



Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club chief of security Ray Lavin (left) and Lieutenant Mike McHale share a brief exchange while on patrol. **Photo by Tim Stepien**

Coasting Along

Concierge security at Royal Palm

By Tim Norris

Beyond energetic disputes between New Englander and chief of security Ray Lavin and New Yorker and lieutenant Mike McHale over the baseball fortunes of the Red Sox and Yankees, about the only fighting that the Royal Palm Yacht and Country Club security force sees might be a rare domestic dispute, a too-hearty party, rowdy teens, a disgruntled nanny, a missing garbage can or a fuss over where laborers park.

There is, Lavin and McHale say, no crime here.

Check the numbers. None.

And a big reason is who the security officers are, and the way they work, and how the neighborhood began, grew and operates.

They do have adventures, which they're happy to relate on this recent morning in the main guardhouse off Federal Highway. Security alarms go off two or three times a day, some by accident. Residents lock themselves out or leave a door open or need a jump for a dead battery.

See **ROYAL PALM** on page 4

Boca Raton



The Boca Raton High School Band performs holiday songs before the lighting of the Christmas tree Nov. 26 at Mizner Park. Members of the band stand as they are given a standing ovation by the crowd. **Photo by Tim Stepien**

Boca Raton

Bungalow may face bulldozer

By Mary Thurwachter

Quiet, for a moment, please. Listen carefully and you can hear an SOS coming from the Boca Raton Historical Society. The wrecking ball looms and it's threatening to take away a slice of the city's history.

In this case, it's the Luff House, a unique Boca Raton example of the Florida coral rock-bungalow

style. The two-story home at 390 Palmetto Park Road was built in the 1920s by pioneer residents Theodore and Harriet Luff.

The current owners want to sell the property, says Mary Csar, the Boca Raton Historical Society's executive director. They have offered the house to the Historical Society, but the organization lacks the money to buy it, move it and

See **BUNGALOW** on page 7



The Luff House, in a 1920s photograph, was built in a Florida interpretation of the bungalow style. **Photo courtesy of the Boca Raton Historical Society**

Coastal Stars



Bernard and Sandra Meyer are on the board of the Jewish film festival. **Photo by Tim Stepien**

Couple helps make world 'a better place'

By Scott Simmons

Walk away from a meeting with Sandra and Bernard Meyer, and you remember the laughter.

But behind the laughter is a formidable advocacy for the arts.

"If I could clone them, and if other arts organizations could clone them, the world would be a much better place," says Karen Davis, artistic director of the Palm Beach Jewish Film Festival, which runs through Dec. 12.

The Meyers' passion comes from a real love of the arts, and film.

"We have first-run films that we otherwise might not see in our area," says Sandra Meyer from the couple's expansive Highland Beach penthouse.

But Davis says the Meyers are a part of a larger picture.

"Sandy and Bernie are responsible for the expansion of the festival into South County," she says of the Meyers' dozen years or so of involvement in the film festival.

"They're knowledgeable about

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Elves in training

After graduation, students of this 'school' spread holiday cheer.

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House of the Month

Condo offers space for entertaining and an ocean view.

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Holiday Gift guide

Treasures big and small offer sparkle for the holidays.

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Plus: Wrap up a few cookies for hostesses. Page 14



New golf course comes to fore

A look at west Boca's Osprey Point. Page 6

Meet Your Neighbor

Golfer Mary Mills continues to inspire. Page 15

The Coastal Star

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Editorial

Friendship, hope and a flash of sparkle

I love the winter holidays. There's a certain sparkle in the air — regardless of whether you are celebrating Christmas, Hanukkah, the winter solstice or Kwanzaa.

And that sparkle symbolizes hope. It symbolizes faith. And it symbolizes family and friendship.

It's a time for giving, and a time to assess all the good things in our lives. It's also a time for forgiving and moving on, because that is the greatest gift you can give yourself.

And in that spirit of giving, I invite you to read our gift guide on Pages 12 and 13.

Be inspired. Be extravagant, if the spirit moves you.

I followed that thread of friendship as I visited merchants to discover items that you might like to give and receive.

Assembling a guide like this offers me a rare opportunity to meet you, our readers, and the merchants who provide you with a matchless array of goods

and services. I was in awe of the sheer numbers of people who are in their shops and galleries waiting to meet you. Internationally known artists like Yaacov Heller, who created the spectacular nautical chess set we featured. Store managers like Sophie Freeman, who can help you create gift packages large or small at The Spice and Tea Exchange.

And the dedicated volunteers at the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, who are ready to tantalize adults and children alike with books, toys, jewelry and decorator items.

At the end of the day, and at the end of the holiday, it's that dedication that matters most.

And that dedication is something you can find only by shopping locally.

Happy Holidays!

— Scott Simmons, managing editor



Editor's note: With this edition, residents of Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club will receive papers via the mail.

LETTERS: *The Coastal Star* welcomes letters-to-the-editor about issues of interest in the community. These are subject to editing and must include your name, address and phone number. Preferred length is 200 words or less. Mail to 5011 N. Ocean Blvd. #2, Ocean Ridge, FL 33435 or email editor@thecoastalstar.com.

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Sandra and Bernard Meyer clown around with glass sculptures of food and drinks at the Highland Beach home. The couple collects glass sculpture and they are on the executive board of the Palm Beach Jewish Film Festival, which continues through Dec. 12. Photo by Tim Stepien

COASTAL STARS:
Continued from page 1

films," Davis says. "It's relatively easy to write a check. "But it's not so easy to be emotionally supportive of something like the film festival."

The Meyers, who are on the film festival's executive board, were born in Chicago.

Sandra Meyer was a teacher and Bernard Meyer, who is CEO of Duray Fluorescent Manufacturing Co., jokes that he has had "one job for 50 years." Lighting manufactured by his company has been used in such films as *Pulp Fiction* and *Natural Born Killers*. He is very proud that his son is part of the third generation in the company, with 25 years of involvement.

"Only 12 percent of family-owned companies last to a third generation," Bernard Meyer says with a laugh. "That's how I can enjoy the good life in Florida."

Typically, says Davis, a wife is interested in the arts and her husband follows along. But with the Meyers, the passion is equal.

"What surprises so many people is that Bernie and I are a team when it comes to supporting the arts," writes Sandra Meyer. "It is not just the woman who is 'into' it."

And it's not just the parents, either. The Meyers' son and daughter are interested in the arts — their son is a docent for architectural tours of Chicago.

And the three grandchildren?

"Our granddaughter pretends to serve pop-art drinks," says Sandra Meyer of the glass sculptures that adorn the bar of their Highland Beach home. "But all her friends are poor tippers," Bernard Meyer adds.

The Meyers still have an apartment in the Windy City. And like their home in Highland Beach, it is packed with art, specifically glass sculptures.

Bernard Meyer helps lead private tours of the apartment

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through the International Expositions of Sculpture Objects & Functional Art, or SOFA. And the couple will lend works to the Krannert Art Museum at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for an exhibition in 2012 to mark the 50th anniversary of glass art.

It's the newness of glass art that makes it all the more interesting for the Meyers.

"What could be more 21st century?" asks Sandra Meyer.

"You form all these relationships because all the glass artists are still alive," says Bernard Meyer. "You form friendships with them."

The Meyers have been collecting for 10 years now, and Bernard Meyer concedes, "it has become an addiction."

When they designed their Highland Beach home, the Meyers made sure to include niches and coves into which they could place art — even the bathrooms contain glass sculptures. And they like the way the works evolve as the sunlight changes throughout the day.

That's one of the best parts of living in South Florida, "where it's 85 degrees in January," Bernard Meyer says, and stress-free.

For Sandra Meyer, "the architecture in Florida is fascinating. I go on as many tours as I can. When you're in Boca, you know you're in Boca. It's the same with Palm Beach — two distinct flavors." She says she also loves Miami Beach and its Art Deco architecture.

Sandra Meyer says the couple loves South Florida, but "we would like to see more culture down here."

It's not quite the same as the Windy City.

"There are 20 theaters within 5 miles of our apartment in Chicago," Bernard Meyer says. "You might see John Malkovich

standing outside smoking a cigarette."

While you may not see Malkovich enjoying a smoke outside a theater, there are more opportunities to see art down here, courtesy of the Meyers. They have been involved with the Boca Raton Museum of Art, and have led private tours of their collection.

And there is the Palm Beach Jewish Film Festival.

This year, the Meyers are sponsoring *Saviors in the Night*, based on the memoir of a German Holocaust survivor (it screens at 7:20 p.m. Dec. 11 at the Regal Delray 18). And you can bet the Meyers probably will be there.

"The Meyers are at almost every one of the Delray Beach films, says festival artistic director Davis. "They are passionate about films."

Sandra Meyer is thrilled that the festival is gaining international acclaim.

"Our festival is so well-known that important film distributors seek us out, such as Disney/Miramax with *The Debt*, starring Helen Mirren, to assist them in launching new films," she writes.

The film festival's Davis is grateful for that enthusiasm.

"They have strong ideas, but don't second-guess. They are the perfect sponsors," she says. "They give money, talk up the film festival, are so supportive and don't micromanage and are so incredibly generous."

And the laughter doesn't hurt, either.

"They're just always so upbeat. And positive. And they're so warm," Davis says. "Sandy and Bernie are the best of that." ★

The Palm Beach Jewish Film Festival runs through Dec. 12. In southern Palm Beach County, screenings are at the Regal Delray 18, 1660 S. Federal Highway, Delray Beach, and at the Movies of Delray, 7421 W. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach. Tickets are \$10 (evenings) and \$8 (matinees). For schedules, log on to www.pbjff.org.

Along the Coast

Board gathers opposition to WXEL sale

By Angie Francalancia

The Community Advisory Board of WXEL has a seat on the bus for anyone willing to help show the state Board of Education that there's local opposition to the public radio station's sale to Classical South Florida.

The Board of Education is set to consider the sale at its Dec. 17 meeting at Miami Dade College's Wolfson Campus, 300 NE Second Ave. It's a required step before the sale can be closed.

A small group of loyalists gathered last month in the parking lot of WXEL studios and held a subdued rally to get the word out to the community about the impending sale of the station to Classical South Florida.

"Our purpose today is to see who's interested in taking a bus to go attend the meeting and let them know what the community wants," Citizens Advisory Board President Pablo Del Real told the group of about 20 people.

Del Real said he's asked for 20 minutes on the Board of Education's agenda, but was given no assurance he'd be allowed to speak. Nor was there a definite time for the issue to be addressed on what is expected to be a daylong agenda, Del Real said.

Originally desiring a meeting to determine the community's interest, the morning event became an outside rally when the CAB was denied meeting space inside WXEL studios, where it always has met for its regular board meetings, Del Real said. The idea of a rally came from station listener Mike Paschkes.

"I thought wouldn't it be something if a bunch of us could descend upon the Board of Education and tell them how we feel," Paschkes said. "I was hoping it would draw a number of people. Most people here already are involved."

It drew support for the bus, though.

"I'll pay for the bus," said Joe Ferrer, president of Sunset Entertainment Group Inc., which provides classical programming for several area venues, including Florida Atlantic University and Palm Beach State College's Eissey Theatre. "We have classical art programs dying in this county because we can't get people to pay attention. We've got to stop that."

"WXEL is a community asset. We need to be there if for no other reason than to show our concern," Ferrer said.

Barry University, the Coral Gables-based Catholic school that owns WXEL, signed an agreement to sell WXEL to Classical South Florida in April — without getting input from the community, Del Real has said.

The CAB held two public forums over the summer, then delivered the results of those forums to the WXEL board at its meeting in September.

The Community Advisory Board questions the legality of Barry to profit from the sale of the station, and objects to a sale that would split WXEL-FM 90.7 from WXEL Television.

The CAB also says selling to Classical South Florida, which already operates a classical music station out of Miami, would eliminate local programming from WXEL. ★

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ROYAL PALM:

Continued from page 1

“One time, in a backyard, we found a python,” McHale says. “They turned it over to a zoo, and the next day it was on the news. They had three girls standing next to each other, holding the snake, and it was hanging down. It was like 12, 13 feet. Apparently somebody had it as a pet and released it.”

Another recent call took them to a backyard, looking for a possum in the pool, figuring it was dead.

The possum was swimming. The resident fished it out, and it dived back in. “It was

doing laps,” McHale says. He extended a stick, the possum grabbed it, and the animal found new life on the golf course.

Now, Lavin says, they have pictures of everybody’s pets, online. If anyone finds a stray or a wild visitor, they can identify and return or remove it, some more carefully than others. They almost never, the guards say, find stray or wild people.

Gated, but not

By most gauges, Royal Palm is a gated community, 670 homes at latest count, from single-story Bermuda-

style cottages to mansion compounds worthy of the Arabian Nights. Seeing a yacht club bristling with stupendous boats and a signature Jack Nicklaus golf course winding through, a visitor might expect a typical gated response: wary of the uninvited, hungry for privacy and amenities, prey to envy and stereotype, expecting security.

That “gated” description, though, doesn’t quite fit. There are, for starters, no gates. Although it’s rightfully called Boca Raton’s first community with guarded entry, all of Royal Palm’s streets still belong to the city, and some of the public



Sgt. Scott Currie waves to a car entering the Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club in Boca Raton. Currie is a retired master sergeant who served in the Air Force 21 years.

come in to walk, run or roller-skate. Can’t criminals find their way in, too?

No. For finishers, there are the 20 men and women of the Royal Palm Improvement Association’s own security force.

Security has long been a growth industry, and 9/11 put it on steroids. In a lean time, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment in the security guard and patrol services industry jumped from about 510,000 to nearly 580,000 — a trend that’s expected to grow.

The officers at Royal Palm, most veterans of big-city police forces or big-time private operations, were security before security was cool. The lasting difference is how they go about it.

The nerve center

At the western entrance just off Federal Highway, inside the guardhouse this recent morning, Boca Raton police and fire scanners crackle with activity.

This is a nerve center, and the brain stem is a console where officer Mike Crutcher, badge 402, architect and keeper of the database, is just sitting down to print out a view of the resident information screen and a field incident report.

The database instantly gives them residents’ telephone numbers, security contacts, lawn and pool service, caretaker, pest control, emergency contacts and reports

on any and every incident and call to a house. “I’m computer savvy,” the chief says, “to where I can call Mike and say, ‘402, come up here, I need you.’”

Just now, a real-life parade presses past the guardhouse: the sedans and SUVs of residents, and the vans and trucks and trailers of services coming and going.

Says Sgt. Joe D’Onofrio: “We have a fuel company come in with three trucks, like, 30,000 gallons, just to fill up one of the yachts.”

Smile, you’re on camera

At that moment, Ralph Prescutti, the sergeant major, stands in the greeter’s spot at the open door on the arrival side, smiling, waving, bending to remark or answer.

“We’re saying hello, but we’re also getting their picture, and we keep it,” Prescutti says.

A picture of this place, and their service in it, is harder to snap. In moments, Lavin and McHale step into one of their white security vehicles and swing onto Royal Palm Way for a quick tour.

Arthur Vining Davis bought Addison Mizner’s celebrated Boca Raton Resort & Club and adjacent land and polo grounds, in 1958; Davis’ company, Arvida, launched a new high-end development. Royal Palm Yacht and Country Club grew from one-story cottages into multistory mansions, eventually overseen by the RPIA, which started its security force in 1984.

The settlement extends from gently curved roads on the mainland, fronting on the Intracoastal, to what residents call “the island,” actually three islands separated by canals, so that every house there gets a waterfront.

Officers know many of the contractors and most of the residents, and they know whom to call when they don’t: Officer Lafayette Pettiford.

“She just has that gift where she knows the families and the lawn crews and the pool guys,” McHale says. “We go to her, she knows people, they know her.”

Most also know Tommy Reichling. “We call him Tommy Panic,” McHale says. “He comes on the phone, you can hear him across the room. Most of our people have affectionate monikers. I’m L.T. or Mac. We have Joey Ice Cream (D’Onofrio), not to be mixed up with Joey Blue Eyes (Joe Gerrish).”

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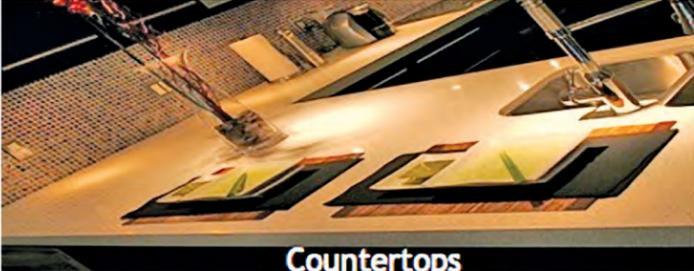
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ROYAL PALM:

Continued from page 4

Give a shout out, they say, to the women in the office, Betty Cash and Cathie Jaquith, who handle much of the paperwork and keep in frequent touch.

Give kudos to the board of governors and to its security liaison, Lynne Chandler Novick, who give them everything they need. "They're all part of security," McHale says.

Give another shout to officer Evens Civil, who once rescued a disoriented woman found wandering on a nearby road when he used his Haitian background to speak with her in Creole.

Give thanks to all of the officers on duty, day and night, because they'll give it back. Politely.

Trained and retrained in firearms, in administering oxygen, in CPR, as flaggers, they serve and protect, with an extra helping of serve. As Lavin says, "We leave the real police work to the real cops." Still, they carry handcuffs and pepper spray, and they are skilled with a Glock 9 mm handgun, tucked into a modest pouch at one hip. They have never used one in the line of duty.

