Deborah Sargeant (left) and Megan Huisinga, co-chairs of this year’s Women of Grace Luncheon, share a light moment while on a tour of the pediatrics wing of Bethesda Memorial Hospital. Photo by Jerry Lower

Ten Years of Giving Thanks

By Mary Thurwachter

Deborah Sargeant’s mind races at 2 a.m. That’s when she does her best thinking, she says, and lately her nocturnal thoughts have to do with plans for the Women of Grace Luncheon.

She may have an idea about an ad, or a sponsor, or an item for the silent auction. Sometimes, she’ll reach for her Blackberry and text Megan Huisinga, her co-chair for the Oct. 29 event to benefit Bethesda Hospital’s Women and Children Services, primarily to support the creation and renovation of a new, state-of-the-art maternity unit.

Megan has burned the midnight oil many nights in editing a holiday cookbook to be used as a party favor for those at the luncheon’s VIP tables. The books also will be sold at

See GRACE on page 16

Along the Coast

Just whose beach is it?

By Kelly Wolfe

It’s a typical summer afternoon in paradise. A large, black cloud hangs low over the Ocean Ridge beach and the air is so muggy, a short walk results in impressive sweat stains.

No wonder the only figure on the sand is Jim McCracken, 61, of Michigan, who’s “just passing through.”

“Nope,” he answers, when asked if he knew there was a line on Florida’s beaches delineating the public from the private.

Did he know he might be standing on private property? McCracken shrugged. “I have no idea.”

That’s the problem, said Ericka D’Avanzo, Florida regional manager for the Surfrider Foundation.

According to state statutes, the only guaranteed public part of the beach is below the average high-tide mark — the compact part of the sand closest to the water. Anything above may be private, except at parks.

But, like McCracken, few visitors know that. For example, D’Avanzo said, beachgoers in the Panhandle were recently arrested on a private beach. They were told to move along, but thought all the beach in Florida was public — a common misconception.

See BEACH on page 5
With a little help from our friends

It takes a village to raise a newspaper — or at least to open a newspaper office! We couldn’t have done it without all of our friends who contributed their time and effort toward making this move a reality. As of this edition, we are publishing from 5011 N. Ocean Ave. in Ocean Ridge.

Thank you!

And it takes a whole bunch of talented journalists to put out an award-winning publication. Our latest accolades are from the Florida Press Club and confirm what we already knew: We needed you. “You make my every Thursday a better day,” wrote one child. “You change their thoughts, their behavior. It works on everybody,” said Alexandra, 63. While she has no children of her own, every week Alexandra would work with 300 children at 16 schools across the county. “I had five classes of autistic children in middle school. When the class was done, some of the children applauded,” Alexander said.

Kline substitute teaches on occasion and recalled the day Alexandra walked into her classroom. “When she came in, the kids were wild and woody. And when she left, they were so calm. It is an amazing program.”

Unfortunately, budget problems prompted school district officials to cancel the program this summer and Alexandra now works as a pre-K facilitator, a task she says doesn’t take full advantage of her musical skills. Alexandra earned a master’s degree in music education from the University of Colorado, a master’s degree in music therapy from Florida State University, and an Ed.D. in early childhood education from the University of Florida. She has no children of her own, every week Alexandra would work with 300 children at 16 schools across the county. “I had five classes of autistic children in middle school. When the class was done, some of the children applauded,” Alexander said.

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Thieves use distraction to spirit away wallets

By Stephanie Slater

Seconds. That’s how long it takes for someone to steal your purse or wallet.

Days, months, years. That’s how long you’ll be dealing with creditors and banks when the thieves use your credit cards or steal your identity.

It all begins when you become distracted. They might ask you for directions while you’re loading items into your car. Or stop you in the grocery store and ask you about an item on a shelf. Others have even faked medical conditions.

Some will follow you around a store, waiting for the moment when you turn away from the cart, leaving your purse unattended. That’s when they reach in and swipe your wallet.

You probably won’t notice your credit cards are gone until you get to the cash register. No matter what the technique, these thieves are counting on you to become distracted. They always will be polite and take advantage of your willingness to help others. And they prey on senior citizens.

There are many ways you can protect yourself from becoming a victim of distraction theft.

• Use purses that have a zipper or locking flap. Keep those closed when not using your purse and carry your purse close to your body.

• Consider not carrying a purse. Put credit cards and cash into a wallet that can fit inside your front pants pocket. Never carry your wallet in your rear pants pocket without a chain or button to secure it.

• If someone you don’t know asks you a question, be sure to hold on to your purse.

• Beware of arguments and commotions in crowded areas. Thieves may stage these incidents to distract you while they pick your pocket.

• If you are unnecessarily bumped or crowded, be aware that a pickpocket might be responsible and immediately check your valuables.

Following these tips can help you avoid becoming a victim. But if someone does steal your purse or pick your pocket, call police as soon as possible.

Stephanie Slater is the public information officer for the Boynton Beach Police Department. For more crime prevention tips, visit www.bbpd.org.
**The ebb and flow of businesses in downtown Delray**

**By Thom Smith**

Signs of the times. Signs because of the times. Signs in spite of the times.

Despite all the economic doom speak, Delray maintains its All-American City attitude. Oh sure, shops, restaurants and businesses are closing, but it seems that no sooner does one owner lock up than another is waiting with a new key.

“We can’t just sit back and wait,” said Francis Taboul, as he surveyed renovations at La Cigale on South Federal. “We have to take this as an opportunity to make our place more appealing.”

Taboul has moved the entrance and added a dining room to his “very healthy” Mediterranean eatery, and this only months after opening Atlantic Cafe, his breakfast- and lunch-only bistro/bakery in Atlantic Plaza next to the Intracoastal.

To witness entrepreneurial enthusiasm at its best, talk to Pauline Smith. She and husband Tom are about to open Marley’s Island Time Grill at 800 Palm Trail, No. 5, just off George Bush Boulevard, where the Smiths took over what used to be the Pineapple Grille.

“We’ll have Caribbean and tropical food,” Pauline said. Originally from Jamaica by way of New York, they decided after a couple of years in Delray to attempt their first restaurant.

A block west, however, the Snappy Turtle Outlet and Thrift is gone, but a few doors inland, the Sail Inn, one of the all-time great dives, recently celebrated its 56th year. Good beer, good darts, good vibe, even if you’re not a Yankees fan.

The yin to Sail Inn’s yang, Boston’s on the Beach will celebrate 30 years in a few weeks. World Series or not, the party level will be high, and only slightly dampened if the Sox shouldn’t make it past the Bronx Bombers. It’s hard to fault a joint that offers all Boston games on the tube, thrown-in fresh steamed clams, whole (with the bellies) fried clams and a cheese steak sandwich called the “Big Papi.”

Beachside Boston’s could provide some home away from home comfort for one newly arrived Bostonian, but for the moment, William Sander is busy reading his Seagate Hotel and Spa for an early November opening. A major task for Sander, former general manager at 15 Sander, was getting a staff, but for him the slouching economy has been blessing. He arrived at work on the first day of a job fair in early September to find a line stretching around the corner. With available positions, an estimated 1,200 to 1,500 hopefuls turned out.

“It’s really bittersweet,” Sander said, “because we’re seeing people come through who are our peers or we’ve known in the industry and have lost jobs. But it’s a plus, too, because we can really get the best.”

Billed as a boutique hotel despite 162 rooms, the Seagate is tied to the rebuilt Seagate Beach Club at the south end of Delray’s public beach. Adam Gottlieb, executive chef at the Beach Club, will oversee the food operation at both spots.

In these tough times, many beachfront hotels are doing what they can to wash away the tide. Some are cutting back, some are innovating and some are doing both.

Still building steam after a major renovation, The Ritz-Carlton Palm Beach has closed Angle, its fine dining restaurant, electing to emphasize its Temple Orange ocean-view eatery and Breeze, the Caribbean-influenced in-outdoor café.

As part of its renovation, the Ritz put a little sole into its Presidential Suite: a shoe wall, featuring displays of footwear created by Miami designer Robert Tabor to capture the essence of such first ladies as Hillary Clinton, Betty Ford, Evita Perón, Imelda Marcos, Margaret Thatcher, Marie Antoinette, Princess Diana and Queen Elizabeth.

As homage to the “Big Papi,” the Michelle Obama shoe. Described as a sleeveless style silhouette of lemongrass-colored lace with a velvet and jeweled bow, a heel resembling a White House column, with a first family photo, finished with a red, white and blue ribbon and an Obama ‘08 campaign button on the heel.

The Ritz hopes to arrange a tour with the Obama shoe and others, proceeds going to the Literacy Coalition, and will try luck, to lure the first lady to Manalapan to check out the shoe wall first hand.

Not all the hotel restaurant news is bad, however. The Seacrest Grill at the Delray Marriott has become a dining destination and peers in the industry are taking notice of Executive Chef Adam Savage. In September he appeared at the Epcot Food & Wine Festival, and on Dec. 3 he’s been invited to display his talents at Nirvana for chefs— the James Beard House in New York.

Pic out for a cause. More than 30 restaurants and food vendors will show their stuff Oct. 9 for the American Lung Association at the Lake Worth Food & Wine Experience 2009. Grand Wine Meister Greg Raley will offer the opening toast at 7 p.m., in the Lake Worth Cultural Plaza. Total Wine will provide the wine. Ketel One the vodka ice bar. Food will come from the likes of Ill Forks, Brogues, Island Jack’s, John G’s, Bull Ball, Soito’s City Oyster, 251 Palm Beach, GO! Couch, and others,

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Food So Good, People Will Wait for a Table!

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**Thom Smith** is a freelance writer. He can be reached at thomsmith@hotmail.com.
BEACH:

Continued from page 1

At the Ritz-Carlton in Naples, resort guests were given wristbands to wear. Police monitored the beach for naked wrists. “Our police are not supposed to be working for individuals to keep other individuals off our public beaches,” D’Avanzo said. “That’s not what our money should be spent on.”

D’Avanzo said the Surfrider Foundation wants the state Department of Environmental Protection to say what’s private and what’s public.

A request to interview a beach specialist at the DEP was ignored, but a spokesman issued a statement reiterating the high-tide mark rule.

But that’s not enough, D’Avanzo said. “We have people putting up signage, roping off the beaches, putting up [signs citing] statutes that don’t even exist, building a structure where it’s very difficult to climb over. Those are some of the issues we deal with on a daily basis.”

Last year, D’Avanzo worked with state Rep. Maria Sachs, D-Delray Beach, on a beach access bill, but it died in the Senate in March.

Now, the only way to know for sure if you are standing on private property is to look at a deed, said Ocean Ridge Town Commissioner Terry Brown. And the owner would have to enforce the rule.

“The property owner would have to run out and give a warning,” Brown said. If the trespasser didn’t leave, then the property owner could call the police, he said. Plus, Brown said, even if beach property is privately owned, it is still subject to reasonable regulation. “For example, it might belong to you, but you can’t build a building on it, you can’t park a car on it.”

So, who’s to say you can’t keep the public off it? “Our goal is a no net loss,” D’Avanzo said. “We want to preserve what we have before we lose anymore.”

What is public/private?

In Florida, the part of the beach falling landward of the mean high water mark is typically owned by the owner of the adjacent lot. The only publicly owned part of the beach is that part falling between the mean high and low water lines: the foreshore region. However, while beachfront property owners in Florida generally have title to the dry sand beach down to the average high tide line, ownership of this property does not necessarily mean that the exclusion-of-others stick is within the bundle of rights attached to this part of the property.

