

Postcards from our past

Memories of U.S. 1 tourist stops come alive in historic collections

By John Hughes

Florida was known for tourist attractions long before it was known for Disney World.

Hard to fathom, but that's a fact.

Before Mickey and Minnie and being *this* tall to ride a ride. Before wait times and paid proxies as place holders in admission queues. Back when rubber alligators were prized. Back then, this state was thick as swamp air with attractions that often exploited the nationwide notion that Florida was America's WILDerness.

Before there was Interstate 95 or Florida's Turnpike (née Sunshine State Parkway), one two-lane road — U.S. 1 — was

See POSTCARDS on page 19



Road signs at the intersection of U.S. 1 and Camino Real directed travelers to the 300-acre site for Africa USA. Photos provided

Boca Raton

First condo to pass city's post-Surfside inspection reveals how it got head start

By Mary Hladky

Immediately after the horrific 2021 collapse of the Champlain Towers South condo in Surfside, Admiral's Walk condo board members and the building's property manager swung into action.

The building's 68 condo owners needed assurances that their 18-story building at 4545 N. Ocean Blvd. was safe, said property manager Daniel Gonzalez. He and the board also anticipated that building safety laws would be enacted.

"We wanted to make sure we were ahead of the curve," he said.

They were right. Mayor Scott Singer proposed an ordinance that would require buildings in the city to be inspected for safety shortly after the Surfside tragedy.

Moving at lightning speed, city staff created one just 34 days after the collapse that claimed 98 lives. When the City Council approved it one month later, Boca Raton became the first city in Palm Beach County to enact such a law.

But the Admiral's Walk board moved even faster.

Before the ordinance was on the books, the board had hired an engineering firm to inspect the building and a contractor to

Another first
Highland Beach
condo recertified.
Page 16

See CONDO on page 16

Boca Raton

Retiring city manager was tops at securing the bottom line

By Mary Hladky

Boca Raton has profoundly changed over the last 24 years. But there was one constant: City Manager Leif Ahnell.

Ahnell's long tenure, described by his longtime deputy George Brown as "unprecedented," ended on Dec. 31 when he retired three months earlier than expected and Brown took over the reins.

Brown and City Council members paid tribute to Ahnell on Dec. 12, their last meeting of the year, highlighting

what council member Marc Wigder said was his "financial wizardry."

Council members past and present have lauded his financial acumen and credited him with maintaining the city's strong financial position, finding creative ways to save the city money, and balancing the cost of the city's growth with the council's emphasis on keeping a low tax rate.

He tightened procedures in the budget office and helped establish long-range financial planning and dedicated reserves

to meet future financial needs, Brown said.

City staff members recognized Ahnell's work by creating a special cover for this fiscal year's budget report.

"His 33-year commitment to financial stewardship not only influenced the advancement of Boca Raton as a beautiful, safe, and vibrant coastal community, but it also laid a strong foundation for the city's prosperous future," they wrote.

Ahnell joined the city as an

See AHNELL on page 20



Longtime Boca Raton City Manager Leif Ahnell, who retired Dec. 31, shares a light moment with his deputy and successor George Brown during an event for city staff. Photo provided

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The ArtsPaper

Passion project Norton exhibits collector's masterworks. Page AT11



Gumbo Limbo problems Donations to nonprofit are way down. Page 25



En plein air Artists embrace painting the outdoors. Page AT1

The Coastal Star

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Editor's Note

Looking forward to new year and changes at 'The Star'

You won't see any "year in review" stories or photos in this January edition. It's not that they aren't interesting, it's just that I'm a Capricorn — always looking forward. The coming year interests me far more than the one in the rearview mirror. So here's to 2024!

In the coming year, *The Coastal Star* plans to make some staffing changes. Foremost is that I plan to assume a lesser role in the day-to-day production of the newspaper. After 15 years, it's time to take more time for myself and focus on some other projects.

I'll still be around: assigning stories, keeping my eyes and ears on the community, proofreading, and writing this column. I'll remain executive editor, but we're bringing a new editor on board to manage the overall assignment, editing and production of news each month.

Many residents (and government officials) already know Larry Barszewski from his years spent covering several coastal municipalities. I hope all our readers will welcome him enthusiastically in this new role.

Larry's background is in government and community reporting. He has covered cities, counties, school districts and sessions of the state Legislature in his nearly 40 years of work in Florida. He has made stops at the *Bradenton Herald*, *Miami Herald*, *South Florida Sun Sentinel* — including being part of its 2019 Pulitzer Prize-winning staff — and at *The Coastal Star* for the past three years. Larry is familiar with our coastal communities.

Like most of us, Larry is a northern transplant. He grew up in western Massachusetts and earned a political science and journalism degree from American International College there. He received his master's degree in journalism from Northwestern University.

He lives in Boca Raton with his wife, Maggie, his two adult daughters, and their cat and two dogs (all rescue pets). At St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church,

he is part of the leadership team of AIM, an outreach ministry serving adults with physical disabilities.

Larry's goals are straightforward: good journalism, publishing articles that reflect the communities we serve, holding government officials accountable, providing interesting and informative stories for our readers, and listening to what our readers have to say.

"*The Coastal Star* has shown that people will support journalism that cares about them and the communities where they live," Larry says. "I hope, supported by the strong staff that has found a home here at the paper, to live up to that legacy and help ensure it continues."

I'm thrilled to leave much of my responsibility in his hands.

Mary Thurwachter will continue as a managing editor with her excellent oversight and editing of feature stories and columns. Many readers say these are their favorite parts of our publication. Please thank Mary next time you talk with her. She's an essential part of our management team.

Steve Plunkett also remains as a managing editor, working with our reporters covering Boca Raton and Highland Beach — as well as doing reporting in other municipalities. Steve also contributes to our editorial decision-making each month. The southernmost communities in our coverage area are unique, and it's good to have Steve's oversight and years of local reporting and editing expertise.

We are all excited about the coming year. We feel lucky to be able to continue reporting on Palm Beach County's lively, diverse, unique and beautiful coastal communities in the South County. These are difficult times for practicing journalism, but *The Coastal Star* continues to hang tough, and with the strength and depth of our team — and our business partners — we keep looking forward.



Happy New Year!
— Mary Kate Leming, Executive Editor

Coastal Star



Michelle Hagerty, who gave the Boys and Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County a boost by leading a \$374,000 fundraiser in October, loves being at the Boca Raton location.

Photo provided by Jack Packard

First-year volunteer makes big impact with Boys and Girls Clubs

By Suzanna Boden

For Boca Raton resident Michelle Hagerty, giving back to her community gives her a sense of purpose.

Hagerty began her first year of serving the Boys and Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County by contributing to a record-breaking fundraiser, as chairwoman of the fifth annual Securing Our Future Soiree. More than \$374,000 was raised for the nonprofit's hunger relief initiatives.

"I had a great team of people help me put the event together," Hagerty said. "It was a really positive experience."

About 15 people on various committees, including planning, decor, sponsorships, and silent and live auctions, had a hand in organizing the event, which was held Oct. 26 at the Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club in Boca Raton. More than 220 guests attended.

The mission of the Boys and Girls Clubs is to help young people reach their full potential. The organization provides a world-class club experience that ensures success for each member. It aims to keep youngsters on track to graduate from high school, as well as assisting with planning for their futures.

Hagerty is most involved with the Boca Raton location, off Federal Highway north of Yamato Road. It gives children a safe place to go to work on their homework and participate in sports. Tutors are on hand to assist with lessons, and the club has a snack and dinner component. About 75 children attend the after-school program daily.

"It's a place that keeps kids safe and allows them to build good character and maintain a healthy lifestyle," Hagerty said. "I am becoming more involved because of the event and the friends I've made at the organization. I really love going there; it's such a wonderful place."

Hagerty, 44, graduated from the University of Southern Maine, where she earned a degree in sociology. Her family owned and operated White Rock Distilleries, where she

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started selling liquor to bars, restaurants and distilleries after she earned her degree. The family business was sold in 2008.

She and her husband, Michael, met in Fort Lauderdale in 2006 and moved to Boca Raton in 2008. The couple have two children, ages 12 and 14, who attend Saint Andrew's School in Boca Raton, where Hagerty is a board member.

She is also on the foundation boards of Boca Raton Regional Hospital and Nicklaus Children's Hospital in Miami. She and her husband also support Florida Atlantic University athletics.

"I think it's my responsibility, as a citizen of Boca Raton and the surrounding areas, to serve the community," she said. "I especially enjoy dedicating and serving my time to underserved children. Since my kids are in school, I want to use my time to better my community and beyond."

Jaene Miranda, president and CEO of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County, was delighted with the turnout at the 2023 fundraiser and she is excited that Hagerty will serve as chairwoman for the sixth annual event.

"Michelle has been a true champion in carrying out our mission, which is to serve those kids who really need us most," Miranda said. "We have 20 Boys and Girls Clubs in Palm Beach County, and our service to the various communities only exists because community members like Michelle get engaged with our organization."

"Her support was evident through the phenomenal results we had at the soiree event, not only because of the money raised, but also because of the new friends she helped us connect with in the city of Boca Raton." ★

Along the Coast

Patients' infection rates raise watchdog's concerns at two hospitals

By Charles Elmore

Two hospitals in southern Palm Beach County received "D" grades for patient safety in a nonprofit watchdog group's latest report, and Florida landed among the five worst states with declines in hospital patient-experience scores that graders called "disheartening."

The number of infections that patients acquired in each hospital partially contributed to the below-average grades that The Leapfrog Group assigned to Baptist Health Boca Raton Regional Hospital and HCA Florida JFK Hospital in Atlantis. Fewer than 8% of hospitals surveyed nationwide received D or F grades.

At the same time, Florida showed encouraging signs, too, ranking among 10 states with the highest percentage of A grades. Responding hospitals did not always agree with their scores, but voices across the industry acknowledged challenges to retain experienced staffing and other issues coming out of a grueling pandemic.

Boca Raton Regional's D grade included a worse-than-average score for sepsis infection and other complications after surgery. The score followed a D in the spring of 2023 and a C in the three years ending in 2022.

"Our goal is to provide high-quality, safe care for our patients and community and we take great pride in doing this," said Gina Halley-Wright, communications manager for Baptist Health South Florida. "We recognize that tools like Leapfrog Group's ratings help health care organizations continue to improve."

She continued in a statement, "It is important to note that the Leapfrog grades for the most recent scores were calculated by using data dating back to 2019, and include periods of time when South Florida experienced severe patient surges due to the pandemic. Our health system has taken steps to improve in areas where needed, and we are committed to continuing to use the data to make positive changes."

JFK Hospital's D came in part because it performed worse than average on blood infection rates, according to the report. The hospital had been awarded C grades in 2022 and the first part of 2023, after a B in the fall of 2021. Attempts to get comment from the hospital were not successful.

Leapfrog's roots date to when

Grading care

The Leapfrog Group looked at nearly 3,000 hospitals nationwide, reviewing measures of how well the hospitals prevent medical errors, accidents and infections. Here are its fall 2023 grades for hospitals in southern Palm Beach County (and any change from the first part of the year):

B

Baptist Health Bethesda Hospital East, Boynton Beach (stayed the same)
Baptist Health Bethesda Hospital West, Boynton Beach (up from C)

C

Delray Medical Center (stayed the same)
West Boca Medical Center (stayed the same)

D

Baptist Health Boca Raton Regional Hospital (stayed the same)
HCA Florida JFK Hospital, Atlantis (down from C)

business leaders gathered in 1998 to figure out a way to offer watchdog grades to help the public. It assigns letter grades to nearly 3,000 hospitals across the nation based on measures of how well they prevent medical errors, accidents and infections.

Leapfrog says it uses up to 28 performance measures to grade hospitals twice a year. The latest scores are from fall 2023.

The scoring methodology is determined by a panel of experts from Harvard, Stanford and other universities. Various categories involve data from one-year or multiyear periods. Some scores, such as in-hospital infections, draw from publicly available data. Other parts cull information from surveys, in which hospitals do not always participate.

In the latest grades, nearly 30% of hospitals nationally received an A, 24% got a B, 39% registered a C, with 7% drawing a D and less than 1% an F.

Delray Medical Center received a C, its same grade since a B in the spring of 2020.

West Boca Medical Center also received a C, unchanged since the fall of 2021 after B grades in 2020 and the first part of 2021.

"Delray Medical Center and West Boca Medical Center are proud to provide safe, high-quality care to our patients," said Andrew Lofholm, communications and community relations manager

for Palm Beach Health Network.

His group's hospitals do not participate in the Leapfrog survey, he said in a statement.

"However, Leapfrog may assign a score, but it is based on limited publicly available data from secondary sources that haven't been verified," he said. "We take our responsibility to provide the safest possible environment for our patients very seriously, and this is positively reflected in our quality recognitions from multiple other organizations."

Other area hospitals improved or maintained grades.

Baptist Health Bethesda Hospital East in Boynton Beach was given a B grade, a level it has maintained since the start of 2022 after C grades the previous two years.

Bethesda West in Boynton Beach was assigned a B, up from C in the first part of 2023.

Based on surveys, Florida ranked among the five states with the sharpest declines in scores for nurse and doctor communication, staff responsiveness, communication about medicines and discharge information, Leapfrog found.

"In talking with hospital leaders, we believe staffing shortages are one key reason for the continued decline," said Leah Binder, president and CEO of The Leapfrog Group.

"Many hospitals are innovating to help make

patient experience better, which is critical because these results are disheartening and unsustainable."

Florida Hospital Association President and CEO Mary C. Mayhew addressed the findings in a statement.

"FHA member hospitals are steadfastly committed to enhancing the patient experience," she said. "We recognize the recent challenges in various aspects of patient care, such as communication with nurses and doctors, staff responsiveness, and clarity regarding medications and discharge procedures, and agree the results are disheartening."

"These significant concerns stem from the unsustainable workforce challenges that have impacted hospitals nationwide, including staffing shortages and an increased reliance on contracted and temporary staff."

Patients and families deserve to be fully informed about their conditions and care, she said.

"Efforts are being made to address these challenges," she said. "By leveraging innovative technology, adopting best practices, and utilizing effective tools, we are focused on improving the quality of patient care. Florida's hospitals are more than health care providers; they are community partners committed to making sure Florida has the high-quality health care system it deserves."

Some medical centers in the state managed tough conditions well. Florida's 38% ranked among the 10 states with the highest percentage of hospitals receiving A grades.

As a group, hospitals across the country tended to see a lower rate of "health care-acquired" infections coming out of the COVID pandemic in 2023, the organization found.

Specific infections measured include Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA), central line-associated bloodstream infections (CLABSI) and catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI), Leapfrog said.

In some places, such as southern Palm Beach County, there remains room to improve, if the grades are any indication.

"Now that we have pre- and post-pandemic data for patient safety measures, we are encouraged by the improvement in infections and applaud hospitals for reversing the disturbing infection spike we saw during the pandemic," Binder said. "However, there's still more work to be done. It's deeply concerning that patient reports about their health care experience continues to decline." ★

To see fall 2023 Hospital Safety Grades from The Leapfrog Group, go to <https://www.hospitalsafetygrade.org/>

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Manalapan

Three new commissioners on board; two more expected this month

By Anne Geggis

Three new faces are filling the Manalapan Town Commission dais — and two more await swearing in as the town copes with a new state law that triggered the resignation of four commissioners and the mayor.

Vice Mayor John Deese and Commissioner Simone Bonutti are the only holdovers willing to meet a new state law that requires municipal elected officials to submit Form 6, which is a detailed disclosure of their personal wealth.

That requirement has impacted commissions around the state. But so far, the scale of Manalapan's commission departures are unmatched in Palm Beach County, which has 10 other municipalities losing members of their elected boards because of the new obligation.

Mayor Stewart Satter ended four years on the dais at December's meeting. He was elected commissioner in 2019 and became mayor in March 2023.

"I want to thank everyone — it's been a pleasure," Satter said.

Deese will take Satter's mayoral seat and Cindy McMackin, already designated to take Deese's at-large seat, is expected to be appointed and sworn in at the next commission



New commissioners David Knobel, Orla Imbesi and Elliot Bonner (l-r) are sworn in to seats on the Manalapan Town Commission. **Anne Geggis/The Coastal Star**

meeting, on Jan. 23. She will fill the remainder of his term, which ends in March 2025.

Seven people responded to a November call for volunteers, Town Clerk Erika Petersen said. Four have been appointed and three of them were sworn in Dec. 18. They are:

- Orla Imbesi, who works for several family businesses. The mother of four grown children and grandmother of six replaces Commissioner Chauncey Johnstone, whose seat represents the whole town.

- David Knobel, retired from running a for-profit university. The former member of the state Board of Education replaces Commissioner Kristin Rosen, representing Point Manalapan.

- Elliot Bonner, a Florida Power & Light executive. The father of 17-year-old twins replaces Commissioner Richard Granara, representing Point

Manalapan.

Dwight Kulwin will replace Aileen Carlucci, representing the ocean section of Manalapan. He did not attend December's swearing-in.

Bonner and Imbesi both filed documents in November to continue serving on the commission once their appointed terms expire in March — and they were automatically elected because no one else filed to run for their respective seats.

Petersen said plans were to hold a second, 10-day qualifying period starting Jan. 2 so Kulwin can also assemble the qualifying documents to continue beyond his appointed term — or for anyone else who lives in the ocean section who wants to run to file for the seat.

Knobel's term continues until March 2025.

All three freshly minted

commissioners praised the way the town is run.

Knobel, who bought his current home in 2020, said he was prompted to volunteer in the name of steadiness: "I like to stay involved and do what I can to keep stability and level-headedness," he said.

Imbesi came to the area from Bal Harbour at the recommendation of her Palm Beach friends in 2012. She said her family looked around on that island but didn't find exactly the house with a dock she was looking for.

"We found Manalapan and fell in love with it," she said. "It's the perfect place to live."

Bonner, also a travel youth baseball coach, said he came to Palm Beach County because of his job, first living in Lake Worth after moving from Baltimore. Manalapan called him farther south to what he

describes as "off the beaten path."

"I looked for a house on or near the water and the house I found, I thought, 'This is where I need to be,'" he said.

He is coming to the dais at the urging of his neighbor Granara, who is stepping aside because of the new financial disclosure requirements.

Former mayor gifts library

The J. Turner Moore Memorial Library on Point Manalapan received a bequest of nearly \$102,000 from Peter Blum, a former Manalapan mayor and retired businessman, who died at age 93 in January 2023, Town Manager Linda Stumpf told the commission.

The gift could present something of an opportunity, Stumpf said.

A December yoga program attracted 14 participants to the library and there is talk of doing more, perhaps an evening book club or a class teaching tai chi, a gentle form of exercise to improve flexibility and balance.

Currently, the town library's posted hours are 2 to 4 p.m., Wednesdays and Fridays in addition to yoga class from 10 to 11 a.m. on Thursdays.

"It's a good building that's just sitting there," Stumpf said.★



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Ocean Ridge

State makes town reapprove budget and tax rate over advertising error

By Larry Barszewski

A mistake that Florida revenue officials determined “to be in violation of the law” forced Ocean Ridge town commissioners into a special meeting Dec. 21 for a “do-over” of the resolutions they approved in September setting the town’s tax rate and budget.

Town officials used the wrong figures in a published advertisement notifying residents of the September public hearings where commissioners set the tax rate and budget for fiscal year 2024, which started Oct. 1.

Fortunately, with millions of dollars in town taxes already paid by property owners over the past two months, the commission didn’t have to change the tax rate or budget from the ones approved in September. The correction means the town is now expecting to receive \$58,738 more in property taxes than previously thought, which will reduce the amount of money taken from its reserve funds to support the budget by the same amount.

“We have an additional \$58,000 in the budget, so it is a good mistake, not a bad mistake,” Vice Mayor Steve Coz

said.

Commissioner Carolyn Cassidy, who in September had supported approving a tax rate lower than the \$5.40 per \$1,000 of assessed value that was eventually adopted, wasn’t as forgiving. Cassidy said if commissioners had been aware of the extra dollars, that may have convinced them to drop the rate to \$5.35 per \$1,000 of assessed value.

For the owner of a home valued at \$1 million, that change would have produced an extra \$50 in savings on their taxes.

Terry Brown, the only resident to speak at the special meeting, wanted to know who was responsible for the mistake. Town Manager Lynne Ladner took responsibility.

“The law was that we were to use the gross taxable value of the town, not the net, and I mistakenly put the net taxable value in the advertisement. It was my mistake,” Ladner said. She added later, “It was not a mathematical error.”

Brown, however, wasn’t satisfied.

“I think it was noted when you were hired by this group, not the previous group, that you publicly stated that that was one of your weaknesses, budget work,” Brown said. “They know

your weaknesses. And there are some other weaknesses, too, which we won’t talk about today. But that’s something that you-all are responsible for.”

While Coz said the mistake shouldn’t have been made, he noted that outside financial consultants hired by the town to review Ladner’s work didn’t catch the mistake, either.

“That’s their entire business — it’s a little [portion] of your business — and they missed it as well,” Coz said. “I’m really amazed at the state. I have new faith in the state. A tiny town like us and they catch that? That’s great.” ★

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



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Gulf Stream

Town OKs \$13 million for Core project

By Steve Plunkett

Gulf Stream awarded an almost \$13 million contract to do its water main, street and drainage project in the Core District and at the same time began talking about borrowing \$7 million to complete its 10-year capital improvement plan.

Digging for the 18-month project could begin as soon as March. Residents will be invited to a town meeting at the end of the month or in early February to get a more precise schedule.

The \$12,998,325 bid from Miami-based Roadway Construction LLC was almost \$2.5 million higher than anticipated. When the 10-year plan was approved in 2018, the total cost was estimated at \$10.5 million. Still to be done after the Core work are similar efforts in Place Au Soleil and the south end of town.

But under a plan created

by town Finance Officer Mark Bymaster with help from former Commissioners Paul Lyons Jr. and Thom Smith, the town can take out the loan and repay it without raising property taxes.

“Mark has allowed me to sleep the last two nights. I’ve been so worried about this,” Mayor Scott Morgan said.

Commissioners decided on Dec. 8 that accepting the \$13 million bid was better than rebidding the project. Only one other firm responded to Gulf Stream’s request — and its bid was for \$16.4 million.

Rebecca Travis of Baxter & Woodman Consulting Engineers described today’s bidding environment.

“Because there’s a lot of funding available, pretty much every city and town has got projects out there for bid and the contractors can be very selective. And consequently, their prices have been higher,”

Travis said. “We have instances where ... we maybe get two at the most bidders. In the past we maybe would get five, six, seven bidders. Now we’re getting two, sometimes one, sometimes no bidders. So I think it’s fortunate so to speak that we’ve gotten two on this project.”

Town Manager Greg Dunham said it was too much of a risk to rebid the work.

“We might not get any bids. The city of Delray Beach just bid a large parks and rec project that included a new building and associated parks and rec facilities. I think the job was something around \$6 or \$7 million. They didn’t receive any bids for that job,” Dunham said.

“Or that you wouldn’t get a higher bid,” Morgan added.

“Correct, that would be the other risk involved is that OK, the numbers are out there. And so we get new bids and they’re all higher than the ones that we got,” Dunham said.

Assistant Town Attorney Trey Nazzaro said the Florida League of Cities could help facilitate a loan and cited a recent example of a town getting a 15-year loan at 7% interest. Bymaster used those numbers to figure out how much money to borrow to enable Gulf Stream to finish the capital improvements with \$4 million left in reserves.

“We wanted to keep a scenario where the growth was static throughout the project and at the end of the project still be able to have a healthy reserve for future endeavors,” he said.

Gulf Stream has borrowed money only once: \$2.43 million in 2012 to get its underground utilities project started.

Dunham said the town would take the loan in September or October.

“We really wouldn’t need to do this probably until the fall because we’ve already budgeted for this year’s expenses,” he said.

Nazzaro was still working on possibly switching the town’s drinking water supplier from Delray Beach to Boynton Beach. That is expected to cost Gulf Stream \$2 million up front, which it would also borrow, but Nazzaro said residents’ water bills would pay for that loan without the town’s having to raise taxes.

“It’s unfortunate we have both of these big projects coming in so expensively at the same time, but my kudos to Mark and to Paul and to staff for working this out in a way that we can do both,” Morgan said.

Travis said Roadway Construction will spend most of January setting up for construction. Morgan asked her to schedule a meeting for town residents, especially those in the Core, in the last week of January or first week of February.

“They’ve been hearing a lot of rumors about the project. No one really knows what to expect, when to expect it,” the mayor said. ★



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Boca Raton

Jersey barricades proposed to protect Sanborn Square

By Mary Hladky

The city has started work to improve the appearance and safety of Sanborn Square, making modest fixes until a major renovation project is launched in three or four years.

Council members have pressed staff to make changes, and increased the current fiscal year's budget by \$350,000 to get some immediate action at the downtown focal point where residents gather for weekend yoga classes, special events or simply to relax.

The 40-year-old square drew their attention when city crews installed temporary barricades along Federal Highway about two years ago to prevent drivers — by accident or intentionally — from jumping the curb and injuring people.

Those barricades were widely criticized as unsightly and a poor look for the heart of downtown, so city staffers said they would look for temporary alternatives.

The pavilion has been repainted, Assistant City Manager Chrissy Gibson said at a Dec. 11 council workshop meeting.

City staff proposed replacing the current barricades with concrete Jersey barricades that can be painted or covered with murals.

Instead of being lined up along the roadway, the barricades can be staggered in ways that soften the massing and appearance.

“Aesthetically, we think they are more pleasing to the eye than what we have there now,” Gibson said.



The barricades to protect people from traffic on Federal Highway could be staggered to soften their appearance and be painted or covered with murals. **Rendering provided**

Once a full renovation takes place, at a cost of about \$4 million, the Jersey barricades can be used elsewhere in the city, Gibson said.

But at a City Council meeting the next night, council member Yvette Drucker said she was strongly opposed to the

Jersey barricades even if they were painted. She proposed discussing this further at an upcoming council meeting.

City staff has not yet made recommendations about whether to remove the square's defunct fountain, replacing it temporarily with public art or

an activities space, or how to improve the park's landscaping.

The city will receive a \$285,000 matching federal grant that will defray part of the project cost.

“Make it safe,” Mayor Scott Singer said about the square. “Make it look good.” ★

Beach and Park District OKs spending \$10,000 on CRA tax battle

By Steve Plunkett

The Greater Boca Raton Beach and Park District will spend up to \$10,000 to get copies of public records from

the city for its fight to stop sending millions of dollars each year to the city's Community Redevelopment Agency.

Briann Harms, the district's executive director, asked district

commissioners to authorize her to spend more than \$5,000 on the records request at their Dec. 4 meeting.

“Originally the bill was close to \$9,000 so I'm looking for a ballpark around there,” she said.

Commissioners settled on \$10,000 and Harms said she would ask for more if need be.

The Boca Raton City Council unanimously voted in November to extend the district's obligation to make annual tax increment funding payments until 2042. Harms said the decision would divert \$60 million from the district to the CRA that could be used for recreation needs.

The district is asking for, among other things, a copy of all the requests the CRA made in the last 10 years seeking recommendations from the district on how to spend the tax increment funding, as required by the interlocal agreement between the district and the CRA.

Commissioner Craig Ehrnst asked whether the board should

hire an outside attorney to make the records request, but Sam Goren, the district's contracted legal counsel, said his firm could handle it for now.

The city has already tasked outside lawyer Jamie Cole as a special counsel on the issue, and Cole has already contacted Goren, he said.

“This board has made no public decision to sue anybody for anything,” Goren pointed out.

But, he said, “The city's obviously paying attention to what you do on this dais.”

The district's tax increment financing payments to the Community Redevelopment Agency have grown from about \$70,000 in 1986 to \$2.6 million this year. Harms pleaded with the City Council for an exemption from the TIF payments before the CRA's

lifespan was extended.

The TIF payments amount to the taxes owed to the beach and park district from increased property values in the CRA district, taxes which under state law are then paid to the CRA. Harms said the law would allow the CRA to reduce or eliminate the district's payments.

The district thought the TIF payments would end in 2019 when the bond for building Mizner Park was paid off. That didn't happen.

Then the district thought the payments would end in 2025 when the Community Redevelopment Agency was scheduled to sunset.

But in June, then-City Manager Leif Ahnell proposed extending the CRA to 2042, and with it the district's obligation to make payments. ★

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HAPPY NEW YEAR

Boca Raton News

City hopes to improve streets for all — The City Council on Nov. 28 adopted a Complete Streets policy that will guide planning, design, operation and maintenance of streets so that they will meet the needs of motorists, pedestrians, cyclists and transit users.

Complete Streets has been adopted by other cities and is supported by the U.S. Department of Transportation. The city will make changes that include improving its engineering design standards and developing a new bicycle and pedestrian master plan.

The council has made improving the city's mobility and connectivity a priority as residents press for improvements to existing streets, sidewalks, bike lanes and crosswalks.

Fines for polyfoam and balloon use enacted — The council established fines that people must pay if they sell or distribute polystyrene foam products or use balloons or confetti in outdoor areas on city property. Both activities were prohibited some time ago, but fines were not established at the time.

Violators will be warned after the first infraction. They then can be fined a minimum of \$50 but have the right to appeal the fine.

Trash fines considered — Still under review are potential fines for construction activity occurring outside specified times of the day, and for bulk and vegetative waste being placed for pickup outside of required collection times or not in required areas.

— Mary Hladky

Boca Raton



ABOVE: A private jet taxis past part of the 135-foot-long mural that shows air traffic control and a burrowing owl. **BELOW LEFT:** The toothy expression on the front of a fighter plane pays homage to the years the airfield was a military training ground. It opened as a general aviation airport 75 years ago, and the Boca Raton Airport Authority is celebrating that anniversary this year. **BELOW RIGHT:** Mural artist Craig McInnis. **Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

New mural illuminates airport’s years of service to military, public

By Rich Pollack

Before there was the thriving Boca Raton Airport, and even before there was the secretive Boca Raton Army Airfield, there was the small grass airstrip that helped bring tourists to a luxurious hotel in the town that was less than 20 years old at the time.

Built in the mid-1930s, when commercial air flight was still in its infancy, the airstrip served as a magnet to attract guests from far away to the Ritz-Carlton Cloister Inn, now known as The Boca Raton.

“Aviation in Boca Raton predates the war effort,” said Clara Bennett, executive director of the Boca Raton Airport Authority, which operates the airport.

For the past year, the history of flight in Boca Raton and the role the airport has played in it have been front and center as the Airport Authority celebrates the 75th anniversary of the day that a huge chunk of what had been the air base was turned over to the city to operate as a public airport.

The celebration, highlighted last month with the reveal of a 135-foot-long mural illustrating the airport’s past, present and future as well as a proclamation presented by the Boca Raton City Council, will continue Jan. 19 with a 75th anniversary reception and dinner.

“I hope this mural brings people joy and also that some of the story of the airport comes across,” said Craig McInnis, the artist who created the mural, which he painted along with several other artists. “You see it when you take off and land.”

Throughout a yearlong celebration of the Dec. 28, 1948, transition of the air base to a public general aviation airport, a focus has been on the impact the facility has had over the



years as well as on how the airport will be a vital part of the region in years to come.

“Any anniversary is an opportunity to reflect, and this campaign focuses on the airport’s role in the development of the local community,” Bennett said.

Much of that impact is depicted in the mural, which captures a series of snippets portraying the airport’s evolution while highlighting current successes and illustrating the use of technology that will be integrated into airport operations down the road.

Planned for over a year and painted in just 12 days, the \$30,000 mural may be the start of a much bigger work of art that will stretch farther north on the concrete security wall that separates the airfield from entertainment venues including Boomers.

McInnis’ mural artistry also adorns a beach tunnel at the city’s Spanish River Park and a wall at Red Reef Park.

Today the airport handles more than 83,000 aviation

operations a year, bringing in visitors from across the country as well as from South America, the Caribbean and as far away as Europe thanks to a U.S. Customs facility that opened in May 2018.

The airport is estimated to have an economic impact of about \$693 million and is credited with creating 4,800 jobs directly or indirectly that are related to airport activity.



It also had a major economic impact on Boca Raton during the war years with an estimated 16,000 troops and 1,200 civilians on the Army Airfield every year from 1942 to 1947, and hundreds of jobs being created outside the field to support the population.

At its peak, the airfield included about 800 buildings on about 6,000 acres where Army Air crews were trained to use the recently developed radar technology. The mission was so secretive at the time that the airfield never appeared on aerial photographs.

A large portion of the airfield was turned over to the city for the airport and to the state for educational purposes and led to

the creation of Florida Atlantic University.

Education is also a focus of the Airport Authority’s community outreach, which in conjunction with Lynn University helped West Boca High School create an Aviation Academy that helps students learn about careers in aviation. The airport also provides scholarships to students in the program.

Understanding that general aviation is constantly evolving with technology, the leadership of the Airport Authority created a master plan that addresses the demand the airport will face in the future and how to meet it.

The airport has earmarked \$80 million in its long-term capital improvement plan to address the changing industry.

“We’ll be revitalizing and modernizing to better address the aviation needs of the community,” Bennett said.

At the same time, the airport is looking for ways to continue building connections that will benefit the overall community.

“Our role in the future is to continue serving as a catalyst for innovation and education,” Bennett said. ★

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Ocean Ridge

Building official to remain contract worker; use of full-time staffer 'completely failed'

By Larry Barszewski

When Ocean Ridge's full-time building official resigned at the end of February, the town scrambled to contract with a company that handles municipal inspections to take over the duties on an emergency basis.

It took two tries, but now, 10 months later, town commissioners say the temporary fix has turned out to be a vast improvement over what the town had previously. They're not interested in hiring a full-time official again because they say residents are getting better service without one.

"I think we did the experiment. It completely failed," Mayor Geoff Pugh said, at the commission's Dec. 4 meeting, about the town's 2018 decision to hire an in-house building official.

The town hired Wayne Cameron for the position in 2018, then hired Durrani Guy in 2020 after Cameron left. After Guy resigned, the commission voted in April to contract with CAP Government, Guy's previous employer, to provide the building official services. But the town soon ended that relationship.

"They wanted to transition the town to utilizing a licensed building official that resides out of state and would only be available on-site one day per month," Town Manager Lynne Ladner said in an email to *The Coastal Star*. "This was not an arrangement that was in the best interest of the town."

In late May, the town turned to Hy-Byrd Inspections, which has had contracts with the town going back many years to provide inspection services. Michael Crisafulle, vice president of the family-owned company, now serves as the building official under the current agreement.

"What we want to do here with building is basically leave it as it is, as it's going now, because of literally ... the compliments that we get now," Pugh said.

While Ladner said there were benefits to having a building official on staff, including better accessibility, Pugh and others didn't see

that as a critical issue.

"We have the owner of the company being our building official. Does he need to be here every day? No. Does he answer questions? Yes. Sometimes, is he a little hard to get? Yes. But is every question an emergency that needs an answer right then and now? No," Pugh said.

"He has discretion. He uses his discretion. He doesn't make a mountain out of a molehill," the mayor added, saying that Crisafulle doesn't treat people like he's doing them a favor by coming out to inspect their properties.

