Briny Breezes

ROGER BENNETT
1933-2019

Eight-term mayor navigated ‘crazy time’

By Dan Moffett

Roger Bennett was sworn in as the mayor of Briny Breezes right when the town needed him most.

“I’m so pleased the people had enough faith in this old loon to elect me,” he told a reporter in 2007 after easily defeating two opponents in what was then only the second contested election in Briny’s history.

Mr. Bennett died Jan. 12 at Bethesda Memorial Hospital in Boynton Beach after a short illness. He was 85 and serving his eighth one-year term as mayor.

Mr. Bennett would become the right mayor at the right time when a condo developer offered $510 million to buy the mobile home community and build condos — lots of them. Things were about to get crazy in Briny.

The prospect of becoming instant millionaires turned some neighbors against each other.

Council meetings got raucous. Residents in surrounding communities hurled sanctimonious complaints about excessive growth — and greed. Reporters from across the country came to tell an often unhappy story.

Neighbors had persuaded Mr. Bennett to run for office, believing his long career as a journalist and educator equipped him to articulate the town’s case to the public, and perhaps more important, to Briny’s corporate board.

“It was a crazy time,” said Barbara Bennett, his wife of 58 years.

See BENNETT on page 14

Along the Coast

Bike lanes and improved crosswalks may be on the horizon along some stretches of A1A.

Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

Changes likely to be slow along A1A

FDOT leader sees future as growing partnership with communities

By Rich Pollack

It is a main street unlike any other in South Florida, connecting coastal communities and serving as a major thoroughfare for people wanting a leisurely drive, a pleasant walk or a beachside bicycle ride.

For more than 90 years, State Road A1A has served as a peaceful pathway stretching almost 340 miles along the Florida coastline from Key West to just south of the Georgia line.

That’s not likely to change — at least not in the next 10 years — according to at least one local leader at the Florida Department of Transportation, which is responsible for maintaining A1A and has ownership and oversight of the road and swaths of

See A1A on page 26

Delray Beach

Residents rally to preserve trees on historic Swinton

By Jane Smith

The fear that Swinton Avenue could lose scores of shade trees to make way for bike lanes and sidewalks rekindled the spirit of community activism in Delray Beach resident Annette Annechild.

It began last November when she saw a “big truck on my front lawn that busted my bushes.”

She soon learned workers were marking the location of underground utility lines to prepare for a $2.2 million makeover of Swinton Avenue.

Annechild got angry.

She urged her neighbors to attend a gathering at the city library, where an early version

See TREES on page 18

Residents tied black ribbons on about 50 trees along Swinton Avenue to protest proposed changes to the street.

Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

Inside

Lucibella trial begins

Proceedings expected to last a week.

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Updates at thecoastalstar.com

The ‘new’ Norton

We take a look inside the expanded museum.

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Golden anniversary

Delray Beach Club marks a 50-year milestone.

Page H1

‘Funny Girl’

Wick musical explores the life of actress Fanny Brice.

Page AT11
Editor’s Note

Slow change on main street fits ideal of island life

When the windows are open at my Ocean Ridge home, I hear the car roll by on State Road A1A. Bicyclist friends shout our names as a wake-up call early on Saturday mornings as they ride by. On our morning walks we wave to friends heading out for work or coffee.

For as years tick by, we’ve watched neighbor kids grow up in the back seats as parents dutifully drove them to school. From inside our newsroom we’ve learned to count the public safety vehicles screaming down the road and contemplating how we might report our local breaking news.

In other words, for most of my adult life, A1A has been my main street.

When we started The Coastal Star, I had visions of getting the municipalities along A1A to come together to create a unique and defined place. I could see an expanded commercial district in the Briny Breezes/Ocean Ridge/County Pocket area as a midway point between Plaza del Mar in Manalapan and the shops off Palmetto Park Road in Boca Raton.

I sought a sidewalk all along the highway would create unity among our towns while improving pedestrian safety. It seemed to me that streetlights sharing a design style along the road would provide a sense of place.

I even thought that having Wi-Fi along the corridor would give this newly defined area some zing.

And, it seemed to me, all of this might have been possible with the creation a multi-municipality overlay district. But then, battles over commercial zoning and bike lanes ensued. It became increasingly clear that consensus was nowhere in sight.

I suspect a couple of our towns would fight the very mention of sidewalks — even with the benefit of public safety — and any agreement on multi-city project spending was probably doomed from the start.

It appears obvious that the Florida Department of Transportation too has witnessed the independent functioning of each local government and has chosen to take the slow road on implementing changes to our main street.

Although there have been few changes over the years, it’s been heartening to see consistent pedestrian crosswalk signage go up along the road. This has been a vast safety improvement in areas where people — like me — enjoy walking to and from the beach.

With Highland Beach’s March referendum on whether or not to spend $45 million on A1A-area improvements, we have a chance to see if one town embraces features that other municipalities may perceive as beneficial. Highland Beach’s proposals for installing underground utilities along A1A, lighted crosswalks, landscaping and walking path improvements and designated bicycle lanes could help jump-start discussions in other towns.

But I wouldn’t count on it. Each municipality on the barrier island is, dare I say, an island. Hopefully, islands that aren’t sinking.

No matter how (or if) Highland Beach embraces change, we will all continue to face storm flooding and rising tides. PDOT currently has little concern about rain events unless standing water remains for more than several hours. Having A1A flooded for this long presents a serious public safety concern during increasingly frequent rainstorms and rising flooding. This is one area unlikely to benefit from the slow and steady approach.

Otherwise, it’s safe to say A1A will stay pretty much the same for some time. That’s not necessarily a bad thing. It’s still a very special road through a very special place: our main street.

— Mary Kate Leming, Editor

Correction

January’s On the Water column listed the wrong day of the week for monthly cleanups at Intracoastal Park in Boynton Beach. Most of the cleanups organized by Boynton C.A.R.E.S. are held on the first Sunday of each month.
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**Letter to the Editor**

**A1A proposal not worth massive disruption**

As a resident of Highland Beach since 2002, I have a few remarks regarding the town’s proposed A1A project.

Leaving the cost consideration and funding aside (3 miles at $15 million per mile), I am concerned that the proposed A1A project will adversely impact our quality of life, relaxing, clean, serene and safe lifestyle. To put it simply, we will be living in a construction zone at a time when we want to enjoy retirement.

We will suffer congested traffic, pollution, noise from daily heavy construction equipment, disruption to driving, walking, running, walking dogs and breathing fresh air. A1A will have heavy equipment, trucks, tractors, jackhammers, workers and portable toilets, possibly for years.

While the project is in progress on the only road in and out of Highland Beach, it will likely impact the housing market, making it more difficult to sell, and some will be forced to lower their prices to move out.

Accumulation of storm water is a pervasive issue in Florida and its solution requires a realistic cost/benefit and engineering analysis.

The proposal to remove newly erected cement poles and wiring and move utilities underground is at odds with the two jurisdictions to the north and south of us. Boca Raton and Delray Beach maintain wiring above ground while Highland Beach proposes to bury its wiring underground at a massive cost. In case of severe storm damage, restoring power to underground wires may be more problematic.

Lawsuits by homeowners whose property will be affected by the proposed expansion of the bike paths and/or tearing up the landscaping designs are a very real possibility. While lawsuits are in court there could be extensive delays, not to mention legal fees to the town.

I was prompted to write this message because of the concerns I hear from residents when I walk daily on A1A.

The disruption that will take place when the state installs the new road on A1A will be disruptive enough. Adding the proposed A1A projects by the town will create havoc and unhappiness in our daily lives for years to come.

Consider this potential when voting in March.

— Amr F. Moustapha
Highland Beach

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**Local Voices**

**Prison time helped McCarty change view on restoring felon voting rights**

By Mary McCarty

On Jan. 8, 2019, my life had come full circle. It was 10 years to the day that I had resigned in disgrace from 21 years of public service, having been charged with one count of conspiracy to commit honest services fraud. Certainly, not a day I am proud of. It is, however, now part of my life story, one horrible chapter that has served to shape the remainder of my life.

On this day, I was the first felon in Palm Beach County to register to vote, taking advantage of the Restoration of Rights referendum that had overwhelmingly passed in November.

There was a time when I believed felons should not have the ability to vote again, ever. Voting was a privilege, after all, and if one chose to commit a crime, that privilege should be taken away forever.

Not surprisingly, my view has changed considerably.

I now feel that once people have suffered the consequences of their offense, they should be given a second chance to rejoin society with all of their rights and privileges. Otherwise, how can we hope to have full rehabilitation and reintegration back into civil society?

While going to prison was a terrible experience and one I would never have chosen for my life’s path, it was also a rewarding experience that taught me many lessons, and for that I am very grateful.

I learned patience, humility, empathy, and to not be quick to judge people. I learned how blessed my life was compared to so many that I encountered.

There was another, very unexpected, silver lining from prison time which helped McCarty change view on restoring felon voting rights.

We will suffer congested traffic, leaving the cost consideration and funding aside (3 miles at $15 million per mile), I am concerned that the proposed A1A project will adversely impact our happiness in our daily lives.

Leaving the cost consideration and funding aside (3 miles at $15 million per mile), I am concerned that the proposed A1A project will adversely impact our happiness in our daily lives.

Amr F. Moustapha
Highland Beach
The trial of onetime Ocean Ridge Vice Mayor Richard Lucibella has begun — two years and two months after town police arrested him in a backyard fracas.

Lucibella, 65, is charged with battery on a law enforcement officer and resisting arrest with violence, both felonies punishable by up to five years in prison.

In opening statements on Jan. 28, Assistant State Attorney Danielle Grundt asked the six-person jury to keep in mind who was on trial.

“The name of the case is State of Florida vs. Richard Lucibella, not State of Florida vs. the police officers, not State of Florida vs. Town of Ocean Ridge,” she said.

Co-defense attorney Heidi Perlet presented a different take on the case.

She told jurors that Ocean Ridge police Lt. Steven Wohlfiel, who was visiting Lucibella as a friend the night of the arrest, became suddenly somber and told Lucibella someone close to him was dying of cancer. Then he pulled out his own gun and fired it into the ground, Perlet said.

“Mr. Lucibella was in shock; he didn’t know what to do,” Perlet said.

Arresting officer Richard Ermeri, who has since been promoted to sergeant, testified the following day that Lucibella was “vulgar, argumentative, aggressive and belligerent” that night.

“I did not push him and I did not grab him by the wrist,” Ermeri said.

Town police went to Lucibella’s beachfront backyard on Oct. 22, 2016, after neighbors reported hearing gunshots. They confiscated a .40-caliber handgun and found five spent shell casings on the patio.

An ensuing scuffle left Lucibella handcuffed on the ground with fractured ribs and an injury above his eye that required stitches. One of the responding officers, Nubia Plesnik, says she was injured and is suing Lucibella, who has a $10 million umbrella liability policy, in civil court.

The State Attorney’s office decided not to pursue a misdemeanor count against Lucibella of using a firearm while intoxicated. In the original charging document, Grundt also dropped a misdemeanor count that Ocean Ridge police had filed: discharging a firearm in public.

At a pretrial conference, Grundt told Circuit Judge Daliah Weiss she expected to wrap up the state’s side of the case by midday Jan. 30. Lucibella’s other defense attorney, Marc Shiner, said his defense would take three days.

The judge told lawyers on both sides to have each day’s witnesses waiting their turn outside the courtroom. “I want to have a steady stream of witnesses going,” she said.

Lucibella is the chief executive of a multimillion-dollar Medicare shared savings group and publishes S.W.A.T. Magazine, a publication for ‘serious shooters, trainers and law enforcement personnel.’

He resigned as town commissioner and vice mayor when the State Attorney’s Office filed formal charges on Dec. 7, 2016.

The trial, first scheduled for April 2017, was postponed five times.

Former Ocean Ridge Vice Mayor Richard Lucibella sits before a potential pool of jurors in Palm Beach County Circuit Court. His trial on two felony counts began Jan. 28, and Judge Daliah Weiss told the jury that she expected the trial to last a week. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star
Town commissioners have sent the architects back to their drawing boards to save a towering ficus tree that helps define the charm of Polo Drive.

Kevin and Michelle Clark, who bought 3400 Polo Drive last April, two lots up from their present home, want to tear down the existing house and build a 7,406-square-foot, two-story Bermuda-style house. But the plan presented to commissioners Jan. 11 called for the ficus to be chopped down and two palm trees planted to frame the front entrance.

Commissioner Paul Lyons Jr., who moved to Polo Drive in 2007, said he frequently walks by the property and wanted the ficus preserved.

“There’s a section in the [town] code about preservation of the natural state,” Lyons said. “The ficus tree is the prominent trophy tree on Polo Drive, in my mind. And the code states that to the extent possible, practical I think it is, we should preserve them.”

Resident Cuppy Kraft agreed. “The people that are building the new houses want to put new landscaping in so to change the feel of the town, whereas what had drawn people to Gulf Stream is really the old look of the town with the big trees. And you know, eventually they’re going to be gone,” she said.

Landscape architect Maureen Smith and home architect Carlos Linares said they would come back with a plan to keep the ficus where it is or possibly lift it to another spot in the front yard.

“We’re going to need one of those cranes for the high rises kind of thing to come in here and do that. But it could be moved to the south side,” Smith said, estimating the cost at $25,000.

Linares also will change the roof tile from gray to white to not duplicate the gray roof on the Clarks’ current home at 3250 Polo.

To keep the 3400 project moving ahead, commissioners approved permits for land clearing and demolition and granted a special exception for a 30-foot rear setback to make room for a pool and pavilion.

In other business:

• Town Manager Greg Dunham said he and consultant Mathews Engineering would do an “alignment study” on the water main along State Road A1A before ordering a survey of the Australian pines lining the scenic highway.

• Staff attorney Trey Nazzaro told commissioners he is still working on a proposed ordinance to limit house construction times, saying rules in Broward County’s Lighthouse Point would help. Before, he was modeling his effort on town code in Palm Beach.

• Town maintenance worker Brian Dietrick told commissioners that mold in Place Au Soleil’s guardhouse is more rampant than previously thought, with wood rot inside the walls. He will return with estimates for repairs.
Little Club’s removal of ‘aggressive’ ducks creates controversy

By Brian Biggane

The decision to remove 24 Muscovy ducks from the Little Club property in late January left one member angry and others disappointed.

Robert Lehner, who has been general manager at the Gulf Stream club only since May, said club administrators made the decision to relocate the birds because of safety and health concerns.

“They were being fed, and that was a major issue,” Lehner said on Jan. 22, one day after having Wildlife Removal Services of West Palm Beach collect the birds and relocate them to a property near Lake Okeechobee.

“They were aggressive. We had someone who was bitten. We have a [dining] patio out back and they were pretty much living off the patio. The Health Department could shut us down if they did an inspection and found duck feces back there.”

Lehner’s explanations did not sit well with member Jackie Robinson, who resides with her husband, Richard, in Ocean Ridge. Claiming that only eight ducks out of 88 born on the property last February are still alive, Robinson said she took it upon herself to feed and take care of them.

“Yes, once in a while they pooped outside. If you’ve been to any golf course, there’s poop everywhere,” she said. “These ducks have lived there for the decade I’ve been [a member] and never bothered anyone. One of them apparently nipped at a lady when she went to pick up her purse, [but] she was out there playing with them to begin with … and when she went to pick up her purse she got nipped.”

“Obviously they thought she was going to feed them. That was a non-issue.”

The Animal Rights Foundation of Florida recommends not to feed Muscovy ducks, as once they are fed they become reliant on handouts and too lazy to forage for their natural diet. It consists of vegetation and insects, both of which are abundant in South Florida.

“All I have to do is call their name and they come running to me,” Robinson said. Robinson was also upset that members were not notified ahead of the removal. Lehner sent out a letter notifying them of the decision after the birds had been taken.

“It read, ‘The ducks have been fed by a member, which is not allowed,’” Robinson said. “No one has ever told me that in the 10 months I’ve been taking care of them. A bunch of people feed them.”

“It also said, ‘We have been assured the ducks have been relocated to a waterway out west.’ First it was Okeechobee, now it’s a waterway out west. I should go out there. They’ll come running to me if I call their names.”

Lehner said he was told the ducks would be taken to a “28-acre property off Lake Okeechobee,” but did not say where. “I am aware that you cannot relocate them into the wild. That’s why I was told they were going to a private property,” he said.

Repeated calls to Wildlife Removal Services seeking clarification were not returned.

Similarly, a request to speak to the woman who claimed to have been bitten did not get a response.

Robinson insisted that the ducks had not been relocated but instead had been euthanized.

Florida regulations do not permit Muscovy ducks to be put back into the wild for fear of spreading disease.

“They’re an invasive species, which means they’re not supposed to be here,” Palm Beach County Animal Care and Control spokesman David Walesky said. “There are very limited options [to relocate] them.”

“Humane euthanasia is oftentimes the most practical. I have heard of sanctuaries, I have heard of people in certain cultures eating them, but humane euthanasia is most practical.”

The Little Club members Casey Syring and Maria Guoth expressed disappointment the day after the removal that the ducks were no longer around.

“They were the most tame animals you ever saw,” Syring said. “I’m very disappointed.”

Guoth agreed, then added, “But people feeding them was not good. That changed the balance. Some people got angry, there were too many ducks.”

Robinson said she was going to continue the fight, “blasting it on social media” and reaching out to her representatives in Washington for action.

“I love them more than I love my dog,” she said. “It just breaks my heart.”

Not all the Muscovy ducks were removed from the golf course: These two and an ibis were present Jan. 23.

Jerry Lower / The Coastal Star

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Ocean Ridge
Titcomb to become first Lox Groves town manager

By Dan Moffett
Ocean Ridge Town Manager Jamie Titcomb is resigning his position in March to become the first manager in the upstart town of Loxahatchee Groves.

For Titcomb, the change is a return engagement of sorts. Thirteen years ago, when he was with the Palm Beach County League of Cities, he helped shepherd the fast-growing western community through the thorny process of incorporation.

"For me, this provides an opportunity to see through some unfinished business in the steps of creating a viable town from scratch, a professional challenge late in my career," Titcomb said, "and the ability to make a difference assisting the community to grow to the next level of governance."

Titcomb, the town intends to move toward a more traditional manager-council form of government.

Ocean Ridge Mayor Steve Coz scheduled a special Town Council meeting for 2 p.m. Jan. 30 to discuss finding Titcomb’s replacement.

Titcomb, 61, took over as Ocean Ridge’s manager in October 2015, leaving a similar position in Melbourne Beach.

He also has worked as the lead administrator in Lake Park and North Palm Beach. He was the executive director of the county League of Cities for 13 years and a former Boynton Beach city commissioner.

The Ocean Ridge commission hired Titcomb largely because he committed to handling the town’s budget preparation and finances. For roughly 25 years, former Town Clerk Karen Hansak had performed those duties until she retired shortly after Titcomb’s arrival.

Titcomb and the commission clashed several times during his first year over difficulties preparing the 2016-2017 budget.

He attributed the problems to the town’s outdated computer software and to necessary changes in methodology to improve transparency.

Besides overhauling budgeting, Titcomb developed in-house building inspection services for the town, with a full-time inspector.

He helped oversee a review of building codes and a citizens review of the Ocean Ridge charter. Titcomb also put in place an aggressive maintenance program for the town’s aging drainage system.

Titcomb also had performed those duties for roughly 18 months before the town hired him.

Town Clerk Karen Hancsak had performed those duties until she retired shortly after Titcomb’s arrival.

For roughly 25 years, former Town Clerk Karen Hansak had performed those duties until she retired shortly after Titcomb’s arrival.

The Ocean Ridge commission hired Titcomb largely because he committed to handling the town’s budget preparation and finances. For roughly 25 years, former Town Clerk Karen Hansak had performed those duties until she retired shortly after Titcomb’s arrival.

Titcomb’s annual salary in Ocean Ridge is $112,500. He said the salary details of his Loxahatchee Groves contract were still being negotiated.

With the addition of Titcomb’s replacement, the town intends to move toward a more traditional manager-council form of government.

Ocean Ridge Mayor Steve Coz scheduled a special Town Council meeting for 2 p.m. Jan. 30 to discuss finding Titcomb’s replacement.
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South Palm Beach

Stella Gaddy Jordan insists that she has been an unwavering supporter of the luxury condo project at 3550 S. Ocean Blvd., the site of the old Hawaiian Inn hotel.

The South Palm Beach councilwoman says that her frequent complaints about the building have been mostly about the construction process, not the product.

“I’ve always been OK with the 3550 project,” Jordan said. “I just think we need to know how we went here. We want to be sure this doesn’t happen again. There was miscommunication throughout.”

For months, Jordan has criticized how the town signed off on plans for the project and how the Town Council didn’t get a final review before construction began. She blames the town’s building inspector and three town managers, who have come and gone during the past five years, for failing to enforce building rules and for cutting council members out of the approval loop.

“The plans should have come to the Town Council after they were approved by the architectural board,” she said after the council meeting on Jan. 8. “We didn’t get to see them. That has to change.”

Had the council given the project that final review, Jordan says, she would have questioned the building’s height and site’s landscaping. She believes the building, at roughly 106 feet above grade level, is 10 feet higher than code allows. She also thinks the project’s footprint doesn’t have adequate space for landscaping, as state building rules require.

It has been difficult to find a South Palm Beach official, elected or hired, who shares her concerns.

Mike Crisafulle, the town’s building inspector, told the council the project looks the way it is supposed to look. “The building is being built in the way the plans were submitted,” Crisafulle said. “To me, there is no issue.”

The town’s last two managers, Rob Vitas and Mo Thornton, have agreed. No issues, no problems. Shortly before abruptly retiring in December, Thornton said the 3550 “conforms to the town’s code and was built according to approved plans.”

Council members Elvadaine Culbertson and Bill LeRoy have suggested it’s a moot point to second-guess the project — now that the building is standing and soon to be ready for occupancy.

“What do we do about it?” Culbertson asked with a shrug. Vice Mayor Robert Gottlieb has focused on the positive — and there is a substantial amount of it. With 30 high-end condo selling for as much as $5 million each, the town’s tax base could rise by roughly 30 percent.

“We’re going to get a lot of benefit from this project from the income the town will receive,” Gottlieb said.

Mayor Bennie Fischer has said the council may consider two of Jordan’s concerns. It can close a loophole in the code that doesn’t specify height limits of garages — an omission that contributed to confusion over the 3550 structure’s total elevation. And the council can tighten its building approval procedures.

“The 3550 is a great building,” Fischer said. “However, it would behoove the town to examine garage height and footprint with respect to future development.”

The new condo building, developed by Manhattan-based DDG real estate investment group, is expected to open its doors sometime this summer.

In other business:

– Joseph Kusnir, the town’s consultant from Stormwater Engineering in West Palm Beach, told the council that work on the town’s sewer lines is likely to cost substantially less than expected. The council set aside $512,000 to repair and replace the aging pipes, but because a main line didn’t need work, Kusnir said the project, slated for completion this spring, “definitely will come in under budget.”

– Robert Kellogg, the newly hired and sworn-in interim town manager, said he expects to sign his formal contract by the Feb. 12 council meeting. In December, the council agreed to pay Kellogg a $95,000 annual salary.
Delray Beach
Canopy policy in the works for Tree City

By Jane Smith

Delray Beach city commissioners want to live up to their Arbor Day Foundation designation as a Tree City.

At a Jan. 22 workshop, commissioners approved a tree canopy policy that will be included in its comprehensive plan update. The comp plan, called Always Delray, contains the city’s growth guidelines for the next 10 years. The commission will vote on the entire plan in the spring. Delray Beach will finish its tree canopy assessment this month.

Twenty-three percent of the city is covered in trees, said Tim Stillings, development services director. The percentage is higher than in Orlando and lower than Lake Worth, he said. But Gainesville has a higher percentage — above 50.

“You can’t just add more trees,” Stillings said. The city would need 105 acres, or 2,300 trees, to increase its tree canopy by 1 percentage point, he said. Delray Beach has 2,405 acres covered in trees.

The lowest canopy percentages are in the industrial area between Southwest 10th Street and Linton Boulevard and in the Northwest and Southwest neighborhoods, Stillings said.

The city has about $138,365 in its tree trust fund, paid by developers who are charged a fee when they remove trees. The amount does not include the estimated $140,000 that will come from Midtown Delray on South Swinton Avenue and another sum from the redevelopment of the Office Depot site on South Congress Avenue. At the workshop, Mayor Shelly Petrolia asked about the fate of the 20-foot-tall banyan tree on Northeast Seventh Avenue.

Bill Wilshire, the city’s senior landscape planner, said he has talked with the architect of the four townhomes that will be built at the southwest corner of Northeast Seventh Avenue and Northeast Second Street.

The plan is for the tree to be cut in pieces and moved to Mike Machek Boy Scout Park on Lake Ida Road, Wilshire said. “About half of the tree can’t be saved,” he said(199,695),(385,733).

The banyan tree has 75 percent of its canopy on private property, and the rest spills over onto the sidewalk, Wilshire said.

Wilshire plans to approach the owner soon with that plan. The owner then would plant seven live oaks in its place along the perimeter of the property. 

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BENNETT
Continued from page 1

years. “It was such an unknown. It was really unknown territory for Briny Breezes. We didn’t know where this was going.”

The real estate deal ultimately fell apart, but Briny Breezes didn’t. Through all the tumult, Mayor Bennett kept his smile and good cheer, defusing con- flict with an ever-ready quip. He steered Briny through its greatest storm.

“He was our best mayor,” said Nancy Boczon, who served with Mr. Bennett on the council then. “He was such a good mayor he spoiled us for what a mayor could be.”

During the 1980s, Mr. Bennett ran the Mass Communications Department at Texas State University in San Marcos. He said that was a lesson in human nature that prepared him for turmoil in Briny Breezes.

“When you’re dealing with 25 faculty members and 3,600 students, it’s always fraught with drama,” he told The Coastal Star in 2013. “I’ve never been one to build up people, I try to be sensible and forgiving.”

The Bennetts bought their lot in Briny Breezes in 1991 and moved to the town full-time after retiring in 1995. Becoming Brinyites was easy, Barbara Bennett said. “There was a real community here. Everybody looked after everybody else. The feeling that we’re all neighbors has always been here.”

Roger and Barbara met while working at his hometown paper in southern Ohio, the Portsmouth Times. He was the City Hall reporter and she was the society editor. Mr. Bennett served five years with the Navy during the Korean War and after his discharge focused on his education.

He earned journalism degrees from Ohio University and then a doctorate from the University of Texas. Mr. Bennett went on to teach at Ohio U., specializing in First Amendment issues, and earned professor of the year honors. He spent the last 23 years of his career at San Marcos. In retirement, the Bennetts used their Briny home as their base for traveling the world — cruising, backpacking, exploring.

“It’s easy to travel from Briny,” Mrs. Bennett said. “When the time comes, you close the door, leave and you don’t worry about a thing.”

The Bennetts sailed twice around the world with 400 students and faculty on Semester at Sea. They lived in Poland for a time when Roger taught at the University of Silesia. The only continent the Bennetts didn’t visit was Antarctica. After a four-year hiatus, Mr. Bennett returned to public service in 2017 when the town found itself without a mayor and in need of his leadership.

“Roger was an incredible role model,” said Sue Thaler, president of the Briny Town Council. “He was one of the most positive people I’ve known. He was a lifelong educator who was committed to the town of Briny Breezes and educating people about the importance of our municipality.”


His daughter, Jo Bennett, a former Briny Breezes resident who lives in the County Pocket with her husband, Jay Kelley, said her father would want to be remembered for his unpretentious, genuine nature.

“He was an open-minded friend of everyone,” she said. “He was a welcoming kind of guy who’d slap people on the back and open his arms to them. He never wanted to be thought of as judgmental. And he wasn’t.”

Besides his wife and daughter, Mr. Bennett is survived by his son, Roger Bennett II, and his partner, Takahiro Oda, of Cologne, Germany.

The family is planning a celebration of life service on the Briny beach, probably in early June. A group of Mr. Bennett’s former students is planning a memorial service in San Marcos.

The family requests memorial donations go to Semester at Sea, semestertasea.org/giving/ or 800-854-6195.

Police Department Employee of the Year

Town Hall, Lantana — Jan. 28

Lantana Police Chief Sean Scheller, left, congratulates Police Officer Ryan Church as the Employee of the Year for 2018. Mary Thurwachter/The Coastal Star

Lantana

Beach to get new deck, renovated restrooms

By Mary Thurwachter

Beach-goers will see some welcome improvements in the year ahead. On Jan. 28, the Lantana Town Council authorized contracts to remodel beach restrooms and to add a deck to the special events pavilion.

