Boca Museum docents drawn to art

By Deborah S. Hart-Snedley

Becoming a docent at the Boca Raton Museum of Art is a little like getting a graduate degree in fine art. Just ask any of the 50 volunteers who have been through the six-month training program to be a museum guide.

“Having been and going through this program is like being back at Carnegie-Mellon University art school,” says docent Linda Schottland, who has an art background.

On this afternoon, a group of 30 people from the Huntington’s-down community in Delray Beach are about an hour late for their scheduled time of the museum’s two new exhibits: “California Imaginaries: Paintings from The Irvine Museum” and “Cult Costume and the Cinema.”

The latter is “a show based on the curatorial and research that goes into period costumes for the movies,” explains curator of education Claire Chua.

These shows kick off the museum’s 100th anniversary year.

Chua is in evidence the afternoon as the organizer of the docents with the cameras.

When another group of visitors shows up early for their scheduled tour on this Friday afternoon, Chua shuffle her docents to get the people on their way through the exhibits. She doesn’t want too many people in the same area of the museum at the same time as it can get crowded and noisy.

This makes crowd control difficult for the docents, but they are trained to handle problems.

The docent training program is offered every other year to 15 to 20 people. The trainer must two times a week for course work to become immersed in the museum’s permanent collection, as well.

See DOCENTS on page 5.

Highland Beach

The town’s secret musical treasure

By Steve Plunkett

The Lyric Chamber Orchestra has a new conductor, new sopranos and a new focus. After nine seasons, it’s going strong. But some people don’t know about it.

“Here you have a gem in,” said Ruth Stevens of Deerfield Beach, one of the orchestra’s co-founders and its principal violinist.

It’s not easy getting the word out, Stevens said.

“None of Highland Beach’s many condo buildings will let them put up posters,” she said, and the town won’t air an announcement on cable TV’s government channel.

Town resident Seymour Strauss, whose wife, Dorothy, is also a Lyric co-founder, uses the public comment portion of Town Manager’s meetings to plug the orchestra.

See LYRIC on page 8.

Inside

Meet your neighbor: Reinaide Patricia impregnates bridges, writes short stories. Page 16

House of the Month: New home in Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club is a blank canvas. Page 28

Vote March 8: Polls open at 7 a.m. Vote early. Page 3, 9

Keno brothers speak: Leigh, left, and Randy, right, will launch a new furniture line and explain how antiques and contemporary pieces go together. Page 14

Boca Bacchus: Annual culinary event benefits historical society. Page 19
Editorial
Let the Lyric be music to your ears for years to come

"You're struggling, aren't you?" the caller asks.

The words are not music to Bath Stevens' ears.

"Financially, but not musically," she replies.

Stevens is one of the co-founders and principal violinist of the Lyric Chamber Orchestra. The Boynton Beach woman does not understand why the orchestra, which has concerts in the parish hall at St. Lucy's Catholic Church and is gearing up for its April 1 season finale, (see Steve Pleschetz's story on Page 1) is struggling. Musicians such as Stevens remain upbeat about performances, but when it comes to financing, it's a struggle to put on a happy face. Highland Beach gave the Lyric $5,000 in its debut year and again in 2003. Since then, nada.

Correction
A story in the February issue about Palmetto Park Road east of the Intracoastal Waterway in Boca Raton incorrectly reported the status of parking meters there. The planned meters were scheduled to be installed by October, but have not been put in yet.

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Boca Raton

Palmetto Park construction postponed

By Angie Francalancia

With overwhelming support from the merchants, Boca Raton has agreed to delay constructing raised intersections on Palmetto Park Road, which would have meant closing portions of the road during the tourist season. The Downtown Community Redevelopment Agency voted to delay the construction that began last September after a survey of merchants showed 38 favoring the delay while nine were opposed. Deferring the work adds $72,000 to the cost. "Thank you very much. It's very appreciated," said Colman Lowndes, owner of Boca Raton Trans. City Manager Jeff Alnoff said only a part of the project that would require the road to be closed would be deferred until May 10. Merchants questioned the timing of the $4.8-million project last October when the work began. The work on Palmetto involves creating wider sidewalks with paved, improved lighting and landscaping and installing the raised intersections. The project's cost is $1.2 million, city officials say, between Mizner Park and Royal Palm Plaza and the path to downtown more pedestrian friendly. The city will install the raised intersections which will require closing the road in parts — at Northeast Third, Fourth and 10th avenues and at Mizner Boulevard. Once that work resumes in May, it will take about 30 days to complete, Alnoff said.

Money set aside for parking meters

Boca Raton is expected to contract with Barkhardt Construction Co., a contractor for the Pedestrian Promenade project, at a cost to City Council meetings. The increase in $72,000 will add infrastructure for parking meters for the cost of the project, the city. While Barkhardt is installing the infrastructure for meters, it is not a vendor for Parking meters, and the city is requiring the city to pay the cost of the project. — Mariam Pankett

Is Highland Beach throwing away money?

The Town of Highland Beach has a way to spend almost $900,000 of its operating money and get absolutely nothing in return. There is no product or service that the town receives for this expense. Other towns are spending the money to look into the future. At the Feb. 1 commission meeting, a motion was passed to suspend the town manager for five months with pay, including benefits. The manager is not to return to the town property during the suspension, and the manager was immediately turned over equipment owned by the town, except for the automobile leased for his use. The manager received an annual salary of $60,000 and benefits. The manager is not to withdraw the premises (leasing). The motion passed 5-2 with the mayor voting with the minority. I am encouraged by the fact that two of the commissioners were not appointed to the commission. They are former commissioners and former managers of the town. They are not associated with the current administration. The motion was made by a commissioner who is not a member of the current management team. I believe this motion is a step in the right direction. I commend the town for taking this action.
Along the Coast

Divers fear boats more than sharks

By Steve Piko

In a spooky public service announcement weeks before his death, a Zen-sounding James Dean urged the audience to drive safely. “This line you might say,” he said, “might be wise.”

Dean died alone in his car off U.S. 1 in January, but his message resonates through the decades. Be responsible for others. That’s true whether it’s in a car or a boat.

In regards to the latter, the life you save might just save an swimmer — or rather their operators — might be the single most dangerous threat to the SCUBA divers and snorkelers that flock to the area during the winter season. Incidents between boaters and divers aren’t uncommon, but when one occurs, it nearly always results in serious injury to the diver or divers.

In January, for example, James C. Shelly, of Myrtle Beach, S.C., was hit by a boat while diving in the Atlantic Ocean off the Boca Inlet. Shelly was cut by the boat’s propeller even though, according to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation

Commissions report, he and the commercial vessel were displaying dive flag.

Highland Beach resident Jon Berger, 64, who was behind the wheel of the powerboat that day, was charged with culpable negligence and careless operation resulting in a boating accident, according to the PWC. Berger was cited for failing to stay at least 300 feet away from a divers down flag.

On dry land and in the safety of a Boca Raton restaurant, Ginny De Matti, gently knocked her knuckles on the table next to her soup.

“I’ve never seen an accident,” the Boca Raton dive master and bartender said. “I mostly dive with members of my dive club (South Florida Divers Inc.). They’re extremely experienced. We dive according to the rules.

“There was an incident a couple of years ago where someone got hit by the boat, but he didn’t do anything wrong.”

That seems to be the key phrase to most accidents that involve divers and boats. The divers, “didn’t do anything wrong.”

Between 2004 and 2008, according to the PWC, 22 scuba divers were injured or killed when run over by a boat.

These are just the accidents. De Matti, who has logged more than 250 dives around the world since 2003, said she has seen an increase in near-miss incidents in the area while she dives between West Palm Beach and Fort Lauderdale.

“Sometimes up in West Palm Beach they don’t dive with flags like we do in Boca and Deerfield. They throw up what’s called a ‘mug.’