Vice Mayor Steve Coz said not only did having an in-house building official fail to save the town money, it did not provide a better service.

"Do we want to return to a building official where it took three to six months to get anything accomplished, versus right now, it's three weeks?" Coz asked. "I'm a dead-set no against it."

Stella Kolb was one of several town residents who applauded the commission's decision.

"This has been a nightmare," Kolb said of the previous hiring of a full-time building official. "Not only was it a nightmare for our residents, it was a nightmare for the council. The council was fighting with each other. The council was fighting with the town manager. Let's not reinvent the wheel."

As part of the plan, the commission did support hiring a second building clerk in Town Hall to help with the paperwork load.

The town also plans to put in a new software system by BS&A for building permits, but Ladner said it could take up to a year to implement the system because of the company's backlog of work.

The town already had a contract with another firm, Tyler Technologies, but Ladner wasn't satisfied with its progress. She recommended earlier in the year that the commission end the contract and go with BS&A instead.

The commission in November approved a \$13,500 settlement with Tyler. Ladner said the BS&A system will interface better with new financial software that is being installed in January. ★

Ocean Ridge News

Water pipe project delayed — Planned water pipe improvements along North Ocean Boulevard are delayed because the two bids the town received for the work were so

far apart: \$1.3 million and \$2.9 million. Money for the project is coming from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

The town must decide now whether to rebid, reduce the

scope of the project or find out if another community has a similar project contract on which Ocean Ridge can piggyback, Town Manager Lynne Ladner said. "If we do end up rebidding this project, I think we will get more bids," she said.

Comprehensive planning — Commissioners agreed to hire Place, Planning & Design Inc., the firm of Town Planner Corey O'Gorman, to work on a new Evaluation and Appraisal Report needed to update the town's existing comprehensive plan. O'Gorman's firm will work with planner Jim Fleischman on the report. The firm agreed to do the work for not more than \$30,000, beating a not-to-exceed \$50,000 bid from Chen Moore and Associates.

Art in Town Hall — Commissioners don't know why art displays that started a few years after Town Hall opened stopped happening in the building, but they'd like to see them start up again. Commissioners are supportive of adding the works of local artists to the walls of Town Hall, some of which may be for sale, on some rotating basis.

— Larry Barszewski



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LEFT: The view from the 19th-floor rooftop of Admiral's Walk looking north along Ocean Boulevard in Boca Raton. **INSET:** Reinforced columns in the parking garage were part of the restoration work. **BELOW:** Admiral's Walk treasurer Collin D'Silva (l-r), property manager Daniel Gonzalez and condo



board president Howard Somers talk out front of the condominium tower. Gonzalez says condo owners and buyers noticed work was underway at Admiral's Walk while other places 'were figuring out what they wanted to do.' **Photos by Tim Stepien/ The Coastal Star**

CONDO

Continued from page 1

make any needed repairs.

In late November, Admiral's Walk, built in 1974, became the first building in the city to get a building recertification, a designation that the building is safe.

"All the residents have been very happy we were proactive with this process," said condo treasurer Collin D'Silva. "We are very pleased we got this done ahead of schedule."

The process produced benefits beyond peace of mind for condo owners.

"We have sold a number of apartments in the past year," Gonzalez said. "One of the things that gave the people confidence to buy into the building was that we were underway while others were figuring out what they wanted to do."

The city has identified 242 buildings that meet the criteria for safety inspections. Single-family homes and duplexes are exempt. The ordinance divides the city into four zones, with buildings on the barrier island receiving the highest priority for review.

The first notices were sent to 14 buildings, including Admiral's Walk, saying that inspection reports by structural and electrical engineers were due by Feb. 1, 2023. The final group of buildings must submit reports by Nov. 1, 2026.

The state Legislature passed a statewide condo inspection law in 2022 that also requires condo boards to set aside money in reserves to cover future repairs. The city ordinance was largely consistent with the state inspection rules, but officials made a few changes to it so it



would conform.

When a building is 30 years old, or 25 years old if it is within three miles of the ocean, and three stories or taller, its owners must hire structural and electrical engineers to examine them and fill out checklists provided by the city. Any deficiencies are noted there.

A city-hired peer review team then examines the reports and checklists, and any comments are sent to the engineers, said city Building Official Michael DiNorscio.

Of the first group of buildings receiving notices, the Three Thousand South condo at 3000 S. Ocean Blvd. did not meet the deadline to submit reports. The city informed building officials

they were not in compliance with the ordinance in August and said they must submit reports by Sept. 11 or face fines of up to \$500 a day. Since then, an engineering firm asked the city for a deadline extension, saying that companies had been hired to repair concrete and replace the roof, with the work expected to be completed in December. The firm said the condo is structurally safe.

As of the end of December, the city was attempting to confirm that the work had started. If so, the city could cancel or reschedule a Feb. 14 fine hearing before a special magistrate.

The buildings inspected so far, DiNorscio said, "are not

compromised in a way we have anything to worry about and that needs to be addressed immediately."

D'Silva and Gonzalez said they were not concerned that inspections would find major problems at Admiral's Walk because they are proactive about maintenance and repairs. For example, the building is painted every five years and any concrete restoration that is needed is done along with the painting.

The inspections found the need for more support for a cooling tower enclosure on the roof and concrete restoration work, they said. Columns in the garage that is separate from the condo building needed to be

reinforced.

The repairs were done in conjunction with building repainting and the total cost was about \$1 million, D'Silva said. The cost of the work was covered by a special assessment.

The painting and repairs were completed this summer, he said.

The notification from the city that the condo had been certified was welcome news, Gonzalez said.

"As soon as we got that letter from the city of Boca Raton we were very happy to let our owners know," he said. "It was a long process and a loud process. Our residents were very patient."★

Highland Beach

Dalton Place recertification work began months before Surfside collapse

By Rich Pollack

The 122-unit Dalton Place condominium completed Highland Beach's strict recertification process in April 2022 — just six months after the town enacted new rules — thanks in large part to a \$1.75 million renovation project that began prior to the collapse of Champlain Towers South.

"We were well under way with

construction," said Dalton Place's board president, Ron Reame. "After what happened in Surfside, we just said, 'Hey, we're almost done, let's get certified.'"

None of the 52 other buildings in Highland Beach that must be certified has completed the process, according to Building Official Jeff Remas.

Reame said that Dalton Place, a Boca Highland Beach Club and Marina building that began its renovation

in March 2021, three months before the June 24 collapse of the 12-story condominium in Miami-Dade County, has been keeping up with major repairs, helping to minimize the work needed to receive the certification.

"We have everything tested every couple of years," he said.

Remas said so far, 18 buildings have submitted paperwork for review. Two buildings are currently undergoing

renovations but have not filed paperwork, and 15 buildings have not reached the deadline given by the town to file reports. The remainder are in the process of having their buildings inspected, he said.

Highland Beach has its own ordinance, which is stricter than the state requirements. The town requires an electrical inspection in addition to a structural inspection by certified engineers. ★

Highland Beach

Condo presidents form strategy to fight Milani Park

By Rich Pollack

With a Feb. 1 meeting hosted by county leaders just weeks away, Highland Beach condo presidents from nearly two dozen buildings gathered last month to brainstorm a strategy aimed at stopping the county's long-delayed development of Milani Park on the beach at the south end of town.

When it was over, the solution — accented with a few nuances — boiled down to a plan from a much-used playbook: Show strength in numbers by getting residents to show up en masse.

“Just the fact that there are massive amounts of people there will send a message that we don't want a park,” said Evalyn David, a town commissioner who lives in the Boca Highland Beach Club and Marina, which borders the future park site.

Set for 6 p.m. at the town's library, the public meeting will include presentations by county officials including Commissioner Marci Woodward, whose district includes Highland Beach, and Parks and Recreation Director Jennifer Cirillo.

It will be followed by public comments, and the county leaders can expect an earful, with the bottom line being that Highland Beach residents don't want the park.

“There is probably no one in Highland Beach in favor of a park,” said Ron Reame, president of Dalton Place, a Boca Highland Beach Club and Marina building. “Our goal is to get residents to the meeting and convince county commissioners we don't want this park.”

Purchased from the Milani family in 1987 for \$4 million, the 5.6-acre property straddling State Road A1A has remained vacant for decades, first tied up in a legal battle that ended with a settlement agreement and then allowed to remain dormant as county leaders kept deferring decisions on development.

That changed over the summer when county commissioners agreed to move forward with the project, which includes about 40 parking spaces on the west side of A1A and a boardwalk leading to the beach through a largely preserved natural area.

During the meeting of condo presidents, leaders from buildings in the northern portion of town said their residents weren't as familiar with the Milani Park issue and

needed to be better informed.

The group is looking at several suggestions aimed at getting the word out, including coming up with a letter that the presidents can share with their residents.

In addition to developing strategies to pack the meeting, the group discussed how to deliver key messages that include reasons why the park shouldn't be built. One suggestion is to identify residents who will each research one of several key points and serve as point-people to deliver those messages to county leaders.

“We need to have people at the Feb. 1 meeting who are assigned to discuss specific issues,” said Eve Rosen, a Boca Highland resident.

Among the issues the presidents want to address are environmental concerns, with the beach area of the park a prime sea turtle nesting area, and safety and security issues.

To get from the parking lot to the beach, visitors will have to cross A1A, which raises concerns about pedestrian safety.

“I think it's going to be extremely dangerous,” Reame said.

Concerns that the park would be used by vagrants and drug users also surfaced, as did discussion about the small amount of beach available during high tide and the inclusion of Yamato Rock on the property, which could present safety issues when exposed at low tide.

The condo presidents also endorsed a strategy discussed by the Highland Beach Town Commission to reach out to individual county commissioners and let them know that the county could be better off selling the property and putting the money to better use.

The town has hired a lobbyist and the presidents are hoping to coordinate with the town and the lobbyist on consistent messaging.

Reame said that he has also reached out to Lucia Milani to see if she would be amenable to using the property for something other than a park but said that if asked, she would continue advocating for a park.

The future park would be named after her late husband, Cam Milani.

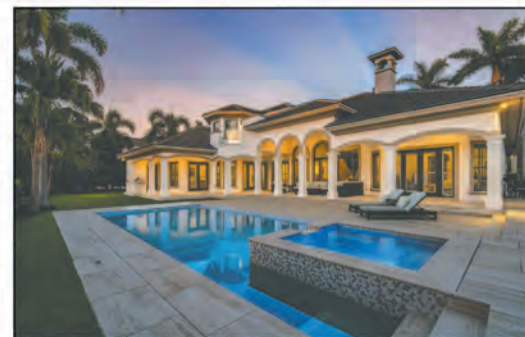
In response to an email from *The Coastal Star*, Milani said she would prefer not to speak publicly given the ongoing public processes. ★



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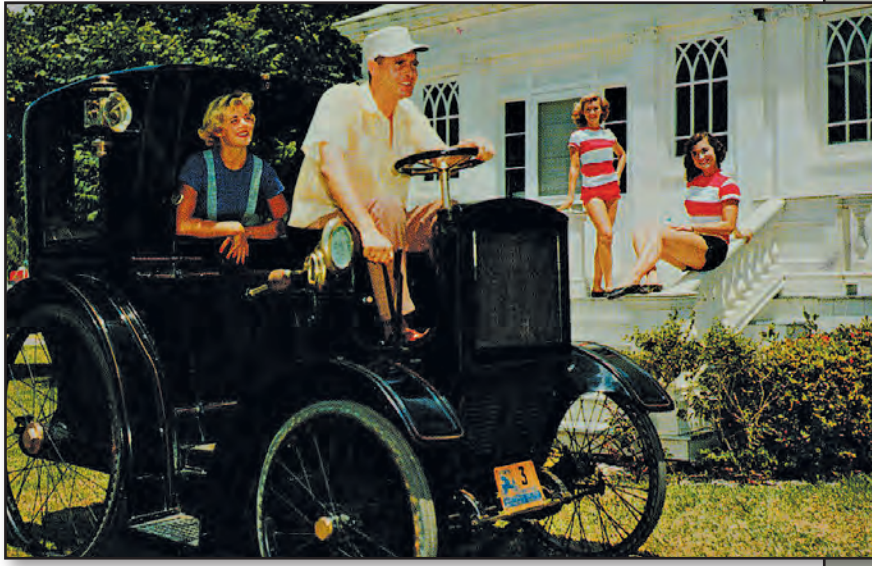
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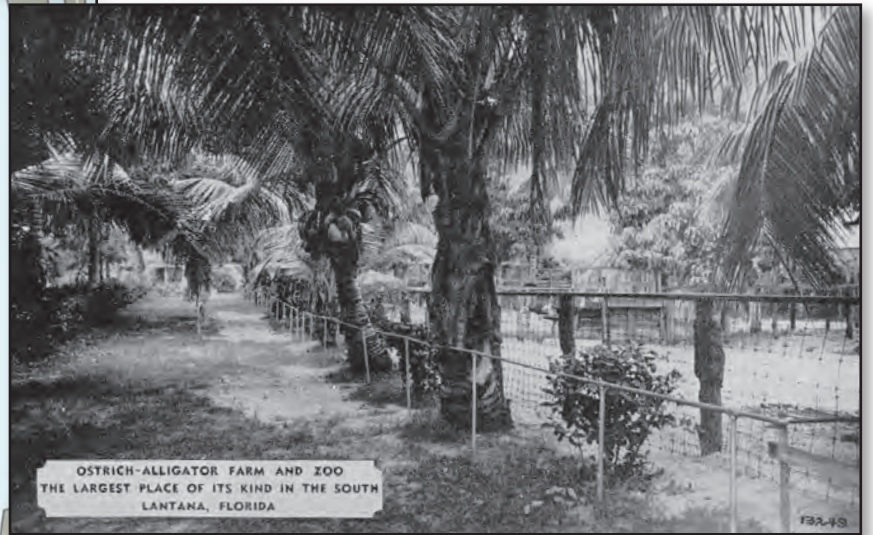
Postcards from our past



James Melton Autorama (1953-62), Hypoluxo. That determined driver in the company of smiling women is James Melton, owner of the U.S. 1 autorama he opened in Hypoluxo in 1953 — moving his car collection from its original location in Connecticut. A radio and recording star of the 1920s and '30s, Melton got his own TV variety show around 1951. The program was sponsored by Ford Motor Co., a perfect union for the automobile enthusiast/performer. The autorama had more than 125 antique cars.

Postcards provided by Janet DeVries Naughton, Ginger Pedersen, the Boca Raton Historical Society and the Delray Beach Historical Society.

Rainbow Tropical Gardens (1920s-50s), 1700 block, North Federal, Boynton Beach. Historian Janet DeVries Naughton sometimes visits the area where the gardens stood; they stretched from U.S. 1 to the Intracoastal Waterway. 'Some of the structure is still there — parts of the waterfalls, stairways,' she says. Today, the main building (circa 1929) is home to the Benvenuto Restaurant. In its glory, the Gardens led guests down flagstone paths among exotic flowers and plants and towering palms. It was one of South Florida's leading tourist attractions.



Ostrich-Alligator Farm and Zoo (1923-49), Lantana. In March 1940, someone named Ella wanted Lottie DePue of Stroudsburg, PA to know that Ella was 'having a grand time' visiting Lantana. The temp was 70 and Ella was at the Ostrich-Alligator Farm and Zoo, where owners Frank L. Anderson and E.W. Goolsby invited guests to stroll their 10 acres of monkeys, kangaroos, and yes, ostriches. (Get a photo of one pulling a buggy!) Perhaps the main attraction was Zulu, 'the largest known crocodile in captivity.' The land today houses mostly two-legged domesticated animals, including the home of historian Janet DeVries Naughton, who has collected about 3,000 South Florida postcards such as this one.



Hoffman property, north of Lake Ida Road on U.S. 1, Delray Beach. It's the early 1900s. You're driving north on U.S. 1 outside Delray Beach. The ride is going to get chilly, so you've put on your long skirt and boots. But you realize you've not gotten that obligatory photo of yourself next to a palm tree. No problem. Stop. Hop out. Snap. Nothing to hinder your souvenir shot except maybe the dust kicked up by the Model T. Take as long as you need.



Africa USA (1953-61), Camino Real near U.S. 1, Boca Raton Businessman-developer John Pedersen put the 'wild' into Florida wilderness when Africa USA's 300 acres (at \$25 per acre) opened. In 1952, his son Jack, like a 20th century Noah, loaded giraffes, zebras, cheetahs, emus, elephants and more onto a ship in Mombasa, Kenya, and unloaded them at the site. In the era before I-95 and Florida's Turnpike, it lured U.S. 1 travelers, who paid \$1.25 to enter and were treated to a botanical garden, boat rides and a 'safari train tour' to get up-close to the wildlife. *Life* magazine picked the park (not Disneyland!) for a 1960 cover feature.



Ancient America (1953-58), U.S. 1 near Yamato Road, Boca Raton Proprietor E.G. Barnhill was fascinated by American Indian culture. In addition to a replica Spanish Galleon, the 25-acre park held artifacts said to have been from when the Spanish 'conquered' Florida (16th century). Ancient America included a Native American burial ground which Barnhill excavated. He installed glass walls for guests who in that era had not yet learned to be morally repulsed by such an idea. Ancient America didn't grow old. By the late 1950s, Barnhill had shed the property (now site of The Sanctuary) and moved on to Wisconsin.



Staff map

POSTCARDS

Continued from page 1

the highway to happy for camera-ready guests breaking up the distance with visits to America's new vacation phenomenon: roadside attractions. They were the shows that made the journey a better part of reaching the destination.

Today there are amusement parks big enough to have their own police forces; maybe even their own ZIP codes.

But back when Big Joe "The World's Biggest Crocodile" or roadside fruit stands shaped like oranges could draw a crowd, those parks were often owned and operated by families. Mom and pop vacationers met mom and pop park owners.

Such parks were part of the southern Palm Beach County landscape. The Pedersen family in Boca Raton, for example, opened and operated Africa USA — an attraction so popular that *Life* magazine featured it on the cover. A few miles away, outside Boynton Beach on U.S. 1, Harold and Angela Waite had the family name attached to their bird farm, where travelers took a break from the road to see performances by trained birds, monkeys, alligators and other animals.

The best of roadside parks offered acres of photo ops for

visitors eager to snap selfies and post to Instagram or tweet on X or ...

No. When those guests wanted to brag about being somewhere and seeing something that would impress the gee willikers out of the poor saps back home, they bought and sent postcards. Picture postcards. Pay extra and get the colorized ones.

Mail. Stamps. Days to get word to wherever you wanted whoever to know that you were "having a great time." If it was winter back home, scribble in the local temperature, just to rub it in.

Postcard collector and historian Janet DeVries Naughton has about 3,000 such postcards. She sees them as time capsules, but also as "artifacts to document history."

About all that's left, now, from the glory days of Palm Beach County roadside attractions are those postcard artifacts.

The postcards once held personalized greetings and memories. Now, they are links to a past lost to the realization of real estate. Simply put, more money could be made from developing the land for housing and commercial enterprises. The bygone attractions that lured so many here have all but been erased by Florida's continuous redevelopment. ★

Gulf Stream

More details emerge as Bluewater Cove takes shape

By Steve Plunkett

The site plans for three more houses on Bluewater Cove won approval after town commissioners gave the developer a quick lesson on Gulf Stream neighborliness.

Bluewater Cove LLC and Courchene Development Corp. were presenting plans Dec. 8 for an Anglo-Caribbean home, a West Indies model and one in Georgian style, a first for the new street at the north end of Place Au Soleil.

The Georgian house had a walkway from the street to the front entry, just like the first three homes the developer built.

"Aesthetically it looks like soldiers in formation," Commissioner Paul Lyons Jr. said.

"What's the purpose of going all the way to the street?" Commissioner Joan Orthwein asked. "Do we have a lot of houses (in Place Au Soleil) with a walkway going straight to the front door? I think it's kind of strange."

The designers said they were aiming for a "classy" and "formal" look in keeping with the traditional Georgian style.

"Our initial idea of connecting the homes through

those walkways that went straight to the entry was because people are not going to walk up the driveway and whatever," landscape architect Louis Vlahos said.

"That's how everybody else does it here, they go up the driveway and around. It gives it a track-like feeling to have the vertical sidewalk going to the street," Mayor Scott Morgan said.

The developer quickly acquiesced. "If you don't want the sidewalk to the street, the sidewalk won't go to the street. It's really that simple," said Cary Glickstein, president of the 14-home development.

The three homes already had new colors and shutters because of a desire by the Architectural Review and Planning Board to avoid a cookie-cutter appearance.

The three additional homes are all one-story and will join three that are finished — or nearly so — and are marketed for \$4.875 million apiece.

Glickstein said he expects to build several two-story residences on the street.

"I know with a very high probability that there will be at least four of the 14 that are two-story. That number may be

higher, but I can say with some conviction that there will be at least four," he said.

One is among the first three that were built. The others will be at the end of the street.

"It wouldn't surprise me if there are probably six homes that are two-story by the time the subdivision is completed," Glickstein said. "The reason I say that is I know the two homes on the Intracoastal will be two-story. The home to the west of the north Intracoastal lot will be two-story because there are views down the Intracoastal, and I think the lot next to that may also capture some of that."

But Glickstein said home buyers prefer one story when that's available.

"The way that this development was site planned was to encourage single-story development. The lots are wider than they are deep, which lends itself to single-story homes, which ... I think is more honorific of what exists in Gulf Stream." ★

The next edition of *The Coastal Star* will be delivered the weekend of Feb. 3

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AHNELL

Continued from page 1

accountant in 1990. He then served as controller/treasurer, director of the Office of Management and Budget and assistant city manager before becoming city manager in 1999.

In that job, he oversaw seven departments, 70 divisions, nearly 2,000 employees and a \$1.1 billion annual budget.

He is a certified public accountant, certified public finance officer and certified government finance officer. He has two bachelor degrees, in accounting and finance, from Florida Atlantic University.

Ahnell's final salary was \$318,000 a year, compared to \$291,000 for the city manager of larger West Palm Beach and \$230,000 in smaller Delray Beach.

During his time in the top job, the city's population grew from 73,000 to nearly 100,000, the roster of corporate headquarters in the city increased to 75 and the city's demographics changed as young families moved to the city and children jam-packed its schools.

The city's downtown was transformed by new condos, rentals and retail, a Brightline train station was built on the edge of downtown and a performing arts complex, the Center for Arts and Innovation, will invigorate Mizner Park when it is completed as early as 2028.

Ahnell shied away from publicity and kept reporters at a distance. He did not respond to requests by *The Coastal Star* to interview him about his years with the city and future plans.

But that reticence did not extend to his dealings with council members, who



Leif Ahnell shunned publicity as manager but got consistently high marks. 'So much of what he does is behind the scenes ... and in many instances never appreciated,' says council member Fran Nachlas. Photo provided

praised him over the years for making himself available to answer questions and responding quickly to their calls or emails.

During performance evaluations, council members consistently gave him high marks.

"I struggle to find an area of improvement to even suggest," then-council member and now Mayor Scott Singer said in 2017. "Mr. Ahnell succeeds in areas that I can't even fathom."

"We're on worldwide lists of best places to live, work, go to school, all those things," said then-council member

Jeremy Rodgers the same year. "It's a testament to you and a testament to your hiring and our great staff that you've brought here."

Ahnell's most recent evaluations, on May 9, came as council members knew he would be stepping down because his retirement plan required him to leave by March 31.

He once again was lauded. "Financially, you are a genius," said Deputy Mayor Monica Mayotte. "You always make sure our city is in great financial shape."

Yet they suggested ways he could

improve his performance. Several focused on the need for more proactive communication with them, citing a few instances when they felt blindsided by learning about issues or problems from people outside City Hall.

But in offering their tributes on Dec. 12, council members were only positive.

Ahnell was not present in person to hear them because he was taking earned time off during the holidays. Since the council decided in May that Brown should take over because of his experience and historical knowledge of the city, Ahnell has taken a less visible role in city governance.

"So much of what he does is behind the scenes, never recognized, never rewarded and in many instances never appreciated," said Fran Nachlas.

"He leaves a lasting legacy," Singer said. "It goes beyond the incredible financial position we have been in over the last quarter century, reflected in budgets, long-range planning, capital planning, the way we have maintained excellence in all departments."

And Brown, who joined the city's building inspection division in 1977 and has served as deputy city manager since 2004, offered his own praise.

"I think few people understand the complexity of the position of city manager," he said. "Leif did a wonderful job. ... It has been my honor to work with him for the past 24 years."

"And I want to express my appreciation to him for his support of me during my position at the time and letting me work on ... complex, interesting things that we have managed to accomplish for the city under his leadership." ★

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Boca Raton

Wave of car thefts rattles homeowners in Golden Harbour, Golden Triangle

By Mary Hladky

Fed up with car thefts in their neighborhoods and what they claim is insufficient police action to stop them, Golden Triangle and Golden Harbour residents have mounted a campaign to press the Boca Raton Police Department to ramp up enforcement.

The residents turned out in force at the Dec. 11 and 12 council meetings to make their case that more needs to be done to stop the thefts in their neighborhoods along the Intracoastal Waterway north of Palmetto Park Road.

"We are sitting ducks," said Golden Triangle resident Joe Majhess. "In the last week, \$1 million of cars were stolen out of our neighborhood. We told (police) it would escalate. It has."

Residents said the thieves aren't simply looking for unlocked cars in driveways. They now are entering garages, which prompts fears that their homes could be invaded. They also think that the thieves are armed, because a stolen Bentley and Rolls-Royce had guns in them, and the Bentley also had \$10,000 inside.

"It is a scary time to be a resident in our neighborhood," said one woman. "It is not a good quality of life when you are at home and scared."

The residents want the Police Department to discard a long-standing policy that officers cannot chase suspected criminals unless they committed a forcible felony, or crimes such as murder, manslaughter, sexual battery, carjacking and robbery. Car theft is not a forcible felony.

Officers can make arrests if they catch thieves in the act and they do not flee.

"With a no-chase policy, there is no way to stop them," said Mike Majhess, Joe's uncle.

The policy results in few arrests, which emboldens the thieves, they said.

"I don't have a great deal of optimism about there being a great deal of change unless this issue is pressed," Joe Majhess said when contacted after the meeting. "The ultimate responsibility falls on the police chief to enforce the laws and make us feel safe. Unless crime is effectively deterred, it is only a matter of time until someone gets hurt."

However, Police Department statistics do not support the residents' contention that more cars are being stolen and that few arrests are made.

As of mid-December, 213 cars had been stolen citywide. Totals of 218 were stolen in 2022, 168 in 2021 and 220 in 2020.

At the end of 2023, 20 arrests had been made, and 33 cases remained under investigation. Thirty-eight arrests were made in 2022.

Police Chief Michele Miuccio denied ignoring the problem at the Dec. 11 meeting, saying that more officers are patrolling the neighborhoods at night and conducting surveillance in unmarked vehicles.

While declining to discuss investigative techniques "so the bad guys know what we are doing," she said, "we are throwing as much assets at it as we can."

Thefts aren't an issue just for Boca Raton, she said, noting that car thieves are operating throughout southern Palm Beach County.

To safeguard themselves, she urged residents not to keep cars unlocked with keys or key fobs inside. According to department statistics as of mid-December, 57% of the stolen cars were unlocked and 58% had keys or fobs in the car.

Many police departments in Florida and in other states have no-pursuit policies similar

to Boca Raton's for crimes other than forcible felonies. High-speed chases have drawn scrutiny across the country because they often result in death and injury.

The *Tampa Bay Times* reported in 2022 that a 2015 *USA Today* analysis showed more than 5,000 people had been killed in police car chases between 1979 and 2013. Most were not involved in the chases and were killed in their own cars by a fleeing driver, and tens of thousands more were injured, the analysis showed.

From 2016 to 2020, an additional 1,903 people were killed in crashes involving police pursuits, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

The U.S. Department of Justice in 1990 called pursuits "the most dangerous of all ordinary police activities" and urged police departments to adopt policies listing when officers can and cannot pursue someone, the *Times* report said.

A Florida Supreme Court ruling in 1992 also prompted police departments to revise their pursuit policies after the court held that cities and their police officers involved in pursuits resulting in death or injuries are liable for damages.

Boca Raton City Council members voiced support for more police patrols in the neighborhoods and an enhanced public education program so people know they need to keep their cars locked.

George Brown, who was elevated to city manager on Dec. 31, said police will meet with residents to share information.

But as of now, the Police Department is not considering changing its no-pursuit policy, police Public Information Manager Mark Economou wrote in an email after the meeting. ★

New date is this spring for El Rio bridge

The completion date to replace the El Rio Canal bridge on West Palmetto Park Road has been pushed back once again.

The project, which started in 2021 and was to be completed in the fall of 2022, is now expected to be finished sometime in the spring, according to the county's Engineering and Public Works Department.

That's later than the expected completion date of January announced about a month ago, which replaced an expected completion in December.

The most recent reason for the delay is the installation of piles on the west end of the canal, "where unexpected underground debris prompted the use of additional equipment

and extended the process beyond the initial estimate. Despite the setback, all piles were eventually installed," the county said.

Upcoming work includes concrete placement for pile caps and continued pile driving.

Since the project has been underway, drivers have experienced lane closures

and detours affecting both eastbound and westbound traffic.

Palmetto Park Road is a county road, so this is a county project.

When the project was announced, it was expected to cost \$4.3 million, funded by gas taxes and impact fees.

— Mary Hladky

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BOARDS/COMMITTEES	VACANCIES / TERMS
<p>Board of Adjustment & Appeals The Board hears appeals to decisions of administrative officers relating to zoning ordinances including variances.</p>	<p>One (1) vacancy for an unexpired term ending September 21, 2024 and one (1) upcoming vacancy for a (3) three-year term</p>
<p>Financial Advisory Board The Board provides constructive advice to counsel to the Town Commission with regards to budget, capital improvement programs and provide recommendations about practices and procedures related to benefiting the financial condition of the town.</p>	<p>One (1) vacancy for an unexpired term ending April 30, 2024.</p>
<p>Natural Resources Preservation Advisory Board The Board provides constructive advice and counsel to Town departments and Boards, and to the Town Commission with a broad outlook toward environmental and natural resources preservation, protection, and conservation.</p>	<p>Upcoming vacancies for (3) three-year terms.</p>

Town Commission appoints all members. Members shall serve a three-year term and no more than six consecutive years. A member absent from three consecutive meetings will be considered a resignation subject to automatic acceptance.

Residents interested in serving on an Advisory Board or Committee can submit a Board Application to the Highland Beach Town Clerk's Office no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, January 26, 2024. Board Applications are available online at www.highlandbeach.us under Government, Our Commission, and Town Boards or in the Town Clerk's Office at 3614 South Ocean Boulevard, Highland Beach, Florida 33487.

For additional information, please contact Jaelyn DeHart, Deputy Town Clerk at (561) 278-4548, or jdehart@highlandbeach.us Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 P.M.

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10 Questions

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR: Ryan Heavyside



Ryan Heavyside builds custom surfboards and sells Nomad brand clothing at the shop that has been in his family for 55 years. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

When Nomad Surf Shop owner Ryan Heavyside was approached about being the subject of a Meet Your Neighbor feature as a means of getting him better acquainted with his neighbors along A1A, his response was, “There aren’t many people in this neighborhood I don’t know.”

Ever since his grandfather Richard Heavyside bought the building at the corner of Briny Breezes and Ocean boulevards in the early 1960s and leased a 75-square-foot space to Ryan’s father, Ron, to craft and sell surfboards, Nomad has served both surfers and hundreds of thousands of others who have sought to sample a touch of their carefree lifestyle.

Few have embodied that lifestyle more than Ryan, 39. From a modeling career that stretched from his mid-teens to just a few years ago, to a long stretch as a pro surfer, to growing the Nomad brand into an international success, Heavyside embodies the images made famous in Beach Boys songs.

“South Florida is a special kind of place for all of it,” he said.

Heavyside recently picked up a vintage T-shirt that dates to the three businesses that operated on this County Pocket property just south of Briny Breezes some 55 years ago.

“There was Heavyside TV repair, a Pure Oil gas station and in the back Dante’s Den, which was a rock ‘n’ roll joint that blasted live music until 5 a.m. My grandmother, who lived upstairs, used to sleep with cotton in her ears. That was a crazy time on this corner.”

The TV repair shop and nightclub eventually were swallowed up by Nomad, and Ryan’s mother, Beth, helped turn the business into a success.

“She passed when I was 12 but she was the reason that our retail business grew,” Ryan said. “My dad (who died in 2018) started building surfboards, but the retail side came from my mom. The way we survive in this business is the clothing side. Surfboards don’t have much of a profit margin. She kept up with the trends.”

While other retail businesses have succumbed to rent increases and the quest to turn every inch of coastal real estate into housing, Nomad carries on.

“The blessing is we own the building and we’ve been in this location for so long,” Heavyside said. “With the inflation in rents since COVID, you’re in business awhile and the landlord says, ‘Sorry, I’m adding a couple zeros.’ It changes the perspective.”

Nomad’s busy season begins in November and typically runs through Easter. Because Nomad is the only bona fide surf shop between Delray Beach and Stuart, its handful of parking spaces likely will be full for a while.

“There’s not many surf shops who build their own custom label through the shop,” Ryan said. “You can walk in and order a board for your own height, weight, color. Now we’re collaborating with people with art and color. That’s kind of a specialty thing. We’re in a kind of specialty retail spot.”

— Brian Biggane

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

A: I’m straight from the Boynton Beach area, born at Bethesda Hospital, so I’m as native as it gets. I went to St. Joseph’s School up through eighth grade, then Atlantic High School for a couple years and then got home-schooled, which brought me into the business. The home-schooling gave me more freedom timewise and that’s when I started getting into modeling, which gave me a lot of opportunities to travel.

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

A: I started modeling at 15 and went into my mid-30s, so that was 20 years of that lifestyle. When I was very young my mom wanted me to get into it and I laughed it off, but later on I saw it as an opportunity to build up my savings. The magazines were

everything then but now everybody just flips through their phones.

I was also a professional surfer, was on the U.S. Surf Team for one year and otherwise just did it on my own schedule. Competing is kind of a rough go; you’ve got to really be into it, and I look at it more from the enjoyment end.

Every day in this profession, running the shop, is a proud moment to carry on our legacy, being here 55 years — that’s pretty special to keep going. We still build our own surfboard labels. I actually shape all those. I manufacture those boards. It’s cool to do that custom. And we’ve gotten big on making our own brand of clothing. This is the only place you can get the Nomad brand. We do our own artwork.

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

A: What you put in is what you get back. The work ethic these days has changed. You get the kid who’s really after it, you see that, and then there’s one who kind of lags. We’re blessed here, we have a good crew.

Q: How did you choose to make your home in the County Pocket?

A: We’ve always had a house in the pocket, the old-school wood house where my mom and dad lived. My brother lives in that house and I live in another house on the beach. We also have a Nomad rental beach house where people can book it, have surf lessons and enjoy the lifestyle.

Q: What is your favorite part about living in the County Pocket?

