

Delray Beach

Refusal to
erase Pride
colors swells
emotions

Governor is angry;
residents pour
out hearts to city

By John Pacenti

At first, there was silence. Then a cacophony. And then an avalanche, one that reverberated nationwide.

Gov. Ron DeSantis’ administration made clear it didn’t care what a rainbow intersection meant to Delray Beach’s LGBTQ community — or to any other Florida city, for that matter — and demanded it be erased.

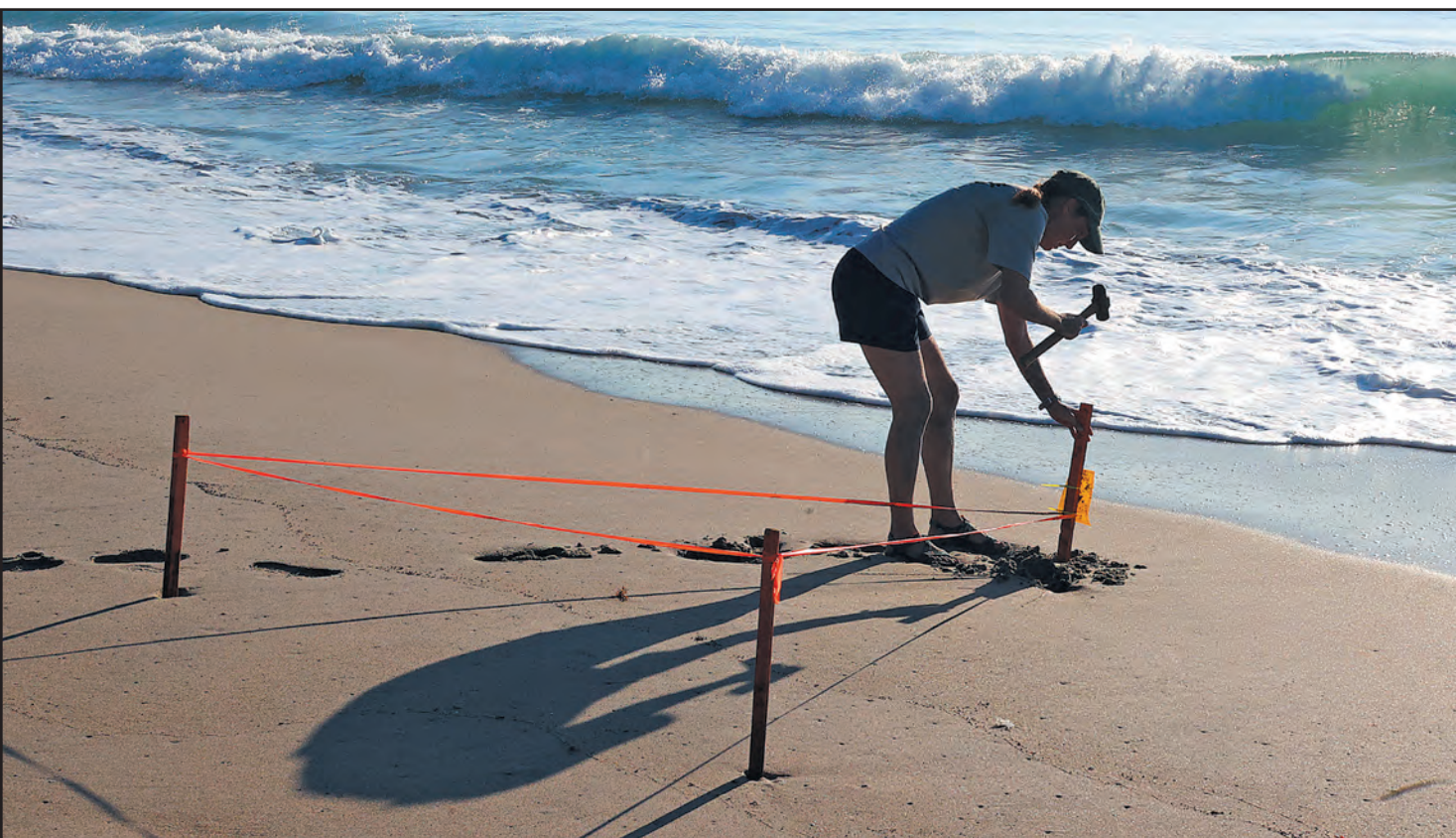
But the governor couldn’t stop the unexpected: how a minor act of defiance caught fire and made Delray Beach an inflection point.

“If our values matter, then we must defend them, not just in court, but right here on our streets,” Delray Beach Vice Mayor Rob Long said at an Aug. 12 City Commission meeting that started the avalanche.

As of Sept. 2, the fate of the intersection remained technically in limbo, with a decision by the Florida Department of Transportation expected Sept. 5 at the earliest — though the agency had denied other cities’ appeals on

See PRIDE on page 8

Along the Coast



Rebecca Germany, sea turtle conservation assistant at Gumbo Limbo, hammers a stake back in the sand in Boca Raton on Aug. 21 after high waves spawned by Hurricane Erin dislodged it from near a turtle nest. Because little water had washed over this nest, it appeared to be among the majority that withstood the storm. Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

Hurricane adds to heaps of trouble for sea turtle babies



These green sea turtle hatchlings were among those rescued from washed-over nests. They were kept at Gumbo Limbo for a couple of days and released after waves had calmed.

Nests took a beating from surf. Earlier, hundreds of hatchlings were rescued from sargassum. Still, it’s been a good year overall.

By Steve Plunkett

While 2025 is shaping up to be a decent year for sea turtle nestings on area beaches, many of those nests were hit hard as Hurricane Erin blew by in August and — before that — emerging hatchlings faced challenges traversing the mounds of sargassum piling up on shore.

Early in the summer, when sargassum was at its peak, turtle watchers in Highland Beach say they rescued more than 100 hatchlings that were caught in the seaweed — and others watched helplessly as trapped hatchlings were picked off by birds on the hunt for an easy meal.

See TURTLES on page 14

Along the Coast

Ocean Ridge police legwork helps solve string of county shootings

By Rich Pollack

Detective work by the Ocean Ridge Police Department combined with the use of crime-fighting technology helped lead to the arrest of a man charged with firing bullets into 16 homes and businesses throughout the county in a months-long shooting spree.

While some of the homes 29-year-old Sterling Maloney is accused of shooting up were occupied at the time, there were no reported injuries — though prosecutors have added a charge of



Maloney attempted first-degree murder.

“We’re very lucky that no one was hit, killed or injured with these shootings,” said Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Col. Talal Masri, who said that Maloney kept a ledger detailing the locations he shot up and a list of 10 more places he was planning to target.

“We don’t know what was going to happen the next time,” Masri said July 31

when announcing Maloney’s arrest.

PBSO had not previously reported that police were investigating such a string of shootings involving the same handgun.

Sheriff’s investigators began looking into the shootings in February after buildings in Royal Palm Beach were struck by bullets. More shootings followed, including six in Delray Beach and four in Boynton Beach.

One of those shootings — in Boynton Beach in May — occurred at a home



A Glock 9mm handgun, bullets and a list of addresses were found in the suspect’s car. Photo provided

See SHOOTINGS on page 17

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The ArtsPaper

Boynton Beach artist, 86, and others with South Florida ties visit Italy to practice their painting. Page AT7



Case history
Trial set to start in murder at Delray timeshare. Page 13

Fighting owls
FAU students say school threatens mascot’s habitat. Page 28



Teen cook
Delray Beach student helps fight food insecurity one lasagna at a time. Page AT1

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PRIDE

Continued from page 1

their rainbow crossings.

Long told *The Coastal Star* that a Sept. 2 administrative hearing at an Orlando Florida Department of Transportation office was “performative at best” and that litigation appears to be the next step.

The day of the hearing, DeSantis held a news conference and blasted Delray Beach and Key West for even appealing his decision on the intersections.

“They have basically taken the position — even though the law is what it is, even though FDOT has issued guidance — that they should just be able to be a law unto themselves and do whatever they want,” the governor said.

FDOT officials had given Delray Beach — as it has done for other cities — an ultimatum to erase the intersection or have the state come do it and charge the city. DeSantis could try to withhold \$60 million in state funds, City Manager Terrence Moore has said.

Delray Beach spokeswoman Gina Carter said the City Commission will have to decide whether to proceed to the next step, litigation, if and when FDOT denies the city’s appeal.

How the protest started

Delray’s stand against Tallahassee started with a modest proposal by Long at the Aug. 12 commission meeting where not one of his fellow elected commissioners initially spoke up. Let not Delray Beach capitulate, he said, at least not immediately — as Boynton Beach and West Palm Beach had done in removing their painted intersections — to DeSantis’ latest attack on the LGBTQ community.

The way his critics see it, DeSantis aims to reverse the plot of the movie *Pleasantville*, to bleed the color from these intersections, rendering them back to 1950s black-and-white, when members of the LGBTQ community were criminalized, forced to stay in the closet, to keep who they really were and whom they really loved a secret.

Long asked for a consensus not to erase his city’s intersection until FDOT formalized its threat in a letter — which it did three days later.

Mayor Tom Carney and the other commissioners made their remarks on other issues as if Long had said nothing about the intersection painted in the Pride flag’s colors at Northeast Second Avenue and Northeast First Street in the Pineapple Grove Arts District, installed in June 2021.

But Long — who will run for state representative in a special election in December — wouldn’t let it go. “I brought up a consensus item, and everyone just sort of pivoted away, didn’t say anything.”

Commissioner Angela Burns then spoke up and said she agreed to wait until FDOT



Since 2021, the Pride flag’s colors have decorated the intersection of Northeast Second Avenue and Northeast First Street in Delray Beach. Gov. Ron DeSantis criticized the city’s refusal to erase the LGBTQ symbol. **Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star**

made its request official. Then Commissioner Tom Markert consented and Carney said, “Yes, we can think about it.”

Opposition to edict grows

Call it coincidence or zeitgeist, but after Delray Beach made the tiniest of decisions, then other cities — Key West, St. Petersburg, Miami Beach, Fort Lauderdale — pushed back on DeSantis. *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times* and the *Associated Press* wrote national stories.

And 17 people came and spoke at the commission’s Aug. 19 meeting a week later — passionately, sometimes through tears, turning a municipal meeting into an extraordinary event. Long said he had never seen the commission chambers so full.

They came not just from the community or surrounding cities, but from out of the county, saying the rainbow intersection attracted them to Delray Beach to visit, to feel seen. Erase it and real visitor dollars would vanish, they said.

Delray Beach resident Irene Slovin said she is a lesbian and has a piece of the rainbow ribbon from the grand opening ceremony in 2021. Every year, she takes a photo of herself and her partner at the intersection.

“If you choose to erase our crosswalk, you will never erase our memories or who we are,” she said.

U.S. Army veteran and city resident Marcie Hall — shaking and fighting back tears — said, “And some people ask, why should anyone care about this? Marginalized people sometimes need a symbol to show they matter. Taking away that symbol says they don’t.”

Siobhan Boroian, who said she was at the meeting to address parking, not rainbow intersections, said, “This is the most moving commission

meeting I’ve ever attended — and I have attended many.”

DeSantis’ response

How triggered was DeSantis on cities not responding to FDOT’s threats?

His administration ordered the agency — in the dead of night — to paint over the rainbow intersection in front of the Pulse memorial in Orlando, where 49 people were murdered in 2016 by a religious extremist. Residents showed up the next morning with colored chalk to fill in the blanks, and then returned the following day with real paint. The state then painted over it again and stationed a Florida Highway Patrol trooper there, eventually arresting one protester.

“We will not allow our state roads to be commandeered for political purposes,” DeSantis said in an Aug. 21 social media post.

Then there was his press conference in Orlando at an FDOT office on Sept. 2, the day of Delray Beach’s hearing.

“So they just decide they don’t like the law. They want to do what they want to do, that just isn’t going to fly. It is not going to fly. So eventually FDOT will be able to correct it in Delray and correct it in Key West,” he said.

Besides the fact that Delray’s rainbow intersection isn’t a state road, the governor’s tweet harkens back to the idea that LGBTQ is a choice — and a political one at that. DeSantis also undercut FDOT’s reasoning for paving over the intersections, which was that they posed a safety hazard.

Contrarily, the “Asphalt Art Safety Study” by Bloomberg Philanthropies and Sam Schwartz Consulting in 2022 found a direct link between public art installations at intersections and improved safety for pedestrians and

cyclists. It found a 50% decrease in crashes involving vulnerable road users and a 27% increase in drivers yielding to pedestrians.

“This has nothing to do with public safety. Governor DeSantis is once again injecting his politics into local communities to silence, censor and erase our LGBTQ community,” Chris Rhoades, a Delray Beach resident and board member of Equality Florida, said at the Aug. 19 meeting.

The city has already been told by its own lobbyist that the DeSantis administration is not happy that Delray Beach funds a Pride festival in June.

Again, call it coincidental, but the city has gotten its first letter from DeSantis’ DOGE team, asking for cursory documents, said spokeswoman Carter.

“Any additional violations by the city of Delray Beach shall be cause for the immediate withholding of state funds,” FDOT wrote Aug. 15 in regards to the intersection — in case the city had any ideas to move it to another street.

With \$60 million at stake, Moore said he was ready for a crew to sandblast the rainbow intersection the next week for \$12,000 in taxpayer dollars. “I don’t believe the city of Delray Beach has much choice at all,” Moore said.

Do cities still have a say?

Rand Hoch, president and founder of the Palm Beach County Human Rights Council, told *The Coastal Star* that the rainbow intersection edict is another attack on home rule, the ability for communities to mold themselves in the image their residents deem fit.

“Does the state have the authority to dictate what a city can do with its own land and threaten them — I use the word

extort,” Hoch said.

The Human Rights Council paid \$16,000 to make the Pride intersection a reality in 2021.

Hoch said Long’s galvanizing of the community was his finest moment as an elected leader. “I’m very proud to know him and to call him a friend and an ally,” he said.

Already, the state painted over the intersection at the Pulse memorial and said it would do the same to the one in St. Petersburg.

In Miami Beach, where there is a rainbow intersection across Ocean Drive, Commissioner Alex Fernandez said, “We need to resist this action.” Fort Lauderdale is under an FDOT order, as well.

The LGBTQ community came out to protest in Fort Lauderdale and Miami Beach on Aug. 30-31.

What's next for Delray?

Long said the city had already been told by FDOT that no waiver would be granted. “The only way to actually get a fair evidence-based proceeding is to take this to court,” he said.

“Hopefully, we will join Key West and Fort Lauderdale in taking that next step after we hear back from FDOT with their inevitable predetermined stance that our crosswalk is noncompliant.”

Long said at one point that FDOT crews should be arrested for trespassing if they try a sneak attack in the dead of night, like they did in Orlando.

Whether the majority of the commission would go along with litigation remains to be seen. Carney told *The Coastal Star*, “I just think we exhaust our administrative remedies before we do anything.”

Rhoades said the issue goes beyond dollars and cents: “It’s about whether we stand firm in the values of inclusion and building a welcoming city.” ★



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Along the Coast

Caruso appointed county clerk;
Drucker to challenge him next year

By Mary Hladky

Boca Raton City Council member Yvette Drucker has dropped her bid for a state Senate seat to run for Palm Beach County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller in the November 2026 election.

Drucker’s Aug. 21 announcement came shortly after Gov. Ron DeSantis appointed Republican state Rep. Mike Caruso to replace Democrat Joe Abruzzo, who had served as clerk and comptroller since 2020. Abruzzo was selected by Palm Beach County commissioners in June to be the county administrator.

Caruso, of Delray Beach, has said he will run to retain the position in the 2026 election. The DeSantis ally is the first



Caruso Republican to hold the job.

Drucker, a Democrat and former deputy mayor, had joined the 2026 race to succeed term-limited state Sen. Lori Berman, D-Boca Raton, in May and would have faced state Rep. David Silvers, D-Lake Clarke Shores, in the Democratic primary.

“I am proud of my reputation for commonsense approaches to major issues, managing relationships across the political aisle, and working with partners across municipal bodies,” Drucker said in her

announcement.

“Serving as Clerk would allow me to continue that work on a broader scale by ensuring taxpayer dollars are spent responsibly, services are delivered efficiently, and county government remains transparent and accessible.”

She praised Abruzzo, who she said has “set a powerful example of what good government looks like, and I hope to continue his legacy of strong fiscal management. That includes preserving Palm Beach County’s role as the largest investor of Israel bonds in the world, which reflects both our shared values and our commitment to smart, long-term investments.”

Drucker was elected to the nonpartisan City Council in 2021 and won reelection with 77% of the vote in March. She is term-limited from running again.

She is a first-generation Cuban American who had worked at ADP TotalSource, focusing on compliance, human resources and strategic management. She also is a longtime volunteer with many organizations, including the Junior League of Boca Raton.

She currently serves on the executive board of the Palm Beach County Transportation Planning Agency and is involved with the Florida League of Cities and National League of Cities.

Caruso, a certified public accountant, won House District 89 in 2018 by a scant 32 votes and cruised to reelection with 56% of the vote two years later. The district then included the barrier island from Boca Raton north to Singer Island.

After district boundaries were redrawn for 2022, Caruso shifted to District 87, which includes Manalapan, Lantana and South Palm Beach. He again won handily with 59% of the vote.

During his seven years in the House, Caruso was most proud of his efforts to clean up the sober home industry, fight antisemitism and advance tort reform to stabilize the insurance industry.

“I look forward to bringing the same dedication, integrity, and results-driven approach I’ve shown in the legislature to the Clerk’s Office,” Caruso said. “Palm Beach County deserves the most transparent, efficient, and fraud-free system of public service.”

Caruso’s wife, Tracy, mounted an unsuccessful campaign to become Delray Beach mayor in 2021 and had already announced her intention to run for her husband’s House seat next year. ★

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Along the Coast

The Coastal Star captures top honors — nine times — in annual competition

By Henry Fitzgerald

The Coastal Star won nine first-place awards at the recent Florida Press Association ceremony, including the top award for general excellence at the highest level — Division A — for weekly and monthly newspapers with circulations of over 15,000.

“This one says the most,” Editor Larry Barszewski said in an email to the staff. “It’s a team effort and the paper our staff puts out was deemed the best. You all had a hand in this one.”

The newspaper offers “excellent news writing/reporting” ... “good arts/events stories” ... “news/features seem well sourced,” and “most [stories] have reader-engagement qualities,” according to the judges.

The Coastal Star also won a second-place award and three third-place awards. The awards were for work done in 2024 and were presented at an Aug. 1 ceremony in Charlotte Harbor on the state’s Gulf Coast.

The eight remaining first-place awards (with judge comments in quotes) are:

Investigative reporting: Condo costs: A Sudden Storm, by writers Rich Pollack, Mary

Hladky, Brian Biggane and photographer Tim Stepien. “An interesting investigative piece regarding condos and insurance in Southern Florida. As someone who frequents the area, I found this extremely interesting.”

General news (and the Gwen Stevenson Memorial Award): Ocean Ridge: For irate owner wrongly forced to trim hedges, apology doesn’t cut it, by John Pacenti.

“The ‘Hedge War of 2024’ is amazing in that it is a NIMBY issue if there ever was. Yet, Mr. Pacenti found a way to make readers care about Jay Wallshein’s clusia hedges and his ultimate battle against a sham local ordinance. Then it goes further, with a police report and changes to local code. Kudos!”

Feature story, non-profile: Formerly known as Crisis Line, 211 is here to help with housing, health care, transportation — or just to be a willing listener, by Ron Hayes.

“The combination of facts, figures, and personal narratives makes this story both informative and emotionally compelling. The story of the volunteer saving a woman’s life by having her tap on the

phone as he listed locations was something that will not be easy to forget!”

Roads & transportation: Crash deepens cries for safer A1A, by The Coastal Star staff.

“[The writers pull] the reader into the scene of the crash with the writing. Plenty of descriptive details, great supporting art, and most importantly, the personal quote factor — all of these elements combined made this the clear winner. Overall, great job by The Coastal Star and its writers for bringing attention to the need for safer roads, especially A1A.”

Online breaking news coverage: Lantana woman driving SUV crashes into A1A cyclists and A1A bike club ‘tragedy’ leaves couple fighting for their lives, by Anne Geggis.

Arts, entertainment & review reporting: Rising prices for cocktails causing a stir; bar owners explain why you pay for quality, by Jan Norris. “I bet a lot of people wonder why that drink they bought cost so much. This writer explains it very well.”

Business reporting: Predatory parking: Drivers stunned by bills from private lots; new state law aims for

clearer experience, by Charles Elmore and Anne Geggis.

“This story addressed a problem the community cares about, explains what is happening and addresses what is being done. It’s thoroughly reported and well done.”

Outdoor & recreation: Hypoluxo Island: Boaters win fight to keep Intracoastal access, by Mary Thurwachter.

“This competition judging comes down to the lede. This is fantastic. Well-researched piece, thoughtful interviews. Writing shows thoughtfulness in regards to area residents and outlines action. Well done.”

The second-place award is: **Local government reporting:** Delray Beach: Split

between factions leaving its mark on commission campaigns, by Anne Geggis.

The third-place awards are: **Serious column (three topics):** Battles over home size; Boynton Inlet area is risky; and If you love your neighbor, consider yourself lucky, by Executive Editor Mary Kate Leming.

In-depth reporting (non-investigative): “I’ve never been in any water like that” and What it’s like being caught by a panic-inducing rip current, by John Pacenti.

Agricultural and environmental reporting: Is more silence blowin’ in the wind? by John Pacenti, about noisy leaf blowers. ★



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Ocean Ridge

New budget to invest \$1.9 million in water infrastructure

By John Pacenti

Ocean Ridge is full speed ahead on replacing the town's aging water pipes.

The Ocean Ridge Town Commission approved \$1.9 million for the next phase of the water main infrastructure project spanning Ocean Avenue to Thompson Street, which has long-standing issues with water pressure and compromised fire protection capabilities.

The commission approved a motion at its Aug. 4 meeting to enter into a contract with Johnson-Davis Inc. as the lead design-build contractor for the Phase 4 water main modernization project.

The commission also passed a motion

to move ahead with the Hudson Avenue sea wall. As of now, it will be a traditional sea wall, while staff continues to look into a living sea wall option that incorporates new technology with natural fauna.

Commissioner Carolyn Cassidy said she has been in touch with Texas-based Shoreline Erosion Control Solutions, which proposed the living sea wall, and was told it was still waiting on permitting by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

State Sen. Lori Berman also spoke at the August meeting, saying \$600,000 for the town's water main replacement program was unexpectedly vetoed by Gov. Ron DeSantis. "I still think it's a project worth pursuing," Berman said,

recommending the town reapply in the next legislative session.

The Police Department also asked for a new off-road vehicle and a fully equipped police patrol vehicle. Additionally, the department is pursuing a comprehensive public safety software upgrade estimated at approximately \$70,000.

Chief Scott McClure said that currently two companies provide the department's computer dispatch and its records management system. "And they don't talk to each other," he said of the two systems. McClure is asking that the expenditure be added to the fiscal year 2026 budget.

Town Manager Michelle Heiser

highlighted a significant grant victory — a \$250,000 award from the state Division of Emergency Management to harden Town Hall. The grant will pay for window and door replacements and roof improvements, reducing the \$590,000 project cost by nearly half.

The town is also navigating complex legislative preemptions affecting municipal operations.

Town Attorney Christy Goddeau noted new state regulations affecting areas like artificial turf installation — such as drainage requirements — for single-family residences and substantial improvement thresholds for construction projects. ★

Manalapan

Plaza del Mar outparcel considered for future Town Hall

By John Pacenti

Manalapan elected officials got their first taste of some examples of what a new Town Hall might look like. A few took a spit take.

After an Aug. 12 Zoom presentation, the answer for some commissioners was none of the above.

Town Manager Eric Marmer said elected officials — as well as himself — had concerns about separating the police and fire departments from the proposed Town Hall, as one proposal suggested.

That means there is only one viable solution to keep all services in one building: putting them at the southwest corner of Ocean Avenue and Ocean Boulevard, an outparcel at the Plaza del Mar shopping center.

Town residents know the site well, as the one-time bank-building-turned-office-suite became the subject of foreclosure this year.

After the presentation by Currie, Sowards Aguila Architects, there were a lot of moving pieces. One decision Marmer made was to postpone plans to ask town residents in March for approval to spend money on a new Town Hall.

That will have to wait until 2027, most likely.

"I don't think it's prudent to spend the time, the money and put the effort into this without first securing the site that this all is contingent on," Marmer said. "So I need to play the process out before I can move forward with really anything."

The architects proposed three possible locations: the Plaza del Mar outparcel; the current Town Hall site on South Ocean Boulevard, which also houses



The former bank site at the southwest corner of Ocean Avenue and Ocean Boulevard in Plaza del Mar is the prime contender for a new facility that would replace the current Manalapan Town Hall and possibly house the Police Department and fire station. **Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star**

police and fire rescue services; and the town library site on Point Manalapan — though the last was dismissed by the architects as less than desirable.

One proposed plan was to build a one- or two-story Town Hall on the bank site and build a new fire and police station on the current Town Hall site.

"We tried to fit all three programs on that (bank) site, but it was going to create like a four-story building that was not going to function very well," said CSA architect Jess Sowards.

Commissioners expressed concerns about whether the structure for police and fire would have an impact on neighboring properties, particularly La Coquille Villas.

When it came to the old bank building site, Sowards said, "So this would set up like a public plaza on the corner of Ocean

Avenue and really set up a gateway."

If the old bank building site is to work with police and fire in tow, the town must secure more land — in addition to the building itself. But building across the street means that the current Town Hall can remain operational, saving Manalapan the headache and money of finding temporary space.

"Now we're looking at the possibility of moving everything over there, and then we'd explore the option of selling the Town Hall, the current property, to help fund the new Town Hall," Marmer said.

The town has also received a \$1 million commitment from a resident toward the new building, he said.

The former bank building has been converted to office space and is owned by Babylon, New York-based Salute Realty,

which purchased the building at 131 S. Ocean Blvd. for \$1.2 million in 2019.

It was also subject to a foreclosure action by the town in February for \$163,000 in unpaid code enforcement fines for unapproved renovations.

The current Town Hall is located at 600 S. Ocean Blvd., but is considered insufficient for Manalapan's needs with about 5,300 square feet of office space — including the commission chambers.

The 1981-built building has perpetual drainage and air-conditioning problems as well, Marmer said.

It is hardly reflective of the town, with its dentist-office vibe. There isn't even enough space for a fourth man on fire department shifts as is now required by Palm Beach County Fire Rescue — even though Manalapan is paying the county for that firefighter.

After speaking to departments and officials with the town, the architects said a new Town Hall of about 10,000 square feet would be needed.

Marmer said the owners of Plaza del Mar — an LLC tied to the Wilf family, which owns the Minnesota Vikings — indicated they would be open to discussing selling part of the plaza's lots adjacent to the old bank building.

CSA Architects, during the presentation, said a Town Hall at Ocean and Ocean would make a statement at the town's gateway. It presented modern designs of what a new Town Hall could look like.

"I think contemporary is the way to go," said Commissioner David Noble. "I don't see doing it in a Key West style, or a British West Indies." ★

Gulf Stream

Budget tweaks bring raises to top town officials, holidays to Place Au Soleil

By Steve Plunkett

A review of pay in neighboring municipalities that Mayor Scott Morgan found "disturbing" is leading to hefty raises for Gulf Stream's town manager, assistant town attorney and police chief.

"Our town manager salary is not only last among all towns in the area and on the barrier island, but way less," Morgan said at the commission's Aug. 8 meeting. "And it's an issue that's going to come back and bite us when we need to address the hiring of another manager."

Morgan proposed raising Town Manager Greg Dunham's pay to \$195,000, up from \$160,983.

"It is still right near the bottom, but it's a substantial increase that at least makes us competitive with Manalapan," the mayor said.

Morgan also proposed raising Assistant Town Attorney Trey Nazzaro's salary to \$187,500, up from \$157,740, and Police Chief Richard Jones' pay to \$175,000, up from \$152,100.

On the chief's salary, "we're not last. We're penultimate, we are next to last and the other salaries are considerably higher," Morgan said, first suggesting a raise to \$165,000.

"My suggestion is to move the chief to \$175,000. I'm afraid of poaching," Dunham said.

Morgan and the rest of the commission quickly agreed.

"The reason our town runs so well is that our staff stays here, and they're consistent and they're loyal and we have a great relationship with them," Morgan said.

Christmas decorations

Another budget move earlier in the Aug. 8 meeting will bring Christmas decorations to Place Au Soleil this year.

Dunham told commissioners that his proposed budget includes \$30,000 for holiday decorations, with perhaps \$9,000 of that going to the neighborhood on the west side of the Intracoastal Waterway.

"Last year (Town Clerk Renee Basel) did a wonderful job of decorating Town Hall over here," he said. "We haven't really ever done anything over at Place Au Soleil. I talked to residents over there and so we're including money to put Christmas lights up in the entry area."

Commissioner Rob Canfield, who lives in the neighborhood, said the homeowners there presented "some grandiose plans, but we've been able to scale it back."

"So, lovely but not like crazy?"

Commissioner Joan Orthwein asked.

"That's what we're going for," Canfield said. ★

Delray Beach

Trial set to start in 2023 shooting at Berkshire by the Sea

By Jane Musgrave

When Mark David Anderson is tried this month for the September 2023 slaying of popular Delray Beach computer tech Albert Camentz, only one of the two witnesses to the shooting will be called to testify.



Anderson

The other, the former longtime director of Broward Addiction Recovery Center, fatally shot himself a year after Camentz was killed, court records show.

The death of 62-year-old Jack Feinberg, who defense attorneys have painted as a plausible suspect in Camentz's killing, adds to the intrigue that has surrounded the case since gunshots rang out at a drug- and alcohol-fueled get-together at an oceanfront timeshare in Delray Beach.



Camentz

"Nothing makes sense," said Shawn Mahoney, a longtime friend of Camentz's who has been following the twists and turns from his home in Flagstaff, Arizona. "It's as weird today as it was the day after Al was shot."

While state prosecutors say there is strong evidence that Anderson fatally shot Camentz, Feinberg's death gives attorneys powerful ammunition to discredit their claims. Anderson, 47, a self-employed carpenter from Lake Worth Beach, has pleaded not guilty to a charge of second-degree murder. He faces a possible life sentence if convicted.

Defense paints dead witness as possible killer

A pair of guns

Forensic experts determined that the type of bullet that killed the 58-year-old Camentz matched those in a gun Delray Beach police found in the timeshare Anderson was renting at Berkshire by the Sea, 126 N. Ocean Blvd. But, the experts couldn't conclusively say that the gun, owned by Anderson, was the murder weapon.

The firearm Feinberg used to take his own life used the same .380-caliber bullets.

Susan Schneider, who was married to Feinberg and a witness to the shooting, said her late husband and Anderson owned the same type of guns. "I heard them discussing that they both had .380s," she said during a deposition.

Even before they knew that Anderson and Feinberg owned similar weapons, defense attorneys Mike Dutko and Robert Gentile said much of the evidence against Anderson didn't add up.

They questioned why Feinberg initially offered police only sketchy details about what happened and refused to talk further without having an attorney with him. When he finally met with police, his story changed.

Most of all, they questioned why Feinberg and Schneider claimed they didn't know Camentz had been shot and drove him to their house six miles away instead of getting medical help.

In the midst of all the legal maneuvering, Anderson's attorneys have also raised questions about their client's health.

What was once a golf-ball-sized lump on the back of Anderson's head has grown considerably since he was booked into the county jail, they wrote in court papers.

Palm Beach County Circuit Judge Cymonie Rowe refused their request to allow Anderson to be released on bond so he could have the lump removed and find out if it's malignant.

Glenn Cameron, an attorney for the Palm Beach County

Sheriff's Office, said jail medical personnel are monitoring the growing mass and have offered to give Anderson pain medication for discomfort. Rowe can't order the sheriff to provide treatment, he wrote in court papers. Both Rowe and Anderson's attorneys agreed.

Drugs and alcohol

The trial, which is scheduled to last four days, will focus on the events that unfolded at the timeshare and Feinberg's reaction to the news of his friend's death.

After a night of drinking and listening to music in Boca Raton, Anderson invited Feinberg and Schneider to his timeshare. As the couple was driving to Delray Beach, Camentz called Feinberg. He agreed to join them, according to a report by Delray Beach police Det. John Caceres Duque.

Camentz had never met Anderson, Schneider told Caceres. When Camentz arrived, alcohol, cocaine, marijuana, nitrous oxide, and ketamine were flowing freely. Camentz grabbed a beer.

