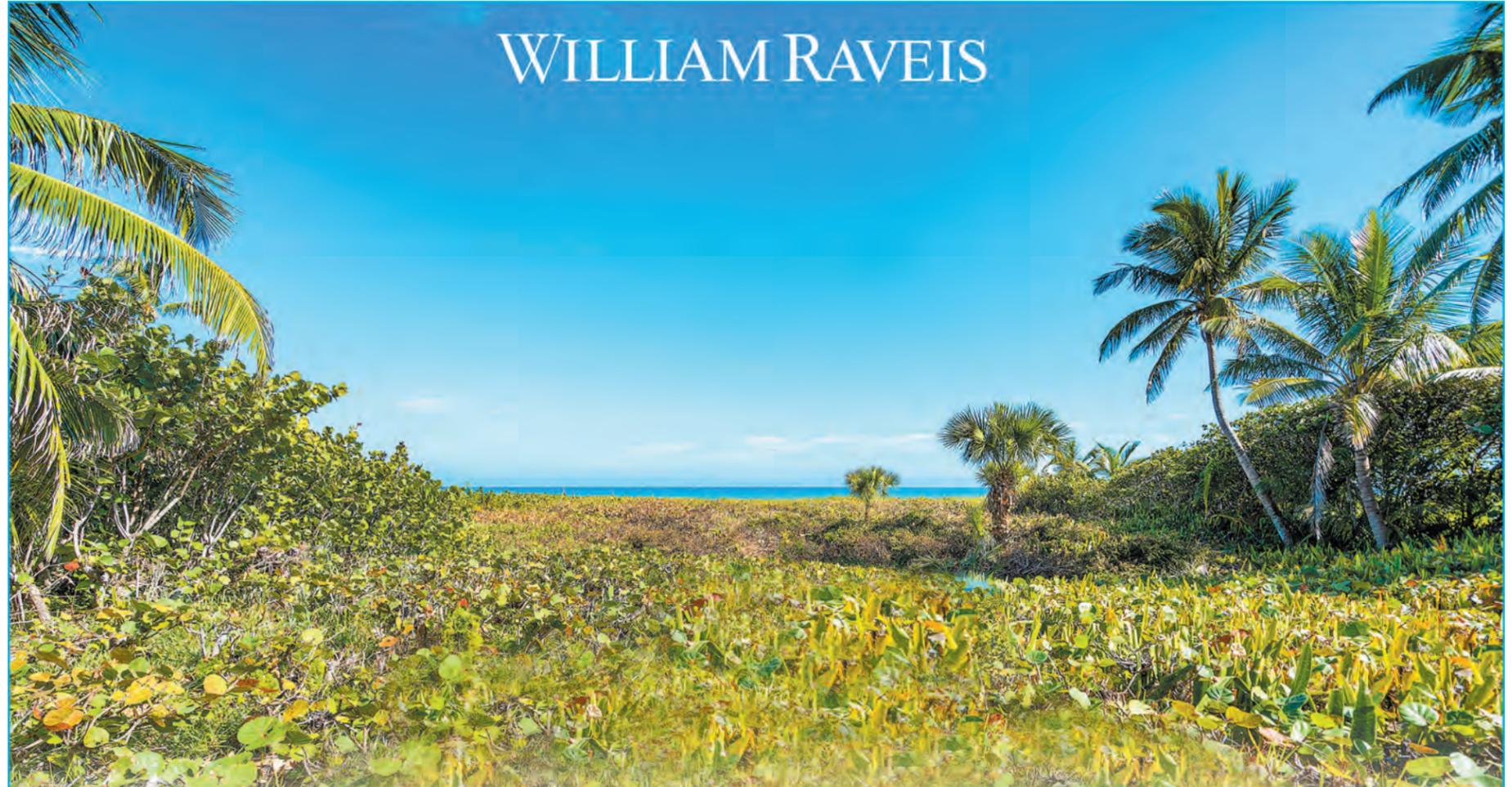
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prestigious Naumburg Award and the Grand Prize at the Fischhoff Competition. On the Classical Café series, Duncan Theatre's Stage West on the campus of Palm Beach State College, 4200 Congress Ave., Lake Worth Beach. 2 pm. \$35. 561-868-3309 or www.palmbeachstate.edu. Sunday, Feb. 26

Seraphic Fire: The Miami concert choir closes its third Enlightenment Festival with portions of the *Christmas* and *Ascension* oratorios of J.S. Bach, with a chamber orchestra and students from UCLA's Ensemble Artist Program. 4 pm, St. Gregory's Episcopal Church, 100 NE Mizner Blvd., Boca Raton. Monday, Feb. 27

The Symphonia: The Boca Raton-based chamber ensemble adds a special mid-season performance at the new Studio at Mizner Park. Alastair Willis leads the band in Mendelssohn's *Hebrides Overture*, then conducts Christophe Chagnard's multimedia environmental symphony, *Terra Nostra*, accompanied by a film by Charlie Spears featuring visuals of Earth and its natural elements. 7 pm, Mizner Park, Boca Raton. \$35-\$65, available through Ticketmaster.

DANCE

Friday, Feb. 3-Saturday, Feb. 4

Momix: Moses Pendleton's remarkable company presents its newest work, *Alice*, based on Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland* tales. At the Duncan Theatre on the campus of Palm Beach State College, 4200 Congress Ave., Lake Worth Beach. 8 pm both nights. \$45. 561-868-3309 or www.palmbeachstate.edu.

Saturday, Feb. 11-Sunday, Feb. 12

Ballet Palm Beach: Colleen Smith's Palm Beach Gardens-based company presents a new ballet, *Queen Esther*, based on the Biblical tale of the heroine who rescues the Jewish people. 7 pm Saturday, 1 pm and 5 pm Sunday, Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. \$45. 561-832-7469 or www.kravis.org.

Friday, Feb. 17-Saturday, Feb. 18

Ailey II: Since 1974, Alvin Ailey's modern dance ensemble has furthered its founder's mission of dance programs for all people. At the Duncan Theatre on the campus of Palm Beach State College, 4200 Congress Ave., Lake Worth Beach. 8 pm both nights. \$45. 561-868-3309 or www.palmbeachstate.edu.

Friday, Feb. 17-Sunday, Feb. 19

Miami City Ballet: In "Modern Masters," the company presents Martha Graham's *Diversion of Angels* (Dello Joio) and Jose Limon's *The*

Moor's Pavane (Purcell), along with two MCB commissions: A dance by Pontus Lindberg set to Philip Glass's Violin Concerto, and a work by Amy Hall Garner. 7:30 pm Friday, 2 pm and 7:30 pm Saturday, and 1 pm Sunday, Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. \$30 and up. 561-832-7469 or www.kravis.org.

JAZZ

Wednesday, Feb. 8

Delfeayo Marsalis Quintet: The trombone-playing member of the New Orleans jazz dynasty, on the Gold Coast Jazz Society series. 7:45 pm, Broward Center for the Performing Arts, 201 SW Fifth Ave., Fort Lauderdale. \$65. 954-462-0222 or browardcenter.org. Saturday, Feb. 18

Stanley Jordan: The great jazz guitarist performs a tribute concert to Jimi Hendrix, reimagining the late rock god's music and "channeling his persona," Jordan says. 6 pm and 8:30 pm, Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave., Delray Beach. \$50-\$55. 561-450-6357 or artsgarage.org.

OPERA

Friday, Feb. 24-Sunday, Feb. 26

Così fan Tutte: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's 1790 comedy, with a now-problematic libretto by Lorenzo da Ponte in which an old cynic attempts to prove to two of his friends that their girlfriends will not remain faithful to them. With Hailey Clark as Fiordiligi and Samantha Hankey as Dorabella, Duke Kim as Ferrando and Thomas Glass as Guglielmo. Dennis Jesse is Don Alfonso, and Madison Leonard is Despina. Fenlon Lamb directs, and the music is conducted by David Stern. 7:30 pm Friday and Saturday, 2 pm Sunday, at the Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. \$25 and up. 561-833-7888 or pbopera.org or kravis.org.

POPULAR MUSIC

Tuesday, Feb. 7

Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band: The part-time Wellington resident recorded with his bandmates for the first time in years for their 2020 recording *Letter to You*. 7:30 pm at the Hard Rock Live, 1 Seminole Way, Hollywood. \$650-\$2,249, through ticketmaster.com. Thursday, Feb. 9

David Bromberg Quintet: The eclectic folkie and multi-instrumentalist first attracted attention in the early 1970s. He's returned to the road after releasing several albums of new material

in the past few years. 7 pm, The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd., Boca Raton. \$40-\$65. funkybiscuit.com or 561-395-2929.

Monday, Feb. 13-Tuesday, Feb. 14

Rod Stewart: The part-time Palm Beacher makes a stop in Broward on his 2023 tour, showcasing his extensive catalog from his Faces days to the present. 8 pm both shows, at Hard Rock Live, 1 Seminole Way, Hollywood. \$65-\$335, through ticketmaster.com. Wednesday, Feb. 15

Jimmy Buffett: The Mississippi-born songwriter and part-time Palm Beacher brings his Coral Reefer Band for the first time to Hard Rock Live on their Second Wind Tour. 8 pm, Hard Rock Live, 1 Seminole Way, Hollywood. \$108-\$493, through ticketmaster.com. Thursday, Feb. 16

Fitz and the Tantrums: The LA indie band founded in 2008 by singer/songwriter Michael Fitzpatrick. 7:30 pm, Culture Room, 3045 N. Federal Highway, Fort Lauderdale. \$149, through ticketmaster.com. Friday, Feb. 17

Collective Soul: The Atlanta-based quintet fronted by songwriter Ed Roland, best known for songs including "Shine" and "The World I Know." 7:30 pm, Culture Room, 3045 N. Federal Highway, Fort Lauderdale. \$68-\$243, through ticketmaster.com.

THEATER

Opens Friday, Feb. 3

The Science of Leaving Omaha: A world-premiere play by Carter W. Lewis about a teenage dropout working in a Nebraska crematorium, and what happens when a stranger breaks into her workplace one night. Through Feb. 19 at Palm Beach Dramaworks, 201 Clematis St., West Palm Beach. \$84. 561-514-4042 or palmbeachdramaworks.org. Through Sunday, Feb. 5

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. 561-586-6410 or lakeworthplayhouse.org. Opens Thursday, Feb. 9

Grand Horizons: Bess Wohl's 2020 comedy about a couple, married 50 years, who say they're thinking about getting divorced. Through Feb. 26. A Boca Stage production at the Sol Theatre, 3333 N. Federal Highway, Boca Raton. 561-300-0152 or www.bocastage.net. Opens Saturday, Feb. 11

Good People: David Lindsay-Abaire's Tony-winning 2011 play about a South Boston dollar store cashier who plans to crash a party in tony Chestnut Hill given by a former high school boyfriend who's prospered as a physician. Through Feb. 26

at the Maltz Jupiter Theatre, 1001 E. Indiantown Road, Jupiter. \$68-\$120. 561-575-2223 or jupitertheatre.org.

Through Sunday, Feb. 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? At the Wick Theatre, 7901 N. Federal Highway, Boca Raton. \$99. 561-995-2333 or thewick.org. **Something's Afoot:** The 1972 musical by James McDonald, David Vos, and Robert Gerlach that spoofs the murder mysteries of Agatha Christie. At the Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St., Delray Beach. \$42. 561-272-1281, ext. 5, or delraybeachplayhouse.com.

