

# Coastal Star

Free

July 2023

Serving Highland Beach and Coastal Boca Raton

Volume 16 Issue 7

## Boca Raton



### Classic cars draw crowd

**ABOVE:** A crowd gathers at the 11th annual Father's Day Classic Car Show at Mizner Park in Boca Raton, which drew more than 100 vehicles. Proceeds benefited Make-A-Wish Southern Florida. **RIGHT:** The grille of a 1958 Buick Riviera Estate Wagon. **Photos by Tim Stepien /The Coastal Star**



## Along the Coast

### Financial disclosure law riles officials

Some elected leaders may resign rather than comply

By Charles Elmore

A new state law that requires mayors and council members in cities and towns to disclose their full net worth, certain clients and the aggregate value of jewelry, art and other household goods has churned up a wave of consternation along Palm Beach County's southern coast.

"I was left shaking my head at the recently passed financial disclosure requirements," Manalapan Mayor Stewart Satter told *The Coastal Star*. "It serves no purpose and will cause enormous disruption to municipalities. It will certainly discourage people's willingness to serve in public office. I certainly wouldn't disclose my financial holdings and ultimately my net worth."

Supporters of the law say it promotes transparency for voters and guards against conflicts of interest at a level that already applies to a number of other elected officials.

See **LAW** on page 22



Debbi Johnson, sister of murder victim Karen Slattery, speaks to reporters after the execution of Duane Owen on June 15 at Florida State Prison. Behind her are former Delray Beach police officers (l-r) Robert Stevens, John Evans and Ross Licata. **Daron Dean/The Coastal Star**

## Along the Coast

### Killer's execution won't heal pain, survivors say

By Rich Pollack and Jane Musgrave

Margaret Garetano-Castor hadn't yet cried that day.

Last month, as she and longtime friends huddled together in Boynton Beach at the almost 40-year-old gravesite of Karen Slattery — their classmate from elementary school and high school — Castor remained strong.

Hours later, after Duane Eugene Owen was pronounced dead at 6:14 p.m. Thursday, June 15, emotions that had been in hibernation, perhaps for decades, escaped uncontrollably.

"Once the day had passed, it was like a huge exhale and I cried my eyes out," said Castor, who was watching television news coverage with her husband after Owen's execution. "I said, 'It's over.'"

For some, the death of Owen —

who was convicted of murdering the 14-year-old Slattery while she was babysitting in Delray Beach and of the beating death of 38-year-old Boca Raton mother Georgianna Worden — may be the closing of a chapter.

For others, however, the physical finality that comes with the end of the killer's life will do little to erase the invisible

See **EXECUTION** on page 24

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**Spirited women**  
Meet the ladies who transformed Delray.  
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Boca Museum exhibition showcases trio of artists, influences.  
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**House of the Month**  
A \$74 million Delray Beach estate.  
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## Coastal Star

# Highland Beach turtles have volunteer from Delray to thank — and vice versa

By Rich Pollack

The green sea turtle hatchlings seemed doomed even before they had a chance to meet the world.

Nestled inside a chamber their mom had excavated weeks before, the tiny turtles were ready to bolt from the nest on Highland Beach's shore, but weren't quite strong enough to bulldoze their way through sand that had been packed down by water and weather.

Fortunately for them, Lynn Korp — and a family that had come to watch the volunteer marine turtle monitor do her work — were close by.

Recognizing that the nest was "corked," Korp began digging and soon 122 weary but determined hatchlings came scampering toward the ocean and for the lucky ones, a lifetime of adventure that could last for up to 70 years or more.

"That was a very productive nest," says Korp, 69, an admitted serial volunteer who has been lending a hand to other people — and to critters — since she was 8 years old.

Most nests, she says, average about 80 or so hatchlings and the babies are largely able to make their escape on their own. When they can't, the results are horrific.

Korp knows that if it were not for her efforts — and those of a couple of dozen or so other volunteers in Highland Beach who work under a permit from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission — turtles trapped in nesting chambers would die.

"It's pure joy knowing that I am able to help these little turtles survive," she says.

But Korp says the rescue efforts cut both ways.

"I always say, 'who saved who?' because the turtles saved me," she says.

Korp, who is in her 11th year of making early morning treks to the shore twice a week from March through October, chronicling nests and hatches, says she found comfort on the beach while dealing with a stressful family illness.

"It was something I had to look forward to," she says. "I was finding peace."

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



Turtle nest monitor Lynn Korp's gear includes a bucket for trash or to transport rescued hatchlings. Her stickers give it a personal touch. **Tim Stepien /The Coastal Star**

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That same feeling, she says, keeps her coming back.

"I expect to be out there in 20 years — with my cane," Korp says. "It still gives me peace and something to look forward to. There are just so many pluses."

One of the benefits, she says, is the chance to greet a female hatchling that could return in about two decades to make her first nest.

"I always say, 'Good morning and welcome to Highland Beach,' I'll see you when I'm 90."

A Delray Beach resident and artist who runs a business restoring ceramics, sentimental items and even museum pieces, Korp was volunteering for a program that promotes pedestrian and bicycle safety when one of the other volunteers discovered that she often walked the beach early in the morning collecting sea glass and picking up trash.

A marine turtle monitor himself, he invited Korp to join him and his wife and learn the ropes. Pretty soon she was hooked.

That couple, Charlie and Pat Bonfield, were just two of

the people whom Korp credits with making volunteer work contagious. "Everything I do, I was inspired by someone else," she says.

Korp learned the importance of volunteer work at an early age, putting on plays and magic shows when she was still in grade school and donating money earned to the local paramedic squad.

Later, she volunteered as a Girl Scout on Saturday mornings, helping a person with a physical disability.

These days, you might find her volunteering at city festivals and events, such as the Delray Affair, just pitching in where needed. She's also a strong supporter of the newly formed Highland Beach Sea Turtle Team, a nonprofit that raises money to purchase supplies for the volunteers.

That organization recently received \$2,500 from the Town Commission as well as a matching gift from a town resident.

Korp also puts her artistic talent to work for good in the community, making sea glass jewelry for an organization fighting breast cancer and serving as a volunteer artist for Art in the Alley, a program coordinated by residents of Delray's Osceola Park neighborhood.

"It's a good feeling when you know you're doing something for someone else — or something else," she says. ★

## Editor's Note

### How about we chill with some great summer memories?

What are your favorite summer memories from our little corner of humid paradise?

The piano player, bartenders and grouper at Busch's Seafood on A1A? Date night at the Wildflower or Tequila Willies in Boca Raton? Partying at Shooters on the Intracoastal in Boynton Beach? Dancing to the live bands at the Phoenix in Delray Beach? Reggae night at Boston's? The Backyard Blues Bar on Atlantic Avenue or the Dive Bar in the old Boca Mall? Patio Delray, the Arcade Tap Room, The Frog?

Maybe you have fond memories of the ferns at Boca's Elephant Walk and the crowds at the nearby Bounty Lounge. Or were cold beer and rock shrimp at Dirty Moe's more your style? Do you still have a taste for the summer dining specials at Le Vieille Maison (I know I do), beachside dinners at the Seahorse in Gulf Stream, Volcanoes at Boynton's Sun Wah?

Maybe your favorite memories involve beach bonfires and watching sea turtles and square groupers wash ashore.

Or the simple pleasure of finding a parking space anywhere near Atlantic Avenue at night.

At least in Boynton Beach you can still find longstanding restaurants (Hurricane Alley, Banana Boat, Two Georges), and in Lantana what better place to watch a thunderstorm blow through than at the Old Key Lime House? And for simply having a drink with friends, we're lucky to still have The Duck and The Sail

Inn, right?

Yes, I know there are free concerts at Mizner Park and Old School Square, but the bands (although filled with talented musicians) all pretend to be someone else — tribute bands, they're called. The same for much of the programming at the few other live music venues scattered around. At least Arts Garage mixes it up a bit and sometimes books live jazz.

Jazz. That's what I miss most. For me, the highlight of the "off season" was the Summer Jazz Series at Ernie's in what was then called Dull-Ray. Jazz players drove up from Miami to perform to a packed house. The musicians were excellent, the drinks well-mixed, the ambience exactly what you'd want on a hot South Florida night.

Oh, I miss that. Summer leaves me longing for a cold martini and a simmering jazz act.

What do you miss the most from summers past? Write us at news@thecoastalstar.com. We'll share these either in our August (can you say hot and humid?) print edition or online. Please help us out by keeping your memories to 500 words or fewer.

And if you know of a place reachable for a \$10 Uber ride with live jazz in a cool bar this summer, please let me know at editor@thecoastalstar.com.



— Mary Kate Leming, Editor

The next edition of *The Coastal Star* will be delivered the weekend of Aug. 5



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## Ocean Ridge

# Alerts for lost pets may prompt changes to public messaging system

By Joe Capozzi

The escapee was on the run, and Ocean Ridge's finest wasted no time alerting town residents.

"Please be on the lookout for Julius the African Sulcata Tortoise," read the urgent BOLO on May 16 with a link to a photograph of the turtle.

Three days later, the police issued another BOLO: Bloom, a 10-month-old Sailfish Lane kitten, was on the lam. A month before that, a cat named Lasagna warranted a BOLO after fleeing from its Ocean Boulevard home.

To subscribers of CivicReady, the town's free notification system that issues emergency and non-emergency alerts via text, email and phone call, it might have seemed like domestic pets were running wild in Ocean Ridge.

But it was all just a Mayberry-esque slice of life in a small coastal town, where first responders treat missing pets with the same respect and urgency given to flooded roads, power outages and other topics the town deems worthy of public attention.

"I was very grateful they were able to do that," said Julius' owner, Cailyn Doyle, a Hudson Avenue resident who was reunited with her beloved 6-year-old tortoise on May 23.

Julius had dug his way out of



Cailyn Doyle is reunited with Julius, her pet tortoise, which wandered into another yard after digging out of his pen. She is happy the town sent out an alert. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

his backyard pen on Mother's Day, sending his 26-year-old owner into a panic. A police officer noticed Doyle posting missing-tortoise flyers on street poles two days later and offered to help by issuing a CivicReady BOLO.

When the turtle was found a week later, by landscapers in a backyard across the street a few doors down, the positive update was shared with CivicReady subscribers: "Please cancel the bolo for Julius, the African Sulcata Tortoise. He

has been located and is home safe. Thank you for your assistance."

Doyle said the flyers and the town's electronic alert both contributed to Julius' safe return.

"It extended the dragnet and it made me feel better," she said of the town's efforts. "Without their help, I wouldn't have had so many eyes on him. I found it very reassuring that they did that."

Julius is one of nine lost-then-found pets — including

a parakeet named Blue Budgie but mostly dogs and cats — that have received attention on the town's CivicReady system since January 2022. That accounts for about 10% of the 194 alerts issued in that period.

But town officials are worried that the six pet alerts since April 13 — the lost-then-found notices for the kitten, the cat and the tortoise — might result in subscriber fatigue.

"My concern is that people get so many text messages these days," Town Manager Lynne Ladner said. "You get text messages from your doctor's office, from retailers, from politicians. I don't want to get to a point where, in a real emergency, people are ignoring important information because they get so inundated with texts."

No one has complained about the town's use of CivicAlert for pets, Ladner said. But she said some changes might be in order.

"We don't want to be in a situation where the text messages from the town are one more text message that you don't read. That when it's

truly something urgent, maybe people aren't paying attention like they should," she said.

The town pays an annual fee of \$1,023 for CivicReady, Ladner said. From meeting notices to tropical storm warnings, the alerts go out via three channels — text, email and phone call. Residents can sign up for one, two or all three methods.

Since texting is the go-to communication method these days, Ladner said one solution may be to reserve the texting channel for high-priority emergencies. Non-emergency alerts, such as missing pets and meeting notices, could be restricted to emails and phone calls.

"I want to do a survey of the community," she said. "If residents really don't have a problem getting all of the information, including the lost pets and all the meeting notices, as texts, then we will stay with it."

It's hard to say whether CivicReady has played a direct role in the return of a missing pet. Police Chief Scott McClure noted that, unlike Julius, many pets simply came home on their own or were found hiding at home.

Ladner said she understands that issuing CivicReady BOLOs for missing pets is "part of the character of" Ocean Ridge.

"I just don't want to inundate them with things where they become immune to the important messages that we send out," she said.

Doyle said she hopes the town doesn't change anything.

"Knowing that anybody who was reading the Ocean Ridge texts was potentially looking for (Julius) was very comforting," she said.

"I can't imagine a pet owner losing a pet. It's so reassuring to know you have multiple eyes on it. And it's a great example of what makes a small town so special." ★

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## Delray Beach

# Going to the beach after dark? Do so at your own risk

By Larry Barszewski

Visitors to Delray Beach's oceanfront are seeing a change in the city's official beach closing time, which has gone from the previous 11 p.m. posted closing to dusk.

The city plans no crackdown on nighttime visitors. It's just trying to protect itself from liability if someone is injured at the beach when no city crews are around and it's hard to see where you're going. The beach can be particularly dark because of lighting restrictions during turtle nesting season from March through October.

"The goal wouldn't be to have no one on the beach after that, it's just that it's not on us," Commissioner Rob Long said at the City Commission's June 13 meeting, where staff was directed to make the change.

The city was sued last year by Antonio Oliveira, who claims he was walking from the beach toward a parking lot in September 2020 "when he tripped and fell over poorly maintained and uneven steps sustaining severe injuries and damages," his suit says.

Commissioners at the meeting rejected a proposed settlement offer in the case, following City Attorney Lynn Gelin's recommendation.

"This sort of brought to my attention that our beach doesn't close at dark as all our other parks do, and therefore the city is liable for things that happen to our residents at the beach at night," Long said.

Gelin said "the perfect scenario is the beach closes at dusk or when the lifeguards leave," at 5 p.m. "In that case, if someone were to go to the beach after those hours and were injured, they're proceeding under their own risk."

Commissioners agreed the city's signs should be changed and supported the dusk closing.

"I think 5 is a little early because people hang out and we don't get dark until 8-8:15-8:30 right now," Mayor Shelly



Signs in Delray Beach have been changed to show beach hours ending at dusk, not 11 p.m. Photo provided

Petrolia said.

But the city's intent isn't to shut down the beach at night.

"I'm not suggesting that if people are there after the posted hours, that they be arrested or anything like that," Gelin said.

### DDA appointments

Commissioners appointed four new members to the city's Downtown Development Authority governing board June 6, amid rumors that a new commission majority was seeking to supplant current DDA Executive Director Laura Simon.

Vice Mayor Ryan Boylston, in a later email to one constituent, denied that allegation — and one that said the changes were being made to replace Simon with Commissioner Adam Frankel next year when he is term-limited from running again for the commission.

"I've heard plenty of rumors and conspiracy theories over the years — but this one takes the cake. There is zero truth to your allegations," Boylston wrote to city activist Lori Durante.

It turns out the city itself may have been responsible for creating the impression that something sinister was afoot.

The DDA appointments were originally on the commission's May 16 agenda, but were removed and pushed back to June 6, with the application period being extended. While the city provided information in April about the May selection date and a May 2 deadline to apply, City Manager Terrence Moore said that was done erroneously and that he always anticipated the appointments taking place in June.

In addition, there were two incumbents on the DDA board seeking reappointment who were among those to be considered in May, but their names were not brought forward in June because the city said they were not eligible due to term limits, having served two terms on the DDA board.

That guideline hasn't been applied consistently in the past. Petrolia brought up instances in 2021 and 2022, where an incumbent with two terms on

the board was allowed to be considered for reappointment. But Boylston pointed out instances in 2016, 2017 and 2018 where incumbents were not allowed to be considered because of term limits.

Six applicants were added after the previous May 2 deadline, and Petrolia said she would not vote for anyone who had not applied by May 2. She said it would not be fair to the applicants who met the original deadline, but Boylston questioned why it would be a bad thing to have more applicants to consider.

Only one of the four appointees selected June 6 came from the post-May 2 group. Those appointed are:

- Richard Burgess (nominated by Frankel, approved 4-1 with Petrolia opposed)
- Thomas Hallyburton (nominated by Long, approved 5-0)
- Cole Devitt (nominated by Boylston, approved 5-0)
- Brian Rosen (nominated by Commissioner Angela Burns, approved 5-0)

### Beach yoga saga unresolved

Supporters of beach yoga classes, which have been put on hold while the city develops new policies for what's permitted on city beaches, turned out again June 6 to urge commissioners to let the classes continue, for the physical and mental health benefits that yoga can provide.

But the idea of allowing classes with hundreds of participants for events like full-moon beach yoga classes, or even dozens for sunrise classes, concerned commissioners.

The supporters spoke during the public comment portion at the beginning of the meeting, but the commission discussion occurred long after they had gone.

"We couldn't really respond to them with why this is being changed. First of all, they shouldn't be out there in as large a group as they are, our city doesn't allow it. ... It never should have gotten to

this level," Petrolia said during commissioner comments at the end of the meeting. "It's precedent that's being set. If we allow for this, we allow for others, and we have to think about how that affects us moving forward. You can't just say, only you guys, but not you and not you."

If there is a solution, Petrolia said she's not sure what it would be. Frankel said plenty of other groups want to use the beach, too.

"As a former member of CrossFit, they used to want to do beach workouts. My current gym, they want to do beach workouts," Frankel said. "Everyone wants to do beach workouts, but if as you say, if you let one, you have to let everyone, and that turns into a problem."

The issue came up again at the June 13 commission meeting, with the concerns about liability mentioned during the night beach closure discussion.

**In other news,** metal detectors are coming to Delray Beach City Hall for commission and other board meetings, because of a new state law that allows virtually any gun owner to carry a concealed weapon. One of the exceptions is at government meetings. So, while the city won't be able to keep someone from bringing a gun into City Hall, it can keep the guns out of meetings of city boards.

City commissioners also approved on June 6 the \$199,227 purchase of a 29-foot rigid inflatable boat for patrolling the Intracoastal Waterway, Lake Ida and the city's 15-plus miles of canals. Officials said the boat is a "multi-use lower-draft boat suitable for patrolling canals as it doesn't need deep water." It will allow the Police Department to enforce the city's sea wall ordinance, respond to boating accidents and address boating complaints such as speeding. ★

## Briny Breezes

# Manager asks for patience on efforts to get grant money

By Steve Plunkett

Town Manager William Thrasher apologized for not giving more information about his efforts to obtain grants for Briny Breezes, but said he would share more details as soon as he has them.

"I know things appear to be out of phase, but sometimes you have to assume certain things in order to meet the timeline of grants," he told the Town Council at its June 22 meeting. "And our next grant application hopefully will be this September. And if awarded, funds or monies will be available for expending July

2024 and we would have three years to expend those funds."

Thrasher's remarks came after Susan Brannen, president of the Briny Breezes corporate board, complained about being left in the dark on the town's efforts to get outside money to combat sea level rise.

"So to set the record straight, the board of directors has no official opinion about the proposed conceptual stormwater plan. Lots of questions, even concerns, but it has not come to the board for discussion, as there is still lots of unknown information," Brannen said.

"Paramount in this

discussion is the question of what does it mean to accept federal and/or state funds and how will it impact further progress of remediation of our sea wall," she said.

She said she and Michael Gallacher, the corporation's general manager, had reached out to Thrasher, Mayor Gene Adams and Council President Christina Adams to establish better communication.

"It is concerning that this has all been done without getting any input from the board of directors," Brannen said.

Thrasher said the corporation "is in the power seat."

"We cannot proceed without their approval. There will be nothing that could transpire or will transpire without their approval," he said.

On a related matter, he asked the aldermen to authorize Mayor Adams to review and then sign a written form with the corporation over its agreement to transfer 70% of the contracted fees for police, fire and emergency medical services to the town, up from 29.5%, so that both sides can proceed with budgeting for fiscal 2024. The town and the board have previously agreed to the terms, he said.

"They would just like to have

a written record for their files," Thrasher said before the council approved the idea.

**In other business,** the council appointed Darlene Lozuaway, a full-time resident on North Ibis, to represent District IV on the Planning and Zoning Board. She will take the place of Suzanne Snyder-Carroll, who was appointed in April but because of personal circumstances was unable to serve.

The council will next meet at 3 p.m. July 27, an hour before its regular monthly meeting, in Town Hall for a budget workshop. ★

## Along the Coast

# Highland Beach and Boca win, Delray shut out in quests for state funds

By Rich Pollack

Over the course of its 74-year history, the town of Highland Beach had never received any state funding through the appropriation process.

The 3-mile-long coastal town came close last year, before Gov. Ron DeSantis took out his veto pen and deleted more than \$1 million in requests from the town for drainage improvements, crosswalk lighting and construction of a fire station.

This year, however, the long dry spell was broken with the town receiving a \$250,000 appropriation that will be used to help ensure that its wastewater system is better prepared to address sea level rise or any other issue that could bring water levels up.

The appropriation to Highland Beach was

among several received by municipalities and nonprofit organizations in southeastern Palm Beach County.

Many of the state Legislature-approved appropriations that avoided the governor's veto centered on infrastructure improvements with water and sewer projects.

Some road improvement projects also received funds, as did programs that address mental health issues.

Boca Raton received \$2.7 million, one of the highest appropriations in the state, for three separate projects, including \$1.4 million for improvements to drinking water lines in the Old Floresta area.

While Highland Beach and Boca Raton are seen by some state lawmakers outside the area as wealthy municipalities that don't need state assistance,

state Rep. Peggy Gossett-Seidman (R-Highland Beach) says she worked to change that perception.

"Boca Raton and Highland Beach deserve a portion of the state's direct funding because other municipalities in north and central Florida have been blessed with funding for years," said Gossett-Seidman, who worked with state Sen. Lori Berman (D-Boynton Beach) on the Highland Beach and Boca Raton requests.

The town of Lantana, with the help of state Rep. Mike Caruso (R-West Palm Beach), received \$1.2 million for 2.8 miles of water main replacement. Some of the pipes, Caruso said, date to as far back as 1962 and are made of asbestos and cement.

Among projects that didn't receive funding was a request from Delray Beach for \$1

million to help fund a major public sea wall improvement project. Most of the sea walls in the project have reached the end of their designed lives and need to be repaired.

Delray Beach City Manager Terrence Moore said he's disappointed but will keep looking for funding for the project.

"We will regroup, reevaluate and consider other options," he said.

Highland Beach's project, like the one Delray Beach is moving ahead with, is designed to better prepare the community for expected sea level rise.

"We have some serious infrastructure issues to be addressed considering we're on a barrier island," said Mayor Natasha Moore.

The Highland Beach project, funded by the appropriation,

will help the town raise its lift stations safely above sea level. Two of the town's six lift station are below State Road A1A.

Gossett-Seidman, a former Highland Beach town commissioner, also helped get \$2.8 million in state funding for the ongoing water quality improvement to the Lake Worth lagoon and Bonefish Cove, near the town of Palm Beach.

"The project, begun years ago, enhances the habitat for manatees, sea turtles, fish, oyster beds and other indigenous sea life so they may coexist in a healthy lagoon," she said.

She also helped secure \$625,000 in funding for two nonprofit organizations in South County that provide mental health services and \$318,000 for the Florida Caregiving Youth program. ★



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## Delray Beach

### 3-day Linton bridge closings to allow for maintenance

Motorists expecting to use the Linton Boulevard bridge will have to go north or south to cross the Intracoastal Waterway for three days in July and three days in August while the bridge is closed for maintenance.

The bridge is set to be closed starting on Saturday, July 8 at 8 a.m. and is expected to reopen on or before Tuesday, July 11 at 5 a.m., according to Palm Beach County officials who will be overseeing the project.

In August, the bridge is scheduled to be closed beginning on Saturday, Aug. 5 at 8 a.m. and open on or before Tuesday, Aug. 7 at 5 a.m.

Marine traffic is not expected to be impacted by the work other than changes to the bridge opening schedule.

The maintenance will involve replacement of various small components and other machinery. The plan to do the work a month apart is intended to minimize disruptions, the county said.

Palm Beach County will post signs advising drivers and other bridge users of the changes and with detour information.

The U.S. Coast Guard has approved changes to the bridge opening schedule during the maintenance periods.

First opened more than 40 years ago, the bridge is almost 1,400 feet long. The next closest Intracoastal crossings are the Spanish River bridge, about 4½ miles to the south, and the Atlantic Avenue bridge, about two miles to the north.

— Staff report

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## Boca Raton

## 70 residential units coming to Palmetto Park Road and A1A

By Mary Hladky

The City Council has unanimously approved the One South Ocean luxury residential project that will replace a now-demolished three-story office building and 20 townhomes at the intersection of Palmetto Park Road and State Road A1A.

The project's 70 units, ranging from 1,500 to 4,000 square feet, are planned to be

rentals for now. But landowner Ramon Llorens could decide they will be condominiums, project attorney Bonnie Miskel said during the Boca Raton council's June 13 meeting.

Members of the Riviera Civic Association, which includes residents of the Riviera, Por La Mar and Sun & Surf neighborhoods, have negotiated for years with Llorens and architect Jorge Garcia of

GarciaStromberg over changes they wanted and were pleased that many of their requests were granted. Most recently, they wanted to be protected from noise they feared the project's occupants could make.

In response, Llorens and Garcia agreed to relocate one pool from the fourth to the seventh floor and eliminate plans for a ground-floor restaurant that would have been

used by residents and their guests, as well as for a children's recreation area.

Two more conditions were imposed at the June meeting. No outside sound amplification system can be used from 8 p.m. to 8 a.m., even though Llorens did not plan to have one, and a ground-floor pool bar and summer kitchen will be closed from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m.

Half of the 3.5-acre site will

be landscaped, far more than the city requires.

Objections aside, neighbors and city officials have praised the project's appearance.

"I think it is a thoughtful, beautiful design," City Council member Marc Wigder said.

"The building is beautiful," said civic association president Katie Barr MacDougall.

"It will be an asset to the neighborhood." ★

## Late mayor's name to grace city's Community Garden

By Steve Plunkett

The Boca Raton Community Garden in Meadows Park will bear the name of one of its original guiding lights, the late Mayor Susan Whelchel.

Whelchel, who died in November, "was a wonderful steward for our great city," said Jamie Sauer, past president of the Junior



Whelchel

League of Boca Raton. "She loved and cared for everyone and made a huge difference in so many ways for the city of Boca Raton."

At the City Council's June 13 meeting, Sauer told how in 2008 in her first year as mayor, Whelchel reached out

to the Junior League, which she had joined in 1984, with an idea for a partnership.

"Not only had she researched a community garden, but she knew our organization was the one to make it happen," Sauer said.

Not only would it be the first community garden in the city, but it would also help feed the community by donating 10% of everything it grew to Boca Helping Hands, Sauer said.

The city donated the land, first beside the Downtown Library and currently at Meadows Park, and helped pay for the startup costs and upkeep. The Junior League began the garden, built and leased plots, and grew "this incredible partnership," Sauer said.

"It's cultivated by the Junior League of Boca Raton and we, along with volunteers throughout the city, will continue to pour love into this garden like Susan did," she said. The proposal to rename the facility the Susan Whelchel Community Garden

touched everyone on the City Council dais.

Deputy Mayor Monica Mayotte recalled how Whelchel had appointed her to the city's Green Living Advisory Board, which had two of the first plots in the garden.

"And we, the advisory board members, took turns watering it every day; we had our assigned day. So the community garden is near and dear to my heart, too," Mayotte said.

Council member Fran Nachlas said: "It is the only place that I've ever been able to grow something that keeps living."

Council member Yvette Drucker, who belongs to the Junior League, remembered working to find grant money to get the garden built next to the library downtown.

"So it's something that she really pushed forward to bring to the city and to get it done. And I was on a volunteer side before I was elected," she said.

Mayor Scott Singer called it "the perfect overlap" given the unity between Whelchel's Junior League service and city service.

Whelchel was elected to the City Council in 1995 and later served as deputy mayor and vice chairwoman of the Community Redevelopment Agency. She was elected mayor in 2008, reelected in 2011 and was named the Junior League's Woman Volunteer of the Year in 2016. She also served two years on the Palm Beach County School Board.