As Camentz, Feinberg and Anderson talked, Schneider told Caceres, she decided she wanted to take a dip in the hot tub. Schneider said she went to get a towel and Anderson disappeared into the bedroom.

When Anderson returned, Schneider said he was holding "a black object with both hands extended," Caceres wrote. Anderson pointed at Camentz and a loud noise ripped through the apartment.

Feinberg fell off the couch, but got to his feet laughing. Camentz clutched his chest, saying he couldn't breathe.

Schneider told Caceres she didn't see any blood or holes in Camentz shirt and thought he might be having a heart attack. She said she wanted to take Camentz to Delray Medical Center, but he said he was feeling better and wanted to sleep at the couple's house.

When they arrived at the house in the Floral Lakes community off West Atlantic

Avenue, she said Camentz turned ghostly white and began complaining of chest pain. She called 911.

In a report, paramedics said they immediately determined that Camentz had been shot or stabbed. They took him to Delray Medical Center where he was pronounced dead of a gunshot wound to the chest.

Witness statements

When Caceres approached Feinberg at the hospital to ask him about the shooting, Feinberg said he was going to the hot tub when he heard a loud bang.

He said he didn't know the name of the building where the shooting took place. His memory, he said, was muddled because he suffered from a "cognitive disorder," the detective wrote.

He didn't elaborate, but in his March 2023 resignation from the government-funded addiction treatment agency, Feinberg said that an unidentified illness he incurred during the pandemic had gotten worse.

After Caceres told Feinberg that Camentz had died, he refused to answer any more questions without an attorney.

By the time Caceres arrived at the couple's house, Feinberg was already there. Caceres said he heard Feinberg yelling at his wife, telling her not to answer any questions without an attorney. Schneider ignored her husband. She told Caceres where the shooting occurred and who fired the fatal shots.

"Mark shot Al," she told Caceres.

With Schneider's information, police went to Berkshire by the Sea, found Anderson sleeping and arrested him. They found three blood spatters on an outside wall, later identified as belonging to Camentz.

A day after he refused to talk to Caceres, Feinberg changed his mind.

During a meeting with Caceres at the Ray Hotel in downtown Delray Beach, Feinberg confirmed what

his wife had already told the detective. There hadn't been any animosity between Camentz and Anderson. The four were having a good time.

The shooting was inexplicable, he said.

"I don't know, why would he come out and done some sort of thing with some sort of weapon," he told Caceres.

A licensed medical health counselor, Feinberg suggested Anderson may have been in a psychotic state. He suspected that Anderson had taken liquid LSD, along with other drugs, causing him to hallucinate.

Concocted stories?

But, Anderson's attorneys said Feinberg's decision to wait to talk to Caceres wasn't an accident. It gave him and Schneider time to compare notes to make sure their stories matched, Dutko said at a 2024 court hearing.

Dutko didn't respond to an email or phone call for comment about the upcoming trial. By office policy, prosecutors don't talk about pending cases.

But, at the same 2024 hearing, Assistant State Attorney Jo Wilensky scoffed at the notion that Schneider and Feinberg concocted their stories. Their accounts of the shooting matched because both were in the timeshare and saw what happened, she said.

Feinberg offered a key detail, she said. He told Caceres he saw a green light flash just before the ear-splitting boom filled the apartment. The gun police found in Anderson's timeshare was equipped with a green laser sight.

Like Wilensky, Mahoney said he is convinced Anderson is responsible for his friend's death. But, he said, he worries that defense attorneys may be able to persuade a jury to focus on Feinberg's lapses instead of the evidence against Anderson.

"It's such an unbelievably sad story," he said. "Al didn't know this guy. This guy didn't know him. Nothing about it makes sense." ★

Man charged with dismembering wife in 2023 awaits trial or settlement

By Jane Musgrave

Two years after William Lowe was accused of shooting his wife, chopping her up with a chainsaw and stuffing her body into suitcases that bobbed up in the Intracoastal Waterway, the Delray Beach man remains jailed with no trial date set.

Since he was arrested in August 2023 and charged with first-degree murder in the death of 80-year-old Aydil Barbosa Fontes, Lowe has rarely appeared in court. His next court date was to be Sept. 3, but nothing was expected to

happen.

"I'm in no rush to try this case," said attorney Franklin Prince, who represents Lowe, now 80. "Sooner or later, we'll have an agreement."

While no plea deal is in the works, Prince said it is unlikely state prosecutors want to take the case to trial. Prosecutors don't comment on pending cases.

Despite the grisly nature of Fontes' death and evidence that Lowe carefully planned to murder and then dismember his wife of 21 years, prosecutors aren't seeking the death

penalty. Lowe faces the possibility of life in prison if convicted of charges of murder and abuse of a dead body.

His former attorney suggested that trauma Lowe suffered while serving in the Vietnam War, coupled with recent falls, could have spurred the twisted attack. But, Prince said, Lowe is competent to stand trial.

He was arrested on Aug. 2, 2023, two weeks after suitcases that contained the remains of his wife were discovered in the Intracoastal. Once investigators identified her through dental

records and DNA, they approached Lowe's condo on Venetian Drive just blocks from the Intracoastal.

There they found a trail of blood. In a storage unit, they

discovered the chainsaw. They also found blood in an upstairs unit that was owned by Lowe's sister, which neighbors said he used for storage. ★

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Tips for protecting hatchlings

To help ensure that sea turtle hatchlings safely make it to the ocean, beachgoers should follow these guidelines:

Keep your distance: Stay away from hatchlings, remain quiet, and keep all lights off (including flash photography and cell-phones). Do not touch, move or disturb hatchlings.

Let hatchlings emerge: If you see hatchlings on the beach, allow them to crawl to the ocean on their own. Removing or digging hatchlings out of a nest is illegal. Removing sand above the nest will make it more difficult for the hatchlings to emerge.

Take your belongings: Remove obstacles such as beach chairs, tables, water sports equipment, and umbrellas before dark. Properly throw away trash so that it doesn't blow into the water or become an obstacle.

Digging and holes: Avoid digging holes on the beach and knock over sandcastles so that hatchlings are not harmed by these structures. Help keep beaches clean, flat and dark.

Source: Loggerhead Marinelife Center

TURTLES

Continued from page 1

Then, as sargassum declined in August, Erin stayed far offshore but still delivered a blow to South Palm Beach County's nests. Half the nearly 500 nests still incubating on Boca Raton's beaches when Erin passed by were submerged or washed over by the surf — and a fifth of them were lost completely.

Erin, churning in the Atlantic hundreds of miles to the east, kicked up waves and caused higher high tides starting around Aug. 19. Many monitors were still assessing the powerful storm's toll late into the month.

"Prior to the storm we had 497 marked nests still incubating on the beach. We had 251 nests washed over or submerged during the storm. We lost 98 of the 251 nests," said David Anderson, who leads Boca Raton's sea turtle conservation team over the city's 5 miles of beaches.

"Since the storm, things are back to normal, though tides continue to be high and some nests are still getting wet," he said. As of Aug. 27, "we have 359 nests still on the beach."

Nests from Ocean Ridge to Gulf Stream "have certainly taken a beating," said Emilie Woodrich of Sea Turtle Adventures, which monitors about 3 miles of beach in that area. She estimated 60% of the remaining nests were affected by Erin and the high seas.

"We have been experiencing wash overs, inundations (standing water over nests), and lots of accretion (buildup



Before the hurricane

ABOVE: Huge mounds of sargassum on local beaches peaked in June and July. Baby turtles such as this loggerhead hatchling struggled to climb past the seaweed on their way into the ocean in Boca Raton. Photo provided by Gumbo Limbo Nature Center



MIDDLE: A female green sea turtle heads back into the sea while crawling over sargassum after laying clutches of eggs on the beach in Ocean Ridge. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star



BOTTOM: Just days before Hurricane Erin's waves started to wash over nests in August, dozens of people attended a nest dig and hatchling release at Gulf Stream Park. A total of nine green and loggerhead hatchlings were released into calm waters by members of the Sea Turtle Adventures staff. Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star

of sand over nests)," she wrote in an email. "We have not been experiencing full washouts, thankfully. We have lost a lot of stakes that mark the nests, but that does not mean the nests won't hatch!"

Boca Raton also was stacking up stakes dislodged by Erin.

"We have actually had no washbacks yet," Anderson said, referring to older hatchlings who make it out to sea but get carried back to shore even weeks later. "In spite of the large swells and high tides, winds were mostly out of the west (and) the current was lateral to the beach."

There were no washbacks in Highland Beach either.

"I don't have an exact number of washed-out nests," said Joanne Ryan of the Highland Beach Sea Turtle Team, which monitors roughly 3 miles. "We are still assessing damage, but pretty much all our nests from upper middle beach to the eastern part of the beach, has been too wet for any results. Five days of being smacked with relentless tides have left them saturated."

Numbers look good

The turtle nesting numbers

were healthy prior to Erin and portend well for the full season.

"Barring another storm, it has still been a pretty good year, particularly for greens," said Boca Raton's Anderson. "We were expecting a high green nesting year and so far they've come through — not record breaking but seventh-highest total so far."

It's a banner year for green turtle nests in Highland Beach.

"As of the end of July we have more than triple of what we had in 2024, and we kind of expected that," Ryan said.

Greens typically cycle

through low numbers of nests one year followed by high numbers the next.

But the greens were making fewer nests than anticipated in Gulf Stream, Briny Breezes and Ocean Ridge.

"We are not having the big numbers this year that we somewhat expected. ... At the end of July, we had 122 greens," Woodrich said. "In comparison, we had 49 in 2024 and 254 in 2023 at the end of July."

Sea turtle nesting season started March 1 and goes through Oct. 31.

Continued on next page



A surfer takes advantage of the waves generated by Hurricane Erin in late August at Delray Beach, although the storm passed hundreds of miles offshore.



Dozens of stakes recovered from the surf and beach after Erin tossed them away from sea turtle nests are now due to be repainted for next year. **Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

Continued from previous page

Sargassum impact

Mounds of seaweed in June caused different problems. “The sargassum was really in huge piles, and yes, our team probably rescued over 100 hatchlings up and down Highland Beach from in between the rows of seaweed,” Ryan said. “Thankfully we have

not had any more major pileups of the weed since that big one in June.” Seaweed was a problem for hatchlings in Sea Turtle Adventures’ territory, too. “Some hatchlings eventually make it to the water, although more tired than they would be if they went straight into the water right away,” Woodrich said. “Others are getting plucked up by night herons and crows.

“There were several times we were trying to chase down the birds with hatchlings in their beaks, but to no avail.” While hatchlings face difficulties with seaweed, nesting has not been impacted, Anderson said. “The females crawling ashore plow through the sargassum at the wrack line to reach the sandy beach,” he said. ★

Sea turtle nesting

While crews watching sea turtle nests in South County say it has been a good year for nesting, the number of loggerhead turtle nests dropped significantly for the second consecutive year (after 3,484 nestings in 2023), and the biannual bump in green turtle nests has not been as big as anticipated. Here are this year’s early counts compared to last year’s final totals.

City	Turtles	2025*	2024
Boca Raton	Leatherbacks	21	19
	Loggerheads	819	824
	Greens	238	72
Delray Beach	Leatherbacks	19	12
	Loggerheads	299	292
	Greens	60	14
Highland Beach	Leatherbacks	11	13
	Loggerheads	723	795
	Greens	509	127
Gulf Stream to Ocean Ridge	Leatherbacks	16	16
	Loggerheads	479	715
	Greens	152	49
Totals	Leatherbacks	67	60
	Loggerheads	2,320	2,626
	Greens	959	262
Overall totals:		3,346	2,948

*Counts for 2025 are as of Aug. 31. **Sources:** City of Boca Raton, Ecological Associates Inc., Highland Beach Sea Turtle Team, Sea Turtle Adventures

Gulf Stream

Nighttime lights at the beach cause concern

By Steve Plunkett

Gulf Stream town officials will continue their attempt to persuade residents who live on the oceanfront to shield their home’s lights from the beach and to use sea turtle-friendly red or amber light bulbs. The effort in part is also to keep Gulf Stream from being required to adopt Palm Beach County’s more restrictive rules for lighting on the beach, which are designed to prevent sea

turtle hatchlings from becoming disoriented. Gulf Stream has its own turtle protection ordinance so that the county cannot cite its residents. “Our ordinance is one of encouragement. We don’t go into people’s homes and tell them what to do with their lighting,” Mayor Scott Morgan said at the Town Commission’s Aug. 8 meeting. Commissioner Joan Orthwein said an acquaintance

who lives in a fourth-floor unit in Ocean Ridge kept her bathroom light on and was ordered by the county to keep her shutters closed during turtle nesting season. “I’m just telling what happened. It’s true,” she said. Town Clerk Renee Basel told commissioners she had toured turtle nests the night before with Sea Turtle Adventures, which monitors nests on the town’s beach. “She showed me the tracks

of the turtles, and they were going north and south, not east and west. She said that’s what disorients them is these lights,” Basel said. The artificial lighting may attract hatchlings, causing them to crawl away from — instead of into — the ocean. After receiving photos of Gulf Stream homes with lights visible from the beach, Basel began calling the owners asking them to turn down or turn off their lights at a certain time, or to put them on timers. Most of them

“are not even here,” the mayor said. “I haven’t gotten through all of them, but right now they’ve been about half and half,” she said. “A lot of them didn’t even know their lights were on.” But a couple of owners said they were not going to change their lighting for security reasons. The mayor planned to meet with them to possibly persuade them to do something.★

Lantana

Ambitious plans would pack the beach with amenities

By Mary Thurwachter

A plan to improve Lantana’s Public Beach has been talked about for years, but in August council members and residents got a chance to hear about a conceptual site plan.

“During the visioning session in April everybody had beach improvements on the top of their lists,” Town Manager Brian Raducci said.

“Just to be very clear, this is going to be an expensive project because of the time that’s involved and because of the funding,” he said. “We want to keep it as a functional beach through the entire process.”

Even before the visioning session, when the town worked on its Master Plan in 2023, people were talking about what they would like to see happen at the beach, Mayor Karen Lythgoe added. “It’s time now to let this percolate up and see what we can come up with.”

Joe Barry, president at CPZ Architects, Inc., presented the plan. The town paid CPZ \$299,450 to produce it.

The aim, Barry said, is to create a vibrant and engaging public space that encompasses a restaurant, boardwalk, pavilions and various other park amenities. The project “seeks to maximize the use of this public asset, ensuring it serves both community and visitor needs.”

During the first phase (there will be two or three phases), Barry said, the tentative plan calls for new restaurant space for the Dune Deck, demolishing an existing pavilion that is no longer usable, replacing the north end of the boardwalk and beach entrance, relocating the surfboard racks and adding new restrooms. Event space may be built on the second floor of the restaurant, and the marine safety office, with a view of the beach, will remain on the second level of the building on the south end.

The second phase, in place of the existing restaurant building, may include ice cream or pizza shops with outdoor tables and umbrellas at ground level. The boardwalk will be fortified or rebuilt and may be widened.

Other ideas being considered include observation towers with coin-operated binoculars or telescopes, landscaping and parking improvements, upgrading the kids playground with shade structures and perhaps a splash pad, and dune improvements.

Also on the maybe list in the second phase are an amphitheater and parking structure, EV charging stations and a fishing pier and/or an artificial reef.

“If the fishing pier turns out to be a realistic option, we’d consider a structure at the end of Dorothy Rissler (Lane) to provide an option to collect a small fee to access the pier,” Barry said.

Three women shared their views during public comments.

Patricia Towle, who lives on Hypoluxo Island, said the beach was the town’s crown jewel and that the town had one chance to get it right. She isn’t a fan of the expansive plans.

“I think maybe we need to think about maybe less is more,” Towle said. “Because when I go to the beach, I want two things: I want beautiful white sand, and I want a great ocean. I don’t really care about restaurants; I can go to restaurants anywhere. I don’t care about a media hall or all of the other stuff. I really think we should focus on just emphasizing the beach, doing great landscaping.

“That’s why I love Delray and Ocean Ridge. They’re just beaches with native trees and greenery and you feel like you’re really relaxed. You don’t have to worry about bumping shoulders with people eating. I think the architects presented great ideas. But Mother Nature is a great architect, and she does trees and sand and ocean, and I just don’t want to see us overbuild. I’d like to see it kept really pristine and nice.”

Daisy Panais, a co-owner of the Dune Deck, had other thoughts, “I’m completely opposite of what you just said,” she said to Towle. “I do love a beautiful beach, nature and relaxing, but I also know that we have a lot of families — they want to bring their children, they

want to play, they want something to eat. We have people coming in from up north from Boston, from New York and they just love coming to Lantana Beach. We’ve seen generations of children grow up, get married and come to the Dune Deck. I do think that a restaurant is necessary and well appreciated. But I think we could work with both, we could have a beautiful beach with nature. It’s not too crowded.”

The parking lot is an issue, Panais said. “When it’s a beautiful day, a perfect beach day, there’s no parking. People come up and they’re frustrated. They’re driving around and around and they can’t find a spot. They may go across the street and take a chance at a spot in the plaza.”

Another Hypoluxo Island resident, Ellen Schweber, said she liked the plans.

“The Dune Deck is great, and a night restaurant would also be something terrific to have if it were sitting on the water like the Dune Deck with kind of a Malibu-type vibe. But I think putting in a second-floor event space is a complete waste.”

Barry said the idea is to come up with a plan that can be used in the next steps to actually design, engineer and permit the project. “That’s what we’re outlining here to work toward that,” he said.

Now it’s up to the Town Council to prioritize and decide what the town can afford. ★

Briny Breezes

Town won’t leave county library system

By Steve Plunkett

Briny Breezes’ quest to leave the Palm Beach County Library District and save town taxpayers a collective \$57,000 in library taxes is over.

Town Attorney Keith Davis announced Aug. 28 that it legally cannot be done.

“There are a number of municipalities in Palm Beach County that are not taxed by the library district because those municipalities have a comparable level of taxation for their residents. At the municipal level they have their own municipal libraries which are taxed at comparable levels,” Davis said.

“The county is of the opinion that yes, Briny Breezes has a library; no, it is not funded to the level that will allow or would make the county interested in entering into ... an agreement with Briny Breezes. If they’re not going to enter into that agreement, then there’s nowhere else to go, because you can’t opt out if the county is not willing.”

Town Manager Bill Thrasher first suggested seceding from the county’s library system on June 26. The Town Council directed Thrasher and Davis to confer with the library about how to withdraw. Davis had said it may be possible to challenge rules the district has about leaving its system.

The county library sends its Bookmobile to Briny every two weeks. Residents can get free library cards, and they have access to the system’s electronic resources and to cooperating libraries, which include Boynton Beach’s and Delray Beach’s. The town also has its own library with a volunteer librarian, Donna Clarke.

Only 56 Briny residents have county library cards, according to County Library Director Douglas Crane. He also said 119 residents have Boynton Beach privileges, and 36 have Delray Beach cards.

Seven residents emailed the town opposing any move to leave the county system.

“The fact that the PBC Library offers the mobile unit is a blessing, it is an extremely important service for those who do not drive and would not be able to avail themselves to these services,” wrote Kathleen Strank.

“The Boynton Beach Library is a wonderful facility with so many opportunities for classes, seminars & research,” Marla Guzzardo’s email said.

Mayor Ted Gross also opposed the idea, saying early on that paying county library taxes is similar to town residents paying Briny Breezes Inc. for the shuffleboard courts whether they used them or not.

He had also dismissed the town’s library as being “jigsaw puzzles, books and some

movies. It’s nothing compared to what we’re talking about, the resources, the Bookmobile.”

Seceding from the county library would not have benefited the town’s budget directly, but Thrasher was looking for ways to reduce residents’ overall tax burden as he increases the town’s property tax rate to gather matching funds for grants won or envisioned to improve Briny’s stormwater system and sea walls.

The town’s proposed tax rate is \$6.75 for every \$1,000 of taxable value, up from the current \$3.75 per \$1,000 rate.

He spent part of the Aug. 28 meeting showing how his proposed tax rate of \$6.75 per \$1,000 of taxable value would affect librarian Clarke’s total tax bill.

Alderman David White said the corporation decided to reduce what it collects from co-op owners by \$6 a share. A single mobile home has multiple shares depending on size and location.

“It’s not, for me at least, a wash,” White said, but it does change the total payout.

The council has scheduled public hearings in Town Hall for the tentative \$6.75 tax rate at or after 5:01 p.m. Sept. 11 and for the final tax rate at the same time Sept. 25. The council can lower but not raise the tentative rate. ★

Lantana News



The Lantana Town Council and the office of U.S. Rep. Lois Frankel honored World War II Navy veteran Edward Sandy of Atlantis for his 100th birthday at the Aug. 11 council meeting. **ABOVE:** Mayor Karen Lythgoe leads the applause for Sandy. **Photo provided**

Budget hearings — Public hearings for the town’s budget have been scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Sept. 8 and 17 in the Town Hall council chambers at 500 Greynolds Circle. The town is not planning to increase the tax rate, currently set at \$3.75 per \$1,000 of taxable value.

Haunted Nature Preserve — Plans are firming up for Lantana’s annual Haunted Nature Preserve. It’s free, with haunted trail tours, a costume contest, a DJ dance party, face painting and free candy. The event will be held 6:30-9 p.m. on Oct. 24 at the preserve at 400 E. Ocean Ave.

For more information, contact Nadine Shawah at 561-540-5754 or nshawah@lantana.org.

— Mary Thurwachter

Delray Beach

Darrell Hunter named new police chief



Hunter

Delray Beach’s interim police chief, Darrell Hunter, was appointed on Aug. 20 by City Manager Terrence Moore to the permanent position leading the department he has been a part of for nearly two decades.

Hunter began his career with the Police Department in 2007. He became a sergeant in 2014, a lieutenant in 2017, a captain in 2020, and an assistant chief in 2025. He worked in community patrol, community response and the investigative division, where he served as a detective specializing in property and white-collar crimes.

“I am deeply honored to lead the men and women of the Delray Beach

Police Department and to serve this incredible community,” Hunter said. “Guided by our core values of P.A.C.E.—Professional, Accountable, Consistent, and Engaged — and our unwavering standard of excellence, I am committed to fostering a department and community built on trust, integrity, and safety.”

SHOOTINGS

Continued from page 1

occupied by four people including two children under the age of 5.

In court records, detectives said that damage to the home was estimated at about \$5,000 and that damage to a homeowner's vehicle that also was struck by bullets was about \$13,000.

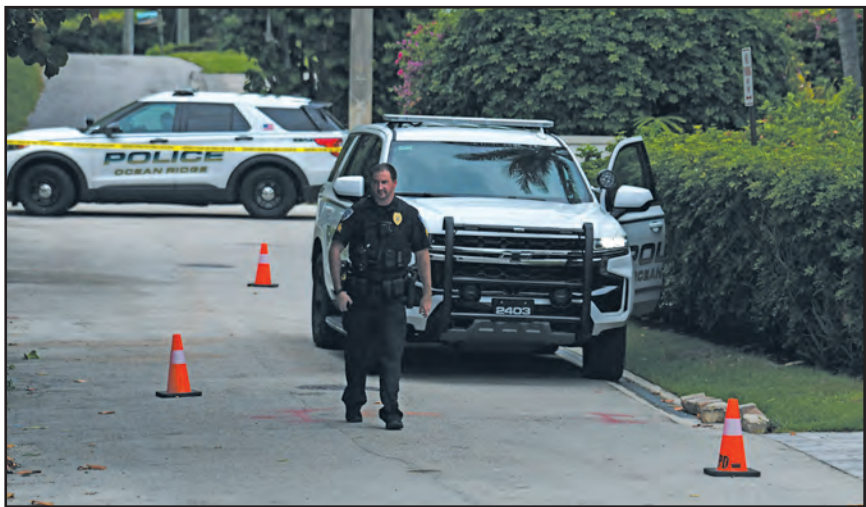
In court documents, the resident of the home said that "he and his family were terrified after the event" and that at least one family member couldn't eat or sleep for two days.

Delray Beach police said that at least one of the homes struck by bullets in their city was occupied at the time of the shooting.

Most, if not all of the shootings appeared to occur in the early morning hours before daylight. Several vehicles at targeted homes were also damaged by bullets.

While Maloney's motive for all the shootings remains unknown, there appears to be a common thread.

As detectives interviewed people in the homes, they discovered that many of the residences were occupied or formerly occupied by people who went to Atlantic High School with Maloney and his brother, according to court records.



One woman, who had previously lived at a home where vehicles came under gunfire, told investigators that she had gone to school with Maloney and that he had asked her out but she declined. The woman told detectives that she and Maloney "hung out with the same group of people in high school."

A case in Ocean Ridge

PBSO and the other police agencies had used a central database and found the shell casings in all the shootings matched and appeared to come from the same Glock 9mm handgun. Who was firing that gun remained a mystery until the shooter took aim at a vacant home in Ocean Ridge early on July 11.

"They had so many shootings, but they didn't know who was

doing it," Ocean Ridge Police Chief Scott McClure said.

In Ocean Ridge that morning, at least a dozen shots were fired at an unoccupied home on Thompson Street. One of the bullets went through a window.

The shooting was noticed the next day when a passerby saw bullet holes and contacted a police officer who was in the area on another call, McClure said.

McClure said that through the use of technology, including license plate recognition cameras, static cameras and video taken from home-security cameras in the area, his officers were able to identify a vehicle they suspected was involved.

A home security camera, McClure said, helped detectives determine what vehicle was used in the shooting, and

static cameras and license plate recognition cameras helped investigators determine information about the car that was obtained from the license plate number.

Ocean Ridge police put out an alert July 17 to all the police departments in the area to be on the lookout for the blue Hyundai Sonata. Six hours later, Boynton Beach police officers pulled over the vehicle, being driven by Sterling Maloney.

A car full of evidence

McClure said Ocean Ridge police were called to the scene and met with Maloney.

"Our detectives interviewed Sterling the day of the traffic stop," McClure said, adding that Maloney was released for lack of probable cause to hold him.

But the car was impounded because of its tie to the

Ocean Ridge shooting, and after obtaining a warrant, investigators found the gun — later linked to multiple shootings of businesses and homes — ammunition and the ledger with past targets and a list of potential targets.

"It was good on our part that we got these breaks to stop them in their tracks," McClure said. "They'd been looking for him since February."

McClure said the investigation in Ocean Ridge was a team effort.

"Everybody had a hand in this," he said. "It's good detective work and I'm proud of them."

Masri, of the sheriff's office, said that Maloney was surprised when he was arrested July 31.

He said that sheriff's detectives, who took the lead in building the case against Maloney, are now looking to determine a motive and are following up to see if there are any commonalities connecting all of the victims.

Besides the attempted first-degree murder charge, Maloney faces 10 counts of shooting into a building, 12 counts of criminal mischief with more than \$1,000 in damage to property, and one count of discharging a firearm in public.

He is being held in the Palm Beach County Jail, with bond set at \$500,000 each on 14 individual counts. ★

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Delray Beach

City raises fees at downtown lots and garages, unveils employee parking program

By John Pacenti

When is a fee increase not an increase? When you are in the other dimension known as Delray Beach, silly.

Public Works Director Missie Barletto told *The Coastal Star* that, yes, the city's three parking garages will no longer be free during the daytime, going to a \$1.50 an hour fee beginning Oct. 1. The plan also eliminates the \$5 flat fee at parking garages after 4 p.m.

The downtown garages are Old School Square, Fourth and Fifth at Atlantic, and Robert

Federspiel at 22 SE First Ave.

Barletto explained that the average stay at the garages is two hours in the evening, often by casual diners. They would save \$2 by not having to pay the flat fee, she said.

The real reason Barletto explained for the increase — as she did, as well, at the Aug. 19 City Commission meeting — is to address homeless people who are living out of their cars and camping out in the garages overnight. Unfortunately, she said, visitors were shying away from parking in the garages, fearing for their safety.

Commissioners were told that the increased parking fees will generate more than \$1.5 million more annually for the city.

Premier parking meters on Atlantic Avenue would stay the same under the plan at \$4 an hour. The city manager already directed that parking meters on downtown side streets be priced at \$3 an hour, up from \$2 an hour previously. Other increases will go into effect Oct. 1.

Free parking will increase to \$2 an hour for the railroad lot at 30 NE Fourth Ave., the Gladiola lot at 51 SE Sixth Ave., the Village lot at 50 SE Sixth Ave.,

the Banker's Row lot at 200 NE First Ave., and the Veterans Park lot at 802 NE First St. These lots will all have a four-hour limit where in the past they varied.

The seven beach parking lots on the barrier island will remain the same cost at \$1.50 an hour.

Employee parking plan

Commissioners also adopted a six-month pilot program to address downtown employee parking that will allow workers to buy a \$10 monthly permit to park in most city spaces.

"They can park in any available parking space in the downtown area — other than Atlantic Avenue," Barletto said. The parking meters on Atlantic Avenue are the exception.

Barletto noted at the meeting that the previous attempts to create an employee parking program had failed.

"We offered a permit where we had a special trolley that ran at night, and the employer actually bought the parking permits and handed them out to their employees, she said. "That sold zero permits."

To prevent abuse, the program will require verification. "They will have to renew their parking pass every month. Part of that renewal process will be a letter from a downtown employer saying

that they are indeed employed," Barletto said.

Commissioner Tom Markert expressed sympathy for restaurant and bar workers, stating he had heard repeatedly that "these are people that we have to attract to keep our restaurants and bars open and if we don't provide them with parking spaces, they're going to go work in the suburbs."

However, Mayor Tom Carney remained skeptical about subsidizing parking, arguing that restaurants have the responsibility to provide parking for their employees. Markert countered that restaurants told him any parking costs "are going to be reflected in your menu prices."

Vice Mayor Rob Long suggested a pilot program, noting, "We're not going to know until we sort of try some version of this."

The pilot program will run from Oct. 1 to April, with a potential three-month update given in January.

Barletto provided context on current parking use, revealing that many downtown lots are significantly underutilized. The railroad lot, for instance, has 162 spaces with only a 57% occupancy rate. The Gladiola lot has 74 spaces with just a 30% occupancy rate. ★

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Ocean Ridge

Former vice mayor loses federal verdict as jury clears arresting officers

By Jane Musgrave

Former Ocean Ridge Vice Mayor Richard Lucibella lost his legal battle against two town police officers over his 2016 arrest at his former oceanfront home on Beachway North.



Lucibella

A federal jury in Miami on Aug. 22 rejected Lucibella’s claims that officers Richard Ermeri and Nubia Plesnik violated his constitutional rights when they arrested him while investigating reports of gunshots.

Jurors listened to nearly a week of testimony and found that neither officer used excessive force nor violated the 71-year-old health care entrepreneur’s freedom from an unwarranted search.

Attorney James Green, who represented Lucibella, said he and his client respect the jury verdict.

“I’m sad and disappointed for Rich,” Green said. “He went through what no

citizen should have to go through.”

Lucibella’s face was held against the floor of his patio and three ribs were broken when officers did a knee drop on his back, Green said in court papers.

Orlando attorney Jeff Ashton, who was hired by the town’s insurer to represent the officers, said the jury recognized that Lucibella was responsible for his own fate. “He resisted,” Ashton said. “He got hurt because he resisted. The officers didn’t want to hurt him.”

The trial was only to decide if the officers violated Lucibella’s rights. If the jury found that they had, another trial would have determined damages.

At one time, Lucibella said he would seek \$9.4 million, claiming he was suspended from his leadership role at one of his businesses and couldn’t effectively manage others while defending himself against the criminal charges.

Lucibella could appeal the verdict. Green said no decision has been made.

The officers and the town could also ask that Lucibella pay for some of the

costs of the lengthy litigation. The town, which in 2021 was dismissed from the lawsuit by a judge, sought nearly \$135,000 in attorney fees and court costs.

U.S. District Judge Aileen Cannon, who was then handling the case, said the town could renew the request after the case against the officers was decided. The case was later transferred to U.S. District Judge David Leibowitz.

Green said he doubted Lucibella would have to dig into his wallet. The town and the officers would have to prove that the lawsuit was completely frivolous, he said.

Ashton said it is likely he would ask that Lucibella be ordered to pay the court costs the insurer incurred fighting his claims against the officers. He said he didn’t know how much that would be.

Absent an appeal, the jury verdict would mark the end of a saga that spawned several civil lawsuits, along with the criminal charges against Lucibella, who now lives in Jupiter.

Lucibella, who was elected to the Town Commission in 2014, was cleared

of two felony charges of battery on a law enforcement officer in 2019. But the same jury found him guilty of a misdemeanor charge of battery. He was ordered to pay \$675 in court costs. He lost his appeal.