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Boca Raton Election: Mayor's race

The race between incumbent Mayor Susan Wheelchel and challenger Linda Spurling Grunisfen will be the only contest on the March 8 ballot. The mayor is paid $750 a month plus $150 a month in car expenses and council members are paid $600 a month, plus $150 in car expenses, for three-year terms.

Re-elected without opposition to the City Council are Deputy Mayor Susan Haynes in Seat A and Michael Mlaubaugh in Seat B.

LINDA SPURLING GRUNISEN
PERSONAL: 45; married; B.A., liberal arts, Florida Atlantic University.
PROFESSIONAL: Certified professional guardian and homemaker.
POLITICAL: First run for office.
PRIORITY: The current council plans to balance our budget by closing parks and recreation facilities, installing parking meters, judicious use of red-light cameras and raising indirect taxes. These ideas are all destructive. It is my aim to generate ideas that are constructive. The current strategy reflects a failure to recognize the economic opportunities that our unique position gives us.

SUSAN WHEELCHEL
PERSONAL: 67; married; four children. B.S., political science and psychology, Jacksonville University; master's work in psychology, Nova University and Florida Atlantic University.
PROFESSIONAL: Retired from family business; former school teacher.
POLITICAL: Serving first term as mayor; former City Council member; former Palm Beach County School Board member.
PRIORITY: My priority is job creation/ economic development; public safety; neighborhood and quality of life issues, and education.

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A group from Huntington Point condominium in Delray Beach listens as docent Phyllis Heller (above and right) explains the intricacies of an exhibit at the Boca Raton Museum of Art. Photos by Tim Stimpson

DOCENTS:

Continued from page 11 as to learn tour techniques, strategies and planning and the logistics of guiding groups through the exhibits.

“We don’t focus our training on exciting facts,” says Carrie O’Donnell. “Our goal is to help our docents be facilitators who can cause a discussion and engage our visitors with questions.”

To graduate, the docents have to give a one-hour tour to staff and other volunteers without using notes. After graduation, there’s continuing education, previews and briefings for new exhibits and additional workshops on topics such as how to work with students. Docents also must commit to working at least three hours a week.

“Being a docent is a wonderful opportunity to learn and get to share what you’ve learned,” says Phyllis Heller as she takes off with the first 14 people to attend in the condo group. The others will be under the supervision of Schotland.

Different styles

Going along, we discover these two women’s presentation styles are very different, but each uses her own personality to keep the people engaged.

For example, Heller was an accountant before she retired in November. She’s been a docent for eight years. “I’ve always been interested in art. I’m drawn to the sheer beauty of it. It lets me use the other side of my brain,” she says. Although she enjoys pointing out the period costumes on display in the “Car” exhibit, she confesses when we come to the room filled with California Impressionist paintings.

She is taken with the way the artists apply paint and their use of light, which she points out in loose or free painting she finds particularly noteworthy. “We are only together for an hour so we can’t talk about everything. But you are welcome to look around after the tour or come back to find things you especially like,” she says.

For those led by Schotland, they can’t help but find her passion for the costume exhibit. She was a fashion editor for Glamour magazine, and her background in the field makes her enthusiasm contagious.

A wine-colored waistcoat covered with gold embroidery and studded with gold buttons on display.

“This was the beginning of the three-piece suit,” Schotland says, pointing out the coat, vest, lace-edged shirt and knee britches. This particular outfit was worn by Heath Ledger playing Giacomo Casanova in the 2005 movie Casanova.

Schotland neatly bags the mannequin as she explains the delicate stitching. Then she shows the usual to the rest of the figure with her group in tow to point out the many useless buttons in the back of its costume.

If you go

The Boca Raton Museum of Art, 301 Plaza Real, Boca Raton, 560-2100, www.bocamuseum.org. Bonus Days Tuesdays: Thursday and Friday, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 1 and 3 p.m. Group Tours can be arranged by calling the museum. Children’s Art Days: 10-11:30 a.m. on the first Thursday of the month. Current Exhibits (Special Exhibition Admission applies): “Ceramic Impressions: Paintings from The Irvine Museum” through April 7. “Costume and the Cinema” through April 28. “La Sultane from the Museum’s Collection” (in the Auditorium) through May 1. “Romanticism to Modernism: Great Masters: Monets and Van Goghs to Picasso” in the Education Gallery through June 16. Reservations required. Adults, $5; seniors, $4; students, $3; children under 12, free. Special Exhibition Admission: $5; seniors, $4; students, $3; children under 12, free. Tickets can be purchased at www.bocamuseum.org.

The buttons are how they wore their wealth,” she says as she points to the next expensively dressed mannequin.

Visitors also share

Being a docent isn’t a nine-to-five story. Heller remembers a tour group the hall where members were MIT alumni. “The next thing you know, they’re headed back to M.I.T. Enriched school. So when they came to the movies by him, he let them talk.

“Sometimes if you listen, you learn a lot,” she says.

Schotland had a different experience. She was giving a tour while back when a young boy exclaimed in excitement: “That’s an authentic European accoutrement.” She asked if he’d like to join her group. “But he said he knew more than me and had no need of a tour,” she says.

Even so, she invited him to follow along. And at the end of the tour, she said he’d done such a good job that she wanted to give him some of his artwork to the museum. She thought he was joking.

That’s how she arranged to have 25 Thoroughbred Alexander Steen prints from his collection donated to the museum, noting these in honor of the work the docents did at the museum.

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INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED VINTNERS
LYRIC: Continued from page 9
Commission meetings to put in a good word for the all-string orchestra.

"Please come, we need the attendance," the retired dentist said at one meeting.

"Some of our musicians spend as much as a hundred, a hundred and fifty dollars a year of their own money paying for gas to get to the rehearsal."

The Lyric’s first of two concerts this season draws about 150 patrons to St. Lucy Catholic Church. The parish hall can hold 500 more people, and orchestra members hope to pack the place for their April 1 season finale.

"I told everybody to bring a friend," new conductor Clark McAlister said.

The orchestra’s 22 members practice every Thursday at the church. As a recent rehearsal they went over Franz Schubert’s Eight German Dances, from 1822-25, and Irving Berlin’s A Pretty Girl Is Like a Melody, from 1939.

April’s performance will also include the British arrangement of Purcell’s Chacony and Irishman Ronu’ Over the Waves, said McAlister, a composer, music publisher and former assistant-conductor with the now disbanded Florida Philharmonic also joining the orchestra this year to supervise Josephine Dolce, who sings for Opera Night at the restaurant.

Clark McAlister is the Lyric’s new conductor. McAlister also is a music publisher.

Josephine’s of Boca Raton as well as concerts sponsored by the Friends of the Highland Beach Library. Dolce recently became St. Lucy’s music director, Stevens said.

Despite this year’s changes and a sense of optimism for the coming performance, the musicians still get to pick up any money from town government. The current season would not have been possible, Stevens said, without generous contributions from Stevens and the Lyric’s principal violist, Vera Rosen of Coral Springs.

Highland Beach gave the orchestra $5,000 in its first year and again in 2001 but nothing since.

"I don’t think we can stay there much longer," Stevens said. "It would be a pity to leave, but there comes a point where you say, ‘So long.”

The April 1 performance begins at 7 P.M. at St. Lucy’s, 1915 Ocean Blvd. Tickets are $15 and $20. For information, call Ruth Stevens at 703-1130 or e-mail Ruth.Stevens@orange.com.

See MANAGER on page 12.
Highland Beach Election: Mayor’s race

Voters will elect one mayor/commissioner for a term of three years. Commissioners receive $72,000 a year, the mayor receives $155,000. Dennis Sheridan won with no opposition to fill Commission Seat #1 from retiring commissioner John Sorrell.

BERNARD FEATHERMAN
PERSONAL: 81, married; two children; B.S. Temple University; attended graduate business school and law school, Temple University; completed banking course, Wharton School at University of Pennsylvania.

PROFESSIONAL: Retired president of metal manufacturing company.

POLITICAL: Secretary of State for the Constitutional Convention; member of the Board of Directors for the National Republican Committee; member of the Republican National Committee.