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. At FAU Theatre Lab, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton. \$32-\$45. 561-297-6124 or fauevents.com. Opens Thursday, March 2

Damn Yankees: The classic Richard Adler-Jerry Ross musical from 1955 ("You Gotta Have Heart," "Whatever Lola Wants") that retells the Faust legend through the prism of baseball, dominated at that time by the New York Yankees. Through April 2 at the Wick Theatre, 7901 N. Federal Highway, Boca Raton. \$99. 561-995-2333 or thewick.org.

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Paws Up for Pets

Dental problems can signal worse health issues for pets

Welcome to February, when millions spend millions to celebrate Valentine's Day. Candy and flowers are great for your mate, but show your cats or dogs just how much you adore them by stepping up your at-home dental care on them.

Yep, February is also National Pet Dental Health Month. For decades, veterinarians have unleashed this startling stat: By age 3, more than 70% of all dogs and cats show signs of dental disease.

Yikes.

Dental woes don't just stay put in the mouth. They can also signal serious issues in the body, such as diabetes, kidney disease or gastrointestinal issues.

"If your pet is dropping food a lot, losing weight, drooling excessively or bleeding from the gums, please alert your veterinarian," says Dr. Michael Wiegand, DVM, DACVDC, a board-certified veterinary dentist who operates the Florida Animal Dentistry and Oral Surgery Center in West Palm Beach and Stuart. (www.floridaanimaldentistry.com)

Definitely do not ignore dreaded doggie breath in your canine or feline pal. It may be due to something wrong inside the mouth or in the gastrointestinal tract, Wiegand adds. Foul breath does not vanish on its own.

Regularly be on the lookout



for these other health warning signs:

- Loose or missing teeth
- Tartar buildup on molars
- Shying away from being touched on the face
- Face pawing
- Messy eating, leaving kibble scattered on the kitchen floor
- Chronic vomiting.

Adult dogs sport 42 teeth, but the size of the dog often impacts the type of dental issues they face, says Wiegand.

"The smaller the muzzle, the more prone to periodontal disease because these small dogs have 42 teeth jammed in a smaller space than big-dog mouths and food can get stuck in between their teeth."

He says large-muzzled dogs are more apt to need his dental



Veterinarian Michael Wiegand says pet owners should watch for dental health warnings such as loose or missing teeth, tartar buildup on molars and face pawing. Losing weight and dropping food may be more subtle signs. **Photos provided**

expertise for addressing broken teeth caused by chewing on bones and other hard objects like ice cubes and flying disks.

"Do the knee test before selecting a chew for your dog," he says. "If you hit the chew against your knee and it hurts, don't give it to your dog. Nylon bones and bully sticks are not good for their teeth and ice cubes can break teeth. Give your dog a chew that is pliable and has some give, such as a Kong toy that you can stuff with treats or peanut butter."

Cats have 30 teeth, 16 in the upper jaw and 14 in the lower jaw. Unlike dogs and people, cats don't get cavities because of the shape of their teeth. Their main dental issues are halitosis, excessive drooling, bleeding

from the gums and a painful condition known as tooth resorption.

"Cats do not chew food and tend to swallow whole," says Wiegand. "Tooth resorption literally means a hole in the tooth. The cat's body starts to break down a tooth and its roots and absorb them. That can cause pain and muscle spasms."

And, because cats are both prey and predator, they don't like to show any signs of vulnerability or pain for fear of being hunted, adds Dr. Lisa Radosta, DVM, DACVB, a board-certified veterinary behaviorist and owner of the Florida Veterinary Behavior Service in West Palm Beach.

If you are ready to begin regular dental care on your pet and make it struggle-free, here are some tips:

Don't be in a hurry. Initially, spend just a minute or two massaging and rubbing your cat's cheeks or your dog's muzzle. This action helps your pet get used to you touching his face. Finish by doling out a healthy treat.

"Be slow, steady and patient," says Radosta. "Teeth brushing is something completely unnatural to cats, so start by just touching the face."

Take baby steps. Do not attempt to brush all of your pet's teeth the first time. Remind yourself that the goal is to build up a positive association from your pet with brushing teeth.

"Start slowly and take lots of breaks," says Radosta. "If you have a partner to help, have the partner pet and cuddle the cat

during the process."

Dip the brush into broth. Before using pet-safe toothpaste, try dipping the bristles of a pet toothbrush or a finger brush into either tuna water or low-sodium chicken broth and encourage your pet to lick the juice off the bristles.

Get into proper position. Position yourself at the side or behind your pet's head. Hold your pet's head and lift the pet's upper lip with one hand. Then place a finger brush on the index finger of your other hand. Briefly touch the pet's gums and teeth with this finger brush and then exit. Offer a treat reward.

Start in the back. As your pet gets used to having his mouth opened and gums touched, hold the brush at a 45-degree angle on the back teeth. Move in a circular motion and slowly move toward the front teeth. Finish by delivering a treat and praise.

Here's a possible bonus benefit: Cats and dogs who become accustomed to having their teeth brushed tend to be more accepting of needed pills or liquids should they develop a medical condition.

However, if your pet still resists the toothbrush or you don't feel confident performing this task, know you have other options.

"Keep the process positive and don't force your pet," says Radosta. "Ask your veterinarian about science-based pet products that can reduce the need for brushing, such as dental chews, foods and additives. Some pets just aren't comfortable with mouth handling, and for these pets, we need alternative options to maintain their dental health."

Arden Moore is an author, speaker and master certified pet first-aid instructor. She hosts a radio show, *Arden Moore's Four Legged Life* (www.fourleggedlife.com), and the popular *Oh Behave!* podcast on PetLifeRadio.



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Finding Faith

New pastor puts energy into finding 'a better way' at St. Mark

St. Mark Catholic Church of Boynton Beach has welcomed a new priest, Father Bob Benko.

"He's young and full of life," parish secretary Margaret Askar said. "We're just very excited about the new energy that he brings to our parish."

St. Mark is a Conventional Franciscan Parish and Benko is a Franciscan priest and a member of the Franciscan Friars Conventual of Our Lady of the Angels Province, based in Maryland.

Boynton Beach is his fourth assignment — he's led parishes in New Jersey, North Carolina and Georgia — and he requested Florida because he prefers warm weather.

Growing up in New Jersey can do that to you.

Benko, who will turn 59 this month, was born and raised in the Garden State. He went to Catholic elementary and high schools and then to St. Peter's College (now University), a private Jesuit school in Jersey City, where he earned an associate degree in business administration.

Although Benko had grown up in the church and been active in the youth ministry in his teens, he had never thought of himself as priest material. Known as a quick learner and a leader, he thought the business world would be his field. He got a job in real estate working as right-hand man to a developer, doing whatever needed his attention. Benko learned a lot, but he wasn't fulfilled.

In his mid-20s, he heard the call. A calling is like an invitation from God asking you to fulfill your life's purpose, and to follow God on your path to your destiny.

Benko entered the seminary in Massachusetts and earned a bachelor's degree in philosophy



Father Bob Benko was installed Oct. 23 as pastor at St. Mark Church in Boynton Beach by Bishop Gerald M. Barbarito (left). Photo provided by the Diocese of Palm Beach

with a minor in Franciscan studies and another in English literature. After that, he moved to Staten Island to enter the novitiate for the Franciscan Order, a yearlong program of prayer and discovery before you make your first vows as a Franciscan.

The Franciscan is one of many paths (or orders) within the Catholic church. Some of the most popular are Franciscans, Carthusians, Jesuits, Benedictines, Salesians, Dominicans, Carmelites and Trappists, each with its own focus.

The Franciscans take vows of poverty, meaning they don't own things such as cars or

homes and they attempt to put others before themselves. Their values, beliefs and traditions of the Catholic faith — like the importance of charity, benevolence and selflessness — govern all they do.

So, when the church leaders

asked Benko to learn Spanish and go to Central America, he said, "Sí." He traveled to El Salvador and then ended up in Costa Rica. ("Not *that* Costa Rica," he says to people who have visited the luxury resorts and rain forests — the tourist face of the country.) Most of the country is incredibly poor "but full of faith," he said.

That strong faith is shared by the members of his new parish. Now fluent in Spanish, Benko publishes his weekly message in English and Spanish and is comfortable pastoring in both languages, a real asset with his diverse congregation.

St. Mark was established in 1952 and implores the faithful to never be timid in the profession of faith. In its mission, the St. Mark congregation proclaims, "We believe that we are called to be peacemakers, to be people of hope and compassion. We welcome those that are searching for God in their lives."

The parish has more than 1,900 member families, which translates to about 4,800 people. Like other houses of worship, a declining congregation is one of its biggest concerns.

Benko is just getting to know his parish, its people and what they think is important. He is recruiting members to serve on a pastoral council that articulates the parish goals and finds ways to achieve them.

"We're asking, 'How do we

want to express our Catholic faith? What is the personality of our church?" Benko said. He says pastoring without a vision is like rowing a boat with one oar. It's a lot of work and you don't really get anywhere.

"How do we use our grace — our God-given gifts, talents and abilities — to make a better world?" Benko asks.

His answer? Baby steps.

First, become a better person ("the person God wants me to be"), then a better spouse and better parent. From there we get a better neighborhood, city, state, nation and, ultimately, world.

"As a priest, I'm trying to show the world a different way," Benko says. "A better way. I want St. Mark to be the church people are talking about."

St. Mark is at 643 St. Mark Place (NE Fourth Ave.), Boynton Beach. Mass is celebrated at 9 a.m. Monday-Friday; 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Saturday; and 8 and 10 a.m., noon and 4 p.m. Sunday. Call 561-734-9330 or visit www.stmarkboynton.com.

Janis Fontaine writes about people of faith, their congregations, causes and community events. Contact her at fontaine423@outlook.com.



Religion Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 1/26. Please check with organizers for any changes.

FEBRUARY 4

2/4 - All New C-Kids Shabbat Program at Boca Beach Chabad, 120 NE 1st Ave. Held again 2/25 10:45-11:45 am. Call for more info: 561-394-9770; bocabeachchabad.org

FEBRUARY 5-11

Monday - 2/6 - 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

2/6 - Rosary for Peace at St Vincent Ferrer Adoration Chapel, 840 George Bush Blvd, Delray Beach. Every M 5:45 pm. Free. 561-276-6892; stvincentferrer.com

Tuesday - 2/7 - 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 - 2/8 - 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

2/8 - Wednesday Evening Meditation Service at Unity of Delray Beach Church Sanctuary, 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
Thursday - 2/9 - Thursday Morning Prosperity Coffee at Unity of Delray Beach Church Fellowship Hall, 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

2/9 - Men's Fellowship at First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach Courtyard, 33 Gleason St. Every Th 8:30 am. Free. 561-276-6338; firstdelray.com

2/9 - 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 - 2/10 - Legion of Mary at St. Vincent Ferrer Family Life Center, 840 George Bush Blvd, Delray Beach. Every F 5:30 pm. Free. 561-276-6892; stvincentferrer.com

2/10 - 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

FEB. 26-MARCH 4

Thursday - 3/2 - 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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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/Cs 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, toto 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. **\$2,395,000**



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." **\$549,000**

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Health Notes

New chief nursing officer at Delray Medical Center

Jennifer Shoemaker, RN, has been named chief nursing officer of Delray Medical Center.

Shoemaker began her career at the hospital in 2007 while she was a student at Palm Beach State College. After graduating, she was promoted to charge nurse, and then to clinical manager, and ultimately to director. In 2017, she was named administrative director of the hospital's medical-surgical service line. She was promoted to associate chief nursing officer in 2020.



Shoemaker

Valley Bank, providing seed funding for the new Palm Beach County NeuroArts Collaborative. It includes the Florida Atlantic University Stiles-Nicholson Brain Institute, Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience, and the Cultural Council for Palm Beach County.

