

## Boca Raton



The Eastern spotted skunk rescued at Gumbo Limbo draws a crowd including (l-r) Francesca Manzia, executive director of Lipu Wildlife Recovery Center in Rome, veterinary student Audrey Saint-Marc, and freelance journalist and photographer Irene Alison, as it is released back to its native hammock habitat in Boca Raton. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

## From fumigation to freedom

Little skunk wins hearts along way to recovery

By John Pacenti

In the once-upon-a-time jungle in which we live, where canals and highways long ago tamed the swamp and bulldozers shaped the barrier islands, there lives an elusive creature among the sand dunes and mangroves of Boca Raton: the Eastern spotted skunk.

This is no randy Pepé Le Pew or childlike Flower, our cartoon North Stars for everything skunk. No, this is their smaller inquisitive cousin with no singular stripe. Instead, its black-and-white coat is like a Rorschach test. The skunk is the size of a squirrel and possesses soft, curious eyes.

Living among raccoons, foxes and

feral cats, these little stinkers have made their home in the dunes and mangroves that run along South Beach Park, Red Reef Park and Spanish River Park in Boca Raton.

"I think it's pretty cool," said Jeff Wade, who often walks among the dunes and the mangroves in Boca Raton. "I point them out to people and they say, 'Really, skunks?'"

See **SKUNK** on page 29

## Boca Raton

### First guests 'love' new waterfront park

Ocean Strand offers A1A walkers an inviting retreat

By Steve Plunkett

There was no music, no loudspeakers, no ribbon to be cut.

With almost no fanfare, Ocean Strand Park welcomed its first patrons on Feb. 27.

Clara and Michael Klein, who live on Sweetwater Lane just north of the park, were on their daily walk and became the park's first visitors at about 9:30 a.m.

"There was a ranger opening the gate," Michael Klein said.

"And I said I think they're finally open," said his wife.

"It's pretty nice. It really completes this park system, I think," Michael Klein said.

"We love it," Clara Klein said, adding that the two benches on the Intracoastal Waterway were her favorites. "To me, anything looking at water is ideal."

For the park's first day, the Greater Boca Raton Beach and Park District removed its "No Trespassing" signs and

See **PARK** on page 16

## Gauff, Pegula to team up for USA in Delray Beach



Jessica Pegula of Boca Raton and Coco Gauff of Delray Beach are also doubles partners. **Photo provided**

City part of international event with local players set to compete

By Brian Biggane

Five years after turning professional, Coco Gauff plans to play her first significant hometown tennis event when the Delray Beach Tennis Center hosts a Billie Jean King Cup qualifier April 14-15.

The matches between the U.S. team and Austria are a big catch for Delray Beach. What would be bigger — much bigger — is for the center to land the 12-nation finals, scheduled for November.

Formerly known as the Fed Cup, the largest women's team event in the world annually plays a

See **TENNIS** on page 24



The Tennis Center hosted the Delray Beach Open last month (above) and will have Team USA vs. Austria in the Billie Jean King Cup next month. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

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Classmates  
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**www.thecoastalstar.com**  
The Coastal Star is a monthly newspaper with two editions serving Hypoluxo Island, South Palm Beach, Manalapan, Ocean Ridge, Briny Breezes, Gulf Stream and coastal Delray Beach; Highland Beach and coastal Boca Raton.

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## Coastal Star

# Boca Raton wealth management pro honored for community service

By Faran Fagen

Eddie Ventrice was thrilled to make it through Boca's Ballroom Battle in one piece, without falling, dropping anyone or breaking anything. "It was many weeks of practice leading up to the event, and not knowing exactly how we would fare against the competition was nerve-racking," Ventrice said of the 2019 battle, which he won as top fundraiser.

"To have the support that I did, to give back to the community and be announced the winner was just pure elation, with friends and family cheering me on."

Ventrice, or "Steady Eddie" as he's known to his friends and Boca Raton neighbors, raised more than \$250,000 for the George Snow Scholarship Fund, which benefits college students.

It's one of the many nonprofits the community service devotee has supported while living in Boca Raton with his wife and five children.

Ventrice is a founding member of BV Group, a team with more than \$2 billion in assets under advisement. He has more than 27 years' experience in wealth management, supporting the needs of corporate executives, business owners, multigenerational families and professional athletes.

Ventrice received a community service award during the Snow foundation's Boots & Bling Cowboy Ball event on Feb. 11. But the award won't lead to any break in his fundraising for the organizations that rely on him.

"After many years of working, I can give back to the community," said Ventrice, who turned 60 on Feb. 17. "I'm enjoying the success raising funds from the Ballroom Battle to now Men Giving Back."

The mission of Men Giving Back ([www.mengivingback.org](http://www.mengivingback.org)) is to fund grants to nonprofit initiatives that positively influence South County.

The organization has surpassed Ventrice's "wildest dreams" and continues to grow. It raised \$500,000 last year with 160 members and is on target for 200 members and \$700,000 this year.

"We were able to award grants last year to some of the most deserving nonprofits," Ventrice said. "We also appreciate the opportunity to bring the community together."

Ventrice understands what it means to be a struggling young man. He was born in the Bronx, New York. His parents got divorced, and his mom moved the family to



Eddie Ventrice — at home with his wife, Elyse, and golden retriever, Bronx — works with the George Snow Scholarship Fund and Men Giving Back. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

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Florida, which Ventrice said "was a good move, looking back."

He grew up in Deerfield Beach, and worked at the then Boca Raton Resort and Club, flipping burgers in high school before attending the University of Florida and majoring in accounting.

Today, he's nationally recognized as a top adviser by Barron's, Forbes and Financial Times. Ventrice holds the CPA, CFP and the CIMA designations through Wharton School of Business, University of Pennsylvania.

His favorite pursuit is using his position to help young men faced with similar challenges to his own. Boca's Ballroom Battle and Snow foundation provide this purpose.

"It's a great charity," Ventrice said. "The money raised sends many deserving children to college. I relate to this since I came from the same background and had to pay for my college with student loans and working 30

hours a week in college."

In 2019, becoming a dancer in Boca's Ballroom Battle was "so much work," he says. When a friend finally persuaded him, he immersed himself in it. He took dance lessons three times a week for five months, concentrating and practicing the routine nearly every day.

He said the attributes that have contributed to his prowess in the community are love, people, passion and drive.

"I laugh every day and I enjoy meeting people from all different diverse backgrounds," Ventrice said. "Anyone that knows me can tell you that I do have a very serious side, but I'm also able to find the humor and the fun of everyday life. I love interacting with my clients — most I have known for years."

Ventrice's hobbies are travel, pickleball, tennis, golf, food, wine and reading.

His wife, Elyse, and their five children — Alec, Zach, Taylor, Chase and Cole — like to travel together. They also enjoy relaxing with a movie on the couch and playing basketball, tennis or chess.

Before founding the BV group, Ventrice was a practicing CPA. ★

## Editor's Note

### With much at stake, voters face hard choices

When it seems as if there are more election signs lining the street than the number of people likely to vote, it must be municipal election season. When police are called, lawsuits are filed and social media allegations fly, residents discover just how much nastiness and divisiveness there can be in our beautiful and affluent area.

And why is that? What has turned our communities into boiling cauldrons of bitterness and aggression this spring?

It's hard to pinpoint — and this may be a generalization looking at ballot choices in five municipalities — but most of it comes down to money and power. Yes, people have thin skin and feel they've been insulted or mistreated, wedge issues get inserted to confuse and divide the electorate, and government finds it difficult to operate in the tug-of-war leading up to election day (some employees even quit).

There's some predictability to each of these things. What's disturbing is that there are people — most working behind the scenes — who will do almost anything to control the makeup of each commission for their own special interests.

And it's not hard to do. In most towns and cities all it takes is a 3-2 vote to change the character of where we live.

This March 14 election it seems no one is running alone: Candidates either have endorsements from other commissioners or are running as teams. Neither scenario gives voters confidence their elected officials will listen to their needs without political pressure. And yes, politics creates odd bedfellows with one side often forcing the hand of the other; but no matter how well-intentioned it is, there almost always is a payout at some point.

We've seen it happen all around us, especially in our larger cities.

As voters in a nonpartisan election, it's our responsibility to look beyond who lives in our neighborhood or condo, belongs to our club, comes to our cocktail parties, or supports the same nonprofit organizations.

There are costly issues looming for each of our municipalities: an independent fire station, aging water plants, septic to sewer conversion, sea wall repairs and most important, rising sea levels and increased flooding that endanger homes and public safety response times.

With growing population pressure in fast-developing South Florida, we need to ask our candidates if they are willing to let the residents vote on big-ticket initiatives or lifestyle-changing legislation. If they tell you no, it's not necessary, they were elected "by the people" to make the big decisions, challenge them.

They know making lifestyle-changing decisions on their own isn't the most open way to govern. It's just the easiest way to achieve their personal goals — or those of their supporters. Push them on their goals and motivations. Look at who endorses them — or funds their campaigns — and ask yourself how they, too, stand to gain. That is sometimes the best tell of all.

Granted, it's difficult to be an informed voter in today's divided and politicized climate. At best it requires pulling our boots out of the mud, sorting through the fog of campaigning and voting for the candidates most likely to support the long-term preservation of our community.

Or at worst, we can decide our future by not asking the hard questions and simply going out and counting the yard signs.



— Mary Kate Leming, Editor

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**Boca Raton**

# Council gives thumbs-down to parking meters at library

By Mary Hladky

Parking meters will not be installed in the Brightline station garage and nearby surface parking, at least for now.

City Council members on Feb. 14 rebuffed a city staff recommendation to install meters intended to prevent Brightline passengers from commandeering free parking spaces set aside for Downtown Library patrons.

The construction of the Brightline station and 455-space garage adjacent to the library eliminated a major portion of the parking lot that had been used by library patrons.

To make up for that, a portion of the parking garage was set aside for their use at no cost.

But with the launch of Brightline service to Boca Raton in December, city staff feared that passengers would grab the free spots to avoid Brightline parking fees. Parking outside the free spots costs \$7 if purchased with a train ticket in advance or \$15 without advance purchase.

While that apparently hasn't happened yet, City Manager Leif Ahnell warned it could become a problem as Brightline increases the number of trains stopping at the Boca station and later this spring begins offering service to Orlando. Both are expected to increase Brightline ridership.

Under the staff proposal, library users would park in one of about 240 metered spaces in the garage, in remaining surface spaces on the north and east sides of the library and in a new surface parking area between Northwest Fourth and Third streets south of the library.

After parking, they would go to a kiosk in the library, punch in their parking space

number and be validated for free parking. The process was intended to be quick and easy.

But the idea drew immediate objections from some council members and Friends of the Boca Raton Public Library.

Friends treasurer Cyndi Bloom said that when she has used the garage, only about two other cars were using the library parking spaces. Brightline riders exiting the trains are using spaces in Brightline's section of the garage, she said.

"What problem are we trying to resolve?" she asked. "I am pleading with you, take your time and think this through."

The installation of meters would give library users the impression they now must pay to park, she said.

She also foresaw problems when a large number of people attend special events at the library, such as a line of people waiting to use the kiosk.

Asked if any library patrons have complained about not being able to park in the free spots, Deputy City Manager George Brown said he had not heard of any.

Yvette Drucker was the only council member who agreed with city staff that library users likely will face problems parking as Brightline ramps up operations.

Deputy Mayor Andrea O'Rourke urged staff not to rush to install meters and instead add signage to make clear who should park where. Council members Monica Mayotte and Fran Nachlas agreed.

"I don't want to make our library patrons' life miserable," Mayotte said. "It should be easy for them."

With the consensus clear, the council voted unanimously not to consider the proposal for now. The council can revisit it if warranted. ★

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**Boca Raton**

**Mizner Park facing sale, possible redevelopment**

By Mary Hladky

Mizner Park is for sale. Its owner, Brookfield Properties, offered to sell the iconic downtown retail and restaurant destination in October.

At least three potential buyers want to acquire the property, said Glenn Gromann, a former Boca Raton Planning and Zoning Board member who has seen the offering memorandum and is keeping abreast of developments.

While he could not disclose their names, Gromann said in late February that Brookfield is close to making a decision.

The Real Deal newsletter, which first reported on the sale, said offers have been submitted for as much as \$290 million.

Gromann said he thought

the property — which contains 255,168 square feet of retail, 250,000 square feet of office space and a 272-unit apartment building — could command an even higher price.

“People who want to buy it would do so for redevelopment,” he said.

A spokesman for Brookfield did not respond to an email from *The Coastal Star* asking why the company wanted to sell now and what offers it had received. Danny Finkle, the broker on the sale who is senior managing director of the Miami office of the commercial real estate services company JLL, also did not respond.

Mizner Park last went on the market in 2016, but it was pulled off after pricing fell short of expectations, *The Palm Beach Post* reported at the time.

Brookfield owns most of the buildings in Mizner Park. Boca Raton's Community Redevelopment Agency owns the land underneath them and Brookfield leases it.

The resolution of litigation between the city and Brookfield, in which Brookfield prevailed, might have played a role in the company's decision to seek a buyer for Mizner Park now.

In 2016, Mizner Park was owned by General Growth Properties. New York-based Brookfield, which had owned about one-third of GGP, gained full control in 2018 for \$9.25 billion.

At the time Mizner Park was developed, the city granted whoever owns the buildings on a large portion of the land the right to purchase that land, beginning in 2016.

Brookfield notified the CRA in 2018 that it was considering exercising the option to buy. But before it did, it wanted to be certain that the company and the city were in agreement on how to calculate fair market value.

Brookfield wanted the fair market value to be low, based on current Mizner Park buildings and tenants. That would result in a low purchase price.

The city wanted the fair market value to be high, based on how the property could be redeveloped. That would mean a higher purchase price and more revenue for the city.

When the two sides could not resolve the matter, Brookfield sought a judge's interpretation of the land lease agreement.

A circuit judge's ruling in favor of Brookfield created certainty for potential Mizner Park buyers. The Fourth District Court of Appeal upheld that ruling one year ago. The Florida Supreme Court declined to hear the matter. ★



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**Gulf Stream**

**Vote delayed on school enrollment cap, giving public another chance to comment**

By Steve Plunkett

Town commissioners postponed for a second time their vote on Gulf Stream School's request to boost its enrollment, but they hope to turn the delay into a teaching moment on civic involvement.

Dr. Gray Smith, head of the school, won permission on Jan. 13 to raise the limit from 250 students to 300 for this school year. But Gulf Stream commissioners held off on making the higher student cap permanent without more input from residents and promised to alert them via newsletter.

The six-page newsletter dated Feb. 2 was signed by Mayor Scott Morgan and was packed with information on the town's accomplishments, but made no mention of the school's request. That prompted one resident to contact Assistant Town Manager Trey Nazzaro, asking to be part of the discussion.

"This individual said I know that a few residents have concerns and would like to be included in the conversation. So, it wasn't 'I oppose it, I think it's a bad idea,'" Nazzaro told commissioners at their Feb. 10 meeting.

He also noted that Smith's request to raise the enrollment cap was reported in *The Coastal Star*.

Commissioner Paul Lyons, whose grandchildren attend the school, said townspeople should keep themselves better informed.

"If a resident wants to know what's going on they should be looking at the agenda," he said. "We're not going to send them a letter every time that something's going to come up."

Morgan agreed. "Every time there's a contentious issue, we can't be tabling it," he said.

Morgan had attended a gathering the night before where he said "everybody was talking about it. So informally at least the word has gotten out."

But Commissioner Thom Smith, who as a school trustee in 1994 helped negotiate the 250-student cap, said he too had heard from people, "and it wasn't all positive."

"I'm not saying they're outraged," he said. "I think

that maybe they would like the chance to come speak."

Commissioners agreed to table the vote until March 10 and to send each household a postcard after Lyons suggested that the mailing teach residents how to keep up with the town's decision-making.

"If we could just educate people on, procedurally, if you want to know what's going on, A-B-C, so they don't say I didn't know; i.e., look at the agenda, if you missed the meeting you can see the videos, et cetera, et cetera. So people understand how they can stay in touch with the town."

Commission agendas are posted outside Town Hall and online at [www.gulf-stream.org](http://www.gulf-stream.org); the commission generally meets at 9 a.m. on the second

Friday of the month; videos of the meetings are available on YouTube.

The school has 293 children enrolled this year. Gray Smith said it needs 300 to make a "modest" budget surplus. He also wants to erect a food storage building to be able to offer on-campus lunches.

"Gulf Stream School is committed to being a uniquely small community school and to being the best neighbor that we can possibly be to everyone in this neighborhood," Gray Smith said.

In other action, commissioners heard a presentation on placing license plate recognition cameras in the town and will consider a formal proposal at their March meeting. ★

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## Along the Coast

# Gulf Stream hires away Ocean Ridge's police chief

By Steve Plunkett

Richard Jones will leave his job as Ocean Ridge's police chief by May 11 to take the same position in nearby Gulf Stream.

Gulf Stream town commissioners approved the new hire Feb. 10. His two-month-old contract with Ocean Ridge requires him to give up to 90 days' notice, Jones said.



Jones

"I have already started to look for a replacement to fill the position that I am vacating so I can move that process along as quickly as possible," he said. "I could potentially start sooner depending on what type of replacement I have and what kind of transition we think is necessary."

Jones, who wore a business suit to the Gulf Stream meeting rather than a uniform, said he would solve the problem of recurrent vacancies in Gulf Stream's 14-officer police force by building morale and making it "the go-to law enforcement agency in the county."

"We should be the agency that everyone else is looking to, not only to see what we're doing operationally and with our vision, but also what we're doing with our technology and how we treat our staff," he said.

He would boost morale, he said, "through a method that I believe in — being a worker, not just a police chief."

"I believe in putting my feet on the ground and doing what I ask my officers

to do, to demonstrate to them that I'm with them every step of the way. ... It makes them realize that there's value in their leader and I'm not asking them anything that I'm not willing to do."

Jones, whose duties in Ocean Ridge include being police chief for Briny Breezes, also said he would be proactive in recruiting and expand Gulf Stream's searches for potential hires to military veterans and law enforcement agencies beyond the local area.

Commissioners unanimously approved Jones' hiring.

"We're delighted to have you and congratulations on your appointment," Commissioner Thom Smith said.

Mayor Scott Morgan said he spoke with Ocean Ridge Mayor Susan Hurlburt "and while they are sorry to lose him, she could not have been more enthusiastic in her praise of his skill, his vision, his energy, his administrative skills and his ability to take Gulf Stream, as she said, and move our Police Department legitimately into the 21st century."

Jones, whose departure came as a shock to Ocean Ridge officials, said he was not actively looking for a job until he learned that Gulf Stream planned to look outside its department for candidates to replace retiring chief Ed Allen.

Jones, 42, is coming to Gulf Stream with 25 years of experience, the last eight in Ocean Ridge, where he rose from road patrol to chief and in 2020 was named the town's employee of the year.

He and his wife, Erin, make their home in Port St. Lucie. They have two sons: Michael, 22, a Marine veteran, and

Matthew, 17, a high school student.

Ocean Ridge gave Jones a three-year contract on Jan. 9 after he had been its chief for more than 16 months. His pay there is \$115,763 a year. His salary in Gulf Stream will be negotiated.

Allen, who worked in Gulf Stream almost 35 years, announced in early December that he would leave the department on Jan. 31. He was paid \$143,771 annually.

Town Manager Greg Dunham said that he received inquiries and résumés about the job from a Palm Beach County sheriff's command officer in Wellington, a Delray Beach police lieutenant and a Gulf Stream police sergeant. He explored hiring a headhunter firm for \$25,000 to \$35,000 and using the Florida Police Chiefs Association for a \$10,000 or \$20,000 search.

As he did that, the town was approached by Jones. Dunham, Morgan and Assistant Town Manager Trey Nazzaro met with Jones for about two hours, Dunham said.

"I found the chief to be intelligent, motivated, experienced and creative with a high level of integrity, diplomacy and sensitivity," Dunham said.

Jones' résumé package included thank-you notes and letters of commendation dating back to 1999 when he was a public safety dispatcher in Clewiston.

In 2015 his predecessor, Ocean Ridge Police Chief Hal Hutchins, commended Jones for performing a plainclothes surveillance at Oceanfront Park after a number of cars had been burglarized.

"Based on your tenacity, caring

and dedication to duty, you effectively apprehended a subject responsible for a small wave of crime at the Boynton Oceanfront Park, thereby enhancing the safety of the public," Hutchins wrote.

And in 2021 John Mitchell stopped by the police station for help gathering details surrounding the death of his mother, Ocean Ridge resident Eileen Pettus, after a car accident in Melbourne.

"I was fortunate enough to meet with Lieutenant Richard Jones who offered me, not only his heartfelt condolences, but invaluable insight into how I might proceed. ... Never in my 50 years have I encountered an officer so kind and empathetic, while offering such incredible help," Mitchell wrote.

Jones started the week of his new hiring by persuading the Ocean Ridge Town Commission on Feb. 6 to approve one-time pay raises and benefits increases for his 15 officers for the rest of the year in an effort to attract more officers and retain current ones.

Jones made the request after compiling a survey that showed Ocean Ridge's officers made drastically less in salary, benefits and health insurance than those on other coastal police forces in Palm Beach County.

Each officer will get a \$7,500 salary bump the rest of the year, a \$5,000 lump-sum vehicle reimbursement payment and a 50% health insurance match. Money for the changes will come from \$213,186 that was freed up by freezing two vacancies. ★

Joe Capozzi contributed to this story.



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## Highland Beach

# FDOT to offer public more details about planned A1A repaving

By Rich Pollack

Engineers and others from the Florida Department of Transportation came to Highland Beach in late August to field questions about a repaving project on State Road A1A that is expected to cause major traffic disruptions from spring 2024 until well into 2025.

With plans not fully developed at the time, the FDOT team pledged to return to share the latest information with residents who will be impacted by the \$8.8 million project that will stretch from just south of Linton Boulevard to the Boca Raton border with Highland Beach.

Now the FDOT is inviting residents to a public open house of sorts, set for 6 to 8 p.m. March 13 at the town's library, where plans for the project will be on display.

This time, however, the format will be quite different, with no formal presentation and no questions directed to a panel of engineers, landscape architects and others. Instead, FDOT representatives will have as many as a half-dozen illustrations of project designs placed throughout the room with a representative at each board available to answer concerns.

"It's more of a hands-on approach," said Brad Salisbury,

an FDOT project manager. "Residents can come in and look at the plans and ask questions one on one."

Salisbury said that the team responsible for the project did listen to some of the recommendations that came out of the August meeting, which included Highland Beach residents and town officials as well as some residents from southern Delray Beach.

"We did try and look at all the suggestions and see what merit they had," he said. "Some are being incorporated."

In addition to resurfacing the more than 3 miles of A1A, the project will include widening the road to incorporate 5-foot

bike lanes on either side of the road.

It will also include drainage improvements that Salisbury said will include digging out swales and putting in rocks and other materials to make it easier for water to percolate through.

Both those elements of the project are likely to affect landscaping currently in the FDOT right of way. Its engineers and landscape architects said efforts will be made to move as many trees as possible but not shrubs. The biggest concern the project is generating is about traffic disruptions, which are unavoidable during roadwork that is expected to start in May 2024 and run for about 18

months.

To help minimize the disruption, the FDOT will place signs at each end of the town aimed at limiting non-local traffic and encouraging drivers to seek alternate routes whenever possible.

The FDOT will also be limiting the length of lane closures to 1,000 feet during the daytime and 2,500 feet at night.

"A lot of resurfacing can be done at night," Salisbury said.

He said he's hoping residents with concerns will make an effort to come to the meeting but he's also open to answering questions from residents by email. He can be reached at [brad.salisbury@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:brad.salisbury@dot.state.fl.us) ★

## Voters asked to submit questions for candidate forum

By Rich Pollack

Highland Beach residents will have a chance to meet the candidates running for Town Commission during a March 7 forum hosted by the League of Women Voters of Palm Beach County.

Set for 6 to 8 p.m. at the town's public library, the forum will have a question-and-answer format — as opposed to a debate — with each candidate having an opportunity to respond to the same question.

Voters are being asked to submit questions in advance either by bringing written questions with them or by filling out cards once they arrive at the library prior to the discussion.

"We want residents to come with questions so the candidates can hear what their concerns are," said Marcia Sherwood, the league's vice president who coordinates candidate forums.

Voters will select one candidate for a full 3-year term

and elect a new commissioner to serve the one year remaining on the seat previously held by Peggy Gossett-Seidman, who resigned to run for state representative.

### Running for the 1-year term

• **Maggie Chappelle**, 66, a real estate broker and former educator who serves as co-chair of the town's Natural Resources Preservation Board. She has been a Highland Beach resident for 38 years.

• **Judith Goldberg**, 77, an attorney for 35 years and a mediator for 27 years, who served as a town attorney in Patterson, New York. She has been a resident for eight years.

• **Peter Kosovsky**, 67, a retired radiologist who also has a background in private land development. He is a five-year Highland Beach resident.

### Running for the 3-year term

• **Donald Peters**, 76, a sporting goods store founder

and former police officer in Yorktown, New York, who served as a town supervisor there from 2007 to 2009. He is a 2½-year resident.

• **John Shoemaker**, 76, a former business executive in the high-tech industry and the incumbent town commissioner since 2020 who previously ran unopposed. He is an 18-year resident of Highland Beach.

During the forum, each candidate will have two minutes to give an opening statement and two minutes for a

closing statement.

In between, candidates will field questions asked by the moderator, league President Kathi Gundlach.

The questions, which will be reviewed by league members, will be sorted by category to avoid redundancy and will focus on issues over which the town has jurisdiction, Sherwood said.

Topics expected to be addressed are: the overall safety of the town and the establishment of a new fire department; state-mandated

recertification of buildings taller than three stories and the state's reserve fund requirements for condo associations; taxes; environmental preservation, and the upcoming repaving of State Road A1A and accompanying drainage improvements.

Doors to the community room where the forum will take place will open at 5:30 for residents wishing to submit questions, Sherwood said. Anonymous questions will not be accepted. ★

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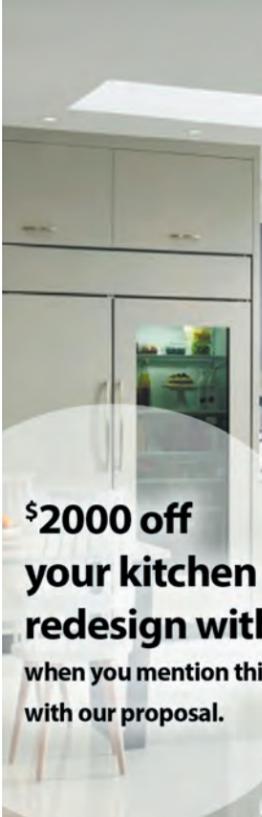
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## Delray Beach

# DDA takes over Old School Square with apology for commission

By John Pacenti

The Delray Beach City Commission voted last month to hand over the reins of Old School Square to the Downtown Development Authority, but not before some additional drama.

Vice Mayor Adam Frankel complained that at a January DDA meeting on Old School Square, members mocked the city, saying it had no choice but to give the authority control

over the city's cultural center.

"When you state you want to collaborate, you work together and you don't demean city staff, you don't demean the city departments and you don't demean the city. You don't demean all five of us," Frankel said.

Frankel, who voted against ending the lease with the nonprofit that ran the historic campus for 30 years, was the lone dissenting vote at the commission's Feb. 7 meeting to

the agreement with the DDA.

"We are negotiating into an agreement with a group that is calling us desperate and that wants us to use millions of dollars in taxpayer dollars — and insulting us on top of it," Frankel said.

DDA Chairperson Mavis Benson apologized to the commission for disrespectful comments made at the DDA meeting.

"That was not one of our board's finest moments," she said. "Our meetings concerning this topic have been robust and they have been full of energy. It has gotten us to where we are today."

She urged commissioners to move past the rhetoric surrounding the removal of the former operators — the nonprofit Old School Square Center for the Arts, Inc. "We can't associate ourselves with the past," she said.

Mayor Shelly Petrolia said

that personal feelings had to be put aside — noting how she and commissioners Juli Casale and Shirley Johnson had been personally attacked for the decision over the last year by people taking the side of the nonprofit.

"When you really stop and look at it, we have to do something great here and these are the people to do it," Petrolia said.

City Attorney Lynn Gelin said an agreement had been made with the DDA where the city did not have to take money from its reserves. The DDA lowered its request from \$1.3 million to \$1 million.

There is still a matter of the March 14 election, though.

Former Planning & Zoning Board member Rob Long is running against Casale and has said he wants to return Old School Square to the nonprofit. So has Angela Burns, who is running for the seat Johnson

is vacating because of term limits.

Petrolia, Casale and Johnson voted to terminate the nonprofit's lease because of financial reporting concerns and its undertaking of renovations to the Crest Theatre without informing commissioners. Supporters of the nonprofit, such as Friends of Delray, have been very vocal with their criticism.

"We have had to sit up here and take for a full year just a battering," Petrolia said. "The thing about it is, when you know you are doing something right and you know you can take something and make it better and leave it better, you do it."

### City gets Palm Trail refuge

At its Feb. 21 meeting, commissioners voted 4-1 to take over a preserve near the Intracoastal Waterway from the nonprofit Conservation Florida. The city will agree in perpetuity never to develop on the land.

The nearly 1.5-acre preserve consists of three properties, fronting the Intracoastal and on the north end of Palm Trail. The preserve had a market value of \$7 million the last time it was appraised, in March 2021.

Petrolia was the lone dissenter.

"What we are doing here is taking on somebody else's problem," Petrolia said.

"I know that area is not ever going to be developed, but we are as a city now going to be assuming all of the problems, the flooding, the things that happen all the time that we get calls about."

Commissioner Ryan Boylston, though, said that the city doesn't have many opportunities to acquire land and that he was in favor of taking over the preserve so the city can control it.

Public Works Director Missie Barletto told commissioners that by owning the property, the city could fix the flooding problems and provide something the city does not have: a non-motorized boat launch. "Some place where people can put in kayaks or paddle boards," she said.

**In other news,** Delray Beach will be the beneficiary of some \$180 million allocated to municipalities for stormwater improvements, including bigger pipes and stronger pumps.

Gov. Ron DeSantis announced in February the most recent Resilient Florida grants. Delray Beach will get \$10 million for Marine Way for sea wall, roadway and drainage improvements. Delray Beach will also receive \$2.5 million for the Thomas Street stormwater pump station. ★



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- Dave Hutchins**, Planning & Zoning Commissioner
- Ron Kirm**, President of Colonial Crown Manor Disposal Systems, Inc.
- Dr. Robert Sloat**, Board of Adjustment Member

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— Ken Kaleel  
Former Mayor of Ocean Ridge

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— Peter Hoe Burling  
Osprey Drive

## Manalapan

# Sewer cost rising and A1A speed limit staying put, commission learns

By Larry Barszewski

Cost estimates on installing a townwide sewer system have increased dramatically as Manalapan's engineering consultant has done additional research on the needed work.

Mock Roos & Associates now estimates it will cost \$17.48 million to install a low pressure sewer system, a 70% increase from the \$10.3 million preliminary estimate it gave town commissioners last year.

And that doesn't include the cost to individual homeowners to connect to the town's sewer lines, which is estimated at between \$40,000 and \$60,000 per property.

At their Feb. 28 meeting, commissioners asked Town Manager Linda Stumpf to get more information about potential funding sources that may be available to the town before it holds any discussions with residents about a sewer system and what they think about the town building one.

Officials have studied installing a sewer system a number of times in the past, concerned that the town eventually may be forced to put one in because of environmental concerns posed by the septic tanks currently in use. The cost has always turned out to be a stumbling block.

Finding out about potential grants that may be available will help commissioners determine — if they decide to build a sewer system — whether to pay for it all at once or do it in pieces.

The Mock Roos plan has three phases that were presented to commissioners:

- \$7.4 million to build the system on Point Manalapan, taking advantage of existing, unused sewer lines on a portion of the Point that were included in the original construction there
- \$600,000 for renovating the town's existing sewer lines that serve the area from Town Hall to the north and that go into South Palm Beach
- \$9.48 million for rebuilding the sewer system for the properties along State Road A1A south of Town Hall.

Commissioners decided they'll move ahead with the repair work for the existing system, which is needed whether or not a new system is installed. The cost covers repairing the current lift station and replacing the sewer force main, which is corroding from the outside.

If commissioners decide to install a sewer system, their current thinking is it would be optional for residents to connect to the system — unless the state later mandates such connections. Each property would need a macerating pump to grind the solid waste and a 1.5-inch diameter pipe to take the waste from the pump to



A 7-foot-tall navigation buoy from Dry Tortugas National Park sat on the beach in Manalapan since the middle of January before it was removed Feb. 24. **Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star**

a roadway connection to the sewer lines.

"The town does its part, then people can hook up as they want," Vice Mayor Stewart Satter said.

The needed residential pumps were going for \$5,000 to \$10,000 a year ago and now run from \$10,000 to \$17,000, Mock Roos consultant Thomas Biggs told commissioners.

### Go-slower request rebuffed

Town commissioners are envious of Ocean Ridge's 25-mph State Road A1A speed limit south of Manalapan and have been hoping to get the 35-mph limit within town reduced.

However, they haven't been able to get officials from the Florida Department of Transportation on the same page.

In a Feb. 3 email to Manalapan Police Chief Carmen Mattox from Rana Keel, a program manager in FDOT's district office, Keel said the department would not be making a change.

FDOT conducted a speed study on the town's portion of A1A Jan. 17 after receiving the town's request and determined a speed limit reduction wasn't warranted. That study found that 85% of drivers on the stretch from East Ocean Avenue south to the Boynton Inlet were traveling at speeds ranging from 30 mph to 38 mph northbound and from 35 mph to 38 mph southbound, Keel said.

As for Ocean Ridge's lower limit south of the inlet, Keel said: "Please note that the speed limit is posted as 25 MPH in this small section of SR A1A so drivers can safely reduce their speed approaching a curved road where the reduced speed is needed."

Mattox has also been in touch with FDOT about flooding concerns near the intersection of A1A and East Ocean Avenue, which experienced heavy flooding in November with the one-two punch from the impact of king tides and Hurricane Nicole.

"We did have some heavy rain at the end of January. This rain did not cause any flooding," Mattox wrote in his February report to commissioners.

"FDOT is still inspecting their system and making repairs to reduce flooding. Lantana Public Works does not believe their system affects the flooding and chose not to inspect or clean out their drainage lines in the beach parking lot."

### Bye-bye buoy

A large buoy owned by the federal government that washed ashore in Manalapan near 1600 S. Ocean Blvd. had been a headache to get rid of for the town before a crew from the Beach Rakers business finally took it off the beach Feb. 24.

"A lot of work went into getting rid of that buoy," Stumpf said.

The 7-foot-tall yellow navigation buoy came from Dry Tortugas National Park in the Florida Keys and landed on the beach here in the middle of January.

"That's a lot of drifting," Mattox said. He didn't have much success coordinating with the national park until he sought help from U.S. Rep. Lois Frankel's office, which got the sides together.

"They came and got it and they put it on a boat and shipped it back to the Tortugas," Mattox said.

### Lands End Road cul-de-sac

Details for replacing the circle in the Lands End Road cul-de-sac were presented to commissioners at their Feb. 28 meeting. The current 30-foot-diameter circle would be replaced by a 16-foot-diameter one, making the cul-de-sac easier for trucks to navigate and making it less likely the circle will be damaged.

Cul-de-sac residents had complained to commissioners in January that the cul-de-sac's circle and its landscaping were getting beat up by traffic overrunning the circle.

The proposal would replace the landscaping in the circle and create a 2-foot-wide strip of pavers around the landscaping, along with a mountable curb that won't be damaged if trucks ride over it.

