Cities rush to fix aging sewer systems

By Cheryl Blackerby

Health, environmental and cost concerns loom

Woodman, an engineering firm that works with several municipalities in Palm Beach County, “Our infrastructure in Palm Beach County is getting to the point where we need to consider either replacing it or significantly improving the systems.”

There is a huge cost associated with replacing or improving traditional sewage-collection systems — largely coming out of the wallets of water and sewer customers.

There is also a significant cost to the environment, to health and to other existing infrastructure that comes with not acting now and recognizing that some types of buried pipes — though not all — are close to the end of their life expectancy.

While we often hear about water service failures, such as the one in Fort Lauderdale last month that affected about 220,000 people, we hardly ever learn about sewer line problems.

For example, through mid-July this year, 67 spills in Palm Beach County were reported to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, which keeps records of such incidents. They ranged from a spill of 100 gallons from a broken main in Boca Raton in April to a spill of 2,500 gallons of raw sewage just last month in Delray Beach.

That spill, due to a sewer line blockage caused by grease buildup, led to sewage flowing into a parking lot near Veterans Park and into a storm-drain system leading to the Intracoastal Waterway.

A barrier that had been previously installed by a contractor at a nearby project contained 90 percent of the discharge before it got into the waterway, according to the city.

See SEWER on page 8

Lethal bronzing a growing threat to palms

By Cheryl Blackerby

Lethal bronzing is an incurable infection that causes palm fronds to turn brown and die.

New growth also has become prevalent in Palm Beach County just in the past couple of years. Lethal bronzing, similar but genetically distinct from lethal yellowing, is now common on Florida’s east coast and is causing “significant palm losses in Palm Beach County.”

See BRONZING on page 16

Virgin Trains, Boca want to add station

City Council agrees to explore idea for downtown stop

By Mary Hladky

Many South Florida cities want a Virgin Trains station, but now it looks like Boca Raton will walk away with the prize if an agreement can be reached between the city and the for-profit rail service.

Virgin Trains, formerly known as Brightline, notified the city in a July 19 letter that it wants to locate a station in the city — the first city step to be added since it built the Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach stations.

Three days later, a company official made a pitch to City Council members, who quickly agreed to explore the idea.

“It is an extremely exciting opportunity for us,” said council member Andy Thomson. “We have to make sure it is done correctly.”

Two of the city’s largest employers — Florida Atlantic University and the Boca Raton Resort & Club — leaped on board.

“It is just so exciting. I am sure you can hear it in my voice,” said former Deputy Mayor Constance Scott, who now serves as FAU’s director of local relations.

“This is the best thing that could happen to Boca Raton,” she said, noting that 10,000 students commute from Broward County to the Boca Raton-based university.

See TRAINS on page 15
A perfect day in paradise can be spoiled by a backed-up toilet. An out-of-order sign on a bathroom door can turn a pleasant outing into an anxious search for functioning facilities. And after a storm, I can’t imagine anything more discombobulating than being told not to flush. It’s indisputable: We all depend on smooth-functioning wastewater disposal to keep life clean and simple. Over the next few months, our newspaper plans to explore what happens after we flush the toilet.

We plan to take a close look at how local municipalities are working to stay ahead of population and development increases during a time when that very growth is challenging the environment that defines the popular Florida lifestyle. Adapting to this change will not be cheap. Already we’re seeing municipalities struggling to make necessary improvements.

For August, Rich Pollack spent time talking with the people who manage our waste-processing plants and gives an overview of the improvements they are making, how much it all costs and what potential disasters keep them awake at night.

Next month, Pollack plans to illustrate problems with septic systems on small, urban lots and show how new technology is attempting to address environmental concerns.

The following month, he’ll put both wastewater treatment plants and septic systems under the magnifying glass of future pressures from rising seas and climate change. Sewage may not be a topic most of us like to discuss, but it’s about to hit us all in the ballot box. Hard. Adapting our wastewater infrastructure to meet growth and environmental pressures is going to be very expensive. I hope you’ll find these stories helpful as we all plan for the future of our piece of paradise.

Mary Kate Leming, Editor
Boca Raton

4.2 percent increase proposed for city property taxes

By Mary Hladky

Boca Raton property owners will see a minuscule decrease in the city’s property tax rate if the tentative rate set on July 23 wins final approval.

“Taking direction from our goal-setting session this spring, staff is not recommending an increase in the tax rate for next year,” Deputy City Manager George Brown told City Council members.

The tentative rate is $3.6787 per $1,000 of taxable property value, virtually unchanged from $3.6788 last year.

But if approved at a Sept. 9 budget hearing, it will amount to a 4.2 percent increase in taxes. That’s because the city’s property valuations increased 4.9 percent this year. Boca’s taxable property value is now $25 billion, more than any other city in Palm Beach County.

If the tentative rate is adopted, a home with a taxable value of $1 million would pay $3,678 in city property taxes.

To bring in the same amount of tax money as last year, Boca Raton would have to roll back its tax rate to $3.3388 per $1,000 of taxable value.

Homeowners also will pay $10 more for fire protection if the tentative rate wins approval.

The fire services assessment is increasing to $145 from $135. It also increased $10 last year.

The city is assessing only 54 percent of what it is allowed to assess. It is spending $23.5 million on fire protection services this year.

The Sept. 9 budget hearing begins at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers. City council members will be able to lower the rate at that time but cannot increase it.

New evidence introduced against Haynie

By Mary Hladky

A prosecutor has introduced new evidence showing that suspended Boca Raton Mayor Susan Haynie cast a another vote that potentially benefited the city’s largest downtown commercial landlord.