"Her dedication and unselfish service to the residents of Boca Raton are greatly appreciated and worthy of recognition," said the resolution the City Council unanimously approved.

Later this summer or in the fall, the Junior League and the city will have a ribbon-cutting to officially honor the former mayor, Sauer said. ★



Recent renourishment efforts not only widened the beach, but also improved navigation at the Boca Raton Inlet. Photo provided

## Beach renourishment work wins national accolade

Boca Raton has received a "Best Restored Beach Award" from the American Shore and Beach Preservation Association for its collaboration with Deerfield Beach and Hillsboro Beach to renourish beaches in the three municipalities.

By working together, the three municipalities saved money on renourishment projects that they

conducted independently in the past. The municipalities used about 370,000 cubic yards of sand dredged from the Boca Raton Inlet.

The ASBPA's annual award honors restoration projects around the U.S. that improve a shoreline's resiliency and mitigate damage and flooding from severe storms.

— Mary Hladky

## Therapists' lawyers want city to pay them \$2.1 million

By Mary Hladky

Attorneys who prevailed in litigation that resulted in a court ruling striking down Boca Raton and Palm Beach County ordinances banning the controversial practice of conversion therapy on minors are now seeking \$2.1 million in attorney fees and costs they incurred fighting the ordinances.

Liberty Counsel, which represented two therapists — Dr. Robert Otto of Boca Raton and Dr. Julie Hamilton of Palm Beach Gardens — stated in a June 12 federal court filing that its attorneys spent 2,274.8 hours representing their clients pro bono at a cost of \$1.4 million.

The attorneys increased the amount they are seeking, saying they are entitled to a fee "enhancement" because the therapy provided by their clients and Liberty Counsel's efforts to represent

them are widely condemned by medical professionals and local governments that passed ordinances banning conversion therapy.

The attorneys represented the therapists without asking them to pay and now want to collect the amount they spent doing so from the city and county.

Conversion therapy seeks to change a person's sexual identity or sexual orientation to align with heterosexual norms. Many professional medical organizations have denounced it for causing depression, hopelessness and suicide.

The city and county repealed their ordinances after a three-judge panel of the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in 2020 that the bans were unconstitutional because they violated the free speech rights of Otto and Hamilton and the full court declined to

reconsider that decision.

In an effort to end the protracted litigation, the city and county both made "offers of judgment" earlier this year that Otto and Hamilton accepted. Boca paid Otto \$50,000 and Hamilton \$25,000. The county paid both Otto and Hamilton \$50,000.

The offers did not specify how much the two governments would pay for attorney fees and costs.

In a June 26 response, the city's outside attorneys said the amounts Liberty Counsel is seeking are "not reasonable" and "an excessive windfall" when compared to the hourly rates charged by Palm Beach County attorneys, and asked U.S. District Judge Robin Rosenberg to reduce the city's share of the fees and costs to \$213,000. The county had not filed a response as of June 26.

In a June 13 news release announcing

that Liberty Counsel was seeking fees and costs, founder and chairman Mat Staver said, "Minors who are struggling with gender confusion now can get the help they need from counselors who are free from political censorship. As a result of the victories over these counseling bans, Liberty Counsel is now entitled to attorney's fees and costs."

City Council members repealed Boca Raton's ordinance last August. Shortly thereafter, they adopted a resolution that opposed conversion therapy on minors.

Otto, who spoke to council members at a June 13 meeting, noted the resolution was almost identical to the ordinance.

"That is offensive," he said. "It shows you don't understand the Constitution of the United States."

He asked council members to repeal the resolution. They did not respond. ★



The Mizner-designed clubhouse at the Gulf Stream Golf Club is 100 years old. Photo provided

**Gulf Stream**

# Golf club aims to get iconic clubhouse remodeled for the next century

By Steve Plunkett

The Gulf Stream Golf Club is working on a plan to demolish a portion of its 100-year-old Addison Mizner-designed clubhouse and build a new two-story addition primarily to enclose its second-story ocean terrace.

Architect Mark Marsh of Bridges, Marsh & Associates had nothing but praise for the historic Spanish-style structure, which opened to club members in January 1924, even before the town incorporated the following year.

“It’s a gracious building. I think it’s one of Mizner’s best works at least in Palm Beach, and we want to preserve those standards and values of the architecture,” he said as he presented his “very preliminary” plan to town commissioners on June 9 seeking a variance on the rear setback.

Gulf Stream requires a 25-foot setback for oceanfront buildings from the state’s 1979 Coastal Construction Control Line. The golf club’s plan would encroach that limit by 14 feet and be just 11 feet from that CCCL, but still 35 feet from the existing bulkhead sea wall.

Marsh said the club’s bulkhead or sea wall near the ocean was the town’s original reference point for setbacks and that in 2000 the town adopted the 1979 CCCL, even though Florida had moved the line farther west in 1997.

In its application for the variance, the golf club said Mizner “did not have the benefit of knowing where the rear setback would be located in the future. If Mizner knew the location of this rear setback, he may have positioned the clubhouse differently to allow for future renovation and expansion.”

Resident Bob Ganger, who is an emeritus board member of the Historical Society of Palm Beach County and who watched Marsh’s presentation, said his own restored home on A1A has “lots of Mizner stuff” and applauded Marsh’s efforts.

“I think what they’re doing makes eminently good sense,” he said.

Said Marsh: “I think we were selected not only because of

our knowledge of Gulf Stream but we do an awful lot of work in Palm Beach on Mizner buildings and restorations so it suits our wheelhouse very well.”

The Gulf Stream Golf Club, at 2401 N. Ocean Blvd., is private with membership by invitation

only.

Marsh will return for full commission approval of his project after he fine-tunes the plan and the club’s members vote to proceed.

Construction is anticipated to take place in spring 2025. ★




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## Ocean Ridge

## New advisory board members seek easier path for construction projects

By Larry Barszewski

New members of Ocean Ridge's Planning and Zoning Commission appear ready to give the Town Commission some advice: Make it less of a hassle for property owners to build in town.

They were appointed by a three-member Town Commission in May, following the resignation of two town commissioners in April. That three-member body chose not to return the three advisory board incumbents seeking reappointment, but instead picked new applicants — Stephen Varga, Shields Ferber and Sydney Ray — to fill the openings on the five-member advisory board.

At the June 20 P&Z meeting, the three new members formed a majority to recommend the town do away with a section of the code — adopted in 2020 and referred to as 2020-05 — that requires beachfront property owners who want to

build east of the 1979 Coastal Construction Control Line to get a variance from the town first.

Varga said any such construction requires the owner to get a permit from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection anyway, and the town has other requirements that need to be followed such as setbacks and house size limitations.

"I don't know why we need this," Varga said. Added Ray, "I don't think we need to re-create the wheel for our town."

Commission Chairman Ric Carey and Vice Chairman David Hutchins voted against the recommendation, instead supporting changes proposed by Town Attorney Christy Goddeau that would create less cumbersome "administrative permits" for non-habitable structures such as swimming pools or decks, but would still require variances in other situations.

"I really don't feel

comfortable relying on FDEP to be our oversight. We're a town and we have a purpose," Carey said. "I'd rather see us amend as proposed 2020-05 and if it comes around that there are still problems with it, it can be amended again. But just to say let's abolish 2020-05 I think has unintended consequences and I prefer us not to go down that path."

Ferber was concerned that an owner seeking an administrative permit might still need to get a variance if staff or neighbors objected to the plans.

"I like having our hand in it to some degree, but I'm just concerned if the neighbors look at the building and don't like the way it looks, you know, they can say, 'Hey listen, we don't like the design of the building,'" Ferber said.

Goddeau had warned that removing the section in question may allow for homes to be built on some undeveloped dunes on Old Ocean Boulevard south of Corrine Street.

"I have to go back and look, because if we are solely reliant on FDEP to approve any construction, that may allow for those undeveloped dunes to be developed," Goddeau said.

The three new commissioners also opposed requiring any portion of open roof porches or balconies on a planned house to be counted toward the house's total permissible livable space — called the Floor Area Ratio — saying the size of balconies or porches is already limited by a house's footprint. If the town is concerned that portions of balconies or porches might be enclosed later and become livable space in violation of code, then the town should go after violators as that happens.

"As long as we're built to our lot coverage percentage ratios, why are we messing with people, putting more restrictions on them? In my opinion, we're trying to make something to limit people for what they could possibly try to do some day at some point," Varga said. "I think

we're overstepping ourselves here."

The board did unanimously agree to recommend that beachfront homeowners living on Old Ocean Boulevard between Corrine and Anna streets should no longer need a variance if they're planning construction seaward of the 1979 CCCL. The homes already include portions that extend over the line.

The 2020 ordinance had created the variance procedures for that construction. Instead of being non-conforming uses, the current homes would be considered conforming uses.

Resident Al Naar, who attended the meeting, liked what he was hearing.

"This is refreshing, this meeting," Naar said. "Having been through the process of getting a variance and everything else that's required near the water, this is very good to hear you all come to this conclusion. I've been through it. I wish you were here earlier." ★

## McClure's promotion to police chief brings praise all around

By Larry Barszewski

In the end, Ocean Ridge Town Manager Lynne Ladner didn't have to look far to find the town's next police chief. He was already at work in the job.

Ladner announced the promotion June 15 of acting Police Chief Scott McClure to the permanent position. McClure, who joined the town's police force in 2016, has been leading the department since March, when former Police Chief Richard Jones resigned to take the same position in Gulf Stream.

McClure, who served for 25 years in the Palm Beach Police Department before coming to Ocean Ridge, has also been a patrol officer, sergeant and lieutenant in town. His appointment as chief was effective June 19 and he was sworn in at a department ceremony June 23, but he did not anticipate that his contract with the town would be finalized before the commission's July 10 meeting.



Scott McClure is congratulated by Town Clerk Kelly Avery after being sworn in as Ocean Ridge police chief in a ceremony witnessed by his family and chiefs and officers from local communities. **Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star**

"My highest priority is the safety of the residents and the safety of the officers," McClure said following his promotion. "I want to keep morale high in the department because, as I've always said, that extends out into the community."

He says he's taking over

a department that's in great shape, with recent additions including a rescue boat, a high-water truck, and approval of a new townwide license plate reader camera system. He already credits use of the current cameras with leading to more arrests and fewer crimes

in town.

Jones said McClure will make a fine successor.

"I think Scott is a good fit for the organization," Jones said. "I think he will continue the success that we've started within the Police Department and the progression of bringing things up to the 21st century."

McClure, who is married and has two adult children, said his contract discussions have not touched upon salary as of June 22. Jones was earning \$115,763 annually when he left.

Ladner's decision echoed the recommendation she received June 7 from a committee of mostly law enforcement officials that interviewed the finalists.

"We spoke and unanimously we felt, we feel that the right choice — and obviously it's your decision — would be your current interim chief, Michael Scott McClure," Tequesta Police Chief Gus Medina told Ladner following the committee interviews. The other members of the committee were Highland Beach Police Maj. Michael Oh, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office Lt. Ryan Mugridge and Jupiter Inlet Colony Town Administrator Kevin Lucas.

"You could tell he's in tune with what the community needs. I could tell by the presence of the officers here that the officers truly support him and believe in him," Medina added. "Obviously, he knew the most about the town, which is important to me."

Town officials and residents who attended the meeting were also supportive of McClure.

"This is the first time this town has ever done something like this," Mayor Geoff Pugh said of the public police chief

interviews. It "shows that our town government is open and is something that the town residents can be involved in. So, this selection process is a big turning point for this town."

Pugh hopes things will begin to settle down in town. Besides the former chief's resignation, two commissioners resigned their seats in April.

"I think one of the main important factors is the temperament of the person who's actually holding that position," Pugh said. "That temperament and that willingness to basically try to keep everything calm is so important because we've been through uncalm times here in Ocean Ridge."

The other finalists interviewed by the committee were: John Donadio, former police chief of Sewall's Point; Eric Herold, a supervisory federal air marshal; Albert Iovino, a captain with the Indian River Shores Department of Public Safety; and Tom Levins, interim commander with the Clewiston Police Department. Another candidate, Ja'vion Brown Sr., deputy sheriff with the Seminole County Sheriff's Office, withdrew from consideration before the candidate interviews.

"Thank you, guys, for reassuring us that we had the best right here already," resident Debbie Cooke told the interview committee.

Resident Albert Naar noted that McClure's father retired as assistant police chief in West Palm Beach and his mother served with the FBI and later the U.S. Secret Service.

"He has blue blood in his veins," Naar said. ★

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## Highland Beach

# Proposed tax rate steady, even with higher fire rescue costs

By Rich Pollack

Highland Beach commissioners got their first glance at a proposed budget that is larger than the previous one — thanks mainly to the creation of a new fire department — but does not require an increase in the tax rate.

“This is a balanced budget with no millage rate increase and no need to pledge money from reserves,” Town Manager Marshall Labadie said.

Unless there are major changes as the budget weaves its way through the commission review process, the town will hold its total tax rate at \$3.58 per \$1,000 of taxable property value.

Overall, the town’s general fund budget, which addresses most operational needs, increased by about 9% from about \$15.6 million to \$17 million. The town’s overall budget, which covers other accounts including water and sewer and building department funds, as well as the partial cost of building a new fire station, increased from \$21 million to just under \$30.5 million, or about 45%.

The proposed budget shows a very slight decrease in the operating tax rate and in general debt service but includes a separate, slight

increase in the debt service tax rate to cover a bank loan being used to build a new fire station.

While the proposed budget reflects a decrease in the overall tax rate, it is likely to be offset by a significant increase in property values.

Property values throughout the town increased by about 13% — more than town leaders had expected — making it easier to increase services without boosting the tax rate.

Property taxes, which are expected to increase by about \$1.4 million, account for about 58% of the town’s overall projected general fund revenues.

The town also expects to see a significant increase in investment earnings, which are projected to grow by a little more than \$50,000.

The town’s transition to its own fire department will have the biggest impact on the budget with about \$12 million allocated to the new department. A little over \$4 million, which is coming from a bank loan, will be used to complete construction of the new fire station while about \$8 million will cover operating expenses.

The \$8 million is misleading, however, since it accounts for the seven months the town will continue to pay Delray Beach for fire rescue service until the

new department is operational on May 1. Also included in that number is the cost of having the full 24 fire rescue personnel on the payroll beginning in March for training, and preparation for the transition.

“We’ll be operating two fire departments for a while,” Labadie said.

Overall, public safety accounts for 55% of the town’s proposed general fund budget, with the Police Department showing an increase of almost 17% to \$3.5 million. That increase is due largely to the new union contract.

Also having an impact on the budget is the cost of trash and garbage removal, which increased dramatically as a result of a new contract with Waste Management. Solid waste expenses rose from \$492,000 to \$1.02 million, an increase of 105.6%.

Salary increases for town employees, excluding union members, average about 5%, according to town staff.

Although the town has allocated \$6 million from its reserves for the fire department, it still has about \$6.2 million available.

“We’re not only financially healthy, we’re financially healthy moving into times of economic uncertainty,” Labadie said. ★

## Boca Raton

# Council considers fate of city’s only billboard

By Steve Plunkett

Boca Raton’s only billboard might disappear if its owner and the city can agree on how soon it would happen and what types of advertising would not appear.

City Council members signaled a willingness to reach an agreement on June 12 after Outfront Media LLC offered a 40-year deal to replace the sign with an LED board, give Boca Raton at least \$8.2 million of its advertising revenue, and then demolish the billboard in the year 2063.

But council members weren’t keen on the agreement lasting 40 years.

“The length of the period of time does seem to be quite long,” council member Marc Wigder said.

“The 40 years for me seems extraordinarily long,” Mayor Scott Singer said.

“That’s a huge thing for me as well,” council member Fran Nachlas said.

Boca Raton got jurisdiction over the billboard, at Butts

Road and Glades Road, in its 2003 annexation of unincorporated county land that brought it and the Town Center mall into the city limits.

Attorney Ele Zachariades, representing Outfront, said the LED proposal would modernize the “tri-face” sign, which uses mechanical moving parts, to a digital, changeable message.

“We are, if I recall, the home of the personal computer, of IBM, and we have one billboard that sits there quite archaic,” she said. “We are merely asking to bring it forward to the 21st century.”

Chris Ashley of Outfront said an electronic billboard would be more aesthetically pleasing and his company would landscape the base with native plants to help hide the support column.

He also offered to give the city free public service announcements and messages such as hurricane warnings and endangered children or seniors, and to abide by a list of prohibited advertisements such

as for political campaigns or adult services.

“In summary, it’s a win-win,” Ashley said. “We get the upgraded structure, we get increased revenue, you all get a revenue share of that. You get the benefits that we discussed on Amber Alerts, emergency management, community messaging.

“The alternative is the billboard stays there as it is for the foreseeable future.”

The City Council with a different makeup turned down a similar offer two years ago that would have given Boca Raton only about \$50,000 a year in ad revenue.

“If we really, really, at the end of the day, want the billboard to go away, this is how we get that to happen. And I would just like to see newer technology,” Deputy Mayor Monica Mayotte said.

Zachariades will continue to work with city staff to come up with a proposal more in line with the council’s thinking. ★

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# Delray Beach

## Commissioners look to lower tax rate again this year

By Larry Barszewski

Delray Beach property owners could see their city tax rate drop again this year — the 11th consecutive year the rate has been reduced or stayed the same — though many homeowners and businesses would still end up paying more taxes because of rising property values.

The goal of city commissioners to reduce the tax rate is being assisted by another strong increase in property values this year, which are estimated to be up 13.2% or \$1.9 billion.

At a June 13 budget workshop, Mayor Shelly Petrolia and Vice Mayor Ryan Boylston took the lead in supporting a tax rate reduction even greater than City Manager Terrence Moore was considering.

Either way, taxpayers likely will be warned of a proposed tax increase when tax notices go out in August, since the proposed reductions in the tax rate could still be more than offset by the increased tax revenue from higher property values.

Commissioners said they would be willing to dip into excess emergency reserves to inch the tax rate lower if they can't find budget cuts to make up the difference.

Finance officials typically recommend having two months' worth of expenses in reserve, which averages out to 16.7% of the city's operating budget. Delray Beach uses a higher benchmark — reserves equaling 25%

of the operating budget — to cover the potential of a crippling emergency, such as a hurricane pummeling the city.

The city's unrestricted reserves, projected at \$45.5 million this year, are about \$10 million more than even that 25% level, officials said.

The city manager had suggested a combined tax rate — including the operating tax rate and the debt tax rate — of roughly \$6.60 for every \$1,000 of taxable property value. Moore reached that recommendation in part by lowering the operating tax rate from last year by \$.05 per \$1,000 of taxable value.

Petrolia and Boylston said they would like to see a further operating rate reduction, to a total of \$.15 per \$1,000 of taxable value if possible.

"We've raised the rates on water. We've raised the rates on storm-water, not to mention the inflation everybody is feeling in their pockets from insurance to going to the grocery store," Petrolia said. "To balance it out, I kind of feel like the way we can do that with our citizens is to lower that rate as much as we can without affecting any services."

Moore said he would take those views into consideration in preparing his proposed budget, which will be discussed by commissioners July 11.

Once the proposed tax rate is set, the commission can make a further reduction during September's public hearings on the budget, but officials are

generally prohibited from raising that rate.

### Minimum wage raise suggested

Commissioners said they want to raise the city's minimum wage of \$13.23 an hour. It would cost about \$295,000 to lift that wage to \$15 an hour, which would cover 16 employees now making less than that amount, and to provide 4% increases for another 149 city employees near the bottom.

While commissioners would like to see a change soon, they said they would defer to the city manager on how best to proceed.

Petrolia said she would support going even above \$15 an hour. But she didn't want the commission to completely open the union contract — which still has a year left on it — to renegotiation. "When we open up that can of worms, it takes off in different directions," she said.

Boylston said the change is needed because low wages cause turnover that hurt maintenance and services in the city.

"I think this is critical. If there's any place that I can spend \$200,000 to \$300,000, it would be addressing this need," Boylston said. "Look at what our residents are asking for, look at the complaints you get in your emails. It is directly connected. If we want to be able to maintain our city and do all the things that our residents expect us to do to make Delray Beach

even better than what it is, we need people. We need people to stay in these positions and we need to be able to staff up. Otherwise, nothing is going to change."

During the workshop, city officials told commissioners the budget includes Highland Beach's paying for only seven months of fire rescue services before that town starts its own fire department in May 2024. Moore said there should be no impact on the city's bottom line.

In another area, Petrolia was concerned that no money from the city's Urban Development Action Grant was being used to buy land that could then be offered to build affordable housing, a great need throughout South Florida and the country. City officials weren't certain the grant money could be used for land acquisition, but they agreed to check and report back to commissioners.

"We had \$3.8 million sitting out there that could have been invested in land, that we could then have leveraged with these builders that are required to build a certain amount of [affordable] housing units," Petrolia said.

"I would like to see us purchase land to be able to, again, like I said, flip over to these developers that are required to build and let them build at their expense houses in our town. ... If we don't leverage that, we're going to miss that boat and it's just going to be gone." ★

## Planning board recommends section of Atlantic as historic district

A nine-block stretch of Atlantic Avenue, the center of Delray Beach's cultural, dining and entertainment hub, should become the city's sixth historic district, the city's Planning and Zoning Board voted 3-1 following a public hearing June 19.

The recommendation will go before the City Commission sometime in August for a final determination.

If approved, it would become the first historic district since the city approved the initial five districts back in the 1980s and 1990s.

Chairman Chris Davey and board members Joy Howell and Allen Zeller voted in favor. Board member Julen Blankenship was opposed. Three members — Christina Morrison, Christopher Brown and Gregory Snyder — were absent. Morrison has announced a bid for the City Commission in March.

Two other city panels, the Downtown Development Authority and the Historic Preservation Board, have weighed in on the issue. The DDA voted 3-2 against a district on June 12 and the HPB voted 7-0 in favor of a district on June 7.

Arguments for and against creating a district ran along the same lines at each meeting. At the HPB meeting, attorneys for



several of the property owners along the avenue objected to the proposed district, citing government control of private property rights and other restrictive concerns.

City staff disputed those concerns and preservationists contended the district designation enhances property values and would protect the scale and the feeling of a city that calls itself the "Village by the Sea."

Prominent Coral Gables architect Richard Heisenbottle was commissioned by the

city to study the viability of potential historic districts from Interstate 95 to State Road A1A.

Heisenbottle determined there were not sufficient numbers of historic structures between I-95 and Swinton to qualify for designation.

East of the Intracoastal Waterway, he also found few buildings of historic value on Atlantic.

However, Heisenbottle identified a roughly four-square-block area on the south side of Atlantic that

appeared to have the makings of a potential historic district, which was dubbed the Ocean Park district and contained several historic buildings.

The district, which would require more study by the city to see if it would qualify, is roughly bounded by A1A on the east and Gleason Street on the west, from Atlantic Avenue to just south of Miramar Drive.

As for downtown Atlantic, his research was clear, showing that more than 60% of the buildings between Swinton

and the bridge were historic. To create a district, 51% of the structures need to be considered historic.

Several of the buildings along the avenue are around 100 years old.

If approved by the City Commission, the proposed Atlantic Avenue Historic District would stretch from Swinton Avenue to the east side of the Intracoastal Waterway bridge and a block or so north or south of the avenue.

— Staff report

## 10 Questions

## MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR: Carol Titcomb

Carol Titcomb has always been on the move and, at 92, the Hypoluxo Island resident shows few signs of slowing down.

During a recent interview at her spacious home alongside the Intracoastal Waterway, Titcomb was in constant motion, rolling back and forth, up and down, in a wheelchair, obeying a doctor's order to address an issue in her lower extremities.

"I don't use the wheelchair except for this," she said. "Normally I get around just fine using a walker."

Titcomb was about to head off to college in upstate New York when she first met Ray — her husband of 73 years as of July 2. Instead, the pair got married and Ray set about getting his degree at the University of Bridgeport. Soon, the first of their four sons arrived and being a mother became Carol's full-time job.

After a few moves around Connecticut, the two bought Woodbury Pewter in 1952, a shop their oldest son, Brooks, continues to run in that town. As the other boys headed out on their own, Carol and Ray found their current home in 1985 and have been there since.

"We used to travel a lot — we've driven all over the United States and just loved Italy — and I played a lot of bridge down at St. Andrews Club and The Little Club," she said. "Our health these days keeps us closer to home."

When asked about a favorite cause, she said she has done a lot of work for hospice. "We had an event for Matt Lauer's dad over at Atlantis Country Club. But I don't get around so well anymore and Ray won't let me do it, so instead I spend a lot of time with eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. And I love it. To me it's a blessing."

Aside from Brooks, their sons are Gordon, a musician and antiques dealer who lives in Connecticut; Jeffrey, a writer in Mexico; and Jamie, the town manager of South Palm Beach.

— Brian Biggane

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

**A:** I could have gone to either Kings Park High in Smithtown or the Northport School in Northport, New York. I attended both but graduated from Kings Park High. My desire was to go to Cornell to be a brain surgeon. But before I graduated I met Ray, who was the best friend of the boy next door. They were going to Sunken Meadow State Park and invited me.

We were walking across the sand dunes and the water was coming up and I was wondering how to get across. Ray said, "Don't worry, I'll carry you." He was attending Stevens Institute of Technology and I went to his prom. And that was it. He said, "I don't want you to go away. I want you to be my wife." So, we got married and he went off to University of Bridgeport to be an industrial engineer.



Carol Titcomb and her husband of 73 years, Ray, have lived in their Hypoluxo Island home since 1985. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

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

**A:** When we moved to Newtown, I got very involved with the Town Players. I produced a play, I did makeup, I did production, promotion. I loved it. I could have made something of that, but I played the piano instead. I like to sing. But I was too busy raising four kids.

Ray worked as an electrical engineer for a while, but he was commuting over an hour to New Haven and working in the hot sun and we started looking for something else.

A friend told us about Woodbury Pewter being for sale so we bought it and started selling reproductions of early American pewter. If Ray needed something shipped out at night, I would have the kids fed by 6 o'clock and go to the shop and help Ray pack until 12 or 1 o'clock. I helped him wire a house, plumb a house, get on the ladder three stories up and pull clapboards along. I loved all of it.

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

**A:** Maybe it's better (for a parent) to take \$150,000 and put it in the bank and get a trade instead of a college

education. Do you know how much money plumbers, electricians and other tradesmen make? That is not disrespectful. That is a talent and we all need those people.

I don't think people should make them feel lesser because they haven't got a degree. Some people with Ph.Ds don't know to come in out of the rain. Do what makes you happy, but also take care of your responsibilities.

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

**A:** We bought this house in 1985. Two of our sons, Jamie and Jeffrey, our two youngest, came with us to Naples and we loved it but it was too quiet for young sons. So, we hopped over to Fort Lauderdale, and we liked that. Then the boys moved down and Ray said we have to buy them a sailboat. Ray was piloting a 62-foot boat up the Intracoastal and saw this house so he came and got me. This property had the biggest trees on the island, just gorgeous. We called (Realtor) Pat Weeks and she said the sign was going up the next day. So, we came the next morning and looked out to the water and said "This is fabulous." We made an offer and they took it.

**Q:** What is your favorite part about living on Hypoluxo Island?

**A:** There's a peacefulness here. I love the fact there are young people here, and young children. I love children. I just wish Lantana would think a little more about us, and bring more unanimity between us and people on the other side of the bridge.

This island is a treasure. We have one of the biggest lawns on the island, and everybody on this island loves this house because of the lawn. I've said to Ray, "I'm dying here. When I'm gone shoot me off the end of the dock."

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

**A:** *Finding the Light in Dementia*, by Dr. Jane Mullins. It's very interesting. How to deal with it when you have to, and how a caregiver should respond. My sister, who lost her husband four years ago, told me we all should have read this, because things get worse. And I'm about to read *The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post*, by Allison Pataki.