Commissioners expect to approve a contract for the work in March. ★

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# Boynton Beach

## Judge denies injunction to keep Episcopal school open

By Steve Plunkett

St. Joseph's Episcopal School has lost its bid for an injunction to allow it to continue operating

on the grounds of St. Joseph's Episcopal Church in Boynton Beach while a lawsuit between the parties is resolved. The school claims it has an

oral, 99-year lease to stay where it is, at 3300B S. Seacrest Blvd., until the year 2093.

The church says the school signed a five-year written lease in 2012 and was given a five-year extension that expired last November. Both sides last year agreed to extend the lease until June 30 while the dispute headed to court.

On Feb. 20, Palm Beach County Circuit Judge Bradley Harper came out in favor of the church.

"At this stage of the case, Plaintiffs have not shown that there is a substantial likelihood of success on the merits given the absence of any writing which establishes the existence of a 99-year lease agreement," he wrote, denying the injunction sought by the school and William Swaney, president of its board of trustees and a major donor.

"Further, it appears that the application and interpretation of Canon Law may be necessary to determine the legal rights and obligations of the parties with respect to the lease and operation of the school," Harper wrote.

Lawyers for the school did not reply to an email seeking

comment on Harper's decision.

An outside publicist, Aimee Adler Cooke, responded on behalf of the lawyers for the church.

"We appreciate the court's recognition of the written lease agreement that is in effect between the parties. The legal battle waged by the school has been trying, and we remain hopeful that Judge Harper's ruling will move this matter toward closure for both parties," Cooke said.

Harper has scheduled a Zoom hearing at 8:45 a.m. March 8 on a motion by the church to dismiss the school's case for lack of jurisdiction.

The church's legal team says "numerous Florida and related federal decisions confirm that where a dispute involves matters of Canon Law, internal church organization, or ecclesiastical rule, secular courts lack jurisdiction to resolve the dispute."

In a separate filing, the school's lawyers argue that this doctrine does not apply. "The instant dispute is not a theological dispute," they wrote. "The only connection this case has to theology is that one party is a church."

The school also alleges breach of contract by the church and misappropriation of restricted charitable donations.

The conflict arose last April when the church vestry decided not to renew the school's \$5-a-year lease. Parents of the school's 175 students in pre-K through eighth grade scrambled to find a new place for their children in the coming year.

While the two entities share a name and location on Seacrest Boulevard, the school split off from the church in 1995.

That was a year after Swaney gave the church approximately \$2.5 million worth of stock in his company, Perrigo, "for the express purpose of the church constructing buildings and facilities for use by the school," the lawsuit says.

Swaney, the suit claims, made it clear to the vestry that he was making the gift in exchange for a promise, made orally several times, that the school would never be displaced from the property. The church sold the stock and built a gymnasium, library, classrooms and administrative offices. ★

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- Ocean Ridge Resident 10 years
- Grew up in Delray Beach



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- Protect and enhance Ocean Ridge's "Small Town Charm"
- Continued infrastructure improvement, storm water mitigation
- Smart, managed growth
- Maintaining quality of life through support of Police & Town Staff while consistently updating town services
- Fiscal Responsibility

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Gulf Stream

U.S. appeals court upholds dismissal of O'Boyle First Amendment claim

By Steve Plunkett

"Martin O'Boyle is a Gulf Stream resident who has long disliked town leadership."

So begins an opinion by the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals affirming a U.S. District Court ruling in Gulf Stream's favor that the town did not violate the First Amendment rights of O'Boyle, his son Jonathan O'Boyle and their lawyer William Ring.

The trio sued over what they alleged was retaliation by the town over extensive public records litigation and on appeal argued that they did not need to show a lack of probable cause in order to show retaliation.

But in this case, they did have to show the town did not have probable cause, a panel of three 11th Circuit judges ruled on Feb. 8.

The judges gave a short history of the case, which they called "the third in a saga that chronicles Martin O'Boyle's feud with Gulf Stream and its leadership." After the town denied him a building permit, he painted cartoons on his house ridiculing the mayor and hung signs criticizing town leaders on a truck parked at Town Hall.

He also began filing public records requests. Between 2013 and late 2014, "O'Boyle and his associates filed nearly 2,000 public records requests — many for vague and hard-to-identify topics," the judges wrote.

When the town did not respond in time, O'Boyle or his nonprofit Citizen's Awareness Foundation Inc. would sue Gulf Stream under the state's Sunshine Law.

In 2015, the town launched a three-pronged offensive against the records requests, which had overwhelmed Gulf Stream's small municipal staff. It filed counterclaims in one of the records lawsuits in state court and asked for sanctions against Jonathan O'Boyle and Ring; Mayor Scott Morgan filed bar complaints against the two alleging ethical violations; and the town sued the O'Boyles, Ring and several others in federal court under the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act.

But the Florida Bar declined to discipline Jonathan O'Boyle or Ring and the state court declined to sanction them; the state court also dismissed the counterclaims; and the federal court dismissed the RICO lawsuit.

After a town meeting in September 2015, town police saw Martin O'Boyle trying to write on a bulletin board in the lobby of Town Hall and confronted him to get him to stop.

They began arguing and eventually escorted a noncompliant O'Boyle out of the building.

The state attorney later charged O'Boyle with trespassing and disorderly conduct; a state judge dismissed the trespassing charge in August 2021 and a jury acquitted O'Boyle of disorderly conduct.

The O'Boyles and Ring sued the town for allegedly violating their First Amendment rights via the RICO suit, the bar complaints and Martin O'Boyle's prosecution. The town argued that it had civil probable cause to file the RICO litigation and the bar complaints and that the state attorney had criminal probable cause to prosecute O'Boyle, so the trio could not establish a First Amendment retaliation claim.

The O'Boyles and Ring argued that they did not need to show a lack of probable cause, citing what they considered a similar case, *Lozman v. City of Riviera Beach*, in which the U.S. Supreme Court allowed a false arrest claim to proceed even though probable cause existed to arrest the plaintiff.

The district court at first

denied giving a summary judgment to either side. After the parties agreed to a joint stipulation that the town had probable cause to file the bar complaints and to charge Martin O'Boyle with trespass and disorderly conduct, the district judge granted summary judgment to Gulf Stream. The O'Boyles and Ring appealed.

The 11th Circuit judges said under *Lozman*, along with other elements, where there is "little relation" between the First Amendment-protected expression and the allegedly retaliatory action, a plaintiff must show only that an official act would not have occurred "but-for" the protected expression.

In this case, however, the judges found more than just a "little relation." Gulf Stream filed its RICO complaint and

state-court counterclaims as a direct response to the hundreds of records requests and multiple lawsuits that were draining town resources and manpower, they said. The bar complaints were also closely related to the public records litigation, they said.

And, they wrote, "a layer of independent judgment" was added to the criminal case against Martin O'Boyle when the state attorney pressed charges and not the town police. Case law makes showing "an absence of probable cause" a necessary element of retaliatory prosecution, they said.

The joint stipulation "that there was probable cause to charge Martin O'Boyle with trespass and disorderly conduct was fatal to his retaliatory prosecution claim," they ruled. ★

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of April 1

## PARK

Continued from page 1

unlocked the pedestrians-only gate alongside State Road A1A. An official ribbon-cutting will be scheduled later.

An asphalt path leads from A1A to a picnic area about halfway into the 13.2-acre site. From there, a mulch path goes down to a second picnic table and a sandy kayak landing area with the benches on the Intracoastal. Another asphalt path connects the picnic area to the existing paved road as an alternate route to the Intracoastal shore for bicyclists and for people with disabilities.

"We are excited to see it opened up and with all the foot traffic on A1A, I anticipate lots of people enjoying the park," said Briann Harms, the district's executive director.

Still to come are signs identifying the parcel, located south of Spanish River Park and north of the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, as a park. The district will also install 300 feet of split-rail fence on the property west of A1A as repairs and additions, and 600 feet of new fencing east of A1A to block unwanted all-terrain vehicles from the ocean dunes.

Harms told commissioners at their Feb. 6 meeting that the \$30,685 in fencing was needed.

"We are having some issues on the eastern portion of Ocean Strand with ATVs and motorbikes accessing the dune so we'd like to add split-rail fence on that side," she said. "That obviously has to go through permitting and get surveyed and all that."

Slow permitting by the city building department is partly why the park's signs are not in the ground yet, Harms said. The city's switch to a new electronic system meant some permit tasks in the transition needed to be input manually, she said.

Even before the park opened, Commissioner Craig Ehrnst told his colleagues it was time



Michael and Clara Klein were the first two visitors to Boca Raton's newest waterfront park, walking by just as a park ranger unlocked the pedestrians-only gate at Ocean Strand Park during its 'soft opening' Feb. 27. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

to give consideration to Phase 2 of Ocean Strand.

"We need to finish it out. It was a temporary thing that we did and we've got to visualize what it will be in the long run," he said at the district's Feb. 22 meeting.

"We did it with a let's-just-open-it, let's-just-put-a-pathway-down-there, and it turned into a massive, long-term project for a very limited usage," he said. "There's no parking; there's no restrooms; there's no shelter. There's a big open area that could be useful as some kind of [playing] field. I think that's got to be on the horizon."

The district bought the land, which includes 3 acres on the beach east of A1A, and two

additional parcels for \$13.1 million starting in 1994. It banked the property without creating plans to develop it until Commissioner Erin Wright began a push three years ago to open the park.

Commissioners budgeted \$75,000 to make Ocean Strand a pedestrian park in September 2020. That amount swelled to \$600,000 to add an ADA-compliant path and fully remove exotic plants, then

dropped to \$300,000 when plans were scaled back after archaeologists there found eight pieces of pottery from 600 to 1,400 years old.

Instead of clearing Brazilian pepper trees and other non-native plants from the entire western tract, crews last September focused on the central portion with extra care for the ancient trash heap.

Also freshening up the site will be new pavement for what

was once called Ocean Strand Drive. JJ Morley Enterprises Inc., which is building a three-unit condominium along the Intracoastal just north of the park, paid the district \$15,000 for a temporary easement to stage construction equipment and materials, park vehicles and to enter and leave the area. The easement expired Feb. 28. As part of the deal Morley promised to repave the road. ★

## Boca Raton

### City is evaluating first batch of mandatory inspections for condos

By Mary Hladky

The city has received engineering firm reports on the first group of buildings required to undergo safety inspections under an ordinance enacted two months after the 2021 collapse of a Surfside condominium.

The 14 buildings, all located near the ocean, had to comply by Feb. 1.

As of Feb. 24, 11 of the buildings had submitted reports. Another was expected to comply soon.

If the city does not receive reports from the remaining two in a timely manner, city officials will take action to require them to comply.

A city spokeswoman said the reports are being reviewed by city staff members. They have not released an assessment of the buildings' conditions but may do so after the review is completed, she said.

*The Coastal Star* reviewed reports submitted for eight of the buildings. All cited needed repairs, such as for concrete

restoration, corrosion of mechanical equipment, exposed or corroded rebar and rusted railings.

Because the reports are technical, a reporter could not independently assess the buildings' safety.

But the reports did not seem to indicate severe problems, and several noted that the buildings were in generally good condition. One said that residents could remain in the buildings while repairs are made.

Reports reviewed by *The Coastal Star* were for Sabal Point Apartments, 700 S. Ocean Blvd.; Atrium Association, 800 E. Camino Real; Newth Gardens Condominium at 1001, 1040 and 1099 Banyan Road; Royal Colonial Apartments, 1015 Spanish River Road; Cloister Del Mar Condominium, 1180 S. Ocean Blvd.; Cloister Beach Towers condominium, 1200 S. Ocean Blvd.; Ocean Reef Towers condominium, 2066 N. Ocean Blvd.; and TGM Oceana

apartments, 2519 North Ocean Blvd.

The city has identified 191 buildings that meet the criteria for inspection, although some include multiple buildings. Single-family homes and duplexes are exempt.

Every three months, the city is sending out notices to more owners that their buildings must be inspected. Reports from the next group of buildings are due May 1. Unless changes are made, the last group of reports is due Nov. 1, 2026.

The city's ordinance divides the city into four zones, with buildings on the barrier island receiving the highest priority for review. Other zones run from the Intracoastal Waterway to Dixie Highway, Dixie Highway to west of Interstate 95, and farther west of I-95.

Each zone was further divided into four groups based on building age in order to stagger inspection report due dates. ★

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## South Palm Beach

# Condos will get reminders that short-term rentals are not allowed

By Joe Capozzi

The town's 27 condominiums will get reminders from town officials that Airbnbs, Vrbo and other

short-term rentals are not allowed in South Palm Beach.

Unlike many other Florida municipalities, including nearby Lake Worth Beach, South Palm Beach has never had a problem with a proliferation of short-term rentals because town code allows only rentals of at least 30 days.

The town code is enforceable because it was in effect before state legislators approved a 2011 law that gives broad powers to short-term rentals and prevents most municipalities from regulating them.

Occasionally, a South Palm Beach condo will appear on a short-term rental platform, which happened recently with a unit in the Brittany, just north of Town Hall, at 3575 S. Ocean Blvd.

"My building has some problems with that. We are nipping it in the bud," council member Monte Berendes, who lives in the Brittany, said at the Feb. 14 Town Council meeting.

A condo owner in the building had rented his unit to someone, who then advertised the unit on a short-term rental site, said Berendes, who said the condo owner was out of the country and not aware of what the renter had done.

After residents in the Brittany noticed people they didn't recognize going into the unit in January, the problem was quickly resolved.

But Berendes brought it to the attention of town officials, who agreed with the town attorney's recommendation to remind condo owners about what they can and can't do with their units.

Condo owners who want

to rent their units under town code must have state and county licenses, Town Attorney Glen Torcivia said.

"The tax collector has an aggressive program where she will go online and if she sees you are advertising your house to rent, you're going to get a bill from her," Torcivia said.

### In other business:

- The Town Council agreed to send a letter to Gov. Ron DeSantis in support of the town of Palm Beach's request for the state to eliminate plans for a bicycle lane along a 1.7-mile stretch of South Ocean Boulevard north of South Palm Beach.

The state wants to add a bike lane on the west side of the road between Ibis Way and the Lake Worth Bridge as part of a road resurfacing project. But Palm Beach officials think the bike lane would disrupt ingress and egress of condos along the road and would be counterproductive for bicyclists since there are no bike lanes at Sloan's Curve just north of Ibis Way.

- South Palm Beach has received a \$75,000 grant from the state Department of Environmental Protection for a vulnerability assessment. The town was one of seven Palm Beach County municipalities receiving grants totaling more than \$1.4 million.

The others: Lantana \$167,000, Belle Glade \$200,000, Riviera Beach \$300,000, Lake Clarke Shores \$123,500, Loxahatchee Groves \$350,000 and Mangonia Park \$191,415.

- Palm Beach County sheriff's deputies will conduct a traffic safety initiative March 13-17 to remind motorists heading to and from South Ocean Boulevard to stop and watch for pedestrians and bicyclists on walkways in South Palm Beach.

Motorists who don't stop at the walkways, which are parallel to the road and obscured in some locations by blind spots, will get courtesy reminders.

Deputies will issue citations to repeat offenders.

The initiative, which follows a successful campaign conducted the week of Feb. 20, is meant to "shed more light on pedestrian safety by educating drivers to stop at sidewalks before pulling onto A1A," Sgt. Mark Garrison said.

- The council approved a resident's request to install an aluminum-framed pergola on the roof of 3550 S. Ocean Blvd. When completed, it will be the first such pergola on a condo roof in South Palm Beach. ★

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## Highland Beach

# More than 30 people submit ideas for welcome signs

By Rich Pollack

When Highland Beach leaders decided that the town's aging entryway signs on State Road A1A needed to be replaced, they agreed to ask residents for ideas.

Like their counterparts in many other small communities, Highland Beach commissioners have continuously sought ways to get more townspeople involved and with that in mind the concept of an Entry Sign Design Contest was born.

The idea, however, came with a bit of a risk.

What would they do if only a handful of entries were received, commissioners wondered, or if none of the entries measured up to their expectations?

Late last month, they found out that their gamble paid off as they weeded through more than 30 suggested designs and whittled them down to just five.

Now comes the real test of what might be the closest you can come to small-town democracy at its finest as the town asks residents to vote for their favorite design.

"The turnout for the voting will be indicative of just how successful the community engagement effort is," says Vice Mayor Natasha Moore, who shepherded the contest for the commission.

From now until the end of the month, residents have a chance to vote on the design they think will best represent the town to those entering on A1A from Boca Raton or Delray Beach.



Highland Beach residents will choose from these five finalists in the community's Entry Sign Design Contest. Residents have until the end of the month to cast their votes. **Renderings provided**

Residents who are already signed up to receive emails from the town should have received a ballot of sorts with images of each of the five finalists selected by the commission.

Those who aren't on the mailing list can go to the town's website and sign up. Once they do, they will receive the ballot and can select their favorite design.

A third option is for residents to visit Town Hall where they will have an opportunity to make their selection.

The contest is open only to Highland Beach residents and there is only one vote per person.

Moore said that she was not only pleasantly surprised by the number of designs received but also by the quality and creativity

put into them.

"We were really pleased with the submissions we received," she said. "It is really telling of how much people care about the town and how much they want to contribute to its look and feel."

For commissioners, selecting the five finalists was a challenge, Moore said, since they have a variety of tastes.

Some favored the more corporate-looking submissions while others favored the more creative approaches.

In the end, the decision will be left up to residents who vote on the winner.

The creator of the winning design will receive little more

than bragging rights and perhaps a plaque with his or her name at each entryway acknowledging the contribution — along with the town's gratitude.

In other news, Town Manager Marshall Labadie last month reported that Highland Beach had received long-sought information from Delray Beach about how charges for contracted fire rescue services were calculated.

Labadie added that the town still had questions about the methods used to calculate town costs as it sorted through the financial information and planned to send a letter to Delray outlining those issues. ★

## Better rules on lights likely to be in place for most of turtle season

By Rich Pollack

With sea turtle nesting season now under way, Highland Beach is moving forward with steps to keep nesting females and their hatchlings in the dark.

This month, members of the town's Planning Board will review a proposed ordinance designed to reduce the number of bright lights shining on the beach that force some turtles to make unintended U-turns and crawl back to the water after coming ashore.

Town leaders are hoping to have the ordinance in place by early April.

"The proposed new ordinance gives the town more teeth to encourage residents to be aware of the need to protect sea turtles," said Joanne Ryan, who runs the turtle monitoring program in Highland Beach and is the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's permit holder.

Awareness is a key goal of the proposed ordinance, which would replace one that is vague and difficult to enforce.

"Right now our ordinance is just a few sentences long," said Highland Beach resident Barbara James, who for many years led the turtle monitoring program and who is still involved in the program. "The new ordinance is more specific and should have a positive impact on our endangered and threatened sea turtles."

One species listed federally as endangered is the leatherback, the largest turtle in the world and one of the first species to nest during turtle season in South Florida, which stretches from March 1 to Oct. 31.

At least one leatherback has already nested in Delray Beach, and James said she has seen another close to shore off Highland Beach.

Nesting turtles and their hatchlings face a slew of challenges, from predation

of hatchlings and habitat destruction, with bright artificial lighting being one of the easiest problems to address.

Bright lights, ranging from those coming from condo parking lights or camera flashes, can spook a nesting turtle. Lights from as far away as the west side of State Road A1A can also confuse hatchlings that are naturally attracted east to the water by the light of the horizon.

Ryan and others say that Highland Beach residents are doing a good job of restricting bright lights during nesting season but that the new ordinance should be helpful.

"Most of Highland Beach is very turtle-friendly," Ryan said. "But it's enough of a problem that we want to do something about it."

That's where the proposed ordinance comes in.

Broken into two parts, the ordinance includes restrictions on new construction and remodeling as well as on

existing properties.

Under the proposed ordinance, people building on beach-facing properties will be required to use amber, orange or red lights instead of bright white lights on exterior lighting. Fully shielded lights and downward directed lights will also be acceptable.

There are also restrictions on lights coming from inside a home under construction, with light screens, shades or curtains required. In addition, glass windows on new homes or apartments facing the ocean will be required to be tinted to reduce light by 45%.

"With construction and remodeling, this ordinance will allow us to be more proactive," said Jeff Remas, the town's chief building official.

The proposed ordinance, which also addresses walkway lighting as well as pool area and parking lot lighting, fills gaps left by the vague current ordinance that restricted town

officials to offer only vague instructions to people building or remodeling homes.

The proposed 11-page ordinance also provides similar requirements for existing homes and buildings, which Remas says can in most cases be addressed by replacing bulbs or providing light shields, although there will be cases where additional steps will need to be taken.

The building official, who also oversees code enforcement, said that one of the issues that surfaced in the past is building lights being left on unintentionally either by construction crews or because they were on a timer not adjusted for nesting season.

In most cases, those issues are reported by people on the beach before sunrise and are rectified quickly after contact with owners. ★

Ocean Ridge

Candidates voice differences at election forum

By Joe Capozzi

Three candidates seeking two seats on the Ocean Ridge Town Commission pleaded their cases for election to nearly 100 voters at a candidates forum Feb. 9 at Town Hall.

Mayor Susan Hurlburt, Commissioner Martin Wiescholek and challenger Carolyn Cassidy answered 25 questions over 90 minutes in their only public forum together before the March 14 election.

The questions, submitted by residents, touched on wide-ranging topics from growth management and aging infrastructure to dogs on the beach and the town's building permit process.

Each question was asked by moderator Marcia Sherwood of the League of Women Voters of Palm Beach County and each candidate was given one minute to answer.

Although the format did

not allow for any one-on-one debate, differences among the candidates were apparent in their comments.

"Please understand what is at stake in this election. The building department is under attack," Wiescholek said in his closing statement seeking support for another three-year term.

Cassidy, a member of the town's advisory Board of Adjustment, has been endorsed by two critics of the town's permitting process, commissioners Geoff Pugh and Steve Coz.

"I would like to see some major changes in the building department if I'm elected," she said after describing the current permitting and review process as "onerous and cumbersome" for homeowners and builders.

Hurlburt, who has served on the commission since 2019, agreed that the process can be "incredibly slow" but blamed

that on a lack of staff members. She asked for patience from residents and builders.

"There is absolutely nothing wrong with our building department," said Wiescholek, who credited town staff for following through on Town Commission directives to clean up nuisance properties.

He said the building department enforces rules approved by the Town Commission, which has strengthened the town's building and zoning codes.

"We have people saying 'well, the building department should look at things differently and should be more flexible.' The building department is not there to be flexible. The building department is there to enforce the ordinances that are on the books," Wiescholek said.

"If you don't like what the building department says, come back to the commission, change the ordinance and we'll discuss

it on the dais," he said.

Wiescholek said he would support a charter revision requiring a supermajority vote — four instead of three — on substantial changes to town land development codes.

Hurlburt said she's leaning in favor of that, but is not ready to commit. Cassidy does not support a supermajority vote for such changes.

"Advocating for it suggests you don't have faith in your elected officials," said Cassidy, who ran unsuccessfully for commission in 2021.

Another critique Cassidy repeated during the forum was what she said was a lack of proper communication between commissioners and residents, especially at Town Commission meetings. Current decorum rules at commission meetings do not allow commissioners to respond to remarks made by residents during the public comment segment.

Hurlburt said she tries to direct staff to respond after the meeting to comments made by the public. She also stressed the public is allowed to comment on agenda items, too, and commissioners can respond to those comments while deliberating the agenda item.

Wiescholek said he'd be open to tweaking the rules to allow some interaction, but warned that a full discussion would add length to meetings that at times run close to four hours.

Cassidy said residents who take the time to come to a Town Commission meeting to offer comments deserve a response.

"Otherwise they think no one is taking them seriously and their concerns are not valid," she said. "People make public comments. It goes into the abyss. You never get a response."

All three candidates said they support the police department and agreed the town needs a master plan to deal with aging infrastructure. But a question about flooding problems drew different replies.

Hurlburt said the town's infrastructure "is not prepared for what comes down," a problem exacerbated by sea level rise and climate change.

Wiescholek said roads need to be raised.

"Our roads are too low. Sea level is rising," he said. "The only way is to raise the roads. Nobody wants to hear that in general, but we are looking at very costly things coming down the road that we need to address and that is one of them."

Cassidy disagreed. If the town raises roads, the focus should be on areas most prone to flooding, she said.

"To say a blanket statement about raising roads in the town I think puts an undue burden on homeowners," she said, because water from higher roads will end up in the front yards of homes.

Cassidy and Wiescholek said they support efforts to restrict the placement of "No Trespassing" signs on the beach, a contentious issue between beachgoers and residents of Turtle Beach of Ocean Ridge, a condominium that has posted signs about the condo's private property rights on the beach.

Hurlburt, who lives in Turtle Beach, said: "Private property is private property, but when you have a problem with trespassers that needs to be addressed. Traversing and using the rest of the beach, which is below the mean high water line, has never been an issue."

Taking a jab at Hurlburt, Cassidy said: "I don't think it's right that the same person who initiated the signs on the beach and sought the permitting for it is presiding over the meeting when these signs were discussed."

Hurlburt did not respond to that remark, saying, "I'm trying to keep my campaign moving positively." ★



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## 10 Questions

## MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR: Dr. Peter Bonutti

Dr. Peter Bonutti was well into his career as an orthopedic surgeon when he realized something was missing: the patient's perspective.

"I always thought it was important to look at it," Bonutti said. "Because we're operating on people and doing all kinds of crazy things to them and you go, 'What if we flipped the table and looked at it from their perspective?' Like the length of the incision, the surgical approach, the fast recovery. It came from my sports medicine background combined with my background from joint replacements."

It wasn't long before Bonutti, 65 — who resides with wife, Simone, in Manalapan, along with five of their six children — began inventing tools to make a difference in patients' experiences, starting with recovery time and rehab.

"When I started doing joint replacements the incisions were a foot long, the patients would be in the hospital for a week, and it would take them a year to recover," Bonutti said. "I was saying, 'This is not what people want.' So, I started learning, because I felt industry wasn't keeping up with medical technology.

"That's where I got creative and innovative and said we've got to improve the quality of care. That's been my focus my whole life."

Bonutti said he has 440-450 patents on file and another 100 in development. Where most inventors focus on one area, his innovations cover a wide area, from automotive to aeronautical to medical devices to pharmaceuticals to consumer goods. "We do a lot of different things and have a lot of fun with it," he said.

Bonutti spends one week a month at his workplace, the SBL Bonutti Clinic in Effingham, Illinois, in which time he said he performs 50 surgeries including 35-40 joint replacements, and the remainder at home, much of it on research and development.

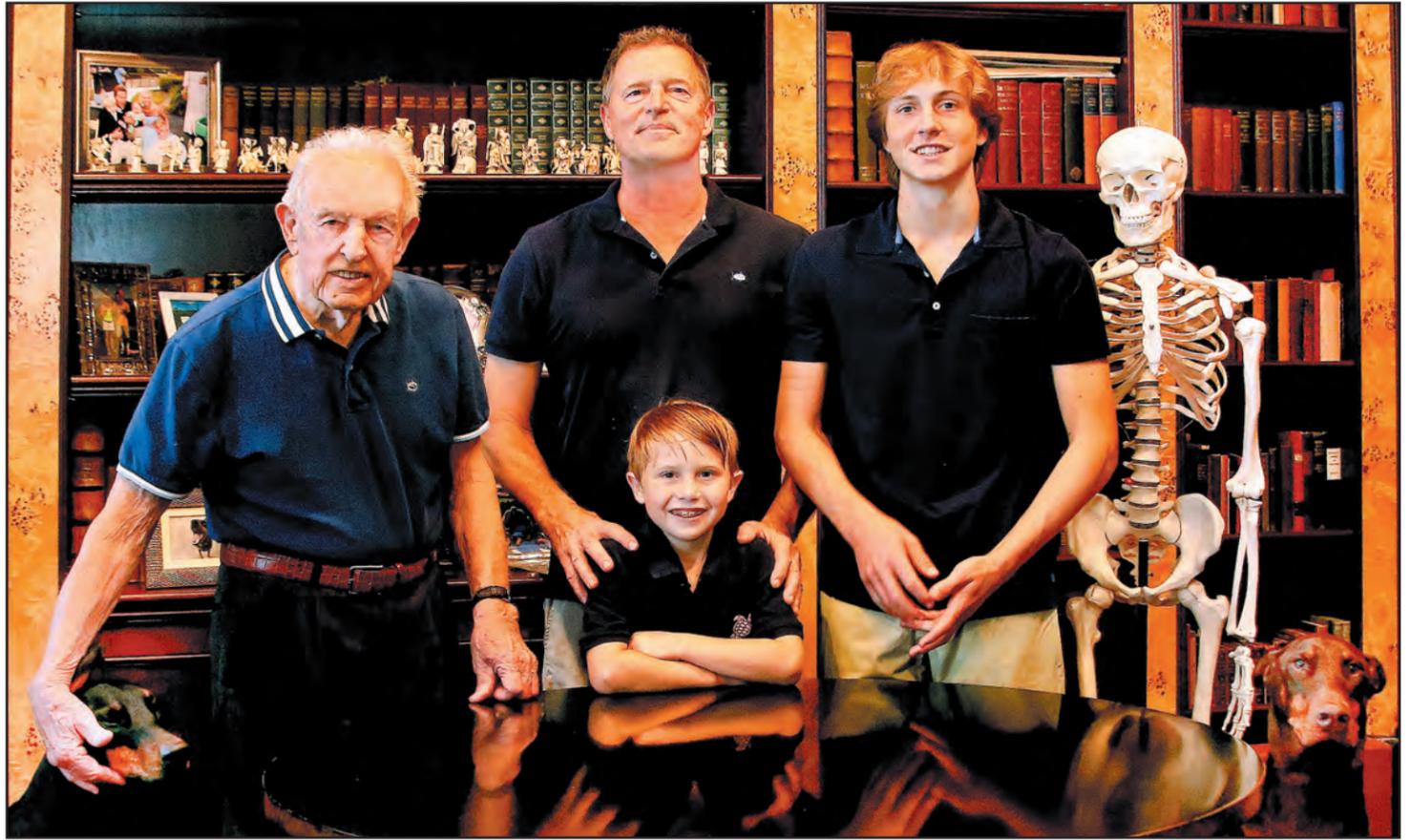
His family time includes skiing, boating, fishing and trips to "a small place" in the Bahamas. His wife is a former member of the Manalapan Town Commission who is returning to the board this month after running unopposed for one of the open seats.

Their children are Mia, a student at the University of Virginia; Marc, Margaux and Mary at Oxbridge Academy, and Martina and Michael at Gulf Stream School. He also has two Dobermans that "I like to exercise when I can."

— Brian Biggane

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

**A:** I was born in an inner-city community in Cleveland — one of six children after my parents immigrated from



Dr. Peter Bonutti of Manalapan in his home office with his father, Karl Bonutti, 95, and sons Michael, 8, and Marc, 17. The family's two Dobermans are Sam (left) and Sarge. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

Slovenia. I went to Gilmour Academy, graduating at 16, and went to the University of Chicago, where I had a full scholarship, to earn a degree in biology. Subsequently, I went to the University of Cincinnati for medical school and then the Cleveland Clinic for my orthopedic residency training. There I won the International Traveling Fellowship and studied abroad in Graz, Austria; Sydney, Australia; Auckland, New Zealand, and London, Ontario, with additional studies at the Mayo Clinic.

During this time, I was a Cleveland Clinic Institute fellow and won numerous awards for my research on the development of medical and surgical adhesives. I performed a Cleveland Research Institute traveling fellowship and won the most awards for research on medical and surgical adhesives.

My parents are both educators and pushed us all in school. When I started college, I was 4-foot-9 and weighed 90 pounds. Being younger and much smaller than the other students created more of a drive to succeed. What I learned was about thought, discipline and concentration as well as the importance of education over social life in school. I learned education requires one must learn to teach oneself. One cannot depend on educators to spoon-feed you information or answers to problems.

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

**A:** In college I had a full scholarship, but to pay for additional expenses I worked in a biochemistry lab as a technician. After college, I worked as a medical technician at the Cleveland Clinic, working the graveyard shift in the

hematology lab learning how to do blood tests as well as treating patients working on blood draws (a unique skill). Upon completion of my residency and fellowships, I became an orthopedic surgeon with a subspecialty in arthroscopy and arthroplasty. I also worked as a clinical professor at the University of Arkansas in orthopedics.

What I learned during my education was the importance of not just practicing medicine — doing what you were taught — but challenging the status quo/dogma. ... Rather than saying this is good enough, my question was why can we not improve and make things better.

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

**A:** Find a career that allows you to not just emulate others, but to improve the status quo. You will find not just financial success, but tremendous personal satisfaction. This drives individuals to work harder and improve not just their own career, but others around them.

**Q:** How did you choose to make your home in Manalapan?

**A:** My wife was born and raised in Florida. After a decade of living in small-town Effingham, Illinois, she asked to have a vacation home in Florida. She identified a home in Lighthouse Point. However, when I drove down, I saw a large home on a small lot in a crowded area with no parking and I felt claustrophobic.

Being from a small town, I enjoyed open space and the sense of community. I drove up A1A, saying if I was going to move to Florida I wanted to live on the ocean. As I drove north, I stumbled onto Manalapan and saw an old wooden house with a For Sale sign. I

looked at the small, old, three-bedroom wooden home with an overgrown yard and at high tide the Intracoastal was actually leaking into the swimming pool and the home. However, I saw the beauty of the open space, ocean-to-Intracoastal lot, and the small-town feel and I immediately put an offer on the property, which was quickly accepted.

This was a vacation home until 2009, when we decided to tear down the home and create a full-time residence. We built the home to house our expanding family and moved in full time in 2014.

**Q:** What's your favorite part of living in Manalapan?

**A:** I have lived for 35 years in a small rural town where I enjoy the open spaces and close community. I have the same feel in Manalapan from the open spaces to the administrators, police, fire department and neighbors when the town makes everyone feel like a close friend with personal relationships.

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

**A:** I am reading *Dare Disturb the Universe: A Memoir of Venture Capital*, written by Charles Newhall III. This is a fascinating book from the father of one of our Manalapan neighbors, Ashton Newhall. It is a very unique perspective on Mr. Newhall's life and career, who is an excellent role model.

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

**A:** My father was a pianist and used to play Chopin, Liszt and Beethoven at night. As I was growing up, I picked up the guitar and taught myself contemporary music — rock 'n' roll. I began playing in a band and then ultimately wrote and

recorded two albums. When I want to relax, I pick up my guitar and work on my creative side on my own songs and melodies. I do, however, listen to almost any genre of music but prefer guitar-themed songs.

**Q:** Have you had mentors in your life or individuals who inspired your life decision?

**A:** I would argue my father and mother were probably my greatest mentors. My parents were immigrants from both Slovenia and Italy. They came here with \$5 in their pocket and were able to build a successful life raising six children, and my father ultimately became U.S. ambassador to the Vatican. My parents showed me the value of hard work and family.

Art Steffee, MD, orthopedic surgeon in Cleveland, was also a major influence. During my first year of residency, I rotated to a small hospital and worked with Art, who was an orthopedic hand surgeon. He showed me if an individual is observant and willing to spend their own time, money and effort, they can truly make an impact in medicine.

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

**A:** I saw Dennis Quaid act as Ronald Reagan in a movie and enjoyed his demeanor and met him in person during the movie preview. Although he is much better looking than I am, I feel he would be a great person for the role.

**Q:** What/who makes you laugh?

**A:** My family and children make me laugh on a daily basis and I find humor in all aspects of life. I feel if you can encourage someone to laugh or even smile for even a second or two, then you have improved that person's day.

## TENNIS

Continued from page 1

weeklong final tournament. Prize money awarded last year totaled \$11.4 million, with \$2 million going to the winning team.

