Tourists keep coming

By Arlene Satchell

Palm Beach County clocked another year of record tourism in 2017, welcoming 7.89 million visitors, a 7.3 percent increase from 2016, the county’s official tourism marketing corporation announced.

Discover The Palm Beaches attributed the increase in visitation to more domestic visitors, growth in groups and meetings and innovative destination marketing campaigns that helped bolster community engagement.

“A successful tourism community equates to a thriving local economy, which is why we’re so proud of nine consecutive years of visitation growth in the Palm Beaches,” Jorge Pesquera, Discover’s president and CEO, said in a news release. “This sustained increase reaffirms the area’s continued ability to compete for global visitors, while supporting nearly 70,000 jobs.”

In 2016, Palm Beach County had a record 7.35 million visitors, up about 6 percent from the 6.9 million who visited in 2015. Discover’s records show. By contrast, the county had 4.12 million visitors in 2009. The repeat record tourism results augur well for job creation and employment prospects for the region’s future hospitality workers, industry specialists say.

“Decreased visitation means decreased jobs,” said Peter Ricci, director of the hospitality & tourism management program at Florida Atlantic University. “For now, our students

See TOURISM on page 6

Delray Beach

St. Patrick’s Day parade celebrates 50 years

By Mary Thurwachter

This is the time of year when fans of the Delray Beach St. Patrick’s Day Parade give a tip of the derby to Maury Power, the Irish saloonkeeper who founded the procession in 1968.

A Chicago transplant, Power donned a tailcoat and top hat and carried a shillelagh to make an impromptu march down Atlantic Avenue in honor of the patron saint of Ireland.

“I’m Maury Power,” he would say to onlookers. “Come down to my bar and have a drink.”

The farther he walked, the more people would join him.

Since he died in 1996, people often bow in front of large photographs of Power that are carried in the parade, said Pat Robinson, a friend and business owner who has been in 33 parades.

Local lore claims Power, who owned Power’s Lounge, carried a pig on his first march. Truth is the tinted green porker became part of the tradition a few years later.

No one is sure exactly why. “I think it was just something that, at the time, made perfect sense,” said Power’s nephew Terry. The first piglet, Porkchop, instantly became a crowd pleaser.

Porkchop has had many successors, many of them predictably hefty — including the 200-pound Patrick, a star in the parade.

See PARADE on page 14

Along the Coast

Vacation rental surge puts cities, state at odds

By Mary Hladky

Steve Homrich watched with growing unease over three nights as young people arriving for parties at his neighbor’s home left rubber on the road while doing doughnuts on his street.

Then Friday night rolled around.

“My wife said, ‘Oh my God, look out the window,’” he said. “Groups of 10 and 20 kids were walking down the street to the house. They kept coming. My wife stopped counting at 300.”

That night’s party in June was big — with about 500 guests — and loud, complete with a DJ.

When police arrived, the kids scattered, with some jumping over the fence into Homrich’s yard.

Homrich learned that his neighbor, Thierry Chevrier, had rented out his Boynton Beach waterfront home on Northeast 15th Place through the vacation rental company HomeAway.

Chevrier, who could not be reached for comment, told Homrich he thought he was renting to an 84-year-old writer.

See RENTALS on page 32
How we approach election coverage

It’s election season. Learn about your candidates and their views, but be aware that it is not simple. It never is. This year, the battles are already heating up and the mud of misinformation is getting thick. As a result, I’d like to clarify a few things about The Coastal Star:

• We don’t do candidate endorsements. Never have. Never will.
• This month there are campaign signs in front of our office. We didn’t put them there. Our landlord has allowed them and we made it clear all Ocean Ridge candidates are welcome to place their signs in the easement.
• Although a lot of information is passed along to the newspaper, we don’t write about it without verification. We use news judgment to decide what to pursue, but are less likely to chase anonymous tips.
• We follow the ethical policy of not publishing articles that might be detrimental to a candidate in the month of the election, because it’s impossible for a candidate to respond in our pages if he or she believes we’ve made a mistake. Stories first reported in the daily news media, however, we will follow—if we think the information is of value to voters.
• We do our own public records requests. No one does these for us. We also pay our own legal bills.
• There are three principal owner/partners of The Coastal Star: myself, publisher Jerry Lower and sales manager Chris Bellard.

Lower and I live and vote in Ocean Ridge. Bellard lives and votes in Delray Beach. We do not contribute to local candidates, nor do we campaign for them. You won’t see us at “meet the candidate” events. We take salaries from the newspaper and believe the integrity of our publication is at stake if we allow our personal preferences to show.

We do vote, of course; that’s our constitutional right.

The other owners of The Coastal Star, Delray Beach residents Price and Carolyn Patton, are minority investors in our newspaper. They have long been politically active in Delray Beach and contribute to local campaigns. They do not draw salaries and are not involved in story selection or placement and do not play a role in our day-to-day operations.

• The other people who work with us are independent contractors, not employees. They do not make editorial decisions at the newspaper. If they want to work on campaigns, put yard signs up or have bumper stickers on their cars, they have the right to do that.

We do our best to cover elections fairly and accurately. Nothing in our approach has changed since The Coastal Star began. Our unfortunate role is that our newspaper is being misrepresented around town and on social media. Some of these uninformed postings can be written off as the general blood sport of local election politics; others are blatant attempts to undermine our reporting.

We stand by our reporting. That’s the bottom line. In light of today’s “fake news” environment, I believe we must not only be accurate and fair in our reporting, but we must also be transparent in how we conduct our business.

I hope this helps explain how our newspaper approaches local elections.

If you have questions, email me at news@thecoastalstar.com.

You’ll find candidate profiles and related stories on Pages 16-19.

Get to know your candidates and go out and vote.

Mary Kate Leming, Editor

John Miller prepares a Key lime pie with his sons Luke, 13, and Jack, 15, at their Delray Beach home. The boys’ brownsies won first place at last year’s Real Men Bake.

By Jane Smith

The chairman of the Delray Beach Historic Preservation Board grows a Key lime tree in his backyard, just like the one his parents grew in their Swinton Avenue yard.

Last year, Chairman John Miller used the limes to make mini Key lime tarts in the Real Men Bake contest. He won second place. His two sons, who had helped him in previous years, baked their own dessert. Their s’mores brownies won first place.

“It was the cuteness factor,” Miller said of his sons’ victory. “We bake two or three times a week.”

Miller met his wife, Karen, because his co-worker was so impressed with his baking abilities that she introduced him to her college friend.

That’s when he learned women like men who can bake, he said.

Miller, 50, is still pondering what to make for the March 19 event at Old School Square. He has to bake 200 pieces for the eighth annual Real Men Bake and Rock at the Sock Hop.

The Delray Beach native reminisces about his carefree childhood, filled with biking to the beach, fishing in Lake Ida for bass and bluegills, and painting in the annual Halloween contest on Atlantic Avenue. Each child received a 2-by-3-foot section of storefront window to paint. He said the painters were judged by age groups.

Miller serves on the Historic Preservation Board to help preserve that small-town feel. “People are moving here because of the way the city looks,” he said. “It’s important to preserve that.”

The board twice turned down the Midtown Delray project last year. In June, Miller said, “It results in the Disneyfication of Delray, allowing an artificial, contrived, homogeneous, sanitized and oversized development right in the middle of our most significant historic district.”

Midtown Delray would sit on South Swinton Avenue in the southern half of the Old School Square Historic Arts District and include the Sunny House, home of Delray Beach’s first mayor. Less than 2 percent of the city’s properties are part of historic districts, Miller said.

“If we can save this historic district, we might as well resign our seats on the board,” he said in December.

Miller became a local history buff because his great-grandfather and grandfather were Delray Beach mayors. His great-grandfather was the first volunteer fire chief in the city.

“I like to be involved,” he said. “I prefer to stay behind the scenes, not run for office.”

He belongs to the Delray Beach Historical Society and co-chaired its 2016 Fish Tales exhibit.

“I provided a lot of fishing insight,” Miller said.

He lent old photos and old fishing equipment for the exhibit and built display tables that the Historical Society still uses today.

Miller owns a 25-foot SeaCraft center console boat with his brother. “We usually have fresh fish a couple times a week if the weather is good enough to go out,” he said.

Miller, who works for 3M Inc. in Delray Beach, also served on the city’s comprehensive plan steering committee. In 2016, he was among a group of 20 people invited to apply because of their knowledge about the community. The city will use the plan to map out how it wants to grow in 13 areas, such as housing, historic preservation and education.

He hopes his boys will catch his volunteer spirit.

“I try to involve my sons,” Miller said, “but my wife keeps reminding me that we don’t have to sign up for everything.”

Kitchen heat doesn’t disturb history-minded baker

If You Go

What: Real Men Bake and Rock at the Sock Hop fundraiser (including hula hoop contest)

When: 6-9 p.m. March 19

Where: Old School Square Field House, 51 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach

Sponsor: OFWC Woman’s Club of Delray Beach

Cost: $35

Benefits: Local nonprofits that serve women and children

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Downtown construction planning shifts to action

By Mary Hladky

A new downtown construction spurt will be starting soon.

Demolition work started in January to make way for the Mandarin Oriental Boca Raton hotel and Monarch Boca Raton, the new name of the Mizner 200 luxury condominium.

Coming down are buildings along Federal Highway north of Camino Real. The 164-room Mandarin Oriental will go up next to 101 Via Mizner, a 366-unit apartment building that marked the first phase of the luxury Via Mizner project developed by Boca Raton-based Penn-Florida Cos.

Al Piazza, Penn-Florida’s senior vice president for development, said construction of the hotel’s foundation would start by mid-March. He anticipated that construction of the third component of the project, the 92-condo Residences at Mandarin Oriental, would start a few months after that.

“We are finally on our way,” Piazza said in February. The 12-story hotel and condos will open in 2020, he said.

Also in March, Penn-Florida will start a redo of the now-named Via Mizner Golf Club, an 18-hole course about 3 miles away between Palmetto Park Road and Camino Real just west of Military Trail.

Golfing legend Jack Nicklaus redesigned the course, at 6200 Boca Del Mar Drive.

Six months after a contentious battle over approval of plans for the now-rebranded Monarch Boca Raton ended in compromise, developer Elad Group is about to begin construction of the 384-unit, nine-story luxury condo.

Demolition of the Mizner on the Green townhouses, now occupying the Monarch site on nearly 9 acres along Southeast Mizner Boulevard, began in January. Some of the townhouses were still occupied as of February, but all occupants were expected to be out in April.

Elad plans to break ground on Monarch Boca Raton this summer.

Downtown residents were stunned when the project was unveiled in 2014 as four towers rising as high as 30 stories. That concept was shot down because the towers well exceeded downtown height limits. The project was redesigned five times until neighbors and city officials were satisfied.

“The demolition process marks an important milestone in our journey to bring this landmark project to the Boca Raton market,” Elad CEO Yoel Shargian said in a news release.

“After working collaboratively with the city of Boca Raton and its community members to create a plan for this unique development, we are eager and enthusiastic to bring this project to market over the next few months.”

Boca Raton

Seeing Red?

Seeing blood in the toilet bowl or on toilet paper after a bowel movement can be quite alarming.

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The city's waterfront parks will cost $9.6 million to $13.3 million, and Red Reef parks will cost Spanish River, Palmetto Dune Wildflower, South Beach, and Orlando, which jumped 4 percent to 2 percent.

Petersburg, with an 11 percent increase, was another top growth market, welcomed nearly 8 percent of the county is dubbed for tourism marketing purposes, welcomed nearly 8 percent more U.S. visitors than in 2016. The tourism marketing agency said joint partnerships with the Palm Beach County Convention Center and local hoteliers were instrumental in boosting room night bookings for groups, meetings and conventions.

“We are seeing a significant shift in our ability to attract meetings and conventions throughout the Palm Beaches, and particularly citywide events in West Palm Beach,” Pesquera said. “The tourism marketing agency said the additional land and spending up to $900,000 fixing up, plus anything spent to redo Silver Palm Park to the south.

EDSA's concept for Wildflower introduces "some really wonderful elements, including a splash pad, an area for children to play, the waterfront promenade. You know the conversation earlier about art? Art would be fantastic in this park," Gray told the City Council at its Feb. 12 workshop session.

Gray and Jennifer Bistyg, the city’s coastal program manager, asked council members to sign off on allowing EDSA to develop more detailed plans for Wildflower, which Boca Raton opened late last year as a mostly undeveloped, passive park at the northwest base of the Palmetto Park Road bridge over the Intracoastal Waterway. Later on, EDSA would develop a concept for Silver Palm, prioritize elements at the remaining parks and finalize a budget for the capital improvements.

"The other park renovations are very interesting, because we designed them but it's kind of a menu. There are some really great elements of the projects that can be implemented, but it's really up to you," Gray said.

City Manager Leif Ahnell said it was premature to discuss changes at Silver Palm until the city firms up plans for boat launches at Rutherford Park.

"Having four launches in the city is probably too many," Ahnell said. (Residents at a public outreach Feb. 26 appeared to agree. See story, Page 20.) Council members told Gray to push ahead on the Wildflower plans.

Mayor Susan Haynie said changes at Palmetto Dune Park might be a hard sell with neighbors but that EDSA "really knocked it out of the park" with its other conceptual designs.

"Go forth, create parks [and] livable spaces. We love it," Haynie said.

continued to get hired at outstanding rates surpassing 90 percent. Most are already employed by junior year and simply stay in roles in the industry upon graduation."

Last year, the Palm Beaches, as the destination’s top domestic markets for increased visitation included New York, with 11 percent, or 1.1 million visitors; Fort Lauderdale/Miami with 8 percent, or 808,700 travelers; Tampa/St. Petersburg, with an 11 percent increase, and Orlando, which jumped 4 percent to 516,800 visitors.

Another top growth market was Washington, D.C., which increased 13 percent to 310,400 visitors. Discover attributed those gains in part to the opening of The Ballpark of The Palm Beaches, the new spring training home of the Houston Astros and Washington Nationals.

In 2017, international visitation to the Palm Beaches rose 0.9 percent to 745,000 travelers overall. However, a handful of key markets saw improvements despite lingering economic and currency exchange pressures, namely Canada, at 2 percent; Argentina, 8 percent; and Brazil, 2 percent.

Canada accounted for 321,270 visitors, or 2 percent.

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Council members reconsidering participation in groin project

By Dan Moffett

After 12 years of planning, lobbying and debate, South Palm Beach Town Council members say they’re now having second thoughts about staying in a county project to install concrete groins in the hope of stabilizing the town’s eroding beaches.

“This is turning out to be a long project to the answer ‘no,’” Mayor Bonnie Fischer said.

“We’re just being realistic here. I think it’s about time we looked into something else.”

Until expressing her doubts during a Feb. 27 workshop on the project, Fischer had been a vocal supporter of the groin plan since joining the council seven years ago.

Other council members concurred with her changing viewpoint.

“Seem to get a feeling from the crowd that the current plan isn’t acceptable to our constituents,” said Councilwoman Stella Gaddy Jordan after listening to a steady stream of residents’ complaints for nearly two hours. “They elected us to do their bidding.”

Vice Mayor Robert Gottlieb said the town should take a step back and reassess alternatives: “Let’s look at the options.”

The project, which was first conceived after Hurricane Wilma ravaged the town’s beaches in 2005, calls for installing a network of groins from South Palm’s northern boundary to the southern end of Lantana Municipal Beach.

The plan’s $5 million price tag is to be split among the state (50 percent), Palm Beach County (30 percent) and South Palm (20 percent).

The reversal in the town comes after a rising tide of opposition and negative developments in recent months.

• Manalapan Mayor Keith Waters has said his town is opposed to the groin plan over concerns it will interrupt the natural southward flow of sand and damage the town’s beaches. Manalapan’s commissioners have said they’re willing to take legal action to stop the project.

• The county does not want to pit municipality against municipality,” Fischer said. “I understand that.”

• The Concoridia East condominium in South Palm continues to refuse to sign an easement agreement with the county to allow workers on its beach, fearing legal liability or opening the door to public access.

• The Eau Palm Beach Resort & Spa has joined Manalapan in opposing the use of groins.

• County environmental managers are still trying to obtain all the necessary permitting from state and federal officials and may not be able to meet the intended November start date to complete work before turtle nesting season.

If managers miss the deadline, the project would be pushed back another year.

• Increasing complaints from residents about the appearance of concrete structures on the beach and the cost to the town.

Joseph Chaison, a county engineer, told residents during the workshop that installing structures is “the least preferred” option for fighting beach erosion, but South Palm Beach has no good choices.

Because the town’s shoreline has a hard bottom and the water already reaches some condos’ seawalls, a traditional renourishment plan would be difficult. The sand might wash away as soon as it’s dumped.

Julie Mitchell, the county’s environmental program supervisor, told the council the county would “continue to work with you to develop a feasible alternative” if the town decides to pull out of the groin plan and something else.

“At some point a decision has to be made as to whether to go forward with this project,” Mitchell said.

Fischer said the council will consider its options and get back to the county.

In other business, Police Chief Carl Webb is taking a medical leave of absence and will be away from the department “for weeks,” a spokesman for the town said.

Sgt. Mark Garrison, a 17-year veteran with the town, will fill in as chief until Webb returns.

“Chief Webb wants to thank all the residents and friends who have wished him well and offered their support,” the spokesman said.

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Manalapan

Town to crack down on water utility violations

By Dan Moffett

After receiving the results of an inspector general’s audit in February, Manalapan is moving forward with 21 recommended changes to tighten billing procedures and improve the internal controls of the town’s water utility department.

Palm Beach County’s Inspector General Office examined the utility’s operation during the 2016 fiscal year and cited seven findings that could use corrective action from the town. The draft audit found no serious problems, but rather housekeeping and enforcement issues that were hurting the utility’s performance or preventing the town from technically “complying with its ordinances and resolutions.” Town Attorney Keith Davis, in a written response to the Inspector General’s Office, said the town already has implemented most of the proposed changes — even though the town’s “current system is working properly.”

Manalapan has satisfied some of the report’s concerns, he said, by retraining personnel. Town Manager Linda Stumpf, in a written response to the Inspector General’s Office, said the town already has implemented most of the proposed changes — even though the town’s “current system is working properly.”

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Davis said in his response that most of the issues cited were commonly seen, minor and easily remedied.

“The findings in the draft report are not outside the realm of normal or typical findings when this type of audit is conducted,” the attorney wrote, “and they are meant to make a good process even better.”

In other business:

• As part of its plan to expand its Police Department, Manalapan is considering partnering with the town of Palm Beach for dispatching and crime scene investigation services.

Police Chief Carmen Mattox said that, because of similar demographics, Palm Beach and Manalapan share many of the same crime problems and it makes sense for them to work together.

“I think Palm Beach is a very professional agency,” Mattox said. “And they have a very outstanding dispatch center.”

The chief said the Palm Beach department has crime scene specialists on hand who could come in quickly and help Manalapan with investigations.

“The other advantage is the information sharing that would be instantaneous,” Mattox said. “We’d be on their radio.”

The chief also said he’s making progress toward screening applicants to fill four new police officer positions.

Mayor Keith Waters announced a roughly $420,000 expansion for the department in January after a spate of car thefts.

Stumpf said Stewart Satter, a resident on Manalapan’s ocean side, had sent the town a check for just over $51,000 to cover the cost of a new Ford Explorer for police. Satter promised to buy the SUV after hearing Waters’ plan.

• Because of inquiries from Point Manalapan, the town will begin surveying residents informally on the possibility of bringing in natural gas service.

Three years ago, a straw poll of the 144 residents on the point voted against adding the utility by roughly a 2-1 margin.
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Cities continue push for rail line safety

By Jane Smith

As Brightline runs its express passenger rail service between West Palm Beach and Fort Lauderdale, safety problems recur at grade crossings.

To improve safety, coastal South County cities continue to add quad-crossing gates that meet in the middle to most of the train crossings along the FEC tracks. Once that work is complete, elected bodies could petition the Federal Railroad Administration to have FEC and Brightline trains not blow horns in their cities, creating quiet zones.

In Delray Beach, eight of 11 crossings will get that treatment by the end of April, City Manager Mark Laurier said. Those crossings are: Northeast Eighth, Second and First streets; Atlantic Avenue; Southeast Second, Fourth and 10th streets; and Linton Boulevard.

The county Transportation Planning Agency (formerly the Metropolitan Planning Organization) is called the Metropolitan Planning Agency (formerly the Technical Services) in the Delray Beach commission meeting.

Brightline safety issues were raised at a roundtable of mayors and their representatives hosted by U.S. Rep. Lois Frankel in late January. Mayors asked for a meeting with federal officials on the technicalities of quiet zones. Franke asked an attorney for the Delray Beach commission meeting to meet in the next few weeks.

Second, Fourth and 10th streets; and Linton Boulevard.

Along the Coast

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The county Transportation Planning Agency (formerly called the Metropolitan Planning Organization) is paying for the upgrades.

In addition to the crossing gates, Delray Beach installed a 4-foot-high aluminum rail fence between Atlantic Avenue and Northeast First Street. The installation followed the August 2016 death of a woman who cut across the tracks and was hit by a freight train.

City Commissioner Shelly Petrolia has asked Laurier to let the commission know of any other areas where people are cutting across the tracks and a fence is needed.

The $30,644 fence cost could be reimbursed by the agency through its annual grant process, Nick Uhren, its executive director, said at the Feb. 6 Delray Beach commission meeting. He also asked the commissioners to remind pedestrians and bicyclists to obey the crossing arms when they are down.

"Before the commission meeting, I was at the Northeast Second Street crossing," Uhren said. "A Brightline train was approaching from the north and another Brightline train was coming from the south. The crossing arms were down and a bicyclist rode around them. Please don’t go around them and try to beat the train."

Brightline safety issues were raised at a roundtable of mayors and their representatives hosted by U.S. Rep. Lois Frankel in late January. Mayors asked for a meeting with federal officials on the technicalities of quiet zones. Franke asked an attorney for the Delray Beach commission meeting to meet in the next few weeks.

In mid-February, a Highland Beach man was injured when he stopped his vehicle on the FEC tracks for a red light at Camino Real in Boca Raton when the crossing gates came down. Benjamin Morelli, 90, was unable to get out of his car before it was struck by a northbound Brightline train, said Jessica Desir, spokeswoman for the Boca Raton police.

In Boynton Beach, which had two fatalities involving Brightline trains in January, four more intersections will be getting the quad-crossing gates, said Jeff Livergood, public works director.

The additional intersections are: Boynton Beach Boulevard and East Ocean, Southeast Fifth and Southeast 12th avenues. The upgrades should be finished in April, he said, and will be paid for by the Transportation Planning Agency using state Department of Transportation money.

Martin Luther King Boulevard, Woolbright Road and Southeast 36th Avenue already have the quad gates, he said.

"I wish that motorists and pedestrians would use good judgment when using our roadways and crosswalks," Livergood said.

Two lawmakers have submitted bills in the state Legislature that would require train lines that operate at speeds over 80 mph to pay to install fencing along both sides of the track, install crossing arms and pay to maintain what was installed.

Brightline argues that more regulations are unnecessary.

"Brightline has been running PSAs [public service announcements] on local radio and broadcast stations since early last year reminding the public that when you see tracks, think train! And to stay off train tracks," its spokeswoman said.
Consultant depicts vision of world-class downtown

By Jane Smith

Delray Beach has a thriving downtown that is the envy of cities nationwide. With some changes, the city could create “a world-class shopping district” that is sustainable through recessions, said Robert Gibbs, an urban design consultant.

Hired by the city’s Downtown Development Authority, Gibbs gave city commissioners the draft results of what he called a “Shophability Analysis” on Feb. 20.

He focused on Atlantic Avenue between the interstate and the ocean. He talked about paid parking, valet parking, retail mix, sidewalks and crosswalks, store signs, parking signs and street furniture such as garbage cans and benches.

Mayor Cary Glickstein asked the overarching question: “How do we protect that which makes us valuable?”

First, Gibbs recommended the city study its parking capacity to determine the number of spaces in the downtown and whether it needs to add more, in terms of a public garage. Then the city should consider a pilot parking meter program for Atlantic Avenue west of the Intracoastal Waterway.

Gibbs likes individual meters because he thinks visitors find them easier to use. The city has purchased parking kiosks for use in the downtown between the waterway and Swinton Avenue.

As to parking fees, he recommended the first two or three hours be free. In the public garages, the lower floors should be reserved for visitors, not valet use, he said.

Parking tickets should be given on a sliding scale. “The first ticket should come with a thank you card,” telling the visitor that no fine is levied but thanking the person for visiting Delray Beach, Gibbs said.

He also recommends installing unified signs for public parking lots and garages and private valet services to make it easier for visitors to find their way around the downtown.

Another goal suggested by Gibbs would be to enforce the sidewalk clearance of 6 feet west of the waterway. Gibbs said restaurateurs like to encroach on the space, forcing families pushing strollers into the street.

He also advised the city to trim landscaping that encroaches on the sidewalks. Repairing or replacing buckled brick pavers on the sidewalks would allow for a smooth walking surface for pedestrians, he said.

Gibbs said cleaning sidewalks, parking garages and city parking lots weekly would make visitors think downtown Delray Beach is world class.

Three years ago, former City Manager Don Cooper wowed the commission with a similar vision of creating Disney-like levels of cleanliness and safety in the downtown. In February, Commissioner Shelly Petrolia told Gibbs, “you are speaking our language … You know who we are.”

Gibbs wants the city to ban anything that cheapens the downtown and makes it look like a shopping center, such as dark-tinted windows.

Vice Mayor Jim Chard asked about a digital sign for Old School Square, which often has a few events taking place simultaneously in different buildings.

“That sign will downgrade you to a strip shopping center,” Gibbs said. “Plus, if you allow that organization to have an animated sign, you have to allow it for all.”

Gibbs will present a final version of his analysis March 29 at Old School Square.

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 5114 N. Ocean Blvd., Ocean Ridge, FL 33435 or email editor@thecoastalstar.com.
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PARADE
Continued from page 1
2011 parade, and his predecessor Patetuna, the potholed pig farm known for fancy ruffles and sparkly tiara. Occasionally, some of the pigs stayed from the parade path. “Sometimes they would run free and into a store,” said David Cook, owner of Hands of Office and the famous “Scoop” of them got so fat that they had to ride in the back of an SUV,” Animal activists protested the pigs’ involvement.

Two celebrity pigs are being driven down from Jacksonville for this year’s parade, and while they won’t be painted green, parade manager John Fischer of Code 3 Events Inc. expected they’ll be costumed appropriately. “One of them is quite portly and won’t be able to walk the whole route, but he can ride in a wheel chair,” Fischer said.

This year’s parade, which begins at 2 p.m. March 17, is the 25th and may be the last one, according to Fischer, a retired captain with Palm Beach County Fire Rescue. “It’s been a rollercoaster ride with the [city’s] special events policies — the fee structure, pricing, what have you,” said Fischer, who has managed the parade for five years. “We’re a nonprofit, not a business. Maybe a large, corporate entity could afford these prices. But I don’t see a nonprofit coming in and being able to afford the fee structure. That’s why we have to respectfully bow out.”

The estimate for this year’s parade is $50,000. “We’ve been given a $50,000 sponsorship by the city, which means we’re responsible for $15,000,” Fischer said. “That is a far cry from what we got hit with last year when we were given an estimate of $56,000. But on top of that there were hidden costs that were mandated on us like $14,000 for liability insurance. That wasn’t in the contract. That was a side mandate that we had to have.”

On top of that, Code 3 had to pay about $1,500 for insurance and a few other costs. New Delray Beach City Manager老thea LAUZIER said comparing costs from last year to this year is complicated and the side-by-side comparisons are not apples to apples. “For example, barricade costs were paid separately by the promoter last year and costs were paid separately by the city because we mandated on us like $14,000 for liability insurance. That wasn’t in the contract. That was a side mandate that we had to have.”

Despite financing concerns, Fischer says this year’s parade will be special. Three members (maybe more) of Maury Power’s family have agreed to be grand marshals. Maury’s cousin James Power is flying in from Ireland. Terry Power, a nephew from Safety Harbor, will be there, as will Katie Power, Maury’s granddaughter from Delray Beach.

As they have for the past three years, organizers have injected the nonprofit organization Honor Flight into the front wall of the parade. Sixty or more World War II veterans in their Honor Flight wheelchairs will be pushed by police officers and firefighters. There hasn’t been a dry eye on the street when the veterans go by,” Fischer said. “People are crying their eyes out, in a good way, just looking at that visual of veterans being treated with such honor and respect.”

When the veterans reach the parade review stand on the second story of 32 East Atlantic Avenue from the Intracoastal Waterway bridge to Northwest Fifth Avenue.

Cost: Free to attend the festival or watch parade. Information or to donate: www.stpatricksmarch.com

Huntington Resort of Delray entered a giant papier-mâché leprechaun in the 1986 St. Patrick’s Day Parade. File photo courtesy of Delray Beach Historical Society

If You Go
The Delray Beach St. Patrick’s Day Parade and Festival
When: Festival is in Old School Square 5-10 p.m. March 16 and 11 a.m.-7 p.m. March 17. Parade starts at 2 p.m. March 17.
Route: Runs on East Atlantic Avenue from the Intracoastal Waterway bridge to Northwest Fifth Avenue.
Cost: Free to attend the festival or watch parade.
Information or to donate: www.stpatricksmarch.com

“With all the drinking and the 85-degree heat, people were falling over like Weebles,” said Cook, a former member of the city’s Downtown Development Authority. “As a merchant, you can only take so much public inebriation. It just got out of hand.”

To remedy the predicament, parade organizers didn’t ask for an open container waiver after 2012. “It caused a little bit of a uproar in town,” Fischer said. Red Solo cup protesters showed up at City Hall. But the brouhaha subsided after a while. The liquor ban hit Robinson, owner of The Man of Steam carpet cleaning business. “We used to be able to drink in front of stores and they put the kibosh on that. It used to be fun.”

After 2012, crowd size decreased — between 40,000 and 50,000 attended last year’s parade. “But the quality increased,” Fischer said. “Businesses were saying ‘now I’ll sponsor, contribute.’ So that’s what it did in a good way. It attracted more families. It improved the cultural value, with firefighters and cops coming in from five different countries.”

Bringing in first responders from different states and countries has boosted tourism revenue, Fischer said. “These people are coming here and getting hotel rooms,” he said. “That speaks to economic impact. If you talk to the tourism council, they’ll tell you what heads on beds means. Once you start killing tourism in your town, for whatever reason, whether it be a handful of merchants on the avenue that are complaining bitterly against shutting that street down, they’re not looking at the big picture.”

While everyone agrees the parade has been the source of great fun, not everyone thinks the current iteration is better. “It has turned into a firefighters’ convention,” said Mary McCarty, a former city (and county) commissioner who appeared in seven series on law enforcement on behalf of the Village Pub, where she was a bartender in the 1980s. “When the parade ended, she said people were looking into Power’s Lounge for corned beef and cabbage, and drinks of course.

Less local ambience
“It used to be a small-town, community event,” Fischer said. “It was good fun and something everybody looked forward to. But it got too big and a lot of locals don’t go anymore.”

Robinson said the parade at which he carried his two small sons years ago has lost its luster. “I remember when the parade entry fee was a $50 donation. “Now they want your first born and a bunch of legal stuff,” he said.

The business-class entry for a float currently starts at $425 depending on size (side profit donations begin at $100). This is the price charged by the organization,” Fischer said. “And when we took the parade over, the parade costs were around $35,000 — now it’s $65,000.”

After Maury Power died, Ed Gallagher, owner of a former downtown night club in Delray, took charge until 2007, when Nancy Stewart’s company, Festival Management Team, took the reins. Fischer’s Code 3 Events took over after the 2013 parade.

Since Code 3 officially took over, more than $12,000 has been given to first responder nonprofits, Fischer said. “And we have devoted over $1 million worth of personal volunteer time, and cash out of pocket, putting together the parade and running it. This has afforded the platform for many other local, national and international nonprofits to show themselves and get their word out.”