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

**A:** I just love music. One of my grandfathers was a timpanist and cellist in the New York Philharmonic. But I love music from the '30s, '40s, '50s, '60s. I love Dean Martin, all the older ones. A thrill of my life was I flew to Boston when I was 15 to see the opening of the Harmonicats, who sang *Peg o' My Heart*. And years later we took a cruise and a highlight was one of the guys from the Harmonicats was there — still kicking.

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

**A:** My grandmother, Susan Sanford. She died two weeks shy of 95. She was an amazing person. Lost a daughter at 9, lost her husband three years later and lost my beautiful mother at 51. She was the assistant buyer of silver at the B. Altman's. She was a buyer for Kate Smith, had lunch with Eleanor Roosevelt and did some shopping for her. Then went to Lord & Taylor. She said to me, "Darling, be grateful for your disappointments because they may be blessings in disguise." And boy did that stick in my mind. And I said, if she lost these three people that she loved, and she had that attitude ... everybody loved her.

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

**A:** Katharine Hepburn. I thought she was great. She had a place in Fenwick and we used to drive by it all the time. Her house was gorgeous. I used to watch her and Spencer Tracy, they were so good together.

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

**A:** I love children. They make me laugh. I love a good joke. Red Skelton is hysterical; he would make me laugh without trying.

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## Boynton Beach

# City will seek new proposals to keep post office downtown

By Tao Woolfe

The United States Postal Service, which hopes to stay in downtown Boynton Beach, will have to wait for a decision until the city re-advertises for new developers and new plans.

The Boynton Beach Community Redevelopment Agency last year solicited bids for proposals for a new post office building at 401-411 E. Boynton Beach Blvd.

The agency received two proposals, but neither one fit the post office's specifications, CRA Executive Director Thuy Shutt told city commissioners at a June 16 meeting.

The current building — at 217 N. Seacrest Blvd. — is owned by the CRA with plans for future commercial or mixed-use redevelopment, which is why the post office must relocate.

The CRA had hoped that developers would come up with a mixed-use concept for vacant CRA parcels on East Boynton Boulevard that would accommodate the post office's requirements of 3,474 square feet for a retail post office, a loading dock, and 22 parking spaces.

The post office has said it definitely wants to stay downtown, and if the right

concept comes along, it would lease that space on a long-term basis.

The CRA received proposals from BTH Development Partners and SAW Commercial Investment LLC last November, but earlier this year, the post office told the CRA that neither design concept would work.

In May, city commissioners, acting as CRA board members, formally rejected all bids and asked the agency's staff to bring back all the development proposal options available to the city.

Those options include invitations to bid, requests for proposals, letters of interest,

public/private partnerships, and invitations to negotiate.

Shutt said there may be only limited numbers of people willing to build to suit, and to serve as landlord, for a government entity. She suggested that the city re-advertise, and expand its search beyond the local area.

"We would like to advertise in a broader sense to reach entities outside of Florida," she said. "Previous proposers can sharpen their pencils" and reapply.

The city commissioners said they prefer that the CRA seek requests for proposals rather than opting for other

negotiating tools.

Shutt said she would bring the revised RFP wording back to the commissioners at the July CRA meeting for approval.

Meanwhile, the CRA has agreed to extend the post office's lease at its current location.

The City Commission had suggested last year that developers come up with a mixed-use concept for a freestanding building that would house the post office on the first floor and other businesses, such as medical offices and a tourist center, on upper floors. ★

## Gulf Stream

# Police starting pay jumps 17%, making town more competitive

## Commission OKs raise from \$52,250 to \$61,250, with chance for more

By Steve Plunkett

Police officers' starting pay in Gulf Stream jumped in June from the very bottom of a list to what town officials hope is a more attractive midpoint — with the suggestion made that salaries could go even higher during budget discussions this summer.

It was the second time in four months that Police Chief Richard Jones secured higher pay for his ranks, the first time coming in February when he led Ocean Ridge's Police Department. His modus operandi was the same: compiling a list of salaries higher than what his town pays and pointing out that money saved from having jobs vacant would cover the pay increase.

"What the chief has done is analyzed starting salaries for (15) municipalities that you see listed here and as you can see, Gulf Stream's starting salary, remember we're talking about starting salaries here, is at the bottom," Town Manager Greg Dunham said.

Jones listed Gulf Stream at \$52,250, well below Ocean Ridge's \$62,000 and Manalapan's \$60,638. Also putting upward pressure on police pay are Boca Raton, which was not on the list and gives new hires \$77,850, and Florida Atlantic University, listed next to last and said to be contemplating a new starting salary of \$75,000.

And, said Dunham, "These starting salaries are more than likely going to increase over the next two or three months as the towns and cities go through the budget process."

Dunham and Jones recommended doing away with a two-step increase the town was using that gave new officers a \$3,000 raise after six months and a second \$3,000 boost after one year, which would have pushed the initial salary to \$58,250.

But town commissioners at their June 9 meeting wanted Gulf Stream even higher and approved a figure of \$61,250, a 17% raise.

"I hate to be at the bottom of the totem pole," Commissioner Joan Orthwein said. "I just think in the

middle is a better place to be."

Jones and Dunham were prepared. "I did some calculations based on the number of \$61,250 as well as some on the \$58,250 to kind of give us an idea of where we would fall in the event we had a discussion like this," Jones said. "And basically, because we've been down three positions for the majority of, actually the entirety of this budget cycle, we have not spent approximately \$152,000. So, we have the funds in this year's budget without requesting funds outside of our budget allotment to be able to make adjustments."

The higher number meant an immediate raise for Alex Gonzalez, who was hired in March. It also is a sweeter pot for Assel Hassan, who joined the department on June 26, and whoever fills the two remaining vacancies.

The department is supposed to have 14 people on staff: Jones, a captain, two sergeants and 10 officers. Jones said he would attend a recruiting event on June 26 in Orlando and was preparing flyers and a video touting the town.

Mayor Scott Morgan was pleased with the progress.

"We've got the [new license plate] cameras, we've got a new police chief — we're moving in a positive direction," Morgan said.

Jones also reported that he received a call about 8 a.m. June 2 from a man in the 3000 block of North Ocean Boulevard reporting that the pool area of the neighboring home had a broken window and it looked like somebody had damaged the property overnight. Two officers were on traffic stops and did not respond immediately, Jones said.

"And within a minute or two we got a phone call again from that resident advising that it appeared as if somebody may be inside the property as the property is not currently being lived in," he said.

Jones and Capt. John Haseley were there within probably a minute and a half or so.

"And with the assistance of Officer Todd Sutton, we were able to apprehend an individual who was hiding in the pool area of the home underneath some patio furniture," Jones said. "So, he was promptly arrested and given the best stay at the Palm Beach County jail, and remains there." ★

## Highland Beach

# Town counts on police pay boost to bolster recruitment efforts

## New deal with union increases starting salary by \$15,000, to \$70,000

By Rich Pollack

For the Highland Beach Police Department, recruiting new officers has long been a challenge, especially since the starting salary of \$55,000 was among the lowest in the county.

That changed June 1, however, after town commissioners signed off on a new union contract that raised the starting salary to among the highest in the area while offering provisions that will benefit veteran officers as well.

The new starting salary of \$70,000, and a change in the salary structure that makes it possible for officers to reach the new top pay of \$95,200 more quickly, will help recruitment and retention, town and union leaders say.

"Now they're in the game," said Palm Beach County Police Benevolent Association President John Kazanjian. "Once the word gets out, Highland Beach will have people lining up to fill out applications."

Kazanjian said the new contract will also reduce the need for recruiting a lot of new officers because those already in the department probably will stay longer.

"You want longevity in your Police Department," he said. "I don't see a lot of people leaving anytime soon, making that much money."

Kazanjian, who is also a Palm Beach County sheriff's deputy, said that at least for a few months Highland Beach's new starting salary is higher than that of the sheriff's office, which will raise its starting figure to about \$70,000 in October.

Highland Beach is bound to see a spike in applications thanks to the pay increase, but Police Chief Craig Hartmann said he is hoping more for applications from officers who will be a good fit for the department.

"We have created a compensation package to attract and then retain the best officers that have all the qualifications, training and experience that come with a veteran police officer," he said.

The town's Police Department, which has 16 sworn full-time officers and four

reserves, is hoping to attract senior officers who already come with training and experience.

"The town recognizes that value of the well-trained officer who is the best fit for our community," Hartmann said.

While recruiting is difficult for departments throughout the country, Hartmann said small towns have challenges that can make it harder to attract qualified officers.

Small towns offer limited opportunities for overtime, special assignments and advancement since they usually have a limited number of detectives, sergeants, lieutenants and captains.

"We're very challenged by the limitations," City Manager Marshall Labadie said, adding that the pay increase helps offset those challenges.

The higher pay also helps Highland Beach compete with departments that provide benefits such as car allowances and health savings accounts, although Highland Beach does offer an education incentive and an incentive for officers on the night shift.

As part of the contract, which will be in effect through September 2026, the town will adjust its compensation package from 10 annual steps to eight, meaning an officer will be able to reach the highest pay grade two years sooner.

With the new contract, the top pay jumped \$11,800, from \$83,400.

Hartmann said the increase in starting salary is already helping with recruitment. A reserve officer with years of experience in Boca Raton's department who had been on the fence about becoming a full-time officer decided to take the step once he learned of the improved pay scale.

Labadie said that the town is able to increase the salaries without having a major impact on its budget or a long-term negative impact.

"This contract puts us in the right spot as we continue to be the safest town in Florida," he told the Town Commission.

Commissioners unanimously approved the new contract.

"This is a win-win," said Commissioner Donald Peters, a former police officer in New York state. "It's helping the town and helping our officers." ★

## Obituaries

### Marvin H. Ginsky

OCEAN RIDGE — Marvin H. Ginsky of New York, Florida and Connecticut, died peacefully June 8. He was 92.

Born in New York City on Aug. 2, 1930, Marvin spent his high school years hanging out at Pete's Pool Room in the Bronx, then worked his way through New York University, earning a bachelor's degree in economics and a scholarship to New York University Law School, where he made Law Review in his first year and graduated in the top percentile of his class.

Mr. Ginsky was admitted to the New York State Bar in 1955. He was an attorney at Paramount Pictures, New York City, from 1955 to 1960. He was then employed for 37 years by Champion International, where he headed the legal department as general counsel and executive vice president. In retirement he worked as an arbitrator in New York and Connecticut.

Mr. Ginsky was a masterful storyteller. He had a gift for turning a phrase and writing limericks for all occasions. He loved entertaining, fine wine and food, art, travel, music and theater. He was a member of the International Wine and Food Society of New York, the Chaine des Rotisseurs of New York and Connecticut, the Shakespeare Society, and the Trollope Society. He also enjoyed social croquet in Florida.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 46 years, Rita, his daughter Andrea and her husband, David, his grandson Dillon and daughter-in-law Christine. He was preceded in death by his son Mitchell. He made friends wherever he went and will be missed by many.

Memorial donations may be made to the Hertzberg Palliative Care Institute, Box 1070, Mount Sinai Medical Center, New York, NY 10029 or at [www.mountsinai.org/care/palliative-care](http://www.mountsinai.org/care/palliative-care).

— Obituary submitted by the family

### Thomas Edwin Kaiser

BOYNTON BEACH — Thomas Edwin Kaiser, a tireless activist for fellow veterans, died May 17 in Delray Beach. He was 95.

Born Jan. 29, 1928, in Mount Vernon, New York, Tom enlisted at 17 in the Navy, in January 1945, after losing his beloved brother Bob on the USS Trout in 1944.



Mr. Kaiser worked diligently for veterans of all wars and was instrumental in the creation of the Veterans Park on Federal Highway in Boynton Beach. The Boynton Beach Veterans Council recently named the park for him.

His beloved wife of 69 years and the mother of his children, Jean, predeceased him on April 11, 2017. He is survived by his daughters Cathy Weil

and Debra Kaiser; son-in-law Michael Coyne; grandson Kevin Coyne and his wife, Julie Kennedy; granddaughter Jordan Mills and her husband, David Mills; his brother Charles Kaiser; nephews Ronald Kaiser and Russell Kaiser and niece Roberta Ritchie and their families.

He also adored his two beloved grand-dogs, Goldie and Mo, and his grand-cat, Luna.

Burial will take place at the South Florida National Cemetery, 6501 S. State Road 7, Lake Worth.

In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate donations to Trustbridge Hospice or Honor Flight Southeast Florida.

— Obituary submitted by the family

### Virginia W. 'Ginny' Foot

BOYNTON BEACH — Virginia W. "Ginny" Foot enjoyed a life active in professional accomplishments, baseball fandom, travel and her church. She died June 17, a year after her cancer diagnosis. She was 81.

Born July 19, 1941, to Joseph White and Jane Montgomery White, Ginny was raised by her grandmother, Marie White, with adoring "brothers" Dr. Ed and Dr. Ike White, and helped by grand-uncle Roland Somers. She grew up on Virginia's Eastern Shore and attended Mary Washington College.

Mrs. Foot worked in radio in Accomac and Richmond, Virginia, before becoming a stewardess with Central Airlines from Kansas City. For 10 years she was wife of Frank Messer, a baseball announcer, and found lifelong friends among the Oriole and Yankee clubs, before becoming a Marlins fan.

In 1977, she married Bob Foot, who helped her start the Art of Framing Inc. in Boynton Beach. In 29 years in business, Mrs. Foot served as president of the Chamber of Commerce of Boynton Beach and as a member on some of the city's advisory boards.



The church was important to her and she provided leadership in Holy Spirit Episcopal Church, West Palm Beach, and served as lay director of the diocesan Cursillo Secretariat.

The couple voyaged from Sitka to Dutch Harbor and Kotzebue and midpoints in Alaska on several trips and enjoyed tours in Europe and China.

On Memorial Day 2022, she was diagnosed with cancer and undertook treatment.

Mrs. Foot leaves Bob, his daughter Sarah, nieces Lee Kilduff (Bill), Laura Anderson (Scott), Carrie White (Paul Campsen), Somers Farkas (Jonathan), Kellam White, and nephew Ned White, Bob's brother Ted Foot (Pat), sister-in-law Karen Foot and other nieces and nephew and grand-nieces and -nephews and many friends from the churches, neighborhood and beyond.

A celebration of life is scheduled for 10 a.m. July 1 at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Lake Worth Beach. Committal will be in the family plot in Parksley, Virginia.

Memorial donations may be sent to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 100 N. Palmway, Lake Worth Beach, FL 33460, or American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 13300, Tampa, FL 33681-3300.

— Obituary submitted by the family

## Boynton Beach

### Site plan for restaurant at historic house receives extension until November

By Tao Woolfe

The city has given the developers of a restaurant — to be created partly on the site of the historic Oscar Magnuson house — until November to resubmit their site plan application.

Developer Anthony Barber, who also owns Troy's Barbeque restaurants in Boynton Beach and West Palm Beach, asked for the extension to work with city staff on the application process.

Barber had submitted two site plan proposals for the property at 211 E. Ocean Ave. to the planning and development department in January, but they were rejected as incomplete.

The City Commission, sitting as the Community Redevelopment Agency board, unanimously agreed to the extension in June.

About a year ago, Barber told the commission he wants to redevelop the Magnuson house into a 3,000-square-foot, full-service American-style restaurant consisting of the home and five shipping containers.

The restaurant would be open seven days a week and would be called Pauline's, Barber said, to honor his grandmother.

He said he plans to renovate the two-story Magnuson house, built in 1919, for inside dining. Before completing that, Barber plans to use shipping containers for the kitchen area, walk-in food storage, restrooms, an artisan bar, and a rotisserie grilling area.

Barber, whose Boynton Beach barbecue restaurant is located on Federal Highway south of Woolbright Road, told commissioners last year he has lived in Boynton Beach for 35 years and wanted to open a restaurant in his home city's downtown.

The restaurant will employ some 30 people, Barber said, and he will not seek a loan to finance the venture. Barber's partner, Rodney Mayo of the Subculture Group, has said he is providing \$1 million in financial backing. The partners' development company is known as 306 NE 6th Avenue, LLC. ★

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**LAW**

Continued from page 1

But others view SB 774, signed into law by Gov. Ron DeSantis in May, as overkill for smaller towns and cities where elected officials might serve for modest salaries or in some instances zero dollars. Some run unopposed, persuaded by friends or neighbors this is an important civic duty even if there is not necessarily a stampede of candidates for every office.

“A lot of people are doing this as a public service,” said Richard Radcliffe, executive director of the Palm Beach County League of Cities. “It seems a little bit draconian.”

After Jan. 1, affected municipal officials will have to file Form 6 with the Florida Commission on Ethics. It asks for net worth in dollars, assets and liabilities worth more than \$1,000, the aggregate value of household goods such as jewelry, art and stamp collections, the source of primary income with amount, and a listing of secondary sources of income, such as customers and clients, without amount.

It represents a big step up from the previously required Form 1 for municipal officials. That form asks for sources of income, liabilities and interests in businesses without specific dollar amounts.

Even if it generates

discomfort, it can have good effects for the public, advocates for the law say.

Form 6 is already required of the governor, lieutenant governor, legislators, county commissioners, sheriffs and various other officials.

“Citizens who live in small towns are no less entitled to information regarding the public trust than people who live in larger cities,” said Kerrie Stillman, executive director of the Florida Commission on Ethics.

Her organization has been pushing for more rigorous disclosure standards regarding municipal officials for many years, she said.

Such information can provide a healthy incentive for people in positions of power not to act in ways that might unduly benefit themselves or others with whom they have business relationships, supporters say.

“Financial disclosure provides transparency,” Stillman said. “It helps increase public trust in elected officials.”

The storyline can feel a little different to people on the ground in local office.

Satter, who took the mayor’s office in March, is the former CEO of Consumer Testing Laboratories, which tested products for Walmart and other retailers, Manalapan’s website notes. He is president of Carnegie Hill Development, a real estate development firm specializing in “the



Satter



Kaleel



David

construction of one-of-a-kind, ultra-high-end oceanfront homes,” including several in Manalapan, according to his bio.

He said in a public meeting May 23 in which the law was discussed, “I’ll have a very short term as mayor, I guess.”

Manalapan Town Manager Linda Stumpf said at that meeting, “It’s a little problematic for this commission and multiple commissions I have spoken with. There are commissioners struggling with it. They don’t mind the regular disclosure they’ve been doing because it doesn’t give specifics. This does.”

Among the concerns, she said, are “they don’t feel it’s everybody’s business.”

Ocean Ridge Commissioner Ken Kaleel said he would not be surprised by mass resignations by December, perhaps including his own, and widespread discouragement of new candidates.

“Does an elected official want to expose themselves to that kind of scrutiny, especially in coastal towns, where I think the impact is going to be the

greatest?” Kaleel said at a June 5 town meeting. “It casts a chilling effect on who’s going to run.”

Kaleel has served as attorney for more than three decades with experience serving “businesses and individuals in South Florida with real property matters and governmental relations, business matters, and estates,” according to the website of Kaleel & Associates in Delray Beach. The site notes he also “represents developers and individuals in all aspects of commercial and residential real property transactions.”

The newly required information will be filed in an online system and available to members of the public who want to see it. The law increases the maximum civil penalty for a violation to \$20,000 from \$10,000.

The new law does not require Form 6 for town managers who are not elected.

State Sen. Lori Berman, D-Boynton Beach, voted against SB 774 and said she would consider introducing a bill in the next session to exempt towns and cities of a certain size, or those that do not pay elected officials.

“Here you’re not getting paid, they’re asking you to make all your financial assets public,”

Berman said. “That’s a big imposition.”

She said, “My concern with this legislation is it will discourage people from running for public office. It might encourage people in office to resign from their positions.”

Highland Beach Commissioner Evalyn David said she plans to stay in her seat in a term that runs to March 2025, but believes the new law could have a chilling effect on those wanting to run for office.

“This is a town with a lot of quiet money,” David said. “No one is shouting from the rooftops how much they’re worth and they may not want to shout how much they’re worth.”

As an attorney, David specialized in trust and estate planning before she retired and moved to Highland Beach in 2008, the town’s website says. She has since served on the board for Braemar Isle condominiums, according to the site.

In Manalapan, Satter said the law is landing awkwardly on smaller coastal communities.

“If the governor and Legislature are truly keen to keep politicians honest and prevent double dealing — and I would applaud such — there are much more effective ways to accomplish this without causing such widespread disruption,” he said. ★

Rich Pollack, Larry Barszewski and Mary Thurwachter contributed to this story.



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## EXECUTION

Continued from page 1

emotional scars that could last a lifetime.

“Closure may be a myth, but justice isn’t,” Karen Slattery’s sister Debbi Johnson said during a news conference minutes after the execution.

Behind her as she spoke, a small group of former Delray Beach police officers who witnessed the execution stood silently. Among them was Ross Licata, the lead detective in the investigation.

“This isn’t closure,” Licata, now Lighthouse Point’s police chief, said later. “I’ve been thinking more about this case since the execution than I did before.”

Licata, who saw the evidence of Owen’s violence in the home where Karen Slattery had been stabbed 18 times that March 24, has stayed in contact with Johnson and her mother, Carolyn Slattery, over the years even after they moved to Monroe County, where Johnson is a deputy sheriff.

“I don’t know if there’s a day that goes by when I don’t think about Karen Slattery and the things that happened to her and the impact it had on her family, her community and me,” he said. “I saw the brutality and I felt the heartache of the family.”

All of what Licata saw, how he and others in the department struggled for two months to find leads and how the case finally came together will stay with him for as long as he lives, Licata said.

“There is never going to be a time in my life when I don’t think about this case,” he said.

### ‘I’m still afraid’

For friends of Karen’s, young teens in 1984 who are now in their 50s with adult children, the fear they felt in the immediate aftermath of her murder still lingers.

Ana McNamara, who had called the house where Karen was babysitting the night she was killed but got no answer, remembers being awakened early the next morning by a phone call from Karen’s mother, who was crying.

“She said, ‘Ana, she’s dead,’ and told me there was a detective who wanted to talk to me,” McNamara said.

Investigators say it’s possible Owen might still have been in the house when McNamara called.

McNamara said that after the murder she became more cautious and didn’t ride her bike around the neighborhood as she had done.

“I was afraid,” she said. “I’m still afraid.”

Another classmate says she still won’t sleep with an open window.

Others who went to St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic School in Delray Beach or Boca Raton’s St. John Paul II Academy with Karen, and who, like her, were part of a group of friends who would exchange babysitting jobs, all stayed home after Karen’s death.

“It was impossible to find a babysitter for months,” said Kevin McCoy, a retired Boca Raton police officer who was the lead detective on the Georgianna Worden case. “People were afraid, they were really shocked.”

That fear was well-founded.

During a collection of interviews in early June 1984 with detectives from both Boca Raton and Delray Beach, the then 23-year-old Owen wove a horrifying tale of his menacing actions that escalated over time.

Retired Delray Beach detective Marc Woods says that Owen confessed to several burglaries in the city, including some in which women’s underwear was taken. He also later confessed to burglarizing a home and hitting a Florida Atlantic University professor over the



Friends and family visit Karen Slattery’s grave last month in Boynton Beach, hours before her killer was executed. **Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star**

head with a concrete block. He later would give her the nickname Professor Blockhead.

In Boca Raton, Owen detailed for McCoy and other investigators how he committed a half-dozen burglaries and assaults, including a couple that occurred prior to the Slattery murder.

Owen confessed to the 1982 assault of the resident manager of the Peter Pan Motel in Boca. The attack left his victim with a fractured skull and brain damage. In February 1984 he assaulted an 18-year-old woman, hitting her over the head with a wrench he had found in a nearby truck.

In May 1984, less than two months after Karen Slattery’s murder, Owen nearly got caught breaking into a home where a woman was sleeping alone when the woman’s brother came home, saw him and chased after him.

A few days later, he broke into a home not far from Worden’s where he threw a clothes iron at a woman, hitting her in the head and inflicting a wound that needed stitches.

Owen almost got caught again, according to McCoy, when he broke into an occupied home just east of Federal Highway and almost fell into the pool while running away when the women screamed.

That same night, he broke into Worden’s house and killed her.

It was a December 1982 arrest, after Owen was caught in the ceiling above the women’s bathroom in a bowling alley, that would eventually lead to his becoming a “person of interest” in the Worden and Slattery cases.

After Boca Raton police received a pencil sketch from FAU police of a man a student had seen masturbating outside a classroom, McCoy compared it to a photo of Owen taken after the bowling alley incident and kept in the department’s book of known sex offenders.

When the student later picked out Owen’s picture from a photo lineup, he became someone McCoy thought warranted more attention.

“I thought all along he was a strong suspect,” McCoy said, although there was not yet a connection to Worden’s murder. “Honestly, we had nothing else.”

Owen was arrested just a few days after Worden’s murder on an outstanding warrant and false ID charges. He was also charged with one of the burglaries. The murder charge came later, after his fingerprints were found on a library book — *Mistral’s Daughter* — in Worden’s bedroom.

Although the Karen Slattery case has always overshadowed Georgianna Worden’s murder — perhaps because of Karen’s age or because of the fear that

lingered during the two-month gap between the crime and the arrest — it was the Boca case and a sketch that eventually led to both being solved.

While he was in jail, Owen’s criminal mind continued to calculate ways he could get out and he concocted an escape scheme that almost worked.

A former Palm Beach County sheriff’s deputy, who was a sergeant in the jail at the time, said that Owen tucked himself into a large laundry basket used to take out trash and hid under bags of garbage. Had it not been for a deputy who noticed the garbage bags moving, Owen could have gotten to an area outside the jail building, scaled a fence and fled.

McCoy said that during a break in the interview process at the jail, Owen climbed up on a table inside the interview room and started checking for a way to hide in the ceiling.

### Another view of killer

While investigators will tell you that Owen was cold, calculating and pure evil, Palm Beach County Public Defender Carey Haughwout, who was in private practice when she was appointed to represent Owen the second time he was convicted of Slattery’s murder — after a successful appeal — sees a different side of the man.

Haughwout said she grieves for Worden’s and Slattery’s families. But, she insisted, Owen wasn’t a monster.

“He was smart, witty, compassionate. He built relationships,” she said. “But he was traumatized. He was damaged. It’s so easy to see folks as perpetrators of a bad act. He was so much more than that.”

Haughwout, who traveled to Starke to witness the execution, said the meticulously scripted death ritual was difficult to watch. Although she has experienced the loss of close friends and family, she said she was unprepared.

“I just can’t wrap my head around the fact that in our society we have choreographed murders that spectators watch,” she said several days after she joined reporters, prison officials and family members of Owen’s victims to see the 62-year-old take his last breath.

Her reaction to the macabre scene was compounded by her decades-long relationship with Owen and her belief that he was “deeply mentally ill.”

Psychiatrists who examined Owen over the years said he was schizophrenic and had gender dysphoria. He wanted to be a woman. Injuries he sustained when a car he was repairing fell on his head damaged the frontal lobe of his brain, which controls impulsivity, they said in court papers.

That combination, along with alcohol and drug abuse that began when he was 9,

led to delusional thinking. Owen believed he could change his gender by absorbing a woman’s hormones during sex, the psychiatrists said.

Prosecutors scoffed at the diagnoses, insisting Owen knew exactly what he was doing when he raped and killed Slattery and Worden. But, even judges acknowledged, Owen was haunted by a horrific childhood.

“Is it any wonder the defendant is, and has been, mentally sick?” Palm Beach County Circuit Judge Harold Cohen wrote in a 1999 order sentencing Owen to death.

Cohen ruled that the trauma Owen experienced didn’t trump the brutality of Slattery’s murder. But, he said, it contributed to Owen’s actions.

Detective Woods, who recorded more than 20 hours of jailhouse interviews with Owen, acknowledges that Owen had deep psychological issues but says they don’t excuse his calculated actions.

“Looking at the horrific manner of his crimes and his consistent efforts not to get caught, it shows that he knew exactly what he was doing,” Woods said.

### Traumatic childhood

Haughwout, who has represented more than a dozen people who faced the death penalty, said all had scars from their upbringing. But, she said, Owen’s childhood was “one of the most heart-breaking and traumatic I’ve ever seen.”

During his Indiana upbringing, his parents were alcoholics. His father regularly raped Owen’s mother and locked his half-brother in the basement. Owen watched his mother die a long, painful death from cancer.