JIM NEWELL (I)
PERSONAL: 47, married; one child; B.S. business administration, Saint Vincent College; continuing education 40-plus hours a year.

PROFESSIONAL: Certified public accountant, owner, J W Newell, CPA, member American Institute of CPAs, member Florida, Ohio, Pennsylvania Institutes of CPAs and NAA; Who’s Who in American Finance & Industry; served on boards of financial institutions past 30 years.

POLITICAL: Mayor since 2003; board member Palm Beach County League of Cities, former commissioner; served on financial advisory board.

PRIORITY: My priority is to continue to maintain civility, courtesy and respect at commission meetings; continue my two-term commission pledge to fiscal responsibility, accountability and accuracy; continue to use performance measurement to justify need first and fund second on all projects; work to maintain the high-quality life in our town; work to preserve and protect our town’s natural resources; continue revitalizing our Promenade, downtown, and parks; work to maintain a balanced budget and stable tax rate. I fully understand and agree with the town manager/commission form of government, rather than a mayor-dominant form of government, my only agenda is what is best for the town, the residents and the employees. The only legacy I will strive for is one of fairness and provide a voice for the residents.

— C.B. Hanf

MANAGER:

continued from page 9

friend some e-mails from Ponte Vedra Beach, a mayor regarding a dispute that had a Heating, Ventilating & Air Conditioning Association of Florida for Small Business with three presidents. The former president was under investigation for the Association of Steel Distributors for the United States and Canada; served on board of American Red Cross Southern Region; former board member of the Public Relations Council; member of the Philadelphia Community Economic Development Council; former president and state treasurer of the Association of Retired Citizens of Philadelphia; member of Philadelphia Mayor’s Tax Policy and Budget Review Committee; former vice chair of the South Philadelphia Chapter of the March of Dimes.

PRIORITY: I want to restore the town manager to his position because I believe there are some very highly questionable situations going on. And we want to get the volunteers for our committees restored. Right now they’ve closed down the town hall and they have a magistrate or an outside person, who probably is a lawyer, who makes decisions for the residents whether they like it or not. We want to give the town back to the people.

MEET

Todd Schleicher
COLDWELL BANKER

Todd Schleicher has been and still is a successful stock trader. He seems to have a strong sense of when to buy and sell companies, like U.S. Steel and Apple Computer. Very recent trade in Apple netted over $45,000.

Todd also loves real estate. He is a partner in several commercial shopping centers located in California, Utah, Kentucky and Georgia.

In addition, Todd is pitching his marketing ideas to a new website to stand out as a Boca Raton Presence International Specialized using and selling homes in upscale areas like Golden Harbour and Royal Palm Yacht and Country Club. His latest offering is a beautiful brand new construction 4000 square foot, single story home, 2265 date Palm Road, Royal Palm, coming on the market in the coming weeks.

Todd’s developed a unique “One house only” marketing plan for home which he feels is the best. He puts his own personal money into extra special advertising, everything he knows about what his broker Coldwell Banker will see and do. Todd pays for direct mail to potential buyers, full page magazine advertise “featuring just one home” and every newspaper ad “featuring just one home” and also the internet and West Palm Beach. Some direct mail is done in cities like New York to prospective buyers of homes in South Florida.

Todd says “Most brokers run an ad featuring several homes. I run full page ads featuring ‘One house only’ which I believe is a more effective way to promote an individual sellers listing. This money is entirely Todd’s risk and in no way cost the seller any money.

Todd’s eye for design and attention to detail is helpful to both sellers and buyers. Uncover by most Boca Raton home owners is the fact that Coldwell Banker is the largest seller of homes nationally and also the largest seller of homes in Boca Raton.

If you are interested in buying or selling a home call Todd, 561-909-5203.

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Palm Beach Film Fest coming to FAU’s Living Room

Instead of Miami, the festival’s Boca site will be the new Living Room Theater on the FAU campus. Screenings will be held at the Movies of Delray, Lake Worth Playhouse and Mizner CityPlace in West Palm Beach. Boca’s Bridge is the best hotel this year.

Festival organizers have kept the celebrity tightly guarded, but they did let us know that this year’s Golden Palm Award will go to Richard Jenkins.

The ever-increasing number of films being shown at the Festival have made it necessary to expand the facilities. The Festival will begin March 24 and run through March 25, at the Boca Resort & Club swimming pool. "It’s ra..." the organizers insist. "It’s ra... but it’s not!"

Saturday, March 24, will be "Movie Night" at the Festival. The film "The Grand Budapest Hotel" will be shown at 8 p.m. at the Mizner CityPlace. The movie is rated R for strong language, some sex and brief nudity. The film is about the adventures of a legendary concierge at a famous European hotel in the 1930s.

The film will be followed by a Q&A session with the film’s director, Wes Anderson, and producer,门前 J. Levy. The session will be moderated by Film Critic Adam Aronson.

Sunday, March 25, will be "Music Day" at the Festival. The film "The Beatles: Eight Days a Week - The Touring Years" will be shown at 8 p.m. at the Mizner CityPlace. The film is rated PG for some mild suggestive content and brief language. The film is about the Beatles' 1964-66 tour of America, which helped launch their international career.

The film will be followed by a Q&A session with the film’s director, Peter Shillcutt, and producer, George C. Lassiter III, who is the Beatles' tour manager. The session will be moderated by Film Critic Adam Aronson.

In addition to the films, there will be a variety of other events, including a music concert, a panel discussion, and a wine and cheese reception.

For more information, visit the film festival’s website at www.palmbeachfilmfest.com or call 561-334-2345.
**Town:** Continued from page 9

Sporling act. He could play piano, he could sing and he could tell a pretty good joke or two himself.

The Sherry Connick

It's his first visit to South Florida. Soon he was big, really big.

Connick never forgot that promoter Jon Stoll of Fantasmas Productions gave him that chance, and he returned often. He'll be back April 9, with orchestrations by AEG Live, Fantasmas's successor, at Mizner Park Amphitheater.

“We think it's a perfect spot for Sherry,” says P.J. Juliano of Valenzano's first show at the Amphitheater since the city took it over from LiveNation. “We’ll see how it goes, but we expect to do a lot more here.”

Three days before at Mizner, LiveNation will present Furthur, comprised of Grateful Dead members Phil Lesh and Bob Weir. Between the two shows, we’ve been forecasting storms responding to new hurricanes to keep them off the median and the probes against coolers and open containers.

AEG also is producing around 60 other shows at Mizner and at SunFest this summer.

**Little River Band** is set for March 19. It’s a fun for Kids in Distress. Tickets are $30 or $45 for VIP seats. The proceeds go to the school.

**Footnote**

**L-Zoeller**

**Barclay**

**Ball kids’ ‘hit list’ isn’t on their iPods**

By Paula DeWitt

When pre-tennis player John Arch of the Czech Republic steps to the service tee, he signs his autograph for local teen Billy Earnhart of Highland Beach to toss him a couple of balls.

Billy responded immediately, then quickly resumes his position against the hack wall, hands clasped behind his back, eyes up, shoulders square. A few minutes later, he’s chucking the Czech a bottle of water and shaking his hand with an umbrella during a break between games.

In one of 125 ball kids working the Delray Beach International Tennis Championships at the city’s tennis center, the tournament is held every February, and many of the ball kids return year after year. Bokel, however, is new to this. He signed up to earn community service hours toward his graduation in the international baccalaureate program at Atlantic Community High School.

“Tennis has been a part of my life since I was young,” Bokel says. “I’ve always been interested in tennis since I was young.”

Incidentally, Arch placed ninth and pocketed $48,000, but it wasn’t for three days. He beat his pickup partner.

Shawn Smith is a former tennis player in New York. "I played for a year. I got bit by the bug. I truly enjoyed it."


