Celebrating our history

Old Florida lives on in misty memories of Busch’s

By Ron Hayes
Nostalgia’s funny that way. You start out reminiscing about someplace specific. A seafood restaurant, maybe, and the she-crab soup you loved there. The drinks at the bar while you waited for a table.

The show tunes you sang around the piano after a few of those drinks.
And the next thing you know, it’s not just the old Busch’s Seafood Restaurant you miss, but a whole other time and place. Back when you could still call mahi-mahi “dolphin” and not get picketed by PETA. Back when Old Florida wasn’t so crowded, and you weren’t so old.
For more than half a century, Busch’s was the only restaurant along A1A between Palm Beach and Delray Beach. A third of a mile north of Woolbright Road on the east, the white sign with the big red lobster in the black top hat was a landmark. You couldn’t actually see the ocean from the dining room at 5585 N. Ocean Blvd., but you could smell it, and you could taste it.
Stone crabs for $8.50. She-crab soup, $3 a bowl.
Busch’s served seafood, they mixed drinks, they sang songs—they made memories.
The seafood, drinks and songs are gone now. But, oh, the memories!

See BUSCH’S on page 8

Talented youth

Surfing: It’s all in the family — and the neighborhood

By Tim O’Meilia
North Atlantic Drive has earned a new name. Call it Pipeline Point or Cutback Court or, simply, Surfers Street. But never Wipeout Way.
The northern end of Hypoluxo Island juts into the Lake Worth Lagoon like one of those giant, foam “We’re #1” fingers. For good reason.
Three of the best young surfers on the Eastern U.S. seaboard live within a long paddle of each other on North Atlantic Drive.

“IT’s pretty crazy,” said Christian Miller, 16, who finished second in the Junior Men’s division at the Eastern Surfing Association championships at Cape Hatteras, N.C., last month. The 42nd annual event attracted 500 of the East Coast’s best surfers.

“It’s just a lot of talent,” said 15-year-old Patrick Nichols without a trace of bravado. Facts are facts.
Nichols won his longboard (9-foot

See SURFING on page 10

At home with music
Anthony Arcaini, 14, takes a break from practicing piano. The Manalapan teen, who conducted this summer in Europe, also is a composer who has played for royalty.

See by Jerry Lower

Story, Page 11

Inside:

Decorate your Thanksgiving table with tropical flair.

Page 17

South Palm Beach rejects bid to convert motel to high-rise hotel.

Page 18
Editorial

What a difference a year makes

Last November, my husband and I bucked the trend of Web-based news delivery and published the inaugural edition of The Coastal Star. We delivered 6,000 copies of our hyper-local, free-distribution newspaper to homes and businesses along the coast. Since then our circulation has grown to 7,500, and this November we are proud to publish our 10th issue of The Coastal Star with 32 pages plus a 32-page Palm Beach ArtsPaper insert.

Between the two publications, we are delighted to have advertising support from over 90 local businesses. We’ve also expanded the number of communities we report on and continue to offer freelance opportunities to some of the best newspaper journalists and advertising sales and design people in South Florida. We are proud to be working with these talented individuals and thank them for their hard work — at startup-level pay.

As fast as things have been changing for our publication, the pace of change along our coast has been slow. That’s not necessarily bad. But as our snowbird residents begin to return, it seems like a good time for our readers to shake the sand from their flip-flops and get active in shaping the direction of our coastal community.

First we need to end the tired “us vs. them” rhetoric that still lingers from the collapsed sale offer for Briny Breezes. Each of the towns along A1A has common concerns and should be engaged in vital and open discussions for betterment of the area as a whole.

Delray Beach is providing an example of how this can be done, by inviting the entire city for a workshop on beach area improvements later this month.

As we work toward common goals, we should keep in mind that bridges connect more than just roads and what may be in the best interest of our neighboring cities to the west may not feel like positive change to those of us across the bridge. We can’t afford to be surprised by what happens along the Federal Highway corridor — an area we depend on for essential services.

So, let’s keep our minds open, stay focused on the future and make sure we’re all still living (and working) in our version of paradise come next November.

— Mary Kate Leming, editor

Subscriptions: $18 per year for out-of-area subscribers. Forms available in our office at 5011 N. Ocean Ave., Ocean Ridge or online at www.thecoastalstar.com.
Marketing efforts paying off for downtown Delray Beach

By Marjorie Ferrer

Thanks to a four-sided collaboration, downtown Delray Beach can point with justifiable pride to a documented boost for downtown businesses: Retail sales volume increased 48.7 percent from 2003 to 2008 and, during that same period, food and beverage sales were up by 41.5 percent.

That’s a combined additional sales volume of nearly $87.6 million, according to the Florida Department of Revenue. When I reported our success at the annual conference of the International Downtown Association, people were flabbergasted. Delray Beach is gaining worldwide attention as having a downtown that works!

The process started in 1998, when the Downtown Development Authority, the city of Delray Beach, the Community Redevelopment Agency and the Greater Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce launched a comprehensive retail cluster study for downtown. The study, under the direction of consultant H. Blount Hunter, defined boundaries of the downtown area (I-95 to A1A), and subdivided it into eight clusters.

By documenting and understanding the mix and types of downtown businesses, we were able to structure an effective promotional program incorporating an aggressive schedule of special events; develop an ongoing media presence locally, regionally and beyond, as well as a dedicated downtown Web site; and become active in influential organizations such as Visit Florida and Palm Beach County’s Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Delray Beach’s unique downtown Marketing Cooperative relationship with the DDA, the city, the CRA and the Chamber of Commerce is crucial to the comprehensive marketing and promotional program. Here’s a strong collaborative effort where the individual members park their egos at the door and just come in and get to work for the good of the downtown.

Every partner plays a crucial role:
• The Chamber helps business grow with a variety of programs, networking and more
• The CRA facilitates development of new commercial tenants and directly assist in redevelopment to encourage economic growth
• The city provides assistance in planning, setup, maintenance and police and fire support at events, including the Clean and Safe initiative; and
• The DDA is the funding arm for the cooperative marketing programs.

While the economic picture has become a bit gloomier since the sales figures were posted, collaboration and optimism remain strong in Delray Beach. We’re all in this together. The advisory groups are working together very well to produce a more successful collaborative effort than we could achieve working individually.

Marjorie Ferrer is the executive director of the Downtown Marketing Cooperative and Downtown Development Authority. More information is posted at DowntownDelrayBeach.com.

Letters to the Editor

State’s action can change beach rights

Regarding Kelly Wolfe’s article on beach usage rights in the October issue of The Coastal Star, let me add. The line to draw between public and private is the point of demarcation between public beach usage and private land, but a 19-year period (Florida Statute Chapter 177.27(14)). Nineteen years. Not today’s tides.

By Florida law and by the Florida Constitution (and federal law and English Common Law), this includes the forces of sand gain (accretion) and sand loss (erosion), such as from tides or hurricanes, over those 19 years. These are so-called ambulatory boundaries. Public and private property can change under these boundaries. By Florida law then, the line of mean high water marks the boundaries of private property/public usage could potentially be up next to A1A or down in the surf, if you include the loss and gain of sand over the last 19 years. But it is not that simple.

When the state helps to repair a beach as beach renourishment in Ocean Ridge — then the state can set a fixed erosion control line to be used instead of the mean high water line. The state can potentially claim for itself and the public all the new sand thus accreted; this has yet to be fully constitutionally challenged.

Again, depending where this line is set, the public usage rights may encompass the whole beach up to A1A. Especially if the erosion control line was set years ago, when the ocean almost touched our current dunes.

My guess is that, due to beach improvements made by the state, the public has much more beach than the private landowners.

The fundamental thing is that beach public usage rights are part of the U.S. Public Trust Doctrine. This states the beaches (islands) were given by the federal government to the states to be held in trust for public usage.

The Public Trust Doctrine is a big deal and is part of our post-revolutionary federal government’s passing of property rights to the states. States like California and Texas are very proactive in guaranteeing public beach access and usage rights. Florida has been less so.

Finally, public beach access is part of federal doctrine. The U.S. Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as well as federal subsidies for beach renourishment and federal money for flood insurance, all have binding clauses that give the public certain beach access and usage rights. For example, if the Ocean Ridge accepted federal money for its beach renourishment, then the private property owners have to accept these provisions.

Other ways the state takes beach property and sets up fixed boundaries is through retreat from the shoreline and the coastal construction control line.

Don Gentile — County Pocket

Editor’s note: On Oct. 5, Surfrider Foundation entered an amicus curiae, or “friend of the court,” brief in the Florida Department of Environmental Protection vs. Stop the Beach Renourishment case that is pending before the U.S. Supreme Court. The case will determine the constitutionality of Florida’s beach management program with regards to the judicial takings doctrine, and fundamentally will decide where the beach belongs to the public or whether it is private landowner’s. The high court is scheduled to hear this case Dec. 2.

Clarifications

In the October issue of The Coastal Star, a story about final approval of municipal tax rates by the Ocean Ridge Beach Commission, Adam Frankel supported the proposed tax rate of $7.38. Although Frankel said he supported a $7.3833 millage rate during a Sept. 10 vote on first reading, he noted his personal view that the figure would likely be lower by the final vote and he wanted to explore more budget cuts and use of reserves. At the commission’s Sept. 22 meeting, Frankel moved to adopt the final 7.19 millage rate, explaining it was a compromise from an initial goal for a millage rate under 7.0.

I would like to explain my comment, which was accurately reported in your October issue, regarding finalizing town budgets. The mention of an “increase of about 7 percent” referred to the $5.50 per $1,000 assessed value tax rate the Town Commission was working with at the beginning of the final budget meeting. The actual final rate of $5.45 is almost a 5 percent increase over the previous year’s tax rate of $5.15. I apologize for any confusion.

I also want to applaud the work of the Ocean Ridge town commission and staff for a good job in achieving a reasonable tax rate. Although it is an increase, it is far less than the rollback rate of $5.90 (an increase of 15 percent.)

— Terry Brown — Ocean Ridge Town Commissioner
Gulf Stream Town opposes Intracoastal master plan

By Margie Plunkett

Gulf Stream is following the town of Palm Beach's lead in opposing certain actions of the Intracoastal Waterway master plan, both deeming some items in the plan "a wasteful and unnecessary expansion of government."

"I think this is something we want to be proactive on," said Gulf Stream Mayor William F. Koch Jr. during the October commission meeting. Commissioners agreed to authorize a letter from Koch to the county opposing parts of the plan.

The master plan, put together by the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council, covers 43 miles of Intracoastal and more than 1,000 waterway-related businesses, homes and residential neighborhoods, recreational and eco-tourism opportunities, and connects 23 of the county's 38 municipalities. The plan lays out a vision, goals and methods of reaching the goals, and guides such areas as economics, transportation, environment and land use.

The town of Palm Beach's letter opposed items including:

- The creation of an Intracoastal Waterway commission to oversee plan implementation;
- A planning analysis to further evaluate the Lake Worth "Jewel Cove" marina village concept;
- The identification of street-end park opportunities, and regulations for establishment and maintenance;
- Development of a public access program for spoil islands and development of a storm-water utility that would cover properties within a half mile of Intracoastal shores.

Gulf Stream opposes the same items as Palm Beach, except for Jewel Cove which is a project unique to Palm Beach and Lake Worth.

The Palm Beach County Metropolitan Planning Organization has adopted the plan, and the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council is finalizing small changes, said Kim Delaney, TCRPC growth management coordinator. It's been presented to the county, the Marine Industries Association and the Florida Intracoastal Navigational District.