Plesnik, meanwhile, reached a confidential out-of-court settlement with Lucibella to end the lawsuit she filed against him for shoulder injuries she claimed she sustained during the scuffle.

In her suit, she claimed Lucibella tried to conceal a .40-caliber pistol by sitting on it when she and Ermeri arrived at the house to investigate the reports of gunfire. The officers also saw several shell casings on the deck, she said.

Knowing he had other guns in the house, she said the officers told him to stay on the patio. Ignoring their warnings, he attacked the officers, pushing Plesnik and grabbing Ermeri around the neck, she claimed in the suit.

Green said Lucibella’s error was failing to give officers information they wanted. “Rich refused to snitch on his friend who actually fired the shots,” he said. ★

Town treasurer retires after decades of service

The Ocean Ridge Town Commission celebrated the career of Jean Hallahan, “a cornerstone of Town Hall,” who retired after two decades of service in important positions.

A proclamation was read by Town Clerk Kelly Avery at the Aug. 4 commission meeting recognizing Hallahan’s

multifaceted roles, noting she served not only as town treasurer, but also as deputy town clerk and human resources administrator since 2005.

Hallahan, who wanted to retire quietly, Avery said, was not at the meeting.

Her tenure has been characterized by “quiet

leadership, reliability and kindness,” making her not just a vital team member, but a mentor and friend to many, the proclamation read.

As treasurer, Hallahan oversaw “the financial well-being of Ocean Ridge with diligence, transparency and deep expertise,” guiding the

town through economic changes with “a calm, confident presence and a sharp eye for detail.”

As deputy town clerk, she provided “invaluable support in maintaining the town’s official records, assisting residents with care and accuracy and helping ensure the daily operations of the town ran smoothly.”

Her human resources work was equally distinguished, with the proclamation praising her for “supporting our staff with compassion, professionalism and integrity.”

The town retroactively proclaimed July 28 as “Jean Hallahan Appreciation Day.”

— John Pacenti


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Gulf Stream

Town monitors state action on synthetic turf

Towns with ordinances on the placement of artificial grass in yards are keeping a close eye on a Florida-wide rule currently being drafted.

House Bill 683, which passed the Legislature this year and was signed into law by the governor, requires the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to adopt minimum standards for the installation of synthetic turf on single-family residential areas that are 1 acre or less in size, Gulf Stream Assistant Town Attorney Trey Nazzaro said. Such a rule would cover most of the town, he said.

The concern is that a new rule “could in part preempt the town’s home rule powers to regulate artificial turf,” he told town commissioners at their Aug. 8 meeting.

Synthetic turf in Gulf Stream, for example, can be placed only in back and side yards where it cannot be seen from the road in front or from the water behind.

“The question will be whether or not it prevents us from regulating it from an aesthetic standpoint really,” Nazzaro said. “There’s nothing in the rule that goes one way or the other about percentage or where it can be located.”

— Steve Plunkett

Delray Beach

City resolves police contract impasse after months of negotiations

By John Pacenti

After months of contentious negotiations, the Delray Beach City Commission has reached a tentative agreement with the Police Benevolent Association, addressing key issues of wages, pensions and working conditions for the city’s police officers.

The City Commission gave its tacit approval at an Aug. 21 special meeting, bowing to a special magistrate’s recommendation.

Mayor Tom Carney had pushed back on the issue of extending the DROP (Deferred Retirement Option Program) from five to eight years, saying it would just put money in negotiators’ pockets, but in the end, the city relented.

Carney and Commissioner Juli Casale both voted no on the eight-year drop. The commissioners were unanimous in approving other areas of the contract — psychological testing, post-accident drug and alcohol testing, and wages.

Casale said under the contract, some police officers will end up making more than directors of departments at

City Hall. She specifically asked about the impact on the city’s budget, noting concerns about how the contract might require salary adjustments across other city departments.

Commissioner Tom Markert, always seen as the swing vote on the DROP issue, said extending the retirement program to eight years made the city competitive with other agencies. He said he felt the city had “met the lion’s share” of the union’s requests.

When it came to wages, the city’s initial proposal was \$15.2 million compared to the nearly \$16.7 million requested by the union. Commissioners approved a wage package of \$15.9 million for officers and sergeants after the union came down in its ask.

The tentative agreement will cover three years — retroactive to last Oct. 1 and extending to Sept. 30, 2027. It still requires ratification by the union membership.

John Kazanjian, president of the Palm Beach County chapter of the PBA, said on the union’s Instagram page, “This is the best deal you’re going to get out of the Commission right here. I’m not going to call it a win or a loss. I’m just going to say it’s a

happy medium so far.”

The union used all sorts of in-your-face public tactics. It had moving billboards denouncing Carney and Casale. The PBA is now banned from participating in next year’s St. Patrick’s Day parade because it slammed commissioners on a moving billboard that was in this year’s parade.

The PBA also, on more than one occasion, packed commission chambers with members and had various people in the community speak on its behalf — including Vice Mayor Rob Long.

The city adopted a modified pay scale closely resembling Boynton Beach’s plan, with increases that city officials hope will help attract and retain officers. The new plan provides slightly higher top-end salaries for officers and sergeants, with lieutenants receiving a modified pay structure.

The union certainly had its supporters lined up to speak at the Aug. 21 hearing in case there was any wavering by the commission.


Chuck Halberg, president of Delray Citizens for Delray Police, said during public comment that the city had already lost 22 officers, with 15 more potentially leaving.

Delray Beach resident Melissa Morales Milkman highlighted the department’s crime reduction efforts, stating the city had reduced overall crime by nearly 50% citywide. She warned that continued officer losses would jeopardize public safety.

Long criticized the negotiation process as “idiotic.”

“We have been tied to a process now for months that has made this so much harder than it should be,” he said.

Carney noted the city’s commitment to balancing fiscal responsibility with fair compensation. “We’re not going to try to compete with entities that have unlimited funds,” Carney said, referencing the Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office’s ability to offer higher wages. ★



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Delray Beach

City manager weathers commission’s criticisms, gets pay raise

By John Pacenti

In the last year, Delray Beach City Manager Terrence Moore once again became embroiled in drama, clashed repeatedly with some commissioners and set out to bore elected officials to death by presentation.

Despite it all, Moore lives to fight another day. The commission at its Aug. 12 meeting approved a 3.3% raise for Moore, who has been with the city since August 2021.

The raise was based on the scoring of the city’s five elected leaders, with Moore receiving an average score of 3.3 out of a possible 5.0. Commissioner Juli Casale, a frequent sparring partner of Moore, was the one no vote for the raise.

Moore, whose new annual salary will be \$255,986, can take a bow in getting the Cultural Arts School project off to a good start. And he still rocks the sunglasses at ribbon cuttings. But the city manager took some serious lumps in his evaluations by the mayor and commissioners.

“Moore’s deficiencies appear to be growing and his ability to make corrections is not evident,” Casale wrote. “His lack of high-level managerial skills is not likely to change. I would like to see Mr. Moore explore other employment. I think he would be happier and more effective in a less complicated city.”

Mayor’s criticisms

Mayor Tom Carney wrote a long evaluation of Moore beyond the typical scorecard, finding him approachable but lacking leadership skills.

“Overall, there is a lack of curiosity and forward-thinking in city leadership,” Carney wrote. “We are rarely ahead of challenges. More often, we are reacting or simply maintaining.”

After Carney asked for a granular budget for 2025-26, Moore unleashed a 400-page tome marshalled by his new chief financial officer, Henry M. Dachowitz, that was as clear as mud to the public. When *The Coastal Star* asked for a breakdown of the current budget compared to the proposed one in April, the newspaper was told that no such document existed at the time.

Commission meetings have dragged on as directors have spent hours detailing proposals that are available in the agenda packet for commissioners. Building, Planning and Zoning Director Anthea Gianniotis has spoken for hours on end.

“Stop burying the Commission with presentations,” Carney said on Moore’s scorecard. “Be more of a leader.”

And yet, Carney said, in the proposed fiscal year 2026

budget, “departmental wish lists were submitted without senior management review, resulting in inflated spending proposals.” Carney gave Moore a 2.8.

Casale’s concerns

Moore’s lowest score came from Casale, who gave him a 2.0.

She grew especially frustrated with Moore when it came to internal investigations into the Code Enforcement Division, which was rocked by one employee’s arrest for allegedly shaking down residents and revelations that a supervisor worked an inside straight to remove \$11,250 in liens on a property the supervisor owned.

Casale couldn’t get answers at commission meetings — and sniffed out that the internal code investigation was a whitewash, forcing the investigator to go back and ask questions about the two employees.

Moore created the dynamics that led to a whistleblower complaint by Jeri Pryor, the woman he hired to right the ship of Code Enforcement. Pryor accused Moore and Vice Mayor Rob Long of ordering her to go easy on some businesses or face losing her job.

An internal investigator basically found it was a he-said-she-said, she-said-he-said.

Still, the investigator recommended that Moore stop his practice of conference calls with city employees and individual members of the commission.

It was the second such investigation involving Moore after the former fire chief, Keith Tomey, accused him of making an unwanted sexual advance. The same investigator found the claims unsubstantiated.

Tomey was fired and is suing the city.

Markert, Long and Burns

Commissioner Tom Markert — the Mr. Nice Guy on the dais — also had some criticism, handing Moore a score of 3.0. On what Moore could improve, Markert said, “Being accessible and open to feedback 24/7. And not only open to feedback but also able to professionally deal with occasional feedback that is not positive.”

Long is clearly a fan, giving Moore a perfect 5.0. In a not-so-veiled swipe at Pryor’s hiring, Long did say that Moore needs to “modify the screening/background check process when hiring director-level staff to avoid hiring individuals with questionable ethics and professional reputations.”

Commissioner Angela Burns, a former educator, gave Moore a 3.5 score. She did have positive things to say, though.

“Moore’s leadership skill and depth of knowledge have been

instrumental in maintaining city operations and delivering key initiatives,” she wrote.

Moore’s management style was on display at the next commission meeting on Aug. 19, after 17 people spoke in favor of the city’s standing up to the edict by Gov. Ron DeSantis’ administration to pave over the LGBTQ pride intersection at Northeast Second Avenue and Northeast First Street.

Saying \$60 million in state funding was at stake, Moore seemed ready to sandblast away the rainbow himself, saying the city had no choice.

Even Long, his biggest supporter, said, “Mr. Moore, respectfully, I’m not going to focus my commentary on a conciliatory gesture at this point, given that there is still an option in front of us, an option offered to us by the FDOT to go to an administrative hearing.”★



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Fire chief investigated for using office camera, says he was being harassed

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Delray Beach

NATIONAL CHAMPIONS AGAIN!



John Livingstone, in the bow, and Justin Cattan crash through a large breaking wave during the 2025 U.S. Lifesaving Association National Lifeguard Championships in Huntington Beach, California. They won the men’s open doubles row category for the fourth year in a row and plan to go for five next year in Fort Lauderdale. **Allen J. Schaben/Los Angeles Times**

Lifeguards reflect on secrets to success after fourth rowing title

By Ron Hayes

Four years ago, they won first place in Hermosa Beach, California.

Three years ago, they won first place in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

Last year, they won first place on San Padre Island, Texas.

And on Aug. 8, in Huntington Beach, California, Justin Cattan and John Livingstone won the National Lifeguard Championships’ men’s doubles rowing event for the fourth year in a row.

Cattan, 34, guards lives with Delray Beach Ocean Rescue.

Livingstone, 30, resigned from the department in June but competed as an alumni in the Delray Beach chapter of the U.S. Lifesaving Association, which sponsors the annual championships.

They did not row, row, row their boat gently down a stream.

On the contrary.

•

This year, 20 teams of two men each had signed up to compete. When they saw how rough the sea was that Friday, seven teams dropped out.

Cattan and Livingstone were not among them.

The whistle blew, and 13 teams ran about 25 yards to their boats, jumped in and started rowing.

Livingstone was in the bow of their 19-foot wood and fiberglass Asay surf boat, Cattan in the stern.

The course was a semi-circle, marked by two parallel buoys offshore, about 245 feet apart, and a third at the apex, about 985 feet offshore. Cattan and Livingstone rowed around that



Cattan



Livingstone

farthest buoy, returned to shore, touched a flag, rowed around the apex and back a second time, touched the flag, then rowed out to pass the far buoy a third time.

The race was not timed, but 16 to 18 minutes later, when judges declared them the first to complete the course, Cattan and Livingstone had rowed about 6,560 feet or 1.25 miles.

“We never considered dropping out,” Cattan said. “Not to say that it wasn’t scary. We had 5- to 7-foot pounding waves.”

They also had determination, months of training and, perhaps most important of all, a friendship that began years before either man ever climbed onto a Delray Beach lifeguard stand.

•

Lifeguards aren’t needed in a January blizzard, so up North, it’s a summer job.

John Livingstone was a lifeguard for nine summer seasons in Wildwood, New Jersey. He had the town’s southernmost stand.

For 12 seasons, Justin Cattan was a lifeguard in Wildwood Crest, just below Wildwood. He had the town’s northernmost stand.

“So, my last stand in Wildwood Crest was next to Johnny’s first stand in Wildwood,” Cattan recalled. “We would assist each other on rescues, and we became friends.”

Another lifeguard friend, Mike Gibson, had visited Deerfield Beach and liked the area. In 2019, the trio rented an apartment in Delray Beach,

where January blizzards are extremely rare and the lifeguard jobs are full time.

Delray Beach Ocean Rescue hired Cattan and Livingstone a week apart in February 2020.

•

The city doesn’t underwrite their expenses or provide time off to attend the USLA championships, so the local chapter raises funds to cover their travel, hotel and entry fees.

From May until race day, they trained on their own time in front of the lifeguard headquarters.

“We’d get there in the summers at 7:45 a.m., train after roll call until 8:40, then get our stuff and open our towers at 9,” Livingstone recalled. “And we can train on our lunch breaks, too. To get the time off, we use vacation time or swap our days with other lifeguards.”

•

On June 25, 2023, they volunteered for an unusually rigorous training session.

The Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis is an annual event in which paddleboarders paddle the 80 miles from Bimini in the Bahamas to Lake Worth Beach, raising money for Piper’s Angels Foundation, which assists families living with the disease. The event is primarily for paddleboarders, but Cattan and Livingstone were able to participate in a rowboat division.

Cattan, Livingstone and two other rowers, Doug Davis and J.D. Briggs, rowed for 13 hours, from midnight until 1 p.m.

“It was beautiful at night,” Livingstone recalled. “You could see all the stars, the colors of the universe almost.”

Except for one frightening encounter.

“Our guide was a 65-foot yacht out of Miami, but its radar went out and we almost got run over by a shipping freighter. We didn’t know if the ship was coming toward us or moving

away. We saw a couple lights coming at us, and next thing the water’s everywhere. It was like a ghost ship coming at us.”

The Delray Beach chapter raised \$10,000 for Angel’s Pipers.

•

Every rescue is different, they agree, but some are more different than others. Some are more memorable.

One evening in 2013, Livingstone, 18 at the time, was just about to break down his stand in Wildwood after a long day.

Two little girls, 7 or 8 years old, were standing in waist-deep water, not far from shore, when they were pulled into a strong northerly current carrying them toward an outflow pipe pouring rainwater into the sea.

The danger was not that they would be pulled into the pipe, as the rainwater was rushing out, but under it.

“The two of them were pretty much on top of the pipe, with a strong current under the pipe,” he recalled. “I wedged my legs under the pipe and got one girl wrapped in my red buoy flotation device and the other girl held on and just went over the pipe and floated down easy.”

“It made me realize how serious this job can be.”

In 2016, Justin Cattan was already off duty one evening in Wildwood Crest when he spotted a figure running toward his stand, arms frantically waving.

Cattan and two other guards paddled out to two victims caught in a riptide.

“One guy was just in jeans and a T-shirt in waist-deep water when the riptide grabbed him. I had to dive to get him, and we gave him oxygen, and they had to take him to the hospital and pump his stomach.”

“He came back the next morning to say thank you,” Cattan said, “and that almost never happens.”

•

Four years ago, a single trophy from the National Lifesaving Championships’ men’s doubles rowing event stood in the glass case full of trophies at the Delray Beach Ocean Rescue headquarters on South Ocean Boulevard.

Three years ago, there were two. Two years ago, there were three.

Now there are four trophies on display, all won by Justin Cattan and John Livingstone.

For now, Livingstone is relaxing back home in New Jersey. He may travel, and in the fall he plans to move back in with Mike Gibson, his recent roommate, in Deerfield Beach.

“I can’t see the future,” he says, “but I know I enjoy every minute lifeguarding. Justin and my success has come from a great friendship and hard work and dedication, and I couldn’t be prouder of having him for a teammate and friend.”

Cattan and his partner, Julia Sheffer, have a 9-month-old daughter named Charley. They are teaching her to call Livingstone “Uncle Johnny.”

“I’m taking it one day at a time,” Cattan says. “I’m enjoying my family and friends, so I don’t need to look too far ahead. If I can be the best teammate, partner and parent, that’s enough for me.”

Next year, the NLSA Lifeguard Championships will be held in Fort Lauderdale, to mark the 100th anniversary of that city’s Ocean Rescue.

Cattan and Livingstone plan to be there too, rowing toward a fifth trophy.

In the end, though, the trophies are nice and friendships are precious, but saving lives is always a deadly serious job.

“You’re there on people’s best days,” Livingstone said, “and you’re there on what could be the last day of their life.” ★

Obituaries

George Milton ‘Tony’ Allerton IV

By Rich Pollack

DELRAY BEACH — Tony Allerton lived a good life — and helped thousands of others do the same.

Best known in Delray Beach as the longtime executive director of The Crossroads Club,



Mr. Allerton shepherded the organization for decades as it grew to host more than 700 people a day in 12-step programs. He died Sept. 1, a few weeks shy of his 97th birthday.

A resident of Delray Beach since the late 1950s, Mr. Allerton was long synonymous with The Crossroads Club, yet many who were greeted with a friendly assurance by “the old guy by the door” never knew the powerful positive impact he had on the recovery community.

And he preferred it that way. Described by people familiar with his work as a “beacon of hope for others,” Mr. Allerton knew firsthand how difficult overcoming addiction could be.

A recovering alcoholic who grew up with two alcoholic parents, he spent most of his first 54 years drinking. He spent the last 43 years avoiding alcohol and making sure there was a safe place for those who went through the same battles he did. He continued to go to work at Crossroads almost every day, well into his 90s.

In a 2018 interview with *Delray Beach* magazine, Mr. Allerton talked about how glad he was to have a chance to be a positive force.

“The fact that the good Lord allowed me to be an integral part of the recovery effort in Delray Beach is a blessing,” he said. “It’s given me an opportunity to see people who are struggling with addiction and watch them be reborn.”

Mr. Allerton is survived by his daughters Tracy Allerton and Mitchell “Mimi” Allerton; his son, Colby Allerton; his son’s wife, Nina; and two grandchildren, Zachary and June.

Mr. Allerton was proudest of his family, but he was also proud of the 40-year coin he earned three years ago signifying his sobriety.

Mr. Allerton was also an active member of the community over the years — first as a successful stockbroker and later as a real estate agent.

He served as president or in a leadership role of nonprofit organizations including the Delray Beach Rotary Club, the Delray Beach Playhouse, the Lake Ida Property Owners Association and of course, The Crossroads Club. He was also chairman of the Delray Beach Drug Task Force, the Delray Beach Community Chest and treasurer of the Drug Abuse Foundation.

Born George Milton Allerton IV on Sept. 23, 1928, in Waterbury, Connecticut, to a long-established family, his early ancestors were among those who came over on the Mayflower. He was a proud descendent of Noah Webster, best known for creating Webster’s Dictionary.

Mr. Allerton attended the Taft private school and Georgetown University, where he graduated with a degree in business administration. He played hockey while at Georgetown and was on the tennis and golf teams.

He joined the U.S. Navy in 1950, serving as a lieutenant on the USS Mullany, a destroyer.

His quick wit, mischievous streak and contagious laugh were trademarks, but those who know him best say that his most important trait was making those around him feel special.

“I think the secret to his longevity was that he has found his true calling and has been able to fashion a life for himself that fulfills that calling on his own terms,” his daughter Tracy said in a 2018 *Coastal Star* story. “I watch him and marvel at what a difference one person can make in so many lives.”

A service will be held at 10:30 a.m. Sept. 10 at St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church, 840 George Bush Blvd. Donations in his name can be sent to The Crossroads Club, 1700 Lake Ida Road, Delray Beach, FL 33445.

Morgan Niles Russell

DELRAY BEACH — Morgan Niles Russell, a force to be reckoned with, died Aug. 14 in Trustbridge Hospice. He was 79.

Mr. Russell took pride in the role he played in the development of the city’s Pineapple Grove section and he created a charity that provided college educations to dozens of students.

He was born to Frank M. “Scoop” Russell and Marian Phebe Gale Russell on Jan. 9, 1946, in Washington, D.C. His sibling, Gale Russell Nash, preceded him in death.



Mr. Russell leaves behind the love of his life, wife Brenda Keith Russell; his twins, Vivienne and Wyatt Russell; stepsons Matt Keith of Baton Rouge, Louisiana; Mike (Natalie) Keith of Hobe Sound, and Andrew (Lauren) Keith of Niceville; grandchildren Blakely, Noah, Nori, Bryson, Braelyn, Zack and Zoey Keith; nephews Matt Russell Holberton of New York City and Ted Russell Nash of Denver; and niece Lexi Holberton Wight of Concord, Massachusetts.

Having accomplished many of his professional goals at 65, Mr. Russell then fathered twins, Vivienne and Wyatt.

A few years later, he sought someone to spend the rest of his life with, and shared a first date with Brenda Keith. Hearing that he had children, Brenda asked, “What university do they go to?” Blown away by the answer, “They’re in Pre-K 3,” Brenda flew back to Baton Rouge. “I did not feel we would be a match because I was too old to help raise little ones.”

But Mr. Russell enjoyed his time with the twins, teaching them to swim, play ball, ride bikes and ski. Brenda, coaxed back to Delray Beach, became their stepmom and blended her family with Mr. Russell’s.

Matt Keith said that Mr. Russell “immediately considered me and my brothers as his own family and treated us as such. He had a great sense of humor and kept the entire room laughing out loud.”

Mr. Russell loved the “Village by the Sea,” and purchased a shopping center on the corner of Linton Boulevard and Federal Highway. His next purchase was a shopping center on Northeast Second Avenue. Mr. Russell, in partnership with Scott Porten, created “City Walk.” His true passion would be developing Second Avenue, which eventually became Pineapple Grove.

Ultimately, Mr. Russell sold his holdings and bought a shopping center in Tequesta. When Mr. Russell sold his final center to enjoy life, his health was failing, and he could not fully enjoy retirement. Yet his great sense of humor buoyed him until the end.

Mr. Russell helped many of his tenants and became close with Christina from Christina’s Restaurant, Suzanne from Brulee, Joseph from Joseph’s Restaurant, Tony from Lanzetta’s, and many more tenants. Many others supported him: Dwight Tidwell, Pete Bonitatibus, Mike Simon, Chris Burr, Richard Heintz, Therese, Betty, Sharon, Luanne, James, Ellen, his loving caregiver, and more.

His self-funded charity, Dare2BGreat, put 40 students through college.

Mike Keith recalled, “He was humble, generous, and always put the needs of others above his own.”

Andrew Keith remembered his best life lesson: “We learned never to take life too seriously and to always let the positive come first, and embrace the beauty of life with friends and family.”

Mr. Russell’s life will be celebrated from 1 to 4 p.m. Sept. 7 at Rose’s Daughter, 169 NE Second Ave., Delray Beach.

—Submitted by the family

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South Palm Beach

Council putting together relocation plans for Town Hall construction

By Hannah Spence

The clock is ticking for South Palm Beach to devise its plan for where town offices will operate and council meetings will take place while a new Town Hall is under construction.

Although Town Manager Jamie Titcomb is confident that workers will be able to stay in the current Town Hall until the end of March, he now must figure out where staff will relocate and the Town Council hold its meetings during construction.

“Everything will be

modified because it will have to be,” said Titcomb. During the council’s Aug. 11 budget workshop, he said he was working on an agreement with surrounding communities to use their facilities to hold formal assemblies like council meetings, which should be possible as long as South Palm Beach’s meetings do not conflict with another community’s own meeting schedule.

But there’s more work that needs to be done before the town will know when any relocations will take place.

“Until we get hard timelines

from the architects and engineers as to when we need to do X, Y or Z, it’s hard for us to set a start date and a duration date,” Titcomb said.

“The plan doesn’t really change; it’s the timelines that are still somewhat malleable from this point forward,” he said.

Titcomb said the town may be able to have a trailer office or another type of presence either at the site or next to it during the construction. The latter would require an agreement with a neighboring condominium to provide

temporary space while the project is under way.

Although Titcomb said options are limited, he’s hoping the town wouldn’t have to go farther than the neighboring communities of Manalapan, Lantana and Lake Worth Beach in finding relocation space.

“If we go much beyond that, the cost benefit ratio starts to become less and less desirable for the town because of the demographics and the efforts that are required in order to get people to whatever we are staging,” he said.

Besides government

activities, Town Hall is used for community activities such as exercise classes and art shows. Whether those will be able to continue during construction will depend on factors such as the number of participants and how reasonable it is to have the activities put on somewhere nearby.

“It is also likely that we would just suspend certain kinds of programming until we are ready to host it ourselves again, so that we don’t incur large costs,” Titcomb said. ★

New lift station still three years away, officials estimate

By Hannah Spence

While South Palm Beach executed a professional agreement with consulting engineering and surveying company Mock Roos & Associates in April to build a new lift station, the project isn’t expected to be finished until 2028.

Officials say the delay is

because construction will be done only from May through October, avoiding the busier snowbird and tourist season, and because the town faces extended lead times to obtain some of the critical equipment needed for the project.

The lift station, the only piece of public property in town besides Town Hall, was constructed about 60 years ago

and has not been renovated since the 1990s. Part of the work will be to raise the elevation of critical equipment. New Federal Emergency Management Agency flood insurance rate maps increased the required base flood elevations for much of coastal Palm Beach County.

“The rehabilitated lift station will ensure reliable wastewater collection and transmission

for the Town of South Palm Beach, protecting public health and the environment,” said Senior Project Manager John Cairnes in an email responding to questions from *The Coastal Star*. “By upgrading aging infrastructure and incorporating modern flood protection measures, the project will improve resilience, reduce the risk of service interruptions

during storms, and provide long-term reliability for both residents and visitors.”

The work will be done in five phases. A condition assessment is to be completed in September and will be followed by engineering design and permitting, bidding the work, construction engineering, and other engineering services. ★

Boca Raton

Save Boca submits signatures to stop downtown project

By Mary Hladky

Clutching a tall stack of papers, Save Boca organizer Jon Pearlman strode to the podium to declare that defeat of city efforts to redevelop its 30-acre downtown campus is all but assured.

“Tonight I have a special delivery for the council — 5,200 signatures from all across the city of Boca Raton for our initiative ordinance to protect our public land.

“The voice of the people is stronger than ever and they are saying loud and clear, ‘stop this project.’ The people don’t want it.”

Save Boca has secured more than enough of the required 3,676 signatures on petitions for a city ordinance amendment and is only about 1,000 signatures short of the 6,112 needed for a City Charter change.

Both would not allow the City Council to lease or sell any city-owned land greater than one-half acre without allowing residents to vote on the matter. The city plans to lease the campus property for 99 years to a joint venture of Terra and Frisbie Group.

Save Boca prefers the charter change because the council could repeal the revised ordinance without voter approval.

If voters get to decide, Save Boca members say they are certain the redevelopment project will be doomed.

They cheered wildly as Pearlman attempted to hand the paper pile to City Clerk Mary Siddons during the Aug. 26 City Council meeting.

Tensions rose when Siddons did not immediately accept the petitions, with some crowd members yelling “Why!” After she conferred briefly with City Attorney Joshua Koehler, cheers erupted again when Siddons took them.

No vote on the redevelopment project was scheduled that night. But the city allows resident comment on it at every

meeting, giving Save Boca members chances to repeatedly press their case against plans that would add residential, retail, office and hotel to the city-owned land that includes City Hall and cause the relocation of a number of recreation facilities.

“Public trust is at an all-time low,” said Martha Parker. “The way this project has been approached has been all wrong. ... Please stand with us and fight to protect our public park land.”

After residents spoke, Council member Andy Thomson explained once again why he opposes the project and wants to terminate the city’s deal with Terra/ Frisbie to develop it.

The council members have not yet seen a financial analysis and he still doesn’t have answers to many questions, Thomson said.

Champlain Towers lawsuit

He also broached a matter first raised days before by Save Boca, which said that Terra Group and affiliates were among those named as defendants in a massive class action lawsuit resulting from the 2021 collapse of the Champlain Towers South condo in Surfside.

The case, which was widely reported at the time by media including the *Miami Herald*, settled in 2022. Relatives of the victims and survivors of the collapse were paid nearly \$1 billion.

The settlement “factored in my decision-making” when the City Council selected Terra/Frisbie, Thomson said. Only Thomson favored Related Ross.

Among the defendants in the case was the Eighty Seven Park condominium next door, which plaintiffs partially blamed for the Champlain Towers collapse. They claimed that during Eighty Seven Park’s construction in 2016, Champlain South was destabilized when metal sheet piles were driven into the ground about 12 feet from its perimeter wall.

An affiliate of Terra Group, 8701 Collins Development, was the developer of Eighty Seven Park. Terra Group and affiliate Terra World Investments also were defendants.

At the time, Terra attorney Michael Thomas denied liability and said the construction had nothing to do with the Champlain South collapse. His clients’ insurers made a business decision to settle to avoid the time and expense of litigation, he said.

Terra Group and Terra World had no ownership interest in the condo and did not make settlement payments, while 8701’s insurers paid \$28 million, Terra Group said in a statement in response to a query by *The Coastal Star*.

Thomas, a shareholder with Greenberg Traurig, told the City Council that “Terra and 8701 Collins had no culpability in any way, shape or form.”

“The settlement will have no effect on the developer’s ability to deliver ... for this city,” he said.

Deputy Mayor Fran Nachlas, who is vying with Thomson in the 2026 mayoral race, said if Thomson had concerns, he should have raised them in February when the council ranked the four developers seeking to be hired by the city.

Nachlas also questioned why Thomson joined a unanimous council vote to give Terra/Frisbie top ranking despite his support for Related Ross.

In another sign of discontent with the redevelopment project, resident Lorraine Blank has filed a pro se lawsuit against the city for what she said was its failure to comply with a state law that mandates the completion of an independent cost-effectiveness analysis of the public-private partnership between the city and Terra/ Frisbie.

She is seeking an injunction against the redevelopment project. If the judge declines to grant one, she asks for an order to produce the analysis. ★

Navy officer hired as city manager

By Mary Hladky

Mark Sohaney, who has strong U.S. Navy management credentials but no experience running a city, will be Boca Raton’s next city manager.

The City Council unanimously chose Sohaney immediately after



Sohaney

completing interviews on Aug. 12 with the five remaining finalists for the job. “I am definitely very humbled and honored to be selected as city manager because the city is phenomenal from

its history,” Sohaney said in a later interview. “The fabric of the city is important to me.”

Sohaney, 56, who retired from the Navy as a captain in 2024, is the former chief executive officer of Joint Air Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam in Hawaii and previously served as chief executive officer of Naval Air Station Key West and executive assistant to the director of maritime operations for the U.S. Pacific Fleet.

He graduated summa cum laude from San Diego State University and earned his master’s degree at the Naval War College.

In picking Sohaney, council members jettisoned the city’s longstanding practice of promoting from within its ranks. They passed over Deputy City Managers James Zervis, also the city’s chief financial officer, and Jorge Camejo, who served as the city’s Community Redevelopment Agency executive director before taking the same position in Hollywood and then rejoining the city earlier this year. ★

10 Questions

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR: Michelle Hagerty

After months of lessons and fundraising, Michelle Hagerty will surely glide over the dance floor with grace at the 18th annual Boca's Ballroom Battle Sept. 20 in The Boca Raton's Grand Ballroom. With this year's theme "British Invasion," the event is the George Snow Scholarship Fund's largest annual fundraiser.

Competing against seven other community leaders and their dance partners, Hagerty and Jan Clancy from Fred Astaire Dance Studios of Boca Raton are vying for the Mirror Ball Trophy.

"We practice our routine three times a week," she said, adding that while a choreographer came up with their routine, she was able to choose her music — but at this point, it's a secret.

"This is my first time ever ballroom dancing," she said. "And I do have a newfound respect for ballroom dancers. It's difficult but a lot of fun. We are having a great time."