"We hope we never will," Lavin says.

They are far more likely to manage parking for a big holiday party or deliver a paper to a resident in a wheelchair or check homes for those out of town.

At least one security car is constantly rolling, scanning for trouble or need, running through the house-check list. Officers are mobile (on foot, mountain bikes, vehicles) and, mostly, agile; just never hostile.

Police, without authority

"Unlike the police, we don't have authority," McHale says. "We can ask somebody how we can help them. We have to know when to back off. We also have a very good relationship with the Boca Police Department, and with the firefighters. Overall, we don't have cowboys on this force. We were told that the turnover in security is 40 percent a year. We went 14 months without anybody leaving, and we're proud of that."

Most important, Lavin says, they are known. "Most police departments have to be reactive; we are pro-active," he says, and McHale adds, "We develop relationships with the residents here."

They can point to dozens of letters and e-mails, thanking them for their service.

They live, themselves, elsewhere in the area. Royal Palm's home prices list mostly in the millions; three currently for sale, with a "reduced" tag, can be snapped up for \$7.8 million, \$6.5 million and \$11 million.

Nearly all of these people have their own security systems. Most could afford



Sgt. Scott Currie waves to a car entering the Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club in Boca Raton. When guards wave at motorists, a security camera snaps drivers' photos. **Photos by Tim Stepien**

their own security guards.

What the guards on actual duty have learned about the rich, though, is what they

already knew from their years of policing everyone else.

"They're just like you and me," says Lavin, once a county

deputy sheriff in Massachusetts and New York State. And McHale, a former New York City transit officer, adds: "They

just have more money." Then he continues. "They're used to getting their own way at times, and they can be difficult, but when I first started here, I was surprised at how nice and how generous they are with us."

One new resident wanted to put up his own guardhouse. "Somebody here told him, 'You don't need to do that,'" Lavin says. Another resident suggested that the guards carry assault weapons.

We live, the men acknowledge, in a more nervous time. But both residents relented, reassured that they were as safe as anyone has a right to be. The best communication, the officers say, is still face-to-face.

Putting up gates, as board members have long said, only slows down traffic.

Residents learn that, at least in this corner of paradise, the Royal Palm's low-key, personal, concierge security works. ★

In Coasting Along, our writers occasionally stop to reflect on life along the shore.

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Along the Coast

New golf course comes to the fore in South County

By Steve Pike

Osprey Point Golf Course, Palm Beach County's newest public golf course, has been an early hit with players looking for another tee time option.

Osprey Point General Manager Steve Hill said the facility — on Glades Road 2.5 miles west of U.S. 441 in suburban Boca Raton — has been operating at near-full capacity since it opened in early November.

"I wish we had more times available," Hill said.

That early success could be a harbinger of a good winter for the more than 110 public and private golf courses in Palm Beach County.

Public courses near or in the coastal communities include the Delray Beach Golf Club, designed by the legendary Donald Ross, Red Reef executive course in coastal Boca Raton, Park Ridge Golf

Course in Lantana, Lake Worth Municipal Golf Course and the Palm Beach Par 3 in Palm Beach, which reopened last year after an impressive renovation by former Masters and U.S. Open Champion Raymond Floyd.

Like Osprey Point, the Palm Beach Par 3 uses environmentally friendly Seashore Paspalum grass, which is resistant to saltwater, and keeps its deep green color even in the winter.

"It's a beautiful course and it's in beautiful shape," said course manager Alan Brown. "I think our play is up about 45 percent since May and we've got a lot of specials and teaching programs planned for the winter."

Through this past September, rounds played in the county were down 7.6 percent year-to-date, according to Golf Datatech, the Kissimmee-based company

that tracks rounds played nationally.

Rounds played in Palm Beach County this past September were up 2.3 percent compared to September 2009, so that could bode well for winter play across the area.

Osprey Point is one of only a handful of golf courses that have opened across the nation this year.

"We've experienced some economic issues that have affected disposable income," said Paul Connell, golf operations supervisor for the Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation Department, which operates four other golf facilities. "A lot of our facilities are built with the future growth of the county in mind."

That includes the growth of the game of golf, which has slowed the past decade. In that regard Osprey Point, like the department's 27-hole Okechee Park facility in

West Palm Beach, has a large practice area, as well as a four-hole and six-hole "loop," so time-pressed golfers have an alternative to playing nine or 18 holes.

"I live in East Boca but I think it's nice to have a course on this side of the county," said Raymond Miller, who had just finished a round with his 12-year-old son. "It's a good course — might bring me out a couple more times. And it's good to see the county do something with the land instead of let it just rot away."

Osprey Point has 18 of its 27 holes — the Hawk and Raven — open for play. The other nine-hole layout — the Falcon — is expected to come online within the next few weeks. Any 18-hole combination of the nine-hole layouts, each designed by Roy Case, plays approximately 6,800 yards and to a par of 72.

The centerpiece of South

County Regional Park, Osprey Point Golf Course is another example of the Parks and Recreation Department's ability to turn disturbed land into a natural and recreational space.

Before development the land was used for farming and shellrock mining. The area had been overgrown with Brazilian pepper and other invasive exotics.

The department worked with environmental groups and officials with the Loxahatchee Wildlife Refuge to reduce the need for irrigation.

The department also applied to Audubon International to certify the course as an Audubon International Classic Signature Golf Course.

"I don't think you'll find many courses in the country that have done as much for the good of the environment than what's here at Osprey Point," Hill said.



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9-hole family course

Fees: \$14 walk, \$21 ride

Comments: One of the best municipal courses in the country with a solid layout and new greens that are full grown in after one season.

Lake Worth Municipal Golf Course

Address: 1 Seventh Ave. N., Lake Worth

Phone: 582-9713

Layout: 18 holes

Length: 6,100 yards; par 70

Greens fees: \$39. After noon, \$34; after 2 p.m., \$29.

Comments: Built in 1924, the course has new golf carts and new sand in the bunkers for this season. Renovation of nine greens is scheduled to begin in May.

Delray Beach Golf Club

Address: 2200 Highland Ave., Delray Beach

Phone: 243-7380

Layout: 18-hole championship course

Length: 6,884; par 72

Greens fees: (Palm Beach County residents) Until 1 p.m., \$43 weekday, \$46 weekend; 1-2:30 p.m. \$33 weekday, \$36 weekend; after 2:30 p.m. \$23 weekday, \$26 weekend. Fees lower for Delray Beach residents.

Comments: A Donald Ross design (1923) that still maintains some of the look and feel of classic Rossian green complexes.

Palm Beach Par 3

Address: 2345 S. Ocean Blvd., Palm Beach 33480

Phone: 547-0598

Layout: 18-hole par 3

Length: 2,572 yards; par 27

Greens fees: Morning, \$38.

After noon, \$35. After 3:30 p.m., \$24. Cart fees: pull carts \$5, \$3 in the afternoon. Riding carts: \$14, \$9 in afternoon.

Comments: On the Intracoastal and Atlantic

Ocean, Raymond Floyd did a great job on what is a Par 3 masterpiece.

Osprey Point Golf Course

Address: 12551 Glades Road, Boca Raton

Phone: 482-2868

Layout: Three nine-hole layouts

Length: 6,800 yards; par 72

Greens fees: (18 holes)

Weekend, \$47 morning, \$41 after 12:30 p.m.; weekday, \$45 morning, \$39 after 12:30 p.m.; nine-hole rates: \$14, walk or ride, before 8 a.m. Mornings, \$29, afternoon, \$20.

Comments: Newest kid on the block with a natural look and feel that should only get better as it matures.

Red Reef Executive Golf Course

Address: 1221 N. Ocean Blvd., Boca Raton

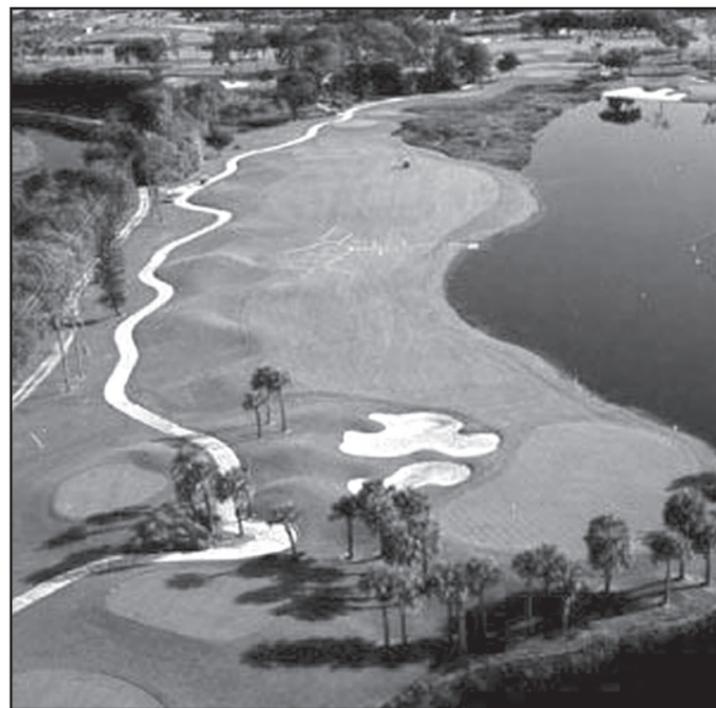
Phone: 391-5014

Layout: 18-hole par 3

Length: 1,357; par 32

Greens fees: (Through Dec. 10) nine holes: walk, \$10.50, ride, \$18. 18 holes: \$18 walk, \$22 ride.

Comments: Tougher than it



The Boca Raton Municipal Golf Course recently underwent its first renovation in 16 years. Photo courtesy of the City of Boca Raton

looks, especially on the back side.

Boca Raton Municipal Golf Course

Address: 8111 Golf Course Road, Boca Raton

Phone: 483-5226

Layout: 18-hole championship course, nine-hole executive

course

Length: 6,714 yards; par 72

Greens fees (Through Dec.

10): nine holes: walk, \$16.75, ride, \$25.25; 18 holes: walk \$25, ride \$35.50

Comments: First renovation in 16 years gives the course a much-needed makeover.

Highland Beach

Plan calls for town to establish taxing unit for beach cleanup

By Steve Plunkett

HIGHLAND BEACH — Ocean-front property owners would pay roughly three-fourths the cost of keeping beaches clean under a proposal being groomed by the town's Beaches and Shores Advisory Board.

The plan calls for Highland Beach to establish a municipal special taxing unit, or MSTU, to clean the beaches three times a week, maintain the dunes, empty trash cans and remove waste. The taxing unit would need voter approval.

"All beach-goers will find their

beach experience greatly enhanced by the absence of ugly plastic debris and dangerous glass and medical waste," said Ronnie Svenstrup, chairwoman of the Beaches and Shores panel.

Svenstrup gave an overview of an assessment study by economist Hank Fishkind, an Orlando consultant, at the Town Commission's Nov. 30 workshop.

"It's important to note that everyone residing in Highland Beach has beach access," Svenstrup said.

Fishkind recommended setting up a "base rate" that all property owners would pay and an additional "category

rate" for beach-front properties. About half of the town's tax base is on parcels either on the ocean or with access to an ocean-front clubhouse or similar facility, Fishkind said.

The base rate would cover 50 percent of the cleanup costs, the category rate the remaining 50 percent.

If the town decided to spend \$220,000 a year for beach cleanup, the owner of a \$690,000 home on Bel Air Drive would pay \$37 extra while the owner of a unit at the ocean-front Townhouses of Highland Beach North would pay about \$108.

"It truly is a very fair way of doing this," Svenstrup said.

She said the Beaches and Shores committee will ask commissioners to put the proposal on a ballot "when we believe the time for this vote is appropriate," no sooner than November 2011.

"We're mindful of the recent election and the message it sent," Svenstrup said, alluding to the defeated referendum on buying an \$810,000 fire truck.

"I think the whole community was shocked that it [the fire truck] went down," she said after the meeting.



Along the Coast

Municipal officials react to countywide ethics vote

By Angie Francalancia

There's no question what voters in the coastal towns thought about the new ethics ordinance that includes oversight by Palm Beach County's inspector general. They overwhelmingly voted "Yes."

But opinions among the town leaders run a full range from support to skepticism to outright opposition.

Falling in with all the municipalities in Palm Beach County, more than 50 percent of voters in every coastal town voted in favor of extending Palm Beach County's ethics ordinance and oversight by the Inspector General into the municipalities.

The vote means every elected city, town and village official in Palm Beach County will be governed by the new ordinance. It also means it can't be undone without another vote of the people.

Even in Highland Beach, which already has an ordinance

that officials there believe is strong, and in Gulf Stream, where elected officials warned residents of the cost, voters approved. Those towns saw some of the lowest approval rates, though, with Highland Beach's electors passing it by 60 percent and Gulf Stream's approving by 61 percent.

On the high end, citizens in Delray Beach, Lantana and South Palm Beach all approved the measure by votes of 73 percent or more.

Lantana's Town Council had adopted the county's ordinance prior to the vote, and elected officials, staff and volunteers had gone through three workshops in October.

"We didn't need the electorate to tell us to do the right thing," Lantana Town Manager Michael Bornstein said. "The bottom line is our county and some of the cities have had an unfortunate set of events that occurred with some individuals. With our reputation, we needed to act."

In South Palm Beach, where

voters passed the ordinance by an almost identical margin, there seems to be great belief in the need for ethics.

There are six ethics complaints now waiting to be heard before the state Commission on Ethics, most seemingly linked to the town's rejection of a proposal to increase the land use for the Palm Beach Oceanfront Inn to allow for a 10-story hotel instead of the current two-story building.

The mayor wanted an investigation into three members of the planning advisory board who recommended denying the change. They had something to lose, he said — their oceanfront views. Complaints also have been filed against two council members. And in October, the state ethics commission found probable cause that Mayor Martin Millar broke state law by trying to use his position to avoid arrest after being tossed out of Rachel's strip club in August 2009.

Although Millar didn't return calls for this story, he previously said he believed the complaint was retaliation for filing his complaint against the planning advisory board members.

Would anything have been different had the countywide ordinance been in effect already? That will depend in part on what the rules look like once a panel gets together to draft it.

But perhaps not.

Some towns, like Highland Beach, have their own ethics ordinances. Highland Beach Town Manager Dale Sugerman said he believes the vote simply gives another route to someone wanting to make a complaint.

His town's ethics ordinance provides what he believes would be a more expeditious route than using the county's ordinance, he said. "We've got to figure how the county's route even works. We don't know that yet."

According to Alan Johnson, the Ethics Commission

executive director, "When it takes effect in January, it provides for a drafting committee that has 90 days to put appropriate language into the codes to extend them to the municipalities. At that point, the board of county commissioners has to vote to make them effective."

Gulf Stream Commissioner Chris Wheeler has a different perspective on its effect.

"The difference it will make in Gulf Stream is it's just going to raise our cost," Wheeler said.

Municipalities will be required to pay a quarter percent of every contract to support the office of the inspector general.

"We're looking at putting our electrical system underground in Gulf Stream. That will be a multimillion-dollar job if the residents decide they want to do it," Wheeler said. "And if so, we're going to pay some panel in Palm Beach County a quarter percent to oversee their corrupt commission." ★

BUNGALOW:

Continued from page 1 restore it.

Although it would be eligible for grant funds like those provided in the past by the Florida Bureau of Historic Preservation, those are limited and cannot be counted on, Csar says.

The society is hoping a sensitive buyer will come forward — soon.

House with a history

In the 1920s, the Luffs had the house built in a Florida interpretation of the bungalow style, using coral rock on the porches and chimneys. This type of bungalow, once fairly common, is now exceedingly rare in the state and is unique in Boca Raton.

As Palmetto Park Road grew more commercial, the structure was occupied by a several businesses, including Front Porch Antiques, the Boca Watch Shoppe and Carousel Jewelers.

The bungalow was home to community agencies like the Junior Service League and was the first home of the Boca Raton Historical Society.

Arlene Owens, a Boca native born in 1945, says the Luffs were family friends and she recalls visiting the house as a child when they were quite old.

"Everybody knew everybody back then," Owens says. "There about 600 people living in the town then, although it swelled during the season with northerners would come to stay in the hotel."

Owens says the Luff's décor was decidedly manly, "more him than her." Owens particularly remembers a huge snooker table that took up a whole room.

Theodore Luff, she recalls,



The Luff House, which has held a variety of businesses, is now vacant. Photos courtesy of the Boca Raton Historical Society



Harriet and Theodore Luff clown around with a fish head, which probably was to be used as fertilizer.

was a bright, eccentric man who made his money investing and once gave her dad a stock tip.

"He was a sharp old fellow," she says. "You never knew what would come out of his mouth."

If the walls could talk

Pioneer Diane Benedetto, born Imogene Alice Gates in 1916, has memories that go back further. She remembers visiting the house when she was a child and being fascinated by the Luffs.

"They were health food people and naturists, and I always liked to ask to use the restroom to look at all the magazines with nude people in them," Benedetto says.

"They were spiritualists," she adds. "She (Mrs. Luff) would tell me about all the blue light around me and the spirits."

When their dog died they had him stuffed and put him on the mantle."

Benedetto, who is 94 and lives with her daughter in Miami, also recalls a secret hiding spot in the house.

"If you lifted up a section of the floor in a closet in the back bedroom, you could see a place where they kept valuables," she says.

Steps taken

In an effort to save the structures, the Historical Society met with public officials and private and civic organizations to discuss the relocation, restoration and possible future uses of the house and researched costs for its relocation.

