August 2023

Serving Hypoluxo Island, South Palm Beach, Manalapan, Ocean Ridge, Briny Breezes, Gulf Stream and Coastal Delray Beach

Volume 16 Issue 8

Along the Coast

Boynton outpaces Boca, Delray in downtown density

Five projects in the pipeline to add thousands more residents

By Larry Barszewski

When Boynton Beach commissioners approved reduced height limits in January for new buildings downtown, they weren't so much slamming the brakes on growth as they were gently tapping them.

There already are more people per square mile living in or near downtown Boynton Beach than in either Delray Beach's or Boca Raton's downtown — and the city has approved developments in the pipeline that will pack thousands more into the heart of what was once a fishing village.

"I'm concerned about the traffic. We have so much traffic already that even when it's off season, it still feels like it's in season," said Boynton Beach Vice Mayor Thomas Turkin, who proposed the reduced heights last year. "I think Boynton Beach is at a very crucial stage of growth. We've already had a bunch of projects approved. Once you start, you can't go back."

A breakdown of downtown and near-downtown population figures from 2020 U.S. Census tract data shows Boynton Beach with the highest density of South County's three largest downtowns, followed by Boca Raton's and then Delray Beach's:

See **DENSITY** on page **24**

Sargassum shift

Unexpected departure of mass is (mostly) good news for coast

By Jane Musgrave

When a giant blob of seagrass that fouled area beaches in May and June suddenly dissipated, coastal municipal leaders breathed deep sighs of relief.

To the admitted surprise of researchers, who predicted Florida beaches would be inundated with the smelly stuff all summer, the giant mass of sargassum all but disappeared from the Gulf of Mexico and moved significantly away from the east coast of Florida.

Calling the retreat "beyond expectation," oceanographers at the University of South Florida acknowledged that no people would be disappointed that they would not have to share the beach with the large brown clumps that smell like rotten eggs and make swimming unpleasant.

"This trend may continue in the next two to

See **SARGASSUM** on page **9**



Students attending Waves Surf Academy's camp at Delray Breakers on the Ocean keep cool while combing sargassum for sea critters. From left are Jenna Miranda, Delray Beach, Hazel Aurelien, Boynton Beach, Mason Miranda, Delray Beach, Mary Junghans, Montana, and Lena Winikoff, Boca Raton. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

Delray Beach

A swale idea? City ponders telling drivers to keep off grass

By Larry Barszewski

Delray Beach doesn't want you parking in swales — the grassy areas along streets in front of homes and businesses — because it could ruin the grass and hamper storm drainage.

The city might even make it illegal. But not just yet.

At their July 18 meeting, city

commissioners balked at approving a one-sentence change to the city's ordinances that would have outlawed parking in swales, but they told staff to do more work on the subject and bring back a plan before the end of the year.

The proposed ban was designed to satisfy homeowners tired of seeing the lawns in front of their homes torn up by cars parking there, or having the grass killed by cars continually parking over the same spots.

Staff said there was also an environmental benefit: The weight of the cars compacts the ground in swales and makes them less effective at their primary mission of draining storm water that collects on the streets.

"A lot of phone calls have come in from people who've had the area in front of their property damaged by people parking on their swales," City Engineer Patrick Figurella said. "This ordinance is an attempt to deal with a lot of requests for 'No Parking' signs."

But commissioners feared the ordinance would rile many residents and businesses who use swales to park their own vehicles, or for cars of people

See **SWALE** on page **12**

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Roadside cameras Cities, towns share license tag info. Page 23



Prime wahoo season August full moons bring the best time to catch the fish.
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Editor's Note

Party hearty — and pay the (silent) piper?

went on a cruise. One of those giant party cruise ships out of Miami. Those who know me will be shocked by this news — huge buffets, crowded swimming pools and thousands of people on a floating island have never been my thing.

But this was a reunion cruise with my husband's family. They are all wonderful people and it was great to be together for a few days far from work and other obligations. My husband's siblings are getting older, but they are fearless about already planning for the next gathering in 2025. I'm caught up in their enthusiasm and looking forward to this next reunion — but, maybe someplace cooler and on a boat with fewer people?

My husband and I have been conscientious about avoiding crowds since the coronavirus pandemic began, carefully determining the risk ratio of various venues and events. We'd avoided colds, the flu and the dreaded COVID-19 infection.

Until the July cruise. In retrospect, I guess we should have worn our masks.

We're going to be fine, but had a few rough days, delaying our return to the office. I'm hopeful our stuffy heads aren't apparent in the pages of this newspaper. Please forgive us if we've forgotten to dot an "i" or

Only three of us from the family group of 14 tested positive on our return. We've struggled to ID the place or point of infection. It seems it wasn't the main dining room, our trips ashore, or any of the shows. No one who visited the casino was infected. And we all took elevators and walked the decks. So where did we pick up the virus?

I have my suspicion and this too may shock those who know me — I blame it on the silent disco.

So there you go. Your neighborhood newspaper's aging editor picked up a potentially deadly infectious disease on a crowded ship while wearing headphones and dancing to popular Latin music underneath a mirror ball.



Hey, I never said it wasn't fun.

> Mary Kate Leming, Editor

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Coastal Star



Teresa Wilhelm, a Lantana resident for 67 years, is a longtime library patron and has spent more than 20 years as president of Friends of the Library. She visits the remodeled building with daughter Rebecca Wilhelm and granddaughter Reyna Acosta, 6. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

Lantana woman's stalwart support makes her library's ultimate 'Friend'

By Brian Biggane

Teresa Wilhelm has a favorite quote attributed to Benjamin Franklin that's worth remembering: "If you want something done, ask a busy person to do it."

Franklin himself would have a hard time keeping up with Wilhelm's schedule. In addition to working four jobs, she's president of Lantana's Friends of the Library, a small group that's trying to rebuild its membership post-pandemic.

Wilhelm said there's a distinction between the two groups raising money for the library, the Lantana Library Foundation and her Friends group.

"The foundation is the one that raises tens of thousands, and the Friends raises nickels, dimes and quarters. We charge \$5 a year to be members of the Friends, and all that does is show your support for the library," Wilhelm said.

After an extensive remodeling, the library celebrated its reopening in March, and Wilhelm said the results were "up to my expectations and beyond. We didn't have the technology before, and it took gutting the building and basically redesigning everything. Now we have an actual meeting room. We used to have to meet in front of the circulation desk."

In December, the Friends will have a brass ensemble play Christmas music, which has been the case since Wilhelm took it over as president. "It was hard for people to study or check out a book with a brass ensemble playing. Now there's an actual meeting room, which is beautiful, there's sections divided off: teens, children,

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adults, a couple of small meeting rooms for tutoring or for a four-, five-person meeting."

Wilhelm's family moved to Lantana from Indiana when she was 3 years old, and she's been a library regular ever since.

"It once existed in the bridge tender's house, then they moved it to the land, and the women's club started a library there. I went there as a kid, so I've grown up at the library. When we've got a really nice library it's really nice to get involved."

Over the years, Wilhelm has always been at the council chambers to lobby the Town Council for money for books as it goes through its annual budget process.

Wilhelm, 70, took over as president of the Friends more than 20 years ago. She had some ambitious goals, including raising membership to 200 and bringing in guest speakers from a wide spectrum of cultural avenues.

"We've had authors, artists, musicians, painters. We had Mary Linehan address the group before she passed away," Wilhelm said.

Linehan, a Lantana historian, left much of her life's work to the library.

Friends membership, meanwhile, topped out around 250 before the interruptions caused by the coronavirus and construction. It has only about a dozen members now, with a membership drive set to begin

The library has served as

a refuge from this summer's brutal heat for parents and their children.

"They have story time for kids Mondays and Thursdays and they are swamped," Wilhelm said. "We had summer programs in the past, but we didn't have the manpower and the technology they have now. More parents were going to work then. Now parents are working from home and they can bring their little ones and sit at a computer and do their work while the kids are having story time. And the computers are very nice."

As for what else occupies her time, Wilhelm teaches swimming at Superhero Swim Academy, teaches mobility to senior citizens at the YMCA, and tutors kids who need extra help in the PAL program, all in Lake Worth Beach. She also has an online wellness business.

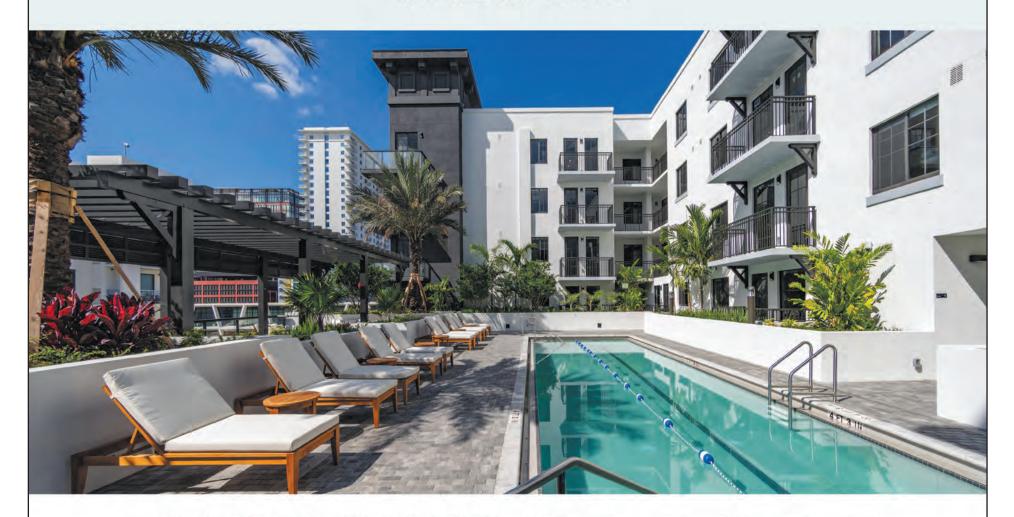
A retired schoolteacher who spent 37 years at various schools around Lake Worth and Boynton Beach, Wilhelm volunteers at Lakeside United Methodist Church in Lake Worth Beach, serving as president of the teenagers group and the card ministry as well as leading the women's doll group.

Former Lantana Vice Mayor Malcolm Balfour said Wilhelm "really is the Friends of Lantana Library. With the accent on the

"As long as I've known her, she's always been involved in programs for kids, even going back to when she was young. Now that she's a grandmother she's still volunteering."

These days, she and her daughter, Rebecca, and granddaughter, Reyna, can all visit the library together. ★

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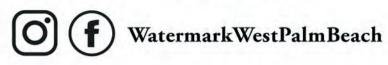
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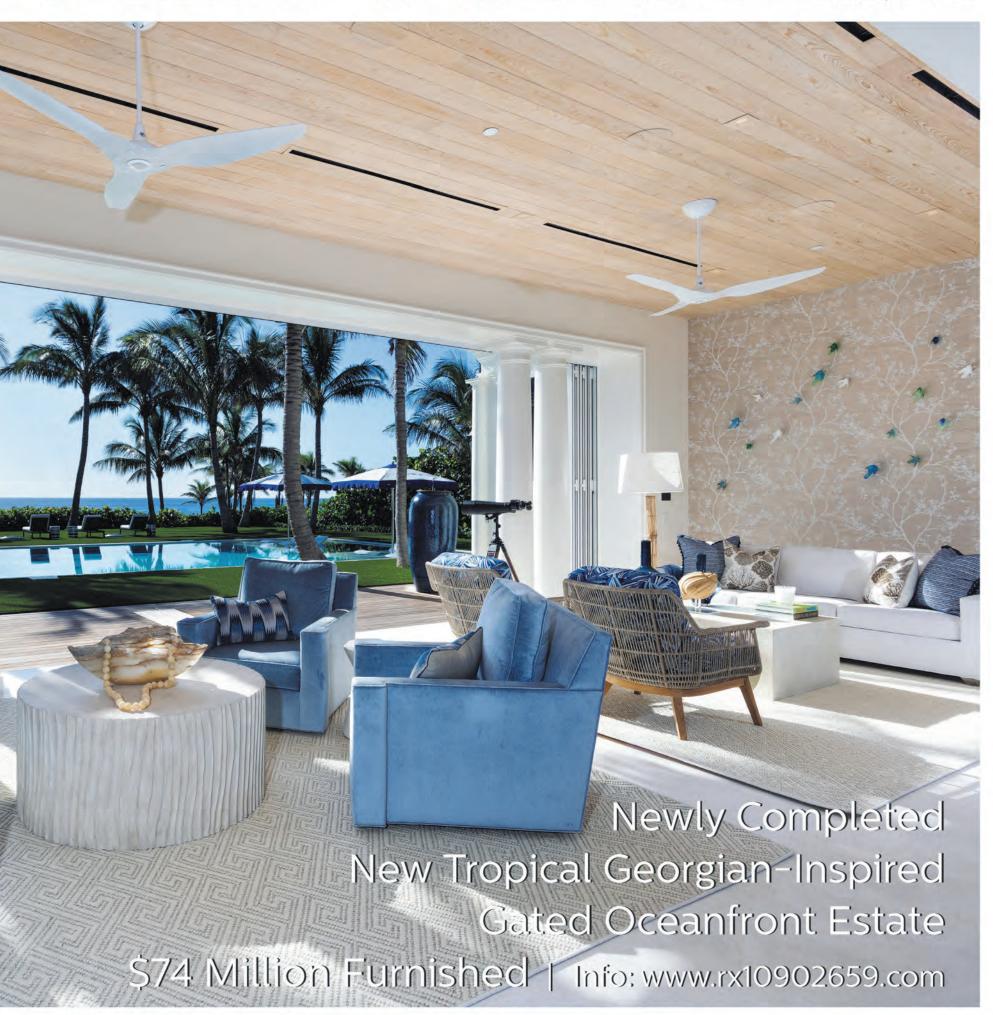


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Letter to the Editor

Intracoastal sewage spill shows need for faster public alerts

Our summers at the beach are sacred. In Palm Beach County, it's our time to get out on the water with family and friends and enjoy everything that our beaches, reefs and waterways have to offer. Whether swimming, surfing, fishing, diving, paddleboarding, water skiing or boating, the

summer is ripe for water-based recreational activities.

activities.

Many of
us headed
to the beach
to celebrate
the Fourth of
July holiday.

We swam

Sewer leak repaired Boynton pays \$1 million to fix pipe leaking sewage into Intracoastal.

Page 16

and surfed — unaware and illinformed of an ongoing sewage spill in Boynton Beach.

Starting on July 3, more than 12 million gallons of sewage poured into the Intracoastal Waterway until July 6.

The Department of Health issued its no-contact advisory on July 7. For nearly five days, recreators nearby were potentially exposed to bacteria that could make them sick, or worse, with no clearly communicated warning or advisory from local authorities.

This is an unacceptable risk. Residents and visitors deserve to have the most timely, accessible and accurate information at their fingertips to understand any potential risks of getting in the water. They should not be subjected to swimming in polluted water.

Sadly, this is not the first time the public has been left in the dark regarding polluted waters and potential health risks. That's why Surfrider's statewide network, including the Palm Beach County chapter, has vocally advocated for changes to the state's water quality monitoring program over the past few legislative sessions.

The most recent bill, the Safe Waterways Act, would ensure prompt, consistent public notification when it is unsafe to swim in Florida waters. This measure did not pass, and now Palm Beach area residents and visitors are vulnerable to illness because of it.

To protect the public health, safety and welfare of Floridians and the millions of people who visit our state every year, the state Legislature must enact robust laws regarding water quality monitoring and rigorous public notification. Until then, we will not truly know if it's safe to swim in our local waterways.

Aaron Barnes Surfrider Foundation, Palm Beach County chair

Delray Beach

Police try to unravel mystery of dead woman found in three floating bags

By Rich Pollack

Since parts of a woman's body were found in three suitcases floating in the Intracoastal Waterway, Delray Beach police have enlisted the help of nearby law enforcement agencies, residents with surveillance cameras and just about anyone else who might have information as they search for the victim's identity and her killer.

Yet in a case that is so Florida that it could be the focus of a Carl Hiaasen novel, little information has come to light — at least that police are sharing — to help detectives answer the most essential questions.

Who is the middle-aged woman homicide victim — with brown hair and possibly tattooed eyebrows — whose body was divided into parts and stuffed into suitcases that were pushed into the waterway?

What happened to her that led to her death, and when and where did her apparent murder take place?

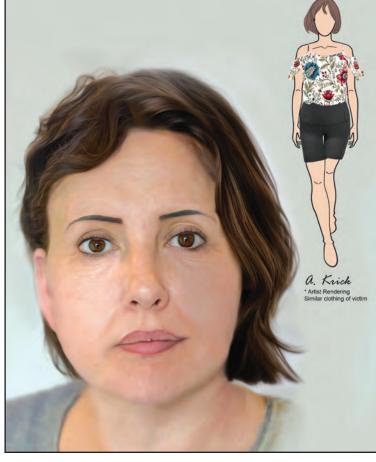
How did the three suitcases get in the Intracoastal Waterway and where and, perhaps most intriguing of all, who is responsible for taking her life and disposing of the body in such a manner?

Although much is not known, detectives have a few tidbits of information that could help them get closer to identifying the victim and perhaps her killer.

The floral tank top she was wearing is from the Betzabe brand, which investigators think is a Brazilian company.

Two suitcases were from uncommon brands, with one being a purple Palm Springs Ricardo Beverly Hills bag and the other described as a green-and-black polka-dot Charlie Sport bag. The third was a plain,





brown bag.

In addition, detectives working with the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office's forensic imaging unit created an artist's rendering of what the woman might have looked like and distributed it to the community.

Delray Beach police's investigation began shortly





TOP: Police officers and other investigators look for clues along the north side of the George Bush Boulevard bridge over the Intracoastal Waterway, where the first of three bags was discovered July 21. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

LEFT: An artist's rendering of the woman and the floral top she was wearing. **ABOVE:** Two of the suitcases had distinct colors. **Provided**

by Delray Beach Police

after 4 p.m. July 21 when a construction worker discovered the first of the three suitcases just north of the George Bush

Not long afterward, officers received calls of two more suitcases found about two miles to the south, near Casuarina Road and Southeast Seventh

Boulevard bridge.

Avenue

Soon officers from local police departments were joining investigators in a search for anything that might be helpful. Highland Beach police, in the department's relatively new police boat, Boynton Beach's marine patrol and law enforcement officers from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission all joined in the search.

By the next morning detectives and crime scene technicians were under the George Bush Boulevard bridge looking for clues, with the help of a police dog. Despite apparent digging, that search turned up empty.

Another dead end, at least at the time of a news conference three days after the suitcases were discovered, was a scouring of missing persons reports.

During that news conference, police asked for the community's help, with Chief Russ Mager saying no information is too small.

Although it's unknown where the suitcases entered the water, investigators appear to believe that took place within Delray Beach city limits. One theory is that if suitcases had been tossed in the Intracoastal in Broward County or Boca Raton or Highland Beach, someone would have seen them and called police especially since a body part — which police did not identify — was protruding from one of the bags.

While police teams scoured the area where the suitcases were found for any related relevant information, Delray Beach Detective Sgt. Casey Kelly said the size of that area made the effort "a very daunting task."

Detectives are asking anyone with information to contact Detective Mike Liberta, who can be reached at 561-243-7874. ★

SARGASSUM

Continued from page 1

three months, which should be good news to the residents living in the Florida Keys and east coast of Florida," the researchers wrote in a June 30 report.

By the end of July, what had been a nearly 10-ton mass shrank again, to roughly 6½ tons, researchers said.

"Some of this may have already reached and will continue to reach the Florida Keys and possibly the southeast coast of Florida, but the amount should be small," they said in a July 31 report.

Officials in most coastal municipalities in southern Palm Beach County cheered the news. Had the once 13-millionton mass set its course for the east coast, cleanup could have been costly.

Delray Beach already spends \$78,000 a year to hire a firm to rake its beaches. Although Boca Raton uses city crews, it was lining up an outside company to step in if mounds of seaweed began to pile up.

For Ocean Ridge, however, the news was a mixed blessing.

Hoping to turn seaborne lemons into potentially lifesaving lemonade, town officials had hoped to use the seaweed to shore up rapidly eroding dunes and protect oceanfront homes and property during hurricane season.

But, while the Florida Department of Environmental Protection tentatively signed off on the proposal, it said no work could begin until the sea turtle nesting season ends Oct. 31.

Vice Mayor Steve Coz, who had championed the plan, said the delay could be potentially devastating. August and September are considered the height of the hurricane season.

Even the small amount of sargassum that is still reaching the shore could be used to fortify crumbling dunes along

a 200-foot stretch north of Woolbright Road, he said.

"It's ridiculous," he said of the delay. "At least we could attempt to protect that neighborhood. Now, we can't even do that."

He said his concern is exacerbated because of reports that ocean water temperatures have hit record highs. Warm water fuels hurricanes as they spin across the Atlantic Ocean.

"With warm water, we're more prone to having a storm," Coz said. But, he fumed, the state agency is prohibiting the town from doing anything to protect oceanfront property.

Sargassum, like sea turtles, arrives mainly during the summer months. State and national environmental rules have long protected the endangered and threatened sea creatures from man-made interference.

While sargassum might be annoying to beachgoers, it is critical for sea turtles' survival.

Hatchlings that make it to the ocean use the macroalgae as lifeboats. Sargassum protects them from predators and provides them a food source.

With more than 40,000 nests laid each year, Palm Beach County is one of the state's top destinations for sea turtles. It is important that they are protected, said Andy Studt, supervisor of coastal resources management for the county's Department of Environmental Resources Management.

Recognizing its importance to sea turtles, the county has long had a hands-off approach to dealing with sargassum, he said.

Like municipal officials, Studt said he was relieved the 5,000-mile-long blob has shifted away from Florida and is instead expected to impact Caribbean islands, including Jamaica, Puerto Rico, Haiti, the Dominican Republic and the Lesser Antilles.

But Studt didn't voice

surprise at the drastic shift in the sargassum forecast. Predicting Mother Nature is always difficult, he said, and figuring where the massive belt of sargassum is headed is particularly problematic.

It is pushed by the winds, currents and other factors that can change dramatically, Studt said.

Unexpectedly strong winds in the Caribbean and the Gulf of Mexico may have pushed it away from Florida and caused some of it to sink, researchers

Coz acknowledged that escaping the sargassum storm is good news.

"The big blob isn't going to happen. I'm so happy about that," he said. "But we're still going to have seaweed on the beach. We just want to bring it to the edge of the dune and sprinkle it with sand to protect it in case we do get inundated by a large storm."

Gulf Stream

Coming budget year to bring major road work

By Steve Plunkett

Resurfacing roads and improving drainage in Gulf Stream's Core District will begin in November as consultants wait for the Army Corps of Engineers to sign off on plans to divert storm water runoff into the Intracoastal Waterway.

The \$10.8 million project will end in May 2025, with \$8.4 million budgeted in fiscal year 2024, which starts in October, and \$2.4 million coming in the second year.

Town Manager Greg Dunham gave broad brushstrokes of his 2023-24 budget at the Town Commission's July 14 meeting, with the capital improvement plan for roads and drainage being the largest component. Also included was a 60% increase in insurance to \$432,000, which he hoped to negotiate down, and a proposed 5% cost-of-living increase for town employees.

Bottom line: Dunham recommended setting the property tax rate at \$3.67 per \$1,000 of taxable value, the same as this year, which would generate \$1.45 million more for the town, for a \$6.75 million total. The rollback rate, which would bring in the same amount of taxes as this year (\$5.3 million), not including additional taxes from new construction, is \$3.20 per \$1,000.

Commissioners tentatively approved the \$3.67 rate, which they can lower but not exceed at public hearings they scheduled for 5:01 p.m. on Sept. 8, after their regular monthly meeting,

and on Sept. 27. The owner of a \$1 million house would pay \$3,672 in town property taxes (about a \$107 increase) in addition to county, school and other levies.

Dunham was still working on how much to change police salaries, a month after commissioners boosted police starting pay to \$61,250 from \$52,250. The new number still left Gulf Stream in the bottom third of other municipal departments in Palm Beach County "with no chance to make the playoffs," he said.

Commissioner Joan Orthwein repeated her discomfort about the low ranking.

"Maybe we can go up a notch instead of being in the middle," she said.

Dunham and Police Chief Richard Jones credited the higher starting salary for bringing about two police hires and a third who is undergoing background checks.

The latest hire is Vincentina Nowicki, who has military and U.S. marshal experience as well as having spent 20 years as a Delta Air Lines flight attendant. She is Gulf Stream's first female police officer, Jones said.

Jones also reported that in its first 30 days, the town's new license plate recognition cameras counted 17,000 vehicles going into and out of Gulf Stream and issued 350 alerts, or about 12 per day, mostly from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.

Officer Alex Gonzalez, who gained experience with LPRs during his 20 previous years with the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, has been "very, very diligent in being proactive" with the data from the license plate cameras, "and also initiating individual contacts with vehicles that are suspicious," resulting in three nighttime pursuits, Jones said.

No arrests were made, but "it avoided us being hit by any kind of criminal activity," Jones said.

A final camera was to be installed in Place Au Soleil by the end of July, he said.

Resident Bob Ganger praised the department's quick handling of a robbery — he called police in mid-afternoon and the suspect was in jail that evening — but asked that a camera also be installed on State Road A1A since the existing ones in the Core District did not record the getaway.

In other business:

• Orthwein asked whether the Gulf Stream School will be opening a campus in the west part of Delray Beach.

"I would prefer to sidebar that if we could and not make it a matter of public record at this time," Dr. Gray Smith, head of the school, responded.

Mayor Scott Morgan had also heard the news and said he spoke with Smith about it.

"He and I have agreed to meet should anything become more concrete in connection with that plan," Morgan said.

Orthwein said more students at the school, even at a remote campus, would mean more traffic in Gulf Stream. The town recently allowed the school to boost its enrollment to 300 children.

Smith was at the commission meeting for approval of his plan to construct a 25-by-25-foot building in the school's parking lot to store food so he can offer families onsite lunches.

• Commissioners approved on first reading a change to the town's code to allow artificial turf in side and back yards provided it cannot be seen from a street or waterway.



O'Boyle asks U.S. Supreme Court to review public records fight against town

Hidden Harbour resident Martin O'Boyle, his lawyer son and his business lawyer have elevated their grudge against Gulf Stream to the highest court in the land.

In a July 21 filing, the three — O'Boyle, son Jonathan, and lawyer William Ring — asked the U.S. Supreme Court to review opinions by the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals that said the town's legal efforts targeting them were

not retaliation for O'Boyle's numerous public records requests, which were protected by the First Amendment.

A three-judge panel of the 11th Circuit ruled on Feb. 8 that the O'Boyles and Ring had to show that the town did not have probable cause to arrest Martin O'Boyle for disorderly conduct, nor to ask that Jonathan O'Boyle and Ring receive court sanctions and ethics penalties, nor to sue them under the

federal Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO).

However, it turns out the three men had agreed in a joint stipulation in an underlying case that the town did have probable cause to file Florida Bar complaints and to charge Martin O'Boyle with disorderly conduct, the panel of judges

That stipulation "was fatal to his retaliatory prosecution claim," they ruled on Feb. 8 and again on March 21 in denying a request by the O'Boyles and Ring to rehear the case.

— Steve Plunkett



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Next edition of The Coastal Star will be distributed the weekend of Sept. 2

Ocean Ridge

Buried valves make it harder to fix broken water lines

By Larry Barszewski

Ocean Ridge has been neglecting hundreds of water valves that are part of its drinking water distribution system, to the point where town crews don't even know where the valves are anymore.

That means when a water line ruptures, crews are forced to dig along the water line until they can uncover a buried valve — and then hope that the valve works so the water can be shut off and the line repaired.

On Inlet Cay, one of two islands in town, the only way to repair a break to the main line west of Spanish River Drive is to shut off water to the entire island, Town Manager Lynne Ladner said.

Ladner brought up the water valve issue at the Town Commission's July 10 budget workshop. She included \$50,000 in her proposed budget to begin addressing the valves.

"The \$50,000 item was to get everyone's attention that this was a problem," Ladner said. "We have valves throughout the community. Over time they have gotten buried and we need to locate them."

Commissioners requested Ladner come back in August with a better idea of the total cost for all the needed work.

"They're going to go out and find every valve, and then they're going to make a cut in the line, and they're going to raise the valve, elevate it to current ground level, and put a concrete collar around it, so that in the future, we know where the valve is," Ladner said.

"We're also going to exercise the valve so that we know it turns on and we can shut it off and bring it back on without blowing the main on either side — because most of our valves have not been tested and exercised in 20 or more years."

There are about 550 valves in town, including those connected to fire hydrants. It will cost between \$950 and \$1,250 to raise, exercise and pour a concrete collar for a valve "if valve is in working order," Public Works Director Billy Armstrong said in an email to *The Coastal Star.*

That means the minimum repair cost could exceed \$500,000.

The town has a general idea where the valves are, but not specific locations, Ladner said.