Two years later, when Owen was 13, he and his brother found their father in the family car, dead from self-inflicted carbon monoxide poisoning.

Afraid they would be separated, the boys left their father in the garage for several days before calling authorities.

With no family to care for them, Owen and his brother were sent to an orphanage in Michigan where Owen was sexually and physically abused by older boys and staff. They eventually escaped and made their way to Palm Beach County, where Owen began his savage spree.

After one of his earliest arrests, Owen realized he had a dangerous fixation and tried to get help, Haughwout said.

None was offered.

“If only there had been intervention, we wouldn’t be here and Karen Slattery would be,” she told WPTV-Channel 5 in the days before the execution.

During the 38 years he spent on death row, Owen developed an interest in physics, astronomy and black holes, Haughwout said. His final note, released by prison officials after his death, may have reflected that.

“I have seen the visions of the crowd, my energy and particles will transform ad infinitum, I will live on. I am Tula. 13.”

The last line may be a reference to a book by Caroline “Tula” Cossey, a transgender woman who became a top model.

Not surprisingly, Owen’s name was not mentioned at the graveside gathering of classmates on the day of the execution. Instead, remembrances of Karen and sharing of stories brought smiles.

“In a weird way, Karen has continued to keep us together,” said former classmate Carlos Muhletaler.

Like Castor, Slattery’s best friend, Woods says the execution didn’t close the book on the murders for him but did come with a small bit of relief.

“I can’t say anything is better after the execution but I can say that it feels different, like it’s finished,” he said. “A big weight is gone.” ★





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**PARKER HIGHLAND | \$5,500,000**

1 of a kind, double unit, 4BR, 6BA, interior staircase, separate office/5th BR, direct walk out to pool and private beach. Impact glass, milestone inspec. complete.  
Jeanne Adams 561 414-5030 | [jeannedames7@gmail.com](mailto:jeannedames7@gmail.com)



**RIO DEL REY SHORES | \$2,750,000**

Waterfront home, private cul de sac, beautiful yard, deck, dock, renovated, metal roof 2006, impact windows.  
Renee Shine 561 870-5600 | [renee@reneeshine.com](mailto:renee@reneeshine.com)



**LAKE IDA | \$2,120,000**

Mango House, Lake Ida 1/2 acre, 4 BR, 2BA beautiful landscaping w/pool & screened patio.  
Noreen Payne 561 571-2289  
Amy Stark Snook 561 571-2289 | [team@amyandnoreen.com](mailto:team@amyandnoreen.com)



**NORTH SWINTON ESTATE | \$2,500,000**

Acheson Estate on N. Swinton, 3/4 acre, expansive lot, Old Delray charm, w/guest cottage, screened back porch, not historic, spacious kitchen, and laundry.  
Allyson Sullivan 561 573-8883 | [allysonsl@hotmail.com](mailto:allysonsl@hotmail.com)



**CHALFONTE | \$1,800,000**

2br/2ba elegant beachfront condo, oversized patio, one of a kind, premier community amenities.  
Ana Londono 561 843-1171 | [a.londono@langrealty.com](mailto:a.londono@langrealty.com)



**BRAEMAR ISLE | \$1,475,000**

2BR/2BA, third floor renovated, split floor plan, double master suite, luxurious upgrades, open kitchen, custom built-ins.  
Aristi Constantin 561 368-7437 | [aristiconsantin@comcast.net](mailto:aristiconsantin@comcast.net)



**BOCA HIGHLAND | \$1,395,000**

2 BR/ 2 BA, Split floor plan, oversized terrace, floor to ceiling windows, impact glass, remodeled kitchen, private beach club.  
Aristi Constantin 561 368-7437 | [aristiconsantin@comcast.net](mailto:aristiconsantin@comcast.net)



**DALTON PLACE | \$1,295,000**

2BR/2BA, meticulously renovated, smart appliances, high end fixtures, sweeping panoramic intracoastal views, private beach club.  
Aristi Constantin 561 368-7437 | [aristiconsantin@comcast.net](mailto:aristiconsantin@comcast.net)

BOCA RATON OFFICE | 4400 N. FEDERAL HIGHWAY, BOCA RATON, FL | 561.447.0666  
DELRAY BEACH OFFICE | 900 E. ATLANTIC AVENUE, SUITE 16B, DELRAY BEACH, FL | 561.455.3300  
BOYNTON BEACH OFFICE | 8855 BOYNTON BEACH BLVD., SUITE 340, BOYNTON BEACH, FL | 561.340.1200

## Lantana

# Sizable increase in taxable values to help town manage new budget

By Mary Thurwachter

Lantana Finance Director Stephen Kaplan gave Town Council members and residents a first look at the proposed fiscal year 2024 budget during a June 12 workshop.

Among the highlights, Lantana saw a 17.1% increase — or \$262 million more — in taxable values this year, the highest percentage rise of any South County coastal municipality. The increase was tied to new construction and the development of Water Tower Commons, the 73-acre mixed-use project with apartments and some retail in one of the town's most desirable locations — the site once occupied by the A.G. Holley State Hospital.

"For the current year we have approximately \$1.5 billion in taxable value, and with the 17.1% increase this year, we're estimating \$1.79 billion for 2023/2024," said Kaplan, including \$77

million in new construction and \$70 million from Water Tower Commons.

Unlike last year, when the town upped the tax rate from \$3.50 to \$3.75 per \$1,000 of taxable value — despite a 15.8% increase in the town's tax base — no rate increase is planned this year, Kaplan said. Property tax revenue, using that \$3.75 rate, is expected to bring in \$6.4 million, assuming a 95% collection rate.

Money from the county's infrastructure surtax, or penny sales tax, is expected to bring in \$1.05 million to help pay for the ADA ramp at the beach, wooden decking and railings at the beach park, replacing Town Hall windows, renovating the Town Council chambers, paving projects, and constructing classrooms and an emergency operations center at the Police Department.

Lantana has received more than \$6.3 million in federal American Rescue Plan Act money. To date, more than

\$4.2 million of those funds has been committed for various related projects, leaving about \$2 million for other projects, Kaplan said, although he didn't specify the projects.

Lantana has received \$2.8 million in grants and appropriations. The bulk of the money — \$1.2 million each from the federal and state governments — will be used for water main replacement.

The grant money will also go toward improvements to Maddock Park and the dog park there; a stormwater drainage system and future-needs analysis; an asset inventory and Ocean Avenue vulnerability assessment; and to pay for ADA door openings and parts of the library garden.

On the spending side, Lantana will revise salaries for employees to remain competitive; add an assistant police chief; add a new library manager and a business development specialist.

In the town's administration

department, about \$210,000 will be put aside for replacing computers and purchasing three SUVs for the Police Department. Public Services Department expenditures include \$897,500 for town-wide improvements such as landscaping, adding trash receptacles and installing electric lighting along Greynolds Circle (around Town Hall) for holiday events; holiday decorations for Greynolds Circle; community park improvements such as new benches, landscaping, and trash cans; replacing the roof at the Recreation Center; and resurfacing the basketball court at the Sports Park.

The library budget sets aside \$35,000 for bookshelves, computers and books.

The second budget workshop is set for 5:30 p.m. July 10 in the council chambers. The proposed tax rate will be set that night, as well. Public hearings on the budget and tax rate will be Sept. 11 and 20. ★

## Master plan would improve beach, downtown and Town Hall areas

By Mary Thurwachter

Lantana residents got a first look at the town's completed master plan June 14.

Dana Little, the urban design director for the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council who spearheaded the effort, appeared at a special Town Council meeting to present the \$169,800 plan, a year in the making.

"Tonight, I want to focus on the things that haven't been presented before," which came directly from work with Town Manager Brian Raducci and Development Director Nicole Dritz and her staff, Little said. "And it's a much better plan for it."

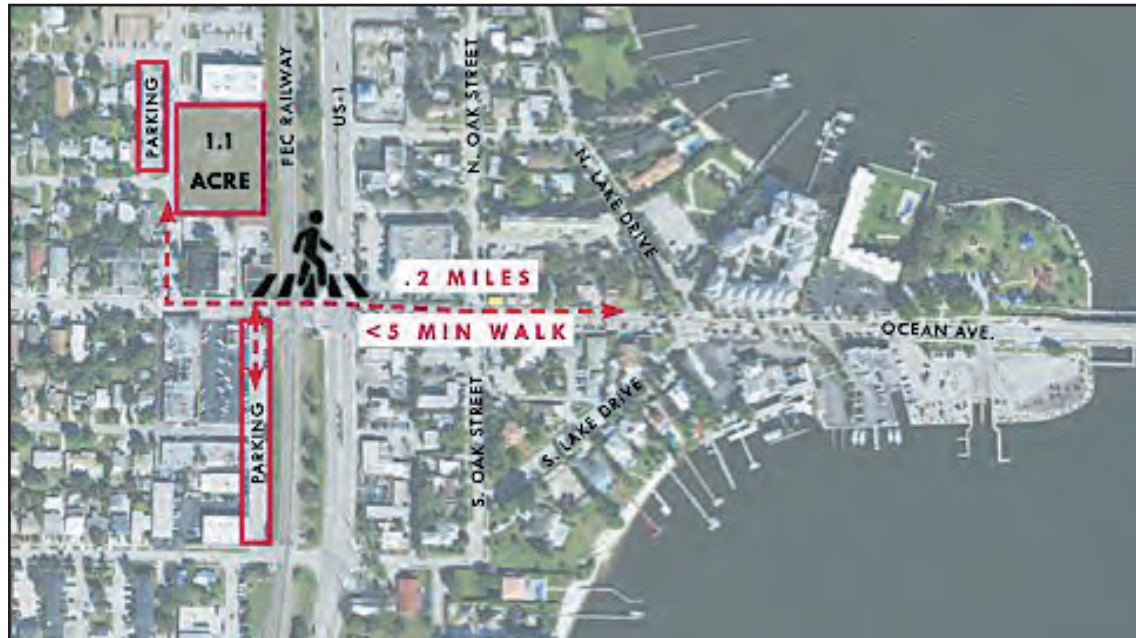
Little identified three planning districts: the Lantana Beach District, the Downtown District along Ocean Avenue from the Intracoastal Waterway west to U.S. 1, and the Town Center District, where Town Hall is located.

### The beach

"We think the beach is, if not your primary asset, it's in the top two or three," Little said. "It really needs some investment. We were out there, and the restaurant was packed. The Dune Deck is one of the very few places in Palm Beach County where you can literally sit and dine on the beach. But we were quite surprised with the state of the boardwalk, handrails and steps. There are unsafe conditions at the beach which need to be an immediate priority for funding."

If the beach is the town's best asset, its upkeep should be a priority, Little said. "It's like the old broken window scenario, what is the message that's being sent?" he asked.

Replacing handrails and steps that have been battered over the years with storms will vastly improve the conditions out there and make them safer,



A vacant parcel just north of Ocean Avenue and west of the FEC tracks could provide more parking for downtown. The site is about a five-minute walk from downtown. **Map provided**

he said.

Beyond the decking and handrails, his team looked at the landscaping and at what other communities have done.

"In Martin County, they did a full beach-park redo," Little said. "They got rid of the sod, which never worked very well in those sandy conditions. They replaced it with natives that are sea spray and sea salt tolerant."

Another recommendation is to landscape the beach entrance at Dorothy Rissler Lane beside Eau Palm Beach Resort & Spa. "There are sandbags all over the place and cars are parked all over. With landscaping and design, you can maybe discipline this a little bit. There's probably an infinite number of ways to do this," Little said.

### Downtown

The master plan recommendations include a "dining incentive area," Little said. "It's the parcels that are on Ocean Avenue stretching all the way out to North Dixie. That's really the heart of your downtown and that includes

the Key Lime House.

"We heard over and over again about the parking challenges and we've come up with recommendations about how you might provide parking to the north and the south."

Little said Dritz identified parcels "on Third Street and then the FEC parcel south — right along the FEC corridor south of Ocean Avenue — which has some opportunity."

There is an existing municipal parking lot at North Third Street, just north of the library, to the west of U.S. 1.

"It's missing sidewalks and is not clearly signed," Little said. "You don't know if you're supposed to be there or not. It's kind of unkempt. We walked from there to downtown multiple times and it's literally a 4½- to 5-minute walk.

Crossing U.S. 1, North Dixie, is easier than it is in a lot of locations within the corridor. We were able to restripe and get over 60 spaces that are literally within a 5-minute walking distance from your downtown. Not only is that an interesting and perhaps a good

idea, but those spaces could be used as an incentive for someone to come and invest.

"Say I want to do a restaurant and go into one of the buildings that's already there. And the code currently requires me to have five parking spaces on site. Well, guess what? Maybe it's a first-come, first-served basis: You invest in the downtown, we will count these spaces off site toward your parking requirement."

The town needs to do some work such as completing sidewalks and manicuring the municipal lot.

"We did a rendering to show you how you can even take a wall [next to the municipal lot] and do some sort of mural, and turn it into a vibrant place," Little said. "With a little paint and some signage, people would know this is a safe and legitimate place to be."

### Town Center District

Little's team said the Town Hall campus deserved additional attention.

"There's a lot of pent-up

opportunity within this beautifully planned municipal campus that you have," he said.

"You all were designated a Tree City at one point. But over time, many of the trees have gone away. We looked at the Greynolds Circle area and we identified six or seven different locations where there could be key interventions along the circle.

"It might be missing sidewalks, it might be creative crosswalks, it might be providing streetlights and certainly providing landscaping. I just identified one or two of those detailed areas but there are six of them where we've got detailed plans which show where new street trees should go, where new sidewalks should go, where additional on-street parking could be beautified and legitimized."

Little said the circle area should be used for a lot more things. It would be a great place to set an example for re-creating a tree canopy, he said.

### Kmart site development

The Kmart site is also an important piece of the master plan.

Little's team agreed with the council's decision to reject a recent development proposal for the property.

"Not because the program was wrong, not because we were opposed to a developer bringing in residential, but the way that they were delivering it, creating a sort of gated cul-de-sac community in the middle of a parking lot," Little said. "You could do better than that. So, we've got designs in the master plan with renderings for that and lots of other things as well."

A vote on whether to accept the plan is expected at a future council meeting. ★

## Business Spotlight

# Historic designation could give Delray Beach golf course a mulligan

**D**elray Beach's deteriorating municipal golf course, built in 1925, should be considered for listing on the city's local Register of Historic Places, the City Commission unanimously agreed on June 6.

Commissioners also agreed to tell staff to allocate \$125,000 toward the restoration of the course to make it eligible to apply for a \$500,000 state grant to restore the links — partly designed by Donald Ross, one of the country's preeminent golf course architects.

The course has languished for years for lack of funding, and frustrated commissioners two years ago proposed to sell 8-10 acres abutting West Atlantic Avenue to a company that would be allowed to build office space, housing and a hotel in exchange for restoring the course.

Six companies offered a variety of plans, but residents, golfers and preservationists protested the loss of green space and the commission, under the public pressure, rejected all the bids.

Proponents of restoring the course urged commissioners to designate the course as historic to secure grant money and consider alternative sources of restoration funds.

The course is a unique hybrid. Although Ross designed 18 holes, only nine were built. In the 1950s, Dick Wilson, one of the preeminent designers of his generation and a former director of the course, designed what is today the front nine.

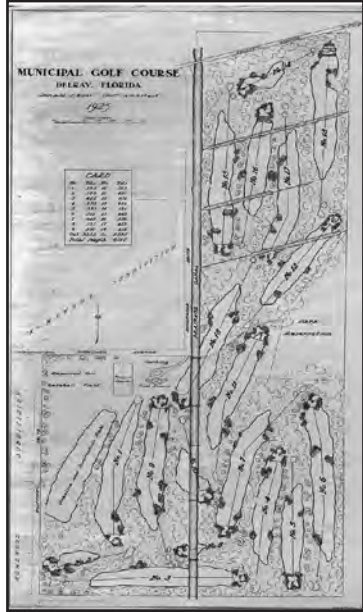
Preservationists contend that the Wilson nine is worthy of historic designation. He designed courses around the country. One of his most notable local designs is the Pine Tree golf course in suburban Boynton Beach.

Miami-based **Ocean Bank** plans to open its first Palm Beach County branch at **799 Federal Highway, Boca Raton**, after a proposed modifying of the current retail zoning to office. The building is owned by 799 Federal Investments, and the bank would replace a former 2,917-square-foot Boston Market.

The bank's president, CEO and chairman, Agostinho Alfonso Macedo, noted that the new bank is scheduled to open in the fourth quarter of 2023.

"The new branch in Boca Raton is a logical extension of our history of lending in Palm Beach County and of our continued expansion plans," he said in an email. "Boca Raton and Palm Beach County offer strong potential for business growth, and we want to be where our customers are. We continue to look at locations for additional branches in South Florida and other parts of the state to add to our network of 23 branches."

A large commercial bank chartered and headquartered



in Florida, Ocean Bank was founded in December 1982 in a double-wide trailer on Northwest 42nd Avenue in Miami. The site is now the bank's headquarters.

Ocean Bank has 20 branches in Miami-Dade, two in Broward County and one in Orlando. The bank's commercial mortgage originations in 2022 were \$1.59 billion, and it has total assets of \$5.9 billion.

The 18th annual ranking of "The Thousand" and "America's Best Real Estate Professionals," prepared by **Real Trends** and **Tom Ferry America's Best Real Estate Professionals** and promoted in a *Wall Street Journal* special advertising section, were released in June. Included are agents and teams from south Palm Beach County who made the lists.

### Ranking by sales volume

**Local agents:** Ralph Harvey, Boynton Beach ListWithFreedom.com, with \$998.841 million (#3 nationally, #2 in Florida); David Roberts, Royal Palm Properties, Boca Raton, with \$235.47 million (#52 nationally and #12 in Florida); Marcy F. Javor, Signature One Luxury Estates, Boca Raton, with \$201 million (#76 nationally and #18 in Florida); and Rochelle LeCavalier, Douglas Elliman, Boca Raton, with \$171.3 million (#23 in Florida).

**Local small teams:** Candace Friis Team, Corcoran, Delray Beach, with \$246.4 million (#35 nationally, #4 in Florida); Pascal Liguori Estate Group, Premier Estate Properties, Delray Beach, \$165.28 million (#14 in Florida); D'Angelo/Liguori, Premier Estate Properties, Boca Raton, \$115.15 million (#24 in Florida).

**Local medium teams:** Jonathan Postma Group, Coldwell Banker, Boca Raton, with \$206.7 million (#61 nationally, #8 in Florida); Senada Adzem Team, Douglas Elliman, Boca Raton, \$184.1 million (#12 in Florida); Kilpatrick Team, Corcoran, Delray Beach, \$132.7 million (#21 in Florida); Alicia Gold, Compass, Boca Raton, \$122.97 million (#25 in Florida); Randy & Nick Team, Douglas Elliman, Delray Beach, \$102.76 million



(#32 in Florida); Buchbinder Group, Compass, Boca Raton, \$94.9 million (#36 in Florida); Julian Soffer Team, Keller Williams, Boca Raton, \$91.16 million (#39 in Florida).

**Local large teams:** Platt Group, Compass, Boca Raton, \$151.49 million (#15 in Florida); Atlas Team, Compass, Boca Raton, \$131.56 million (#21 in Florida); Rucco Group, RE/MAX Direct, Delray Beach, \$100.4 million (#33 in Florida).

The rankings were open to real estate professionals who chose to participate in the project, based on their reported sales volume and other criteria over 2022. To be considered for a ranking, an agent must have closed at least 50 transaction "sides" or recorded \$20 million in closed sales volume for 2022, according to Real Trends.

Teams must have closed 75 residential transactions or \$30 million in closed sales volume.

Under the rules of the survey, agents and brokers who handled both sides of a transaction — representing the buyer and the seller — were allowed to double the final dollar figure when they calculated their total volume for the sale. For this article, agents and teams were noted up to the top 100 in "The Thousand" and up to the top 50 in Florida of "America's Best Real Estate Professionals."

As of the first of this year, four new technology startups joined the **Global Ventures at FAU** incubator program at the **Research Park at Florida Atlantic University**. They are: **Biobeat Medical**, an Israel-based company that uses artificial intelligence and machine learning for insights into patient care; **Ecosign Technologies**, a spinoff of Contech Brazil, offering technology that helps control contaminants in the pulp and paper, textile, agribusiness and poultry industries; **Isolab USA**, a company launched in Germany with manufacturing operations in Turkey that provides products and services used for research activities; and **Triangulate Labs**, a South Florida-based startup that created Skinmap, a technology that detects changes in the skin that could be early signs of

**FAR LEFT:** Donald Ross' original design for the course.

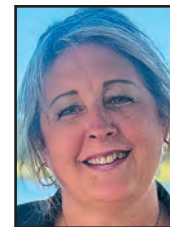
**LEFT:** Pro golfer Gene Sarazen blasts out of a bunker in the 1950s at the Delray Beach municipal golf course.

**Photos provided by Donald Ross Society and Delray Beach Historical Society**

and this is their sixth project. Other Boynton Beach properties that they've worked on include: 413 NW Fifth Ave., 607 NW Fourth St., 130 NE Eighth Ave., 1020 S. Seacrest Blvd., and 114 N. Seacrest Court.

For more information, or to have a home considered, contact Dwayne Randolph at 561-441-1186.

**Marita A. Butzbach** is now executive vice president of Lang Management's property



**Butzbach**

management operations. In her 30 years with Lang Management, her roles have included customer service representative, property supervisor and, most recently, supervisor for the company's 42 property managers.

The **NonProfit Times** partnering with **Best Companies Group** named **The Lord's Place** as one of the **2023 Best Nonprofits to Work For** for the seventh consecutive year, noting that it has excelled in creating a quality workplace.

"We are proud of this recognition. Our employees are our greatest resource. We attract and retain a diverse staff who are innovative, compassionate, talented, and share our common passion to help others to end local homelessness for good," said The Lord's Place chief executive officer, Diana Stanley.

The Lord's Place offers services to Palm Beach County's homeless men, women and children.

The **Loxahatchee Group of the Sierra Club Florida Chapter** and **Solar United Neighbors** will host a Zoom



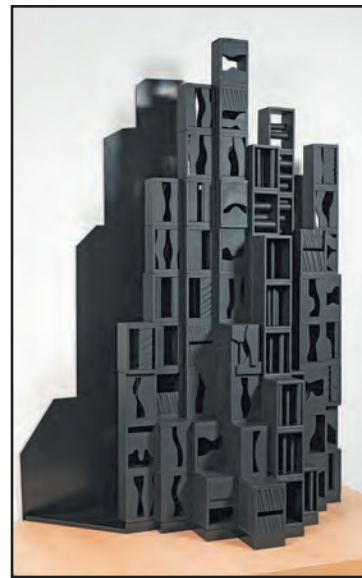
**Tellez**

meeting, "Solar 101," covering the benefits of solar energy for both homes and businesses. This free online meeting, which is open to the public, is scheduled for 7:30 to 9 p.m. July 27. Special guest speaker Laura Tellez, Solar United Neighbors' South Florida program associate, will discuss solar technology and economics, answer questions and share resources. Zoom attendees will also learn about solar co-ops.

For more information, visit <https://act.sierraclub.org/events/details?formcampaignid=7013q000001QZIPAA4&mapLinkHref=>



Send business news to **Christine Davis** at [cdavis9797@gmail.com](mailto:cdavis9797@gmail.com).



*Shadow Chord*, by artist Louise Nevelson, has been restored by the Boca Raton Museum of Art through a grant from Bank of America's Art Conservation Project. **Photo provided**

The **Boca Raton Museum of Art** has completed the restoration of the 1969 sculpture *Shadow Chord*, by renowned artist Louise Nevelson (1899-1988), thanks to a grant from Bank of America's Art Conservation Project.

This year, the bank selected projects from 23 museums globally, with 13 in the United States and only one in Florida. *Shadow Chord* is on view on the second floor at the Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real.

Brothers of the **Lambda Alpha Alpha Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc.** initiated a "Curb Appeal" project in 2020 to ease the burden on caretakers who care for loved ones. On the morning of June 10, they painted a senior's house and enhanced the landscaping at 1016 NW Fourth St., Boynton Beach.

The fraternity brothers have committed to paint and landscape 10 properties in 2023,



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**New Listing | 5 Winthrop Lane | Boynton Beach | \$1,150,000 |** Adorable 2 BR beach cottage with deeded beach access makes an ideal winter getaway or rental opportunity. **Web# RX-10884284**

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**Newly Priced | 5720 Old Ocean Boulevard, 5E  
Ocean Ridge | \$1,150,000 | 2 BR, 2 BA, 1-car garage, an  
ideal oceanfront townhouse with private beach access to  
a pristine beach. Web# RX-10867958**



**Just Listed | 6530 N Ocean Boulevard, 1080 | Ocean Ridge  
\$649,000 | Chic updated 2 BR, 2 BA nestled between the  
Intracoastal and the ocean. Web# RX-10873261**



**Pending | Alina Residences | 210 SE Mizner Boulevard, 201  
Boca Raton | \$5,487,000 | Other opportunities available in  
this private nine-acre community featuring impeccably  
designed outdoor living amenities.**



**Just Sold | 5505 N Ocean Boulevard, 12-205 | Ocean Ridge  
\$385,000 | Updated 2 BR corner unit beachside condo with  
ocean views from front and back porches.  
Web# RX-10871970**



# Around Town

Celebrations - AT3  
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Health & Harmony - AT15  
House of the Month - AT19

July 2023

The Coastal  Star



Women of the Ladies Improvement Association gather in 1913 in front of the Town Hall they founded in 1906. Courtesy of the Delray Beach Historical Society

# Spirited souls

A look at the adventurous women who set out to change Delray in the early 1900s

By Kayleigh Howald

In 19th century Florida's undeveloped wilderness, women and men alike were dedicated to their families' survival. Multiple first-person accounts describe women working in the fields to clear the land and care for livestock and crops, alongside their husbands and fathers. Although men are often credited with settling Florida's east coast, the communities themselves were developed by the work and ingenuity of women.

See WOMEN on page AT16

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Philanthropy Notes

# Junior League of Boca Raton names new board members

A fresh leadership team was introduced at the Junior League of Boca Raton's annual dinner meeting for the 2023-24 season.

Meghan Shea is president. Shea was preceded by Jamie Sauer, who served in the role for two years.

The 2023-24 board also includes: Michelle Coggiola, Paige Gantt, Brooke Kaplan, Victoria Matthews, Christine Mills, Alexis Nasti, Amanda O'Brien, Chase Papoy, Amy Procacci, Alana St. John, Nicole Stelzer and Rhian Warner.

Throughout the year, they and other league members will contribute more than 35,000 volunteer hours and provide more than \$250,000 to support the mission of developing the potential of women and improving the South Florida community.

For more information, call 561-620-2553 or visit [www.jlbr.org](http://www.jlbr.org).



Some of the new board members of the Junior League of Boca Raton are (l-r): Brooke Kaplan, Nicole Stelzer, Victoria Matthews, Meghan Shea, Paige Gantt, Alana St. John, Amanda O'Brien, Michelle Coggiola and Rhian Warner. **Photo provided**



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Richard Kwal and Dr. Gail Rubin-Kwal. **Photo provided**

**Boca Regional campaign receives milestone gift**

Dr. Gail Rubin-Kwal and Richard Kwal have made a seven-figure pledge that will be acknowledged by the naming of the fountain outside Boca Raton Regional Hospital's Toby and Leon Cooperman Medical Arts Pavilion.

The "Keeping the Promise" campaign for Boca Regional continues to surge past its \$250 million goal thanks to

the couple and the ongoing generosity of the community.

"We cannot overstate our gratitude to the Kwals for this gift to our capital campaign," CEO Lincoln Mendez said. "An incredibly generous gift like this will make a big difference for our hospital, and having it come from someone on our medical staff is profound."

Dr. Rubin-Kwal is a member of the emergency medical team, where she has served for more than three decades.

"Our relationship with the hospital is strong and indelible," she said. "We're part of a great history here, and we are inspired by the hospital's future."