Haynie was arrested on April 24, 2018, on charges of official misconduct, perjury, misuse of public office and failure to disclose voting conflicts. She faces more than 20 years in prison.

The charging documents stated that Haynie used her position on the City Council to vote on four matters that benefited James Batmasian and failed to disclose income she received from him.

New discovery filed by the state in June shows a fifth instance in which Haynie cast a vote on a Batmasian request.

Batmasian wanted to build eight townhomes on 1.1 acres at 101 Pine Circle, a couple of blocks west of City Hall.

He sought city permission to rezone the property to allow 9.5 units per acre rather than the existing zoning of five units per acre and to abandon a 10-foot public utility easement, according to city documents.

The Planning and Zoning Board unanimously recommended approval on Aug. 20, 2015, and the City Council unanimously granted approval two months later, on Oct. 27.

After several neighbors expressed concerns about traffic safety on the street, Haynie proposed adding a condition aimed at improving safety, which other council members supported.

Batmasian bought the property for $737,000 in 2012 and sold it for $1.5 million in 2016, county property records show. The townhomes were never built.

Batmasian’s request generated no controversy at the time.

Haynie’s criminal defense attorney, Bruce Zimet, declined to comment on the new evidence introduced by Assistant State Attorney Brian Fernandes, after a brief July 15 court hearing on her case. No trial date was set at the hearing, but attorneys are aiming to go to trial in October.

The next hearing on the status of the case will be Sept. 10.

“She is innocent, and we are anxious to be vindicated,” Zimet said.

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

Then-Gov. Rick Scott suspended her from office, but she has not resigned. Scott Singer was elected mayor on Aug. 28 as the replacement for the former mayor of Haynie’s term, which ends in March 2020.

Before Haynie’s arrest, the Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics, which also investigated Batmasian’s appeals, deliberated on matters that financially benefited Batmasian, reached a settlement with her in which it reprimanded and fined her for failing to disclose a conflict of interest but dismissed a second allegation that Haynie misused her public office.

The Florida Commission on Ethics in October found probable cause that Haynie violated state ethics laws in eight instances, but that case is pending resolution of the criminal case.

The state commission, which also probated Haynie’s financial links to Batmasian and his companies Batmasian Limited, found that she failed to disclose income, acted to financially benefit herself and her husband, and improperly voted on matters that benefited Batmasian and his wife, Marta, without disclosing a conflict of interest.

The evidence gathered by the three agencies is similar.

One key difference is that while prosecutors originally determined Haynie voted on four matters that financially benefited Batmasian from 2014 through 2017, state ethics investigators found 17 votes between 2012 and 2016.

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Ocean Ridge

Commissioners want budget help from public at special meeting

By Dan Moffett

Conflicted over whether to close a nibble budget deficit with reserve funds or a tax increase, Ocean Ridge commissioners are asking for advice from the people who elected them to make decisions. The commission has scheduled a special budget meeting beginning at 2 p.m. on Aug. 5 at Town Hall. The public is invited to attend and weigh in on which option the town should choose.

“Let’s float that bubble out and see what residents want,” Commissioner Phil Besler said at a budget workshop on July 15. “When we say we might be going to raise taxes, then a lot of people are going to show up.”

Because of long overdue repairs and upgrades to stormwater systems and drainage infrastructure, the town faces a possible budget deficit as high as about $600,000 — if commissioners decide to maintain the current tax rate of $5.35 per $1,000 of taxable property value.

Commissioners could increase that tax rate to $5.55 per $1,000 to cover the deficit, the maximum rate they approved unanimously during the budget workshop. Or, they could settle on a lower rate and use some of the roughly $4.8 million the town has saved in reserves to make up the difference.

“We’re in a favorable position,” Mayor Steve Coz said during the workshop. “We’ll have at least 50 percent of (annual) operating expenses in reserves, no matter what we do.”

Besler agrees that either choice the commission makes is justifiable. “There is no wrong answer here,” he said. “Everyone agrees we got a deficit budget. So you either take it from the reserves or you take it from the residents in taxes.”

Ocean Ridge has an $8.1 million total budget for 2019-2020, up about 17.5 percent over last year because of the infrastructure projects and increased salaries for police and other employees. Property values have risen 6 percent.

Town Manager Tracey Stevens said she’ll have a clearer picture of the town’s finances by Aug. 5 because Briny Breezes should have decided whether to hire Ocean Ridge’s Police Department to handle the town’s law enforcement.

If Briny decides to drop Boynton Beach and hire Ocean Ridge, Stevens said, that could bring in about $180,000 for the commission to put toward the deficit. Also, by the next workshop commissioners expect to have more accurate numbers on the town’s insurance costs for the new fiscal year.

“What you really want to do is take these two steps for the next budget workshop,” Commissioner Kristine de Haseth said.

Town Hall to test longer business hours

By Dan Moffett

In an effort to improve accessibility for contractors, Briny Breezes council members agreed to expand the hours Town Hall is open for public business.

Beginning in August, the office will be open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. The office used to close at noon on those days.

Donna Coates, Briny Breezes’ corporate park manager, told the council she has received complaints from contractors who tried to pick up building permits at Town Hall but found it closed.

Town Manager Dale Sugerman said he has heard no complaints from contractors that typically, he and Town Clerk Maya Coffield lock the doors at noon but respond to anyone who knocks and needs assistance. Sugerman and Coffield do administrative work in the office after doors close to the public.

Sugerman said the town will track the impact of the new hours over the next 90 days to determine whether they should be made permanent.