Commissioners aren't sure whom to blame and Ladner, who officially became town manager in March, said she doesn't know what the previous manager was

Commissioner Ken Kaleel was dumbfounded when Ladner told commissioners that Armstrong, in his current position for only a few years, "has wanted to bring this issue forward for a couple of years and has been unsure of whether he should or not because of the potential cost of this project, so

he's opted not to."

"Lynne, you need to get control of this," Kaleel said. "That should have never been an issue, ever, that he makes that determination as to whether something should come forward when it's something that we needed."

Kaleel said he knows that in the 1990s, crews did the needed maintenance on the valves.

"They were like on clockwork. They would exercise [the valves]," Kaleel said. "Somehow, we knew to do this stuff and all of a sudden, we don't know to do this stuff."

In the email, Armstrong said he did alert others.

"I have brought this problem to previous administration many times in the past," he said, "as per valves not shutting off, or not working at all."

The situation is reminiscent of the 2019 discovery that the town had not been taking care of its fire hydrants. Officials found four of the town's listed 141 fire hydrants were missing or not working at all, and another 32 were functioning below acceptable standards.

"During the time of hydrant situation 2019, many other issues such as valves were brought to my boss at the time," Armstrong said in the email.

Mayor Geoff Pugh said maybe Town Engineer Lisa Tropepe should have done more, though Ladner said Tropepe doesn't deal with maintenance issues. Pugh said it seems the subject would have come up when pipes were being installed.

"She is the infrastructure queen in this town. So, if you know there are valves that should be checked on, then she should have brought it up. In fact, she should have brought up the fire hydrants as well," Pugh said. "Show me, if you can, any of the town engineer's reports that she's been writing up that says anything about the valves."

Contacted by The Coastal Star by email after the meeting, Tropepe replied she was not familiar with the valve situation.

"Annually the Town Commission painstakingly reviews/balances their budgets which include infrastructure enhancements and maintenance responsibilities," she said.

'Regarding buried water valves in general, that situation occurs from time to time. If water valves are located in a grassed area, it is pretty common that dirt and grass grow over it," said Tropepe, who is under contract with the town. "If a resident finds that a valve on their property is buried, they should notify their landscapers and/or the Town."

Ladner said part of the problem is due to the town's drinking water setup, where Boynton Beach provides the water but the town owns the pipes and is responsible for any repairs and maintenance.

"We own our own distribution system, but we do not manage our distribution system," she said. "Boynton does our billing. Boynton is responsible for putting all of the meters in at every location, but we are responsible for the capital plan."

The town does not have a certified water operator that typically makes sure water valves and hydrants are checked, Ladner said.

The fire hydrant situation was uncovered when a car slammed into a town hydrant. The town's newly named public works supervisor at the time — who left the town about a year later — arrived on scene to inspect the damage and discovered extensive corrosion to the hydrant's hose connector valves.

The hydrants should have been on a regular maintenance schedule, but hadn't been worked on for 10 years. At the time, the town estimated it cost \$100,000 to make the needed repairs and that another \$30,000 a year was needed for annual hydrant maintenance.

House construction gets another extension

At its July 10 meeting, the Town Commission extended the construction deadline for the home at 6273 N. Ocean Blvd. until its Aug. 8 meeting, when it's likely to give a requested extension until Feb. 15, 2024.

The home also must have windows on its street-facing front by Nov. 1.

The home has been under construction for eight years and neighbors are fed up with the delays and the inconvenience of living next door to a construction zone for so long. Commissioners want the town attorney to include in the agreement that since the home won't be on next year's property tax rolls because it won't be finished by Jan. 1, that the owner make a payment to the town equal to the taxes that would have been owed had it been completed this year. The agreement will also include liquidated damages if the project runs into any more delays.

Commissioner Carolyn Cassidy said her calculations show the town has lost out on almost \$1 million in property tax revenues since 2017 because the house was not finished during that time.

Representatives for owner Andrew Rivkin said the work cannot be completed until water and electricity are connected. Those have been delayed because they must come from the west side of State Road A1A and the lines be placed under the roadway, requiring Florida Department of Transportation approvals.

In other town news:

• The commission gave initial approval to a new beach sign ordinance, which seeks to keep property owners from discouraging people — through the placement of

"No Trespassing" or "Private Property" signs in the middle of the beach — from legally accessing public beach areas.

The new ordinance would require that any signs be placed at the dune toe line, be facing east or west, and be no bigger than 18 inches square. Property owners will have 30 days to move any existing signs once the ordinance takes effect.

- Commissioners are considering changes to make it easier for property owners to get coastal construction projects approved and change the way the town calculates how big a project can be. They asked the town attorney to bring back a new proposal for commissioners to consider in August.
- The Traffic Safety Committee of the Palm Beaches awarded Police Officer Aleksey Sasov its Distinguished Service Award for Enforcement at a June reception. Ladner said Sasov made more than 500 traffic stops in a one-year period.

"One of the reasons why that is significant is he works night shifts, so he's not seeing all the heavy, busy day traffic," Ladner said. "That's a lot of speeders that come over bridges and race through town thinking it's a small, sleepy town. It's people with outstanding issues on their driver's license that he's alerted to via the LPR (license plate reading cameras), things like that." ★

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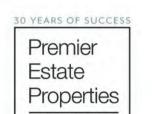
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appliance package. His and her closets and a large master bath are the centerpieces of the spacious master suite on the first floor. Three additional bedrooms serve the specific needs of the homeowner. Time spent outdoors will never be the same with the saltwater pool.



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SWALE

Continued from page 1

visiting them.

"There are so many businesses and residents that they have no other place to park; that's where they're parking. There is not going to be enough room on the street to park these cars," Mayor Shelly Petrolia said. "The ripple effect is going to be severe. ... The public is going to be outraged."

The change would require vehicles to park on the street and leave at least 12 feet of roadway for other cars to pass. Some commissioners said many people don't want to park on the street because it increases the chances their cars will be sideswiped.

But Vice Mayor Ryan Boylston said he still thinks the



A car parks half on a grassy swale on Seaspray Avenue, which is too narrow to allow for street parking that the city's proposal would require. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

benefit of getting cars out of the swales is worth pursuing.

"There's a lot to be thought out here. I think it's a great initiative. I think our city would be better for it," Boylston said. "I just think it would take a long time. We would really have to say it would have to be a campaign. It would have to be education. It would have to be

communication, really getting the community behind it and setting a date in the future — the far distant future — where we would actually be coming by with any type of enforcement."

Commissioners asked staff to see how other cities deal with the issue, to find out if there's a better approach the city could "This really comes from the beachgoers who park on people's swales," City Attorney Lynn Gelin said. "We can put signs up. We've done that in certain areas, especially close to the beach. Then you have sign pollution all over the city and that's another issue."

Commissioner Adam Frankel said he thought approval was a "no-brainer" until the discussion started.

"I'm thinking of the years of complaints from the beach property owners who were always upset by the people going to the beach and parking in their swales," Frankel said.

Deputy Vice Mayor Rob Long went along with the deferral, but said he still supports the idea.

"I just wonder how many people this actually is going to affect versus how many now are actually getting damaged swales and having dead grass," Long said.

He agreed to a delay "because I would hate to sort of spring this on people and they don't know about this and there's a barrage of folks getting tickets doing something that they've done for decades."

Commissioner Angela Burns agreed to the deferral as well, though she was not supportive of the proposal because she said some streets don't have enough room to accommodate parked cars.

"All streets in Delray are not created equal," she said.

The city had considered a similar ban in 1993 and 2002, but each time decided not to pursue a change.

Lantana

Beach parking fee rising; town's tax rate staying the same

By Mary Thurwachter

Beachgoers will pay a little more at parking meters in Lantana, as the Town Council voted July 10 to raise the hourly fee from \$1.50 to \$2.

The new rate, which goes into effect Oct. 1, also applies to other paid parking spaces in town, including those at Bicentennial Park, Sportsman's Park and Kayak Park.

Finance Director Stephen Kaplan says that "even with the rate hike, the town is still below market for the same or similar service in comparison to many of our surrounding municipalities."

For example, hourly parking costs are \$3 at Lake Worth Beach, \$5 in Palm Beach, \$3 on State Road A1A in Delray Beach and \$1.50 at Boynton Beach's

public beach.

The parking fee has been \$1.50 in Lantana since June 2009. Three parking kiosks were added in 2017 and they still take quarters as well as credit card payments.

This year, parking fees are expected to bring in \$435,000, according to Kaplan. With the higher rate, the town anticipates raising an additional \$145,000 next year.

Tax rate, budget hearings

The Town Council set the town's proposed tax rate at \$3.75 per \$1,000 of assessed taxable value — the same rate as last year. The first budget hearing is set for 5:30 p.m. Sept. 11, with a second and final hearing scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Sept. 20. The rate cannot go higher, but the Town Council could

decrease it, although that is unlikely.

While the \$3.75 rate is not changing, it will amount to a property tax increase because of rising property values, which have gone up about 12% this year for properties in town (not including new construction). The owners of an average homesteaded house valued last year at \$360,000 would see their taxable value increase to \$370,800 (the maximum 3% increase allowed), which Kaplan says means they would pay about \$40 more in town taxes.

For an average non-homesteaded property with the same \$360,000 value last year, the taxable value would rise to \$396,000 (the maximum 10% increase allowed), which means the property owner would pay \$135 more in town taxes under

the current proposal.

Anticipated property tax revenues in the new budget are \$6,414,754, an increase of \$939,313 compared to this year's budgeted revenue of \$5,475,441. Property taxes are projected to account for 39.1% of the town's anticipated revenues in the 2024 fiscal year that starts Oct. 1, compared to their being 36.6% of revenues in the current fiscal year.

Fencing at cemetery

On another matter, the council approved paying \$59,052 for Tropic Fence, Inc. to install a decorative fence around the historic Evergreen Cemetery at the intersection of North Arnold Avenue and West Lantana Road.

Money to pay for the fence comes from the estate of Dwight Bradshaw, who left funds for the project to the Lantana Historical Society. Bradshaw, who died in February 2021, was one of the original members of the Historical Society.

Established in 1892 as a final resting spot for local families, the land was purchased by Lantana founder M.B. Lyman, the town's first postmaster.

The fence isn't the only improvement being made at the cemetery. Mike Marin, an 18-year-old Lantana resident, earned his Eagle Scout rank after making improvements at the cemetery — including adding a plaque showing the locations of all the people buried there. In June, Marin received a proclamation from the Town Council in recognition of his work.

Council denies variance for boat lift, approves master plan

By Mary Thurwachter

Several Hypoluxo Island residents appeared at the July 24 Lantana Town Council meeting to protest a neighbor's requests for a variance to add a third boat lift to his dock. The applicant did not attend, but sent his lawyer to argue his case. The request was denied.

The protesting residents and the council weren't alone in contending the boat lift variance shouldn't be approved. Town staff came to the same conclusion, as had the planning commission at an earlier meeting.

The dock is located at the home of Christopher Durnan at 1177 Lands End Road on the west side of the island. Durnan was out of town the day of the meeting, according to his attorney, Dylan Brandenburg.

Brandenburg said he didn't feel a variance was needed, but since it was, he thought it should be granted because a permit — now expired — had previously been given two years ago when the applicant wanted to add three boat lifts to the dock, but ended up adding only two.

But it wasn't about the number of lifts in question, said Nicole Dritz, the town's development services director. Rather, the problem is the dock itself, which is nonconforming due to its length of 122 feet. The town's code restricts the length of docks to 100 feet. Dritz said adding the lift would change the structure and the law says "it cannot be enlarged or altered in any way."

The previous permit to allow for the addition of lifts was done in error, she said, adding that at the time it doesn't appear it was caught by zoning.

Brandenburg thought otherwise.

"I don't agree that this is an enlargement of the nonconforming use," he said. "We're not modifying this nonconforming dock in any way. We're simply adding a lift."

In order to get a variance, an applicant is required to show a hardship.

"The hardship is the dock, which was previously approved and built, and when it was built it was approved by the town of Lantana," Brandenburg said.

"I don't see that as a hardship," said council member Kem Mason. Other members agreed before denying the request. Islanders who spoke against granting the variance included Dan Hiatt, a neighbor; Media Beverly, who also lives nearby; and Michelle Donahue, president of the Hypoluxo Island Property Owners Association and a member of the planning commission.

Hiatt, who studied surveys of the property, said the variance application "had numerous errors of omission" and that the dock that was built is still 130

feet from the original property line, but a sea wall had been added, shortening the length to 122 feet.

"The bottom line is the permits for the other two lifts should have never been granted in the first place if you look at the old surveys," he said.

Donahue, concerned about the increase of boat lifts on the west side of the island, said: "We don't want to see this neighborhood become Hypoluxo Island marina."

And Beverly said "to suggest that the addition of a third boat lift, which supports a 70,000-pound yacht, will not infringe upon the waterfront rights of the applicant's neighbors, is simply wrong."

Master plan highlights

After a year of research, the town formally approved a master plan produced by the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council.

Some highlights include:

• Adding more housing to Water Tower Commons, where developers have struggled to attract retail tenants.

• Adding a wedding pavilion or a building with a combination of ground floor sundries and upstairs meeting space for expanded dining at the beach. Adding a cabana area, spaces for kayak and paddleboard rentals, and a perhaps a pier.

Keeping one or two historical

buildings on Ocean Avenue and redeveloping the other parcels with three-story buildings and significant parking in the rear.

• Redoing on-street parking with shade trees and less asphalt on and around Ocean Avenue — and better managing available parking to avoid need for a garage.

• Reconfiguring the municipal campus on Greynolds Circle with plans for a new Town Hall and more green space.

• Addressing the redevelopment of the Kmart shopping area in phases and lining the streets with buildings that eventually could be mixed-use.

Dana Little, urban design director for the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council, said by adopting a plan the town would "send a message to the development community, the investors that you don't even know about, and your residents as well, that we have a game plan and we're going to start moving forward with this and we're going to start chipping away piece by piece."

Residents have shown much enthusiasm for the plan.

"I am really impressed," Beverly said.
"I really believe they listened to all the residents and all those meetings we had. I think they came up with fabulous ideas."

The plan cost the town \$169,800. ★

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Boynton Beach

Sewer pipe break contaminates ICW, costs city at least \$1 million

Bv Tao Woolfe

A broken sewer pipe that had been oozing millions of gallons of wastewater into the Intracoastal Waterway has been repaired, but not before costing the city of Boynton Beach at least \$1 million.

The Florida Department of Health and the city both announced in late July that the bacteria count at the spill site – at the far east end of Boynton Beach Boulevard, east of Federal Highway — has once again reached safe levels.

"Recent coordinated laboratory testing with the city of Boynton Beach and the Florida Department of **Environmental Protection has** concluded that water again meets surface water quality standards for fecal-indicator bacteria, confirming the public may resume water-related activities," the state Department of Health announced on July 20.

The announcement came 13 days after the department issued a health alert about the spill. The break occurred on July 3.

Although the city said drinking water was not affected, local businesses were affected by the spill, especially those near the marina.

"We closed for three days," said Fernando Melo, who works



Repairs and cleanup are ongoing at the site of a sewer pipe that leaked into the Intracoastal Waterway near Marina Village. The breach in early July came in a section of pipe the city was seeking bids to replace. Tao Woolfe/The Coastal Star

for Boynton Beach Boat Rentals, which also rents jet skis at the marina. "The water was not clean and it didn't smell good, so we didn't want to expose our customers."

In subsequent City Commission budget hearings, **Utilities Director Poonam** Kalkat said the department had known that saltwater intrusion at the site had been weakening

the 20-inch clay wastewater main pipe for many years.

To pay for the sewer pipe repairs, containment and cleanup efforts, as well as other necessary repairs to the aging system of pipes, the utilities department is asking the city to increase the department's anticipated annual repair expenditures from \$500,000 to \$2 million.

Kalkat said the repairs will "restore the full pumping capacity of the lift station and eliminate wastewater piping within the storm-water conflict structures. This will provide a high level of service to the residents and businesses in the area and eliminate the risk of additional issues with the existing piping or impacts to the Intracoastal Waterway."

The city had solicited bids to replace the pipe, but the sole bid was too high, Kalkat told commissioners. The city had been about to re-advertise for bids when the pipe broke.

City officials estimated that 12 million gallons of wastewater emptied into the Intracoastal in the three days following the July 3 break. The cleanup by Boynton Beach is ongoing.

Deputy City Manager Andrew Mack said city crews worked 24-hour shifts alongside crews from Johnson-Davis, an emergency utility company hired by the city.

The workers cut out the broken section of 50-year-old pipe, patched it and created a bypass system.

"It was an all-hands-on-deck situation," Mack said. "It was contained quickly and well."

Kalkat said the emergency contractor would like to replace the clay pipe with PVC pipe and

would like to do the work now, while the street is closed and the ground is open.

The city manager's office said the costs of the cleanup were still being calculated in late July, but Johnson-Davis' bill so far was \$800,000.

"The city will continue to clean up the waterway, work on necessary repairs and replacing the pipe. The water in the Intracoastal will continue to be tested," the city said.

"It is important to note that this spill is contained to a limited section of the Intracoastal Waterway," city officials announced after the leak was repaired. "Residents are safe and drinking water was unaffected and continues to remain safe."

Boynton Beach may be ordered to pay fines as part of several enforcement tools the DEP has to address any identified violations, a spokeswoman said.

Depending on the nature of the violation and circumstances surrounding the event, the DEP will determine which measure is best-suited. Enforcement can also necessitate restoration and/ or remediation actions through a consent order or other enforcement mechanism, the spokeswoman added. ★



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Lifeguard championships

Delray Beach — July 19-20

More than 60 lifeguards from around the state took part in the 2023 James P. 'Mac' McCarthy Regional Surf Lifesaving Championships on July 19 and 20 on the public beach in Delray Beach.

RIGHT: Dozens of lifeguards rush into the ocean during one of the women's competitions.

J. Christopher Reich/ The Coastal Star



Delray Beach

Beach yoga classes will have to be run through city

By Larry Barszewski

Delray Beach officials have decided they won't be writing new rules for people wanting to have beach yoga classes or other activities on the beach. They say everything needed is already on the books.

In April, the city halted early morning "sunrise" yoga classes and evening "full moon" classes that were being offered by Pedro Luna on the beach near Atlantic Avenue, saying they weren't permitted. Since then, while city officials have reviewed beach event policies, beach yoga class participants have come to City Commission meetings and requested the classes be allowed to return.

At the commission's July 11 workshop, Assistant City Manager Jeffrey Oris told commissioners that the city can address yoga classes and other beach activities through existing policies. The result, basically, is that the city could operate any of the activities through its Parks and Recreation Department and have people register for the classes through the department.

"If there is for instance a yoga instructor that we either get through an RFP or they propose doing something, we can then tell them here's where you're going to do it, here's the days you're going to do it, here's the hours you're allowed to do it, here's how large it's allowed to be. We control every aspect of it in that way," Oris told commissioners.

"The other thing about doing it this way is, if the commission chooses, if we want to do yoga, we don't have to do CrossFit or any other event if we don't think that that's appropriate," Oris said, ensuring that "the use of the beach is relaxing and enjoyable for all."

Vice Mayor Ryan Boylston said he likes the proposed approach to regulating beach activities.

"It doesn't really look like there are any steps to be made are in place," Boylston said.
"What's now important is that
we properly communicate and
put those documents together

by us. It looks like those steps

so it's really transparent on what the options are when it comes to our beach."

Commissioner Adam

Frankel was concerned about

Frankel was concerned about enforcement, given how the city's no-dogs-on-the-beach rules have been ignored.

"Every weekend I go to the beach and I see dogs on the beach. Every weekend. Not on

beach and I see dogs on the beach. Every weekend. Not only do I see dogs on the beach, but I see dogs going to the bathroom on the beach and the answer is kicking sand over it, that's how they clean it up," Frankel said. "Enforcement is really the problem, and I think we've kind of tasked our lifeguards with responsibilities that kind of aren't in their purview."

Frankel is not keen about allowing more activities on the beach.

"I think there's areas in the city where people can do their CrossFit classes or yoga classes. Veterans Park is great, Old School Square park is great. There's plenty of areas, but the beach we've kind of maintained as a quiet area. To me, and this is just me, if we open it up to one, we open it up to all," Frankel said. "We have an award-winning beach and I'd like to see it maintained the same."

Oris told commissioners enforcement is doable.
Currently, weddings of up to 25 people — without seating, tables, archways or other wedding accessories — are allowed on the beach without a permit. Other casual beach gatherings of that size that aren't commercial enterprises could similarly be allowed, he said.

For classes run through the city, the city could hold the instructors to account for following the rules.

"What happens if we allow a 50-person yoga class and there's 55 people there? Our enforcement is the contract with the instructor," Oris said. "You violated the rules. You can't do this anymore. We'll find someone else who will follow the rules."

Luna, contacted after the meeting, said he was "optimistic" that something would be worked out to allow his classes to return.

"I am just working on figuring out who I need to talk to with the city to allow the gatherings to continue on the beach," Luna said. "To what capacity, I don't know, how does it work as far as number of people. ... I'm OK with however it shakes out, as long as we're permitted to gather."

The city was still working on what would be allowed, Oris said in an email to *The Coastal Star*.

"If the city chooses to provide such classes or partner with an instructor to do so, location, hours, frequency, size and other such details would need to be worked out so the activity would not interfere with anyone else's enjoyment of the beach, protection was afforded to the dunes and turtle nests, lifeguards were on duty, and the activity happened when the beach is open," he said.

Tax rate to drop

At the commission's July 11 meeting, commissioners set a preliminary property tax rate of roughly \$6.50 (\$6.4982) for every \$1,000 of taxable value, which covers the city's operating tax rate and voted debt tax rate.

While the city's proposed combined tax rate is about \$0.17 per \$1,000 lower than the current combined rate, it is still considered a tax increase since the city will end up collecting more taxes due to rising property values.

The city's property valuation has increased 13.69% from last year's valuation, bringing it to \$16.4 billion. The amount of property taxes collected is expected to increase 10%, or \$10.3 million, which could raise a total of \$113.3 million.

The proposed rates are a "not-to-exceed" cap that can be lowered but not increased during public hearings scheduled for Sept. 5 and 18. The average owner of a home with an assessed value of \$500,000 last year, who has a homestead exemption, would pay \$21 more in city taxes this year if the proposed rate is adopted. A similarly valued non-homesteaded property would pay \$240 more.

The general fund that pays for the day-to-day running of city government is proposed at \$184.3 million for the 2024 fiscal year that starts Oct. 1. That's a 9.2% increase of \$15.5 million from the current general fund budget.

Some of the projects in the city's \$108.4 million capital improvement budget include:

- \$2 million for renovating the north end of City Hall, where the building division is located.
- \$5.5 million from the recreation bond issue approved

in March, which will include money for public restrooms, tennis stadium enhancements and locker room renovations, athletic field lighting, beach access improvements, new beach showers and fountains, and structural repairs to the main beach pavilion.

• \$4.15 million from the

- \$4.15 million from the public safety bond issue approved in March, which will include money for a space needs analysis, planning and design for the police headquarters and Fire Station 112, and storage and locker room improvements for Ocean Rescue.
- \$100,000 from the beautification fund for the maintenance of city medians.

In addition, the city has started building up funds to pay for future debt service for the construction of a water treatment plant. The city's contingency fund for the new plant is being increased \$6.7 million in the proposed budget.

A follow-up budget workshop is planned for Aug. 15. ★



<u>Manalapan</u>

Town budget to include more police and 7% raises for all employees

By Larry Barszewski

A new police contract approved by Manalapan commissioners July 25 includes 7% annual pay raises for the next three years, lifting the starting salary for new hires to \$65,000, and giving officers a \$200-a-month gas allowance.

Commissioners also decided to add two new officer positions to the department to beef up overnight patrols, so that patrol coverage can continue even if two officers are tied up with an arrest or other stop.

The changes are on top of the renovation of the town's police headquarters, which was completed in July.

"I think we're spoiling our Police Department as we should. They've got a big increase and huge benefits, and now they have a new headquarters," Mayor Stewart Satter said at the meeting.

"Our goal in offering the enhanced compensation and benefits is to take care of those who take care of us every day," Satter said in a follow-up email to *The Coastal Star*, "and to help Manalapan retain our trained and experienced police officers in what is a very competitive employment environment."

The department, which has struggled to fill vacancies over the past several years, was fully staffed as of June 30, Police Chief Carmen Mattox said. The number of sworn officers will increase to 10 as of Oct. 1.

The additional officers came

at Satter's suggestion during a July 24 budget workshop. He was concerned because there is one officer each on the beach side and on The Point overnight, but one helps out the other if the situation calls for it. The extra positions will ensure coverage continues while the two are tied up.

Police won't be the only ones getting 7% pay raises this year, as the budget includes a matching 7% salary boost for all town employees.

To pay for the salary increases and other budget priorities in the coming year, the commission approved a not-to-exceed proposed property tax rate of \$3 for every \$1,000 of taxable value, the same as last year. That rate is considered a property tax increase even though it's not changing, because of rising property values of 15% in town this year. The \$3 per \$1,000 tax rate is expected to raise \$6.28 million in property taxes, which is about \$740,000 more than last year, or a 13.3% increase.

The proposed rate can still be lowered, but not raised, during public hearings on the budget and tax rate scheduled for Sept. 18 and 25.

Town Manager Linda
Stumpf has proposed a \$7.3
million operating budget —
an increase of 8.3% from the
current budget — and \$650,396
for capital and infrastructure
projects.

The proposed tax rate means a home assessed at \$1 million

last year, which receives a homestead exemption, will pay about \$90 more in town taxes this year. A similarly valued non-homesteaded property will see about a \$300 increase.

The budget includes \$2 million to Palm Beach County Fire Rescue for fire rescue services, a 13.7% increase of \$245,000.

The biggest unknowns are for property and liability insurance. Stumpf's budget includes a 40% premium increase, though she has been advised the increase could be as high as 60%. The actual renewal costs aren't expected until late August, Stumpf said.

Home construction extension granted

Commissioners were upset that an Ocean Boulevard home under construction for four years still isn't finished.

A building permit was pulled in 2018 and construction began in 2019 on the property at 1460 S. Ocean Blvd. The property was purchased for \$12.4 million in 2017 and the new unfinished home is now on the market for \$79.5 million.

Attorney David Miller, representing property owner 1460 South Ocean Boulevard LLC, requested a building permit extension until February 2024 — but then told commissioners he would prefer a year's extension "out of an abundance of caution."

He blamed Florida Power & Light for the delay in Coastal

Construction's finishing the project.

"They've been unable to get permanent power. Coastal has been emailing FPL for almost three years about the transformer permanent power hookup. Still haven't been able to get a commitment from FPL," Miller said. "Apparently, the power for this house got reassigned to I believe four or five different individuals by FPL over the course of the last 2½ years, which I think is a large part of what the holdup was."

But Satter didn't buy that argument.

"This is taking way too long. It has nothing to do with FPL, with all due respect," Satter said. "I have no interest to extend the permit for eight months. It's not fair to the neighbors."

Commissioners, seeing few alternatives, approved a shorter permit extension to Dec. 26, but placed a number of conditions on the extension. Those conditions include having better screening on the north side of the property, placement of additional fresh rock and grass to reduce the amount of sand blowing from the construction site, and painting the front of the house to make the property look more finished.

The first two permits cost the owner almost \$462,000. The new permit extension fee is \$83,161.53.

Despite the new deadline, Satter predicted the owner

would be back seeking yet another extension.

In other business:

- Stumpf reported that the town's iguana removal efforts, which began in June, are having an effect. She said 50 iguanas have been removed from public property so far by the hired company.
- The town has revamped its water utility billing and residents should see the difference on the latest bills. The new system gives residents the ability to pay their bills online. It also makes it easier for properties with multiple meters. Instead of receiving separate bills, as in the past, those residents will now have all their meters listed under one account.
- The commission approved a \$96,544.82 contract with The Paving Lady for the construction of a new landscaped island in the Land's End Road cul-de-sac. It was the only bid received for the project.

"While the unit prices are higher than we would normally anticipate, because this is a smaller project adjacent to valuable property with exceptional finishes, it is understandable that the costs are higher than average," reported Thomas Biggs of consultant Mock Roos & Associates, which reviewed the bid and is being paid up to \$10,000 by the town for construction oversight.

Briny Breezes

Baseball rookie has Briny sand in his flip-flops

By Steve Plunkett

Briny Breezes has its first direct link to Major League Baseball: Nolan Schanuel, the Los Angeles Angels' top draft choice and No. 11 overall, often visits his grandmother here.

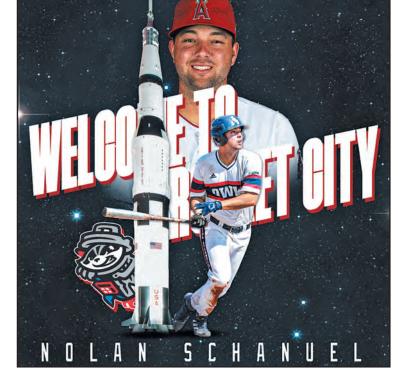
"He loves Briny," said Rochelle Schanuel. "He says I'm probably the only nana that has fishing poles in their bedroom so I can go fishing."