The plan is advisory, providing recommendations to towns, which can decide whether to implement them, Delaney said, adding the Intracoastal Commission is a marketing entity, not a regulator.

The plan is a roadmap to anyone who wants to implement those projects, said Randy Whitfield, director of the county Metropolitan Planning Organization. "It is a basis for how what you're doing will fit in with the overall plan."

Gulf Stream Town Clerk Rita Taylor said that, as in all plans, towns have a period of time in which to respond in favor or opposition. She also pointed out that the Florida Intracoastal Navigational District owns two parcels in Gulf Stream that are spoil islands and could be developed.

"It's best to bring attention before it's too late," said Tom Bradford, deputy town manager of Palm Beach. Palm Beach copied its letter to the county, MPO and TCRPC and the mayors of every municipality that abuts the Intracoastal. "It's not that all the things are bad things, but that they're already being done. Why add more potential cost?"

In other business:

- Commissioners voted to add a 10 percent utilities tax to electric and gas, a move that would increase town revenue by $160,000 annually, bolster reserves and slip in ahead of a possible ballot initiative that could cap municipal revenue.
  
  The tax, which is on actual electricity, not add-ons such as fuel charges, wouldn't go into effect until April.
- The town pushed through ordinances on first reading to prohibit firing a firearm and to regulate use of PODS and other on-property portable storage. Both ordinances will be the subject of public hearings and final votes at the November meeting.
- Commissioners also worked through an ordinance regulating the use of golf carts as transportation within the town, which will be up for discussion at a public hearing and preliminary vote in November.
Along the Avenues

Wine, lobster and song in Delray

Dave Spitzer spent 40 years in the hospitality industry — working for Hilton hotels, owning a restaurant in Woodstock, Ill., and running Mike Ditka’s Da Coach restaurants in the Windy City. But about 10 years ago he moved to Delray. He considered a move into a franchise, but what he really wanted was to be his own boss.

“The idea of becoming a small town merchant in this beautiful area was very enticing,” Spitzer said. “This opportunity presented itself, so here we are!”

The opportunity is Old Vines, Wine & Spirits, just east of the bridge at 900 E. Atlantic Ave., and while Spitzer considers it a “work in progress,” his program is ambitious.

“We pride ourselves on searching out good values that you won’t find at the big-box stores,” he said. “We’re all about special orders.”

Tastings are a must and Spitzer has a hot one Nov. 12 that will feature wine and art. Delray artist Salvatore Principe also is a vintner. He’ll sign bottles of his own wine from Argentina. And Dave will be there with a good word and an open ear.

“I’m here every day and talk to everyone who comes in to try to learn what’s going to work best,” he said, “whether it be wine, spirits, beer, gourmet cheeses or cigars.”

Typical Thursday night (Oct. 22) at Boston’s on the Beach — good crowd to hear Breeze, the incredible cover band; baseball, football and soccer on the dozens of TVs, lots of clams being fried and beer being poured. Upstairs, a few hundred invited guests chomped on stone crab and shrimp and, since it was the big party in the beachside bar’s 30th anniversary week, two birthday cakes.

“It’s been wild,” general manager Mark DeAtley said while doubling as Breeze’s soundman. “But it’s been great.”

Thom Smith is a freelance writer. He can be reached at thomsmith@ymail.com

Private Jewelers

GEMOLOGISTS • JEWELERS • WATCHMAKERS • DESIGNERS

Savvy shoppers love our unique combination of Handcrafted Jewelry, Skilled Expertise and Dedication to Customer Satisfaction.

For more than 20 Years... Whether its 1 Carat or 10, Gold or Platinum Settings, Swiss Watches or a Most Generous Credit on your Jewelry Trade In, we continue to serve thousands of loyal customers... One at a time.

900 E. ATLANTIC AVE • SUITE 21
DELRAY BEACH, FL 33483
(561) 272-9800

Plenty of easy parking. Private appointments welcomed.
Delray Beach

Input sought for beach area plan

By Margie Plunkett

A residents group and Delray Beach government officials are scheduling two community meetings early in November on a master plan for the beach area, to guide its design in the future.

The Nov. 1 meeting is for all city residents. "We hope to get something on paper that is a vision of what the whole community would like to see, not just the beach area people," said Andy Katz, a member of the board of trustees of the Beach Property Owners Association. "The beach is a very public place and everyone in the city should have input into it."

The Nov. 7 charrette is for all city residents. "We hope to get something on paper that is a vision of what the whole community would like to see, not just the beach area people," said Andy Katz, a member of the board of trustees of the Beach Property Owners Association. "The beach is a very public place and everyone in the city should have input into it."

The meeting at 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on the first Saturday in November will cover subject areas including maintenance, landscaping, replacement and upgrades, future improvements and new features.

WHAT: Beach area master plan charrette, or information-gathering session
WHEN: 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
WHERE: Delray Beach Marriott

Briny Breezes

Water rates up for more discussion

By Margie Plunkett

Armed with history and a 1926 plat map, Briny Breezes Mayor Roger Bennett appealed to Boynton Beach to extend lower, resident water rates to the town that he said is "technically an extension of Boynton Beach."

Bennett’s water charges rose 51 percent when Boynton Beach boosted water rates earlier this year, compared to the 25 percent increase in residents’ rate, which Ocean Ridge pays, Bennett said during his presentation to Boynton Beach commissioners. Bennett said the rationale behind the difference, he said, is that Ocean Ridge was once a part of Boynton Beach.

The plat map shows Briny Breezes was at one time part of Boynton Beach, Bennett said, and it, too, should be assessed the lower rate.

Boynton Beach

Boynton discussing where or if, new City Hall could be built

By Thomas R. Collins

The City Hall and police station in Boynton Beach might be about to move farther away from the coast, leaving the traditional downtown area.

Those developments, a proposal call for moving city operations west of I-95 near Congress Avenue. Only one would keep it in the downtown area near Ocean Avenue and Federal Highway.

Where to put the City Hall and police station — and it’s possible that only a new police station will be built — is raising questions about how important a city hall is to a downtown and where the future heart of the city will be. A meeting on the topic is scheduled for Nov. 3.

Whether a new complex is built at all is up in the air. City commissioners have agreed, at least initially, to put it on the March ballot, letting voters decide whether or not to buy bonds for the project, which could range in price from $30 million to more than $50 million, depending on whether the council votes to extend "non-compete" terms.

City staff has labeled it “non-compete.”

"That’s going to be a decision of the City Commission," Bressner said.

Mayor Jerry Taylor said he would "have a problem" considering that proposal.

"How would I base my decision?" he said.

He said that moving the City Hall from the downtown "is not on the horizon," he said.

"That’s going to be a decision of the City Commission," Bressner said.

Mayor Jerry Taylor said he would “have a problem” considering that proposal.

"How would I base my decision?" he said.

He said that moving the City Hall from the downtown “is not on the horizon,” he said.

"That’s going to be a decision of the City Commission," Bressner said.

Mayor Jerry Taylor said he would “have a problem” considering that proposal.

"How would I base my decision?" he said.

He said that moving the City Hall from the downtown “is not on the horizon,” he said.

"That’s going to be a decision of the City Commission," Bressner said.

Mayor Jerry Taylor said he would “have a problem” considering that proposal.

"How would I base my decision?" he said.

He said that moving the City Hall from the downtown “is not on the horizon,” he said.

"That’s going to be a decision of the City Commission," Bressner said.

Mayor Jerry Taylor said he would “have a problem” considering that proposal.

"How would I base my decision?" he said.

He said that moving the City Hall from the downtown “is not on the horizon,” he said.

"That’s going to be a decision of the City Commission," Bressner said.

Mayor Jerry Taylor said he would “have a problem” considering that proposal.

"How would I base my decision?" he said.

He said that moving the City Hall from the downtown “is not on the horizon,” he said.

"That’s going to be a decision of the City Commission," Bressner said.

Mayor Jerry Taylor said he would “have a problem” considering that proposal.

"How would I base my decision?" he said.

He said that moving the City Hall from the downtown “is not on the horizon,” he said.

"That’s going to be a decision of the City Commission," Bressner said.

Mayor Jerry Taylor said he would “have a problem” considering that proposal.

"How would I base my decision?" he said.

He said that moving the City Hall from the downtown “is not on the horizon,” he said.

"That’s going to be a decision of the City Commission," Bressner said.

Mayor Jerry Taylor said he would “have a problem” considering that proposal.

"How would I base my decision?" he said.

He said that moving the City Hall from the downtown “is not on the horizon,” he said.

"That’s going to be a decision of the City Commission," Bressner said.

Mayor Jerry Taylor said he would “have a problem” considering that proposal.

"How would I base my decision?" he said.

He said that moving the City Hall from the downtown “is not on the horizon,” he said.

"That’s going to be a decision of the City Commission," Bressner said.

Mayor Jerry Taylor said he would “have a problem” considering that proposal.

"How would I base my decision?" he said.

He said that moving the City Hall from the downtown “is not on the horizon,” he said.

"That’s going to be a decision of the City Commission," Bressner said.

Mayor Jerry Taylor said he would “have a problem” considering that proposal.

"How would I base my decision?" he said.

He said that moving the City Hall from the downtown “is not on the horizon,” he said.

"That’s going to be a decision of the City Commission," Bressner said.

Mayor Jerry Taylor said he would “have a problem” considering that proposal.

"How would I base my decision?" he said.

He said that moving the City Hall from the downtown “is not on the horizon,” he said.

"That’s going to be a decision of the City Commission," Bressner said.

Mayor Jerry Taylor said he would “have a problem” considering that proposal.

"How would I base my decision?" he said.

He said that moving the City Hall from the downtown “is not on the horizon,” he said.

"That’s going to be a decision of the City Commission," Bressner said.

Mayor Jerry Taylor said he would “have a problem” considering that proposal.

"How would I base my decision?" he said.

He said that moving the City Hall from the downtown “is not on the horizon,” he said.

"That’s going to be a decision of the City Commission," Bressner said.

Mayor Jerry Taylor said he would “have a problem” considering that proposal.

"How would I base my decision?" he said.

He said that moving the City Hall from the downtown “is not on the horizon,” he said.

"That’s going to be a decision of the City Commission," Bressner said.

Mayor Jerry Taylor said he would “have a problem” considering that proposal.

"How would I base my decision?" he said.

He said that moving the City Hall from the downtown “is not on the horizon,” he said.

"That’s going to be a decision of the City Commission," Bressner said.

Mayor Jerry Taylor said he would “have a problem” considering that proposal.

"How would I base my decision?" he said.

He said that moving the City Hall from the downtown “is not on the horizon,” he said.

"That’s going to be a decision of the City Commission," Bressner said.

Mayor Jerry Taylor said he would “have a problem” considering that proposal.

"How would I base my decision?" he said.

He said that moving the City Hall from the downtown “is not on the horizon,” he said.

"That’s going to be a decision of the City Commission," Bressner said.

Mayor Jerry Taylor said he would “have a problem” considering that proposal.

"How would I base my decision?" he said.

He said that moving the City Hall from the downtown “is not on the horizon,” he said.

"That’s going to be a decision of the City Commission," Bressner said.

Mayor Jerry Taylor said he would “have a problem” considering that proposal.

"How would I base my decision?" he said.