Robinson didn’t go to last year’s event, although he may attend this year’s. He has many fond memories. “For years, our float was the entertainment," he said. "We had a deejay and at the end of the parade we would put the float in the parking lot behind Power’s and people danced. A good time was had by all.”

For several years, he hired the Florida Brass bugle corps to come down from Lakeland. They played iconic Irish tunes like Danny Boy. Because Maury Power’s daughter Gallagher raised money, Robinson was charged with cleaning up Power’s Lounge, at the railway tracks (now the site of Buddha Sky Bar), the day after the parade. “I wore my boots because there was 2 inches of water and the lounge had white plaid carpet in the back room.”

The raspy-voiced Maury Power, a cigar hanging out of his mouth, would be in the pub with Robinson as early as 6 a.m. And he always offered his assessment. “Jesus, kid, we had a hell of a time,” Power said to Robinson. And they had a hell of a lot of company.
Opponents’ case against Chabad heard by appeals court

By Sallie James

The legal wrangling surrounding a fiercely contested proposal to build an orthodox synagogue and Israel museum near Boca Raton’s beach continues to rage nearly three years after the project was proposed. A panel of three judges in Miami heard yet another round of legal arguments in late January at the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals in Miami.

The case stems from a 2015 proposal by Chabad of East Boca to construct a sprawling 18,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art synagogue and interactive Israel museum at 776 E. Palmetto Park Road. City activists Kathleen Barr MacDougall and Gerald Gagliardi in February 2016 accused the city of ignoring parking deficiencies and zoning change they say was unfairly beneficial to Chabad and would harm their neighborhood. They want the zoning invalidated and a federal injunction banning further development approvals.

The 11th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that the plaintiffs don’t have standing to bring an action, or could they rule the plaintiffs do have standing to bring an action and remand it back to the district judge.

The city is again seeking to have Gagliardi and MacDougall’s latest attempt dismissed as well.

City submitted a brief to the court claiming the issue is moot because a Palm Beach Circuit Court panel in June 2016 ruled that the city should have denied the project because it lacked proper parking.

As a result, Chabad must file a new site plan with the city to pursue the project.

“The result of the circuit court’s decision is that Chabad no longer holds necessary development approvals entitling it to build on the property,” attorney Jamie Cole wrote in the brief filed with the court. Consequently, appellants’ only remaining constitutional complaints are merely generalized grievances that this court lacks subject matter jurisdiction to consider.

“The brief also states Gagliardi and MacDougall lack standing because they have not proved injury. All we’re asking for is equal treatment,” said Rabbi Ruvi New, head of the Chabad of East Boca Raton. “We’re grateful that the City and our local community have long treated us fairly, and we’re hopeful that the Court will protect our right to be equal members of the Boca Raton community.”

The synagogue proposal was controversial from the start. Residents who live in neighborhoods on the barrier island near the proposed site turned out in force to protest it, claiming it was too ambitious, would draw too much traffic and create parking issues on the 0.84-acre property. Residents also voiced opposition to the height of the proposed synagogue, claiming it would be intrusive.

Boca Raton has been trying to find a new home since 2008, when the congregation wanted to move into a building near Mizner Park, but was unable to meet parking requirements there.

City ownership and plans for golf course amble forward

By Steve Plunkett

The city and the Greater Boca Raton Beach & Park District were poised to take ownership of the Boca Teeca golf course as soon as $19 million from the city grant to help with repairs damaged by Hurricane Irma. The building housed the isolation building during the storm. The building housed about 40 dogs and cats with companions.

The 2,400-square-foot building was too severely damaged to continue to use.

Boca Teeca golf course views with views of Mizner Park, but was unable to move into a building near Mizner Park, but was unable to meet meeting requirements there.

City funds will help animal shelter repair Irma damage

The Tri-County Humane Society will receive a $304,000 city grant to help with repairs and reconstruction to buildings damaged by Hurricane Irma.

The Coastal Star

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Civility on Town Commission a major issue in election

By Rich Pollack

When voters in Highland Beach take to the polls March 13, they’ll be choosing from six candidates who all say restoring civility to the Town Commission is a key issue for the community — and who all think they’re the candidate who can help make that happen.

“Civility is a big issue,” said Peggy Gossett-Seidman, who along with Carl Gehman, George Kelvin and John Ross, is running for the three-year commission seat held by Kelvin. “I’ve sat through many meetings that are so dysfunctional that it makes people uncomfortable.”

Over the past several months, there have been several 3-2 votes, with Mayor Carl Feldman, Vice Mayor Bill Weitz and Kelvin often voting in the majority, and commissioners Rhoda Zelniker and Elyse Riesa in the minority.

Weitz, who has served as vice mayor for the last three years, is running for re-election and is being challenged by resident Alysse African-Nila.

“The commission is broken down into two camps and it’s all about winning,” said Ross, who is making his first bid for public office in Highland Beach.

Like the other candidates, Ross thinks the commission needs to focus on town business and stop the bickering that has become commonplace.

“I’m not impressed by people shouting at one another,” he said. “The reason we’ve become uncivil is because the commissioners don’t know how to properly debate issues.”

Gehman, making his second run for a commission seat, echoes Ross’ concerns, saying commissioners should focus more on setting policy and less on personalities.

“You can’t get anything done if you’re going to talk about each other,” he said. “Let’s talk about policy.”

He thinks that if commissioners kept their focus on policy, meetings would be shorter and more productive.

Kelvin, who was appointed to the commission in 2017 for one year following the death of Commissioner Lou Stern, thinks the commission would do better if everyone on the board followed Robert’s Rules of Order.

“There are some commissioners who aren’t aware of Robert’s Rules,” he said. “I’d like to live by the rules — Robert’s Rules in particular.”

Bringing the commission’s focus back to the issues is also a priority for both candidates running for vice mayor.

“The whole goal should be to get things done and moving forward,” said African-Nila, also making her first bid for elected office in Highland Beach. “Mutual respect is of the utmost importance.”

Weitz, who recently apologized for an outburst in November while criticizing Riesa, said he believes politics plays a role in the split.

“We need to focus on town business and forget about politics,” he said.

While the split on the commission is along gender lines — and some in the community may see gender as an issue — the candidates say qualifications are more important.

“It doesn’t matter if you’re male or female,” Gehman said. “It should be about policy.”

Says African-Nila: “Gender isn’t an issue. It’s about having the right person in the office.”

The mayor is paid $15,000, while the vice mayor and commissioners are paid $12,000.

In addition to casting ballots for a commissioner and a vice mayor, Highland Beach voters will be asked to give the town the green light to spend up to $2.1 million on a streetscape project, which includes replacing the existing 3-mile walkway with a new one.

The project needs voter approval because the town’s charter prohibits commissioners from spending more than $350,000 on any one project without it.

Four candidates running for one commission seat

Highland Beach voters will elect a town commissioner from among four candidates and a vice mayor from two running. Both seats are three-year terms.

Voters also will decide on whether to fund the construction of a streetscape improvement project at a maximum cost of $2.1 million. — Steven J. Smith

George Kelvin (incumbent)

Personal: 80+; graduated from Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, N.Y.; wife of 35 years, four grandchildren; 20-year resident of Highland Beach.

Professional: Retired; was a scientific and medical illustrator; working for such publications as Scientific American, Forbes and Discover magazine. Also illustrated college textbooks in medicine and science.

Political experience: Has served one year on the Highland Beach Town Commission, taking over for the late Lou Stern.

Positions on issues: Supports the streetscape improvement project; wants more crosswalks with appropriate lighting; opposes Milani Park development.

Quote: “My most pressing goal is to serve the residents of Highland Beach to the best of my ability. Whatever comes up, I am looking out for their interests.”

Carl Lee Gehman

Personal: 69; attended two years at Lancaster Business School; married; four children, seven grandchildren; four grandchildren; 20-year resident of Highland Beach.

Professional: Served in the Marine Corps in Vietnam (Purple Heart); was a sales and marketing manager for 30 years; invented and currently markets the Roller Tanner, a device used to apply oils, creams, medications and cleaning agents.

Political experience: None.

Positions on issues: Wants to develop and restore seashape, beaches and shores; advocates for a thriving, fun and enjoyable community in which to live and play; wants to bring back the “barrier” in barrier island; supports managing Town Hall spending; wants to gather input from residents on the 3-mile walkway; advocates protection of wildlife for future generations.

Quote: “Gehman, the voice of reason. Let’s restore civility to politics.”

Peggy Gossett-Seidman

Personal: 64; graduated from Michigan State University with a B.A. in creative writing and minors in journalism and history; married; three children; 27-year resident of Highland Beach.

Professional: Combines writing, marketing and public relations skills for South Florida publications, schools and organizations.

Political experience: None.

Positions on issues: Advocates enforcement of ordinances to protect residents and property; wants to see more federal, state and county grants written for town improvements; wants more crosswalks and street lighting in town; wants streetscape plan revised before it’s passed to incorporate current budget and better construction materials; wants to bury cables and wires in underground conduits; endorses implementation of more evening commission meetings for working residents and better Town Hall dialogues; wants Milani Park to remain green and protected; favors alleviation of street flooding; advocates vigilance for the Intracoastal Waterway, seawalls, beaches and sea levels.

Quote: “Highland Beach should be run as a whole entity like a big family, not to favor special interests or benefit select citizens. It’s not a problem getting things done when they’re done correctly. I will serve as a strong, independent commissioner who will maintain dignity and decorum while considering any voting issue with the best interests of all people always in my mind.”

John Ross

Personal: 70; graduated from Syracuse University with a B.A. in political science, then went to the State University of New York in Albany and got a master’s degree in public administration as well as a child; 6-year resident of Highland Beach.

Professional: Spent his career in information technology, building IT systems to run big businesses and governments. Worked at American Management Systems, which was acquired by CGI Group. By the end of his career, he was chief information officer.

Political experience: None.

Positions on issues: Concerned with the dysfunction on the current Town Commission; wants a comprehensive plan to deal with rising waters and beach replenishment; wants more street crossing efforts put in place; wants a comprehensive budget review; wants removal of invasive plant species; would like public transportation set up for indigent and elderly people.

Quote: “I’d like to make Highland Beach as efficient and safe a town as is humanly possible.”

Voters to decide ballot question about streetscape project

Highland Beach voters will be asked to approve setting aside $2.1 million for a refurbished walking path. Here is the exact wording for the ballot question:

Approval to expend funds for streetscape improvements

May the town pledge and expend ad valorem taxes in an amount not to exceed $2.1 million, one hundred thousand dollars to fund streetscape improvements consisting of constructing a new walk path, upgraded signage, landscaping, lighting, and other similar accessories.
Highland Beach

Two vie to be vice mayor

An incumbent is running against a political newcomer to be the town’s second-in-command. — Steven J. Smith

Alysen Africano-Nila

Personal: 53; B.A. in education from Dowling College; married; two children; resident of Highland Beach for five years.

Professional: Background in teaching and corporate banking and finance in New York City; currently teaches part time at all grade levels.

Political experience: None.

Positions on issues: Interested in developing a comprehensive plan coordinated with FDOT to fix town drainage before proceeding with streetscape plan; wants to determine feasibility of underground utilities to modernize the town and minimize power outages; wants safer roads, bike paths and crosswalks; advocates keeping Milani Park undeveloped; concerned with keeping beaches clean and restoring natural environment; supports incorporating the town finance advisory board into the Town Commission to raise level of expertise regarding financial decisions; wants more civility and cooperation on the commission.

Quote: “My unique blend of career experience will be a valuable asset to the commission. I bring extensive financial expertise and the ability to lead, yet be fair, balanced and work as a team member with the commission, staff and our residents helping bring Highland Beach into the future.”

William ‘Bill’ Weitz (incumbent)

Personal: 72; Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Miami; unmarried; resident of Highland Beach for 20 years.

Professional: Former military psychologist, retired from the U.S. Army at the rank of lieutenant colonel; worked for the Veterans Administration for 18 years running outpatient clinics for combat veterans and their families; currently works as a forensic psychologist performing psychological services for state and federal courts.

Political experience: Has served as vice mayor of Highland Beach for the last three years.

Positions on issues: Feels the current Town Commission is micromanaging the town manager; wants to maintain high quality town services with conservative financial approaches; wants the town to reunify with St. Lucy Catholic Church in terms of cooperative programming and relationships; feels the town needs a new five-year strategic plan.

Quote: “I’m running on my basic belief that I have the competence, experience and commitment to public service which will benefit this town. I’ve shown those skills in my prior three years of service and I look forward to serving the town with the same level of energy.”

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

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News 17

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Direct Intracoastal — Boca Raton
Mayor Jeremy Rodgers would do a newcomer both to politics and to Boca Raton, having moved to the city in 2017. Born in Vietnam, Do came to the United States as a teenager in 1983. She is a certified public accountant and lawyer who began her career at the Securities and Exchange Commission in Washington, D.C. Her two children attend Boca Raton Community Middle School.

"With all my CPA and my experience working in finance, I believe that adds a lot to making sure that your [tax] money is well-spent," Do said.

Do said she entered the race when she realized Rodgers was unopposed. "No one should win by default," she said. "I'm presenting you choices.

Mayotte is a part-time sustainability specialist at IBM, having previously worked as a head coach and guidance counselor; taught psychology of personal experience to freshmen at FAU from 2003-2006; taught entrepreneurship as a professor at Northwood University from 2011-2013; currently owns Green Tree Media, a TV production company.

Political experience: Vice mayor of Miami Springs from 1977-1981 and was director of the Miami-Dade County; recently appointed to the board of trustees for FAU and the Palm Beach County Planning Commission.

Positions on issues: Concerned with overdevelopment, traffic flow and overcrowding in the schools.

"In terms of building, we need to catch our breath, take a beat and figure out what we really need and what is really important. I think Boca Raton is the shining city on the beach, it is a wonderful place to live, work, learn and play. It is my intention as an experienced leader to maintain that status."

Three candidates compete for Seat D

Boca Raton is governed by a five-member City Council elected at large to designated seats on a nonpartisan basis. The mayor and council members are elected for three-year terms. Members who have served two consecutive terms are not eligible to be elected to that office for the succeeding term. The mayor’s and council members’ seats designated A and B are elected in one year; the council members in the seats designated C and D are elected in the following year. The electorate changed the City Charter in 2006 to provide for two three-year terms. — Steven J. Smith

Boca Raton Council candidates quizzed at forum

By Steve Plunkett

If campaign contribution dollars were votes, Deputy Mayor Jeremy Rodgers would be the shoo-in for the March 13 City Council election. In fact, he had collected $57,970 in donations and a $5,000 self-loan, campaign finance reports show. His election war chest far eclipsed that of his challenger for Seat C, Kim Do, who had $1,800 in contributions and a $30,800 self-loan. Paul Preste ($850 self-loan; he is not seeking candidates).

Grossman and Preste did not become candidates until Jan. 10 and Jan. 8, respectively, around the time incumbent Robert King withdrew from the council race to run for County Commission.

Mayotte opened a campaign finance account in October. Similarly, Do became a candidate Dec. 27. Rodgers started his re-election account in July.

At the city’s first forum for this election, the candidates introduced themselves, answered questions and pleaded for votes. Comcast, ATR U-verse and Hotwire are replaying the Feb. 8 session on Saturdays, Mondays and Fridays before the vote, said the Federation of Boca Raton Homeowners Associations, which sponsored the event. The federation also planned a "speed meet" session with the council members on Sundays, Mondays and Fridays before the vote.

March 8 at the Wayne Barton Study Center, 269 NE 14th St.

Rodgers, a computer security expert at IBM and a cryptologic warfare officer in the Navy Reserves, said he seeks re-election to continue the work he has started as a council member.

"In my three years here, I’ve fought for limiting building heights, for controlling heights on the beach, protecting development rights on the beach, and not allowing our beach to be overrun by mansions," Rodgers said. "I’ve fought for responsible growth in development. I’ve also really fought for the best use of your tax dollars — my tax dollars and your tax dollars."

Rodgers wants to woo more corporate headquarters and entrepreneurial startups to Boca, partly because he knows his IBM job could end at any time. "I don’t want two or three or four places in this community where I can send my résumé. I want 10, 20, 30, 40, 50," he said.

Don’t forget to vote

Municipal elections will be held March 13. Polling places will be open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. For more information visit www.pbclections.org

Armand Grossman

Personal: 74; B.A. in political science.

 mastered's in clinical psychology from the School of Medicine, University of Miami in 1980, and a master's in psychology from the Florida International University. Certified as a psychologist by the Florida Board of Psychology and is a member of the Florida Psychological Association.

Political experience: None.

Positions on issues: Concerned about overcrowding, traffic flow and the overall quality of life; wants to bring back transparency and accountability to the City Council.

"My main driving force is to be the voice of the residents of Boca Raton. I spent nine years as an advisory board member and I opened my eyes to the fact that the residents’ voices aren’t being heard loud enough."

Monica Mayotte

Personal: 55; graduated from Florida State University with a B.S. in chemistry; graduated from the University of South Florida Medical School with a medical doctor degree; attended the University of South Carolina and received a degree of internal medicine specialist; married; two children; 12-year resident of Boca Raton.

Professional: Practices internal medicine at Presto Medical, his own Fort Lauderdale practice, and has associations with several major area hospitals.

Political experience: None.

Positions on issues: Concerned with traffic flow, overdevelopment, high-density population, overcrowded schools and a local government that might not truly represent its residents.

Quote: “I will be the best candidate with the most faithfulness to the people of Boca Raton. My goal is to make Boca Raton continue to be a wonderful place to live and to do those things that make a community great. I am equipped because I know people, I understand people and I am able to make that happen.”

Paul G. Preste

Personal: 65; graduated summa cum laude from the University of Florida with a B.S. in chemistry; graduated from the University of South Florida Medical School with a medical doctor degree; attended the University of South Carolina and received a degree of internal medicine specialist; married; two children; 12-year resident of Boca Raton.

Professional: Practices internal medicine at Presto Medical, his own Fort Lauderdale practice, and has associations with several major area hospitals.

Political experience: None.

Positions on issues: Concerned with traffic flow, overdevelopment, high-density population, overcrowded schools and a local government that might not truly represent its residents.

Quote: “I will be the best candidate with the most faithfulness to the people of Boca Raton. My goal is to make Boca Raton continue to be a wonderful place to live and to do those things that make a community great. I am equipped because I know people, I understand people and I am able to make that happen.”

Don’t forget to vote

Municipal elections will be held March 13. Polling places will be open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. For more information visit www.pbclections.org
Boca Raton

Two vie for Seat C
An incumbent is running against a political newcomer for the second council seat in Boca Raton. — Steven J. Smith

SEAT C

Kim Do

Personal: 48; bachelor's degree in accounting / business from the University of San Diego; law degree from the University of Washington, a master of law degree from Georgetown Law Center; single mother; two children; resident of Boca Raton for less than a year.

Professional: Started her business law career with the federal government in Washington, D.C., then went into the private sector, working for various financial institutions including hedge funds in her native Vietnam. One of her positions was head of legal for a multinational fund that managed an investment portfolio of over $2 billion in various asset classes. Declined to disclose what career she is currently engaged in.

Political experience: None.

Positions on issues: Wants to increase school capacity and job creation and smart growth.

Quote: “I believe that with my well-rounded education, high-level working experience and passion, I will add a global perspective to the leadership and passion, I will add a global perspective to the leadership of Boca Raton and help make the city an even more fantastic place.”

Jeremy Rodgers (incumbent)

Personal: 39; graduated from Florida Atlantic University with bachelor’s and master’s degrees in computer engineering and a minor in business; married; four children; 20-year resident of Boca Raton.

Professional: Has worked for IBM for the last 18 years as a technical sales lead with government agencies, law enforcement and military entities. Is a Navy reservist.

Political experience: Three years on the Boca Raton City Council.

Positions on issues: Wants to see everyone in town properly represented; wants to provide job opportunities for future generations; wants Boca to be a city friendly to veterans; wants Boca to evolve into a city where the technology field can flourish.

Quote: “We live in an amazing city. It takes continual work to make sure we continue to live in such an exceptional city. There’s a lot of potential out there — the next great invention, the next great startup. The next great leader might be a student who comes from our schools. It’s my job to see that our city is set up to be the foundation for that to happen.”

March 2018
By Steve Plunkett

Boaters and landlubbers alike appear to have put the kibosh on a proposal to add boat launches at Rutherford Park.

Only one person held up his hand signaling a desire to proceed at the end of a crowded outreach session Feb. 26 at the Downtown Library.

“Who will be accountable for the opinions that you’ve heard here today, which is 99 to 1? asked the boater who sought the show of hands.

Dan Grippo, the city’s municipal services director, said his department would carefully consider the input.

“Clearly no one here wants boat ramps, so it probably won’t go anywhere,” Grippo said. “Typically, from my experience here in six years, when the public speaks out, you tend to get what you want in the projects we’re in charge of. … If you don’t want them, trust me, they don’t happen.”

The evening started off calmly, with consultant Mike Jenkins of Applied Technology and Management Inc. polling the room to determine that more than half the 150 attendees owned a boat, perhaps a quarter owned a kayak or paddleboard.

Jenkins went through the concept: adding two double boat launches to a centrally located spoil island in the park, along with a bridge to reach the island, converting the parking area to accommodate 67 boat trailers and seven cars without trailers, adding three boat wash-down areas.

Residents were not impressed.

“I don’t want to spend 2 miles of idle speed coming down to get to Palmetto Park Road and then go outside. … That trip would add 20 minutes,” said Bill Trinka, who wanted assurances that the double launch at Silver Palm Park would remain where it is.

Over and over, residents asked about Silver Palm. Jennifer Bistyga, the city’s coastal program manager, tried with little success to keep the discussion on Rutherford Park, the announced topic of the evening. The session was open to the public at large, at the City Council’s direction Bistyga had made an effort to invite all Boca Raton boaters who held Silver Palm launch permits.

Other residents were concerned about effects on the environment. Michele Peel, president of the Friends of Gumbo Limbo, cautioned that the proposed boat launches would be right across from the nature center.

“This is Gumbo Limbo’s backyard,” she said. “People come to get close to nature … to see animals that are living over in the area, animals that are not compatible with having an active, motorized boat launch there. Those animals will disappear.”

Still other concerns were raised about how boaters would ignore markings leading to the main Intracoastal Waterway channel 450 feet away and take shortcuts over seagrass, how trailer traffic would clog Northeast 24th Street and Federal Highway, and whether boaters and paddleboarders could coexist close by.

Bistyga passed out a survey for residents to fill out but did not have to go far to advise the City Council about what happened. Mayor Susan Haynie, Deputy Mayor Jeremy Rodgers and council members Scott Singer and Andrea O’Rourke were quietly watching the proceedings.

Overall, the gathering gave a collective thumbs-up to plans to remove exotic plants and restore Rutherford’s boardwalk and canoe trails. Several people complained about homeless people congregating in the park.

Gene Folden, chairman of the marine advisory board, said “it’s hard to say” how representative the session was of the city’s overall boating community, but that attendees had made their point.

“Their message was, they like their Silver Palm Park,” Folden said.
Boca Raton

Council tasks city staff with devising rules for Midtown development

By Mary Hladky

Key decisions on how to proceed with the proposed Midtown development have been pushed well into the future.

City Council members on Jan. 23 postponed a vote on ordinances that set a framework for how Midtown could be built.

Instead, they voted 4-1, with Mayor Susan Haynie dissenting, to have staff develop a “small area plan” for the Midtown area between Interstate 95 and the Town Center at Boca Raton, where the developer proposes a “live, work, play” transit-oriented development that would include 2,500 residential units where none now exists.

One problem, however, was that council members and the developer had no idea what a small area plan is. The idea had been advocated by council member Andrea O’Rourke after Midtown neighbors objected to the project, largely out of fears that Midtown would put a lot more traffic on already overcrowded streets.

But she was unable to explain specifically what she was seeking.

Council members tossed into city Development Services Director Brandon Schaad’s lap the task of determining what a small area plan would encompass.

What became clear when Schaad presented his report at the Feb. 12 Community Redevelopment Agency meeting was that creating the plan will delay decisions on how Midtown can proceed until July at the earliest, and probably later than that.

Schaad’s proposed schedule would include public hearings in March and April to allow city residents to weigh in, analyses that would be completed in May, recommendations in June and a final report in July.

Schaad described the timeline as “aggressive.”

“We are not guaranteeing this is done in July,” said City Manager Leif Ahnell, adding that the city might need to hire a consultant to help.

Topics that would be considered include the mix of residential, retail and office, design of streets, ideas for a redesign of Military Trail, assessment of right-of-way needs, new infrastructure such as water and sewer lines and roads and how they would be paid for, and other matters such as open space, parking and allowable building heights.

Much of that, however, already has been done by the developer and city staff as the ordinances were developed.

“I am thrilled we are doing this, and I wish we had done this a year ago,” O’Rourke said.

Angelo Bianco, managing partner of developer Crocker Partners, declined to comment after the meeting.

That caused delays as staff tweaked again after the city’s Planning and Zoning Board offered recommendations, shocked the developer.

Landowners still could build 2,500 units, as originally proposed. But they could not be built until a new Tri-Rail station is operating in the heart of the project and until all street infrastructure is built, power lines buried and landscaping completed. Building heights were reduced to 105 feet from 145.

One reason for the disconnect on Midtown is that city officials have not seen renderings of what the area redevelopment would look like. That’s because they don’t exist.

Crocker Partners wanted the ordinances in place so they know what will be permitted before they spend $1 million or more on site plans.

Bianco has tried in vain to reassure council members that once the site plans are created, they will have the opportunity to approve or disapprove them.

“We will come to you with a plan,” he said in January. “We need to know before we spend the time and money that we are doing something that is not wasteful. We need the rules. … In all other redevelopments, you get a set of rules first. Then you get a plan.”

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Visit www.bocahelpinghands.org
Tough new rules in place for filmmakers in town

By Rich Pollack

Moviemakers and others who want to film in Highland Beach be warned: Town officials and the Palm Beach County Film and Television Commission will work together to welcome you — but there are a lot of rules you’re going to have to follow.

The Town Commission partnered with the county’s film commission last month in an amendment to a 2013 interlocal agreement that provides filmmakers with a “one-stop-shop process” should they consider taking advantage of Highland Beach as a setting during their next project.

In a resolution that passed unanimously, town commissioners agreed to strengthen the previous agreement, which lets the film commission be the first point of contact for those interested in filming in the town and serve as the liaison between the two groups.

The filming company would be required to fill out an application for review by the film commission staff to see if the project is a good fit and meets a dozen requirements set out specifically for Highland Beach.

Film commission staff would then contact the town manager and police chief to review the application and make sure Highland Beach gives the green light for the production to proceed.

County Film Commissioner Chuck Eldred says the rules specified by the town are among the toughest in the county. “This is one of the most one-sided interlocal agreements about film and television permitting any community can adopt,” he said.

Sparked by complaints last year from residents about the production of a made-for-television movie about the mob and a subsequent party, the agreement with the county sets out 12 provisions. It also gives the town the right to block filming if leaders think the production would be disruptive or not a good fit for the community.

Among the requirements set out in the agreement are:

• Filming can take place only between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., with no filming on Sundays or town holidays without prior written approval from the town manager.

• A parking plan and off-site parking and a lighting plan, if applicable, must be provided to the town manager for approval.

• At least two days before production begins, filmmakers will have to notify in writing property owners within 500 feet of the production site when filming will start and how long it is expected to last.

• Film crew members cannot trespass on neighboring properties.

• The town manager or film commissioner may require the filming crew to have onsite security in place.

Eldred said as part of the process, the county film commission, an arm of the county’s Tourist Development Council, has authority to pull a filming permit if any of the provisions of the agreement is broken.

Throughout the process, he said, the film commission will do the heavy lifting and work to ensure the best interests of the community come first. The film commission, he said, will continue to work with the town to make any other adjustments needed down the road.

“The interlocal agreement takes the burden of reviewing permits and working closely with the filmmakers off of the town,” Eldred said. “We do all the work.”

Spring Fling offers both fun and function

By Rich Pollack

Have some documents you need shredded? Want to sample food or get a deal on a used library book? Or maybe you’d like to bring your kids to a scavenger hunt or get your pet registered in case he or she gets lost?

If you’re a Highland Beach resident, you can get all of those things accomplished at the town’s annual Spring Fling, set for 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 24 at Town Hall.

“The Spring Fling is a free, fun-filled event for both adults and children,” said Town Clerk Lanelda Gaskins. “It’s a great way to meet and greet town commissioners, staff and other residents. The fling will be packed with things to do for everyone in the family, including pets.

The town will provide free hot dogs, sodas, water and chips, and a variety of local food vendors will offer samples. Representatives from the Highland Beach Public Library will conduct a book fair, offering surplus books, and firefighters will show off the town’s new fire apparatus and offer free blood-pressure screenings.

Returning this year will be the Proshred truck, which will shred paper documents from residents at no charge. As it has done for the past few years, the Highland Beach Police Department will have staff on hand to photograph your pet and enter the picture and information into a department database to assist recovery should the pet become lost.

There will be games for children and a scavenger hunt where kids can search out hidden candy. For more information, call Town Hall at 278-4548.
After tours for guests, new customs facility will complete move-in

By Rich Pollack

After years of planning and months of construction, a new U.S. Customs and Border Protection building at Boca Raton Airport is now complete, with operations expected to begin within several weeks.

The 4,400-square-foot facility was more than six months behind schedule because of construction and weather delays, but the city gave the agency a certificate of occupancy last month. It will be open to tours by community and business leaders this month.

Following the open-house tours, U.S. Customs and Border Protection officials will begin moving computers and other equipment into the building.

“There’s been tremendous support of this project in the community,” said Clara Bennett, the airport’s executive director.

Boca Raton officials said the center would work as another users-fee center, with travelers paying for the service.

The new facility will be a benefit to international companies wishing to relocate to Boca Raton, said Mayor Susan Hayne. “Plus it adds to our global presence.”

Bennett said that during the invitation-only tours, visitors would have the chance to see a facility with a contemporary and attractive design.

“The goal was for it not to be a typical cookie-cutter building,” she said. “We wanted it to be a modern, state-of-the-art facility unique to Boca Raton that represents where the airport is going in the future.”

With a clean and open appearance, the facility has a modern design with a combination of metal and glass.

An eye-catching feature of the center is a large map of the world on a blue background with the words “Welcome to Boca Raton” on the wall.

“It represents the international nature of the facility,” Bennett said.

The $4.3 million station will make it easier for air passengers coming from outside the country to Boca Raton to clear customs. Now, planes coming from outside the United States planning to land at Boca Raton Airport must first stop at an airport with a customs facility, such as Palm Beach International Airport or Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport. The passengers would then fly to Boca Raton Airport.

Bennett says the new Boca Raton center will enhance convenience for air travelers coming in from overseas, improve safety and decrease fuel costs because it will eliminate an additional landing and takeoff.

The center will also serve boaters coming from overseas who need to clear customs.

Once fully operational, the center will be open Thursday through Monday from 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., considered the busiest times for international travelers at the airport.

Additional hours will be available at an extra cost but must be prearranged.

While taxpayers fund customs facilities at Palm Beach International and Fort Lauderdale Executive airports at no cost to arriving travelers, Boca Raton Airport’s center will be a user fee center, with travelers paying for the service.

The Airport Authority will pay Customs and Border Protection to operate the facility and will cover a variety of costs, including the salaries of assigned officers.

To recoup the estimated operational costs of $244,000 for the first year and about $205,000 every year afterward, the airport developed a fee structure that will enable it to pay for the service in approximately five to six years.

Groundbreaking for the new center took place in July 2016, and construction was scheduled to wrap up within a year. A turnover in construction managers, as well as delays caused by Hurricane Irma, pushed back the schedule.

Bennett said once the contractor is done with a checklist, customs officials would be taking over the final stages of preparation for a public opening.

“The keys will be given to customs officials and they’ll begin moving in their hardware,” she said. •
BOCA IS CHANGING. HOW IS UP TO YOU.