**Along the Coast**

**Abby Wondawak, 2010 U S Women’s Player of the Year and Olympic gold medalist, and Bocas Raton product Caitlin Minkel, 25, entering her sophomore season. League play begins April 9. They stunned.**

More than 8000 chopholicus packed the Boca Center courtyard for the Junior League of Boca’s 10th annual Chocolate Decadence. While most of the participating restaurants offered a variety of desserts and libations — all infused with chocolate — Savorin Billamps, executive chef at Boca’s Toscana, took honors for his main dish Pho Moti Mek. He picked up the recipe and technique while on vacation in the Tacon. A couple of choice marmalises also drew cheers. The party raised nearly $50,000 for the Junior League’s programs.

So what’s a pro to do after his first-round at the Allision Championship at Brooker Beach? Well, if you’re David Ferrer, take your picks straight for the wine test. The second annual Allision Golf & Wine Experience showcases wines and spirits moderated by professional golfers, including Ferrer, Arnold Palmer, Greg Norman, Fred Couples, Ernie Els and Fury Zoeller (all on the wine list). Unlike his contemporaries, Ferrer didn’t invest in the grape after making his money on the greens.

“My family has been growing grapes and making wine for more than 10 years,” Ferrer said. “I was working in the vineyards long before I was playing golf. It’s not something I take lightly.”

In fact, Ferrer just purchased his first club with money he made picking grapes. He bought his own vineyard in his native South Africa in 1994 and produced his first cases in 1995. Perhaps since South Africa’s wines are considered among the world’s best.

Incidentally, Ferrer placed ninth and pocketed $48,000., but it wasn’t for three days. He beat his pickup partner.

Shawn Smith is a former tennis player in New York. "I played for a year. I got bit by the bug. I truly enjoyed it."


**LEFT:** Billy Earnhart of Golf South catches a ball during a match at the 2010 FIC in Delray Beach.

**BELOW:** Evan Bokel of Highland Beach holds up tennis balls during junior tennis action. Brothers Kei, Nishikori and James Blake at the TC. Photos by Tim Stephens
St. Patrick’s Day

Where to find Irish cheer — and Irish beer

By Jan Nourris

If everyone is Irish on St. Patrick’s Day, they might all be in south Palm Beach County. The area’s Irish pubs and bars are all pulling out the stops, and offering up plenty of Irish fare and music to quench everyone’s thirst for the day.

To help you order food and drink properly — and get what you expect — here’s a brief guide.

Shepherd’s pie. We assume, you see, shepherd’s pie is the making of this dish. Traditionally, this is a pot pie made with leftover meats, vegetables and topped with mashed potatoes. Today, these are dense soups, richly made with pork or beef. They’re called shepherds because the original dish was made with meat to stretch during lean years,exploded readily under high heat, worked to perfection and served in a hearty, savory pie.

Bangers and mash. House-made sausages with mashed potatoes. Like many other dishes on Irish menus, it’s an English import. There are different sausages, for ones made with pork or beef. They’re called bangers because the original dish was made with meat to stretch during lean years, exploded readily under high heat, worked to perfection and served in a hearty, savory pie.

Guinness. This Irish stout is often called “black in a glass.” Rich and sturdy, it warmed the homes of the Irish in winter. You should expect a lot when you see it on the menu. Ask for it. It’s usually served at 11 a.m.

At the Wishing Well Irish Pub, also in Royal Palm Beach, place is on tap all day, starting around 11 a.m. Five bars will be serving Guinness. It will be served in the parking lot for the perfect pint. You can have your pint with your Roku, but it wouldn’t be the same on St. Pat’s Day. Just ask for it. It’s the perfect size for Irish fare.

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Where to be Irish

There is a full house of Irish pubs in the Mizner Park Royal Palm Place area. For the best of the Irish pubs, hit O’Brien’s Irish Pub in Royal Palm Place. At the former O’Connell’s, we opened at 4 a.m. serving breakfast — corned beef hash and eggs — said Brian O’Brien, manager. Expect First Street to be closed off for the two circus tents they put up to hold the Irish dancers, bagpipers, and live bands.

Pipers get in the spirit at Holloway’s Pub in Boca Raton.

_sq.jpg

Dubliner plans an Irish buffet for St. Patrick’s Day at its Mizner Park location. Photos provided
Boca Raton

Mango Gang back to get things cookin’ for Boca Bacchanaal

By Deborah S. Kertz Seelye

The Mango Gang is back in town for the ninth annual Boca Bacchanaal, March 14 through 20. The original gang — chefs Allen Susser, Mark Militello, Douglas Boettcher, Joseph Gutierrez and Norman Van Aken — honored Florida’s agricultural wealth with Caribbean, Cuban and Latin American influences to create their signature Floribbean cuisine.

“Their great chefs had the vision and talent to utilize our fresh local produce, the bounty from Florida’s waters and the influences of our geographies and rich cultural mix to create a unique style of cooking,” says Debbie Abrams, president of the Board of the Boca Raton Historical Society, which will benefit from this year’s Bacchanaal.

The gang promoted their campaign in the 1980s when regional American cooking was widely celebrated.

“The food made sense in Florida’s weather. It was simple, light and used local ingredients that many of today’s chefs are just discovering 25 years later,” says Militello, who was owner of the legendary Mark’s Place in South Miami when the Mango Gang ruled. He also had restaurants at Mizner Park and CityPlace.

And it was those chefs who earned Florida its place in the culinary world.

“Before we came along and started to work together and collaborate, there was no food scene in South Florida. We had no forward-thinking, innovative cooking on the area at all,” Sussner says.

Thanks to the efforts of these chefs and those they influenced, South Florida took its rightful place in the culinary world, where it has remained ever since.

Chefs, vintners paired

The Bacchanaal weekend features intimate dinners prepared by these chefs and the vintners they influenced, as well as a dinner auction held at a dinner at the Boca Raton Resort & Club, and a chance to sample dishes from local restaurants served during a tent in Mizner Park.

On the chef roster for the weekend is executive restaurateur consultant, Robert Wan, owner of the Troubadour at the Mount Vernon Yacht Club, who will create a unique dining experience at the Bacchanaal. The event will kick off with an open house at the Bacchanaal tent on March 18.

Members of the Mango Gang, including Allen Susser (left) and Mark Militello, will still cook during events at this year’s Bacchanaal. Photo provided

Boca Bacchanaal events

Vintner Dinners

Time and date: 7 p.m. March 16.
Tickets: $100, reservations required.

Celebrated Mango Gang chefs team with vintners to create intimate dinners served in private homes and other venues throughout eastern Boca Raton.

The Bacchanaal & Auction

Time and date: 6 p.m. March 18.
Location: Boca Raton Resort & Club, 101 E. Camino Real, Boca Raton.

Tickets: $125, reservations required.

In a lush tropical setting, sip, dine and bid at this food and wine extravaganza created by the hotel chefs and the weekend’s celebrity chefs. Bid in both silent and live auctions.

The Grand Tenting

Time: Noon to 3 p.m. March 20.
Location: Mizner Park Amphitheater, 390 Plaza Real, Boca Raton.

Tickets: $150 in advance, $200 at the door.

An alfresco luncheon served on the tented lawn featuring bite-size tastes of food from about 30 local restaurants and sips of 140 wines. You can also discover herbs, produce, specialty oils and foods in the Marketplace.

For information and reservations, visit www.bocabacchanaal.com

Proceeds benefit the Boca Raton Historical Society’s Historic Preservation and Heritage Education Programs.

By Rodriquez, Susey, Hout and How.

Guests can take their time from their sipping to bid in a silent auction.

The reception is followed by a dinner prepared by chefs Militello and Susser under the auspices of the resort’s executive chef Andrew Rodriquez.

Chitchat will be kept to a minimum as dinners concentrate on bidding in a live auction during the meal. Auction lots include items such as a week-long stay at Villa Bernard in Tuscany. The holiday for eight guests includes a private wine tasting at Chianti classics wineries. The Bacchanaal wraps up March 20 with a Grand Tenting under a tent in Mizner Park.

Thirty area restaurants, including City Pub Market and Casa 97 Angulas, both of Boca Raton, and Lola Delrey, Delray Beach, will provide samples of their menus with 150 tickets per pound.