He said that moving the City Hall from the downtown “is not on the horizon,” he said.
HYPOLUXO ISLAND WATERFRONT
614 SE ATLANTIC DRIVE
& 703 SE ATLANTIC DRIVE
TWO INCREDIBLE OPPORTUNITIES!
$1,895,000  AND/OR $1,400,000
Two of the most desirable waterfront lots on Hypoluxo Island with wide, East views of the Intracoastal waterway. Available separately or buy both! 614 SE Atlantic, built 1992, is sited on .70 acre with 90 feet of water frontage and private, deep-water dockage. This 4BD/4BA pool home has a split bedroom floor plan, vaulted ceilings, screened enclosed heated pool area with the perfect year-round or seasonal lifestyle for entertaining and relaxing. MBRM and Family Room open onto lanai/pool area. New kitchen, New roof in 07. Move right in! Walking distance to ocean beach, restaurants, shopping on Ocean Avenue.

HYPOLUXO ISLAND POOL HOME
720 S. ATLANTIC DR.  3BD/3BA
$595,000  - BRING OFFERS!
Sited on a large, private lot, this immaculately maintained home has a wonderful, spacious layout with over 2000 SF including a one-car garage. Private, outdoor entertainment areas with large covered lanai and screened enclosed heated pool area offers the perfect year-round or seasonal lifestyle for entertaining and relaxing. MBDRM and Family Room open onto lanai/pool area. New kitchen. New roof in 07. Move right in! Walking distance to ocean beach, restaurants, shopping on Ocean Avenue.
Busch’s defined coastal dining for decades

The Busch’s owned Busch’s until 1960, when Bergman bought it. I had no desire to be in the restaurant business,” she’ll tell you now. “I was 26. My parents had left me a little money, and my husband at the time talked me into buying it.”

From roadhouse to celebrity hangout

For the next 16 years — except for a couple of months when Busch’s became The Brown Jug, and failed miserably — Bergman owned Busch’s. And Busch’s owned Bergman. “I never got any sleep in those days,” she recalls. “When I started, there were some very tough years, then the word spread.”

The looters were flown in live from Maine in lots of 30, twice a week. The Icelandic lobster tails came twice a year, 1,500 pounds at a time. The Key lime pie began closer to home — from lime trees in Bergman’s backyard. Bust the locals came. Then the snowbirds went home and told their northern neighbors. Eventually, the celebrities arrived. Benny Goodman was the Pompano Almondine Salad with blue cheese dressing and two Cutty Sarks.

Our History

RIGHT: Lucy Bergman not only ran Busch’s as a restauran with a bar and package store, she was also a supporter of Claude Kirk for governor.

BELOW: Bergman (left) says that singer Kate Smith was such a frequent customer that the two became good friends. Photos courtesy of Lucy Bergman

Bergman

The Busch family bought the former saloon.” Bergman says. “I called it a wooden building,” Lucy Bergman says. “It was far more humble. Music inside, the exterior was tough, some very snowy days, then the word spread.”

The Busch’s were given a ticket. Bergman, on the other hand, says she had no special relationship with the law. I never gave them free food out the back door, but they’d drive the drunks home. And late at night they’d drive me to the bank with the deposits.”

Suddenly, she laughs. “I was attacked once by a woman in a wheelchair who came at me swinging her cane. She’d found one of our matchbooks in her husband’s jacket. ‘I thought he was having an affair with me.’ She shakes her head. “Well, he was having an affair. But it wasn’t with me.”

New owner adds that touch of Greek

And then, in March 1976, Bergman sold Busch’s to Bill Lambakis, whose restaurant experience until then had consisted of owning a Burger Chef and a Dunkin’ Donuts up home in Asbury Park.

“I’d seen hamburgers coming across the counter, but I wanted to see lobster tails,” he says. Lambakis added a touch of his Greek heritage to the menu — more sauteed dishes, more pasta, a Greek fisherman’s platter. “The entire time I went there, they always had the same special, Grouper Agliooli,” remembers Valerie Koz, whose wedding rehearsal dinner was held at Busch’s in 1987. “Every time you went there, that was the special.” She laughs. “We thought it must be the world’s biggest grouper.”

Lambakis relaxed the jacket-and-tie rule, but kept “no shorts.” No exceptions. When baseball legends Dom DiMaggio and Ted Williams arrived in shorts, he turned them away. DiMaggio was gracious, he recalls; Williams was insulted. But they went home and changed.

And the celebrities kept coming, among them Connie Francis, whose manager called ahead to say the singer didn’t want to attract attention. “She showed up in a bright red cocktail dress with a big red hat,” Lambakis laughs. “Didn’t want any attention.” As he reminisces, the stories tumble out, one after the other.

The drunk lady hugging the commode. The choking victim, flat on her back in the middle of the dining room, waiting for paramedics while the pianist played Isn’t She Lovely. The two old men fighting a battle of the bar. “The hearing aid flew this way, and the dentures were going that way.”

Eventually, time ran out

In the early days, Lambakis says, you could set your clock by the clientele. The old folks who wanted fried food came early; the lobster lovers waited until seven-thirty or eight. And then the clock ran down.

In 1976, the same year Lambakis bought Busch’s, the Ocean Ridge Town Commission re-instituted a 1969 ban on commercial property and set a deadline of 1996. Lambakis sued, but the ban was upheld in 1981. He could have stayed four more years, but on May 9, 1992, Busch’s served its last lobster.

Drive by 5585 N. Ocean Blvd. today and you’ll find the Portofino condominiums. “The restaurant business is a tough business,” Lambakis says, “but those were the most pleasant years of my life, because I’d got what I always wanted, my own restaurant.”

Both Lucy Bergman and Bill Lambakis had owned Busch’s for 16 years. Bergman moved to Lake Tahoe, Calif., for five years, then returned and became a receptionist for U.S. Trust Co. in Palm Beach. She retired in 2002 and lives in Boynton Beach.

Lambakis toyed with the idea of reopening Busch’s in a former bank building on Federal Highway in Boynton Beach, or perhaps at Congress Avenue and Woolbright Road, but neither plan took root.

He’s retired now, too, and lives, like Bergman, in Boynton Beach, with Chris, his wife of 51 years. He sold the rights to the restaurant’s name to businessman Ron Branscombe, who opened a new Busch’s in Jupiter and another beside the Intracoastal Waterway in Delray Beach. Those are now closed as well.

Alive now only in memories

But for old-timers, Busch’s had to be in Ocean Ridge to be the real Busch’s. That’s the
All the Busch’s regulars knew Jerry and Liam, the bartenders, and no one seemed to know their last names. “Jerry Mangles and Liam Wood,” says Bill Lambrakis. “They could remember the drinks when people left for the season, and the first time they came back, that drink would be on the bar, and on the house.” Jerry Mangles came to Busch’s from Taboo, the Palm Beach restaurant. Liam was a friend of Jerry’s. When Busch’s closed in 1992, both men moved on to the Fifth Avenue Grill in Delray Beach, reports Lambrakis. “Jerry married a nurse from the Boca Raton hospital. He’s had some health problems, but he’s alive and kicking,” Liam Wood eventually settled in North Carolina, where he went into the mortgage business. “I talked to him recently,” says Lambrakis. “He’s doing well. Got two kids and a nice wife, and I believe he still bartends on the side.”

All the Busch’s regulars knew Jerry and Liam, the bartenders, and no one seemed to know their last names. “Jerry Mangles and Liam Wood,” says Bill Lambrakis. “They could remember the drinks when people left for the season, and the first time they came back, that drink would be on the bar, and on the house.”

Jerry Mangles came to Busch’s from Taboo, the Palm Beach restaurant. Liam was a friend of Jerry’s. When Busch’s closed in 1992, both men moved on to the Fifth Avenue Grill in Delray Beach, reports Lambrakis. “Jerry married a nurse from the Boca Raton hospital. He’s had some health problems, but he’s alive and kicking,” Liam Wood eventually settled in North Carolina, where he went into the mortgage business. “I talked to him recently,” says Lambrakis. “He’s doing well. Got two kids and a nice wife, and I believe he still bartends on the side.”

ABOVE: In addition to serving hundreds of meals a night for decades, Busch’s provided many jobs for local cooks, bus boys and waitresses.

LEFT: Bill and Lucy Lambrakas received a painting of their restaurant on the night the business closed.

Photos courtesy of the Lambrakis family

Barbara Gellner was a young teenager when she moved to Delray Beach in 1966 and first ate at Busch’s. The food was a little pricey for the time, she seems to recall, and everyone dressed up to go there. The hostesses wore evening gowns. Or at least that’s how she remembers it. “Oh, I know everything changes,” she sighs, “but how many Starbucks does Delray Beach need? I miss the days of being able to walk downtown and know every shop owner. “I wish Old Florida would come back.”

Bartenders Jerry Mangles (above) and Liam Wood (inset below) were able to remember patrons’ favorite drinks from one season to the next. 1989 file photos by Jerry Lower

These bartenders kept it flowing
"It’s kind of weird," said Luke Marks, who finished second in the Menehune final (that’s the 11-and-under group for you Barneys). He turned 11 during the event.

Of 18 Palm Beach County surfers in the competition, only the Hypoluxo trio made the finals. Nichols and Marks were chosen for the ESA All-Star team, which will compete around the country in the next year. Miller has been on the all-stars for four years and decided against a fifth.

All three found wave riding the same way: Surfing runs in their families. Christian’s dad is Jim Miller, a well-known surfing name on the East Coast and still a competitive surfer. But young Miller didn’t take it up until he was about 9, after dabbling in baseball. Nichols picked it up when he visited his New York uncles for the summer when he was 7. Marks was 5 when he and his dad, Darren, sampled the waves together.

“I loved it,” said Marks. “Having fun out in the water. Doing tricks. It’s just fun.” He is, he says, a better surfer than his father.

Miller and Nichols are good friends, hanging out at one another’s houses. Until this year, Marks tagged along. Although they still own their house on North Atlantic Drive, the family of seven moved to Melbourne Beach recently.

The trio have amassed chestfuls of medals and closets full of trophies traveling to Puerto Rico, Peru, Nicaragua, California, Hawaii and every surfing beach up the East Coast. All three have an array of surfboard, clothing, sandal and equipment sponsors to help pay their way to contests.

"I love the adrenaline you get from surfing,” Nichols said, "the feeling you get from nose riding — riding the waves.”

When they aren’t competing, they often surf where they started at Lantana and Lake Worth beaches. The younger boys have dreams of making a career of wave-riding.

Miller is taking a step back from competition. “Since I did so well (at Cape Hatteras), it’s kind of a farewell for me. I’m taking a new path in my life. I want to get more serious with the Lord and with my girlfriend,” he said.

But he’s not leaving surfing for fun. “I like how surfing can get your mind off all the stress in the world,” he said. “How relaxing it is.”

(For more information about the local ESA chapter, visit pbc.surfesa.org)
Talented Youth

Talented teen ‘only wants to be with the music’

By Emily J. Minor

His mother knows when he’s up to something.
He’s up later, perhaps past 11 or so on a school night, and he’s distracted at the dinner table — if he appears at all.
He abandons the computer and the soccer ball and small talk on the ride to school.
And she hears that piano, the one in his upstairs bedroom, the faint tinkling of the keys keeping her motherly ears in the ready position when perhaps she’d much rather be falling off to sleep.
He’s totally on a different planet,” says Rebecca Arcaini. “Everything makes me crazy.”

As Arcaini, — an eighth-grader at Gulf Stream School — is a pianist and a conductor who composes music. Amazing music. But the beautiful thing about this boy is you don’t need season tickets to the symphony to appreciate what he creates.
Any goodball can tell you it’s magnificent.