The Valley Bank gift will support the collaborative's launch and growth as it focuses on identifying local partners, programs, resources, and existing research to support the advancement of neuro-arts in South Florida.

For more information, visit www.palmhealthfoundation.org/our-work-advancing-brain-health.

Palm Health Foundation has received a \$5,000 gift from

— Christine Davis

"Before you and your staff from Boca Nursing Services started taking care of Helen and I, we existed; now we are living again! Thank you, Rose."
- Dr. K.D.



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Health & Harmony

Boca Raton doctor offers prevention advice to take to heart

Before you can give your heart to someone, you need to ensure yours stays healthy.

So, with Valentine's Day at its center, February is American Heart Month, a time set aside to improve awareness about heart health and cardiovascular disease.

Heart disease and other cardiovascular issues such as stroke are the leading causes of death in the U.S., according to the American Heart Association, killing more than 800,000 people each year.

Cardiovascular problems are also the No. 1 killer of women, causing 1 in 3 deaths each year.

In Palm Beach County, the most common type of heart disease is coronary heart disease (also called coronary artery disease), which occurs when plaque builds up in the arteries that supply blood to the heart. Coronary heart disease can cause heart attack, angina, heart failure and irregular heartbeat.

Most risk factors for heart disease and stroke — such as high blood pressure, high cholesterol, smoking and obesity — are preventable and controllable. Controlling these factors may reduce risk of heart attack or stroke by more than 80%, says the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Dubbed "Life's Simple 7," the AHA recommendations for a healthy heart are not smoking, physical activity, healthy diet and body weight, and control of cholesterol, blood pressure and blood sugar.

"Take time to think of your own heart health this month," says Heather M. Johnson, 47, a preventive cardiologist at the Lynn Women's Health and Wellness Institute at Boca Raton Regional Hospital.

"February is a great month to pay attention to your heart," she says. "Get to know your blood pressure, blood sugar and cholesterol numbers."

A firm believer that people can control their health and destiny, Johnson encourages her patients to make lifestyle changes to their daily routines, which can lower the risk of heart attack and stroke.

"Simple things like staying active or just getting up and moving with moderate intensity is outstanding," she says.

She recommends exercising 150 minutes each week, or 30 minutes/five days a week, as well as keeping your blood pressure, blood sugar and cholesterol levels low, eating a Mediterranean diet and avoiding excess sodium. And, if you're a smoker, stop.

Johnson, a 2002 graduate of the University of Wisconsin Medical School, suggests additional screenings may be in order for men and women in high risk categories. For men over 65 with a history of smoking, Johnson recommends checking with your physician to see if an additional aortic aneurysm screening is advisable.

Other screenings may include a carotid artery scan, a coronary artery calcium scan, a cholesterol test, EKG or ECG.

In women, she says, artery changes can present in other ways and can even be found during routine mammogram screenings. Changes to arteries can raise the risk of a heart attack.

If there's an indication of breast artery calcification it could be helpful to follow up with a heart screening assessment, Johnson says.



Johnson

Johnson, who is married with one teenage son, follows her own diet advice and is dedicated to exercise. Her favorite workouts include aerobic exercise on the elliptical, treadmill and StairMaster



The American Heart Association promotes seven steps for a healthy heart. Graphic provided by AHA

machines, lifting weights or dancing at home to the music of Whitney Houston.

Johnson keeps her exercise bag in the car. She is partial to the Orangetheory Fitness studio in Boca Raton and schedules time for workouts on her daily calendar.

"I like to mix up my workouts

to keep them interesting," she says, "and to avoid boredom."

As a family, Johnson says, each is committed to working out and eating healthy.

"We hold each other accountable for diet and exercise," she says.

"We take it seriously, but it's OK to have fun with it, too,"

says Johnson, who indulges in occasional pizza nights with her family. "Find a balance, keep a heart healthy focus, but allow yourself to have fun."

For Valentine's Day, Johnson plans to come home and relax and maybe even treat herself to a piece of heart healthy dark chocolate (after her workout, that is).

To highlight the cause and raise awareness of cardiovascular disease, the National Institutes of Health sponsors National Wear Red Day on Feb. 3. Visit www.nhlbi.nih.gov/events/2023/national-wear-red-day-get-ourhearts-pumping.

Jan Engoren writes about health



and healthy living. Send column ideas to jenogren@hotmail.com.





Joseph J. Ricotta MD, MS, DFSVS, FACS
 National Medical Director, Vascular Surgery and Endovascular Therapy at Tenet Healthcare; Professor of Surgery and Program Director of the Vascular Surgery Fellowship at the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine at Florida Atlantic University

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Health Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 1/26. Please check with organizers for any changes.

FEBRUARY 4

Saturday - 2/4 - Yoga Class at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. Every Sat 9 am. \$5/class. 561-588-8889; southpalmbeach.com

2/4 - 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

2/4 - 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

2/4 - Alateen at St. Joan of Arc Catholic School, 501 SW 3rd St, Boca Raton. Every Sat 10 am. Free. 888-4AL-ANON; al-anon.org/teen-info

2/4 - 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

2/4 - AA Meeting at Unity of Delray Beach Fellowship Hall, 101 NW 22nd St. Every Sat 5:30 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

FEBRUARY 5-11

Sunday - 2/5 - 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

2/5 - CODA (Codependents Anonymous) Meeting at Unity of Delray Beach Fellowship Hall, 101 NW 22nd St. Every Sun 6 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

Monday - 2/6 - 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 - 2/7 - Al Anon at St. Mark Catholic Church St. Clare Room, 643 NE 4th Ave, Boynton Beach. Every T 10 am & Th 7 pm. Free. 561-734-

9330; stmarkboynton.com

2/7 - Holistic Wellness Circle at Cocoplum Nature School, 342 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Funded by Children's Services Council. Mindfulness for families w/children under 6; includes free childcare. 6-7:30 pm. Free; donations welcome. 561-901-3467; soilandsoul.org

2/7 - 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 - 2/8 - Stretch & Strengthening Mindfulness Class at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. Every W 10:30 am. \$5/class. 561-588-8889; southpalmbeach.com

2/8 - LGBTQ AA Meeting at Unity of Delray Beach Fellowship Hall, 101 NW

22nd St. Every W 7 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

Thursday - 2/9 - Holistic Wellness Circle at Tiger Territory Urban Forest, 706 8th Ave N, Lake Worth Beach. Funded by Children's Services Council. Mindfulness for families w/children under 6; includes free childcare. 6-7:30 pm. Free; donations welcome. 561-901-3467; soilandsoul.org

FEBRUARY 12-18

Wednesday - 2/15 - Virtual Speaker: Maryellen Quinn-Lunny, Ph.D., director Center for Autism & Related Disabilities, Part of FAU Research in Action Series; Via Zoom. 1 pm. Free. Register: fau.edu/research/community/research-in-action

2/15 - Scripps Research Front-Row Lecture Series: Paving the Way to New Therapies for Neurodegenerative Disease: Sandra Encalada, PhD. 1-hour virtual lecture. 4 pm. Free. Register for link: frontrow.scripps.edu

FEBRUARY 19-25

Thursday - 2/23 - Yoga Under the Stars at Boca Raton Museum of Art Sculpture Garden, 501 Plaza Real. Limited seating. 6-7:30 pm. \$10/member; \$40/non-member. Reservations: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

FEB. 26-MARCH 4

Friday - 2/27 - Decreasing Your Risk for Dementia; What We've Known & What is New w/Lisa Wiese 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

Thursday - 3/2 - Virtual Speaker: Ilknur Telkes, Ph.D. assistant professor Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine, Part of FAU Research in Action Series; Via Zoom. 1 pm. Free. Register: fau.edu/research/community/research-in-action

Saturday - 3/4 - 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

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Outdoors Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 1/26. Please check with organizers for any changes.

FEBRUARY 4

Saturday - 2/4 - 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

2/4 - Outdoor Marine Aquarium Feedings at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. All ages; child must be accompanied by an adult. Daily 12:30 pm. Free. 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

2/4 - Sea Turtle Talk at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Age 8+; child under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Daily 2 pm. Free. 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

FEBRUARY 5-11

Sunday - 2/5 - Intracoastal

Adventures: Kayaking at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Includes short talk about South Florida's unique animals/ecosystems. Age 7-adult; each child under 12 must be accompanied by one adult. Held again 2/9 & 25. 9-10:30 am. \$20/resident & members; \$25/non-member. Registration: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

Tuesday - 2/7 - Golden Hour Guided Tours at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, 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 Intracoastal Waterway from the beach by the Seminole Chiki. Age 7-adult; child under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Held again 2/17 & 21. 5-6:30 pm. \$10/resident & member; \$13/non-resident. Registration: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

FEBRUARY 12-18

Sunday - 2/12 - Intracoastal

Adventures: Intro to Canoeing at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. 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

Tuesday - 2/14 - 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 through the hammock, along the mangroves by the Intracoastal. 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

Wednesday - 2/15 - Eco-Watch Lecture Series: Sharks Around Us: Exploring the Relationships Between Humans and Sharks 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 - 2/18 - Intracoastal

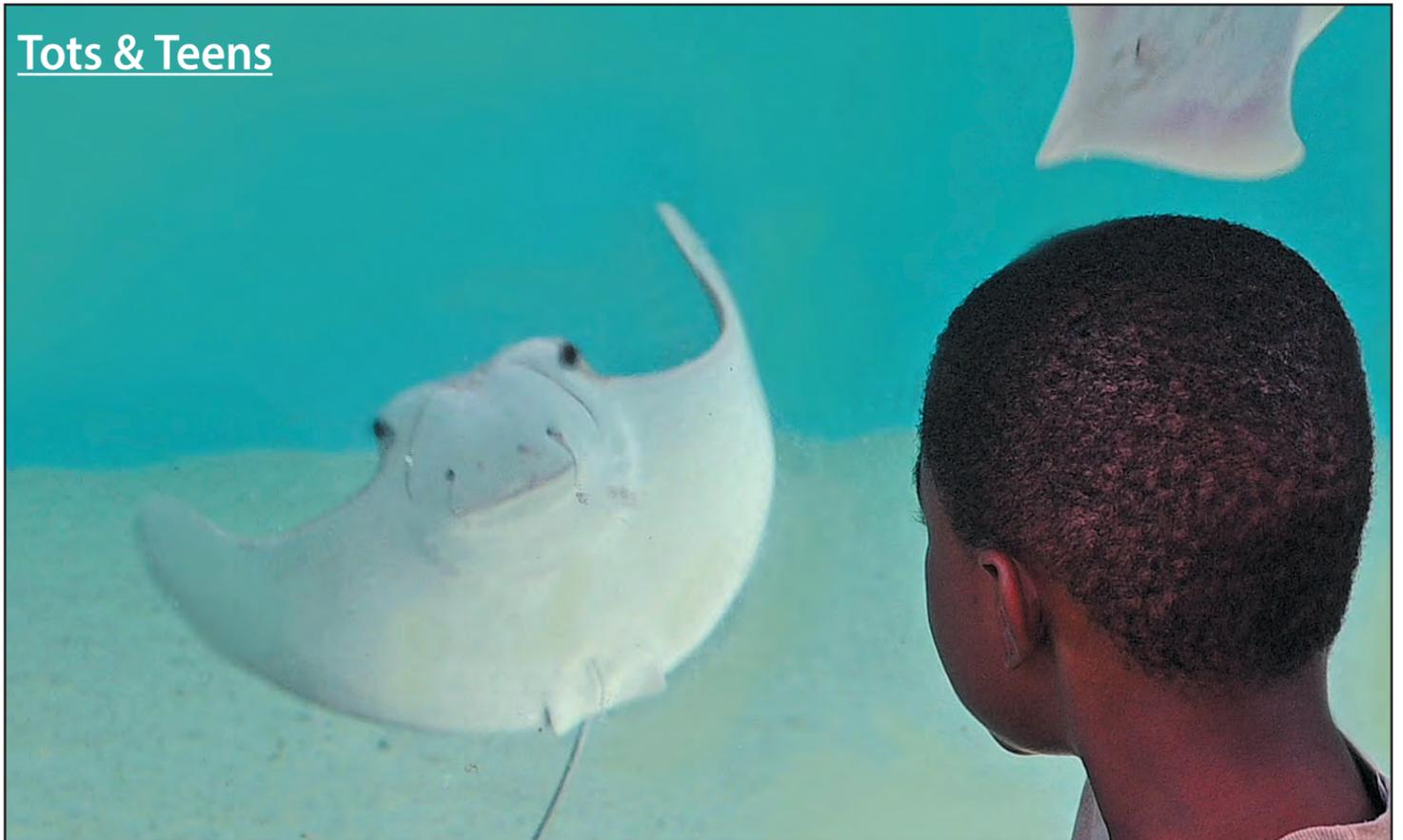
Adventures: Advanced Canoeing at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Short talks about South Florida's unique animals/ecosystems. For experienced paddlers age 12-adult; child under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. 9:30-11 am. \$20/member; \$25/non-member. Registration: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