Title to any property may be subject to explicit or implied easements, limitations based on traditional right of use, or common law prohibitions of activities considered nuisances.

— Florida Bar Journal, June 2009

A temporary sign on the beach in front of the Ritz-Carlton Palm Beach directed people away from the shore on Labor Day weekend. Photo by Jerry Lower
By Nirvi Shah

The future of the old Boynton Beach high school could be in city residents’ hands next March, when voters will decide whether to spend money on its restoration.

Boynton Mayor Jerry Taylor said the vote will finally settle the issue of saving or demolishing the 30,000-square-foot building, which opened in 1926.

Taylor has repeatedly balked at the idea of preserving the structure.

But in the middle of a recession, preservationists fear asking voters to pay for renovations, which could seal the fate of the beleaguered building.

At a city meeting in September, commissioners were hard-pressed to keep the measure off the ballot, because they had already approved asking voters to decide whether Boynton should build a new police station. Only Commissioner Jose Rodriguez opposed the measure to put the high school project on the ballot, too.

The city doesn’t have money for either project.

Some estimates say it would cost as much as $8 million to restore the old school.

Taylor said a small but vocal group has insisted for years that the entire city wants to save the building.

“Now we’re giving them a chance,” he said.

But the timing is off, say those who support the school.

“You’re talking about one of the worst economic times that most living human beings are aware of,” Brian Edwards told the City Commission. Edwards is on the board of the Children’s Schoolhouse Museum. That facility is on the National Register of Historic Places and is next door to the high school on Ocean Avenue.

“Why in the world would you set the old high school up for failure? Because that’s exactly what you’re going to do,” Edwards told the commission.

Commissioners still have to approve the ballot language. The wording has to be finalized by December.

In the meantime, the commission will also discuss proposals to build a new police station and city hall. One of the four proposals includes suggestions for the school.

“We do not have that much left of our history,” said Barbara Ready, chairwoman of Save the Boynton Old School Space, who is organizing a petition drive to save the school.

She and others note the school was designed by William Manly King, architect of what is now the Dreyfoos School of the Arts in West Palm Beach and other school district buildings built in the 1920s and ’30s.

Some envision the old school becoming a rental facility for events, office space, a restaurant and community center.

“The high school is an existing asset,” Ready said. “Figure out what the community wants in that building. Breathe some life into that downtown.”

By Mary Kate Leming

Friends and members of Save the Boynton Old School Space gather on the lawn outside the old high school building as they begin organizing a petition drive to save the school.

Photo by Mary Kate Leming
Manalapan

Past resident facing federal Ponzi-scheme prosecution

By Thomas R. Collins

Mayor Tom Gerrard lives just seven houses down from where Tom Petters used to live. And as mayor, he probably comes into contact with more people than just about anyone else in town.

But Gerrard said he never heard of, let alone met, the former Minneapolis businessman and part-time Manalapaner.

“It’s probably just as well,” said Gerrard. “Petters, in a federal prosecution with echoes of the Bernie Madoff scandal, is accused of managing $3.5 billion Ponzi scheme. In Minnesota, he’s gone from high-flying businessman to high-profile defendant, although the case has generally flown below the radar locally. Petters says he’s innocent. His trial is scheduled to start Oct. 26.

“The corporate titan seems to have stayed low-key in Manalapan, where he bought a house at 1849 S. Ocean Blvd. in 2004 for $8.75 million. “I never even heard of the man,” Gerrard said. “If he had been involved in Manalapan, I would most likely have heard of him and I have not.”

The more Manalapan would have known of Tom Petters, the worse it might be feeling these days.

Petters was founder and chairman of Petters Group Worldwide, a collection of 20 companies, including Polaroid and Sun Country Airlines.

Federal prosecutors say investors in one of Petters’ companies, Petters Co. Inc., were led to believe they were buying merchandise which was then being re-sold for a profit to retailers such as Wal-Mart and Sam’s Club. But, prosecutors allege, there was actually little or no merchandise and the operation consisted mostly of taking records and keeping the cash.

Petters’ former six-bedroom, three-level house in Manalapan — it sold in July for $8.98 million to a former Bear Stearns executive — includes 11,179 square feet of living space and a total of 20,798 square feet. There’s a beach house and private dock.

Petters’ lawyers have shown no signs of backing down. “Mr. Petters maintains his innocence,” his attorney Doug Kelley, the receiver in charge of correlating Petters’ vast wealth.

The Manalapan house appears to have been the priciest of all the items in Petters’ glittering array of luxury possessions.

Petters’ former Minnesota house was listed for sale at $8.25 million. A mountaintop home in Colorado sold earlier this year for $1.5 million. A second Florida house, in Winter Park, is assessed at $665,000. And still another of Petters’ houses was valued at $670,500.

It’s been quite a challenge for Kelley. He said he’s been comparing notes with the receivers who are trying to sort out Madoff’s assets. And they told him, “We have a lot of the same money involved but yours is infinitely more complicated.”

Madoff’s scam involved just one main company, while Petters had more than 150 corporations, Kelley said.

Petters’ monthly expenses totaled $227,000, according to court filings.

His 390-bottle wine collection just sold for $7,080 — $2 more per bottle than the appraised value, Petters’ 37-foot yacht, kept at his Manalapan house, sold earlier this year for $127,000, Kelley said.

In the Midwest, Petters was philanthropic, donating $8.3 million to the College of St. Benedict for a study-abroad program and an arts center and $4 million to Miami University for a chair in Asian business.

He founded the John T. Petters Foundation, which awards scholarships for study-abroad programs. It’s named for Petters’ son, who was murdered in Italy in 2004. The foundation is a separate entity from Petters’ corporations and continues to operate.

He also gave $12 million to Rollins College in Winter Park, where his daughter Jennifer went to school.

The director of a Minnesota domestic abuse center, where Petters helped with fundraising, told the Minneapolis Star-Tribune he was a “compassionate man who, when asked, will help people out.”

Petters’ lawyers have shown no signs of backing down.

“The Realator down there told us we were running into the Madoff effect,” said Minneapolis attorney Doug Kelley, the receiver in charge of correlating Petters’ vast wealth.

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One of the listings from the Hampton Real Estate Group. The group is one of many that sell listings in the area. Other listings include homes and boats for sale. The group’s website also includes a directory of home inspectors and real estate agents.
Along the Coast

Finalizing town budgets for a very tough year

By Margie Plunkett

Local lawmakers may wish they could forget this 2009/10 budget-churning season, but in September they put the finishing touches on municipal financial plans that will be a constant reminder for the next year.

For many residents, the result is rising taxes and sometimes, declining services. A bloated millage rate, property-tax values and rising costs forced government leaders to look at options, including cutting back on pay and revenue, cutting services and salaries, and dipping into reserves, and in many instances, increasing tax rates from last year.

Resident tax bills are made up not only of municipal taxes, but several taxing authorities, including the county. Palm Beach County held its millage rate at 14.9 percent to fund its $999.8 million general fund. The county’s 2010/11 tax rate will be $14.8 million lower than the previous year’s rate. 

With a 14.4 percent increase in taxable property value, the city council funding for 14 positions, resulting in two layoffs, froze two vacant code officer positions and eliminated animal control. Facility schedules were altered, including at the Pompey Park pool, and after-school field trips were eliminated, among other things.

Vocal Delray Beach residents turned out for the city’s public hearing on the proposal, equal divided between those imploring commissioners to spare residents from tax increases and those defending against budget cuts.

Commissioners’ views also represented the extremes, with Adam Frankel, for instance, supporting the proposed millage rate of 7.38, equal to the rollback rate, to avoid hurting city employees and resident services. He wanted to explore more cuts and tap the reserves. On the other hand, Commissioner Fred Futrer wanted the millage rate to stay at last year’s level of 6.39 and hold the line on taxes. He wanted to explore more cuts as well as tapping the reserves.

Other viewpoints were somewhere in between. “Delray is a product; we can’t cut the investment in the product,” said Commissioner Gary Elaupouos, who added that reserves should be preserved for catastrophic events like hurricanes. He favored a tax rate lower than the rollback.

Mayor Woodie McDuffie said cutting back is the simple thing to do, but said it is reckless to cut back to last year’s rate.

Gulf Stream

Gulf Stream left its $2.86 rate the same as last year, but lower than the $3.04 rollback rate. Commissioners approved a balanced general fund budget of $3.6 million with a water fund budget of $865,000.

Considering a 5.9 percent decrease in taxable property value, and a fire services rate increase of 84 percent, Mayor William F. Koch Jr. said, commissioners did a good job to keep a healthy budget for their residents.

BRINNY BREEZES

Brinny Breezes voted unanimously for a proposed rate of $2.76, 8.89 percent under the reserve level at about $2 million, commissioners said in their September meeting.

MANALAPAN

Manalapan approved an $8.32 tax rate, 4.36 percent under the rollback rate of $3.07, and a $3.6 million budget. A divided decision was ultimately factors including rising police costs, dissipated reserves and a citizen’s initiative that could cap development in the future for the kindled support for the $10.00 rate.

Reserves were tapped to lower taxes when the deal to sell the town was still alive, Bennett said.

Even with the county’s only taxable property value increase — 2.3 percent — Town Manager Tom Gaudard said he hadn’t been submitted to the proposal at public hearings.

OCEAN RIDGE

Ocean Ridge passed a $5.4 million budget with a millage rate of $5.40, lowering it from the previously proposed $5.50 rate. With a 13.3 percent drop in taxable property value, the town will turn to reserves to fully fund the budget. While $5.40 is below the rollback rate, it still increases from last year, which equates to an increase of about 7 percent according to Commissioner Terry Brown.

But going with the lower millage rate still means a 1.3 percent decrease in taxable property value. Employees will forego overtime for the present as well as merit increases this year. Town Manager Mike Bernstein praised the town staff and thanked them for their sacrifice.

SOUL PALM BEACH

Council approved the $3.06 million budget and a higher tax rate by a 3-2 vote. “I did vote for the budget for the first time,” said Mayor Martin Millar, who opposed it this year. “I should have more questions and I didn’t.”

South Palm Beach, which saw taxable value fall 17.1 percent, cut its budget 4.5 percent from last year’s $3.17 million. The tax rate was increased to $7.65, up 16.4 percent from last year.

A few full-time employees will get raises and a part-time, clerical position will be cut. Town Manager Rex Taylor also eliminated a $5,000 short-term disability policy, saying it was adequately covered by the current sick-pay plan. Actual dispatching costs will fall by $26,000 as the town of Lantana takes over that task.

Employees will forego their stamps of approval on this year’s rate.

Hypoluxo Island / Lantana

Zoning change for Cenacle approved

By Margie Plunkett

Lantana Town Council followed its final nod to a zoning change for the Cenacle property on the Intracoastal — a 40,000-square-foot, 25-unit residential — though it won’t become effective until after year’s end.

The Cenacle sought land-use and zoning changes as part of a proposal to sell the 140-acre property, created, operated by the Catholic Cenacle sisters, to Palm Beach Resort Partners LLC. The buyer was seeking to develop a $100 million luxury resort

and spa.

A residents group appealed the project following council’s initial vote in April that allowed a land-use change to commercial. The developer and opponents have worked out an agreement to let the process continue even as the appeal stands.

Under the agreement, the zoning change approved by council would only become effective at the end of the process, after the comprehensive plan goes into effect and the challenge is ultimately resolved, the developer’s attorney, Al Malefatto of Greenberg Traurig, told council members on their Sept. 14 meeting.