On March 13th, Two Seats on Boca’s City Council Are Up for Election.

THE WINNERS COULD WELL DETERMINE THE FUTURE DIRECTION OF OUR CITY: WHAT WE DO ABOUT RAMPANT DEVELOPMENT, TRAFFIC, PARKING, AND OUR OVERCROWDED SCHOOLS.

TAKE A CAREFUL LOOK AT THE CANDIDATES AND WHAT THEY STAND FOR. THE CHOICES ARE REAL.

WHATEVER CHOICE YOU MAKE, BE SURE TO VOTE ON MARCH 13TH.

BOCA’S FUTURE IS ON THE BALLOT.

Resident Advocacy Groups like BocaWatch have endorsed Monica Mayotte and Kim Do

The Chamber of Commerce is endorsing Armand Gross and Jeremy Rodgers

After the Parkland shooting
Boca Raton and Delray Beach city halls — Feb. 19, 21

In the days after the Feb. 14 mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, students from south Palm Beach County schools, including Boca High, West Boca High and Atlantic High in Delray Beach, conducted walkthroughs and marches in solemn solidarity with Stoneman Douglas students. Seventeen students and teachers were killed at Stoneman Douglas.

AFTER: Students pause for 17 seconds of silence outside Boca Raton City Hall during a rally against gun violence.

RIGHT: (l-r) Elena Gaucher and Olivia Wojtcekl, both Boca High seniors, and Carah Phillips, a Palm Beach State College student, show support at the ‘Rally to End Gun Violence in America’ outside Delray Beach City Hall.

Below: High school and middle school students gather outside Boca Raton City Hall in a rally against gun violence.

Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

Lucibella trial postponed until end of April

By Steve Plunkett

Standing outside the courtroom, former Ocean Ridge Vice Mayor Richard Lucibella could not hide his disappointment at having to wait 10 more weeks for his felony trial to begin. He and defense attorney Heidi Perlet appeared for a calendar call Feb. 20 before Circuit Judge Meenu Sasser, who set a “date certain” of April 30 for the proceedings.

“We were going to get bumped anyway,” Perlet told her client, who is accused of felony battery on a law enforcement officer and two other charges.

“I know that. I was just hoping we could do it in March,” Lucibella responded.

The case of a burglary suspect who sought a speedy trial knocked Lucibella’s original date off the judge’s calendar. Rafael Llovera’s trial took the rest of the week, with a jury finding him guilty of a lesser charge, trespassing, along with battery of the occupant and resisting arrest without violence.

Lucibella’s new trial date is a year and three weeks past the original schedule, which called for the proceedings to begin April 10, 2017.

Lucibella, who also faces charges of resisting arrest with violence, another felony, and firing a weapon while under the influence of alcohol, a misdemeanor, waived his right to a speedy trial when the lawyers needed more time to question witnesses.

He has pleaded not guilty to all charges.

Perlet, a law partner of defense attorney Marc Shiner, said the trial will feature testimony from more than 20 witnesses.

Lucibella was arrested Oct. 22, 2016, after Ocean Ridge police went to his oceanfront home to answer neighbors’ reports of hearing gunfire. They confiscated a .40-caliber handgun and found five spent shell casings on the backyard patio.

He and a police supervisor, Lt. Steven Wohlfiel, were both on the patio and “obviously intoxicated,” the officers said. They later determined the seized gun was Wohlfiel’s.

Lucibella resigned his vice mayor and town commissioner positions Dec. 7, 2016.

His trial was postponed first to July 2017, then October, then February and now April.

The Camino Real Bridge to close for year of renovation

By Steve Plunkett

The city’s historic Camino Real Bridge will close for a year to motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians while the 79-year-old structure undergoes long-needed repairs.

The connection between the barrier island and the mainland is set to close April 12. Detour signs will direct vehicular and foot traffic to the Palmetto Park Road bridge over the Intracoastal Waterway.

Broward County-based Kiewit Infrastructure South Co. submitted the winning low bid of $8.9 million to Palm Beach County, which is responsible for the bridge.

The planned work includes minor widening of the fixed and bascule bridge elements and relocating the bridge-tender house from the south to the north on the island side. Also on the to-do list in the 253-foot-long project area are renovating and replacing the tender system, new mechanical equipment for the bridge, reconstruction of the roadway approaches and sidewalks and minor drainage improvements.

County engineers once hoped to tear down the bridge and replace it with a new, $44 million span, but learned during the permitting process that it was protected as part of a county historic district.

“The new bridge will have a similar architectural design, the same clearance height and a similar railing,” Boca Raton says on its website.

The two-lane drawbridge handles about 7,600 vehicles a day, according to the county’s Historic Traffic Growth Table for 2017. By comparison, about 15,200 vehicles use the four-lane span at Palmetto Park Road, the table shows.

The Camino Real roadway was originally designed by architect Addison Mizner to connect the railroad station to the Boca Raton Resort and Club. In 1929 developer Clarence Geist put a temporary swing bridge at the end of the road to cross the Intracoastal.

The Public Works Administration built the permanent drawbridge 30 years later. In 1997 the County Commission created the Camino Real Road and Bridge Historic District at the Boca Raton Historical Society’s urging.

“What makes the area and these resources so important is Boca Raton did not evolve like other cities of its age, but rather was born of a grand conceptual plan” by Mizner, the county’s registry of historic places says.

The bridge, also known as the Boca Raton Club Bridge, is one of three in the county deemed “structurally deficient” by the state. The others are the Southern Boulevard bridge connecting Palm Beach and West Palm Beach, which is now being replaced, and the U.S. 1 bridge over the Intracoastal in Jupiter. The state is evaluating replacement alternatives for the bridge.
A 48-unit luxury condominium, one in a long line of downtown projects awaiting city approval, has gotten the go-ahead for construction. The project, 475 Royal Palm, won unanimous approval Feb. 26 from Boca Raton City Council members sitting as Community Redevelopment Agency commissioners.

In January, the city’s Community Appearance Board unanimously recommended approval, and the Planning and Zoning Board agreed with a 6-1 vote. The developer, Boca Raton-based Group P6, plans three 100-foot towers, each with 16 condos, would front East Royal Palm Road at Fifth Avenue. Rendering provided

Nine-story condo project gets CRA approval

By Mary Hladky

A 48-unit luxury condominium, one in a long line of downtown projects awaiting city approval, has gotten the go-ahead for construction. The project, 475 Royal Palm, won unanimous approval Feb. 26 from Boca Raton City Council members sitting as Community Redevelopment Agency commissioners.

In January, the city’s Community Appearance Board unanimously recommended approval, and the Planning and Zoning Board agreed with a 6-1 vote. The developer, Boca Raton-based Group P6, plans three 100-foot towers, each with 16 units. Parking for condo owners, guests and employees of the Morgan Stanley office building north of the condo will be in an underground parking garage.

The 201 parking spaces exceed the 184 required by the city. Seven parking spaces will be available to the public in the garage, and four more on the street. Nearly 45 percent of the project site will be open space, more than the 36 percent required.

Group P6 and RLC Architects have included public art, including a pineapple mosaic in a nod to the city’s history of pineapple cultivation and additional mosaics that represent the four seasons and the city’s slogan as “a city for all seasons.”

Council members and two members of the public who spoke in favor of the project praised the buildings’ design. “It is a beautiful property,” said one neighbor. “It will be quite an addition to the neighborhood.”

Council members imposed three conditions for their approval.

If the city decides speed bumps are needed to calm traffic on Royal Palm Road, the developer will pay for them or reimburse the cost if the city pays for them. The developer already had offered to pay.

The project is not now designed for valet parking. If the developer wants to add that, city staff can approve the site plan change. If disagreements arise, the matter will come back to the council for a decision.

The developer will pay a School Board-imposed impact fee of nearly $18,000. The council required that the money go to the city, which will determine how the money is spent on Boca Raton public schools.

Group P6 is working on two other downtown projects. The 24-unit, 327 Royal Palm luxury condo at 327 E. Royal Palm Road has been approved and is under construction. The developer has proposed Concierge at 22 SE Sixth St., west of Federal Highway, for senior residents. It would have 110 memory-care, assisted-living and independent-living units.
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Edith 'Edie' Hamm Ruh

LANTANA — Edith 'Edie' Hamm Ruh died on Jan. 29. She was 89 years old.

Edie Ryan entered the world Dec. 12, 1928, the daughter of Bertie and Arthur Ryan, in Washington's Crossing, N.J. She spent a seemingly idyllic childhood chasing her two older brothers, Sensor and Jack, along Jacob's Creek and summers camping on a family island along the Delaware River.

Always popular, quietly adventurous, painfully humble, tomboyishly athletic and naturally beautiful, the young Miss Ryan was well-liked and highly respected.

As a young teenager, she helped the WWII effort by packing parachutes for the Civil Air Patrol and spending all night at the factory, earning $1.25 an hour.

After high school, she took a job in the workforce full-time to raise four kids on her own. She excelled at her job starting at the age of 16.

When the family moved to New Jersey in 1957, she worked for the Brown Shoe Co. for 47 years, until her retirement in 1994. "When he donated those boots to the South County Migrant Association, Mr. Canning died on Feb. 18 after several years of failing health. He was 88.

"He was just one of those caring people," said his nephew Mark Denkler, who has owned the store since Mr. Canning's fondness for Valentine's Day as the store's new owner. Denkler recalled, Mr. Canning handed him $100 and told him to go to the bank, get 50 $2 bills and give one to any customer who came in wearing red — even if the customer didn't buy any shoes.

"So I had homeless people in here scaring off the customers, plus I'm giving all this money away," Denkler said, laughing warmly at the memory. "But that's just the way he was.

Mr. Canning's fondness for Valentine's Day was a coincidence.

Vince Canning Jr. was born on Christmas Day 1929 in Indianapolis, the youngest of 11 children. After earning a business degree from the University of Missouri in 1951, he served in the U.S. Marine Corps for two years, then worked for the Brown Shoe Co. in St. Louis, where he met his wife, Patricia Lynng Canning, who survives him.

The couple's daughter, Karen, died in infancy. In 1957, Mr. Canning arrived in Delray Beach to take over Warren's Better Shoes, the family shoe store he fathered his own company.

Vince Sr., had owned since 1952, and for the next 37 years he somehow found time to run the business while volunteering for any public or private organization whose mission he admired. By 1993, the old shoe trade in policy had become Open Your Heart/Open Your Closet, a joint project with the city of Delray Beach's Development Authority, whose executive director was Marjorie Ferrer.

"For me, he was the volunteer," Ferrer said. "If I needed anybody to do anything, I could call Vince. He was a wonderful, sweet, beautiful person.

In time, Mr. Canning expanded the business to stores in Boynton Beach, Boca Raton and Paramount. Those outlets were sold as retirement neared, but his devotion to the community remained constant.

In 1967, he became a founding member of the St. Vincent de Paul Society where, as a board member, he helped buy the migrant association's first trailers.

He also was a board member of the Delray Library and Delray Playhouse, Old School Square, the Achievement Centers, CROS Ministries and the Boca Raton and Boynton Beach Chambers. As a past president of the Delray Chamber, he was awarded its Lifetime Achievement Award, and was also honored by the Exchange Club, Rotary International, the Kiwanis Club and St. Vincent Ferrer Church.

"He was the family shoe store in town," Denkler said. "Everybody knew this man who was always nice and had a loud voice and always smiled who fit a whole generation of kids in their shoes.

When Mr. Canning died, his nephew added, he was wearing a Buster Brown wristwatch. In addition to his wife and nephew, he is survived by his sisters-in-law, Jane Coose; and 30 great nieces and nephews Shawn, Mark and Eric Epperson; and Jane Thompson, Anne Marie Epperson Leung and Emily Epperson. A memorial service will be held March 10 at Lantana and June 9 in Delray Beach. For more information, call (561) 426-9667 (phone) or 954-792-5223 (fax).
Gulf Stream
Town keeps up assault on ‘discouraged’ design elements

By Steve Plunkett

Town commissioners in February continued a new crusade against approving “discouraged” elements in house plans, sending a proposal that already had been rejected once by the Architectural Review and Planning Board back to the architect for further tweaking.

Mayor Scott Morgan, who first challenged the town’s list of “discouraged” elements in December, said requests for higher eaves and second-story ceilings at 2929 N. Ocean Blvd. were problems.

“It’s a house that employs the maximum of two discouraged elements, and that is eave height and the second-story height, which serves to create a huge middle mass of the house,” Morgan said at the commission’s Feb. 9 meeting. “The second-story eave height’s way too high; you’ve got a box in the middle.”

Carlos Linares, with Randall Stofft Architects, said ceilings on the second floor would be 10 feet, 6 inches, making the eaves reach up 26 feet, the high end of the discouraged range. The preferred height for a second story in Gulf Stream is no more than 24 feet.

“The master [bedroom], the lounge, the views are on the second floor for this particular home,” Linares said.

Commissioner Paul Lyons was not impressed with a proposed gatehouse and 8-foot-tall wall along State Road A1A. The house just to the south has a gatehouse that’s grandfathered in, he said.

“I have a reference point which is that house. I can look at it and see what this might look like, and I don’t think I’d want to replicate it,” Lyons said.

Commissioners also objected to the number, size and style of windows planned for the home.

Lyons said Gulf Stream’s definition of Bermuda-style architecture places emphasis on “simple, straightforward” design.

“It’s clear to me what that means. This design, in the context of that general description, I think is 180 degrees from that,” Lyons said.

At the commission’s suggestion, Linares withdrew his application and will confer with Town Manager Greg Dunham before returning to the ARPB. He previously removed a chimney after the review board objected to its being taller than 35 feet. The home will now have a ventless fireplace, Linares said.

Morgan first chafed about discouraged elements when a homeowner on Palm Way asked to have black garage doors and shutters. The town discourages any color except white.

In other business:
• Dunham said crews started connecting customers in the north part of town to underground power: “to date, 11 homes on Polo, nine on Gulfstream, three on Golfview.”
• Commissioner approved an ordinance limiting the use of temporary storm shutters to two weeks before a hurricane is expected to strike and two weeks after.
• The mayor mailed residents a report saying, among other things, the town “is in excellent financial shape, and town operations are functioning smoothly and well.”

The COASTAL STAR
March 2018
News 29
A deck job in New York City was never going to sit right with Tom Ambrose, a native of Oklahoma who got his master’s degree in geology from nearby Rutgers University in New Jersey. Ambrose was doing geological studies on the Permian Basin of west Texas from a Manhattan office building when he heard about an oil discovery in Cuba in 1956. Off he went, heading into a life as rich as the oil preserves he would discover, taking him to destinations as exotic asSingapore, Trinidad and Tobago and other South American locales, including lengthy stays in Colombia and Ecuador.

Ambrose thought he was heading into a stable political situation in Cuba, but six months after he arrived, Fidel Castro arrived from exile in Mexico and the revolution began. He stuck it out until 1959 when his company was nationalized, and he headed back to the U.S. with his wife, Thora, and daughter, Natalie.

Ambrose, 91, and his wife bought property in Ocean Ridge in 1974, as he put it, “when the town had plenty of open spaces, land crabs and other wildlife.” They built a house in 1990 inspired by their seven years in Indonesia, with the sense they can feel like they live in Bali without making the 22,000-mile round trip there.

Ambrose is a member of both the Palm Beach chapter of the Circumnavigators Club (www.circumnavigators.org/chapters/palm-beach-florida/), for those who have been around the world in one direction, and the more exclusive Explorers Club (www.circumnavigators.org/chapters/Circumnavigators Club (www.circumnavigators.org/chapters/Circumnavigators Club (www.circumnavigators.org/chapters/Circumnavigators Club), for those who have a greater impact on places that have conducted scientific flag expeditions around the world.

Q: Where did you grow up and go to school? How do you think that has influenced you?
A: I was born and grew up in Oklahoma City when it was surrounded by oil wells, so I had a strong interest in natural resources. I later attended the University of Oklahoma, the oldest petroleum geology school in the U.S., where I earned a B.S. in geology. For a change of scenery, I went east to Rutgers University in New Brunswick, N.J., where I was awarded an M.S. after doing geological field trips to the Catskills and the famous Palisades of the Hudson River.

The geological department was one of the oldest in our country. Geology Hall was built in 1869, the same year the first collegiate football game in the U.S. was played just up the street on College Avenue between Rutgers and Princeton (Rutgers won). I would say where I grew up, around oil, influenced me more than my education did.

Q: What professions have you worked in? What professional accomplishments are you most proud of?
A: The day I turned 18 I received a notice from my draft board to report for field artillery training at Fort Sill, Okla., in the summer of 1944. By the time training ended World War II was winding down, so I missed the last troop ship to Europe. How lucky I was, though I did spend two years in the service during the war.

After the war, and with two degrees, I got my first professional job as a geologist with a major American oil company based at 70 Pine St. (the third-highest skyscraper in New York) in the financial district.

In the 1950s, New York was the financial center of the oil industry, most of which has since moved to Texas. I spent a total of 40 years in international oil exploration before retiring to Florida. The professional accomplishment I am most proud of is finding oil. I found oil in Cuba, on the deepest well ever drilled there. It wasn’t commercial, but it was oil. Found oil in Colombia; that was a huge operation.

Worked and found oil in Ecuador. Found oil in Indonesia, offshore, and finally went to Trinidad, where we didn’t find any because it had been pumped out by then.

Q: What advice do you have for a young person selecting a career today?
A: Choose STEM. That’s science, tech, engineering and math studies, and stay with them into the future. The U.S. needs you. The Asians are running ahead of us, so we do need technical people.

Q: How did you choose to make your home in Ocean Ridge?
A: Everything I do has maybe a geological slant. I like “the Ridge” with an elevation to 22 feet — the highest coastal ridge between Key West and Martin County. It should give some protection from flooding during an ocean surge, especially with rising sea levels. Also, the big houses they’re building by the beach now could act as a sort of Chinese wall against flooding. If any water comes in I’d expect it to come from the Intracoastal.

Q: What is your favorite part about living in Ocean Ridge?
A: In addition to the friendly neighbors, everything is so close, convenient and available just across the Intracoastal. We once lived at the very north end of the town of Palm Beach and it was a 6-mile round trip to shopping, banking, restaurants and even farther to the nearest gas station. Very inconvenient. We also like the natural areas within Ocean Ridge, which preserve the mangroves and beach foliage along A1A. The Inlet Park is also great for boating.

Q: What book are you reading now?
A: One Man’s View of the World, 2013, by Lee Kuan Yew, the first prime minister of Singapore. The world statesman turned Singapore into a world-class city-state since independence in 1965. Today it is the fourth-highest GDP in the world, 2 percent unemployment, top education, builds more offshore oil rigs than any other country, and has a government-funded health care system. Our son, Serge, graduated from high school in Singapore when we lived there in the late 1980s.

Q: What music do you listen to when you need inspiration? When you want to relax?
A: I don’t really get inspiration from music, to relax I like mostly tropical Latin music, which I learned during my 15 years living in Latin America, where both my children were born. I love Latin music, especially the Buena Vista Social Club music from Cuba.

Q: Do you have a favorite quote that inspires your decisions?
A: “The trail is the thing, not the end of the trail. Travel too fast and you miss all you are traveling for.” — Louis L’Amour.

Q: What’s your favorite part about living in Ocean Ridge?
A: I love the quiet, the beaches, the flora and fauna, the weather, the people. It’s a great place to retire.

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By Steve Plunkett

State transportation officials planned to open two more ramps on Interstate 95’s new interchange at Spanish River Boulevard.

The Florida Department of Transportation scheduled a ribbon-cutting ceremony to unveil the interchange on Feb. 28 — Day 1,676 on the construction calendar. Opening that day were the I-95 southbound exit ramp to Spanish River Boulevard (Exit 48A) and the I-95 northbound entrance ramp from Spanish River Boulevard.

Still under construction are new ramps from eastbound Yamato Road to Spanish River Boulevard and north from Spanish River to Yamato Road.

"Please note that this is an expedited ramp opening schedule; there is still contract work left to be done on this project, and contract time currently runs through March," project spokeswoman Andi Pacini said.

The state DOT and contractor Astaldi Construction Corp. invited dignitaries from the county Transportation Planning Agency, Boca Raton, Florida Atlantic University, Palm Beach State College and Boca Raton Airport to the ceremony.

Mayor Susan Haynie, who also chairs the governing board of the Transportation Planning Agency, was looking forward to the grand opening of the interchange. The Spanish River connection is Boca Raton’s fifth entrance/exit on I-95.

"Even though it’s only half-open, it’s already diverting traffic," Haynie said.

Pacini said “fantastic weather” combined with the contractor’s moving resources from “previously critical areas” enabled Astaldi to compress the construction schedule.

The existing northbound and southbound I-95 lanes from the Yamato Road Bridge to slightly south of Spanish River Boulevard will be repaved with a single layer “to ensure that the lanes that were shifted to build the bridges over I-95 are clearly marked with new pavement and new striping,” Pacini said.

Construction crews started work on the interchange in January 2014. The $69.9 million project meant widening Spanish River Boulevard west of FAU Boulevard and constructing 13 bridges between Spanish River Boulevard and Yamato Road. It also included signalized intersection improvements and the addition of auxiliary lanes on Yamato Road, and sound wall construction along Yamato Road and on the east side of I-95 north of Yamato Road.

Lantana Police contract approved by Town Council

By Mary Thurwachter

The Lantana Town Council, at its Feb. 26 meeting, approved a collective bargaining agreement between the town and the Palm Beach County Police Benevolent Association. The agreement, which reflects an overall 5 percent salary increase for sworn officers, is good from Oct. 1, 2018 through Sept. 30, 2020.

Some of the differences from previous contracts, said Mayor Dave Stewart, include giving officers promoted to detective 10 percent increases to their hourly rate, giving officers promoted to sergeant 15 percent increases, and giving detectives who are promoted to sergeant 5 percent increases.

Any officer selected as Employee of the Quarter receives a bonus day off equal to his scheduled shift hours. Lantana has 32 sworn officers; another will be added in April.

"In my 10 years here, I’ve found them to be incredibly responsive. They take care of problems efficiently. You need to retain good officers like this and a 5 percent increase doesn’t sound like a whole lot to me. A 10 percent increase for someone who gets a promotion sounds pretty standard."

In other action, the town:
• Approved spending $96,000 for enhancements at the sports complex on Eighth Street.
• Recognized Cmdr. Robert Hagerty as Police Department employee of the fourth quarter of 2017. For the past six months, he has coordinated the move to and renovation of the new police headquarters next to the sports complex.
The actual renter secured the reservation with a stolen credit card. Chevron’s house was trashed and some of his property stolen. “I’m going to become a bigger and bigger issue,” Homrich said of vacation rentals. “You feel you are living in a desirable area, and then you very well may end up with a rental property next to you. It changes the character of the neighborhood completely.”

The vacation rental business is growing rapidly. Pegged as a $30 billion industry in the U.S. two years ago, it is forecast to top $56 billion this year. As the industry has grown, so have complaints from neighbors about vacation renters partying into the early morning hours, jamming streets with cars and disrupting the quality of life in once-quiet residential neighborhoods.

State wants to set rules

Yet the state Legislature has been hostile to allowing local governments to set the rules for vacation rentals. In 2011, lawmakers prohibited cities from regulating short-term vacation rentals. The legislation, though, allowed cities that had put regulations in place before 2011 to continue to enforce them. In 2014, the Legislature relented a bit, allowing local governments to adopt vacation rental ordinances that addressed issues such as noise and parking. But cities still could not prohibit short-term rentals or regulate their length or frequency.

This year, bills have been introduced in the state House and Senate that would take away control from local governments.

A Senate bill, introduced by Sen. Greg Steube, R-Sarasota, would prohibit local governments from setting rules for short-term rentals and give that power to the state. Vacation rental companies support the bill.

It originally would not allow cities to enforce rules they set before 2011, but that has since been removed.

A House bill, introduced by Rep. Mike LaRoza, R-St. Cloud, prohibits cities and towns from adopting ordinances specific to vacation rentals. “I think it is horrific,” Homrich said of the proposed legislation. “That just seems to go against what local cities are all about. They are about making sure single-family neighborhoods stay single-family neighborhoods.”

Vacation rentals surge

Meanwhile, the vacation rental business keeps getting bigger in Florida. Airbnb, one of the best-known companies, posted 75 percent year-over-year growth in the number of Florida guests it served in 2017, with 40,000 hosts in the state renting their properties to 2.7 million guests and earning $450 million. In 2016, 23,000 Florida hosts rented to 1.5 million guests and earned $273 million.

Airbnb now has 65,000 hosts in Palm Beach County, up from 950 in 2015. Airbnb rented to 72,500 people last year and earned $171 million, up from $9.5 million in 2016, according to the company.

For years, vacation rental companies billed themselves as giving regular people a way to earn extra income by renting out a spare bedroom. At the same time, the companies offered a far less expensive and potentially more interesting alternative to hotels.

Indeed, many media reports told of hosts earning relatively modest amounts, but enough to start them on the Great Recession or to take a vacation.

But over time, the nature of the business began to shift. Investors snapped up properties for the purpose of turning them into full-time rentals. The hotel industry, feeling the heat from vacation rentals and going on the offensive, released a report last year that said vacation rentals had become big business, with many hosts renting out entire homes. Hosts listing multiple homes for rent are the fastest growing segment of Airbnb’s business, the report by the American Hotel & Lodging Association said. Airbnb disputed the findings.

The vacation rental bills are among a flurry of proposed legislation that city officials say is an attempt to strip them of governing powers that are enshrined in the state constitution and known as “home rule.”

Cities try to defeat bills

The effort so concerns the Florida League of Cities and Florida Association of Counties that they have made defeating the bills a top priority.

“We have dealt with this for many years, but this is the year it is the most pervasive,” said Bill Radloff, legislative director of the Palm Beach County League of Cities. “We have had statements from legislators and leaders that they feel they know better what is good for cities and people than we do at the local level.”

“That bottom line is you can’t legislate a neighborhood from Tallahassee. That is what we do,” he said.

Ocean Ridge Town Manager Jamie Titzcomb said that the effort to strip cities and towns of the ability to regulate has intensified this year.

“There is a full-court press to strip government from matters we deal with on a daily basis. It is more ramped up than I have seen in the past,” he said.

“We aren’t worried about a person renting out a room,” added Titzcomb, whose town prohibited rentals of fewer than 30 days before 2011. “We are concerned about the proliferation of local codes, zoning and quality of life regulatory matters that impact our residents.”

In the Feb. 14 massacre at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland consuming much of the oxygen in Tallahassee, the fate of the vacation rental legislation was not clear at the end of February.

Cities’ rules vary

Delray Beach has pre-2011 rules that do not allow a turnover in home occupancy more than three times a year and require a property owner who rents to get a landlord permit that costs $75 a year, said Michael Coleman, director of community improvement.

Boynton Beach has no regulations on short-term rentals.

Boca Raton’s pre-2011 rules do not permit short-term rentals for less than six months. First-time violations can be fined up to $1,000 per day and repeat violations up to $5,000 per day.

Delray Beach Mayor Cary Glickstein said his city’s regulations, enacted before vacation rentals were widespread, fall short of what is needed to monitor and control the rentals. As things stand now, state law severely limits the ability of the city and others to do more.

“We do what we have to do in order to protect single-family and multifamily properties from de facto hotel uses,” he said in an email. “Local property rights should not supersede the reasonable expectations people have for privacy and a peaceful enjoyment of their homes, and cities should be able to regulate and restrict … abuses of zoning laws.”

The proposed legislation, he said, “is irresponsible, reflective ill-informed views of legislators, many of whom have the ability to regulate. They know better what is best for our citizens.”

Boca Raton Republican Rep. Sen. Greg Steube, who sponsored the bill, said he has no interest in “legislate a neighborhood from Tallahassee. That is what we do.”

While cities and towns battle noise and crowd complaints, city and state officials have other concerns.

Some taxes shirked

The state and county governments are facing budget shortfalls due to the tourist development tax, or bed tax, and sales tax due on rentals, because they are unaware that they should or don’t want to. The vacation rental companies have not done so either.

Palm Beach County Tax Collector Anne Gannon has sued the companies twice. In March 2018

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See RENTALS on page 33...Or The Village by the Sea? Vote Shelley March 19

Paid for by Debyng residents and neighbors Ogden Clark, Deborah Schwartz and Mark Fletcher

The Megapolys by the Sea...
By Jane Smith

The big reveal for Town Square will come March 13.

That’s when Boynton Beach staff will unveil the final cost to residents of the project. The project prices the city-owned parcels with developers to build apartments, a hotel and a public parking garage. City Manager Lori LaVerriere told city commissioners on Feb. 20. At the same meeting, commissioners approved changing the land use and rezoning of seven city-owned parcels in the 16-acre Town Square project area by 4-1 votes. They also approved the master plan for the project by a 4-1 vote.

Town Square consists of four blocks, bordered by Boynton Beach Boulevard on the north, Seacrest Boulevard on the west, Southeast Second Avenue on the south and First Street on the east. The project will hold the historic high school, the Schoolhouse Community Center, a combined City Hall and library building, and a parking garage. A new Fire Station No. 1 will sit just outside the project on the east side of Northeast First Street.

Commissioner Mick McCray voted no three times because he doesn’t think the city has the money to do the ambitious project, which he estimated to cost $133 million.

Boynton Beach plans to issue private equity bonds that it will pay off in 25 years, said Colin Groff, the assistant city manager leading the Town Square project.

The city’s Community Redevelopment Agency received county approval in January to use tax dollars to build the city hall and a fire station. Its share will be $81 million over 25 years, just before the agency will sunset.

The plan calls for the current library to be demolished. At the Feb. 20 meeting, resident Herb Suss said the city should move the new library and pleaded with commissioners not to tear it down. “That’s a no,” he said. The library has leaks, he said, and the city should plan to renovate the building.

The historic Woman’s Club building was considered initially. It does not have the parking needed to house the City Hall and the library, he said.

Before the library is demolished, the city will have to find a temporary location. The historic Woman’s Club building was considered initially. It does not have enough parking, and the historic nature of the building would have made it difficult to do renovations needed to house the library, Groff said.

The city is looking at five sites, Groff said in late February. In addition, he is trying to find a 5,000-square-foot building near the current library for people who want to use the library to use, he said.

The historic high school renovation is expected to be finished in August. The city received a reprove in December when the 4th District Court of Appeal dismissed a 4-year-old lawsuit. Architect Juan Contin sued the city over its decision not to let him go forward with a plan to turn the high school into an events and destination center. He lost on the lower court level.

The appellate review board did not issue an opinion, which means Contin cannot appeal the decision to the Florida Supreme Court.

By Jane Smith

The Riverwalk Plaza redevelopment is on hold at the southeast corner of Federal Highway and Woolbright Road in Boynton Beach.

Therien’s family owns the land under his diners. Therien’s family owns the land under his waterfront restaurant and adjacent property. His diners. Therien’s family owns the land under his diners. Therien’s family owns the land under his waterfront restaurant and adjacent property. His diners. Therien’s family owns the land under his waterfront restaurant and adjacent property. His diners. Therien’s family owns the land under his waterfront restaurant and adjacent property. His diners.

Therien is negotiating with Isram to trade 25 acres of mangroves along the Intracoastal Waterway for 50 guaranteed parking spaces for its diners. Therien’s family owns the land under its waterfront restaurant and adjacent property.

Josie’s is “willing, even eager” to do so, but could not agree to keep host and property location information confidential. That, said, gives Airbnb a competitive advantage over its rivals. More important, without that information, she can’t check to see if Airbnb is paying all its taxes.

Airbnb also reached an agreement in 2015 with the state Department of Revenue in which the company collects the state sales tax from its Florida hosts.

In 2017, Airbnb turned over $33 million in sales tax revenue to the OR and $12.7 million in bed tax revenues to the 39 counties, the company said.

Outside help boosts compliance

For cities and counties at a loss on how to get hosts to comply with vacation rental regulations, private industry is offering solutions.

