

# The Coastal Star

February 2026

Serving Highland Beach and Coastal Boca Raton

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## Boca Raton

### Downtown campus, council lineup, police HQ up to voters



Terra and Frisbie Group's latest renderings of the proposed buildings on the east side of Second Avenue show restaurant and other retail on ground floors, pedestrian promenade, protected bike lanes and shaded sidewalks. **Rendering provided**

### City OKs development pact, but insists election is last word

Save Boca starts new petition, not trusting that vote will be held

By Mary Hladky

With the outcome never in doubt, Boca Raton City Council members approved the major components of a public-private partnership with developers Terra and Frisbie Group to transform a portion of the 31.7-

acre downtown campus.

The 4-1 vote approved a master partnership agreement with Terra/Frisbie, a 99-year lease of 7.8 acres of city-owned land, and a management and construction agreement.

The deal will take effect only if city voters approve it in the March 10 election. A majority "no" vote will kill it.

Council members, under pressure from the Save Boca residents group that opposes

the downtown campus project, promised residents in September they would get that vote.

But Save Boca founder Jon Pearlman doesn't trust council members to keep that promise. He fears they will cancel the March 10 vote and vows not to let that happen.

The day after the council's Jan. 20 vote, Save Boca members began circulating petitions calling for council

members to repeal the ordinance that approves the agreements and lease.

If the council does not do so, the City Charter allows residents to vote on the matters, Pearlman contends. So a vote would be held even if the scheduled one is eliminated.

"What we are doing is to guarantee that the people will have the ability to vote and this is the only way to ensure that,"

See **PACT** on page 16

12 candidates vying for mayor and three other seats on dais

By Mary Hladky

With so much at stake, Boca Raton's March 10 election has outsized significance.

For starters, voters will be choosing a new mayor, who will replace term-limited Scott Singer, and three of the four City Council seats are up for grabs.

That alone imbues the **Mayor, council races** election with importance. But magnifying the impact

is that voters will be asked to decide if the city can redevelop a portion of the 31.7-acre downtown campus in partnership with developers Terra and Frisbie Group.

A "yes" vote will clear the way for the project to move forward, preserving recreation and green space on the west side of the campus and adding residential units and office and hotel buildings on the east side.

If the vote is "no," more than a year of planning and preparation will crumble to dust and city leaders will confront decisions on how, at the very least, they will replace the old and dilapidated City Hall and Community Center and improve outdated recreation facilities on the west side.

See **ELECTION** on page 17

## Along the Coast

### Proposed state law would target e-bike speeds

By Rich Pollack

Florida's laws governing new methods of transportation have been moving slower than a 3-year-old on a tricycle as the number of electric bikes on roads, bicycle paths and sidewalks throughout South Florida and elsewhere in the state continues to explode.

"The technology has gotten ahead of us," said state Rep.

Peggy Gossett-Seidman (R-Highland Beach), pointing out that there are now several types of e-bikes, electric scooters and e-skateboards. "It used to be just cars, trucks and motorcycles."

With the Florida Legislature now in session, lawmakers are hoping to finally address e-bikes on a statewide basis, with a bill that Gossett-Seidman co-sponsored wheeling its way through the legislative process.

The current version requires the creation of a state task force to study the issues surrounding e-bikes and make recommendations. The bill, which is still a work in progress, also requires the state to improve the processes used to collect data regarding e-bike crashes.

Another provision in the

See **E-BIKES** on page 37



A man rides his e-bike on a State Road A1A sidewalk in Delray Beach. A proposed state law would limit speeds on sidewalks if pedestrians are nearby. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

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#### The ArtsPaper

Boca Museum exhibit examines Art Nouveau movement and the man who helped launch it. **Page AT7**



**Drive-in delight**  
Lantana hosts alfresco movie night. **Page AT1**

#### Boca's Mizner Park turns 35

Controversial project brought life to downtown. **Page 17**

**Meaty goodness**  
Charm City Burger opens in Boca. **Page AT26**

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## Editor's Note

### Voters don't get much say when few run for office

**T**urtle time is coming, so let's talk elections.

March marks the start of the annual sea turtle season, when beach lighting dims and stakes marking buried turtle nests begin sprouting along the shoreline.

It's also municipal election season, when local voters head to the polls — if they haven't already cast their ballots through the mail — to choose their town and city leaders.

However, unlike sea turtle nestings, which come year after year no matter the weather or the danger from predators, local elections are often canceled due to lack of competition.

So, yes, there will be elections along Palm Beach County's southern coast this year, with 12 candidates and two major referendums on the March 10 ballot in Boca Raton, seven candidates in South Palm Beach, six in Gulf Stream, and a pivotal three-way race to be decided in Delray Beach.

But that's not the case in other coastal towns — such as Manalapan, Lantana, Ocean Ridge and Highland Beach — where there won't be an election because incumbents have already retained their seats without opposition. And it's not like Gulf Stream has an abundance of candidates, as its six candidates — five incumbents and one newcomer — are vying for five open seats, which sounds more like a single round of musical chairs.

Nor will there be an election in Briny Breezes, even though only one of its three open seats has been filled. No one is running for mayor or a second open council seat — even the incumbents didn't file. It'll be up to the reconstituted Town Council to find and appoint willing residents to fill those vacancies after March 10.

There are two competing possibilities for the lack of competition many of our communities experience. The negative one: apathy. The positive: a general feeling among residents that their town is being run well.

In Gulf Stream, where the

route to a seat on the Town Commission typically involves a promotion from the town's Architectural Review and Planning Board, having any election at all is newsworthy. The upcoming election will be only the town's fifth in the last 50 years.

Gulf Stream's last two contested elections were in 2017 and 2014. Before that, you have to go back to 1993 and then to 1978.

Sometimes, people just need a reason to run. In Boca Raton, the reason this year appears to be about how — or if — the city's downtown campus will be developed, while in South Palm Beach opposition has mounted over plans to build a new Town Hall.

Still, even in Delray Beach, which is in ongoing political upheaval, no one came forward to challenge incumbent Commissioner Angela Burns. The three candidates there are seeking to replace former Vice Mayor Rob Long, who was sworn in as a state representative in December. That race could be critical given that the City Commission is currently split 2-2 on many key issues.

If you're looking for *The Coastal Star's* endorsements in the local races, you won't find any because we don't make any. In this edition, we've put together election stories and candidate profiles to help inform you about the various choices. After that, it's up to you.

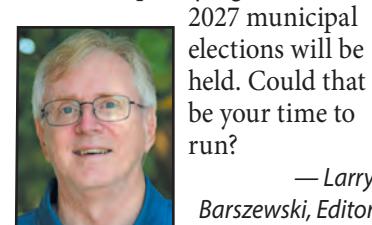
I think it's time for you to be like one of those determined sea turtles and show up (if there's an election where you live), either on election day at the polls, or through mailing in your ballot in time for your vote to be counted.

And start thinking ahead to when sea turtle season ends on Oct. 31, because soon after that, candidate qualifying for the

2027 municipal elections will be held. Could that be your time to run?

— Larry

Barszewski, Editor



## Coastal Stars

### Visits with hospitalized kids motivate Gulf Stream sisters to raise more money

By Brian Biggane

A movement that began as a tribute to a friend at Indiana University 25 years ago has found its way to Saint Andrew's School in Boca Raton, and a pair of teenage sisters from Gulf Stream have learned some important life lessons as a result.

Phoebe Condon, a senior at Saint Andrew's, and her sister Annabel, a freshman, are among the dozens of students at the school raising money in a program called Dance Marathon. The sisters previously attended Gulf Stream School.

Dance Marathon is designed to help the Children's Miracle Network in general and Nicklaus Children's Hospital in Miami in particular.

"As an adviser, it is a pleasure to witness the development of student leaders, and Phoebe is an exceptional example," said Victoria Zingarelli, a history teacher who oversees the club. "She has set a wonderful example not only for her younger sister but for many underclassmen in our program."

Dance Marathon began at Indiana University in 1991 as a memorial. Students committed to dancing 24 hours or more as a means of raising money and collected \$10,900 that first year. It has continued to this day and last November raised \$3.4 million, with total contributions now approaching \$60 million.

Zingarelli was a student at the University of Florida in 1995 when students introduced the program there. And she was teaching at Saint Andrew's in 2017 when she overheard students discussing the possibility of bringing it there. She volunteered to help and soon Dance Marathon had a new home.

Phoebe Condon joined the group her freshman year in 2022, but said her interest and involvement increased significantly after she and her classmates made a trip to the Nicklaus hospital two years later and got a firsthand look at what their fundraising was helping to accomplish.

"That lets you know what you're doing and who you're supporting," she said. "It was very emotional."

One stop was a wing where children were undergoing open-heart surgery. The students looked through a window and saw one baby whose chest hadn't been closed as doctors waited to determine if more had to be done.

"It was probably the saddest thing I've ever seen," Phoebe said.

"Then I went again this



Annabel and Phoebe Condon are raising money for Nicklaus Children's Hospital via the Feb. 20 Dance Marathon at Saint Andrew's School, where they are students. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

#### NOMINATE SOMEONE TO BE A COASTAL STAR

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couple of years, for a total of \$200,000. The goal this year is \$40,000 and the drive culminates Feb. 20 with its main event.

The Saint Andrew's event is a scaled-down version of the one in Indiana, lasting only four hours with four musical genres.

"I'll dance a lot but some of the time I'll just stand around," Phoebe said.

Phoebe has taken on greater responsibility during her time in the program — as a junior becoming lower and middle school captain to spread the word to younger children and this year moving up to vice president. "And now Annabel has become one of the captains as well," Zingarelli said.

Now going through the process of deciding on a college — Wake Forest, which older sister Lily attends, is one option — Phoebe plans to work toward a degree as a therapist, and this experience has underscored that goal.

"It's definitely made me want to work in the medical field, but more with post-traumatic events, like cancer. I want to work directly with children, so this club has definitely furthered my passion for psychology." ★

*To make a tax-deductible donation to the cause, visit [events.dancemarathon.com/teams/75330](http://events.dancemarathon.com/teams/75330).*

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## Letter to the Editor

### McCarty: Reaching out to mayor is every resident's right — including mine

I am writing you in reference to John Pacenti's January 2026 article: "Mayor's concerns cause 'chaos,' spur audit of downtown agency."

In the article, Pacenti notes that I offer advice to Mayor Tom Carney on occasion. Very true. Also true is that on a regular, often daily basis, Delray residents reach out to the mayor via phone, text or email with viewpoints, advice and criticism. And he in turn solicits their input. A healthy dialogue.

The mayor is always appreciative of residents' input, mine included.

Tom Carney and I have known each other for over 30 years, and he is mindful that I served on the Delray Beach commission for three years, and 18 years as a Palm Beach County commissioner representing Delray Beach. Many issues facing the city today are similar to those I experienced during my time in public office.

I am proud that I served my community as an elected official, and frankly, that I was reelected by the people of Palm Beach County at every election, 13 times in a row.

Pacenti was careful to note that, yes, I was convicted and went to prison. Where his reporting falls short, whether intentional or due to a lack of research, was that he failed to inform his readers that in June of 2010 the United States Supreme Court ruled unanimously that the statute governing my conviction was ruled unconstitutional. It was because of that unanimous ruling that I was given an unconditional presidential pardon.

Readers deserve to know the whole story.

— Mary McCarty  
Delray Beach

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## Boynton Beach

### Demolition marks progress for stalled Pierce project

By Patrick Sherry

Demolition of the Miller Land Planning building on Boynton Beach Boulevard next to Ace Hardware began in January, the first visible sign of progress for a stalled redevelopment project in downtown Boynton Beach approved nearly three years ago.

The building was the first to go in preparation for The Pierce, 115 N. Federal Highway. The Pierce, a complex of apartments, restaurants, retail stores, a parking garage and green space, is expected to take up most of the properties on the west side of Federal Highway between Ocean Avenue and Boynton Beach Boulevard, extending to the Florida East Coast Railway tracks. Ace Hardware is not part of the project site.

Affiliated Development originally estimated this as a \$73 million project, but has since said it will likely cost at least \$100 million. The 2.3-acre complex will have buildings up to eight stories tall and offer 150 units each of workforce apartments and market-rate luxury rentals. The developers will also construct a new home on the site for the Hurricane Alley Raw Bar and Restaurant.

City commissioners, meeting as the city's Community Redevelopment Agency governing board, received an update on the work at their Jan. 8 meeting.

Developers have replaced underground sewer lines at the site. The work, which started in October, needed to be finished before any construction could be done.

The project has faced a number of roadblocks. After it received commission approval in March 2023, some nearby property owners filed a lawsuit challenging the city's decision to relinquish control of some of the public rights-of-way on the project site. It put the developers' plans on hold until the following year, when a judge allowed the project to move forward.

They once again faced problems when it was discovered that some of the original property owners still owned lots on the site. After resolving this issue, they attempted to continue site preparation, but during the permitting process, they determined they needed to move underground sewer lines.

No construction date is currently set. ★

## South Palm Beach News

**Town Hall design delivered** — Maria Zappas-Porter, a frontline designer for CPZ Architects, told South Palm Beach Town Council members at their Jan. 20 meeting that the 146-page set of site plans for the new Town Hall was delivered on Jan. 16 and is awaiting final approval.

Zappas-Porter gave an extensive audiovisual presentation of the plans, with the first floor consisting of a garage for underground parking as well as a possible cafe area and a maintenance room. The second floor has offices for the council and Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, two community rooms with partition panels and space for town staff.

Vice Mayor Monte Berendes said after the meeting that the expandable community rooms will be welcome as exercise classes have been drawing overflow crowds during the season.

**Planning council offers assistance** — Kim DeLaney of the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council made a lengthy presentation laying out how the planning council can help local communities. She offered its assistance as the town continues to address issues concerning its State Road A1A sidewalk and the absence of an A1A crosswalk within the town's borders.

Council member Ray McMillan pointed out that towns both north and south of the South Palm Beach are in the process of getting new sidewalks and asked when South Palm Beach can have the same. The Florida Department of Transportation, which handles work on and along A1A, was invited to the meeting but did not send a representative.

DeLaney said her conversations with Town Manager Jamie Titcomb are just beginning and encouraged the council to put together a plan to address concerns by its February meeting. DeLaney is also scheduled to return as part of an ongoing lecture series in March.

**Lift station expenditure approved** — The council approved authorizing \$29,000 be paid to Hinterland Group for repairs to the town's lift station. A representative from Mock Roos & Associates, which has been contracted to build a new lift station, gave an update. The council also approved a motion to pursue a federal grant to cover most or all of the \$3 million to \$4 million the project is expected to cost.

The lift station receives sewage from the town's condos and sends it to the Lake Worth Beach treatment plant. The station is between the Brittany and Concordia West condominiums.

— Brian Biggane

## Gulf Stream



Town Manager Trey Nazzaro (foreground), Police Chief Richard Jones and Town Clerk Reneé Basel constitute three changes in leadership jobs in Gulf Stream in recent years. Nazzaro's promotion in January follows Jones' hiring from Ocean Ridge in 2023 and Basel's promotion in 2022. **Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star**

## Town promotes retiring manager's right-hand man to top job

By Steve Plunkett

At their first meeting since Town Manager Greg Dunham announced his retirement, Gulf Stream town commissioners quickly elevated Trey Nazzaro, his assistant, as his successor.

"I think Trey is the perfect candidate," Commissioner Joan Orthwein said before the unanimous vote Jan. 9.

"I'm absolutely in favor of this," Commissioner Robert Canfield said.

Choosing Nazzaro was one of three options Dunham gave to replace him. Commissioners could also have gotten free help in a search for job candidates from a state municipal managers group or spent up to \$30,000 on a headhunter.

By picking Nazzaro and opting not to replace him with another assistant, "We'll actually be saving money," Orthwein said.

But Nazzaro did receive a healthy salary boost, from \$178,000 a year to \$230,000.

"We should move him up equal to Ocean Ridge," Mayor Scott Morgan said, and into the midrange of manager pay on the barrier island.

After being praised by Morgan and Dunham, Nazzaro lauded Town Clerk Reneé Basel, who he said "is just such a such a huge value add in her position."

"She's not only the town clerk but does a lot of what I would consider assistant manager or senior-level things," just like the relationship previous Manager Bill Thrasher and Clerk Rita Taylor had, Nazzaro said.

"That's the relationship that I envision having with Reneé."

Nazzaro, 43, started working

for the town in 2014 as a paralegal at Gulf Stream's law firm, Jones Foster, while he was still attending St. Thomas University School of Law. The town passed a resolution of appreciation for the work he did then, authoring Gulf Stream's public records policy. He graduated that year magna cum laude and spent the next two years as a law clerk in federal court in Miami before being hired full time by the town as staff attorney.

"You had at one point 33 lawsuits that you were actively managing with our outside counsel, which were usually two or three," Vice Mayor Tom Stanley recalled of Nazzaro's early days. "I would go into your office and all I would see was stacks and stacks of things. There were motions and pleadings and depositions."

At the time, the town was being buffeted by thousands of public records requests and dozens of lawsuits, mostly by a couple of residents.

"I think when you see a young man go through something — you had a young child and a family, you were here late and you did all those things for us to get us through that. You know, that shows the character, the type of professional, the type of employee, type of family member that we want on our staff," Stanley said.

Commissioners were also effusive with praise for Dunham, who was hired in 2017 when Gulf Stream was still battling lawsuits and public records requests.

"Your calm demeanor and presence stabilized what could have been a real problem in this Town Hall because we



Dunham

had already lost staff," Morgan said. "But you kept people together, you moved it forward, and we made it through that time, due in no small part to your leadership."

Dunham also guided the town through the end phase of its utility undergrounding project and devised its ambitious 10-year capital improvement plan to replace water mains and stormwater drains and resurface roadways.

"So as you move forward into your retirement, I want you to know that you leave with honor but also with the best wishes and the gratitude of this town," the mayor said.

Dunham began his career as a police officer and assistant city manager in Texas, then moved to Florida State University for a master's degree in public administration. He was an assistant city manager in Palm Beach Gardens, then town manager in Ocean Ridge from 1998 to 2002 and in Manalapan from 2002 to 2010. After a break from government work, he served as town manager of Kenly, North Carolina, for five years before coming to Gulf Stream.

He thanked his staff "for your hard work and your dedication and commitment to make Gulf Stream the best town for our residents to live in."

"It's been the best job I've ever had," Dunham said. "What a job to have at the end of your career and what a town to work for." ★

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## Ocean Ridge

### Town selects new engineering firm

Move ends a 20-year alliance; exiting leader did not submit bid

By John Pacenti

Ocean Ridge has selected Craig A. Smith & Associates as its primary town engineering firm and approved negotiations with five additional specialty consultants to provide continuing professional services, town officials said Jan. 28.

That ends a two-decade relationship between the town and engineer Lisa Tropepe of Engenuity Group. Tropepe did not submit a bid or return a phone call seeking comment.

Deerfield Beach-based Craig A. Smith & Associates will serve as the "anchor" firm for day-to-day engineering work.

The Town Commission also voted at its Jan. 12 meeting to authorize staff to enter negotiations with CHA Consulting, Pennoni Associates,

CPZ Architects, West Architecture & Design, and Florida Technical Consultants for specialty services.

The specialty firms fill specific project needs, Town Manager Michelle Heiser said. For example, Florida Technical Consultants will update the town's GIS and provide a public dashboard.

Steve Smith of Craig A. Smith & Associates said his team has ample local experience and is ready to work with Ocean Ridge. "We are intimately familiar with your challenges," he told the commission. "We're local. We've always been local, and we will be involved."

Town officials said the transition should be smooth for ongoing projects.

Heiser told the commission that Tropepe will continue work on active contracts and permitting, while the newly selected firms will assume new assignments after contracts are finalized. ★

**The next edition of *The Coastal Star* will be distributed the weekend of March 7**

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## Delray Beach

### Crews break water main while drilling well for new plant

By John Pacenti

To make an omelet, you have to break a few eggs. When it comes to Delray Beach's \$280 million water plant, that apparently meant breaking the main line that provides water to the city.

A 36-inch water main break at Delray Beach's water treatment plant early Jan. 3 forced the city to temporarily rely on neighboring municipalities for water supply while crews worked to repair the damage.

The break occurred around 4 a.m. that Saturday during drilling operations for a deep injection well. Utilities Director Hassan Hadjimiry said the contractor hit the underground pipe while drilling the well, which is needed to dispose of undrinkable water from the new facility's nano-filtration system.

"These are 36-inch pipes that can carry close to 20 million gallons per day," Hadjimiry told the City Commission at its Jan. 6 meeting. "When that is impacted, millions of gallons of water can come out in a day."

The city contained the break by 11 p.m. the same day and immediately activated interconnections with Palm Beach County, Boca Raton and Boynton Beach to maintain water service.

Residents were never without water, though the city requested they reduce unnecessary usage for irrigation, car washing and driveway cleaning during the emergency.

Hadjimiry told *The Coastal Star* the incident highlights the challenges of working around aging infrastructure at the 60-plus-year-old treatment plant site, where "there are a lot of treasures that are hidden underground." Despite

the city's having maps of underground utilities, the exact locations can be difficult to pinpoint due to the facility's age, he said.

"Whenever you open a ground that hasn't been exposed for, God knows how many decades, you find this stuff," he said. "You plan for the worse but hope everything gets done right."

Youngquist Brothers, the contractor handling the deep injection well project, will bear the costs for the damaged pipe and emergency repairs, Hadjimiry said. The company specializes in deep injection wells throughout Florida.

The utilities director emphasized that water quality was never compromised during the incident.

Repairs took about a week and involved the replacement of the damaged 36-inch pipe and some defective valves discovered during the incident. "It's not something that you go to Home Depot and get the part," Hadjimiry said.

The water treatment plant, currently producing up to 9 million gallons per day through an alternate pipeline, continues operating normally. The new facility is scheduled for completion by mid-2028 and will significantly expand the city's water treatment capacity from 14 million to 22 million gallons per day.

City officials participated in a groundbreaking ceremony for the new water plant on Jan. 29 at the treatment plant site.

The city's utility system operates on an enterprise fund separate from the general budget, so repair costs and temporary water purchases from neighboring municipalities will not mean higher water bills for residents, Hadjimiry said. ★



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## Boynton Beach

# Commission wants to know if planned CRA purchases have resident backing

By Patrick Sherry

Boynton Beach commissioners serving as the Community Redevelopment Agency board hit the brakes on moving forward with a \$7.25 million land acquisition at the city's downtown gateway on Boynton Beach Boulevard. They want to know if nearby property owners will hinder any of their revitalization plans.

The location of the 13 parcels at 444 W. Boynton Beach Blvd., east of Interstate 95, leads into

the heart of downtown. Late last year, work crews demolished the Inn at Boynton Beach — purchased by the CRA for \$8.1 million in October — that sits adjacent to the site. The CRA land acquisition in this area is part of plans to turn the east-west corridor into a major city center.

Commissioners considered acquiring the 3.30-acre site at the Jan. 20 CRA meeting. Chris Brown, the CRA's executive director, advised the board to move quickly to approve the

land buy to meet the proposed March 13 closing date.

"It's an excellent purchase, and I think it will combine with the hotel that we bought previously," Brown said. "This will make a great assemblage for a new development."

To pay the seller's asking price, city staff recommended reallocating \$2.5 million set aside for a parking garage to property acquisition. While most of the board supported buying the land, there were concerns about the lack of

plans to acquire surrounding properties that could be added to the assemblage — and potential opposition from nearby neighborhoods.

Commissioners Aimee Kelley and Thomas Turkin wanted more input from those homeowners to ensure that the city could move forward with any future projects on the site. They believe there should be community buy-in before they pour money into it.

"I want to make sure that we're not going down this road,

and then we have residents who don't support what maybe this board's vision is, or the city's vision is, in these parcels," Kelley said.

The board moved consideration of acquiring the land and reallocating funds towards its purchase to the Feb. 10 CRA meeting. The board directed staff to bring back feedback from residents near the site and prepare more details on purchasing other surrounding properties. ★

## Josie's Ristorante planning to move a short drive away

By Patrick Sherry and Larry Barszewski

Island residents will have to drive a little farther in the future if they want to get their fix of authentic Italian cuisine from Josie's Ristorante. Owners of the popular Boynton Beach dining spot are making preparations to build a new home for their restaurant.

The new location will be on Federal Highway 1.5 miles south of Josie's current home at the southeast corner of Woolbright Road and Federal Highway.

The standalone restaurant would be at 3047 N. Federal Highway, on the east side of Federal a few blocks north of the Walmart, but the land

first needs to be rezoned by the city from special high density residential to general commercial.

The City Commission gave initial approval to that rezoning at its Jan. 20 meeting. A second vote, scheduled for its Feb. 3 meeting, had to be postponed because the item was not advertised properly. The commission now plans to take up the request at a special meeting Feb. 10.

At the Jan. 20 meeting, Joni Brinkman, principal and senior planner for Urban Design Studio, spoke on behalf of the applicant.

"They are an establishment that's been here many years," Brinkman said. "They're a staple

of the community, and they're excited to be able to go into a new building eventually."

The owners' lease ends in November, and they have already started the permitting process for the new construction. They were not able to provide details on how the new restaurant will look or when they expect it will be completed.

The new site is being split from another parcel that will still be zoned for high density residential.

The rezoning initially worried some commissioners who feared current state law could open the doors to a development they would not want to see at the site.

Commissioner Angela Cruz

said the rezoning might make the property eligible to be used through the state's Florida's Live Local Act.

"I just wanted to get a commitment that that's not the intent here, and it's just to build a restaurant," Cruz said.

State lawmakers designed the Live Local Act to increase affordable housing by incentivizing the building of residential developments on sites zoned for commercial, industrial, or mixed use.

Several municipalities across the state have criticized the law because it allows developers to override local restrictions for housing projects.

Brinkman told commissioners the owners only want to build a restaurant on the

property.

"The applicant has gone to extensive costs to date to prepare all the drawings, the architecture, and the permitting ... my understanding is their intent is to build the restaurant," Brinkman said.

Local residents also voiced support for the restaurant and its plans.

"I think we should go forward with this," Susan Oyer said. "I'm sure they're going to do the right thing because they're fine upstanding people in our community."

Commissioners then unanimously approved on first reading amending the site's future land use map and the rezoning of the property for commercial use. ★

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## Highland Beach/Delray Beach

### Work finishing up on State Road A1A

Motorists driving north on State Road A1A approaching Linton Boulevard may be getting some relief from congestion at the intersection as workers reinstalled wires that help control when the traffic signal should change.

Two Florida Department of Transportation projects, one from Linton Boulevard through Highland Beach and the other from Linton Boulevard to Atlantic Avenue in Delray Beach, are wrapping up with just a handful of jobs remaining to be done.

One of the tasks that had been outstanding was the installation of traffic-signal detection loops, which was completed in late January. Without the triggering devices, the lights had been changing at timed intervals.

That work is part of the 1.55-mile road project on A1A in Delray Beach that includes regrading the road from Linton Boulevard to Casuarina

Road as well as regrading swales in the area.

The \$2.2 million project also includes sidewalk and curb ramp improvements, upgrading pedestrian crossing signals at two intersections on A1A and installing flashing beacons at five crosswalks. Improved signage and pavement markings are part of the project.

The vast majority of the work on that project is completed with the exception of the improvements at Linton Boulevard and concrete work being done on Nassau Street.

A few brief road closures may be required during work in those areas.

Work on the 3.35-mile project in Highland Beach is also all but completed, according to FDOT, with contractors working on a punch list of small corrections or additional improvements.

—Rich Pollack

## Delray Beach

# Tie vote keeps tennis star's grandmother off City Commission — again

By Larry Barszewski and John Pacenti

Tennis star Coco Gauff's grandmother wanted to be a Delray Beach city commissioner — if only for a handful of meetings — but she and her supporters couldn't get the commission to agree.

Odom

Yvonne Odom has been a respected leader in the city's Black community for decades.

The opportunity to fill the commission vacancy created when former Vice Mayor Rob Long was elected a state representative in December seemed to Odom's supporters a perfect opportunity to honor her for her contributions to the city.

But due to politics, the City Commission has been stuck at 2-2 on several recent issues, with Odom's appointment yet another casualty. The commission voted 2-2 on her appointment in December and

then again at its Jan. 20 meeting — after many residents spoke in support of her nomination.

Mayor Tom Carney and Vice Mayor Angela Burns wanted to put her on the dais, but Commissioners Juli Casale — saying "mischief is afoot" — and Tom Markert chose to leave the seat open until voters pick someone on March 10.

Rather than seeing it as a ceremonial appointment, Casale and Markert said they did not think an unelected commissioner should be the swing vote on any upcoming issues.

However, in December, Markert and Casale had voted to appoint Price Patton, a member of the city's Planning & Zoning Board and part owner of *The Coastal Star*, to the post, but he also was defeated 2-2.

The recent actions weren't something new for Odom. She lost out on filling a previous commission vacancy, also on a 2-2 vote, in 2017.

But Odom did not go quietly this time. She held a news conference with the NAACP on Jan. 30, with speakers

alleging a pre-cooked political outcome despite giving Odom's supporters the impression she would be selected.

"We never know what is behind the scenes. You only know what somebody tells you," Odom said. "It reminds me of an abusive relationship where the joker slaps the you-know-what out of a person and sends them flowers the next day."

Dedrick D. Straghni, president of South Palm Beach County NAACP, said that allowing the Black community to believe Odom would sit on the dais was nothing but political theater.

"A decision that looked pre-decided, dressed up with talking points and delivered with the expectation that the public would just swallow it," he said.

In a Jan. 28 letter to the editor in the *Sun Sentinel*, Mayor Carney called Casale's and Markert's votes "an appalling rebuke to that community," saying "two of my fellow commissioners paid tribute to Dr. King one day, only to reject an icon of the Black community the next." ★

## Ocean Ridge

# Town faces uncertainty over who'll handle future water, fire rescue services

By John Pacenti

First, it was about the drinking water supplied to town residents. Now it's also about the fire rescue services residents receive.

Ocean Ridge leaders have learned that Palm Beach County could assume responsibility for Boynton Beach's water utilities and its fire rescue services — both of which the town uses.

Any changes would affect Briny Breezes, which also relies on Boynton Beach for water and fire rescue services.

Ocean Ridge Town Manager Michelle Heiser informed the Town Commission at its Jan. 12 meeting of the fire rescue possibility, though she noted Boynton Beach's discussions with the county are in the preliminary stages regarding the fire department.

"This is really exploring options," Heiser said.

Heiser told commissioners she was monitoring the situation and did not expect an immediate drop in service, but she cautioned that "sometimes change means a change in costs as well."

For the current fiscal year, Ocean Ridge pays Boynton Beach nearly \$1.6 million for fire and EMS services.

Town Attorney Christy Goddeau noted existing

agreements can limit how and when services are changed, saying the current agreement for fire rescue services is good through Sept. 30, 2028.

Boynton Beach and county officials have not released a timetable for a decision. Any formal proposal likely would prompt public hearings and disclosures detailing the operational and financial impacts before elected bodies decide whether to proceed.

The fire rescue considerations came in the wake of earlier announcements that Boynton Beach would also consider handing over its water treatment operations to Palm Beach County.

Boynton Beach City Manager Dan Duggar has said the city would drop its efforts to annex several communities west of its boundaries if the county would purchase the city's water operations.

The County Commission has approved county staff's investigating a potential takeover of Boynton Beach's water utilities.

Besides getting water and fire rescue services from Boynton Beach, Ocean Ridge relies on city staff for its vast expertise, Heiser said.

"Our relationship with the city ... has been really strong from the city manager's office to the fire department and also, specifically, the utilities department," Heiser said. ★

will give the city more time to secure a grant reimbursement to cover some of the cost.

The plant, built in 1982, needed improvements to be able to treat wastewater more effectively. In 2016, the City Commission entered into a \$300,000 grant agreement with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to rehabilitate and modernize it.

City documents do not disclose the total cost of the project, but most of the grant funds will cover construction services.

— Patrick Sherry

## Boynton Beach News

**At last, wastewater plant upgrade at Oceanfront Park** — The aging wastewater treatment plant at Boynton Beach's Oceanfront Park is expected to have its long-delayed upgrade finished within the next few months.

The project, initially approved a decade ago, is expected to make wastewater treatment at the site more reliable and resilient.

The City Commission approved extending the project deadline, with the grant closeout scheduled for September 2027. The new deadline

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## Manalapan

# Town overhauls fee schedule for building permits

By John Pacenti

The Manalapan Town Commission has approved a broad update to its building-related fee schedule, the first major overhaul since 2010, following staff recommendations that existing fees no longer cover the true cost of operations and legal review.

Building official Jacek "Jack" Tomasik told commissioners at their Jan. 20 meeting that the changes focus on "supporting fees," not the core building permit fee itself, which remains unchanged.

Key elements include:

- Higher planning and zoning application fees for variances, special exceptions, site plan reviews, zoning text amendments, and ARCOM (Architectural Commission)

reviews, which Tomasik said are currently "completely outdated" and fail to reflect the intensive back-and-forth with applicants and attorneys.

- A new surety requirement tied to the cost of police traffic maintenance during construction, to address State Road A1A situations where FDOT requires officers or traffic control around work zones. The bond would be collected before road-affected work begins.

- Zoning review fees were added to all building permits after staff noted Florida law prohibits using building permit revenue to fund zoning work. The new fee will help pay for additional hours by Zoning Administrator Alice Everard, who has agreed to increase her schedule by six hours a week to keep pace with demand.

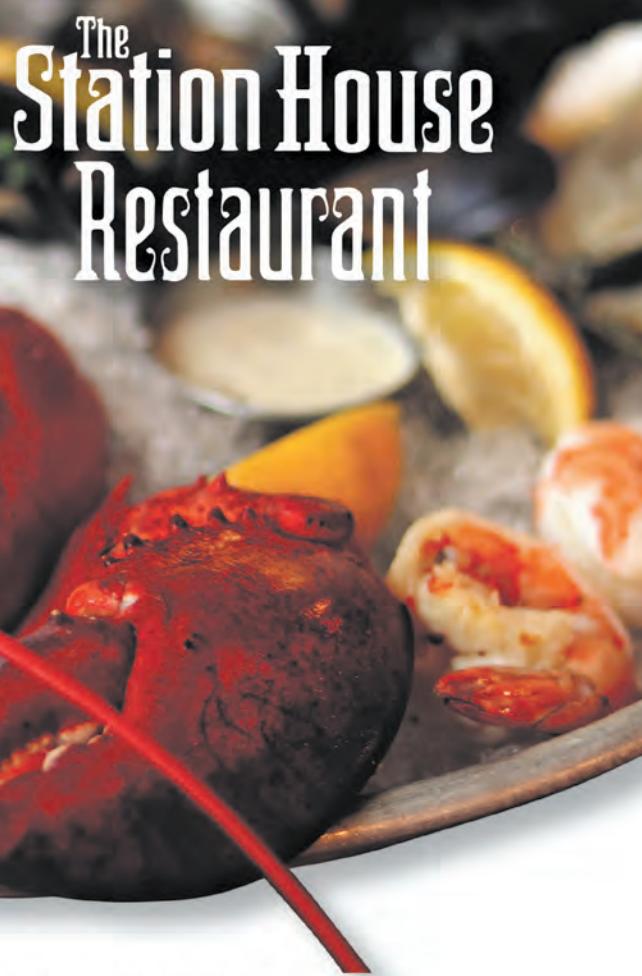
- A revamped permit renewal

and extension structure, reducing the renewal fee from a flat \$1,000 — which Tomasik said made little sense for small jobs like water heaters and AC change-outs — to \$250 for minor permits, with larger projects paying 2% of the calculated permit fee.

- A refund policy to return a substantial portion of fees when projects are canceled after a permit application is submitted or the permit is issued.

- New expedited plan review fees — \$1,000 for residential and \$1,750 for commercial — allowing applicants to pay extra to have plans reviewed on an overtime basis without delaying other projects.

Tomasik said the package is intended both to "recover the cost of operation" and keep Manalapan "statutorily compatible" with Florida law, while aligning generally with neighboring municipalities of similar size. ★



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## Police to get tech upgrade

Manalapan town commissioners have signed off on a 10-year contract that will overhaul the town's police technology — from body-worn cameras and tasers to in-car video and license plate recognition (LPR) cameras.

Police Chief Jeff Rasor said the department is moving from a patchwork of three- and four-year contracts to a single 10-year agreement with Axon, an industry leader.

The new body camera includes built-in language translation for up to 100 languages. Officers will be able to press a button, have speech translated into English, and then respond into the camera with their message rendered back into the other language.

Rasor emphasized that Manalapan's current LPR system, run by a company called Insight, is a decade old and functions as a "license plate recorder," not a reader. The new system will read plates in real time as they enter Manalapan and flag stolen vehicles, stolen tags, and cars tied to felony offenses outside the town.

Cameras at town entry points will be supplemented by LPR in patrol vehicles, allowing officers to scan plates as they drive and catch suspect vehicles that bypass fixed readers, he said.

Rasor called police technology a "force multiplier."

"It gives us the opportunity to interact with the criminal before they actually commit the crime, and essentially making the town safer," he said.

— John Pacenti

## Manalapan

### Party celebrates the season

J. Turner Moore Memorial Library, Manalapan — Jan. 23



LEFT: Manalapan residents (l-r) Al Young, Bunny Young, Jill Stromberg, Jack Elkins, Shirley Saleeby, Patricia Knobel and Bear enjoy the festivities as Manalapan welcomes the new season. ABOVE: Rick and Suzi Goldsmith. Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

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## Sand transfer plant to have administrative hearing in June

Manalapan's long-running battle over the Boynton Inlet transfer plant that sends sand from the town's side to Ocean Ridge is heading toward a four-day administrative hearing scheduled for June 2, the Town Commission was told at its January meeting.

Town Manager Eric Marmer said the town has retained a coastal expert as a witness and is in the process of providing him with documents from both Palm Beach County and Manalapan as part of its challenge. The case centers on how the sand transfer plant affects erosion along the barrier island, including Manalapan's shoreline.

Marmer noted the hearing, expected to take place in West Palm Beach, does not immediately affect the plant's operations, and the facility will "continue to operate as it is."

The hearing is expected to feature dueling experts and detailed technical evidence about sand movement and shoreline impacts. Commissioners and residents will be allowed to attend, Marmer said.

Local frustration over beach erosion has been a recurring topic in and around Manalapan, with some residents arguing that current sand management practices benefit other stretches of coastline while leaving the town's dunes and oceanfront properties increasingly exposed.

—John Pacenti

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**PACT**

Continued from page 1

Pearlman told *The Coastal Star* in a text message.

But City Attorney Joshua Koehler said what Pearlman seeks would cause voter confusion, potentially create two elections that duplicate each other and turn the March 10 vote into an inconclusive result.

**Backlash to petition**

Pearlman's actions prompted the City Council to hold a special meeting on Jan. 27 where members passed a resolution directing the City Clerk not to accept any petitions collected by Save Boca.

In February, they are scheduled to pass a measure that affirms that voters will have the final say on the redevelopment project.

"If voters say 'no,' there is no deal," Koehler said.

But Pearlman insisted at the special meeting that the council can't be trusted. "We are up against deep pockets and very motivated politicians," he said.

"Shame on you," Mayor Scott Singer told Pearlman. "Please, for the love of the community... please stop the misstatements."

Everything "is contingent on the vote of residents," Singer said. "There are no tricks, no funny business."

In a surprising turn of events, some Save Boca supporters criticized Pearlman's actions.

The ordinance and related documents state they are null and void if voters don't approve the redevelopment project. So if the ordinance is repealed, that protection disappears, they said.

Two vocal Save Boca members, Joe Majhess and Richard Warner, voiced objections to Pearlman's stance at the special meeting.

Majhess said the ordinance includes a "binding contract" to allow residents to vote on March 10. "Stop trying to undermine it," he said.

The notion that the city is trying to scuttle the vote, he said, "is a lie."



Volunteers for Save Boca count signatures in front of the Downtown Library recently. The group is asking residents to sign a petition to undo the City Council's agreement with Terra and Frisbie Group, saying the city might cancel the March 10 vote. However, council members say the vote will be held and is binding, so the petition is unnecessary. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

**BELOW:** The project includes five residential buildings, a hotel and an office building. The residential would include 77 workforce housing units. **Rendering provided**



"I don't understand the need for this petition," Warner said.

Speaking after the meeting, Majhess referred to a recent Save Boca email that said in part, "This is our recourse to guarantee we can vote on this."

"The implication is somehow

you don't have the right to vote yet," Majhess said. "And that is incorrect."

The successful Save Boca fight to give residents a vote "is a huge win," he said. But the petition now in circulation is "not taking a win."

He and another Save Boca member, who declined to be interviewed at this time, have been blocked from posting on Save Boca's Facebook and Instagram pages since opposing the ordinance repeat, he said.

Asked if Save Boca is fractured, Majhess said, "I don't necessarily think it is. I think it is a superficial wound. I think the fundamental mission is still there," which is the protection of public land and having a March 10 vote.

Pearlman acknowledged taking down social media comments. "If there are attacks on Save Boca ... we usually remove that because... we want to have things that are positive to the movement there."

But he denied any friction. "Save Boca has thousands of supporters across the whole city. Everyone is behind what we are doing...."

**Downtown transformation**

Before these events, council members on Jan. 20 explained

why they are for or against the development project.

"I am optimistic this plan meets the best vision of what we can achieve and the moment is now," said Singer, who voted in favor of the ordinance with three council members who strongly support the project.