It’s what I’m going to be doing for a living,” he says.

Arcaini’s mother is German and Austrian. His father, Tonio, is Italian and works mostly overseas. His great-great-grandfather was a professor of the cello. His great-great-grandfather was an eighteenth-century Italian composer. His great-grandfather was a professor of the cello. His great-great-grandfather was a professor of the cello. His great-great-grandfather was a professor of the cello.

But there it was, always, the Steinway piano in the hall of whatever house they were in. And he was 9 years old when he played for the first time.
And his mother knew.
It wasn’t going to be chess.
It wasn’t going to be Little League.
But it was going to be music.

Arcaini — a kid who goes to school, squabbles with his siblings, and keeps his mother awake at night creating the music — that the Italian press has taken to calling him “the new Mozart.”
The other was the survivors of the April earthquake. The other was an appointment and a tour.
Perhaps it is because of something.

Maybe he’s just 14 years old. But he is One Of Those Kids who has a purpose and holds promise and, quite possibly, already knows what he wants to do with his life.
Indeed, there’s a very good chance that he’s already doing it.

Arcaini — an eighth-grader at Gulf Stream School — is a pianist and a conductor who composes music. Amazing music. But the beautiful thing about this boy is you don’t need season tickets to the symphony to appreciate what he creates.
Any goodball can tell you it’s magnificent.

It’s what I’m going to be doing for a living,” he says.

Arcaini’s mother is German and Austrian. His father, Tonio, is Italian and works mostly overseas. His great-great-grandfather was a professor of the cello. His great-grandfather was a professor of the cello. His great-great-grandfather was a professor of the cello.

But there it was, always, the Steinway piano in the hall of whatever house they were in. And he was 9 years old when he played for the first time.
And his mother knew.
It wasn’t going to be chess.
It wasn’t going to be Little League.
But it was going to be music.

Arcaini — a kid who goes to school, squabbles with his siblings, and keeps his mother awake at night creating the music — that the Italian press has taken to calling him “the new Mozart.”
The other was the survivors of the April earthquake. The other was an appointment and a tour.
Backwash from the convictions of two Delray Beach priests continues to roil waters at St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church as a couple sued parish officials Oct. 13, claiming their two children were expelled from the parish school in retaliation for their questioning of school finances.

Longtime parishioners Paul and Michele Maresca of Boynton Beach said their children, Michael, 11, and Danielle, 7, were expelled, Michele was banned from substitute teaching and the couple was prohibited from volunteering at the school. The suit alleges that their questioning of the need for a 20 percent tuition hike in light of a supposed $4 million school endowment, restitution paid by the errant priests and paid insurance claims led to their being ostracized.

“We sought answers and reassurance. We got resistance and retaliation,” Paul Maresca said in a statement. The suit does not name the parish, school or the Roman Catholic Diocese of Palm Beach but instead names the church pastor, the Rev. Thomas Skindeleski; the school principal, Vikki Delgado, and the parish administrator, John Krolikowski, all of whom Maresca said “conspired to retaliate against our family.”

In a statement, diocese spokeswoman Alexis Walkenstein said the tuition dispute “unfortunately has been blown out of proportion and many of the facts pertaining to this dispute are simply false.”

A financial statement released by the parish shows a $2 million endowment and that school operations lost $533,000 last year. Walkenstein said none of the endowment money was recouped from losses in the cases of former pastors John Skehan and Francis Guinan.

Skehan and Guinan were convicted earlier this year of grand theft. Skehan, 81, is serving 14 months for spending more than $100,000 on homes and trips to Ireland. Guinan, 66, is serving four years for taking up to $100,000 to spend on gambling, trips and a female acquaintance. In a letter to parishioners after the priests were arrested, Skindeleski wrote the school had “big endowments” because that money had not been lost.

The decision to raise the tuition from $5,000 to $6,000 annually was agreed to by three parish finance, school and parent organizations, Walkenstein said, and the increase was explained to parents at a Home and School Association meeting and in papers sent home with students. Tuition for two-child families increased from $6,700 to $7,500.
Along the Coast

Fans say plan to close Post Office is just (coco)nuts

By Mary Thurwachter

Close the Lantana Post Office! Now that’s just nuts—or coconuts, in this case.

So say town leaders and about 150 fans from Lantana and surrounding communities who convened for a rally in the parking lot between the post office and the library Oct. 21.

To deliver the punch, fans of the Ocean Avenue post office sent more than 500 coconuts to Postmaster General John E. Potter in Washington, D.C.

Lantana Mayor David Stewart and Town Manager Mike Bornstein were among the first to donate money toward mailing the large, oval seeds to D.C. Others carried coconut messages into the post office one by one, paying $4 and up to deliver them.

“We really couldn’t use taxpayer money to mail them,” Stewart said.

Those who preferred a more traditional form of support helped the cause by adding signatures to petitions and filling out comment cards.

Debbie Fetterly, spokes-
woman for the United States Postal Service for the South Florida District, said that of the 13 locations in South Florida considered for closure, there’s been more local interest expressed for the Lantana office than any other. Nationwide, 371 locations are being studied.

While some questioned the use of coconuts, Bornstein, also known as the Barefoot Mailman re-enactor, said the method has a historical base.

“Sometimes friends of the Barefoot Mailman would pay the postage on a coconut and he would be obliged to carry it on his journey, a six-

day roundtrip, barefoot walk between Palm Beach and Miami on the beach.”

Town officials thought the tie to the Barefoot Mailman story would be a unique way to express their feelings to the postmaster general, Bornstein said. Other dignitaries at the rally included County Commissioner Shelley Vana and Steven Abrams, along with mayors and representatives of neighboring towns that use the Lantana Post Office, including Hypoluxo, Atlantis, Manalapan and South Palm Beach. Santa Claus, in suspenders and white-fur-

Lantana Town Manager Michael Bornstein speaks at rally in which patrons mailed coconuts to the postmaster general to protest a plan to close the Lantana Post Office.

Photo by Jerry Lower

fringed red shorts, was there to lend his backing, too.

Good wishes came from the sky as well, from an airplane pulling a banner that read “We are nuts about our Lantana PO.” Abrams added “they’d have to be nuts to close this post office.”

Lantana council member Elizabeth Tennyson said she’s never been to the post office when there wasn’t a line. “It’s the heart of our downtown.”

But Stewart acknowledged it would be tough to make the branch look profitable. “The numbers don’t look good and we know the postal service is trying to run a profitable service,” he said. But, he added, “We’ve got a group of elderly people who use the post office. Having to travel to another city to mail letters and packages and pick up certified mail, etc. will be a tremendous inconvenience to our residents and business owners.”

Fetterly said no matter what the U.S. Postal Service decides, the branch will be open through the holidays.

In the meantime, fans of the Lantana Post office are keeping their fingers crossed.

And Postmaster General Potter has to figure out just what to do with all those coconuts.

Apply for membership at the Phillips Point Club today.

The premier city club in downtown West Palm Beach is your exclusive meeting place for all of your professional and social pursuits. There’s never been a better time or a more perfect place for networking, entertaining, hosting executive meetings and celebrating special events. Amidst the breathtaking view and sophisticated ambiance, you’ll appreciate the gracious service of The Breakers and extensive benefits and privileges that help you stay connected and let you stand apart.

Exclusive Amenities and Benefits

• Use of the Club for breakfast and lunch
• Full breakfast for $5.00 per person
• 20% discount on dinner, 50% savings on all bottled wine and priority reservations at Top of the Point
• 10% discount on dinner at Echo Palm Beach

Annual Individual, Corporate and Junior Executive memberships starting at $1,200*

Phillips Point Club
BY THE BREAKERS

561-832-2024 | 777 South Flagler Drive | West Palm Beach | phillipspointclub.com

* A fully refundable deposit is due with your application and will be refunded at the end of your membership term or any balance outstanding on the account.
**Italian Crossroads**

**ROME TO VENICE | 14-DAY VOYAGE**
April 14, 2010 onboard Regatta

Rome (Civitavecchia) • Cinque Terre (La Spezia) • Florence/Pisa (Livorno) • Sorrento/Capri • Taormina • Venice

**CRUISE FARES FROM $4,238 WITH FREE AIRFARE**

**Classical Delights**

**BARCELONA TO VENICE | 14-DAY VOYAGE**
July 10, 2010 onboard Nautica

Barcelona • Palma de Mallorca • Monte Carlo • Portofino • Florence/Pisa (Livorno) • Sorrento/Capri • Taormina • Venice

**CRUISE FARES FROM $4,733 WITH FREE AIRFARE**

---

**Palm Beaches Marathon adds Lantana to course**

The Dec. 6 Palm Beaches Marathon takes runners through Lantana for the first time. At mile 9 of the 26.2-mile race, which starts and ends in West Palm Beach, runners enter Lantana on North Lakeside Drive, continue south to East Ocean Avenue, and cross the Intracoastal to the beach.

There, at mile 11, marathoners turn and head back through Lantana on Federal Highway. The Old Key Lime House and the Friends of the Nature Preserve will host “wacky water stations,” according to Ilona Balfour, who said they’ll compete race-wide in a contest to be named the wackiest station.
Proposed water rates would serve a dose of reality

By Margie Plunkett

Bigger water users in Delray Beach will pay more after commissioners signed off on a rate restructuring designed to encourage conservation.

Commissioners adopted an ordinance to adjust residential, nonresidential and irrigation rates at their Oct. 20 meeting. Under the rate changes, 5 percent of users will pay less for water, Richard E. Hasko, director of environmental services, said. Anyone who uses less than 32,000 gallons a month will see a reduction, he explained, adding: “That’s a lot of water.”

The rate restructuring wasn’t intended to boost revenue — it’s revenue neutral — or to punish waste, Hasko said. “It’s not an issue of people wasting water,” Hasko said. “It’s not an issue of people using more than they need to or to punish waste, it’s revenue — it’s revenue that wasn’t intended to boost revenue.”

Hasko said. “We’re not telling them they’re wasting water, but they have to reduce their use. That’s the situation we’re in now.”

He also told commissioners that they need to acknowledge they’ll be looking at a proposal for permanent water restrictions for landscape use. “It’s not going to be any more than three days a week,” Hasko said.

Hasko’s explanation followed a public hearing in which one resident who spoke didn’t think it was fair. “If you use more water that doesn’t mean you waste more money,” she said, noting that she has a well. “In this economy, you may not be able to spend $4,000 to change out a pump.”

Commissioner Gary Eliopoulos also took exception, remembering the night last week he woke up to find his yard on fire, believed to be started by dry landscaping — the result of reducing his irrigation to one day a week — in combination with the landscape lights. “People are going to go to extremes to save this water,” he said. “They’re not wasting it, they’re just watering their lawns.”

But proponents were plentiful. Commissioner Fred Fetzer said, “We need to work on educating our residents to conserve.” And Commissioner Adam Frankel said, as he’s become acquainted with the green task force, he’s changed his thought that it’s an unfair penalty. When a family sees a big spike in their bill, they have to make some changes, he said.

How it works

The proposed commodity charge increases from the existing rates as the volume of water used rises. For instance, users of up to 3,000 gallons currently pay $1.75 for each 1,000 gallons used. Under the proposal, up to 3,000 gallons of use monthly is included in the base charge. And residents who use 4,000 to 12,000 gallons a month will pay $1.25 per 1,000 gallons, still lower than the existing fee.