The residents group that challenged the project is very interested in working on the site plan, Malefatto said, adding that his client hoped to have its review of that plan by the first quarter of 2010. The site plan will also be a subject of public hearings.

The developer has promised residents a deed restriction that would limit building on the property to the upscale hotel if the sale closes. In response to repeated concerns, Malefatto said Palm Beach Resorts Partnership had no intention of flipping the property to another buyer.

Residents have objected to the proposal on public hearings for both the land-use change and zoning change. They have voiced suspicions that changing land use was the way for unwelcome commercial uses on the property as well as concerns about its impact on the environment and the small-town atmosphere of the neighborhood.

Although the site plan hadn’t been submitted yet, the developer’s representatives presented a preview at the April council meeting of their proposed room hotel with restaurants, bars, ballroom, sandy beach and a pool on the 10-acre property.

Malefatto said that the project could provide an enormous economic lift to Lantana, creating 300 full-time local jobs and $300,000 in annual tax revenue from a property that’s not now taxed.
Coral habitats may be enlarged

By Nirvi Shah

It was a huge victory last year for coral preservationists when the National Marine Fisheries Service designated a swath of the city Florida coast as a protected area for two species of coral. But discovery of one species of threatened coral north of that protected region has reef advocates asking whether the boundary to be pushed north — to the vocal objection of the coastal powerhouse of Palm Beach County — is flowing.

The town objected in writing, concerned about the extra layer of review it would have to undergo if the designation extended to their shores and affected beach renourishment projects.

The fisheries service in November labeled the coast from the Dry Tortugas to the Boynton Inlet as a critical habitat for elkhorn and staghorn coral. Then, Palm Beach County Reef Rescue discovered staghorn coral farther north, director Ed Tichenor said. So his group petitioned the government to move the boundary north to the Lake Worth Inlet.

“Our goal for moving the boundary is really for National Marine Fisheries to comply with the Endangered Species Act,” he said. The boundary “has to encompass all areas where the species is found.”

He said the original critical-habitat designation would have gone as far north as the current proposal, but the federal government backed off, saying it had no evidence the coral was growing farther north. The National Marine Fisheries Service could make a decision as early as November.

Lake Worth supports the measure. The City would become the first in the county to ban pumping sand onto the beach from offshore, if voters approve the measure in November.

Manalapan Town Manager Greg Dunham said his council hasn’t discussed the boundary change because the town historically hasn’t done any beach renourishment projects. “It’s just the way Mother Nature works,” he said. And in South Palm Beach, Commissioner Charles McCrosson said he doesn’t think changing the designation will affect his town’s proposed project to break a wave about 300 feet offshore to curb the power of the waves against the beach, he said. The project hasn’t yet been approved and wouldn’t begin before the end of next year.

“We want to do everything environmentally correct,” McCrosson said. “Our hope is it will not slow down the (permitting) process.”

Disease and water quality issues are blamed for the decline of staghorn and elkhorn coral since the 1970s, the state Department of Environmental Protection has said. In 2006, the species were classified as threatened. Since 2006, the coral population has revived, although no one is sure why. Southeast Florida’s coral reefs provide a place for more than 6,000 species of marine animals to live, generate $5.7 billion in revenue each year and provide 61,000 jobs, the state says.

Palm Beach counters that the beaches also generate billions in state revenue each year. The town also said the staghorn coral north of the existing critical habitat boundary is found in insignificant patches that protecting the area isn’t necessary. The proposal put on hold, at least, until its effect on beach erosion projects is evaluated.

Tichenor said he thinks their worries are misplaced, because beach renourishment projects are farthest from the reef — protection of which is critical to the coral population.

“I think their concerns are unfounded,” he said, but he doesn’t discount the town’s ability to squelch the proposal, so his organization began a letter-writing campaign to counteract the town’s influence.

Tichenor noted that past campaigns helped persuade Delray Beach to stop dumping partly treated sewage into the ocean and keep the county’s only hyperbaric chamber open at St. Mary’s Medical Center.

The town of Palm Beach exerts a disproportionate amount of influence on Florida and national politics, the group wrote in an e-mail encouraging support for the critical habitat to be enlarged. “Politicians do listen, even when e-mails are sent.”

Moon’s proximity brings higher tides

By Margie Plunkett

The moon flexed its strength in September, pulling tides a half foot to a foot-and-a-half higher as it swung through its perigee.

The lunar perigee, when the moon’s power over the seas has its greatest effect, usually occurs in early September, according to James Molleda, meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Miami.

The moon’s power over the tides is usually strongest during the new and full phases, when the positions of the moon and sun are aligned, he explained. The effect is amplified as the moon’s gravitational pull becomes more pronounced when the orb draws closer to Earth. And the tides are higher at the spring and fall equinox.

In Boynton Beach, the tidal waters rose into some streets near the Intracoastal. "We have these every spring and every fall, and fall is usually the highest," Town Council President Sharon Kendrigan said.

The water comes across the street and up to Kendrigan’s second step. "There’s no damage, it comes in and goes out," she said. The town discourages cars from driving through the brackish water, in part to prevent damage, she said. In addition, she added, at 10 am, high tide, they have a wake.

The seas have subsided now; they were down to within a half-foot of expectations by late September, according to Molleda.

The next lunar perigee is Oct. 13, which alone can mean tides of one to six inches higher, depending on local geography, according to NOAA. The closest new or full moon is Oct. 18.

The combination by itself will cause higher waters, but can become a critical influence when other weather that affects tides — such as a hurricane —is present, Molleda said.

The perigean-spring tides came into play earlier this summer, causing some minor flooding when seas were running higher up and down the Eastern U.S. coast, from Maine to Florida, according to an August report by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The moon wasn’t the primary reason behind those tides, which were up to 2 feet higher than expected, mainly in the mid-Atlantic, in June and July, according to the report. NOAA scientists said the event was caused by persistent northeast winds and a weakening Florida current, a current that feeds into the Gulf Stream, although they still needed further study.

Along the Coast

Moon’s proximity brings higher tides

By Margie Plunkett

The moon flexed its strength in September, pulling tides a half foot to a foot-and-a-half higher as it swung through its perigee.

The lunar perigee, when the moon’s orbit takes it closest to the Earth, occurred near the time of the Sept. 18 new moon, causing the higher than normal seas, according to Robert Molleda, meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Miami.

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Delray Beach

Vacant slips a concern to residents

By Margie Plunkett

Boaters once clamored for a spot in Delray Beach’s marina, but the ebbing economy has left nearly half its slips vacant and forced a drop in rates to entice new business.

Acknowledging increasing competition among area marinas, Delray Beach commissioners cut current rates to $16 per foot per month from $21, even as live-aboard boats and transients argued that more drastic action was necessary to revitalize their waterfront neighborhood.

“We don’t have a waiting line any more, we have a leaving line,” said Vice Mayor Gary Elcock. “I don’t want to see boats there.”

Commissioners dropped the rate even lower than the $18 recommended by Linda Karch, director of Parks and Recreation. While no public hearing was scheduled, commissioners allowed some residents who live aboard boats at the marina to speak. “You ought to consider charging less. At this rate, you’re going to lose to the competition among area marinas, Delray Beach commissioners voted not to accommodate live-aboards.

Eleven of the Delray Beach city marina’s 24 slips are currently open, with eight of them giving notice in the last two months, according to a memo from Karch. Vacant marina slips — whether for permanent or transient boaters — mean less revenue.

Marina residents likened it to living in a neighborhood where half the houses were empty, adding that it invokes crime and the homeless.

“We’ve lost a lot of people recently,” said George Aspland, a live-aboard boater. “This is my neighborhood. I’ve lived there for 15 years. That neighborhood has been abandoned.”

Rilling noted a rash of attempted break ins. “An employee at the marina was a dangerous situation,” he said. Meanwhile, vacancies encourage boaters to sneak into slips, setting up their boats at night and leaving before being noticed — and charged — in the morning, he said.

In an e-mail, Aspland told the city that the proposed rate reduction still wasn’t competitive, because marinas use their posted rates as a starting point that can be negotiated down. “I am looking forward to the 20 years prior rate increase in 2007, the marina was 100 percent occupied and had a waiting list of upwards of 100 people. After the 2007 increase in rates, many long-term marina residents departed and the revenue would be $235,620 if the marina were full. At $16.50 (55-cent daily rate), current revenues would be $108,900, or $185,130 if the marina were full, according to staff calculations.

In addition to lower annual rates, Karch recommended offering one-month rent free for boaters who paid their annual fee upfront. The current fee for dry marina is a dangerous situation, she said. Meanwhile, vacancies encourage boaters to sneak into slips, setting up their boats at night and leaving before being noticed — and charged — in the morning, he said.

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In addition to lower annual rates, Karch recommended offering one-month rent free for boaters who paid their annual fee upfront. The current fee for dry marina is $60 a day or $1,800 a month. Karch recommended offering a 50% discount for a monthly rental and a $1,500 discount on a six-month rental.

Karch said she hoped the lower rate will attract more boaters, including the transient boaters who add more to the coffers while staying a shorter period.

Earlier in the meeting, commissioners voted not to charge boats under 35 feet the 35-foot rate to moor, but left for its Oct. 6 meeting action on what minimum size boat should be allowed. Residents argued the marina isn’t made to safely accommodate smaller boats.

By C. B. Hanif

Angela Gray says she will “continue to meet with people, listen to their views and bring all the players to the table, I think that will be instrumental in helping us to continue to move forward.”

The agreement that her fellow Delray Beach commissioners helped advance the city by appointing her to Seat 4 that was vacated by Mack Bernard is working very closely with her. “I feel like she’s going to continue that same line of work that the previous commissioners have done. I’ve worked very closely with her. I’ve seen her at work on the CRA, and how she represents the city. I felt like she was the best person to replace me.”

“She had planned to seek the seat in next March’s election. Her appointment settles, for now, the political dominos set in motion when former Palm Beach County Commissioner Addie Greene resigned in April, Gov. Charlie Crist on July 3 appointed fourtime incumbent state Rep. Priscilla Taylor to that District 7 county seat, and Bernard, resigning his commission seat, Taylor’s former District 84 seat in August 15 special primary election.

The appointment of the only African-American applicant maintains Delray’s four decades-long history of having a minority member on the 5-member commission, in a city where more than a quarter of residents are of African descent.

“When I was at her swearing-in ceremony, Bernard said to you had former Commissioner David Randolph there, former Commissioner Alberta McCarthy was there and I was there, it was amazing to see how the city of Delray Beach always continues to get great representation.”

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Private schools are a mainstay in the education of coastal kids.

Although all of our local elementary private schools are committed to offering quality education, they have diverse histories. The oldest of these schools, Gulf Stream School, was started in 1938 by Ada Belle Johnson, and originally served seasonal students who came with their families for the winter. It has 250 enrolled children in kindergarten through eighth grade, with 130 of them being from the barrier island. Trinity Lutheran School is the next oldest. Members of the Trinity Episcopal Church in St. Petersburg, Florida, started in 1948 with 12 children. This school, of the six listed here, has the largest student body, with 399 children from 2 years old to eighth grade, including 12 children from the barrier island.

St. Vincent Ferrer School started in 1955, when Sisters of Mercy arrived from Ireland to conduct the school’s first classes. Now, 270 children are enrolled in pre-kindergarten to eighth grade, with 35 students from the barrier island. St. Joseph’s Episcopal School and St. Mark Catholic School both started in 1958. St. Mark currently has 220 pre-kindergarten to eighth-grade students, with two or three children from the barrier islands. Four Sisters of Charity from Convent Station, N.J., taught St. Mark’s first students in 1958. St. Joe’s serves 250 students in its early childhood academy and pre-kindergarten through eighth-grade classes. Unity School is the “newest.” It began in 1964. Currently, 334 students, from 2 years old to eighth grade, are enrolled, with about 70 children coming from the barrier islands. The vision of Unity School was conceived at Unity Headquarters in Missouri, where Elizabeth Caspari, who studied under Maria Montessori, conducted an experimental school and helped train teachers in the Montessori method.