He cited "the way this opportunity has to transform the downtown" just as Mizner Park did 35 years ago.

Singer also cited revised calculations by the city's consultants that the project will generate more than \$4 billion in revenue for the city over the course of the 99-year land lease.

And he got in a dig at Pearlman, who is running for a council seat in March.

"There have been a lot of comments about saving Boca," he said, "some from an individual who has yet to vote in a city election."

Deputy Mayor Fran Nachlas, though, thanked Save Boca members. "You pushed and pushed and helped make this project a better project," said Nachlas, who is running for mayor March 10. Singer could not run again because he was term limited.

In extensive comments, Council member Andy Thomson, who is also running to become mayor, noted that the city will have to pay upfront the \$201 million cost of a new City Hall, Community Center, police substation and other improvements on the west side of the city land and will not recoup that money for many years from the revenue generated by the land lease.

A more typical public-private partnership requires the developer to pay those costs, said Thomson, who has opposed the project from the start and voted against the ordinance.

This creates too much risk for the city, he said. "I don't believe this plan constitutes a responsible use of the city's resources."

**Are the changes enough?**

He also criticized the project's density, which has changed little even though Terra/Frisbie has scaled the project back several times in response to Save Boca opposition.

Now, it will be 1.2 million square feet of development squeezed on to 7.8 acres, down from 1.5 million distributed throughout the downtown campus, he said.

The project originally was to encompass the entire downtown campus. But after Save Boca opposed that, Terra/Frisbie agreed to leave nearly 17.3 acres west of Northwest Second Avenue largely as recreation and park space, although it would also include a new City Hall, Community Center and police substation.

Much remains to be decided about what happens with that land. If the city agrees, Terra/Frisbie is willing to go ahead with its plans that include creating a memorial for military service members.

But there is also strong support for the city's taking the reins on the west side land. If that happens, the Terra/Frisbie plans for that side could be scrapped with the city taking over the design and likely building less expensive buildings.

The 7.8 acres the developers would lease are on the east side of Second Avenue, also called Boca Raton Boulevard. Another 6.7 acres on the east side would remain in city control.

Terra/Frisbie would build seven buildings — five residential (including one condo), a hotel and an office building. The residential would include 77 workforce housing units for those who earn no more than 120% of the county's average median income.

The city would build a \$30 million garage with about 600 parking spaces.

No plans have been announced for privately owned parcels that flank those buildings.

**One Boca**

Terra/Frisbie has branded itself as One Boca for its role in the project. Over the past two months, it has become much more active in communicating directly with residents and promoting the benefits of the public-private partnership with the city.

In January, One Boca released new conceptual renderings of its proposed buildings on the east side of Second Avenue which will include restaurant and other retail on the ground floors along with a pedestrian promenade, protected bike lanes and shaded sidewalks.

The renderings proposed contemporary architectural styles for its buildings in response to some residents who wanted them based on those created by celebrated architect Addison Mizner. They are "modern Mizner," "modern Mediterranean" and "modern mid-century modern." ★



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## Boca Raton

# Downtown campus controversy reminds some of Mizner Park's birth

By Mary Hladky

Residents jam city meetings to protest. The subject consumes hours of debate. Recriminations fly. City leaders are faced with controversial votes.

Does this sound like today's furor over the planned redevelopment of Boca Raton's downtown campus? Yes, but it also describes the creation of Mizner Park.

Mizner Park celebrated its 35th birthday on Jan. 11. City leaders say no one can imagine life in Boca Raton without it.

"This is 1988 revisited," architect Derek Vander Ploeg said of the downtown campus saga. "It is almost exactly the same."

"It was controversial," said attorney Wendy Larsen, who was one of a group of five key people who got Mizner Park off the ground. "It was the first new thing that happened downtown. Anytime you are doing a first, it is bound to be hard."

Asked how complicated the task was, she said, "On a scale of 1 to 10, it was probably a 10."

Mizner Park was what Larsen described as "really the first of its kind in Florida" — a combination of residential, office, retail and restaurants.

It was to replace the dilapidated Boca Raton Mall and its frequently flooded parking lots that residents had no use for.

Boca art festival at Mizner Park celebrates 20th season  
Page 22

That's generally what developers Terra and Frisbie Group and city officials have in mind for the 31.7-acre downtown campus, although that project as now envisioned would also have a hotel and city buildings.

In both cases, the central idea was to create a popular destination.

Asked about the parallels between opposition then and now, Larsen said, "There is always a group out there who is against progress. Whether or not it is the current design of the downtown campus, something has to be done. I hope it is soon. We have needed a new City Hall for 20 years."

Deputy City Manager Jorge Camejo headed up the city's Community Redevelopment Agency when the Mizner Park concept came into being.

"In the early 1980s, there was absolutely no reason to want to be in downtown Boca Raton," he said in a July episode of Boca Raton Untold, a video series created in partnership with Lynn University's College of Communication and Design.

"The idea behind Mizner Park was to create a catalyst that would be a great public space and also spur investment throughout the balance of the



Shoppers stroll the newly built Mizner Park in 1991. The park celebrated its 35th birthday Jan. 11. Photo provided by Boca Raton Historical Society

downtown," he said.

After the Town Center mall opened in 1980, "something had to be done to save the downtown. The commerce was now going west," he said. "With Mizner Park, we changed that significantly."

Its design was inspired by the Piazza Navona in Rome, and that was one of the reasons it was controversial.

The buildings faced a central

space with their backs to Federal Highway.

"Back then, that was blasphemous," Camejo said. "People were outraged."

At the time, there were almost no residential units in the downtown, but many people panned the idea of including them in Mizner Park. They were proved wrong.

"When we opened Phase 1 in 1990, there were 136 residential

units available ..." Camejo said. "They went like hotcakes. It was occupied almost instantly."

Now, Mizner Park is looking bedraggled and could use a refresh. That might be coming.

Brookfield Properties, Mizner Park's owner, put the property up for sale a year ago, and negotiations with a suitor are underway. ★

## ELECTION

Continued from page 1

Voters also will determine if a new police headquarters can be built on city-owned land on Spanish River Boulevard east of the city library, replacing the old and inadequate headquarters across the street from the current City Hall.

They will be asked whether to approve a \$175 million bond issue to finance the construction. Residents would pay for it through a property tax increase that would end when the bond is paid off.

Beyond all that, voters are experiencing unprecedented political activism by Save Boca, the residents' group that opposes the downtown campus redevelopment plans.

Save Boca wants to seize control of the City Council, fielding a slate of three council candidates that could become a council majority.

They are Michelle Grau for Seat A, Save Boca founder Jon Pearlman for Seat B and Stacy Sipple for Seat D. All have vowed not to take campaign contributions from developers.

The mayor's race is impacted as well. Candidate Mike Liebelson is not a Save Boca member but strongly supports the group. He is running against two current council members, Fran Nachlas and Andy Thomson.

Nachlas, now deputy mayor, supports the downtown campus redevelopment with Terra/Frisbie, while Thomson is strongly opposed.

Nachlas and Thomson have raised an astonishing amount of money for their campaigns and are running almost neck-and-neck in fundraising.

The most recent financial reports at the end of December showed Nachlas with \$473,000 in contributions and Thomson with \$407,000. Nachlas loaned her campaign \$100,000.

Liebelson is almost entirely self-financing his campaign with a \$50,000 loan and a \$5,000 donation.

With Nachlas and Thomson locked in the battle to become mayor, Council member Marc Wigder is the only incumbent seeking reelection to the seat he now holds. ★

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## Boca Raton: Mayor

# Trio running for mayor includes two council incumbents

By Mary Hladky

**Fran Nachlas** is a retired surgical nurse and University of Florida graduate who won election to the Boca Raton City Council in November 2022 when no one else filed to run for the seat.

She would have assumed office the following March, but her fellow council members, seeing no reason to wait, appointed her to the position early.

Her council colleagues selected her to be deputy mayor in March 2025.

Nachlas supports redeveloping the downtown campus with Terra/Frisbie. Despite strong push-back from Save Boca, she believes the project has public support.

"I have had many, many conversations with people who think it is an added value to our city to move forward with this project," she said.

She does acknowledge that "there are people who have concerns."

In response to Save Boca's key demand that voters should have the final say on the redevelopment project, she noted that "I have always supported the right of voters to vote on this on March 10."

In a campaign video, she subtly suggested that the downtown campus project should not define the election or obscure other important matters before the council.

"Our government campus initiative is 8 acres. Our downtown is 344 acres. Our city is 29 square miles," she said. "We need to keep things in perspective and focus on the big picture."

In an earlier video, she said the city needs to deal with traffic, infrastructure, keeping neighborhoods safe and homelessness. "I am taking it head on," she said.

As of *The Coastal Star's* deadline, she had not outlined details of her priorities should she be elected mayor, but said that they would be coming soon.

"As deputy mayor, I'm already working to support our first responders, strengthening our local economy, and insisting on balanced, responsible redevelopment that protects Boca Raton's character," she said in a statement.

"As mayor, my priorities are clear: public safety first, fiscal responsibility, an efficient City Hall, infrastructure investment, and preserving the exceptional character of our community and quality of life our residents value."

Asked why she has raised so much money for her campaign, \$473,000 as of the end of December, Nachlas said: "It helps get the message out and it shows the support of the community."

Nachlas also serves on the Palm Beach County Transportation Planning

Agency governing board and the Florida League of Cities Development, Code Compliance and Redevelopment Committee.

**Andy Thomson**, an attorney with Baritz & Colman and a Georgia Tech graduate who played on the Ramblin' Wreck football team, is the sole council member to oppose the downtown campus redevelopment.

He has outlined his objections repeatedly, saying that even though the project has been downsized since first proposed, it remains too dense, and has been pushed forward by other council members too quickly to allow for adequate consideration and revision.

At first, Save Boca supporters were highly skeptical that he meant what he said since he had ranked developer Related Ross as his first choice to partner with the city even though its proposal had the highest density of the four submitted. The fact that he said he was endorsing the company as a city partner, but not its proposal, didn't reassure them.

But his consistent opposition has assuaged at least some of those doubts, and Save Boca supporters now cheer him when he speaks about his concerns and objections.

After Save Boca began circulating petitions to give voters their say on the project, Thomson asked Terra/Frisbie officials if they would agree to conditioning city approval on a positive vote by residents. They agreed and the rest of the council endorsed that.

If voters approve the redevelopment in the March 10 election, Thomson said "that is the will of the people and my job ... is to undertake and execute that."

But if the ballot measure fails, Thomson wants the city to take over the redevelopment, saying the city can reduce the amount spent by building a more modest City Hall and Community Center.

"I would like the city to take the driver's seat," he said.

Thomson is not yet predicting whether the ballot measure will pass or fail, but said, "I can't recall a single person telling me they were in favor."

If elected mayor, he said his priorities will include keeping taxes low, focusing on public safety, managing the city's growth carefully and responsibly, using technologies such as artificial intelligence to reduce traffic congestion, and keeping parks and recreation at an "elite level."

Asked how he differentiates himself from Nachlas, Thomson said she has never won a contested city election. Voters elected him in 2018, he was unopposed in 2020 and beat an opponent in 2024.

He agrees that the two of them have raised "a staggering amount of money" for their

campaigns, with Thomson getting \$407,000 as of the end of December.

He needs to raise enough to be a viable candidate and to be able to convey his message to voters, Thomson said. But he said that he does not know

many of his donors and "the vast majority didn't even require me to ask" for contributions.

**Mike Liebelson** cites his business expertise, including leadership roles with energy companies and an MBA in

finance from the Wharton School of Business, as making him the best candidate for mayor.

"The city needs somebody with the financial, business and

Continued on the next page



**Mike Liebelson**

**Personal:** 70; bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from University of California, Berkeley; master's degree in finance from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania; Full-time city resident for eight years; married, four children, six grandchildren.

**Professional:** Spent about 30 years in the power generation business; co-founder of LS Power Corp., which specializes in power generation, electric transmission and energy infrastructure; currently a venture investor/senior adviser in several innovative energy companies.

**Elected office experience:** None.

**Important issues:** Wants to uphold public safety; concerned with flooding issues in Boca Raton; advocates cutting taxes; wants to alleviate traffic congestion in city; supports improving parks and recreation amenities; believes in preserving arts education and cultural programs.

**Quote:** "We have to refocus our priorities, such as spending 80% of our time on developer requests for variances, the downtown campus deal and so forth. We need to scrap the downtown campus idea, by the way. It's a bad deal and we should not be partnering with a private developer on it. We have to put the people and their needs first. Our taxes have gone up by 80% in the past five years. I'm going to be cutting taxes. I've also pledged to take no campaign contributions from real estate developers."

### Boca Raton city election

**Election day:** March 10

**Last day to register to vote:** Feb. 9

**Last day to request mail-in ballot:** Feb. 26

**The mayor and council races** are citywide for three-year terms, except the Council D race, which is for an unexpired one-year term.



**Fran Nachlas**

**Personal:** 59; bachelor's degree in nursing from University of Florida; 30-year city resident; married, four children, three grandchildren.

**Professional:** Surgical nurse at the Boca Raton Outpatient Surgery and Laser Center for 23 years; has had a Florida real estate license for 25 years.

**Elected office experience:** Boca Raton council member, December 2022-present; currently deputy mayor.

**Important issues:** Concerned with public safety; supports first responders; wants to strengthen the local economy while making City Hall more efficient to reduce the cost of living; supports addressing housing affordability by continuing to advocate for home rule; wants fast-tracked infrastructure investment; plans to implement AI-integrated technology to get traffic moving more efficiently.

**Quote:** "I'm running to be your next mayor of Boca Raton to protect what we love, improve what needs attention and thoughtfully prepare for our next chapter. I've proven as your deputy mayor to be an effective leader who listens to residents, advocates for smart opportunities to move our city forward and gets things done with open conversation, transparency and accountability. I've been a fighter for residents for 30 years. I'm not going to resign to run for another office and I didn't just move here and decide to run. You know me, and we get things done together. As a health care professional who has served this community for more than three decades — and as a mother and now grandmother who raised my family here — I'm deeply committed to keeping Boca Raton fiscally sound, vibrant, and exceptional. Supporting our first responders, protecting our quality of life, honoring our past and preparing for the future are my priorities — and together, we will continue moving Boca Raton forward."



**Andy Thomson**

**Personal:** 43; bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Georgia Tech, juris doctorate from University of Miami; 12-year city resident; married, five children.

**Professional:** Business litigation lawyer with the firm Baritz, Colman, Richan & Harris; adjunct professor of political science (local and state government) at Florida Atlantic University.

**Elected office experience:** Boca Raton council member, 2018-2022 and 2024-present.

**Important issues:** Believes in managing growth responsibly; advocates for public safety; wants to keep the economy "on the move" with an emphasis on affordability; concerned that the city have strong leadership in its upper management; wants to see the city continue to innovate and remain responsive to voters.

**Quote:** "I'm running for mayor based on my many years of experience in local government and to make sure that Boca maintains its world-class quality of life, low taxes and responsibly managed growth."

**Candidate profiles compiled by Steven J. Smith**

**Candidate profiles** were compiled via telephone interviews. Candidates were asked to supply personal information regarding their age, education, marital status and number of years residing in their municipalities. They were also asked to provide a brief history of their professional life and experience, if any, in holding public office. Finally, they were asked about their positions on issues facing their communities and to provide an overarching quote detailing the reasons they believe they should be elected (or reelected), along with a current photograph.

## Boca Raton: Council Seat A

# Council race features accountant, attorney and real estate broker



**Michelle Grau**

**Personal:** 57; bachelor's degree in accounting from Florida State University; 41-year city resident; married, four children.

**Professional:** Certified public accountant; has worked with her husband for the last 26 years at the public accounting firm Grau & Associates, which specializes in governmental auditing and governmental finance as well as the nonprofit sector.

**Elected office experience:** None.

**Important issues:** Wants fiscal transparency and government responsibility; concerned with affordability in Boca Raton for those who live and work in the city; focused on coming up with a realistic overhaul of the city's property taxes and budget.

**Quote:** "Our city has become very dysfunctional lately. We've made a lot of bad business decisions and I don't feel the current leadership really represents the residents. I'm also concerned about the steep costs associated with living in Boca Raton. Where can young professionals live here, when they can't afford it? We also have elderly people who are stuck in their homes, because it costs more to downsize. We're going to need somebody who understands how government works from the inside out. I've spent 30 years of my life dedicated to governmental accounting and I feel qualified to take the steps necessary to make up deficits and restructure our budgets."

Continued from previous page managerial skills which I bring to the table to turn the city around," he said.

"We are not little Boca anymore," he said. "We have a council so far that is full of amateurs and attorneys. We need professionals."

While not a member of Save Boca, he strongly supports that group's efforts. "The reason for that is I personally strongly believe that if the city is going to give away public land (to Terra/Frisbie) ... it should go back to the voters for a vote. That is all Save Boca has ever asked for."

But a candidate for mayor must focus not just on the issues advanced by Save Boca, but also broader issues such as the need to lower property taxes, public safety, quality of life and dealing with the "horrendous" increase in traffic, he said.



**Bernard Korn**

**Personal:** 71; bachelor's degree in business and finance from Brooklyn College; 25-year city resident; separated, two children.

**Professional:** Served as a law enforcement officer in the 1980s; licensed real estate broker and instructor; chairman of Undiscovered Properties, a real estate and financial services franchise company, and Travel Lines Express, a travel agency and hospitality franchise firm.

**Elected office experience:** None.

**Important issues:** Concerned with corruption in city government; advocates for accountability, transparency and honesty in local government; wants political finance reform; wants strict term limits for all council members, including the mayor.

**Quote:** "We must stop corruption in Boca Raton. Boca Raton City Council members are greatly influenced by special interest groups, lobbyists and political action committees. Dark money prevails in our great city. Contributions equal bribes. Endorsements equal favors. I am running for Council Seat A without any outside financial contributions, with only the help of a press secretary, a few advisers and many volunteers that support me. I am going to inspire a new generation of politicians, not only here in the city of Boca Raton, but throughout the United States."



**Christen Ritchey**

**Personal:** 46; juris doctorate from the University of Florida; 40-year city resident; married, two children.

**Professional:** An attorney for 20 years; started her own firm, Johnson Ritchey Family Law, 11 years ago.

**Elected office experience:** None.

**Important issues:** Concerned with traffic congestion in Boca Raton; wants to see infrastructure and flooding problems addressed in the city; advocates for responsible growth, especially in the downtown area; supports public safety.

**Quote:** "I hope to make Boca brighter and more vibrant, but hold on to the small-town feel and charm that I've loved for the past 40 years. I love serving the city. I've served on many advisory boards such as the school advisory committee at my kids' school, the YMCA board, the Women's Executive Club, planning and zoning boards for the city and the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee, as well as the Community Advisory Panel, to name a few. I would like to run in that scope so I can be involved in strategic planning, policy decisions and budget issues for the city."

**Candidate profiles compiled by Steven J. Smith**

Central to his campaign is his contention that the current council is at the beck and call of developers. He said he will not take contributions from developers.

He singles out Thomson for criticism, saying he has received large developer contributions. While Thomson says he wants residents to have a vote on the downtown development project, Liebelson said, he also is accepting developer money.

"Andy is not being truthful with respect to his positioning with being against big development in Boca," he said.

He spares Nachlas from criticism, claiming she is up-front about supporting development.

Liebelson said he is not anti-developer. "We need to have things built and done in the city, but we need to make sure

our council members are not compromised with developer money."

He also contends there is "too much overdevelopment" in the city. "It has been done in such a way that it has created huge traffic problems."

The city, he said, needs a comprehensive plan to control the volume of traffic that will worsen when development projects now under construction are completed.

If voters turn down the downtown redevelopment plan, Liebelson said the city should be in charge of building a new City Hall and Community Center.

He supports the bond issue to build a new police headquarters. If voters approve it, "we will make sure ... it will be done correctly and it will be constructed on time and on budget," he said. ★

**By Mary Hladky**

**Michelle Grau**, a Save Boca candidate, is a certified public accountant, who founded Grau & Associates in Boca Raton along with her husband and specializes in governmental auditing and finance.

She has scrutinized the terms of the city's partnership with Terra/Frisbie and frequently offers her detailed analysis to City Council members.

Her bottom line: "It is not a good financial deal for our city. That is why I am fighting it.

"My biggest argument is we aren't getting enough out of the deal to justify" leasing 7.8 acres of the east-side city land to Terra/Frisbie for 99 years.

Despite the public-private partnership with the developers, Grau notes that the city is paying the \$201 million cost to build a new City Hall, Community Center, police substation and other improvements. The city would not recoup that money for many years from the land lease payments it will get from Terra/Frisbie.

Further, the city will bear financial risk and lose control over its own land that will be leased, she said.

Grau favors scrapping the deal with Terra/Frisbie. Instead, she said, the city should do the project on its own.

"I believe we have the financial strength to do the work ourselves," she said of the city. "We have a \$40 billion tax base. You tell me we have to lease the land to foot the bill — I am not buying that. Let's do it on our own."

Other matters she would like the city to address are improving communication with city residents, addressing the high cost of living in the city and the homeless situation.

She also wants the city to create a recreation master plan and to keep the tax rate as low as possible.

**Christen Ritchey**, a family law attorney, briefly was a council candidate in 2023 but withdrew to focus on her law firm and her children.

She resigned from the city's Planning and Zoning Board late last year to make another run for City Council.

Ritchey supports the city's partnership with Terra/Frisbie and likes its plan for the downtown campus redevelopment now that the developers no longer will lease the western portion of the city's land and will confine development to the 7.8 acres.

"I think we need a new City Hall and Community Center, but I am passionate about keeping the west side recreational," she said.

Ritchey is pleased with how Terra/Frisbie has responded to residents' criticisms of the project. "I think they have done an excellent job of listening and taking the feedback and adapting the project based on what they heard," she said.

She gives Save Boca credit for applying pressure that she believes improved the project, but faults it for its approach.

"What I hear is a lot of opposition without alternative solutions," she said.

Ritchey also says that the election should not center on the downtown development project.

"We need not be hyper-focused on one single issue," she said. "There are a lot of issues that impact the city."

Those include improving infrastructure, addressing recent flooding, improving traffic flow on city streets and giving first responders "everything they need," she said.

**Bernard Korn**, a real estate broker, is a perennial candidate who has never won a city election.

He claims the city is rife with corruption that he is exposing.

"Boca Raton City under Siege by Power Hungry Corrupt Council Members controlled by Lobbyists and Special Interest Groups," his campaign website proclaims.

He identifies himself as a "trained whistleblower" who has submitted complaints about wrongdoing to federal agencies. So far, none has taken action.

"The corruption is a joke and they are blatant about it," he said of council members. "I am going to get rid of the political machine, that I call it. It is corrupt and I am going to rip it up whether I win or lose."

His priority, he said, is "to clean up City Hall. They are all on the take."

A loss at the polls will not dissuade him from another run for office, he said. "If I lose for whatever reason, I will run again. Win or lose, I will make changes in Boca." ★

## Also on the ballot

Voters will decide two other issues:

**Whether to approve** moving forward with the proposed redevelopment of the city's downtown campus.

**Whether to approve** the city's issuing bonds of up to \$175 million to build a new police headquarters, relocated from downtown to a site adjacent to the Spanish River Library.

## Boca Raton: Council Seat B

# Incumbent faces off against founder and supporter of Save Boca

By Mary Hladky

**Marc Wigder**, who was elected to the City Council without opposition in 2023 after Christen Ritchey dropped out of the race, is seeking a second term.

He is a real estate lawyer who now focuses on his companies. Greenhouse Property Co. emphasizes sustainability in commercial real estate projects and GreenSmith Builders builds energy-efficient homes.

He is chair of the city's Community Redevelopment Agency, which was formed in 1980 to improve the downtown's core area. In that position, he frequently makes presentations to fellow council members on his ideas for bolstering the downtown.

Wigder supports the downtown campus redevelopment now that its density has been reduced and more land is preserved as green and recreational space.

With those changes that were spurred by Save Boca, many residents he has spoken to say "they see this as something positive" and question what Save Boca "is fighting for at this point."

But the election, he said, should be about more than this one project. "There is so much more going on in this city and so many great things going on."

He is pushing for improvements to the city's infrastructure, including sea wall and flood control projects, and improving traffic flow in part by using artificial intelligence to control traffic lights on roadways the city controls. He also supports bike and pedestrian safety improvements throughout the city.

He wants to acquire more land to enhance the city's park system, and emphasizes keeping the tax rate low.

He is proud of his role in extending the life of the CRA, which would have expired in 2025 but now will continue to exist until 2043. As a result, the city will retain millions of dollars that otherwise would have gone to the county but now can be used for city projects.

Even though one of his election opponents is Save Boca founder Jon Pearlman, Wigder is "very confident" he can win reelection, because "in the last three years I have shown principled leadership" and gained valuable knowledge that will boost his ability to lead the city well.

If some Save Boca candidates win, "I am happy to work with anybody to try to get things done."

But Wigder offers this caveat: "They have to be willing to work for something. They can't be against everything."

As the City Council moved forward last year with its plan to redevelop the downtown

campus, the only opposition came from users of the campus' recreation facilities who wanted to preserve them.

But that changed last summer with the emergence of Save Boca led by **Jon Pearlman**, a New York City native and Harvard grad who lives in a multimillion-dollar home in east Boca with his wife and two children.

He has an investment management firm and is the co-founder of the Mission Lean fitness app.

Seemingly overnight came a Save Boca website, vivid presence on social media, lime green and bright navy Save Boca T-shirts, yard signs and residents collecting signatures on petitions that would force the city to let residents vote on the project.

Save Boca supporters already have gotten much of what they wanted. The project has been downsized, green space and many of recreation facilities salvaged and banyan trees preserved. Residents will get a vote on March 10.

But Pearlman is far from declaring victory. As a candidate for City Council, he hopes to defeat Wigder and has recruited two of his comrades to join him in what could be a council takeover.

"As a City Council member, Jon will fight every day for the best interests of the citizens," he said in announcing his candidacy.

"He will work to protect our parks, public land, and secure the brightest future for our city, for us, our children and all future generations of Boca Raton."

Asked for more specifics, Pearlman was blunt. "Our goal is to win the three council seats so we have a majority to represent the citizens of Boca and not the developers," he said.

Beyond that, he is keeping vigilant to make sure the city doesn't pull a fast one and eliminate from the March 10 ballot the measure allowing residents to vote for or against the downtown campus redevelopment.

Although city officials strongly dispute that intention, Pearlman insists "it is a scenario they are considering. However, Save Boca will not allow that to happen."

In late January, he did not have a campaign platform on the nuts and bolts of running a city — covering matters such as development, public safety and infrastructure — because he has been absorbed by protecting residents.

His campaign, he said, would "kick off in full force" shortly after *The Coastal Star's* deadline.

**Meredith Madsen**, a Save Boca supporter but not a member, decided to run against Wigder because she sees him as consistently pro-developer.

"I felt inspired to do

something and I felt I could do a good job at it," she said.

Madsen assumed she had Pearlman's support for her candidacy. After all, she supports the group, and had a Save Boca sign in her yard and a Save Boca T-shirt.

Then Pearlman entered the Seat B race. She is not happy about it.

"I wouldn't kiss his ring," she said of Pearlman.

Pearlman should have run for mayor or against former City Council member Robert Weinroth, who is running for Seat D. "Jon didn't feel brave enough," she said.

But she is moving on. "He did what he wants to do. I am doing what I want to do."

Madsen is the founder and CEO of Sunshine & Glitter, which makes biodegradable sunscreen and beauty products.

She opposes the downtown campus project, saying it remains too dense. Instead, she advocates for the city to rebuild the City Hall and Community Center on its own.

But if voters approve the project, she wants the city to complete a comprehensive traffic analysis to determine if it will produce too much additional traffic. If so, she would want

Terra/Frisbie to reduce the number of residential units.

"I want all of our decisions to be based on traffic abatement and analysis," she said.

Madsen will let voters decide if the city should build a \$175 million police headquarters. She strongly supports first responders and agrees with building a new headquarters, but believes that the price tag is "exorbitant."

She also wants the city to protect its green spaces and parks, manage growth responsibly and to ensure residents can vote on any project that is built on public land. ★



**Meredith Madsen**

**Personal:** 51; master's degree in business administration in certified project management — and a Six Sigma Green Belt — from Florida Atlantic University; 10-year city resident; married, two children.

**Professional:** Owns Sunshine & Glitter, a company that produces holographic glitter gel for the face and body, which is available in 2,000 stores nationally and internationally.

**Elected office experience:** None.

**Important issues:** Concerned with traffic and infrastructure challenges in Boca Raton; wary of developers building beyond city's density constraints; supports public schools; advocates for strong, effective police and fire departments.

**Quote:** "I was waiting for someone to step up for Boca Raton and discovered I'm the hero I've been waiting for. I'm running because I want comprehensive traffic analysis — a citywide cumulative impact study combining all proposed builds, commercial-to-residential conversions and vacant inventory — to understand the actual scale of what's being asked of our infrastructure, public safety and community character, so we can make better decisions based on density. I believe the things that make a town good lie in the quality of the public schools, the quality of the police department and the quality of the fire department. If those three are healthy, the town will be successful and prosperous."

His campaign, he said, would "kick off in full force" shortly after *The Coastal Star's* deadline.

**Candidate profiles compiled by Steven J. Smith**



**Jon Pearlman**

**Personal:** 37; bachelor's degree in economics from Harvard; 13-year city resident; married, two children.

**Professional:** Investment manager who has focused on stocks, private equity and venture capital endeavors for the last eight years.

**Elected office experience:** None.

**Important issues:** Wants to guarantee the preservation of Boca Raton's parks, public land and way of life; opposes overdevelopment.

**Quote:** "For the last 100 years Boca has been known as a 'city within a park.' Let's keep it that way. Our parks, public land and way of life are under attack by the current City Council that planned to destroy the biggest park in downtown Boca and hand it over to be privatized for developers to build high-rise condos on top of it. The current leadership has been taking this city to a very dismal place and we need to reverse course by electing new council members on March 10. As a city councilman I will fight every day to protect the best interests of the citizens of Boca as I have with Save Boca, a nonprofit I founded, whose purpose is to protect public land and parks. I am not taking a single cent from developers in my campaign, and I intend to restore true representation of the people on the City Council."



**Marc Wigder (Incumbent)**

**Personal:** 53; master's degree in business administration from the Yale School of Management, juris doctorate from New York Law School; 17-year city resident; married, three children.

**Professional:** Owns his own law firm, Marc D. Wigder PA, which specializes in cases related to contracts and agreements, corporate and incorporation issues, estate planning, probate, real estate, construction and development, and land use and zoning; he was a licensed attorney in New York and New Jersey, and for the last 20 years, in Florida; also founder and CEO of the Greenhouse, which focuses on infusing sustainability into commercial real estate.

**Elected office experience:** Boca Raton council member, 2023-present.

**Important issues:** Interested in maintaining the financial stability of Boca Raton; favors maintaining public safety; advocates for smart growth without overburdening taxpayers; wants to maintain Boca Raton's infrastructure and quality of life.

**Quote:** "I'm running for reelection, which means I'm looking to bring stability to the City Council. That means keeping all the great things that are already going on in Boca, which requires stable leadership. When you look at my record for the last three years, it has always shown a levelheaded, research-based, decision-making policy initiative. I don't make decisions off the cuff. I only do it when I have all the information available. And I do my research to make sure I make the best decisions on behalf of the taxpayers. That's what I'm going to continue to do if I'm reelected."

## Boca Raton: Council Seat D

# Ex-county mayor battles city board stalwart, Save Boca member

By Mary Hladky

Former Boca Raton City Council member **Robert Weinroth** is seeking a return to his former job, saying what he brings to the table is the experience he gained as both a council member and county commissioner.

He won a special election to the council in 2014 and then a three-year term without opposition in 2015. In 2018, he was elected to the Palm Beach County Commission and became county mayor.

After Weinroth lost re-election in 2022, he filed to run for the Palm Beach County School Board, but withdrew from that race and ran unsuccessfully for Congress in 2024 in the Republican primary.

"I feel coming back to the City Council, especially now, with talk of redeveloping the downtown campus and Mizner Park, there is a lot of opportunity to help guide our city for the next 100 years," he said of his candidacy.

Weinroth, a downtown resident, agrees with current council members that a new City Hall and Community Center are needed and that "it is important to focus on those needs."

Now that the redevelopment plan has been downsized, Weinroth said it is "much closer" to what he thinks is needed, but "it is not completely at a point where I would say it is ready for prime time."

He is supportive of enhancing Memorial Park on the west side of the downtown campus and transforming it into a true commemoration of those who served in the armed forces.

The project became controversial, he said, because the "City Council didn't bring the residents into the conversation early enough." Save Boca came into being because "residents felt they were not part of the original plans."

While he is not endorsing Save Boca's contention that the city should back away from a public-private partnership with Terra/Frisbie, he does agree that the city has the financial strength to finance a new City Hall and Community Center on its own.

One of his main priorities is building more workforce housing so that people have access to affordable places to live. "Workforce housing is important to me," he said.

He also supports "balanced" growth that maintains Boca's character, strengthening police, fire and emergency services and improving transportation infrastructure.

**Larry Cellon** has a formidable record of service to the city as a member of the Community Appearance Board for 27 years and the Planning and Zoning Board for 10 years. He gained expertise in

development and construction as a former partner with JMW Construction.

He is a founding member of Workshop 344+, formed by a group of influential residents who want to improve a five-block section of East Palmetto Park Road.

Frustrated because that effort hasn't gained traction with city officials, he resigned from the planning board so he could run for a City Council seat.

While the city does many things very well, "the rub comes from development," he said. "That is creating all the strife. I am uniquely positioned with my knowledge and experience in development to help guide the city forward in a reasonable and sustainable manner."

Although he is not a member of Save Boca, he agrees with that group that the city does not need a developer partner to rebuild the City Hall and Community Center and make other improvements to the west side of the government campus.

The city already is willing to pay \$175 million for a new police station, and will ask voters to approve financing it with a 30-year, tax-exempt general obligation bond in the March 10 election, he noted. Residents will pay for it through a tax increase.

And the city has purchased for \$17.4 million a building that will house many City Hall functions, with a much smaller City Hall to be built on the government campus.

And yet the city is asking voters to approve spending \$201 million up front for improvements to the west side of the government campus. It will take many years for the city to recoup that money from payments it will get from Terra/Frisbie for land it is leasing from the city on the campus' east side, he said.

Taken together, Cellon argues that this makes no sense.

Cellon's priorities are for the city to offer free wi-fi in the downtown, which he said other cities have done at minimal cost. He wants to install artificial reefs in Red Reef Park to protect the shoreline and to create a snorkel trail there.

He also wants the turtle rehabilitation program at Gumbo Limbo to be reinstated and the gift shop reopened. And like some of the other candidates, he wants to use artificial intelligence to control traffic lights and improve traffic flow.

Save Boca member **Stacy Sipple** is a clinical oncology pharmacist who believes the current City Council is not listening to residents' concerns about overdevelopment, increased traffic and reduction in open spaces.

"I have had enough," she states in campaign literature, "and... I know I am in no way the minority."

While not anti-development, she said, "I am pro-common sense."

She agrees a new City Hall and Community Center are needed, but opposes the public-private partnership with Terra/Frisbie and the 99-year land lease.

"Who knows what is going to happen in 99 years," she said. "That is a long time to sign a lease over to somebody."

Rather, she would have the city improve the city's downtown campus land on its own. "The area needs to be fixed up," she said. "I think we can do

it better on the city's money. ... Then we control the land."

She wants more transparency and better communication with residents when development projects come before the city for approval. "A lot of residents are finding out after the fact that (a project) is already approved," she said.

Traffic congestion is another problem that needs to be addressed, she said. "People are avoiding going downtown because of the traffic and the parking situation with having to pay at meters," she said.

Sipple also thinks one city



**Larry Cellon**

**Personal:** 68; bachelor's degree in building construction from University of Florida; 46-year city resident; married, one child, two grandchildren.

**Professional:** Retired; former general contractor for Rogers and Ford for 17 years, then went into partnership with a friend and formed JMW Construction, which lasted 17-18 more years.

**Elected office experience:** None.

**Important issues:** Doesn't want to raise taxes; would like to see the 344 acres of downtown Boca Raton become more pedestrian friendly.

**Quote:** "My tag line is '37 years of service, zero special interest.' I'm not taking any money from developers. I think we need some new ideas and new thoughts for managing the growth that is coming to Boca Raton. I have a lot of experience in that area through my years on the Community Appearance and Planning and Zoning boards, and I want to use that experience to make Boca Raton a better place to live."



**Stacy Sipple**

**Personal:** 54; doctor of pharmacy degree from Auburn University; 53-year city resident; married, two children.

**Professional:** Worked as an oncology pharmacist at Baptist Hospital for over a decade.

**Elected office experience:** None.

**Important issues:** Believes in responsible, sustainable development; wants more transparency from the City Council; advocates for the proper usage of public land; believes traffic congestion should be addressed; wants the police and fire departments fully staffed.

**Quote:** "I am an average Boca Raton resident who wants to see a better Boca with more resident involvement. It's not the same town it used to be and we're drifting away from the great reasons people used to move here. Residents here are concerned about that, but are afraid to speak out. I just want to open up that channel, make our town a better place to live by having a more transparent and honest city government that will encourage residents to get more involved in their community."

priority should be getting sustainable workforce housing. "A few CEOs can afford to live in this area, but the worker bees can't afford to live here," she said.

Sipple says in her campaign literature that she is not a politician, but is a "resident's voice."

"I am running to restore trust, preserve what makes Boca special, and ensure our community has a seat at THEIR table." ★



**Robert Weinroth**

**Personal:** 73; juris doctorate from the New England School of Law; 30-year city resident; married, four children in a blended family, three grandchildren.

**Professional:** Retired in 2015 after careers as an attorney and founder of Freedom Medical Services, Inc., a Medicare-approved durable medical equipment provider; started a company in 2023 called South Florida Business Strategies, through which he enables clients to better define their strategic objectives and navigate business, policy, development and regulatory issues.

**Elected office experience:** Boca Raton council member, 2014-2018; Palm Beach County commissioner, 2018-2022, including a year as county mayor.

**Important issues:** Concerned with providing affordable housing for Boca Raton's workforce; believes high costs prevent more businesses from opening their doors in city; advocates for lowering property tax rates and property taxes; supports the development of a new City Hall and government campus in Boca Raton.

**Quote:** "The reason I'm running is because right now Boca Raton is at a point where four of the seats are in play and it's important that we have institutional knowledge. I think I bring to the position my experience both at the city and county levels and have demonstrated my ability to work with all the groups within the city. I think we have an opportunity to build upon what we've already done and build a city that will be successful and attract more businesses to our community."

**Candidate profiles compiled by Steven J. Smith**

## Boca Raton

# Arts festival celebrates 20th season of show business and more

By Michael Cook

Fresh acts and returning favorites are set to hit the stage at Festival of the Arts Boca, which kicks off Feb. 27 for its 20th season.

From a ballet performance to a screening of *Jurassic Park* accompanied by a live orchestra, the annual cultural arts festival will run daily through March 8 at the Mizner Park Amphitheater, with a keynote performance or talk each evening. More than 15,000 people attend the festival each year to experience the culture that fills the air.

"Culture is part of life. If you don't participate in culture, then you're not really living," said festival co-founder Wendy Larsen, who launched the event in 2007 with the late Charlie Siemon. Both were visionaries of Mizner Park, helping create a "heart for the downtown."

Larsen said Festival of the Arts Boca began with a simple vision to turn the city into a "cultural capital," showcasing world-class performances ranging from classical musicians and ballet dancers to educational talks by authors.

While there are no returning acts from the first festival, Larsen reflected on the inaugural event in 2007, recalling violinist Itzhak Perlman performing with the Russian National Orchestra. Since then, she said the festival has continued to grow with its core focus on the performing arts.

Looking back at the festival's early days, Joanna Marie Kaye, who has served as executive director since 2014, said it primarily featured classical musicians. She said the festival has branched out over the years, offering contemporary art forms



Festival of the Arts Boca crowd totals are more than 15,000 annually at Mizner Park, organizers say. **Photo provided**



Artists such as violinist Itzhak Perlman have performed at Festival of the Arts Boca. **Photo provided**

and "pure exhilaration" experiences, such as film screenings with an orchestra playing the score.

Kaye said this year's most anticipated performances are those of Postmodern Jukebox, which will do live covers of modern hits with a vintage twist on opening night, Feb. 27, and of Broadway singer Patti

LuPone, who will close out the festival on March 8.

The festival is not just about performances but includes educational outreach, exposing students to festival artists through master classes and open rehearsals, Kaye said. "In order for the arts to thrive, we need to encourage the next generation to participate and

### Festival of the Arts Boca schedule

**Feb. 27, 7:30 p.m.:** Postmodern Jukebox Returns!  
**Feb. 28, 7:30 p.m.:** 'Jurassic Park' with Live Orchestra  
**March 1, 7 p.m.:** From Swan Lake to the Stones: A Night at the Ballet  
**March 2, 7 p.m.:** Doris Kearns Goodwin: The Enduring Significance of the American Revolution  
**March 3, 7 p.m.:** Walter Mosley: The Only True Race is the Human Race  
**March 4, 7 p.m.:** Arthur Caplan: In Defense of Science  
**March 5, 7 p.m.:** Dr. Danielle Gilbert: Life Lessons from Hostage Negotiation  
**March 6, 7:30 p.m.:** A Rhapsodic Evening with Conrad Tao  
**March 7, 7:30 p.m.:** A Third Time for Three concert  
**March 8, 7 p.m.:** Patti LuPone: Matters of the Heart concert  
**Location:** Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton

**For more information or tickets:** Visit [festivalboca.org](http://festivalboca.org)

be part of that," she added.

