

Ocean Ridge

Owner can move into home that neighbors grew to hate

After nine years of construction and angst, online casino magnate gets vital OK from town

By Jane Musgrave

It appears a nine-year nightmare for people who live in central Ocean Ridge will finally come to an end.

In a Feb. 23 email, Town Attorney Christy Goddeau said a temporary occupancy permit has been issued for a 13,000-square-foot oceanfront home that neighbors initially dubbed “the concrete bunker” before deciding “the parking garage” more accurately described the imposing white concrete behemoth just south of Town Hall.

If the owner, wealthy Canadian entrepreneur Andrew Rivkin, installs landscaping, a driveway gate and takes care of several other relatively minor unfinished items in 30 days, a final certificate will be issued for his home at 6273 N. Ocean Boulevard. That will allow Rivkin to avoid a threatened \$5,000-a-day fine — up to a whopping \$230,000 — that would have been assessed if he didn’t get a temporary certificate by March 15.

Rivkin’s attorneys in early February assured the Town

See HOME on page 24

Special Report

Condo costs: A sudden storm



Penthouse Delray undergoes balcony work, a common sight as condos face deadlines for inspections and repairs. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

Owners pay soaring prices for repairs, insurance, reserves as new demands hit coast ‘like a tsunami’

By Rich Pollack

It was a storm that no one living in a beachside condo could have seen coming.

As shock waves from the June 2021 collapse of the Champlain Towers South in Miami-Dade County reverberated northward, condo owners up and down the coast became unwitting victims of the financial aftermath.

Insurance companies, fearing more billion-dollar losses, raised premiums on condos that in some cases would eat up close to half of a complex’s operating budget. State regulators and some local governments, hoping to stave off another catastrophe, implemented strict structural standards and revived a once-tempered requirement that buildings have fully funded reserves.

Now, with additional premium hikes on the horizon and with deadlines for often multimillion-dollar structural remediations and reserve studies closing in, condo boards along the southern coast of Palm Beach County are finding themselves forced to require special assessments and raise monthly or quarterly maintenance fees to levels that are driving longtime unit owners to consider fleeing their

Inside: Stories of uncertainty, dismay



Ray McMillan  
South Palm Beach  
Page 28

Jason Chudnofsky  
Highland Beach Page 28

Joanne Chester  
Boca Raton Page 29

See CONDOS on page 26

Interior designer Chad Renfro at home in Ocean Ridge with a memento from the film. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star



Ocean Ridge

A role of a lifetime

Ocean Ridge designer’s guidance ensured Best Picture nominee stayed true to Osage people

By Joe Capozzi

If director Martin Scorsese’s *Killers of the Flower Moon* wins Best Picture at the Oscars on March 10, an interior designer from Ocean Ridge can rightly claim some credit.

Chad Renfro worked as a consulting producer for the film — his name is prominent as the credits roll at the end. The Ocean Ridge Yacht Club resident had no experience in the movie business when he was brought in to work on the film.

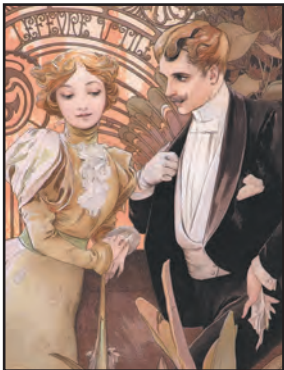
But Renfro, 54, had something that producers Scorsese, Imperative Entertainment and Apple Original Films valued — deep roots with the Osage Nation of Oklahoma and connections with its leaders.

Renfro, a south Palm Beach County resident since 1997, was

See OSCAR on page 32

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Page AT11



Meet Your Neighbor  
Delray Open runner-up Tommy Paul  
Page 31



Bike crash report  
Driver suffered medical event before hitting cyclists.  
Page 9



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Letter to the Editor

Cyclists must acknowledge responsibilities

Although I live in Broward County, I enjoy your publication. It's refreshing to see true journalism in a newspaper, rather than political advocacy.

I was saddened by the front page article in your February edition about the cyclists who were involved in a vehicular accident on A1A in Gulf Stream.

Unfortunately, while A1A is beautiful in many areas, because of barrier-island constraints, it is often very narrow in those same areas. In fact, A1A is so narrow in many places as to be classified as a "substandard" roadway per the Florida Statute addressing cycling. A substandard classification requires that cyclists ride single file, whereas they are permitted to ride two abreast in other areas.

As the former mayor of Hillsboro Beach, which is a section of A1A classified as substandard, I can attest that without constant police supervision, cyclists ignore this requirement.

While most commentary on this subject seems to focus on the rights of cyclists and the responsibilities of drivers, for everyone's benefit and safety, cyclists must acknowledge their responsibilities as well. As one of the cyclists interviewed for your article pointed out, in a matchup between an automobile and a bicycle, there is a good chance the cyclist will die.

If safety is the primary concern of cycling advocates, a statute requiring that cyclists ride single file at all times on all roadways would obviously provide more safety to cyclists. At the very least, cycling clubs should make it part of their club communications to identify roads such as A1A that are classified as "substandard" and remind their members that single-file formation is required by law on these roads.

— Deb Tarrant, former mayor, Hillsboro Beach

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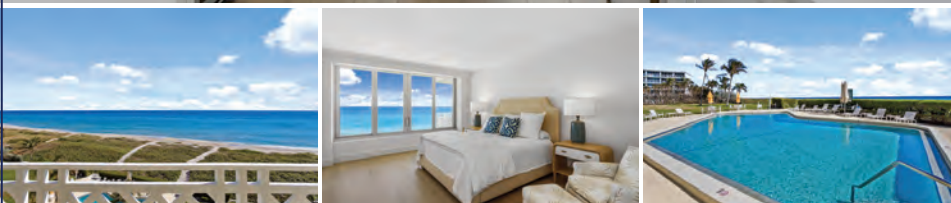
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Gulf Stream

Driver suffered seizure as she crashed into cyclists, FHP says

By Anne Geggis

The woman who drove into a group of nine cyclists along State Road A1A in Gulf Stream early Jan. 4 suffered a medical event at the time, according to a Florida Highway Patrol crash report.

Betty Ann Ruiz, driving south in the predawn light in a Kia Soul, crossed the center line in the 2400 block of North Ocean Boulevard alongside the Gulf Stream Golf Club course and barreled into the northbound cycling pack. The vehicle stopped after hitting a speed limit sign on the northbound side. Three cyclists suffered “incapacitating injuries,” two had “possible injuries,” and another had “nonincapacitating injuries.” Three cyclists were listed as having no injuries from the crash, according to the report released to *The Coastal Star* Feb. 16.

One of those suffering incapacitating injuries is still in the hospital, according to a GoFundMe page set up to help the cyclists, who were part of the club Galera do Pedal, which is Portuguese for “Pedal Guys.”

Ruiz, 77, who FHP says was going the road’s 35 mph posted speed limit and was wearing a seatbelt at the time of the crash, was listed on the report as suffering from possible injuries and taken by an emergency vehicle to Bethesda Hospital East. Her condition at the time of the crash was listed as “seizure, epilepsy, blackout.”

Ruiz was given three noncriminal driving citations as a result: failure to drive in a single lane, unknowingly operating a vehicle with a suspended/canceled driver license, and failure to provide proof of insurance. Drug and alcohol tests were not performed, the FHP report says.

Attempts to reach Ruiz were unsuccessful. The FHP originally reported that Ruiz, whose address is redacted on the FHP report, lives in Lantana.

Diego Rico, 37, of Coconut Creek — one of the three seriously injured in the crash — called the report “a joke” and questioned why no toxicology report was done on Ruiz. He said he is facing six months off his construction work and at least \$1 million in medical bills.

“We have video of her walking around minutes after the crash,” he said.

Rico has been through hip and shoulder surgeries, had 20 stitches on a knee and 39 staples on a hip, in addition to 15 staples and seven stitches on his left shoulder.

The cyclists, all with ties to Brazil, were on a ride — some riding side by side — that regularly attracts packs of cyclists, particularly as the sun rises. While no one was killed,

the sheer number of casualties has brought new attention to the tight space along A1A that motorists and cyclists share. There’s been resistance to installing bicycle lanes along the road and the stretch where the accident happened is particularly narrow — only a few inches of asphalt lie to the right of the white lines demarking motor vehicle travel lanes.

All of the cyclists were wearing helmets, according to the report.

Michael Simon, president of the Boca Raton Bicycle Club, lamented that traumatic injuries resulted from a driver who he said shouldn’t have been on the road to begin with.

“It’s sad and it’s shocking,” he said. “When there’s an accident, the impact on everyone’s lives is

mitigated if the driver is skilled or lawfully on the road.”

Two of the severely injured cyclists were a husband-and-wife pair. One of them is still hospitalized, making slow progress back to the activities of daily living, according to a GoFundMe account that the Florida Cycling Family set up.

Contributions have topped \$20,000.

“We have one rider still under care and is relearning how to walk, talk, stand, and function independently,” a Feb. 9 update says. “He is still not able to stand on his own and his brain function has been slow to return. We see progress but he has a long road ahead of him. His wife had surgery and is home recovering with their three young kids.” ★



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Ocean Ridge/Boynton Beach

Ocean Avenue resurfacing east of Federal won't help flooding problems

By Anne Geggis

The going will be slower along East Ocean Avenue from Federal Highway to State Road A1A starting at the end of the year as the state plans a road resurfacing and other work there.

But the 1½-year-long project, anticipated to start in December, is not the answer to the long-term flooding issues that are creeping up around the bridge, transportation officials said.

At an information session Jan. 31, Florida Department of Transportation officials took questions about a planned redo of a half-mile stretch of the avenue that is expected to wrap up in the summer of 2026.

“The purpose of this project is to extend the service life of the pavement and bring the corridor up to ... standards

by resurfacing the existing roadway pavement, improving pedestrian push button signals, and upgrading the lighting for the existing signalized crossings at SR A1A and the proposed mid-block crossing just west of Northeast Sixth Street,” said Thuc Le, the project manager.

Specifically, that means in addition to repaving and resurfacing the travel and bike lanes at their existing widths, the \$600,000 project will:

- Add a new “high emphasis” crosswalk to the west side of Northeast Sixth Street in Boynton Beach, which means traffic will be stopped for pedestrians there and pavement will be striped more prominently than the usual dashes denoting crosswalks. Both that crosswalk and the ones at the intersection of Ocean Avenue and A1A will be activated with push buttons for

pedestrians.

- Upgrade curb ramps to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- Enhance lighting for the pedestrian crosswalks and signalized intersections, with one additional light pole at the A1A intersection, and new fixtures for the existing light poles.

At least one lane of travel will be open during most of the project and access to adjacent properties will be maintained throughout, state officials said. Wholesale road closures will be limited mostly to nighttime when there's less traffic. But Ocean Ridge Town Manager Lynne Ladner said she has concerns about how traffic will flow once the planned crosswalk is in place.

She told the Ocean Ridge Town Commission at its February meeting she didn't think state officials were willing to engage with her concerns.

“We've expressed our extreme concerns about traffic, as it heads westbound over the bridge after bridge openings, but FDOT is adamant that it is going in,” Ladner told the commission, referring to the Northeast Sixth Street crosswalk.

The bridge openings, she noted, already cause the traffic

backup to spill onto Federal Highway and North Ocean Boulevard.

At the meeting, Alex Meitin, a consulting project manager with Jacobs Engineering, said that Boynton Beach traffic studies indicate all will be well. “It's not like a signal that goes every three, four minutes — it's not cycling,” he said. “It's only when someone pushes the button. And then you have the assurance that you have a bridge tender who's not going to open the bridge when a car is there.”

Ladner said that she already sees a traffic problem without the crosswalk, but that FDOT officials want to accommodate a request from Boynton Beach Vice Mayor Thomas Turkin, she told the commission.

Turkin couldn't be reached for comment. Currently, projects are underway that will add another 6,500 residents to the west side of the bridge over the next five years.

Kristine de Haseth, executive director for the Florida Coalition for Preservation and a former Ocean Ridge commissioner, wanted to know whether the project would address the flooding that takes place on that stretch of Ocean Avenue.

“It makes no sense to do

a project, tear everything up and then two years later have funding to go back and replace the water mains or put in correct drainage or outfalls or whatever the case may be,” said de Haseth, whose organization says it represents the interests of six municipalities.

She was told that new inline valve checks will be installed as part of the project — but officials said it won't address the long-term flooding issue with a raising of the road.

“We're not replacing the roof,” Meitin said, drawing on a home repair metaphor for what's happening in this project. “We're patching, not replacing.”

Raising the road does not appear on the FDOT project list covering the next five years.

Another citizen question was why some of the lighting on Ocean Avenue was not working. Meitin said keeping the lights functioning is the responsibility of the municipalities.

“They're aware of the situation and they're working on it,” he said.

The project will not affect marine traffic, as it will leave the actual bridge untouched. The contractor has not indicated which side of Ocean Avenue has been chosen for the start of the project. ★

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## Delray Beach

# Split between factions leaving its mark on commission campaigns

By Anne Geggis

Three of five Delray Beach City Commission seats are up for grabs and the contests have gotten so contentious that, for the first time in memory, some candidates refused to appear at the main forum held in advance of Election Day.

Five of the nine candidates declined to participate in the Greater Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce Candidates Forum amid allegations the chamber forum is fixed for the so-called establishment candidates, like Vice Mayor and mayoral candidate Ryan Boylston, who have the backing of the real estate community.

That allegation of bias is just one aspect of the 2024 election dramas that will climax March 19 when voters head to the polls to chart Delray Beach's next chapter and choose who will receive the Republican nomination for president.

Former President Donald Trump appears to have the latter race wrapped up, but the city is facing some cliffhangers as candidates debate issues such as resident complaints that downtown is too popular (and noisy), whether a historic district to preserve downtown structures will go forward, and how to address a state audit that found Delray Beach underbilled Highland Beach for fire services.

Capital projects are also on the docket, including a new water treatment plant and enlarging the police facilities.

Disagreements about development, city management and taxation are in full view and the candidates who have been getting less in donations — those without the business establishment's backing — are making it more apparent who is who.

Mayoral candidate Tom Carney, facing Boylston and former Commissioner Shirley Johnson, set up an alternative forum Jan. 30 at the Courtyard by Marriott at the same time as the chamber event about a half-mile away.

The chamber "has become immersed in political favoritism and pretends no one is supposed to notice," Carney wrote in a letter to the chamber. He pointed to Boylston's role as moderator at another, recent chamber event as evidence that he would be getting preferential treatment.

Chamber President and CEO Stephanie Immelman denied the allegations and lamented that voters won't be able to compare all nine candidates side by side in one of the few city candidate forums available via streaming video.

The chamber doesn't endorse any city candidate for a reason, she said.

"We've made a conscious decision not to do that because we want to be able to work with whoever is elected into office," Immelman said. "We really pride ourselves on collaboration and partnership."

Boylston made his pitch for mayor at the Arts Garage in front of more than 100 residents, as did Jim Chard and Tennille DeCoste for Seat 1 on the commission and Nick Coppola for Seat 3. Coppola's opponents, Anneze Barthelemy and Juli Casale, were at the rival hotel forum, introducing themselves to a group of about 60 people who snacked on hors d'oeuvres and asked questions of the candidates mostly one on one. That contrasted with the chamber event, where questions on education, sustainability and affordable housing were drawn at random for the candidates to answer.

Mayoral candidates Carney and Johnson also shunned the more traditional chamber venue in favor of the hotel event, as did Tom Markert, running for Seat 1.

More pronounced contrasts between the candidates on the issues emerged when all nine appeared side by side at the Feb. 20 forum hosted by the Beach Property Owners Association at the Opal Grand Resort and

Spa. Notably, Boylston and Carney exchanged barbs and Johnson pronounced herself "a rose between two thorns."

The question of beach renourishment elicited agreement among all three Seat 3 candidates that the city can't wait for 2029 to do it. That's when federal funding for renourishing city beaches is scheduled.

Chard decided to answer the beach renourishment question even though it wasn't asked of Seat 1 candidates.

"There are other answers than digging up the sand and creating problems with the coral and the reefs and that is to do man-made reefs — replant the coral," Chard said. "There's the technology out there where it grows very rapidly and it can prevent all those big waves from coming in which causes all the flooding and damage."



Boylston



Carney



Johnson

### The mayor's seat

All three mayoral candidates have served as commissioner at various times and one of them, Carney, 70, had a three-month stint as mayor.

Now, though, Boylston, 41, who is term-limited from being a commissioner again, is the clear front-runner in the money race to succeed term-limited Mayor Shelly Petrolia. Showing nearly \$143,000 raised as of Feb. 16, the latest filing period, Boylston has raised nearly twice that of his closest competitor, Carney. And he has twice the number of donors who identify themselves as working in the real estate industry than Carney does.

Boylston's introduction to the stage at the chamber forum didn't do much to dispel the notion that he's the establishment choice.

"If we could please have to the stage, mayor ... uh, sorry, candidate for mayor Ryan Boylston," said Eric Roby, executive director of the American Red Cross's local chapter, serving as the moderator.

That drew some laughter from the crowd gathered at the Arts Garage.

"Let's not get ahead of ourselves," Roby added with a chuckle.

Critics say the election of more developer-friendly leaders like Boylston is the death knell for the city's character as "the Village by the Sea" that will be impossible to restore in future elections.

Overdevelopment has reached a tipping point, they say.

Boylston, however, calls that a false narrative. He pointed out that those who make up the current majority on the commission — basically everyone except the mayor — were all portrayed as pro-development in their races.

"We've been up there for a year and none of those things that all those people said would happen have happened. No one's raising the height (limit of buildings) in Delray. No one's raising the density (limit)," said Boylston, who owns a marketing and web design business.

"We've approved one project in a year, so I think it's kind of getting old," he said of the criticism.

But the opposing faction is hitting on how regular residents feel squeezed. One of the most visible manifestations of this lies at Atlantic Crossing, now in its second construction phase. Once completed, it will add 261 apartments and 82 condos and 160,000 square feet worth of offices, restaurants and shops to 9 acres, situated between Northeast Sixth Avenue and Veterans Park, from East Atlantic Avenue to Northeast First Street.

"I sat here and watched and it was quarter to seven (in the evening) and it was taking cars three to four light changes to go through — three to four light changes," Carney said at his rival forum about the intersection at Atlantic Avenue and Federal Highway. "And this is a Tuesday. You know, it's really gotten out of control."

Boylston argues that the faction opposing him is looking to undermine what's made Delray Beach the envy of Florida cities that want a downtown of bustling

streets and abundant foot traffic.

Those known to be more critical of developers and their projects did have a majority before the 2023 election — and the voting bloc made an imprint. Two former commissioners now seeking to regain seats on the dais, Johnson as mayor and Casale in Seat 3, joined with Petrolia to take over the appointed Community Redevelopment Agency board and end the lease with the Old School Square Center for the Arts, Boylston pointed out.

These were vital drivers of what's made Delray Beach what it is today, Boylston said.

Carney, a lawyer by trade, served as Delray Beach's mayor from January to March in 2013. He's made the city's rising costs — and the ballooning level of taxes paid — the centerpiece of his campaign.

"Ten years ago, we had a budget of \$98 million and I'm now looking at a budget of \$185 million," he said.

Carney painted himself as the fiscal conservative who believes the city is headed in the wrong direction, and Boylston called himself the most qualified candidate at building community.

Johnson, 77, who's a distant third in fundraising for her mayoral bid, highlighted her six years on the commission and her desire to champion more action for environmental conservation on the local level.

"I'd like to start an army of people who say, 'I'm not going to use single-use plastic anymore,'" said Johnson, who stepped off the commission when she ran into term limits last year. "Let's not leave ... (future generations) in a worse place than we inherited."

Johnson, an IBM Corp. management and systems analysis retiree, was the sole mayoral candidate to mention the need to replace the water treatment plant in her remarks at the competing candidate forum.

The 62-year-old plant is one of the oldest in Florida and its replacement has been under discussion for years, with the estimate of its replacement cost rising. Negotiations are underway with a company selected to build it.



Chard



DeCoste



Markert

### Seat 1

Chard, 78, is the only one of the three candidates running for the seat that Commissioner Adam Frankel is vacating due to term limits who has experience as a commissioner. One of his rivals, DeCoste, 46, hit him over how brief that experience was.

"You can't have someone who ran a race, won a race and stepped down after six months to run another race and lost," said DeCoste, who was the only candidate not backed by real estate interests who appeared at the chamber forum at the Arts Garage. She made the same assertion at the beach property owners' forum.

Chard was elected to the commission in 2017 but then stepped down the following year to run against Petrolia.

Like DeCoste, Chard's professional experience comes chiefly from working for city government, albeit managing a mammoth agency in New York City. He also highlighted his experience on the board of Old School Square Center for the Arts, and his firsthand experience watching the transformation of Delray Beach.

"I am the candidate of experience and knowledge and I usually try to illustrate that by saying, 'I'm really glad to be back in this place,'" he said, referencing the Arts Garage. "I remember when this almost became a law office."

Chard's campaign contributions show he's the choice of the real estate sector — although he's raised nearly \$60,000 to the \$72,000 DeCoste has raised in the most recent filings. Her campaign is being financed by a variety of professionals and some high-profile Democrats, including Ron Book, a prominent Tallahassee lobbyist and father of the Senate Minority Leader Lauren Book; Ben Sorensen, a former Fort Lauderdale city commissioner and former congressional candidate; and Debra Tendrich, who's running for State House.

DeCoste tells voters that she came to the city, fleeing

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an abusive spouse, with her three children.

“Delray Beach saved my life and that’s why I have so much to give back,” she said.

She highlighted her experience saving money for the municipalities she worked for, including \$1 million for Delray Beach. Most recently she was human resources director for the city of Boynton Beach.

“I feel like I’m the better candidate because I’m the only candidate that has over 22 years’ municipality experience,” she said.

DeCoste did not touch on her current status in her job, however. Boynton Beach put her on administrative leave Dec. 11. The day after the Beach Property Owners Association-sponsored debate, she was fired, with the city citing her use of city resources in her campaign and failure to keep campaign business separate from the city’s. DeCoste, in response, issued a 730-word statement denying she misused her position or engaged in unethical behavior and alleged that the city manager was retaliating against her for complaints she made regarding the city’s hiring practices.

Markert, 66, made what he sees as overdevelopment in the city the focus of his remarks at the alternative forum at the Courtyard by Marriott.

“We’re in a maturity point and we’ve got to go in some different directions,” said Markert, who’s been an executive at Office Depot, Nielsen Canada, Procter & Gamble, in addition to other big-name companies — and has handled budgets far larger than the city’s.

“Roads, as you can tell from the traffic, are thick with congestion,” he continued. “... We have to ask ourselves the really hard questions on future development because we can’t exacerbate the traffic and parking problems we have downtown. We can’t do it.”

He also has touched on the need for historic preservation and a new water plant.



Barthelemy



Casale



Coppola

Seat 3

Two political newcomers are up against a former one-term commissioner for the seat now held by Boylston.

One of the candidates, Barthelemy, 46, has said numerous times that she was pressured to drop out of the race, but she’s not backing down. She previously ran in 2017 and lost.

Allegations have been made that Boylston supporters told Barthelemy that a long-dormant project to build a Haitian-Caribbean community center would be revived if she dropped out of the race this year. Boylston said he had nothing to do with that offer and pointed out that the two political activists who made the offer were also early donors to Barthelemy’s campaign.

Barthelemy said she wouldn’t make a deal like that. “I stood on my values — let the voters decide,” said the longtime social worker, now working as an independent consultant providing faith-based social services.

She cited affordable housing as her signature issue. “My first job with Catholic Charities was helping families that were in the process of losing their homes,” Barthelemy said. “They would come to me with eviction notices ... so that’s my passion to serve.”

One of her rivals for the seat, Casale, applauded Barthelemy for staying in the race and detailed her own reason for running after being defeated in her last commission race.

Casale, 55, a retired businesswoman, said she originally got into local politics because of her concerns about overdevelopment and preserving the city’s character. Those concerns remain — especially when it comes to giving developers special exceptions to the existing rules — but the city’s financial state has her sounding the alarm.

“Our expenses are outpacing our revenues,” she said. “We are going to feel the effects of ... what I call stealth taxes ... fees that you are going to be experiencing and they are going to get worse.”

She has voiced her desire to prioritize putting in an Atlantic Avenue Historic District, now making its way through city approvals, and the construction of a new water treatment plant.

Coppola, 58, a retired electrician and now a self-employed property investor, presents himself as offering a fresh perspective on city issues.

“I am a first-time candidate and we all want to move forward,” Coppola said. “I think it’s very important to point out that I am the only candidate for Seat 3 that has not run before. My other opponents have run ... and they have lost.”

In his public remarks, Coppola has focused on his experience serving as vice president and treasurer of the Sherwood Park Civic Association. He also served as a board member for the Pines of Delray Homeowners Association.

“When I stepped into that there was a balance of \$700 in that fund and it was depleting rapidly,” he said of his experience with the civic association. A few neighbors and I, we got together and we coordinated ... and we are now sitting on a balance of approximately \$15,000.”

He is also the chair of the city Code Enforcement Board and the frontrunner in the money race for the seat. Backed by the real estate establishment, Coppola has raised nearly \$90,000 for his first run for elected office. ★

Briny Breezes

Town ‘highly ranked’ to get state grant but not this year

By Steve Plunkett

Town Manager Bill Thrasher had bad news and good news about his quest to find a \$7.2 million grant with a \$7.2 million match to build new sea walls and redo Briny Breezes’ antiquated drainage system.

The bad news: Briny is ranked No. 18 of 197 municipalities seeking Florida Resilient grants that will be handed out on July 1, but only the first 16 are promised awards.

The good news: The town wasn’t ready to begin work anyway and will move up to No. 2 for a grant on the next award date, July 1, 2025.

“I believe with everything that’s within me and all of my limited mental capacity that Briny is not only highly ranked but Briny is highly favored to receive \$7.2 million in construction funds,” Thrasher told Town Council members on Feb. 22.

Part of the reason the town will not get a grant this July is that it asked for a six-month extension to submit its project proposal from its original March 31, 2024, target date, he said. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection awards money only to projects that are shovel-ready.

But during that additional time the town’s consultants discovered another source of money: the Florida Department of Transportation.

A storm drain along State

Road A1A is “half full of silt and sand, and it’s the result of the runoff of A1A,” Thrasher said. Because the FDOT is responsible for the highway, it will pay for part of Briny’s work to refurbish the town’s drainage system.

The consultants needed the extra time to handle the complexity of dealing not only with the town but with co-op landowner Briny Breezes Inc., the South Florida Water Management District and other regulatory agencies, he said.

But in essence, he continued, the deadline extension confirmed to the state that the town’s work plan would not be ready to start this July 1.

“That eliminated our chances of an award on that day,” he said.

Thrasher also took time to debunk rumors about how much Briny Breezes has spent in pursuit of the grant money.

“There’s a lot of conversation going on. Millions of dollars floating around in the town, spending money here, there,”

he said. “I heard somebody say we spent \$1 million for these grants. And what have we got to show for it?”

To develop its \$475,000 construction plan to compete for the \$7.2 million state grant, Briny is using \$330,000 from an earlier state grant and a \$145,000 match from the town, he said.

The Town Council passed a resolution in 2022 authorizing Thrasher to use \$144,747 in American Rescue Plan Act money as most of the first

grant’s match.

“Those are federal dollars. And that’s exactly what you want to do ... when you have no money and you want to acquire grants, is you chase federal money after state money,” he said.

“And so the town had to make up the difference to apply for these grants,” he said. “That difference is \$253. So the cost to apply for all of these grants (is) \$253 of your taxpayer money, or 50 cents apiece.”★



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Delray Beach

State ends enforced monitoring of city’s reclaimed water practices

By Anne Geggis

A years-long water contamination saga is over after involving sickened people and pets, city denials and a fired whistleblower.

The Florida Health Department in a Feb. 8 letter agreed the city water system doesn’t need further monitoring on deficiencies discovered in 2020, ending monitoring that was supposed to be in place for another 10 months. Delray Beach has complied with the final step in addressing the issue that emerged with an outbreak of sickness in the area from Casuarina Road south to Linton Boulevard in late 2018.

Following the outbreak,

*The Coastal Star* fought for the release of an inspector’s notes that documented the illness. And those notes contradicted the city Utilities Department report to the state Health Department based in Palm Beach County that acknowledged a cross-connection problem but also said, “No reports of sickness or illness have been received.”

Under the 2021 consent order demanded by the state as the full extent of the problem became undeniable, the city had until Dec. 1 to make sure that all reclaimed water customers had systems that comply with statewide rules, detailing improvements to the drinking water system the

city agreed to make. The Feb. 8 Health Department letter acknowledged that milestone has been reached.

The first step in the agreement occurred three years earlier: The city admitted in print that the system’s water might not have been safe for drinking between 2008 and 2020.

Among the findings the agreed-upon order had sought to correct: 581 customers were not equipped with backflow preventers to keep reclaimed water from flowing into the drinking water supply.

The city had to pay more than \$1 million in fines and administrative costs of the case that was based on failures that

spanned from 2008, when the city started its reclaimed water program, until 2020, when a whistleblower brought the failures to the state’s attention. Health officials, based in Palm Beach County, found the city had failed to do its required inspections.

Ultimately, the city also had to pay another \$818,000 to settle a federal lawsuit that whistleblower Christine Ferrigan brought after she lost her job as an industrial pretreatment inspector with the city.

It’s all in the past, according to a Feb. 1 city letter to Rafael Reyes, environmental health director with the Health Department in Palm Beach

County.

“Through the dedicated efforts of our team, along with the cooperation and guidance from the Department of Health, the city has resolved all outstanding matters specified in the Consent Order,” Hassan Hadjimiry, Delray Beach’s utilities director wrote, including a 145-page exhibit. “... Considering the fulfillment of all obligations outlined in the Consent Order, we kindly request the closure of the Consent Order.”

The Health Department agreed.

“We appreciate the effort you have expended to resolve this matter,” Reyes wrote to the city.★

Increasing number of faulty meter readers affecting Delray water bills

By Anne Geggis

If you have a Delray Beach city water account, chances are getting closer to 50-50 that the meter reader that determines how much you’re charged isn’t working right.

As many as 40% of the city’s automatic water meter readers have stopped communicating with the billing system, and apparently there’s no easy fix for getting them corrected.

Up to 2,000 more non-communicative meter readers were reported at the Feb. 20 City

Commission meeting, up from the 6,000 the commission heard about at a Jan. 4 meeting. The glitch prompted the sending of estimated water bills rather than ones based on actual usage, leading to sticker shock for some customers, as some bills jumped thousands of dollars higher than normal. That prompted adjustments to about 488 city water accounts.

Mayor Shelly Petrolia’s concerns that commissioners weren’t getting a true picture of the depth of the problem in January led to a February

staff presentation showing an even greater problem with the automatic readers. Her position hasn’t changed, even after the new report.

“It feels like I’m not getting the entire story each and every time — it feels like we’re getting pieces of it,” Petrolia said later.

Back in early 2023, city officials estimated about 1,500 out of 20,000 water customers had faulty readers. That estimate has now ballooned to between 7,000 and 8,000 customers.

The company that provided the meter readers, Badger

Meter, originally told the city that the replacement parts were not being manufactured and tried to sell officials on another system, to replace the one the city bought for nearly \$7.7 million in 2013.

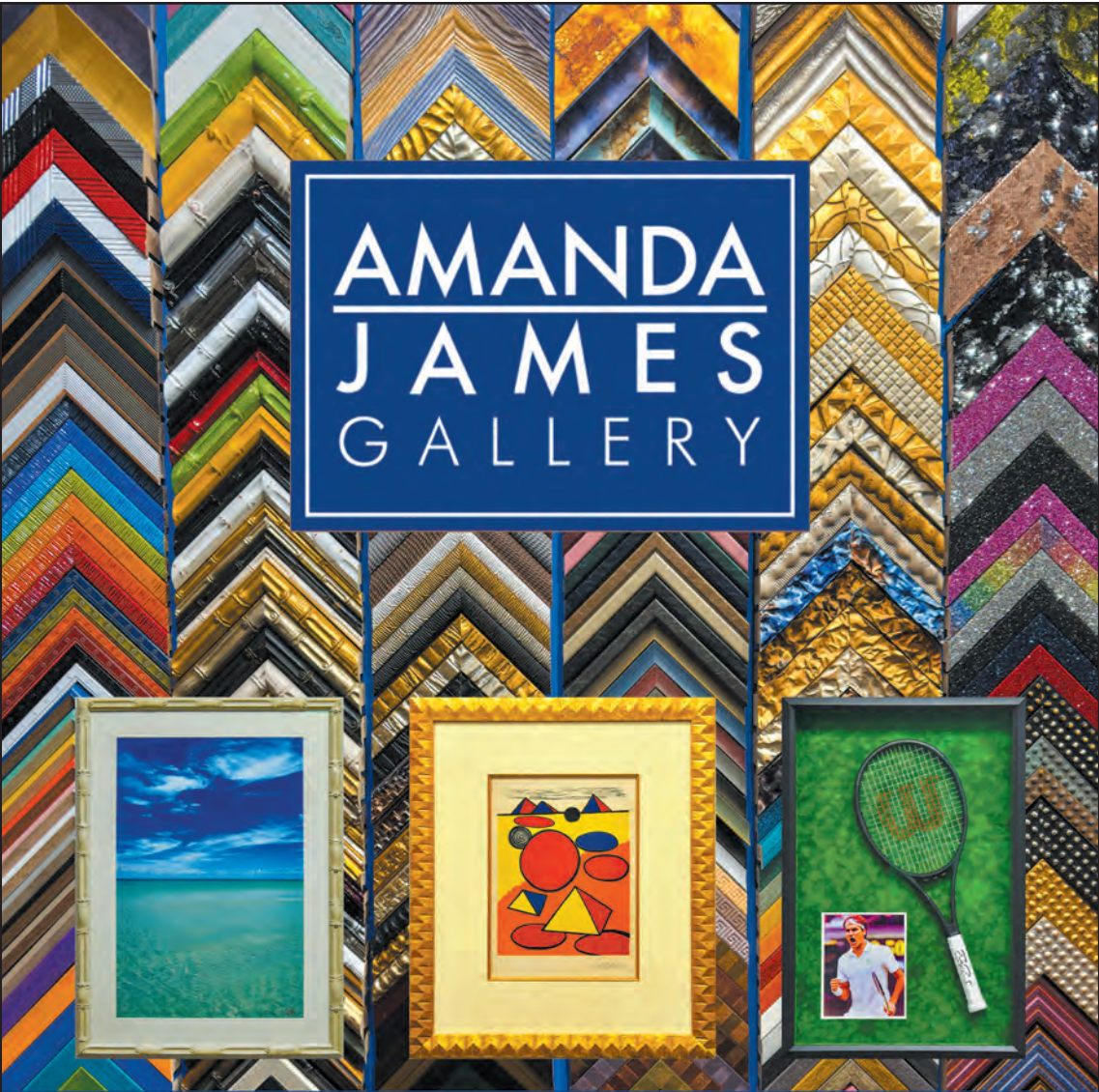
“To me that was unacceptable because we had all these meters in place and all of a sudden, now we’re going to change our entire communication system,” Utilities Director Hassan Hadjimiry said.

The city pressed harder, Hadjimiry said, and Badger proposed another encoder to

replace the damaged ones. But that’s going to come at a cost to the city and it’s not going to be fully covered by a warranty.

While Hadjimiry assured commissioners that what the city spends to maintain its water information system is on par with neighboring cities, Petrolia said the faulty readers are costing the city more than just money.

“The trust has been broken and that’s the thing you can’t get back from people who are receiving these crazy bills,” Petrolia said. ★



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Delray Beach News

**A mark against gay pride pavers** — With Delray Beach’s rainbow-striped crosswalk getting vandalized by burnout tracks for the second time in three years, the City Commission discussed perhaps doing away with the pavers at Northeast First Street and Northeast Second Avenue in Pineapple Grove.

Dylan Brewer, 19, of Clearwater surrendered to Delray Beach police on Feb. 12. He was charged with felony criminal mischief and reckless driving for an incident captured on cell phone video. He was driving a pickup and burnt out on the crosswalk that is meant to symbolize gay pride. The incident was similar to what a 20-year-old Lantana-area man did in 2021, right down to the pickup truck.

Commissioner Rob Long said the cost to fix the paint, estimated at between \$2,000 and \$6,000 by City Manager Terrence Moore, might not be worth it.

Mayor Shelly Petrolia noted that it’s usually part of the punishment that the perpetrator make restitution to the victims.

**Attorney recommends against bigger raise for herself** — The City Commission wanted to give City Attorney Lynn Gelin a 7% raise but she recommended that commissioners stick with the standard merit increase for city employees this year: a 5% raise.

The difference? Nearly \$5,000.

“My husband is going to kill me for saying this, but ...” Gelin said.

She received a 4.94-point rating out of a possible 5 from the commission upon her fifth anniversary with the city. To show more appreciation, Commissioner Adam Frankel suggested increasing her time off with an extra five days. Other commissioners agreed.

“If it weren’t for you, I don’t know where we’d be on a lot of issues,” Mayor Shelly Petrolia told Gelin.

The raise boosted Gelin’s hourly rate of pay to \$122.27. Based on a 40-hour week, 52 weeks a year, that would come to an annual salary of \$254,300.

**Historic downtown designation runs into wall** — A City Commission workshop on creating a district to preserve historic aspects of the city’s downtown did not produce any progress Feb. 20.

Mayor Shelly Petrolia, who will be stepping off the commission due to term limits this month, said she was disappointed not to solidify efforts to maintain the downtown’s historic charm.

— Anne Geggis



Delray Beach

Latest idea: Move fire-rescue next to new police station on Atlantic

By Anne Geggis

The latest Delray Beach police station plan receiving City Commission support would have it expand at its current site and possibly have a fire-rescue station move there.

The new plan is a switch from previous discussions about moving the police station farther west on Atlantic Avenue from its current home in the 300 block on the street’s south side. It would reconfigure the station there so it can grow another 110,000 square feet.

Fire Station No. 111, just over a block to the west of the police station on Atlantic’s north side, could then potentially be in the same lot as the police.

“The big surprise is being able to put this all in one complex,” Vice Mayor Ryan Boylston said at the commission’s Feb. 6 workshop.

Ultimately, the vision is to concentrate government facilities in one place while reducing impediments to new retail and residential projects along the portion of Atlantic Avenue needing redevelopment to the west.

“The bottom line is that at this high level, (there’s) plenty of room for both of these facilities on this site,” said Jess Sowards, the architect hired by the city’s Community Redevelopment Agency to develop a plan to expand the police station.

City police need a station with 150,000 square feet — its current 40,000-square-foot space has grown too tight, according to a needs assessment done years ago.

The new police station would be three stories with parking below ground, according to the concept presented to commissioners.