In a related matter, the council, on a 2-1 vote at the July 25 town meeting, rejected a proposal to shift more control over building permit requests to the corporate office.

Alderwoman Kathy Gross had called for changes to the permit process in May, but she voted against the measure, saying it was unacceptable. Christina Adams also voted no, and Chick Behringer voted for it. Council President Sue Thaler and Alderman Bill Birch were absent for the vote.

Coates opposed the proposal, telling the council the changes would have made the process too cumbersome and burdensome for the corporate office.

In other business:

• For the 11th consecutive year, Briny Breezes homeowners are likely to pay the maximum tax rate allowed by state statutes. The Town Council unanimously approved setting the millage rate at $10 for every $1,000 of taxable property value. The council scheduled Sept. 12 and Sept. 26 for final budget hearings and approval.

• With property values up a healthy 8.8 percent over last year, homeowners will pay about 9.6 percent more in taxes, Sugerman said. The rollback rate that would keep tax bills flat year-over-year is $9.24 per $1,000.

• Overall, property tax revenues are up 9.9 percent over last year as values in Briny Breezes climbed to $35.8 million.

• Town Attorney Keith Davis said, after reviewing decades-old property plating records, that it is still unclear exactly where the southern boundary of Briny Breezes is and whether the town owns part or all of Briny Breezes Boulevard.

• Council members want to determine ownership of the 30-foot-wide right of way so they can consider traffic control options. Davis and Sugerman told the council they would do more research.

City outlines penny-tax improvement projects

By Jane Smith

Boynton Beach will use $500,000 from its penny tax proceeds during the next fiscal year to upgrade the eastern end of Boynton Beach Boulevard, the city’s public works director said June 17.

Andrew Mack told city commissioners on the second day of a two-day budget workshop that the project would run east from Federal Highway to the eastern edge of the pond located between the Casa Costa condominiums and the mangroves — a distance of about 850 feet.

The project will enhance the secondary entrance to the city marina, he said. The primary entrance is off Ocean Avenue just west of the Intracoastal Waterway bridge.

The project includes removing existing planters, landscape and sidewalks and replacing them with new landscape islands and sidewalks. It also includes adding more street and walkway lightning and adding an irrigation system. The city also wants to add on-street parking in that area. Depending on the design chosen, the parking, between 10 and 30 spaces will be added, Mack said.

Overall, Boynton Beach will spend $7.6 million of its penny tax proceeds on 91 projects during the next financial year, which begins Oct. 1, Mack said. Other projects include $1.4 million for information technology and $678,500 for improvements at the Ester Hester Community Center on Seacrest Boulevard.

In the Nov. 8, 2016, election, Palm Beach County voters approved the extra penny on the 6-cent sales tax. The money began flowing into city coffers in March 2017 and will end on Dec. 31, 2026.

The cash is doled out by city population, giving the three largest South County cities (Boca Raton, Boynton Beach and Delray Beach) the most money. The county receives about 30 percent of the money from the extra cent sales tax and the school district gets the largest share at 50 percent.

The money the cities receive can be spent only on repairing or building new roads, sewers, water lines, fire stations or park improvements.

In other news at the budget workshop, Mack discussed doing a feasibility study for a pedestrian bridge over Federal Highway to link senior center activities at the historic Boynton Beach Woman’s Club and a parking area on the west side of Federal.

The state Department of Transportation would have to approve the bridge because Federal Highway is controlled by the state, he said.

Mack said the state approves it, the pedestrian bridge would help solve the parking problems at Boynton Beach Woman’s Club, which the city’s Community Redevelopment Agency owns.
Manalapan Town considers slight tax increase

By Stephen Moore

Manalapan Town Manager Linda Stumpf does not have all the figures to finalize the town’s 2019-2020 budget, but she does have enough information to propose increasing the tax rate for residents by up to 3.7 percent over last year’s rate.

The increase, which is scheduled to be finalized at the Sept. 24 Town Commission meeting, would place the tax rate at $3.1412 per $1,000 of taxable property value. Last year’s rate was $3.03, and the rollback rate that would keep tax revenues flat year over year is $3.02.

“There will be no raise at all” above the $3.1412 proposal, Mayor Keith Waters said at the July 15 workshop meeting. “We can go down but cannot go up. We try to set the millage rate so it absolutely covers everything, but we don’t know the final numbers yet.”

“The only thing we are waiting on is the cost of our health insurance,” Stumpf said.

In the June 26 budget workshop, Stumpf told the commissioners that the proposed budget was $5.5 million, which is $319,797 more than the previous year. Most of the increase comes from the police pension plan, additional police positions and other upgrades.

The commissioners discussed paying for the overage from reserves or increasing the tax rate. After the June meeting, Waters said, “I’d like for us not to raise the millage rate.”

“It was a unanimous decision during the commission’s July 15 meeting to not use the reserves, or unassigned fund balance. “We discussed it at the last meeting,” Stumpf said. “The commissioners did not want to use the unassigned fund balance. They wanted to use the millage rate and keep the millage rate down.”

Based on last year’s millage rate of $3.03, the town’s share of taxes on a $1 million house would increase from $3,030 to $3,141.

In other business:

• Sandra Foschi, the owner of the former BB&T bank building at 131 S. Ocean Blvd., was told at the meeting that she could begin renovations on the building despite the moratorium on construction in that commercial zoning district. “The moratorium is going to be lifted,” Stumpf said, “and she can make changes to it even though there is a moratorium.”

• The construction permit for the property located at 1140 S. Ocean Blvd. expired July 10, and the permit extension request was denied. But the commission is giving the owner until Sept. 24 to bring the property up to the minimum standards of compliance by planting trees and shrubbery on the north and south borders to establish a buffer between 1140 S. Ocean Blvd. and the two adjoining properties. Once that is done, the owner has to apply for another permit.