Another effort is an annual virtual music competition for students. It is open to musicians aged 18 or younger who reside in Broward County or Palm Beach County. In 2021, the festival went fully virtual due to the pandemic. That same year, Kaye said, the festival launched the

competition as an educational incentive after students lacked performance opportunities.

The competition has focused on a different instrument each year, with this year's focus on piano. In 2025, it focused on winds and brass, and the first-place winner was Thomas "Aidan" Gardner, a freshman at the University of Miami's Frost School of Music who submitted a video of himself playing the flute.

As part of winning first place, Gardner this year will perform part of the "A Rhapsodic Evening with Conrad Tao" festival show on March 6. He will join the featured pianist, Tao, who has performed at the festival since 2008, when he was 13.

Gardner said Festival of the Arts Boca exposed him to the music industry and allowed him to network. He said sharing his art with an audience is a form of expression, and he is looking forward to performing with a live orchestra.

"Music has been a way for me to really put myself out there, to let that extroverted side that has kind of been buried shine. There's something rewarding about it, even just playing with other musicians," Gardner said.★

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## Highland Beach

# Intracoastal parcel cleared of trees, but to what end?

By Rich Pollack

The clearing of an almost-acre lot bordering the Intracoastal Waterway has once again sparked concerns of nearby residents who wonder what the future holds for one of the last vacant parcels in Highland Beach.

Late last year, residents of nearby condominiums noticed that trees — mostly federally protected mangroves on the 0.8-acre parcel in the middle of town owned by Miami-based Golden City Highland Beach LLC — had been taken down.

That sparked a flood of calls to town officials who, after doing some ground work, discovered that the property owner had obtained permits from the South Florida Water Management District and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to clear the land.

No approvals from the town were required to clear the property, Town Manager Marshall Labadie said.

"The town was preempted from stopping clearing of the land," he said.

What happens next to the property, on the west side of State Road A1A south of the Toscana community, most likely will require the town to sign off.

"He has no authorization from the town to develop the property," Labadie said. "He can't just fill it and he can't just put in a sea wall without permits."

The clearing of the land without a permit, while

permissible, is unusual, according to the town manager.

"Traditionally you get all the permits first before your clear the land," Labadie said.

What will become of the parcel is still up in the air, but the developer appears to have proposed a nine-unit townhome community to the state in his request to take down mangroves, Labadie said.

That is a significant reduction from the 38-unit multi-family community proposed to the federal government in 2019.

That same year, leaders of Golden City and the town butted heads over clearing the parcel of trees that had fallen during Hurricane Irma in 2017.

It wasn't the clearing of the downed trees that caused a problem, according to town officials, but what followed.

"He took it a step further and cleared the land and began filling it without permits," Labadie said.

Lawyers for the developer argued at the time that no permit was needed because the town knew what was being done with downed trees and had no problem with the removal of trees and the addition of fill.

In the end, work on filling the property stopped.

Labadie said the town has not received any requests for permits on the Golden City property since the most recent clearing work began. ★



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## Boca Raton

### Wave ridin'

South Beach Park, Boca Raton — Jan. 27



Boca Raton resident and FAU student David Morris, 22, catches a beautiful wave thanks to a cold front that brought decent-size swells to the Atlantic. Surfers could not resist the temptation, even with temperatures in the 40s on this particular morning. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

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## A chilly prenuptial testing of the waters

Red Reef Park, Boca Raton — Feb. 1



Braving a record-setting cold snap, Boca Raton couple Andrew Hance and Veronica Wilkins endure near-freezing conditions at the beach to have some engagement photos taken by Boca Raton resident Alexia Abreu and her friend Justin Lara (at left). **ABOVE:** Hance and Wilkins were drenched by a wave that caught them and Abreu by surprise. Abreu had the luxury of coming dressed for the day's cold weather, with the eventual high reaching only into the upper 40s. **Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

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## Delray Beach

### Pavilion project

East Atlantic Avenue and South Ocean Boulevard, Delray Beach — Jan. 27



Reconstruction of the Delray Beach Pavilion is ongoing as the iconic structure needed a complete rebuild because the wrong fasteners were used to hold it together when it was last refurbished in 2013. As a result, it began falling apart when salt air corroded the fasteners. Officials expect the \$817,400 project to wrap up in March. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

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## Briny Breezes

Alderwoman changes mind on wanting to keep her seat

By Steve Plunkett

Alderwoman Holly Reitnauer may not be leaving the Briny Breezes dais in March after all.

Reitnauer, who was appointed in December 2024 to replace Kathy Gross in Seat 2, did not file papers in November to run for election in March.

But things have changed, she now says, and she would like to remain on the Town Council.

"I have given it a lot of thought, and my health situation has improved. So therefore I would like to remain in my seat, helping to move Briny forward," she wrote in a letter to the council received Jan. 13.

She is the first person to officially express interest in filling the position.

Alderman Jeff Duncan was the only one of three

Continued on the next page

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The next edition of *The Coastal Star* will be distributed the weekend of March 7

## Lantana News

**Town officials make pitch to legislators** — Lantana Town Council members and Town Manager Brian Raducci made a short visit to Tallahassee on Jan. 13-14 for Palm Beach County Day at the state capitol.

Raducci said the outing provided local leaders a chance to observe the legislative process in person, meet with lobbyists, and network with other municipalities and organizations that attended the event.

Lantana lawmakers met with Sen. Mack Bernard and Rep. Peggy Gossett-Seidman and discussed gaining their support to fund the town's 2026-27 requests for \$4.57 million worth of state appropriation, which include:

- Rehabilitation for four lift stations;
- Improvements for the water treatment plant instrumentation and controls;
- Improvements to the North Fourth Street gravity sewer and drainage;
- ADA walkway improvements at Maddock Park;
- Renovation of the Police Department's emergency operation center.

Raducci says that while these requests have been submitted, grants to fund them are not guaranteed.

**Bonefish Cove habitat restoration update** — Work continues at Bonefish Cove, a project that's creating a chain of two mangrove islands and oyster reefs in the central Lake Worth Lagoon.

Palm Beach County's Department of Environmental Resources Management has given the latest update on the habitat restoration project. The location is just north of Hypoluxo Island.

ERM reports that no additional work has been completed in the north island since December.

The contractor still needs to complete the finishing touches on the final portion of the rock wave break structure around the island and is assessing the success of the red mangroves planted a month ago, according to the report.

For the south island, the contractor continues delivering, stockpiling and grading sand to form the oyster reefs and a submerged sea grass shelf. Seven of the 10 oyster reefs are complete in the north portion of this section.

In coming weeks, the contractor will continue building additional oyster reefs and shaping the intertidal island.

Barge traffic during weekdays has been reauthorized, with barges permitted to travel from Peanut Island to Bonefish Cove from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekdays, in addition to weekends and holidays.

Working hours at the Bonefish Cove project site are from 5 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily.

For more information, go online to [discover.pbc.gov/erm/Pages/Lake-Worth-Lagoon.aspx](http://discover.pbc.gov/erm/Pages/Lake-Worth-Lagoon.aspx)

**Tree City designation** — For the 35th consecutive year, Lantana has been recognized as a Tree City USA community by the Arbor Day Foundation.

The recognition honors the town's long-standing commitment to urban forestry, environmental stewardship and community pride.

An Arbor Day celebration, which will include a tree planting, will be held in April. The time, date and location have yet to be announced.

— Mary Thurwachter

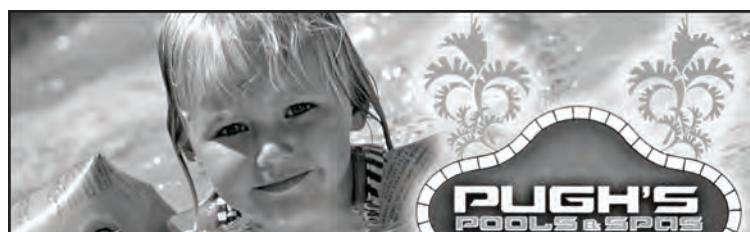
incumbents in November to file qualifying papers for the March 10 election. Reitnauer — who is married to Alderman Bill Birch — and Mayor Ted Gross, Kathy's husband, did not.

That meant Duncan was automatically elected to his Seat 4 position for a second two-year term and that there would be no election in Briny Breezes. Duncan originally was appointed as an alderman in December 2023 when no one filed to run for then-Council

President Christina Adams' seat.

According to the town's charter, the council will appoint someone to fill Mayor Seat 6 and Reitnauer's seat in March.

Gross in December said he was not seeking another term, citing his dissatisfaction with Briny's weak-mayor form of government, the effect of the state's Sunshine Law on his personal relationships and his desire to spend more time supporting people affected by sex trafficking and abuse. ★



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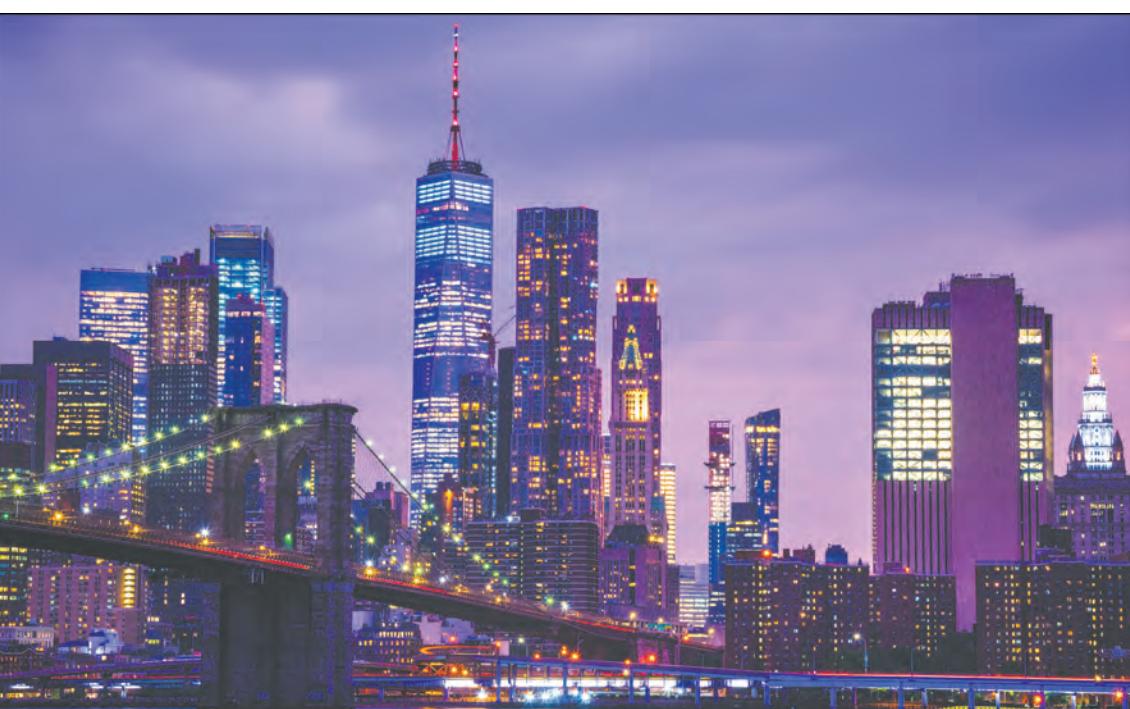
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## Delray Beach

City turns over text messages between mayor and Mary McCarty to *Coastal Star*

By John Pacenti

Delray Beach Mayor Tom Carney has turned over communications between himself and Mary McCarty, a former city and county commissioner still heavily involved in local politics.

The *Coastal Star* requested text messages, emails and other communications through a public records request after reports that McCarty was directing Carney from the gallery of the commission chambers during meetings.

The messages turned over do not show communications during a meeting, but they do show McCarty advising the mayor on controversial issues. The messages are also not under McCarty's name — but a pseudonym that the mayor says is a long-standing joke between them.

A commissioner who sits right next to the mayor on the dais, though, said he has seen messages come into the mayor's phone with McCarty's given name during commission meetings. McCarty told the newspaper in December that her gesturing during meetings is due to frustration with commissioners' lack of decorum.

City Attorney Lynn Gelin said the messages turned over completely fulfill the public records request made by the newspaper.

Carney told *The Coastal Star* that no one person has special access to him, and he speaks to any number of concerned citizens about issues.

"I have an open-door policy, I talk to a lot of people about all sorts of issues," Carney said. "I reach out to people for ideas. People call me. I take the calls."

He said McCarty appears as "Martin Davis" on his phone — the fiery former head of Paramount studios — as a joke between them.

"She's been listed in my phone that way for 20 years. Why should I change it?" the mayor said.

The communications — emails and texts — were turned over seven weeks after the public records request was made on Dec. 8. One of the delays, according to Gelin, was due to the mayor's catching the flu in the first week of January.

"I would hope that you would show grace to someone who is dealing with a particularly harsh strain of the flu," Gelin said when asked about the delay.

The requested text messages were provided to *The Coastal Star* as a series of screen shots cut-and-pasted into a document.

On one thread, McCarty was upset that the city had decided to sue the state over erasing its LGBTQ Pride rainbow intersection.

"There are X cities in Florida that are not subjecting their taxpayers to this. Why are we? This commission should not be used as a political pawn to advance a social agenda," McCarty wrote on Sept. 10.

Carney had unsuccessfully opposed the city's joining the lawsuit at a commission meeting the day before her text. Carney then convened a special meeting of the commission — the day after McCarty's text message — where he successfully urged the commission to reverse its decision to be part of the litigation. He called for the unscheduled meeting specifically for that purpose.

McCarty also had strong opinions for the mayor in August on a controversial renovation proposal for a historic home at 46 Marine Way in the Marina Historic District.

"Just tell them to redesign and be done with it," McCarty told Carney on Aug. 18.

And indeed, that is what Carney suggested at the Aug. 19 meeting. The commission ended up rejecting the variances that would allow the home to be elevated by 14 feet, among other things. McCarty, in the text thread, referred to the city's Historic Preservation Board, which supported the variances, as "corrupted."

In another text thread, on Dec. 7, McCarty appeared to try to influence who would be the designated vice mayor after Rob Long left the commission to run for the state house. She told Carney to make a motion to make Commissioner Angela Burns vice mayor.

Carney nominated Burns as vice mayor at a commission meeting the next day.

Commissioner Tom Markert told *The Coastal Star* in December that he saw Carney's phone and that the mayor was texting with McCarty under her given name at a meeting "in the last two months." He also was informed that the text messages turned over to the newspaper were under the "Martin Davis" moniker.

"Yes, that is just lovely," Markert said with a laugh.

Carney disputed the allegation. "It's frustrating to have Commissioner Markert say he sees me texting someone whose name never appears in my phone. Therefore, it would be impossible for him to see me texting Mary McCarty," he said.

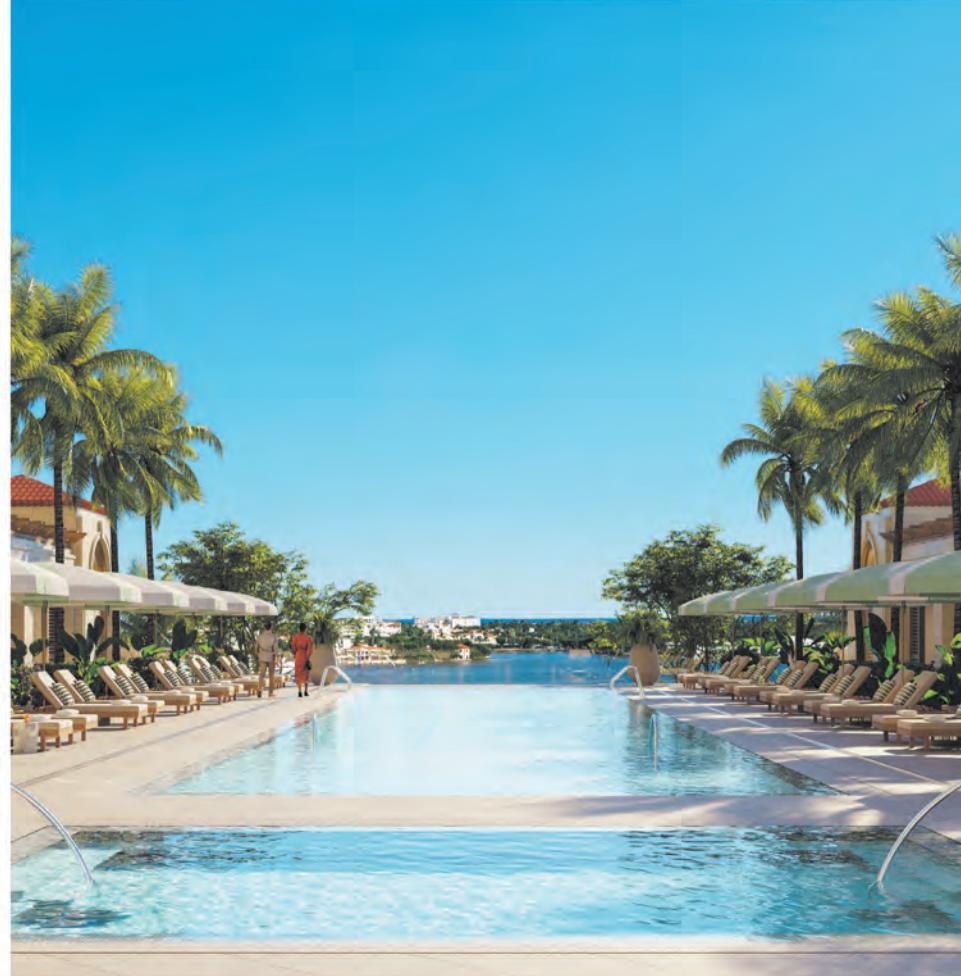
He said the only person he texts during meetings is his wife.

A few emails were also turned over. In one, dated Sept. 25, McCarty — a fellow Republican — advised the mayor: "Understand you have a democratic, hostile board, so when you get all of the info, see if it is something that will be acceptable." ★



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## 10 Questions

**T**ed Hoskinson started out as a teacher but ended up creating his living, first by making a business around balloons and then by owning and operating Party 'N Paper, a card and gift store chain in Washington, D.C. After retiring — and following the death of his wife, Anne, in 2016 — he turned his attention back to education and founded a literacy intervention program and teacher recognition nonprofit, Roots and Wings.

This year, Roots and Wings marks its 10th anniversary with a Feb. 24 fundraising event, "Roots and Wings Goes to Hollywood," which celebrates filmmaking.

Hoskinson, 78, of coastal Delray Beach, expects to host 180 guests and raise \$100,000. In 2024, funding and donations brought in \$1.3 million to cover costs of about \$750,000, and the organization continues to grow.

Roots and Wings' two programs are implemented in 20 Title 1 public elementary schools in Palm Beach County. The nonprofit's teacher appreciation program is called Above and Beyond Awards, and this year Hoskinson foresees that 200 teachers and staff will receive awards. They will each receive a check for \$200, gift cards and gifts from local businesses, and a framed certificate.

Roots and Wings' Project Uplift program provides after-school instruction to 1,500 children needing help with reading.

"We have two ceremonies a year where we honor students' progress," Hoskinson explained. "At midyear, if they have already met their growth goal for the year, they receive a free bike and helmet courtesy of Boca West Children's Foundation.

"The second ceremony is at the end of the year. We give certificates and we give Olympic-style medals for reaching their growth goals and stretch goals.

"We gave away 272 bikes last year, 900 certificates for making gains on their test scores, and 1,200 medals," he said. "Many got both medals for growth goals and stretch goals. We also gave away 711 T-shirts for perfect attendance."

Hoskinson hopes to expand the program to additional schools and, in time, he hopes to give out college scholarships.

More about the upcoming February event at Good Night John Boy in Delray Beach: "We are featuring 20 movies and

## MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR: Ted Hoskinson



we're asking people to dress as their favorite character from one of those movies and we're giving away prizes."

Also, Hoskinson said, "All of our 20 schools will make different centerpieces. Each school had to pick one of the movies. Our judges will vote on the centerpieces and we'll give prizes to the schools for the three best centerpieces."

— Christine Davis

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

**A.** I grew up in Washington, D.C., and attended Sheridan School for grades 2 and 3 and then St. Albans School for Boys for grades 4-12. I then attended Tulane University in New Orleans where I graduated with a BA in history.

Washington was a wonderful place to grow up, as it had small-town, old-town charm. St. Albans was an incredible school with great teachers and competitive students. That school environment taught me that I was not the smartest guy by far in the class, and that I had to work hard if I wanted to be successful.

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

**A.** I was lucky to become the senior class president at Tulane. I graduated in 1969 and I began a teaching career in New Orleans at a small private school called Metairie Park Country Day. I taught second grade. I loved the kids and they taught me as much as I taught them.

## If You Go

**What:** Roots and Wings

Goes to Hollywood

**Where:** Good Night John Boy, 33 SE Third Ave., Delray Beach

**When:** 6:30-9:30 p.m. Feb. 24

**Admission:** Tickets are \$150 (barstool seating), \$250 (general seating at a table) and \$300 (VIP seating by dance floor).

**Info:** 561-516-1957 or [sherry@rootsandwingsinc.org](mailto:sherry@rootsandwingsinc.org)

**Tickets:** [secure.qgiv.com/event/rootsandwings](https://secure.qgiv.com/event/rootsandwings) or [rootsandwingsinc.org/event/roots-and-wings-goes-hollywood-10th-anniversary-gala](https://rootsandwingsinc.org/event/roots-and-wings-goes-hollywood-10th-anniversary-gala)

They were inquisitive and kind and caring to one another. I was like their surrogate father since most of them were asleep by the time their fathers arrived at home.

I got a call from St. Albans in early April of that year, asking me to return and teach fourth grade there. I loved Washington and St. Albans so I said yes. Teachers don't make a lot of money (my salary was \$8,500 that first year), so I started a business to help me survive financially. It was a college marketing company. After a couple of years, I started a balloon delivery and decorating business. I taught for 15 years, but the school eventually had me establish their Summer Programs Office when they saw my business abilities.

 Roots and Wings

# PROJECT Uplift

Helping Children with Reading and Reading Comprehension Skills



Ted Hoskinson of Delray Beach keeps busy with programs that educate Palm Beach County children and reward teachers through his Roots and Wings nonprofit, which is based in Boca Raton. **Tim Stepien/Coastal Star**

Fort Lauderdale. We started coming and spending weekends until we decided to buy a condo.

**Q.** What is your favorite part about living in Delray Beach?

**A.** The relaxed atmosphere and its small-town charm. Great restaurants and a wide variety of choices. Tennis and the beach.

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

**A.** *Passion Isn't Enough*, by David Rhode.

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

**A.** I love good jazz ... and Frank Sinatra ... and the oldies.

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

**A.** "When you seek happiness for yourself it will always elude you. When you seek happiness for others you will find it yourself."

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

**A.** Charlie Spicer, the fourth grade "master-teacher" at St. Albans, who taught me what to teach so that I could teach it my way ... and Steve Potts, a true man of integrity, who showed me what that word really meant.

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

**A.** Robert De Niro.



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## Boynton Beach

# The Villages: Old storefronts must go, but historic home will have new life

By Michael Cook

A Miami-based developer once planned to tear down the historic Andrews House in Boynton Beach. After local preservationists stepped in, the developer changed course and now plans to restore the faded yellow, two-story house as a cafe.

Developer Edgewater Capital Investments still plans to demolish all other buildings on the land it owns surrounding the city's oldest residence to make way for a mixed-use development along East Ocean Avenue downtown. Some affected business owners are beginning to plan to relocate ahead of construction, with the development expected to rise within a two-year horizon.

"Everything except for the Andrews House will be demolished," said Manny Mato, principal of Edgewater Capital Investments, referring to the south parcel of land it bought in 2022 on Ocean Avenue. Across the street on the north parcel, the same developer is currently constructing The Villages at East Ocean, an eight-story residential and commercial complex expected to open in 2027.

Mato said the property where the Andrews House sits will



Plans call for the 119-year-old Andrews House (bottom left in foreground) to be moved, restored and converted into a cafe, rather than be demolished, as part of the second phase of The Villages mixed-use project that will rise beside it. **Rendering provided**

be part of Phase Two of The Villages project. He described the plan for residential units and retail space as a smaller and more affordable version of the main project. The timeline for the south parcel depends on city approvals, but Mato hopes construction will break ground and be completed within the next few years.

### What's there now

On the south side of Ocean Avenue, west of the Florida

East Coast Railway tracks, there is life in the aging, mostly single-story buildings: from two homes and warehouses to retail. Businesses line the avenue, from East Ocean Cafe and The Blossom Shoppe Florist to the Original Barber Shop. Some will be asked to join the new development, Mato said.

One of the businesses is ArtSea Living, an art and pottery studio. Owner Barbi Lentz said the business had been in that storefront for about five

years, which was intended to be a temporary spot. She is now in the process of packing up shop.

ArtSea Living is relocating across the train tracks east to the 500 Ocean apartment and retail complex. The studio is set to open in late February with upgraded ground-floor retail space. The studio, which originally opened in 2003, has moved several times locally due to similar issues, and Lentz mentioned that operating in a mixed-use space gives her

business a sense of security.

Donald Karney of Broward Properties Inc., which manages the buildings on The Villages' southern parcel and other properties for the same developer, said each tenant would have at least six months to vacate once the project receives final city approval.

"We're not in the business to bum-rush people out or be ogres or unreasonable," Karney said, indicating that his company would accommodate everyone as best it can. He said the same process used at the start of the main project is being followed, with about five buildings knocked down in that portion.

Kevin Fischer, Boynton Beach's division director of planning and zoning, said that tenants now in the commercial buildings on site will go through a process with the property owner to terminate their leases to allow for demolition.

### Warehouse shop objects

Mato made clear that the businesses will have the option to rent space in the new retail area once it is completed. However, he said that warehouse businesses, such as local painters, carpenters, and machinists, might not be the best fit for a storefront setting.

Continued on the next page

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featured by Erik & Susan Ring

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On a warehouse-lined road on the lot leading to the Andrews House, one of the warehouse shops is Ibis Painting, a painting contracting business. The owner, Alissa Beerthuis, has occupied the garage-like space for about 11 years.

For the past several years, Beerthuis said, there had been a lingering rumor that the buildings might be torn down, so the news did not come as a complete surprise. She said that if she is forced to move, she will be left "high and dry," since any available workspace elsewhere likely would cost twice as much.

"I understand that these aren't the prettiest of businesses, but they're essential for the community," said Beerthuis. As for the Andrews House, she said that the aging house is not the most "attractive" and will not blend well with newly constructed buildings.

Edgewater Capital Investments obtained a demolition permit for the Andrews House in November 2024, but after residents raised concerns, the developer agreed to halt the demolition. "The Andrews House itself is not historic from a legal sense," Mato said. "It's not a designated historic property, so we could demolish it tomorrow if we wanted to."

Yet, after conversations with city officials, Mato and his team decided to preserve the house. It was a gesture of "goodwill" for the community and a project that makes sense for the company, he said, so that "everyone wins." As for the restoration of the house itself, which was built in 1907, Mato said site approval will dictate the exact plan to comply with building codes.

Fischer stated that if the Andrews House is restored, a commercial kitchen or cafe could be permitted within the house, as such uses are allowed in the city's zoning district.

The game plan is to refurbish the exterior and return it to its previous state, Mato said, while the interior will depend on factors that may change, including the cafe's layout. He added that the inspiration comes from across the train tracks, where the historic Ruth Jones Cottage — a relocated 1920s home — has been restored and is now Nicholson Muir, a gourmet butcher shop and restaurant.

Mato said the Ocean Avenue corridor has the potential to match other successful downtowns in surrounding cities, thanks to its proximity to the beach and other attractions. He added that the larger mixed-use project — and the ongoing collaboration with the Community Redevelopment Agency and the city — will play a role in shaping that vision.

#### A 'historic street'

Janet DeVries Naughton, a past president of the Boynton Beach Historical Society, said that since the city is attempting to rebuild downtown as a destination, the house will serve

as an asset and an "anchor" for the city's history. She said visitors can enjoy coffee while learning from this type of historical attraction.

"But the fact is that there are only a few of these that exist. And in order for people to learn about the past, they need to be able to see and feel history," Naughton said, referencing the vernacular frame of the home.

Naughton painted a picture of Ocean Avenue as a "historic street," saying there will be modern growth paired with reminders of the past, such as the 1927 high school, now the Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center, and the 1913 Boynton School, now the Schoolhouse Children's Museum.

While Mato has decided not to wreck the Andrews House, and to give it a second life right along Ocean Avenue, that's not quite the outcome some preservationists desired.

The Save Andrews House Committee, formed after the building's near destruction,

prefers using funds to relocate the house next to another nearby historic structure, the CRA-owned 1919 Oscar Magnuson House on the north side of Ocean Avenue.

The current Boynton Beach Historical Society president, Barbara Ready, said she was taken aback when the developer had simply wanted the house removed from his property to create more space for development.

Ready added that if the adaptive reuse architecture is not executed well, it could compromise the house's historic value and original layout, including features such as the existing Dade County pine wood.

"We were pretty disappointed that he didn't want to just give it to us. We figured that, being in our custody, it would be a lot safer," she said. "But who knows where it's going to be 20 years from now, when this developer moves on." ★

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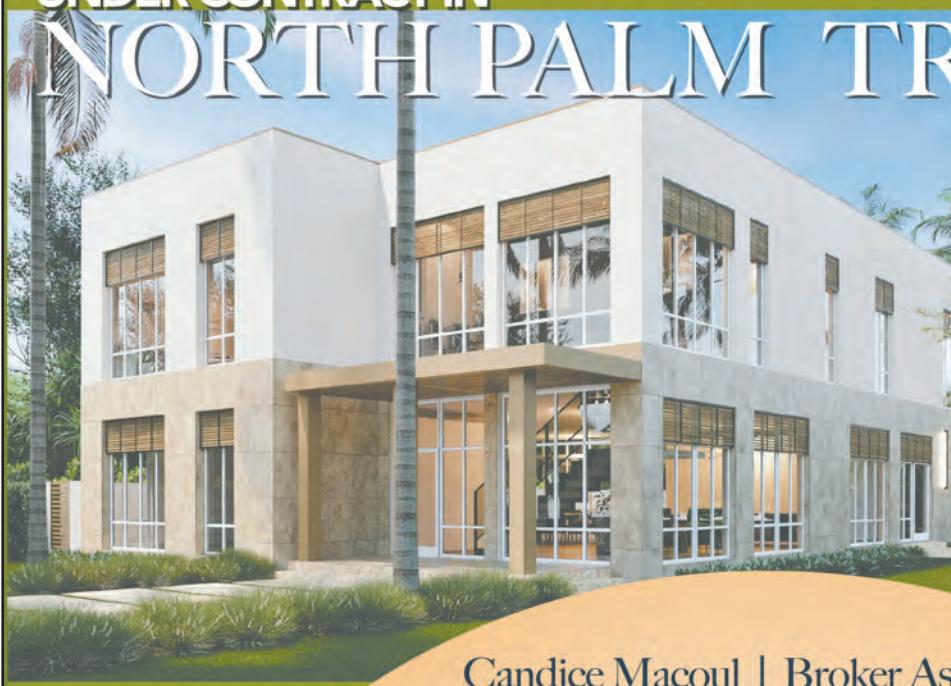


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## Obituary

By Sandra Schulman

BOCA RATON — In an art career that spanned 40 years and major cities, Kathleen Goncharov served for 14 of those years as the senior curator at the Boca Raton Museum of Art, where she

curated more than 30 exhibitions featuring notable artists of national and international acclaim.

Ms. Goncharov died Dec. 31 at her home in Boca Raton, family members said. She was 73.

She retired from the museum in 2025. Irvin Lippman, former executive director of the Boca Raton Museum, said in a prepared statement:

"Kathy Goncharov was instrumental in installing galleries that were welcoming, as though you were entering an engaging conversation among artworks. It was her ability as a curator, and as a talented artist herself, that created this lively rapport."

Lippman said Ms. Goncharov's legacy "remains in the acquisition of many



keystone artworks that remain on view at the museum, such as the 140-foot mural by Odili Donald Odita in the museum's Ohnell Sculpture Garden, the monumental painting by Charles McGill (the last work the artist created before his untimely death), and the 30-foot tall cloud mural on the west side of the building by the Fluxus artist Geoffrey Hendricks that thousands of people drive by every day on Federal Highway."

"In recent years, collectors, such as the late Agnes Gund, recognized her friendship and profound respect for Kathy by donating in her honor several artworks for the community to enjoy and pay tribute to Kathy Goncharov," Lippman said.

A native of Michigan who held degrees from Central Michigan University and the University of Michigan, Ms. Goncharov began her career in New York City in 1980 as the curator at Linda Goode Bryant's Just Above Midtown (JAM) Gallery. At JAM, she organized performances and exhibitions. She went on to serve as director of exhibitions at Creative Time, bringing art beyond the walls of traditional institutions and into the

colorful fabric of New York.

She organized multiple exhibits of Art on the Beach, Art in the Anchorage, and projects staged in unusual spaces in the city — initiatives that have become the hallmark of Creative Time to make contemporary art both public and experimental.

From 1987 to 2000, Ms. Goncharov was curator of The New School Art Collection, where she operated at the intersection of art and education. She later served as public art curator at the MIT List Visual Arts Center, overseeing MIT's Percent-for-Art Program and commissioning permanent works to integrate contemporary art into the holdings of a major research university. She also served as adjunct curator at the Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University, where she curated the museum's first contemporary exhibition in its new building.

Ms. Goncharov was executive director/artistic director of the Brodsky Center for Innovative Editions at Rutgers University from 2007-2011. She was responsible for selecting international artists

to work in collaboration with the center's master printers and papermakers to create new editions. She led the center's advisory committee and guided outreach through exhibitions and educational collaborations; she placed editions and artists' books in major collections including the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Museum of Modern Art.

A major highlight of her 40-year career was in 2002, when she was appointed United States Commissioner for the 50th Venice Biennale, for which she selected artist Fred Wilson to represent the U.S. This was a solid recognition of her international stature, and her commitment to artists whose work interrogates history, power, and institutional structures. She curated and organized exhibitions and projects internationally, including in Cairo, Rio de Janeiro, New Delhi, Bologna, Venice, and Rome, extending her commitment to global dialogue and cross-cultural exchange.

Gracie Mansion, pioneer of the 1980s East Village art scene, art consultant, curator, and adviser to individuals, museums, and corporations

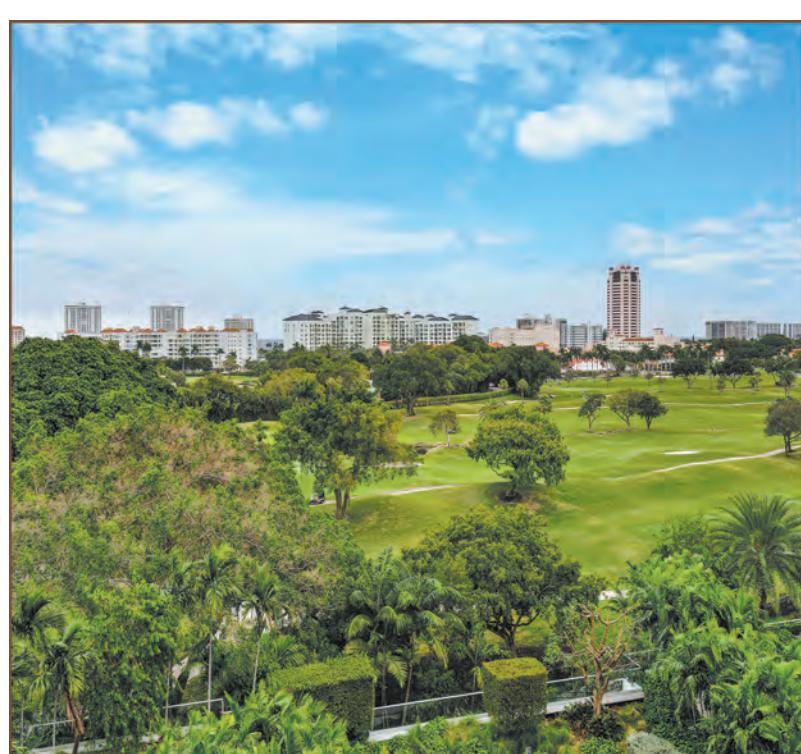
worldwide, was a longtime friend of Ms. Goncharov, who also was an artist herself.

"Kathy Goncharov was a loyal friend and a generous spirit who freely shared her friends and her knowledge. When we stayed together in Venice at the offices of the Emily Harvey Foundation, it would inevitably end up with someone sleeping on the couch and another sharing a bed. She never said no to anyone and at some point in the stay, she would cook a fantastic meal for the 'extended family,'" Mansion wrote in a prepared statement.

"Kathy Goncharov was a visionary. She recognized talent early and went against the norms. A contemporary curator, she built on a depth of knowledge of the past. This duality informed her curatorial vision, making it accessible to many levels of viewers. She worked quietly, and in the future, historians will come face to face with an indisputable mountain of truth and beauty that is her legacy."

News reports said Ms. Goncharov is survived by her longtime partner, Charles Doria, and numerous family members.★

## Kathleen Goncharov



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**E-BIKES**

Continued from page 1

bill — and one that will have the most impact on pedestrians and bicyclists in the area — requires the rider of an e-bike to slow to 10 miles per hour when within 50 feet of a pedestrian on a sidewalk or pedestrian path.

"It's about time," said Emily Gentile, president of the Beach Condo Association of Boca Raton, Highland Beach and Delray Beach. "It will help the pedestrians quite a bit."

Gentile said that quick-moving e-bikes make it difficult for some pedestrians, especially older walkers, to step aside.

"People are complaining that they're riding on the sidewalks and scaring the heck out of them," she said.

Gentile said that while the proposed legislation is welcome, she believes the key to its effectiveness will be enforcement.

She's not alone.

"It's a wonderful start, but how are they going to enforce it?" asked Rich Garrett, president of the Florida Bicycle Association, who would like to see the legislation go even further.

He would like to see a 10-mph speed limit on e-bikes on sidewalks all the time.

Garrett believes that the number of crashes involving e-bikes has been significantly under-reported, an issue that the proposed legislation addresses to some degree.

The legislation would require law enforcement agencies to report the date and time of the crash, the class of e-bike involved — there are three classes based on maximum speed and whether it has a throttle — the age of the rider and whether that rider has a license or permit.

An earlier version of the bill would have required e-bikes capable of going faster than 29 mph to be classified as e-motorcycles and require operators to have a license or permit.

That provision was withdrawn in committee, Gossett-Seidman said, because lawmakers wanted more data.

"We don't want to pass a law that's not fully researched and doesn't take into account all the different counties," she said. "Some areas like Boca have many electric bikes and others have hardly any."

The task force that would be created should help provide the data lawmakers need, she said.

While Garrett supports the legislation in its proposed form, he is a strong advocate for

education and would like to see all e-bikers required to take an education class.

"They should all have to know the rules of the road," he said.

In addition, he believes the weight of an e-bike should be a consideration in legislation.

Garrett said he would like to see the Florida Bicycle Association have a seat on the task force that would be created under the proposed legislation.

Safety is a key concern for Garrett and for Gossett-

Seidman, who says that legislators have to find a balance between that and the transportation needs of e-bike riders.

"One of our goals is getting them where they need to go in a safe fashion," she said.

While the Florida House bill and a similar bill in the Florida Senate would apply statewide, local municipalities are able to pass ordinances and rules governing e-bicycles.

Boynton Beach, for example, is considering an ordinance that

would prohibit electric vehicles from being used on any public sidewalk.

In Boca Raton e-bike users are required to follow the rules of the road and keep right, when possible.

Gossett-Seidman says she is sure that some statewide regulation on e-bikes will come out of the legislative session.

"We're going to apply the most common sense possible and make the most people safe and happy," she said. ★

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## Business Spotlight

# Garlic Fest returns to Delray with smaller footprint but all its stinkin' glory

Returning to Delray Beach, the odiferous Garlic Fest, known as the best stinkin' party in South Florida, will be at Old School Square on Feb. 28 and March 1.

The event was created in 1998 by Festival Management Group's nonprofit arm, Delray Beach Art Inc. Jennifer Costello, the executive director of those organizations, gives a history of how the festival started.

"In the late 1990s, Delray Beach was still a quiet, sleepy town," Costello says. "Our founders, Nancy Stewart-Franczak and Bern Ryan, joined local civic leaders to brainstorm how to bring life back to the downtown. Their idea was bold: Create a 'signature event that would generate excitement, ignite tourism and, most importantly, support local nonprofits.'"

At first, the idea was met with laughter, Costello says.

"Undeterred, Nancy and Bern persuaded a few civic leaders to go to Gilroy, California, home of the world-famous Garlic Festival. What they saw there was eye-opening — a vibrant community celebration that energized the downtown, drove tourism and raised significant funds for nonprofits."

Inspired by Gilroy's success, Delray Beach leaders gave the green light. First celebrated in a downtown parking lot, the festival offered food, art and music. Within five years, the festival amassed more than 20,000 visitors, impacting activities in the downtown area and necessitating street closures — a bit more than Delray Beach leadership was looking for, Costello explained.

To accommodate the city's needs and to keep the garlicky good times going, the festival moved to John Prince Park in Lake Worth Beach, and then, following an interruption caused by the pandemic, it moved to Wellington.