FEBRUARY 19-25

Saturday - 2/25 - 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

2/25 - Greener with Gumbo: Sustainability Outdoors at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Discover ways to live more sustainably in 2023 at 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

Tots & Teens



Six stingrays find a new home at remodeled Sandoway

By Janis Fontaine

A peaceful energy washes over guests as they walk up the steps and on to the wide porch at Sandoway Discovery Center in Delray Beach. Just steps away from State Road A1A, life's pace seems to slow down among the lush foliage and inside the Old Florida home. Even the staff appears to move with the grace of the species at the center of Sandoway's newest exhibit: the magical stingray.

While the coronavirus was raging, Sandoway was remodeling. It redesigned the backyard, doubling the footprint by reclaiming unused space, built a new stingray touch tank, renovated the shark tank, and added new awnings to shade the entire area. The center also added a state-of-the-art filtration system, which is much quieter. When all the bills were paid, the backyard redo cost \$300,000.

And as anyone who has lived in a house built when Florida was still wild can tell you, closet space is hard to come by, so everyone was excited about more storage space.

"I guess they didn't have as much stuff back then," said Danica Sanborn, Sandoway's executive director. (That's pronounced da-NEEK-a.)

Sanborn, who has a bachelor's degree in zoology and a master's in marine biology, has overseen operations at Sandoway for 10 years. She loves her work teaching people of all ages about our unique marine environment.

Sanborn's goal — and Sandoway's as well — is to create new stewards for the environment by teaching people about the habitats and species they are trying to save. Education is the key to conservation and the center is thrilled to introduce the newest members of the Sandoway family: six stingrays.

Three Atlantic rays (*Dasyatis sabina*) and three cownose rays



Visit the stingrays

Sandoway Discovery Center

Where: 142 S. Ocean Blvd., Delray Beach

When: Noon-4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, noon-4 p.m. Sunday

Shark and stingray feedings: 1 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday, plus 11 a.m. Saturday

Aquarium feedings: 2 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday

Animal encounters: 3 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday

Admission: \$10 for age 3 and older

Parking: Available in the lot of Ingraham Avenue or in the lot just north of the center

Information: 561-243-7263 or <https://sandoway.org>

Fundraising event

What: Muscle on the Beach car show fundraiser for Sandoway Discovery Center's new stingray tank and hands-on learning experiences. Hosted by Mike Brewer, star of The Discovery Channel hit show 'Wheeler Dealers.'

When: 10 a.m.-3 p.m. March 4 (rain date March 5), Old School Square, 51 S. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach

Admission: Free for spectators; \$125 per registered vehicle, to include cars, trucks and hot rods of the '50s, '60s and '70s

Information: www.muscleonthebeach.com

(*Rhinoptera bonasus*) share the 15,000-gallon tank. The new stingray tank has a peek-a-boo window on one side and steps leading to a touch and viewing area on the other side.

There are more than 500 species of rays, Alyssa Dorfman, Sandoway's director of education, told visitors. She has containers of fish and shrimp she'll feed the rays as she talks. The rays are curious and they swim to the surface and seem to wave at visitors. The rays have only one way of protecting themselves: the venomous barbs on the end of their whip-like tails. They have the tank to themselves for their own and other creatures' safety.

Next to receive food is the

nurse shark, Norma Jean, who swims languidly along the bottom of the pool she shares with a few other fish — ones she won't eat — like the shiny silver lookdowns and puggy striped burrfish.

Dorfman feeds Norma Jean and the rays at 1 p.m. every day, and it's not just something to see, it's something to hear. Norma Jean makes a loud slurping sound — a nursing sound? — as she feeds.

Sanborn said nurse sharks are also called carpet sharks because they can lie on the bottom of the tank motionless, unlike other sharks which have to keep moving to breathe. Dorfman said Norma Jean figured out if she lies near the

ABOVE: One side of the new stingray tank at Sandoway Discovery Center enables visitors to see eye-to-eye with the rays.

LEFT: At the other end of the tank, children can view and touch the six stingrays that reside there. **Photos provided**

filter intake it will pump water over her gills, making life even easier for the 6-year-old.

These normally nocturnal swimmers are very docile and Norma Jean performs an underwater ballet as she sashays from one end of the tank to the other.

The mission with these new exhibits is to highlight the importance of sharks and stingrays in our environment.

The learning doesn't stop at the tanks. The center has an Everglades room, a room for a living coral reef, the discovery room where you'll find amphibians and reptiles, and the nocturnal room where you'll learn about animals that come out only at night.

Don't miss the Yvonne S. Templeton Shell Room Gallery upstairs, where the Albert and Ann Becker Shell Collection has 3,000 shells on display. The Becker collection totals about 10,000 in all, which their niece Linda Becker Dean's family inherited and donated to the center in 2002.

More than 6,000 Palm Beach County students and 25,000 total guests visit Sandoway each year. Sandoway also offers after-school programs for students, including the RISE program for high school kids and internships for college students.

Sanborn says the facility always needs volunteers. Suitable candidates must be at least 15 years old and willing to work at least three hours per week for a minimum of six months. ★

Have an idea for Tots & Teens? Email Janis Fontaine at fontaine423@outlook.com.

Tots & Teens Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 1/26. Please check with organizers for any changes.

FEBRUARY 4

Saturday - 2/4 - 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

2/4 - 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

2/4 - Pulp, Paper & Play Class at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 6-17. Held again 3/4 10:30 am-noon. Per class \$5/resident; \$7/non-resident. Registration: 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

2/4 - 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 2/18 & 3/4. Noon-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

2/4 - 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

2/4 - Daily Shark & Stingray Feedings at Sandoway Discovery Center, 142 S Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. All ages. T-Sun 1 pm. Free w/\$10 admission. 561-274-7263; sandoway.org

2/4 - Daily Aquarium Feedings at Sandoway Discovery Center, 142 S Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. All ages. T-Sun 2 pm. Free w/\$10 admission. 561-274-7263; sandoway.org

2/4 - Animal Encounters at Sandoway Discovery Center, 142 S Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. All ages. T-Sun 3 pm. Free w/\$10 admission. 561-274-7263; sandoway.org

FEBRUARY 5-11

Monday - 2/6 - Adventures in Reading at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Literacy enrichment through books w/ related activities. Child attends independently. Age 4-6. Held again 2/13. 3:30-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-544-8584; bocalibrary.org

2/6 - 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

2/6 - Introduction to Painting for Tweens at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 9-12. Held again 2/13. 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

Tuesday - 2/7 - Toddler Tales at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Literacy enrichment class: stories, music, movement. Age walking to 23 mos. Held again 2/14. 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

2/7 - Play & Learn for Toddlers at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Learn literacy skills during playtime. Age walking to 23 mos. Held again 2/14 10:30-11 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

2/7 - Tots in Tutus w/First Steps Dance & Tumbling at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Age 2-5. Held again 2/14 11-11:45 am. Per class \$10/member; \$12/non-member + admission. Registration: 561-742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org

2/7 - Baby Rhythms w/First Steps Dance & Tumbling at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Age 6 weeks to walking. Held again 2/14 11:45 am-12:15 pm. Per class \$10/member; \$12/non-member + admission. Registration: 561-742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org

2/7 - Teen Tech Sandbox at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. Every T 3-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

2/7 - Teen Game Day at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 13-17. 4-6 pm. Free. 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org

2/7 - 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

2/7 - 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

2/7 - Teen Crafting Hour: Soap Making at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age

13-17. 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

2/7-8 - Sensational Story 'n More at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Children's books come to life through interactive performance, singing, movement, props. Age 2-5. Every T 10-10:45 am & W 3-3:45 pm. 10-10:45 am. Free w/paid admission. 561-742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org

Wednesday - 2/8 - Bilingual Outdoor Storytime at Boynton Beach City Library under the Banyan tree, 100 E Ocean Ave. Stories, rhymes, more. 10-10:30 am. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

2/8 - Oh Baby Story Time at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Pre-literacy class: music, stories, rhymes. Age 3 months-2.5 years. 1st, 2nd & 3rd W 10 am. Free. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

2/8 - Preschool Science: Our Bodies at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Learn about our heart, brain, skeleton and more. Age 3-5. Held again 2/15 10-10:45 am. Per class \$10/member; \$12/non-member + admission. Registration: 561-742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org

2/8 - 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. Held again 2/15. 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

2/8 - Play & Learn for 2-3s at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Playtime w/ literacy-based toys. Held again 2/15. 10:30-11 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

2/8 - Little Artists at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age: preschool to kindergarten. Held again 2/22 10:30-11 am. Free. 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org

2/8 - ABC's & 123's at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Preschool/kindergarten readiness program. Age 3-5. Held again 2/15 11-11:45 am. Per class \$10/member; \$12/non-member + admission. Registration: 561-742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org

2/8 - Yoga Fun at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Age 2-5. Held again 2/15 3:45-4:15 pm. Free w/paid admission. 561-742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org

2/8 - 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

2/8 - Teen & Tween Crochet at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 9-18. 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

Thursday - 2/9 - Tumble Tots with First Steps Dance & Tumbling at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Age 2-5. Held again 2/16 10-10:45 am. Per class \$10/member; \$12/non-member + admission. Registration: 561-742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org

2/9 - 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

2/9 - Kid's Music Circle with Noam Brown at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. All ages. Held again 2/16 11-11:45 am. Per class \$10/member; \$12/non-member + admission. Registration: 561-742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org

2/9 - Sherlock Holmes And The Opera Mystery at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Performed by ACT for Youth Touring Program. Grades K-8. 11 am. \$8/ adult; \$7/child 12 & under. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

2/9 - Discovery Series: Amphibians! at Sandoway Discovery Center, 142 S Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. Outdoors, limited to 5 families per class. Age 3-5. Held again 2/23. 2:30 pm. \$12-\$14/child + admission. RSVP: 561-274-7264; sandoway.org

2/9 - Messy Play at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Age 2-5. Held again 2/16 3-3:45 pm. Per class \$10/member; \$12/non-member + paid admission. Registration: 561-742-6780;

schoolhousemuseum.org

2/9 - Rhyming Writers at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 6-8. Held again 2/16 3:30-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