CH Global Construction of Hialeah, the lower of two bidders, won the contract to redo the four restrooms for $98,756. Two of the restrooms are at the south end of the beach in the marine safety building. The other two, at the north end, are part of the pavilion.

West Construction of Lantana, the lowest of four bidders, won the contract to build the 1,276-square-foot pavilion deck, made of Southern pine, for $134,000. “The pavilion is used for rentals but somewhat limited in space,” said Mayor Dave Stewart. “The deck will make more room for a band or families or other groups.”

Both projects will be paid for by the penny sales tax that took effect in 2017.

Bids are still being gathered for beach boardwalk and tennis repairs, according to Town Manager Deborah Manzo.

In other action, the town: • Recognized Officer Ryan Church as Police Department Employee of the Year for 2018. Police Chief Sean Scheller said investigations by Church, who was also employee of the first and fourth quarters, resulted in numerous felony charges against a known narcotics dealer. Church, Scheller said, has made the community safer by identifying and curtailing impaired drivers and catching thieves. Church was also praised for building rapport and positive relationships with youths in the community, mentoring students and coordinating basketball and kickball events where officers, students and teachers play alongside one another.

• Authorized the use of McKeeley Park and town resources (tables, chairs, tents, garbage bins) for the Hypoluxo Island Property Owners Association’s annual picnic and membership drive on Feb. 24. The picnic is free to members, but others may attend. There is a $10 charge for food.
Residents can buy into town’s deals to remove iguanas, biting insects

By Dan Moffett

Ocean Ridge town commissioners have approved two pest control contracts that will give homeowners the option of buying services for their private property through the public plans.

Clarke Environmental Inc. of Wellington, the town’s contractor for the last decade, signed a three-year agreement to spray public areas for mosquitoes and no-see-ums. The town will pay Clarke $47,067 annually.

Homeowners can buy into the spraying service for their properties for roughly $465 a year, plus an administrative fee. Payments are to go directly to Clarke. The town won’t be involved in billing or spraying arrangements for the nonpublic service.

Beyond bugs, Ocean Ridge is taking on iguanas. The town will join a small group of Florida communities battling the ornery reptiles.

Commissioners approved a one-year, $19,500 contract with Iguana Control of Coral Springs to trap and remove the animals from public areas. Town Manager Jamie Titcomb says town officials will regularly assess the “brand new pilot program” and can cancel with 30 days’ notice.

Homeowners can hire the contractor for about $950 a year. As with Clarke, the town won’t handle billing or customer relations.

Tom Portuallo started Iguana Control in Broward County about 12 years ago and has seen his business grow exponentially with the rapidly expanding iguana population.

The company now has four offices that serve five counties — including Marco Island, Key Biscayne, Golden Beach and Davie — and dozens of businesses and homeowners associations.

Besides 3-foot cage traps, Portuallo intends to use “more aggressive methods” such as noosing, netting and pellet guns to reduce the iguana population.

“If you rely solely on trapping,” he told commissioners during their meeting on Jan. 7, “you never get ahead of the curve.”

Portuallo said that, with his crew’s servicing a property several times a week, it’s possible to reduce a homeowner’s iguana population by about 90 percent. State law prohibits relocating the animals. They must be humanely killed.

In other business:

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• In other business:

  • Mayor Steve Coz won commissioners’ support for exploring the possibility of getting a separate ZIP code for Ocean Ridge, one that would distinguish it from Boynton Beach.

  • Coz said a unique number would help insulate the town from Airbnb internet searches and give it a separate identity. “The negative is that it’s going to be a two-year journey,” he said. “It’s not going to be something that’s pushed through. It’s going to be a slow-moving process.”

  • The change likely will require help from the congressional delegation in Washington. Titcomb said staff would research the process and report back to commissioners.

  • Three candidates will run for two open seats in the March 12 municipal election. Coz is seeking another three-year term, and political newcomers Susan Hurlburt and John Lipscomb also have qualified for the race. The top vote-getter will win a seat until 2022, and the second-highest will serve out the year left on the term of former Mayor James Bonfiglio, who resigned last year and unsuccessfully ran for the state legislature.

Candidates forum

Commission candidates for the March 12 municipal election will square off in a forum sponsored by the League of Women Voters at 6 p.m. Feb. 7 in Town Hall. The town has three candidates running for two open seats. Questions from the public are welcome at the forum.

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Each month, members of the Boca Raton Welcome Club and the New Club of Boca Raton come together as Caring Stitches, a steadfast group of women who crochet and knit blankets to swaddle the tiniest of hospital newborns and bring a touch of home to children in foster care.

As Caring Stitches launched its 11th year in January, members’ hands, knitting needles and crochet hooks were on their way to creating the first of approximately 50 blankets they will donate to children and teens this year. Twice annually, they deliver these soft goods to the South Florida chapter of Project Linus, a Missouri-based organization that distributes blankets to neonatal intensive care units, hospitals, social service agencies, schools and other settings. Since 1995, Project Linus has gifted more than 7 million blankets to children across the U.S. "I am very grateful for their continued support," Kathy Adams, coordinator of the South Florida chapter, said of Caring Stitches. "They never waver. We’re talking 40 to 50 blankets each year."

Adams, a volunteer from Boca Raton, says 99 percent of the blankets made in a South Florida county remain there. Last year, the chapter distributed a record 3,300 blankets.

Joy Banton, the Welcome Club’s publicity chairwoman, hosted the early January gathering at her Delray Beach home, still festive in its Christmas trim. Though their names say Boca Raton, the Welcome Club and New Club draw members from a wide swath of Palm Beach and northern Broward counties. The clubs promote friendship through their own schedules of social events and, collectively, through Caring Stitches.

"Meetings are very warm and friendly; there’s no dissension. It’s nice. It’s like a home away from home," said Melissa Maynes, a New Club member from Boca Raton who co-chairs Caring Stitches with Maria Inés Ground of the Welcome Club.

They call it a labor of love and it’s a welcome outlet for nimble fingers stilled for a time after children and grandchildren aged out of knitted and crocheted gifts or had just reached a saturation point.

Like most members, Doris Clark learned to knit and crochet as a child. By age 20, she’d become expert enough to crochet a dress and jacket. And then like many of her sisters in yarn, she packed the hobby away to make way for new adventures.

Now, she says it’s her favorite club activity. Clark, of Boca Raton, alternates between knitting and crocheting to keep from getting bored. But whether she’s using knitting needles or a crochet hook, there’s one constant: "The yarn has to be quite colorful," she said.

Caring Stitches has an annual yarn budget of $400, which creates lively outings for the co-chairs. "Melissa and I go shopping to buy all the yarn for six months," Ground said. "It’s such fun. Everyone looks at us because our carts are so full."

Each member brings her own creativity to a project, selecting favorite stitches and creating custom patterns. And while the makers have much creative license, they adhere to all Project Linus specifications on sizes, materials and other matters.

When a blanket is completed, it’s laundered, folded and tied with a length of yarn. Its creator attaches a card marked with her name. "Melissa and I go shopping to buy all the yarn for six months," Ground said. "It’s such fun. Everyone looks at us because our carts are so full."

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By Mary Thurwachter

Almost four years ago, Henry Olmino, chef and owner of Mario’s Ocean Avenue restaurant, leased a parking lot from the town so the restaurant would meet Lantana’s parking requirements. His 2,500-square-foot restaurant needed 61 spaces and had only 42.

Olmino paid $12,000 to rent the Third Street parking lot, a short walk from the restaurant but west of U.S. 1. The deal seemed a good idea for both parties, since the town had just repaved the parcel and was looking for a way to recoup some of the expense, and Mario’s needed more parking spaces.

But does Mario’s really need the 30-car lot?

“We’ve never used it,” Olmino said during the Jan. 14 Town Council meeting. “We just pay for it. We have never once parked a car in the lot.”

While the council ended up approving the lease for another year, some questioned how fair it was to make Olmino spend $12,000 annually for space he doesn’t use. Is it possible that parking on Ocean Avenue, Lantana’s downtown business district, really isn’t as much of a problem as many considered it?

Town officials are revisiting the parking code and will consider possible revisions to answer questions like that.

“The objective would be to bring [revisions] to you no later than the second meeting in March,” said Town Attorney Max Lohman. “Parking regulations were last reviewed in 2009. 2010. It’s a very large, comprehensive section of our code, probably 15-20 pages, and we can’t do it piecemeal. We’re looking at working with the numbers and trying to figure out what makes sense.

“We recognize that there are issues with the parking and we’re trying to come up with some things that will be more realistic and make more sense. But we want this to be well-thought out and not half-baked.”

Chamber of Commerce President Dave Arm says it’s high time for parking revisions.

Mario’s is a Lantana success story,” Arm said. “That place is packed summer and winter. Not too many restaurants around here have survived like that.”

He said he has never noticed a parking problem as a customer and never noticed anyone else having a parking problem at Mario’s, which provides valet parking.

“I’ve also noticed that now we have Lyman Kayak Park around the corner, that lot is never full,” Arm said. “There is room to park in the town. Could parking be better downtown? We all know that. Could parking restrictions be a little easier? We all know that, too. I think requiring Mario’s to have this lease on this parking lot is the wrong way to go about things because he doesn’t need it.

“If you really want somebody to pay for that lot, look at some of the other restaurants also on Ocean Avenue. Maybe they should all get together and pay for that lot,” Arm suggested.

But the town’s development services director, Dave Thatcher, said Olmino had approached other restaurant owners on the street before leasing the lot and none of them was interested.

Council member Lynn Moorhouse agreed with Arm and Olmino.

“People walk down there all the time,” he said. “I do. There is not a lack of parking down there, in my opinion.”

Moorhouse said. But without the signed lease, Olmino would be in violation of the code.

To add to the restaurant’s problem, a miscommunication between Thatcher and Olmino in 2017 allowed the lease to lapse more than a year ago. That means Mario’s was in violation of code.

Thatcher said he thought the lease was no longer necessary, since the lot was not used, but later found out he was wrong. In an application, Olmino had said he would have employees park their cars in the Third Street lot. But that hasn’t been necessary.

Had the council not approved the lease in January, Olmino would have needed to go before the town’s special magistrate and faced fines.

KNIT

Continued from page 16

first name and the blanket’s size. That’s all the recipient will know about his or her guardian angel. Adams says the blankets bring excitement and joy. “The nurses go crazy,” she said. “They say, ‘Oh, this would be temptation.’ ”

Everyone wanted to touch a fuzzy, textured blanket knitted with variegated yarn. “It’s chunky,” said Dottie Costonis, of Boca Raton, the blanket’s creator.

“I had to take it away from my husband. I may have to knit him one.”

“I like soft baby yarn,” said Josette Ridosh, a Delray Beach woman who alternates between knitting and crocheting, switching when her hands tire. The key is busy hands. “It keeps me away from temptation.”

Knitting and crocheting also may reduce stress and improve mood, according to a 2014 Craft Yarn Council study. From what they say, Caring Stitches members validate those findings and would add a few more.

“It’s the companionship and camaraderie, talking about knitting, and the family,” Ridosh said. “We solve all the problems of the world.”

For information about Caring Stitches, contact Maria Inés Ground at cab38836@gmail.com. To learn more about Project Linus, visit www.projectlinus.org or email Kathy Adams at worksforpeanuts@bellsouth.net.
of the design was revealed by the Florida Department of Transportation.
They did not like what they saw.

For the bike lanes, sidewalk and traffic changes, 33 trees would be cut down in the heart of the Old School Square Historic Arts District, which runs on both sides of Swinton Avenue from South 2nd Street to North 4th Street.

Overall, the plan called for the removal of 147 trees from Swinton Avenue between South 10th Street and North 4th Street.

Annechild spent about $500 to buy 1,000 yards of black ribbon and 100 small signs that read: “We say ‘NO’ to bike lanes on historic Swinton.”

“I'm not rich, but I believe in saving trees,” said Annechild, who lives in the 300 block of North Swinton. “I wanted to make my Christmas present to myself.”

Soon, the nonprofit Delray Beach Preservation Trust got involved.

Trust members had worked for years to secure national designation of OSSHAD and it was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2018.

The trust wrote in late December to the Florida Department of State officer who oversees historic properties, asking what it could do to preserve the tree canopy along Swinton Avenue.

Jason Aldridge, the state’s historic compliance and review supervisor, replied in early January that protocol required FDOT to contact his division, but it had not yet done so.

In the meantime, he suggested residents attend any meetings on the project and make their views known.

The push was on.

Residents flooded city commission meetings, asking what it could do to preserve the fabric of the city’s historic street, which is home to Old School Square and the Sundy House, both listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Commissioner Bill Bathurst said he would work to create a “historic overlay” for Swinton that could cover the entire avenue from Southeast 10th Street north to the city limit.

Bathurst, a former member of the city’s Historic Preservation Board, said it was important to preserve the fabric of the city’s most historic street, which is home to Old School Square and the Sundy House, both listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

“The story of Delray is told along Swinton Avenue,” he said.

Beyond the removal of trees, mailboxes and light poles would need to be moved if the state puts bike lanes on Swinton Avenue.

Trust members bought more signs.

They turned out in droves at a Jan. 15 regular City Commission meeting and a Jan. 22 workshop.

Faced with mounting opposition, state staffers and their design consultant came up with several alternative proposals, including one that spared all the trees on the six-block stretch of Swinton Avenue in the historic district, but city commissioners quickly dismissed all of them.

But they still managed to secure a portion of the $2.2 million grant intended to fund the project.

The money comes from federal gasoline tax dollars funneled through the county’s Transportation Planning Agency.

Commissioners asked if a portion could be used to repave Swinton Avenue and add sidewalks that meander around the trees on the west side without removing any.

Nick Uhren, the TPA executive director, said it could.

Mayor Shelly Petrolia told him, “You deserve a white hat.”

This is the second grassroots campaign for Annechild. More than 13 years ago, she co-founded the SaveDelray.com website to help preserve the small-town ambience of Delray Beach.

In the days leading up to the commission meetings, Annechild assembled neighbors and friends to plant the signs and tie the funeral black ribbon around every tree between Northeast Second and Fourth streets.

The City Commission planned to discuss the Swinton Avenue project at its Jan. 22 workshop, but public comment is not allowed at workshops.

So the Swinton Avenue tree supporters spoke out at the Jan. 15 regular meeting.

Preservation Trust co-president Joy Howell asked the commission “to scrap the plan” and protect the tree canopy.

Another North Swinton resident, Richard Ott, was among those who objected. “I don’t like the FDOT plan,” he said. “You wouldn’t let me put in a racetrack next to my house.”

Even bike enthusiasts were opposed. Jason Bregman, vice chairman of Human Powered Delray, said his group wanted to save the trees. HPD preferred bike lanes on streets like George Bush Boulevard to get cyclists to the beach.

A week later, so many opponents packed the commission chambers that the city’s assistant fire chief was forced to move standing audience members to a nearby room because the chamber exceeded capacity.

Commissioner Bill Bathurst said he would work to create a “historic overlay” for Swinton that could cover the entire avenue from Southeast 10th Street north to the city limit.

Within a week of the meeting, Bathurst called for the removal of trees.

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Bathurst, a former member of the city’s Historic Preservation Board, said it was important to preserve the fabric of the city’s most historic street, which is home to Old School Square and the Sundy House, both listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

“The story of Delray is told along Swinton Avenue,” he said.

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Boca Raton
Judge agrees to October trial for Haynie

By Mary Hladky

Suspended Boca Raton Mayor Susan Haynie likely will go to trial in October on seven public corruption charges.

At a brief Jan. 15 hearing, Circuit Court Judge Glenn Kelley agreed to an October trial and said an exact date could be set at the next hearing on her case, on April 15.

“We are progressing fairly well in the case,” Assistant State Attorney Brian Fernandes said.

Speaking after the hearing, Haynie’s criminal defense attorney, Bruce Zimet, said no plea deal is in the works. “We are going to trial,” he said, adding that Haynie is looking forward to being vindicated.

Haynie, 63, a fixture in Boca Raton politics for 18 years, did not appear at the hearing. She has pleaded not guilty to the charges.

Haynie was arrested on April 24 on public corruption charges, including official misconduct, perjury, misuse of public office and failure to disclose voting conflicts. She faces more than 20 years in prison.

Former Gov. Rick Scott suspended her from office, but she has not resigned. Scott Singer was elected mayor on Aug. 28.

Prosecutors contend that Haynie used her position on the City Council to vote on four matters that financially benefited James Batmasian, the city’s largest downtown commercial landowner, and failed to disclose income she had received from him.

Zimet has said Haynie will seek an evidentiary hearing before the state commission. Her ethics attorney, Mark Herron, has not commented.

The investigation by the Palm Beach County State Attorney’s Office found that Haynie failed to report $335,000 in income on financial disclosure forms required by the state, including $84,000 from Batmasian or his company Investments Limited, from 2014 through 2017.

Before her arrest, the Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics, which also investigated Haynie for voting on matters that financially benefited Batmasian, reached a settlement with her in which it reprimanded and fined her for failing to disclose income she had received from him.

The state commission, which also probed Haynie’s financial links to Batmasian and Investments Limited, found that she failed to disclose income, acted to financially benefit herself and her husband and improperly voted on matters that benefited Batmasian from 2014 through 2017, state ethics investigators found 17 votes between 2012 and 2016.

State commission advocate Elizabeth A. Miller, an assistant attorney general, issued a stinging report to the commission in which she recommended that it find probable cause.

Haynie “consistently voted on measures benefiting the Batmasians and/or their affiliates between 2012 and 2016 while surreptitiously reaping the financial rewards of their business association,” she wrote.

“When confronted with the possibility of impropriety, (Haynie) consistently denied any association, involvement or knowledge. The bank account records revealed her deception. These acts and omissions indicate corrupt intent.”
Delray Beach could become the first Palm Beach County city to ban single-use plastic straws. City commissioners unanimously approved a plastic straw ban at their mid-January meeting, effective Jan. 1, 2020. The second reading of the ordinance was set for Feb. 5, when it is likely to pass.

The ban will apply to plastic straws given to consumers at 190 restaurants and other businesses citywide. Exceptions will be given to hospitals, schools and nursing homes. Big-box and grocery stores that sell them for individual use are also exempt from the ban.

"Plastic never goes away. It just gets smaller and smaller," Evan Orellana, education director at the Sandoway Discovery Center, said at the Jan. 15 commission meeting. "We will start with straws and go further."

The center, on A1A in Delray Beach, focuses on marine ecosystems that include sharks and sea turtles.

The beachfront Caffe Luna Rosa last July began offering recyclable straws when customers requested straws. The restaurant purchased "corn-plastic" straws that are compostable and made by Eco-Products of Boulder, Colo., said restaurant founder Fran Marincola, who stopped issuing plastic straws except upon request at the start of 2018.

Until the ordinance takes effect, restaurants will be encouraged to provide straws only upon request. Code enforcement officers will visit restaurants and other businesses during the year to educate the businesses owners and their servers. Restaurants will be given "Skip the Straw Delray" decals for their windows.

After Jan. 1, staff suggested fines of $100 for the first offense, $200 for the second offense and $300 for the third within a 12-month period.

Major corporations, such as the Walt Disney Co., Starbucks and Royal Caribbean International, have joined the campaign against straws, said India Adams, assistant city manager. She made a presentation to the council in the absence of the city's sustainability officer, Ana Puszkin-Chevlin.

Adams suggested that the city provide a written notice of the campaign when it sends out license renewals for businesses in the restaurant/bar category.

The plastic straw ban came out of the city's Green Implementation Advancement Board. Members and the city staff held a skip-the-straw kickoff event last August at The OG, one of the newest bars in Delray Beach.

Delray Beach prides itself on being "green" and is the first Palm Beach County city to ban single-use plastic straws.

Five other South Florida cities already have bans in place or are in the process of passing them: Hallandale Beach, Miami Beach, Fort Myers Beach and Marco Island. The ban in Deerfield Beach goes into effect in April, Adams said.

In other business, City Manager Mark Lauzier received a 4 percent raise on his base salary of $235,000 by a vote of 3-2. This brings his salary to about $244,400. The raise will be retroactive to Nov. 6, the anniversary of his hire.

"He's done a great job and the raise percentage fits into the 3 to 5 percent raises that city employees received," said Commissioner Ryan Boylston. Mayor Shelly Petrolia voted against the raise because Lauzier is already paid "a good salary." She wants to see him improve his budget presentations and to get in front of critical issues, such as the Swinton Avenue plan that would remove trees to add bike lanes.

Deputy Vice Mayor Shirley Johnson also voted no because she said his comments and suggestions to Lauzier "were not well received."
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Delray Beach has allowed at least 100 more chairs for rental use along the beach. Photo provided

Beach rentals contract will allow for more chairs

By Jane Smith

Delray Beach will have at least 100 more chairs on the beach under a renewed contract with its beach equipment vendor, the City Commission unanimously decided in mid-January. Oceanside Beach Service has supplied reclining rental chairs, umbrellas and cabanas to Delray Beach for the past 16 years. For the last year of its old contract, the North Palm Beach-based company was limited to 250 chairs.

During the off-season, defined as May through the first two weeks in December, Oceanside will set up 300 reclining chairs across from the oceanfront Marriott down to the end of the municipal beach, across from Casuarina Road. The vendor will set up an additional 50 chairs on the beach at Atlantic Dunes Park. But from the last two weeks in December through April, during the peak season, Oceanside will set up more chairs, after conferring with an onsite Parks and Recreation Department employee assigned to monitor the contract. The deal did not mention a limit.

"Without this exception, the city of Delray Beach will be unable to serve the beach-going public to a standard that’s equal to its image and profile," wrote Michael J. Novatka, Oceanside president, in his company’s bid.

While annual beach attendance has more than doubled in the past 16 years to more than 3 million people, Oceanside has been limited to 250 chairs in that time frame, according to Novatka’s bid.

Oceanside “wants to meet the demand,” said Suzanne Fisher, Parks and Recreation Department director. Its chairs, cabanas and umbrellas will not restrict city lifeguards' views, Fisher said. The extra chairs will be set up just north of Atlantic Avenue across from the Marriott, she said. “On the weekends, about 10 percent of the beach-goers are waiting for a chair,” Fisher said.

But the north end is also where Delray Beach residents go to enjoy a more peaceful beach experience, Mayor Shelly Petrolia said.

Petrolia was willing to approve the contract because it now contains a penalty clause if Oceanside doesn’t meet its terms and residents complain about too many chairs or other issues.

One complaint about signage has already been fixed. Oceanside has posted signs “that clearly show the prices,” Fisher said. The company also now takes credit cards.

A single chair with cushion rents for $7 an hour or $20 a day, plus Florida sales tax. The Parks and Recreation Department put its beach equipment rental concession out for bid in July. Two firms attended the pre-bid meeting in August, Fisher said. But only Oceanside submitted a bid, and the council considers it a responsive and responsible vendor.

Commissioner Bill Bathurst said his family has used Oceanside beach chairs in the past.

“We don’t have any hotels [directly] on the beach,” Bathurst said. “This contract provides chairs for our visitors.” The $2.1 million, five-year contract runs until Oct. 31, 2023, with Oceanside paying $405,000 in its first two years and then increasing to $415,000 for its last three years.
SUE AND SUSAN’S FEATURED LISTINGS

NEWLY PRICED

Delray Beach | $5,500,000 | 5-BR, 4-BA and 2-HALF-BA | Direct oceanfront house. Recently renovated. Panoramic views. Web# RX-10417286
Susan E Ring 561.441.4150, Sue Taurielo 561.441.4200

Boynton Beach | $839,000 | 3-BR, 2.5-BA plus an office and bonus room. Large lot and pool, updated. Web# RX-10464058
Erik M Ring 561.441.6880, Susan E Ring 561.441.4150

Delray Beach | $669,000 | 3-BR, 2.5-BA | Townhome, built in 2017. Gorgeous designer decorated. Furniture negotiable. Web# RX-10484207
Susan E Ring 561.441.4150, Sue Taurielo 561.441.4200

Delray Beach | $669,000 | 2-BR, 2.5-BA plus a den. Trendy Pineapple Grove’s city walk. Web# RX-10485099
Sue Taurielo 561.441.4200, Susan E Ring 561.441.4150

Delray Beach | $489,000 | 2-BR, 2-BA | Direct Intracoastal. All renovated. Split bedroom plan on first floor. Web# RX-10487094
Sue Taurielo 561.441.4200, Susan E Ring 561.441.4150

Delray Beach | $389,000 | 1-BR, 1-BA | Condo with ocean views. Small complex with a pool. Web# RX-10470395
Sue Taurielo 561.441.4200, Susan E Ring 561.441.4150

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The COASTAL STAR
February 2019

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THE SANCTUARY, BOCA RATON | Approx. 210 Feet of Waterfront | 18,386 Total SF | 4 Bedrooms | 6 Full and 2 Half Bathrooms | $8,800,000 | Classic European style estate, complete ground-up renovation in 2011, staff quarters/guest wing, media room, resort style pool. Web# RX:10423488

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HIGHLAND BEACH | Approx. .65 Acre Oceanfront Lot | 14,808 Total SF | 7 Bedrooms | 7 Full and 2 Half Bathrooms | $27,500,000 | Modern elegance built in 2018 with 3 levels of architectural design plus a large rooftop sun deck and 120 feet on the beach. Web# RX-10494037

19 PALMS | Approx. ½± Acre Oceanfront Lot | 11,123 Total SF | 6 Bedrooms | 6 Full and 1 Half Bathrooms | $11,995,000 | Recently renovated, 3-level estate has a theater, game room, gym, putting green, resort-style pool and tropical palms with Hillsboro Inlet & lighthouse views. Web# RX-10485650

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A1A

Continued from page 1

land 50 feet from the center line on either side of the pavement. A1A in Palm Beach County "will probably look extremely similar to how it looks today," says Stacy Miller, director of transportation development for FDOT District 4, which oversees Brevard, Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie and Indian River counties. "If you said there won't be an emphasis on safety improvements — maybe bike paths where there are none, improved signal phasing and perhaps lighted crosswalks — and efforts to alleviate drainage problems or slow down traffic. That's not to say there won't be compromises that have to be met."

Like Smith, the TPA promotes the "Complete Streets" concept, which promotes safe and convenient access and travel for pedestrians and bicyclists as well as motor vehicle drivers. "The TPA would like to see safer, connected and convenient facilities for users of all ages, abilities and modes of transportation, as appropriate with the local context of the roadway," said Valerie Neilon, TPA's deputy director of multimodal development. While some communities may have specific priorities — lighted pedestrian crosswalks, for example — FDOT takes a broader view that considers everyone who could be affected. "We have a responsibility to all users," Miller says. "We have to weigh all the needs." Every now and then, a community will have an opportunity to more speedily bring a list of improvements to fruition. Highland Beach could soon have that opportunity thanks to a likely FDOT resurfacing, rehabilitation and restoration project of the just more than 3 miles of roadway through town. According to Miller, FDOT does an annual evaluation of every state road, looking for cracking and rutting and other issues. The department then includes that "3-R" work in its five-year improvement plan.

Although Highland Beach is not yet included in FDOT's draft tentative work program for fiscal years 2019/2020 through 2022/2023, Miller said it is anticipated that the project will be included in the 2020-2021 tentative work program, which stretches into the 2024/2025 fiscal year. What specific years money for the project will be available is still unknown.

Right now, the stretch of A1A in Highland Beach is the only portion of the road in southern Palm Beach County being considered for a 3R project. In anticipation of the resurfacing work, FDOT has reached out to Highland Beach to see what improvements the community would like in conjunction with the 3R project. While the scope of the work is up in the air, FDOT will most likely add bike lanes.

Meanwhile, Highland Beach voters will decide March 12 whether the town will fund improvements along A1A that other agencies won't pay for. Regardless of whether voters approve the referendum, Highland Beach is committed to installing lighted crosswalks and has authorized funding for those improvements, which FDOT allows, Miller said. Currently, members of FDOT's design team and traffic operations team are developing plans to collaboratively plan, prioritize and fund the county's transportation system. "It's always a partnership," Miller says. "Our goal is to meet the needs of the department and of communities but there are compromises that have to be met."