For more information, call 561-955-4142 or visit [donate.brrh.com](http://donate.brrh.com).

**Spady Cultural Heritage Museum awarded grants**

A speaker discussing disparities in health care, a tour guide answering questions about ancestral contributions, a gathering of neighbors in a community space and an interactive outlet for children to create art — each is a

program that helps residents connect. Moreover, each is a program that organizers believe contributes to improved mental health.

Provided by the Spady Cultural Heritage Museum, the programs recently received funding for their continuation.

"The museum is thrilled and heartened by the tangible support it is receiving from two significant foundations that are focused on the needs of its community," said Charlene Farrington, executive director of the museum.


The two foundations are the Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties, which awarded a \$50,000 grant, and the Palm Health Foundation, which awarded a \$25,000 grant.

For more information, call 561-279-8883 or visit [www.spadymuseum.com](http://www.spadymuseum.com).



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

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The next edition of *The Coastal Star* will be delivered the weekend of Aug. 5

## Celebrations

### Hope in Bloom

Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club, Boca Raton — April 25



The ninth annual Place of Hope Angel Moms Brunch and Benefit was a record-breaking success. It was an inspiring day filled with possibilities for the future of aged-out foster youths, single



mothers and dependent children as well as trafficking survivors. Angel Mom Amy Kazma received the 2023 Leigha Roberts Rinker Angel of Hope award. Place of Hope also recognized Hasan Dickinson as Outstanding Youth of the Year. **TOP:** Renee Feder and Wendy Sadusky.

**INSET:** (l-r) Lisa McDulin, Dickinson and Kazma.

**BELOW:** (l-r) Susan Brockway, Dee Balderston and Lori Rizzo. **Photos provided by Coastal Click Photography**



### Twilight in the Garden

Delray Beach Historical Society — May 6



The society's premier fundraiser was a spectacular success, welcoming guests to the downtown campus where they meandered along the pathways of the one-acre Heritage Garden. Custom-built vignettes showcased favorite restaurants offering delicious food and beverages. The society's history exhibits were open, live music filled the air, and a silent auction took place. A total of \$62,000 was raised. 'The cause is so important as we continue to grow the city archive and share our history with classes, lectures and history exhibits,' society Co-President Joyce DeMoose said. 'It's one of Delray's most lovely events that everyone looks forward to.'



**TOP:** (l-r) Ash Breheny, Karen Cruz and Chiara Clark.

**MIDDLE:** (l-r) Mary Rose Ryan O'Connell, Jestena Boughton and Geula Buchnik.

**BOTTOM:** (l-r) John Finn, Charlie Bruin and Mike Cruz. **Photos provided**



### Florida-Friendly Landscaping

Harbour Drive, Ocean Ridge — June 13

Kara Krueger, environmental horticulture agent for the county extension service's Florida-Friendly Landscaping Program, awarded its gold level recertification recognition to Terry and Lucy Brown for their Ocean Ridge property, a native plant haven and habitat for birds and butterflies. The Browns' garden also has been recognized with the original FFL Certified Florida Yard award and with a Native Garden of Excellence award from the Ocean Ridge Garden Club. The FFL program rewards clients' efforts to conserve water and protect water quality and other natural resources, and educates people on the benefits.



**ABOVE** (l-r): Krueger with the Browns. **Photo provided**

Delray Beach

# Wayside triumph

A Delray Beach fixture for nearly 50 years, women's recovery home has big plans after getting \$1 million grant

By John Pacenti

Lisa Drake slept in the parking lot of the American Legion Hall in 1990, waiting and hoping she could find a bed nearby at the Wayside House, a recovery center for women.

The director had given her a rubber band to wear around her wrist, which she could flick to give herself a distraction anytime she thought about drugs or alcohol.

"You had to prove that you were willing to go," Drake said. "When I came in here, I just had a bag of clothes. And I walked away from everything I owned. I was just empty — black."

Long before Delray Beach became arguably the recovery capital of the world, Wayside House existed for women who suffer from alcoholism and drug addiction. It has survived while other recovery centers in the area closed in recent years in an industry roiled by fraud.

The facility, in the 300 block of Northeast Sixth Avenue, is preparing to celebrate its 50-year anniversary in 2024. It's already receiving gifts. In February, U.S. Rep. Lois Frankel announced Wayside would be one of 15 nonprofits receiving money she obtained through the Community Project Funding process.

How will the \$1 million be used?

Wayside House CEO Lisa McWhorter said that Wayside is renting its administrative building, but would like to build its own. A survey has been approved by the board, "seeing what we can build here and looking to expand on our own property."

New flooring, a fence of some sort and electrical wiring in

the oldest part of the house — originally the postmaster's home — are also on the agenda.

Delray Beach Mayor Shelly Petrolia said she helped put Wayside on Frankel's radar and lauded its mission to take a woman from a desperate and desolate place to one of hope and recovery.

"I've always been a supporter," Petrolia said. "It is operated well. It is there for the right reasons, doing the right things by their clients, and they offer the support that is needed."

McWhorter said one reason Wayside has survived is that it is a stickler for following rules by which recovery centers must abide.

It aims to serve any woman with an alcohol or drug problem, but makes a special effort to reach at-risk people, such as pregnant women, IV drug users, those involved in abusive relationships and those fighting to keep their kids.

It is a 12-step program that usually eschews the typical 30-day in-patient treatment model for one lasting 60 to 90 days, where clients will eventually be stepped down to an outpatient program — known in the industry as PHP, or partial-hospitalization program.

"I try not to have repeat customers," said McWhorter, who describes herself as a "warm-and-fuzzy cuddler." The idea is to give the women who come through Wayside the tools not just to get clean and sober — but to stay clean and sober.

McWhorter said it is important to bring loved ones — spouses, siblings, children — into the treatment plan because alcoholism and addiction is very much a family disease, often spanning generations.



TOP: Wayside House alumnae Lisa Drake and Kathryn Leonard remain part of the center. Leonard is board president. ABOVE: CEO Lisa McWhorter. LEFT: Tammie Sellman, chief development officer, is a key person behind grants Wayside House has received. Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

### House has a homey feel

People hold a reverence for the white frame cottage, built originally in 1922, as if it is bathed in the positive energy of women who have recovered within its walls. The beach-style bungalow was obtained in 1974 for \$1,000 by Susan B. Anthony — great-niece of the women's rights advocate — and counselor Phyllis Michelfelder, who co-founded Wayside House.

"When I first walked in, my oldest daughter was with me," said Kathryn Leonard. "We walked in and she goes, 'Mom, doesn't it just feel like you're walking into Grandma's house?'"

Leonard graduated as a Wayside client in 1992 and

immediately got involved in the alumnae program, in which women who have recovered come back to help guide those trying to get clean and sober today. She is now president of the Wayside House board of directors.

"I met Lisa because she used to come back and smoke on the porch with me," Leonard said of Drake, who remains involved with the center as part of its alumnae program.

A walk through Wayside House is like entering a labyrinth, a hidden secret right smack in the middle of downtown Delray Beach.

The administration building contains executive offices, a boutique full of donated clothes,

a career center and an alumnae gathering place.

Lush vegetation amid brick walkways and gazebos connect the main house and a separate facility for a therapeutic program. The main building was purchased one year after Wayside was founded by Anthony and Michelfelder.

In the main house, women keep busy. One is helping the chef in a beautiful new kitchen. The house has 26 beds available and several gathering places, including an outdoor courtyard in the center of the building.

The wizards behind the curtain at Wayside are Tammie Sellman and Marlene Passell. They are grant-getting machines. Both the kitchen and the chef are paid for by grants obtained by Wayside. The \$1 million federal grant was the most recent cherry on top.

And money is always needed. Wayside had to raise the main house right before the pandemic because the foundation was crumbling.

Sellman is also in charge of fundraising. "I can say that 92 cents of every dollar goes towards programming," she said.

McWhorter said the real assets of Wayside House don't come from grants or even donations — but from the continuity represented by former clients like Leonard and Drake. There is ready-and-willing support for any woman who walks through the doors along with a staff that believes in the mission.

"The girls come back and they talk about the house," McWhorter said. "They'll mention the therapists and the staff, but they talk about the house and how special the house is." ★



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Dining

# Boynton's new bakery 'the American dream come true'

The Fourth of July has a special meaning for the owners of the area's newest French bakery.

Café Prélude in Boynton Beach is "the American dream come true," said Mohamed Kaada.

Originally from France, Kaada and his wife, Karima, came to the United States six years ago to start their own business, and as he says, "have a better life for ourselves and our children."

They arrived speaking little English and with limited knowledge of business practices in America, he said, though he's been in the food industry for more than 26 years.

A pizzeria seemed the easiest way to get established quickly, and NYPD Pizza in Boynton Beach on Federal Highway was the result.

"Pizza, chicken wings, sandwiches — everybody likes those," Kaada said.

After that success, it was time to try to bring the French influence to an eatery. La Buvette, a small cafe, opened next door to the pizzeria in Boynton Beach just before the coronavirus hit. "Like a lot of businesses, we were hit hard," he said. "We had to close."

Not ones to sit idle, he and his wife and team created a virtual kitchen. Now through the website Simplevirtualkitchen.com, Kaada consults for restaurateurs wanting to add delivery services or to do delivery only.

But the French bakery, which opened in late May, is garnering the most notice among the area's residents.

"My wife is a French baker," Kaada said. "She has years of experience. Everything here is authentic."

It's also all made in house. The couple wants diners "to feel as though you are in France," Kaada said. "Everyone here speaks French. When you eat croissant, it's the real thing. Quiche, crepes, and even the espresso are just as you get in France."

But for the American market, he had to tweak a few foods. "We make an egg, bacon and cheese croissant. And we make pancakes. Yes, I know crepes are better," he said, laughing. "We have a wonderful crepe stuffed with cream cheese and smoked salmon. Many people don't eat smoked salmon until they try this. Then they want to order it."

Baguettes are made fresh daily. Lunch sandwiches include the croque monsieur and croque madame. Also popular is the jambon-beurre — the traditional ham and cheese sandwich made with butter and Dijon mustard.



FAR LEFT: Mohamed and Karima Kaada opened the Café Prélude on North Federal Highway in Boynton Beach. LEFT: A chicken mushroom curry quiche from the bakery. ABOVE: A sampling of its desserts. Photos provided

Details and authenticity are important, Kaada said, such as the white bread used for panini. "That's the original. I know others use different breads, but that's not authentic in France."

Several daily desserts include the apple turnover, Danish raisin pastry, éclair au chocolat, and mille-feuille — known as Napoleons to the American audience.

"And of course, we have macaron," Kaada said

Breakfast and lunch are on the menu, but the business is open till 8 p.m. for takeout and light café meals.

The odd dish out for Kaada

is the waffle, with chicken. "We had to put a waffle with chicken on the menu. People asked for it. It's our fluffy waffle with fried chicken and maple syrup, or honey drizzled on top."

It is definitely not a French dish, but he celebrates the diverse mashups of foods here. He laughed. "I love living in the U.S."

Café Prélude, 312 N. Federal Highway, Boynton Beach. Open weekdays, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.; weekends, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Phone 561-536-5386, or go to Café Prélude Boynton Beach on Facebook.



The white clam pizza at Frank Pepe Pizzeria Napoletana. Photo provided

the news that Frank Pepe Pizzeria Napoletana chose Delray Beach for the 16th eatery in the chain is welcome.

The New Haven, Connecticut-style pizza comes from a family-owned pizzeria in operation since 1925. Many South Florida retirees know it well — they hail from the Northeast, or remember it from eating there in their younger days, said Kevin Gagliardi, director of operations for Pepe's.

"We realized so many of our guests migrated and retired in the area," he said.

Pepe's 'Apizza' in Delray For Northeast pizza fans,

See DINING on page AT6

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The burlesque show at Ravish on Ocean Avenue in Lantana won't resume until next season. **Photo provided**

**DINING**

Continued from page AT5

"In the first week we've been open, it's been like a New England reunion week. We've heard stories of people whose grandparents took them to the New Haven Pepe's, or they talk about driving down from college to eat there."

The "apizza" (pronounced "abeetz" by die-hards) are made with proprietary dough and sauce, from ingredients grown and bottled or canned for Pepe's. These include Italian tomatoes and a special olive oil blend.

Gagliard says consistency for Pepe's premium pizza is crucial. For that, a special filtration system was put in place to bring Florida water up to par with New Haven's. It produces the chewy and crispy crust — part of Pepe's signature.

"The water for the dough is critical. Pizza is simple, but it's a science. And ingredients must be the highest quality. We use whole milk mozzarella, and our pecorino comes in a large wheel we age, then it's grated for the pizzas," he said.

The sauce is made from tomatoes grown in Italy for Pepe's, pureed fresh daily.

Once made, the pizza is placed into the 14-by-14-foot coal-fired oven on a 16-foot paddle. The oven, which bakes the pies at 600 degrees and delivers a slight char, is designed as a replica of the original in Connecticut.

So far, the most popular pies are the meatball and ricotta, cheese and pepperoni, and the signature white clam pizza, Gagliard said.

A few salads are on the menu along with some desserts. But don't expect coffee or a burger. This is a pizzeria selling premium pies, he said.

"We are an experience. We're the neighborhood pizzeria. The kitchen is wide open. Kids love to watch the pizzas being made."

Specialty pizzas include

the Amanti Della Carne with tomatoes, mozzarella, meatball, pepperoni, sausage, bacon and pecorino; and the white clam, made with fresh clams, pecorino Romano, a proprietary oil blend, fresh garlic and oregano.

More Pepe's outlets are coming to the area, he said. The first was in Plantation. "When we go into an area, we don't just do one and leave. We put in five or six for support," Gagliard said.

The owners will pace it so they can hire quality staff to follow the traditions of Pepe's pizza-making.

Gagliard is happy with Delray Beach and its "foodie" reputation. "I love being in a city where they love food."

*Frank Pepe Pizzeria Napoletana 1701 S. Federal Highway, Delray Beach. Open 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. Phone 561-431-5601 for takeout. Online ordering at pepespizza.com is being planned.*

**In brief**

Ravish on Ocean Avenue in Lantana retired its burlesque show until next season, co-owner Alexandra Dupuis said. The cost outdistanced the return, she said. The last one for this season was held Father's Day. ...

It's National Ice Cream month: Celebrate with locally owned and produced ice cream. Try the Ice Cream Club in Manalapan, which has churned out the frozen treats for 41 years. There's Proper Ice Cream in Boca Raton and Delray Beach, where vegan ice cream is available. Check out Sloan's in Boca Raton, where you are treated to an old-fashioned candy store/ ice cream parlor setting. Find family-owned Lily's Ice Cream in Delray Beach, where the cones and ice cream are made fresh daily on site.



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

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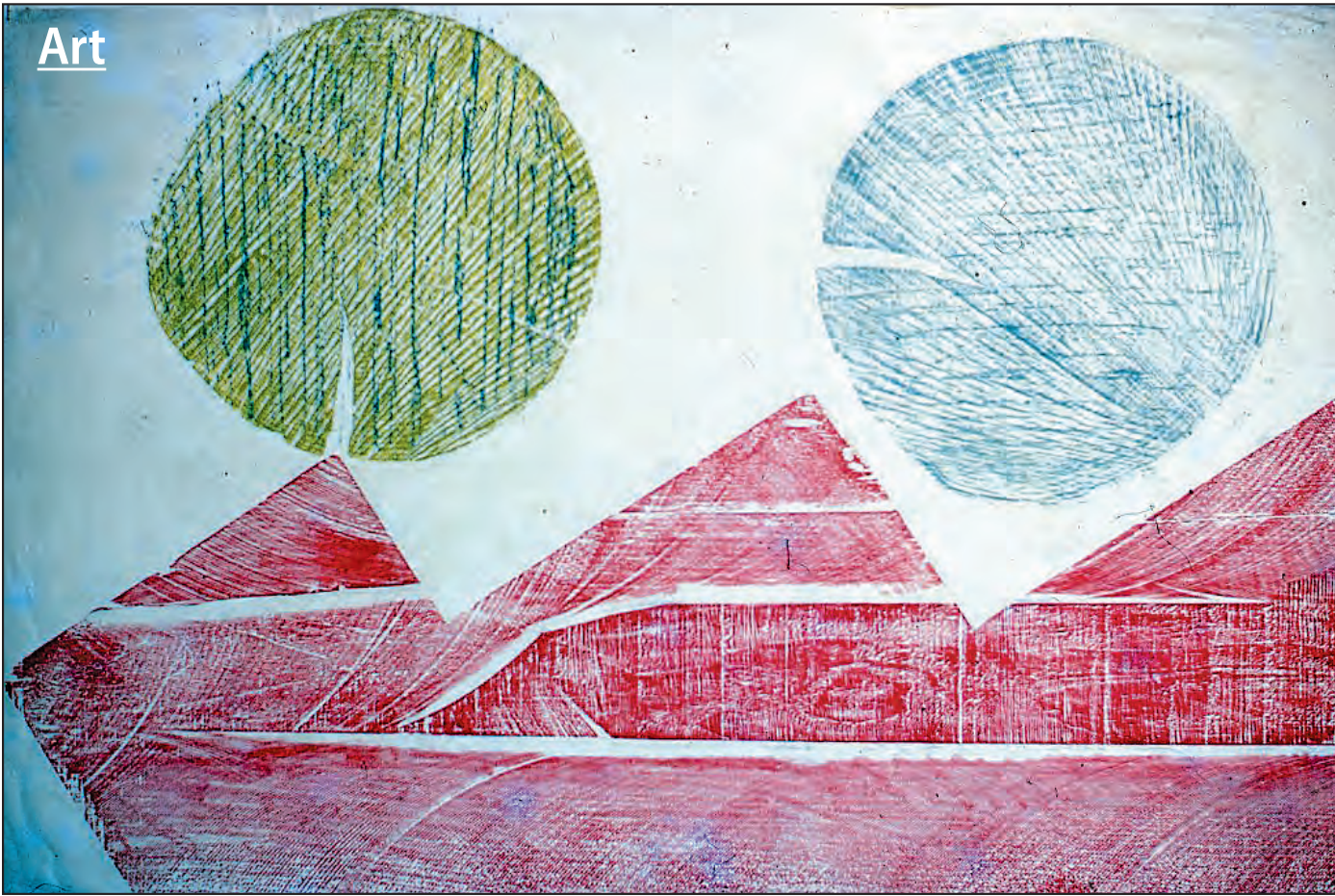
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## Art



*Moons of Yaddo*, above, by Sari Dienes, and *Orders of Light*, below, by Matthew Schreiber, are part of individual exhibits at the Boca Raton Museum of Art showing under the group title *Three Artists, Three Visions, One Spirit*. Photos provided

## Triple the thrills

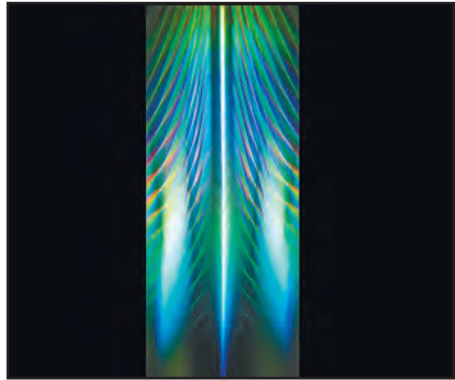
By Sandra Schulman  
Contributing Writer

Three artists whose work spans decades and media ranging from manhole cover rubbings to holograms to immersive installation, have taken over the ground floor of the Boca Raton Museum of Art.

The three shows, gathered under the title *Three Artists, Three Visions, One Spirit*, curated by associate museum curator Kelli Bodle, run through Oct. 22.

Sari Dienes (1898-1992), Matthew Schreiber and Sri Prabha push the boundaries of what constitutes art materials in three separate galleries.

Dienes, although she is lesser known than two artists she inspired, Jasper Johns and Robert Rauschenberg, was an



Trio of experimental artists take on nature and spirit at Boca Museum of Art

important figure in the New York art world of the 1950s. Her exhibition here, *Incidental Nature*, features core elements of her decades of artmaking, including her 1950s street rubbings, inspired by time spent in Japan, and portraits of her famous circle of artists.

The Hungarian-born Dienes worked in a wide range of media: paintings, drawings, prints, sculptures, ceramics, textiles, sets and costumes for theater and dance, sound-art installations, mixed-media environments, music and performance art.

“Bones, lint, Styrofoam, banana skins, the squishes and squashes found on the street: nothing is so humble that it cannot be made into art,” she once said, and used those

See **THREE** on AT9

## Music

### Rising pop artist combines savvy and star quality

By Bill Meredith  
ArtsPaper Music Writer

It's a rarity when a musical artist comes along with the right youthfulness, look, and artistry to go to the industry's upper echelon — especially both commercially and critically.

Jupiter-based singer, guitarist and songwriter Sierra Lane checks all the boxes. She performs at the free Bag A Donuts Festival on July 22 with six other bands at Guanabanas in Jupiter.

Already a veteran performer despite being in her early 20s, Lane has long hair and a lean build that resemble current artists on album covers, in music videos, and on the multiple vocal competition programs on TV.

That's the commercial aspect, the flip side of which is Lane's beyond-her-years songwriting, stage presence and musicianship.



Lane

She is primarily a guitarist, and her finger-picking style sets her apart, as does the fact that she also plays keyboards, bass, and ukulele. Her alto voice is unique and attention-grabbing, whether she's playing solo, duo, full band or anywhere in between. And her songwriting is likewise just the right combination of 21st century and old school — containing indie pop, reggae, jazz, R&B, and alternative rock influences. It's heady territory for a self-taught artist who learned to play guitar by watching internet videos.

“The thought of doing anything that isn't creative doesn't feel like me,” Lane says, “and hasn't even been considered as an option. I chose a creative career because music was really the only thing I felt a true connection to, so I've taken the time to work on my sound.”

While achieving that aspect of her

See **LANE** on AT8

## Theater

### Shakespeare fest finds timely subject in ‘Measure for Measure’

By Hap Erstein  
ArtsPaper Theater Writer

Now in its 33rd season, The Palm Beach Shakespeare Festival reaches deep into the Bard's folios for a less frequently performed dark comedy: *Measure for Measure*, a particular favorite of the company's artistic director, Trent Stephens.

“I might have a bias. I might seek these less frequently produced plays out,” he explains. “There are many works of Shakespeare's that don't get the same amount of airtime, but are absolutely as worthy of our time and

attention. This definitely falls into that category.”

*Measure for Measure*, which dates to 1604, is set in Vienna at a time when the city was teeming with loose morality and brothels. The reigning Duke delegates cleanup of the realm to his deputy Angelo, who promptly imposes strict new laws including a threat to demolish all the brothels.

Before the crackdown can be implemented, however, a young man named Claudio who has impregnated his fiancée, is sentenced to death by an antiquated, but recently re-enacted law. However, the lecherous Angelo

agrees to spare Claudio's life if he will persuade his sister, Isabella, a lovely but chaste nun, to sleep with him.

As Stephens notes, *Measure for Measure* feels quite timely now. It “tends to surface during times of examination of sexual agency, times of skepticism of government,” he says.

Stephens feels he does not have to put too heavy a stress on the parallels to have theatergoers think about the play's commentary on contemporary issues. “We're having a dialogue today about agency and women's bodies,

See **MEASURE** on AT8



Caroline Dopson as Isabella and Darryl Willis as the Duke in *Measure for Measure*, this year's Palm Beach Shakespeare Festival offering. Photo provided

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**LANE**

Continued from page 7

musical persona privately, Lane also enhanced her stage presence through studies, and learning and performing cover tunes, at the School of Rock in North Palm Beach.

During a spring appearance at Mathews Brewing Company in Lake Worth Beach, the results were apparent as it all came together.

Playing in a duo with her longtime full-band drummer Cory Ricardy, Lane was responsible for not only half of the rhythmic chores, but also all of the melodic and harmonic ones. She handled them with aplomb, her vocals soaring amid Ricardy's framework and her own finger-picked electric guitar phrasing.

Lane even recorded loops of her own rhythm guitar patterns on the fly, using them to solo over on everything from singer Otis Redding's time-honored R&B chestnut "(Sittin' On) The Dock of the Bay" to her own singles, the 6/8-timed pop/reggae vehicle "Deep Dive" and the autobiographical "Someone Else," recorded with full-band mates Ricardy, bassist Giz Forte, and saxophonist Patrick Montanari.

"Breakups make for great songwriting," she says, making lemonade out of romantic lemons and hinting at another of her recent, popular, reggae-tinged singles, "Lemonade." Live videos of many of Lane's performances are available on her website and on YouTube.

Reggae elements have



Sierra Lane performs solo and with a full band, shown above. Photo provided

increasingly crept into Lane's songwriting during her ascent, the result of the island music form's virtual omnipresence in South Florida.

"Once I got into reggae," she says, "I realized it was everywhere."

For the recent high school graduate from Jupiter Christian, that ascent has Lane in what's essentially her third year of college within the regional nightclub and restaurant scenes, and as a burgeoning out-of-town draw. It's a transition she's gradually become used to.

Last New Year's Eve, Lane's band performed in Charleston, South Carolina, with the electronic duo Little Stranger (a featured guest on "Lemonade"). In March, there were both the Okeechobee Music and Art Fest and the Reggae Rise Up Florida Festival in St. Petersburg.

In April, she performed at the Florida Groves Festival in Orlando; last month, it was Weekend at Wolfie's — a three-day, all-ages camping festival at Fort Royale Farm in Bedford, Pennsylvania.

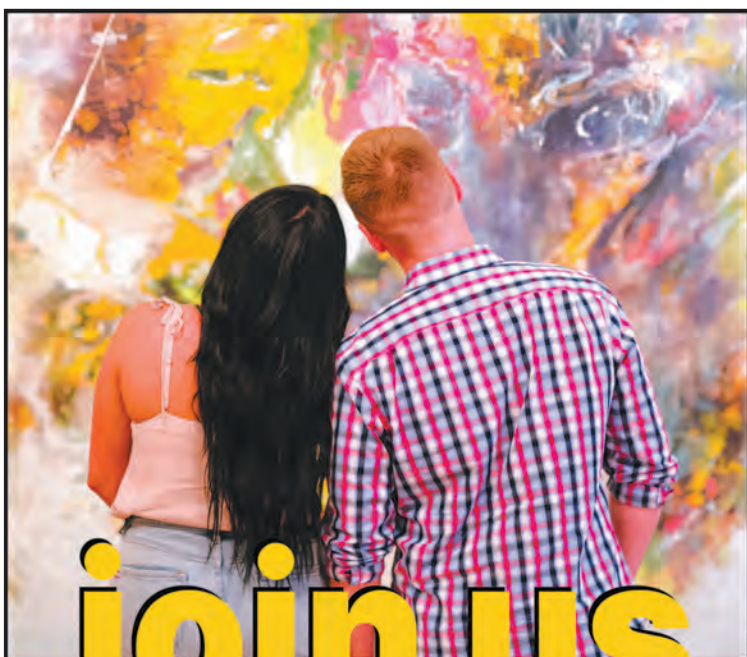
**If You Go**

See Sierra Lane at the Bag A Donuts Festival with the Joey Calderaio Band, Cloud 9 Vibes, Roots Shakedown, iChroniq, The Sub Herbs, and Kylie Coyle at Guanabanas, 960 N. A1A, Jupiter  
**When:** 1-11 p.m. July 22  
**Admission:** Free  
**Info:** 561-747-8878; guanabanas.com

And as the South Florida summer simmers, Lane heats up the stage at Guanabanas in Jupiter with several other acts likewise straddling various genres and subgenres including pop, rock, reggae, and R&B — and with no cover charge.

"It's always free at Guanabanas," says Matt Cahur, the venue's music and entertainment manager.

Perhaps at this rate, somewhere, the artist formerly known as Sierra Fitzhugh will eventually have a street named after her in the process.



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**MEASURE**

Continued from page 7

(with) the Supreme Court rolling back decades-old law. A lot of discussion about women's rights — especially in this state," he says. "That's something that our play is going to address head-on, the sort of cultural reverberations that the audience will feel."