She will look the part, too, she said. "They custom-made an outfit for me. It's absolutely gorgeous and bedazzled. I feel like I'm on *Dancing With The Stars*."

The George Snow Scholarship Fund, which provides educational grants and support services to students within the community, was established as a memorial to Snow, a Boca Raton developer who disappeared over the Bahamas while in a helicopter in 1980.

"My family and friends of my father at that time generously contributed to the formation of this organization," said the organization's president and Snow's son, Tim Snow.

Since its inception, the fund has awarded more than \$37 million in educational grants, and this dance event has been a successful fundraiser toward that end, he said. The event is already sold out and 900 guests are expected to attend.

"We are hoping it will bring in \$1.8 million. That would be a record year for us; \$1.3 million, raised in 2023, is our record."

Hagerty explained that dancing is just part of each competitor's efforts, because the dancer who has raised the most money will win the Mirror Ball Trophy.

"I am asking my family and friends to sponsor my dancing in whatever way they can," she said. Tickets are sold out, but people can still donate directly, or buy a raffle ticket or an ad in the program at ballroombattle.com.

Now that the big day is drawing near, Hagerty, 45, does admit that she'll be "100% glad when it is over. I'm having so much fun and I love learning a new skill, but it's very intense. But I'll also miss it."

A dedicated philanthropist,



Michelle Hagerty practices with her dance partner, Jan Clancy, at Fred Astaire Dance Studios in Boca Raton for the 18th annual Boca's Ballroom Battle. She'll be competing against seven other community leaders and their dance partners for the coveted Mirror Ball Trophy. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

she's been busy. While revving up for the big dance, she recently donated \$2 million to the Palm Beach County Food Bank in support of its community kitchen.

Youth wellness and sports are her favorite causes. "I believe every child deserves the chance to feel included, supported and confident. Sports have the power to teach discipline, teamwork and resilience — skills that can change the course of a child's life. I would never be able to choose just one cause that I care deeply about."

At the top of her list are the Palm Beach County Food Bank, Sweet Dream Makers, Place of Hope, the George Snow Scholarship Fund, and the Boys and Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County.

"Each of these organizations addresses a critical need in our community, from feeding families to giving children a safe place to grow and learn. Supporting them allows me to help create opportunities and hope for those who need it most," Hagerty said.

So what's next after Hagerty catches her breath? In addition to being mom to Oliver, 16, and Ella, 14, she will continue to be involved with their school, St. Andrew's, as well as with various charities in Boca Raton and the county.

She also enjoys running and loves starting her mornings outside. "It's my time to recharge, clear my head, and set the tone for the day," she says.

— Christine Davis

If You Go

What: 18th annual Boca's Ballroom Battle

Where: Grand Ballroom at The Boca Raton, 501 E. Camino Real, Boca Raton

When: Doors open at 6 p.m., event begins at 7 p.m. Sept. 20

Why: Fundraiser for the George Snow Scholarship Fund

Tickets: Sold out, but you can support your favorite dancer and the George Snow Scholarship Fund by making a donation online even if you can't attend.

Info: ballroombattle.com

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

A: I grew up in Maine and attended the University of Southern Maine. Growing up in a small, close-knit community taught me the value of hard work, humility and looking out for others — lessons that continue to shape how I approach philanthropy and giving back to my community today.

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

A: I began my career in New York City in advertising sales before moving to Florida, where I served as vice president of Florida sales for White Rock

Distilleries. I'm proud of the relationships I built and the leadership skills I developed, but I'm even prouder of how that experience gave me the confidence to pivot toward philanthropy and focus on making an impact in my community.

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

A: Choose something that excites you, not just something that looks good on paper. Be curious, work hard, and don't be afraid to take risks or change paths — you learn the most from the pivots.

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

A: We (she and her husband, Michael) chose coastal Boca Raton because it felt like the perfect place to raise a family. The schools, the sense of community, and the opportunity to be involved in causes that matter to me made it an easy decision.

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

A: I love the sense of connection here. Boca is full of families who care deeply about their community, and it's a place where I can be fully immersed in the organizations and causes that are closest to my heart.

Q: What book are you reading now?

A: *The Power of Giving Away Power* by Matthew Barzun. It's

a wonderful reminder of how leadership and generosity are deeply connected.

Q: What music do you listen to when you need inspiration? When you want to relax?

A: When I need inspiration, I love anything upbeat and empowering — something that lifts my energy. I run with music every morning and it is usually something from the '90s. You really can't beat '90s hip hop.

Q: Do you have a favorite quote that inspires your decisions?

A: "To whom much is given, much is expected." It reminds me every day that generosity isn't just a choice, it's a responsibility.

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

A: Yes, I've been fortunate to have mentors who taught me the importance of leading with kindness and purpose. Their example encouraged me to use my time and resources to create opportunities for others. This community has had many philanthropic women that have paved the path for me to follow in their footsteps.

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

A: Reese Witherspoon — she brings warmth, energy and a little humor to everything she does, which feels like the perfect fit.

Delray Beach

Mayor's latest fight puts the DDA in the ring with him

By John Pacenti

Delray Beach Mayor Tom Carney has certainly been a summer pugilist.

He took on the police union over its contract demands in June, his fellow commissioners over the budget in July, and then the city's Downtown Development Authority in August.

The latest battle hasn't been pretty. Carney has weathered criticism from some commissioners, and the DDA has gone on the offensive, promoting its work and pushing back on the mayor.

The mayor has tangled with DDA Executive Director Laura Simon and sparred with its chair, Dr. Alan Costilo, owner of Big Al's Steaks on Atlantic Avenue.

"I'm fighting for the taxpayers. Taxpayers, that's who I work for. I don't work for the staff. I don't work for you. I don't work for the press," Carney told *The Coastal Star*. "I work for the taxpayers."

The DDA consented to an internal audit, with a report that could be coming in September, after a furious back-and-forth with Carney at the commission's Aug. 19 meeting.

"Bring it on," Simon said at the meeting.

Director put on the spot

Delray Beach's downtown — a vital economic engine for the city — is one of the trendiest



Carney

"I happen to think that before we give you another \$700,000, \$800,000, \$900,000 — whatever you are asking for — that we should have our auditor make sure how you're spending the taxpayers' dollars."

— Delray Beach Mayor Tom Carney to DDA Executive Director Laura Simon

business districts in Florida, a must-see on many South Florida tourists' and foodies' lists. The DDA is the body that helps make it all happen.

The DDA has an operating budget a bit north of \$2 million that comes from taxes paid by downtown property owners. It puts on events, such as Savor the Avenue, Fashion Week, Art & Jazz on the Avenue, and Restaurant Month. It also funds the downtown safety ambassadors program and the beachside Visitor Information Center, among other things.

It is asking for an additional \$800,000 to run Old School Square for the upcoming fiscal year, a burden that it agreed to take on in 2022 after the city kicked out the the nonprofit that was the square's longtime operator. It runs the Cornell Art Museum, the amphitheater and the vintage gym.

Carney started criticizing the DDA during Simon's presentation on Old School Square for the 2025-26 budget at the Aug. 19 commission meeting. "I'd like to know why the administrative costs are at 66% of your operating budget,"

he said.

Carney asked why the DDA budget went up 100% in five years and said Simon was "disingenuous" by producing budget numbers for the Creative Arts School — run by the city in the Crest Theatre on the Old School Square campus — that were knowingly inaccurate.

Simon has criticized the art school's plans to take storage space for the amphitheater from the authority for a new pottery studio.

When Simon said she was there just for the Old School Square presentation, not to answer questions about the DDA's general budget, Carney retorted, "I'm talking about Old School Square, too, because I happen to think that before we give you another \$700,000, \$800,000, \$900,000 — whatever you are asking for — that we should have our auditor make sure how you're spending the taxpayers' dollars."

When Carney said there was a lack of receipts for expenditures by the DDA, Commissioner Juli Casale chimed in, saying, "Can she

[Simon] explain that? You're making serious accusations at their meetings, and here."

Stress with mayor on board

Simon at one point said, "We don't have to be here. We could give the keys back, if that's what you guys want," drawing murmurs from the crowd.

Carney isn't concerned about Simon's threat to walk away from Old School Square. "I think the city can run it. I think there needs to be a transition period, but the city can run it. The city ran it before," he told *The Coastal Star*.

Also, the Creative Arts School shows the city can successfully program for that space, Carney said.

Commissioner Tom Markert, who was effusive in his praise of the DDA, appeared furious with the mayor when Carney said his inquiry wasn't personal. "This is the most personal thing I've seen," Markert said.

The clash had been brewing for over a month, ever since Carney found a measure in the DDA's charter that allowed him to sit as a non-voting member

on its board, whose members are appointed by the City Commission. He then peppered the DDA with questions about its books from holiday dinners and whether taxpayer money was going to private events.

Carney also made a public records request to see all of the DDA's financials and repeatedly said he was not happy that Simon wanted to meet with him one-on-one, rather than provide the documentation.

Then Costilo — the DDA's chair — reached out to Simon by e-mail, concerned that now that the mayor was sitting as a member of the DDA's board, that he was violating state law by talking to other board members outside of meetings.

Carney then sent Costilo a cease-and-desist letter on Aug. 13, saying he was defamed. He demanded that Costilo issue a formal apology.

Costilo refused and then asked the board to consider changing its charter at its Aug. 18 meeting so the mayor can no longer sit as an ex officio member.

"It's a little uncomfortable to be forced to have somebody sit on your board," Costilo said. "I think it would be best to allow him to speak anytime he wants, which we've always entertained."

As for the mayor's cease-and-desist letter, Costilo said, "I don't think he likes me much."★

Commission rejects historic home renovation plan in Marina District

By John Pacenti

Delray Beach city commissioners voted to deny a controversial renovation proposal for a historic home in the Marina Historic District, dealing a significant blow to a property owner who had spent years and millions of dollars attempting to preserve and upgrade the property.

The proposed project at 46 Marine Way would have dramatically transformed an 800-square-foot historic structure, elevating it to 14 feet and adding substantial new construction to it. Despite the property owner's passionate plea to save the deteriorating home, city staff and several preservation advocates argued the plan would irreparably damage the district's historic integrity.

Dan Edwards, who owns the property under 46 Marine LLC, testified that he had invested approximately \$4 million in the project and was committed to preserving the structure. The debate concluded a 6½-hour commission meeting on Aug. 19.

"I could have demoed the property, but that wasn't my choice," Edwards said. He emphasized the home was in

significant disrepair and needed substantial intervention to prevent further deterioration.

City staff presented a comprehensive 36-page report detailing multiple concerns, including the proposal's failure to meet Secretary of the Interior standards for historic preservation. The report highlighted issues with building height, setbacks and the proposed addition's massive scale relative to the original structure.

Preservation advocates who spoke during public comment were unanimous in opposing the project.

Sandy Zeller, a former president of the Marina Historic District Homeowners Association, urged commissioners to trust professional planners and deny the application.

"The applicant knew what they bought when they bought it. They knew what the requirements are," he said.

Price Patton of the Delray Beach Preservation Trust said, "They're not really saving an historic house, they're destroying it with all the additions." Patton is a part owner of *The Coastal Star*.

The proposed renovation would have elevated the home

to 14 feet, put in a three-story addition, and included significant variances from existing zoning regulations. City staff argued these changes would create a "false sense of historical development" and fundamentally alter the district's character.

The district is to the south of Atlantic Avenue along the west side of the Intracoastal Waterway.

Commissioner Juli Casale said the project to renovate the Mediterranean revival home "risks the integrity of our historic district" and fails to comply with multiple preservation standards.

Mayor Tom Carney initially suggested sending the project back for further revisions, hoping to provide the owner an opportunity to modify the plan. However, City Attorney Lynn Gelin advised against this approach, emphasizing the need to evaluate the current application strictly on its merits.

Commissioners Angela Burns, Tom Markert and Casale voted to deny the certificate of appropriateness. Carney and Vice Mayor Rob Long voted to approve it.

The decision means Edwards cannot proceed with the current renovation plan and would need

to submit a substantially revised proposal that more closely adheres to historic preservation guidelines.

The case highlights the ongoing tension in Delray Beach between property owners' development desires and the

community's commitment to preserving its historic districts.

With only five historic districts in the city, commissioners repeatedly emphasized the importance of maintaining architectural integrity. ★

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Boca Raton

FAU's mascot faces a familiar foe — the university itself

By Janis Fontaine

Resilience. Persistence. Tenacity. Intelligence.

These attributes of the Florida burrowing owl make it an excellent school mascot for Florida Atlantic University.

So why are some of these threatened owls being evicted from their underground homes on campus?

The tiny raptor, the only owl that lives and breeds underground, comes under fire every time FAU expands on its Boca Raton campus. The construction of the ironically named Talon Hall, a new seven-story, 244-unit dormitory, has already displaced at least two owls living in one burrow. They moved, but no one knows where.

The school paid \$1,900 for a Florida Burrowing Owl Incidental Take Permit from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission that allowed it to harass the owls legally, targeting three inactive nest burrows on one lot. The permit secured last September says that burrow cluster “may be destroyed in association with construction of student housing. ...”

The permit allows the permittee to “frighten without touching” — using loud noises — and it is allowed to fill in any burrow that doesn’t have eggs or young birds in it. The permit holder isn’t required to provide a new home for the displaced birds.

Jose Camacho, an environmental engineering student who founded FAU’s Sustainability Club last year, has been a voice for the raptor on campus. The club has about 200 active members who address issues like responsible building and the health and welfare of protected species like owls and gopher tortoises.

“Since we started, the movement has been to raise awareness, to work collaboratively with the school to incorporate sustainability into the master plan, to have respect for the natural environment. We understand growth; the issue is when conservation is neglected,” he said.

Camacho started a petition on change.org in February opposing the harassment of owls near Talon Hall, which had 4,191 signatures as of Aug. 23.

“We understand the reality of development. We’re just asking that they find better ways. There are a lot of organizations that do growth sustainably. It’s a shame to see it being neglected here,” Camacho said.

FAU: Population is growing, healthy

Joshua Glanzer, FAU’s associate vice president for media relations and public affairs, said the burrowing owl population “has shown consistent growth, resulting in a healthy and sustainable presence across the campus today.”

“FAU takes a proactive approach through its conservation committee to manage natural habitats and species on the Boca Raton campus,” Glanzer said. “Efforts have included creating new open-grass owl habitats and working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to install artificial burrows, many of which are now occupied, as confirmed in recent species assessments.”

The owl has been FAU’s mascot since the mid-’80s, but it’s been a protected species on campus since 1971. Walk along Indian River Street on the campus and you might just see one checking you out. But, advocates wonder, for how long?



A burrowing owl perches on a sign at Florida Atlantic University. Students say the school’s expansion is taking habitat away from the threatened birds, which happen to be its official mascot. **Photo provided by Jose Camacho**

FAU calls itself an owl sanctuary, but in reality the owls are not a priority, Camacho said. He and other club members attended a meeting with FAU’s Facilities Management, which oversees all the construction on campus, and Miller Legg, a Sunrise-based environmental consulting company that has been working with the university to track owls since 2011.

“They made it really clear what their position was: The owls can stay until we need the land. They showed us all these maps with green conservation areas but it’s a screen to cover what’s really happening” and they have no intention of protecting the native wildlife, Camacho said.

It’s not the first time the owl has been at the center of a controversy between progress and environmental protection at FAU. In 2005, it was the construction of the medical school. Ten years after that, the new stadium needed more parking and tailgating space for students on game days. The university has received at least six Migratory Bird Nest Removal permits since 2009.

Joshua Scholl, a biology professor, thinks burrowing owls relocated to the sandy scruff left behind when the land was cleared for the Boca Raton Army Airfield in 1942 and have been living there for about 80 years, displaced by

development in Central Florida.

FAU officially opened on that old airfield in 1964. In 1971, the National Audubon Society took notice of the owls and designated four conservation areas to preserve them, including the strip of land alongside Glades Road. The campus originally had 120 acres of preserves available for native wildlife. Now it has 95.

Avian biologist Kelly Heffernan, founding director of the nonprofit Project Perch, said burrowing owls are incredibly resilient and will find and make homes in new suitable places if they’re available, but to displace them with nowhere to go isn’t right.

Project Perch has successfully relocated owls before using artificial burrows, and its program at Broward College has owl numbers soaring.

FAU’s Glanzer said the university’s owl numbers are healthy too.

“A protected species assessment conducted in January 2025 documented 64 potentially occupied burrows. Our environmental consultants estimated the current population at 30 to 40 individuals — approximately double the estimate from 10 years ago — and 31 owls were visually observed during the recent campus-wide protected species survey,” he said.

The university points to the Tortuga

Preserve, an area located near the stadium, as a potential home for the displaced owls, but it’s too overgrown with invasive plants like Brazilian pepper to support owls or gopher tortoises, Heffernan said. Without clearing the land mechanically or with a prescribed burn, the preserve will not support either species.

Heffernan said the owl is less affected by development than the gopher tortoise, which can’t fly to scout out new digs.

Some call for better planning

For many local residents, alumni and students, the owl is a symbol of Florida’s soul.

Paul Kragh, a volunteer with Project Perch, says burrowing owls symbolize the tenacity and intelligence of the settlers who developed South Florida. They’re clever birds, he says. The burrowing owl can imitate the sound of a rattlesnake’s rattle to scare off predators. It also practices a kind of farming, depositing bits of dog waste near its burrow knowing the odor will lure insects in for an easy snack.

“How can you not love the little guy?” asked Kragh, a retiree. He knows the owl can be saved and he’s ready to lend a hand. “We’ve placed more than 500 artificial burrows around South Florida with great success. Our only goal is to protect the owl.”

Working with Heffernan and Project Perch, Kragh has proved that artificial burrows correctly placed, along with appropriate maintenance of the landscape, is a successful way of supporting the burrowing owl community. The burrows are fairly cheap — about \$250.

Heffernan says that with proper planning, the owls can thrive.

Building up instead of out, with parking garages instead of lots, would conserve space for owls and gopher tortoises, Heffernan said.

Dr. Colin Hughes, who has been at FAU since the ’70s, has watched this story play out time and again. A long-term plan is needed, he said. Keeping campus vegetation short but not manicured and avoiding irrigation near owl nesting grounds would help.

Bill Comiskey, a Boca Raton businessman, has lived within a mile of FAU since 1970, and he’s been watching this story unfold, too. He has offered to pay for artificial burrows for the displaced owls.

“There needs to be a permanent plan in place,” Comiskey said. He tried speaking to the university without success. He and other local residents are “frustrated” by FAU’s inability to resolve the owl issue. “I see a lot of interest but no action. There are a lot of residents who care about the owls. I’m happy to join and do what needs to be done.”

Critics say the university finds the community and Camacho’s club easy to ignore. “They see a cycle of students who will go away if they wait us out. But we are proving we’re a generation of students who can keep the movement going,” he said. Camacho graduates in December and has passed the baton to new leaders who promise to keep the pressure on.

There’s a lot of momentum around the owls, with Camacho saying he’s heard from news organizations, environmental groups like Project Perch, community members and students who want to help.

“The only organization that’s not reaching out to us is our own school. Everyone seems to care about this, but they’re looking the other way.” ★

Business Spotlight

Small bank sees big picture with its focus on local businesses

By Jeffrey Cassady

The founders of Paradise Bank started the Boca Raton company two decades ago with the intention of keeping it locally owned and community focused. Though much has changed in the industry since, they say their goals for the bank remain the same: stay local, small and flexible.

“We started with the idea that we would stay independent long term,” said Ward Kellogg, the bank’s CEO and co-founder. “Fast, flexible, personal service is probably what puts us ahead of the large banks.”

That seems to be the case when it comes to helping local businesses. Paradise approves more than \$30 million in U.S. Small Business Administration loans per year, said Kevin Rafferty, who runs the bank’s SBA lending division. The bank, which has approved more than half a billion dollars in SBA loans since 2010, is one of the largest SBA lenders in Florida by number of loans and dollar value, he added.

Paradise is the last community bank based in Boca Raton and one of the few remaining in Palm Beach County. It celebrated its 20th anniversary earlier this summer, and, recently, it moved its headquarters to a new 24,000-square-foot building at 3800 N. Federal Highway. It also maintains branches in Delray Beach and Fort Lauderdale.

Spacious new digs notwithstanding, bank leadership views staying small as key to its profitability.

“We’re not looking to buy another bank,” Kellogg said. “We’re not looking to expand to another market. We’re not looking to grow to a billion dollars, ever.”

“We’ve proven you can be very profitable and very efficient without needing to be so big.”

A bank of their own

Business partners Kellogg, Bill Burke, David Englert and Dennis Gavin founded Paradise Bank with its board of directors in 2005. In the 1990s, the founders worked together at 1st United Bank and Admiralty Bank, local banks that were eventually sold to larger financial institutions. Kellogg and Burke have known each other longer than that, having met when they were students at Florida International University.

The founders struck out on their own with Paradise Bank because they wanted a bank they could keep — and keep local — for the long term.

“Florida has always been, for banking, ‘build it up and sell it,’” Kellogg said. “We didn’t want to do that. We wanted a long-term opportunity for our careers and beyond — to be able to keep the bank.”

Kellogg said the bank’s local ownership and workforce help differentiate it from larger



TOP: The founders of Paradise Bank were (l-r) Bill Burke, founding president, vice chairman and chief operating officer; David Englert, founding chief business development officer and executive vice president; Ward Kellogg, founding chairman and CEO; and Dennis Gavin, founding chief credit officer and executive vice president. Here they are together for the bank’s 20th birthday party. **Photo provided BOTTOM:** The new home office of Paradise Bank opened Aug. 25 at 3800 N. Federal Highway in Boca Raton. **Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star**

institutions. When customers have an issue, local bank employees are available to assist.

“Business owners prefer community banks because they get their loan decisions faster and easier — more flexibility,”

Kellogg said. “On the deposit side, it’s personal service and fraud detection.”

Paradise Bank started with about 30 employees working out of a double-wide trailer while the bank’s original head office

was being built, Kellogg said.

Today, the bank has about 50 employees, Englert said.

The bank raised about \$25 million to start operating — selling stock for \$10 per share, with earnings being paid out in

dividends, Burke said.

“Our original investors have gotten their money back twice, and they still own the asset,” he said.

Kellogg said the bank has fewer than a hundred shareholders. Almost all own homes in Florida, with most of them in Palm Beach County, he said.

“Nobody owns more than 6%,” Kellogg said. “So, we don’t have one large shareholder.”

Weathering a storm

Paradise survived the Great Recession of 2008 that drove many small banks out of business or led to their being acquired by larger institutions.

Kellogg said the recession presented challenges to the founders’ relatively young bank, prompting them to engage in an additional round of fundraising — about \$19 million worth — over the next few years.

“Those were bad times,” Kellogg said. “They cast doubt as to whether we would achieve our goals for the bank, but we ultimately did.”

The bank then began devoting additional resources to small businesses, especially through the SBA loan programs. Paradise Bank participates in the SBA’s Preferred Lender Program, which grants the bank discretion in loan approval and streamlines the application process for businesses seeking federally backed SBA loans.

Running a small community bank keeps the owners close to their business customers, Burke said. “Our early customers’ kids have taken over, and sometimes their grandkids have gotten involved,” he said. “It’s generational now.”

“But what’s really interesting about banking is that we have to learn about those businesses we’re lending to in all those different industries,” he added. “That’s interesting stuff.” ★



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Business Spotlight

Ikea kitchen to open inside Boynton Beach Best Buy

Best Buy and Ikea U.S. have partnered to open kitchen and storage planning services in 10 Best Buy stores this fall, including one in Boynton Beach at 550 N. Congress Ave.

This is the first cross-brand retail experience for Ikea U.S., and for Best Buy it's a step to expand its home-goods market. For shoppers, this shop-in-shop makes it easier to integrate Best Buy appliances into Ikea kitchens and laundry areas.

"This partnership between Ikea and Best Buy is about making great design and functionality more accessible for the many," said Rob Olson, Ikea U.S.'s chief operating officer. "By bringing together our home furnishing expertise, products and services with Best Buy's leadership in appliances and technology, we're creating a one-stop destination where customers can design their dream kitchen, storage solutions or laundry space with ease."

New stores and restaurants in downtown Delray Beach include **Free People** women's clothing store at **310 E. Atlantic Ave., Suite B**; **Sapottle** clothing store at **321 E. Atlantic Ave., Suite 2**; **Roka Hula** restaurant at **270 E. Atlantic Ave.**; **Segreto Italia** restaurant at **301 NE Third Ave.**; **Latte and Licks**, offering espresso and frozen treats at **1214 E. Atlantic Ave.**; **Icy Bean** cafe at **1200 E. Atlantic Ave.**; **Gabriella's Modern Italian** restaurant at **40 NE Seventh Ave., Suite 160**, and **Glimmer Cafe** at **325 NE Third Ave.**

Last year, *The Coastal Star* reported that **Premier Estate Properties** agent **Margit Brandt** had listed the compound at **1140 S. Ocean Blvd., Manalapan**, for \$95 million. At the time, an ocean-to-lake residence owned by a company affiliated with **Joe Farrell** was under construction.



Best Buy and Ikea are combining in the fall to open kitchen and storage-planning services at 10 Best Buy stores, including the one in Boynton Beach at 550 N. Congress Ave. **Photo provided**

In May, that property sold for \$55.5 million to **Whiskey Tango 1120 LLC**, which is connected to WeatherTech CEO David MacNeil. Brandt handled both sides of this sale. In April 2024, MacNeil bought the adjacent vacant property at **1120 S. Ocean Blvd.** for \$38.5 million.

News sources report that MacNeil plans to demolish the under-construction mansion at **1140 S. Ocean Blvd.** and expand his **1120 S. Ocean Blvd.** property. The lots combined cover 3.6 acres, with 340 feet on the ocean.

Massimo Musa sold his 12-bedroom, 19,055-square-



The estate at **2325 S. Ocean Blvd.** at the south end of Delray Beach sold for \$51.12 million, a citywide record for a home. **Photo provided**

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foot residence at **2325 S. Ocean Blvd., Delray Beach**, for \$51.12 million to Eugene and Olga Nonko as co-trustees of Mar Pietra Land Trust.

The sale price is the highest ever recorded for a home in Delray Beach.

Coldwell Banker agent **Jonathan Postma** handled both sides of the deal.

Musa is the co-founder of several companies in the eye-care industry, and Eugene Nonko co-founded the software company MediaAlpha.

Institutional Property Advisors, a division of **Marcus & Millichap**, announced the sale of **1200 Corporate Place Park**, a renovated 137,021-square-foot, Class A office property on 5 acres at **1200 N. Federal Highway, Boca Raton**.

The asset was purchased by

a company led by real estate investor **Allen Chelminsky** for \$31.4 million. "The building was 84% leased at the time of sale, and with approximately 40% of the rentable square footage set to roll over in the next four years," said **Douglas Mandel**, IPA's executive managing director of investments. Mandel, along with **Zach Levine** and **Cody Hershey** of **Marcus & Millichap**, represented the seller, **Keystone Property Group**.

Real estate developer **Sonny Kahn**, with his wife, Suzanne, bought an estate at **1200 S. Ocean Blvd., Manalapan**, for \$28 million.

The property was sold by an LLC managed by former asset manager **Nobel Gulati**, with his wife, Ruchi.

The estate is sited on 1.5 acres with 150 feet on the ocean and the Intracoastal

Waterway. Marketed as ready for renovation or to build new, the property was listed by agents **Nicholas Younker** and **Seth Benkaddour** of **William Raveis Real Estate**. **Christian Redondo** of **NUNU Realty LLC** represented the buyers.

A firm affiliated with biotech investor Wayne Rothbaum sold an oceanfront lot at **941 S. Ocean Blvd. in Delray Beach** for \$22 million. The 1.37-acre property, with 110 feet on the ocean, was sold by **941 South Ocean Blvd LLC**, managed by Boca Raton-based attorney **Daniel A. Kaskel**.

Rothbaum had transferred the site to this LLC for \$10 in March. It last traded for \$8.25 million in 2013. The buyer was **941 Delray Ocean LLC**, managed by Coral Springs-based attorney **Larry A. Rothenberg**. **Douglas Elliman**

agent **Nick Malinosky** brokered the deal.

A groundbreaking ceremony was celebrated at **Fifth Avenue Townhomes**, 152 SE Fifth Ave., Delray Beach. The enclave consists of five three-story residences, designed by **Randall Stofft Architects** with interiors by **Decorators Unlimited**. The homes range from 2,966 to 3,017 square feet of living space. Prices start at \$2.8 million. The residences feature private elevators, rooftop terraces, plunge pools and flexible living spaces. Completion is slated for spring 2027. Sales and marketing for the property are led by **Anne Marie Dietz** of **Dietz Elber Real Estate**, based in Delray Beach. For more information, visit fifthavenuedelray.com or call Dietz at 561-405-8661.

Lifespace Communities has broken ground on a \$49 million expansion project at **Harbour's Edge** senior living community at 401 E. Linton Blvd., Delray Beach. When complete, it will add 24 assisted living apartments and 16 memory care apartments to the property. Planned amenities include a garden with a walking path, a third-floor terrace for assisted living residents, a spa, bar, wellness gym, dining rooms, kitchens and activity spaces.

Guident Corp., an



The Delray Citizens for Delray Police has awarded scholarships to children of officers for 38 years. This year, 15 college scholarships were awarded to children of police officers and professional staff, thanks to support from the Harvey and Virginia Kimmel Foundation and Max Zengage along with the Delray Concours Foundation. The scholarships were given out on July 15 at the Delray Beach police's quarterly awards ceremony held at the Delray Beach Library. **ABOVE (l-r):** Zengage, Marc Grimes, Sebastian Pacheco, Dante Ferraiolo, Chuck Halberg, Emma Cambell, Luke Saraceni, Darrell Hunter, Aaron Hallyburton and Randy Jackson. **Photo provided by Delray Citizens for Delray Police**

autonomous vehicle company based in Boca Raton, has partnered with the city of Boca Raton to launch an autonomous shuttle service that will run a 2.6-mile loop from Mizner Park to Royal Palm Place. The service is scheduled to start this fall and will operate in collaboration with **Circuit**, the current operator of shuttle services in Boca Raton. The first phase will cover a 0.6-mile loop within Mizner Park.

The service is scheduled to operate for one year with options to continue beyond that time.

Boca Raton Mayor Scott Singer said, "The city of Boca Raton is pleased to deploy this revolutionary urban transportation service that will showcase the city's vision for smarter and more sustainable mobility."

Additionally, Guident and **Florida Atlantic University's I-Sense** are collaborating on urban mapping for self-driving cars. I-Sense is a research institute that focuses on developing smart technology and sensors to make roads and other city infrastructure safer and more efficient.

The **Delray Beach Housing Authority** and **AffordableHousing.com** once again conducted their annual backpack giveaway inside the **Island Cove Apartments** at 900 SW 12th Ave., Delray Beach. This year, 600 children received backpacks with supplies.

The **Greater Lantana Chamber of Commerce** and **Boynton Beach Chamber of Industry & Commerce** are offering a seven-month-long leadership program for small business leaders, which will

include tours, projects and networking opportunities. The program starts Oct. 24. Price to attend is \$400. To participate, visit lantanachamber.com/2025-2026-leadership-program-enrollment.

The 10th annual **Boca Raton Mayors Ball**, hosted by the **Rotary Club Downtown Boca Raton** and the **Terra and Frisbie Group**, will be held Nov. 1 at **The Boca Raton**.

This year's award winners will be celebrated. They include the **Town Center at Boca Raton**, which won the **George Long Award** in the large business category; the **George Snow Scholarship Fund**, the recipient of the **Susan Whelchel Award** as the best nonprofit; **The Addison**, which won the **J.C. Mitchell Award** in the small business category; and **Gary Peters**, who won the **Addison Mizner Award** in the individual category.

George Brown and **Jon Kaye** will also be honored. Proceeds from the Mayors Ball support local nonprofits committed to health and wellness initiatives. Cost to attend is \$495. For more information, call **Bob Tucker** at 561-289-0436.



Christine Davis writes about business and can be reached at cdavis9797@gmail.com.

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BUSINESS
SPOTLIGHT
UPDATE

ONIX Delray Beach – Where Coastal Charm Meets Modern Luxury
Delray Beach is renowned for its charm, culture, and coastal lifestyle—and now, a new landmark is taking shape at 318 SE 5th Ave. The highly anticipated ONIX Delray Beach Luxury Condominium introduces a bold architectural statement with just 26 exclusive residences paired with vibrant ground-level retail. Priced from \$1.5 million, ONIX blends boutique scale with resort-style living in one of South Florida’s most desirable destinations.