Gauff, ranked No. 6 in the world in women's singles, isn't the only local tennis star who will play for the United States. Boca Raton's Jessica Pegula, 29, ranked No. 3 in the world, committed to play on Feb. 21, although U.S. captain Kathy Rinaldi said she would not finalize her team until mid-March.

Gauff and Pegula could handle the two singles matches each day, then team up in doubles — as they have done for the past several months — if necessary.

The Austrian team will face a daunting task. Its only player ranked among the top 100 is No. 91 Julia Grabher, and Austria has never advanced to the finals of the BJK Cup.

### City is a tennis hot spot

Delray Beach, which has built a worldwide reputation as a tennis hub, has previously hosted qualifiers in 2005, 2007 and 2013 as well as Davis Cup qualifiers, the male equivalent of the Billie Jean King Cup.

City Manager Terrence Moore said a full stadium in April would send a message to the International Tennis Federation, which will pick the finals site in late April after the qualifiers are complete, that the city and stadium are up to the challenge to be finals host.

"That would be fantastic," Moore said.

DBTC manager Jeff Bingo said the facility did \$2.6 million worth of business last year, up from \$700,000 just five years ago.

The crowds for the 2023 Delray Beach Open played last month were another indication that the region is ready for a major tennis event to go along with the Miami Open, which



Crowds arrive for a match at the men's Delray Beach Open last month. Women will take over the courts in April for Billie Jean King Cup matches. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

starts March 19. Attendance for the week was a tournament-record 63,072, with four of the individual sessions sold out and all box and veranda seating also sold out for the week.

City officials teamed with the Palm Beach County Sports Commission to land the April matches after they were held three of the past five years in Asheville, North Carolina. The economic impact of the first two years in Asheville registered \$8 million, giving Delray Beach an expectation the qualifier will bring an impact this year in the \$4 million range.

Sports Commission Executive Director George Linley said the partnership with the city and Tennis Center could be renewed during future opportunities.

"Our Sports Commission will look at every opportunity to bring sports to this county," Linley said. "It's always based on the amenities and facilities we have. So, we will work to bring the best tennis events we can."

### Gauff eager to play at home

Gauff, who turns 19 on March 13, said the April event will be special and the prospect of Delray Beach's hosting the finals would be even more so.

"Delray Beach has truly been a home for me and I'm always happy to come back here," Gauff said. "It gives me

an opportunity to represent my country at home.

"There was a lot of support when I was here (as a fan) in 2013 and I hope there will be even more this time."

Asked about the prospect of hosting the finals, Rinaldi, a Palm City native who has been captain since 2017, added her support.

"Obviously, how great would that be?" she said. "Coco is super-excited to play in her backyard and have her family and friends come to support her.

"It's nice to play at home in the United States; it gives us an opportunity to share tennis with the community, and get out and grow the sport, and everybody gets so excited when they can root for the United States."

Last year's Billie Jean King Cup finals were staged at Emirates Arena in Glasgow, Scotland, where the capacity of 8,200 is identical to that of Delray Beach. Gauff, who made her debut in the event when the U.S. failed to advance past the Czech Republic and Poland in group play, said that the indoor

arena felt smaller than Delray Beach's outdoor stadium.

Bingo said Delray could "absolutely" meet any criteria it would get from the ITF to serve as finals host.

"We have the stadium court plus five practice courts, and for the ATP 250 we turn a pickleball court into another practice court, so we have six," Bingo said, referring to the Delray Beach Open. "And if they told us ahead of time, we could convert clay courts as well."

As for housing tennis fans coming from all over the world to see some of the game's brightest stars, Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce CEO Stephanie Immelman said the timing of the matches in November would be a plus. She said Delray boasts 1,400 hotel rooms and that Boca Raton and other nearby coastal cities could handle any overflow.

"That's our shoulder season and we're just starting to get busy in November," she said.

"I'm sure the city would be delighted to host the finals, and I know the USTA is very friendly toward Delray Beach, probably because Coco lives here, but they like working with the city."

### U.S. is an 18-time champion

Launched in 1963 as the Federation Cup and changed to the Fed Cup in 1995, the annual event was rebranded the Billie Jean King Cup in 2020, when it was expanded from a two-team final to the 12-team format featuring nine winners of qualifiers, the top two finishers from the previous year and a wild card, which often is the host country.

Last year 110 nations

competed. While the U.S. has hosted six times, its last such experience came in 2010 in San Diego.

The U.S. has been champion 18 times, including seven straight from 1976-82, but its last title, in 2017, was its first since 2000. The Czech Republic has won six times in the last 11 years and is second to the U.S. in overall wins with 11. Switzerland won for the first time last year. Russia, which won for the fifth time in 2021, and Belarus have been banned from competition since the invasion of Ukraine.

Gauff, who traveled from the WTA Finals in Fort Worth, Texas, to Glasgow last year to play in her first BJK Cup finals, said the Miami Open will be her previous event to the April qualifier, so she should be better rested.

"Home court is definitely an advantage," she said. "The crowd can really sway the way the matches go, especially in this type of event."

"We've played in all different spots — Hawaii, Washington, San Antonio, Asheville, Tampa — and all have been sold out," Rinaldi said.

"It's an incredible experience for our team, our staff, and for the fans because whether you're a huge tennis fan or just want to come support the USA, it's been a lot of fun.

"When you're representing your country it's a whole different emotion. Anything can happen because everyone's playing for your country, and there's no greater honor."

Single- and two-day ticket packages are available through [ticketmaster.com](https://www.ticketmaster.com). Visit [usta.com/billiejeankingcup](https://www.usta.com/billiejeankingcup) for more information. ★

## Briny Breezes

### Chief details plans for faster fire-rescue response

By Joe Capozzi

Technological improvements planned for Boynton Beach Fire Rescue's dispatch center mean Briny Breezes residents can expect faster response times in their tiny coastal community.

The average response time in Briny Breezes last year was 6 minutes and 53 seconds, said Hugh Bruder, chief of Boynton Beach Fire Rescue, which provides services to Briny under a \$453,000 annual contract. Although that's lower than the recommended national response time of eight minutes, Bruder said he thinks his department can do better.

"We don't even like the 6 minutes and 53 seconds. We always try to be better. We want to get here as quickly as we can," he told the Town Council on Feb. 23.

Improvements are on the way. Fire Rescue plans to purchase an improved dispatching system that will shave up to 60 seconds off response time, Bruder said. The cost of the system could range from \$750,000 to \$1 million, money he said would

come from a combination of grants and state appropriations.

There is no date for when the system will be up and running.

"The timetable is I wish I had it yesterday," he said after the meeting. "We're in the process of searching for grant money."

That 60-second difference "is huge," he told Briny officials. "As you can imagine, for someone with cardiac arrest who needs oxygen, that's a very big deal. We are making a lot of moves to try to reduce response times where we can."

Bruder reminded the council of another recent addition to his department that benefited Briny. A high-water vehicle, acquired last year, "had a very heavy presence" in November when flood water stirred by Hurricane Nicole swamped the coastal community.

"That high-water vehicle came in handy and assisted several of your residents," Bruder said. "We are pretty proud of that equipment."

Fire Rescue also is planning a massive expansion to its dive-rescue program over the next two years, including the

purchase of a 26-foot boat, he said.

#### In other business:

• Ocean Ridge Police Chief Richard Jones informed the Town Council that he will be resigning by May 11 to take a job in the nearby coastal town of Gulf Stream. Ocean Ridge provides police service for Briny.

"Thank you for what you've done," Mayor Gene Adams said. "You've done a wonderful job at Ocean Ridge and Briny Breezes for sure. I'm personally glad you're staying on the island."

• Briny Breezes Corporation announced vote results at its annual shareholders meeting Feb. 22. Only 27.1% voted yes to give the corporate board direction to market the park for sale. And 61% percent of the park's shareholders voted to change the number of shares required to put future petition items to the community for a vote. What had required 10% will now require 35%.

• The Town Council will hold its annual organizational meeting at 3 p.m. March 21. The next regular Town Council meeting is March 23. ★

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## Along the Coast



**ABOVE:** Former William Taft High classmates from a variety of years in the 1950s and '60s gathered last month for a reunion at Pavilion Grille. About 180 attended, some of whom now live in Palm Beach County. **INSET BELOW:** A ball cap with science class buttons from Taft High, 1950. Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

# Friendships resurface as Bronx classmates reunite in Boca Raton

By John Pacenti

In the Catskills in the 1950s, Margaret Haymin and Marsha Levine forged the kind of friendship that tattoos the young soul.

They were preteen girls at a summer Jewish bungalow colony — and then they went back home to the Bronx but never forgot each other.

A high school reunion brought them together 69 years later. That reunion for William Taft High School graduates has been held in South Florida at various locations for the last 15 years.

There have been 10 Taft reunions in total, and there hadn't been one held since 2020 just before the coronavirus pandemic shut down the nation. This year 180 graduates from the high school came together on Feb. 2 at Pavilion Grille in Boca Raton.

Haymin and Levine — both 77 — only learned of each other again this past year. They met at the reunion for the first time since those summer camp days.

"She stuck with me all these years," said Haymin, Class of 1963, a retired photographer who flew in from Pennsylvania. "She just was so special. And I remembered her name. We played with dolls together. She always had beautiful blue eyes."

Levine, a retired special education teacher who graduated in 1962, then pulled out black-and-white photos on her phone of the girls around a picnic table among more than a dozen girls at the bungalow colony camp.

### The reunion's origin

The Taft reunions are the masterstroke of event planner Roberta Lookatzer Silver and retired jockey Jeff "Mousey" Heller — classes of '63 and '62 respectively.

The first reunion was in New Jersey but it quickly migrated to warmer climes in south Palm Beach County. Some of the graduates make Palm Beach County their home now.

"But you know, it's so comforting to

be able to hug somebody that you know, for 70 years," said Silver, who lives at Seagate Towers in Delray Beach.

Silver, 77, explained that in the 1950s and '60s in the Bronx, there were very close-knit communities. Most families lived in tenements and people walked or met friends to take the bus. A number of junior high schools fed into Taft.

Heller, 78, was a live wire when he walked into the reunion.

Everybody wanted to talk to Mr. Jeff Heller. Before he was a jockey, he was a teenage musician playing drums and piano for a doo-wop group called Mousey and The Four Cats.

He also met a budding musician and star basketball player at Taft named Chuck Negron. Negron went on to be the lead singer for Three Dog Night and though he did not travel for this reunion, his presence loomed large as his name was constantly brought up in conversation.

"They called us Mutt and Jeff," said Heller, who now lives in Boynton Beach. "I recorded his first demo record."

The pandemic ended the reunions for three years, so the 2023 party was one anticipated by many. The reunion played out like a movie, a bit of *American Graffiti*, *When Harry Met Sally* and *Peggy Sue Got Married*.

"During the pandemic, as you know, everybody was isolated. It wasn't a healthy time," Silver said.



**Bernice and Ed Wenger**

### Bernice and Ed

Sitting at one table were Ed Wenger and his wife, Bernice Nierenberg Wenger. They both went to Taft and even worked together on the school newspaper, *The Taft Review*.

But they were like ships passing in the night.

"So, she knew me by sight and I knew



**ABOVE:** Two women who came to the reunion last met as girls in the Catskills in the 1950s: Marsha Levine (back row, second from left) and Margaret Haymin (back row, fourth from left). Photo provided



**LEFT:** Levine and Haymin today.

her by sight," said Ed Wenger, Class of '59.

They would again pass by each other at City College of New York, where they sometimes had the same class in the same building.

They met again at John F. Kennedy International Airport when both were escaping the winter and heading to Puerto Rico for vacation. But it wasn't until they landed in San Juan that Cupid finally landed an arrow.

"When we got to Puerto Rico, and I was about to get into the taxi with my two friends, I heard the taxi driver say to some man, 'Come on, we're gonna take these girls for a ride,'" said Bernice, Class of '61.

"Well, I speak Spanish fluently. So, I got scared. So, I went over to Ed and I said, 'Come in our taxi with us so that they can take us anywhere.'"

Ed adds, "And we spent most of the vacation together."

The couple now lives in Boca Raton, married since 1967.

### Emotional tonic

These reunions can be an emotional tonic to those who attend, Silver said.

"There was one guy who came, I remember, one year and he walked in with his dog and he said, 'You know, I'm not going to know anybody and my wife just died,'" she said.

"He stood with me for 15 minutes and then two women walked in and started screaming. 'You lived on the sixth floor. We lived on the fourth floor.' And it made his night."

And true enough there was a lot of chatter last month that started, "I lived on 167th." "Oh, I was on 176th."

Stuart Szpicek, class of '65, was looking at the Taft pins on display. "I designed one in 1965 myself," he recalled.

Joyce Geiger Rosenbaum, Class of '63, laughed when asked about the reunion and started singing *December 1963 (Oh, What A Night)*, a hit by Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons.

"It warms the heart to see all these people," she said.

Bernice Nierenberg Wenger put it this way, "Have you ever read the book *Look Homeward, Angel?* To look back and remember what a fine education we had and how everyone was so hardworking and motivated to better themselves — it's just nice." ★

## Obituaries

By Sallie James

BOCA RATON — She was a military wife who traversed Europe with two young children.



A trailblazing lover of native plants who authored a book on Florida wildflowers and an adventurer who once

talked her way into a party in France to meet renowned artist Pablo Picasso.

Longtime Boca Raton resident Arlene Adams Schuyler died at home Jan. 1 of natural causes. She was 95.

Mrs. Schuyler was born on Aug. 3, 1927, in Kingston, Pennsylvania, to Adele

and William Adams. She attended school in Forty Fort, Pennsylvania, and then studied art at Pratt Institute in New York City. She later attended the International Summer Academy of Fine Arts in Salzburg, Austria.

In 1955, she married Army Capt. Francis "Frank" Schuyler of Miami. The couple moved to Munich, Germany, in 1959, where they eventually adopted their son and daughter, said Mrs. Schuyler's son, Cortlandt.

Cortlandt and his sister, Victoria, spent much of their youth hopscotching around Europe as a result of their father's military career. They lived for different periods in Munich; Naples, Italy; Nice, France; the Alps of Switzerland, and in San Francisco before settling in Boca

Raton in 1971.

Mrs. Schuyler was preceded in death by her husband, who died of a heart attack on Feb. 13, 1998.

Arlene Schuyler was an early advocate of using native plants in landscaping and wrote and illustrated a paperback, *Wildflowers — South Florida Natives*, which was published in January 1982. She sold the books for \$8 apiece, her son recalled.

"The book was beautiful," he said.

Cortlandt Schuyler remembered his mother as a free spirit who supported the feminist movement, encouraged childhood entrepreneurship and took chances for adventure, like the time she went out of her way to meet Picasso.

Cortlandt said he was 5 years

old when his mother and her friend drove him and his sister to Picasso's home in Nice. They parked their old Volkswagen on a hill and walked up to his house, hoping to get in. They did.

"My sister and I sat in the back of this old VW they had and they went down and visited his home," Cortlandt said. "Somehow they got in. I think he had something going on down at his house."

He recalled his mother as a staunch supporter of his childhood money-making endeavors that included everything from reselling candy bars from the drugstore on the school bus, to delivering newspapers or working at a local hotel.

"When I was a little tiny kid

she would double whatever I would earn. When it got to like \$50 she had to stop," her son recalled.

"She was very, very well-spoken, very, very educated. A big reader," Cortlandt said. He said she enjoyed nature shows on TV, educational channels, watercolor painting and always books, books, books.

"She loved her independence and liked doing her own thing," her son said.

Burial will be at Arlington National Cemetery, alongside her husband. She is survived by her two children and four grandchildren: Molly, Serena, Kyle and Celia. Glick Family Funeral Home in Boca Raton handled arrangements.

## Marjorie Louise Altier

BOCA RATON — Marjorie Louise Altier died in the early morning of Feb. 17 at the age of 94.

She was born in Pennsylvania on Dec. 19, 1928, and graduated from West Pittston High School. She married Joseph Altier in 1954 and they had three sons. In 1961, the Altier family moved to Florida and opened Boca Raton's very first jewelry store, Altier Jewelers.



For over 50 years, Marge and Joe ran their business side by side in the growing town of Boca Raton. Mrs. Altier served clients of every level, and Altier Jewelers became a cornerstone within Boca Raton's community with a reputation of honesty and trust.

Mrs. Altier dedicated her life to her husband, her family and her business. She loved to dance the nights away with Joe at the Boca Raton resort, and greatly enjoyed their travels to Europe, Asia and Africa.

Mrs. Altier was preceded in death by her husband, Joseph, and her son William. Mrs. Altier's name and legacy will continue to live on through her sons Alex (Debra) and Joe, eight grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren, brother Kenneth Howell, sister Jean Renfer, and her cherished dog, Princess.

A funeral Mass was celebrated on Feb. 25 at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church in Boca Raton. Entombment followed at the Boca Raton Mausoleum.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the George Snow Scholarship Fund at scholarship.org.

— Obituary submitted by the family

## Boca Raton

### Condo project, neighbors given 2 months to work out disputes

By Mary Hladky

With a five-story residential project on East Royal Palm Road facing intense opposition from neighbors, the City Council has delayed a vote on whether to approve it and asked the developer and project opponents to try to iron out their differences.

They will have two months to do so before the council considers the project again on May 8.

"I hope this is productive and we are not just kicking the can down the road," said Deputy Mayor Andrea O'Rourke, who will be term-limited out of office this month.

33 Royal Palm LLC has proposed a five-story, four-unit luxury condo that would be built between the nine-story 327 Royal Palm condos and a nine-story assisted living facility now under construction.

Each condo, with about 4,300 square feet, would occupy an entire floor and would have a rooftop terrace. Eight of 10 parking spaces would be in a ground-floor mechanized garage that, for each condo, would lower one car below ground so that a second car could park on top.

The project has been approved by the Community Appearance Board and the Planning and Zoning Board. City staff said it met all requirements for building in the downtown and recommended council approval.

But residents of 327 Royal Palm, who have formed Neighbors for Thoughtful Boca Development and hired an attorney, turned out in force for a Feb. 27 Community Redevelopment Agency meeting.

Among their many objections, they said the 0.17-acre, former single-family home site is too small for the project. They contended it is not compatible with the neighborhood and violated their privacy rights by being too close to their building. They also asserted that a rooftop generator would cause noise pollution and expressed concern about where residents would park if the garage malfunctioned.

Project attorney Ele Zachariades said the developer would be willing to enclose the rooftop equipment to reduce noise, but otherwise said the project met all city requirements.

Noting that the building would be shorter and smaller than neighboring buildings, she said 327 Royal Palm is the one that is "out of character" for the neighborhood.

But faced with the deluge of complaints, the council delayed its decision in hopes a compromise would materialize.

In other business, the council approved a resolution requested by O'Rourke, a strong

proponent of the arts, that gives an additional designation of "Avenue of the Arts" to a section of Northeast Fifth Street between Federal Highway and Mizner Boulevard in Mizner Park. Adding that name to the street will cost less than \$500.

The additional name is intended to reflect the original vision for Mizner Park as a cultural mecca, as well as its current clustering of arts venues including the Boca Raton Museum of Art, the amphitheater, the Studio at Mizner Park and the proposed Center for Arts & Innovation performing arts complex.

• With long-serving City Manager Leif Ahnell retiring next year, the city has begun the process of finding his replacement.

City staff is developing a request for proposals from recruiting firms, and expects to select a firm this summer to conduct a nationwide search. Council members will make the final selection.

Ahnell ascended to the city's top job in 1999 after serving for nine years in other positions.

Council members have been fretting about Ahnell's looming departure for years. The current and previous councils have held him in high regard and have consistently given him high marks in annual evaluations.

Council member Monica Mayotte floated the idea of selecting Deputy City Manager George Brown to replace Ahnell at a Feb. 13 meeting, citing his institutional knowledge and experience.

"I think George is our heir apparent," she said. "I think we ought to give him the opportunity to take the helm when Mr. Ahnell retires."

Brown declined to comment on whether he would accept the promotion. As of late February, Mayotte said she had not spoken to Brown directly about the matter, and other council members have not commented on the idea.

• Two therapists who challenged a now-repealed city ordinance that banned the highly controversial use of conversion therapy on minors have accepted the city's offer to in effect settle the litigation. The city will pay Robert Otto of Boca Raton \$50,000 and Julie Hamilton of Palm Beach Gardens \$25,000 and a portion of their costs and attorney's fees. The amount of those costs and fees still must be decided. That is expected to end the litigation.

The city made its offer in January after a three-judge panel of the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that the ordinance violated the therapists' free speech rights and the full court declined to reconsider that decision. The therapists accepted on Feb. 9.

The therapists' challenge to a similar and also repealed Palm Beach County ordinance was still being litigated as of late February. ★

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# Lantana

## Infrastructure, safety, taxes are top issues in council elections

By Mary Thurwachter

Lantana voters will decide two council races and a charter referendum on March 14. The Group 3 race pits council member Mark Zeitler against Raymond Lastella, while the Group 4 race is between Christopher Castle and John Raymer. The only election debate was scheduled for March 1, too late for coverage by *The Coastal Star*, so we asked the candidates what makes them best suited to serve.

### Group 3

Lastella, 32, an entrepreneur with a boat detailing company and a jet ski rental company, has lived in Lantana for only a year and a half. He doesn't consider that a drawback. "I know I'm the new guy, but I do my due diligence and I try to be as accurate as I can on subjects," he says. "If I don't know something, I'll look it up. You don't have to be here for 50 years to understand what the town needs and wants."

The town's major issues are speeding and reckless driving, Lastella says. And, after talking with residents at the Carlisle senior living community, he realizes there's a need for safety measures to help pedestrians crossing the street.

People should vote for him, he says, because he has good leadership skills and wants to bring people together.

"I know that this town has a ton of potential and I'll bring my knowledge and ideas across the board and try to do the best I can to make the town better," he says. "I'm hoping to start a family here, ready to get married and have children, and this is a place where I want to stay and raise my children."

Zeitler, who turns 67 on March 10, says being a council member has been a good learning experience and one to which he is devoted. The owner of an air-conditioning firm, Zeitler has lived in Lantana most of his life. He has missed only one meeting — when he was hospitalized after breaking his heel in July. Zeitler spent months getting around on a scooter or crutches, but didn't let that slow him down.

He says his major first-term accomplishments include keeping medical marijuana dispensaries out of town and discovering the library's contractor was unlicensed, which led to a more discerning vetting process.

Zeitler's council experience and his lengthy time in town are reasons he thinks he's the better candidate. His work experience is also a plus, he says.

"My work experience, besides air-conditioning contracting, is also underground utilities," he says. "That makes it easy for me to understand what is going on when voting for water and sewer infrastructure work. My air-conditioning contracting

business demands that I know engineering and laws like workers comp and liabilities. Being a businessperson, I understand the need for having reserves for bad times. I want to make sure Lantana remains the quaint little place that it is."

### Group 4

The Group 4 races features two newcomers, as the seat is currently held by Karen Lythgoe, who instead ran unopposed for mayor and will be sworn into that position.

Castle, 37, a maintenance facilities director for PetMeds, is a native Floridian who has lived in Lantana for 15 years. A self-described problem solver, Castle said he has always had a passion for the town.

His aim in running, he says, is to make positive changes. A new volunteer for the Lantana Chamber of Commerce Fishing Derby, Castle recently

purchased two bicycles to be given away during the children's fishing event. "I used my own money, not campaign funds," he said.

Castle's biggest campaign issues include infrastructure and safety, two things he says he is well versed in.

"I know how to take care of these problems," Castle says.

His previous experience as control room operator at Florida Power & Light and his work for the South Florida Water Management District would help him in dealing with the power grid, flooding and rain issues, as well as water quality, he says.

"I also have quite a bit of education with my jobs and bring skills to the town that can alleviate some of these issues."

Raymer, 52, who retired from a 21-year U.S. Army career and is manager of Ace Rental Place in Lantana, says a main reason

he's running is to make sure residents are informed about what's going on in the town.

"I see a lot of people still left in the dark," says Raymer, an eight-year Lantana resident who was unsuccessful in his first run for council last year against veteran council member Lynn Moorhouse. He would inform people through emails, texts or in snail mail included with utility bills, he says.

The town's major issues, he says, include keeping taxes in line, improving infrastructure, and attracting tourism, which he says could help in keeping taxes down. Another big concern, he says, is restoring the beach itself, which he says is so narrow that people end up going to Lake Worth Beach instead.

Voters should choose him for the job because he has strong leadership skills and military background and has no ulterior agenda, he says.

"I want to be the people's voice and I want to bring the town together," Raymer says.

### Referendum

Lantana residents also will vote on whether to change the Town Charter to put an end to runoff elections. Currently, a candidate must receive at least one more than 50% of the votes in a race to be elected. If no candidate gets a majority, a runoff election is held between the two candidates receiving the most votes in the race.

Forced runoffs in two council races last year made some elected officials consider a change to a plurality system, where the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in a race — whether or not it is a majority — is the victor.

Changing the election system requires a change in the town's charter, something voters need to decide. ★

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## Along the Coast

# Brightline may have wow factor but Tri-Rail carries more riders

By Mary Hladky

Four-year-old Brightline is the shiny new thing, offering high-class rides in sleek trains.

But 33-year-old Tri-Rail's no-frills commuter line transports far more passengers.

Tri-Rail's ridership totaled nearly 3.4 million in 2022, while Brightline carried just over 1.2 million riders.

In 2019, before the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted service for both rail operators, Tri-Rail carried nearly 4.5 million passengers. Brightline, a brand-new service then, carried 1 million.

Both Brightline and Tri-Rail say the two operators can't be compared.

Tri-Rail is a commuter service with 18 stations whose core riders need to get to and from work. It receives funding from Palm Beach, Broward and Miami-Dade counties, Florida Department of Transportation and Federal Highway Administration, and from its ticket sales.

Brightline, a private company, insisted it was not a commuter rail when it launched. With only three stations in South Florida then, its focus was moving people speedily over longer distances. Its Orlando station is expected to open in the second quarter of 2023, and eventually the line will extend to Tampa.

But more recently, Brightline has acknowledged transporting commuters and, with the December opening of stations in Boca Raton and Aventura, can better accommodate them.

For instance, land use attorney Michael Marshall recently used Brightline to get from his Fort

Lauderdale office to a Boca Raton City Council meeting, where he was representing a client.

"It's genius," he said of Brightline, which arranged last-mile service to his meeting on Uber.

So far, Brightline has not siphoned away riders, said Victor Garcia, Tri-Rail's director of public affairs. "They are filling a gap that was apparently needed."

Both operators are now trying to reclaim riders they lost during the pandemic. Brightline suspended service from March 2020 to November 2021. Tri-Rail sharply reduced its service in March 2020 and returned to full schedule in October 2021.

The pandemic changed rider dynamics. Demand fell as employers shuttered offices or required their workers to come to the office fewer days each week. Many people shied away from mass transit that forced them into close contact with others.

"We want to get back to where we were pre-COVID," Garcia said.

In its most recent financial reports in December and January, Brightline said that by the first quarter of 2022, its ridership exceeded pre-pandemic levels in the comparable period in 2019.

"Rides by monthly passholders increased 44 percent in January 2023 compared to December 2022, demonstrating a trend back toward normal commuting patterns for an increasing portion of our market," Brightline said.

Both rail lines expect more ridership growth for similar reasons.

Traffic and road conditions on

Interstate 95 and other major arteries are bad and getting worse. More companies and people are moving to Florida, bringing in more potential riders. That also creates more traffic and the desire to avoid it. And the soaring price of gasoline last year prompted many to consider an alternative to the car.

Another factor for Brightline is that it can expect a ridership boost when it launches service to Orlando.

Brightline offers fast and efficient service with airy, comfortable stations featuring food and beverages. It has a number of options to get passengers from the stations to their final destinations. Its trains run on the FEC rail corridor, through east coast downtowns.

Tri-Rail, which also has options to get passengers to their final destinations at no or reduced cost, has no indoor lounges at its stations and minimal food and beverage options. Its trains run on the CSX corridor, west of downtowns.

But it has stations in the major South Florida east coast cities, making it possible to commute to cities such as Boynton Beach and Delray Beach that are not serviced by Brightline.

Tri-Rail's dependability and on-time performance have improved substantially in recent years, removing a disincentive to using its trains. It runs more trains per day, which provide riders with more options, particularly during rush hours.

It also stops at the Fort Lauderdale and Miami airports and provides access to Palm Beach International.

Yet a major reason that its ridership figures outpace Brightline's is that Tri-Rail costs a lot less to ride.

On Feb. 17, Brightline's one-way regular "smart" fare from West Palm Beach to Fort Lauderdale ranged from \$19 to \$27, depending on the time of day traveled. The return trip prices were the same. So round trip, the fare was \$38 up to \$54.

The premium fare ranged from \$32 to \$69, for a total of \$64 to \$138 round trip.

Parking at Brightline garages costs \$7 a day if purchased in advance or \$15 a day for a ticket purchased at the garage.

The costs come down if riders buy a monthly pass that covers 40 rides. A regular pass from West Palm Beach to Fort Lauderdale is \$229; a premium pass is \$489. A monthly parking pass is \$75.

Tri-Rail has divided its route from the Miami airport to Mangonia Park into six zones. Fare cost depends on the number of zones riders pass through to reach their destinations.

The weekday trip from Boca Raton to West Palm Beach goes through three zones, for a round-trip cost of \$10. A ride from Boca to Fort Lauderdale goes through two zones, or \$7.50 round trip.

Tri-Rail offers monthly passes, good for unlimited travel, for \$110. If a rider used Tri-Rail for 20 commutes a month, the cost of a round trip from Boca to Fort Lauderdale would drop to \$5.50.

Outdoor parking is free at its stations.

Tri-Rail last raised its prices in 2020, the first hike in 10 years. Brightline's prices have gradually risen. It raised the cost of a monthly pass by about 15% in November and said in a December report it expects further increases due to likely higher demand related to the Aventura and Boca Raton stations. ★

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A spotted skunk checks out a turtle egg. Photo provided by David Anderson/Gumbo Limbo



The Eastern spotted skunk rescued at Gumbo Limbo and treated in Fort Lauderdale is released back to its native hammock habitat in Boca Raton. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

## SKUNK

Continued from page 1

The Eastern spotted skunk is considered a “species of greatest conservation need” in the state, according to the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission.

In Boca, besides the beach area and mangroves, the skunks can be found playing along the roots of the big trees lining the boardwalk of Gumbo Limbo Nature Center.

### Nearly terminated with the termites

It is at Gumbo Limbo where one skunk’s tale of near death and resurrection, of lost and found, made two veterinarians cry.

In mid-December, a male skunk ended up trapped under the nature center’s main building while it was undergoing weeklong fumigation for termites.

David Anderson, Gumbo Limbo’s sea turtle conservation coordinator, said staff doesn’t believe the skunk was there

when the tent went up because staff did several walk-throughs and inspections under the building.

“Anything trapped would probably not have survived. So, we suspect the skunk entered immediately after or found a way in right before it was removed,” Anderson said of the tenting.

Either way, the skunk was in dire straits.

It was sent to Fort Lauderdale’s South Florida Wildlife Center, where it fell under the care of medical director Dr. Charlotte Cournoyer and veterinarian Dr. Erica Sheppard. They nursed him back to life, feeding him by hand until he was back to his skunk self.

“He was a tough case when he came into the center. He was suffering seizures,” Cournoyer said. “It was a very long road for him.”

The vets don’t name their patients so they don’t become attached to the animals, but he won them over anyway. “He’s a special little case,” Sheppard

said.

A handful of visitors and staff were on hand on Feb. 2 to witness the skunk’s return to Gumbo Limbo. He was released right next to the center’s main building where he almost met his demise.

Sheppard and Cournoyer watched as their patient poked his head out of a pet carrier and ventured slowly but surely into the brush.

They hugged and wiped tears from their eyes, counting one more animal rescue — a total now more than 8,900 — for the center.

Anderson was also on hand for the homecoming.

He said he once was cleaning out a sea turtle nest when a skunk came right up to him as he removed rotten eggs. One time, a skunk rolled away with a rotten sea turtle egg, guiding it across the sand as if it were a prized boulder.

The skunks will get to live turtle eggs as well, burrowing into nests. “There’s not much we can do about it because they are too small,” Anderson said.

“They only take an egg or two.”

### Yes, it sprays when threatened

Skunk sightings are like falling stars — rare but always noteworthy. The best time to catch sight of the skunks appears to be at around sunrise. Regulars are well acquainted with the creatures.

Chandrika Khera first spotted them while walking her newborn in Red Reef Park, saying she was hyper-vigilant as a new mom.

“The first time I was like, what kind of animal is this?” she said. “I Googled and I found it was a skunk. They’re cute. That’s why I keep looking for them.”

The native species is known for its spraying behavior. When spooked it will stomp its feet, give a warning hiss or squeal, and do a headstand with its tail extended, trying to look as big and threatening as possible. If that fails, well, then the perceived threat is drenched in a foul-smelling musk that the skunk sprays up to 15 feet.

This weasel-shaped skunk actually has four stripes in a broken pattern that gives the animal its spots. There is always one white spot on the head.

Found in Canada, northeastern Mexico and much of the U.S. east of the Rockies, the animal has seen its numbers decline over the years in the Midwest but has found a home in South Florida.

The skunks are not just Boca bound, either. They can be found up Florida’s east coast.

The Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission says the range of the spotted skunk extends from the Keys to the extreme northeast portion of the state — but more data is needed.

The state agency separates the spotted skunk into two subspecies — the Appalachian and the Florida, with the latter dominating south of the Suwannee River. FWC even conducted a skunk observation project to find out more, but the agency did not return calls or emails for further details. ★

## Boca Raton

### Bid for new Gumbo Limbo tower comes in \$200,000 lower

By Steve Plunkett

Work to build an observation tower at the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center with a multi-level ramp making the top deck accessible to the disabled will begin soon.

The City Council on Feb. 28 approved a \$2.4 million bid for the project plus about \$300,000 for contingencies. That was down from a \$2.6 million bid in February 2022 that did not include contingencies, said Briann Harms, executive director of the Greater Boca Raton Beach and Park District, which funds the nature center.

“I’m happy to hear that we’re moving forward. The public who ask about it all the time will be able to actually use it at some point in the future,” District Commissioner Bob Rollins said.

After engineers in early 2015 declared the tower and the adjoining boardwalk unsafe,

the city removed them. The boardwalk was rebuilt in phases and fully reopened in July 2019.

Six 40-foot-tall wooden posts for the tower were embedded in concrete in spring 2019, but work halted when officials decided the replacement would have to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The not-for-profit Gumbo Limbo Coastal Stewards, then known as the Friends of Gumbo Limbo, proposed building an “inclined elevator.” Stephen Kosowsky and Sharilyn Jones pledged \$250,000 for the project in return for naming the tower after their son, Jacob, who had died in a recent car accident. The Stewards collected more than \$250,000 to match the donation in a “Save the Tower” fundraising campaign.

City officials later scrapped the elevator plan in favor of a \$1.4 million multi-level ramp to the observation deck. But they and

district officials were stunned in early 2022 when they received only one bid — for \$2.6 million.

The district set aside that amount in its current budget.

The project was rebid in November with three companies responding and the winning award going to Walker Design & Construction Co., resulting in \$200,000 in savings.

The city owns and staffs Gumbo Limbo, which is part of Red Reef Park. The Beach and Park District pays for all its operations and maintenance as well as all capital improvements.

**In other action**, the district on Feb. 6 deferred holding a public hearing on whether to cap the amount it pays to the city’s downtown Community Redevelopment Agency. Harms said she wants to find out if the city will let the CRA dissolve, or sunset, as scheduled in 2025. ★

### City wins grant money to fight sea level rise

Boca Raton has been awarded more than \$1.3 million in state Resilient Florida grants to help pay for projects that protect against rising sea levels.