"This is a community treasure; once gone, it will be gone forever," says Csar.

To contact the Boca Raton Historical Society regarding the Luff house, call 395-6766, Ext. 106.

Help would be greatly appreciated, Csar says, in preserving this rare historic link with Boca's past. ★

Mary Thurwachter is a West Palm Beach freelance writer and founder/producer of INNSideFlorida.com (www.insideflorida.com).

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Around Town

Hot chefs calendar cooks up money for charity

With visions of cheesecake dancing in her head, **Taylor Morgan**, host of *South Florida Dines* radio show and founder of SouthFloridaDines.com, envisioned a calendar, racier than a chocolate mousse — a ladle here, a toque there — of South Florida's hottest chefs.

Only one problem, chefs may subject chicken skin to air, but not their own.

So nudity was out, but Morgan got her calendar, with her chefs — properly dressed for the kitchen — and at \$19.95 at featured restaurants, bookstores and www.myhotchefs.com, it's selling like hotcakes.

Why? Because it includes recipes and cooking tips plus \$25-off certificates redeemable at each of the 12 chef's restaurants and 10 percent of the proceeds will go to the **Big Heart Brigade**, which



Taylor Morgan has created South Florida's Hottest Chefs Calendar to raise money for Big Heart Brigade.

prepares and delivers meals to needy South Floridians every Thanksgiving.

Not surprising, most of the hotties were local: **Allen Susser**, *Taste*, and **Bruce Feingold**, *Dada*, in Delray Beach; **Dudley Bell Rich III**, *Carmen's at the Top of the Bridge*, Boca Raton; **David Hagan**, *City Cellar*, West Palm Beach; **Jayne Franklin**,

Couco Pazzo, *Lake Worth*; **Zach Bell**, *Cafe Boulud*, West Palm Beach; **Charlie Soo**, *Talay Thai Cuisine*, Palm Beach Gardens.

Maybe **Roberto Hernandez** can make next year's calendar. He runs the kitchen at **Andrew's**, "A Modern American Bistro," which opened Nov. 22 at 99 SE Mizner Blvd. in Boca. Hernandez worked for the Blue Door and Barton G down south and the Mar-a-Lago Club in Palm Beach before signing on with Andrew's, which is named for Boca-based investor **Andrew Pietrak**. Action starts at 4 with happy hour and continues as late as customers want to stay and listen to the nightly live entertainment.

Speaking of downtown Boca, the place was crawl-

ing with mayors, present and past, Nov. 18. The occasion was the dedication of a plaque commemorating **Mizner Park's Plaza Real** as one of **Ten Great Public Spaces In America 2010** by the **American Planning Association**. Joining **Mayor Susan Welchel** was former mayor and now **County Commissioner Steve Abrams** and former **Mayor Bill Smith**.

With the bigwigs, plus a brass ensemble from the **Boca Raton Symphonia**, a special commemorative poster, plus a cake replica of the poster designed by **Boca Resort & Club** pastry artist **Steve Day**, you'd have thought it was Christmas in November.

For longtime Ratonians who can remember the decrepit **Boca Mall** on the same site, the realization that

Mizner Park will celebrate its 20th anniversary next year is mind boggling. Even in this tenuous economy, as tenants come and go, optimism prevails, thanks to such new arrivals as **Kreiss Fine Furnishings**, which opened on dedication day. Kreiss' customers include **Magic Johnson**, **Eva Longoria** and **Paul McCartney**.

"**Frank Sinatra** and **Bruce Springsteen** bought pretty much the same pieces," Chairman **Norman Kreiss** said. "One thought it was a classic, and the other thought it was hip."

To more than 800 children in the Palm Beach County School District, "home for the holidays" has little meaning. That's because they have no home. Mizner Park's other upscale home furnishings store, **Robb & Stucky**, is doing something to soften their hard times, partnering with the school system's Department of Safe Schools to collect toys for those children. Donors are asked to bring new, unwrapped toys to the store through Dec. 15. Call 561-347-1717.

Another longtime fixture in Boca was **Tom Wright**, whose literally had 'em waiting in line for barbecue and soul food for three decades. **Tom's Place** started in a flat-roofed blockhouse at the corner of Dixie and Glades and later moved to a building on North Federal. When Tom died nearly five years ago, the restaurant went with him, but the operation had always been a family affair, and family members never gave up hope.

Son Tom Jr. tried and failed to revive the concept in West Palm Beach, in a building formerly occupied by **Blue Front Bar-B-Q**. Now two other offspring hope they have the Wright stuff.

Kenny Wright and his sister, **Belinda Johnson**, are running Tom's Place right next to the FEC tracks on Boynton Beach Boulevard in Boynton Beach.

You won't find much signage; just follow the aroma to the "mobile unit" — a step van in the parking lot — or to the adjacent small dining room. They're open Tuesday through Saturday. (561-843-7487).

Deck 84 is finally a reality, and **Burt Rapoport's** new restaurant on the Intracoastal in Delray Beach appears to be a hit. After a soft opening in mid-November, the veteran restaurateur held two opening parties Nov. 18 and 19 and went public a day later.

"It took me three months to get the money and three months to finish it," said Rapoport, who also runs

See TOWN on page 9

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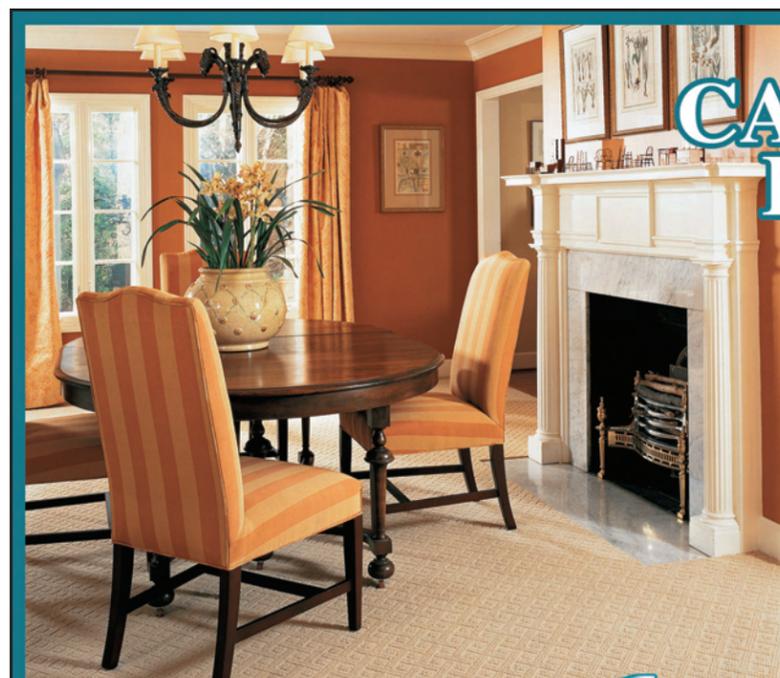


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TOWN:

Continued from page 8

Henry's in west Delray and **Bogart's** in Boca Raton and claims a share of **Max's Grille** in Boca. "I think it looks pretty good."

The biggest feature, of course, is the water access. With 150 feet of dock space, Deck 84 can handle anything from personal watercraft to yachts. Anglers can clean their catch at a dockside table and the staff will prepare it with sides, salad and drink for \$9.

The décor is simple. Seating is ample inside and out, with banquettes, lots of bar space and a soon-to-be-added ground-level patio out back.

That may not go over too well with some Deck 84 neighbors who have expressed concerns to the city about noise and about patrons and staff parking where they shouldn't, blocking driveways and making life unpleasant.

"It was the biggest opening ever for one of my restaurants, which is great," Rapoport said, "but all the guests plus all the employees really caused some problems. We want to be good neighbors. That's why we're not having any music at night."

To solve the parking problems, Rapoport has arranged for parking at a nearby private lot and has contacted the city about improving signage in the area around Deck 84, so guests know where they can and cannot park.

Yes, the season is upon us. Arts organizations are launching programs, greenmarkets



Robin and Burt Rapoport celebrate the opening of Deck 84 in Delray Beach. Photo provided

are hitting their stride, restaurants are opening and some folks are taking bus trips.

Celebrating its 25th season, **Miami City Ballet** made its first of several visits to the **Kravis Center** Nov. 19-21. Why a Miami troupe in the Palm Beaches? Because a disproportionate amount of its patronage is up here compared to Miami-Dade and Broward counties. To get a greater feel for the program, a busload of supporters and donors rolled to South Beach recently to tour the company's headquarters, take in a rehearsal and lunch with Founding Artistic Director and CEO **Edward Villella**.

Among the group, **Nancy Hart** of Palm Beach Gardens and her daughter, **Lisa Leder** of Boca Raton, especially wanted to get the inside scoop as they're chairing *The Gala, A Prelude to Romeo & Juliet* Feb. 18 at the Flagler Museum. (Tickets \$500, 561-674-9978.)

They saw firsthand that dancers who seem to float so effortlessly on stage pay a price for defying gravity. To

make the point, Villella held up three fingers to represent his hip replacements. "And I may have to have a knee done, too," he said.

The wear and tear is so great that the staff includes trainers and therapists who help dancers work out kinks and treat injuries in a special therapy room and gym.

The **Palm Beach International Film Festival** has announced dates for its 16th annual affair. The festival, rumored to be on hiatus for a year, will take place March 23-31, Executive Director **Randi Emerman** said. The festival also has moved its office from **Royal Palm Place** to the **Shoppes of Village Point**.

A new festival is on the way. **Palm Beach Jewish Film Festival** execs **Karen Davis** and **Barbara Magovsky**, Palm Beach Festival publicist **Terri Neil** and Provincetown (Mass.) Festival Executive Director **PJ Layng** of Lake Worth plan to stage the **Palm Beach Women's International Film Festival** April 7-10. Their goal: "A world class film festival that will inspire, promote and support women filmmakers." Stay tuned.

More good movie news. Boca has a new cinema complex. During the grand opening of the **Living Room Theaters** on the **FAU campus** Dec. 2-5, first-run movies can be seen for the a mere \$2. First-run films, classics, avant-garde, foreign, take your pick, while enjoying tapas or a panni with a latte or a tall, cold

beer in one of four high-tech, 48-seat screening rooms.

Curiouser and curiouser. **The Artists Guild**, an auxiliary of the **Boca Raton Museum of Art**, will hold its first show, *Rhapsody in Art*, in ... Delray Beach. The juried show at 110 E. Atlantic Ave. will feature more than 80 paintings, sculptures and photographs from Dec. 6 to Jan. 15.

What better way to wrap yourself in the spirit of the holiday season than to take in a holiday parade, and we have loads of them, from Boca to Lake Worth, with Boca's **40th Annual Holiday Street Parade** starting at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 8 at Southeast Eighth Street and heading up Federal Highway to Mizner Park.

More than 70 entries will join Delray's **Holiday Parade** on 6 p.m. Dec. 6. The route runs along Atlantic Avenue from Venetian Avenue to Northwest Fifth Avenue.

First up is **Boynton Beach** on Dec. 4. The parade begins at 4 p.m. at Southeast 12th Avenue and moves along Federal Highway to Ocean Avenue.

Tough times have again forced **Lantana** to scrap its **Category 5 Winterfest**.

Lake Worth's **45th Annual Holiday Parade** is the oldest in southern Palm Beach County. Festivities begin at noon Dec. 11 with a "Holiday Winter Workshop," featuring games, food vendors and bike raffle, followed by the parade at 6 and a tree lighting at 9.

And what's Christmas in Florida without a boat parade. Boca's 34th annual, on Dec. 18, launches at 6:30 on the Intracoastal at the Boca-Delray line and wraps at Hillsboro Boulevard in Deerfield Beach.



Thom Smith is a freelance writer. He can be reached at thom-smith@ymail.com.

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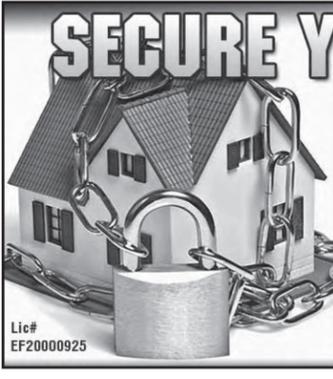
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Highland Beach

Town's police force grows by two

By Steve Plunkett

Highland Beach's police force has taken a cosmopolitan turn in recent months.

The latest hires are Jon

Alvarez, who was born in the Dominican Republic, and Tatsuaki Hayashi, a native of Japan.

"We're building a great, diverse little department and team, and I'm proud of them," Chief Craig Hartmann said as he introduced Alvarez to town commissioners in November.

Alvarez and Hayashi graduated from the police academy at Palm Beach State College in October 2009. Both worked as reserve officers in Tequesta. Alvarez also worked for the Riviera Beach force and did security at The Breakers resort in Palm Beach.

Police work "is a lifelong dream I've had since I was a child," said Alvarez, 28.

Alvarez had met Mayor Jim Newill and his wife the weekend before while on bike patrol.

"It just about shocked me to see one of our officers on a bicycle again," Newill said. "I was very happy to see that."

Hartmann introduced Hayashi, 21, to town commissioners shortly after he hired him this summer.

"We call him T," Hartmann said after calling him Tat-sua-SKI instead of Tat-sua-KI. "He won't be offended if you call him T."

"I'm just happy to be here, be able to serve the citizens of Highland Beach. And I will do my best to serve and protect," the rookie said.

Hayashi, who also speaks Japanese, has a third-degree black belt in tae kwon do and



Alvarez



Hayashi

is working on a black belt in karate.

He was born in a Tokyo suburb and came to the United States with his parents and two sisters in 1995. He attended Florida State University but left to go to the police academy, Hartmann said.

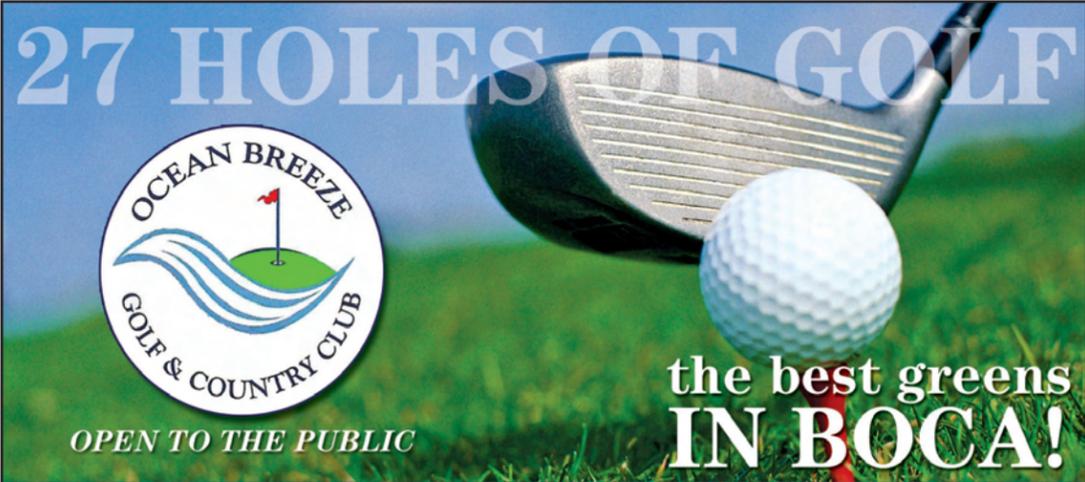
"He's excited. He goes out, he does a lot of hard work, he's constantly out there running radar and trying to keep the community safe," Hartmann said. "We're looking forward to a lot of good things."

Besides the chief, the Police Department has a lieutenant, four sergeants and eight officers. A 15th position is frozen because of budgetary restraints.

The officers and sergeants work 12-hour shifts. At any time, Highland Beach is patrolled by two officers and one sergeant, Town Manager Dale S. Sugerman said.

"So if somebody asks you, 'Why do we have so many police officers in this town?' the answer is, actually we're at minimum staffing, three per shift," Sugerman said. "There are not extra police officers roaming around doing nothing." ★

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Boca Raton

City, museum agree on lease

The Children's Museum has a second lease, after the City Council approved it paying \$1 a year for 60 years.

The second lease agreement, between the museum and the city, is for the existing Singing Pines and Arvida house buildings and expanded museum expansion studio.

—Margie Plunkett

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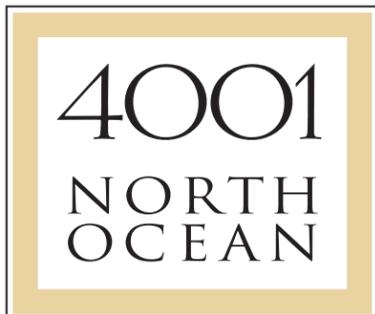
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Holiday Gift Guide

Have a sparkling holiday

Gift ideas both practical and fun

It's that giving time of year.

A time for parties and lights — and presents and hostess gifts.

Boca Raton is known across the country for its flash.

But those who live along the shore know the city for its sparkle.

So here's a look at what boutiques and galleries are offering this holiday season.

These gifts are sure to sparkle, intrigue and delight.

Holiday greetings to those whom these presents come!

— Scott Simmons

Photos by Tim Stepien



Nautical chess set

Where: Yaacov Heller's Gallery 22, Royal Palm Place, 282 Via Naranjas, No. 53, Boca Raton; 347-1677

How much: \$5,000

Yaacov Heller's talent has been recognized around the world — Presidents Ford, Reagan, Bush and Clinton have received his sculptures. So has Margaret Thatcher. He recently opened a sculpture garden outside his gallery depicting scenes from the Garden of Eden, with Adam, Eve and the serpent.