A: The commute to work is good. It’s pretty laid back, one of the last old Florida neighborhoods. There used to be a couple in Deerfield Beach, but they’re gone, so the next one is probably up in Stuart or even further north. It’s got that old Florida feel, which is hard to come by these days. It’s kind of got that island kind of style.

Q: What book are you reading now?

A: I read more *The Surfer’s Journal*, which is one of the last print magazines that deals with surfing. It’s got short stories but a lot of old ones from the ‘70s to newer ones. It’s a bimonthly, glossy cover, a specialty magazine out of California.

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

A: I listen to a lot of reggae when I’m chillin’, that’s always been kind of a go-to being from Florida. But inspired, when I’m in the shaping room shaping boards, a lot of old school like Jimi Hendrix, stuff like that. It puts you in that zone. Those big old-school tunes kick in, you get kind of a level of energy kick in. Also, the Rolling Stones, the Zombies, all those classic rock bands with the big tunes.

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

A: The biggest has been my father. Him creating this place, he was always so crafty on building boards, old-school cars. Very big-hearted. He always knew the lady from baseball, or the lady from the bank, and anything to do with surf, he’d remember these people. It was programmed in him to be that guy. Especially since he passed the business down to me.

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

A: At Nomad every day is like a movie, so I’d probably play myself. But if it was an actor, I’d say Johnny Depp. That whole pirate thing kind of blends with the surf theme.

Q: Who/what makes you laugh?

A: My wife, Taylor. She knows how to turn something serious into a better situation. We’ve laughed a lot over the years. Especially with my dad around, there was always a joke. We’ve been married three years but been together like 12. We’re hoping to become first-time parents next year.



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Lantana

Town wins top honor in Read for the Record

By Mary Thurwachter

Lantana is the 2023 Small Municipality winner in Palm Beach County's Read for the Record event on Oct. 26. A certificate proclaiming the victory was presented during the Town Council's Dec. 11 meeting.

To achieve the distinction, the town sent 37 volunteers — including the mayor, town manager, four firefighters, business owners, residents, and even former residents whose alma mater was Lantana Elementary School — to read *With Lots of Love* by Jenny Torres Sanchez to six local public schools and daycare centers on Read for the Record Day.

Library Director Kristine Kreidler created a video that included multiple town staff members and officials reading the book aloud — in English



Maria Rios, assistant to the town manager, reads to preschoolers during Read for the Record. Photo provided

and Spanish — at the town's newly renovated library, which was sent to the schools that requested a virtual reader. The video was also posted on the town's social media page.

Kreidler and her team created a storywalk with pages from the book in the Town Hall breezeway to promote the day and let kids read the book while exploring Town Hall and its history.

"We posted our RFTR event flyers on the library's and town's Facebook pages, on the library's

Instagram and other platforms to demonstrate the town's commitment to early literacy," said Town Clerk Kathleen Dominguez.

"We held two story times at our library to guarantee that everyone, including toddlers and home-schooled children, could participate in the event," Dominguez said. "The library guests ate free churros from the BunnBoh Churros Truck and made piñatas and other crafts inspired by the book."

The annual Read for the Record was launched 18 years ago by the Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County to highlight the importance of building early literacy and language skills so all children have the chance to enter school prepared to succeed.

"We had this distinction in the past and were finally able to recapture it," Mayor Karen Lythgoe said of the honor. ★



Lantana News

Lifesaving award — Police Chief Sean Scheller presented a Life Saving Award to Officer Arianna Morris during the Dec. 11 Town Council meeting. The July 29 rescue involved a non-verbal 7-year-old



Morris

boy who had lacerated his wrist in an accident at home. He had been trying to get his aunt's attention and punched through a window. Morris was first on the scene and was able to calm the boy and apply a tourniquet before paramedics arrived. Palm Beach Fire Rescue also honored Morris, saying the boy might have bled to death.

Employee of the Year — Lantana's Employee Committee presented a plaque to accounting technician Adam Ganz as the town's Employee of the Year for 2023.



Ganz

Ganz was chosen for his exceptional work in various roles and willingness to take on new responsibilities.

Town honored — Lantana officials were informed by the Government Finance Officers Association that the town's annual comprehensive financial report, for the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30, 2022, won the GFOA's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. Finance director Stephen Kaplan and his staff were recognized for their outstanding work. This was the 25th consecutive year that the town received this award.

Assistant chief gets new SUV — The council authorized buying a 2024 Nissan Pathfinder from Alan Jay Fleet Sales for \$40,338 for the new assistant police chief. — Mary Thurwachter

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Holiday Parade

Atlantic Avenue,
Delray Beach — Dec. 9

ABOVE: Girl Scouts from Troop 24313 ride in their float as part of the annual holiday parade down Atlantic Avenue in Delray Beach. The parade featured more than 70 floats, marching bands, walking groups and dance teams. **RIGHT:** U.S. Open tennis champion Coco Gauff leads her hometown parade as grand marshal. For her next big event, Gauff, 19, is entered in the Australian Open, which starts Jan. 14 in Melbourne. She is ranked third in the world as she tries to earn a second Grand Slam title to go with her U.S. Open victory in September. **Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**



Along the Coast

Out \$481,000, Gumbo Limbo nonprofit moves offices to Ocean Ridge

By Steve Plunkett

The year 2023 was not a good one for the nonprofit group originally founded to support the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center in Boca Raton.

Through November, the Gumbo Limbo Coastal Stewards said it lost \$481,000 in donations and gift shop sales that the organization has routinely counted on.

“We are not doing very well. ... Our nonprofit is struggling right now,” said John Holloway, its president and CEO.

Visits to the center on State Road A1A are down more than 30%, he told Greater Boca Raton Beach and Park District commissioners on Dec. 18, though the city later said it has vastly different numbers.

“We are barely seeing one or two people coming through the door in a day,” Holloway said of the gift shop. “So we are facing some tough choices in the feasibility of operating a gift store there anymore.”

And veterinary care of Gumbo Limbo’s sea turtles, which the state halted last March, will resume no sooner than this coming April, he said.

But Holloway was upbeat, noting that 200 guests had signed up to attend a fundraiser

that week in West Palm Beach when at first he had hoped to get 50.

“The West Palm community, the community of Boynton Beach, the community of Delray has all stepped up tremendously and are all excited about the work that we’re going to be doing,” he said. “So things are going well for us, unfortunately not all so well at our original home.”

That future work includes a new focus on helping manatees, dolphins and whales along with sea turtles; a new name — the group is dropping “Gumbo Limbo” and will be known simply as the Coastal Stewards; and a new office. The group is moving from Federal Highway in Boca Raton to a commercial building on State Road A1A between Ocean Ridge and Briny Breezes that is next to *The Coastal Star*, landlord Southdale Properties Inc. said.

“The Coastal Stewards are now going to be focusing on manatees, sea turtles, and dolphins and beaked whales,” Holloway said. “Those are three megafauna in our community that are in peril. They are all in crisis.”

Despite the change in location, Holloway said the Coastal Stewards will continue

to rehabilitate sea turtles in Boca Raton once it gets a permit from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

“It’s never been our intention to leave. We know and we value taking care of injured sea turtles in South County at the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center. It’s been our commitment for more than 15 years,” he said of his group, which began with the name Friends of Gumbo Limbo. “But there are a number of challenges.”

Holloway broke down the group’s lost revenue in three areas: donations at Gumbo Limbo’s door, donations in the turtle rehabilitation ward and purchases at the nature center’s gift shop.

Until 2023 all door donations went to the nonprofit. That stopped Jan. 1, 2023, when the city decided to keep the money itself to defray expenses at Gumbo Limbo. That was part of an evolving plan to have the Coastal Stewards take over operational and financial responsibility for the turtle rehab program.

Holloway had planned on collecting \$253,000 at the door.

“I will tell you in a high year ... in 2019 we had about \$350,000 in door donations,” he

said.

The Stewards also forfeited donations “from folks coming to see the patients and wanting to give money to help with their recovery. We’re down \$50,000 because there’s no patients,” Holloway said.

And because fewer people are visiting, the group’s gift shop inside the nature center is selling fewer items.

“Our gift store sales this year, year-to-date for November, we’re down \$177,000. So in total this year just to get us to November we are down \$481,000 in what was typical revenue generated at the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center,” he said.

Tiffany Lucia, the city’s deputy recreation services director, had a different take on visitation numbers.

“2023 was the second-highest recorded in recent history,” she said, even though the sea turtles were absent much of the year.

Her numbers show 209,412 people visited the center through Dec. 29, down 14.8% from 2022’s record-setting 245,806 visitors, but up almost 4% from 2019’s pre-COVID total of 201,878.

However, Lucia said door donations through Dec. 29 were only \$162,448, well below Holloway’s projection. ★

At the beach and park district meeting, Holloway said the salaries that the nonprofit is paying its veterinarian, Dr. Shelby Loos, and its rescue and rehabilitation coordinator, Kara Portocarrero, are also straining its budget.

“Keep in mind, you have to have them on staff before you can solicit the state to get a permit. So whether we had sea turtle patients or not I’ve had to have that full complement of staff ready to go,” Holloway said.

Loos, he said, spends 24 hours a week tending to sea turtles at the Loggerhead Marinelife Center in Juno Beach. Portocarrero is adding to her résumé through work in Miami-Dade County, all at Coastal Stewards expense.

The city applied for an FWC permit to hold in captivity Cane and Morgan, its two sea turtles that cannot be released into the wild, on Aug. 4. That application is pending and the two are currently at other facilities.

The Coastal Stewards applied for a permit to provide veterinary care on Aug. 2, were asked for more information about Loos’ and Portocarrero’s qualifications, then resubmitted the application on Dec. 18, setting off a new 90-day clock for the FWC to respond. ★



Beached Sailboat

Just south of the Colony Hotel Beach Club, Delray Beach — Dec. 18



Nicole Von Paris looks inside the sailboat *Tayana* that washed ashore in Delray Beach. Police spokesman Ted White said the 41-foot sailboat, first spotted on Dec. 15, is thought to have lost its mooring in the multiday storm that hit the area with heavy rain and high winds starting on Dec. 14. As of Jan. 2, the boat was still trapped in the sand, according to Delray Beach Ocean Rescue. White referred questions about the situation to the U.S. Coast Guard, but officials there and at the state Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission said they had not received any calls about a sailboat run aground in the corresponding area in the last two weeks of December. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

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The Subculture Group is seeking approval to paint murals on the east and south sides of its future coffee shop on northbound Federal Highway in Delray Beach. **Rendering provided**

Delray Beach News

A place for art?
— The City Commission has agreed to review the Public Arts Advisory Board's approval of murals on two sides of the Subculture coffee shop that will open at 302 NE Sixth Ave. The Downtown Development Authority had recommended against the murals, voting that the proposal did not encourage economic development and did not promote "the downtown as a prosperous downtown area."
Several commissioners were concerned about the murals in an area that is not an arts district. They were also upset that the owners had begun work on the murals before the commission rendered its final decision. Commissioners voted 3-2 to review the decision, with Commissioners Adam Frankel and Rob Long voting to let the approval stand.
A place for lawn bowlers and shuffleboarders?
— The Delray Beach Preservation Trust is opposed to plans to pave over the lawn-bowling and shuffleboard courts at Veterans Park to relocate parking at the park. The existing parking spaces on the west side of the park are to be turned into additional park space that will link the existing park to the Atlantic Crossing project now under construction.
The trust said the courts are part of the historic character

of the park. Vice Mayor Ryan Boylston said there are options for the future. "If there is a huge demand to bring back any bocce or lawn-bowling, two different things I've learned, we're going to have all this extra new park space. If we want to put in a few courts because demand is just through the roof, we can do that," Boylston said.
Town halls start in January
— City Manager Terrence Moore is planning quarterly town hall gatherings to discuss topics of interest with residents. The first is scheduled for 5 p.m. Jan. 25 at the Delray Beach Golf Club, 2200 Highland Ave. The topics for the town hall are still to be determined.
Let there be light
— Delray Beach has been experiencing delays in getting street lights replaced because a Florida Power & Light subcontractor has fallen behind on reported problems, Public Works Director Missie Barletto said in a Dec. 6 email to the city manager.
"The largest issue was on Ocean Boulevard across from the Municipal Beach, where an issue with a transformer had cut power to both the street lights south of Atlantic Avenue and to the meter on the east side of A1A, affecting both the pedestrian lighting and irrigation along the Beach Promenade. Issues to the north of Atlantic Avenue also were

reported," Barletto wrote.
She said all the problems have been fixed, but five turtle-friendly street lights on A1A "were inadvertently replaced with bright white LED lighting between Thomas Street and the Orange Grove parking lot."
FPL promises to have those corrected by the start of turtle nesting season March 1, she said.
Parks project gets no takers
— No one bid on the city's Pompey Park construction project, which went out to bid in August. That's "likely due to the scale and complexity of the project," a city spokeswoman said, so officials have regrouped.
"Since that time, we have adjusted the methodology to a construction manager at risk approach, which will allow for much more collaboration between the owner's representative, architect on record, and contractors," said Gina Carter, the city's communications director.
The city will now select an owner's representative from among several submitted proposals with the goal of rebidding the project by mid-2024, Carter said.
The project is being paid for by the Community Redevelopment Agency, not the parks bond approved by voters in March. The CRA's \$40 million budget for the project this year is double the size of the \$20 million parks bond.
— *Larry Barszewski*

Gulf Stream

Lyons resigns as commissioner; Canfield to replace Smith

By Steve Plunkett

Paul Lyons Jr., a seven-year veteran of the Gulf Stream Town Commission, vacated his seat on Dec. 8 with a simple “I resign, effective tomorrow” followed by a round of emotional thank-you’s to his colleagues on the dais, the town’s staff and its police officers.

“It’s been very rewarding,” Lyons said, offering no reason at the commission meeting for quitting and pausing frequently to compose himself. “Sorry for being emotional. I didn’t want to be.”

Commissioners did not say when they would fill Lyons’ seat, but historically they have quickly appointed someone from the town’s Architectural Review and Planning Board.

That’s what happened when, at the same meeting Lyons resigned, commissioners elevated ARPB member Robert Canfield of Place Au Soleil to fill ex-Commissioner Thom Smith’s seat until the 2026 election. Smith resigned a month earlier.



Canfield

Lyons and his wife, Susan, bought their home on Polo Drive in April 2007. When an opening popped up on the ARPB four years later, he submitted a letter of interest and got the seat.

After not quite five years on the ARPB, he was appointed to the commission on Mayor Scott Morgan’s recommendation. Morgan

at the time noted as an asset Lyons’ background in finance and business.

The mayor said the town had delegated several projects to Lyons, which included plotting a path to pay for Gulf Stream’s ambitious 10-year capital improvement plan without raising taxes or borrowing money. The town is now considering taking a loan to finish the project, another balancing act that Lyons helped devise.

“Your financial acumen has been very helpful to the town,” Morgan said. “The town owes you a debt of gratitude.”

Lyons is also the treasurer on the board of directors of the prestigious Gulf Stream Golf Club. He and his wife also have homes in Southampton, New York, and Vail, Colorado.

Their daughter, Olivia, and her husband, David Endres, are building a new home on North County Road.

The mayor said he hoped to keep Lyons involved with the community. The commission did something similar for Smith at the meeting, elevating Canfield to Smith’s former seat and returning Smith to the ARPB that he previously chaired.

In selecting Canfield, commissioners ended Place Au Soleil’s absence from the dais.

“I feel that we should have somebody from Place Au Soleil with that opening. I spoke to Malcolm, who is uncertain what his plans are going to be,” Morgan said, referring to Malcolm Murphy, the ARPB chairman.

Murphy in turn

recommended Canfield.

“He’s steady, he’s young, I think he’d be a good member of our commission,” Morgan said.

“I think it’s important to have someone from Place Au Soleil. Last time we couldn’t,” Commissioner Joan Orthwein said.

Canfield, who bought a home in Place Au Soleil in 2015, joined the ARPB as an alternate in May 2021 and became a regular member in April 2022.

“I ... would welcome the opportunity to work with the group (ARPB) to have a say in the exciting, yet controlled growth within the town,” Canfield wrote in his 2021 letter of interest in being appointed to the board. ★

Ocean Ridge

Broken valve blocks water flow to condo’s fire sprinklers

By Larry Barszewski

A broken valve has blocked the flow of water to the fire suppression system at the Villas of Ocean Ridge, which is now relying on human eyes to look out for potential fires until the town is able to repair the valve.

Town commissioners approved an emergency expenditure Dec. 21, estimated between \$65,000 and \$75,000. It covers the cost of the replacement valves needed to restore full water flow to the fire sprinkler system at 5900 Old Ocean Blvd., with its 26 condominium units in three buildings between State Road A1A and Old Ocean Boulevard.

While the individual units don’t have sprinklers, the three common parking areas under the buildings do. The sprinkler piping was replaced in the parking areas of two of the buildings in October, Boynton Beach Deputy Fire Chief Jake Brant, whose city provides fire rescue services to Ocean Ridge, said in an email to *The Coastal Star*.

Ocean Ridge plans to make the repairs by installing three valves, instead of just replacing the broken one. The extra valves will prevent a water outage during the repairs that would affect a larger group of residents along a half-mile stretch of A1A between Corrine Street and Woolbright Road, Public Works Director Billy Armstrong told commissioners.

Without the extra valves, “it could be a period of eight to 10 hours that every resident — which would probably affect a couple hundred residents — are going to be without water,” Armstrong said.

Town Manager Lynne Ladner said the problem was discovered during flow testing for the villas.

“It was discovered that the valve on our main that goes to their fire line had dropped its slug,” Ladner said. “The slug [the internal parts of a valve] is dropped and therefore the valve is in a frozen closed position, not allowing ample water through for fire protection. They are not able to get it to reopen and thus we are needing to go in and make a replacement in that area.”

Officials do not know how long the valve has been broken, but Boynton officials said they had received test results as recently as October showing the pressure to be fine. At the time of the meeting, the town was in the process of seeking

bids for the valve repair work, which would be approved by Ladner on an emergency basis and brought to the commission’s Jan. 8 meeting for ratification.

Commissioner Carolyn Cassidy asked if the work would be covered by a water main replacement project that the town plans to fund with American Rescue Plan Act grant monies.

Ladner said it could, but it is not in the northern area of town where those funds are expected to be used to replace aging water mains. Also, the town can’t wait on the grant, she said.

“We’re not going to be able to hold off because with this valve in the condition it is in now, that development has been put on what is called Fire

Watch ... because they don’t have ample water if something happens,” Ladner said.

Brant said “a Fire Watch is a temporary measure intended to ensure continuous and systematic surveillance of a building, or portion of the building, by one or more qualified individuals for the purpose of identifying and controlling fire hazards, detecting early signs of fire, activating an alarm and notifying the fire department in the event of a fire.”

A Fire Watch is common, officials said, taking place whenever a fire alarm or sprinkler system is not operational in an occupied building. The villas were under a Fire Watch for two days in October when the previous sprinkler work was done,

Brant said. The expense of the Fire Watch is covered by the development.

In a related matter, the town is in the process of seeking a state grant to find, fix or replace buried water valves in town. The grant would cover half the estimated \$500,000 cost of the work.

At a July meeting, Ladner told commissioners the town had neglected maintenance on the hundreds of water valves in town and has difficulty finding the buried valves when needed. The town plans to pinpoint the location of the valves, exercise the valves so they don’t lock in the open or closed position, and install concrete collars around the valves that extend to ground level so the valves can be easily found. ★

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Briny Breezes

Year ends with last-minute resignation, new mayor and council president

By Steve Plunkett

Briny Breezes has a new mayor, Ted Gross, and for the second time, some controversy — at least from Gross' would-be challenger — about how residents qualify to run for office.

It also has a new Town Council president, Liz Loper; a new alderman, Jeffrey Duncan; and another vacancy on the dais because Sue Thaler resigned her seat Dec. 28, effective Dec. 31.

Gross took his new seat on Dec. 7 after Loper shifted into the council president's chair. Duncan was unable to attend the meeting because of a death in his family. The council elected Loper as president.

"My family has been part of Briny Breezes since the beginning. I have been coming to Briny Breezes since I was born," Gross said in his letter of interest in being appointed mayor. "My wife and I became full-time residents of Briny Breezes in 2014 and we love it here."

Before Gross, the husband of Alderwoman Kathy Gross, was appointed, would-be candidate Keith Black detailed how he was disqualified from running for the position in the upcoming March election.

"I got a report from the (supervisor) of elections stating that five of my petitions were turned down," Black said.

Briny Breezes requires a potential mayoral candidate to submit 20 petition forms signed by registered town voters. Black, who sits on the Planning & Zoning Board, submitted 23,



ABOVE: Longtime Briny Breezes resident Ted Gross is sworn in as mayor. **LEFT:** The Town Council elected Alderwoman Liz Loper as president. **Photos by Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star**

thinking that was a sufficient cushion, but five were not accepted.

"They were telling me we had an address wrong," Black said. "One person was not eligible to vote. One signature was not authenticated, and there was one with an invalid date.

"The individual with the signature that was not authenticated, that gentleman had an accident and his signature before and after his accident do not match," Black said.

He tried to get the Supervisor of Elections Office to cure the problems but was told it only authenticates or rejects petitions and to seek help from the town. But Town Attorney Keith Davis told him neither he nor the

town clerk could overrule the supervisor's office.

Attorney Trey Nazzaro, standing in for Davis at the December meeting, said their office did not help Mayor Gene Adams with a petition problem in 2021.

"The town or the city attorney's office did not get involved then so, you know, we're going to continue with the way that we've done that," Nazzaro said.

Black appealed again to the elections office, sending copies of three petitions with notarized statements from the signees that these were their signatures. Elections officials accepted one, leaving Black one short of the 20 he needed.

Gross and Duncan both

were appointed to fill vacancies created by the resignations of Adams and Council President Christina Adams, the council's previous husband-and-wife team. They announced in October their intentions to resign.

Because no one besides Gross qualified to run for mayor, he was automatically elected and will take the post for a full two-year term in March. The mayor is a non-voting position on the council.

Duncan will have to be reappointed if he is to serve beyond March. He did not file to run for the seat, which is up for election then, and neither did anyone else.

Kathy Gross was reelected automatically when no one challenged her. That means no town offices will be on the ballot during the presidential primary in March.

A notice posted in the town's post office said the council would fill Thaler's seat at its Jan. 25 meeting and encouraged people to send letters of interest in being appointed by Jan. 18.

"There will not be an election," Davis said, adding that the Town Charter dictates that the council fill what he called Thaler's "mid-term" resignation. Thaler would not have been up for election again until 2025.

Black said he planned to submit a letter of interest.

Thaler and the Adamses did not say why they resigned, but Town Manager Bill Thrasher blamed Form 6, the state's new requirement that municipal officials detail their personal finances online.

"The effect of Form 6, with respect to all our newly appointed council members, in essence the effect of Form 6, the Town of Briny Breezes lost 23 years of experience or will lose 23 years of experience with people that sat on this board," he said.

Thaler joined the council in 2012, Christina Adams in 2015 and Gene Adams in 2019.

Town manager's report

Thrasher noted that he starts the fifth year in his position on Jan. 8.

"It's my intent to continue serving as your town manager as long as I can," he said.

But there will be changes, he said, including more face-to-face interaction with county commissioners, the League of Cities and state officials as he tries to find money for sea wall and stormwater upgrades.

"My emphasis going forward next year hopefully will be outreach," Thrasher said. "Not concentrate so much on working within the Town Hall. I'm working outside Town Hall."

Thrasher is contracted to work an average 25 hours a week, and he works remotely in the summer. Council members, who will evaluate his job performance at their Jan. 25 meeting, praised his output.

"I also think that when you do go to North Carolina we don't even know you're not here. So that's a compliment," Alderman Bill Birch said.

Thrasher also reported that the town has completed the rehabilitation of all seven of its sewage lift stations. ★

Boynton Beach

Developer chosen for new downtown post office

By Tao Woolfe

A developer from Greensburg, Kentucky, has been selected to design a new U.S. post office for downtown Boynton Beach.

Maple Tree Investments — one of two developers seeking to design and build a 3,490-square-foot retail post office at 401-411 E. Boynton Beach Blvd. — was approved by the Community Redevelopment Agency board on Dec. 12.

"I have experience in property acquisition, design and construction of postal properties in Kentucky, North Carolina, West Virginia and Oklahoma," Todd R. Conley, owner/manager of Maple Tree Investments LLC, told the CRA board.

"These properties range in size from 3,200 square feet to 20,000 square feet. They encompass sorting, delivery and also retail."

Maple Tree was competing with DMR Construction Services Inc., which has offices in Delray Beach and Waldwick, New Jersey, and has completed residential and commercial



The new post office will be located at the corner of Northeast Third Street and Boynton Beach Boulevard. **Coastal Star map**

projects in Boynton Beach and surrounding communities.

Although the city commissioners, in their role as the CRA board, said they were familiar with DMR, they seemed impressed that Maple Tree has already built post offices in Kentucky, North Carolina and West Virginia.

"Postal construction is different from regular commercial construction and we've been down that road multiple times," Conley said.

"If I had to make a choice tonight, it would be Maple

Tree," said Commissioner Aimee Kelley.

As it turned out, she did have to vote that night, and her colleagues agreed unanimously that Maple Tree should get the job.

The downtown post office was asked by the CRA to vacate its current home — at 217 N. Seacrest Blvd. — because the CRA wanted to sell the building to a mixed-use or commercial property developer. The CRA then solicited proposals for a new post office to be created for a building the agency owns on

Boynton Beach Boulevard.

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

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

The CRA re-advertised the bids and received the latest two responses in September.

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

The proposal selected by the CRA board calls for a single-story, stand-alone building.

The post office, represented by U.S. Postal Service real estate specialist Richard Hancock, has said all along it wants to stay downtown and, with the right

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

Under the new proposal, the post office would be offered a 10-year initial lease with two five-year renewal options. The CRA board voted unanimously to extend USPS's lease for its current home on North Seacrest to Jan. 31, 2025, but raised the annual rental rate 5% to \$189,000.

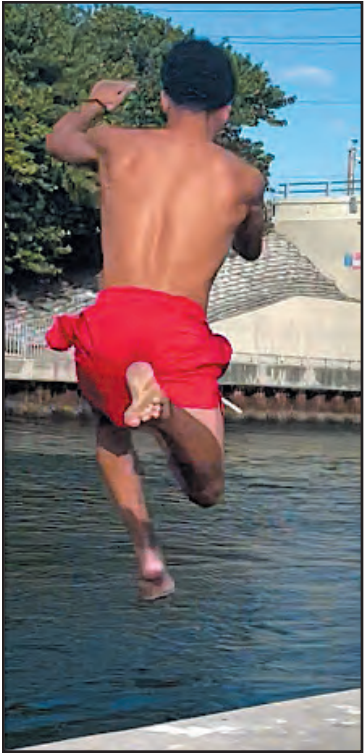
CRA and city officials have said there may be few people willing to build to suit — and to serve as landlord — for a government entity.

Conley said Maple Tree's role will be like that of a general contractor, and that the financing for the \$1.3 million project has already been secured. He estimated that the total cost for the new building would be about \$2.9 million, which includes construction, permitting and design. No estimate for a completion date was given.

Conley also said he personally monitors all his company's projects. "You call, you get me," he said. ★

Honoring a hero

Fire Station 5, Boynton Beach — Dec. 20



FAR LEFT: Jakob Thompson, a 17-year-old student at Santaluces High School, leaps into the water flowing out the Boynton Inlet to rescue a woman who was being swept out to sea in November.

LEFT: In recognition of his heroics, Thompson was invited by Boynton Beach's fire rescue team to tour the station, where he was met with a surprise: Sarah Perry awarded him the Aden Perry Good Samaritan Scholarship. Perry started the foundation after her son (also 17) died while attempting to rescue someone from a lake. Thompson will receive a scholarship for him to become a firefighter EMT.

Photos provided and by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

Boynton Beach

City may be liable for massive spill from sewer pipe, state warns

By Tao Woolfe

The corrosive power of saltwater seeping into a junction box caused a sewer pipe spill last summer that dumped millions of gallons of sewage into the Intracoastal Waterway.

The incident has cost Boynton Beach about \$1.6 million so far, and could cost much more, as the city investigates other potential infrastructure problems in a system whose oldest pipes date back to the 1970s and '80s.

Those were the conclusions of Poonam Kalkat, utilities director for Boynton Beach, who delivered the report to city commissioners on Dec. 19.

Then on Dec. 21, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection sent a "warning letter" to the city, adding another potentially expensive layer to the repair process.

The letter states that due to a broken city meter, approximately 22 million gallons of untreated wastewater discharged "into the waters of the state affecting water quality," and that the city could be liable for damages and restoration. The breach occurred July 3 and the leak was stopped July 6.

The warning is part of a DEP investigation and is preliminary to the department's taking action in accordance with state statutes, the letter says.

Earlier, a department spokesman said the DEP was "pursuing formal enforcement in this matter, in the form of a consent order, which may include civil penalties."

"The consent order will also include corrective actions and solutions to avoid future discharges, with timelines for completion."

At the Dec. 19 City Commission meeting, Kalkat gave a dramatic accounting of how Boynton Beach utilities staff, as well as emergency contractors called in to help, spent days and nights at the spill



site — at the far eastern end of Boynton Beach Boulevard.

Divers worked hours against unusually high tides to access a so-called conflict box designed by the Florida Department of Transportation. The box enabled an 84-inch DOT stormwater pipe to intersect with a city force main pipe bearing sewage from a lift station.

"Divers arrived on site to do repairs as this was considered the fastest way to stop the spill," Kalkat said. "A team of divers attempted to repair the damaged pipe, using a repair clamp; however, after trying for over 10 hours the divers were unsuccessful as the back pressure in the pipe, and the tidal water, did not allow the repair clamp saddle to be tightened completely."

While divers worked to repair the pipe, city staff contacted other municipalities asking for help and parts — scarce with the July 4 holiday approaching, Kalkat said.

The conflict box was filled up with water twice a day, Kalkat said. The brackish water running in and around the storm pipe corroded the pipe bearing wastewater and caused sewage to leach into the ICW.

City officials originally estimated that some 12 million gallons of wastewater emptied into the Intracoastal following the breach, a lesser estimate than that of the Florida DEP.

Kalkat said at the time that the 50-year-old clay piping that ran beneath Boynton Beach Boulevard was on the books to

be replaced, but had not been.

To reduce back pressure, the emergency contractor's crews decided to install a 20-inch line stop downstream of the break. The action alleviated pressure, which would theoretically allow the dive team to repair the leak during low tide, Kalkat said. But divers failed at that attempt, too.

City staff removed 38 truckloads of water and material. Meanwhile, the DEP and the state Health Department monitored the situation and sampled the water

Utilities Director Poonam Kalkat praised the quick work to fix and clean up the leak at the east end of Boynton Beach Boulevard. But the state is investigating the leak and could penalize the city.

Tao Woolfe/The Coastal Star

lake water "due to high amounts of bacteria." The city report said water was sampled until Aug. 10 at the point of entry, upstream and downstream of that point, at the city boat ramps to the north and the Woolbright Road bridge to the south.

Kalkat said she was pleased with how the city staff — and contractors — worked steadily until the repairs were made.

"I'm so proud of how our staff responded," Kalkat told the commissioners. "It took two weeks to clean up completely."

"The city's quick response prevented further damage."

But Mayor Ty Penserga said the city had received many complaints from people who live near the spill. The city was slow to let residents know what was happening, and whether their water was safe to drink, he said.

Better communication and response times are needed, he said, because lack of communication sows distrust. ★

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Business Spotlight

Unfinished spec estate in Manalapan gets new owner and new deadline (again)

The long-running saga of a construction eyesore in Manalapan has another chapter: The Nigerian oil mogul who sank millions into the property gave it up to his lender who had filed to foreclose on it.

A week after the deed was recorded in December, the new owner of 1460 S. Ocean Blvd. took his turn in front of the Manalapan Town Commission, seeking a fourth permit extension for the work that started in 2018 on the 1.5-acre, lake-to-ocean property.

Commissioners agreed to move the Dec. 26 construction deadline back another half year, until July 1.

But it didn't happen without some grouching first.

"It looks like you've got a lot of site work left to do," Mayor Stewart Satter observed, addressing the new owner, Ed London of London Financial South Ocean LLC, Key



Four work permit extensions have been granted for the 1.5-acre spec estate at 1460 S. Ocean Blvd. Anne Geggis/The Coastal Star

Biscayne, who acquired the property for \$21.5 million, court records show.

Many of the twists and turns — and delays — have been

due to former owner Onajite Okoloko's financial state. "Domestic problems," London told commissioners.

Later he clarified: That means

"divorce."

Okoloko purchased the property in 2017 for \$12.4 million. Over the years, he borrowed \$48.5 million (and

paid off \$20 million of that) to build the house, official records show.

London Financial's foreclosure case against Okoloko, chairman and CEO of Nigerian-based oil and natural gas producing and exploring companies, was still open at the end of December, court records show.

But London said the project's completion is on the horizon — it really is.

"Structurally, the house is done," London said.

The latest \$37,877 fee for the permit extension brings the total Manalapan has collected for permit fees on the project to \$583,038.

"In a spirit of cooperation, the commission extended the permit request until July 1st," Satter said. "If the project is not completed by July 1st, they will be required to apply for another permit extension."

The first permit was pulled in 2018 and construction began in 2019. The unfinished home is now on the market for \$87.5 million, bumped up from Okoloko's asking price last summer of \$79.5 million. An online description of the property shows it will be nearly 20,000 square feet, with six bedrooms and 11 baths.

At the last request for an extension on the construction permit, the project's representatives blamed Florida Power & Light for the delays. London said the electric company's work on the property still could prove a wild card that prevents the project's completion before the new permit's expiration.

Whatever he and the construction company can control, they'll be striving to meet the deadline, he said.

"We don't want to be back here," London said.

Kenneth A. Himmel, president and CEO of Related Urban, a company that develops mixed-use properties nationally, was the keynote speaker during Palm Beach State College's 2023 fall commencement ceremony in December, which was held

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Degrees and certificates were given to more than 2,000 graduates. George T. Elmore was presented with an honorary degree. Elmore founded and is president of Delray Beach-based Hardrives Inc., a paving construction company. Elmore has been a longtime donor and a board member of the college's foundation since 2011.

Among properties developed by Related Urban are The Square in West Palm Beach; Time Warner Center and Hudson Yards in New York; the Grand Avenue redevelopment project in downtown Los Angeles; and Related Santa Clara in California.

Real estate agent **Shelly Newman** has joined **The Corcoran Group** and is now affiliated with the company's Palm Beach office. Newman, one of RealTrends Top 1.5% producers nationwide, was previously with William Raveis Real Estate. Her expertise covers land sales to oceanfront, waterfront and Intracoastal properties.

Following the Boynton Beach Chamber of Commerce's merger with the Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce in 2019, **Rick Maharajh**, chairman and CEO of RM Logitech, co-founded the

Boynton Beach Professionals networking group. Along with 35 other members, the group has since driven more than \$900,000 in business sales among its members.