Delray Beach is considering contracting with Host Compliance, a Silicon Valley company founded in 2015.

Gannon said Airbnb and Host Compliance and two other companies that do not have contracts with them.

Host Compliance says it will identify which properties are being used as vacation rentals, ensure that renters and hosts comply with local ordinances, can increase vacation rental tax collections and free up city and town staff for other priorities.

The company uses big data and algorithms to gather information, even though humans check the results.

The agreements don’t allow Airbnb to release any information about hosts or their addresses and don’t require payment of previous uncolllected taxes.

The companies plan to seek similar agreements with other counties.

The covenants in Miami-Dade and Broward counties plan to seek similar agreements with other counties.

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The companies plan to seek similar agreements with other counties.
Lantana Mayor Dave Stewart faces sexual harassment allegations after a resident accused him of asking for sex in exchange for speed bumps on her street.

The mayor denies the woman’s claims.

Catherine Padilla, 54, filed the complaint in January with the Florida Commission on Ethics. She told The Coastal Star she and Stewart had become friends when both attended meetings of the Hypoluxo-Lantana Kiwanis Club.

Their relationship took an objectionable turn in 2015, according to Padilla, when, after a morning Kiwanis meeting, the two had lunch after which he drove her to a motel and propositioned her for sex. Padilla said she “wasn’t interested” and that Stewart drove her back to her car. She said Stewart called her a week or two later and said he would guarantee her street would get speed tables, a safety measure for which she had lobbied, if she would have sex with him at the motel.

“I said absolutely not,” Padilla told The Coastal Star. “I said I’m not interested. I made it perfectly clear.”

Stewart, who has been mayor for 18 years, said he has never asked for, or accepted, anything in exchange for a vote.

“These accusations are totally and completely false,” the mayor said. “I will not dignify them by making a statement. I continue to focus on doing what’s best for the residents of Lantana.”

In August 2015, the Town Council voted in favor of the traffic-calming speed humps for Padilla’s street. But Padilla said the harassment continued with calls to her from the mayor the day before and after the 4-0 vote (council member Lynn Moorhouse was absent).

“The day after that meeting, the mayor called me and he said, ‘Well, aren’t you going to thank me?’ and I said for what?” Padilla said. “And he said ‘for the speed bumps.’ But I did that myself. There was no reason to thank him. He didn’t do anything. He just went along with it because it was unanimous. And he got really belligerent and he said, ‘Fine, then I’m going to yank those speed humps right out of there.’”

The speed humps on her street have not been removed. Padilla said she waited so long to file the complaint because she was afraid — and because her focus was elsewhere.

“I have a son that’s in the military and we had a death in the family and also I contracted a really bad illness that could have killed me,” she said. “I was in and out of the hospital for a whole year.”

Her ex-husband, Herminio Padilla Jr., died while working at the East Central Regional Sewage Plant in West Palm Beach in January 2015. He fell through a metal floor grating, dropped into sewage and was lodged in a 42-inch pipe.

Catherine Padilla said she finally felt strong enough to file the complaint against the mayor this year, on Jan. 4. She filed an amendment to that complaint on Jan 11, when the mayor came to her house to talk to her about the complaint and she called police.

Stewart, according to the police report, told officers he had learned of the ethics complaint filed with the state and had gone to Padilla’s house to talk with her about it.

Padilla, according to the police report, said that when she opened the door and saw Stewart, she shut it, locked it and took a photo of Stewart in his car before he left. The two never spoke during the incident, both told police.

Stewart’s term expires this year, but because he had no opposition he will continue as mayor for the next three years.

Padilla said all she wants from Stewart is admission of guilt and an apology.

Complaints filed with Florida Commission on Ethics are not public record until the investigation has concluded. A spokesperson for the state would not say how long it would take for that to happen.

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Elliman.com/florida
Briny approves hiring new deputy clerk

By Dan Moffett

Briny Breezes Town Council members, following the recommendation of new Town Manager Dale Sugerman, unanimously approved hiring their fifth deputy clerk in as many years on Feb. 22. About 12 people expressed interest in the part-time position, Sugerman said, and he invited three candidates to come for interviews. The clear choice was Sawaya Coffield, he said.

Coffield has served as a town clerk before, in the village of Marvin, N.C., and has worked the last eight years as a paralegal in Charlotte, N.C., and Cocoa, Fla.

“I have checked with all her references and they all give her glowing references,” Sugerman said. “Many would match up very nicely with what our needs are here in Briny Breezes.”

Coffield earned a bachelor of science degree in business management from Boston University and a master’s degree, that was clasified with the Thunderbird School of Global Management at Arizona State University.

Since 2013, Briny has had trouble keeping a deputy clerk for much more than a year. In January, Jackie Ermola announced she was leaving to do more work at her church.

Coffield is to start a 20-hour-a-week schedule on March 20. She will earn $20 an hour for the first 90 days, with raises to $22 and $25 an hour by next year.

In other business, Sugerman said he met with Boynton Beach Police Chief Kelly Harris and Capt. Chris Yannuzzi to discuss patrol procedures and parking citation issues.

Police Maj. Michael Johnson, who oversees the patrol, said the department “is just trying to tighten up the way that we’re operating” and improve performance.

Johnson supported two auto burglaries between Feb. 17-19. Thieves stole a dog’s golf clubs from an unlocked car and smashed a side window to steal a handicap from a car parked on Cordova Avenue. Both joked that residents helped keep their homes locked and secure weapons inside their homes.
Business Spotlight

Ocean-friendly surfwear shop dives into South County market

Greenlines opened up at 439 E. Atlantic Ave. in Delray Beach in late November, making its way here from Montauk, N.Y., and Fair Haven, N.J. It’s a family business started in 2009 by brothers Jerry and Sam Delaney along with Sam’s wife, Colleen, all of them surfers. The stores specialize in board shorts made out of recycled and organic fabrics, for men, women and children.

The stores give a portion of profits to nonprofit organizations such as the Surfrider Foundation and Clean Ocean Action.

“Our first store is in Montauk and our customers told us we had to check out Delray,” says Sam Delaney. “We looked for a location here for three years. We are really excited. Delray Beach is a great downtown and we love the community.”

He says the store plans to host events with local photographers, filmmakers, artists and surfboard shapers who share their feelings about the ocean and surfing. For more information, visit greenlines.com.

A lot is going on at The Elephant’s Foot Antiques. It’s Marvin Ray’s 55th anniversary as co-owner of the store, Ronald French’s 40th anniversary as co-owner, and they just sold one of their three warehouses. “We got an offer for the building that we couldn’t refuse,” French says. And because the 5,000-square-foot warehouse was cleaned out, a sale is underway that will continue through March, at 1813 S. Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach, noon to 5 p.m. Thursday through Saturday. All those years in the business add up to a labor of love, French says, and mean keeping up with trends. “With the changes that have occurred, especially in the antique and decorating fields because tastes constantly evolve over time, it’s a little hard to forecast the next hot items.

“We used to sell pine, then the Pierre Deux look, and then the English country house look, but quality rules, and people come back to quality and that’s why our business has worked out for us. We have quality merchandise and select things to choose from.” Right now, he says, what’s hot with the sale is a nice selection of English and Scottish chests of drawers. And if you can’t find what you want at the warehouse, stop by the 6,500-square-foot store at 3800 S. Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach.

The 256-room Boca Raton Marriott at Boca Center, at 5150 Town Center Circle, was recently sold by CWI Boca Center Hotel, managed by Carey Watermark Investors, to an affiliate of New York-based AVR Realty for almost $69.3 million, according to public records. The buyer obtained a seven-year, $60 million mortgage, with $35.8 million from Manufacturers & Traders Trust Co. and $24.2 million from Synovus Bank.

The Marriott lost trades for $55.7 million in 2014, and underwent a $7 million renovation. The hotel was built in 1987. Dimension Development was named the new management firm for the hotel. AVR Realty is an investment and development company led by Allan V. Rose.

Lang Realty recognized its top agents and teams of 2017 at a special awards breakfast on Feb. 6 at the Waterstone Resort & Marina. Many were agents who cover the coastal South County area. They include: Diamond Award winner Barbara Hill; Diamond Team winners T. Walsh and B. Walsh of the Pearl Antonacci Group, founded by Brian Pearl and Vini Antonacci, and Tom and Beth Walds; Ruby Award recipients Arista Constantine, and Allyson Sullivan; Ruby Team winners Scott and Julie Warner; and Emerald Award recipients Olive Belcher, Julie Giachetti and Warren Heeg.

Oprock Boynton Fee LLC, a company tied to Rockwood Capital, just sold a Courtyard by Marriott hotel in Boynton Beach at a loss, property records show. Boulder Hotel Boynton Beach LLC, a company tied to Delray Beach investor Malcolm Berman, paid $19.6 million for the 170-room hotel at 1401 and 1601 N. Congress Ave. The deal includes space leased to KLA Schools of Boynton Beach, a preschool, and a Buffalo Wild Wings restaurant.

The site last traded hands for $27.8 million in 2007, according to property records. The hotel was built in 1988. Berman is a former chairman of Fairfax Savings in Baltimore, according to published reports.

Boynton Beach-based Sorecul Purchasing, a procurement services organization, was featured in a recent issue of Hotel Management magazine as one of the 2017 Top Purchasing Companies. “We are proud to be listed on Hotel Management’s list,” said Scott Hoffmire, the company’s CEO and president.

“Our purchasing power, as evidenced by our No. 2 ranking in the category, is strong, which means our clients benefit from the best pricing and benefits available.” This is the company’s eighth year on the list.

In February, the former CEO of Vacation Break U.S.A., Kevin Sheehan, and his wife, Tracy Crane, sold their oceanfront home at 1003 Hillsboro Mile, Hillsboro Beach, for $13 million to Al Hendrickson, president of Al Hendrickson Toyota, a car dealership in Broward County.

The home was listed by Coldwell Banker agent Sheryl Hodor with an asking price of $18.5 million. She also arranged the deal with the buyer. Sheehan and Crane bought their 11,700-square-foot mansion in 1997 for $4 million and paid $1.3 million for an additional 50 feet of oceanfront in 2001, records show.

A contemporary-style home at 901 S. Ocean Blvd., Delray Beach, was recently listed by Christian Angle Real Estate for $28.9 million. With 100 feet on the ocean, the 12,000-square-foot home comprises five bedrooms, five bathrooms and two half-baths; features include a boardwalk to the ocean. According to public records, William Powers bought the home in February 2015 for $19 million. At that time, the home had just been completed: built by Mark Timothy Homes, designed by Affinity Architects and interiors by Marc Michaels Interiors.

An ocean-to-lake estate at 900 S. Ocean Blvd., Manalapan, sold for $24 million, recorded in mid-February. The buyer was Goldstar 2017 LLC at 1185 Sixth Ave., New York, a limited liability company associated in public records with Rockwood Management. The seller was 900 South Ocean Blvd. LLC, a Delaware-based company managed by Charles Davidson.
co-founder of Wexford Capital. Broker Christian Angle of Christian Angle Real Estate represented the seller. Agent Betsy Green of Douglas Elliman Real Estate acted for the buyer. Davidson’s LLC bought the property for $7.02 million in 2011 from the estate of the late Henrietta King, wife of boxing promoter Don King. After tearing down the original home, he hired Farrell Building Co. to construct the mansion.

The Greater Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce’s 56th anniversary Delray Affair on April 13-15 will feature historical and contemporary activities this year, produced by Old School Square, the Downtown Development Authority and the Historical Society.

Sponsored by Delray Honda, the Old School Square Beer & Wine Garden will return. Featured partners are Islamorada Beer Co., Rock N Roll Tequila, Monster Energy, Republic National Wines and PRP Wine International. The event spans 10 blocks in downtown Delray Beach on Atlantic Avenue, and admission is free. For more information, visit www.Delrayaffair.com.

The Greater Boynton Beach Chamber’s 5K Small Business Bow Tie Run will take place April 14 at the Boynton Beach Mall, 801 Congress Ave. Registration will start at 6:30 a.m., and the run and walk will start at 7:30. The price to participate is $30, plus a $2.50 sign-up fee. The family-friendly 5K Run is competitive and timed. For sponsorship information, call the Chamber at 927-7331 or email chamber@boyntonbeach.org.

Trish Duebber has assumed the Boca Raton Museum Art School’s new position as coordinator of youth programs, which are designed to provide studio art experiences to after-school and summer programs for children and teenagers. “Businesses are seeking to hire people who have arts backgrounds — creative thinkers,” Duebber says. “As more tasks become computerized, trends are shifting toward hiring more people who can bring new perspectives to solving problems. And that’s exactly what students gain by having the freedom to create art.”

The League of Women Voters of Palm Beach County will host a luncheon and talk, “Reality of Sea Level Rise,” from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 21 at the Atlantis Country Club, 190 Atlantis Blvd., Lake Worth. The guest speaker will be John Englander, an oceanographer, consultant and expert on sea-level rise.

He has served as chief executive officer for the International SeaKeepers Society and the Cousteau Society. He has authored a bestselling book, High Tide on Main Street: Rising Sea Level and the Coming Coastal Crisis, which Politico listed as one of the top 50 books to read. Tickets are $25 until March 14, and $35 after that date. RSVPs are requested at www.lwvpbc.org or by calling 968-4123.

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It was literally a day for the birds.

The morning was cold, windy and blanketed in fog, challenging teams of bird-watchers engaged in the National Audubon Society’s annual Christmas Bird Count.

“It was a weird weather day,” says Chuck Weber, a local television journalist who coordinates the bird count within a 15-mile radius centered near the intersection of Jog and Hypoluxo roads. “There were certain species that didn’t pop up on count day, although some may have been active later in the day.”

Despite the weather, what Weber and the 80 counters in his circle found during a day’s work was fairly good news for birds—as well as for the people who like having them around.

In all, the 20 teams identified about 143 species during the latest count, just one fewer than in the previous year. They spotted 17,425 individual birds, an estimate at best—about 500 more than were counted the year before.

Annual count shows stability even with habitats changing

By Rich Pollack

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See BIRDS on page AT22
March 9: The Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County will have its 27th annual fundraising event featuring best-selling author Will Schwalbe as guest speaker. Schwalbe’s books include *The End of Your Life Book Club, Books for Living and Send: Why People Email So Badly and How To Do It Better.* The luncheon funds programs that provide literacy skills to children, adults and families.

March 10: It’s time to don those boots, balls, gowns and cowboy hats for the Arc of Palm Beach County’s annual fundraiser, where the posh of Palm Beach, the grandeur of Texas and the thrill of Las Vegas come together. Guests can expect more glitz and glamour this year as this nonprofit celebrates its 60th anniversary of helping those with developmental disabilities and their families. Time is 6:30 p.m. Cost is $500 per person and $1,000 per couple. Call 842-3213 or arcpbc.org. INSET: Honorary Chairs Bobby and Barbara Campbell. Photo provided by The Arc of Palm Beach County
Friends of Gumbo Limbo, the volunteer support organization for Gumbo Limbo Nature Center in Boca Raton, will raise a collective glass to the Sea Coast Toast in anticipation of the fundraiser being the biggest to date.

Brandon Canute, development manager for the Friends, said the guest list, the number of sponsors and the amount of proceeds all are expected to increase when the event comes to the Boca Country Club on March 24.

"We're raising more money than we've ever raised before," Canute said, noting that the Sea Coast Toast netted $41,000 in 2017, compared with $20,000 in 2016. "We more than doubled in one year, and it allowed us to do new, better things."

The Friends expanded its scholarship program for students pursuing environmental careers and invested additional dollars in marine research at Florida Atlantic and Nova Southeastern universities. Intracoastal Adventures, an on-the-water educational program taken by canoe, kayak and paddleboard, was created. The Sea Turtle Rehabilitation Facility also received a boost.

"I feel like the Friends don't have the same visibility as other friends groups," Canute said. "For me, it's a way to kind of put our name and our mission out there."

The evening begins with a cocktail hour and a raffle, as well as a silent auction that includes a ride for two on the Goodyear blimp, a trip to New York City to see Hamilton (and meet the cast), and a culinary tour of Tuscany in Italy. A multicourse dinner will be served, and dancing to the music of Jimmy Stowe & the Stowaways will follow.

"This is our fundraiser," Canute said. "Supporting Gumbo Limbo Nature Center gives you an opportunity to learn about the ecosystem and how it affects us. I think having Gumbo Limbo here and being able to bring your kids here for free to experience the environment adds value to your day. Despite all of the development going on, this is a sliver of the past."
Florida Atlantic University benefactor Fara Love has made another gift to the school’s commercial music program, which doubles the Jerry and Devon Love Endowed Commercial Music Scholarship.

The scholarship, which supports three students annually, was created in memory of Fara Love’s husband, Jerry, and their daughter Devon. “Jerry, a music-industry veteran, was instrumental in the creation of Hoot/Wisdom Recordings, FAU’s record label,” said Michael Zager, founder and director of the commercial music program. “Devon was very artistic and had a great love of music and the record business.” Zager said. “While losing a daughter and then a husband in two years is difficult, their legacy will live forever because of Fara’s generosity.”

Added Fara Love, “We have witnessed many wonderful, talented students graduate from Michael Zager’s program. Music was a very strong, happy bond between Jerry and Devon. Music is what joins the heart and soul together and it will happily continue through these students.”

**Jewish Women’s Grant Wishes event**

The Jewish Women’s Foundation of South Palm Beach County will have its Granting Wishes event at 5:30 p.m. March 14 at Boca Raton Club. Not only will guests find out who will be awarded the grants, they also will hear from Denise Albert and Melissa Musen Gerstein, who co-founded The MOMS. “We are delighted to have Denise Albert and Melissa Musen Gerstein as our 2018 Granting Wishes guest speakers,” said Amy Rosenberg, who co-chairs the event with Randee Rubenstein. The MOMS lifestyle brand is featured on TV, radio, podcasts, online, in print and in taxis. “Their Mamaramzi town-hall events provide mothers and media with access to celebrities to discuss meaningful parenting topics,” Rosenberg said. “Denise chronicles her ongoing journey with breast cancer and was the recipient of the 2017 Susan G. Komen NY Impact Award.”

The reception includes wine, hors d’oeuvres and dessert. Tickets are $85. Call 852-3188 or visit www.jewishboca.org/grantingwishes.

**Cruises benefit All Hands**

ICruise.com, a retailer for cruises and travel services based in Delray Beach, raised $10,000 for All Hands Volunteers, an organization dedicated to rebuilding communities hit by natural disasters. ICruise.com donated a portion for every Caribbean cruise booked from October through December, in partnership with Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings.

**Lang donates to Red Cross**

As part of its commitment to give a percentage of home sales to charity, Lang Realty has donated $5,000 to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund. “This is our way of helping the many people directly affected by last year’s back-to-back hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria,” said Scott Agran, president of Lang Realty.

**Mounts Botanical’s Friends plan fundraiser**

The Mounts Spring Benefit, on April 8, to support educational programs. Programs include the exhibit “Washed Ashore: Art To Save the Sea.”

The reception includes wine, hors d’oeuvres and dessert. Tickets are $175 and can be purchased by calling 233-1757. Sponsorships and underwriting opportunities also are available.

**Real Men who bake sought**

Guys who love to create culinary masterpieces and share them with others will want to sign up for the eighth annual Real Men Bake and Rock at the Sock Hop, set for March 19. Presented by the Woman’s Club of Delray Beach and benefiting several nonprofits, the event is at Old School Square in Delray Beach. Time is 6 to 9 p.m. Guests at Real Men Bake and Rock at the Sock Hop will have a chance to sample all of the creations and vote for their favorites. Prizes will be awarded. For information, call 843-6821 or visit realmenbake.eventbrite.com.

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OFF TO A GREAT START,’ SAID GAIL GUY, SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRWOMAN

Guy (right) receives a $1,000 check from Rosaria and above: Member who has chosen to remain anonymous has pledged graduating from Palm Beach County high schools. A chapter UNICO Highland Beach offers scholarships to 12th-graders Vincent Gismondi.

BOCA RATON’S PROMISE PRESENTED ITS FIFTH ANNUAL EVENT TO HONOR COMMUNITY LEADERS’ UNDERSTANDING AND ACTION IN BREAKING THE SILENCE OF MENTAL HEALTH. AWARDS WERE PRESENTED IN CATEGORIES RANGING FROM YOUTH COUNSELING TO FILM PRODUCTION AND SOCIAL MEDIA. ‘THE RIPPLE EFFECT OF THESE DEDICATED, PASSIONATE AND COMPASSIONATE HONOREES REACHES WIDE AND DEEP TO BENEFIT SO MANY IN OUR COMMUNITY,’ SAID RITA THRASHER, CO-FOUNDER OF BOCA RATON’S PROMISE. ABOVE: (L-R) GERDA KLEIN, THRASHER AND AWARD WINNERS MICHAEL KANE AND DR. BRUCE SALTZ.

UNICO HIGHLAND BEACH OFFERS SCHOLARSHIPS TO 12TH-GRADERS GRADUATING FROM PALM BEACH COUNTY HIGH SCHOOLS. A CHAPTER MEMBER WHO HAS CHosen TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS HAS PLEDGED $5,000. IF OTHER MEMBERS MATCH THE AMOUNT, ‘WE ARE OFF TO A GREAT START,’ SAID GAIL GUY, SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRWOMAN.

Above: Guy (right) receives a $1,000 check from Rosaria and Vincent Gismondi.

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UNICO Highland Beach offers scholarships to 12th-graders graduating from Palm Beach County high schools. A chapter member who has chosen to remain anonymous has pledged $5,000. If other members match the amount, ‘We are off to a great start,’ said Gail Guy, scholarship chairwoman. Above: Guy (right) receives a $1,000 check from Rosaria and Vincent Gismondi. Photo provided

Scholarship drive
UNICO Highland Beach — Feb. 1

UNICO Highland Beach offers scholarships to 12th-graders graduating from Palm Beach County high schools. A chapter member who has chosen to remain anonymous has pledged $5,000. If other members match the amount, ‘We are off to a great start,’ said Gail Guy, scholarship chairwoman. Above: Guy (right) receives a $1,000 check from Rosaria and Vincent Gismondi. Photo provided

Italian Night Dinner Dance
St. Lucy Catholic Church, Highland Beach — Feb. 10

A sold-out crowd of 200 celebrated in the church hall with a four-course meal followed by dessert. Gino DeMarco and Josephine Dolce then provided beautiful harmonies of Italian favorites. The seaside parish under the direction of the Rev. D. Brian Horgan is celebrating its 50th year. LEFT: (l-r) Chairs Dominick and Ann Conte and Emilio and Suzanne Petti worked tirelessly for months to organize the event. Photo provided

Voice Awards Luncheon
Broken Sound Club, Boca Raton — Jan. 23

Boca Raton’s Promise presented its fifth annual event to honor community leaders’ understanding and action in breaking the silence of mental health. Awards were presented in categories ranging from youth counseling to film production and social media. ‘The ripple effect of these dedicated, passionate and compassionate honorees reaches wide and deep to benefit so many in our community,’ said Rita Thrasher, co-founder of Boca Raton’s Promise. Above: (l-r) Gerda Klein, Thrasher and award winners Michael Kane and Dr. Bruce Saltz. Photo provided by Gina Fontana

VIP Preview
Mounts Botanical Garden, West Palm Beach — Dec. 1

More than 100 supporters, along with local dignitaries, were invited to ‘Washed Ashore: Art To Save the Sea,’ which runs through June 3 at the public garden. The exhibit showcases giant sea-life sculptures made from marine debris and graphically illustrates the plastic pollution in the ocean and the Intracoastal Waterway. ‘The primary role of Mounts Botanical is to educate and inspire people about the importance of nature and the environment — how it impacts the everyday life of everyone, and how we are all responsible to preserve and protect this precious gift for generations to come,’ said Rochelle Wolberg, the garden’s curator-director. Right: (l-r) Michael, Ori and Elaine Zimmerman in front of Priscilla the Parrot Fish. Photo provided by Jacek Gancarcz

Laugh With the Library
Delray Beach Marriott — Feb. 2

Good humor was in abundance during the Delray Beach Public Library’s 12th installment of the fundraiser that has become a fan favorite for its creative, casual, fun-filled night of comedy, cocktails and dinner-by-the-bite. Headliners were Don Gavin, known as the ‘Godfather of Boston Comedy,’ and Kevin Flynn, a well-known stand-up comedian and ESPN host. The event raised more than $75,000. Left: (l-r) Cash Cade, Brenda Medore and Leigh Adair. Photo provided
Celebrations

Boca Raton Regional Hospital Ball
Boca Raton Resort and Club — Feb. 3

Music legends The Temptations provided special entertainment at the 56th annual black-tie gala, which raised more than $1.6 million to enhance patient-care initiatives. A sold-out crowd of more than 1,200 paid tribute to Honorary Chairs Stanley and Marilyn Barry, Christine Lynn and Richard and Barbara Schmidt. The masquerade-themed décor featured elegant Venetian-style masks, rich jewel-toned linens, candle-lit centerpieces and dramatic drapery. TOP: Dolores and William Woolley. MIDDLE: Bob Sheetz and Debbie Lindstrom. BOTTOM: Margaret Mary and John Shuff. Photos provided by Downtown Photo.

Annual Pool Party
Turtle Beach, Ocean Ridge — Feb. 18

Guests at the condo’s 2018 splash-filled affair enjoyed a beautiful afternoon and a visit from former residents Howard and Beverlee Schnellenberger. ABOVE: (l-r) Gillian McMullin, Mark Brody, Peter McMullin and Beverlee Schnellenberger. RIGHT: Legendary football coach Howard Schnellenberger visits with dog Megan. Photos provided.

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Spring sprouts the best of foodie fests in Boca, Delray

The biggest food and wine event for Boca Raton is gearing up for its 16th year.

Boca Bacchanal, a favorite of oenophiles for the celeb-chef vintner dinners, and with partiers for the Bacchanalia under-the-tent event, planned to kick off with the Bacchus Beckons launch party Feb. 27 at Saks Fifth Avenue. The "reveal" of matchups for chefs and hosts are announced at this party, and the ticket reservations begin in earnest.

The hot, or haute, tickets are for the vintner dinners April 6, $325 each for a five-course meal prepared by a celebrity chef, paired to a winery’s best offerings and set in a fabulous host home.

The dinners offer the chance to meet the chefs and vintners and get to chat one-on-one about the foods and wines. Saks will donate a silent auction item to each dinner.

A Southern accent is predominant among the guest chefs, with big personality chef Philippe Haddad from Atlanta’s Cape Dutch; Jimmy Bannos of Heaven on Seven in Chicago, who focuses on Cajun cooking; Regina Charboneau, a Mississippi chef whose impressive résumé includes stints in Alaska’s bush, Paris and San Francisco and several cookbooks; and Josh Harmon of Junction Craft Kitchen in Dallas.

Joining them are Italian chefs Vincenzo Betulia of Tulia Osteria in Naples, Fla., and Tony Mantuano of Chicago’s Spiaggia. He’s a Top Chef master and James Beard Award winner. Rounding out the field is chef Aaron Meneghelli of Carneros Resort and Spa in the Napa Valley.

Champagne light brunch tied to the Bacchanal, is March 18 at the new Robb & Stuckey showroom. The $30 ticket gets you a Champagne cocktail and some light bites while you browse the showroom.

The finale of the event is April 7 at the Mizner Park Amphitheater, moved to evening hours, 7 to 11. With more than 30 restaurants and wineries showcasing foods and wines in a huge dine-around event, with live music and a high tech auction, it’s a favorite among foodies and social types. Tickets are $100 and go quickly; buy at www.bocabacchanal.com. The Boca Raton Historical Society & Museum is the beneficiary of the events.

Already tickets have sold out for most of the 15 restaurants participating in the 10th annual Savor the Avenue street-long dinner party in Delray Beach. Held each spring, this year on March 26, the event draws more than 1,000 diners who sit at tables set in the middle of Atlantic Avenue downtown, stretching for blocks.

Chefs from area restaurants prepare a fixed five-course menu, and diners reserve seats with the restaurants. A contest for best table décor and foods is part of the affair as chefs and decorators go all out.

It will be bittersweet for 32 East, a downtown Delray restaurant that changed the face of dining when it opened 32 years ago. This is its last year for Savor the Avenue; it will close in May.

The event is sponsored by Delray and Boca magazines, and the Delray DDA. A charity is chosen each year as the beneficiary; this year’s is the Not One Homeless Hungry Student Delray Beach initiative.

For tickets to remaining seats, or to be put on a wait list, call 243-1077 or go to www.downtowndelraybeach.com/savortheavenue.
**Loop for Literacy**
John Prince Park, Lake Worth — Feb. 3

About 300 people turned out to bike, run and walk in support of the Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County. Participants had the option of biking 20 or 42 miles, running or walking a 5K, or doing a 1-mile family walk or ride. The event is expected to raise $70,000.

**The Skinny:**

**The Plate:**

For a few moments in the Olympic 500-meter speed skating event, FAU ’10 grad Brittany Bowe seemed close to a gold medal. She was on top by nine thousandths of a second, but she was knocked off the lead and the podium. Nao Kodaira of Japan won in an Olympic-record time of 36.94 seconds. Bowe wound up fifth. Bowe, who turned 30 during the Olympics, also finished fourth in the 1,000-meter race and fifth in the 1,500.

Regaining confidence after a concussion in 2016, Bowe told TV announcers that she was just happy to get to the games, which was a 90-plus age category — and glory to you.

The games are open to anyone, though Delray Beach residents pay lower entry fees. Pros need not apply — until 20 years after they last competed in their given sport. No ringers allowed, unless it’s a golf pro who doesn’t earn much except from teaching.

Let you dismiss these golden years athletes, consider that at last year’s games, Yilmaz Eryasa, 89, won gold in the 50-meter dash with a respectable time of 8.97 seconds. That was faster than Tom Johnson, who in the 65-69 group won gold in 9.66 seconds. Eryasa won gold in long jump at 6 feet, 7.25 inches.

Then there’s 76-year-old Roger Busch, who hurled a discuss 136 feet, 10.5 inches for a gold, bettering kids of 54 who mustered 112 feet, 6 3/8 inches.

Dining

**Flatbread inspired by a pasta dish**

**The Plate:** A Puttanesca Flatbread

**The Place:** Temple Orangery, Eau Palm Beach Resort & Spa, 100 S. Ocean Blvd., Manalapan; 540-4923 or www.templeorangeryrestaurant.com.

**The Price:** $19

**The Skinny:** Many of us have had a pasta puttanesca — you know, pasta tossed in a hearty tomato sauce that’s loaded with capers, bits of anchovy and plenty of hot pepper.

According to legend, prostitutes would prepare the dish to what the appetites of sailors for something other than food.

This flatbread draws inspiration from the capers and tomato of its namesake. But it’s much lighter than the classic pasta dish, with a thin, crispy crust that’s topped with plenty of mozzarella, bits of fresh tomato and tender Key West shrimp.

I also enjoyed the fried mozzarella, an innovative take on the dish, with tangy marinara and spicy pepperonata.

— Scott Simmons

Gold medalists can progress to the Florida International Senior Games and State Championships in Clearwater in December.

Spectators are encouraged: game watching is free.

To check out schedules or to enter, contact Parks and Recreation at 243-7000, ext. 5101, or visit www.mydelraybeach.com/departments/parks_and_recreation/delray_beach_senior_games.php

Parks and Rec staff in Delray Beach have a busy month, with the games first, then the giant Easter Egg Hunt in Robert P. Miller Park on March 31.

There will be 10,000 plastic eggs stuffed around the park. Some will have candy; others will have small prizes. However, those don’t compare to the hunt at the Four Seasons Palm Beach, where the traditional egg hunt has yielded a much more lucrative prize.

In past years, it has included Fabergé eggs. As we write, it’s in the planning stages this year, and no telling what the great egg prize will be.

Beverly Hills “real housewife” Lisa Vanderpump was at Total Wine & More in Boca Center with hubby Ken Todd in February. They were sampling out their wine, Vanderpump Rose, for guests in a grip-and-grin event.