He also makes fun, practical items like chess sets. His "Israelites vs. the Philistines" set is on display at The Chess Hall of Fame. We're partial to his nautical set, featuring the gods of the sea squaring off atop shells. It's magnet, too — perfect for play on the yacht.

Not shopping for a chess fan?

Heller also has created solid silver rosebuds and orchids, cast in Miami, and topped with a large cubic zirconia diamond. The price: \$350.

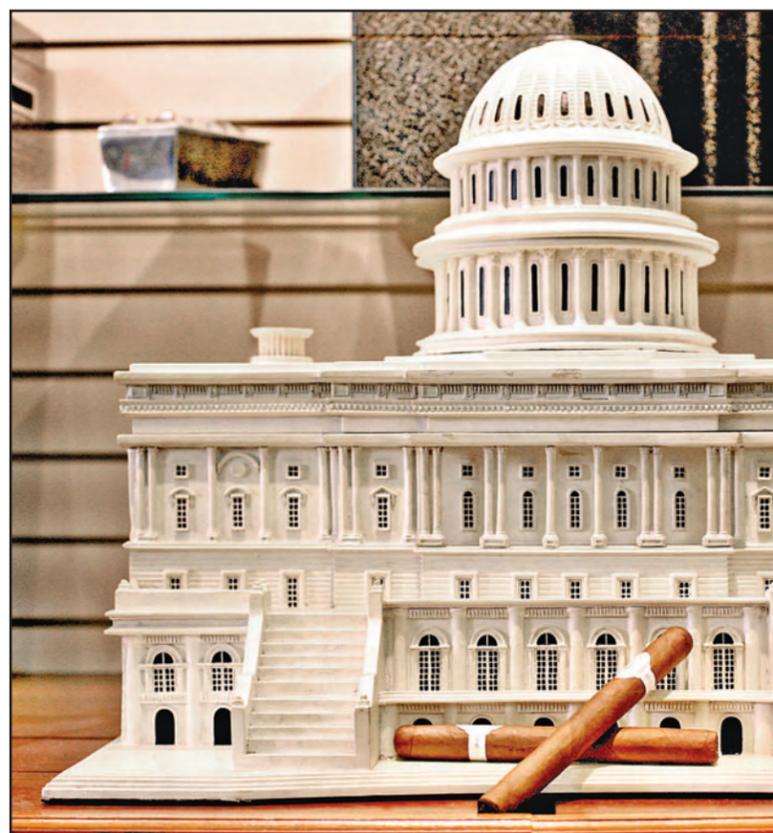
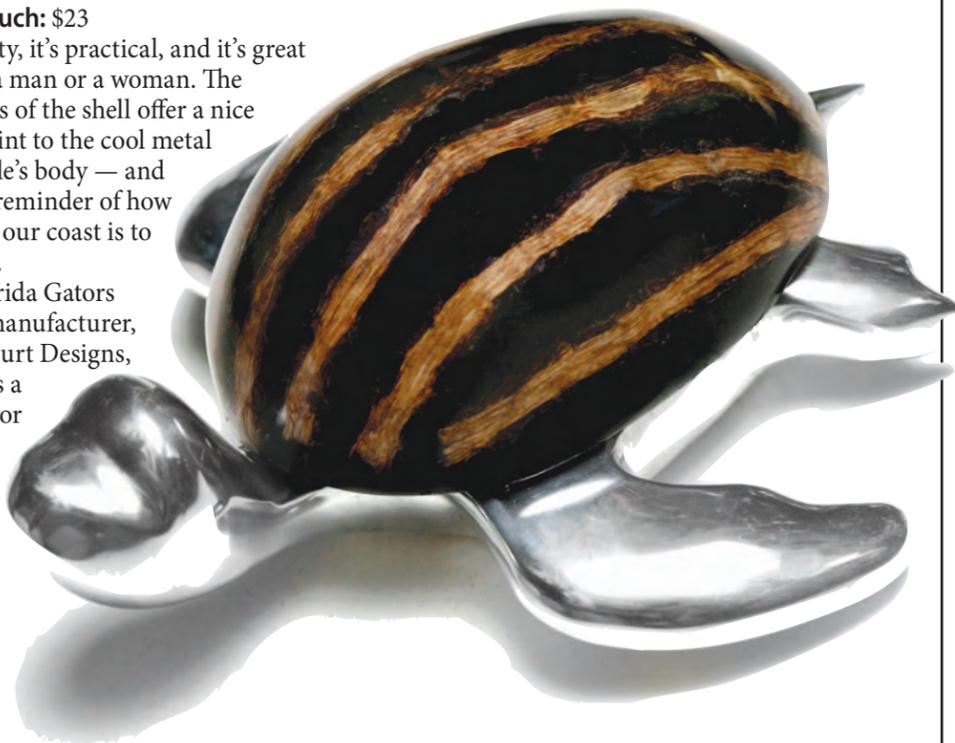
Sea Turtle paperweight

Where: Robb & Stucky, Mizner Park, 200 Plaza Real, Boca Raton; 347-1717

How much: \$23

It's pretty, it's practical, and it's great for either a man or a woman. The wood tones of the shell offer a nice counterpoint to the cool metal of the turtle's body — and serve as a reminder of how important our coast is to sea turtles.

For Florida Gators fans, the manufacturer, Arthur Court Designs, also makes a wee alligator from the same materials.



Humidor in the shape of the U.S. Capitol Building

Where: Bennington Tobacconist, Royal Palm Place, 501 SE Mizner Blvd., No. 80, Boca Raton; 391-1372

How much: \$1,500

We think this is a Capitol gift idea for anyone who savors a cigar.

The humidifier offers up to 300 cigars. It keeps them fresh and ready to smoke. Another bonus: It's a beautiful piece. Other humidifiers are a cigar when it comes



Tropical-themed canvas floor mats

Where: Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N. Ocean Blvd., Boca Raton; 338-1474

How much: \$60

Think of these mats as artwork for the floor. They're so colorful and pretty that you hate to walk on them, but you can. Based on the work of artist Gerri Hyman, the mats are made of a heavy canvas and have skid-proof backing.

We were at Gumbo Limbo with the group of turtles, so the turtle mat with the group of turtles. We also liked the mats with the group of turtles (\$30), perfect for the limbo.

The nature center is a great resource for books

Lazy Susan

Where: Bojanini, Mizner Park, 335 Plaza Real, Boca Raton; 368-1821

How much: \$111-\$225, depending on size

These tropically inspired housewares were designed and made in Barranquilla, Colombia.

They lend a Caribbean flair to an island-style home or an edgy graphic feel to a contemporary home. Made of wood covered in resin, the pieces were designed by Ana Cristina Bojanini Safdie, who also created a complete line of furnishings and housewares sold at her eponymous boutique. The coasters (\$47.50 for a set of six) also lend a nice punch of color, and would make a great stocking-stuffer.





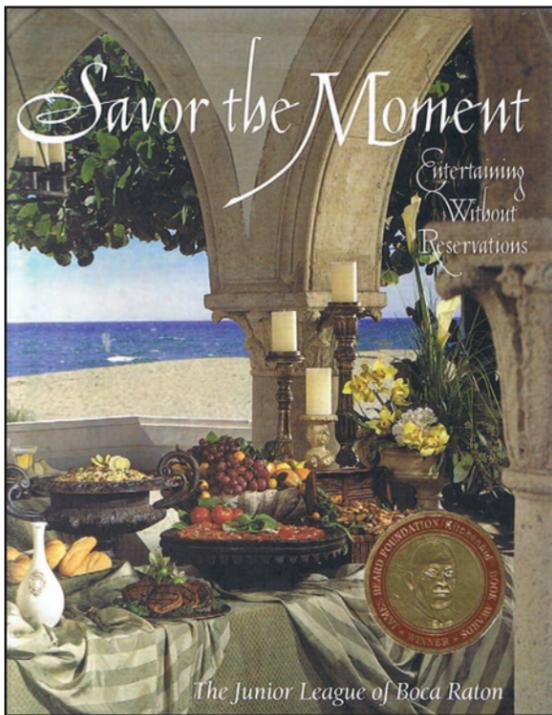
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per was equally colorful.
yman's island-themed tote
for that hike around Gumbo

er's gift shop also is a great
and toys.



Savor the Moment cookbook

Where: Junior League of Boca Raton. Log on to jlbr.org and click on "Cookbook." Navigate from the pull-down menu to order.

How much: \$29.95 for the cookbook; \$36.95 for the cookbook and a CD-ROM

A decade ago, the Junior League pulled out the stops and published a cookbook that won a James Beard Award. Ten years later, you can share this taste of Boca with friends anywhere in the country. The CD mirrors the book, and has photos of each recipe, and it offers recipe searches, helps cooks create shopping lists and helps them add family recipes to the database.



Gift baskets

Where: The Cheese Course, Mizner Park, 305 Plaza Real, No. 1305, Boca Raton; 395-4354

How much: \$20 and up

Need the perfect hostess gift? Just say "cheese." Opt for a basket of regional flavors. The Italian basket, for example, might include salami or prosciutto, a wedge of cheese (maybe a nice boschetto al tartufo) and a cheese knife.



Cheese boards

Where: Lifestyles of Lynne, Royal Palm Place, 284 Esplanade, No. 52B, Boca Raton; 347-2933

How much: \$13

These cheese boards are a value at \$13. They're actually not boards, but are tempered glass decorated with wine-themed prints. A board would make a great accompaniment to one of those gift baskets from The Cheese Course, but we'll wager many will want one of their own. And Lynne wraps things so beautifully that the gift recipient will think you splurged. We promise not to tell.



Photo provided

Bellari necklace

Where: D. Stern Jewelers, Mizner Park, 421 S. Plaza Real, Boca Raton; 210-5222

How much: About \$16,000

All the glitters is not gold. It could be the pink and green tourmaline, citrine, blue topaz, rhodolite, peridot, iolite or diamond.

And that is the mix of stones used in this necklace.

The piece, designed by Bellari, who hails from Scottsdale, Ariz., is versatile.

Wear it as it is. Or, to be more casual, wear the pendant on a simple chain. It also can be worn as a brooch, and the rhodolite bead necklace can be worn without the pendant.



Carrie Delafield and her daughter Mason, 6, wear matching tunics from Periwinkle in Delray Beach.

Mother-daughter tunic tops

Where: Periwinkle, 14 NE Fourth Ave., Delray Beach; 279-9699

How much: \$88 for adult, \$44 for child

Imagine the delight at dressing mother and daughter in these matching tunic tops. The deeply saturated hues of these tops will flatter any complexion, and the long tunic looks good on any figure. They're perfect for those warm, tropical nights. Also big this year at Periwinkle: The ruffle cashmere cardigans (\$395).

Tea infuser and lemon/lime squeezer

Where: The Spice & Tea Exchange, Mizner Park, 426 Plaza Real, Boca Raton; 910-1289

How much: \$10.95

This bird-shaped lemon/lime squeezer and infuser with a tea kettle-shaped handle come wrapped in an organza pouch and make the perfect table favors at any affair.

Store manager Sophie Freeman says the shop has lots of orders from people who want to use them just for that purpose. But the tea kits are a great inexpensive office



gift, too.

Feel like going luxe? Add a pouch of tea (\$4.95), as we did.

Shopping for a chef or a backyard griller? The store also has a nice selection of flavored salts and rubs.

Food

Cookies as gifts? Just wrap 'em up!

By Jan Norris

A whole lot of baking is going on right about now — cookies are a universal holiday gift. Hardly anyone turns down a cookie.

Make-ahead cookies are great for time-pressed cooks. We love the gingersnaps recipe given out by the pastry chef at The Ritz-Carlton; we've already made two batches and put them in the freezer for whenever someone drops in, or as an "emergency" host gift.

The secret to them is the dough — it can be rolled into a log, effectively becoming a slice-and-bake affair. What's easier than that? That they taste sensational is a big plus. A number of cookie doughs will work as slice-and-bakes. In one afternoon, you could make several cookie doughs, roll them into logs and freeze them, to bake whenever you need them. Alternately, you can flatten the same dough into two or three disks, to roll and cut out into shapes later on, as desired. These also can be frozen for up to two months.

Once the cookies are baked, get creative with the packaging. A tin is the basic, easy way out, and available in a multitude of shapes and sizes. Even if using something so simple, line it with pretty tissue and parchment paper. (To keep cookies from shaking and breaking, fill in between cookies with an ingredient in the cookie or another tasty treat: Chocolate chips, nuts, gum drops, peppermints or cinnamon candies work well.) Any container can become packaging for cookies. Pull decorations from the sewing or craft room, or use the computer to print out paper, or motifs to glue to ordinary boxes. Add a big bow, and you have a lovely, heartfelt gift.

Maybe you're not a baker. Ask around and find someone else who's planning to bake, and offer to buy ingredients if they'll bake some for you. This time of year, bakeries, green markets and specialty stores have holiday cookies on the shelves or take orders.

Bring them home and repackage them into a pretty, secondary gift for the host or hostess. Here are some ideas:

Chinese take-out food boxes work great. Line plain white ones with bright red waxed tissue. Ask your local Chinese restaurant for a couple, or find them at party supply stores.

Bakery boxes look professional and make your cookies look expensive — even store-bought ones. Trim the box with a pretty ribbon; decorate with a nice seal to fasten the box. Find these at cake-supply stores in a number of different sizes.

Pretty holiday plates make nice, reusable containers — especially for frosted cookies

that need to lay flat. Find them in a variety of sizes, one of a kind, at area thrift stores. Wrap them in clear cellophane and tie the top with a twist tie, then wire-edged ribbon.

Bar cookies, fudge and flat, slice-and-bake cookies look nice in stacks. Find clear or decorative cellophane bags at party stores or cake supply stores and slide a stack carefully into one. To prevent sticking, slip a small square of waxed paper between each cookie. If need, stabilize the bag with a square of chipboard placed in the bottom.

Use a mug to pack a half-dozen favorites for a coffee- or tea-lover. Pack the cookies in the cup and overwrap with cellophane. Tie a box of tea or coffee to the mug. If you're giving a large number of cookies, consider packing them in a cookie canister. It's also reusable and keeps the cookies fresh. Put waxed paper between layers of any cookies you stack.

If giving cookies to another baker, pack them in a mixing bowl, with the recipe. Or, measure out only the dry ingredient, place in a sealed plastic bag inside the bowl, and send the cook instructions for finishing the cookies. Tie the whole thing up in a pretty kitchen towel. ★



A basket full of cookies is great for a host; line it with decorative tissue or a pretty dish towel as a bonus. Photos by Tim Stepien



Stack them up! Cutout cookies look great in a stack — and pretty enough to show off through a cellophane bag.



A teacup or mug (include a box of peppermint tea) is a perfect container for a cookie gift for one.

Bake the Ritz-Carlton's Gingersnaps. See the recipe at www.thecoastalstar.com



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10 Questions

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR: Mary Mills

Mary Mills has a passion for golf. She has played since the age of 11, when her father signed her up for lessons, back in the day when folks from the Midwest would head south to her home state of Mississippi to spend a few weeks on the links.

"I could ride my bike to the course," Mills says of growing up near Gulfport and Biloxi. "I was always the jock."

At the age of 12, she won a putt-putt golf championship and won an opportunity to play in a national competition in Fayetteville, S.C.

By the time she was 14, Mills was winning women's amateur championships throughout her home state, winning the state championship eight years in a row.

"I pretty much dominated women's golf in Mississippi," Mills says.

She went pro in 1962, and won two LPGA Championships (1964 and 1973) and the 1963 U.S. Women's Open. She also is a member of the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame.

Mills has played in pro-am tournaments with Dinah Shore ("she was very nice"), Glen Campbell and Joe Namath, among others.

She dabbled in photography, collected hundreds of slides and shot photos for Rolex ads.

Mills retired from professional golf in 1980, taught golf for a time, then worked eight years with Food Service International, where she arranged the contracts to cater golf events — "I knew all the tournament directors."

When the company moved to North Carolina, Mills didn't want leave Boca Raton — "I had fallen in love with it." So she stayed, then went back to school to earn a degree in landscape architecture from Florida International University, all the while working as a ranger in the Boca Raton parks system. "I just loved walking and talking to people," she says.

After that, she went on to co-design four courses.

Now 70, Mills is tall, with a shock of white hair. Her voice is warm and authoritative, with a slight Mississippi drawl — perfect for teaching.

A member of the LPGA Teaching Division, Mills is an instructor with the Bird Golf Academy, and travels the country helping others learn the sport.

"I'm always on the move," she says.

Mills says she still loves the game, and the personalities.

"Tiger Woods needs to get his head screwed on," she says. "People want to see their champions fall, then recover. He'll be accepted."

And when she's not traveling, she is happy to be in Boca, where she shares her memorabilia-filled condo with her brother, a retired boat captain.

Mills says she enjoys fly-fishing, biking, kayaking and cooking, and in summer, when it's too hot to golf, she swims to stay in shape.

And even then, she is grateful to be in Boca — "it's like paradise. Honestly."

— Scott Simmons



Retired professional golfer Mary Mills, at Red Reef Park Executive Golf Course, made a name for herself on the fairways of the 1960s and '70s. After she retired in 1980, she earned a graduate degree in landscape architecture while working as a Boca Raton park ranger, then took up golf course design. She now teaches budding golfers in classes and workshops across the country.