— Christine Davis

Get to know the administrators of our private K-8 schools

GULF STREAM SCHOOL
3600 Gulf Stream Road
Gulf Stream, FL 33483
(561) 276-5225

Joseph J. Zaluski, head of school

Hometown: Secaucus, N.J.

Education: bachelor’s and master’s degrees, University of Dayton.

Past employment: Sieckwily Academy, Sieckwiley, Penn., assistant head of school, head of lower school; the Miami Valley School, Dayton, Ohio, head of lower school, sixth-grade teacher.

Tenure at school: The 2009-2010 school year is my fifth at Gulf Stream School.

Family: wife, Sally; sons Zachary, 27, lives in West Conshohocken, Penn., and works for JP Morgan Chase & Co.; daughter Kateleen, 25, lives in Jenkintown, Pa., and is a third-year student at the Pennsylvania College of Optometry.

Residence: Gulf Stream

Hope to accomplish this school year: This year, as in years past, Gulf Stream School will remain committed to the school’s mission: “Gulf Stream School empowers students to succeed, inspires intellectual curiosity, and celebrates both effort and accomplishment. The school is distinguished by a sense of family, small size, and respect for its heritage.” We will also stress the school-year theme of “Branch into Reading” by encouraging families to read together every day and by hosting several author visits at the school.

Some students may not know about me: Long ago (1974 to be exact, my senior year in college) and before parachuting with an instructor was the norm, I jumped out of an airplane and, fortunately, landed safely — although a long way from the target. That was my first and final jump.

ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL
730 N.E. Sixth Ave.
Boynton Beach, FL 33435
(561) 732-9934

Dr. Joseph A. Finley Jr., principal

Hometown: Staten Island, N.Y.

Education: bachelor's degree in geology; master’s in criminal justice administration; doctorate in education leadership.

Past Employment: dean of academic affairs, City College, Fort Lauderdale; dean of the Keller Graduate School of Business Management, Devry University; special agent (retired), Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Tenure at school: in fourth year as principal.

Family: wife, Catherine; children, Jeannine, Joseph III, Julianne.

Residence: Catherine, Julianne and I live in Ocean Ridge; Jeannine lives in Delray Beach and Joseph III lives in Washington, D.C.

Hope to accomplish this school year: Full implementation of the math and language arts advanced placement program where qualified students will be placed in the next grade for math and language arts enrichment; to continue to teach what it means to be a Christian student, God’s incredible plan for our lives; to create a foundation for communication between parent and student; to encourage healthy and wholesome relationships.

Some students may not know about me: While in the FBI, assigned to the FBI Crime Lab in Quantico, Va., I completed a forensic examination on the presidential limousine that President Reagan was in hours after the assassination attempt on him in 1980.

ST. VINCENT FERRER SCHOOL
810 George Bush Blvd.
Delray Beach, FL 33483
(561) 278-3868

M. Vicki Delgado, principal

Hometown: born in Cuba; left in the 1960s via Spain; ended up in Springfield, Ohio, and later Miami.

Education: bachelor’s degree in music therapy and bachelor’s in education; master’s in educational leadership.

Past employment: Montaner Residential School in Hialeah, music therapist; Jan Mann Opportunity School in Opa-locka, middle school teacher; St. Vincent Ferrer School, Pre-K teacher.

Tenure at school: Beginning my 10th year at the school; worked as the Pre-K teacher for eight years and became principal last year.

Family: husband, Juan Delgado, MD; Lauren, 20 years old, is a junior at University of Florida at Gainesville and Christine, 17, is a student at Cardinal Newman High School in West Palm Beach.

Residence: west Boynton Beach.

Hope to accomplish this school year: Continue the increase of communication between home and school; create a professional and learning community at St. Vincent Ferrer School, comprised of students, parents, teachers and the administration; continue to develop the community as the core of our school program.

Some students may not know about me: I sing in the LifeTeen Mass music ministry on Sundays at 5:30 p.m., and I love to dance.

ST. JOSEPH’S EPISCOPAL SCHOOL
3300 S. Seacrest Blvd.
Boynton Beach, FL 33435
(561) 732-2045

Tami Pleasonton, head of school

Hometown: Delray Beach.

Education: master’s degree in classroom instruction from Walden University.

Past employment: I am a 30-year teaching veteran who is nearing the completion of a doctoral degree in administrative leadership. My career as an elementary, middle and high school mathematics and computer teacher has been enhanced by nearly 16 years of administrative work as a head of school, director of admissions, dean of students, and director of community service. Awarded Saint Carolina’s Teacher of the Year in 1984, I returned to my home state of Florida to teach at Saint Andrew’s School and then Saint Joseph’s Episcopal School.

Tenure at school: three years.

Family: I have one son, Cory, who is a recent graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. He lives in Charleston, S.C.

Residence: Delray Beach.

Hope to accomplish this school year: As a school, we hope to accomplish the ability to develop our students skills and talents so that they can use their individual gifts to make a positive difference in their family, community, country and world.

Some students may not know about me: I married my high school sweetheart at age 21. We exchanged vows on the second floor of Bethesda Hospital. He was my patient there who had suffered a foot injury four months before our wedding day. We are both happily married, and just celebrated our 35th anniversary.

UNITY SCHOOL
110 NW 22nd St.
Delray Beach, FL 33444
(561) 276-4414

Maria Barber, head of school

Hometown: Delray Beach.

Education: bachelor’s in education, master’s in education, education specialist in leadership.


Tenure at school: entering my 26th year as head of Unity School.

Family: All of my family lives in Palm Beach County. My husband worked for FPL and is now retired. My daughters, Joann Conde, Ph.D., and Kathleen Barber, Esq., live in Boynton Beach and Delray Beach.

Residence: Delray Beach.

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TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL
400 N. Swinton Ave.
Delray Beach, FL 33444
(561) 276-8458

Timothy Guelzow, principal

Hometown: Columbus, Ind.

Education: bachelor’s in education from Valparaiso University; master’s in education from Florida Atlantic University.

Past Employment: 32 years in education, as teacher, assistant principal or principal.

Tenure at school: 21 years.

Family: Married, four children.

Residence: Lake Worth.

Hope to accomplish this school year: What I would like to accomplish is more for children and families to develop a closer relationship with their friend and savior, Jesus Christ.

Some students may not know about me: I have two dogs and two cats at home.
By Ron Hayes

When the Colony Hotel opened on Atlantic Avenue in 1926, the dining room glittered with smartly dressed ladies and gents, come to winter in sunshine and style. They dined, they danced, and they smiled for the cameras.

You can still see black-and-white memories of those colorful decades, captured in fading photographs on the dining room's walls today.

And then you turn around and, oh, how times have changed!

Where the wine glasses tinkled and the dance bands played, the bare floor is a human mosaic of men and women bowing and bending, twisting and turning, spreading, stretching, squeezing and breathing their bodies into a series of startling poses.

Instead of trombones and clarinets, the live music is echoes and drones from bamboo flutes and Balinese gongs, wood blocks and Tibetan prayer bells.

Every Sunday morning for the past two years, between 70 and 100 men and women have gathered in The Colony's dining room for 90 minutes of yoga to live music.

"I look forward to this every Sunday because yoga positions itself as new Colony tradition"
it just sets me up for the day,” says Nikki Dean of Boynton Beach, a devotee of the ancient Indian blend of exercise and meditation for eight years. “It gives me strength and serenity at the same time.”

While the flutes drone and the gongs echo, the class is gently led through its poses by a soft-spoken, middle-aged man who picks his way among the students while speaking into a headset. “Take a big inhale like a lion,” he tells them. “Ahhhh! And let your body melt into the Earth, and send your love to the Earth while you’re there.”

A student of yoga for 19 years, a teacher for 15, Keith Fox is the founder of YogaFox, which counts 4,500 students between Jupiter and Fort Lauderdale. A native of San Francisco, Fox had schools in Miami and Sebastian Inlet before finding Delray Beach in 2002. “It’s like Key West in South Florida without having to go south of Miami,” he says.

Fox’s Sunday classes had been attracting fewer than 15 students until he added live music two years ago. Now there are never fewer than 70, and often around a hundred students spreading their mats side by side until The Colony’s floor resembles a hardwood beach.

Cathy Rosenberg of Delray Beach, a student for 10 years, says the uninitiated mistake yoga’s slow routines for a lack of exertion. “The biggest misconception is that you sit around with your legs crossed and say ‘Om,’” she says. “The stretching is about getting into the pose, but the challenge is in the strength required to maintain it.”

Indeed, by the time Fox brings the class to a close, most of the participants are glowing with sweat and inhaling deeply. “People don’t realize what a great cardiovascular workout this is,” says Catherine Bigatao of Boca Raton. “Banging on cement while you jog is bad for your joints.”

As the gong echoes its long fade to silence, the students lie perfectly still, breathing deeply. And then, after an hour and a half of deceptively strenuous exercise, all together now …

Ommmmmnnn.

For information, call (561) 703-1236 or visit www.yogafox.com.
By Margie Plunkett

The county started reef construction off the Ocean Ridge coast this summer, required to restore the natural reef covered by beach renourishment. The mitigation reef, within an area of about 16 acres, will “get covered in critters” — attract fish — and should make great snorkeling, according to environmental analyst Janet Phipps of Palm Beach County Environmental Resource Management. “It provides a lot of nursery for juvenile fish coming out of the estuaries at Lake Worth Lagoon. It’ll be covered with clouds of juvenile fish; they settle down and don’t get et,” Phipps said. “It’s a tremendous habitat.” Without the closer reef, the young fish head farther out, a journey that reduces the likelihood of survival. About 10,000 tons of limestone boulders are being placed for the reef just south of South Lake Worth Inlet. The reef is constructed of about 62 pods that measure 20 feet by 40 feet and are spaced 30 feet apart.

Engineers recommended the design and spacing of the reef to minimize drift and sand movement, Phipps said. “By creating it in pods, you have more edge — like the edge of the forest. It creates more diversity.”

Work on the Ocean Ridge reef started in July — earlier than planned, after Mother Nature brought a halt to another county project off Singer Island. The county had to stop construction there to re-permit the work after too much sand covered half the planned reef area, Phipps said.

The Ocean Ridge project isn’t expected to be finished until next year. The construction has to be done in the flat seas season, which runs May through September, to allow the barge that places the rock to work in the shallow waters without getting damaged, Phipps said. Once the construction is done, mooring buoys will be placed on the outside of the reef to delineate the area that’s off limits to boats.

Not far from the reef, the county continues its $7 million project to reconstruct the South Lake Worth Inlet sand transfer plant, and has built a temporary bridge to Bird Island and started the new sea wall.

Concrete was poured for the sand transfer plant foundation, walls and, most recently, the roof. Once it cures, the forms will be removed and electrical work will begin, according to Tracy Logue, an ERM coastal geologist, who said completion was scheduled in February or March 2011. “We’re a little behind — by a few weeks,” Logue said. “We wanted to be done by the end of September to take advantage of the calm seas in the summer.”
South Palm Beach

Direct fire-service billing will save town money, not taxpayers

Even though the 2010 budget year is just beginning (Oct. 1), town councilmen agreed to chop more than $1 million out of the 2011 budget. Yet it won’t save South Palm Beach residents any money.