Freelance writer Jan Norris wrote this column for Thom Smith, who will return next month. Jan can be reached at nnativefla@gmail.com.

Smith can be reached at thomsmith@yahoo.com.
New Year’s Traditions

Around the globe, spring marks time of new beginnings

This is one of an occasional series on how various cultures celebrate the new year.

By Janis Fontaine


The signs of spring are a reason to rejoice. In many cultures, the New Year begins not in the dead of winter but in the promise of green buds, longer days and sunshine.

The people of Iran celebrate Nowruz, an ancient festival that coincides with the vernal equinox, the time when the sun shines directly on the equator and day and night are each 12 hours long. Officially, that’s when spring arrives, and the traditions and activities of society revolved around the movement of the celestial bodies. It was a constant in a world of uncertainties.

“Ancient Persians believed you had to wait until the moon reached a certain place before the festival could begin,” Moghani explained. He and his community will celebrate Nowruz on March 17 with a party even though the vernal equinox isn’t officially until 12:15 p.m. March 20 in Florida. Families gather around a table set in a traditional way with a special tablecloth and a colorful display of seven important items, all beginning with the letter S. Each is a symbol of renewal. “Everything has to be there,” Moghani said. “Two weeks before, we plant something so we’ll have green sprouting inside, and there are certain flowers and foods we must have.”

Little meat is consumed. The green planting, called the sabet, is symbolic of renewal and becomes the table’s centerpiece. Also on the table: samanu, a sweet pudding, which represents fertility; seer (garlic) represents good health; sekeh (coins) represents prosperity; serkh (vinegar) represents patience; and sonbol, the hyacinth, represents all things spring.

Nowruz dates back at least 3,000 years to the pre-Islamic, Zoroastrian history of Iran. The origin may be ancient, but the sentiment is timely: “The traditions say that we have to be good to the Earth, to value it and what comes from it. The main idea is to respect the Earth,” Moghani said. Moghani supports the Iranian Cultural Society of Palm Beach, which hosts a friendly gathering at Okeeheelee Park in West Palm Beach the first Sunday of the month. “Our mission is to keep the traditions strong.”

Nowruz is also celebrated in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Albania, Turkey, Turkmenistan and parts of India, Russia and China. In some places it’s called Farmer’s Day.

The colorful Holi

Nowruz isn’t the only spring festival that commemorates the start of a new year.

Each year, hundreds of Hindus arrive at Loxahatchee Groves Park in western Palm Beach County dressed in white, where they will “greet each other with colors,” Leila Persaud explained.

By the time the revelry is over, everyone, once starkly white, will be colored with bright powder in teal and fuscia, red and yellow, green and gold.

Holi is the Hindu spring festival, also called the “Festival of Colours,” and throwing brightly colored powder at each other or squirting each other with colored water is the highlight of the two-day event. “It’s a very important festival,” said Persaud, of Lake Worth. “It thanks God for the triumph of good over evil.”

Last year 400 people attended. The Palm Beach Hindu Mandir hosts the event. “It’s fun for the adults and the kids,” spiritual leader Vishnu Sharma said. Traditionally, the date of

If You Go

What: Holi, the Hindu New Year, a colorful celebration with food and music
When: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
March 4
Where: Loxahatchee Groves Park, 13901 South-ern Blvd.
Information: 632-1861 or www.pbhindumandir.org

nomadic cultures knew when to pack up and move on. The rituals and activities of society revolved around the movement of the celestial bodies. It was a constant in a world of uncertainties.

“Ancient Persians believed you had to wait until the moon reached a certain place before the festival could begin,” Moghani explained. He and his community will celebrate Nowruz on March 17 with a
the festival falls on the first full moon in the month of Phalguna in the Vikram Samvat Hindu calendar, which puts it between the end of February and the middle of March on the Gregorian calendar. Celebrating begins the night before with a party called Holika Dahan, Holi, which is the following day, is like New Year’s Day. Holi celebrates the end of winter, the arrival of spring, the victory of good over evil. It’s a time of rejoicing and singing, frolicking and feasting. By the day also has a serious side: Holi is important for clearing the slate for the new year. People pay off their debts and mend relationships, forgive past wrongs and ask for forgiveness. The celebration is widely celebrated in India and Nepal, and its popularity is spreading through Europe and the United States like colored powder on the white cloth. Holī food is all vegetarian, Persaud said. With donations from local businesses, the women of the mandir prepare saffron rice and beans, using time-honored Indian recipes and great skill.

The most symbolic dish is sweet gujhiya, Indian sweet empanadas or dumplings, stuffed with a mixture of milk solids called khoya, sugar, dried fruit, green cardamom and nuts. Holī doesn’t have any religious rituals to be performed. During Holī, people regardless of their sex, color, caste or creed join together to spread a message of love, unity and peace. There’s a ritual the night before, with a bonfire, but the Holī is all about having fun and enjoying friends and family. Other celebrations that mark the beginning of spring include Japan’s Shunbun no Hi, which is celebrated by visiting a festival.

The day starts with a spring cleaning, followed by making colorful decorations on the floor and erecting colorful silk scarf-like cloth tied at the top of a long bamboo pole called gudi. Street processions, dancing and meals with traditional foods that always include both sweet and bitter flavors are part of the festival.

Who celebrates: Some Nahua communities in Mexico
How they celebrate: Candles, fireworks, drumming and singing are all part of the festivities.
Gudi Padwa, the Marathi Hindu New Year
When: March 18, based on the lunisolar Hindu calendar.
Where: India
Who celebrates: The Maharashtra Hindus. Similar celebrations are held by the Telugu, Konkani and Kannada Hindus.
How they celebrate: The day starts with a spring cleaning, followed by making colorful decorations on the floor and erecting colorful silk scarf-like cloth tied at the top of a long bamboo pole called gudi. Street processions, dancing and meals with traditional foods that always include both sweet and bitter flavors are part of the festival.

Hari Raya Nyèpi, the Bali Hindu New Year
When: March 17. Celebrated on the first day of the Saka lunar calendar or on the first new moon of March.

Where: Mainly celebrated in Bali, Indonesia
Who celebrates: Hindus celebrate, but others are respectful of the holiday. Non-Hindus observe the customs that prohibit work, and even the airport is closed for the day.
How: Nyèpi, a national holiday since 1983, is a day of silence and self-reflection, fasting and meditation. The day before the new year, customs say the Lord of Hell sends out devils that must be cleared out before the new year begins. People make papier-mâché effigies that they parade through town before burning them, which is followed by a feast with music and dancing.

Asian Trade, Food Fair and Cultural Show
A leftover from last month’s Chinese Festival, the show will have many elements of the Chinese New Year. Included are more than 50 performers such as the professional lion dance team led by Chinese kung fu master Siu Hung Li. Asian groups will present art, modern and traditional dance, music, films, literature, crafts, fashion and culture. Another highlight will be a performance by popular Bangladeshi model and TV star Sadia Islam Mou. There’s also a large food court, yoga demonstrations and henna tattoos, and the kids will enjoy the carnival rides and games. About 15,000 people are expected to attend.

When: March 17-18
Where: South Florida Fairgrounds, 9067 Southern Blvd., West Palm Beach
Admission: $5.
Info: 754-246-2801 or 385-3862 or www.asianfair.org

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The views from this property are like no other. Magnificent undistructed mile long Intracoastal views. Point lot with 255 feet on the water with protected deep-water docking, capable of accommodating a large motor yacht in excess of 75’ on wide side canal. This property offers the security of living on an island on the Island. Four bedrooms and three and a half baths. Only 300 yards to the inlet, beach and the Ocean Ridge Private Beach Club.

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Min Jin Lee has earned her place among today’s outstanding writers with the publication of *Pachinko*, an epic tear-jerker that follows a poor, hard-working Korean family for most of the last century, beginning in 1910. The book topped dozens of best books lists for 2017, including *The New York Times*, and was nominated for a National Book Award. Lee’s characters are the people most of us would pass on the street without even noticing, and yet they embody the passion, strength, determination and integrity of the human race in a way that makes you proud to be a member. A National Public Radio book reviewer called Lee’s work “honest writing, fiction that looks squarely at what it is, both terrible and wonderful.” Maybe that’s why this book stays with you, echoing around in your psyche, tickling your moral compass, and maybe making you rethink your own life and motivation.

Lee was born in Seoul, South Korea, in 1968. She came to the U.S. in 1976, and her family settled in Elmhurst, Queens, where her parents owned a wholesale jewelry store. She grew up without much money, but hard work landed her in the Ivy League. She majored in history at Yale, then went to law school at Georgetown. Lee worked as a corporate lawyer for a few years, until a chronic illness forced her to quit. She’d always loved storytelling and writing, but couldn’t afford to pursue another degree, so she developed her own creative writing curriculum, attending

The Esther B. O’Keeffe Gallery of Palm Beach’s Society of the Four Arts is currently showing some of history’s most sumptuous costumes, from the gilded luxury of the Medici court to the embroidered splendor of the Silk Road to the whimsy of the Belle Epoque ballet stage. Except these aren’t dusty old originals. *Fashioning Art from Paper* is a career-spanning exhibition of life-size paper sculptures by Belgian artist Isabelle de Borchgrave.

The Brussels-based septuagenarian originally trained as a painter but pivoted mid-career toward a new, multidisciplinary style. “I made my first paper dress in the late ’80s,” de Borchgrave says. “I had just seen an Yves Saint-Laurent costume exhibition at the Met in New York and it really made an impression. That and the arrival of contemporary art made me feel free to create whatever and however I wanted.” She quickly built an entire collection, which was shown first in France then Boston and New York. It was an immediate hit with American audiences. She has since been a regular visitor to the United States. “These works seem to resonate in the States,” the artist observes. “Across the generational divide, Americans really appreciate this kind of art. I’ve seen people return to the same exhibition up to eight times.”

The current Four Arts show is the second in an ambitious U.S. exhibition tour that kicked off at the Dixon Gallery and Gardens in Memphis last year. Five cultural institutions across the country — in Memphis, in Palm Beach, in Oklahoma City, in Pittsburgh and in Naples — have joined forces to roll out the red carpet across the country.
The museum directors tapped Dennita Sewell, current Jacquie Dorrance Curator of Fashion Design at the Phoenix Art Museum, to coordinate the tour. Sewell first met the artist during de Borchgrave’s 2011 Pulp Fashion exhibition in San Francisco. “I was really pleased to be invited to participate,” Sewell says over the phone from Arizona. “I’ve been admiring Isabelle’s work for many years. She’s doing something truly unique. Sure, there were paper dresses in the 1960s — but this is a far different, more sculptural form of expression.”

Visitors at the Four Arts are greeted with a specially commissioned work, a paper sculpture inspired by the dress worn by Charlotte-Marguerite de Montmorency, princess of Condé, in her Rubens portrait. It’s 17th-century opulence at its most conspicuous. From there, the exhibition opens onto de Borchgrave’s signature series “Papiers à la Mode,” created in collaboration with costume historian Rita Brown. The collection is a historical cross-section of European styles over the centuries, with an emphasis on court fashions. De Borchgrave’s “Kaftans” series occupies a side chamber. The emphasis here is on the diversity of silk patterns that decorated Persian fashion in centuries past. The artist’s homage to Mariano Fortuny occupies a corner of the main gallery. The early 20th-century Spanish fashion designer was, like de Borchgrave, passionate about Renaissance Italian style. Indeed, Fortuny was so taken by all things Italy that he set up shop in the Venetian villa that still houses his legacy and foundation.

De Borchgrave continues her exploration of Italian luxury in the “Splendor of the Medicis” series, product of the artist’s sojourn in Florence. She carried out extensive research at the Uffizi Gallery and Palazzo Medici before turning her hand to what would be the most technically demanding works of her career to that point. “Les Ballets Russes” adds a touch of the carnivalesque to the exhibition. The sculptures re-create costumes worn by dancers in Sergei Diaghilev’s globetrotting Belle Epoque ballet company — a rogue’s gallery of court jesters and wild animals. De Borchgrave created sculptures based on archival photos and artist sketches, capturing the stylized contours and saturated colors of Diaghilev’s breakthrough productions. In mid-April, after a nearly three-month stand in Palm Beach, the exhibition is set to decamp to Oklahoma City and Pittsburgh before ultimately returning to Florida for a last bow at Naples’ Baker Museum.

PAPER
Continued from page 13

for a retrospective of historical proportions, spanning not just decades of the artist’s career but centuries of sartorial creation.

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If You Go
Fashioning Art from Paper runs through April 15 at the Society of the Four Arts, 2 Four Arts Plaza in Palm Beach. Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday, 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission: $5, free for children under age 14 and Four Arts members. Info: fourarts.org
Reviews

Here are excerpts of reviews from recent shows.

For the full versions, see palmbeachartsdaily.com.

Tony Bennett (Feb. 4, Kravis Center)

An adoring capacity crowd greeted the artist formerly known as Anthony Dominick Benedetto as the 91-year-old vocalist confidently strode onstage Febr. 4 at Dreyfoos Hall in West Palm Beach. And why not? As Tony Bennett, the singer has earned 20 Grammy Awards, the most recent for Best Traditional Pop Vocal Album for Tony Bennett Celebrates 90; charted a career of astonishing longevity from the 1950s through today; and in the process blurred the supposed lines between the musical genres and subgenres of jazz, easy listening, pop, and adult contemporary.

The Queens, N.Y., native’s seasoned quartet of guitarist Gray Sargent, pianist Tom Adair, bassist Marshall Wood and drummer Harold Jones helped blur those lines over the show’s first 20 minutes by backing daughter Antonia Bennett, a talented singer and actress in her own right. The 43-year-old delivered a solid rendition of the Sammy Cahn/ Gene de Paul standard “Teach Me Tonight,” dedicated the Billie Holiday staple “You’re a Lucky Guy” to her father, and highlighted the set with the Gershwin chestnut “Someone to Watch Over Me.”

Looking 20 years younger than his actual age, Bennett took the stage, and proved that whatever he’s lost in vocal range took the stage, and proved that whatever he’s lost in vocal range is more than his actual age, Bennett proved that whatever he’s lost in vocal range over the years,” Bennett said at one point, in a major understatement. “If you don’t mind, I’d like to sing a few of them.”

With most audience members old enough to remember hearing them on the radio, no one minded hearing a medley that included Rodgers and Hart’s “My Romance,” Hank Williams’ “Cold Cold Heart,” and the Richard Adler/ Jerry Ross “Rags to Riches.”

The obligatory reading of Bennett’s signature 1962 hit, the George Cory/Douglass Cross tune “I Left My Heart in San Francisco,” featured impressive long notes and breath control by the creative singer. Bennett’s voice warmed up and improved as the evening went on, and he seemed inspired by his accompanists. “I had quite a few hit songs over the years,” Bennett added at one point, in a major understatement. “If you don’t mind, I’d like to sing a few of them.”

The play juxtaposes a minor figure from the period — little-known feminist playwright Olympe de Gouges (wily, winsome Niki Fridh) — against more prominent real-life characters, such as deposed Queen Marie Antoinette (ditzy, Loire Valley girl Mia Matthews, stumped by the seismic changes in the land), would-be assassin of pamphleteer Jean-Paul Marat, Charlotte Corday (a perpetually angry Nicole Stoica) and Caribbean spy Marianne Angelle (a fiery Candice Marie Singleton), eager for independence for her island nation, the kind that only revolution can bring.

The Revolutionists is alternately playful and thought-provoking, with torrents of words rushing at us with a frequency that begs for a pause button at our seats, so we can savor the bon mots and let them sink in before the next wave of meaning nuggets arrives.

The characters, improbably thrown together chez DeGouges, all have their own goals. Stir gently and you have a tasty theatrical bouillabaisse.

Revolution or at least survive it. The Revolutionists, a tongue-in-cheek tale of four women trying to make a difference during the French Revolution or at least survive it, its received its area premiere from Florida Atlantic University’s professional stage company, Theatre Lab, in a production ably directed by Matt Stable with a wink and a nudge to historical realities.

The obligatory reading of Bennett’s signature 1962 hit, the George Cory/Douglass Cross tune “I Left My Heart in San Francisco,” featured impressive long notes and breath control by the creative singer. Bennett’s voice warmed up and improved as the evening went on, and he seemed inspired by his accompanists. “I had quite a few hit songs over the years,” Bennett added at one point, in a major understatement. “If you don’t mind, I’d like to sing a few of them.”

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THE HEART AND SOUL OF PACHINKO

Pachinko is Sunja's story. It begins in 1910, in Korea, years before there was a South and a North. She's a poor, but happy child, the beloved daughter of a disabled Korean fisherman and his gentle wife. When her father dies, he leaves Sunja with two things: a glow that only comes from being well-loved and life's hard realities where his comforting presence had been. This makes Sunja both attractive and vulnerable to Hansu, a handsome, successful, older businessman. His slow, methodical seduction of the naïve Sunja crescendos with her pregnancy. When he offers her a comfortable life as his mistress, she refuses. Instead she marries Isak, a sickly Christian pastor, for his good name. But secrets never seem to stay secret; the truth always seems to rise to the top.

‘I think the lives of the poor are underrepresented in literature, and I want to write about the poor and the great middle.’

Lectures and workshops whenever she could. From 2007 to 2011, Lee lived in Japan, where she did hundreds of interviews with the local people, immersing herself in Asian people and culture, and writing. Pachinko isn’t Lee’s first home run. A decade ago, her debut novel, Free Food for Millionaires, was named one of the top novels of year by The Times (London), NPR’s Fresh Air, and USA Today. The story of a Korean-American protagonist unsure of her cultural place in the world, Free Food for Millionaires took a hard look at wealth and privilege and the haves and have-nots, but also redefined a new intrinsic, personal wealth that trumps economic status.

Palm Beach ArtPaper talked to Lee recently by email before an appearance she made in January at the Morikami Museum in Delray Beach.

AP: Your writing style seems to have come from the genre of journalism. The economy of words, choosing the right word, the objective narrator position — all reminiscent of newspapers in the world of newspapers. It seems you must have read and probably read a lot of newspapers. Although many of the characters in Pachinko are illiterate, Yoseob reads several papers a day. Are newspapers important to you?

Lee: Newspapers are very important to me. I read several per day. Also, I try to read the opinions of people with whom I disagree. I revise continuously, because I want very much to be clear to every reader. I am interested in reaching many different kinds of readers. Often, I get letters from folks who say that they had given up on fiction but have enjoyed my rather long books, and I am immensely gratified, because I want people to read fiction.

AP: You’re well-educated: Yale undergrad, Georgetown Law. And yet you tell the story of illiterate, simple people in very simple writing. The worker. The poor and the disenfranchised. Why did you choose to write about Sunja?

Lee: I grew up without much money, and I live in Harlem now. For most of my life, I have lived in New York City, where there is tremendous wealth disparity. I think the lives of the poor are underrepresented in literature, and I want to write about the poor and the great middle. The rich are fascinating, too, and I write about them quite a lot. I write community novels, and that means that I must encompass the entire spectrum of class. I focused on Sunja because I wanted to write about a character who is illiterate and socially disaffected and who is also resilient and strong. I was interested in how women like her shape history.

AP: You chose the omniscient narrator as your point of view because it allows you to know the heart and the mind of all of the characters and it allows the kind of author who chooses this as bright as the major ones are. Is there a downside to being a narrator? Did you sometimes feel too objective? Who was your favorite character to write about? Who are you most like?

Lee: I think that throughout the narrative, because I find that I am often powerless in the face of life’s problems; however, I have the power to control the narrative on the page. I am not objective enough, and I think my worldview is ever-present.

My favorite character is Hansu, because he is both amusing and terrifying. I am most like Mozasu, I think, because I am not good at many things, but I like very much. Like Mozasu, I want to live well, and I want to face things as they are.

AP: You spent decades on this piece. How do you know you actually finished? What was the hardest part of a story of this magnitude?

Lee: I enjoy rewriting, and I know when a work is finished, when it is satisfying and true. The hardest part of writing a story like this was in believing that it mattered to anyone else except me.

AP: Wisdom is an important theme in Pachinko. You’ve said that wisdom “is different from education or knowledge and (you) aim to be the kind of writer who collects wisdom and shares it with her characters.” Did you learn something from somewhere or from someone unexpectedly?

Lee: I interview people occasionally, and I continue to be continually humbled by the wisdom of people without a formal education, I also like meeting older people who are self-aware.

AP: Some Americans think of Asia as either mired in the past — rice farmers and plows pulled with oxen — or ridiculously modern and overtaken by pop-cultures — like the excess and spectacle of Hong Kong. But we don’t understand the subtlety of Asian speech and behavior. Does it surprise you how poorly Americans understand Asian culture and customs?

Lee: Most people do not have the opportunity to learn about Asian culture and customs. This is the fault of our education system and popular culture. I meet Asian-Americans who know nothing about their history, and it is not their fault, either.

AP: You have personal experience with a lot of the tragedies your characters deal with. Chronic illness, money issues. Self-doubt. The book is really the arc of Sunja’s life, and she carries these burdens and then some. Sunja refuses to have anything to do with Hansu after she finds out about him, and she carries that with her. Where did that strength and conviction come from?

Lee: I think Sunja was able to reject Hansu because she had been deeply loved and valued by her father and mother. I think being loved correctly and abundantly is perhaps the greatest legacy a person can receive.

AP: Sunja’s bravery is also stunning — to go with Isak, walking into the unknown with her little bundles of possessions, leaving her mother and all she’d ever known. Did Sunja really believe that a woman’s lot is to suffer?

Lee: I think that throughout her life, Sunja resisted this message that a woman’s lot is to suffer. That said, this message also prepared her for the suffering that was to come. I think we need to actively imagine that everyone suffers privately, and consequently, we need to be gentle with each other. This is something that is very important to me, because I think compassion is a muscle that must be consciously exercised.

AP: Children are vital to the story. Caring for them is the noblest act, and people often come together for the good of the child. But you also wrote that, according to the church, we should love God more than our children. Isn’t it harder to love an idea than something you can hold or touch?

Lee: I think that love ideas more than people and things all the time. Some people love their jobs more than their livings. Some love their addictions more than anything. Some love their idea of their identities more than who they are in reality. In fact, I think loving real people is very hard. Loving a perfect God is quite simple. Obeying God is another thing, however.
The odd, and fascinating, denizens of Florida’s folklore

Florida Lore, by Caren Schnur Neile; History Press, 167 pp.; $21.95

By Steve Pike

Caren Schnur Neile can’t remember a time when she wasn’t telling stories. “I was 7 years old when I wrote my first little book,” said Neile, whose latest book, Florida Lore, tells the tales of some of Florida’s most famous, infamous and off-the-beaten-path characters and places. Among them: Ma Barker, the 1930s leader of the Barker-Karpis Gang, who was killed in a gun battle with the FBI in 1935 in Ocklawaha; Elizabeth Budd Graham (the Tallahassee Witch); Ponce Inlet fishing legend “Big Man” Jess Linzy; “Cracker Cowboy” Bone Mizell; and a young man named William Powell who grew up to become the great Seminole warrior Chief Osceola.

In the 167-page book, Neile writes with the eye (and pen) of a master storyteller—which she is. The Boca Raton resident holds a doctorate in comparative studies from Florida Atlantic University, where she has taught storytelling studies since 1991. She is also the former chairwoman of the National Storytelling Network and co-hosts The Public Storyteller, a weekly segment on South Florida public radio WLRN.

None of the stories in Florida Lore is original. As Neile points out in the introduction, she focuses on retelling stories originally passed down orally as folktales, legends, myths and urban legends. Each of those is captured in the book—from James “Acrefoot” Johnson (The Barefoot Mailman) to the Florida Skunk Ape to pirate Jose Gaspar. “Mostly I wanted to collect what people were saying in our communities and about our heroes, scoundrels and places,” Neile said. “Florida is so much more than concrete and strip malls. How can you not know the ghost stories of your environment? Or the famous criminals in your environment?”

Indeed. In Florida Lore, Neile takes readers to places such as Desert Inn and Restaurant in Yeehaw Junction, and the Seminole Inn in Indiantown, a favorite spot of the Duke and Duchess of Windsor. Neile also tells the stories of some of Florida’s most colorful citizens whom readers might not know, including Grayce McCoy, the raucous real estate lady of Sebring; and Laura Uphugrowe, the self-proclaimed “Queen of the Everglades” who was obsessed with the life (and crimes) of “Swamp Bandit” gangster John Ashley.

The stories, Neile said, “are the real Florida because that’s what people share.” And Florida Lore certainly is worth sharing.
The 13th Annual Bluegrass in the Pavilion concert features co-headliners Blue Highway and Cocoanut Grove. The Museum grounds will be sectioned off into age-appropriate areas so that families can enjoy the music together.

Oliveira Competition announces 2020 dates

The second Elmar Oliveira International Violin Competition will take place Jan. 12-26, 2020, at Lynn University in Boca Raton, its founder said in a press conference Feb. 12. Celebrated American composer Christopher Theofanidis has been commissioned to compose a work for solo violin to be played by contestants in the competition. He is a member of the Yale University music faculty and music director of the Aspen Festival.

At the press conference, Oliveira — an eminent American violinist who won the 1978 Tchaikovsky Competition — summarized the events of the inaugural competition held in January 2017, for which 81 violinists from more than 15 countries applied. The competition is open to violinists ages 16 to 32.

The competition jury in 2020 will be increased to nine from last year's seven. Its chairman will be David Cerone, president of the Cleveland Institute of Music from 1985 to 2008, who has also held professorships at Oberlin and the Curtis Institute of Music. A panel separate from the judges will screen all submissions, which, Oliveira said, will likely yield about 20 quarterfinalists for the 2020 event.

The monetary prizes for the 2020 competition will be $30,000 for the first-prize winner, $15,000 for the second-prize winner and $10,000 for the third. However, Oliveira stressed that the EOIVC hopes to do more than award prizes.

"In some competitions, you win a prize and go, but we hope to help develop future careers," he said. Oliveira stressed the need for increased community support. Because the contestants bear their own travel expenses to come to Boca Raton, the EOIVC endeavors to find hosts for as many competitors as possible, to defray some of their expenses.

"This is one of the biggest cultural events taking place in South Florida," said Oliveira, who hoped that "after I'm gone, this competition will continue to discover and nurture talented violinists."

PGA Arts Center closes, cancels current season

The PGA Arts Center in Palm Beach Gardens has closed its doors after about a year of trying to break into the Palm Beach County theatrical market.

"We are sorry to say that we are canceling our current season of shows due to a lack of funding," says a notice posted on the arts center's website. The message thanked patrons for their interest and said refunds would be issued for tickets already purchased for the shows being canceled: Old Jews Telling Jokes, the Calamari Sisters in Boat Until Stiff and Raunchy Little Musical.

A spokeswoman for the owners said they would have no further comment.

The owners initially reported "enthusiastic audience response and excellent ticket sales." But reviewers from the Palm Beach Arts Paper who attended several shows said audience attendance was minimal.

Modern + Contemporary art fair makes 7-figure sales

Galleries that took part in the second edition of Palm Beach Modern + Contemporary, a fair presented by Art Miami and hosted by the city of West Palm Beach, reported "significant six- and seven-figure sales of investment-quality blue-chip contemporary and postwar works," Art Miami said.

More than 19,000 attended the fair, which was held Jan. 11-15 at the Palm Beach Convention Center, and featured more than 65 galleries. One of the highest-selling paintings from the fair was French artist Pierre Soulages’s Peinture, which was placed by London’s Archeus/Post-Modern gallery for about $1 million.

The same gallery placed British artist Damien Hirst’s Beautiful Melancholy Painting for $300,000; Underdetermined Line, by France’s Bernar Venet, for more than $100,000; and a set of colored paintings by the Chinese artist and dissident Ai WeiWei for an undisclosed sum.

The Coral Gables-based Cuban art gallery Cernuda Arte placed Manuel Mendive’s River Waters for $100,000, and New York’s David Benrimon Fine Art placed the late American artist Sol LeWitt’s Wavy Lines for a six-figure sum.

"Palm Beach Modern + Contemporary is the most important fair to take place in Palm Beach County during the season," said fair founder and owner Nick Kornloff. "The fair brings a world-class, internationally respected group of art dealers and their artists to one of the most culturally savvy and discerning collecting audiences in the world."

Kornloff said the fair looks forward to returning in 2019.
Music

West Palm man aims to turn fare into fair for struggling artists

By Bill Meredith

In 2011, Will Buckley founded FarePlay, a nonprofit whose mission is to work on behalf of musicians, songwriters, visual artists, writers and photographers in collecting fair compensation for their works in an era in which internet piracy has drastically cut into their profits.

While Buckley isn't a musician per se, the New York native and West Palm Beach resident once started his own San Francisco based independent recording label, Cold Water Records. He has also worked in band management and as a deejay, and makes another gig as a blogger for The Huffington Post (until that online publication suspended its blogs). And he's decidedly old-school about the arts in general, recorded music in particular.

"We've been in the musical trenches with the jobs I've had," Buckley said, "so I understand what it's like to try to be a working musician and have a successful career. I see music as an art form, and I'm a record collector, so I own vinyl, cassettes and CDs. I prefer physical products and complete works, not just songs, and I'm not a fan of streaming.

"Relating to artists by just listening to a streamed single is like reading Cliffs Notes instead of the book," he said. "The mythology of music is dead. If you don't know who wrote the song, sang the song, or played in the band, what's there to talk about?"

The results, he adds, include not only a less-educated listening public, but also one less willing to shell out more money for concert tickets — the prices of which have increased exponentially.

"Growing up in the Northeast meant I practically lived at places like the Fillmore East in New York City and the Tea Party in Boston," Buckley said. "But tickets to shows now are ridiculously expensive. And why? Because artists don't make money recording their recordings anymore."

"So the generation that

gets played. And there's a new 'Classics Act,' which will erase a loophole that forbids artists getting paid for recordings before 1972."

All of which echoes the mission statement of FarePlay, which is essentially to gain recording artists more than the current fraction of profits — literally cents in comparison to the dollars they receive from selling a recorded hard copy — from a streaming internet sale.

"It's become worse than ever in musicians either being rich superstars or having to work a day job and struggle," said Buckley. "The whole musical middle class, people who could sell thousands of CDs and therefore make a decent living, is practically erased because music is expected to be free or low-cost online. Recording labels have collapsed, and those labels used to pay artists to go out on tour. Now they have to play live, and try to sell recordings and merchandise, to make ends meet. The business model of music, as we knew it, is upside-down now."

As are the business models within all creative arts.

"We represent authors, filmmakers, photographers and visual artists," Buckley says. "They've all suffered within that business model. But the impetus, for me, was musical.

"America has created many of the styles of music, including blues, jazz, bluegrass and country. The whole world looks to us as a leader in that regard, but the creative community got punished so the internet could essentially offer free entertainment and thrive," he says.

"And all the tech giants fought against having any laws passed to protect artists' work. But with the bills that could be passed, 2018 could be a turnaround year for music and the arts in general."

Will Buckley's nonprofit FarePlay aims to help musicians and other artists receive the compensation due to them in this digital era of 'free' downloads. Carrie Bradburn / Capehart

Supported piracy ended up cutting into their profits.

"We had nearly $3,000 in additional donations from the audience," he said, "so we will be donating $3,500 to the Parkland Student Movement."

A growth trajectory

Buckley says FarePlay has experienced steady growth, picking up spokespersons along the way like country singer Rosanne Cash and Talking Heads front man and solo recording artist David Byrne, and has gained support from political allies such as U.S. Rep. Ted Deutch, the Democratic member of the House of Representatives for Florida's 22nd Congressional District. The organization also has support from Broward County and other areas of Broward County. Buckley says, "and he's been incredibly supportive as a member of the House Judiciary Committee. He's been instrumental in the Music Modernization Act recently being approved by the U.S. Senate and House. It has bipartisan support, and support from major music organizations. There's also a bill called Fair Play, Fair Pay, which is about paying performers when their music performances get a digital download."
**ART EXHIBITS**

**Arts Northwest Sculpture Garden:** Through April 21. Celebrating Boaz Vaadia (1951-2017), single sales. Most of the presenting organizations (Note: Events are listed through April 6 and Calendar to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. For more information, call 561-472-8301 or visit www.artnw.org.