• On the north and south sides of the property, the contractor came in and took out a lot of shrubbery,” Waters said, “and now there is nothing between the houses on the north and south of the permitted building. We are trying to be fair and what we don’t want to do is put the property in position of starting over. It’s been sitting there for two years. We just need to get them back up to speed. We need to get them to put the trees and shrubbery back.”

• The commission has decided not to meet in August. The next town meeting is scheduled for Sept. 24.

The Junior League of the Palm Beaches would like to invite your child to participate in this year’s 62nd Annual Cotillion Academy.

Open to all children ages 8 and up

Students will participate in a six session program and learn:

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6/19/2019 Wreath 1957.png

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Four Seasons Palm Beach

Please see jlpb.org/cotillion or call 561.667.9992 for pricing and registration.

Rupture of a brain aneurysm is a debilitating, often fatal type of stroke and typically has no symptoms until the time of rupture.

At Boca Raton Regional Hospital, Brian Snelling, M.D., Medical Director of the Marilyn & Stanley Barry Center for Cerebrovascular Disease & Stroke at the Marcus Neuroscience Institute, provides minimally-invasive techniques to detect and treat conditions of the central nervous system including brain aneurysms. Dr. Snelling specializes in cerebrovascular and endovascular surgery. Having been trained at such prestigious institutions as Vanderbilt University, West Virginia School of Medicine and University of Miami School of Medicine, he is one of the region’s leading experts in neurovascular care.

Under Dr. Snelling’s leadership, The Marilyn & Stanley Barry Center for Cerebrovascular Disease & Stroke at the Marcus Neuroscience Institute now offers screening for at-risk patients at their new Brain Aneurysm Clinic. Patients who may be a candidate for screening include those with:

• Family history of brain aneurysm and/or brain aneurysm rupture
• Polycystic kidney disease
• Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome
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• Females with high blood pressure and/or tobacco or alcohol use
• Sickle Cell Disease
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• Acronegaly

The Institute is one of a select few centers in South Florida to offer the entire spectrum of state-of-the-art neurological and endovascular techniques to detect and treat brain aneurysms. Procedures used to treat unruptured brain aneurysms may include surgical clipping or endovascular coiling. Dr. Snelling performs both procedures, alongside other highly-experienced members of the Institute’s team, to meet the unique needs of each patient to ensure the best outcome. Call 561-955-4600 to schedule your screening.

For more information, call 561-955-LEARN (561-955-3276) or visit BRRH.com
Inside the plant
ABOVE: A pair of 36-inch pipes, one from Delray Beach and the other from Boynton Beach, flow into the South Central Regional Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Plant. LEFT: Two screen devices remove non-biodegradable items from the sewage before it is treated. Toys, jewelry and even rolls of cash have been recovered from the flow. Photos by Jerry Lower / The COASTAL STAR

Boca Raton’s Helfrich says that the

SEWER

Continued from page 1

Blockages are just one reason sewage lines can fail, according to local utility directors. Another is corrosion, caused often by the buildup of gases inside the lines, and a third — perhaps the most common — are accidental ruptures caused by work crews.

Weather can also play a role in system failures, with heavy rains shifting the ground on which lines rest and causing separation at the joints.

Age doesn’t always equal to system failures. A big factor is the material used to produce the pipe and whether that material is right for the environment the pipe is in.

Improper installation can also be an issue.

“If a pipe is really old and installed correctly, it can last a long time,” said Brent Whittaker, District 1 vice president of the Florida Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Failure has many impacts

When sewer lines do fail, the impact can be widespread and problematic. Raw sewage, in extreme cases, can seep into homes, wash out or flood roads and flood waterways. It also can attract mosquitoes and other unwelcome pests.

Then there’s the indirect impact. Boca Raton Utility Services Director Chris Helfrich recalls being in a Broward County restaurant on Christmas Eve years ago when a sewer line break forced the restaurant to close — not because of sewage but because utilities will often shut off water service when there’s a sewage failure to stem the flow.

There are also health and environmental concerns that come from raw sewage leaks.

“Sewage can be one of the major contributors to nutrient pollution problems,” says Dr. Brian Lapointe, a research professor at Florida Atlantic University’s Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute. Sewage, he says, is a big contributor of nitrogen, which is a factor in the growth of algae as well as the seaweed that invades the beaches.

Earlier this year Lapointe presented to the Florida Senate Agriculture, Environment and General Government Appropriations Subcommittee research linking septic systems and algae blooms. But he also points out that sewage leaking from failing lines can seep into groundwater and create environmental and health problems due to fecal bacteria and viruses.

“Then there are the costs associated with spills — not just of the cleanup but of the work that’s done to keep failures from happening in the first place.

In southern Palm Beach County, communities are allocating millions of dollars in their 2019-2020 budgets to evaluate the condition of their sewer collection systems and taking improvements.

“Our City Commission has made it very clear that infrastructure is a top priority,” said Palm Beach City Manager Caryn Gardner-Young.

Plan rather than react

For those responsible for municipal wastewater treatment systems, the possibility of a major failure or an undetected leak is what keeps them up at night. It’s also what keeps them planning ahead to ensure their systems are structurally sound and properly maintained.

“You never stop your diagnosis,” Gardner-Young said.

Boca Raton’s Helfrich says that the

Funding for the $20 million project — the largest just about all the projects in the area currently planned or in the works — comes not from taxpayer dollars but from user fees.