The council agreed unanimously Sept. 22 to revise its 10-year agreement with Palm Beach County Fire-Rescue to allow property owners to be billed directly for fire service as part of their annual property tax bill. Currently, the town pays the annual cost from its operating budget.

"That one line item is a third of our budget," said Town Manager Rex Taylor. The town will pay nearly $1 million for fire service this year from a $3.06 million operating budget. "It's certainly better for the town, taking it out of the budget."

Both methods of payment are based on a fire-service tax rate of $3.50 per $1,000 of taxable property value so the cost to taxpayers won’t change. But residents could save a few pennies in November 2010 by paying property taxes early. Early payers get a slight discount on their bills.

The council must give final approval at the Oct. 27 meeting and the Palm Beach County Commission also must approve the change by Dec. 31.

— Tim O'Melia

Regional board advises against 10-story hotel

A controversial proposal that would allow a 99-unit, 10-story hotel will go to the South Palm Beach Town Council without the endorsement of the South Florida Regional Planning Council.

The planning council labeled the change to the town’s comprehensive plan inconsistent with regional planning policy after hearing the objections of three town residents at the Sept. 18 meeting in Stuart. The residents complained that the proposed beachfront hotel is too high and would further degrade the town’s eroded shoreline.

The decision reversed the planning council staff’s recommendation. "The council’s thinking was that if this were allowed everywhere (along the beach), would it make a better region?" said council Executive Director Michael Busha. "The council decided it wouldn’t."

The planning council’s finding is advisory only, and not binding on the Town Council.

The town’s own planning council made no recommendation on the plan after a raucous public meeting Sept. 21 that included the ejection of a resident by police. The board forwarded comments from residents to the Town Council.

The hotel would replace a 49-year-old two-story motel that included the ejection of a resident by police. The board forwarded comments from residents to the Town Council.

The hotel would replace a 49-year-old two-story motel that included the ejection of a resident by police. The board forwarded comments from residents to the Town Council.

"The Paloka family bought the property five years ago, but their plan to erect a 12-story hotel condominium was rejected by the Town Council in 2007." — Tim O'Melia

Mayor Millar comes in for another round of criticism

In other business, Mayor Martin Millar’s well-publicized trip to Rachel’s, his request for a police ride home and his conduct during a rowdy budget hearing last month have galvanized the opinions of townspeople, based on comments at the Sept. 22 meeting.

"Your leadership is causing irreparable harm to the town," said resident Stella Jordan. "We are now the laughingstock of our entire Treasure Coast area. Make your last official act one you can be proud of. resign. Here. Now. Tonight."

Others supported Millar, including residents Linda DeCaro and Walter Knapp, who praised his support of a proposed 99-unit, 98-foot-tall hotel to replace the two-story Palm Beach Oceanfront Inn.

"The mayor was voted in fair and square," DeCaro said.

Resident Bud Krasnow also was critical of the mayor. "Have you no shame? What you have done to the reputation of this town is unbelievable," he early.

— Tim O’Melia

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The cookbook will have the same name as the event’s theme: “Ten Years of Giving Thanks.” Since printing costs have been underwritten, sales from the book will add an additional $20,000 to the event’s proceeds this year.

The luncheon, started by the Bethesda Hospital Foundation 10 years ago, was inspired by Trudy Willms, who has volunteered more than 73,406 hours at Bethesda since 1976. Trudy was honored at the inaugural event and still attends each year and serves on the Women of Grace committee. Since 2000, more than 50 women have been honored with the achievement of Women of Grace by the Bethesda Hospital Foundation.

“Deborah and Megan are perfect co-chairs because they are extremely dedicated and passionate about our community hospital and raising awareness about the importance of supporting our hospital,” says Kristin Calder, public relations director and annual giving director for the Bethesda Hospital Foundation.

The luncheon is very inspiring, says Megan. “I’m not a crier, but when you watch the videos of the women (being honored) and what they do, it’s very moving.”

**Co-chairs forged partnership**

The work of co-chairs requires considerable time and commitment. It began last March, when Deborah, a member of the board of the Bethesda Hospital Foundation, was chosen as chairwoman and invited Megan to be co-chair. Deborah and Megan, a New York native, have known each other since they met as moms of new students at The Gulf Stream School. Deborah hosted a get-together before school began and the two forged a friendship.

When Megan, a former book and magazine publisher from New York, became chairwoman of the Delray Beach Historical Society’s Antique Show, she asked Deborah to be her co-chair. The duo co-chaired that event for the past two years.

“She’s the wind beneath my wings,” Deborah said of Megan, who once worked for media icon Tina Brown at The New Yorker. Megan, who delivered her son at Bethesda three years ago, moved to Florida seven years ago with her husband, Jeffrey. She has been visiting the area since the 1960s.

“I got married when I was 20 and Megan has had this big career,” Deborah adds. “She shows me how to do things and she really knows a lot about computers. I’m always learning something.”

A Florida native from Haines City, Deborah and her husband, Harry, are alumni of Florida State University and strong supporters of the school’s booster association. She is a fund-raiser involved in state politics and serves on the board of the Delray Beach Historical Society and is president of the Governor’s Mansion Foundation.

In Aspen this summer, Deborah wrote personal letters to people in the coastal communities asking for support for the hospital and the Women of Grace Luncheon. “The responses” she says, “were incredible.”

With the economic downturn, there
was concern about securing sponsors. Between Deborah’s lovingly crafted letters and Megan’s gentle prodding; the pair has been very successful. They made up for any sponsor shortfall from businesses by securing more personal donors. And they’ve become good at asking for help and/or money.

“I feel like people can say no,” Megan says. “But the money goes to such a good cause. We’re doing this on behalf of helpless babies. We’re giving people an opportunity to help.”

Putting efforts in perspective

In mid-September, the co-chairs, committee and past and present honorees toured the newly renovated and under-construction areas of Bethesda’s Women & Children’s Services area, which the event benefits. They got to see the new maternity delivery rooms, the stylish waiting room for daddies, and most impressively, the neonatal intensive care unit, where specially designed infant beds called Giraffes help to keep premature babies alive.

The beds are a Cadillac version of an incubator, where caregivers have access to the baby from all sides. They are equipped with built-in scales for frequent weighing and provide humidity, which helps reduce skin breakdown. Nurses say the Giraffe bed is one of the best environments for critically ill babies.

Last year, 2,900 babies were born at Bethesda and, of those, 345 spent their first days in the hospital’s Level III NICU.

During the tour, Deborah and Megan had a chance to observe a premature baby boy less than a day old and weighing slightly more than 1 pound.
ABOVE: A few assistants, chefs and servers at the Ritz-Carlton helped Megan Huisinga and Deborah Sargeant in determining the menu for the Oct 29 event.

LEFT: In classic Ritz fashion, the staff prepared a special menu for the tasting.

Photos by Jerry Lower

WOMEN OF GRACE LUNCHEON
What it’s about:
Honoring individuals who have contributed remarkable service to local organizations. Honorees include Eileen Augustyn, for her volunteer efforts with The Women’s Circle; Robin Bresky, for her volunteer efforts with the Legal Aid Society; Cindy Krebsbach, for her efforts with the Junior League of Boca Raton; Gale Martin, of Boynton Beach for her efforts with CROS ministries; and Susan Mullin, for her efforts with the Boys and Girls Club. Grace Nelson, wife of U.S. Sen. Bill Nelson, is mistress of ceremonies.

When: Oct. 29 at 11:30 a.m.
Pre-registration and silent auction begin at 10:30 a.m.
Where: The Ritz-Carlton Palm Beach, 100 S. Ocean Blvd., Manalapan

Cost: Tickets are $85 per person or $1,000 for a VIP table of 10 (which includes a special favor and the Women of Grace cookbook created for this event). Space is limited.

Where to buy tickets: At www.BethesdaWomenOfGrace.org
Details: Call (561) 737-7733, Ext. 4445.

1 pound. Because of the Giraffe bed and the good care he was receiving at Bethesda, the infant had a better chance to live.

“That baby really put a face on it for me,” Deborah says.

Megan agrees. “I’ll never forget seeing that child.”

With support from the foundation and the Women of Grace event, two more of the $37,000 beds will be added to the four already in place.

The nurses are already saying “thank you.”

Continued from page 17
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New Listing

Short Sale

Employees of Jarden Consumer Solutions raised $12,565 to pay for the Delray Beach Public Library’s Summer Reading Program. With library director Alan Kornblau (left) are library board member Heidi Sargeant, Linda Makhanlall of Jarden Consumer Solutions and library board member Becky Walsh. It was the fourth year Jarden had contributed. Photo provided

Vargo installs her cast bronze work, Scrub Jay and Gopher Tortoise, in Veteran’s Park, 100 NE Fourth St., as part of Boynton Beach’s Avenue of the Arts project. Each artist loans work for one year, and at the end of that time, the piece is considered for purchase for placement in the City’s Art in Public Places Collection. Vargo is from Lantana. Her parents live in Ocean Ridge. Photo by Mary Kate Leming

Manalapan Finance Director Linda Stumpf and Manalapan Town Manager Greg Dunham attend the Mayor’s Literacy Initiative Luncheon at the Ritz Carlton Palm Beach on Sept. 9. The keynote speaker was Steve Leveen, founder of Levenger and a literacy tutor. Photo provided

Palm Beach County Circuit Court Judge — and Ocean Ridge resident — Lucy Chernow Brown (left) and Amy Borman, general counsel for the 15th Circuit, presented a Justice Teaching Day interactive program for Broward County third-graders last month. Presented with the scenario of an alien invasion, students were asked to discuss the concept of their most valued rights. Photo provided

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Justice Teaching Day

Celebrations

Chrisanthy Gumas
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To everything there is a season, and this fall seems the perfect time to embrace the burgeoning popularity of AMC’s Emmy award-winning *Mad Men*, now in its third season. The show chronicles the mid-century rise of the modern advertising industry in New York City with scenes of incessant workplace alcoholism and incredibly limiting gender roles.

What’s not to like? If you’re looking to pull off the 1950s-’60s housewife look, try working the hair and makeup in with your daily wardrobe, or camp it up for a stunning Halloween costume. And don’t let the fun stop with just one costume — throw a grownups-only *Mad Men* theme party! Just don’t forget the hard liquor and your cigarette holder.

— Mary Katherine Stump

**Mad about the early ’60s look?**

**Get the ‘Mad Men’ style**

For a lesson in mid-century primping, I visited with Tatianah Predestin at Paradise Salon and Spa in Delray Beach for some how-to’s:

**Clothes:** You can find ’50s-’60s era cocktail and day dresses at most vintage shops in the area, including House of Vintage, who along with the Delray Beach Historical Society is sponsoring a Vintage Clothing Exhibit and Sale at Cason Cottage during October and November.

**Makeup:** Lips and eyes are the key. Use a lip liner to dramatically define your lips, then coat in a matte lip color, preferably deep red.

**French twist:** One thing I’ve never been able to figure out is how on Earth all of these women got their hair to stay in these fancy up-dos. Tatianah recommends starting with dirty hair, since it is able to hold curl better. Coat it with thickening spray if you have fine hair, curl with your choice of rollers, and then separate your hair into three sections: the back of your head and the two sides. Focus on each section separately. Begin by teasing the sections at their base. Take the back section, and pin in with bobby pins into a half-moon. Then, use the two side sections of your hair as the décor.