**Armory Art Center:** Through March 9. Arizona-Resident Exhibition, works by Rumi’s guests artists produced during their eight month stay on staff. RumiDiane Tavarez, Maria Tricia, Katie Johnson and Other Designers. March 20. Taxidermy Exhibition, Through April 14. Open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. Free admission. Call 561-232-1700 or visit www.armoryartcenter.org.

**Boca Raton Museum of Art:** 336 N. Mizner Blvd., Boca Raton. 561-392-2500. www.batofa.org. **Main gardens are open Wednesday to Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

**Art Exhibits**

**Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney: Sculpture**

**Opens March 11:** Works by the New York City sculptor of the early 20th century are on display. Whitney Museum of American Art, 945 Madison Ave., New York City. Open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. For more information, call 212-570-3676 or visit whitney.org.

**Arthur Carter: Sculptures and Drawings**

Boca Raton Museum of Art:

**Opens March 1:** Works by the American artist of the mid-20th century are on display. For more information, call 561-392-2500 or visit www.batofa.org.

**Organic Ornaments: Flowers and Gardens**

**Opens March 23:** The exhibit features 280 original drawings, photographs and sculptures created by artist David Hockney, using flowers and gardens as inspiration. The exhibit will be on display at the museum. For more information, call 561-392-2500 or visit www.batofa.org.

**Robert Matthews: The work of the famous American artist of the mid-20th century is on display. For more information, call 561-392-2500 or visit www.batofa.org.

**Tom Killion: The work of the famous American artist of the mid-20th century is on display. For more information, call 561-392-2500 or visit www.batofa.org.

**Nature, Tradition and Innovation:** Through April 22:

**Presentation of sculptures, paintings and photographs by resident artists are on display. For more information, call 561-392-2500 or visit www.batofa.org.

**Diary of a Madman**

**Opens March 22:** A work by the American artist of the mid-20th century is on display. For more information, call 561-392-2500 or visit www.batofa.org.

**Artists of the 20th Century:**

**Through April 22:** Works by resident artists are on display. For more information, call 561-392-2500 or visit www.batofa.org.

**Judy Chicago Art:**

**Opens March 23:** Works by the American artist of the mid-20th century are on display. For more information, call 561-392-2500 or visit www.batofa.org.
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Music “AT EIGHT” (8 pm)

JACKSONVILLE SYMPHONY WITH CAMERON CARPENTER, ORGAN
Monday, November 12, 2018 at 8 pm
Courtney Lewis, Conductor
Featuring the George W. Margens Memorial Organ.
Schubert/Green Studies on Themes of Paul Revere; Puckor/Piano Concerto in G minor for Organ, Timpani and Strings; Walton/Crown Imperial (organ and orchestra); Mussorgsky/Pictures at an Exhibition (arr. Ravel)

JEREMY DENK, PIANO
Thursday, December 6, 2018 at 8 pm
Program to be announced.

SHANGHAI OPERA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Monday, January 28, 2019 at 8 pm
Zhang Chengjie, Conductor | Song Sheng, Piano
Verdi/Overture to La Forza del Destino; Symphonie Fantastique/Piano Concerto No. 1 in E-flat minor, Op. 23; Rachmaninoff/Symphony No. 2 in E minor, Op. 27

ISRAEL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
Tuesday, February 5, 2019 at 8 pm
Zubin Mehta, Conductor
Program to be announced.

CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Tuesday, February 26, 2019 at 8 pm
Riccardo Muti, Conductor
All Beethoven: Leonore Overture No. 3, Op. 72b; Symphony No. 5 in C minor, Op. 67; Symphony No. 7 in A Major, Op. 92

BRUSSELS PHILHARMONIC
Monday, March 11, 2019 at 8 pm
Stéphane Denève, Conductor | Nikolaj Znaider, Violin
Guillaume Connesson/Reveries on Orpheus: Baruch/Violin Concerto No. 1 in G minor, Op. 26; Rousset/Bacchus and Ariadne, Suite No. 2, Op. 43; Ravel/La Valse

Music “AT TWO” (2 pm)

SIR JAMES GALWAY, FLUTE
Monday, March 25, 2019 at 8 pm
Program to be announced.

BUFFALO PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
Monday, April 1, 2019 at 8 pm
JoAnn Falletta, Conductor | Fabio Bidini, Piano
Bartók/Roman Carnival Overture, Op. 9; Brahms/Piano Concerto No. 2 in B-flat Major, Op. 83; Prokofiev/Selections from Romeo and Juliet, Op. 64

RUSSIAN NATIONAL ORCHESTRA
Sunday, February 10, 2019 at 2 pm
Kirill Karabits, Conductor | George Li, Piano

ITZHAK PERLMAN, VIOLIN
Sunday, March 3, 2019 at 2 pm
Rohan De Silva, Piano
Program to be announced.

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Startled by a passing jogger, pigeons, gulls and terns take flight together after resting on the shore south of Atlantic Avenue in Delray Beach.

**BIRDS**

Continued from page AT1

The stability in the number of species is comforting, considering a variety of variables — especially the loss of habitat — is problematic for some birds.

For instance, a pasture near Wellington, where eastern meadowlarks had been spotted during previous counts, is a residential development this year.

“We didn’t get any eastern meadowlarks this time,” Weber said.

The upside is that many developments are attracting other species, in large part because of open green areas, trees and shrubs that offer habitat for different avian groups.

“Meadowlarks may be gone, but maybe phoebes and shrikes will be moving in,” Weber said.

Some years ago as many as 160 species were counted in the area that Weber’s team covers during the annual census. Then, 10 to 15 years ago, that number was down to the mid-to-high 130s.

The rebound now, Weber says, is partly because of restoration efforts led by Palm Beach County, including work in the Lake Worth Lagoon that has created 11 acres of mangroves and two acres of oyster reefs.

With the restoration has come the return of oystercatchers and other species, he said.

Other county projects, including the development of Wakodahatchee Wetlands and Green Cay Wetlands, both west of Boynton Beach, have also attracted a variety of birds.

“It if we didn’t have those areas our count would probably be down,” Weber said.

Along coastal Palm Beach County, from Delray Beach to Sloan’s Curve in Palm Beach, the Dec. 30 bird count included many of the expected groups as well as a few surprises such as the number of sandwich terns and the presence of frigate birds despite the fog.

Observers, many with binoculars and some with cameras, made their way across golf courses, beaches and natural areas and saw common birds such as royal terns and laughing gulls.

Veteran birder Rick Schofield’s five-person team spotted 53 species along the barrier island from Delray Beach to the Boynton Inlet, down from 56 the previous year. The number of birds counted, however, increased from about 1,500 to about 1,600.

The weather, habitat and the nature of making estimates can complicate year-to-year comparisons, but the counts indicate a degree of stability.

At the Boynton Inlet, Weber’s and Schofield’s team members discovered several birds they’d been hoping to find, including sandhill cranes. They saw seven of the plunge-diving birds. “To see so many sandwich terns is unusual,” Weber said.

For birders David and Jan Conley, who are visiting from Wisconsin for the season and joined Schofield’s team, spotting frigate birds and gannets was a highlight.

“We were hoping to see frigate birds this trip and we saw several of them,” Jan Conley said.

The Conleys have participated in the South Florida count a handful of times.

About the Christmas Bird Count

During the 1800s, when Americans thought there was a never-ending supply of wild birds, there was a tradition of organized hunts to see how many birds hunters could kill. Since photography had not matured as a study technique, artists like John James Audubon usually killed their subjects.

In 1900, ornithologist Frank Chapman suggested that a count of living birds would provide a census of birds and help to preserve them. The Christmas Bird Count was born.

The National Audubon Society administers the annual Christmas Bird Count. With more than a century of data, the CBC is considered the most reliable yardstick of the health of birds in North America.

The process is simple: Small groups of bird watchers use guidebooks, spotting scopes, binoculars and sometimes cameras to count and identify birds in the same locations year after year. This census is compiled first at the local level and then national level.

There was also good news for owl fans, with all four species of owls found in South Florida included in the latest count.

Among these were burrowing owls, which hadn’t made it into Weber’s numbers for several years.

“Recently, it’s been tough to find them in the count circle,” he said.

Once Weber has compiled all his numbers, they’ll be reviewed by a state compiler and submitted to an international database.
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3/3 - Evening on Antique Row
3/3 - Pickleball by Sally Nailor. 12:30 pm. $10. 243-7922; delrayartleague.com
3/3 - 100 Years of Comedy! at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 N Atlantic Ave. Part of Longleaf Learning/Community Institute. Every M through 7/31 9:30 am-1 pm. 15 sessions. 266-3049; delreylibrary.org
3/5 - On a Lifetime Writing about Golf with Lorne Robertstein at The Society of Four Arts, 1000 S County Road. 3:30-5 pm. $85/person. Reservations: 508-9525; fourarts.org
3/5 - Happy Squares Dance Club at Embassy Suites, 1501 Camino Real #330, Boca Raton. Every F/Sat at 10:30 am. $10/person. Advance $9.50/person. 243-7096; mydelraybeach.com
3/5 - 100 Years of Comedy! at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 N Atlantic Ave. Part of Longleaf Learning/Community Institute. Every M through 7/31 9:30 am-1 pm. 15 sessions. 266-3049; delreylibrary.org
3/3 - Evening on Antique Row
- **Tony Desare** at Community Center, 2nd F 7:30-9 pm. $20-$40. 777 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. For more information, call 278-2081, or visit BocaRaton.gov.
- **Castoffs Square Dance Club** at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church Hall, 51 S Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. For more information, call 243-7922, or visit Artsgarage.org.
- **American Power with Dr. Robert G. Norton** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Museum, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. For more information, call 832-3000, or visit FAU.edu/LLS.
- **Three Days and Three Nights** at Mizner Park Cultural Center, 1709 Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. For more information, call 588-5128, or visit MiznerParkCulturalCenter.com.
- **3/10 - Charity Run:**
  - **Community Caring** at Veterans Park, 901 Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton; 10:30 am. Free. For more information, call 627-2948, or visit BocaCaring.com.
  - **Mountainfilm on Tour** at Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach; 8 pm. $10-$12. For more information, call 450-6357, or visit Artsgarage.org.
  - **2nd Annual Asian American Film Festival** at The Society of The Four Arts, 2 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. For more information, call 843-2311, or visit FourArts.org.

- **3/11 - Fly Me to the Moon Starring Norton** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Museum, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. For more information, call 832-3000, or visit FAU.edu/LLS.
- **3/11 - Pop, Rock & Doo Wopp Live!** at School Square Pavilion, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach; 6-11 pm. $55-$65. For more information, call 243-7922 x1; OldSchoolSquare.org.
- **3/11 - Mancini, Mercer and Manilow!** at Civic Center, 201 Civic Center Plaza, Boca Raton; 8 pm. $30-$50. For more information, call 237-9000, or visit Lynn.Tix.com.
- **3/11 - Bleecker Street and Beyond: The American Showgirl** at South Palm Beach Auditorium, 777 S Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach; 2 pm. $27. Free for available dates. $50-$60/adult & senior.
- **3/11 - Lecture: On the Cutting Edge** at Palm Beach State College, 1100 Pompey Road, Lake Worth; 6-8 pm. $10-$12. For more information, call 450-6357; artsgarage.org.
- **3/11 - American Artists Confront World War I** at The Society of The Four Arts, 2 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. For more information, call 843-2311, or visit FourArts.org.
- **3/13 - Introduction to the History of Antiquities** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Museum, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. For more information, call 832-3000; fauevents.com.
- **3/13 - Art as Politics, Art as Revolution** at School Square Pavilion, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach; 6 pm. $15-$20; $10 for student & non-member. For more information, call 243-7922; oldschoolsquare.org.
- **3/13 - Charmed Lives: Up Close and Personal with Fabled People** at Presentation by Pamela Fiore at Crown Center Café Parkin, 701 Oceanbluff Blvd, West Palm Beach. For more information, call 659-7707, or visit SouthPalmBeach.com.
- **3/13 - Word Intermediates at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. 2-4 pm. Free Registration. 206-0196, or visit myboca.us/957/Library.
- **3/13 - Music & Interactive Art** at Veterans Park Recreation Center, 501 NW 1st Ave, Deerfield Beach. For more information, call 495-0233; morikami.org.
- **3/13 - Shining: Open Mic Showcase at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach; 7-10 pm. $5. For more information, call 243-7922; myboca.us/957/Library.
- **3/13 - Scared Stories at The Spady Museum** at African American Cultural Heritage Museum, 100 NW 5th Ave, Delray Beach. For more information, call 876-8883; spadymuseum.org.
- **3/14 - Thursday Night Lights** at Mizner Park Cultural Center, 1709 Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. For more information, call 588-5128; MiznerParkCulturalCenter.com.
- **3/14 - Bleecker Street and Beyond: The American Showgirl** at South Palm Beach Auditorium, 777 S Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach; 2 pm. $27. Free for available dates. $50-$60/adult & senior.

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**We reserve the right to make changes in these events to accommodate public interest.**

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**March 11-17**

- **March 11 - Art Show at South Palm Beach Town Center, 1577 S Ocean Blvd. 2-4 pm. Free.**
  - **3/11 - Manicini, Mercer and Manilow!** at Civic Center, 201 Civic Center Plaza, Boca Raton. For more information, call 237-9000, or visit Lynn.Tix.com.
  - **3/11 - Jazz Ambassadors: America’s Big Band** at Rutherford Community Center, 2000 Yamato Road, Boca Raton. For more information, call 444-2242; rutherfordparkcenter.com.
  - **3/11 - Fly Me to the Moon Starring Norton** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Museum, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. For more information, call 832-3000, or visit FAU.edu/LLS.
  - **3/11 - charcoal drawing with Dr. Donna Plaskett and Phillip Bergmann, Music of European Masters: Madrigals to Motets presented at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Museum, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. For more information, call 832-3000; fauevents.com.
  - **3/11 - Staging a Scene: From Shakespeare to the Bauhaus** at School Square Pavilion, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach; 6-11 pm. $55-$65. For more information, call 243-7922; oldschoolsquare.org.
  - **3/11 - Quatuor Ebene** at School Square Pavilion, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach; 8 pm. $10-$12. For more information, call 450-6357; artsgarage.org.
  - **3/11 - Civic Band: Good Life to Our Doctor** at School Square Pavilion, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach; 6-11 pm. $55-$65. For more information, call 243-7922; oldschoolsquare.org.
  - **3/11 - Three Days and Three Nights** at Mizner Park Cultural Center, 1709 Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. For more information, call 588-5128; MiznerParkCulturalCenter.com.
  - **3/11 - Teacher’s Workshop with Dr. Donna Plaskett and Phillip Bergmann, Music of European Masters: Madrigals to Motets presented at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Museum, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. For more information, call 832-3000; fauevents.com.
  - **3/11 - Work of 60 students from four universities** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Museum, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. For more information, call 832-3000; fauevents.com.
  - **3/11 - Pop, Rock & Doo Wopp Live!** at School Square Pavilion, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach; 6-11 pm. $55-$65. For more information, call 243-7922; oldschoolsquare.org.
  - **3/11 - Introduction to the History of Antiquities** at Florida Atlantic University Friedberg Museum, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. For more information, call 832-3000; fauevents.com.
GULF STREAM DIRECT OCEANFRONT TOWNHOME

Rarely available Casa Serena penthouse townhome with 6,579 total sq. ft. offers Gulf Stream oceanfront living in a prestigious seven unit enclave. The living room adjoins a large formal dining room, both with ocean views. Florida room and expansive balcony offer exceptional wide ocean views facing prominent Jupiter Inlet. The terrace overlooking Gulf Stream’s pristine beach is perfect for entertaining on a grand scale. This luxury residence offers the privacy of a single family residence with the convenience of carefree maintenance and a full time manager.

Features:
- Spacious master suite with his and her baths, kitchen offering both indoor and outdoor dining areas, four bedroom/door with adjoining full bath, two additional guest suites, private, heated pool with cabana bath and kitchenette, elevator opening to formal foyers and two car garage with ample storage.

Battles with Irving Labowitz, JD at Florida Atlantic University Fedoroff Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Part of Winter Lecture Series at FAU Lifelong Learning Society. Every Thu through 3/9 2:30-3:30 pm. $5/series. 266-9490; delreylibrary.org

- 3/15 - An Abundant Life: Cultivating Joy, Peace & Purpose Using the Phases of the Moon with Ezzie Spencer, Ph.D.
- 3/17 – St Patrick’s Day Party at Boca Raton Museum of Art School. Cocktails, dinner-by-the-bite. 6-10 pm. $150. 392-2500 x213; museumofartboca.org

- 3/15-16 - 70 Years in the Promised Land with Ms. Susan Sullam
- 3/16 - 3rd Annual Mixology Craft Spirit Festival at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Age 21+. 5:30-8:30 pm. Tickets start at $15. 932-7469; kravis.org
- 3/16 - 3rd Annual Mixology Craft Spirit Festival at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Age 21+. 5:30-8:30 pm. Tickets start at $15. 932-7469; kravis.org
- 3/16 - An Evening with Jason Mraz at Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd, West Palm Beach. 8 pm. $10-$12. 450-6357; kravis.org
- 3/16 - Some issues in the Middle East with Dr. Mohemmes Gurses at Florida Atlantic University Fedoroff Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Part of Spring Lecture Series at FAU Lifelong Learning Society. Every Fri through 4/6 10-11:30 am. $30/annual membership, $50/advance member; free/at the door non-member. 297-3171; fau.edu/lls
- 3/16 - Judy Carmichael at Arts Garage, 54 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. Free. 237-9000; lynn.tix.com
- 3/16 - Judy Carmichael at Arts Garage, 54 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. $10-$12. 450-6357; artsgarage.org
- 3/16 - Cats and Cesar at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Drift Knoll Trl, West Palm Beach. Special afternoon for adults/retirees. Apr 6 & 29. 2-4 pm. $20. 482-1988; zootastic.com
- 3/16 - Key Global Hotspots at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Part of Lifelong Learning Community Institute. Every Wed through 4/6 9:15 am-10:15 am. Free. Registration: 467-3095; delreylibrary.org
- 3/16 - 3rd Annual Mixology Craft Spirit Festival & Food Tasting at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Age 21+. 5:30-8:30 pm. $30/annual membership, $50/advance member; free/at the door non-member. 297-3171; fau.edu/lls
- 3/16 - Obit.
- 3/16 - Judy Carmichael at Arts Garage, 54 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. Free. 237-9000; lynn.tix.com
- 3/16 - Judy Carmichael at Arts Garage, 54 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. $10-$12. 450-6357; artsgarage.org
- 3/16 - Starting Here, Starting New! A Musical Journey Through Life in Songs Starting Men Zire at Lake Worth Playhouse Steakhouse, 7469; kravis.org
- 3/16 - Toast of the Town Film Festival at Four Arts Pavilion, 651 Okeechobee Blvd, West Palm Beach. 8 pm. $20. 586-6410; lakevorthplayhouse.org
- 3/16 - St Patrick’s Day Festival & Parade on Atlantic Avenue, Delray Beach. Check website for events, parking, more. Festival 11-5 pm & Sat 11 am-7 pm. Free. Luncheon start Sat at 5 pm-5:30. Free. rippledragonproductions.com
- 3/16-17 - St. Patrick’s Day Festival & Parade on Atlantic Avenue, Delray Beach. Check website for events, parking, more. Festival 11-5 pm & Sat 11 am-7 pm. Free. Luncheon start Sat at 5 pm-5:30. Free. rippledragonproductions.com
- 3/16 - Catapult at Crete Theatre at Old School Square, 517 Swann Avenue, Delray Beach. 8 pm. $10-$12. oldschoolsquare.com
- 3/16 - Judy Carmichael at Arts Garage, 54 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8 pm. 530-4167; artsgarage.org
- 3/16 - Taste History Culinary Tours at The Society of Historic Delray Beach & Boynton Beach Mall. 4-hour tour of Historic Delray Beach & Boynton Beach. Part of Friday Films Series. 2:30 & 4:30 pm. 530-6527; tastehistoryculinarytours.org
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- 3/17 - The Abundant Life: Cultivating Joy, Peace & Purpose Using the Phases of the Moon with Ezzie Spencer, Ph.D.
**FAMILY EVENING EVENTS**

**Saturday 3/24 - 25**
- Breakfast with the Bunny at Palm Beach Zoo, 1001 Summit Blvd, West Palm Beach. All Day - FREE breakfast buffet. 8am-10am. Children are invited to welcome the Easter Bunny. Stop by the Zoo entrance to meet our Easter Bunny, chocolate eggs, live animals, and more. Free. 8am-4pm. (561) 962-3378; palmbeachzoo.org
- Share a box lunch with the Easter Bunny at Boynton Beach Senior Center, 201 S Federal Hwy. 11am-3pm. Free. 240-6200; cityofboyntonbeach.org/seniorcenter
- Easter Egg Hunt at Boynton Beach Senior Center, 201 S Federal Hwy. 1-3 pm. Advance ticket: $1.00; door: $1.50. Fertilizer/ 4/20. Begin (West Coast Swing)

**Sunday 3/25**
- Kids-Friendly Stand-Up Comedy with Easter Bunny at Kravis Center, 701 Federal Hwy. 7:30-9:30pm. $45/child, $55/adult. 233-3000; kravis.org
- 10th Annual Easter Egg Hunt at Bryant Park, 105 Gehrener Rd, Lake Worth. Music, games, crafts, food vendors. Egg hunts by age 0-5 at 10:30am; 5-7pm; 7:30pm; 9:30pm. Bryant Park, 105 Gehrener Rd, Lake Worth. Parking fees apply. 833-7888; pbopera.org
- Easter Egg Hunt at Flager Museum, One Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. 10am-2pm. Easter Bunny, face painting, coloring, wooden egg baskets. Bring your basket, 9 am open gates, 10 am hunts begin. Free. 155-5664; fl rgmuseum.org
- Easter Egg Hunt at Ann Norton Sculpture Garden, 235 S Flagler Dr, West Palm Beach. Egg hunt. photo with the Easter Bunny, refreshments, family fun. 10 am doors open, 10 am hunts begin. $15/adult, $10/child 65 & older; 5/child/student, free child under 3. 833-7888; mydelraybeach.com

**Sunday - 4/1**
- Easter Egg Hunt at Unity of Delray Beach, 101 NW 22nd St. Follows the children's Easter service at 10am. Free. 831-2766; unitydelray.org
- 15th Annual Survivor's Day Avenue of Flowers on Delray Avenue, Delray Beach. 9am. 550-1200; downtowndelray.com/avenueofflowers

**MARCH 25-31**
- **Sunday 3/25** - Basics of Jewish Cooking at Marjorie McC高档 Park, 7207 Mill Rd, West Palm Beach. Free. 9am-1pm; 756-4370; mydelraybeach.com
- **Monday 3/26** - Community Cabaret at The Piano Bar at The Colony Hotel, 1600 Ocean Drive, South Beach. 7pm. 929-4449; steppingoutflorida.com
- **Tuesday 3/27** - Vibe: Delray’s Hottest Jam Session at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 9pm-3am. Free. 772-733-6808; arts garage.org
- **Thursday 3/29** - Using DNA to find Your Ancestors with Mark Fearer at Boynton Beach Police Department at Boynton Beach Police School, 491 Ridge Blvd Police Complex. 9am-2pm; for families; 2pm-4pm; for adults. Free. 240-1381; sfpc.gov
- **Saturday 3/31** - Dennis Miller at The Parker Playhouse, 7901 N Federal Hwy, Palm Beach. 8:30 & 11pm. $35/39. 655-6555; theparkerplayhouse.com
- **Saturday 3/31** - The Garden of Evening Mists by Tan Teaw Eng at Boca Raton Public Library, 2030 S Power Blvd, Boca Raton. 7pm. Free. Registration: 227-6840; browardlibrary.org
- **Sunday 4/1** - 10th Anniversary Savor The Avenue at Atlantic Avenue, Delray Beach. 5:30-7pm. downtowndelray.com/savortheave
- **Thursday 3/29** - Dinner with Color Pastels & Charcoal Class at Boca Raton Center, 505 Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. 10-2pm. Registration: 334-4110; browardarts.org
- **Saturday 3/31** - Capitalists and Communists, America in Russia Part II, 1933-1999, FDR and Stalin to Clinton and Yeltsin with Dr. Stephen R. D. of Angelina at Kravis Center Cultural Arts Center at The Crest Theatre, 701 Federal Hwy. 7:30-9:30pm. $44-$65; 237-7750; lynn.tix.com

**4/2 Through 4/21**
- **Wednesday 4/4** - Join Wally McNamee on a Walk Through the Billy Joel Band at The Old School Square, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 6 pm. $25. 833-7888; pbopera.org
- **Saturday 4/7** - Wings of the Billy Joel Band at The Old School Square, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach. 8pm. $35. 833-7888; pbopera.org
- **Sunday 4/8** - Dennis Miller at The Parker Playhouse, 7901 N Federal Hwy, Palm Beach. 8:30 & 11pm. $35/39. 655-6555; theparkerplayhouse.com
- **Tuesday 4/10** - Easter Egg Hunt at Flager Museum, One Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. 10am-2pm. Easter Bunny, face painting, coloring, wooden egg baskets. Bring your basket, 9 am open gates, 10 am hunts begin. Free. 155-5664; fl rgmuseum.org
- **Thursday 4/12** - Easter Egg Hunt at Ann Norton Sculpture Garden, 235 S Flagler Dr, West Palm Beach. Egg hunt. photo with the Easter Bunny, refreshments, family fun. 10 am doors open, 10 am hunts begin. $15/adult, $10/child 65 & older; 5/child/student, free child under 3. 833-7888; mydelraybeach.com

**Events Through 4/21**
- **Thursday 4/20** - Women in the Arts at The Society of The Four Arts, 2 Four Arts Plaza, West Palm Beach. 10:30am. Free. Registration: 657-0300; fourarts.org
- **Friday 4/21** - 10th Anniversary Savor The Avenue at Atlantic Avenue, Delray Beach. 5:30-7pm. downtowndelray.com/savortheave
- **Saturday 4/22** - Memory and Understanding: Chinese Scholars Collect Rocks at Norton Museum of Art, 1451 S Olive Ave, West Palm Beach. 10am-3pm. Free admission. 833-7888; pbopera.org
- **Sunday 4/23** - Florida Association of Women Lawyers’ Law Day Glass Metal Studio & Gallery, 15 S J St, Lake Worth. Runs through 4/4. $10. 561-584-3548; flamingoglass.com
- **Thursday 4/26** - **Exhibition Opening:** The 9th Annual Student Juried Art Show at West Palm Beach Civic Center, 301 Okeechobee Blvd, West Palm Beach. 3:30 pm gates open; 6 pm gates open. 550-1200; westpalmbeachciviccenter.com
- **Thursday 4/26** - **Exhibition Opening:** The 9th Annual Student Juried Art Show at West Palm Beach Civic Center, 301 Okeechobee Blvd, West Palm Beach. 3:30 pm gates open; 6 pm gates open. 550-1200; westpalmbeachciviccenter.com
- **Thursdays Through 4/21**
- **April 5** - **Opening Night:** Re:Zeze Di Figura presented by Palm Beach Opera at Civic Theatre, 7901 N Federal Hwy, Palm Beach. 8pm. Free. 833-7888; pbopera.org
- **April 6** - **Opening Night Dinner:** Le Ruse Di Figura presented by Palm Beach Opera at Civic Theatre, 7901 N Federal Hwy, Palm Beach. 8pm. Free. 833-7888; pbopera.org
- **April 13** - **Opening Night Dinner:** Le Ruse Di Figura presented by Palm Beach Opera at Civic Theatre, 7901 N Federal Hwy, Palm Beach. 8pm. Free. 833-7888; pbopera.org
- **April 27** - **Opening Night Dinner:** Le Ruse Di Figura presented by Palm Beach Opera at Civic Theatre, 7901 N Federal Hwy, Palm Beach. 8pm. Free. 833-7888; pbopera.org
APRIL 1-7

Sunday - 4/1 - Easter

4/1 - University Symphony Orchestra From the New World at the Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 7777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. 561-392-3000; fau.edu

Monday - 4/2 - Wine and Spirits Appreciation with Arrangement: Ikenobo School Tuesday - 4/3 - Ikebana Flower again 4/9-12. 2 & 8 pm. $35. 272-1281; morikami.org Part of Musical Memories series. Held Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 NW 9th St. From Gilbert & Sullivan to Rap fourarts.org pm. $45/class. Reservations: 655-7226; Arts, 2 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. 5:30-7 5:30-7 pm. $45/class. Reservations: 655-7226; fourarts.org

4/4 - Roundtable hosted by Sheryl Flatow fee. Registration: 495-0233; morikami.org member; $80/non-member; + $80/flower 11am-1pm; Intermediate 1-3 pm. $70/ Beginners 1-2:30 pm. $50/resident; $63/adult non-member. 1st F Oct -Jun 7 pm. $37.50/general; $67.50/VIP; $15/designated driver: all fees have service charge added. Advance tickets required: 547-0452, palmbeachzoo.org

4/4 - Silent Painting Party: Floral Wreath (Canvas Bags) at Boynton Beach Art Center, 125 SE 26th Ave. Artist Shilton Jackson-Schmitz uses her talents and American Sign Language to help building artists (or wanting to make a "masterpiece") the door. 251-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

4/4 - Ikebana Flower Arrangement: Monika School at Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach Traditional flower arranging using fresh flowers. Every F 7-9 pm. $25 1st F Oct -Jun 7 pm. $37.50/general; $67.50/VIP; $15/designated driver: all fees have service charge added. Advance tickets required: 547-0452, palmbeachzoo.org

4/4 - The Weight Band at Crest Theatre

4/5 - Reading Behind the Words: Was in Vogue with Dr. Taylor Hagood The Auto Museum at the Dezer Collection

4/5 - When Jazz Ruled and Harlem Jackson-Schmitz uses her talents and American Sign Language to help building artists (or wanting to make a "masterpiece") the door. 251-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

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4/5 - When Jazz Ruled and Harlem Jackson-Schmitz uses her talents and American Sign Language to help building artists (or wanting to make a "masterpiece") the door. 251-1281; delraybeachplayhouse.com

4/5 - Silient Piano Gala at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 7777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. $30. 800-404-3000; fau.edu

4/5 - Symphonic Band of the Palm Beaches: Our Stars Shine Indeed, 36th Annual Roundtable von Bach Scholarship Concert at Palm Beach State College-Duncan Theatre, 6200 Campus Ave, Lake Worth. 3:30 $25. 832-3115, symphonicband.com
1555 S Ocean Boulevard  Manalapan
4 Bedrooms  |  4 Bathrooms  |  11,268 Square Feet  |  1.34 acres  |  157 Frontage
$17,500,000

409 N Atlantic Drive  Hypoluxo Island
6 Bedrooms  |  6.2 Bathrooms  |  5,942 Square Feet
$4,995,000

221 Oleander Avenue  Palm Beach
4 Bedrooms  |  4 Bathrooms  |  3,180 Square Feet
$4,500,000

220 Jungle Road  Palm Beach
4 Bedrooms  |  3.5 Bathrooms  |  4,500 Square Feet  |  46 acres
$7,500,000

1405 Lands End Road  Point Manalapan
6 Bedrooms  |  6 Bathrooms  |  19,566 Square Feet  |  1.9 acres  |  180’ Frontage
$6,995,000

234 Merrain Road  Palm Beach
5 Bedrooms  |  5 Bathrooms  |  7,648 Square Feet
$3,995,000

608 SE Atlantic Drive  Hypoluxo Island
z 88 acres  |  z 110’ Frontage
$2,395,000

913 N Atlantic Drive  Hypoluxo Island
5 Bedrooms  |  5.2 Bathrooms  |  7,921 Square Feet
$5,999,000

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561-373-2198
jelkins@fitegroup.com

The Fite Group Luxury Homes  |  101 North County Road, Palm Beach, FL 33480  |  561-655-6570  |  FiteGroup.com
Songwriter Linda Creed is hardly alone in believing "the children are our future."