2/9 - Ingenious Black Inventors Skit at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Participants must be available to perform their work during a skit at the library. Age 8-12. Held again 2/23, 3/9 & 3/21. 4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

2/9 - Creative Writing Class at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Grades K-8. 4:30-5:30 pm. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

Friday - 2/10 - Art Explorations at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Open art exploration in a specific medium. Age 2-5. Held again 2/17 10-10:45 am. Per class \$10/member; \$12/non-member + paid admission. Registration: 561-742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org

2/10 - Baby Bookworm at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Storytime for infants accompanied by an adult. Age 0 months to non-walking. Held again 2/17 11-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7852; bocalibrary.org

2/10 - Play & Learn for Babies at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Learn literacy skills during playtime. Age 0 months to non-walking. Held again 2/17 11:30 am-noon. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

2/10 - The Art of the Story at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Children create their own art in the style of the featured book. Age 3-7 yrs. Held again 2/17 & 24 3-3:45 pm. Free w/paid admission. 561-742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org

Saturday - 2/11 - 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

2/11 - Astro Hour: Come In & Space Out! at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 8-12. 2nd & 4th Sat 10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

2/11 - 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

2/11 - 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

2/11 - Daddy Daughter Dance at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. 6-8 pm. \$20/resident; \$25/non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

2/11 - Family Date Night at Lake Worth Beach Casino Ballroom, 10 S Ocean Blvd. Games, activities, dancing. Drinks, snacks, dinner served. 6-9 pm. \$35/1 parent & 1 child; \$15/additional guest. 561-533-7363; lakeworthbeachfl.gov/event/family-date-night/

2/11-12 - Mainstage Auditions: Newsies (Kids) at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Production dates 4/14-30. Age 10-14. Noon-4 pm. First come first served. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

FEBRUARY 12-18

Sunday - 2/12 - Chess Moves: Open Play or Tournament Play at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 6+. Held again 2/26 10 am-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

2/12 - Rookie Rooks: Beginner Chess for Youth at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 8-12. Held again 2/26 10:30-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968;

bocalibrary.org

2/12 - Positive Parenting Program (Triple P) at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Funded by Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County. For parents of children age 0-12. Held again 2/19 & 26. 2 pm. Free. Register: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

Monday - 2/13 - 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

2/13 - Story Chasers Book Club at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. In person or Zoom. Grades 1-3. 3:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

2/13 - Intermediate Acting Class at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 12-17. Every M through 4/24 4:45-5:45 pm. \$200/session. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

2/13 - Dance for the Theatre Class at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 10-14. Every M through 4/10 5:30-6:30 pm. \$180/session. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

Tuesday - 2/14 - Artist of the Month at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Age 3-7. 3-3:45 pm. Free w/paid admission. Registration: 561-742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org

2/14 - Bonjour! Bilingual Creole Storytime at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Stories, rhymes, more. Age 5-7. Held again 2/28. 3:30 pm. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

2/14 - Manga Club at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. 5-6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

2/14 - 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 - 2/15 - 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. Age 5 & under. 10-10:30 am. Free. 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org

2/15 - 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 3/1. 3:30 pm. Free. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

2/15 - Tween Book Jam: Coraline by Neil Gaiman at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 9-12. 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

Thursday - 2/16 - Special Guest Drop-In Family Storytime: Dump Truck Driver at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Up to age 5. 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

2/16 - STEAM Stars at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. S.T.E.A.M.-inspired activities, hands-on exploration. Age 8-12. 1st & 3rd Th 3:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

2/16 - 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 - 2/17 - Black History Trivia Challenge at Black History Youth Awareness Art Festival at Spady Cultural Heritage Museum, 170 NW 4th Ave. Presented by Delray Beach Public Library. Age 9-14. 4-5 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

Saturday - 2/18 - Handle Life Basketball at Hester Center, 1901 N Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Age 3-14. Every Sat through 3/25 9-10 am. \$70/resident; \$88/non-resident. 561-742-6550; boynton-beach.org

2/18 - Fiber Arts Studio: Knitting 101 at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. 11:30 am-1 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

FEBRUARY 19-25

Sunday - 2/19 - 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 - 2/21 - Community Superheroes at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 3-7. 3:30 pm. Free. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

2/21 - English for Families at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Kids in 5th-7th grade along w/adult friend or family member. Dinner provided. Every T/Th through 3/20 5:30-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

2/21 - Teen Crafting Hour: Embroidery Basics at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 9-18. 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

Wednesday - 2/22 - Special Guest Storytime with Suzy Hammer at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. 10-10:45 am. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

2/22 - Library on the Go! I Believe I Can! 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. Pop-up location announced on the website. Age 5-9. 3:30 pm. Free. Sign-in sheet provided on site: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

2/22 - Pajama Playdate at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Interactive play. Age 1-7. 6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

Thursday - 2/23 - 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

Saturday - 2/25 - Family Book Brunch: The Miraculous Journey by Edward Tulane at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Up to age 5. 11:30 am-1:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

2/25-26 - 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

FEB. 26-MARCH 4

Sunday - 2/26 - 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

Monday - 2/27 - TAB (Teen Advisory Board) Meeting at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 5-6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

Tuesday - 2/28 - Booktastic Book Club: Pug Blasts Off by Kyla May 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

2/28 - 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

2/28 - Anime Night at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 10-17. 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

Thursday - 3/2 - Make & Take at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 5-12. 4:30-5:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

Friday - 3/3 - 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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ACHIEVEMENT
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Community Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 1/26. Please check with organizers for any changes.

FEBRUARY 4

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 - 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

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 - 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

2/4 - Exhibit Opening: Eduard Angeli: Cities on Water at The Society of the Four Arts, 102 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. 10 am-5 pm, M, W, Sat., 1 pm-5 pm, Sun. \$10. 561-655-7227; fourarts.org

2/4 - Current Events Discussion at Highland Beach Library Community Room, 3618 S Ocean Blvd. Every Sat 10:30 am. Free. 561-266-9702; highlandbeach.us

2/4 - Open Figure Studio with Model at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Age 18+. Held again 2/17 (2-4 pm) & 2/23 (6:30-8:30 pm). 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$15. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org

2/4 - 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

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 - Black History Month Delray Beach: Parade starts at Pompey Park, 1101 NW 2nd St, ends at Libby Wesley Plaza, 2 SW 5th Ave. Noon. Free. 561-243-1077; downtowndelraybeach.com

2/4 - Workshop: Fanzine at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Age 16+. 2-day workshop concludes 2/11. Noon-5 pm. \$50. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org

2/4 - 2nd Annual Cornhole Tournament at Hoppportunities, 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 - Workshop: Intentional Art Vision Boards for 2023 at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Age 16+. 2-4 pm. \$50. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.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 - Comedian Bonnie McFarlane at The Studio at Mizner Park, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$35-\$45. 561-203-3742; thestudioatmiznerpark.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 - Visionary Art Gallery Ecstatic Dance Party at 1121 Lucerne Ave, Lake Worth Beach. Presented by JaiStar Studios. 7 pm. Tickets start at \$25. 561-493-2550; lakeworthcra.org

2/4 - Sick Puppies Improv Comedy Extravaganza Show at Doghouse Theater, 105 NW 5th Ave, Delray Beach. Every Sat through 1/25 7:30 pm. \$20-\$25. 954-667-7735; sickpuppiescomedy.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 - Briny Breezes Bazaar & Flea Market at 5000 N Ocean Blvd. Clothes, housewares, jewelry, toys, books, furniture, more. Food available for purchase. Sat: 9 am-2 pm, Sun: noon-3 pm. brinybreezes.us.com

2/4-5 - First Weekend Mural: Hearts/Mardi Gras/Kindness by Sara Gayoso at Flamingo Clay Studio, 15 S J St, Lake Worth Beach. Sara creates a new mural on the window. 1st weekend each month 9 am-3 pm. Free. 561-598-8344; flamingoclaystudio.com

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

2/4-5 - 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

2/4-11 - 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

2/4-3/15 - Delray Beach 33rd Annual

Municipal Meetings

2/6 - Ocean Ridge - First Monday at Ocean Ridge Town Hall, 6450 N Ocean Blvd. 6 pm. Agenda: oceanridgeflorida.com

2/7 - Highland Beach - First Tuesday at Highland Beach Town Hall, 3614 S Ocean Blvd. 1:30 pm. Agenda: highlandbeach.us

2/7 & 2/21 - Delray Beach - First & third Tuesdays at Delray Beach City Hall, 100 NW 1st Ave. 4 pm. Agenda: delraybeachfl.gov

2/7 & 2/21 - Boynton Beach - First and third Tuesday at Boynton Beach City Hall, 100 E Ocean Ave. 6 pm. Agenda: boynton-beach.org

2/10 - Gulf Stream - Second Friday at Gulf Stream Town Hall, 100 Sea Rd. 9 am. Agenda: gulf-stream.org

2/13 & 2/27 - Lantana - Second & fourth Mondays at Lantana Town Hall, 500 Greynolds Cir. 6 pm. Agenda: lantana.org

2/14 - South Palm Beach - Second Tuesday at the South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. 4 pm. Agenda: southpalmbeach.com

2/14 & 2/28 - Boca Raton - Second & fourth Tuesday at the auditorium, 6500 Congress Ave. 6 pm. Agenda: myboca.us

2/23 - Briny Breezes - Fourth Thursday at Briny Breezes Town Hall, 4802 N Ocean Blvd. 4 pm. Agenda: townofbrinybreezes-fl.com

2/28 - Manalapan - Fourth Tuesday at Manalapan Town Hall, 600 S Ocean Blvd. 10 am 4 pm. Agenda: manalapan.org

Senior Games at various locations. Archery, basketball, bowling, golf, pickleball, swimming, track & field. Information: 561-243-7000; delraybeachfl.gov/parksand recreation

FEBRUARY 5-11

Sunday -2/5 - 12th Annual Run for the Ribbons 5K Run/1-Mile Walk starts/finishes at Lynn Cancer Institute, 701 NW 13th St, Boca Raton. Benefits Lynn Cancer Institute League of Ribbons. 5K-certified course. 6 am registration; 6:30 am warmup; 7:30 am race starts. \$35/adult; \$25/17 & under. 561-361-1950; runsignup.com/Race/FL/BocaRaton/RunForTheRibbons5K

2/5 - Whitehall Lecture Series: Architects of The Gilded Age at Flagler Museum, One Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. Every Sun through 3/19 3 pm. \$105-\$280. Tickets: 561-655-2833; flaglermuseum.us

2/5 - Friends Music Series: Friction Farm w/Aidan Quinn & Christine Stay at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. 3 pm. Free. 561-393-7852; bocalibrary.org

2/5 - Kate Voss & The Hot Sauce at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7-8:30 pm. \$40-\$45. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

2/5-16 - The Donald M. Ephraim Palm Beach Film Festival presented by MorseLife. Full list of films/theater locations/times/tickets: 561-559-5338; dmepbfff.org

Monday - 2/6 - The Opiate Epidemic & What We Can Do About It w/Lawrence Toll 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

2/6 - Attorney Steven Daniels: Middle East 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

2/6 - Brown Bag Speaker Series: What Makes a Florida Garden Unique at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Noon. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

2/6 - Dramawise: The Science of Leaving Omaha w/Gary Cadwallader 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

2/6 - Computer Basics Class at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

2/6 - Songs of Westward Expansion w/ Matthew Sabatella 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

2/6 - Delray Beach Candidate Forum at the Opal Grand Oceanfront Resort & Spa, 10 N Ocean Blvd. Sponsored by Beach Property Owners Association. 5:30 pm. Free. 561-276-2632; bpoa-drb.com