With approvals in place, Garlic Fest returns to Delray Beach in all its stinkin' glory with a smaller footprint and no street closures. In a more mindful collaborative model — partnering with the Downtown Development Authority and working with the Community Redevelopment Agency's Delray Beach Green Market, Coco Market, the Delray Beach Open and ArtNest — the festival is not bigger, but aims to be just as good or even better with food, art, crafts and music.

Spin Doctors will headline the music, joined by the Fabulous Fleetwoods and Given to Fly.

Keeping to a smaller footprint, "We are not bringing back the garlic chef stadium or the carnival rides," Costello said. "But we will have The Clove, which will have an elevated bar and food seminars."

With 120 feet of food along the festival's Gourmet Alley,



Chefs at Garlic Fest will offer free demonstrations, such as this one at a past festival, at noon both days at The Clove, site of garlic-themed food and beverage. The Clove's premium bar will offer cocktails such as jalapeño margaritas, garlic bloody marys, pickled garlic martinis and Crazy Uncle Mike's brewed garlic bread beer, along with nonalcoholic drinks. Marketplace vendors will sell fresh garlic, jarred garlic, garlic graters and other goods. **Photo provided**

event-goers will get to feast on delicacies such as garlic ice cream, gourmet garlic smash burgers and garlic conch fritters.

Eighty vendors will sell a mix of arts and crafts, plants and edibles, such as fresh or jarred garlic, spices, sauces, jerky and honey.

The festival may have a small footprint, but it will make a big impact, Costello says. "We're excited to be back home."

Hours of Garlic Fest are 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Feb. 28 and 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on March 1. Tickets are priced at \$15 on Saturday until 6 p.m. then the entry cost goes to \$25. On Sunday, the cost is \$15 all day. Tickets can be purchased at [eventeny.com/events/ticket/?id=18647](http://eventeny.com/events/ticket/?id=18647).

A California tech company advancing quantum computing development is moving its corporate headquarters to the **Boca Raton Innovation Campus**, the city's former IBM site, after the city approved a \$500,000 incentive grant on Jan. 6 to lure the company.

**D-Wave Quantum Inc.**, based in Palo Alto, says an increased interest and demand for its quantum computing technology and systems are behind its desire to establish "a key development hub" in Boca Raton. It plans to transition its headquarters to the city by the end of 2026.

The change will give D-Wave a presence on both coasts, providing system redundancy in the case of disaster recovery and expanding a North American

presence that already includes facilities in Connecticut, California, Alabama and British Columbia.

The company also announced that **Florida Atlantic University** has made a \$20 million commitment to install its Advantage 2 annealing quantum computer — "aiming to accelerate and solidify the state of Florida's position as a leader in quantum computing."

"With our new headquarters in Boca Raton, D-Wave will bring to South Florida incredible opportunities for advanced research, talent recruitment, and high-impact technology development that is shaping the future of computing," said D-Wave CEO Alan Baratz.

Boca Raton's economic development incentive is based on D-Wave's commitment to create 100 jobs in the city over the next five years, with annual salaries exceeding \$125,000.

A 1.34-acre lot from the oceanfront to Intracoastal Waterway at **1300 S. Ocean Blvd., Manalapan**, sold for \$27.49 million in January. The seller was 1300 South Ocean LLC, managed by local attorney Maura Ziska. The buyer was Pitchoune Life LLC, a Delaware-registered company, care of Dennis Zaslavsky in Deerfield, Illinois. Zaslavsky is the senior managing director of Clearstead Advisors, a financial consultant.

**Gary Pohrer of Serhant** and **Nick Malinosky** of the **Exclusive Group at Douglas Elliman** were the listing brokers on the deal, while **Marine**

developer Kolter Group, based in Delray Beach.

The four-bedroom home, built on the 1.03-acre site in 2009, features a summer kitchen, bar, balcony, pool and a private pathway to the beach.

Carol Sawyer Parks is the president and CEO of Sawyer Enterprises and Sawyer Parks Inc. She developed the **W Boston Hotel & Residences** and the **Niketown** building on Newbury Street in Boston.

While the Kolter Group builds residential communities and condos, it also has a custom home division, which works closely with Marc Julien Homes. **Nick Malinosky** and **Michael O'Connor** of the **Exclusive Group at Douglas Elliman** brokered the deal.

A trust in the name of Bridget Maguire sold an 8,131-square-foot estate at **215 W. Coconut Palm Road, Boca Raton**, in the **Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club**, for \$16.5 million — a drop of \$3 million since its previous purchase less than two years ago. The new owner is 215 Coconut Palm Land Trust, with Aaron S. Adler as trustee.

Maguire, founder of Miami-based Premier Legal Advantage, bought the home for \$19.5 million in June 2024. It was first listed for \$22.5 million in August 2024, but the listing price fell to \$18.5 million in November 2025.

Built on the 0.34-acre site in 2022, the five-bedroom home features a dock, a zero-edge pool, spa, bar/wine room, private study and an outdoor fireplace.

Maguire's company is a consultant and recruiter for major law firms. The deal was brokered by **David W. Roberts** with **Royal Palm Properties**.

**Boca Villas Apartments**, a 106-unit co-op building at **1191 S. Ocean Blvd., Delray Beach**, sold for \$22.5 million. The seller was an LLC managed by local investor Daniel Edwards, and the new owner is Palmetto Coast Holdings LLC, a company registered in Delaware with an address in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Edwards, who had owned

one of the units, purchased the property in a sale approved by the co-op board in June 2025 for \$18 million. The development, known through the years as **The Horizon of Delray Beach**, was built in 1952. It is sited on a lot just under 1 acre with 120 feet of oceanfront.

The buyer was represented by the **Matt Moser** and **Nick Gonzalez** team of **Serhant**. The seller was represented by **Christian Prakas**, also with **Serhant**.

Boston real estate developer Carol Sawyer Parks sold her 9,368-total-square-foot estate, with 90 feet on the ocean, at **2545 S. Ocean Blvd., Highland Beach**, for \$17.5 million to **KM One LLC**, an affiliate of

**The Boca Chamber's 20th annual Diamond Award luncheon** will be held Feb. 20 at The Boca Raton, in celebration of women whose leadership has shaped Boca Raton and southern Palm Beach County.

Continued on next page

This year, the Diamond recipient is **Marta T. Batmasian**, co-founder of Investments Ltd., for her support of initiatives that advance education, health care and community well-being.

The chamber will also present the **2026 Pearl Award** to **Sabrina Greenberg**, founder of EcoLoops and a senior at Saint Andrew's School. The Pearl Award honors a young female leader and graduate of the Boca Chamber's Young Entrepreneurs Academy who demonstrates entrepreneurial excellence. Greenberg's work with EcoLoops reflects her commitment to sustainability, innovation and social impact.

For information or tickets, contact Sarah Vielot at [svielot@bocachamber.com](mailto:svielot@bocachamber.com).

**Alina Residences Boca Raton** announced that assistant property manager **Ahmed Abbas** was recognized by FirstService Residential as its Rookie of the Year. The award was presented at Le Méridien Dania Beach at Fort Lauderdale Airport.

Abbas joined Alina Residences in November 2024 in an administrative role. He advanced to assistant property manager, where he coordinated with contractors, managed unit closings and supported residents of Alina 220.

**The Greater Lantana Chamber of Commerce** announced its new board of directors in January at an installation dinner at The Carlisle Palm Beach. **David Lumbert** of Ocean Bank is now the president. The new vice president is **Laura Urness** of the Presson Group with Corcoran Realty. **Jane Richardson** of Friends of Foster Children serves as treasurer, and **Jackie Phelan**, owner of Underground Promos LLC, is secretary.

Past champion and Boca Raton resident **Frances Tiafoe** committed to play in the **34th Delray Beach Open**, Feb. 13-22 at the Delray Beach Tennis Center.

Tiafoe, who has ranked as high as world No. 10, was a 20-year-old wild card ranked No. 91 when he won the Delray Beach Open in 2018.

Other players scheduled to compete include **Taylor Fritz, Casper Ruud, Tommy Paul, Learner Tien and Alex Michelsen**.

**Juan Martin del Potro**, the 2009 U.S. Open champion and 2011 Delray Beach winner, is returning to the tournament in the Legends exhibition-style matches, along with six-time Delray doubles champions **Bob and Mike Bryan**, former French Open champions **Luke and**

**Murphy Jensen**, and past Delray Beach Open singles champions **Tommy Haas, Xavier Malisse and Jan-Michael Gambill**.

Fans can watch qualifying rounds for the ATP 250 tournament as well as practice sessions.

New this year, children 14-and-under will receive a free Stadium Court reserved seat with the purchase of an adult ticket on the day of the event at the box office.

For more details, visit [delraybeachopen.com](http://delraybeachopen.com).

**The League of Women Voters of Palm Beach County**'s voters guide to 18 municipal elections in the county goes online Feb. 7 at [lwvpbc.org](http://lwvpbc.org). To access the free guide, click on the Voter Toolkit 2026 button. Elections will be held on March 10.

"The league delivers nonpartisan information to local voters every election," said Amy Kemp, the league's president. "Providing potential voters with reliable, responsible, nonpartisan information is our primary mission."

The league has compiled biographical information and political positions from 85 candidates in 32 campaigns in the guide, called Vote411.

For the November elections, the league will host an Election Expo and publish both a printed

and online Vote411 guide to all local, county, state and federal campaigns that will be on the ballot in the county.

**The Institute for Regional Conservation**, along with the **Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce**'s Young Professionals Association of Delray, recently hosted a beach dune ecological restoration event at Delray Municipal Beach as part of IRCC's **Restoring the Gold Coast** program.

Volunteers from the Young Professionals, FAU Sustainability Club and the Beach Keepers removed sea grape from dune habitat to benefit the federally endangered beach jacquemontia plant. This site represents the largest remaining population of the species in Palm Beach County.

**The Delray Beach Downtown Development Authority** recently launched its redesigned website, **DowntownDelrayBeach.com**. The new platform makes it easier for businesses, residents and visitors to discover, plan and experience the downtown.

Based on an economic impact model using its analytics along with benchmarks from Destinations International, Visit Florida, and the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, the website is estimated to generate \$15.5

million in annual economic impact, including \$10.35 million in direct visitor spending.

New features of the website include destination mapping of shops, restaurants, spas, galleries, hotels and cultural destinations — and nearby parking to these destinations.

Users can create personalized Art Walk routes. Businesses are grouped into themed experiences. Signature attractions are highlighted.

It contains a centralized listings for events, dining, lodging and activities. The site's guides are expected to add an estimated \$1.35 million in incremental annual revenue.

"Our goal was to create a modern, mobile-friendly website that doesn't just inform, but actively guides people through downtown Delray," said **Suzanne Boyd**, director of marketing for the DDA.

The new site helps people "discover new places, plan fuller experiences, and engage more deeply with everything downtown has to offer — while directly supporting our local businesses."



Christine Davis writes business news and can be reached at [cdavis9797@gmail.com](mailto:cdavis9797@gmail.com).



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# Around Town

February 2026

The Coastal Star

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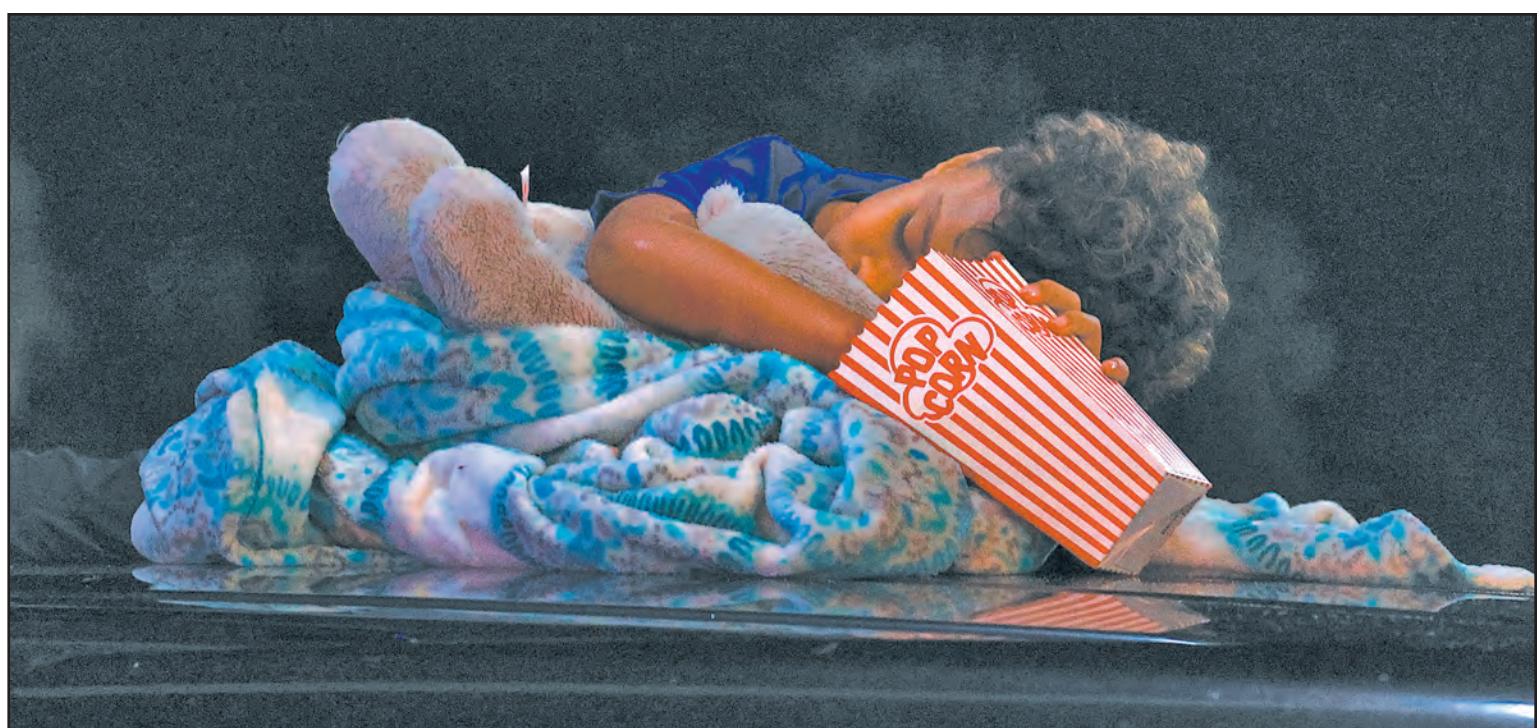
Charm City Burger Co. comes to Boca Raton. Page AT26

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Expert advice on how to train your doggie. Page AT27



**House of the Month**  
 Waterfront residence in Ocean Ridge. Page AT35

**Entertainment**

Liam Bingham, 6, of Boca Raton, dozes on the hood of the family car during Lantana's showing of *How to Train Your Dragon* in January. The second and final movie of the season will be *Jurassic World: Rebirth* on Feb. 27. Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

**Lantana draws families with free films, popcorn at makeshift drive-in**



**ABOVE:** A girl sits on top of the family vehicle to watch *How to Train Your Dragon* at Lantana's Sports Park.

**RIGHT:** Lantana residents Ari Georges and Carlie Matula enjoy a charcuterie board in the back of a pickup during the movie.



## Lights! Camera! Popcorn!

By Ron Hayes

The nation's curmudgeons will no doubt grumble that any drive-in movie theater showing only two movies a year hardly deserves to be called a drive-in theater at all.

About 150 mothers, fathers, friends and children — lots and lots of children — who drove in to Lantana's Sports Park on Friday evening, Jan. 9, to watch a movie under the stars would disagree.

In its own humble way, the town of Lantana is keeping alive a once great American tradition. Each January and February, the town hosts a "Drive-In Movie Night," a free movie on an inflatable, 33-foot screen.

Free popcorn, too. All you can gobble. January's movie was *How to Train Your Dragon*, last year's live-action remake of the 2010 animated feature about Hiccup, a Viking boy who befriends a wounded dragon, named Toothless, and learns about friendship.

See **DRIVE-IN** on page AT16

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## Philanthropy Notes

# Palm Beach Symphony donates 1,000th instrument to students

The ninth annual Holly Jolly Symphony Fête luncheon at the Kravis Center raised nearly \$500,000 to benefit music education initiatives.

Palm Beach Symphony presented 31 instruments, including 27 brand-new instruments, to students and educators from three Palm Beach County Title I schools that are part of the Paul & Karen Levy Residency Program.

This included the milestone 1,000th instrument to be given since the donation program began in 2016, with the totals now up to 1,022 instruments and 3,500 accessories. During the current season, 124 instruments have been donated.

"Will and I know from our own experience the role music education plays in shaping a child's life," said Mary Demory, who chaired the event with her husband, Will Demory.

"These young musicians experience something truly extraordinary. Whether they are attending their first Masterworks performance or learning directly from our orchestra's artists, you can see the spark in their eyes.

"When they are handed an instrument, the joy is unforgettable. Learning music doesn't just create musicians. It also builds discipline, determination and confidence and shapes the next generation of artists and leaders."

Students and educators from the three recipient schools — Woodlands Middle School, The Conservatory School @ North Palm Beach and Plumosa School of the Arts — attended the December event along with nearly 500 guests.

Learn about Palm Beach Symphony's concerts, events, giving opportunities and more at [PalmBeachSymphony.org](http://PalmBeachSymphony.org).

### Longtime Kravis supporter receives Dreyfoos award

The Raymond F. Kravis Center for the Performing Arts' major donors, life trustees and guests honored Kravis supporter George Michel with the Dreyfoos award for his lifetime of service. The former resident of Palm Beach and current resident of Palm Beach Gardens has served on the Kravis board of directors from the beginning more than 30 years ago.

Founding CEO Judy Mitchell said the award, named for the late Kravis founding chairman, Alex Dreyfoos, is given only on special occasions and only to individuals who have demonstrated continued outstanding dedication and service to the Kravis.

"It's an honor being associated with so many great people who made this organization happen and it



Christine Lynn and Lois Pope attended the Holly Jolly Symphony Fête. Pope was the principal sponsor. **Photo provided**

goes back more than three decades," Michel said at the Dec. 17 dinner. "And of course, the guy I miss a lot — Alexander W. Dreyfoos.

"When I was living in Stamford, Connecticut, Alex told me he was going to South Florida to raise \$10 million to build a cultural center. I didn't think much of it, but knew he would do it."

### Levis JCC has openings in special-needs program

The Adolph & Rose Levis Jewish Community Center has a few openings in its Project L.I.F.E. (Learning, Independence, Friendship, Experiences), a weekday program that supports young adults with special needs to help them build life skills.

Part of the JCC's Helene & Roy Schwedelson Special Needs Department, Project L.I.F.E. serves people ages 18-30+ through a structured, Monday-Friday program from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Participants develop social skills with health, wellness, recreation and volunteer opportunities on and off the west Boca Raton campus.

"At its heart, Project L.I.F.E. is about empowerment, inclusion and possibility," said Ali Landman, vice president, Special Needs Services. "We're creating a space where young adults with special needs are not only supported but valued — where they can contribute, learn and thrive as active members of the community."

Project L.I.F.E. launched in the fall with 13 participants. While the program is private-pay, families may seek reimbursement through Med Waiver. Partial scholarships are also offered. Participants need not be Jewish.

For more information, visit [levisjcc.org/specialneeds](http://levisjcc.org/specialneeds) or call

561-852-3200.

### Boynton OKs expansion for Feeding South Florida

The Boynton Beach City Commission unanimously approved a major site plan modification on Dec. 2 that will allow Feeding South Florida — the leading hunger-relief organization serving Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade and Monroe counties — to build a 32,000-square-foot warehouse at 4925 Park Ridge Blvd. at the Quantum Corporate Park.

The project is the final phase of Feeding South Florida's campus expansion and will significantly enhance the organization's ability to serve people throughout South Florida.

Construction will begin following permitting and pre-construction coordination with city departments.

In other Feeding South Florida news, South Florida Kia dealers, along with the Miami Heat, Miami Dolphins, JM Family Enterprises and JM&A Group, have donated \$400,000 to the organization.

Kia's "Accelerate the Good" charitable initiative raised \$150,000 of the total. JM Family Enterprises and subsidiary company JM&A Group donated \$100,000. The remaining \$150,000 came from the Heat and Dolphins.

Feeding South Florida President and CEO Paco Vélez received the check on Dec. 16 during a ceremony at Feeding South Florida's Pembroke Park warehouse.



Send news, photos and notes to Lou Ann Fraia at [philanthropy@thecoastalstar.com](mailto:philanthropy@thecoastalstar.com).

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## Pay It Forward

# Spring Boutique a way to help Wayside House support women in crisis

By Lou Ann Frala

How can a shopping spree be good for someone else? When the spree is to benefit Wayside House, a nonprofit organization based in Delray Beach that focuses on women's substance abuse and addiction recovery.

The annual fundraiser, the Spring Boutique and Trunk Show, a fixture for more than three decades, begins Feb. 10, with a preview party for shoppers to check out the 21 vendors — nine new this year — from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Aloft Hotel in Delray Beach.

The boutique runs Feb. 11 and 12 starting at 10 a.m. each day.

Vendors, drawn from all over the country and one from Germany, showing clothing, jewelry, accessories and home decor, are: Amanda Johnson Studio, Blair's Belts, Blazers by Design, Brad and Vandy Reh Fine Jewelry, Carrie Dunham, Carson & Co., Charlotte Brody, CMM Designs-Status Faux, Daniella Ortiz Handbags, Harbor Sweets, Hyde Forty-Seven, IslaPayal, IVI Vision, Janet Gregg, Jennifer Tyler Knitwear, KP Design, Liz Paper, Liza Byrd Boutique, Pearly Vine, The Romantic Room, and Vernon Scott.

Last year's event drew more than 700 shoppers and raised \$180,000 for the organization founded in 1974 by Dr. Susan B. Anthony — the great-niece and namesake of the noted 19th century women's rights advocate — and Phyllis Michelfelder of Gulf Stream. Anthony died in Boca Raton in 1991, Michelfelder in 1998.

Wayside's mission since its founding has been to serve vulnerable women, including pregnant women in the throes of substance abuse or other chemical addictions.

The Spring Boutique is "our largest fundraiser of the year so it's critical for our mission," said event co-chairwoman Whitney Jones.

Jones and co-chairwoman Alexandra McCall are in their second year heading the event and are focused throughout the year on drawing vendors and building support for Wayside House.

As McCall says: "Wayside House's 90-day residential program for women, including its scholarship offerings, helps bridge the gap between recovery programs and the women who would otherwise be unable to afford excellent care. Wayside offers hope, dignity and long-term support to women who may have lost their way but



Shoppers check out the merchandise at the 2025 Wayside House Spring Boutique and Trunk Show.  
Photo provided by Wayside House

deserve the resources and compassion necessary to reclaim their lives."

Women 18 and older can receive treatment to get back on their feet. Programs include life skills and employment

assistance, with a placement rate higher than the national average, says Marlene Passell, Wayside's director of communications.

Equine and horticulture holistic programs put the

women in touch with both horses and the earth as they grow food that is used in the residential treatment center kitchen in Delray Beach. ★

## If You Go

**What:** Spring Boutique and Trunk Show

**When:** Feb. 11 and Feb. 12, with a preview party for shoppers to check out the 21 vendors — nine new this year — from 5 to 7 p.m. Feb. 10. The boutique runs Wednesday and Thursday starting at 10 a.m. each day.

**Where:** Aloft Hotel, 202 SE Fifth Ave., Delray Beach

**Cost:** Tickets for the preview party are \$150 and include valet parking, early shopping, drinks and light bites. Register at [waysidehouse.net/2026-spring-boutique](http://waysidehouse.net/2026-spring-boutique).

**More information:**  
561-278-0055

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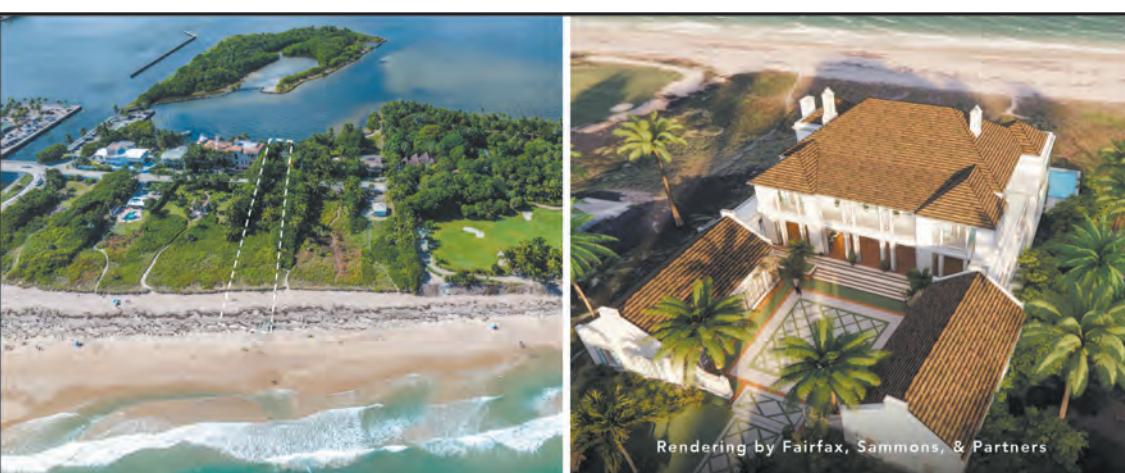


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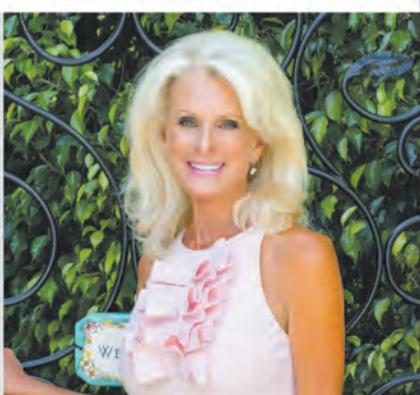
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## Philanthropy Calendar

# Pay It Forward

*Note: Events are current as of 1/21. Please check with organizers for any changes.*

## FEBRUARY

**Tuesday-Thursday - 2/10-2/12 - Wayside House's Spring Boutique & Trunk Show** at Aloft Delray Beach, 202 SE Fifth Ave. Shop among dozens of vendors from throughout the United States at the organization's premiere fundraiser supporting addiction-treatment services for women. 5-7 pm Feb. 10, 10 am-5 pm Feb. 11 and 10 am-4 pm Feb. 12. \$150 Feb. 10, free Feb. 11 and 12. 561-278-0055 or [waysidehouse.net/2026-spring-boutique](http://waysidehouse.net/2026-spring-boutique)

**Wednesday - 2/11 - Ruth & Norman Rales Jewish Family Services' Reflections of Hope Luncheon** at Boca West Country Club, 20583 Boca West Drive, Boca Raton. A keynote speech by Allison Holker, a celebrated dancer, choreographer and television personality, at a benefit for behavioral-health services and substance-abuse programs. 11 am-2 pm. \$180. 561-852-3360 or [ralesjfs.org/event/reflections-of-hope](http://ralesjfs.org/event/reflections-of-hope)

**2/11 - Boys & Girls Club of Delray Beach's Heart to Heart Dinner** at The Little Club, 100 Little Club Road, Delray Beach. An evening featuring a curated sit-down dinner with exceptional cuisine and an exciting live auction – all in support of the club and the youths it serves. 6-9 pm. \$300. 561-676-5472 or [bgcpcb.org/events/2026-heart-to-heart-dinner](http://bgcpcb.org/events/2026-heart-to-heart-dinner)

**Friday - 2/13 - 2nd Annual Beyond the Label Fashion Show Luncheon & Auction** at Boca Raton Marriott at Boca Center, 5150 Town Center Circle. Benefitting Boca School for Autism. 11:30 am-1:30 pm. \$90/person. [givebutter.com/c/beyondthelabel](http://givebutter.com/c/beyondthelabel)

**Thursday - 2/19 - Woman's Club of Delray Beach's Real Men Bake & Valentine Sock Hop** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. Sample sweet and savory delights baked by a who's-who cast of male volunteers at a '50's-themed benefit for local charities. 6-9 pm. \$40. 561-870-6345 or 561-706-8577 or [delraywomansclub.com/home/real-men-bake-fundraiser](http://delraywomansclub.com/home/real-men-bake-fundraiser)

**2/19 - The Symphonia presents A Little Night Music** at House of Devam, 190 W Palmetto Park Road, Boca Raton. Wear casual chic and enjoy light bites, wine and live music. 6:30 pm. \$100 per person; \$175 per couple. 561-414-5226; [thesymphonia.org](http://thesymphonia.org)

**Friday - 2/20 - Greater Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce's Diamond Awards Luncheon** at The Boca Raton, 501 E. Camino Real. Honor a woman who is dedicated, inspiring, accomplished, motivated, noble and driven, has achieved success in her field and makes a difference in the community. \$125. 561-395-4433, Ext. 233 or [bocachamber.com/diamond-award-luncheon](http://bocachamber.com/diamond-award-luncheon)

**Saturday - 2/21 - The Boca Raton Museum of Art's 76th Annual Gala: From La Belle Epoque to the Summer of Love** at the museum, 501 Plaza Real. Gala dinner amid the galleries: 6-9 pm; Summer of Love Party in the sculpture garden: 9-11:30 pm. Gala: \$1,500; Summer of Love Party: \$100. 561-392-2500 x212; [bocamuseum.org](http://bocamuseum.org)

**2/21 - Child Coalition's 9th Annual Tech with Heart Gala** at Opal Grand Oceanfront Resort & Spa, 10 N. Ocean Blvd., Delray Beach. Help a nonprofit by attending a cocktails-and-dinner event with an after-party. The Coalition rescues minors from sexual abuse by building technology for law enforcement. 6-11 pm. \$450. 561-208-9000 or [childrescuecoalition.org/events/9th-annual-tech-with-heart-gala](http://childrescuecoalition.org/events/9th-annual-tech-with-heart-gala)

February 2026

**Tuesday - 2/24 - Florida Atlantic University's Cabaret for a Cause: A Scholarship Fundraising Event with Local Celebrities** at The Studio at Mizner Park, 201 W. Plaza Real, Boca Raton. An evening of live performances that includes heavy hors d'oeuvres, decadent desserts, cocktails and drinks and dancing all to benefit scholarships to the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters. 6:30-9:30 pm. \$200. 561-297-2337 or [fauf.fau.edu/events/cabaret-for-a-cause](http://fauf.fau.edu/events/cabaret-for-a-cause)

**2/24 - Roots and Wings Goes Hollywood - 10th Anniversary Gala** at Good Night John Boy, 33 SE 3rd Ave., Delray Beach. Features dinner, dancing, prizes, and a live auction. Guests are encouraged to dress as their favorite film or musical character from a list of featured films. Prizes will be awarded for the best costumes of the night.

Proceeds directly support Roots and Wings' literacy initiatives and teacher recognition programs across Palm Beach County. 6:30-9:30 pm. Tickets start at \$250. 561-404-0455; [rootsandwingsinc.org](http://rootsandwingsinc.org)

**Wednesday - 2/25 - YMCA of South Palm Beach County's Inspiration Breakfast** at Peter Blum Family YMCA of Boca Raton, 6631 Palmetto Circle South.

Hear from burn survivor John O'Leary, the keynote speaker, while raising money for programs aimed at youths, families and seniors. 7:30 am. \$300. 561-237-0944 or [ymcaspb.org/programs/events/inspiration-breakfast](http://ymcaspb.org/programs/events/inspiration-breakfast)

**Thursday - 2/26 - Real Men Bake at Delray Beach Library**, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Fundraiser for FRWC Women's Club of Delray Beach. Local celebrity chefs prepare bite-size samples of their best dishes. Featuring DJ dance party, 50/50 raffle drawing and cash bar. 6-9 pm. \$45. 561-266-0194; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

**Friday - 2/27 - The Lord's Place second annual March to End Homelessness** at Centennial Square, 150 N. Clematis St., West Palm Beach. Registration: [thelordsplace.org/march](http://thelordsplace.org/march). Day-of registration is at 2 pm. The hope is that 200 people will take the 2.6-mile walk and raise a minimum of \$350,000. Money raised will be matched by The Honorable Ann Brown, in honor of Cathy Brown. 61-494-0125 or [thelordsplace.org](http://thelordsplace.org)

## MARCH

**Friday - 3/6 - George Snow Scholarship Fund's Cowboy Ball** at Boca West Country Club, 20583 Boca West Drive, Boca Raton. Help students achieve their dream of attending college while enjoying an evening of country-chic style. 6-11 pm. \$350. 561-347-6799, Ext. 114 or [scholarship.org/events](http://scholarship.org/events)

**3/6 - Caron Treatment Centers' 2026 Caron Florida Gala** at Opal Grand Oceanfront Resort & Spa, 10 N. Ocean Blvd., Delray Beach. An evening celebrating recovery and shining a light on the organization's mission of providing treatment for addiction as well as funding research and prevention. 6-9:30 pm. \$500. Sales end on 2/26. 215-292-5226 or 610-731-1045 or [caron.org](http://caron.org)

**Saturday - 3/7 - Sandoway Discovery Center's Muscle on the Beach** at Old School Square, 51 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. Get excited about a car show featuring 150 American hotrods and trucks from decades past as well as a silent auction and a raffle all benefiting the nonprofit's hands-on learning experiences that focus on Florida's fragile ecosystems. 10 am-3 pm. Free. 917-670-6993 or 617-312-4701 or [muscleonthethebeach.com](http://muscleonthethebeach.com)

## Celebrations

### FAU's Transcend Tomorrow campaign celebration

The Addison, Boca Raton — Dec. 4



With contributions from alumni, faculty, staff, students and friends, FAU raised more than \$617 million over the past decade for scholarships and programs as part of 'Transcend Tomorrow: The Campaign for Florida Atlantic University.' That surpassed the campaign goal of \$600 million.

LEFT: (l-r) Nicole Williams, FAU President Adam Hasner and Aalesha Chisholm-Green. RIGHT: Dick Schmidt and Sharon Kusuke. Photos provided by Florida Atlantic University

### YMCA Prayer Breakfast

The Breakers Palm Beach — Dec. 11



More than 350 attended the YMCA of the Palm Beaches 16th annual Prayer Breakfast. Former Super Bowl champion quarterback Joe Theismann, now an entrepreneur, Emmy Award-winning NFL analyst, author and philanthropist, spoke of the importance of supporting the YMCA's mission. 'True success isn't just about achievements,' he said. 'It's about how we lift up and contribute to those around us, bringing our best every day for the good of others.' Learn more at [ymcapalmbeaches.org](http://ymcapalmbeaches.org). Follow on Instagram @ymcapalmbeaches. TOP LEFT: Guest speaker Theismann. ABOVE: Evelyn Hopkins and Guy Quattlebaum. LEFT: Tim Coffield and Pat Rooney. Photos provided by Tracey Benson Photography



### New history marker

Old School Square, Delray Beach — Jan. 22



The Delray Beach Preservation Trust partnered with the city and Hanlon \ Mayo Architecture to replace a historical marker at the entrance to the Old School Square Historic District. The distinctive marker was cast at Sewah Studios foundry in Marietta, Ohio, and the text approved by the city and the historic division of the Florida Department of State. Old School Square Historic District, formed in 1987, was the first of five historic districts established in the city. The trust also partnered with the city to replace a marker at the entrance of the Del-Ida Historic District. ABOVE: (l-r): Kelly Barrette, vice president of the Delray Beach Preservation Trust; and Jaime Mayo and Michael Hanlon, principal partners of Hanlon \ Mayo Architecture. Photo provided

### Cocktails for the Club

St. Andrews Club, Delray Beach — Dec. 9



The seventh annual Cocktails for the Club raised a record \$284,789 for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County's Delray Beach club. The event was chaired by Laura Compton. Proceeds will go to the club's hunger relief efforts, workforce readiness program and digital literacy. For more information, visit [bgcpbc.org](http://bgcpbc.org) or call 561-683-3287. ABOVE: Laura and Charles Compton. Photo provided by Tracey Benson Photography

### Arbor Day planting

Linear Park, Ocean Ridge — Jan. 9



Florida Arbor Day was Jan. 16, but members of the Ocean Ridge Garden Club got a head start, planting a native gumbo limbo tree to mark the occasion a week earlier. Club members say early in the year is the perfect time to plant trees, though they will require watering to get established before the hotter spring temperatures arrive. This tree was donated by a club member. ABOVE: (l-r): Garden Club members Susan Holtz, Britt Flanagan, Mickey Austin Farley, Carol Larson, Elisa Garcia and Cindy Martel. Photo provided

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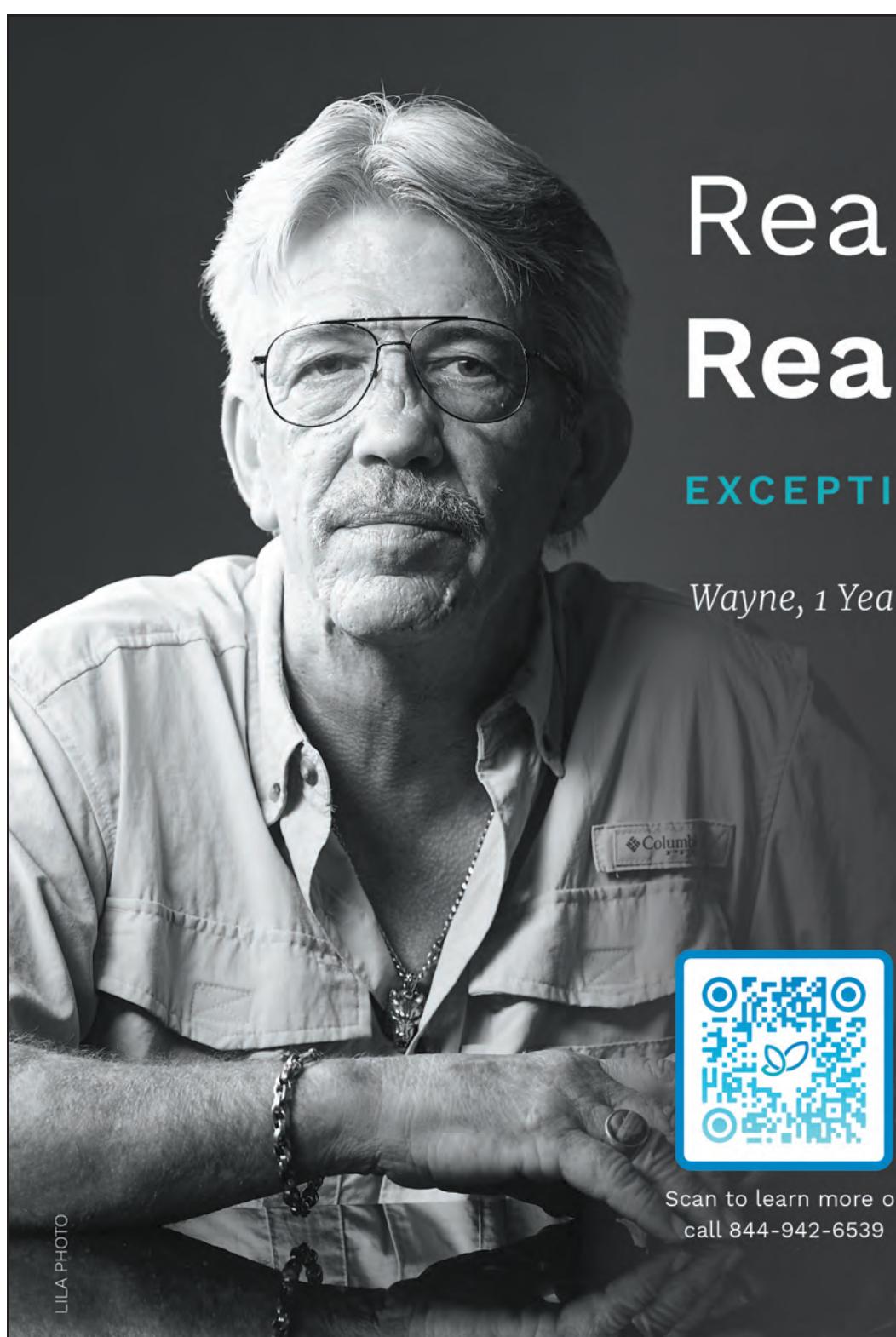
**OPAL Awards**

Boca West Country Club, Boca Raton — Jan. 10



The 28th annual gala, hosted by the Rotary Club of Boca Raton, celebrated community leadership and philanthropy. The gala was co-chaired by Jan Savarick, Neil Saffer and Dara Siegel. It honored Steven Bernstein and Abby Bernstein-Henderson, Michelle Hagerty, Dr. Van P. Williams, Haley and Brad Winstead, and Rotarian Lifetime Legacy Award recipient Myron Yudkin, 97, who received a standing ovation. Christine Lynn was honorary chair and presenting sponsor. Proceeds will benefit Rotary's scholarship and youth programs.

**TOP LEFT:** Siegel, Paige Kornblue, Savarick, Hagerty and Saffer. **TOP RIGHT:** Neil Gillman, Bernstein-Henderson, Doris Gillman and Alex Henderson. **BOTTOM LEFT:** Lynn, Patricia Thomas and Terry Fedele. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Peter and Susan Brockway. Photos provided



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## Art



## Memorable Mucha

Boca Museum exhibits works by Art Nouveau master

By Jan Engoren  
ArtsPaper Art Writer

The Boca Raton Museum of Art's latest exhibit, *Timeless Mucha: The Magic of Line*, brings a touch of Art Nouveau magic to South Florida.