Photo by Tim Stepien

Q. Where did you grow up and go to school?

A. I grew up between Biloxi and Gulfport, Miss. Graduated from Millsaps College in Jackson, Miss. Graduate studies in golf course design at Florida International University. All my professors there were Harvard-educated Ph.Ds from Cuba.

Q. How did you get interested in golf?

A. My father had been in the Navy, and my mother was in the hotel business. My father became manager of the Edgewater Gulf Hotel. In the '40s and '50s, that area was a major golf resort. Golf was the sport.

Q. What was it like for you to make the transition from golfer to teacher?

A. I retired in 1980. I was 40 years old and couldn't putt anymore. I felt like I couldn't play at a higher level. I started teaching golf with Toney Penna in Palm Beach and in Boynton at Quail Ridge. I taught for two years and hated it. It

was painful psychologically. ... [Years later she returned to teaching.] At my age, this is what I should be doing. I go to major resorts to teach people three to five days. I still travel a good bit. It's been my whole life and it still is. Golf teaching is not so bad. It's great to make a passion into a profession.

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

A. When I moved to Boca in '72, it was a small, little town. There was IBM and that was it. Like most people who are not native, I visited first. I turned pro in '62. Came here in '63 and '64. I lived in Boynton and Deerfield. I had friends who lived here and I fell in love with their apartment.

Q. What book are you reading now?

A. I like to read instead of watching TV to wind down. Been reading the trilogy *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*, and just started *Widow of the South*, by Robert Hicks.

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

A. I like jazz and classical. But lately, I've gotten into Latin music.

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

A. "Champions adjust." That kinda suits my life.

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

A. Bobby Jones and Ben Hogan were inspirations in golf. I had dinner with Hogan three times.

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

A. Ingrid Bergman [she laughs], but who would want to do my life?

Q. Who/what makes you laugh?

A. Good jokes — I don't tell 'em well.

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Boca Raton

Elves' training available for the cheerily inclined

By Linda Haase

Who knew elves had to go to school?

The vivacious red- and green-clad elves who sing, dance and deliver presents to nursing homes, hospitals and day care centers in Broward and Palm Beach counties for the American Health Association know. They've graduated from the association's slightly zany Elf School in Boca Raton, where they learned the rules: No smoking, chewing gum or drinking sugary or alcoholic beverages while on duty (I guess Santa looks the other way some of the time).

Be jolly, find — or make — a creative elf costume (oodles of bells and other jingly paraphernalia are strongly encouraged) and sing loudly and, if possible, on key. Then, there's the backward wave, the special Elf Hug and the Bee Dance (which, ironically, looks like the erratic reaction of someone who encountered a bee hive).

OK, but what else is in store for these South Florida Santa's helpers who, alas, have no trip planned to the North Pole?

"They dispense presents as directed and break up fights between patients who want more than one present," says J. Robert Gordon, aka King Elf and president and CEO of the American Health Association. But, most importantly, they bestow oodles of joy and cheer.



Elves practice singing Christmas songs during 'elf training' at Boca Raton Community Center Monday evening. Claire Riccardi (left), Roberta Eberling, Loretta Lombardo and Fran Moran. Photo by Tim Stepien

"For some of these people we visit this may be the only gift they get. They are so appreciative," says Gordon, who has been teaching the do's and don'ts of elfdom since he founded the school about five years ago.

The elves donate their time, but there are perks, including a pizza party, a wine tasting and a chance to be in Boca Raton's holiday parade. Last year, 55 elves were on duty and

Gordon expects that many — or more — this holiday season. After all, it takes an Elf Village to hand out the thousands of donated teddy bears, dolls and Beanie Babies to about 50 nursing homes, at least four hospitals and several day care centers.

Fran Moran (Elf Frisky) is up to the task. The Deerfield Beach resident is 93, but her daily exercise classes (everything from weight lifting

to line dancing) keep her in shape for her elfing duties. Although this is her second year as an elf, she — and other past elves — must return to class to learn new songs from the elf songbook.

That's fine with Moran, whose enthusiasm is infectious.

"When I go to give the presents, I bring my tambourine and my kazoo and make it fun," says Moran, who came to class in her colorful elf costume — complete with a pointy hat, green glittery elf shoes and a belt made from pop tops. "The best thing is seeing their reaction. You would think we were giving them a diamond ring."

Roberta Eberling, a Boca Raton resident who has exchanged her regular routine to transform into Elf Cookie ("I love cookies," she admits)

for the past four years, says simply: "I like to elf. There's nothing hard about it. All you have to do is be nice, congenial and sing the loudest and best you can."

King Elf agrees, but adds this caveat: "Elfing is a privilege and not an automatic right."

For more information on Elf School or to arrange a visit by the elves, call 361-9091 or e-mail thehealthsociety@aol.com.

They are still accepting donations of teddy bears, dolls, stuffed animals and Beanie Babies for the Elf Campaign as well as the Orphans of War project.

Items can be brought to several locations including 1181 N. Rogers Circle, Suite 2 in Boca Raton and the Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. ★

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Society Spotlight

Wyland Living Green Fair
At Mizner Park, Boca Raton



Marine artist Wyland helped kids paint a 50-foot mural during last month's Wyland Green Living Fair at Mizner Park. The event highlighted ways humans can be more friendly to the environment. Photo provided

Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 11/26. Please check with organizers for any changes. Submit your listings to: thecoastalstarcalendar@gmail.com

DECEMBER 4

12/4 - Boca Raton GreenMarket is held each Saturday, through 5/7/2011, Royal Palm Place southwest parking lot, intersection of South Federal Highway and South Mizner Boulevard. 8 am-1 pm. Free. 368-6875 or www.ci.boca-raton.fl.us.

12/4 - Delray GreenMarket is held each Saturday, through 5/14/2011, in the first block of SE 4th Ave. between Atlantic Ave. and SE 1st St. Outdoor venue offers fresh local produce, baked goods, gourmet food items, plants, live music and children's activities. 8 am-1 pm. Free. 276-7511 or www.delraycra.org.

12/4 - Meet The Artist - Whimsical Journey - Art by Bernie Kraus, Jerry Saxon & Gabriela Witis - Art Exhibit at Sugar Sand Park Community Center, 300 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton. Bernie Kraus displays his one-of-a-kind handmade children's clocks - a perfect gift this holiday season; Jerry Saxon features The Secret World of Tree Bark, a photographic exhibit uncovering the mysterious abstract beauty of the trees at Sugar Sand Park; and Gabriela Witis paints a fantastical world of exaggerated people and objects. Display continues through 1/2/2011. Hours: M-F 8 am-10 pm, Sat. 8 am-5 pm, Sun./Holidays 10 am-5 pm. Reception: 11 am. Free. 347-3900 or www.SugarSandPark.org.

12/4 - Bookworm Story Time - at Highland Beach Library, 3618 S. Ocean Blvd. Held every Saturday (except holidays) for children ages 1-8. 10 am. Free. 278-5455 or www.ci.highland-beach.fl.us.

12/4 - Children's Museum Breakfast with Santa - at the Boca Raton Children's Museum, 498 Crawford Blvd. Lots of kiddie fun including picture with Santa, snow, train rides and pancake breakfast with all the trimmings. 8:30-11:30 am. Reservations required. \$9; children under 18 months free. 368-6875 or www.cmboca.org.

12/4 - Be the Dinosaur: Life in the Cretaceous - First-of-its kind exhibit combines traditional dinosaur exhibit elements with sophisticated computer simulation at the Children's Science Explorium, 300 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton. Runs through 1/10/11. M-F: 9 am-6 pm, Weekends/holidays: 10 am-5 pm. \$5. 347-3912 or www.scienceexplorium.org.

12/4 - Floral Design For the Holidays at Whole Foods Market, 1400 Glades Road, Boca Raton. Inspired by all of the holiday parties, participants will create beautiful floral arrangements, utilizing a wreath or log as a centerpiece. Please bring your own shears, container will be provided unless you would like to use your own. Flowers and greenery will be provided. Two sessions offered: 11 am-12:30 pm or 1-2:30 pm. \$15/session. Preregistration for one time slot at 447-0000 or <http://wholefoodsmarket.com/stores/bocaraton/>.

12/4 - Ornaments Naturally - Create ornaments and decorations with holiday themes using shells, sea beans, pine cones and unusual natural materials at the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N. Ocean Blvd., Boca Raton. Materials provided. Ages 7-adult, children must be accompanied by an adult. 10 am-noon. \$15/members, \$22/non-members. Reservations and pre-payment required: 391-8110 or www.gumbolimbo.org.

12/4 - Drop-in Story Time - Music, stories, finger plays and action songs stimulate learning at this weekly program at the Boca Raton Public Library, 200 NW Boca Raton Blvd. For children of all ages accompanied by adult. Held again 12/11 & 18. 10-10:30 am. Free. 393-7968.

12/4 - Meet the Artist: Whimsical Journey features the art of Bernie Kraus, Jerry Saxon and Gabriela Witis at Sugar Sand Park Community Center, 300 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton. 11 am. Free. 347-3900 or www.SugarSandPark.org.

12/4 - Demonstrations of Sado, The Way of Tea at the Seishin-an Teahouse, The Morikami Japanese Museum and Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Road, Delray Beach. Observe Japanese sado by the Omote Senke tea group, an ever-changing tea ceremony demonstration rich in sensational subtleties. Four sessions, offered at noon, 1

Society Spotlight

Boca Raton Historical Society honors guides At the Boca Raton Resort & Club



The Boca Raton Historical Society recently honored its 'retiring' hotel guides with a luncheon at the Boca Raton Resort & Club. Back row, from left: Morgan Green, retiring guide Joe Rubenstein, Bonnie Dearborn, Natalie Warren, Jack Lanthier, George Petrocelli. Front row: retiring guides Jane Keltie, Joan Bream and Helen Adams-Murray. Photo provided

Boca Raton Bacchanal launch party At the FEC Railway Station - Count de Hoernle Pavilion



The Boca Bacchanal Committee toasted the kickoff of the Boca Raton Historical Society's wine and food fund-raiser at which Dick and Barbara Schmidt and Bobby Campbell were honored for their contributions. Pictured are the Schmidts, Historical Society Executive Director Mary Csar and Campbell. The Bacchanal, a major fund-raiser for the historical society, will be March 18 -20. Photo provided

pm, 2 pm and 3 pm. \$5 with paid museum admission. 495-0233 ext. 237 or www.morikami.org.

12/4 - Old Dogs (PG) - presented as part of Movie Mania at the Boca Raton Public Library, 200 NW Boca Raton Blvd. For age 9-12. Includes free pizza and drinks. Noon-2 pm. Free. 393-7968.

12/4 - Shakespeare For Everyone - presented by Sunflower Creative Arts at the outdoor amphitheatre at the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N. Ocean Blvd., Boca Raton. Includes scenes from five Shakespearean plays, including "A Midsummer's Night Dream," "Romeo and Juliet" and "Hamlet," performed by the children's repertory theatre group Shakespeare for Everyone, featuring actors ages 8 to 14. The program aims to bring performances to students, seniors and any audience who might not otherwise get to see Shakespeare performed live. Sponsored by Target and the Junior League of Boca Raton. All ages, children must be accompanied by an adult. 1 pm. Free. 391-8110 or www.gumbolimbo.org.

12/4 - A Gift of Music - Annual Holiday Concert - Delray Beach Chorale at First Presbyterian Church, 33 Gleason St. Featuring Vivaldi's *Gloria*, Mozart's *Te Deum*, Handel's *Hallelujah Chorus* with audience participation plus seasonal

favorites performed with orchestra. Led by artistic director/conductor Eric Keiper and accompanist Ed Shuman. 3 pm. Reception follows. \$20, \$5/students. 800-984-7272 or www.delraybeachchorale.org.

12/4 - A Christmas Carol Musical Production - at Showtime Dance & Performing Arts Theatre, 503 SE Mizner Blvd., Ste. 73, Boca Raton. Shows held

every Saturday through 1/1/2011, with two special holiday performances at 6 pm on 12/22-23. 2 pm. \$14/adults, \$10/children 12 & under. Reservations required. 394-2626 or www.ShowtimeBoca.com.

12/4 - Annual Parish Ornament Exchange and Potluck Dinner - at St. Gregory's Episcopal Church, 100 NE Mizner Blvd., Boca Raton. Bring a new gift wrapped ornament to exchange and a dish to share. Beverages will be provided. 6 pm. Free. 395-8285 or www.st-gregorys.com.

12/4 - 2010 97.9 WRMF's No Snow Ball - at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Sponsored in partnership with the City of Boca Raton. National recording artists Michael Franti & Spearhead, Sara Bareilles, Ryan Star and Christina Perri. No chairs, coolers or umbrellas permitted inside amphitheater. 7-10:30 pm. Free and open to all ages. 393-7740 or www.myboca.us.

12/4 - Tovah Feldshuh performs at the Carole and Barry Kaye Performing Arts Auditorium on the FAU Boca Raton Campus, 777 Glades Road. 8 pm. \$35-55. 800-564-9539.

12/4 - Vices: A Love Story - Musical smash hit at the Caldwell Theatre, Count de Hoernle Theatre, 7901 N. Federal Hwy., Boca Raton. Runs through 12/12. Wed.-Sat. 8 pm; Wed. Sat. & Sun. 2 pm. \$27-\$75; full-time students \$10 with ID. 241-7432 or www.caldwelltheatre.com.

12/4-5 - Auditions for Young Artists In Concert "Acoustically Yours" - at Sol Children Theatre, 3333 N. Federal Hwy., Boca Raton. Auditions are by appointment only for experienced vocalists 13 years of age and up. Come with a prepared acoustic and/or cabaret solo (ballad or upbeat - entire song), bring accompaniment CD as piano will not be available. Solo must be memorized and prepared. 12/4: 10-11 am; 12/5: 1-2 pm. To schedule an audition, call

447-8829 or e-mail solchildtroupe@aol.com.

12/4-5 - The Commedia Princess and the Pea - at Sol Children Theatre, 3333 N. Federal Hwy., Boca Raton. Arlequin is afraid he'll be stuck playing the role of the pea, but instead gets to play the prince. The troupe romps through a series of hilarious princess tests with great slapstick humor! Sat. 7 pm.; Sun. 2 pm. \$12/ includes refreshments. 447-8829 or www.solchildren.org.

12/4-5 - Lynn University's Philharmonia Orchestra No. 3 - at the Keith C. and Elaine Johnson Wold Performing Arts Center, Lynn University, 3601 N. Military Trail, Boca Raton. Featuring winners of the annual Conservatory Concerto Competition and guest conductor, Jon Robertson. Sat. 7:30 pm; Sun. 4 pm. Tickets \$35-\$50. 237-9000 or www.lynn.edu/tickets.

12/4-5 - Hate Mail - at The Willow Theatre, 300 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton. Hate Mail is a romantic comedy that tells the story of Preston, a spoiled rich kid who meets his match in Dahlia, an angst-filled artist. 8 pm shows 10/4 & 12/10-11; 2 pm shows 10/5 & 12. \$10. Also performed 12/10-12. 347-3948 or www.willowtheatre.org.

12/4-5 - Living Room Theaters Grand Opening - at Florida Atlantic University Boca Raton campus, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton. Specializing in independent and foreign movies, the cinema provides an outlet for great films that may otherwise go unseen in Palm Beach County. Living Room Theaters offer four intimate 48 seat auditoriums with state-of-the-art sound and projection. Every seat has a clear, unobstructed view of the screen. The theater's oversized leather chairs are built for comfort, and are also perfect for dining while watching movies as the theater offers in theater dining service from their

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European-style cafe just off the lobby. Grand opening days (12/4-5) all movies \$2. Movies through 12/9: *Leaving* (NR), *Psycho* (R), *Enter The Void* (NR), *Soul Kitchen* (NR), *Client 9: The Rise and Fall of Elliot Spitzer* (R), *Only When I Dance* (NR), and *Last Train Home* (NR). After the grand-opening weekend, ticket prices will be: Regular admission \$9.30; Matinees \$7.50; Students/Educators/Seniors/Military \$6.50; Mondays & Tuesdays \$5.00. For schedule, call 549-2600 or visit www.livingroomtheaters.com.

12/4-10 - 'Unabridged Intentions' - Florida Atlantic University's University Galleries host a BFA graduate art exhibition, Ritter Gallery, FAU, 700 Glades Road, Boca Raton. 297-2966.

12/4-14 - Toy Drive - The Delray Citizens for Delray Police/Kids and Cops program is again collecting new, unwrapped toys (Please! No toy guns!) and store gift cards for boys and girls ages 5-16 through Dec. 14. Gifts can be dropped off in specially marked boxes at: Delray Beach City Hall, All Delray Beach Fire Rescue Stations, Delray Beach Police Department, Delray Beach Community Center, Boston's on the Beach, Lake Ida Pharmacy, Greater Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce, Meisner Electric Inc., Old School Square, and Plastridge Insurance. Checks, made payable to the Delray Citizens for Delray Police, may be dropped off at the police department or any of the City's fire stations. Contact Jennifer Buce at 243-7138 or e-mail at buce@mydelraybeach.com.

12/4-1/22 - "ORLAN Resurfacing: Surgery-Performance Photos and Recent Works Exhibition" - This exhibition features the work of the French multimedia artist ORLAN, who gained world-wide recognition in the early 1990s for her performances in which she redesigned herself through numerous plastic surgeries. Florida Atlantic University, University Galleries, 700 W. Glades Road, Boca Raton. 297-2966.