The slugging first baseman, who played earlier at Park Vista High School west of Boynton Beach and at Florida Atlantic University, signed a contract for a reported \$5.25 million after the first-year player draft on July 9.

Schanuel, 21, had 46 home runs and 176 runs batted in during his three years at FAU, and was named 2023 Conference USA baseball player of the year.

He jumped quickly from the bottom two of the Angels' four minor league levels to the club's Double-A team in northern Alabama.





LEFT: Briny Breezes resident Rochelle Schanuel with her grandson Nolan Schanuel, the top draft pick of the Los Angeles Angels last month. **RIGHT:** Nolan's promotion to the Double-A Rocket City Trash Pandas in northern Alabama prompted the team to create an image to mark his rapid ascent through the lowest two levels of minor league ball. **Photos provided**

"Let's go launch 'em," the Rocket City Trash Pandas, his new team, posted on July 28 on X, the rebranded Twitter network.

The promotion to Double-A came after Schanuel got seven

hits in 14 at-bats in his first five

Briny Breezes Mayor Gene Adams, who has known the Schanuels for years, said he is looking forward to watching the new Angel play. "I'm very, very proud of him. He's a good kid," Adams said. "I was pleased at how high he went in the draft."

Rochelle Schanuel, who summers in Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri, hasn't made plans yet to watch her grandson play but of course is a big fan.

When Nolan was in high school and college, "I went to every baseball game that was played at home," she said. ★

10 Questions

ost people who live in the oceanfront communities that dot southern Palm Beach County know Frank McKinney as the long-haired, eccentric builder responsible for either constructing or renovating 44 mansions either on or close by the ocean over the past 33 years.

But there's a lot people don't know.

Most don't know his Caring House Project Foundation has also built 29 self-sustaining villages in the desperately poor jungles of Haiti. That he has competed in the Badwater Ultramarathon, a 135-mile footrace held every July from Death Valley to the Mount Whitney trail, 12 times and finished it seven. Or that in March 2020, while the rest of the world was experiencing the first days of the coronavirus pandemic, McKinney was diagnosed with chronic myeloid leukemia.

Bedridden and miserable for two weeks while fighting the cancer that had invaded his white blood cells, McKinney ultimately survived the ordeal and then used it as motivation for his seventh book, *Adversitology*. His book tour was unusual: Instead of visiting bookstores he drove up the East Coast and came back down through the Midwest, stopping at soup kitchens, homeless shelters and the like, making 26 stops in 27 days.

"The image on the cover shows a guy hanging by a thread, and who can relate to the message of hope more than the homeless population?" he said.

"So, I'm standing on a chair in front of 200 people with the hair, and I'm white, and people are thinking, 'What's this guy going to teach me about adversity?'

"The talks went about 30 minutes, at which point people had a choice of cash, gift cards for grocery stores and pharmacies, or the book. And in those 26 stops we kept track and 71% took the book."

McKinney said he's met more than 10,000 homeless people and estimates more than 70% shouldn't be.

"They're educated, they're lucid, they can carry on a conversation, and they want to know you care. Some are there because of substance abuse, but for many it's bad timing, bad luck ... they're one paycheck away from getting off the street. I've written a letter to Congress saying we need a homeless czar, and I've offered my services. I'd gladly fill that role."

McKinney, 60, and his wife, Nilsa, live in Delray Beach. Nilsa has owned her own interior design firm, Nilsa Design Services, since 1988. Their daughter Laura, who lives in New York, started her public relations company, StrataBrand, in 2022.

— Brian Biggane

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR: Frank McKinney



Frank McKinney of coastal **Delray Beach** is renowned for his work on mansions but has owned this 1988 Yugo GV since 2006. It has about 117,000 miles on it, 50,000 of those since he bought it for \$2,000. Tim Stepien/ The Coastal Star

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

A: Beneath it all I'm a cornfed country boy. Grew up in Carmel, Indiana. Four high schools in four years, graduated from a reform school run by Benedictine monks named The Abbey in Cañon City, Colorado. I loved it; it was one of the best experiences of my life. But I learned independence. I'm the oldest of six and was ruining the vibe in the family, and my parents told me at 18 I needed to

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

A: I came to Florida with the plan to earn enough money to go to California and be a stuntman. I got a job on a golf course digging sand traps by hand. I started to fall in love with the Florida lifestyle, and I saw the richand-famous lifestyle every day. I got transferred to the tennis courts and had been a top junior tennis player when I was young. I borrowed money, went to Hilton Head and became a certified teaching professional, and that certificate became like my Ph.D., because now I could mix with those people and make good money doing it. My club didn't want me, so I went out and found four high-end clubs in Boca with no instructors and began making \$100,000 a year.

At the end of each lesson, I'd ask questions and kept hearing that people made their money investing in real estate. Then I bought a crack house on the ocean that had been abandoned for \$750,000, fixed it up and sold it for \$1.4 million. Then we jumped to a \$2.4 million mansion. Now we've done 44 projects on the ocean or across the street since 1990.

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

A: Exercise your risk

tolerance like a muscle. I'm afraid every day of my life, but I don't let fear stop me. And that was one of my advantages coming up. I didn't let fear stop me from taking big risks. All of us are going to have regrets. I want to regret what I did, not what I didn't do.

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

A: My wife and I were doing our A1A drive in 1997. Women need roots to start a family. We drove by a house at the north end of Delray. The house was built in 1935, the last designated historic house on the beach. They were afraid I was going to do all this work and I didn't change a light bulb. If you hated what I built, it's that different. But what attracted us to Delray was how quiet it was back then. Compared to Palm Beach, Boca and Gulf Stream it was the redheaded stepchild, but it had all the amenities, better beaches than any of them.

Q: What is your favorite part about living in coastal Delray Beach?

A: The people. We still have friends we made 25 years ago. The core person who is drawn to Delray Beach, that it isn't Boca or Palm Beach, that's who we are. The average age now is dropping. When we started

selling beach properties the average age was over 60. I bet it has dropped 10 years. That's pretty amazing.

Q: What book are you reading now?

A: My favorite author is Anthony de Mello. He's an obscure philosopher who died in 1987 and remained a Jesuit priest his whole life. I'm rereading his book *Awareness*. I just love his philosophies.

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

A: People will look at the picture here and say, "Oh, I know what kind of music he likes." And they're not wrong. Heavier stuff, Van Halen or Mötley Crüe. It relaxes me, believe it or not. But if I'm going to write a new book or come up with a new design, Vivaldi. I love that sense of just closing your eyes and your brain popping like a soda can.

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

A: When I went to Manalapan, I had the long hair and all, and wondered who would help me out. It was (Amway co-founder) Rich DeVos. He wrote the forward to my first book. He taught me

in the late '90s, when I was on the front page of the Miami Herald for selling the most expensive spec house in the history of Palm Beach County. I was depressed and went to him and asked what was wrong. He asked me what my spiritual calling was, and ultimately taught me there's a difference between a professional calling and a spiritual calling. There's a Bible passage that says to whom much is given much is required. That's a good way to live life and he instilled that in me, and that's what got us building these villages in Haiti.

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

A: Johnny Depp. He can capture an eccentric. There's a fine line between an eccentric and a lunatic. The eccentric has the money.

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

A: I drive Yugos. The one I have now I've had since 2006. It's an '88. I learned early on that the energy we put into thinking about buying and thinking about material things, that favor is never returned. I just love that car. I haven't put many miles on it because all my projects were up and down the beach.



Obituaries

John Prescott Shibles

OCEAN RIDGE — John Prescott Shibles of Ocean Ridge and Sea Girt, New Jersey, died July 23 at Jersey Shore University Medical Center, Neptune. He was 75.

He was born in New Brunswick and moved to the Jersey Shore in the mid-1970s and to Ocean Ridge in 1999.

A graduate of Saint Joseph High School in Metuchen, he



continued his education at Quincy University in Illinois, and later received his master's degree from Pace University, New York City. This past May, Mr. Shibles received an honorary doctorate from Quincy University.

He started his career as an accountant with Johnson & Johnson, New Brunswick. In the late 1970s he became a real estate broker at Sitar

Realty in Iselin. In the early 1980s he began a career as a real estate developer. Mr. Shibles was involved in the site selection and development of numerous Home Depot sites throughout New Jersey. His projects won numerous architectural and marketing accolades for his attention to detail.

In later years Mr. Shibles developed a passion for automobiles. In 2012 Mr. Shibles' hobby led to the opening of the Back Door Garage, which was known for having one of the finest collections of classic cars on a national level. He participated in many Concours d'Elegance throughout the country including Pebble Beach, Amelia Island, Hershey Region and Newport, Rhode

Mr. Shibles enjoyed traveling and collecting wine and sharing it with family and friends. He was always willing to assist others through his advice, caring and support. He was a parishioner of St. Mark Catholic Church in Boynton Beach and St. Catharine Catholic Church in Spring Lake, New Jersey.

Mr. Shibles was predeceased by his first wife, Teresa Notarianni Shibles, in 2013. He is survived by his loving wife, Jill Devlin Shibles; son Prescott Shibles and his wife, Naomi, and grandson, Rowan, of Charlotte, North Carolina; son John C. Shibles and his wife, Elizabeth, and grandchildren Ryan, Colin, Brendan and Claire of Lincroft; his sister, Laura Jane Shibles of Ocean Ridge; and many nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Saint Joseph High School, 145 Plainfield Ave., Metuchen, NJ 08840, designated to the John P. Shibles Memorial Scholarship Fund. To leave condolence messages to the family, visit www. claytonfuneralhome.com.

— *Obituary submitted by the family*

Bernard Featherman

By Rich Pollack

HIGHLAND BEACH — Bernard Featherman loved living in Highland Beach and loved even more having served as the town's mayor.

"One of the five top highlights of his life was being mayor," his son Andrew

Featherman said.

Mr. Featherman, who was in office from 2011 to 2017, died on July 14 of heart failure. He was 94.

A man with a large presence in town, even after he left office due to term limits, Mr. Featherman

saw his role as mayor as an opportunity to help other residents.

"It was a pulpit from which he could do good,"

Doing good — and helping his community seemed to be part of Mr. Featherman's DNA.

Until health issues made it difficult for him to get around, Mr. Featherman served as vice president of the Beach Condo Association of Boca Raton, Highland Beach and Delray Beach. He also held leadership roles on the board at the Villa Costa condominium and had previously served as president of the Highland Beach Coastal Democratic Club.

He also was sub-committee chair of the Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission and served on the Legislative Policy Committee of the Florida League of Cities.

Mr. Featherman was an officer of local Rotary clubs, with Rotary holding a special place for him. It has long been a supporter of the fight against polio, a disease he contracted when he was 14.

Along with being well-known in Highland Beach, Mr. Featherman was recognized as a community leader in the Philadelphia area. He lived there much of his life — aside from a stint in Maine while his wife, Sandra, was a college president in the state — before moving to Florida in 2010. He was also recognized for his business acumen nationally, serving as a regional adviser

to the Small Business Administration's Office of the National Ombudsman. He also served on the Democratic National Committee, where he was chair of the Democratic Small Business Council.

Mr. Featherman built his family's firm — a metal fabricator — into a multiple business conglomerate that employed hundreds and made many of the products people take for granted, like school lockers or the pallet racks in Sam's Club or Costco. He was a two-time president of the industry's national trade association.

A highlight of Mr. Featherman's involvement in the small business arena was his being named Inc. magazine's Entrepreneur of the Year in the Supporter of Entrepreneurship category.

Mr. Featherman wrote a business-related column for a local newspaper in Maine, where he was involved in various organizations, and spoke about small business and entrepreneurship while appearing on a local television station.

He was also the author of two books: *How to* Start Your Own Small Business and Planning for Your Retirement.

His work brought him into contact with leaders on the national stage including politicians and

"He knew presidents going back to Nixon," Andrew Featherman said.

Affable and armed with a contagious smile, Mr. Featherman was always comfortable around others.

"He genuinely enjoyed people, and everyone wanted to be his friend," his son said.

After Mr. Featherman's wife of more than 60 years died in 2018, his family suggested he return to Pennsylvania to be closer to them but he would have none of it.

"He didn't want to leave," Andrew Featherman said. "He loved Highland Beach."

Mr. Featherman is survived by his two sons, Andrew (Elizabeth) and John (Masako). A service was held for Mr. Featherman in Pennsylvania on July 19. A celebration of his life will be held in Highland Beach in coming months.

Along the Coast

The Coastal Star wins nine awards in Florida Press Association contest

By Mary Thurwachter

The Coastal Star received three first-place awards and nine overall in the Florida Press Association 2023 Weekly

Newspaper Contest for nondaily newspapers.

The stories receiving firstplace recognition included a touching obituary about a 100-year-old World War II hero who jumped with the

U.S. Army's 502nd Parachute was the intriguing tale of a 29-year-old fishmonger who frills videos on how to clean and

Infantry Regiment into Normandy on D-Day. Another became a digital star with no-

"Since we knew hurricane coverage was going to dominate the awards this cycle, we entered fewer than usual," said Marv Kate Leming, editor of *The* Coastal Star. "As always, the best rose to the top, but all were winners in my book. Every award granted to our excellent team of writers reflects on their commitment to community journalism. If they weren't agreeable to contributing to our monthly publication, there would be no news and information from many of our South County communities.

The association presented the

awards at a ceremony July 21 in

Though it comes out

Star competed against weekly newspapers in a division for

papers with circulations over

for the 2022 calendar year.

15,000. The contest period was

monthly, *The Coastal*

fillet fish.

Sarasota.

The paper's top awards went

Their talent is appreciated."

- *The Coastal Star* staff for overall graphic design.
- Ron Hayes for best obituary - about WWII veteran Ed
- Jan Norris, for outdoor and recreation reporting — about Delray Beach fishmonger Reed Brand.

Second-place awards went to: • Tim Stepien for his feature

- photo of a baby sea turtle at
- Charles Elmore for health, medical and science reporting — about mail order medicine.
- Rich Pollack for education news — about the popularity of elite schools.

Third-place awards went to: • *The Coastal Star* staff for

- front page design.
- Norris for arts, entertainment and review reporting — about female chefs.
- Tao Woolfe for her feature story about Ukrainian refugees on Hypoluxo Island. ★





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DEL IDA PARK | \$2,275,000

Old Delray historic home, 1947; restorative renovations, double corner lot, w/pool, many updates. New 2022 roof, gorgeous yard, don't miss.

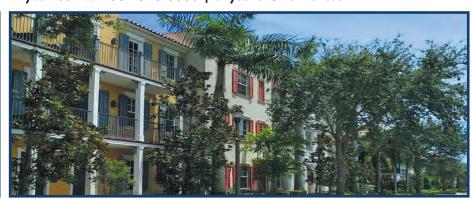
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LAKE IDA | \$2,120,000

Mango House, Lake Ida ½ acre, 4 BR,2BA beautiful landscaping w/pool & screened patio. Luxury townhome in downtown Delray,, 3BR, 3.5 BA, 3 levels, guest suite Noreen Payne 561 571-2289

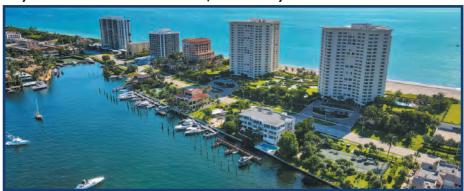
Amy Stark Snook 561 571-2289 | team@amyandnoreen.com



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South Palm Beach

Council may seek state and federal funding for new Town Hall

By Brian Biggane

In the 12 years Bonnie Fischer has served as mayor, South Palm Beach has never been in a position to apply for or receive either a state or federal grant. With a new Town Hall building in the planning phase, that may be changing.

When Sen. Bobby Powell and Rep. Mike Caruso made presentations touting their accomplishments in the state legislature at the town's July meeting, both told the Town Council they're ready and willing to help the town meet its goals.

"I'm sure there's something South Palm Beach wants or needs," said Caruso, who said he's brought back \$45 million in appropriations for his district in the past five years. "We'll team up on it. I hope you come up with a couple

Fischer said Palm Beach County had promised to construct groins — rock

structures perpendicular to the shoreline that help protect beaches — until a couple of years ago when those plans were canceled.

"They were steering the ship," she said. Caruso, whose constituency moved north as a result of redistricting and now includes Riviera Beach, said he secured five grants for that municipality last year.

Caruso said the Sheriff's Office, which polices South Palm Beach, needs a command center in town. "Bobby and I got one for Riviera Beach," he said.

Fischer said one factor complicating matters is that the town has no public beach, so securing funds for beach restoration or sea walls has always been

"We have a lot of sea walls that are close to collapsing," Fischer said. "It is a very serious issue in our town."

Town Manager Jamie Titcomb said his 36 years of traveling to Tallahassee to work with legislators should work to the

town's advantage.

"I have relationships with a lot of people up there," he said. "What that does is it gets you situational awareness — reading the tea leaves and learning how to synchronize our needs with them to see if we can bring home the bacon."

Toward that end, Fischer and Titcomb had what Titcomb described as a "positioning" Zoom call days before a meeting with Guaranteed Clean Energy, a fiduciary adviser that pairs schools and municipalities with funding and grant resources that potentially could provide as much as 80% of the Town Hall

"We asked if there were thresholds, what kind of leveraging does that get us in the near future, and that's where they talked about the 80%," Titcomb said. "They thought they could get as much as 80% funding for these various programs, so if we have \$1 million to spend that could be a \$5 million project, just using

round numbers."

In other developments:

- A moment of silence was held to honor the recent passing of Betty Sue Shapiro. Said Fischer, "She was definitely a character and will definitely be missed." Ms. Shapiro was honored at the town's ice cream social on July 16.
- Nowlen, Holt & Miner, which has previously served as the town's accounting firm, was given a two-year term by the council.
- The Sheriff's Office awarded July 2023 Star Resident Award medals to Mary Varpanis and Kathy Liccardi for their roles in the May 8 lifesaving effort by Deputy Donna Korb in the ocean off South Palm Beach.
- A scheduled presentation from Archetype Homes consultant Erik Scheuermann regarding the Town Hall proposal was postponed. Titcomb said he hopes to reschedule "as soon as their schedule allows." ★

Ocean Ridge

Commission proposes higher tax rate, but it's not likely to stay

By Larry Barszewski

Ocean Ridge commissioners reviewing the town's proposed budget for next year have decided the town doesn't need a paid lobbyist, and commissioners don't need computer tablets or a pay raise.

But Town Manager Lynne Ladner can replace her broken office chair.

Some commissioners questioned going into such detail that Ladner's chair would be part of their July 10 budget workshop discussions, but Ladner was assuming nothing when making her first budget presentation as town manager.

She walked the commission through her proposed \$11 million general fund budget for the 2024 fiscal year that starts Oct. 1, as well as the town's planned capital improvement projects.

Commissioners aren't planning to increase the town's tax rate, but at a special meeting July 24 they approved a not-toexceed proposed property tax rate of \$5.5372 for every \$1,000 of taxable value, an increase of under 1% from last year's approved rate of \$5.50 per \$1,000 of taxable value.

The proposed rate can be lowered — but not increased — during public hearings on the budget set for Sept. 5 and 18.

"Just say between now and when we finalize the budget something catastrophic happens, we would not be able to increase the millage rate over what we say today," Mayor Geoff Pugh told Commissioner Carolyn Cassidy, who wants to lower the tax rate. The higher proposed rate is just saying "let's hedge our bets and make sure we are able to go somewhere [higher] if something happens" before the final rate is set, he

If needed, the slight rate increase would provide less than \$60,000 in additional cash to the budget.

Even if commissioners decide to keep last year's rate — or lower it but not significantly that would still be considered a tax increase because of rising property values in town, which went up an estimated 12.9% this

The average owner of a home with an assessed value of \$1 million last year, who receives a homestead exemption, would see a town tax increase of \$165 if the tax rate staved the same as last year. A similarly valued non-homesteaded property would see a \$550 increase.

If the town were to adopt the

higher proposed rate set at the July 24 meeting, the total town tax increase would be \$201 for that homesteaded property and \$591 for the non-homesteaded

Commissioners covered a variety of topics during their budget workshop.

Septic-to-sewer. While the town has had on-again offagain discussions about being prepared for the day the state will mandate an end to septic systems on barrier islands, commissioners decided to hold off on spending \$63,520 in planning — including a financial analysis because there are no current expectations that the state will require the conversion.

Lobbyist. Commissioners decided the town doesn't need to continue spending \$20,000 on a lobbyist to represent its wishes in Tallahassee. Cassidy said the town would be better off working through the Florida League of Cities and directly with the town's own legislators. "I think a lobbyist is an unnecessary third party," she

Town picnic. Residents should plan on partying together, as Ladner has added \$9,000 to the budget for a barbecue, picnic or some

other event for town residents, probably on a Saturday afternoon in January or February, she said. "People would like more community events, more opportunities as a community to come together," she said.

Town shirts. Town employees don't get enough recognition, so Ladner said she is looking at purchasing polo-style shirts for them embroidered with the town emblem.

Technology overload. Commissioners have received town phones, but they told Ladner not to spend \$20,000 included in her proposed budget to buy computer tablets for them and for members of the town's appointed boards.

"To be perfectly frank I do not want a tablet. I don't even want the phone," Pugh said.

Vice Mayor Steve Coz also questioned the need for the phones: "I brought my phone and I looked at it. Guess who called me? My other phone."

Ladner requested the computer tablets so commissioners could receive and review their meeting agenda packets online, rather than having staff print them out for delivery to commissioners, a more time-consuming and paper-wasting process. But commissioners say they like having their paper agendas

Ladner understood the consensus was to keep things the way they are — "like the 1980s."

Commission pay raises. Ladner didn't include money for a salary increase for commissioners, who earn \$1,200 annually, but she checked to see what the commissioners wanted to do. They said they didn't want

Building permits. The Town Commission approved at its regular July 10 meeting purchasing a new online

building permit system made by the same company that Highland Beach uses, after discussing the idea at the budget workshop earlier in the day.

"The town of Highland Beach's permit process beats everybody," Pugh said. "The program that they're using in Highland Beach is amazingly simple on the building side."

The town already has an approved contract for a different system, but Ladner hasn't been satisfied with the performance of that company — and her newly proposed system will interface better with other town software, she said.

The town probably will have to pay \$22,000 for the first year of software from the old contract that wasn't used, while Ladner is working with the town attorney to get the city out of the rest of the contract with Tyler Technologies.

Ladner expects to save \$41,000 from the original contract in the first year of the new contract with BS&A, which is for \$40,425.

Coz said the town needs to tap into the expertise of its residents more, especially when it comes to software.

"We continually are buying the wrong product, or about to buy the wrong product, when we have people in this town that could tell us the right product," Coz said.

Inflation hits fire contract. Because of inflation, the cost for the town's contract with Boynton Beach for fire services is expected to rise to \$1.4 million. The contract calls for a flat 4% annual increase unless the inflation rate is higher. This year, the inflation figure being used is 9%, meaning the increase will be about \$111,000, more than double last year's \$50,000 increase, according to the proposed budget. And it may end up being even higher.

"I want to double-check the

Continued on page 23



Laura Allen Southdale properties, Inc 561-350-3103

Along the Coast

Newest camera technology on road has put big dent in crime, police say

By Rich Pollack

It didn't take long for Highland Beach police to track down the driver suspected of being involved in a life-threatening hit-and-run pedestrian accident, thanks in large part to the latest technology.

The accident was captured on a nearby video camera belonging to a condominium complex, which assisted police in identifying the car involved. Investigators then used license plate recognition software to capture the tag number of the vehicle, which led them to the driver.

"Within minutes of the accident we were able to identify the suspect vehicle," said Highland Beach Police Chief Craig Hartmann. "What could have taken a long time to investigate — and maybe never solve — was made easier to conclude thanks to the technology."

For more than a decade, license plate recognition software has been used by law enforcement agencies patrolling the coastal communities in southern Palm Beach County. Now thanks to the latest state-of-the art technology, a license plate recognition system accessible among Highland Beach, Ocean Ridge and Gulf Stream is more effective in not just solving crime but in stopping it.

In Ocean Ridge, Police Chief Scott McClure said that the number of crimes reported during a one-year period ending in April dropped by 57%. Adding improved license plate recognition software was a major contributing factor to that decline. The town has been using LPR cameras since 2021.

"These systems help prevent officers from spending hours conducting investigations when they can now spend just minutes deterring a crime in the first



License plate reading cameras are motion activated and take a series of photos that compare plate numbers against those of vehicles listed as suspicious. RIGHT: Police can view results on a desktop computer, in a squad car or even on a phone. Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star

place," said Gulf Stream Police Chief Richard Jones.

Since departments first deployed them in southern Palm Beach County, license plate readers have been used to notify police when a vehicle reported stolen or having been used in other crimes comes into a community.

That in itself helps deter crime, the chiefs say, since people intent on committing crimes often drive stolen vehicles. With license plate recognition software police are able to track the stolen vehicle and either pull it over or determine that it is no longer in the jurisdiction.

LPR also can alert police if vehicles belonging to people who have restraining orders against them enter areas where they are not supposed to be.

"License plate cameras can expand a small police force's presence into every neighborhood," said Highland Beach Town Manager Marshall Labadie.

Thanks to a system produced by Atlanta-based Flock Safety, Highland Beach, Ocean Ridge and Gulf Stream now have advanced technology that wasn't previously available to their



small towns. Flock is also being used in Lantana.

With the Flock system, the agencies can share information that they couldn't before. Highland Beach, for example, can see if a vehicle its officers are looking for was spotted by a Gulf Stream or Ocean Ridge camera.

Flock can also let law enforcement agencies know any time a vehicle that's been entered into the system is tracked by a Flock system camera anywhere in the country.

"The LPRs have us talking to each other more and sharing information," said Hartmann, whose agency installed the Flock system in June.

The Flock cameras are more advanced in that they produce clearer images and are solar-powered. Flock also has analytics that were not available to earlier systems.

The Flock system, for example, can track a vehicle based on identifying characteristics. Police officers can enter a description of a vehicle into the system — say a red Ford pickup with tinted windows and a bumper sticker on the back — and the system

will alert if and when that vehicle is in the area. From there officers can get a tag number.

Flock can also alert police if a vehicle without a tag or with a temporary tag — characteristics that have been associated with criminal activity — is in their community.

"LPRs help us look for vehicles that come into our jurisdiction for the sole purpose of committing a crime," Hartmann said.

As with most departments up and down the coast, police cars in Highland Beach, Gulf Stream and Ocean Ridge are all equipped with the ability to see images of tags that the system is programmed to recognize.

In Gulf Stream, police use a combination of proactive policing and technology to prevent crime.

"Every 10 days, we are diverting either a vehicle burglary or an auto theft," says Jones, who pioneered the use of the Flock system while he was chief in Ocean Ridge before moving to Gulf Stream this year.

On several occasions, he said, officers have identified vehicles using the software combined with recognition of vehicle traits — tinted windows for example

— that are often seen on vehicles used to commit crimes.

If it appears a felony has been committed, Gulf Stream officers will follow a vehicle and attempt to pull it over until the vehicle either pulls over or is outside the town's jurisdiction and it is determined that it is no longer safe to attempt a stop.

That, Jones said, in itself is helping with crime prevention because criminals talk to each other.

"They're telling their friend 'they're going to chase you out of town," he said.

Jones said since Gulf Stream installed Flock cameras in May, the system had scanned more than 17,000 tags through the middle of July. There were 351 alerts with somewhere between 8% and 10% of those getting follow-up action from officers.

Privacy safeguards taken

Flock also provides license plate recognition systems to residential communities. Those systems are integrated into local police department systems.

Flock's vice president of policy and communications, Josh Thomas, says that the company has taken several steps to safeguard privacy.

The information collected is accessible only to law enforcement and the data collected is available on the Flock system for only 30 days.

Unlike most other companies providing license plate recognition software, Flock rents the equipment for an annual fee that can range from \$2,500 to \$4,000 per device. The system is now in 44 states and more than 3,700 cities.

Thomas says the system is also used to respond to Amber Alerts and has helped with the recovery of more than 130 children nationwide.

Continued from page 22

fire contract," Ladner said. "I think it may be higher than what was calculated."

Street paving. While Commissioner Ken Kaleel said the town's streets need to be paved on a regular basis, Ladner said the current plan is to defer paving for another year because of other capital projects.

"When we get off of a schedule, it ends up costing us more," Kaleel said. But Coz said that's not always the case. "In the last two budgets, nobody could find a road that needed paving," Coz said.

Ladner planned to research the paving issue and update the commissioners in August.

Employee raises. The commission didn't reach a decision about employee raises, so Ladner will return with options for commissioners to

consider in August. Ladner told commissioners the town has no cost-of-living increase and employees are eligible for only a merit increase of up to 5%.

Ladner said the cost of living itself has increased more than 5% in the past year, suggesting that something additional may be warranted for employees. Coz said the commission did address the issue last year when it awarded \$7,500 one-time bonuses that didn't get added to the employee base salaries.

Cassidy appeared skeptical about additional raises. She said she remembered the same conversation last year, when she wondered "why was there no discussion about some kind of cost-of-living acknowledgement for residents" in the form of a tax decrease.