Utility customers in most communities with central sewage collection systems pay for basic infrastructure costs such as pipes and upgrades in the base rate in their monthly utility bills. They pay for the cost of treating wastewater in the portion of their bills based on consumption.

“All customers pay this part of the rate based on how much they use,” Groff said.

New customers pay an additional fee to connect to the utility.

It’s an ideal time to do work

Improvements are all of these system evaluation and improvements happening now?

The economy may play a role, say those in the industry, including Boca Raton’s Helfrich. During the Great Recession, many municipalities saw less money coming in as a result of foreclosures and a slowdown in building. With the economy improving and new users coming online as a result of a building boom, enterprise funds are growing.

Another factor may be the improvements in technology that make it easier for utilities to determine the condition of pipes without having to dig them up.

In Boynton Beach and several other communities in the area, a motorized camera inside a segment of pipeline can record a 360-degree view. Geographic information system (GIS) mapping technology is also helping utilities get a better understanding of what is underground.

In Boynton Beach and several others in the line that systems in towns and cities are using on pipes that are generally not under pressure.

“The lining process consists of inserting an epoxy-infused fabric into the pipe segment where it is expanded, by use of steam,” says Joseph Paterniti, Boynton Beach’s utilities director. The material, which is just millimeters thick, then sticks to the pipe and hardens to a rigid liner.

Perhaps the biggest reason for the focus on evaluating the condition of systems and plants is the fact that infrastructure is aging.

Although some types of pipes — such as ductile iron — can last for a century or more, pipes made years ago with materials such as cast iron, cement and vitrified clay don’t hold up to time as well.

“Infrastructure is aging and all the pipes that are clay will have to be replaced or lined,” the society of civil engineers’ Whitefield said.

“The lining process of those installed in the late 1960s or early 1970s, there is a strong belief it’s time to make sure they’re holding up or are ready to be hauled out.”

“Once you get to the 50-year mark you should do a comprehensive review or overhaul the system,” Baxter & Woodman’s Puglesley said.

Next month: A look at septic systems in coastal communities.

Ocean Ridge septic-to-sewer discussion

The Town of Ocean Ridge invites residents to a meeting of its Septic to Sewer Citizens Advisory Committee at 9 a.m. Aug. 8 to speak about residential septic tank and/or drain field issues. Condo association representatives are also invited to speak about the status of their wastewater treatment facilities.
How Sewage Flows

**Force Main Sewer**

- Flows to be "forced" through the main because gravity alone is not enough to move it.

**Gravity Sewer**

- Flows gravity to get sewage to stations and treatment plants.

The South Central Regional Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Plant treats about 17 million gallons of sewage a day. Here's how wastewater flows from houses in Delray Beach, Boynton Beach, and Highland Beach to get treated.

1. **Wastewater from several area gravity mains collects in a wet well at the lift station.** When the lift station is full, a pump powered by electricity kicks on.
2. **Pumped up** — Wastewater leaves your home, it goes into a pipe, usually gravity mains, and at the East Central Regional Wastewater Treatment Facilities in West Palm Beach, which serves South Palm Beach and a very small part of Hollywood.
3. **Sewer flows downhill** — After wastewater leaves your home, it goes into a pipe, usually gravity mains, and at the lift station, a pump station.
4. **Pumped up** — Wastewater from several area gravity mains collects in a wet well at the lift station. When the lift station is full, a pump powered by electricity kicks on and pushes the sewage — now under pressure — through a pipe known as a force main.
   - **Moved by a master lift station** — As the wastewater moves closer to the treatment plant, it merges with sewage from other force mains at a master lift station, where pumps push it farther along.
   - **Treated and released** — At a treatment plant, wastewater is screened and separated to remove foreign objects and grit. It is then aerated to encourage microorganisms to break down organic materials before remaining solids are separated from liquid.
   - **Reused, reclaimed or injected** — Solids are either put back into the water to help break down organic materials or are sent to West Palm Beach, where they're processed into fertilizer by a private company. Liquids are either reclaimed and used for irrigation or injected into a deep well for disposal.

Boca Raton’s multiyear project targets older underground pipes

By Mary Hladky

Determined to avoid mistakes Fort Lauderdale has made, Boca Raton is launching a multiyear effort to tear up or replace its underground water and sewer pipes. The work will start in September in the Chatham Hills and Country Club Village neighborhoods, respectively located between Federal and Dixie highways north of Northeast 28th Street, and east of Interstate 95 and north of Palmetto Park Road.

Over the next five years, work will be done in four additional areas, all but one located east of I-95 in older parts of the city where pipes can be up to 80 years old.

Money has been set aside to pay for the estimated $60 million cost.

Boca Raton also plans a 20-year program to upgrade pipes in the rest of the city’s older neighborhoods as well as larger pipes that often run along the major roads.

All told, the repairs and replacements will cost an estimated $600 million to $750 million over 20 years, although that number could change as the city gets more data on the condition of its pipes.

The problems plaguing Fort Lauderdale illustrate why Boca Raton is investing in infrastructure upgrades. Over at least the past five years, deteriorating water and sewer lines that were not properly maintained have ruptured frequently, dumping more than 20 million gallons of sewage into yards and waterways.

The city’s neglect of maintenance was cast in bold relief on July 17, when a Florida Power & Light subcontractor drilled into a water main. The mistake could have been quickly corrected by diverting water into another pipe, but underground valves that hadn’t been tested in years failed, the Sun-Sentinel reported.

A crisis was averted when city workers patched the broken pipe, but even so about 220,000 customers were told to boil water before use. The boil-water order was lifted for most customers on July 21, the same day a pipe burst along a major city artery that was closed until the water order was lifted for most customers.