A Lifestyle in the Heart of Delray
From tranquil mornings on the sand to lively evenings along Atlantic Avenue, ONIX puts you at the center of it all—just three blocks from Delray’s energetic core. Imagine stepping outside your door to find chic cafés, art galleries, live music, and world-class dining, all just a short stroll away. This is the essence of the walkable lifestyle ONIX was designed to deliver.

At day’s end, retreat to your private balcony, where tropical breezes create the perfect sanctuary.

- Sophisticated Residences**
ONIX offers spacious two- and three-bedroom residences ranging from approximately 1,500 to 2,000 sq. ft., each designed with open-concept layouts, soaring 10-foot ceilings, and floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors that flood interiors with natural light. Signature features include:
- Private glass balconies for outdoor living
 - Expansive walk-in closets and in-unit laundry
 - Designer finishes curated for timeless appeal
 - The kitchens feature EuroStone countertops, waterfall islands, flat-front cabinetry, and an elevated appliance package. Every detail has been thoughtfully chosen to marry form and function.
 - Primary bathrooms rival those of luxury resorts, with Porcelanosa tile from floor to ceiling, Eden soaking tubs, frameless showers, floating vanities, and LED-lit mirrors.
 - Residences are pre-wired for smart home technology.

Inspired Design
The interiors were created by Jillian Czyn of J Design + Styling, whose work spans high-end residential and boutique hospitality projects. Her vision for ONIX embraces natural materials—earthy tones, warm wood finishes, and smooth stone textures—evoking both coastal serenity and modern sophistication.

“ONIX was designed to reflect the beauty of Delray’s environment while creating an elevated, timeless living experience,” Jillian explains.

- Amenities That Elevate Everyday**
ONIX’s boutique size doesn’t limit its offerings. The building delivers a full suite of resort-inspired amenities, including:
- Sparkling pool with cabanas and lush landscaping
 - Outdoor lounge with fire pits and summer kitchen
 - Club room featuring a bar, prep kitchen, high-top tables, and entertainment space
 - World-class fitness center overlooking the pool

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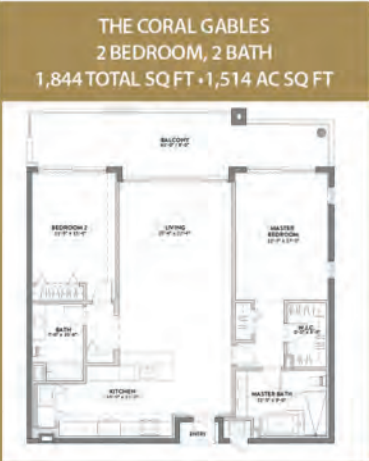
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- Secure entry with private key fob access, two elevators, parking, and individual storage
 - Mail and package room, trash chute, and bike racks for residents and guests
- From quiet relaxation to lively gatherings, every space was crafted to enhance the ONIX lifestyle.

Proven Development Expertise
ONIX is the vision of developer Mike Bokzam whose 30+ years in real estate bring a wealth of expertise in construction and project management. In partnership with Black Star Construction Group, the team has delivered acclaimed projects including Melrose Plaza

in Boynton Beach, Palmera Townhomes in Fort Lauderdale, and commercial developments across South Florida.

With demo completed and civil work well underway, vertical construction is about to begin—bringing ONIX closer to reality.

Exclusivity Meets Opportunity
Residences are offered between \$1.5M to approximately \$2.2M, with financing incentives available through ONIX’s preferred lending partners. With only 26 residences available, this is a rare opportunity to secure a home and lifestyle in one of South Florida’s most dynamic coastal cities.

ONIX – More Than a Home
ONIX isn’t just another condo—it’s a lifestyle statement. Here, residents enjoy a rare blend of coastal beauty, urban convenience, and boutique exclusivity. Whether entertaining friends in the club lounge, enjoying sunset cocktails on your balcony, or exploring Delray’s cultural heartbeat, life at ONIX is designed for those who expect more.
Now is the time to secure your place in this one-of-a-kind community. Contact the ONIX sales team today to schedule a private presentation and discover the next great chapter of Delray Beach living.



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September 2025

The Coastal  Star

Inside



Dining
Deals abound during September. Page AT6



Paws Up for Pets
Preparing for hurricane evacuation. Page AT11



Finding Faith
New Delray cantor ready for High Holy Days. Page AT13



On the Water
Expert shares tips for snagging snook. Page AT15

Tots & Teens

BELOW: Parker Forman of Delray Beach helps fight food insecurity one lasagna at a time by cooking the Italian staple and donating the 9-pound trays to local churches that give them to needy people.



LEFT: Forman starts by seasoning the ground beef and Italian sausage, then adding the pasta and spreading the ricotta cheese in layers. Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star



Teen Cook

From Delray Beach kitchen, feeding multitudes in need

By Faran Fagen

On Sunday mornings at 9:30, while many of his friends are sleeping in, 17-year-old Parker Forman begins a four-hour culinary regimen in his Delray Beach kitchen. He bakes lasagna — sometimes more than 140 pounds — for hungry families.

After cooking the lasagna for about 1.5 hours at 350 degrees — topped off by 20 minutes outside the oven for it to cool — Forman takes in the zesty aroma of hot

meats and cheeses lined up in 9-by-13-inch tin trays.

“Every time I cook the lasagnas, I want to take a bite,” Forman said. “Every time I cook for people, I’m having an impact on my community.”

Once the lasagnas have cooled, Forman piles the thick tins into his parents’ van and drives — slowly — to two Delray Beach churches: St. Matthew’s Episcopal and Restoration House Empowerment Ministries International, known as RHEMI. After his weekly operation is

See **COOK** on page AT16

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Philanthropy Notes

How donations to Milagro Center gave lift to mothers, families

“Christmas in July” took place at the Milagro Center when seven families were surprised with \$7,000 checks courtesy of a \$49,000 grant from the Mary Alice Fortin Foundation.

The funds provided meaningful support during a time of year when community needs often go unmet.

"It's with tremendous gratitude to the Mary Alice Fortin Foundation that we were able to assist these families, all of whom are in dire need of assistance," said Barbara Stark, president and CEO of the center. "They truly make a difference for the underserved and economically challenged communities throughout Palm Beach County."

Here are a few examples of how the donations helped local families:

- A mother recovering from surgery and unable to work could afford to get her children back-to-school supplies and uniforms.

- A mother without a car was able to purchase new transportation for her family.
- A mother trying to finish pharmacy school, who did not have enough saved for the final tuition, will be able to complete her coursework.

For more information about the Milagro Center, call 561-279-2970 or visit milagrocenter.org.

Seven nonprofits awarded donations to help families

The Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem Knights Hospitaller's Palm Beaches Commandery has given \$128,000 to seven nonprofits serving children and families facing hardship.

The gifts reflect the order's centuries-old humanitarian role.

“Philanthropy is our sacred mission,” Grand Dame Isabelle Paul said. “We are proud to support these incredible organizations that uplift, protect and empower members of our community in

greatest need.”

Beneficiaries include:

- Fuller Center
- Gateway Community Outreach

- Promise Fund
- Samaritan's Purse
- Spirit of Giving Network
- The Crossroads Club
- The Lord's Place

*For more information
about the Sovereign Order of
St. John of Jerusalem Knights
Hospitaller's Palm Beaches
Commandery, visit osjflorida.org.*

Newest class of scholars welcomed to Snow family

The George Snow Scholarship Fund has awarded more than \$5.5 million to 374 scholars in South Florida.

When members of the Class of 2025 received the news about their scholarships, they became part of the Snow family, which will walk alongside each student throughout the college journey.

"Awards season is the highlight of our year as we get a chance to celebrate the deserving local students our community has been working so hard to raise funds for and send to school," said Channon Ellwood, director of communications.

To prepare the class, the nonprofit organized a transition orientation where local professionals volunteered their time to speak on such topics as financial literacy, career development and adjusting to campus life. Participants went home with a Scholar Pack filled with dorm essentials, supplies and either a new laptop or a stipend.

For more information,
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Celebrations

Founders Day

Boca Helping Hands, Boca Raton — July 12



Boca Helping Hands commemorated its 27th anniversary with a celebration by the Heart & Spirit Society honoring Pattie Damron and Peggy Jones. The annual event brings together current and former board, staff and volunteer members for service activities including cooking hot meals and distributing pantry bags. ‘We were so pleased to celebrate our 27th birthday by honoring two key volunteers who helped us in the early days of the organization,’ said Andrew Hagen, executive director of Boca Helping Hands. ‘The first volunteers at our original soup kitchen would be amazed to see where we are now, providing not only food but financial assistance and job training to nearly 35,000 of our neighbors every year.’ **ABOVE:** (l-r) Jones, Gary Peters and Damron. **Photo provided**

‘In Mizner’s Footsteps: Explore the Legacy, Toast the Vision’

The Addison, Boca Raton — Aug. 14



History, architecture and community spirit came together when the Boca Raton Historical Society honored the notable Addison Mizner and the city’s centennial. Guests gathered in the landmark building, originally Mizner’s office, for an evening filled with delectable hors d’oeuvres, specialty cocktails and exclusive behind-the-scenes tours. Visitors were treated to rarely seen spaces, including Mizner’s private quarters where his credenza, signed documents and other treasured artifacts were on display. ‘This was truly a one-of-a-kind celebration,’ said Mary Csar, executive director of the society. ‘You could feel the pride and connection in the room.’ **ABOVE:** (l-r) Csar, Ryan Alman, Maria Liguori and LeAnn Berman. **Photo provided**



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As Palm Beach real estate prices have soared to unprecedented heights, many affluent buyers have chosen to venture south to the exclusive coastal enclaves of Manalapan, Hypoluxo Island, Ocean Ridge, and Boca Raton. These sophisticated towns offer a rare combination of lush beaches, private estates, and unparalleled elegance — all at a fraction of the cost of Palm Beach's opulent properties. The allure is undeniable: residents enjoy the same exquisite lifestyle, but with the added benefit of greater privacy and serenity, without sacrificing luxury. The pristine shores and lavish homes found in these hidden gems provide an exceptional living experience, blending exclusivity with understated grandeur.

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Dining

Cool end-of-summer deals make sweltering heat a bit more bearable

September is a great month to be a local if you're dining out. Deals abound, both from individual restaurants and the special area-wide Flavor South Florida.

Formerly Flavor Palm Beach, the program of affordable prix fixe menus extends from Boca Raton through the Treasure Coast.

More than 100 restaurants are participating. Menus range from \$25 to \$65 for multicourse meals — lunch, brunch and dinner.

Many dishes represent foods restaurants want to showcase or try out before season, and both casual and upscale restaurants are in the program.

It's also a chance for diners to try a new restaurant, or revisit a forgotten favorite.

In Boca Raton, look for a rack of lamb, or double cut pork chops at **Abe & Louie's** (2200 Glades Road; 561-447-0024; abeandlouies.com). At the upscale Chicago Italian at **Mia Rosebud** (150 E. Palmetto Park Road; 561-462-3000; rosebudrestaurants.com), diners can choose from dishes such as vitello Marsala, or cavatelli rapini.

Choose from seafood such as Norwegian salmon or upgrade to Chilean sea bass at **Eddie V's Prime Seafood** (201 Plaza Real, Mizner Park; 561-237-0067; m.eddiev.com) in Boca Raton.

Go French at **Chez Marie** (5030 Champion Blvd., Boca Raton; 561-997-0027; chezmariefrenchbistro.com), where escargot, French onion soup, and pate de campagne are among the first courses. Coq au vin or duck a l'orange is the entree, and a lavender crème brûlée, lemon tartlette or chocolate mousse is served for dessert.

At **The Melting Pot** in Boca Raton (5455 N. Federal Highway; 561-997-7472; meltingpot.com), a four-course dinner is \$49. Start with a raclette dip, then a salad, then choose from a number of meat, seafood and vegetable mixtures before moving to a dessert fondue.

Also in Boca Raton, try the new restaurant **Stage Kitchen and Bar** (5377 Town Center Road; 561-409-2376; stagekitchenandbar.com), an elevated Mediterranean experience and Michelin-recommended restaurant, for its lunch prix fixe. A bang-bang cauliflower, the C.A.B. burger, and trendy banoffee pie are part of the menu.



ABOVE: Benny's on the Beach in Lake Worth Beach offers deals for lunch or dinner featuring its Palm Beach shrimp tacos, famous Key lime pie and other choices.

LEFT: Driftwood in Boynton Beach has a deal for a multicourse dinner with several vegan and gluten-free dishes offered. Sweet and sour cauliflower and a roasted cabbage red curry are on the menu. **Photos provided**

Chef Daniel Dore serves up American favorites for a \$39 dinner at **Dada** (52 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach; 561-330-3232, sub-culture.org/dada). Bacon-wrapped dates stuffed with goat cheese, chorizo and almonds is one of the appetizer choices; pork schnitzel is an entree choice.

Delray Beach's **Wine & Spirits Kitchen** (411 E. Atlantic Ave.; 561-243-9463; wineandspiritskitchen.com) has tiered pricing for its Flavor prix fixe. A number of soups, salads and small plates are on the first course list. Entrees are broken into \$45, \$55 and \$65 plates. Faroese salmon and mushroom orecchiette are on the \$45 menu; barbecue roasted cod, and a Prime Denver steak, are on the \$55 list. Choose from crab-crusted snapper or surf & turf for the \$65 meal. A \$15 wine card comes with all meals where an entree is ordered.

Driftwood (2005 Federal Highway, Boynton Beach; 561-733-4782; driftwoodboynton.com) has a deal for a multicourse dinner with several vegan and gluten-free dishes offered. Sweet and sour cauliflower and a roasted cabbage red curry are on Chef Jimmy Everett's menu.

Boynton Beach's award-winning **Nicholson Muir** (480 E. Ocean Ave.; 561-336-3977, nicholsonmuir.com) features a wagyu carpaccio and marinated pork tenderloin with crepes among its prix fixe choices.

Want to take visitors to a Flavor deal? Try **Benny's on the Beach** (10 S. Ocean Blvd. on the pier; 561-582-9001; bennysonthebeach.com) in Lake Worth Beach for lunch or dinner. Palm Beach shrimp tacos, and Benny's famous Key lime pie are choices.

Oceano (512 Lucerne Blvd., Lake Worth Beach; 561-400-7418; oceanolwb.com) is also participating with special dinners. Sophisticated flair is evident on these menus, with dishes such as a white gazpacho, Long Island duck with farro verde, and the Oceano version of Boston cream pie.

The full list of restaurants and their menus are on the Flavor South Florida website, flavorsouthflorida.com. Diners are encouraged to make reservations for the promotional Flavor menus at each restaurant.

The promotion runs through Sept. 30.

Delray's Restaurant Month

More than 50 restaurants in Delray Beach are participating in the 10th annual Downtown Delray Beach Restaurant Month, which started Sept. 1.

At the restaurants and cafes, special prix fixe menus and dining deals are available for lunch and dinner, happy hours, specials and unique culinary experiences.

Diners must sign up for the Downtown Delray Restaurant Month pass through the website

DowntownDelrayBeach.com/LoveDelray.

The pass is free and gives access to all the dining deals listed. Diners can check in to the restaurants or experiences on the pass to get points and win prizes. Visit five restaurants or cafes and win a \$10 restaurant gift card, or go to 15 and get a \$50 card, or visit 25 and redeem points for a \$100 gift card.

With all deals, reservations are suggested.

Some participating restaurants offering prix fixe menus include **Amar Mediterranean Bistro**, **Avalon Beach House**, **Bourbon Steak by Michael Mina**, **Brule Bistro**, **Caffe Luna Rosa**, **City Oyster** and more.

Happy Hour specials are at **Cut 432**, **El Camino**, **Johnnie Brown's**, **Rosewater Rooftop by Akira Back** and others.

Cafe deals and quick bites are offered by **3Natives**, **Colombian Coffee House**, **Death by Pizza** downtown, **Gary Rack's Farmhouse Kitchen**, **Jimmy's Bistro**, **Tin Roof**, **Two Fat Cookies** and several more.

For culinary experiences, visit **Akira Back**, **Craft Food Tours**, **Ramen Lab Eatery** and **Table 165**.

For more information, visit DowntownDelrayBeach.com/RestaurantMonth.

Boca/Boynton promotion

A restaurant promotion that encompasses eateries in Boca Raton and Boynton Beach is sponsored by the Boca Raton/Boynton Beach Chamber of Commerce.

Restaurants that participate hand out a Restaurant Road Show Passport. A code is added

to the passport each time a diner visits or takes out from one of the restaurants.

At the end of the summer promotion (Sept. 30), diners who collect the most codes will be entered in a raffle to win a free one- or two-night stay at a Chamber member hotel.

For more information visit <https://web.bocaratonchamber.com/events/2025-Summer-Restaurant-Road-Show-11773/details>

Shake-up at SubCulture

Rodney Mayo of SubCulture Restaurants is changing up some restaurants in South County and bringing back an area favorite. Penelope's, a New-Orleans-themed restaurant in Mizner Park that opened last year, will change into **Tryst** by the beginning of season, Mayo said.

Tryst is the old gastropub on Atlantic Avenue that lost its lease and closed.

Still in progress: **Man Ray** on Lucerne Avenue in the old KWS spot in Lake Worth Beach. "It's similar to Dada, chef-driven. We're looking for a chef for it now," Mayo said. He's hoping to open by year's end.

In brief

Troy's Bar-be-cue on Federal Highway in Boynton Beach has shut its doors. Fans were informed on its Facebook page where owners wrote: "After years of serving up smoked meats, Southern comfort, and good vibes — we've officially closed the doors at Boynton Troy's BBQ. But don't hang your apron just yet ... this isn't goodbye. It's a transition. A reset. A chance to reimagine what's next. And trust us — it's gonna be worth it!" No word on what that looks like. ...

Also closed: **Gary Rack's Fish + Oyster House** on Atlantic Avenue in Delray Beach. Rack cited "crazy" rent increases as the cause. He's expanding, however, and putting a Farmhouse Kitchen in Coral Springs in spring of 2026....

Shaker & Pie is still under construction in Mizner Park. It may undergo rebranding before it opens, Mayo said. ...

Benny's on the Beach in the Oceanwalk plaza at Lake Worth Beach has been granted a two-month waiver on its rent. The City Council granted the rent abatement to cover lost revenue expected as Benny's closes beginning on Labor Day to fix air-conditioning problems in the city-owned casino building. The restaurant is expected to reopen in November. The Benny's on the Beach pier location remains open for business.



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

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Art

Fun in Farindola

South Florida artists travel to Italian festival, hope for reciprocal visit

By Jan Engoren
ArtsPaper Art Writer

FARINDOLA, Italy — A 2015 invitation to the Farindola International Art Festival (FIAF) drew Boynton Beach artist Ralph Papa to a remote town in Italy's Abruzzo region.

The 86-year-old *plein air* painter continues to return to the city of Farindola, drawn by both the landscape and his ancestral ties.

Nestled within the Gran Sasso e Monti della Laga National Park, Farindola is a medieval village of just 1,600 residents, about three hours from Rome. It's known for its award-winning pecorino cheese.

The festival, organized by Liliana Marcella and the local nonprofit Pro Loco, is hosted by British artist Paul Critchley and his wife, Helen Conlon, who have lived in the town since 2008. Critchley is known for his life-size spatial installations that explore the contents of a house and the ephemera of everyday life.

Also visiting the region was Marusca Gatto, cultural arts director at the Cornell Art Museum in Delray Beach. "I'm honored to visit FIAF and connect with this year's participating artists," Gatto said. "The festival offers a unique opportunity to unite two countries and communities through art and cultural exchange."

Gatto hopes to expand the reciprocal relationship by inviting Italian artists from the Abruzzo region to exhibit and collaborate in Palm Beach County and Delray Beach.



Ralph Papa of Boynton Beach paints in Farindola, Italy, while on a group trip with other local artists in August. **Photo by Debby Coles-Dobay**

Papa returned in August for his seventh visit to the town along with a group of other South Florida artists, including Debby Coles-Dobay, a Boynton Beach-based artist and art consultant with Art Moves You; Broward County-based artist Lester Salazar; and Miami artists Andrés López, Leonardo Aballe and Gustavo Roque.

The festival ran Aug. 18 to 31.

After spending three days painting and sketching iconic sites in Rome, the group set up their easels in the central piazza of Farindola to capture the spirit and feel

of the town, dating back to 1458, and the surrounding mountains.

For Papa, who has taught at the Cornell Art Center, the Boca Raton Museum of Art, the Armory Art Center in West Palm Beach and the Lighthouse Art Center in Jupiter, the return to Farindola is a return to his Italian heritage — and roots.

On one of his visits, Papa learned that his grandparents came from a town called Pescasseroli, in the nearby province of L'Aquila.

See **PAINTERS** on AT9

Theater

Ex-Delray mayor finds new success as a playwright

By Sharon Geltner
Contributing Writer

There are 64,000 plays registered on a national clearinghouse for budding playwrights. The vast majority will never be staged.

Yet, since 2024, Jeff Perlman, former mayor of Delray Beach, has seen three plays produced.

"The odds of being produced are very low. I was told this by several veteran playwrights," Perlman said. "Many people [who write multiple scripts] never have a play produced. I'm lucky. And I've found a late-life outlet."

The playwright attributes his success to his reporting days. "I think I'm a decent storyteller with an ear for dialogue based on my years as a journalist."

The longtime blogger started writing scripts last year. He was inspired by the Theatre Lab at Florida Atlantic University, he said.

Locals can view Perlman's latest accomplishment Oct. 11, when *The Café on Main* debuts in two performances at Arts Garage. The main character is loosely based on Fran Marincola, founder of Caffè Luna Rosa, the oceanfront restaurant in Delray Beach. It takes place in a hybrid of Perlman's hometown of Stony Brook, N.Y., and Delray Beach.

Perlman's plot: "The action takes place in a cozy café. A world-wise proprietor watches life unfold at a prime table. Inspired by the song 'Moon River,' the play speaks to the mysteries of love and life, the

See **PERLMAN** on AT8



Perlman

Music

Delray Beach-based The Flyers take cover-band tunes to new heights

By Bill Meredith
ArtsPaper Music Writer

Going to a nightclub to see a cover band is practically a time-honored rite of passage, especially in a tourist-driven market like South Florida.

And in many cases, what you'll witness are unsurprising and reasonably well-played renditions of classic rock material, since most patrons are conditioned to think they want to hear and see only what they already know. Which is often a guitarist, bassist and drummer collective of weekend warriors playing the hits. Been there, done that, nothing patrons haven't already experienced.

Until, that is, they witness the busy Delray Beach-based trio The Flyers.

For one difference, guitarist Patrick Farinas, bassist Austin Smilen and drummer Joe Beard, vocalists all, are listed here only on their primary instruments. Each, at various points during a Flyers show, can play all three. Farinas, the group's centerpiece, is a gifted guitarist

with practically limitless chops and ideas. He even doubles on guitar and keyboards simultaneously — as in playing unison and harmonized lines with his left hand on the guitar neck and his right hand on the keys. It's rare musical air, but the New Jersey native comes by it naturally.

"My father [Tony Farinas] is a graduate of the Juilliard School," Farinas says, "so I came up under good guidance. And he could play all these instruments, too."

Clearly, this is not your father's by-the-numbers cover band, even as it covers forefatherly material by the likes of The Beatles, ZZ Top, The Band, Grateful Dead, Creedence Clearwater Revival, and The Doors, complete with three-part vocal harmonies. A few original compositions occasionally seamlessly blend in from the trio's four album releases.

Few bands have ever been this figuratively and even literally ambidextrous, but there are even more nuggets that set The Flyers apart. With Farinas, they're overt.

See **FLYERS** on AT10



Joe Beard, Patrick Farinas and Austin Smilen are The Flyers, a triple-threat cover band from Delray Beach. They play at multiple South Florida venues. **Photo provided**

Dance

Open Spaces dance performances return to Norton's Art After Dark

By Jan Engoren
Contributing Writer

Open Spaces — presented and curated by Ericka Squire and the Natural Movers Foundation — is the Norton Museum of Art's signature site-specific dance performance.

It returns on Sept. 12, as part of the Art After Dark series — offering audiences a visceral blend of movement, music and visual art and an entrée into the fall cultural art season.

"It is always exciting to see how Ericka Squire and Natural Movers' choreographers and dancers interpret art in the museum to inspire dance," says Glenn Tomlinson, chief officer of learning and community engagement at the Norton Museum of Art.

Based on the exhibit *Artists' Jewelry: From Cubism to Pop, the Diane Venet Collection*, the event will feature original



The Natural Movers Foundation will bring a new Open Spaces dance event to the Norton on Sept. 12. **Photo provided**

choreography inspired by more than 150 pieces of jewelry designed by some 140 renowned artists, including Pablo Picasso, Georges Braque, Salvador Dalí, Louise Nevelson and Man Ray.

Visitors will rotate through the museum in small groups,

with live performances bringing the art to life through dance.

"We're excited to be back at the Norton Museum of Art for the fourth year," says Squire, who founded the nonprofit in 2016.

Two of this year's featured choreographers — mother-daughter duo Anna Nunes and Jessica Dos Santos of Downtown Dance and AGWA Dance Company of Lake Worth Beach — return for their second year, drawing inspiration from a 1949 painted plaster wall sculpture titled *Mural Composition*, by Fernand Léger and Mary Callery.

"Natural Movers is a great company to work with and is a force behind the dance community in Palm Beach County," says Nunes, a former dancer with Demetrius Klein Dance Company. "They're very inclusive and showcase different kinds of dance and choreographers."

PERLMAN

Continued from page 7

unpredictable currents that take us to new and often unexpected places."

Already, *The Café on Main* is connecting with audiences.

"The play has a lot of relatable characters. And we all fell in love with them and want to spend more time with these people," said Marianne Regan, founder of the Playwrights Festival of New Plays at the Delray Beach Playhouse, where a 20-minute version was read.

Perlman said he submitted the short version of *The Café on Main* to the Delray Beach Playhouse last year, and the "experience changed my life and inspired me to write more."

Arts Garage was a natural progression for a 75- to 90-minute version of *The Café on Main*, Perlman said.

Michelle Diaz, artistic director of theater at Arts Garage, said that the Delray Beach venue expects about 300 attendees, "with many community members coming out to support Jeff and Arts Garage."

"Jeff Perlman is a bright light in our community, and we wanted to honor him by sharing a beautiful story of finding

If You Go

Open Spaces will be featured during Art After Dark at the Norton Museum of Art, 1450 S. Dixie Highway in West Palm Beach.

When: Dances begin at 7 p.m. Sept. 12

Admission: \$10 adults and seniors, \$5 students, free for members

Info: 561-832-5196 or norton.org

She describes Open Spaces as "a cool idea" that brings together music, dance and visual art into one unified expression. "It's a testament to the power of creativity," she adds, "exploring themes of identity, connection and transformation."

Other artists participating include Brannndi Lewis, Gabrielle Williams, Libby Faber, Lauren Carey of Ballet Florida and Brianna Campbell and Mika Santo of STYX.

Behind the curation of Open Spaces is Squire, founder of Ericka Squire // The Dance Company and the Natural Movers Foundation. A Palm Beach native, Squire brings her expertise in African diasporic studies and a résumé of performance and choreography into her roles as an educator, artist and advocate.

Her background includes advanced degrees — an MFA in choreography from Jacksonville University and a master's in dance education from Temple University — as well as professional credits with

Bohemian Ballet Company, U-Turn Dance Company in Orlando, and Kariamuu and Company: Traditions in Philadelphia.

She trained under Joan Miller of Palm Beach Ballet and now serves as a guest choreographer and adjunct professor at Palm Beach Atlantic University, as well as a resident dance artist at the Kravis Center for the Performing Arts.

In 2016, she launched Natural Movers Foundation after recognizing a gap in opportunities for Black and brown ballet students.

"When I saw that many of these students were not going to be able to achieve their dreams, I founded a summer ballet intensive to invest in these students," she says.

Since then, Natural Movers has grown beyond performance into a hub for cultural equity in Palm Beach County.

The organization provides free arts education, offers master classes, curates performances and hosts events like *Moving Ground* at Ballet Florida, *Moved* at the Kravis Center, and *Dance. All. Day. Fest* at CityPlace.

In 2022, Natural Movers expanded its mission to ensure access to dance for all — regardless of age, skill, or socioeconomic background.

"Community engagement creates and breaks down isolation and stirs up a passion and desire to know: How and where can I do this?" Squire says. "I love to connect people to their passion for dance."

If You Go

What: *The Café on Main*

Where: Arts Garage, 94 NE

Second Ave., Delray Beach

When: 2 and 8 p.m. Oct. 11

Tickets: \$35

Info: artsgarage.org

"This is the 20th anniversary of the shooting and I wanted to explore how the tragedy affects the community and the people involved," he said.

"Jerrod was my daughter's age in 2005. I think about him all the time. Ever since it happened, I have had recurring dreams about a young man I never knew in life," he said.

On a lighter note, Perlman's third produced play, *Love After Love*, appeared in the New Plays Festival at the Delray Beach Playhouse this year.

"I was inspired when walking my dog at Lake Ida Park and seeing a bench overlooking the water," he said. "This play is about a couple moving forward together, after the man lost his wife. The spirit of his late wife is providing divine coaching to help him move on."

Regan said she is enjoying seeing Perlman's success. "I hope Jeff is having fun because he has talent," she said.

love."

Diaz reads about 20 new plays a year and presents three or four.

Delray Beach actor Shelly Pittleman plays the lead, that Marincola character.

"I'm pretty excited to be part of this because it's my understanding that the Arts Garage wants to get into serious theater in a big way," Pittleman said. "Jeff is a great writer and terrific guy; I don't want to mess this up."

Other *The Café on Main* actors are: Raven Adams (Boynton Beach), Nancy Ferraro (North Palm Beach), Sergio Fuenzalida (Jupiter) and Peter Salzer (Delray Beach).

Perlman's oeuvre includes comedy and tragedy.

His short play *Press Conference* is also being expanded to a full-length play.

"This play is about a mayor trying to deal with and understand the aftermath of a shooting in which a young man is shot and killed by a rookie police officer outside a school dance. It's very loosely based on my experiences as mayor in the aftermath of the Jerrod Miller tragedy," Perlman said.

Miller, who was 16, was killed by a rookie Delray Beach Police officer in 2005.

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PAINTERS

Continued from page 7

Papa, who grew up in an Italian neighborhood in East Harlem, N.Y., met long-lost cousins and other relatives while in Pescasseroli.

“Besides being a beautiful and picturesque region of Italy, coming to Farindola and Pescasseroli has personal meaning for me,” Papa said.

He painted the church where his grandparents were baptized, the town hall and other significant places.

Papa said he keeps returning to his beloved, adopted town of Farindola because “it feels like home.”

Eager to put paint to canvas, the artists spread out on the main street in the downtown area, with views of the eight peaks of the mountain range and of the old fortress city below.

Papa, who paints with his back to his subject matter, as a way of interpreting what he sees, captured the colors and textures of the trees and mountains.

He believes the simpler the scene, the better the painting.

Instead of painting the sky a pure blue, Papa will make the sky part of the overall composition, juxtaposing colors and patterns to maximize the effect, creating the scene in his own way, with a signature style of spontaneity and complementary colors.

“When I come here, it’s easy for me to paint,” he said. “The scenery presents itself.”

To familiarize the visiting artists with the area, Pro Loco organized a group tour led by Nadir Lanesi and Antonio Constantini, starting with a day trip through the winding and hairpin turns of the mountains and national park, and visiting the historic walled city of Santo Stefano di Sessanio, which dates from the 11th century and is known as one of the *piu belli d’Italia*.

They also toured the old city of Farindola, its narrow cobblestone streets, four towers, picturesque panoramas, small churches and a former summer palace of the Medici family, now owned by the Farnese family. On the ceiling is a large fresco in need of repair, depicting King Solomon along with the four cardinal virtues: temperance, justice, fortitude and prudence.

For Coles-Dobay, the attraction was coming to a town she had heard much about from Papa, who has encouraged her to come since 2015.

“So far, I’ve fallen in love with the culture, history and the natural environment of Farindola and the Abruzzo region,” she said.

Her goal is to expand FIAF and connect Italian artists to those in South Florida.

It was a similar experience for the other four artists who participated in FIAF.

Salazar, 70, raised in Key West, has painted more than 40 murals for public and private commissions and has recently come to *plein air* painting through Papa.