Solid waste fees. The

garbage collection bill will increase \$29, to \$260, for single-family homes, and will increase \$20.30, to \$182, for multi-family homes.

Land purchase near Town Hall? Ladner mentioned she might add the purchase of a land parcel to the budget that may cost about \$200,000 to \$300,000. "It would be the last parcel in the preservation conservation Town Hall area, to lock up that canal," Ladner said. "It's an area right behind us. It's zoned residential."

Budget surplus. Ladner's proposed budget included \$550,000 more in revenues than she needed to cover expenses, something Cassidy said would be better back in the pockets of taxpayers. Whether that money remains unspent could depend on what the commission does regarding employee raises and capital projects.

All coastal departments use license plate readers

One of the earliest coastal communities to employ license plate recognition software was the town of Manalapan, which had a system in place as early as 2014

In South Palm Beach, which is patrolled by the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, deputies now have access to license plate reader information in their vehicles, according to Town Manager Jamie Titcomb.

License plate readers have been used in the larger coastal cities for years, with Boca Raton placing cameras on police cars as early as 2011 and Delray Beach using fixed license plate readers at strategic locations since 2016 that provide officers in patrol cars access to alerts.

While Delray Beach uses a different system, several private

communities in the city have Flock, giving Delray Beach police limited access to the system.

Lantana police, whose jurisdiction covers a portion of Hypoluxo Island, was one of the earliest local adaptors of the Flock system and late last year received Town Council approval to spend \$251,600 on license plate recognition cameras for police cars and another \$90,600 for 16 more cameras to be installed around town.

"Every law enforcement agency in our area is using license plate recognition systems to some degree," Gulf Stream Police Chief Richard Jones said.

— Rich Pollack

DENSITY

Continued from page 1

Boynton Beach: 6,287 residents per square mile (in 2.1 square miles between Interstate 95 and the Intracoastal Waterway, from the Boynton Canal south to Woolbright Road).

Boca Raton: 5,282 residents per square mile (in 2.5 square miles between the El Rio Canal and the Intracoastal Waterway, from Northeast/Northwest 20th Street south to Camino Real).

Delray Beach: 5,111 residents per square mile (in 1.9 square miles between I-95 and the Intracoastal, from Lake Ida Road/Northeast Fourth Street south to Atlantic Avenue; between Southwest Eighth Avenue and the Intracoastal from Atlantic south to Southeast/Southwest 10th Street; and between Dixie Highway and the Intracoastal from 10th Street south to Linton Boulevard).

All three cities continue to see downtown growth, but Boynton Beach has the densest that is already lined up. Seven approved projects in the downtown area could raise the density there to 9,238 residents per square mile a decade from now.

In just one corridor two blocks north and south of Ocean Avenue, stretching from Seacrest Boulevard to the Intracoastal, five projects with 2,214 more residential units — which could add 5,500 more people, based on the city's average household size in the 2020 U.S. Census — are in the works.

"You're doubling that population in less than a mile square area," said Kristine de Haseth, a former Ocean Ridge mayor and executive director of Florida Coalition for Preservation, which seeks to promote responsible growth. "You get an increase in population, it puts extreme pressure on aging and failing infrastructure."

Over the years, similar concerns have been heard in Delray Beach and Boca Raton, as the cities pushed forward with attracting residential, commercial and office developments to create a

downtown environment where people can "live, work and play."

The projects typically are anchored to or near major thoroughfares: Palmetto Park Road in Boca Raton, Atlantic Avenue in Delray Beach, Boynton Beach Boulevard/ Ocean Avenue in Boynton Beach.

The downtowns are intersected by Florida East Coast Railway tracks, which planners for decades have used to justify increased downtown densities, in part by envisioning a regional commuter rail service that would one day run up and down those tracks. The train system — if ever a reality — would have downtown stops and reduce traffic congestion by connecting coastal cities to each other, allowing people to move in and out of the downtowns without having to use their cars.

As each city's plans have moved forward, with no train in sight, complaints have followed about traffic and a worsening quality of life. Meanwhile, proponents have touted a new vibrancy and needed economic growth taking hold, with the advantage of concentrating growth where it makes sense, instead of doubling down on an urban sprawl model that has long defined South Florida.

Criticism has come, too, from residents of the barrier island, whose access to the mainland is over bridges that put them into the middle of these downtowns. De Haseth is concerned that the growth across the Intracoastal will hurt communities like hers, some of which rely on fire and emergency rescue services from mainland departments.

Comparing the downtowns

Boca Raton is a step ahead of Boynton Beach and Delray Beach when it comes to transportation options, opening a Brightline train station downtown in December. While it's not the proposed Coastal Tri-Rail that would link local cities, it does connect Boca Raton's downtown with Miami, Fort Lauderdale, Aventura and West Palm Beach, and soon with Orlando.

"Brightline is definitely



Town Square will bring 898 residential units along Seacrest Boulevard in Boynton Beach. **Rendering provided**

going to have an impact," said Glenn Gromann, a development consultant. "They are absolutely positively taking trips off the road."

Boca Raton's downtown is also seeing strong growth and has more than 1,000 additional residential units already approved, which could add more than 2,250 people to its downtown, based on its average household size. The city also recently approved the proposed 12-story Aletto Square office complex, which won't add to the city's population density, but will bring more traffic.

Even with the Boca Raton projects that are on the books, and even though Boca Raton is larger than either Boynton Beach or Delray Beach, Gromann doesn't see Boca Raton matching the downtown densities of the other two cities in future years.

"What's different about Delray and Boynton is they still have wide swaths of available property that can be redeveloped," something not found in downtown Boca Raton, Gromann said. Also, while Boca Raton may allow taller buildings, the overall density is kept down because of the larger size of luxury apartments and condos in demand there, he said.

"The product type is now leaning more to condo,"
Gromann said. "It's the only way you can afford to build the buildings."

Boynton Beach's new 85-foot height limit, down from 150foot and 100-foot maximums in certain sections of the downtown, had some residents looking with envy to Delray Beach and its 54-foot height limit — and an even lower 38-foot maximum along downtown Atlantic Avenue.

"Delray Beach has a very rigid maximum building height," said Dana Little, urban design director for the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council, who has worked over the years with cities in the region to help them develop their master plans and land development regulations. "To the city's credit, they've held that line. They've decided that's who they wanted to be."

A 2019 master plan the planning council put together for Delray Beach speaks to the importance of having more people living downtown, or in the Central Core District as it is called in the plan.

"Increasing residential density is absolutely crucial to ensure a healthy and lasting life to the Central Core District," the master plan says. "The residential component will be the element that will make the Central Core District evolve from a high-end leisure area for a few, to a true downtown that serves the needs of the community as a whole."

Laura Simon, executive director of the Delray Beach Downtown Development Authority, has watched her downtown bloom, with the lower building heights on the avenue in tune with the city's coastal vibe. "The walkability and walking in the sunshine, it's

just more desirable than a highrise town," she said.

Downtown Atlantic Avenue is one of South County's major attractions, drawing crowds from throughout the region. The two-lane avenue through the historic downtown is constantly backed up and development hasn't slowed — Atlantic Crossing at Federal Highway was the latest addition with new restaurants, shops and offices opening last year, as well as 85 of an eventual 261 new apartments.

While Delray may have room to grow, the possibilities may be even greater in Boynton Beach, which lags behind the other two in its downtown's development as a destination spot.

"Boynton is sort of an untouched area as far as vacant land," Gromann said.

The big buildup in Boynton

That seems about to change. Of five projects approved in the heart of Boynton Beach's downtown, most include eightstory residential buildings in their plans.

The developments are:
Town Square, along Seacrest
Boulevard, 898 residential units.

The Pierce, along the west side of Federal Highway north of Ocean Avenue, 300 units.

One Ocean/Hyperion, along the east side of Federal Highway north of Ocean Avenue, 371 units.

Broadstone, along the east side of Federal south of Ocean Avenue, 274 units.

The Villages of East Ocean, on the west side of the FEC tracks along Ocean Avenue, 371 units.

Turkin said the city has its work cut out, especially making infrastructure improvements to handle the growth. But he doesn't think it is too much development for the city.

"I am extremely concerned and I do think that we need to focus on preparation for all this development, and I think we are," said Turkin, whose district includes the heart of the downtown. "My hope is we focus on infrastructure before we get too far ahead of ourselves."

Paying for infrastructure and keeping up with needed services

Briny Breezes

Town slashes taxes in hopes of getting sea wall, drainage loans

By Steve Plunkett

For the first time in 16 years Briny Breezes will not levy the maximum property tax rate allowed by state law.

On July 27 the Town Council tentatively approved a rate of \$3.75 per \$1,000 of taxable value, down 62.5% from the \$10 per \$1,000 the town has collected every year since 2009.

But the lower property tax bills will be offset by higher annual assessments to Briny Breezes Inc., the co-op that leases land to residents. The corporation is boosting its payment for police and firerescue services to \$473,007, or 70% instead of 31.6%.

The total tax base is \$85.6 million, up 14.5% from the previous year's \$74.7 million.

The tentative rate, which can be cut further in September but not raised, will finance a \$949,000 operating budget that includes what Town Manager Bill Thrasher called a "minimal" \$12,000 for capital expense items.

"I think they are pretty much what they have been in previous years," Thrasher said.

His proposed budget includes no pay raise for himself and a 6.4% boost for Town Clerk Sandi DuBose.

If the proposed rate is approved, the owner of a mobile home valued at \$150,000

would pay \$562.50 in property taxes instead of \$1,500 at the customary millage.

The number juggling will allow Briny to raise taxes in the future to pay for loans to restore the town's sea walls and improve the drainage system. Thrasher has said he hopes to have dollar amounts and apply for grants next month.

Early this year he said that the town could leverage a \$2.5 million loan into \$22.3 million worth of improvements.

In other action, Alderwoman Liz Loper asked her council colleagues to authorize Thrasher to investigate adding seating space to the dais and updating Town Hall's sound system. "I have researched the other cities around, and all of the town managers that they have, they do sit on the dais with their aldermen," Loper said.

The council also canceled its Aug. 24 meeting and combined its November and December meetings, normally on the fourth Thursday of the month, into one meeting on Dec. 7 to avoid conflicts with holidays.

Aldermen will next meet for their first budget hearing at 5:01 p.m. Sept. 14, with a regular meeting at 4 p.m. Sept. 28 followed by the final budget hearing at 5:01.

Cutting the tax rate undid action the council took in 2009 — almost tripling the millage

to hit the \$10 limit — to give residents a break on their federal income taxes. At the time, the corporation was transferring 70% to 80% of fire-rescue and police costs to the town's budget. With the higher tax rate, the transfer dropped to 29% of those costs.

Residents, meanwhile, got an income tax advantage by being able to deduct the higher property taxes, something they did not get when paying for the services through the corporation. But changes in tax law over the past decade have erased that tax advantage for many residents, Thrasher has said. *

as the downtown grows is bound to hit Boynton Beach taxpayers harder, because of the city's lower tax base. Boca Raton has a \$34.7 billion property valuation, followed by Delray Beach at \$16.4 billion. Boynton Beach's valuation is only \$9.1 billion.

At the turn of the century, Boynton Beach and Delray Beach had similarly sized populations of just over 60,000. Since then, Boynton Beach has shot ahead and has about 16,000 more residents than Delray Beach. According to U.S. Census data and estimates, Boynton Beach has grown 38.2%, to 84,028, since 2000, while Delray Beach's population is up 14.2%, to 68,742.

All Boynton Beach's growth is not happening downtown. In 2020, the densest area in Boynton Beach was north of the Boynton Beach Mall, between Congress Avenue and Lawrence Road, up to Miner Road. That square mile section of the city had a density of 8,388 residents per square mile in 2020.

Another area virtually as dense is north of downtown. The 1.2-square-mile section between I-95 and the Intracoastal, from a few blocks north of Gateway Boulevard south to the Boynton Canal, had 8,382 people per square mile as of the 2020 census.

Workforce housing law a concern

While cities have worked to manage growth, there is new uncertainty among them. The worry is from the Live Local Act, which passed the state Legislature this year and was signed into law by Gov. Ron DeSantis. Officials laud the goal of the law, which is to increase the amount of workforce housing in the state, but they fear developers may be receiving too much latitude and residents might see large, dense residential complexes popping up in unlikely places.

Under the law, if a residential development meets a required percentage of workforce housing units, the project can be built in areas now zoned for commercial, industrial and mixeduse — not just residential. Also, those developments can be built to a height that's the highest allowed by the city within a mile of the proposed site — picture a Dixie Highway parcel within a mile of an ocean high-rise — and with a density up to the maximum permitted in the city.

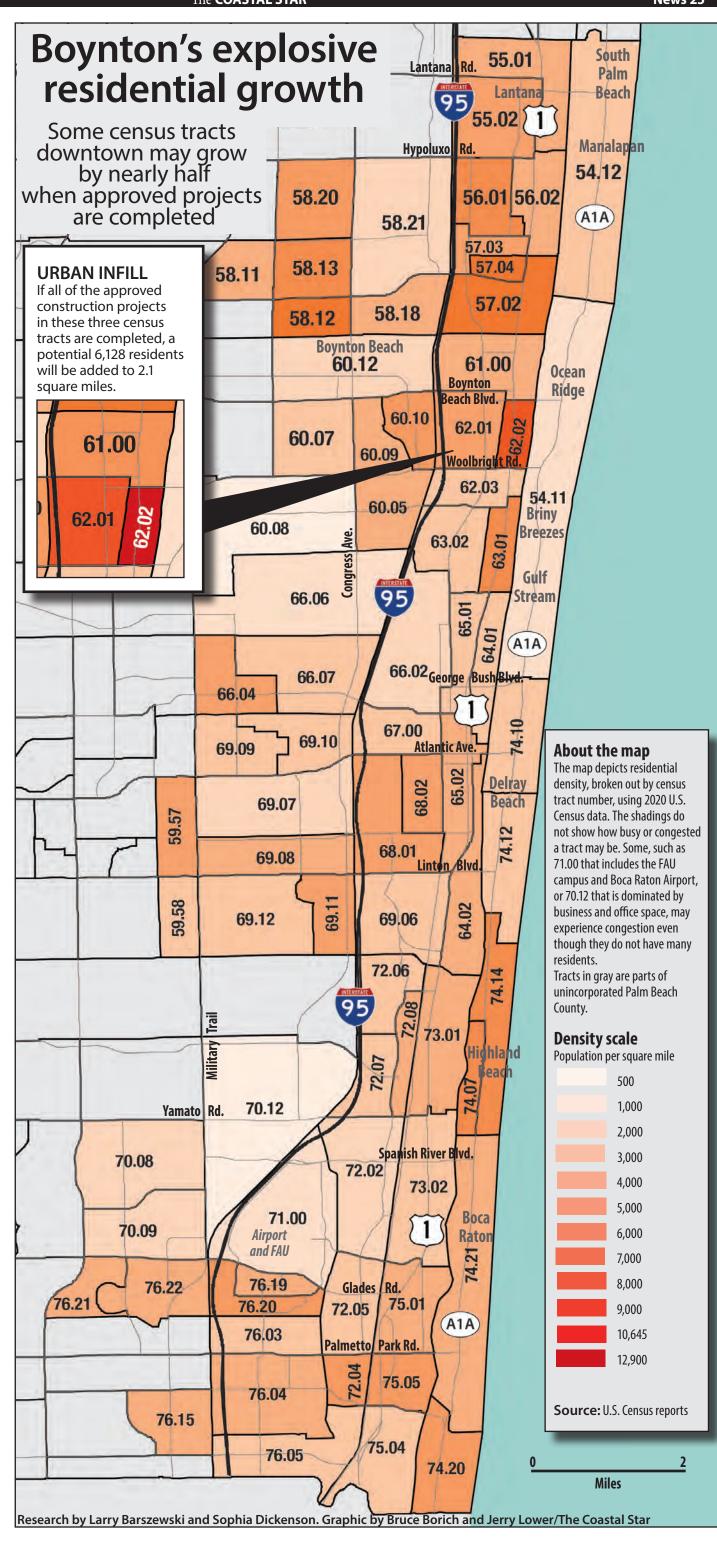
"The intention is very sound. We've got a workforce housing crisis. We've got people living in vans all over the place," Little said. "But we do have concerns and many of our local governments have concerns."

Turkin shares those concerns about the Live Local Act, but regarding the downtown's growth, he thinks Boynton Beach is beginning to take the steps necessary to make sure the increased density works to the city's benefit.

"Responsible development is good," Turkin said. "I think we're going to become one of the greatest things in Palm Beach County." *

The Coastal Star collected population

density information using the 2020 Census Demographic Data Map Viewer for census tracts in its coverage area. The downtown density numbers presented in the story are an analysis of the census tracts that most closely align with each city's downtown area. Boynton Beach and Boca Raton each have online maps of approved projects and the number of residential units they contain. To determine how many additional residents the projects would bring, the units were multiplied by each city's average household size from the 2020 U.S. Census (2.49 per household in Boynton Beach, 2.25 per household in Boca Raton and in Delray Beach).



Business Spotlight

Part of former Vanderbilt property sells for \$16.7 million

trust in the name of Catherine German West sold the property at 1465 N. Ocean Blvd., Gulf Stream, to the Aucoin Family Trust, linked to Jean Aucoin of Saint-Laurent, Quebec.

The sales price for the fivebedroom, 6,400-square-foot compound on a half-acre was \$16.7 million. German West, who bought the property for \$13 million in April 2021, was an executive at McLean, Virginia-based Capital One, and a longtime president of the U.S. credit card division. She was a member of its board of directors from 2013 until her death, in July 2022. Aucoin is president of Saint-Laurent-based J. Sonic Services, a supplier of home construction materials.

Pascal Liguori and Antonio Liguori of Premier Estate **Properties** held the listing, with Candace Friis of the Corcoran **Group** representing the buyer.

Built in 1928, the buildings were renovated in 2014 and comprise 6,400 total square feet, with five bedrooms and five bathrooms. The compound is a portion of Lila Vanderbilt Webb's Miradero estate, which was designed by Palm Beach society architect Maurice Fatio and later split apart. Vanderbilt Webb was the granddaughter of Cornelius "Commodore" Vanderbilt.

A trust in the name of Byron G. Haseotes Jr., a member of the family that founded Cumberland Farms convenience stores, sold his homesteaded estate at 310 E. Alexander Palm Road, Boca Raton, for \$15 million.

The new owner is the Skyline Stewardship Realty Trust, with Daniel P. Carbonneau as trustee. The transaction was recorded on June 30. The 12,253-totalsquare-foot home — with six bedrooms, seven bathrooms and two half baths — is on a .34-acre lot with 100 feet on the Royal Palm Waterway in the Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club. Built by SRD Building Corp., details include European white oak floors, a quartzite waterfalledge bar, a porcelain wall with a linear fireplace, dual-island chef's kitchen, a wraparound glass balcony, and a club room with billiards and wine storage.

Haseotes bought the property in 2020 for \$11.12 million. Jonathan Postma of Coldwell Banker Realty represented the seller; Scott Eckert of RPE Realty worked with the buyer. The Haseotes family opened



A half-acre property originally part of the Vanderbilt estate in Gulf Stream sold for \$16.7 million recently to a Canadian businessman's family trust. Photo provided by Zillow.com

the first Cumberland Farms convenience store in 1962. The chain has grown to nearly 600 stores in eight states, including Florida.

West Palm Beach-based Wexford Real Estate Investors and Miami-based Key International acquired Boca Raton properties at 14, 33 and 41 SE Fourth St. and 36 SE Third St. for a combined total of \$15.742 million. On 2.1 acres, the properties have a combined 27,057 square feet of office space.

Previous owners were DMBK LLC, 33 SE 4th Street Associates, and DMBK III, respectively, with all these deeds signed by Gary Dunay, a Boca Raton attorney who handles real estate transactions.

The property at 36 SE Third St. was owned by Compson Associates, signed by Robert D'Angelo. The developers plan to build a 12-story complex with 190 rental apartments, 336 parking spaces, pool and lounges. The project was designed by Miami-based Arquitectonica.

Lantana Village Square, often called the Kmart shopping center, has a new owner, Integra

The Miami-based real estate investment and development firm paid \$14.85 million for the 165,000-square-foot retail plaza on 18.6 acres at 1101 S. Dixie **Highway** in Lantana.

According to a news release, Integra envisions redeveloping the vacant Kmart within the shopping center to create affordable multifamily apartments while integrating complementary

retail. Developers plan to use the Live Local Act, a statewide workforce housing strategy designed to increase the availability of affordable housing opportunities.

A representative of Integra Investments said the first phase of the project would have just over 400 units, and that it is working with George Mouriz of MSA Architects.

Previous owner of the shopping center was the Saglo Development Corp. of Miami.

A year ago, the Lantana Town Council denied a proposal to build 231 apartments on the former Kmart property. The development project, presented by the Morgan Group, called for the old Kmart building to be razed to make way for five, fourstory buildings and entry from Greynolds Circle.

Amenities would have included a dog park, gym, pool, upgraded parking lot and a pocket park on the north end of the site at the northwest corner of Dixie Highway and Hypoluxo Road. The apartments would have been fenced in for security

Current tenants at Lantana Village Square include Winn Dixie, Subway, West Marine, and H&R Block.

A new Whole Foods Market is coming to west Boca Raton and is under development. It will be part of **Uptown Boca**, a mixed-use project off Glades Road and U.S. 441, comprising retail and dining venues and 456 rental apartments. It was developed by Schmier Property Group, Giles Capital Group and Rosemurgy Properties in partnership with Wheelock Street Capital.

Whole Foods will join tenants that include REI, Sephora, Lazy Dog Restaurant, Chick-fil-A, Bonefish Grill, Lynora's Italian restaurant, Naked Taco, Zen Sushi, BurgerFi, Just Salad, Bolay, Olive U Mediterranean Grill, Buff City Soaps, Paradise Grills, Tide Dry Cleaners, MD Now, Banfield Pet Hospital, YogaSix, Sloan's Ice Cream, Tipsy Nail

Salon, F45 Training, The Joint Chiropractic, Amazing Lash, Carmela Coffee, Clean Juice, Mathnasium tutors, and Dental Care of Boca Raton.

Last year, it was announced that a Whole Foods Market was also coming to Boynton Beach Marketplace, 7499 W. Boynton Beach Blvd. Carrie Rodgers, Whole Foods Market's corporate communications specialist, wrote in an email that opening dates for these stores have not been announced.

Gladstone & Weissman P.A., and David L. Hirschberg P.A., merged their firms in June. Practicing family law, they have offices in Boca Raton and Fort Lauderdale.

The Gold Coast PR Council celebrated its Bernays Award winners in July at the Hilton Palm Beach Airport with nearly 100 attendees. These awards acknowledge excellence in local public relations campaigns, marketing programs and media coverage. Its Presidents Award went to Palm Beach *Illustrated* and its sister publications. Lisa Metcalf, Katrina McCormack and Evan **Shomo**, the public relations team for the FAU Owls, received the PR Star award for generating more than \$1.9 billion in media coverage during Florida Atlantic University's run to the NCAA men's basketball tournament semifinals.

The Founders' Award went to Gold Coast's longtime board member and two-term president, Melissa Perlman. The Tim Byrd Award was given to Kari Barnett, community editor for the *Sun Sentinel*. The Judges Award recipients were Discover the Palm Beaches and the Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, Palm Beach

Winners in the council's competitive categories included the Palm Beach Civic Association; BlueIvy Communications; Boardroom PR; Christina Nicholson; FAU's Metcalf; the Buzz Agency; PalmTran Public

Transportation; Anne M. Gannon, Palm Beach County's constitutional tax collector; and PalmTran.

The Executive Women of the Palm Beaches Foundation Inc. has announced its incoming board of directors for the 2023-2024 season. They are Katie Newitt, president; Kae Jonsons, vice president of resource development and membership; Charlotte Pelton, vice president of resource development and fundraising; Elizabeth Houlihan, vice president of programs and education; Virginia Spencer, vice president of community outreach; Vicki Pugh, secretary; Alissa Dhawan, treasurer; Sheril Jalm, treasurer-elect; and Cynthia Jackson, general counsel.

They join continuing board members Cecilia Hudnet, Elizabeth Hamma, Jackie Halderman, Danny Hansen and Cindy Pollack.

The Executive Women also announced its new conversation series, "Creating Collaborative Spaces for Female Leaders." Palm Beach County professionals who attend will explore issues they face and how to address them.

The next meeting in the series will be held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Aug. 17 at the Hubbard Radio offices, 701 Northpoint Parkway, Suite 500, West Palm Beach. RSVP to info@ewpb. org or call 561-868-7070.

The Florida Engineering Society awarded \$36,000 in scholarships to 12 recent Florida high school graduates and continuing university students who are studying engineering. Each of the students received \$3,000, and included among the recipients is Hang "Stacy" Pham, Atlantic Community High School, Delray Beach.

Feeding South Florida is hosting cooking classes taught by its director of culinary services, chef Susan Taves, at its Community Kitchen, 4925 Park Ridge Blvd., Boynton Beach.

A portion of the proceeds will support the organization's mission to end hunger in South Florida through its programs and by providing immediate access to nutritious food.

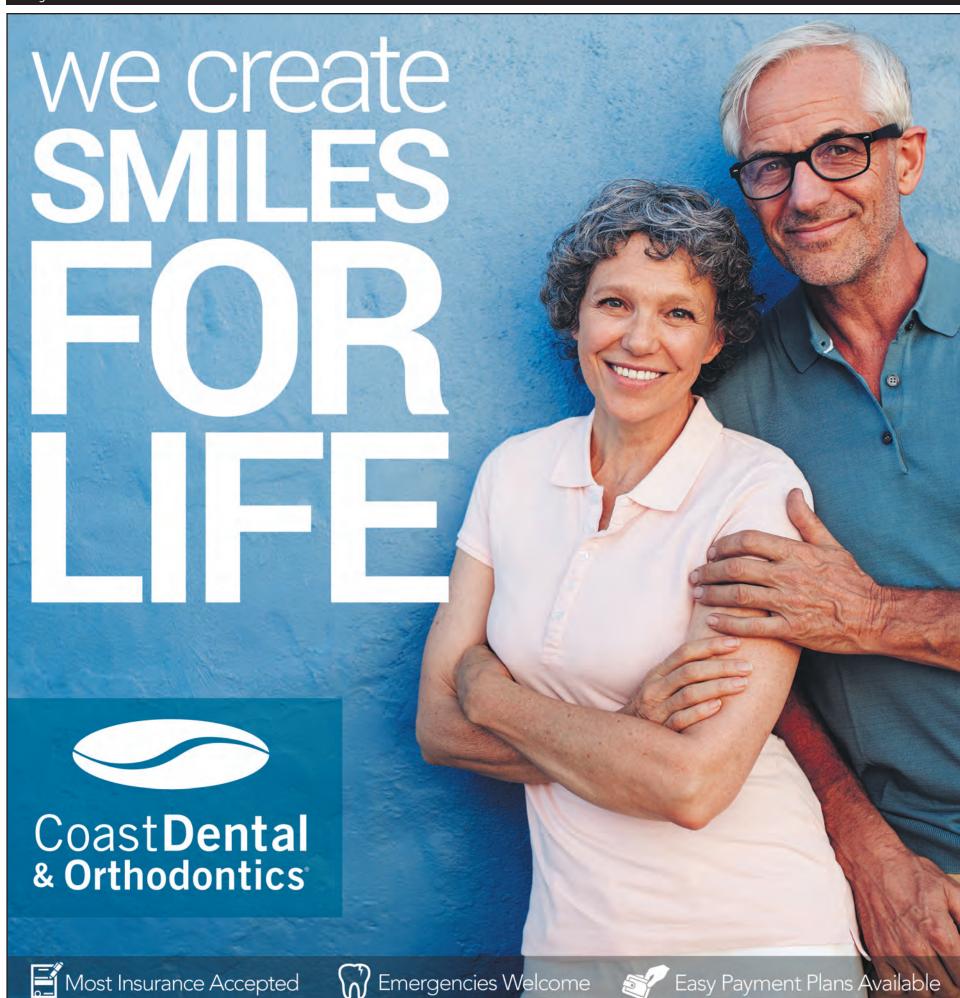
Classes include Taco Tuesday from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Aug. 15, which costs \$70 per person; A Tarte for Two, from 2 to 3 p.m. Aug. 19, which costs \$55 for two; and a Sushi Workshop, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Aug. 25, which costs \$70 per person. To register, visit feedingsouthflorida.org/events/.

Send business news to



Christine Davis, cdavis9797@ gmail.com.





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Pending | 5720 Old Ocean Boulevard, 5E Ocean Ridge | \$995,000 | 2 BR, 2 BA, 1-car garage, an ideal oceanfront townhouse with private beach access to a pristine beach. Web# RX-10867958



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.



Celebrations - AT3 Dining - AT5 Pets - AT13

Health & Harmony - AT15

Tots & Teens - AT16 Outdoors - AT17

August 2023

**Coastal Star



MANGO SADNESS

Faithful fans turn out for a taste of what may be the last season at Hatcher Hill

By Jan Norris

n a natural ridge in sleepy Lantana 60some years ago, John Hatcher set out several fruit trees and plants on a 4-acre nursery plot. He was an avid gardener who began grafting mangoes, working until he developed a big beauty of one in the late 1940s.