In 2016, a group of local philanthropists led by Bill Meyer, chairman of Meyer Jabara Hotels, a hotel and restaurant management company with an office in West Palm Beach, started the Palm Beach Philanthropy Tank, a project of Advisors for Philanthropic Impact. API, formed in 2011, brought together local real estate and trust attorneys, financial advisers, CPAs, insurance professionals and nonprofit executives in a "network of good." One of its tenets is to "inspire a new generation of philanthropic leaders," and the Philanthropy Tank takes that idea from intent to action.

Meyer started the Philanthropy Tank with an idea stolen from television and $25,000 he was willing to risk. "No one is giving young people the opportunity to take on community projects," Meyer said. "They need to be inspired."

Zoe Deitelbaum (left), Naven Parthasathy (standing) and Brianna Detamore started Hurricane Helping Hands, one of eight finalists for Palm Beach Philanthropy Tank funding. It aims to equip low-income older adults with survival kits.

Philanthropy 101

Local teens put their ideas for helping others into action with guidance from team of mentors

By Janis Fontaine

See PHILANTHROPY on page H4

Photos provided

Zoe drew inspiration from her grandfather Lee Goldstein, who died after Hurricane Irma.
JOIN US ON SUNDAY • MARCH 11TH, 2018 • 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

THE DORCHESTER
$2,650,000
JOHN DUNNING  561-665-1028

LAKE SHORES
$1,685,000
DIANE DUFFY  561-767-0860

WATERFRONT LOT
$1,200,000
DIANE DUFFY  561-767-0860

LAKE COVE
$989,000
DIANE DUFFY  561-767-0860

LAKE OSBORNE
$774,900
LAURA URNESS  561-239-1911

DORCHESTER
$579,900
ROBIN TURNER  561-267-5888

OCEAN CAY
$575,000
LAURA URNESS  561-239-1911

TWO CITY PLAZA
$450,000
CHRIS CARPENTER  508-332-9955

LA PENSEE
$399,000 / $425,000
ROBYN LAWSON  561-866-1969

GREYNOLDS HIGHLANDS
$353,000
DIANE DUFFY  561-767-0860

BAYWOOD AT BOCA WEST
$399,000
ALLISON MELVIN  561-441-1927

NAUTICAL ISLES
$359,000
HORST HOHL  561-309-4012

RIDGE HOMES
$345,900
JACOBA BILL  561-306-5521

LAKE SHORES
$340,000
DIANE DUFFY  561-767-0860

REGENCY
$325,000
AGNES FISHMAN  516-316-3736

OPEN HOUSE – MARCH 11TH 1-4

All attendees who register in person at one of our Open Houses will be entered for a chance to win a FREE cruise for two, a $1000 Gift Certificate to Baer’s Furniture and a $500 American Express Gift Card!!
BOCA BAY COLONY | $1,350,000
145’ on deepwater on 15,000SF lot in desirable Boca Bay Colony! Beautifully updated 4BD/3BA/2CG. 30’x15’ pool, 36’x20’ loggia.
Brian Pearl 561-245-1541           Vini Antonacci 561-714-8464

PALM BEACH SHORE ACRES | $2,499,000
Rare beachside retreat with 48R. 5 BA. Huge outside entertaining area, gourmet kitchen, marble flooring throughout main house w/hardwood floors in bedrooms. Full house generator & a short stroll to vibrant Atlantic Avenue and Beach.
Olive Belcher 561-447-0666           Brittany Belcher 561-716-8125

GULFSTREAM | $2,195,000
Home has more than 4200 sqft of living space. Pavers welcome you to a wrap-around driveway, oversized 2-car garage on very fashionable Polo Drive in the core of Gulf Stream. Short walk to the Atlantic Ocean, deeded beach. 4 BR, 3 ½ BA.
Michael Mullin III 561-441-0635  www.BuyAndSellGulfstream.com

TOSCANA | $1,085,000
Beautiful renovated 3BR, 2BA with over 2,300 sq. ft home. Open floor plan with stunning Chef’s kitchen. Enter the main gallery though a private elevator. Boasts Jerusalem marble floors, crown molding, custom lightening and designer window treatments.
Brian Pearl 561-245-1541           Linda Veltre 561-271-3361

BOCA BAY COLONY | $1,249,000
Built in 2010, overlooks the 16th fairway, set back off the golf course. 20 ft ceilings, open floor plan, 4 bedrooms, 4 baths. Upgraded kitchen with island. Outdoors there is a large lanai and open pool area with marble pavers, overlooking the golf course.
Warren Heeg 561-441-1599

DELRAY DUNES | $1,150,000
Built in 2010, overlooks the 16th fairway, set back off the golf course. 20 ft ceilings, open floor plan, 4 bedrooms, 4 baths. Upgraded kitchen with island. Outdoors there is a large lanai and open pool area with marble pavers, overlooking the golf course.
Warren Heeg 561-441-1599

NASSAU PARK | $1,099,000
Historical 1938 beach home located 4 homes off the ocean. Completely remodeled with impact glass, new roof, vaulted ceilings, plantation shutters, etc. Open backyard and patio. Walking distance to all businesses along Atlantic Ave.
Warren Heeg 561-441-1599

DELRAY DUNES | $1,249,000
Built in 2010, overlooks the 16th fairway, set back off the golf course. 20 ft ceilings, open floor plan, 4 bedrooms, 4 baths. Upgraded kitchen with island. Outdoors there is a large lanai and open pool area with marble pavers, overlooking the golf course.
Warren Heeg 561-441-1599

www.LangRealty.com
Delray Beach Office 900 E. Atlantic Avenue, Suite 16B, Delray Beach, FL | 561.455.3300

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PRICE REDUCED $350K
UNDER CONTRACT
PRICE REDUCED $350K
UNDER CONTRACT
DELUXE STAR
March 2018
PHILANTHROPY

Continued from page H1

said, and he believed kids’ outside-the-box thinking might have an advantage over adult thinking. It did.

In 2016 and 2017, the PBFT funded projects that fought hunger in Delray Beach, taught life-saving CPR to high school students, screened the eyesight of Head Start kids, and built boundary-less play areas and gardens for kids in wheelchairs. Gifts ranged from $7,500 to $18,000 per project. Every finalist gets something. In 2016, the first year, nine groups split a total of $109,000 in gifts. The awards ranged from $7,500 to $18,000. In 2017, nine winning groups split a total of $100,000, with awards from $8,500 to $15,000.

This year, PBFT chose seven finalists among 47 submissions and got the community involved in picking another by asking people to vote for their favorite from a list of 10. The community voted for Hurricane Helping Hands, developed by Zoe Detelbaum of South Palm Beach, Brianna Detamore of Boca Raton, Kiah Kimpton of Delray Beach and Naven Parthasathy of Boynton Beach, all students at American Heritage School in Delray Beach. Their project plans to provide hurricane emergency kits to low-income older adults to keep them safe during a hurricane.

Everyone pitches in

The group is an eclectic democracy, with each person holding a role. Brianna is the project manager. She sees the big picture. Zoe calls her “the delegator.” Kiah is the artistic one. “She did our logo, and she prepared our slide show.” Naven is the math guy, so “he handles the budget, and he’s also our presenter.” Zoe, whose mother, Lisa Detelbaum, lives in coastal Boca Raton, is the detail person. “I do a lot of different things, whatever is necessary. I do the research. I have some artistic skills,” Zoe said. She keeps things from falling through the cracks. Whenever teammates need help, it’s Zoe they call. “Being part of the community contest was thrilling,” Zoe said. “We were up against kids from bigger schools and we worked really hard to get people to vote.” The impetus for the survival kit idea came from experience. Zoe said. She and her teammates all suffered, to varying degrees, after Hurricane Irma last September.

“Everybody in the group saw it firsthand,” Zoe said. Friends were without power for days, the school was shut for more than a week, and it took more than a month for Zoe’s internet to be fixed. But what really stuck with Zoe and her friends? How older adults suffered.

“Seniors are forgotten people,” Zoe said. During the hurricane, Zoe’s beloved grandfather, Lee Goldstein, already fighting cancer, got sick and couldn’t get immediate access to treatment or the medication he needed. Well-known in Palm Beach, Goldstein died in October, but not without teaching Zoe a few things about life. “It was really close to home,” Zoe said.

An inspiring role model

Goldstein, 80, actually taught many people a few things. As the founder and president of Virginia Design Packaging Corp. and a member of the Society of the Plastics Industry, Goldstein helped create and implement the recycling symbols used on the bottoms of plastic containers around the world.

He was a conservationist who served as a commissioner on the town’s Shore Protection Board, and he was former chairman of the Citizens’ Association of Palm Beach, which united co-op and condo owners to work together for the good of the community. He supported science through the South Florida Science Center and Aquarium and fought crime with Palm Beach Crime Watch.

Goldstein’s death, combined with the news of the deaths of elderly residents at nursing homes after Irma hit, illustrated the special vulnerability of older adults during a crisis. Zoe and her team knew they could help.

Hurricane Helping Hands plans to deliver safety kits at the beginning of each hurricane season to low-income seniors in Palm Beach County. Each kit will include a flashlight, a crank radio, a three-day supply of nonperishable food, a can opener, water, a first aid/hygiene kit and a survival guide with emergency information on shelter locations, packaged in a waterproof container.

Zoe said the group researched what people buy for supplies, what experts recommend and the cost of putting together a kit, which reinforced the need for it. The students knew that lots of older adults just don’t have the extra money, no matter how badly they need the supplies. Working with the United Way, the group identified a...
Boca teen honored for fighting hunger

The kids competing in the Philathropy Tank aren’t the only youngsters making a big splash in the “help your neighbor” pool.

Colin Wanless, 14, of Boca Raton, is an eighth-grader at Pine Crest Middle School. He started volunteering with Joshua’s Heart Foundation, a charity that fights childhood hunger, in 2009. With Colin’s hard work, the Miami-based charity expanded to the Boca Raton area in 2015. Colin has helped raise more than $10,000 and feed more than 13,000 people. He also recruited two dozen local kids to join the board that leads the chapter.

In an interview with CBS local news anchor Michele Wright, Colin said, “If we want to make this world a stronger, healthier, happier and better place, we really ought to be helping one another.”

Now Colin’s work has been honored by The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, which named Colin as an outstanding youth volunteer of 2018. The awards, in their 23rd year, are produced by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

— Janis Fontaine

Bright and cozy panoramic views of the golf course and Intracoastal. This cheery apartment has 2 bedrooms, 2 baths and a den. The amenities include: Beachfront, 18-hole Par 3 golf course, gym, clay tennis courts and croquet. Only unit available in St. Andrews Club. Membership is required. $849,900
Chiropractor turns grief into mission to teach wellness, posture

The way that Lynn Migdal has chosen to grieve is very particular to her. She is the first to point that out, in the introduction to her 2017 book, Eternal Love Connections. Her unorthodox approach adds a dash of magic and maybe even whimsy to the practice of grieving. While others may not follow exactly the path she chose, they can use it as a model to find their own ways, she hopes. Migdal, a chiropractor, practiced for years in Delray Beach before July 12, 2012, when her two daughters, her ex-husband and their home were buried in a mudslide in Johnson’s Landing, British Columbia.

As crews searched for their bodies, Migdal went to British Columbia to wait for news. Even in the midst of her own misery en route to the scene, Migdal couldn’t shake her habit of ministering to others. "I was being helicoptered in with the fire chief of Vancouver, and I’m teaching him about his neck," she recalled while eating lunch in a Delray Beach café. The place where her house used to be — only the roof was visible — was a grisly sight. "I was praying for the [search] dogs, but dogs are useless once the mud turns to cement, 32 feet of cement," Migdal said.

The family members "were suffocated instantly, though it took a long time to get that information." Searches found the bodies of Diana, 22, and Valentine Webber, and it took another week to find Rachel, 17. Their neighbor up the hill was never found.

For the next two years, Migdal’s first stage of grieving was to work. I wrote two books, started a nonprofit foundation and somehow directed and ran a natural healing center."

She describes Wind Kissed as a "self-empowerment fantasy novel for children and adults." The second, Women’s Natural Guideline, combines practical information with affirmations. To liberate her emotions, Migdal spent time outside, in nature. She practiced deep, full breathing. During that time, she stumbled into something she came to call “eternal love connections,” which gave her the pleasure of the presence of her departed loved ones. In 2014, Migdal had a lightheart moment. As she watched, a 2-year-old boy took his mother’s cellphone and assumed the usual position, bent over and mesmerized by the screen. With what she saw was a child in one of the worst possible positions for his spine and breathing. "I realized I had to go into education. I can’t put my hands on everybody," she said. Thus was born what Migdal calls the Looking Up movement. The Mayo Clinic in 2000 had already identified what is called "the forward neck posture," worsened by hours spent bent over computers and, more recently, by constant scanning of cellphones. It is also known as "text neck" and can lead to arthritis, pinched nerves and other long-term negative effects. One easy way to counteract this text neck is to raise the cellphone to eye level rather than hunching over it. As part of teaching better posture, Migdal tries to entertain her audiences. Her nonprofit foundation, Looking Up, has sponsored events that included belly dancers and people dressed in skeleton T-shirts or cellphone costumes.

Foot-tapping rap andreggae versions of the Looking Up dance can be done cha-cha-chalike or with a hula hoop.

Looking up is the simplest way to a healthier respiratory and nervous system in the cellphone age, and Migdal and her associates — other chiropractors, healers and therapists — have made it fun. "We want to be an educational foundation that entertains," said Migdal. Sometime in the nearly six years since she lost her family, Migdal’s hair went from brown to silver. A small woman with a fashionable flair, she demonstrates, with a slightly self-mocking air, how she can adjust the wired Elvis-style collar of her short, spangled black jacket. She goes off on a frisson of intense energy. “Back in the 70s, I was a hustle queen in New York City,” she said. “I Spanish-hustled my way through chiropractic school.” Later, dancing came to her aid again.

One day, when she realized how much she missed dancing with her daughters, “I put their pictures on sticks and danced with them. If you’re missing, you’re not listening. I cry a lot, but I breathe and dance and connect with love. If you can connect with what you’re missing, you’re blessing. There is no lack. You can’t hug the body, but the energy never dies.” She has held dances for parents who lost children and for divorced parents. “Dancing can work for anger as well,” she said. “Mostly, I feel so guilty that they don’t allow themselves pleasure.” She now offers her services as a “wellness nanny,” helping families avoid mental and physical illness. “I’ve done this work for over 40 years. I’ve gone through sudden death. I’m taking the show on the road,” she said. Last year Migdal wrote this message in the newsletter of Bereaved Parents of the USA, whose national convention she also addressed: "Although Mother Nature caused my grief, she is also responsible for my healing and my return to gratitude. I am reminded by her daily that I have a mission of helping her to heal the rest of her children."

To learn more, visit lookingupthemovement.com

Lona O’Connor has a lifelong interest in health and wellness and her daughter, Lona13@bellsouth.net.
Florida Atlantic University’s Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine has received initial accreditation from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education for its first university-sponsored fellowship. Launching this summer and to be based at the Delray Medical Center, the FAU Cardiovascular Disease Fellowship will be a member of the FAU College of Medicine Graduate Medical Education Consortium. A subspecialty of internal medicine, it will complement the existing residency programs at the university.

Dr. Brijeshwar S. Maini, the regional medical director of interventional cardiology and transcatheter therapy at the medical center and a professor at the university’s Department of Integrated Medical Science, is the new fellowship program director. Dr. Sachin S. Sule, the university’s internal medicine residency program director and an associate professor of integrated medical science, will supervise and guide to ensure compliance with accreditation standards. Cardiology fellows will have the opportunity to train alongside top physicians and other clinicians in the field.

Delray Medical Center announced in January that it had received the 2018 Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence from Healthgrades. It is one out of four hospitals in the country that have achieved the award for 16 straight years, placing it in the top 5 percent for clinical performance among nearly 4,500 hospitals nationwide.

Health Notes

FAU’s medical school launches first fellowship

Optimistic Medicine Studio Boca, formerly WOW Health, celebrated its one-year anniversary and its 1,000 clients and monthly members with a grand reopening in February, showcasing Optimistic Medicine Studio Boca’s new facilities and services.

To combat the opioid crisis in Palm Beach County, Palm Healthcare Foundation in partnership with Southeast Florida Behavioral Health Network, Hanley Foundation and the Town of Palm Beach United Way brought in the Rapid Results Institute, an international nonprofit organization that pioneered the use of 100-day challenges. Thirty Palm Beach County nonprofits, health organizations, law enforcement agencies, businesses and governments joined the effort to provide a system that connects anyone with an opioid use disorder to appropriate services. The 100 days of the challenge started Feb. 12.

Components of this effort include scholarship beds and treatment for indigent people in certified recovery residences, peer specialists at four hospitals to work with people brought in after overdoses, and recovery navigators paired with people leaving treatment centers to prevent relapse and support their continued recovery at certified residences.

Send health news to Christine Davis at cdavis9797@gmail.com.

Huge rug sale!
MARCH 4-10

**3/3 - Kemetic Yoga at Spady Cultural Community Center**
150 Crawford Blvd.
T/Th 6-7:30 pm. Free. 561-249-6000; myboca.us

**3/3 - CA (Cocaine Anonymous) at Unity of Delray Beach**
101 NW 22nd St.
T 6-7 pm. Free. 276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

**3/3 - Exercise Class at Boca Raton Community Center**
150 Crawford Blvd.
Th/Ph 6:30-7:30 am. Free. 395-7703; downtowntownboca.org

**3/3 - Yoga Class at Boca Raton Community Center**
150 Crawford Blvd.
Th classes recommended for beginners, gentle yoga. M/Th 9-10 am. 3 classes $75/resident, $94/non-resident, 10 classes $150/resident, $162.50/non-resident; 20 classes $240/resident, $300/non-resident. $47.57; myboca.us

**3/3 - Tai Chi Class at Rutherford Community Center**
1101 NW 22nd St.
T/Ph 9 am. $12-$15; 4 classes $40-$50; 8 classes $70-$85. 393-7807; myboca.us

**3/6 – Breastfeeding Support Group at Boca Raton Regional Hospital**
802 NE 1st St., Delray Beach.
T 10-11:30 am. Free. 483-5000; faulkcenterforcounseling.org

**3/6 - Tai Chi Class at Rutherford Community Center**
22455 Boca Rio Rd., Boca Raton.
T 7:45-8:45 am. Free. 22455boca@brrh.com

**3/6 – Yoga Class at Life Guard Stand North I**
at Veterans Park, 802 NE 1st St., Delray Beach.
T 8-9 am. Free. 22455boca@brrh.com

**3/6 – Men’s Issues Support Group**
at Faulk Center for Counseling, 22455 Boca Rio Rd., Boca Raton.
W 6-7:30 pm. Free. 483-5000; faulkcenterforcounseling.org

**3/6 – Yoga Class at Sugar Sand Park Field House**
300 S Military Tr., Boca Raton.
T 9-10 am. Free. 22455boca@brrh.com

**3/6 – Tai Chi Class at Sugar Sand Park Field House**
300 S Military Tr., Boca Raton.
T 9:30-10:30 am. Free. 22455boca@brrh.com

**3/7 - Childbirth: Preparing for your Baby**
22455 Boca Rio Rd., Boca Raton.
W 6-8 pm. $75/couple. Registration: 22455boca@brrh.com

**3/7 - Moving Forward for Widows & Widowers**
at Faulk Center for Counseling, 22455 Boca Rio Rd., Boca Raton.
W 6-7:30 pm. Free. 483-5000; faulkcenterforcounseling.org

**3/7 - Yoga Class at South Palm Beach Town Hall**
5377 S Ocean Blvd. Every Sat 8:30-9:30 am. $15/class. 588-8889; southpalembeach.com

**3/7 – Zumba at South Beach Park Fountains**
400 N State Rd A1A, Boca Raton.
Sat 9-10 am. Fee: $35-$40; downtownboca.org

**3/7 - Circuit Training: Workout for Mom**
at Sugar Sand Park Field House, 300 S Military Tr., Boca Raton. Target multiple muscle groups to build iron muscles. Modifications accommodate pregnant moms.

**3/7 - Yoga with Cara at Lake Worth Playhouse**
711 Lake Ave. Slow, intuitive vinyasa flow class. Every T 10-11 am. $5/class, $60/class. 561-846-5048; lakeworthplayhouse.com

**3/7 - Men’s Issues Support Group at Faulk Center for Counseling, 22455 Boca Rio Rd., Boca Raton.**
Every W 6-7:30 pm. Free. 483-5000; faulkcenterforcounseling.org

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**3/7 - Circuit Training: Workout for Mom**
at Sugar Sand Park Field House, 300 S Military Tr., Boca Raton. Target multiple muscle groups to build iron muscles. Modifications accommodate pregnant moms.
3/7 - Family and friends at Boca Raton Regional Hospital Education Center, 800 Meadows Rd. Babies of infant, child, and adult CPR. Includes course book. Held again 3/14, 21 & 4/4. 6-9 pm. Registration: 955-4468. bhinc.org

3/7 - Tai Chi Class at Boca Raton Community Center, 550 Crawford Blvd. Moving meditation for focus, concentration, release of stress, attention skills. Every W 10-11:30 am; Intermediate 7:30-8:30 pm; 6 classes $54/resident, $60/ non-resident; 12 classes $66/resident, $82/ non-resident. 9797 mysoca.us

3/7 - Feed Addicts Anonymous at Bethesda Community Church, 150 Crawford Pl, Boynton Beach. Bring floor mat (optional) hand weights. Every W 6-7:30 pm & Thu 10-11:30 am. Free. 714-9330; stmarkboynton.com

3/8 - Yoga Class at Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. Breathing exercises, relaxation techniques, yoga, poses for concentration, balance, flexibility, meditation, exercises in self-acceptance, positive thinking. Open to extended family and caregivers. Every Sat through 3/31 11:15-12:15 pm. $60/resident. 575/ nonresident. 103-7807; mysoca.us

3/7 - Soft Baby: Prepare, Prevent & Respond Prenatal Class at Bethesda Memorial Hospital, 2815 S Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Increase awareness of safe practices, what to do in the event of an emergency. 2-3:30 pm. $10/couple. Registration: 369-2229; publicrelations@bhinc.org

MARCH 11-17

Sunday - 3/11 - Childbirth Education: A Day Full of Fun & Learning at Bethesda Memorial Hospital, 2815 S Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. 10 am-5 pm. $55/couple. Registration: 369-2229; publicrelations@bhinc.org

Boca Raton Paper

MARCH 17-24

Tuesday - 3/20 - Robotic Total Knee Preparation Class at Boca Raton Regional Hospital, 800 Meadows Rd, Boynton Beach. 10 am-5 pm. $50/couple. Registration: 955-4468; bhinc.org

Wednesday - 3/21 - Boot Camp for New Dads Class at Boca Raton Regional Hospital, 800 Meadows Rd. One-day program prepares couples for their first child by discussing birthing options, practicing birthing skills. 9-4 pm. $52/couple. Registration: 955-4468; bhinc.org

Saturday - 3/24 - One Day Childbirth Preparation Class at Boca Raton Regional Hospital, 800 Meadows Rd. One-day program prepares couples for their first child by discussing birthing options, practicing birthing skills. 9-4 pm. $52/couple. Registration: 955-4468; bhinc.org

MARCH 25-31

Wednesday - 3/28 - Venous Insufficiency and Varicose Veins: A Commonly Misdiagnosed Cause of Leg Pain and Swelling at Bethesda Heart Hospital, 2815 S Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Presented by Dr. Gavron, M.D., Orthopedic Surgeon, part of Ask the Physician Lecture Series. 4:30 pm. Free. 731-2273; publicrelations@bhinc.org

Sunday - 3/25 - Boot Camp for New Dads Class at Boca Raton Regional Hospital, 800 Meadows Rd. One-day program prepares couples for their first child by discussing birthing options, practicing birthing skills. 9-4 pm. $52/couple. Registration: 955-4468; bhinc.org

APRIL 1-7

Monday - 4/2 - Zumba Class at Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd, Boca Raton. Every M through 6/11. 7:30-8:30 pm. $50/$45; mysoca.us

Saturday - 4/7 - Family Yoga at Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. Breathing exercises, relaxation techniques, yoga, poses for concentration, balance, flexibility, meditation, exercises in self-acceptance, positive thinking. Open to extended family and caregivers. Every Sat through 4/28 11:15 am-12:15 pm. $60/resident. 575/ nonresident. 103-7807; mysoca.us

Offer available at

DELRAY BEACH: 100 N. Congress Ave. 561-272-4600
JUNO BEACH: 14149 U. S. Highway One
CORAL COVE: 2990 North Dixie Highway

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Most commercial insurances and Medicare accepted
On the Water

Lionfish derbies begin this month

T he Reef Environmental Education Foundation and partner Whole Foods Market have scheduled a series of lionfish derbies around Florida beginning in late March.

In derbies, divers compete to harvest as many of the invasive, nonnative lionfish as possible, reducing their impacts on Florida’s native fish.

Native to the Indian and Pacific oceans, lionfish eat Florida natives such as juvenile snappers and groupers. Lionfish eat more than 120 species of fish and marine invertebrates and can swallow fish more than half their own length.

With no predators capable of controlling lionfish numbers in the Atlantic, diver harvesting is one of the few methods that work.

During the past six years, 21,092 lionfish have been removed from the water by divers competing for prizes in lionfish derbies, according to REEF.

This year’s first REEF-sanctioned lionfish derby is scheduled for March 31 at Sharkey’s Pub & Galley Restaurant in Key Largo. The event begins with a captains meeting at 5:30 p.m. March 30 at REEF headquarters in Key Largo.

Other lionfish derbies scheduled for this year include the July 13-14 derby at 15th Street Fisheries in Fort Lauderdale and the Aug. 3-5 derby at the Loggerhead Marinelife Center in Juno Beach.

Lionfish cooking demonstrations, samples of cooked lionfish and chef’s cooking competitions are planned for the Palm Beach County Lionfish Derby in Juno Beach.

Although the lionfish’s spines are venomous, the flesh is white, delicate and tasty. Whole Foods Market has been selling lionfish at its Florida stores since April 2016.

To compete in a REEF lionfish derby, teams of two to four divers pay a $120 entry fee. Teams have a chance to win cash prizes for the most lionfish as well as the largest and smallest lionfish.

Team captains must attend meetings before each derby, and other team members are encouraged to attend to review proper methods for harvesting and handling lionfish.

For a schedule of lionfish derbies, visit www.reef.org/lionfish/derbies or call REEF at 305-852-0030.

Non-derby incentives:

For divers who would rather remove lionfish from Florida waters without competing in an organized lionfish derby, the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission provides incentives and opportunities to win prizes.

In April and May, the FWC will tag lionfish at 50 randomly selected artificial reef sites in depths of 80 to 120 feet. (Locations will be posted at www.ReefRangers.com.)

Divers who harvest a tagged lionfish and document their catch by submitting its location (coordinates), tag number and photograph will be eligible for prizes, including money and merchandise.

Divers can win tagged-lionfish prizes from May 19 through Sept. 3.

Participants in the FWC’s lionfish removal program are encouraged to register at www.myfwc.com/lionfish.

Sailfish researcher wins lifetime achievement award

John Jolley Jr. of Boynton Beach, a pioneer in Atlantic sailfish research, was recently awarded the West Palm Beach Fishing Club’s Lifetime Achievement Award. Jolley, 73, grew up fishing and diving in southern Palm Beach County and graduated from Suncoast High School. He was the fifth person to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award from the fishing club, established in 1934.

Jolley said he was surprised when club president Tom Twyford presented the award to him Jan. 13 during the Silver Sailfish Derby awards banquet at the Sailfish Club of Florida in Palm Beach.

Working as a marine biologist for the Florida Department of Natural Resources in the 1970s, Jolley established a sailfish research lab inside the West Palm Beach Fishing Club. He collaborated with anglers and taxidermists to gather data on sailfish age, growth, abundance and reproduction.

He developed the method of analyzing growth rings in fin spines to determine the age of sailfish and other billfish.

Jolley is a lifelong angler and past president of the fishing club. He still enjoys fishing on his 30-foot boat, Seclusion.

“John has dedicated most of his life toward improving and protecting marine resources,” club chairman Pete Schulz said.

“His fingerprints are on many of the fishing club’s conservation successes and community initiatives. Other recipients of the fishing club’s Lifetime Achievement Award are boat builder and conservationist John Rybovich Jr., fish-tagging pioneer Frank Mather III, longtime former West Palm Beach Fishing Club director Frances Doucet, and former Palm Beach County environmental director Jim Barry.

Palm Beach boat show opens March 22

The 33rd annual Palm Beach International Boat Show will be held March 22-25 along Flagler Drive in downtown West Palm Beach.

In addition to a wide selection of boats and accessories, the boat show offers educational opportunities such as youth fishing clinics by Hook the Future and IGFA School of Sportfishing seminars for adults.

The West Palm Beach Fishing Club will hold an open house March 22-23 during the boat show highlighting the club’s history.

Located at Fifth Street and North Flagler Drive (just north of the boat show site), the fishing club was founded in 1934. The clubhouse was recently awarded a state historic marker, which will be displayed during the open house.
**March 2018**

**The COASTAL STAR**

**Outdoor Calendar**

*Note: Events are current as of 2/23. Please check with organizers for any changes.*

**March 3**

Saturday - 3/3 - Sand Sifters Beach Clean-Up at Oceanfront Park, 4615 N Ocean Blvd, Ocean Ridge. Meet at pavilion in lower parking lot. Held again 4/7-8:10 am. Free. (offshore30@gmail.com)

**March 3**

**3/3 - Boardwalk Talks at Green Cay Nature Center, 12800 Nagon Ranch Rd, Boynton Beach. Guided tour of wetlands. All ages. Times vary; call for details. Free. 966-7000; gumbolimbo.org**

**March 3**

**3/3 - Team Tours of the March at Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge, 10216 Lee Rd, Boynton Beach. Built/night. M/W/F 11-12 @5am; $5/person. Reservations: 733-0992; loxahatcheenatureevents.com/events/events.shtml**

**March 3**

**3/3 - Outdoor Marine Aquarium Feedings at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. All ages; children must be accompanied by an adult. Daily 12:30 pm. Free. 544-4805; gumbolimbo.org**

**March 3**

**3/3 - Eco-Chat at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Talk about life in the freshwater environments. All ages; children must be accompanied by an adult. Every Sat 1 pm. Free. 544-4805; gumbolimbo.org**

**March 3**

**3/3 - Sea Turtle Talk at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. All ages; children must be accompanied by an adult. Daily 2 pm. Free. 544-4805; gumbolimbo.org**

**MARCH 4-7**

Sunday - 3/4 - Intracoastal Adventures: Kayaking at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Short talks about South Florida’s unique animals/ecosystems. Ages 6-adult; children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Held 10-11:30 am. Free. 544-4805; gumbolimbo.org

Friday - 3/9 - Night Hike at Dania Pier Nature Center, 11455 SE 13th Ave, Dania Beach. Walk through the forest, look for owls, chat about foraging, and a chance to see life in the park after dark. Led by a naturalist. Ages 6-adult; children must be accompanied by an adult. Held again 8pm-9 pm. Free. 544-4805; gumbolimbo.org

Saturday - 3/10 - Birders and Breakfast at Green Cay Nature Center, 12800 Nagon Ranch Rd, Boynton Beach. Coffee, refreshments, 1-hour walking tour with naturalist. Ages 9-9. 5. 51 reservations. 666-7000; gumbolimbo.org

Saturday - 3/10 - Seining the Lagoon at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Explore grasses and flats of the Intracoastal Waterway behind Gumbo Limbo. Participants catch and release a variety of fish, shrimp, crabs, marine life. Wear closed-toe shoes and wear net. No flip-flops or sandals. Old sneakers or water shoes only. Age 10 to adult; children must be accompanied by an adult. Held again 10:30 am to 12 pm. Free. 544-4805; gumbolimbo.org

Saturday - 3/17 - Intracoastal Adventures: Canoeing at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Short talks about South Florida’s unique animals/ecosystems. Ages 6-15; adults must be accompanied by an adult. 10 am to noon. 15 members; 52/ non-member; 544-4805; gumbolimbo.org

**MARCH 11-17**

Thursday - 3/15 - Intracoastal Adventures: Stand Up Paddleboarding at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Cruiser Sailing with Rolls-Royce of the sea! Learn the difference between an insect and a spider. To look for dragonflies, and identify birds, and learn about South Florida’s unique animals/ecosystems. 5. 3 adult; children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Held again 10am-noon 3/15-9:30-11:30 am. 30 members; 52/ non-member. 544-4805; gumbolimbo.org

Sunday - 3/18 - Audubon Everglades Bird Walk & Loxahatchee Wetlands Salmonid Chall

**April 1-7**

Thursday - 4/5 - Early Birding with Al at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Learn about nature and migratory birds from an experienced birder while watching the Ashley Trail and bird watching in search of warblers, sparrow, catchers, woodpeckers, other avian species. Biologist recommended. Meet on the front porch of the nature center. Age 10+. Children must be accompanied by an adult. 9-9.30 am. Free. 544-4805; gumbolimbo.org

**4/5 - US Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 36 Boca Raton meets at Spanish River Park Headquarters, 1939 N Ocean Blvd. 1st Thu 7.30 pm. Free. cguxas.org**

**Hours for the fishing club’s open house are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more details, call the club at 832-6780.**

**Boat shows can sign up for on the water boat handling classes or learn about long-range cruising from experts.**

**Show hours are noon to 7 p.m. March 22; 10 am to 7 p.m. March 23-24, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. March 25.**

**Tickets are $24 for adults and $14 for ages 6-15. Children younger than 6 admitted free. For details, go to www.pbbshow.com.**

**Coming events**

March 6: Boynton Beach Fishing Club meets 7 p.m. in the clubhouse next to the boat ramps, Harvey E. Oyer Jr. Park, 2010 North Federal Highway, Boynton Beach. Fee $25. Register at the door. Call 704-7440.