DECEMBER 5-11

12/5 - 2010 Symphonia Connoisseur Series Opening Concert - Philippe Entremont - at The Roberts Theater at St. Andrew's School, 3900 Jog Road, Boca Raton. One of the most recorded artists of all time takes center stage as both Principal Conductor and Piano Soloist. The afternoon begins with a pre-concert Q&A session with Martin Booksman, Musicologist and American Classical Music Hall of Fame inductee, at 1:45 pm. Concert begins at 3 pm. Tickets: \$30-53, season subscriptions from \$120-212 (based on seating. 376-3848 or www.bocasymphonia.org).

12/5 - The Keili Kids - Melodious, Magical Holiday Concert - is presented as part of the ARTful Adventure Sunday series at the Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. This family program features art workshops or live performances by talented actors, musicians or dancers. The program focuses on creative family fun and includes an interactive opportunity for all ages to learn, create and enjoy the arts. 2 pm. Free admission for performance only. 392-2500 or www.bocamuseum.org.

12/5 - "Light up the Holidays" annual celebration is held at Highland Beach Town Hall, 3614 S. Ocean Blvd., 5 pm. Refreshments will be served and trolley service will be provided from St. Lucy's Catholic Church. Free. 278-4548.

12/6 - Holiday Champagne Reception at the Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Features a variety of extraordinary items for sale by local artisans as well as light refreshments. Sponsored by the museum Friends Auxiliary. Noon-4 pm. Free. 392-2500, Ext. 107, or www.bocamuseum.org.

12/6 Health Starts Here Cooking Class: Healthy for the Holidays - at Whole Foods Market, 1400 Glades Road, Boca Raton. Learn how to reconfigure your plate with Health Starts Here by instructor Abigail Nagorski, Lifestyle Center Culinary Instructor & Certified Nutritionist. Learn how to incorporate the four pillars: plant strong, whole food, healthy fats, and nutrient dense into your holiday celebrations and what an ANDI score is. Sample menu of holiday starters and sides including: Creamy Cucumber Dip, Black Bean Hummus, Chard with Sherry Vinegar & Walnuts, Green Beans with Pecans & Clementine Dressing and Raw Apple Crisp. 1-2 pm. \$5. Preregistration



Florida Atlantic University hosted a grand opening for the new 73,000-square-foot Culture and Society Building and an attached movie complex, operated by Living Room Theaters. Dignitaries at the ribbon-cutting include Lisa Metcalf, associate director, FAU Media Relations and FAU National Alumni Association board member; Mary Jane Saunders, FAU president; Larry Faerman, associate director of FAU's Student Union and FAU National Alumni Association board member; Garrett Astler, FAU communications student; Armand Grossman, FAU Board of Trustees member; Sameko Munroe, FAU National Alumni Association board member; Ernesto, Eva and Diego Rimoch, owners and founders of Living Room Theaters. **Photo provided**

at 447-0000 or wholefoodsmarket.com/stores/bocaraton/.

12/6 - Food Glorious Food! - A Conversation with Restaurant Reviewers & Food Writers - at the Boca Raton Resort & Club, Dunes Ballroom, 900 Ocean Blvd., Boca Raton. Featuring Liz Balmaseda, restaurant reviewer for *The Palm Beach Post*, Bill Citara, food editor for *Boca Raton Magazine*, Jan Norris, *Coastal Star* food writer, with moderator Andrew Roenbeck, Executive Chef of the Boca Raton Resort & Club. Presented as part of the Palm Beach Cultural Council's Sixth Season of "Culture & Cocktails." 5-7 pm. Free for Cultural Council members (\$175 level and above), non-member \$35. Limited seating - RSVP by calling the Cultural Council at 561-472-3330 or www.palmbeachculture.com.

12/6 - Holiday Wine Tasting Benefit - sponsored by the American Health Association at Iberia Bank, 1180 N. Federal Hwy., Boca Raton. 5-7:30 pm. \$25. RSVP 361-9091 or www.americanhealthfoundation.com.

12/6 - Just For Laughs - Serious Comedy for a Serious Cause - This evening of comedy, featuring Jeff Laub, serves as the Gold Coast Division's opening event. Presented by Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County Gold Coast Division. 5:30 pm. \$90 covert includes heavy hors d'oeuvres and desserts. Contact: Ida Novak at 852-3342 or idan@bocafed.org.

12/6 - 4th Annual Chanukah Concert - at Royal Palm Place, Southwest corner of the intersection of S. Federal Hwy. and S. Mizner Blvd., Boca Raton. Annual Giant Menorah Lighting and concert starring DR LAZ. 6 pm. Free. 417-7797 or www.chabadbocabeaches.com.

12/6 - Health Lecture: Burn Fat & Get Healthy - at Whole Foods Market, 1400 Glades Road, Boca Raton. Get your body into the Fat-Burning Zone and keep it there. Learn how to eat the right combination of healthy foods at the right time to help your body burn fat, stabilize blood sugar and help to lower cholesterol. Instructor Deborah Paiva, certified Lifestyle Educator and Coach with Integrative Acupuncture in Delray Beach. 6-7 pm. Free. Preregistration at 447-0000 or <http://wholefoodsmarket.com/stores/bocaraton/>.

12/6 - Boca Scrabble Club will be held every Monday (except holidays) at the Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd., Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. Free. 361-9091 or www.americanhealthfoundation.com.

12/6 - South Florida Playwrights Festival: Part II - will be held at the Schmidt Family Studio in the Keith C. and Elaine Johnson Wold Performing Arts

Center, 3601 N. Military Trail, Boca Raton. The Lynn Drama Program presents staged readings of new works by acclaimed local playwrights. Following the performance, audience members are invited to discuss the material with the cast and playwrights. 7:30 pm. \$10 general admission; Free for Staff/Faculty/Student with ID. 237-9000 or www.lynn.edu/tickets.

12/7 - Annual Holiday Party - The Federation of Boca Raton Homeowners, Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. (next to City Hall). Refreshments will be served. 8:30 am.

12/7 - Films for Thought - presented by Senses of Cinema at Sugar Sand Park Community Center, 300 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton. Screenings and discussion of films led by instructor Shelly Isaacs. For ages 18 and up. Four-week session runs Wednesdays through 12/28. 10 am-12:45 pm. \$40/resident, \$50/non-resident. 347-3900 or www.sugarsandpark.org.

12/7 - Sandoway's Holiday House Celebration is held through 1/2/11 at 142 S. Ocean Blvd., Delray Beach. Sandoway's Holiday House is decorated by the Poinciana Garden Club. \$4 admission fee for ages 3 and up. Closed Christmas and New Year's Day. 274-7263 or www.sandowayhouse.org.

12/7 - Coral Reef Shark Feedings are held daily, Tuesday through Sunday, at Sandoway House Nature Center, 142 S. Ocean Blvd. Delray Beach. Feeding begins at 10:30 am T-Sat. and 1:30 pm Sunday. Discover what Atlantic Ocean reef fish, nurse sharks, and spiny lobsters eat for breakfast. Free with \$4 admission to the nature center. 274-7263 or www.sandowayhouse.org.

12/7 - Ikenobo Ikebana Flower Arrangement - Using fresh flowers, students are taught traditional flower arrangement in this four-week class at the Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Road, Delray Beach. Class meets again 12/14, 21 & 28. Advance registration required. \$60/members, \$70/non-members plus flower fee of \$60 for all four weeks. 1-3 pm. 495-0233, ext. 237, or www.morikami.org.

12/7 - Color "Astrology" - What's your Color? - Join Robb & Stucky Design Associate Joan DeVito as she shows you how your special color can be the foundation for the color scheme of your home. 2 pm, Robb & Stucky, Mizner Park, 200 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 862-5597.

12/7 - Guided Tour of the Historic Boca Raton Resort & Club - Explore the world famous resort's history with a 1.5 hour walking tour at Boca Raton Resort

& Club, 501 E. Camino Real. Follow the resort's evolution when it began as the Cloister Inn in the 1920s. Highlights include Addison Mizner's story, his architectural inspirations, and remarkable furnishings. Held every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month. Reservations are required. 2 pm. \$10/BRHS members, \$15/non-members, \$10 valet fee per car. 395-6766 ext. 100 or www.bocahistory.org.

12/7 - Ann Turnoff: An Evening With Ann Turnoff - at the Caldwell Theatre, Count de Hoernle Theatre, 7901 N. Federal Hwy., Boca Raton. Cantor Ann (as the pre-schoolers call her) is a native of Philadelphia where she earned her degrees in piano, education and musicology, and is a member of Actors' Equity. 8 pm. \$35. 241-7432 or www.caldwelltheatre.com.

12/7-9 - After School Science Series: Science Gone Wrong - at the Children's Science Explorium, 300 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton. Explore some interesting inventions that were made by mistake. Tues.: Grades K-1st (with parent); Wed.: Grades 2nd & 3rd; Thurs.: Grades 4th-5th. 4-5 pm. \$7.50/residents; \$9.40/non-residents. 347-3912 or www.scienceexplorium.org.

12/8 - Current events discussion group at the Highland Beach Library, 3618 S. Ocean Blvd. Held every Wednesday. 10:30 am. Free. 278-5455 or www.ci.highlandbeach.fl.us.

12/8 - Art Film - Alex Katz: What About Style? (2003) - at the Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Painter Alex Katz has bucked trends in modern art to pioneer and refine his style of flat, elegant and realistic painting. The film offers a view of this American maverick. Held again 12/11 & 12. 2 pm. Free with paid museum admission: \$8 adults, \$6 seniors, free for children 12 and under and museum members. 392-2500 or www.bocamuseum.org.

12/8 - Rhapsody in Art inaugural exhibition reception of the Artists' Guild of the Boca Raton Museum of Art is held at 110 E. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach. More than 80 pieces of original fine art paintings, sculptures and photography from world renowned artists. Juried show. 6-8 pm. Exhibition runs through 1/15/11. Free. 278-7877 or www.bocamuseum.org.

12/8 - Art, Music, Theatre and Dance in the Japanese Gardens is presented by the School of the Arts Foundation, Inc. at Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Road, Delray Beach. Performances throughout the evening by the students of Alexander W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts. Dining and desserts. 6:30-9 pm. \$75. 805-6298.

12/8 - 40th Annual Holiday Street Parade - Holiday Tropicale - Parade begins on Federal Highway at SE 8th Street and goes north to Mizner Park, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. Free. 393-7806, ext. 2, or www.ci.boca-raton.fl.us.

12/8 - Sparkle for the Holidays - Fall Food & Wine Tasting Series at Lynn University Green Center, 3601 N. Military Trail, Boca Raton. Last in a three-part series that will give attendees the opportunity to learn about Holiday food and wine pairings. Features five wines presented with tapas food pairings. 8 pm. \$35-\$45. 237-9000 or www.lynn.edu/tickets.

Thursday - 12/9 - Drop-in Story Time - Music, stories, fun finger plays and action songs stimulate learning at this weekly program at the Boca Raton Public Library, 200 NW Boca Raton Blvd. For children of all ages accompanied by an adult. Held again 12/2. 10-10:30 am. Free. 393-7968 or www.bocalibrary.org.

12/9 - Lunch and Learn: Vices: A Love Story - Informal conversation with the director, cast and crew at the Caldwell Theatre, Count de Hoernle Theatre, 7901 N. Federal Hwy., Boca Raton. There is no performance. 11:30 am. \$20. 241-7432 or www.caldwelltheatre.com.

12/9 - Canoeing The Mangroves - Enjoy a naturalist guided tour from the boardwalk at Rutherford Park, 600 NE 24th St., Boca Raton. Presented by the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center. Following the tour, paddle through the mangrove trails and back along the shoreline of the Intracoastal. Experience is necessary. Wear clothes and shoes that can get wet and dirty. Sun protection, water and bug spray are recommended. Prerequisites: Must be proficient at paddling and maneuvering a canoe in open water and confined trails; Must be capable of getting into and out of a canoe from a dock and dry or muddy land on your own or with assistance from a companion; and must have the physical agility to get back into a canoe from the water, in case of tipping. Ages 7-adult, an adult must participate with each child. Noon-2 pm. \$15/member, \$22/non-member. Held again 12/11 (1-3 pm) and 12/21 (9:30-11:30 am). Reservations and pre-payment required: 391-8110 or www.gumbolimbo.org.

12/9 - "Take a Chance...ABBA Again" Gala to benefit the Ruth Rales Jewish Family Service of South Palm Beach County is held at St. Andrews Country Club, 17557 Claridge Oval W, Boca Raton. Cocktail reception, dining, dancing, entertainment, live and silent auctions. 6:30 pm. \$500. 852-5044.

12/9 - Chamber Music Spotlight No. 1 - at the Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall, de Hoernle International Center, Lynn University, 3601 N. Military Trail, Boca Raton. This program features the student chamber groups that have distinguished themselves. Groups are chosen by faculty recommendations. 7:30 pm. \$10. 237-9000 or www.lynn.edu/tickets.

12/10 - Eyes to the Skies with the professional-grade 16-inch Meade LX Schmidt-Cassegrain telescope at the Children's Science Explorium, 300 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton. This informal event is held in the parking lot (weather permitting). All children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. No registration required. Telescope will be out for at least one hour after the scheduled start time. Note: Stars must be visible for the telescope to align. 5:30 pm. Free. 347-3912 or www.scienceexplorium.org.

12/10 - Holiday Wine & Food Fundraiser benefiting Women in the Visual Arts at Whole Foods Market, 1400 Glades Road, Boca Raton Taste more than 20 different wines, sample holiday food from each department and see some beautiful artwork displayed by local artists. Includes silent auction with specialty gift baskets, wine bottles, and unique pieces of art. All proceeds benefit the Women in the Visual Arts, which provides graduate students with scholarships to invest in their future. 6-8 pm. \$10. 447-0000 or www.wholefoodsmarket.com/stores/bocaraton/.

12/10 - Night Explorers - Owls, stars, bugs, things that go bump, and some that glow are seen at the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N. Ocean Blvd., Boca Raton. Hike with creatures of the night along the boardwalk, see the tanks under a different light, and peek at the night sky courtesy

of the Palm Beach County Astronomical Society. For ages 7-adult, children must be accompanied by an adult. 6:30-8:30 pm. \$7/ members, \$10/non-members. Reservations and pre-payment required: 391-8110 or www.gumbolimbo.org.

12/10 - Concert: Jeff Kashiwa - Smooth Jazz Sax Pack Leader - Presented as part of the Smooth Jazz Series at Royal Palm Place, Southwest corner of the intersection of S. Federal Hwy. and S. Mizner Blvd., Boca Raton. 7-9 pm. Free and open to the public, rain or shine. www.downtownboca.org.

12/10 - "Celebrate from the Heart" holiday party - Artist Evelyn Ballin will donate a portion of sales to SOS Children's Village. 6-10 pm, The Heart Painter Studio, Royal Palm Place, 310 Esplanade, Suite 50, Boca Raton. Complimentary appetizers and beverages will be served. RSVP at 544-8158.

Saturday - 12/11 - Meadows Park Pool 2010 Biathlon - 1000-yard swim followed by a 5K run at Meadows Park Pool, 1300 NW 8th St., Boca Raton. Event consists of 2 heats with 18 participants per heat. Awards will be given to the top three female and top three male participants; T-shirts, race pack, swim cap and water bottle will be provided for all participants. 7 am. Advance registration: \$35/adults, \$25/under 18 years; Event day \$40/adults, \$30/ under 18 years. 393-7851 or www.myboca.us.

12/11 - Little Wonder & Big Wonders - Happy Shell Holidays - Introduce children to plants and animals around them with a hike for little feet, crafts for tiny fingers, and stories for growing minds at the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N. Ocean Blvd., Boca Raton. For children ages 3 & 4, accompanied by an adult/9:30-10:15 am. For children ages 5 & 6, accompanied by an adult/10:30-11:15 am. \$5/members, \$8/ non-members - per child. Reservations and pre-payment required: 391-8110 or www.gumbolimbo.org.

12/11 - Kids' Day at the Tree - at Delray Beach's famous 100-foot Christmas Tree, Old School Square, 51 N. Swinton Ave. Visit the Old School Square booth for a fun craft activity and visit the Cornell Museum of Art & American Culture for "The Cat's Meow" exhibition. Cats Exclusive Inc. will offer cat and kitten adoptions. 10 am-4 pm. Free. 243-7922 or www.oldschool.org.

DECEMBER 12-18

Sunday - 12/12 - PCT Childbirth workshop - Complete class to guide you from pregnancy to labor and delivery and beyond at Boca Raton Regional Hospital, Charles E. Schmidt Education Center, 800 Meadows Road, Boca Raton. This one-day workshop is taught by a labor and delivery nurse and is offered one Saturday and one Sunday each month. Class education includes topics of comfort measures, labor support, cord stem cell collection, infant car seat safety, baby basics and more. 8 am-5 pm. \$99 for the pregnant woman and one non-pregnant guest - includes workbook to take home. 302-1919 or www.personalchildbirthtrainer.com.

12/12 - Weekend Movie Madness: "Honey, I Shrank the Kids" - at Sugar Sand Park Community Center, 300 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton. Rated G. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. 11 am. \$1 admission includes popcorn and a beverage. Ticket box office: 347-3948 or www.sugarsandpark.org.

12/12 - Sado Omote Senke Tea Ceremony Class - at The Morikami Japanese Museum and Gardens, Seishin-an Teahouse, 4000 Morikami Park Road, Delray Beach. This class affords a unique opportunity to study the traditional art of Sado, The Way of Tea. Attending a Tea Ceremony Workshop is required for those who have never taken a Tea Ceremony Class but wish to start studying Sado. Two lessons per month (12/12 & 19). Individual appointments begin at 11 am. Advance registration is required. \$45/non-member, \$40/member. 495-0233, ext. 210, or www.morikami.org.