A \$700,000 grant went to the Lake Wyman restoration and improvement program that includes mangrove habitat restoration and shoreline stabilization, among many other improvements.

A \$627,500 grant was awarded to a stormwater infrastructure project in the Old Floresta neighborhood, west of City Hall. That project is part of the city’s Innovative Sustainable Infrastructure Program to improve water and sewer pipes.

The state grants, announced by Gov. Ron DeSantis on Feb. 6, total \$275 million, with \$180 million going to South Florida cities that are most impacted by rising seas. Additional grants will be made later this year.

In 2021, DeSantis announced he would spend \$1 billion in state money to help cities and towns adapt to sea level rise.

The city also received a \$300,000 grant on Feb. 1 from the U.S. Department of Transportation to create a plan to reach a goal of no severe traffic injuries or deaths in the city as part of the national Vision Zero program.

The 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.

— Mary Hladky

## Delray Beach

# Balance of power on ballot in commission elections

By John Pacenti

The undercurrent in the Delray Beach City Commission races is electric, abuzz with whether to put a muzzle — or at least a leash — on future development.

In that sense, the March 14 election is very much about whether to turn back to the “old guard” that paved the way for much of the current development and to curtail development-critic Mayor Shelly Petrolia’s power.

Businessman Rob Long, 38, is trying to unseat first-term Commissioner Juli Casale, 54, for the District 2 seat. Casale, an ally of Petrolia, has been skeptical of new developments coming before the commission.

Community activist and former schoolteacher Angela Burns, 57, is taking on former Commissioner Angie Gray, 57, for the District 4 seat being vacated by term-limited Commissioner Shirley Johnson.

Petrolia, Casale and Johnson sometimes formed a female triad on a commission long dominated by men, coming together on 3-2 votes to oust the former Old School Square operators, to give commissioners a substantial pay raise and to fire George Gretsas as city manager.

With Casale’s and Johnson’s seats in the election mix, the outcome could shift the balance of power on the commission.

### Campaign connections

Long and Burns have teamed up, echoing each other on the issues — particularly that Team Petrolia has created discord, incivility and division.

“I think there’s a toxic culture on our commission right now,” Long said at a Feb. 13 candidate forum at Mt. Olive Baptist Church sponsored by the League of Women Voters.

“Our City Hall is not stable,” Burns said at a Feb. 6 forum at the Opal Grand Resort sponsored by the Beach Property Owners Association.

Long and Burns share the same political consultant — Cornerstone Solutions — and at one event, at the Abbey Delray South senior community, the same person answered questions for them when they could not attend.

If elected, both said they would try to return the running of Old School Square back to the nonprofit that had been in charge before the commission ended the lease because of financial concerns. The commission in February reached agreement with the Downtown Development Authority for it to take over management of the historic campus.

Long and Burns also want to make the Community Redevelopment Agency independent from the commission again. The commission took over the CRA

in 2018 because critics said it was pouring money into non-blighted areas and ignoring everything west of Swinton Avenue.

They are backed by developers and the city’s old guard.

Long and Burns, in their campaign disclosures, show donations from Bill Branning, owner of BSA Construction; Chuck Halberg, owner of Stuart & Shelby Development; William Walsh, owner of Ocean Properties; and Scott Porten of the real estate development firm Porten Companies.

The law firm of land-use attorney Bonnie Miskel also donated to Long and Burns, as have a number of high-profile members of the Friends of Delray who are incensed about the changes at Old School Square.

Long certainly has the old guard in his corner. Former mayors Jeff Perlman, Jay Alperin, Tom Lynch, Rita Ellis and David Schmidt have endorsed him. None of them has served in more than a decade.

Perlman is vice president of CDS International Holdings, which was involved in the Atlantic Crossing and Parks of Delray projects.

While their campaigns may have teamed up at times, Burns told *The Coastal Star* she is her own candidate and not in lockstep with Long.

“The notion that my opponents have made that my views are not my own is a personal attack that I am too ignorant to have my own opinions,” she said. “Anyone who knows me, knows I always speak up and have always worked to better my community.”

### Opponents also connected

Casale and Gray appear to have informally teamed up as well, with supporters producing literature touting both candidates. Their signs are coupled along Congress Avenue.

A real estate agent, Gray says her priorities are addressing over-development, workforce and essential housing, traffic, parking and aging infrastructure.

Burns has brought up the fact that Gray in 2015 was acquitted on misdemeanor ethics charges regarding failure to disclose a conflict of interest.

### Endorsers and developers

While Long and Gray listed their endorsements at both candidate forums, Casale told the audience at the BPOA town hall that she doesn’t seek endorsements because those special interests always want something in return.

“I want to serve the residents and I want to be beholden to the residents,” she said.

Casale squeaked to victory in 2020 by a 120-vote margin, propelled by her successful opposition to a 102-unit

### Delray Beach candidates on the issues

The following candidate excerpts are from either a forum sponsored by the Beach Property Owners Association (BPOA) or by the League of Women Voters (LWV).

#### On workforce housing (LWV):

**Juli Casale:** “The biggest issue we have is the developers are providing what they’re calling workforce housing, but they’re providing it at a very high rate. And it’s not affordable to the people in our city who need housing. So we are making a trade-off with these developers and getting nothing in return.”

**Rob Long:** “I’ll continue to incentivize developers to build affordable housing units, putting the burden on them, not on taxpayers.”

**Angela Burns:** “I would look at increasing the budget from the CRA for refurbishing homes — repair the homes that we have. We have a lot of legacy homes in Delray.”

**Angie Gray:** “I will just continue to do what we’re doing now. I mean, the CRA has been working very successfully.”

#### On climate change and sea wall heights (BPOA):

**Casale:** “We had talked about doing incentive programs for the residents, to encourage them on private property to want to do it for themselves. Most people do because their property is getting flooded.”

**Long:** “This isn’t just a Delray Beach issue. This is a county issue. This is a South Florida issue. This is a coastal issue.”

**Burns:** “I do believe that we need to have a policy in place that will address the public and private requirements of sea walls, a policy that takes care of the barrier island all together.”

**Gray:** “The first thing that we do is from Day One, I will get together with our city manager to create a task force.”

#### On preserving and enhancing public facilities (BPOA):

**Casale:** “The beach is utilized in a number of different ways and lately we’re even finding people are sleeping out there. ... We are working on that in the most compassionate way.”

**Long:** “Parks and Rec got some of their budget cut and they were handed Old School Square last year. They’re spread so thin. ... So, I’ll work toward taking items off their plate.”

**Burns:** “Delray Beach is very good at building things but has not been very good at maintaining things.”

**Gray:** “I will make sure that we put in a maintenance program. That is one of my priorities.”

development in her Sabal Lakes neighborhood.

She said voters need to look at development projects that have come before her on the commission and before Long on the Planning & Zoning Board.

Long served on the P&Z Board from 2018 to 2022.

His business — Door 2 Door Strategies — does grassroots outreach for politicians and developers.

Casale said project developers look to go beyond what is permitted and she said Long consistently recommended giving them the green light.

“I certainly am not against development. I am certainly against out-of-control over-development and I am definitely for protecting our quality of life,” she said.

Casale has ruffled feathers delving into the city’s finances. At the BPOA forum, she said she found as much as \$2.5 million misallocated to the fire department that could go to expand the Freebie electric car service or some other need.

### Criticisms and allegations

Long hasn’t been shy about attacking city leadership.

He tangled with Petrolia, Casale and Johnson when he publicly criticized the

city’s drinking water quality, leading Petrolia at the time to call unsuccessfully for his removal from the P&Z Board. The current commission has approved a \$130 million water treatment plant.

“In the last three years that my opponent has been serving as commissioner, has traffic gotten better, has parking downtown gotten easier, or utility prices gone down?” Long asked at the Mt. Olive forum.

“Do you have confidence in the safety of our drinking water? Is the city involved in less lawsuits?”

Both the Old School Square and the Gretsas decisions have resulted in litigation.

Speaking of litigation, Long on Feb. 9 filed a defamation lawsuit against Chris Davey, who is chairman of the P&Z Board and an ally of Petrolia and Casale.

Long claimed in the complaint that Davey falsely portrayed him as “a corrupt public official,” “burdened by debt” and “committing financial crimes.”

Some of the same allegations surfaced in an editorial by the *South Florida Sun Sentinel* titled, “The long, hidden reach of developers in Delray Beach.”

The newspaper said land-use

attorney Miskel referred clients to Long’s business while she was appearing before the P&Z Board representing a development project. Long said he followed the advice of an assistant city attorney when the Aura Delray Beach project came before the board.

“The city attorney has said I did the right thing by following this process,” Long said when asked.

Long told *The Coastal Star* that if elected he would “limit my clients to ensure I have no voting conflicts. If there’s ever a question about it, I will request and follow the advice of the City Attorney’s Office.”

Casale and Davey, though, say Long voted on other Miskel projects as well: Parks of Delray, the Central Business District Railroad, Delray Central House and Delray Swan.

Cornerstone, speaking for Long, said there were no conflicts of interest on those projects.

Miskel told *The Coastal Star* she may have referred two clients to Long. “You know, he did what he was supposed to do as a board member — he disclosed,” she said.

### Experience vs. the outsider

In District 4, Gray is the one boasting of government experience. She served on the City Commission for five years and is currently one of only two non-commissioners on the Community Redevelopment Agency’s governing board.

Gray also sits on the Palm Beach County Solid Waste Authority’s Small Business Advisory Committee and had been a member of the county’s Health Care District Board when she was a city commissioner.

She stressed at the forums her “institutional knowledge” and she defended the CRA at the Mt. Olive Baptist Church forum.

Her opponent says the CRA is not looking out for the interests of residents. “The CRA is doing just what CRAs do — and that is to gentrify,” Burns said.

Gray, though, says she is proud that the CRA has started pumping money into the western Delray Beach communities since the agency has been put under the commission. She pointed out that Burns got a \$66,000 CRA grant for her business, a daiquiri bar, that went belly-up.

“We helped your business,” Gray told her opponent. “If you look around in our community, a lot of things have been done in the last five years.”

Burns draws a contrast to Gray, painting herself as the only true outsider. When she wasn’t agreeing with Long, Burns hammered on the lack of maintenance in Delray Beach.

“I’m the only candidate running in this race who is not a politician. I’m an educator, and I am a communicator,” she said at the Mt. Olive forum. ★

## Delray Beach

# Public safety, park referendums seek \$120 million in new property taxes

By John Pacenti

If Delray Beach voters approve a \$100 million public safety bond referendum March 14, \$80 million of the proceeds will be used to pay for a new Police Department headquarters — or to cover the cost of a major renovation and expansion of the existing headquarters on West Atlantic Avenue.

The remaining \$20 million is targeted for the renovation of aging fire stations, but there have been no specific details released as to how those dollars would be divided.

The police station priority was unveiled to voters at a Feb. 23 town hall meeting at the Old School Square gymnasium, just three weeks before Election Day.

The public safety bond is one of two referendums on the election ballot for voters to decide. The other is a \$20 million parks bond, with most of its money going for improvements at Catherine Strong Park. Some money would be used at Miller Park and others in the city.

Residents at the town hall expressed dismay at the lack of information about the bonds since they were announced in September. Some thought the amounts sought were outrageous; others wondered if

the money would be enough.

The fire department last year gave renovation estimates of \$50 million for its headquarters at 501 W. Atlantic Ave., Station 115 on Old Germantown Road and Station 114 on Lake Ida Road. The city has said the proposed general obligation bond would also pay for renovations for Station 112 on Andrews Avenue and the Ocean Rescue headquarters on Ocean Boulevard.

But apparently Station 114, the youngest of the bunch, is off the table. Last year, the fire department said it needed \$4.6 million to renovate it.

At the meeting, Fire Chief Keith Tomey also addressed concerns voiced repeatedly about a proposal that would move Station 112 to Anchor Park, combining it with Ocean Rescue. Residents said they were worried about the noise or the fate of the playground.

“We are so far away from anything actually breaking ground that there’ll probably be more thoughts and ideas and concepts before we actually decide,” Tomey said.

The city’s literature is clear: The plan is to renovate existing fire stations, not build new ones.

Information was added to the city’s bond referendum website at the end of February

to tell voters that the money wouldn’t be used to build new fire stations at Anchor Park or Atlantic Dunes Park on the barrier island.

Friends of Delray, an outspoken nonprofit group that has been critical of city leaders, dedicated a podcast in mid-February to the two bonds, with guests addressing how voters have been kept in the dark.

Former Mayor Jay Alperin said on the group’s webcast that he couldn’t get answers from the city when he asked for specifics earlier this year.

He noted that in the 1980s he was involved in a bond issue where city officials canvassed neighborhoods for months to tell people what was proposed.

“This is a whole different way of handling a bond and it scares me that people won’t know in time to get really specific on what they are going to get for an increase in their taxes,” he said.

But City Manager Terrence Moore told residents at the town hall that the city’s quality of life would be greatly impacted if the bond initiatives don’t pass.

“Then we are back to the drawing board, so to speak. All the needs and all the projects will be delayed,” he said. The city has simply outgrown its current infrastructure with populations increasing from

47,748 to 66,911 since 1990, Moore said.

Some voters said that the electorate wasn’t ready to make such a big commitment.

“Most people haven’t heard about this yet and we are supposed to vote on it in a few weeks,” said Karen O’Neill. “And realistically, the concern is, are we ready to vote on this?”

Susan Hansford wanted more specifics on why voters needed to approve such a large amount. “They cannot ask us for this kind of money,” she told *The Coastal Star*. “It’s asking us to sign a blank check.”

A general obligation bond is paid by revenue from property taxes. The city is required to levy enough property tax to pay for the debt service on the bond.

The estimated cost over 30 years to a resident with a home having \$1 million in taxable assessed value would be \$428 for the first year of the public safety bond. That amount would decrease to \$360 annually when the city retires two previous bonds next February.

The parks and recreation bond is a separate cost. The 30-year estimated cost will be an additional \$88 annually for a home with a \$1 million taxable assessed value.

The taxable assessed value on a home is almost always less

than its market value.

The parks bond is specifically geared to Catherine Strong Park at 1500 SW Sixth St., to pay for covered basketball courts, a covered practice field, walking trails and improvements to restrooms and lighting.

A question was raised at the town hall about whether the money can be used to renovate the city’s golf course. Moore said it could not because the course is a “de facto enterprise.”

Police Chief Russ Mager painted a bleak picture of his current headquarters.

“Roof leaks, tons of leaks,” he said, adding that the department has started converting closets into office space.

The city is contemplating whether to raze the police headquarters and start with a new floor plan, or to add floors to the existing structures.

Tomey spelled out the needs of the fire department, saying many of the existing stations were built 30 years ago when the department had fewer firefighters, fewer vehicles and a nearly all-male staff. Women now make up 20% of the operational staff of the department, he said.

“We’re not quite as bad as the PD where we got people in closets but we’re getting pretty close,” Tomey said. ★



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## Boynton Beach

# Commission OKs big new Town Square project

By Tao Woolfe

The Boynton Beach City Commission — following a marathon meeting on Feb. 21 lasting until 2 a.m. — granted several approvals to a reimagined Town Square, which will be the largest development in the city's history.

The overall development plan includes:

- 898 luxury rental apartments spread out into two 80-foot-tall buildings and over four city blocks
- About 23,000 square feet of commercial space
- A hotel
- Interior courtyards filled with trees, a swimming pool and other amenities
- Two parking garages with a total of 2,338 spaces, some 533 of which would be for the public and city employees.

The approvals were granted to Time Equities Inc., a New York-based developer that will take over the long-stalled project from JKM BTS Capital LLC.

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

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

The project's lead developer, E2L Real Estate Solutions, did complete the public buildings — City Hall, the library and an amphitheater — but JKM failed to deliver on the 2,000-space parking garages and the residential and commercial mixed-use project slated for 15.5 acres between Boynton Beach Boulevard and Southeast Second Avenue.

The city sued JKM in November 2020. That suit is still pending, but will be dismissed once several pieces of a recent settlement agreement fall into place.

The major terms of the settlement agreement include:

- The city will be paid \$4.5 million by JKM.
- The developer will pay



An overview of the development plan for the new Town Square shows two buildings, north and south of City Hall, with 898 luxury rentals and about 23,000 square feet of commercial space, plus a hotel and two parking garages with a total of 2,338 spaces. The rendering shows the corner of Boynton Beach and Seacrest boulevards. **Rendering provided**

the city another \$100,000 in attorneys' fees for related litigation.

- JKM will sell three parcels of land conveyed by the city for the project to another developer.

- As part of the purchase agreement, the new developer must agree to provide sufficient parking for the project as well as sufficient public parking.

"If any of the conditions are not satisfied, the Settlement Agreement will become null and void," the agreement stipulates.

The city's approval of Time Equities' proposal is the first step toward moving the stalled project forward.

"The project is the largest in the city's history and has costs close to half a billion dollars," City Manager Dan Dugger said at the outset of the Feb. 21 meeting. "The scope is so great. The potential is equally great."

The scope, however, was criticized by members of the public who asked that the density be lessened.

"This is not the downtown the city has been talking about," said Courtlandt McQuire, a nightclub owner and member of the Planning and Development Board. "It's high-density housing. Planning and development did not vote in favor of it."

But the prevailing sentiment among the speakers was that the city is lucky to have such a qualified developer willing to step in to finish the failed project.

"You've got a competent, reputable builder here," said resident Harry Woodworth. "Do we need more lawyers? Do we need more litigation? This is one of the better developments I've seen."

"Density is on the high side, but it's not Boynton Bland," said resident Michael Wilson. "This packs in quite a bit of architectural design."

Robert Singer, Time Equities development director, said the company had worked hard with the city staff to come up with a proposal that has less density — and more amenities — than those

outlined by the city's zoning code.

For example, he said, the new mixed-use city code approved in January allows for 962 dwelling units; building heights of up to 99 feet, and only 10,000 square feet of retail space. The proposal calls for 898 dwelling units, 80-foot building heights, and more than doubles the retail space.

The 28-foot setbacks from the street, designed to make the complex more friendly for pedestrians, are nearly triple the 10-foot setbacks required by code.

"This is a marriage," Singer said. "It does require some trust."

After some discussion about further limiting the density, commission members agreed to trust that the developer would not come back to the city to request more units.

Singer said a study found that the flow of traffic would be "sufficient" once the complex is built.

Under an agreement option, Time Equities has

elected to pay \$4.5 million into a housing trust fund to subsidize workforce housing units in other parts of the city. The program is known as payment-in-lieu of construction of workforce housing.

Time Equities must make the payment — which breaks down into 123 rental units at about \$37,000 per unit — when the building permit is issued, Assistant City Manager Adam Temple said after the meeting.

The next steps will be site plan approvals for the next two phases from the City Commission and the Planning and Development Board; permitting; and construction.

Neither the developer nor the city planning staff said how long it might be before the shovels hit the ground or how long construction will take.

Once all the approvals have been gathered, the Town Square developer has 5.5 years to finish the project, according to terms of the agreement. ★

## It's official: Little League Park to get renovations, training center

By Tao Woolfe

Phil Terrano, the man who wants to revive East Boynton Beach's Little League Park, delivered the payoff pitch to the City Commission last month.

Not only did the commissioners vote unanimously on Feb. 21 in favor of revitalizing the park on Woolbright Road, they asked Terrano to more than triple the size of his proposed indoor training facility.

Terrano had proposed building a 7,500-square-foot training facility. City officials — who had toured similar

facilities — originally said they would like him to build a 12,000-square-foot building.

Recreation director Kacy Young, working with the building department, later determined that a 28,000-square-foot facility would better suit the city's needs. Although it will have a special emphasis on baseball, training at the facility will be for all major sports and could be a draw for professional athletes, Terrano has told the city.

Services offered will include speed, agility, strength and conditioning training, nutrition programs, batting

cages, pro clay bullpen mounds, data assessment, physical therapy, chiropractic services, youth camps and scholarship programs.

Terrano, an agent for major league baseball players, has also said he and his investors envision adding turf fields and making the park accessible for people with disabilities. The city would also like to spruce up the existing grass fields, add tee ball and artificial turf fields, and upgrade the bathrooms and concession stands, Young has said.

Terrano had hoped to have the work completed by summer, but Young said a

year would be a more realistic timetable.

Neighbors of the park who live in the High Point complex said they welcome the upgrade. A couple of other residents expressed safety concerns and said they would rather see the property used to enlarge the city cemetery.

Terrano said the veterans memorial wall, which is on the north side of the parcel, will be kept intact and meticulously maintained.

"This will be a destination ballpark that everyone can come to," Terrano said. "I want Boynton Beach to have the best — a field of dreams." ★

## Boynton Beach

# City allows zone, site plan changes for The Pierce

By Tao Woolfe

The Boynton Beach City Commission last month approved some site plan changes to The Pierce — a \$73 million downtown complex of apartments, restaurants, retail stores and green space at 115 N. Federal Highway.

Affiliated Development received the city's blessing on Feb. 21 to rezone the 2.3-acre complex to a new mixed-use downtown core designation; tweak the master and site plans; redesign the parking garage; and abandon some alleyways.

Affiliated Development CEO Jeff Burns also showed the city several new artist's renderings of the complex and described some of its features.

"This is going to be a luxury development with world-class amenities," Burns said.

The Pierce will offer 150 units each of workforce and market-rate luxury rental apartments. It will have 17,000 square feet of commercial area that will accommodate restaurants, office space and retail stores.

It will feature public art projects including murals and a huge, perforated metal corner treatment on the south parking garage emblazoned with nautical images and lettering that says "Welcome to Boynton Beach."

"It will look like a postcard," Burns said, adding that Brightline train passengers will be able to see it and know what city they are passing through.

The restaurants, including a freestanding new building for Hurricane Alley, and wide sidewalks will provide "an active, engaged area with day and night activity," Burns said.

The lush landscaping, game lawn and redesigned setbacks will provide "a nice level of connectivity." Even the parking garages will be buffered by trees and shrubs, including "pops of color" from bougainvillea on the upper levels, Burns said.

The garages will offer 450 spaces, 150 of which will be for public parking.

The commission approved most of the changes, but asked the developer to work with merchants, especially the owner of the Ace Hardware, to ensure that if the rights of way are abandoned, delivery trucks have enough room to get in and out.

Burns agreed.

Commissioner Thomas Turkin, who often says he would like to see less density in downtown projects, said he admires the way Affiliated has worked with the community to create The Pierce.

"I think every developer should take the same approach and maximize community involvement," Turkin said.

Vice Mayor Angela Cruz agreed.

"It's a beautiful project," she said. "I am really, really

happy this is coming to our downtown."

The timetable will depend on how long it takes to secure permits, Burns has said.

Among the approvals needed: a master site plan from planning and zoning; a land development permit from the city's engineering department; site and building permits from the building department, and the completion of several inspections, according to a building department spokesperson.

"We could complete the construction, start to finish, in 20 months," Burns told the City Commission last summer. "It's not unreasonable to expect to have a shovel in the ground by next year."

The project will come before the commission again for more approvals on March 9. ★



The Pierce downtown complex with 300 rental apartments and 17,000 square feet of commercial area will be along Federal Highway between Boynton Beach Boulevard and Ocean Avenue. The Hurricane Alley restaurant — the small building at left — is relocated to the project's northwest corner. **Rendering provided**



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## Business Spotlight

# Movie theaters at Florida Atlantic University close

Living Room Theaters, which was located in Florida Atlantic University's Culture and Society building on the Boca Raton campus, closed in February, citing low attendance due to the pandemic.

Independent and foreign films were shown on four screens since 2010 in a public/private collaboration with the university.

Founded in 2006 by Ernesto Rimoch, Living Room Theaters still has locations in Portland, Oregon, and Indianapolis.

The closure of Living Room Theaters is a loss to the university, its students and the local community, said Carol Mills, professor and director of FAU's School of Communication and Multimedia Studies.

She also said that "in the School of Communication and Multimedia Studies, we will be retaining at least two of the theaters for student classes because that is foundational for a superior film education experience. We are exploring opportunities to continue community programming, as well.

"The remainder of the space will be converted to a state-of-the-art digital media production hub for filmmaking and



Florida Atlantic University plans to use the closed Living Room Theaters on its Boca Raton campus for student classes and for a digital media production hub. **Photo provided**

entertainment content creation, social media and public opinion research, and broadcast journalism."

A new Delray Beach business called **Love and Healing Energy** features a 24-unit Energy Enhancement System, or EES, that allows the body to recharge itself.

During a session, "you immerse yourself in scalar and bio-photonic waves while listening to high frequency music as you rest in anti-gravity chairs in our spa setting," according to owner **Michelle Kaplan**.

The system, invented by **Sandra Rose Michael, Ph.D.**, is not a medical device and does not heal you, Kaplan explains. "What it does do is balance and



**Kaplan and Michael**

restore the power of your own DNA so that the body can heal itself."

The EES brings cells back to that optimal charge so that they can function again and allows the body to do the work that it needs to do.

Clients say that after a session they feel a release of stress, tension and anxiety. Often, they report feeling a reduction in inflammation and general

body pain. A feeling of energy and clearness of mind is also commonly reported.

Love and Healing Energy opened in January at 2196 W. Atlantic Ave. For more information, call 561-270-1850 or visit [www.loveandhealingenergy.com](http://www.loveandhealingenergy.com).

A similar, although not related business, the **Energy Room**, opened last fall at 200 W. Palmetto Park Road, Suite 204, Boca Raton. For more information, call 561-210-0502 or visit [www.theenergyroom.org](http://www.theenergyroom.org).

**GoodVets**, a national veterinarian partner-led animal hospital platform, has opened a new practice at 9884 S. Jog Road, Suite D6, Boynton Beach, in partnership with local veterinarian **Dr. Victoria Tomasino**. Tomasino also plans to open a Delray Beach location this spring. GoodVets offers online booking at <https://goodvets.com/locations/delray-boynton/boynton>.

Three local resorts have been awarded five-star ratings from the 2023 Forbes Travel Guide.

For the ninth consecutive year, **Eau Palm Beach Resort & Spa** in Manalapan has been awarded a five-star rating. Individually, **Eau Spa** also won

a five-star rating for the ninth year in a row.

"We are thrilled once again to be recognized with the prestigious Forbes Five-Star rating for Eau Palm Beach Resort & Spa in 2023, making us only one of seven double-star hotel and spa winners in Florida," said Tim Nardi, general manager. "It is an extremely difficult test to pass, and our dedicated staff works diligently every day to ensure all our guests receive a first-class experience here in Palm Beach."

**The Four Seasons Resort** in Palm Beach is on the five-star list, as well, as it has been for 25 years. The resort's spa has received five stars from Forbes for seven consecutive years.

"Receiving the Forbes Five-Star distinction for the 25th consecutive year and recognition for our flagship restaurant **Florie's** by Mauro Colagreco fills me with immense pride to work alongside each individual who made this possible," said Mohamed Elbanna, regional vice president and general manager. "Behind every memorable moment is a heartfelt passion to make a connection and leave a lasting impression, whether soaking in sunny oceanside hospitality or taking in the thoughtful touches



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in their guest rooms, our guests can feel that each detail is delivered with love.”

Also receiving five-star ratings this year were the **Boca Raton Beach Club**, part of **The Boca Raton** — and the property’s signature wellness oasis, **Spa Palmera**.

“This success is a testament to our dedicated team at The Boca Raton,” said Daniel A. Hostettler, president and CEO. “We will continue to raise the bar on our properties to meet and exceed Forbes’ rigorous luxury standards.”

Under the leadership of Jan Kinder, chair of the **Delray Business Partners**, the **Greater Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce’s** leads group has set a record for collaborating with one another. During 2022, its 30 members generated more than \$202,221 of gross sales by doing business with one another and by referring their colleagues in the group to potential clients. For more information visit <https://delraybusinesspartners.com>.

**Steven Abrams** has joined **LSN Partners** as a managing partner of its Palm Beach County practice. Abrams focuses on the transportation and emergency management practice groups. Abrams was elected to the Boca Raton City Council in 1989 and was then city mayor for two terms. Subsequently, he served as a Palm Beach County commissioner, including a term as county mayor. He now joins LSN after 12 years with the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority, where he was chairman and then executive director.

Abrams also has accepted a position as a partner of **LSN Law, P.A.**, where he will assist clients with land use and zoning, contracts and procurement, and permitting and licensing.

**Dr. Safiya George** was named to the **Boca Helping Hands’** board of directors. George earned her master’s and doctoral degrees in nursing from Emory University and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at Duke University in religion and health research. She is currently dean and professor at the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing at Florida Atlantic University. Her primary research area aims to promote the health and holistic well-being of individuals with or at risk for HIV/AIDS.

**Erin L. Deady**, attorney and a certified land planner with an office in Delray Beach, recently assisted multiple cities and counties in securing more than \$26 million in funding

from the state of Florida. Local projects included in the funding are \$700,000 for the city of Boca Raton Lake Wyman Living Shoreline project, and \$627,500 for the city’s Old Floresta Innovative Sustainable Stormwater Infrastructure project. The city of Delray Beach received \$10 million for the Historic Marine Way Seawall, Roadway and Drainage improvement and \$2.5 million for the Thomas Street Stormwater Pump Station improvement. For more information, visit <https://erindeadylaw.com>

Volunteers with golf carts are needed to drive World War II and Korean War veterans in the Delray Beach St. Patrick’s Day Parade.

The veterans are grand marshals for the event, which involves a two-mile trip down Atlantic Avenue on March 11. **Veterans & Homefront Voices** is spearheading the search for volunteers with golf carts to help drive the veterans.

Drivers, veterans and other volunteers will decorate the carts together and then ride down Atlantic Avenue to be cheered on by a throng of spectators.

Golf carts and drivers need to be at Holly House at the First Presbyterian Church campus at 33 Gleason Street by 9:45 a.m. Veterans will complete the parade at around 1 p.m.

A picnic for all vets, their families, and volunteers will be held after the parade from 1-2:30 p.m. at Pompey Park, 1101 NW Second St.

To register as a volunteer, go to [bit.ly/DelrayStPattyVetVolsReg](http://bit.ly/DelrayStPattyVetVolsReg).

Veterans who wish to be in the parade can register at [bit.ly/StPattyVetFamReg](http://bit.ly/StPattyVetFamReg).

For more information, contact Conrad Ogletree at [conrad@toplinerev.com](mailto:conrad@toplinerev.com).

The Delray Beach Housing

Authority received the **October 2022 Community Service Award** from the **Delray Beach Police Department** for its work to improve the quality of life for low- and moderate-income families by providing quality housing options.

“Through our partnership with the (police department’s) community outreach team and our commitment to provide affordable housing, seniors

were able to be placed at the Lake Delray Apartments with a federally funded subsidy and have ongoing case management provided to them to ensure that they are able to remain housed and have an opportunity for a sustainable quality of living,” said Shirley Erazo, the housing authority’s president and CEO.

“The housing authority would not have been able to successfully engage these efforts

without the commitment and dedicated services of the community outreach team of Delray Beach.”

Send business news to



Christine Davis at [cdavis9797@gmail.com](mailto:cdavis9797@gmail.com). Mary Thurwachter contributed to this column.



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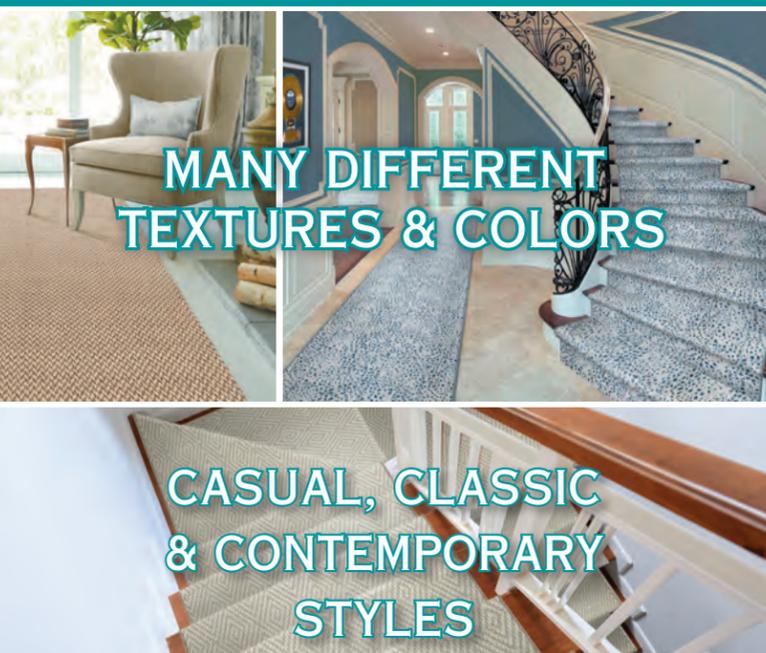
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# Around Town

Celebrations - AT6  
Dining - AT10  
Religion - AT18  
Pets - AT20  
Health & Harmony - AT23  
Tots & Teens - AT27

March 2023

The Coastal  Star

# WELCOME HOME

Achievement Centers for Children & Families hosts a full-scale Delray Beach Home Tour offering a peek inside houses between the ocean and the Intracoastal Story, Page AT5



The backyard of a two-story home on the Delray Beach Home Tour has a hot tub overflowing into the swimming pool surrounded by cut-coral pavers and privacy hedges.



This recently completed three-story home has a seating area in front of the main home, with panoramic views along A1A and the ocean.



A five-bedroom, five-bath home celebrates the history of Delray Beach. The entryway and kitchen of this recently completed house have 11-foot ceilings and a street map of the community. **Photos by Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star**

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Pay It Forward

# Pay It Forward

Note: Events are current as of 2/24. Please check with organizers for any changes.

**MARCH**

**Saturday - 3/4 - Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens' Bamboo and Bonsai Gala** at 4000 Morikami Park Road, Delray Beach. Honor recipients of the George Morikami Cultural Arts Awards while savoring wine and hors d'oeuvres, dancing to live music and watching a fireworks display. 6:30 pm. \$500. 561-233-1316 or morikami.org.

**Wednesday - 3/8 - Boca Raton Historical Society's/The Schmidt Boca Raton History Museum's Bacchus Beckons** at Privaira Private Aviation, 3690 Airport Road, Boca Raton. Kick off Boca Bacchanal, set for April 29 and 30, at an event in hanger No. 9 at the Boca Raton Airport celebrating 20 years of wine and

food. 6:30-8:30 pm. \$60, 561-395-6766, Ext. 101 or bocabacchanal.com.

**Thursday - 3/9 - Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County's Love of Literacy Luncheon** at Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Enjoy featured speaker Paula McLain, a best-selling author and star of historical fiction. 11:30 am. \$175. 561-279-9103 or literacyabc.org.

**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.

**Saturday - 3/11 - Unicorn Children's Foundation's 2023 Gala** at The Boca

Raton, 501 E. Camino Real. Take a trip back to "The Golden Age of Hollywood" at the themed event filled with entertainment, dining and other surprises to benefit those with developmental disabilities. 6 pm. \$400. 561-620-9377 or unicornchildrensfoundation.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. \$125. 561-276-0520 or achievementcentersfl.org/delray-home-tour.

**Thursday - 3/16 - Jewish Adoption and Foster Care Options' Breakfast at Tiffany's Luncheon** at The Polo Club of Boca Raton, 5400 Champion Blvd. Dress up for a day of shopping, lunch and a presentation by Audrey Hepburn expert René Silvin. 10 am boutique, 11:30 am luncheon. \$125. 954-368-1879 or jafco.org.