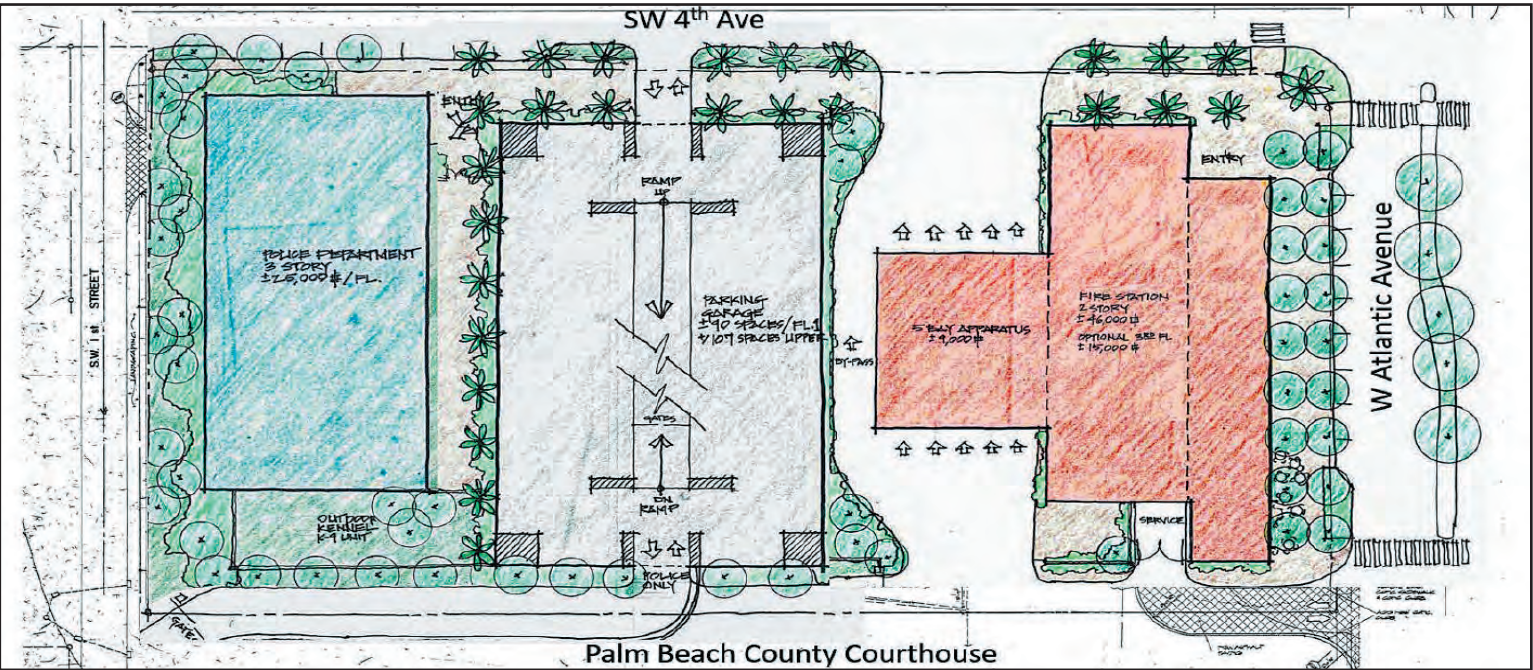
Sowards said the fire station could be three stories, too, with enough space to accommodate five fire truck bays and an emergency operations center. But the fire station idea is less flushed out than plans for the police station and no funding has been designated for it.

Voters approved a \$100 million bond last year for the police station work and other public safety needs, including possible fire-rescue projects.

Commissioners have agreed to proceed with the dual-use police and fire-rescue concept. They also like the idea that the redo provides a chance to activate a new section of West Atlantic Avenue.

“We have dead spaces up and down Atlantic Avenue, west of Swinton,” said Mayor Shelly Petrolia. “We’ve got the library, the courthouse, police, fire. What we wanted to do is to not have as many governmental properties fronting Atlantic so that we can have some passing traffic to draw people down toward West Atlantic.”

The 600, 700 and 800 blocks of West Atlantic, which the CRA owns, could then



One idea calls for a new Fire Station No. 111 to be where police headquarters is now, and an expanded police building to be located just south of it. Commissioners have agreed to proceed with a dual-use concept. **Rendering provided**

be dedicated to retail and residential development that could draw more people west. Some parts of the CRA land

currently limit activity to a “public purpose,” so the city may face a hurdle if plans for that continue to solidify.

But that did not dampen the commission’s enthusiasm for the idea.

“This is something I could

definitely get behind,” the mayor said. ★



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Gulf Stream

A thumbs-down for penny sales tax extension

By Steve Plunkett

Going against the grain of other municipalities across Palm Beach County, Gulf Stream’s town commissioners do not support extending the county’s penny sales tax increase another 10 years.

“I object to it,” Mayor Scott Morgan said. “It was to sunset in ’26 and I think we should as a town show our support for sunsetting that tax.”

Voters approved paying the extra 1-cent tax starting in January 2017 with plans to end it either on Dec. 31, 2026, or after \$2.7 billion was generated.

The school district takes 50%, the county keeps 30% and the 39 municipalities split the rest.

Gulf Stream has accumulated \$402,000 from its share, part of which will go toward its multimillion-dollar road and drainage project.

Town Manager Greg Dunham said ultimately the public would have to vote on extending the tax in a future referendum and presented a proposed resolution on Feb. 9 supporting having the county call for such a vote.

“By passing this, it would simply express our approval to continue that (tax),” Dunham

said. “The board of the League of Cities and all the towns and cities that have managers or staff on that board support the extension of this penny sales tax.”

“Well of course you do,” Morgan said, as some commissioners chuckled. “Once the government has a tax, it tends to want to continue the tax and the revenue.”

Morgan said the town has a tradition of having the lowest property taxes on the barrier island and had raised the tax rate only once since he was elected to the commission in 2014.

“Sales taxes in particular are the most aggressive of taxes. They hurt the poor more than they hurt the wealthy,” he said. “I see no need for a continued increase in the sales tax, which if extended one more time will probably be permanent or at least risk being permanent.”

Commissioners jumped on the mayor’s anti-tax bandwagon.

“You rarely in your lifetime get a chance to do away with a tax, (it’s) usually going up,” Commissioner Michael Greene said.

“Yes, I’m also in favor of sunsetting in ’26. Let it go,” said Commissioner Rob Canfield.

Commissioner Joan Orthwein agreed with Morgan but said she did not know if they should “go out there and make a statement.”

“I think it would be refreshing for a governing body to support sunsetting a tax,” the mayor replied.


The commission voted 5-0 against supporting an extension of the penny sales tax. ★



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Residents invited to learn about imminent roadwork

Gulf Stream announced two important dates for residents of its Core area west of State Road A1A and north of Golfview Drive.

On April 22, work to widen the Core’s narrow roads and to improve the drainage system and water lines is set to begin.

And on March 12 the contractors, consulting engineers and town officials will host an informational session at the Gulf Stream School to let residents know what to expect during the 18-month, \$13 million project.

“Hard to believe it’s going to be here very quickly, and you’ll believe it when it starts,” Mayor Scott Morgan said.

A big part of the meeting at the school, which will start at 6 p.m., will cover how traffic will get into and out of the Core district while the work is being done.

— Steve Plunkett



Along the Coast

Coastal Star wins 13 awards at annual press club event

The Coastal Star received 13 awards from the Florida Press Club at its annual recognition ceremony in January.

“We always appreciate the judges’ recognition of the excellent journalism done by our writers, photographers and designers,” Executive Editor Mary Kate Leming said. “These award winners are professionals dedicated to community journalism.”

Reporter Rich Pollack led the paper’s awardees with a first-place and two second-place honors in the annual FPC Excellence in Journalism Competition.

Pollack’s first-place award, in the education category, reported on how the pandemic-driven migration to Florida of affluent families from up north was pushing up enrollment figures at the region’s elite private schools. One judge’s comments said Pollack’s entry was “well written and well researched.”

Pollack’s second-place awards came in the light features and public safety categories.

The awards announced Jan. 27 were for work published from June 1, 2022 to May 31, 2023.

Other prize winners for The Coastal Star were:

- Steve Plunkett, second place

in the breaking news category;

- Charles Elmore, second place in health writing;
- John Pacenti, three third-place awards, in environmental news, general news and health writing;
- Tim Stepien, two third-place awards, in feature photo essay and general news photography;
- Janis Fontaine, third place in religion news;
- Scott Simmons, third place in feature page design layout;
- Leming, third place for commentary writing.

In a separate competition, Paws Up for Pets columnist Arden Moore won two awards in the Dog Writers Association of America’s 2023 competition announced in February — and she was a finalist for three others — for her works published in The Coastal Star.

Her winning entries were in the behavior or training and the rescue categories. Those entries were a column with savvy advice from dog trainers and another about rescue groups helping with animals displaced by hurricanes.

Moore also won a separate award for her Four Legged Life radio program. — Staff report



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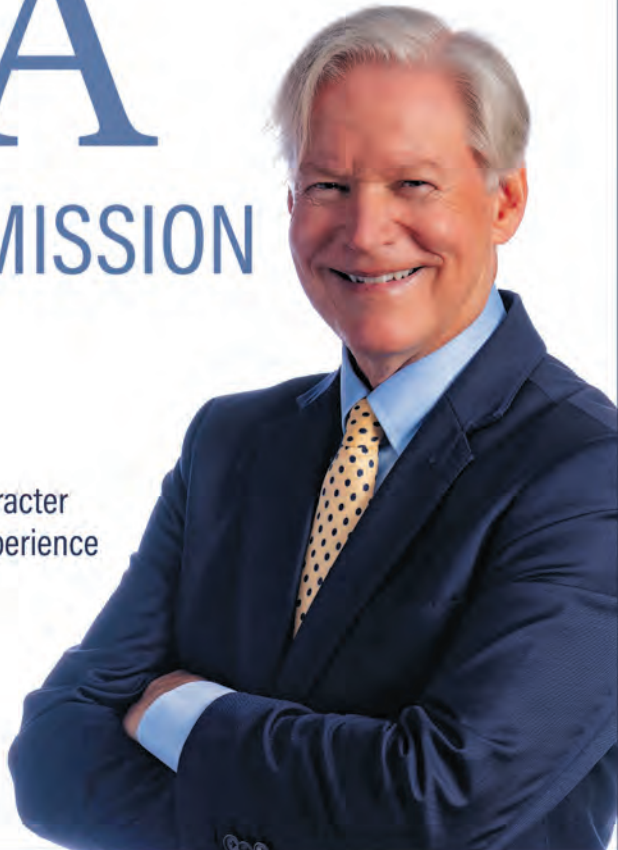
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## Highland Beach/Delray Beach

### Open house, virtual meetings set for A1A repaving project

With a major resurfacing project beginning as early as next month on State Road A1A through Highland Beach and a small portion of Delray Beach, the Florida Department of Transportation will hold an in-person open house and a pair of virtual public meetings on March 7 to provide construction details.

Prior to the open house, which will be at the Highland Beach Library from 6 to 7 p.m., the FDOT will offer two virtual public meetings, at 5 and 5:30 p.m. Residents will be able to ask questions of project staff after those video presentations, either through a chat feature of the application or by using a feature that allows them to raise their hands.

Those wishing to participate in the virtual public meeting

can register at <https://bit.ly/3NUAefn>. They can also dial in at 914-614-3221 and use 937-867-830 as the access code.

During the live open house at the library, 3618 S. Ocean Blvd., residents can meet one-on-one with project staff members to learn more about the project and to ask questions.

The \$8.3 million project, which is expected to continue through summer of 2025, will include resurfacing A1A from Highland Beach's southern border with Boca Raton to Linton Boulevard in Delray Beach. The project will include widening the road to provide for a 5-foot bicycle lane in each direction as well as drainage improvements.

To minimize the impact on traffic, work will be done in phases. Lane closures will be

allowed seven days a week from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. but not in front of St. Lucy Catholic Church on Sunday mornings. Also, access to buildings will be maintained all the time.

With communication on the project a priority, the FDOT is planning to launch a project-specific website and will be mailing out information to addresses within the project area. An email list is also being created to provide information about significant impacts and milestones to homeowners associations.

— Rich Pollack

## Boynton Beach

### City rids its books of racist policies

Boynton Beach celebrated Black History Month with an unusual ceremony designed to erase past segregationist policies that split the city into Black and white neighborhoods.

At their Feb. 20 meeting, city commissioners voted unanimously to remove three ordinances — unenforced but still on the books — to bring a sense of renewal to the city.

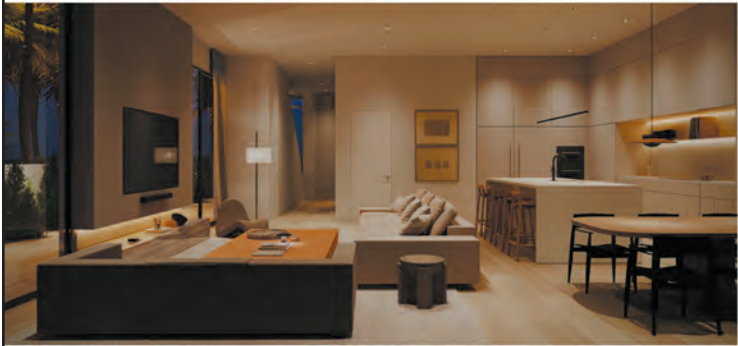
Two 1924 ordinances established “The Negro District within the Town of Boynton, Florida” and “The White District within the Town of Boynton, Florida.”

Another, passed in 1933, made it illegal for any person over 18 to “loiter, wander, stroll or be about or in the public streets, parks, public or other places, on foot, in a vehicle or any kind whatsoever,” in the other race’s neighborhood after 9 or 10 p.m., depending on the month.

Such rules were known as sundown laws and were used to enforce segregation, especially in the South.

On Feb. 24, residents, city commissioners and city staff joined for a symbolic march from City Hall to Sara Sims Park, where they burned copies of the ordinances and then enjoyed music and food during a block party.

— Tao Woolfe



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## Gulf Stream

### Police chief’s lifesaving assistance at bike crash earns commendation

By Steve Plunkett

Police Chief Richard Jones has another letter of commendation for his scrapbook — this time for his lifesaving actions at the horrific Jan. 4 bicycle crash in Gulf Stream.

“It is with deepest gratitude that I write to you to recognize the efforts of Gulf Stream Police Department’s dedicated law enforcement officers who assisted our agency during the response to a mass casualty incident ...” Delray Beach Fire Chief Keith Tomey wrote, calling it “a job well done.”

Tomey’s department provides fire-rescue services to Gulf Stream.

A subcompact SUV heading south on State Road A1A crossed the center line just south of the Gulf Stream Golf Club and struck a group of northbound cyclists. One was airlifted and two others taken to the Delray Medical Center’s trauma center; three others and the driver also were transported to the hospital. None died, though the most seriously injured cyclist was still hospitalized in late February.

“As you know, this portion of A1A is (a) favored place for cyclists to enjoy riding and one which is remote in its access to the mainland. Because of these challenges, the efforts of you and your officers to render aid, secure the scene, manage traffic including additional cyclists, and begin the investigation (was) immensely helpful to our personnel in treating and transporting the injured,” Tomey wrote.

Mayor Scott Morgan echoed Tomey’s praise at the Town Commission’s Feb. 9 meeting.



Jones

“It was an outstanding effort on your part to assist in probably saving the life of one of the bicyclists who was injured,” Morgan said before pivoting to the fact that Gulf Stream wants more of its police officers trained to be emergency medical technicians.

“We have a lot of elderly people in our town and it certainly behooves us to encourage our police officers who are first on the scene to have that medical skill, and Chief’s leading the charge on that,” Morgan said.

Gulf Stream last October instituted pay incentives for officers to obtain EMT training. Jones, a trained EMT, said he and Capt. John Haseley have worked diligently for about 10 months to have each squad car equipped with emergency equipment.

“We’ve already seen the benefit in several of those calls for service, whether it be a stroke or an unresponsive resident, that we’ve been able to help by having those pieces of equipment and that skill set. So we look forward to being able to offer that service and be able to be truly a public safety organization that can help from start to finish,” Jones said.

Tomey also wrote a letter to Jo Wagenhals, whom Jones helped in giving CPR at the crash scene. Wagenhals, an off-duty lifeguard captain in Pompano Beach, was named Lifeguard of the Year by the Florida Beach Patrol Chiefs Association in 2004 when she worked in Delray Beach.

“While traveling along the road, you stopped to render aid and assist in treating multiple victims of this tragic accident.

“You acted selflessly and demonstrated a high degree of compassion and professionalism,” Tomey wrote. “Pompano Beach Ocean Rescue is lucky to have you on their team.” ★



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## Ocean Ridge

### Veteran commissioner, three others vie for three spots

By Anne Geggis

With three Town Commission seats coming up for election, Ocean Ridge voters have four candidates to consider with experience ranging from the never-elected to one with nearly two decades on the dais.

The two highest-vote getters on March 19 will get three-year terms and the third-place finisher will get a two-year term. They'll be representing a town that is facing questions about how much infrastructure improvement involving water and sewer a community of 2,000 can afford.

Technically, three incumbents are looking for votes to return to office, but two of them came on board only this year.

Up for consideration are:

- Ainar Aijala Jr., 67, a retired Deloitte senior partner appointed to the commission starting in January.

- Nick Arsali, 68, a retired professional engineer and four-year alternate member of the town Board of Adjustment who would be a newcomer to the dais.

- David Hutchins, 75, a retired airline pilot and member of the town Planning and Zoning Commission appointed to the commission at the same time as Aijala.

- Incumbent Geoff Pugh, 61, a town commissioner from 2003 to 2018 who returned to a commission seat in 2021.

Though Pugh is currently mayor, that position is selected by commissioners annually.

The election arrives following some turmoil in Town Hall. Two commissioners resigned in early 2023 following a split vote on making then-acting Town Manager Lynne Ladner a full-time employee. They were replaced by two others who resigned at the end of the year, one citing the state's new financial disclosure law. The town's police chief also resigned in 2023 to go to Gulf Stream.

The state of town affairs is a point of contrast among the candidates that emerged at a Feb. 22 forum, which drew about 60 residents.

"I think the town is going in a good direction — I think we've really turned a corner," Pugh said.

Aijala said he believed the town got onto the right course beginning last April and Hutchins said he is "pretty happy" with the way things are going.

Arsali, however, said he'd be coming to the dais with a particular focus.

"If we look at our budget, it has gone up by 100% in the last five, six years, and then unfortunately, there's nothing to show for that," he said.

Long-lingering seaweed on the beach and the lack of citizen engagement in town affairs are



Aijala



Arsali



Hutchins



Pugh

also on his list of things that need attention, Arsali said.

"I want everyone to be involved," he said. "I want to at least make sure everybody gets the news about it, hears about it so I get everyone's input about it."

The topic of converting the town onto a sewer system also produced some contrasts among the candidates.

"It's on the horizon and it's something that we need to look at," Aijala said.

Pugh sees that horizon, first set out as a town goal in 2020, as something that's far off — and only under certain circumstances.

"I don't see that happening unless we have huge grants from the state or the federal government," Pugh said.

Arsali was more blunt on the topic of moving the town to a sewer system.

"It's all talk," he said, noting how unfair it would be to people now building and investing in expensive septic systems.

Hutchins said he doesn't want to spend the town's money if the federal and state governments are willing to put up some funds.

"The direction of the state and federal government is to get away from septic systems in coastal zones," he said. "I don't want to be preemptive because it will be a very expensive undertaking."

Aijala, with experience overseeing Deloitte's global operations, can boast that he's already saved the town money before completing two full months on the dais. He advised the town on updating its cash management policy.

"So we are optimizing our investment opportunities," he said.

Hutchins said that serving on the planning board put him in touch with people's hopes and dreams for their lives as they built their homes.

"We don't want it to change because we love the way it is," Hutchins said. "... I certainly would like opinions on what we can do to make this town ... a place we always want to come back to when we're on the other side of the bridge." ★





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# HOME

Continued from page 1

Commission that the longest construction project in the town’s history was nearing completion.

“I think we’ve been rowing in the same direction which has been beneficial to everyone,” Miami attorney Stanley Price said, insisting that the latest of at least 10 requests for building permit extensions would be the last. “We fully intend to meet our obligation to the town.”

But, after nearly a decade of living in a noisy, dusty and traffic-choked construction



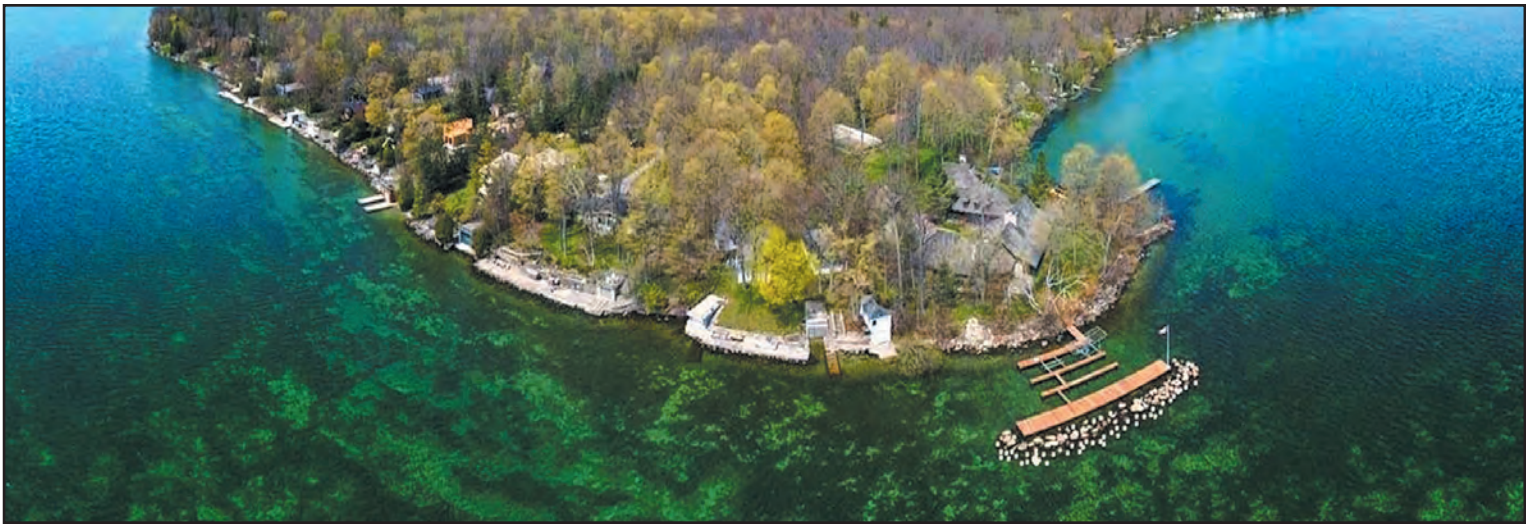
zone, residents were dubious. “I’ll believe it when I see it,” said Lisa Ritota, who repeatedly called police when tractor-trailers, cement trucks and water tankers blocked her driveway on nearby Hudson Avenue. “I’m not holding my breath and I haven’t been holding my breath for the last five years on this stupid thing.”

Jill Shibles, who lives next to Rivkin’s property, which he owns through Oceandell Holdings LLC, said the project has been stressful. Her outdoor furniture was constantly covered in dust. Outdoor conversations were impossible. Construction workers would routinely wander near and onto her property.

“This whole situation has been absurd and very disturbing to our community as a whole,” she said at one of numerous town meetings that were called to address the ongoing construction project.

Like other residents, Shibles said she can’t understand why the project was allowed to go on for so long.

Work began in May 2015 with the destruction of an existing estate home. The new home was supposed to be completed in at least two years. Instead, when



Rivkin repeatedly missed town-imposed deadlines, he simply paid the price.

Although a full accounting has yet to be done, Rivkin was slapped with a \$250-a-day fine that apparently has been growing since he missed a July 2021 drop-dead deadline. In 2022, he paid \$44,515 to renew his building permits. Also, in a gesture of goodwill, he posted a \$450,000 bond to prove he would honor his word and complete the house by June 2023.

This year, after he missed yet another deadline, he wrote a check for \$50,000 to compensate the town for tax money it lost when he didn’t complete the house by Dec. 31, 2023.

While the threatened \$5,000-a-day fines, part of an agreement he signed last year with town officials, seemed to get his attention, those who have faced off with him said that is unusual.

Like Ocean Ridge residents, others say they have learned

that when it comes to building projects, little motivates the 54-year-old jet-setting, polo-loving father of two young children who is often referred to as the father of online gaming.

## A lake house in Canada

Lindsay Histrop, a Canadian lawyer who owns a 1,000-square-foot summer cottage next to Rivkin’s 14-bedroom estate along Lake Simcoe near Toronto, said she fought Rivkin’s 2017 plans to build a 1,900-square-foot boathouse to go with his existing 85-foot-long pier and breakwater on the environmentally sensitive waterway.

Officials in Innisfil initially rejected Rivkin’s proposal, with the town’s chief planning official calling it the “poster child for what a good shoreline is not” and a councilor saying, “I don’t like the way this was presented, I’ll call it shenanigans,” according to a 2018 article in the *Innisfil Journal*.

After a private meeting with Rivkin’s lawyers, town officials reversed course, approving the boathouse. Left on her own, Histrop unsuccessfully appealed the decision to various government agencies, citing safety and ecological concerns. Her crusade ended in February 2023 when her final appeal was rejected by the Ontario Superior Court of Justice.

In what Histrop described as hollow victories, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources found that Rivkin’s breakwater was not built according to the approved plans and fined the contractor, according to the *Barrie Today* newspaper. Histrop said the fine was \$10,000.

Another agency, Transport Canada, charged with protecting navigation on Canada’s waterways, said in an email that it ordered Rivkin to remove some of the boulders that were not shown in the breakwater’s approved plans.

The boathouse hasn’t been

**ABOVE:** Andrew Rivkin intended to build a 1,900-square-foot boathouse at the dock beside his 14-bedroom manor on a lake in Ontario, embroiling a neighbor in a six-year dispute. The boathouse is yet to be built. **Photo provided**

**LEFT:** Rivkin’s Ocean Ridge home was derided by neighbors as ‘the parking garage’ as construction dragged on. **Staff photo**

built and Rivkin is currently listing the estate for rent for \$82,500 to \$88,776 a week. Histrop said she stopped following his boathouse plans, but suspects he will pursue them.

The boathouse battle took its toll, both emotionally and financially, Histrop said. “You do get worn down and it’s difficult when someone has bottomless resources,” she said.

Histrop, who summers at the cottage built by her grandfather, said she and her family would have been willing to compromise. They would have helped Rivkin find a better way to bring his fleet of speedboats to shore.

But, he never talked to her, appeared at government meetings or tried to address her concerns.

“It’s obnoxious when you want what you want and you don’t care what your neighbors think,” Histrop said. “He’s just a guy with lots of money and he’s used to getting what he wants.”

Her comments echo those made by Rivkin’s soon-to-be neighbors in Ocean Ridge. He never offered to meet with them to discuss their objections to the stark, white house that features a large gray triangle that looks more like it belongs in a shopping plaza than among Ocean Ridge estates, residents said. He never apologized for upending their lives with the nearly decade-long construction project.

“He just wants what he wants,” said Ritota. “He’s obviously got more money than God and doesn’t care about anyone else but himself.”

## The man behind the house

Rivkin, through Price, declined comment for this story. But, in online posts, he has said he cares deeply about others and uses his wealth to give generously to various causes, such as combatting breast cancer, heart disease and other illnesses, particularly those that affect children.

In a 2013 post that came long after he made his first millions, Rivkin described how he uses polo to help others.

“As an athlete and innate competitor, I love playing the sport of polo for the highest

honors of the season,” he wrote. “But what I love even more is when the competition in which I participate is beneficial to charitable organizations and those in need.”

One of his other attorneys, Gerald Richman, said Rivkin, who spends much of his time at his home near London, didn’t intend the project to drag on for years. Richman described the delays largely on circumstances beyond Rivkin’s control.

Rivkin belatedly found out that FPL and Boynton Beach Utilities couldn’t provide sufficient service for the home without extending lines by drilling under State Road A1A, a process that required state and federal permits.

“Rivkin is just a victim here,” Richman said. “He’s cooperated fully. The client has literally done everything he can do.”

But, Richman acknowledged, Rivkin was also distracted. “He has a lot of things going on and it wasn’t something he was focused on,” Richman said.

Rivkin’s business interests are far-flung. He and his brother are widely credited with helping create the \$63.5 billion-a-year online casino gaming industry.

Using a technology they developed as teens working in their parents’ basement, in 1995 they launched CryptoLogic. While the publicly traded firm initially provided security for businesses doing online transactions, it quickly morphed into one of the first online gaming platforms.

Before the brothers stepped away from the company and cashed in their shares, it attracted 500,000 users worldwide and processed more than \$4 billion in transactions.

But Rivkin wasn’t done. He co-founded FUN Technologies, which became the world’s largest online provider of casual games, such as Solitaire, and fantasy sports. When Rivkin and his partner sold it in 2006 it was valued at \$484 million.

Since then, Rivkin has served as a consultant for Mood Media, a multifaceted international company that provides such services as music people listen to while on hold or while shopping. In 2009, he founded Rivkin

Continued on page 25

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FOR DELRAY BEACH CITY COMMISSION

SEAT #3

VOTE

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Asset Management, which invested in real estate, media, technology and renewable energy.

Along the way, Rivkin learned to play polo. A regular at the Toronto Polo Club, he was also occasionally seen riding alongside professional players at the now defunct Gulfstream Polo Club in Wellington.

Histrop said Rivkin raised polo ponies on a farm he bought near his lakeside estate near Toronto. According to Florida records, he and a professional polo player formed Rivendell Polo Florida in 2015 for the purpose of “buying and selling horses and teaching lessons.” The company, which listed the address of his still uncompleted home, was dissolved two years later.

**Lingering doubts**

Ocean Ridge residents said they are frustrated not only by the delays but their inability to find out the reasons behind them. Some question whether the house meets the town’s codes.

Town Attorney Goddeau has repeatedly said that no rules were broken. “There were approvals by building officials, re-submissions for changes,” she said during a June 2023 meeting. “They’ve all been approved. Based on those approvals, they constructed what’s there today.”

If Rivkin completes the remaining punch list items by the end of March, she said she and town officials will address the outstanding code enforcement case. She didn’t respond to an email, seeking comment about the status of the \$250-a-day fine. But, if it has been accumulating since July 2021, it could reach well over \$200,000.

Vice Mayor Steve Coz said mistakes were made. But, he said, there was no easy way to rectify them. The town could have seized Rivkin’s \$450,000 bond and used the money to demolish the house, as some residents demanded.

“But let’s face reality,” he said at one contentious meeting. “If the town ever went to level that property we’d be in a, what, five-year legal battle.”

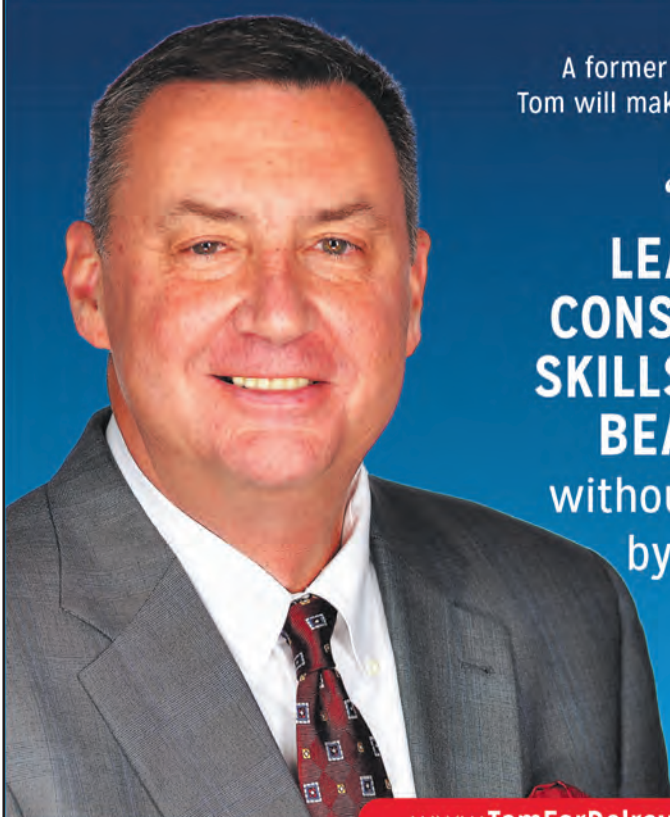
Instead, he encouraged residents to embrace the unconventional house that is built around a 5,000-square-foot reflecting pool. “It’s stunning,” he said.

Further, he suggested, Rivkin should make peace with his neighbors.

“When you finally finish it out, you should have an open house for the town residents,” Coz told Rivkin’s attorneys.

The look-see would be illuminating to critics. “You can understand why it took so long to build,” Coz said. ★

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CONDOS

Continued from page 1

homes.

“People are starting to have to decide whether to fill their prescriptions or pay their HOA fees,” says Rob Marzigliano, president of Seagate of Highland in Highland Beach, where a small exodus of unit owners has already begun. “The people on fixed incomes are struggling.”

At the 316-unit Seagate, where four buildings planted on the west side of State Road A1A have stood for more than 50 years, the monthly maintenance fee jumped from \$880 last year to just under \$1,000. Added to that is a \$60,000 assessment to cover repairs identified during a state-mandated inspection.

“We’re getting hit with a lot of repairs in order to make our condo safe,” said Marzigliano, who sees more increases coming.

At Seagate, where about a dozen units are on the market, the cost of those repairs is spread out over all the 316 unit owners, helping to minimize the impact. In some of the smaller buildings with fewer than 50 units, assessments are coming in at more than \$200,000 per unit.

While some are struggling to meet the suddenly high cost of condo living, many others on the coast can afford to foot the bills, even if they’d prefer not to.

Still, the cumulative impact of having to deal with what some call a triple whammy is leaving many wondering how condos will deal with a huge impact all at once.

“We understand insurance increases, we understand the importance of recertification and we understand the need for reserves, but everything is coming at us all at one time, like a tsunami,” says Emily Gentile, president of the Beach Condo Association of Boca Raton, Highland Beach and Delray Beach. “People don’t understand the impact of this on those of us on the beach. It’s devastating.”

Gentile says one group that is feeling the impact a little harder than most is seniors.

“It’s hard when you’re almost 80 years old and you’re getting hit with all this stuff and there’s nothing you can do but move,” she said. “It’s overwhelming.”

Another challenge facing condo boards is the increasing number of requests for improved amenities and services coming from new and often younger residents. Those improvements can also drive an increase in assessments.

“There were more assessments than I have shoes — and I have lots of shoes,” said Marilyn Blitz, who in September sold her high-rise two-bedroom unit at the Yacht and Racquet Club of Boca Raton and moved to a beachside rental apartment. “It just became price-prohibitive to stay there.”

Blitz says that just before she sold her condo, the quarterly condo fee came in at just over \$7,700 and included a special assessment and a \$2,000 special bill for reserve funds.

On top of that, Blitz said, are



Marilyn Blitz says high quarterly fees forced her to sell at the Yacht and Racquet Club of Boca Raton. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

rising property taxes, which this year were about \$5,400.

Selling the condo where she had lived for about 15 years was not an easy decision for Blitz, who says she misses some of her friends and the amenities she took advantage of.

“I wish I hadn’t had to leave, but I’m happy where I am,” she said. “I figured if I sold my condo and put whatever proceeds I had in the bank, it would give me the leverage to do the things I want to do.”

Gentile and others say that assistance from state or local governments in the form of low-interest loans would help ease the burden shouldered by condo boards and condo owners, but that does not appear to be happening anytime soon.

Scrambling for insurance

Skyrocketing property insurance premiums are a problem across the state for single-family homeowners as well as businesses. For condominium complexes, however, the challenges that come with finding affordable insurance — if they can find insurance at all — has been magnified.

The beachside Clarendon condominium in Highland Beach is one of dozens of condos that discovered their insurance company had dropped them, forcing the board to race to find coverage.

“We had to scramble,” said President John Shoemaker, adding that many of the companies they hoped would help had pulled out of the state. In the end, Clarendon was able to get coverage from Citizens Property Insurance Corp., Florida’s insurance company of last resort.

At Clarendon, insurance costs increased 56% with the premium now about \$400,000 a year. A special assessment averaging about \$7,000 per unit was implemented in order to pay the premium.

“It’s absolutely killing us and we’re looking at a 20% increase coming this year,” Shoemaker said.

Insurance accounts for about 42% of the Clarendon board’s overall operating budget, and Shoemaker believes that just about all condos up and down the coast are in the same boat, with insurance being between

40% and 70% of budgets.

That can lead to other problems, according to Shoemaker.

“When you have to spend so much on insurance, there’s only so much left for mandatory maintenance,” he said.

In many cases, spending money on preventive maintenance is just not possible.

Paying for years of neglect

For many condos that focused on regular maintenance as well as preventive maintenance, the costs of making mandatory structural repairs can be affordable.

Yet for other buildings where maintenance has been put off, the cost of having to do several now-required repairs — replacing a roof or air-conditioning system, for example — is causing pain in the pockets of residents.

“A lot of problems come from kicking the can down the road,” Shoemaker says.

He says that in many cases condo boards faced with having to do repairs had options to “repair, replace or ignore,” and too often ignoring the problem was the chosen path.

At Seagate, for example, Highland Beach town officials say that inspections revealed emergency generators were not properly functioning for years, leading to the condo board’s having to pay for temporary emergency generators until new ones can be installed.

Mandatory inspections required as part of the state recertification process have revealed widespread structural issues due to concrete deterioration. In some cases, cracks and other signs that concrete has weakened have been painted over or otherwise ignored.

“Because of the age of many buildings, maintenance should be done annually,” said Kevin DuBrey, director of project management for Hillman Engineering, one of many firms that conduct the mandatory milestone inspections required for recertification.

DuBrey says that most of the time when his team does an inspection it finds signs of corrosion, including chunks of concrete missing or cracks.

“It’s rare that we don’t see minor structural damage,” he said. “It’s not significant but it should be addressed right away.”

Without proper treatment, corrosion could spread and further weaken rebar, bringing a danger of large pieces of concrete falling from the building, he said.

DuBrey said that a lot of issues engineers see come as a result of boards not knowing how important it is to address issues.

“It’s not with bad intentions, it’s not with malice,” he said. “It’s often a lack of understanding of the repairs.”

While acknowledging the possible burden of state requirements that buildings three stories or higher and 25 years or older be inspected

Continued on page 27

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before the end of the year — unless municipalities set earlier deadlines — some see a silver lining.

Shoemaker and others say recertification is a positive because it prevents condos from delaying needed work and it can take pressure off condo boards. “Certification is good,” Shoemaker said. “It tells you just how far everything was left in a state of disrepair.”

In many instances in the past, condo boards would suggest repairs but could not get a majority of unit owners to approve moving forward.

Now with the state mandate, the decision on whether to make repairs that routinely cost millions of dollars no longer falls on the condo board.

**Making reserves mandatory**

Until recent changes in the law, condominium boards could waive any requirement to have reserve funds available if the majority of unit owners agreed. That changed after the Champlain Towers collapse; now condo boards must ensure reserves are available to cover the cost of major structural projects and of items with a value of more than \$10,000.

For buildings that have been setting aside money for major repairs or renovations, the impact of the new law could be manageable. For those that haven’t, the new law will mean going back to residents once

again, asking for more money. “It’s going to be a financial burden people don’t yet understand,” Shoemaker said.

Most condos probably will have to ask for additional funds from residents, even those that set aside reserves but have had to use some of them for repairs to meet recertification requirements.