“We are keeping some details under wraps at this point,” says Bacchanaal & Auction chairman Stephanie Fishman. “But I can tell you this will be one of the most . . . heredled food and wine events in the country.”

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MJOYglobal.com
Twin brothers with twin pursuits: Old treasures and their own new line

By Jan Norris

The Kano twins, Leigh and Leslie, have to be the most polite brothers anywhere. While constantly finishing one another’s sentences, they were verbally stopped instead of one another — “You continue” “No, you, please!” — while talking furniture and antiques at a recent Robb & Stucky appearance.

Leslie and Leigh Kano, well known to Antiques Roadshow viewers as period furniture appraisers, were in Boca Raton to promote their own furniture collection designed with Theodore Alexander and sold at Robb & Stucky stores. The three have long envisioned their own line of furniture, Leslie said. “Part of what we do is make judgments each time we find an antique, because we have to evaluate the history and the history of the period and the way it was made.”

Leigh continued. “It was a natural lead in to having our own ideas about what is classic, and will stand up as heirlooms.”

After meeting and evaluating the work of Alexander, they felt their line would fit with his philosophy. “With everything we sold at Robb & Stucky, they would feel our line would fit with his philosophy. This is not just furniture, Leigh said. “The sideboard has a checkerboard war face. That was inspired by wooden screen hauntings.”

The pieces are multifunctional, bringing them into the 21st century. They said, “In the world of today, multifunctional pieces are key — a bureau that can be used for a flat-screen TV stand, for instance, or a writing desk for eating. Our office chair is equally at home in the dining room or in the living room,” Leigh said. “We think the line meshes with modern lifestyles.”

Leslie added, “We wanted to design pieces that we would want to live with ourselves. We've got two dogs and two kids. I travel a lot. I know the hards that we all live at today.”

Their homes reflect the beauty of travel and TV appearances, as well as auction shows they are involved in. Leigh laughed and said his house is like a bachelor pad — suits are everywhere. “It's my neck and I'm a single person.” Leslie's got it right. “We live in a very housekeeper. No, don't say that. Just say they're wonderful!”

As for using antiques in Florida homes, the twins say they use a lot of them. “Classic: Classic with modern classics,” Leslie said. “Mix things up, but not in a cluttered way.”

And thanks to techniques and attention to detail like we discussed, climate and humidity aren't a problem for new wood furniture, Leslie said. “We are green, eco-friendly, and use nontoxic, non-wood furniture. We use materials that don't require much care.”

The 90- or 98-year-old man was raised around antiques. Their mother had a shop. They learned early how to do it right, to appreciate the history behind the pieces. “I'm amazed that you can perform the same actions as someone did 200 or 300 years ago. I like the fact that we still have today musical clocks from the Revolutionary period. We can have the exact same music, as maybe a Patriot did 200 years ago.”

How do the guys keep themselves from collecting every piece they see, since they still get excited about certain pieces after all these years? “Life wouldn't be any fun if we didn't find things we like to live with,” they laugh.

Leslie agreed. “Collecting is a primal part of being human. It starts when we're children, picking up shells on the beach or rocks. As we get older, certainly we're more selective. It's when you collect too much you get in trouble. These are the ones going for quantity over quality.”

“Not the best you could afford and reduce your collections. Continue to educate yourself and upgrade. Buy for the quality of the piece, that said.”

“I can appreciate those who can't help themselves.”

March antiques shows

Hunting for old treasures? How about finding new treasures at the antique events to get you started.

- West Palm Beach Antiques Festival, March 6-8, West Palm Beach, American Antiques Expo Center at the South Florida Fairground, 9001 Southern Blvd, West Palm Beach. Hours: Friday, 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. (941) 407-3749, www.wpbf.com.
- Evening on Antique Row, March 5. The Evening on Antique Row Show at 900 Dixie Highway. Northern Boulevard and Confederate Avenue with live entertainment, shows, live entertainment, books, toys, bicycle riders, and more, allowing visitors to explore the area. 90 unique shops, offering collections of 17th- to 20th-century antiques, decorative arts, period furnishings, and fine art. Hours 6-9 p.m. Tickets may be purchased for $10 each at the check-in booths or the 1500, 3600 and 3800 blocks of South Dixie Highway. (After-Party begins at 9 p.m., special ticket required.) Tickets are $20 for the evening and $25 for the After-Party. Both are $10 each and include admission to the Evening on Antique Row. Tickets may be purchased at the event check-in booths or at the entrance to the After-Party. (561) 407-3740, www.historicalcenters.org.
- Stuart Antique Show, 26th year, March 12-15, Martin County Fairgrounds, 26th St. Dixie Highway (A1A), Stuart, Hours: Saturday 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (941) 407-6272, www.floridauantiques.com.
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MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR: Reinaldo Padrino

When Reinaldo Padrino talks about his life, people often tell him he really needs to write a book.

"Well, maybe someday," Padrino says. For the next 12 years, the retired 52-year-old commercial diver and bridge inspector concentrated his writings to short stories. And he appreciates the feedback he collects from another group that meets at the Highland Beach Library.

"It's relaxing and my fellow writers like my quirky stories," says the Cuban-born wordsmith. "Plus it is something I can do when I am not able to run around diving on bridges or climbing [and inspecting highway] signs."

Working as a commercial diver in the offshore oil industry, Padrino has done and seen things most people never get to do or see.

"I worked on the construction of the Shell Cognac rig in 1976, which at the time was the deepest (11,095 feet) and tallest (3,130 feet) oil rig in the world," he explains. "Because I am bilingual, the company sent me to work in Mexico. Like the title, "Whiteout" in the Gulf of Campeche, which took 10 months to cap and spewed 300,000 barrels a day — a 1979 accident similar to what just happened in the Gulf of Mexico with BP."

"I also worked in Guatemala on the Rio Dulce, where a French company was building a pipeline through the jungle and they needed divers for the river crossing."

Close to home, Padrino was the fellow who found hungry, wood-boring moths changing away on the Royal Park Bridge (the middle bridge to Palm Beach from West Palm Beach). The Highland Beach man is still inspecting bridges large and small, including the many little bridges at Disney World.

He has always been comfortable around water. His parents, Edward and Edith, taught him to swim before he learned to walk.

"We had a summer/weekend home on Hutchinson Island that had a large swimming pool. When I was a kid, I thought it was the best thing and was delighted when he found himself surrounded by dolphins or little spinner sharks. He and his wife, Carl, a physical therapist, like to travel and snorkel."

His colleagues in the writers group like to hear him talk about his experiences with his father's lunchtime in Miami. He helps out during the holidays, like when the Super Bowl is in Miami.

His clients have included boxing champ Muhammad Ali, retired astronaut test pilot John Young and Olympic gold medal winners Gabriele and Emilie Ferran, who, he says, are very, very nice.

"Gabriele always invited us to her poolside parties." — Mary Thorneatcher

Q. Where did you grow up and go to school?
A. I was born in Havana Cuba, my family immigrated to this country in 1962, when I was 8.

We came from the Freedom Flights and settled in Miami, near the airport. I went to K极高. Park Elementary and junior High schools, then graduated from Miami Senior High in 1976 and attended George T. Baker aviation school as a high school elective. I got my commercial-diver degree from MIllholland's Coastal School of Deep Sea Diving in Oakland, Calif.

Q. How did you choose to make your home in Highland Beach?
A. I got lucky. I used to drive by sling on A1A admiring the condos and homes. Then on Dec. 17, 1995, I saw an ad in the Sunday paper for a condo on the beach. Even though it was out of my price range, I decided to take a look. Once I stepped out on the balcony and saw the ocean, I decided that I would somehow figure out a way to make it happen.