Recently, Maharajh founded the **Boynton Beach Online Chamber of Commerce**.

"The BBOC's mission is to drive business and promote a 'Downtown Destination' while preserving the historic fishing village vibe. To stimulate economic development, work with our city to promote, educate and engage our businesses and residents, we will connect our business network to the Boynton Beach community," Maharajh said. "By fueling our chamber members with a powerful internet platform, social media and online exposure, our reach will develop a more interconnected environment, as far as the internet goes."

For more information, visit www.bbocflorida.com.

Airline passengers have returned following the pandemic, and **Aerospace Technologies Group**, an aviation industry supplier headquartered at **Florida Atlantic University Research Park**, can attest to that.

The company recently secured Emirates international airline as the launch customer

for its **aerBlade** window shades, which are to be installed in the airline's Airbus A350 and Boeing 777X fleet.

The aerBlade is an electronically operated window shade system that passengers can control from clear to sun-blocking to full blackout with the touch of a button. Crew members can automatically lower and raise all window shades on the aircraft from their own panels.

Emirates had already introduced electric window shades when it launched its A380 fleet. With its A350 and B777X fleet, it will expand the shades to new cabins.

"Commercial air travel is through the roof and many carriers are taking old airplanes they would have retired and refurbishing them to bring them back into service," said Aerospace Technologies Group CEO Mario Ceste. "One of the things they need is new window shades."

Over the past year, the 25-year-old company has nearly doubled its employee count to 190 to fill orders from new and existing customers in the charter and commercial airline industries.

John Elder, a longtime volunteer and board member of **Adopt-A-Family of the Palm Beaches**, has assumed the

position of board chair, with **Elizabeth Morales** serving as first vice chair, **Heather Ferguson** as secretary, and **Jonathan Bain** as treasurer. Joining the board of directors are **Stephanie Gitlin** and **Takelia Hay**.

Also, **Chris Oberlink** was unanimously elected as the board's first lifetime emeritus director, honoring her nearly 30 years of service to Adopt-A-Family.

Erin L. Deady P.A., a Delray Beach legal and consulting firm that focuses on solving environmental and land-use challenges, is celebrating its 12th anniversary. President Erin Deady, a licensed Florida attorney and certified land planner, primarily focuses her practice on public-sector government representation, but she also has private sector clients. The practice includes resiliency, adaptation, environmental restoration initiatives, water management, energy, climate, local government, administrative law and land-use issues.

The **YMCA of South Palm Beach County** recently announced that it had raised a record-breaking \$1,076,571 at its annual **Giving Campaign** victory celebration, held at FAU Stadium's Acura Club.

The donations will support the YMCA's programs and resources for youth and families.

The **League of Women Voters of Palm Beach County** will host a **Hot Topic Luncheon** on Jan. 17 at Mounts Botanical Garden, 559 N. Military Trail, West Palm Beach. Three co-founders of Stet Media Group, an online newsletter, will discuss the crisis in local journalism and the ongoing erosion of fact-based civic engagement.

They are Carolyn DiPaolo, a *Palm Beach Post* editor and manager of the news operation for 20 years; Joel Engelhardt, investigative reporter, editorial page writer and columnist at *The Palm Beach Post* for 28 years; and award-winning journalist Pat Beall.

Cost to attend is \$25. The deadline to register is Jan. 10, and registrations, lunch choice and payment must be made online at <https://lwvpsc.org/event/january-hot-topic-2024/>.

Anne Geggis contributed to this column.



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

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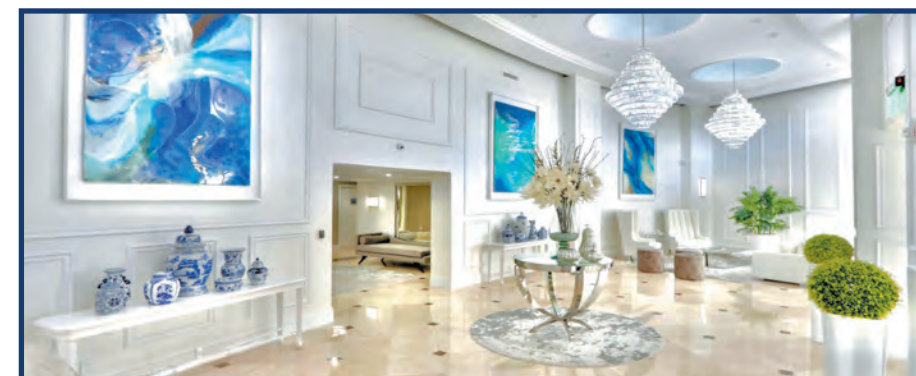
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Around Town

Celebrations - Page AT5
Dining - Page AT8
Health - Page AT20
Tots & Teens - AT22
Outdoors - Page AT25

January 2024

The Coastal  Star

Inside



Religion

Islamic Center welcomes visitors. Page AT18



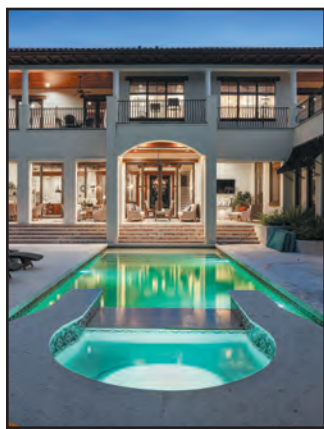
Pets

Respiratory illness shaking up shelters. Page AT23



Birding

Rare king eider sighting has birders on alert. Page AT24



House of the Month

A look at an oceanfront Delray estate. Page AT31

En plein air



Artists group finds inspiration, enjoyment in ever-changing hues of South Florida outdoors



TOP: Resting on the grass at Mizner Park, the palette of plein air painter June Knopf awaits another brushstroke.
MIDDLE: Susan McKenna List, another member of the Palm Beach Plein Air group, paints a table umbrella from Max's Grille.
BELOW: Delray Beach Public Library visitors walk through the Plein Air Palm Beach show in the second-floor gallery.



Story by Tao Woolfe
Photos by Tim Stepien /The Coastal Star

True nature shines through in exhibit at Delray Beach library

It seems counterintuitive to go indoors to see an exhibit of light-filled outdoor art, but given the soggy start to winter, it may be a blessing.

Another blessing: The plein air exhibit is on the second floor of Delray Beach's cool public library at 100 W. Atlantic Ave., which boasts a forest in its children's department and is a treat in itself.

The formal name of the exhibit is Plein Air Palm Beach Fine Art Show and Sale. It runs until Jan. 31.

See PLEIN AIR on page AT10

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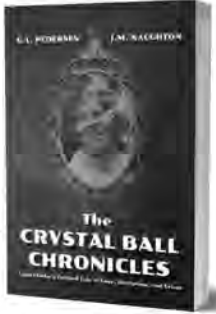
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The Crystal Ball Chronicles GOING POSTAL

A TRUE CRIME NOVEL

Reporter Kate Brennan thought she had found a tranquil paradise in 1921 West Palm Beach. Instead, a fateful meeting with Lena Clarke, the town's spinster postmistress, entangles Kate in Lena's mysterious and delusional life. Clarke's obsession with snakes, foreign spies, and the supernatural led to a bizarre true crime that took a century to uncover.



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Pay It Forward

Pay It Forward

Note: Events are current as of 12/29. Please check with organizers for any changes.

JANUARY

Sunday - 1/7 - Boca Ballet Theatre's Stars of American Ballet and "A Starry Night" gala dinner at Florida Atlantic University, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton and The Boca Raton, 501 E. Camino Real. Watch today's brightest ballet stars in action and then enjoy an elegant meal to support the troupe. 3 p.m. performance, 5:30 p.m. dinner. \$75 for the performance, \$400 for the performance and dinner. 561-995-0709, Ext. 225 or bocaballet.org.

Saturday - 1/13 - The Rotary Club of Boca Raton's OPAL Awards at Boca West Country Club, 20583 Boca West Drive, Boca Raton. Celebrate "Outstanding People And Leaders" with cocktails and dinner. 6:30-11 p.m. \$300.

561-477-7180 or rotaryclubbocaraton.com.

Monday - 1/15 - Spady Cultural Heritage Museum's Martin Luther King Jr. Brunch at Indian Spring Country Club, 11501 El Clair Ranch Road, Boynton Beach. Begin the new year by celebrating the life and legacy of the historical figure with more than 300 guests from Palm Beach and Broward counties. 10 a.m.-noon. \$45. 561-279-8883 or spadymuseum.com.

Saturday - 1/20 - Boca Raton Regional Hospital's 61st annual ball at The Boca Raton, 501 E. Camino Real. Recognize 18 physician honorees for their dedication and loyalty to the medical executive committee and enjoy entertainment by Grammy Award-winner Darius Rucker. 6-11 p.m. Sponsorships start at \$5,000. 561-955-4142 or donate.brhh.com.

FEBRUARY

Friday - 2/2 - Delray Beach Public Library's Laugh with the Library at Old School Square, 51 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. Laugh out loud at this year's installment of an evening of comedy, featuring the eclectic stylings of Nick Thune. 7-11 p.m. \$550. 561-266-0798 or delraylibrary.org/laugh.

Wednesday - 2/7 - Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County's Lion of Judah Luncheon at B'nai Torah Congregation, 6261 SW 18th St., Boca Raton. Join keynote speaker and award-winning author Dara Horn and Israeli musician Gad Elbaz for an empowering luncheon that celebrates women who annually contribute \$5,000-plus to the federation. 10:45 a.m. \$125 couvert. 561-852-6061 or jewishboca.org/lionluncheon.

Thursday - 2/8 - Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County's Jacobson Jewish Community Foundation professional advisory committee's Irving Eckhardt Mitzvah Society at Farmer's Table, 1901 N. Military Trail, Boca Raton. Honor Jerry Wolf as a professional who has been instrumental in leading clients to make planned gifts. 6-9 p.m. \$90-\$100 couvert. 561-852-3114 or jewishboca.org/mitzvahsociety.

Tuesday-Thursday - 2/13-2/15 - Wayside House's Spring Boutique & Trunk Show at Aloft Delray Beach, 202 SE Fifth Ave. Shop among dozens of vendors from throughout the United States at the organization's premiere fundraiser supporting addiction-treatment services for women. 5-7 p.m. Feb. 13, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Feb. 14, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Feb. 15. \$125 Feb. 13, \$5 Feb. 14 and 15. 561-278-0055 or waysidehouse.net.

Tuesday - 2/13 - Ruth & Norman Rales Jewish Family Services' Reflections of Hope Luncheon at Boca West Country Club, 20583 Boca West Drive, Boca Raton. Hear a keynote speech from actress Ashley Judd at a benefit for behavioral-health services and substance-abuse programs. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. \$180. 561-852-5013 or ralesjfs.org.

Friday - 2/16 - Greater Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce's Diamond Awards Luncheon at Boca Raton Marriott at Boca Center, 5150 Town Center Circle. Honor women who have achieved success in their professional career and continue to make a difference in the community. 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. \$100. 561-395-4433 or bocaratonchamber.com.

Friday - 2/16 - American Association of Caregiving Youth's Hearts & "Soles" at Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club, 2425 W. Maya Palm Drive, Boca Raton. Walk a day in the life of a caregiving youth during an extraordinary evening of decadence, dining and dancing to benefit the nonprofit's mission of ensuring support services for children with adult responsibilities. 6-11 p.m. \$300. 561-391-7401 or aacy.org.

Monday - 2/19 - Florida Atlantic University's Culture, Arts and Society Today (C.A.S.T.) Party at Boca Raton Marriott at Boca Center, 5150 Town Center Circle. Be entertained by FAU graduate and Broadway and television star Marc Kudisch, who will headline the fourth annual fundraiser for student scholarships at the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters. 6-9 p.m. \$300. 561-297-2337 or fauf.fau.edu/2023cast.

Happy New Year! Add me to your List of To-Dos and Resolutions!



Five of my ten Class of '25 opted to apply Early Decision. They worked incredibly hard and it paid off. **Congratulations and good luck next year at Boston College, New York University, Northeastern University, and the University of Miami (2).** I am currently accepting students in the Classes of '26 and '27.

Hilary F. Sullivan, MBA

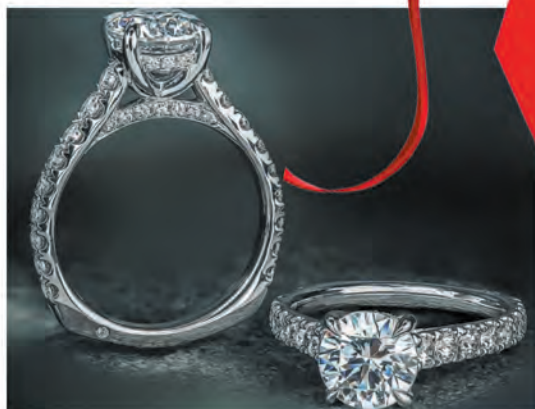
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Pay It Forward

Stars of dance to take stage at Boca Ballet Theatre benefit

By Amy Woods

Boca Ballet Theatre will open the curtain on its 33rd season during the signature “A Starry Night” Gala Dinner on Jan. 7.

In the company’s three-plus decades of dance, it has grown from a grassroots group started by local parents for a corps of fewer than 20 to a powerhouse of more than 500 enrollees.

One of the early students was Natalie Beck, who trained with the troupe while attending Dreyfoos School of the Arts in West Palm Beach. After studying dance at Butler University in Indianapolis, Beck returned to South Florida and became an instructor at the theater. This year, she is co-chairing the Jan. 7 fundraiser.

“The most important thing about this event is that it is a unique opportunity to see stars of dance come together from around the country while supporting your local dance school,” she said.

The event will begin at 3 p.m. at University Theatre at FAU with a show featuring former New York City Ballet principal dancer Daniel Ulbricht’s touring Stars of American Ballet. The stage will come alive with professionals from New York City Ballet, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Ballet Hispánico and Broadway.

Following the dance spectacular is a dinner at The Boca Raton, where the recipient of the Steven Caras



Co-chairwoman Natalie Beck (in pink) with (l-r) her husband, Connor Beck; mother, Loretta Parker; and Arlene Herson at the 2023 gala. Photo provided

Achievement Award will be announced. The award recognizes exceptional service in promoting, preserving and perpetuating the art of dance in the 21st century.

“Boca Ballet Theatre does

a world of good in educating young dancers in classical ballet as well as provides excellent outreach programs for youths in need,” Beck said. “Come out and support the stars of tomorrow.” ★

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If You Go

What: Stars of American Ballet and ‘A Starry Night’ Gala Dinner

When: Jan. 7 (3 p.m. show; 5:30 p.m. dinner)

Where: Show at FAU’s University Theatre, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton; dinner at The Boca Raton, 501 E. Camino Real

Cost: \$75 for the performance, \$400 for the performance and dinner

Information: 561-995-0709, ext. 225 or bocaballet.org

The next edition of *The Coastal Star* will be delivered the weekend of Feb. 3

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Philanthropy Notes

Boca Regional Hospital campaign gains another \$2 million pledge

Philanthropist Marc Leder's \$2 million pledge to "Keeping the Promise — The Campaign for Boca Raton Regional Hospital" has pushed the near-concluded effort further past its \$250 million goal. The gift will be recognized



Leder

with a naming opportunity within the Toby and Leon Cooperman Medical Arts Pavilion.

"It is a measure of the power of our vision for the future when one of our family of donors returns to make a subsequent substantive gift," said Boca Raton Regional Hospital CEO Lincoln Mendez, referring to a prior \$1 million gift Leder and Rodger Krouse

pledged to the campaign. "Marc's belief in our campus initiative is matched only by our gratitude for this overwhelming demonstration of generosity."

For more information, call 561-955-4142 or visit donate.brrh.com.

American Humane gives Hero Dog Awards

Christie Brinkley headlined American Humane's 13th annual fundraiser that later was nationally televised on Thanksgiving Day.

The Hero Dog Awards Gala, known as the "Oscars for Canines," also starred TV personality Carson Kressley and was presented by Lois Pope.

"Christie has spent her entire life advocating for animal welfare, and that's exactly what we do here at American Humane," President and CEO Robin Ganzert said. "It was an honor to have her join us as we celebrated these heroes on both ends of the leash."

For more information, call 800-227-4645 or visit www.americanhumane.org.

Gift establishes legacy for Pops, Maestro Lappin

Florida Atlantic University has received a gift worth more than \$5 million to enhance its music programs and establish a legacy for the Palm Beach Pops and Bob Lappin, its founder and director.

The funds were donated by the Legacy Foundation of Palm Beach County, an extension of the Palm Beach Pops, and include an extensive library consisting of more than 1,600 titles and scores.

"For the past three decades, the Palm Beach Pops was an integral part of the performing cultural-arts and music education in South Florida," said Jon Lappin, president and executive director of the Legacy Foundation of Palm Beach County. "This donation preserves the legacy and extraordinary accomplishments of the maestro — my father, the late Bob Lappin — and the Palm Beach Pops."



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



Among those attending the American Humane fundraiser televised on Thanksgiving Day were (l-r) Gail Worth, Frank Orenstein and Christine Lynn. Photo provided by Capehart

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Beauty Within is performing a research study to develop a Skin Clock, which is a tool that will provide information on how your skin ages. This information will help determine which skin interventions are most effective for you. The research study is open from January to March and will need approximately 300 participants, 18 years of age or older. There is no cost to join the study, and there are no risks associated with participating.

Participants will fill out a questionnaire, have photographs taken, and have a skin scraping performed. This visit will take no longer than 15 minutes, and a follow up appointment will be scheduled to deliver findings after completion of the study. Benefits of participation include receiving a comprehensive analysis of how your skin ages and guidance on how to effectively improve your skin quality with a customized therapeutic regimen from Beauty Within. **Call 561-810-4192 to enroll today!**

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Celebrations

Golden Grant Awards

Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club, Boca Raton — Nov. 15

Men Giving Back of South Palm Beach County distributed \$530,000 to two dozen local nonprofits during its third annual event. Nearly 250 members, nominees and guests enjoyed cocktails, music, a raffle and dinner as they honored representatives of the charities selected for the grants. 'It's hard to describe the joy we all feel as a group to have an opportunity to help so many impactful charities,' founding member Dr. Nathan Nachlas said. **RIGHT:** (l-r) Alan Ferber, Robert Snyder, Jon Sahn, Evan Farrell, William Marino, Nachlas, Marc Malaga, Eddie Ventrice, Derek Witte and Bill Donnell. **Photo provided by Carla Azzata**



Impact 100 Fall Kickoff

Neiman Marcus, Boca Raton — Oct. 19



More than 275 attendees celebrated Impact 100 Palm Beach County's annual event, highlighted by an engaging interview with the co-chairwomen of the Grant Review Committee. Ingrid Kennemer, Noreen Payne and Shannon Moriarity delved into a discussion about the review process undertaken by members who carefully assess each grant-making decision. **ABOVE:** (l-r) Linda Gunn Paton, Anita Colombo, Nicole Grimes, Tonya Notaro and Mimi Meister. **Photo provided by Warner-Prokos Photography**

Service of Investiture

Memorial Presbyterian Church, West Palm Beach — Nov. 4



The Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem Knights Hospitaller's Palm Beaches Commandery offered a solemn ceremony to recognize inductees for their achievements and contributions to their community as well as their desire to contribute to the goals of the organization. Following a bagpipe procession, hymn and the singing of the national anthem, the installation of the new members began. A celebration followed with food, drinks and fellowship. **ABOVE:** (l-r) Janet Lee Miller, Walter Jones Jr., Adam Wimmer and Dave Barninger. **Photo provided by Capehart**

Circle of Giving kickoff

Casa Costa Condos, Boynton Beach — Nov. 16

Child advocate Melissa Haley organized a gathering for the Center for Child Counseling where new and existing members learned more about how to advance and improve children's mental health, safety and well-being. They also learned more about Haley's vision of making lasting changes in the lives of families affected by childhood trauma and advocating for brighter futures. **INSET:** (l-r) Renée Layman, Haley and Roberta Mann. **Photo provided by Tracey Benson Photography**



Peppermint Bark and Brunch

Trump International Golf Club, West Palm Beach — Nov. 19



A pup-tacular time was had by all at the annual benefit for Tri-County Animal Rescue that featured cute boutiques, photos with (and without) pooches, an extravagant brunch, a doggie buffet, live music and lots of raffle prizes. Funds help rescued pets and strays that need medical care in Palm Beach, Broward and Miami-Dade counties. **ABOVE:** (l-r) Diana Maune with dog Lucy, and Arthur and Mara Benjamin with dogs Charlie and Lexi. **INSET:** (l-r) Rita Rizzuto with Stephen Verses, 3-year-old Lee Verses, Nicola Verses and their dog Cowboy. **Photos provided by Capehart**



Celebrations

Open House

Boca Helping Hands, Boca Raton — Nov. 9

The community-based nonprofit that provides food and financial and medical assistance to people in need welcomed more than 60 guests to the Heart & Spirit Society Open House. The Heart & Spirit Society is a group of Boca Helping Hands ambassadors dedicated to spreading the word about the organization's work and recruiting new supporters.

TOP RIGHT: (l-r) Bonnie and Gary Hildebrand, Suzan Javizian and David Dweck hold donation checks for Boca Helping Hands.

BOTTOM RIGHT: (l-r) Mary Donnell, Kathy Adkins, Tandy Robinson, Victoria Matthews and Robin Deyo.

TOP LEFT: Zoe Lanham and Rochelle LeCavallier.

BOTTOM LEFT: (l-r) Susan Brockway, Leslie Klion and Patricia Damron. Photos provided





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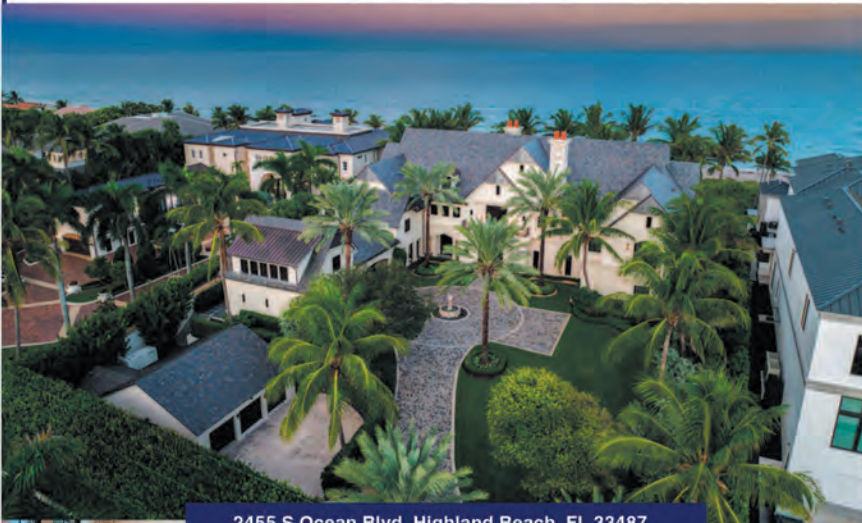
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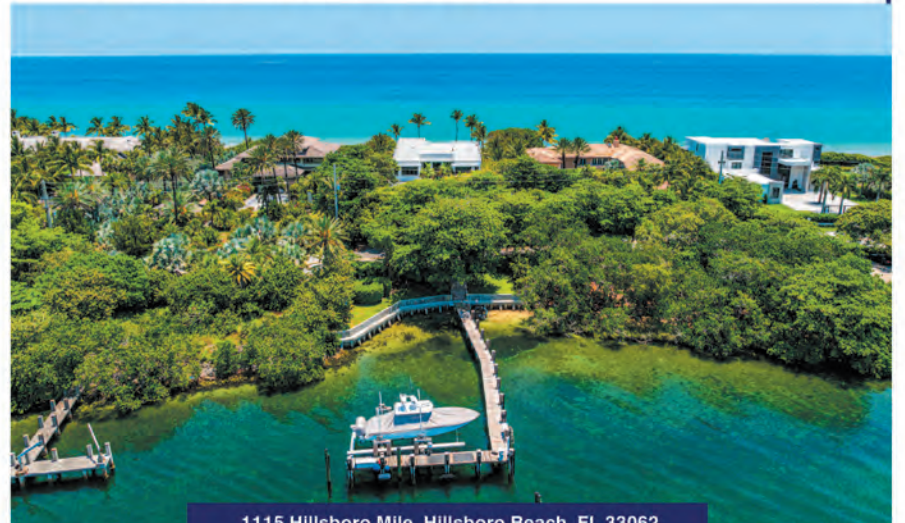


2455 S Ocean Blvd, Highland Beach, FL 33487
8 beds ~ 10.3 Baths ~ 17,602 Living Sq Ft



Highland Beach | \$59,900,000.

Sited on Highland Beach's largest oceanfront lot, this rarely available estate designed by Madey Architects is one of most prestigious homes in Palm Beach County. Featuring modern French-Eclectic architecture, transitional interiors, and fortress-like construction by Mark Timothy Luxury Homes. This trophy property, currently undergoing aesthetic enhancements, delivers over 150 feet of private manicured beachfront on nearly 2 acres in the "Estate Section" of Byrd Beach, minutes away from Atlantic Avenue and Boca Raton. Intricate details are evident throughout the home creatively blending an atmosphere of grand-scale entertaining and comfortable beach living.



1115 Hillsboro Mile, Hillsboro Beach, FL 33062
6 beds ~ 7.1 Baths ~ 10,769 Living Sq Ft



Hillsboro Mile | \$39,900,000.

Experience luxury living with stunning ocean views in this estate by Mark Timothy Luxury Homes and Affiniti Architects. This property features magnificent vistas, and is adjoined by a private boat dock for up to a 100 ft yacht and two smaller boats on the ICW. Enter through a private gated drive to two garages framing the courtyard, with a floating walkway over a tranquil pond. The floor-to-ceiling glass NanaWall seamlessly blends indoor and outdoors, revealing breathtaking ambience. Located in Hillsboro Beach, the Hillsboro Mile is an exclusive oceanfront community known for its timeless beauty and unparalleled lifestyle.



444 East Alexander Palm Road, Boca Raton, FL 33432
6 beds ~ 7.2 Baths ~ 9,692 Living Sq Ft

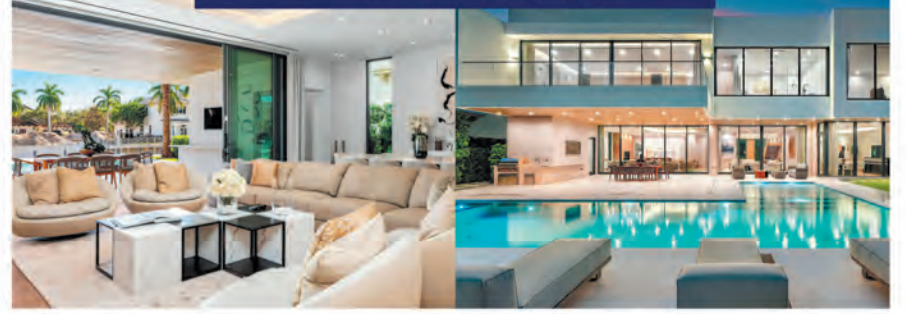


Royal Palm Yacht & CC | \$33,000,000.

Immerse yourself in the epitome of luxury living in this extraordinary Intracoastal masterpiece. Nestled within the prestigious Royal Palm Yacht and Country Club, and designed by Sarkela Corporation and Randall Stofft Architecture, this estate boasts over 9,600 sqft of meticulously crafted living space. Step into a realm of unparalleled elegance with 6 lavish bedrooms, 7 full and 2 half baths, and a large backyard with 105ft of intracoastal waterfrontage. Adorned with the finest finishes, the home boasts DuChateau premium oak hardwood floors, Italian cabinetry, Dornbracht bath fixtures, European marble, and Terzani lighting. An integrated Crestron smart-home system ensures effortless control while you unwind in the comfort of your own slice of paradise.



224 West Key Palm Road, Boca Raton, FL 33432
6 beds ~ 7.2 Baths ~ 9,582 Living Sq Ft



Royal Palm Yacht & CC | \$27,000,000.

Discover an awe-inspiring waterfront residence, meticulously crafted by the renowned Sarkela Corporation in collaboration with the visionary Ada Architecture Design Atelier. A true embodiment of opulence, this property offers over 9,500 sq ft of grand living space, featuring 6 lavish bedrooms and a total of 7 full and 2 half bathrooms. Every detail of this residence reflects a commitment to excellence, showcasing meticulous design and the use of premium natural materials. From the hand-crafted DuChateau premium oak hardwood floors to the exquisite finishes of Italian cabinetry and Dornbracht bath fixtures, the home exudes sophistication. Immerse yourself in the epitome of waterfront luxury living with this breathtaking masterpiece.



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Dining

Some surprising places to enjoy an alfresco meal

At last! Cooler weather is upon us. Finally, it's comfortable enough for outside dining.

Plenty of options exist, thanks to changes during the pandemic. Here are some that may be below your radar.

Palm Trail Grill, 800 Palm Trail, Delray Beach. Phone 561-865-5235. A large outdoor patio with tropical plants and decor accommodates diners here. A steak and seafood grill menu features the popular entree snapper oreganata. It's a nice, quiet spot to take visitors.

Jimmy's Bistro, 9 S. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. 561-865-5774; online jimmysbistrodelray.com. This small, chef-owned restaurant has a menu that changes often and draws mostly locals to the tables. Fresh catch is just that: seafood from local purveyors daily. Limited sidewalk seating.

Papa's Tapas, 259 NE Second Ave., Delray Beach. 561-266-0599; papastapasdb.com. Authentic Spanish tapas plates, perfect for sharing, are found here. Paella is the signature dish, however — and it is made to order. If you go, order it first and enjoy sangria and small bites while you wait. Happy hour is a best bet, too.

Bamboo Fire Cafe, 149 NE Fourth Ave., Delray Beach. 561-749-0973. Go island style and find unique menu items at this family-owned spot. Food is served family style — share large portions of curried goat, oxtail pepper pot and jerk chicken, among other Caribbean mainstays. Take care in ordering the level of spice, which is offered as American or Caribbean (where Scotch bonnet peppers live).

Phyllis G's Enigma Bistro, 2717 N. Federal Highway, Delray Beach. 561-243-6377. The enigma refers to the fusion on the menu — a little Cuban, Italian, Caribbean and



Indoor and outdoor dining at Polpo in Manalapan provides panoramic views of the Atlantic Ocean. Photo provided

American grill. Seafood is a star; the hazelnut grouper and Havana snapper win raves. A don't-miss is a slightly spicy conch chowder. A white sangria is the drink to order.

Ravish Off Ocean, 210 E. Ocean Ave., Lantana. 561-588-2444; ravishkitchen.com. There's plenty of outdoor seating at this popular gathering spot for fun-lovers. Cocktails are made with fresh ingredients. Vegetarians and dessert fanatics have options, as do carnivores and pescetarians. Large groups are accommodated here, and Ravish regularly hosts events and entertainment.

Latitudes, 2809 S. Ocean Blvd., Highland Beach. 561-278-2008; opalcollection.com/delray-sands/restaurants/latitudes/. An upscale seafood

and American grill is beachside in the Delray Sands Resorts. The Ocean Terrace seating is what you want when you take visitors for that "I live in paradise" brag. Also open for breakfast and lunch. For early risers, the sunrise setting can't be beat. Vegetarians and vegans accommodated.

SeaSpray Inlet Grill, 999 E. Camino Real, Boca Raton. 561-226-3022; seasprayboca.com. Overlooking the Intracoastal Waterway with a tropical-patio vibe, the restaurant within the Waterstone Resort serves up American favorites. Plenty of main-dish salads, including gluten-free options, are served along with churrasco chimichurri, salmon with an Asian-tropical flair and casuals such as fish tacos and wagyu burgers. Come by boat, if you wish.

Polpo Palm Beach, 100 S. Ocean Blvd., Manalapan. 561-540-4923; polpopalmbeach.com. An import from Connecticut, Polpo brings upscale seafood and Italian offerings to the oceanfront restaurant within Eau Palm Beach Resort. Lunch and brunch are good options (ocean views aren't as nice at dinner). Go for the traditional panzanella — chilled bread soup — and an authentic northeast Italian pizza. Vegans have choices off the main menu.

The Butcher and the Bar, 510 E. Ocean Ave., Boynton Beach. 561-903-7630; butcherandbar.com. A small, "clean food" butcher shop — emphasis on small, so seating is limited — also serves small plates off a limited daily menu. Lunch features sandwiches made right from the meat cases. The shop offers house-made everything, including ketchup and sauerkraut. A Sunday

brunch and prime rib night are popular; good idea to call ahead, and you can even order in advance. Hot dog lovers, take note: The owners are going national with their wieners, a big favorite. Be aware of the "no substitutions" policy. Have it their way, or ...

Al Fresco, 2345 S. Ocean Blvd., Palm Beach. 561-273-4130; golfontheocean.com/palm-beach-restaurant/. Overlooking the ocean, the terrace on the restaurant at the Palm Beach Par 3 golf course is another of those places you want to take visitors on a winter's day. Watch the duffers play through below. Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner, it offers an Italian and American grill menu. Thin-crust pizzas are notable, and a gluten-free version is available. Salads and gazpacho also are favorites.

Rapoport refreshes Delray's Deck 84

Deck 84 in Delray Beach has a refreshed menu and has undergone a staff shake-up after owner Burt Rapoport noted complaints about the food.

First, however, he had to deal with a foul odor in the restaurant that put off diners in November.

The smell was coming from under the restaurant, but king tides prevented plumbers from rooting out the cause.

Once waters receded, workers determined that a broken pipe from the kitchen was the culprit. They sealed the leak and spread enviro-safe enzymes to soak up the spill.

After that, Rapoport fired the top tier in the kitchen and hired chef Fernando Marulanda and a new chef de cuisine, Katt Dreyfuss.

Marulanda brings a New York pedigree that includes Per

se, the Thomas Keller group's Michelin-star restaurant, and a chef de cuisine post at Tavern on the Green. Dreyfuss comes with her own fame as a February winner on *Guy's Grocery Games*, Guy Fieri's Food Network competition.

Rapoport wanted to assure diners things were better all around and invited those who left poor reviews to come in and dine — on his dime.

New menu items include a roasted beet and arugula salad (gluten free, and if you ask for no goat cheese, it can be vegetarian); a Hawaiian chicken-fried rice with a pan-Asian medley of flavors; a miso-glazed corvina, and Southern-fried schnitzel.

The restaurant offered a stellar seat for the boat parade last month, and with tourists and returning snowbirds, it's back to seasonally crowded once more.

In brief

The newest grocery sensation is **Euroland** in Deerfield Beach. It's a 25,000-square-foot store stocked with international foods, emphasis on Europe, including a bakery, a hot food buffet, and café. Two aisles have chocolate, candy and cookie offerings. The store has canned/jarred foods; gourmet items including caviar and foie gras; a deli with dozens of sausages, smoked fish and cheeses; plus fresh produce and breads. European football plays on TVs at the café. It's at 1835 W. Hillsboro Blvd. Open daily at 8 a.m.