“It’s rare that there are associations that have fully funded reserves,” said condo law attorney Elaine Gatsos.

Under the new law, condos are required to complete a Structural Integrity Reserve Study by the end of this year conducted by an engineer, architect or other professional certified to do a state-required inspection.

That study mandates an evaluation of roofs, major structural items, electrical systems and just about anything else with a replacement cost of over \$10,000 to determine the life expectancy of that item and the price of replacing it.

The study, which must be done every 10 years, also must provide a reserve funding schedule with a recommended amount that needs to be set aside each year so that the full amount needed to replace the item will be available when it reaches the end of its useful life.

If a condo’s internal wiring system, for example, will cost \$100,000 to replace when its estimated useful life ends in 10

**“We understand insurance increases, we understand the importance of recertification and we understand the need for reserves, but everything is coming at us all at one time, like a tsunami.”**

— Emily Gentile, President, Beach Condo Association

years, the board will be required to incorporate a portion of the cost into its annual budget each of those 10 years so it will have the full \$100,000 when it comes time for a new system.

Gatsos, who has been representing condos for more than four decades, says that until the study is completed, uncertainty hangs over the heads of board members, who have a fiduciary responsibility to ensure funding is available.

“All the condo boards are shaking in their boots wondering what the reserve studies are going to come back with as far as the dollar amounts that they’re going to have to include in their budgets,” she said.

**Impact on real estate**

What does all this mean for the price of real estate?

Some say if too many residents sell or if an abundance of foreclosures occurs, it could result in values decreasing and could mean smaller buildings would have to sell to developers to be torn down and replaced with more luxurious condos.

Shoemaker is among those who say the improvements will make buildings more attractive to buyers.

“The property will look good and be certified as safe,” he said. “Prices will go up because the building will be better.”

Real estate agent Mark Hansen, who specializes in luxury condos, agrees that building improvements can enhance the value of units, especially east of the Intracoastal Waterway where demand remains high.

“When buyers know that things have been updated, it can certainly be helpful in maximizing value,” he said.

Hansen said that the beach area may have an advantage over condos in more western communities because demand for property remains strong.

“People want to live here,” he said. “It’s still a very desirable location.”

**Possible solutions**

Gentile, from the Beach Condo Association, is lobbying to have the state help condos and condo owners with low-

interest loans. On her wish list are long-term low-interest loans for repairs, a low-interest loan fund for insurance and a revision of reserve requirements to make them manageable.

Gentile would also like to see regulations to ensure construction prices stay in check even during high demand.

State Rep. Peggy Gossett-Seidman, whose district includes Boca Raton and Highland Beach, is sympathetic but doesn’t see a solution anytime soon.



“The legislature has to address this but it’s not a quick fix,” she said. “Everyone wants a quick fix, but it’s just not quick-fixable because it has to be done correctly with everyone involved.”

She said she would work with some of her colleagues to discuss possible solutions and hopes the reserve issue can be brought back to the legislature next year.

Until fixes come from Tallahassee, condo boards and presidents will do their best to meet mandates while keeping unit owners’ challenges in mind.

Marzigliano at the Seagate condo says it’s been a challenge to get a good night’s sleep since he became president of the board — a full-time volunteer job — in April.

“I wake up worrying about how to restore Seagate and how to keep residents happy,” he said. ★



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## Special Report

# Condo costs: A sudden storm



Ray McMillan is especially unhappy the condo's reserve fund must be filled so quickly. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

## South Palm Beach — Southgate

### ‘Everything paid up’ — but more expense on way

By Brian Biggane

While Ray McMillan describes himself as a conservative Republican, he's not at all happy of late with Gov. Ron DeSantis and the state Legislature.

For him, that body's decision to pass a bill requiring condominiums three stories and higher to fill their reserve fund in two years' time was a bit too much. It coincides with a mandated recertification process by the end of this year, as well as dramatic increases in property insurance, a triple whammy that is creating financial hardship for many coastal residents.

McMillan said the reserve fund issue should have been spread out over more years, not just two.

"It's a shame," said McMillan, a resident of the Southgate condo in South Palm Beach and a member of the Town Council. "I don't know what DeSantis was thinking by rushing to pass this legislation."

In one sense, Southgate was fortunate. An engineering inspection required by the recertification law determined few repairs were needed, the most significant a \$40,000 roof job covered by the general fund.

Nonetheless, the board of directors determined that maintenance fees would need to rise from \$910 to \$1,672 per month, an 84% increase. And the board billed residents of its 129 units a \$5,036 special assessment that was broken down into five installments of a little more than \$1,000 per month.

"So we got everything paid up by the first of January," McMillan said, "and we weren't even two weeks into the month when we got a notice from the insurance company that there would be an increase of like 30%" for next year.

"Next year, who knows what

they're going to do? Maybe (the assessment) will be \$15,000 per unit."

Built in 1974, Southgate has the same issues of every high-rise condo that's been around that long. Foremost this year was replacing one of the elevators in the three buildings; that was done, but now another is requiring frequent attention.

Southgate HOA President Stacy Buckley said other repairs are already on the horizon.

"We anticipate and will be collecting funds over the next few years for new roofs, balcony and concrete restoration, and painting," Buckley said. "Very similar items to many of the condos on A1A which are of similar age."

As younger buyers with deeper pockets buy into the coastal market, some condos report demands for amenity upgrades such as pickleball courts and jacuzzis. Another resident, Elva Culbertson, said that hasn't been an issue at Southgate.

"The people who are really well-off aren't coming to Southgate," she said.

The real estate website BEX Realty last month listed 13 Southgate units for sale, compared with only four at the newer Palm Harbour building just down the road.

While Buckley said she believes many of those who have put their units on the market are "infrequent users (who) find the fee increases as a reason to sell," McMillan said his conversations have said otherwise.

"She might be talking to different people, but the people who have been talking to me have been long-timers. Everybody I've talked to has not been happy."

"People are frustrated, but a lot of them have enough of a nest egg to cover it. But a lot of people are like, 'No, I'm getting out of here.'" ★



Jason Chudnofsky, board president of the Coronado, stands amid exterior repair work underway at the 336-unit Highland Beach condo. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

## Highland Beach — Coronado

### Dropped by insurance carrier, condo finds new one covers fraction of value

By Rich Pollack

The letters from the insurance company in the middle of last year brought the bad news to board members at the Coronado at Highland Beach.

First the insurance company let the board know that it would raise the annual property insurance premium for the 336-unit condo — with two towers on the west side of State Road A1A and a beach club on the east side—from \$1.5 million to \$1.9 million.

Then the insurance company, concerned about the condition of the roofs, decided to drop the Coronado completely, leaving the board with just 30 days to get coverage.

"We couldn't even get insurance from Citizens," board President Jason Chudnofsky said of the state's insurer of last resort. "We shopped and we shopped until we found a company."

That new company, however, offered only policies that were less than optimal.

The annual premium for the buildings, which were built in 1983, is now just shy of \$2.8 million and it provides only 35% coverage, meaning the insurance company will pay a maximum of \$38.5 million even though the buildings are valued at \$110 million. Chudnofsky said the Coronado is hoping to find a company that will provide 100% coverage as soon as possible.

Insurance now represents close to half of the board's annual operational budget — 42% — up from 24% in 2002.

To cover the rising insurance rate, the board of directors raised the quarterly maintenance fee from \$4,150 to \$5,300, or from \$16,600 to \$21,200 a year.

For residents of the Coronado, some who have been in the 40-year-old community for decades, the increased insurance premium is just one factor requiring them to reach deeper into their pockets.

The price tag of state-mandated repairs and the need to bolster reserves translate into more extra costs. Coronado residents are now being hit with a one-time \$40,000 per unit assessment, to be paid over eight years, along with the likelihood that the maintenance fee will continue increasing in coming years.

As part of its efforts to meet state and town recertification requirements, the Coronado board hired an engineering firm, which detailed the work that needed to be done. Replacing the roof was one of the big expenses, as was concrete restoration. Also on the agenda was rewiring and making improvements to common areas on each floor and lobbies.

Those improvements, Chudnofsky said, included projects that would have eventually needed to be done, but the recertification requirement speeded up the process.

"We would have done some of them, but probably not at the same time," he said.

The price tag for all the repairs came to \$12 million. The board then implemented the \$40,000-per-unit assessment, payable over the terms of the eight years to cover the loan.

That assessment, Chudnofsky says, is manageable for most of the unit owners and reasonable in light of assessments that other condos along the beach are making.

"It all comes down to, we did a pretty good job," he said.

While some condominium communities have gone without reserves, the Coronado has been putting money aside over the years and has several million dollars in savings.

Still, with a reserve study mandated by the state by the end of the year, the board might need to require a small increase in quarterly maintenance to ensure enough funds are available to cover major costs.

One of the challenges for the board at the Coronado, where units sell in the \$900,000 to \$1 million-plus range, is the demand for improved amenities and services that comes with a younger and perhaps more affluent resident base.

"There is an appetite to raise the level of improvements," Chudnofsky said. "New people want a higher lifestyle. They want a lobby area that will knock people's socks off."

They also want to convert tennis courts to pickleball courts at a cost of about \$50,000. The cost of such improvements, Chudnofsky says, will have to come from the residents and be shared by all at a time when unit owners are dealing with charges they can't avoid.

"These are expenses that will come out of our pockets," he said. ★



Boca Raton — Mayfair

Nightmare numbers: Insurance up 300%, reserves at only 10%

By Mary Hladky

Boca Raton’s Mayfair condominium is caught in a perfect storm. Insurance rates have skyrocketed. New laws require condo association boards to conduct structural inspections and make any needed repairs. And by next year, Mayfair must fully fund its reserves to pay for them.

On the most basic level, that means the cost of living at the 60-year-old Boca Raton building at 1401 S. Ocean Blvd. is increasing substantially. Insurance costs alone jumped 300% over the last two years.

The Mayfair is hardly alone; condos across South Florida face similar financial pressures.

Mayfair President Joanne Chester said the board needs financial help, although no solutions from the state are imminent.

“We are really hoping the state will somehow intercede to help us with this,” she said. “It will be really difficult for people living here to continue paying the maintenance that has to go up.”

Perhaps the state could offer long-term low-interest or no-interest loans, she said, or provide financial assistance that condos could apply for.

“If the state would help us with that, that would be incredible,” she said. “Our state needs to help us. Our governor needs to step in.”

Mayfair’s board knows that insurance is all but impossible to come by. The previous insurer, Lloyd’s of London, pulled out of the market two years ago. The board used multiple insurers for one year because no single carrier would assume the entire risk. Mayfair is now insured by Citizens, the state’s insurer of last resort.

“There are not many insurance companies that want to deal with this area,” Chester said. “Not many even want to get us a proposal.”

Faced with the ballooning cost, the condo board had no choice but to raise maintenance fees. In 2022, the quarterly rate per unit was \$3,588. Last year, it was \$4,709. This year, it is \$5,038.

Owners “are not happy about that at all. It is more money out of their pocket,” Chester said. Owners also worry that the high fees will make it harder to sell their units.

But that’s just the tip of the financial iceberg.

A state law enacted after the catastrophic 2021 collapse of a condo in Surfside requires condo associations to conduct reserve studies every decade to make sure they have adequate resources to finance needed structural repairs. Starting next year, they will no longer be able to waive a requirement that they put money in reserves.

At present, Mayfair’s reserves are only 10% funded.



Mayfair condo board President Joanne Chester says: ‘We are really hoping the state will somehow intercede to help us with this.’ Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

Board members are calculating how much full funding will cost as they begin drawing up the 2025 budget. What Chester does know is this: “Now that we have to fully

fund, that would be a giant increase in maintenance to pay for that. We really think the state should kick in and help with that,” she said.

And then there’s the additional requirement to inspect the five-story, 55-unit Mayfair.

The Mayfair submitted required structural and electrical engineering reports to the city in November and is awaiting word on whether the condo will get a building recertification — a designation that the building is safe.

Chester said the reports show that the Mayfair is structurally sound. But repairs, such as concrete restoration, will have to be made and she does not yet know the total cost. Separately, the condo needs to be repainted.

Still to be determined is how owners will pay for reserves and repair costs.

Already, however, increased

maintenance fees are proving too much for some owners.

Chester knows of people, including some at the Mayfair, who are selling their units “so they don’t have to face this financial hardship.”

Paradoxically, people are still buying units. Chester thinks that’s because some buyers are affluent, paying in cash, and are not bothered by the fees.

Others, though, “are coming from out of state and are not aware of everything that is being imposed on us.”

Chester foresees a grim future for many condos.

“My opinion is a lot of condominiums will have to be dissolved,” she said. “They will have to become apartment complexes. Most people in condos are retired. I think a lot of condos will be dissolved because owners can’t afford to live in them.” ★



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## 10 Questions

# MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR: Tommy Paul

With the likes of John McEnroe, Jimmy Connors and Pete Sampras ranking among the greatest tennis players of all time, it's hard to believe no American male has won a Grand Slam title since Andy Roddick captured the U.S. Open in 2003.

But with four Americans among the top 20 in the ATP world rankings in late February, Boca Raton resident Tommy Paul senses the end to that drought is near. The four are Taylor Fritz (No. 10), Paul (No. 14), Frances Tiafoe (No. 16) and Ben Shelton (No. 17).

"They've been talking about that forever," said Paul, 26. "That's a goal for all of us."

Paul's talents were on display last month, when he followed his Dallas Open championship with another appearance in a final, at the Delray Beach Open. He lost to Fritz, 6-2, 6-3, after beating Tiafoe in the semifinals. Shelton did not play, but Paul beat him in the semifinals the previous week in Dallas en route to his second ATP title.

Born in New Jersey and raised in North Carolina, Paul moved to the tennis hotbed of Boca/Delray at age 14 in 2011 to join the likes of Tiafoe and Reilly Opelka on the local junior scene. He won the French Open boys title and reached a No. 3 junior ranking in 2015 before turning pro the same year.

He moved steadily up the ranks in the ensuing years, reaching the top 100 in 2019, then finishing at No. 43 in 2021 and No. 32 in 2022. He began 2023 by reaching his first semifinal in a Grand Slam at the Australian Open before losing to eventual champion Novak Djokovic.

His highest ATP ranking, No. 12, came last October.

"Every year I've made small steps in the right direction," he said. "I got pretty close to top 10 last year, so that's my goal this year. I said last year I want to win titles, so that's my goal this year. If you win enough titles you get to top 10. That's the goal every week I play, to end the week with a win."

Last month marked Paul's fifth entry into the Delray Open, and his result was an improvement over 2023, when he lost in the quarterfinals to Radu Albot, the 2019 champion. While Paul didn't use it as an excuse, he had just returned from representing the U.S. in a Davis Cup match in Uzbekistan, where he had fallen ill.

He knows the Delray Tennis Center courts well.

"I'm able to train here a lot," he said two days before his first match in mid-February. "It's not my normal training spot, but me and J.J. Wolf practiced a ton here in December and I've spent a lot of time on this court."

"There's an amazing group of players in South Florida. Whether it's here, FAU, wherever, we all practice together and have a great



Tommy Paul of Boca Raton competes last month at the Delray Beach Open, where he lost to No. 1 seed Taylor Fritz in the final in a matchup of the top-ranked American players. Paul won a tournament the previous week. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

relationship."

Paul, who won his first ATP title at the 2021 Stockholm Open and holds three wins over top-five players including No. 2 Carlos Alvarez, got animated when he was asked about playing the best in the game.

"I get excited for those matches," he said. "I know we're going to have awesome points, and that's what tennis is about. That's why we play, to play the best players on the biggest stages."

"It's hard not to be excited for those."

When Paul has some time off, he said, his favorite pursuit is fishing, though that's mostly in freshwater as he has yet to purchase a boat.

"I absolutely love South Florida," he said. "I don't think I'll ever leave."

— Brian Biggane

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

**A:** I grew up in North Carolina until I was 14 and then I moved down here. I did high school online because I was in an academy and we were practicing while the other kids were in school. Most home-schooled people get the rap of being socially awkward, and there's some of that. But we had a great group of guys. Most of them either went to college or went pro, and I'm still playing with some of them, like Frances

Tiafoe and Reilly Opelka, and Fritz. That influenced us big-time — we are who we are because of that. And it showed us what it took to be a professional tennis player.

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

**A:** I turned pro in 2015 (at age 18). Reaching the semifinals at the Australian Open last year was probably my biggest result. Winning Dallas just before Delray was big because any title is really important, and something I'm proud of. But my career path is what I'm most proud of, because I didn't jump to the top right away, it was a slow grind. To finally get to a place where I feel — you don't want to say comfortable because you never want to get comfortable — but I feel I know what I need to do to get where I need to be.

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

**A:** I don't think every person's career path should look the same. Some people stay in high school, go to college, then turn pro. If I were to do it again that's what I would have done. I committed to Georgia and then turned pro right before I was supposed to go. If I were to do it again, I'd go to college for a year or two. The level in college

tennis is so good now there's no reason not to go that way.

**Q:** How did you choose to make your home in east Boca Raton?

**A:** I lived in west Boca since I was 14. My parents lived here for two years, but we have such a good group of people to train with, that's what got me down here, and then I just started loving the area. I was staying at Reilly Opelka's house for about four years, through COVID, and last year I finally decided to get my own place and I was looking nonstop for about a year, and I found a place. It's worked out perfectly since.

**Q:** What is your favorite part about living in Boca Raton?

**A:** My trainer Franco (Herrero) lives in east Boca; he trains me out of Ever Tennis Academy. Everything is super convenient; there's quite a few airports that we can fly in and out of, and that's very important. And I couldn't live somewhere that didn't have the ocean. I love the ocean.

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

**A:** *Born to Run*. Franco actually gave it to me. It's pretty cool. It's about these tribal people in Mexico who have become great runners and it even gets into the history of why people run. Phenomenal book.

**Q:** What music do you listen

to when you want to relax? When you want to be inspired?

**A:** Country music. I listen to a lot of Luke Combs and a lot of old rock. I'll do some rap music sometimes if I'm like, you know really feeling it. Or reggae if I'm having a bunch of people over having a party or something. But mostly old rock and country.

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

**A:** My mom is a big one, and I've had so many great coaches. The guy who works with Frances now, Diego Moyano, coached me at an important time, from like 14 or 15 up to 19, and those are massive years when you're trying to create a professional athlete. Also T.J. Pura, who got me after him. Coaching for me is also mentoring. I've been very lucky to have great people around me.

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

**A:** Matthew McConaughey. I love watching all his movies. He's my favorite actor.

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

**A:** Reilly Opelka and Frances Tiafoe, both make me laugh. Because they're clowns; both of them are clowns. Frances is just a clown and Reilly says the most outrageous stuff.



# OSCAR

Continued from page 1

born and raised in Pawhuska, Oklahoma, a city on the Osage Indian Reservation. These days he commutes between Ocean Ridge and Pawhuska, where he is active in tribal affairs.

Pawhuska is the setting for many of the events depicted in *Killers of the Flower Moon*, based on David Grann’s 2017 best-seller about a dark chapter of Osage history known as the Reign of Terror.

The reign was rooted in the discovery of oil below the reservation in 1897, which turned many tribal members into the richest people per capita in the world. It also attracted people who tried to steal the rights to the Osage land and oil royalties through fraud, marriage and a string of more than 60 murders and suspicious

deaths from 1920 to 1925. The Reign of Terror has been chronicled in several books, but none with as much traction as Grann’s *Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI*.

## Keeping them honest

After Renfro learned in 2016 that the soon-to-be-released book’s movie rights had been sold, he was appointed as the tribe’s ambassador to the film, a role he pursued with two goals: to have the production shot on location in Oklahoma and to make sure the movie portrayed the Osage Nation accurately and respectfully.

The result is a movie that has won critical acclaim, multiple awards and, perhaps most significant, the blessing of the Osage Nation.

And to make it happen, Renfro used his Ocean Ridge connections (more on that later).

“It was really kind of a divine order,” Renfro said of the sequence of events that led to his role in the production.

“I was the first Osage person to make a connection with the film people. It’s a world I never pictured myself in. We were blessed with the best of the best in the film industry to help make this monumental picture.”

As the film’s ambassador, Renfro played multiple roles. He helped convince the producers to shoot the movie in Oklahoma. He helped persuade the state to give millions in rebates to the production, the largest in Oklahoma history. He connected Scorsese’s crew with Osage actors and experts in the nation’s language, clothing, history and tradition.

“We have a unique culture and history, and Chad knows that unique culture and history. He bridged these two worlds,” Osage Nation Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear told *The Coastal Star*. “Chad was unpaid by my office to do this. He did this out of love for his people. He’s the perfect person to be this ambassador, and I told him: This time and place is special and he was meant to be right where he is.”

## The backstory

So, just how did an interior designer from Ocean Ridge wind up playing such an important behind-the-scenes role in one of the biggest movies of the year?

Long before he moved to Delray Beach in 1997, Renfro grew up on the Osage reservation. He graduated from the University of Central Oklahoma with a marketing and public relations degree and started working as an event planner, a gig that evolved into interior designing.

He moved to South Florida at the suggestion of a friend from Pawhuska who was living in Ocean Ridge. A decade later he launched Chad Renfro Design, a successful business with clients from Palm Beach to Boca Raton.

In 2014, pursuing a desire to spend more time with family in Oklahoma, he started commuting between Pawhuska and Ocean Ridge. In Oklahoma, he worked on design projects around Tulsa and on the Osage reservation, where he renovated the Osage Nation executive offices.

Renfro, who said he has known Standing Bear for most of his adult life, served a term on the Osage Nation Foundation’s board of trustees. He participates each June in tribal ceremonies wearing full regalia made by his Osage family.

“He is culturally grounded here among his people. He’s part of our community,” Standing Bear said.

## Acting out of concern

One day in 2016, Renfro was scrolling headlines on his iPad when he came across an article about a production company purchasing the film rights to Grann’s book for \$5 million.

Renfro, at the time an Osage Nation Foundation board member, said he and tribal leaders knew about Grann from the author’s days in Pawhuska researching the book. They also knew the book focused on the FBI agents investigating the Osage murders.

Well aware of Hollywood’s dismal record of depicting indigenous stories accurately, tribal leaders worried that the movie version might downplay or even misrepresent the Osage and their culture.

So, Renfro decided to try to reach out to the two producers mentioned in the article, Dan Friedkin and Bradley Thomas of Imperative Entertainment. If Renfro could open a dialogue, he would invite them to Pawhuska to meet tribal leaders and encourage them to shoot the film in Oklahoma.

## Help from Ocean Ridge

Getting any Hollywood big shot on the phone is a daunting task, especially if you’re someone with no connections

to the movie business. But Renfro had an advantage: His close friends Gary and Penny Kosinski of Ocean Ridge have a relative who works as a Hollywood agent.

The Kosinskis connected Renfro with the agent, and in a brief phone call Renfro explained his motives for wanting to talk to Friedkin and Thomas.

“Moments later, there is an email chain between the two men who own Imperative Entertainment and myself,” he recalled.

“I said, ‘I work closely with the chief. I’m on the board. I know this community. I grew up there. You guys should talk to us.’ And they were receptive.”

Within weeks, Renfro was helping arrange visits to Pawhuska for the Imperative team, and later Scorsese, to meet with tribal leaders, elders and citizens.

“Chad opened that door for Imperative and later joined me in opening the doors for Marty and the team,” Standing Bear said.

But it wasn’t easy.

## Making the movie

From the start, the tribe had major concerns that the movie would be filmed out of state, would not accurately portray the Osage and their culture, and would not use Osage actors.

“That’s what intimidated me, the business side of this,” Standing Bear said, explaining why he named Renfro ambassador. “Chad kept coming to my mind. I said, I’m not gonna be able to pay him. I might as well ask. He took it on himself.”

There were several tense meetings with the production company and with the Oklahoma Film + Music Office, recalled Standing Bear, who said he and Renfro often teamed up with a good cop/bad cop approach “that was not planned.”

“There were several meetings where I came off as a little aggressive to some people, but I had Chad there to explain things,” he said.

“Chad was like a translator in a way. He would say, ‘What the chief means is. ...’ I gave him total permission to do this. I told him, ‘Chad, you’ve got to be with me. You know this world. I need your help.’”

Standing Bear said he makes no apologies for “coming off a little strong” with the tribe’s demands in those meetings.

“I tried to make it clear: I’m not trying to be threatening. I’m just trying to express how concerned we are about being stereotyped as just some Indians out there,” he said.

“I think what Chad and I were saying was a bit new to people. Normally the indigenous population did not have any control of the movie. We understand that someone else bought the movie rights to David’s book, which we all endorsed. But we’re going to have a say-so in this one way or

Continued on page 33



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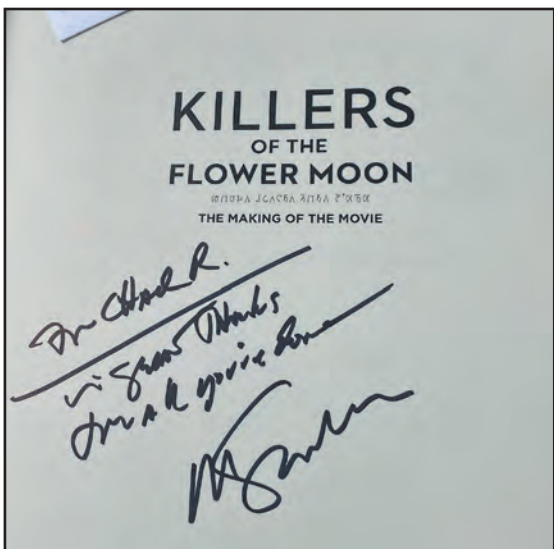
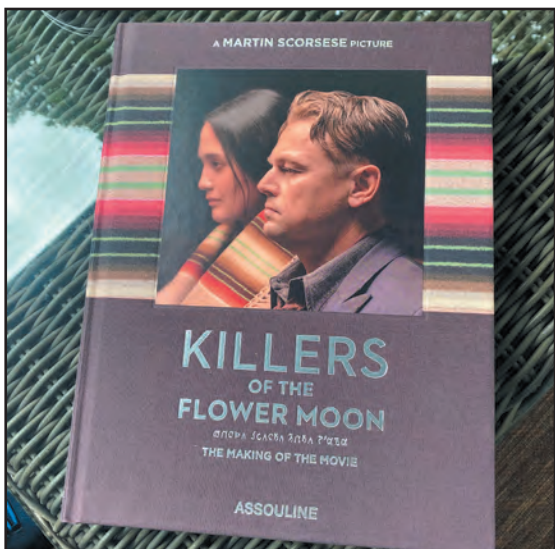
With Scorsese, a legendary filmmaker known for classics like *Raging Bull* and *Goodfellas*, directing two megastars, Leonardo DiCaprio and Robert De Niro, tribal leaders were well aware of the rare opportunity for *Killers of the Flower Moon* to accomplish what previous movies about Native Americans have not — properly showcasing the Osage and their culture.

“It’s not that I’m trying to blame everybody for the past,” Standing Bear said, recalling what he told the film crews, “but when you have an opportunity to make it right, all your people need to be working with Chad and whoever he directs you to, starting with me, to make this story of Osage being told through the best that Hollywood can offer. We’re not trying to direct the movie, but we’re trying to have a voice.”

**The consulting producer**

Renfro’s involvement as unpaid ambassador quickly turned into a full-time job. It wasn’t long before he was hired as a consulting producer, a paid position.

“Marty made a film about trust and betrayal on all different levels. And we have obviously trust issues. We were betrayed so many times that it was only natural there would



In a tribute to Chad Renfro’s contribution to the movie, director Martin Scorsese presented him with a commemorative book signed: ‘For Chad R., in great thanks for all you’ve done.’ **Photo provided**

be trepidation and questions,” Renfro said.

Meanwhile, Scorsese and DiCaprio worked with Eric Roth to rewrite the screenplay and tell the story from the perspective of the Osage instead of the FBI.

“My main goal was achieved — to get them to film in Oklahoma, on our reservation, and to make sure that our people were comfortable with the way it came together,” Renfro said.

Not long after the film premiered Oct. 20 in theaters nationwide, Renfro’s phone started lighting up with texts from friends who’d seen the movie and his name in the 10th frame of the credits.

“They’d say, ‘Oh, my gosh, I knew you had something to do with the film but I didn’t know

you were going to have a credit that size,” he said with a laugh.

Those credits could never be big enough, as far as Penny Kosinski is concerned.

“Chad’s journey from a successful interior designer in Palm Beach to a consultant on a major film is a testament to his multifaceted skills and deep passion for his Native American heritage,” she said in an email.

“As a friend, Chad has always been a source of inspiration. His work on our homes, and The Learning Center at Gulf Stream School, was not just about creating beautiful spaces; it was about infusing each project with a sense of history, culture, and personal story,” she said. “This approach to design, deeply rooted in understanding and respect, is what makes

Chad’s work stand out. It’s this same approach that he brought to *Killers of the Flower Moon*, ensuring the film’s authenticity and respect for the Osage culture.”

**One and done**

Renfro’s role in *Killers of the Flower Moon* has been spotlighted by several media outlets, including *Time* magazine, National Public Radio and *The Hollywood Reporter*. He has attended premieres, news conferences and ceremonies around the world, including the prestigious Cannes Film Festival in France and a special premiere in Pawhuska.

And he plans to attend the Oscar ceremonies with Standing Bear. After that, he said, he’s

done with the movie business. He wants to focus full time on his interior design business.

He said his biggest hope for *Killers of the Flower Moon*, made with help from more than 100 Osage, is that it opens doors for more Native Americans to participate in the film industry.

“This was the most important piece of film involving Native Americans in letting them use their own voices as much as possible,” he said. “It is setting a precedent for going forward.”

In his Ocean Ridge home, Renfro has one keepsake from his work on the film, a Christmas gift Scorsese gave to each member of the production crew: a special hardcover “Making of the Movie” book.

On a page inside the cover, Scorsese scrawled a note: “For Chad R., in great thanks for all you’ve done.”

Renfro said: “I am most proud of the fact that it came together in such a way that our people are presented accurately and that our voices are heard.”

And it might not have happened if he had not moved to Ocean Ridge and built a successful interior decorating business that attracted a client with a relative in the movie business.

“It was really kind of a divine thing,” he said. “I had to leave home, come here and create a life for myself in order to have that one connection that I could use to make that happen.” ★

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South Palm Beach

Council members hear from three who want to join them

By Brian Biggane

Three applicants for the vacant seat on the South Palm Beach Town Council that opened up when Robert Gottlieb resigned in December each made a case to the council at its February meeting. Council members had considered moving quickly and

making their decision then, but they decided to wait for the March meeting to select their choice, with the fifth member then set to be sworn in at the April meeting. All three applicants are women: Elvadianne Culbertson and Arnelle K. Ossendryver, both residents of the Southgate Condominium, and Jennifer

Lesh of Palm Beach Villas. Gottlieb, whose term was supposed to end in March, wound up not seeking reelection during the November qualifying period. After his December resignation, the town planned to hold a second qualifying period for his seat in January, but ended up not reopening the race. Council member Monte Berendes asked all three why they hadn't filed to run during the qualifying period for the March election. Culbertson said she didn't want to run against Gottlieb, while the other two said their circumstances had changed in recent months.

A look at the applicants: **Elvadianne Culbertson** — The only applicant to read from a prepared script, Culbertson, 81, said she has missed only three council meetings in 18 years, served on the council for three years, has written the town newsletter and served on several committees. With the Town Hall building project expected to start soon, Culbertson also said she has experience in architecture and building plans from her time working with Navy ships, which she said since the 1980s have been designed with laser-guided sandwich panels. "As the name implies," she said, "they're pretty much the same as SIPs and have a similar prefabrication process. I dealt with the trade-offs in the design

and ultimately cost." The Town Hall will be built using SIPs, or structural insulated panels. Culbertson proposed updating and refining the Town Charter, pointing as an example to job descriptions of the town manager, of which she said a half-dozen exist, none of which specifically defines that role. In a theme that was repeated by the other two candidates, Culbertson said there needs to be more interaction among people in the town. "We need to work toward knowing each other better," she said. **Jennifer Lesh** — An educator who spent 25 years with the Palm Beach County school system working with students with exceptional needs, Lesh said she has been president of the condo board at Palm Beach Villas for 10 years and was vice president before that. Lesh, 60, earned a doctorate from Barry University in Miami in 2013 and joined the faculty of Lynn University in Boca Raton, where she is in charge of the special education program. "I have volunteered for over 17 years for the Council of Special Education at the local, state and national level, and have been the president of the international organization, so I am familiar with Robert's Rules," she said. A resident of South Palm Beach since 2002, "with a slight break involving Delray Beach,"

Lesh said she never plans to move and called the town "a little slice of paradise." Asked by Vice Mayor Bill LeRoy how she would encourage citizen engagement, Lesh said she would send out surveys to presidents of the condo boards asking what they'd like to see. "In my condo people are not engaging. Maybe if we got ideas it would help," she said. **Arnelle K. Ossendryver** — A resident of Southgate, Ossendryver migrated from South Africa 26 years ago and spent 24 of those employed by the Chesterfield Hotel in Palm Beach, promoting and helping to brand the property for visitors from around the world. When the chairman of the company died two years ago, Ossendryver said "the whole team left" and she started a consulting business from her home. Among her clients is a group of geology professors from London. With so much of her background in branding, Ossendryver, 61, was asked by Mayor Bonnie Fischer what she would do to brand the town. "I would talk to people, ask them what they like about the town. What are the key points? Come up with some ideas, where we see the town going, how we should brand it, it's going to be right. Once you brand it and it has an identity it's good." ★

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South Palm Beach News

**State Road A1A safety** — Mayor Bonnie Fischer said the state is investigating the possibility of lowering the town speed limit and of installing crosswalks — as well as installing bicycle safety signs — following a Jan. 29 forum on State Road A1A safety needs. She said she spoke with Florida Department of Transportation official Jonathan Overton following the forum. Overton attended the forum and heard from residents about their desire for crosswalks. **Safety committee in the works** — After some confusion regarding the creation of an ad hoc resident committee to investigate safety matters on A1A, a resident from the Palm Beach Harbour Club reminded the council at its February meeting that a number of residents had signed up for that committee. She said she expected that James Donatelli, who made a detailed proposal at the January forum, would serve as chairman. Urged by Vice Mayor Bill LeRoy to "strike while the iron is hot," the council unanimously approved the formation of the committee. **Council honors Gottlieb and Fein** — The council recognized the contributions of former member Robert Gottlieb and longtime administrative assistant Sandy Fein at its February meeting. **Keeping Town Hall standing** — On the recommendation of Town Manager Jamie Titcomb, the council authorized repairs needed to maintain the integrity of the aging Town Hall. As Titcomb noted, the building must endure "at least one more hurricane season" while the planning and construction of the new Town Hall is completed. Titcomb said engineers have deemed the repairs necessary. **League representative chosen** — The council selected Mayor Fischer as the town's voting delegate to the Palm Beach County League of Cities. The rest of the council was approved as eligible to serve as the alternate to the league. **Streetlights on the fritz** — Town Manager Jamie Titcomb reported that several malfunctioning streetlights in the south end of town have been repaired repeatedly in recent months. He said he would look into the possibility of making significant improvements to the system.

— Brian Biggane



Along the Coast

Boynton fires HR director running for office in Delray

By Anne Geggis

Boynton Beach fired its human resources director 25 days before Election Day as voters consider her for a spot on the Delray Beach City Commission.

Tennille DeCoste had frequently cited her 20 years of experience saving taxpayer money as a city human resources director throughout the region as a selling point for her Delray Beach commission campaign. But, following a three-month investigation,



DeCoste

Boynton Beach officials on Feb. 23 fired her, chiefly citing instances that her campaign for the Delray Beach seat leaked into aspects of her city job in violation of city policies.

DeCoste, who was employed with the city for 14 months with a \$188,000 annual salary, denied the accusations.

The 32-page document contains 11 allegations that came from anonymous sources. It uses DeCoste's social media posts and spreadsheets in making the case.

Six of the allegations were found to be substantiated and a violation of city policies. Another two were substantiated but not violations of city policy, yet called into question her ability to do her job effectively. Another two were unsubstantiated but raised concerns, and another one was designated simply "unsubstantiated" and arising out of erroneous information.

DeCoste issued a 730-word statement denying that she

misused her position or engaged in unethical behavior. She raised questions about the investigator, Stephanie Marchman, who works for the Gainesville branch of the law firm GrayRobinson.

"The investigation was pre-determined, tainted and completed by the City Attorney's friend," DeCoste's statement reads.

Marchman, however, preempted that allegation in her report. "I have no knowledge of its local figures or politics," she wrote of Boynton Beach.

Using a city card to buy a VIP ticket to the Community Compass Center Stonewall Ball and using city resources to ask city employees to contribute to her political campaign are among the most serious allegations.

DeCoste notes that the city's allegations started after she complained about being told she was "hiring too many black women in HR."

"Now it's my turn as a black woman, my claims are true and the evidence that I provided to the OIG and Ethics will show it once they finish investigating the City Manager," DeCoste wrote in her response.

Marchman noted that although she wasn't hired to evaluate DeCoste's allegations against the city manager, she did take a look at the allegations DeCoste had sent to Mayor Ty Penserga.

"As discussed herein, I do not find Ms. DeCoste to be credible based on her own untruthful statements during my interview of her," Marchman wrote, noting that city administration denied telling the human resources director that she was "hiring too many black women."★

Lantana



A view from Greynolds Circle of the apartments at the Kmart site. Rendering provided

Plans for mixed-use development at Kmart site are warmly received

By Mary Thurwachter

Lantana officials got an early peek at a Miami developer's plans for the redevelopment of the former Kmart site during a workshop Feb. 13, and they liked what they saw.

Victor Ballestas, a principal with Integra Investments, the Miami firm that bought the property at 1301 S. Dixie Highway in July for \$14.85 million, said the company's intent was to come up with a successful mixed-use community.

"We pride ourselves on creating real mixed-use projects, especially in coastal communities that requires you to have successful retail to have all the components of a successful mixed-use project," said Ballestas. "What we've tried to do is essentially take the master plan that was created and make basically a new version of it."

He showed renderings of three-story apartment buildings, stores and restaurants with outdoor seating around a central park suitable for festivals or farmers markets. Renderings showed what the community would look like from the entrance on Greynolds Circle and from Dixie Highway.

"When Brightline goes through our town they'll have a really great view of our 18-acre site and, hopefully, they get a good feeling of what Lantana is from that," Ballestas said.

"You can call the park the heart of the project, but really for us the heart of the project is the retail," he said. "What's good about this is that the retail basically draws you onto the park, so it all kind of works very well together."

The density proposed is 25 units per acre, he said. "We also tried to keep it sort of lower with three stories, which we did successfully." A previous design he showed during a workshop in November had buildings at various heights, including one with five stories.

Town code allows for 15 units per acre, but the master plan permits 25, according to Development Services Director Nicole Dritz. She said some code changes would need to be made.

About 450 apartments will be spread across seven buildings. Nine percent of the apartments will be studios, 41% one-bedroom, 45% two-bedroom and 5% three-bedroom apartments. A

clubhouse and pool are included.

For now, the Lantana Pizza building facing Greynolds will remain. When new retail shops are constructed facing Dixie Highway, the pizza shop will move there and the old building will be razed, making room for something new. Winn-Dixie and other stores located on the site will remain but get new facades. The old IHOP and bank on the east side of the property are not owned by Integra and aren't currently part of the project.