On view through March 1 are more than 100 works by Czech artist Alphonse Mucha (1860–1939), known for his elegant lines, romantic women, and iconic posters. The exhibit was created in partnership with the Mucha Foundation.

It marks the second Mucha retrospective to be seen in South Florida in recent years. The Flagler Museum in Palm Beach featured an overview of the artist's work in the spring of 2024.

Mucha was born in Ivančice, Moravia, then part of the Austrian Empire, and now part of the Czech Republic. In the early 1900s, he moved to Paris,



Examples of iconic designs by Alphonse Mucha for posters, ads, magazine covers and the like. **Photos provided**

where in 1894 he had the good fortune to design an affiche for famed actress Sarah Bernhardt, who was appearing in a production titled *Gismonda*.

The poster, double the size of traditional posters, was done in his now-signature Art Nouveau style using muted golds, harmonious greens and blues, natural forms, flowing lines,

and his distinct halo above the head — all of which have come to be known as *le style Mucha*.

Bernhardt is depicted dressed in an embroidered robe, wearing an ornate headdress, holding a palm frond, and posing in what is now called Mucha's "Q" pose, where the feminine shape takes on the form of the letter Q and the trailing elements, such as hair, visually form the shape of a capital Q.

The poster became an international sensation, and Bernhardt, notoriously difficult, proclaimed, "You have made me immortal." She offered Mucha a five-year contract (from 1895 to 1900) to produce work for her, including theater posters, stage sets, costumes and jewelry.

His 1896 poster *La Dame aux Camélias*, a depiction of courtesan Marguerite Gautier portrayed by Bernhardt, illustrates her again in a flowing gown, her hair and feet adorned with camellias. The Q style is evident, along with

See **MUCHA** on AT12

## Theater

### New play 'Conversa' starts a conversation at Theatre Lab

By Erik Kvarnberg  
ArtsPaper Theater Writer

FAU Theatre Lab wants everyone possible to get to know playwright, actor, and stand-up comic Joanna Castle Miller, and this starts with *Conversa*.

*Conversa* is an autobiographical play written and performed by Castle Miller, directed by Theatre Lab's Producing Artistic Director Matt Stabile, and accompanied by live music from Theatre Lab veteran Paul Curtis.

*Conversa*, the first play in a trilogy, is about identity, migration, and Castle Miller's relationship with her ancestors.

"I knew that I wanted to tell a story about my mother and about her journey and about my journey and how those two

things relate to each other," Castle Miller said. "And then as I was writing it, it sort of became clear to me that it was really about the ability, the right of people to go on journeys."

The chance to work with Stabile and the whole crew at Theatre Lab has opened up the idea for Castle Miller. One of the biggest additions was multi-instrumentalist Curtis, whose fifth show at Theatre Lab is *Conversa*.

Curtis brings a menagerie of instruments and songs to the stage, as *Conversa*'s plot intertwines with the story of the Sephardic Jewish people, descendants of the ancient Jewish population on the Iberian peninsula.

See **CONVERSA** on AT10

## Music

### Jazz star Yoko Miwa to make welcome Arts Garage return

By Bill Meredith  
ArtsPaper Music Writer

her drumming husband Scott Goulding, plays the Arts Garage once again on Feb. 21.

Touring performers never forget the first time they get booked at one of their favorite venues. Especially when it turns out that they can't work there.

Such was the case in March 2020, when jazz pianist and composer Yoko Miwa was set to play at the Arts Garage in Delray Beach. COVID-19 intervened, like it did through much of life during that year, robbing Miwa and her trio of their initial debut there.

Yet the classically trained Japanese pianist has returned almost every year since to display her unique combination of touch, tone, technique and taste. Her trio, with acoustic upright bassist Will Slater and

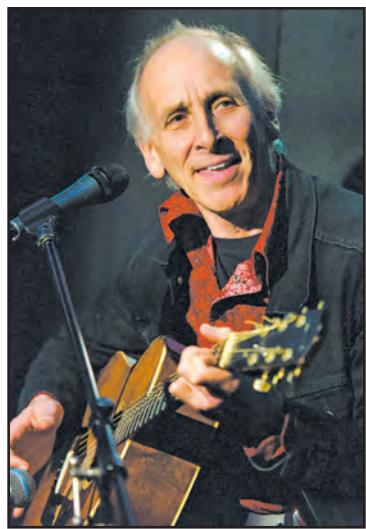
"I think this is the fourth or fifth time we've played there since that cancellation," Miwa says by phone from Boston, her adopted hometown. "I believe we also did late 2021, but maybe not 2022, before doing every year since. We really like the venue, and coming to Florida, because Boston can get very cold in the winter."

The 55-year-old pianist's place of residence isn't just because it's one of America's top cities, especially from a musical standpoint. Miwa has been in Beantown since 1997 after auditioning to attend its jazz launching pad, the Berklee

See **MIWA** on AT8



Jazz pianist and composer Yoko Miwa brings her trio to Delray Beach's Arts Garage on Feb. 21. **Photo provided**



Elijah Wald, pictured at the Café Wha in 2025, will appear at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute on the Boca Raton campus of Florida Atlantic University on Feb. 5. Photo by RI Sutherland-Cohen

## Music

# Author/musician Wald to share insights in FAU appearance

By Bill Meredith  
ArtsPaper Music Writer

Even if the name of author, musical artist and historian Elijah Wald doesn't ring a bell, chances are that you've experienced or at least heard of something he's associated with.

A recent example is the 2024 Bob Dylan biopic *A Complete Unknown*, which starred Timothée Chalamet and was directed by James Mangold. The film was inspired by Wald's 2015 novel *Dylan Goes Electric! Newport, Seeger, Dylan and the Night That Split the Sixties* (Dey Street/Harper Collins).

It's one of a dozen books by Wald, 66, who started out as a globe-trotting, singing, finger-style guitarist specializing in folk interpretations and world music in the late 1970s before embarking on his writing career.

Wald, who performed at the South Florida Folk and Acoustic Music Festival in Davie on Jan. 31, planned to participate in discussions with FAU professor Rod MacDonald at the school's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute locations in Jupiter (Feb. 3) and Boca Raton (Feb. 5).

Wald's wide-ranging books cover multiple musical genres, including the Mexican-

themed *Narcocorrido: A Journey Into the Music of Drugs, Guns and Guerrillas* (Harper Collins, 2002); *Escaping the Delta: Robert Johnson and the Invention of the Blues* (Amistad, 2005); and *The Dozens: A History of Rap's Mama* (Oxford University Press, 2012). His latest offering is *Jelly Roll Blues: Censored Songs and Hidden Histories* (Hachette Books, 2024).

There are also a couple of album releases, notably *Street Corner Cowboys* (Black Rose, 2000), yet most of Wald's recordings and performances now appear on his website.

"We're living in a new

world," he said by phone from his home in Philadelphia, "and my musical blog posts reach so many more people than an album could. And the Dylan movie has done amazing things for my career."

Wald said he likely will play some Dylan songs during the university appearances. However, "Those will be mostly conversation with Rod, so I'll leave it up to him to pick some of the directions we go in — perhaps about my work, American folk music, and pop, blues and jazz."

Continued on next page

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## MIWA

Continued from page 7

College of Music, on a lark as a classical music student at the Koyo Conservatory of Music in her hometown of Kobe, Japan. She not only aced the audition, but earned a full scholarship.

"It all changed my life," says Miwa. "At my audition, I played 'Bye-Ya' by Thelonious Monk. My teacher at Koyo, Phillip Strange, was American. He's a really great pianist, and he chose that song for me."

Miwa's jazz technique had initially been honed in Japan by organist and instructor Minoru Ozone. Miwa performed at his nightclub and worked as a piano teacher at his music school, and only intended to stay and study in Boston for a year when she arrived. Twenty-nine years later, she's still there, with the last 15 as an associate professor in the Berklee piano department.

"I have around 30 students a week," she says, "and with some of them, I think to myself, 'This person is really going to be something special.'"

Gifted jazz vocalist Kevin Mahogany (1958-2017), who was one of Miwa's fellow professors at Berklee, felt the same way about her, choosing Miwa to accompany him for both his classes and live shows.

"When I heard that Kevin was coming to the school to teach, I requested to accompany him in all of his classes, because I'd always really liked his voice. There was an audition. Thankfully, he chose me, and I was so honored. I miss him."

The latest of Miwa's nine album releases is the critically acclaimed *Songs of Joy* (Ubuntu Music, 2021), featuring tracks she composed during the pandemic lockdown and garnering acclaim from peers as well as critics.

"I greatly appreciate and respect the clarity and strength in Yoko's playing," says 62-year-old fellow pianist Benny Green, a star in his own right. "It is very apparent — the honesty, care and depth of foundation she touches the piano with."

A five-year recording hiatus ends later this year with two disparate Miwa releases.

"One album will be with the

## If You Go

See the Yoko Miwa Trio at the Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave., Delray Beach.

When: 8 p.m. Feb. 21

Tickets: \$65.50

Info: 561-450-6357, [artsgarage.org](http://artsgarage.org)

trio," she says. "The other will be me playing in a duo with a vocalist named Mikayla Shirley. She's 24 years old, and in the master's program at Berklee, and I just love her voice. We've been playing duets of jazz standards for a couple years now, and that album will be called *The Midnight Hours* and will be released soon, with the trio album coming out over the summer. I don't have a title for that one yet."

Asked about her classical and jazz piano influences, Miwa has a laundry list that includes legends and contemporaries such as Green.

"For classical music, my favorite has always been Chopin," she says. "For jazz, my longtime hero is Bill Evans. He's the reason I initially got into jazz. Oscar Peterson is the other reason. But I also love Keith Jarrett, McCoy Tyner, Thelonious Monk, Mulgrew Miller, Kenny Barron, Bill Charlap, Brad Mehldau, Larry Goldings, and Benny Green."

Pop music also factors into Miwa's output. Her recordings and concerts include occasional covers of the likes of the Beach Boys, Joni Mitchell, Led Zeppelin, and The Beatles.

"I'll play some of my new material at the Arts Garage," she says, "as well as selections from *Songs of Joy* and some of the earlier albums. Plus some Beatles."

And lest any Fab Four fans think that Miwa was named for John Lennon's widow, this Yoko sets the record straight.

"Most older traditional Japanese names are based on Chinese characters," she says. "The 'Yo' portion of my name is for the ocean, with the 'ko' portion signifying child. So it's 'ocean child.' I've heard that Yoko Ono's first name is based on the same Chinese characters."

Continued from previous page

*A Complete Unknown* wasn't the first film based on a Wald book. The Coen brothers' 2013 film *Inside Llewyn Davis* starred Oscar Isaac as a Greenwich Village folk performer in 1961, and was inspired by Wald's book about his mentor, *Dave Van Ronk: The Mayor of MacDougal Street* (Da Capo, 2005).

Van Ronk (1936-2002) was Wald's co-writer after having been a seminal figure in New York City's folk revival, and the two had rubbed elbows with MacDonald, a singer-songwriter there during the 1980s.

"I attended New York University for one year from 1976 to 1977," Wald said. "But that was really specifically to study guitar with Dave Van Ronk. When he said he was done teaching me, I left college.

"He was absolutely my deepest influence, not only on guitar but also as a writer and historian. He was probably the best-read, most intelligent human being that I've ever spent a lot of time with."

Another best-selling Wald book is *How the Beatles Destroyed Rock 'n' Roll: An Alternative History of American Popular Music* (Oxford University Press, 2009).

"I didn't get backlash from anyone who actually read the book," Wald said with a laugh.

"John Lennon and Paul McCartney both made albums celebrating the rock 'n' roll they grew up on, and that really ended when they released *Revolver*. The Beatles stopped playing live, and the music was taken off the dance floor.

"I was doing a radio interview in New York after that book came out, and a woman called in and said, 'What he's saying is exactly how I remember it. By 1967, all the boys were in one room, smoking dope and

listening to *Sgt. Pepper*, and all the girls were in another room, dancing to Motown.' I wrote that the Beatles destroyed rock 'n' roll, not ruined it. There's a difference. Everyone agrees that they created a new world.

But when you do that, there are losers as well as winners."

A Cambridge, Mass., native with international touring experience, Wald has sound reasoning for making the City of Brotherly Love his home.

"I've lived here about eight years now because of the cost benefit," he says. "I think it's by far the best urban environment for the money in the United States at this point."

**Shara Hughes**  
**Inside Out**

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#### If You Go

See Elijah Wald at 7 p.m. Feb. 5 at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at FAU, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton.

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**Info:** 561-297-3185, olli.fau.edu

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Joanna Castle Miller at the Nahmanides Institute in Girona, Spain. Photo provided by FAU Theatre Lab



## CONVERSA

Continued from page 7

"It's been a really steep learning curve, because it's music that was not necessarily in my vernacular, but that's part of the fun," Curtis said. Original compositions from Curtis make up about half of the play's score; the rest are arrangements of other songs.

Through the rehearsal process with Curtis, Stabile, and Theatre Lab's team of professionals ahead of the scheduled opening the first week of February, Castle Miller was looking at this play with new light, as both the playwright and the sole actor of the show.

This includes modification of the script, but also opens up possibilities for set design and the incorporation of music that could change all the way up to opening day.

The origins of *Conversa* started years ago, with the initial freedom of being able to write as if she had institutional support. What she had written first was a play called *Inferna*, part of the trilogy that *Conversa* belongs to. During *Inferna*, Castle Miller knew there was another story that she couldn't include in *Inferna* alone. And so *Conversa* was written, and will have its debut before *Inferna*.

To Castle Miller, this story is more than something that happened to her. "This trilogy is about starting out as someone who is deeply close-minded, thinks in a binary, very fundamentalist, very closed-off and insulated way," she said.

"And the transition of that person to who I am now is what inspired the story, but then as I was writing it, [I realized] 'this is something that a lot of us are going through right now.'

"I think my hope, especially with *Conversa*, more than any other play I've written, is that we all start somewhere together, and then we end up somewhere totally different at the end."

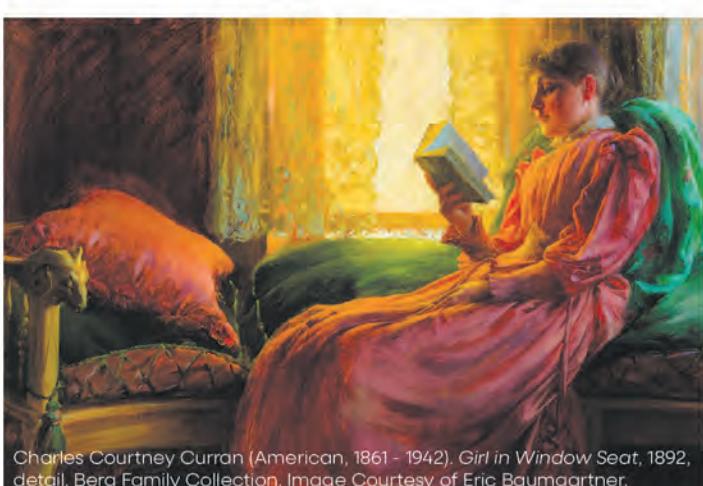
Stabile believes this play will be a favorite for the community, for both its subject and its comedy. "I think audiences are going to be very surprised at how often they are laughing and then, you know, two pages later, like, oh, that just broke my heart a little bit there."

This set of plays is emblematic of Theatre Lab's purpose of supporting modern works for the community.

"You don't have to work nearly as hard in new work to find things that you are experiencing right now in your own life," Stabile said. "The playwrights are living and working and existing in the same exact soup that you're in."

*Conversa* and *Inferna*, which will run April 11-26, will be the final two shows in the current Theatre Lab space in Parliament Hall on the school's Boca Raton campus, before moving to the Marleen Forkas Studio One Theatre for the 2026-27 season.

## FLAGLER MUSEUM



Charles Courtney Curran (American, 1861 - 1942). *Girl in Window Seat*, 1892, detail. Berg Family Collection, Image Courtesy of Eric Baumgartner.

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## Comedy

# It's all smiles for comic Rudner in happy return to South Florida

By Jan Engoren  
ArtsPaper Writer

Talking to comedian Rita Rudner by phone is like having a front row seat to one of her shows.

Although she calls herself quiet — a self-described “middlevert” — Rudner’s polish and years of comedic training shine through her conversation.

Rudner will be appearing for three shows at the Boca Black Box Center for the Arts on Feb. 9 and is best known for her epigrammatic one-liners.

A native of Florida — she grew up in Coral Gables — Rudner says she’s excited to be coming back to Boca Raton.

“It has great shopping,” she says in classic Rudner deadpan. “It has a good combination of upscale and bargains — Saks and Marshall’s, Neiman’s and TJ Maxx.”

Once she steps off the plane, feels the humidity and sees the palm trees, she says, “I feel like I’m coming home and reliving my childhood.”

Since her debut on *Late Night with David Letterman* in 1982, Rudner has worked steadily. In Las Vegas, where she enjoyed a multiyear run, she sold almost 2 million tickets, grossed more than \$100 million, and became the longest running solo female

comedy show in the city’s history.

Rudner didn’t set out to become a comedian. By the age of 17, she already had a career on Broadway as a dancer, but after 10 years, realized she wanted to do something that allowed her more creative input.

She looked around, noticed there weren’t many female comedians, and decided to give it a go.

“I worked hard at it,” Rudner says, adding that it doesn’t come naturally. “I learned as much as I could, I did as much as I could and read as much as I could.”

She studied Buster Keaton, Jack Benny and Woody Allen, comedians who she says are quiet, like her. Along the way, she got advice from Jerry Seinfeld and Louie Anderson.

That calm sensibility extends to her home life.

“I’m quiet and listen to other people,” she says. “Whereas my husband, (writer and director) Martin Bergman, can wake up and be funny, I wake up, have coffee, do word puzzles and am quiet.”

The two have been married for more than 30 years and have collaborated on numerous projects, including the 1992 film *Peter’s Friends* starring Emma Thompson, Hugh Laurie, Kenneth Branagh and Stephen



Stand-up comic Rita Rudner grew up in Coral Gables.  
Photo provided

Fry. Rudner co-wrote it along with Bergman and won a Best Supporting Actress award for her role at the American Comedy Awards.

The two also co-wrote the 1996 romantic comedy *A Weekend in the Country*, starring Rudner, Jack Lemmon, Dudley Moore and Richard Lewis, directed by Bergman.

Offstage, the Bergman-Rudners recently rooted for the University of Miami Hurricanes in last month’s game against Indiana. Their daughter, Molly Bergman, a singer/songwriter, is a recent graduate of the Frost School of Music at the University of Miami.

Rudner’s credits encompass 10 comedy specials including

## If You Go

Rita Rudner appears at the Boca Black Box Center for the Arts, 8221 Glades Road, No. 10, Boca Raton.

**When:** 3, 5 and 7 p.m. Feb. 9

**Tickets:** \$63.50, \$73.50, \$83.50

**Info:** 561-483-9036; [bocablackbox.com](http://bocablackbox.com)

Desert and walking on the beach with her dog.

Looking back, Rudner is happy she left Broadway and took control over her career.

“There’s a certain amount of freedom that comes with stand-up,” she says. “It was a good decision to have more control over my career. I can write my own scripts and have more control over my life, especially as a woman.”

“There’s no cost associated with writing,” she says. She adheres to Woody Allen’s old adage that 80% of success in life is showing up. She doesn’t believe in luck and says luck “happens,” after you’ve worked hard and are prepared when an opportunity presents itself.

She also credits her hard work and discipline she learned from her dance background.

“There are many funny comedians,” she says, “but they may not have a consistent work ethic.”

Rudner knows something about consistency — she’s been working for four decades and can now choose her projects. “I only do things I want to do,” she says.

bad

climate, I don’t go.

“But if it’s Boca, and I get a direct flight and love the audiences, I say yes,” Rudner says.



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Photo by Caroline Bittencourt

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Wednesday, February 25 at 7:30 p.m.

### “McQueen”

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Friday, February 27 screening at 2 and 5:30 p.m.

### “Inter Alia” starring Rosamund Pike

National Theatre Live Screening  
Saturday, February 28 at 2 p.m.

Go to [fourarts.org](http://fourarts.org) for tickets and more programs

**MUCHA**

Continued from page 7

Art Nouveau flourishes like ornate floral borders and soft pastels. It is an example of the Mucha Woman, embodied by swirls of exaggerated and abundant hair.

He also inserted Slavic motifs and Moravian folk patterns into his designs as an homage to his Czech heritage. Together, these posters, illustrations, and decorative panels — rich with graceful figures, floral motifs, and halolike patterns — came to embody Art Nouveau's ideal of art infused into everyday life.

Mucha's designs effectively formed the template for the international Art Nouveau movement, with soft pastels, sinuous lines, natural forms, and geometric shapes becoming hallmarks of the style.

In addition to his posters, he had a career designing "cover art," such as magazine covers, and created a number of covers for Hearst, the American newspaper company. He also produced new decorative panels without text to be used purely for decoration, which were manufactured in large quantities and made available to the general public.

By blending fine-art craftsmanship with commercial appeal, he elevated poster design to a respected art form and made beauty accessible to a broad public, as his magazine covers, postcards, and calendars became ubiquitous at the turn of the 20th century.

As an ad man, Mucha may have been the first to sell products without actually mentioning the product. His 1896 poster for Job cigarette rolling papers showcases the Mucha Woman with curly hair

cascading below her shoulders, her eyes closed, a dreamlike expression on her face, holding a lit cigarette. The smoke wafts up and swirls around her face.

Likewise, an 1897 ad for a rail trip from Monaco to Monte Carlo depicts a seated woman in a flowing dress, her hands to her face, with a backdrop of mountains and blue water. Surrounding her are touchstones of Art Nouveau symbolism — lilacs, hydrangeas, carnations, and violets. In the distance one can see the casinos of the Côte d'Azur.

The exhibition highlights the full-circle nature of Mucha and his influences. Originally influenced by Japanese aesthetics and woodblock carvings, his work now influences Japanese manga artists and a long list of other artists.

Psychedelic concert posters for bands such as the Grateful Dead, Jefferson Airplane, and The Rolling Stones were shaped by Mucha's artistic sensibility, nature motifs, decorative backgrounds, and flowing hair.

In addition to Mucha's works and personal objects, the exhibit showcases works by other artists, including Dean Torrence, who created the 1969 album cover *Let the Sunshine In* for Diana Ross & The Supremes, as well as Wes Wilson and Stanley Mouse, who created the 1966 poster for the Jug Band Tour and Big Brother and the Holding Company.

"This cross-cultural influence demonstrates how Mucha's artistic language transcended both time and geography," says curator Kelli Bodle. "This exhibition is the first one that has displayed how Mucha's distinct line work can be precisely traced from the 1900s through concert posters and albums of

**If You Go**

**Timeless Mucha: The Magic of Line** is on display through March 1 at the Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real, Mizner Park.

**Tickets:** \$16 adults; \$12 seniors; free for ages 15 and younger  
**Info:** [bocamuseum.org](http://bocamuseum.org)

This oversized poster of actress Sarah Bernhardt for the play *Gismonda* caused a sensation and rocketed Mucha's career. **Photo provided**

the 1960s and 1970s, to Japanese manga and American comics.

"His work is timeless," she says.

Also on display are photographs — including one of Paul Gauguin playing the harmonium *sans* trousers — taken in Mucha's studio in Paris on the Rue de la Grande Chaumière, actual objects from his Czech home, a self portrait done in his Munich apartment in 1886, as well as a crucifixion painting he created at the age of eight.

By juxtaposing Mucha's original works alongside pieces by contemporary artists working in his style, the exhibition celebrates Mucha's originality and creative genius and illustrates how the balance he struck between decorative beauty, commercial appeal, and emotional accessibility lives on today.

Or, as Bodle says, "Mucha's work lives on. His aesthetic is still enjoyed by people today."



Asandra, *Conversations With Spirit 5*, Acrylic on Panel, 16x20, 2022

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## Reviews

Here are excerpts from reviews posted to the Palm Beach ArtsPaper site. For the full reviews, please visit [palmbeachartspaper.com](http://palmbeachartspaper.com).

**La Bohème** (Palm Beach Opera, Jan. 23, Kravis Center)

Palm Beach Opera opened its 2026 season with *La Bohème* by Giacomo Puccini. Premiered in Turin 130 years ago, it has remained one of the five most performed operas worldwide.

Its simple yet heart-wrenching story, combined with Puccini's unsurpassed gift as melodist, makes for a most satisfying night at the opera, for audience connoisseurs and beginners alike.

Utilizing traditional sets from Seattle Opera and costumes from Opéra de Montréal, the production did not fail to impress, thanks to its strong cast and outstanding playing by the opera's orchestra, under the direction of guest conductor Vincenzo Milletari. In addition, the imaginative direction by Peter Kazaras and the sensitive lighting by Stuart Duke ensured a truly theatrical experience.

As Mimi, soprano Anita Hartig delivered her part with a solid technique and with an acting that grew more dramatic as the evening went on. Her opening aria, "Si, mi chiamano Mimi," displayed solid vocal technique while also lacking the frailty demanded by the character. Her transformation in the third act, however, led to a truly memorable "Addio, senza rancor!" and by the fourth act she had the house in her hands, giving an emotionally wrenching final scene.

Tenor Liparit Avetisyan was the perfect Rodolfo. His "Che gelida manina" was delivered with passion and without any strain in the higher notes. Avetisyan was also an accomplished actor both in the lighter moments of the opera and in its dramatic ending.

Alfredo's friends were handled well by veterans as well as members of the company's Young Artists Program.

As Marcello, Edward Parks had an imposing stage presence and a voice that matched it. Soloman Howard made for a superb Colline, his booming voice projecting effortlessly. His "Vecchia zimarra, senti" was one of the highlights of the evening. Young Artist Mario Manzo was a vocally splendid Schnaunard.

Finally, as Musetta, Sydney Mancasola was an act on her own. Her "Quando m'en vo," was vocally secure and her acting avoided the sometimes over-the-top characterization of Marcello's lover.

No review would be complete without mentioning the musical direction of guest conductor Milletari, who shaped orchestral phrases with utmost care while providing the musical support needed by each singer. It has been some time since the orchestra sounded this good.

All in all, a production to be remembered. — *Márcio Bezerra*

**Ballet X** (Duncan Theatre, Lake Worth Beach, Jan. 16)

BalletX, the dynamite ensemble of versatile dancers from Philadelphia, launched the season's popular Friday Modern Dance Series.

The small contemporary ballet company of 15 dancers blew the audience away with their unstoppable energy and technical expertise.

For a ballet company, one could say that BalletX is a bit of a hodgepodge — but in the most wonderful of ways. The dancers are of all different ethnicities with various body types and training who have come together and created a strong sense of artistic unity. Indeed, the three works presented on the program were jam-packed with skilled and athletic dancing.

Starting the program with flair was a campy work choreographed by Australian dancer and choreographer Loughlan Prior that visits a little-known part of queer history, called *Macaroni*. In the 18th century, calling someone a "macaroni" was a way of ridiculing an effeminate character.

The eight dancers were dressed in electric green unitards layered with purple coattail jackets. Designed by Emma Kingsbury, the costumes set the tone of the work, allowing the dancers to let it rip as they preened, pranced and gestured with floppy hands.

*Macaroni* served as a fun introduction to 18th-century British queer-coding as well as the company's energy and style.

The next work, *Become a Mountain*, was choreographed by Justin Peck, former dancer and now resident choreographer of the New York City Ballet. In the choreographer's note in the program, Peck wrote that the dance simulated the arc of a mountain climb, unfolding in three parts: "A climb to a summit, the emboldened feeling of reaching the peak and finally, the adrenaline rush of sliding down the other side."

The curtain opened to the bare bones of a stage. A single dancer began to fill the void. Wearing white sneakers that squeaked on the dance floor, Ashley Simpson moved through her phrases in her solo introspectively. She was soon joined by the other 14 dancers, all wearing the same white squeaking sneakers, which added another dimension to Dan Deacon's electronic score, *Become A Mountain Sites I-IV*.

Closing the program was *Big Wig* by Irish choreographer Marguerite Donlon. The 26-minute work is a reflection on traditional Irish dance but is filled with the most unexpected visuals: the signature shoulder-length, curly wig that girls wear for Irish dancing competitions.

Toward the end of the dance, all 15 performers are onstage, with their wigs first attached to different body parts like an unwanted appendage and then ripped off and flung in the air. These zany images will linger in my mind for a long time.

— *Tara Mitton Catao*

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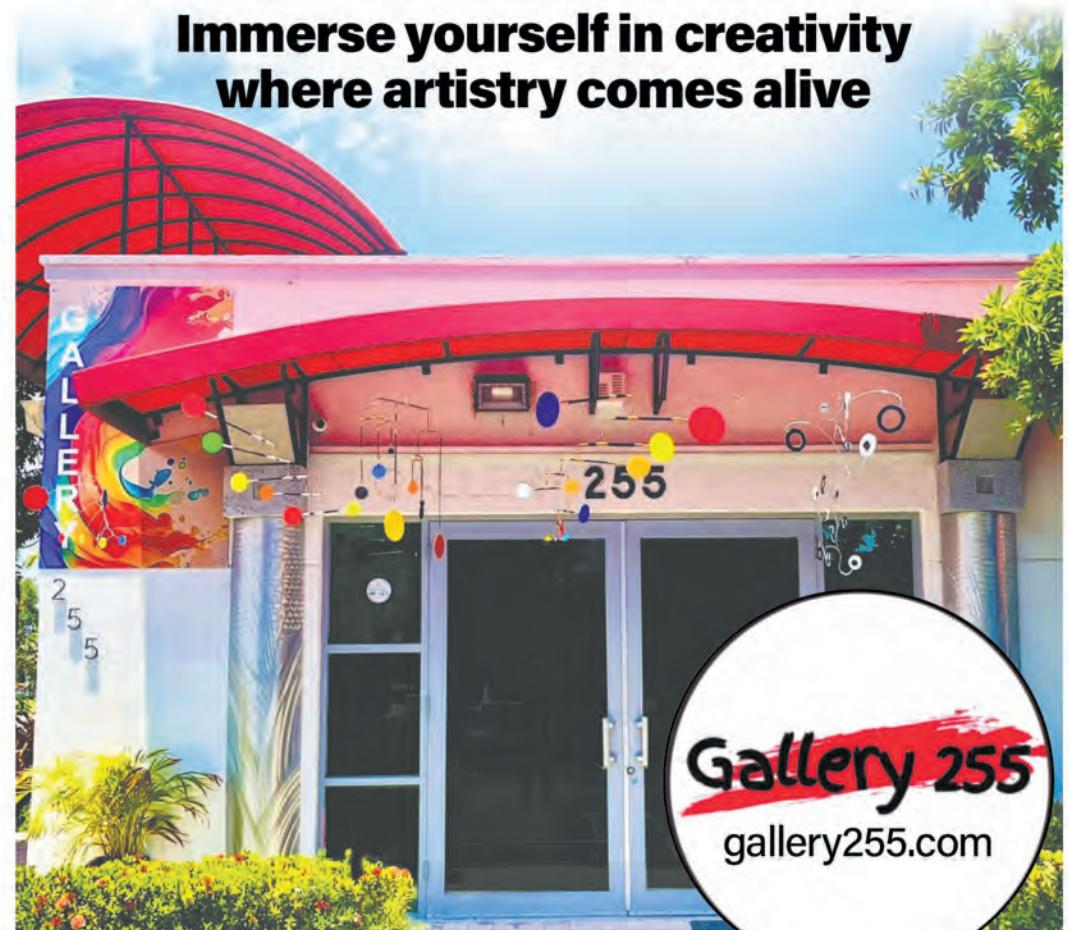
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## Arts Calendar

Editor's note: Events listed through Feb. 28 were current as of Jan. 24. Check with the presenting agency for any changes. Ticket prices are single sales unless otherwise specified.

### ART

**Armory Art Center:** Through March 5: Annual Student and Faculty Exhibition and Sale. Free. 811 Park Place, West Palm Beach. 9 am-5 pm M-F, 9 am-noon Sat. 561-832-1776 or [armoryart.org](http://armoryart.org)

**Arts Warehouse:** Through Feb. 28: *Marmoris; This Is. The End.* 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](http://artswarehouse.org)

**Boca Raton Museum of Art:** Through March 1: *Timeless Mucha: The Magic of Line.* Through March 29: *Too Late to Rewind: From the Collection of Elayne Mordes.* Through May 3: *Eduardo Chacón: Postcards from Nowhere; 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](http://bocamuseum.org)

**Cornell Art Museum:** On view: *From Primitive to Surreal.* Opens Feb. 22: *Spotlight on Crystal Bacchus.* Through May 3: *The Art of Her.* TFree. 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 [delrayoldschoolsquare.com/cornell](http://delrayoldschoolsquare.com/cornell)

**Cultural Council for Palm Beach County:** Opens Feb. 6: *Claudia Henao: El Dorado*, through March 21; *Being Well, Well Being*; through April 4. Free. 601 Lake Ave., Lake Worth Beach. Noon-5 pm T-F. 561-471-2901, [palmbeachculture.com/exhibitions](http://palmbeachculture.com/exhibitions)

**Flagler Museum:** Opens Feb. 10: *Golden Hour: Charles Courtney Curran and the Romance of American Impressionism.* Through May 24: *May I Help You, Madame?: The Making of the Modern Department Store; Landscapes in Miniature.* \$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](http://flaglermuseum.us)

**Lighthouse ArtCenter:** Through Feb. 21: *Burger Angels: The Art of Daniel Ryan.* \$5 non-members. 9 am-5 pm M-Th; 9 am-4 pm F; 10 am-4 pm Sat. 561-746-3101, [lighthousearts.org](http://lighthousearts.org)

**Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens:** Through April 5: *Light as Air: The*

*Buoyant Sculptures of Mariko Kusumoto; Take Akari: Bamboo Lights; Blue & White*, a display of white 7th- and 8th-century Chinese porcelain dishes. \$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](http://morikami.org)

**Norton Museum of Art:** Through Feb. 22: *Leslie Hewitt: Chromatic Scales.* Through March 1: *Anastasia Samoilova: Atlantic Coast; Shara Hughes: Inside Outside.* Through March 29: *Art and Life in Rembrandt's Time: Masterpieces from the Leiden Collection.* \$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](http://www.norton.org)

**Society of the Four Arts:** Opens Feb. 14: *The Triumph of Nature: Art Nouveau from the Chrysler Museum of Art.* Through April 4. \$10. 102 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. 10 am-3 pm M-F. 561-655-7226, [fourarts.org](http://fourarts.org)

### CLASSICAL MUSIC

Friday, Feb. 6

**Jacksonville Symphony:** The orchestra, under conductor Courtney Lewis, welcomes tenor Limmie Pulliam for lieder by Strauss and opera selections by Puccini and Leoncavallo. \$86. 7:30 pm, Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. [kravis.org](http://kravis.org); 561-832-7469

Sunday, Feb. 8

**Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center:** Gloria Chien, Chad Hoopes, Richard Lin, David Finckel and Wu Han perform American pieces. \$40. 3 pm, Society of the Four Arts, 102 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. 561-655-2766 or [fourarts.org](http://fourarts.org)

Tuesday, Feb. 10

**Isidore String Quartet:** The New York foursome opens the Flagler Museum's 2026 music series with the String Quartet No. 3 of Brahms and the "Sunrise" Quartet of Joseph Haydn. \$95. 7:30 pm, 1 Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. 561-655-2833 or [flaglermuseum.us](http://flaglermuseum.us)

Tuesday, Feb. 17

**Jolente De Maeyer and Nikolaas Kende:** The Belgian duo of violinist De Maeyer and pianist Kende offer sonatas, as well as three light pieces by Fritz Kreisler. \$95. 7:30 pm, Flagler Museum, 1 Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. 561-655-2833 or [flaglermuseum.us](http://flaglermuseum.us)

Wednesday, Feb. 25

**Danish String Quartet:** The Copenhagen-

## The COASTAL STAR

based foursome presents a divertimento (K. 138) by a 16-year-old Mozart, Igor Stravinsky's *Suite Italienne* and Beethoven's Quartet No. 13. \$40. 7:30 pm, Four Arts, 102 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. 561-655-2766 or [fourarts.org](http://fourarts.org)

Thursday, Feb. 26

**Chamber Music Society of Palm Beach:**

Cellist Gary Hoffman joins artistic director

and violinist Arnaud Sussman and violist Paul

Neubauer for a program of string trios. \$86. 7 pm, Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West

Palm Beach. [kravis.org](http://kravis.org) or 561-832-7469

### DANCE

Tuesday, Feb. 10

**Pilobolus:** The acclaimed dance company presents the immersive *Other Worlds*; theatrical ballet *Tales from the Underworld*, and *Bloodlines*, a duet examining familial bonds. 7:30 pm. \$150-\$175. Glazer Hall, 70 Royal Poinciana Way, Palm Beach. [glazerhall.org](http://glazerhall.org) or 561-576-7860

Friday, Feb. 20-Saturday, Feb. 21

**Dorrance Dance:** Michelle Dorrance's New York-based company explores the rich repertoire of tap dance in this return to the Duncan Theatre's Modern Dance Series. 8 pm. \$49. 4200 Congress Ave., Lake Worth Beach. 561-868-3309

### JAZZ AND BLUES

Friday, Feb. 6

**The Resolvers:** This little big band fuses Jamaican reggae roots with New Orleans stylings. 8:30 pm. \$30 and up. Crazy Uncle Mike's, 6450 N. Federal Highway, Boca Raton. 561-931-2889 or [crazyunclemikes.com](http://crazyunclemikes.com)

Saturday, Feb. 7

**Sean Chambers & The Savoy Brown**

**Rhythm Section:** Veteran blues-rock guitarist and vocalist Chambers teamed with Brown in 2022; they'll be grooving at The Funky Biscuit. 8 pm. \$44-\$50. 303 SE Mizner Blvd., No. 59, Boca Raton. 561-395-2929 or [funkybiscuit.com](http://funkybiscuit.com)

Sunday, Feb. 8

**LP & The Vinyl:** With influences including jazz, R&B, rock, and Brazilian music, the group will explore the likes of Bowie and The Beatles and perform their own original songs. 2 pm. \$55-\$60. 94 NE 2nd Ave., Delray Beach. 561-450-6357 or [artsgarage.org](http://artsgarage.org)

Friday, Feb. 13

**Isle of Klezbos:** Bringing Yiddish musical tradition to South Florida, this all-women sextet is led by Eva Sicular on the drums. Arts

Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave., Delray Beach. 561-450-6357 or [artsgarage.org](http://artsgarage.org)

Wednesday, Feb. 18

**The Frank Bang Big Band:** Chicago-born Frank Bang landed a five-year gig as the touring guitarist for blues legend Buddy Guy before launching his own band. 8 pm. \$21-\$40. The Funky Biscuit, 303 SE Mizner Blvd., No. 59, Boca Raton. 561-395-2929 or [funkybiscuit.com](http://funkybiscuit.com)

Saturday, Feb. 21

**Yoko Miwa Trio:** Internationally acclaimed pianist Miwa is joined by Will Slater on bass and Scott Goulding on drums. 8 pm. \$60-\$65. Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave., Delray Beach. 561-450-6357 or [artsgarage.org](http://artsgarage.org)

Friday, Feb. 27

**Eric "Raw Dawg" Gales:** With over 18 albums under his belt, the renowned blues guitarist is back and better than ever. 8:30 pm. \$65. Crazy Uncle Mike's, 6450 N. Federal Highway, Boca Raton. 561-931-2889 or [crazyunclemikes.com](http://crazyunclemikes.com)

### OPERA

Friday, Feb. 20-Sunday, Feb. 22

**The Pearl Fishers:** Palm Beach Opera's second show this season tells the dramatic tale of a love triangle with high stakes in Georges Bizet's 1863 opera. High Priestess Leila, sung by Francesca Pia Vitale (Friday and Sunday) and Aigul Khismatullina (Saturday), vows chastity in her mission to serve her village, but Nadir (Long Long, Jack Swanson) and Zurga (Joo Won Kang, Giry Gurev) are determined to obtain her love. Kathleen Smith Belcher directs and David Stern conducts. 7:30 pm F and Sat, 2 pm Sun.

Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. 561-832-7469, 561-833-7888; or [kravis.org](http://kravis.org) or [pbopera.org](http://pbopera.org)

### POPULAR MUSIC

Saturday, Feb. 14

**Rascal Flatts:** Formed in 1999 in Nashville, the rock-country band's first six albums were certified platinum or higher. This year, they take on the Life is a Highway Tour. Hard Rock Live, 1 Seminole Way, Hollywood. 7 pm. \$87 and up. [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com)

Thursday, Feb. 19

**Boy George & Culture Club:** Known for hits like "Karma Chameleon" and "Do You Really Want to Hurt Me," the British new wave band is an iconic staple of the 1980s. \$60 and up. Hard Rock Live, 1 Seminole Way, Hollywood. 8 pm. [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com)

Friday, Feb. 27

**Biloxi Blues:** The second installment of playwright Neil Simon's autobiographical trilogy follows Eugene Jerome as a young army recruit during World War II. Through March 15 at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. \$40 and up. 561-586-6410 or [lakeworthplayhouse.org](http://lakeworthplayhouse.org)

Friday, Feb. 27 & Saturday, Feb. 28

**Rod Stewart:** The 81-year-old British rock artist's "One Last Time" farewell tour is making a few stops in Florida with two nights in Hollywood. Hard Rock Live, 1 Seminole Way. 8 pm. \$106 and up. [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com)

### THEATER

Opens Feb. 6

**Driving Miss Daisy:** Set in 1948 Georgia, Alfred Uhry's play follows a Jewish widow and a Black chauffeur as they form an unlikely friendship over 25 years. Featuring Debra Jo Rupp (*That '70s Show*) and Ray Anthony Thomas. Through March 1 at Palm Beach Dramaworks. \$95. 201 Clematis St., West Palm Beach. 561-514-4042 or [palmbeachdramaworks.org](http://palmbeachdramaworks.org)

Opens Feb. 7

**Conversa:** The the world premiere of this original, one-woman, autobiographical production by Jewish playwright and performer Joanna Castle Miller. Through Feb. 22 at FAU Theatre Lab, Parliament Hall, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton. 561-297-6124 or [fau.edu/artsandletters/theatrelab](http://fau.edu/artsandletters/theatrelab)

Opens Feb. 15

**Good Night, Oscar:** This dramedy explores Oscar Levant's 1958 appearance on *The Tonight Show* with Jack Paar, where the composer and actor talked about addiction, mental health and media exploitation. Written by Doug Wright. Through March 1 at Maltz Jupiter Theatre. \$50 and up. 1001 E. Indiantown Road, Jupiter. 561-575-2223 or [jupitertheatre.org](http://jupitertheatre.org)

Through Feb. 22

**My Fair Lady:** Set in 1912 London, this classic Lerner and Loewe musical from 1956 is based on a play by George Bernard Shaw. \$100 and up. Wick Theatre, 7901 N. Federal Highway, Boca Raton. 561-995-2333 or [thewick.org](http://thewick.org)

**Strictly Murder:** Suzy and Peter, an English couple living peacefully in Provence, France, have their lives rocked when it turns out Peter might be a killer on the run in this classic play by Brian Clemons. \$45 and up. Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. 561-272-1281 or [delraybeachplayhouse.com](http://delraybeachplayhouse.com)

Opens Feb. 27

**Biloxi Blues:** The second installment of playwright Neil Simon's autobiographical trilogy follows Eugene Jerome as a young army recruit during World War II. Through March 15 at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. \$40 and up. 561-586-6410 or [lakeworthplayhouse.org](http://lakeworthplayhouse.org)



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**Boca Raton Regional  
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BAPTIST HEALTH SOUTH FLORIDA

**DRIVE-IN**

Continued from page AT1

bravery and acceptance.

Cars began arriving to watch Hiccup and Toothless swoop, dip and dive through the skies well before the 7 p.m. showtime.

Ari Georges and Carlie Matula of Lantana were not content with free popcorn.

They waited for the show to begin nestled in the bed of their Ford F250 pickup with a large platter of homemade charcuterie between them.

"We saw the flyer and it sounded like fun," Matula said, "so we went to Aldi and bought five different cheeses, salami, prosciutto, capicola and pine berries."

Camille Bingham of Boca Raton was poking around Facebook when she happened on an announcement for the event.

"I have five kids and four are here," she explained. "With five kids, I'm always looking for something free and fun."

Marcus Freeman brought his son Makai, 7, and daughter Kaliyah, 10, down from Jupiter after finding the movie night listed on EveryParent (everyparentpbc.org), a resource guide sponsored by the Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County.

All were here for the first time.

**Family-friendly films**

A little after 7 p.m., Nadine Shawah, Lantana's Parks & Recreation superintendent, welcomed the crowd.



Anna Goris, owner of the Gimme Grillin food truck, serves customers at Lantana's Sports Park during the town's Drive-In Movie Night in January. **Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**

"Tonight's radio frequency," she announced, "is 88.3 FM. Tune to that station on your car radio and you can hear the movie in your car."

"Have a great night and enjoy the movie."

Lantana movie nights debuted in 2015, with the films shown on a screen facing the ocean from Lantana Municipal Beach park until winds drove them to Bicentennial Park in 2019.

COVID-19 darkened the screens in 2020. Both the January and February showings were canceled because of bad weather that year. One film was shown in Bicentennial Park in early March, but the second never appeared when the shutdown was announced.

The movies returned a year later, with orange cones in every other parking space to promote

social distancing. The cones remain so folks can set up chairs beside their cars.

With the move to the Sports Park, Lantana movie nights had become drive-in movie nights.

Presented by a company called Fun Flicks, the evenings cost the town about \$2,000 for each presentation.

"Once a film comes out on DVD, we're able to show them," Shawah said.

Fun Flicks erects the screen and projects the film, but Shawah chooses the titles.

"We'll show a PG-13 film," she explained, "but I screen them first and check the kids' review sites that show us ratings for families and tell us what's in them. I want to be sure there's not violence."

*How to Train Your Dragon* is rated PG.

"We get couples and families

with kids," she said. "Our most popular are the Disney and superhero movies, and the Star Wars Trilogy."

Katherine Reich-Brill of Lake Worth Beach brought her daughter, Ayla, 7, some chocolate chip cookies, and popcorn.

This was her first time, too. She didn't know about the free popcorn.

"I figured I'd bring my daughter," she said. "I don't think she's ever seen a drive-in movie. Growing up, our dad would take us to the drive-in movies. Now you can't find them anymore. So, it's nostalgia."

Alas, it has to be.

**Origin of drive-ins**

If you have fond memories of childhood nights at the drive-in, bless the memory of Richard Hollingshead. Or maybe his mother.

"His mother was — how shall I say it? — rather large for theater seats," Jim Kopp of the United Drive-In Theatre Owners Association told *Smithsonian* magazine in 2008. "So, he stuck her in a car and put a 1928 projector on the hood of the car, and tied two sheets to trees in his yard."

Five years later, on June 6, 1933, Hollingshead opened America's first drive-in, in Camden, New Jersey. Tickets were 25 cents, and the movie was *Wives Beware*, a British comedy starring Adolphe Menjou as a man who fakes amnesia to cheat on his wife.

The idea took off. Admission was cheap. You could smoke in your car. Your crying baby didn't bother others. By 1958, there were 4,063 drive-ins across these United States.

Where did they go, all those drive-ins?

Color TVs. DVRs. Indoor movies could host five or six showings a day; drive-ins only one. Indoors got the most popular titles; drive-ins got the B films. As the suburbs spread, land prices rose, and the moms and pops who tended to own drive-ins couldn't afford the land to build more.

When Kopp spoke to *Smithsonian* in 2008, only about 400 drive-ins were still operating. Today, there are about 320, according to the website [driveinmovie.com](http://driveinmovie.com).

In 1955, Florida had about

**If You Go**

**What:** Lantana's drive-in movie featuring *Jurassic World: Rebirth*

**When:** 7:30 p.m. Feb. 27  
**Where:** Sports Park, 903 N. Eighth St.

**Cost:** Free  
**Information:** Arrive early and bring a battery-operated radio for the sound if you don't want to drain your car battery. 561-540-5754; [lantana.org](http://lantana.org)

150 drive-in theaters. Today, only four survive, in Lakeland, Dade City, Ocala and Ruskin.

In Palm Beach County, the Delray Beach Drive-In, 2001 N. Federal Highway, opened in 1956 and closed in 1992, according to the website.

The West Palm Beach Drive-In at 1140 Old Dixie Highway opened in 1951 and went dark in 2002.

Belle Glades' Lakes Drive-In, 1391 N. Main St., lasted from 1962 to 2003.

The Lake Worth Swap & Shop Drive-In at 3438 Lake Worth Road opened in 1967 and survived until 2021.

Now only the Lantana Drive-In Movie Nights survive. Two nights only, two months a year.

**Thumbs up all around**

While the dragons swooped and dipped, moviegoers wandered over to the Gimme Grillin food truck, the Kona Ice shaved ice truck. Most popular, naturally, was Lamar Venegas' popcorn machine. Venegas works for the town's Public Works Department but was drafted to be the night's popcorn man.

"I've gone through about 15 8-ounce bags," he reported.

Enrique Padilla, 14, was back for another bag.

"This is great," he said. "I saw the cartoon version, but this is the first time I'm seeing the live action version. I'd love to come back and see another movie here."

By 9:30, Hiccup and Toothless had vanquished the dragon called Red Death and shown that dragons and Vikings can be friends. The parking lot lights came on, the popcorn machine went dark, and cars drove out of the drive-in.

In the bed of their Ford pickup, Ari Georges and Carlie Matula lay wrapped in blankets, the platter of leftover charcuterie between them.

"We kind of fell asleep at the end there," Matula confessed. "I'm 22 now, and I saw the original when it came out in 2010 when I was 8. It brought back a lot of memories."

Her sleepy friend agreed.

"It was a great movie and a good atmosphere," Georges said. "This brought everyone together. *Jurassic World* is one of my favorites, so I'm definitely coming next month."

*Jurassic World: Rebirth* (PG-13), Lantana's second and final Drive-In Movie Night of 2026, will begin at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 27, at the Sports Park, 903 N. Eighth St. ★

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Photo credit: Warner-Prokos Photography

**You're a long-time resident of South Palm Beach County. How have you seen its civic needs change?**

Over the past 30 years the population of South Palm Beach County has seen a notable demographic shift towards younger families and working age adults. That shift is driving increased demand for the services that those families need including affordable housing, better schools, and community services provided by organizations like the YMCA.

**Strong communities support the less fortunate. What causes do you personally find most compelling and why?**

We focus our support on the organizations that provide the greatest impact to people's lives – particularly youth and families. The fact that the Y touches over 40,000 people in our community every year is amazing.

**You've donated to the YMCA. What was the focus of your investment and why did you pick the Y as a vehicle for that gift?**

We've donated and volunteered for the Y for over 20 years because of the tremendous impact the Y has on our community. In particular, we love the impact the Y has on drowning prevention in South Palm Beach County. Drowning is the #1 cause of death in children. It's a critical need and often overlooked.

**How would you describe the YMCA's community role to someone who's just moved into the area?**

The YMCA serves as the community hub in South Palm Beach County that brings people of all ages, backgrounds, and income levels together to improve health, support youth and families, and foster a sense of belonging and civic responsibility.

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## Health & Harmony

# Wearable technology helping people reach fitness goals

As AI and high-tech gadgets become more ubiquitous, people are taking advantage of wearable technologies and mobile apps to take their fitness and health routines to the next level.

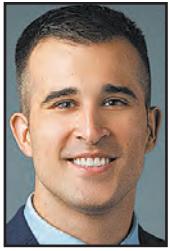
One of these people is Boynton Beach resident Tony Vitale, 71, a retired Realtor, computer instructor and Apple reseller. A self-described "tech geek," Vitale swears by his Apple Watch and Apple Health app to keep his weight and health on track.

He monitors his workouts and heart rhythm for A-fib and used the Lose It! app to help him lose 100 pounds through a diet and exercise program that included the treadmill, cardio classes and resistance training. "I developed a routine," he says.

He even invested in a



Vitale



Akpınar



Naughton

Withings scale, which measures body fat, muscle mass, body composition and other metrics, as well as a sleep mat to track sleep duration, patterns, REM cycles, heart rate and snoring.

A devotee of the Apple Health app — which stores his lab results, notes from doctor visits and tracks blood pressure and other vitals — Vitale chooses physicians who also use the platform. "It's a way to gain some control over your health outcomes," he says.

His enthusiasm reflects a broader shift. Wearable technology such as the Apple Watch, Oura ring and Whoop band continues to grow in popularity, despite raising some concerns over data privacy and how that data may be used.

According to the American College of Sports Medicine, wearable tech is projected to be the No. 1 fitness trend for 2026. Other top trends include fitness programs for older adults, exercise for weight management, mobile exercise apps, balance and flow training and core strength.

Dr. Berkcan Akpinar, an

orthopedic surgeon and sports medicine specialist at NYU Langone Medical Associates in Delray Beach and West Palm Beach, has seen the shift firsthand.

A former team physician for the Boston Bruins, Red Sox and New England Patriots, Akpinar is a strong proponent of using technology to improve health. He uses an Apple Watch himself.

"Technology for health is readily available and easy to use," he says.

His watch even pings him when he's "slacking off," a reminder he appreciates. The start of the new year, he notes, is an ideal time to set health goals. His own resolutions include going to the gym four to five days a week, eating more greens and vegetables and cutting back

on conveniences like Uber Eats and DoorDash.

Akpınar encourages people to begin their fitness journey slowly. "Start with the basics," he says. "Jumping jacks, toe touches, knee pushups and stretching."

Once you are warmed up, he recommends a power walk, stair climber or elliptical machine, gradually adding resistance training over time.

According to the Fitness Industry Insights website, which tracks fitness trends, virtual training and fitness apps are projected to grow 26.72% through 2030, and wearable tech is expected to grow by 14.6% over the same period.

Additionally, the Consumer Technology Association reports that more than 65% of U.S. adults who use wearable technology rely on it not only for fitness, but also to monitor sleep, stress, heart health and personal productivity.

Experts note that while wearables can be powerful tools for behavioral change, they're not a substitute for a physician. Devices can vary in accuracy, and over-reliance on data, constant monitoring and self-interpretation of results may not always serve the wearer.

Boynton Beach librarian Janet Naughton, 68, also depends on her wearable technology to stay active. "I like it for accountability and competitiveness," she says. Naughton began using the Peloton app during the pandemic and continues to find it "extremely helpful," especially for on-the-go workouts.

"I can do a 10-minute arms session with light weights anywhere, anytime," she says. "The app lets me know when I'm on a streak, and I can work out with others or compete if I want."

She's part of a PeloLibrarian group and believes that even small daily efforts add up.

Naughton also uses a Fitbit and its companion app to track her weight, steps, sleep and heart rate. The device reminds her to move if she's been sedentary for too long.

"I'm not a fitness buff or the healthiest person, but these apps help me keep active," she says. "Technology is amazing."

While wearable technology may not be a magic bullet for everyone in the pursuit of health and wellness, it has become an accessible and steady companion — one that can guide, motivate and empower you along the winding road toward better health.

Jan Engoren writes about health and healthy living. Send column ideas to [jengoren@hotmail.com](mailto:jengoren@hotmail.com).



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## Health Notes

# New chief operating officer appointed at HCA Florida JFK Hospital



Powe

Megan S. Powe was appointed chief operating officer for HCA Florida JFK Hospital in Atlantis and assumed the job in January.

Previously, she served as chief operating officer for Ascension Columbia St. Mary's Hospital in Milwaukee. Prior to that, she held multiple senior leadership roles within Tenet Healthcare, including

hospital COO, market chief strategy officer and chief strategy officer.

Powe holds a master's degree in health care administration from Trinity University in San Antonio, and a bachelor's degree in business administration, with concentrations in management and marketing, from Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama.

### Pediatric cancer patients treated to holiday party

Students from American Heritage Schools' premedical program, from both Broward and Palm Beach County campuses, hosted the 26th annual holiday party for 18 pediatric cancer patients from Salah Foundation Children's Hospital at Broward Health Medical Center in

December.

Patients received holiday treats and took part in activities that included gingerbread cookie decorating, ornament making, bracelet crafting and games.

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

## Health Calendar

*Note: Events are current as of 1/28. Please check with organizers for any changes.*

### FEBRUARY 7

#### Saturday - 2/7 - 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](http://eventbrite.com/e/sunrise-beach-yoga-tickets-336433921917)

#### 2/7 - 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](http://downtownboca.org)

#### 2/7 - Zumba Class

at South Beach Park Pavilion, 400 N State Rd A1A, Boca Raton.

Every Sat 10 am. Free. 561-393-7703;

[downtownboca.org](http://downtownboca.org)

#### 2/7 - Yoga Class

at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. Every Sat 9 am. Free. 561-588-8889; [southpalmbeach.com](http://southpalmbeach.com)

#### 2/7 - 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](http://myboca.us)

#### 2/7 - AA Meeting

at Unity of Delray Beach, 101 NW 22nd St. Every Sat 5:30 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; [unityofdelraybeach.org](http://unityofdelraybeach.org)

### FEBRUARY 8-14

#### Sunday - 2/8 - Yoga at the Museum

at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 8:30-10 am. \$15/member; \$30/non-member. 561-392-2500; [bocamuseum.org](http://bocamuseum.org)

#### 2/8 - 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](http://myboca.us)

### 2/8 - CODA (Codependents Anonymous) Meeting

at Unity of Delray Beach, 101 NW 22nd St. Every Sun 6 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; [unityofdelraybeach.org](http://unityofdelraybeach.org)

### Monday - 2/9 - LGBTQ ACOA Meeting

at Unity of Delray Beach, 101 NW 22nd St. Every M 6:30 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; [unityofdelraybeach.org](http://unityofdelraybeach.org)

### Tuesday - 2/10 - Chair Yoga

at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. Every T 10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

### 2/10 - Yoga with Sophia

at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. Held again 2/24 6:30-7:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

### Wednesday - 2/11 - Tai Chi Class

at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. Every W 9 am. Free. 561-588-8889; [southpalmbeach.com](http://southpalmbeach.com)

### 2/11 - Yoga at the Library

at J. Turner Moore Memorial Library, 1330 Lands End Rd, Manalapan. Every W/F, 10 am & 11 am. \$350/members; \$450/non-members. 561-383-2541; [manalapan.org](http://manalapan.org)

### 2/11 - 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](http://southpalmbeach.com)

### 2/11 - Yoga in the Museum

at Cornell Art Museum at Old School Square, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Every W/F 11 am-noon. \$8/class. Registration: 561-654-2220; [delrayoldschoolsquare.com/events](http://delrayoldschoolsquare.com/events)

### 2/11 - Seminar: Atrial Fibrillation -

**The Cardiac Arrhythmia of Our Time: What it is and Why You Should Know w/James Reiffel** 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](http://olli.fau.edu)

### 2/11 - Scripps Research Front-Row Lecture Series: The Sweet Side of Drug Discovery: How Sugars Can Help Shape the Future of Medicines w/Yuzhong Liu, Ph.D.

1-hour virtual lecture. 7 pm. Free. Register for link: [frontrow.scripps.edu](http://frontrow.scripps.edu)

### Thursday - 2/12 - LGBTQ+ AA Meeting

at Unity of Delray Beach, 101 NW 22nd St. Every Th 7 pm. Free. 561-276-5796; [unityofdelraybeach.org](http://unityofdelraybeach.org)

### 2/12 - Alateen Meeting

at St. Mark Catholic Church, 643 NE 4th Ave, Boynton Beach. Every Th 7:30 pm. Free. 561-278-3481; [southpalmbeachafg.org](http://southpalmbeachafg.org)

### FEBRUARY 22-28

#### 2/28 - Lions Club of Delray Beach - Diabetes Screening Event

at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 10 am-12:30 pm. Free. 561-266-0194; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

### MARCH 1-7

#### Tuesday - 3/3 - Full Moon Yoga & Ecstatic Night Under the Stars

at Old School Square Park, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 6-9 pm. Free. 561-561-243-1077; [delrayoldschoolsquare.com/events](http://delrayoldschoolsquare.com/events)

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## On the Water

# A hard lesson on catching snook along the Intracoastal

It was the opening night of the winter snook season, and the fishing was fast and frustrating.

Capt. Ron Mallet had two experienced sea trout fishermen from South Carolina on his boat, and they were fishing for snook for the first time.

Mallet gave his customers some pointers, telling them to hold their rods out to the side as they drifted live shrimp in the Intracoastal Waterway. When they felt the "thump" of a snook bite, all they had to do was reel the line tight to set the hook.

Less than an hour into the trip, after a few missed hits and broken lines, one of the anglers, who was following Mallet's advice, landed a beautiful 36-inch snook. The fish was released because it was over the slot limit of 28-32 inches to keep a snook (anglers are allowed one per day).

"He was ecstatic," Mallet said. "The other guy kept trying to horse in the snook and kept breaking the line. Then the first guy caught a 28-incher, which went into the cooler. On the next drift, he released one.

"Meanwhile, I'm trying to help the other guy, but he won't



Dave Stewart holds up a snook. Capt. Ron Mallet says snook fishing in South Florida is excellent during the season that starts in February, but anglers should be prepared for broken lines and some lost fish. **Photo provided**

listen."

At the end of the trip, the first angler hooked yet another snook, the biggest of the night. As the fish stripped line from the 17-pound plug rod, the angler offered the rod to his fishless friend.

The stubborn fisherman took the rod and held it straight up. Mallet suggested the angler point the rod tip down and to

the side so he could steer the snook away from trouble. The angler ignored the advice and, as a result, was unable to stop the fish, which swam straight to a rockpile and broke the line.

The snook fishing in South Florida when the season opens Feb. 1 — it's been closed on the Atlantic coast since Dec. 15 — can be terrific. But be prepared to lose some fish. And if you're

paying to fish with a guide, it pays to listen to the guide.

This time of year, snook can be found from the Intracoastal Waterway in Palm Beach County to the back end of finger canals connecting with other canals that eventually flow into the Intracoastal. During the winter, snook move into these canals seeking warm water. Snook become listless in cold water and can be snagged or netted, which is why the season is closed from mid-December through January.

Later in the spring, snook congregate near inlets and beaches as they prepare to spawn. The season closes again from June 1 to Aug. 31, when snook are spawning and easily targeted because they are so concentrated.

Bridges located over or near the Intracoastal are prime snook fishing spots. Snook also can be found after heavy rains by open spillways — the Boynton and Lake Worth spillways are among the best spots — where the snook ambush baitfish flushed out of freshwater canals.

Mallet likes to drift with the current along sea walls using live shrimp. Usually, the bigger

the shrimp, the bigger the snook it attracts. Lures that imitate shrimp also hook snook.

The top of the outgoing tide is the best time to fish, whether from a boat or a bridge. That's when snook will lie in wait for baitfish to be carried by the current and past pilings, boat docks and rocks.

Given those hangouts, break-offs are inevitable. That's why many anglers who fish from bridges use 80- or 100-pound line with heavy-duty 10-foot rods. When you use light tackle, technique is critical, as that stubborn angler from South Carolina discovered.

Mallet doesn't take any chances when he gets a bite. He reels quickly to get the fish away from obstructions.

"If you can, take the initiative when a snook is first hooked," he said. "Treat every fish as if it's a serious one."

### Outdoors

**writer Steve Waters can be reached at steve33324@aol.com.**



## Outdoors Calendar

*Note: Events are current as of 1/28. Please check with organizers for any changes.*

### FEBRUARY 7

**Saturday - 2/7 - 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

**2/7-8 - Nature Connections** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Meet in the amphitheater for a short presentation featuring our native flora and fauna. All ages; children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Every Sat/Sun 11-11:15 am. Free. 561-544-8605; myboca.us/calendar.aspx?CID=47

### FEBRUARY 8-14

**Tuesday - 2/10 - Island Treks** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Visitors guided on a short trek along the boardwalk through the tropical hardwood hammock forest, pausing for some intracoastal views through the mangroves. All ages; child must be accompanied by an adult. Every T 10-10:30 am. Free. 561-544-8605; myboca.us/calendar.aspx?CID=47

**Wednesday - 2/11 - EcoWatch Lecture Series: Deciphering Florida's Coastline w/Mike Jenkins** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Ages 13 & up; child under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. 6:30-8 pm. Free. 561-544-8605; myboca.us/calendar.aspx?CID=47

### 2/11 - 31st Annual Lantana Fishing Tournament Meeting

at Lantana Pizza, 467 Greynolds Circle, Lantana. 5:30-7 pm. 561-585-8664; lantanachamber.com

### Saturday - 2/14 - Annual Everglades Day Festival

at Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge, 10216 Lee Rd, Boynton Beach. Fun zone for kids, guided walking & biking tours, tram tours, archery, fishing, local exhibitors & vendors, food trucks & more. Space is limited, reservations required for many activities. Check website for complete daily schedule. 10 am-3 pm. Free. fws.gov/event/everglades-day-2026

### FEBRUARY 15-21

**Sunday - 2/15 - Intracoastal Adventures: Advanced Kayaking** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Ages 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

### Tuesday - 2/17 - Beach Treasures

at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Learn about seashells, the animals that make them. Caravan to Red Reef Park, 1400 N State Rd A1A, to search for ocean treasures. All ages; child must be accompanied by an adult. Held again 3/4 2-3:30 pm. Free. Reservations: 561-544-8605; myboca.us/calendar.aspx?CID=47

### FEBRUARY 22-28

**Wednesday - 2/25 - EcoWatch Lecture Series: Cryptic Diversity and Hidden Interactions Shape Coral Reef Responses to Environmental Change w/Carsten Grupstra** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Ages 13 & up; child under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. 6:30-8 pm. Free. 561-544-8605; myboca.us/calendar.aspx?CID=47

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### Thursday - 2/26 - Early Birding w/Al

at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Learn about native & migratory birds from an experienced birder; walk the Ashley Trail/boardwalk. Binoculars recommended. Meet on nature center front porch. Ages 10+; child must be accompanied by an adult. 8:30-10 am. Free. 561-544-8605; myboca.us/calendar.aspx?CID=47

### Friday - 2/27 - Golden Hour Guided Tours

at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Guided tour ends w/sunset views of the Intracoastal Waterway from the beach by the Seminole chickee. Ages 7-adult; child under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. 5:30-7 pm. \$10/resident & member; \$13/non-resident. Registration: 561-544-8605; myboca.us/calendar.aspx?CID=47

### Saturday - 2/28 - 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. Course provides knowledge needed to obtain a boating certificate; possible insurance discount. 8 am-3 pm. \$35/paypal; \$30/cash. 561-312-6439; birdlover5@bellsouth.net

### 2/28 - Intracoastal Adventures: Intro to Canoeing

at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Ages 12-adult; child under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. 9-10:30 am. \$20/member; \$25/non-member. Reservations: 561-544-8605; myboca.us/calendar.aspx?CID=47

### MARCH 1-7

**Sunday - 3/1 - Intracoastal Adventures: Stand Up Paddleboarding** at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Short talks about South Florida's unique animals/ecosystems. Ages 13-adult; children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. 9-10:30 am. \$20/member; \$25/non-member. 561-544-8615; myboca.us/calendar.aspx?CID=47

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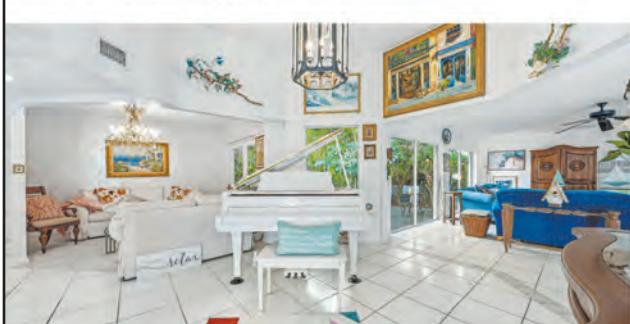
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## Finding Faith

# Boca couple fights antisemitism through philanthropy, education

In November, Elliott and Robin Broidy of Boca Raton paid \$1.5 million for an old drawing. Not a piece of fine art, but an architectural sketch drawn on cheap newsprint dated Oct. 24, 1941.

The landscape-oriented drawing, about 3 feet long and 2 feet wide, is sepia-toned with age and protected by plastic; it depicts a house of horrors: the crematoria at Auschwitz-Birkenau, where millions of Jews were systematically exterminated.

What the Broidys now own is one of only two known original drawings produced in preparation for meetings where the logistics of killing Jews on an industrial scale would be discussed.

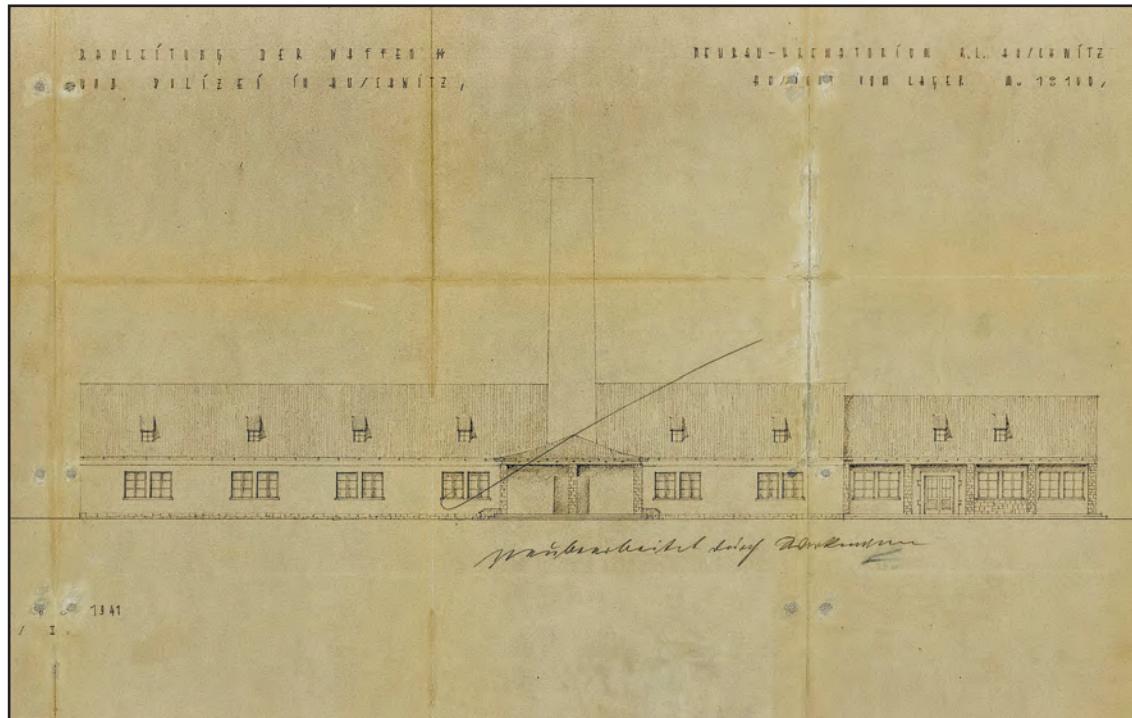
"The drawing we have is clear proof of genocidal intent," Elliott Broidy wrote in a Nov. 21 op-ed in *The Wall Street Journal*. "To behold it is to confront the deliberate design of evil. My most sincere wish is for this whiteprint to be memorialized as part of an irrefutable body of evidence that negates Holocaust denial and helps to forever silence malevolent revisionists while also educating new generations about the lessons of the Holocaust."

Robin Broidy recalled the first time she stood before the drawing: "It's a horrible feeling. You're standing so close to evil. These people created this document that you're holding in your hands with the purpose of murdering, exterminating, terminating mass numbers of people. And you're just, you're sad."

The document itself is nothing special: "The paper isn't premium," Robin Broidy said. In wartime paper is expensive. "They were doing as much as possible on very cheap paper, so all the blueprints are on low-quality paper."

The significance of the document lies in the date. Drawn by SS architect Walter Dejaco under the authority of Auschwitz commandant Rudolf Höss, it's the snapshot of the moment when the men who planned the execution of millions of Jews actually put pen to paper and drew up the plan for the place the extermination would happen. The whiteprint is stark and irrefutable proof that the Shoah, the Hebrew word for the Holocaust, was conceived months before the announcement of the "final solution" in January 1942 at the Wannsee Conference.

The Broidys purchased the artifact from Rabbi David Baron of Temple of the Arts Synagogue in Beverly Hills, who had received it from a friend of a congregant who had bought it at a Nazi memorabilia auction in Germany. Neither the buyer nor seller was aware of its historical significance. According to journalist



Elliott and Robin Broidy (at left) purchased this architectural drawing of the crematoria at Auschwitz-Birkenau, where Jews were killed and cremated as part of Nazi Germany's 'final solution.' This is one of only two known original drawings produced of the building. Photos provided

Benjamin Raziel of *Forbes*, the Nazis understood the power of documentation and they tried to destroy as many records as possible as the Allies approached, so finding artifacts of this import is rare.

Professor Robert Jan van Pelt, the foremost expert on Auschwitz architecture, authenticated the document, but when asked to place a value on it, Robin Broidy said, "He couldn't. He said, 'I can't value it. It's priceless.'"

In an act of remembrance and reverence, the Broidys agreed to pay \$1.5 million to the Temple of the Arts for the drawing. The money would be earmarked for Baron to use to create a global early-childhood curriculum promoting empathy and altruism. The rabbi's curriculum aims to reach children when they are young, long before extremist ideologies can take root.

"He has done research that indicates that children's values are formed between zero to 5," Robin said. "Therefore, if you can teach children altruism, empathy and listening to another person's point of view then, they will be less likely to become an extremist and less likely to create hateful attitudes."

That you become what you are taught isn't a new idea, but Robin said, "Education is always the key. Education is the key to succeeding in life and to being a good person, getting your values straight."

It's also quite simple. Robin likes to tell the classic story of Rabbi Hillel, who was asked,

"Can you teach the entire Torah standing on one foot?" Robin says his answer is the answer: "Sure I can. Whatever is hateful to you, do not do unto others. That's what Jews are taught from their infancy."

Baron told the Broidys how much money he would need to start his program, and they settled on a number. "It was a number that had some meaning," Elliott said, "because out of the 6 million that died, 1.5 million were children."

It's not the first time the Broidys have stepped up like this. They've been actively fighting antisemitism and extremism for years. Their support turned "hell-on-earth" into a symbol of truth and light when the Counter Extremism Project transformed Rudolf Höss' residence at 88 Legionow St. into the Auschwitz Research Center on Hate, Extremism and Radicalization (ARCHER) at House 88.

The lovely private villa with its gardens and swimming pool where the Höss family lived in comfort and affluence — Höss' wife called it "paradise" — sits just outside the fence of Auschwitz. The Höss children played under skies darkened by the smoke rising from the crematoria next door. While they hosted lavish parties with decadent food, Jews starved just feet away.

Today the property has a mezuzah on its front door. ARCHER at House 88's goal and message are to turn a site of mass murder into a global center dedicated to exposing the machinery of hate and

educating the world. Education must begin with children, but it has to continue through adulthood. Truly, no dog is too old to learn.

Today's battle is against misinformation and how easily it spreads. Researchers and educators, policymakers and activists work to prevent the spread of online extremism, promote safety on digital platforms and counter misinformation and radicalization.

"What ARCHER is fighting against is the mainstreaming of extremism — the same propaganda, the same misinformation, the same lies that enabled the Germans and the SS to be able to do this without a second thought, without remorse, without thinking," Robin Broidy said. "That is the message that we are trying to send to today's young people. Anytime somebody tries to tell you that the other someone else is less than human, don't believe them."

The fight continues right in our own backyard.

In January, several news agencies, including WPEC CBS12, reported that Palm

Beach County sheriff's deputies had investigated a swastika and racial slurs painted on the pavement outside Florida Cancer Specialists, a medical office plaza in West Boca. An employee discovered the white lettering which targeted both Jewish and Black communities. A discarded paintbrush and empty paint can were recovered nearby but no usable fingerprints were found. The damage was estimated at about \$500, and the graffiti was quickly removed. But the implications will last.

Antisemitism is part of being a Jew, but Jews don't fight hate with hate, Robin says: "You move on, and you try to show the world that you're decent, wonderful human beings. You try to be positive, try to educate."

To that end, the Broidys plan to display the whiteprint at institutions and organizations dedicated to combating antisemitism and preserving the memory of the Holocaust, before making a long-term gift of it to one institution. "Probably the Auschwitz-Birkenau Museum," Elliott said.

The Broidys relocated to Boca Raton from Los Angeles to be closer to their children, grandchildren and about three dozen of Robin's relatives.

Elliott, chairman and CEO of Broidy Capital Holdings, is an entrepreneur, investor and philanthropist with a career spanning four decades. Robin is a former film producer and movie executive who with Elliott has been devoted to the fight against antisemitism — they call it "our major fight" — for decades.

Philanthropically, the Broidys support organizations dedicated to countering antisemitism, hate and extremism, including the Museum of Tolerance Jerusalem, the Counterterrorism Education Learning Lab (CELL), the George Washington University Program on Extremism, and StandWithUs.

"This document is our way of changing the world a little bit, if possible, and that's no small feat," Elliott said.

Janis Fontaine writes about people of faith, their congregations, causes and community events. Contact her at [fontaine423@outlook.com](mailto:fontaine423@outlook.com).



## Religion Notes

# Former white supremacist to speak at Chabad event

“From Hate to Hope: My Journey Beyond White Supremacy” is the title of a lecture by Frank Meeink, formerly a prominent white supremacist, offered by Chabad of South Palm Beach at 3 p.m. Feb. 15.

The former skinhead became a Jewish activist after serving time in prison. Some claim he was the inspiration for Edward Norton’s character in the cult film *American History X*.

On a much lighter note, the Chabad, at 224 S. Ocean Blvd., Manalapan, will host a Purim Party at 5 p.m. March 3 with food, the megillah reading and live music. Purim is the spring festival that celebrates the miracles told about in the book



Meeink

of Esther and the salvation of the Jews in Persia over Haman in another unfulfilled plot to destroy them.

Reservations are requested for all events at [chabadspb.org](http://chabadspb.org) RSVP.

### Cason United Methodist holds ‘Love Luncheon’

A Valentine’s Day-themed party takes place from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Feb. 14 at Cason United Methodist Church, 342 N. Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. The Love Luncheon is a specially prepared “meal that makes a difference.” It is hosted by Cason Kids Care, which teaches Christian principles of kindness and service to kids 5-11, and The God Squad, a newly formed group for middle schoolers.

The luncheon supports 4 Kids (4kids.us) and its Christian foster care outreach.

A \$10 donation is requested. Reserve your place online by

going to [casonumc.org/calendar](http://casonumc.org/calendar) and selecting the event, or call 561-276-5302.

### Two community events at First Presbyterian

First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach hosts its annual Step-Above-Rummage Sale from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Feb. 5-7 at the church, at 33 Gleason St. Find new and used items in a well-organized, department store-like setting with plenty of friendly sales help.

On Feb. 8 at 4 p.m., First Presbyterian sets the mood for Valentine’s Day with a concert called “Music to Eat Chocolates By,” showcasing love songs performed by the First Delray singers joined by Gordon Roberts at the piano. The repertoire of songs includes beloved music from Broadway, opera, the American Songbook and contemporary genres. There will be chocolate!



An example of the items that will be available at the Step-Above-Rummage Sale at First Presbyterian. **Photo provided**

Tickets are \$20 each.

For more information about these events, call 561-276-6338. Visit [firstdelray.com/concerts/upcoming-concerts](http://firstdelray.com/concerts/upcoming-concerts) for more music info.

### Marriage workshop offers chance for deeper love

Advent Lutheran Church, 300 E. Yamato Road, Boca Raton, will host “Love Well: A 2-Day Marriage Workshop” from 6 to 9 p.m. Feb. 20 and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Feb. 21. This in-person workshop is designed

to challenge, strengthen and encourage spouses to deepen their love for each other.

Discover new ways to meet each other’s needs, communicate more effectively, resolve conflicts with grace, and better understand how personality impacts relationships.

The \$149 price per couple includes a relationship workbook and guided teaching and conversations in a supportive, faith-based setting. To register, visit [rwlw.org/](http://rwlw.org/) events.

For more information, call 954-909-0360 or email [Monica@livethelife.org](mailto:Monica@livethelife.org).



Aaron Kula with his Klezmer Company Jazz Orchestra. **Photo provided**

### Orchestra in sing-along concert at B’nai Torah

Aaron Kula & the Klezmer Company Jazz Orchestra performs a joyful sing-along concert — “It’s Fiddler on the Roof! A Community Sing-Along with Actors & Musicians” — at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 11 at B’nai Torah Congregation, 6261 SW 18th St., Boca Raton. Four professional actors and eight KCJO musicians lead the fun, with projected lyrics to all your favorites: “Tradition,” “Matchmaker,” “Sunrise, Sunset” and “To Life.”

Later in the month, at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 18, B’nai Torah presents “The Piano Man Show!” featuring the songs of Billy Joel, Elton John, Carole King, Barry Manilow, Stevie Wonder and more performed by cantor Randy Herman and special guest Coleen Dieker.

General admission tickets for each performance are \$30 for members and \$40 for guests at the door.

For more information, call 561-392-8566 or email [info@bnai-torah.org](mailto:info@bnai-torah.org).

### Humanity discussion to be held at Temple Beth El

“What Does It Mean to Be Human?” is part of the Wisdom & Wonder Series with Rabbi Rachel Mikva and meets from 7 to 9 p.m. Feb. 12 at Temple Beth El’s Schaefer Family Campus, 333 SW Fourth Ave., Boca Raton. Topics include: What does it mean to be human; are we good; are we free; are we more than dust?

Our religious convictions influence our feelings about public policy, from criminal justice to abortion to the definition of gender.

Continued on the next page

## PLACES OF WORSHIP DIRECTORY

### CATHOLIC

**ST. LUCY CATHOLIC CHURCH** 3510 S. Ocean Blvd., Highland Beach, FL 33487 • Phone: 561-278-1280 • Web: [stlucy.net](http://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. MARK CATHOLIC CHURCH** 643 NE 4th Ave., Boynton Beach, FL 33435 • Phone 561-734-9330 • Web: [stmarkboynton.com](http://stmarkboynton.com)  
• Daily Masses: Monday-Saturday, 9:00 a.m. • Weekend Masses: Saturday 4:00 p.m., Sunday 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:15 (Spanish).

### CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

**FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST** 566 W. Palmetto Park Rd., Boca Raton, FL 33432 • Phone 561-391-7689 • Web: [christianscientistboca.org](http://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: [stgregoryepiscopal.org](http://stgregoryepiscopal.org) • Email: [office@st-gregorys.com](mailto: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](http://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](http://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

**BETH AMI CONGREGATION** - A Contemporary Conservative Congregation, 1401 NW 4th Avenue, Boca Raton, FL 33432 • Phone: (561) 347-0031 • Web: [BACBOCA.com](http://BACBOCA.com) • Email: [info@Bacboca.com](mailto:info@Bacboca.com) • Rabbi Bertram Kieffer, Cantor Lewis Messulam • Friday Service 7:00 p.m., Shabbat morning and Festivals, 9:30 a.m.

**CHABAD OF EAST DELRAY** 101 SE 2nd Ave., Delray Beach, FL 33444 • Phone: 954-283-7261 • Web: [Jewishestdelray.com](http://Jewishestdelray.com)  
• Rabbi Shmuel Biston. • Saturdays at 10:00 a.m.

### LUTHERAN

**ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH** 2929 S. Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach, FL 33435 • Phone: 561-732-2929 • Web: [ascensionlutheranchurch.net](http://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.

### NON-DENOMINATIONAL

**CHURCH OF THE PALMS CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**, 1960 N. Swinton Avenue, Delray Beach, FL 33444 • Phone: 561-276-6347 • Web: [churchofthepalms.net](http://churchofthepalms.net)  
• Services: Sunday 10:00 a.m., Online Worship Sunday 4:00 p.m.

**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 Hwy., Boynton Beach, FL 33435 • **Lake Worth Beach**: S. Military Trail, Lake Worth Beach, FL 33463.

### ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN

**SAINT MARK GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH** 2100 Yamato Rd., Boca Raton, FL 33431 • Phone: 561-994-4822 • Web: [saintmarkboca.net](http://saintmarkboca.net) • Sunday Services: 8:30 a.m. Morning Prayers (Matins); 9:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy. All are welcome.

### PRESBYTERIAN

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BOYNTON BEACH** 235 SW 6th Ave., Boynton Beach, FL 33435 • Phone: 561-732-3774 • Web: [fpcboynton.org](http://fpcboynton.org) • Services: Sundays at 10 a.m. in-person; live streamed on You Tube and Facebook. Fresh traditional worship; volunteer opportunities. Personal spirituality deepens in community worship.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF DELRAY BEACH** 33 Gleason Street, Delray Beach, FL 33483 • Phone: 561-276-6338 • Web: [firstdelray.com](http://firstdelray.com) • Our purpose is Building Disciples, Transforming Lives. • Sunday Worship at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

*Religious institutions of all faiths are invited to be included in this paid feature. For more info, call 561-704-7834.*

Register at [tbeboca.org](http://tbeboca.org) or call 561-391-8900.

### Author to speak on her 'Jewish Way to Good Life'

B'nai Torah's 2025-26 Author Series, presented in partnership with the Jewish Book Council, brings acclaimed writers, rabbis and thinkers from around the world to B'nai Torah to share their



**Stutman**

newest works. The next presentation features Rabbi Shira Stutman at 7 p.m. Feb. 12, speaking about *The Jewish Way to a Good Life*.

Stutman is senior rabbi at Aspen Jewish Congregation and encourages Jews to embrace Chesed, Tzedek and Shabbat as pathways to joy. The event is free, but registration is required at [btcboca.org/event/author-series-rabbi-shira-stutman](http://btcboca.org/event/author-series-rabbi-shira-stutman).

### Participate in Yoga Mass and Sacred Movement

St. Gregory's Episcopal, 100 NE Mizner Blvd. in Boca Raton, continues to offer two programs that combine movement and prayer.

At 4 p.m. Feb. 19, Yoga and Sacred Movement mixes gentle stretching movements and breath work with reflection on scripture and prayer.

The program is led by parishioner and yoga instructor Daphne Lombardo under the direction of the Rev. Dr. Robyn Neville and is open to seniors and families. Bring your yoga mat and water.

At 4 p.m. Feb. 28, join YogaMass in St. Mary's Chapel, a combination of graceful yoga, words of faith and contemplative meditation with the Revs. Elizabeth Pankey-Warren and Neville leading. Bring your yoga mat and water. Call 561-395-8285 or email [rneville@st-gregorys.com](mailto:rneville@st-gregorys.com).

### 'Pastoral Ministry' class at St. Vincent Ferrer

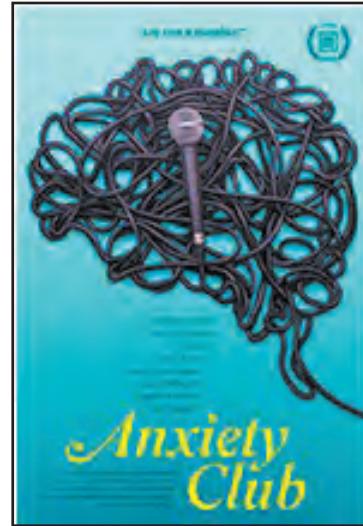
St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church, 840 George Bush Blvd., Delray Beach, hosts the School of Christian Formation for the Diocese of Palm Beach and is registering its next class, "Pastoral Ministry," which will begin March 5. Classes meet at the church from 7 to 9 p.m. Thursdays for six sessions. Registration is \$10 and textbooks are \$10-\$20.

The SCF offers courses for Catholics who want to learn more about their faith. Classes are taught by Lily Potito, who holds a master's degree in theology from Ave Maria University. To register, call 561-276-6892, ext. 1305, or email [faithformation@stvincentferrer.com](mailto:faithformation@stvincentferrer.com).

The next class is part of a three-year certificate program offered by the Diocese of Palm Beach. In addition to

St. Vincent, the diocese offers classes at Ascension, St. Jude and St. Joan of Arc Catholic churches, all in Boca Raton.

Visit [diocesepb.org/ministriesoffices/ministries/hispanic-ministry/school-of-christian-formation.html](http://diocesepb.org/ministriesoffices/ministries/hispanic-ministry/school-of-christian-formation.html) for the complete schedule.



*Anxiety Club* explores comedians' efforts to overcome anxiety. Photo provided

### Boca Raton Jewish Film Festival to begin Feb. 7

The Judy Levis Krug Boca Raton Jewish Film Festival presents about 50 documentaries, short and feature-length Jewish-themed films from around the globe this month at Movies of Delray and the Adolph & Rose Levis Jewish Community Center.

Plus, enjoy special guest appearances, discussions, panels and special events from Feb. 7 to 22. Movies of Delray is at 7421 W. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach. The Beifield Auditorium at the Levis JCC is at 21050 95th Ave. S., Boca Raton.

The films include *Once Upon My Mother*, *Anxiety Club*, *Hold on to Your Music*, *Fantasy Life* and *The Future Awaits*.

Single tickets are \$14. A five-film pass is \$59, 10 films for \$105, or all access for \$360. For a full schedule and tickets, visit [levisjcc.org/filmfestival](http://levisjcc.org/filmfestival).

### Trinity Lutheran set to host two-day gospel conference

Trinity Lutheran, 400 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach, is hosting a multi-speaker event, "Out of the Darkness and Into Christ, A Gospel Conference," Feb. 20-21. The event includes keynote speakers Chad Bird, Scott Keith, Erick Sorensen, Erica Sorensen, and Trinity Lutheran Pastor Jake Roedensens.

Bird is a scholar-in-residence at 1517, a nonprofit organization "that exists to declare and defend the Good News that you are forgiven and free on account of Christ alone." He holds master's degrees from Concordia Theological Seminary and Hebrew Union College and his books include *The Christ Key*, *Unveiling Mercy* and *Hitchhiking With Prophets*.

Keith is the executive director of 1517, a speaker, writer, triathlete and co-host of both "The Thinking Fellows" and "Tough Texts" podcasts, and he is the

author of *Being Dad: Father as a Picture of God's Grace*.

To register or for more information, visit [www.1517.org/events/trinitydelray2026](http://www.1517.org/events/trinitydelray2026).

### Faith-based book club set to meet at St. Paul's

The Sacred Space Book Club meets again from 3:15 to 4:30 p.m. Feb. 21 in Bush Hall at St. Paul's Episcopal Church to discuss works of both fiction and nonfiction that further our understanding of the history of inequity, discrimination and pain suffered by members of minority and marginalized communities.

Participants help build the list of books to read and take turns facilitating the discussions. The group grew out of the Sacred Ground and Becoming Beloved Community programs, which use films and reading materials to act as springboards for dialogues on race that are grounded in faith.

It is not necessary to attend every meeting to participate. Contact Ellen Kentner for more information about the club at [ellen@stpaulsdelray.org](mailto:ellen@stpaulsdelray.org).

Also at St. Paul's, beginning on Feb. 7, Patti Daniell, an experienced registered yoga teacher, will lead gentle yoga from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Saturdays in the Parish Hall. A donation of \$10 is suggested.

St. Paul's is at 188 S. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. 561-276-4541; [stpaulsdelray.org](http://stpaulsdelray.org).

—Janis Fontaine

## Religion Calendar

*Note: Events are current as of 1/28. Please check with organizers for any changes.*

### FEBRUARY 8-14

#### Sunday - 2/8 - Zoom Bible Study

at Ascension Catholic Church, 7250 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton.

Every Sun 7 pm. Free. Zoom link: [communications#accboca.net](http://communications#accboca.net); 561-997-5486; [ascensionboca.org](http://ascensionboca.org)

#### Monday - 2/9 - Women's Bible Study

via Zoom at First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach, 33 Gleason St. Every M 10 am. Free. 561-276-6338; [firstdelray.com](http://firstdelray.com)

#### 2/9 - 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](http://stvincentferrer.com)

#### Tuesday - 2/10 - Tuesday Morning Prayer Service

at Unity of Delray Beach Church, 101 NW 22nd St. 10 am. Free. 561-276-5796; [unityofdelraybeach.org](http://unityofdelraybeach.org)

#### Wednesday - 2/11 - Men's Spirituality Hour via Zoom

at St. Gregory's Episcopal Church, 100 NE Mizner Blvd., Boca Raton. Every W 8 am. Free. For link: 561-395-8285; [stgregorysepiscopal.org](http://stgregorysepiscopal.org)

#### 2/11 - 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](http://unityofdelraybeach.org)

#### Thursday - 2/12 - 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](http://unityofdelraybeach.org)

#### 2/12 - Men's Fellowship

at First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach Courtyard, 33 Gleason St. Every Th 8:30

am. Free. 561-276-6338; [firstdelray.com](http://firstdelray.com)

**2/12 - Women's Bible Study** at St. Gregory's Episcopal Church Youth Room, 100 NE Mizner Blvd., Boca Raton. Every Th 1 pm. Free. 561-395-8285; [stgregorysepiscopal.org](http://stgregorysepiscopal.org)

**Friday - 2/13 - 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](http://stvincentferrer.com)

**2/13 - Bible Study w/Dave Kirk** at Advent Boca Raton Fellowship Hall, 300 E Yamato Rd. Every F 10-11:30 am. 561-395-3632; [adventboca.org](http://adventboca.org)

**2/13 - 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; [templesinapbc.org](http://templesinapbc.org)

### FEBRUARY 15-21

**Sunday - 2/15 - Dr. Stephen G. Gerzof; 'Understanding Our Enemy: Islam 101'** at Beth Ami Congregation, 1401 NW Fourth Ave., Boca Raton. 2 pm. Free. RSVP: 561-347-0031; [bacboca.com](http://bacboca.com)

**Sunday - 2/22 - Cantor Meir Finkelstein in Concert** at Beth Ami Congregation, 1401 NW Fourth Ave., Boca Raton. 2 pm. \$18 general admission, \$36 Sponsor Section, \$72 Patron. 561-347-0031; [bacboca.com](http://bacboca.com)

### FEBRUARY 22-28

**Friday - 2/27 - "Pop" Shabbat!** Services led by Rabbi Bert Kieffer with Gary Lawrence on keyboard. Shabbat Prayers set to the music of four great Jewish superstars Burt Bacharach, Neil Diamond, Billy Joel, and Paul Simon at Beth Ami Congregation, 1401 NW Fourth Ave., Boca Raton. 7 pm. Free. RSVP: 561-347-0031; [bacboca.com](http://bacboca.com)

### Please Be Our Guest!

Join us Friday

February 27

7:00 p.m.

"Pop" Shabbat!



Services led by Rabbi Bert Kieffer with Gary Lawrence on keyboard.

Shabbat Prayers set to the music of Four Great Jewish Superstars Burt Bacharach, Neil Diamond, Billy Joel and Paul Simon

Catch our Spirit!



1401 NW Fourth Avenue, Boca Raton | [www.bacboca.com](http://www.bacboca.com)

No charge to attend most of our programs, but please call the office

(561) 347-0031 and let us know to expect you!

## Dining

**B**oca Raton finally gets charmed — by an award-winning burger spot.

Charm City Burger Co. owners Michael Saperstein and Evan David opened the first outpost of their popular Deerfield Beach burger spot in downtown Boca Raton.

It was announced as “coming soon” more than two years ago, but finally came to fruition in January — at 201 NW First Ave., the former Baja Cantina space.

“The building was in rough condition,” Saperstein said. “It took us a while to build out. After we were granted a new lease in Deerfield, there wasn’t the urgency to move, so we took our time to do it right.”

They’ve expanded space-wise and with a larger menu at the new restaurant, Saperstein said.

“It’s bigger, a little bit more modern. A lot of same bright colors, same woods, diamond plate decor.”

It’s a from-scratch kitchen, with most items cooked once the diner orders at the counter.

“With a bigger kitchen, we can do more dishes and serve a few different items,” he said.

Those include gluten-free, hand-breaded chicken tenders served in a variety of sauces; an updated “double-smash”



Charm City Burger Co. offers a mouth-watering array of burgers, fries and more. **Photo provided**

veggie burger, seared in yellow mustard, served with dairy-free American cheese, grilled onions and pickles; a “super deluxe” grilled cheese with a four-cheese blend, candied bacon, roasted garlic confit, and a spicy tomato-bacon jam.

Saperstein said the fries and the new Southern fried sweet onion “bloomer” are offered cooked in beef tallow, which he says is healthier than frying in processed seed oils. Vegetarians can ask for all fried foods to be cooked in sunflower oil instead.

New snacks include grilled corn ribs with a barbecue spice and served with an Alabama white barbecue sauce that’s vegan and gluten-free.

Flash-fried potato chips are cooked to order, dusted with spices or flavors of the diner’s

choice. Gluten-free brownie pudding and a “half-baked” chocolate chip-peanut butter cookie, both served with ice cream, are new desserts.

Burgers remain the signature item, described on the restaurant webpage as “five-star chef-designed burgers at a quick service price.”

Saperstein said the price will hold at \$12 for the basic burger, dressed with lettuce, tomato, onion, pickle and Charm sauce. American cheese (optional) is free, too. Diners get a choice of buns: artisan-baked sesame, whole wheat oat, or sliced brioche. The last is a \$1 upcharge. “Prices are all over the place. But we aren’t raising our burgers — nope,” Saperstein said.

The meat is a proprietary blend, a one-third-pound patty ground daily at Sunshine Provisions, a USDA facility in Hallandale. Saperstein and David own that company.

No new alcohol drinks will be offered, Saperstein said.

“We’re toying with the idea of working with a brewery to make a special beer just for us. But we are keeping it the exact same — beer only. We’re family oriented.”

As for other expansion plans, “We’re just now open

here, but it’s a possibility now with the new model.”

He said he’s more worried about the new downtown development that is proposed to go up all around his building. “We’re a little worried about that — delays in road openings, when they’d be finished, and so on.”

But he already has new clients and hopes for many more. “Some people were afraid to come here to this area,” Saperstein said, calling it a “dive.” But he hopes the new restaurant and cleanup attracts burger lovers and families.

*Charm City Burger Co., 201 NW First Ave., Boca Raton. 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily.*

#### Boca Bacchanal

The big wine event of the season, Boca Bacchanal, returns for its 23rd season in April, with a kickoff event at Saks Fifth Avenue in Town Center at 6 p.m. Feb. 26.

Wine samples and gourmet bites will be on the menu.

The event is also the big reveal for the vintner dinners, where chefs and wineries are paired to a host home. Tickets to these dinners, which sell out quickly, go on sale then.

The dinners are April 9 and 10 at various homes in the area.

The Grand Tasting, featuring champagnes, other wines and beers, as well as gourmet food samples from area chefs, is at the Addison in Boca Raton, scheduled for April 12.

The event is hosted by and benefits the Boca Raton Historical Society/The Schmidt Boca Raton History Museum.

Tickets for the kickoff event are \$75 at [bocahistory.org/boca-bacchanal](http://bocahistory.org/boca-bacchanal), the same place you can buy Bacchanal tickets once they are released.

#### Valentine's Day benefit

For an interactive dinner to celebrate Valentine’s Day, take part in “Love in the Kitchen” at the Feeding South Florida food bank in Boynton Beach.

Chefs Chrissy Benoit and Susan Taves will host a cooking class and wine tasting with desserts, raffles and live entertainment from 6 to 8 p.m. Feb. 7, a week before the holiday. Cost is \$150 for individuals, \$275 per couple at [secure.qgiv.com/event/fy26\\_loveinthekitchen](http://secure.qgiv.com/event/fy26_loveinthekitchen), with money going to support hunger relief.



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



## Build-Ready Waterfront Opportunity Near Boynton Inlet

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## Paws Up for Pets

# Dog training experts share tips on nipping bad habits in Buddy

**D**id you just adopt a puppy or an older dog? My congratulations—and condolences. Chances are that your much-loved canine pal may be displaying some unwanted behaviors, such as barking rapidly when the doorbell rings or chewing your just-bought sneakers.

With more than 200 breeds recognized by the American Kennel Club and endless mutt combinations, dogs certainly put the capital D in diversity. But what every dog, big and small, young and old, benefits most from is proper training.

Fortunately, help is here. In recognition of February's designation as National Dog Training Education month, I reached out to five well-credentialed dog trainers based in Palm Beach County who have collectively trained thousands of dogs of all sizes, ages, breeds and temperaments.

Mitchell Stern, owner of Yes! Dog Trainers in Boynton Beach, is on a quest to increase adoptions at animal shelters by training both the person and the dog.

"I tell clients, 'Don't be a dog owner. Be a dog trainer' to bring out the best in their dogs," says Stern. "Training your dog for five minutes per day enhances the bond, trust and communication with your pet."

He emphasizes that no one training tip will fit all dogs. Dogs, like people, are individuals.

But he does offer this strategy to curb nuisance barking.

"When your dog is looking out the window and barking incessantly, we must acknowledge the job their DNA tells them to do," says Stern. "Your dog is alerting you to an outside presence. So, try standing up, going to the window, getting in front of your dog, cactus your arms and make a big show of looking outside for the 'murderer.'

"Then announce 'all clear' and run to the other side of the house. Say 'thank you,' and give your pup a treat. Eventually, announcing 'all clear' will have your pup leave the barking behind and come to you for a pet-fest, treats or praise."

Got a mouthy new pup who loves to nip? Robert Burnell, of Sit Means Sit based in West Palm Beach, first advises pet parents that puppies use their mouths to explore and to interact, as they are still learning the rules of the household.

"Reward your pup when he is calm or preoccupied with chewing a safe toy," says Burnell. "You can try putting bitter apple or vinegar on your hand or leg to make it taste bad and offer them a Nylabone or Gumma bone soaked in (salt-free) chicken broth that you froze. This will make it taste better and give the dog the chewing satisfaction that they need. Dogs need to chew."

Jeff and Heather Hill, owners



**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:** Dog trainers Robert Burnell, Michelle Martiya, Mitchell Stern and Jeff and Heather Hill on the jobs. **Photos provided**

### Lessons learned from dogs

When asked, "How have dogs made you a better person?" our featured dog trainers unleashed these answers:

**Mitchell Stern:** "Dogs live 100% in the present moment. I often think about how I carry anger from an argument I had an hour ago and then stop and try to be more like a dog."

**Robert Burnell:** "I have learned how to step back and look at the situation for what it is and what the dog needs. Dogs continue to instill in me patience, persistence, fairness and consistency."

**Heather and Jeff Hill:** "We are both patient people by nature, but working with dogs 24/7 required us to get a whole other level of patience. We also love that working with dogs has required us to continue learning and growing."

**Michelle Martiya:** "I now see training as a conversation. When you are in a conversation, it is much better to pause and wait for them to respond instead of just talking. Dogs have taught me to listen more."

of Sit, Fit & Trained based in Boynton Beach, emphasize the importance of crate-training newly adopted puppies as a win-win for the pup and the pet parents.

"When pups are in that infant stage, people need to be available to keep their eyes on their pup at all times, learn their body language and be ready to take them out to potty in a

### How to reach trainers in this story

**Mitchell Stern, Yes! Dog Trainers:** yesdogtrainers.com

**Robert Burnell, Sit Means Sit:** sitmeansit.com

**Heather and Jeff Hill, Sit, Fit & Trained:** sitfitandtrained.com

**Michelle Martiya, Essential Animal Trainer:** essentialanimaltraining.com

split second," says Heather Hill. "A crate can become a puppy's little happy and safe place. Puppies need that alone time to build confidence by instilling autonomy. Plus, crating a puppy at night and for naps during the day will give their owners the chance to take care of their own human needs."

Michelle Martiya, owner of Essential Animal Trainer based in Boca Raton, says be concise and consistent and don't forget to celebrate when your dog is doing something right.

"Resist saying, sit, sit, sit and repeating those cues," Martiya says. "Ask your dog for that

desired behavior by saying, 'Sit.' Then pause. Give your dog a hint to figure out he needs to sit by raising a treat over his head.

"My biggest piece of advice is to stop micromanaging your dog. If you only look for what your dog is doing wrong, you miss the awesomeness when your dog is doing something right, like sitting."



Arden Moore writes about pets and can be reached at fourleggedlife@gmail.com.

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## Tots & Teens

# Ocean Ridge student creates system to grow microgreens indoors

By Faran Fagen

Senior Joshua Reiter's interest in hydroponics began with an old, donated system to his school.

His science teacher at Grandview Preparatory, Donna Leech, asked, "Think you can get this running?"

If you ask Reiter, he was more interested in skipping English than becoming a farmer.

"I mostly just wanted to mess around with it and see if we could actually get it to work," said Reiter, of Ocean Ridge. "But once I began to tinker, I was hooked. We saw significant sprout growth every day, and this captivated me. I wondered just how tall they'd grow, and whether they would actually taste good."

Fast forward two years: Reiter, now 17, has turned a passion project into a consumer product with the launch of Josh's Sprouts, a compact, 3D-printed, countertop hydroponic system that allows anyone to grow fresh microgreens at home.

Reiter, founder of Josh's Sprouts and president of the school's wildlife club, realized that at-home hydroponic kits are cumbersome, often cost around \$2,000 and take up an entire shelf or room. He set out to engineer something different: a small, affordable, low-maintenance system that fits seamlessly into everyday life.

"Once I understood how the big hydroponic systems worked, I couldn't stop asking why they had to be so huge and so expensive," Reiter said. "I wanted to design something that was nice looking, compact, and simple enough that you could



set it up in under a minute and harvest fresh microgreens two weeks later."

Reiter had his first "aha moment" when he started to think about how he could get younger students involved and interested in growing sprouts.

"I knew the system had to be simple, fun and affordable so they wouldn't be overwhelmed with complicated instructions or maintenance," he said. "So, over the summer, I started work on a smaller system, then even smaller system, finally landing on my current design."

He actually had the idea for the current system in the middle of a college visit with Northeastern University while

**ABOVE:** Joshua Reiter markets Josh's Sprouts at his school in Boca Raton and has plans to scale up. He created a miniature hydroponic system (left) that can grow sprouts in 14 days. He sells it as a starter kit for \$40, much less than the cumbersome systems that preceded it.

**Photo provided**

he was talking to an admissions officer about his design.

"It was this other 'aha moment' that led me to design an 8-inch pumpless hydroponic system that grows microgreens in only 14 days," he said.

Reiter's product evolved rapidly from a student project to a consumer-ready prototype.

The Josh's Sprouts \$40 Starter Kit includes a 3D-printed outer and inner cup designed for hydroponic growing; a full spectrum grow light that serves as an artificial sun; four hemp mats (two large and two small) that pull nutrient-rich water up to the seeds; premeasured nutrient mix and scoop; and two pre-portioned seed packs

(pea shoots and sunflower microgreens).

Users simply fill the reservoir with water, add one nutrient scoop, place the hemp mat and seeds, turn on the light and walk away. A dense crop of microgreens is ready to harvest in about 14 days. The reservoir typically provides enough water for approximately 21 days.

"Microgreens are incredibly nutrient-dense because they're in such a competitive stage of life," Reiter explained. "They grow fast, are healthy, taste great on salads and sandwiches, and with this system you don't need a garden, perfect weather or a green thumb."

He estimates he has dedicated 30-40 hours per week to the project while completing both Grandview coursework and dual-enrollment classes at Palm Beach State College.

"Josh is a perfect example of what happens when you give students real freedom to explore their passions," said Jacqueline Westerfield, head of school at Grandview Preparatory School.

"Josh walked through every door — from wildlife club and field biology to 3D printing and entrepreneurship — and turned an idea into a product that could genuinely change how people grow food at home."

Reiter plans to study entrepreneurship or management in college and is exploring a future launch on a platform like Kickstarter or Shopify. In the meantime, he's debuting Josh's Sprouts at Grandview and preparing to scale up based on early demand.

As for college, Reiter really likes Virginia Tech, and is also interested in University

of Florida, Penn State, Florida State, Georgetown, Northeastern, and Babson College.

When he's not sprouting, he enjoys going to the gym, snowboarding, hiking, cooking, and hanging out with family.

All proceeds from Josh's Sprouts will support the Grandview Wildlife Club in establishing a memorial for Leech, who arranged for Grandview's first hydroponic system in fall 2024 and championed the student team responsible for managing its harvests. Her encouragement, guidance and belief in hands-on, curiosity-driven learning left a lasting impact on Reiter and countless other students.

Leech, who died of cancer in 2025, also coordinated with the Marine Education Initiative and set up time for its people to instruct students on how to operate the shelf system. She planned trips for the lower school students to visit the Marine Education Initiative's headquarters to see how its operations worked.

"When I set out on the journey of making a 3D printed hydroponic tower, Mrs. Leech was instantly supportive and excited, offering up a corner of her classroom for my testing area," Reiter said. "For one full semester, I spent five hours per week in her room talking with her about how I could get it to work. When things got slow or didn't work out the way I thought they would, she motivated me to keep looking for new solutions." ★

*For more information on Josh's Sprouts, visit Reiter's website at [sites.google.com/view/joshssprouts/home](https://sites.google.com/view/joshssprouts/home).*

## Tots & Teens Calendar

*Note: Events are current as of 1/28. Please check with organizers for any changes.*

### FEBRUARY 7

**Saturday - 2/7 - Drop-In Family Storytime** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Up to age 5. Every Sat. 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**2/7 - STEM Specialty Program: Marvels of Motion** at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Ages 3-12. 1-2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

**2/7 - Baby Sensory Play** at Boynton Beach Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Ages 3-12 mos. Held again 3/7 10-11 am. Free. 561-742-6390; [boyntonlibrary.org](http://boyntonlibrary.org)

**2/7 - Sandoway Discovery Center Daily Feedings** at 142 S Ocean Blvd,

Delray Beach. All ages. Invertebrate touch tank 12:30-2:30 pm; Shark & stingray feedings 1 pm; aquarium feedings 2 pm; animal encounters 3 pm. T-Sat. Free w/\$10 admission. 561-274-7263; [sandoway.org](http://sandoway.org)

**2/7 - Embossing Card Making for Tweens & Teens** at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Ages 9-17. 2-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

### FEBRUARY 8-14

**Sunday - 2/8 - Sunday Chess Tournament Play** at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. All ages. 9 am-4:15 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**2/8 - 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](http://myboca.us/calendar.aspx?CID=47)

**2/8 - Rookie Rooks: Introduction to Chess for Youth** at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Ages 8-12. 10:30-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**2/8 - Tween Graphic Novel Book Talk: Smile** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Ages 9-12. 1-2 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**Monday - 2/9 - Special Guest Storytime w/a Dump Truck Driver** at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Up to age 5. 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**2/9 - Baby Story Time** at Boynton Beach Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Stories, rhymes & songs. Ages 6-12 months. Held again 2/23 11-11:45 am. Free. 561-742-6390; [boyntonlibrary.org](http://boyntonlibrary.org)

**2/9 - Fun w/Fernanda: Bilingual Spanish-English Story Time** at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Ages 0-4. 3:30-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

**2/9 - Knots 'n Needles - Teen Crochet Circle** at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Ages 13-17. 5-6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

**2/9-11 - Homework Help** - Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. For grades K-5. Runs through 4/29. M-W 3:30-4:15 & 4:15-5 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

**2/11 - 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](http://boyntonlibrary.org)

**Thursday - 2/12 - 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](http://bocalibrary.org)

**2/12 - Mysterious Mona Lisa** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Grades K-5. 11 am. \$8. 561-586-6410; [lakeworthplayhouse.org](http://lakeworthplayhouse.org)

**2/12 - Art from the Heart - Valentine's Edition** at Boynton Beach Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Ages 5-12. 4:30-5:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; [boyntonlibrary.org](http://boyntonlibrary.org)

**Friday - 2/13 - Baby Bookworm** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Storytime for infants accompanied by an adult. Ages 0 months to non-walking. Every F 11-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7852; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**2/13 - Sensory Circle Time: Winter Blizzard** at Boynton Beach Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Featuring fun activities designed to engage all senses. Ages 2-5. Held again 2/27. 11 am-noon. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; [boyntonlibrary.org](http://boyntonlibrary.org)

**2/13 - Peek-A-Boo Sensory Adventures** at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Literacy enrichment: stories, music, movement. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Ages 0-non-walkers. Every F 11:30 am-noon. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

Continued on next page

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Continued from previous page

**Saturday - 2/14 - ColorSpace: Teen Art Studio** at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Ages 13-17. Held again 2/28. 11 am-12:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**2/14 - Sketching in the Galleries** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Family fare. 11 am-4 pm. Free w/ paid admission. Registration: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

**2/14 - DIY Ribbon Roses** at Boynton Beach Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Ages 12-13. 2-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**FEBRUARY 15-21**

**Sunday - 2/15 - A Mo Willems Storytime** at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Up to age 7. 11 am-noon. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

**2/15 - Art For Everyone** at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Ages 3-12. 2-3 pm. Free. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**Monday - 2/16 - Artist's Story w/ Timothy Leistner** at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Ages 4-8. 3:30-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

**Tuesday - 2/17 - Toddler Time** at Boynton Beach Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Ages 12-24 mos. 11-11:45 am. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**2/17 - Teen Book Club: Circe by Madeline Miller** at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Ages 13-17. 5-6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**2/17 - Eco Adventures** at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Ages 9-12. Held again 3/3. 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

**Thursday - 2/19 - Toddler Tales** at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Ages 2-3 yrs. 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**2/19 - Bilingual Storytime** at Boynton

Beach Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Stories, rhymes, more. Ages 5 & under. 11-11:45 am. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**2/19 - Ms. Lovely's Music & Movement** at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Ages 3-5 yrs. 3:30-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**2/19 - Make & Take: Clay Creations** at Boynton Beach Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Ages 5-12. 4:30-5:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**Saturday - 2/21 - Wee Move!** at Boynton Beach Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Ages 2-5 years. 10-11:15 am. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**2/21 - STEM Camp: Earth & Geology** at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Ages 9-12. 10:30-11:45 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**2/21 - 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: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**2/21 - Class: Drawing Bends & Curves** at Cornell Art Museum, 51 N. Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Create a drawing inspired by one of Dorothy Gillespie's sculptures. Ages 6-12. \$15/child. 2-3 pm. 561-654-2220; eventeny.com/events/gillespie-workshop-for-kids-25384

**FEBRUARY 22-28**

**Monday - 2/23 - Special Sensory Storytime** at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Up to age 7. 10-10:45 am. Free. Registration: 561-393-7968; bocalibrary.org

**2/23 - LOTG Kindergarten Readiness**

**Story Time** at Catherine Strong Splash Park, 1500 SW 6th St, Delray Beach. Ages 3-5. 10-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**2/23 - Story Explorers Book Club** at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Ages 6-8. 3:30-4:30 pm. Free. Registration:

561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**2/23 - TAB (Teen Advisory Board) Meeting** at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Ages 13-17. 5-6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**Tuesday - 2/24 - Ultimate Book Club** at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Ages 9-12. 4:30-5 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**2/24 - Teen Movie Night: Bring It On (2000, PG-13)** at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Ages 13-17. 5-7:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**2/24 - Bedtime Story Time** at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Ages 3-5. 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**Wednesday - 2/25 - Rhythm Explorers** at Boynton Beach Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Ages 2-5 yrs. 11 am-12:15 pm. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**Thursday - 2/26 - Little Lap Adventures** at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Ages 0-5. 11-11:30 am. Free. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Ages 0-2 yrs. 10-10:30 am. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**2/26 - Picture Book Club: See Marcus Grow by Marcus Bridgewater** at Boynton Beach Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Ages 5-12. 4:30-5:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6393; boyntonlibrary.org

**Friday - 2/27 - Sensory Circle Time: Winter Wonderland** at Boynton Beach Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Ages 2-5 yrs. 11 am-noon. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**Saturday - 2/28 - Once Upon a Story** at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Ages 0-5. 11-11:30 am. Free. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**2/28 - Bones to Books** at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Ages 5-8. 1 pm. Free. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**2/28 - Jigsaw Puzzle Tournament** at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. All ages. 2-3:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

393-7968; bocalibrary.org

**MARCH 1-7**

**Monday - 3/2 - Gaming Guild** at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Ages 13-17. 5-6:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**3/2 - Database 101 for Teens** at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Ages 12-17. 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**Thursday - 3/5 - Page-turners - The Hedge Knight graphic novel** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Grades 6-8. Two times: 1-2 pm & 6-7 pm. Free/members; \$15/non-members. Registration: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

**3/5 - Make & Take: Penny Spinners** at Boynton Beach Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Ages 5-12. 4:30-5:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

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The property owner is seeking proposals from qualified businesses to lease a space +/- 14x50 (700 sq ft) retail space with A1A frontage in Briny Breezes, Florida.

**Ideal for:** pizza shop or similar food concept, cafe, or neighborhood serving retail/professional services.

**Features:** strong A1A visibility, steady vehicle and pedestrian traffic, on-site parking.

**Target Rent:** approx. \$3,500/month

**Occupancy:** May 1

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## Community Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 1/28. Please check with organizers for any changes.

### FEBRUARY 7

**Saturday - 2/7 - Decision 2026 Voters' Guide presented by the League of Women Voters of Palm Beach County.**

This nonpartisan, free, easy-to-read VOTE411 Voters' Guide will be accessible on the League's website. Click on the Voter Toolkit 2026 button. [lwvpbc.org](http://lwvpbc.org)

**2/7 - 14th Annual Barrier Free 5K Run, Walk and Roll** at Barrier Free Park, 3111 S Congress Ave, Boynton Beach. Benefits the park. Includes 5K run/walk, wheelchair division, Kids 1-miler, Kids Dash. 7:30 am-1 pm. Register online: [runsignup.com/Race/FL/BoyntonBeach/BarrierFree](http://runsignup.com/Race/FL/BoyntonBeach/BarrierFree)

**2/7 - Briny Bazaar** at 5000 N Ocean Blvd, Briny Breezes. Flea market featuring housewares, jewelry, clothing, linens, electronics, art, furniture, books & more. Proceeds go to local charities and the community. 8 am-1 pm. Free. [brinybazaar.us](http://brinybazaar.us)

**2/7 - Short Stories for Writers w/ Dr. Caren Neile** at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. Held again 2/21 & 3/7. 10-11:30 am. Free. 561-393-7906; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**2/7 - Book Sale** at J. Turner Moore Memorial Library, 1330 Lands End Rd, Manalapan. 10 am-1 pm. Membership required. 561-383-2541; [manalapan.org](http://manalapan.org)

**2/7 - Step-Above Rummage Sale** at First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach, 33 Gleason St. Proceeds support the ministry and missions of the church. 10 am-1 pm. Free. 561-276-6338; [firstdelray.com](http://firstdelray.com)

**2/7 - Workshop: Bold Marks: Exploring Line and Form in Dynamic Drawings** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. 10:30 am-1:30 pm. \$60. 561-330-9614; [artswarehouse.org](http://artswarehouse.org)

**2/7 - Workshop: Intro to Photography** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. 10:30 am-2:30 pm. \$150. 561-330-9614; [artswarehouse.org](http://artswarehouse.org)

**2/7 - Annual Florida Highwaymen Art Show & Sale** at Boynton Beach Cultural Center, 125 E Ocean Ave. 11 am-3 pm. Free. 561-742-6221; [boynton-beach.org](http://boynton-beach.org)

**2/7 - Auditions: Matilda The Musical** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Production dates 4/10-28. Roles are unpaid. Held again 7-10 pm 2/9. Noon-4 pm. Choose audition slot online. 561-586-6410; [lakeworthplayhouse.org](http://lakeworthplayhouse.org)

**2/7 - Connie Regan-Blake - A Story**

**Central Performance: A Legend in Overalls** at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 3-4:30 pm. 561-393-7906; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**2/7 - 3D Print Basics Class** at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Held again 3/7 3-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

**2/7 - The Path to Publishing** presented by South Florida Women's National Book Association at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. An informative and interactive discussion on getting published. 3-5 pm. Free/donations welcome. Registration: [southflorida@wnba-books.org](http://southflorida@wnba-books.org)

**2/7 - Daddy-Daughter Dance** at Historic Boynton Woman's Club, 1010 S. Federal Hwy, Boynton Beach. Ages 5-12 with fathers or favorite male guardian (uncle, brother, etc.) 6 pm. \$30/residents, \$38/non-residents. 561-742-6000; [boynton-beach.org](http://boynton-beach.org)

**2/7 - Concert: The Camerata di Magdalena** at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 100 N Palmway, Lake Worth Beach. 7-9 pm. Free; love offering will benefit community food programs. 561-310-3230; [margot@coreensemble.org](http://margot@coreensemble.org)

**2/7 - Have Wig, Will Gig** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. 7:30 pm. \$35. 561-586-6410; [lakeworthplayhouse.org](http://lakeworthplayhouse.org)

**2/7 - The Bruce Tribute** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$55.50-\$60.50. 561-450-6357; [artsgarage.org](http://artsgarage.org)

**2/7-8 - 6th Annual Downtown Delray Beach Craft Festival** at 401 E Atlantic Ave. 10 am-5 pm. Free. 561-746-6615; [artfestival.com](http://artfestival.com)

**2/7-8 - The Sound Inside** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Runs through 2/15 Th-Sat 7:30 pm; Sun 2 pm. \$28. 561-586-6410; [lakeworthplayhouse.org](http://lakeworthplayhouse.org)

### FEBRUARY 8-14

**Sunday - 2/8 - Make & Muse - Dynamic Lines & Flourishing Botanicals: A Gel Plate Printmaking Workshop** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 10 am-noon. \$45/member; \$65/non-member. 561-392-2500; [bocamuseum.org](http://bocamuseum.org)

**2/8 - Town Art Show** at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. 2-4 pm. Free. 561-588-8889; [southpalmbeach.com](http://southpalmbeach.com)

**2/8 - LP And The Vinyl: Blues to Beatles to Bowie** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 2-3:30 pm. \$55.50-\$60.50. 561-450-6357; [artsgarage.org](http://artsgarage.org)

**2/9 - Monday Game Days: Canasta** at J.

## Municipal Meetings

**2/9 & 2/23 - Lantana** Town Hall, 500 Greynolds Cir. 6 pm. Agenda: [lantana.org](http://lantana.org)

**2/10 & 2/24 - Boca Raton** Auditorium, 6500 Congress Ave. 6 pm. Agenda: [myboca.us](http://myboca.us)

**2/10 - Manalapan** Town Hall, 600 S Ocean Blvd. 9 am. Agenda: [manalapan.org](http://manalapan.org)

**2/10 - South Palm Beach** Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. 2 pm. Agenda: [southpalmbeach.com](http://southpalmbeach.com)

**2/13 - Gulf Stream** Town Hall, 100 Sea Rd. 9 am. Agenda: [gulf-stream.org](http://gulf-stream.org)

**2/17 & 2/3 - Boynton Beach** City Hall, 100 E Ocean Ave. 6 pm. Agenda: [boynton-beach.org](http://boynton-beach.org)

**2/24 - Delray Beach** City Hall, 100 NW 1st Ave. 5 pm. Agenda: [delraybeachfl.gov](http://delraybeachfl.gov)

**2/26 - Briny Breezes** Town Hall, 4802 N Ocean Blvd. 4 pm.

**3/2 - Ocean Ridge** Town Hall, 6450 N Ocean Blvd. 6 pm. Agenda: [oceanridgeflorida.com](http://oceanridgeflorida.com)

**3/3 - Highland Beach** Town Hall, 3614 S Ocean Blvd. 1:30 pm. Agenda: [highlandbeach.us](http://highlandbeach.us)

\$69.60/member; \$87/non-member. 561-297-3185; [olli.fau.edu](http://olli.fau.edu)

**2/10 - Resume Coaching with Merrill** at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Free coaching by appointment (45 minute sessions). Runs T through 3/17. 1-5 pm. 561-266-0194; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

**2/10 - Socrates Café** at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Philosophical discussions. Every T 1:30-3 pm. Free. 561-393-7852; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**2/10 - How to Spot a Scam** at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2-3 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