Decades later, that ridge is now surrounded by development and overlooks a crowded I-95. But it's still covered in mango trees and is named for the late patriarch of the family.

See MANGO on page AT6



ABOVE: Seth Butcher, who picks and sorts the fruit at Hatcher Mango Hill in Lantana, takes a bite out of a ripe mango.

LEFT: Katie Hatcher bags mangoes for customer Pam Case, whose parents knew the Hatchers in the 1940s. With the property up for sale, Case says it appears that 'another part of history will be lost.'

Photos by Tim Stepien/ The Coastal Star

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Philanthropy Notes

Snow Scholarship Fund announces lineup for Boca's Ballroom Battle

¬ ight daring dancers will d hoof their hearts out next ✓ month during the always popular fundraiser known as Boca's Ballroom Battle.

Benefiting the George Snow Scholarship Fund, the exhilarating event showcases the talent and philanthropy of the community, all to support educational opportunities for deserving students in Palm Beach County.

"We are thrilled to bring Boca's Ballroom Battle back for another incredible year," said Tim Snow, president of the organization. "We are grateful to all the participants, sponsors and attendees who help make this event a resounding success year after year."

Boca's Ballroom Battle will

take place at 6 p.m. Sept. 23 at The Boca Raton. For more information, call 561-347-6799, Ext. 104 or visit www. ballroombattle.com.

Stoops to lead board of Community Foundation

The Community Foundation



for Palm Beach and Martin Counties has appointed Jeffrey Stoops as incoming chairman of the board.

Stoops Stoops first joined the nonprofit in 2019. He has served as vice chairman of the board, chaired the foundation's community impact committee and

coronavirus response fund, and was a member of the finance, philanthropy and strategic planning committees.

"The Community Foundation is a powerful organization with broad capabilities to do good in our community, and I'm elated to have the opportunity to help lead our organization as board chair during the upcoming stages of our 2022-2027 strategic plan," Stoops said. "I look forward to continuing the foundation's efforts and work to provide financial aid and support to those who need it most in Palm Beach and Martin counties."

For more information,



call 561-659-6800 or visit yourcommunityfoundation.org.

Center for Child Counseling names new board member

The Center for Child



board of directors voted in Melissa Haley as a member to help the nonprofit move forward its mission of

Counseling's

Haley

mental health care.

Haley, founder and president of the Haley Foundation, will contribute her expertise in forging philanthropic

partnerships to mitigate adverse childhood experiences.

Photo provided

Contestants (I-r) Shoshana Davidowitz, Dr. Patri-

cio Espinosa, Danielle Rosse, Caroline Johnson,

Lawrence Levy, Brad Winstead, Jamie Sauer

and Rick Versace take a break during rehearsal at Fred Astaire Dance

Studios in Boca Raton.

The Haley Foundation supports health care for women and children.

"I understand through personal experience the importance of a childhood free of trauma and full of love and compassion," Haley said. "Sometimes those elements are not available, and children suffer and grow into adults with difficulties and challenges that otherwise, with early intervention, may have been avoided."

For more information, call 561-244-9499 or visit www. centerforchildcounseling.org.

Spady museum will receive grant for arts programs

The National Endowment for the Arts has approved a \$10,000 donation to the Spady Cultural Heritage Museum in Delray Beach.

The donation is a Grants for Arts Projects award to support a residency program and an exhibition scheduled for next spring, titled "Back for More: Pleasure in Abundance," a follow-up to last year's "Radical Pleasure."

The exhibition pairs literary and visual arts.

"The National Endowment for the Arts is pleased to support a wide range of projects including the Spady Cultural Heritage Museum's residency program, demonstrating the many ways the arts enrich our lives and contribute to healthy and thriving communities," NEA Chairwoman Maria Rosario Jackson said.

For more info about the museum, call 561-279-8883 or visit www.spadymuseum.com.

Faulk counseling center seeking volunteers

The Faulk Center for Counseling, a mental health facility based in Boca Raton, is seeking dedicated volunteers to join the team.

Whether assisting with administrative tasks or helping with outreach programs, volunteers will gain valuable experience and contribute to the well-being of clients.

The center promotes wellbeing through a variety of free and low-cost mental health programs.

For more information, call 561-483-5300 or visit faulkcenterforcounseling.org.



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







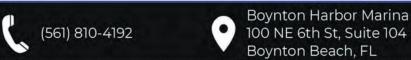


TNS BOGO 1/2 off Double points on 2 syringes Triple points on 3 syringes Juvederm Buy more SAVE more

on Juvederm syringes

Juvederm is the #1 selling injectable filler in the entire world and deserves to be celebrated! Allergan, the creators of Botox, Juvederm and SkinMedica, are launching their first ever Juvederm day on August 16th offering a \$150 gift card for only \$75! Beauty Within is celebrating by offering up to \$200 off per syringe all month long! The Juvederm portfolio of products includes 7 different uniquely developed hyaluronic acid gels with FDA approval covering almost every area of the face. These products were designed to achieve specific, natural, consistent results and have the longest duration of hyaluronic acid fillers on the market.

SkinMedica is also celebrating the anniversary of Beauty Within's favorite product - TNS Advanced Plus Serum. TNS (Tissue Nutrient Solution) is an innovative product consisting of 2 separate chambers - one of growth factors and peptides, and the other rich in peptides, marine extracts, and botanicals. TNS enhances the results when combined with injectable fillers or other procedures to improve skin quality and stimulate collagen. Beauty Within will be offering Buy One Get One 1/2 off for the entire month of August. Call to schedule a consultation with Nicole, our Allergan National Trainer injector, and take advantage of these savings!





Celebrations

Members Meeting

Schmidt Boca Raton History Museum — May 11



The Boca Raton Historical Society celebrated its annual gathering with 50 local supporters who heard about the nonprofit's recent accomplishments and honored those who have gone above and beyond in their service to the society. 'I am so proud of our dedicated board members, under the leadership of Olivia Hollaus, for embracing the museum and consistently supporting our diligent efforts to reach out, serve and educate the community, said Mary Csar, the museum's executive director.

ABOVE: Myrtle Butts Fleming Award recipients (I-r, front) Joyce DeVita, Betsy Fletcher, Barbara Montgomery O'Connell, Loren Mintz, (back) Derek Vander Ploeg, Dawn Zook, Bonnie Dearborn, Al and Joni Goldberg and Rimmie MacLaren.



ABOVE: Historical Society board of trustees members (I-r, front) Athena Gounis, LeAnn Berman, Csar, Hollaus, Arlene Herson, Jesse Cordoba, (back) Anthea Walker, Vedrana Rossi, Emily Snyder, Katrina Carter-Tellison, Terry Fedele, Sal D'Amico, Dan Dickenson, DeVita and Lauri Saunders. Photos provided by the Boca Raton Historical Society

'Community Conversations'

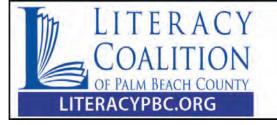
Achievement Centers for Children & Families — May 8

The nonprofit whose programs provide opportunities for children to thrive and families to be nurtured welcomed teens and adults to an evening of activities. Kicking things off was a 'Family Feud'-style game focused on questions that were relevant and geared toward local knowledge. Afterward, an engaging discussion ensued among game participants and audience members that addressed issues and concerns, including



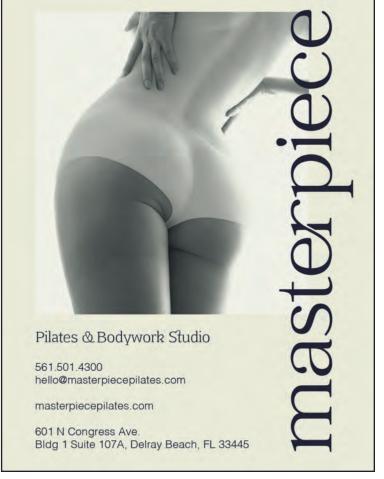
personal safety, mental health and availability of resources. Event partners included the Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County, Birth to 22: United for Brighter Futures, and Palm Beach County Youth Services. INSET: (I-r) Ingrid Evans, Jess Hall, Shawnese Jolly, Nerlyne Blanc, Kaitlin Salzman, Kayla Floyd, Berthanie Pierre, Stephanie Seibel and Kerry Filippone. Photo provided





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Along the Coast

St. George's Society shares culture, trees across the Atlantic

By Tao Woolfe

Every social club has interesting members, but at how many luncheons will you be seated next to a former British parliamentarian who has played polo with King Charles III and danced three times with Queen Elizabeth II?

John Browne, a historian and economist, is the official



patron of the St. George's Society of Palm Beach. At a recent 16th anniversary luncheon for the club, he regaled his fellow members with tales of Winston

Churchill and mishaps at royal weddings, his words wrapped in a rich, plummy accent.

The St. George's members donate money to a variety of charitable causes. Recently, they have focused on environmental efforts — planting trees locally and across the pond.

In the past two years, the group donated: • 1,000 trees to the city of

- Liverpool.
- 10,000 trees to Tanzania. • 37 flowering trees to
- Boynton Beach. • 96 trees to Scotland to honor the memory of Queen Elizabeth II.
- Five flowering trees each to Palm Beach and West Palm



Matt Shipley, co-founder of Community Greening, demonstrates the proper way to plant a tree during a tree-planting event at Boynton Beach Fire Station No. 2. The city, working in conjunction with Community Greening and the St. George's Society of Palm Beach, hosted the event. The St. George's Society donated the cost of the trees, a combination of crape myrtle, gumbo limbo, royal poinciana, verawood and kapok. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

"I always wanted to do more environmentally," said Boynton Beach resident Susan Oyer, a Realtor who founded the Palm Beach club in 2007.

But it wasn't until 2021 when the British created the Queen's Green Canopy initiative to honor Queen Elizabeth's 70 years as monarch — that Oyer found the impetus to plant trees

Browne, who enjoys visiting with fellow British expats and the American members of the St. George's Society, said he went along for the West Palm Beach planting last December, but he didn't stay for long.

"It was a very threatening day, very scary," he said. "It was sunny, but there was a thunderclap, totally unexpected — a bolt out of the blue." Browne took cover.

"You don't want to take lightning lightly," he said with a chuckle.

St. George is not only the patron saint of England, he is also the patron of soldiers, knights, archers, saddlers and horses, according to legend. His presence is invoked in cases of plague, leprosy and horse fever.

There are St. George's societies all over the world that celebrate England's history and royalty, and besides throwing good parties, they engage in philanthropy.

Oyer describes the Palm Beach club this way:

"Fueled by a passionate membership community, we create a social outlet that cultivates a sense of belonging and celebrates our uniquely British roots, all while supporting our philanthropic

Oyer

purpose. "Among the objectives of the society is providing support for educational. social and

cultural efforts in England through activities and fundraising in Palm Beach County."

Joy Inch, who lives in Jupiter, said she and her husband, Peter, enjoy meeting up with other members of the club and attending the club's events and lectures.

"We just like the sociality

and the talks about England," Joy Inch said.

Marian Morgan, a Boynton Beach resident, is also a founding member of the local St. George's Society.

"It's my heritage and I go back to England often," Morgan

She said she and Oyer would drive down to the Fort Lauderdale St. George's Society for events many years ago, but decided it would be better to form a Palm Beach chapter.

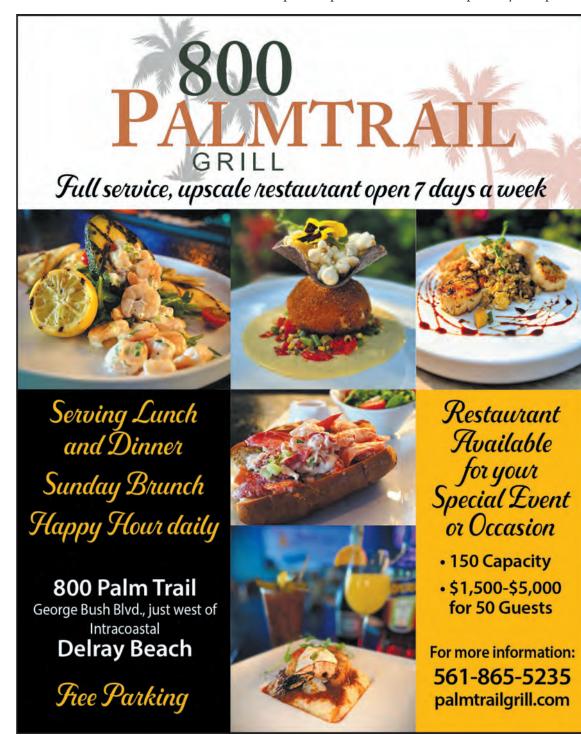
"It started and then took off. Our early meetings were in Boca," Morgan said. "I supported it and I love it."

The club also supports Florida Atlantic University's history department, especially the British studies program. Many of the club's guest speakers are part of the history department, Over said.

In 2016, the club donated \$7,000 to FAU's British studies program.

Oyer said the club's 75 members have not yet discussed where the club will next direct its fundraising efforts. She said she would like to continue to make environmental contributions, especially since that area is a priority of the

Oyer said the club's "Walk in the Forest" tree planting project "turned out to be a great success, despite COVID's constant interference. It was a perfect way to honor the new king." ★



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Dining

Don't sweat it: Summer deals, specials bring relief from the heat

Staying here and suffering the South Florida heat this summer? Collect your reward at restaurants that offer summer deals and specials in August and September. It's an effort to get cheeks in seats and showcase some new offerings.

Throughout summer, some restaurants are offering special menus, or prix fixe dinners, such as Le Colonial in Delray Beach (601 E. Atlantic Ave.).

The upscale Vietnamese venue has a Saigon Sunset Supper menu Monday through Friday from 4:30 to 6 p.m. for \$40. It includes a small plate, a large plate and a non-alcoholic beverage.

Some of the choices include Cha Gio, a shrimp and pork roll; Suon Nuong, baby back ribs; Cha Hoi Nuong, roasted salmon; and a Cari Tom, green shrimp curry.

A \$35 rosé lunch menu offered from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. gives diners a choice of small or large plate and a beverage. A glass of rosé from its wine list is priced separately.

Le Colonial has a dress code where most leisure and athletic wear is verboten; visit delraybeach.lecolonial.com or call 561-566-1800 for more information.

Josie's in Boynton Beach (650 E. Woolbright Road) has daily and weekly specials. Mondays, get meatballs for \$3 each or sliders for \$3.50, or a 12-inch Milano pizza for \$10. Martinis are \$4 off full-priced drinks. Tuesdays are for takeout specials — 25% off. Veterans get 25% off entrees on Wednesdays, and it's buy one, get 50% off a second entree on Thursdays — takeout, all day.

Saturday brunch is 15% off; and all week long, Josie's has \$14 chicken parmesan and \$12 chicken Milanese specials.

The father-son duo at **Medi** Terra in Boca Raton (301 Via De



Avalon Steak & Seafood at 110 E. Atlantic Ave. is one of more than 50 establishments expected to participate in the eighth annual Downtown Delray Beach Restaurant Month, which offers summer specials in September. **Photos provided**

Palmas) is putting out a threecourse prix fixe lunch for \$25, and on Tapas Tuesdays, diners can order their own sharing tapas for \$42 for three, or \$68 for five.

A special \$75 connoisseurs dinner highlights a different region from the western Mediterranean each Thursday through Aug. 24. It includes a wine pairing. Wines from a select list are half-off on Tuesdays and Wednesdays with the purchase of an entree.

At Boken, an omakase restaurant at the Eau Palm Beach (100 S. Ocean Blvd., Manalapan), the "chef's choice" Japanese nine-course menu is \$225 per person, for two seatings only on Saturday.

In September, the whole month will find restaurants signed up for the eighth annual Downtown Delray Beach Restaurant Month.

Multi-course meals and specials, for breakfast, lunch and dinner, are offered at a wide variety of dining venues on and around Atlantic Avenue, including the West Atlantic neighborhood, Pineapple Grove, along U.S. 1, and beachside.

More than 50 restaurants, bakeries, and food merchants are expected to be on the list, still in progress late last month. They include 50 Ocean, Atlantic Grille, Avalon Steak & Seafood, Bar 25 Gastropub, City Oyster & Sushi Bar, Deck 84, Johnnie Brown's, Le Colonial, Lionfish Modern Coastal Cuisine, and Ramen Lab.

See menus at participating restaurants or at downtowndelraybeach. com/restaurantmonth2023. Reservations are strongly suggested.

Gallaghers Steakhouse debuts in Boca Raton

Another New Yorker has arrived in Boca Raton. Gallaghers Steakhouse, born from a speakeasy in 1927, opened last month in its first outpost outside Manhattan.

Restaurateur Dean Poll has



New York's Gallaghers Steakhouse has opened a location in Boca Raton.

owned the northern location for 10 years and he brings an experienced team to oversee the opening months of the new restaurant.

It offers a traditional dining experience, not just a dinner, he said in a pre-opening statement.

Old-school atmosphere — jacketed waiters and bartenders, and full-on table settings — speak to the tradition fostered by classic steakhouses.

The menu includes modern favorites such as seafood towers and shrimp and lobster

dumplings. Classic appetizers include beef carpaccio and shrimp cocktail. Sides lean toward the traditional, such as creamed spinach, Brussels sprouts and Lyonnaise potatoes.

Steaks are offered in several classic cuts. Dry-aged 21 days, the meat is the menu star, garnering its own glassed-enclosed locker, which can hold up to 3,800 pounds. Steaks are cooked over hickory coal-fired grills. Prices range from \$28 for chopped steak to \$75 for roast prime rib.

Seafood offerings pepper the second tier of the menu with jumbo Maine lobster (market price) and Dover sole (\$72) among the choices. For non-red-meat eaters, a grilled half chicken served with couscous (\$29) is listed.

The dining room has 200-plus seats, green leather banquettes, saddle leather accents and terrazzo floors. A horseshoe-shaped bar serving food sits in the center of the room.

Photos of celebs from all fields fill the rooms — a tradition brought from the speakeasy on 52nd Street in Manhattan opened by vaudeville star Helen Gallagher.

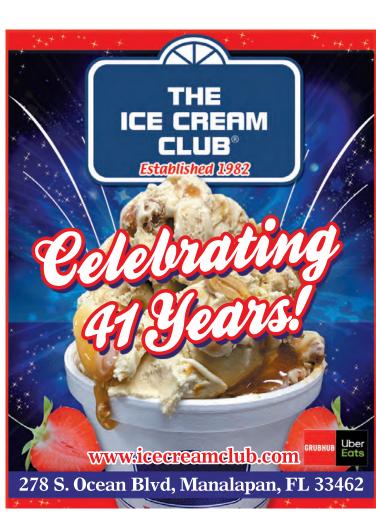
For other seating, there's an outside covered patio surrounded by lush landscaping. Two private dining rooms seat 20 each and can be combined for a larger party. Corporate meetings can be accommodated.

Gallaghers Steakhouse, 2006 NW Executive Center Circle, Boca Raton. Open for dinner only currently. 561-559-5800; gallaghersnysteakhouse.com.



Jan Norris is a food writer who can be reached at nativefla@ gmail.com.

The next
edition of
The Coastal
Star will be
delivered the
weekend of
Sept. 2





MANGO

Continued from page AT1

Hatcher Mango Hill, continuously run by John Hatcher's heirs, is where you find Hatcher mangoes — 2-, 3- and 4-pound blushing red fruits, giants in their category, growing on decades-old trees. Mostly a cross between Haden and Brooks varietals, they are sweet, fat and ultra juicy, with no fiber strands, making them the ideal fruit according to their legions of fans.

"I've been to mango festivals and mango tastings. I've eaten mangoes in Costa Rica, Jamaica, Mexico and Guatemala, and Hatchers are the best I've ever tasted," said Tory Malmer of West Palm Beach. She's a longtime Hatcher buyer.

"I eat chunks for breakfast, in fruit salad or make fresh mango salsa," she said. "Once a year I make mango ice cream or sorbet."

She'll ship some to a former boss in North Carolina — another Hatcher fan and former Hypoluxo resident — and to her Kentucky family who loves them.

The Hill's mango season is short, with ripening fruit on the trees starting in late June and, barring big storms, hanging on until mid-August.

This year's crop, however, could be the last at the Hill. The grove and house on the ridge are for sale, as per a family trust. This news has rippled throughout the community like the smell of rotten fruit. Current owner Katie Hatcher, John's granddaughter, said there are a lot of upset mango aficionados out there.

"I don't want them to shoot the messenger and be thinking I'm the bad guy. My son is upset about it — nobody wants to see it happen," Hatcher said. "But this is what my mom and dad had written up in the family trust. They wanted everything to be divided equally when they passed."

John Hatcher's four children inherited equal parts of the grove after he died. Many in the family worked the grove in season, caring for the trees and other plants on the property. It was John's youngest son, Richard, who became the last surviving heir, eventually buying out most of the property and taking over the grove's business.

Opened to the public

Richard and his spouse, Marilynn — Katie's parents opened the Hill's mango stand to the public in 1983. They expanded the business with shipping and selling Hatcher trees.

With only word-of-mouth advertising, the stand took off. Long lines of cars wrapped onto the road fronting the grove every season. A chain was added across the main driveway, put up to prevent trespassers and control traffic.

Tourists and locals alike came by each afternoon in season for the just-picked mangoes, pulled only as they





LEFT: Kyle Zeitler and Cody Zeitler adjust a scarecrow announcing a new season for mangoes 18-20 years ago at Hatcher Mango Hill in Lantana. **RIGHT:** John and Pearl with the original Hatcher mango tree.



Katie Hatcher (l-r) stands with her mother, Marilynn, and cousin Francis Perkins in an undated photo. **Photosprovided**

ripened. First Hadens in early June, then Keitts and Zills, and finally the Hatchers.

"We got to know a lot of the customers," Katie said. "They'd come back every year. We'd meet the families, and watch the kids grow up."

She's retired from the city of Boynton Beach as an urban planner. She turned the farm work over to Seth Butcher while taking care of her mother before her death in 2021.

Butcher does it all — picks the fruit from the 120 or so trees, sorts them and runs the stand. He also makes mango jam and sells it on site.

He got his experience selling at Union Square Greenmarket in New York City. A native of Hyde Park in New York, Butcher remembers his mom and aunt making jams in summer and fall after picking berries and apples.

Now he picks mangoes, and because culls and dropped fruit are still edible, he figured jams were a good way to use them. "My first batch was awful, but I kept tweaking it till I got it just right," he said.

Customers ask for the smallbatch jam and get upset when he runs out.

Also sold at the stand are Marilynn Hatcher's cookbook, *Hatcher's Mango Thrills*. The family matriarch was at the stand daily, and helped with the grove until she became too frail to manage. Over the years, she developed hundreds of recipes for mangoes, and compiled the book.

Faithful customers

Recently, Jorge Careaga from Maryland was shopping at the stand with his extended family. "It's the first place we visit every time we come," he said. His wife's family lives here, and they've been coming to visit since 2009.

His sister-in-law buys some in advance to have them on hand before they get to the grove, he said.

The retired Marine loves mangoes and says he gets them in Asian markets and sometimes at the grocery stores in Maryland. "But they're not the same," Careaga said. "They are nowhere as juicy and sweet."

Now he learns the business may close. "That really sucks," he said. "The mangoes are awesome. They are the sweetest and juiciest. I don't think anybody beats these guys."

They are so juicy, Careaga says, that when a mango is fully ripe, he just cuts a hole in the top and squeezes it until all the juice is out, then slices it to eat the pulp off the skin. "The only part that is thrown out is the seed."

Lake Worth Beach native Greg Rice would watch for the sign signaling the farm's opening each year, then go in to buy a few mangoes. He says it's sad to hear the property is up for sale.

"Hatcher is a unique varietal," he said. "It's only grown in this area. We hate to see things like this go away. But that property will always be there. It just may be in a different form."

Still, he'll miss the mangoes he eats every day during their short season.

"I'll have to seek out Hatchers," he said, perhaps from people with backyard trees purchased from the Hill.

"Mangoes are my favorite fruit," Rice said. He eats them just as they are, peeled and sliced with nothing on them. He leaves freezing the mangoes to his wife, who makes smoothies with the frozen slices.

Nina Kauder, a vegan chef who recently moved from her home in Lake Worth Beach to Buena Vista, Virginia, had to have her yearly fix. So she enlisted a friend to buy and ship two boxes of Hatchers to her. It was a pricey endeavor, more so because "one box hasn't made it yet," Kauder said last month.

Hatcher mangoes sell for \$2 to \$8 each, depending on size. A flat-rate big box is the cheapest way to ship, Kauder said. It holds five to seven fruits.

She found out about Hatchers after reading newspaper stories about the mango. Then each season she drove along High Ridge Road to Hypoluxo Road to see if the "open" sign was hanging on the driveway chain.

As for prepping them to use all year, "I have a friend with a freeze-dryer. I'm going to use that to preserve them this time. I used to use a fruit dehydrator, but I'm in the middle of canning tomatoes and don't have room in the freezer either this time," Kauder said.

She was taught to peel them and turn them inside-out into the "hedgehog" shape, but says that doesn't work on Hatchers — they're not the right texture.

Another native, Pam Case, grew up in Lantana. Her father helped build the now closed tuberculosis hospital there. Her older siblings went to school with some of the Hatcher kids — in the days when everyone knew everyone else in the small town.

"Whenever we wanted mangoes, we'd just go to Hatchers," Case said.

She was surprised to hear this may be the last year for the business. "Oh, no! I'm so sorry to hear that. Another part of history will be lost," she said.

Case ships some Hatcher mangoes to her sister in Georgia. With her own, Case slices them to eat with a banana every morning. She also makes mango milkshakes. "I buy a lot of mangoes and freeze them in slices, then put in a bag. My sister makes mango margaritas from the ones I ship her; she says they're delicious," Case said.

Kim McDonald, a Massachusetts transplant who has lived 10 years in this area, learned of Hatcher Mango Hill two or three years ago from a TV news story. "It's funny. I must have driven past it several times. It's the best-kept secret," she said.

Now she learns it's likely closing after this season. "Oh, no! That's terrible!"

She recalls tasting one of the mangoes for the first time. "It was incredible. My mom was visiting and I took her to the grove. I have a little niece and nephew; she told them how they were hanging on the trees. She took one home on the plane with her. They were so impressed with this mango. It was nothing like you get in the grocery stores."

McDonald never was a mango fan — but these changed her mind, she said.

Now what to do? "All good things come to an end. Like the orange groves — it's really a shame," she said.

Open till mangoes are gone

Hatcher Mango Hill will remain open as long as it has mangoes to sell, Katie said. "Unless a storm comes along and wipes them out, we will probably have them until early to middle of August."

After that, all depends on the sale, she said. She's guessing it will go to a developer for commercial use. "It's zoned low-commercial, but that could change since they put in the gas station across the street."

Katie Hatcher said she will move to North Florida, and though she would like to have a Hatcher mango tree in her future yard, it may not be possible because the trees like the heat and mild winters.

"It will be the first house I've had that hasn't had a Hatcher mango tree," she said.

Her aim is to enjoy the retirement that the Hill's sale will help provide.

Besides, she says, she knows where to get a Hatcher mango or two from friends and family who have trees. *

Hatcher Mango Hill, at 1908 Hypoluxo Road in Lantana, will be open, selling Hatcher and other mangoes, mango jam and recipe books, through mid-August. No trees are available, Katie Hatcher said.

The Arts Paper Com www.palmbeachartspaper.com



Revelers enjoy the 2022 'Live at the Nut' concert with bands performing aboard the Manatee Queen off Peanut Island, aka the Riviera Beach sandbar. The concert returns Aug. 26. **Photos by Casey Buckley**

The People Upstairs brings the party to local waters with 'Live at the Nut'

By Bill Meredith ArtsPaper Music Writer

When area bands get booked for an outdoor event in August, it can often be the result of less competition. Other acts literally can't stand the heat of South Florida's hottest summer month.

So what you're most likely to see at an outdoor venue this month is a relatively recently formed tribute act. South Florida venue owners and managers don't seem to look beyond bottom-line profits and they know that local listeners will show up to witness anything they've already heard, as opposed to something they never have.

Yet none of this, outside of an outdoor gig in August, applies to The People Upstairs. The 23-year-old, seven-



piece band from Boynton Beach has blended rock, funk and reggae styles on multiple releases of original music. And when it plays a cover tune, it's usually with a fresh creative arrangement rather than by the numbers. Over the past several years, the group also hasn't had to rely on a lack of competition, or even on someone else, to get booked for its highest-profile late summer show. Instead, it has staged one of the most unusual musical presentations imaginable on its own.

"Live at the Nut," on Aug. 26, is literally The People Upstairs' semi-annual free boat gig. Aboard the Manatee Queen, the group will perform for anyone who is able to boat, paddleboard, kayak or swim over to Peanut Island (aka the Riviera Beach sandbar). The vessel can also accommodate close to 40 people, as long as they help pay for the charter. The Bryce Allyn Band, another popular South Florida act that's led by the recognizable vocalist/guitarist from veteran Jupiter rock act Boxelder, opens the afternoon show.