Q. What is your favorite part about living in Highland Beach?
A. Sneaking and kayaking, which is something I do right here in Highland Beach. I love to travel with my wife, Carl. We recently hiked in Zion National Park and the Grand Canyon, snorkled with whale sharks off the Yucatan Peninsula and went to the Breakers Hotel in Florida. And after seeing the bottoming whales in Maui, we are hoping, maybe, next year to go and see with bumphead whales along the Silver Bank, 30 miles north of the Dominican Republic. I also dabble in photography.

Q. What is your favorite short story about?
A. It is about a young woman whose office is in the third story of the World Trade Center. She has a meeting at 9 a.m. on the morning of W11 on the third floor and decides to go to the meeting early, rather than wait for somebody's intimidating perfume on the elevator and avoid being above the impact area. I think it is a story about fate, how a person's life can be changed, doomed or saved by the flip of a coin or a sudden decision.

Q. If someone made a movie of your life, who would you like to play you and why?
A. Sally Savares, Val Beryman or Carole Howard. Because of the physical appearance and the events of the last two and the mechanics of Carl.

Q. What music do you listen to when you need inspiration? When you want to relax?
A. I listen to the blues on Sirius Satellite radio for both.

Q. Have you had mentors in your life? Individuals who have inspired your life decisions?
A. I got a lot of moral support from my parents and grandparents. My father started working at Miami International Airport on the midnight shift of the day we arrived from Cuba, and within a year, he was the manager of the airport and had started a limousine business, which is what he did in Cuba. My mother, who had been a home economics teacher, worked starting a clothing factory back when Mission had a big clothing manufacturing industry and many Cuban women worked in them. My grandparents, who were in their thirties, would get up at 5 a.m. to get pick tomatoes in Homestead. Also, Richard Barfield, who was my mentor, diving partner and friend. He taught me the intricacies of underwater bridge inspection.

Q. Who or what makes you laugh?
A. My taste for humanity in the comedic movies of Bruce Cabbin to Sarah Silverman to Howard Stern. Unlike Johnny Knoxville and Ice Cube comedies and I enjoy British humor like Eddy Izzard. Absolutely Daffy and Monty Python. However, the comedians I grew up with are still my favorites, like Steve Martin, Rodney Dangerfield, John Belushi and Richard Pryze.
Society Spotlight

OPAI Awards Gala
The ballroom at The Club at Boca Pointe

Boca Raton Museum Diamond Anniversary Gala
At the Boca Raton Resort & Club
The Boca Raton Museum of Art celebrated its 60th anniversary Feb. 5 with a diamond-themed gala at the Boca Raton Resort and Club. The event raised more than $360,000.

The Rotary Club of Boca Raton honored presented its OPAI (Outstanding People and Leaders) Awards at the 14th annual presentation.

Above: Mr. and Mrs. Neil Meang, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Fedele and Michael Kaufman

Right: Countess Henrietta deHoorn, Janice Williams and Taelee Helfer.

Photos by Keili Boyle

Deni and Jack Sonnenblick

Pairings Party for Boca Bacchanal
At the Boca Raton Resort & Club

‘A Woman’s Journey’ symposium
At the Palm Beach County Convention Center

Mary De (left), Gayl Hadley and Andrea Komblue attended the Jan. 20 event in West Palm Beach.

Photos provided

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Along the Coast

No debate: Communication coach advises honesty

Communications consultant Myles Martel lives in Gulf Stream and works from his office in Boca Raton at the Bridge Hotel. Photo by Jerry Lanner

By Ron Hayes

Lucy is a very friendly person.

Yay! Yay! Yay!

One morning last month, as a visitor arrived at her oceanfront condo, she was very friendly—indeed.

Yay! Yay! Yay!

“Excuse me,” her master told his guest. “She’s a dog, so I have to speak dog.”

Rounding to address him, he held up a finger to demand attention and said, loudly and friendly, “Yay! Yay! Yay! Instantly, Lucy stopped yapping.

Myles Martel, Ph.D., knows how to communicate, and he does it better than Ronald Reagan.

This year, an American mark the centennial of the 40th president’s birth, some will praise him and some will blame, but almost all agree he was a great communicator.

Dr. Martel, a professor and communications consultant, was Reagan’s debate coach for the decisive Oct. 28, 1980, presidential debate between Reagan and President Jimmy Carter.

When that decisive debate began, a week before the voting, the incumbent president was slightly ahead in the polls.

“Are you better off now than you were four years ago?” Reagan asked, and left Cleveland that night with a comfortable lead. A week later, he won the presidency.

“Ronald Reagan was, in many ways, beyond a great communicator,” Martel said, staring out at the ocean view that brought him and his wife to Gulf Stream 15 years ago.

“He had a remarkable ability to express his views, and he was also an exceptional listener. But being able to speak well is one thing. To debate well brings you to a higher, more complex order of communication.”

And that’s why the great communicator brought in the great debate coach.

A native of Maine, Martel began debating in high school, continued in college and found his life’s work. He has written six books, advised more than 40 U.S. senators, congressmen, ambassadors, governors, and countless corporate executives. His bookshelves are adorned with photos of the men and women he’s taught to win arguments.

“In the debate with Carter,” he recalled, “Reagan needed to put Carter down without being too sharp, so I wrote strategy. My job was to critique his responses.”

They had “many, many” mock debates at a Middleburg, Va., estate where a garage had been transformed into a TV studio. Martel monitored Reagan’s clarity, his ability to respond within the time limit, and his body language.

“When in doubt, take notes,” he told him, “and no matter what, don’t look flustered.”

Ronald Reagan never looked flustered.

Myles Martel created this portrait of Ronald Reagan ambassadors, governors, and countless corporate executives. His bookshelves are adorned with photos of the men and women he’s taught to win arguments.

Myles Martel and Margaret Heckler, U.S. ambassador to Ireland, work with President Reagan. Photo courtesy of Myles Martel

“Now you go again,” he quipped, with a warm, avuncular smile, and the huge television audience was laughing in America.

From 1980 to 1989, Martel advised on crisis communications for oil company executives in 43 countries. From his headquarters in Boca Raton, he now advises CEOs on how to handle layoffs.

But what advice does he have for those of us who will never run for president or respond to a mammoth oil spill?

“Be aware of your listening vs. talking ratio,” he says. Communication is not only about what you say, it’s about hearing what other people say.

“When you start to make a point, be clear about your opinion.” There’s a thin line, Martel says, between establishing your credibility and becoming self-serving, which turns people off.

“When in doubt, leave it out.” Is that off color joke more

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Along the Coast

Car collectors get their fix while raising money for the Boys and Girls Club

By Ron Hayes

Tom Gerard scanned the green at the Boca Raton Resort & Club and realized a diagnosis.

"This is more treatable, it would be a diversion," he said. And then he added the good news. "But there's no cure."

Not that the hundreds of car lovers strolling among these hundreds of cars at the 8th annual Boca Raton Concours of Elegance that rendezvous Sunday afternoon were looking for a cure. They were looking for prices. Most were just looking. From Friday, Feb. 25, to Sunday, Feb. 27, the palm trees, the golf course, and the Chateau were a gathering place for people to come to see the classic cars and motorcycles to be appraised, judged, awarded, and, no doubt about it, enjoyed.

With more than 2,000 people attending, three days, the event attracted nearly $50 million for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Broward County, for Leno performed, H. Wayne Huizenga was honored, but the red stars were the cars, from vintage Motos to Monte Carlos, a small, automated museum. "Cars these days aren't cars; they're computer-produced and computer-engineered. This is not on wheels.

During his six years as the Museum of Science & Industry, Gerard drove luxury cars. For every day use, he'd had a 1965 Mercedes 6000, and a 2008 Ferrari 575. He started his collection.

Tom Gerard drives it all: "Yeah, it's fun," he says. "But it wasn't totally wrong, by the way."

Also competing in the same class as Gerard's GTO was Jeff Eder's 1969 Ford Shelby GTO, and the 1983 Acorn, both of which were given an award. "I'm a true car guy at heart," he says. "It's a way of life for me."