**2/10 - Fireside Chat with Florida Atlantic President Adam Hasner and Acclaimed Journalist Major Garrett** at FAU Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 2-3:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$56-\$96/member; \$70-\$120/non-member. 561-297-3185; [olli.fau.edu](http://olli.fau.edu)

**2/10 - Water Safety** at J. Turner Moore Memorial Library, 1330 Lands End Rd, Manalapan. 5 pm. Membership required. 561-383-2541; [manalapan.org](http://manalapan.org)

**2/10 - Movie Night** at Highland Beach Library, 3618 Ocean Blvd. Held again 1/8 & 2/24. 5:30 pm. Free. 561-278-5455; [highlandbeach.us](http://highlandbeach.us)

**2/10 - The Vegetarian by Han Kang** part of Tuesday Book Group at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

**2/10 - American Sign Language Class** at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Held again 2/24 & 3/3 6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

**2/10 - Heritage Lecture - "The Seminoles of African Descent in Florida"** presented by the Delray Beach Historical Society at Old School Square Historic Gym. 6 pm. \$15/person; \$10/society members. Registration: 561-274-9578; [delraybeachhistory.org](http://delraybeachhistory.org)

**2/10 - Delray Beach Orchid Society Meeting** at Veterans Park, 802 NE 1st St, Delray Beach. 2nd T 7 pm. Free. 561-573-2422; [delraybeachorchidsociety.org](http://delraybeachorchidsociety.org)

**2/10 - All Arts Open Mic Night** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. Every 2nd T 8-10:30 pm. \$10-\$25. 561-450-6357; [artsgarage.org](http://artsgarage.org)

**Wednesday - 2/11 - Workshop: Modern Mixed Media Portraits** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. 10:30 am-2:30 pm. \$125. 561-330-9614; [artswarehouse.org](http://artswarehouse.org)

**2/11 - Coral Reef Ecology w/Pinnacle Ecological, Inc.** at Boynton Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Held again 2/24 & 3/3 6 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

# DELRAY BEACH GREENMARKET

October 2025 thru May 2026

**SATURDAYS**  
9am - 2pm  
Old School Square

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A Delray Beach CRA Project

100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 11 am-noon. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**2/11 - The Friends Meeting** at Boynton Beach Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 1:30-2:30 pm. Free. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**2/11 - The Tudors: The True History of England's Most Famous Dynasty w/ Ben Lowe** at FAU Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every W through 3/25. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$95.20/member; \$119/non-member. 561-297-3185; olli.fau.edu

**2/11 - Movies at the Square: The Lion King** at Old School Square Amphitheatre, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 5 pm. Free. 561-243-1077; delrayoldschoolsquare.com

**2/11 - Workshop: Intermediate Photography** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. 5-8 pm. \$90. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

**2/11 - Artistic Journeys Reception - Tami Jo Urban - Soft Yellow Underbelly** at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 6-7:30 pm. Registration: 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**Thursday - 2/12 - 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

**2/12 - Jazz & Java: The Arrangers - The Creators Behind The Music** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. Adults. Every Th through 3/19 10-11:30 am. \$155. Register: 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

**2/12 - Seminar: Classic Street Photography: What the Masters Can Teach Us w/Leo Lubow** at FAU Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every Th through 3/19. 10 am-noon. \$60/annual membership; \$100.50/member; \$134/non-member. 561-297-3185; olli.fau.edu

**2/12 - 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

**2/12 - Workshop: Intro to Watercolor: Essential Techniques & Your First Paintings** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$40. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

**2/12 - Workshop: SEA & SKY: Abstracting the Coastline** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. 10:30 am-3:30 pm. \$125. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

**2/12 - Lunch and Learn w/FAU President Adam Hasner and wife**

Jillian at Beth Ami Congregation, 1401 NW Fourth Ave., Boca Raton. 11:30 am. Free. RSVP: 561-347-0031; bacboca.com

**2/12 - PBD Dramawise: Driving Miss Daisy w/Gary Cadwallader** 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

**2/12 - Writers of The Lost Generation: Hemingway, Fitzgerald and Stein w/Lauren Radick** 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

**2/12 - Brushstrokes & Bookmarks - The Artificial Silk Girl: A Novel** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 3-4:30 pm. \$15/member; \$20-\$25/non-member. Registration: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

**2/12 - A Taste of Art** at The Club at Boynton Beach, 623 S. Federal Highway. Enjoy paintings, kinetic art, and photography available for purchase. Free. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and wine tasting. Reservations: 561-777-7194

**2/12 - Twilight Concert Series: Journey & Styx Tribute** at Old School Square Amphitheater, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 5-9 pm. \$50/VIP; \$free/general admission; free/kids 12 & under. 561-243-1077; delrayoldschoolsquare.com/events

**2/12 - Intermediate Tap for Adults** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Ages 18+. Every Th through 3/26 5:30-7 pm. \$60/4 weeks; \$20/drop-in. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

**2/12 - Concert: Roy & the Rockabillies**

at Highland Beach Library, 3618 Ocean Blvd. 5:30 pm. Free. 561-278-5455; highlandbeach.us

**2/12 - Artist Talk - John William Bailly** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. 6-7 pm. Free. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

**2/12 - Lecture - The Lens of Art Nouveau: A Look at Alphonse Much's Private Photography Collection** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Adults. 6-7 pm. \$10/members; \$15-\$20/non-members. Registration: 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

**2/12 - "Chai" Fidelity: Our Favorite Jewish Songs and the Stories Behind Them w/PinkSlip Duo** at FAU Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7-8:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$35.20/member; \$44/non-member. 561-297-3185; olli.fau.edu

**2/12 - 18th Annual Dr. Eric H. Shaw Concert & Aria Excellence in Performance** at FAU University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$10-\$20. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

**2/12-15 - The Great Mr. Swindle's Traveling Peculiarium and Drink-Ory Garden** presented by Saita Entertainment Productions under The Boutique Big Top at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real. Held again 2/18-22. Ages 18 & up. W-Sat: 7:30 pm; 2/14: 5 & 8 pm; 2/15: 3 & 6 pm; 2/20-21: 4:30 pm; 2/22: 2 pm. \$52.25-\$95. mrswindles.com/tickets

**Friday - 2/13 - Mahjong Club - Open Play** at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Every F 10am-noon. Free. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

**2/13 - Workshop: Jewelry Wax to Silver - Ring Carving** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. 4-7 pm. \$24.5. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

**2/13 - 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

**2/13 - 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

**2/13 - Brian Kiley** at The Studio at Mizner Park, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. Tickets start at \$31.70. 561-203-3742; thestudioatmiznerpark.com

**2/13 - Isle of Klezbos** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$60.50-\$65.50. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

**2/13 - Rock of Abba: Tribute to Abba** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. 8 pm. \$35-\$50. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

**2/13-15 - For the Love of Art Store Sale** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Adults. 10 am-5 pm. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

**2/13-22 - Delray Beach Open** at Delray Beach Tennis Center, 201 W Atlantic Ave.

Opening day features Bob & Mike Bryan and Luke & Murphy Jensen. Full schedule/tickets: delraybeachopen.com

**2/13-22 - 7th Annual Delray Beach Open Food & Wine Series** consists of multiple tasting events, luncheons, and cocktail receptions. Info: 561-330-6000; delraybeachopen.com/en/food-and-wine

**Saturday - 2/14 - Historic Walking Tour: Atlantic A1A & The Beach**

presented by Delray Beach Historical Society, at the Beach Pavilion on A1A. 10 am-noon. \$30/person; \$20/members. Registration: 561-274-9578; delraybeachhistory.org

**2/14 - Open Figure Studio w/Model**

at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Ages 18+. Held again 6-8 pm 2/26.

10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$15. 561-330-9614; artswarehouse.org

**2/14 - Palm Beach Pride Pageant 2026**

at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Ages 18+. 2 pm. \$20-\$40. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org

**2/14 - Music in the Museum - Fragments and Resilience: A Spotlight**

**Tour & Violin Recital** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 3:30-5 pm. \$20/member; \$25-\$30/non-member. 561-392-2500; bocamuseum.org

**2/14 - Florida Atlantic Faculty Prism Concert** at FAU University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. Free. 561-297-6124; fauevents.com

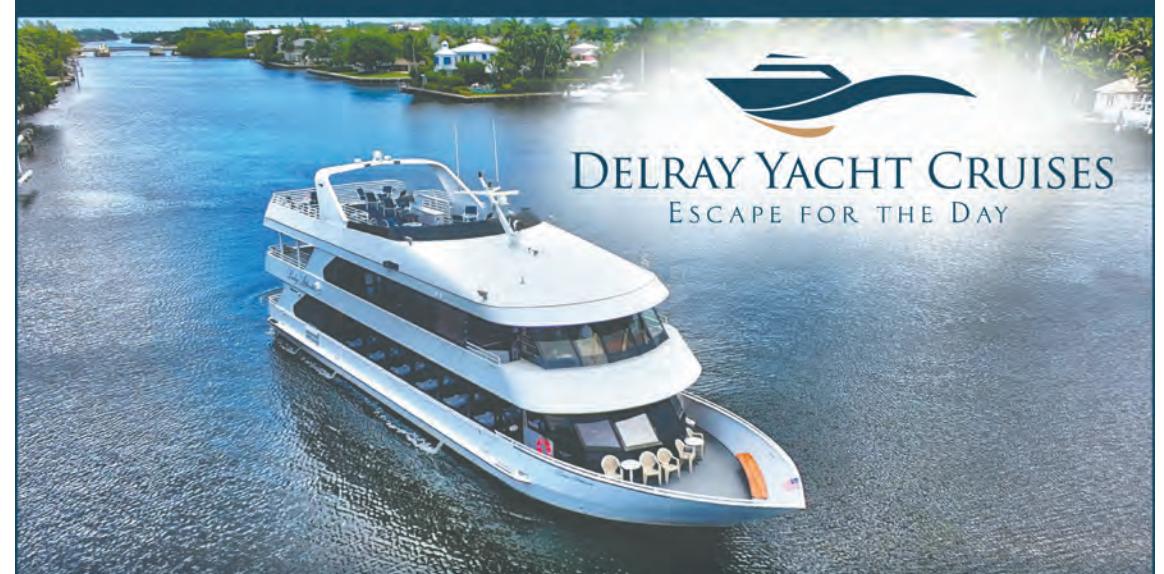
**2/14 - Brian Hyland - Sealed With A Kiss** at The Studio at Mizner Park,

201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. Tickets start at \$56.05. 561-203-3742; thestudioatmiznerpark.com

**2/14 - Welcome Home: The Legacy of Carole King** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$60.50-\$65.50. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

**2/14-15 - Boca Raton Art & Craft Festival** at Town Center at Boca Raton, 6000 Glades Rd. 10 am-5 pm. Free. 561-746-6615; artfestival.com

**2/14-15 - Boca Raton Orchid Society Valentine's Orchid Show & Sale** at Don Estridge Middle School Safe Schools Institute, 1790 Spanish River Blvd. Orchid displays/sales. 10 am-5 pm. Advance tickets: \$3; general admission: \$5 cash. brosonline.org



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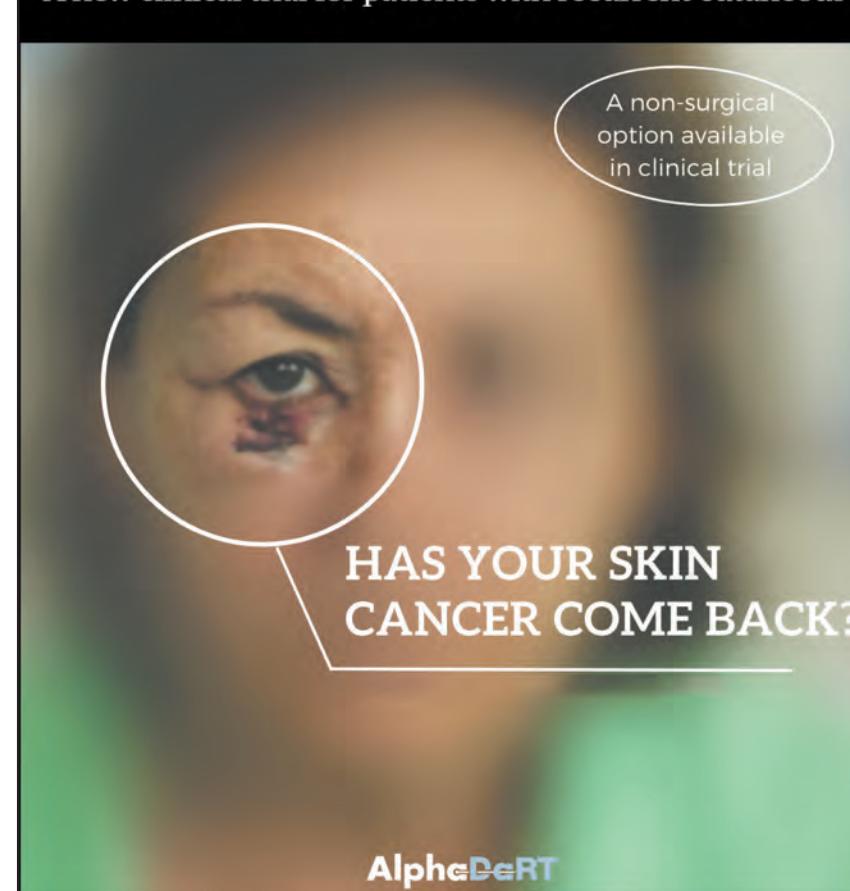
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*Clinical Graduate of Harvard Medical School*

*and Yale School of Medicine*

*Principal Investigator,*

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**FEBRUARY 15-21**

**Sunday - 2/15 - Art of Dance: The Magic of Line** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 10-11:15 am. \$15/member; \$25/non-member. 561-392-2500; [bocamuseum.org](http://bocamuseum.org)

**2/15 - Exhibit Opening Reception** at Artist's Eye Gallery Boutique, 604 Lucerne Ave, Lake Worth. Runs through 3/7. 2-4 pm. Free. 561-586-8666; [lwartleague.org](http://lwartleague.org)

**2/15 - Times Of Your Life: The Paul Anka Songbook** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. 2 pm. \$30-\$50. 561-586-6410; [lakeworthplayhouse.org](http://lakeworthplayhouse.org)

**2/15 - Ice Cream Social** at South Palm Beach Town Hall, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. 2-4 pm. Free. 561-588-8889; [southpalmbeach.com](http://southpalmbeach.com)

**2/15 - Trolley Tour of Historic Pearl City** meets at Martin Luther King Jr. monument, 200 NE 12th St., Boca Raton. Sponsored by Developing Interracial Social Change (DISC) 2:30-5 pm. Free. RSVP to 561-213-6214 or 240-603-9582.

**2/15 - Story Central Storytelling Slam** at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 3-4:30 pm. Free. 561-393-7906; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**2/15 - Free Fallin Returns - The Tom Petty Concert Experience** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7 pm. \$65.50-\$70.50. 561-450-6357; [artsgarage.org](http://artsgarage.org)

**Monday - 2/16 - Presidents' Day**

**2/16 - Monday Game Days: Mahjong** at J. Turner Moore Memorial Library, 1330 Lands End Rd, Manalapan. Held again 3/2. 2-4 pm. Membership required. 561-383-2541; [manalapan.org](http://manalapan.org)

**2/16 - Descent: Latest Documentary from Award-Winning Director, Rory Fielding** at FAU Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 4-5:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$30.40/member; \$38/non-member. 561-297-3185; [olli.fau.edu](http://olli.fau.edu)

**2/16 - 18th Annual Boca Raton Chamber Bash** at Delray Beach Stadium & Tennis Center/Hospitality Pavilion, 30 NW 1st Ave. 6-7:30 pm. Tickets \$60-\$100. 561-395-4433; [bocachamber.com](http://bocachamber.com)

**2/16 - The Art of Storytelling: Diverse Approaches in World Cinema w/Shelly Isaacs** at FAU Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every M through 3/9. 7-9 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$64/member; \$80/non-member. 561-297-3185; [olli.fau.edu](http://olli.fau.edu)

**2/16-19 - Always: The Love Story of Irving Berlin starring KT Sullivan & Mark Nadler** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. M-Th: 2 pm; T-W: 7:30 pm. \$55-\$65. 561-272-1281; [delraybeachplayhouse.com](http://delraybeachplayhouse.com)

**Tuesday - 2/17 - Book Talks - Non-Fiction/Biographies: Toni at Random: The Iconic Writer's Legendary Editorship by Dana A. Williams** at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 2-3 pm. Registration: 561-393-7906; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**2/17 - FAU Astronomical Observatory** public viewing at FAU Science & Engineering Building 4th floor, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 1st F & 3rd T 8 pm. Free. Schedule subject to change; check website: 561-297-7827; [physics.fau.edu/observatory/events/](http://physics.fau.edu/observatory/events/)

**2/17 - Spoken Word Open Mic: Poetry, Storytelling & Lyrics** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. Every 3rd T 8-10:30 pm. \$20-\$25. 561-450-6357; [artsgarage.org](http://artsgarage.org)

**Wednesday - 2/18 - Book Buzz Adult Book Club: Are You Mad at Me? by Meg Josephson** at Boynton Beach Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 10:30 am-noon. Free. Registration: 561-742-6390; [boyntonlibrary.org](http://boyntonlibrary.org)

**2/18 - League of Women Voters Hot Topics Discussion: Defending Democracy in the Courts w/Barbara Pariente** presented by League of Women Voters of Palm Beach County at The Fountains Country Club, 4476 Fountains Dr, Lake Worth Beach. Doors open 11 am; luncheon 11:30 am. \$45/members; \$50/non-members. Registration: 561-276-4898; [lwpbc.org](http://lwpbc.org)

**2/18 - Energy: Chemical, Biological, Electrical, Nuclear & Subatomic w/ Peter Friedman** 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](http://olli.fau.edu)

**2/18 - Estate Planning in Pop Culture w/Jennifer Gomez** at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. 3-4 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

**2/18 - Book Club** at J. Turner Moore Memorial Library, 1330 Lands End Rd, Manalapan. 5 pm. Membership required. 561-383-2541; [manalapan.org](http://manalapan.org)

**2/18 - Town Hall Talk: Declaration: The Story of American Independence w/Robert Watson** at The Schmidt Boca Raton History Museum, 71 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. 6 pm check-in/refreshments; 6:30 pm lecture. Free/BRHS member; \$10/guest. RSVP: 561-395-6766 x100; [bocahistory.org](http://bocahistory.org)

**Thursday - 2/19 - Workshop: Fluid Florals in Watercolor** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. \$40. 561-330-9614; [artswarehouse.org](http://artswarehouse.org)

**2/19 - Workshop: ELECTRIC LANDSCAPES: Layer, Brush, and Build Impact** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. 10:30 am-3:30 pm. \$125. 561-330-9614; [artswarehouse.org](http://artswarehouse.org)

**2/19 - The Romanovs, Russia, and the Jews, Part II w/Stephen Berk** at FAU Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every Th through 3/12. 12:30-2 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$69.60/member; \$87/non-member. 561-297-3185; [olli.fau.edu](http://olli.fau.edu)

**2/19 - Seminar: The Jazz Soul of Irving Berlin w/Mark Gridley** at FAU Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Ever Th through 3/12. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$69.60/member; \$87/non-member. 561-297-3185; [olli.fau.edu](http://olli.fau.edu)

**2/19 - Harvey Oyer III Lecture** at J. Turner Moore Memorial Library, 1330 Lands End Rd, Manalapan. 5-7 pm. Membership required. 561-383-2541; [manalapan.org](http://manalapan.org)

**2/19 - Celebrating Our Neighborhoods: Delray's Marina District & Beach** presented by the Delray Beach Historical Society at Marina District & Beach Neighborhood. Cookout, bar, music, special Marina & Beach exhibit & more. 5:30 pm. By invitation only and free to neighborhood residents. Registration: 561-274-9578; [delraybeachhistory.org](http://delraybeachhistory.org)

**2/19 - The Women of Michelangelo w/ Dr. Emily Fenichel** at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 6-7:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-393-7906; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**2/19 - Women of Valor: Montana Tucker** at 490 E Palmetto Park Rd, Boca Raton. VIP Cocktails/dinner: 6 pm; main program: 7:30 pm. \$180. 561-394-9770; [chababocabeaches.com](http://chababocabeaches.com)

**2/19 - The Songs of Leonard Cohen w/ Humdingers & Rod MacDonald** at FAU Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7-9 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$35.20/member; \$44/non-member. 561-297-3185; [olli.fau.edu](http://olli.fau.edu)

**Friday - 2/20 - 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](http://artswarehouse.org)

**2/20 - The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison** part of Afternoon Book Group at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 1 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0196; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

**2/20 - Nothing's Trivial! OLLI Boca's Trivia Contest** at FAU Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$10.40/member; \$13/non-member. 561-297-3185; [olli.fau.edu](http://olli.fau.edu)

**2/20 - Bonfires & Night Market** at Lake Worth Beach Complex, 10 S Ocean Blvd. Bring beach chairs/blankets. 6-9 pm. Free; metered parking. 561-533-7395; [lakeworthbeachfl.gov](http://lakeworthbeachfl.gov)

**2/20 - Artist Blow-Out - Jason Christian** at Benzaiten Center for Creative Arts, 1105 2nd Ave S, Lake Worth Beach. 6:30-9:30 pm. \$25-\$50. Reservations: 561-508-7315; [benzaitencenter.org](http://benzaitencenter.org)

**2/20 - Johnny Credit - Johnny Cash Tribute** at The Studio at Mizner Park, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. Tickets start at \$31.70. 561-203-3742; [thestudioatmiznerpark.com](http://thestudioatmiznerpark.com)

**2/20 - Linda Ronstadt Experience with American Idol Star Tristan McIntosh** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7 pm. \$60.50-\$65.50. 561-450-6357; [artsgarage.org](http://artsgarage.org)

**Monday - 2/23 - The Redcoats are Coming: The British Soldier During the American Revolution w/ Robert Feeney** at FAU Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$30.40/member; \$38/non-member. 561-297-3185; [olli.fau.edu](http://olli.fau.edu)

**2/20 - Johnny Credit - Johnny Cash Tribute** at The Studio at Mizner Park, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. Tickets start at \$31.70. 561-203-3742; [thestudioatmiznerpark.com](http://thestudioatmiznerpark.com)

**2/20 - Exhibit Opening Reception: Defending Democracy in the Courts w/Barbara Pariente** presented by League of Women Voters of Palm Beach County at The Fountains Country Club, 4476 Fountains Dr, Lake Worth Beach. Doors open 11 am; luncheon 11:30 am. \$45/members; \$50/non-members. Registration: 561-276-4898; [lwpbc.org](http://lwpbc.org)

**2/20 - Energy: Chemical, Biological, Electrical, Nuclear & Subatomic w/ Peter Friedman** at FAU Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton.

**The COASTAL STAR**

**2/20 - Generations of Soul at Arts Garage**, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$70.50-\$75.50. 561-450-6357; [artsgarage.org](http://artsgarage.org)

**2/20-22 - Shakespeare's The Tempest** at FAU Marleen Forkas Studio One Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Runs through 3/1. F/Sat: 7 pm; Sat/Sun: 2 pm. \$20-\$27. 561-297-6124; [fauevents.com](http://fauevents.com)

**Saturday - 2/21 - Blossoming Winter: A Seasonal Reading & Writing Event** at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 10 am-2:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

**2/21 - 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](http://delraylibrary.org)

**2/21 - 17th Annual Boating & Beach Bash for People w/Disabilities** at Spanish River Park, 3001 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Boat rides on the Intracoastal Waterway, beach access, sporting events, ponies for petting, costumed action heroes, a Kids' Fun Zone, food & live entertainment. 10 am-3 pm. Free. 561-899-7400; [boatingbeachbash.com](http://boatingbeachbash.com)

**2/21 - Come Build Historic Delray Beach with Lego Building Blocks** at the Vintage Gym at Old School Square, 51 N Swinton Ave. 10:30 am-1 pm. \$20/team. [delroyoldschoolsquare.com](http://delroyoldschoolsquare.com)

**2/21 - Workshop: Torn & Textured: Abstract Art with Attitude** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. 10:30 am-1:30 pm. \$65. 561-330-9614; [artswarehouse.org](http://artswarehouse.org)

**2/21 - Florida Author Series: Steph Post and "Terra Incognita"** at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. 2-3:30 pm. Free. 561-393-7906; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**2/21 - Florida Atlantic's 8th Annual Brass Extravaganza** at FAU University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3 pm. Free. 561-297-6124; [artswarehouse.org](http://artswarehouse.org)

**2/21 - Best of the Belgians Beer Fest**, featuring breweries like Bosteels, De Dolle, Duvel, St. Bernardus, Rochefort and Barrel of Monks Brewing, at Dr. Andre Fladell Civic Center, 16700 Jog Road, Delray Beach. Live music, food trucks, free beer glass, and unlimited 2-oz. samplings. 2-5 pm. \$50 general, \$95 VIP (includes 1 pm early admission). [bestofthebelgians.com](http://bestofthebelgians.com)

**2/21 - Irene Kofman & Friends** at FAU University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$10-\$20. 561-297-6124; [fauevents.com](http://fauevents.com)

**2/21 - Clint Holmes** at The Studio at Mizner Park, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. Tickets start at \$31.70. 561-203-3742; [thestudioatmiznerpark.com](http://thestudioatmiznerpark.com)

**2/21-22 - Annual Street Painting Festival** at Lake & Lucerne Avenues, Downtown Lake Worth Beach. Sat/Sun: 10 am-6 pm. [spf.lakeworthbeachfl.gov](http://spf.lakeworthbeachfl.gov)

**FEBRUARY 22-28**

**Sunday - 2/22 - From Here to Antiquity - Robert Secrist - Virtuoso Classical & Contemporary Guitarist** at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2-3:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

**2/22 - Music in the Museum - Chamber Music Concert: An Evening of Love, Passion & Musical Mystery** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. 3-4 pm. \$20/member; \$25-\$30/non-member. 561-392-2500; [bocamuseum.org](http://bocamuseum.org)

**2/22 - Late Night Catechism** at The Studio at Mizner Park, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 3-4 pm. Tickets start at \$52. 561-203-3742; [thestudioatmiznerpark.com](http://thestudioatmiznerpark.com)

**2/22 - Boynton Beach Gold Coast Band Concert: Going for the Gold** at Coral Lakes Theater, 12751 El Clair Ranch Rd, Boynton Beach. 3 pm. \$10. [goldcoastband.org](http://goldcoastband.org)

**2/22 - The Linda Ronstadt Experience with American Idol Star Tristan McIntosh** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 7 pm. \$60.50-\$65.50. 561-450-6357; <a href

pm. Tickets start at \$59. 561-272-1281; [delraybeachplayhouse.com](http://delraybeachplayhouse.com)  
**2/27-28 - Blues Beatles** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$60.50-\$65.50. 561-450-6357; [artsgarage.org](http://artsgarage.org)  
**2/27-3/1 - Neil Simon's Biloxi Blues** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Runs through 3/15. F/Sat: 7:30 pm; Sat/Sun: 2 pm. Tickets start at \$40/show, \$116/dinner & show. 561-586-6410; [lakeworthplayhouse.org](http://lakeworthplayhouse.org)

**Saturday - 2/28 - 2026 Mayors' Chess Challenge** at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. For players of all ages/experience. 10 am-1 pm. Free. 561-393-7906; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**2/28 - Workshop: Color Crush: Mix Like a Master, Paint Like a Pro** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. 10:30 am-1:30 pm. \$65. 561-330-9614; [artswarehouse.org](http://artswarehouse.org)

**2/28 - Workshop: Studio Portrait Photography: One-Light Techniques** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. Noon-4 pm. \$175. 561-330-9614; [artswarehouse.org](http://artswarehouse.org)

**2/28 - Workshop: Jewelry Wax to Silver - Jewelry Carving** at Arts Warehouse, 313 NE 3rd St, Delray Beach. Adults. 12:30-4:30 pm. \$265. 561-330-9614; [artswarehouse.org](http://artswarehouse.org)

**2/28 - 3D Computer-Aided Design w/ Tinkercad** at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 3-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

**2/28 - Varga Studio Reawakening** at Varga Sculpting Studio, 296 NE 6th Ave, Delray Beach. 6-10 pm. 561-512-0712; [varga-studio.com](http://varga-studio.com)

**2/28 - Festival of the Arts Boca: Jurassic Park with Live Orchestra** at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. \$35-\$150. 561-571-5270; [festivalboca.org](http://festivalboca.org)

**2/28 - Elvin: In Person starring Matt Stone** at The Studio at Mizner Park, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. Tickets start at \$31.70. 561-203-3742; [thestudioatmiznerpark.com](http://thestudioatmiznerpark.com)

**2/28-3/1 - 27th Annual Delray Beach Garlic Fest** at Old School Square, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Sat: 11 am-11 pm; Sun: 11 am-7 pm. \$15-\$25; free/children ages 10 & under. 561-279-0907; [garlicfestfl.com](http://garlicfestfl.com)

## MARCH 1-7

**Sunday - 3/1 - 3rd Annual Muscle on The Beach Car Show** at Old School Square, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Benefits Sandoway Discovery Center. Host: TV star Mike Brewer. 10 am-3 pm. \$125/car registry; free/spectators. 561-274-7263; [muscleonthebeach.com](http://muscleonthebeach.com)

**3/1 - Sunday Music Matinee Series: Randy Corinthian Band** at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. All ages. 3-4 pm. 561-393-7906; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**3/1 - Destination Soutlawn featuring The Sensational Soul Cruisers** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. Two shows: 3 pm & 7 pm. \$65.50-\$70.50. 561-450-6357; [artsgarage.org](http://artsgarage.org)

**3/1 - Festival of the Arts Boca - From Swan Lake to the Stones: A Night at the Ballet** at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$35-\$150. 561-571-5270; [festivalboca.org](http://festivalboca.org)

**Monday - 3/2 - The Continental Soldier: Washington's Army in the Revolution w/Robert Feeney** at FAU Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$30.40/member; \$38/non-member. 561-297-3185; [olli.fau.edu](http://olli.fau.edu)

**3/2 - Diana Ross: Reflections, Part II w/Robert Versteeg** 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](http://olli.fau.edu)

**3/2 - Exploring Verdi's Enduring Legacy: Part I: On Golden Wings w/ Augusta Ventura** 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](http://olli.fau.edu)

**3/2 - Seminar: How to Reinvent Yourself at Any Age: The Science of Habit and the Promise of Change w/Pavel Mischenko** 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](http://olli.fau.edu)

**3/2 - Festival of the Arts Boca: Doris Kearns Goodwin: The Enduring Significance of the American Revolution** at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$50-\$75. 561-571-5270; [festivalboca.org](http://festivalboca.org)

**Tuesday - 3/3 - The Farhud: When the Holocaust Reached Baghdad w/ Samuel M. Edelman** 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](http://olli.fau.edu)

**3/3 - General Meeting: Rare and Unusual Plants w/Jesse Durko** at Boca Raton Garden Club, 4281 NW 3rd Ave. 1 pm. Free. 561-395-9376; [bocaratongardenclub.org](http://bocaratongardenclub.org)

**3/3 - Boca Reads: An Afternoon with Author Walter Mosley** at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. 2-3:30 pm. Free. 561-393-7906; [bocalibrary.org](http://bocalibrary.org)

**3/3 - Conservation of Coral Reef & Estuarine Ecosystems** at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2-3:30 pm. Free. Registration: 561-266-0194; [delraylibrary.org](http://delraylibrary.org)

**3/3 - Beginning Tap for Adults** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Age 18+. Every T through 3/24 5:30-7 pm. \$60/4-weeks; \$20/drop-in. 561-586-6410; [olli.fau.edu](http://olli.fau.edu)

[lakeworthplayhouse.org](http://lakeworthplayhouse.org)  
**3/3 - Art School Sogetsu Ikebana Exhibition Opening** at Boca Raton Museum of Art, School, 801 W Palmetto Park Rd. Runs through 3/6. 5:30-7 pm. \$10/members; \$15-\$20/non-members. Registration: 561-392-2500; [bocamuseum.org](http://bocamuseum.org)

**3/3 - Exhibition Opening: Multicultural Youth Arts** at Cornell Art Museum, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 6-9 pm. Free. 561-654-2220; [delrayoldschoolsquare.com/events](http://delrayoldschoolsquare.com/events)

**3/3 - Festival of the Arts Boca - Walter Mosley: The Only True Race Is the Human Race** at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$35-\$50. 561-571-5270; [festivalboca.org](http://festivalboca.org)

**3/3 - Comedy Open Mic** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. Every 1st T 8-10:30 pm. \$10-\$25. 561-450-6357; [artsgarage.org](http://artsgarage.org)

**Wednesday - 3/4 - The Women of Ireland (Mna na h'Eireann) w/Kevin Westley** at Boynton Beach Library, 100 E Ocean Ave. Adults. 11 am-noon. Free. 561-742-6390; [boyntonlibrary.org](http://boyntonlibrary.org)

**3/4 - Smooth Sailing: Yacht Rock and the Sound of the '70's w/ Thomas Cimarusti** at FAU Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 3-4:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$35.20/member; \$44/non-member. 561-297-3185; [olli.fau.edu](http://olli.fau.edu)



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edu  
**3/4 - Festival of the Arts Boca: Arthur Caplan: In Defense of Science** at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$35. 561-571-5270; festivalboca.org  
**Thursday - 3/5 - Hitler's Soldiers in America: The Hidden History of German POWs w/Annette Isaacs** 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  
**3/5 - Intermediate Tap for Adults** at Lake Worth Playhouse, 713 Lake Ave. Ages 18+. Every Th through 3/26 5:30-7 pm. \$60/4 weeks; \$20/drop-in. 561-586-6410; lakeworthplayhouse.org  
**3/5 - Off the Wall: Shining Through Community w/Mark Delmont** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 6-8 pm. Free. RSVP: 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org  
**3/5 - Night Market** at Sanborn Square Park, 72 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Food options, beer & wine, local artisans and live music. 6-9 pm. Free. myboca.us/2324/Night-Market  
**3/5 - Festival of the Arts Boca -Dr. Danielle Gilbert: Life Lessons from**

**Hostage Negotiation** at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7 pm. \$35. 561-571-5270; festivalboca.org  
**Friday - 3/6 - Seminar: Successful Aging: The "Gold Standard" for Your Golden Years w/Laurence Miller** at FAU Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 10-11:30 am. \$60/annual membership; \$40/member; \$50/non-member. 561-297-3185; olli.fau.edu  
**3/6 - Guided Activity: Painting Your Way w/James Warwick** at FAU Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Every F through 4/24. 12:30-2:30 pm. \$60/annual membership; \$200.25/member; \$267/non-member. 561-297-3185; olli.fau.edu  
**3/6 - Changes in Latitudes - Jimmy Buffett Tribute** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Two shows: 4 pm & 8 pm. Tickets start at \$59. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com  
**3/6 - 6th Annual Multicultural Youth Arts Festival** at Amphitheatre at Old School Square, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 4-9 pm. Free. 561-654-2220; delrayoldschoolsquare.com/events  
**3/6 - A Rhapsodic Evening with Conrad Tao** at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. Tickets

\$35-\$150. 561-571-5270; festivalboca.org  
**3/6 - Ariel Elias at The Studio at Mizner Park**, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. Tickets start at \$31.70. 561-203-3742; thestudiotamiznerpark.com  
**3/6 - The Art of Laughter with Headliner Monique Marvez featuring Naomi Calloway** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$48. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org  
**Saturday - 3/7 - 7th Annual Community Spirit Race** at FAU Flagler Credit Union Stadium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Featuring 5K Run, 1 Mile Run/Walk and Kid's Fun Run. Registration: 6:30 am; start time: 8 am. Tickets start at \$30. spiritrace.org  
**3/7 - Conservancy Garden Tours at Delray Beach Historical Society**, 3 NE 1st St. Call for information: 561-274-9578; delraybeachhistory.org  
**3/7 - Historic Walking Tour: Atlantic A1A & The Beach** presented by Delray Beach Historical Society, at the Beach Pavilion on A1A. 10 am-noon. \$30/person; \$20/members. Registration: 561-274-9578; delraybeachhistory.org  
**3/7 - 4th Annual Muscle on The Beach Car Show** at Old School Square, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. Benefits

## The COASTAL STAR

Local libraries offer hundreds of adult classes each month. To discover what you can learn at your library, please visit:

**Boca Raton Library**, 400 NW 2nd Ave. 561-393-7906; bocalibrary.org

**Boynton Beach Library**, 100 E Ocean Ave. 561-742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

**Delray Beach Library**, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 561-266-0194; delraylibrary.org

For children and teen classes, please see our **Tots & Teens** calendar.

"Libraries are the free universities of the people." — Andrew Carnegie

3742; thestudioatmiznerpark.com

**3/7 - The Reverend Peyton's Big Damn Band** at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. \$55.50-\$60.50. 561-450-6357; artsgarage.org

**3/7-8 - Blockbuster Ballroom** at The Wick Theatre & Costume Museum, 7901 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Presented by Fred Astaire Dance Studios Delray Beach. Sat: 7:30 pm; Sun 2 pm. Tickets start at \$65. Reservations: 561-995-2333; thewick.org

**3/7-8 - Cash Unchained - The Ultimate Johnny Cash Tribute** at The Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. Sat: 7:30 pm; Sun: 2 pm. Tickets start at \$69. 561-272-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

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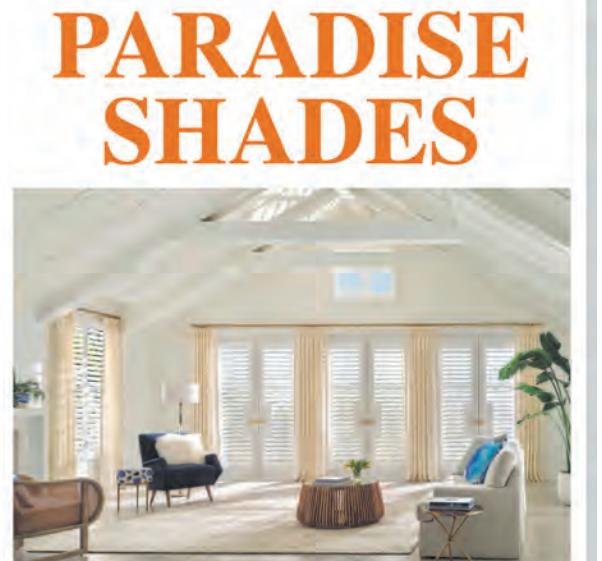
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## House of the Month



LEFT: Perched on a high natural dune, the residence offers an ideal blend of privacy and sweeping vistas from primary living spaces.

RIGHT: The completely renovated oceanside heated pool is surrounded by a covered loggia and adjoins a private path directly to the ocean.



The home has multiple generous-sized living areas for gatherings, entertaining or everyday life, part of its open-concept design.

# Unobstructed ocean frontage in Ocean Ridge



The ground level can be securely locked off, creating a self-contained, private suite/apartment for guests or residents.

Each month, The Coastal Star features a home for sale in our area. The House of the Month is presented as a service to our advertisers and provides readers with a peek inside one of our homes.

Meticulously renovated on a private 100-foot stretch of ocean frontage, this home has 9,500 +/- total square feet and sits on Old Ocean Boulevard in Ocean Ridge. Perfectly positioned between State Road A1A and the ocean, the home is versatile with six bedrooms, six full baths and one powder room. The ground floor includes an entertainment and media area, designer kitchen and dining space, private en suite bedroom, gym with storage for boards and bikes, and a four-person sauna and massage room. The level can be locked off to create a luxury guest house within your own home.

Upstairs the main level opens to spectacular ocean vistas with multiple living areas, en suite bedrooms, primary suite and a private office oasis.

Outside are a circular paver driveway with an epoxy-floored two-car garage and ample guest parking, entirely new deck tiling and railing by the pool, along with abundantly landscaped grounds that provide beauty as well as privacy.

Offered at \$12,995,000.

Contact Nicholas Malinosky, 561-306-4597, [nicholas.malinosky@elliman.com](mailto:nicholas.malinosky@elliman.com), or Michael O'Connor, 561-414-1249, [michael.oconnor@elliman.com](mailto:michael.oconnor@elliman.com). Douglas Elliman, 900 E. Atlantic Avenue, #1, Delray Beach

# Luxury Lives BEHIND THE HEDGES

GULF STREAM | DELRAY BEACH | BOCA RATON | VILLAGE OF GOLF | OCEAN RIDGE | PALM BEACH



39 Country Road S | Village of Golf | \$8,250,000 | +/- 1.99 Acres | 5 BR, 4.5 BA | Web# RX-11055233



**Newly Priced**  
5 Par Club Circle | Village of Golf | \$6,950,000  
+/- .9 Acres | 5 BR, 5.5 BA | Web# RX-11135786



26 Country Road | Village of Golf | \$4,995,000  
+/- 1.82 Acres | 6 BR, 6.5 BA | Web# RX-11064070



**Newly Priced**  
5 Country Road E A | Village of Golf | \$3,500,000  
+/- .82 Acres | 3 BR, 3.5 BA | Web# RX-11133727



36 Country Road | Village of Golf | \$3,400,000  
+/- .88 Acres | 3 BR, 3 BA, 2 Half BA | Web# RX-11132424



1177 George Bush Blvd, 306 | Delray Beach  
\$2,750,000 | 3 BR, 3.5 BA | Web# RX-11006798



**Just Listed**  
20 Par Club Circle | Village of Golf | \$2,695,000  
+/- 1.28 Acre Lot, FAR allows for approx. 7,667SF  
Web# RX-11143079



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