**Monday - 3/20 - Woman's Club of Delray Beach's Real Men Bake & Rock at the Sock Hop** at Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 N.W. Ninth St. Sample sweet and savory delights baked by a who's-who cast of male volunteers at a '50's-themed benefit for local charities that will include a pop-up history exhibit on the 120-year-old club. 6-9 pm. \$40. 561-870-6345 or delraywomansclub.com.

**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 29<sup>th</sup>-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.

**Monday - 3/27 - Boys & Girls Club of Delray Beach's Be Great Celebration Dinner** at Quail Ridge, 3715 Golf Road, Boynton Beach. Take advantage of the

opportunity to experience the programs offered to youths daily at the club while enjoying a performance by club members and a live auction all while raising money to support summer camp initiatives. 6:30-9:30 pm. \$225. 561-676-5472 or bgcpcb.org.

**Wednesday - 3/29 - Rotary Club Downtown Boca Raton's Honor Your Doctor Luncheon** at Boca West Country Club, 20583 Boca West Drive, Boca Raton. Recognize physicians and celebrate healthcare excellence while benefiting the Helen M. Babione Medical Scholarship. 11:15 am-1:30 pm. \$175. 561-471-2992 or rotarydowntownbocaraton.org.

**APRIL**

**Saturday - 4/22 - Best Foot Forward Foundation's BFF Bash** at The Polo Club of Boca Raton, 5400 Champion Blvd. Learn how youths in foster care are finding success in life through education and prepare to be inspired with the event theme An Enchanted Evening. 6:30-10:30 pm. \$250. 561-470-8300 or bestfoot.org.

**Tick-Tock Juniors, many college application deadlines are seven months away!**



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## Pay It Forward



### In poverty analogy, Junior Leaguers to wear same dresses for five days

By Amy Woods

The little black dress has become an icon. A staple in most women's closets, it hangs ready and waiting as the go-to garment that can be worn on almost any occasion.

The Junior League of Boca Raton plans to capitalize on the ubiquity of the little black dress this month in an effort to raise awareness of the effect poverty has on choices and opportunities.

"Hopefully, the title makes people think," league President Jamie Sauer said of the fourth annual Little Black Dress Initiative taking place March 27 through 31. "At the end of the day, the point is to feel a teeny bit of what it might be like to wear the same outfit every day for five days."

The Little Black Dress Initiative not only will raise awareness of the restrictions poverty places on choices and opportunities, but also illustrate the struggles faced by more than one in 10 Palm Beach County residents living in poverty, the majority of whom are women.

"It's been really successful for us in helping raising money for the community," Sauer said. "It spurs the conversation so you can talk with people about it."

A total of \$15,000 was raised last year. This year's goal is \$20,000. Participants ask family members, friends and social-media followers for sponsorships, and proceeds go toward programs and services for women and children in need. Participants also don "Ask me about my dress" pins and post about their experiences on Facebook, Instagram and other platforms.

"For me, wearing the same black dress makes me realize, 'What does that do for your

confidence and how you feel each day?'" Sauer said. "It's very humbling. It's extra work. It's extra laundry. It's honestly a tough week. It's a very tiny portion of what people with limited resources face." ★



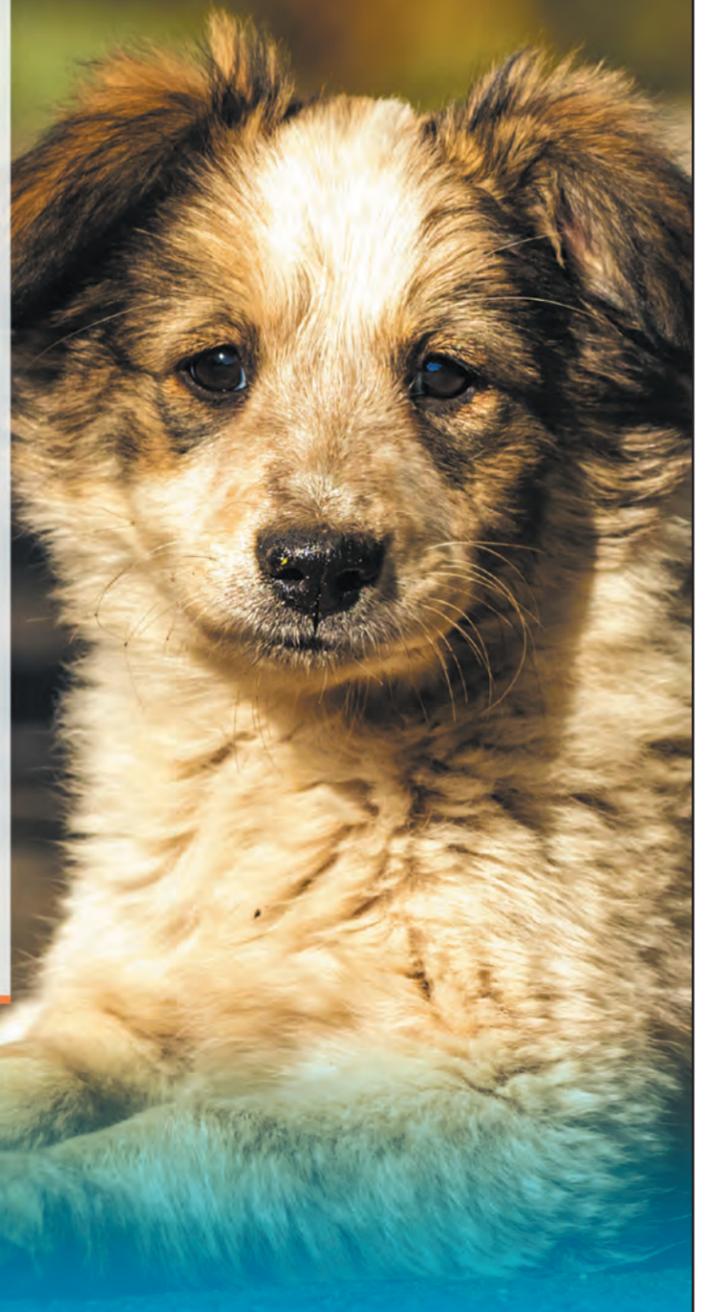
LEFT: Luz Nieto and Laurie Daniel in their black dresses. ABOVE (l-r): Reilly Glasser, Amy Procacci and Ashley Cole. The Junior League hopes to raise \$20,000 in this initiative. Photos provided

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**What:** Little Black Dress Initiative  
**When:** March 27-31  
**Info:** 561-620-2553 or [www.jlbr.org/support-us/little-black-dress-initiative](http://www.jlbr.org/support-us/little-black-dress-initiative)

Philanthropy Notes

# Wayside House lands \$1 million federal grant

U.S. Rep. Lois Frankel, D-West Palm Beach, recently visited Delray Beach's Wayside House — a women's addiction treatment center serving the public since 1974 — and announced \$1 million in new federal funding for the facility.

The money will go toward building additions and improvements to accommodate more clients.

"We are so grateful and proud to be recognized at the federal level for the critical role Wayside House plays in the war against addiction," CEO Lisa McWhorter said. "We are indebted to Rep. Frankel for bringing our work to the attention of Congress."

The investment is one of 15 local nonprofit projects Frankel submitted through a program that allows members of Congress to secure proceeds for specific initiatives in their regions.

"These funds will go a long way in helping Wayside House continue helping women rebuild their lives," McWhorter said.

For more information, call 561-278-0055 or visit [www.waysidehouse.net](http://www.waysidehouse.net).



Marla and Steve Garchik

### 'Keeping the Promise' passes \$240 million

Steve and Marla Garchik have donated \$1 million to "Keeping the Promise — The Campaign for Boca Raton Regional Hospital."

The gift brought the total amount of funds raised to more

than \$240 million. The goal is \$250 million.

"From the moment we walked through the doors, we believed you can truly feel this is a community-driven hospital," Marla Garchik said. "The staff and facilities are a step above."

The Garchiks, who moved to the area 11 years ago, have made multiple visits to the hospital for their parents' care.

"Honestly, we feel so lucky to have found this special place of care for our family members," she said. "We're grateful to the extraordinary nurses, doctors, the foundation and the community outreach of the hospital. Therefore, our promise is to do everything in our power to support this special place."

For more information, call 561-955-4142 or visit [donate.brrh.com](http://donate.brrh.com).

### Achievement Centers appoints new CEO

The Achievement Centers for Children & Families, of service to the Delray Beach and South County communities since 1969, has appointed



DuCille

Adamma DuCille as its CEO.

Former CEO Stephanie Seibel has moved on to a new role as CEO of the organization's

foundation.

"Adamma and I will work collaboratively to develop and expand our programs," Seibel said of DuCille, who joins the agency from the Children's Services Council of Broward County, where she was the director of equity and organizational development.

"Through my new role, I will continue to lead the

organization by spearheading long-term funding objectives, impact efforts and growth initiatives," Seibel said.

For more information call 561-276-4561 or visit [www.achievementcentersfl.org](http://www.achievementcentersfl.org).



Poser-Kammet



Friedman Clark

### Jewish collective helps women juggle work, home

The Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County has relaunched the Professional Jewish Women's Collective, a networking initiative dedicated to bringing together women of all ages and backgrounds to nurture each other's careers.

The PJWC, on hold during the pandemic, provides personal connections, interactive programming and peer support to address the issues that come with balancing work and home. It plans to meet next on May 3.

"The PJWC was born from a shared space where a woman in business, with her own energy, can express her thoughts and ideas openly with a community of women that lift her up to become the best of herself personally and professionally," PJWC co-chairwoman Jill Poser-Kammet said. "The experience is exhilarating."

Co-chairwoman Lisa Friedman Clark said, "After moving to Boca in 2020, it became immediately apparent to me that I didn't have a local network of professional 'fristers,' or friends who are sisters.

"Couple that with all the nuances and challenges of starting my third career, a brand-new family business, and you can understand why I jumped at the chance to chair PJWC."

For more information, call 561-852-3128 or visit [jewishboca.org/professional-jewish-womens-collective-pjwc](http://jewishboca.org/professional-jewish-womens-collective-pjwc).



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

The next edition of *The Coastal Star* will be delivered the weekend of April 1

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Other procedures Nicole performs at Beauty Within include UltraClear laser for skin resurfacing, Morpheus radiofrequency microneedling for skin rejuvenation, SkinPen microneedling with exosomes for hair loss, IPL for pigmentation and redness, and noninvasive body contouring.

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This 1960s home has been fine-tuned over the years and displays many of the owner's travel photos, including this one from New Zealand in the dining room. Photos by Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star

# WELCOME HOME

Achievement Centers for Children & Families hosts its first full-scale Delray Beach Home Tour since the pandemic

By Mary Thurwachter

During the past three years, the Delray Beach Home Tour was a shadow of its previous self and the reason was the pandemic, of course. In 2020, the tour was simply a video event showing highlights of homes, enough to let fans of the popular annual event know they weren't forgotten.

The following two years were mini tours, says Kari Shipley, longtime co-chairwoman of the fundraiser. "We had to limit how many people attended because people were still concerned about COVID."

This year's event, set for 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 15, will return to its pre-pandemic scope.

"We're opening up to full scale," Shipley said. "We're really excited. We've got great sponsors and eight distinctive homes in the beachfront North End neighborhood of Delray Beach. We've got everything from a 1940s cottage to a brand-new house where the owners moved in the 1st of January."

"Now, in the tour's 20th year, we're back to expecting 600-700 people and we've already sold 450 tickets," Shipley said in mid-February. "With less than a month to go, we're pretty sure we'll reach our \$130,000 goal. We've already got \$118,000."



This screen-door insert has graced this Mid-century home for decades through multiple owners.

The North End neighborhood runs from the north side of Atlantic Avenue north to George Bush Boulevard, from the Atlantic Ocean to the Intracoastal Waterway.

Guests can look forward to a leisurely day exploring unique homes, a catered lunch and trolley service between homes, if they like. But Shipley says the seven-block tour is totally walkable for people who choose to hoof it.

"We tell everyone to wear your most comfortable walking shoes," Shipley said.

Parking will be at First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach on Gleason Street, just



A collection of family and celebrity photos highlights the living room wall of this Delray Beach home.

south of Atlantic Avenue.

That's where people can catch the trolley.

Money raised will go to the Achievement Centers for Children & Families, a community-based organization that provides opportunities for under-resourced children to thrive in a positive environment.

The event runs smoothly, Shipley said, thanks to co-chairwoman Noreen Payne, volunteer coordinator Deborah Dowd, staff at the Achievement Centers Foundation office, and the 100 or more volunteers who are stationed at the homes, on the trolley directing people where to go, and at the buffet



Who could ask for a better oceanfront view than the one provided at this home on the east side of A1A?



Whimsical sculptures of dogs at play enliven the entrance to this home on A1A.

luncheon.

The lunch is available from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the historical home of Frank McKinney at 610 N. Ocean Blvd.

"There's a gorgeous big tree with decking all around it and a great ocean view," Shipley said. "People will love having lunch there."

Another highlight will be the dozen plein-air artists who will set up easels around the featured homes and at various places on the route. Attendees can watch the artists work and even buy paintings from them. After the event, paintings will be on display at Chapel 4, a historical museum in a landmark building

in the heart of the Marina Historic District downtown.

The tour started 20 years ago when Achievement Centers board members Anne Bright and Barbara Murphy came up with the idea to raise money for the nonprofit organization. Since then, the event has raised more than \$1.6 million. ★

Tickets for the March 15 tour are \$125. The event runs 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and includes lunch. Advance reservations are necessary. Tickets are available by calling the Achievement Centers Foundation office at 561-266-0003 or ordering at [www.achievementcentersfl.org/delray-home-tour/](http://www.achievementcentersfl.org/delray-home-tour/).

## Celebrations

### Corporate Partners Business Speaker Series

Kravis Center, West Palm Beach — Jan. 11



Former Apple CEO and Pepsi Vice President John Sculley addressed the crowd at the second luncheon of the season. Sculley discussed his career highlights during an interview by Kravis Center board member Jeffrey Stoops. More than 160 corporate partners and their guests attended, listening to the former executive talk about working at Pepsi in the '70s when the brand became known for its marketing innovations and at Apple in the '80s when the Macintosh was launched during the Super Bowl. **ABOVE:** Jane Mitchell and Stoops. **Photo provided by Capehart**

### Luncheon

Sailfish Club of Florida, Palm Beach — Jan. 24



Les Girls of Palm Beach President Martina Covarrubias presented a check to Creative Waves Foundation President Candace Tamposi for the construction of a new enrichment center in Belle Glade. During the gathering, Tamposi provided a history of the foundation and described plans for the facility to provide after-school activities and tutoring for children. A multinational, multilingual women's club with 48 members from 31 countries, Les Girls of Palm Beach donates annually to a local charity. **ABOVE:** Covarrubias and Tamposi. **Photo provided**



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### Laugh with the Library

Private home, Delray Beach — Feb. 10



Good humor and laughter were in abundance at the Delray Beach Public Library's 16th annual fundraiser. Angelo and Mari Bianco served as hosts of the event, which is a perennial favorite for its creative, casual, fun-filled night of comedy, cocktails, and supper-by-the-bite. James Austin Johnson of 'Saturday Night Live' headlined the show, which raised more than \$330,000 and attracted nearly 400 attendees.



**ABOVE:** (l-r) Lindsay Hays Saraj, Mari Bianco, Chiara Clark, Lynsey Kane and Jacqueline Owen.  
**MIDDLE:** (l-r) Bobby, Caron and Robert Dockerty.  
**RIGHT:** Donna Paolino Coia and Brenda Medore.  
**Photos provided**



### Opening reception

Cultural Council for Palm Beach County, Lake Worth Beach — Jan. 26



Several guests attended the debut of the 'Visualizing Climate Disruption' exhibition highlighting more than 40 works from 17 Palm Beach County-based professional artists. On display through April 8, the show focuses on artists' perspectives of climate change. With Florida on the front lines of sea-level rise, climbing temperatures, catastrophic storms, devastation of coral reefs and disappearing sea grasses, the exhibition aims to engage local audiences. **ABOVE:** Sandra Miller Swill stands before a collection of her work. **RIGHT:** Lorraine Rabin and Michelle Marra. **Photos provided by Jacek Gancarz**



# Celebrations

## Glam Philanthropic Affair

Boca Raton Airport — Jan. 28

The third annual GPA, benefiting the Eda & Cliff Viner Community Scholars Foundation, was a festive night of 'funraising.' Tyler Cameron, a contestant on season 15 of 'The Bachelorette,' made an appearance as a special guest. All proceeds will be earmarked for scholarships for accomplished students. This school year, the amount distributed totaled \$860,000. **RIGHT:** (l-r) Elyse Cromer, Amanda, Cliff, Eda and Eric Viner, and Niki Knopf. **Photo provided**



## Sunset cocktail reception

Casa Alva, Manalapan — Jan. 19

Gary and Katherine Parr served as hosts of a party marking the Kravis Center's 30th anniversary. The event honored members of the center's education committee and celebrated the 3 millionth student served by the center's education programs. 'The education committee at the Kravis Center has a long-standing history of collaborating with different organizations in our community to bring the arts and learning to students of all ages,' Katherine Parr said. 'As we look at making the performing arts even more accessible, it's an honor to work with the excellent team at the Kravis Center and an exceptional committee of dedicated community members.' **LEFT:** Katherine and Gary Parr. **ABOVE:** Dan Drennen and David Sarama. **Photos provided by Mary Stucchi**



## 'An Evening with Jay Leno'

Boca West Country Club, Boca Raton — Jan. 8

The Boca West Children's Foundation raised \$1.1 million for projects serving at-risk youths at its annual gala. The event featured entertainment by the acclaimed late-night talk-show host and stand-up comedian as well as performances by Dreyfoos School of the Arts' jazz band and dance department. 'We were thrilled to commemorate our 13th anniversary and the significant impact the foundation has made in our community by supporting local children's charities,' foundation Executive Director Pamela Weinroth said, noting that since its inception in 2010, more than \$18 million has been donated to 30-plus local charities. 'The generosity of our supporters at the gala was overwhelming.' **RIGHT:** (l-r) Emily Cullen, Eileen Rose, Peggy Smith, Bonnie Krich, Tracey Schwartz and Tina Patterson. **Photo provided**



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Dining

# Capt. Frank's new owner brings eclectic tastes to seafood market

By Faran Fagen

Capt. Frank's new owner, Tony Vento, has traveled all over the Mediterranean, up and down the East Coast, and as far north as Quebec.

Every step of the way, he's picked up ingredients for another slice of cuisine. To Vento, each region of the world he's visited symbolizes a signature sizzle in the market's style of sautéing.

"I've learned different cuisine, cultures and passion to food itself," said Vento, who became owner of Capt. Frank's Seafood Market in Boynton Beach in October 2021.

"After working as a chef for the past 23 years, I decided it's time to take everything I've learned and bring it close to home."

The 44-year-old lives in Boynton Beach with his wife, Diana, and their two young boys. He realized a dream when he took ownership of

Capt. Frank's.

Vento graduated from the French Culinary Institute in New York City and worked as a chef in that area until he moved to Miami, where he helped open the Ritz-Carlton in South Beach.

From there, he moved to the Ritz-Carlton Palm Beach in Manalapan (now Eau Palm Beach Resort & Spa).

"I worked with some great leaders and colleagues who I learned a great deal from," Vento said.

Next, he became a private estate/yacht chef. This is where he met former Frank's owner Joe Sclafani.

Sclafani and his team catered Vento's events and charters. The food was a huge hit. Vento sought a way to combine his chef expertise with the warm feeling from Sclafani and his seafood market.

In the early '90s, Sclafani sold his partnership in a seafood market in Rye, New

York, headed to Florida with his family and bought Capt. Frank's Seafood Market.

A year and a half ago, he sold it to Vento. Sclafani still comes in once a week to pick up fresh seafood.

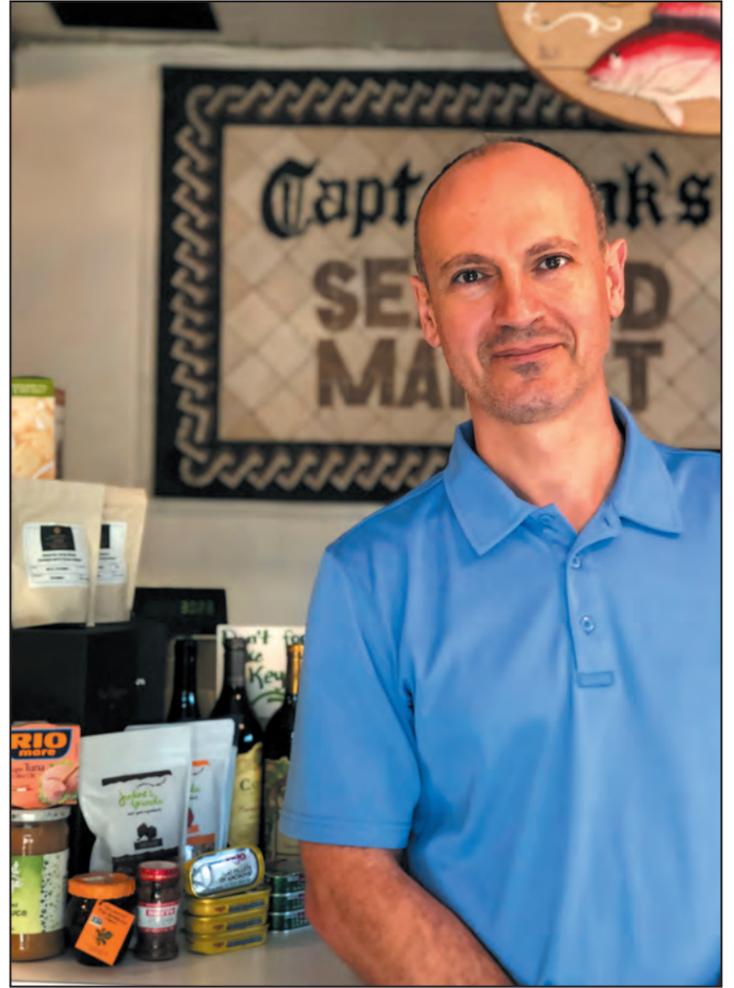
In his travels, Vento enjoys the cuisine of local chefs who carved a niche in the communities in which they cook. It's something he's sought since he took over the fish market at Capt. Frank's.

"As a chef I celebrate my local chefs with their ideas," Vento said. "From Chef Judine's granola, Chef Elio chocolate from Colombia and Chef Jeff's local smoked fish dips."

Of course, Vento has brought in some new ideas for locals to treasure. For one, you can come in and create a custom menu — from wine, cheese, caviar, fresh fish and meats to desserts.

One thing that hasn't changed are the market staples, including the market's famous stone crabs.

A variety of fresh seafood is available along with groceries selected by Vento that fill the shelves, coolers and freezers surrounding the seafood showcase. Customers get a mouth-watering view of what



Tony Vento, a longtime chef, puts culinary ideas to work in his offerings at Capt. Frank's in Boynton Beach. Photo provided

they might want to pick up for dinner.

The retail and wholesale seafood market does brisk business, with the high product turnover resulting in superior freshness, Vento said.

Vento's hobbies — besides cooking — include gardening, spending time with family, and traveling. ★

Capt. Frank's is open 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday. It's at 435 W. Boynton Beach Blvd., Boynton Beach. Phone: 561-732-3663.

**Back next month**  
Food writer Jan Norris will return next month. Reach her at nativefla@gmail.com.

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## Seaside Deli opens again, without fresh sandwiches or alcohol (for now)

By Joe Capozzi

The Seaside Deli, the County Pocket staple that shuttered in January because of a landlord dispute, reopened on Feb. 10 under new management.

Whether the place will return to its former glory remains to be seen.

Missing, for now, is the actual deli where, under the previous management, friendly sandwich makers served up fresh food to

customers they often knew by name.

Sandwiches are for sale at the new deli, but they're pre-made, wrapped in cellophane and stored in a refrigerated pantry against the east wall. Also missing in the first few weeks since the reopening: beer, wine and cigarettes.

Mohammad Amin, a clerk at the store, said Feb. 23 that the store was waiting for licenses to sell alcohol and cigarettes. He said a formal grand opening was planned

in March on a date to be determined.

Until then, plenty of soda and snacks are for sale. And Amin excitedly showed a reporter a new addition next to the register — an empty plexiglass display case awaiting a shipment of electronic cigarettes.

Leonora Belliard, an officer in a company that owns the building and brought Amin and others in to reopen the deli, did not return phone calls seeking comment. ★

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# The Arts Paper

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## Books

### Author Fishman floats a warning about impending water crisis

By Jan Engoren  
Contributing Writer

Not one to shy away from large topics, award-winning journalist and author Charles Fishman will bring a whopper to the Festival of the Arts BOCA this month.

Fishman's talk, which will take place March 9 at the festival as part of the Authors & Ideas series, focuses on one of his favorite subjects: water.

"Water has achieved an invisibility in our lives that is only more remarkable given how central it is," he writes in his 2012 book, *The Big Thirst: The Secret Life and Turbulent Future of Water*.

"In the U.S. and the developed world we've spent the last 100 years in a kind of aquatic paradise: Our water has been abundant, safe and cheap. We could use as much as we wanted, whenever we wanted, for almost no cost."



**Fishman** But that is changing, he says, and access to water is one of the foremost challenges facing the planet today.

"The biggest questions facing our relationship to water is how much do we use?" Fishman said in an interview. "What do we use it for and what is the cost of that use? The point is that we don't take water seriously and we live in a thoughtless age about water."

Although born in Boston, Fishman, 61, grew up in Miami and attended Palmetto High School. He has a natural affinity for the state and says he loves the "non-political part of Florida," the landscape, the people and the sense of community.

He scored a job at the *Washington Post* as a reporter immediately after graduating college but left in 1986 to take a position at the *Orlando Sentinel*, where he began

See **FISHMAN** on AT15

## Art



### All the presidents' man

#### Ann Norton displays works of celebrated photographer Benson

By Gretel Sarmiento  
Contributing Art Writer

A distraught Ethel Kennedy has just seen her fatally wounded husband lying on the floor of a hotel kitchen. With a ferocious scream, she pushes back the crowd, demanding it grant him some space. One daring camera stays and catches the prelude to Bobby Kennedy's death.

Six years later, Pat Nixon stands near her husband as he struggles to address his staff one last time. Richard Nixon's agonizing pause behind the podium is nothing compared to the look of unbearable pain in his wife's eyes. The camera is there again, documenting



**TOP:** The Beatles get silly in a Paris hotel room in 1964.

**ABOVE:** Hillary and Bill Clinton share a moment in 1992.

**Photos by Harry Benson**

every second of her fortitude.

For the past 60 years nothing has eluded legendary photojournalist Harry Benson — not Muhammad Ali or Queen Elizabeth or Willie Nelson or Winston Churchill. The Scottish-born photographer has captured every U.S.

president since Dwight Eisenhower and documented history-defining moments, such as the James Meredith civil rights march, the rise and fall of the Berlin Wall, and the funeral of Martin Luther King Jr.

From Somalian refugee camps and Vietnam War protests to Truman Capote's *Black and White Ball* and Bobby Fischer's world chess championship in Iceland, Benson's career is an extreme case of being in the right place at the right time.

A selection of about 40 of his photographs, mostly in black and white, is on view at Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens through June. They include civil right figures, politicians, musicians, celebrities, and athletes. For those who weren't born yet, they bring to life events taught through books or Wikipedia. If you were around, they

See **BENSON** on AT13



Lauren Weinberg plays the temptress Lola in the Wick Theatre's production of *Damn Yankees*. Photo provided

## Theater

### 'Damn Yankees' promises devilish fun at the Wick

By Hap Erstein  
ArtsPaper Theater Writer

Polled for their preferences in musicals, the Wick Theatre's audiences have consistently ranked 1955's *Damn Yankees* very high.

What is it about this Tony Award-winning show based on Douglass Wallop's tongue-in-cheek novel, *The Year the Yankees Lost the Pennant*, that is so appealing?

Jeffrey Moss, who directs the Wick's production that begins performances March 2, sums it up in two words: Nostalgia and heart.

"Nostalgia can be a wonderful

thing. These musicals from that golden age have something at the heart of them. At the core of all these shows there is heart, as this show enunciates very clearly," he says. "And the construction and the great songs, so well placed in the show. And the book captured the emotion so well."

It was Wallop's inspired idea to combine the great American pastime of baseball with the devilish, enduring legend of Faust. That is, a middle-aged avid Washington Senators fan sells his soul to Satan to help his beloved team beat the dominant club of that era, those damn New York Yankees.

"But it's more than just being about

sports," adds Lauren Weinberg, who plays the devil's secret weapon, a seductress named Lola. "It's about following your dream. And then actually realizing what's most important in life. It kind of makes everybody reflect on what makes them human, what makes them tick."

"It contains an interesting idea," Moss notes. "It poses to the audience the question, 'Would you do this? What would you sell your soul for?' And when you do it, was it worth it?"

The legendary director/book writer George Abbott adapted Wallop's novel

See **YANKEES** on AT14

Music

# Guitarist Koch and trio to bring ‘scary good’ chops to Funky Biscuit

By Bill Meredith  
ArtsPaper Music Writer

To anyone who was there uninitiated, a show last September at the Funky Biscuit in Boca Raton likely proved to be a revelation.

The Koch Marshall Trio performed two sets, featuring guitarist/vocalist Greg Koch, his son Dylan Koch on drums, and Toby Lee Marshall on Hammond organ and backing vocals. A near-capacity crowd sauntered in, mostly musicians in general and guitarists in particular, since the elder Koch is the trio’s best-known quantity.

Yet the 6-foot-7 Wisconsin product’s performance stood even taller than his stature, filled with not only guitar histrionics but also ample humor — including his between-song verbal banter, plus original instrumental hijinks (“Sin Repent Repeat”) and



Guitarist Greg Koch, drummer Dylan Koch, and keyboardist Toby Lee Marshall make up the Koch Marshall Trio. Photo by Steve Rose

lyrical content (“Daddy Long Legs”). With two recent releases, *Orange Roominations* and *Sweet Gristle*, his trio is introducing new original material that straddles rock, blues, funk, and jazz/fusion. The group returns to the Funky Biscuit on March 11, now under the banner of “Greg Koch featuring the Koch

Marshall Trio.”

The 2022 performance also included taking a blowtorch to cover tunes by notable guitar heroes, such as Koch’s vocal on Johnny “Guitar” Watson’s funky “A Real Mother For Ya,” a 1977 sign-of-the-times tale relevant decades later. On an instrumental version of Led Zeppelin’s slow blues classic “Since I’ve Been Loving You,” he not only updated Jimmy Page’s titanic solo but also mimicked Robert Plant’s lead vocal.

Then there was “Cause We’ve Ended as Lovers,” the instrumental ballad Stevie Wonder gifted in 1975 to the recently deceased icon Jeff Beck for his album *Blow By Blow*. The trio now opens most shows with that track as an homage.

“Jeff saw us play when I first met him, so we got to hang out with him, and he said some really nice things,” Koch says by phone from his home in Wauwatosa, near Milwaukee. “He was a huge influence on so many people, and had such a unique voice on the instrument. That’s one guy who I think everyone just universally accepts as one of the best there will ever be.”

Born in 1966 just after the baby boomer generation (1946-1964), Koch has been influenced by a wide swath of pioneers

from all over the rock, roots, and fusion maps.

That puts Koch squarely amid a cadre of like-minded, genre-jumping electric guitarists. His peers include Scott Henderson, Eric Johnson, Pat Metheny and Steve Morse (all born in 1954); Dean Brown (1955); Joe Satriani (1956); Jennifer Batten (1957); Vernon Reid (1958); Stanley Jordan (1959); Steve Vai (1960); Mike Keneally (1961); Jimmy Herring (1962); Trey Anastasio and David Fiuczynski (1964); Adam Rogers (1965); Mark Whitfield (1966); Charlie Hunter (1967); Susan Tedeschi (1970); Oz Noy and Jonathan Kreisberg (1972); Joe Bonamassa (1977); and Derek Trucks (1979).

Bonamassa achieved stardom by drifting into blues and rock. He also isn’t lacking in confidence, to put it mildly, yet offers rare praise when it comes to Koch.

“I believe Greg Koch is, pound for pound, the best guitar player in the world today,” Bonamassa says. “His tone, feel and style are unrivaled in today’s guitar playing community. He is scary good.”

In that company, why has the jazz-trained Fender aficionado Koch (who also plays Gibsons, and has Reverend Guitars’ Greg Koch Signature Gristlemaster models) been named one of the

**If You Go**

The Koch Marshall Trio plays at 7 p.m. March 11 at the Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd., Boca Raton  
Tickets: \$20-\$40  
Info: funkybiscuit.com; 561-395-2929

venerable guitar manufacturer’s Top 10 “unsung guitarists”? And why does he advertise that fact on his conversational, musical, and dripped-in-humor podcast, *Chewing the Gristle!* by referring to himself as “one of the most famous unknown guitar players in the world”?

“It’s been a weird kind of course I’ve taken, career-wise,” Koch muses. “My goal was always going out and playing primarily my original music. But before the internet, everything was more categorized. You were in a blues band, a rock band, a funk band; or a jazz band. We say yes to all those things!”

The price to pay for such dexterity is often relative anonymity beyond musicians’ circles.

For him, breaking out of the Milwaukee-area scene eventually involved becoming an educator. His long list of instructional books started in the mid-1990s; his latest YouTube videos center on “hybrid picking.” High in degree of difficulty, it involves playing traditionally with a guitar pick, held between the index finger and thumb, while simultaneously using the remaining digits to finger-pick independently.

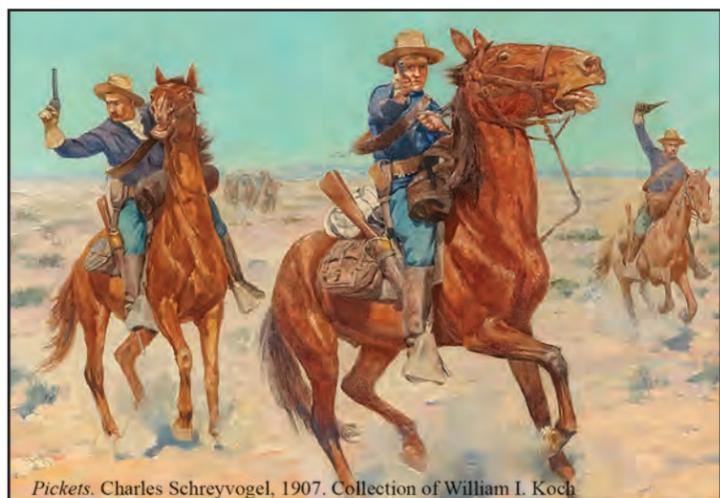
“I’ve eventually gained a worldwide audience over 20-something years,” he says. “So guitar players, for the most part, now know who I am. And by doing live streams during the pandemic, people who aren’t necessarily guitarists seemed to be cueing in.”

With good reason. Son Dylan, who’s also 6-foot-7, studied drumming with Tom Brechtlein, whose impressive credits include Chick Corea, Wayne Shorter, Al Di Meola, and Jean-Luc Ponty.

“When Dylan was just a teenager, my band was playing a festival nearby our home,” Koch recalls, “so I asked my drummer if he could sit in. I asked Dylan what song he wanted to play, and he said, ‘Let’s do a song by Band of Gypsies [Hendrix’s final trio with bassist Billy Cox and drummer Buddy Miles]. Let’s do “Message to Love.”’

“And he just nailed it, including all the little nuances and cues. So we all knew then that it was only a matter of time.”

Completing the 6-year-old trio is Hammond organist Marshall, who also sings. His bottom-dwelling left-hand bass patterns and swirling solos have made him integral to the success of the group.