**How to get ‘that look’**

Mary Katherine Stump goes for a well-coiffed 1960s glam look in the retro kitchen at House of Sweets in Delray Beach. Photos by Tim Stepien

Mary Katherine is a freelance writer and stylist. Read her blog on fashion and interiors at www.everydaycurator.blogspot.com.

If you go

Tatianah Predestin at Paradise Salon and Spa, 140 NE Second Ave., Delray Beach. 561-330-3434

House of Vintage (also, House of Sweets, in the back), 123 S. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach; 561-276-7477

Vintage Clothing Exhibit and Sale at Cason Cottage, 5 NE First St., Delray Beach. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 11 am-3 pm, Oct. 1-Nov. 27. Ten percent of sales benefit the Delray Beach Historical Society.
How to mix ‘that special drink’

Going Mad this Halloween — and in Mad Men, the runaway hit TV show — bring the ’50s and ’60s home with a theme party that focuses on cocktails.

Have a little fun with your bar drinks this night — the Headhunter, the Voodoo rum punch (enough for a party), the Black Widow and more evoke the night’s witching possibilities.

**Headhunter**

1 ounce lime juice
1 ounce lemon juice
3 ounces coconut milk
1 ounce papaya juice
3 shots Bacardi 150 rum
4 shots spiced rum
2 ounces orange juice
4 ounces beer

Mix liquors in a tall shaker; stir in fruit juices and shake over crushed ice. Add the beer slowly and stir — do not shake. Serve in a tall cocktail glass garnished with mini-fake shrunken head or skeleton from a party store.

**Voodoo Rum Punch**

This classic Caribbean rum punch was created in South Florida.

92 ounces (2 cans) pineapple juice
32 ounces (1 quart) orange juice
1 liter Mount Gay® Eclipse Barbados rum
375 ml (1/2 bottle) Cruzan® coconut rum
6 ounces grenadine syrup
32 ounces Sprite® soda — see note

Combine all ingredients in a large punchbowl; stir. Add slices of orange and lime, and an ice block. Makes about 25 8-ounce drinks.

**Grateful Dead**

1 ounce Tequila
1 ounce vodka
1 ounce light rum
1 ounce gin
1 ounce Cham-bord® raspberry liqueur

Shake ingredients, pour over ice in a tall collins glass, and serve.

**The Black Cat**

1 ounce vodka
3 ounces Concord grape juice
1 teaspoon raw sugar
4 slices fresh ginger
4 blackberries

In a mixing glass, muddle blackberries, ginger and sugar, add vodka and dark grape juice. Fill with ice, shake well, and strain into a chilled Martini glass. Garnish with plastic spiders.

**Here’s a Poe-inspired one:**

**A Crow Left of the Murder**

2 oz Old Crow® bourbon whiskey
2 oz cranberry juice
2 oz pineapple juice

Add all the ingredients to a cocktail shaker half-filled with ice cubes. Shake well, strain into a highball glass filled with ice cubes, and serve with a straw.

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Maury Jacobson was born Aug. 18, 1920, the youngest of five siblings. Their father died in an explosion when Maury was 9. Growing up during the Depression, he learned important life lessons from his mother. “We shared meals with strangers who’d knock on our door,” he said. “We didn’t have any money, but she’d invite them in, split our dinner with them, and treat them like old friends.”

His parents had emigrated from Lithuania in the late 1890s. The Jacobson family lived in a working class neighborhood in Brooklyn, where most of the neighbors were not born in the United States. “I was from a generation that talked about issues,” he said. “We always discussed what was going on in the world.”

Jacobson has been involved in all levels of government, and served South Palm Beach as a commissioner and mayor from 1993 to March 2009.

A widower, he has two daughters. Lynn, a social worker, lives in Israel. “She has a daughter, Livia, who recently gave birth to my great-grandson, Be’eri.” Janet has a company in Paris.

— Christine Davis

Q. Where did you grow up and go to school? How do you think that has influenced you?
A. I went to public schools in Brooklyn. At Brooklyn Tech, I studied mechanical engineering, but I had to leave to go to night school because I had to take care of my mother, Sarah. She taught me a great deal about life and to have an understanding and empathy for people. Over the years, I developed the feeling that the great treasures of life are people. Most people try to do the right thing. I have never missed an opportunity to go to technical and cultural seminars and cultural affairs. My brother, an attorney, introduced me to music and books.

My wife, Fran, was my greatest inspiration. We were married 51 years, 7 months, 22 days — give an hour or two — until she expired in JFK hospital.

Q. What professions have you worked at outside of public service? What professional accomplishments are you most proud of?
A. I had a number of jobs before working for the government. Once I was a machinist, after the war, I decided to go into business and repaired appliances and air conditioners. My middle sister, Minerva, was a serious heart patient. Her husband latched on to an air conditioner, which extended her life. That inspired me to enter that field.

The air-conditioning industry was so new, and I was a part of a national organization, which became the Air Conditioning Contractors of America.

Q. Why did you decide to run for public office?
A. I have always been active in federal, state, county and local government. I was the national president of the Air Conditioning Contractors of America in 1974 and 1975, and presented a paper on energy and the economy to President Ford at the White House. In 1976, I was appointed to the Palm Beach County Advisory Board to the County Commission on energy and, at the same time, I was appointed to the county’s Citizens’ Task Force. I was also the longest sitting member on the advisory to the county commissioners concerning zoning and development.

In 1993, a friend asked me to attend a meeting of 15 or more people and they asked me if I would run for town commissioner. I was surprised, talked to my wife about it, and decided to run.

Q. What was your favorite part about being mayor and commissioner of South Palm Beach for so many years? What were your major accomplishments?
A. The pride of being a mayor and commissioner — I tried to be open, responsive and reflective on issues so that people could feel free to speak their points.

The development of our present phenomenal staff was a contribution. I’m most proud of — our town manager, Rex Taylor, town clerk, Janet Whipple, Yudy Alvarez and Sandy Fine, on staff, and Charles O’Neal, in charge of landscape maintenance. I’m proud of our town attorney, Trena White, and our police captain, Roger Crane, and his staff, who are outstanding people and deserve my utmost respect. All these things happened doing my “tour of duty.”

I’m proud of our contract with the Palm Beach County Fire Department, which has given us a level of service that is absolutely outstanding.

I was instrumental in bringing together county, state and federal levels of government involved in beach restoration, along with our neighbors in Manalapan, Palm Beach and Lantana, to address the issue of beach erosion and installation of breakwaters to provide beach stability.

Q. What advice do you have for a young person selecting a career today?
A. I have always been a strong advocate on education. That’s yours and becomes a part of you. Expand on it, and make it as broad as you can.

I think young people should learn everything that there is to know about their careers, and be the best there is to be. They should be like a sponge and not leave any door closed. They should have broad concepts, rather than tunnel vision. The higher your status is in the chain or an organization, the broader your vision should become.

Don’t ever accept success at the expense of values and principles in life.

Q. How did you choose to make your home in South Palm Beach?
A. While living in Bethesda, Maryland, we came to Orlando for a convention, and then visited South Palm Beach based on a friend’s recommendation. It was a small, undeveloped town with a growing community. We fell in love with it, moved here in 1974, and have had a wonderful life here.

Q. What is your favorite part about living in South Palm Beach?
A. I love the ambience of the community.

At first, cultural activities were limited. Today, it’s a strong cultural center and residents have the opportunity to listen to guest speakers, and interact with different ideas on issues that concern our world at large.

South Palm Beach affords opportunities for residents to enjoy life to the fullest, grow as individuals, and know that they are still part of the world that we live in.

Q. What do you feel is the single most difficult decision the town will have to make in the next five years?
A. The most important issue we face is beach erosion, restoration and stability.

Concerning development, I don’t want South Palm Beach to become a concrete jungle. Change should reflect the people of the community.

Q. Who or what makes you laugh?
A. I laugh very easily. I enjoy people. I think that people are great. I can laugh with everybody.

Q. What is your favorite quote that inspires your decisions?
A. South Palm Beach is a village of and for people. It is bound by it on all sides, and although we love and adore the sea, it doesn’t always love us.
With school district money problems, WXEL sale again up in the air

By Thomas R. Collins

Another deal might have turned to static for perennially for-sale WXEL. Nine months after the Palm Beach County School District expressed an interest in buying the public radio and TV stations from Barry University, the School Board voted to pull half the money it had set aside for the deal to balance its economy-rocked budget.

The pullback might clear the way for other groups to again begin making a bid for the stations.

The School Board never officially voted no on the proposed buy, but the purchase of the stations is no longer up for a yes vote, either.

"Where is it exactly? I don’t know," district spokesman Nat Harrington said.

That has left the stations, which Barry has wanted to sell for about four years, in its familiar position: on the air, but up in the air.

Barry spokesman Mike Laderman said he hadn’t heard from school district officials about their next step.

"We’re looking for the right organization to take over the stations, so right now the ball is in the School Board’s hands," he said.

"We’re not doing anything assuming something will or will not happen with the School Board.

The Community Broadcast Foundation of Palm Beach and the Treasure Coast is hoping that it can re-open negotiations with the university about buying the stations.

"We’re very actively interested in it," said Murray Green, vice president of the foundation’s board and a retired radio and television broadcaster. "We felt that it was not right for the School Board to operate it. Most areas around the country, school boards and colleges and universities have given up their public broadcasting stations and found that it was not the right business for them."

The foundation was part of a deal crafted in 2007 in which the stations would have been sold to a New York station, WNET. But the Federal Communications Commission shot it down because of what it said was a lack of local control.

Green now says the FCC made the right decision.

The school district sought to include the foundation in its bid for the stations but the partnership didn’t happen.

Green has publicly criticized the board’s approach to the proposed partnership.

"The district has said it will not be responsible for any financial shortfall in the budget," Green wrote in a newspaper column for Scripps newspapers in April. "The School Board wants to hold the license, sit as the board of directors of the stations, but have an outside party be responsible for management and finances. We will not accept these terms."

Miami station WPBT has also expressed interest in buying the stations.

Green said the station takes in about $6 million a year, but would probably need $10 million for the first two years after being acquired because the building and equipment need upgrading.

"There is a major, major amount of work and a sizable amount of money that has to be put into it," he said.

Green said he has commitments from donors who would supply the stations with the cash they need.

"What we have is a sizable number of people who have said ‘we will support you when we know that you have the license’," Green said. "The problem has been that it has been sitting out there for so long, almost all of that has to start from scratch in many ways. We have commitments, but we felt that when the license is obtained those commitment would magnify."

10/6-31 - My Fair Lady - A Christmas-themed production featuring contemporary paintings, sculpture and photography. 10:30 am. $10/adult 5-12/$10/child. 742-6396.

10/6-15 - The Fall Festival - Hosted by Sister Cities of Delray Beach for families and adults at the Norton Museum of Art, 1451 S. Olive Ave., West Palm Beach. Enjoy a concert of the museum’s October 2009 Exhibit - Harmony and Enchantment: The Very Hungry Caterpillar - Blane De St Croix, FAU Theatre. Doors open at 6:30 pm. 742-6396.

10/8 - Art After Dark: Halloween Chill - at the Boynton Beach Civic Center, 100 S. Olive Ave., West Palm Beach. Tour, live music, activities and refreshments of a different kind. 10 am-5 pm. $10/adult, free/ages 12-17, children under 12 admitted, $3. 243-7922 or www.oldschool.org for hours and tickets.


10/9 - Make a Notebook from a Floppy Disc - presented by the Boynton Beach City Library. 51 S. Seacrest Blvd. Grades 6-12. Free. 742-6393.