From left: Painters Debbay Coles-Dobay, Leonardo Aballe, Ralph Papa, Andrés López, Lester Salazar and Gustavo Roque pose after a *plein air* painting session in Farindola, Italy, in August. Photo by Jan Engoren

Although Salazar considers his style to be “creative realism,” when he learned there was an open space available in FIAF, he jumped at the chance to travel to Europe for the first time. “I have to do this,” he said.

Cuban-born and Miami-based López, 54, who owns Artistic Illusions Painting, is known for his murals as well as his studio work. His recent exhibit, titled *Reflections*, was on display at the Cornell Art Museum in March.

López said he was inspired by Farindola’s natural beauty and was excited to capture its images on his canvases.

Aballe, a professional visual artist who came to Miami from Cuba, is also a set designer and film and television producer.

Roque, also Cuban-born, said he was excited about

being back in Italy and experiencing the beauty of Farindola. Although he visited Venice last year to paint, returning to Italy was another chance to paint something besides his home city of Miami.

With his easel in the central piazza, alongside the cobblestone streets and narrow

walkways, Roque, working in acrylic, set about capturing the scene in front of him.

The journey that began 10 years ago in Farindola comes full circle this fall, as the artists’ *plein air* creations return to South Florida.

On Sept. 25, the Cornell Art Museum will host an exhibit and panel discussion featuring the works painted during FIAF — reflecting the region’s natural beauty, cultural richness and the newly formed relationships.

With 10% of the proceeds reinvested into the festival and each artist donating a piece to FIAF’s permanent collection, the spirit of artistic exchange lives on.

One such piece, Papa’s 2019 painting of the local café, Bar Orsetto, still hangs proudly on its wall — a lasting reminder of the connection between Farindola, the larger Abruzzo region and the South Florida artists who might say, as they do in Rome, *veni, vidi, pinxi*: I came, I saw, I painted.

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FLYERS

Continued from page 7

At an early summer show at Rudy’s at Bamboo in Lake Worth Beach, he set his vintage Fender Stratocaster down and sat at the Hammond organ to play and belt out the soulful Ray Charles hit, “Georgia.”

Last month at Two Georges in Boynton Beach, during a Jimi Hendrix medley of “Voodoo Chile,” “Foxy Lady” and “Fire,” Farinas played his guitar behind his back, soloed on it upside-down, then soloed with his teeth before going beyond Hendrix’s antics with his two-handed guitar-and-keyboards duality.

With Florida natives Beard and Smilen, it’s more about the Beatle-esque subtleties. The drummer employs Ringo Starr’s economic, tasteful approach on much of The Flyers’ material, and has used his multi-instrumental talents to compose and contribute music beyond the band. Like the soundtrack for the all-topics local podcast *The Sloth Doctors*, recorded in Boca Raton and hosted by friends Rom Rimland and Chip Tilghman, who’s also an area bassist.

“I just gave them the music, royalty-free,” says Beard. “That might be why they used it!”

Smilen is the newest member and youngest of the three. Five years ago, he replaced Jordan Richards, who’d replaced Farinas’ father in 2012. And Smilen’s intricate bass lines are full of the melodic and harmonic elements that made Paul McCartney the most influential of all rock bassists.

All three are well-versed in taste, tone and technique, which makes for little drop-off when they switch to one of their non-primary instruments.

If You Go

See **The Flyers** at 7 p.m. Sept. 6 and 27 at Rosalita’s Tex-Mex Grill (5949 S. Congress Ave., Atlantis, 561-964-5747); 8 p.m. Sept. 10 and 24 at Johnnie Brown’s (301 E. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach, 561-243-9911); 6 p.m. Sept. 11, 18 and 25 at Tin Roof (8 E. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach, 561-926-9067); 7 p.m. Sept. 12 at DAS Beer Garden (1203 Town Center Dr., Suite 116, Jupiter, 561-776-8669); 4 p.m. Sept. 14 at Two Georges, 728 Casa Loma Blvd., Boynton Beach, 561-736-2717); 8 p.m. Sept. 20 at Village Music Cafe, 10410 Forest Hill Blvd., Wellington, 561-798-5334); and 5 p.m. Sept. 21 at Double Roads Tavern, (103 U.S. 1, Suite A1, Jupiter, 561-437-3348).
Info: theflyersmusic.com

With Smilen on guitar, Beard on bass and Farinas on drums and lead vocals at Two Georges, the trio stormed through a Led Zeppelin medley of “Rock and Roll” and “Moby Dick.” Beard captured bassist John Paul Jones’ unique ideas, and Farinas brought new flavors into drummer John Bonham’s lengthy solo. And Smilen capably sang and led the trio through the Paul Simon medley of “Kodachrome” and “Me and Julio Down By the Schoolyard.” “We have one more 45-minute set, right?” Smilen asked during the final break at the Boynton Beach watering hole. “We should start soon.”

He might not be The Flyers’ primary drummer, but Smilen’s multiple talents clearly include being an astute timekeeper.

Arts Venues

No more free parking at Kravis Center’s garage

By **Elisabeth Gaffney**
Contributing Writer

Starting in mid-September, anyone visiting the Raymond F. Kravis Center for Performing Arts in West Palm Beach will be required to pay a flat rate fee of \$5 to \$10, plus any additional fees, when parking at the on-site five-level garage.

Rates are subject to change depending on arrival time and day of the week.

The organization announced the change in an early August press release, citing ongoing development in downtown West Palm Beach and parking management during performances.

“Consistent with the majority of parking in the downtown area, the Kravis

Center has partnered with ParkMobile to offer a seamless, user-friendly digital parking experience,” the release reads. “Charging for parking allows the Kravis Center to better manage parking availability for ticket holders, especially during peak hours and activity.”

Visitors will pay for parking through the ParkMobile app or at a cashless ParkMobile self-pay kiosk on the third floor between the elevators. The transition to paid self-parking will not affect valet services, which remain at a \$25 flat fee per vehicle, according to the Kravis Center’s website.

By introducing this change, the Kravis Center joins the rest of downtown West Palm Beach to enforce paid parking,

a spokesperson said.

“Our commitment to accessibility and hospitality remains unchanged,” Kravis Center CEO Diane Quinn emphasized in a prepared statement. “While this shift reflects the growth around us, our goal is to ensure a seamless and welcoming experience for all who visit.”

The Kravis Center garage consists of 1,187 parking spaces. Eight spaces are reserved for electric vehicle charging, in which visitors must also install the ChargePoint app. Accessible parking spaces are available on the second, third and fourth floors of the garage near the elevators.

More information is available at [Kravis.org/Parking](https://www.kraviscenter.org/Parking).

Arts Calendar

Editor’s note: Events were current as of Aug. 28. Check with the presenting agency for any changes.

ART

Armory Art Center: Opens Sept. 2: *Between Form and Feeling*, a collection of tactile sculptures, ethereal paintings and embodied drawings by three Florida-based artists that represent transformation and intuition; *colorforms*, a gallery by Susan Currie consisting of edge color abstract on canvas and acrylic blocks. Reception on Sept. 18. Through Oct. 25. Free. 811 Park Place, West Palm Beach. 9 am-5 pm M-F, 9 am-noon Sat. 561-832-1776 or armoryart.org

Arts Warehouse: Through Sept. 5: *Beyond Art & Architecture*. Through Sept. 27: *I Look at the World*, photographs illustrating Black lived experiences and fantasies. Free. 313 NE 3rd St., Delray Beach,. 10 am-8 pm W, Th; 10 am-7 pm F; 10 am-5 pm Sat. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

Boca Raton Museum of Art: Through Oct. 12: *Glasstress Boca Raton 2025; Donald Farnsworth: The Parma Portraits (The Kindness of Strangers); Legacy: Mayers and Friedman Collections*. Through May 10, 2026: *Side by Side: The Artist Couple Bernstein and Meyerowitz*, \$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

Cornell Art Museum: Through Sept. 28: *Pop Culture*. Through Oct. 27: *Impressions of Italy*, plein-air works of Italian scenes by Ralph Papa. Free. 51 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. Noon-5 pm W, Sun, noon-7 pm Th, F; 10 am-5 pm Sat. 561-243-7922 or oldschoolsquare.org

Flagler Museum: \$28; \$14 ages 6-12. 1 Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. 10 am-5 pm M-Sat, noon-5 pm Sun. 561-655-2833, www.flaglermuseum.us

Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens: Through Sept. 28: *Japanese War Brides: Across a Wide Divide; Women of Yamato; The Art of Peace: Jizai Okimono From a Private Collection*. \$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

Museum of Central American Art: Opening Sept. 14: *Alejandro Aróstegui*, works by the Nicaraguan artist. Annex ArtSpace, 290 SE 2nd Ave., Delray Beach. Noon-5pm W- Sat., suzanne@MoCArt.org or 561-512-2467

Norton Museum of Art: Through Oct. 5: *Artists’ Jewelry: From Cubism to Pop*. Through Oct. 19: *Laddie John Dill: Eastern Standard Time*. Through Nov. 30: *Veiled Presence: The Hidden Mothers and Sara VanDerBeek*. Through Nov. 16: *La Florida: Flowers in Chinese Paintings*. \$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

CLASSICAL

Saturday, Sept. 6

Lynn University Wind Ensemble: Kenneth Amis leads the students of the Boca Raton conservatory in music by Schwantner, Gibson, Erb, Syler, McAllister and Gail Kubik, whose score for the Oscar-winning 1950 cartoon *Gerald McBoing Boing* will feature narration by pianist Lisa Leonard. 7:30 pm, Wold Performing Arts Center, Lynn University, Boca Raton. 561-237-9000 or lynn.edu/events.

Saturday, Sept. 27-Sunday, Sept. 28
Lynn Philharmonia: The Conservatory’s orchestra holds its first concerts of the season under director Guillermo Figueroa. The program includes Haydn’s Symphony No. 77, Tchaikovsky’s Fourth Symphony, and the *Le Corsaire* overture of Hector Berlioz. 7:30 pm Saturday, 3 pm Sunday, Wold Performing Arts Center, Lynn University, Boca Raton. 561-237-9000 or lynn.edu/events.

JAZZ AND BLUES

Friday, Sept. 5

Russ Spiegel: The New York City-based jazz guitarist, composer and film scorer will perform in West Palm Beach at the Norton Museum of Art as part of its “Art After Dark” program. 7:30 p.m. \$10 adults and seniors, \$5 students, free for members. 1450 S Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach. 561-832-5196 or norton.org.

Saturday, Sept. 6

Selwyn Birchwood: Donning his iconic afro, the Tampa-based blues performer is returning to Delray Beach. His funky guitar skills and soulful vocals are a fan favorite. 8 pm, Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave., Delray Beach. \$45-\$50. 561-450-6357 or artsgarage.org.

Sunday, Sept. 7

Carla Holbrook: Joined by pianist Rick Moore, Jorge Fernandez on bass and drummer Bruce Goldstein, the singer/songwriter and professional theatre actress will perform some well-loved hits for a “Live Jazz and Jam” session. 5:30 pm, Wolfie’s Jupiter Restaurant & Bar, 251 U.S. 1, Jupiter. Free admission and parking. 561-972-4672 or wolfies.co.

Friday, Sept. 12

Kamuel Roig: Latin Jazz pianist Kamuel Roig is taking the stage along with drummer José Majito Aguilera and bassist Manuel Orza. 8 pm, Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave., Delray Beach. \$50-\$55. 561-450-6357 or artsgarage.org.

Wednesday, Sept. 17-Thursday, Sept. 18

Kirk Whalem: An accomplished saxophonist from Memphis, Whalem is touring following the release of his new album, *Epic Cool*. The R&B and jazz performer will be in Boca Raton for two nights, with shows at 6 pm and 9 pm. The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd., Boca Raton. \$65-\$70. funkybiscuit.com or 561-395-2929. Friday, Sept. 26

Eric Johanson: Hailing from New Orleans, Johanson is a contemporary blues and rock guitarist. 8 pm. Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave., Delray Beach. \$50-\$55. 561-450-6357 or artsgarage.org.

POPULAR MUSIC

Monday, Sept. 1 and Wednesday, Sept. 3

Lady Gaga: Abracadabra! For her Mayhem Ball Tour, the “Bad Romance” and “Shallow” singer is appearing in Miami. 8 pm. Kaseya Center, 601 Biscayne Blvd, Miami. \$285 to \$1,232. ticketmaster.com

Friday, Sept. 4

Thomas Rhett: The popular country singer-songwriter from Georgia is making a stop in West Palm Beach as part of his Better in Boots Tour, joined by openers The Castellows and Tucker Wetmore. 7:30pm. iThink Financial Amphitheatre, 601-7 Sansburys Way, West Palm Beach. \$42 to \$202. ticketmaster.com

Tuesday, Sept. 9
Nelly: The Texas-based hip-hop artist rose to fame in the early 2000s with his record *Country Grammar*. He’s making his way to South Florida, joined by special guests Ja Rule and Eve. 7:30pm. iThink Financial Amphitheatre, 601-7 Sansburys Way, West Palm Beach. \$42 to \$300. ticketmaster.com

Monday, Sept. 22

Conan Gray: Having gone viral in 2020 with his gut-wrenching ballad “Heather,” just released the Californian pop artist just released his fourth studio album, titled *Wishbone*. 8 pm, Hard Rock Live, 1 Seminole Way, Hollywood. \$63 to \$260. ticketmaster.com

THEATER

Through Sept. 14

At the Wedding: A witty and bittersweet comedy by Bryna Turner that follows a woman named Carlo as she attends her ex-girlfriend’s wedding, except her ex-girlfriend is marrying a man. \$47, fees included. Island City Stage, 2304 N Dixie Highway, Wilton Manors. 954-928-9800 or islandcitystage.org

Through Sept. 15

West Side Story: The classic 1957 musical by Leonard Bernstein and Stephen Sondheim, based on Shakespeare’s *Romeo and Juliet*. The summer musical at Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St., Delray Beach. The show’s run is sold out, but you can ask about returns. \$55. 561-272-1281, ext. 5, or delraybeachplayhouse.com. Opens Saturday, Sept. 20

Heebie Jeebies: Tales from the Mighty Campfire: Reminiscent of the children’s horror novel series *Goosebumps*, Gina Montét’s play chronicles Charlie’s late-night adventure into the woods, where she finds some young campers who tell her scary stories. Through Oct. 12. Tickets: \$25 public, \$5 children, family packs \$8-\$13. As of Aug. 23, only one performance was sold out. Florida Atlantic University Theatre Lab, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton. fauevents.universitytickets.com

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Paws Up for Pets

Make sure your hurricane plans include the furry family members

The first hurricane I experienced in South Florida was a whopper. Hurricane Andrew pummeled South Florida with a Category 5 strength. The year was 1992.

My two cats and I hunkered down in my bathtub. Since then, Florida has experienced more than a dozen hurricanes with strengths of Category 3 or higher.

I try to tell myself that the only so-called benefit about hurricanes is that unlike tornadoes and wildfires, people have time to prepare and execute a safety plan.

That plan definitely needs to include your pets.

Palm Beach County residents are in the heart of this year's hurricane season, which ends Nov. 30. Many pet champions are stepping up to protect companion animals.

One of them is Courtney Delfs. Since 2016, she has volunteered to be what's called a "storm rider" at Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League in West Palm Beach, where she serves as its animal care manager.

"I feel motivated to stay at the shelter to do everything I can to help the animals maintain a sense of calm throughout the storm," says Courtney. "While I can't control the weather outside, I can make sure that the animals in our care have new bones, toys, comfortable blankets and continued care throughout the duration of the storm."

About 20 staffers make up the storm rider team trained to protect about 500 animals. But everyone on the staff undergoes emergency planning each year just before hurricane season kicks off in June. Disaster preparedness training is also offered to foster volunteers.

"The earlier you can prepare, the better it is to avoid last-minute confusion and chaos," says Courtney. "We maintain a supply stock sufficient for the duration of the storm and after. We ensure the building is secured and that the outdoor areas are cleared to avoid them becoming hazardous."

When hurricanes strike other parts of Florida, Peggy Adams is ready to lend assistance.

"While we hope Palm Beach County is spared from the worst of hurricane season, experience has shown the importance of having a strong, statewide disaster response network," says Alyssa Comroe, director of veterinary medicine at Peggy Adams. "When one shelter is hit by a storm, others across Florida can step in, providing temporary housing for displaced animals, delivering supplies and offering skilled hands to help with rescue and recovery."

Fortunately, disaster preparations to protect pets have come a long way since the days of Hurricane Andrew. Professional pet sitting and pet boarding businesses recognize the lifesaving importance of



Dr. Alyssa Comroe, director of veterinary medicine at Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League, says Florida's strong disaster response network links shelters, allowing pets to get temporary housing, supplies and skilled care. **Photo provided**

training their staff.

"I hope we don't get any hurricanes," says Tony Maturo Jr., who works at the family-owned Barkingham Palace in Delray Beach. "We haven't had to evacuate yet. We do have a generator on the premises, and all of our dog runs are inside runs, not outside runs."

"Our employees are on site seven days a week and there is an overnight team to provide emergency monitoring of our facility."

Right now, if you haven't already, identify pet-friendly hotels as well as friends' homes outside the hurricane evacuation zone. Hurricanes can change course, so locate these welcoming places in different areas.

Make sure that your pet is:

- Sporting an identification tag or collar with a microchipped ID with leash;
 - Current on vaccinations;
 - Able to fit inside a carrier, one per pet in the household;
 - Participating in practice hurricane drills at home and is given treats to encourage this as a positive experience.
- Your pet to-go bag should include:
- Your pet's medications and medical records inside a waterproof bag;
 - Lightweight food and water dishes;
 - About two weeks' supply of pet food;
 - A favorite toy and a blanket;
 - Litter and litter box for cats;
 - Cleaning materials.
- Do not leave your pets at home if you live in an



Major sits in an ample dog cage. The best recommendation is one pet per cage during an evacuation. **Photo provided**

Learn more about hurricane preparedness

Check out the latest hurricane preparation tips created by Palm Beach County's Division of Animal Care and Control. Access the two-page brochure at discover.pbcgov.org/publicsafety/animalcare/pdf/hurri_brochure.pdf.

More information on locations of pet-welcoming shelters in the county and care required for your pets during those stays can be found at discover.pbcgov.org/publicsafety/animalcare/Pages/Hurricane.aspx.

evacuation area. The storm could trap them inside without food or water, or scare them enough so they flee and become lost.

You could also be convicted of a felony because of a new bill called Trooper's Law signed by Gov. Ron DeSantis.

The law was inspired after a highway patrol officer discovered an abandoned, chained dog standing in water outside his home in the path of Hurricane Milton last October.

It makes it a third-degree felony to restrain and abandon a dog outdoors during a declared natural disaster. Those convicted of this felony can face up to five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

Final tip: Pack a virtual bag. Download your pet's medical

records, photos of your pet for identification, your pet's microchip information as well as your personal documents — that may include your passport, insurance policies, medical records and bank information — onto Google Drive, Dropbox or other online backup.

I can't believe it's been 33 years since Hurricane Andrew hit South Florida. Memories are still vivid to me today. I vowed to always have a safety plan for my family and that includes my pets. I hope you do, too.



Arden Moore writes about pets and can be reached at fourleggedlife@gmail.com.

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High Holy Days

A traveling celebration along A1A to start in Lantana

This Rosh Hashanah is Rabbi Leibel Stolik’s 20th year leading High Holidays services in coastal Palm Beach County. At Chabad of South Palm Beach in Manalapan, there are no fees or tickets, Rabbi Stolik says, because “I believe that everyone should be able to celebrate the Days of Awe irrespective of their background, affiliation, or ability to pay.”

Part of Chabad of SPB’s program includes Shofar on the Avenue, a service beginning at the Lantana Nature Preserve, 440 E. Ocean Ave., on the first day of Rosh Hashanah. After the Kiddush at 3:30 p.m. Sept. 23, the uplifting blowing of the shofar and the Tashlich ceremony are planned.

Then the rabbi will travel up

A1A with the shofar, making scheduled stops at The Carlisle at 4, The Mayfair at 4:15, The Barclay at 4:30, The Patrician at 4:45, The Atriums at 5:05, and the east end of the Lake Worth Beach bridge at 5:40 p.m. The finale will take place in Lake Worth Beach Cultural Plaza, 414 Lake Ave., under the banyan tree at 6.

The rabbi explained the importance of the shofar this way:

“The ram’s horn shofar is the symbol of Rosh Hashanah,” he wrote. “The shofar blasts are not a single, clear note but a series of straight and broken sounds that represent simplicity and the fractured heart. On Rosh Hashanah, we stand before God not as perfect

beings, but with humility and brokenness. Our self-reflection and vulnerability open the door to sincere repentance and divine mercy. Our brokenness is not a weakness but a source of strength.

“The broken heart is not meant to stay broken. The shofar’s final long blast is a complete sound that follows the broken notes, symbolizing the possibility of renewal and restoration.

“I pray that we acknowledge our vulnerability and that after, we experience the strength and wholeness inside ourselves. Shana Tovah (*Good Year*) to all.”

— Janice Fontaine



Rabbi Leibel Stolik plans to make several stops with his shofar to usher in the first day of Rosh Hashanah. **Photo provided**

High Holy Days Calendar

TEMPLE SINAI OF PALM BEACH COUNTY
2475 W Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach
561-276-6161; templesinaipbc.org
Tickets are required for some events.
7:30 pm - 9/13 - Selichot
Rosh Hashanah
7:30 pm - 9/22 - Erev Rosh Hashanah; dinner follows; reservations required.
10 am - 9/23 - Morning service
1:30 pm - 9/23 - Family service
10 am - 9/24 - Morning service
Yom Kippur
7:30 pm - 10/1 - Kol Nidre Service
10 am - 10/2 - Morning service

1:30 pm - 10/2 - Family service
3:30 pm - 10/2 - Afternoon service
4:30 pm - 10/2 - Community Yizkor service
5:15 pm - 10/2 - Neilah & Concluding Service
BOCA BEACH CHABAD JEWISH CENTER
490 E. Palmetto Park Road, Boca Raton
561-394-9770; chabadbocabeaches.com
Rosh Hashanah
7 pm - 9/22 - Erev Rosh Hashanah/Candle Lighting
8 pm - 9/22 - Mincha/Maariv; followed by a community dinner and a talk by Rabbi Barber; reservations required.
9 am - 9/23 - Morning Services

10 am-1 pm - 9/23 - Children’s Program
10-11 am - 9/23 - Family Style Power Hour with Rabbi Yosef New
11 am - 9/23 - Sermon (Main Sanctuary)
11:20 am - 9/23 - Shofar Blowing
11:30 am - 9/23 - Musaf
1:30 pm - 9/23 - Community lunch and talk by Rabbi Barber; reservations required.
5:45 pm - 9/23 - Mincha
6:30 pm - 9/23 - Tashlich and second shofar blowing at Wildflower Park on the NE corner of 5th Ave and Palmetto Park Road
7 pm - 9/23 - Maariv
7:49 pm - 9/23 - Light candles from a pre-existing flame after 8 pm, followed by a community dinner and talk by Rabbi Barber; reservations required.
9 am - 9/24 - Morning services
10 am-1 pm - 9/24 - Children’s Program

10-11 am - 9/24 - Family power hour with Rabbi Yosef New.
11 am - 9/24 - Sermon in the main sanctuary.
11:20 am - 9/24 - Shofar blowing
11:30 am - 9/24 - Musaf
1:30 pm - 9/24 -Community lunch; reservations required.
6:45 pm - 9/24 - Mincha followed by a talk by Rabbi Barber: The Kabbalah of Men and Women: Different but Equal
Yom Kippur
7:30 am - 10/1 - Morning Services
3:30 pm - 10/1 - Mincha
6:48 pm - 10/1 - Candle Lighting (available at Chabad)
6:48 pm - 10/1 - Fast begins
7 pm - 10/1 - Kol Nidrei
7 pm - 10/1 - Children’s Program
9 am - 10/2 - Morning services
10-11 am - 10/2 - Family power hour with Rabbi Yosef New.
10:30 am-2 pm - 10/2 - Children’s Program
11:45 am - 10/2 - Sermon in the main sanctuary.
12:15 pm - 10/2 - Yizkor
12:40 pm - 10/2 - Musaf
5:15 pm - 10/2 - Mincha
6:20 pm - 10/2 - Neila and Shofar Blowing
7:40 pm - 10/2 - Fast and Holiday ends

9 am - 9/23 - Weiner Cultural Center service
9 am - 9/23 - Young children’s service
10:30 am - 9/23 - Youth Service
6 pm - 9/23 - Mincha/Ma’ariv in the Main Sanctuary
8:30 am - 9/24 - Main Sanctuary service
9 am - 9/24 - Weiner Cultural Center service
9 am - 9/24 - Young children’s service
10:30 am - 9/24 - Youth service
5:45 pm - 9/24 - Mincha/Ma’ariv
Yom Kippur
6:15 pm - 10/1 - Mincha/Kol Nidre in the main sanctuary
6:30 pm - 10/1 - Mincha/Kol Nidre in Weiner Cultural Center
6:45 pm - 10/1 - Teen Discussion
9 am - 10/2 - Main sanctuary service
9 am - 10/2 - Weiner Cultural Center service
9 am - 10/2 - Young children’s service
10:30 am - 10/2 - Youth service
4:45 pm - 10/2 - Mincha/Ne’ilah
7:29 pm - 10/2 - Break the Fast

BETH AMI CONGREGATION
1401 NW 4th Ave., Boca Raton
561-347-0031; bethamicongregationboca.com
7-9 pm - 9/13 - Selichot: Changing the Mantles
Rosh Hashanah
6:30-8:30 pm - 9/22 - Erev Rosh Hashanah
9 am-noon - 9/23 - Day 1
9 am-noon - 9/24 - Day 2
Yom Kippur
7-9 pm - 10/1 - Kol Nidre
9 am-noon - 10/2 - Morning service
5:30-6:30 pm - 10/2 - Mincha
7:30-8 pm - 10/2 - Shofar sounding
8-9:30 pm - 10/2 - Congregational Break the Fast

CHABAD OF SOUTH PALM BEACH
224 S. Ocean Blvd., Manalapan
561-889-3499; chabadspb.org
There is no fee or membership required, but RSVP is recommended.
Rosh Hashanah
7 pm - 9/22 - Erev evening service; dinner follows the service; reservations required.
9:30 am - 9/23 - Morning service
11:45 am - 9/23 - Shofar sounding
7:50 pm - 9/23 - Light candles
9:30 am - 9/24 - Morning service
11:45 am - 9/24 - Shofar sounding
Yom Kippur
6:50 pm - 10/1 - Kol-Nidrei Service
9:30 am - 10/2 - Morning service
Noon - 10/2 - Yizkor service
5:30 pm - 10/2 - Mincha and Ne’ilah; A break-fast follows the service.

CONGREGATION B’NAI ISRAEL
2200 Yamato Road, Boca Raton
561-241-8118; cbiboca.org
Reservations and tickets are available for select events at cbiboca.org/hhd/hhd-tickets
7:30 pm - 9/13 - Selichot

B’NAI TORAH CONGREGATION
6261 SW 18th St., Boca Raton
561-392-8566; btcboca.org
8:15 pm - 9/13 - Selichot; refreshments followed by a service at 9 pm; registration requested at shulcloud.com/form/selichot2025
Rosh Hashanah
6 pm - 9/22 - Erev Rosh Hashanah; Mincha/Ma’ariv in the Main Sanctuary
8:30 am - 9/23 - Main Sanctuary service

High Holiday Services

Rosh Hashanah
Wednesday, Sept. 23 and Thursday, Sept. 24:
Services at 10:00 a.m.

Yom Kippur
Thursday, Oct. 2
Day Services: 10:00 a.m.
Neilah Prayer: 7:00 p.m.

Membership not required to attend

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Finding Faith

New voice at Temple Sinai brings a song in her heart

When Shir Rozzen sings at Rosh Hashanah services this month, it will be her first High Holy Days at her first cantorial job.

As a transplant from the opera world, she's up to the singing challenge. As for the rest, she says, "I'm excited and I'm happy and I've got a lot to learn!"

Rozzen joined Temple Sinai of Palm Beach County in Delray Beach as its cantorial soloist on July 1. Sitting at her desk at the synagogue, which is covered with papers and books and sheet music, Rozzen says she never dreamed of being a cantor, but "I was always more spiritual than everybody else. I read Bible stories at bedtime."

Born in Israel 35 years ago, she was raised on an Israeli Air Force base (her father was a fighter pilot and later base commander). Her love of music wasn't encouraged by her mother, who once had dreams of singing, too.

But Rozzen knew her voice was special. "I would sing, and the neighbors would come with chairs to listen."

At age 8, she took singing lessons behind her parents' backs. At age 11 (and two years too young), Rozzen auditioned at a performing arts high school without her parents' permission. The school made an exception and admitted her.

Rozzen's chutzpah didn't falter. She told her father she was using her bat mitzvah money to go to New York to audition at Juilliard, and rather than argue, he took her there. "My father and I were the closest of souls."

With only the name and a photograph of the woman who would decide her future, Rozzen entered Juilliard's lobby and began to sing. She performed for 45 minutes before the woman she needed to impress came down the elevator. Juilliard found a place for Rozzen.



Former opera singer Shir Rozzen, whose first name means 'song,' has joined Temple Sinai of Palm Beach County in Delray Beach as its cantorial soloist. Photo provided

Later, she transferred to Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, which brought her to Palm Beach for a performance when she was 20 years old. She says she knew from that first visit that she would live here some day.

No surprise, she did. Rozzen moved to Boca Raton eight years ago, and when COVID hit and performances were canceled, she reinvented herself.

She opened the Rozzen School of the Arts, a hybrid online and in-person private teaching program that is home to the American College Agency for Young Artists, a program that helps young musicians pursue admission to the best performing arts institutions. Student enrollment exploded and Rozzen felt blessed for her success.

Still an Israeli citizen, Rozzen qualified for a green card to stay in the United States because of her extraordinary ability in the arts. She will be eligible to apply for U.S. citizenship in three years, she said.

About 18 months ago, her father got sick and Rozzen

returned to Israel to care for him. While she was there, she met David Yanas, an Israeli Air Force mechanic. He offered his support as she nursed then grieved for her father. They were engaged after three months, and they married five months ago.

Now the newlyweds have a new home together and Rozzen has a new job. Yanas is pursuing a college degree that will let him continue his aviation career in the United States.

When you ask how she plans to balance all her responsibilities, she says, "On two feet," with a wide smile, proof a sense of humor always helps. "I've come to the confident realization that there is so much I don't know, and I've found peace with that."

Shir means 'song'

Performing an aria on stage and singing in the house of the Lord are similar but different, Rozzen says. "I get joy from both, but it's a different kind of joy. In both cases, I'm singing from the heart. When I am singing at services, I get love from the first row. I

feel the souls in the audience responding to me. It's intimate.

"In opera, when I sing, I'm performing a character. The audience is there to escape and forget. At services, you deal with your problems, you confront the deepest scars on your soul. My goal with my singing is always to make them feel something."

Rozzen felt a connection to Temple Sinai Rabbi Steven Moss the first time they met. "He opened the door for me. I saw his eyes and I knew he saw me."

Rabbi Moss felt it too. "I'm appreciative of genuine and authentic people and she is one," he says. He said one of the congregants asked Rozzen to sing at her birthday and requested "I Dreamed a Dream" from Les Mis. "I saw their souls connecting. When she is



Moss

singing, she's interacting deeply with people."

Moss has worked with many cantors in more than four decades as a rabbi. "I know what to look for," he says. "I think her close relationship with her father gave her a determination to succeed that has served her. She needs that because she has so much to learn."

And what a time to begin! Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are intertwined days of reflection and repentance. Rosh Hashanah has lots of beautiful songs, Rozzen says, and she and Rabbi Moss worked together to choose the music. "Our goal is to keep tradition but bring color."

Each day of Rosh Hashanah, prayers ask for help correcting mistakes from the past year. Jews ask for assistance to become better Jews and better people.

"These are not holidays," Rabbi Moss says. "These are Holy Days. They begin a period of self-reflection, followed by asking oneself, 'What do you do going forward?' Our spiritual life should follow us all year long."

These are also days of hope, Rabbi Moss says.

"I'm very concerned about the future and our place in it. But I believe one of the core values of Judaism is hope for the future. We have to believe God has given us the ability to make the world better. We are a people of hope."

L'shana tovah u'metukah! ("For a good and sweet year.")