Dritz said her staff has worked with Integra officials since 2022, even before the company bought the land.

"From October 2022 to now we're to a point where both parties are feeling pretty good about what we have to present to you tonight," Dritz said.

"I like what I'm seeing," Mayor Karen Lythgoe said. "Unlike what we saw before, this is more like a neighborhood."

Town Council member Chris Castle agreed. "Overall, this is big improvement from the last," Castle said. "I'd like to thank Nicole for following the master plan. We've spent a lot of time on that."

Residents were allowed to comment, and one question that several people brought up was about elevators.

"Typically, with three-story buildings anyone who needs accessibilities stays on the first level," Ballestas said. "The top two levels are walk-up. But based on the market we can decide if we want to do something on one building or not." He said the problem with elevators is "things get very expensive."

The Miami developer will have to comply with the Live Local Act that dictates at least 40% of the development's residential units be "affordable" and, if the development is a mixed-use project, at least 65% of the total square footage of the parcel has to be used for residential purposes.

An earlier proposal from another developer was denied by the council in August 2022.

Integra's plans are in their infancy, Dritz said, and more details will be coming.

Completion time for construction is estimated at 24 months. ★

Lantana News

Shropshire promoted on Planning Commission —

Former Lantana Town Council member Ed Shropshire has been appointed to a voting seat on the town's Planning Commission, moving up from his alternate position. The council chose him to replace Veronica Cobb, who was appointed to the commission in September and resigned less than two months later.

**Top cop** — Sgt. Tom Dipolito was recognized as the Lantana Police Department's Employee of the Year for 2023 during the Town Council's Feb. 12 meeting.

"In addition to his detective bureau case assignments, Sgt. Dipolito has been instrumental in researching, gathering data and implementing several large-scale projects for the Police Department," Police Chief Sean Scheller said to Dipolito, who was promoted to sergeant last year.

**Support for the Fishing Derby** — In a nod to the Lantana Chamber of Commerce, the Town Council agreed to waive rental fees for the recreation center and for the permit to install a tent for the Fishing Derby. The derby, an annual event sponsored by the chamber, takes place May 4, with activities spanning the entire week. The charge to rent the center is typically \$25 on weekdays and \$75 an hour on weekends and holidays.

**Two new trucks** — The Town Council authorized the purchase of two new vehicles for the Public Services Department— a 2024 Petersen TL-3 grapple truck for grounds maintenance and the parks and recreation divisions, and a 2024 Altec AT238P bucket truck for putting up banners, building maintenance, maintaining decorative lighting, holiday decorations and trimming trees.

Cost of the grapple truck is \$216,405; the bucket truck is \$156,812. The funds will come from the American Rescue Plan Act.

— Mary Thurwachter

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Boynton Beach

City kills contract to build complex at Little League park

By Tao Woolfe

Boynton Beach has broken its contract with Philip Terrano, who sought to renovate the Little League baseball fields he played on 25 years ago.

The news of Terrano’s ouster was cheered by East Boynton Beach Little League parents and officials who have been saying for months that they had been cut out of the plans for their own park.

They have also told the city they do not want — or need — the sophisticated sports complex and field renovations being proposed.

“We were not even notified,” said Jared Ryan, who came to a City Commission meeting last month accompanied by three boys. “We showed up on a Monday and suddenly there’s a fence around the field. It just stinks.”

A financial consultant recently reviewed Terrano’s funding proposal for the athletic center and renovating the park’s fields and buildings, according to a certified letter from City Manager Daniel Dugger to Terrano, dated Feb. 16.

The consultant, PFM Financial Advisors, LLC, determined that Terrano’s company, Primetime Sports,

“has not demonstrated the ability to procure the funds needed for the construction of this facility.”

In his letter to Terrano, Dugger said the city “hereby declares Primetime to be in default of the agreement ... and ... exercises the city’s right to terminate the agreement for cause immediately.”

The breakup followed months of heated exchanges between Terrano and the parents of Little League players who objected to sports business owners coming in and taking over the park.

Terrano’s concept had been to turn the park into a state-of-the-art baseball complex, complete with indoor training facilities, artificial turf, accommodation for baseball players with disabilities and a make-over of concession areas and bathrooms.

He had been joined in his efforts by Michael Barwis, founder of Athletic Angels, which provides baseball camps, clinics and training for underprivileged kids and those with disabilities. The city, which has a separate contract with Barwis for training and field improvements, has not canceled that contract.

At the moment, crews have torn up Field 1, the largest in the park and the only one of



Parents and ballplayers filled the City Commission chambers to protest the handling of renovations at the East Boynton Little League Park. Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star

the four designed for the oldest group (up to age 16), to equip it with artificial turf.

The Little League parents and supporters are not happy that Barwis’s group is still in the mix because their children will not be allowed to play on Field 1 until it is completed sometime this summer.

Meanwhile, the season is underway.

Dozens of East Boynton Beach Little League kids, sporting colorful new uniforms, spread out on the fields on Feb. 9 to celebrate the official season

opening.

There were food trucks, marchers carrying banners, lots of parents with cameras and vendors selling baseball-themed clothing and jewelry. Music blasted from strategically placed speakers.

The city’s action came after EBBLL filed suit against it in January, with the league alleging that the renovations would disrupt the 2024 season.

It remains unclear whether the city will try to intervene in Barwis’ contract on behalf of East Boynton Beach Little

League now that Terrano’s contract has been terminated.

There have been no public announcements by city officials about the situation, the lawsuit by EBBLL, or Terrano’s ouster.

Terrano himself seemed subdued.

“I’m no angel, but my intentions were pure and from the heart,” Terrano said in a quiet voice. “I made a valid effort to do something positive for the community. It has cost me everything.” ★

Along the Coast

Briny Breezes looms large in Form 6 lawsuits against state

By Steve Plunkett

Briny Breezes has a featured position in two lawsuits challenging Florida’s stricter Form 6 financial disclosure requirements that starting this year are now placed on all elected municipal officials.

The town has a starring role in a suit filed in state court in Tallahassee. Briny Breezes is the first one listed of 26 plaintiff municipalities and 74 elected officials from those municipalities. That means citations of the case in future lawsuits will likely be “Briny Breezes v. Florida Commission on Ethics.”

In a similar action filed in U.S. District Court in Miami, the first of 74 plaintiffs is President of Town Council Elizabeth A. Loper of Briny Breezes, meaning the case will probably be called “Loper v. Florida Commission on Ethics” in future citations.

Also, the town is the only municipality detailed in the lawsuits as having lost elected officials because of the new disclosure rule.

“Briny Breezes had three resignations so it is a good example of how the Form 6 requirement is impacting municipalities,” said Jamie

Alan Cole, the city attorney for Weston in southwest Broward County and the lead lawyer for the lawsuits.

Cole did not give a reason for putting Briny’s and Loper’s names first but said, “The order of the plaintiffs has no legal significance.”

Other plaintiffs include Delray Beach and the town of Palm Beach. Cole emailed other city attorneys across the state on Feb. 15, the same day he filed the two suits, to say it was not too late to have additional plaintiffs.

The defendants are the seven members of the state Commission on Ethics.

Cole, who is the managing partner of the Weiss Serota law firm’s Fort Lauderdale office, originally asked towns to pay \$10,000 apiece to join the litigation. But Briny Breezes Town Attorney Keith Davis said Briny was able to negotiate its share down to \$4,000 because of its small size.

Form 6 requires the disclosure of net worth, earnings and tangible assets and has long been applied to the governor, state legislators, county commissioners and other government officers at the state and county levels. A state law enacted in 2023 made

elected municipal officials also subject to the Form 6 requirements.

Municipal officials previously had to file a less detailed Form 1 financial disclosure.

More than 100 Florida mayors and municipal commission/council members resigned on or before Dec. 31 rather than subject themselves to the disclosure requirements, the lawsuit says.

“For example,” the state lawsuit says, “in plaintiff Briny Breezes, former Mayor Gene Adams, former Council President Christina Adams, and former Alderman and Council President Sue Thaler all resigned in December 2023 because of the Form 6 requirement.”

“As a result of resignations, municipalities, including municipal plaintiffs, have been (and/or will be) forced to expend significant public funds for filling vacancies, including temporary appointments and special elections. In addition, the vacancies have disrupted municipal operations.”

The state litigation alleges a violation of the right to privacy guaranteed by the Florida Constitution.

The federal lawsuit alleges a violation of the U.S. Constitution’s First Amendment

right to free speech for compelling municipal officials to make “non-commercial, content-based” speech by saying, among other things, that “My net worth as of Dec. 31, 2023, was \$\_\_\_\_\_.”

It asks a federal judge to declare the new Florida law unconstitutional. The state and the federal lawsuits both seek an injunction to prevent the Ethics Commission from enforcing the Form 6 rule.

The law sets a July 1 deadline for filing the Form 6 with financial data as of Jan. 1.

A Government Accountability bill in the Florida House (HB 735) would delay the first reporting due date for Form 6 until July 1, 2025, and exempt elected officials in municipalities smaller than 500 people. A companion bill in the Senate (SB 734) does not have such language.

If the House bill were to become law, it would benefit Manalapan, which is small enough, for example, but not Briny Breezes, which is above the 500 cutoff. ★

Ocean Ridge News

**Bank snafu** — Payday for Ocean Ridge town employees did not arrive as expected on Jan. 26 — specifically there was no money direct-deposited into employee accounts that morning — so Ocean Ridge expects to switch from its current bank, City National.

Town Manager Lynne Ladner asked the Town Commission to authorize the search for a new bank partner, explaining that the pay delay was a glitch on the bank’s part.

“Sounds like there’s no choice,” Commissioner David Hutchins said.

**Special magistrate ruling postponed** — A code enforcement case’s resolution involving “No Trespassing” signs at the Turtle Beach condominiums was postponed from Feb. 20 to a date to be determined before a special magistrate.

— Anne Geggis



Lantana

Extreme weather pushes town toward a stormwater utility fee

**By Mary Thurwachter**

Lantana continues to inch toward instituting a non-property tax assessment to cover stormwater utility costs. In January, the Town Council adopted a resolution making the county property appraiser and tax collector aware of the plan. And, at its Feb. 26 meeting, it awarded a \$121,510 contract to Chen Moore and Associates to develop a stormwater utility

fee — an assessment charged to property owners to pay the costs of stormwater programs. Town Manager Brian Raducci said the idea to have the assessment came up during the town’s visioning session a year ago. When bids were solicited for the engineering work, only Chen Moore and Associates, a company that specializes in the service, responded. “They do quite a bit of this work in Palm Beach County and Broward, as

well,” he said. “They will be tasked with looking at what costs the town incurs in providing stormwater services and come up with a recommended fee that is necessary so that the town could have a special assessment,” Raducci said. Brent Whitfield of Chen Moore and Associates of West Palm Beach said his firm would be looking at hundreds of homes to see what the average square footage of pavement

per home is and set that as the basis for how the rate will be applied. Council member Kem Mason asked Whitfield to explain why the assessment is needed now. “I think everyone has seen we’ve got king tides and we’ve got rainfall patterns that are more extreme than we’ve seen in the past,” Whitfield said. “You saw what happened in Fort Lauderdale when they had a once-in-a-thousand-year

event that shut the airport down. We’re seeing a lot more extreme weather. There is likely going to be more infrastructure needs because of weather patterns and the kind of things we’ve all been seeing with flooding recently.” Money for this agreement will be provided from American Rescue Plan Act funds or other reserves. ★

Lantana

Mayoral debate covers town wages, water quality, spending and more

**By Mary Thurwachter**

Topics ranging from water quality and code enforcement to staff salaries and how contracts are vetted came up at the mayoral debate at the Lantana Public Library on Feb. 20. Incumbent Karen Lythgoe and challenger Jorge “George” Velazquez took just 35 minutes to answer questions submitted by residents and read by Teresa Wilhelm, president of the Friends of the Library, the forum’s sponsor. Velazquez, 57, a former commercial real estate agent who worked in the federal prison system and is an alternate on the town’s Planning Commission, had a different view than his opponent on the salaries of town employees. “In 2020 and 2021, we had 155 employees and we paid \$6.8 million in salaries,” he said. “In 2022 and 2023, we had 135 employees and paid \$8 million, and our budget back in 2020 was \$20 million. Today it’s \$30 million. I don’t think the town has grown so much for us to warrant that kind of expense.” Lythgoe, 64, was elected to the council in 2020 and was acting mayor after Robert Hagerty resigned in 2021. During a special election, she ran successfully to complete the rest of Hagerty’s term, which ends after the election March 19. She said there is a reason that salaries went up. “In 2021, we had a 30% turnover in employees,” she said. The same thing happened the following year. “We decided we would raise the taxes a quarter of a mill [an additional 25 cents for every \$1,000 of assessed value] and one of the things we wanted to do was attract and retain talented employees, which means you don’t need as many employees and you keep the ones who are good.” She said Velazquez had changed his mind on the issue. “On July 11, 2022, George, you spoke up and you were the only person in the room that advocated for the small



Lythgoe



Velazquez

increase in taxes and to pay the employees more. It’s on the audio. So, I’m not sure what’s changed. We want to pay and keep good employees.” When asked for their thoughts on code enforcement, Velazquez said some residents are complaining about it. “I think they should have a little bit more time to come into compliance,” he said. “A lot of residents say they’re being unfairly treated.” Lythgoe said she and the town manager had discussed the customer service aspect of code enforcement. “Sometimes there’s a little bit of a less-than-friendly attitude,” Lythgoe said. “We want to have a customer service attitude with our enforcement and it’s improving. I’ve been getting reports back from some of the residents that things are getting better. I think there’s still some targeting going on and one of the things that supposedly will help fix that is that you can’t make anonymous complaints anymore.” On the topic of how contracts are vetted and the cost of renovating the library, Velazquez said improvement is needed. “The estimate for renovating this library was \$750,000 but we wound up paying \$1.5 million,” he said. “The Inspector General came and slapped Lantana on the wrist because they had hired an unlicensed contractor. Luckily, one of the councilmen found a discrepancy and brought it up to the town manager. They got rid of the contractor, who wound up getting some probation time for what he did.” Lythgoe said the town now has a contract manager who makes sure contracts are “on the up and up.” “We had somebody a while

back that was kind of making a little money (from the contracts),” she said. “He was giving jobs to friends, shall we say. We found that out just by word of mouth and we caught that.” Both candidates like the latest plans for redeveloping the Kmart site, but Velazquez wishes there would be condos rather than apartments. And both agreed that halfway houses and drug rehab centers in town are not presenting problems. “The ones that are run correctly and are properly licensed, I have no problem with,” Lythgoe said. “There’s no crime with them. If you know of any that are, you need to address it with the police.” Velazquez said there is a sober home directly behind his home and he has never had a problem with it. “All they do is sit and smoke, laugh, and listen to some music,” he said. High on both candidates’ priority lists was improving drinking water quality. Velazquez said he had heard a lot of complaints about dirty water. Lythgoe said the town is working on it. “We started to do the work on the filter media this month and once that’s changed, hopefully, when they get in the tanks, they will look good, but if not, we’ll have to work on the tanks,” she said. “We have replaced all the pumps. We’ve replaced the roof on the pump house, since it was old. “We’re trying to do things a smart way.” Last year the town got millions of dollars in grants toward infrastructure, including the water plant, according to Lythgoe. Voters will have another chance to hear the candidates discuss local issues during a forum hosted by the Chamber of Commerce at 7 p.m. March 7 at the Palm Beach Maritime Academy Middle School, 600 S. East Coast Ave. ★

Along the Coast

I-95 express lane project officially complete

Construction of Interstate 95’s express lanes from just south of Glades Road to just north of Congress Avenue is over. The project was “final-accepted” by the Florida Department of Transportation on Feb. 1, project spokeswoman Andi Pacini said. The \$148 million project included converting the Glades Road interchange to what’s called a “diverging diamond interchange” and reconstructing the Clint Moore Road bridge over the interstate. “Huge congratulations to the team who came in on time and budget despite a complex scope of work and numerous challenges encountered during the course of the project,” Pacini said. The FDOT started collecting tolls for the express lanes on Nov. 18. Tolls in Miami-Dade County, which was the first to get I-95 express lanes, vary from 50 cents to \$10.50 depending on distance, time of day and congestion. The FDOT’s goal is to keep express lane vehicles moving at 45 to 50 mph on average. — Steve Plunkett

Boynton Beach News

**Plans for Magnuson House dropped** — Boynton Beach city commissioners terminated the Community Redevelopment Agency’s contract to turn the historic Magnuson House into a restaurant. Commissioners, acting in their role of CRA board members, decided in January to end the contract with restaurateur Anthony Barber. Officials said he had not been in touch since indicating in November he was having difficulty finding lenders, in part because of the restrictions in place due to the building’s historic designation. They gave Barber until the CRA’s February meeting to find the needed financing, but heard nothing back from him. After ending the contract in February, commissioners voted to give Barber back his \$10,000 deposit. “Mr. Barber spent well over that” trying to make the project work, said Vice Mayor Thomas Turkin. “It’s not the individual’s fault.” **Hunt for CRA director continues** — The CRA board narrowed down the candidates for the vacant CRA director’s job to four, who will be interviewed in the coming weeks. Interim CRA Director Timothy Tack has said some 64 candidates applied to replace Thuy Shutt. She was fired from her post by the commission, for largely unspecified reasons, at a tumultuous CRA meeting in October. **Monitoring well approved** — The CRA board approved the placement of a monitoring well at 401 E. Boynton Beach Blvd. to assess whether an auto repair operation at 319 E. Boynton Beach Blvd. has caused petroleum contamination in the area. Interim CRA Director Timothy Tack said there has been concern that any finding of contamination could affect the proposed construction of a new United States Post Office building on the site by Maple Tree Construction. Tack added, however, that if contamination is discovered, the state Department of Environmental Protection offers a Petroleum Restoration Program for cleanup at no cost to the property owner, which is the CRA. The Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management requested the board’s approval to place the monitoring well, Tack said. — Tao Woolfe



## Business Spotlight

# Billy Joel relists Manalapan estate, is linked to purchase in Boca's Sanctuary

Billy Joel may soon be "Turning the Lights Back On" in a new home.

In January, the "Piano Man" relisted his Manalapan estate at 1110 S. Ocean Blvd. for \$54.9 million. It was originally listed for \$64.9 million in November 2022.

Built in 2010, the nine-bedroom, 20,838-square-foot home sits on 1.6 acres with about 150 feet of frontage on the ocean and Intracoastal Waterway. The compound includes a guest house and staff house; details in the main house include a theater room, a pub room with a bar, paneled library, 12-plus-car garage, and wine cellar with a wet bar and tasting table.

Broker Christian Angle of Christian Angle Real Estate holds the listing.

Joel's Manalapan residence was built on part of the Harold S. Vanderbilt estate and sold by Veronica Hearst to developer Robert Fessler. He sold the house new in 2011 to Texas banking businessman Donald Adam for \$15 million.

Adam then sold it to Joel for \$22 million in January 2015.

Joel, who says he and his family plan to spend more time in Florida, has also listed Middlesea, his Long Island estate, for \$49 million.

So, where will Joel and his family reside next? Could that be the waterfront home at 5001 Egret Point Circle, in the Sanctuary neighborhood of Boca Raton?

Owners Vernon Circle LLC, Oleg Movchan and Beata Vaynberg sold the property in January for \$29 million amid speculation Joel was the buyer. The sellers were represented by Carmen D'Angelo Jr., Gerard Liguori and Joseph Liguori of Premier Estate Properties.

The eight-bedroom estate with 21,607 square feet includes a separate guest house, a pool and 560 feet fronting the water on three sides with multi-yacht dockage. The listing reads that the "Italianate trophy-point estate" has a grand salon with columned archways, hand-distressed walnut floor and "baronial fireplace"; museum-quality walnut paneling and stained-glass windows in the English pub room with a bar and two wine vaults; and a library with oak paneling and onyx fireplace.

Movchan is the chief executive officer of Chicago-based Enfusion, a software-as-a-service provider for investment managers. Vaynberg is president of Highland Park, Illinois-based LB&M Real Estate Management Inc. The new owner is listed as 5001 Egret Point Circle LLC, incorporated in Florida on Jan. 3. The registered agent and manager is GSB Corporate Services in Wellington, a law firm incorporated under attorney Francisco J. Gonzalez.

The LLC ownership company



Real estate listings and sales records indicate that singer Billy Joel is trying to sell his ocean-to-Intracoastal estate in Manalapan (top), and possibly taking on this sprawling estate (above) in the Sanctuary community of Boca Raton. Photos provided

of 1110 S Ocean also lists GSB Corporate Services as its registered agent and manager, as does a townhome at 331 Australian Ave., Palm Beach, which also has been reported as owned by Joel. Hence the speculation that Joel is the new owner of the Egret Point Circle estate.

A year ago, residents from the **Moorings** were making routine visits to Lantana Town Council meetings to protest the size of **Lantana Cabana**, a restaurant developers hoped to construct at the Intracoastal community off Dixie Highway in the northern part of town.

Residents said a 4,000-square-foot proposal was too big for the .13-acre island, which is connected to the mainland by a dock and bordered by land owned by the homeowners association and surrounded on three sides by moored boats.

Three years ago, **Gulfstream Hospitality** purchased the island for \$1.01 million with plans to build a waterfront restaurant at the 378-unit condominium complex.

Those plans were scrapped last fall and the property, listed by restaurant brokers Prakas & Co. in Boca Raton, is on the market for \$2.5 million.

The land has approvals for a 1,500-square-foot enclosed space with 4,000 square feet under the roof. The listing says the property comes with 50 dedicated parking spaces and two boat slips.

Lantana Director of Development Services Nicole Dritz said no one notified her office to report the Gulfstream Hospitality property was for sale. Dritz said submitted plans are going nowhere, and she had advice for potential buyers: "Talk to the town before you buy so you'll know what will fly and what will not."

There's been a lot going on with the **1140 S. Ocean Blvd.** property in Manalapan. Most recently, a company led by Bridgehampton, New York-based developer Joe L. Farrell paid \$32.5 million for it and immediately filed for permits to renovate the home. The seller is Mark Sherman, the CEO of Atlanta-based Green Wave Electronics. Premier Estate Properties agent **Margit Brandt** represented Farrell. **Pier Paolo Visconti** and **Claudia Llanes** of Douglas Elliman represented the seller.

Sherman listed the property a year ago for \$59 million with his ex-wife, Isabella Sherman.

They had paid \$8 million for it in December 2000. With other price points optional, the \$59 million price tag was for the home, with renovations complete.

Renovations had been underway on and off since 2017 with a few permit extensions. At that time, according to Visconti, those renovations were expected to be completed in 14 to 16 months.

"If the buyer wants to buy it as is, obviously the price will be lower," Visconti said. "Another possibility, we just made plans to build a 3,500-square-foot guest house on the property, and for that, the price would be adjusted as well."

Sherman had big dreams for the property. On 1.61 acres with 150 feet of waterfront on the ocean and Intracoastal Waterway, the residence would have included seven bedrooms and 12,420 square feet. Features would have included a champagne room, gym, library, home theater, game room, wine storage for 1,000 bottles, and a 12-car garage.

Peter R. Norden, CEO of mortgage lending firm HomeBridge, sold a spec home built by SRD Building Corp. at **1812 Sabal Palm Circle** in Boca

Raton's Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club for \$16.9 million, in a deal recorded Feb. 2.

**David and Robin Reis**, trustees of the Royal Palm Residence Trust, are the new owners. David Reis is the CEO of Senior Care Development, a New York company that builds living facilities for older adults. Norden bought the property for \$5 million in November 2021. **David Roberts** of Royal Palm Properties represented both sides.

Four new tenants will move into the **Boca Raton Innovation Campus**, making the 1.7-million-square-foot science hub 91% leased. They are **Engineering Express**, a building-component design firm; **Hollywood.com**, an entertainment news and ticket sales website; **LandAirSea**, a GPS tracking system manufacturer, and **MODE Architects**.

Also, revenue-cycle management platform EdgeMed and the investment firm Orchid Bay Financial Holdings renewed their leases there, with Orchid Bay planning to expand.

BRIC was represented by Jeff Kelly of CBRE in the lease negotiations. Hollywood.com was represented by Will Morrison of CBRE. Anthony Vallagi of Posh Properties represented LandAirSea. EdgeMed was represented by Jason Stagman of Stagman Commercial Real Estate. Engineering Express, MODE Architects, and Orchid Bay were not represented by brokers.

Four new entrepreneurs were selected to join the **Research Park at Florida Atlantic University** in Boca Raton. They were selected based on their innovative approaches, proven records and ability to partner with the university.

The new arrivals are:

**InfraSite**, led by CEO Vitaliy Pereverzev, a company that comes up with solutions to smoothly integrate 5G, data centers and edge computing facilities into city settings; **Fenway Group**, led by CEO Martin Santora, a company that offers customized solutions for businesses to take charge of their digital operations; **Signalic LLC**, led by founder & CEO Arash Andalib, a biomedical tech venture offering personalized pain management solutions; and **Salus Water**, led by President Marcelo Costa, a company that specializes in residential water filtration and purification systems.

The Research Park also announced the elections of Stacy Volnick, Ph.D., FAU president, and Imran Siddiqui, JD, as chair and vice chair respectively of the **Florida Atlantic Research and Development Authority** for 2024. Volnick and Siddiqui will work closely with members of the authority and executive management to continue the park's mission of promoting research and economic development in South Florida.

**Lang Realty** recently donated \$6,247 to the American Cancer Society's "**Making Strides Against Breast Cancer**," as part of its annual Open the Door for a Cure campaign.

Throughout October, a portion of the proceeds from the sale of each home closed was dedicated to the charity. "Lang has been a proud supporter of this cause for more than a decade," said President Scott Agran. "Many of our own agents and staff have personally battled this disease or have gone through this with loved ones."

**TRX**, a company that produces portable gym equipment, recently celebrated the opening of its new 12,000-square-foot



headquarters at 1110 S. Federal Highway, Delray Beach. Moving from San Francisco, TRX aims for a “revitalized” new start after being reacquired by its founder, retired Navy SEAL Randy Hetrick, who started the company in 2004.

He sold his controlling interest in 2019, but in 2022, he bought it out of bankruptcy for \$8.4 million with Jack Daly, a Delray Beach resident who is managing partner of Delray Beach-based JFXD Capital and former partner at Goldman Sachs. Daly will serve as CEO of the company.

**The Platt Group**, a team of Compass real estate brokers headed by Alex and Margot Platt, recently opened a 2,000-square-foot office at 102 NE First Ave., Delray Beach. Focusing on residential real estate, about 15 people will work in the office. Previously, the space served as the headquarters for Delivery Dudes.

Area resorts again won five-star ratings from the **Forbes Travel Guide: Eau Palm Beach**, Manalapan; **Four Seasons, Palm Beach**, and **The Boca Raton**. Ranked after anonymous visits from the travel guide’s team of inspectors, all three received five-star ratings for their hotels and spas, with Florie’s restaurant at the Four Seasons, headed by Michelin-

star chef Mauro Colagreco, receiving four stars.

Under Jan Kinder, chair of the Greater Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce’s **Delray Business Partners** leads group, members generated more than \$172,000 of gross sales by doing business with one another as well as by referring their colleagues in the group to other potential clients. For information on the group, visit [delraybusinesspartners.com](http://delraybusinesspartners.com).

**Erin L. Deady**, a licensed Delray Beach attorney and certified land planner in Florida, recently helped secure funding for projects addressing flooding and sea-level rise resilience. In a larger funding request of \$2.5 billion for 238 projects, Deady authored six project grants totaling \$48.8 million, ranking among the top 33 projects.

The projects cover areas such as bridge replacement, wastewater plants, stormwater resiliency and road adaptation. This funding announcement is part of the Resilient Florida program for 2024-2025, pending approval in the legislative session ending in March.

The project list complies with a state law signed by Gov. Ron DeSantis in 2021, creating the Resilient Florida grant program.

The law mandates annual submission of project lists and statewide flooding and sea level

rise resiliency plans, starting in 2022.

Deady played a role in securing an additional \$1.5 million for local governments to enhance or initiate new vulnerability planning projects.

The nonprofit **Institute for Regional Conservation** announced two staff appointments this year. **Alex Seasholtz** was appointed director of ecological restoration. He joined the institute in 2019 as the crew leader for the Pine Rockland Initiative program. **Liz Dutra** was appointed the conservation program manager. She joined the institute in 2023 as a program associate.

Other news from the institute: It has collaborated with Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden in a shared commitment on the *Jacquemontia reclinata* coastal restoration project. Also known as beach clustervine, this coastal species, which stabilizes beach dunes, provides critical habitat and food for wildlife.

The institute has been educating the public about the importance of coastal restoration and asking people to be on the lookout for this endangered plant.

If you think you have spotted a beach clustervine, photograph it and upload it to the iNaturalist app, or

contact Dutra at [ldutra@regionalconservation.org](mailto:ldutra@regionalconservation.org).

**Florida Atlantic University’s College of Engineering and Computer Science** received a \$2.6 million grant from the **National Science Foundation** to establish a scholarship program in the field of cybersecurity.

The foundation’s **CyberCorps Scholarship for Service** program seeks to increase the number of qualified cybersecurity professionals working for federal, state, local, territorial and tribal governments.

The program is managed by the foundation in collaboration with the U.S. Office of Personnel Management and the Department of Homeland Security

A local **Stanley Steemer** office is warning people getting their carpets cleaned: If you think you’ve called the company to do your home and someone

arrives in anything other than one of the company’s yellow, branded vans — and not wearing a company polo shirt, either — you’re being scammed.

After hearing complaints about shoddy service from people who wanted Stanley Steemer, but who appear to have fallen for a fake internet ad, Delray Beach store owner Tom Scalera filed fraud reports with the Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office.

Customers told Scalera that the workers claimed to be subcontractors for the company, something the company does not have.

Mary Thurwachter contributed to this column.



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

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**Unique Opportunity** | 5 Winthrop Lane | Boynton Beach | \$1,199,000 | Rare opportunity to purchase this charming beach cottage in the surf pocket. 2 bedrooms and 1 bath. **Web# RX-10884284**





# Around Town

Pay It Forward - Page AT2  
Celebrations - Page AT6  
Finding Faith - Page AT18  
Tots & Teens - Page AT22

March 2024

The Coastal  Star

Inside



**Dining**  
Deconstructing the high cost of cocktails. Page AT8



**Health & Harmony**  
Full moon beach yoga a balm for the soul. Page AT20



**On the Water**  
Show to bring a boatload of vessels. Page AT24



**House of the Month**  
Ocean-to-Intracoastal estate in Manalapan. Page AT31

Pets

## Thanks fur the memories



ABOVE: Debbie Broyles, minding the store for the new owners of Fins Furs 'N Feathers, calls a customer to say pet food is ready for pickup. BELOW: Broyles' father, Charlie Holland, opened the store in 1970 on North Federal Highway. Broyles and her family sold the shop this year to Ana and Franco Lepiane, who plan to keep its name. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star; photo provided (below)

### Boca's first pet store changes hands after half-century in family

By Arden Moore

In 1970, a gallon of gas cost about 40 cents. You could buy a loaf of bread for 25 cents. A new car, on average, cost \$3,560. And the city of Boca Raton was home to 28,500 residents.

The cost of everything has gone up in the past 53 years and so has the population of Boca Raton, now at 99,435, according to the latest U.S. Census.

But one of the treasured constants was — and still is — a beloved pet store called Fins Furs 'N Feathers on North Federal Highway.

Let's travel back in

time to 1970. Charlie Holland was a well-liked Boca Raton resident who worked in grocery and antique stores. He loved providing great customer service and he loved pets — and that included his prized fish aquarium in his home. There were no pet stores in Boca Raton, so he had to drive to Fort Lauderdale for fish and supplies.

At the urging of friends and his wife, Betty, he decided to combine these passions by opening the first pet shop in Boca Raton in the fall of 1970. He named his store Fins Furs 'N Feathers.

See PET STORE on page AT10



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Pay It Forward

Pay It Forward

Note: Events are current as of 2/26. Please check with organizers for any changes.

MARCH

**Saturday - 3/2 - Sandoway Discovery Center's Muscle on the Beach** at Old School Square, 51 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. Get excited about a car show featuring more than 100 American hotrods and trucks from decades past as well as a silent auction all benefiting the nonprofit's hands-on learning experiences that focus on Florida's fragile ecosystems. 10 am-3 pm. Free. 561-274-7263 or sandoway.org.

**Saturday - 3/2 - George Snow Scholarship Fund's The "Rhinestone Cowboy" Ball: Boots & Bling** at Boca West Country Club, 20583 Boca West Drive, Boca Raton. Help deserving students achieve their dream of attending college while enjoying casino games, live music, alligator wrestling, line dancing and more. 6-11 pm. \$325. 561-347-6799 or scholarship.org.

**Wednesday - 3/6 - YMCA of South Palm Beach County's Inspiration Breakfast** at Peter Blum Family YMCA of Boca Raton, 6631 Palmetto Circle South. Hear from Emmy Award-nominated sports broadcaster Erin Andrews, the keynote speaker, while raising funds for programs aimed at youths, families and seniors. 7:30-10 am. \$300. 561-237-0944 or ymcasbpc.org/inspirationbreakfast.

**Tuesday - 3/12 - Achievement Centers for Children & Families' Delray Beach**

**Home Tour** in the Palm Trail neighborhood. Explore extraordinary residences, enjoy a catered luncheon and take advantage of trolley service or golf cart transportation along the route. 10 am-4 pm. \$125. 561-276-0520 or achievementcentersfl.org/delray-home-tour

**Friday - 3/15 - Caron Treatment Centers' 2024 Caron Florida Gala** at Opal Grand Oceanfront Resort & Spa, 10 N. Ocean Blvd., Delray Beach. Be inspired by an evening celebrating recovery and shining a light on the organization's mission of providing treatment for addiction as well as funding research and prevention. 6 pm. \$500. 610-858-5748 or caron.org.

**Sunday - 3/17 - LIFE's "Lady in Red" Gala** at The Breakers, One S. County Road, Palm Beach. Celebrate with global music superstar Paul Anka and comedian legend Jay Leno at the 30<sup>th</sup>-annual affair that benefits disabled veterans through American Humane's "Pups4Patriots" program and local children through Palm Beach County Food Bank's "Lois' Food4Kids" program. 6 pm. \$1,500. 561-582-8083 or life-edu.org.

**Saturday - 3/23 - Arts Garage's Annual Fundraising Gala** at 94 N.E. Second Ave., Delray Beach. Take a trip back to the golden age of disco with electrifying dance hits by the Original Studio54 Band and raise money for performances, education programs and emerging visual artists. 6-10 pm. \$250. 561-450-6357 or artsgarage.org.

**Tuesday - 3/26 - National Society of Arts and Letters' Florida Chapter's**

APRIL

**Thursday-Friday - 4/4-5 - Boca Raton Historical Society's/ The Schmidt Boca Raton History Museum's Boca Bacchanal** at various private residences throughout the city. Enjoy wine tastings from internationally acclaimed dealers and delectable cuisine prepared by renowned chefs during the vintner dinners. 7 pm. \$350. 561-395-6766, Ext. 101 or bocahistory.org.

**Saturday - 4/6 - Big Dog Ranch Rescue's Celebrity Chefs For Canines** at Opal Grand Oceanfront Resort & Spa, 10 N. Ocean Blvd., Delray Beach. Join the four-legged-friendly charity for a night to remember featuring fine wines, exquisite auctions, dogs, dancing and lots of fun between courses. 6:30-8 pm cocktail reception, 8-11 pm dinner and program. \$450. 561-791-6465 or bdr.org.

**Sunday - 4/7 - Boca Raton Historical Society's/The Schmidt Boca Raton History Museum's Boca Bacchanal** at The Addison, Two E. Camino Real, Boca Raton. Relish signature dishes by local restaurants plus a silent auction during the Grand Tasting. 1-4 pm. \$150. 561-395-6766, Ext. 101 or bocahistory.org.

**Thursday - 4/11 - Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County's Love of Literacy Luncheon** at Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Hear from featured speaker Geraldine Brooks, a Pulitzer Prize-winning best-selling author. 11:30 am. \$175. 561-279-9103 or literacypbcc.org.

**Friday - 4/12 - Place of Hope's Angel Moms Brunch and Benefit, Hope in Bloom**, at Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club, 2425 W. Maya Drive, Boca Raton. Support programs that serve foster children and those who have aged out of the system as well as homeless youths, single mothers, families in transition and human-trafficking survivors. 10 am-2 pm. \$250. 561-483-0962, Ext. 61 or placeofhoperinker.org.

**Saturday - 4/13 - Boca Helping Hands' Monopoly & Casino Night** at Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club, 2425 W. Maya Palm Drive, Boca Raton. Roll the dice at the annual evening of music, entertainment, auctions, gaming, cocktails, dinner and, of course, Monopoly. 6-10 pm. \$250. 561-417-0913 or bocahelpinghands.org/monopoly.

**Saturday - 4/13 - Florida Atlantic University's President's Gala** at 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton. Support student scholarships and celebrate student success while enjoying an open bar, gourmet dining and live entertainment. 7 pm. \$400. 561-297-3000 or gala.fau.edu.

**Wednesday - 4/17 - Boca West Children's Foundation Luncheon with Chef Alex Guarnaschelli** at Boca West Country Club, 20583 Boca West Drive, Boca Raton. Chow down with the renowned Food Network star and raise funds for projects that assist children and families in need. 11 am-to 2 pm. \$195. 561-488-6980 or bocawestfoundation.org/luncheon-with-alex-guarnaschelli.

**Saturday - 4/20 - Best Foot Forward Foundation's BFF Bash** at Boca West Country Club, 20583 Boca West Dr., Boca Raton. Learn how foster-care and at-risk youths are finding success in life through education and prepare to be wowed with the event theme "A Night with our Stars." 6:30-10:30 pm. \$250. 561-470-8300 or bestfoot.org.

**Tuesday - 4/30 - Impact 100 Palm Beach County's Grand Awards Celebration** at Boca West Country Club, 20583 Boca West Dr., Boca Raton. Watch as members vote to determine which local organizations receive \$100,000 grants that will help transform their nonprofit missions. 10 am-2 pm. Free. 561-336-4623 or impact100pbcc.org.

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Pay It Forward

Students of song, dance to dazzle at gala

By Amy Woods

This year's Star Maker Awards, the big benefit for the National Society of Arts and Letters' Florida chapter, will celebrate musical theater by showcasing the talents of young artists on the rise.

The annual extravaganza includes the presentation of scholarships to those whose performances win first, second and third places in the competition, with the No. 1 winner earning a spot at the society's national contest in May.

"It's wonderful to be able to present these young artists," event Co-Chairwoman Alyce Erickson said. "They come, and they are presented, and that's how they grow."

The gala is set for March 26 at Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club, where guests will gather for the black-tie-optional evening of cocktails, cuisine and stage numbers.

"It's a matter of giving back to the community and helping younger people," event Co-Chairwoman Shari Upbin said. "I think our main goal, of course, is to present the scholarship winners artistically — it's almost mind-boggling when you hear them — and to bring in funds."