The mistake could have been quickly corrected by diverting water into another pipe, but underground valves that hadn’t been tested in years failed, the Sun-Sentinel reported.

Current technology cannot predict when a pipe will fail, but Helfrich expects that will change and help the city decide the order in which pipe upgrades are made.

A city study about two years ago looked at the age of its underground pipes where they had failed and their locations relative to critical buildings such as hospitals and police and fire facilities. “These are areas we want to go into first,” Helfrich said.

The ISIP project, or Innovative Sustainable Infrastructure Program, will be coordinated with planned improvements to streets and sidewalks so that all the work is done at one time.

City officials have not decided how to finance upgrades beyond the six neighborhood projects. Options include issuing bonds, which would not affect water and sewer bills since customers already pay for debt service, using utility reserves, raising rates or all three, Helfrich said.

The property tax rate would not be affected.

After Chatham Hills and Country Club Village, the neighborhood projects on the five-year list include:

- **Tunison Palms, Old Floresta and Lake Floresta North,** north of West Palmetto Park Road between Northwest Seventh and 11th avenues.
- **Boca Raton Square, east of I-95, south of West Palmetto Park Road and north of Southwest 14th Street.**
- **Boca Villas,** between Federal Highway and Northeast Fifth Avenue and north of Palmetto Park Road in the downtown area.
- **Country Woods,** between West Palmetto Park Road and Glades Road just west of U.S. 441, and Winfield Park between North Dixie Highway and Federal Highway north of Northeast 20th Street.

How our cities, towns dispose of wastewater

**Boca Raton** — Sewage from the barrier island crosses under the Intracoastal Waterway in two pipes and is treated at the city’s treatment plant.

**Highland Beach** — Wastewater is pumped to Delray Beach and treated at the South Central Regional Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Plant.

**Delray Beach** — Wastewater from east of the Intracoastal Waterway is taken to the regional treatment plant via a single pipe across the waterway.

**Gulf Stream** — Many homes have septic systems, but some wastewater from multifamily communities is pumped to Boynton Beach, then onto the treatment facility.

**Briny Breezes/St. Andrews Club** — Sewage is pumped to Boynton Beach via one pipe under the Intracoastal Waterway, then onto the treatment facility.

**Ocean Ridge** — There is no central wastewater collection system. Homes are on septic systems. Some multifamily communities rely on small “package plants” that treat wastewater and release it to drain fields or through injection deep into the ground.

**Manalapan** — Most of the properties are on septic with the exception of the shopping plaza, hotel and Town Hall, which are connected to the Lake Worth Beach system. That city sends wastewater it collects to the East Central Regional Wastewater Treatment Facilities in West Palm Beach.

**Hypoluxo Island/Lantana** — Town sends wastewater to Lake Worth Beach via a pipe under the Intracoastal Waterway for treatment at the regional treatment facilities.

**South Palm Beach** — Sends its wastewater to Lake Worth Beach for treatment at the regional facilities.
Highland Beach
deviloper is Golden City's
District, not the town.
protected wetland, it falls under
because the property is a
removed — and did not request
in fact, required the trees to be
officials at the time knew the
contend that a permit is not
the application and schedule
Labadie said. "We'll review
for a permit for work that has
will be fined $250 a day until
Beach has less than a month
to comply with
"not-to-exceed" rate by the end
of the month to set a
made it clear that they have no
intentions of setting the tax rate
at that level but needed to set a
"not-to-exceed" rate by the end of the month to comply with
state law.
"We've already started the
process of reducing expenses," Town Manager Marshall
Labadie said. "We're in great
shape and confident that we will
not be at that rate by the end of the
process. But Labadie told
tom.RadioButton that it will be
difficult to balance the budget only
cutting expenses.
"We can't make up the
difference with just cuts without
impacting services," he said.
"She will have to have an upward
adjustment of the tax rate or
pledge the use of reserves," she said.
In addition to taking money
from the current fiscal year, commissioners
will be delivering the weekend
of Sept. 6

Parks district, city millions of dollars
apart on golf course proposal

By Steve Plunkett

The golf separating visions of golf in the city
widened in July when the City Council
sought fresh ideas from outside architects and
the Greater Boca Raton Beach and Park District
tentatively set an almost 36 percent tax increase.

Council member Andy Thomson proposed
increasing the tax rate to $3.58 per $1,000 of taxable
value, which would be a 26.8 percent boost and a
tax bill of $1,117 for the $1 million
home.

District Vice Chair Erin Wright voted to set
the higher tentative rate, but only so taxpayers
could voice their opinions at budget hearings.

"Every one on this board is committed to
golf, and the council has made it clear that they
are committed to keeping golf in Boca as well,"
Wright said.

Looking for more from city

Under Mayor Rhoda Zelniker's
city Council's position extended to other areas of cooperation between
the two governments.

"We need to reexamine all the commitments
we've made to the city, not only in this
upcoming [parks and recreation] budget but as
far as our CRA contribution goes, our beach
renourishment contributions go, because it
seems to me that we've put the money in the
hand in the pocket taking out money
giving to the city every time they ask," District
Commissioner Steve Engeld said.

"The town is in great shape," he said.

The next edition of
The Coastal Star
will be delivered the weekend of
Sept. 6

Developer faces deadline
tree removal

By Rich Pollack

A developer that hopes to build townhomes in Highland
Beach has less than a month
to seek a permit for work
done almost two years ago.

During a July 23 hearing, the town's Code Enforcement
Board voted unanimously
to give Golden City Highland
Beach 30 days to file for a
permit that town officials say
should have been applied for before
fill was added after trees fell
by Hurricane Irma were removed.