But as usage increases, the price under the proposal exceeds the existing price. By 26,000 gallons, the user under the restructured rate is paying $3.50 per 1,000 gallons, compared with $2.25 under the existing rates. Both schedules top out for 51,000 gallon-plus users, with the proposal at $4.50 per 1,000 gallons compared with $2.65 under the existing rates. The irrigation rate rises to $2.43 per 1,000 gallons under the proposal.
Signs of Fall

Green markets offer fresh-picked fare

Real tomato-tasting tomatoes, fresh greens, fresh flowers — you can’t beat the offerings at local green markets sprouting this month. Most are at new locations. Here’s a list of those handy for the Coastal Star readership:

Delray Beach Green Market
- In the street on Southeast Fourth Avenue, just south of East Atlantic Avenue
- Opens Oct. 31, and continues Saturday through spring, 8 am-1 pm.
- A number of activities held here throughout the year — including a doggie Easter bonnet contest and a chili cook-off — make this event market. Produce, seafood, plants and prepared foods are sold.

Ocean Avenue
Green Market/East
- 129 E. Ocean Ave., Boynton Beach, at the Schoolhouse Children’s Museum
- Opens Oct. 31, continues Saturdays through spring, 8 am-1 pm.
- A café each Saturday serves a number of full breakfasts here; fresh produce, and sales of prepared and bottled foods support local food entrepreneurs who are always on site to chat.

Ocean Avenue
Green Market/West
- Boynton Mall south parking lot, along Old Boynton Road, 801 S. Congress Ave., Boynton Beach
- Open Oct. 31, Saturdays through spring, 8 am-1 pm.
- A carryover from the east market, food entrepreneurs will offer prepared and bottled foods, fresh produce and plants at this new market that eventually will become year-round and indoors.

Oceanside Farmers Market
- On J Street, between Lake and Lucerne avenues, downtown Lake Worth
- Open year-round, 8 am-1 pm Saturdays.
- Wide selection of vegetables and fruits, baked goods, bouquets and cooking demos, plus live music are offered.

Pre-Primary (3 year olds) to 8th Grade
November 6th & January 12th
Refreshments 9:00 a.m. • Program 9:30 a.m.
R.S.V.P. (561) 276-5225
Or to arrange a private tour, please call Helen Burns.
3600 Gulf Stream Road
www.gulfstreamschool.org

Fall is brought to the South Florida Thanksgiving table by using tropical colors and textures. Arrangement provided by From Roehm With Love. Table, setting and location provided by Village Square Home Interiors. Photo by Tim Stepies.
**Thanksgiving**

By Jan Norris

Fall leaves, acorns and pumpkins all scream fall—but beautiful as they are, they’re as meaningful for South Floridians as wool underwear. For Thanksgiving this year, we asked a local florist well-versed in tropical displays to bring fall to the turkey table in a centerpiece for us—without maple leaves.

Joseph Roehm of Delray Beach’s From Roehm With Love shop, newly located in Pineapple Grove, was thrilled with the assignment and went to work “without thinking,” he said.

“I just do it instinctively. I really don’t think too hard.”

For our centerpiece, Roehm stayed within the fall palette—deep reds, bright yellows and oranges, wine-tinged magentas—using tropical flowers and plants.

“I wanted to think architecturally, not floral. Northern flowers are softer, while Southern and tropicals are architectural in shapes,” he explained.

**Lobster claw heliconias**—bright orange and yellow with green stems—are tall. So is the king protea, the giant sunburst-shaped bloom with deep reds, pinks and purples set against the deep green stem. Cymbidium orchids, in magenta with deep wine spots or bright yellow with magenta throats, are a “hard” flower Roehm likes to work with. “There are so many color choices there,” he said.

Crotons are a natural: The bush so common to South Florida backyards is full of fall colors, no matter which variety you choose—flat or corkscrew, huge tobacco leaf or little dwarf plant. Rust, magenta, sunset-orange and yellow and spots of green make them an all-in-one plant choice. A full vase of these leaves with a few sea grape greens would be the simplest of arrangements that could work beautifully. Roehm suggests raiding the backyard or the beach for finds to build a South Florida fall centerpiece.

“Beautiful piece of driftwood could make a great base for an arrangement. Stagger candles and some floral pieces around it. It would be perfect,” he said.

**Keep these rules of design in mind**

A few basic floral design rules to keep in mind:

Make the arrangement proportionate to your space; it should neither overwhelm nor look lost on the table. If you plan to keep it on the table during meals, make sure there’s room for glassware and serving pieces.

Wash or wipe plants well to prevent any bugs from traveling indoors with you.

Pick in early morning for next-day or same-day arrangements, and give plants plenty of water, keeping them cool.

An arrangement doesn’t have to be perfect—nature isn’t perfectly symmetrical—but show off each blossom or leaf to its advantage.

Less is more: Quit before you think you have enough in your vase or bowl.

If you aren’t confident enough to build your own arrangement, Roehm will take orders for Thanksgiving arrangements until Nov. 24, for the last delivery Thanksgiving eve. Visit him at From Roehm With Love, 257 NE Second Ave. (in the Esplanade of Pineapple Grove), Delray Beach, or call (561) 274-0190.

For a new dining table, table dressings or decorating ideas visit Village Square Home Interiors at its new location: 200 NE Second Ave., Suite 100, Delray Beach, or call (561) 272-8270 for information.
Hotel plan meets with surprise rejection

By Tim O’Melia

For the second time in two years, the South Palm Beach Town Council rejected a plan to replace the two-story Palm Beach Oceanfront Inn — the town’s only business — with a luxury 10-story hotel.

The 3-2 vote on Oct. 21 surprised most of the nearly 200 residents packed into the council chambers and a nearby lobby, since most speakers favored the plans for the hotel and the council had previously backed the proposed change in the town’s comprehensive plan by the same margin.

The swing vote was Councilman Joseph Flagello, who voted in June to send the project for review by state planning officials.

“I’d love to see this project to the town?” asked resident Sandra von Triffon.

Councilman Brian Merbler, who attended the meeting.

“It would be the tallest building in town, have 99 units on one acre and have 74 percent lot coverage, double what’s allowed now,” said attorney Neil Schiller, representing the Tuscany. “Will it cause flooding on A1A or beach erosion? We don’t know because we haven’t seen their proposal. It opens the door for future commercial use in town.”

The town’s current comprehensive plan allows only 60-foot-tall buildings although previously built condominiums are up to nine stories. It also allows only residential uses. The motel is classed as non-conforming and cannot be expanded or rebuilt unless the plan is changed.

“Your grandiose plans are not for such a small property,” said Louise Bronstein, who lives next door to the motel.

In other business: The town council revised its 10-year contract for fire-rescue service Oct. 27 to allow Palm Beach County to bill property owners directly beginning in 2010.

The change will remove the $1.1 million fire-rescue cost from the town’s budget. Instead, homeowners will be billed separately on their annual property tax bill. The fire-rescue tax rate of $3.50 per $1,000 of taxable property value will not change.

South Palm Beach
Engagement

Alexandra Brown and Michael Bell

Alexandra Brown, a daughter of Lucy and Terry Brown of Ocean Ridge, is engaged to Michael Bell of California. The couple met while working on a coastal marine fishery conversation project in Moro Bay, Calif.

Brown attended local area public schools, including Citrus Cove Elementary and Congress Middle School, graduating from the Atlantic High School International Baccalaureate program with high honors. She attended the University of Miami on a merit scholarship, completing her bachelor’s degree in marine science, after which she earned a master’s degree in environmental science and management, with a specialty in coastal resources conservation, from the University of California at Santa Barbara in 2008. She is now completing a year-long NOAA fellowship in Washington, D.C.

Her mother is a circuit court judge in Palm Beach County and is to officiate. Her father is retired from a management job in Florida state government. Ms. Brown’s interest in marine science began when she was a child serving as a volunteer in the Sea Turtle Conversation Program, monitoring sea turtle nests on the beaches of Ocean Ridge.

Bell works in the field of conservation for The Nature Conservancy. He is employed as the marine project director for the Central Coast Groundfish Project at the California Chapter of the Nature Conservancy. The project has been recognized in national and international media as a promising innovative approach for reforming fisheries to sustainability. He came to the California program in 2003 after serving as the director of protection for the Conservancy’s New Jersey program. Previously, he was producer and host of a local television show in Steamboat Springs, Colo., before that, he served in the Peace Corps in Uruguay. He holds a bachelor’s degree in biology from Saint Anselm College in Manchester, N.H. He lives and surfs in Los Osos, Calif.

Bell is the son of Mary Foxwell of Wall, N.J., who works as a child learning disabilities specialist. His father, now deceased, was a practicing attorney and a municipal judge for more than 30 years in Cranford, N.J.
Oyster reef project planned for next month

By Maggie Plunkett

Volunteers will gather along the Lantana Nature Preserve shore on Hypoluxo Island in December with nets in hand to fish, but to build an oyster reef. Intended to attract juvenile fish and to provide other environmental benefits, it will be the first restoration project of its kind for Palm Beach County’s Department of Environmental Resource Management. Lantana, ERM and the West Palm Beach Fishing Club will build the oyster reef on a tentatively scheduled day in mid-December. The group plans to truck 24 tons of fossilized shells to Bicentennial Park that day, which volunteers will use to fill 1,000 to 1,600 nylon mesh bags measuring about 3 feet by 8 inches and weighing 25 pounds. The bags will then be trucked to the Lantana Preserve shoreline, where they’ll be placed under the mangrove canopy to create the reef. The fossilized shells, which are 7,000 to 9,000 years old, are only the beginning of the reef. “They’re the next best thing to shell you would find in a restaurant,” said ERM’s Ginny Powell, who presented the plan to Town Council at its Oct. 12 meeting. The bags, which will be covered at high tide, but visible at low tide, provide a hard surface that allows the young oysters — or spat — to float in the lake a place to attach. Lake Worth has about 4.2 acres of oysters at its center. In addition to creating an environment for fish and invertebrates to live and feed in, oyster reefs also provide food for wading birds. And adult oysters contribute to clear water — one adult can filter up to 50 gallons of water a day, according to the ERM — that can benefit the murky Intracoastal waters. While the oyster reef restoration project is the first for ERM here, a different project was done under docks in the Loxahatchee River, Powell said. Lantana Town Council voted unanimously at its meeting to proceed with the project. “We have a lot of people interested in this project and anticipate there’s going to be good participation, Powell said. Once the county receives a permit for the project, it will make the event date definite. The ERM held a successful test day to run through the process of bagging the fossilized shells. Fourteen volunteers completed 350 bags of shells in 2.5 hours. “It’s a tough job,” Powell said, “and it might need several layers of workers.” Residents raised some questions at the Town Council meeting about the project’s environmental impact. Richard Silsberg and council member Elizabeth Tennyson were concerned about nylon mesh issues, including pollution, entanglement risks and biodegradability. And resident Malcolm Balour, who supported the project, said while the oysters will clean the Intracoastal during dry season, nothing will clear up the waterway when the C-51 canal dumps into it during rainy season. Tom Twyford of the West Palm Beach Fishing Club countered that the state Department of Environmental Protection would not have approved the project if it had concerns. Dr. Lynn Moorhouse helped move the project along, telling his fellow council members that in his experience, artificial reef projects are very difficult to do, so the town should move ahead now while there is momentum. Despite the concerns, Ilona Balfour, a director of the Nature Preserve board, hopes the reef will enhance the preserve. The county has no plans to harvest the oysters to claim their trantana loot: pearls. “We told them since it’s right in our backyard, we’re going to have first dibs on the pearls,” Balour said. — Mary Kate Leming contributed to this story.
Library stays, and so does the county tax

Other things.
Ocean Ridge Commis-
sioner Lynn Allison was
among those who visited area
libraries before agreeing to
establish a library because
it would be an asset to the
town as well as provide a tax
advantage. “It’s beautiful,”
Allison said of the resulting
library, organized by the
Ocean Ridge Garden Club
citizens. But the rules
concerning the tax advantages
either became more stringent
or the organizers didn’t know
about them, she said. Even if
it isn’t a tax benefit, Allison
said, “we’ll continue to have
our library. It’s a benefit to our
citizens.”
Stacey A. Dowdle is all heart. She is, after all, vice president of the Delray Beach chapter of the American Heart Association.