While Gerard and Eder wait for their cars, chatting with passerby, a sense of camaraderie among car owners is the thing to care for them. This year's winner was the 1963 Shelby Cobra, "A great car," he says. "It's a true car, a true classic."
New turtle tanks at Gumbo Limbo

By Steve Plunkett

The contentious seaturtle tanks that hold endangered sea turtles, sharks and stingrays at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center could be demolished as early as July to make way for a $10.8 million upgrade.

The Greater Boca Raton Beach and Boat District approved spending the money in late February, setting the stage for the Boca Raton City Council to approve the project this month.

"That’s about 25 years along that cause, that salt air is going to deteriorate and ruin everything," said Marc Gilbert, the center’s executive director.

Replacement tanks have been talked about for years. District commissioners first committed $1 million for them in 2007. Executive Director Robert Langford said, an amount that was carried over in subsequent budgets while the plan crystallized.

The city requested bids with four options, covering two new tanks, four tanks, four tanks with a roof over two of them and four tanks with a roof over all four. Langford recommended that commissioners allocate an additional $940,000 so the roof can be added to the project.

Up to now, canopies protect the marine exhibits and visitors from the sun, but there’s no shading in the viewing tanks.

The deeper pair of tanks will also have stained glass windows and skylights to provide an "expanded experience" in visitors, Langford said.

The construction timetable calls for the project to begin in June and be completed by March 2012, said Buddy Parks, the city’s deputy recreation services director.

Although the old tanks will be demolished, the staff at the nature center is working on having other public exhibits during construction. Programs will continue except for those directly associated with the tanks, Parks said.

The Friends of Gumbo Limbo plans to raise at least $250,000 to stock the tanks and create interpretive exhibits, said Mike Ziese, the nonprofit group’s development director.

Approval of the tank project comes as nesting season begins for sea turtles along Palm Beach County shores. Signs along State Road A1A remind residents and visitors on the beach to shield or dim their lights from March 1 to Oct. 1, as mother turtles and hatchlings rush to the ocean,
Community Calendar

MARCH 5
3/5- Art Outfits: Women in the Visual Arts (closed) at the Baca Baca Museum, 100 E. Main St. Hours: 10am-4pm. For information, call 770-536-0469.

MARCH 7
3/7- Vintage Craft Fair at The Birthplace of the United States Life Savers in Federal Way. From 10am-3pm. For more information, call 253-502-1912.

3/7- Art Outfits: Women in the Visual Arts (closed) at the Baca Baca Museum, 100 E. Main St. Hours: 10am-4pm. For information, call 770-536-0469.

3/7- 14th Annual Antique Show at the Baca Baca Museum, 100 E. Main St. Hours: 10am-4pm. For information, call 770-536-0469.

MARCH 8
3/8- Art Outfits: Women in the Visual Arts (closed) at the Baca Baca Museum, 100 E. Main St. Hours: 10am-4pm. For information, call 770-536-0469.

MARCH 9
3/9- Small Fry Story Time at the Baca Baca Museum, 100 E. Main St. Hours: 10am-4pm. For information, call 770-536-0469.

MARCH 10
3/10- Art Outfits: Women in the Visual Arts (closed) at the Baca Baca Museum, 100 E. Main St. Hours: 10am-4pm. For information, call 770-536-0469.

MARCH 11
3/11- Art Outfits: Women in the Visual Arts (closed) at the Baca Baca Museum, 100 E. Main St. Hours: 10am-4pm. For information, call 770-536-0469.

MARCH 12
3/12- Art Outfits: Women in the Visual Arts (closed) at the Baca Baca Museum, 100 E. Main St. Hours: 10am-4pm. For information, call 770-536-0469.

MARCH 13
3/13- Art Outfits: Women in the Visual Arts (closed) at the Baca Baca Museum, 100 E. Main St. Hours: 10am-4pm. For information, call 770-536-0469.

MARCH 14
3/14- Art Outfits: Women in the Visual Arts (closed) at the Baca Baca Museum, 100 E. Main St. Hours: 10am-4pm. For information, call 770-536-0469.

MARCH 15
3/15- Art Outfits: Women in the Visual Arts (closed) at the Baca Baca Museum, 100 E. Main St. Hours: 10am-4pm. For information, call 770-536-0469.

MARCH 16
3/16- Art Outfits: Women in the Visual Arts (closed) at the Baca Baca Museum, 100 E. Main St. Hours: 10am-4pm. For information, call 770-536-0469.

MARCH 17
3/17- Art Outfits: Women in the Visual Arts (closed) at the Baca Baca Museum, 100 E. Main St. Hours: 10am-4pm. For information, call 770-536-0469.

MARCH 18
3/18- Art Outfits: Women in the Visual Arts (closed) at the Baca Baca Museum, 100 E. Main St. Hours: 10am-4pm. For information, call 770-536-0469.

MARCH 19
3/19- Art Outfits: Women in the Visual Arts (closed) at the Baca Baca Museum, 100 E. Main St. Hours: 10am-4pm. For information, call 770-536-0469.

MARCH 20
3/20- Art Outfits: Women in the Visual Arts (closed) at the Baca Baca Museum, 100 E. Main St. Hours: 10am-4pm. For information, call 770-536-0469.
Municipal meetings

3/25 - Boca Raton 6 p.m. Boca Raton City Commission, 201 SW North Plastic Park Road. Meetings are open to the public. Call 996-2700 to confirm meeting status.

Museum

3/23 - Naples 10 a.m. The Naples Botanical Garden, 4820 Bay View Blvd. Admission is free. Children's Garden is open daily, weather permitting. Call 231-4250 or visit www.naplesbotanicalgarden.org.


3/25 - Naples 10 a.m. The Naples Botanical Garden, 4820 Bay View Blvd. Admission is free. Children's Garden is open daily, weather permitting. Call 231-4250 or visit www.naplesbotanicalgarden.org.


3/26 - Naples 10 a.m. The Naples Botanical Garden, 4820 Bay View Blvd. Admission is free. Children's Garden is open daily, weather permitting. Call 231-4250 or visit www.naplesbotanicalgarden.org.


3/27 - Naples 10 a.m. The Naples Botanical Garden, 4820 Bay View Blvd. Admission is free. Children's Garden is open daily, weather permitting. Call 231-4250 or visit www.naplesbotanicalgarden.org.


3/28 - Naples 10 a.m. The Naples Botanical Garden, 4820 Bay View Blvd. Admission is free. Children's Garden is open daily, weather permitting. Call 231-4250 or visit www.naplesbotanicalgarden.org.


3/29 - Naples 10 a.m. The Naples Botanical Garden, 4820 Bay View Blvd. Admission is free. Children's Garden is open daily, weather permitting. Call 231-4250 or visit www.naplesbotanicalgarden.org.


3/30 - Naples 10 a.m. The Naples Botanical Garden, 4820 Bay View Blvd. Admission is free. Children's Garden is open daily, weather permitting. Call 231-4250 or visit www.naplesbotanicalgarden.org.


3/31 - Naples 10 a.m. The Naples Botanical Garden, 4820 Bay View Blvd. Admission is free. Children's Garden is open daily, weather permitting. Call 231-4250 or visit www.naplesbotanicalgarden.org.


3/32 - Naples 10 a.m. The Naples Botanical Garden, 4820 Bay View Blvd. Admission is free. Children's Garden is open daily, weather permitting. Call 231-4250 or visit www.naplesbotanicalgarden.org.


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Signs of unity give hope for Egypt's future

The whole world was watching — including spiritually minded folks in our little corner of the world — as inconceivable events unfolded in the land of the pharaohs.

While Egypt's relatively peaceful transition almost universally has been admired, the Egyptians, however, are hardly out of the sands — or sounds — yet.

From the South Florida Bond Anise, a deacon for the St. Mary Coptic Orthodox Church in Pompano Beach as well as an attorney, probably spoke for many when he said folks are "generally optimistic that things will become better for the Coptic Christians who have been persecuted, and Egyptians generally. Because we are not just Copts, we are also Egyptians. We not only care about our people there, but for all the Egyptian people. We love them all."