Should Golden City
comply with the board's order, it
would be fined $250 a day until
it makes the permit application.

Town Manager Marshall
Labadie said the town is only
asking of developer to apply for
a permit for work that has
already occurred.

"The solution to the current enforcement order is to simply permit,"
Labadie said. "We'll review
the application and schedule
it for the next available Town
Commission meeting.

Attorneys also argue that
because the property is a
protected wetland, it falls under
the jurisdiction of the South Florida
Water Management District, not the town.

At the root of the dispute between the developer and town,
developer is Golden City's
removal of four Australian pine
trees and three Brazilian pepper
trees that were knocked over
during the 2017 hurricane.

Attorney Jamie Gavigan,
who represents Golden City,
said his client was asked by
the town to remove the trees
and town officials watched as fill
was added for safety purposes.

"Trees were uprooted and
because there was a hole, fill
was put in to make sure the area was
safe," Gavigan said.

"The holes left by uprooted trees caught
the attention of the South Florida
Water Management District
before the town got involved.

In September, the water
district and Golden City entered
into a consent agreement in which
the property owner
agreed to pay $14,200 in civil
penalties for filling the land
where the trees had been
removed without a permit.

Golden City is also required
to remove trees and fill
and restore the area.

Town officials say that a
permit is required before that
work can be done, but Gavigan
argues that the town's authority
is trumped by that of the
district.

Before to last month's hearing,
lawyers for Golden City asked
for a continuance because a
member of their firm with
financial information was unable
to attend.

The Code Enforcement Board
denied the request, and Gavigan
implied that such a decision
could be filed. If that
happens, the case would be
heard in Palm Beach County
Circuit Court.

Boca Raton

Commissioners work to cut
tax increase

By Rich Pollack

Highland Beach town
commisioners will spend the
next few weeks looking for
ways to trim about $450,000 out of a proposed
2019-2020 budget in hopes of avoiding a slightly
raising the tax rate, borrowing
from reserves or a little of both.

In July, commissioners
approved a maximum tax of
$4.05 for every $1,000 of taxable
property value, up 9 percent
from the current rate and 3.2 percent from the rollback rate
of $3.58 per $1,000.

Town leaders, however,
made it clear that they have no
intentions of setting the tax rate
at that level but needed to set a
"not-to-exceed" rate by the end of the month to comply with
state law.

"We've already started the
process of reducing expenses," Town Manager Marshall
Labadie said. "We're in great
shape and confident that we will
not be at that rate by the end of the
process. But Labadie told
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cutting expenses.
"We can't make up the
difference with just cuts without
impacting services," he said.
"She will have to have an upward
adjustment of the tax rate or
pledge the use of reserves," she said.
In addition to taking money
from the current fiscal year, commissioners
will be delivering the weekend
of Sept. 6

looking with commissioners in
upcoming weeks for more cost-
cutting opportunities.

"The upward adjustment of the tax rate and/or the use of
reserves will be very minor by the end of the
process," Labadie said. "We're not looking at a number that
will be palatable for everyone.

Mayor Rhoda Zelniker said
she hopes to avoid reaching into
the town's more than $5
million of unrestricted reserve
fund over the past two years.

"We can't constantly take
money out of reserves," she said.
In addition to taking money
from the current fiscal year, commissioners
raised the operating tax rate for
the 2018-2019 fiscal year from $3.07
per $1,000 to $3.12 per $1,000.

Were the town to go to the
maximum tax rate approved
last month, which is not likely,
the operating tax rate would
be $3.43 per $1,000 of taxable
property value, which would be $0.62 per $1,000.

That would still be lower than
the 2016 operating tax rate of
$3.01 per $1,000.

Property tax revenues are the
biggest source of income for the
town, generating about $3 million or about 80 percent of the overall general fund
revenue. On the cost side, safety

continues to be the biggest
expense, with fire service
provided by Delray Beach
costing $4.47 million, about a 5 percent increase over
last year.

The cost of operating the
town's police department was
expected to increase about 2.1
percent to about $2.6 million.

Labadie said one of the pluses for the town as it plans for the coming year
is that health care costs for
town employees did not increase.

As he and members of the
commission prepare for budget
workshops this month, Labadie
agreed to pay $14,200 in civil
and property damage in addition to setting a permit
for tree removal, which straddles Northwest Second Avenue north
of Yamato Road.

This year a home with a taxable value of
$1 million paid about $915 in beach and park
taxes. If the district sticks with Rollins' proposal,
that homeowner would pay about $1,196.

Under state statutes, at least four of the five
commissioners will have to vote to approve
the increase. A simple majority is needed if
they whittle it down to $1,171 per $1,000 of taxable
value, which would be a 26.8 percent boost and a
tax bill of $1,117 for the $1 million
home.

District Vice Chair Erin Wright voted to set
the higher tentative rate, but only so taxpayers
could voice their opinions at budget hearings.

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Along the Coast

Nest numbers a cause for optimism among turtle monitors

By Larry Keller

As surely as the sun rises in the east, David Anderson and others from Gumbo Limbo Nature Center are on the beach, excavating and cataloguing data as carefully as archeologists. They're searching not for fossils, but for the nests of sea turtles — resilients reptiles that have been around since the time of dinosaurs.

"We're having a great year for nesting," Anderson, Gumbo Limbo's sea turtle conservation coordinator, said at Red Reef Park recently as the sun poked up from the east.

Even a historic year.