12/12 - Choir and Organ Christmas Concert - at St. Gregory's Episcopal Church, 100 NE Mizner Blvd., Boca Raton. 4-5:30 pm. Free. 395-8285 or www.stgregoryepiscopal.org.

12/14 - Early Afternoon Science Series: Crystal Science - Learn about this important alternative energy source at the Children's Science Explorium, 300 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton. Ages 7-9:

Municipal meetings

12/7 & 1/4 - Highland Beach - first Tuesday of each month at Town Hall, 3614 S. Ocean Blvd. 1:30 pm. Agenda available at www.ci.highland-beach.fl.us.

12/14 - Boca Raton - second & fourth Tuesday of each month at City Hall, 201 W. Palmetto Park Road. 6 pm. Agenda available at www.ci.boca-raton.fl.us.

1-2 pm; ages 10-12: 2-3 pm. \$3/residents; \$3.75/non-residents. 347-3912 or www.scienceexplorium.org.

12/14 - Festive Dining - The holiday season brings family dinners, cocktail parties and entertaining at home. Robb & Stucky Design Consultant Lindsei Brodie shares the tricks of the trade when it comes to selecting accents that will create a stylish tablescape that will definitely impress! 2 pm. Robb & Stucky, Mizner Park, 200 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 862-5597

12/14 - "A Sweetness in the Belly" by Camilla Gibb is presented by rotating book group leaders as part of the Evening Book Group at the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. 6 pm. Free. 266-9490 or www.delraylibrary.org.

12/14 - "Beware, Princess Elizabeth by Carolyn Meyer" - will be presented as part of Teen Book Club at the Boca Raton Public Library, 200 NW Boca Raton Blvd. Receive a free copy of the book at the time of required registration. 6:30-8 pm. Free. 393-7968 or www.bocalibrary.org.

12/14 - Seraphic Fire Candlelight Christmas at St. Gregory's Episcopal Church, 100 NE Mizner Blvd., Boca Raton. This national "All Star" ensemble of professional singers chosen for their exceptional talent. Concert is followed by a meet and greet. 7:30 pm. \$35. Tickets: 888-544-3473 or www.seraphicfire.org.

12/15 - Art Film - "Alberto Giacometti" (2002) - at the Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. An in-depth analysis of the work and influence of Swiss-born sculptor Alberto Giacometti, whose sculptures can be identified by their stretched and elongated features. 2 pm. Held again 12/18 & 19. Free with paid museum admission: \$8 adults, \$6 seniors, free for children 12 and under and museum members. 392-2500 or www.bocamuseum.org.

12/15 - Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County Major Gifts Evening of Power - at St. Andrews Country Club, 17557 Claridge Oval West, Boca Raton. The largest and most prestigious event of the Federation season will bring together hundreds of top donors to honor, celebrate and learn. The reception and dinner will feature Saul Singer, co-author of *Start-up Nation: Israel's Economic Miracle* and a taste of technology display. Co-chaired by Gary and Robin Rubin and Amy and David Ross. 6 pm. Tickets \$125, plus \$10,000 combined gift to Federation's annual campaign. 852-3160 or www.bocafed.org.

12/15 - Biodiversity Lab - at the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N. Ocean Blvd., Boca Raton. Participants will be invited to explore different taxonomic groups by examining specimens under a stereoscope, observing preserved and live specimens with demonstrations performed, and the feeding of plankton to a sea anemone. For adults only. 7-8:30 pm. \$5/members, \$8/non-members. Reservations and pre-payment required: 391-8110 or www.gumbolimbo.org.

12/15 - The Power Hour - Singles over 40 can meet and socialize with local singles at Chabad of East Boca, 120 NE 1st Ave. Empower yourself with insights and skills to help find your soul mate with group discussions led by Rachelle Keats. Held again 12/22. 7:30 pm. \$5 cover includes light refreshments. 417-7797 or www.chabadbocabeaches.com.

12/16 - Curator's Highlight Tour at The Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Join Museum Senior Curator Wendy Blazier for informative gallery tours focusing on the current exhibitions. Modern Myth and the Work of Adami and Cottingham. An examination of the work of these two contemporary masters - one European, one American - who both draw their subject matter from modern history, literature, philosophy, and mythology. 2:30 pm. Free with paid museum admission: \$8 adults,

\$6 seniors, free for children 12 and under and museum members. 392-2500 or www.bocamuseum.org.

12/16 - Wetlands Walk - Wakodahatchee is a man-made wetland which has become a favorite for birders and photographers at the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N. Ocean Blvd., Boca Raton. Bring your binoculars for this 3/4 mile guided boardwalk tour to learn more about Florida's wetland ecosystems. Ages 7-adult, children must be accompanied by an adult. 3-5 pm. Held again 12/30 (8-10 am). Free. Reservations required: 391-8110 or www.gumbolimbo.org.

12/16 - Craft Time at Highland Beach Library, 3618 S. Ocean Blvd. 4 pm. Free. 278-5455 or www.ci.highland-beach.fl.us.

12/16 - Ron & Barbara - Ballroom and Latin Dancers - at the Highland Beach Library, Sanford H. Goldstein Community Room, 3618 S. Ocean Blvd. 5-7 pm. Free. 278-5455 or www.ci.highland-beach.fl.us.

12/16 - Thursday Movie Classics featuring the Rat Pack: Sergeants 3 - at Sugar Sand Park Community Center, 300 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. \$1 admission includes popcorn and a beverage. Ticket box office: 347-3948 or www.sugarsandpark.org.

Friday - 12/17 - Palm Frond Folding - This is a class in weaving palm fronds at the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N. Ocean Blvd., Boca Raton. Twist and fold palm fronds into a woven hat. Prior experience (such as "Palm Leaflet Folding" or other frond folding/weaving is recommended. For adults only. 10 am-2 pm. \$15/members, \$22/non-members. Reservations and pre-payment required: 391-8110 or www.gumbolimbo.org.

12/18 - Gifts from the Garden at the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N. Ocean Blvd., Boca Raton. Learn tips on making your holidays personal and using pressed and dried plants, flowers, herbs and local native flora. For adults only. 11 am-12:30 pm. \$15/members, \$22/non-members. Reservations and pre-payment required: 391-8110 or www.gumbolimbo.org.

12/18 - Playground Playdate - at Sugar Sand Park, 300 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton. Get info about upcoming programs and enjoy free kid's activities. 1 pm. Free. 347-3900 or www.SugarSandPark.org.

12/18 - FAU Tuba Christmas - directed by Sean Murray at Mizner Park Cultural Arts Center, 590 Plaza Real (next to Zed451), Boca Raton. Directed by Sean Murray. 5 pm. Free with suggested \$10 donation. 297-3820 or www.fau.edu/music.

12/18 - 34th Annual Boca Raton Holiday Boat Parade - at the Intracoastal Waterway, Boca Raton. Viewing areas are Red Reef Park, 1400 N. Ocean Blvd., and Silver Palm Park, 600 E. Palmetto Park Rd. The parade starts at the C-15 canal at the Delray Beach/Boca Raton border and continues south to the Hillsboro Boulevard Bridge just beyond Boca Raton city limits. The event also includes fireworks display and an on-the-water toy collection drive benefiting the Marines Toys for Tots Foundation. 6:30 pm. Boat entry and spectators: Free. 393-7827 or www.ci.boca-raton.fl.us.

12/18-19 - Holiday A Cappella - Presented by Women of Note Chorus and Bling! Quartet at The Willow Theatre, 300 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton. Celebrate the holidays with this award-winning a cappella chorus as they perform their unique brand of contemporary barbershop harmony along with your favorite holiday melodies. Sat. 8 pm, Sun. 2 pm. \$15. 347-3948 or www.willowtheatre.org.

12/18-19 - Fedstock 2010: Two Days of Love and Nachas - at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Join the largest community-wide, multigenerational event ever hosted by the Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County. Saturday concert by Matisyahu,

Grammy-nominated internationally known reggae-infused singer at 8 pm, \$35-\$85. Daytime events Sunday features local musical groups, comedy, kosher food, quality arts and crafts vendors, a fun "Dr. W's Kids Zone", Israeli dancing and raffles. 10 am-4 pm, Free. Sunday concert by Dudu Fisher, the classically trained Israeli cantor turned international Broadway star. 8 pm, \$35-100. 852-5050 or www.fedstock.com.

DECEMBER 19-25

12/20 - More Precious Than Gold - Puppet Theater presented by Simply Puppets at Sugar Sand Park Community Center, 300 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton. This is an original story about a kingdom by the sea, a king who measures his fortune in sand castles and his young princess who tries to get his attention by kicking down his sand castles. 10-11:30 am. \$4/adults; \$2/children 12 & under. Ticket box office: 347-3948 or www.sugarsandpark.org.

12/20 - Gytaku at the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N. Ocean Blvd., Boca Raton. Before cameras were invented, fishermen documented their catch by making fish prints. Recreate this traditional art on your own pre-washed shirt or canvas bag. The fee includes your first project (you supply one t-shirt, bag or pillowcase). Ages 5 and up, adults are required to assist each child. 2:30-4 pm. \$9/members, \$14/ non-members. There will be a \$4 fee for each additional project. Reservations and pre-payment required: 391-8110 or www.gumbolimbo.org.

12/20-31 - Showtime Performing Arts Camp - Professional performing arts winter break camp at Showtime Dance & Performing Arts Theatre, 503 SE Mizner Blvd., Ste. 73, Boca Raton. Students will learn songs, scenes and choreography from the hit Broadway musical Grease. Core program M-F, 9 am-3 pm. Extended hours 8am-6pm. Students will give a performance on 12/31. \$500/all 10 days or \$55/day. Extended hours: \$5/hour. Lunch: \$7/day. 394-2626 or www.ShowtimeBoca.com.

12/21 - Kids Day In ... Parents Day Out - at Sugar Sand Park Community Center, 300 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton. Parents can drop your kids off and take some times for yourself. Kids will enjoy Explorium activities, pizza and a magic show. Registration required in person by a parent/legal guardian by two days prior. For ages 7-10. 9:30 am-12:30 pm. \$10/ residents, \$12.50/non-residents. 347-3900 or www.sugarsandpark.org.

12/21 - Holiday Magic with Criss Cross at Willow Theatre at Sugar Sand Park, 300 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton. Christopher's Magic is back transforming himself into the all new Criss Cross. Show features live bird act, plenty of magic and tons of snow. Shows are 10 am and 11:30 am. \$4/adults; \$2/children 12 and under for each show. Purchase tickets in advance at the Willow Theatre box office at 347-3948 or www.sugarsandpark.org.

12/21 - Material World - Fabric

Transformations - From slip covers to accent pillows, join Robb & Stucky Design Consultants Janielle Barea and Stacey Allen to learn how fabric can enhance your space. In addition, our design expert will show you how colors, trims, textures and patterns work together to achieve a unique style. 2 pm. Robb & Stucky, Mizner Park, 200 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 862-5597.

12/21 - "The Lost Wooden Synagogues of Eastern Europe" - Film viewing at Chabad of East Boca, 120 NE 1st Ave., Boca Raton. The film, by producer Albert Barry, tells the story of the life that surrounded the more than 1,000 wooden synagogues in Eastern Europe before the war, of which only a handful remain. Barry will make a brief presentation after the film and be available for Q&A. 4 pm. \$10. 417-7797 or www.chabadbocabeaches.com.

12/22 - Sweet Treats at Sugar Sand Park, 300 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton. For ages 4-10. Sweeten up your holiday with holiday themed cupcakes and cookies. Registration required in person by a parent/legal guardian by two days prior. 11 am. \$10/ resident, \$12.50/non-resident. 347-3900 or www.sugarsandpark.org.

Thursday - 12/23 - Character Breakfast with Mr. Brian & the Boppets at Willow Theatre at Sugar Sand Park, 300 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton. This is a high-energy, interactive show that will have everyone boppin' in their seats and rockin' on their feet. Toojay's Deli will cater a hot buffet-style breakfast. 10 am. \$13/adults, \$10/ children 12 and under. Purchase tickets in advance at the Willow Theatre box office. 347-3900 or www.willowtheatre.org.

12/23 - The Artists' Guild Opening Reception at 512 E. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach. Join the reception celebrating the Boca Raton Museum of Art Artists' Guild Nov./Dec. exhibition. 6-8 pm. Free. 278-7877 or www.bocaguild.com.

Friday - 12/24 - Winter Stories with Mij Byram at Willow Theatre at Sugar Sand Park, 300 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton. The rest of the country gets ready for cold, with mittens and hats and playing in the snow, while we open windows and turn off the A/C. Two twos, based on the age of the children attending. Ages 3-5, 10 am; ages 6-10, 11:30 am. \$4/adults, \$2/children 12 and under. Purchase tickets in advance at the Willow Theatre box office. 347-3948 or www.sugarsandpark.org.

Saturday - 12/25 - Christmas Day

DEC. 26-JAN. 1

Sunday - 12/26 - Kwanzaa begins 12/26-27 - 4th Annual Downtown Delray Beach Holiday Art & Craft Fair - at Pineapple Grove, 200 NE 2nd Ave., Delray Beach. A variety of arts and crafts from life sized sculptures, paintings, hand-made jewelry, pottery and other unique treasures. Adjacent to this art fair will be a crafters market place consisting of hand-made body products, exquisite candles, wooden plant holders, an expansive green market and much more. Free. 10 am-5 pm. 954-472-3755 or www.artfestival.com.

While The Coastal Star is delivered free to each household in Coastal Boca Raton and Highland Beach, it may not make it to everyone who cares about our towns. If you are not currently receiving our paper, and wish to subscribe, please complete the form below.

	
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Obituaries

Mildred Toledano Barrett

By Ron Hayes

DELRAY BEACH — Mildred Toledano Barrett loved bright red lipstick, getting her hair curled, collecting antiques, dancing, horror movies, red beans, white wine — and people.



She hated being called Mildred.

To friends, she was always Millie. To her four children, she was "Big M." To her grandchildren, she was MeMe. And to all who knew and loved her, she was an unforgettable character.

Mrs. Barrett died November 17. She was 67, and had been

a resident of Boca Raton and Delray Beach since 1972.

"Millie not only had a good sense of humor, she had an outrageous one," her children recalled during her funeral at St. Lucy Catholic Church in Highland Beach. "Her sense of humor ranged from the genteel to the dry to the sarcastic to the witty, and even to the naughty."

She was born Mildred Pratt on March 12, 1943, in New Orleans.

At 16, she spied a lifeguard named Jimmy Barrett by the pool at the Hilton Airport Hotel there and stuffed her bikini top to attract his attention.

Seven years later, while studying sociology at Louisiana State University she proposed

to him. He put her off until he finished medical school, then proposed to her.

Dr. Barrett, a dermatologist, died in 2000, after nearly 34 years of marriage.

After their wedding, the couple moved to San Francisco, where Mrs. Barrett worked as a store detective for Macy's — briefly. "She once found an elderly lady shoplifting and felt so sorry for her that she told her to 'Run like the wind,'" her daughter, Ashley Dalzell, recalled. "She wasn't that effective as a detective."

Later, she found work with AAA, preparing maps.

"She got fired because she was routing people into the ocean," her daughter said. "Her geography was not the best."

Mrs. Barrett found her true

calling as a homemaker and mother.

Driving through Boca Raton one day, her daughter remembers, Mrs. Barrett was abruptly cut off by another driver. She pulled up beside him and yelled, "Children, man your birds!" Waiting for the light to change, the offending driver was saluted by an array of pre-adolescent middle fingers.

In later life, she took to watching horror movies while exercising on her treadmill.

"It gets my heart rate up, dahlin'," she would explain.

Mrs. Barrett was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma, the Junior League, the Boca Raton and Delray Beach historical societies, and was a fund-raiser

for the Morikami Museum and Bethesda Memorial Hospital.

Now, instead of saying, "Let's have a really good time," her children say, "Let's have a Millie good time."

In addition to Ashley Barrett Dalzell, of San Francisco, she is survived by daughters Elizabeth Hadley Barrett of San Francisco, and Eileen Nicole Barrett of Boynton Beach; a son, James O'Connor Barrett of Los Angeles; and two grandchildren, Kaelin and Chloe Dalzell.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Christopher Reeve Paralysis Foundation, the National Brain Tumor Foundation, and the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Bring your family and friends to... BOCA RATON SPECIAL EVENTS... for holiday excitement and fun.

Friday, November 26 5pm-8pm
HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING
Official start of the Holiday Season in Boca Raton with Boca Raton HS Band & other entertainers, Santa visit, arts & crafts, gift items, fun food, on-going entertainment, Snow Village. **"THE CHIPMUNK'S NUTCRACKER REVIEW"** Mizner Park Amphitheater, Fed Hwy, just south of Glades Rd

Saturday, December 4 11am
MEET THE ARTISTS - WHIMSICAL JOURNEY
Bernie Kraus, Jerry Saxon, Gabriela Witis
Handmade children's clocks, photography, paintings. Exhibit open Dec 1-Jan 2 at Sugar Sand Park Community Center

Saturday, December 4, 11, 18 8am-1pm
BOCA RATON GREENMARKET Children's Museum Event
Local produce, plants, prepared foods, soaps, doggie treats, flowers, food & health information, seafood, live music... lots more. Royal Palm Place - S Fed Hwy & S Mizner Blvd

Wednesday, December 8 7:30pm
40th Annual HOLIDAY STREET PARADE
Theme: HOLIDAZE TROPICALE
Fed Hwy from S.E. 8th St, north to Mizner Pk

Saturday, December 11 7am
MEADOWS PARK POOL 2010 BIATHLON Awards, T-shirts, race pack, swim cap & water bottle for all participants. Meadows Park Pool, 1300 NW 8th St. Contact: (561) 393-7852 for registration.