The 2024 Lifetime Achievement Award recipient is internationally renowned, Boca Raton-based artist Yaacov Heller. Heller's accomplishments as a sculptor and a silversmith convey messages of acceptance, hope, love and peace, and throughout his 60-year career he has been commissioned to create historically significant works for presidents, kings and queens, heads of state and other dignitaries.

"He's really excited," said Kirsten Stephenson, president of the Florida chapter. "It's nice to have someone who is really honored to be honored."

The National Society of Arts and Letters' mission focuses on finding talented amateurs at the beginning of their careers and providing a combination of money and opportunity for them to advance in their disciplines.

"I really feel like we all need to collaborate on the arts right now," Stephenson said. "When we find a kid who wants to play violin, I think they need a lot more help than the kid who wants to become an engineer. When you're dealing with kids in the arts, it's almost an uphill battle."

Founded in 1944, the society has 15 chapters across the country. The Florida chapter's membership is 60 and counting.

"We've taken off on membership," Stephenson said. "We've got a waiting list for the board. We're in a



The National Society of Arts and Letters' Florida Chapter's annual Star Maker Awards will honor Yaacov Heller with the Lifetime Achievement Award and raise money for scholarships, competitions and mentoring programs for performing and visual artists. The event is 6 p.m. March 26 at Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club. Tickets are \$375. **ABOVE:** (l-r) Co-Chairwomen Shari Upbin, Alyce Erickson (seated), Arlene Herson and Sue Heller with Yaacov. **Photo provided**

really good place right now. But we're not in a good place financially. We are struggling a bit because we give our

money straight to the kids. We depend on the gala, so it's very important that we do this well." ★

Laugh

WITH THE LIBRARY

CHAPTER 17

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Philanthropy Notes

Wayside House rings in 50 years

When Susan B. Anthony, the great-niece of the women’s rights advocate, opened the doors of Wayside House in 1974, there was no way of knowing the impact it would have on helping women suffering from alcoholism. What started in a small house near Atlantic and Northeast Sixth avenues in Delray Beach now is a thriving, highly respected addiction-treatment facility.

More than 20,000 clients have been served. Wayside House recently joined the Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce for a ribbon-cutting ceremony heralding the organization’s 50th anniversary and announcing a branding initiative and other plans.

For more information, call 561-278-0055 or visit [www.waysidehouse.net](http://www.waysidehouse.net).

presented the airport with a plaque recognizing 75 years of service to the general public. For more information, call 561-391-2202 or visit <https://bocaairport.com/75years>.

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Plaque commemorates 75 years of airport

The Boca Raton Airport dazzled attendees with its 75th anniversary dinner and reception that took place inside the Signature Flight Support hangar. The event featured a cocktail reception and presentations throughout the night. The reception welcomed current and past board members, employees, tenants and local and state dignitaries. All were treated to such activities as an interactive photo booth, virtual reality experiences and a live band. The highlight occurred when city officials

\$1 million gift will go to Bethesda East project


Baptist Health Foundation will use the planned gift of \$1 million that the late Carl DeSantis pledged to support the renovation of the emergency department at Bethesda Hospital East. DeSantis, who died last year at age 84, was an entrepreneur involved in the creation of Sundown Vitamins (later known as Rexall Sundown) and Celsius energy drinks. He and his family turned to the hospital for care for years, and his appreciation for the institution and its staff led him to leave the funds. “We are so honored to have had the long partnership with Mr. DeSantis over the years,” said Kimberley Trombly-Burmeister, senior director of development. “We are grateful for this impactful gift that will assist with our emergency department renovation campaign and get us that much closer to our fundraising goal.” For more information, call 561-737-7733, ext. 84428, or visit [baptisthealth.net/foundation](http://baptisthealth.net/foundation).

Junior League readies for Week of Impact

Hundreds of volunteers are preparing to make a difference March 11-16 during the Junior League of Boca Raton’s annual Week of Impact initiative. Projects include reading to students at Plumosa School of the Arts, participating in food drives at Boca Helping Hands, delivering feminine hygiene supplies and gathering prom dresses and accessories. The public is invited to participate in all three efforts benefiting not only Boca Helping Hands but also Cereal4All and Prom Beach. For more information, call 561-620-2553 or visit [www.jlbr.org](http://www.jlbr.org).

Town Center food court serves up holiday cheer

For the eighth consecutive year, Town Center at Boca Raton joined Boca Helping Hands to make the holidays brighter for the community’s underserved. The shopping center and the nonprofit organized the North Pole-themed Christmas Day Feast in the food court. Attendees — close to 500 in all — experienced five-star treatment, with fresh flowers on the tables, balloon pillars and candy canes.



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

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# Celebrations

## Evening of Gratitude

Opal Grand Oceanfront Resort & Spa, Delray Beach — Jan. 12



Baptist Health Foundation’s annual fundraiser drew more than 150 guests, including members of the Giving Society and other donors to Bethesda Hospital, who collectively helped raise nearly \$400,000. The money will go toward the campaign to renovate the emergency department at Bethesda Hospital East. ‘The emergency department is often the front door of the hospital for many in our community,’ foundation Vice President Barbara James said. ‘Patients and their families depend on the expert care of our emergency medicine physicians, nurses and staff as well as our equipment and technology.’

**TOP:** (l-r) Melissa and Jeff Pheterson and Laura and Dr. Steve Litinsky.

**ABOVE LEFT:** Ben and Barbara Lucas.

**ABOVE RIGHT:** Brenda Pumilia and Rebecca Walsh.

**RIGHT:** Mary Ann and Mark Ronald.

**BOTTOM**

**RIGHT:** Mary Blum and Michele Burns.

Photos provided by Capehart



## Brice Makris Brunch

Boca West Country Club, Boca Raton — Dec. 10



The third annual event welcomed more than 350 guests who helped generate nearly \$250,000 for the Hanley Foundation to fund scholarships that aim to save students from drug addiction. Board members John and Michelle Makris chaired the benefit that honors their son, who died at age 23 from an overdose. ‘We observed a change in Brice’s behavior toward the end of his senior year at Florida State University,’ Michelle Makris said. ‘Within weeks of this discovery, he began treatment. We learned that addiction is a brain disorder; it’s a disease. Tragically, the disease overcame our son, and we’re sharing his story to help other parents who are fighting in their kids’ corner to battle this disease.’

**TOP:** (l-r) Skeets Friedkin, Tia Crystal and Jan Savarick.

**ABOVE LEFT:** George and Andrea O’Rourke.

**BELOW LEFT:** Amy Gottlieb and April Lewis. **Photos provided**

## Founder’s Dinner

Kravis Center, West Palm Beach — Jan. 19

Major benefactors and their friends turned out for a special evening affair paying tribute to the Kravis Center’s Founder members. CEO Diane Quinn kicked off the event by saying, ‘Last year, we celebrated 30 years of providing exceptional performing arts and arts education programming to our community. I did not think we could top last season’s activities that our programming team arranged, but our current classical music series and our Broadway series have been stellar. These ... would not be possible without you and your support of this landmark performing arts center.’

**INSET:** Aggie and Jeff Stoops. **Photo provided by Capehart**





# Celebrations

## Laugh with the Library

Old School Square, Delray Beach — Feb. 2



Good humor and giggles were in abundance at the Delray Beach Public Library's 17th annual fundraiser. It unfolded under the stars on the grounds of the pavilion and featured a casual night of cocktails, supper-by-the-bite and comedy. The headliner was Nick Thune, a well-known stand-up. The event raised more than \$250,000 and was attended by 350 patrons.

**TOP:** (l-r) Jordan Mansour, Hillary MacDonald, C. J. Minardi, Dr. Francesca Lewis, Jessica Minardi and Dr. A. J. Lewis.

**ABOVE LEFT:** Tremaine and Jennifer Atkinson.

**ABOVE CENTER:** J.R. and Nadia Davis.

**ABOVE RIGHT:** Jeremiah and Lindsey Flores.

**RIGHT:** (l-r) Co-Chairwomen Jacqueline Owen, Paige Eber, Amanda Perna and Lynsey Kane. **Photos provided**



## Holiday Gala

Benvenuto, Boynton Beach — Dec. 8

Les Girls of Palm Beach celebrated its 52nd seasonal soiree attended by 44 women representing 29 countries. The group united to enjoy shared values of loyalty, travel, openness to new experiences and friendships.

**TOP:** (l-r) Jacoba Bill, Virginia Pelitieri, Poon Pierce and Christiane Francois.

**CENTER:** (l-r) Gus Melander, Peter Isaacs, Joe Betras and Ravi Chopra.

**BOTTOM:** (l-r) Margaret Kallman, Rita Sullivan, Henya Betras and Martina Covarrubias, Les Girls of Palm Beach president. **Photos provided by Jacek Gancarz**



## Culture & Cocktails

The Ben, West Palm Beach — Jan. 8

The Cultural Council for Palm Beach County welcomed more than 100 people to the launch of its 19th season of arts and culture discussions. This year's theme is 'Looking Back, Looking Forward,' and the first installment, titled 'Sages,' featured a conversation between William Hayes and Michael McKeever. Hayes is the producing artistic director and a founding member of Palm Beach Dramaworks. McKeever is an award-winning playwright, actor and designer. All proceeds from the series support the council's mission to grow the local arts scene.

**RIGHT:** Kyle Lucks and Agata Ren. **Photo provided by Jacek Gancarz**



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## Dining

# Rising prices for cocktails causing a stir; bar owners explain why you pay for quality

It's not just food costs in restaurants that have tongues wagging. Cocktail prices are prompting some imbibers to do double takes when viewing their bar tabs.

Some cocktail menus have drinks up to \$24 on their lists, when not long ago, an \$18 glass was considered pricey.

Drink prices have gone up, says Vaughan Dugan, owner of **Kapow** in Boca Raton and West Palm Beach. Bars and restaurants can absorb only so much inflation before the customer check is affected.

"Bar ingredients are up, just like food costs. Limes have gone up 100%. We're always following the price of citrus," Dugan said. But while food prices are easier to swallow in some cases, he said, "we don't love putting \$24 cocktails on the menu. We don't want customers hurting in their wallets before they sit down to eat."

Most of Kapow's cocktails are \$18 or under.

"Cocktails used to be cheap," said Bob Higginbotham, a former manager for several bars in the area and now a bar consultant living in Mexico. Bar sales were easy profit makers for both bars and restaurants. "But the game is changed," he said.

"Remember all that's new. Take, for instance, publicity. Restaurants 15, 20 years ago didn't have publicists, unless they were a big name. Now they have to have PR people, social media people to manage all the Instagram, TikTok and other online accounts, and photographers to take pictures of menus as they change. Who needed menu photos long ago? There was nowhere to post them."

Ambiance is important because of social media as well. Special lighting to make customers and drinks look good, bold decor and photo-friendly drink presentation all come at a cost.

Higginbotham also points to restaurant leases. "Rents in South Florida are insane," he said.

Sean Iglehart, owner of **Sweetwater's** in Boynton Beach, said several fees required for business operations also have escalated. He's working around "skyrocketing insurance" fees that all who serve alcohol must pay. The cost has soared in the past two years, he said, and "we're paying \$3,000 a month."

Staffing also has affected drink costs. It's difficult to retain good workers, when and if you can find them, Iglehart said.

"Before the pandemic, I had a staff retention of 90-plus percent. But after that, a lot of the people got out of the business altogether and decided they didn't want to work these hours."

The pendulum is swinging back to the employer, he said, but wages are still up, and that is reflected in the glass.

Higginbotham said, "A while back, the bartender would come in to work a half-hour early to cut up limes and set out cherries and garnishes. They now have full-time positions for bar prep."

"All these hidden costs go into the bill."

Dugan agreed. "We don't use bar backs. Some of the work that the mixologists do is as complex as the chef's. They're using commercial equipment."

That includes sous-vide, infusion tools for spirits and more. "They're playing in the culinary sandbox now," he said. "You see a dish on the menu like my Peking duck. I don't spell out all the work that goes into making it. At the bar, the



In February, we priced Old Fashioned well cocktails and found they differed. The classic recipe is 2 ounces of whiskey, sugar, bitters and a drop of orange flavor over ice. At the Wine Room (above), it was \$16. Kapow's was \$12. Sweetwater's well, made with Michter's bourbon and a 2.5-ounce pour, was \$15. And at the Blue Anchor British Pub in Delray Beach, a well Old Fashioned was \$7. **Photo provided by Michael Albanese**

customer doesn't see the complexity that goes into their drink as it's not spelled out."

In a restaurant or a bar, owners set out a cost percentage in which they aim to make a profit. Dugan gives this example: "Take the raw cost of a negroni, which I approximate at Sipsmith gin, \$1.34; Campari, \$1.33; Dolin sweet vermouth, \$.73; clear cut ice, \$.75; grapefruit peel garnish, \$.20. That's \$4.35."

"If I sold it at \$16, I'm at a 27.19% food cost. If I wanted to get that down to the industry standard of 20%, I'd have to price that negroni at \$21.75."

"I could use a less expensive gin, Campari and vermouth, but these make a great negroni, and that's the experience we want our guests to have. So we sell a bunch of single-liquor drinks like vodka and soda that help us hit that overall ideal cost percentage."

Customer perception of value in the glass counts, too.

Sometimes it's a misunderstanding, Dugan said, especially when the bill appears with an up-charge. He pointed to complaints from customers for a "rocks" charge. "The customer doesn't realize they're getting twice the alcohol in the glass," Dugan said.

Then there's a \$2 charge for a special ice cube that appeared on a check at a Boca Raton steakhouse, bringing a plethora of comments from shocked readers in an online forum.

"We talk about ice cubes," Dugan said. "If you're going to put a fancy cube in a drink, it's usually for a quality drink. It's our place to educate the consumer and let them know we're using quality ingredients to justify it. I just build it into the drink cost. Nobody likes to be surprised when they get their check."

He uses a \$1 up-charge for the cubes if the customer requests them in a special

Japanese whiskey, for instance.

"But that's almost our cost. The special clear ice cube costs us almost \$1 each. You can get them cheaper if you go with cloudy ice, but who wants that in their glass?"

He said most places buy ice to cut down on freezer space and on pouring molds and getting them just right, which would not be worth the time. "And to get perfectly clear ice is an art form."

Speaking of glasses, Dugan uses specially designed tiki glasses for a signature "What's New Pussycat" drink.

"We have about 40% of them stolen."

We just chalk it up to our marketing budget. Go into an apartment in Boca or West Palm Beach and you may find one or two of the mugs with our logo. So it's residual advertising." He laughed, but said it's "quite a bit of glassware" for which he has to budget.

"Not everything goes into a pint glass, either. So we have to have a variety of glasses."

Blake Malatesta, executive chef at the **Wine Room** in Delray Beach, agreed that bar costs today have to be figured as food costs.

"Yes, it's spirits and garnishes, but some of the other things are hidden. The back end of everything in the restaurant. Labor that goes into producing it and then serving, glassware, chemicals to wash the glasses, and so on. So when everything goes up, it makes the check prices go up," Malatesta said.

He points out that alcohol profits are still greater than food's. "There are larger margins on booze. A bottle of vodka costs you \$20, and you're getting 15 shots out of it. Think that a martini costs you \$15."

The fancy ice cubes, which customers ask for, do cost the bar up to \$1.50 after tax and delivery are added in. "Ice is

a big thing now. There are companies in the area where you can buy squares, prisms, spheres, or even get flowers put in it. Charging for it is interesting, but I'd build it into the cost of the drink. For me, even with menu items, I build it into the cost," Malatesta said.

But the price should also be justified by the quality of the drink, he said. "You're not going to put a fancy ice cube in a well drink."

In a comparison with food, he said: "When you're paying \$25 for a burger, it should be an exceptional, quality burger. If you spend \$20 on a cocktail, you should get quality ingredients."

Cocktail programs have changed, Malatesta said, but seem to be trending toward classics again. "I find when it comes to food and beverage, it's cyclical."

"Cocktails got a little crazy. When molecular gastronomy came about, especially. Nitrogen, smoke. Bars hired bar preppers. They actually have hawkers — bar chefs — who create the infused spirits and tinctures, bitters, all the house-made garnishes and simple syrups."

Now, Malatesta said, most customers just want a well-built drink. People are focusing on properly created cocktails.

"I enjoy a cocktail more than most. I often go to **Avalon**. I get a negroni, and have it made with Monkey 47, a special gin from Germany, made with botanicals from the Black Forest. It's \$18. But it's one of the best drinks I've ever had."

Dugan said customer preferences help drive the market. At the West Palm Beach Kapow, "Tequila is still king of the castle." In Boca Raton's Kapow, the drinkers are a bit older, and the go-to quaff is a classic gin and tonic.

"We're known for those there. We have gins from all over the world: Japan, Holland and the phenomenal German gin, Monkey 47."

The bottom line is that people go out and order drinks to have a good experience, Dugan said.

"After all, that's the business we're in, hospitality. Making our guests happy."

He prices drinks to get repeat customers. "We want them to come in and have a good time."

**In brief:** Enter from the alley behind the **Wine Room** in Delray Beach to discover **Radcliffe's**, a new speakeasy serving upscale food and drinks, and putting on a jazz club at the same time. The daily password to get in is written outside the back door and posted to Radcliffe's social media pages. It is currently open only Wednesday through Saturday for dinner; 411 E. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach. ... In Boca Raton, a Chicago import, **Mia Rosebud**, at 150 E. Palmetto Park Road, makes its debut. It's part of the Rosebud group of restaurants, famous as Italian steakhouses and favored by the likes of Sinatra and his gang. ...

Road closure alert: The annual **Savor the Avenue**, a 5-block-long dinner party in the middle of Atlantic Avenue, is March 25. Tickets for the coveted seats are available through the participating restaurants. For details, go to <https://downtowndelraybeach.com/savorthetheaven>.



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



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The store is at 1975 N. Federal Highway, Boca Raton. Learn more by calling 561-391-5858 or by visiting Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100063279081448>. The new owners plan to add a website and online ordering options and offer boarding for birds and small animals like rabbits and guinea pigs. They will not sell pets but will continue the store's commitment to work with rescue groups to get companion animals adopted.



**ABOVE:** Charlie Holland with daughters Debbie Broyles and Lisa Holland in front of the store for its 53rd anniversary. **LEFT:** The new owners, Ana and Franco Lepiane, with their son, Matteo, and Ana's father-in-law, Tony. **Photos provided**

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**PET STORE**  
from page AT1

"I remember when I was 12 years old that my dad's store was the place for kids to visit after school," recalls Debbie Broyles. "It wasn't unusual to see nine or 10 bicycles parked out front and inside, see kids coming to check out the turtles, birds and fish we had."

"Dad always believed in — and taught us — to treat people right. He made everyone feel welcomed who came into our store."

Debbie and her sister, Lisa Holland, began pitching in to help the family business as teenagers and never left. They took over their dad's business in 1999, but Charlie would make regular visits to greet people — regulars and first-timers — through the years.

Since opening day, the Hollands have focused on providing quality food, toys and supplies for dogs, cats, small mammals, birds and fish. They have championed pet adoptions by working with animal rescue groups and have hosted fundraising events for pet groups. They have continued to post flyers about missing pets.

Through the past five decades, Debbie, now a mom of three and a grandmother of six (the seventh is due very soon), has witnessed the explosive growth of Boca Raton, the arrival of big box pet store chains and online pet giants like Chewy.

But what never changed was her love of pets and of helping people — just like her dad.

She posted this surprise announcement on the store's Facebook page on Jan. 12 with a photo of her with her sister and Charlie, now 87, in a wheelchair due to a stroke:

"Lisa & I have a bittersweet announcement. Change has come to the pet shop. Our Dad had a stroke almost 2 years ago and doesn't leave the house often. This photo is a recent visit to the shop. We hope to do more outings with him in the future. It is no longer owned by the Holland family."

"We have sold the pet shop to another pair of sisters. I've been trying for a few days to post this but it's hard for me. We hope to see you and introduce you to the new owners. I've worked here since I was 12 years old, and change is not easy."

"I know God has a plan and

I'm trusting in it."

The news sparked an avalanche of well wishes and fond memories from friends and longtime customers.

Among the Facebook posts:

"Lisa and Debbie, you will be missed. Mom-and-pop stores are so hard to find these days and FFF is a Boca landmark." — *June Beth Gordon*

"You have done Boca and the pet world proud! Love you guys!" — *Donna Williams*

"You have taken care of me and my girls in the best of times and worst of times. I am forever grateful for your wisdom." — *Jill Leigh*

"Debbie, it seems like only yesterday that we were buying our Koi fish from you for our pond. Of course, we bought things for our hamsters that the kids were raising. God bless you and the family." — *Diann Cundiff*

The Holland family made the decision to sell the pet store to another family, Franco and Ana Lepiane and Ana's sister, Maria. During the transition, Debbie is still at the store and says she has not decided on an exit date. She confirmed that longtime employees Zeidy Velez and Terri Bennett plan to continue working at the store.

Ana confirmed that her family plans to keep the store's name. Her husband, Franco, also operates a pet grooming salon in Boca Raton called Pet Pourrie. The Lepianes have also created a line of organic, chemical-free grooming products for pets called EcoSpaw.

"It is rare for a store to be in business this long and we know this is bittersweet for the Hollands," says Ana. "We know that they go above and beyond for their customers, and we hope to do the same." ★

Arden Moore is an author, speaker and master certified pet first-aid instructor. She has a radio show, Arden Moore's Four Legged Life ([www.fourleggedlife.com](http://www.fourleggedlife.com)), and the weekly Oh Behave! podcast on PetLifeRadio.com. Visit [www.ardenmoore.com](http://www.ardenmoore.com)





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## Books

### Book festival unfolds 10th chapter at FAU

By Jan Engoren  
Contributing Writer

If there was a book out this year titled “Perseverance,” it would be authored by Lois Cahall, founder of the Palm Beach Book Festival and a former newspaper reporter.

Hitting its 10-year milestone, the festival, scheduled for March 16 at Florida Atlantic University, brings New York Times-bestselling authors to South Florida and has endured despite challenges.

Canceled in 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic, followed by two years of virtual festivals and



a single author interview with Stacy Schiff in 2023, the festival has faced new issues each year — including the Hollywood writers’ strike (limiting celebrity authors) and the politicization and banning of book titles, especially in Florida.

“Whoever thought I’d say there is danger in book festivals?” Cahall says.

But persevere she did, since the inception of the festival at the Norton Museum of Art in April 2015, with lines out the door and a packed house. She remembers author James Patterson turning to her and saying, “You’re in it now, kid!”

“He wasn’t kidding,” she says. “In 10 years, a lot has changed. Each year is a new experience and brings new issues.”

Cahall credits board member and former Oprah Book Club

See **BOOK FEST** on AT12



## Art

### Nouveau now

#### The mystical and the modern meet in the world of Alphonse Mucha

By Sandra Schulman  
ArtsPaper Art Writer

The Art Nouveau movement in turn-of-the-century Paris flourished with graceful elaborate lines, embellished flora and fauna, and romantic femme fatales advertising — cocaine? Rolling papers? Alcohol?

Hedonism indeed. The head of this heady movement was Alphonse Mucha, whose work is featured in the exhibition *Alphonse Mucha: Master of Art Nouveau* at the Flagler Museum, now on view through April 14.

The exhibition is a tribute to Mucha’s bold work and the environment that nurtured him in 19th-century Paris. But there are surprising elements at play here — his elaborate advertising work plugged everything from bicycles to beer to “coca tonic.”

“In this exhibition, we embark on a discerning exploration of the luminous intersections between Alphonse Mucha, the paramount figure of Art Nouveau, and the evanescent tapestry of the Gilded Age in Paris,” writes Associate Curator Campbell Mobley. “Within these hallowed halls, we traverse the convoluted landscapes of an era that resonates with opulence, innovation, and aesthetic revolution.

“As we delve into Mucha’s oeuvre, we encounter not merely the brushstrokes of a virtuoso, but a narrative that unveils the

synthesis of artistic brilliance and societal metamorphosis,” Mobley writes, noting that the artist’s ascent mirrored the city’s flowering as a hotbed of culture that reacted to the pressures of industrialization.

As evolved as his work was, he struggled in his early years. Mucha was born in 1860 in Moravia (now part of the Czech Republic), where his father, Ondrej, worked as an usher at the Ivancice courthouse. Mucha could draw before he could walk but he failed to gain entry to study at the Prague Academy of Fine Arts, so he took a job creating advertisements for theatrical scenery in Vienna.

He eventually made his way to study at the Academy of Art in Munich for two years, then on to Paris in 1887, providing his lush illustrations for a variety of magazines and books. His breakthrough real-life goddess was Sarah Bernhardt, the star of the Parisian stage, who called for a new poster for her production of *Gismonda*. All the usual artists were on holiday, so the owner asked Mucha in desperation.

*Gismonda*, the poster Mucha created, and which is on display here in various location versions, revolutionized poster design. He used a long narrow shape, subtle pastel colors and a glowing “halo” effect around Bernhardt’s head, an iconographic fingerprint

See **MUCHA** on AT13

Alphonse Mucha, *Gismonda*, 1894. Color lithograph on paper mounted on linen. Courtesy of Landau Traveling Exhibitions

## Culture

### Festival of the Arts a 10-day affair in Boca Raton

By Dale King  
Contributing Writer

The eagerly anticipated 18th annual Festival of the Arts Boca will launch its 10-day, 11-event mix of thought-provoking lectures, music-driven productions and other entertainment March 1 at the Mizner Park Amphitheater in Boca Raton.

“From a tribute to Henry Mancini to Isaac Mizrahi, this year’s festival promises to be nothing short of magnificent,” said Joanna Marie Kaye, the festival’s executive director. “We look forward to welcoming attendees with an exhilarating blend of artistic performances, intellectual

exploration and cinematic delights.”

Launched in 2007, Festival of the Arts Boca was designed to promote the cultural arts and to enrich the quality of life for residents of Boca Raton, Palm Beach County and north Broward County.

The fest has hosted many luminaries from the world of classical music and jazz, including Itzhak Perlman, Renée Fleming (who returns for the third time this year), Joshua Bell and Pat Metheny. Award-winning authors such as Doris Kearns Goodwin and Thomas Friedman have also visited.

The festival begins at 7:30 p.m. March 1 by celebrating the 100th birthday of the legendary film

composer Henry Mancini. Some of his best-known work (think “Moon River” and “Pink Panther”) will be brought to life by the Henry Mancini Institute Orchestra (based at the University of Miami) with his daughter, Monica, adding vocals. The show is a family affair, produced by multi-Grammy and Emmy Award-winning Gregg Field, Monica’s husband.

At 7:30 p.m. March 2, the film that generated major shark fears decades ago — *Jaws* — will be shown on the amphitheater’s big screen. The Festival Orchestra Boca provides a live sound track for the

See **FESTIVAL** on AT15



As with every year, the festival will include the screening of a feature film accompanied by a full-orchestra sound track. On March 2, prepare for the thrills and chills of *Jaws*. Photo provided



## BOOK FEST

Continued from page 11

editor Leigh Haber for being with her every step of the way since the second year; Marta Batmasian, of the James and Marta Batmasian family, who helped find a home for the festival at FAU and helps keep it alive; and Michael Horswell and Polly Burks of FAU.

The lineup for this year's festival includes Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Anne Hull, author of *Through the Groves: A Memoir*; journalist and author David Finkel, author of *An American Dreamer: Life in a Divided Country*; Lauren Groff, a three-time National Book Award finalist and New York Times–bestselling author of *The Monsters of Templeton*, *Arcadia* and *Fates and Furies*; award-winning filmmaker Barry Sonnenfeld with his memoir, *Call Your Mother*; and Lifetime Honorée Joyce Carol Oates, whose latest book is *Zero-Sum: Stories*, a collection of four stories.

Cahall strives to offer eclectic variety.

"I like to mix a bit of controversy with a bit of iconness (Oates), throw in incredible novelists and a bit of good, old Hollywood glamour," she says.

Hull, 62, a fifth-generation Floridian who grew up amid the orange groves of Central Florida, came to writing by chance.



Hull

After dropping out of college, she had taken a job selling shampoo for Revlon when a friend recommended her for a clerical job at the St. Petersburg Times.

"I threw away my skirt and company car and went to answer phones on the sports desk," she says. Six months later she was promoted to answering phones on the city desk, and her writing career began after she wrote a four-paragraph record review.

"It was a stroke of luck," Hull remembers. "The St. Petersburg

Times was one of the best newsrooms in the country and a great training ground."

She began writing fashion features, which led to a gig as a national correspondent. In 2000, she left St. Petersburg for the Washington Post. She wrote about low-wage workers, rural voters, immigration, LGBT teenagers coming out in the Bible Belt, Hurricane Katrina and soldiers back from the war in Iraq.

The Post received the 2008 Pulitzer Prize for Public Service for her work in exposing mistreatment and poor living conditions for wounded veterans at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

In 2017, she left the Post and moved to Berlin to work on *Through the Groves*, her memoir. Not used to writing in the first person, Hull found it slow going and arduous.

"It's a love letter to the past," Hull says of the book, which recounts her youth in a now-vanished rural Florida. "I yearn to revisit that disappearing time and place — the egrets and

sandhill cranes, how fragrant and lush the orange groves were — all the natural beauty."

Like Hull, Finkel, 68, is a Pulitzer Prize awardee and a MacArthur Foundation "genius" grant recipient who got his start at the St. Petersburg Times. His works include *The Good Soldiers* and *Thank You for Your Service*, which became the basis for a feature-length DreamWorks Pictures film in 2017.



Finkel

He is currently an editor and writer for The Washington Post.

His *An American Dreamer* recounts the story of Brent Cummings, a 28-year Army veteran who returns from Iraq to find he must navigate the cultural and societal upheaval taking place, and continues the story Finkel began in *The Good Soldiers*. That book was a New York Times best seller in 2009.

Finkel met Cummings in 2007 when he was embedded with his Army infantry

## If You Go

**The Palm Beach Book Festival** will take place from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. March 16 in the FAU University Theatre, 777 Glades Road, on the Boca Raton campus. Book signings will follow each session. Lunch is available for pre-purchase. **Tickets (including parking):** \$15 per session; \$50 package; free for FAU students, faculty, staff **Info:** 561-297-6124; [www.fauevents.com](http://www.fauevents.com)

battalion in Baghdad and the two have remained in touch. Finkel began reporting on him and his family again in 2016 for his current book.

With a polarized country and a loud news drumbeat, Finkel searched for a way to write a compelling story.

"By nature, I'm a storyteller," he says. "I believe in the power of a good story."

"Readers will find themselves in Brent," says Finkel. "We're all baffled by what's going on and his story reveals a personal answer." (You will have to read the book to find that answer.)

In college, Finkel "found my people" ("smart and awkward") at the University of Florida school newspaper, The Florida Alligator.

For this book, Finkel filled 100 notebooks with notes and observations before he sat down to write. "It all starts with a question," he says. "What's going on here?"

Eventually, he says, the story takes shape in his mind. Once the research and reporting are complete and an ending emerges, he creates an outline, starts at the beginning and keeps writing until he has told the story he wants to tell.

As for future projects, he says, as someone with Florida roots and family in South Florida, he is looking forward to good weather for his visit to Boca Raton for the Book Festival in March.

## ON VIEW

Quimetta Parle, *Revisiting Joy (derail)*, 2022, Mixed media, 20 x 16 inches

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APRIL 19 - JUNE 21, 2024

Daniel Newcomb, *Last Call*, 2022, Photography, 16 x 20 x 1 inches

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## MUCHA

Continued from page 11

he was to retain the rest of his life.

The poster's effect was astonishing: So popular was it with the Parisian public that collectors bribed poster hangers for them or just went out at night and cut them down from the theater displays.

During the next 10 years, Mucha became one of the most popular and successful Parisian artists as commissions flooded in for theater posters, ad posters, decorative panels, magazine covers, menus, postcards, even calendars.

On display in cases at the Flagler are some of his extended designs for jewelry, cutlery, tableware, and boxes. The exhibit itself is displayed in three rooms, a lush environment with deep lilac-painted walls bordered with snakey floral shapes taken from the wooden carved and metal cast frames of the artwork.

The surprising designs for Job rolling papers in 1898 became an instant classic, still used today by the company, hanging in museums and copied in ads for album covers and other products.

What was being rolled in them was probably tobacco at first, but the intoxicating image translated to the marijuana culture.

"This exhibition is not a mere homage to aesthetics. It is an intellectual exploration of Mucha's profound connection to Slavic nationalism, epitomized by his magnum opus, *The Slav Epic*," Mobley writes.

"This series serves as a nuanced testament to the symbiotic relationship between art and identity during an epoch where societal narratives crystallized in the artistry of the brush."

Beyond the ad work and despite his commercial successes, Mucha did not

### If You Go

**Alphonse Mucha: Master of Art Nouveau** is on view through April 14 at the Flagler Museum, 1 Whitehall Way, Palm Beach.

**Hours:** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday; noon-5 p.m. Sunday

**Admission:** \$26; \$13 ages 6-12

**Info:** 561-655-2833; flaglermuseum.us

have much in the way of savings — he gave money away to help out friends and causes, and he collected objects for his studio and entertaining.

Charles Crane, an American millionaire with a love for Slavic culture, funded Mucha's ambitious *Slav Epic*, a series of paintings depicting the history of the Slavic tribes.

Mucha spent the remainder of his life creating 20 large paintings that make up the *Slav Epic*. The canvases were completed, and in 1928 Mucha and Crane officially presented the *Slav Epic* as a gift to the city of Prague.

The allure of Mucha's work still lies in the zone between the mystical and the modern.

Nature, European mythology, and the idealized female form swirled in his compositions, mirroring the era's fascination with spiritualism and the occult.

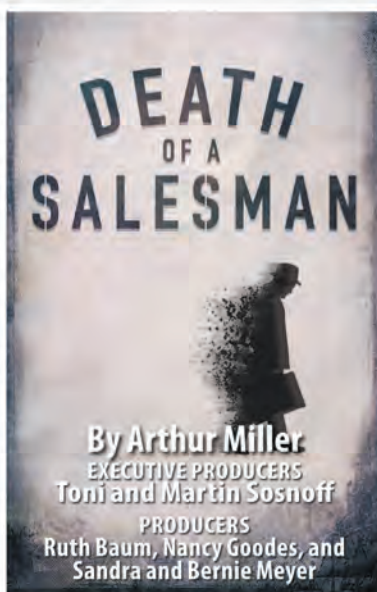
He created a world where they meet in a mosaic of beauty and mysticism.

Alphonse Mucha, *The Slav Epic*, 1928. Color lithograph on paper. Dhawan Collection. **Courtesy of Landau Traveling Exhibitions**



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Music

Multi-genre guitar virtuoso Steve Vai  
a living link to alt-rock history

By Bill Meredith  
ArtsPaper Music Writer

If you asked fans of 63-year-old guitarist Steve Vai what he's best-known for, you might get a variety of answers.

One might be the Long Island, N.Y., native's recording and touring run with Frank Zappa (1940-1993). Those seeds were sown when Vai — still a student at the Berklee College of Music in Boston — sent him exacting transcriptions of every instrument within the iconic bandleader's own complex compositions in the late 1970s. Vai then moved to Los Angeles, where he still lives, to become what Zappa labeled his ensemble's "stunt guitarist" through 1983.

Another answer might be Vai's continuing 40-year solo recording career, launched in 1984 with an audio acid trip called *Flex-Able*. Or his appearance in director Walter Hill's blues-centric 1986 film *Crossroads*, in which he portrays the Devil's guitarist Jack Butler, and enacts a guitar duel with actor Ralph Macchio's character for possession of his soul.

Vai was also part of singer David Lee Roth's famed post-Van Halen band from 1985 to 1989; played on Whitesnake's top-selling 1989 album *Slip of the Tongue* and subsequent tour; designed Ibanez's JEM and Universe seven-stringed guitars, and founded the Favored Nations recording label with former Guitar Center owner Ray Scherr in 1999.

Then there's the guitar-themed G3 Tour, started in 1996 by fellow guitarist and Long Island native Joe Satriani, a former Vai instructor. The devilish, scene-stealing Vai has been part of more than two-thirds of those tours since, including the early 2024 West



Guitarist Steve Vai will play with Joe Satriani in Pompano Beach on March 23. **Photo provided**

Coast reunion of its original lineup, with Texan Eric Johnson as the third featured guitarist.

Friends for more than 50 years, Satriani and Vai make a stop at the Pompano Beach Amphitheater on their Satch-Vai U.S. Tour on March 23.

"Joe's the best," Vai says by phone from Seattle before a G3 Tour show. "He's a few years older, but he was always very cool. ... I can't imagine what my playing, career and life would've been like without those precious lessons from him in my youth."

*Flex-Able* was actually recorded on Vai's home eight-track console, and considered even by him to be too musically A.D.D. for actual release. But its signature tune, the unevenly timed instrumental "The Attitude Song" — which received an overwhelming response from readers of *Guitar Player* magazine — helped make it possible.

Drummer Chris Frazier (Foreigner, Whitesnake, Edgar Winter, Eddie Money) recorded on that tune along with two other *Flex-Able* tracks, the instrumental "Viv Woman"

If You Go

See the Satch-Vai U.S. Tour at the Pompano Beach Amphitheater, 1806 NE 6th St., Pompano Beach  
**When:** 7:30 p.m. March 23  
**Tickets:** \$49.50-\$177  
**Info:** 561-223-7231; [www.pompanobeacharts.org](http://www.pompanobeacharts.org)

and tongue-in-cheek vocal pop number "The Boy/Girl Song." And he matched Vai beat-for-note in the dizzying, Mahavishnu Orchestra-like runs of "The Attitude Song."

"I haven't played that one in a while," Vai says with a laugh. "It's a bit of a beast. I think I started making that album when I was 22 years old, but my innocence and naivete actually enabled me to be pretty free and do whatever my heart intended."

As with Zappa, trying to pinpoint a musical genre that Vai fits into is pointless. There's every variation of rock, including the metallic offshoots his Ibanez guitars are famous for representing, but also elements of classical music, blues and jazz, plus Middle Eastern and other world music offshoots.

Like his musical mentor, Vai might only play guitar on stages during most live performances, but he's vastly more than a one-dimensional instrumentalist.

"When I was very young, before I started playing guitar, I wanted to be a composer," Vai says. "I have a compositional mind; I can see the parts in my head and then transcribe or program them."

Vai's 1996 release *Fire Garden* is one case in point. On his neo-classical, 10-minute "Fire Garden Suite," a four-part instrumental opus with heavy rock undertones, Mike Mangini is credited with drums; Vai with "everything else." Which means he's not only responsible for a wall of stringed instruments, but also the programming that surrounds his otherworldly guitar figures.

Mangini was part of Vai's

Continued on next page

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## FESTIVAL

Continued from page 11

film that featured an Academy Award-winning score by John Williams.

Fleming shows up twice at this year's fest, first in an exclusive recital at 7 p.m. March 3. The five-time Grammy



Fleming

winner performed at the inaugural Boca Fest in 2007, and again in 2015, to sold-out, standing-room-only audiences.

At 4 p.m.

March 4, Fleming returns to the amphitheater stage to offer a lecture exploring the profound connections between music and mental well-being. Her "Sound Health" initiative draws attention to research and practice at the intersection of music, health and neuroscience.

Speaking of the mind, Daisy Dowling, author of *Workparent*, founder of that movement and an executive coach, will appear March 3 at 4 p.m. to lead the audience along the sinuous paths of how working parents can create successful, fulfilling lives while raising happy kids.