Even more optimistic is Stephanie El Masary, a member of the Alliance of Boca Raton, who organized a recent rally joined by diverse citizens in support of those striving for democracy in Egypt.

"What I had hoped for Egypt was for them to have a clean slate, and that's exactly what they're getting," she said. "They're starting a new constitution, they're going to have a new set of written laws, and they're going to vote on them. And that's exactly what my goal was for them, for them to decide their fate."

El Masary emphasized that she traveled to Egypt and "visited many orphanages and I married into an Egyptian family. So I know exactly what kind of people they are and what to expect for the new Egypt, and I'm not concerned at all," she said.

"Under former President Hosni Mubarak's reign, Copts were persecuted," she added, "and that's why they're still hostile about it. But in the new Egypt I doubt it will repeat itself. I think Egyptians are smart enough to include everybody. There are people of all religions and backgrounds in Egypt, and I think Egyptians know better. As to persecute any group of people anymore. That's not their way. They're not going to cast anybody out.

Looking ahead, the challenge of liberty for the region and the Middle East is focusing even more on the needs of the majority rather than the ideology of the few. One group in particular, Muslims, won't be given the degree to which life improves for the needs, for women and for religious and other minorities.

When this collective visit to Egypt, President Obama had just delivered his historic Cairo University address. We playfully had accused him of stealing InterFaith21's theme "Fostering people of faith...or no particular faith...in the 21st Century."

It seems the Egyptians have taken the hint. One excellent sign was in the YouTube video of Christmas protests protecting Muslims from rocks being thrown by thugs.

Before that, an article [http://english.aljazeera.org](http://english.aljazeera.org) reported that Muslims had turned out in droves for the Coptic Christmas mass, offering themselves as "human shields" for Egypt's Christian community against riots.

Many Egyptians said they suspected the government had been involved in the extremist's attacks to keep people divided. Millions of Egyptians have since changed their Facebook profile pictures to the image of a cross within a crescent, symbolizing an "Egypt for All."

Egypt's success is by no means assured. The peaceful, historic, and historic, but a familiar line, "Your eyes won't believe what your mind can't comprehend."

So sang the Sons of the 1988 classic, Nights Over Egypt. Now there's a chance that Cairo's Tahrir Square one day may rival Egypt's pyramids as a tourist attraction, not one of the wonders of the world.

And for new generations, Nights Over Egypt may become an end to that rivalry around the world.


10th Annual Delray Beach Home Tour

One of the best ways to discover Delray Beach is to explore the neighborhoods where its citizens live and play.

Thursday • March 10, 2011 • 10 AM - 4 PM

Tour Distinctive Homes in the Seagate Beach Area of Delray

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A diverse group of people recently held a rally in Boca Raton to show support for those seeking democracy in Egypt. Photo courtesy of Stephanie El Masary.

InterFaith21
Every dog has its day; trainer can help you make it a pleasant one

Peace: Harmony. Aahh. Just saying those words makes one smile upon seeing them. But when the fur flies in your household, when tempers boil over, you need help — with a capital H.

To me, the No. 1 challenge of owning a dog is training. That is why I am so pleased to introduce Victoria Stallworth, a dog trainer.

Each week, the Stories, the Pet Treats and the Animalweb show on Animal Planet. But mark your calendar for March 11. For a donation of $175 to the American Humane Association, you can have the opportunity to have tea with her — which is fitting since she is from Great Britain and now calls Atlanta home. Well-trained pets under 20 pounds are also welcome.

It all takes place at the Champagne Festival at Palm Beach Beach at 3 p.m. For more details, call 770-9590 or 775-8989 or visit www.americanhumane.org/Victoria.

Victoria describes herself aptly as a relationship counselor when it comes to resolving flying foods and restoring calm in pet households. She is that and so much more. She is also the founder of a foundation called Positively K9, which offers six-week classes for a team of six or seven dog experts — all handcuffed by her. She is working on both No. 1 and No. 2. She has just finished filming challenging canine cases in New York City.

Victoria knows dogs. She knows people. She understands that both create a formula for success. She uses positive reinforcement techniques.

She has the pleasure of being a guest on my Go! Believe show on Pet Life Radio (www.petliferadio.com) twice. Here’s an excerpt from our recent interview:

Q: What advice can you offer parents who have children playing with their pet or dog?

A: If parents are to give in and get their children a dog, they are willing and want to be responsible for that dog's care and training. The shelter dog, but don't be in a rush. Take your time and don't go for the first dog you fall in love with. You need to find the right dog who can be happy in your family.

Q: In this season of 'I'm Me or the Dog,' you'll film in and around New York City. What special challenges did the Big Apple bring you?

A: This season, you will see me not only training dogs, but a pig and some chickens — all through positive reinforcement and clicker training. In one episode, there is a dog spinning out of control — spinning and spinning. We cover a lot of family situations. There are questions and arguments. And I was faced with some of my most challenging cases.

Q: What role do you see yourself in these situations?

A: I see myself more as a relationship counselor. My goal is to motivate the owners because they are the most important trainers in the house, not me. I also tell it like it is. I tell them this is what they can do to make the situation better in their homes for themselves and their dogs.

Q: What’s the best way to train a dog?

A: The best way to train a dog is through cooperation, not domination. Positive reinforcement training is about giving dogs tools to live in our world. It is telling your dog what you want him to do. If that is the way you act, they will feel. Positive training, damages dogs and causes frustration in owners. If a trainer wants to put a choke or shock collar on your dog, run far away from that trainer. Go to my site — www.positivelyk9.com — to find a trainer in your area who I have personally endorsed and supported. If your dog has a behavior problem, don't give up. Give that dog time to learn in a positive way. And remember, there are always solutions.
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.

This home offers buyers new construction in one of Boca Raton’s finest established neighborhoods.

The kitchen features top-grade appliances, multiple food prep areas and elegant finishes, such as granite countertops and paneled cabinets.

A Royal Palm home to make your own

This brand new 4,250 square-foot one story home, constructed by Jaxik Corp., a premier builder in Royal Palm since 1995, features a dramatic marble foyer entry, formal living and dining rooms, game room/office, a large open family room, split three bedroom floor plan, 3½ baths and three car garage.

Completing the home is a gourmet kitchen with separate breakfast area overlooking beautifully landscaped and tiled patio and heated pool. Throughout the home are tasteful Brazilian cherrywood and marble floors, high end finishes, extensive moldings, and 11-foot high ceilings.

Conveniently located near Federal and Camino Real, Royal Palm is a secure community. RPYCC members have access to golf, tennis, heating, fitness center and fine-and casual dining. Or just socialize at the casual outdoor waterfront bar and grill.

Offered at $2,495,000
Open House at 2291 Dale Palm Road, Boca Raton on Sundays from 1 to 4 p.m.

Contact Todd Schaefer at (561) 306-5283 or tsbocopool.com www.toddysproperties.net for a private viewing.

The back yard has a pool, a spa and a covered patio area that’s perfect for relaxing or entertaining.

Wood and marble floors and raised panelled walls create a dramatic entrance.

The large family room is just off the kitchen and offers access to the pool and spa areas.
Grand Opening

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For the second year in a row HealthGrades®, the leading independent healthcare ratings organization, has ranked Boca Raton Regional Hospital #1 for cardiac surgery in the state of Florida in 2010 and 2011. According to their study, patients having bypass or valve surgery at Boca Regional have a lower risk for adverse clinical outcomes relative to all other hospitals. They’ve also ranked the Hospital #1 for overall cardiac services and #1 for the treatment of stroke.

The National Cardiac Database rates Boca Regional in the top 9% of open-heart programs in the country. Over 90% of these procedures are performed off-pump. That means a reduced risk of stroke, kidney failure and infection for patients. Plus, a faster recovery.

If you or a loved one is in need of advanced, specialized cardiac care, talk to your doctor about Boca Raton Regional Hospital. Call us at 561.955.HEART (955.4327).