Janis Fontaine writes about people of faith, their congregations,



causes and community events. Contact her at fontaine423@outlook.com

Rosh Hashanah
7 pm - 9/22 - Erev Rosh Hashanah Service
8:30 am - 9/23 - Children's service
10:30 am - 9/23 - Sanctuary Service
10:30 am - 9/23 - Junior congregation
2 pm - 9/23 - Family prayer experience
3:30 pm - 9/23 - Tashlich
10:30 am - 9/24 - Sanctuary service

Yom Kippur
7 pm - 10/1 - Kol Nidre Sanctuary service
8:30 am - 10/2 - Sanctuary service
8:30 am - 10/2 - Junior congregation
Noon - 10/2 - Junior congregation
3:30 pm - 10/2 - Children's service
4:45 pm - 10/2 - Afternoon Minchah followed by Yizkor, Neilah, Havdalah and sounding of Shofar.

TEMPLE BETH EL
Schaefer Family Campus, 333 SW Fourth Ave., Boca Raton
561-391-8900; tbeboca.org
7 pm - 9/13 - Selichot; registration requested

Rosh Hashanah
7:30 pm - 9/22 - Erev Rosh Hashanah service
10 am - 9/23 - Morning service

1:30 pm - 9/23 - Family participation service for families with children 8-12; tickets required.
4 pm - 9/23 - Young children's service for families with children younger than 8; registration requested; no tickets required.
10 am - 9/24 - Morning service

Yom Kippur
7:30 pm - 10/1 - Kol Nidre Service in the sanctuary; tickets required.
7:30 pm - 10/1 - A candlelight Kol Nidre Service takes place in the chapel; tickets required; space is limited.
9 am - 10/2 - Young children's service for families with children younger than 8; registration requested.
10:30 am - 10/2 - Morning service; tickets required.
10:30 am - 10/2 - A second Morning Service in a Garden of Reflection; tickets required; space is limited.
1:45 pm - 10/2 - Family participation service for families with children 8-12; tickets required.
2:30 pm - 10/2 - Service of Healing and Renewal
4 pm - 10/2 - Yizkor & Afternoon Service

CHABAD OF EAST DELRAY
101 SE Second Ave., Delray Beach
954-283-7261; jewisheastdelray.com

Rosh Hashanah
10 am - 9/23 and 9/24 - Services; reserved seating, \$75. Open seating by donation.
11 am - 9/23 and 9/24 - Shofar

Yom Kippur
7-8 pm - 10/1 - Kol Nidrei
10 am - 10/2 - Services; reserved seating, \$75. Open seating by donation.
11 am - 10/2 - Yizkor
7 pm - 10/2 - Neilah

SHALOM BOCA MESSIANIC SYNAGOGUE
1300 NW Fourth Ave., Boca Raton
561-487-3839; shalomboca.com

Rosh Hashanah
7:30-9:30 pm - 9/22 - Erev Rosh Hashanah
10:30 am - 9/23 - Rosh Hashanah service

Yom Kippur
7:30-9:30 pm - 10/1 - Erev Yom Kippur service
10:30 am-12:30 pm - 10/2 - Yom Kippur service

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PLACES OF WORSHIP DIRECTORY

Religious institutions of all faiths are invited to be included in these listings. For more information, e-mail Sales@TheCoastalStar.com or call 561-704-7834

CATHOLIC

ST. LUCY CATHOLIC CHURCH 3510 S. Ocean Blvd., Highland Beach, FL 33487 • Phone: 561-278-1280 • Web: stlucy.net • Daily Masses: Monday-Saturday, 8:30 a.m. • Weekend Masses: Saturday, 4:00 p.m.; Sunday, 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

ST. VINCENT FERRER CATHOLIC CHURCH 840 George Bush Blvd. • Delray Beach, FL 33483. • Phone: 561-276-6892 • Web: stvincentferrer.com. Father Dennis Gonzales. Mass Times: Monday-Friday 7:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.; Saturday 8:30 a.m. Saturday Vigil (except Holy Saturday) 4:00 p.m.; Sunday 7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m. (livestreamed), 11:00 a.m., and 5:30 p.m.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY OF DELRAY BEACH • Phone: 617-851-7750 • Web: ChristianScienceDelrayBeach.com

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST 566 W. Palmetto Park Road, Boca Raton, FL 33432 • Phone 561-391-7689 • Web: christianscientistboca.org • Sunday Service: 10:30-11:30 a.m.; Wednesday Service: 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

EPISCOPAL

ST. GREGORY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 100 NE Mizner Blvd., Boca Raton, FL 33432 • Phone: 561-395-8285 • Web: stgregorysepiscopal.org • Email: office@st-gregorys.com The Reverend Andrew Sherman, Rector. We warmly welcome all seeking God's love and grace. Join us Sundays for Holy Eucharist at 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. (with coffee hour after), and 6:00 p.m. evening service.

ST. JOSEPH'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 3300A S. Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach, FL 33435. • Phone 561-732-3060. • Web: stjoesweb.org. • Worship Schedule: Saturdays 5:00 p.m. Reflective Healing; Sundays 9:30 a.m. Choral Rite II; 10:45 a.m. Coffee Hour; 11:45 a.m. Contemporary service, live band (livestreamed).

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 188 S. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach, FL 33444. • Phone: 561-276-4541 • Web: stpaulsdelray.org. Father Paul Kane. Services of Holy Eucharist: Saturdays 5:00 p.m.; Sundays 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.; Sundays 10:00 a.m. Family Prayers and Praise Service; Thursday 12:10 p.m. Healing Service; Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. Online Morning Prayer and 8:00 p.m. Compline.

JEWISH

CHABAD OF EAST DELRAY 101 SE 2nd Avenue, Delray Beach, FL 33444 • Phone: 954-283-7261 • Web: Jewisheastdelray.com • Rabbi Shmuel Biston. • Saturdays at 10:00 a.m.

TEMPLE SINAI OF PBC 2475 W. Atlantic Avenue, Delray Beach, FL 33445 • Phone: 561-276-6161 • Web: templesinaipbc.org • Rabbi Steven Moss & Cantorial Soloist Shir Rozzen • Friday Service: 7:30 p.m.; Saturday Service: 10:30 a.m.

LUTHERAN

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH 2929 S. Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach, FL 33435 • Phone: 561-732-2929 • Web: ascensionlutheranchurch.net. Worship Service/Holy Communion Sundays 10:30 a.m. All are welcome! Our mission is Ministry: God has called us to share His love through healing hurts, filling needs and caring for those who are less fortunate in our family, in our community and around the world.

METHODIST

CASON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 342 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach, FL 33444. • Phone: 561-276-5302 • Web: casonumc.org. Reverend David M. Schmidt. "Where all will find and know the Love of God." Service Times: Sunday mornings Contemporary Service 9:15 a.m. and Traditional Service 11:00 a.m.

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

JOURNEY CHURCH • GoJourneyChurch.com • We're here to help you transform your life by Experiencing God, Finding Freedom, Discovering Your Purpose, and Making a Difference. There's a campus near you! Services are Sundays 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. • **West Palm Beach:** 2341 S. Military Trail, West Palm Beach, FL 33415 • **Boynton Beach:** 715 S. Federal Highway, Boynton Beach, FL 33435 • **Lake Worth Beach:** S. Military Trail, Lake Worth Beach, FL 33463.

Religion Notes

Blessed Virgin Mary birthday celebration

St. Lucy Catholic Church honors the birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary Sept. 8 on this feast and day of prayer from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the church at 3510 S. Ocean Blvd., Highland Beach.

The day begins with Mass at 8:30 followed by a presentation, "The Role of Mary in the New Testament," at 9:30, a Q&A at 10:30 when the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available, and lunch in the parish hall at 11:30 catered by The Grille on Congress. Lunch is \$30. That includes a donation to Caritas Jerusalem, which provides essential relief to those in impoverished communities in the war-torn Holy Land.

Call 561-278-1280 or visit stlucy.net/events/birthday-celebration-for-the-blessed-virgin-mary-1.

Special prayer service at Unity of Delray Beach

Unity of Delray Beach will host a prayer service, "Be Still and Know," at 7 p.m. Sept. 10. The Rev. Jeanmarie Eck will speak, with music by D. Shawn Berry and Bree Gordon. Unity of Delray Beach is at 101 NW 22nd St. Call 561-276-5796 or visit unityofdelraybeach.org/events.

Interfaith Vigil to support immigrants at St. Gregory's

The Boca Raton Interfaith Clergy Association, a group of community members from a variety of religious traditions, hosts an Interfaith Vigil supporting the immigrants at 7 p.m. Sept. 10 at St. Gregory's Episcopal Church, 100 NE Mizner Blvd.

The public is invited to stand in solidarity for the dignity, honor and humane treatment of all immigrants and refugees.

Rabbi Greg Weisman (Temple Beth El), Pastor Andrew Sherman (St. Gregory's Episcopal Church) and Rabbi Hector Epelbaum (B'nai Torah Congregation) will be joined by members of the Boca Raton Interfaith Clergy Association, Boca Raton community and civic leaders for this event.

Call 561-395-8285 or visit tbeboca.org/vigil-2025.

Rabbi Jack Moline joins B'nai Torah Congregation

B'nai Torah Congregation has announced the appointment of Rabbi Jack Moline as interim



Moline

senior rabbi following the retirement in July of Rabbi David Steinhardt, the congregation's spiritual leader for 31 years.

Rabbi Moline is a nationally respected pulpit rabbi, teacher and interfaith leader with more than 35 years' experience.

A native of Chicago, he was ordained by the Jewish Theological Seminary in 1982 and holds a degree from Northwestern University.

Rabbi Moline served as the rabbi of Agudas Achim Congregation in Alexandria, Virginia, for 27 years. He is president emeritus of Interfaith Alliance, a national organization dedicated to safeguarding religious freedom and the First Amendment. He and his wife, Ann, have three children and are grandparents to five.

In August, he joined B'nai Torah Congregation, the largest conservative synagogue in Southeast Florida, at 6261 SW 18th St., Boca Raton. Call 561-392-8566 or visit btcboca.org.

CityLead Boca to meet at Boca Raton Community

Boca Raton Community Church hosts CityLead Boca from noon to 1 p.m. Oct. 2 at the church at 470 NW Fourth Ave. This monthly event for the business community is designed to inspire leaders to use their influence to serve others. Reservations are recommended. \$20 includes lunch. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. Call 561-395-2400 or visit citylead.com/boca.

Churches to celebrate Blessing of the Animals

A few local churches are celebrating St. Francis with blessings of the animals.

St. Lucy Catholic Church: Oct. 4, time to be announced.

3510 S. Ocean Blvd., Highland Beach. 561-278-1280; stlucy.net.

St. Joseph's Episcopal Church: 3 p.m. Oct. 5, 3300 S. Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach. 561-732-3060; stjoesweb.org.

Episcopal Church of Bethesda-by-the-Sea: Oct. 26, time to be announced. 141 South County Road, Palm Beach. 561-655-4554; bbts.org.

Improvement plans moving forward for Jewish center

Now that an appeal that would have prevented Boca Beach Chabad Jewish Center from securing its new home in an office building on East Palmetto Park Road has been dropped, plans are moving to complete the "mostly cosmetic" modifications to the property.

The building, which was purchased by Boca Beach Jewish Educational Center Inc. for \$13 million a year ago, has three floors, each about 10,000 square feet, Rabbi Ruvi New said.

The plan is to upgrade the synagogue and religious center on the first floor where it is now and convert the second floor into meeting and administrative space, with a place for the active and growing young professionals group (CYP DoBo, aka Downtown Boca). The third floor will be converted to office suites that Chabad will lease.

Plans to convert the empty space are under review by the city, but Rabbi New says there will be five or six office suites available in the building at 490 E. Palmetto Park Road.

The rabbi says participation has increased dramatically since Chabad acquired the new space.

"It's nothing short of a miracle," he says, referring to the acquisition. His congregation loves that they can walk to services, and the location is ideal for visitors from out of town who want to attend.

The campaign to raise money for the improvements continues. Rabbi New invites the public to tour the facility and to commemorate the High Holy Days at Boca Beach Chabad. Visit chabadbocabeaches.com.

— Janis Fontaine

Religion Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 8/27. Please check with organizers for any changes.

SEPTEMBER 7-13

Sunday - 9/7 - Zoom Bible Study at Ascension Catholic Church, 7250 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Every Sun 7 pm. Free. Zoom link: communications#accboca.net; 561-997-5486; ascensionboca.org
9/10 - Interfaith Vigil Supporting Immigrants Among Us at St. Gregory's Episcopal Church, 100 NE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. Join together to stand in solidarity for the dignity, honor and humane treatment of all immigrants and refugees, regardless of their origin. 7-9 pm. Registration: tbeboca.shulcloud.com/event/interfaith-vigil-supporting-the-immigrants-among-us.html
Monday - 9/8 - Women's Bible Study via Zoom at First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach, 33 Gleason St. Every M 10

am. Free. 561-276-6338; firstdelray.com
9/8 - Rosary for Peace at St. Vincent Ferrer Family Life Center, 840 George Bush Blvd, Delray Beach. Every M 5:45-6:15 pm. Free. 561-276-6892; stvincentferrer.com
Tuesday - 9/9 - Tuesday Morning Prayer Service at Unity of Delray Beach Church, 101 NW 22nd St. 10 am. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org
Wednesday - 9/10 - Men's Spirituality Hour via Zoom at St. Gregory's Episcopal Church, 100 NE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. Every W 8 am. Free. For link: 561-395-8285; stgregorysepiscopal.org
9/10 - Wednesday Evening Meditation Service at Unity of Delray Beach Church, 101 NW 22nd St. 6:30 pm. Free; love offering. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org
Thursday - 9/11 - Thursday Morning Telephone Prosperity Coffee presented by Unity of Delray Beach Church, 101 NW 22nd St. Phone meeting (605-475-6006, passcode 3031030). Free; love offering.

561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org
9/11 - Men's Fellowship at First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach Courtyard, 33 Gleason St. Every Th 8:30 am. Free. 561-276-6338; firstdelray.com
9/11 - Women's Bible Study at St. Gregory's Episcopal Church Youth Room, 100 NE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. Every Th 1 pm. Free. 561-395-8285; stgregorysepiscopal.org
Friday - 9/12 - Legion of Mary at St. Vincent Ferrer Family Life Center, 840 George Bush Blvd, Delray Beach. Every F 9:30-11 am. Free. 561-276-6892; stvincentferrer.com
9/12 - Bible Study w/Dave Kirk at Advent Boca Raton, 300 E Yamato Rd. Every F 10-11:30 am. 561-395-3632; adventboca.org
9/12 - Virtual Shabbat Service at Temple Sinai of Palm Beach County, 2475 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. Every F 7:30 pm. Free. 561-276-6161; templesinaipbc.org.

On the Water

South Florida's guru of snook fishing shares his tips

Tom Greene used to look forward to September like most people look forward to Christmas, because the first day of this month was when the snook season opened.

The snook is Florida's favorite inshore gamefish. It fights hard and often jumps, it hits all types of lures and baits, you can catch one from land or from a boat, and for many anglers a snook is their favorite fish to eat.

South Florida's guru of snook fishing, Greene used to freely dispense information on where, when and how to catch snook when he owned Custom Rod & Reel, a Lighthouse Point store that he sold after 60 years in the fishing tackle business. He got his start at Boca Tackle when he was 12 years old.

Greene also practiced what he preached in September, fishing around inlets, spillways and beaches — wherever he thought the snook fishing would be best based on the scouting reports provided to him by his customers and a network of trusted sources from Jupiter to Miami Beach.

The snook season is closed from June 1 to Aug. 31 on the Atlantic coast of Florida because that's when the fish gather at inlets as they prepare to spawn, which makes them easy to target. The fall season runs through Dec. 14. Anglers can keep one snook a day measuring 28 to 32 inches long with the tail squeezed.

The majority of snook are finished spawning by September, but some remain in local inlets and off beaches and around fishing piers. With a full moon on Sept. 7, Greene said the snook fishing at inlets should be especially good because the fish spawn on the full moon.

"The fish will still be around the inlets and off the beach," Greene said. "The No. 1 time to fish them is early morning daylight and sunset."

Because of heavy rains this time of year, snook also hang around spillways, where excess

fresh water is released into the Intracoastal Waterway. When the spillways are opened, snook will be there to eat bluegills, shiners, shad and other small fish swept through the spillways with the moving water.

Greene said swimming plugs, crankbait and jigs that get down to where the fish are will all catch snook at spillways, including those in Boca Raton, Boynton Beach and Lake Worth Beach. He recommended using tackle with 20- to 50-pound main line and 30- to 50-pound fluorocarbon leaders.

Greene, who wrote a book

about his fishing exploits titled *A Net Full of Tails*, said that the hour before and after tide changes is usually the best time to catch snook in inlets and from bridges, especially at night and first thing in the morning.

One of my most memorable snook tales was a night trip with Greene and Capt. Steve Anderson. Trolling Rapala X-Rap swimming plugs through Jupiter Inlet, we caught and released more than a dozen snook up to about 25 pounds.

I had fun because I had never tried that technique. I had even more fun listening to

the two old buddies tell stories about fishing from South Florida piers, beaches and bridges. Greene was so addicted to snook fishing as a young man, he missed his sister's wedding ceremony because the snook were biting so good that day.

As Anderson slowly drove his boat in the inlet, Greene and I stood on opposite sides at the back of the boat with the lures swimming in the water behind us. The results were immediate, as Greene hooked a snook on our first three passes through the inlet.

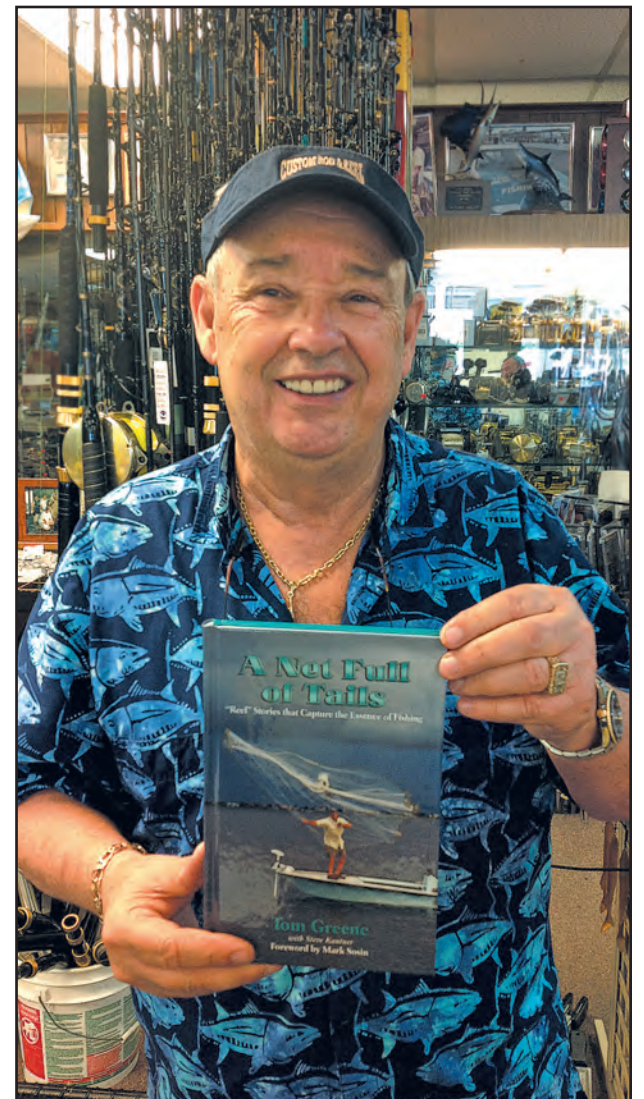
My lure got hit when I started reeling so it didn't get

tangled in Greene's line. After Greene landed his 11-pounder, I landed my 20-pounder for a successful doubleheader release.

Anderson and I then took great pleasure in giving Greene a hard time for catching such small fish. The old pro quickly got even by catching eight snook in a row, including several over 20 pounds.



Outdoors writer Steve Waters can be reached at steve33324@aol.com.



LEFT: Capt. Steve Anderson holds a nice snook he caught on a recent fishing trip in the Jupiter Inlet. September is a good time to catch snook in local inlets. **ABOVE:** Tom Greene, considered South Florida's guru of snook fishing, holds the book he wrote about his fishing exploits, *A Net Full of Tails*. **Photos by Steve Waters/The Coastal Star**

Outdoors Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 8/27. Please check with organizers for any changes.

SEPTEMBER 6

Saturday - 9/6 - Beach Cleanup at Lake Worth Casino Building and Beach Complex, 10 S Ocean Blvd. Presented by City of Lake Worth Beach and the Beach Bucket Foundation. 9-11 am. Registration: lakeworthbeachfl.gov/events
9/6 - Intracoastal Adventures: Advanced Kayaking at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Age 7-adult; each child under 13 must be accompanied by one adult. 9-10:30 am. \$20/resident & member; \$25/non-member. Registration: 561-544-8605; myboca.us/calendar.aspx?CID=47
9/6 - Outdoor Marine Aquarium Feedings at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. All ages; child must be accompanied by an adult.

Daily 12:30 pm. Free. 561-544-8605; myboca.us/calendar.aspx?CID=47

SEPTEMBER 7-13

Friday - 9/12 - After-Hours Guided Tours at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Guided tour through outdoor aquariums, butterfly garden, nature trail; ends w/sunset views of the Intracoastal Waterway. Age 7-adult; child under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Held again 9/26 6:30-8 pm. \$10/resident & member; \$13/non-resident. Register: 561-544-8605; myboca.us/calendar.aspx?CID=47
9/12-14 - Intracoastal Adventures: Stand Up Paddleboarding at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Age 13-adult; children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. F: 5-6:30 pm; Sat/Sun: 9-10:30 am. \$20/member; \$25/non-member. 561-544-8615;

myboca.us/calendar.aspx?CID=47

SEPTEMBER 14-20

Tuesday - 9/16 - Island Treks at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Take a short trek along the boardwalk through the tropical hardwood hammock, pausing for Intracoastal views. All ages; child must be accompanied by an adult. Held again 9/30. 10-10:30 am. Free. 561-544-8605; myboca.us/calendar.aspx?CID=47
Saturday - 9/20 - International Coastal Cleanup at Spanish River Park, 3001 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. All ages; child under 18 must participate w/an adult. 8-11 am. Free. Registration: 561-544-8606; gumbolimbo.org

SEPTEMBER 21-27

Sunday - 9/21 - Intracoastal Adventures: Intro to Kayaking at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Age 7-adult; each child under 13 must be accompanied by one

adult. 9-10:30 am. \$20/resident & member; \$25/non-member. Registration: 561-544-8605; myboca.us/calendar.aspx?CID=47
Saturday - 9/27 - Coast Guard Auxiliary Boat America: A Boating Safety Course at Harvey E. Oyer, Jr. Park, 2010 N Federal Hwy, Boynton Beach. Boating terminology, boat handling, navigation rules, regulations, more. Provides knowledge needed to obtain a boating certificate; possible insurance discount. 8 am-4 pm. \$20. 561-312-6439; birdlover5@bellsouth.net
9/27 - Family Fun Snorkel at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Snorkel shallow intracoastal waters, study animals. Bring your own snorkel, mask, water shoes (no fins allowed). Age 10-adult; child under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. 10-11:30 am. \$15/member; \$19/non-member. Registration: 561-544-8605; myboca.us/calendar.aspx?CID=47
9/27-28 - Parks for Pollinators BioBlitz! at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N

Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Get passionate about protecting pollinators with activities & art projects. All ages, child under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. 1-3 pm. Free. 561-544-8605; myboca.us/calendar.aspx?CID=47

SEPT. 28-OCT. 4

Sunday - 9/28 - 8th Annual Reverse Tashlich at Spanish River Beach Park, 3001 N State Road A1A, Boca Raton. Participate in a world community clean-up initiative, dubbed "Repair the Sea." 7-9 am. Free. Registration: volunteer.repairthesea.org/opportunities/ESfyUHZ2z6
Saturday - 10/4 - Seining the Lagoon at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Explore the Intracoastal Waterway behind Gumbo Limbo. Wear clothes that can get wet. Closed toed shoes required. Age 7-adult; child must be accompanied by an adult. 9-10:30 am. \$15/member; \$19/non-member. Registration: 561-544-8605; myboca.us/calendar.aspx?CID=47

COOK
Continued from page AT1

complete, church volunteers then deliver the lasagnas to families in their community. Forman says he has always loved lasagna and it was a good meal to mass produce. He can make up to 12 trays at a time and sometimes does two batches of eight trays each.

“To me, lasagna means getting together with a lot of people and eating together,” said Forman, a senior at Pine Crest School in Fort Lauderdale. “To me, it’s about helping as many people as I can and feeding as many people as possible.”

Each 9-pound tray of Forman’s homemade lasagna can feed up to eight people, and with his team of five student volunteers, he has already served more than 1,000 people throughout South Florida.

What started as Forman’s simple gesture — bringing his signature lasagna to St. Matthew’s — has grown into a Florida-registered nonprofit organization called Food4Need Inc. (food4needinc.com)

The student-run nonprofit operates multiple days a week, partners with three churches (First Baptist Church in Pompano Beach is the third) and regularly distributes 300-plus pounds of food.

Forman has loved cooking since he was a child. When he was younger, he enjoyed chopping food in the kitchen with his parents, Jennifer and Brett.

At the end of 2022, as the



pandemic waned, the then Pine Crest freshman wanted to give back. The family often participated in Thanksgiving food drives and Christmas toy drives but he wanted to do something himself.

After reaching out to charities, he developed a relationship with St. Matthew’s and started cooking and delivering six or seven lasagnas each Sunday. He realized that he could do more.

In his junior year, the nonprofit was formed, and Forman brought on people and more deliveries.

“I had to bring on more people because so many relied on me and my lasagna,” Forman said. “We rarely miss a week. We try to deliver every week.”

All meals are cooked fresh by Forman and his friends, who all attend Pine Crest School.

Meals are funded by community donations and supported in part by Sprouts Farmers Market, but Food4Need is trying to get more from grants

and foundations. All donations go straight to ingredients; none of the team members is paid.

Besides Forman, who serves as president, the Food4Need team includes co-founder/Vice President Max Hazleton, 17, Pompano Beach; Ryan Kelly del Valle, 17, Boca Raton; Hudson Schwartz, 17, Boca Raton; Zach Moss, 17, Lauderdale-by-the-Sea; and Blake Grossman, 17, Boca Raton.

“When Parker first came to me with his idea and asked for help, I was excited to have the opportunity to give back and help my community,” Kelly del Valle said.

Another key component of the operation is Cynthia Ridley, a 50-year volunteer of St. Matthew’s Church.

“My focus is to make sure we reach the families who need these lasagnas the most,” Ridley said. “This lasagna relieves stress for a mother of six kids to know how they’re going to feed their family.”

Ridley said the church

families love it because the lasagna stretches a long way.

Over the last two years, the program has been so successful that deliveries have expanded to senior citizens.

“I think it means a lot and I’m surprised he’s able to keep it up,” Ridley said. “It’s been a blessing to the community. It’s homemade, so it’s very good. People are so grateful that we drop it off at their house.”

Forman, a straight-A student and varsity lacrosse player, has a strict formula for success. He prioritized his life in this order: school and studying, Food4Need, lacrosse, and friends.

“I study hard so I have time for my nonprofit,” Forman said. “Every time I cook for people, I’m having a bigger impact on my community. It’s nice to know I’m having a positive impact on people’s lives.”

Ridley said she can tell Forman has been raised by good parents.

“He’s got amazing kindness,”

she said. “I’m quite sure he’ll do something great. His influence won’t end here.”

Forman plans to attend college out of state for business school or hospitality/food management. His top five choices are Penn State, Cornell, Vanderbilt, Michigan and the University of Texas at Austin.

But for his senior year of high school, Forman says he’s going to continue cooking as much as he can.

His long-term goal is for an underclassman at Pine Crest to take over the nonprofit when he goes away to college. Someone is already shadowing as a possibility.

“I’ll still be involved even if I can’t do the physical cooking,” Forman said.

Over the summer, in addition to cooking lasagna, he worked 30 hours a week at Peter’s Pizzeria in East Boca Raton. Once school started, the job ended.

But his real passion is cooking lasagna for Food4Need. He found a recipe on Pinterest, but substituted a few ingredients to make the recipe his own.

“It’s the typical ingredients,” he said. “Ground beef and Italian sausage, lots of seasoning, tomato sauce, meat sauce, pasta noodles, ricotta, mozzarella, and eggs. And in the end, I sprinkle mozzarella and parmesan cheese on top.

“I put hard work into each lasagna so it tastes great,” he said. “I think they really love the meat I cook myself — that’s what gets them.” ★

Donations can be made at food4needinc.com

Tots & Teens Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 8/27. Please check with organizers for any changes.

SEPTEMBER 6

Saturday - 9/6 - Drop-In Family Storytime at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Up to age 5. Every Sat. 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org
9/6 - ColorSpace: Teen Art Studio at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Ages 13-17. Held again 9/15 (5-6 pm) & 10/4. 11 am-noon. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org
9/6 - Saturday Morning ART (smART) at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Links art making w/learning about art. Ages 5+. Held again 10/4. 11:15 am-12:15 pm. \$15/member; \$25/non-member. Registration: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org
9/6 - Sustainability Skills for Tweens & Teens: Soap Making at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Ages 9-17. 2-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org
9/6 - Sandoway Discovery Center Daily Feedings at 142 S Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. All ages. Shark & stingray feedings 1 pm; aquarium feedings 2 pm; animal encounters 3 pm. T-Sat. Free w/\$10 admission. 561-274-7263; sandoway.org
9/6-30 - 9th Annual STEAM Through September presented by City of Boca Raton Recreation Services Department. Ages 5-12 are invited to explore programs citywide during the month of September. 561-393-7810; myboca.us/STEAM

SEPTEMBER 7-13

Sunday - 9/7 - Wild Wonders at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Hike, crafts, stories. Ages 3-6 w/an adult. 9:30-10:15 am. \$8/resident &

member; \$10/non-member. Reservations: 561-544-8605; myboca.us/calendar.aspx?CID=47
Monday - 9/8 - Special Guest Storytime w/ Gumbo Limbo at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Up to age 5. 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org
9/8 - Discover STEAM for Preschoolers - Duck, Duck Feather at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Ages 2-5. 3:15-4 pm. Free. 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org
9/8 - STEM In Action: Blast Off! at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Ages 7-8. 4-4:45 pm. Free. Registration: 561-544-8584; bocalibrary.org
9/8 - Audition for Broadway Show Program: Finding Nemo Jr. at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Ages 7-16 - Advanced level. 4:30-7:30 pm. Semester runs M through 12/20. \$985. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com
9/8 - Audition for Musical Theater Kids at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Ages 7-13 - Intermediate level. 4:30-6 pm. Semester runs T through 12/2. \$495. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com
9/8 - Audition for Broadway Beginners at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Ages 7-12 - Beginner level. 4:30-6 pm. Semester runs W through 12/3. \$495. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com
9/8 - Teen Career Workshop: Fitness Trainer at Boynton Beach Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Ages 13-17. 5-6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org
9/8 - Knots ‘n Needles - Teen Crochet Circle at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Ages 13-17. Held again 9/22. 5-6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org
9/8 - InterACTIONS Class at Lake Worth

Playhouse Stonzek Theater, 713 Lake Ave. Ages 11-17. Students expand their creative toolkit while continuing to hone fundamental performance skills. Every M through 12/15. 6-7 pm. \$300. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org
9/8-10 - Homework Help at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. For grades K-5. Runs through 12/19. M-W 3:30-4:15 & 4:15-5 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org
Tuesday - 9/9 - Lab Rats at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Ages 13-17. 5-6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org
9/9 - Toddler Tales at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Stories, music, movement. Ages walking to 23 mos. Every T 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org
9/9 - Teen Tuesday at Boynton Beach Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Ages 13-17. Every T 5-7 pm. Free. 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org
9/9 - Reinventing Embroidery for Teens at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Ages 9-12. Every T 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org
Wednesday - 9/10 - Reading & Rhythm for 2-3s at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Literacy enrichment class. Child must be accompanied by an adult. Every W. 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org
9/10 - Doll Diaries: American Girl Doll Adventures at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Ages 7-8. Every W. 4-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org
9/10 - Audition Prep Class at Lake Worth Playhouse Stonzek Theater, 713 Lake Ave. Ages 7-14. Every W through 12/17. 4-5 pm. \$300. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org
9/10 - Game Day at Boynton Beach Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Ages 13-17. Every

W 4:30-6:30 pm. Free. 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org
Thursday - 9/11 - Drop-In Family Storytime at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Up to age 5. Every Th 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org
9/11 - Make & Take: Mosaics at Boynton Beach Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Ages 5-12. 3:30-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org
9/11 - Kindergarten Prep Pals at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Ages 4-5. Every Th. 4:30-5 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org
9/11 - Musical Theatre Class at Lake Worth Playhouse Stonzek Theater, 713 Lake Ave. Ages 7-14. Class focuses on theatre games and exercises using imagination and creativity. Every Th through 12/18. 5-6:30 pm. \$325. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org
Friday - 9/12 - Baby Bookworm at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Storytime for infants accompanied by an adult. Every F 11-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7852; bocalibrary.org
9/12 - Fitness by Jilbear - Haitian Classic Jazz Dance Class at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Ages 6-17. Every F through 10/3. Ages 13+. 6:30-7:30 pm. Per class: \$15/resident; \$19/non-resident. Registration: 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org
Saturday - 9/13 - ART Tales at Boca Raton Museum of Art Wolgin Education Center, 501 Plaza Real. Boca Raton Library joins w/book readings. Art project follows. Ages 4-9 w/guardian. 11:15 am-12:15 pm. \$15/member family; \$25/non-member family. Registration: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org
9/13 - Gaming Guild at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Ages 13-17. Held again 9/27. 2-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

SEPTEMBER 14-20

Monday - 9/15 - STEM In Action: Let’s Get Hands On at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Ages 7-8. 4-4:45 pm. Free. Registration: 561-544-8584; bocalibrary.org
9/15 - 3D Printing 101 at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Ages 13-17. 5-6 pm. Free. 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org
Tuesday - 9/16 - Teen Book Club: Medici Heist by Caitlin Schneiderhan at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Ages 13-17. 5-6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org
Wednesday - 9/17 - Bilingual Outdoor Storytime at Boynton Beach Library under the Banyan tree, 100 E Ocean Ave. Stories, rhymes, more. Ages 5 & under. 10-10:30 am. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org
9/17 - Improv Class at Lake Worth Playhouse Stonzek Theater, 713 Lake Ave. Ages 7-14. Class focuses on theatre games and exercises using imagination and creativity. Every W through 12/17. 5:30-6:30 pm. \$275. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org
Thursday - 9/18 - Make & Take: Beaded Bookmarks at Boynton Beach Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Ages 5-12. 3:30-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org
Friday - 9/19 - Discover STEAM for K-2nd Graders - It’s Not Easy Being Green at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. For grades K-2nd. 3:15-4 pm. Free. 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org
Saturday - 9/20 - Supa Awesome Dog Man Fair at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Ages 6-10. 10 am-1 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org
9/20 - Bones to Books at Boynton Beach Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Children read to friends from Bonafide Therapy Dogs. All ages. 1-2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-

Health Notes

Delray Medical Center surgeon uses innovative stent system

Delray Medical Center vascular surgeon Dr. Joseph Ricotta recently used the Spur Peripheral Retrievable Stent System to treat narrowed arteries below the knee. The device is a temporary support tube that helps keep arteries open after they've been widened with a balloon.