10/9 - Writer’s Corner - Free manuscript critique. 11 am Mon - 5 pm Fri. 515 S. Federal Highway, Boynton Beach. Monthly program gives writers a helping hand to get their work published.

10/9 - Jamaica Buff Gold Coast Band Concert at the Boynton Beach Civic Center, 100 S. Olive Ave., Boynton Beach. Noon-6 pm. $5. Children 12 and under free.

10/9 - GreenLight Laser (For Enlarged Prostate P/B) - presented by William K. Skinner, M.D., Urologist, at Bethesda Memorial Hospital, 2815 S. Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach. 2-7 pm. Free. 742-6396.

10/10 - Give Peace Another Chance Party at Cranese Beach House Hotel & Spa, 82 Glenston St., Delray Beach. $40 a person, $70 a couple. Live music, prayers, and unique products. Old School Square Gymnasium, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton. 7 pm. 297-2661 or www.fau.edu/galleries.

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October 11-17
Sunday - 10/11 - Childbirth Education
Prenatal Class is offered as a one-day
weekend refresher class at Bethesda
Memorial Hospital, 2815 S. Seacrest Blvd.,
Boynton Beach. Review the signs of labor,
breathing techniques and more. Bring two
pillows for rest and a pair of stretchy
clothes, no dresses or skirts. Early
registration required. $5 discount if you are
registered before Bethesda Memorial Hospital
9-9 am. 495-0233 or www.morikami.org.

October 12-18
Monday - 10/12 - Great Books group
discusses Questions for Invisable Man by
Ralph Ellison at the Boynton Beach
Public Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. Group
meets the second and fourth Mondays of each
month. 10 am. 742-6393.
Tuesday - 10/13 - Evening Book Group
meets at the Boynton Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. 4-5:30 pm. Frees. 742-6393.
Wednesday - 10/14 - Adult Jazz Dance &
Conditioning is held at Bethesda
Memorial Hospital, 2815 S. Seacrest Blvd. Ages 1 to
grades 3. 7 pm. 742-6393.
Thursday - 10/15 - River of Grass Canoe/Kayak
Expedition Sign-Up Deadline - R. Marshall
Formation seeks experienced canoeists,
young and veterans for a
3-day event. The 7-mile adventure begins the
742-6393.
Friday - 10/16 - Drop-In P-Make & Take:
Avalon Park - 9 am-4 pm. Made-to-order
craft classes are held at the Avalon Park
Mall. 495-0233 or www.morikami.org.
Saturday - 10/17 - Sand Sifters Beach
Cleanup at Gulf Stream Park, 4490 N. Ocean
Blvd. Gulf Stream. 9 am-10 am. Free. Bring hat and
sunscreen. 734-9218.
Sunday - 10/18 - Fall Family Festival
at Mounts Botanical Garden, 531 N. Military
Road, Boca Raton. 7 pm. 297-2661 or www.
MountsBotanical.com.

October 18-24
Sunday - 10/18 - Fall Family Festival
at Mounts Botanical Garden, 531 N. Military
Trail, West Palm Beach. This is an opportunity with
the Junior League of the Palm Beaches. Annual event features games, hands-
on activities, music, refreshments and prizes.
Children-meets-horror movie is a Halloween
costume. Some activities free, others
have nominal charge. 11 am-4 pm. 51 adults, free/children
Monday - 10/19 - Florida Premier of Onze
in Afghanistan with commentary by one of
the Peace Corps presenters, at the
Boynton Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Tickets required. $5 donation suggested. 266-4940 or 266-0194.
Tuesday - 10/20 - The Art of Filmmaking
Students at the South Florida Video
Youth Production present their productions in the
Boynton Beach City Library, Room 208. 519 S. Seacrest Blvd. 6-8 pm. Free. 495-0233.
Wednesday - 10/21 - Adult Tag is offered at the
Boynton Beach Civic Center, 208 S. Ocean Ave. on
Mondays from 7-8 pm. $10.50 members. 742-6393.
Thursday - 10/22 - Drop In For Food: Apple
Smiles - Ages 2-5 make apple crafts at the
Schoolhouse Children’s Museum, 129 E. Ocean
Ave. 9 am-1 pm. $5. 742-6393.
Friday - 10/23 - Pajama Party - Held at the
Boynton Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. 6 pm. Free. 742-6393.
Saturday - 10/24 - Where the Wild Things Are
Pajama Party - Ages 3 to 8 puzzles are invited to Join Where The Wild Things Are at Adventure Sandals at the Boynton Beach City Library 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. Sing and dance to silly monster songs and make a memory craft while in pajamas. 6:30-8 pm. Free. 742-6393.
10/27 - Astronomy Night - See our galaxy through telescopes (weather permitting) or view a slideshow on the birth and death of stars at Sandoway House Nature Center, 142 S. Ocean Blvd., Delray Beach. $3. Reservations required. 279-2631.

10/28 - Halloween Costume Parade & Storytime - Infants to age 5 join a "spooky" parade while wearing their Halloween costumes at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. 11 am-noon. Free. 742-6393.

10/28 - Spaghetti Dinner is held to benefit The Boynton Beach Women’s Club, 1010 S. Federal Hwy., Boynton Beach. 4-7 pm. $3/adults, $1/children 12 and under, $2/ family of 4. 369-2300.

10/28 - Halloween Storytime & Craft - Grades k-5 listen to "spooky" music and stories, and make a Halloween craft at the Boynton Beach City Library. 6:30-8 pm. Free. 742-6393.

10/28 - Halloween Movie - Grades 6-12 celebrate Halloween at the Boynton Beach City Library, 205 S. Seacrest Blvd. Watch Hallowquest (PG), based on Camelot Fount’s best-selling book. 6-8 pm. Free. 742-6393.


Oct. 22: 10-2: 10/28 - Halloween Costume Parade & Storytime - Infants to age 5 join a "spooky" parade while wearing their Halloween costumes at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. 11 am-noon. Free. 742-6393.

Oct. 28 - Halloween Storytime & Craft - Grades k-5 listen to "spooky" music and stories, and make a Halloween craft at the Boynton Beach City Library. 6:30-8 pm. Free. 742-6393.

10/29 - Halloweens Cupcakes - Grades 6-12 apply singing at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. 6-7 pm. Free. 742-6393.

10/29-31: 10th Annual Haunted Hall of Terror - Family fun for all ages includes face painting and trick or treat. Delray Beach Community Center, 500 W. 1st Avenue, Delray Beach. Thursday: 6-10 pm; Friday: 7-7:30 pm; Saturday: 7-7:30 pm. Advance tickets at the Community Center or www.hauntedhallsofterror.com. 547-2771.

10/29 - Pre-K Fun with Food: Apples Turksers - Kids and families make turkey with apples at the Schoolhouse Children’s Museum, 129 E. Ocean Ave., Boynton Beach. Ages 2-5. 10:30 am. $2.50 plus admission to the museum. 742-6782.

10/30 - Shoalish Comedy Magic & Frightful Illusion Show with master illusionist Gary Goodman is held at Sugar Sand Park Community Center, 300 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton. Two nights: 10/30 - 6 pm & 8 pm, 10/31 - noon & 2 pm. $3/adults, $2/children 12 and under. Limited seating. www.SugarSandPark.org

10/30 - Halloweens Kids Night Out - A kids only Halloween party with crafts, games, and costume contests at the Schoolhouse Children’s Museum, 129 E. Ocean Ave., Boynton Beach. 6:30-10 pm. $20/child, $10 each additional child from the same household. Reservations required. 742-6782.

10/30/31 - “Orchids on the Square” is presented by the Delray Beach Orchid Society.

The 19th annual show and sale is held at Old School Square Gymnasium, 51 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. 10 am-5 pm. $3-5/7-922 or www.delraybeachorchidsociety.com.

Saturday - 10/31 - Boynton Green Market Season opener - Now at two locations: Schoolhouse Children’s Museum, 129 E. Ocean Ave. and Boynton Beach Mall. 801 N. Congress. 8 am-1 pm. Kids good, produce, crafts and artisans. 752-6596.

10/31 - Delray Greenmarket Opening Day - Trick or treat at the new downtown location in the street on NE 4th Ave. just south of Atlantic Ave. 8 am-1 pm. Open an open market offers fresh produce, baked goods, plants and more. 216-7291.

10/31 - Oceanides Farmers Market is located at north end of School Square and Lake Avenue, one block east of Dixie Hwy. in downtown Lake Worth. 8 am-noon. Market hosts over 30 vendors. 283-5856 or www.oceanidesfarmersmarket.com.

10/31 - Walk for Lupus Now - Lupus Foundation of America event provides support for lupus patients and their families. 8 am registration at Anchor Park, 140 S. Ocean Blvd., Delray Beach with a 2 mile walk at 9 am. 297-8066 or www.lupusorg.org.

10/31 - Not So Scary Halloween Party - Visit Sandoway House Nature Center for trick or treating and Halloweens creature crafts, 142 S. Ocean Blvd., Boynton Beach. 10 am-4 pm. $4/ages 3 and older, free/children 12 and under dressed in a halloween costume. 742-7263.


10/31 - Halloweens Parade & Kids Fest - Trick or treat merchants on Delray Beach’s Atlantic Avenue from 11:30 am-1:30 pm, then gather on the grounds of Okeechobee Square for costume judging. Sponsored by the Boynton K8s of Delray Beach, the parade begins at 1:30 pm and moves from Old School Square east to Veterans Park where ice cream will be served to all costumed children. Kids Fest is held at Veterans Park, 1-4 pm. 276-6537.

Coastal Clean-up
Steve Ruud and Wendy Thaler, both of Delray Beach, leave Delray Beach’s Mangrove Park to join the International Coastal Cleanup on the Intracoastal Waterway. Trash was returned to volunteers from Marina Delray for disposal. ICC continues at 8 am, Oct. 10 at Boat Club Park, 2010 N. Federal Hwy., Boynton Beach. Call 369-5524. Photo by Mary Kate Leming

Palermo Long Realty’s 30+ year tradition of exceptional client service, integrity, market knowledge and real estate guidance continues with its recent merger with illustrated Properties, another family-owned brokerage with over 28 locations in South Florida. Bob Long and Diana Duffy remain dedicated to providing unsurpassed expertise to Sellers and Buyers and remain “The Island Specialists” whether your real estate goals involve selling or buying. We look forward to assisting you in achieving those goals.

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Stepien
Photos courtesy of Tim Amber Tutweiler.
surfing, created by his friend
surround a painting of Matt Chip Latimer, and a brother, 
Barbara Bradshaw Latimer and
He is survived by his parents,
off of Spanish River Park in Boca 
beach, died Aug. 4. He was 
Matthew Latimer, 22, of Delray
ceremony in his memory.
Life with a symbolic paddle-out 
beach Sept. 27 to celebrate his 

Obituaries

Ride out for Matt

ABOVE: Family and friends of Matthew Latimer gathered at Atlantic Dunes Park in Delray Beach Sept. 27 to celebrate his life with a symbolic paddle-out ceremony in his memory. Matthew Latimer, 22, of Delray Beach, died Aug. 4. He was found unconscious, underwater off of Spanish River Park in Boca Raton. He is survived by his parents, Barbara Bradshaw Latimer and Chip Latimer, and a brother, Matthew Duncan.

Mathew Duncan

By Ron Hayes
BRINY BREEZES — When the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, Matthew Duncan immediately quit his job at the Buick plant in Flint, Mich., and joined the Marines. He was 20 then, and embarking on a lifetime of service to his country, community and friends, including 16 years on the Briny Breezes Town Council.