"I'm really excited to perform at 'Live at the Nut," says band leader Bryce Rutkowski, who uses his middle name as a stage moniker. "Especially with longtime musical brothers The People Upstairs. I can remember gigging with those guys 20 years ago."

The People Upstairs got its name

See **NUT** on **AT8**

Theater

Dramaworks hires in-house playwright

By Hap Erstein ArtsPaper Theater Writer

At a time when many regional theaters are decreasing their staffs, Palm Beach Dramaworks has a new hire.

Producing artistic director William Hayes has announced the addition of the company's first resident playwright, Jenny Connell Davis, whose Holocaust-themed drama *The Messenger* will have its world premiere at the downtown West Palm Beach playhouse this December.

"As a regional theater, I think you have a responsibility to develop new works," says Hayes. "It just seemed to be a natural phase to start getting artists in residence. So this is just a natural state in the evolution of our new play program."



Davis

Davis's relationship with PBD goes back to 2020, when her play *As I See It* got a public reading in the company's new play festival. Soon afterward, Hayes put the work on the mainstage schedule, but the production never

happened when the coronavirus caused the season to be canceled.

Still, Hayes encouraged Davis to continue submitting plays, feeling that he had found not only a talented emerging playwright but also one with a "similar sensibility."

"I think we feel passionate about the same kind of things," he explains. "We're aligned politically and socially. We have the same set of values and principles. We have similar taste when talking about theater. And she believes in the kind of work that's getting done here at Dramaworks."

Asked about their similar mindset, Davis says, "I think he and I both grew up steeped in the classics of American theater. In plays that are chewy challenges for actors. And he's the first to tell you

See **DAVIS** on **AT9**

<u>Art</u>

Works by six female fellows showcased in Lake Worth

By Jan Engoren Contributing Writer

African art, contemporary and modern dance and the Great American Songbook all take center stage in the work of three of the six recipients of the 2022 Artist Innovation Fellowship Program sponsored by the Cultural Council for Palm Beach County.

Actor and singer Elizabeth Dimon, visual artist Kianga Jinaki and choreographer Shanique Scott, along with musician Yvette Norwood-Tiger and visual artists Henriett Michel and Carin Wagner, each received a \$7,500 fellowship, allowing them the

opportunity to pursue their art.

The works are being exhibited at the council's headquarters in Lake Worth Beach through Sept. 9.

"Supporting professional artists is absolutely essential to our work," said Dave Lawrence, CEO of the Cultural Council.

"The Artist Innovation Fellowship program is a journey of discovery, creativity, and innovation," he said in a prepared statement. "The fellowship offers an opportunity for artists to breathe and think outside daily constraints, and to celebrate creativity and the act of making.

"The showcase provides our audiences

with a glimpse of that journey and the creative process," he said.

Taking a moment to breathe is key for these artists, whose livelihood, health and ability to create art were all impacted by the coronavirus pandemic and its aftermath.

Riviera Beach-based fiber artist Jinaki, 64, who was hospitalized in April 2021 with COVID-19 and on oxygen for two months, has long been inspired by the narrative quilts of artist Faith Ringgold.

With the fellowship, she seized the opportunity to study with two other quilt artists she admires — "The Quilt

See **FELLOWSHIP** on **AT9**



I Can Breathe Again, by Kianga Jinaki, is on display at the Cultural Council gallery in Lake Worth Beach. **Photo provided**





Music

Chamber music fest silenced, for now

ArtsPaper Staff

For the first time in 31 years, a July in Palm Beach County passed without the Palm Beach Chamber Music Festival.

Thrown off its tracks by

Thrown off its tracks by adjustments for the coronavirus pandemic and a drying up of donor funds, festival organizers called off the concert series they've been hosting since 1992.

But it's too soon to write an epitaph for the festival; organizers promise to return in some form in 2024 as they mount an online fundraising campaign for \$25,000.

"We always knew that the way that we were doing things was not the normal way, or that we always just literally flew by the seat of our pants for 30-plus years. It's not like we didn't know that," said Karen Fuller, a flutist and one of the three founders of the festival along with clarinetist Michael Forte and bassoonist Michael Ellert.

"But we just kept putting one foot in front of the other, and it just kept happening every year. Until, of course, who could have predicted COVID? We didn't have any kind of plan in place for something like that," she said.

For the summer of 2020, the festival switched to video performances. Believing that audiences would not sit in front of their devices for long, the musicians made short programs for which they charged a minimal fee.

"And that was a very, very expensive venture with which we got very little back, because that first summer there was so much great content (online). Everybody and their brother was uploading for free," Fuller said.

Returning to live performances in summer 2021, festival programs were again cut back, and audiences were under pandemic restrictions.

"And then the next summer, we still were truncated. We couldn't have full concerts. (Venues) wouldn't let us go for more than like an hour; we could only have 50 people in the audience at a time," Fuller said. "Those two summers just really did us in."

In 2022, the festival dwindled to one program featuring two works by Beethoven and Joseph Rheinberger, played at three venues. It was all they could afford, Ellert said at the time.

In its pre-pandemic days, the festival, which featured more than a dozen musicians who were part of the core group of performers, programmed four concerts each weekend in July. Each program was played three times, once in West Palm Beach, another in Palm Beach Gardens or North Palm Beach, and a third time in Delray Beach.

Because the festival's founders were woodwind

players, a good deal of the repertoire stayed away from chamber music staples such as string quartets in favor of less familiar but compelling works by a host of fine composers.

The concerts were presented in a laid-back style with no printed program notes. After the concert, audience members could enjoy cookies and punch, as well as conversation with the musicians.

Putting that together meant a lot of work, especially for musicians who had just finished a busy season of concerts playing for any number of musical groups in South and Southwest Florida.

"It was a bit of a grind for a lot of years," Fuller said. "So a little bit more breathing room would be good, I think."

However, she pointed out, the festival was invented as much for its players as its audiences: "Part of our mission is to ... provide a service for local musicians that they can stay home in the summer, if they want to, if they don't want to travel away," she said.

What a new festival would look like is being discussed, and it depends on whether its fundraising goal can be met.

To donate to the PBCMF, visit www.pbcmf.org or its GoFundMe page at www. gofundme.com/f/reinvigorate-palm-beach-chamber-music-festival.

NUT

Continued from page 7

through rehearsing in the loft of lead singer/percussionist Casey Buckley's family plumbing business around the turn of the century. But its personnel (rounded out by guitarist Chris Prestia, bassist/vocalist Tony Rangel, saxophonist/trumpeter Chris O'Brien, guitarist/vocalist Dan Carrol, keyboardist/ accordionist/vocalist Cheese Vasquez, and drummer/ percussionist/vocalist Forest Jones) goes back even further as preceding drumline mates at Atlantic High School in Delray Beach. It's no wonder that their music is rhythm-centric.

Now a boat owner who has his own swimming pool fencing franchise, Buckley became the logical captain of the "Live at the Nut" idea in the mid-2010s. Because the costly staging of the free show actually puts the band in the red, not to mention the COVID-19 lockdown, it's been an intermittent event ever since.

"This will be the sixth year we've done this, but not in a row," Buckley says. "I think the first year was 2014, and then we did it again in 2016. There's usually around 200 people there, and it isn't a case of everyone getting drunk and stupid. All who've attended have been, for the most part, very respectful of the water, the sandbar, and of each other. Now, it's even become its own

If You Go

thenut.com

See The People Upstairs, with the Bryce Allyn Band, perform aboard the Manatee Queen for the audience at Peanut Island.
When: noon-5 p.m. Aug. 26 Admission: free Info: 561-318-3380, liveat-

entity. Some people I talk to know about the event, which has its own website, but they don't necessarily know that our band is presenting it."

That mostly qualifies as a branding success. But in South Florida, where the average shelf life of a group is likely less than 23 months, 23 years puts The People Upstairs in extremely rare company. Its multi-genre sound is featured on the original releases Synchrofunkinicity (2007), For the People By the People (2011) and Take It How You Want It (2014). The group has concentrated on releasing singles since, like its reggae-tinged song and video "High and Dry," and has new material recently released or forthcoming.

"We have enough material for a hybrid release between a handful of originals and some covers," Buckley says, citing examples from Bill Withers' "Ain't No Sunshine" to Rihanna's "Man Down."

"Our latest single is called

'Nomad.' It was written around the time Ron Heavyside, owner of Nomad Surf Shop in Boynton Beach, died a few years ago. He was a local legend, so we eventually wanted to record a song and shoot a video for it."

Buckley mentions all the expenses and literal moving parts that go into a "Live at the Nut" presentation, including renting the boat, acquiring the necessary generators, buying complimentary food and drinks, and setting up the list of those paying to witness the concert up close and personal aboard the Manatee Queen. But there's always one other element that could move in.

"After all that's settled, there's still the wild card of weather," he says. "But the Manatee Queen has the option of dropdown walls if weather rolls in. That way, it can be an inside event for the people onboard if necessary."

Here's hoping that the sun is high, and the weather dry, on Aug. 26.

"So many of our shows are just us at a typical live music venue," Rutkowski says of his quartet with guitarist/ vocalist Mike Kerr, bassist/ vocalist Yazmani Velazquez and drummer Chase Carlon. "I love teaming up with other bands to create something bigger than ourselves. And to be playing live on a boat near Peanut Island really makes this gig unique."

FELLOWSHIP

Continued from page 7

Whisperer," Janet Green, and Gwendolyn Aqui Brooks ("Black art royalty").

Her hand-stitched piece depicting a set of lungs, created with photo transfers and mola techniques, is called *I Can Breathe Again*, and reflects this time in her life. She says receiving the fellowship was the push she needed to give up her day job as massage therapist and yoga instructor and devote herself full-time to her art.

"COVID-19 was a wake-up call for me to take a look at what I wanted to do," she says. "I can breathe again as a person and as an artist because I am living the life I envisioned."

Incorporating historic and cultural traditions from America and Africa, Jinaki uses traditional and contemporary African textiles as well as textiles she creates by dyeing, sun-printing and appliqué. She also makes dolls and mixedmedia works.

Also taking a moment to breathe and give back to her community is Scott, a former South Bay mayor (2014-20). The 40-year-old runs Ascension 33 Dance Studio in Belle Glade and is the former artistic director of Street Beat, a youth mentoring and art program in South Bay.

With her studio in jeopardy during the pandemic, Scott, who studied with Debbie Allen in Los Angeles, says the fellowship literally "gave me a breath of fresh air."

The result? African-inspired dance pieces *I'm Tired*, and *Finding Your Way Back*, an homage to Beyoncé's 2019 hit "Find Your Way Back."

"I love the creative process — seeing an idea crystallize from a caterpillar to a butterfly — that brings me joy," she says. "All my work comes from personal

If You Go

The Artist Innovation Fellowship Showcase is on view through Sept. 9 at the Cultural Council's gallery, 601 Lake Ave. in Lake Worth Beach.

Hours: noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and second Saturday of month Admission: free

experiences."

For actor and singer Dimon, 66, breathing is a prerequisite for song.

The four-time Carbonell winner was in California performing in a play when she got the call notifying her of the fellowship.

"I was floored," she recalls. She recorded four songs from four decades of the American Songbook — George Gershwin's 1926 "Someone to Watch Over Me" and his 1937 "They Can't Take That Away from Me"; the 1944 Johnny Mercer and Harold Arlen hit "Ac-Cent-Tchu-Ate the Positive"; and Frank Sinatra's 1964 hit "Fly Me to the Moon" — as a tribute to her late husband, juxtaposed with videos of world events including the two world wars, the Great Depression and the Korean war.

Calling herself a collaborator at heart, she worked with musicians and a videographer.

"Art should be experienced collectively," she says. "To experience with others is different than experiencing something alone.

"Theater is a reflective art form," notes Dimon. "And without reflection, we lose our ethics."

Dimon has words of advice for other artists: Keep creating.

"That's how we get through life — creating beauty while the rest of the world is spinning around us," she says. "Music and art are a great balm for that."

Featuring the music of Jazz Legend Cours Jordan September 8 - 24 Kravis Center For tickets: kravis.org / 561-832-7469 Book by Clarke Peters / Music & Lyrics by Louis Jordan

DAVIS

Continued from page **7**

he's a history buff. I am really interested in looking at finding new pathways into telling stories about historical moments and events. You can learn about history in textbooks and in a classroom, but you can also learn about it in theater."

In addition to PBD, Davis has been commissioned by Anaheim's Chance Theater, Austin's Penfold Theatre and Ars Nova of New York City. In recent years, she has branched out into television and film. Davis is the in-house writer for the Emmy-winning Baobab Studios, developing stories for various media. Her screen adaptation of a young adult novel is currently under development with Fox/Disney and her first pilot script has sold to Sony.

Davis was born and raised in Maine, but now lives in Austin, Texas, with her husband and children and will fly to West Palm Beach as needed.

"I'll be taking a lot of planes, coming in for events when I can, but I won't be relocating," she says. "I've got kids under the age of 10, and all that entails."

Hayes expects Davis to be the first of several resident playwrights at Dramaworks, who will develop their own scripts and lend other support to the company's new play program. He also will rely on her to be a sort of "artistic adviser. To get a female perspective on things," he says.

Davis says she was surprised when the idea of joining the staff of Dramaworks came up. "I wasn't looking for it, but I think every artist is always interested in an artistic home."

Still, she had questions about what Hayes had in mind. "Because being a playwright in residence can mean a lot of different things in a lot of places. ... But then we just talked more about it, and as I heard what he was envisioning, it felt good," Davis reports.

"One of the things we agreed to is we will keep on figuring (things) out as we go. Because they're new to having a resident playwright and I'm new to being





992 S ATLANTIC DRIVE | HYPOLUXO ISLAND 2 BR | 3 BA | \$1,595,000



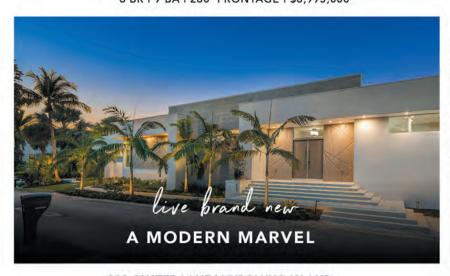
325 S ATLANTIC DRIVE | HYPOLUXO ISLAND 3 BR | 2 BA | \$3,995,000



880 BERKLEY STREET | BOCA RATON 6 BR | 9 BA | 260' FRONTAGE | \$8,995,000



1/2 ACRE | 120' FRONTAGE | \$3,625,000



823 OYSTER LANE | HYPOLUXO ISLAND 3 BR | 3 BA | \$3,795,000



801-815 GEORGE BUSH BLVD | DELRAY BEACH 10,000 SF COMMERCIAL SPACE + 14 TOWNHOMES | \$13,995,000



3475 S OCEAN BLVD #709 | PALM BEACH 3 BR | 2.5 BA | \$1,375,000



5 BAREFOOT LANE | HYPOLUXO ISLAND 3 BR | 2.5 BA | \$3,625,000



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Arts Calendar

Editor's note: Events listed through Aug. 31 were current as of July 28. Check with the presenting agency for any changes. Ticket prices are single sales unless otherwise

ART

Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens: Closed through October for renovations. 253 Barcelona Road, West Palm Beach. 561-832-5328. Info@ansg.org.

Armory Art Center: Hours: Monday through Friday, 10 am to 4 pm, Saturday 10 am to 2 pm. Closed Sundays. Free admission. 811 Park Place, West Palm Beach. 561-832-1776, www.armoryart.org. **Boca Raton Museum of Art:** Through Oct. 22: Benn Mitchell Photographs: Hollywood to NYC, works including photos from Mitchell's work at Warner Brothers in the 1940s; Sri Prabha: Resonator-Reanimator, a new Vedic-inspired installation about our connection to the natural world; Sari Dienes: Incidental Nature; works including street rubbings

and paintings by the Fluxus artist; Matthew Schreiber: Orders of Light, hologram light sculptures by the contemporary American artist. 16; \$12 seniors. 501 Plaza Real (Mizner Park), Boca Raton. 11 am-6 pm W, F, Sat, Sun. 11 am-8 pm Th. 561-392-2500, bocamuseum.org.

Cultural Council for Palm Beach County: Through Sept. 9: 2022 Artist Innovation Fellowship Showcase, a collection of works by the six women who were Fellows last year, including three visual artists, an actor, choreographer and singer. 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, a celebratory exhibit of works by local artists including Amalia Mermingas, Bob Gibson, Dan Mackin, Julia Kelly, Ron Garrett and members of the Miami Art School. \$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, paintings by the artist who, at 50, was

interned in American incarceration camps for the duration of World War II. \$15; \$13 seniors; \$9 children; free for members, ages 5 and under. 4000 Morikami Park Road, Delray Beach. 10 am-5 pm T-Sun. 561-495-0233, morikami.org

Norton Museum of Art: Through Nov. 19: Classic Blues: Cobalt Blue Porcelain and Indigo-Dyed Textiles, works in these Chinese and Japanese art forms, ranging from the 16th to the 20th centuries. Opens Aug. 5: *Past* Lives: Performance Art Through the Camera, videos and photos of performance art from the 1980s through the early 2000s, through Nov. 19. Opens Aug. 12: Between Drawing and Painting: Pastels from the Collection, works in the pastel medium from the 18th century to the present, including works by Klee, Picasso and Cassatt, through Oct. 29; Reflecting the Gaze: Jillian Mayer and Abigail Reyes, videos by two female artists whose work reflects alternative views from stereotypes of women's agency, through Sept. 17. \$18 adults; \$15 seniors; \$5 students; free for ages 12 and under, 1450 S. Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach. 10 am-5 pm, M, T, Th, Sat; 10 am-10 pm F; 11 am-5 pm Sun. 561-832-5196, www. norton.org

JAZZ

Friday, August 11

Copeland Davis: The much-admired local jazz pianist appears with his trio. 8, Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave., Delray Beach. \$45-\$50. 561-450-6357 or artsgarage.org

POPULAR MUSIC

Saturday, Aug. 5

Counting Crows: The popular San Francisco septet led by Adam Duritz, appearing here with Boca Raton's own Dashboard Confessional. 8 pm, Hard Rock Live, 1 Seminole Way, Hollywood. \$70-\$130. ticketmaster.com Sunday, Aug. 6 The O'Jays: After more than 60 years, the classic Philadelphia soul trio is embarking on its final tour, called Last Stop on the Love Train. 7 pm, Hard Rock Live, 1 Seminole Way, Hollywood. \$55-\$85. ticketmaster.com Sunday, Aug. 13

Snoop Dogg: The rapper, toker and friend of Martha Stewart is joined by Wiz Khalifa, Too Short, and others during the H.S. Reunion Tour 2023. 6 pm, iThink Financial Amphitheatre, 601 Sansburys Way, West Palm Beach. www.livenation.com

Smashing Pumpkins: Chicago's Billy Corgan and his band are back on the road for The World Is a Vampire Tour. 6:30

Saturday, Aug. 19

pm, iThink Financial Amphitheatre, 601 Sansburys Way, West Palm Beach. www. livenation.com Sunday, Aug. 20

50 Cent: The rapper born Curtis Jackson has been on a world concert tour called The Final Lap. 7 pm, iThink Financial Amphitheatre, 601 Sansburys Way, West Palm Beach. www.livenation.com Thursday, Aug. 24

Leon Bridges: The Grammy Awardwinning singer-songwriter has played at the White House for Barack Obama, played Gil Scott Heron in a film, and cut tracks with John Mayer and fellow Texan Kacey Musgraves. 8 pm, Hard Rock Live, 1 Seminole Way, Hollywood. \$75-\$185. ticketmaster.com Sunday, Aug. 27

Rob Zombie and Alice Cooper: Two masters of shock rock, who worked together early in Zombie's career, headline the Freaks on Parade Tour 2023. 6 pm, iThink Financial Amphitheatre, 601 Sansburys Way, West Palm Beach. www. livenation.com

Books

Poor relations enrich new Palm Beach novel

By Sharon Geltner **Contributing Writer**

Maribelle's Shadow, by Susannah Marren; Beaufort Books; 303 pp.; \$16.95

Maribelle is the eldest of three rich and beautiful sisters, from a family that started poor east of Panama City and made a fortune with a nationwide chain of convenience stores. Then they moved to the Island.

Maribelle is also editorial director of Palm Beach Confidential magazine and gets invited to a lot of charity balls, fashion shows and lunches. Her handsome, charming husband is the highly paid CFO of the family business. Her mother calls the shots and wants the family origins kept secret. That's why at a funeral, the country cousins are tucked in the back and ignored.

Maribelle's Shadow, Susannah Marren's third novel about Palm Beach, is about secrets and sisters, either "devoted or divided."

And those sisters' "lavish existence of mansions, prestige privilege and couture clothes" is at risk with a mysterious death in the family.

The book is filled with "betrayal and lies ... and what lurks beneath family loyalty."

Things are not what they seem, which is why Maribelle doesn't recognize some mourners at the funeral.

"...people whom [she] had never seen before, who were more Fort Lauderdale than Palm Beach. They were followed by Miami types — women in tight, low-cut tops and men in bracelets and a few necklaces as if they were headed to lounges and supper clubs, although it was midday."

Lord knows what would have happened if the Boca contingent had shown up!

The author notes: "Wherever



Book Tour

Susannah Marren will promote her novel during four local appearances this coming season:

Hagen Ranch Road Library, Delray Beach: 2 p.m. Nov. 15

Mandel Public Library, West Palm Beach: noon

So Booked Up Book Club, West Palm Beach: 7:30 p.m.

West Boynton Branch Library: 2 p.m. Feb. 12

you are, society will judge you. What's intriguing about Palm Beach is that it's opulent and beautiful and how quickly it all can unravel."

Susannah Marren is the pen name for part-time Palm Beach resident Susan Shapiro Barash, whose parents had a home on the island.

Barash is also the author of 13 non-fiction books, about infidelity, mothers and daughters and sisters, and taught gender studies for 23 years at Marymount Manhattan College. She is now a full-time writer, has appeared on Jo Piazza's podcast and drafts proposals for new non-fiction books.

Maribelle's Shadow shows that Barash has greatly improved as a novelist. She

made the plot more complicated, added some mystery, isn't afraid of humor and is no longer deferential in describing elite and vainglorious Palm Beach. Her latest book is much more fun and satisfying to read than the first two, A Palm Beach Wife and A Palm Beach Scandal.

While those books were vague about various island locations, this book is delightfully specific from an insider viewpoint. For instance, when Maribelle's rich family wants cheap, but perky and classy labor, it shrewdly hires an intern from Palm Beach Atlantic University.

Maribelle's husband describes some Island philanthropists in a way that will ring a bell. "What a committee — old biddies, a group of spoiled young mothers. The men who write the checks are caged animals."

And about her spouse: "While in private he might have been cynical about the people in Palm Beach, in public he offered himself as [a true friend]. Maribelle was about to get the polished version of her husband."

There is one fly in the La Prairie ointment, and that is the book's cover. Barash has improved so much as a fiction writer, but the jacket design is poor, offering few hints as to what the book is about.

The first two Palm Beach novels were pale-pink-and-mintgreen perfection. This cover is 14 shades of gray with a woman whose back is turned. She stares out to sea under storm clouds.

There is a juicy subtitle, seething with resentment and disapproval, "Sisters Shouldn't Be Playing These Games." Whatever the reason (or budget), the book's appearance is a disservice to the author.

Sharon Geltner is the author of Charity Bashed, available on Amazon.





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Religion Notes

Author to speak at Delray church on benefits of mindful living

Three P's we all seek purpose, pleasure and peace — are the topic of a workshop offered by Unity of Delray Beach from 1:30 to 4 p.m. Aug. 20.

The leader of the workshop will be Dennis Merritt Jones,



Jones

who has been writing about the benefits of mindful living since publishing The Art of Being — 101 Ways to Practice Purpose in Your *Life*, in 2009.

He followed with *The Art of Uncertainty* — *How to Live in* the Mystery of Life and Love It; Your (Re)Defining Moments — Becoming Who You Were Born to Be, and The Art of Abundance — Ten Rules for a Prosperous *Life*, in 2018.

Jones is also a columnist for *Science of Mind* magazine and the *Huffington Post* who says one of his primary goals is to help people discover their positive purpose, one that leaves the world a better place.

From Jones, participants learn valuable mindfulness practices designed to enhance relationships, help connect with the "sacred self" and access the inner stillness that can bring peace even during the most chaotic times. Learn to channel fear into something positive.

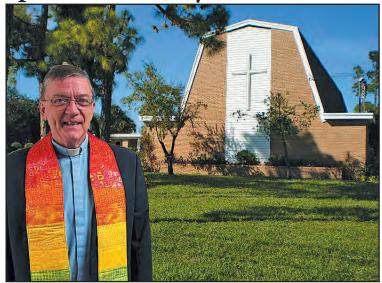
The seminar is \$25 by Aug. 13, \$30 after. Register at the church bookstore or by phone at 561-276-5796.

Jones will also speak at the 10:30 a.m. service on Aug. 20.

Unity of Delray Beach, a nondenominational church, is at 101 NW 22nd St., at Swinton

Happy 25th anniversary to Boca Helping Hands

Boca Helping Hands was established in 1998 by congregants from local churches and synagogues who met to discuss starting a soup



The Rev. Ray Simms has been appointed provisional pastor and moderator at Metropolitan Community Church of the Palm Beaches. Photo provided

kitchen. The kitchen began operating out of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church in November 1998 and with support from CROS Ministries and community volunteers, 36 people per day were served in east Boca Raton.

Today, Boca Helping Hands assists at least 27,000 clients a year in Palm Beach County, handing out pantry bags at five locations, serving 6,500-plus hot meals per month and sending weekend meals home with more than 1,500 kids at 13 local schools.

That any child goes to bed hungry when so many Americans have never been truly hungry is not an anomaly. It's a reality. In Palm Beach County, the number of hungry children tops 50,000. Consider:

- Experts say the world produces enough food to feed everyone in it, but not everyone receives it.
- Americans waste 60 million tons of food every year, yet nearly 14,000 people starve to death in the United States annually.
- Almost 20% of hungry families don't qualify for assistance because they make too much money, but not

enough money to afford to feed their families.

- Hungry kids are a heartbreaking reality, but our senior population is suffering too. Experts report 18.2% of seniors living alone in the U.S. are food insecure.
- A cnbc.com story in February reported that Boca Raton is the 10th most popular U.S. town for millionaires to buy second homes, yet Boca Helping Hands is seeing unmatched demand for assistance.
- Inflation is Florida is twice the national average and the cost of living in paradise is high.

The Boca Helping Hands board of directors, staff and volunteers are excited to celebrate 25 years of service. They're not holding a party with a big cake and balloons, but they'd like you to! Suggestions include:

Hold a fundraiser: This year for your birthday, consider hosting a fundraiser and get your friends involved to support the Boca Helping Hands mission.

Host a Facebook fundraiser: Move your party online and ask for donations in lieu of gifts.

Make a \$25 gift (a dollar for each year) to honor BHH's

Delray Beach. Every M 5:45 pm. Free. 561-

8/7 - Recovery Church at Trinity Delray

Lutheran Church, 400 N Swinton Ave.

Worship service for those in recovery

from addiction, looking for freedom

from addictive/compulsive behaviors.

Tuesday - 8/8 - Tuesday Morning

trinitydelray.org

Every M 7-8:40 pm. Free. 561-276-8458;

Prayer Service at Unity of Delray Beach

Church, 101 NW 22nd St. 10 am. Free. 561-

276-6892: stvincentferrer.com

Volunteer.

Boca Helping Hands is at 1500 NW First Court, Boca Raton. Call 561-417-0913 or go to www.bocahelpinghands.org.

Metropolitan Community Church welcomes pastor

If you are part of the LGBTQ+ community, finding a welcoming church or temple where you don't have to hide your true self can be challenging.

For nearly 40 years, the Metropolitan Community Church of the Palm Beaches has provided spiritual support to South Florida's lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered and questioning communities. To better serve the community, the church welcomed the Rev. Ray Simms as its provisional pastor and moderator July 2.

Simms, a former nurse, and Dennis, his partner of 24 years, moved to Florida in 2013. Simms felt the call of God to the ministry in 2016. He earned a master of theology from St. Leo University and was ordained as a minister. He combined his health care experience with pastoral work as a hospice chaplain and part-time pastor in St. Petersburg. Now he'll serve the community in a new way, "sharing the love of Christ with those whom other churches see as not being worthy," he said in a news release.

The leadership of Metropolitan Community Church of the Palm Beaches says it is the largest faith-based community church dedicated to serving the LGBTQ+ community in Palm Beach County.

The church is at 4857 Northlake Blvd. in Palm Beach Gardens. Worship takes place at 10:30 a.m. Sunday both in person and virtually.

Call 561-775-5900 or visit www.mccpb.org.

Marriage tune-up hosted by Palm Beach diocese

The Diocese of Palm Beach hosts a seminar on "rekindling the joys of marriage and learning to relate to your spouse in a new way" on Aug. 12-13.