But the Delray Beach woman is so much more than that. She’s a wife, a mother, an avid runner and a young professional who was honored this year as an Athena Award finalist for actively engaging in the promotion of women in leadership roles.

She serves on a host of boards, including the Association of Fundraising Professionals for Palm Beach County, Planned Giving Council of Palm Beach County, Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County and The Crossroads Club Inc.

Her volunteer commitments include the Delray Beach Historical Society, Naomi Donnelly Haggin Boys & Girls Club of Delray Beach, Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse, the Delray Beach Drug Task Force and the Women’s Chamber of Commerce for Palm Beach County.

She is a member of The Forum Club of the Palm Beaches and listed in the 2009 “Who’s Who” directory. She was nominated for the 2010 international board of directors for the Association of Fundraising Professionals, dedicated to advancing the field of philanthropy across the globe.

On the weekends, you might find her building sandcastles on the beach with her 23-month-old daughter, Delaney, and her husband, Dan.

“My daughter inspires me that anything is possible,” she said. Dowdle’s birth mother, who had fled Cuba when she was 7, died when Dowdle was 9 months old. The nurses at the hospital took care of her until Dowdle was adopted by a couple from New York.

“My [adoptive] mother was my first mentor,” Dowdle said. “She steadfastly stands on a sound belief system of faith, honesty and courage.”

And so does Stacey Dowdle. — Mary Thunwaite

Q. Where did you grow up and go to school? How do you think that has influenced you?
A. I grew up on Long Island, about 35 miles east of New York City. My primary school years were in the Sachem School District. I went on to the University of Rhode Island to earn a bachelor’s degree in psychology. I attended Nova Southeastern and have slowly been working toward a master’s degree in psychology. I believe I was fortunate to have been put in the path of extremely dedicated educational instructors and teachers. They were probably the first group of professionals to demonstrate passion and commitment. I participated in athletics throughout my entire formal education experience, and believe that afforded me another area to experience commitment and dedication through hard work.

Q. What professions have you worked in? What professional accomplishments are you most proud of?
A. My first job was at Newport Hospital, in Newport, R.I., on their social services team. I went on to change careers twice over the next 20 years. I have been in fund raising for the institutional pension-fund sector in New York City, and now in the nonprofit world. I’m most proud of the nomination to Association of Fundraising Professionals International Board of Directors and the Athena Award nomination.

Q. As the vice president of Palm Beach for the American Heart Association, what do you see as the toughest challenges your organization will face this coming year?
A. All of us in the nonprofit world have been given a unique opportunity to demonstrate our ability to meet the climate we are in. We owe our constituents, donors and volunteers a clear path to continue to support the important work we do on a daily basis. At the Heart Association, one of my most pressing challenges is to continue to educate the public and the private sector that heart disease is the No. 1 killer of women over the age of 25 in the United States, and that we need more dollars dedicated to research in women’s heart health.

Q. Tell us a little about your volunteer work. Why is it important to you?
A. It is important to me to be a part of the fabric of the world I live in and to model that for my daughter. It is my belief that I was not supposed to survive the death of my biological mother. And once I moved through the pain of those details, I made a commitment that the life I was given is a fleeting moment in time, and I have a responsibility to donate my life back to others in need.

Q. What advice do you have for a young person selecting a career today?
A. My strongest piece of advice to people selecting a career is to find a mentor whom you can define a career path with based on your dynamic skill set.

Know yourself, and be willing to make changes and move. Importantly, know what you are not good at, and what generates passion in you. When you are passionate about what you do, you can move mountains.

Q. How did you choose to make your home in Delray Beach?
A. I moved to Delray Beach in 1998 during a very difficult time in my life, and owe our City by The Sea a debt of gratitude for being a part of my healing.

Q. What music do you listen to when you need inspiration?
A. Gospel music is so motivating. When I am running, I particularly love the Rolling Stones when I am running, which is my way of relaxing.

Q. Do you have a favorite quote that inspires your decisions?
A. “A good head and good heart are always a formidable combination.” — Nelson Mandela

Q. If your life story were made into a movie, who would you want to play you?
A. Hmm, not sure. Maybe Sandra Bullock, she is so real.

Q. Who or what makes you laugh?
A. My daughter makes me laugh; my life makes me laugh. It took me long time to learn that we have to have a good laugh.

The ability to involve humor in the seriousness of what we all face every day, brings things into perspective and the true experience of joy … even if it’s just for a minute.
Manalapan
Better measure of sand pumping sought

Manalapan Town Commission delayed authorizing Taylor Engineering to research equipment to measure the sand pumped by the Boynton Inlet transfer plant after a $15,900 estimate came in higher than expected.

The plant pumps sand from north of the jetty in Manalapan southward to Ocean Ridge to help battle erosion. The amount of sand pumped has been measured by physical surveying, pump-motor specifications and hourly pumping rates, according to Manalapan. But with the county’s reconstruction of the sand plant, Manalapan wants a more reliable way to measure.

The issue will be discussed again at the Nov. 17 commission meeting.

Sand transfer plant construction is running about a month behind schedule, according to coastal geologist Tracy Legg of the Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resource Management. By the end of October, the plant’s barrel tile roof was awaiting installation. The motor and pump were installed, but electrical work and the control panel were among the work in progress.

Workers were preparing to install the concrete cap on the sea wall at Bird Island and to start construction on the south jetty Nov. 2. The jetty will be closed to fishing for up to four months.

— Margie Plunkett

Boyonnt Beach
Perpetual motion keeps money flowing and children’s museum going

By Linda Haase

The cry went out, “Save the school.”

Boynton Beach city officials got the message loud and clear, and today the two-story 1913 elementary school building is the thriving, award-winning Schoolhouse Children’s Museum.

As the museum enters its ninth year, the staff, like the children who visit, is in perpetual motion looking for new ways to educate and entertain visitors.

The museum, recently chosen the best museum in South Florida in Nickelodeon’s Parents’ Picks Contest for the second year in a row, has found its niche with home-schoolers, elementary students and the pre-school set. It has, says observers, been more of a success than expected.

“It has been a huge success from Day 1. The attendance was what we expected the first year,” says Ocean Ridge resident Barbara Traylor, who was involved in petitioning to save the school where her mother taught first grade. The nonprofit museum, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, features interactive exhibits on Florida history, natural history and science, and offers pre-school programs, story hours, enrichment classes for home-schoolers, elementary students and the pre-school set. It has, says observers, been more of a success than expected.

Shannon Shell of Delray Beach comforts her daughter Lauren after she was startled by some frightening ghouls at the 3rd Annual Spooky Schoolhouse Carnival Oct. 16. The new “Haunted Schoolhouse” evening entertained more than 450 parents and children.

Photo by Jerry Lower

Perpetual motion keeps money flowing and children’s museum going

Shannon Shell of Delray Beach comforts her daughter Lauren after she was startled by some frightening ghouls at the 3rd Annual Spooky Schoolhouse Carnival Oct. 16. The new “Haunted Schoolhouse” evening entertained more than 450 parents and children.

By Linda Haase

The cry went out, “Save the school.”

Boynton Beach city officials got the message loud and clear, and today the two-story 1913 elementary school building is the thriving, award-winning Schoolhouse Children’s Museum.

As the museum enters its ninth year, the staff, like the children who visit, is in perpetual motion looking for new ways to educate and entertain visitors.

The museum, recently chosen the best museum in South Florida in Nickelodeon’s Parents’ Picks Contest for the second year in a row, has found its niche with home-schoolers, elementary students and the pre-school set. It has, says observers, been more of a success than expected.

“It has been a huge success from Day 1. The attendance was what we expected the first year,” says Ocean Ridge resident Barbara Traylor, who was involved in petitioning to save the school where her mother taught first grade. The nonprofit museum, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, features interactive exhibits on Florida history, natural history and science, and offers pre-school programs, story hours, enrichment classes for home-schoolers, elementary students and the pre-school set. It has, says observers, been more of a success than expected.

Shannon Shell of Delray Beach comforts her daughter Lauren after she was startled by some frightening ghouls at the 3rd Annual Spooky Schoolhouse Carnival Oct. 16. The new “Haunted Schoolhouse” evening entertained more than 450 parents and children.

Photo by Jerry Lower

Perpetual motion keeps money flowing and children’s museum going

Shannon Shell of Delray Beach comforts her daughter Lauren after she was startled by some frightening ghouls at the 3rd Annual Spooky Schoolhouse Carnival Oct. 16. The new “Haunted Schoolhouse” evening entertained more than 450 parents and children.

By Linda Haase

The cry went out, “Save the school.”

Boynton Beach city officials got the message loud and clear, and today the two-story 1913 elementary school building is the thriving, award-winning Schoolhouse Children’s Museum.

As the museum enters its ninth year, the staff, like the children who visit, is in perpetual motion looking for new ways to educate and entertain visitors.

The museum, recently chosen the best museum in South Florida in Nickelodeon’s Parents’ Picks Contest for the second year in a row, has found its niche with home-schoolers, elementary students and the pre-school set. It has, says observers, been more of a success than expected.

“It has been a huge success from Day 1. The attendance was what we expected the first year,” says Ocean Ridge resident Barbara Traylor, who was involved in petitioning to save the school where her mother taught first grade. The nonprofit museum, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, features interactive exhibits on Florida history, natural history and science, and offers pre-school programs, story hours, enrichment classes for home-schoolers, elementary students and the pre-school set. It has, says observers, been more of a success than expected.

Shannon Shell of Delray Beach comforts her daughter Lauren after she was startled by some frightening ghouls at the 3rd Annual Spooky Schoolhouse Carnival Oct. 16. The new “Haunted Schoolhouse” evening entertained more than 450 parents and children.

Photo by Jerry Lower

Perpetual motion keeps money flowing and children’s museum going

Shannon Shell of Delray Beach comforts her daughter Lauren after she was startled by some frightening ghouls at the 3rd Annual Spooky Schoolhouse Carnival Oct. 16. The new “Haunted Schoolhouse” evening entertained more than 450 parents and children.

By Linda Haase

The cry went out, “Save the school.”

Boynton Beach city officials got the message loud and clear, and today the two-story 1913 elementary school building is the thriving, award-winning Schoolhouse Children’s Museum.

As the museum enters its ninth year, the staff, like the children who visit, is in perpetual motion looking for new ways to educate and entertain visitors.

The museum, recently chosen the best museum in South Florida in Nickelodeon’s Parents’ Picks Contest for the second year in a row, has found its niche with home-schoolers, elementary students and the pre-school set. It has, says observers, been more of a success than expected.