What a drive! Video of a rainy day trip down A1A at thecoastalstar.com/video

Highland Beach is one spot where A1A could look much different, if voters approve up to $45 million for upgrades along the road. The state also is likely to resurface it. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

Barry Donaldson, who has long advocated for the improvements. On the other side is a vocal group of residents who formed the Coalition to Save Highland Beach. They say the price tag for the improvements is too high and could create financial problems for the town. They also argue it is unnecessary to spend local taxpayer dollars on several improvements that can be addressed by the Florida Department of Transportation when it is likely to replace A1A in three to five years. People aren't happy here, people still want to live here, and people still want to buy homes here, so why not try what's free before you start tearing everything apart?" asks John Ross, one of the founders of the coalition, which he says has more than 300 supporters. Ross has found allies in some members of the town's Financial Advisory Board — who fear the projects would create much debt for the town and see putting the issue on the ballot now as premature. "It feels a little like it's ready, fire, aim," board Chairman Greg Babj said. "Unfortunately, the Town Commission doesn't have the luxury of time." FDOT's plan to replace A1A in three to five years is driving Highland Beach's timeline, since much of the work town leaders would like to see can be done in conjunction with the state "3R" project. As FDOT resurfaces, rehabilitates and restores the road, the town hopes it can piggyback onto the project and make improvements.

To have a say in what work it would like to see done in conjunction with the 3R project, the town is required to make a financial commitment prior to the middle of March. That deadline, FDOT officials say, is firm. When voters go to the polls March 12, they will be asked to vote on three questions: authorizing the town to issue bonds of up to $10.5 million for stormwater improvements, $11.25 million for improvements to the multisuse Ocean Walk corridor, and $10.7 million to bury utility lines.

Were the town to finance the project for 30 years, the owner of property with a taxable value of $500,000 would pay $713.04 a year, that owner of property with a taxable value of $1,000,000 would pay $1,426.08 a year. Over 20 years, the property owner would pay $4,260, assuming the taxable value and interest rate remained the same.

Were the homeowner to sell the property, the new owner would be responsible for paying the remaining debt through annual taxes.

"Is this affordable by the vast majority of property owners in Highland Beach?" Donaldson asks. "Absolutely." Town Manager Marshall LCELERI points out that the $45 million figure — and the estimated cost to taxpayers — is the "rate in excess number" and does not include any funding for the project from grants or from other agencies, including FDOT.

By Rich Pollack

Highland Beach is a town divided.

With voters facing a March 12 referendum to greenlight up to $45 million in debt for State Road A1A improvements,indriveway lines are clearly drawn — and both sides are waging war via email blasts.

On one side are people who say it is time to stop kicking the can down the road and add bike lanes and pedestrian walkways. "There are still a lot of people who think that the road is the center of the world and nothing will go past it," said Highland Beach resident Kathy Ward.

On the other side are people who say it is time to stop kicking the can down the road and add bike lanes and pedestrian walkways. "There are still a lot of people who think that the road is the center of the world and nothing will go past it," said Highland Beach resident Kathy Ward.

Highland Beach

Battle for A1A referendum votes reveals a sharply divided town

February 2019

The COASTAL STAR

26 News

Critical criteria for handling requests from communities that want to add or enhance crosswalks. The goal? Find what works best for the community. Drainage is another concern for many communities along A1A. Miller said the department designs roads to meet conditions with expectations of how quickly a road would drain. The department rationale is allow a certain portion of the roadway to have standing water for as long as 48 hours. But if the water stands for too long or involves more road, FDOT will develop and implement a plan to solve the problem.

One issue that can affect drainage — and bicycle and pedestrian safety — is vegetation or pavement that creates structures such as walls into the FDOT's right of way.

Along some stretches, landscaped and decorative features come right up to the white line on the road's edge, leaving little or no buffer. With nowhere to go, water puddles on the roadway.

In most cases, the department removes vegetation when it comes to objects in the right of way, but will likely remove obstructions during the course of a project like the one that could take place in Highland Beach.

SAFE's Smith says some local municipalities, such as Delray Beach, are taking a proactive approach to encroachment during development.

"It's the responsibility of municipalities' permitting department to prevent future encroachment in the right of way," he said.

As South Florida continues to grow, there could be more local initiatives on A1A coordinated with FDOT to improve safety.

For the most part, however, the Northern A1A as a relaxing beachside walk, bicycle ride, or drive will not be disturbed.
Evalyn David, who is running the referendum suggests, “said safety — just not in the way issues and road crossing address rainwater absorption long-term solution. 2016 FDOT report, are not a improvements, according to a part of he 3R project. But those make swale improvements as improvements. on possible interim crosswalk working with the department of lighted crosswalks, but the installation of some form possibility FDOT will allow said. lanes at its expense, DeLaney resurfacing and would likely still go forward with its A1A three proposals, FDOT will refinements. to commissioners on possible plans and make suggestions planning board will review the sources might be available. an update on what grants and public workshop March 6. residents during a final design team are continuing to work road. pocket parks and a 7-foot-wide entranceway features, small decorative concrete pathway a 10-foot-wide, multiuse, having just an 8-foot-wide scenarios for the corridor. — presented three possible options for the Ocean Walk corridor. DeLaney said she and her team are continuing to work with town staff to refine the plan for the Ocean Walk corridor and will present revisions to residents during a final design public workshop March 6. She said there will also be an update on what grants and funding from other outside sources might be available. Donaldson said if the voters approve the improvements to the A1A corridor, the town’s planning board will review the plans and make suggestions to commissioners on possible refinements. Should voters reject all three proposals, FDOT will still go forward with its A1A resurfacing and would likely install 4 to 5-foot-wide bike lanes at its expense, DeLaney said. In addition, there is a strong possibility FDOT will allow the installation of some form of lighted crosswalks, but at town expense. Labadie is working with the department on possible interim crosswalk improvements. He said FDOT will likely also make walk improvements as part of its 3R project. But those improvements, according to a 2016 FDOT report, are not a long-term solution.

While Donaldson has expressed strong support for the improvements, both candidates running for the only open commission seat say they are opposed to the plan. “I believe the town needs to address rainwater absorption issues and road crossing safety — just not in the way the referendum suggests,” said Evalyn David, who is running against incumbent Elyse Riesa for a three-year term. “I believe in responsible government spending.” Riesa, who agreed to put the referendum before voters, said she decided to speak against it after doing extensive research. “The enormous disruption for years, possible overruns and unrealistic costs to our residents over 30 years made the referendum a no vote for me,” Riesa said. “Do I still want to beautify and make important improvements to flooding and our walkway? Absolutely, but at a cost most residents can afford and feel great about. As Ross and the coalition continue to send out daily dispatches and town officials respond with email-blasted questions and answers, residents who still have questions can go to the town’s website, which has the referendum ballot language posted as well as presentations and much more. It’s important for people to know the facts so they can vote intelligently,” Mayor Rhoda Zelniker said.
Orville Lynn Deniston

BRINY BREEZES — Orville Lynn Deniston died Jan. 22, age 86, in the same way he lived his life — quietly and with dignity. Mr. Deniston loved life, especially his family, fishing, square dancing, teaching, traveling, and his adopted Florida home.

Lynn Deniston, as he was known, came from simple means. After the sudden death of his father when Mr. Deniston was 20 months old, he was raised by his mother, Lenore, and stepfather in between Wapakoneta and Uniopolis, Ohio.

A member of the Future Farmers of America, he went to Ohio State University on a scholarship where his aim was to learn how to be a better farmer. In addition to his studies Mr. Deniston worked at a gas station and was a member of the ROTC.

While in Columbus, he met and subsequently married Carol Pierce. Together they moved to Quantico, Va., for his training in the Marines. Later he was assigned to Oceanside, Calif., where Terry was born. In the next few years the couple welcomed their second daughter, Kathy.

Over time, Mr. Deniston's work as a health inspector led him to pursue more education. He earned a master of public health at the University of California, Berkeley.

His work as a sanitation inspector led to interesting family vacations, visiting water treatment plants and attending the National Association of Sanitarians conferences.

The family moved to Ann Arbor, Mich., where Mr. Deniston found his career calling: teaching. In 1994, when he retired and was granted emeritus status, the University Record reported, "He was revered for an 'open-door policy' that found him eager to devote long hours to working with individual students."

Throughout his adult years, Mr. Deniston also taught anyone who was only slightly interested how to fish. He loved his fishing boat, Do It, and spent countless hours on Lake Michigan and later in the waters off Florida.

Mr. Deniston loved people, as evidenced by the large number he "adopted" and considered family over the years. After Carol Deniston lost her battle with cancer, he found Helen, who happily shared his life for 22 years.

Mr. Deniston's Briny Breezes retirement "family" offered much to involve him, but especially square dancing. The couple also enjoyed travel to Alaska and other destinations, until Helen's Alzheimer's disease brought an end to their travels. Mr. Deniston cared for his wife through her decline and until her death.

Nevertheless, he was probably happiest in his home, with his garden, at Briny Breezes gatherings, or when "family" came visiting. In the final weeks of Mr. Deniston's life, hampered by Parkinson's disease, he knew he "was ready to go." This was especially fitting because of his evaluative work with quality of life measures.

Mr. Deniston is survived by his daughter Terry and her children, Kelsey and Max, along with her grandson, Ryker. Also, he leaves behind daughter, nurse and care-provider, Kathy, and her daughters, Sarah and Angie. He is survived by Helen's daughter, Kristin, and her husband, Craig, and their sons, Nick and Chris. Finally, he will be missed by countless adopted "children" whom he loved and who loved him right back.

A celebration of his life will be 5-7 p.m. Feb. 21 at the Briny Breezes clubhouse.

In the meantime, the family suggests drinking a can of cheap beer or enjoying a glass of wine from a box while remembering a favorite story about Lynn Deniston.

Obituary submitted by the family.

Obituary

Orville Lynn Deniston

BRINY BREEZES — Orville Lynn Deniston died Jan. 22, age 86, in the same way he lived his life — quietly and with dignity. Mr. Deniston loved life, especially his family, fishing, square dancing, teaching, traveling, and his adopted Florida home.

Lynn Deniston, as he was known, came from simple means. After the sudden death of his father when Mr. Deniston was 20 months old, he was raised by his mother, Lenore, and stepfather in between Wapakoneta and Uniopolis, Ohio.

A member of the Future Farmers of America, he went to Ohio State University on a scholarship where his aim was to learn how to be a better farmer. In addition to his studies Mr. Deniston worked at a gas station and was a member of the ROTC.

While in Columbus, he met and subsequently married Carol Pierce. Together they moved to Quantico, Va., for his training in the Marines. Later he was assigned to Oceanside, Calif., where Terry was born. In the next few years the couple welcomed their second daughter, Kathy.

Over time, Mr. Deniston's work as a health inspector led him to pursue more education. He earned a master of public health at the University of California, Berkeley.

His work as a sanitation inspector led to interesting family vacations, visiting water treatment plants and attending the National Association of Sanitarians conferences.

The family moved to Ann Arbor, Mich., where Mr. Deniston found his career calling: teaching. In 1994, when he retired and was granted emeritus status, the University Record reported, "He was revered for an ‘open-door policy’ that found him eager to devote long hours to working with individual students."

Throughout his adult years, Mr. Deniston also taught anyone who was only slightly interested how to fish. He loved his fishing boat, Do It, and spent countless hours on Lake Michigan and later in the waters off Florida.

Mr. Deniston loved people, as evidenced by the large number he ‘adopted’ and considered family over the years. After Carol Deniston lost her battle with cancer, he found Helen, who happily shared his life for 22 years.

Mr. Deniston’s Briny Breezes retirement ‘family’ offered much to involve him, but especially square dancing. The couple also enjoyed travel to Alaska and other destinations, until Helen’s Alzheimer’s disease brought an end to their travels. Mr. Deniston cared for his wife through her decline and until her death.

Nevertheless, he was probably happiest in his home, with his garden, at Briny Breezes gatherings, or when ‘family’ came visiting. In the final weeks of Mr. Deniston’s life, hampered by Parkinson’s disease, he knew he ‘was ready to go.’ This was especially fitting because of his evaluative work with quality of life measures.

Mr. Deniston is survived by his daughter Terry and her children, Kelsey and Max, along with her grandson, Ryker. Also, he leaves behind daughter, nurse and care-provider, Kathy, and her daughters, Sarah and Angie. He is survived by Helen’s daughter, Kristin, and her husband, Craig, and their sons, Nick and Chris. Finally, he will be missed by countless adopted “children” whom he loved and who loved him right back.

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T
go to school? How do you and your family get to school? How do you make it into something more than itself."

There's a certain 'wow' factor that would create displays throughout the year. I thought that was cool."

She describes crafts when she was younger and thought she would like to do that instead of working in the fitting room. "You have seasonal displays, and they take hours and hours, but you're not doing personal work; you're executing a display for someone else, helping create their vision," she explained. "A lot of artists wouldn't be OK with that — they prefer to do their own thing — but I really thought it was fun. I liked working with people. It's such a weird little skill set."

After nine years with Anthropologie and the birth of her first child, she decided to go out on her own. Her networking in the bustling Palm Beach County art community has kept her busy ever since. "I really try to think outside the box," she said. "One time I took thousands of zip ties and arranged them into bundles. And the thing that was cool about it was it was just zip ties. Or making something out of thousands of paper clips. So, there's a certain 'wow' factor with your audience, that you've taken something mundane and made it into something more than itself."

— Brian Biggane

Q: Where did you grow up? How do you think that has influenced you?
A: I grew up here and attended Lake Worth Christian School. I graduated from the University of Central Florida and then went on to study at the Tyler School of Art at Temple University. I think growing up in Florida has influenced my artwork in terms of the colors that inspire me, being surrounded by such vivid colors in nature all year round.

Q: What is your favorite part about living here?
A: I love that you can walk to the beach, or the Intracoastal, McKinley Park, the Lantana Nature Preserve, etc., all within a matter of minutes — especially in the winter on gorgeous days when you just can't help but want to be outside all day.

Q: What book are you reading now?
A: I'm listening to the audiobook version of A Breath of Snow and Ashes, from the Outlander series by Diana Gabaldon. I like to listen to books while I work, especially during more monotonous projects. It's a great way to get in the zone and have time pass quickly.

Q: What music do you listen to when you want to relax? When you want to be inspired?
A: For relaxing, standards from the 1940s. For inspiration, something more up-tempo and fun. Lately I've been listening to a lot of Sylvan Esso.

Q: What is your favorite part about making art?
A: I love that you can make something and be inspired. It's a great way to get inspired, especially when you're working on something you know will be given to someone else. Think about how much they will appreciate it and let that spur you out of your rut.

Q: How did you choose to make art?
A: I grew up here and attended Lake Worth Christian School. I graduated from the University of Central Florida and then went on to study at the Tyler School of Art at Temple University. I think growing up in Florida has influenced my artwork in terms of the colors that inspire me, being surrounded by such vivid colors in nature all year round.

Q: What professional accomplishments are you most proud of?
A: I've designed displays and art pieces for an array of places and spaces. From retail window displays to event and gala decor and installations in art museums. I also teach workshops on various art and craft techniques. I had an art installation that was selected to be shown over the course of two years in several art museums in Germany and Switzerland, and still think it's so cool that so many people, so far away were able to view my work.

Q: What advice do you have for a young person seeking a career today?
A: As a maker there are times you fall into a creative block and can feel stuck. It's something I still deal with. The best way I know to get through it is just to keep making, even if your heart isn't fully in it, use it as a time to experiment. Have fun trying a new method or material or create something that will be a gift for someone. I think it's easier to find motivation when you're working on something you know will be given to someone else. Think about how much they will appreciate it and let that spur you out of your rut.

Q: How did you choose to make your living?
A: I grew up in this neighborhood, so when my husband and I returned to the area it seemed like a good, familiar fit. Especially now with children of our own, we love how quiet and friendly the neighborhood is.

Q: What is your favorite part about making art?
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It could be weeks until Palm Beach County building officials determine the fate of the Golf StreamViews project between Briny Breezes and the County Pocket.

In November, inspectors shut down work on developer NL Living’s plan to build 14 luxury townhouses after expressing concerns about stormwater runoff.

Briny Breezes Town Manager Dale Sagerman says now the county has taken the extraordinary step of ordering an independent engineering analysis — a “peer review” — to ensure the project won’t cause drainage problems for adjacent properties.

“County staff has no idea how long that will take to obtain a complete peer review report,” Sagerman told the Town Council at its Jan. 24 meeting.

The county is soliciting proposals from qualified engineering firms and is required to have three bidders before making a selection. As of Jan. 24, only two firms had applied, the manager said.

Contractors for the New Jersey-based developer have hauled in dozens of truckloads of fill dirt to level out the elevation on the 2-acre lot to about 7 feet. Neighboring residents worry that rainwater and storm surge will have nowhere to run but onto their yards. The lot has been vacant for decades and served as a drain field for runoff from Briny and the Pocket.

Sagerman said the results of the engineering review will “help the county determine whether the fill that’s on the site can stay.”

NL Living vice president Glenn La Mattina has said he hopes to have the project completed by the end of the year. But the delay has cast that target in doubt.

In other business:

• The council hopes to name a new mayor during its Feb. 18 meeting. Filling the vacancy left by Roger Bennett’s death on Jan. 13,

Applicants should submit letters of interest and voter registration verification to the town clerk. The next mayor will serve the three weeks remaining on Bennett’s unexpired term and then a full one-year term.

“Roger was a Brinyite through and through,” said council President Sue Thaler. “He stopped in to Town Hall every day to ask what he could do to help. … We’re all going to miss him so much.”

The council has other positions to fill on reappointment at the February meeting: town clerk, town clerk pro tem, deputy bookkeeper and seven members of the Planning and Zoning Board.

• The council has scheduled a workshop on building permit issues for 2 p.m. Feb. 14 in Briny’s community center.

Representatives of C.A.P. Government Inc., the town’s inspection and plan review contractor, will be on hand to answer residents’ questions.

Briny Breezes/County Pocket

Let’s Tweet: The town will host a Twitter chat to answer residents’ questions on a complete peer review report Feb. 14. Details here.

By Dan Moffett
Experience you Expect, Work Ethic you Deserve

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530 N Swinton Ave., Delray Beach

Newly Priced Walk/bike to town, yet set on a huge 1/2 acre lot on the corner of N Swinton and NW 6th St in the Lake Ida neighborhood. This gorgeous updated home is a true showpiece. Impact windows, heated salt water pool, whole house generator, gated driveway, beautifully renovated and designed. Asking $1,175,000.

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357 NE 8th Ave., Delray Beach

Incredible opportunity to own a large corner lot with charming open beam cottage. Nestled among multi-million dollar homes in desirable Palm Trail neighborhood. Steps to trendy Atlantic Ave. and short stroll to beach. Asking $995,000.

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2000 S. Ocean Blvd., Delray Beach

Beachfront condominium with Ocean views. Tastefully remodeled with impact windows all around, large living room, spacious master suite, double door entry, with private elevator. Steps to sand with deeded beach access. Community pool on intracoastal, with guard gate, garage, and storage. Asking $9,800,000.

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561-537-0050 Cell
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21 NW 77th Ct., Delray Beach

Spring 2019 delivery! New construction home with modern features and finishes, built by Bella Homes. Jenn-Air appliance package, 5 bedrooms, 5 ½ baths, open floor plan with 1st floor master, impact glass, resort style heated salt water pool, control 4 smart home. One of a kind modern masterpiece located at the end of a cul-de-sac in the desirable Lake Ida neighborhood. Asking $2,100,000.

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3510 Glenwood Ct., Delray Beach

Private lakefront beauty. Gorgeous 4,800 sq. ft. golf community home (no required membership). Perfectly situated inside the gates of Seagate Country Club, large one level home has sweeping lake views, outdoor living at it’s best, vaulted open beam ceilings, formal living/wonderful entertainment room, open kitchen concept and screened lanais all around. Asking $1,495,000.

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625 Casa Loma Blvd. 708, Boynton Beach

Enjoy spectacular Marina, Ocean and Intracoastal views from this 7th floor beauty. Over 1895 sq. ft. 3 bed, 2 bath recently renovated Marina Village Condominium. Fabulous amenities, doorman, walk to restaurants, and the new downtown, short stroll to beach. Dock available with condominium. Asking $534,000.

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602 NE 8th Ave., Delray Beach

Modern meets beach in this spectacular new construction home. Built by Bella Homes, and designed with soaring ceilings, lots of glass, and wood accents. Chef’s kitchen with natural gas Jenn-Air range and appliances, Control 4 smart home, whole house generator. Featuring 5 bedrooms, 4 ½ baths, 1st floor master and office, outdoor logia with summer kitchen and pool. Downtown Delray’s Palm Trail Neighborhood. Asking $2,950,000.

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SteveAndLoriMartel@yahoo.com

6110 N. Ocean, Ocean Ridge

Waterfront town home with private dock and views galore. This beach area property boasts privacy plus views, 2 car garage, courtyard entrance. Located in small gated enclave, this 3 bed 2.5 bath home offers ground level and remodeled master suite, guest rooms upstairs, new impact windows, new A/C, newer roof, sky lights, new seawall. Asking $1,195,000.

Jerilyn Walter
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603 N. Federal Hwy., Boynton Beach

Attention Investors - Great value and opportunity to buy large commercial lot with warehouse only blocks from the new thriving downtown Boynton Beach. Perfectly located for major development. Asking $1,700,000.

Greg Lekanides
561-886-7052 Cell
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Boca and Boynton chambers of commerce merge

By Mary Hladky

The Boca Raton and Boynton Beach chambers of commerce have merged, with Boca’s chamber taking over economic development efforts in Boynton.

The two chambers announced the merger on Jan. 24, and the Greater Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce has retained former Greater Boynton Beach Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Jonathan Porges during an indefinite transition period.

“We are happy the Boynton chamber had confidence in us,” said Boca chamber President and CEO Troy McLellan. “We will take over the operations and bring our resources into that community and deliver them there.”

To avoid disruption, the Boynton chamber’s office will remain open at 1880 N. Congress Ave. until the end of the year, after which other options will be considered.

Events scheduled by the Boynton chamber will be held as planned.

The Boynton chamber’s name also will be retained for the time being.

“The Boca chamber is renowned as a highly professional organization which provides immense value to its members,” Porges said in a release. “The Boynton chamber is proud to be joining forces with this respected institution to take our collective member services and business advocacy to the next level.”

Preliminary conversations about a possible merger started during the summer with both chambers conducting “a great deal of due diligence” before culminating a deal, McLellan said.

The merger is a continuation of a national and local trend toward consolidation of chambers of commerce, he said.

For example, Palm Beach North was founded in 2007 as the result of a merger between the Jupiter Tequesta Juno Beach Chamber of Commerce and the North Palm Beach County Chamber of Commerce and now serves 10 cities.

Sales, marketing, accounting and other operations can be melded and streamlined, saving money and improving efficiency and effectiveness, McLellan said.

The Boca chamber has discussed a merger with Delray Beach’s chamber in the past, but not recently, he said. “If we feel like there is a path to go forward, absolutely we will go forward,” he said.

Boynton chamber members will gain access to the Boca chamber’s services, including programming, free professional development seminars, networking and representation by a political action committee that lobbies for members’ business interests and supports pro-business political candidates.

“IT is our desire to make Boynton a community where a business can continue to be successful,” McLellan said. Boca Raton Mayor Scott Singer said the merger is a positive for his city.

“It expands the ability for our businesses to reach a new market and for greater collaboration within the region centered on Boca,” he said.

Along the Coast
A Letter from Ocean Ridge Mayor Steve Coz

Dear Fellow Ocean Ridge Residents,

Thank you for voting me into office. It has been a privilege and honor to serve you as your Mayor. I would like to thank my fellow Commissioners for voting me in as Mayor. I have worked hard to ensure that the fine tradition of leadership in Ocean Ridge continues.

I am also pleased to announce that as I run for re-election in March, I have the endorsements of our last three mayors: Jim Bonfiglio, Geoff Pugh, and Ken Kaleel.

Change is coming to our town. Town Manager Jamie Tctomb is leaving us in March. With Jamie's departure we need experienced commissioners to guide us through this transition. I believe that I have the knowledge necessary to guide us as we search for a new Town Manager.

Before serving on the Town Commission, I was appointed to both the Board of Adjustments and the Planning and Zoning Commission. Having been a town resident since 1985—raising three children with my wife Val—I know our town, our neighborhoods, our challenges.

During my tenure I worked to achieve:

- Increased Police Presence across town
- 35% Open Green Space on new dwelling construction
- License Plate Recognition Cameras
- Drainage Improvements throughout town
- Street Paving & Traffic Calming Devices

I am against raising property taxes. I have been a leader in our town's efforts to get in front of Boynton's population growth. The preservation of our natural resources and our lifestyles for all residents are uppermost in every decision I make.

I hope that I have earned your vote once again on March 12th.

Thank you,

Steve Coz

Paid by Steve Coz for Ocean Ridge Town Commission

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Boynton Beach

The historic Magnuson house has been vacant for decades.

By Jane Smith

The historic Oscar Magnuson house at 211 E. Ocean Ave. can stay at its current location while Boynton Beach builds its Town Square project on 16 acres to the west.

The city's Community Redevelopment Agency, composed of the city commissioners, agreed at its January meeting that there was no rush to do anything with the two-story building, which sits on .3 of an acre.

"With Town Square being developed, let it stay where it is," said board member Mack McCray.

"There's a lot of history in the old houses," said board member Aimee Kelley. "With Town Square coming up, maybe a family will want to restore it."

The fate of the 100-year-old home was discussed at the CRA's November meeting. The agency had bought back the building in August.

The CRA had sold the house for $255,000 in September 2016 to a Philadelphia-based developer with the promise that it would hold a restaurant. But that didn't happen, which allowed the CRA to exercise the reverter clause in the sales contract.

The roughly 1,800-square-foot house is listed among the city's historic properties. The CRA had paid $850,000 in 2007 for the house, built about 1919 by Swedish immigrant and farmer Oscar Sten Magnuson. His wife, Eunice Benson Magnuson, was one of the first town clerks.

"We're at a crossroads of what to do with the property," said board member Mack McCray.

Michael Simon, CRA executive director, told the city's Historic Resource Preservation Board in late November.

Potential solutions were discussed, including uses that would not require the building to be made wheelchair accessible.

"Why not an art or music studio?" said Barbara Ready, board chairwoman.

The board members ranked their options as: Keep Magnuson where it is and find another use for it; move it to another section of the city and, last, demolish it.

The private developer of Town Square, E2L Real Estate Solutions, had said it might be interested in parking construction vehicles on the Magnuson house land. But the developer has not presented a contract, detailing the number of vehicles and the length of time, Simon said.

Town Square will create a downtown for Boynton Beach with a renovated historic high school, a new city hall/library building, fire station, amphitheater, playground and parking garages. The private development includes a hotel, apartments and retail and office space.

CRA board member Justin Katz does not want the city or the agency to put more money into the Magnuson house.

"I agree with McCray that the house can rest there," Katz said at the January meeting.

"But what can we do as a CRA board?" Ready said. "I am pleased. Let's let the dust settle on Town Square before we do anything more."

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The setting of a lawyer is an important decision that should not be left to the last minute. Before you decide, ask the attorney you've been retained to give you an overview of the process of Estate Planning.

The setting of a lawyer is an important decision that should not be left to the last minute. Before you decide, ask the attorney you've been retained to give you an overview of the process of Estate Planning.
Delray Beach entrepreneur lost his heart to chocolate

By Rich Pollack

Tyler Levitetz says he has no idea what Valentine’s Day will bring to his 5150 Chocolate Co. In fact, he doesn’t even know what classic or unique selections will be available in his new craft chocolate factory’s retail shop — and he probably won’t know until a few days ahead of time.

“What we do know is that what we’re going to have this Valentine’s Day is going to be different than what we’ll have next Valentine’s Day,” he says with certainty.

If opening day in September and the days before Christmas are any indication, chances are it will be crazy busy, and that’s perfect for Levitetz, who runs a business with an off-the-wall approach unlike any other chocolate factory.

“Everyone who knew I wanted to do this said I was literally out of my mind,” says Levitetz, who grew up in Gulf Stream. At 29, he still has skateboards to the multimillion-dollar chocolate factory that took five years of planning before opening at 1010 N. Federal Highway in Delray Beach.

“Even he chose to put 5150 — slang for crazy person on the loose, derived from California police code — into the name of his company. If that doesn’t say a little something about who he is, perhaps the werewolf in front of the shop will offer confirmation.

Levitetz proudly describes his product as “crazy good chocolate.” But don’t be fooled by his whimsy. Behind it is a skilled entrepreneur with a passion for chocolate and a knowledge, likely unmatched in South Florida and perhaps even in the state, of how it is made.

What separates Levitetz and 5150 Chocolate Co. from many other large-scale chocolate businesses is the process of making chocolate and creating everything from candy bars with names like Fried Watermelon Seed and Sticky Bun to pistachio-flavored bonbons and Batman lollipops.

While it’s common for chocolatiers to make confections from pre-made chocolate that is melted down into shapes sold to customers, the 5150 Chocolate Co. begins with cacao beans imported from farms throughout the world and transforms them into chocolate.

Prior to opening the business, Levitetz traveled from country to country visiting farms and getting to know the cacao growers and developing relationships with them.