Mr. Duncan died Sept. 19, eight months after being diagnosed with cancer, and two days before his 63rd wedding anniversary. He was 88.

“He didn’t have spare time,” remembers his wife, Louise. “He always worked around the park, or on the council, and in a lot of organizations up home.”

Born Dec. 23, 1920, in Flint, Mr. Duncan served as a gunnery sergeant on two Jima, Saipan and Tinian during some of the fiercest fighting in the Pacific. After the war, he joined the Flint Fire Department, working 24 hours on duty and 54 off, and ran the Matt Duncan Insurance Agency in between.

He was a 32nd degree Mason, a past chief of the Clan Mackenzie Scottish Rites, and a founding member and past president of the Springs Meadows Country Club in Linden, Mich.

The Duncans first came to Briny Breezes in 1975 and became permanent residents in the mid-1980s. In 1991, Mr. Duncan was elected to the Town Council and served as its president from 1999 to 2007, when he declined to run for re-election.

“He was a very fair person, that’s the first thing,” remembers Rita Taylor, who served with Mr. Duncan. “And always willing to assist. When they first put in our interior cable TV network, he acted as an unofficial handyman. Anybody who had a problem, he was the go-to guy.”

To his friends and neighbors, he was the friendly fellow who rode around town in a golf cart with his Shih Tzu, Lucky, forever at his side.

“He was nice guy, and a handy guy,” recalled his friend, Rob Kraft. “If you wanted something fixed, you could count on Matt.”

In addition to his wife, Mr. Duncan is survived by two sons, Jeffrey, of Briny Breezes, and Bruce, of Flint; three granddaughters, Stacey Goforth of Virginia Beach, Va.; Stephanie Gerald of Wilmington, N.C.; and Bonnie Duncan of Flint; a grandson, Bradley Duncan, of Grayling, Mich.; and five great-grandchildren.

Mr. Duncan was cremated, with plans for a memorial service at a later date.

Donations in his memory may be made to Hospice of the Palm Beaches, Teal Team, 5300 East Ave., West Palm Beach, FL 33407, or the American Cancer Society.

Mary Alice Pugh
By Ron Hayes
DELRAY BEACH — Mary Alice Pugh’s life was all about finding new horizons.

Born Mary Alice Selby on Jan. 14, 1944, in Martins Ferry, Ohio, she earned a bachelor’s degree in laboratory medicine at West Virginia University. She married David Pugh in 1966; they started a family.

After her two sons were raised, Mrs. Pugh returned to college to earn a master’s degree in education from Nova University in Fort Lauderdale, and began a second career as a teacher.

And then, in 1993, she and a colleague founded New Horizon Academy in the basement of a Boca Raton office building.

At the time of her death, Sept. 2, New Horizon Academy was thriving in its own building, a fully accredited private school dedicated to small classes.

“There were schools for dropouts and schools for the gifted, but we saw a need for the average student who just needed smaller classes,” recalls Dr. Barbara Rackett, who co-founded the school with Mrs. Pugh. “For the first couple of years we both taught.

She taught anatomy and physiology to high school students, and she was very, very active and with a lot of energy.”

Mrs. Pugh was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2000, but remained active with the school until April.

“She always had a real commitment to education,” her husband recalled. “Even when raising our two boys, she was very active in the schools and started a leadership conference in the high school. She had been a good student herself; I guess that’s why,” he said. “New Horizon will continue.”

A resident of Delray Beach since 1991, Mrs. Pugh was a member of First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by two sons, Todd and Michael, both of Chicago, Ill.; two brothers, John, of San Diego, Calif.; and Edward, of Middlefield, Ohio. A burial service was held in Martins Ferry Ohio on Sept. 10.

Donations in her name may be made to the Susan G. Komen for the Cure, P.O. Box 650309, Dallas, TX 75265, and Hospice by the Sea, 1521 W. PalmNetto Park Road, Boca Raton, FL 33486.

Pauline Deibert Marquis
By Ron Hayes

DELRAY BEACH — Pauline ‘Polly’ Deibert Marquis, originally from Palmerston, PA and Greenwich, CT, died on her 104th birthday. She was the daughter of Franklin W. and Lydia Gregory Deibert, and the sister of Jonathan Deibert. She was graduated from Ursinus College in Pennsylvania and was married to Byron St. Croix Marquis for 55 years becoming a widow in 1988. A son, Gregory Ewing Marquis, died in 1998.

Initially a French teacher, later in life Mrs. Marquis became an antique silver dealer. For decades she worked as a volunteer in hospital thrift shops and in the Family Room at the Greenwich Hospital and was an active member of Planned Parenthood. She was an enthusiastic and skilled gardener, golfer and bridge player.

She is survived by her daughter, Sue Gordon of Beverly, Mass and Sarasota her grandchildren, David Byron Gordon and Janet Ellen Gordon.

A memorial service was held at Harbor’s Edge in Delray Beach. A family internment ceremony will be held in Gilbert, PA.

Donations in her memory may be made to Planned Parenthood.

Obituary submitted by the family

E-mail obituary information to news@thecoastalstar.com

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Sundown on Friday, Sept.18 marked the beginning of Rosh Hashana, the Jewish New Year. The next day, others began observing Eid-ul-Fitr, marking the completion of Ramadan, the Muslim month of reedication. Still others, including Christian friends (some of whom The Washington Post noted had joined in Ramadan fasting) were honoring both holidays with wishes of “ubahna tawt” (for a good year) and “eid mubarak” (a blessed Eid). Among them all are those gearing for the second annual Weekend of Twinning of Mosques and Synagogues Across American and Europe, Nov. 13-15, dedicated to the proposition of stronger relations between Jews and Muslims. In South Florida, that includes members of JAM & All, “An organization of Jews, Muslims, Christians and All Peoples.”

Last November, the New York-based, not-for-profit Foundation for Ethnic Understanding, headed by noted Rabbi Marc Schneider and hip-hop mogul Russell Simmons, united 50 mosques and 50 synagogues across North America in the first Weekend of Twinning, with the theme of Confronting Islamophobia and anti-Semitism Together.” This year 75 synagogues and 75 mosques in North America may take part, with a “Building a Common Agenda” the theme. The FFEU in July hosted more than two dozen rabbis and imams who will join in from European synagogues and mosques.

JAM & All is part of that and more, said Kathleen Leonard of Delray Beach, a vice president and founder of the nonprofit organization whose membership extends from Miami to Delray and is expanding.

Leonard explained that as a member of TAO, the Center for Reform Judaism in Fort Lauderdale: “Right after 9/11 we got together with the Islamic Foundation of South Florida (of Sunrise) and had an open forum and created this organization to give the opportunity for education and socializing.

“We’ve developed very deep friendships. At the same time we’re presenting events like conferences, town hall meetings, an annual picnic. So there are a variety of activities we do in JAM in order to promote our mission to develop peace and understanding.”

JAM also is participating in sustained dialogue based on the guidebook, Children of Abraham, Jews and Muslims in Conversation. In addition to the pairing between TAO and the Islamic Foundation, in some cases the twinning is going to be a kickoff weekend for the beginning of dialogue groups.

“This is what JAM has been all about, is the ability to educate, socialize and learn from each other,” Leonard said. She welcomes calls at 561-289-4621 from groups for Reform Judaism in Fort Lauderdale: “Right after 9/11 we got together with the Islamic Foundation of South Florida (of Sunrise) and had an open forum and created this organization to give the opportunity for education and socializing.

“We’ve developed very deep friendships. At the same time we’re presenting events like conferences, town hall meetings, an annual picnic. So there are a variety of activities we do in JAM in order to promote our mission to develop peace and understanding.”

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“This is what JAM has been all about, is the ability to educate, socialize and learn from each other,” Leonard said. She welcomes calls at 561-289-4621 from groups that would like JAM’s assistance as facilitator.
Done right, dining out with your doggies can be a treat

Lacking thumbs makes it tricky for dogs to use utensils, but that shouldn’t stop them from displaying good manners when dining out with their people.

In fact, inviting dogs to eateries is proving to be a smart strategy in these lean economic times.

Case in point: the Saba Sushi Bar and Lounge in Boca Raton.

Every night from 4 to 7 p.m., well-mannered dogs (on leashes) are welcome to participate in “yappy hour.” Canine guests lap up bowls of water while their two-legged pals dine on sushi or Thai food.

“In Boca Raton, it seems there are a lot of toy dogs and their owners want to take them when they are out and about,” says Zack Gardner, Saba owner/manager. “I have two Labrador retrievers and can understand people wanting their dogs to be with them.”

Gardner says has hosted this weeknight yappy hour for more than two years without any feisty Fido fracases.

More than two dozen eateries with outdoor patios welcome well-mannered mutts and pedigrees from Lake Worth to Boca Raton. You may find yourself sidestepping dog water bowls along restaurant row on Atlantic Avenue in Delray Beach.

And staying yappy hours as a way to benefit worthy causes is also on the rise. Just ask Cheryl Lee Gorman, who operates a cage-free pet resort with her brother, Sean. “In Iraq and Afghanistan,” says Gorman, returning from Iraq and “stink” at the restaurant.

“Returning Heroes group.

“This group helps raise funds to provide service dogs for soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan,” says Gorman, who operates a cage-free pet resort with her brother, Sean. “We hope to sponsor another yappy hour event early next year.”

Ensuring that the number of pet-welcoming eateries and pet-attended events stays steady — or increases — depends on those at the other end of the leash: the owners.

Let me share 10 “petiquette” pointers for you and your pooch to master the next time you head for a pet-accepting eatery:

- Test your dog’s obedience-heeding commands at home and on walks.
- Your dog should be able to ace the “sit,” “stay” and “leave” commands.
- Exercise your dog before dining out. A tired dog is less apt to be rambunctious and more apt to want to snooze under your table while you enjoy your meal.
- Give your dog ample time to take care of his bathroom needs before you head to a restaurant. Just in case: Bring extra poop disposable bags so your dog doesn’t create a “stink” at the restaurant.
- Come prepared. Bring a portable water bowl and perhaps a bag of doggy treats.
- Play it low key. Don’t make a big fuss about your dog joining you at an eatery. Tether your dog’s leash to your chair.
- Reel in that leash. Keep your dog on a short rein, about 4 feet. Do not let your dog, even those itty-bitty cute ones, wander into tables occupied by other patrons. Here’s a shocker: Not everyone adores dogs.
- Be prepared to request a doggy bag to go if your dog acts up by barking, lunging at other dogs or insisting on sniffing other patrons.
- Set your dog up for success by selecting times to test his dining manners at non-peak serving times.
- Be candid with yourself. If you know your dog cannot bring his A-level manners to the restaurant (remember Marley?), then keep him at home.
- Refrain from letting your dog sit in your lap or, worse, eat from your fork. Keep those habits inside the privacy of your own home so other patrons can enjoy their meals.

Finally, dish out a big tip — 20 percent or more — to show your appreciation to the restaurant staff for allowing four-leggers in their outdoor areas.

Bone appétit!

Rusty awaits his humans outside CoCo’s Cafe in downtown Delray Beach. Photo by Jerry Lower.
House of the Month

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

Old Florida ambience in Ocean Ridge

This uncommon residence was built in 1955 and is a genuine ‘Old Florida’ home east of A1A in Ocean Ridge. In fact, only two owners have occupied the home since its construction. The present owners have lovingly cared for it and the award-winning grounds for 46 years. The home is in original condition and has been painstakingly and meticulously maintained by caring, interested preservationists.

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