**March 6**

Basic boating safety class offered by Coast Guard Auxiliary. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the classroom next to the boat ramps, Harvey E. Oyer Jr. Park, 2010 N. Federal Highway, Boynton Beach. Fee $25. Register at the door. Call 704-7440.

**March 6**

Tip of the month: Cellphones can distract boat operators, warns the BoatUS Foundation for Boating Safety & Clean Water. Boats can approach from all directions and can be moving at various speeds in many types of weather. So a few seconds of looking down to read one or a text while operating a boat can be dangerous.

“We have to know how to use them safely,” said Ted Sensenbrenner, a boating safety expert with BoatUS. “If you’re texting from the helm, you're not helming the boat.”

**Jake Eakin shows the 15-pound wahoo he caught just after the full moon while trolling a bonito strip off Boynton Beach.**

**Willie Howard/The Coastal Star**

**Full moon wahoo Off Boynton Beach — Feb. 2**

Friday - 3/22 - Wetlands & Wildlife at Wakodahatchee Wetlands, 1500 Jog Rd, Delray Beach, brings you a guided tour. Bring camera, binoculars. Age 7 to adult; children must be accompanied by an adult. Held again 8:30-10 am. 6-5 pm. Reservations: 544-4805; gumbolimbo.org

**MARCH 25-31**


**Friday - 3/30 - Fishing Fun at Dania Pier Nature Center. 11455 SE 13th Ave, Dania Beach. Bring sunscreen, water bottle, closed-toe shoes that can get wet/muddy. Age 8-10. 5. $10 per includes fishing supplies. RSVP required 629-8760; plimbo.org

**Saturday - 3/31 - Sea Angels Beach Cleanup at Ocean Inlet Park, 6990 N Ocean Blvd, Ocean Ridge. 10 a.m. to 10:30 am. 369-5500; seaangels.org

**APRIL 1-7**

**Thursday - 4/5 - Early Birding with Al at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Learn about nature and migratory birds from an experienced birder while watching the Ashley Trail and bird watching in search of warblers, sparrow, catchers, woodpeckers, other avian species. Biologist recommended. Meet on the front porch of the nature center. Age 10+; children must be accompanied by an adult. 9-9.30 am. Free. 544-4805; gumbolimbo.org

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**HYDRAULIC ISLAND LIVING AT ITS BEST**

**Color page 11**

**COASTAL STAR**

**Willie Howard/The Coastal Star**
Secret Garden

Gardening skills, friendships bloom in JARC plot

Peter Lasman, 62, has watched the garden more than double in size since he started working here a decade ago. Robin Silverman, 67, has just harvested the first strawberry of the season, and she’s happy to show it to you.

Rachael Arbele, 24, has made friends working in the garden and loves it here. And Terry Davis, 63, brings pineapple tops from the group home where she lives to plant in the garden. “We work very, very hard,” she said.

These are a few of the more than a dozen regulars who bring life to the Ability Garden associated with the Jewish Association for Residential Care in Boca Raton. This facility provides independent and assisted living as well as educational programs and services to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

The garden is the handiwork of Kimberli Swann, who started it in 2007. “No matter what your abilities, you are welcome here,” said Swann, the association’s community garden coordinator and supported living coach.

When she began working at JARC, her job included spending time with resident clients doing meaningful activities. “But taking them bowling and to movies and restaurants wasn’t my thing,” she said. She also had clients in a day program that didn’t keep them busy.

Building on her passion for the garden, she decided to create a way to give all her clients something meaningful to do that would teach them new skills and get them out doors. “There was real method to my madness of starting this new project,” she said, smiling.

Today, Swann plans to let the garden to harvest a pocket strawberry she picked. “We change it out here every year. You never know what you are going to find,” said Swann.

If You Go
Where: JARC Community Ability Garden, 21160 95th Ave. S., Boca Raton
When: The garden is open to JARC clients 9 a.m. to noon on Fridays from September through May and by appointment for all others.
What’s needed: Volunteers and donations, whether it’s money, seeds, tools, and so on.
For more information: Contact community garden coordinator Kimberli Swann at 558-2569 (office), 756-0144 (cell), or Garden@jarcfl.org

Today the garden encompasses over 800 square feet and soon will almost double in size. “Every year it gets bigger and bigger as I develop new relationships, find new volunteers and get donations to buy fencing to enclose more land,” she said. She and her clients are proud of the newly installed winding brick pathway among the user-friendly raised beds. “Anyone who is not comfortable bending over can just reach in and garden,” she said, mentioning that the elevated boxes are also wheelchair accessible.

The garden also has new in-ground beds created with the help of volunteers from the Pride Recovery Center in Delray Beach. “They’ve been coming here every other week for two years. Ranging in age from 20 to 40, they do the heavy lifting.”

On the other weeks, older adults from the Polo Club in Boca Raton work one-on-one with clients, introducing newcomers to the planting of crops and working in the soil. These crops include eggplants, broccoli, kale, bananas, tomatoes, onions, scallions and even luffas. It amazes just about everyone who sees them that these sponge-like objects come from a vine, not the sea.

When the garden has enough ripe vegetables, the harvest is given to those who work there and to an onsite café, where kale is a favorite to use in soups.

Today, Swann plans to let staff and clients sample some fresh tomatoes and basil harvested from the garden with fresh mozzarella she got from a cheesemaker who lives near her home.

She and a co-worker also have used the harvest to make eggplant Parmigiana. Banana bread is another culinary project the clients enjoy when a hand of bananas ripens.

And if someone is having a bad day, he or she might visit the garden to harvest a pocket of fragrant lavender leaves, which are touted to have a calming effect.

Swann wants nothing more than to grow her garden so it can become a bigger focal point in her clients’ lives. She raises funds and works with local stores to get donations. This year she hopes to add a seating area and barbecue grill so the clients will have a place to gather for social and educational events.

“We change it out here every year. You never know what you are going to find,” said Swann.

You can reach Deborah S. Hartz-Seeley at debhartz@ att.net.
Ocean Ridge Garden Club estate sale

Town Hall, Ocean Ridge — Feb. 17

Dedicated estate sale volunteers worked tirelessly to pull off another successful fundraising event. Many club members offered their time on multiple days and donated money and sale items to the annual sale. As a result of their efforts, the sale raised $3,540. Of that amount, $147 was from the sale of baked goods and bottled water and $189 from costume jewelry sales. ABOVE: Estate sale chairperson Lisa Ritota (third from right) with her team of volunteers.
Yoga enthusiasts find inspiration, humor in flexible felines

Now here’s a first: performing a downward-facing dog pose in a yoga class with a kitten. Ah, namaste and please stay, kitty.

Yoga has been practiced for more than 5,000 years. For centuries, the focus has been providing healthy stretches and poses for people. Typically, students quietly shuffle into an enclosed room, unroll their yoga mats, remove their shoes and do their best for the next hour or so to focus on mindful breathing, purposeful stretches and being in the present moment.

In recent years, yoga has expanded to include dogs and even goats in some classes across the country. Now, the hottest trend is to pair up with flexible felines.

“This is by far the funniest class I’ve ever taught and each time, the antics of the kittens bring smiles to everyone,” says Cora Ciaffone, a certified yoga teacher and certified dog trainer who has teamed up with the Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League to conduct kitten yoga classes at its satellite location in West Palm Beach. She also conducts yoga classes that welcome people and their well-managed dogs throughout the county.

“During the kitten classes, a curious feline has crawled into a T-shirt of a student and their mats, we release theANKS. ‘Our dogs and cats are definitely our health advocates,’” she says. “There is no doubt in my mind that they heal. They show us how to be present, give unconditional love and compassion.”

Ciaffone credits her two cats, Luna Stardust and Jackson Galaxy, a pair of shelter rescues, with helping her heal from a divorce and heart surgery. “I am so convinced that they have helped heal me emotionally, physically and spiritually,” she says. “I now feel so happy and so whole.”

Whether you plan to take a yoga class with a kitten or dog or simply spend one-on-one time with your pet inside your home, Ciaffone encourages you to study and mimic the movements they make.

“Instead of jumping out of bed when the alarm rings, be like a dog or a cat and take a few moments to do a full body stretch,” suggests Ciaffone. “Lie on your back and gently rotate your head one way and your body the other way. Then sit up and live in the moment. Take a deep breath in and let it out slowly.”

In her dog/people yoga classes, Ciaffone uses lavender oil, which acts as a natural calmier for the two- and four-legged students. She conducts dog yoga classes inside and outside, weather permitting.

So when it comes to being natural yoga instructors, which species is better, cats or dogs? “I would have to say dogs simply because when I put their people in the last pose of class, a pose of stillness called savasana — their dogs often lie down next to them and be calm or even fall asleep,” says Ciaffone. “The kittens will roam around and even walk on people. After all, they are young, active kittens.”

Ah, namaste and good stay, kitty and doggy.

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Finding Faith

Scholar tries to show better way to be Christian

They are age-old questions: Who treats the doctor? Who cuts the barber’s hair?

And who pastors the pastor?

People like Brian McLaren do.

McLaren is the best-selling author of 15 books on faith and Christianity, and these days, the contemporary Christian scholar is an in-demand public speaker who spends between 90 and 100 nights on the road every year.

One of those nights will be spent in Palm Beach County when a speaking engagement brings McLaren to St. Joseph’s Episcopal Church in Boynton Beach on March 14.

McLaren is calling from the road after speaking in Atlanta and Nashville. He’s heading to his home base in Marco Island.

“Christianity is changing,” McLaren says.

Not that it was ever static.

There are more than 300 religions and at least three dozen Christian denominations in the United States, including people who believe in one God and people who believe in many. Some even believe in something the rest of us wouldn’t call God at all.

Statistically, according to a 2016 Gallup poll, 89 percent of adults wouldn’t call God at all.

Statistically, according to a 2016 Gallup poll, 89 percent of adults wouldn’t call God at all.

Religion is about connecting people with God. says Wendy Tobias, a priest at St. Joe’s. She says religion means to “re-ligament yourself” to the Lord. Scholars such as Tom Harpur and Joseph Campbell support her conclusion. They say religion is rooted in the Latin word ‘ligare,’ meaning to bind or connect, plus “re,” meaning again. People do want to connect, but religion has become so complicated, with so many opinions, people aren’t sure what to believe.

For people who think Christianity’s brand is tarnished and old — an outdated, antiquated mythology — McLaren says to look deeper.

If You Go

Brian McLaren will speak to the congregation about his book, The Great Spiritual Migration at 6 p.m. March 14 at St. Joseph’s Episcopal Church, 3300 S. Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach. Call 732-3060.

Is love outdated? Is forgiveness a myth?

Tobias has been teaching a course for Lent following a lesson plan developed by McLaren to go with his most recent book, The Great Spiritual Migration: How the World’s Largest Religion Is Seeking a Better Way to Be Christian. The four-week course, called A Way of Life, has been the subject of small group meetings at the church and is designed to help people find God in their everyday lives.

Lots of people are searching for answers, but most don’t even know what they really want from life, McLaren says. They catch their desires like the flu from the people they spend time with. Instead of religion and the church becoming the source of their moral codes or life goals, people are looking to their neighbors and peers.

“Religion should help people have healthy desires, help people think about and choose desires that are good,” McLaren says. It’s not about a newer car, or a bigger house. Those things may impress humans, but they don’t impress God.

McLaren says whatever we choose to focus on in life will grow the more attention we give it. If you focus on the negative — what your kid is doing wrong or how incompetent your boss is — those things will grow, eating up larger and larger parts of your time and your assets.

“The job of the church is to teach love,” McLaren says, specifically “the skills to differ gracefully. We must teach the skills of civility, and say no to negativity.” If solutions begin with defining the problem, we have to be able to communicate to do that.

McLaren says, “It comes down to this: Ask yourself, ‘What kind of world do I want to live in?’ In the New Testament, Paul said, ‘Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.’”

What are we sowing?

Janis Fontaine writes about people of faith, their congregations, causes and community events.

Contact her at janisfontaine@outlook.com.
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**Religion Notes**

**St. Paul’s marks 30 years of music**

Music at St. Paul’s will celebrate its 30th season with a performance of J.S. Bach’s *Art of the Fugue* and an anniversary gala reception at 3 p.m. March 18 at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 188 S. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach.

Paul Cienniwa and Michael Bahmann will perform with harpsichords. A reception will follow.

“Music is an outreach,” Cienniwa said. “It's a gateway drug to bring people to church. Music can touch people who aren't religious. It's a spiritual experience.”

Tickets are $20 (suggested donation) at the door. Admission is free for ages 18 and younger. For more information, call 276-4541 or visit www.stpaulsdelray.org.

**Religious Notes**

Bread and wine will be served at the annual Celebration of the Eucharist at 10 a.m. March 11 at St. Mark Catholic Church, 112 S. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach.

The event will begin with a fire ceremony, followed by a rite of welcoming, celebration of the Word, and a eucharist with the consecration of the bread and wine.

**On the horizon**

- **March 11**
  - *The Nominating Committee*: A special congregational meeting will begin at 11 a.m. at St. Mark Catholic Church, 112 S. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach.
  - *Interfaith Café*: A conversation about race and culture will be held. The interfaith café meets the third Thursday of each month, and volunteers are needed to assist with a variety of duties to keep this program going. For more information or to volunteer, email Jane@aurorasvoice.org.
  - *First Presbyterian Church*: A conversation at 6:30 p.m. will be held at 1960 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach.
  - *First Presbyterian Church*: A special congregational meeting will be held. For more information, call 276-6368 or visit www.firstdelray.com.

- **March 20**
  - *St. Mark Catholic Church*: Drive Your Car Day will be held. For more information, call 732-1416 or 512-6407.
  - *Barrel of Monks*: A meeting of the Barrel of Monks will be held at 7 p.m. March 6 (and the first Tuesday of the month) at the Biergarten, 309 Via De Palmas, Boca Raton.
  - *Interfaith Café*: A conversation at 6:30 at the café will be held. The interfaith café meets the third Thursday of each month, and volunteers are needed to assist with a variety of duties to keep this program going. For more information or to volunteer, email Jane@aurorasvoice.org.

**Lower your car insurance**

St. Mark Catholic Church will host a course for older adults, Coaching the Mature Driver, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 21. The class, which can help drivers reduce insurance costs, will be in the St. Clare Room at the church, 643 St. Mark Place, Boynton Beach. The cost is $15. Bring a check payable to DOTS, lunch and a beverage. To register, call Barbara at 732-1416 or 512-6407.

**Ongoing programs**

- **Beer, Conversation & Good: Pub Theology**
  - Theological discussion from 7 p.m. March 6 (and the first Tuesday of each month) at the Biergarten, 309 Via De Palmas, No. 90, Boca Raton.
  - Theological discussion from 7 p.m. March 15 (and the third Thursday of each month) at the Biergarten, 309 Via De Palmas, No. 90, Boca Raton.

- **Interfaith Café**: Join the theological discussion from 7 to 9 p.m. March 15 at South County Civic Center, 16700 Jog Road, Delray Beach. Light refreshments will be served. The meeting is free, but donations are appreciated. The Interfaith Café meets the third Thursday of the month, and volunteers are needed to assist with a variety of duties to keep this program going. For more information or to volunteer, email Jane@aurorasvoice.org.

Contact Janis Fontaine at janisfontaine@outlook.com.

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**Paul Cienniwa will play Bach’s *Art of the Fugue* on the harpsichord at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church. Photo provided**

The game isn't a competition. Instead, it encourages and assists people in talking in a nontoxic manner, and to have safe and sage conversations. Sometimes the smartest answer is "I don't know," and the game provides a non-judgmental place to say it. The game is appropriate for preteens through senior citizens, although there is a separate kids' version. Dinner is a light potluck supper at 6 p.m. followed by conversation at 6:30 at the church at 1960 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. Call 276-6347 to sign up.

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**Candidate introduction**

The nominating committee at First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach will present its candidate for associate pastor to the congregation at 11 a.m. March 11 at the church, 33 Gleason St., Delray Beach. A special congregational meeting will follow. For more information, call 276-6338 or visit www.firstdelray.com.

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**Run or walk to fight hunger**

St. Mark Catholic Church of Boynton Beach will be among the congregations to sponsor teams when the Community Caring Center of Greater Boynton Beach hosts its annual Hunger Walk/SK on March 10 at Ocean Avenue Amphitheater, 129 E. Ocean Ave., Boynton Beach.

The walk starts at 10:30 a.m. and travels about a mile and a half to the beach and back. Last-minute registration for the walk is free, but a suggested donation of $20 or nonperishable canned food items is suggested at registration, which begins 9:30 a.m. Teams and runners should register at www.cccgbb.org.

**Scholarship program**

St. Mark Catholic Church’s Council of Catholic Women will hold a bake sale on March 10 and 11 and an Easter plant sale on March 17 and 18 to raise money for its scholarship program.

Female students planning to attend Catholic high schools can apply for a scholarship by April 1. Applications are available in the church office. Call 734-9330.

**A conversation about race**

On Feb. 21, the Church Council of Catholic Women of Greater Delray Beach will be among leaders use a board game called “Breaking It Down: Towards E Pluribus Unum,” developed by the National Center for Race Amity and released by WHS Media Productions. The game is designed to create a safe space to learn about and discuss issues of race and race amity.

The w game isn’t a competition. Instead, it encourages and assists people in talking in a nontoxic manner, and to have safe and sage conversations. Sometimes the smartest answer is “I don’t know,” and the game provides a non-judgmental place to say it. The game is appropriate for preteens through senior citizens, although there is a separate kids’ version. Dinner is a light potluck supper at 6 p.m. followed by conversation at 6:30 at the church at 1960 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. Call 276-6347 to sign up.

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  - Theological discussion from 7 p.m. March 6 (and the first Tuesday of each month) at the Biergarten, 309 Via De Palmas, No. 90, Boca Raton.
  - Theological discussion from 7 p.m. March 15 (and the third Thursday of each month) at Barrel of Monks, 1141 S. Rogers Circle, No. 5, Boca Raton.

- **Interfaith Café**: Join the theological discussion from 7 to 9 p.m. March 15 at South County Civic Center, 16700 Jog Road, Delray Beach. Light refreshments will be served. The meeting is free, but donations are appreciated. The Interfaith Café meets the third Thursday of the month, and volunteers are needed to assist with a variety of duties to keep this program going. For more information or to volunteer, email Jane@aurorasvoice.org.

Contact Janis Fontaine at janisfontaine@outlook.com.
Religion Calendar

MARCH 3 - Saturday - 3/3 - Easter Sunrise Services
- Check with organizers for any changes.
- Note: Events are current as of 2/23. Please

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICES
- 4/1 - Community Sunrise Service at Drummond Park, 6415 N Ocean Blvd, Ocean Ridge. Sponsored by area churches & clergym. 6:30 am. Free. 732-3435, fumcb.com
- 4/1 - Easter Sunrise Service at Knoller Park, 2082 5 Ocean Blvd, Lake Worth. 6:30 am. Free. 582-4100, sbcl.org
- 4/1 - Interfaith Sunrise Service at Delray Beach Pantheon, Atlantic Ave at N. Offered by Delray Beach Interfaith Clergy Association. Bring chair/blanket. 6:30-7:30 am. Free. 276-6543, downtowndelraybeach.com

MARCH 4-10
- Sunday - 3/4 - Latin Mass at Holy Spirit Catholic Church, 1000 N. Free. 585-5970, stmarkboynton.com
- Monday - 3/5 - Women’s Bible Study at Ascension Church, 7250 N Federal Hwy, Boynton Beach. Continental breakfast/lunch included. 9 am-3 pm. $25. 734-9330, stmarkbyton.com
- 3/5 - Catholic Grandparents Meeting at Ascension Church, 7250 N Federal Hwy, Boynton Beach. All ages. Sat 10:30 am. Free. 269-2640, diocesepb.org

MARCH 4-10
- Sunday - 3/4 - 7:30 am. Free. 772-5512; stmarkbyton.org
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By Willie Howard

Dakota Konrad, an eighth-grade student at Gulf Stream School, said her father — former Miami Dolphins fullback Rob Konrad — has always been a determined person.

In her eighth-grade speech, delivered with accompanying photos in a school chapel filled with her classmates and teachers, Dakota also said her father is tough and tenacious. He recovered from knee injuries and trained hard enough to become a pro football player. Konrad was drafted by the Dolphins in 1999 and played fullback for them until 2004.

In her speech, titled "Just Keep Swimming," Dakota said her father has always taught her and her sister never to give up if they want to achieve something. Circumstances forced Konrad to prove just how determined he was on Jan. 7, 2015 — the day he decided to do some fishing by himself while running his 31-foot Grady-White boat along the coast of Palm Beach County for a routine trip to the shop.

The ocean was rough that day. He had the boat steering on autopilot when a fish hit and Konrad moved to the stern to fight the fish.

As he was reeling the fish in, a wave rocked the boat and Konrad fell overboard, still holding the rod with the fish attached. He was about 9 miles off the coast and not wearing a life jacket. His boat kept going, headed east on autopilot.

Konrad, then 38, tried to chase the boat at first, then decided to swim west toward land. With sea surface temperatures in the low 70s, ocean water was sapping his body heat and energy.

"My dad started swimming toward the setting sun," said Dakota, dressed in a No. 44 football jersey, the number her father wore for the Dolphins. "Since my dad kept swimming, each stroke was heating up his body.

At home, nobody suspected anything was wrong until Konrad didn't return that evening. The Coast Guard initiated a search. Dakota said she and her sister remember seeing their mother crying on the phone.

Meanwhile, Konrad was swimming in the dark. Jellyfish stung him. A shark circled him. He saw lights from a Coast Guard helicopter, but they didn't see him in the waves, Dakota said.

Konrad just kept swimming, alternating between breaststroke and backstroke, headed toward lights along the coast. Dressed only in his underwear, Konrad pulled himself onto the beach in Palm Beach and rang the doorbell at the nearest home he could find.

It was 4:40 a.m. and he had been swimming for 16 hours, a feat so impressive that skeptics didn't believe his story at first. A security guard was patrolling the oceanfront home where Konrad finally came ashore. The guard saw Konrad approaching the house and called police. Konrad was missing because the Coast Guard had been searching for him. They wrapped him in a blanket and drove him to Good Samaritan Medical Center in West Palm Beach.

His boat was found near Deadman's Reef, a snorkeling spot near Freeport on Grand Bahama Island. Dakota said her father told them he focused on her and her younger sister, Brooke, who were 10 and 8 at the time, to give him the strength to reach land. "He told us we were the reasons he made it home," Dakota said.

Konrad's ocean experience drove home a key message in his daughter's speech: "You can absolutely do anything if you put your mind to it," she said. "I will live by this motto for the rest of my life.

Dakota's speech resonated with every student, parent and teacher in the chapel that day," said Mari Bianco, Dakota's English teacher. "Students couldn't imagine losing their parents. Parents couldn't imagine not fighting to reunite with their children." Konrad, who grew up fishing and boating off the coast of Massachusetts and lives in Boynton Beach, still takes his family boating, both in Florida and in Cape Cod during the summer. As a precaution, Konrad said, he wears an electronic kill switch that would shut off the boat's engines if he were to fall out again.

Dakota Konrad hugs her father, Rob, a former Miami Dolphin, after giving a speech about how he survived a boating accident. Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star
MARCH 3

Saturday - 3/7 - Diaper League Sports at Pompano Park, 101 W 2nd St, Delray Beach. Fundamentals of Movement & Play designed to build confidence & readiness in young children with the aid of a structured coaching staff in a fun sports environment. Ages 2-3. All: $45. Age 0-3 must be accompanied by an adult. Every Saturday. Registration: 266-0197; myboca.us/957/Library

3/7 - Salsa Dance Lessons at Patch Reef Park Tennis Center, 2000 Yamato Rd, Boynton Beach. Basic Salsa and West Coast Salsa. Adult classes. Every Saturday. Registration: 742-6645; boynton-beach.org

3/7 - Eyes to the Skies at Sugar Sand Park, 5035 Military Tr, Boca Raton. View the stars in our 16-inch Meade LX Schmidt-Cassegrain telescope with professional staff. Meet at visitor education center. Ages 9-12. 7:30-9:30 pm. Free. 347-3912; schoolhousemuseum.org

3/7 - Sensational Story Time at South Florida Science Center & Aquarium, 4801 Deering Bay Dr, West Kendall. Worms, spiders, insects and other creepy-crawlies. Every Tuesday. 11-11:30 am. Free. 924-5626; schoolhousemuseum.org

3/7 - Boys & Girls Clubs of Boca/Raton at Kids Harbor/Community Center, 2000 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. Free event for boys and girls ages 5-12. 9-11 am, ages 5-10 and 11-12, respectively. Free. 367-3975; kidsboca.org

MARCH 4

Sunday - 3/4 - Annual Walk for the Arts at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. All: $10. Registration: 447-8829; mydelraybeach.com

March 2018

The COASTAL STAR

Tots & Teens Calendar

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**Spring Break Camp**

- **Spring Break Sea Zoo at Palm Beach Zoo**, 100 Zoo Ave, West Palm Beach. Animal encounters, tours, projects. Camps ages 5-8. 8:30 am-3:45 pm. $230/member; $260/nonmember; lunch (optional) $45. 444-6000; www.pbczoo.com; Monday - Friday, 2/19-2/23.

- **10th Annual Ocean Adventure Sea Camp at Reef Return**, 3500 S Military Tr., Boca Raton. Marine biologist experiences hands-on approach to marine science while learning about new technology with live animals. Grades 2-8. 8:30 am-3:30 pm. $425/resident; 500 non-resident. 444-6445; boynton-beach.org Wednesday - Saturday, 2/21-2/24.


**March 25-31**

- **Mardi Gras: Meet the Animals at the Fauve Nature Center**, 12800 Hagen Ranch Rd, Boynton Beach. Contact with the conduc- tors; music and mental gymnastics; different music creatively taught. $30 a day. Week (ages 3-5). Fri-Sun 9 am-12:30 pm; Sat-Sun 9 am-12:30 pm. $36/day; free/child. Reservations: 742-6640; boynton-beach.org

- **1/9 - Spring Break Camp at Sugar Sand Park**, 300 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. Experience the nates nature through stories, songs, finger play, nature crafts, wildlife, crafts; all kids explore a day at the museum including pizza dinner and continental breakfast. Age 6 to 7. 8:30 am-1:30 pm. 3/26. 332-6887; pbcnature.com; fun/overnight fee due to instructor at first class; $180/week per participant.

- **17/18 - Wheres the Wild Things How Family Picnic** at Palm Beach Zoo, 100 S Military Tr, West Palm Beach. Free. 10 am-1 pm. 3/3. 334-8383; pbczoo.org/family/overnight fees.

- **18/19 - Spring Break Camp at Sunrise Nature Center** at Sugar Sand Park Field House, 300 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. Kids explore, experience; integrated presentation. 11:30 am-3 pm. 3/23-31. 367-7037; myboca.us

- **3/21 - Animal Keeper for a Day at Green Cay Nature Center & Botanical Gardens**, Boynton Beach. Kids may get to enjoy an animal on 10 am-12:30 pm. RSVP: 970-7667-0033; Explorium, 300 S Military Tr, Boca Raton.

**March 29-31**

- **2/24 - Meet the Orchestra: The Symphonia at the Kravis Center** for the Performing Arts, 701 Okeechobee Blvd, West Palm Beach. Free. $10/child. 9 am-12:30 pm. 3/24.

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A beachside delight in Delray Beach

Built in 2014 by Dovetail Construction, this impeccably maintained four-bedroom, 4½-bath pool home on Vista Del Mar in Delray Beach presents an open floor plan concept, highlighted by clean lines and quality craftsmanship. Architect Roger Cope detailed an easy beachside living home, complete with oak flooring and plantation shutters throughout. A chef’s kitchen extraordinaire with nearby formal dining room and living room and a first-floor master bedroom suite (his and hers master baths with a shared steam shower) all have access to the lanai.

The outdoor entertaining area has a summer kitchen, and the easy-to-maintain grounds have an inviting pool with twin waterfalls and an adjustable-lighting color package. It is surrounded by travertine patio decking. The driveway to the home also features the travertine pavers. The home’s garage has a lift to accommodate an additional vehicle.

Upstairs there are three en suite bedrooms all opening up to the balcony.

Each floor has its own laundry facilities with porcelain flooring. For added convenience are second-floor refrigeration, microwave and sink, and safes in all the bedrooms.

Offered at $2,950,000. Holly B. Thom and Michael J. Thom, broker-sales at The Corcoran Group, 561-278-0433. Holly.thom@corcoran.com, mobile: 561-252-3731 or Michael.thom@corcoran.com, mobile: 561-716-3381.
Art of Living
sothebyshomes.com/palmbeach

Relaxing Lifestyle on Hypoluxo Island | $2,399,000 · Patricia Towle 561.468.9956 · Kourtney Pulitzer 561.722.1745

Ultimate Oceanfront Penthouse | $2,700,000 · ultimateoceanfrontpenthouse.com · Fern Podiman 954.400.5624

Ocean to Lake Penthouse | $3,200,000 · Sothebyshomes.com/9077504 · Denise Segraves 561.762.3100

Hypoluxo Island Waterfront | $2,295,000 · Sothebyshomes.com/90770579 · Patricia Towle 561.468.9956 · Kourtney Pulitzer 561.722.1745

Vallencay’s Tower East Unit | $1,995,000 · Sothebyshomes.com/9077568 · Denise Segraves 561.762.3100

Contemporary Oceanfront Oasis | $1,350,000 · BeachfrontOasis.com · Maryann Chopp 561.381.1277

Beach Point with Private Fenced Yard | $958,900 · Beachpoint105S.com · Karen Lehrman Prayias 561.602.7051

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