A large portion of the beans used in chocolate made by 5150 are certified organic and all the beans, Levitetz said, come from farms that don’t use pesticides.

The dark chocolate, he says, is made with just two ingredients — sugar and cacao — before flaming is added. In many cases, the flavors are designed to complement the distinctiveness of the bean that reflects the country of origin.

Levitetz’s evolution from a skateboarder riding recklessly on whatever high ground he could find near State Road A1A in Ocean Ridge or Briny Breezes, began after he headed to California, where he worked in restaurants as a line cook, and later in Chicago, where he studied to be a pastry chef.

He was smitten while in the section of the program that dealt with chocolate.

“That is when I knew it was what I always wanted to do,” Levitetz said.

From there he moved to Fort Myers, where he worked for two years with chocolatier Norman Love, getting what some might call a master’s degree in chocolate.

Along the way, Levitetz would go home after work or school and work with chocolate in his apartment.

“I was constantly experimenting with miniature sculptures,” he said.

For Levitetz, making chocolate from the bean is an opportunity to ensure the quality of his sweet treats.

“We’re controlling every step of the way so there’s no compromising,” he said.

Fashioning chocolate — into everything from giant sculptures of the Grinch to colored white chocolate Legos and dark chocolate replicas of Han Solo’s Millennium Falcon — gives Levitetz a chance to express his creativity.

“As soon as people come in, they’re surprised by what can be done with chocolate — that it can be used as an artistic medium,” says manager Tara Floyd. “It definitely catches people off guard.”

While chocolate is the main attraction, the 5150 Chocolate Co. also serves gelato and specialty coffees. Those made with fresh chocolate, of course, are particularly good.

The future for the company includes opening of more retail shops — one just opened in Miami — and perhaps factory tours.

As of late last month, however, what will be available to shoppers on Valentine’s Day was still up the air — or perhaps just a well-guarded secret.

Still, visitors shouldn’t be surprised to see a lot of hearts made with unusual twists and some specially bonbons.

“We’ll be prepared,” Levitetz said.

He’s on good enough terms with them that when he received a shipment of beans that weren’t up to his standards, he was able to return them to the grower and get a much better replacement.

Some of Tyler Levitetz’s creations (above), but traditional chocolate hearts will be available for Valentine’s Day.

Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

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D eveloper Robert Pereira’s Playa Vista Isle at 935 and 939 Hillsboro Mile in Hillsboro Beach, previously listed for sale for $159 million, went to auction with 11 bidders in November, and Oppornova LLC bought it for $42.5 million. The Delaware company’s LLC appears on corporate records linked to Teavana co-founder Andrew Mack. Concierge Auctions and Ralph Arias of One Sotheby’s International Realty managed the listing and auction process of the 60,000-square-foot mansion. Sotheby’s managers said the deal is the most expensive residential sale to close in Broward County. The second priciest is the $27.5 million sale of 5 Harborage Drive, Fort Lauderdale, in 2015.

Just down the street at 951 Hillsboro Mile, Kevin Van Middlesworth, president and CEO of Platinum Group Security, paid $6.05 million in December for the furnished waterfront home. William M. Bell III, a trustee of a land trust agreement dated Dec. 28, 1989, is the seller. Van Middlesworth founded Platinum Group Security in 1996. The company, based in Deerfield Beach, provides security assessments, tech security installations, property concierge services and security personal services, according to its website.

David Willens, founder and chairman of Sage Dental, listed his home at 3715 S. Ocean Blvd., Highland Beach, for $27.5 million with Steven Solomon, an agent with Douglas Elliman Real Estate. Sited on a half-acre on the ocean, the 14,808-square-foot home comprises seven bedrooms, seven bathrooms and two half-baths. Features include a living green wall in the foyer with 1,800 plants, Italian imported basalt lava stone facing on some of the interior walls, its own cell tower, and a $1 million Bang & Olufsen audio system. For information, call 289-3609.

January property records show that Morris Flancbaum and his wife, Susan Rizzuto, paid $16.5 million for a waterfront six-bedroom, 10,538-square-foot mansion at 250 NE Fifth Ave., Boca Raton. The seller was Joseph H. Perez. Flancbaum is president of Colts Neck Associates, a custom homebuilder based in Colts Neck, N.J.

The two-story Boca Raton home, built in 1962, sits on a 1.6-acre lot and last sold in 2012 for $9.75 million. The current listing agent, Jonathan Postma of Coldwell Banker, said the buyer eventually plans to redevelop the property. Postma, who brokered both sides of the deal, said it marks one of the highest residential sales in Boca Raton and is the third property he’s sold for more than $10 million on that street during the past year.

John Ferber and his wife, Jenna, sold their 3,388-square-foot waterfront house at 6009 Old Ocean Blvd., Ocean Ridge, for $5.6 million in January, public records show. Eugene Tenenbaum, who owns the property next door, bought the four-bedroom, four-bathroom home. The Ferbers had paid $5.5 million for the property in 2015. Ferber co-founded advertising.com in the mid-1990s and sold it to AOL in 2004 for $435 million, according to media reports.

National Realty Investment Advisors launched sales in December for Ocean Delray, its 19-unit condo development that will replace the Wright by the Sea hotel at 1901 S. Ocean Blvd. in Delray Beach. NRIA purchased the property for $25 million in October. IMI Worldwide Properties will handle sales for Ocean Delray. The project is being co-developed with U.S. Construction. Residences at Ocean Delray will begin in the high $4 million price range, according to a news release. The hotel will be demolished and construction will begin in the first quarter of 2019, with a completion date slated for late 2020. South Florida architect Randall Stofft is designing the three-story building. The residences will range from 3,300 square feet to more than 4,600 square feet.
Ocean Ridge office agents include Jim Wrona, Greg Lekanides, Jami Lynn Cauvin, Emily Gurvitch, Beverly Mandell, and Steve and Lori Martel. Posh Properties also has offices in Delray Beach and Boynton Beach. For more information, call 456-6755.

Mauricio Umansky’s Beverly Hills-based brokerage, the Agency, opened its doors at 20 SE Third St. in Boca Raton in early December as part of its expansion plan for South Florida. Chris Franciosa and Jared Ringel are leading the expansion. Howard Elman is the managing broker of the Boca Raton location. The two-story, 6,700-square-foot office will include the Agency Development Group and the Agency Creates, its creative division.

The Boca Real Estate Investment Club, founded by David Dweck, celebrates 25 years of service to the real estate investment community on Feb. 19. The celebration from 5:30 to 10 p.m. will feature networking opportunities, a three-course meal, entertainment by comedian Craig Shoemaker, and talks by Robert Shemin and Frank McKinney.

The event will benefit Boca Helping Hands, Caring House Project Foundation, and Heroes to Heroes. It will be held at the Addison, 2 E. Camino Real, Boca Raton. Pre-registration starts at $129. For information, call 391-7325 or visit www.BocaRealEstateClub.com.

Thanks to votes by newlyweds and for the third consecutive year, the Lake Worth Casino Ballroom was awarded the WeddingWire Couples’ Choice Award for quality, service, responsiveness and professionalism. WeddingWire.com is a wedding planning website.

Delray Affair is a winner in the seventh annual America’s Best Art Fair Awards competition. It ranked No. 13 in the “Top 50 Best Art Fairs” in the United States, according to the survey. Produced by the Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce, the event takes place in downtown Delray Beach. The Chamber will celebrate its 57th year of Delray Affair from April 12-14.

The America’s Best Art Fairs Awards are based on online voting by patrons, collectors, organizers and artists both regionally and nationally.
County Commissioner Robert Weinroth continued making the rounds of his newly expanded constituency in January.

Weinroth, who took his seat from term-limited Steven Abrams in late November, wants to make sure municipal leaders know he is one of them, having spent four years on the Boca Raton City Council.

“So I certainly understand the responsibilities you have, and I want you to know that I understand home rule,” Weinroth told Gulf Stream town commissioners Jan. 11. “And whereas, when we sit here we want to make sure the state isn’t bothering us, I can assure you that the county will not be bothering you. Unless you ask for us to come in and help you with something.”

Mayor Scott Morgan thanked him for visiting.

“It’s nice to put a face to the name,” Morgan said. “And I’m heartened as we all are to hear your past experience in Boca and your desire to protect home rule, which is very important to have.”

Weinroth assured the Gulf Stream officials he was here to help them.

“If there’s anything that I can do, the county is always there to provide a helping hand,” he said.

He delivered similar messages Jan. 7 in Ocean Ridge (“It’s my promise that I will not be getting in your business”) and Jan. 15 in Boynton Beach (“I will not be in your face unless you tell me that you need me”). He also made a Jan. 15 stop in Delray Beach and attended Highland Beach’s Jan. 9 Complete Streets meeting.

Also in Weinroth’s County Commission district are Briny Breezes, Manalapan, Lantana, South Palm Beach, Hypoluxo and Village of Golf.

He kicked off his city tour Dec. 11 in Boca Raton.

“There are 12 municipalities in District 4, and you are certainly the first stop I wanted to make,” said Weinroth, who spent a year as deputy mayor. “Boca is my most favorite of my favorite cities.”

Weinroth, a Democrat, defeated Republican William “Billy” Vale last November, 54 percent to 46 percent. He chose not to run for re-election to the City Council the previous March to focus on campaigning for the county post.

Weinroth kept Abrams senior aide Lucia Bonavita and added Jon Carter and Alexandria Ayala to his legislative staff. Abrams staffer Kate “Freddie” Scott retired in December.

The commissioner has offices at the Palm Beach County Governmental Center (301 N. Olive Ave., West Palm Beach; 355-2204) and in South County (345 S. Congress Ave., Delray Beach; 276-1220). His official email is RWeinroth@pbcgov.org.

Along the Coast

Weinroth tells municipalities he won’t interfere
The Friis Team

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-Wall Street Journal

NEW

3268 N OCEAN BOULEVARD  GULF STREAM
5 BR  |  2.2 BA  |  10,008 SF  |  Decided Beach Access

520 CHAPEL HILL BOULEVARD  DELRAY BEACH
6 BR  |  5.1 BA  |  6,537 SF  |  Recently Renovated  |  Double Lot

NEW

545' WATER FRONTAGE

2017 N OCEAN BOULEVARD  GULF STREAM
7 BR  |  10.3 BA  |  12,623 SF  |  200' Ocean Frontage

545' WATER FRONTAGE

136 ISLAND DRIVE  OCEAN RIDGE
5 BR  |  6.1 BA  |  9,410 SF  |  545' Water Frontage

NEW

1424 N OCEAN BOULEVARD  GULF STREAM
4 BR  |  5.1 BA  |  10,176 TSF  |  180' Water Frontage

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DREAMING OF COASTAL BREEZES?

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Oceanfront estate with approx. 9,000sf of luxury living, designed for the most discerning buyer. Web# RX-10445211

REDUCTION | Ocean Ridge | $3,695,000 | 3-BR, 3-BA
The perfect direct oceanfront cottage is tucked away on a quiet lane awaiting its new owners. Web#RX-10444403

Ocean Ridge | $3,800,000 | 5-BR, 5.5-BA
Superb craftsmanship on approximately half an acre with separate guest house. Sleek and sophisticated. Web# RX-10463450

NEW | Ocean Ridge | $1,450,000 | 4-BR, 3.5-BA
Serene intracoastal views and deeded beach access grace this move-in ready beach home. Web# RX-10495536

NEW | Ocean Ridge | $2,275,000 | 3-BR, 2.5-BA
Highly sought after Portofino, professionally redesigned in an elegant transitional style. Breathtaking ocean views from approx. 60’ balcony. Web# RX-10490288

PENDING | Ocean Ridge | $1,329,000 | 3-BR, 3-BA
Sunny and spacious, this home was designed for the beachside lifestyle. One house from the ocean, east of AIA. Dedicated beach easement. Web# RX-10482443

NEW | Ocean Ridge | $1,150,000 | This is a rare find. Approx. 11,000sf lot east of AIA with private deeded beach access. Exclusive neighborhood, ready to build your dream house. Web# RX-10471848

NEW | Ocean Ridge | $990,000 | This enormous approx. 17,000sf lot provides a unique opportunity to build the large seaside home you’ve been dreaming of on one of Ocean Ridge’s nicest streets. Web# RX-10476497

NEW | Gulf Stream | $745,000 | 3-BR, 2.5-BA
Charming townhouse with lovely garden, directly opposite deeded beach access, in the exclusive town of Gulf Stream at a great price. Web# RX-10487549

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The New Norton

The 78-year-old museum is set to reopen after a 59,000-square-foot expansion that reorients its entrance and adds a sculpture garden

By Gretel Sarmiento

A soft blue light descends upon delicate Chinese artifacts housed inside dark cabinets. Each has a dedicated source of light announcing it. From a distance, the mechanism holding them vanishes, leaves them floating like fragile notes on an invisible music sheet.

The room is quiet, ceremonial. The song of hammers and drills can't touch this sacred space. Nobody dares speak. Not our tour guide. Not even to say how this subtle mastery has been achieved.

If the devil is in the details, something is about to become the most importantly devilish cultural destination in South Florida, and its new favorite one: the remade Norton Museum of Art, which is finally making its debut Feb. 9, having undergone a $100 million makeover.

The most noticeable change is the dramatic main entrance, now facing South Dixie Highway, which is framed by a monumental ancient banyan tree to the left and a curious 19-foot pop-art sculpture to the right. Typewriter Eraser, Scale X, by Claes Oldenburg and his wife, Coosje van Bruggen, balances deliberately off-center on a reflecting pool that complements the calming white façade.

Windows frame a view of the 90-year-old banyan at the entrance to the Norton Museum of Art. Designs throughout the museum echo the circular motif on either side of the doors.

That minimalist mounting work is one of many understated features of the transformed building, which grew its exhibition space by 35 percent. The extra room affords the Norton's photography collection its own dedicated gallery for the first time.

"It exceeded my expectations," said Hope Alswang, the museum's executive director and CEO, who led the aggressive funding campaign and retires next month. "Because, you know, the renderings are so gorgeous. It's idealistic. It's a fairytale. And then you get the building and you are like, this is incredible!"

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"It's unmistakably a museum. It's unmistakably about art,"
Pay it Forward

Philemon A. Bender III was named to the advisory committee on health and wellness for new Gov. Ron DeSantis and Lt. Gov. Jeanette Nunez.

Bender, who has more than 25 years of professional experience working with troubled children and families in Palm Beach County and beyond, was picked to guide the new administration via his skills in the areas of health care and social services.

“That is personally and professionally, an important appointment for me because it provides me an opportunity to contribute everything we’ve learned as an organization about how to best help Florida’s children,” he said. “At Place of Hope, the children we help place in foster care, get adopted and see growth into productive people just as a small percentage of the children we can help statewide.”

With locations in Boca Raton, West Palm Beach and Palm Beach County, Place of Hope serves more than 900 annually.

New facility debuts for job training, needs

Boca Helping Hands has opened the Justin D. Webb Training Center offering free job-assistance programs.

The new facility houses the Leah and Samuel Hochman Health and Wellness Classroom, a second classroom dedicated in memory of Dr. Herbert Watchtel, and is the nation’s largest for children and adults with special needs. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Free. 775-2622 or justin.d.webb@bchh.org.

Thursday 3/1 Tennessee Valley Children’s Advocacy Center’s “Spring Soiree Gala” Woodfield Country Club, 3650 Club Place, West Palm Beach. Enjoy featured author whose books include “Politics of Honor: A Daughter’s Story” to celebrate the achievements of the club’s Youth of the Year. Honorary Chairwoman Robin Deyo, Karli Vazquez-Mendez, Honorary Chef Patrick Duffy and Honorary Chairwoman Robyn Deyo. Photo provided.

February 7: Local chefs will put their best food forward during the event celebrating that celebrates dishes from the seven continents. Time is 6:30 to 10 pm. Cost is $85. $125 VIP. Call 620-2553 or jlb.org/our-events/flavors-of-boca-raton. ABOVE: (l-r) Co-Chairwomen Sarah Cevasco, Gail Fazio and Karl Vazquez-Mendez.

February 2-3: Bethesda Hospital Foundation’s 64th Annual Bethesda Ball: Rock the Foundation at the Seagate Country Club, 3600 Hamlet Drive, Delray Beach. Celebrate the achievements of the club’s Youth of the Year, along with a community member who has made an influential impact on the organization, while raising money to support programming for more than 300 children. 6 p.m. 633-3287 or bgcpbc.org.

Sunday 3/10- American Disabilities Foundation’s Boating & Beach Bash for People with Disabilities at Spanish River Park, 1001 N. Ocean Blvd., Boca Raton. Support two singers who have competed on national television and will headline the event that celebrates caring and humanity and is the nation’s largest for children and adults with special needs. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Free. 775-2622 or justin.d.webb@bchh.org.

Tuesday 3/14 - American Disability’s Foundation’s Boat Bash at the Seagate Country Club, 3600 Hamlet Drive, Delray Beach. Celebrate the achievements of the club’s Youth of the Year, along with a community member who has made an influential impact on the organization, while raising money to support programming for more than 300 children. 6 p.m. 633-3287 or bgcpbc.org.

Thursday 3/14 - Literary Coalition of Palm Beach County’s Literary Luncheon at Kavos Center, 701 Okoboji Blvd., West Palm Beach. Enjoy featured speaker Thomas D. Frohman, of New York. "I think we have a model here for something that can be done across the country."

What we have here now is an organization that was started in a closet by a hospice nurse with a huge heart and has helped thousands of children and families have the best quality of life as possible,” said Bryant Sims, who played an integral role in the formation of the West Palm Beach-based organization. “I think we have a model here for something that can be done across the country.”

Poetry festival honors champions, scholars, winners named

The five winners of fellowships and scholarships to the Palm Beach Poetry Festival were awarded:

• The Langston Hughes Fellowship for African-American poets was awarded to Tyree Daye, of Youngville, N.C.

• The Kundiman Fellowship for Asian-American poets was awarded to Shelley Wong, of San Francisco.

• The CantoMundo Fellowship for Latin American poets was awarded to Jesus Sanchez, of San Francisco.

• The Thomas Lux Scholarship was awarded to Cate Lynch, of San Francisco.

• The Sarah Lawrence Scholarship was awarded to Amanda Vole, of New York.

The 15th annual affair wrapped up its six-year run at School Square in Delray Beach. The three Poetry Festival fellowships cover full tuition and lodging for the recipients.

“These fellowships represent a substantial investment in education focused on the craft of writing poetry,” said Miles Coon, festival creator and president. “We have been working toward opening the doors wide to the festival workshops and offer participants the opportunity to work together with these exceptionally talented fellows who were selected from the largest applicant pool in our 15-year history.”

Philanthropy Notes

Place of Hope leader assists governor on health care

Purchased the neighboring Warehouse Pub property, and the city has approved zoning changes to convert it into parking for staff members and volunteers.

Clinics Can Help supplies $1.4 million in equipment

Clinics Can Help is celebrating its life-saving achievements since being formed 13 years ago.

During that time, the nonprofit has served more than 10,000 adults and children in need of medical equipment and supplies in Palm Beach County, totaling more than $1.4 million.

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Two leaders of South County’s philanthropic community have stepped up to co-chair this year’s Heart of a Woman Luncheon in Boca Raton.

Anne Vegso and Jeannette DeOrchis will lead the annual fundraiser for Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse, or AVDA. Both have received the Woman Volunteer of the Year Award — one of the most competitive awards of the season — from the Junior League of Boca Raton for their work on behalf of the Delray Beach nonprofit.

“It is going to be amazing,” said Vegso, who won the award in 2005. “We have a great group of women on our committee, No. 1, and it is a fabulous organization, No. 2. Jeannette and I both feel very strongly about our mission and that we really are making a difference in the lives of these victims.”

AVDA promotes violence-free relationships by offering programs and services that help women and children in harm’s way. Proceeds will benefit its 24-hour crisis hotline, emergency shelter, transitional-housing facility and educational outreach efforts in Palm Beach County schools.

“The money goes straight to where it needs to be,” said DeOrchis, who was named Woman Volunteer of the Year in 2018. “It’s really a hand up instead of a handout.”

She should know. From age 4 to age 12, she was abused by her father and, as an adult, married a husband she feared was going to kill her.

“I wondered if I would make it out of childhood alive,” DeOrchis said. “I wondered whether I would make it out of my marriage alive. I decided that for the rest of my life, I would help these poor women and children so that they would no longer have to feel that way.”

She joined AVDA’s board in 2010. “It gives me great peace and happiness to know that I’m helping women and children who are in even more desperate circumstances than I was,” DeOrchis said. “So many women are understanding that they don’t have to take it anymore.”

Keynote speaker is Tarana Burke, founder of the MeToo movement, who will share the story behind its genesis. Recognition will go out to survivor and activist Julie Weil, Palm Beach County Victim Services and Rape Crisis Center, and Ruth & Norman Rales Jewish Family Services.

“We talk about the wonderful triumphs we have with the shelter and how many people we’re saving,” DeOrchis said. “It’s a real atmosphere of hope.”

If You Go
What: Heart of a Woman Luncheon
When: 10:30 a.m. Feb. 28
Where: Royal Palm Yacht Club, 2425 W. Maya Palm Drive, Boca Raton
Cost: $175
Info: Call 265-3797, ext. 100 or visit avdaonline.org.

Pay it Forward
AVDA fundraiser to focus on MeToo with address from founder

By Amy Woods

December 2018

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Celebrations

‘Lady in Red’ Gala
The Breakers, Palm Beach — Jan. 4

A record attendance of nearly 700 guests filled the dance floor — and, in fact, all of the Ponce de Leon Ballroom — singing and swaying as legendary artist Diana Ross performed. A little while later, the same guests rolled in their seats with laughter watching superstar comedian Rita Rudner. More than $1 million was raised for disabled veterans through the Pups4Patriots program. ABOVE: Ross with Lois Pope. Photo provided by CAPEHART

Welcome Back
Benvenuto, Boynton Beach — Nov. 10

Il Circolo, The Italian Cultural Society, kicked off the season with members and guests at an event highlighted by Italian-American veterans who were recognized for their service. Students from Florida Atlantic University thanked the organization for its support of the summer study program in Italy. FAU professor Ilaria Serra related the experiences shared by students during their time abroad. ABOVE: (l-r) Vito and Filomena Rao, Sally Valenti and Lynda and Tony Ficarri. Photo provided

Community Impact Awards & Reception
Broken Sound Club, Boca Raton — Nov. 8

The Faulk Center for Counseling celebrated its annual gathering to honor local leaders John Crean, Pam Leal and Pamela Higer Polani. Proceeds from the event provide free and low-cost services to at-risk children, disadvantaged families and uninsured adults, none of whom is turned away because of inability to pay. TOP: (l-r) seated) Crean, Polani, Leal, (standing) Sandy Vanegas, Stephanie Cook, Joni Webster and Osvaldo Garcia. ABOVE: (l-r) Doreen Yaffa, Susan Wandersman, Tracy McDonough and Laureen Pannullo. Photos by Tina Valant
Family and friends gathered at the home of Neil and Doris Gillman to raise money to provide beds for children in need. More than 200 supporters of Sweet Dream Makers turned out for the affair and helped raise $200,000-plus. Since incorporating in 2016, the organization has donated 2,500 beds for youths. Studies show that youths demonstrate significant improvements in academic performance and behavior when they are well-rested. INSET: Suzanne Broad, executive director of Sweet Dream Makers, and Honorary Chairman Marc Schiller, CEO of City Mattress, which provides beds at reduced costs with free assembly and delivery. RIGHT: The Gillmans. Photos provided

Florida Atlantic University recognized Robert F. Kennedy Jr. with the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters Making Waves Award. The award, presented during a lecture with the activist, attorney and author, was given in honor of Kennedy’s public engagement. ‘Kennedy represents the values we cherish in our democracy and that we hope to instill in our students as active citizens in our country,’ college Dean Michael Horswell said. ABOVE: (l-r) Dick and Barbara Schmidt, Kennedy, Michelle Maros and Lauren Shawcross. Photo provided

Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton — Nov. 2

Members and guests of the Elks Lodge 1770 in Delray Beach ceremonially reopened the extensively renovated lodge. The $400,000 project added new flooring and carpeting, reinvented the bar and put in a fresh stage and sound system, among other changes. Roger Cope, an architect, did the design work pro bono. ABOVE: (l-r) Lori Stoffer, chaplain; Maureen Gour, trustee; Cecil Broderick, esteemed leading knight; Mike Sinneck, past grand exalted ruler; Mayor Shelly Petrolia, soon to be an Elks; Cope, esteemed loyal knight; Richard Snyder, exalted ruler; James Eaton, trustee; Carol Eaton, treasurer; and Jeb Conrad, president and CEO of the Greater Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce. Photo provided

Elks Club, Delray Beach — Jan. 12

Thanks to more than 1,000 guests who attended the third annual fundraiser, the Palm Beach County Food Bank will continue its mission to feed hungry people this season. The family-friendly event invited supporters to ‘eat simply, so others can simply eat.’ Participants shared in a basic meal of water, bread and soup, and each received a symbolic bowl. ABOVE: Food Bank Executive Director Karen Erren and Patty Jones. INSET: Marla Garchik and Shelley Menin. Photos provided by CAPEHART

Old School Square, Delray Beach — Dec. 2

Palm Beach residents James and Sue Patterson were guests of honor during a pre-concert event for supporters of the Dreyfoos School of the Arts Foundation. Prior to the Prism Concert, the school’s annual holiday affair, the Pattersons were lauded for underwriting it, giving nearly 400 music students the opportunity to perform in a world-class venue. RIGHT: Marti LaTour and George Elmore. Photo provided by Jacek Gancarz

Krisis Center, West Palm Beach — Dec. 5

Be A Sweet Dream Maker celebration

Private home, Boca Raton — Dec. 14

Celebrations

February 2019

The COASTAL STAR

Empty Bowls

Old School Square, Delray Beach — Dec. 2

Be A Sweet Dream Maker celebration

Private home, Boca Raton — Dec. 14

ABOVE: (l-r) Christina Lewis, Kathy Hillier, Cindy and Peter Dahl, Tim Lewis and Tim Lewis Jr. LEFT: (l-r) Alejandra Lippolis, Christine Midwall and Jessica MacFarland.
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DELRAY BEACH | $13M
BOCA RATON | $12.9M
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Boynton restaurants pleased with new spots in Riverwalk project

The Plate

Breakfast with a view

The Plate: Cracker Jack
The Place: Kona Bay Cafe, 310 E. Ocean Ave., Lantana; 429-3606 or konabaycafe.com.
The Price: $6
The Skinny: This is one of life's little bargains — two eggs (any style), two strips of bacon, served with your choice of side and toast, all for $6.

The scrambled eggs were fluffy and the bacon was crispy, though the hash browns appeared to be prefab. Service at Kona Bay Cafe, just west of the Lantana Bridge, always is friendly. After all, this is a neighborhood spot.

You can watch the sun rise, commune with your neighbors at the counter and begin your day with a hearty breakfast for under $10. Who could ask for anything more?
— Scott Simmons

The new interiors feel similar to what the eateries’ old locations had.

LEFT: Bond & Smolders. RIGHT: Sushi Simon. Photos provided
Norton Museum of Art's new sign glows in the afternoon light above the museum's newly reconfigured west façade, which fronts South Dixie Highway.

Continued from page AT1

said John Backman, project director of the 59,000-square-foot expansion, and the boldest endeavor the 78-year-old institution has undergone.

From the newly restored parquet floors and LED lights to the Quebec-commissioned cabinets holding the Chinese collection, the new structure is clearly dedicated to the mission of celebrating and advancing culture. It manages to do that without coming across as uptight and pretentious, a message perfectly conveyed by that fun Oldenburg sculpture consummating the shaded entrance plaza.

“I like the fact that people of a certain age don’t know what it is, because it starts a dialogue,” said Alswang, who turns 72 in May. “I think that’s not a bad thing, you know, to start asking: what's going on?”

Other works simultaneously debuting with the rejuvenated museum include an elaborate mandala piece by Damien Hirst, a hand-poured glass installation by festival in Nanjing; and a hand-depicting a Chinese lantern piece by George Rickey, Keith Haring, and Mark di Suvero, among others, now adorn the museum's “living room” and community space.

An artist-in-residence program quartered in six restored historic houses located south of the garden.

New meeting rooms and celebration spaces deliver a particularly striking effect in the Great Hall, from where the robust branches of the old banyan tree can be seen. Opposite from the 28-foot-tall window hangs a new, large-scale tapestry piece commissioned from artist Pae White.

The space, located to the left of the admission counter, has a living-room vibe and treats visitors to comfortable lounge seating, refrigerator tables and a coffee bar. Fabric wall panels and special acoustic plaster were used for sound-absorbing purposes.