“It has been a huge success from Day 1. The attendance was what we expected the first year,” says Ocean Ridge resident Barbara Traylor, who was involved in petitioning to save the school where her mother taught first grade. The nonprofit museum, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, features interactive exhibits on Florida history, natural history and science, and offers pre-school programs, story hours, enrichment classes for home-schoolers, elementary students and the pre-school set. It has, says observers, been more of a success than expected.

Shannon Shell of Delray Beach comforts her daughter Lauren after she was startled by some frightening ghouls at the 3rd Annual Spooky Schoolhouse Carnival Oct. 16. The new “Haunted Schoolhouse” evening entertained more than 450 parents and children.

Photo by Jerry Lower

Perpetual motion keeps money flowing and children’s museum going

Shannon Shell of Delray Beach comforts her daughter Lauren after she was startled by some frightening ghouls at the 3rd Annual Spooky Schoolhouse Carnival Oct. 16. The new “Haunted Schoolhouse” evening entertained more than 450 parents and children.

By Linda Haase

The cry went out, “Save the school.”

Boynton Beach city officials got the message loud and clear, and today the two-story 1913 elementary school building is the thriving, award-winning Schoolhouse Children’s Museum.

As the museum enters its ninth year, the staff, like the children who visit, is in perpetual motion looking for new ways to educate and entertain visitors.

The museum, recently chosen the best museum in South Florida in Nickelodeon’s Parents’ Picks Contest for the second year in a row, has found its niche with home-schoolers, elementary students and the pre-school set. It has, says observers, been more of a success than expected.

“It has been a huge success from Day 1. The attendance was what we expected the first year,” says Ocean Ridge resident Barbara Traylor, who was involved in petitioning to save the school where her mother taught first grade. The nonprofit museum, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, features interactive exhibits on Florida history, natural history and science, and offers pre-school programs, story hours, enrichment classes for home-schoolers, elementary students and the pre-school set. It has, says observers, been more of a success than expected.
Tuesday - 11/17 - Introduction to Ayurveda — Science of Daily Living - presented by Chaya Shaiman Halick at the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. 266-9490.

11/17 - Children’s Author/Illustrator - Mert local author Denise Johnson and Illustrator Shermi Tengyong at the Boynton Beach City Library, 224 S. Seacrest Blvd. The tree that we sail is written by Mr. Johnson dressed as “the tree.” Grades 3-5. 4:30-5:30 pm. 742-6188

11/17 - Romantic Love & Self Love — presented by Dr. Matthew Anderson at the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. 6:30 pm. Free. 266-9490 or 266-0194.

Wednesday - 11/18 - Baby & Me - Enjoy crafts, music and creative play at Intracoastal Park Clubhouse, 2244 N. Federal Highway, Boynton Beach. 4-week class. Ages 12-24 months. Pre-registration required. 9 am. $17 resident; $21/non-resident. 742-6601.

11/18 - Homeontic Exemption Outreach is held at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. Copy of deed and proof of residency required. 11 am noon. 742-6900.

11/18 - Turkey Olympics are held for grades 1-5 at the Boynton Beach City Library. Teams stuff a paper turkey and play turkey games. 6-7:30 pm. 742-6180.

11/18 - Adult Pottery - Five-week class at the Boynton Beach Civic Center. 6:30 pm. $50/ resident, $60/non-resident. 742-6600.

11/18 - Adult Oil & Acrylic Painting - Five-week class at the Boynton Beach Civic Center, 225 C. Ocean Ave. 6:30-9 pm. $56/resident, $68/non-resident. 742-6600.

11/18 - Adult Ballroom Dance - Six-week class at the Boynton Beach Civic Center, 225 C. Ocean Ave. Wednesdays from 7:30-8:30 pm. $48/resident, $54/non-resident. 742-6180.

11/18 - Momentum at the Delray GreenMarket is held along Ocean Ridge Beach in Delray Beach. Local storytellers share stories with puppets and props at the Willow Theatre at Sugar Sand Park. 300 S. Military Tr., Boca Raton. Enjoy an evening of adult storytelling by local and regional storytellers. 7 pm. S. 347-3900.

11/19 - Tellabration: A Nationwide Celebration of Storytelling is held at The Willow Theatre at Sugar Sand Park, 300 S. Military Tr., Boca Raton. 10 am. Free. 347-3900.

11/19 - Hohner’s Heroes - A look into the history of the harmonica is presented at The Willow Theatre at Sugar Sand Park, 300 S. Military Tr., Boca Raton. 11 am. $1. (561)276-7511

11/19 - International Coastal Cleanup is held along Ocean Ridge Beach in Delray Beach. Local storytellers share stories with puppets and props at the Willow Theatre at Sugar Sand Park. 300 S. Military Tr., Boca Raton. 10 am. Free. 347-3900.

Friday - 11/20 - Pre-K Fun with Food: Waffle Day - Kids and families make tasty waffles using waffles at the Schoolhouse Children’s Museum, 12750 Ocean Blvd., Boynton Beach. Pre-k 9:30, 11:30 am. 520 plus museum admission. 742-6782.

11/20 - Support the Troops Fun-Raiser is held at Green Arrow House Hotel & Tiki Bar, 82 Glisson St., Delray Beach. Live music, drinks and raffle. Bring items to ship to our soldiers overseas. 7:00-10:00

Saturday - 11/21 - 23rd Annual Turkey Trot 5K Run/Walk - Annual event benefits the Keith Straugh Feeding the Hungry Thanksgiving Drive at Archer Park, 3451 Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. Donations of canned goods accepted. Registration is 6 am; Race: 7:30 am. $10/runners; $5/walkers. 266-7277.

Saturday - 11/21 - Narrated Bus tour of Historic Delray Beach is conducted by the Museum of Lifestyle & Culture History. Tour visits 10 historic sites. Depart at 11 am from the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave, 150 adults & seniors, free/teens and children under 18. Offered again 11/28, 241-3662.

11/21 - Homer’s Heroes - A look into the history of the harmonica is performed at the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. 2 pm. Free. 266-0194.

11/21 - Tellabration: A Nationwide Celebration of Storytelling is held at The Willow Theatre at Sugar Sand Park, 300 S. Military Tr., Boca Raton. Enjoy an evening of adult storytelling by local and regional storytellers. 7 pm. S. 347-3900.

November 22-28

Sunday - 11/22 - Stories for the Little Ones - Local storytellers share stories with puppets and props at the Willow Theatre at Sugar Sand Park, 300 S. Military Tr., Boca Raton. 11 am. S. 347-3900.

Monday - 11/23 - Astronomy Night - looking at our galaxy and the life cycle of stars. Please bring a telescope if you have one. 7 pm. 561-276-7511.

Tuesday - 11/24 - Thanksgiving Craft - Grades K-5 listen to Thanksgiving stories and make a special turkey craft at the Boynton Beach Public Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. 2-3 pm. Fee $5 reservations required. 742-6180.

11/25 - Movie Day at Your Library - Watch James and the Giant Peach (PG) at the Delray Beach City Library, 224 S. Seacrest Blvd., Grades K-5. 1:30-5 pm. Free. 742-6180.


The Delray GreenMarket is a Saturday morning destination as an open air market place offering everything from off-the-vine produce to just picked citrus and fragrant baked goods to fresh cut flowers, blooming plants and gourmet taste treats.

For more information, please call (561)276-7511 or email: greenmarket@delraycra.org
Lucy Linn Stewart

DELRAY BEACH — Lucy Stewart, a 57-year resident of Delray Beach and an active member of St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, died peacefully at her home on Oct. 14. She was 96.

“Everyone knew Lucy,” said Patsy Westall, the daughter of Helen Toal, one of Ms. Stewart’s longtime friends. “If there was a need, there was Lucy. I believe that one of the hardest parts of her decline over the last few years, both emotionally and physically for her, was not being able to serve. It was how she defined herself, even as I visited her in this last year, she would always say, ‘I wish I could have done something I could do for you.’”

Originally from Salisbury, N.C., Ms. Stewart attended the Women’s College, now the University of North Carolina Greensboro, where she received her teaching degree. She taught elementary school in Salisbury and married Sam Stewart, her husband of 40 years, in 1944. The two moved to Delray Beach in 1972 and were members of the St. Luke’s Club in Gulf Stream, where Ms. Stewart continued to play golf until she was 90. Ms. Stewart was preceded in death by her husband in 1984.

Ms. Stewart was a member of St. Paul’s for over 30 years. She was an avid member of the Episcopal Church Women, an advocacy group who sought to have their voices and concerns of women heard both in the community and within the Episcopal Church. When Patsy Westall moved to Delray six years ago to care for her mother, it was Ms. Stewart who recruited her to the ECW.

“When I moved here, Lucy became an active part of my life,” said Ms. Westall. “She told me that I needed to be a member of the ECW, and then told me what time she was going to pick me up.”

said St. Paul’s Rev. Kathleen Cunnion, “She preached with her actions and not her words. She had a servant’s heart and a demonstrative leadership quality.”

Mrs. Stewart is survived by her two sons, Samuel E. Stewart Jr. of Villanova, Penn., and his long time companion, Despina F. Page, and Richard L. Stewart of Penfield, N.Y., his wife, Lisa, and their two daughters, Heather Stewart of Atlanta and Rebecca Stewart, a student at Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y.

Friends were invited to attend a memorial service at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Delray Beach on Oct. 24.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in memory of Lucy Stewart to St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 188 S. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach, FL 33444 for their outreach programs.
One year of helping families is cause for celebration

By C.B. Hanif

Unite 21 interfaith congregations in Delray Beach, Boca Raton, and Boynton Beach to address the problem of homelessness among children and families, and you have Family Promise of South Palm Beach County. Coming soon is a celebration of the nonprofit organization’s first year of advancing faith-based social service.

“What really intrigues me is the interfaith nature of Family Promise,” said chair member Michael Diamant. He’s also chairman of the “Bring the Children Home” benefit to aid local homeless families. Nov. 5 at the Boca Raton Museum of Art.

“Family Promise focuses on families with children, and the interfaith aspect, yields benefits to the community as a whole, far beyond addressing the problem of homelessness,” Diamant said.

That particular aspect—the distinctive response to temporary homelessness for families with children—began 21 years ago in New Jersey with founder Karen Olson. Family Promise now is in 39 states with 148 affiliates, and has another under development in North Palm Beach.

Olson saw the need to help the needy and also a way to help congregations of all faiths keep their promises to help by networking their resources and contacts to assist with housing, jobs, counseling, training, etc. A result here is 10 host congregations providing shelter and meals, for a week on a rotating basis, for up to four families in difficult times. Other congregations provide other support.

“The program isn’t designed to deal with chronic homelessness,” said Kokie Dinnan, executive director. “We are primarily focused on children that have become homeless, and their families that have sustained themselves in life for the most part, but have been impacted by some sort of circumstance whether it be illness, or divorce, or loss of job.”

The average week begins on Sunday with volunteers packing and trucking the necessary support to the host congregation. During the week, families rise in the morning for the van ride to the remodeled former convent donated by St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church in Delray Beach. That Day Nursery is their home address, where they shower and do laundry, have storage for their basic needs, and a phone number. From there, children take buses or walk to school. Parents go to work, hunt for work or work with counselors. In the evening, families return to the host congregation.

Fadina Middleton and her son Jacob enjoy congregating together while staying at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Boca Raton. Photo by Jerry Lower

If You Go
Bring the Children Home

What it’s about: Benefit to aid local homeless families.

When: Thursday, Nov. 5, 6-8 pm.