2/6 - Introduction to Microsoft Word at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 6-7:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

2/6 - 4th Annual Miss Palm Beach Pride Pageant at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 18+. 7-11 pm. \$15-\$20. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

2/6-9 - Broadway Celebrates The Big Apple: A Musical Memories Concert at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Runs through 2/14. M-Th 2 pm; T/W 7:30 pm. \$42. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

Tuesday - 2/7 - The Federation of Boca

Raton Homeowner Associations Meeting at Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. HOA law & insurance. Speakers Attorney Michael Ungerbuehler and Insurance Specialist Matthew Reedy. Refreshments provided. 8:30 am. Free. 561-998-7798; federationofbocahoa.org

2/7 - Career & Employment Help with CareerSource PBC at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Assistance w/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

2/7 - Great Decisions 2023 at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Every T through 3/28 10:30 am-12:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

2/7 - Book Discussion: A Visible Man by Edward Ennifinful at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 10:30-11:30 am. Free. 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

2/7 - To Hell and Back: The World in the Twentieth Century w/Stephen Berk at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every T through 2/28 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

2/7 - Boca Raton Garden Club Meeting at Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. Susie Slater, Floral Designer: Traditional & Contemporary Spring Floral Design & new trends. 1 pm. Free/open to the public. 561-395-9376; bocaratongardenclub.org

2/7 - Resume Coaching at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Every T through 3/14 1-4 pm. Free. Appointment: 561-266-0196; delraylibrary.org

2/7 - 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

2/7 - Internet Basics Class at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

2/7 - Mourner's Bench: An American Tale Nexus of Dance/Art & Social Justice w/Clerance Brooks - 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

2/7 - Great Decisions Foreign Policy Lectures: Elections in Latin America at Florida Atlantic University Kaye Performing Arts Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 4 pm. \$25. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

2/7 - Poets on the Fringe at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. Every T 4-5:45 pm. Free. 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

2/7 - Beginning Tap for Adults at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 18+. Every T through 3/28 5:30-7 pm. \$60/4 weeks; \$20/

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Shop with 60 of South Florida's premier farmers, bakers, and culinary artisans.

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drop-in. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

2/7 - Hand Embroidery with Nicole at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 6-8 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

2/7 - Viano String Quartet at Flagler Museum, One Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. Part of Flagler Museum Music Series. 7 pm gates open; 7:30 pm concert begins. \$75. Tickets: 561-655-2833; flaglermuseum.us

2/7 - Comedy Night at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$5-\$10. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

Wednesday - 2/8 - Art Show: Some Like It Layered by Fran Mann Goodman at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Runs through 3/17 during regular hours. Free. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

2/8 - GFWC Woman's Club of Delray Beach Meeting at Teen Center, 505 SE 5th Ave. Bring your own refreshments. 10 am. Free. delraywomansclub.com

2/8 - Why do People Discriminate Against Jews? With Jonathan Fox moderated by Mehmet Gurses 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

2/8 - Film for Black History Month: The Butler (2013 PG13) at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

2/8 - Microsoft Excel Basics Class at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

2/8 - Growing (B)older ... with Gratitude, Gusto, Grit & Grace w/Minx Boren at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every W through 3/1 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$100/member; \$120/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

2/8 - Delray Beach Candidate Forum at Sutton Chapel Church of God in Christ, 209 SW Fourth Ave., Delray Beach. Held by the South Palm Beach County Branch of the NAACP. 6 pm. 561-877-1132; naacp.org

2/8 - 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

2/8 - Free Concert: Max Weinberg's Jukebox 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

2/8 - Delray Beach Orchid Society Meeting at Veterans Park, 802 NE 1st St, Delray Beach. 2nd W 7 pm. Free. 561-573-2422; delraybeachorchidsociety.org

2/8 - Lake Worth Live: The Improv Experiment at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. 8 pm. \$5. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

Thursday - 2/9 - 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. 561-742-6886; boyntonlibrary.org

2/9 - Ukraine: Its History, People & the Jews Who Lived Among Them w/Edith Rogovin Frankel at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every Th through 3/2 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

2/9 - 3D Design w/Autodesk Fusion 360 at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 10 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

2/9 - Tech Talk Thursdays at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Every Th 10:30-11 am. Free. Registration: 5561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

2/9 - Line Dancing at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Modern western square dancing. Every Th 10:30-11:30 am. \$6. 561-742-6221; boyntonbeach.org

2/9 - The Concert Works & Film Scores of Duke Ellington & Billy Strayhorn w/Mark Gridley at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every Th through 3/2 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$70/member; \$90/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

2/9 - iPhone Workshop at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 1:30-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

2/9 - Guided Walking Tours of Boca Raton at The Boca Raton, 501 E Camino Real. Led by docents from Boca Raton History Society. Age 12+. Held again 2/23. 2 pm. \$25; \$11/valet fee. 561-395-6766 x100; bocahistory.org

2/9 - 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

2/9 - Smart Gardening Lecture Series: Native Orchids at St. Paul's Parish Hall, 188 S Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 5:30 pm. \$10. 561-274-9578; delraybeachhistory.org

2/9 - Author Jerry Wolff: Street to Wall Street 2 Hoods at Highland Beach Library, 3618 S Ocean Blvd. 5:30 pm. Free. 561-278-5455; highlandbeach.us

2/9 - Workshop: Adult Pottery Playhouse at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 6-8 pm. \$85. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

2/9 - Ocean Ridge Commissioner Candidates Forum at Ocean Ridge Town Hall, 6450 N Ocean Blvd. Sponsored by League of Women Voters & Town of Ocean Ridge. In person, online, or by phone. 6-8 pm. Online https://meet.goto.com/781287189; by phone +1 224-501-3412 US, access code 781-287-189. Info: 561-732-2635; oceanridgeflorida.com

2/9 - Intermediate Tap for Adults at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 18+. Every Th through 3/30 5:30-7 pm. \$60/4 weeks; \$20/drop-in. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

2/9-11 - Annual Rummage Sale at First Presbyterian Church, 33 Gleason St, Delray Beach. 10 am-1 pm. Free admission. 561-276-6338; firstdelray.com

Friday - 2/10 - The Enlightenment w/Taylor Hagood at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every F through 3/3 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$70/member; \$90/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

2/10 - Great Books Discussion Group at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Every F via Zoom 10 am. Free. 561-266-0798; delraylibrary.org

2/10 - Cutting the Cable Cord at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 10-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

2/10 - iPad Basics Class at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

2/10 - Basic Orchid Care Class 2: Watering, Fertilizing and Pet Control Schedules at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0196; delraylibrary.org

2/10 - Mizner Park Friday Night Artisan Market every Friday at 327 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 4-9 pm. 561-362-0606; miznerpark.com

2/10 - 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

2/10 - Artist Blow Out featuring Glass Artist Alexis Silk at Benzaiten Center for Creative Arts, 1105 2nd Ave S, Lake Worth. 6:30-9:30 pm. \$15. 561-508-7315; benzaitencenter.org

2/10 - The Spirit of Harriet Tubman: A One Woman Show by Leslie McCurdy at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-9 pm. \$30. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

2/10 - Sick Puppies Stand-Up Comedy Show at Doghouse Theater, 105 NW 5th Ave, Delray Beach. Every F through 2/24 8 pm. \$25-\$30. 954-667-7735; sickpuppiescomedy.com

2/11 - Our Boat House Showroom & Warehouse Sale, at Warehouse: 425 Goolsby Blvd, Deerfield Beach (10 am-5 pm), Showroom: 2050 N Federal Hwy, Delray Beach (all month, store hours.) 561-245-8192; ourboathouse.com

2/10-12 - St. Vincent Ferrer 56th Annual Festival at 840 George Bush Blvd. Food, fun, rides, entertainment, 50/50 raffle, more. Family fare. Free/admission. 561-276-6892; stvincentferrer.com

2/10-19 - Delray Beach Open at Delray Beach Tennis Center, 201 W Atlantic Ave. Opening day features identical twins Bob & Mike Bryan, brothers Luke & Murphy Jensen, & former singles champions Jan-Michael Gambill, Sam Querrey, Ivo Karlovic & Jesse Levine. Full schedule/tickets: 561-330-6000; yellowtennisball.com

Saturday - 2/11 - 13th Annual Loop for Literacy at Bryant Park, Lake Avenue & Golfview Road, Lake Worth Beach. Benefits Literacy Coalition. 6-10 am. \$60/bike roadside ride; \$20-\$45/SK USATF certified run/walk; \$10/kids 1-mile fun run 12 years & under; \$10/kids 100-yard dash 7 years & under. Register online: 561-279-9103; literacycpbc.org

2/11 - Black History Month Delray Beach: Academic Brain Bowl at Old School Square Field House, 51 N Swinton Ave. 9 am-noon. Free. 561-243-1077; downtowndelraybeach.com

2/11 - Chess on the Intracoastal at Veterans Park, 802 NE 1st St, Delray Beach. Presented by James Chess Club. Refreshments provided. All ages. Held again 2/25. Noon-2 pm. Free. 561-352-7145.

2/11 - Boca Beer Wine & Spirits Festival at

Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Samples of beer/wine/spirits, music, food for purchase, vendors, merchandise. Age 21+. Session 1 1-4:30 pm; Session 2 6-9:30 pm. \$50-\$60/general admission; \$15/designated driver. floridafests.com

2/11 - Inventors Society of South Florida Virtual Meeting. 2nd Sat 1 pm. 1st meeting free. Registration: 561-676-5677; inventorsociety.net

2/11 - A Conversation w/Laura W. Bush & Barbara Pierce Bush at Florida Atlantic University Kaye Performing Arts Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 4 pm. \$35-\$200. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

2/11 - Black History Month Delray Beach: Evening of Excellence Under the Stars at 100 NW 5th Avenue. Local African Americans recognized for achieving excellence in their respective disciplines. 6-9 pm. \$75. 561-243-1077; downtowndelraybeach.com

2/11 - Annual Gala: Good Vibes featuring Belladiva at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 6-11 pm. \$250-\$4,000. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

2/11 - Stones vs. Beatles: The Greatest Show that Never Was! at The Studio at Mizner Park, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. \$45-\$55. 561-203-3742; thestudioatmiznerpark.com

2/11-12 - Plant-a-Palooza: Winter Plant Sale at Mounts Botanical Garden, 531 N Military Tr, West Palm Beach. Sat 9 am-4 pm; Sun 9 am-3 pm. \$15/adult; \$12, senior 65+, college student, military w/l; \$7/age 6-17; free/child under 6. 561-233-1757; mounts.org

FEBRUARY 12-18

Sunday - 2/12 - Valentine's Day at The Studio at Mizner Park, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Rock & Roll Playhouse w/the Sounds of Stevie Wonder. Complimentary cookies for kids; glass of rose champagne for parents. Family fare. Noon. \$17.50-\$20. 561-203-3742; thestudioatmiznerpark.com

2/12 - Exhibit Artists Reception: Uplifting at Artist's Eye Gallery Boutique, 604 Lucerne Ave, Lake Worth Beach. Runs through 3/4. 1-3 pm. Free. 561-586-8666; lwartleague.org

2/12 - Women of Note Chorus presents Music From The Heart at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. 2 pm. \$25/adult; \$15/student. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

2/12 - If Music be the Food of Love w/Astralis Chamber Ensemble part of Music at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 188 S Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 3 pm. \$20/person; free/age 18 & under. 561-276-4541; musicstpauls.org

Monday - 2/13 - The U.S. Legal & Judicial Systems: Everything You Always Wanted To Know About the Law w/Roy Klein at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every M through 3/6 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