In addition to offering them food for thought, Stephens hopes to entertain the audience. "My goodness, we're hoping to put on a comedy," he says.

"I think a joyful night in the theater is what we all deserve, and I think that these various themes and motifs in the play, they're best served in comedy.

"What I've come to love about the play is its context in Shakespeare's life," he says.

As a young man, the Bard wrote comedies that trafficked in mistaken identities, love potions, sexual frivolity in the woods. Whereas, "At the end of his life, he has a very mature and nuanced exploration of comedy that has a lot to do with the sobriety that comes with age," Stephens notes.

"Think about it. He was 40 years old when this play was first produced, at a time when the average age of death for men in England was 40. So he has to be thinking much more somber and sober thoughts."

**If You Go**

*Measure for Measure* will be performed at this year's Palm Beach Shakespeare Festival.

**Where:** July 6-9 and 13-16: Seabreeze Amphitheater, Carlin Park, 750 S. A1A, Jupiter; July 20-23: Commons Park Amphitheater, 11600 Poinciana Blvd., Royal Palm Beach.

**Admission:** Free; \$5 donation recommended  
**Info:** 561-762-8552

For *Measure for Measure* to succeed, the production must be both comic and tragic, often at the same time. "I think comedy and tragedy can exist together side by side seamlessly, and I think that's what this play does really well," Stephens says.

Although Shakespeare set the play in Vienna, Stephens has moved it to New Orleans during Mardi Gras.

"Setting it in an American city like New Orleans, it feels right," he says. "The play has an equal footing in the secular and the sacred, in the holy and the hedonistic.

"If you've ever been to New Orleans, especially during Mardi Gras, those things exist side by side. That's this play — the devout and the debauched and everything in between."

In adapting the text to fit the new setting, Stephens found that little change was needed. "There are maybe six words in the play that have had to be altered to support this setting," he reports.

The larger challenge was how to eliminate or consolidate minor characters to keep his cast size down to a dozen, about the same as in Shakespeare's own troupe.

Among several new faces in the company, Stephens is especially high on the actress playing Isabella.

"Please keep your eye on Caroline Dopson. I'd never worked with her before, but she had a stellar audition and continues to be impressive.

"And a returning face that I think is just tailor-made for this play is Darryl Willis. I think he could hold an audience for two hours reading a phone book. Doing the Duke, as much text as he has, I think we're grateful to have him in that role."

Since Stephens expects that this will be the first encounter with *Measure for Measure* for many attendees, his advice is to relax and enjoy the experience.

"I think everyone deserves to laugh and to enjoy the world of this play. You can always think about the darker elements later.

"I'm hoping the audience has a thoughtful conversation on the drive home. I certainly don't want to bum anybody out."



Artist Sri Prabha's immersive installation at the Boca Museum of Art is titled *Resonator-Reanimator*. Photo provided

**THREE**

Continued from page 7

materials in unorthodox ways.

Dienes made colorful prints using a roller called a printmaker's brayer that lifts ink impressions off sidewalk grates, manhole covers, pieces of wood, ancient rock carvings known as petroglyphs, and other objects. She liked to construct industrial design with nature to show the differences and similarities.

"Sari Dienes is celebrated as the 'doyenne of the American avant-garde' and is finally receiving the recognition she has long deserved," museum director Irvin Lippman said in a prepared statement.

Schreiber lives in Brooklyn, New York, and is one of the world's foremost hologram and laser artists. His drawings and holograms in *Orders of Light* show ephemeral images of spiritualist medium communities in Lily Dale, New York, and Cassadaga, Florida. Cassadaga is just west of Daytona Beach and is home to spiritualists and psychics.

Schreiber's holograms glow and move with the eye, making them even more otherworldly. His works on paper feature blind contour studies, peripheral view drawing, and lens-less photography.

His Brooklyn lab, the Schreiber Holography and Optical Laboratory, invites others to create fine art holography; current lab artists include Paul McCarthy, Ed Ruscha and Deana Lawson.

For this exhibition, the museum selected more than 50 pieces, including works on paper, holograms, and photographs.

Prabha, originally from Hyderabad, India, lives and works in Hollywood and is known for his boundary-pushing installations and projections that tell stories. For this show, he created a site-specific installation called *Resonator-Reanimator*, fusing ideas from both Vedic eastern philosophy and western science to explore connections to the natural world.

"This one is very specific," he said of the new, fully immersive large-scale exhibit. "It's pretty much all new, the idea is about panspermia, which is life coming from space and then becoming life here on earth. That formulated these sculptures and video.

"There are these large floating panels that are tectonic plates.

**If You Go**

*Three Artists, Three Visions, One Spirit* runs through Oct. 22 at the Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real (Mizner Park).

**Hours:** 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday (until 8 p.m. Thursday)

**Admission:** \$16; \$12 seniors; \$10 groups; free for members, students, children  
**Info:** 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

They're blue on the bottom and they have holes in the middle. I think of them like space flowers, spires, bringing life to Earth and the plates are floating underneath it made out of fabric.

"It's interrelated because of the idea of the elements and cosmos at the beginning of time back and forth, some of the elements before they became the elements as well. Taking apart these molecules and basic materials, the component parts of the universe."

Prahba sees it all as one big cycle of things becoming something else that are still evolving. Of course, the install can be taken as a trippy, colorful, walk through artwork; but the back story gives the images a deeper meaning.

"Time's fluid where the illusion of time is you can see time back and forward, happening at the same time. Everyone talks about the multiverse now. There's that element of it, and then the resonating part of the cosmos, the universe; just thinking about the cosmos, you're thinking about existence. It's a feedback loop," he said.

As to how the three exhibits connect, Lippman offered:

"It is Sari Dienes's now-famous quote that 'spirit lives in everything' that provides the overriding theme. ... Prabha's site-specific installation has a cosmic energy that will give the visitor the sense of tracking through space and time, while Schreiber's holograms of spiritual camps and his experimental drawings create new dimensions for us to explore.

"The three artists all focus on the tools of perception; and visitors will find the Dienes, Prabha, and Schreiber exhibitions each present an imaginative, multi-sensory experience," he said in the statement.

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Film

# Indie screeners provide radiant viewing in tandem

By John Thomason  
ArtsPaper Film Writer

Sometimes, the theme for my A View From Home column on the Palm Beach ArtsPaper website derives not from a think piece or deep connection on my part but simply from the arbitrary vicissitudes of a distributor's release schedule.

So it was that in my mailbox, within days of each other, I received two foreign-language DVDs from Film Movement that begged to be reviewed together. *A Radiant Girl* (\$20.44) and *Radiance* (\$21.49) share not only a glowing title but also a certain romantic ambience on their cover art, each depicting characters in a state of embrace.

However, the similarities end there; and in fact, anyone expecting a courtship drama from the misleading DVD jacket of *A Radiant Girl* will need to dig a little deeper.

Premiering at Cannes in 2021, the debut feature from longtime French actor Sandrine Kiberlain stars Rebecca Marder as Irène, a free-spirited 19-year-old Parisian in the final stages of preparing for her entrance exam for an esteemed acting conservatory.

Onstage and around the house, in a middle-class dwelling she shares with three generations of her family, Irène is a delightfully disruptive force of nature, asking impertinent questions and invading the spaces of her accountant father, André, studious older brother Igor, and stealthily hip grandmother Marceline.

Her inexhaustible energy can be a bit much for those around her, even in the dead of night ("You breathe too much," offers Igor, with whom she shares a bedroom), and she enjoys getting a rise out of people. She occasionally suffers

legitimate fainting spells, which she mocks by pretending to collapse in a playfully defiant parlor trick. When she's taken to a doctor for her condition, and she finds herself attracted to a young optometrist, she pretends to be unable to read an eye chart, so she can see him again. She could be a Judy Blume character dropped into an Ozu movie.

At first, the action of *A Radiant Girl* feels so contemporary that we're not sure when the movie is set. But a slow accretion of details reveals that we are, in fact, in 1942, and that Irène's family is Jewish in occupied France.

For all of the rambunctious humor in this coming-of-age teen dramedy, ambient threats metastasize in the background of her life. First, government-issued ID cards brand them as Jews. Then come the yellow stars they are required to wear in public. Pretty soon their radios and telephones and bicycles are confiscated, and businesses start to refuse them service.

The brilliance of Kiberlain's approach lies in the way we experience known history afresh, rendering it all the more shattering. What, at first, seems almost a non-story — what's the worst that can happen from a new ID card? — becomes *the* story. Like the slowly boiling frog in the old analogy, Irène and her family suffer one indignity after another, acclimating them to second-class citizens but blindsiding them to the genocide that will come.

This is the bureaucracy of fascism, and the message is resonant beyond its almost-nebulous time period: It can happen here, and this is how it happens.

Yet even as jackboots begin to patrol the streets, Irène's



ABOVE: Ayame Misaki and Masatoshi Nagase in *Radiance*.

BELOW: Rebecca Marder in *Radiant Girl*. Film Movement photos



cockeyed optimism epitomizes the movie's title — and culminates in a final shot that will stick with you forever. *A Radiant Girl* is a stunning and essential first feature.

*Radiance*, a 2017 feature from Japan's Naomi Kawase, starts just as promisingly. Ayame Misaki plays Misako, a young woman who writes audio descriptions of movies for the visually impaired. While testing her latest work on a focus group of blind moviegoers, she clashes with Masaya (Masatoshi Nagase), a onetime prizewinning photographer with only vestiges of his vision remaining, but whose criticisms are blunt enough to be hurtful.

And yet Misako and Masaya, despite or because of the tough back stories that inform their

personalities, begin to form an unlikely bond.

The heart of *Radiance* is most certainly in the right place, but Kawase's schematic storytelling leans into melodrama and on-the-nose symbolism. There's a surface prettiness to the cinematography, but *Radiance* settles into a languor that can border on rigor mortis, presenting as a draggy parody of art-house pretention.

Its best sequences are shot entirely in tight close-ups in a nondescript screening room, as Masaya and other blind audience members present their honest critiques of Misako's lyrical, sometimes over-descriptive writing.

It's fascinating to see how the sausage is made, and the importance that even minor changes in diction can have on the emotional tenor of a scene.

In this environment, Misako is the disadvantaged character, because it is impossible for her to see the world, so to speak, through the eyes of her demographic.

It's a humble lesson in restraint that most filmmakers, even when directing movies for the sighted masses, might want to heed.

## Arts Calendar

Editor's note: Events listed through Aug. 4, 2023, were current as of June 24. Check with the presenting agency for any changes.

### ART

**Cultural Council for Palm Beach County:** Opens July 20: 2022 Artist Innovation Fellowship Showcase; through Sept. 9. Free. 601 Lake Ave., Lake Worth Beach. Noon-5 pm T-F and second Sat. of month. 561-471-2901, palmbeachculture.com/exhibitions.

**Lighthouse ArtCenter:** Through Aug. 5: *Locals Only: A Florida State of Mind*. \$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 Oct. 6: *Witness to Wartime: The Painted Diary of Takuichi Fuji*. \$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:** Opens July 1: *Classical Blues: Cobalt Blue Porcelain and Indigo-Dyed Textiles*; through Nov. 19. \$18 adults; \$15 seniors; \$5 students; free for 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.

### CLASSICAL

Friday, July 21

**South Florida Symphony:** The orchestra's summer chamber music series continues with Beethoven's String Quartet No. 11 (in F minor, Op.95, *Serioso*) and Schubert's *Death and the Maiden* Quartet (No. 14 in A minor, D. 810). 7:30 pm, Center for Spiritual Living, 4849 N. Dixie Highway, Fort Lauderdale. \$30. southfloridasymphony.org.

### JAZZ

Friday, July 21-Saturday, July 22

**Ann Hampton Callaway:** The jazz and cabaret singer presents two performances of her Peggy Lee tribute show, titled *Fever*. 8 pm both nights, Arts Garage, 94 NE 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave., Delray Beach. \$55-\$60. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org. Sunday, July 23

**Loving Avery:** A benefit concert for local jazz and Broadway singer Avery Sommers, who has been recovering from a serious fall. 7 pm, Arts Garage, 94 NE 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave., Delray Beach. \$75. 561-450-6357, artsgarage.org.

### POPULAR MUSIC

Monday, July 3

**Peter Frampton:** Never Say Never Tour. 8 pm, Hard Rock Live, 1 Seminole Way, Hollywood. \$65-\$135. ticketmaster.com

Friday, July 7  
**Riley Green:** 8 p.m. Hard Rock Live. \$40-\$85. ticketmaster.com

**Matchbox Twenty:** 7:30 pm, iThink Financial Amphitheatre, 601 Sansburys Way, West Palm Beach. www.livenation.com

Saturday, July 8  
**Foreigner:** 7 pm, iThink Financial Amphitheatre. www.livenation.com

Thursday, July 13  
**Boy George and Culture Club:** 7 pm, iThink Financial Amphitheatre. www.livenation.com

Friday, July 14  
**Ted Nugent:** Adios Mofo 2023 Tour. 8 p.m. Hard Rock Live. \$50-\$80. ticketmaster.com

Saturday, July 15  
**Dierks Bentley:** Gravel and Gold Tour. 7 pm, iThink Financial Amphitheatre. www.livenation.com

Friday, July 21  
**ZZ Top and Lynyrd Skynyrd:** Sharp Dressed Simple Man Tour. 6:30 pm, iThink Financial Amphitheatre. www.livenation.com

Friday, July 28-Saturday, July 29  
**Dave Matthews Band:** 7:30 pm both nights, iThink Financial Amphitheatre. www.livenation.com

Sunday, July 30  
**John Fogerty:** 7 p.m. Hard Rock Live. \$55-\$145. ticketmaster.com

Monday, July 31  
**Post Malone:** If Y'All Weren't Here, I'd Be Crying tour. 8 pm, iThink Financial Amphitheatre. www.livenation.com

Wednesday, Aug. 2  
**George Strait:** 7 p.m. Hard Rock Live. \$355-\$705. ticketmaster.com

### THEATER

Opens Thursday, July 6

**Palm Beach Shakespeare Festival:** Seabreeze Amphitheatre, Carlin Park, Jupiter (July 6-9, July 13-16) and Commons Park Amphitheater, 11600 Royal Poinciana Blvd., Royal Palm Beach 8 p.m. pbshakespeare.org

Opens Friday, July 14  
**West Side Story:** Through July 30. Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave.. \$46. Call 561-586-6410 or lakeworthplayhouse.org.

**A Chorus Line:** Through July 30. FAU Festival Rep, in the Studio One Theatre on Florida Atlantic University's Boca Raton campus. \$27. fauevents.com or 561-297-6124.



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## Finding Faith

## B'nai Torah widens reach

By Janis Fontaine

**B**'nai Torah Congregation in Boca Raton is the largest Conservative synagogue in Southeast Florida with more than 1,300 member families. Palm Beach County is home to more than 250,000 Jews (about 20% of the county's population), and Boca Raton has the largest Jewish population of any South Florida city. The Jewish Telegraphic Agency news outlet says it's the most Jewish place outside of Israel.

But getting those people through the doors to worship regularly (not just on Holy Days) is an uphill battle. According to statistics from the Pew Research Center in 2021, only about 12% of Jews attend services weekly. Christians do a little better, with about one-quarter claiming weekly attendance.

Not all Jews want to worship in the same way, or even follow the same rules. Orthodox Jews are considered the most traditional, and Reform synagogues are the most liberal. B'nai Torah is a Conservative congregation — a meet-in-the-middle mind-set that allows flexibility and adaptability in the changing world.

B'nai Torah calls itself a "close-knit, multi-generational, modern and egalitarian synagogue," which means everyone is equal under its framework. Its two leaders — Rabbi David Steinhardt has been the senior rabbi at B'nai Torah for more than 20 years and Rabbi Hector Epelbaum started June 1 — spearheaded the synagogue's new Shabbat services program, which offers a range of options for celebrating the Sabbath. From its "Friday Night Music and Torah Conversation" to its "Young Family Saturday Service," the goal is to attract more members by appealing to their diversity.

"I look at it from a quality perspective," Epelbaum said. He believes if you provide quality, the numbers will follow. "I want to be sure we're offering what people are looking for."

Steinhardt agrees: "It can't be fluff. It has to have depth and authenticity."

The Saturday morning services are designed to be "positive, uplifting and joyful," Steinhardt said, and the wealth of programs should embrace and promote the diversity of Jewish thought, learning and practice.

"We are constantly evolving to re-create and offer styles of worship that appeal to all of our members regardless of their age, family origins or individual connection to Judaism," Steinhardt said.

One size does not fit all when it comes to worship, and this open-minded point of view is an important tenet of Judaism. South Florida has a wide demographic — literally from birth to death with the huge influx of young families. Different age groups have different spiritual needs.

It's hard to tell if the generational divides are widening or deepening, and Steinhardt echoes other clergy when he says that millennials are more interested in acts than lectures. Young adults are drawn to the humane work the synagogue does but not so much to worship services.

At B'nai Torah, the Tzedakah, Learning and Chesed program matches volunteers with opportunities to help others in all areas of critical need — hunger, homelessness, literacy, elder care, vulnerable populations and special needs. The program supports the Jewish core value of tzedakah, which in a formal sense means "to do what is right and just" but in a practical sense means



David Steinhardt and Hector Epelbaum say it's vital to serve people of various ages and bonds to Judaism. Photo provided

performing acts of charity. The best mitzvot are those that involve learning and action, and TLC connects people with ongoing and time-sensitive mitzvah opportunities.

Public opinion sometimes brays, wrongly, that Jews help only other Jews, or that a local synagogue helps only its members, but a look at the TLC programs shows otherwise. Charity given freely is the only true act of charity, and it doesn't matter who needs help or who gives it.

Steinhardt says all the talk about divisiveness and drawing lines in the sand is the opposite of what Jewish tenets teach.

"Pluralism is at the core of who we are," he said.

Pluralism is the idea that having differences shouldn't divide us. A simple definition of pluralism is "a condition in which two or more groups coexist." But it's more than that. It's when two groups with differences can thrive.

Pluralism first must give full access to women. Under the Orthodox teachings, only men can participate in a minyan, a quorum of 10 individuals required for certain prayers. In the strictest interpretation, a minyan can happen only when 10 males over the age of 13 are in attendance. A hundred

pure, devout, learned women still cannot be a minyan under Orthodox rules.

Today, in most Conservative and Reform shuls, women are recognized as part of a minyan. Women also can be cantors and rabbis and Judaic leaders in many synagogues. Intermarriage is more accepted, and in some denominations Judaism is no longer restricted to matrilineal descent. Today, if either of the parents is Jewish, their children are too.

Achieving a balance between tradition and a rapidly changing world takes a dynamic organization, Epelbaum said. "By dynamic, I mean able to adapt to social change."

Change is critical if Judaism wants to grow. There are 5.8 million adult Jews in the world, according to the Pew Research Center. But if Judaism wants to appeal to more than 12% of them, it can't afford to treat half of them differently, Steinhardt said.

## Mark your calendar

Stop by and meet Rabbi Hector Epelbaum at noon July 11 at B'nai Torah Congregation, 6261 SW 18th St., Boca Raton. Register at <https://btcboca.shulcloud.com/form/rhe> or call 561-392-8566.

## Schedule of services

The congregation offers these opportunities in addition to its main Saturday morning service:

**Friday Night Music and Torah Conversation:** The music is led by Cantor Magda Fishman, music director Tomer Adaddi and Eliot Weiss, joined by Rabbi David Steinhardt, Hector Epelbaum and Evan Susman. A short but meaningful Torah teaching is often followed by Shabbat dinner. Frequently themed for young children and families.

**Saturday Renewal Shabbat Service:** A collection of contemporary Jewish liturgical musical melodies, often led by Rabbi Amy Pessah and Rabbinical student-in-training Laura Lenes. Inspired by Reb Zalman Schachter.

**Young Family Saturday Service:** Spirited and joyful singing and learning, with Rabbi Susman and Cathy Berkowitz.

**Tot Shabbat Service:** Led by Karen Deerwester and Amy Weisberg, this is for young kids and their families. Offered frequently throughout the year.

**Torah Learning:** Every Shabbat, Morley Goldberg leads the congregation in a stimulating discussion of Parshat HaShavua. Off season, the group meets on Zoom. During season, the group meets in the B'nai Torah library.

Janis Fontaine writes about people of faith, their congregations, causes and community events. Contact her at [fontaine423@outlook.com](mailto:fontaine423@outlook.com).



## Religion Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 6/21. Please check with organizers for any changes.

## JULY 1

**Saturday - 7/1 - C-Kids Shabbat Program** at Boca Beach Chabad, 120 NE 1st Ave. Every Sat 10:45-11:45 am. Call for info: 561-394-9770; bocabeachchabad.org

## JULY 2-8

**Monday - 7/3 - 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

**7/3 - 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

**7/3 - Tuesday Morning Prayer Service** at Unity of Delray Beach Church, 101 NW 22nd St. Masks optional, social distancing practiced. 10 am. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

**Wednesday - 7/5 - Men's Spirituality Hour via Zoom** at St. Gregory's Episcopal Church, 100 NE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. Every W 8 am. Free. For link: 561-395-8285; stgregorysepiscopal.org

**7/5 - 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

**7/5 - Wednesday Evening Meditation Service** at Unity of Delray Beach Church Sanctuary, 101 NW 22nd St. Led by Rev. Laurie Durgan. 6:30 pm. Free; love offering. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

**Thursday - 7/6 - Thursday Morning Prosperity Coffee** at Unity of Delray Beach Church 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

**7/6 - 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

**7/6 - Women's Discipleship Group** at First

Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach, 33 Gleason St. Every Th 10 am. Free. 561-276-6338; firstdelray.com

**7/6 - Women's Bible Study** at St. Gregory's Episcopal Church Youth Room, 100 NE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. Every Th 1 pm. Free. 561-395-8285; stgregorysepiscopal.org

**7/6 - Islamic Center of Boca Raton Open House** at 3480 NW 5th Ave, Boca Raton. All welcome. Refreshments, tour of the mosque, Q&A. 1st Th 7-9 pm. Free. 561-395-7221; icbr.org

**Friday - 7/7 - 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

**7/7 - 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

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## Religion Notes

## Lunch and learn about Israel during its 75th anniversary

Temple Beth El's Lunch and Learn series continues at noon July 11 for a discussion marking the 75th anniversary of the State of Israel. Like they have every year for centuries, people pause and remember the feeling tied up with the loss of the Ancient Land. Join the commemoration in person at the Schaefer Family Campus, 333 SW Fourth Ave., Boca Raton, or participate online. Call 561-391-8900.

## Advice for pastors

The ministry can be a lonely and isolating journey. It doesn't have to be.

Church United South Florida is hosting "The Backstage: A Soul Care Event" from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Aug. 24 at Spanish River Church, 2400 Yamato Road, Boca Raton.

The event is a diverse gathering of pastors and ministry leaders and features Jimmy Dodd, Mindy Caliguire and Kevin Graham Ford.

They will offer guidance on becoming healthy leaders leading healthy churches and ministries, and on moving from a mind-set of competition and isolation to one of collaboration.

Special events are planned for pastors' wives, women in leadership, as well as for pastors who lead various age groups and are involved in board governance.

Child care will be provided for ages 6 months to 5 years. The event is free and includes lunch. For more information, call 754-900-2112.

## Ice cream and Judaism

The PJ Library in South Palm Beach County, a program of the Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County, hosts the 2023 Sweet Summer Series. Except for a Fourth of July week break, events take place from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Wednesdays through Aug. 2 at participating ice cream shops.

The goal is to provide families raising Jewish children the chance to explore different synagogues in Boca Raton while celebrating Jewish values and traditions. Enjoy ice cream while listening to stories from rabbis and meeting other families. Seven rabbis from around the region agreed to participate.

Admission is free, but an RSVP is required at [www.jewishboca.org/summerseries](http://www.jewishboca.org/summerseries).

For more information, contact Elana Ostroff at [pjlibrary@bocafed.org](mailto:pjlibrary@bocafed.org) or 561-852-6080.

Here is the schedule:

**July 12:** Brendy's Yogurt and Ice Cream, 2901 Clint Moore Road #4, Boca Raton. In partnership with B'nai Torah Congregation.

**July 19:** Yogurt Rendezvous, in Del Mar Village, 7150 Beracasa Way, Boca Raton. In partnership with Boca Jewish Center.

**July 26:** Jeremiah's Italian Ice, in Renaissance Commons, 1760 N. Congress Ave., Suite 100, Boynton Beach. In partnership with Congregation Shaarei Kodesh.

**Aug. 2:** Brendy's Yogurt and Ice Cream, in Yamato Village Center, 9101 Lakeridge Blvd., Boca Raton. In partnership with Temple Beth El.

## Golf for youth education

B'nai Torah Congregation hosted its inaugural Yiddishe Cup golf tournament on May 18 at the Boca Grove club in Boca Raton, raising thousands of dollars for youth education programs and scholarships.

B'nai Torah Congregation is the largest Conservative synagogue in Southeast Florida with more than 1,300 member families. 6261 SW 18th St., Boca Raton. 561-392-8566 or [www.btcbova.org](http://www.btcbova.org).

— Janis Fontaine

## Tots &amp; Teens Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 6/22. Please check with organizers for any changes.