Pickets. Charles Schreyvogel, 1907. Collection of William I. Koch

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**BENSON**

Continued from page 11

transport you to the time and place portrayed.

The prints depicting Pat Nixon's tenacity during Nixon's scandalous resignation in 1974 and Ethel Kennedy's emotional appeal following Kennedy's assassination in 1968 are among the heaviest in process. The rest of the selection embraces levity.

Candid portraits of former presidents carve out the formality attached to that office and reveal a rarely seen dimension. There's George H.W. Bush enjoying a sunny day at the pool with his dog in a print from 1978 taken in Houston. There's also a tender public display of affection by Bill and Hillary Clinton in Little Rock, Arkansas, following his presidential win. As she reaches down to the hammock where he rests to kiss him, Benson freezes the moment just before their lips touch. In other instances, such as a portrait of Donald Trump holding 1 million dollars in cash at his Taj Mahal hotel and casino, we get exactly what we expect to see.

The photos, hanging side by side in the westernmost gallery, function as an assessment of sorts, with each sitter's personality shining through. Some denote respect for the men's former position by including "president" in the title while others skip all etiquette and refer to them simply by name.

There's a magical moment when a photographer knows he/



In the Ann Norton exhibit, a 1968 shot of Jackie Kennedy in a ski mask hangs near a photo of Willie Nelson in a bubble bath. Photo provided

she has gotten THE picture; one perfect shot that encapsulates a moment in time without necessarily showing all there is to it. At 93, Benson has taken many pictures that fit this description and survived many technologies. *Harry Benson: Shoot First*, a 2016 documentary about his life, attributes his success to an incredible ability to make his subjects feel comfortable. Jackie Kennedy says as much in a letter from 1986 thanking him for attending her daughter's wedding. It is included in the show next to a *Life* magazine cover.

"You made her feel completely at ease and it shows in all those radiant happy pictures."

A photograph of the former first lady wearing a cream

ski mask while on holiday in Canada is included in the show. Her expressive eyes make a dramatic appearance through the narrow opening provided by the garment. Benson draws more attention to them by blurring her surroundings. Remarkably, we recognize her right away and are pleased to detect enough evidence of happiness in this image from 1968.

He was there, too, for the Beatles' celebratory pillow fight in 1964, having learned "I Want to Hold Your Hand" had landed the No. 1 spot on the American charts. The euphoric musicians, pictured hitting each other over the head, look like teenagers in this sequence of nine action shots taken at 3 a.m. in Paris. The photographer's presence goes unnoticed except in two

scenes when Ringo Starr and George Harrison pause and look in his direction.

Benson's career was just beginning when he traveled to America with the dynamic British rock band that year.

Three years later, he began working for *Life* magazine and his career took off. The rest is

**If You Go**

*Harry Benson: Picturing History* runs through June at the Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens, 253 Barcelona Road, West Palm Beach. Hours: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesday to Sunday Admission: Members free, adults, \$15; seniors, \$10; children/student, \$7. Info: 561-832-5328; info@ansg.org

history. Not bad for a guy who started with plate cameras.

*Harry Benson: Picturing History* is highly moving, playful, unguarded, and grounded; much as the man carrying the camera.

Among the prints embodying this lightness is an amusing image of James Brown doing a split in a backyard while amused onlookers break into a laugh. The year is 1979 and this is Augusta, Georgia. His wide smile beams with pride, joy, and optimism. Dirtying his light linen outfit is the last worry on his mind.

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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

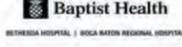
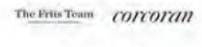
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## YANKEES

Continued from page 11

for the stage, putting an added emphasis on the collector of souls, Mr. Applegate. He will be portrayed at the Wick by veteran South Florida performer Wayne Le Gette, who was unfamiliar with the show when Moss cast him in it.

"I never saw a stage production of it. I always heard it was a big dancing musical, so I stayed away from it," he explains. "I didn't know that there was this absolutely wonderful role of the devil. It's basically a speaking role. He gets one song in the whole show. But it's a great character."

And yes, Le Gette has found himself identifying with Applegate. "If you can't find something in yourself to bring to a character, why bother?" he says. "In the writing, this devil is a very flawed guy,"

The role of Lola was famously originated by Gwen Verdon, who won a Tony largely for her quirky, comic dance seduction of young baseball phenom Joe Hardy, "Whatever Lola Wants."

"Lola is using dance as a

### If You Go

*Damn Yankees* runs March 2-26 at the Wick Theatre, 7901 N. Federal Highway in Boca Raton.

**Tickets:** \$79-\$99

**Info:** 561-995-2333; thewick.org

catalyst to get what she wants and when I understood that, it was very inspiring," says Weinberg.

"She tries every tactic in the book to get Joe to sell his soul. Because that's my job. And he's giving me a hard time. So much so, in musical theater when you can't speak any more, you sing. When you can't sing any more, you dance. So it's about desperation and power and sex and control, or lack thereof."

Underneath Lola's sexy exterior is the "ugliest woman in Providence, Rhode Island," who also sold her soul to the devil. "The stakes for Lola are very high," notes Le Gette, "because I keep saying if you can't get this done, I might just change you back."

*Damn Yankees* may be best remembered for its dance numbers and for its hummable

score by Richard Adler and Jerry Ross, which includes such hits as "Heart," "Shoeless Joe from Hannibal, Mo.," and "Two Lost Souls."

But for director Moss, the show's appeal is its sturdy, thought-provoking book. "It's about something. These golden age shows are about something. That's why we remember them. It's more than just fluff."

"It contains one of the most interesting relationships in a musical. Young Joe and Meg," the wife of his older self.

"Here is this man, married to this woman. He leaves her but then comes back because he misses her, but he's somebody else and he's a younger version of himself," Moss continues. "Is she attracted to him in some way? Is he attracted to her in some way? They have two ballads that deal with that subject. I think that's what draws an audience in to the story. And they're thinking 'What would I do?' It's really interesting."

For Weinberg, the bottom line is simple: "Whatever Lola wants, Lola gets, and Lola wants you to buy a ticket to *Damn Yankees*."

March 31 - April 2

# A Midsummer Night's Dream



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**FISHMAN**

Continued from page 11

writing features for its Sunday supplement, *Florida Magazine*, and became an editor.

Initially, Fishman became interested in bottled water. He thought it was “silly and ridiculous,” and decided to examine the industry.

His article for *Fast Company* magazine, titled “Message in a Bottle,” dissects the multibillion-dollar-per-year industry and the irony that comes with it. For example, he says, in the case of Fiji water, water is being shipped around the world to fill consumer demand, when half the people living in Fiji do not have access to clean, safe drinking water.

“How is it that I can walk into any CVS, drug or grocery store near my house and get clean water from Fiji?” he asks.

“One out of six people in the world has no dependable, safe drinking water,” he writes. “The global economy has contrived to deny the most fundamental element of life to one billion people, while delivering to us an array of water ‘varieties’ from around the globe, not one of which we actually need.”

This observation propelled him on a journey to India, Australia and Las Vegas looking at the global state of water.

“It’s time to pay attention,” Fishman says. “For now, water is cheap, safe and unlimited. There is a time coming, however, when these three things won’t be true anymore.”

Unlike gasoline, he says, we don’t manage water use by price. There’s no cost incentive to conserve or to think creatively about its use. He thinks water costs should be higher, and come with incentives to save. As a case in point, when he wrote *The Big Thirst* a decade ago, he says a typical American family of four used 1,000 gallons of water each day.

“We have lost track of the value of clean, safe and reliable water and totally take it for granted,” he says. “No one says, ‘I can’t take three baths this week,’ or I can’t make coffee this morning because the water isn’t good.”

The water disconnect extends to his home state.

“Florida is the craziest water state in the country and has serious water problems — even though there is an abundance of water — because the water is poorly managed.”

Fishman’s other books include *One Giant Leap: The Impossible Mission That Flew Us to the Moon* (2019); *A Curious Mind: The Secret to a Bigger Life* (2015, co-written with Hollywood producer Brian Grazer), and *The Wal-Mart Effect* (2006), in which he visited 100 Walmarts in 23 states to do research.

Fishman is married to journalist Trish Wilson and lives in Washington, D.C. The

**If You Go**

The 17th annual **Festival of the Arts BOCA** runs March 3–12 at the Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. **Tickets:** \$15 to \$150 **Info:** festivalboca.org; 561-571-5270

couple have two children. He is currently at work on his next book, which will look, as Studs Terkel did in the 1970s, at the world of work.

In his March 9 talk, Fishman will attempt to create a sense of urgency around solving our water problems.

“The point of my talk is to say: Hey, you guys, we need you to pay attention,” he says. “What matters is the way water is managed in communities, what we ask our water utilities to do and what we ask our elected officials to do.”

“Vote for people who take water problems seriously — fix the water supply, manage storm water and fix the Everglades,” Fishman says.

“We’ve lived in blissful ignorance for 100 years,” he notes, “but that ‘golden age of water’ has dried up, so to speak. We need to pay attention. I want to give people a sense of what that means, how they can plug in and pay attention and sound a wakeup call.”

**Festival schedule**

Also appearing at the **Authors & Ideas** series will be author Lynne Olson, who speaks at 7 p.m. March 6 about her book *Madame Fourcade’s Secret War*, the true story of Marie-Madeleine Fourcade, a Frenchwoman and mother of two who became leader of a vast Resistance intelligence organization and spy network in France during World War II.

She will be followed at 7 p.m. March 8 by author, actress and social commentator Fran Lebowitz.

Fishman’s talk is set for 7 p.m. Thursday, March 9.

**Other events** at the festival include a screening of *Fantasia*, the 1940 Disney cartoon, accompanied by the Festival Orchestra Boca, led by conductor Constantine Kitsopoulos (March 3); the Young People’s Chorus of New York City (March 4); *A Night at the Ballet*, featuring principal dancers from the New York City Ballet and the American Ballet Theatre (March 5); the Future Stars Competition, a live contest featuring young South Florida vocalists and dancers (March 7); jazz vocalist Nicole Henry (March 10); the Festival Orchestra Boca in Rimsky-Korsakov’s *Scheherazade* and solo performances by Jupiter flutist Kara Ravaschieri and violinist Hina Khuong-Huu (March 11); and a closing concert by the Brazilian jazz-pop legend Sergio Mendes (March 12).



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## Arts Calendar

*Editor's note: Events listed through March 31 were current as of Feb. 24. Check with the presenting agency for any changes. Ticket prices are single sales unless otherwise specified.*

### ART

**Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens:** Opens March 22: *SculptHER*, works in paper and wood by four female sculptors, each from a different country; through June, as are *Harry Benson: Picturing History*, celebrity photos by the Scottish photographer; and *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 March 16: *Sam Perry Retrospective*, paintings, drawings and animations by the late Amory Art Center instructor, who died of cancer in 2021; through April 15. Free. 811 Park Place, West Palm Beach. 10 am-4 pm M-F, 10 am-2 pm Sat. 561-832-1776 or armoryart.org.

**Boca Raton Museum of Art:** Through May 21: *Oswaldo Vigas*, works by the late Venezuelan modernist; *Whitfield Lovell: Passages*, drawings, assemblages and installations by the contemporary African-American artist. 12; \$10 seniors. 501 Plaza Real (Mizner Park), Boca Raton. 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. TFree. 601 Lake Ave., Lake Worth Beach. Noon-5 pm T-Sat. 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. 1 Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. 10 am-5 pm M-Sat, noon-5 pm Sun. 561-655-2833, www.flaglermuseum.us

**Lighthouse ArtCenter:** Opens March 20: 45th Annual Members Show and Sale, through April 5. 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*, more than 30 textured works using *washi*, a traditional form of Japanese paper. \$15; \$13 seniors; \$9 children; free for members, ages 5 and under. 4000 Morikami Park Road, Delray Beach. 10 am-5 pm T-Sun. 561-495-0233, morikami.org.

**Norton Museum of Art:** 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; Through June 4: *Symbolic Messages in Chinese Animal Paintings*, five works laden with political and social meaning; through June 11: *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. \$18 adults; \$15 seniors; \$5 students; free for ages 12 and under, 1450 S. Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach. 10 am-5 pm, M, T, Th, Sat; 10 am-10 pm F; 11 am-5 pm Sun. 561-832-5196, www.norton.org.

**Society of the Four Arts:** Through April 2: *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. 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. 10 am-5 pm daily. 561-655-7226, fourarts.org.

### CLASSICAL

Sunday, March 5; Wednesday, March 8; Sunday, March 12

**Wu Han:** The pianist presents three concerts about Franz Schubert with an assist from the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center; "Schubert Revealed I" examines the link between his lieder and instrumental works, with violinist Benjamin Beilman, contralto Lauren Decker, and pianist Gilles Vonsattel, at 6:30 pm; "Schubert Revealed II" explores Schubert's influences and their effect on his work, with violinist Guillermo Figueroa, violinist Paul Huang and cellist David Finckel, at 7:30 pm; and "Schubert Revealed III" presents two of his final chamber works, the Piano Trio in E-flat and the String Quintet in C, with Beilman, Huang, Figueroa, Finckel and cellist Keith Robinson, at 3 pm. Society of the Four Arts, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Tickets: \$40. Call 561-655-7226 or visit fourarts.org. Thursday, March 9

**Chamber Music Society of Palm Beach:** Soprano Joelle Harvey, joined by violinists Chad Hoopes, Tessa Lark and Arnaud Sussmann, cellist Efe Baltacigil, oboist James Austin Smith and harpichordist Kenneth Weiss, perform Bach's *Wedding Cantata* (BWN 202) and Handel's motet *Silete Venti*. 7 pm, Episcopal Church of Bethesda-by-the-Sea, 141 S. County Road, Palm Beach. Tickets: \$75. Call 561-379-6773 or visit www.cmspb.org for tickets. Monday, March 13

**New World Symphony:** The Miami Beach orchestral academy travels up Interstate 95 with conductors David Robertson and Chad Goodman in Kodaly's *Dances of Galanta*, Beethoven's Second Symphony and the



The Balourdet Quartet performs at Palm Beach State College on March 15. Photo by Kevin W. Condon

Piano Concerto in D minor of the American composer Florence Price; the soloist is pianist Michelle Cann. 8 pm Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets start at \$35. Call 561-832-7469 or visit www.kravis.org. Tuesday, March 14

**Palm Beach Symphony:** Pianist Misha Dichter joins Gerard Schwarz and the orchestra for Gershwin's Concerto in F, and the orchestra gives the world premiere of Joseph Schwantner's *Sojourn: Reflections on Thoreau*, commissioned by the symphony; also on the program is a suite from Stravinsky's ballet *The Firebird*. 8 pm, Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Call 561-832-7469 or visit www.kravis.org. Wednesday, March 15

**Balourdet Quartet:** The young Boston-based quartet appears on the Classical Café series with Hugo Wolf's *Italian Serenade*, Mendelssohn's String Quartet No. 4, and the epic Quartet No. 13 of Beethoven, with the later-deleted *Grosse Fuge* movement. At Duncan Theatre's Stage West on the campus of Palm Beach State College, 4200 Congress Ave., Lake Worth Beach. 2 pm. Tickets: \$35. Call 561-868-3309 or visit www.palmbeachstate.edu for more information.

**Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center:** In this program devoted to 20th-century music from the Americas, four chamber musicians and soprano Jessica Rivera present music by Copland, Bernstein, Ginastera, Chavez, Ponce, Villa-Lobos, Golijov, Tania Leon, and George Gershwin. 7:30 pm, Society of the Four Arts, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Tickets: \$40. Call 561-655-7226 or visit fourarts.org.

**Atlantic Classical Orchestra:** Trumpeter Ansel Norris joins conductor David Amado and his Fort Pierce-based ensemble for the Trumpet Concerto by Johann Nepomuk Hummel. Also on the program are two Classical symphonies: Haydn's Symphony No. 90 and Mozart's *Linz Symphony* (No. 36). 7:30 pm, First Presbyterian Church, 717 Prosperity Farms Road, North Palm Beach. Tickets: \$35-\$60. Call 772-460-0851 or visit atlanticclassicalorchestra.com. Sunday, March 19

**Zurich Chamber Orchestra:** The British violinist Daniel Hope leads the Swiss band in an all-American program featuring an arrangement of Copland's *Old American Songs*, Weill's *Song Suite*, Philip Glass's *Echorus*, and a suite of songs by Gershwin, arranged by Paul Bateman. 2 pm Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets start at \$35. Call 561-832-7469 or visit www.kravis.org. Sunday, March 26

**The Symphonia:** David Kim, concertmaster of the Philadelphia Orchestra, returns to South Florida to lead the Boca Raton-based chamber ensemble in two works by Mozart (*Rondo in G*, and the *Serenata Notturna*), a piece by the American composer Jessie Montgomery (*Voodoo Dolls*), and Astor Piazzolla's *Four Seasons of Buenos Aires*. 3 pm, Roberts Theater at St. Andrew's School, 3900 Jog Road, Boca Raton. Tickets: \$55-\$90. Visit thesymphonia.org. Wednesday, March 29

**The Inextinguishable Symphony:** This chamber music program inspired by journalist Martin Goldsmith's memoir of his parents' escape from Nazi Germany, features music by Jewish composers lost to the Holocaust, including Leo Smit, Pavel Haas, Erwin Schulhoff and Gideon Klein.

Performers are flutist Tara Helen O'Connor, oboist James Austin Smith, clarinetist Alan Kay, bassoonist Marc Goldberg, hornist David Byrd-Morrow and pianist Shai Wosner. 7:30 pm, Society of the Four Arts, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Tickets: \$40. Call 561-655-7226 or visit fourarts.org.

### DANCE

Friday, March 17-Saturday, March 18

**Malevo:** The all-male ensemble specializes in the traditional Argentine folk dance known as *malambo*. At the Duncan Theatre on the campus of Palm Beach State College, 4200 Congress Ave., Lake Worth Beach. 8 pm both nights. Tickets: \$45. Call 561-868-3309 or visit www.palmbeachstate.edu for more information.

Friday, March 31-Sunday, April 2

**Ballet Palm Beach:** The Palm Beach Gardens school and company presents *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Shakespeare's classic forest frolic. 7 pm Friday, 2 pm and 7 pm Saturday, 1 pm and 5 pm Sunday, Rinker Playhouse, Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$45. Call 561-832-7469 or visit www.kravis.org.

### JAZZ

Wednesday, March 8

**Stacey Kent Trio:** The Grammy-nominated jazz singer released her latest album, *Songs from Other Places*, in 2022. At the Gold Coast Jazz Society series. 7:45 pm, Broward Center for the Performing Arts, 201 SW Fifth Ave., Fort Lauderdale. Tickets: \$65. Call 954-462-0222 or visit browardcenter.org.

Friday, March 10-Saturday, March 11

**Nestor Torres:** The great jazz (and classical) flutist is one of South Florida's most familiar performers. Accompanied by a quartet, he performs at 8 pm both nights at the Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave., Delray Beach. \$45-\$50. Call 561-450-6357 or visit artsgarage.org.

### OPERA

Friday, March 24-Sunday, March 26

**Falstaff:** Giuseppe Verdi's final opera, premiered in 1893 in the master's 80th year, and based on the Shakespearean jester's antics in *The Merry Wives of Windsor* and *Henry IV*. With Michael Chioldi as Falstaff, Amber Wagner as Alice, Andrew Manea as Ford, Andrea Carroll as Nannetta, Anthony Ciaramitaro as Fenton, and Lauren Decker as Mistress Quickly. Garnett Bruce directs, and the music is conducted by Antonello Allemandi. 7:30 pm Friday and Saturday, 2 pm Sunday, at the Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets start at \$25. Call 561-833-7888 or visit pbopera.org; or visit kravis.org.

### POPULAR MUSIC

Wednesday, March 8

**Greta van Fleet:** The Michigan blues-rock quartet, fresh off its new album, *The Battle at Garden's Gate*, stops in South Florida on its Dreams in Gold tour. 7 pm at the Hard Rock Live, 1 Seminole Way, Hollywood. Tickets range from \$55-\$135. Visit ticketmaster.com for tickets or more information.

Saturday, March 11

**Greg Koch:** The Wisconsin-born guitarist was named one of the top 10 unsung guitarists by the Fender Corp. 7 pm, The Funky Biscuit, 303 S.E. Mizner Blvd., Boca Raton. Tickets: \$20-\$40. Visit funkybiscuit.com or call 561-395-2929 for more information. Sunday, March 12

**Def Leppard and Mötley Crüe:** Two of

the most popular pop-rock bands of all time, sellers together of more than 210 million albums. 7 m, Hard Rock Live, 1 Seminole Way, Hollywood. Tickets range from \$155-\$505. Visit ticketmaster.com for tickets or more information.

Wednesday, March 15-Thursday, March 16  
**They Might Be Giants:** The quirky Brooklyn duo of John Flansburgh and John Linnell have been bringing their surreal style to stages since 1982. 7 pm both shows, Culture Room, 3045 N. Federal Highway, Fort Lauderdale. Tickets: Currently sold out, but visit ticketmaster.com.

Thursday, March 16

**Sabrina Carpenter:** The actress and singer-songwriter tours in support of her fifth studio album, *emails I Can't Send*. 8 pm, Hard Rock Live, 1 Seminole Way, Hollywood. Tickets range from \$50-\$80. Visit ticketmaster.com for tickets or more information.

### THEATER

Through Sunday, April 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. At the Wick Theatre, 7901 N. Federal Highway, Boca Raton. \$99. Call 561-995-2333 or visit thewick.org. Opens Friday, March 3

**Dial "M" for Murder:** Frederick Knott's 1952 smash about a deceitful husband who has married his wife for her money and hires someone to murder her. Through March 12 at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave., Lake Worth Beach. Call 561-586-6410 or visit lakeworthplayhouse.org for more information.

Tuesday, March 7-Sunday, March 12

**Pretty Woman: The Musical:** The musical version of the Richard Gere-Julia Roberts movie, with a score by Bryan Adams and Jim Vallance. Eight performances at the Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets start at \$40. Call 561-832-7469 or visit www.kravis.org.

Friday, March 10-Sunday, March 12

**FAU Theatre Lab New Play Festival:** Readings of new plays by Deborah Zoe Laufer, Jeff Bower, Steve McMahon, Johnny G. Lloyd and Andie Arthur, as well as a reading of short student works. At FAU Theatre Lab, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton. Tickets: \$20 for single tickets; \$55 for three readings, and \$99 for all six. Call 561-297-6124 or visit fauevents.com. Opens Tuesday, March 14

**Oliver!** The 1960 Lionel Bart musical based on Charles Dickens's novel *Oliver Twist* ("Consider Yourself," "I'd Do Anything"). Through April 2 at the Maltz Jupiter Theatre, 1001 E. Indiantown Road, Jupiter. Tickets: \$68-\$120. Call 561-575-2223 or visit jupitertheatre.org.

Opens Thursday, March 16

**The Odd Couple:** The 1985 female version of Neil Simon's deathless 1965 comedy, with Florence Unger and Olive Madison as the titular ill-matched roommates. Through April 2. A Boca Stage production at the Sol Theatre, 3333 N. Federal Highway, Boca Raton. For tickets, call 561-300-0152 or visit www.bocastage.net. Opens Friday, March 17

**Plaza Suite:** Neil Simon's durable 1968 play about three couples who check into the same suite at the Plaza Hotel in Manhattan. Through April 2 at the Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St., Delray Beach. Tickets: \$42. Call 561-272-1281, Ext. 5, or visit delraybeachplayhouse.com. Opens Wednesday, March 29

**August: Osage County:** Tracy Letts's 2007 drama about the dysfunctional Weston family of Pawhuska, Okla. Winner of the 2008 Pulitzer Prize. Through April 16 at Palm Beach Dramaworks, 201 Clematis St., West Palm Beach. Tickets: \$84. Call 561-514-4042 or visit palmbeachdramaworks.org.

Wednesday, March 29-Sunday, April 9

**Wicked:** The popular Stephen Schwartz musical based on Gregory Maguire's novel about the life of the Wicked Witch of the West, a denizen of Oz. Sixteen performances at the Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets start at \$63. Call 561-832-7469 or visit www.kravis.org.

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Finding Faith

# Two churches join forces in Delray Beach in effort to remain vital

Churches throughout the country are struggling with the same issues: how to attract new members and how to keep the members they have.

Two local churches are working together to address these issues to benefit both.

Church of the Palms in Delray Beach and Boynton Beach Congregational Church have been practicing a “cooperative ministry” since May 2022. They are affiliated under United Church of Christ.

“It’s going very well,” the Rev. Todd Petty, pastor of Church of the Palms, said by phone.

In the past few years, Boynton Congregational had undergone big changes: It sold its property to the city and moved to a smaller, leased site. Then it lost its pastor. Petty started leading worship at both churches a few Sundays each month.

Finally, it just made more sense to incorporate both churches at one site — Church of the Palms. The two churches haven’t officially merged yet, but it’s likely to happen this year.

In congregations affiliated under UCC — about 5,000 churches nationally with more than a million members — most decisions are made locally, rather than by a governing body such as a diocese. Individual churches decide how



The Rev. Leslie Etheredge, associate Florida Conference minister for United Church of Christ, with the Rev. Todd Petty at his installation at Church of the Palms in Delray Beach. Photo provided

conservative or progressive they want to be.

United Church of Christ often calls itself the “church of firsts.” According to ucc.org, the church was “the first historically white denomination to ordain an African-American, the first to ordain a woman, the first to

ordain an openly gay man, and the first Christian church to affirm the right of same-gender couples to marry. We were in the forefront of the anti-slavery movement and the Civil Rights movement.”

The three ideals the church holds above others

are inclusiveness, progressive thought and community-mindedness, and the functioning of the two local churches as one for the good of the congregants is a testament to these ideals.

Petty came to Church of the Palms in January 2020, just as the pandemic began. It was a terrible time for all churches, but to Petty, who relocated from snowbound Michigan, keeping a positive attitude for his new congregation during the pandemic was important.

United Church of Christ prides itself on being “a church of extravagant welcome,” following Jesus’ example of “gracious hospitality.” Petty said people consider two things when they are looking for a new church: Was the message meaningful and inspiring and were the people friendly?

“Our commitment is to be open and affirming, especially to the LGBTQ community,” Petty said. “We consider ourselves a progressive church with traditional worship that’s community-minded.”

UCC is a democratic church. Church members get to vote on big decisions — like who the next minister will be — and decide what they want the personality of their church to be. “We say, ‘Our congregation speaks to us, but not for us,’” Petty said.

Petty said that the No. 1 reason people come to a new church is a personal invitation. Maybe a neighbor says, “Come check out my church,” or a colleague mentions something interesting about a sermon.

Certainly, people are checking out churches online and churches need a strong presence there. Church of the Palms has a Facebook page, which is one of the best ways to stay connected. Another is to hold virtual services as the church does.

Petty said churches in general have two congregations now: in-person and virtual. Some people love the virtual option and attend more often now that services are online. Other people like to come and sit in the pews.

Petty strives to serve both. “We also allow our facilities to be used by 12 other churches,” Petty said. “We’re a ministry of space and we’re very proud of that.”

And if you’re looking for an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting, Church of the Palms has one almost every day.

Petty says he committed himself to serving God in the fifth grade, but his mother knew even earlier that her son would grow up to serve God.

He comes from a long line of preachers: His great-great-grandfather was the first in the family. “It’s in my DNA,” Petty said.

Church of the Palms is undergoing two important beautification projects: The church is refurbishing the stained glass out front, and it will install in the church courtyard the *dalle de verre* stained glass cross that Boynton Beach Congregational salvaged from its original site.

Consider this your personal invitation to come by and see what’s happening.

Church of the Palms is at 1960 N. Swinton Ave. In-person worship takes place at 10 a.m. Sunday, followed by coffee in the Friendship Center. The virtual service streams at 4:30 p.m. Call 561-276-6347.

Janis Fontaine writes about people of faith, their congregations, causes and community events. Contact her at fontaine423@outlook.com.



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## Religion Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 2/23. Please check with organizers for any changes.

### MARCH 5-11

**Monday - 3/6 - 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

**3/6 - 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 - 3/7 - Tuesday Morning Prayer Service** at Unity of Delray Beach, 101 NW 22nd St. 10 am. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

**3/7 - Purim In Mexico** at Boca Beach Chabad, 120 NE 1st Ave. Video game truck for kids, live mariachi band, comedy show by Sarge. 5:45 pm. \$45/adult; \$20/child under 12. 561-394-9770; bocabeachchabad.com

**Wednesday - 3/8 - 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

**3/8 - Wednesday Evening Meditation Service** at Unity of Delray Beach Sanctuary, 101 NW 22nd St. Led by Rev. Laurie Durgan. 6:30 pm. Free; love offering. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

**Thursday - 3/9 - Thursday Morning Prosperity Coffee** at Unity of Delray Beach Fellowship Hall, 101 NW 22nd St. Led by Charlene Wilkinson. 7 am 1st Th in person; phone meeting (720-740-9634, passcode 2152894) all but 1st Th. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

**3/9 - 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

**3/9 - 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 - 3/10 - 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

**3/10 - 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

### MARCH 12-18

**3/18 - All New C-Kids Shabbat Program** at Boca Beach Chabad, 120 NE 1st Ave. 10:45-11:45 am. Call for info: 561-394-9770; bocabeachchabad.org

Religion Notes

First Presbyterian to welcome noted author as guest preacher, speaker

Dr. Michael B. Brown is scheduled to be guest preacher at First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach the morning of March 19.



**Brown**  
Then at 4 p.m., he'll be joined by Rob Tanner to speak again on "Can Retirement Be Purposeful?" Brown is an author (*A Five-Mile Walk, Bottom Line Beliefs* and *The Love Principle: Daily Practices for a Loving & Purposeful Life*), motivational speaker, adjunct professor, and the senior minister at Marble Collegiate Church in New York City, America's oldest existing Protestant congregation.

He is known for his "practical positivity" message and he'll offer tips on mapping the retirement landscape.

The discussion will take place in the conference room on the second floor of the Center for Christian Studies. Light refreshments will be served. Reservations are requested. Call Nancy Fine at 561-276-6338, ext. 10, or email [nancyfine@firstdelray.com](mailto:nancyfine@firstdelray.com).

First Presbyterian Church is at 33 Gleason St.

**Cason to celebrate 120th anniversary**

Cason United Methodist Church celebrates its 120th anniversary at 11 a.m. March 19, with a special service that mirrors the 1969 dedication service of Cason's campus at the corner of Swinton Avenue and Lake Ida Road in Delray Beach.

Following the service, a catered lunch is planned on the grounds of the church. Tickets for the luncheon are \$30, and reservations are required. Tables are available for \$275.

Call 561-276-5302. Cason is at 342 N. Swinton Ave.

**B'nai Torah concert series to wrap up with two shows**

The B'nai Torah Congregation 2023 Concert Series finishes with two shows in March.

Cantor Azi Schwartz performs March 15. Schwartz is the senior cantor of Park Avenue Synagogue in New York and is known for his spiritually uplifting performances.



**Fishman**  
season features Fishman with

Cantor Magda Fishman performs March 22. The final concert of the season features Fishman with

award-winning composer, pianist and music producer Maestro Tomer Adaddi.

Both performances begin at 7:30 p.m. at B'nai Torah Congregation, 6261 SW 18th St., Boca Raton. The shows will also be available virtually. Tickets start at \$25 at [www.btcboca.org/CS](http://www.btcboca.org/CS). For more information, call 561-392-8566.



Margaret Swinchoski (l-r), Donald Mokrynski and Ron Levy. Photo provided

**Music at St. Paul's trio to celebrate spring**

Celebrate "Spring is in the Air" with the Palisade Virtuosi at 3 p.m. March 5 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Delray Beach. The program will feature works for flute, clarinet and piano performed by the Bergen County, New Jersey-based ensemble Palisade Virtuosi.

The founders are three friends — Margaret Swinchoski,

flute, Donald Mokrynski, clarinet, and Ron Levy, piano — who had successful solo careers but enjoy playing in an ensemble.

They must. They've been together for 20 years.

Music at St. Paul's concerts take place at the church at 188 S. Swinton Ave.

A \$20 donation at the door is suggested. Admission is free for guests aged 18 and younger.

Other upcoming concerts are the Lynn University Chamber Music Competition finalists (April 16); "Four for Four," featuring the Delray String Quartet (May 7); and "The Sound of Heaven," music for organ, harp and violin, with David Macfarlane, Kay Kemper and Valentin Mansurov (May 21).

Call 561-278-6003 or visit [www.musicstpauls.org](http://www.musicstpauls.org).

**Boca Raton seniors to celebrate b'nai mitzvah**

Seniors in Boca Raton are preparing for their b'nai mitzvah, 70 years later. Nearly 80 people make up the new Eight-Three Club at B'nai Torah Congregation, and 20 members will be called to the bimah on March 25. Some will read from the Torah and others will carry the Torah, open the ark or read

the prayer for peace.

It's customary to celebrate an 83rd birthday with a second b'nai mitzvah as a sign of gratitude for living a long life. But some 83-year-olds will celebrate for the first time. Some are women who weren't given the chance 70 years ago, while for others, life got in the way.

You can celebrate with the grateful group at 1 p.m. March 8 at B'nai Torah Congregation, 6261 SW 18th St., Boca Raton. Call 561-392-8566 or visit [www.btcboca.org](http://www.btcboca.org).

**Italian Night dinner-dance coming to St. Lucy church**

The St. Padre Pio Knights of Columbus hosts its second annual St. Lucy Italian Night Dinner Dance at 5:30 p.m. March 25 in the Parish Center.

A seven-course meal with beer, wine or soda is planned, with musical entertainment by Gino DeMarco and door prizes.

Tickets are \$75 and are available after Mass on weekends or by calling Dominick Conte at 561-715-0017. St. Lucy Catholic Church is at 3510 S. Ocean Blvd., Highland Beach.

Send religion news to Janis Fontaine at [fontaine423@outlook.com](mailto:fontaine423@outlook.com).



**Dr. Jessica Banting**

# Welcome Dr. Jessica Banting

A Boynton Beach native, Dr. Banting graduated from the University of Florida's Veterinary School cum laude in 2006, and has practiced veterinary medicine in our area since graduation. She enjoys dermatology, internal medicine, acupuncture, and developing relationships with clients and patients. She shares the passion of providing quality compassionate care for our clients and patients with Dr. Rob Martin and our veterinary teams of Colonial Animal Hospital and Colonial Gateway Veterinary Center.



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Paws Up for Pets

Professional groomers share tips for keeping dogs dapper

I've always had dogs with easy-to-maintain double coats or wiry coats. My at-home grooming and bathing requirements were accomplished easily and quickly. Then a few years ago, we rescued Emma, a poodle-Chihuahua mix, who sports a challenging silky, wavy coat and has a propensity for gooey eye boogers.

As I quickly learned, despite her being all of 9 pounds, Emma really needs regular "spaw day" sessions performed by a professional pet groomer. She also counts on me to step up my at-home brushing and bathing regimens between those appointments.

And I'm fine with that. As a master pet first-aid/CPR instructor, I recognize that a dog's skin is the largest organ. Neglected coats can become oily, dry, matted or sport nicks, scrapes and even painful hot spots that can take a toll on the other organs as well as the body's respiratory and circulatory systems.

But I realized that I have a lot to learn and share with pet parents. That's why I reached out to a pair of top professional pet groomers in Palm Beach County for tips and advice.

Lindsee Lee Amsden shares her Boynton Beach home with Cooper, her chow chow mix, and Harley, her tortoiseshell-colored cat. This professional pet groomer travels a lot up and down the Florida coast as director of education at two grooming schools: Pet's Playground Grooming School in Pompano Beach and Woof Gang Academy of Grooming in Ocoee. She is also a competitive pet groomer in shows.