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

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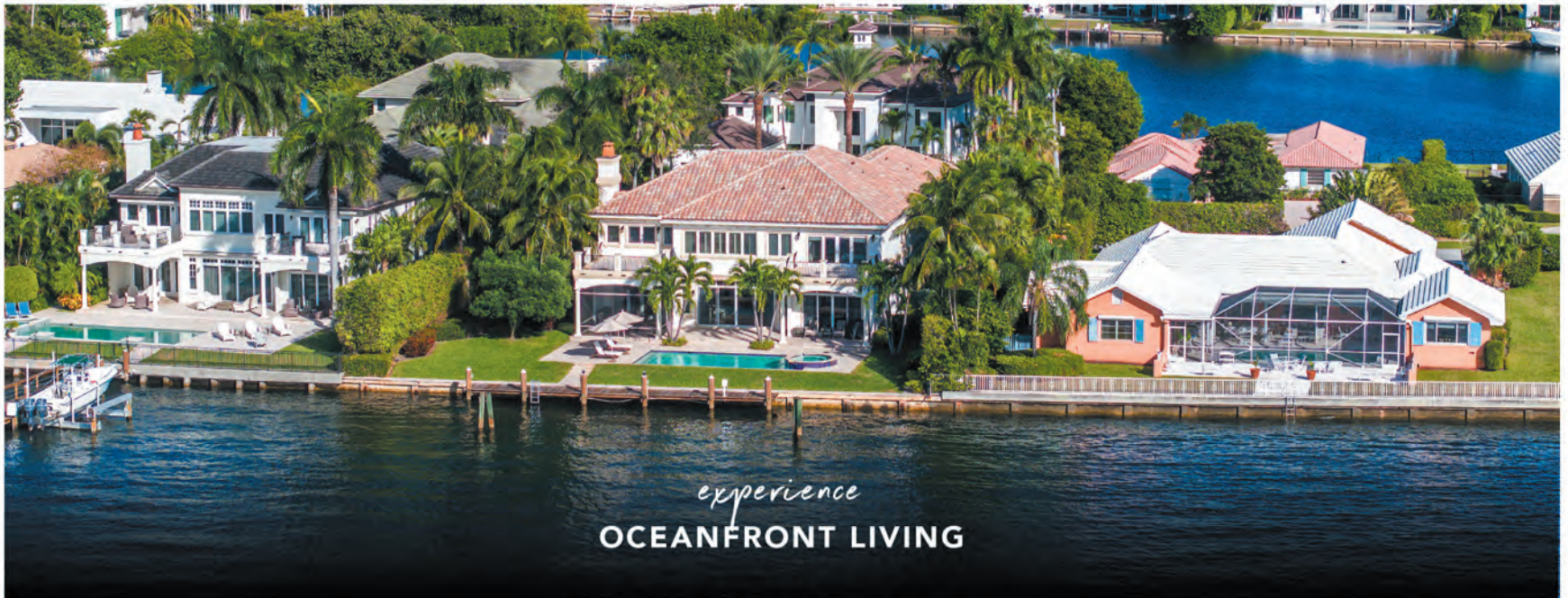
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PLEIN AIR

Continued from page AT1

This year the exhibit has more than 65 pieces of plein air — or impressionistic studies of outdoor scenes — painted by members of the Palm Beach Plein Air group, which formed about 13 years ago.

This is the second year the group has exhibited in the Delray Beach library's gallery.

"Everything is done on location around South Florida," said Donna Walsh, one of the group's founders. "It's a lot of fun. Our members get to paint outdoors with their friends."

The en plein air movement originated in France's famed Barbizon School in the 1830s, when students — including Theodore Rousseau — strove to capture the rapidly changing outdoor light in their work, according to published histories.

At the time, artists often mixed their own paints from natural substances. It wasn't until 1841 that the collapsible paint tube was invented by American painter John G. Rand, who freed himself and his colleagues from studio confinement.

By the 1860s renowned artists such as Claude Monet and Pierre-Auguste Renoir had joined the movement. They enjoyed painting in the countryside with colleagues.

The movement expanded to Italy, England and eventually to the United States, where the Hudson River school of artists



used the technique to paint scenes depicting the Hudson River Valley, and the Catskill, Adirondack and White mountains.

In South Florida, plein air artists have the ocean and flat land as endless outdoor backdrops, said artist June

Knopf, of Delray Beach.

"Painting outside is a huge challenge because everything changes. ... Cars, boats and, of course, people come and go. Lighting conditions and shadows change continually. You learn how to paint very quickly when you're painting



ABOVE: The palette of Susan McKenna List, from Boca Raton, who says plein air painting 'gives you a heightened sensitivity, like meditation.' **LEFT:** Marcia Riopel and Harolyn Larsen enjoy the camaraderie of the Palm Beach Plein Air group.

If You Go

What: Plein Air Palm Beach Fine Art Show and Sale
Where: Delray Beach Public Library second-floor gallery, 100 W. Atlantic Ave.
When: The show runs until Jan. 31. Library hours are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday-Wednesday; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday-Saturday; and 1-5 p.m. Sunday.
Cost: Free



Knopf

and intuitive," List said. She described herself as an English major who discovered plein air art while in

California and never looked back.

Painting in nature, she said, has given her a new way of looking at the world.

"It gives you a heightened sensitivity, like meditation," List said. "It's a great gift."

Walsh and co-founder Ralph Papa had been organizing outings for separate entities — the Palm Beach Watercolor Society and a Delray Beach plein air group. They decided to merge and call the group Palm Beach Plein Air, according to the group's website.

Its members say the group is very friendly and welcomes all artists, no matter what stage of expertise they have reached.

"We welcome resident artists and visiting artists at all levels to come out with us to paint and document today's landscapes that contribute to tomorrow's history," the Palm Beach Plein Air website says. ★

outside," Knopf said.

"Plein air paintings have a vibrancy and spontaneity that makes you feel that you are there."

Members of Palm Beach Plein Air say they prefer to make quick, impressionistic sketches of an outdoor scene and then bring their paintings back to their respective studios to add finishing touches.

Several members of the group were in Mizner Park on a recent Sunday, sketching people and cafés in the rapidly changing afternoon light.

Among them was Susan McKenna List, of Boca Raton, who was dabbing a red table umbrella onto a small canvas.

"Plein air painting is fast

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Art

Passion project

Norton exhibit of collector's masterworks makes quite the impression

By Jan Engoren
Contributing Writer

A glimpse of a painting in a gallery window on a snowy New York City day in 1945 changed the trajectory of New York businessman Henry Pearlman's life and created an ongoing legacy for generations of art lovers.

The son of Jewish émigrés, Pearlman amassed an eclectic and visionary collection of impressionist and post-impressionist work of nearly 40 paintings, sculptures and works on paper by some of the top 19th- and 20th-century artists, collected over the course of three decades.

That collection is on display for the first time in Florida at the Norton Museum of Art in an exhibit titled *Artists in Motion: Impressionist and Modern Masterpieces from the Pearlman Collection*, running through Feb. 18.

"Our namesake founder, Ralph Norton, was fascinated by both the art



TOP: *Tarascon Stagecoach*, 1888, by Vincent van Gogh. ABOVE: *Young Woman in a Round Hat*, 1877-79, by Édouard Manet. Photos provided

and the lived experiences of the artists he collected, and he was driven to make art available to a wider audience," says Ghislain d'Humières, director and CEO

of the Norton. "Likewise, Henry Pearlman shares this vision of accessibility along with an emphasis on the artist's journey, making this a dynamic experience for the viewer.

"We haven't hosted an expansive exhibition of this genre of art for almost a decade and we are delighted to share this remarkable exhibition with our entire community," he says.

Exploring themes of travel, immigration and how transience affects artistic creativity, the collection has been on loan to the Princeton University Art Museum since the mid-1970s and is currently on tour.

Curated by Allison Unruh, with works by Paul Cézanne, Edgar Degas, Paul Gauguin, Vincent van Gogh, Édouard Manet, Amedeo Modigliani, Camille Pissarro, Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec and Chaim Soutine, the art is representative of

See IMPRESSIONISM on AT16

Culture

Council: Arts have enormous economic clout in PB County

By Jan Engoren
Contributing Writer

We all know art and artists bring beauty into the world, but did you know they also bring millions of dollars in economic impact into Palm Beach County?

Artists and arts and cultural organizations bring revenue, tourist dollars and millions into communities, according to the sixth Arts and Economic Prosperity study.

It is an economic impact study of the nonprofit arts and culture industry in the U.S. and here in Palm Beach County, conducted by the nonprofit, Washington-based Americans for the Arts, an arts advocacy organization.

"The arts mean business in Palm Beach County," says Dave Lawrence, the Cultural Council's president and CEO. "The AEP6 study makes clear that there is a significant economic impact of our arts and cultural sector. Arts and cultural organizations generate tourism, create jobs, and are a sound return on investment."

The study looked at 373 diverse communities and regions throughout the U.S. and Puerto Rico and found conclusively that nationally and locally, arts and culture are a critical economic driver of vibrant communities.

The Cultural Council for Palm Beach County recently completed

See CULTURE on AT14



Lawrence

Dance

New Miami City Ballet principal approaches artistry with authenticity

By Hannah Deadman
Contributing Writer

From the time she was 8 years old, Dawn Atkins knew she wanted to dance ballet.

Now at age 29, she's one of Miami City Ballet's newest principal dancers — the highest rank a dancer can earn in a professional company.

Atkins grew up in small-town Vermont. Although her early childhood in Middletown Springs wasn't filled with the arts, her parents enrolled Atkins and her sister in different activities, encouraging them to figure out what they liked.

"I really wanted to do ballet," Atkins

said in a phone interview. "I don't know how I got that idea — we never went to the ballet — but I kept asking to do ballet classes. Finally, [my mom] signed me up when I was 8."

Atkins began her training in Rutland, Vt. She continued her training at the School of Richmond Ballet, followed by the North Carolina School of the Arts, under the direction of Ethan Stiefel.

She then joined Boston Ballet School as a trainee in 2011 and Boston Ballet II in 2012. In 2013, Atkins was a Princess Grace Award nominee and was promoted to Artist of the Company. She was promoted to second soloist at Boston Ballet in 2019.

But Atkins had her eye on MCB,



Atkins

but I'm not big on change."

But change was inevitable, and it's been a recurring theme in Atkins' dance career. Her husband, Edsall, landed a career opportunity in South Florida in the spring of 2020. But it would be another year and a half before Atkins joined Miami City Ballet.

"It's really hard in the ballet world

especially after learning about its esteemed artistic director, Lourdes Lopez.

"She was so eloquent and well-spoken; I like the rep she brings to the company," Atkins explained. "Miami City Ballet was on my radar,

— it's not as straightforward as finding another job," Atkins said. "You have to be there at the right time and place. The first time I sent my audition material, [MCB] wasn't hiring. The next time I sent it, Lourdes invited me to audition that week. Everything was leading us in that direction."

She credits her husband's job opportunity as the push she needed to leave Boston. They now live in Palm Beach County with their two dogs.

Atkins joined MCB in 2021 as a soloist and rose through the ranks in record time. She was promoted to principal soloist in 2022.

See BALLERINA on AT12

BALLERINA

Continued from page 11

During Miami City Ballet's 2022-23 season, Atkins performed a variety of featured roles, including Balanchine's "Diamonds" from *Jewels*, *Symphony in Three Movements*; Jerome Robbins' *Antique Epigraphs* and *Afternoon of a Faun*; and Martha Graham's *Diversion of Angels*. Other repertoire includes William Forsythe's *The Second Detail*, the Crystal Fountain Fairy in Petipa's *The Sleeping Beauty*, and more.

After a performance of *Diversion of Angels* in February 2023, Atkins was promoted to principal.

"I was overwhelmed with gratitude," she recalled. "It kind of felt surreal. It's something you dream of and work for."

One could almost hear the smile in her voice as she recalled the moment.

"[Lourdes] came up and told us good job, but generally, we have notes at the end [of the



Dawn Atkins, a new principal dancer at Miami City Ballet, got her start growing up in Vermont. **Photo by Neil Ghandi**

performance]," she said. "We'd done this [piece] before, but she hugged me and held my hand. And she just said the word: Principal."

Since the promotion, Atkins has taken on other lead roles, including Dew Drop and Sugar Plum Fairy in this season's production of *The Nutcracker*.

"I always try to be myself, even when I play characters," she said. "I'll ask, 'How would I do it if I were that character? How should I [dance] in this style?'"

Watching Atkins dance, it's clear her electrifying movement helped her earn that coveted

rank. She effortlessly combines fluidity with power. Her artistry is captivating. And she instills her approachable personality into her performances — making viewers feel like maybe, just maybe, they can talk to the Sugar Plum Fairy.

Others, like those at the San Francisco Classical Voice, agree — hailing Atkins for her "great poise, aplomb, marvelous extensions, and an unexpected durability beneath all that grace."

Atkins says one reason she loves MCB is the company's dynamic repertoire. She's also grateful for the company's supportive culture — something that can be challenging to find in the ballet world.

"I'm fortunate to be surrounded by great people and coaches," Atkins said. "The industry is competitive, but it genuinely feels like we want everyone to succeed and we've found that balance. I feel like it's my place."

Now that Atkins has earned a top spot in the company, she's inspired to challenge herself in new ways.

"It feels like there's room for a lot more play," she said. "How much can I improve? How far can I take it? How good can I get?"

Luckily, Atkins has plenty of time to stretch her artistry. Her day begins with a technique class at 10 a.m., followed by a six-hour rehearsal with a lunch break. Sometimes, they'll rehearse one ballet the whole time. Other times, they'll work on multiple pieces.

"We work really hard but we laugh a lot, even in the five-minute breaks," she said. "That helps make our work better because we're not taking ourselves too seriously — but we're positive [during] the pursuit of excellence."

She bolsters her training with a commitment to whole-body nutrition and wellness.

"Taking care of your body is so important," Atkins said. "I feel the best when I focus on getting as many plants in my diet as possible — the more nutrients the better!"

Even at her strongest, she does acupuncture for restorative treatment and Pilates to strengthen muscles and help with injuries.

"Strength is so important; it's easy to fall out of those habits — but you need to maintain strength," she said, adding that she gives herself grace. "I'm working hard and pushing every day, but I know some days will be less than perfect."

She also prioritizes her mental health. Her family and dogs — Duke, a 5-year-old golden retriever, and Chappie,

an 8-year-old Boston terrier/pug mix — keep her grounded.

"As an artist, you're always working and getting critiqued," Atkins said. "That's how it works — same with athletes and coaches — because it makes you better. You also have your own critiques, so you're always battling that mind-set. It's easy to get wrapped up in that, so I try to focus on my dogs. There's more to life."

Atkins learned that hard lesson after sustaining a career-threatening knee injury in 2015.

"This concept is something I started coming to terms with, even before the pandemic," she recalled. "I realized my career could be over."

During those eight months of recovery, she asked herself: Who was she, beyond ballet?

"Someone asked what my hobbies were, and I couldn't answer," she recalled. "I said, 'My hobby is to do ballet!' It made me realize I never focused on developing that other side of myself. I love animals, so I got a dog. I focused on building my relationships with friends."

During her injury recovery, Atkins also went to school. In 2020, she graduated from Northeastern University with a bachelor's degree in business management. She is also a licensed real estate agent in Massachusetts.

"My golden retriever loves me whether I do a triple pirouette or not," she said. "Being a dancer is a huge part of your identity, but it's not every facet of you. You're a whole person."

Arts Brief

Culture Talks begin this month at Cultural Council

LAKE WORTH BEACH — This month begins the second season of the Culture Talks series at the Cultural Council for Palm Beach County, in which figures from the world of local arts will appear in conversation with *Palm Beach ArtsPaper* journalists.

Each talk is held at 2 p.m. Saturday in the headquarters of

the council, 601 Lake Ave., in downtown Lake Worth Beach.

The talks are free of charge. Audience members are encouraged to ask questions after the end of the interview, which makes for a lively interchange.

This year's guests come from the worlds of music, theater, dance and visual art.

Up first on Jan. 13 is **Ahmad Mayes**, executive director of the Chamber Music Society of Palm Beach, joined by CMSPB's artistic director,

Arnaud Sussmann, in a special performance. Among the topics: diversity and inclusion in today's classical music industry. Mayes will be interviewed by Greg Stepanich.

The following Saturday (Jan. 20) will feature an appearance by **Marilynn Wick**, founder of Boca Raton's Wick Theatre and Costume Museum, now celebrating its 10th season.

Veteran theater journalist Hap Erstein will interview Wick, who will recount how, without a background in the

theater, she was able to put together a successful venue.

February opens with a talk by **Lourdes Lopez**, artistic director of the Miami City Ballet (Feb. 3).

In her time with MCB, Lopez has brought MCB to new levels of excellence and innovation.

She'll discuss her life and work, and the state of dance today, in conversation with dance writer Tara Mitton Catao.

The series concludes Feb. 24 when **Ghislain d'Humières**, director and CEO of the Norton Museum of Art in West Palm

Beach, arrives for a conversation with artist and journalist Gretel Sarmiento. Subjects will include the challenges faced by art museums today.

The Culture Talks were created in 2022 by Jennifer Sullivan, Cultural Council senior vice president for marketing and programs, in collaboration with *ArtsPaper*.

For more information, visit palmbeachculture.com.

Review

Farewell, Mr. Haffmann (in French with English subtitles), now in theaters and streaming on Chai Flicks.

"We're not in danger ... we're French." These are famous last words, perhaps, from Hannah Haffmann (Anne Coesens), wife of a successful jeweler in Paris, toward the beginning of *Farewell, Mr. Haffmann*. It's 1941 Paris, a year after the Third Reich seized France, and Hannah's husband Joseph (Daniel Auteuil) can literally see the writing on the wall: a "census" posted outside his business requiring all Jewish citizens to identify as such.

Joseph's family fled pogroms in Poland. He knows fascism when he sees it. Hannah reluctantly heeds her husband's instructions to flee France with their three children.

He'll join them, Joseph says, as soon he strikes a plan to keep open his beloved business. It's simple: He will "sell" the shop to his lone employee, François Mercier (Gilles Lellouche), a sad sack of a man with a limping gait, a shoebox of a home, a wife, Blanche (Sara Giraudeau), with whom he's been unable to father children, and an unfulfilled aspiration to design his own jewelry. But, critically: François is a gentile.

François accepts his employer's proposition, moving into the Haffmanns' spacious apartment above the shop, painting a new nameplate for the façade, and preparing to enjoy a life of upward mobility and domestic comfort. That is, until Joseph's escape plan is thwarted: With checkpoints increasing throughout the city, and roundups soon to commence, spiriting Jews to safer climes has become untenable. Joseph has no choice but to return to his business and live in hiding in its basement. François and Blanche, to their chagrin, now harbor a wanted man. For the young couple, every day is a constant risk of being discovered sheltering a Jew; but of course, it's the right thing to do, isn't it?

Questions of morality and commerce, resistance and collaboration, are at the heart of this simmering, uncomfortable and elliptical psychodrama from writer-director Fred Cavayé, playing now at Movies of Lake Worth and Movies of Delray.

The power dynamic between employee and employer having been turned on its head,

François strikes a bargain with Joseph: He'll mail out his letters to his family if Joseph will have sex with Blanche, thus potentially conceiving the child that François can never give her.

With three complex characters at its center, this is hardly the end of the movie's intricate maneuverings. All carry secrets with them; all engage in clandestine collusions. Most fascinating is the story's moral pivot, away from the march of fascism and toward the ugly transformation of an ordinary man into a Nazi accomplice.

It's not the banality of evil so much as the banality of complicity. François, who soon discovers that his shop's most loyal customers are SS officers buying for their girlfriends, begins to see unprecedented financial returns.

Farewell, Mr. Haffmann, then, is not so much about the pernicious nature of fascism as it is the seductions of capitalism. This is the movie's most chilling truism: It's easier to compartmentalize genocide when you're profiting from it.


Blanche, for her part, sees that her husband is, in fact, becoming a monster.

An expertly paced two hours, *Farewell, Mr. Haffmann* burns slowly but inexorably, ultimately achieving a Dostoyevskian clarity and richness in its survey of crime and punishment in Vichy France. — *ArtsPaper* staff

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 January 28 - Beatles on the Beach Brunches • Various Locations



scan for more info

CULTURE

Continued from page 11

its own studies of grant-funded arts organizations, focusing on the communities of Jupiter, West Palm Beach and Boca Raton. Results were announced at The Arts Mean Business in Palm Beach County breakfast meeting Dec. 15 at the Cultural Council offices in Lake Worth Beach.

State Rep. David Silvers, D-Lake Clarke Shores, spoke at the breakfast.

A frequent theatergoer to the Kravis Center and an avid photographer, Silvers is also the president of Dance Media Foundation, a nonprofit organization promoting the art of dance and dance education.

The foundation partners with the Palm Beach School of Autism and the Miami City Ballet to bring dance instruction to the students there and at Title I schools in Belle Glade.

“The arts and arts education make an enormous impact on our community,” Silvers said.

“I’m passionate about allowing children access to the arts at all ages.”

On a national level, AEP6 reveals that America’s nonprofit arts and culture sector is a \$151.7 billion industry — one that supports 2.6 million jobs and generates \$29.1 billion in government revenue.

In Palm Beach County, 170 organizations were surveyed and 74 of those organizations responded to the survey, revealing 4 million attendees came to a play, art opening or other cultural event and spent an average of \$34.56 per person, not including admission price.

Responding organizations include the Adolph and Rose Levis Jewish Community Center, Boca Ballet Theatre Company, Boca Raton Historical Society, Boca Raton Museum of Art and the National League of American Pen Women, Boca Raton branch.

“The arts check all the boxes,” said Palm Beach County Commissioner Gregg Weiss,



County Commissioner Gregg Weiss and Cultural Council Senior Vice President Jennifer Sullivan attend The Arts Mean Business in Palm Beach County breakfast. Photo provided

reiterating the economic, business and cultural impact of the arts on the county.

Visitors to the county spent slightly more, at an average of \$53.30 per person, and 58% of those surveyed responded that they came to Palm Beach County specifically for the event they attended, illustrating the ability of the arts to attract visitors and revenue, said Randy Cohen, vice president of research at Americans for the

Arts.

“Arts are the kindling” for the economy, Cohen said by phone from Washington after his visit to Palm Beach County. “Residents of Palm Beach County are served by an incredible and vibrant arts community.

“But don’t forget,” he added, “these arts organizations are businesses that generate millions of economic activity each year. That changes the

conversation and how we think about the arts.”

He noted that the art sector brings not only cultural benefits but has generated approximately 4,000-plus jobs across a range of occupational sectors in the county. “The takeaway is that art is not just food for the soul, but puts food on the table for many households in Palm Beach County,” he said.

The study revealed the arts provided more than \$335.3 in annual economic impact to the county and \$57.2 million in tax revenue.

In Jupiter, the arts generated \$26.4 million of economic impact and 319 jobs; in West Palm Beach, \$214.4 million in economic impact and 2,522 jobs; and in Boca Raton they generated \$25.7 million in economic impact and 644 jobs.

“The arts are not frills or extras,” said Cohen. “When we invest in the arts as an industry that provides cultural benefits and economic benefits, it attracts visitors, supports jobs, generates government revenue and a wealth of other benefits including mental health, recreational, social and educational.

“The arts aren’t just nice, but necessary.”

On another note, as part of the Cultural Council’s Year of Extraordinary Support, or YES! campaign, the council announced its Arts & Cultural Education Fund to benefit youth programs, funded through the Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation.

The YES! campaign is poised to provide more funding for Palm Beach County’s arts and cultural sector over the next 12 months than at any other point in its 46-year history.

That funding includes a new \$3 million capital grant program utilizing American Rescue Plan funds, with eight organizations chosen to receive grant dollars through the Palm Beach County Cultural Capital Fund as well as an Arts Administrator of Color Fellowship and an Emerging Artist Prize next fall.

The new initiative is supported by the Palm Beach County Commission, Palm Beach County Tourist Development Council, the Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation, the Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation and individual philanthropists, resulting in nearly \$12.6 million to support the county’s cultural sector.

Applications are now open for a third round of the Cultural Council’s Artist Innovation Fellowship program, which provided \$7,500 grants to 10 artists across all artistic disciplines.

Also open are applications for the first round of the Cultural Council Arts & Cultural Education Fund to be awarded to organizations with arts and cultural enrichment programs. Grant awards range from \$20,000 to \$200,000 over a two-year period.

Visit palmbeachculture.com for more information.

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Left: Alphonse Mucha, *Monaco, Monte-Carlo*, 1897. Color lithograph on paper mounted on linen. Dhawan Collection. Image courtesy of Landau Traveling Exhibitions, Los Angeles, CA.

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Sarah Charlesworth, *Trial by Fire*, 1992-93, cibachrome with lacquered wood frame. © The Estate of Sarah Charlesworth. Courtesy Paula Cooper Gallery, New York

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Music

At Mathews brewery in Lake Worth, enjoy a bite with your beer and beats

By Bill Meredith
ArtsPaper Music Writer

Location, location, location. It's the well-known mantra for any real estate investor. But when anyone opens a successful establishment that's slightly off the beaten path, expanding can necessitate starting again from "scratch."

Hence: Mathews Brewing Company Scratch Kitchen, at 125 S. Dixie Highway in Lake Worth Beach.

The restaurant offers quality pub selections of smash burgers, brick oven pizzas, tacos, burritos, chili, Italian subs and other entrees, in a prime location along U.S. Highway 1 that is just across an alleyway from the award-winning brewery that gave it its name.

Located at 130 S. H St., Mathews Brewing Company celebrated its sixth anniversary last month. The Dec. 1-2 "Brewapalooza" featured 10 South Florida original and tribute acts, including Billy Doom Is Dead, Young Cassidy, Spred the Dub, 46 & Tool, and Nirvana.

Less than a week later, the kitchen launched a soft opening on Dec. 8 in anticipation of its Jan. 5 official debut.

"This is just a test run to make sure any kinks are worked out in the process," said owner and head brewmaster Dave Mathews. "And look, there goes our first order now."

By mid-December, Mathews reported that the big sellers so far had been smash burgers, fish and chips, and tacos. "We're rolling out other items later, like our pizzas, hoagies and burritos."

The restaurant itself — which took 10 months to design and get up to speed — features a small dining room with 20 seats up for patrons to order from each table's QR code and eat their food in-house. A hallway leads west to the prep area and kitchen, which is the domain of head chef Lisa Mercado. Her credentials include dessert chef at Bizaare Avenue Cafe in Lake Worth Beach, and head chef at Ravish in Lantana, the Red Lion Pub in Boynton Beach and Boca Raton, and the Living Room in Boynton Beach.

"I've known Lisa for about 30 years," Mathews said. "I lived near one of the Red Lion locations when she worked there and frequented it a lot. Then she had our beer when she was at Ravish. When I told her about this venture, she said she wanted to be part of it after she took a two-year hiatus in Hawaii. When she came back, she started helping me with the restaurant."

Patrons at the brewery can also order from individual QR codes and have their food walked over from the restaurant's back door.



Mathews Brewing Company Scratch Kitchen offers gourmet pub fare in Lake Worth Beach. Photo provided

If You Go

Scratch Kitchen is at 125 S. Dixie Highway in Lake Worth Beach

Hours: 5-9 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday; 5-10:30 p.m. Friday, noon-10:30 p.m. Saturday, noon-7:30 p.m. Sunday

Info: mathewsbrewingcompany.com, 561-328-7214

Previously, Mathews employed rotating food trucks, which will still be utilized in tandem with the kitchen for special events.

The owner has invested in upgrades since incorporating his now-popular Mathews Brewing distribution service in 2016, the multiple flavors of which can be found in many area watering holes.

The brewery opened in the site of the former *Lake Worth Herald* newspaper, and Mathews offset its smallish interior by utilizing it primarily for the brewing process itself, with most seating outdoors at its adjacent, fenced-in beer garden patio. Rock star murals adorn its north wall; artisan stone seating is included among the tables, and two huge Seminole chickee huts provide shade and rain protection over three-quarters of the patio, with oversized umbrellas covering much of the remainder.

In 2020, with most venues afraid to spend money during the COVID-19 pandemic, Mathews splurged on both the chickee huts and a large, SunFest-worthy portable stage on the patio's east end. Bookings since have often ventured into tribute act terrain, but Mathews remains hopeful about eventually booking more original touring acts as well.

Bands performing at Mathews Brewing Company often rave about its open-air stage and quality sound and lighting systems. South Florida act Maiden Steel, a tribute to British metal icons Iron Maiden, made its debut at the brewery on June 29 and made a return engagement on Dec. 30.

"We've had a blast playing there," said Maiden Steel

guitarist/vocalist Anthony Alfano. "The crowds have been electrifying, even though it was the first time seeing the band for many in attendance. The stage is spacious; the sound and lighting top-notch, and the personnel very professional and accommodating."

Mathews, who was a longtime home brewer before this venture, regularly creates up to 14 different lagers, stouts, porters, IPAs and other ales on tap, some named for musical history. His Sweet Emotion cream ale is named for the Aerosmith song; the My Sharona Mexican lager is titled after The Knack's biggest hit.

But it's White Goblin, a Belgian-style wheat ale, that earned a 2023 bronze medal at the national Great American Beer Festival in Denver. Mathews was also named Best Large Brewery in Florida in 2023 at the Best Florida Beer Competition in Tampa. Some of the brews are even used to prepare certain entrees and desserts from the restaurant.

The Wellington-based Mathews, a Florida native born in Tampa, graduated from the University of South Florida with a degree in civil engineering in 1991 and worked in that field for close to 30 years while perfecting his home brewing craft.

He chose Mathews Brewing Company's location purposefully, even if it often necessitated a sign at U.S. Highway 1 and Second Avenue South directing traffic west toward its location. He also owns two large adjacent parking lots, and his brewery's placement in an industrial section means less likelihood of volume complaints.

"We don't get walk-by traffic like in downtown Delray, West Palm or Lake Worth," Mathews said. "We're more of a destination ... and I think the restaurant will bring in some people who've never been to the brewery before; folks who might be more food people than beer people."

"We're also trying to help the city build this area up, because we think there's a lot of potential over here."

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IMPRESSIONISM

Continued from page 11

Pearlman's taste and appreciation for not only the art itself, but for the lives of the artists and their experiences.

For Pearlman, who owned a cold storage insulation business in New York City during the 1940s, it all began when he passed the American Art-Anderson Galleries (later to become Parke-Bernet), where a colorful Chaïm Soutine painting, titled *View of Céret*, was hanging in the window and caught his eye.

He writes, "When this painting came up for sale, I was the high bidder, and happily carted the painting out to my home in the country. The painting was hung over the mantelpiece, some thirty feet from the entrance hall, and when I came home in the evenings and saw it, I would get a lift, similar to the experience of listening to a symphony orchestration of a piece well

known and liked."

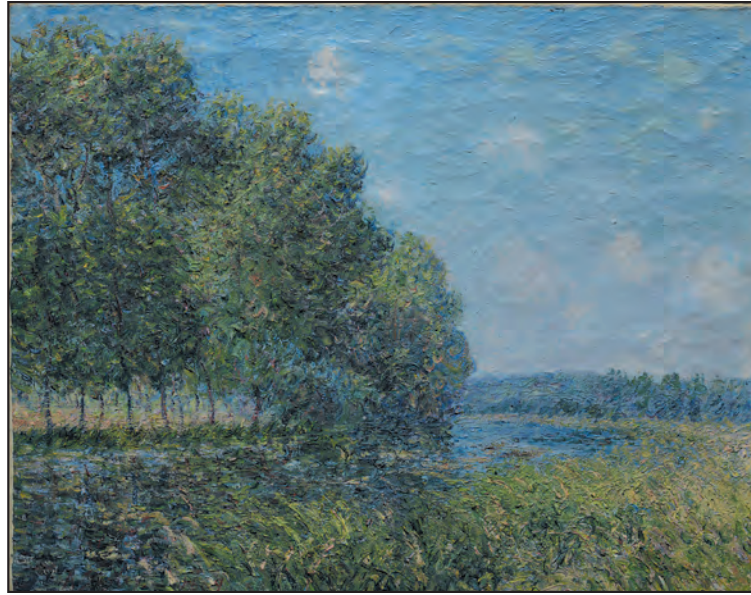
This almost incidental brush with the art world led Pearlman to a lifelong love affair with art, especially the post-impressionists and even more specific, those artists, many of them Jewish, who were displaced from their countries of origin.

He describes his first purchase as being "very colorful, in blue, yellow, and golden colors slashed on as if by a trowel."

Little did he know, that first purchase would become a full-blown passion that lasted the rest of his life.

"This first pleasant experience with a modern painting started me on a road of adventure that has been both exhilarating and satisfying," he writes. "I haven't spent a boring evening since that first purchase."

Pearlman discovered that the artist was born in Belarus before immigrating to Paris, a shared experience with his wife's



River View, 1889, by Alfred Sisley is part of the Pearlman collection on view at the Norton. Photo provided

family, who also emigrated from that part of the world to the United States.

Soutine arrived in Paris with a paper inscribed with the words "La Ruche," a Jewish artist's collective in Montparnasse, known as the Beehive where he met other émigré artists including Modigliani, Jacques Lipchitz and Marc Chagall.

When Pearlman learned of this cultural connection, it resonated with him and spurred him to acquire more works by these and other similar artists.

According to accounts by his grandson Daniel Edelman, president of the Henry and Rose Pearlman Foundation, in his later years Pearlman became a prolific buyer of 32 works by Cézanne, including watercolors, works on paper and drawings and sketches, many included in this exhibit.

A great admirer of Cézanne, Pearlman is quoted as saying the artist "never put down a stroke he did not feel."

By the 1960s, prices of similar works became unaffordable for Pearlman.

In the collection, known for its breadth and depth of works by Cézanne, are his paintings, including *Standing Bather Seen from Behind*, one of the artist's favorite subjects, and *Portrait of Paul*, the artist's son, painted in 1880. Also: Pissarro's still life

Apples and Pears in a Round Basket, a departure from his well-known plein-air landscapes and illustrative of his distinctive brushstrokes; Manet's *Young Woman in a Round Hat*, and Pierre-Auguste Renoir's *Nude in a Landscape*, reminiscent in the pose and folds of drapery of a classical sculpture.

"Pearlman had an amazing eye and made superb choices in the pieces he chose for his collection," says Anke Van Wagenberg, curator of American and European Art at the Norton Museum.

"He collected what he liked and what he could afford," she says. "He said himself, he wasn't a Rockefeller."

Limited by circumstance and with only instinct to guide him, Pearlman acquired more experimental, less recognized, and therefore less expensive works by the artists he favored.

"It was a gutsy choice to purchase his first Soutine, a painting more appreciated by scholars than laymen," Van Wagenberg says.

She also credits Pearlman for purchasing the Cézanne drawings, many of which have not seen the light of day, due to their sensitivity to light.