What gives this room that airy, relaxing light quality? Look up. The 44-foot-high ceiling culminates in a gigantic oculus skylight.

Purposeful impact

The visitor experience was the driving force guiding many tiny decisions, from door handles and handrails to light fixtures and furniture placement. The clarity in the floorplan, which grants visitors a clear east-west line of view, was also deliberate.

Long before the daring expansion broke ground three years ago, the community could sense it would be something special.

For one, the visionary design was by British architecture studio Foster + Partners, whose previous projects include the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, the Hearst Tower in New York and that transcendent Apple store in Kyoto, Japan.

There was no doubt when the vivid renderings of the plan went public. It was audacious, massive and stunning; so much so that gifts from inspired museum trustees and community friends began pouring in.

Last year alone, the museum received a 100-artwork donation from Howard and Judie Ganek and the largest single philanthropic gift in its history: $16 million from Florida native Kenneth C. Griffin. The Norton’s new building is named after him.

Seeing it through completion and leaving it all behind is bittersweet to say the least, Alswang admitted. Under her leadership, the museum added 1,600 new objects to its portfolio. She would like to see more under new director Elliot Bostwick Davis, who starts March 2. That goal should come easier now.

“People want to give their art to a beautiful building,” Alswang said. “They think: Oh, I can give my art to another boring building or I can give my art to a Norman Foster masterpiece.” Well, I think it’s a no-brainer.”

The architects also took on the task of designing the garden spaces in a way that furthers the inside-outside compatibility.

Contemporary sculptures by George Rickey, Keith Haring, and Mark di Suvero, among others, now adorn the “great lawn” that behaves like an outdoor gallery. It replaced the museum’s former paved entrance.

Works by 42 students from 12 schools are already up in the new Chris and Bernard Marden Community Gallery, which also enjoys a more generous and brighter space.

Other new exhibitions kicking off Feb. 9 include Modern Spontaneity, an exhibition of women artists at the Norton’s Watercolor Collection and Nina Chanel Abney, as the latest in the RAW (Recognition of Art by Women) series.

Museum officials announced there would be free admission on Fridays and Saturdays, and Art After Dark events will now run through 10 p.m.

Since construction hit the final stages in July, there has been a lot of “touch and go,” said Backman.

With only a few weeks until the big reveal, he reflected on this long journey. “You are managing crisis after crisis. You get fatigued. But then you get these moments that wake you up,” he said while recalling one particular glorious night on the job. The parapet lights with dimmable lighting had just crowned the recognizable building with a recognizable name. From across the street, Backman looked back at the illuminated building.

“You don’t always expect the real thing to be so much better,” he said. “It was just a breathtaking experience.”

A large work by Pae White dominates the Norton’s Great Hall, which has a capacity of 400.
The ArtsPaper

www.palmbeachartspaper.com

Must See

Theater

A ‘Funny’ challenge

Actress takes on iconic role of Fanny Brice at the Wick

By Hap Erstein
ArtsPaper Theater Writer

Arguably more than any other musical, memories of 1964's Funny Girl have been so dominated by its original Broadway star — Barbra Streisand — that there has never been a major revival of the show.

But audiences at the Wick Theatre in Boca Raton voted the Jule Styne- Bob Merrill musical biography of vaudeville vocalist and clown Fanny Brice (1891-1951) the show they most wanted to see, so the search began for someone to fill the sizable shoes of the leading role.

Designated director Dom Ruggiero held unsuccessful auditions locally, then set his sights on New York performers. Eventually, he found what he needed, a big-voiced comic actress named Stephanie Maloney.

"When Stephanie came in and sang, we knew right away that she was it," says Ruggiero. She demonstrated in her audition "that she was genuinely funny and real. She didn't have to put that on. Plenty of the women we saw could sing the role, but she was the most honest one we heard."

As Maloney says of the role of Brice, "It has everything an actress could want. You have the big songs, songs that have meaning, songs you have to act, not just sing. You get to be funny, but also you get to be tragic. It's called Funny Girl, but a lot of the show isn't very funny, Fanny Brice's life is pretty tragic. It's wonderful to get to explore and play that."

Maloney is well aware that much of the audience will arrive at the Wick with a Streisand soundtrack in their heads, either from the cast album or the movie version that won La Barbra her first Oscar.

"I also grew up listening to the soundtrack, so it's obviously in my brain as well. When I was learning the music, that's what I initially heard," Maloney says. "For a second, I tried to forget it and just read what was on the page."

"After all, I'm not trying to be Barbra Streisand, I'm trying to be Fanny Brice. Ultimately, I tried to find a little mesh of Fanny, a little bit of Barbra, but also some Stephanie. I'm going to bring that to the page."

See BRICE on AT12

Music

Duo brings week of Romantic music to Four Arts this month

By Greg Stepanich
ArtsPaper Music Writer

It’s one thing to come and do a concert during the South Florida season, but it rises to another level when you’re able to bring your friends.

This month at the Society of the Four Arts in Palm Beach, the proprietors of New York’s Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, the husband-and-wife team of cellist David Finckel and pianist Wu Han, will settle in for a week of concerts and lectures centered around music from the Romantic era.

The series will include three concerts featuring Finckel and Wu Han as well as eminent musicians from the Lincoln Center roster and one of Finckel’s former colleagues in the Emerson String Quartet. Also included will be lectures about the music and an open rehearsal.

“The designing of a festival is very different than just playing a single concert,” Finckel said last month over the phone from his home in New York. “You hope in advance that people will look at an opportunity like this and allocate the time. That’s the thing that festivals do: People say, ‘I’m going to take my vacation and I’m going to the Lucerne Festival.’ Or I’m going to go to Tanglewood.”

It’s a commitment of a chunk of your life for something that is arguably on a higher level of experience than one gets every day.

“And that’s what you can do in a festival. … Wu Han and I, we love doing both: Playing a single concert and making a difference for an evening, and we also love to transform a community for a period of time into something which is beyond its norm.”

Finckel, 67, was the cellist for the Emerson String Quartet, often considered the finest of...
Review

A star is, indeed, born in ‘Funny Girl’

By Hap Erstein
ArtsPaper/Theater Writer

Barbra who! For more than half a century, theater companies have shied away from producing Funny Girl, the biographical musical of Ziegfeld Follies star Fanny Brice, in part because whatever playing the lead role means to be subjected to comparisons with Ms. Streisand.

Apparently Boca Raton’s Wick Theatre was unfazed by that hurdle and, boy, has it found an actress-singer-cloven to fill those giant shoes. Stephanie Maloney is currently giving a star-quality performance as lucky-onstage, unlucky-in-her-personal-life Brice, without giving any indication of how difficult the task is.

The production has much to recommend it, thanks to well-paced direction by Dom Ruggiero, capable support by George Dvorsky as vain gambler and clotheshorse Nick Arnstein, a hard-working ensemble and, of course, a first-rate score by Julie Styne and Bob Merrill. But the show succeeds or fails on the skills of the actress playing Fanny and, by that measure, the Wick has a solid winner.

Only a star vehicle with confidence in its leading lady would begin by writing her a number called I’m the Greatest Star. In Funny Girl, it allows the actress playing Fanny to show off her singing pipes, comedy proficiency and chutzpah. Maloney delivers the song with such take-no-prisoners bravado that we accept its premise and quickly relax about the fate of the production.

With each piece of comedy material — His Love Makes Me Beautiful, Sadie, Sadie and Rat-Tat-Tat-Tat — our admiration of Maloney increases. But it is on the ballads — People, Who Are You Now? and The Music That Makes Me Dance — that she wins our hearts. Her phrasing choices are not all that different from Streisand’s, but they deviate enough that we sense she is avoiding imitation.

The script by Isobel Lennart is a mere outline of Brice’s life, and a lot more effective on her way up the show business ladder than in the second act, when her marriage to Arnstein begins to crumble. Early on, this awkward, plain woman (“a bagel on a plate full of onion rolls”) emerges as a feature spot in a local vaudeville theater, then gets invited to audition for Florenz Ziegfeld, winning a spot in the Follies and showing that she will be a challenging employee.

Meanwhile, she has attracted the attention of Arnstein, who comes to resent her celebrity and her greater financial success. Desperate for a big score in his shabby investments, he crosses the line into embezzlement and lands in prison, further damaging his marriage to Fanny.

Like Arnstein does to Brice, Dvorsky plays a distant second fiddle to Maloney, though he succeeds at making the character likeable and sings quite capably. As Fanny’s neighborhood booster Eddie Ryan, the always welcome Courter Simmons (Singsing’ in the Rain, Drowsy Chaperone) is a lively presence. He is well paired with Angie Radosh as Fanny’s mother.

JosieU’s Jean’s backdoor projections evoke early 20th century New York, allowing the set design to get by with fragments of scenery. No, there’s no tugboat for Fanny’s defiant exit on Don’t Rain on My Parade, but Jean’s suggestion of a moving train receding into a Baltimore tunnel was a visually effective finale to the first act. Jim Buff raked the Wick’s clothes racks for some attractive vintage costumes.

If there is a nit that needs to be picked, it is the Wick’s cost-cutting decision to use recorded accompaniment. Although it mars the production, nothing could rain on the triumph of Stephanie Maloney. Herb’s hoping the Wick gets busy looking for more shows for her to do here.

BRICE

Continued from page 11

myself to the role.” As she learned in rehearsal, the part of Fanny is a marathon run. “She is in almost every scene. She sings almost everything in the show,” reports Maloney. "You start as this young, vibrant, naive go-getter girl, but I find I can’t let that power in the beginning go too far or I won’t have any breath by the time I get to the end of the show when she is a confident, strong woman.”

In addition to covering her rise to stardom, Funny Girl focuses on Brice’s precarious romance with gambler Nick Arnstein. Finding the right performer to play him was considerably easier for Ruggiero, who simply had to look onstage at the previous production, Annie, where George Dvorsky played Oliver Warbucks.

As Dvorsky sees it, the role has its pitfalls. If Arnstein is played too roguishly, the audience will turn off to him and not buy the romance. “You can’t make him a snake. You have to love this guy. And you have to watch him fall apart,” he says. Adapter Isobel Lennart took substantial liberties in writing the role of Arnstein.

“I think the real Nick Arnstein was all about himself,” Dvorsky says. “In the musical, he really wants to be with her, but they’re like magnets who push each other apart. I want the audience to connect with a journey that the two of us have, to root for it to work and then watch it unravel.”

“At the end of the first act is Don’t Rain on My Parade, where I give up my career and walk out on a man. Audience has to understand why I’m about to do that,” notes Maloney. “They have to be torn as well. They can’t hate him. Wow, she’s going to give up stardom for a man. But we have to love the man, too.”

When Funny Girl premiered on Broadway, the critics considered the script to be the show’s weak link. “I don’t agree with that. It’s so actable. That’s what makes it such a good book,” Ruggiero says. “There’s no huge leaps in trying to make one moment connect to another. It’s just written so well.”

“In so many shows of that era, the book is just there to get us to the next song,” adds Dvorsky. “This one is not like that.”

“It’s a challenge, not going to skirt around that fact,” Maloney says. “This is definitely the hardest thing I’ve done in my career thus far. And I’m so excited to tackle it.”

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BRICE

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If You Go
All events are at the Gubelmann Auditorium, Society of the Four Arts, Palm Beach. Tickets: $100 for members, $200 for non-members. Call 805-8526 or visit fourarts.org.

Feb. 10, 3 p.m.: Recital, David Finckel and Wu Han.
Feb. 11, 11 a.m.: Chamber Music 101, talk by Wu Han; 2:30 p.m.: Romantic Evolution, lecture by Patrick Castillo.
Feb. 13, 7:30 p.m.: Concert, David Finckel, Wu Han, Arnaud Sussman, Paul Neubauer.
Feb. 15, 2 p.m.: Private rehearsal with musicians, for package ticket holders; 3 p.m.: Panel discussion; 4-6 p.m.: Private reception with musicians.
Feb. 17, 3 p.m.: Concert, David Finckel, Wu Han, Philip Setzer, Paul Neubauer, Xavier Foley, Edward Nelson.

Pianist David Finckel (left) and violinist Wu Han.

The Norton Museum of Art
— Transformed!

An expanded and revitalized Norton Museum of Art debuts at 10 a.m. on Saturday, February 9 with eight special exhibitions opening simultaneously! Admission is FREE!

NORTON MUSEUM OF ART
1450 S. Dixie Highway
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401
norton.org

The Trout
cheerful chamber work based
Trout
of his late piano trios and the
who will be represented by one
be the music of Franz Schubert,
Brahms. A particular focus will
the 19th century, covering early
musical style in the first half of
which will run from Feb. 10-17,
a larger scale for the Four Arts."

"We do a lot of organizing
festival in Atherton, Calif., that
is built around a programming
year's festival, for example,
was Creative Capitals.

We've never done these three
concerts and lectures for Palm
Beach came from the Four Arts.
The Society wanted to "do
something on a larger scale and
more comprehensive than just
a single concert," Finckel said.
"I've only ever played a single
concert there, and I loved it. I
loved the venue. But it was their
idea to try to do something that
taps into things that Wu Han and
I do a lot of the time.

We do a lot of organizing
festivals ... and I think they
saw an opportunity there to tap
into those skills that we have ...
in order to create something on
a larger scale for the Four Arts.

The theme of the residency,
which will run from Feb. 10-17,
is the evolution of the Romantic
musical style in the first half of
the 19th century, covering early
Beethoven to middle-period
Brahms. A particular focus will be
the music of Franz Schubert,
who will be represented by one
of his late piano trios and the
Trout Quintet, a popular and
cheerful chamber work based
on "The Trout (Die Forelle)," one
of Schubert's 600 songs.

To put this all in context,
Patrick Castillo, a composer
and radio host for WQXR-FM
in New York City, will give
a lecture called "Romantic
Evolution." It will take an in-
depth look at the music of the
festival's three concerts.

The residency will consist of
eight events, three of
which are concerts. On Feb.
10, Finckel and Wu Han will
perform works by Beethoven
(Sonata No. 3 in A, Op. 69),
Mendelssohn (Sonata No. 2 in
D, Op. 58) and Brahms (Sonata
No. 1 in E minor, Op. 38).
Also scheduled is Schumann's
Adagio and Allegro (Op. 70),
originally for horn and piano
but played here in a version for
cello and piano.

The second concert, set for
Feb. 13, is billed as a Chamber
Music Society of Lincoln
Center performance. Finckel
and Wu Han will be joined by
the French violinist Arnaud
Sussman and the American
violist Paul Neubauer for the
Brahms Piano Quartet No.
1 (in G minor, Op. 25), much
beloved for its frenetic "Gypsy"
finale. Finckel will perform the
Schubert Arpeggione Sonata,
and the three string players will
team up for the String Trio No.
3 (in C minor, Op. 9, No. 3) of
Beethoven.

The closing concert, Feb.
17, is an all-Schubert program
featuring the rising bassist
Xavier Foley along with
Neubauer and violinist Philip
Setzer in the Trout Quintet.
Finckel, Setzer and Wu Han
will also play the massive
Piano Trio No. 2 (in E-flat,
Op. 100), and baritone Edward
Nelson will appear as a special
guest singing two songs:
"Die Forelle," and the Swedish
folksong Se sollen juncker, which
Schubert borrowed for the slow
movement of the Op. 100 trio.

"We've never done these three
concerts in succession before.
We've explored Romanticism,
we've explored Schubert,
we've explored Brahms, we've
explored Beethoven. But this
is a custom design for Four
Arts," Finckel said. "But it
comes together from our
having programmed all of these
composers within the context of
their own music and also within
the context of the stylistic
period in which they lived, and
how they managed to innovate
and transform music itself
during their lifetimes."

In addition to Castillo's
lecture Feb. 11, Wu Han will
give a talk that morning called
"Chamber Music 101," and on
Feb. 15 there will be a private
rehearsal for the Schubert
concert, followed by a panel
discussion with the musicians.
A private reception for package
ticket holders follows.
Finckel said he's not looking
for anyone who attends one of
the concerts or the whole series
to be an expert in Romantic
music or to hope that person
becomes one. It's enough just
to enjoy the performances, talks
and rehearsal, but without any
dumbing-down gimmicks to
draw more people in.

"I think a lot of damage has
been done to classical music by
people who've thought that by
compromising the quality of the
performance, the setting, the
venue, anything that somehow
they're going to lure in a
younger audience or a more
diverse audience, or whatever.
I have yet to see that work.

"What I know works, from
our festival in California and
at Lincoln Center, is doing
exactly what we do. Presenting
the music for what it is at the
highest quality performance
and production that we can
possibly imagine, and letting
the music speak for itself, and
letting our musicians play their
hearts out unencumbered and
unconcerned with anything
extraneous."

"It takes time to develop that
kind of trust with an audience.
A festival is a great trust-builder,
and I'm looking forward to
gaining the trust of the Palm
Beach audience on more of a
long-term basis than a single
concert," he added. "That will
always be the way that Wu
Han and I grow our audiences.
Because it's the only thing we
know that really works."
Theater

For Dramaworks, ‘Spitfire Grill’ is the little musical that could

By Hap Erstein
ArtsPaper Theater Writer

A stage company like Palm Beach Dramaworks, known for “theater to think about,” could hardly make a lightweight choice for its first musical produced within a subscription season. So it selected The Spitfire Grill, a 2001 off-Broadway show based on an acclaimed — but also little seen — independent film about hope and redemption.

“Spitfire Grill is probably one of the most profoundly human stories in musical theater,” says director Bruce Linser. “I can’t abide big, splashy musicals, and this is the antidote to that. This is the type of work that I really like to explore.”

The show’s plot concerns young ex-convict Percy Talbott, who takes a job in a restaurant in the fictional town of Gilead, Wis. She not only changes the lives of its customers and staff, but she hatches a plan to raffle off the diner.

Adapted into a musical by composer James Valcq and lyricist Fred Alley, the show premiered to acclaim and popularity in New Jersey. But before it could transfer to the prestigious Playwrights Horizons in Manhattan, Alley died of a heart attack at age 38.

“Light in the Piazza or Once. The resonances of how they put the chords together just hit you and surprise you. They evoke emotion that you’re not necessarily expecting.”

To conduct and re-orchestrate the musical, Linser tapped Joshua Lubben, who showed off his instrumental skills by accompanying Woody Guthrie’s American Song last summer with his two brothers. “What I love about this show is that it wants to maintain all of the elements of folk music,” notes Lubben. “Every single song in this musical is so integral. The music is just as much a part of the characters and their development as every line of their dialogue.”

At Dramaworks, where The Spitfire Grill opened a four-week run Feb. 1, the female-centric cast includes Ashley Rose as Percy, Elizabeth Dimon as grill owner Hannah, Amy Miller Brennan as weak-willed, spousally abused Shelby and Patti Gardner as Gilead’s busybody postal mistress, Effie.

To Gardner, the show speaks to “a need to be an integral part of something, friends who become family. My character is pretty much a loner. She doesn’t have a family, but this town is her family and her strength, her sense of belonging.”

“Flinty” is the word Dimon uses to describe her character, the grill’s proprietor. “She has become embittered. She doesn’t suffer fools gladly. What you see is what you get. And yet she’s got a secret, a big one.”

“If it’s definitely a piece that speaks to today’s issues,” Brennan says. “So many issues with women and feminism. This play brings to light sexual abuse and spousal abuse, the hardships that women have to go through in this world. Even though it’s set in the ‘90s, these women are still stuck in the mindset of women in the kitchen and men out in the workplace.

“You see this through line of strength in women,” she adds. “Despite every different journeys, these women all possess the strength that in turn helps each other. They learn from each other.”

Says Rose of her role: “Percy is the catalyst ultimately for change in everybody else’s journey.”

Although the Valcq-Alley score plays a vital role in the show’s emotional through line, “it really feels more like a play with music,” Rose says.

“What I think is so wonderful is how the music is so interwoven into the story,” Dimon says. “You’re talking and then you’re singing and then you’re talking, but the music is still going. That’s a challenge.”

Perhaps The Spitfire Grill was just ahead of its time. “I think there definitely a market for it now. Because this is a time where, more than ever, we need to come together,” offers Linser.

“At a time when so many people are hungry for change and for something refreshing, this is about something that will change you for the better. You really can’t go to this show and leave the same way.”
Book Review

An ode to Yellowstone, through people who love it

*People of Yellowstone*, by Steve Horan and Ruth W. Crocker; Elm Grove Press; 188 pp., $16.99

By Myles Ludwig

Steve Horan’s admiring black-and-white portraits of people who have been transformed by the grandeur of Yellowstone National Park is a labor of love. Handsomely designed by Joss Maclennan, the collection of 87 black-and-white photos with accompanying text by Ruth W. Crocker takes us inside America’s great national wilderness treasure, to see the people who make it go and grow—from trail guide to dendrochronologist.

Within its covers, you’ll find the stories of wrangler Stacy Gerths, ranger Beth Kreuzer, environmentalists Jim and Heidi Barrett as well as back-country chef Loretta Ehnes and scientist John King, who studies tree rings to learn about climate change and has dated a volcanic eruption as early as circa 1350.

Horan, who spent five years photographing his subjects, recently talked about *People of Yellowstone* at Raptis Rare Books boutique on Worth Avenue.

The pictures have all been made in the natural environment of his subjects, and the succinct text by Crocker extols the virtues of living and working in one of the world’s most wondrous environments, telling the story of each subject. Yellowstone is the world’s first national park, established as a protected wilderness in 1872 by President Ulysses S. Grant. Spread over three states (Montana, Wyoming and Idaho) and some 3,000 acres, it has been home to people for some 11,000 years, well before it was explored by John Colter, a trapper with the Lewis and Clark expedition.

Horan’s photos of Yellowstone form a fitting bridge between past and present; and Maclennan’s award-winning design does not intrude, allowing the story to tell itself.
**Arts Events**

**Bush paintings among don’t-miss events for February**

**Palm Beach ArtsPaper staff**

The arts season reaches its peak in South Florida during the first three months of the new year. Here’s a look at some events scheduled for February you won’t want to miss.

**Portraits of Courage (through March 31, Four Arts):**

This month, visitors to the Society of the Four Arts in Palm Beach will be able to see dozens of portraits by George W. Bush in an exhibit called Portraits of Courage. A Commander in Chief’s Tribute to American Warriors.

On display are 66 full-color portraits and a four-panel mural painted by the former president. Each featured portrait is accompanied by the story of the warrior shown in the painting, written by Bush himself.

Admission for non-members is $10. 655-7226 or fourarts.org.

**Palm Beach Jewelry, Art and Antiques Show (Feb. 13-19, Convention Center):**

Drawn from the collections of more than 170 international exhibitors, the 2019 show — spread over more than 100,000 square feet — is expected to attract tens of thousands.

Items will span every genre, including fine art, antique and estate jewelry, furniture, porcelain, Asian art, American and European silver, glass, textiles, sculpture and other items including antiquities. As part of this year’s presentation, the Palm Beach Show Group is launching a special section dedicated to contemporary and modern art, objects, and design.

*We are happy to continue our momentum in the art industry,* Scott Diament, CEO of Palm Beach Show Group, said in a statement.

Show hours are 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Feb. 14-18, and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Feb. 19. A preview party is Feb. 13, 822-5440 or PalmBeachShow.com.

That same week, the Palm Beach Fine Craft Show returns to the Convention Center Feb. 15-17, in the 25,000-square-foot ballroom on the second floor. PalmBeachFineCraft.com.

**Festival of the Arts Boca (Feb. 28-March 10, Mizner Park):**

The 13th edition of this popular multicultural festival begins with a frequent guest, Pulitzer Prize-winning author and presidential historian Doris Kearns Goodwin, who speaks at 7 p.m. Feb. 28.

It concludes with back-to-back eclectic musical performances. Miami’s Nu Deco Ensemble, a contemporary classical orchestra that also presents arrangements of music by artists such as Daft Punk and Outkast, will perform at 7:30 p.m. March 9. The festival finale is the following evening at 7 p.m., with Latin jazz trumpeter Arturo Sandoval and his six-piece band.

Also on the bill is Thomas Lauderdale’s unclassifiable pop group Pink Martini, which is set to perform at 7 p.m. March 3. And at 7:30 p.m. March 8, it’s a night of Russian ballet with members of the Russian National Orchestra and the Bolshoi Ballet.

The festival has brought a plethora of veteran performers, artistic newcomers, lecturers, authors and other award-winning talents to Boca’s Mizner Park since its 2007 debut. The annual festival uses the Mizner Park Amphitheater and the Cultural Arts Center at the south end of the venue for its presentations.

One particularly popular segment is the showing of a film with a live orchestra supplying the musical track. "The Wizard of Oz, Casablanca, West Side Story and Raiders of the Lost Ark have been performed in prior years. This year, Star Wars: A New Hope, the original 1977 Star Wars film starring Mark Hamill, Carrie Fisher and Harrison Ford, will be shown in the amphitheater at 7:30 p.m. March 1. The Symphonia Boca Raton under the direction of Constantine Kitsopoulos will supply the famed John Williams score. Kitsopoulos and the Symphonia will be back at 7:30 p.m. March 2 for an orchestral concert featuring jazz pianist and dean of the University of Miami Frost Music School) Shelly Berg in two works by Gershwin: The Rhapsody in Blue and the I Got Rhythm Variations.

The speaker program includes talks by author and journalist Jeffrey Rosen; former poet laureate Robert Pinsky, reading his works accompanied by a jazz ensemble; and New York Times reporter and Pulitzer Prize winner David Sanger. Bending the Arc, a documentary about a health-care effort in Haiti, screens March 2, while on March 4, health experts Dr. Agnes Binagwaho and Thomas Bollyky host a panel discussion about the state of global health.

Tickets or more info: 866-571-2787 or festivalboca.org.
Goldschläger:

February 2019

THE COASTAL STAR

ARTS CALENDAR


Bocca Bocca Art: Through March 24. Impressive Florida History and Myth of the Sunshine State. Don't forget Poets! Hovering in the distance, it's poetry. Noon-5 pm, Thu; noon-5 pm Sat & Sun. 746-3792 or bocamuseum.org. Thursday, Feb. 7: 10 am-4 pm M-F, 10 am-2 pm Sat & Sun. 746-3792 or bocamuseum.org.

Arts Calendar

Note: Events are listed through March 1, 2019, and subject to change. Call theaters, galleries or venues before heading out. Be sure to call ahead for any travel-related issues, including changes in venue. Ticket prices are subject to change. Call theaters, galleries, venues or websites for tickets and more information. It's worth checking with the presenting agency for any changes. Ticket prices are usually subject to change. Call theaters, galleries, venues or websites for tickets and more information.

ARTS EVENTS


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AT18 ArtsPaper/Reviews

The COASTAL STAR
February 2019

Reviews

A plucky young violinist, a dizzying ode to ‘Vertigo’

Here are excerpts from reviews published on the ArtsPaper website. For full reviews, see palmbeachartspaper.com.

Palm Beach Symphony (Jan. 10, Benjamin School, Palm Beach Gardens)

The arrival on the musical scene of a fresh young soloist talent is always worth noting, and in the case of the South Korean violinist SooBeen Lee, she’s been getting a lot of major attention.

Lee, 18, is currently studying with the great Miriam Fried at the New England Conservatory, the Boston school where she won the concerto competition. The Palm Beach Symphony’s affiliation with the Young Concert Artists contest landed the 45-year-old orchestra two concerto appearances by Lee — at the Benjamin School on Jan. 10 and at St. Andrew’s School in Boca Raton on Jan. 12. Lee was featured in both in the Violin Concerto (in D, Op. 77) of Johannes Brahms, one of the towering works of the literature.

Lee’s playing in the first concert was that of a formidable, if still developing, violinist. She has a big sound, a huge technique (with only a couple of minor intonation near-misses in some of the octaves) — and perhaps more remarkable considering her age, a maturity of interpretation.

Unfortunately, Lee had to struggle for much of the concerto with conductor Ramón Tebar’s unpersuasive ideas about tempo, especially in the opening movement, which he led at a lumbering Wagnerian pace.

Lee met the challenges of the second and third movements handily: Golden tone and tender expression in the first case, vigor and bravura in the second.

The second half of the concert was devoted to the Second Symphony of Schumann (in C, Op. 61). This was a mostly scrappy, energetic reading of this fine Romantic symphony, albeit with the kinds of blemishes you expect from under-rehearsal.

The orchestra’s playing had punch and life, and the finale finished off the concert in suitably exuberant style. — Greg Stepanich

The Green Fog

A work of ecstatic cinephilia run amok, Guy Maddin’s The Green Fog both is and isn’t a remake of Alfred Hitchcock’s Vertigo.