Her colleague Janaina Martins shares her home in Boca Raton with her well-groomed Pomeranian named Ciara. Martins divides her grooming time at Woof Gang



Groomers Lindsee Lee Amsden (left) of Boynton Beach and Janaina Martins of Boca Raton are professionals when it comes to taking care of your pets' coats. 'There is definitely an art and a science to it,' Amsden says. **Photos provided**

as well as at the Mod Dog Salon in Boca Raton.

"When it comes to pet grooming, there is definitely an art and a science to it," says Amsden.

Adds Martins, "I am always going to seminars, watching pet grooming videos and whatever I can to expand my knowledge so I can bring out the best in dogs over various breeds and to teach my clients about maintaining their dogs' coats."

Martins and Amsden share these pet grooming do's and don'ts:

- Do get in the habit of looking, smelling and touching your dog from the tip of the head to the end of the tail at least once a week.

"We groomers are often the first to notice a cut or an infection on a dog, especially one with a thick or double coat," says Martins.

- Do look and sniff inside the ears.

"Your dog's ears should not

smell like dirty socks or look red," says Martins. "These can be possible signs of an infection that requires veterinary care."

If your dog, especially one who may have herding-breed genes, comes inside from a romp in the backyard, look carefully inside the ear canals.

"If you see what looks like coffee grounds, it may be ear mites or it may be just dirt that entered when your dog was rolling in the dirt in your backyard," says Amsden.

- Don't reach for the scissors to cut out a mat on your dog's coat.

"Always think safety first," says Martins. "If your dog suddenly wiggles, you could accidentally cut the skin or nip an ear."

- Don't try to cut away the dirty glob on your dog's face.

Amsden says, "The safest way to deal with eye boogers is to wipe them with a damp cloth or unscented baby wipes and then use a flea comb with tiny metal teeth to gently

comb away the goo. Never use scissors, especially near your dog's eyes."

- Do recognize that dogs come in a variety of coats with different grooming needs.

Coats may be silky, drop, hairless, double, combo, single, short, medium and much more, so consult your pet groomer about which brush and comb will work best on your dog.

"The best are metal combs and slicker brushes with metal teeth," says Amsden. "If you have a longhaired dog, get a long-pin slicker brush. Got a shorthaired dog? Use a short-pin slicker brush."

Silky, wavy coats, like the one my Emma sports, require more brushing and bathing than the wiry coat Kona has.

"Silky coats tend to soak up the oils off your hands when you pet them and odors when they come in contact with other animals. These coats can smell really nasty if not bathed enough," says Amsden. "Wiry coats found in terriers

like Kona are designed to be coarse and be slightly water resistant. Wiry coats tend to repel that dirt, that water, that muck on them when the terrier is digging to catch a weasel or a rat and therefore, do not need shampoos as often as dogs with silky coats."

- Don't rinse your dog's head when he is looking up.

"You risk getting water in his ears," says Martins. "Always put cotton balls inside his ears before a bath and always rinse with his head looking down so water will not get into his ears."

- Do let your dog gleefully do a full body shake after a bath and before you attempt to towel him dry.

"Dogs love to shake, so let them," says Amsden. "It makes the bath more welcoming to them and they are far more effective in getting water off their coats than we are with towels. Make it fun. I tell my dog, Cooper, 'You're a self-drying dog. You go, buddy!'"

Amsden's final tip to pet parents: Recognize that dogs are very good at smelling our emotional state.

"If you're nervous, your dog will be nervous," says Amsden. "If you are calm, your dog will tend to be calm. Dogs can smell your stress level. Strive to be calm and upbeat, especially when you bring your dog into a grooming salon. We as groomers want to make the grooming experience pleasant and safe for your dog."

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](http://www.fourleggedlife.com)), and the popular Oh Behave! podcast on [PetLifeRadio.com](http://PetLifeRadio.com). Learn

more by visiting [www.ardenmoore.com](http://www.ardenmoore.com).



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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**



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**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**

Health Notes

**Bethesda hospitals in Boynton get new chief executive**

Jared Smith was named CEO of Bethesda Hospital East and Bethesda Hospital West in Boynton Beach, effective late last month.

"For the past 25 years, Jared's career has been focused



**Smith**

on the South Florida health care market, including eight years in the Palm Beach market, and he has had great success in elevating

the standard of care and leading engaged and high-performing teams like ours," said Lincoln Mendez, north region executive for Baptist Health and CEO of Boca Raton Regional Hospital. "He understands the unique needs of our community and is committed to delivering exceptional care and service."

Previously, Smith served as regional CEO at Broward Health Coral Springs.

Smith is active in the South Florida Hospital and Healthcare Association, where he serves as executive board chairman; South Florida Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee; and Coral Springs Economic Development Advisory Committee. He received his bachelor's degree in accounting and a master's degree in taxation from the University of Miami.

Damon Barrett is the new chief operating officer for HCA Florida JFK Hospital in Atlantis.

Barrett served in that capacity for HCA Florida Palms West Hospital for the past two years. Before that, he served as vice president of operations at HCA Florida Aventura Hospital. Barrett joined HCA Healthcare in 2014 at Mercy Hospital as director of rehabilitation services.

He began his health care career as a physical therapist. Barrett holds a bachelor of science degree from San Diego State University, an MBA from Chadron State College, and a doctorate in physical therapy from Northern Arizona University. He is a fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives.

**Dr. Kirby C. Janke** has joined Delray Care Physical Therapy, 2645 N. Federal Highway, Delray Beach. He moved to South Florida three years ago after closing his practice, Skaneateles Spine and Sport, Inc., in Skaneateles, New York.

His focus is in orthopedic,

neurological, and sports medicine treatment and rehabilitation. He earned a bachelor's degree in physical therapy from East Carolina University; a doctorate of chiropractic from Palmer-West Chiropractic College; a doctorate in physical therapy from Boston University; and a doctorate in orthopedics and sports science from Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions.

Dr. Steven Hacker, a surgeon with Hacker Dermatology, Delray Beach, and founder of Nano Surgical LLC, has patented a reusable scalpel. Called Lumohs, it provides shadowless illumination of the surgical site and can be used for outpatient skin-cancer surgeries and most other routine procedures.

"The scalpel handle has not significantly changed since it was first introduced 100 years ago," Hacker said. "This is a simple, yet highly effective solution that already is delivering safer, more efficient surgical procedures."

Hacker, who has performed more than 50,000 skin cancer surgeries in 30 years of practice, said he realized the only way to better illuminate the surgical site was from inside the scalpel blade holder.

"Using Lumohs' reusable battery cartridge, Lumohs eliminates shadows and blind spots that can obscure tiny, critical nerves and blood vessels that can be accidentally severed during surgery," he said. "The result is improved surgical efficiency for Mohs, plastic surgery and other routine, office-based procedures."

The scalpel costs \$200.

Hacker Dermatology is at 230 George Bush Blvd., Suite B.

Delray Medical Center's new cardiac concierge program aims to save lives by quickly identifying and treating patients experiencing chest pain and other heart symptoms. When a patient arrives at the emergency room, he or she will be met by a dedicated cardiac liaison.

Then, an experienced cardiac care team will implement a specialized plan to speed the patient's diagnosis and treatment and will remain by the patient's side throughout the hospital stay.

For more information, visit [www.delraymedicalctr.com/services/cardiovascular/cardiac-concierge-program](http://www.delraymedicalctr.com/services/cardiovascular/cardiac-concierge-program).

Send health news to Christine Davis at [cdavis9797@gmail.com](mailto:cdavis9797@gmail.com).

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Health & Harmony

# Ocean Ridge community trains residents to treat cardiac arrest

Even before Buffalo Bills safety Damar Hamlin's cardiac arrest on live TV gave the nation a lesson in the critical importance of immediate CPR and use of automatic external defibrillator machines, Colonial Ridge Club residents Sally Szumlas and Eileen Fiorina were on a mission to make first responders out of their neighbors.

The two, both medical professionals, are co-chairs of the Community Well-Being Committee. Szumlas, 60, has a Ph.D. in critical care nursing and Fiorina, 77, is a retired dietitian and clinical manager in a hospital in her home state of Pennsylvania.

"Even if we only save one life here, it is one life someone has to be with their loved ones," says Fiorina, a 10-year resident of Colonial Ridge in Ocean Ridge who winters here and conceived the idea.

When Szumlas moved in next door, she knew she had an ally.

After they lobbied the board and raised about \$7,200 to purchase the AED equipment, their initiative, titled One Heart, kicked off in February — American Heart Month.

The women aim to bring awareness to their community about the importance of having first-responder skills, including performing CPR and using AEDs, to provide lifesaving treatment to someone suffering cardiac arrest.

"We are proud to be able to support our neighbors by bringing our One Heart program and its lifesaving technology to our neighbors at Colonial Ridge," says Szumlas, who comes down from Chicago each winter. "Data show that early intervention, including cardiac defibrillation, greatly improves the chance of survival from heart attack, and saves nearly 1,700 lives each year in the U.S."

"Everyone should be prepared to be a first responder in an emergency situation," she



Patty Perlucke (l-r), Ronni Krasny, Claudia Rienzo and Mary Leroux work on the One Heart initiative. Photo provided

says. "That means knowing how to recognize the trouble, having the confidence to intervene and the necessary tools to intervene with."

As a result of their efforts and with help from Delray Beach business owner Ted David Paul of Med Tran Plus, two AED machines will be

installed in publicly accessible areas in the community at 5505 N. Ocean Blvd.

In addition, CPR classes began in late February with the goal of training at least 50% of the almost 200 residents at Colonial Ridge Club, many of them 55 and older.

Szumlas notes that the community has had two incidents of cardiac arrest, in which one resident survived and one did not.

According to Szumlas, residents were trained in the American Heart Association's "friends and family CPR certification," a practice-while-watching technique. The committee held five days of training, with two sessions each day.

"We want to help people respond when faced with this situation," she says. "We

want to educate our residents on recognizing and getting the most important things to happen. No. 1, check to see if the person is breathing. No. 2, call 911. And No. 3, if there is no pulse, get the AED and follow the machine's instructions.

"Besides saving lives, this is a way to bring our community together," says Szumlas. "Plus, these are skills you can take with you. You never know when you might be in an airport, movie theater or supermarket and have to save somebody's life."

Jan Engoren writes about



health and healthy living. Send column ideas to [jengoren@hotmail.com](mailto:jengoren@hotmail.com).



## HIP AND KNEE JOINT REPLACEMENT

With hip or knee pain, everyday activities may be difficult and painful to perform. For those who have not responded well to conservative treatment options, minimally invasive hip or knee replacement may be the solution to provide relief.

At the Palm Beach Health Network, our orthopedic surgeons will create a personalized joint replacement surgical plan and utilize minimally invasive treatment options which are designed to result in more precision and fewer incisions, along with less pain and a quicker recovery for you.

**Minimally invasive surgery benefits may include:**

- Less Pain
- Shorter Hospital Stay
- Quicker Recovery
- Less Blood Loss

Get back to the activities you love. Call 888-481-3418 to be referred to an orthopedic surgeon.



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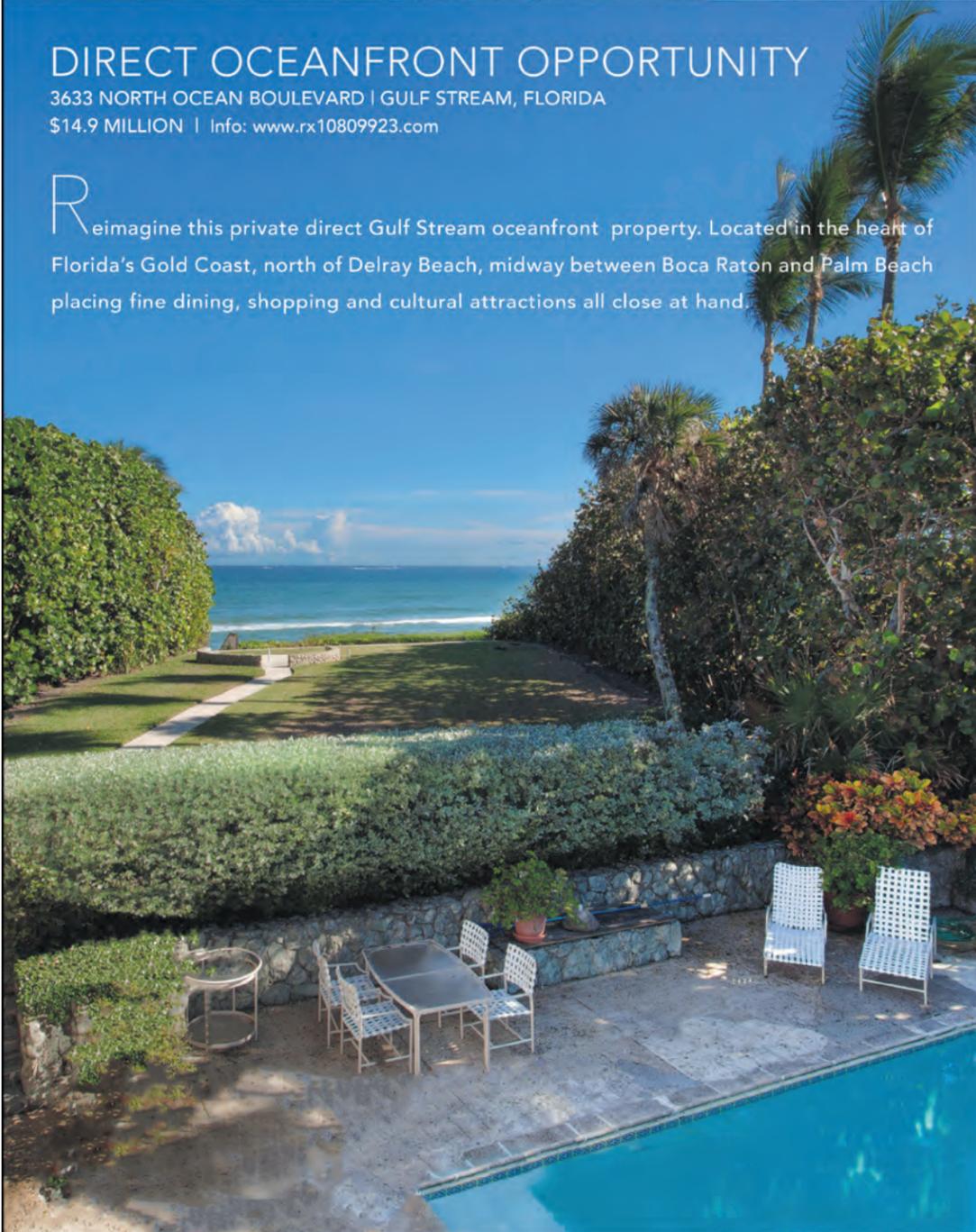
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**Health Calendar**

Note: Events are current as of 2/24. Please check with organizers for any changes.

**MARCH 4**

**Saturday - 3/4 - Yoga Class** at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. Every Sat 9 am. \$5/class. 561-588-8889; southpalmbeach.com  
**3/4 - 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  
**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  
**3/4 - 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  
**3/4 - 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  
**3/4 - AA Meeting** at Unity of Delray Beach Fellowship Hall, 101 NW 22nd St. Every Sat 5:30 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

**MARCH 5-11**

**Sunday - 3/5 - 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  
**3/5 - 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 - 3/6 - 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 - 3/7 - 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  
**3/7 - 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 - 3/8 - 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  
**3/8 - LGBTQ AA Meeting** at Unity of Delray Beach Fellowship Hall, 101 NW 22nd St. Every W 7 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

**MARCH 12-18**

**Wednesday - 3/15 - Chi Meditation: Tai Chi/Qigong - Meditation with Gary Tong** at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every W through 5/10 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$200/member; \$260/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**MARCH 19-25**

**Sunday - 3/19 - Yoga at the Museum** at Boca Raton Museum of Art Wolgin Education Center, 501 Plaza Real. Limited seating. 9:30-11 am. \$10/member; \$40/non-member. Reservations: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org  
**3/19 - Palm Beach VegFest** at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 100% vegan event. 11 am-5 pm. Free. pbvegfest.com  
**Tuesday - 3/21 - Virtual Speaker: Joshua Disatham - Building an Eye.** Part of FAU Research in Action Series; Via Zoom. 1 pm. Free. Registration: fau.edu/research/community/research-in-action  
**Thursday - 3/23 - Eye Health: Research, Prevention, & Treatment w/J. Fielding Hejtmancik** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**MARCH 26-APRIL 1**

**Thursday - 3/30 - Virtual Speaker: Candy Wilson, Ph.D.** Part of FAU Research in Action Series; Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing. Via Zoom. 1 pm. Free. Registration: fau.edu/research/community/research-in-action  
**Saturday - 4/1 - 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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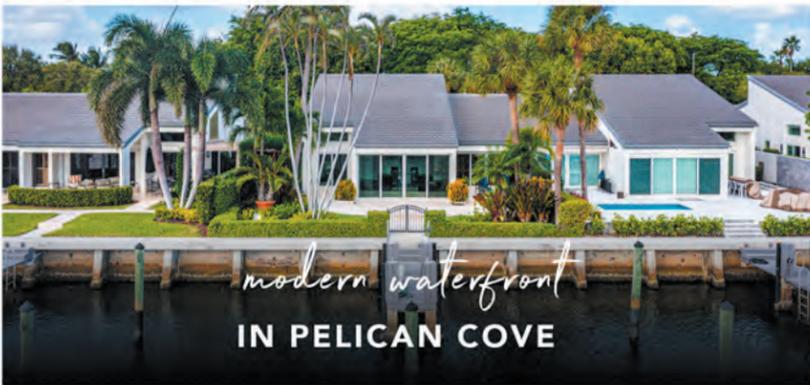
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# Tots & Teens Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 2/23. Please check with organizers for any changes.

## MARCH 4

**Saturday 3/4 - Gymnastics Class** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 5-11. Every Sat through 4/1 9:15-10 am. \$60/resident; \$75/non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org  
**3/4 - 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  
**3/4 - Pulp, Paper & Play Class** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 6-17. 10:30 am-noon. Per class \$5/resident; \$7/non-resident. Registration: 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org  
**3/4 - Little Wonders** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Hike, crafts, stories. Age 3-4 w/adult. 10-11 am. \$8/resident & member; \$10/non-member. Reservations: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org  
**3/4 - Gymnastics/Cheerleading Class** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 5-11. Every Sat through 4/1 10:05-10:50 am. \$60/resident; \$75/non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org  
**3/4 - Family Day** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Celebrate the arts; live musical performances, art-making stations,

story time, art exhibitions, more. 11 am-3 pm. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org  
**3/4 - Nature Detectives** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. New mystery each month. Age 5-6 w/adult. Noon-1 pm. \$8/resident & member; \$10/non-member. Reservations: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org  
**3/4 - 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  
**3/4 - 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  
**3/4 - 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  
**3/4 - 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  
**3/4 - 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  
**3/4 - 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

## MARCH 5-11

**Monday - 3/6 - Fun w/Fernanda: Bilingual Spanish-English Story Time** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 0-4. 3:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**3/6 - My First Book Club** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 4-6. Every M 3:30 pm. Free. 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org  
**3/6 - 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  
**3/6 - Introduction to Painting for Tweens** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 9-12. Every M 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org  
**Tuesday - 3/7 - Discovery Series: Dinosaurs!** at Sandoway Discovery Center, 142 S Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. Outdoors, limited to 5 families per class. Age 3-5. Held again 3/21. 10 am. \$12-\$14/child + admission. RSVP: 561-274-7264; sandoway.org  
**3/7 - Reading & Rhythm for Toddlers** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Literacy enrichment class: stories, music, movement. Child must be accompanied by an adult. Age 3 & under. Every T 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org  
**3/7 - Play & Learn for Toddlers** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Help your child learn literacy skills during playtime. Age 2-3. Every T 10:30-11 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org  
**3/7 - Tots in Tutus w/First Steps Dance & Tumbling** at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Age 2-5. Every T through 4/4 11-11:45 am. Per class \$10/member; \$12/non-member + admission. Registration: 561-742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org  
**3/7 - 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  
**3/7 - Teen Game Day** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 13-17. 5-7 pm. Free. 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org  
**3/7 - Teen Book Club: Graceling by Kristin Cashore** 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  
**3/7 - 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  
**3/7 - 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 - 3/8 - Oh Baby Story Time** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Pre-literacy class: music, stories, rhymes, lap bounces. Age 3 months-2.5 years. 1st, 2nd & 3rd W 10 am. Free. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**3/8 - 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  
**3/8 - Tales for 2s & 3s** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Literacy enrichment class: stories, music, movement. Every W 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org  
**3/8 - Play & Learn for 2s & 3s** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Learn literacy skills during playtime. Every W 10:30-11 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org  
**3/8 - Little Artists** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age preschool to kindergarten. Held again 3/22. 10:30-11 am. Free. 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org  
**3/8 - Art Tales** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Story time, art activity. Age 4-8. 3:30-4:30 pm. \$5/member; \$10/non-member. Reservations: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org  
**3/8 - 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  
**3/8 - Teen & Tween Crochet** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 9-18. Held again 3/22. 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org  
**Thursday - 3/9 - 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  
**3/9 - Rhyming Writers** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 6-8. Every Th

3:30-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org  
**3/9 - Snips, Snaps, Tales, & Tunes** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Join Ms. Lovely; story/related craft develops listening skills, print awareness, fine motor coordination. Age 3-5. 3:30 pm. Free. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**3/9 - 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 - 3/10 - Baby Bookworm** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Storytime for infants accompanied by an adult. Age 0 months to non-walking. Every F 11-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7852; bocalibrary.org  
**3/10 - Play & Learn for Babies** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Learn literacy skills during playtime. Age 0 months to non-walking. Every F 11:30 am-noon. Free. Register: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org  
**3/10 - Astro Hour: Come In & Space Out!** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 8-12. 2nd & 4th F 3:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**3/11 - Saturday Morning Art (smART)** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Studio workshops; families/intergenerational groups focus on artistic family fun to learn, create, enjoy visual arts. 10-11 am. \$5/member; \$10/non-member. Reservations: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org  
**3/11 - 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 3/25 & 4/1. Noon-2 pm. Free. Register: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

## MARCH 12-18

**Monday - 3/13 - Kindergarten Readiness Story Time w/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  
**Tuesday - 3/14 - Manga Club** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. 5-6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**3/14 - 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 - 3/15 - Young @ Art** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Create fun arts/crafts, learn the principles of art. Age 5-7. 3:30 pm. Free. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**3/15 - Tween Book Jam: A Wish in the Dark by Christina Soontornvat** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 9-12. 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org  
**Thursday - 3/16 - 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  
**3/16 - 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 - 3/17-24 - Spring Break Camp** at Sims Center, 225 NW 12th Ave, Boynton Beach. Age 5-12. M-F 7:30 am-5:30 pm. \$130/resident; \$163/non-resident. Registration: 561-742-6640; boynton-beach.org  
**Saturday - 3/18 - Got Gaming Club** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. Held again 3/25. 3-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**3/18-19 - Creation Station** at Boca Raton Museum of Art Wolgin Education Center, 501 Plaza Real. Limited seating. Noon-4 pm. Free w/admission. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

## MARCH 19-25

**Sunday - 3/19 - 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  
**Monday - 3/20 - 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  
**3/20 - Flag Football League** at Sims Center, 225 NW 12th Ave, Boynton Beach. Age 9-11. Every M/W through 4/26 6:30-7:30 pm. \$35/resident; \$44/non-resident. 561-742-6640; boynton-beach.org  
**3/20-24 - One Week Wonder: Eco Theatre Week** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 8-14. M-F 9 am-4 pm. \$375/week. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org  
**3/20-24 - Spring Break Basketball Camp** at

Hester Center, 1901 N Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Age 6-15. M-F 9 am-4 pm; \$150/resident; \$188/non-resident. Additional hours 7:30-9 am & 4-5:30 pm \$25. 561-742-6550; boynton-beach.org  
**3/20-24 - Spring Break Camp** at Sims Center, 225 NW 12th Ave, Boynton Beach. Age 5-12. M-F 7:30 am-5:30 pm. \$130/resident; \$163/non-resident. Registration: 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org  
**Tuesday - 3/21 - Community Superheroes** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 3-7. 3:30 pm. Free. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**3/21 - Teen Crafting Hour: Candle Making** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 9-18. 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org  
**Thursday - 3/23 - 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  
**Friday - 3/24 - Turn the Tables Career & Internship Expo** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 15+. 9 am-5 pm. Free. 561-742-6014; boynton-beach.org  
**Saturday - 3/25 - Basketball Combine** at Hester Center, 1901 N Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Age 7-6. 10:30 am-3:30 pm. \$45/resident; \$56/non-resident. 561-742-6550; boynton-beach.org

## MARCH 26-APRIL 1

**Sunday - 3/26 - 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  
**3/26 - Chess Moves: Open Play or Tournament Play** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 6+. 10 am-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org  
**3/26 - Rookie Rooks: Beginner Chess for Youth** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 8-12. 10:30-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org  
**Monday - 3/27 - 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 - 3/28 - Booktastic Book Club: Shark Lady by Jess Keating** 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  
**3/28 - 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  
**3/28 - MAP Dance Class** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Every T through 5/23. Age 4.5-6 ballet/tap 4-5 pm; Age 7-12 modern 5-6 pm; Age 13-18 modern 6-7 pm. \$125/resident; \$156/non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org  
**3/28 - Anime Night** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 10-17. 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org  
**Wednesday - 3/29 - 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 website. Age 5-9. 3:30 pm. Free. Sign-in sheet on site: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**3/29 - MAP Dance: Ballet** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Every W through 5/24. Age 7-12 5-6 pm; Age 13-18 6-7 pm. \$125/resident; \$156/non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org  
**3/29 - 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  
**3/30 - MAP Dance Class** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Every Th through 5/25. Age 4.5-6 jazz/hip hop 4-5 pm; Age 7-12 hip hop 5-6 pm; Age 13-18 hip hop 6-7 pm \$125/resident; \$156/non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org  
**Saturday - 4/1 - Pulp, Paper & Play Class** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 6-17. 10:30 am-noon. Per class \$5/resident; \$7/non-resident. Registration: 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org  
**4/1 - MAP Dance Class** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Every Sat through 5/27. Age 4.5-6 combo 10-11 am; Age 7-18 ballet 11 am-noon; Age 7-18 hip hop noon-1 pm. \$125/resident; \$156/non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

# Briny Breezes Art League Show & Sale

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Tots & Teens

# Ocean Ridge teen patents 'metabolic charging device' technology

By Janis Fontaine

What if your Apple watch could charge itself by capturing your body heat? Some Ph.D. in Silicon Valley probably invented that, right?

Wrong. Andrew Dagher of Ocean Ridge, a senior at Oxbridge Academy in West Palm Beach, already holds the patent on the invention.

The "metabolic charging device" produces an electric current because of the thermoelectric Seebeck effect: "A temperature difference between two dissimilar electrical conductors or semiconductors produces a voltage difference between the two substances."

In the watch example, the difference in temperature from your body on one side and the cooler temperature on other side (outside vs. inside the watch) produces a current. The greater the difference in temperature, the greater the current produced.

Through a series of contracts with the Florida Institute of Technology, a prototype was produced. Patent law experts did a deep dive on relevant research. Andrew set up a limited liability company to own the patents.

These were complicated business dealings for a person who turns 18 on March 11, but Andrew was up for the challenge.

"I'm extremely curious," Andrew said. He started reading his father's medical books when he was just a kid, but admits he gets lightheaded at the sight of blood so becoming a doctor like his father just wasn't going to work.

"Medicine is my favorite thing," he said, but he plans to major in finance and mechanical engineering. In reality, "I'll be acquiring all the tools I need to build a business."

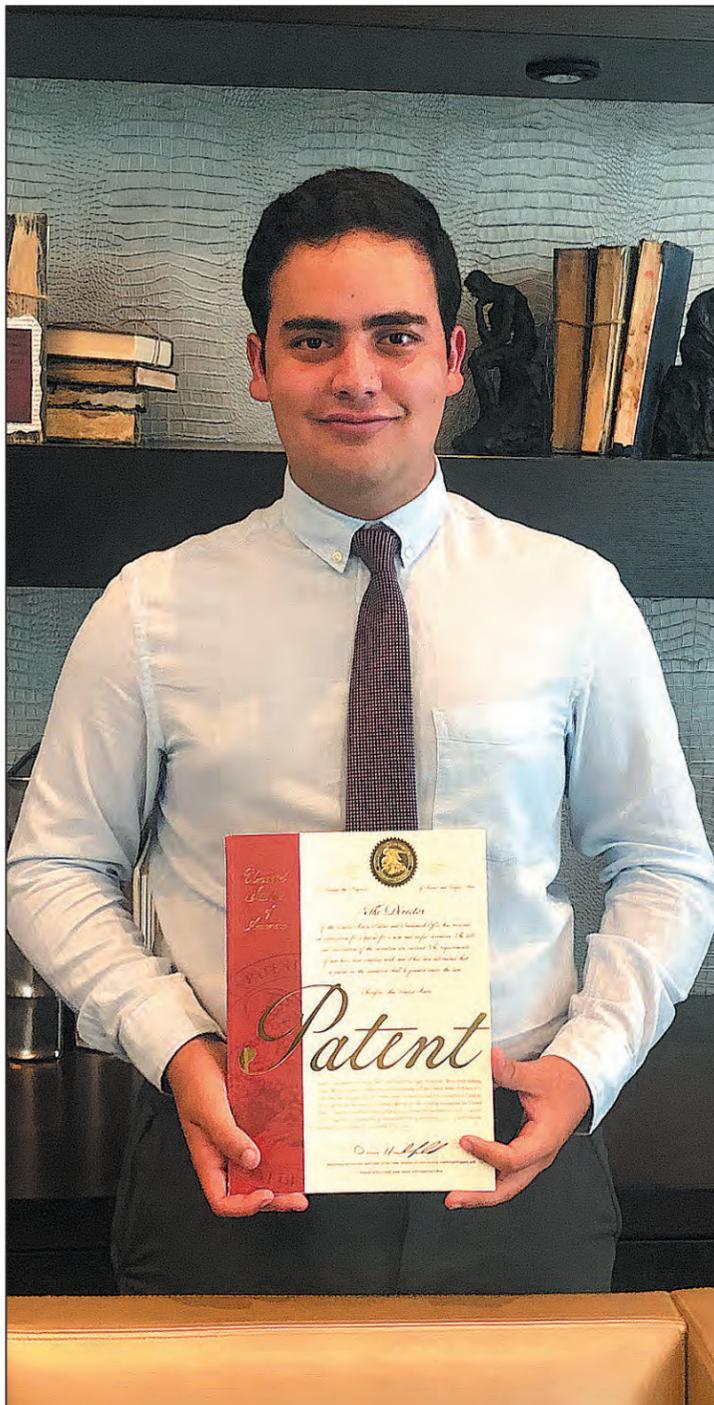
There's no shortage of projects percolating in that fertile mind: "I have 30 ideas on my phone at various stages."

He says he does some of his best thinking when he's driving with Kodak Black, Kendrick Lamar or The Weeknd playing on the stereo.

But don't mistake his intellect for introversion. In conversation, Andrew is leaning in, making eye contact and not checking his phone. People around Andrew feel heard and seen, a gift of a real leader. "I have tons of friends and I'm very social," he says.

Right now, tennis is Andrew's extracurricular focus, and he's captain of the Oxbridge tennis team. He also enjoys a round of golf and likes to work out. He wants to set a good example for his teammates, so he eats right, shuns caffeine and tries to get enough sleep, an issue for a lot of teens.

Andrew's family is close. His parents, Dr. Sami and Joumana Dagher, came to the United



Andrew Dagher, a senior at Oxbridge Academy, shows the official patent certificate for his device, a metabolic charging apparatus. Photo provided by Dr. Sami Dagher

States from Lebanon and his father's two brothers also live and work nearby, so Andrew has a robust family to enrich his life.

From them, he has developed a set of guiding principles such as "Always do what's right" and "Follow your gut."

When he's presented with a baffling problem or an issue he can't resolve on his own, Andrew seeks out his father first.

"My dad helps a lot of people," he said. "He taught me to weigh the ramifications of my actions."

His second call is to his priest, the Rev. Gabriel Ghanoum at St. Nicholas Melkite Greek Catholic Church in Delray Beach. "He's the most

giving man on the planet and one of my personal heroes," Andrew said.

Next fall, Andrew will head off to college, he hopes at Boston College. Andrew says his strong Catholic faith fit best with the Jesuit university, which tops his list of 12 schools. "It has a familiar set of rules," he said.

It's hard to predict where the young innovator will be in five years. There's no course or detailed map to follow. Andrew is keeping his mind and his options open: "I'm on my own path."

"My quote from eighth grade still applies," Andrew says.

That is: "I am ready to face any challenges that might be foolish enough to face me." — Dwight Schrute, *The Office*. ★

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# Community Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 2/23. Please check with organizers for any changes.

## MARCH 4

### 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 - 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. 8-10:30 am. Free. jefflev02@gmail.com

### 3/4 - Farm Share Feeding Florida Families: Food Distribution Event

at Lantana Sports Park, 903 N 8th St. First come, first served drive-thru distribution. 9 am-noon. Free. 561-540-5754; lantana.org

### 3/4 - Tree Planting Event

at Plumosa School of the Arts, 2501 Seacrest Blvd, Delray Beach. Volunteers help plant 100 trees. 9-11:30 am. Registration: communitygreening.org

### 3/4 - 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

### 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 - 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

### 3/4 - Career Fair

at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. The City is hiring! 10 am-2 pm. Free. 561-742-6275; boynton-beach.org

### 3/4 - Freestyle Saturdays Art Class

at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 18+. Every Sat 10 am-12:30 pm. Per class \$29/resident; \$35/non-resident. Registration: 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

### 3/4 - Muscle on The Beach

at Old School Square, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Benefits Sandoway Discovery Center. Host: TV star Mike Brewer. 10 am-3 pm. \$125/ car registry; free/spectators. 561-274-7263; muscleonthebeach.com

### 3/4 - Current Events Discussion

at Highland Beach Library Community Room, 3618 S Ocean Blvd. Every Sat 10:30 am. Free. 561-266-9702; highlandbeach.us

### 3/4 - Open Figure Studio w/Model

at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Age

18+. Held again 3/16 6:30-8:30 pm, 3/25 2-4 pm, & 3/23 & 4/1. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$15. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org

### 3/4 - 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

### 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 \$15-\$100. 561-571-5270; festivalboca.org

### 3/4 - Sick Puppies Improv Comedy Extravaganza Show

at Doghouse Theater, 105 NW 5th Ave, Delray Beach. 7:30 pm. \$20-\$25. 954-667-7735; sickpuppiescomedy.com

### 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. \$55-\$89. 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

### 3/4-5 - First Weekend Mural: Women's History Month & Pride Parade 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; flamingoclaysstudio.com

### 3/4-5 - 3rd Annual Affair of the Arts

at Boynton Beach Mall north parking lot, 801 N. Congress Ave. 500+ artists/exhibitors. 10 am-5 pm. Free. 561-279-0907; affairoftheartsfl.com

### 3/4-5 - The Edwards Twins

at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 3 pm. \$60. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

## MARCH 5-11

### Sunday - 3/5 - Architects of the Gilded Age

at Flagler Museum, One Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. Part of Whitehall Lecture Series. Held again 3/12 7 19. 3 pm. Museum admission \$26/adult \$13/age 6-12; free/age 5 & under. 561655-2833; flaglermuseum.org

### 3/5 - Spring is in the Air: Palisades Virtuosi

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

# Municipal Meetings

**3/6 - Ocean Ridge** - First Monday at Ocean Ridge Town Hall, 6450 N Ocean Blvd. 6 pm. Agenda: oceanridgeflorida.com

**3/7 - Highland Beach** - First Tuesday at Highland Beach Town Hall, 3614 S Ocean Blvd. 1:30 pm. Agenda: highlandbeach.us

**3/7 & 3/21 - Delray Beach** - First & third Tuesdays at Delray Beach City Hall, 100 NW 1st Ave. 4 pm. Agenda: delraybeachfl.gov

**3/7 & 3/21 - Boynton Beach** - First and third Tuesday at Boynton Beach City Hall, 100 E Ocean Ave. 6 pm. Agenda: boynton-beach.org

**3/10 - Gulf Stream** - Second Friday at Gulf Stream Town Hall, 100 Sea Rd. 9 am. Agenda: gulf-stream.org

**3/13 & 3/27 - Lantana** - Second & fourth Mondays at Lantana Town Hall, 500 Greynolds Cir. 6 pm. Agenda: lantana.org

**3/14 - South Palm Beach** - Second Tuesday at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. 4 pm. Agenda: southpalmbeach.com

**3/14 & 3/28 - Boca Raton** - Second & fourth Tuesday at the auditorium, 6500 Congress Ave. 6 pm. Agenda: myboca.us

**3/23 - Briny Breezes** - Fourth Thursday at Briny Breezes Town Hall, 4802 N Ocean Blvd. 4 pm. Agenda: townofbrinybreezes-fl.com

**3/28 - Manalapan** - Fourth Tuesday at Manalapan Town Hall, 600 S Ocean Blvd. 10 am. Agenda: manalapan.org

### 3/5 - Friends Music Series: Brazilian Voices

**3 ... a Trio!** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. 3 pm. Free. 561-393-7852; bocalibrary.org

### 3/5 - Friends of the Uffizi Lectures: Brunelleschi, Linear Perspective & Early Renaissance Painting

at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Presented by Friends of the Uffizi Gallery. Speaker Broward College Art History Professor Dr. Kevin Cole. 3-4 pm. \$15/non-member. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

### 3/5 - Festival of the Arts Boca: A Night at the Ballet: From Tchaikovsky to the Rolling Stones

at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$35-\$150. 561-571-5270; festivalboca.org

### 3/5 - A Tribute to James Brown

at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7-8:30 pm. \$45-\$50. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

### Monday - 3/6 - 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

### 3/6 - Robert Krasnow - Laughter: The Secret of Getting Through the Tough Times

at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. Part of 2023 Robert Welstein Quest for Knowledge Series. 10:30 am. Free. 561-588-8889; southpalmbeach.com

### 3/6 - Brown Bag Speaker Series: Pollinator Gardening with Native Plants

at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Noon. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

### 3/6 - Computer Basics Class

at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

### 3/6 - Advanced Squares

at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Every M 2-4 pm. \$6. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

### 3/6 - Resume Writing Using MS Word

at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave.