## JULY 1

**Saturday - 7/1 - Saturday Morning ART (smART)** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Based on artwork at the Museum, links art making w/learning about art. Age 5+. Held again 8/5. 10-11 am. \$15/member; \$25/non-member. Registration: 561-392-2500; [bocamuseum.org](http://bocamuseum.org)

**7/1 - 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](http://bocalibrary.org)

**7/1 - Chess Club** at Spady Cultural Heritage Museum, 170 NW 5th Ave, Delray Beach. Every Th 5-6 pm; Sat noon-2 pm. 561-352-7145; [spadymuseum.com](http://spadymuseum.com)

**7/1 - Outdoor Marine Aquarium Feedings** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. All ages; child must be accompanied by an adult. Daily 12:30 pm. Free. 561-544-8605; [gumbolimbo.org](http://gumbolimbo.org)

**7/1 - 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](http://sandoway.org)

**7/1 - Disney's The Lion King, Jr.** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Performed by Summer Show Camp campers. Grades K-8. 2 pm. \$15/adult; \$10/child 12 & under. 561-586-6410; [lakeworthplayhouse.org](http://lakeworthplayhouse.org)

**7/1 - Page to Stage: Storytelling/Readers Theater Performance** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 9-17. Every Sat through 7/22 2-3:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**7/1 - 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](http://sandoway.org)

**7/1 - 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](http://sandoway.org)

**7/1 - Got Gaming Club** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. Held again 7/15, 7/29 & 8/26. 3-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

## JULY 2-8

**Monday - 7/3 - Library on the Go** at Catherine Strong Park, 1500 SW 6th St, Delray Beach. Pre-K readiness skill-building w/core leadership values using children's literature/active play. Age 3-5. 9:30-10:45 am. Free. 561-266-0194; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

**7/3 - Introduction to Painting** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 7-8. Every M through 7/17 11-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**7/3 - Summer Meals Service** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Palm Beach County School District serves lunch/snacks to youth age 18 & under. M-F through 7/28 11:30 am-12:30 pm lunch; 2:30-3:30 pm snacks. Free. 561-266-0197; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

**7/3 - Preschool Storytime** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 3-5. Every M through 7/17 3:30-4 pm. Free. 561-393-7968; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**7/3 - Play & Learn for Preschoolers** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 3-5. Every M through 7/17 4-4:30 pm. Free. 561-393-7968; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**7/3 - 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](http://boyntonlibrary.org)

**7/3 - Virtual Zone Orientation** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Get acquainted w/amenities in Teen Virtual Zone: includes Sound Booth, 3D Printer. Age 13-17. Every M through 7/24 4-5 pm. Free. 561-742-6393; [boyntonlibrary.org](http://boyntonlibrary.org)

**7/3 - Anime Night** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 9-17. Every M through 7/17 5-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**Tuesday - 7/4 - Teen Game Day** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 13-17. 4-6 pm. Free. 561-742-6393; [boyntonlibrary.org](http://boyntonlibrary.org)

**Wednesday - 7/5 - 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. 10 am. Free. 561-266-0194; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

**7/5 - Outdoor Storytime** at Boynton Beach City Library under the Banyan tree, 100 E Ocean Ave. Stories, rhymes, more. Held again 7/19. May be cancelled in inclement weather. 10-10:30 am. Free. 561-742-6390; [boyntonlibrary.org](http://boyntonlibrary.org)

**7/5 - SLA (Student Leadership Academy) Speaker Sessions: Responsibility** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 5-12. 10-11 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0197; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

**7/5 - Sensational Story 'n More** at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Children's books come to life through interactive performance, singing, movement, props. Age 2-5. Every T 10-10:45 am & W 3-3:45 pm through 8/31 10-10:45 am. Free w/paid admission. 561-742-6780; [schoolhousemuseum.org](http://schoolhousemuseum.org)

**7/5 - Environmental Partners** at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Hands-on science fun; explore a variety of experiments/activities. Age 3-7. Every W through 8/2 10-10:45 am. Free with pd admission. Registration: 561-742-6780; [schoolhousemuseum.org](http://schoolhousemuseum.org)

**7/5 - Reading & Rhythm for 2-3s** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Literacy enrichment class: stories, music, movement. Child must be accompanied by an adult. Every W through 7/19 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**7/5 - Play & Learn for 2-3s** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Help your child learn literacy skills during playtime w/literacy-based toys. Every W through 7/19 10:30-11 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**7/5 - Summer Science Fun** at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Hands-on science fun; explore a variety of experiments/activities. Age 3-7. Every W through 8/9 11-11:45 am. Per class \$8/member; \$10/non-member + admission. Registration: 561-742-6780; [schoolhousemuseum.org](http://schoolhousemuseum.org)

**7/5 - Family Fun Club** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Family fun: playing games, building Legos, watching movies, creating arts/crafts. Age 5+. Held again 7/12. 2-3 pm. Free. 561-266-0194; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

**7/5 - 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](http://boyntonlibrary.org)

**7/5 - Beginner's Cross Stitching for Tweens & Teens** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 9-17. Every W through 7/19 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**7/5 - Beginner's Embroidery for Tweens & Teens** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 9-17. Every W through 7/19 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**Thursday - 7/6 - 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](http://bocalibrary.org)

**7/6 - Tumble Tots** at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Age 2-5. Every Th through 7/27 10-10:30 am. Per session \$8/member; \$10/non-member + admission. Registration: 561-742-6782; [schoolhousemuseum.org](http://schoolhousemuseum.org)

**7/6 - Kid's Music Circle with Noam Brown** at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. All ages. Every Th through 8/10 11-11:45 am. Per session \$8/member; \$10/non-member + admission. Registration: 561-742-6782; [schoolhousemuseum.org](http://schoolhousemuseum.org)

**7/6 - All Together Now: Performance Showcase - Banana Yoga!** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2-3:30 pm. Free. 561-266-0194; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

**7/6 - Messy Play** at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Explore, develop important readiness skills. Age 2-5 yrs. Every Th through 8/10 3-3:45 pm. Per class \$8/member; \$10/non-member + admission. Registration: 561-742-6780; [schoolhousemuseum.org](http://schoolhousemuseum.org)

**7/6 - Let's Craft Together!** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 5-12. Held again 7/20. 3:30-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; [boyntonlibrary.org](http://boyntonlibrary.org)

**7/6 - Make & Take** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 5-12. Held again 8/3. 4:30-5:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; [boyntonlibrary.org](http://boyntonlibrary.org)

**Friday - 7/7 - Side Kicks** at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Disciplined movement class based in Karate, Kung Fu, Tai Chi, self-defense. Age 3-7 yrs. Every F through 8/11 10-10:45 am. Per class \$8/member; \$10/non-member + admission. Registration: 561-742-6780; [schoolhousemuseum.org](http://schoolhousemuseum.org)

**7/7 - Baby Bookworm** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Storytime for infants accompanied by an adult. Age 0 months to non-walking. Every F through 7/21 11-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7852; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**7/7 - Play & Learn for Babies** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Learn literacy skills during playtime. Age 0 months to non-walking. Every F through 7/21 11:30 am-noon.

Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**7/7 - Zumba** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 8-12. 2:30-3:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

**7/7 - The Art of the Story** at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Children create their own art in the style of the featured book. Age 3-7 yrs. Every F through 8/11 3-3:45 pm. Free w/paid admission. 561-742-6780; [schoolhousemuseum.org](http://schoolhousemuseum.org)

**Saturday - 7/8 - Tot Olympics** at Sims Center, 225 NW 12th Ave, Boynton Beach. Series of activities. Age 3-5. 9-10:30 am. \$10/resident; \$12/non-resident. Registration: 561-742-6220; [boynton-beach.org](http://boynton-beach.org)

**7/8 - Family Summer Snorkel** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Snorkel shallow intracoastal waters, study animals sheltered/protected from ocean's dangers. Bring your own snorkel, mask, water shoes (no fins allowed). Age 10-adult; child under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Held again 7/22 & 8/5. Noon-1:30 pm. \$15/member; \$19/non-member. Registration: 561-544-8605; [gumbolimbo.org](http://gumbolimbo.org)

## JULY 9-15

**Monday - 7/10 - 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. 10-11 am. \$5/resident & member; \$8/non-member. Reservations: 561-544-8615; [gumbolimbo.org](http://gumbolimbo.org)

**Tuesday - 7/11 - Adventures in History & Nature Summer Camp 2023** at Delray Beach Historical Society Heritage Gardens, 3 NE 1st St. Visits from naturalists & wildlife experts, outdoor nature activities, local history exploration, writing & storytelling, fun crafts, more. Age 7-13. 10 am-3:30 pm. \$135/camper; scholarships are available. 561-274-9578; [delraybeachhistory.org](http://delraybeachhistory.org)

**7/11 - Toddler Tales** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Literacy enrichment class: stories, music, movement. Age walking to 23 mos. Held again 7/18. 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**7/11 - Play & Learn for Toddlers** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Learn literacy skills during playtime. Age walking to 23 mos. Held again 7/18. 10:30-11 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**7/11 - Tots in Tutus** at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Age 2-5. Every T through 7/25 11-11:45 am. Per session \$8/member; \$10/non-member + admission. Registration: 561-742-6782; [schoolhousemuseum.org](http://schoolhousemuseum.org)

**7/11 - Baby Rhythms** at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Age infants & toddlers. Every T through 7/25 11:45 am-12:15 pm. Per session \$8/member; \$10/non-member + admission. Registration: 561-742-6782; [schoolhousemuseum.org](http://schoolhousemuseum.org)

**7/11 - Teen Tech Sandbox** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. Every T 12:30-2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

**7/11 - 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](http://delraylibrary.org)

**7/11 - STEAM Lab** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 8-12. Held again 7/25. 3:30-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; [boyntonlibrary.org](http://boyntonlibrary.org)

**7/11 - Family Lego Challenge** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. All ages. Held again 7/18. 4-5 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**7/11 - Manga Club** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. 5-6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

**7/11 - 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](http://boyntonlibrary.org)

**7/11 - Tuesday Night Chess Open Play** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 6+. Every T 6-8 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**7/11 - Bedtime Storytime** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Up to age 5. 6:30-7 pm. Free. 561-393-7968; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**Wednesday - 7/12 - Bilingual Outdoor Storytime** at Boynton Beach City Library under the Banyan tree, 100 E Ocean Ave. Stories, rhymes, more. May be cancelled in inclement weather. Held again 7/26. 10-10:30 am. Free. 561-742-6390; [boyntonlibrary.org](http://boyntonlibrary.org)

**7/12 - SLA (Student Leadership Academy) Speaker Sessions: Confidence** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 5-12. 10-11 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0197; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

**7/12 - Little Artists** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age preschool to kindergarten. Held again 7/26. 10:30-11 am. Free. 561-742-6393; [boyntonlibrary.org](http://boyntonlibrary.org)

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Tots & Teens

# Boca Raton Achievement Center celebrates inaugural graduation

By Faran Fagen

As *Pomp and Circumstance* resonated from the speakers, Taylor Bergman, dressed in cap and gown, walked to the podium to receive her diploma and became Boca Raton Achievement Center's first graduate.

Jennifer Borda, the center's director and principal, cleared her throat and recited Bergman's graduation speech to the audience.

"Welcome to my happy graduation," she wrote. "Thank you all for believing in my ability to learn about life, education, opportunities, and for believing my intelligence and in me."

Boca Raton Achievement Center, a nonprofit, special education school for students aged 11 to 22 with autism spectrum disorder and related disabilities, marked its first anniversary with a special awards ceremony in late May. It celebrated Bergman as the first graduate.

"Like most high school students, Taylor has overcome many challenges to complete her schooling," BRAC founder and executive director Evelyn Falconer said. "Unlike most students, Taylor uses writing to communicate. But, thanks to a solid individual plan and great group of teachers, we're proud to say, she has made incredible strides and completed her high school academics."

Bergman, who is 20, will



**LEFT:** Andrea Villeneuve reacts to her award from the Boca Raton Achievement Center. **RIGHT:** Taylor Bergman was the first to graduate. She is posing with her parents Jeff and Amy Bergman. **Photos provided**

move onto BRAC's adult program, which will help her learn vocational skills intended to lead to productive employment.

"There are lots of assumptions that limited speech means no reasoning," Bergman wrote in her graduation speech. "But I can now know that I can only make my life change by believing in myself."

Boca Raton Achievement Center teaches academics, life skills, health and fitness, independent living and vocational skills Monday through Friday.

"When students with greater challenges earn their high school diploma, it's a big deal," Falconer said. "Our educational system too often pushes them through to graduation or they end up dropping out. Our

primary goal is to prevent those outcomes."

Twenty students participated in the ceremony. A welcome address preceded individual awards for each student, followed by the adult awards. Many students raised their hands as their names were called and some yelled "I did it!" "It was a huge moment watching each student walk up," Falconer said. "Seeing their faces and a strong sense of pride was so satisfying."

The biggest challenge of the ceremony was securing a venue. Completing its inaugural year exhausted most of the school's limited budget. Fortunately, Boca Raton businessman Spencer Silver stepped up and hosted the graduation at the Silver Companies building in Boca Raton. Silver also donated

tables and chairs.

Falconer, who has about four decades of experience as an educator and principal in schools for unique learners, put her energy into an August opening for the school, located at 500 NE Spanish River Blvd., Suite 30.

"We hoped and prayed it would be great, and it has been. We saw so many students make so much progress," Falconer said. "We provide them with an academic curriculum that sets them up for success."

Taylor lives in Boca Raton with her mom and dad, Amy and Jeff Bergman. She made sure to express her appreciation to them at the end of her graduation speech.

"To my parents, thank you for your sacrifices and for the understanding," Taylor said. "I

loved being part of something greater than myself."

The school planned to hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony for June 28.

"We want people to see what we do here," Falconer said. "Students who need us need to know where to come." ★

*The BRAC mission is to provide students with disabilities a learning environment based on individual needs and strengths, rooted in support, consistency and kindness, and centered on a sense of community and inclusion. The nonprofit aims to give students the support they need to explore and acquire skills necessary to be successful in their education, independent living and the careers of their choice. Contact the school at 561-559-9768 or visit <https://bocaratonachievement.com>*

**7/12 - Teen Yoga** at Boynton Beach City Library under the Banyan tree, 100 E Ocean Ave. Stretching, relaxation, rejuvenation. Bring yoga mat or use one provided. Held again 7/26. 4:30-5:30 pm. Free. 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org

**Thursday - 7/13 - All Together Now: Performance Showcase - Didgeridoo Down Under** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2-3:30 pm. Free. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**7/13 - Let's Play Together! Indoor Games** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 5-12. 3:30-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**7/13 - 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 - 7/14 - Conscious Kids: Must Love Sharks** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Celebrating Shark Week 2023. Age 8-10. 3-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0197; delraylibrary.org

**Saturday - 7/15 - Little Wonders** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Hike, crafts, stories. Age 3-4 w/an adult. 10-11 am. \$8/resident & member; \$10/non-member. Reservations required: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

**7/15 - Mindfulness Yoga** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 8-12. 10:30-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**7/15 - Fiber Arts Studio** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. Held again 7/29 11:30 am-12:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**7/15 - Nature Detectives** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. New mystery each month. Age 5-6 w/an adult. Noon-1 pm. \$8/resident & member; \$10/non-member. Reservations: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

**7/15 - Dungeons & Dragons** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. 1-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**7/15 - Junie B. Jones The Musical** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Performed by summer camp participants. 2 pm & 6 pm. Call for ticket prices: 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

**7/15-16 - 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

**JULY 16-22**

**Monday - 7/17 - Story Chasers Book Club** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. In person or Zoom. Grades 1-3. 3:30-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**Tuesday - 7/18 - Summer Teen Book Club: Take the Mic: Fictional Stories of Everyday Resistance** edited by **Bethany C. Morrow** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. 5-6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**Wednesday - 7/19 - Creature Feature: The Super Mario Bros. Movie (2023 - PG)** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Grades K-8. 2-4 pm. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**7/19 - ART Tales Story Time** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Literacy/visual arts program; Boca Raton Library joins w/book readings. Special art project follows. Age 4-8 w/ guardian. 3:30-4:30 pm. \$15/member family; \$25/non-member family. Registration: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

**Thursday - 7/20 - Student Leadership Academy Retreat** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 5-17. 1-3:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0197; delraylibrary.org

**7/20 - 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

**JULY 23-29**

**7/23 - Chess Moves: Open Play or Tournament Play** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 6+. 9:30 am-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

**7/23 - The Science of Nature** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Age 7-8. 10-11 am. \$8/resident & member; \$10/non-member. Reservations: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

**7/23 - 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 - 7/24 - TAB (Teen Advisory Board) Meeting** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 5-6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**7/24-8/6 - Florida Tax Holiday/Exemption: Back to School.** [floridarevenue.com/salestaxholidays](http://floridarevenue.com/salestaxholidays)

**Thursday - 7/27 - Wrap Up Foam Party** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. All ages. Wear swim gear and bring towels.

4-6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**Saturday - 7/29 - Intro to Kickboxing** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. 11:30 am-12:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0197; delraylibrary.org

**JULY 30-AUGUST 5**

**Monday - 7/31 - Books & Bites** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 8-11. 4-5 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**Tuesday - 8/1 - Teen Game Day** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 13-17. 4-6 pm. Free. 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org

**Thursday - 8/3 - Make & Take** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 5-12. 4:30-5:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**8/4-5 - Grease The Musical School Version** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Performed by summer camp participants. F 7:30 pm; Sat 2 pm & 6 pm. Call for ticket prices: 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

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# Health News



The staff at JCA Florida JFK Hospital recently celebrated the completion of the 2,000th transcatheter aortic valve replacement at the hospital. **Photos provided**

## Milestones at JFK, Delray

In May, HCA Florida JFK Hospital completed its 2,000th transcatheter aortic valve replacement, which treats severe aortic stenosis — a narrowing of the aortic valve opening, obstructing the blood flow from the heart to the rest of the body. This less invasive procedure allows patients to recover quickly with an average hospital stay of one to two days.

For more information, visit [www.hcafloridahealthcare.com/locations/jfk-hospital/specialties/cardiology/heart-and-vascular-surgery](http://www.hcafloridahealthcare.com/locations/jfk-hospital/specialties/cardiology/heart-and-vascular-surgery).

Delray Medical Center announced a procedural suite expansion on its first-floor surgical tower. With investment of about \$13

million, the project covers three operating rooms, private prep and recovery rooms, an advanced endoscopy suite, a designated post-anesthesia care unit, and the introduction of a third CT scanner.

Caron Treatment Centers offers a new stand-alone mental health program at its Beacon Square offices, 7789 NW Beacon Square Blvd., Boca Raton. This program aims to help individuals who can live independently but require personalized attention with 24/7 support as they take part in a therapeutic program that addresses their mental, spiritual and physical health.

For more information, visit [caron.org](http://caron.org) or call 866-990-2340.

## Yoga at the Museum

Boca Raton Museum of Art — June 15



Leslie Glickman, owner of Yoga Journey, guides students through a yin yoga class in the sculpture garden at the museum. Yin yoga is about deep relaxation and releasing tension and is appropriate for all levels. The next Yoga at the Museum is 9:30 a.m. July 16. Cost is \$10 for museum members and \$40 for non-members and includes museum admission. **Tim Stepien / The Coastal Star**

## Health Calendar

*Note: Events are current as of 6/21. Please check with organizers for any changes.*

### JULY 1

**Saturday - 7/1 - Sunrise Beach Yoga** at The Seagate Beach Club, 401 S Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. 60-minute morning Vinyasa yoga. Bring mat, towel, water bottle. Every Sat 8-9 am. \$20. 561-330-3775; seagatedelray.com

**7/1 - Yoga Class** at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. Every Sat 9 am. \$5/class. 561-588-8889; southpalmbeach.com

**7/1 - 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

**7/1 - 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

**7/1 - 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

**7/1 - 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

**7/1 - AA Meeting** at Unity of Delray Beach Fellowship Hall, 101 NW 22nd St. Every Sat 5:30 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

Boynton Beach. Every T 2 pm. Free. 561-734-9330; stmarkboynton.com

**7/4 - 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 - 7/5 - 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

**7/5 - 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

**7/5 - LGBTQ AA Meeting** at Unity of Delray Beach Fellowship Hall, 101 NW 22nd St. Every W 7 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

### JULY 9-15

**Tuesday - 7/11 - Tai Chi Class** at Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. Beginner through advanced. Age 16+. Every T 6-7 pm. \$8/class. 561-393-7807; myboca.us

### JULY 16-22

**Sunday - 7/16 - Yoga at the Museum** at Boca Raton Museum of Art Outdoor Sculpture Garden, 501 Plaza Real. Yin yoga; all levels. 9:30-11 am. \$10/member; \$40/non-member. Registration: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

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## Health & Harmony

# Stretching puts better health within reach, local pros say

Whether you're an athlete, weekend warrior, gym rat or somebody who just wants to stay healthy and flexible and maintain an active lifestyle, remember that seven-letter word, s-t-r-e-t-c-h.

Stretching — that automatic thing we do first thing in the morning, along with starting the coffeemaker — turns out to be a crucial component to maintaining our health and well-being.

According to the Mayo Clinic, stretching can improve flexibility and, consequently, range of motion in your joints. Better flexibility may relieve stiffness and soreness, enhance your physical and athletic skills, improve posture and circulation, and reduce injuries.

Robert Klein, 54, a chiropractor at the Boca Clinic for Integrative Medicine, understands the importance of stretching but jokes, "Keep me in business. Don't stretch."

Klein was the chiropractor for the FAU women's basketball team from 2001 to 2015 and has been in practice for 28 years.

He became a cheerleader for stretching after he realized that the players he was treating most were the ones who did not stretch before games.

"That's when I really became a believer," he says.

"Stretching is one of the best things you can do to prevent injury and to continue doing sports or activities you enjoy," he says, comparing it to preventive maintenance on your vehicle.

In his own routine, he stretches in the morning three to four times a week, at the gym or at home, focusing on his lower back, hamstrings and quadriceps.

Stretching can be either static (holding a position for



Boca Raton-based yoga instructor Brie Mazin conducts a class at a pop-up location. 'Stretching gives you more range of motion in your joints,' she says. **Photo provided**

a few seconds) or dynamic (a stretch performed with movement). In the past decade, centers such as Quantum Stretch Therapy in Delray Beach and franchises such as Stretch Zone have offered practitioner-assisted stretches and their own proprietary techniques.

On your own, or in a class, both Pilates and yoga are great ways to stretch and maintain flexibility in your muscles and joints and improve balance.

Brie Mazin, 41, of Boca Raton, has been teaching yin yoga and vinyasa-style yoga for 13 years. She teaches at several Greenwise locations, at the Harvest Patio in the Town Center Mall and at other pop-up locations throughout

the area. Keep up with her at FloridaYogaMama.com.

"When you stretch your muscles, you lengthen them," she advises. "Stretching gives you more range of motion in your joints. It keeps the muscles soft and flexible, aids in blood flow to the muscles and brings more oxygen to the body.

"It doesn't matter if you're an athlete, play pickleball or are on a walker," Mazin says. "Muscles tighten from repetitive motion or sitting all day, and stretching elongates the joints and muscles."

She compares the need to stretch with the need computers have to reboot. "Stretching is a reset for your mind, muscles and connective tissue," she says. "It's the shutdown and reboot for your body."

Her favorite stretches include those for the hamstrings and a hip opener called the "butterfly," where you lie down, bring your legs up and feet together, letting your knees open to each side. This releases tension in the lower back, sacrum and inner groin.

Reaching for your toes, either sitting or standing, is also a good stretch for the hamstring muscles.

Boynton Beach tai chi instructor Helen Carson follows the Mayo Clinic recommendations to complete a five-minute warm-up with low-intensity walking, jogging or biking before stretching.

"I like to get the qi and blood flow going with energy-gathering moves," she says.

Those include mindful breathing, gathering the energy with the hands, gently moving like the wind, reaching up to the heavens and down toward the Earth.

"Once we are warmed up, then we do more physical stretches," says Carson.

Her tips include stretching while you are still in bed — stretch your legs, roll your ankles, turn your head from side to side, stretch your arms overhead, try the "Happy Baby" and roll from side-to-side.

Other tips from the experts:

- Take a break every 30-45 minutes throughout your time at work to stretch.

- Strive for symmetry and focus on equal flexibility on both sides.

- Pay attention to major muscle groups such as calves, thighs, hips, lower back, neck and shoulders.

- Stretch in smooth movements, without bouncing.

- Hold your stretch for 30-60 seconds, but release if you feel pain.

- Incorporate stretching into your routine — at least two to three times a week.

And don't forget that other seven-letter word: b-r-e-a-t-h-e.

Jan Engoren writes about health and healthy living. Send column ideas to [jengoren@hotmail.com](mailto:jengoren@hotmail.com).



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## WOMEN

Continued from page AT1

On Feb. 28, 1902, a group of enterprising women founded the Ladies Improvement Association with the purpose of developing infrastructure for the burgeoning village. Early members included several prominent women within Delray's community: Ellen Sherwood, Elta E Sherman, Nellie Blackmer, Gertrude Zeder, Lucy Chapman, Mary Sterling, Elizabeth Sundy, Anna McRae, Frances Tenbrook, Elizabeth Lane, Ina Helena Haygood, Marie Pedersen, Anna Eliason, Jessie McLeod and Sarah Tasker.



A meeting of the Ladies Improvement Association, around 1915. Photos courtesy of the Delray Beach Historical Society

### Working for cold hard cash

In addition to membership dues of 5 cents per meeting, the Ladies Improvement Association raised money by selling a variety of goods. The group often took commissions for dresses, bathing suits, baby sacks and corset covers, as well as shirts and nightshirts for "bachelors and widowers" for 25 cents each. At the meetings, the women sewed thick canvas mittens and leggings for pineapple harvesters. They also made aprons for butchers and masons, and seed bed covers for farmers. The women sold embroidery, candy, cakes, sauces, butter, peanuts, nutmeg, cloves and fish.

Ice cream socials, however, were the society's most successful money-making endeavor. The ladies sold ice cream at different events and areas throughout town, including the packing houses and railway station. These sales were not without their difficulties, namely mosquitoes.

According to one recollection, "When we were selling the cream the mosquitoes were so thick that someone had to keep a brush waving over the person dipping the cream." While the ice had to be shipped in from West Palm Beach, the Ladies Improvement Association fully utilized it by renting the ice cream freezer to other residents for 25 cents a day.

After organizing and raising funds for the building of the Town Hall in 1906, the association rented the space for public meetings. While church societies could use the hall for free, other organizations paid up to \$60 per year. For groups holding regular dances or banquets, the Ladies Improvement Association collected half the proceeds for each event.

Furthermore, the association established an ongoing tradition of serving banquets, receptions and other social dinners to raise money for community service projects and important causes affecting Delray.

Its first endeavor was a paved or "rocked" walkway down Atlantic Avenue, which was completed five months after the association's first meeting.

Following this project's



The Ladies Improvement Association organized and funded the construction of Delray Town Hall.

## 'Love to all, Anna'

From Letters from Linton by Charles Hofman (2004): A letter dated June 9, 1896, from Anna Hofman, wife of pioneer Adolf Hofman, to her mother in Germany.

"Today I am heading for the fields since Adolf needs me with him now that the okra is ready to be picked. Annie [their daughter] must come with me because there are no neighbors nearby to watch her. ...

"Sturdy though I am, I am still a victim of the flying insects that eagerly attack me. They are constant and relentless, and I must cover Annie's basket with cheesecloth

netting to shield her from their vicious attacks. ...

"And the sun in Florida is equally unmerciful at this time of year. Our clothes are wet and cling heavily all day long and well into the night from the high humidity. The sun is known to actually burn and blister the skin if one is not careful to wear a wide-brimmed hat and keep the long sleeves buttoned.

"Thus are our days in the fields, but I am content to follow Adolf and feel a part of this new adventure and the rich soil that surrounds us.

"Love to all at home, Anna"



Annie Hofman, daughter of Anna and Adolf, with some of the family harvest before the Palm Beach County Fair, around 1913.

success, the association organized and funded the replacement of the lighter barges over the canal, the construction of Town Hall and of the town's first library. The women also established the town's first cemetery and started its first newspaper.

Additionally, the ladies organized cleanup days for the town, secured land from owners on Atlantic Avenue to widen the street and plant royal palms, took charge of beautifying the school grounds, helped fund the public school, promoted a community Christmas tree and arranged for the building of the beach pavilion.

### Public health, civic action

Along with essential projects, the Ladies Improvement Association used its influence in the community to support causes related to public health, children and families, and civic engagement.

Records show the society was frequently contacted by the Florida No-Fence League, an organization fighting to change laws surrounding free range livestock and eradicating the cattle tick. The No-Fence League and similar groups reached out to women's associations throughout Florida and posited that free range cattle produced substandard milk, which would cause malnourishment in children, and unchecked livestock could

trample citrus groves and fields.

The Ladies Improvement Association also was contacted by the Florida Board of Health, which requested the group encourage local officials and community to be vaccinated against typhoid and diphtheria.

The association wrote to U.S. Sens. Park Trammell and Duncan U. Fletcher of Florida, asking them to support the Sheppard-Towner Maternity and Infancy Act (1921). The act provided federal aid to states for prenatal and infant health care and was designed to combat high infant and maternal mortality rates, especially in rural states.

Moreover, women in Delray fought for participation in local elections and municipal

affairs. In its 1916-1917 annual report, the Ladies Improvement Association announced women had won the right to vote in town elections. Delray was only the second city in Florida where women legally could vote (Zena Dreier of Fellsmere became the first woman to vote in both Florida and the South in June 1915). The right to vote became a great source of pride and the group continued to teach civic engagement through classes and workshops throughout the 1920s.

In November 1924, the Ladies Improvement Association voted to change its name to the Woman's Club of Delray Beach. Under this new name, women continued to work and support local and state issues, including hospitals, education, voting rights, civil rights and the environment. Throughout its 121-year history, the Woman's Club has remained a stalwart advocate for Delray Beach, Palm Beach County and Florida. ★

This story originally appeared in the Delray Beach Historical Society's newsletter in honor of International Women's Day in March and celebrates the organization's early contributions to Delray Beach. Kayleigh Howald is the Historical Society's archivist.

For more information, email [DBHSArchivist@DelrayBeachHistory.org](mailto:DBHSArchivist@DelrayBeachHistory.org)

### About the author

As the archivist at the Delray Beach Historical Society, Kayleigh Howald helps to collect, preserve and share Delray Beach's diverse history.

"As a historian, I love to explore the fascinating stories connected to each document and object in the archives," Howald says. "For example, the Delray Beach Historical Society archives holds the meeting minutes for the Ladies Improvement Association dating to their founding in 1902, and it is a treasure trove of evidence to the courage, ingenuity and resolve of these pioneer women."