2/13 - 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

2/13 - Jazz and Java: Early Jazz and Swing Musical Roots and Development Part 1 at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. Discuss/listen to America's great voices from 1950s to present. Adults. Every M through 3/20 10-11:30 am. \$120. Register: 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

2/13 - Rochelle Walters: Movies, Actors & More 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

2/13 - Brown Bag Speaker Series: Love Notes: A Musical Journey of Love Through Music at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E

Green Markets

Lake Worth Farmers Market every Saturday under the overpass at A1A and Lake Ave, Lake Worth Beach. 9 am-1 pm. Free. 561-547-3100; lakeworthfarmersmarket.com

Delray Beach GreenMarket every Saturday at Cornell Art Museum Front Lawn, 51 N Swinton Ave. Fresh local produce, baked goods, gourmet food items, plants, live music, children's activities. 9am-2pm. 561-276-7511; delraycra.org/green-market

Lantana Green Market every Sunday at the Lantana Recreation Center, 418 S Dixie Hwy. 10 am-2 pm. 561-515-9919; shorelinegreenmarkets.com

Mizner Park Farmer's and Artisans' Market every Sunday at 327 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 10 am-5 pm. 561-362-0606; miznerpark.com

Ocean Ave. Adults. Noon. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

2/13 - Alexei Navalny & the Challenge of Political Reform in Russia w/Andrew Kahn 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

2/13 - Guided Discussion: Sex, Drugs, & Poetry: The History of the Illicit Poetics w/Kate Polak at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every M through 3/6 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$100/member; \$130/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

2/13 - Gmail Basics Class at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

2/13 - The History of African American Teachers in the Civil Rights Movement w/Dr. Candace Cunningham at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 6-7 pm. Free. 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

2/13 - 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

2/13 - iMordecai (2022) at IPIC Theaters, 25 SE 4th Ave, Delray Beach. Part of Donald M. Ephraim Palm Beach Film Festival presented by MorselLife. 6 pm. Tickets: 561-867-3109; dmepbfff.org

2/13 & 15 - Auditions: Newsies (Adults) at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Production dates 4/14-30. 7 pm. First come first served. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

Tuesday - 2/14 - An Hour to Kill Mystery Book Club: Bad Fruit by Ella King 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

2/14 - The Lives and Sounds of Simon & Garfunkel w/PinkSlip Duo at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

2/14 - Great Decisions Foreign Policy Lectures: Global Fame at Florida Atlantic University Kaye Performing Arts Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 4 pm. \$25. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

2/14 - Hand Crafted Greeting Cards at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Create custom greeting cards. Adults. 6-8 pm. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

2/14 - The Space Between Us by Thrity Umrigar part of Tuesday Book Group at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

2/14 - Members Love Art Party at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Limited seating. 6:30-8 pm. \$35/non-member. Reservations: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

2/14 - Violinist Simone Porter at Flagler Museum, One Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. Part of Flagler Museum Music Series. 7 pm gates open; 7:30 pm concert begins. \$75. Tickets: 561-655-2833; flaglermuseum.us

2/14 - The Winds of Romance at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$10-\$20. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

2/14 - 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 - 2/15 - League of Women Voters Hot Topics Discussion: Joe Ann Fletcher - Dress for Success: The Road to Resilience at Mel's Way Bistro, 3536 Via Poinciana, Lake Worth. 11 am-1 pm. \$35/lunch. RSVP by 2/8: 561-276-4898; lwvpsc.org

2/15 - The Rothschild Dynasty: From Rags to Riches w/Ralph Nurnberg 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

2/15 - Film for Black History Month: Home of the Brave (2004 NR) at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

2/15 - Town Hall Talk: The Civil War in South Florida at The Schmidt Boca Raton History Museum, 71 N Federal Hwy. Speaker Rodney Dillon, VP of Past Perfect Florida History. 6 pm check-in/refreshments; 6:30 pm lecture. \$10/guest. 561-395-6766 x100; bocahistory.org

2/15 - Heritage Lecture: Civil Rights in the Sunshine State at Delray Beach Historical Society, 3 NE 1st St. Live on-line presentation from curator Michelle Hearn. 6:30 pm. Free. 561-274-9578; delraybeachhistory.org

2/15-19 - All Things Equal: The Life & Trials of Ruth Bader Ginsburg at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. W/Th/Sat/Sun 2 pm; F/Sat 7:30 pm. \$49. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

Thursday - 2/16 - 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

2/16 - Laser Cutting w/Glowforge Class at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 10 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

2/16 - Celebrating African American Architects: A Discussion at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 10:30-11:30 am. Free. 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

2/16 - Diego Velasquez: From Baroque Master to Impressionist Mentor w/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

2/16 - Writers' Workshop presented by National League of American Pen Women at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Bring pen & notebook. Adults. 2-3:30 pm. Free. Registration: 266-0196; delraylibrary.org

2/16 - The Society of Presidential Descendants w/Clifton Truman Daniel at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$35/member; \$40/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu



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2/16 - Lecture: Historical Novelist Donna Scott at J. Turner Moore Memorial Library, 1330 Lands End Rd, Manalapan. Part of J. Turner Moore Memorial Library Lecture Series. 6-8 pm. 561-3883-2541; manalapan.org

2/16 - Tacos, Tequila & Tennis at Delray Beach Stadium & Tennis Center Hospitality Pavilion, 201 W Atlantic Ave. Benefits Love Service Autism non-profit. All tickets include general admission seating. 6-8 pm. \$90-\$110 + tax. 561-330-6000 x1; am.ticketmaster.com/matchpoint/tacosandtequila

2/16 - Evening of Jazz: Dr. Courtney Jones & FAJO Chamber Jazz at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Limited seating. 7-8:30 pm. \$20/member; \$30/non-member. Reservations: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

2/16 - Music Americana: The Songs of Greenwich Village w/Rod MacDonald at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7-9 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

2/16-26 - Mr. Swindle's Traveling Peculiarium & Drink-Ory Garden at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Th-Sat 7 pm; Sat 4 pm; Sun 2 & 5 pm. \$50-\$90. 941-445-7309; mrswindles.com

Friday - 2/17 - 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

2/17 - Workshop: Beginning Portrait Drawing at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$40. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org

2/17 - Black Youth Awareness Art Festival at The Spady Cultural Heritage Museum, 170 NW 5th Ave, Delray Beach. Features CAPE Universal, live music, poetry/spoken word, dance, artwork by local youth, local vendors. 4-9 pm. Free. 561-278-8883; spadmuseum.com

2/17 - Friday Flicks: Minions, Rise of Gru 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

2/17 - Bonfire on the Beach at Lake Worth Casino & Beach Complex, 10 S Ocean Blvd. Bring beach chairs/blankets. 6-10 pm. Free; metered parking. 561-533-7395; lakeworthbeachfl.gov

2/17 - Renegade: A Tribute to Classic Rock at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$40-\$45. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

2/17-19 - Polaroid Stories by Naomi Iizuka at Florida Atlantic University Studio One Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Runs through 2/26. F/Sat 7 pm; Sat/Sun 2 pm. \$25/general public; \$18/faculty/staff/alumni. 561-297-6124; fauevents.universitytickets.com

Saturday - 2/18 - Tree Planting Event at Plumosa School of the Arts, 2501 Seacrest Blvd, Delray Beach. City of Delray Beach partners w/Community Greening. Volunteers help plant 100 trees. Held again 3/4. 9-11:30 am. Registration: communitygreening.org

2/18 - 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 & well-behaved. 9 am-noon. Free. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

2/18 - Workshop: Paint Your Pet Portrait at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 11 am-3 pm. \$110. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org

2/18 - Valentine's Date Night at The Studio at Mizner Park, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Purple Piano: A Celebration of Prince. Complimentary glass of rose champagne. 2 & 7:30 pm. \$40-\$50. 561-203-3742; thestudioatmiznerpark.com

2/18 - Film & Discussion: The Orchid Seller (El Vendedor de Orquideas) 2016 at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 3-5 pm. \$8/member; \$15/non-member. Reservations: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

2/18 - Story Central: Conversations in Color at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 4-5:30 pm. Free. 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

2/18 - Christine Andreas: Love Is Good at The Wick Theatre & Costume Museum, 7901 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. 8 pm. \$75-\$85. Reservations: 561-995-2333; thewick.org

2/18-19 - 3rd Annual Downtown Delray Beach Craft Festival at 330 E Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. 10 am-5 pm. Free. 561-746-6615; artfestival.com

2/19 - Friends Speaker Series: Hillsboro Inlet Lighthouse & the Preservation Society That Maintains It w/Ralph Krugler at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 11:30 am-1 pm. Free. 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

2/19 - Boynton Beach Gold Coast Band: Music Making America at Boynton Beach First Baptist Church, 301 N Seacrest Blvd. 3 pm. \$10/adult; free/child 12 & under. goldcoastband.org

2/19 - Story Central Storytelling Slam at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 4-5:30 pm. Free. 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

2/19 - The Joyann Parker Band at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7-8:30 pm. \$35-\$40. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

Monday - 2/20 - Presidents' Day

2/20 - The Jewish Diaspora: Morocco, Spain, Cuba, & Argentina w/Helene Herman at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every M through 3/13 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

2/20 - Virtual Speaker: Mehrdad Nojoumian, Ph.D. associate professor College of Engineering and Computer Science, Part of FAU Research in Action Series; Via Zoom. 1 pm. Free. Registration: fau.edu/research/community/research-in-action

2/20 - Poetry Night at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 3rd M 8-10 pm. \$5-\$10. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

2/20-22 - Lunchbox Matinee: Funny Women of A Certain Age at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 12:30 pm. \$49. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

Tuesday - 2/21 - Crafting for Fun & Small Business: Design a Pet T-Shirt at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 1-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

2/21 - Appy Hour: eBooks at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

2/21 - Fun at the Food Network w/Bill Boggs 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

2/21 - Great Decisions Foreign Policy Lectures: Iran & the Gulf States at Florida Atlantic University Kaye Performing Arts Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 4 pm. \$25. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

2/21 - Heritage Lecture: "Vintage Tweets! - Suffrage Era Postcards" at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Presented by Delray Beach Historical Society. 6 pm. \$12/non-members. 561-274-9578; delraybeachhistory.org

2/21 - Intermediate Sewing Projects at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Requires previously completed beginner's class. Adults. 6-8 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

2/21 - Summit Piano Trio at Flagler Museum, One Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. Part of Flagler Museum Music Series. 7 pm gates open; 7:30 pm concert begins. \$75. Tickets: 561-655-2833; flaglermuseum.us

2/21 - 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 - 2/22 - Secrets of the Touch Pad at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 10-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

2/22 - Lantana Town Library Ribbon Cutting at 205 W Ocean Ave. Community celebration: food trucks, bounce house, DJ, face painting, story times, petting zoo w/hands-on demonstration, goody bags. Noon. Free. 561-540-5740; lantana.org/library.