Adults. 6-7:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

### 3/6 - Festival of the Arts Boca: Lynn Olson on Women in the Resistance in WWII

at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$10-\$40. 561-571-5270; festivalboca.org

### 3/6-7 - Auditions: Closer by Patrick Marber

at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Production dates 5/5-14. 7 pm. First come first served. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

### 3/6-9 - Adult ESOL Class: Beginners

at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. For continuing students who have completed the Beginners course. Adults. Every M-Th 2-4. Free. Appointment required: 561-742-6387; boyntonlibrary.org

### Tuesday - 3/7 - Career & Employment Help w/CareerSource PBC

at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Assistance w/ employment, re-employment, resumes, filing for unemployment, career path assistance. Representative fluent in English, Creole, French. Adults. Every T 9 am-4 pm. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

### 3/7 - 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

### 3/7 - Author Talk & Book Signing w/Lynne Olson

at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. 11 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7852; bocalibrary.org

### 3/7 - The Olli FAU Book Club w/Facilitator Cyndi Stein-Rubin

at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$40/member; \$50/non-member; \$50/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

### 3/7 - Boca Raton Garden Club Monthly Meeting

at 4281 NW 3rd Ave. Speaker City of Boca Raton's Sustainability Manager, Lindsay Nieratka: Boca Raton's Tree Program. 1 pm.

Free. 561-395-9376; bocaratongardenclub.org

### 3/7 - Resume Coaching

at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Held again 3/14. 1-4 pm. Free. By appointment only: 561-266-0196; delraylibrary.org

### 3/7 - 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

### 3/7 - Internet Basics Class

at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

### 3/7 - Beach Treasures

at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Learn about seashells, the animals that make them. Caravan to Red Reef Park, 1400 N State Rd A1A, to search for ocean treasures. All ages; child must be accompanied by an adult. Held again 3/31 2-3:30 pm. Free. Reservations: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

### 3/7 - Reading Behind the Words: Understanding the Short Story w/Winston Aarons

at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Part of Lifelong Learning Institute. Adults. Every T through 3/28 2-3:30 pm. \$60. 561-266-9490; delraylibrary.org

### 3/7 - Improvisational Theater: Creating Comedy Through Agreement & Support w/Anthony Cutaia

at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every T through 5/2 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$200/member; \$260/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

### 3/7 - Book Club: Best American Short Stories from 1920-1960 w/Christine Kasso

at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every T through 3/28 3:30-5 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$100/member; \$130/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

### 3/7 - 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

### 3/7 - 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

### 3/7 - Festival of the Arts Boca: Future Stars Competition

at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7 pm. Free. 561-571-5270; festivalboca.org

### 3/7 - Neave 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

### 3/7 - Comedy Night

at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$5-\$10. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

### Wednesday - 3/8 - Objection! Current, Contentious, & Confusing Legal Battles with Irving Labovitz

at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every W through 3/29 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$60/member; \$80/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at

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door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/8 - GFWC Woman's Club of Delray Beach Meeting** at Teen Center, 505 SE 5th Ave. Bring your own refreshments/coffee. 10 am. Free. delraywomensclub.com

**3/8 - Managing the Angry Savage Within Us: "Whatever is begun in anger, ends in shame", Benjamin Franklin - w/Bert Diament** at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$40/member; \$50/non-member; \$50/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/8 - Expressive Pastels Art Class** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 18+. 1-4 pm. \$35/resident; \$44/non-resident. Registration: 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

**3/8 - Computer Literacy Series** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Every W through 3/29 2-3:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/8 - Town Hall Teatime: Butler House Restoration** at The Schmidt Boca Raton History Museum, 71 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. 2 pm. \$10/non-member. 561-395-6766 x100; bocahistory.org

**3/8 - Microsoft Word Basics Class** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/8 - Chapel 4 Plein Air Art Exhibit** at 200 SE 7th St, Delray Beach. Artists available to answer questions; all art available for purchase. 3-5 pm. Free. 973-216-7993

**3/8 - Artistic Journeys Art Lecture w/ Fran Mann Goodman** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 4 pm. Free. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/8 - 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

**3/8 - America's National Pastime: Experiences From the Big Leagues w/ Jeff Conine & Daniel Cornely** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7-8:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$35/member; \$40/non-member; \$40/one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/8 - Delray Beach Orchid Society Meeting** at Veterans Park, 802 NE 1st St, Delray Beach. 2nd W 7 pm. Free. 561-573-2422; delraybeachorchidsociety.org

**3/8 - Festival of the Arts Boca: Fran Lebowitz Would Like a Word** at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$10-\$65. 561-571-5270; festivalboca.org

**3/8 - On-Camera Acting: Adults** at Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Age 18+. Every W 7-9 pm. \$400/8-week course. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

**3/8 - A Tribute to Frank Sinatra: A Tony Sands Production** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. 7:30 pm. \$35. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

**3/8 - Lake Worth Live: The Improv Experiment** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. 8 pm. \$5. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

**Thursday - 3/9 - Quilters** meet at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Share quilting information, perpetuate quilting as a cultural & artistic form. Limit 10 quilters at a time. Every Th 9 am-noon. \$1/lifetime membership. 561-742-6886; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/9 - The Russian-American Paradox w/Jeffrey Steinberg** at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every Th through 3/30 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

**3/9 - Image Compositing with Adobe Photoshop** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 10 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/9 - Tech Talk Thursdays** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Every Th 10:30-11 am. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/9 - Line Dancing** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Basic modern western square dancing. Every Th

## 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

10:30-11:30 am. \$6. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

**3/9 - The Jazz Soul of Cole Porter: Celebrating the Compositions of Cole Porter & Jazz Instrumentalists Who Recorded Them w/Mark Gridley** at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every Th through 3/30 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$70/member; \$90/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/9 - Words ... Alive! Presents a Dramatic Presentation: The Four Winds by Kristin Hannah** 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

**3/9 - iPhone Basics for Beginners** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 1:30-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**3/9 - Frank Sinatra with Lyrics by Sammy Cahn: The Lyrical Match Made in Heaven w/Harvey Granat** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 4-5:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/9 - Concert: Tony Abbott & Terry Cooper - Neil Diamond Tribute** at Highland Beach Library, 3618 S Ocean Blvd. 5:30 pm. Free. 561-278-5455; highlandbeach.us

**3/9 - Workshop: Watercolor & Collage Inspired by the Art of Sonia Delaunay** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 5:30-8:30 pm. \$60. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

**3/9 - Festival of the Arts Boca: Charles Fishman on The Future of Water** at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$10-\$40. 561-571-5270; festivalboca.org

**3/9-11 - The Bronx Wanderers** at The Studio at Mizner Park, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. \$45-\$55. 561-203-3742; thestudioatmiznerpark.com

**Friday - 3/10 - 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

**3/10 - It's Elementary Dear Student: Essential Elements in Opera w/Giuseppe Albanese** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every F through 4/14 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$90/member; \$120/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/10 - iPad Basics Class** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/10 - Basically Broadway Glee Club Concert w/Barbara Brilliant** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$10/member; \$15/non-member; \$15/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/10 - Mizner Park Friday Night Artisan Market** every Friday at 327 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 4-9 pm. 561-362-0606; miznerpark.com

**3/10 - Women's History Month Film: She's Beautiful When She's Angry** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 6-8 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**3/10 - 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

**3/10 - Festival of the Arts Boca: Nicole Henry - Time to Love Again** at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. \$15-\$100. 561-571-5270; festivalboca.org

**Saturday - 3/11 - Briny Breezes Hobby Club Show & Sale** at 5000 N. Ocean Blvd, Boynton Beach. Handcrafted items, raffles, more. 9 am-noon. Free admission & parking. 561-716-8028

**3/11 - Bring Butterflies to Your Garden** at Ocean Ridge Town Hall, 6450 N Ocean Blvd. Florida native butterfly/host plants sale, speakers. Sponsored by Ocean Ridge Garden Club. Coffee/pastries. 9:30 am-1:00 pm. Free. 561-732-2635; oceanridgeflorida.com

**3/11 - Workshop: Intro to Creativity Jackson Pollock Week** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$55. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org

**3/11 - Lantana Library Grand Opening Family Celebration** at 205 W Ocean Ave. Food trucks, bounce house, DJ, face painting, story times, petting zoo, goody bags, more. Noon. Free. 561-540-5740; lantana.org

**3/11 - St. Patrick's Day Parade & Festival** on Atlantic Avenue from Intracoastal Bridge to NW 5th Avenue, Delray Beach. Parade, live music, food trucks/booths, drinks, merchandise, arts/crafts, more. 1-7 pm festival at Old School Square; noon-2 pm parade. Free. 561-243-7452; stpatsdelray.com

**3/11 - Inventors Society of South Florida Virtual Meeting.** 2nd Sat 1 pm. 1st meeting free. Registration: 561-676-5677; inventorsociety.net

**3/11 - Open VR (Virtual Reality) Lounge** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Explore virtual reality, try out an Oculus VR headset. Held again 3/25. 2:30-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/11 - Artist at Work: Roumen Boudev, Acrylic Portrait Painting** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 3-4 pm. \$5/member; \$10/non-member. Reservations: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

**3/11 - Boynton Beach Blarney Bash** at Centennial Park & Amphitheater, 120 E Ocean Ave. Presented by Boynton Beach CRA. 4-9 pm. Free. 561-600-9097; boyntonbeachcra.com

**3/11 - Carrie Karavas: Men, Flaws & Menopause** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 4 pm & 8 pm. \$45. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

**3/11 - Festival of the Arts Boca: Scheherazade & Soloists** at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. \$15-\$100. 561-571-5270; festivalboca.org

**3/11 - The Righteous Brothers** at Florida Atlantic University Kaye Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. \$39-\$79. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

### MARCH 12-18

**Sunday - 3/12 - Soccer in Paradise Tournament** at Pence Park, 600 SE 4th St, Boynton Beach. Age 18+. 9 am-4 pm. \$100/resident; \$125/non-resident. 561-742-6641; boynton-beach.org

**3/12 - Exhibit Artists Reception: Stimulating** at Artist's Eye Gallery Boutique, 604 Lucerne Ave, Lake Worth Beach. Runs through 4/1. 1-3 pm. Free. 561-586-8666; lwartleague.org

**3/12 - Parrot Cove Neighborhood Association's Home & Garden Tour** in Lake Worth Beach from Lucerne to 13th Avenue North & Federal Highway to the golf course. Homes/gardens range from historic cottages to contemporary homes. Refreshments served; trolley available. Pick up tickets at Lake Worth Golf Course, One 7th Ave N. Rain or shine: noon/check-in; 1-5 pm/tour. Tickets are non-refundable: \$50/advance; \$55/at the door. Info/tickets: eventbrite.com

**3/12 - Boca Raton Championship Wrestling March Madhouse** at The Studio at Mizner Park, 201 Plaza Real. 6 pm. \$50-\$125. 561-203-3742; thestudioatmiznerpark.com

**3/12 - Festival of the Arts Boca: Sergio Mendes** at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$45-\$150. 561-571-5270; festivalboca.org

**3/12 - Veronica Lewis** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7-8:30 pm. \$40-\$45. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

**Monday - 3/13 - Pickleball Tournament** at Hester Center, 1901 N Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Age 18+. 9 am-noon. \$35/\$44. 561-742-6550; boynton-beach.org

**3/13 - The Supreme Court: The Cases, Controversies & Personalities that Shaped American History w/Eric Williams** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every M through 4/3 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

**3/13 - Acrylic Painting: Realism w/James C. Warwick** at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every M through 5/1 10 am-noon. \$60/annual membership; \$200/member; \$260/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/13 - Ronald C. Glass - The Age of Eisenhower: America & the World in the 1950's** at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. Part of 2023 Robert Welstein Quest for Knowledge Series. 10:30 am. Free. 561-588-8889; southpalmbeach.com

**3/13 - Brown Bag Speaker Series: Mountains, Monasteries & the Silk Road of N India** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Noon. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/13 - Raphael & the Triumph of Renaissance Humanism w/Anne-Marie Bouche** at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$40/member; \$50/non-member; \$50/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/13 - Gmail Basics Class** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/13 - The Life & Music of Cole Porter: A Most Luxuriant Songster w/Thomas Cimarusti** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/13 - The Shape of the Sacred: Architecture & Divinity w/Anne-Marie Bouche** at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$40/member; \$50/non-member; \$50/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/13 - Microsoft Excel Series: Intermediate Formulas** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 6-7:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**Tuesday - 3/14 - An Hour to Kill Mystery Book Club: A Place of Execution** by Val McDermid at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 10:30-11:30 am. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**3/14 - The Worst Supreme Court Decisions Ever? From Dred Scott to Korematsu & Beyond w/Roy Klein** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/14 - Crafting for Fun & Small Business: Design a Cricut Greeting Card** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 1-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**3/14 - Guided Walking Tours of Boca Raton** at The Boca Raton, 501 E Camino Real. Led by docents from Boca Raton Historical Society. Age 12+. 2nd & 4th T. 2 pm. \$25; \$11/valet fee per vehicle. 561-395-6766 x100; bocahistory.org

**3/14 - Gmail Advanced Class** at Delray Beach

Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/14 - Chronides from the Land of the Happiest People on Earth by Wole Syinka** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Part of Tuesday Book Group. 6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**Tuesday - 3/14 - Golden Hour Guided Tours** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Guided tour through Sea Turtle Rehabilitation Facility, outdoor aquariums, open-air butterfly garden, nature trail; ends w/sunset views of the Intracoastal Waterway. Age 7-adult; child under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Held again 3/24 & 28. 6-7:30 pm. \$10/resident & member; \$13/non-resident. Registration: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

**3/14 - 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 - 3/15 - Art Deco Revisited w/ Terry Lawrence** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every W through 4/26 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$90/member; \$120/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/15 - Microsoft Word Intermediate Class** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/15 - Quo Vadis European Union? The History of the European Union & its Challenges as a 21st Century Global Actor w/Claudia Dunlea** 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

**3/15 - Town Hall Talk: The Pleistocene in Florida** at The Schmidt Boca Raton History Museum, 71 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Speaker Christian Davenport. 6 pm check-in/refreshments; 6:30 pm lecture. \$10/guest. 561-395-6766 x100; bocahistory.org

**3/15 - 20th Annual Delray Beach Home Tour** in the Beach Front North End Neighborhood of Delray Beach (North side of Atlantic Ave to George Bush Blvd, from the Ocean to the Intracoastal). 10 am-4 pm. \$125/person. achievementcentersfl.org

**3/15 - Eco-Watch Lecture Series: On the Cutting Edge of Conservation** 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

**Thursday - 3/16 - 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

**3/16 - Create a Greeting Card w/InDesign** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 10 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0196; delraylibrary.org

**3/16 - Female Noir Authors: A Discussion** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**3/16 - In The Beginning We Were Anonymous: Six Future Superstars Before They Were Superstars w/Kurt F. Stone** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every Th through 4/27 3-5 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$90/member; \$120/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/16 - What is Canva?** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 5-6:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/16 - Spanish Treasures Lost & Found in Florida's Waters w/Charles J. Kropke** at Old School Square Historic Field House, 41 N Swinton Ave. Part of Delray Beach Historical Society Heritage Lecture Series. 6 pm reception; 6:30 pm lecture. \$20/person. 561-274-9578; delraybeachhistory.org

**3/16 - Evening of Jazz: Phil Hinton Trio** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Limited seating. 7-8:30 pm. \$20/member; \$30/non-member. Reservations: 561-392-2500;

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**3/16 - Jazz, Jazz, Jazz!** at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$5-\$10. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

**Friday - 3/17 - Downtown Abbey & the Gilded Age: America's TV Love Affair w/the Rich w/Margery Marcus** - at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/17 - Solo Gallery Exhibition: Etheard Joseph** at Cultural Council of Palm Beach County, 601 Lake Ave, Lake Worth Beach. Runs through 4/29. T-Sat noon-5 pm. Free. 561-471-2901; palmbeachculture.com

**3/17 - iPad Intermediate Class** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/17 - Reality+: Virtual Worlds & the Problem of Philosophy w/David Chalmers** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3:15-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$25. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/17 - Artist Blow Out featuring Glass Artists Ekin Aytac & Josh Davids** at Benzaiten Center for Creative Arts, 1105 2nd Ave S, Lake Worth Beach. 6:30-9:30 pm. \$15. 561-508-7315; benzaitencenter.org

**3/17 - Free Concert: Seamus Egan Project** 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/parksandcreation

**3/17 - The Jimmy Vivino Band** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$40-\$45. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

**3/17-19 - The Devil's Confession; The Lost Eichmann Tapes, a film screening** at The Studio at Mizner Park, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. F/Sat 7 pm; sun 3 pm. \$35. 561-203-3742; thestudioatmiznerpark.com

**Saturday - 3/18 - Barefoot Mailman Family Beach Day** at Lantana Beach, 100 N Ocean Blvd. 9 am-1 pm. Entertainment, food/craft vendors, giveaways. 561-540-5754; lantana.org/enjoy-lantana-events

**3/18 - Briny Breezes Art League Show & Sale** at 5000 N Ocean Blvd. 10 am-4 pm. Free/admission & parking. brinyartleague.com

**3/18 - Workshop: Mixed Media Portraits in Street Art Style** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Age 16+. 10:30 am-3 pm. \$120. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

**3/18 - All People's Day Diversity Festival** at Pompey Park, 1101 NW 2nd St, Delray Beach. Celebrities all people, all cultures, all traditions. Workshop, booths, entertainment. Family Fare. 11 am-3 pm. Free. allpeoplesday.org

**3/18 - Culture Talks: Rolando Chang Barrero in Conversation w/Gretel Sarmiento** at Cultural Council of Palm Beach County, 601 Lake Ave, Lake Worth Beach. Hosted by Palm Beach ArtsPaper. 2-3 pm. Free. Register: 561-471-2901; palmbeachculture.com

**3/18 - Workshop: DIY Fabric Jewelry** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 2-4 pm. \$50. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

**3/18 - Send In The Queens** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. 8 pm. \$38. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

**3/18 - Latin Groove Project: CD Release Party** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$40-\$45. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

**3/18-19 - St Mark Church 6th Annual Rummage Sale** at 643 NE 4th Ave, Boynton Beach. 631-371-6884; stmarkboynton.com

## MARCH 19-25

**Sunday - 3/19 - Blackmer's Market** at Spady Museum, 170 NW 5th Ave, Delray Beach. Food, clothing, accessories, community organizations, service providers. Family fare. 11 am-4 pm. Free/admission. 561-243-1077; downtowndelraybeach.com

**3/19 - Friends Speaker Series: Learning to Swim at Any Age w/Kara Cassidy** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 11:30 am-1 pm. Free. 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

**3/19 - Rock & Roll Playhouse presents Music of Bob Marley** at The Studio at Mizner Park, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Family fare. Noon. \$17.50. 561-203-3742; thestudioatmiznerpark.com

**3/19 - An Afternoon of Chamber Percussion** at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3 pm. \$5-\$10. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

**3/19 - All J.S. Bach Program w/pianist Steven Mento** at Ascension Lutheran Church, 2929 S Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. 3:30 pm. \$22. 561-732-2929; musicaribeproject.com

**3/19 - Story Central Storytelling Slam** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 4-5:30 pm. Free. 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**3/19 - Beautiful Loser: The Bob Seger Tribute** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7-8:30 pm. \$40-\$45. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

**Monday - 3/20 - Kathleen Crampton - The electoral College: Isn't It Time for Changes?** at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. Part of 2023 Robert Welstein Quest for Knowledge Series. 10:30 am. Free. 561-588-8889; southpalmbeach.com

**3/20 - Brown Bag Speaker Series: Stories From a Commercial Airline Pilot** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Noon. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/20 - Edith Piaf & Marlene Dietrich: 20th Century Icons w/Rene Silvin** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/20 - Appy Hour: Streaming Videos** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/20 - Gold, Glory, & God: Conquistadors in La Florida w/Robert Feeney** at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every M through 4/10 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

**3/20 - Coming to Terms W/History: Contemporary German Cinema w/Shelly Isaacs** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every M through 4/10 4:30-6:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$60/member; \$80/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/20 - Acting For The Stage for Adults** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 18+. Every M through 5/8 6-7:30 pm. \$200/8 weeks. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

**3/20 - Introduction to MS Word Class** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 6-7:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/20 - 10th Annual Real Men Bake Fundraiser** at Delray Beach Playhouse Cabaret Room, 950 NW 9th St. Benefits non-profits supported by Woman's Club of Delray Beach. Sponsored by Delray Beach Historical Society. Sweet & savory baked goods, cash bar, DJ, raffles, auction, more. 6-9 pm. \$40. Tickets: delraywomansclub.com; delraybeachplayhouse.com

**3/20 - Jimmy Mazz presents Blast from The Past: 60s & 70s One-Hit Wonders & More** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. 7:30 pm. \$28. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

**3/20 - Poetry Night** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 3rd M 8-10 pm. \$5-\$10. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

**Tuesday - 3/21 - Do Something About the Supreme Court! Can we? If so, Should we? W/Roy Klein** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/21 - From Honey to Big Money: The Story of Candy w/Helene Herman** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/21 - Museum Club: Withers and Wonder - A Celebration of the Music of Bill Withers & Stevie Wonder** featuring Clint Holmes and Christian Tamburr at The Wick Theatre & Costume Museum, 7901 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. 6 pm/dinner; 8 pm/show. \$210. Reservations: 561-995-2333; thewick.org

**3/21 - 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 - 3/22 - Bleecker Street: The Greenwich Village Music Scene of The 60s** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 2 pm. \$30. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

**3/22 - Deep Song and Dark Love: The Brief & Brilliant Life of Poet Federico Garcia Lorca w/Cora Bresciano** at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$40/member; \$50/non-member; \$50/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/22-25 - BIJOUX! Contemporary 2022** at Boca Raton Museum of Art Store, 501 Plaza Real. Exhibition, sale, fundraiser devoted exclusively to artist-made jewelry. W-F 11 am-5 pm; Sat 11 am-4 pm. \$16/non-member. Reservations: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

**Thursday - 3/23 - Podcasting w/Adobe Audition Class** presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 10 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/23 - iPhone Workshop** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 1:30-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**3/23 - Protect Yourself Against Scammers, Spammers & Hackers** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 5-6:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/23 - Concert: Steven Mento - All Bach Piano Program** at Highland Beach Library, 3618 S Ocean Blvd. 5:30 pm. Free. 561-278-5455; highlandbeach.us

**3/23 - Women's History Month Film: The Post** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 6-8 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**3/23 - Celebrity Housewives Invade Delray Beach** featuring Marysol Patton at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 7:30 pm. \$50-\$75. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

**3/23 - Amy Phillips, comedian & host of Reality Checked on SiriusXM** at The Studio at Mizner Park, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. \$55-\$75. 561-203-3742; thestudioatmiznerpark.com

**Friday - 3/24 - The Life & Career of Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis w/Ronald Feinman** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/24 - The Way w/a Thousand Names w/Pablo F. del Real** at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 4-5:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$50/member; \$65/non-member; \$65/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/24 - Drive-In Movie Night: Sonic The Hedgehog 2** at Lantana Sports Park, 903 N 8th St. Snacks/refreshments available for purchase. Limited parking. Family fare. 7 pm. 561-540-5754; lantana.org

**3/24 - FAU Opera Theatre** at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$5-\$10. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

**3/24 - Bordeaux Tasting** at Gourmetphile, 323 E Palmetto Park Rd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$60/person. 561-757-6208; gourmetphile.com

**3/24 - LP & The Vinyl: Blues to Beatles to Bowie** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$45-\$50. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

**3/24-26 - Marty's Back in Town: A Dysfunctional Comedy** at The Studio at Mizner Park, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Runs through 4/2. F/Sat 7:30 pm; Sun 3 pm. \$35-\$45. 561-203-3742; thestudioatmiznerpark.com

**3/24-26 - Neighborhood 3 by Jennifer Haley** at Florida Atlantic University Studio One Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Runs through 4/2. Th/F/Sat 7 pm; Sat/Sun 2 pm. \$12. 561-297-6124; fauevents.universitytickets.com

**3/24-26 - The Bronx Wanderers** at The Studio at Mizner Park, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Runs through 4/2. F/Sat 7:30 pm; Sun 3 pm. \$35-\$45. 561-203-3742; thestudioatmiznerpark.com

**Saturday - 3/25 - 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

**3/25 - Greener w/Gumbo: Sustainability Every Day** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Discover ways to live more sustainably. Interactive presentation w/DIY planet-friendly project to take home. Adults & child age 12+; child under 18 must participate w/parent/guardian. 10-11 am. \$9/member; \$12/non-member. Reservations: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

**3/25 - Tree Planting Event** at NW 15th Ave & NW 3rd St, Delray Beach. Volunteers help plant 50 trees. 9-11:30 am. Registration: communitygreening.org

**3/25 - Leaf Studies in Watercolor** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$40. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

**3/25 - Workshop: Paint Your Pet Portrait** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 11 am-2 pm. \$110. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

**3/25 - Story Central: Community in Action - The Pipeline Blues & The Silver Spurs w/Beth Homer** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 4-5:30 pm. Free. 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**3/25 - Commercial Music Ensembles** at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$5-\$10. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

**3/25 - How Sweet It Is! Steve Leslie Sings James Taylor** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$45-\$50. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

**3/25-26 - 35th Annual Boca Fest** at Boca Center, 5150 Town Center Circle. 10 am-5 pm. Free. 561-746-6615; artfestival.com

**3/25-26 - Palm Beach Pride 2023: Fun Times for All** at Bryant Park, 201 N Dixie Hwy, Lake Worth Beach. Noon-6 pm Sat & Sun; 11 am Sun parade. \$10/advance; \$12/at the gate. 561-533-9699; compassglcc.com

## MARCH 26-APRIL 1

**Sunday - 3/26 - Boynton Beach Gold Coast Band: Out of This World** at Boynton Beach First Baptist Church, 301 N Seacrest Blvd. 3 pm. \$10/adult; free/child 12 & under. goldcoastband.org

**3/26 - FAU Jazz Guitar Ensembles Spring Concert** at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3 pm. \$5-\$10. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

**3/26 - Music in the Museum: Robert Cart, Vincent Cart-Sanders, & Lisa Leonard** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Limited seating. 3-4 pm. \$5/member; \$10/non-member. Reservations: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

**3/26 - Nick Schnebelen** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7-8:30 pm. \$30-\$35. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

**Monday - 3/27 - Donald Singer: How is our Constitution Holding Up?** 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

**3/27 - Brown Bag Speaker Series: Scams & Safety Aimed at Elder Fraud** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Noon. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/27 - Securities Conduct Aimed at Manipulating Seniors: How to Recognize & Fight It w/Lisa Roberts** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/27 - The Netanyahu's by Joshua Cohen** part of Afternoon Book Group at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. Free. 561-266-0196; delraylibrary.org

**3/27 - Intermediate MS Word Class** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 6-7:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/27-30 - Celebrating Broadway's Landmark Musicals: A Musical Memories Concert** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Runs through 4/4. M-Th 2 pm; T/W 7:30 pm. \$42. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

**Tuesday - 3/28 - What Happened to Today's Sweden? The Middle Way is No Longer in the Middle! w/Andrew Kahn** at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$40/member; \$50/non-member; \$50/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/28 - Friends Virtual Book Club: Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt** 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

**3/28 - Iran Wars & US Policy w/Walid Phares** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 11 am-12:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/28 - Germany's Liquid Bread: A Refreshing Look at the History of Beer! w/Anette Isaacs** at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$40/member; \$50/non-member; \$50/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/28 - Bright Puppy Class** at Hester Center, 1901 N Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. For puppies from 9-20 weeks old. Age 18+. Every T through 4/25 6-7 pm; \$185/resident; \$231/non-resident. 561-742-6550; boynton-beach.org

**3/28 - Crafting in the Library: Spring Yarn Eggs** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 6-8 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/28 & 30 - Mature Driving Course** at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. State approved course, offers discount on auto insurance for 3 years. Must attend both dates.

9 am-noon. \$15/person; checks only. 561-588-8889; southpalmbeach.com

**Wednesday - 3/29 - Imagine: John Lennon's Life & Songs w/PinkSlip Duo** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 4-5:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/29 - The Basics Dog Class** at Hester Center, 1901 N Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. For puppies from 9-20 weeks old. Age 18+. Every W through 4/26 6-7 pm; \$185/resident; \$231/non-resident. 561-742-6550; boynton-beach.org

**Thursday - 3/30 - Early Birding w/AI** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Learn about native & migratory birds from an experienced birder; walk the Ashley Trail/boardwalk. Binoculars recommended. Age 10+; child must be accompanied by an adult. 8:30-10 am. Free. 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

**3/30 - Making Music w/Garageband Class** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 10 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0196; delraylibrary.org

**3/30 - Comedy Taboo? Says Who? W/Lenny Dave** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/30 - Logo Creation Using Adobe Creative Cloud Express Class** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 5-6:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/30 - 2nd Annual They Are Not Bulletproof Fundraiser** at The Boca Raton, 501 E Camino Real. Live entertainment, dancing, auction, more. Grey Team is a nonprofit organization whose sole mission is to support active-duty U.S. soldiers & military veterans by building/implementing solutions to reduce/eliminate suicides. 5:30-10 pm. \$275. 561-203-3815; greyteam.org

**3/30 - Women's History Month Film: Half the Picture** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 6-8 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**3/30 - FAU Saxophone Studio Recital** at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$5-\$10. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

**3/30 - Chris Pinnella: An Evening of Classics** at The Studio at Mizner Park, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$35. 561-203-3742; thestudioatmiznerpark.com

**Friday - 3/31 - Concert: Elton John & Billy Joel Tribute Band Concert** presented by Deney Terrio at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Live: Tavares, Evelyn Champagne King, The Trammops featuring Earl Young, Heatwave, France Joli, The Blue Notes, Lime, more. 6 pm doors open; 7 pm show. Tickets start at \$63.50. 561-393-7700; myboca.us

**3/31 - Student Piano Gala** at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$5-\$10. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

**3/31 - Dirty Dan: A Tribute to the Music of Steely Dan** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$40-\$45. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

**Saturday - 4/1 - Concert: Motown Comes to Mizner** presented by Deney Terrio at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Live: Tavares, Evelyn Champagne King, The Trammops w/Earl Young, Heatwave, France Joli, The Blue Notes, Lime, more. 6 pm doors open; 7 pm show. Tickets start at \$63.50. 561-393-7700; myboca.us

**4/1 - 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

**4/1 - Workshop: Wearable Art with Upcycled Fabric** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 2-5 pm. \$85. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

**4/1 - Artist at Work: Michel McNabb - Enamel Jewelry** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 3-4 pm. \$5/member; \$10/non-member. Reservations: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

**4/1 - Schola Cantorum of Florida: Expressions of Peace** at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$20. scholacantorumfl.org

## House of the Month

The impressive gated entrance is surrounded by bougainvillea and framed with a pair of royal palms.



The home (foreground far right) is one of the few single-family homes located on the grounds of The Boca Raton.



The living room has multiple archways and a sweeping staircase to the second floor, as well as a decorative fireplace and volume, detailed ceilings.

## The Boca Dream in Mizner Lake Estates



**ABOVE:** The huge chef's kitchen has abundant natural light and features custom cabinetry, high-end appliances, a pantry and a separate bar area.

**RIGHT:** The first-floor master has a large sitting area adjoining, along with two master baths.



In one of the most sought after locations in South Florida, this extraordinary estate sits on the grounds of The Boca Raton. The 7,150 total square foot property with barrel tile roof boasts incredible views of the golf course, lake and grounds of the renowned resort.

With five bedrooms and five full and one half baths, this three-story home (with elevator) has a formal dining room with a wine room, a breakfast area and a library paneled in rich mahogany with a full bath. The second floor has two large en suite bedrooms. The third floor consists of an entertainment area, bar and balcony.

Outside, the loggia contains a summer kitchen, great pool/spa with cabana and a separate one-bedroom, one-bath guest house for your visitors.

The property is completely fenced, has a two-car garage and is storm protected with complete impact glass. Offered at \$10,499,000.

*Call for details if you wish to purchase furnished. Joyce Schneider, broker/owner, 561-212-4403; Castles by the Beach Realty, 889 E. Palmetto Park Road, Boca Raton, FL 33432, 561-392-8770; [www.castlesbythebeach.com](http://www.castlesbythebeach.com) or [joyce@castlesbythebeach.com](mailto:joyce@castlesbythebeach.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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Terri Berman | 561.445.2929  
Laura Gallagher | 561.441.6111



**Boca Raton**  
18121 Daybreak Drive | \$3,575,000  
Matthew Bachrad | 917.628.4021  
Danielle Stern | 818.216.2320



**Delray Beach**  
424 Palm Trail | \$2,700,000  
Margaret Russell | 561.358.1298



**Delray Beach**  
800 Andrews Avenue 7 | \$1,200,000  
Michael Mullin | 561.441.0635



**Boca Raton**  
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Terry Larsen | 561.302.5555



**Boynton Beach**  
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