At a brisk 63 minutes and composed entirely of scenes from other movies and TV shows shot in San Francisco — 101 titles made the cut, from more than 200 Maddin viewed for inspiration — The Green Fog is an example of director as curator; or perhaps better yet as scavenger, scouring the best and worst of Bay Area entertainment for the subconscious traces of Hitchcock’s greatest film.

These include noir classics, early rom-coms, vintage creature features and disaster flicks all the way through 2015’s San Andreas, plus the masterworks and mediocrities in between: a couple of Dirty Harry pictures, Fatal Attraction, The Love Bug, two Sister Acts, a Star Trek, Murder She Wrote, Mrs. Doubtfire, Sans Soleil. Even if you recognize the titles, don’t expect to recognize all of their images on screen; some clips are so brief and obscure they’re almost subliminal. Only one shot from Vertigo itself finds its way into the finished product: an insert shot of a hand grasping a ladder rung.

Yet Maddin has managed to construct a rickety Vertigo redux from other people’s stories. His bonkers collage settles into something like a narrative, with montages echoing Vertigo’s plot points.

The score, composed by Jacob Garchik and performed by Kronos Quartet, is rife with tingly, slicing allusions to Bernard Herrmann, quivering notes of noirish suspense, and welcome jazz excursions.

By stripping out the words, the psychological backstory and even the comfort of recurring characters, Maddin distills Vertigo to a sustained level of pure cinema that Hitchcock himself could never fully realize in the studio system.

Maddin also slows scenes down to a barbiturate speed, rewinds them when necessary and mismatches audio and video for amusing but disorienting effect. — Arts Paper staff
March 10-31
Cinemark Palace 20 Boca Raton and Movies of Delray

Forty Films. Three Weeks. Two Thumbs Up!

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4 BR | 5.5 BA | 4,400 SF | $4.35M

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4 BR | 5.5 BA | 5,300 SF | $3.275M

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6 BR | 6 BA | 6,534 SF | $3.195M

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6 BR | 6.5 BA | 5,800 SF | $3.35M

CHIC MID-CENTURY MODERN WATERFRONT
3 BR | 2 BA | 3,421 SF | $1.45M

MESMERIZING SUNSETS & WATER VIEWS
4 BR | 3.5 BA | 5,702 SF | $2.795M

TROPICAL WATERFRONT OASIS
3 BR | 2.5 BA | 3,775 SF | $1.695M

AFFORDABLE WATERFRONT
4 BR | 3 BA | 5,553 SF | $1.995M

RENOVATE, REMODEL OR REBUILD
3 BR | 3 BA | 3,458 SF | $1.895M

STEVEN PRESSON 561.843.6057 | steven.presson@corcoran.com
2/2 - Pirate Invasion 5K/10K at Spanish River Park, 3001 A1A, Deerfield Beach. All skill levels welcome. Age 18 & up. Fun games/exercises to sharpen your brain before you tackle the course. Runs through April 21. T-Sat 11:30 am-2:30 pm. $35; $30 with 5K. 586-6410; boyntonbeach.org

2/2 - Harmony: An Exhibition of the Arts at Waterfront at Meyer Amphitheatre, 104 Delray St, West Palm Beach. Palm Beach Symphony and Dreyfoos School of the Arts Dance Department perform. Ring-blinton, picc. Family Andy. 4-6 pm. Free. 561-887-4300; downtownpope.com

2/2 - A Gilded Age Style Lunch in Café des Have Resources for That! Free. 638-7251; delraylibrary.org

2/2 - Pickleball at Delray Tennis Centers, 210 W Atlantic Ave. M-F 9 am-9 pm; Sat 8 am-6 pm. $35; Sun 50¢. Free for Life members. 654-6548; delraytennis.com

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2/2 - Free Museums during the Arts in the Park Festival. 832-7469; kravis.org

2/3 - Friends Music Series: Friction Farm at Temple Sinai of Palm Beach County, 2475 W Gulfstream Ave, Palm Beach. 7 pm. $12/night; $30/entire week. 883-4484; miamiarmorycenterforart.org

2/3 - Sugar + Spice - Gourmet Festival at Delray Green Market, 101 SW 4th Ave. M-F 9 am-6 pm; Sat 9 am-4 pm. Free. 772-213-4822; DelrayGreenMarket.com

2/3 - The Society of The Four Arts O’Keeffe Gallery, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Noon-5 pm. $20. 586-6410; fourarts.org


2/3 - Free Local National Cinetic Art Exhibit & Symposium at 1749 Federal Hwy, multiple locations, Boynton Beach. Indoor exhibition, video dialogues, meet invited artists, self-guided outdoor tour, mon. Sat 9 am-4 pm Sat 1-4 pm. Free. Volunteering is open to all.


2/3 - 10th Annual Event: Bikeway Challenge & March for a Drug-Free Community. Bike ride on the 62-mile Boca Bikeway, round trip. STD $25; non-standard $30. 393-7906; bocalibrary.org

2/3 - 2nd Sunday: Master Class: Fine Arts Quartet of Leys University Amsterdam − Goldstein Concert Hall, 301 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. 10 am. Free. 232-9786; thexfc.org

2/3 - Cafe Society at The Society of The Four Arts, 240 N Federal Hwy, Palm Beach. Panel discussion w/professional baseball player Facundo Barreda, Dr. Lawrence Rocks, Burton Rocks. $8/9pm; $25/entire week. Reservations: 805-8562; fourarts.org

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2/4 - Friends of the Museum Auxiliary General Meeting at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 390 Plaza Real. Membership meeting. Groom about upcoming events. Coffee, pastries, extras. 10:30 am. Free. RSVP 393-2500 x221; bocaart.com

Boynton Beach Mall, 801 N Congress Ave. conducted 832-1988; sfsciencecenter.org
Senior; $13.95/child (3-12); free/child under 3.
Trivia, chocolate-related crafts, activities, its potential health benefits. Liquid nitrogen
2/9 - Annual Science of Chocolate at South
Reservations: 279-8883; spadymuseum.com
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2/9 - Romeo and Juliet beverage available for purchase. No pets
2/8-10 - Boca Raton Seafood and Music
Beach. F/Sat 7:30 pm; Sat 1:30 pm. $39. 832-
2/9 - 3D Printing Project presented by
the Saviour Orthodox Church. 10-11 am. $10.
2/9 - Our Hearts Beat for Our Veterans at Congress Middle School, 101

Boynton Beach, 101 N Seacrest Blvd. Reception
2/10 - The Chancel Choir Concert: Big Band
Auditorium, 2 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. 11

2/12 - Hagood Reads Poetry with Taylor
Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Part of Winter Lecture
Series at FAU Osher Lifelong Learning Society. Every M through 3/4 3-4:30 pm. $60/annual
member; $65/non-member, $20/one-time
2/7 - Cello master class with Clifton Daniel

2/9 - Visiting Master Artist Workshop: Drawing Techniques (Professional
Adults. 1:30-3 pm. Free. 393-7852; bocalibrary.
org
2/9 - Symphonic Band of the Palm
2/10 - The Broadway Musical: Reflections
Auditorium, 2 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. 11
2/10 - The Music and Times of Louis
Meyers: Rosenberg 8562; fourarts.org
2/10 - Dialogues: Lessons in Leadership
to be Like: Harry Truman’s Character as
2/12 - Interactive Acoustic Music and Art
2/12 - NOSH! Love is in the Kitchen,
Boca Raton. 8 pm. $49-$84. 800-716-6975;
2/11 - Our Hearts Beat for Our Veterans
4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Learn
to carve a decoration on a stone lantern or jizo
to traditional techniques of stone carving.
Includes supplies, tools, complimentary Patron
2/9 - Guest Artist Workshop: Stone
3-4:30 pm. $60/annual member; $65/non-member, $20/one-
time member; $45/one-time advanced member; $35/non-member, $35/one-
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Boca Raton. 8 pm. $49-$84. 800-716-6975;
2/11 - Our Hearts Beat for Our Veterans
4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Learn
to carve a decoration on a stone lantern or jizo
to traditional techniques of stone carving.
Includes supplies, tools, complimentary Patron
2/9 - Guest Artist Workshop: Stone
3-4:30 pm. $60/annual member; $65/non-member, $20/one-
time member; $45/one-time advanced member; $35/non-member, $35/one-
time non-member. 392-2500; bocalibrary.
Florida Soul: From Ray Charles to KC and the Sunshine Band (7) with John Capuya of the South Florida Symphony. 9 pm. Delray Beach, West Palm Beach. 7 pm. 458-6210; capuya.org

The Mercury Bar and Grill at Crown Theatre, Old School 51 NW 7th Ave, Delray Beach. Open Fri 5-7 Sat 5:30-7 Sun. 522-9874; faurents.com

2/15-26: Delray Beach Open at Delray Beach Stadium & Tennis Center, 201 NW 5th Ave, Delray Beach. 9 am-5 pm. Free admission. 2/15: Day of Service. 2/16: Pro-Am. 2/17-18: Saturday & Sunday sessions 8 am-5 pm. Ticket prices vary depending on date. 330-4000; yellowbeltevent.com

Saturday 2/16 - LOOP for Literacy at Boynton Beach Oceanfront Park, 1001 N Ocean Blvd, Boynton Beach. Bike ride at 9:30 & 11:30 A.M. Free. Registration: 8:30-9:20 at 11th St Beach. 276-1570; elliescatering.com

2/17 - Exhibition Opening: Sanay Gau: Zones of Intimacy, Miami Modern Museum of Art and Japanese Gardens, 4000 Parkland Blvd, Delray Beach. Run through 3/24. Open Mon-Sat 10-11 am; Sun 1-5 pm. Free to museum members, Florida Atlantic University students, faculty, and staff. 203-2450; miamimuseum.org

2/17 - Art Lecture: Symposium in Icmen at Palm Beach Island Chapel, 6361 N Ocean Blvd. Delray Beach. Speaker: Fred Lucas, the Swaimon Orthodox Church. 10-11 am. Registration: 274-4411; uplandarts.com

2/17 - Historical Walking Tour meets at Palm Beach Post Office, 655 S Ocean Blvd, West Palm Beach. 9:30 guided tour departs. 10 am-11 am. Free. Registration: 274-5688; palmbeachpost.com

2/17 - El Segundo Mambo: Boca Raton Museum of Art presents Instrumental to study in strings. 201 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. Join us for the Artist Talk with the artist about process, materials, concepts and goals. 2 pm. $20-$30. 237-7750; lynn.tix.com

2/17 - 2nd Annual Aggie Oatley Charity Cornhole Tournament at Delray Beach Tennis Center, 201 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. Held again 3/16. Noon-2 pm. $40. Registration: 491-9230 x210; morikami.org

2/17 - Ice Cream Social at Lynn University Wold Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. 9-11 am. Free to museum members, Florida Atlantic University students, faculty, and staff. 655-2838; morikami.org

2/17 - The Way of Tea: Sado Demonstration at Palm Beach Island Chapel, 6361 N Ocean Blvd. Delray Beach. Speaker: Sato Takaaki Yano. Celebrate the Saviour Orthodox Church. 10-11 am. $10. Registration: 238-1649; soto.org

2/17 - Movie Magic: Editing & Effects at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 N W 1st Ave. 1-3 pm. $10. 394-9252; booksigning.eventbrite.com

2/17 - Lecture & Book Signing with Bernard-Henri Levy at Florida Atlantic University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. 561-297-3524; booksigning.eventbrite.com

2/17 - Love Libraries Day: Men’s Basketball Game Owls vs Rice at University Arena, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7-9 pm. 561-297-3524; booksigning.eventbrite.com

2/17 - Harrison Greenbaum: Classics from Haydn to Bartok & Danielpour at the Delray Beach Post Office, 655 S Ocean Blvd. Delray Beach. 9 am-5 pm. Free admission. 260-5976; miamimuseum.org

2/17 - International Tours of Historic Delray Beach & Boynton Beach conducted by Museum of Lifestyle & Fashion History at Delray Beach Post Office. Boynton Beach Mall, 801 Congress Ave. 9-11 am. $25. Includes museum admission. 495-0233 x210; morikami.org

2/17 - Book Club at The Cultural Heritage Museum William Matthews, 100 N Ocean Blvd, Boynton Beach. 2-3 pm. Free. 281-3160; theculturehouse.org

2/17 - knitting & Crochet Club at Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, 4000 Parkland Blvd, Delray Beach. Instrumental to study in knitting and crochet. Program aimed at beginners. Adults. Every Sat from 10/6 through 12/13 & 1-3 pm. Free. Registration: 274-5688; palmbeachpost.com

2/17 - Student Recital: James Hagood at Lynn University Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall, 3601 N Military Tr, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. $20, $10 student. 844-672-2849; elliescatering.com

2/17 - Powerful, Acrylic Paint Layers at the Boynton Beach Post Office, 655 S Ocean Blvd. Delray Beach. 9-11 am. Free admission. 260-5976; miamimuseum.org

2/17 - 2019 Governor’s Baseball Dinner at Boca Raton Plaza, 201 S Mizner Blvd. Boca Raton. 7 pm. 561-343-2940; mizner.com

2/17 - Student Recital: James Hagood at Lynn University Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall, 3601 N Military Tr, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. $20, $10 student. 844-672-2849; elliescatering.com

2/17 - Ice Cream Social at Palm Beach Island Chapel, 6361 N Ocean Blvd. Delray Beach. Speaker: Fred Lucas, the Swaimon Orthodox Church. 10-11 am. Registration: 274-4411; uplandarts.com

2/17 - Winning Conquers: Mozart, Bart & Danielewski at the City Odeon, 525 E Atlantic Ave. Boca Raton. 7 pm. Free admission. 410-4135; deernightout.org

2/17 - Local Craft Improv at the Art Factory, 655 S Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. 9-11 am. Free. 274-3333 x200; templeisinaipbc.org

2/17 - Historical Walking Tour meets at Palm Beach Post Office, 655 S Ocean Blvd, West Palm Beach. 9:30 guided tour departs. 10 am-11 am. Free. Registration: 274-5688; palmbeachpost.com

2/17 - El Segundo Mambo: Boca Raton Museum of Art presents Instrumental to study in strings. 201 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. Join us for the Artist Talk with the artist about process, materials, concepts and goals. 2 pm. $20-$30. 237-7750; lynn.tix.com

2/17 - Museum Admission Day at Kohler Waterfront Museum Education Center, 3031 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-10 pm. $30-$45. 450-8450; fau.edu/lls

2/17 - Drawdown at Lynn University Wold Park Amphitheater, 20150 N Dixie Hwy, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. $23-$45. 844-672-2849; elliescatering.com

2/17 - Student Recital: James Hagood at Lynn University Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall, 3601 N Military Tr, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. $20, $10 student. 844-672-2849; elliescatering.com

2/17 - Powerful, Acrylic Paint Layers at the Boynton Beach Post Office, 655 S Ocean Blvd. Delray Beach. 9-11 am. Free admission. 260-5976; miamimuseum.org

2/23 - Okeechobee Executive Speaker Series Presents Marion Delan at DeBary Hall Library, 100 Atlantic Ave. Part of Lifelong Learning Institute. Every Thursday 1:30-2:30 pm. Free. 656-4949, delraylibrary.org.


2/24 - Interview with 60 Minutes in 60 Minutes at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 10:30-11 am. Free. 266-9490, delraylibrary.org.


2/27 - Fat Bassic Film Festival Including the Premiere of When Jews Were Funny at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 2-4 pm. Free. Reservations: 266-9490, delraylibrary.org.


2/27 - The Power of Color: A New Vision at Classic Albums Live in HD Series at The Society of the Four Arts, 2401 Carpenter Rd, Palm Beach. 8 pm. Tickets start at $40. 995-2333; thesocietyoffourarts.org.


2/27 - 60 Interview Tips in 60 Minutes at Boca Raton Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Adults. 10:30-11 am. Free. 266-9490, delraylibrary.org.


2/28 - Open Call for the 2019 National Finalists at Classic Albums Live in HD Series at The Society of the Four Arts, 2401 Carpenter Rd, Palm Beach. 8 pm. Tickets start at $40. 995-2333; thesocietyoffourarts.org.


2/28 - Secretos y Espias: The Spy Game at Classic Albums Live in HD Series at The Society of the Four Arts, 2401 Carpenter Rd, Palm Beach. 8 pm. Tickets start at $40. 995-2333; thesocietyoffourarts.org.


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YOUR PARADISE AWAITS

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As the Delray Beach Club prepares to mark its 50th year with three days of celebration Feb. 15-17, longtime member Carol Craig reflects on how things have changed.

Craig has a unique perspective, since she was both an employee — social director and admissions secretary for 20 years — and then a member after she retired in 1999.

The private club on A1A south of Linton Boulevard was a very different place in earlier years.

“It was different because the membership was mostly seniors,” says Craig, who lives in Delray Beach.

“Now: Lunch at the Delray Beach Club means an ocean view and conversation for (clockwise from front left) Gwen ‘Lucy’ Drake, Nancy Graham, Joan Hurley, Claire Logan, Polly Cardozo and Mary McDougall. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

House of the Month
Surrounded by water in Ocean Ridge. Page H23

Tots & Teens
Student turns love of music into invention. Page H19

On the Water
43-inch bull shows how fast mahi mahi grow. Page H10

Health Notes
Boca Regional setting high funding goals. Page H4

Delray Beach Club at 50

Dress is more casual and more activities are family-oriented, but club remains a prized spot for seaside dining and social functions.

By Mary Thurwachter

See BEACH CLUB on page 2
There weren’t a lot of activities going on when the club was first founded 60 years ago, Craig says. “The original pool (above) had much more grass around it than it has today.”

The changes through time included the construction of the 23,000-square-foot, two-story building. “To build a club, outside facilities were much more formal than it is today. When it opened, it had 300 members. Today it caps membership at 600 and has a waiting list,” Craig says.

It was men in jackets and ties every night, women in dresses — and formal evening gowns probably every two weeks,” Craig says. “Tennis was quite popular,” she says. “Everybody had their times when they played, and all the other players respected that time. If it was Wednesday at 9 o’clock basically you knew who was out on the court because they always played Wednesday at 9 o’clock.”

“We only had one big tennis tournament a year, the Gobrecht tournament, named after Jerry because he had a heart attack and died on the court at a relatively young age. He and his wife, Joan, were charter members and Joan is still very active.”

The tournament, Craig says, “was competitive. We played for fun. There were only a couple hundred dollars for the first place winner.”

The tournament continued as an annual event until 2001 S. Ocean Blvd. the way it is today. “We stopped doing it as a godsend when she was raising her three children,” Kramer remembers. “We went to Fort Lauderdale and Boca and had dinner at different places and interviewed different chefs. The club was very small then, and very nice. I loved it. The opening party actually was on Feb. 16, 50 years ago.”

This year on Feb. 16, a formal dinner with a band will mark the 50th anniversary. On Feb. 15, a cocktail party will be held, and the club will wrap up the celebration Feb. 17 with a family barbecue party beside the pool. “We hosted many birthday parties that I had a beautiful Christmas brunch there, about 100 people, years ago,” she says. “Last year she had a Christmas dinner for family members, including her three children and their children. ‘I’ve made wonderful friends there,’ Kramer says. 

One of them was George Kramer. “He married me when she had been a widow for 18 years and Kramer’s wife had died. ‘He’s a wonderful man and we have a good time together.’”

Kramer bought and developed the club, which architect Bill Plum (shown here) had designed. Plum was the first manager. The first gala dinner dance took place after construction of the 23,000-square-foot, two-story clubhouse.

The property, which includes the clubhouse and grill room, pool and tennis courts, was renovated in 2006.

The club offers complimentary beach and pool concierge service, locker rooms with saunas, two Har-Tru tennis courts, a fitness center and complimentary evening restaurant meals. Kenyon Investment Group of Greensboro, N.C., purchased the club in 1978, and in 1980 it became member-owned, as it remains today.

Shane Peachey has been manager of the club for the past 23 years. Members are still called “Mr., Mrs. or Miss” by the 77-member staff, and good times and camaraderie remain hallmarks of the social club by the sea. 

H2 Beach Club
The COASTAL STAR
February 2019
Celebrating 60 years is just the beginning

For 60 years, Bethesda Hospital East has been proud to serve our community’s health needs. As we celebrate our anniversary and our future, we thank our employees, physicians, volunteers and our community. We are honored you have put your trust in us, and we’re pleased to be part of Baptist Health South Florida, an organization that also has a long history of providing compassionate, high-quality care. Together, we are committed to caring for you for many years to come.
Large gifts boost Boca Hospital campaign’s $250 million launch

As we move forward with this campaign, launched in mid-January, is off to a good start. “Keeping the Promise … The Campaign for Boca Raton Regional Hospital” has already received large philanthropic gifts from Christine E. Lynn, Stanley and Marilyn Barry, Richard and Barbara Schmidt, Elaine I. Wold, and Louis B. and Anne W. Green. “As always, our supporters have demonstrated their spirit, commitment, and unflagging devotion by helping ensure these plans become reality,” said Jerry Fedele, the hospital’s president and CEO. “We all owe them a debt of gratitude for the sophisticated level of health care we all enjoy as we move forward with this transformative initiative.”

This campaign, the largest in the hospital’s 51-year history, has already raised $115 million. Initial steps of the project include a new 180,000-square-foot, seven-story patient tower; renovations in the current footprint; seven-story patient tower; and the renovations in the current hospital building; and the addition of a 20-bed observation unit, as well as a 972-car parking garage. “We’ve all come together in the spirit of Gloria Drummond, whose pioneering spirit helped build this hospital, to help take us to the next level as a health care provider,” said Lynn, donor and chairman of the board of trustees. “We hope and expect those who care deeply about our hospital to embrace this effort and help us bridge the gap between the $115 million we’ve raised to date and the $250 million we need to move forward. Our community has always been there for the hospital, as demonstrably as the hospital has been there for the community.”

The announcement of this campaign took place at the Christie E. Lynn Women’s Health and Wellness Institute on the campus of Boca Raton Regional Hospital.

In December, Boca Raton Regional Hospital celebrated the 10th anniversary of its Harvey & Phyllis Sandler Pavilion, a $73 million, 98,000-square-foot facility made possible through a $20 million lead gift from the Sandler family. The Sandler Pavilion houses the Eugene M. and Christine E. Lynn Cancer Institute, which treats about 4,000 newly diagnosed patients each year.

And more good news: In December, officials at the hospital announced that Fitch Ratings has upgraded the rating of Boca Raton Regional Hospital bonds from BBB- to A-. The rating outlook also improved from stable to positive.

Research follows from the Florida Atlantic Brain Institute collected grants totaling $1,137,227 from the Florida Department of Health’s Ed and Ethel Moore Alzheimer’s Disease Research Program. That program supports research leading to the prevention and possible cure for Alzheimer’s disease as well as better prevention, diagnosis and treatment.

Among the FAU Brain Institute award recipients are: Mónica Rosselli, Ph.D., assistant chair and a psychology professor in FAU’s Charles E. Schmidt College of Science; Henriette van Praag, Ph.D., an associate professor of biomedical science in FAU’s Schmidt College of Science; and Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing; Behnaz Ghorbani, Ph.D., an assistant professor in the Department of Computer and Electrical Engineering and Computer Science in FAU’s Schmidt College of Engineering and Computer Science; and Jianning Wei, Ph.D., an associate professor of biomedical science in FAU’s Schmidt College of Medicine.

On Feb. 5 and March 5, Fyzical Therapy and Balance Center will offer free Rock Steady Boxing informational sessions, introducing its noncontact boxing program for people with Parkinson’s disease. On Feb. 14 and March 14, the center will offer free informational sessions on its FyzFit program. All informational sessions will begin at noon. Fyzical Fitness is on its FyzFit program. All informational sessions will begin at noon. Fyzical Fitness is the centerpiece of the hospital’s expansion plans.

A seven-story tower for patients is the centerpiece of the hospital’s expansion plans. Rendering provided

The Future of Medicine

Summit XII of the Palm Beach County Medical Society & Services will be held Feb. 7-8 at the Kravis Center’s Cohen Pavilion. Speakers will include Dr. Patrice A. Harris, president-elect of the American Medical Association; Dr. Corey Lee Howard, president of the Florida Medical Association; Dr. Marc Hirsh, president of the Palm Beach County Medical Society; Matthias Haury, Ph.D., chief operating officer of Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience; Tom Kodakek, Ph.D., professor and department chairman in cancer biology for Scripps Research’s Florida campus; Janet Robuhos, Ph.D., senior associate dean for research chair, Department of Biomedical Science, FAU; and Dr. Phillip M. Bolello, dean of Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine, FAU.

For more information, contact Katherine Zuber at KatherineZ@pbcms.org or 433-3940, ext. 102.

Send health news to Christine Davis at cdavis979@gmail.com.
Bethesda fundraiser finds new device can save lives — including her own

In fall 2017, Paula Henderson, special events and communications director for the Bethesda Hospital Foundation, met with Dr. Carol A. Adami, medical director of the Bethesda Women’s Health Center, and found out what was on her wish list.

The 63rd annual Bethesda Ball was in the planning stages and Marti LaTour, who was co-chairing the gala with George Elmore, wanted the event’s proceeds to fund a vital piece of equipment for the Boynton Beach-based women’s health center.

Adami’s recommendation? The Hologic Selenia Dimensions 3-D mammography unit and breast biopsy system, technology the FDA had just recently approved. Bethesda was the first in Palm Beach County to offer 3-D mammography. Adami said, and with this new unit would be among the first to add biopsy capabilities.

The 3-D stereotactic biopsy unit allows radiologists to perform needle biopsies on cancers in the earliest stage, even before they are detectable on 2-D mammograms or ultrasound,” explained Adami, a board-certified radiologist who has been the center’s medical director since 2004.

The March 2018 gala raised almost $700,000, and the Bethesda Women’s Health Center got its cutting-edge technology.

In a 2-D mammogram, overlapping fibroglandular tissue can mimic a tumor. With a 3-D mammogram, we’re able to take apart the tissue layers to see whether this is a true mass or a pseudomass,” Adami said.

Here’s how it works: “The 3-D mammogram is a digital reconstruction by the computer. Instead of just taking one flat photograph, the X-ray tube sweeps across the breast in an arc, taking multiple images of the breast,” she said. “The computer reconstructs the X-ray image, like a CAT scan. Then we can scroll through the breast slice by slice, separating out layers of the tissue. We can identify cancers by distortion in tissue architecture even before a mass is visible.”

Adami said the center offers 3-D mammography to all of its patients. Medicare now covers the 3-D screening, and many other insurance companies have followed suit.

Henderson said she thinks back to first hearing Adami talk about the need for 3-D mammography and breast biopsy system. “I didn’t realize it would become so personal. I’m so glad we had this technology to find this so early.”

“Finding the cancer sooner is always better,” Adami said.

Henderson worked through her treatment, missing just two and a half days for surgery. Despite feeling some fatigue during radiation, she said working was good medicine.

“Going to the hospital every day, to raise money for the important things we do, gave me even more encouragement.”

Henderson said she is not usually a “self-promoter,” but her story serves to remind women who may have forgotten to schedule, or skipped, a mammogram.

“Many of my friends immediately scheduled their 3-D mammograms locally and out of state,” she said.

“As women, we get busy, neglect ourselves, and let things slip off our calendar to do things for others. We can’t do that. We have to take care of ourselves.”

Joyce Reingold has a lifelong interest in healthy living. Send column ideas to joyce.reingold@yahoo.com.