Where: Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real, Boca Raton
Cost: Admission is $25 for the benefit that will feature music by students of the Pine Crest School, silent auction, raffle, food and beverages. Guests include Palm Beach County Commissioner Jeff Koons and Boca Raton Mayor Susan Wheeler.

Contact: 561-265-3370, Ext. 103, or www.FamilyPromiseSPBC.org.

Dinnan—a former teacher—said to make a week happen takes anywhere from 50 to 70 volunteers at that congregation.

“Hosts use their church or synagogue—We don’t have any mosquitoes yet, but we’d like to,” said Dinnan. “Depending on the facility, a congregation may use sliders that divide the parish hall into four segments, so that each family has privacy for the week that they’re there. Some places use their Sunday school classroom.”

With referrals coming from social service agencies as well as individuals, the hope is for more host congregations, Dinnan said. “We have probably 50 families right now on our wait list, which is said to say. Because there are a lot of families with mothers and children sleeping on the beaches and in parks.”

Fadina Middleton might have been among them. She arrived in West Palm Beach on May 11 from Delaware, with her 3-year-old son Jakob, and fumbling with her luggage, promptly lost all her money. “The plan was to come here, make a new life,” said the Philadelphia native. “Find an apartment, pay for it six months in advance, and find a new life through acting and modeling. But it all crashed when I lost my money.”

“Someone at the Salvation Army on Palm Beach Lakes Boulevard told her about Family Promise. “I came here, and something was accepted.” Jakob now attends Youthland Academy in Delray while she looks for work.

“All I needed was a name for putting myself in this situation,” she said, “I just have to take the way my life is, and make it better. I want to build that luxury house and car and nice beach. I just have to work at it. I’ve been on job interviews — Miami, Miami Beach, Boca, Deerfield, I don’t care where it’s at. I just have to try extra hard.”

And when she gets there, does she see herself giving back?

“I know I will. I asked Miss Kokie’s permission when I ever appear in a magazine can I mention Family Promise, do I have permission to do so? I’m trying every magazine they have here in Florida so if I can just be in it or on the cover and talk about Family Promise.”

Middleton may get to pose with Family Promise founder Olson, who will be here Nov. 5 for the affiliate’s first anniversary.

“We think it is time for a celebration,” said event chairman Diamant, “because we’ve been fortunate enough to help a number of families in this relatively short time, graduating several families to where they’ve been able to get out and get back on their feet, have some type of housing, have a job, have a plan to get back on a better financial foundation.”

“We really want to show that as a local community this is an issue we feel strongly about—passionately about, in a way that can make some steps to impact,” he said. “It is a celebration of what we’ve been able to do in a year, and a call to action, and hopefully it will extend to other people. The call to action “is to raise awareness, get people to donate time and money, and make access to their contacts. We want people to know this is a grassroots local response to an increasing problem in Palm Beach County, one of the most wealthy counties in the nation, yet there is no official county-based homeless shelter.”

Having united 21 interfaith congregations of varied faiths, Family Promise already has demonstrated how the whole can be larger than the sum of its parts.

Fifteen years ago, my co-worker Diego brought an itty-bitty calico kitten into the newsroom at the Sun-Sentinel’s office in Delray Beach. Diego knew I was looking to adopt a kitten and he found this one dodging cars on Biscayne Boulevard in Miami.

You know what happened next. Naturally, I took one look and became smitten by this kitten. On the spot, I dubbed her Callie. OK, not so original for a calico, but the name just fit.

She was so tiny that she could fit in a food bowl but so agile that she could scale my drapes in less than three seconds. Not being weaned completely, she needed bottle feeding and lots of veterinary visits to ensure she was growing at a healthy pace.

Throughout the years, Callie served as my one constant during life’s milestones. She has been by my side during three career changes, eight relocations, five other pets and, yes, a handful of personal relationships.

For the past decade, she has gamely joined me when it’s necessary to have a feline sidekick during speaking events and book tours. She flew with me to New York City, never emitting a single meow during the flight for a three-day media blitz for my book, The Cat Behavior Answer Book. She happily perched on her favorite sidekick during speaking assemblies and welcomed children at elementary school visits to ensure she was growing at a healthy pace.

Recently, however, Callie’s rapid weight loss and sudden refusal to beg for her favorite treat prompted the visit to my veterinarian, Tests, including an ultrasound, verified the diagnosis. My 15-year-old calico was dying from a fast-growing mass in her pancreas. I took a pass on exploratory surgery, but all signs pointed to pancreatic cancer. Yep, the same disease that claimed the life of actor Patrick Swayze.

Now what?

“Let’s give her medicine to try to stimulate her appetite and give her some subcutaneous fluids to address her dehydration,” said Mary Gibbs, DVM, a veterinarian who has cared for Callie for nearly a decade. “How long does Callie have?”

“Days, maybe weeks. It’s hard to say,” replied Dr. Gibbs. “At this point, let’s keep Callie comfortable. She will let you know when it’s time.”

In her dying weeks, I opted to pay tribute to Callie, and to help others coping with ailing pets, by creating a 10-part video series on YouTube called Callie’s Ninth Life. The episodes capture Callie’s momentary appetite revival and her playfully full-body stretch. The shows are titled “Why Cats Do What They Do” speech to members of the National Association of Professional Pet Sitters. She has tolerated curious children at elementary school assemblies and welcomed the arrival of my 60-pound dog, Chipper without a single hiss.

At age 12, Callie conquered feline hyperthyroidism thanks to radioactive iodine treatment that necessitated her being quarantined at the veterinary hospital for a week. I kept tabs on her by viewing Web cam images on my computer. I jokingly called her “Rally Callie” because she seemed to bounce back from various ailments during her senior years.

Callio's momentary appetite revival and her playfully full-body stretch. The episodes capture Callie’s momentary appetite revival and her playfully full-body stretch. The shows are titled “Why Cats Do What They Do” speech to members of the National Association of Professional Pet Sitters. She has tolerated curious children at elementary school assemblies and welcomed the arrival of my 60-pound dog, Chipper without a single hiss.

At age 12, Callie conquered feline hyperthyroidism thanks to radioactive iodine treatment that necessitated her being quarantined at the veterinary hospital for a week. I kept tabs on her by viewing Web cam images on my computer. I jokingly called her “Rally Callie” because she seemed to bounce back from various ailments during her senior years.

Callio's momentary appetite revival and her playfully full-body stretch. The episodes capture Callie’s momentary appetite revival and her playfully full-body stretch. The shows are titled “Why Cats Do What They Do” speech to members of the National Association of Professional Pet Sitters. She has tolerated curious children at elementary school assemblies and welcomed the arrival of my 60-pound dog, Chipper without a single hiss.

At age 12, Callie conquered feline hyperthyroidism thanks to radioactive iodine treatment that necessitated her being quarantined at the veterinary hospital for a week. I kept tabs on her by viewing Web cam images on my computer. I jokingly called her “Rally Callie” because she seemed to bounce back from various ailments during her senior years.
House of the Month

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

You’ll thrill to the 100-foot water views with a 150-foot-deep water dock capable of accommodating virtually any sea-going vessel (including those of more than 100 feet in length).

Elegant waterfront living in Palm Beach

This incredible 10,320-square-foot Tuscan-style home is part of the elegant, exclusive Eden Villa enclave of Palm Beach’s north end.

Custom built by John Mitchell and designed by the architectural firm of Smith & Mitchell, this villa exudes understated luxury coupled with magnificent craftsmanship.

With incomparable features and top-of-the-line amenities, its seven bedrooms, eight full and two half-baths combine to make this residence’s imprint: “Best in Class.” Truly for the luxury-minded property seeker. $17.5 million.

Call Steven Presson, Corcoran Group Real Estate, 561-843-6057. corcoran.com

You’ll be delighted with the spectacular courtyard, lovely loggias and unique in-ground heated pool with 60-foot lap lanes as well as family-friendly shallow end. It has a separate one-bedroom cabana with kitchen and built-in grill for entertaining.

ABOVE: The master bath (one of eight full and two half-baths in the villa) is a veritable spa, overlooking the sparkling lake. It is awash in Italian marble tile and limestone floors with the finest custom details.

LEFT: This unparalleled estate is in the classic Mediterranean style with commanding grounds. Its landscaping features plush gardens of tropical fruit trees and specimen plantings for ultimate privacy.
Village Square Home Interiors

Inspired by the past. Designed for today.™

Visit us in our NEW location in the heart of Pineapple Grove
Open 7 Days A Week

200 NE 2nd Avenue, Suite 101
Delray Beach • FL • 33444
(corner of 2nd Street)
Tel (561) 272-8270 • Fax (561) 272-8205

Our 2050 N Federal Highway location is still open
Monday to Saturday

www.villagesquarehomeinteriors.com
BEACHSIDE BEAUTY
Recently updated, this light, bright beach cottage is sure to charm. Updated granite/stainless galley kitchen, large Florida room, wainscotting and brand new baths, all on a 10,000 sq. foot lot and steps to deeded beach access on one of Ocean Ridge’s prettiest streets. $550,000

CORNER LOT – WALK TO BEACH
This ocean block one story 3/3/2 with den and heated pool has been completely updated from the inside out. Situated on a private, oversize corner lot, features include: impact glass throughout, saturnia floors, granite/stainless kitchen, volume ceilings, more. $1,300,000

ADORABLE OCEAN RIDGE
Great Ocean Ridge property, east of A1A, 3/2 with heated pool, updated kitchen & baths, upstairs master with loft, lovely covered loggia— all just steps to the sand. Move in and head to the beach! $ 815,000

SOUTH PALM BEACH CHARMER
Lovely 2/2 with screened & covered patio, this 1st floor charmer at the intracoastal complex of Palm Beach Villas features tile floors, new plantation shutters, small pets ok, and no age restrictions. REDUCED to $199,000

LUXURY WATERFRONT CONDO
Turnkey luxury in Highland Beach. Absolutely stunning 11th floor 3 bedroom, 2.5 designer decorated condo. 180 degree views of Intracoastal to the ocean from 3 balconies. hardwood floors, office, beautiful moldings & window treatments, ready to move in. $1,595,000

LIVE AT THE BEACH–OCEAN RIDGE
100 FEET OF DEEDED BEACH ACCESS STEPS FROM YOUR FRONT DOOR. Totally updated 4/3/1 pool home on oversize lot. Two master suites- one on 1st floor, one on 2nd; great updated open kitchen, beautiful modern baths, move right in! $1,350,000

THE ESTUARY–DIRECT INTRACOASTAL
3 story elegant Delay townhouse with limestone & exquisite herringbone wood floors, wrought iron stair-case, French doors to private courtyard, 2 car garage, private guest suite, library, den, fabulous bathrooms with incredible tiles. For those who appreciate the best! Boyd Scholler 561.702.5159 or Dorita Barrett 561.632.2821 $1,195,000

OCEAN RIDGE–FOR SALE OR RENT
A barefoot stroll to the sand from this 1950’s beach cottage east of A1A. 2/1/1/ on a 10,000 square foot lot. Enjoy as is or build new, ocean views possible. For sale at $895,000. Also available for rent- furnished or unfurnished at $2,000/month.

Search Now at www.FITESHAVELL.COM

Val Coz
Ocean Ridge Resident since 1985
Specializing in Coastal Properties from Palm Beach to Delray
561.386.8011 vcoz@fiteshavell.com

Source: Data supplied by Rmlsfl 9/25/09. Information is deemed accurate but not guaranteed.