This getaway weekend takes place at the Courtyard by Marriott Stuart, at 7615 SW Lost River Road in Stuart, and includes meals and a Saturday evening social. There's also an opportunity to renew your vows, make reconciliations and attend Mass at noon Sunday at St. Andrew Catholic Church.

The cost is \$250 per couple. Contact Deacon Louie Romero at Iromero@diocesepb. org or 561-775-9557 with questions, or register at eventbrite.com

Rabbi makes point with bid to ban Bible from school

The Palm Beach County School Board voted to keep the Bible on school bookshelves, and it took only minutes to do

Rabbi Barry Silver, a Boca Raton attorney and civic activist, had filed an appeal with the School Board in April to remove the Bible from Olympic Heights High School, where his son Brandon was valedictorian this year.

"There are misogynistic passages saying horrible things about women," Silver argued, plus "intolerance toward homosexuals" and "a whole bunch of passages that are antisemitic, saying Jews are the children of the devil."

His point was to show the legislature and Gov. Ron DeSantis that banning books is a slippery slope. DeSantis last year signed the "curriculum transparency" bill, which gives parents a say in what educational media are available to students. The Parental Rights in Education law, as it is

See **RELIGION** on page **AT13**

Religion Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 7/26. Please check with organizers for any changes.

AUGUST 5

Saturday - 8/5 - 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

AUGUST 6-12

porcelain, lamps, glassware,

Sunday - 8/6 - Blessing of the **Backpacks** at First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach, 33 Gleason St. 10-11 am.

Free. 561-276-6338; firstdelray.com 8/6 - Zoom Bible Study at Ascension Catholic Church, 7250 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Every Sun 7 pm. Free. Zoom link: communications#accboca.net; 561-997-5486; ascensionboca.org

Adoration Chapel, 840 George Bush Blvd,

Monday - 8/7 - 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 8/7- Rosary for Peace at St Vincent Ferrer

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statues, antique copper and brass.

Anything old!

276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org 8/8 - Diocesan School of Christian Formation: Introduction to the Bible at St. Vincent Ferrer Kellaghan Hall, 840 George Bush Blvd, Delray Beach. Every T through 9/19 7-9 pm. \$10/person; \$15/ textbook. Registration: 561-276-6892 x1305; faithformation@stvincentferrer.com Wednesday - 8/9 - 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

8/9 - Patriotic Rosary at St Lucy Catholic Church, 3510 S Ocean Blvd, Highland Beach. Every W after 8:30 am Mass. Free. 561-2781280; stlucycommunity.com

8/9 - 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 - 8/10 - Thursday Morning **Prosperity Coffee** at Unity of Delray Beach Church, 101 NW 22nd St. Led by Charlene Wilkinson. 7 am 1st Th in person; phone meeting (720-740-9634, passcode 2152894) all but 1st Th. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

8/10 - 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

8/10 - Women's Discipleship Group at First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach, 33 Gleason St. Every Th 10 am. Free. 561-276-6338; firstdelray.com

8/10 - 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

8/10 - 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 - 8/11 - Bible Study w/Dave Kirk at Advent Boca Raton Fellowship Hall, 300 E Yamato Rd. Every F 10-11:30 am. 561-395-3632; adventboca.org

8/11 - 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

8/11 - 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

AUGUST 13-19

Sunday - 8/13 - Blessing of the Backpacks at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 188 S Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 10 am. 561-276-4541; stpaulsdelray.org

AUG. 27-SEPT. 2

Friday - 9/1 - Adoration & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Mark Chapel, 643 NE 4th Ave, Boynton Beach. 1st F 9 am-3 pm. Free. 561-734-9330; stmarkboynton.com

Paws Up for Pets

FWC program finds adopted homes for unwanted exotic pets

A ll kinds of critters roam, fly and swim in the 67 counties of Florida.

Some are friendly and some are downright dangerous. Some make for terrific pets. Others, not so much.

Got a pet red-eared slider or a green iguana or a meerkat? Well, you may not realize this, but these exotic species are not native to Florida and you need permits to keep them. But you don't need to report to state authorities if your personal pet happens to be a sugar glider, hedgehog or a chipmunk.

Keeping tabs on what exotics are legal and welcomed as pets in our state and which ones are not is a major task for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. Its team has meticulously categorized exotic species that are acceptable as family pets and which ones are not.

The agency has also created a plan to deal with exotic pets, because letting them loose in the wild "may adversely impact our ecology, economy and human health and safety," says Lisa Thompson, FWC spokesperson, as well as the safety of the pets.

In an effort to control the nonnative population, the FWC began its Exotic Pet Amnesty Program in 2006. You face no penalties or fees for disclosing that you have an unauthorized nonnative pet and want to surrender it. Or you could decide you want to get rid of a pet you own legally. The FWC will even find an adopter willing to house it in another state.

"This is a free and legal alternative to the release of nonnative pets," says Thompson. "EPAP grants owners temporary amnesty from any rules for nonnative pet possession while staff attempts to re-home their pets."

The program has re-homed outside the state borders more



The red-eared slider, a semi-aquatic turtle, is the nonnative creature that accounts for most of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's efforts to move exotic pets to adopters in other states. **Photo provided**

than 4,400 nonnative animals kept as pets. Reptiles, including nonnative snakes, lizards and turtles, account for more than 60% of requests to re-home from pet owners in Florida. Topping that list is the red-eared slider. It is a semi-aquatic turtle that can live up to 20 years and requires more work to keep healthy than many people realize.

"When a person acquires a baby red-eared slider, the turtle is very small," says Thompson.

Owners may not be aware of the long life span, tank size and filtration needs, dietary requirements, and the associated cost of care for an adult redeared slider, Thompson says. Additionally, this species is listed as "conditional" in Florida and requires a special permit for pet possession.

The FWC regulations can be a bit confusing to wade through: Exotics are in Class I, Class II, Conditional and Prohibited groupings, and any species not making those lists are designated as Class III wildlife.

Class I and Class II wildlife can never be allowed as personal pets in Florida because they pose threats to human safety. Individuals must complete training and apply for state permits for commercial use of these species. A sampling of this no-personal-pet list includes:

- Cheetahs, tigers, bobcats, banthers
- Alligators, crocodiles
- Orangutans, howler monkeys
 - Coyotes, jackals, wolves
 - Badgers, wolverines.

On the other end of the spectrum, any Floridian does not need a state permit to keep as a personal pet the following:

- Nonvenomous reptiles or amphibians
 - Hedgehogs
 - Honey possums
 - Sugar gliders
 - Rats and mice
 - Moles Shrews
- Rabbits, squirrels, chipmunks
- Domestic ferrets, Guinea pigs, hamsters, gerbils
 - Prairie dogs
 - Chinchillas

• Canaries, shell parakeets, lovebirds, cockatiels, parrots, finches, myna birds, toucans, ringed doves, ruddy doves, diamond doves, button quail.

The state also recognizes these species as legal pets: bats, deer, New Guinea song dogs, Asian leopard cats, marmosets, foxes, squirrels, skunks, raccoons and yes, even sloths.

To learn more

Information about the state's Exotic Pet Amnesty Program is at myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/nonnatives/amnesty-program. To learn about pet amnesty day events, visit myfwc.com/wild-lifehabitats/nonnatives/amnesty-program/exotic-pet-amnesty-day-events.

But do not plan on seeking and bringing home any of these species during a walk in the woods or boonies.

"It is important to note that personal pet permits are only issued for animals which are captive bred and are obtained from a legal licensed source, and not obtained from the wild," says Thompson.

If you have a nonnative species and want the FWC to re-home it, email PetAmnesty@ MyFWC.com or call the exotic species hotline at 888-483-4681

to request the form.

The FWC holds periodic amnesty days for owners to surrender exotic pets. As of late July, no events were scheduled, but the FWC still takes requests from owners and potential adopters. Adopters "may apply at any time and are under no obligation to adopt an animal from EPAP," Thompson says.

Because the red-eared sliders are the most re-homed reptile and the most difficult to place, they are not accepted at amnesty day events except via specific arrangement with the FWC.

Arden Moore is an author, speaker and master certified pet first-aid instructor. She hosts a radio show, Arden Moore's Four



Legged Life (www. fourleggedlife. com), and the weekly Oh Behave! podcast on PetLifeRadio. com. Visit www. ardenmoore.com.



RELIGION

Continued from page AT12

also known, gives parents the right to protest materials they consider objectionable.

On July 19, the School Board met to discuss whether the Bible would stay on school shelves as a rally in support of Silver's efforts took place outside. The board voted quickly and unanimously to keep the Bible accessible, pointing out that the Torah, the Koran and other religious texts are also on shelves.

According to PEN America, as of July 2022, shortly after DeSantis signed the law, Palm Beach County schools had limited access to 25 books, including Anne Frank's Diary: the Graphic Adaptation by Ari Folman, Morris Micklewhite and the Tangerine Dress by Christine Baldacchino, and To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee.

PEN America, a strong advocate for free expression, considers a school book ban to be any action taken against a book based on its content that leads to a previously accessible book being either completely removed from availability or where access to a book is restricted.

Temple Beth El campus hosts open houses Aug. 23

Temple Beth El's Schaefer Family Campus in east Boca Raton hosts two open houses on Aug. 23, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 6:30 to 8 p.m. Meet the clergy, staff and educators, tour the building, learn about the Judaic art installations and get to know Temple Beth El, a popular Reform congregation at 333 SW Fourth Ave.

Registration is requested at 561-391-8900.

Send religion news to Janis Fontaine at fontaine423@ outlook.com





Brandon Martel, President bmartel1997@gmail.com
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Health Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 7/26. Please check with organizers for any changes.

AUGUST 5

Saturday - 8/5 - Sunrise Beach Yoga at The Seagate Beach Club, 401 S Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. 60-minute Vinyasa yoga. Bring mat, towel, water bottle. Every Sat 8-9 am. \$20. 561-330-3775; seagatedelray.

8/5-Yoga Class at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. Every Sat 9 am. \$5/ class. 561-588-8889; southpalmbeach.com 8/5 - Yoga at the Beach at Red Reef Park West, 1221 S Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Held on grass overlooking the Intracoastal. No

Seiko Roger & Gallet Crabtree & Evelyn Eye • bobs Maui Jim

cash accepted on-site. Every W 6:30-7:30 pm, 1st & 3rd Sat 10-11 am. \$10/class; 60-day membership \$65/resident, \$81.25/ non-resident. 561-393-7807; myboca.us 8/5 - 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

8/5 - 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

8/5 - OA (Overeaters Anonymous) **Meeting** at Unity of Delray Beach Fellowship Hall, 101 NW 22nd St. Every Sat 11 am. Free. 561-276-5796;

Fax: 561-276-5990

4998 NORTH OCEAN BLVD. • BOYNTON BEACH, FL 33435

Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Phone: 561-276-4800

Rowallen Alo Aftertan Caswell Massey Eliza B

unityofdelraybeach.org 8/5 - AA Meeting at Unity of Delray Beach Fellowship Hall, 101 NW 22nd St. Every Sat 5:30 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

AUGUST 6-12

Sunday - 8/6 - Coco Connections

Market at Veterans Park, 802 NE 1st St, Delray Beach. Monthly wellness market: 30 local vendors, health/wellness professionals w/various healing modalities; live music; 2 free yoga, meditation or fitness classes per event. 9 am-3 pm. 561-870-4090; the cocoyogi.com/market 8/6 - Yoga at the Beach at Red Reef Park East, 1400 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Held on grass overlooking the Intracoastal. No cash accepted on-site. Every Sun 4:30 pm. \$10/class; 60-day membership \$65/

8/6 - CODA (Codependents

7807; myboca.us

Anonymous) Meeting at Unity of Delray Beach Fellowship Hall, 101 NW 22nd St. Every Sun 6 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

resident, \$81.25/non-resident. 561-393-

Monday - 8/7 - Mindful Mondays at Old School Square, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Part of Summer at the Square. Yoga, meditation, healing classes led by local wellness instructors. Every M through 9/25 noon. Free. delrayoldschoolsquare.com 8/7 - Adult Zumba Class at Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. Every M 7-8 pm. \$50/10 classes; \$6/1 class. 561-393-7807; myboca.us

Tuesday - 8/8 - Al Anon at St. Mark Catholic Church, 643 NE 4th Ave, Boynton Beach. Every T 10 am & Th 7 pm. Free. 561-734-9330; stmarkboynton.com

8/8 - Grief Support Ministry at St. Mark Catholic Church St. Clare Room, 643 NE 4th Ave, Boynton Beach. Every T 2 pm. Free. 561-734-9330; stmarkboynton.com

8/8 - 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

8/8 - 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 - 8/9 - 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

8/9 - 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

8/9 - LGBTQ AA Meeting at Unity of Delray Beach Fellowship Hall, 101 NW 22nd St. Every W 7 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

AUGUST 20-26

22nd St. Experiential workshop w/Dr. Dennis Meritt Jones, renowned author expert in mindfulness. 1:30-4 pm. \$25/ advance by 8/13; \$35/at the door. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org Wednesday - 8/23 - Scripps **Research Front-Row Lecture Series: Transforming Treatment Options for Alcohol Use Disorder with Barbara** Mason, PhD. 1-hour virtual lecture. 4 pm. Free. Register for link: frontrow.scripps.edu 8/24 - Yoga Under the Stars at Boca

Raton Museum of Art Outdoor Sculpture Garden, 501 Plaza Real. Yin yoga; all levels. 6-7:30 pm. \$10/member; \$40/ non-member. Registration: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

AUG. 27-SEPT. 2

Wednesday - 8/30 - The Science of Wellness: The Science of Gratitude 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



Health & Harmony

Awareness can prevent ocean stings, and lifeguards can treat them

Portu-

guese

man-

of-war

jellyfish

deliver

painful

stings.

Photo

(left)

and

can

orldwide, more than 150 million people are stung by jellyfish each year (hundreds fatally), according to a July 2019 story in *The Washington Post*. The snorkel and travel website ProAdventureGuide estimates 200,000 people are stung each year in Florida.

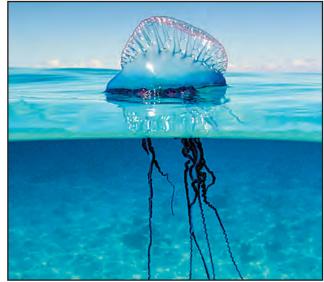
August through October in Florida is peak season for jellyfish, which are present all year long. Warming waters combined with the right currents and wind conditions can bring more to our shores.

Most beachgoers have seen them, as well as the Portuguese man-of-war (Physalia physalis). The latter is not technically a jellyfish but they can be grouped together for purposes of this

Scientists say jellyfish have been around for more than 600 million years, predating dinosaurs, trees and fungi. They are the oldest multi-organ animal, surviving all five of Earth's mass extinction events. More than 2,000 species of jellyfish have been discovered and identified, although some experts believe there could be 300,000 species.

Jellyfish are related to coral; both are members of the same phylum, Cnidaria. They range in size from 0.02 inch in diameter to the world's largest — the Nomura jellyfish in the Sea of Japan, which weighs up to 440 pounds with a diameter of 6.5

Lacking brains, jellyfish are composed of 98% water and act on instinct using an elementary nervous system with receptors that detect light, vibrations and chemicals in the water.



Man-of-war, looking like a deflated blue plastic baggie when washed ashore, is actually a colony of organisms working together and characterized by long, thin tendrils which can extend 165 feet in length below the surface of the water. These tendrils can deliver painful stings and leave whip-like red welts on your skin, typically lasting two or three days.

People who are sensitive to the toxin or who get a higher dose or robust sting can go into anaphylactic shock, but most people can treat the sting with hot water. That denatures the

Molly Pendergast, naturalist at the Sandoway Discovery Center in Delray Beach, encourages people to leave jellyfish in the ocean where they belong and not add them to an aquarium.

"They're difficult to keep in captivity because they don't like small, enclosed spaces," she says, noting that the Sandoway does not keep them for that

provided Jim Masterson, assistant research professor at FAU Harbor Branch specializing in marine and estuary ecology, remembers walking in 2004 with his 5-year-old daughter on

stung on her finger. Masterson washed her finger with hot water and applied an antihistamine cream. She soon felt better, although she remembers that sting to this

a beach in Melbourne when she

poked at a man-of-war washed

up on the shoreline and was

"Be aware," Masterson says. "If you see jellyfish or man-of-war washed up on the beach, that is an indication they are in the water as well. Enjoy the beach, but just be aware. Even if they are washed up on shore and appear dead, they are

still able to sting you."

Other common jellyfish in South Florida include moon jellyfish (Aurelia aurita), cannonball or cabbagehead jellyfish (Stomolophus meleagris), lion's mane (Cyanea capillata), Atlantic sea nettle (Chrysaora quinquecirrha) and Caribbean box jellyfish (Cubozoa).

If you are stung, Masterson suggests using vinegar or hot water (not cold, which can activate the venomous cells) to denature the toxin. Another option is an over-the-counter medication for insect bites such as Benadryl, calamine lotion or a hydrocortisone cream.

He also suggests inspecting the injury site for stinging cells and removing them with a tweezers, rather than scraping them off, which can trigger the

According to the Mayo Clinic, unproven and mythical remedies include urine, meat tenderizer and alcohol.

Phil Wotton, division chief at Delray Beach Ocean Rescue, has seen many incidents of people stung by jellyfish and he was once stung by a man-of-war while floating on his back in the ocean. The sting, on his torso, was severe enough for him to have respiratory difficulty, go into shock and seek treatment from paramedics. Wotton says the reaction subsided overnight

Most reactions are not life-

threatening, unless the victim is allergic and experiences anaphylactic shock. The longer the tentacles stay attached to you, the more poison will be in your system, says Wotton.

Wotton has no individual statistics on jellyfish stings for Delray Beach because all incidents and injuries are grouped together.

"If you are stung, don't panic," says Wotton. "Get treatment as quickly as possible. Seek help from the lifeguard on duty, and even before you go for a swim in the ocean, make sure there is a lifeguard on duty. Accidents happen when there is no lifeguard in the tower. Come to the tower and ask if there are any concerns today that I should be aware of? We're here to help."

Florida lifeguards display purple flags to warn swimmers when dangerous marine life, including Portuguese man-ofwar, is present in the area.

The Florida Department of Health recommends leaving the water immediately after a sting and if necessary calling 911 or the Florida Poison Control Centers hotline at 800-222-1222.

Jan Engoren writes about health



Boynton Beach, FL 33435

and healthy living. Send column ideas to jengoren@ hotmail.com.

Health News

Boca couple's gift to fund amyloidosis research at FAU

There is no cure for the life-threatening disease amyloidosis. The most common neurological disorders, stroke form is in the brain, cerebral amyloidosis, which manifests in Alzheimer's disease and related dementias and in brain bleeds. A \$11.5 million gift from Boca Raton philanthropists Ann and John Wood of the FairfaxWood Scholarship Foundation will establish the FairfaxWood Health & Innovation Technology Initiative. Focused on the FAU Amyloidosis Project, a collaboration of clinicians, researchers and institutes will work collectively to uncover the root causes of the formation of amyloid fibrils throughout the body.

HCA Florida JFK Hospital is opening a 42-bed inpatient Physical Rehabilitation Center, offering specialized care for people recovering

from orthopedic injuries, acute cardiac conditions, and spinal cord injuries.

Its team includes physicians and nurses specializing in rehabilitation, physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech-language pathologists, dietitians and a diabetic educator.

The new unit comprises private rooms, a therapy gym and a home-care therapy area.

Also, the hospital recently received the American Heart Association's "Get with The Guidelines — Stroke Gold Plus" quality achievement award for its commitment to ensuring stroke patients receive the most appropriate treatment according to research-based guidelines that lead to more lives saved and reduced disability.

— Christine Davis

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Tots & Teens

Art is in blood of Dreyfoos graduate, who plots future on canvas

By Faran Fagen

In elementary school, Kerry Sullivan thought hard about which crayons to use to illustrate the features of her many "My Little Pony" characters. Each page of computer paper represented a canvas of possibilities.

Now at 18 years old and



with accolades accumulating, the Hypoluxo Island resident and graduate of Dreyfoos School of the Arts is attending the Rhode Island

School of Design painting visual arts degree program.

"I hope to develop my technical art-making skills as well as my conceptual artmaking skills," Sullivan said. "I'm very dedicated to my craft and willing to spend hours upon hours perfecting it and learning as much as I can. A career path in the visual arts is something that has become clearer and clearer to me over the past couple of years."

In 2023, Sullivan won the Palm Beach and Martin counties Pathfinder first-place award for visual arts and became a National Society of Arts and Letters finalist for painting. She also attended the RISD pre-college program.

Ever since the seventh grade, Sullivan has entered her artwork into various



Kerry Sullivan's Halloween drawing 'Smile' was honored with a national gold medal in competition. Artwork provided

competitions and gallery openings. She was awarded "best in show" at the Broward Art Guild in 2017 and 2018 and started seeing her work showcased in gallery settings.

Around the same time, she began entering her artwork in the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards competition and has received 48 regional accolades

through this program.

After her "My Little Pony" drawings, Sullivan realized that "the process of creating art was deeply fulfilling for me, as I was able to focus on an idea and try to visually depict it on paper."

She would gaze at the fashion magazines belonging to her mother, Kathy, and would think to herself, "I want to

draw this, and I want to make it look real." She'd spend hours studying an image and trying to replicate it on paper.

Throughout elementary school, she had an art teacher, Denise Calderaro, who introduced different types of paint that was water soluble and nontoxic. Starting in the fifth grade, she provided a variety of acrylic paints and nicer brushes, which really made Sullivan fall in love with the medium.

"From that point on, I was making regular trips back and forth from Michaels craft store to buy my own acrylic paints and to further develop this newfound passion for painting," Sullivan said.

Her biggest obstacle in high school was the coronavirus pandemic in 2020. She attended school online for sophomore

But Alexander W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts gave Sullivan a space to create her work surrounded by the materials and resources she needed. She created the drawing *Smile* to be submitted for a Halloween assignment. She hoped to express how scary things were during the pandemic and show the frustrations and anxiety people were feeling. She used herself as the model since classes were still being held remotely.

"I aimed to just create something scary, but as I continued the piece, I was

reminded of why I started drawing in the first place," Sullivan said. "I felt a great deal of satisfaction when I was able to transfer my ideas onto paper and depict them realistically and visually."

At the start of 2021, the piece won a Scholastic Art and Writing Awards gold key for this region and a national gold medal.

Toward the end of her senior year at Dreyfoos, Sullivan was awarded the Elayne and Marvin Mordes Scholarship, as well as the Constance Rudy painting award by the school's foundation.

Her parents, Kathy and Robert, and brothers, Kevin and Harris, are huge supporters.

"The most important thing was figuring out the path to meet her goal which included Bak Middle School and Dreyfoos School of the Arts," her mother said. "Pursuing that path of an education in visual arts plus her persistence through the COVID years was very important."

In college, Kerry hopes to gain a new perspective on creating, viewing and understanding different works.

"I want to be able to explore the art world with a more creative lens, as well as incorporate that same creativity into everything I do," she said. "Wherever I end up, I will be happy to pursue a career in the arts." ★

Tots & Teens Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 7/26. Please check with organizers for any changes.

AUGUST 5

Saturday - 8/5 - 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+. 10-11 am. \$15/member; \$25/non-member. Registration: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

8/5 - 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.

8/5 - Free Fun Saturday at The Schmidt Boca Raton History Museum, 71 N Federal Hwy. Family fare. 10 am-4 pm. Free. 561-395-6766; bocahistory.org

8/5 - 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

8/5 - 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

8/5 - 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

8/5- 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 8/5 - Grease The Musical School

Version 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

AUGUST 6-12

Monday - 8/7 - 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 Tuesday - 8/8 - Teen Tech Sandbox at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. Every T 3-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.

8/8 - Karate Class at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age

6-17. Every T/Th through 9/7 5:30-6:25 pm. \$85/resident; \$106/non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

8/8 - 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

8/8 - 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

8/8-9 - 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 8/16 10-10:45 am. Free w/paid admission. 561-/42-6/80; schoolhousemuseum.org

Wednesday - 8/9 - 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. 11-11:45 am. Per class \$8/member; \$10/ non-member + admission. Registration: 561-742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org Thursday - 8/10 - First Day of School: The School District of Palm Beach **County**. 561-434-8000; palmbeachschools.

8/10 - 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 8/10 - Kid's Music Circle with Noam **Brown** at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. All ages. 11-11:45 am. Per session \$8/member; \$10/non-member + admission. Registration: 561-742-6782;

schoolhousemuseum.org 8/10 - Messy Play at Schoolhouse Children's Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Explore,

develop important readiness skills. Age 2-5. 3-3:45 pm. Per class \$8/member; \$10/ non-member + admission. Registration: 561-742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org Friday - 8/11 - 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. 10-10:45 am. Per class \$8/member; \$10/non-member + admission. Registration: 561-742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org

8/11 - 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. 3-3:45 pm. Free w/paid admission. 561-742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org

Saturday - 8/12 - Little Wonders at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Hike, crafts, stories. Age 3-4 w/an adult. 10-11 am. \$8/resident & member; \$10/non-member. Reservations: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

8/12 - College Audition Boot Camp at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. For rising 12th graders. Every Sat through 10/28 10 am-2 pm. \$1195. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com 8/12 - Battle of the Beaches

Tournament at Ezell Hester Jr. Community Center, 1901 N Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Double elimination basketball tournament offers middle school teams a chance to vie for championship trophy, bragging rights. 10 am-7 pm. Per team: \$150/resident; \$188/non-resident. 561-742-6552; boynton-beach.org/battleheaches-tournament

8/12 - 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

<u>AUGUST 13-19</u>

Tuesday - 8/15 - Teen Tuesday: School **Year Vision Boards** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 13-17. 5-7 pm. Free. 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org Wednesday - 8/16 - 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 8/30 10-10:30 am. Free. 561-742-6390;

Thursday – 8/17 - Make & Take at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 5-12. 4:30-5:30 pm. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

boyntonlibrary.org

8/19-20 - Creation Station at Boca Raton Museum of Art Wolgin Education Center, 501 Plaza Real. Limited seating. Noon pm. Free w/admission. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

AUGUST 20-26

Monday - 8/21 - Babies On Broadway at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Age 3-6. Every M through 12/11 3:30-4:30 pm. \$380/16 classes. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

8/21 - Teen Acting & Improv at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Age 12-18. Every M through 12/11 4:45-5:45 pm. \$380/16 classes. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

8/21 - Broadway Kids & Teens Show Program: Elf The Musical Jr. at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Age 7-16. Every M through 12/11 4:45-7 pm. \$985. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

8/21 - Family Fun Night at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. 5-6:30 pm. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org Tuesday - 8/22 - Musical Theater Kids at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Age 8-12. Every T through 12/12



On the Water

August full moons bring the best time to catch wahoo

A lthough wahoo can be caught year-round in South Florida, the days leading up to and after full moons in August are the absolute best time to land one or more of the speedy, tasty game fish.

No one knows why wahoo bite so consistently well this time of year. What anglers do know is fighting and landing a wahoo is a thrill, and so is eating its firm, white flesh, which is delicious grilled or sautéed or even raw, sashimistyle.

Offshore anglers get a bonus this month because there are two full moons, on the first day of August and on the 30th. That means the wahoo fishing will be good the first week of August as well as during the days leading up to Aug. 30 and into early September.

"The day before and the day after the full moon usually aren't as good, but for some reason like two or three days before and two or three days after are the best for me," said Capt. Chris Lemieux of Boynton Beach.

Few anglers are as skilled at catching wahoo as Lemieux. Earlier this summer, while guiding a group of 12- to 14-year-olds during his annual weeklong "Kid Camp," Lemieux caught a giant 87-pound wahoo.

Lemieux started the trip trolling for wahoo, but that only produced bonito, a hard-fighting member of the tuna tribe whose



Capt. Chris Lemieux holds the head of the 87-pound wahoo that surprised and thrilled the 12- to 14-year-olds who fished with him during his annual 'Kid Camp.' Lemieux hooked the fish after one of the kids discovered it, and mate Kole Hawk (in hoodie) reeled it in. **Photo by Chris Lemieux**

strong-tasting flesh is better suited for making trolling baits than making dinner.

The kids asked if they could use the live pilchards that Lemieux had netted that morning to catch blackfin tuna, which often hang out with bonito.

"We're sitting there catching bonitos like crazy, and one of the kids said, 'Oh, man, my bonito got eaten in half.' So, I just assumed a barracuda or a shark ate it," Lemieux said. "I look over the side and there's this giant, massive wahoo just circling the boat. I said, 'Reel it up, reel it up!' As he's reeling it up, the fish swipes at the remaining half and kind of hits it a little bit.

"I reached over and grabbed a rod that had just a monofilament rig on it, a livebait rod. I tied a titanium wire rig on it real quick and just cut a chunk of the bonito and cast it out. The wahoo ate it right next to the boat."

As wahoo typically do, the big fish made a blistering first run, dumping all the 25-pound monofilament line on the conventional reel and getting into the braided line backing.