2/22 - Film for Black History Month: Rejoice & Shout (2010 PG) at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

2/22 - Microsoft Excel Advanced Class at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

2/22 - Town Hall Teatime - Fun in the Sun: What Did Boca Raton Pioneers Do Pre-TV at The Schmidt Boca Raton History Museum, 71 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. 2 pm. \$10/non-member. 561-395-6766 x100; bocahistory.org

2/22 - Quo Vadis European Union? The History of the European Union & its Challenges as a 21 Century Global Actor w/Claudia Dunlea 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

Thursday - 2/23 - The Sacred Scribe: Creative Writing for Adults at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. Every Th through 5/18 10 am-noon. \$360. Registration: 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

2/23 - Video Editing w/Adobe Premiere Pro at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 10 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

2/23 - Acting for Adults Class at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. Every Th through 5/18 12:30-2:30 pm. \$360. Registration: 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

2/23 - The New Promised Land: The Migrants & Refugees in Germany w/Nettie Isaacs 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

2/23 - Funniest Jewish Moments in Movies & Television w/Al Kustanowitz at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

2/23 - Rock the Plaza at One Boynton, 1351 S Federal Hwy. Live music, activities, food offerings from restaurants in the plaza. 5-9 pm. Free. 561-600-9097; boyntonbeachcra.com

2/23 - Concert: Roberta Rust - Classical Piano at Highland Beach Library, 3618 S Ocean Blvd. 5:30 pm. Free. 561-278-5455; highlandbeach.us

2/23 - Museum Documentary: National Gallery at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 6-8 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

2/23 - Authors Speak: Dr. Jasmine Cobb - New Growth: The Arts & Texture of Black Hair at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 6-8 pm. Free. Registration: 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

2/23 - 15th Annual Dr. Eric H. Shaw Concerto & Aria Competition Winners' Concert at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$5-\$10. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

2/23 - Free Concert: Crossfire Creek at Old School Square Pavilion, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 6:30 pm gates open; 7:30 pm concert 7:30. Free. 561-243-6209; delraybeachfl.gov/parksandrecreation

2/23 - Celebrity Housewives Invade Delray Beach featuring Jill Zarin at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 7:30 pm. \$50-\$75. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

Friday - 2/24 - Exhibition: The Power of Portraits 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

2/24 - Free Small Business Resources: An Introduction at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 3-4:30 pm. Free. Register: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

2/24 - 2023 Spin for Kids at Palm Beach Gym, 7561 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Benefits Boys & Girls Club of Boca Raton. 45-minute class w/ Road House Cycle; drinks, snacks, raffle drawing follow. 5-5:20 pm registration; 5:30 pm class starts. \$100/person; \$25/1 additional raffle ticket. 561-683-3287; bgcpbc.org

2/24 - Lance Lipinsky In Concert at The Wick Theatre and Costume Museum, 7901 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. 6 pm dinner; 8 pm show 8. \$200. Reservations: 561-995-2333; thewick.org

2/24-25 - Italian Bred at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 8 pm. \$32.50-\$40. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

Saturday - 2/25 - Tree Planting Event at Intracoastal Park, 138 Harbors Way, Boynton Beach. Volunteers help plant 50 trees. 9-11:30 am. Registration: communitygreening.org

2/25 - Art in the Alley: Volunteer Artists Paint Murals at SE 2nd St between 3rd & 4th Avenues, Delray Beach. Opening reception w/ final panels installed 3/5 at 4 pm. 11 am-dusk. 561-699-7899; aetinthealley.org

2/25 - Blues Legend John Primer at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$45-\$50. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

2/25 - Sarge at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 8 pm. \$40-\$50. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

2/25 - 31st Annual South Florida Political and Historical Collectibles Show at Lake Worth Christian School, 7592 High Ridge Rd, Boynton Beach. Dealers selling campaign buttons, ribbons, sheet music, autographs and other political and historical collectibles. Free appraisals of political items w/ pd admission. 9 am-3 pm. \$5/adults; free/children 12 & under. 561-801-3301; trbuttons@aol.com

2/25-26 - 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

2/25-26 - Lake Worth Beach Street Painting Festival at Lake & Lucerne Avenues, Downtown Lake Worth Beach. streetpaintingfestivalinc.org

FEB. 26-MARCH 4

Sunday - 2/26 - Music in the Museum: Anita Graef, cello & Julian Graef, violin & viola 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

2/26 - Delray String Quartet: Classical Romanticism part of Music at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 188 S Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 3 pm. \$20/person; free/age 18 & under. 561-276-4541; musicstpauls.org

2/26 - Faculty Recital: Kueo-Pei Cheng-Lin, piano at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3 pm. \$10-\$20. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

2/26 - Jean Caze at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7-8:30 pm. \$35-\$40. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

2/26 - Black History Month Delray Beach: Jam & Jazz at Libby Wesley Plaza, 2 SW 5th Ave. 7-9 pm. Free. 561-243-1077; downtowndelraybeach.com

Monday - 2/27 - Attorney Joseph Karp: Protecting Your Children's & Grandchildren's Inheritance During a Divorce 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

2/27 - Brown Bag Speaker Series: The History & Purpose of the NAACP & its Relevance in 2023 at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Noon. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

2/27 - Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston part of Afternoon Book Group at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. Free. 561-266-0196; delraylibrary.org

2/27 - Create a Flier Using MS Publisher at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 6-7:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

Tuesday - 2/28 - Friends Virtual Book Club: West with Giraffes by Lynda Rutledge 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

2/28 - Great Decisions Foreign Policy Lectures: Climate Migration at Florida Atlantic University Kaye Performing Arts Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 4 pm. \$25. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

2/28 - Crafting in the Library: Paper Quilling at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 6-8 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

2/28 - Cuarteto Latinoamericano at Flagler Museum, One Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. Part of Flagler Museum Music Series. 7 pm gates open; 7:30 pm concert begins. \$75. Tickets: 561-655-2833; flaglermuseum.us

Wednesday - 3/1 - Lunchbox Matinee: Harvey Granat sings Johnny Mercer at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 12:30 pm. \$49. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

3/1 - Town Hall Talk: Village Tweets: Suffrage Era Postcards at The Schmidt Boca Raton History Museum, 71 N Federal Hwy. Speaker Human Civil Rights Activist Carol Crossed. 6 pm check-in/refreshments; 6:30 pm lecture. \$10/guest. 561-395-6766 x100; bocahistory.org

3/1 - Lantana Town Council Debate at Palm Beach Maritime Academy Middle School, 1225 W Drew St., Lantana. 7pm. Free. Residents may email questions for candidates ahead of time. 561-585-8664; info@lantana-chamber.com

Thursday - 3/2 - Multi-Camera Video Streaming w/OBS Studio at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 10 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

3/2 - Traces of the Trade: A Story from the Deep North: Screening & Discussion w/ Tom DeWolf at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

3/2 - How to Start Your Creative Business at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 1:30-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7852; bocalibrary.org

3/2 - Presidents, Jews & Israel w/H.V. Savitch 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

3/2 - The History in Our Backyard: Digging into Florida Archaeology with Katharine Napora at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton.

Every Th through 3/23 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

3/2 - Jill Switzer Book Signing: The Contemporary Singer's Blueprint: From Amateur to Professional and Beyond at Arts Warehouse, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 5-7 pm. \$15. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

3/2 - Football & Black Politics in the African Diaspora w/Dr. Jermaine Scott at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

3/2 - Performance: Pianist Dr. Catherine Lan & Cellist Dr. Claudio Jaffe at J. Turner Moore Memorial Library, 1330 Lands End Rd, Manalapan. Part of J. Turner Moore Memorial Library Lecture Series. 6-8 pm. 561-3883-2541; manalapan.org

3/2 - Workshop: Decorative Elements in Clay at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 6-8 pm. \$60. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org

3/2 - FAU Trombone Studio Recital: The Owlbones at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$5-\$10. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

Friday - 3/3 - Workshop: Color Theory in Practice 5-Week Course at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Every F through 3/31 10:30 am-1:30 pm. \$285. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org

3/3 - The Middle East Peace Process & Israeli-Arab Relations in Changing Times w/Luis Fleischman at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$40/member; \$50/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

3/3 - Festival of the Arts Boca: Fantasia Live w/Orchestra at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. Tickets start at \$15-\$100. 561-571-5270; festivalboca.org

3/3 - Frank Del Pizzo: The Art of Laughter at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$30. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

3/3-5 - Edwards Twins at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 3 pm. \$60. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

3/3-5 - Dial M for Murder at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Runs through 3/12. F/Sat 8 pm; Sat/Sun 2 pm. \$38. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

Saturday - 3/4 - 4th Annual Spirit of Giving Community Spirit Race at Florida Atlantic University Stadium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Light breakfast, kids' zone available. 6:30 am registration opens; 8 am race. 5K run/walk \$35-\$40; 1-Mile Run/Walk \$25-\$30; Virtual 5K \$35. Register: 561-385-0144; spiritrace.org

3/4 - 14th Annual Boating & Beach Bash for People w/Disabilities at Spanish River Park, 3001 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Largest free fun-day event in America for children & adults w/special needs. Boat rides on the Intracoastal Waterway, beach access, sporting events, music, food, dance parties, games, more. 10 am-3 pm. Free. 561-715-2622; boatingbeachbash.com

3/4 - Muscle on the Beach Car Show at Old School Square, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Benefits Sandaway Discovery Center. Hosted by Mike Brewer, The Discovery Channel's Wheeler Dealers. 10 am-3 pm (rain date 3/5). Free/spectators. muscleonthebeach.com

3/4 - 2nd Annual Goodstock Festival at The Outdoor Oasis at Milagro Center, 340 SW 6th Ave, Delray Beach. Live music, entertainment, food, arts/crafts vendors. Rain or shine 1-5 pm. Free; donations appreciated. 561-279-2970; milagrocenter.org

3/4 - 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

3/4 - Festival of the Arts Boca: Voices Rise - Young People's Chorus of New York City at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. Tickets start at \$15-\$100. 561-571-5270; festivalboca.org

3/4 - The Art of Marriage, Dating & Divorce: Rori Sassoon, Isaac Boots & Dr. Nadine Macaluso at The Studio at Mizner Park, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 8 pm. Tickets start at \$79. 561-203-3742; thestudioatmiznerpark.com

3/4 - Anthony Nunziata: Love Songs From Broadway & Beyond at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$45-\$50. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

House of the Month

Designed and built in 2018 to perfection and situated on an expansive lot, this house has stunning views over the manicured grounds and the water.



A gourmet kitchen has snack bar seating, a pantry, and top-of-the-line appliances, countertops, hardware and flooring.



The expansive, custom-fenced grounds offer abundant privacy, heated pool and overflow spa. A 50-foot dock on the Intracoastal has private gate access.

Ocean Ridge house on Intracoastal offers life of luxury



ABOVE: The first-floor primary master wing has a bedroom with private loggia and luxurious bath.

RIGHT: The master closet has an island along with plenty of space for storage and presentation.



Situated on an almost half-acre elevated lot, this estate has more than 220 feet of water frontage with protected dockage. With 6,847 total square feet, this fully furnished home features six bedrooms with a first-floor master suite; a second-floor VIP guest suite with private entrance and kitchen; a second-floor office/bedroom with full bath and balcony, and three additional en suite guest rooms.

A dramatic contemporary stairway with all glass railings and an impressive alcove runs between the two floors.

A decorative driveway leads to an air-conditioned three-car garage outfitted with two Tesla charger stations. Outdoors is an entertainer's delight with a covered loggia and summer kitchen along with ample space for dining. The pool terrace has a living area and plenty of lounging space pool- and spa-side. A complete security system with cameras is installed throughout the property.

As a part of the McCormick Mile community in Ocean Ridge, residents may join the voluntary homeowners association. Membership includes beach access with dune and use of the private beach house overlooking the ocean with kitchen, tables and chairs, showers and bathrooms.

Offered at \$8,259,000. Nicholas Malinosky, Douglas Elliman, 561-306-4597. nicholas.malinosky@elliman.com

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



Boca Raton
1131 Spanish River Road | \$24,950,000
Nick Younker | 440.867.3930



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
18146 Long Lake Drive | \$4,950,000
Matthew Bachrad | 917.628.4021
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