"They are beautiful drawings," she says, and mostly finished artworks. "You are able to see Cézanne's method,

If You Go

Artists in Motion: Impressionist and Modern Masterpieces from the Pearlman Collection runs through Feb. 18 at the Norton Museum of Art, 1450 S. Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach. Info: norton.org

process and thinking expressed in these drawings."

One of Pearlman's biggest coups was tracking down and purchasing the 1888 van Gogh oil on canvas *Tarascon Stagecoach*, inspired by a novel by Alphonse Daudet, *Tartarin of Tarascon*, and a highlight of the exhibit.

"A crowd pleaser," Van Wagenberg says.

The painting, depicting two red and green carriages in the yard of an inn in Arles, was painted for his friend Gauguin, who didn't care for it.

According to Van Wagenberg, the painting has an interesting provenance. From van Gogh's brother to whom he bequeathed it, consigned to a French dealer, sold to an Italian sculptor who stored it in his attic because it was too avant-garde for his guests, gifted to a Uruguayan musician and painter, inherited by the musician's daughters, stashed in a bank vault for safety, and then sold to a Buenos Aires dealer who, on a visit to New York, offered it to Pearlman.

She says Pearlman saw a sketch of the painting on the bottom of a letter and was so taken with it, he became single-minded in the pursuit of the elusive work.

For Pearlman, the hunt was part of the satisfaction in acquiring these works.

"My grandfather went after the things that were hard to get and that other people did not necessarily want," Edelman said in a panel discussion about the exhibit.

"It was the hunt and the purchase and the process as much as what he ended up buying," he said.

"His most exciting purchase was the van Gogh, by far. I am not sure that means that it was his favorite image in the collection, but the fact that it was a rediscovered van Gogh and he got in there because of a connection before anybody else, and he was able to buy it before other van Gogh collectors even knew about it — that was his pride."

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Arts Calendar

Editor's note: Events listed through Feb. 3, 2024, were current as of Dec. 29. Check with the presenting agency for any changes. Ticket prices are single sales unless otherwise specified.

ART

Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens: Through May 1: *The Divine Feminine: Contemporary Women Sculptors*. \$15, \$10 seniors. 253 Barcelona Road, West Palm Beach. 10 am-4 pm W-Sun. 561-832-5328. Info@ansg.org.

Armory Art Center: Through Jan. 11: *Art Deco en Plein Air*. Free. 811 Park Place, West Palm Beach. 10 am-4 pm M-F, 10 am-2 pm Sat. 561-832-1776 or armoryart.org

Boca Raton Museum of Art: Through June 2: *Félix de la Concha*, paintings by the Spanish-born artist of the Addison of Boca Raton and the nearby intersection, with the railroad tracks first laid by Henry Flagler; through May 19: *Dorothea Grace Lemeh: Cycles*; through May 12: *Smoke and Mirrors: Magical Thinking in Contemporary Art*. \$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 Jan. 13: *Whimsy and Wonder*; through Jan. 20: *Kristin Miller: We Become the Place*. Free. 601 Lake Ave., Lake Worth Beach. Noon-5 pm T-F and second Sat. of month. 561-471-2901, palmbeachculture.com/exhibitions.

Flagler Museum: Opens Jan. 16: *Alphonse Mucha: Master of Art Nouveau*, an exhibit chronicling the Czech-born French artist whose sinuous figures and flowers brought a feeling of calm to viewers at a time of great change at the dawn of the 20th century; through April 14. \$26; \$13 ages 6-12. 1 Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. 10 am-5 pm M-Sat, noon-5 pm Sun. 561-655-2833, www.flaglermuseum.us.

Lighthouse ArtCenter: Opens Jan. 18: *Wild Hearts*, works about animals and the natural world; through Feb. 24. \$5 non-members. 9 am-5 pm M-Th; 9 am-4 pm F; 10 am-4 pm Sat. 561-746-3101, lighthousearts.org.

Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens: Through April 7: *Stories on the Planet: Jewelry by Maeda Asagi*. \$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 Feb. 18: *Artists in Motion: Impressionist and Modern Masterpieces from the Pearlman Collection*. Through Feb. 4: *Symbolic Messages in Chinese Animal Paintings*, four scrolls by artists from the 18th to the 20th centuries. Through March 10: *Presence: The Photography Collection of Judy Glickman Lauder*. With *Personal Space: On Photography and Being*, memory snapshots from the Norton's collection (through Feb. 18). Through July 7: *Nora Maité Nieves: Clouds in the Expanded Field*, works by the Puerto Rican-born artist, who is the Norton's 2023-24 artist in residence. \$18 adults; \$15 seniors; \$5 students; free for ages 12 and under, 1450 S. Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach. 10 am-5 pm M, T, Th, Sat; 10 am-10 pm F; 11 am-5 pm Sun. 561-832-5196, www.norton.org.

Society of the Four Arts: Through Jan. 28: *Scenes of New York City: The Sarah and Elie Hirschfeld Collection*. Through April 28 in the Hulitar Sculpture Garden: *Flora Imaginaria: The Flower in Contemporary Photography*, 71 photos by 49 artists, all displayed outdoors. \$10. 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. 10 am-5 pm daily. 561-655-7226, fourarts.org.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Sunday, Jan. 7, Wednesday, Jan. 10, Sunday, Jan. 14

Beethoven Festival: The Society of the Four Arts hosts three programs featuring music by the world's most admired classical composer, including the complete cello sonatas (Jan. 7) with cellist David Finckel and pianist Wu Han; two piano trios (Op. 1, No. 3, and the *Ghost*, Op. 70) plus two by Haydn, featuring Finckel, Wu Han and Arnaud Sussmann (Jan. 10); and a string trio (Op. 9, No. 2), the Clarinet Trio (Op. 11) and the Septet (Op. 20), which was perhaps the composer's most popular piece in his lifetime (Jan. 14). Sunday concerts are at 3 pm, Wednesday concert is at 7:30 p.m. \$40. 102 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. 561-655-2766 or fourarts.org.

Jacksonville Symphony: The young pianist-composer Conrad Tao is the soloist in two works, Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* and the rarely heard Fourth Piano Concerto of Sergei Rachmaninov. Conductor Courtney Lewis

has also programmed the powerful Fourth Symphony (*The Inextinguishable*) of the Danish master Carl Nielsen. 7:30 pm. \$35 and up. Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. 561-832-7469 or www.kravis.org. Thursday, Jan. 11

Chamber Music Society of Palm Beach: A trio of musicians, violinist Benjamin Beilman, violinist/violist Arnaud Sussmann and cellist Edward Arron, perform the *Serenade* of Dohnanyi, a violin sonata by the French Baroque composer Jean-Marie Leclair, a duo for violin and cello by the young American composer Jessie Montgomery, and an unfinished string trio by the Russian composer Alexander Borodin. 7 pm, Episcopal Church of Bethesda-by-the-Sea, 141 S. County Road, Palm Beach. \$75. cmspb.org. Monday, Jan. 15

Palm Beach Symphony: The Israeli violinist Pinchas Zukerman plays Mozart's Violin Concerto No. 3 along with two shorter pieces by Tchaikovsky. Conductor Gerard Schwarz leads the orchestra in the Sibelius Second Symphony and the *Four Hymns Without Words* of Adolphus Hailstork. 7:30 pm, Kravis Center, West Palm Beach. \$25-\$95. kravis.org or palmbeachsymphony.org. Wednesday, Jan. 17

Neave Trio: The American piano trio opens the Duncan Theatre's Classical Café series with music by Brahms (Trio No. 1 in B, Op. 8), Ravel's *Ione Piano Trio*, and the *Five Negro Melodies* of the British Romantic composer Samuel Coleridge-Taylor. 2 p.m. Stage West at Duncan Theatre, Palm Beach State College, 4200 Congress Ave., Lake Worth Beach. \$35. palmbeachstate.edu or 561-868-3309. Saturday, Jan. 20

Orpheus Chamber Orchestra: The conductorless ensemble welcomes the Japanese pianist Nobuyuki Tsujii for a performance that will include Chopin's First Piano Concerto and Tsujii performing Schumann's *Carnaval*. 2 p.m., Kravis Center, West Palm Beach. \$35 and up. 561-832-7469 or www.kravis.org.d Sunday, Jan. 21

The Symphonia: Conductor Alastair Willis, calling on a theatrical theme, programs Haydn's Symphony No. 60 (*Il Distratto*), Vaughan Williams's *Fantasia on Greensleeves*, the overture to the opera *L'Amant Anonyme*,

by Joseph de Bologne, and *Sound and Fury*, by the young British composer Anna Clyne. 3 pm, Spanish River High School, 5100 Jog Road, Boca Raton. \$55-\$90. 561-376-3848 or thesymphonia.org. Wednesday, Jan. 24

Jeremy Denk: The fine American pianist performs an early sonata of Schubert (in A, D. 95), J.S. Bach's Partita No. 5 (in G, BWV 829), three Romances by Clara Schumann, the Ballade No. 3 of Chopin, and *Heartbreaker*, a moody essay by the American composer Missy Mazzoli. 7:30 pm, Society of the Four Arts, 102 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. \$40. 561-655-2766 or fourarts.org. Monday, Jan. 29

Cleveland Orchestra: The big noise from Ohio, led by Franz Welser-Möst, welcomes Danish violinist Nikolaj Szeps-Znaider for a performance of the Violin Concerto No. 1 of Max Bruch. Also on the program: *Cleveland Pictures*, by the late British composer Oliver Knussen, and the Prokofiev Symphony No. 5. 7:30 p.m., Kravis Center, West Palm Beach. \$40 and up. kravis.org or 561-832-7469.

DANCE

Friday, Jan. 16-Saturday, Jan. 19

Complexions Contemporary Ballet: The New York-based company, now marking 30 years since its founding by Dwight Rhoden and Desmond Richardson, opens the Duncan Theatre's popular Modern Dance Series. Performances at 8 pm each night at the theater on the campus of Palm Beach State College in Lake Worth Beach. \$45. 561-868-3309 or palmbeachstate.edu.

JAZZ

Wednesday, Jan. 10

Tierney Sutton and the Shelly Berg Trio: The fine jazz vocalist is joined by a trio led by pianist Berg, who doubles as head of the Frost School of Music at the University of Miami. Part of the Gold Coast Jazz Society series. 7:45 pm, Amatur Theater at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, 201 SW Fifth Ave., Fort Lauderdale. \$65. Call 954-462-0222 or visit browardcenter.org.

POPULAR MUSIC

Thursday, Jan. 25

Gladys Knight: The soulful singer whose

monster hits of the 1970s ("Midnight Train to Georgia") with the Pips has led to a multi-decade career and 38 albums including a gospel record called *Where My Heart Belongs*. 8 pm at Seminole Hard Rock and Casino, 1 Seminole Way, Hollywood. \$60 to \$110. Visit ticketmaster.com for more information.

THEATER

Through Sunday, Jan. 7

Tevey in New York: A one-man show written and performed by Tom Dugan about what happened to the central figure in *Fiddler on the Roof* after moving to the United States with his wife and daughters. At the Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St., Delray Beach. \$44. 561-272-1281 or www.delraybeachplayhouse.com.

Opens Monday, Jan. 8

Beautiful: The Carole King Musical: The celebrated 2013 jukebox musical featuring songs by the popular pianist-singer and her collaborators, framed around the story of her rise to stardom. Through Jan. 28 at the Maltz Jupiter Theatre, 1001 E. Indiantown Road, Jupiter. 561-575-2233 or jupitertheatre.org. Opens Thursday, Jan. 11

Fiddler on the Roof: More than an ordinary show, this 1964 musical by Jerry Bock and Sheldon Harnick has become a cultural touchstone for generations of audiences around the world. Starring Bruce Sabbath as Tevey. Through Feb. 11. Wick Theatre, 7901 N. Federal Highway, Boca Raton. \$109. 561-995-2233 or visit thewick.org. Opens Friday, Jan. 12

Disenchanted: Dennis Giacino's charming musical about the Disney princesses and what they really think about the stories they're part of. Produced by MNM Theatre Co. through Jan. 21 at the Studio at Mizner Park, 201 W. Plaza Real, Boca Raton. \$25-\$65. Visit mnmtheatre.org for tickets. Opens Friday, Jan. 19

Oklahoma! The seminal 1943 musical by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II about love on the farm as Oklahoma headed for statehood in 1912. Through Feb. 4 at the Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave., Lake Worth Beach. \$38. 561-586-6410 or www.lakeworthplayhouse.org.

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FOUR ARTS FOR EVERYONE

Finding Faith

Islam basics similar to what other faiths believe

The terrible violence in the Middle East has forced many of us to rethink what little we know about Islam. It's easy to be mind-boggled by all the players in the conflict: Hamas, the Palestinian territories, Israel, the Palestinian Authority and the Muslims, Jews and Christians who are affected. This is complicated by the U.S. government and the media, which at times change their attitudes about which side of conflicts to take.

"The U.S. government labeled Hamas as a terrorist organization," said Florida Atlantic University Professor Bassem Alhalabi, a Muslim and U.S. citizen. "Still, we need to wait and see, as the American government has the tendency to make friends out of enemies after a while. As for the Palestinians, they are perceived as the only group who is resisting the occupation."

To a Muslim or a Jew living in Palm Beach County, these issues don't feel half a world away, and most local Muslims want to share their knowledge and their faith. At the Islamic Center of Boca Raton, they welcome visitors to discuss the intricacies of Islam. "No force," said Omar Uddin, "just an invitation to learn."

On a recent Thursday night following prayers, about 30 people gathered to talk about Islam at the monthly open house hosted by the center.

"Brother" Omar welcomed the group with a smile and a friendly demeanor. He handed out copies of the Quran to anyone who wanted them.

"The thing people don't realize," he said, "is that we believe in Jesus too."

Islam recognizes that the Virgin Mary was chosen by God to bear the Messiah. Just as Christians trace their religious lifeline back to the Old Testament, Muslims trace theirs back, too, through the teaching of Jesus Christ to the Old Testament. The God the Muslims call Allah is the same God of the Christians and Jews.

Muslims believe deeply in the Gospels, and they honor Jesus with the words "Peace Be Upon Him" whenever they speak his holy name. He is so important he is mentioned 25 times in the Quran's 6,236 verses. As Muslims see it, theirs is just the continuation of Jesus' story. In a Muslim's view, there's the Old Testament, the New Testament, and the Quran, the "Last" Testament.

The words in the Quran were given to Muhammad by the Angel Gabriel, the same angel who told Mary she would be a mother to God's son.

These messages from Allah were dictated to Muhammad, who was admired for his honesty and trustworthiness

but who was illiterate. Poets were plentiful but God wanted a common man. Scribes were called in to write down the stanzas of holy poetry that he recited with the eloquence and beauty of a gifted writer.

Some scholars say you can only truly understand the Quran in its original Arabic, and in Arabic, the Quran is like a long rhyming poem with stanzas of different lengths. Rhymes were a common tool used to make difficult information easier to remember. The writings are gathered together by theme rather than chronology.

"As an American Muslim, I want people to know how familiar Islam is to what they already know," Uddin said. "A lot of people think we worship a foreign God, not the same God they worship."

Professor Alhalabi says the biggest misconception about Islam is that it preaches violence. It doesn't. It encompasses all of Jesus' teachings about compassion and loving your neighbor as yourself, and it goes further.

"Islam emphasizes compassion, justice and moral conduct in personal and societal aspects. Islam encourages seeking knowledge and fostering a balanced and harmonious lifestyle. And Islam condemns terrorism and promotes peace, coexistence and respect for all human beings," Alhalabi said.

But Hamas found a way to corrupt Islam, to bend it to say something different, which only perpetuates the myth. Its 1988 charter said, "Israel will exist and will continue to exist until Islam will obliterate it, just as it obliterated others before it."

When the charter was rewritten in 2017, they changed the enemy to the Zionist movement and blamed Europe and the United States for the antisemitism in the world.

That charter says, "The Zionist movement...is the most dangerous form of settlement occupation...and must disappear from Palestine."

The word Hamas is an acronym for an Islamic resistance movement founded in 1987 during the first Palestinian uprising protesting the Israeli occupation of Gaza and the West Bank. Despite being officially designated as a terrorist group by the U.S. State Department in 1997, Hamas won the parliamentary elections in 2006 (the last election ever held) and seized control of the Gaza Strip from the Palestinian Authority.

Jeanine Santucci wrote in *USA Today* in October, "The group calls for establishment of an Islamic Palestinian state that would replace the current state of Israel and believes in



Kids race during a family day for the Islamic Center of Boca Raton, which calls itself an open religious organization for all and does not keep any membership. Photo provided

the use of violence to carry out the destruction of Israel." She reported Hamas army has only an estimated 30,000 fighters whose main source of support is Iran.

But Hamas isn't the only radical, violent Islamic group. ISIS is another, but is fundamentally different from Hamas, according to Brian Glyn Williams, professor of Islamic history at UMass Dartmouth. ISIS is considered the world's deadliest terrorist group, but it disagrees with Hamas mostly because the two are on opposite sides of Islam's Sunni versus Shia branches.

Being prejudged according to the myth that Islam-equals-violent-extremists is something Muslims deal with every day. Alhalabi says it feels "normal" for people to be suspicious of him. That's a feeling most other non-white Americans say they have felt themselves.

But just as Christians don't want to be judged by the behaviors of radical self-professed Christian groups like the Westboro Baptist Church in Topeka, Kansas, which is classified as a hate group, Muslims don't want to be judged for Hamas' acts.

Westboro's members spread vitriol during public protests against homosexuals, including showing up at military funerals with signs that say, "Thank God for dead soldiers."

Violence gets media attention, which is one of the things extremists want.

Alhalabi said, "It is crucial to recognize that such actions go against the fundamental teachings of Islam...and the majority of Muslims worldwide reject and condemn terrorism."

At the very least, with accusations of genocide being leveled against Hamas and Israel alike, and the ongoing attempts at genocide in China, Darfur and Myanmar, we must agree that any group of humans whose goal is to annihilate the existence of another group of humans cannot be tolerated.

Janis Fontaine writes about people of faith, their congregations,



causes and community events. Contact her at fontaine423@outlook.com.

Islamic worship and information centers

Islamic Center of Boca Raton: 480 NW Fifth Ave. 561-395-7221 or icbr.org

Al Amin Center: 8101 S. Military Trail, Boynton Beach. 561-880-7806 or facebook.com/alamincenterflorida

Muslim Community of Palm Beach County: 4893 Purdy Lane, West Palm Beach. 561-969-1584 or mcpbc.org or email info@mcpbc.org

Islamic Institute of Palm Beach County: 1876 Donnell Road, West Palm Beach. 561-248-7356 or iiopbc.org

Islamic Center of Palm Beach: 101 Castlewood Drive, North Palm Beach. 561-623-7647 or www.PalmBeachMuslims.com

Religious facts from around the world

Palm Beach County:

- In a county with a population of 1.5 million and rising, about 600,000 people are 'affiliated' with a religion.
- An estimated 15% of the population practices Judaism, or about 225,000. (Estimates range from 167,000 to 238,000, but most of that data is a few years old.)
- According to the Muslim Community of Palm Beach County, about 30 Muslim families lived in the county in the mid-1980s.
- By the late 1990s, fewer than 1,000 Muslims total lived in the county, according to the Association of Statisticians of American Religious Bodies, an organization that collects data from American faith groups.
- The best guess is about 1% of Palm Beach County currently practices Islam. That's about 15,000 people.
- A few groups practice other religions, like Hindu or Shinto, but the balance (350,000 or so) are Christians.

Florida:

- Floridians tend to be less religious overall than the general U.S. population, with less than 40% calling themselves 'affiliated'.
- Florida has the 12th-largest Muslim population in the U.S., with about 127,000. New York has the largest Muslim population with about 724,000.
- Florida's Muslim community is primarily Arab, South Asian and African American.

United States:

- According to WorldPopulationReview.com, the U.S. Muslim population in 2023 was about 4,444,000.
- The United States is largely Christian. About 64% of affiliated Americans identify as Christian, but 50 years ago, 90% were Christian, according to a Pew Research Center study from 2020.
- People are no more or less religious today than they were 50 years ago. The percentage who were 'affiliated' with a religion in 1971 was 48.7%. In 2020, it was 48.6%.

World:

- Worldwide, Islam is the second-largest religion with about 1.8 billion people, compared with Christianity's 2.42 billion. Judaism has about 16.2 million followers.
- Based on population estimates prepared by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, there were about 14.3 million Palestinians in the world in 2022.
- About 5.35 million of them lived in the Palestinian territories (Gaza and the West Bank), split almost 50-50 between males and females.
- According to the Institute for Middle East Understanding, about 93% of Palestinians are Sunni Muslims and about 6% are Christian.
- Less than 20% of Muslims are Arabs, but 85% of Arabs are Muslims.

Religion Notes

Latin Divos open season for First Presbyterian

First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach opens its concert season at 4 p.m. Jan. 14 with a performance by the Latin Divos. The energetic pop/opera trio performs a mix of romantic serenades, Latin classics, and opera standards.

The divos are Fernando Gonzalez (a featured vocalist at First Presbyterian), Ernesto Cabrera and Will Corujo.

Tickets are \$20. Sponsors are needed. First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach is at 33 Gleason St. 561-276-6338 or <https://firstdelray.com/2024-concert-series>.

Women's study group meets at Grace church

The "God of Creation Women's Group" begins meeting 9:15-11 a.m. Jan. 10 in the El Rio Room at Grace Community Church, 600 W. Camino Real, Boca Raton.

This study group runs Wednesdays through March 13 and is for women aged 18 and older who seek the deeper meanings in Scripture. The group follows the teachings in the book *God of Creation* by Jen Wilkins, who said, "As God reveals Himself, we will begin to understand ourselves when we first glimpse the character, attributes, and promises of our Creator."

For more information or to register: 561-395-2811 or www.graceboca.org.

Temple Beth El offers virtual talks on coping

Temple Beth El's ongoing response to the terrorist acts in Israel includes partnering with Ruth & Norman Rales Jewish Family Services and Boca Raton community clergy to offer virtual coping programs facilitated by

Danielle Greenblatt and a clergy member. "In creating a space for us to share what we are going through, we also create community, hope and healing," she said.

Programs start at 7:30 p.m. and include:

- "Coping with the crisis in Israel: How do we cope with watching antisemitism rise around us?" with Rabbi Josh Broide on Jan. 10.

- "How do we combat feeling powerless to help?" with Rabbi David Baum on Jan. 25.

- "How do we cope with the anxiety of feeling unsafe?" with Rabbi Elana Rabishaw on Feb. 8.

- "How do we talk to kids about Israel and current events?" with Rabbi Amy Grossblatt Pessah on Feb. 21. <https://tbeboca.org>

Boca pastor opens series of business luncheons

CityLead Boca, a monthly business lunch that explores how Biblical principles apply in the workplace, will be noon-1 p.m. Jan. 11 at Boca Raton Community Church, 470 NW Fourth Ave.

The speaker is Bill Mitchell, a successful businessman with a 25-year career who is now senior pastor at the church.

This event is designed for professionals who want to grow in their leadership, team building, clarity, focus and trust in line with Biblical principles. "The goal is to raise the bar of ethics and character to make South Florida the best place to work, live and play," he said.

The luncheons are sold out through the season, according to the CityLead website.



Latin Divos (l-r) Ernesto Cabrera, Will Corujo, Fernando Gonzalez.

Rabbi to give concert at Schaefer Family Campus

Spiritual leader and songwriter Rabbi Josh Warshawsky will perform at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 26 at Temple Beth El's Schaefer Family Campus. Warshawsky uses



Warshawsky

music to breathe understanding into the familiar words of Judaism, clarifying the mysteries inherent in religious texts. The singer, guitar player, composer and educator brings acclaimed violinist Coleen Dieker with him and joins the clergy team in chanting the *Song of the Sea*.

The Schaefer campus is at 333 SW Fourth Ave., Boca Raton. Available to livestream. 561-391-8900 or <https://tbeboca.org>

Bishop Barbarito to offer rosary for the unborn

The Most Rev. Gerald M. Barbarito, the fifth Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Palm Beach, leads a prayer for the sanctity of life and ending of

abortion, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Jan. 19 at the Historic Courthouse, 300 N. Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach. The event includes praying the rosary for the unborn.

Sponsored by Respect Life Ministry, the event is not affiliated with Palm Beach County government.

For more information, call 561-360-3330 or email dherbst@ccdpb.org

Parish Festival returns to St. Vincent Ferrer

St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church brings back its beloved Parish Festival, Feb. 9-11 at the church at 840 George Bush Blvd., Delray Beach. Music by groups including the JD Danner and Joey Calderaio bands takes place on the main stage. Rides, games, prizes, food and drink will be offered.

Hours are 5-11 p.m. Friday, 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Saturday and noon-5 p.m. Sunday. Get tickets in advance at <https://stvincentferrer.com/parish-festival/purchase-tickets/>

St. Paul Lutheran to host 'Night to Shine' prom

The annual Tim Tebow project, Night to Shine, a

free celebration for people with special needs hosted by churches worldwide, is 6-9 p.m. Feb. 9 at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 701 W. Palmetto Park Road, Boca Raton.

The event is open to anyone living with disabilities, aged 14 and older, and features a catered dinner, dancing, karaoke, gifts, and a crowning ceremony where every honored guest will receive a crown or tiara.

This prom-like event celebrates people who never got to go to prom. Register at <https://nighttoshineboca.com>.

Catholic Church clarifies 'same-sex blessings'

In a letter sent to two conservative cardinals published in October, Pope Francis suggested that blessing the union of a same-sex couple is acceptable as long as the blessings weren't "confused with the ritual of marriage," according to an Associated Press report.

The new document reaffirms that marriage is a lifelong union between a man and a woman, but that offering a blessing to a same-sex couple is okay. Blessings are restricted — they can't be part of a religious service or incorporate any marriage language, rituals, clothing, gestures or symbols of a holy union. And blessings cannot take place at the same time as a civil ceremony.

But requests for blessings should not be denied, the document said, and that "people seeking a transcendent relationship with God and looking for his love and mercy shouldn't be held up to an impossible moral standard to receive it."

Find the report at:

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/pope-approves-blessings-for-same-sex-couples-if-they-don-t-resemble-marriage/ar-AA1lGh6t>

— Janis Fontaine

Religion Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 12/26. Please check with organizers for any changes.

JANUARY 6

Saturday - 1/6 - C-Kids Shabbat Program at Boca Beach Chabad, 120 NE 1st Ave. Every Sat 10:45-11:45 am. 561-394-9770; bocabeachchabad.org

JANUARY 7-13

Sunday - 1/7 - 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

Monday - 1/8 - 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

Tuesday - 1/9 - Tuesday Morning Prayer Service at Unity of Delray Beach Church, 101 NW 22nd St. 10 am. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

1/9 - School of Christian Formation: The New Testament at St. Vincent Ferrer Kellaghan Hall, 840 George Bush Blvd, Delray Beach. Every T through 2/13 7-9 pm. \$10/tuition; \$15/book. Registration: 561-76-6892 x1305; stvincentferrer.com

Wednesday - 1/10 - 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

1/10 - 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 - 1/11 - Thursday Morning Telephone Prosperity Coffee presented by Unity of Delray Beach Church, 101 NW 22nd St. Led by Charlene Wilkinson. Phone meeting (720-740-9634, passcode 2152894). Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

1/11 - 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

1/11 - 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

Friday - 1/12 - Bible Study w/Dave Kirk at Advent Church Boca Raton, 300 E Yamato Rd. Every F 10-11:30 am. 561-395-3632; adventboca.org

1/12 - 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

1/12 - 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

JANUARY 14-20

Friday - 1/19-20 - Scholar In Residence Shabbaton-Weekend w/Rabbi Simon Jacobson at Boca Beach Chabad, 120 NE 1st Ave, Boca Raton. F 5:35 pm candle lighting, 5:40 pm services, 6:30 pm dinner, 7:30 pm lecture; Sat 9:30 am services, noon Kiddush & lunch, 1pm lecture. One day \$65/adult, \$30/child; Both days \$120/adult, \$40/child. 561-394-9770; chabadbocabeaches.com

JAN. 28-FEB. 3

Thursday - 2/1 - 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 - 2/2 - 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

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Ascension was fortunate to have the First Lady of the Organ Diane Bish, the consummate church Musician, who has performed on organs

around the world, fill our own sanctuary in concert, playing the king of instruments, the Schantz pipe organ. The majestic and beautiful Altar, a 7 1/2 foot of solid coral rock, brought up from Florida City, has remained over 40 years, the centerpiece of our beautiful sanctuary.

We look forward to sharing the Lenten and Easter season with everyone beginning on February 14th, Ash Wednesday. A weekly Lenten series entitled "Living a life of Repentance" will be held each Tuesday at 11:00 A.M followed by homemade soup.

May the New Year bring love, joy and blessing to all.

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Health & Harmony

A dry January can improve health, offer insight on alcohol use

Dry January is an import from the United Kingdom. It began in 2012 as a public health initiative from Alcohol Change UK, a British charity. Over the past decade, the idea has caught on and now millions take part in this yearly health challenge on both sides of the Atlantic, including here in southeastern Palm Beach County.

Overconsumption of alcohol can lead to heart and liver damage, a higher cancer risk, a weakened immune system and memory and mood issues, not to mention its impact on the brain. The World Health Organization estimates that worldwide, 3 million deaths every year result from harmful use of alcohol.

According to Harvard Health, regular drinkers who abstained from alcohol

for 30 days slept better, had more energy and lost weight. Additionally, they lowered their blood pressure and cholesterol levels and reduced cancer-related proteins in their blood.

“We know alcohol is a neurotoxin which can affect every organ in your body,” says Adam Scioli, an addiction psychiatrist and head of psychiatry at Caron Treatment Centers. Caron treats families and individuals with substance abuse disorders and has a center in Delray Beach.

“Cessation of alcohol, reduction or stopping completely will all have health benefits,” he says. “If nothing else, it provides an opportunity

to examine your relationship with alcohol and to see how small or large a role it plays in your life. If you can leave it, leave it. If you can’t, that’s worth further exploration.”

Ryan, 39, a divorced father of two, manages a halfway house in Delray Beach. At 17 he was pulled over by law enforcement for drinking and driving, an experience that started him on a road to becoming substance-free and self-aware, and to helping others overcome their substance abuse.

He spent almost five months in 2020 at the Caron Center in Pennsylvania and learned to navigate and attenuate his feelings better.

“Alcohol was a coping mechanism,” he says. “It helped me suppress strong negative emotions.”

Ryan, who asked that his last name not be used, says he displayed destructive behavior as a teen, compounded by substance abuse, but is now 16 years sober. He encourages his clients to try a dry January.

“Life can be lived without a drink,” he says.

Time freed up by not drinking can open a window to other possibilities, he says. “It’s scary to change, but so rewarding.”

He says it’s important to realize that you don’t have to go it alone: “There is a community out there to support you.”

Tips to accomplishing a dry January include finding a substitute non-alcoholic drink, avoiding temptations and situations where people are drinking, creating a support group, using the Try Dry app, and being persistent.

It’s also time to reflect on your relationship with alcohol and to consider what happens on Feb. 1. Don’t let the pendulum swing the other way, experts say. Make sustainable changes and reduce



Nurse practitioner Carissa Raver suggests taking a holistic approach during January, by abstaining from alcohol and indulging in healthier behaviors. **Photo provided**

consumption all around.

Scioli cautions about replacing alcohol with other substances such as cannabis.

Carissa Raver, 28, a family nurse practitioner in functional medicine at Pur-Form Health, a regenerative and anti-aging wellness facility in Boca Raton, takes a holistic approach to a dry January.

“We look at what creates imbalance in the body and try to remedy it,” she says.

“Dry January can help an individual improve their sleep, increase energy levels, help emotional well-being and increase immune function,” Raver says.

“In January, give your body a reprieve,” she says. “In February, come to the table

with a fresh perspective on your relationship to alcohol.”

For both Ryan and Raver, January resolutions include more self-care, spending more time exercising, meditating and being outdoors in nature.

Scioli, who does not drink alcohol, resolves to be more kind, empathic and loving in 2024, spending more time with family. He planned to be home and fast asleep on New Year’s Eve long before the ball dropped in Times Square.

Visit caron.org and purformhealth.com for more information.

Jan Engoren writes about health and healthy living. Send column ideas to jengoren@hotmail.com.



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Health Notes



Sarilia Therildor, holding flowers, is celebrated as a Tenet Hero at Delray Medical Center. Photo provided

Hanley adds to capacity with new acquisition

Hanley Foundation has acquired Origins Behavioral HealthCare, an agreement that reunites the foundation with Hanley Center, an Origins facility in West Palm Beach, and returns the center to nonprofit status.

Origins also has centers in Texas and the deal means Hanley Foundation can provide substance addiction and mental health treatment to more than 1,000 patients annually with a staff that tripled in size to more than 300.

The West Palm Beach site offers age- and gender-specific treatment, with more than 100 beds and an eight-bed residential program for mental health treatment.

Substance use disorders treated include addiction to alcohol, cocaine, opioids and heroin, benzodiazepine, methamphetamine and marijuana. Mental health issues treated include disorders of mood and anxiety, post-traumatic stress, obsessive compulsion and personality.

Nurse honored for service to Delray Beach, country
Delray Medical Center,

part of Tenet Healthcare, announced that nurse **Sarilia Therildor** was honored as a Tenet Hero. She is also a major in the Air Force Reserve.

"Sarilia has a huge role at Delray Medical Center and has elevated our emergency department," said CEO Daniel Listi. "With an even bigger role serving her country ... she exemplifies the qualities that define our health care heroes."

Therildor started at Delray Medical Center as a new graduate on the neuro telemetry unit in 2008 and transferred to the emergency department in 2011. In 2022, she was promoted to clinical manager in ER.

After completing her nurse-practitioner license in family practice, Therildor was promoted to major in the Air Force Reserve. In April 2020, she went to New Jersey to join more than 100 medical professionals sent from Air Force Reserve Command to work with state and local authorities in the region to combat COVID-19.

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

Health Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 12/26. Please check with organizers for any changes.