Howald

# Community Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 6/22. Please check with organizers for any changes.

## JULY 1

**Saturday - 7/1 - 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

**7/1 - 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

**7/1 - Delray Beach Summer GreenMarket** every Saturday through 7/29, at Cornell Art Museum Front Lawn, 51 N Swinton Ave. Fresh local produce, baked goods, gourmet food items, plants, live music, children's activities. 9 am-1 pm. 561-276-7511; delraycra.org/green-market

**7/1 - 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

**7/1 - 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

**7/1 - Current Events Discussion** at Highland Beach Library Community Room, 3618 S Ocean Blvd. Every Sat 10:30 am. Free. 561-266-9702; highlandbeach.us

**7/1 - 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

**7/1 - All-American Fest in the All-American City** at Old School Square Amphitheatre, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Featuring Bon Jovi Tribute Band Living on a Bad Name. 6 pm gates open; 7 pm music starts. Free. 561-654-2220; delrayoldschoolsquare.com

**7/1 - The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940** by John Bishop at Florida Atlantic University, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 2 pm & 7 pm. \$27. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

**7/1 - Sick Puppies Improv Comedy Extravaganza Show** at Doghouse Theater, 105 NW 5th Ave, Delray Beach. Every Sat 7:30 pm. \$20-\$25. 954-667-7735; sickpuppiescomedy.com

**7/1 - Siempre Flamenco** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$40-\$45. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

## JULY 2-8

**Sunday - 7/2 - St. Lucy Council of Catholic Women Bake Sale** at St. Lucy Catholic Church, 3510 S Ocean Blvd, Highland Beach. Follows 10 am Mass. Free admission. 561-278-1280; stlucycommunity.com

**7/2 - Mizner Park Farmers and Artisans'**

**Market** every Sunday at 327 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 10 am-6 pm. 561-362-0606; miznerpark.com

**7/2 - South Florida's Craft Show** at Old School Square Vintage Gym, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 11 am-4 pm. Free. msha.ke/southfloridascraftshow

**Monday - 7/3 - Hand-Crafted Greeting Cards** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Create custom greeting cards. Adults. Held again 6-8 pm 7/5. 10 am-noon. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**7/3 - 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

**Tuesday - 7/4 - Fourth of July**

**7/4 - Comedy Night** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$5-\$10. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

**Wednesday - 7/5 - Expressive Pastels Art Class** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 18+. Every W 1-4 pm. \$35/resident; \$44/non-resident. Registration: 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

**7/5 - 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

**7/5 - Summer Movies for Grownups: 80 for Brady (2023 PG-13)** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**7/5 - 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

**7/5 - Bingo Tuesday** at St. Lucy Catholic Church, 3510 S Ocean Blvd, Highland Beach. Every T 6 pm doors open; 7 pm games start. \$15/11 games. 561-278-1280; stlucycommunity.com

**Thursday - 7/6 - Quilters** meet at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Share quilting information, perpetuate quilting as a cultural & artistic form. Sale of quilted items supports the Library. Limit 10 quilters at a time. Every Th 9 am-noon. \$1/lifetime membership. 561-742-6886; boyntonlibrary.org

**7/6 - Video Editing w/Adobe Premiere Pro** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 10 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**7/6 - Line Dancing** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Basic modern western square dancing. Every Th 10:30-11:30 am. \$6. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

**7/6 - Workshop: Painting & Collage** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 5:30-8:30 pm. \$60. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org

**7/6 - Concert: Ethos Trio - Classical Piano, Clarinet & Oboe** at Highland Beach Library, 3618 S Ocean Blvd. 5:30 pm. Free. 561-278-5455; highlandbeach.us

**7/6 - Sunset Concert Series: Studio 54** at

# Fourth of July

**Sunday - 7/2 - The Victory Dolls: July 4th Spectacular** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 2-3:30 pm. \$34-\$49. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

**Tuesday - 7/4 - Delray Beach 4th of July Celebration** at Atlantic Avenue & A1A. Flag-raising ceremony/honor guard/national anthem, contests, food trucks/vendors, entertainment, activities/games, more. Park west of the Intracoastal Bridge. Family fare. 5-9:30 pm. Free admission. 561-243-7250 x5; delraybeachfl.gov

**7/4 - Boca Raton Fabulous Fourth Celebration** at Countess de Hoernle Park/Spanish River Athletic Complex, 1000 NW Spanish River Blvd. Live music, kids crafts, carnival rides, food/beverage for purchase, more. Free shuttle from Boca Corporate Center parking begins at 5 pm. Blankets/chairs permitted. No pets, coolers, sparklers, fireworks, or alcohol permitted on site. 5:30-9:30 pm. 561-367-7073; myboca.us/1456/Fourth-of-July

**7/4 - Boynton Beach's Red, White & Blue with a Waterfront View** at Intracoastal Park, 2240 N Federal Hwy. Live music, food trucks, fireworks display. Bring chairs/blankets. 6:30-9:30 pm. Free. 561-742-6010; boynton-beach.org/July4

**7/4 - Lantana's Annual Independence Day Celebration** at Bicentennial Park, 321 E Ocean Ave. Live concert, fireworks, food/craft vendors, most patriotic baby contest, more. Free parking/shuttle buses 6-10:15 pm from Lantana Town Hall & Finland House. Family fare. 6:30-9:30 pm; 9:05 pm fireworks. Free admission. 561-540-5754; lantana.org



Old School Square Amphitheater, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Mix of local/regional talent. Live music, dance. Local merchants exhibit. 1st & 3rd Th 6-9 pm. Free. 561-654-2220; delrayoldschoolsquare.com

**Friday - 7/7 - Mizner Park Friday Night Artisan Market** every Friday at 327 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 4-9 pm. 561-362-0606; miznerpark.com

**7/7 - First Friday @ 5 Concert: Tasty Vibrations** at Centennial Park & Amphitheater, 120 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Children's activities, food trucks, concert. 5-8 pm. Free. 561-742-6010; boynton-beach.org

**7/7 - VIP After-Hours Guided Tours** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Guided tour through outdoor aquariums, open-air butterfly garden, nature trail; ends w/sunset views of the Intracoastal Waterway from the beach by the Seminole Chiki. Age 7-adult; child under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Held again 7/11, 21, 25 & 8/4. 5:30-7 pm. \$10/resident & member; \$13/non-resident. Registration: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

**7/7 - First Friday Art Walk** at Old School Square Cornell Art Museum, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 6-9 pm. Free. 561-654-2220; downtowndelraybeach.com/ArtWalk

**7/7 - 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

**7/7 - Shaun Jones: The Art of Laughter** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$30-\$35. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

**7/7 - Best of Both Worlds: A Tribute to the History of Van Halen** at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Part of Summer in the City series. Bring blankets/

chairs; chairs for rent \$5. 7 pm doors open; 8 pm show. Free. 561-393-7890; mizneramp.com

**7/7 - Sick Puppies Stand-Up Comedy Show** at Doghouse Theater, 105 NW 5th Ave, Delray Beach. Every F 8 pm. \$25-\$30. 954-667-7735; sickpuppiescomedy.com

**Saturday - 7/8 - Inventors Society of South Florida Virtual Meeting.** 2nd Sat 1 pm. 1st meeting free. Registration: 561-676-5677; inventorsociety.net

**7/8 - Bahamian Independence Day Festival** at Old School Square Amphitheatre, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Music, vendors, more. 3-8:55 pm. Call for tickets: 561-654-2220; delrayoldschoolsquare.com

**7/8 - Passport to Tea** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Limited seating. 3:30-5:30 pm. \$70/member; \$85/non-member. RSVP by 7/4: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

**7/8 - The Wick Supper Club: Ariana Savalas** at The Wick Theatre & Costume Museum, 7901 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. 6 pm dinner; 8 pm show. \$175/dinner & show. 561-995-2333; thewick.org

**7/8 - Open Figure Studio w/Model** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Age 18+. Held again 6-8 pm 7/27. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$15. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org

**7/8 - Special Workshop: Flow & Glow Movement** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 7-9:30 pm. \$60. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org

**7/8 - The Chris O'Leary Band** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$30-\$35. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

**7/8-9 - Big Band Hits from the Golden Age** at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Sat 7 pm; Sun 2 pm. \$27/adult; \$12/child. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

## JULY 9-15

**Monday - 7/10 - Young at Art** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 10-11:30 am. Free/member; \$15/non-member. Reservations: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

**Tuesday - 7/11 - The Inner Circle: What's on Your Mind with Martin Green** at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every T through 8/1 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

**7/11 - An Hour to Kill Mystery Book Club: Before You Knew My Name** by Jacqueline Bublitz at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 10:30-11:30 am. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**7/11 - Great Discussions** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Held again 7/25. 10:30 am-noon. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**7/11 - Hooks & Needles: Learn to Knit or Crochet** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. Every T 1-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**7/11 - The Colony** by Audrey Magee part of Tuesday Book Group at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**7/11 - 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

**7/11-12 - Workshop: Drawing & Painting 101 2 Day** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Must be able to attend both sessions. 11 am-4 pm. \$225. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org

**Wednesday - 7/12 - The Effects of Hurricanes on the Gulf Stream: Implications for South Florida Sea Levels w/William Baxley** presented by FAU Lifelong Learning Institute at Old School Square Vintage Gym, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 10:30 am-noon. \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**7/12 - A Video From the OLLI Archives: The Rise and Fall of the Soviet Union and the Rise of Russia, Parts I & II: Lenin w/ Stephen Berk** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Pre-recorded presentation; no instructor present. Part I: 12:30-1:30 pm. Part II: 2-3 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$10/member; \$15/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**7/12 - BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) Drop-In Tech Help** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Every W 2-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**7/12 - Introduction to ASL** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 4:30-5:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**7/12 - Writer's Corner** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Manuscript critiquing by published authors. Adults. 2nd W 6:30-8 pm.

# EVERY SATURDAY • 9 AM - 1 PM



## LIVE MUSIC

- July 1st Pink Slip
- July 8th Marijah & the Reggae All Stars
- July 15th Bound 2 Cover Band
- July 22nd Blue Crusaders
- July 29th Heart of Soul Band



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# Municipal Meetings

**7/10 - Ocean Ridge** - First Monday at Ocean Ridge Town Hall, 6450 N Ocean Blvd. 6 pm. Agenda: oceanridgeflorida.com  
**7/10 & 7/24 - Lantana** - Second & fourth Mondays at Lantana Town Hall, 500 Greynolds Cir. 6 pm. Agenda: lantana.org  
**7/11 - South Palm Beach** - Second Tuesday at the South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. 2 pm. Agenda: southpalmbeach.com  
**7/11 & 7/18 - Delray Beach** - First & third Tuesdays at Delray Beach City Hall, 100 NW 1st Ave. 4 pm. Agenda: delraybeachfl.gov  
**7/14 - Gulf Stream** - Second Friday at Gulf Stream Town Hall, 100 Sea Rd. 9 am. Agenda: gulfstream.org.  
**7/18 & 8/1 - Highland Beach** - First Tuesday at Highland Beach Town Hall, 3614 S Ocean Blvd. 1:30 pm. Agenda: highlandbeach.us  
**7/18 & 8/1 - Boynton Beach** - First and third Tuesday at Boynton Beach City Hall, 100 E Ocean Ave. 6 pm. Agenda: boynton-beach.org  
**7/25 - Manalapan** - Fourth Tuesday at Manalapan Town Hall, 600 S Ocean Blvd. 10 am. Agenda: manalapan.org  
**7/25 - Boca Raton** - Second & fourth Tuesday at the auditorium, 6500 Congress Ave. 6 pm. Agenda: myboca.us  
**7/27 - Briny Breezes** - Fourth Thursday at Briny Breezes Town Hall, 4802 N Ocean Blvd. 4 pm. Agenda: townofbrinybreezes-fl.com

Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org  
**7/12 - Delray Beach Orchid Society Meeting** at Veterans Park, 802 NE 1st St, Delray Beach. 2nd W 7 pm. Free. 561-573-2422; delraybeachorchidsociety.org  
**Thursday - 7/13 - Motion Capture Character Animation** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 10-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0197; delraylibrary.org  
**7/13 - The Great American Short Story Club, Part I: 1971-1982 with Caren Neile** at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every Th through 8/3 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$100/member; \$130/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu  
**7/13 - Kinky Boots The Musical with By Experience** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-3:45 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$20/member; \$25/non-member & one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu  
**7/13 - An Evening of Entertainment & Encounters** at Boca Beach Chabad, 120 NE 1st Ave. For Jewish singles age 50-70. 5:30-6:30 pm light supper; 6:30-7:30 pm speed dating. \$50. Limited to 1st 25 men & 25 women to RSVP: 561-394-9770; bocabeachchabad.com/singles  
**7/13 - Workshop: Basics of Sewing - Hand & Machine** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 6-8 pm. \$40. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org  
**7/13 - Fantasy Film Series: The Red Shoes (1948 NR)** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 6-8 pm. Free. 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org  
**Friday - 7/14 - Art Shots: Artwork Photo Sessions** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Held again 3-7 pm 7/19. 11 am-3 pm. \$35. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org  
**7/14 - A Night of FUNdraising Magic w/**

**Mentalist & Comedy Magician Noah Sonie** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7 pm. \$65-\$75. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org  
**7/14 - Purple Madness: A Tribute to Prince** at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Part of Summer in the City series. Bring blankets/chairs; chairs for rent \$5. 7 pm doors open; 8 pm show. Free. 561-393-7890; mizneramp.com  
**Saturday - 7/15 - JD Danner: A Tribute to the Women Who Rocked the 70s** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$20-\$25. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

### JULY 16-22

**Sunday - 7/16 - Story Central Storytelling Slam** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 4-5:30 pm. Free. 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org  
**Monday - 7/17 - Poetry Night** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 3rd M 8-10 pm. \$5-\$10. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org  
**Tuesday - 7/18 - Crafting for Fun & Small Business: Basic Crochet** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 10 am-noon. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org  
**7/18 - The Classics Book Club: The Pickwick Papers by Charles Dickens** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 10:30-11:30 am. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org  
**7/18 - English Conversation for Adult Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Every T through 8/1 6:30-7:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**7/18 - FAU Astronomical Observatory** public viewing day at Florida Atlantic University Science & Engineering Building 4th floor, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 1st F & 3rd T 8 pm. Free. Schedule subject to change; check website: 561-297-7827; cescos.fau.edu/observatory

**Wednesday - 7/19 - League of Women Voters Virtual Hot Topics Discussion: Ranked Choice Voting w/Vilia Johnson.** Zoom session. Noon-1 pm. Free. Registration: 561-276-4898; lwvpubc.org  
**7/19 - Summer Movies for Grownups: Offside (2006 PG)** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6550; boynton-beach.org  
**7/19 - 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 8/16 6-7 pm; \$185/resident; \$231/non-resident. 561-742-6550; boynton-beach.org  
**7/19 - Crafting in the Library: Canvas Cup Coasters** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 6-8 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org  
**Thursday - 7/20 - Introduction to VFX w/ Adobe After Effects Class** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 10 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**7/20 - Crafting for Fun & Small Business: Design Baseball Caps** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 1-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org  
**7/20 - Sunset Concert Series: Eric Hansen & Pieces of Work** at Old School Square Amphitheater, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Mix of local/regional talent. Live music, dance. Local merchants exhibit. 1st & 3rd Th 6-9 pm. Free. 561-654-2220; delrayoldschoolsquare.com  
**7/20 - Fantasy Film Series: Labyrinth (2006 R)** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 6-8 pm. Free. 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org  
**7/20 - Summer Sips & Sounds: Music of the 1920s** at the Schmidt Boca Raton History Museum, 71 N Federal Hwy. Led by docents from Boca Raton History Society. 6 pm social; 6:30 pm concert. \$40/member; \$45/non-member. 561-395-6766 x100; bocahistory.org  
**7/20 - 2nd Annual Long Hot Summer of Movies: All The President's Men (R)** at Delray Beach Historical Society Heritage Gardens, 3 NE 1st St. 7 pm doors open; 8 pm movie 8. \$12/person. 561-274-9578; delraybeachhistory.org  
**7/20 - The Wall and Beyond: The Pink Floyd Experience in Surround Sound** at Florida Atlantic University Kaye Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7:30-10 pm. Tickets start at \$37.50. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com  
**7/20-21 - Film: M.C. Escher: Journey to Infinity (2018)** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Th 6-7:30 pm; F 2-3:30 pm. \$5/member; \$10/non-member. Reservations: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org  
**Friday - 7/21 - Crafting for Fun & Small Business: Creating Paper Beads** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 2-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org  
**7/21 - We are Yacht Rock** at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Part of Summer in the City series. Bring blankets/chairs; chairs for rent \$5. 7 pm doors open; 8 pm show. Free. 561-393-7890; mizneramp.com

**Saturday - 7/22 - Workshop: Abstracted Landscape Painting** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$55. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org  
**7/22 - Let's Dance at the Square** at Old School Square Vintage Gym, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Presented by South Florida Swing Dance Society. 7:30-11 pm. \$15/member; \$20/non-member. 561-654-2220; delrayoldschoolsquare.com

### JULY 23-29

**Sunday - 7/23 - Loving Avery: A Musical Salute to Avery Sommers** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7 pm. \$75. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org  
**Tuesday - 7/25 - Crafting for Fun & Small Business: Intermediate Knitting** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 5:30-7:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org  
**7/25 - Sewing: Intermediate Projects** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Requires previously completed beginner's class. Adults. 6-8 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org  
**Wednesday - 7/26 - A Video From the OLLI Archives: Film Appreciation: The Three R's with Shelly Isaacs** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Pre-recorded presentation; no instructor present. 12:30-1:15 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$10/member; \$15/non-member & one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu  
**7/26 - Opera Listening Club: Love Duets** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. 1-2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**7/26 - A Video From the OLLI Archives: Inside Casablanca: Scenes From Behind the Silver Screen with Kurt F. Stone** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Pre-recorded presentation; no instructor present. 1:45-2:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$10/member; \$15/non-member & one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu  
**7/26 - Art & Jazz on the Avenue** in The Ave Neighborhood on East Atlantic Avenue from Swinton to NE/SE 5th Avenue & SOFA Neighborhood on SE 3rd Avenue from East Atlantic to SE 1st Street. Live music, art, special promotions by retailers/merchants. 6-9:30 pm. Free. 561-243-1077; downtowndelraybeach.com  
**7/26 - Concert: Goo Goo Dolls & OAR** at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 6 pm doors open; 7 pm show. Tickets start at \$59. 561-393-7890; mizneramp.com  
**7/26-27 - Spiny Lobster MiniSeason.** Myfwc.com  
**Thursday - 7/27 - Multi-camera Video Streaming with OBS Studio Class** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Learn about online streaming video content using OBS Studio, a free, open-source broadcasting program. 10 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**7/27 - Everything Old is New Again: Especially in Interior Design! w/Lynn Kaplan** at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu  
**7/27 - Art Icons: Trivia Night** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 6-7:30 pm. \$15/member; \$40/non-member. RSVP by 7/4: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org  
**7/27 - Fantasy Film Series: The Fountain (2006 PG-13)** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 6-8 pm. Free. 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org  
**7/27 - Friends Virtual Book Club: The Children's Blizzard** by Melanie Benjamin presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 6:30-7:30 pm. Free. Email for zoom link: DTLbookclub@bocalibraryfriends.org; 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org  
**7/27 - Solar 101 w/Laura Tellez** co-hosted by the Loxahatchee Group of Sierra Club Florida Chapter & Solar United Neighbors. Zoom meeting shares benefits of solar energy for homes & business. 7:30-9 pm. sierraclub.org/florida/Loxahatchee  
**Friday - 7/28 - Crafting for Fun & Small Business: Making Watercolor Cards** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org  
**7/28 - Neil Diamond Tribute Show w/Rob Garrett** at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Part of Summer in the City series. Bring blankets/chairs; chairs for rent \$5. 7 pm doors open; 8 pm show. Free. 561-393-7890; mizneramp.com  
**7/28 - Bill Muter & The Sharp Shooters** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$30-\$35. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org  
**7/28-29 - Delray Walls Mural Fest** at Park at Old School Square, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray

Beach. Presented by the South Florida Swing Dance Society. F Kickoff event/concert 6-10 pm; Sat Mural paintings, vendors, more 10 am-6 pm. Free. 561-654-2220; delrayoldschoolsquare.com  
**Saturday - 7/29 - Sea Angels Beach Cleanup** at Ocean Inlet Park, 6990 N Ocean Blvd, Ocean Ridge. Last Sat 8-9:30 am. Pre-registration required: 561-369-5501; seaangels.org  
**7/29 - Boynton Beach Night Market** at Centennial Park & Amphitheater, 120 E Ocean Ave. Live music & entertainment. Stroll the plaza, visit downtown merchants & restaurants. 5-10 pm. Free. 561-600-9097; boyntonbeachcra.com  
**7/29 - Glow in the Dark Skate Night and Silent Disco** at St Catherine Strong Park, 1500 SW 6th St, Delray Beach. Snacks served; bring your own skates. Skaters must sign liability waiver to skate. Family fare. 7-10 pm. Free. 561-243-7194; delraybeachfl.gov  
**7/29 - Start Me Up: A Tribute to The Rolling Stones** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$35-\$40. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org  
**7/29-30 - Boca Ballet Theatre presents Summer Dreams** at Spanish River High School Countess de Hoernle Theatre, 5100 Jog Rd, Boca Raton. Mixed repertory concert. Sat 7:30 pm; Sun 2 pm. \$45/live; \$20/virtual. 561-995-0709; bocaballet.org

### JULY 30-AUGUST 5

**Sunday - 7/30 - Lecture - Artist Conversation: Sri Prabha & Kelli Bodie** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 3-4 pm. \$8/member; \$15/non-member. Reservations: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org  
**Tuesday - 8/1 - Comedy Night** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$5-\$10. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org  
**Wednesday - 8/2 - The Science of Wellness: The Science of Happiness w/Lana Jones** at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10:30 am-noon. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu  
**8/2 - A Video From the OLLI Archives: Paris: History Through its Monuments with Valerie Sutter** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Pre-recorded presentation; no instructor present. 12:30-1:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$10/member; \$15/non-member & one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu  
**8/2 - Opera Listening Club: Opera Overtures & Interludes** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. 1-2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**8/2 - A Video From the OLLI Archives: Harry Warren and Henry Mancini: Two of Hollywood's Most Successful Composers with Harvey Granat** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Pre-recorded presentation; no instructor present. 2-2:45 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$10/member; \$15/non-member & one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu  
**8/2 - 13th Annual White Coats-4-Care Scholarship Fundraiser** at Florida Atlantic University Schmidt College of Medicine, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Dress/equip the incoming class; scholarship funds help attract, nurture, sustain an exceptional/diverse class of students. 6 pm. Gifts start at \$250. 561-297-0871; fauf.fau.edu/whitecoats  
**Thursday - 8/3 - 3D Printing & Design w/ TinkerCAD Class** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 10 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0196; delraylibrary.org  
**8/3 - Stephen Foster: The Father of American Music w/Thomas Cimarusti** at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu  
**8/3 - Sunset Concert Series: Bad Apples Brass Band** at Old School Square Amphitheater, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Mix of local/regional talent. Live music, dance. Local merchants exhibit. 1st & 3rd Th 6-9 pm. Free. 561-654-2220; delrayoldschoolsquare.com  
**Friday - 8/4 - 3rd Annual Battle of the Bands Competition** at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Part of Summer in the City series. Bring blankets/chairs; chairs for rent \$5. 6 pm doors open; 7 pm show. Free. 561-393-7890; mizneramp.com  
**8/4 - Gina Brillon: The Art of Laughter** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$30-\$35. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org  
**Saturday - 8/5 - Smooth STB (Santana Tribute Band)** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$45-\$50. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

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## House of the Month

The serpentine drive of Tabby concrete leads to a motor court providing ample guest parking plus a porte-cochere.



The dining loggia pavilion has a pecky cypress ceiling, terrazzo floor and a built-in summer kitchen. It opens to a resort-style 30-by-60-foot heated saltwater pool with dual sun shelves.



The expansive turf lawn beyond the pool area is framed with hedges, creating a privacy barrier without obscuring the panoramic ocean view.

# Delray oceanfront estate boasts security and comfort



**ABOVE:** The pavilion in the rear entertaining area is connected to an oceanside pool area via French Nano doors that perfectly blend inside and outside living areas.

**RIGHT:** The ground floor master suite has an under-lit drop ceiling and sliders to the pool, his/hers spa-inspired marble baths (hers with pocket glass doors opening to a free-standing soaking tub on a marble base), and boutique fitted walk-in closets.



This residence is of a size that ensures personal space, with a plan that assures personal privacy, and built-in safeguards to support security and livability. This is a walled and gated property on a coveted oceanfront lot that offers a secure retreat: one where space is luxurious, and the panoramic ocean views expand your perspective on what constitutes idyllic living. Sitting about 19.5 feet above sea level on a manicured estate-sized lot of well over an acre, the estate features hedges, no-maintenance turf, tropical shrubs, and coconut palms. With six bedrooms and two stories, it has loads of special amenities including: a bonus room over the garages; a foundation-to-roof concrete structure; La Finestra impact windows/doors; a 100 KW whole-house Kohler generator; 10 Lennox AC units in the main residence and two Mitsubishi garage units; volume detailed ceilings; oak/marble/porcelain/tile/terrazzo floors; windows pre-wired for auto blinds; solid core TruStile interior doors; an elevator; fire sprinklers; smart house technology; top-tier wallpapers; individual bedroom thermostats; two Electrolux utility rooms; a full cabana bath; a surfboard outdoor shower; and a glass-tiled, 7-foot-deep pool with Pebble Brilliance coating and two gas heaters. Offered at \$74,00,000.

*The Pascal Liguori Estate Group at Premier Estate Properties, 900 East Atlantic Ave., Suite 4, Delray Beach, FL 33483, pascal@premierestateproperties.com, 561-789-8300.*

*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.*

# WILLIAM RAVEIS

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- #1 Independent Luxury Broker, in Florida and the Northeast<sup>1</sup>
- #1 Luxury Broker by Luxury Portfolio International | 2018
- #1 Luxury Lifestyle Award Winner | 2022<sup>2</sup>
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1. William Raveis is the largest independent brokerage by total sales volume (\$21.5 billion) according to RISMedia, 2021. 2. Winner of Best Luxury Real Estate Agency Award in FL, CT & MA in 2022 by Luxury Lifestyle Awards.

### Featured Listings



**Boca Raton**  
1131 Spanish River Road | \$16,950,000  
Nick Younker | 440.867.3930



**Point Manalapan**  
1400 Lands End Road | \$6,695,000  
Jack Elkins | 561.373.2198



**Villa Magna | Highland Beach**  
2727 S. Ocean Blvd. | 5,100 SF | \$5,450,000  
Terri Berman | 561.445.2929  
Laura Gallagher | 561.441.6111



**Vacant Waterfront Parcel | Ft. Laud.**  
1725 SE 13th Street | \$4,995,000  
Todd Weiss | 561.302.1441



**Long Lake Estates | Boca Raton**  
18457 Long Lake Drive | \$4,950,000  
Matthew Bachrad | 917.628.4021  
Danielle Stern | 818.216.2320



**Regency Highland | Highland Beach**  
3908 S. Ocean Blvd. PH-M568 | \$1,499,000  
Matthew Bachrad | 917.628.4021  
Danielle Stern | 818.216.2320



**Delray Beach**  
20 N.E. 16th Court | \$1,249,000  
Margaret Russell | 561.358.1298  
Clark Parriott | 443.250.2910



**Banyan Court | Delray Beach**  
1535 Verawood Lane | \$720,000  
Jody Coltogirone | 561.436.3728

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OUR LUXURY LISTINGS THROUGHOUT OUR NORTHEAST FOOTPRINT



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504 Old Harbor Road | \$14,900,000  
Chatham Office | 508.945.7777



**Fairfield, CT**  
1099 Pequot Avenue | \$7,999,000  
Southport Office | 203.256.3264



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147 Osborn Road | \$5,500,000  
Rye Office | 914.967.1333

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