Saturday, December 18 6:30pm
34th Annual HOLIDAY BOAT PARADE
Presenting Sponsor: Summit Brokerage
Intracoastal Waterway beginning at C-15 Canal (Boca Raton-Delray border) Enter your boat for FREE...gifts & monetary awards for best decorated vessels.

Tuesday, December 28 10am - 3pm
CHILDREN'S WINTER FAIR
Games, free arts & crafts, food, entertainment, rides (tickets required), sweet treats, facepainting, & more.
Patch Reef Park, Yamato Road, just west of Military Trail
Cost: Free entrance; purchase ride tickets & food. Contact: (561) 367-7035

Enjoy holiday displays in
City Hall, Sanborn Square,
Mizner Park,
Royal Palm Place,
Old Town Hall,
Children's Museum,
and other downtown
locations

For information
(561) 393.7827 or www.myboca.us/rec/specialevents

Dates & Times Subject to Change

Dona Culhane

By Ron Hayes

BOCA RATON — A former model, accomplished bridge player and 30-year resident of Boca Raton, Dona Culhane, died Nov. 18 after a lengthy illness.

She was 82 and lived at the Stratford Arms.

Mrs. Culhane was born Oct. 1, 1928, in Hudson, N.Y.

After graduating from the Barnard School For Girls, a preparatory school in Manhattan, she worked briefly as a fashion model for the Barbizon School, until her marriage to William Culhane on March 3, 1945, following his

service as a Navy pilot during World War II.

Mr. Culhane died this past February, after 65 years of marriage.

Mrs. Culhane discovered bridge while raising her children in Rye, N.Y., and the game became a lifelong love.

"She was an excellent player," recalled her daughter, Carey Reinhardt, who said her mother "won several tournaments."

She had quite a few setbacks during the last 10 years or so, and showed amazing strength. She always conducted herself in a very ladylike, no-nonsense manner. She had a lot of grit."

In addition to her daughter,

of Wilmington, Mass., she is survived by three grandchildren: Tracy Connelly, also of Wilmington; William Reinhardt of Leland, N.C.; and Adam Crawford of Little Rock, Ark.; and two great grandchildren, Claire Connelly of Wilmington, and Maximus Reinhardt of Leland.

A funeral service was held Nov. 24, followed by interment in Boca Raton.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hospice of Palm Beach County, 5300 East Ave., West Palm Beach, FL 33407.

12/27 - "Disney's Beauty and the Beast" at Willow Theatre at Sugar Sand Park, 300 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton. A handsome Prince turned into the Beast must learn the meaning of true love in order to break the spell. 11 am. \$1 includes movie, popcorn and a drink. Purchase tickets in advance at the Willow Theatre box office. 347-3948 or www.sugarsandpark.org.

12/28 - Boca Beachcombing - Meet for an introductory talk about seashells and the animals the make them at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N. Ocean Blvd., Boca Raton, then caravan over to Red Reef Park, 1400 N. State Rd. A1A, Boca Raton, to walk the beach in search of ocean treasures. Open to all ages, children must be accompanied by an adult. 9:30-11 am. \$5/ members, \$8/non-members. Reservations and pre-payment required: 391-8110 or www.gumbolimbo.org.

12/28 - Children's Winter Fair - at Patch Reef Park, 2000 Yamato Rd. Games, arts & crafts, exhibits, food, community service groups and sweets. 10 am-3 pm. Free entrance, \$15/ride all day bracelet or \$3/ ride. 367-7035 or www.ci.boca-raton.fl.us.

12/28 - Morning Movies: Films for the Family - *Mary Cassatt: American Impressionist* (1999) - at the Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. During a trip to Paris to visit her aunt, Mary Cassatt, a teen, receives lessons in art and life. 10:15 am. Free with paid museum admission: \$8 adults, \$6 seniors, free for children 12 and under and museum members. 392-2500 or www.bocamuseum.org.

12/29 - Shark Tales - Learn how sharks navigate through the ocean, how they sleep, and how they find their food at this presentation at the Gumbo Limbo Nature

Center, 1801 N. Ocean Blvd., Boca Raton. Materials provided. Ages 7-adult, children must be accompanied by an adult. 10-11:30 am. \$9/members, \$14/non-members. Reservations and pre-payment required: 391-8110 or www.gumbolimbo.org.

12/29 - Morning Movies: Films for the Family - *Degas and the Dancer* (1999) - at the Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. Encouraged by Edgar Degas, a young ballerina learns to believe in herself. 10:15 am. Free with paid museum admission: \$8 adults, \$6 seniors, free for children 12 and under and museum members. 392-2500 or www.bocamuseum.org.

12/29 - Make Your Own Gingerbread House at Sugar Sand Park, 300 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton. This fun family activity uses graham crackers and lots of chewy, gooey and colorful candy to decorate. An adult must accompany children 8 & under. Registration required in person by parent/legal guardian by two days prior. Ages 4-10. 11 am. \$10/resident, \$12.50/non-resident. 347-3900 or www.sugarsandpark.org.

12/30 - Crafts, Cartoons & Cookies at Sugar Sand Park, 300 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton. Kids make an assortment of New Year's themed crafts at creation stations, plus enjoy cartoons and refreshments. No registration required. 10 am-noon. \$5 at the door (while supplies last). 347-3900 or www.sugarsandpark.org.

12/30 - Morning Movies: Films for the Family - *Goya: Awakened in a Dream* (1999) - at the Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real. A young artist's faith persuades Spanish artist Goya to return to good health and produce his Black Paintings. 10:15 am. Free with paid museum admission: \$8 adults, \$6 seniors, free for children 12 and

under and museum members. 392-2500 or www.bocamuseum.org.

Friday - 12/31 - First Night 2011 New Year's Eve Celebration will be held in downtown Delray Beach. Bring the entire family to enjoy visual and performing arts in non-alcoholic venues a various downtown locations. Your First Night button is your entrance key to these venues. Advance button sales 12/2-30. 4 pm-midnight. Advance tickets \$10, \$15 night of the event. "Dream Car Drawing" tickets available for \$25 at the Greater Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce, 64 SE 5th Ave. prior to 12/31. 279-1380, Ext. 3. or www.downtowndelraybeach.com.

Saturday - 1/1 - New Year's Day 1/1 - Boca Raton GreenMarket is held each Saturday, through 5/7/2011, Royal Palm Place Southwest Parking Lot, intersection of South Federal Highway and South Mizner Boulevard. 8 am-1 pm. Free. 368-6875 or www.ci.boca-raton.fl.us.

1/1 - Delray GreenMarket is held each Saturday, through 5/14/2011, in the first block of SE 4th Ave. between Atlantic Ave. and SE 1st St. Outdoor venue offers fresh local produce, baked goods, gourmet food items, plants, live music and children's activities. 8 am-1 pm. Free. 276-7511 or www.delraycra.org.

1/2-2/6 - Clybourne Park - Thought-provoking comedy at the Caldwell Theatre, Count de Hoernle Theatre, 7901 N. Federal Hwy., Boca Raton. Runs through 2/6. T 1/4 & 1/11, 8pm; W-Sat. 8pm; W, Sat. & Sun. 2pm. Tickets \$27-75, depending upon seating and date of performance; Full time students \$10. 241-7432 or www.caldwelltheatre.com.

InterFaith21

Sharing and caring are messages of season

Once again (and be thankful you can't hear me sing it), "It's that most wonderful time of the year."

At Jewish temples around South Florida — indeed, around the world — congregations are preparing for Hanukkah. The holiday commemorates the rededication of the Jewish Temple and the miracle of the oil that burned for eight days. Thus this year's Dec. 2 through 9 celebration, and the traditional designation, "Festival of Lights."

Christian congregations here and worldwide are readying for Christmas Day, Dec. 25. Ministers and lay people alike are working to keep us focused past the commercialism of the holiday to its true spirit, seen in that wonderful teacher Christ Jesus, his miraculous birth to the virgin mother Mary, the miracles he himself performed, and his message and example that provide ageless instruction, regardless of one's background.

Meanwhile, the Delray Beach Interfaith Clergy Association kicked off the winter holidays with the second annual Interfaith Harvest Festival, Nov. 14 at Abbey Delray South. Once again the clergy group, of which I am a vice president, gathered the most spiritually diverse folks I've seen around these parts for an evening of dinner and interfaith sharing, at no cost other than donations for the food pantry at C.R.O.S. (Christians Reaching Out to Society) Ministries.

We need a lot more such gatherings, of course, which brings me to this year's hajj, the largest annual gathering of people in the world. This year the Muslim pilgrimage to the holy city Mecca, in Saudi Arabia, drew an estimated 3.5 million worshippers at its high point, Nov. 15.

Muslims who are healthy and can afford to are called on to make the pilgrimage at least once in their lifetime. The height of the Hajj is the Day of Arafat, a daylong communion with God in the desert outside Mecca, as the pilgrims — men wearing only two pieces of white linen, a reminder that



Delray Beach Interfaith Clergy Association President, the Rev. Kathleen Gannon of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, with Maya Malay.

all are equal before God — seek foreiveness and offer prayers for family, friends and humanity.

The next day is the major holiday Eid al-Adha, signifying a return to our human innocence, like a newborn baby free of sins. This year, members of the Islamic Center of Boca Raton again made a point of inviting the public to its Eid celebrations, as others increasingly are doing.

There isn't space here to list or expound on all the winter holidays.

But beyond the gatherings of families and friends, perhaps the best achievement is that folks of different faiths — or claiming no particular faith — increasingly are participating in the celebration of other traditions.

The sharing and caring, and the remembrance that "the other" is one of our fellow human beings, may be the best message of any season.



C.B. Hanif is a writer and inter-religious affairs consultant. Find him at www.interfaith21.com

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One aspect about dogs that I enjoy is that they don't care if you make minimum wage or your name is Oprah. They could not care less if you drive a 10-year-old sedan or a brand new BMW. They would never text their canine pals to diss about your lack of fashion sense — even if they did possess opposable thumbs.

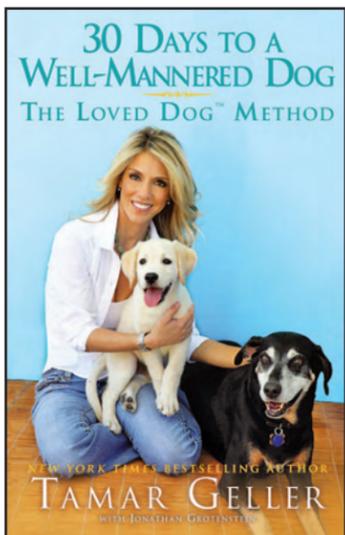
When it comes right down to it, dogs love us purely and completely.

So, why are we turning far too many of them into frog farmers?

That term, coined by Alison Armstrong, an expert on understanding men, has been adapted in the pet world by Tamar Geller, best described as “dog coach to the stars.”

Her positive, encouraging, playful training style has worked on dogs sharing homes with the Who's Who of Hollywood, ranging from Ben Affleck and Courteney Cox to Owen Wilson and Oprah Winfrey.

She also is the owner and operator of The Loved Dog, a cage-free doggy boarding and day care center in Southern California and founder of



Tamar Geller's book, *30 Days to a Well-Mannered Dog*, focuses on using positive reinforcement to train canines.

Operation Heroes & Hounds, a nonprofit program that champions homeless dogs and wounded military personnel.

Recently, this *New York Times* bestselling author appeared on my *Oh Behave* show on Pet Life Radio. Geller came to talk about her game plan to create a well-mannered dog in a month.

She is so confident people can convert doggy Dennis the

Menaces into polite, playful pooches that she authored a new book aptly titled, *30 Days to a Well-Mannered Dog: The Loved Dog Method*.

But first, let's go back to that frog prince reference. I'll let Geller explain.

“Many women want to ‘kiss the frog’ to get a handsome prince, but too many take a prince and fill his life with negativity that we turn them into frogs,” she begins. “The same principle holds true with good puppies and dogs rescued from shelters or adopted from responsible breeders. We scold them, tell them ‘no’ and command them to do this or not do that to the point that we risk turning them into dogs who distrust people or who want to run away. In short, we end up ‘frogging’ the dog.”

When one takes a negative, punitive approach to dog training, it's easy to see why some dogs start thinking that their full names are: No Leave It Stop It Now. Fortunately, Geller is on a mission to change all that.

“Dogs don't want to feel that they are wrong all the time,” says Geller. “We need to bring kindness back into dog training. With my clients, I show them how much they already know. I help them learn how to align their dogs' desires with their own to create rich and enduring relationships that work wonderfully for everyone.”

In her book, she outlines specific ways to incorporate love, play and mutual respect to get your new dog off on the right paw — or help you make a fresh start with your current dog — in 30 days.

For starters, take on the role of coach and not doggy commander. “Be a compassionate coach and not a doggy dictator and your dog will want to do more to please you,” she says.

Sprinkle in some doggy humor and be flexible.

“If you want your dog to



Tamar Geller, ‘dog coach to the stars,’ has worked with the pets of such personalities as Ben Affleck, Courteney Cox, Owen Wilson and Oprah Winfrey. Photo provided

learn to sit and he backs up each time, then say, ‘back off’ and reward that behavior and then go back to teaching sit. If your dog is eating grass, have a little fun and mark that action by saying, ‘be a goat.’”

And, if you really want your dog to feel that you “get” him, than engage in a game of tug-of-war with defined rules.

Explains Geller, “This is a game that comes natural to dogs.

In the beginning, let him win more.

At the end, you win more. The key is to that when you tell your dog to drop the toy, he does so immediately and sits politely. Your dog knows that the only way he will get his toy back is to listen and drop.

You are showing real leadership.

At the end of the game, say, ‘no more’ and take the toy with you. Do that and you will have an unbelievable dog who is eager to please you.”

As the holidays approach, pet adoptions increase. My wish

is that you consider adopting from a shelter an adult dog from a shelter who matches your personality and enroll in an obedience class that focuses on positive reinforcement techniques.

You can learn more about bringing out the best in your dog by visiting www.tamargeller.com and by tuning into the *Oh Behave* show that features Tamar Geller by clicking on: www.markiac.addr.com/PET_LIFE_RADIO/behaveep125.html.

Happy howl-days!



Arden Moore, Founder of *Four Legged Life.com*, is an animal behavior consultant, editor, author and professional

speaker. She happily shares her home with two dogs, two cats and one overworked vacuum cleaner. Tune in to her *Oh Behave* show on *Pet Life Radio.com* and learn more by visiting www.fourleggedlife.com.

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House of the Month

Each month, The Coastal Star features a home for sale in our community. The House of the Month is presented as a service to our advertisers and provides readers with a peek inside one of our very special homes.



The view of Ocean Plaza from the beach. The condominium unit is in the center of the third floor.



The deck provides plenty of room for entertaining with the ocean as a backdrop.

Ocean views in an elegant, care-free setting

Ocean Plaza provides elegant living at the ocean's edge in Deerfield Beach. Restaurants and shops are within easy walking distance, and beautiful white sand beach within 60 feet of the front of the third-floor home.

There is a two-mile oceanfront path, perfect for morning walks, and the condominium amenities include an oceanfront pool, fitness center and 24/7 concierge service.

The ocean, sand and palm trees can be seen through floor to ceiling windows from the living room or from the large oceanfront deck.

The unit has two bedrooms with oceanfront master suite, 2½ baths and a den/office in 3,179 square feet.

The state-of-the-art kitchen, with wood cabinets and granite countertops opens onto the living room.

A private keyed and monitored elevator entry opens directly into the home, which also has two underground parking spaces.

Offered at \$1,195,000.

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ABOVE: The travertine marble floors flow into the master bedroom, which also offers ocean vistas.



The kitchen offers custom wood cabinets, granite countertops and top-of-the-line appliances.



LEFT: The large living room has ample space for entertaining and a wall of windows overlooking the outdoor deck and the beach beyond.

What's in a Name?

For Us, It's Now "Regional"

We're proud to announce that Boca Raton Community Hospital is now Boca Raton Regional Hospital. Born out of community need in 1967, we've evolved from a capable community hospital into an institution in the vanguard of medicine in south Florida. We are:

- A world-class, \$73 million cancer center and one of the largest oncology programs in the state.
- The most advanced radiation oncology therapies and technology.
- Ranked by HealthGrades™ – in Florida for 2011 – #1 for cardiac surgery, overall cardiac care, and treatment of stroke and #2 for gastrointestinal medicine.
- An Emergency Department and women's health program that are in the top 5% nationally.
- A national leader in endovascular care.
- Listed in Becker's Hospital Review as one of 25 *Hospitals and Health Systems with Great Cardiovascular Programs*, along with such notables as Brigham and Women's, The Cleveland Clinic and Duke University Medical Center.
- The most experienced center for breast care with over 90,000 procedures a year and a pioneer in the diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer.
- State-of-the-art imaging.

We've come a long way in the past forty years. And yet, while we're changing our name, we're not changing our purpose – to be the provider of choice for sophisticated, cutting-edge medicine and technology for patients in our immediate community ... and beyond.



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