JANUARY 6

Saturday - 1/6 - Yoga Class at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. Every Sat 9 am. \$5/class. 561-588-8889; southpalmbeach.com

1/6 - AA Meeting at Unity of Delray Beach Fellowship Hall, 101 NW 22nd St. Every Sat 5:30 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

JANUARY 7-13

Sunday - 1/7 - Coco Connections Market at Old School Square, 51 N Swinton Ave, 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. Held again 2/4 9 am-3 pm. Free. 561-870-4090; thecocoyogi.com/market

1/7 - CODA (Codependents Anonymous) Meeting at Unity of Delray Beach Fellowship Hall, 101 NW 22nd St. Every Sun 6 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

Tuesday - 1/9 - Al-Anon 12-Step Study at Unity of Delray Beach Fellowship Hall, 101 NW 22nd St. Every T 7 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

Wednesday - 1/10 - Tai Chi Class at South Palm Beach Town Hall Chambers, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. Every W 9 am. \$5/class. 561-588-8889; southpalmbeach.com

1/10 - Stretch & Strengthening Mindfulness Class at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. Every W/F 10:30 am. \$5/class. 561-588-8889; southpalmbeach.com

1/10 - LGBTQ AA Meeting at Unity of Delray Beach Prayer Hall, 101 NW 22nd St. Every W 7 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

Thursday - 1/11 - Nutrition as We Age w/Ariana Dias, RD at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Part of New Year, Healthy You series presented by Baptist Health South Florida. Adults. 1 pm. Free. Registration required: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/11 - Healthy Living for Your Brain and Body: Tips from the Latest Research Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Part of Thursday Night Speaker Series. Adults. 6 pm. Free. 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

JANUARY 14-20

Thursday - 1/18 - Maintaining an Active Lifestyle with Arthritis w/Alex Mafдали, MD at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Part of New Year, Healthy You series presented by Baptist Health South Florida. Adults. 1 pm. Free. Registration required: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

JANUARY 21-27

Monday - 1/22 - Brown Bag Lecture Series: Got Guts? Gut Health at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Noon. Free. Registration required: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/22 - The History of Medicine: Why Doctors Do What They Do in the 21st Century w/Raphael Bloch at Florida Atlantic

University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every M through 2/12 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$60/member; \$80/non-member; \$30/one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

Wednesday - 1/24 - Benefits of Exercise w/Michael Cortese, PT, ATC, OC at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Part of New Year, Healthy You series presented by Baptist Health South Florida. Adults. 2 pm. Free. Registration required: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

Saturday - 1/27 - CPR/AED/1st Aid Certification Class at Sims Center, 225 NW 12th Ave, Boynton Beach. Age 18+. 1-5 pm. \$60/resident; \$75/non-resident. Registration: 561-742-6640; boynton-beach.org

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- Dr. K.D.

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Tots & Teens

Delray school's natural setting designed to enhance learning

By Faran Fagen

Cocoplum Nature School students love to play pretend restaurant, make up theater productions and imagine themselves as magical creatures in enchanted forests.

"It really is remarkable how much progress the children make, academically and as a whole person, in a play-inspired and nature-based environment," said Melanie Stefanovic, executive director of the Delray Beach school.

Cocoplum's philosophy, according to the school website: Everything taught in traditional schools with textbooks and rote practice can be learned by children outdoors with natural materials through play, exploration and inquiry.

The three pillars of the curriculum are nature, place and play. The school, which serves kindergarten through the third grade, strives to make learning individualized, largely self-directed, experiential and social.

Founded in 2020, Cocoplum fosters critical thinking and creativity, not conformity, and cultivates collaboration and communication, not competition.

"The most incredible testimonies come from our students' caregivers and parents," said Stefanovic, whose own daughter is in her third year at Cocoplum. "They tell us that their children can't wait to



Cocoplum facts

What: Grades K-3 at 342 N. Swinton Ave. in Cason UMC space, Delray Beach
Tuition: Listed at \$15,900; accepts Florida's Step Up for Students scholarships
Contact: 561-563-4679; info@cocoplumnatureschool.org

come to school each day. Many parents report that their child's peacefulness and joy has rippled through their family."

Stefanovic, who lives in Delray Beach with her husband, two young children and an old dog, co-founded the school with Fernanda Wolfson.

They met at the Delray Beach Children's Garden when their

oldest children were barely walking. Together, they dreamed up a nature school where their students could learn to read and write under the shade of a tree and learn math and science while playing in the garden.

"I was working on my PhD at the time — focused on a totally different topic — but all of my leisure reading and research for the next few years was about nature-based learning, forest schools, unschooling and play-based learning," Stefanovic said.

The biggest challenge in starting Cocoplum was finding a space. The school was fortunate to be welcomed at Cason United Methodist Church on Swinton Avenue, where the shady space and charming classrooms were idyllic and right in the heart of

Students Niko Zlatkovic and Mas McDaniel work on math problems in the outdoor setting at Cocoplum Nature School in Delray Beach. Photo provided

rather than hone individual strengths and interests," Stefanovic said.

One of the students' favorite outdoor activities is a version of "playing house" in the tree and mud kitchens. They designate different branches of the tree as "rooms" where a few of them will climb and read or pretend to be resting. Below in the mud kitchen, others play at being the parents or the visiting doctor coming to check on the resting children in the branches.

The parents "cook" a healing "soup" made from herbs grown in the garden at school, and the doctor concocts a "potion" from various berries, sand, leaves and sometimes drops of paint or bits of sidewalk chalk.

Other children will join in the play as neighbors, building a new house from the loose blocks and boards in the playscape. They'll engage in a discussion about keeping the construction noise down while the sick children rest.

"We witness the children leading their own learning," Stefanovic said.

"There's a natural drive to learn to read and write because they want to be able to create menus for their play restaurants. They ask to learn how to count money so that they can play bank or buy tickets to their friends' puppet show or sell the watercolor paintings they created." ★

Tots & Teens Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 12/26. Please check with organizers for any changes.

JANUARY 6

Saturday – 1/6 - Gymnastics Class at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 5-11. Every Sat through 2/24 9:30-11:15 am. \$90/resident; \$113/non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

1/6 - 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

1/6 - Drop-In Family Storytime at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Up to age 5. Every Sat 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

1/6 - Tutus & Tiaras Class at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 5-9. Every Sat through 2/24 10:30-11:15 am. \$120/resident; \$150/non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

1/6 - Preschool Ballers Tennis Program at Catherine Strong Splash Park, 1500 SW 6th St, Delray Beach. Age 3-5 years. Every Sat through 1/27 11-11:45 am. \$40. 561-243-7194; delraybeachfl.gov

1/6 - Hip Hop Dance Class at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 6-12. Every Sat through 2/24 11:20 am-12:05 pm. \$90/resident; \$150/non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

1/6 - Drama & Musical Theater Class at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 6-12. Every Sat through 2/24 12:10-12:55 pm. \$120/resident; \$150/non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

1/6 - 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

1/6 - Shark and Stingray Feedings at Sandaway Discovery Center at 142 S Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. All ages. Daily shark & stingray feedings 1 pm; daily aquarium feedings 2 pm; animal encounters 3 pm. T-Sat. Free w/\$10/

admission. 561-274-7263; sandaway.org

JANUARY 7-13

Sunday – 1/7 - Young Scientists: Spaghetti Skyscraper Challenge! at Sandaway Discovery Center, 142 S Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. Materials provided to build the tallest tower capable of supporting a marshmallow. Outdoors, limited to 15 children. Age 3-9. 1:30 pm. \$10/non-member; free/member. RSVP: 561-274-7263; sandaway.org

Monday – 1/8 - Kindergarten Readiness Story Time w/Ms. Tea at Catherine Strong Splash Park, 1500 SW 6th St, Delray Beach. Age 3-5. 10 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/8 - Story Chasers Book Club at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 6-8. 3:30-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/8 - 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. Held again 1/22 & 29. 4-5 pm. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/8 - M&S Performing Arts: Acting & Drama Class at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Every M through 2/12. Age 6-10 4:30-5:30 pm; age 11-17 5:30-6:30 pm. \$63/resident; \$79/non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

1/8 - M&S Performing Arts: Ballet & Lyrical Dance Class at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Every M through 2/12. Age 6-10 4:30-5:30 pm; age 11-17 5:30-6:30 pm. \$75/resident; \$94/non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

1/8 - DIY New Year's Gnome at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 13-17. 5-7 pm. Free. 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org

Tuesday – 1/9 - Ingenious Black Inventors Skit at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 9-12. Rehearsals 4-5:15 pm 1/9, 16, 23, 30, 2/6 & 13; 3:30-5 pm 2/15. Performance at Arts Garage 2:30-5 pm 2/18. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/9 - M&S Performing Arts: Musical

Theatre Combo Class at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Every T through 2/13. Age 7-10 4:30-5:30 pm; age 11-17 5:30-6:30 pm. \$75/resident; \$94/non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

1/9 - M&S Performing Arts: Jazz & Hip Hop Dance Class at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Every T through 2/13. Age 7-10 4:30-5:30 pm; age 11-17 5:30-6:30 pm. \$75/resident; \$94/non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

1/9 - Improv Class at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 8-14. Every T through 3/12 5-6 pm. \$200/10 weeks. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

1/9 - Teen Book Club: These Violent Delights by Chloe Gong at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. Held again 1/23. 5-6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/9 - Teen Tuesday at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 13-17. Every T 5-7 pm. Free. 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org

1/9 - Karate Class at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 6-17. Every T/Th through 2/15 5:30-6:25 pm. \$85/resident; \$106/non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

1/9-10 - 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. Free w/paid admission. 561-742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org

Wednesday – 1/10 - Bilingual Outdoor Storytime at Boynton Beach City Library under the Banyan tree, 100 E Ocean Ave. Stories, rhymes, more. Held again 1/24. 10-10:30 am. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/10 - Library on the Go! Sensory Play, HOORAY! at Catherine Strong Splash Park, 1500 SW 6th St, Delray Beach. Each month librarian Ms. Tea drives the Library on the Go golf cart to different Delray location for engaging pop-up library program & children's books to peruse/enjoy. Age 1-3. 10-10:45 am. Free. Sign-in sheet provided on site. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/10 - M&S Performing Arts: Visual Arts

Class at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Every W through 2/14. Age 6-10 4:30-5:30 pm; age 11-17 5:30-6:30 pm. \$75/resident; \$94/non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

1/10 - M&S Performing Arts: Acrobatics & Gymnastics Dance Class at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Every W through 2/14. Age 6-10 4:30-5:30 pm; age 11-17 5:30-6:30 pm. \$75/resident; \$94/non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

1/10 - InterActions: Intermediate Scene Study Class at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 13-17. Every W through 3/13 5:30-6:45 pm. \$250/10 weeks. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

1/10 - Acting for the Camera Class at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 13-17. Every W through 3/13 5:45-7 pm. \$225/10 weeks. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

1/10 - Ms. Lovely's Playdate at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Interactive play. Age 3-5. 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

Thursday – 1/11 - Special Guest Storytime w/Ocean Rescue Lifeguard at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Up to age 8. 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

1/11 - Make & Take at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 5-12. 4:30-5:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/11 - M&S Performing Arts: Vocal Harmony Class at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Every Th through 2/15. Age 6-10 4:30-5:30 pm; age 11-17 5:30-6:30 pm. \$75/resident; \$94/non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

1/11 - M&S Performing Arts: Ballet & Lyrical Dance Class at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Every Th through 2/15. Age 6-10 4:30-5:30 pm; age 11-17 5:30-6:30 pm. \$75/resident; \$94/non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

1/11 - Musical Theatre Class at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 8-14. Every Th through 3/14 5-6:30 pm. \$250/10 weeks. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

1/11 - Gymnastics Class at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age

5-11. Every Th through 2/29 5:30-6:30 pm. \$120/resident; \$150/non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

1/11 - Cheers & Cartwheels Class at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 6-10. Every Th through 2/29 6:30-7:30 pm. \$120/resident; \$150/non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

Friday – 1/12 - M&S Performing Arts: Violin Virtuosos Class at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Every F through 2/16. Age 6-10 4:30-5:30 pm; age 11-17 5:30-6:30 pm. \$75/resident; \$94/non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

Saturday – 1/13 - Basketball Training by CBA Prep at Hester Center, 1901 N Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Age 5-14. Every Sat through 2/17 9-10 am. \$70/resident; \$88/non-resident. 561-742-6550; boynton-beach.org

1/13 - Little Wonders at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Hike, crafts, stories. Age 3-4 w/an adult. 10-11 am. \$8/resident & member; \$10/non-member. Reservations: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

1/13 - Nature Detectives at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. New mystery each month. Age 5-6 w/an adult. 11:30 am. \$8/resident & member; \$10/non-member. Reservations required: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

1/13 - Got Gaming Club at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. Held again 1/27. 3-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/13-14 - Creation Station at Boca Raton Museum of Art Wolgin Education Center, 501 Plaza Real. Limited seating. Noon-4 pm. Free w/ admission. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

JANUARY 14-20

Tuesday – 1/16 - Toddler Tales at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Literacy enrichment class: stories, music, movement. Age walking to 23 mos. Every T through 2/6 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

1/16 - Play & Learn for Toddlers at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Learn literacy skills during playtime. Age walking to 23 mos. Every T through 2/6 10:30-11 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

Paws Up for Pets

Advice on mysterious illness: Don't panic but take dogs to vet

When the coronavirus first surfaced, medical experts admitted that they had more questions than answers. It took time to diagnose and to develop vaccines.

Now, a rise in respiratory illnesses is occurring in dogs in Palm Beach County and in some other parts of the country. Is it simply due to the most common canine respiratory condition, known as kennel cough, or is it due to the emergence of a new mysterious illness or a lethal canine pneumonia strain?

Experts scramble for answers.

Veterinarians at small-animal practices are reporting more dogs are sicker than normal with respiratory illnesses and some have developed pneumonia. Media reports across the country refer to cases as a canine respiratory mystery illness.

Is it time to worry about and isolate your dog? Should you cancel visits to your favorite dog park or a doggy day care center or boarding facility? Should you hold off on scheduling an appointment for your dog to be groomed?

For answers, I reached out to Dr. Cynda Crawford, DVM, clinical associate professor who chairs the Shelter Medicine Department at the University of Florida in Gainesville. She is the go-to expert on diseases impacting animal shelters throughout the state.



Local shelters are taking COVID-like precautions over a rise in respiratory illnesses in dogs. Photo provided

"We are trying to get a handle on it," says Crawford. "A positive outcome of the veterinarians reporting and the media picking up on these reports is that many veterinary diagnostic labs have reached out to veterinarians to help with sample collection and testing."

Her message: Be cautious but do not panic. Make sure your dog receives needed vaccinations and boosters. Continue letting your dog mingle with regular members of a dog-walking pack. Do your best to avoid your dog's coming nose to nose with an unfamiliar dog, especially one who may have a cough or runny nose.

"At this time of year, we expect cases of kennel cough, the most common respiratory disease in dogs," she says. "It is the dog equivalent of the common cold in people. Most dogs recover, like people do

with colds. Please discuss your concerns with your veterinarian because 'Dr. Google' may lead dog owners astray with misinformation and cause undue panic."

Crawford is working directly with officials at shelters and rescue groups in Palm Beach County, including Palm Beach County Animal Care and Control in West Palm Beach, Tri-County Animal Rescue in west Boca Raton and the Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League in West Palm Beach.

Last month, three healthy-appearing dogs housed at the ACC facility died within hours of catching a fast-acting respiratory illness dubbed "strep zoo" (short for *Streptococcus equi zooepidemicus*). These dogs, named Marcus, Africa and Mimi, were aged 2, 3 and 8.

"Strep zoo is a rapid-onset pneumonia," says Crawford. "Dogs with this die within a matter of hours. They die from bleeding in the lungs, from suffocation."

As a precaution, ACC and Tri-County announced that they would temporarily not accept any new dogs to their facilities for about a week in mid-December.

"We are following the protocols that the veterinarians at the University of Florida set up," says Suzi Goldsmith, executive director at Tri-County. "We never experienced this serious bacterial infection that strikes quickly, and we are taking this very seriously to

protect the dogs now housed at our facility."

She adds that staff are wearing protective facial masks and shoe booties. In addition, the public is not permitted inside the center.

"We don't want to take the chance of this reaching the dogs here," she says. "I have moms pregnant and older dogs. Our protective protocol is now as strong as it was when we were all dealing with COVID."

Peggy Adams did not accept any dogs from ACC as a precaution (for a week ending Dec. 18), confirmed Alyssa Comroe, DVM, director of veterinary medicine.

"We have not had any suspected cases of strep zoo in our population," says Comroe. "All dogs that begin showing any signs of respiratory illness are immediately moved to isolation, examined by a veterinarian, tested to determine what respiratory pathogen they are infected with, and started on treatment when necessary."

She adds, "We are not overly concerned about pets coming from the community that have not been in these environments (overcrowded shelters). Part of our intake process is to triage and examine each pet that arrives at our shelter. If we see dogs with any respiratory symptoms, they receive a full veterinary exam and are immediately moved to isolation."

Crawford urges pet parents to contact their veterinarians

if their dogs stop eating, begin coughing, have trouble breathing and act lethargic. The sooner, the better.

"The intense media reporting has stirred up fear and panic in dog owners and some may feel paralyzed as to what to do with their dogs," says Crawford. "Don't panic. Please realize that the vast majority of dogs with a respiratory infection recover fairly quickly without any complications. The proportion that develop pneumonia is very small. And those that contract pneumonia and die is even smaller."

For updates on this issue, visit <https://sheltermedicine.vetmed.ufl.edu/news>; or the American Veterinary Medical Association's link on canine respiratory illnesses at www.avma.org/news/making-sense-mystery-illness-found-across-us.

Details on kennel cough are available at www.avma.org/resources-tools/pet-owners/petcare/canine-infectious-respiratory-disease-complex-kennel-cough.

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*. Learn more by visiting www.ardenmoore.com.



1/16 - Teen Book Talks: Peak by Roland Smith at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 13-17. 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

Wednesday - 1/17 - Outdoor Storytime at Boynton Beach City Library under the Banyan tree, 100 E Ocean Ave. Stories, rhymes, more. Held again 1/31. 10-10:30 am. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/17 - Oh Baby Story Time at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Pre-literacy class: music, stories, rhymes, lap bounces. Age 3 months-2.5 years. 10 am. Free. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/17 - Reading & Rhythm for 2-3s at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Literacy enrichment class: stories, music, movement. Child must be accompanied by an adult. Every W through 2/7 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

1/17 - Play & Learn for 2-3s at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Help your child learn literacy skills during playtime w/literacy-based toys. Every W through 2/7 10:30-11 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

1/17 - 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. Held again 10:30-11:30 am 1/20. 3:30-4:30 pm. \$15/member family; \$25/non-member family. Registration: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

1/17 - Farmer Jay's Junior Sprouts Class 1: Seeds at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 6-8. 3:30-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

1/17 - Young @ Art: Square Off The Square at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Create fun arts/crafts, learn principles of art. Age 6-9. 3:30 pm. Free. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/17 - Pop-Up Pages at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 0-5. Held again 1/31. 6:30-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

1/17 - Play & Learn for Pop-Up Pages at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave.

Age 3-5. Held again 1/31. 7-7:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

Thursday - 1/18 - Winnie the Pooh Day at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 2-8. 9 am-noon. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

1/18 - Adventures in Reading at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Literacy enrichment through books w/related activities. Child attends independently. Age 4-6. Every Th through 2/8 3:30-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-544-8584; bocalibrary.org

1/18 - Library Picassos at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 6-9. 3:30-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/18 - 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

Friday - 1/19 - Baby Bookworm at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Storytime for infants accompanied by an adult. Age 0 months to non-walking. Every F through 2/9 11-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7852; bocalibrary.org

1/19 - Play & Learn for Babies at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Learn literacy skills during playtime. Age 0 months to non-walking. Every F through 5/3 11:30 am-noon. Free. 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

1/19 - Discovery Series: Unique Snowflake Designs at Sandway Discovery Center, 142 S Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. Outdoors, limit 5 families per class. Age 3-5. 2:30 pm. Child \$12/non-member, \$2/member; adult \$10/non-member, free/member. RSVP: 561-274-7264; sandway.org

1/19 & 21 - Auditions for Broadway Kids & Tweens Program: The Addams Family at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Age 7-16. 4:30-6:30 pm. Registration & prior show experience required to audition: 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

Saturday - 1/20 - Art Tales Story Time at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Encourages knowledge of art & individualism w/read alouds/imaginative art activities. Child age 4-8 w/caregiver. 10:30 to 11:30 am. \$15/

member family; \$25/non-member family.

Registration: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

1/20 - STEM Camp: AR/VR Experience at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 7-12. 10:30-11:45 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/20 - Sun-Sational Safety Saturday at Denson Pool, 225 NW 12th Ave, Boynton Beach. 12:30-4:30 pm. Free. 561-742-6645; boynton-beach.org

JANUARY 21-27

Sunday - 1/21 - Young Scientists: Paper Airplane Engineering at Sandway Discovery Center, 142 S Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. In just 25 minutes, kids select materials, build, test prototypes; refine designs, engage in paper airplane fly-off. Outdoors, limit 15 children. Age 3-9. 1:30 pm. \$10/non-member. RSVP: 561-274-7263; sandway.org

Monday - 1/22 - Sunset Strings Academy: Vocal Class at Sims Center, 225 NW 12th Ave, Boynton Beach. Every M through 4/15. Age 8-12 3-4 pm; age 11-14 4:15-5:15 pm; age 14-18 5:30-6:30 pm. \$300/resident; \$375/non-resident. Registration: 561-742-6640; boynton-beach.org

1/22 - K-Pop Club at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. 5-6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0197; delraylibrary.org

1/22 - Family Fun Night at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. 5-6:30 pm. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

Tuesday - 1/23 - Booktastic Book Talk: Home is Where the Heart Is (Good Dog Series) by Cam Higgins at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Free copy of book upon registration. Child attends independently. Age 7-8. 3:30-4:15 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

1/23 - Readers Are Leaders Book Club at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Free copy of the book to keep. Ages 9-12. 4-5 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

Wednesday - 1/24 - Farmer Jay's Junior Sprouts Class 2: Scouting for Insects at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 6-8. 3:30-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968;

bocalibrary.org

1/24 - Author Meet & Greet: Crissa-Jean Chappell at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. 5-6:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

Thursday - 1/25 - Pop-Up Pages at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 0-5. 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

1/25 - Play & Learn for Pop-Up Pages at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 3-5. 10:30-11 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

1/25 - Sunset Strings Academy: Guitar Class at Sims Center, 225 NW 12th Ave, Boynton Beach. Every W through 4/17. Age 5-8 3-3:45 pm; Age 8-12 4-4:45 pm; Age 12-14: 5-5:45 pm. \$300/resident; \$375/non-resident. Registration: 561-742-6640; boynton-beach.org

1/25 - 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

Friday - 1/26 - Sunset Strings Academy: Violin Class at Sims Center, 225 NW 12th Ave, Boynton Beach. Every F through 4/19. Age 5-8 3-3:45 pm; Age 8-12 4-4:45 pm; Age 12-14 5-5:45 pm. \$300/resident; \$375/non-resident. Registration: 561-742-6640; boynton-beach.org

Saturday - 1/27 - Family Fun Day at Boynton Beach Amphitheater at Centennial Park, 120 E Ocean Ave. Celebration of Arts & Culture, real heroes, fairy tale characters, superheroes. 10 am - 2 pm. Free. 561-742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org

1/27 - ColorSpace: Teen Art Studio at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. 11 am-noon. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

JAN. 28-FEB. 3

Sunday - 1/28 - Chess Moves: Tournament Play at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 6+. 9:30 am-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

1/28 - Rookie Rooks: Introduction to 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 - 1/29 - Babies on Broadway at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Singing, expression, movement. Age 3-6. Every M through 5/20 3:30-4:30 pm. \$15/week. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

1/29 - International LEGO Day at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 4-8. 3:30-5 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

1/29 - Visual Adjectives Graphic Novel Workshop at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 4-week workshop: instruction in art, writing, production. Create your own graphic novels to be bound/published for keeps. Registrants must commit to each of the 3 sessions. All materials provided. Age 8-12. Held again 2/12, 2/26 & 3/11. 4-5:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0197; delraylibrary.org

1/29 - 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 - 1/30 - Petite Players at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Introduces singing, expression, movement. Age 2-4. Every T through 5/21 9:45-10:30 am. \$15/week. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

1/30 - Musical Theatre Kids at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Age 7-12. End of year recital 6 pm 5/23. Every T 4:30-5:30 pm. \$400. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

1/30 - Star Wars Club at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. 5-6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

Wednesday - 1/31 - Farmer Jay's Junior Sprouts Class 3: Plant Anatomy at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 6-8. 3:30-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

Thursday - 2/1 - Community Workers & Helpers 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 - 2/3-4 - The Very Hungry Caterpillar Show at The Studio at Mizner Park, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. \$39.50-\$42.50. 561-203-3742; thestudioatmiznerpark.com

Along the Coast



A king eider takes flight in the ocean off Boynton Beach Oceanfront Park; it's the first king eider recorded in Palm Beach County and only the sixth in Florida. Photo provided by Kenny Miller

A female king eider makes a rare Florida appearance

By Rich Pollack

Marcus Kelly should have been Christmas tree shopping with his wife and family.

Instead, the avid birder put that task on hold, dropped what he was doing so he could rush to the ocean in search of an elusive white wing scoter — a type of duck hardly ever found off the coast of Florida — that another birder thought he might have seen.

If there was a white wing scoter off Oceanfront Park, Kelly never got to see it.

What he did see, however, was even more difficult to find in Florida's coastal waters. The duck he spotted in early December, hanging out in a raft of black scoters bobbing in the waves, was a female king eider.

"It's a 'wow' bird," says Kelly, an attorney whose commitment

to birding has taken him to far-off places across the globe. "I'll probably never see one here again."

How rare was Kelly's discovery of this mostly cold-water duck, whose breeding range is along the edge of the Arctic ice cap and which would be a more common sight in New England and northward this time of year?

Consider this: There were only five previously recorded sightings of a king eider in Florida and none in Palm Beach County. This is the farthest-south reported sighting, local birders say.

"This bird should not be here," says birder Kenny Miller.

Of the previous Florida sightings of the king eider, the most recent was more than a decade ago, Kelly says, and some were as long ago as the 1970s.

"Three of the five reports were from before I was born and I'm 37," he says.

To get to South Florida, the young female king eider had to have traveled quite a ways from where it should be.

"This bird is about 2,000 miles out of its typical winter range," says veteran birder Carl Edwards, a common sight himself along the shoreline with his scope in hand.

While no one knows for certain how the bird got here, Edwards surmises that she had been feeding with other ducks, probably black and surf scoters, and took off with them when they launched their migration.

"In many species, when they're out of range, it's often an immature bird," Edwards says.

That may also explain why two long-tailed ducks that usually spend their winters in the northeast, from Virginia to parts of Canada, are here. Those ducks, both juveniles, are a rare sighting as well, but a long-tailed duck was seen in the area last year.

What brings the eider, the long-tailed ducks and scores of black scoters as well as surf scoters to the area off Ocean Ridge is likely a good food supply. These ducks all eat mollusks and crustaceans while in our area.

King eiders can dive as deep as 180 feet in search of food, while black scoters usually dive about 30 feet.

At one point, Edwards estimates, there were more than 500 scoters forming several rafts off the park. It is unusual for scoters in such numbers to stay as long as these birds have.

The king eider also attracted birders from as far away as Georgia, and perhaps farther, who had never seen the bird. Edwards estimates more than 100 birders came to catch a glimpse. "It's a very rare bird, most people don't usually get to see," he says. ★

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On the Water

Looking for edge: How tournament anglers reel in most sailfish

The cold fronts that sweep through South Florida in January have offshore anglers looking forward to celebrating the New Year by catching sailfish.

Cooler temperatures and blustery winds send the acrobatic billfish swimming south along the Atlantic Coast this time of year. On a good day, it's not unusual for boats to catch and release 10 or more of the state of Florida's official saltwater fish. Tournament teams have released dozens of sailfish on a January day.

There have been some incredible catches in the West Palm Beach Fishing Club's Silver Sailfish Derby, which is Thursday and Friday, Jan. 11-12. In the record-setting 2012 tournament, which was a three-day event, the 46-boat fleet caught and released a total of 1,174 sailfish, an average of more than 25 fish per boat. The top boat finished with 58 releases, including a record 36 sailfish on the first day, when the derby set a one-day record of 659 releases.

The boat Priceless won last year's derby with a two-day total of 16 sailfish releases, and the fleet caught a total of 223 sailfish.

Although sailfish can be caught by drifting with live sardines or trolling dead ballyhoo, serious sailfish anglers usually fly two fishing kites, each with a variety of baits.

As they head offshore, local captains consider a number of factors to determine where to



LEFT: Capt. Mark Lamb runs his fishing boat while a guest fights a sailfish. TOP RIGHT: A sailfish puts up a fight as it is reeled in. BOTTOM RIGHT: Sailfish bait is hooked. Photos by Steve Waters/The Coastal Star and provided



"Every single time a line goes in the water, it's perfect," said Hunt, who has won billfish tournaments from Florida to the Bahamas to North Carolina. "The hooks, the knots. You've got to spend that extra time because that extra time is going to catch you more fish."

Dudas, who has won countless sailfish tournaments from Palm Beach to the Florida Keys, and whose favorite sailfish bait is a herring, bridges all his kite baits with a rubber band to a 5/0 or 6/0 circle hook. Like Hunt and Lamb, when one of his anglers gets a bite, he has his crew keep the other baits in the water in case more sailfish are around.

"Sit tight, back off the drag and let him swim off," Hunt said of the first sailfish you hook. "The longer you sit, the better chance you have of getting another bite."

Lamb has the angler with the first fish move to the bow while he positions the boat so the baits remain in the strike zone.

"If you can get one on and leave the rest of the baits working, the odds of catching a double or triple are probably 80%," Lamb said.

The Silver Sailfish Derby is sold out. Call 561-832-6780 or visit westpalmbeachfishingclub.org/tournaments/silver-sailfish-derby for more info.



Outdoors writer Steve Waters can be reached at steve33324@aol.com.

start fishing — everything from water color and clarity to the presence of baitfish and birds.

Capt. Mark Lamb of West Palm Beach likes to kite-fish along a color change, which is where the water goes from green to deep blue.

"I'm going to run out to 100, 120 feet of water and start looking for an edge," Lamb said. "I'm going to look for a temperature change and bait, like flying fish. I'm going to set up on that edge where the bait is. Put the boat out in the blue water and put your baits out on that edge."

Top sailfish live baits include goggle-eyes, threadfin herring, pilchards and sardines. The fishing kites are flown behind

the boat, and two or three fishing lines are clipped to each kite line to get the baits away from the boat.

On those January days when sailfish are plentiful and biting, it's not unusual to be fighting three or four fish at a time.

Lamb's crew constantly adjusts the fishing lines as the kites move up and down with the wind, to keep the baits splashing on the surface. That splashing attracts sailfish as well as kingfish, dolphin, wahoo and tuna.

If the sailfish don't bite at first, Lamb said, stay put and keep fishing, because they eventually will show up to eat.

"When you have a nice edge and there's some bait around,

don't move," Lamb said.

"Sometimes you've got to be patient and keep fishing rather than run around. In a sailfish tournament, two or three or four fish can change everything in minutes. You're never out of it in a sailfish tournament."

The standard tackle for sailfish is a 20-pound conventional outfit with a 15-foot, 30-pound fluorocarbon leader tied to a size 5/0 to 7/0 circle hook.

Successful tournament captains such as Casey Hunt and John Dudas prepare their sailfish leaders and hooks well before they leave the dock to go fishing, and they make sure all of their tackle is in tip-top condition.

Outdoors Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 12/26. Please check with organizers for any changes.

JANUARY 6

Saturday - 1/6 - Sand Sifters Beach Clean Up at Oceanfront Park, 6415 N Ocean Blvd, Ocean Ridge. Meet at south pavilion, lower parking lot. Bring water, hat, sunscreen. Bags, gloves, grabbers provided. 8-10:30 am. Free. jefflev02@gmail.com

1/6 - Intracoastal Adventures: Intro to Canoeing at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Includes short talk about South Florida's unique animals/ecosystems. Age 12-adult; child under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. 10-11:30 am. \$20/member; \$25/non-member.

Advance reservation required: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

1/6 - 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

JANUARY 7-13

Sunday - 1/7 - Intracoastal Adventures: Kayaking at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Includes short talk about South Florida's unique animals/ecosystems. Age 7-adult; each child under 12 must be accompanied by one adult. Held again 1/20 & 2/3. 9-10:30 am. \$20/resident & member; \$25/non-member. Registration: 561-

544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

Friday - 1/12 - Golden Hour 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 1/16, 26 & 30. 5:15-6:45 pm. \$10/resident & member; \$13/non-resident. Registration: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

JANUARY 21-27

Sunday - 1/21 - Intracoastal Adventures: Advanced Canoeing at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Short

talk 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 required: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

Tuesday - 1/23 - Beach Treasures at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Learn about seashells, the animals that make them. Caravan to Red Reef Park, 1400 N State Rd A1A, to search for ocean treasures. All ages; child must be accompanied by an adult. 2-3:30 pm. Free. Reservations: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

Wednesday - 1/24 - EcoWatch Lecture Series: On the Cutting Edge of Conservation at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Age 13 & up;

child under age 18 must be accompanied by an adult. 6:30-8 pm. Free. 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

Thursday - 1/25 - Early Birding w/Al at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Learn about native & migratory birds from an experienced birder; walk the Ashley Trail/boardwalk in search of warblers, gnatcatchers, woodpeckers, other avian species. Binoculars recommended. Meet on nature center front porch. Age 10+; child must be accompanied by an adult. 8:30-10 am. Free. 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

Saturday - 1/27 - 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; seangels.org

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Community Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 12/26. Please check with organizers for any changes.