On March 5, the festival spotlights emerging talents from throughout South Florida as it hosts the Rotary Club Future Stars Competition at 7 p.m. Admission is free to this event, which annually showcases top young singers and dancers in Boca Raton's backyard.

The Authors & Ideas Program continues at 7 p.m. March 6 with Nicholas Thompson, CEO of *The Atlantic* and former editor-in-chief of *Wired*

quartet for the 1996 and 1997 G3 Tours, along with bassist Philip Bynoe. Its fourth component was another Long Island native, ex-Zappa band member Mike Keneally.

Vai's latest release is last year's straight-ahead rocker *Vai/Gash*, a project from the 1990s with vocalist Johnny "Gash" Sombrotto that Vai had shelved after the singer died in a motorcycle accident in 1998.

His previous album, the 2022 instrumental release *Inviolate*, features Bynoe, drummer Jeremy Colson, ex-Roth bassist Billy Sheehan and ex-Zappa drummers Terry Bozzio and Vinnie Colaiuta.

"I'm still in the mode of promoting the music from 'Inviolate,'" he says. "I really enjoy playing it ... so there will be a lot of that material, along with a couple back-catalog reaches; whether it's stuff I've never played live before or tunes that'll get resurrected."

Of course, Vai will also perform with Satriani's quartet (rounded out by keyboardist Rai Thistlethwayte, bassist Bryan Beller and drummer Kenny Aronoff) to end the show, a tradition whether on the G3 Tour or otherwise.

"We'll come out at the end and jam on some classic rock songs," Vai promises.



The Barcelona Flamenco Ballet will perform at the Festival of the Arts Boca on March 8. Photo by Zsolt Meszaros

magazine, who will plumb the mysteries of the "Wired Future" and how technology impacts our lives, aiming to help us use it most effectively.

At 7 p.m. March 7, American poet and public speaker Richard Blanco will take the stage to offer insights into poetry and

prose. Selected by President Barack Obama as the fifth presidential inaugural poet in U.S. history, Blanco was the youngest person named to that post and was the first of Latin descent, the first immigrant and the initial gay person to hold that post.

The next evening, March 8, audiences can enjoy the Barcelona Flamenco Ballet, which presents "Luxuria" starting at 7:30 p.m. The troupe introduces a new flamenco concept, combining the root of the traditional dance with an infusion of jazz and

## If You Go

**Festival of the Arts Boca** runs March 1-10 at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real.  
**Tickets:** \$15-\$150  
**Info:** [festivalboca.org](http://festivalboca.org); 561-571-5270

contemporary ballet.

At 7:30 p.m. March 9, the multi-talented fashion designer Isaac Mizrahi will perform *Hello Isaac*, his critically acclaimed cabaret show. For the event, he will bring his six-piece jazz band, singing a range of tunes from the Great American Songbook.

Concluding the festival at 7 p.m. March 10 will be the Festival Boca Jazz Orchestra conducted by Kyle Prescott and featuring pianist Dominic Cheli in George Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*, which premiered 100 years ago. The quintessentially American composition will be heard as it first was in 1924, with a jazz band.

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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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# Theater Reviews

Here are excerpts from reviews of world premiere productions that were published on palmbeachartspaper.com. For full reviews, visit the website.

## The Cancellation of Lauren Fein

(Palm Beach Dramaworks, closed Feb. 25)

Even if the world premiere play's title did not give away the fate of its central character, there is an inevitability to the metaphorical noose relentlessly tightening around her neck.

Justice may not be well served by the escalating accusations against the renowned genetic biology professor, but theatrical impact certainly is. For more than "theater to think about" — Palm Beach Dramaworks' guiding mission — Christopher Demos-Brown has given us theater to grab us by the throat.

A fictional tale ripped from the headlines, *The Cancellation of Lauren Fein* is part courtroom drama, part whodunit and part skewering of academia's "diversity, equality and inclusion" policies. The combination makes for a compelling evening of theater that deserves a life far beyond South Florida.

Tenured professor Fein, short-listed for a Nobel Prize for her breakthrough efforts to cure sickle cell anemia, brings in millions of dollars in grants to her university. Her position

should be secure, but when she is accused anonymously of racially offensive remarks, more serious accusations including sexual abuse of a student follow, triggering a formal university hearing.

Demos-Brown, a practicing Miami attorney, knows the DEI landscape well, having participated in several such cases. He lends an authenticity to the hearing scenes, even as they devolve into shouting matches. In particular, Fein does not help her case by being goaded into flippant and profane responses.

As a lesbian married to a professor of theater arts, who have jointly raised an African-American foster child — now teenaged — Fein's personal details will prove significant in her downfall in this intricately plotted tale. Matching the narrative step by step is the crafty direction by Margaret M. Ledford, propelling the production like a satisfying page-turner.

Niki Fridh heads the exceptional ensemble cast as Fein, a woman obsessed with her potentially life-saving research. Fridh conveys an air of privilege while spiraling into victimhood — a tricky balancing act.

Diana Garle makes her PBD debut as Fein's Hispanic wife, devastated as she witnesses the



Diana Garle and Niki Fridh in *The Cancellation of Lauren Fein*. Photo by Alicia Donelan

partner she loves self-destruct. Stephen Trovillion gives a vivid portrait of a folksy defense attorney, increasingly frustrated by the hearing's rules of evidence and by the tangential minutia raised by dogged prosecutor Lindsey Corey.

With the company's increased emphasis on developing new work, it has come up with an unqualified winner, a sensational cautionary tale of cancel culture run amok. — *Hap Erstein*

## Rooted

(FAU Theatre Lab, closed Feb. 18)

Botany and belief systems, both real and dubious, are at the heart of Deborah Zoe Laufer's *Rooted*, her latest exploration of life's contradictions, served up with a strong measure of whimsy.

Delivering her ultimately thoughtful outlook is a trio of eccentric souls whose search for meaning has them up a tree, quite literally.

Consider Emery Harris, an unschooled self-styled

scientist, who has not left her well-appointed treehouse in upstate New York for more than a decade. Convinced that plants can understand, communicate and remember, she has been conducting experiments with her green leafy friends and posting the startling results on YouTube.

When her research goes viral, drawing thousands of responses, Emery's online followers start arriving at the open field where her tree — dubbed Mabel — stands. There they declare Emery to be the new-age messiah they have been waiting for, the source of emotional healing they collectively crave.

Emery finds the chanting crowd to be a nuisance. But her older sister, Hazel, long stuck in a dead-end job waiting tables at the local diner, sees the mob as her source of monetary salvation, a way to afford a way out of their stifling small town. Show me a true believer, Hazel reasons, and I'll show you a sheep ready to be fleeced.

Completing the play's trio

of characters is Luanne, an open-hearted, optimistic holdover from one of Laufer's earlier works, *Be Here Now*. Pummeled by the crowd, she manages to climb her way into the treehouse, and is accepted by the usually people-averse Emery. For her part, Luanne comes to accept Emery's fascination with plants and concern for the planet, as she becomes an empathy magnet for the audience.

Playwright Laufer presents a challenge for a director in her script's shifting tone and implausibility, but she has a kindred spirit at FAU Theatre Lab, in a production which she herself directs with unblinking assurance.

Laufer paved the way for the production's success by hiring the trio of actresses from *Be Here Now* six seasons ago.

As introverted Emery, Elizabeth Dimon finds plenty of dimensions in her character's meekness. In contrast is Laura Turnbull's Hazel, volcanic in her anger at the world, yet amusingly so. Completing the threesome is Gretchen Porro as chipper Luanne, a dim bulb though awfully sincere. While *Rooted*'s forward motion isn't always evident, the performers are never less than compelling.

*Be Here Now* and *Rooted* are the first two installments of a projected trilogy. They make us eager to see the third shoe drop. — *Hap Erstein*



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Arts Calendar

Editor's note: Events listed through April 5 were current as of Feb. 24. Check with the presenting agency for any changes.

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**Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens:** Through May 1: *The Divine Feminine: Contemporary Women Sculptors*. Through March 17: *Discovering Creativity: American Art Masters*. \$15, \$10 seniors 253 Barcelona Road, West Palm Beach. 10 am-4 pm W-Sun. 561-832-5328. Info@ansg.org

**Armory Art Center:** Master workshops this month include line drawing, abstraction and gouache, plus faceting, handmade beaded jewelry and repoussé. 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*; 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 April 6: *She. Her. Hers*. 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:** Through April 14: *Alphonse Mucha: Master of Art Nouveau*. \$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:** Opening March 19: 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Members Show and Sale, through April 12. March 3-9: Plein Air Festival, in which Palm Beach County's top plein air artists come to Tequesta for a week of outdoor painting, and the hope of winning \$15,000 in prizes. \$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

**Mounts Botanical Garden:** Through May 12: *Origami in the Garden*. \$20; \$18 seniors, college students, military; \$13 ages 6-17. 531

N. Military Trail, West Palm Beach. 9 am-4 pm Tues-Sun. mounts.org

**Norton Museum of Art:** Through March 10: *Presence: The Photography Collection of Judy Glickman Lauder*. Through July 7: *Nora Maité Nieves: Clouds in the Expanded Field*. \$18 adults; \$15 seniors; \$5 students; free for ages 12 and under, 1450 S. Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach. 10 am-5 pm, M, T, Th, Sat; 10 am-10 pm F; 11 am-5 pm Sun. 561-832-5196, www.norton.org

**Society of the Four Arts:** Through April 28: *Guild Hall: An Adventure in the Arts*. Through April 28 in the Hulitar Sculpture Garden: *Flora Imaginaria: The Flower in Contemporary Photography*, \$10. 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. 10 am-5 pm daily. 561-655-7226, fourarts.org

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Monday, March 4

**Rotterdam Philharmonic:** The standout Dutch orchestra and its conductor, Lahav Shani, welcome Russian pianist Daniil Trifonov to the Kravis for Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 9 (*Jenamy*). 7:30 pm, Kravis Center, West Palm Beach. \$40 and up. kravis.org or 561-832-7469

Tuesday, March 5

**Black Oak Ensemble:** The string trio featuring members of Chicago's Lincoln Trio and Spektral Quartet offers music by Bach, Beethoven, Schubert and the French composer and naval officer Jean Cras. 7:30 p.m., Flagler Museum, 1 Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. \$75. 561-655-2833 or flaglermuseum.us

Wednesday, March 6

**Palm Beach Symphony:** Eminent pianist Emanuel Ax joins Gerard Schwarz and the band for Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 25. 6 pm, Kravis Center. \$25-\$95. palmbeachsymphony.org, kravis.org or 561-832-7469

**Escher String Quartet:** One of the finest young quartets in the U.S. offers works by Haydn (*The Lark*) Janacek (*Intimate Letters*) and Ravel. 7:30 p.m., Society of the Four Arts, 102 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. \$40. 561-655-2766 or fourarts.org

Thursday, March 7

**Chamber Music Society of Palm Beach:** The luminous mezzo-soprano Sasha Cooke, joined by pianist John Churchwell, plans music by Jennifer Higdon, Michael Tilson Thomas, Handel, Debussy and Richard Wagner. 7 pm, Episcopal Church of Bethesda-by-the-Sea, 141

S. County Road, Palm Beach. \$75. cmspb.org or 561-379-6773

Friday, March 8-Saturday, March 9

**Vienna Philharmonic:** One of the world's greatest orchestras comes to town. At the helm will be Cleveland Orchestra's Franz Welser-Möst. 7:30 pm F, 2 p.m. Sat, Kravis Center. \$50 and up. kravis.org or 561-832-7469

Wednesday, March 13

**Evren Ozel:** This fine young American pianist received an Avery Fisher Career Grant last year. 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

**Michael Stephen Brown:** The American composer and pianist offers a series of works by Haydn and about him by Debussy, Ravel, and Brown himself. 7:30 p.m., Society of the Four Arts. \$40. 561-655-2766 or fourarts.org

Monday, March 18

**Academy of St. Martin in the Fields:** Violinist Joshua Bell leads his British band in an American tour that will make seven stops in Florida. 7:30 pm, Kravis Center. \$40 and up. kravis.org or 561-832-7469

Wednesday, March 20

**Galvin Cello Quartet:** A foursome of cellists, this group originated at Northwestern University near Chicago during the height of the pandemic. 7:30 pm, Kravis Center. \$35. kravis.org or 561-832-7469

Wednesday, April 3

**Jerusalem String Quartet:** The splendid Israeli quartet has programmed works by Haydn, Brahms and Shostakovich. 7:30 p.m., Society of the Four Arts. \$40. 561-655-2766 or fourarts.org

DANCE

Wednesday, March 6

**The Taburitans present Reflections.** 6 pm at the Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E. Ocean Ave. \$20 and up. 412-224-2071

Friday, March 8

**Festival of the Arts Boca: Barcelona Flamenco Ballet: Luxuria.** 7:30 pm, Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. \$30-\$115. 561-571-5270; festivalboca.org

Monday, March 11-Tuesday, March 12

**Step Afrika!** C. Brian Williams's company celebrates 30 years of bringing the African-American dance tradition of stepping to its own company. 7:30 pm, Persson Hall at the Kravis

Center. \$35 and up. kravis.org or 561-832-7469

Friday, March 15-Saturday, March 16

**Paul Taylor Dance Company:** The New York company carries on the work of Taylor, whose physical choreography made a lasting impact on American dance. 8 pm , Palm Beach State College in Lake Worth Beach. \$45. 561-868-3309 or palmbeachstate.edu

Saturday, March 23-Sunday, March 24

**Miami City Ballet:** For its Spring Mix program, the company opens with Balanchine's *Agon*, then offers Alonzo King's *Following the Subtle Current Upstream* and Ricardo Amarante's *Delight* (Bach). 2 & 7 pm Sat, 1 pm Sun, Kravis Center. \$35 and up. kravis.org or 561-832-7469

FILM

Saturday, March 2

**Festival of the Arts Boca: Jaws with Live Orchestra.** 7:30 pm, Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. \$20-\$115. 561-571-5270; festivalboca.org

JAZZ

Friday, March 8

**Ulysses Owens Jr. and Generation Y:** The drummer and Juilliard School educator has assembled a quintet of young jazz musicians he says will help drive the music forward. 8 pm, Arts Garage, 94 NE Second Ave., Delray Beach. \$45-\$50. 561-450-6357 or artsgarage.org.

Sunday, March 10

**5th Annual Jazz & Gospel in the Gardens Concert Series - Troy Anderson and The Wonderful World Band.** 1-3 pm, Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens, 253 Barcelona Rd, West Palm Beach. \$30. 561-832-5328; ansg.org

Wednesday, March 13

**Cyrille Aimée Quartet:** The French chanteuse's newest album, *À Fleur de Peau (On Edge)* drops this month. 7:45 pm, Broward Center for the Performing Arts, 201 SW Fifth Ave., Fort Lauderdale. \$65. 954-462-0222 or vrbrowardcenter.org

OPERA

Friday, March 1-Sunday, March 3

**The Tales of Hoffmann:** Jacques Offenbach's 1880 tale of a luckless poet's thwarted desires is the second production of the Palm Beach Opera season. 7:30 pm F and Sat, 2 pm Sun, Kravis Center. \$25-\$250. kravis.org or 561-832-7469

POPULAR MUSIC

Friday, March 1-Saturday, March 2

**Eagles and Steely Dan:** The California pop-rock giants hang it up after 52 years with their Long Goodbye tour; opening the concert will be Donald Fagen's jazz-rock band. 7:30 pm, Seminole Hard Rock and Casino, 1 Seminole Way, Hollywood. \$556-\$756; ticketmaster.com

Sunday, March 3

**Festival of the Arts Boca: Renee Fleming Returns.** 7 pm, Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. \$40-\$250. 561-571-5270; festivalboca.org

Thursday, March 21

**Crash Test Dummies:** The Winnipeg band led by Brad Roberts, first broke into prominence in the 1990s with songs like "Mmm Mmm Mmm Mmm." Special guest: Carleton Stone. 7 pm, Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd., Boca Raton. \$50-\$65, with \$25 food or beverage minimum. funkybiscuit.com or 561-395-2929

THEATER

Opens Friday, March 1

**Clue:** Through March 10 at the Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave., Lake Worth Beach. \$38. 561-586-6410 or www.lakeworthplayhouse.org

Opens Tuesday, March 12

**42<sup>nd</sup> Street:** Through March 31 at the Maltz Jupiter Theatre, 1001 E. Indiantown Road. 561-575-2233 or jupitertheatre.org

Tuesday, March 12-Sunday, March 17

**Tina: The Tina Turner Musical:** Eight performances at the Kravis Center. \$34 and up. 561-832-7469 or www.kravis.org.

Opens Friday, March 22

**Merrily We Roll Along:** Through April 7 at the Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9<sup>th</sup> St. \$44. 561-272-1281 or delraybeachplayhouse.com.

Through Sunday, March 24

**Carousel:** At the Wick Theatre, 7901 N. Federal Highway, Boca Raton. \$109. 561-995-2233 or thewick.org

Tuesday, March 26-Sunday, March 31

**Six:** Eight performances at the Kravis Center. \$55 and up. 561-832-7469 or www.kravis.org.

Opens Friday, March 29

**Death of a Salesman:** Through April 14 at Palm Beach Dramaworks, 201 S. Clematis St., West Palm Beach. \$69 and up. 561-514-4042 or palmbeachdramaworks.org

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Thomas Moran (1837-1926), *A Midsummer Day, East Hampton, Long Island*, 1903, oil on canvas board, 13.25 x 19.5"

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## Finding Faith

# Christians prepare to observe the holiest day of the year

On Easter Sunday, falling this year on March 31, hundreds of Christians will get up extra-early to go to a sunrise service held by one of our local churches.

Some will go to the beach in shorts and flip-flops while others will gather in a sanctuary, dressed in their Easter best. Still others will show up at a place of worship they see only a couple of times a year.

CNN, Christianity Today, Gallup, Pew Research Center and many church pastors agree: More people attend church on Easter, Christianity's most important holiday, than any other day. Christmas and Mother's Day are the second- and third-highest days of attendance.

Gathered for 45 to 90 minutes, congregations will pray and sing and listen to the resurrection story, greet friends and neighbors with smiles and hugs, then go home to Easter Sunday breakfast or maybe brunch at a local restaurant.

But for most churches and the pastors who run them, Holy Week begins way before Sunday. Even though Christmas has a lot more bells and whistles, pastors spend more time on their Easter messages than any other.

At St. Lucy Catholic Church, on Holy Thursday — also called Maundy Thursday — Father Brian Horgan plans to celebrate the Mass of the Lord's Supper, which marks the final meal Jesus shared with his disciples before his crucifixion. The seder marks the beginning of the Easter Triduum, the three-day period from Thursday night to Sunday that memorializes the Last Supper and Jesus's arrest, crucifixion, death and resurrection.

The Mass of the Lord's Supper generally focuses on three changes Jesus taught his disciples: the Eucharist or Holy Communion, the establishment



Cason United Methodist Church will coordinate the sunrise service again this year by the Delray Beach Pavilion. Photo provided

of a ministry, and the new commandment of love that Jesus gave his apostles as he washed their feet.

This commandment of loving each other appears 13 times in the New Testament, most often quoted from John 13:34-35: "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you ..." and "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."

It was Jesus's most central message, a cornerstone of Christian faith, and yet it's one we ignore every day.

As you make your way to services and Masses, remember those words. And thank the people who do the heavy lifting to make Easter celebrations possible. Here's a summary of what's coming up this year:

### Beach service in Delray

Pastor David Schmidt of Cason United Methodist Church and his staff are coordinating an interfaith celebration at sunrise on Easter Sunday on the beach near the Delray Beach Pavilion — pending final approval from the city of Delray Beach. Cason has been a presence at Easter sunrise services for decades; still, check with the church or the city before you set your alarm clock.

The event itinerary features

Easter messages from Bishop Michael Brennen, senior pastor at Ebenezer Wesleyan Methodist Church, and Rabbi Marc Labowitz, the spiritual leader of TAO in Weston.

TAO, also called Temple Adath Or, shares teachings rooted in the Bible, the Torah, Kabbalah and other traditional Jewish sources.

The service takes place from 6:30 to 7:30 a.m., with live music from the praise band.

### Cason United Methodist Church

Following the sunrise service, the church will offer an Easter service at 11 a.m. in the sanctuary, with music and a butterfly release.

342 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. 561-276-5302 or [www.casonumc.org](http://www.casonumc.org)

### St. Gregory's Episcopal Church

Easter Sunday begins with a Beachside Eucharist at 6:30 a.m. at the South Beach Park pavilion, at the end of Palmetto Park Road in Boca Raton. Services at the church are at 7:30, 9 and 11:15 a.m. (with incense). A 6 p.m. Easter Eucharist is also planned.

Maundy Thursday services with optional foot-washing are planned at noon and 6:30 p.m. On Good Friday, a service

is planned from noon to 3 p.m. with guest speakers. Parishioners are invited to come for all or part of the service. A second Good Friday service takes place at 6:30 p.m.

100 NE Mizner Blvd., Boca Raton. 561-395-8285 or [www.stgregorysepiscopal.org](http://www.stgregorysepiscopal.org)

### St. Joseph's Episcopal Church

The church is hosting a special sunrise service in the sanctuary. The service begins in the dark and gradually lightens as the resurrection story is told. The service is followed by breakfast and, at 9:30 a.m., a second service with several baptisms. Following that is an Easter Egg Hunt outside, and the day wraps up with the Unplugged Service at 11:45 a.m.

3300A S. Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach. 561-732-3060

### First Presbyterian Church

Services are planned at 9 and 11 a.m. Easter Sunday. But much of the excitement is about the annual Easter Egg Extravaganza, which takes place at noon on Palm Sunday, March 24. With dozens of eggs to find and pizza for lunch, this is a must-do for kids.

33 Gleason St., Delray Beach. 561-276-6338 or [firstdelray.com](http://firstdelray.com)

### Church of the Palms

Holy Week services are Maundy Thursday at 7 p.m., Good Friday at 7 p.m. and the Easter service at 10 a.m. The Rev. Todd Petty says a butterfly release is planned after the Sunday service. The monarch butterflies, which come from a farm in Orlando, are spiritually significant, representing rebirth and transformation.

1960 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. 561-276-6347 or [churchofthepalms.net](http://churchofthepalms.net)

### Ascension Lutheran Church

The church's celebrations

begin at 10:30 a.m. March 24 (Palm Sunday), and continue at noon on Maundy Thursday, with the stripping of the altar. The Good Friday service at 7 p.m. features a Tenebrae service of lights; and the Easter Sunday service begins at 10:30 a.m.

2925 S. Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach. 561-732-2929

### Advent Lutheran Church

A sunrise service begins at 7 a.m. on Easter followed by a traditional service at 9. At 10:30 is a contemporary service.

300 E. Yamato Road, Boca Raton. 561-395-3632

### St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church

Easter Sunday services take place at 7 a.m., 9 a.m. (with the "overflow" service in the family life center at 9:10 a.m.), and 11 a.m. (overflow at 11:10 a.m.).

840 George Bush Blvd., Delray Beach. 561-243-3863

### First United Methodist Church

The church is hosting an Easter Egg Hunt & Festival at 10 a.m. on Easter Sunday.

625 NE Mizner Blvd., Boca Raton. 561-395-1244; [fumcbocaraton.org](http://fumcbocaraton.org)

### Boca Raton Community Church

A Good Friday service is planned at 7 p.m. On Easter, services are at 9 and 11 a.m.

470 NW Fourth Ave., Boca Raton. 561-395-2400 or [www.bocacommunity.org](http://www.bocacommunity.org)

### St. Paul's Episcopal Church

The Maundy Thursday service is at 7 p.m. followed by Nightwatch, 8:30 to midnight. This vigil serves as a reminder that the apostles fell asleep after eating and drinking lots of wine instead of keeping watch.

The Liturgy of Good Friday is at noon. The Liturgy of the Seven Last Words is at 1:30 p.m., and the Stations of the Cross are presented at 2:30.

On Easter Eve, a 4 p.m. family service is planned.

Easter Sunday services are at 9 and 11 a.m., with an egg hunt sandwiched in between at 10:30.

188 S. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. 561-276-4541 or [stpaulsdelray.org](http://stpaulsdelray.org)

### Holy Spirit Catholic Church

Holy Saturday, a traditional Polish Blessing of the Food, takes place at 9 a.m. At 7 p.m., a vigil Mass begins.

Easter Masses are at 7:30, 9 and 10:30 a.m. and noon. At 2 p.m. a Latin Mass Extraordinary Form takes place.

1000 W. Lantana Road, Lantana. 561-585-5970 or [holyspiritlantana.com](http://holyspiritlantana.com)

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religion  
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Fontaine at  
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Religion Notes

Motivational speaker to preach at First Presbyterian in Delray Beach

First Presbyterian welcomes guest preacher Michael B. Brown to the pulpit on March 10.

Brown is an author, motivational speaker and the former senior minister at Marble Collegiate Church in



Brown

New York City, America's oldest existing Protestant congregation. With roots dating to 1628, the church became an American

institution in the ensuing centuries.

In 1932, the renowned Norman Vincent Peale found his way to MCC and over the next half-century he transformed it into one of the best-known churches in the world. Peale gained notoriety for his written work *The Power of Positive Thinking* (1952), which has sold more than 20 million copies.

Like his predecessor, Brown praises positivity. He is the author of six self-help books, including 2020's *The Love Principle: Daily Practices for a Loving & Purposeful Life* and *Love Is the Way: Ten Steps to Discovering Personal Happiness*, published in 2018.

Brown believes the recipe to meaning, healthy relationships and joy in life begins with "practical positivity."

Services are at 9 and 11 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach, 33 Gleason St. Visit [firstdelray.com](http://firstdelray.com).

Managing your biases

"Recognizing and Managing Your Personal Biases," a lecture and discussion led by Gail Price-Wise, MS, co-founder of the Florida Center for Cultural Competence, takes place at Temple Sinai, 2475 W. Atlantic

Ave., Delray Beach, at 6:30 p.m. March 5.

This course is designed to uncover unconscious thoughts about others and recognize our tendency to divide the world into "us" and "them." The event is sponsored by the Anti-Bias Coalition, formed by St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Temple Sinai and the Islamic Center of Boca Raton.

To attend, call 561-276-6161, ext. 205.

Fashion show, luncheon

St. Lucy Church Council of Catholic Women presents its annual Swing Into Spring Fashion Show and Luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. March 7 at Delray Beach Club, 2001 S. Ocean Blvd., Delray Beach. A donation of \$75 is requested. If you cannot attend, a donation would be greatly appreciated. Call Suzie Hiles at 561-702-4975.

Friday Fish Fry

The Knights of Columbus at Ascension Boca is serving a Friday Fish Fry from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Fridays during Lent through March 22.

These \$12 dinners of baked or fried fish are served with fries or a baked potato and coleslaw. Extras include clam chowder and conch fritters, at \$5 each. Soda is \$1. Dine inside, carry out or drive through. A 50/50 raffle benefiting the Diocesan seminarians is planned. \$5 per ticket or five tickets for \$20.

Ascension Catholic Church is at 7250 N. Federal Highway, Boca Raton. 561-997-5486 or [ascensionboca.org](http://ascensionboca.org)

Women's group

The Garden at Advent Lutheran is a monthly gathering for women to grow together "in the Word, in Worship and in Wonder of Jesus."

Meetings are at 6:45 p.m. the

second Tuesday of the month at Advent Lutheran Church, 300 E. Yamato Road, Boca Raton. The next meeting is March 12. Call 561-395-3632 or email [thegardenadvent@adventboca.org](mailto:thegardenadvent@adventboca.org)

Italian Night

The annual St. Lucy Italian Night Dinner Dance takes place at 5:30 p.m. March 16 in the St. Lucy Parish Center, 3510 S. Ocean Blvd., Highland Beach. A seven-course dinner with beer, wine and soda is planned. Music by Gino DeMarco. Gift baskets, door prizes. Tickets, \$75, are available after all weekend Masses and at the rectory. Call 561-715-0017.

Spring Fling

The Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County presents its annual Spring



Adler

Fling at 7 p.m. March 28, at Symphony Hall in Sinai Residences East Campus, 21036 95th Ave. S., Boca Raton.

The guest speaker is Jonathan Adler, an American potter, designer and author. \$75 includes cocktails and heavy hors d'oeuvres. A minimum gift of \$360 to the 2024 UJA/Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County annual campaign is required. 561-852-3163 or email [marissav@bocafed.org](mailto:marissav@bocafed.org).

Grant writer sought

A volunteer grant writer is needed at St. Gregory's. If you have experience researching and writing grant proposals, contact Kristen Chaney at [kchaney@st-gregorys.com](mailto:kchaney@st-gregorys.com). St. Gregory's Episcopal Church is at 100 NE Mizner Blvd., Boca Raton.

Pajama drive

First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach is holding a pajama and book drive through March 31 at the church for children and youth of Milagro Center. New pajamas in children's sizes 6-16 and adult sizes S, M and L are being collected. New non-religious books for elementary through high school students are also being collected.

First Presbyterian is at 33 Gleason St. [firstdelray.com](http://firstdelray.com) or 561-276-6338.

Concerts, films and performances

• First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach 2024 Concert Series continues with a performance of "Broadway & Opera Classics" at 4 p.m. March 10 at the church. It features members of the FPC choir with Don Cannarozzi at the piano. \$20. 33 Gleason St., Delray Beach. [firstdelray.com](http://firstdelray.com)

• Cantor Netanel Hershtik & Big Band Orchestra perform at 7:30 p.m. March 13 at B'nai Torah Congregation, 6261 SW 18th St., Boca Raton. \$30-\$80 members, \$40-\$105 nonmembers at [www.btcboca.org/cs](http://www.btcboca.org/cs). Info: 561-392-8566 or [info@bnai-torah.org](mailto:info@bnai-torah.org).

• Music at St. Paul's has reorganized its schedule; the next concert, at 3 p.m. March 17, features pianist Jose Lopez and "Stars of David — the Judaic Muse II," with music of 19th century Jewish composers



Lopez

for piano. St. Paul's Episcopal Church is at 188 S. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. 561-278-6003 or [musicstpauls.org](mailto:musicstpauls.org)

• A concert titled "Triumph of the Human Spirit" and featuring music from *Les Misérables* and *The Sound of Music* takes place at 8 p.m. March 18 and 19 at Spanish River Church, 2400 Yamato Road, Boca Raton. Performers include David Burnham, Kathy Voytko, Randal Keith, Heidi Webster and Andrew Ragone. Tickets start at \$39. [www.spanishriverconcerts.org](http://www.spanishriverconcerts.org)

• "Fascinating Sephardim" is a film series presented in partnership with the Sephardi Federation of Palm Beach County, whose mission is to preserve and promote Sephardic culture and the Ladino language, while providing educational and social activities.

Screenings are at 1 p.m. Wednesdays, March 27 (*Rhodes Forever*, 2003), April 17 (*The Last Jews of Libya*, 2007) and May 22 (*The Key from Spain*, 2000) at the Levis JCC Sandler Center, 21050 95th Ave. S. in Boca Raton. General admission is \$10 per film. Visit [levisjcc.org/culture](http://levisjcc.org/culture) or call 561-558-2520.

Send religion notes to Janis Fontaine at [fontaine423@outlook.com](mailto:fontaine423@outlook.com).

Religion Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 2/21. Please check with organizers for any changes.

MARCH 2

**Saturday - 3/2 - C-Kids Shabbat Program** at Boca Beach Chabad, 120 NE 1st Ave. Every Sat 10:45-11:45 am. 561-394-9770; [bocabeachchabad.org](http://bocabeachchabad.org)

MARCH 3-10

**Sunday - 3/3 - Zoom Bible Study** at Ascension Catholic Church, 7250 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Every Sun 7 pm. Free. Zoom link: [communications#accboca.net](https://communications#accboca.net); 561-997-5486; [ascensionboca.org](http://ascensionboca.org)

**Monday - 3/4 - 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](http://firstdelray.com)

**Tuesday - 3/5 - Tuesday Morning Prayer Service** at Unity of Delray Beach Church, 101 NW 22nd St. Masks optional, social distancing practiced. 10 am. Free. 561-276-5796; [unityofdelraybeach.org](http://unityofdelraybeach.org)

**Wednesday - 3/6 - 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](http://stgregorysepiscopal.org)

**3/6 - 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](http://unityofdelraybeach.org)

**Thursday - 3/7 - Thursday Morning Telephone Prosperity Coffee** presented by Unity of Delray Beach Church Fellowship Hall, 101 NW 22nd St. Led by Charlene Wilkinson. Phone meeting (720-740-9634, passcode 2152894). Free. 561-276-5796; [unityofdelraybeach.org](http://unityofdelraybeach.org)

**3/7 - 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](http://firstdelray.com)

**3/7 - 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](http://stgregorysepiscopal.org)

**3/7 - 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](http://icbr.org)

**Friday - 3/8 - Bible Study w/Dave Kirk** at Advent Boca Raton Fellowship Hall, 300 E Yamato Rd. Every F 10-11:30 am. 561-395-3632; [adventboca.org](http://adventboca.org)

**3/8 - 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](http://stvincentferrer.com)

**3/8 - Knights of Columbus Fry-Days** at St. Vincent Ferrer Kellaghan Hall, 840 George Bush

Blvd, Delray Beach. Fried cod dinner Fridays during Lent. 5-8 pm. \$15. 561-276-6892; [stvincentferrer.com](http://stvincentferrer.com)

**3/8 - 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](http://templesinaipbc.org)

**Saturday - 3/9 - A Service of Healing** at First United Methodist Church Boca Raton, 625 NE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. R pm. 561-395-1244; [fumbocaron.org](http://fumbocaron.org)

**Sunday - 3/10 - Ramadan begins**

MARCH 24-30

**Sunday - 3/24 - Magical Purim Featuring Illusionist Ilan Smith** at Boca Beach Chabad, 120 NE 1st Ave. Call for time/tickets: 561-394-9770; [bocabeachchabad.org](http://bocabeachchabad.org)

**Monday - 3/25 - Illuminating Jewish Learning Through ART: Women ARTists as Biblical Commentators w/ Helene Yentis** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; [olliboca.fau.edu](http://olliboca.fau.edu)

MARCH 31-APRIL 6

**Sunday - 3/31 - Easter Sunday**

**Friday - 4/5 - 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](http://stmarkboynton.com)



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## Welcome to Ascension Lutheran Church

### It is time to take the journey!

**Ascension Lutheran is a place of faith and love. We are located at 2929 S. Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach. Sunday morning services begin at 10:30 am with Pastor Tommy Dowell. We are beginning our 66th year of existence where all are welcome!**

**May your Lenten Journey be a time of personal reflection, repentance and reconciliation:**

Our weekly Lenten Series is every Tuesday at 11:00 am and is entitled: "Living a Life of Repentance." The series is free and open to anyone who wishes to join us, but we ask that you reserve a spot by calling 561-732-2929.

Palm Sunday will be celebrated on Sunday, March 24 at 10:30 am with Psalms about the joyful entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. The Easter week events begin Maundy Thursday at noon with the stripping of the Altar. Good Friday service (March 29) will be at 7:00 pm and will feature our Tenebrae Service of lights. The glorious Easter morning service will be held Sun., March 31 at 10:30 am.

**Sunday worship, Holy Communion, 10:30am**  
**2929 S. SEACREST BLVD., BOYNTON BEACH • Church Office (561) 732-2929**

#### Upcoming Events

**Shredding Event on Saturday, March 16 from 9 am to noon.** The Big Red Shredding Truck will make sure your documents are safely shredded. \$5/box, \$10/large bag.

**Sip and Stroke Painting Event on Saturday, April 6 at 2 pm.** You do not have to be an artist to have a good time. Please call 561-732-2929 for details.

**Power Lunch on Tuesday, May 21 at noon.** Lunch and a lovely Christian movie will be served for \$12. Spend a wonderful afternoon together.



# Health & Harmony

## Move, breathe and connect under moonlight in this yoga class

With Van Morrison's *Moondance* setting the tone, Delray Beach yoga instructor Corey Heyman welcomed her Full Moon class of yogis and yoginis to the Seagate Beach Club with dabs of essential oil — either full moon or grounding.

About 25 people, mostly women, got towels and Fiji water (courtesy of the Seagate) and laid down their yoga mats in the sand — with the ocean and anticipated full moon in front and the sun and anticipated sunset in back.

Class began with a 10-minute meditation and gentle stretching followed by "not too many *chaturangas*," due to the uneven surface of the sand.

Madeline Burger, Seagate's director of wellness and fitness, said the genesis of yoga on the beach grew out of the coronavirus pandemic when the club recognized a need for stress reduction and mental health wellness.

"We wanted to create a sanctuary for people to come, move, breathe and connect," she says, "and to create a sense of community. Corey is a key player in the wellness community here in Delray Beach and we, and her students, love having her here."

The 60-minute, vinyasa flow class is open to the public and includes a lunar meditation,



The sunset provides a colorful background for yoga on the beach at the Seagate club. **Jan Engoren / The Coastal Star**

moon salutations and yoga poses, followed by a moonlight savasana.

Heyman, 32, founded and runs the Coco Market — a wellness-centered event — the first Sunday of every month at Old School Square.

"I'm grateful to have this platform in which to shine and build more community," she says. "By offering their space, members and services to the public at large, the Seagate Beach Club has elevated this experience for anyone who is interested."

She says finding yoga has connected her more to her body and to her spirit.

"Yoga allows me to feel something greater — more of a spiritual element," Heyman says. "It has made me stronger,

and the stillness has given me a sense of peace."

Heyman, who formerly worked in the substance abuse community, took a yoga class with her dad in 2019 and says, "I realized this was meant for me. It was divine intervention. I found peace I never had."

She completed her teacher training during the pandemic, and her parents were her first clients.

At the Seagate, Heyman times her lunar yoga classes so attendees can see the sun setting in one pose and the moon rising in the next.

Two of her devotees are Gina Oriend, 48, who works in hospitality management in Delray Beach, and Joy Rico, 70, a retired dermatologist.

Oriend, who has a

background in dance and gymnastics, says she was searching for yoga on the beach when she met Heyman.

"Corey has an inviting aura about her and a calming presence," she says. "She has come into her own through yoga. Her classes are low-key and not intimidating and she is good at what she does."

Rico, a member of the Seagate Country Club, says the yoga classes are one of the best reasons to join the club.

She especially likes being outdoors and witnessing nature. "Even if you just sit on your towel and breathe, you are doing yoga," she says.

Rico credits Heyman for creating a welcoming event. "Corey is respectful of her students, a great leader with a positive outlook."

"Here and with Coco Market, she created a community of beautiful, like-minded people. She's a thoughtful and creative person, working to better her community."

Namaste.

Jan Engoren writes about health and healthy living. Send column ideas to [jengoren@hotmail.com](mailto:jengoren@hotmail.com).