After seeing the size of the wahoo, none of the kids wanted to fight it. So, Lemieux handed the fishing rod to his mate, Kole Hawk, then started the twin Mercury outboard motors on

his Conch 27 center console and chased the fish offshore.

"We caught him real quick, in like 15 minutes," Lemieux said. "It was a really, really cool experience with the kids."

Lemieux (who can be booked for charters at 561-767-6211) said wahoo fishing this month is good north of Boca Inlet and in the Delray Beach area. There also are artificial reefs south of the inlet where wahoo hang out.

Trolling a bonito strip, which is about an 8-inch-long piece of bonito belly, or a dead ballyhoo behind a colorful Sea Witch lure is the most effective way to hook a wahoo.

"I love catching them on live bait but just to target them on live bait is very hard," Lemieux said. "To truly catch them consistently, you have to troll, just because you're covering so much ground.

"Once you get a bite, just kind of stay in that area. They're usually not by themselves, they're usually in packs. So, I'll stay in the area for a little while and hopefully get another bite."

But as the kids on Lemieux's boat discovered, sometimes one wahoo bite is all you need.



Outdoors writer Steve Waters can be reached at steve33324@aol. com.

4:30-5:30 pm. \$418. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com **8/22 - Manga Club** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. 5-6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-

266-0194; delraylibrary.org 8/22 - Teen Tuesday: Game Day at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 13-17. Every T 5-7 pm. Free. 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org

Wednesday - 8/23 - 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. 10-10:30
am. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.

8/23 - Musical Theater Teens: Glee Edition! at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Age 12-18. Every W through 12/13 4-5 pm. \$418. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com 8/23 - STEAM Lab at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 8-12. 4:30-5:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

Thursday - 8/24 - 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

AUG. 27-SEPT. 2

Sunday - 8/27 - 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.

8/27 - 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

8/27 - 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 - 8/28 - Books & Bites at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 8-11. 4:30-5:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

8/28 - TAB (Teen Advisory Board) Meeting at Delray Beach Public
Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 5-6 pm.
Free. Registration: 561-266-0194;
delraylibrary.org

Tuesday – 8/29 - Teen Tuesday: Sphero Space Coding at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 13-17. Every T 5-7 pm. Free. 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org

8/30 - ART Tales Story Time at Boca Raton Museum of Art Wolgin Education Center, 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/nonmember family. Registration: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

Thursday - 8/31 - Picture Book Club at Boynton Beach City Library,
100 E Ocean Ave. Age 5-12. 4:30-5:30
pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6393;
boyntonlibrary.org

Saturday – 9/2 - Free Fun Saturday at The Schmidt Boca Raton History Museum, 71 N Federal Hwy. Family fare. 10 am-4 pm. Free. 561-395-6766; bocahistory.org

9/2 - Play & Learn Storytime for Toddlers at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age walking - 23 mos. 10:30-11 am. Free. 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

Outdoors Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 7/26. Please check with organizers for any changes.

AUGUST 5

Saturday - 8/5 - Sand Sifters Beach Clean Up at Ocean Front Park, 6415 N Ocean Blvd, Ocean Ridge. Meet at south pavilion, lower parking lot. Bring water, hat, sunscreen. Bags, gloves, grabbers provided. 8-10:30 am. Free. jefflev02@ gmail.com

8/5 - 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 8/19. Noon-1:30 pm. \$15/member; \$19/non-member. Registration: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.orq

8/5 - 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

AUGUST 6-12

Sunday - 8/6 - Regular Spiny Lobster Season Opens; remains open through 03/31/24. Myfwc.com

Tuesday - 8/8 - 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 8/18 & 22. 5:30-7 pm. \$10/resident & member; \$13/non-resident. Registration: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

Saturday - 8/12 - Coast Guard Auxiliary

Boat America: A Boating Safety
Course at Spanish River Park HQ Building,
USCG Auxiliary Classroom, 3939 N Ocean
Blvd, Boca Raton. Boating terminology,
boat handling, navigation rules, federal &
Florida regulations, more. Course provides
knowledge needed to obtain a boating
certificate; possible insurance discount.
9 am-5 pm. \$35/adult; \$5/teen. 561-3913600; peauxboca@gmail.com

8/12 - Intracoastal Adventures: Intro to Canoeing at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Age 12-adult; child under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. 10-11:30 am. \$20/member; \$25/non-member. Advance reservation required: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

AUGUST 13-19

8/13 - Intracoastal Adventures: Kayaking at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Includes short talk about South Florida's unique animals/ecosystems. Age 7-adult; each

child under 12 must be accompanied by one adult. 9-10:30 am. \$20/resident & member; \$25/non-member. Registration: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

AUGUST 20-26

Saturday - 8/26 - 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

8/26 - Coast Guard Auxiliary Boating America Safety Course at Harvey E. Oyer Jr. Park, 2010 N Federal Hwy, Boynton Beach. Boating terminology, boat handling, navigation rules, federal & Florida regulations, more. Certificate & Florida Boating ID card on completion; possible insurance discount. 8 am-4 pm. \$20. 305-778-9640; fernandez. christopher.r@gmail.com

8/26 - Intracoastal Adventures: Advanced Canoeing at Gumbo Limbo
Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd,
Boca Raton. Short talks about South
Florida's unique animals/ecosystems.
For experienced paddlers age 12-adult;
child under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. 9:30-11 am. \$20/member; \$25/
non-member. Registration: 561-544-8605;
gumbolimbo.org



Community Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 7/26. Please check with organizers for any changes.

AUGUST 5

Saturday - 8/5 - 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; boyntonbeach.org

8/5 - Freestyle Saturdays Art Class at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 18+. Every Sat through 8/26 10 am-12:30 pm. Per class \$29/ resident; \$35/non-resident. Registration: 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

8/5 - 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

8/5 - Free Fun Saturday at The Schmidt **Boca Raton History Museum** at 71 N Federal Hwy. 10 am-4 pm. Free. 561-395-6766; bocahistory.org

8/5 - Current Events Discussion at Highland Beach Library Community Room, 3618 S Ocean Blvd. Every Sat 10:30 am. Free. 561-266-9702; highlandbeach.us 8/5 - 2nd Annual Delray Beach Unity **Festival** at Pompey Park, 1101 NW 2nd St. 2-9 pm. Free. 561-243-7356; delraybeachfl.

8/5 - Wines of Spain Tasting at Gourmetphile, 323 E Palmetto Park Rd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$50/person. 561-757-6208; gourmetphile.com

8/5 - 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

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

AUGUST 6-12

Monday - 8/7 - Behind the Scenes: The Curatorial Department Unveiled at Boca Raton Museum of Art Wolgin Education Center, 501 Plaza Real. 10-11:30 am. \$35/non-member. Reservations: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

8/7 - 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

8/7 - Intermediate MS Word Class at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 5-6:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

8/7 - Annual Boca's Got Talent at Crazy Uncle Mike's, 6450 N Federal Hwy. Benefits ChildNet. Part of Boca Chamber Festival Days. 5-7:30 pm. \$35. 561-395-4433; bocaratonchamber.com/events

Tuesday – 8/8 - An Hour to Kill Mystery Book Club: *The Appeal* by Janice Hallett at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 10:30-11:30 am. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

8/8 - 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

8/8 – 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

8/8 - 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

8/8 - Introduction to Photography at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 5:30-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

8/8 - Bright Puppy Class at Hester Center, 1901 N Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. For puppies from 9-20 weeks old. Age 18+. Every T through 9/5 6-7 pm; \$185/ resident; \$231/non-resident. 561-742-6550; boynton-beach.org

8/8 - Fifty Words for Rain by Asha **Lemmie** part of Tuesday Book Group at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

8/8 - Bourbon, Bubbly, & Bouquets at Crazy Uncle Mike's, 6450 N Federal Hwy.

Part of Boca Chamber Festival Days. 6-9 pm. \$25. 561-395-4433; bocaratonchamber. com/events

8/8 - 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

8/8 - English Conversation for Adult Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Every T through 8/29 6:30-7:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

8/8 - All Arts Open Mic Night at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 2nd T 8-10 pm. \$10. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.

Wednesday - 8/9 - The Impact of the Changing Environment on Florida's Nesting Turtles w/Jeanette Wyneken presented by FAU Lifelong Learning Institute at The Field House at Old School Square, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 10:30 am-noon. \$30/member; \$35/nonmember & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

8/9 - Protect Yourself Against **Scammers, Spammers & Hackers** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 11 am-12:30 pm. Free. Registration: 5561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

8/9 - The Jazz Soul of Jerome Kern w/ Mark Gridley at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every W through 8/30 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$70/ member; \$90/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca. fau.edu

8/9 - Opera Listening Club: Bad Guys, Good Music at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. 1-2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary. org

8/9 - 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

8/9 - Marketing Your Creative Business Online at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 1:30-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org 8/9 - BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) **Drop-In Tech Help** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.

8/9 - Beer Tasting for the Differently-**Abled** at Prosperity Brewers, 4160 NW 1st Ave #21, Boca Raton. Benefits American Disabilities Foundation. Part of Boca Chamber Festival Days. 5:30-7:30 pm. \$25. 561-395-4433; bocaratonchamber.com/

8/9 - Writer's Corner at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Manuscript critiquing by published authors. Adults. 2nd W 6:30-8 pm. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

8/9 - Delray Beach Orchid Society Meeting at Veterans Park, 802 NE 1st St, Delray Beach. 2nd W 7 pm. Free. 561-573-2422; delraybeachorchidsociety.org 8/9-10 - Auditions: Rent at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Production dates 10/6-22. Possible callbacks 7 pm 8/11. 7 pm. First come first served. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

Thursday - 8/10 - 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

8/10 - Intro to Laser Cutting w/ Glowforge Class at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 10 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.

8/10 - Tech Talk Thursdays at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Every Th 10:30-11 am. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org **8/10 - 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-

Municipal Meetings

8/7 - Ocean Ridge - First Monday at Ocean Ridge Town Hall, 6450 N Ocean Blvd. 6 pm. Agenda: oceanridgeflorida.com

8/8 - South Palm Beach - Second Tuesday at the South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. 2 pm. Agenda: southpalmbeach.com

8/8 & 8/15 - Delray Beach - First & third Tuesdays at Delray Beach City Hall, 100 NW 1st Ave. 4 pm. Agenda: delraybeachfl.gov

8/11 - Gulf Stream - Second Friday at Gulf Stream Town Hall, 100 Sea Rd. 9 am. Agenda: gulfstream.org.

8/14 - Lantana - Second & fourth Mondays at Lantana Town Hall, 500 Greynolds Cir. 6 pm. Agenda: lantana.org 8/15 - Highland Beach - First Tuesday at Highland Beach Town Hall, 3614 S Ocean Blvd. 1:30

pm. Agenda: highlandbeach.us 8/15 - Boynton Beach - First and third Tuesday at Boynton Beach City Hall, 100 E Ocean Ave. 6

pm. Agenda: boynton-beach.org 8/22 - Manalapan - Fourth Tuesday at Manalapan Town Hall, 600 S Ocean Blvd. 10 am. Agenda:

manalapan.org 8/22 - Boca Raton - Second & fourth Tuesday at the auditorium, 6500 Congress Ave. 6 pm.

Agenda: myboca.usdelraybeachplayhouse.com

742-6221; boynton-beach.org

8/10 - Sticking your Toe in Florida History: What You Don't Know & Thought You Knew w/Eliot Kleinberg at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every Th through 8/31 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$70/member; \$90/non-member; \$35/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

8/10 - Crafting for Fun & Small **Business: Hand Sew a Plush!** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 1-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

8/10 - Concert: Beaux Art Chamber Ensemble at Highland Beach Library, 3618 S Ocean Blvd. 5:30 pm. Free. 561-278-5455; highlandbeach.us

8/10-11 - Film: Helmut Newton: The Bad and The Beautiful (2020) 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 - 8/11 - Workshop: Intro to Portrait Painting at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 2-5 pm. \$40. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

8/11 – Mizner Park Friday Night Artisan Market every Friday at 327 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 4-9 pm. 561-362-0606; miznerpark.com

8/11 - 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

8/11 - Comedy on the Intracoastal at Intracoastal Park, 2240 N Federal Hwy, Boynton Beach. Age 18+. 7-9 pm. \$20/ advance; \$25/at the door. 561-742-6650; boynton-beach.org

8/11 - 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 **8/11-13 - Grease** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Runs through 9/3. F/Sat 8 pm; Sat/Sun 2 pm. \$45. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

Saturday - 8/12 - Open Figure Studio w/Model at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Age 18+. Held again 6-8 pm 8/24. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$15. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

8/12 - Inventors Society of South Florida Virtual Meeting. 2nd Sat 1 pm. 1st meeting free. Registration: 561-676-5677; inventorssociety.net

8/12 - Workshop: Shadow Play w/Sumi Ink at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 2-4 pm. \$40. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

8/12 - Guided Tour of The Boca Raton at 501 E Camino Real. Presented by Boca Raton Historical Society & Museum. Part of Boca Chamber Festival Days. Walking tour follows the resort's evolution; includes Addison Mizner's story, his architectural inspirations, furnishings. Not recommended for children under 12. Held again 8/26. 2-3:15 pm. \$25/advance tickets. Advance reservations required: 561-395-6766; bocahistory.org

8/12 - 12th Annual FondueRaiser at The Melting Pot, 5455 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Benefits Lynn Cancer Institute's League of Ribbons; 50% of all food/drink sales + 100% of signature Ribbon-tini drink sales. Part of Boca Chamber Festival Days. 4:30-10 pm. RSVP: 561-997-7472; bocaratonchamber.com/events

8/12 - Concert: Jason Mraz at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 6 pm doors open; 7 pm show. Tickets start at \$40. 561-393-7890; mizneramp.

8/12 - One Hit Wonders at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$40-\$45. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

AUGUST 13-19

Monday - 8/14 - Hand Crafted Greeting **Cards** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Create custom greeting cards w/Cricut Maker & Sizzix Big Shot machine. Adults. Held again 6-8 pm 8/16. 10 amnoon. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.

8/14 - Basic Excel Formulas Everyone **Should Know** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 5-6:30 pm. Free. Registration: 5561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

Tuesday - 8/15 - 13th Annual Cocktails for JARC at Throw Social, 29 SE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 6 pm. \$30-\$40. 561-558-2572; jarcfl.org

8/15 - 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 - 8/16 - Book Buzz Adult **Book Club** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 10:30 amnoon. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

8/16 - What is Canva? at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 11 am-12:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

8/16 - League of Women Voters Virtual **Hot Topics Discussion: Getting Ready** for Fall. Live Zoom session. Noon. Free. Registration: 561-276-4898; lwvpbc.org 8/16 - Opera Listening Club: Audience's **Choice** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. 1-2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.

8/16 - 42nd Street The Musical w/By **Experience** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-5:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$20/member; \$25/non-member & onetime guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

8/16 - Celebrity Game Night at Biergarten Boca, 309 Via De Palmas #90, Boca Raton. Benefits local Caregiving Youth. Part of Boca Chamber Festival Days. 6:30-8:30 pm. \$35. 561-395-4433; bocaratonchamber.com/events

Thursday – 8/17 - Make Your Own Mug in the Morning at Second Chance Initiative, 3100 NW Boca Raton Blvd #312, Boca Raton. Part of Boca Chamber Festival Days. 8:45-10 am. \$25. 561-395-4433; bocaratonchamber.com/events

8/17 - Coding Basics: Resources for **Getting Started** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 10 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.

8/17 - Workshop: Art Happy Hour - DIY Tote Bags at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 6-7:30 pm. \$22. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

8/17 - 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. delrayoldschoolsquare.

Friday – 8/18 - Creative Collage Workshop at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 1-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7852; bocalibrary.org **8/18 - Paint & Sip** at Boca Raton Museum of Art Wolgin Education Center, 501 Plaza Real. Limited seating. 6-8 pm. \$55/ member; \$65/non-member. RSVP by 8/15: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

8/18 - Passport to Latin America at Boca Raton Innovation Campus, 5000 T-Rex Ave #100. Part of Boca Chamber Festival Days. 6-9 pm. Tickets start at \$40. 561-395-4433; bocaratonchamber.com/events

8/18 - Legends Radio Free Friday Concert: ELO Tribute Band at Old School Square Amphitheater, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Mix of local/regional talent; live music, dance; local merchants exhibit. 7:30-10 pm. Free. delrayoldschoolsquare.

8/18 - Nostaljah at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$20-\$25. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

Saturday – 8/19 - Workshop: Basics of Sewing - Hand & Machine at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$40. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

8/19 - Workshop: Indigo Ferns in Watercolor at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 2-4 pm. \$40. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

8/19 - Nina Skyy: Forever Whitney at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$40-\$45. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

AUGUST 20-26

Sunday – 8/20 - Story Central Storytelling Slam at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 4-5:30 pm. Free. 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org 8/20 - Boca Raton's Charity Fun & Fitness at Crazy Uncle Mike's, 6450 N Federal Hwy. Benefits Boys & Girls Club of Boca Raton. Part of Boca Chamber Festival Days. 5-8 pm. \$250/team of 4; \$20 to attend. 561-395-4433; bocaratonchamber. com/events

8/20 - Room to Blum: A One Woman Autobiographical Performance by Ally Rosenblum at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7:30 pm. \$15. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

Monday – 8/21 - Bubbies For Broadway Part 1 at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Age 55+. Every M through 12/11 11 am-noon. \$380/16 classes. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

8/21 - Bubbies For Broadway Part 2 at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Age 55+. Every M through 12/11 12:30-1:30 pm. \$380/16 classes. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 5-6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org 8/21 - Margarita Monday at Rocco's Tacos, 5250 Town Center Circle, Boca Raton. Benefits Speak Up for Kids. Part of Boca

8/21 - Resume Writing Using MS Word

Chamber Festival Days. 5:30-7:30 pm. \$30/ advance; \$35/at the door. 561-237-3004; kidsafefoundation.org/roccos 8/21 - Poetry Night at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 3rd M 8-10 pm. \$5-\$10. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

Tuesday – 8/22 - From Gunsmoke to Laugh-In: The Best of 1960s TV w/ Margery Marcus at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu 8/22 - Backlash Against the Backlash:

A Discussion on Brilliant Female Authors at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 10:30-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7852; bocalibrary.org 8/22 - Crafting for Fun & Small

Business: Make an Elegant Beaded Bracelet at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 2-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org 8/22 - Theatre Lab, the Professional Resident Company of FAU: An In-depth Look at the History of Theatre Lab

and Its Plans for the 23-24 Season w/ Matt Stabile at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/nonmember & one-time guest pass at door.

561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu 8/22 - Sewing: Intermediate Projects: Bowl Cozy at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Requires previous beginner's class. Adults. 6-8 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

Wednesday – 8/23 - Crafting for Fun & Small Business: Design a Puzzle! at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 1-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

8/23 - 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 9/20 6-7 pm; \$185/resident; \$231/non-resident. 561-742-6550; boynton-beach.org

8/23 - Roaring Twenties Casino Night: Getting Lucky in the Park at Patch Reef Park Pavilion, 2000 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. Benefits YMCA. Part of Boca Chamber Festival Days. 6-9 pm. \$50/person, \$90/ couple; includes \$100/chips/person, \$200/ couple. Poker Tournament separate \$100 buy-in. 561-395-4433: bocaratonchamber. com/events

8/23 - Violinist Hina Khuong-Huu at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. 7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

8/23-24 - Workshop: 2-Day Drawing & Painting 101 at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Must be able to attend both sessions. 11 am-4 pm. \$225. 561-330-9614: artswarehouse.org

Thursday – 8/24 - Data Storytelling w/ArcGIS Online at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 10 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.

8/24 - Playing Against Type: Stars You'd Never Believe Headlined Westerns w/Kurt F. Stone at Florida
Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium,
777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every Th
through 9/28 3-5 pm. \$60/annual
membership; \$90/member; \$120/nonmember; \$35/one-time guest pass at door.
561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

8/24 - Hosting 101 at Sklar Furnishings, 6300 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Benefits Achievement Centers for Children & Families. Part of Boca Chamber Festival Days. Complimentary beer or wine, light bites, cocktail and centerpiece making classes, napkin folding, wine tasting, more. 6 pm. \$75. 561-266-0003; achievementcentersfl.org

8/24 - Friends Virtual Book Club: Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston 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

8/24 - 2nd Annual Long Hot Summer of Movies: *A River Runs Through It* **(R)** at Delray Beach Historical Society Heritage Gardens, 3 NE 1st St. 7 pm doors open; 8 pm movie. \$12/person. 561-274-9578; delraybeachhistory.org

Friday – 8/25 - Workshop: Painting Abstract Expressionism at Arts
Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach.
10:30 am-3:30 pm. \$120. 561-330-9614;
artswarehouse.org

8/25 - Julius Sanna & the Positively Africa Experience at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$30-\$35. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

Saturday – 8/26 - Workshop: Pulp Painting - A Paper Making Workshop at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$50. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

8/26 - Workshop: The Art of Kokedama Plants at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St,
Delray Beach. 1-3:30 pm. \$90. 561-3309614; artswarehouse.org

8/26 - Art & Ale Soiree at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Part of Boca Chamber Festival Days. 5-9 pm. \$40/ advance member; \$45/non-member; \$55/ at the door. RSVP by 8/22: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.orq

8/26 - 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/events **8/26 - The Smoogies** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$35-\$40. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

\$40. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org **8/26-27 - Comedian Sommore: The Chandelier Experience** at The Studio at Mizner Park, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7 & 9:30 pm. \$35-\$50. 561-203-3742; thestudioatmiznerpark.com 8/26-9/8 - Florida Tax Holiday/ Exemption: Disaster Preparedness. floridarevenue.com/salestaxholidays

AUG. 27-SEPT. 2

Sunday – 8/27 - Boca Helping Hands Bowling for Bread at Bowlero, 21046 Commercial Tr, Boca Raton. Part of Boca Chamber Festival Days. Benefits participating children's charities. Noon-2 pm. \$1500/lane [accommodates 5 people]. 561-417-0913; bocahelpinghands.org 8/27 - Sock Hop Fundraiser at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Dress in theme for costume contest; chance to win a free raffle ticket. 5:30-8 pm. \$100. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com Monday – 8/28 - Bitter Orange Tree by

Monday – 8/28 - Bitter Orange Tree by Jokha Alharthi part of Afternoon Book Group at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. Free. 561-266-0196; delraylibrary.org

8/28 - Attention-Grabbing Cover Letters at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 5-6:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

8/28 - Wine & Cheese for Champions at American Social Bar & Restaurant, 327 Plaza Real #315, Boca Raton. Benefits Champions Empowering Champions. Part of Boca Chamber Festival Days. 6-8 pm. \$45/advance; \$55/at the door. 561-395-4433; bocaratonchamber.com/events

Tuesday — 8/29 - The World is Heating Up! Hot Topics in the News: Let's Discuss w/Marlene Solender at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every T through 9/19 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 8/29 - How Money Works at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults.

6390; boyntonlibrary.org 8/29 - Crafting for Fun & Small Business: Create a Cross-Stitch Bookmark at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 5:30-7:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906;

4:30-5:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-

bocalibrary.org
Wednesday — 8/30 - Exploring
ChatGPT at Boynton Beach City Library,
100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 11 am-12:30
pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390;
boyntonlibrary.org

8/30 - Women in Translation Month 2023: Book Tasting Event at Delray
Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave.
1 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0196;
delraylibrary.org

8/30 - Crafting in the Library: Simple Melt & Pour Soap at Boynton Beach
City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 6-8
pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390;
boyntonlibrary.org

Thursday – 8/31 - Workshop: Fluid Florals in Watercolor at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$40. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

8/31 - Business Booster 2003
Workshop Series: Local Resources
hosted by Boynton Beach CRA at City Hall
Community Room 115, 100 E Ocean Ave.
Brown bag lunch; learn to grow, maintain,
expand your business. Noon-2 pm. Free.
561-737-3256; boyntonbeachcra.com
8/31 - 7th Annual Lip Sync Battle
at Pavilion Grille, 301 Yamato Rd, Boca
Raton. Part of Boca Chamber Festival
Days. 6:30-10 pm. \$40-\$50. 561-213-8209;

natkingcolegenhope.org **Friday – 9/1 – Greg Morton: The Art of Laughter** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave,
Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$30-\$35. 561-450-

6357; artsgarage.org
9/1-30 - 8th Annual Downtown Delray
Beach Restaurant Month at multiple
locations. Multi-course prix-fixe lunches/
dinners; happy hour & brunch specials;
culinary experiences from restaurants,
cafes, fast-casual eateries. Check website
for restaurants/eateries, dates, costs:
downtowndelraybeach.com

Saturday – 9/2 - Free Fun Saturday at The Schmidt Boca Raton History Museum at 71 N Federal Hwy. 10 am-4 pm. Free. 561-395-6766; bocahistory.org **9/2 - Negroni's Trio** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$40-\$45. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org





Delray Beach — Commercial / Residential Property Mixed Use building.

Put your business and home on the most visible lot entering downtown Delray.
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Direct Intracoastal Point Lot — Boca Raton

Renovated Point Lot w/ 200 ft of Waterfrontage, dockage for Large Yacht & 6649 sq ft under air.Features include all impact glass,4 new A/Cs, Kitchen open to fam mm & pool, Huge 1st fl master/stunning bath & closets.1more ensuite bedroom on 1st fl & 3 ensuite bedrooms upstains. The fabulous upstairs liv area & incredible home gym has been featured in magazines! Creston whole home audio, video system w/ 10 touch panels in all rooms & Lutron lighthing system and gorgeous long/wide Intracoastal views! \$7.995,000



Hillsboro Shores - Block to Beach

Incredible Organic Modern home only a block to your Private Gated Beach. This home has a Tranquil Vibe w/a material palette of Rich woods, Stones & Glass. Featuring Custom kitchen w/ Miele appliances, Large Great rm w, fireplace, polished concrete floors, media rm, library & office. Upstairs master suite w/ Italcraft closet, balcony & bath & 3 other BR's. 3rd fl w/ patio, balcony & wiews of lighthouse & beach area! \$5,500,000



Palm Beach Farms — Boca Raton

Fabulous Location and Super Huge 145 x 125 ft lot in Desirable Palm Beach Farms-Home features 5 bedrooms, incredibly large Family Room, spacious eat-in kitchen w/ Stainless Appliances overlooking the massive well manicured yard and sparkling pool. 3 Car garage and Circular driveway complete this incredible home. \$7,690,000



On the Grounds of The Boca Raton Resort

Extraordinary Estate on the grounds of Boca Raton Resort & located on a fabulous lot in Mizner Lake Estates.w/views of golf course, lake &grounds of resort. Features include living rm w/ high ceilings, formal dining w/ wine room, Custom chefs kitchen, bar area & new appliances. 1st fl Master w/sitting area & 2 Baths. Library w/full bath & 2 bedrooms on 2nd fl. Entertaing area, bar & bakcony on 3rd fl. Loggia w/ summer Kitchen, pool & Guest house. Property's rented so great for Investor!. \$10,499,000



Double Waterfront Estate — Boca Raton

Custom built home located on a rare "Double Waterfront" Gated Street w/a total of 300 ft of deepwater.150 front &150 back.Features soaring ceilings w/ wall of glass to see views of water from almost all rooms.Custom library, den, fireplace, Kitchen w, Wolf & Sub-zero apple, wine bar, breakfast rm, outdoor living w/ 80ft covered patio, Newer roof, 2 covered balconies, summer kitchen, heated pool, lush landscaping, 2 docks in front & back, new boat lift, jet ski lift and floating dock! \$5,995,000



Waterfront Tri Plex - Highland Beach

An Absolutely Fantastic Triplex located on 100 ft of Water frontage just off the Intracoastal and only Steps to the Beach. This Property is being Sold as One Unit-The Downstairs Condo features 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, a 2 Car Garage, and a large screened patio The two units upstairs are adorable and each feature 2 bedrooms, 2 baths and screened patios. Each unit has a washer/dryer and the views from all units are gorgeous as the canal is 150 ft wide and a straight shot out to the Intracoastal for the boater. There is also a terrific pool/patio which is great for entertaining. Plenty of parking in front and the owner controls the HOA \$3,850,000



Highland Beach Townhouse

This Waterfront TH located in gated comm of Boca Highlands offers beautiful eat in kitchen w/ SS appliances, Plantation shutters, Huge Din & Liv rm w/ Bar. Large patio off Liv rm w/ water views, Master w/ Lg Bath & balcony overlooking the beautiful Marina. Separate 1 car garage. Boat dockage & Complex w/ renovated Beach Club w/ pool, grills, party rm, tennis & 24/7 Manned security! \$1,290,000

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Source: IRS - Migration Data 2019-2020, # of returns, outside of Florida

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Boca Raton 1131 Spanish River Road | \$16,950,000 Nick Younker | 440.867.3930



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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



College Park | Lake Worth Beach 2615 Colgate Lane | \$3,200,000 Seth Benkaddour | 561.324.9950 Nick Younker | 440.867.3930



200 E. Palmetto Pk. Rd. LPH 802 | \$1,650,000 Matthew Bachrad | 917.628.4021 Danielle Stern | 818.216.2320



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