JANUARY 6

Saturday - 1/6 - Plein Air Palm Beach Fine Art Show & Sale at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Runs through 1/31 during regular library hours. Free. 561-266-0196; delraylibrary.org

1/6 - Tree Giveaway at Delray Beach Historical Society, 3 NE 1st St. Florida native & fruit trees. Must be a Delray Beach resident. 9-11 am. Free. 561-927-8733; communitygreening.org

1/6 - Pickleball at Hester Center, 1901 N Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Combines badminton & tennis. Adults. Sat 9 am-noon; M/W 6-8 pm. \$5; \$50/30-visit pass. 561-742-6550; boynton-beach.org

1/6 - Calling All Serious Writers! Saturday Zoom Writers Studio presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Every Sat 10 am. Free. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/6 - Free Fun Saturday at The Schmidt Boca Raton History Museum at 71 N Federal Hwy. Family fare. Held again 2/3. 10 am-4 pm. Free. 561-395-6766; bocahistory.org

1/6 - Freestyle Saturdays Art Class at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 18+. Every Sat through 5/25 10 am-12:30 pm. Per class \$29/resident; \$35/non-resident. Registration required: 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

1/6 - Exhibition: Painting in Paradise at Cornell Art Museum, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Runs through 2/26 during regular hours: W/Sun noon-5 pm; Th/F noon-7 pm; Sat 10 am-5 pm. Free. 561-243-1077; downtowndelraybeach.com

1/6 - Current Events Discussion at Highland Beach Library Community Room, 3618 S Ocean Blvd. Every Sat 10:30 am. Free. 561-266-9702; highlandbeach.us

1/6 - Virtual Saturday Morning Writers' Group presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. Held again 1/20 & 2/3 11 am-12:30 pm. Free. Registration required: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

1/6 - Comic Cure: Ariel Alias at Sol Theatre, 3333 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. 6 & 8:30 pm. \$30-\$40. comiccure.com/boca-raton

1/6 - Sick Puppies Improv Comedy Extravaganza Show at Doghouse Theater, 105 NW 5th Ave, Delray Beach. Every Sat 7:30 pm. \$20-\$30. 954-667-7735; sickpuppiescomedy.com

1/6 - Selwyn Birchwood at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$35-\$40. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

1/6-7 - Film: La Syndicaliste at Lake Worth

Playhouse Stozek Studio, 713 Lake Ave. Sat/Sun 3 & 5:15 pm; Sat 7:30 pm. \$6-\$9. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

JANUARY 7-13

Sunday - 1/7 - A Starry Night Gala: Stars of American Ballet at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3 pm. \$75. 561-995-0709; bocaballet.org

1/7 - Music in the Museum: Native American Piano Music w/Roberta Rust at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 3-4 pm. \$8/member; \$18/non-member. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

1/7 - Sunday Matinee Music Series: Gary Lane, Pianist Extraordinaire at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 3-4 pm. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

1/7 - Arthur Migliazza Boogie Woogie Piano at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7-8:30 pm. \$45-\$50. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

Monday - 1/8 - 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 5-7 pm 1/10. 10am-noon. Free. Registration required: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/8 - Joseph Goebbels: The Man Who Seduced a Nation! w/Anette Isaacs at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/8 - The Robert Welstein Quest for Knowledge Series at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. Every M (except holidays) 10:30 am. Free. 561-588-8889; southpalmbeach.com

1/8 - Brown Bag Speaker Series: Child of the Holocaust Lecture Series w/Dr. William Reszelbach at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Noon. Free. Registration required: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/8 - The Best of Greek Mythology: A Primer on Ancient Greek Myths w/Daphne Nikolopoulos at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$40/member; \$50/non-member & one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/8 - Advanced Squares at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Every M 2-4 pm. \$6. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

1/8 - Computer Basics (Windows 10) Class at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic

Municipal Meetings

- 1/8 - Ocean Ridge** Town Hall, 6450 N Ocean Blvd. 6 pm. Agenda: oceanridgeflorida.com
- 1/8 & 1/22 - Lantana** Town Hall, 500 Greynolds Cir. 6 pm. Agenda: lantana.org
- 1/8 & 1/23 - Boca Raton** Auditorium, 6500 Congress Ave. 10 am & 6 pm. Agenda: myboca.us
- 1/9 - South Palm Beach** Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. 2 pm. Agenda: southpalmbeach.com
- 1/12 - Gulf Stream** Town Hall, 100 Sea Rd. 9 am. Agenda: gulf-stream.org.
- 1/16 - Highland Beach** Town Hall, 3614 S Ocean Blvd. 1:30 pm. highlandbeach.us
- 1/16 - Delray Beach** City Hall, 100 NW 1st Ave. 5 pm. Agenda: delraybeachfl.gov
- 1/16 - Boynton Beach** City Hall, 100 E Ocean Ave. 6 pm. Agenda: boynton-beach.org
- 1/23 - Manalapan** Town Hall, 600 S Ocean Blvd. 10 am. Agenda: manalapan.org
- 1/25 - Briny Breezes** Town Hall, 4802 N Ocean Blvd. 4 pm. Agenda: townofbrinybreezes-fl.com

Avs. Adults. 2 pm. Free. Registration required: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/8 - The Magical Kingdom of Walt Disney w/Robert Wyatt at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 4-5:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/8 - Exploring YouTube.com at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 5-6:30 pm. Free. Registration required: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/8 - Monday Movies - Documentary: Helvetica: Typography, Graphic Design & Global Visual Culture at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 5:30-8 pm. Registration required: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

1/8 - Everyone Can Improv for Adults at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 18+. Every M through 3/11 6-7 pm. \$200/10 weeks. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

1/8 - 2024 Language & Culture Exchange Program at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. Held again 1/22. 6-8 pm. Free. Registration required: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/8-26 - Delray Beach 34th Annual Senior Games at various locations. Archery, basketball skills, bowling, golf, pickleball, swimming, track & field. Information: 561-243-7250 x5240; smithra@mydelraybeach.com

Tuesday - 1/9 - Career & Employment Help w/CareerSource PBC at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Assistance w/ employment, re-employment, resumes, filing for unemployment, career path assistance. Representative fluent in English, Creole, French. Adults. Every T 9 am-4 pm. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/9 - The China-Russia-United States' Rivalry: The Battle for a New World Order w/Robert G. Rabil at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every T through 2/27 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$120/member; \$160/non-member; \$30/one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/9 - Changing the World: The Role of Personality in History w/Stephen Berk at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every T through 1/30 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$60/member; \$80/non-member; \$30/one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/9 - Hooks & Needles: Learn to Knit or Crochet at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. Every T 1-3 pm. Free. Registration required: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/9 - Resume Coaching at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Every T through 3/26. 1-4 pm. Free. By appointment only: 561-266-0196; delraylibrary.org

1/9 - Boca Raton Garden Club Meeting at 4281 NW 3rd Ave. 1st T 1 pm. Free. 561-395-9376; bocaratongardenclub.org

1/9 - Socrates Café at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Philosophical discussions. Every T 1:30-3 pm. Free. 561-393-7852; bocalibrary.org

1/9 - Book Talks: Spring Book Previews at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 2 pm. Registration required: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

1/9 - Internet Basics Class at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. 2 pm. Free. Registration required: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/9 - Poets on the Fringe at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. Every T through 2/23 4-6 pm. Free. 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

1/9 - Great Decisions 2024: American Foreign Policy w/Jeffrey Morton at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every T through 2/27 4-5:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$150/member; \$150/non-member; \$30/one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/9 - Beginning Tap for Adults at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 18+. Every T through 1/30 5:30-7 pm. \$60/4 weeks; \$20/drop-in. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

1/9 - Church Kickball League at Sims Center, 225 NW 12th Ave, Boynton Beach. Age 18+. Every T through 2/13 6-8 pm. \$100/resident; \$125/non-resident. Registration: 561-742-6640; boynton-beach.org

1/9 - The Lying Life of Adults by Elena Ferrante part of Tuesday Book Group at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 6 pm. Free. Registration required: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/9 - All Arts Open Mic Night at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 2nd T 8-10 pm. \$10. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

Wednesday - 1/10 - GFWC Woman's Club of Delray Beach Meeting at Teen Center, 505 SE 5th Ave. Bring your own refreshments/coffee. 10 am. Free. delraywomensclub.com

1/10 - Cutting the Cable Cord at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 10-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 5561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/10 - Objection! Current, Contentious, & Confusing Legal Battles w/Irving Labovitz at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every W through 2/28 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$120/member; \$160/non-member; \$30/one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/10 - Expressive Pastels Art Class at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 18+. Every W through 5/29 1-4 pm. Per class \$35/resident; \$44/non-resident. Registration required: 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

1/10 - The Art of Understanding Art in a Multicultural World (What We Say in Our Heads When We Look at Art) w/Karen Roberts at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every W through 2/7 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$70/member; \$90/non-member; \$30/one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/10 - Email Basics Class at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. 2 pm. Free. Registration required: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/10 - The Greenwich Village Music Scene of the 60s w/Pinkslip Duo at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 4-5:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$35/member; \$40/non-member & one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/10 - Professional Acting Classes at Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. Adults. Every W through 1/31 5:30-7 pm. \$120-\$150. 561-393-7807; myboca.us

1/10 - 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

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Delray GreenMarket



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1/10 - Delray Beach Orchid Society Meeting at Veterans Park, 802 NE 1st St, Delray Beach. 2nd W 7 pm. Free. 561-573-2422; delraybeachorchidsociety.org

1/10 - Our Yiddish Shakespeares at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. 7 pm. Free. Registration required: 561-266-0196; delraylibrary.org

1/10 - Scripps Research Front-Row Lecture Series: Making Science Matter: A Vision for a New Century of Life-Changing Science w/President & CEO Peter Schultz, Ph.D. 1-hour virtual lecture. 7 pm. Free. Register for link: frontrow.scripps.edu

1/10 - Delray String Quartet In The Round part of Music at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 188 S Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 7:30 pm. \$20/person; free/age 18 & under. 561-276-4541; musicstpauls.org

Thursday – 1/11 - 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

1/11 - Podcasting w/Adobe Audition Class presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 10 am. Free. Registration required: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/11 - The Rise & Fall & Reinvention of Globalization w/Jeffrey Steinberg at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every Th through 2/1 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$60/member; \$80/non-member; \$30/one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/11 - Tech Talk Thursdays at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Every Th 10:30-11:30 am. Free. Registration required: 5561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/11 - Line Dancing at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Basic modern western square dancing. Adults. Every Th 10:30-11:30 am. \$6. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

1/11 - Death Experiences & Life Foundation w/Michelle Angel at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$50/member; \$65/non-member & one-time guest pass at the door.

561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/11 - The Jazz Soul of Leonard Bernstein w/Mark Gridley at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every Th through 2/1 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$70/member; \$90/non-member; \$30/one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/11 - Hot Brass: Chicago/Earth, Wind & Fire Tribute at Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 4pm & 8pm. \$45. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

1/11 - Workshop: Tropical Leaf Studies in Watercolor at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 6-8 pm. \$40. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org

1/11 - Comedian Brad Upton at The Studio at Mizner Park, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7 pm. Tickets start at \$25. 561-203-3742; thestudioatmiznerpark.com

1/11-12 - 2-Day Workshop: Color Theory Basics at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 10:30 am-1:30 pm. \$90. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org

ions required: 561-995-2333; thewick.org

1/11-28 - The Niceties by Eleanor Burgess at Boca Stage at Sol Theatre, 3333 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Runs through 1/28. Th preview 8 pm; F/Sat 8 pm; Sun 2 pm. \$40-\$60. 561-447-8829; bocastage.org

Friday – 1/12 - Great Books Virtual Discussion Group at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Every F through 4/26 10 am. Free. 561-266-0798; delraylibrary.org

1/12 - Agatha Christie: Mistress of Mystery w/Matt Klauza at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$40/member; \$50/non-member & one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/12 - iPad Basics Class at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. 1 pm. Free. Registration required: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/12 - Listening to Tosca at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Part of Opera Forum Lecture Series w/Palm Beach Opera. Adults. 2 pm. Free. Registration required: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/12 - The Most Influential Psychological

Green Markets

Lake Worth Beach Waterside Farmers Market: every Saturday under the overpass at A1A and Lake Ave, Lake Worth Beach. 9 am-1 pm. Free. 561-547-3100; lakeworthfarmersmarket.com

Delray Beach GreenMarket: every Saturday at Old School Square, 51 N Swinton Ave. Fresh local produce, baked goods, gourmet food items, plants, live music, children's activities. 9 am-2 pm. 561-276-7511; delraycra.org/green-market

Mizner Park Green Market every Saturday at 327 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 11 am-6 pm. 561-362-0606; miznerpark.com

Experiments in History w/Michael DeDonno at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$40/member; \$50/non-member & one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/12 - Beginner Squares at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Every F 6:15-7:15 pm. \$6. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

1/12 - Artist Blow Out featuring Davide Salvatore at Benzaiten Center for Creative Arts, 1105 2nd Ave S, Lake Worth. 6:30-9:30 pm. \$20. Reservations: 561-508-7315; benzaitencenter.org

1/12 - How Sweet It Is! Steve Leslie Sings James Taylor at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$45-\$50. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

1/12 - Sick Puppies Stand-Up Comedy Show at Doghouse Theater, 105 NW 5th Ave, Delray Beach. Every F 8 pm. \$30-\$35. 954-667-7735; sickpuppiescomedy.com

1/12 - The Petty Hearts: Tom Petty Tribute at Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 8 pm. \$45. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

1/12-14 - Film: Eileen (R-2023) at Lake Worth Playhouse Stozek Studio, 713 Lake Ave. F 6 pm; Sat/Sun 3 & 5 pm; Sat 7 pm. \$6-\$9. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

Saturday – 1/13 - Yuletide Trot 5K- begins at First United Methodist Church Boca Raton, 625 NE Mizner Blvd. Raise awareness/support for Changing Lives & Semper Fi Service Dogs. Walk/Run. Dogs are invited. 6:30 am packet pickup; 8 am 5K starts; 9 am kids dash. \$35. 561-961-4635; changinglives.me/yuletide-trot

1/13 - Open Figure Studio w/Model at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Age 18+. Held again 6-8 pm 1/25. 10:30 am-12:30

pm. \$15. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org

1/13 - Inventors Society of South Florida Virtual Meeting. 2nd Sat 1 pm. 1st meeting free. Registration: 561-676-5677; inventorsociety.net

1/13 - Workshop: Intro to Creativity Joan Mitchell Week at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 2-4 pm. \$55. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org

1/13 - Memphis Lightning at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$40-\$45. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

1/13-14 - 35th Annual Downtown Delray Beach Festival of the Arts on East Atlantic Avenue, Delray Beach. 10 am-5 pm. Free. 561-746-6615; artfestival.co

JANUARY 14-20

Sunday – 1/14 - Choro Das 3 at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7-8:30 pm. \$40-\$45. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

Monday - 1/15 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day

1/15 - Art Exhibit: Scenic Gems of America by Jerry Ginsberg at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Runs through 2/23 during regular hours. Free. 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

1/15 - City of Boca Raton Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration at MLK Jr. Monument, 200 NE Ruby St, marching to Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 E Plaza Real. Music, family activities, rides, vendors. 8-10 am community breakfast at Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church, 220 Ruby St.; 10 am march at MLK Jr. Monument; 10:30 am-3 pm ceremony & unity celebration at Mizner Park Amphitheater. Free. 561-393-7700; myboca.us/1468/MLK-Jr-Day

1/15 - Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Brunch at Indian Spring Country Club, 11501 El Clair Ranch Rd, Boynton Beach. Presented by Spady Cultural Heritage Museum. Breakfast, entertainment, live music, poetry presentations, guest speakers. 10 am-noon. \$45/person; \$500/table. 561-279-8883; spadmuseum.com

1/15 - Tree Giveaway at Mizner Park, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Must be a Boca Raton resident. 11:30 am. Free. 561-927-8733; communitygreening.org

1/15 - How To "Be" Onstage for Adults at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 18+. Every M through 3/18 6-7 pm. \$225/10 weeks. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

1/15 - Poetry Night at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 3rd M 8-10 pm. \$5-\$10. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

Tuesday – 1/16 - Traditional "Colored Town" Bus Tour at Spady Museum, 170 NW 5th Ave, Delray Beach. Contact museum for time/tickets: 561-279-8883; spadmuseum.com

1/16 - Welcome to PowerPoint at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 2-3:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/16 - Book Talks - Non-Fiction/ Biographies: Maus I: A Survivor's Tale by Art Spiegelman at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 2-3 pm. Registration required: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

1/16 - Appy Hour: eBooks at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/16 - FAU Astronomical Observatory public viewing 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; cesco.fau.edu/observatory

Wednesday – 1/17 - Book Buzz Adult Book Club at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 10:30 am-noon. Free. Registration required: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/17 - Financial New Year's Resolutions You Can Keep at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. In person and virtual. Adults. Noon-1 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/17 - 3000 Years of Jewish Resistance: From Exodus to the IDF w/Samuel M. Edelman at Florida Atlantic University

Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/17 - In the Land of the Postscript: The Complete Stories by Charles Rosenfarb part of Stories of Exile Reading Group at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 1-2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/17 - Microsoft Word Basics Class at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/17 - Music Americana: In Search of Greatness, Part I w/Rod MacDonald at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every W through 2/7 3-5 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$60/member; \$80/non-member; \$30/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/17 - Impact Talks Speaker Series: Dr. Kathy Schilling at BRIC Presentation Hall, 5000 T-Rex Ave, Boca Raton. Second of a 3-part series features leading women who have built impressive careers while prioritizing the importance of commitment to their community. 4:30-6 pm. Free. 561-336-4623; impact100pbc.org

1/17 - Special Event: Open Studio Night w/ Resident Artists at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 6-8 pm. Free. Reservations: 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org

1/17 - Operation Exodus: The Rescue of Jews from the Former Soviet Union & Resettlement in Israel w/Ronald Friedman at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7-8:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

Thursday – 1/18 - Coding Basics: Resources for Getting Started at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 10 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/18 - Ambition Must be Made to Counteract Ambition: The Federalist Papers & the Founding of the American Republic w/Burton Atkins at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10:30 am-noon. \$60/annual membership; \$50/member; \$65/non-member & one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/18 - China's Retreat from 'Reform & Opening': Xi Jinping's Reforms w/Edward Steinfield, Ph.D. Moderated by Jeffrey Morton, Ph.D. at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$60/member; \$70/non-member & one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/18 - The Bachelors of Broadway at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 2 pm. \$45-\$55. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

1/18 - Saturday Night Live: The Funny Years (1975-2000) Sketch Comedy at its Best w/AI Kustanowitz at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every Th through 2/8 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$60/member; \$80/non-member; \$30/one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/18 - January Sip & Shop at Boca Raton Museum of Art Store, 501 Plaza Real. 4-6 pm. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

1/18 - Beginning Sewing Program at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Learn basics of hand sewing & machine sewing. Adults. 5-7 pm. Free. Registration required: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/18 - Concert: Aurora - French Horn + Piano at Highland Beach Library, 3618 S Ocean Blvd. 5:30 pm. Free. 561-278-5455; highlandbeach.us

1/18 - Cricut Basics at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 6-7:30 pm. Free. 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

1/18 - Open Figure Studio w/Model: Long Pose at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Age 18+. 6-8 pm. \$15. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org

1/18 - Workshop: Intro to Creativity - Lee Krasner Week at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 6-8 pm. \$55. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org



A traditionally designed home by well-known Delray Beach Architect Sam Ogren. It was built by Jonathan Winters, the Uncle of the famous comedian, Jonathan Winters (for whom he was named.)

This home was built in 1961 and is approximately 3,000 square feet under air, with 3,700 total square feet. It consists of four bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, a living room, Florida room and a large patio with pool and spa. The home sits on approximately .58 of an acre with wonderful water and golf course views. An easy to enjoy preview – **Offered at \$3,325,000.**



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1/18 - Cabaret at the Benz features Monique McCall at Benzaiten Center for Creative Arts, 1105 2nd Ave S, Lake Worth Beach. 6:30-8:30 pm. \$225. 561-508-7315; benzaitencenter.org

1/18-21 - Boeing Boeing at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Runs through 1/27. W/Th 12:30 pm; Th-Sat 8 pm; Sat/Sun 2 pm. \$39-\$69. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

Friday – 1/19 - Literature of the Civil War w/Taylor Hagood at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every F through 2/23 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$100/member; \$130/non-member; \$30/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/19 - OLLI at FAU Glee Club: Let Us Sing! w/Monica Berovides-Hildago at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every F through 3/8 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$200/member; \$260/non-member; \$30/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/19 - iPad Intermediate Class at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/19 - Russia & China in South America w/ Luis Fleischman at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every F through 2/9 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$70/member; \$90/non-member; \$30/one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/19 - Bonfire on the Beach at Lake Worth Casino & Beach Complex, 10 S Ocean Blvd. Bring beach chairs/blankets. 6-10 pm. Free; metered parking. 561-533-7395; lakeworthbeachfl.gov

1/19 - Isle of Klezbos at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$45-\$50. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

1/19-20 - Comic Cure: The Leaning In Tour w/Gianmarco Soresi at Sol Theatre, 3333 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. 6 & 8:30 pm. \$30-\$40. comiccure.com/boca-raton

1/19-21 - Film: Dream Scenario (R-2023) at Lake Worth Playhouse Stonzek Studio, 713 Lake Ave. F 6 pm; Sat/Sun 3 & 5 pm; Sat 7 pm. \$6-\$9. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

Saturday – 1/20 - Tree Giveaway at Delray Green Market at Old School Square, 51 N Swinton Ave. Must be Delray Beach resident. 9 am. Free. 561-927-8733; communitygreening.org

1/20 - Workshop: Flora & Fauna in Mixed Media at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$60. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

1/20 - 2024 Florida Highwaymen Art Show & Sale at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. 11 am-3 pm. Free. boyntonhistory.org

1/20 - Workshop: Family Program - Plant Play w/Watercolor at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 11 am-noon. \$15. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

1/20 - 5th Annual FAU Brass Day at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Workshop open to all brass playing individuals (primarily middle, high school, comeback players). Noon. Free. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

1/20 - Workshop: Paint Your Pet Portrait at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 1-5 pm. \$110. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

1/20 - Culture Talk featuring Marilyn Wick and Hap Erstein at the Cultural Council for Palm Beach County, 601 Lake Ave., Lake Worth Beach. 2 p.m. Free. palmbeachculture.com

1/20 - Artist at Work: Eileen Koegler at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 3-4 pm. \$5/member; \$10/non-member. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

1/20 - Story Central: The Anne Frank Legacy: A Conversation w/Miep Gies at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 4-5:30 pm. Free. 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

1/20 - Delray Stories: Wisdom, Beauty and Inspiration & Winter by Mark Scharf at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$25. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

1/20-21 - Boca Strawberry Festival at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real. Strawberry treats, food vendors, shows, rides. Sat 10 am-9 pm; Sun 10 am-6 pm. \$15/admission; free/kids 2 & under; \$38/entry & unlimited rides wristband. bocastrawberryfestival.com

1/20-21 - 36th Annual Boca Fest at Town Center at Boca Raton, 6000 Glades Rd. Outdoor art festival. 10 am-5 pm. Free. 561-746-6615; artfestival.com

JANUARY 21-27

Sunday – 1/21 - Exhibit Artists Reception: Diverse at Artist's Eye Gallery Boutique, 604 Lucerne Ave, Lake Worth. Runs through 2/10. 1-3 pm. Free. 561-586-8666; lwartleague.org

1/21 - Puccini's Characters in the Real World at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Part of Opera Forum Lecture Series w/Palm Beach Opera. Adults. 2 pm. Free. Registration required: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/21 - The Muse Duo part of Music at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 188 S Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 3 pm. \$20/person; free/age 18 & under. 561-276-4541; musicstpauls.org

1/21 - Lecture: The Smoke Clears: Unveiling the Secrets of "Smoke & Mirrors" & the Magic Behind Art at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 3-4 pm. \$8/member; \$18/non-member. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

1/21 - Story Central Storytelling Slam at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 4-5:30 pm. Free. 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

1/21 - Renegade: A Tribute to Classic Rock at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7-8:30 pm. \$40-\$45. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

1/21-23 - Musical Memories - Come Fly with Me: The Songs of Sammy Cahn at The Wick Theatre & Costume Museum, 7901 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Runs through 1/29. M/T 2 pm; M 7:30 pm; Sun 5 pm. \$53. Reservations required: 561-995-2333; thewick.org

Monday – 1/22 - The Origins of World War II in the Pacific: The Decline of China & the Rise of Japan w/Jeffrey Greenhut at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/22 - Exploring Biophilic Art: A Conversation w/Plant the Future's Co-Founders, Paloma Teppa & Yair Marcoschamer at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Part of the 3-part Lecture & Luncheon First come first served. series. 11 am lecture; luncheon noon luncheon. \$270/member; non-member tickets on sale 1/6. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

1/22 - Trust by Hernan Diaz part of Afternoon Book Group at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. Free. 561-266-0196; delraylibrary.org

1/22 - Appy Hour: Password Managers at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. 2 pm. Free. Registration required: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/22 - Ripped From the Headlines w/ Eliot Kleinberg at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every M through 2/12 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$70/member; \$90/non-member; \$30/one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/22 - Pop-Up Series: The Middle East In 2024: War & Peace w/Walid Phares at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every M through 2/12 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$60/member; \$80/non-member; \$30/one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/22 - All Things Facebook at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 5-6:30 pm. Free. Registration required: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/22 - Monday Movies - Feature Film: Minari at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 5:30-8 pm. Registration required: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

1/22 - C'est La Vie Au Cinema: Contemporary French Films w/Shelly Isaacs at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every M through 2/12 7-9:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$60/member; \$80/non-member; \$30/one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/22-23 - Auditions: Belleville at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Production dates 3/14-24. First come first served. 7 pm. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

Tuesday – 1/23 - Excel Formulas Everyone

Should Know at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 10-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/23 - BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) Drop-In Tech Help at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2-4 pm. Free. By Appointment Only: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/23 - Book Talks - Staff Picks: Wyrd Sisters by Terry Pratchett at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 2-3 pm. Registration required: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

Wednesday – 1/24 - Aaron Burr: The Most Controversial Founding Father w/Ralph Nurnberger at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$35/member; \$40/non-member & one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/24 - Microsoft Word Intermediate Class at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/24 - Crafting in the Library: UV Resin Necklace Pendants at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 5-7 pm. Free. Registration required: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/24 - Art & Jazz on the Avenue in Downtown Delray Beach Pineapple Grove neighborhood on NE 2nd Avenue. Live music, art, culture, dancing, dining in the street. 6-9:30 pm. Free. 561-243-1077; downtowndelraybeach.com/artandjazz

1/24 - Rat Pack Together Again: A Tony Sands Production at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. 8 pm. \$30. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

1/24-28 - International Beatles On The Beach Festival at multiple locations in Delray Beach. beatlesonthebeach.com

Thursday – 1/25 - 3D Printing and Design w/TinkerCAD Class at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. 10 am. Free. Registration required: 561-266-0196; delraylibrary.org

1/25 - Highlights of British Royal Coronations w/Margery Marcus at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$40/member; \$50/non-member & one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/25 - Crafting for Fun & Small Business: Crochet Valentines' Day Hearts at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. Free. Registration required: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

1/25 - The Chip Shot Prequel: Chips, Chatbots & Robots w/Stephen Kowel at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$40/member; \$50/non-member & one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/25 - Charles de Gaulle: Making France Great Again, French Nationalism & Anti-Americanism w/ Claudia Dunlea at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/25 - Sewing: Intermediate Projects at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Requires previously completed beginner's class. Adults. 5-7 pm. Free. Registration required: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/25 - Concert: Mia's Sizzle Review at Highland Beach Library, 3618 S Ocean Blvd. 5:30 pm. Free. 561-278-5455; highlandbeach.us

1/25 - WWII Officers Party at The Boca Raton, 501 E Camino Real. Cocktail attire. 6-9 pm. \$150/person. 561-395-6766; bocahistory.org/wwii-officers-party

1/25 - Lecture: Good Day Sunshine State: How the Beatles Rocked Florida at Historic Field House, 51 N Swinton Ave. Book signing follows. 6 pm. \$20/person. Registration required: 561-274-9578; delraybeachhistory.org

1/25 - Thursday Night Speaker Series: Senior Living Choices: A Timely Discussion w/Colleen Wilson from St. Andrews Estates at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 6-7:30 pm. Registration required: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

1/25 - Senior Living Choices: A Timely Discussion w/Colleen Wilson from St. Andrews Estates Boca Raton Public Library,

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400 NW 2nd Ave. Part of Thursday Night Speaker Series. Adults. 6 pm. Free. 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

1/25 - Kiss Alive Tribute Band at Throw Social, 29 SE 2nd Ave., Delray Beach. 7 p.m. Free. www.throwsocial.com

1/25 - Friends Virtual Book Club: French Braid by Anne Tyler 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

1/25-26 - 2-Day Workshop: Color Theory Basics at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 2-5 pm. \$90. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org

Friday – 1/26 - Exhibition Opening: Solo Exhibition of Kandy G. Lopez at Spady Museum, 170 NW 5th Ave, Delray Beach. Info: 561-279-8883; spadmuseum.com

1/26 - Cole Porter & the Great Depression w/Charles Troy at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/26 - Apple CarPlay Class at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. iPad/iPhone Basics & Intermediate are required prerequisites. 1 pm. Free. Registration required: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/26 - Cheap Trick at Old School Square Amphitheatre, Delray Beach. Part of International Beatles on the Beach Festival. 7 p.m. \$39.50 and up. delrayoldschoolsquare.com

1/26 - Mitch Woods & His Rocket 88's at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$45-\$50. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

1/26-28 - Film: Driving Madeleine at Lake Worth Playhouse Stonzek Studio, 713 Lake Ave. F 6 pm; Sat/Sun 3 & 5 pm; Sat 7 pm. \$6-\$9. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

Saturday – 1/27 - Blossoming Winter: Unfolding into the New Year at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Morning workshops, afternoon readings. Adults. 9 am-4 pm. Free. Workshop registration required: 561-

266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/27 - Workshop: Intro to Creativity Jackson Pollock Week at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$55. 561-330-9614; artwarehouse.org

1/27 - Boca Beer Wine & Spirits Festival hosted by Evan Berman Productions at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 E Plaza Real. Beer, wine, spirit samples w/live entertainment, food, interactive games. 6-9:30 pm. \$15/ designated driver; \$30/adults (with 40% off code MIZNER). winterfestusa.com/boca-fest

1/27 - The Georgina Dieter Dennis Voice Honor Recital at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$10. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

1/27 - The Fab Four at at Old School Square Amphitheatre, Delray Beach. 7 p.m. \$39.50 and up. delrayoldschoolsquare.com

1/27 - Eddie Bruce: The Music & Magic of Tony Bennett at The Studio at Mizner Park, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. \$35-\$45. 561-203-3742; thestudioatmiznerpark.com

1/27 - Night of Magic & Mentalism at Sol Theatre, 3333 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Adults only. 8 pm. \$25-\$35. comiccure.com/boca-raton

1/27-28 - Annual Boca Raton Fine Art Show at Sanborn Square Park, 72 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. 10 am-5 pm. Free. 941-755-3088; hotworks.org

1/27-28 - Hotel California: The Original Tribute To The Eagles at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. Sat 8 pm; Sun 7 pm. \$55-\$60. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org.

JAN. 28-FEB. 3

Monday - 1/29 - The Challenges Jewish Students Face On College Campuses w/ Mitchell Bard at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass/door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/29 - Bubbies For Broadway: Spring Musical at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Age 55+. Every M 11:30 am-1:30 pm. \$380. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

1/29 - Brown Bag Series: The History

of Boynton Beach at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Noon. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/29 - What is Cloud Storage? at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 5-6:30 pm. Free. Registration: 5561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/29-30 - Auditions: Ragtime at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Production dates 4/5-21. First come first served. 7 pm. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

Tuesday – 1/30 - Protect Yourself Against Scammers, Spammers & Hackers at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 10-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 5561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/30 - Crafting for Fun & Small Business: Next Level Knitting Hearts at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 1-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

1/30 - Last Man Standing at The Wick Theatre, 7901 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Film about Jewish gangsters; Myron Sugarman, the subject of the film, will be in attendance. 5 pm. Tickets: 561-995-2333; thewick.org

Wednesday – 1/31 - Jewish Justices of the Supreme Court: The Elite Eight? w/Roy Klein at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/31 - How to Use a Heat Press: Design a T-Shirt at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 1-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

1/31 - Microsoft Word Advanced Class at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

1/31 - The Rise of Disinformation: A Sociologist's View w/Mark Schneider at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$40/member; \$50/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/31 - Jumpstart Your Memoir at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 4:30-5:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

1/31 - Bill Boggs' Rat Pack Revival at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7-8:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

1/31 - Rooted by Deborah Zoe Lauffer at Florida Atlantic University Theatre Lab, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Runs through 2/18. W-Sat 7:30 pm; Sun 3 pm. \$35-\$45/general admission; \$20-\$30/faculty/staff. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

Thursday – 2/1 - Intro to Laser Cutting Class at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. 10 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

2/1 - Nudibranchs: South Florida's Underwater Butterflies w/Gabriel Jensen at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$40/member; \$50/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

2/1 - Tensions Between Parents & Their Adult Children w/Bert Diament at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$40/member; \$50/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

2/1 - Shareholder versus Stakeholder Capitalism w/Siri Terjesen at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & one-time guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

2/1 - Intermediate Tap for Adults at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 18+. Every Th through 2/22 5:30-7 pm. \$60/4 weeks; \$20/drop-in. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

2/1-4 - Constellations at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Adult language &

content. Runs through 2/11. Th/F/Sat 8 pm; Sun 2 pm. \$25. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

Friday – 2/2 - Drive-In Movie Night at Lantana Sports Park, 903 N 8th St. Snacks/ refreshments available for purchase. Limited parking. Family fare. 7 pm. 561-540-5754; lantana.org

2/2 – Cam Bertrand: The Art of Laughter at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$35. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

2/2-2/3 Body Traffic at Duncan Theatre, 4200 Congress Ave., Lake Worth Beach. 8 p.m. 561-868-3309; duncantheatre.org

2/2-4 - Grumpy Old Men at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Runs through 2/25 F/Sat 8 pm; Sat/Sun 2 pm. \$42. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

Saturday – 2/3 - Free Fun Saturday at The Schmidt Boca Raton History Museum at 71 N Federal Hwy. Family fare. Held again 3/2. 10 am-4 pm. Free. 561-395-6766; bocahistory.org

2/3 - 3rd Annual Cornhole For the Kids Tournament at Hoppportunities, 440 NE 5th Ave, Delray Beach. Benefits Achievement Centers for Children & Families. 1 pm. \$65/team. 561-276-0520; achievementcentersfl.org/cornhole

2/3 - Culture Talk featuring Lourdes Lopez of Miami City Ballet and Tara Milton Cateo at the Cultural Council for Palm Beach County, 601 Lake Ave., Lake Worth Beach. 2 p.m. Free. palmbeachculture.com

2/3 - Artikal Sound System Concert at Old School Square Amphitheater, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 5:30-10:30 pm. \$15. 561-243-1077; delrayoldschoolsquare.com/events

2/3 - Tom Glynn In American Tune: Simon, Croce & Taylor at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$45-\$50. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

2/3-4 - 37th Annual Boca Raton Museum Art Festival at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 10 am-5 pm. Free. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org



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House of the Month



LEFT: The estate is enveloped in tropical landscaping, shaded by mature Florida gumbo limbo trees and palms. A Chicago brick driveway leads to the courtyard entry and garage space for two cars plus a golf cart. **RIGHT:** The cook-island kitchen has a charming breakfast bay. Wood Mouser cabinets, Taj Mahal quartzite countertops and two large sinks with Rohl faucets are part of the gourmet amenity lineup.



The living/dining area has designer-embellished wood tray ceilings and flooring made from imported French roof tiles. It overlooks the large loggia and pool area.

Delray estate with old-world charm

Presenting a European villa aesthetic, this elegant six-bedroom, 8½-bath estate includes guest quarters. It has 9,744 +/- total square feet and has recently been reimagined completely. Its location in east Delray Beach is within a small, private enclave where homeowners share a tennis court and private beach access. Details throughout include pecky cypress finishes and stunning brick-clad accent walls. Handsome glass double doors with wrought-iron grillwork open to the foyer that flows to the great room. There is a library with requisite wood built-ins. There is a home theater with eight reclining theater seats and plush leopard-print velvet walls.

The first-floor VIP suite includes a bedroom that opens to the pool loggia, has an en suite bath and a private sunroom. The primary master suite is on the second floor, set apart in a wing of its own that features a morning bar, two custom-fitted walk-in closets and a quartz clad spa-inspired bath with dual sinks, a Jacuzzi tub and a steam shower.

Externally, the backyard is hedged, has a hurricane-tested screened loggia, a summer kitchen with DCS grill, sink and refrigerator. An adjacent putting green, conversation/dining firepit area and heated, saltwater pool with waterfall and spillover spa complete the outdoor entertainment features. Listed at \$12,750,000.

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