Unlike a regular stent, it can be removed once the artery is stabilized. Ricotta



Ricotta

is the national medical director of vascular surgery and endovascular therapy for Tenet Healthcare, a professor at Florida Atlantic University's School of Medicine, and founder of the Prime Vascular Institute.

Hospital receives Center of Excellence recognition

HCA Florida JFK Hospital was recently recognized as a Comprehensive Resuscitation Center of Excellence, a statewide initiative launched in 2022. The program was created by the Florida Resuscitation

Center Committee, which aims to improve survival rates for sudden cardiac arrest.

Each year, about 350,000 individuals die from cardiac arrest in Florida, and it remains the third-leading cause of death in the United States as survival rates remain low despite advances in health care technology and in medical care.

"We bring together a multidisciplinary team, collaborate with the American Heart Association, and engage community partners to increase CPR training and awareness," said Ken West, CEO of HCA

Florida JFK Hospital. "Working hand-in-hand with local EMS agencies, we've built an aggressive, coordinated system of care that extends from the moment of cardiac arrest through recovery."

New assistant chief nursing officer on leadership team

Lisibell Melendrez, RN, BSN, has joined HCA Florida JFK Hospital's leadership team as assistant chief nursing officer. Previously she worked at HCA Florida Kendall Hospital, where she served as director of telemetry,



Melendrez

Canyon University and is pursuing her master of science in nursing from Walden University.

Send health news to Christine Davis at cdavis9797@gmail.com.

the central monitoring unit, and the medical specialty unit. She earned her bachelor of science in nursing from Grand

Health Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 8/27. Please check with organizers for any changes.

SEPTEMBER 6

Saturday - 9/6 - 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

9/6 - Saturdays @ Sanborn: Yoga Class at Sanborn Square, 72 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. 8:45 am registration; 9 am class. Free. 561-393-7703; downtownboca.org

9/6 - Zumba Class at South Beach Park Pavilion, 400 N State Rd A1A, Boca Raton. Every Sat 10 am. Free. 561-393-7703; downtownboca.org

9/6 - Yoga Class at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. Every Sat 9 am. Free. 561-588-8889; southpalmbeach.com

9/6 - Yoga at the Beach at Red Reef Park West, 1221 S Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Held on grass overlooking the Intracoastal. No cash accepted on-site. Every 1st & 3rd Sat 10-11 am. \$10-\$12.50/class; 60-day membership \$65/resident, \$81.25/non-resident. 561-393-7807; myboca.us

9/6 - Judo Class at Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. Warm-up exercises, instruction, practice, tournament training. W 6:30-8:30 pm mixed ages/ranks; Sat 10 am-noon all groups. Per month \$21.50/resident; \$27/non-resident. 561-393-7807; myboca.us

9/6 - AA Meeting at Unity of Delray Beach Fellowship Hall, 101 NW 22nd St. Every Sat 5:30 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

SEPTEMBER 7-13

Sunday - 9/7 - Coco Market at Old School Square Amphitheater, 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

9/7 - Yoga at the Beach at Red Reef Park East, 1400 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Held on grass overlooking the Intracoastal. No cash accepted on-site. Every W/Sun 6:30 pm. \$10-\$12.50/class; 60-day membership \$65/resident, \$81.25/non-resident. 561-393-7807; myboca.us

9/7 - CODA (Codependents Anonymous) Meeting at Unity of Delray Beach, 101 NW 22nd St. Every Sun 6 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

Monday - 9/8 - 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

9/8 - LGBTQ ACOA Meeting at Unity of Delray Beach Prayer Room, 101 NW 22nd St. Every M 6:30 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

9/8 - Adult Zumba Class at Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. Every M 7-8 pm. Per class: \$6/resident; \$7.50/non-resident. 561-393-7807; myboca.us

Tuesday - 9/9 - Tai Chi Class at Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. Beginner through advanced. Age 16+. Every T 6-7 pm. \$8-\$10/class. 561-393-7807; myboca.us

9/9 - AI-Anon Meeting at Unity of Delray Beach Fellowship Hall, 101 NW 22nd St. Every T 7 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

Wednesday - 9/10 - Stretch & Strengthening Mindfulness Class at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. Every W/F 10:30 am. Free. 561-588-8889; southpalmbeach.com

9/10-11 - Yoga in the Museum at Cornell Art Museum at Old School Square, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every W & Th 11 am-noon. \$8/class. Registration: 561-

654-2220; delrayoldschoolsquare.com/events

Thursday - 9/11 - LGBTQ+ AA Meeting at Unity of Delray Beach Prayer Room, 101 NW 22nd St. Every Th 7 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

9/11 - Alateen Meeting at St. Mark Catholic Church, 643 NE 4th Ave, Boynton Beach. Every Th 7:30 pm. Free. 561-278-3481; southpalmbeachafg.org

Friday - 9/12 - Fitness by Jilbear - Stretch & Flex Class at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Ages 18+. Every F through 10/3. 5:15-6:15 pm. Per class: \$10/resident; \$13/non-resident. Registration: 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

SEPTEMBER 14-20

Wednesday - 9/17 - Scripps Research Front-Row Lecture Series: Expanding the Drug Target Universe w/Benjamin Cravatt, Ph.D. 1-hour virtual lecture. 7 pm. Free. Register for link: frontrow.scripps.edu

Thursday - 9/18 - Diabetology w/ Frank Lavernia - Chronic Kidney Disease: Early Warning & Slow-Down Strategies at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 3:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0196; delraylibrary.org

Saturday - 9/20 - MCYogi Returns: Exclusive Yoga & Music Experience at The Vintage Gym at Old School Square, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 4:30-7:30 pm. \$45. Registration: 561-243-1077; delrayoldschoolsquare.com/events

SEPTEMBER 21-27

Wednesday - 9/24 - Heartfulness at Boynton Beach Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 5:30-6:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org

Sunday - 9/28 - 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

SEPT. 28-OCT. 4

Monday - 9/29 - Discover STEAM for Preschoolers - Fun Physics at Boynton Beach Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Ages 2-5. 3:15-4 pm. Free. 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org

9/29 - STEM In Action: The Science of Goo at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Ages 7-8. 4-4:45 pm. Free. 561-544-8584; bocalibrary.org

9/29 - TAB (Teen Advisory Board) Meeting at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Ages 13-17. 5-6 pm. Free. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

Tuesday - 9/30 - Teen Movie Night: West Side Story (2021, PG-13) at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Ages 13-17. 5-7:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

Thursday - 10/2 - Make & Take: Styrofoam Ball Monsters at Boynton Beach Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Ages 5-12. 4:30-5:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

Tuesday - 9/30 - Neuroplasticity: The Key to Maximizing Brain Power as You Age w/ Dr. John Conde at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Part of the Conde Center Functional Neuropathy, Physical Therapy & Chiropractic Lecture Series. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0196; delraylibrary.org

SEPT. 28-OCT. 4

Thursday - 10/2 - Adult Pilates Fitness Class at Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. Every T/Th through 10/30. 5:30-6:30 pm. Per month: \$20/resident; \$25/non-resident. 561-393-7807; myboca.us

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- Dr. K.D.

Rose Glamoclija, R.N.
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6390; boyntonlibrary.org

9/20 - LibCon: Heroes, Villains, and Beyond! at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Library comic con celebration featuring cosplay, comics and games. All ages. 1-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

SEPTEMBER 21-27

Monday - 9/22 - Discover STEAM for Preschoolers - Who Lives in the Mangrove Forest at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Ages 2-5. 3:15-4 pm. Free. 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org

9/22 - STEM In Action: Float Away at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Ages 7-8. 4-4:45 pm. Free. Registration: 561-544-8584; bocalibrary.org

9/22 - Tippi Toes Dance Class: Ballet, Tap & Jazz at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Ages 5-12. Every Mh through 12/8. 5:30-6:15 pm. \$180/resident; \$225/non-resident. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

Tuesday - 9/23 - Out of School is Kool Day at Carolyn Sims Center, 225 NW 12th Ave, Boynton Beach. Ages 5-12. Held again 10/2. 7:30 am-5:30 pm. \$28/resident; \$34/non-resident. 561-742-6640; boynton-beach.org

Thursday - 9/25 - Picture Book Club at Boynton Beach Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Ages 5-12. 4:30-5:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org

Friday - 9/26 - Discover STEAM for K-2nd Graders - Gators Lunch at Boynton Beach City Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. For grades K-2nd. 3:15-4 pm. Free. 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org

Saturday - 9/27 - Back-to-School Bash at Boynton Beach Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Ages 12 & under. 1-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org

9/27-28 - Creation Station at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Limited seating. Noon-4 pm. Free w/admission. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

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Community Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 8/27. Please check with organizers for any changes.

SEPTEMBER 6

Saturday - 9/6 - Freestyle Saturdays Art Class at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Ages 18+. Every Sat through 12/20 10 am-12:30 pm. Per class \$29/resident; \$35/non-resident. Registration: 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org
9/6 - \$5 Studio Days at Creative Arts School, 51 N. Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Ages 5+. Held again 8/16. 1-3 pm. Free. 561-243-7209; delraybeachfl.gov/cas
9/6 - Exhibition: Unearthed Futures: The Archaeology of Tomorrow at FAU Ritter Art Gallery, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Runs through 11/9. T-F: 1-4 pm; Sat: 1-5 pm. Free. fau.edu/artsandletters/galleries/exhibitions/
9/6 - Exhibition: A Global Lens: Capturing Culture Through Summer Study at FAU Schmidt Center Public Space, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Runs through 9/21. T-F: 1-4 pm; Sat: 1-5 pm. Free. fau.edu/artsandletters/galleries/exhibitions/
9/6 - Drawing for Painters - Realism or Abstract at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. 1:30-4:30 pm. \$55. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org
9/6 - A Night Together presented by Abisax at Lake Worth Playhouse Stonzek Studio Theatre, 713 Lake Ave. 8 pm. \$45. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org
9/6-9/18 - Bon Appetit in Boynton Beach. Two unique experiences: food tours 11 am-1:30 pm 9/6 and 13, \$25/person; and \$35 prix-fixe menus at Rok Prime Korean BBQ, 9/11; and Sushi Jo and Nicholson Muir, 9/18. boyntonbeachcra.com
9/6-30 - 10th Annual Downtown Delray Beach Restaurant Month at participating eateries. downtowndelraybeach.com/restaurantmonth

SEPTEMBER 7-13

Sunday - 9/7 - Exhibit Opening Reception at Artist’s Eye Gallery Boutique, 604 Lucerne Ave, Lake Worth. Through 10/5. 2-4 pm. Free. 561-586-8666; lwartleague.org
9/7 - Sunday Matinee Music Series: Con Brio String Quartet at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 3-4 pm. 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org
Monday - 9/8 - Advanced Squares at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. All ages. Every M 2-4 pm. \$6. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org
9/8 - Monday Movies - Documentary: Ballet 422 directed by Jody Lee Lipps at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 5:30-8 pm. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org
9/8 - Pickleball at Hester Center, 1901 N Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Combines badminton & tennis. Adults. M/F 6-8 pm. \$5-\$7; \$50-\$65/24-visit pass. 561-742-6550; boynton-beach.org
9/8 - Acting for the Camera Workshop at Sol Theatre, 3333 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Get comfortable and confident in front of the camera. Every M through 10/13. 6-10 pm. \$292/6 sessions. 754-228-7228; shakestroupe.org
Tuesday - 9/9 - Career & Employment Help w/CareerSource PBC at Boynton Beach Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Representative fluent in English, Creole, French. Adults. Every T 9 am-4 pm. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org
9/9 - Guided Discussion - Turkey Today: The Predicament of Erdogan’s Rule w/Robert Rabil at FAU Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$50.40/ member; \$63/non-member. 561-297-3185; olli.fau.edu
9/9 - From Soil to Supper: Fresh Food Gardening in South Florida w/Michiko Kurisu presented by FAU Lifelong Learning Institute at The Vintage Gym at Old School Square, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 10:30 am-noon. \$30.40/member; \$38/ non-member & guest pass 561-297-3185; olliboca.fau.edu
9/9 – Socrates Café at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Philosophical discussions. Every T 1:30-3 pm. Free. 561-

393-7852; bocalibrary.org
9/9 - Beginning Tap Class at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 18+. Every T through 12/16. 5:30-7 pm. \$60/monthly session. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org
9/9 - Movie Night at Highland Beach Library, 3618 Ocean Blvd. Held again 9/23. 5:30 pm. Free. 561-278-5455; highlandbeach.us
9/9 - Someday, Maybe by Onyi Nwabineli at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org
9/9 - Delray Beach Orchid Society Meeting at Veterans Park, 802 NE 1st St, Delray Beach. 2nd T 7 pm. Free. 561-573-2422; delraybeachorchidsociety.org
9/9 - All Arts Open Mic Night at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. Every 2nd T 8-10:30 pm. \$10-\$15. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org
Wednesday - 9/10 - Color Mixing & Composition Showdown 2-Day Class at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. Held again 9/17. 10 am-4 pm. \$260. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org
9/10 - Action Painting Inspired by Jackson Pollock at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. 10:30 am-2:30 pm. \$120. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org
9/10 - Wheel Throwing for All Level Potters at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Ages 16+. Every W through 10/1 11:30 am-1:30 pm. \$360/4 sessions. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org
9/10 - Seminar: Thriving Through the Years: Essential Tips for Healthy Aging w/Parvathi Perumareddi & Keri Sutter at FAU Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$40/member; \$50/non-member. 561-297-3185; olli.fau.edu
9/10 - Pastels Made Easy Class at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Ages 18+. Every W through 12/17 1-4 pm. Per class \$35/resident; \$44/ non-resident. Registration: 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org
9/10 - Artist in Focus Tour - Pedro Friedberg at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 1:30-2 pm. Free w/ paid Museum admission. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org
9/10 - The Greatest Satirical Songs w/ David Misch at FAU Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/ annual membership; \$30.40/member; \$38/ non-member. 561-297-3185; olli.fau.edu
9/10 - Musical Theatre Audition Technique at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 18+. Every W through 12/17 (no class 11/26). 6-7 pm. \$300/14 weeks. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org
9/10 - 10th Annual Boca Raton Bowl ABC Supply Great Chefs Tailgate Showcase at Boca Raton Innovation Campus, 4950 Communications Ave. Created by 25+ area chefs, brew masters and mixologists. 6-8:30 pm. \$45. 561-385-0144; spiritofgivingnetwork.com
9/10 - Art & Jazz on East Atlantic Ave from Swinton to NE 5th Ave, Delray Beach. Live music, art, culture, dancing, dining in the street. 6-9:30 pm. Free. 561-243-1077; downtowndelraybeach.com/artandjazz
Thursday - 9/11 - Quilters meet at Boynton Beach Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Limit 10. Every Th 9 am-noon. \$1/ lifetime membership. 561-742-6886; boyntonlibrary.org
9/11 - Seminar: U.S. Intervention Abroad Since World War II w/Jerrold Goldstein at FAU Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every Th through 10/9. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$69.60/member; \$87/non-member; \$30/guest pass. 561-297-3185; olli.fau.edu
9/11 - Line Dancing at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. All ages. Every Th 10:30-11:30 am. \$6. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org
9/11 - Seminar: Siren Song: Mermaids in Art from the Ancient World to Florida Waters? w/Veronique Cote at FAU Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual

Municipal Meetings

9/8 – Lantana Town Hall, 500 Greynolds Cir. 6 pm. Agenda: lantana.org
9/8 – Manalapan Town Hall, 600 S Ocean Blvd. 5:10 pm. Agenda: manalapan.org
9/8 – Ocean Ridge Town Hall, 6450 N Ocean Blvd. 6 pm. Agenda: oceanridgeflorida.com
9/8 – South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. 2 pm. Agenda: southpalmbeach.com
9/9 – Boca Raton Auditorium, 6500 Congress Ave. 6 pm. Agenda: myboca.us
9/11 – Gulf Stream Town Hall, 100 Sea Rd. 4 pm. Agenda: gulf-stream.org
9/15 – Delray Beach City Hall, 100 NW 1st Ave. 5 pm. Agenda: delraybeachfl.gov
9/16 – Boynton Beach City Hall, 100 E Ocean Ave. 6 pm. Agenda: boynton-beach.org
9/16 – Highland Beach Town Hall, 3614 S Ocean Blvd. 1:30 pm. Agenda: highlandbeach.us
9/22 – Boca Raton Auditorium, 6500 Congress Ave. 10 am. Agenda: myboca.us
9/25 – Briny Breezes Town Hall, 4802 N Ocean Blvd. 4 pm. Agenda: townofbrinybreezes-fl.com

membership; \$40/member; \$50/non-member. 561-297-3185; olli.fau.edu
9/11 - Seminar: Has the Golden Age of American Jewry Ended? w/Edward Shapiro at FAU Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/ annual membership; \$40/member; \$50/ non-member. 561-297-3185; olli.fau.edu
9/11 - Shooting Star: The Brief but Brilliant Career of Preston Sturges w/ Kurt Stone at FAU Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every Th through 10/23. 3-5 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$95.20/member; \$119/non-member; \$30/guest pass. 561-297-3185; olli.fau.edu
9/11 - Exhibition Opening Reception: Sarah Paul, Self Stitched: Electric Care at FAU Schmidt Center Gallery, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Runs through 10/10. 4:30-8:30 pm. Free. fau.edu/artsandletters/galleries/exhibitions/
9/11 - Intermediate Tap Class at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 18+. Every Th through 12/18. 5:30-7 pm. \$60/monthly session. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org
9/11 - An Evening with Mary Katharine Goddard: Printer of the Declaration of Independence at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 6-7:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org
9/11-12 - Portrait Painting with Acrylic 2-Day Class at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$70/2 day class. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org
Friday - 9/12 - Portrait Drawing from Life 4-Day Class at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. Every F through 10/3. 10:30 am-1:30 pm. \$240/4 day class. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org
9/12 - Wheel Throwing for All Level Potters at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Ages 16+. Every F through 10/3 11:30 am-1:30 pm. \$360/4 sessions. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org
9/12 - Carved Lines: Linocut Printmaking 3-Day Class at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. Every F through 9/26. 2-5 pm. \$260. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org
9/12 - Beginner Squares at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. All ages. Every F 6-7 pm. \$6. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org
9/12 - Castoffs Square Dance at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. All ages. Every F 6-9 pm. \$6. 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org
9/12-13 - Davis Cup - The World Cup of Tennis at Delray Beach Tennis Center, 201 W Atlantic Ave. Team USA takes on Czechia in this Second Round Davis Cup Qualifier. F: 6 pm; Sat: 2 pm. Tickets start at \$40/day. usta.com/daviscup
Saturday - 9/13 - Calling All Serious Writers! Saturday Writers Studio presented by Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. All other Sat via Zoom. 10 am. Free. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org
9/13 - Open Figure Studio w/Model at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Ages 18+. Held again 6-8 pm 9/25. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$15. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org
9/13 - Abstract Flow: Simple Expressive Watercolor Landscapes at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$40. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org
9/13 - The Art of the Figure: Drawing the Human Body 4-Day Class at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. Every Sat through 10/4. 2-5 pm. \$260. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org
9/13 - Give Me The Mic at Lake Worth Playhouse Stonzek Studio Theater, 713

Lake Ave. 7 pm. \$16.05-\$20. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org
9/13 - The Betty Fox Band Returns at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$45-\$50. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org
9/13 - Burlesque On The Ave at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 18+. 8 pm. \$35-\$55. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

SEPTEMBER 14-20

Monday - 9/15 - A Conversation with Florida Supreme Court Justice Renatha Francis at FAU Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10 am. \$10/general public; free/FAU faculty/ staff, alumni, children under 18 & veterans/ active duty. 561-297-6124; fauevents.universitytickets.com
9/15-17 - Auditions: Thornton Wilder’s Our Town at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Production dates 11/14-30. 7-10 pm. By appointment only: 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org
Tuesday - 9/16 - Book Talks - Non-Fiction/Biographies: Is A River Alive? by Robert Macfarlane at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 2-3 pm. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org
9/16 - Audience’s Choice at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. 3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org
9/16 - Adult Acting Class: From Page To Stage at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 18+. Every T through 12/16 (no class 11/25). 5:30-7 pm. \$325. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org
9/16 - Spoken Word Open Mic: Poetry, Storytelling & Lyrics at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. Every 3rd T 8-10:30 pm. \$10-\$15. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org
9/16 - FAU Astronomical Observatory public viewing at FAU Science & Engineering Building 4th floor, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 1st F & 3rd T 8 pm. Free. 561-297-7827; physics.fau.edu/observatory/events
Wednesday - 9/17 - Book Buzz Adult Book Club at Boynton Beach Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 10:30 am-noon. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org
9/17 - Small Works in Acrylic Paint at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. 10:30 am-2:30 pm. \$120. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org
9/17 - Artist in Focus Tour - Maria Magdalena Campos-Pons at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 1:30-2 pm. Free w/ paid Museum admission. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org
9/17 - Coral Bleach Watch Training at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. 2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org
Thursday - 9/18 - Abstracting the Human Figure at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. 10:30 am-1 pm. \$45. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org
9/18 - Seminar: Moving from Chaos to Calm in this Uncertain World w/Ellen Abell at FAU Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/ annual membership; \$40/member; \$50/ non-member. 561-297-3185; olli.fau.edu
9/18 - Alcohol Ink Floral Bouquets on Large Cardstock at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. 2-4 pm. \$45. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org
9/18 - Seminar: The Construction and History of the New York City Subway System w/Robert Feeney at FAU Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$40/member; \$50/non-member. 561-297-3185; olli.fau.edu

9/18 - Concert: Totem Cave - Peruvian Jazz & World Music at Highland Beach Library, 3618 Ocean Blvd. 5:30 pm. Free. 561-278-5455; highlandbeach.us
9/18 - Spotlight Tour in Spanish - Glasstress Boca Raton 2025 at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 5:30-7 pm. \$20/member; \$35/non-member. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org
9/18 - The Power of Black Oil Paint at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. 6-7:30 pm. \$50. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org
9/18 - Summer Sips & Sounds: Fabulous Fifties: The Ella & Louis Years at the Schmidt Boca Raton History Museum, 71 N Federal Hwy. 6-8 pm. \$40/ person. 561-395-6766 x100; bocahistory.org
9/18-19 - Auditions: The Thanksgiving Play at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Production dates 10/30-11/9. 7-10 pm. By appointment only: 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org
Friday - 9/19 - Long Pose Open Figure Studio w/Model at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Age 18+. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$15. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org
9/19 - Barely Manilow - Tribute to Barry Manilow at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$50-\$55. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org
9/19 - Divas On Stage Presents Icons at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 18+. 8 pm. \$20. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org
Saturday - 9/20 - From Sketch to Canvas - Translating the Thumbnail into Paint at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. 10 am-1 pm. \$65. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org
9/20 - Artist & Curator Talk - “I Look at the World” Exhibition at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. 2-3:30 pm. Free. RSVP: 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org
9/20 - Abstracted Landscape Collage 2-Day Class at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. Held again 9/27. 2-4 pm. \$95. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org
9/20 - Sound Healing at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 4-5:15 pm. \$20/member; \$40/non-member. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org
9/20 - Imagina Children’s Foundation 15th Anniversary Celebration at Boca Raton Innovation Campus, 4950 Communications Ave. Featuring live Latin DJ, delicious Latin eats and dessert trucks, family friendly activities, handmade crafts & jewelry. 4-8 pm. \$25/ adults; \$10/students ages 6-18; free/ children under 6 years. 561-299-0727; imaginachildrenfoundation.org
9/20 - Boca’s Ballroom Battle 2025 at The Boca Raton’s Grand Ballroom, 501 E Camino Real, Boca Raton. 6 pm. 561-347-6799 x114; scholarship.org/events
9/20 - Bachaco at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$50-\$55. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

SEPTEMBER 21-27

Sunday - 9/21 - Story Central Storytelling Slam at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 3-4:30 pm. Free. 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org
9/21 - Sunflower Soul: A Celebration of Susan’s Love for Music at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 6 pm. \$60. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org
Monday - 9/22 - The Lion Women of Tehran by Margan Kamali at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0196; delraylibrary.org
9/22 - Monday Movies - Feature Film: Pride and Prejudice: The 20th Anniversary Edition directed by Joe Wright at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 5:30-8 pm. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org
Wednesday - 9/24 - Go Big or Go Home: Position, Mediums, Glazes & Painting 2-Day Class at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. Held again 10/1. 10 am-4 pm. \$260. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org
9/24 - Artist in Focus Tour - Koen Vanmechelen at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 1:30-2 pm. Free w/

paid Museum admission. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

9/24-25 - Sculptural Storytelling Inspired by Louise Nevelson 2-Day Class at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. 2-4:30 pm. \$65. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

Thursday - 9/25 - Mystical Abstract Landscape in Mixed Media at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. 2-4 pm. \$60. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

9/25 - Seminar: Celebrating the Big Bands of Modern Jazz w/Mark Gridley at FAU Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every Th through 10/23 (no class 10/2). 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$69.60/member; \$87/non-member; \$30/guest pass. 561-297-3185; olli.fau.edu

9/25 - Art Happy Hour - Alcohol Ink Designs at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 6-7:30 pm. \$30. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

9/25 - Estate Planning in Pop Culture with Jennifer Gomez at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. 6-7:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

9/25 - 2nd Annual Charity Poker Tournament at Vintage Gym at Old School Square, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Benefits Child Rescue Coalition. 6:15-11 pm. Tickets start at \$150. 561-208-9000; childrescuecoalition.org/events/2nd-annual-crc-poker-tournament/

9/25 - Friends Virtual Book Club:

Only the Beautiful: A Novel by Susan Meissner presented by Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 6:30-7:30 pm. Free. 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

9/25 - Symphonic Stories: Latin Fire to London Legends at FAU University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$5-\$10. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

Friday - 9/26 - The Symphonia: Venetian Refractions - A Night of Art, Music, and Italian Indulgence at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 6:30-9 pm. \$118.80/person. 561-376-3858; thesymphonia.org; https://app.arts-people.com/index.php?actions=7&p=1

9/26 - Nobility & Joviality at FAU University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$10-\$20. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

9/26-27 - Mimic the Masters Acrylic Painting 2-Day Class at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. 10 am-1 pm. \$80-\$85. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

Saturday - 9/27 - Radiant Roses in Watercolor at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$40. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

9/27 - The Very Berry Bake Off at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. For home bakers. Celebrity judges, prizes, family fun. 1 pm. \$10/contestant. Entry form deadline 5 pm 9/19. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

9/27 - Milagro Center's 7th Annual Harvest Hoedown at Delray Beach

Golf Club, 2200 Highland Ave, Delray Beach. Featuring Jay Valor & his band, line dancing, bbq, wine/beer bar, silent auction, raffle. 7-10 pm. \$55. 561-279-2970; auctria.events/milagro-hoedown

9/27 - Sarge: Half the Man I Used To Be at The Wick Theatre & Costume Museum, 7901 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. \$40-\$60. Reservations: 561-995-2333; thewick.org

9/27 - WOR - A Tribute to the Women of Rock at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$50-\$55. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

9/27-28 - 30th Annual Downtown Delray Beach Craft Festival at 401 E Atlantic Ave. 100+ craft booths. 10 am-4 pm. Free. 561-746-6615; artfestival.com

SEPT. 28-OCT. 4

Sunday - 9/28 - Faculty Recital: Darko Varga at FAU University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3 pm. \$10-\$20. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

Monday - 9/29 - Trivia Night at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 6-7:30 pm. Free. 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

Tuesday - 9/30 - Book Talks - Fall Book Previews at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 10-11 am. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

9/30 - Guided Discussion: Trump Foreign Policy: An Evaluation w/Robert Rabil at FAU Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton.

10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$50.40/member; \$63/non-member. 561-297-3185; olli.fau.edu

9/30 - An American Family Faces the Civil War w/Donna Adair at FAU Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30.40/member; \$38/non-member. 561-297-3185; olli.fau.edu

Wednesday - 10/1 - Artist in Focus Tour - Tony Oursler at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 1:30-2 pm. Free w/ paid Museum admission. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

10/1 - Pinnacle Ecological Society: Ocean Science Lecture at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2-3:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

Thursday - 10/2 - The Art and History of Henna at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 6-7:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

10/2 - Night Market at Sanborn Square Park, 72 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Food, beer & wine, local artisans, live music. 6-9 pm. Free. myboca.us/2324/Night-Market

Friday - 10/3 - First Friday @ 5 Concert: TBA at Centennial Park & Amphitheater, 120 E Ocean Ave. Food trucks, artisan market, children's activities, music. 5-9 pm. Free. 561-742-6024; boynton-beach.org

10/3 - The Art of Laughter with Headliner Tom Briscoe featuring Richie Minervini at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$40. 561-

450-6357; artsgarage.org

10/3-4 - Avery Sommers: Showstoppers! at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 7:30 pm. Tickets start at \$45. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

10/3-5 - Moliere's Tartuffe at FAU Marleen Forkas Studio One Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Runs through 10/12. F/Sat: 7 pm; Sat/Sun: 2 pm. \$20-\$27. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

10/3-19 - Little Shop of Horrors at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Runs through 10/19. F/Sat: 7:30 pm; Sat/Sun: 2 pm. Show: tickets start at \$40; Dinner & show: tickets start at \$70. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

Saturday - 10/4 - Ceramics by You Class at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. Ages 18+. Every Sat through 12/20 1-2:30 pm. Per class \$15/ resident; \$19/non-resident. Registration: 561-742-6221; boynton-beach.org

10/4 - \$5 Studio Days at Creative Arts School, 51 N. Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Ages 5+. Held again 8/16. 1-3 pm. Free. 561-243-7209; delraybeachfl.gov/cas

10/4 - Boca Chamber Annual Gala - A Black Tie Affair at The Boca Raton, 501 E Camino Real. 6-11 pm. \$325/person. 561-395-4433; bocaratonchamber.com

10/4 - Ramble On: The Mighty Zeppelin at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$50-\$55. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

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