Paula Henderson was diagnosed with early-stage breast cancer on a new 3-D mammography unit. Photo provided
Health & Harmony Calendar

REMEMBER TO CALL,say the phrase.May you find joy in your day...
Tuesday - 2/12 - Big Loud: Parkinson’s Disease Exercise Program at Bethesda Heart Hospital 3rd Floor Conference Room, 1101 NW 2nd St, Boynton Beach. Held again 2/23, 10:30-11:30 am. Free. Call 292-4950; FLattnz@bhinc.org
2/12 - Total Robotic Knee Replacement at Bethesda Heart Hospital East Clayton Conference Center, 1101 NW 2nd St, Boynton Beach. Presented byEllen Grande, M.D., Orthopaedic Surgeon; part of the Florida Physician Lecture Series. 4:30 pm. Free. 731-2273; paobrora@bhinc.org
2/12 - Breastfeeding: Health Benefits for Mom and Baby at Bethesda Heart Hospital 3rd Floor Conference Center, 1101 NW 2nd St, Boynton Beach. Certified lactation consultant teaches expectant parents about benefits of breastfeeding. 6-8:30 pm. Free. 389-2272; paobrora@bhinc.org

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Thursday - 2/14 - Healthy Living Workshop at First Presbyterian Church Boynton Beach. Presented by Agency on Aging. Every Th through 3/21 1:30-2:15 pm. Free. Register: 732-7774; youcare@bhinc.org

February 17-23

Tuesday - 2/19 - Quit Smoking Now at Bethesda Heart Hospital, 1101 NW 2nd St, Boynton Beach. Big Stop is a 6-week smoking cessation class presented by Everglades Area Health Education Center (AHEC). 1:30-5 pm. Free. Registration: 877-819-2357; publinfo@bhinc.org

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Thursday - 2/21 - Kidney Tumors in 2019: Is It Cancer? What Do I Do? at Bethesda Heart Hospital East Clayton Conference Center, 1101 NW 2nd St, Boynton Beach. Presented by Raymond Levellier, M.D., Urologic Surgeon; part of the Florida Physician Lecture Series. 4:30 pm. Free. 731-2273; paobrora@bhinc.org
2/21 - Project COPE: A Forum Series for Families in the Opioid Crisis at Pompano Park Community Center, 1101 NW 2nd St and Delray Beach. Presented by the Healthy Foundation, Project COPE (Connect for Overdose Prevention and Education) forums designed to connect people in our community who share the experience of a loved one who has died of an opioid overdose, whose family is in recovery, or are at high risk for overdose. Every 3rd Th 6:30-8:30 pm. Free. 268-2357; humanhypothalamus.org

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February 26-March 2

Wednesday - 2/27 - Belly Dance Class at Rutherford Community Center, 2000 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. Presented by Area Agency on Aging. Every W through 4/16 7:30-9:30 pm. $60/rear; 731-2273; publicrelations@bhinc.org

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Wednesday - 3/6 - Legs and Abdomen at Rutherford Community Center, 2000 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. Presented by Area Agency on Aging. Every W through 4/16 7:30-9:30 pm. $60/rear; 731-2273; publicrelations@bhinc.org

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Friday - 3/8 - Zumba Gold Class at South Palm Beach Town Hall Chambers, 3577 S Ocean Blvd. Every F 1-2:30 pm. $5/session. 483-5300; faulkcenterforcounseling.org

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Monday - 3/11 - Therapy for Adult Anxiety and Depression with Megan Cox, M.S. at Faulk Center for Counseling, 22455 Boca Rio Blvd, Boca Raton. 11 am-noon. Free. Registration: 877-819-2357; publinfo@bhinc.org

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The COASTAL STAR

February 2019

H8

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Charleston Grand, largest 4 BA/3 BR plus den, upgraded on premium lot. Huge private waterfront patio with large pool, spa. Huge living & family rooms & open kitchen.  
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**MIZNER GRAND AT THE BOCA RESORT | $3,750,000**
Modern masterpiece with views of Lake Boca from this coveted location in most desirable building. Custom residence with 4800 sq. ft. and 3 BR/ 4 1/2 BA and home theater.  
Vini Antonacci 561-714-8464 Brian Pearl 561-245-1541

**CHALFONTE BOCA RATON | $900,000**
Unit 1106 – luxurious home with direct ocean views, SE exposure with 24/7 doormen. 32’ deep balcony perfect for entertaining. 2 BR, 2 BA ensuite. Beautifully renovated kitchen.  
Ana Londono 561-843-1171

**INLET COVE | $629,000**
Intracoastal townhouse on water with dock. Complete remodel with marble floors, granite counters, custom cabinets, new appliances and a/c. Being sold furnished with TVs.  
Warren Heeg 561-441-1599

**GLENEAGLES | $379,000**
1st floor condo with exclusive designs. Open concept in living area/kitchen, Hurricane windows, new kitchen, new appliances/baths & showers. New tiled floors, doors, and AC.  
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**CHAPEL HILL | $435,000**
Beautifully updated home on oversized corner lot! Across from neighborhood park. Bike to Downtown Delray! Wood-look tile, quarts counters, stainless appliances, screened porch.  
Shelly Simmel 561-445-8553

**FLAGLER LANDING | $425,000**
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Janine Tompkins 561-909-5139 Susan Fleming 561-714-6220
Kite fishing can be productive on breezy winter days

A

nyone who has fished
the ocean off Palm
Beach County — or
even observed fishing boats
from the beach — has probably
seen fishing kites flying near
boats.

Dangling live baits under
fishing kites was popularized as
a way to catch sailfish and other
ocean game fish in the 1960s by
Capt. Bob Lewis of Miami.

Suspending live baits
under kites causes baitfish,
such as pilchards or goggle-
eyes to thrash on the surface,
attracting predators. Fishing
with kites also spreads baits
out over a wide area and allows
anglers to fish both sides of a
boat while drifting.

But popular as kite fishing
is, proficiency still eludes ocean
anglers who don’t have the right
tools or haven’t taken time to
master the art.

Capt. Nick Cardella — a
Delray Beach native, charter
captain and member of many
tournament fishing teams —
sought to demystify the art
of kite fishing by sharing tips
during a Dec. 20 seminar at
West Marine in Delray Beach.

Some background: Kite
fishing consists of flying a
fishing kite from a small rod
(the kite rod). The line under
the kite typically holds three
release clips spaced about 65
feet apart. Fishing lines attach
to the release clips with small
ceramic or metal rings.

When a fish strikes and tugs
the fishing line, the release clip
opens and the fishing line drops
free.

Windier winter days can
create good conditions for kite
fishing. Serious kite anglers
carry several kites for a variety
of wind conditions and attach
helium balloons to their kites
to hold them aloft when the wind
speed slows.

Here are a few of Cardella’s
tips for anglers learning to fish
with a kite:

• Match the weight (used
under the marker float on
the fishing line) to the wind
conditions. Cardella will use
an ounce or more of weight to
hold lines down in stout winds.

• For days with less-than-
steady wind, use a heavy-duty
balloon (available from tackle
shops) filled with helium to
hold the kite up. One place
for find tanks of helium for
balloons is Party City.

• Tie the helium balloon
directly to the kite spar. The
kite will tend to pull to the
opposite side the balloon is
attached to. That’s good. When
using two kites, attach balloons
so that one kite pulls to the left,
the other to the right.

• Use a sea anchor to slow
the drift and stabilize the boat,
especially in relatively rough
winter seas. An alternative is
to hold the boat into the wind
with the engines by bumping
them in and out of gear.

• Monofilament leaders and
circle hooks are standard tackle
for sailfish. But when toothy
fish such as kingfish and wahoo
are severing leaders, have wire
leaders ready. Cardella uses
about 30 inches of No. 6 wire
and a standard J hook when
rigging live baits for toothy fish.

• If you plan to kite fish
regularly, consider buying an
electric reel for the kite rod.
A power reel will save time and
energy while retrieving lines.

• If you don’t need a
helium balloon to keep the kite
aloft, attach a regular balloon to
the kite. If the kite winds up in
the water, the balloon will keep
it afloat.

• Adjust the yoke lines
on the bridle to fit wind
conditions. If a kite is flying
too high or wobbling, move the
bridle in toward the kite. If it’s
flying too low, move the bridle
out away from the kite.

Silver Sailfish Derby

Capt. Joe Garberoglio and
his team on the Fragrant
Habor won top boat in the
Silver Sailfish Derby, with 13
sailfish releases posted over two
days of fishing Jan. 10-11.

The Fragrant Harbor team —
including David and Lynne
Henderson, Trent Glaub, Ryan
Hullihan, Owen Buckman
and Tim Smith — took an
early lead on the first day, with
nine releases, then caught and
released another four fish on
Day 2 to win by one release.

Two other teams — Native
Son led by Capt. Art Sapp
and Sparkhawk led by Capt. Joe
Ferrule — finished the derby
with 12 releases. The fourth-
place team, Singularis led by
Capt. John Van Dellen, caught
nothing on Day 1 but found the
fish and scored 10 releases on
Day 2, earning top-boat honors
for the second day.

Billed as the oldest sailfish
tournament in the world,
the Silver Sailfish Derby was
started in 1955 by the West
Palm Beach Fishing Club and
has been held every year since,
except during the fuel shortages
of World War II. Forty-three
boats participated in this year’s
82nd derby.

Also noteworthy: Teams
fishing in the Fort Pierce-based
Pelican Yacht Club Invitational
Bullfish Tournament shattered
sailfish release records,
including posting the
tournament’s best single day of
709 releases by 27 boats on Jan.
10, Treasure Coast Newspapers
reported.

Teams found most of the
sailfish off Cocoa Beach.

Mahi mahi catch

Most South Florida anglers
who fish for mahi mahi know
that they grow really fast.

A November catch by Kyle
Veits and Ashley Ramey —
clients of charter Capt. Chris
LeMieux of Boynton Beach
— demonstrates just how fast
dolphinfish can grow.

The 43-inch bull dolphin,
captured Nov. 23 south of
Boynton Inlet, had been tagged
and released less than six
months earlier as part of the
Dolphinfish Research Program
dolphin tagging.com).

When Capt. Don Gates

Defer Or Eliminate Taxes Now!
Capital Gains taxes legally eliminated on the sale of Real Estate,
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Palm Beach Tax Group Inc, Est 1970.
tagged and released the fish off Cudjoe Key on June 10, it measured only 16 inches. The fish grew 27 inches in less than six months (166 days to be exact).

The take-away message, says Dolphinfish Research Program Director Wesley Merten: “Let them go and they will grow.”

Manatee deaths rise

Florida lost 824 manatees last year, well above the latest five-year average of 532, partly because of a strong red tide bloom on the state’s west coast.

Lee County had the largest number of reported manatee deaths in 2018 at 182, according to preliminary manatee mortality statistics compiled by the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission.

Thirteen manatee deaths were documented in Palm Beach County, including five related to strikes by boats.

Statewide manatee deaths included 121 related to the slow-moving marine mammals’ being hit by boats and other types of watercraft.

Another 321 of last year’s dead manatees tested positive for red tide exposure, the FWC reports.

Boaters can avoid manatees by obeying slow-speed zones, staying in marked channels and wearing polarized sunglasses that help them see manatees in the water.

Anyone who spots a sick, injured or dead manatee should report it to the state’s Wildlife Alert Hotline at 888-404-3922.

Tip of the month

Fishing for sailfish with live bait this winter? Be patient. Just because the reel clicks a few times doesn’t mean a sailfish is hooked. Wait until the line is going out steadily for a few seconds before tightening the drag.

Most anglers targeting sailfish use circle hooks (required in billfish tournaments). The goal is to snag the circle hook in the corner of the sailfish’s jaw so it can be caught, photographed and released unharmed.

Hold sailfish in the water alongside a slow-moving boat, allowing water to wash through their gills, until they regain strength and are ready to swim free.

Willie Howard is a freelance writer and licensed boat captain. Reach him at towllie@bellsouth.net.
Outdoors Calendar

February 2019

2/2 - Change and Wetlands

2/2 - World Wetlands Day: Climate

2/2 - Boardwalk Tours at Green Cay Nature Center, 12800 Hagen Ranch Rd, Boynton Beach. Docent-guided tour of wetlands. All ages. Times vary, call for details. Free. 966-7000; pbcnature.com

2/2 - Beach Treasures at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. All ages; children must be accompanied by an adult. Daily 12-3 pm. Free. 544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

FEBRUARY 3-9

Tuesday – 2/5 - Guided Nature Walk at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Guided walk along the Ashley Trail. 1/4-mile nature trail winds through the butterfly garden, coastal hammock, mangrove, to a sandy beach by the Intracoastal. All ages; children under 10 must be accompanied by an adult. Every 1/17Th am noon. Free. 544-4615; gumbolimbo.org

Tuesday – 2/5 - Audubon Everglades at Pine Jog Environmental Education Center, 6001 Summit Blvd, West Palm Beach. Free. 544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

Tuesday – 2/5 - Boynton Beach Fishing Club at 201 5th St. Capt. Nick Stanczyk: Daytime Swordfishing. 7 pm. Free admission. 

Wednesday – 2/6 - Beach Treasures at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Learn about sea turtle eggs, the animals that make them. Casavon to Reef Net Park, 1900 N State Rd 6A, to search for ocean turtles. All ages; children must be accompanied by an adult. Held again 2/20 3-4 pm. Free. Reservations: 544-4615; gumbolimbo.org

Friday – 2/8 - Wetlands & Wildlife at Wakodahatchee Wetlands, 13026 Jog Rd, Delray Beach. 1/4-mile guided boardwalk tour. Bring camera, binoculars. Age 7 to adult; children must be accompanied by an adult. Held again 2/8 10:30-1:30 am. Free. Reservations: 544-8605; gumbolimbo.org


Saturday – 2/9 - 20th Annual Everglades Day Festival: Giving Wings to Your Wild Side at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Short talks about South Florida’s unique animals/ecosystems. Age 6-adult; children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Held again 2/24 9-11 am. Free. 530-7465; gumbolimbo.org

Sunday – 2/10 - Sea Angels Beach Cleanup at 100 N Ocean Blvd. Gloves/jackets provided. 11 am-2 pm. 561-6464; mnhawk@lantana.org

Sunday – 2/10 - Florida Trail Backpacking Event at Jonathan Dickinson Park. Florida Trail Association sponsored 6.5-mile hike in 4 days. Locationflex.org

FEBRUARY 17-23

Tuesday – 2/19 - Eco-Watch Lecture Series: Brian Rzepeka: Birding South Florida at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Light refreshments, an opportunity to talk with the speaker. Age 16 & up; children under age 18 must be accompanied by an adult. 7-8:30 pm. $5 suggested donation. Reservations: 544-4615; gumbolimbo.org

Friday – 2/22 - Night Hike at Daggerwing Nature Center, 14135 Park Access Rd, Boca Raton. Walk through the wetlands, call for owls, shine for gators! Bring bug spray, flashlight. All ages. 6 pm. 544-8615; gumbolimbo.org

Saturday – 2/23 - Sea Angels Beach Cleanup at 100 N Ocean Blvd. Gloves/jackets provided. 11 am-2 pm. 561-6464; mnhawk@lantana.org

2/23 – 2/23: Intracoastal Adventures: Canoeing at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Short talks about South Florida’s unique animals/ecosystems. Age 6-adult; children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. 12:30-2 pm. $15/member, $22/non-member. 544-8605; gumbolimbo.org

FEBRUARY 24-MARCH 2

Wednesday - 2/27 - West Palm Beach Fishing Club at 301 5th St. Capt. Frank Skavicki: Sunset Swordfishing. 7 pm. Free. 832-6780, westpalmbeachfishingclub.org

Thursday – 2/28 - The Night Stalkers at Green Cay Nature Center, 12800 Hagen Ranch Rd, Boynton Beach. Join a Naturalist on a boardwalk tour looking at nature from the point of view of its nocturnal residents. Age 9+ - 6 pm. pbgparks.org. RSVP: 564-7600; pbpcnature.com

Saturday – 3/2 - Sand Sifters Beach Clean Up at Oceanfront Park, 4645 N Ocean Blvd, Ocean Ridge. Meet at pavilion in lower parking lot. Held again 3/2 8-11 am. Fee. ejeffers@gmail.com

3/2 - Sea Turtle Day Festival 2019 at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Short talks about South Florida’s unique animals/ecosystems. Age 6-adult; children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. 9-4 pm. Free. Reservations appreciated; some activities require additional fee. 544-4615; gumbolimbo.org

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Deep Water Elegance

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Finding Faith

Classes offer help with money, dreams

D o you think of God every time you open your purse or wallet, enter an ATM or use your credit card online? Is it a prayer that the transaction goes through? Do you feel sick to your stomach or have a tension headache because you and money aren’t getting along?

The Rev. Gregory Barrette, senior minister and chief executive officer of Unity of Delray Beach Church since October, says lots of us have money issues, and some of us have relationships with money that are toxic. Barrette (you can call him Greg) just wrapped up a four-week class in January based upon the best-selling book The Four Spiritual Laws of Prosperity, by Edwene Gaines.

Barrette says our financial health is just as important as our physical and mental health, and an unhealthy relationship with money can complicate or worsen physical and mental health problems.

“Money is like energy,” Barrette says. It goes where it’s directed but if it’s not under control, it can cause chaos.

In some places of worship, the only time people talk about money is when they’re asking for it. Unity’s programs focus on providing practical solutions to real problems.

Barrette also teaches skills like meditation and dream interpretation that can help us find our way. As a teacher, he simplifies the work of theologians and complex thinkers like Eckhart Tolle for the rest of us.

“At Unity, we don’t believe the point is to get people into heaven,” Barrette says. “We want to help people live better now, in this life. Getting people into heaven,” Barrette says, “doesn’t mean better as in richer or thinner or even more successful in your career. He means your soul has grown. Soul characteristics are universal: things like honesty, compassion, ethics, gratitude, humility, charity. That’s what our soul aspires to and it’s why, when people are especially wise about spiritual matters and the human condition, we call them ‘old souls.’” They’ve had those “feelings.” When someone sneaks up behind us, but we “feel” them coming, or we’re approaching an intersection and we slow down for no reason and some guy running the red light would have hit us but misses us.

Dreams are little vignettes from our subconscious mind that tell a cryptic story. Barrette says solutions to our problems are in those symbols if we know how to read them. Barrette will take a workshop called “Dreams: Letters from God” at 7 p.m. Feb. 12 at Unity.

In 90 minutes, I’ll teach participants why they dream and the importance of dreaming, how to remember your dreams and how to interpret them so they can be used to solve problems. The simple, specific technique will allow them to interpret any dream.

Register for the course by calling Unity at 276-5796, or visit unityofdelraybeach.org. A free-will offering will be taken.

Janis Fontaine writes about people of faith, their congregations, causes and community events. Contact her at janisfontaine@outlook.com.

Religion Notes

Couple helps other couples connect through laughter

Some people think a sense of humor is one of the most important characteristics in a mate, and Jay and Laura Laffoon have put that to the test during 30 years of marriage.

Laughing together helps couples connect; connecting makes couples happy. This happy couple, who call themselves “marriage educators,” will share stories from their journey together, and you just might learn something while you’re laughing.

Their show starts at 6 p.m. Feb. 17 at Advent Lutheran Church in Boca Raton. Tickets are $20; go to jayanndalaura.com.

While you’re there, say congratulations to Advent School for 50 years of Christian education.

In November, Advent Lutheran Church celebrated its school with 200 guests, including alumni, past administrators and former teachers. The Rev. Dr. Ron Dingele, the school’s former director, shared his memories.

Advent’s school was founded in 1968 with a kindergarten class. Now the school serves children of all faiths from 6 weeks old to pre-K to eighth grade.

Advent School is a ministry of Advent Church at 300 E. Yamato Road, in Boca Raton. Call 395-3631 or visit adventschoolboca.org.

Constructive conversations

What do you do if someone tells you a sexist or ethnically or religiously offensive joke?

Sometimes it’s probably better to ignore it and to avoid that person in the future. But sometimes you can’t avoid it. You have to say something. But what? And how?

Allan Barsky can help. He’s the guest speaker at the meeting of the Interfaith Café at 7 p.m. Feb. 21 at South County Civic Center, 16700 Jog Road, Delray Beach.

He’ll offer suggestions on how to engage others in respectful, meaningful and constructive conversations.

Barsky is a specialist in mediation and conflict resolution and a professor of social work at Florida Atlantic University. He has a doctorate and a law degree from the University of Toronto Faculty of Law. He’s the author of several books on ethics and conflict resolution. His topic is “courageous conversations.”

Favorite Jewish composers

Temple Beth El of Boca Raton celebrates the work of Cantor Lori Shapiro’s favorite Jewish composers: Carole King, Carly Simon, Paul Simon and Burt Bacharach.

“Feelin’ Groovy” begins at 3 p.m. Feb. 10 at Temple Beth El, 333 SW Fourth Ave. Shapiro will perform with an assist from Dennis Lambert and Misha Lambert.

Tickets are $100 for reserved seating, $36 preferred, $18 general, $10 students. Call 391-8900 or go to 5buboca.org.

Stopping child exploitation

Mark your calendar for the Child Rescue Coalition’s fourth annual Eat, Drink & Be Giving Gala at 6 p.m. Feb. 22 at the Delray Beach Marriott, 10 N. Ocean Blvd.

Founded by sisters Carly Asher Yoost and Desiree Asher, the Child Rescue Coalition is a partnership of child exploitation investigators, police officers, digital forensic experts, prosecutors, child welfare agencies, and corporate and private donors.

They work together to apprehend and convict abusers of children, rescue children in danger, and prevent abuse before it happens. They do it with state-of-the-art technology that targets abusers, pornographers and traffickers.

Tickets are $275 and are available online at childrescuecoalition.org.

Laura and Jay Laffoon, self-described ‘marriage edu-tainers,’ will perform Feb. 17 in Boca Raton. Photo provided.
February 2019

Religion Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 2/12. Please check with organizers for any changes.

**FEBRUARY 2**
- **Saturday** 2/2 - Catholic Grandparents Meeting at American Church, 7250 N. Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. All welcome. 1st Sat 10-11:30 am. Free. 209-2645, dacnp.org
- **Saturday** 2/2 - Shabbat Service at Temple Sinai-Palm Beach County, 2475 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. Every Sat 10 am. 267-670; temple.sinai-pbc.org

**FEBRUARY 3 - 9**
- **Monday** 2/4 - Legion of Mary at St. Mark Catholic Church, 641 SW 6th Ave, Boynton Beach. Every Mon 10 am. Free. 734-9330; stmarkboynton.com
- **Monday** 2/4 - Women’s Bible Study at First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach, 31 Glouster St. Every M 10 am. Free. 276-4138, borthelopeducation.com
- **Monday** 2/4 - Women’s Bible Study at Searest Presbyterian Church Conference Room, 2702 N. Seabreeze Ave, Delray Beach. Every M 10 am. Free. 276-5633, searestchurch.org
- **Monday** 2/4 - Rosary for Peace at Seacrest Presbyterian Church, 33 Gleason St, Delray Beach. Every M 10 am. Free. 276-5633; seacrestchurch.com
- **Monday** 2/4 - Women’s Bible Study Group at First United Methodist Church Boca Raton, 101 NE Mizner Blvd. Boynton Beach. Every M 9:30 am. Free. 732-3366; stmaryanglican.com

**FEBRUARY 5**
- **2/5 - Crime and Consequence at Chabad of East Boca Raton, 300 NE 15th Ave. New 6-session course from Rohr Jewish Learning Institute. Every T through 3/12 3:30-5:30 pm. 579 Full course: 394-9770, boca.chabad.org
- **2/5 - Wednesday - 2/5 - St. Paul’s Episcopal Church Bible Study at Parson’s, 1707 S Federal Hwy, Delray Beach, Road, discussion/impromptu Lesson & Gospel readings. Every W 6-8 pm. Free. 276-4541, stpaulsdelray.org
- **2/5 - Basic Catechesis with Fr. Dan at St. Mark Catholic Church/ St John Paul II Room, 464 St Mark Pl, Boynton Beach. Every W at 1 Am. Free. 734-9330; stmarkboynton.com
- **2/5 - 33 Days to Morning Glory at St. Vincent Ferrer St. Peter House, 840 George Bush Blvd, Delray Beach. Small group retreat. Every W through 2/27 7:15 pm at 7 pm. 354 Room (prepaid). Registration: 465-0066, stvincentferrer.com
- **2/5 - Contarter Praye at St. Joseph’s Episcopal Church, 3304 SW Seacrest Boulevard, Boynton Beach. Every W 9:30 am. Free. 732-1048; stjosephsboynton.com
- **2/5 - Bible Study at First United Methodist Church, 101 W Seaboard Blvd, Boynton Beach. Every W 11 am. Free. 732-3345, fumcbo.com
- **2/5 - Wednesday Wednesdays at First Presbyterian Church, 31 Glouster St. Delray Beach. All ages. Every W 6:30-6:45 pm. $10. Registration: 272-3646, stpaulsdelray.org
- **2/5 - Rector’s Bible Study at St. Gregory’s Episcopal Church, 100 NE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. Every W 6 pm supper (soup/salad, donation requested). 4-6 pm Bible Study (free). 395-8285, stgregorysepiscopal.org
- **2/5 - Congregational Study: Making of the Bible at First United Methodist Church Boca Raton, 625 NE Mizner Blvd. Childcare available upon request. Every Th 9:30 am. Free. 395-1244, fumcoboca.org
- **2/5 - Women’s Bible Study Group at St. Gregory’s Episcopal Church Youth House, 266 NE 2nd St, Boca Raton. Every Th 9:30 am. Free. 395-8285, stgregorysepiscopal.org
- **2/6 - Bible Study at St. Mary’s Episcopal Church, 300 SW 1st Ave, Delray Beach. Every W through 2/20 7 pm. Free. 266-6702, stmaryanglican.com
- **2/6 - Wednesday - 2/6 - St. Paul’s Episcopal Church Bible Study at Parson’s, 1707 S Federal Hwy, Delray Beach, Road, discussion/impromptu Lesson & Gospel readings. Every W 6-8 pm. Free. 276-4541, stpaulsdelray.org
- **2/6 - Prayer Circle at Trinity Lutheran Church Courtyard, 400 NW Stewman Ave, Delray Beach. Every Th 8:05 am. Free. 276-3732, trinitydelray.org
- **2/6 - Men’s Fellowship at First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach, 31 Glouster St. Every Th 10-11 am. Free. 276-6338, fpcdelray.org
- **2/6 - Women’s Bible Study Group at First United Methodist Church Boca Raton, 101 NE Mizner Blvd. Childcare available upon request. Every Th 9:30 am. Free. 395-1244, fumcoboca.org
- **Friday** 2/8 - Women’s Bible Study Group at St. Gregory’s Episcopal Church Youth House, 266 NE 2nd St, Boca Raton. Every F 9:15 am. Free. 395-8285, stgregorysepiscopal.org
- **Friday** 2/8 - Couples’ Bible Study Group at First United Methodist Church Boca Raton, 625 NE Mizner Blvd. Childcare available upon request. Every F 6-8 pm. Free. 395-1244, fumcoboca.org
- **Friday** 2/8 - Couples’ Bible Study Group at First United Methodist Church Boca Raton, 625 NE Mizner Blvd. Childcare available upon request. Every F 6-8 pm. Free. 395-1244, fumcoboca.org
- **February 10-16**
- **Tuesday** 2/12 - Dreams: Letters from God with Greg Barrette at Unity of Delray Beach Church, 301 NW 22nd St. 7:30 pm. Free/will offering. 276-0796, unityofdelraybeach.org

**FEBRUARY 17-23**
- **2/17 - Radical Forgiveness Workshop at Unity of Delray Beach Church, 301 NW 22nd St. Interfaith Minister Theresa Braude leads 3-session workshop. Held again 2/25 6-7:30 pm. Free/will offering. 276-0796, unityofdelraybeach.org
- **2/21 - Interfaith Café at South County Civic Center, 16700 Jog Rd, Delray Beach. Speaker: Allan Barak, religious and ethnic stereotyping. 7-9 pm. Free. 330-0420, meetup.com/ interfaith-Café

**FEBRUARY 24-MARCH 2**
- **Tuesday** 2/26 - The Master Mind Principle Seminar with Greg Barrette at Unity of Delray Beach Church, 301 NW 22nd St. 7-8 pm. Free-will offering. Unityofdelraybeach.org

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**Special Events**

**February 3**
Communion and Soup Bowl Lunch for CRS Ministry’s

**February 9**
Family Sunday with guest guitarist Steve Halley

**February 17**
Worship at 11am - Congregation Meeting

**February 27**
Guest Minister Rev. Dr. Raymond Apolin

**Great Events**
- **February 6 - March 7**
- **8 Weeks - 10am-12pm**
- America’s largest discussion program on world affairs.
- Details: https://www.fpa.org/great_decisions

**Religious Events**
- **February 5**
- **Crime and Consequence at Chabad of East Boca Raton, 300 NE 15th Ave. New 6-session course from Rohr Jewish Learning Institute. Every T through 3/12 3:30-5:30 pm. 579 Full course: 394-9770, boca.chabad.org
- **Larger Than Life: With All Due Respect: Honoring Your Parents at Chabad of East Boca Raton, 300 NE 15th Ave. New monthly course for women from Rohr Jewish Learning Institute. 3:30 pm. 520/lass + book fee 394-9770, boca.chabad.org
- **Thursday** 2/7 - Prayer Circle at Trinity Lutheran Church Courtyard, 400 NW Stewman Ave, Delray Beach. Every Th 8:05 am. Free. 276-3732, trinitydelray.org

**February 9**
- **Friday** 2/8 - Couples’ Bible Study Group at First United Methodist Church Boca Raton, 625 NE Mizner Blvd. Childcare available upon request. Every F 6-8 pm. Free. 395-1244, fumcoboca.org

**February 10**
- **Tuesday** 2/12 - Dreams: Letters from God with Greg Barrette at Unity of Delray Beach Church, 301 NW 22nd St. 7:30 pm. Free/will offering. 276-0796, unityofdelraybeach.org

**February 17**
- **Radical Forgiveness Workshop at Unity of Delray Beach Church, 301 NW 22nd St. Interfaith Minister Theresa Braude leads 3-session workshop. Held again 2/25 6-7:30 pm. Free/will offering. 276-0796, unityofdelraybeach.org

**February 21**
- **Interfaith Café at South County Civic Center, 16700 Jog Rd, Delray Beach. Speaker: Allan Barak, religious and ethnic stereotyping. 7-9 pm. Free. 330-0420, meetup.com/interfaith-Café

**February 24-MARCH 2**
- **Tuesday** 2/26 - The Master Mind Principle Seminar with Greg Barrette at Unity of Delray Beach Church, 301 NW 22nd St. 7-8 pm. Free-will offering. Unityofdelraybeach.org
Nonprofit group plants trees to build, enhance, feed communities

When you think of a tree, chances are you envision a trunk with some foliage at the top that might shade your yard, become a home to birds and other wildlife, or provide your family with such sweet treats as mangoes or starfruit. But when Mark Cassini and Matt Shipley see that same tree, they view not only the environmental benefits it can provide — such as cleaner air, shade and habitat — but the sense of community that it helps create.