### If You Go

**What:** Full-moon yoga  
**Where:** Seagate Beach Club, 401 S. Ocean Blvd., Delray Beach  
**When:** 6:30 p.m. March 24, 7 p.m. April 23 and May 22  
**Cost:** \$20  
**Info:** [seagatedelray.com/events](http://seagatedelray.com/events); 561-330-3775

### Outdoor yoga

**Yoga at the Beach**, through Boca Raton Community Center: full moon yoga classes, sunset yoga classes and workout yoga at Red Reef Park East and West. [yoga-at-the-beach.com](http://yoga-at-the-beach.com); 561-393-7807

**Leslie Glickman and Yoga Journey:** Yoga in the Park, 9 a.m. Saturdays at Sanborn Square in Boca Raton. [yogajourney.com](http://yogajourney.com); 561-479-7819

**Bamboo Garden Yoga:** 88 SE Fourth Ave., Delray Beach. Registration required. 561-665-1770; [bamboogardenyoga.com](http://bamboogardenyoga.com)  
**Wild Sky Yoga with Sara:** Beach yoga at the south end of Delray Beach, 8:30-9:30 a.m. Thursdays, from November to May. 561-305-4952



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Health Notes

Doctor performs hundreds of procedures to treat carotid artery disease

Dr. Joseph Ricotta, national medical director of vascular surgery and endovascular therapy for Tenet Healthcare, recently completed his 350th transcatheter aortic valve replacement procedure since 2018.

TCAR is a minimally invasive procedure used to treat carotid artery disease.

“Performing 350 successful TCAR procedures displays our team’s commitment to providing state-of-the-art treatment for patients with

carotid artery disease and preventing stroke,” said Ricotta, professor of surgery and program director of the vascular surgery fellowship at Florida Atlantic University School of Medicine Delray Medical Center. “It gives us the unique ability to offer all available treatment options to people in need, including TCAR, carotid stenting, surgical carotid endarterectomy, and medical management under one umbrella.”

Being able to provide this lifesaving treatment is humbling, Ricotta said. In 2020, he received the national TCAR Clinical Operator of

Excellence distinction, awarded by Silk Road Medical, the manufacturer of the TCAR device. With more than 20 years of experience in the field, he has earned consistent recognition as a National Top Doctor by Castle Connolly and has written more than 300 articles in peer-reviewed medical journals.

**Palm Beach Health Network** has introduced a new tagline: “Stronger Together. For You.”

Its network includes six hospitals: Palm Beach Gardens Medical Center, St. Mary’s Medical Center, Palm Beach Children’s Hospital, Good

Samaritan Medical Center, Delray Medical Center and West Boca Medical Center. The network also includes free-standing emergency rooms, imaging centers, surgery centers and a team of physicians.

“We are thrilled to unveil our new tagline, ‘Stronger Together. For You,’” said Maggie Gill, group president for Tenet Healthcare. “This mantra represents our continued commitment to provide the highest quality, most comprehensive health care services in Palm Beach County. We are proud of our long-standing role as a pillar in the community.”

**Heather Havericak** was recently named the chief operating officer of Delray Medical Center. She will manage daily operations and oversee the development and implementation of long-range plans, goals and objectives for the hospital.

Previously, Havericak was at Broward Health, where she served in various leadership roles for 17 years.

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

Health Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 2/21. Please check with organizers for any changes.

**Saturday - 3/2 - Morning Beach Yoga** at The Seagate Beach Club, 401 S Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. Every Sat 8-9 am. \$20/person. Tickets: 561-330-3775; [eventbrite.com/e/sunrise-beach-yoga-tickets-336433921917](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sunrise-beach-yoga-tickets-336433921917)

**3/2- Yoga Class** at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. Every Sat 9 am. \$5/class. 561-588-8889; [southpalmbeach.com](https://www.southpalmbeach.com)

**3/2 - Judo Class** at Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. Warm-up, instruction, practice, tournament training. W 6:30-8:30 pm mixed ages/ranks; Sat 10 am-noon all groups. Per month \$21.50/resident; \$27/non-resident. 561-393-7807; [myboca.us](https://www.myboca.us)

**3/2 - AA Meeting** at Unity of Delray Beach, 101 NW 22nd St. Every Sat 5:30 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; [unityofdelraybeach.org](https://www.unityofdelraybeach.org)

MARCH 3-9

**Sunday - 3/3 - 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. 9 am-3 pm. Free. 561-870-4090; [thecocoyogi.com/market](https://www.thecocoyogi.com/market)

**3/3 - CODA (Codependents Anonymous) Meeting** at Unity of Delray Beach, 101 NW 22nd St. Every Sun 6 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; [unityofdelraybeach.org](https://www.unityofdelraybeach.org)

**Monday - 3/4 - Zumba Cardio** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Every M/W 5:30-6:30 pm. \$10. 561-742-

6221; [boynton-beach.org](https://www.boynton-beach.org)

**3/4 - Adult Zumba Class** at Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. Every M 7-8 pm. \$6/1 class. 561-393-7807; [myboca.us](https://www.myboca.us)

**Tuesday - 3/5 - Tai Chi Class** at Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. Beginner through advanced. Age 16+. Every T 6-8 pm. \$8-\$10/class. 561-393-7807; [myboca.us](https://www.myboca.us)

**3/5 - Al-Anon 12-Step Study** at Unity of Delray Beach, 101 NW 22nd St. Every T 7 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; [unityofdelraybeach.org](https://www.unityofdelraybeach.org)

**Wednesday - 3/6 - Tai Chi Class** at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. Every W 9 am. \$5/class. 561-588-8889; [southpalmbeach.com](https://www.southpalmbeach.com)

**3/6 - 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](https://www.southpalmbeach.com)

**3/6 - Wellness Wednesday: Yoga** at Cornell

Art Museum at Old School Square, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every W 11 am-noon. \$5/class. Registration: 561-654-2220; [delrayoldschoolsquare.com/events](https://www.delrayoldschoolsquare.com/events)

MARCH 10-16

**Monday - 3/11 - Brown Bag Series: The Healing Benefits of Sound Baths w/Nikki Rattinger, The Music Maestra** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Noon. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; [boyntonlibrary.org](https://www.boyntonlibrary.org)

**Tuesday - 3/12 - Psychological Fitness: Adding “Muscle” to How Well We Cope With Life’s Challenges w/ Davele Bursor** at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every T through 4/2 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$70/member; \$90/non-member; \$30/guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185;

[olliboca.fau.edu](https://olliboca.fau.edu)

**Sunday - 3/17 - Yoga at the Museum** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 9:30-11 am. \$15/member; \$30/non-member. 561-392-2500; [bocamuseum.org](https://www.bocamuseum.org)

MARCH 17-23

**Wednesday - 3/20 - Scripps Research Front-Row Lecture Series: Bringing Precision Therapy to Mental Disorders w/ Hugh Rosen, MD, Ph.D.** 1-hour virtual lecture. 7 pm. Free. Register for link: [frontrow.scripps.edu](https://frontrow.scripps.edu)

MARCH 24-30

**Sunday - 3/24 - Strike A Pose: Full Moon Yoga** at The Seagate Beach Club, 401 S Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. 6:30-7:30 pm. \$20/person. Ticket: [eventbrite.com/e/full-moon-yoga-tickets-328825194007?aff=ebdssbdestsearch](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/full-moon-yoga-tickets-328825194007?aff=ebdssbdestsearch)



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Tots & Teens

Kids are central to arts festival that celebrates diversity of humanity

By Faran Fagen

When Susan Berkowitz-Schwartz moved to Delray Beach almost two decades ago, she and her husband made it their mission to visit as many cultural festivals as possible, for research as well as enjoyment.

She planned to bring to South Florida her All People’s Day, an arts festival that had much success unifying people of different cultures and backgrounds in New Jersey.

“People said no one would come, that people would stick with their own festivals, and I said, ‘they will come,’” Berkowitz-Schwartz said. “I invited all these people who organized all the local festivals and they came — and brought their family and friends.”

The first nonprofit All People’s Day at Pompey Park in Delray Beach welcomed 300 people. Now, with the 15th annual event set for March 30 at Pompey, close to 2,000 people are expected. Many of them are children.

“Every year, the same core people come, and every year we have new people,” said Berkowitz-Schwartz, the founder and president of All People’s Day. “We want everyone to be exposed to all the culture and art in the world.”

APD is a celebration of art, music and dance, with a wide array of activities for both



Event founder Susan Berkowitz-Schwartz (center in red) with some of the attendees at a past All People’s Day event at Pompey Park in Delray Beach. **Photos provided**

children and adults.

Some of the highlights planned for this festival include puppet-making, 14 song and dance performers, Craft Dough People workshop, and an All People’s Day family mural where kids and their parents connect to other families.

“All People’s Day is about connecting people from many different cultures through the arts because the arts touch people’s hearts,” said Berkowitz-Schwartz.

She is no stranger to the unifying and healing powers of art. Diagnosed with dyslexia at a young age, she learned to express herself through art. Although she had difficulty

reading, her mom encouraged her to develop her skills through painting, drawing and sculpting. She eventually got her master’s in art therapy.

“I found that I was good at something,” she said. “Everyone needs to know that they’re good at something and that they can find it.”

The main portion of the festival takes place from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and features 14 diverse song and dance performers. Among those set to perform are Cecilia St. King, whose songs have spiritual messages; the Delray Divas, doing African-American step dancing; San Francisco Taiko Dojo, playing Japanese drums; Pink Slip,

European duo singers; Rosa Showers, who offers total body fitness including the audience; Angel, a Caribbean-American singer; Rod MacDonald, a European folk singer; Simone Huete, leading Zumba that includes the audience; Kailani C, a young dancer; the Gay Men’s Chorus, and Carol Garrett singing Jewish songs.

A free indoor event on Easter weekend, the festival will have 50 interactive booths — many showcasing nonprofit organizations — and free food from local restaurants representing diverse cultures.

Among restaurants scheduled to participate are Ziree Thai & Sushi; Paella

If You Go

**What:** 15th All People’s Day Diversity Festival  
**Where:** Pompey Park, 1101 NW Second St., Delray Beach  
**When:** 11 a.m.-3 p.m. March 30  
**Cost:** Free  
**Info:** [allpeoplesday.org](http://allpeoplesday.org)

De España; Bud’s Chicken & Seafood; Maoz, featuring vegetarian cuisine; Goldstein’s Haitian Café; Agliolio, featuring Italian food, and Furin Thai.

Prior to the main events is the kids’ free Craft Dough People workshop for ages 4 to 11 held from 9:30 until 11 a.m.

“The lesson is that we’re all made from the same materials and therefore we should all be treated with equal respect,” Berkowitz-Schwartz said of the workshop.

Free parking is again available, but this year guests will be asked to park a block away at S.D. Spady Elementary School because of Pompey Park renovations.

Vendor registration is required and can be done by contacting Berkowitz-Schwartz at [apd22@bellsouth.net](mailto:apd22@bellsouth.net). ★

For more information or to learn more about sponsorship, visit [allpeoplesday.org](http://allpeoplesday.org).

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# Tots & Teens Calendar

*Note: Events are current as of 2/21. Please check with organizers for any changes.*

## MARCH 2

**Saturday - 3/2 - 3/2 - Gymnastics Class** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 5-11. Every Sat 9:30-11:15 am. \$90/resident; \$113/non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

**3/2- Saturday Morning ART (smART)** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Links art making w/learning about art. Age 5+. Held again 4/6 10-11 am. \$15/member; \$25/ non-member. Registration: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

**3/2 - Drop-In Family Storytime** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Up to age 5. Every Sat 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

**3/2 - Tutus & Tiaras Class** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 5-9. Every Sat 10:30-11:15 am. \$120/resident; \$150/non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

**3/2 - STEM Camp: Math/Pi Day** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 7-12. Held again 3/16 10:30-11:45 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/2 - Play & Learn Storytime** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 0-5 yrs. Every Sat 10:30-11 am. Free. Held again 4/6. 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

**3/2 - Hip Hop Dance Class** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 6-12. Every Sat 11:20 am-12:05 pm. \$90/ resident; \$150/non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

**3/2 - Drama & Musical Theater Class** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 6-12. Every Sat 12:10-12:55 pm. \$120/resident; \$150/non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

**3/2 - Animal Encounters** at Sandoway Discovery Center, 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; sandoway.org

## MARCH 3-9

**Monday - 3/4 - Anime Club** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. Held again 4/1. 3:30-5:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0197; delraylibrary.org

**3/4 - Fun w/Fernanda: Bilingual Spanish-English Story Time** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 0-4. Held again 4/1 3:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/4 - Babies on Broadway** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Introduces singing, expression, movement. Age 3-6. Every M 3:30-4:30 pm. \$15/week. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

**3/4 - Mindful Monday** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 13-17. 5-7 pm. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/4- Fandom Trivia** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. Held again 4/1 5-6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**Tuesday - 3/5 - Petite Players** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Introduces singing, expression, movement. Age 2-4. Every T 9:45-10:30 am. \$15/week. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

**3/5 - Toddler Tales** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Stories, music, movement. Age walking to 23 mos. Held again 3/12 & 19 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

**3/5 - Play & Learn for Toddlers** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Learn literacy skills during playtime. Age walking to 23 mos. T through 3/19 10:30-11 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

**3/5 - Tots in Tutus** at Schoolhouse Children’s Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Age 2-5. Every T 11-11:45 am. Per session \$10/member; \$12/non-member + admission. Registration: 561-742-6782; schoolhousemuseum.org

**3/5 - Baby Rhythms** at Schoolhouse Children’s Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Age infants & toddlers. Every T 11:45 am-12:15 pm. Per session \$10/member; \$12/non-member + admission. Registration: 561-742-6782; schoolhousemuseum.org

**3/5 - Teen Book Club: *Renegades* by Marissa Meyer** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. Held again 3/26 5-6pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/5 - Teen Tuesday: Rainbow Loom Creations** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 13-17. 5-7 pm. Free. 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/5 - Karate Class** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 6-17.

Every T/Th 5:30-6:25 pm. \$85/resident; \$106/ non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

**3/5 - Tween Book Jam: *Kiki’s Delivery Service* by Eiko Kadono** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 9-12. 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

**Wednesday - 3/6 - Bilingual Outdoor Storytime** at Boynton Beach City Library under the Banyan tree, 100 E Ocean Ave. Stories, rhymes, more. Held again 3/20 & 4/3 10-10:30 am. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/6 - Oh Baby Story Time** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Music, stories, rhymes. Age 3 months-2.5 years. Held again 3/20 & 4/3 10 am. Free. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/6 - Reading & Rhythm for 2-3s** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Stories, music, movement. Child must be accompanied by an adult. Held again 3/13 & 20 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

**3/6 - Play & Learn for 2-3s** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Child learns literacy skills w/literacy-based toys. Every W 10:30-11 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

**3/6 - Messy Play** at Schoolhouse Children’s Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Explore, develop important readiness skills. Age 2-5. Every W 11-11:45 am. Per class \$10/member; \$12/non-member + admission. Registration: 561-742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org

**3/6 - Farmer Jay’s Junior Sprouts Class 8: Planting a Garden** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 6-8. 3:30-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

**3/6 -Young @ Art** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Create arts/crafts, learn principles of art. Age 3-5. Held again 3/20 & 4/3 3:30-4:30 pm. Free. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**Thursday - 3/7 - Pop-Up Pages** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 0-5. Held again 3/21 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

**3/7 - Tumble Tots w/ First Steps Dance & Tumbling** at Schoolhouse Children’s Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Age 2-5. Every Th 10-10:30 am. Per session \$10/member; \$12/non-member + admission. Registration: 561-742-6782; schoolhousemuseum.org

**3/7 - Play & Learn for Pop-Up Pages** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 3-5. Held again 3/21 10:30-11 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

**3/7 - Kid’s Music Circle w/Noam Brown** at Schoolhouse Children’s Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. All ages. Every Th 11-11:45 am. Per session \$10/member; \$12/non-member + admission. Registration: 561-742-6782; schoolhousemuseum.org

**3/7 - Let’s Pretend!** at Schoolhouse Children’s Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Age 3-7. Every Th 3-3:45 pm. Per session \$10/member; \$12/non-member + admission. Registration: 561-742-6782; schoolhousemuseum.org

**3/7 - Music & Crafts** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 3-5. Held again 4/4 3:30-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0197; delraylibrary.org

**3/7 - Adventures in Reading** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Literacy enrichment: books w/related activities. Child attends independently. Age 4-6. Held again 3/14 & 21 3:30-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-544-8584; bocalibrary.org

**3/7 - Community Workers & Helpers** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 5-12. 4:30-5:30 pm. Free. Held again 4/4. Registration: 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/7 - Gymnastics Class** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 5-11. Every Th 5:30-6:30 pm. \$90/resident; \$113/non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

**3/7 - Cheers & Cartwheels Class** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 6-10. Every Th 6:30-7:30 pm. \$105/resident; \$132/non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

**Friday - 3/8 - Preschool Science** at Schoolhouse Children’s Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Age 3-5. Every F 10-10:45 am. Per session \$10/member; \$12/non-member + admission. Registration: 561-742-6782; schoolhousemuseum.org

**3/8 - Art Explorations** at Schoolhouse Children’s Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Age 2-5. Every F 11-11:45 am. Per session \$10/member; \$12/ non-member + admission. Registration: 561-

742-6782; schoolhousemuseum.org

**3/8 - Baby Bookworm** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Storytime for infants accompanied by an adult. Age 0 months to non-walking. Held again 3/15 & 22 11-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7852; bocalibrary.org

**3/8 - Play & Learn for Babies** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Learn literacy skills during playtime. Age 0 months to non-walking. Held again 3/15 & 22 11:30 am-noon. Free. 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

**3/8 - The Art of the Story** at Schoolhouse Children’s Museum & Learning Center, 129 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. Children create their own art in the style of featured book. Age 3-7. 3-3:45 pm. Free w/paid admission. 561-742-6780; schoolhousemuseum.org

**Saturday - 3/9 - Conscious Kids** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 5-12. 9:30-11 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/9 - Family Day** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 11 am-3 pm. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

**3/9- Star Wars Club** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. 11 am-noon. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/9 - College Readiness** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. 1-2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/9 - Got Gaming Club** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. 3-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/9 - Bones 2 Books** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Live streamed read aloud session with pooch pals from Bonafide Therapy Dogs, Inc. Age 7-12. Held again 4/6 2:30-3:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

## MARCH 10-16

**Monday - 3/11 - Kindergarten Readiness Story Time w/Ms. Tea** at Catherine Strong Splash Park, 1500 SW 6th St, Delray Beach. Age 3-5. Held again 3/25 10 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/11 - 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

**3/11 - Mario Day!** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 4-12. 3:30-5:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

**3/11- Teen Spelling Bee** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. 5-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**Tuesday - 3/12 - Teen Tech Sandbox** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 13-17. 3:30-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/12 - Teen Tuesday: DIY Faux Stained Glass Night Light** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Age 13-17. 5-7 pm. Free. 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org

**Wednesday - 3/13 - Outdoor Storytime** at Boynton Beach City Library under the Banyan tree, 100 E Ocean Ave. Stories, rhymes, more. Held again 3/27. 10-10:30 am. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/13 - 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

**3/13 - Pop-Up Pages** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 0-5. 6:30-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

**3/13 - Play & Learn for Pop-Up Pages** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 3-5. 7-7:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

**Thursday - 3/14 - 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

**Saturday - 3/16 - 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

**3/16 - Bones to Books** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Children read to friends from Bonafide Therapy Dogs. Age 5-12. 1-2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/16-17 - Creation Station** at Boca Raton Museum of Art Grand Hall, 501 Plaza Real. Limited seating. Noon-4 pm. Free w/admission. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

## MARCH 17-23

**Monday - 3/18 - Family Fun Night** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. 5-6:30 pm. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/18 - Free Baseball Camp** at Little League Park, 300 Woolbright Rd, Boynton Beach. Ages 6-12. Registration begins 5:30 pm. 6-8 pm.

561-742-6650; boynton-beach.org

**3/18-20 - Spring Break Camp** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Games, crafts, educational activities. Age 9-11. Separate registration required for each day. 8:30 am-noon. Per day \$30/member & resident; \$35/non-member. Reservations: 561-544-8615; gumbolimbo.org

**3/18-22 - Spring Break Theatre Camp** at Lake Worth Playhouse Stonzek Theatre, 713 Lake Ave. Age 7-15. M-F 9 am-4 pm. \$375/week. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

**3/18-22 - Fire & Recreation Junior Academy** at Boynton Beach Fire Rescue Station 5 MPR, 2080 High Ridge Rd, Boynton Beach. Ages 8-12. 8 am-2 pm. \$44/resident; \$55/non-resident. 561-742-6650; boynton-beach.org

**3/18-22 - City of Boynton Police & Recreation Junior Academy** at Boynton Beach Fire Rescue Station 5 MPR, 2080 High Ridge Rd, Boynton Beach. Ages 8-12. 8 am-2 pm. \$44/resident; \$55/non-resident. 561-742-6650; boynton-beach.org

**3/18-22 - Spring Break Basketball Camp** at Hester Center, 1901 N Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Age 6-15. 9 am-4 pm. \$150/resident; \$188/non-resident. Pre & post care (7:30-9 am & 4-5:30 pm) available for one time \$25 fee. Registration: 561-742-6640; boynton-beach.org

**3/18-25 - Spring Break Camp** at Sims Center, 225 NW 12th Ave, Boynton Beach. Age 5-12. 7:30 am-5:30 pm. \$135/resident; \$164/non-resident. Registration: 561-742-6640; boynton-beach.org

**Tuesday - 3/19 - Teen Book Talks: *My Lady Jane* by Cynthia Hand** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 13-17. 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

**Wednesday - 3/20 - Library on the Go! Spring Break Play Date** at Currie Commons Park, 750 SE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. Each month Ms. Tea drives the Library on the Go golf cart to different Delray location for pop-up library program & children’s books to peruse/enjoy. Age 1-3. 10:30 am-noon. Free. Sign-in sheet on site. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**Thursday - 3/21 - 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

**3/21 - Stuffed Animal Sleepover** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. 4:30-5:30 pm. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**Saturday - 3/23 - Little Wonders** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Hike, crafts, stories. Age 3-4 w/an adult. 10-10:45 am. \$8/resident & member; \$10/ non-member. Reservations: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

**3/23 - STEM Camp: Circuit Science** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 7-12. 10:30-11:45 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/23 - Basketball Combine** at Hester Center, 1901 N Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Age 7-16. 10:30 am-3:30 pm. \$45/resident; \$56/non-resident. 561-742-6550; boynton-beach.org

**3/23- 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

**3/23 - 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: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

## MARCH 24-30

**Monday - 3/25 - Teen Advisory Board Meeting** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 5-6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/25 - Flag Football League** at Hester Center, 1901 N Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Age 6-8. Every M/W 6:30-7:30 pm. \$35/resident; \$44/ non-resident. 561-742-6550; boynton-beach.org

**Tuesday - 3/26 - Booktastic Book Talk** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Free copy of book. Child attends independently. Age 7-8. 3:30-4:15 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

**3/26 - 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

**3/26 - Improv Class** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 8-14. Runs through 5/21. 5-6 pm. \$185/9-weeks. 561-586-6169 x217; lakeworthplayhouse.org

**Wednesday - 3/27 - 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 3/30. 3:30-4:30 pm. \$15/member family; \$25/non-member family. Registration: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

**Thursday - 3/28 - Acting For The Camera Class** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 13-17. Runs through 5/23. 4-5:15 pm. \$195/9-weeks. 561-586-6169 x217; lakeworthplayhouse.org

**3/28 - 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

**3/28 - Musical Theatre Class** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 8-14. Runs through 5/23. 5-6:30 pm. \$200/9-weeks. 561-586-6169 x217; lakeworthplayhouse.org

## MARCH 31-APRIL 6

**Monday - 4/1 - Musical Theatre Jazz Dance Class** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 8-16. Runs through 5/20. 4:45-5:45 pm. \$180/8-weeks. 561-586-6169 x217; lakeworthplayhouse.org

**4/1 - Family Movie Night** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 4-12 with parent/caretaker. 6-7:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

**Tuesday - 4/2 - Tween Book Jam: *Northwind* by Gary Paulsen** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 9-12. 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

**Wednesday - 4/3 - 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

**Saturday - 4/6 - STEM Camp: Chemistry** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Age 7-12. 10:30-11:45 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org



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On the Water

Boat show a grand vessel showing off industry’s latest and greatest

The 42nd Palm Beach International Boat Show is the ideal venue for people looking to buy a boat, update one they currently own with the latest in electronics, engines and other marine equipment, or simply see the boating industry’s newest products. The show is March 21-24 along Flagler Drive in West Palm Beach and features more than 800 boats and marine accessories worth more than \$1.2 billion.

“One of the things I like most about the Palm Beach show is it’s not Miami,” said Michael Brown, the president of Dusky Marine in Dania Beach, noting that frequent Interstate 95 shutdowns going south affect his employees and visitors trying to get to Miami Beach. “The traffic to the Palm Beach show moves from either direction.

“The show is very easy to get to and the parking is easy.” Dusky has exhibited at the show for more than 20 years. Brown said Palm Beach is the company’s most profitable show, coming as it does after the Fort Lauderdale show in the fall and Miami’s in February.

“It’s always been my best show, because it’s the end of the boat show year,” he said. “Plus everything is outside and it attracts my



The Palm Beach International Boat Show stretches along Flagler Drive in West Palm Beach and offers hundreds of boats, yachts and other watercraft. Photo provided

kind of customers. They can drink a beer and not worry about spilling it as they walk around.”

The vessels on display on land and in the water range from 8-foot inflatables to new and used superyachts of nearly 300 feet.

The luxurious yachts, which are lined up side by side along floating docks, are impressive to look at, but you need to be a serious buyer to get invited aboard. Companies such as Galati Yacht Sales have a variety of makes and models at the show, including Viking yachts, Princess yachts, Prestige yachts and Vahalla center consoles.

Edmiston will have its

Helios 2 and A2 for sale at the show. The Helios 2 is a 168-foot Palmer Johnson that was built in 2002 and refitted in 2023. It has five cabins that can accommodate 10 guests and it has a range of 4,000 nautical miles cruising at 12 knots. The price is \$15.9 million.

The A2 is a 154-foot Feadship that was launched in 1983 and refitted two years ago. It has room for 12 guests and is priced at \$16.9 million.

Fishing boats are plentiful at the show. Dusky Marine is known for its rugged center consoles and will have several on display on land. Regulator, Grady-White, Pursuit and other popular builders of center console fishing boats

also will have several models at the show. If your boat needs new outboard motors, the newest and biggest engines will be on display.

If you get hungry, dozens of food concessions offer a variety of dining choices, from seafood to tacos and burgers, as well as vegan, vegetarian and gluten-free items. The show also offers free how-to fishing seminars as well as educational sessions on issues within the yachting industry.

There are five show entrances, from Lakeview Avenue at the southern end to the entrance at the northern end of Flagler Drive. Show hours are noon-7 p.m. March 21, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. March 22

If You Go

**What:** Palm Beach International Boat Show  
**When:** March 21-24  
**Where:** Along Flagler Drive in West Palm Beach  
**Admission:** Adults, \$33; ages 6-15, \$17  
**Info:** pbboatshow.com

and 23, and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. March 24.

Tickets for the show are digital and can be purchased online at pbboatshow.com. Active military and veterans can attend the show for free on March 24.

A one-day Windward VIP ticket, \$390, allows entry into the show one hour early March 22-24 and includes access to the Windward VIP Club at the Lakeside Pavilion on Flagler Drive, which features an open bar and gourmet food.

The show offers convenient, affordable parking in a number of municipal garages and private lots, with free trolley transportation.



Outdoors writer Steve Waters can be reached at steve33324@aol.com.

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Outdoors Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 2/21. Please check with organizers for any changes.

MARCH 2

**Saturday - 3/2 - Sand Sifters Beach Clean Up** at Oceanfront Park, 6415 N Ocean Blvd, Ocean Ridge. 8-10:30 am. Free. jefflev02@gmail.com  
**3/2 - Intracoastal Adventures: Intro to Canoeing** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Age 12-adult; child under 18 must be accompanied by adult. 10-11:30 am. \$20/member; \$25/non-member. Reservations: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

MARCH 3-9

**Wednesday - 3/6 - EcoWatch Lecture Series: Sharks are Snowbirds Too w/ Dr. Stephen Kajiura** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Age 13 & up; child under age 18 must be accompanied by adult. 6:30-8 pm. Free. 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org  
**Friday - 3/8 - Golden Hour Guided Tours** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Tour outdoor aquariums, butterfly garden, nature trail; ends w/sunset views. Age 7-adult; child under 18 must be accompanied by adult. Held again 3/19, 26 & 4/5. 6-7:30 pm. \$10/resident & member; \$13/non-resident. Registration: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org  
**Saturday - 3/9 - Seining the Lagoon** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Explore grasses/flats of the Intracoastal Waterway. Age 10 to adult; child must be accompanied by adult. Held again 3/24 11 am-12:30 pm. \$15/member; \$19/non-member. Reservations: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

MARCH 10-16

**Thursday - 3/14 - Lantana Fishing Derby Meeting** at Rosalita's Tex-Mex Grill, 5949 S Congress Ave, Atlantis. 5:30-7 pm. 561-585-8664; 561-585-8664; lantanafishingderby.com  
**Saturday - 3/16 - Intracoastal Adventures: Kayaking** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Age 7-adult; Child under 12 must be accompanied by adult. Held

again 3/31 9-10:30 am. \$20/resident & member; \$25/non-member. Registration: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

MARCH 17-23

**Sunday - 3/17 - Intracoastal Adventures: Advanced Canoeing** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Age 12-adult; child must be accompanied by adult. 9:30-11 am. \$20/member; \$25/non-member. Registration: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

MARCH 24-30

**Tuesday - 3/26 - Beach Treasures** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Caravan to Red Reef Park to search for ocean treasures. All ages; child must be accompanied by adult. 2-3:30 pm. Free. Reservations: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

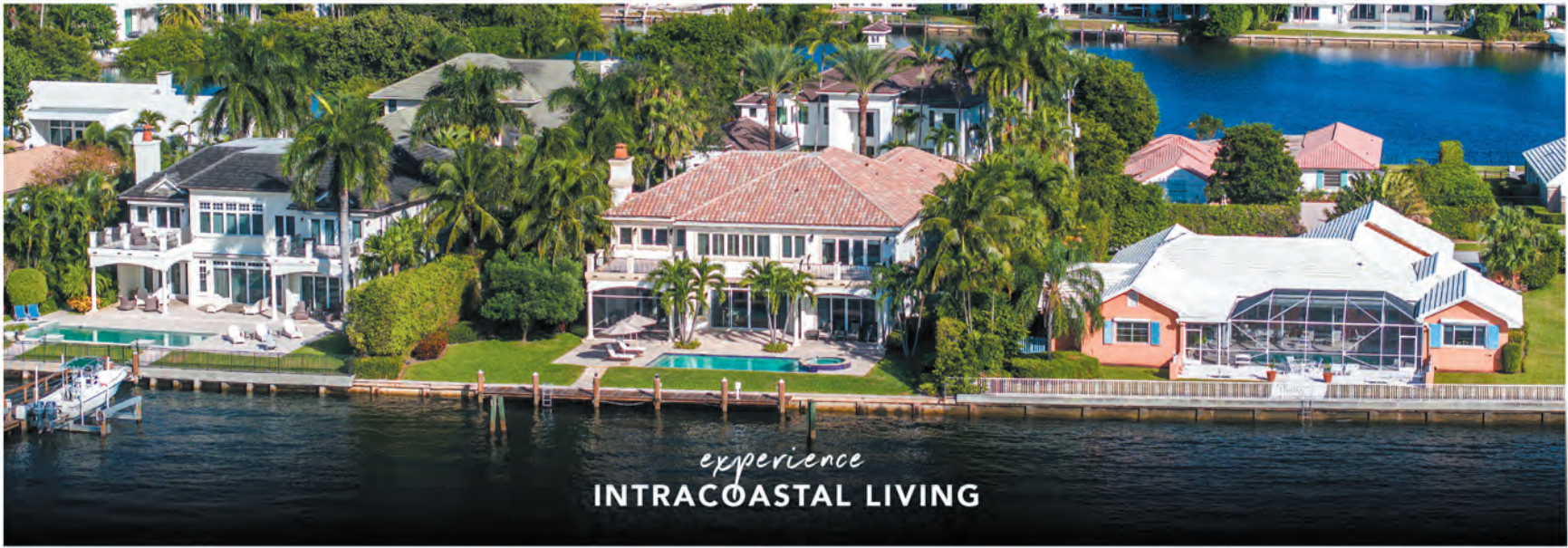
MARCH 31-APRIL 6

**Wednesday - 3/27 - EcoWatch Lecture Series: Unraveling the Mysteries of Shark Ecology and Human Impacts w/ Hannah Medd, American Shark Conservancy** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Age 13 & up; child under age 18 must be accompanied by adult. 6:30-8 pm. Free. 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org  
**Thursday - 3/28 - Early Birding w/Al** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Learn about native & migratory birds. Age 10+; child must be accompanied by adult. 8:30-10 am. Free. 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org  
**Saturday - 3/30 - Sea Angels Beach Cleanup** at Ocean Inlet Park, 6990 N Ocean Blvd, Ocean Ridge. 8-9:30 am. Registration: 561-369-5501; seaangels.org  
**Saturday - 4/6 - Coast Guard Auxiliary Boat America: A Boating Safety Course** at USCG Auxiliary Classroom, 3939 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Terminology, boat handling, navigation rules, regulations. 9 am-5 pm. \$35/adult; \$5/teen. 561-391-3600; peauxboca@gmail.com  
**4/6 - Family Fun Snorkel** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Bring your own snorkel, mask, water shoes. Age 10-adult; child must be accompanied by adult. 11 am-12:30 pm. \$15/member; \$19/non-member. Registration required: 561-544-8605; gumbolimbo.org





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Community Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 2/21. Please check with organizers for any changes.