About two years ago, the two founded Community Greening, a nonprofit in Delray Beach that works to improve low- to moderate-income communities through tree planting.

Since then they, with the help of community volunteers, have planted nearly 2,500 native and fruit trees in parks, school grounds, vacant lots and yards from Deerfield Beach to West Palm Beach, with their emphasis on low- to moderate-income areas in Delray Beach.

“At our plantings, all sorts of people are working together to improve a neighborhood — whether the volunteers live locally or visit a neighborhood, perhaps for the first time, to help plant at a park or a school. But after working together, all the volunteers — no matter where they live — think of that area and those trees as theirs,” says Cassini.

Consider, for example, a recent planting event at the K-12 Village Academy magnet school in an area of Delray called the Set. About 100 volunteers planted more than 150 trees 8 feet tall in only two hours, including slash pines, silver buttonwoods and dahoon hollies.

“When the work was done, a food truck from Caesar’s Famous Ribs & BBQ arrived. After the planting, we ate and the day turned into even more of a community event when playing basketball, skateboarding and dancing started. For me, it was the definition of a community party,” Shipley says.

Growing a community can happen in a variety of ways when it comes to planting trees. Consider what has come to be called the Grove in Catherine Strong Park, which is walking distance from Village Academy.

“We had visited the park in May 2017, soon after it was planted with about 75 fledgling fruit trees. But we recently returned to see how this Community Greening project is faring.

“Instead of an inactive vacant lot where people were dumping garbage, it’s now a place that’s giving back to people and nature,” Cassini notes. Today it’s a thriving grove with 10-foot-high fruit trees, many of which are already bearing fruit.

In fact, residents are welcome to visit the garden and pick whatever is ripe — including avocados, starfruit, guavas and sugar apples, as well as a variety of mangoes. There are even a couple of Madam Francis mango trees favored by Haitian residents.

The area is nicely maintained by Community Greening staffer Dre Dildy, who lives in the neighborhood and was hired as a tree steward after attending many of the Community Greening events as a volunteer.

The city maintenance crew that cuts the grass and helps with irrigation also has gotten involved.

“We’ve made more work for the city staff but they’ve become friends by volunteering at our plantings, looking out for the trees and giving us updates,” Shipley says.

The residents also feel attached to the park and its foliage, especially those who have adopted a tree in honor of a sick or deceased family member.

One woman who works near the Grove planted a mango tree in honor of her grandmother. She regularly drives by to check on its progress and returned with her parents a year after the planting to take pictures with the tree.

“We won’t start seeing many of the ecological benefits of the trees we plant until they grow a little more, but our planting projects that bring people together instantly create community,” says Cassini.

About 100 volunteers, some of them children, planted more than 150 trees at the Village Academy magnet school in Delray Beach. Photo by Tara Inc. Photography.
Garden Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 1/25. Please check with organizers for any changes.

**FEBRUARY 2**
Saturday - 2/2 - Rose Trilogy: Rose Basics at Mounts Botanical Garden Auditorium, 531 N Military Tr, West Palm Beach. Seats continue 2/9 & 16. 10-11:30 am. $45/member, $50/non-member. 233-1751; mounts.org

**FEBRUARY 3-9**
Tuesday - 2/5 - Boca Raton Garden Club at 4281 NW 3rd Ave. Speaker: Henri Crockett, Founder and President of the Crockett Foundation. 1st T 1 pm. Free. 395-9376; bocaratongardenclub.org
Saturday - 2/9 - Akihiro Mashimo: The Art of Bamboo in the Garden at Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, Morikami Theater, 4000 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Learn from master bamboo craftsman the history and beauty of bamboo, the craftsmanship, artistry, its uses in the garden. Demonstration follows. 1 pm. Free with museum admission. 495-0233; morikami.org

**FEBRUARY 10-16**
Wednesday - 2/13 - Delray Beach Orchid Society at Veterans Park Recreation Center, 802 NE 1st St, Delray Beach. 2nd W 6:30 pm. Free. 573-2422; delraybeachorchidsociety.com

**FEBRUARY 17-23**
Tuesday - 2/19 - Florida Native Plant Society at Mounts Botanical Garden, 531 N Military Tr, West Palm Beach. 3rd T 7 pm. Free. palmbeach.fnpschapters.org
Thursday - 2/21 - Garden Club Annual Speaker: Marshall Watson: Elegance in the Home and in the Garden at The Society of the Four Arts Gubelmann Auditorium, 2nd Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. 2:30 pm. Free. 500-8562; fourarts.org

**FEBRUARY 24-MARCH 2**
Friday - 3/1-2 - Mother Goose: National Garden Club Standard Flower Show at Boca Raton Garden Club, 42841 NW 3rd Ave. Outstanding horticulture, spectacular floral designs, whimsical botanical arts, exciting entries from talented youth, informative educational exhibits. F 1-4 pm; Sat 9 am-3 pm. Free. 395-9376; bocaratongardenclub.org

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**FEBRUARY 2019**

You are cordially invited to

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Saturday, February 23, 2019

7pm – 9pm
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Come join us for a trip around the world sipping on exotic wines and feasting on gourmet hors d’oeuvres and much more...

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Conversation with the Artist – Saturday, February 15th at 2pm

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Dental hygiene, crucial to pets’ health, can be done at home

Many of us are spot-on when it comes to bathing our dogs and brushing our cats. And some of us have perfected the art of escaping injury by performing regular nail trimming, even on our feline friends. But how many of us regularly open our pet’s mouth, inspect the gums and yes, do a sniff test? I’m betting not many. In fact, up to 80 percent of dogs and 70 percent of cats sport some degree of dental problems by age 3, according to the American Veterinary Medical Association.

In honor of Pet Dental Health Month in February, I am advocating that you practice at-home pet dental care. For starters, getting into this dental hygiene habit could keep your wallet fatter. If you pay promptly, you can save money on veterinary clinic. Some places in Palm Beach County are offering discounts on dental procedures in recognition of Pet Dental Health Month.

Pet Calendar

February is Pet Dental Health Month, a good time to recommit to keeping your pets’ teeth and gums healthy. Illustration provided

Dr. Rob Martin is excited to introduce a growing team of Veterinarians

Serving East Boynton Beach and the Tri-County area for over 40 years

Dental Health Month is here

Call for promotional prices

February 17-23
Wednesday 2/20 - Dog Obedience Class at Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. Every W through 3/27. Beginner 6-7 pm. $95/resident; $117/non-resident. 393-7807; myboca.us

Saturday - 2/23 - Puppy Kindergarten Class at Boca Raton Community Center Annex, 260 Crawford Blvd. Every Sat through 3/30 11:30 am-12:30 pm. $95/resident; $117/non-resident. 393-7807; myboca.us

February 24-MARCH 2
Sunday 2/24 - Dogs’ Day in the Garden at Mounts Botanical Garden Auditorium, 531 N Military Tr., West Palm Beach. Dogs must be attended/supervised at all times by a person 18+. 10 am-3:30 pm. Free/member, $5/adult non-member, $5/child (5-12) non-member. 233-1972; mountsb.org

Never use human toothpaste on your pet for two reasons: Dogs and cats do not know how to rinse and spit, and fluoride in human toothpaste is not safe for dogs or cats. Human toothpaste also contains deterrents and ingredients that can harm a pet’s teeth.

One of the best ways to show your pet how much you love him is by being just best health ally. And that includes regular at-home dental care. Your reward? Kisses of gratitude from your pet that are free of foul odor.

Please consider booking a dental exam this month for your pet. And check with your veterinary clinic. Some places in Palm Beach County are offering discounts on dental procedures in recognition of Pet Dental Health Month.

By Janis Fontaine

Boca Raton High School junior Casey Hill says her trumpet is like an extension of her arm. She feels more natural holding it and feels a little anxious when she doesn’t have it.

Musicians are like that. Since Casey got started playing six years ago, her trumpet has been there for her. Now she plays about 20 other instruments, but the trumpet is her true love.

She plays trumpet in the marching band, where the intricate routines are designed to look beautiful as a whole. It can be tough to tell if you’re in the wrong place, so marching is demanding and strenuous.

But Casey says, “Marching band is a blast. It’s the most fun thing. You leave your blood, sweat and tears out on the field, literally. But you learn discipline, and how to work well with all kinds of people, and you make connections that are strong and genuine.”

Marching band is a huge time commitment. Rehearsals are twice a week to prepare for game day on Friday, and then competitions are held on Saturday. Casey says it’s worth every minute.

About two years ago, the 16-year-old experienced a happy accident that solved a problem for her and some other trumpet players. With help from the Young Entrepreneurs Academy sponsored by the Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce, Casey turned her idea into an invention — the Piston Trainer — and the invention into reality.

In music, technique is king and bad habits are hard to break. When Casey started playing trumpet, no one corrected her fingering technique, so that became ingrained in her muscle memory. It didn’t prevent her from playing well, from being a respected musician and an important member of the marching band, but Casey knew she could do better. One day at rehearsal, she forgot her “dot book,” a small spiral book on a lanyard that holds a dot chart, the schematic used in marching band to show you where to go.

Because she forgot her book, Casey had to fold the chart and hold it in between the valves of her trumpet. She noticed the papers made her keep her hands and especially her wrists, in prime technical position. When she started to slip back into her old ways, the dot chart reminded her not to do it.

When she got home, Casey kept thinking about how those sheets of paper had helped her. She did research in her spare time over the next 18 months, examining the 20 most common brands of trumpets, measuring them down to the millimeter and calculating the perfect dimensions for the Piston Trainer.

With support and guidance from the Boca Chamber’s academy, Casey created a business plan and learned to pitch her product to investors — to answer tough financial questions and explain the marketing plan needed to get her product in the hands of band leaders, teachers and trumpet players.

When she made her official pitch at the end of the Young Entrepreneurs class, the investors pledged $1,580 to fund her company.

In the old days — like the year Casey was born — making the Piston Trainer would require a prototype and a mold, pretty steep startup costs. But the costs of 3D printers that use plastic pellets are affordable now and Casey’s device was a perfect candidate for 3D replication.

In 2010, a 3D printing machine cost more than $20,000, but in 2013, the cost dropped to $1,000. So, she bought a 3D printer and had packaging made for the device, which she manufactures and packs at home.

Casey’s first goal was to get the PTs into the hands of young trumpet players, so she targeted Boca Middle and Western Pines Middle at the start of the school year, supplying kids who are just learning the instrument with the trainers. This, she said, is the time to correct and perfect technique, “before it gets ingrained.”

Casey plans to supply all of Palm Beach County middle schools with Piston Trainers over the next three years.

Could it be that a high school student from Boca created the only significant piece of equipment for mastering trumpet valve fingering since the instrument was invented in 1500 BC?

Casey enjoys business, but she says she plans to study music therapy in college, a growing field with a lot of applications. “It’s using music to accomplish non-music goals,” Casey said.

For her, music is as important to her existence as breathing or eating, so to be able to share that gift and to help others is a great opportunity.

Casey sees playing music as a symbiotic energy exchange: “I give my instrument life and it gives my life meaning.”

Boca Raton High Junior Casey Hill, who plays in the marching band, came up with a piston training device (left) to help trumpet players improve their fingering techniques. Photos provided

Tots & Teens

Student musician’s invention helps young trumpet players learn

The COASTAL STAR

Tots & Teens H19

20th Annual Everglades Day Festival Saturday, February 9th All Day – All Free – 8am to 4pm Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge 10216 Lee Road, Boynton Beach • Off State Road 7/US 441

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Student musician’s invention helps young trumpet players learn

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You are invited to attend the 20th Annual Everglades Day Festival on Saturday, February 9th from 8am to 4pm at Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge located at 10216 Lee Road, Boynton Beach. This event is free to the public and offers a day of fun-filled activities designed to promote awareness, appreciation, and understanding of the Everglades ecosystem.

Activities include: LILA tours, explorations, food trucks, interactive activities, guest speakers, Spanish presentations, music, educational programs, canoeing, fishing demos, Birds of prey, Español presentations, and much more.

Parking is at West Delray Regional Park located at 10875 West Atlantic Avenue, Delray Beach, FL 33444. For more information, call 561-734-8303.

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**FEBRUARY 2-3**

**Saturday - 2/2**

- **Sensory Saturday** at Children’s Science Explorium, 1150 N.W. 2nd Ave., Boca Raton. Explore the museum in sensory-friendly setting. 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Free. 347-4912, cse@childrensexplorium.com.
- **Tiny Tots Ballet/Tap Class** at Showcase Performance Arts, 4873 N.W. 182nd St., Boca Raton, ages 3-4. Jan. 27-29, 2-4 p.m. $150 for 8 weeks. 562-3063, cse@childrensexplorium.com.
- **All-Star Class at Boca Raton Children’s Museum, 5465 Community Drive, Boca Raton, ages 5-7. Jan. 26, 1-3 p.m. Registration: 668-4875, cmbo@broward.org.
- **Family Fun: Senzation at Morikami Japanese Gardens and Museum, 400 Morikami Park Rd., Delray Beach.**
  - **Japanese Museum and Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd., Delray Beach.**
  - **Japanese Museum and Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd., Delray Beach.**
  - **Japanese Museum and Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd., Delray Beach.**

**Sunday - 2/3**

- **2/3 - Sensory Saturdays: Special Story Time** at Sugar Sand, 300 S. Military Trail, Delray Beach. Children under age 7 are encouraged to come as a family. 1:30-1:45 p.m. Free. Registration: 394-2626, sugarsandpark.org.
- **2/3 - Sensory Saturdays: Special Story Time** at Sugar Sand, 300 S. Military Trail, Delray Beach. Children under age 7 are encouraged to come as a family. 1:30-1:45 p.m. Free. Registration: 394-2626, sugarsandpark.org.
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**FEBRUARY 4-7**

**Wednesday - 2/6**

- **2/6 - Manners & Etiquette** at Schoolhouse Art Center, 50 NW 1st Ave., Boca Raton. Mandatory pre-registration required. Ages 2-5. 10 am-noon. $5/child. 393-7852, bocalibrary.org.
- **2/6 - Tween Explorers: Design with 3D Printers** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 NW 1st Ave. Ages 7 to 12. 4-5:30 pm. $100-$125. 347-3950; sugarsandpark.org.
- **2/6 - Spring Youth Flag Football League** at Sugar Sand Park Field House, 300 S. Military Trail, Delray Beach. For children ages 5-6. Free. Registration: 832-2026; sfsciencecenter.org.
- **2/6 - Anime Club** at Children’s Science Explorium, 1150 N.W. 2nd Ave., Boca Raton. Ages 8-11. 4-6 p.m. Free. Registration: 394-2626, sugarsandpark.org.
- **2/6 - Daggerwing Visits the Library: Birds of Prey** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 NW 1st Ave. Ages 5-8. 3-4 p.m. Free. 742-6780, daggerwings@gmail.com.
- **2/6 - Drama at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 NW 1st Ave.**
  - **2/6 - Drama at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 NW 1st Ave.**
  - **2/6 - Drama at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 NW 1st Ave.**

**Thursday - 2/7**

- **2/7 - Early Fitness Curriculum** at Schoolhouse Art Center, 50 NW 1st Ave., Boca Raton. For ages 3 months to not-yet-walking. Every M 10 am. Free. 266-0197; delraylibrary.org.
- **2/7 - Daggerwing Visits the Library: Birds of Prey** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 NW 1st Ave. Ages 5-8. 3-4 p.m. Free. 742-6780, daggerwings@gmail.com.
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- **2/7 - Daggerwing Visits the Library: Birds of Prey** at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 NW 1st Ave. Ages 5-8. 3-4 p.m. Free. 742-6780, daggerwings@gmail.com.
2/8 - Catherine Strong Girls Club at Catherine Strong Park, 1000 NW 62nd St, Delray Beach. Designed to boost confidence, morale, provide positive guidance. Program provides volunteer opportunities, etiquette, personal hygiene training, open discussions, educational games, current events awareness, arts & crafts, excursions, refreshments. Age 6-18, 2nd Sat 5:30-7:30 pm. Free. 243-2774, mydelraybeach.org

2/8 - Friday Night at the Museum at Children’s Science Explorium, 1000 Military Tr, Boca Raton. A night without your parents. Hang out in the Exploration after hours, watch a movie, do an art project. Age 7-12. 6:30-9:30 pm. $25/student, $35/resident. age 12 & under free. 450-6076, scienceexplorium.org

Saturday – 2/9 - Expedition: Science Playground at Children’s Science Explorium, 1000 Military Tr, Boca Raton. Put on your thinking caps, join us for a close look at the scientific principles found within our Science Playground. Age 5+ with parent/guardian. 2nd Sat 9-10 am. Free. 450-3912, scienceexplorium.org

2/9 - Mad About Mo at Delray Beach Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Drop-in/sketchbook author Will Miller’s birthday by making crafts/playing games based on his most popular characters: Phineas, Dorksteen, Waffle Baby and Elephant & Piggy. All ages. 10 am. Free. 266-0197, delraylibrary.org

2/9 - Wildlife Explorers at Children’s Science Explorium, 1000 Military Tr, Boca Raton. 6-week program gives children an opportunity to connect with nature in local parks. Guided outdoor activity, dinner, story, exciting nature topics through stories, puppets, crafts, stories about animals, other nature-related themes. Age 3-5. Every Wed. 11435 Park Access Rd, Boca Raton. Discover nature through exciting nature topics through stories, puppet shows, introduce children to the world of birds. Age 6-18. 2nd F 5:30-6:30 pm. Free. 243-7194; 266-0819, Daggerwing Nature Center, 300 S Military Tr, Boynton Beach. Exciting nature topics through stories, puppet shows, introduce children to the world of birds. Age 6-18. 2nd F 5:30-6:30 pm. Free. 243-7194; 347-3948; sugarsandpark.org


Thursday - 2/14 - All Mine: Art with Lines at Rutherford Community Center, 2000 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. Create art you can eat! Age 3-5. Every Th through 3/7: 10-11 am. $45/resident, $47/non-resident. 347-6753, myboca.us

Saturday – 2/16 - 5th Annual Ladybug Release Party at Palm Beach Zoo & Dreher Park, 1301 Summit Blvd, West Palm Beach. Children encouraged to wear red and pink, come dressed as a ladybug for a chance to see 200000000000000000000 ladybug representations, flameout experiences, more in the Ladybug Costume Contest. 2-4 pm. Free. w/guest admission. 347-5463, pavilionphotos.com

Saturday – 2/16 - Virtual Reality Explorers: Zombie Pirates at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Bring a Smartphone to download/use VR apps, games, videos. Cardboards support most smartphone's w/inside sizes 4-6”. Age 9-11. 3-5 pm. Free. Registration: 393-7960, bocaexp.org

February 17-23

Sunday – 2/17 - Science at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 2000 Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Campers explore the garden amplifiers w/ sunny topics. All ages. Children under 10 must be accompanied by an adult. 6-5 pm. $56/member, $55/non-member. 450-6075, gumbolimbo.com

Tuesday - 2/19 - Mother Nature & Me at Morikami Museum & Japanese Gardens, 4000 South Military Tr, Delray Beach. Camp designed for kids 3-5. Small development on vault, bars, beams, floor. Every Sat through 3/23. Age 4-7. 4-7 pm. $59/54, morikami.org


Thursday - 2/21 - Claytastics Art at Arts Garage, 942 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 10-week program, introduction to clay. Age 9-12. Every Th 4:30-6:30 pm. $325, scholarships available. 450-6075; artsgarage.org

Friday – 2/22 - Fiber Artist Fantasy at Arts Garage, 942 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 4-week course, exploration of recycled media/ fibre using recycled materials. Age 10-17. Every F 4:30-6:30 pm. $50, scholarships available. 450-6075; artsgarage.org

Saturday – 2/23 - Paws and Claws Night at The Museum at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4001 Dreefer Rd, West Palm Beach. Science crafts, activities, entertainment, exhibits, planetarium shows. 6-9 pm. $134/150 adult; $74/95 child; $267/365 family. 450-6075, sciencecenter.org

Sunday – 2/24 - Story Time with Nature at Green Cay Nature Center, 12800 Hagen Ranch Rd, Boynton Beach. Discover nature through crafts, stories, animals of nature-related themes. Age 4-10. 10 am. 52. 803-966-7000, pavilionphotos.com
2/23 - Family Fun Mini-Maker Fair at Mounts Botanical Garden, S11 N Military Tr, West Palm Beach. 10 am noon. Free. w/ admission. 222-7777, mountz.org

2/23 - Intro to Archery at Dogwood Wey Daning Nature Center, 3150 Park Crossing Rd, Boca Raton. Bow & arrow safety, how to properly use equipment, practice on the range. Age 6-9. 10-30 am. $40. Reservations: 629-4700, archeryutan.com

2/23 - 11th Annual Hobbit Skate Tournament at S55 Tots & Teens Calendar COASTAL STAR Boca Raton. Age 4-5. Every Th/F through 3/29. Sugar Sand Park Field House, 300 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. New sport for kids. Games, contests, pizza, local skate vendors. Age 5 to adult. 2 pm registration, 3-6 pm contest. 511 Santa Fe 243-7178, relateskateboards.com

2/24 - Science Demonstrations at Children’s Science Explorium, 3055 Military Tr, Boca Raton. Age 7 up. 3 pm. Free. 347-3912, cseienceshooer.com

FEBRUARY 24-MARCH 2

2/25 - Mini Mozart: Youth Orchestra of Palm Beach County at Rutherford Community Center, 2000 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. String class for younger students w/ limited or no experience. Age 5. Every M through 4/7 4:30-5:30 pm. $110 resident; $180 non-resident. 281-8600; youthorchestra.com

Tuesday - 2/26 - Kidkinetics at Sugar Sand Park, 300 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. New sport to enjoy. Soccer, hockey, tennis, volleyball, basketball, gaga ball, obstacle courses, T-ball, more. Every T through 4/7. Age 5-5:45-6:30 pm; age 6-7:45-8:30 pm (some parent involvement). $77/resident; $96/non-resident. 954-385-4211, kidkinetics.com

2/26 - GEMS Club: Zestful Zoology at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 N Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. Age 12 & up. Every Th 5:30-7 pm. $80, scholarships available. Workshops; varying skill levels. Students age 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-week drumline at Arts Garage, $75/non-resident. 393-7807; myboca.us

Wednesday - 2/27 - Kidokinetics at Rutherford Community Center, 2000 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. Educational development class. Age 1-5 years. Every W through 4/7 10:30-11:45 am. $77/resident; $96/non-resident. 263-1165; myboca.us

2/27 - Meet the Squirtles at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Portable elf- with a paper puppet show. For Library’s favorite Pokemon fans. Daycare Grades K-5, 3:30-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 266-4917, delraylibrary.org

2/27 - Youth Archery Class at Midtown Park Tennis Court, 1300 NW 90th St, Boca Raton. Tand development, paper target practice. Age 8-13. Every M through 4/7 4:30-7 pm. $560/resident, $660/non-resident. 390-3907; myboca.us

Thursday - 2/28 - To the Beat at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. 8-11 drumline workshop, varying skill levels. Students age 12 & up. Every Th 3-6 pm. 580, scholarships available. 459-4557, artsgarage.org

Friday - 3/1 - Rhythm Gymnastics at Sugar Sand Park Field House, 300 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. Every F through 4/12. Nine class sessions age 3-4 2:30-3:30 pm $593.51, 517.50; Beginner 1 age 4-5 3:45-4:30 pm $593.51, 717.50; Intermediate age 7-12 4:30-5:15 pm $347.90, 390.90; sugarsandpark.org

3/1 - Rhythm Gymnastics: Beginner 1 at Sugar Sand Park Field House, 300 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. Age 4-5. Every Th/F through 3/29

$500 off minimum $5,000 expires 2/28/19

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February 2019

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2/25 - Celebrate Dr. Seuss with Kate in the Hat at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. All ages. 3:30-4:30 pm. Free. Registration: 393-7961, beculibrary.org

2/26 - 1st Annual Daddy Daughter STEAM Night at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Ocean Dr S, West Palm Beach. Science clinics, activities, entertainment, exhibits. For girls grades K-5 and their father-figure. Includes pizza dinner, laser show, all activities. 3:30-8 pm, 515cience.org. Registration: 852-1988, diciencecenter.org

Saturday - 3/2 - Saus vs. Broccoli at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Stories, animated movie shorts, music, games. Children and adults encouraged to wear silly costumes, mismatched socks, sidewalk clothing, silly colors. All ages. 10-11:30 am. Free. Registration: 266-0973, delraylibrary.org


3/2 - Annual Family Book Club Brunch at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Age 9+. 11:30 am-1 pm. Free. 393-3982, beculibrary.org

3/2 - Family Fun: Hinamatsuri at Marukumi Japanese Museum and Gardens, 4001 N Military Park Rd, Delray Beach. Hinamatsuri, or Doll’s Day, is held each spring in Japan to bring health and happiness to girls. Create a origami paper decoration to celebrate. Noon-3 pm. Free. www.japanese-amuseum.org, 954-492-4477, marukumi.org

2/24 - Rhythm Gymnastics at Sugar Sand Park Field House, 300 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. Every W through 3/29. Four class sessions age 3-4 2:30-3:30 pm $593.51, 517.50; Beginner 1 age 4-5 3:45-4:30 pm $593.51, 717.50; Intermediate age 7-12 4:30-5:15 pm $347.90, 390.90; sugarsandpark.org

3/2 - Family Fun: Mini-Maker Fair at Mounts Botanical Garden, S11 N Military Tr, West Palm Beach. 10 am noon. Free. w/ admission. 222-7777, mountz.org

2/24 - Science Demonstrations at Children’s Science Explorium, 3055 Military Tr, Boca Raton. Age 7 up. 3 pm. Free. 347-3912, cseienceshooer.com
The kitchen, adjoining the great room, features dual islands, professional appliances and a waterfront breakfast area.

Situated on a cul-de-sac, 136 Island Drive in Ocean Ridge embraces a double point lot with more than 540 feet of water on three sides with broad, unobstructed views of the Intracoastal Waterway. There are two docks on deep water that will accommodate large vessels. The residence is just minutes from the Boynton Inlet.

The expansive floor plan includes Brazilian walnut floors and detailed woodwork, impact windows and an open-beamed ceiling in the entrance hall. It leads to a great room with floor-to-ceiling French doors, custom cabinetry and a gas fireplace. The house has five bedrooms and six full and one half baths. The master suite is on the first floor and opens out to a private loggia. Also on the first floor are a state-of-the-art theater and an office. The second floor features three en suite bedrooms and a TV suite/study. The separate guest house features a great room, one bedroom and one bath and a professional kitchen.

With a three-car garage and a total of 9,480 square feet, this residence is tastefully appointed throughout by Marc-Michaels Interiors.

Offered at $9,300,000. Call Candace or Phil Friis, The Corcoran Group, Candace cell: 561-573-9966, candace.friis@corcoran.com, Phil cell: 561-706-1922, phil.friis@corcoran.com

Each month, The Coastal Star features a house 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 houses.
Ocean Delray has become the most highly-anticipated residential offering in South Florida. This visionary oceanfront enclave, designed by award-winning architect Randall Stofft, seamlessly blends modern sophistication with natural, coastal elements. Intelligent living spaces, beautiful surroundings, and extraordinarily chic design await just 19 fortunate homebuyers. It’s the first and only opportunity for contemporary, modern design on the ocean in Delray Beach.