**MARCH 2**  
**Saturday - 3/2 - The Community Spirit Race** at FAU Stadium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Benefits Spirit of Giving. 5K run/walk, 1 mile run/walk and virtual 5k. 6:30-11 am. Registration starts at \$25. 561-385-0144; spiritrace.org  
**3/2 - Adult Pickleball Tournament** at Catherine Strong Park, 1500 SW 6th St, Delray Beach. Open to two-person teams age 18+. Round-robin tournament with matches played again 3/9 & 16. Finals played 9 am 3/23 with champion crowned 3/30. 10 am. \$50/person. 561-243-7194; delraybeachfl.gov  
**3/2 - Pickleball** at Hester Center, 1901 N Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Combines badminton & tennis. Adults. Sat 9 am-noon; M/W 6-8 pm. \$5; \$50/30-visit pass. 561-742-6550; boynton-beach.org  
**3/2 - Woodcrafters Show & Sale** at Briny Breezes Auditorium, 5000 N Ocean Blvd. 9am-Noon. Free. 561-276-7405; brinybreezes.us/home  
**3/2 - Calling All Serious Writers! Saturday Zoom Writers Studio** presented by Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Every Sat 10 am. Free. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**3/2 - Muscle on the Beach Car Show** at Old School Square, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Proceeds benefit Sandoway Discovery Center. 10 am-3 pm. \$125/exhibitor; free/spectators. 561-243-1077; delrayoldschoolsquare.com/events  
**3/2 - Free Fun Saturday at The Schmidt Boca Raton History Museum** at 71 N Federal Hwy. Family fare. Held again 4/6. 10 am-4 pm. Free. 561-395-6766; bocahistory.org  
**3/2 - Freestyle Saturdays Art Class** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 18+. Every Sat 10 am-12:30 pm. Per class \$29/resident; \$35/non-resident. Registration: 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org  
**3/2 - Current Events Discussion** at Highland Beach Library, 3618 S Ocean Blvd. Every Sat 10:30 am. Free. 561-266-9702; highlandbeach.us  
**3/2 - Virtual Saturday Morning Writers' Group** presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. Held again 3/16 & 4/6 11 am-12:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org  
**3/2 - Free Fun Saturday: WWII at the Airport Day** at the Boca Raton Airport, Privaira Hangar, 3690 Airport Rd, Hangar #9. Explore vintage aircraft and enjoy 1940's-themed pop-up exhibits. Craft sessions, face painting, code-breaking, 1940's music and more. 1-4 pm. RSVP: 561-395-6766 x100; bocahistory.org  
**3/2 - Culture Talks: Ghislain d'Humieres** at Cultural Council for Palm Beach County, 601 Lake Ave, Lake Worth Beach. 2-3:30 pm. Free. 561-471-2901; palmbeachculture.com

**3/2 - Afternoon Tea** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Celebrate the theatre building's 100th birthday. Featuring backstage tour of the set of *Clue*, then sit down for tea. 2 pm. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org  
**3/2 - Tim Meadows, Matt Walsh & Friends present Chicago Improv** at The Studio at Mizner Park, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7 pm & 9:30 pm. Tickets start at \$30. 561-203-3742; thestudioatmiznerpark.com  
**3/2 - 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  
**3/2 - Copeland Davis by Special Request** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$45-\$50. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org  
**3/2-3 - The Edwards Twins** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 3 pm. \$75. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

**MARCH 3-9**  
**Sunday - 3/3 - Music in the Museum: Irena Kofman, piano; Junko Ohtsu, violin; Aaron Merritt, cello** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 3-4 pm. \$8/member; \$18/non-member. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org  
**3/3 - Unlikely Titans of Industry & Commerce** lecture with John Wanamaker at Flagler Museum, 1 Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. 3 pm. 561-655-2833, www.flaglermuseum.us  
**3/3 - Festival of the Arts Boca: Daisy Dowling: Workparenting** at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 4 pm. \$30. 561-571-5270; festivalboca.org  
**3/3 - The Boneshakers** Featuring Jenny Langer at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7 pm. \$40-\$45. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org  
**Monday - 3/4 - The Robert Welstein Quest for Knowledge Series** at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. Every M 10:30 am. Free. 561-588-8889; southpalmbeach.com  
**3/4 - Brown Bag Series: Maria's Exploration of India w/ Maria Drumm** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Noon. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org  
**3/4 - Computer Basics (Windows 10) Class** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. Held again 4/1 2-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**3/4 - Advanced Squares** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Every M 2-4 pm. \$6. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org  
**3/4 - The German Virtuosa: Inside the Life and Times of Clara Schumann w/ Anette Isaacs** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu  
**3/4 - All Things Facebook** at Boynton

Municipal Meetings

**3/4 & 4/1- Ocean Ridge** Town Hall, 6450 N Ocean Blvd. 6 pm. Agenda: oceanridgeflorida.com  
**3/5 & 4/2 - Highland Beach** Town Hall, 3614 S Ocean Blvd. 1:30 pm. Agenda: highlandbeach.us  
**3/5, 28 & 4/2 - Delray Beach** City Hall, 100 NW 1st Ave. 5 pm. Agenda: delraybeachfl.gov  
**3/5, 19 & 4/2 - Boynton Beach** City Hall, 100 E Ocean Ave. 6 pm. Agenda: boynton-beach.org  
**3/8 - Gulf Stream** Town Hall, 100 Sea Rd. 9 am. Agenda: gulf-stream.org  
**3/11 & 3/25 - Lantana** Town Hall, 500 Greynolds Cir. 6 pm. Agenda: lantana.org  
**3/12 - South Palm Beach** Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. 2 pm. Agenda: southpalmbeach.com  
**3/12 & 3/26 - Boca Raton** Auditorium, 6500 Congress Ave. 10 am & 6 pm. Agenda: myboca.us  
**3/26 - Manalapan** Town Hall, 600 S Ocean Blvd. 10 am. Agenda: manalapan.org  
**3/28 - Briny Breezes** Town Hall, 4802 N Ocean Blvd. 4 pm. Agenda: townofbrinybreezes-fl.com  
  
Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 5-6:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org  
**3/4 - Festival of the Arts Boca: Renee Fleming: Music and the Mind.** 7 pm., Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. \$50-\$75. 561-571-5270; festivalboca.org  
**3/4-7 - Lunchbox Matinee: Couples Therapy** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 12:30 pm. \$49. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com  
**Tuesday - 3/5 - Career & Employment Help w/CareerSource PBC** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Assistance w/ employment, re-employment, resumes, filing for unemployment, career path assistance. Representative fluent in English, Creole, French. Adults. Every T 9 am-4 pm. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org  
**3/5 - Open Studio** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 18+. Every T/Th 10 am-1 pm & 3-7 pm. \$10/non-resident. Registration: 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org  
**3/5 - The Secrecy Paradigm: Why We Have Government Secrets and What's Wrong with How We Manage Them w/ Jack Bruce** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu  
**3/5 - Great Decisions 2024** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Every T through 3/26 10:30 am-noon. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org  
**3/5 - A Yiddish Panorama: A Thousand Years of Yiddish Language and Culture w/ Riva Ginsburg** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every T through 3/26 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$60/member; \$80/non-member; \$30/guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu  
**3/5 - Boca Raton Garden Club: Farmer Jay's Pep Talk on Sustainable Gardening** at 4281 NW 3rd Ave. 1st T 1 pm. Free. 561-395-9376; bocaratongardenclub.org  
**3/5 - Resume Coaching** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Every T through 3/26. 1-4 pm. Free. Appointment: 561-266-0196; delraylibrary.org  
  
**3/5 - Hooks & Needles: Learn to Knit or Crochet** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. Every T 1-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**3/5 - Socrates Café** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Philosophical discussions. Every T 1:30-3 pm. Free. 561-393-7852; bocalibrary.org  
**3/5 - Book Talks - Modern Literature: Exciting Times: A Novel by Naoise Dolan** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 2-3 pm. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org  
**3/5 - Appy Hour: BYOD (Bring Your Own Device)** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Held again 3/12 & 19 2-2:30 pm. Free. Appointment: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**3/5 - Poets on the Fringe** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. Every T through 5/21 4-6 pm. Free. 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org  
**3/5 - Celebrating Women Singer-Songwriters of the 60's & 70's 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 & guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu  
**3/5 - Beginning Tap for Adults** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 18+. Every T through 3/26 5:30-7 pm. \$60/4 weeks; \$20/drop-in. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org  
**3/5 - Festival of the Arts Boca: Future Stars Competition** at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7 pm. Free. 561-571-5270; festivalboca.org  
**3/5 - Comedy Open Mic Night** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$10. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org  
**Wednesday - 3/6 - Mastering Google Apps** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 10-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org  
**3/6 - Objection! Current, Contentious, and Confusing Legal Battles w/ Irving Labovitz** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every W through 3/27 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$60/member; \$80/non-member; \$30/guest pass. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/6 - George Washington's Remarkable Trip to Barbados 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 & guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu  
**3/6 - Expressive Pastels Art Class** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Age 18+. Every W 1-4 pm. Per class \$35/resident; \$44/non-resident. Registration: 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org  
**3/6 - Microsoft Word Basics Class** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org  
**3/6 - Forensic Anthropology: Fact Versus Fiction w/ Meredith Ellis** - at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every W through 3/27 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$70/member; \$90/non-member; \$30/guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu  
**3/6 - Music at the Museum** at Cornell Art Museum at Old School Square, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every W 3:30-5 pm. Free. 561-654-2220; delrayoldschoolsquare.com  
**3/6 - Hand Crafted Greeting Cards** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Create custom greeting cards. Adults. Held again 10am-noon 3/11 & 4/3. 5-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org  
**3/6 - Festival of the Arts Boca: Nicholas Thompson: The Wired Future** at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$40. 561-571-5270; festivalboca.org  
**Thursday - 3/7 - Quilters** meet at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Perpetuate quilting as a cultural & artistic form. Limit 10 quilters at a time. Every Th 9 am-noon. \$1/lifetime membership. 561-742-6886; boyntonlibrary.org  
**3/7 - Science and Human Values w/ Russell Hamer** at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every Th through 3/28 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$70/member; \$90/non-member; \$30/guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu  
**3/7 - 3D Printing and Design w/TinkerCAD Class** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. 10-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0196; delraylibrary.org  
**3/7 - Tech Talk Thursdays** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Every Th 10:30-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org  
**3/7 - 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  
**3/7 - Crafting for Fun & Small Business: Macrame Knotting Skill-Building** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 11 am-1 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org  
**3/7 - The Unimaginable Journey of Peter Ertel: A Documentary Film Screening**

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w/ **Joe Cahn** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2:45 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$35/member; \$40/non-member & guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/7 - Alienation and Displacement in Caribbean Literary and Oral Texts** part of Stories of Exile Series at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/7 - E.T., Phone Home! Are We Alone in the Milky Way?** w/ **Kyle Jeter** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/7 - Intermediate Tap for Adults** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 18+. Every Th through 3/28 5:30-7 pm. \$60/4 weeks; \$20/drop-in. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

**3/7 - Town Hall Talk: *Small Town, Big Secrets* w/Sally J. Ling** at The Schmidt Boca Raton History Museum, 71 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. 6 pm check-in/refreshments; 6:30 pm lecture. Free/BRHS member; \$10/guest. RSVP: 561-395-6766 x100; bocahistory.org

**3/7 - Lecture: Author Sheryl Fiegel Speaks on *Champions of Flight*** at J. Turner Moore Memorial Library, 1330 Lands End Rd, Manalapan. Part of J. Turner Moore Memorial Library Lecture Series. 6-8 pm. RSVP: 561-383-2541; manalapan.org

**3/7 - Night Market** at Sanborn Square, 72 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Food, beer/wine, local artisans/makers, live music. Monthly. 6-9 pm. Free. myboca.us/2324/Night-Market

**3/7 - American Carnage: Gun Violence Trends, Myths, and Solutions - A Conversation with Fred Guttenberg and Tom Gabor, Ph.D.** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7-8:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$60/member; \$70/non-member & guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/7 - Festival of the Arts Boca: Poet Richard Blanco** at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$25. 561-571-5270; festivalboca.org

**3/7 - Lantana Mayor's Race Candidate Forum** at Palm Beach Maritime Academy, 600 E Coast Ave, Lantana. 7-8 pm. Free. 561-585-8664; lantanachamber.com

**3/7 - Cash Unchained: The Ultimate Johnny Cash Tribute** at The Delray Beach

Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 7:30 pm. \$45. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

**Friday - 3/8 - 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

**3/8 - iPad/iPhone Basics Class** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. 1-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/8 - Karaoke Night** at Cultural Plaza, 414 Lake Ave, Lake Worth. 6-9 pm. Free. 561-586-1702; lakeworthbeachfl.gov

**3/8 - Beginner Squares** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Every F 7:15-9 pm. \$6. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

**3/8 - Castoffs Square Dance** at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Basic modern western square dancing. Adults. Every F 7:15-9 pm. \$6. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

**3/8 - EVENTIDE by Gina Montet** at Florida Atlantic University Theatre Lab, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. \$20. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

**3/8 - 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

**Saturday - 3/9 - Fill the Fire Truck Food Drive** held by Boynton Beach Fire Rescue Department at Walmart, 3200 Old Boynton Rd. Benefits the Boynton Beach Soup Kitchen. The goal is to fill the fire truck with non-perishable items to assist local families in need. 8:30 am-2 pm. Free. 561-742-6000; boynton-beach.org

**3/9 - Briny Breezes Hobby Club Show & Sale** at Briny Breezes Community Center, 5000 N Ocean Blvd. Featuring hand-crafted items on display and for sale and raffles. 9 am-noon. Free. 561-276-7405; brinybreezes.us/home

**3/9 - LabRATS** at Florida Atlantic University Theatre Lab, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Noon. \$20. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

**3/9 - Clouds Over Sidra: A Virtual Reality Experience** part of Stories of Exile Series at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/9 - Inventors Society of South Florida Virtual Meeting.** 2nd Sat 1 pm. 1st meeting free. Registration: 561-676-5677; inventorsociety.net

**3/9 - LOS BERLINERS by Vanessa Garcia** at Florida Atlantic University Theatre Lab, 777

## 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 (except March 16) 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

Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3 pm. \$20. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

**3/9 - AS I EAT THE WORLD by Luis Rovert Herrera** at Florida Atlantic University Theatre Lab, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. \$20. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

**3/9 - Festival of the Arts Boca: An Evening with Isaac Mizrahi** at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. Tickets \$30-\$115. 561-571-5270; festivalboca.org

**3/9 - The Holy Rocka Rollaz!** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$45-\$50. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

**3/9 - Monique Marvez from HBOMax** at Sol Theatre, 3333 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. 8:30 pm. \$30-\$35. comiccure.com/boca-raton

**3/9-10 - Tapestry: The Carole King Songbook Starring Suzanne O'Davis** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Sat/ Sun 2 pm; Sat: 7:30 pm. \$55. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

### MARCH 10-16

**Sunday - 3/10 - Daylight Savings Time begins**

**3/10 - La Paloma by Andie Arthur** at Florida Atlantic University Theatre Lab, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Noon. \$20. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

**3/10 - Art Show** at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. 2-4 pm. Free. 561-588-8889; southpalmbeach.com

**3/10 - Schola Cantorum of Florida: Music for the Soul** at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3 pm. \$20/ public; \$5/student. Scholacantorumfl.org

**3/10 - Unlikely Titans of Industry & Commerce** lecture with Frank Woolworth at Flagler Museum, 1 Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. 3 pm. 561-655-2833, www.flaglermuseum.us

**3/10 - Harold & Babs by D.A. Mindell** at Florida Atlantic University Theatre Lab, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3:30 pm. \$20. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

**3/10 - Concert Series: Broadway & Opera Classics** at First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach Courtyard, 33 Gleason St. 4 pm. \$20; free/children under 12. 561-276-6338; firstdelray.com

**3/10 - Black Angels Over Tuskegee** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7 pm. \$50. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

**3/10 - Festival of the Arts Boca: 100 Years of Rhapsody in Blue** at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7 pm. Tickets \$35-\$115. 561-571-5270; festivalboca.org

**Monday - 3/11 - Pickleball Tournament** at Hester Center, 1901 N Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Age 18+. 9 am-noon. \$17.50/resident; \$22/non-resident. 561-742-6550; boynton-beach.org

**3/11 - Art Exhibit: *Collages: Painting with Paper* by Renee Sands** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Runs through 4/19 during regular hours. 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**3/11 - Sustainability: History & Science of Needle Felting** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 9:30-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**3/11 - Internet Basics Class** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. 2-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/11 - The Notorious R.B.G: The Life and Career of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg w/ Ronald Feinman** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/11 - Free Small Business Resources: An Introduction** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 5-6:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/11 - 2024 Language & Culture Exchange Program** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. Held again 3/25 6-8 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**Tuesday - 3/12 - 21st Annual Delray Beach Home Tour** in the Neighborhood of Palm Trail Delray Beach. Group 1: Tour 10 am-1 pm; Lunch 11 am-12:30 pm. Group 2: Tour 1-4 pm; Lunch 1-2:30 pm. 561-276-0520; achievementcentersfl.org

**3/12 - NATO: Past, Present and Future w/ Robert G. Rabil** - at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$35/member; \$40/non-member & guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/12 - Delray Beach's Desegregation Story Delray Beach w/Evan Bennett** presented by FAU Lifelong Learning Institute at The Field House at Old School Square, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 10:30 am-noon. \$30/member; \$35/non-member & guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/12 - Introduction to MS Word Class** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 2-3:30 pm. Free. Register: 5561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/12 - Crafting for Fun & Small Business: Knitting 101** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 5:30-7:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**3/12 - Book Talks - Historical Fictionados: *Watch Us Dance* by Leila Slimani** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 6-7 pm. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**3/12 - Book of the Unknown Americans by Cristina Henriquez** part of Tuesday Book Group at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/12 - 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 - 3/13 - How to Use a Sewing Machine: Sewing Basics** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. Held again 3/20 & 27 11 am-1 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**3/13 - Masters and Masterpieces Updated Weekly Topics w/ Terryl Lawrence** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every W through 5/1 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$120/member; \$160/non-member; \$30/guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/13 - Lunchbox Matinee: Harvey Granat Sings Rodgers & Hart** at Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 12:30 pm. \$49. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

**3/13 - Microsoft Word Intermediate Class** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/13 - Jumpstart Your Memoir** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Held again 3/27 4:30-6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/13 - Writer's Corner** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Manuscript critiquing by published authors. Adults. Held again 3/27 6-7 pm. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/13 - Lecture: The Sound of the Sea: Seashells & the Fate of Oceans w/ Cynthia Barnett** at Historic Field House, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Book signing follows. 6-8 pm. \$20. Registration: 561-274-9578; delraybeachhistory.org

**3/13 - Virtual Presentation: Haitian Creole is a Living Language** part of Stories of Exile Series at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 6:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/13 - Delray Beach Orchid Society Meeting** at Veterans Park, 802 NE 1st St, Delray Beach. 2nd W 7 pm. Free. 561-573-2422; delraybeachorchidsociety.org

**3/13 - Tony Sands Presents *That's Life Concert: A Tribute to Frank Sinatra with a Live Band*** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. 8 pm. \$35. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

**Thursday - Intro to Laser Cutting Class** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. 10-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/14 - Winston Churchill: A Man for All Seasons w/ Richard Chapin** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/ annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/14 - Comedy Taboo? Says Who? (Episode Two) w/ Lenny Dave** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/14 - Ancient Love Poetry: What the Past Can Tell Us About How We Feel w/ Kate Polak** at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every Th through 4/4 3-4:30 pm. \$60/ annual membership; \$100/member; \$130/non-member; \$30/guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/14 - We're All Plastic People Now - Winner of the "Director Long Form Content" and "Environment/Science Long Form Content" Categories at the Suncoast Emmys w/ Rory Fielding** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$35/member; \$40/non-member & guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/14 - Live Music** at The Shops of Boca Center Courtyard, 5150 Town Center Circle. Held again 3/28 5:30-7:30 pm. Free. bocacenter.com

**3/14 - Evening of Jazz - Phil Hinton Trio** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 7-8:30 pm. \$20/member; \$30/non-member. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

**3/14 - Jazz, Jazz, Jazz!** at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$10/general public; free/faculty, staff & child under 13. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

**3/14 - Phil Collins Tribute with In The Air Tonight** at The Studio at Mizner Park, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. \$25. 561-203-3742; thestudioatmiznerpark.com

**3/14-17 - Belleville** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Adult language and content. Runs through 3/24. Th/F/Sat 8 pm; Sun 2 pm. \$25. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

**Friday - 3/15 - Living and Leaving Your Legacy: Living a Life That Matters w/ Merle Saferstein** at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$50/member; \$65/non-member & guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/15 - OLLI at FAU Glee Club: Let Us Sing! Concert** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-1:30 pm. \$5/member; \$10/non-member & guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/15 - iPad Intermediate Class** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 1-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/15 - Artist Blow Out featuring Dan Alexander** at Benzaiten Center for Creative Arts, 1105 2nd Ave S, Lake Worth. 6:30-

FREE EVENT

MARCH 23<sup>RD</sup>  
4:00PM - 9:00PM

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9:30 pm. \$20. Reservations: 561-508-7315; benzaitencenter.org

**3/15 - Lady Be Good: Ella & The Great Ladies of Song** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 7:30 pm. \$45. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

**3/15 – Concert: Nova Singers featuring Dan Forrest’s Jubilate Deo** at St. Joseph Episcopal Church, 3300 S Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. 8 pm. \$20/advance; \$25/at the door; free/children 12 & under & students w/ ID. <http://tinyurl.com/NovaMarchConcerts>

**3/15-16 - Cece Teneal: Divas of Soul** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$45-\$50. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

**3/15-17 - Twelfth Night by William Shakespeare** at Florida Atlantic University Marleen Forkas Studio One Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Runs through 3/24. F/Sat 7 pm; Sat/Sun 2 pm. \$25/general public; \$18/faculty, staff & alumni. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

**3/15-17 - The Bronx Wanderers** at The Studio at Mizner Park, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. F/ Sat 7:30 pm; Sun 5 pm. \$50-\$60. 561-203-3742; thestudioatmiznerpark.com

**Saturday - 3/16 - Briny Breezes Art League Show & Sale** at Briny Breezes Community Center, 5000 N Ocean Blvd, Boynton Beach. 9 am-2 pm. Free. 561-276-7405; brinybreezes.us/home

**3/16 - Shredding Event** at Ascension Lutheran Church, 2929 S. Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach. \$5 or \$10/box; 561-732-2929

**3/16 - Pulitzer Prize-Winners Anne Hull & David Finkle in Conversation** at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Part of the Palm Beach Book Festival. 11 am. \$15/general public; free/faculty, staff & child under 13. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

**3/16 - St. Patrick’s Day Parade & Festival** on Atlantic Avenue from Intracoastal Bridge to NW 5th Avenue, Delray Beach. Parade, live music, food trucks/booths, drinks, merchandise, arts/crafts, more. 1-5 pm festival at Old School Square; Noon-2 pm parade. Free. 561-243-7250 x3; stpatsdelray.com

**3/16 - New York Times Bestselling Author Lauren Groff** at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Part of the Palm Beach Book Festival. 12:15 pm. \$15/ general public; free/faculty, staff & child under 13. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

**3/16 - Memoir of the Decade - Barry Sonnenfeld, Call Your Mother!** at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Part of the Palm Beach Book Festival. 2 pm. \$15/general public; free/faculty, staff & child under 13. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

**3/16 - Artist at Work: Genie Appel-Cohen** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 3-4 pm. \$5/member; \$10/non-member. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

**3/16 - Lifetime Honoree - Joyce Carol Oates - Moderated by Leigh Haber** at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Part of the Palm Beach Book Festival. 3:30 pm. \$15/general public; free/faculty, staff & child under 13. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

**3/16 - Pick Up My Pieces: The Music of Willie Nelson** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 7:30 pm. \$45. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

**3/16 - Send In The Queens** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. 8 pm. \$38. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

MARCH 17-23

**Sunday - 3/17 - 3/17 - Palm Beach Opera Forum: Listening to Norma** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Part of the Opera Forum Lecture Series with Palm Beach Opera. Adults. 2-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/17 - Stars of David - The Judaic Muse II with Jose Lopez, Piano** 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

**3/17 - Schola Cantorum of Florida** at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3 pm. \$20/general public; free/ faculty, staff & child under 13. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

**3/17 - The Allman Revival - A Tribute to The Allman Brothers Band** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7 pm. \$40-\$45. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

**3/17-19 - Musical Memories - What I Did for Love: The Music of Marvin Hamlisch** at The Wick Theatre & Costume Museum, 7901 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Runs through 3/26. M/T 2 pm; M 7:30 pm; Sun 5 pm. \$53. Reservations: 561-995-2333; thewick.org

**Monday - 3/18 - The History of Wrecking and Shipwreck Salvage in the Florida Keys w/ Robert Feeney** at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/ annual membership; \$40/member; \$50/ non-member & guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/18 - Brown Bag Series: Under the**

**Rainbow w/ author Jeff Keene II** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Noon. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/18 - Email Basics Class** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. Held again 4/3 2-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/18 - Crafting for Fun & Small Business: Design Your Buttons** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 3-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**3/18 - Nasty Women: A “Herstory” of Civil Disobedience: A Celebration of Women’s History Month w/ Helene Herman** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/18 - Simple Steps Towards Internet Safety** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 5-6:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/18 - Ciao Cinema: Contemporary Italian Film w/ Shelly Isaacs** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every M through 4/8 7-9:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$60/member; \$80/non-member; \$30/guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/18 - Poetry Open Mic Night** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 3rd M 8-10 pm. \$10. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

**Tuesday - 3/19 - Presidential Preference Primary and Municipal Elections;** 7 am-7 pm. votepalmbeach.com

**3/19 - Was Israel’s Syrian Policy a Strategic**

**Failure? w/ Robert G. Rabil** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$35/member; \$40/ non-member & guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/19 - Lunchbox Matinee: Harvey Granat Sings Tony Bennett** at Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 12:30 pm. \$49. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

**3/19 - Book Talks - Non-Fiction/ Biographies: Madonna: A Rebel Life by Mary Gabriel** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 2-3 pm. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**3/19 - Intermediate MS Word Class** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 2-3:30 pm. Free. Register: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/19 - Burt Bacharach: A Brand New Sound of Music w/ Harvey Granat** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 4-5:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/19 - 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; cescos.fau.edu/observatory

**Wednesday - 3/20 - Book Buzz Adult Book Club** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 10:30 am-noon. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/20 - Robert Frost w/ Jeff Morgan** at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every

W through 4/10 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$100/member; \$130/non-member; \$30/guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/20 - Lunchbox Matinee: Leslie Bricusse: Pure Imagination Starring John Lariviere** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 12:30 pm. \$49. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

**3/20 - Book Discussion: Ayiti by Roxane Gay** part of Stories of Exile Reading Group at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/20 - Crafting in the Library: Spring Wreaths** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 5-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/20 - Open Read for Writers** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0196; delraylibrary.org

**Thursday - 3/21 - Did You Know They Had Jewish Roots? Stories of Ten Famous People With Jewish Roots w/ Rose Feinberg** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/21 - Judicial Legacies: The Lasting Impact of Landmark Supreme Court Decisions w/ Judge Cymonie S. Rowe** at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every Th through 4/18 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$100/member; \$130/non-member; \$30/guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/21 - 1939: The Year Hollywood Could Do No Wrong w/ Kurt F. Stone** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every Th through 5/9 3-5 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$120/member; \$160/ non-member; \$30/guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/21 - Beginning Sewing Program** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Learn basics of hand & machine sewing. Adults. 5-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/21 - Concert: Four Shillings Short: A Celebration of Ireland** at Highland Beach Library, 3618 Ocean Blvd. 5:30-6:30 pm. Free. 561-278-5455; highlandbeach.us

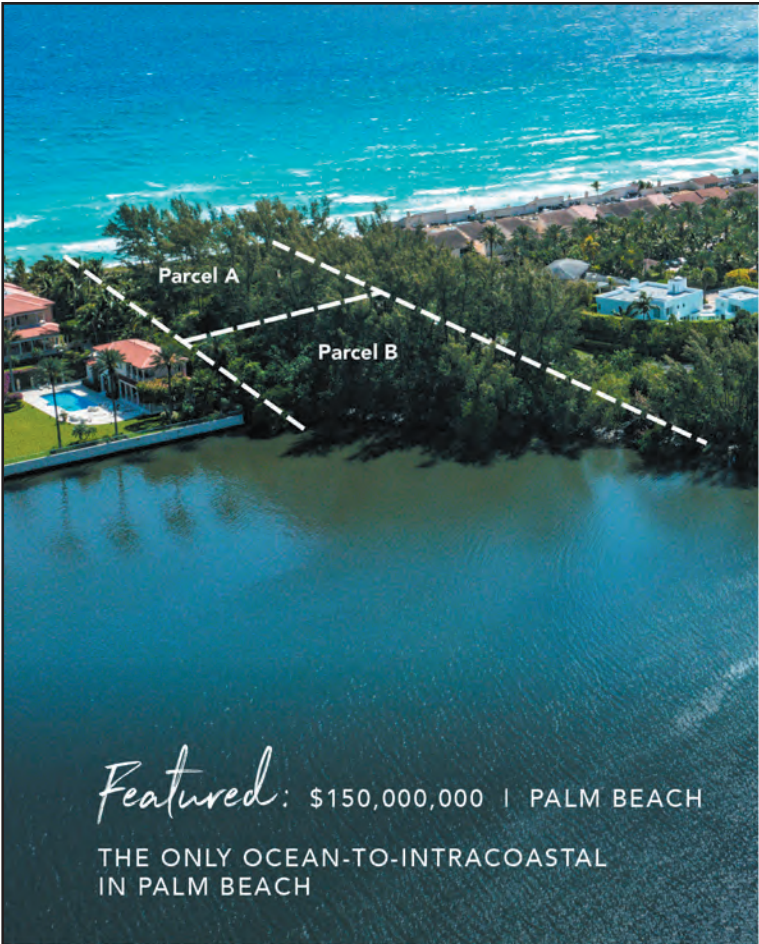
**3/21 - Women, Politics, and Active Citizenship w/ Dr. Anna Krift** Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Part of the Thursday Night Speaker Series. Adults. 6-7:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**3/21 - Lecture: Cocktails & Conversation w/ Guest Artist Kiff Slemmons** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 6-8 pm. \$20/member; \$50/non-member. Reservations: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

**3/21-22 - FAU Opera Theatre** at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$10/public; free/faculty, staff & child under 13. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

**3/21-23 - BIJOUX! Contemporary 2024** at Boca Raton Museum of Art Store, 501 Plaza Real. Exhibition, sale, fundraiser devoted exclusively to artist-made jewelry. Th 11 am-8 pm; F/Sat 11 am-6 pm. \$16/non-member. Reservations: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

**Friday -3/22 - Meditative Collage** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults.



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1-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**3/22 - Meet & Mingle with the Artists** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 6-8 pm. \$20/member; \$50/non-member. Reservations: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

**3/22 - Andrea McArdle: Confessions of a Broadway Baby** at The Studio at Mizner Park, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. \$30-\$50. 561-203-3742; thestudioatmiznerpark.com

**3/22 - The Jimmy Vivino Band** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$45-\$50. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

**3/22-23 - Joe Matarese from America’s Got Talent** at Sol Theatre, 3333 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. F: 7 & 9:15 pm; Sat: 6 & 8:30 pm. \$30-\$35. comiccure.com/boca-raton

**Saturday 3/23 - Barefoot Mailman Family Beach Day** at Lantana Beach, 100 N Ocean Blvd. Featuring food & craft vendors, music, magician, mime and caricature drawings. 9 am-1 pm. Free. 561-540-5754; lantana.org/enjoy-lantana-events

**3/23 - Tag, You’re It! Workshop w/ Guest Artist Kiff Slemmons** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 10-11 am. \$20/member; \$50/non-member. Reservations: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

**3/23 - Boynton Beach Spring Market** at Centennial Park , 120 E Ocean Ave. Live music & entertainment. Stroll the plaza, visit downtown merchants & restaurants. 4-9 pm. Free. 561-600-9097; boyntonbeachcra.com

**3/23 - Commercial Music Ensembles - Bands** at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$10/public; free/faculty, staff & child under 13. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

**3/23 - Concert: Saturday Night Dance Fever presented by Deney Terrio** at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real. Doors open 6 pm; show 7 pm. Tickets start at \$59. myboca.us

**3/23 - Stars of the Sixties** at Florida Atlantic University Kaye Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. \$39-\$79. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

MARCH 24-30

**Sunday - 3/24 - Exhibit Artists Reception: Mingled** at Artist’s Eye Gallery Boutique, 604 Lucerne Ave, Lake Worth. Runs through 4/20. 1-3 pm. Free. 561-586-8666; lwartleague.org

**3/24 - Car Show & Ice Cream Social** at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. Car show, ice cream & live music. 2-4 pm. Free. 561-588-8889; southpalmbeach.com

**3/24 - Italian Visions of Gauls and Romans** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Part of the Opera Forum Lecture Series with Palm Beach Opera. Adults. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/24 - Commercial Music Ensembles - Guitar & Keys** at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3 pm. \$10/public; free/faculty, staff & child under 13. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

**3/24 - Gerry Williams - Stevie Wonder - Hotter Than July** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7 pm. \$45-\$50. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

**Monday - 3/25 - Magic Mind: The Philosophy and Practice of Deception with Dr. Taylor Hagood** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Part of the 3-part Lecture & Luncheon series. Lecture 11 am; luncheon noon.

\$125/member; \$150/non-member. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

**3/25 - Brown Bag Series: Inside Mel Taylor’s New Release: The Exercise** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. Noon. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/25 - Four Different Jewish Diaspora Communities: Iraq, India, Greece and France w/ Helene Herman** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every M through 4/15 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$60/member; \$80/non-member; \$30/guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/25 - Lucy by the Sea by Elizabeth Strout** part of Afternoon Book Group at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. Free. 561-266-0196; delraylibrary.org

**3/25 - Name That Tune! w/ Ira Epstein** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/25 - Protect Yourself Against Scammers, Spammers & Hackers** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 5-6:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/25 - Monday Movies - Feature Film: Corsage** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 5:30-8 pm. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**3/25 - How To “Be” Onstage Class** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 18+. Runs through 5/20. 6-7 pm. \$185/9-weeks. 561-586-6169 x217; lakeworthplayhouse.org

**3/25-28 - It’s De-Lovely: Jeff Harnar Sings Cole Porter** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. M-Th: 2 pm; T/W 7:30 pm. \$45-\$55. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

**Tuesday - 3/26 - The Azerbaijan-Israel Relationship: Prospects and Challenges w/ Robert G. Rabil** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$35/member; \$40/non-member & guest pass at the door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/26 - Book Talks - Staff Picks: Victorian Women in the Mystery Genre** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 2-3 pm. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**3/26 - Crafting for Fun & Small Business: Bath Bombs & Aromatherapy Shower Tablets** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 2-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**3/26 - Michelangelo’s Pieta: The History of an Object w/ Emily Fenichel** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**Wednesday - 3/27 - Crafting in the Library** at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 5-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**3/27 - Sustainable Yards Series: Planting for Water Quality** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 6-7:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**Thursday - 3/28 - Data Visualization with**

**Tableau Class** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 10 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0196; delraylibrary.org

**3/28 - The Six Wives of Henry VIII: What The Musical Left Out w/ Ben Lowe** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$40/member; \$50/non-member & guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**3/28 - Boy Band Review: Songs From Your Favorite Boy Bands!** at The Studio at Mizner Park, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 5 pm. \$30. 561-203-3742; thestudioatmiznerpark.com

**3/28 - Civics, Civility, and Critical Thinking w/ Christene Campbell-Gabor from The League of Women Voters** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Part of the Thursday Night Speaker Series. Adults. 6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**3/28 - Twilight Concert: LOVESONG: The Cure Tribute** at Old School Square Amphitheater, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 6-9 pm. Free. 561-243-1077; delrayoldschoolsquare.com/events

**3/28 - Friends Virtual Book Club: The Rose Code** by Kate Quinn 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

**3/28 - Fine Art Auction** at Benzaiten Center for Creative Arts, 1105 2nd Ave S, Lake Worth Beach. 6:30-8:30 pm. 561-508-7315; benzaitencenter.org

**Friday - 3/29 - Gafieira Rio Miami - Brazilian Big Band** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$45-\$50. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

**Saturday - 3/30 - All People’s Day Diversity Festival** at Pompey Park, 1101 NW 2nd St, Delray Beach. Children’s free craft workshop for ages 4-11 9:30-11 am; Festival: 11 am-3 pm. Free. allpeoplesday.org

**3/30 - Egg-Stravaganza** at Hester Center, 1901 N Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Games, activities, egg hunts. Family fare. 10 am-noon. Free. 561-742-6550; boynton-beach.org

**3/30 - Annual Easter Egg Hunt** at Flagler Museum, 1 Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. 10 am (gates open 9 am). 561-655-2833, www.flaglermuseum.us

**3/30 - 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

**3/30 - Microsoft Word Advanced Class** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/30 - Night of Magic & Mentalism** at Sol Theatre, 3333 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Family friendly: 6 pm; Adults only: 8 pm. \$30-\$35. comiccure.com/boca-raton

**3/30 - Indigenous** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$40-\$45. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

MARCH 31-APRIL 6

**Sunday - 3/31 - Eggstravaganza Egg Hunt** at Maddock Park, 1200 W Drew St, Lantana. Family games, hayride, arts/crafts, vendors. 8:30-10:30 am. Free. 561-540-5754; lantana.org

**Monday - 4/1 - Dramawise: Death of a Salesman w/ Gary Cadwallader** at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$40/member; \$50/non-member & guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**4/1 - Women Sing the Blues Due to Unforeseen Circumstances w/ Rod MacDonald** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 4-5:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**Tuesday - 4/2 - Holocaust by Bullets: Remembering the Babi Yar Massacre w/ Irving Berkowitz** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**4/2 - Boca Raton Garden Club: Facts & Stories of Owning a FL Nursery w/ Recommendations for Nursery Visits** at 4281 NW 3rd Ave. 1st T 1 pm. Free. 561-395-9376; bocaratongardenclub.org

**4/2 - Crafting for Fun & Small Business: Embroidery for Beginners** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 1-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**4/2 - Book Talks - Modern Literature: Sally Rooney’s First Two Novels: Conversations with Friends and Normal People** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 2-3 pm. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**4/2 - Frank Lloyd Wright: The Dramatic Life of America’s Most Controversial and Creative Architect w/ Rene Silvin** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**4/2 - Beginning Tap for Adults** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 18+. Every T through 4/23 5:30-7 pm. \$60/4 weeks; \$20/drop-in. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

**4/2 - Comedy Open Mic Night** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. \$10. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

**4/2-3 - 60s Pop Chart Hits You Didn’t Know Came From Canada** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 2 pm. \$35. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

**Wednesday - 4/3 - Abraham Lincoln and the Abuse of Power: How Lincoln Ignored the Constitution He Fought to Protect w/ Jerrold Goldstein** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**4/3 - Microsoft Excel Basics Class** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. 2-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**4/3 - The Wolf in the Woods: How Fairy Tales and Legends Live On in Modern Novels and Films w/ Cora Bresciano** at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every

W through 4/24 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$70/member; \$90/non-member; \$30/guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**4/3 - Comedian Greg Fitzsimmons** at The Studio at Mizner Park, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. Call for ticket info: 561-203-3742; thestudioatmiznerpark.com

**Thursday 4/4 - Video Editing w/Adobe Premiere Pro** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 10 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**4/4 - The Sassoons and Kadoories: Discovering the Families Behind Two Global Financial Empires w/ Andrew Kahn** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$30/member; \$35/non-member & guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**4/4 - The Wise Wo/man Years: Finding Joy and Fulfillment as We Grow Older w/ Minx Boren** at Florida Atlantic University Lifelong Learning Classroom, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every Th through 4/25 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$70/member; \$90/non-member; \$30/guest pass at door. 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu

**4/4 - April Sip & Shop** at Boca Raton Museum of Art Store, 501 Plaza Real. 4-6 pm. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

**4/4 - Intermediate Tap for Adults** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 18+. Every Th through 4/25 5:30-7 pm. \$60/4 weeks; \$20/drop-in. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

**4/4 - Understanding The Legal System w/ Jeffrey Gordon** Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Part of the Thursday Night Speaker Series. Adults. 6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**4/4 - Lecture: Author Connor Black** at J. Turner Moore Memorial Library, 1330 Lands End Rd, Manalapan. Part of J. Turner Moore Memorial Library Lecture Series. 6-8 pm. RSVP: 561-383-2541; manalapan.org

**4/4 - FAU Jazz Orchestra** at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$10/public; free/faculty, staff & child under 13. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

**Friday - 4/5 - Exhibition Opening: Ain’t No Limits** at Spady Museum, 170 NW 5th Ave, Delray Beach. Free. 561-279-8883; spadmuseum.com

**4/5 - Quilt Guild Auction** at Boca Raton Garden Club at 4281 NW 3rd Ave. 3-5 pm. Free. quiltguildbythesea.com/all-events/quilt-auction

**4/5 - First Friday @ 5 Concert: Roots Shakedown** at Centennial Park & Amphitheater, 120 E Ocean Ave. Food trucks, artesian market, children’s activities and music. 5-9 pm. Free. 561-742-6024; boynton-beach.org

**4/5 - Friday Night Jazz: From the Count to the Queen - Basie to Diana Krall** part of Music at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 188 S Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Call for time/ticket prices. 561-276-4541; musicstpauls.org

**4/5 - Candela: The FAU Salsa and Latin Jazz Ensemble** at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$10. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

**4/5 – Joey Avery: The Art of Laughter** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$35. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

**4/5-7 - Ragtime The Musical** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Runs through 4/21. F/Sat 8 pm; Sat/Sun 2 pm. \$46/opening night; \$38/show; \$64-\$114/dinner & show. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

**Saturday - 4/6 - Charity Shred Event** at Lantana Chamber of Commerce, 212 Iris Ave. Benefits Friends of Foster Children of Palm Beach County. On-site shredding. 9-11 am. \$5/box. 561-585-8664; lantanachamber.com

**4/6 - Free Fun Saturday at The Schmidt Boca Raton History Museum** at 71 N Federal Hwy. Family fare. Held again 5/4. 10 am-4 pm. Free. 561-395-6766; bocahistory.org

**4/6 - Virtual Saturday Morning Writers’ Group** presented by Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. Held again 4/20 & 5/4 11 am-12:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**4/6 - Sip & Stroke Painting Event** at Ascension Lutheran Church, 2929 S. Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach. 2 pm. 561-732-2929

**4/6 - Annual Cruiser Palooza Music & Arts Festival** at The Pavilion at Old School Square, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Live music, food trucks, art, cornhole, silent auction. 5-11 pm. Tickets start at \$50. cruisebogle.com/cruiserpalooza/

**4/6 - The Hoot/Wisdom Recordings 20th Anniversary Concert** at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$10/public; free/faculty, staff & child under 13. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

**4/6 - Stanley Jordan Plays Jimi** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. Two shows: 6 & 8:30 pm. \$50-\$55. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org



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House of the Month



**LEFT:** As you pass along the private, paved drive, you will arrive at the porte-cochere at the main entry. Off to the south are four attached garage spaces. **RIGHT:** The main home has a split bedroom plan with a primary suite wing that overlooks the Intracoastal and has its own lanai.



The three-story estate has plenty of balconies overlooking the pool as well as the outdoor entertainment areas with multi-level terraces.

Manalapan ocean-to-Intracoastal estate



**ABOVE:** Who wouldn't enjoy bathing or soaking in this tub with a sunrise to the east or a sunset over the Intracoastal?  
**RIGHT:** The estate of 20,106 total square feet has a dock on the Intracoastal side and a beach house on the east side of A1A overlooking the ocean.



This special property at 1840 S. Ocean Blvd. has been recently updated and is part of a stunning ocean-to-Intracoastal Manalapan compound with beach house that is situated on almost two acres. It has 150 feet of direct ocean frontage and 150 feet of direct Intracoastal frontage.

The home offers eight total bedrooms, 10½ bathrooms, an elevator, wet bar, fireplace and eat-in kitchen with breakfast bar. Included in this estate is a luxurious primary wing plus private office and gym. Many upgrades including new flooring, all new baths and new impact sliders.

The manicured grounds feature a resort-style heated pool curling under one of the outdoor terraces as well as a spa. There is extensive landscaping which includes a sprawling lawn overlooking the Intracoastal. Boaters will especially appreciate the large dock and new sea wall affording easy ocean access via nearby inlets.

*Offered at \$29 million. Nicholas Malinosky, Douglas Elliman, 900 E. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach, FL 33483. 561-306-4597; [nicholas.malinosky@elliman.com](mailto:nicholas.malinosky@elliman.com)*

Each month, The Coastal Star features a home for sale in our area. The House of the Month is presented as a service to our advertisers and provides readers with a peek inside one of our homes.



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