By late July, a record number of green turtle nests already had been found on Boca Raton beaches, surpassing the previous high of 331 in 1990. This year, 880 nests had been discovered as of late July. Loggerheads nest here from April until September, so this season could be a record high for them too.

The highest number of loggerhead nests recorded by the center on the five miles of beach it patrols was 1,075 in 1990. This year, 880 nests had been found on Boca Raton beaches this season, surpassing the previous high of 331 in 2013. Green turtles nest on area beaches from June to September. They nest in greater numbers every other year, but that alone doesn't explain the record high.

The turtles get disoriented.

Anderson then moved on to excavate a nest in which loggerhead hatchlings had surfaced three days earlier. Among the detritus: one live baby stuck in the sand, and another still partially in an egg.

"Probably the odds are worse than that now because of light pollution," Anderson said. "The turtles get disoriented."

He and Kingston said coastal residents for the most part have been good about complying with turtle-friendly light ordinances. But other sources such as beachgoers' cellphones and flashlights, and urban sky glow can still confuse turtles.

Kingston said coastal residents for the most part have been good about complying with turtle-friendly light ordinances. But other sources such as beachgoers' cellphones and flashlights, and urban sky glow can still confuse turtles.

Kingston added that it's been a trying year in terms of people leaving things on the beach such as kayaks and chairs that impede mother turtles coming ashore and hatchlings crawling out to sea.

"Mother turtles may opt for a "false crawl" and not nest on the beach when obstacles are in their way. As for hatchlings, Kingston said, "Expanding any more energy hurts their odds to be one of the few to survive."*

To learn more about sea turtle nesting, visit www.gumbolimbo.org/Sea-Turtles

ABOVE: David Anderson, sea turtle conservation coordinator at Gumbo Limbo, checks a loggerhead nest at Red Reef Park.

LEFT: Typical of many nests, a couple of stragglers remain after most other hatchlings have emerged. Gumbo Limbo releases them at night.

Photos by Rachel O'Hara/
The Coastal Star

and Wildlife Conservation Commission estimates that only about 1 in 1000 makes it to adulthood because most die from dehydration before reaching the ocean, or become food for predators such as birds and crabs. More predators await them too.

Loggerheads — the largest of the sea turtle species — come ashore in small numbers from February through May. The center found 18 of their nests this year — same as last year.

Nesting season roughly parallels that of baseball — March 1 to Oct. 31. Stragglers may nest as late as November or December.

The turtle nesting tallies are encouraging elsewhere too.

"The greens have (nested) beyond belief," said Barbara James, the marine turtle permit holder for Highland Beach. Green turtles began nesting in February, a month earlier this season on the town's 3 miles of beach, James said. "They're early and they're coming on strong."

It has been an average season for loggerhead and leatherback nests, she added.

There also has been a "significant increase" this season in green turtle nests on the 3 miles of beach monitored by Sea Turtle Adventures, said Jackie Kingston, the organization's president and founder. It surveys a stretch of sand fronting Gulf Stream, Bridget Fitz and part of Ocean Ridge.

"We're predicting we may have as many as 20 percent more (of all nests) in 21 years, and it's mostly because of the greens," Kingston said. "The record is 1,077 nests in 2013."

Kingston's group counted 10 leatherback nests this year, which is average. Leatherheads are "about the same or a little bit higher than normal," she said.

Predators abound

When monitors spot a new nest, they record the species — based on the type of tracks — and location, and place stakes with signs attached advising the public not to disturb it.

About two months later, 100 or so turtles will hatch, dig their way out of the sand and head to the ocean — typically at night.

Turtle teams wait 72 hours after spotting hatchling tracks to excavate the nest site by hand and take an inventory of hatched shells, dead embryos and hatchlings, live hatchlings trapped in the sand and so on.

At Red Reef Park, Anderson examined a green turtle nest raided by a raccoon. A small skunk lurked hopefully in nearby sea grass. Anderson found 18 damaged eggs, but those buried deeper were intact.

He covered them with sand, then placed a screen made of welded wire over the nest to prevent foxes and raccoons from intruding again. The openings were still big enough for the hatchlings to emerge.

Anderson also carries hot habanero powder — "ass kickin,'" the maker promises. His permit allows him to sprinkle some on slightly disturbed nests. It deter predators for a few days.

Anderson then moved on to excavate a nest in which loggerhead hatchlings had surfaced three days earlier. Among the detritus: one live baby stuck in the sand, and another still partially in an egg.

After he extracted them, one hatchling was particularly heart-bent on high-tailing it to the sea, but Anderson placed both in a plastic bucket to be taken to Gumbo Limbo. They would be returned to the beach that night and released, improving their odds of making it safely to the surf.

Every successful hatchling matters because so few survive for long. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission estimates that only about 1 in 1000 makes it to adulthood because most die from dehydration before reaching the ocean, or become food for predators such as birds and crabs. More predators await them too.

"Most mother turtles may opt for a "false crawl" and not nest on the beach when obstacles are in their way. As for hatchlings, Kingston said, "Expanding any more energy hurts their odds to be one of the few to survive."*

The Coastal Star
Council nixes request to build home east of A1A

By Steve Plunkett

Lawyers for the owner of an undeveloped lot at 2500 N. Ocean Blvd. made another unsuccessful attempt July 23 to win permission to build on the beach.

The City Council voted 5-0 not to grant a variance allowing construction east of the city’s Coastal Construction Control Line.

“I believe the applicant has failed to meet its burden to provide competent and substantial evidence that it has met the criteria for the variance,” Mayor Scott Singer said.

The result matched a unanimous recommendation for denial in April by the city’s Environmental Advisory Board. The city’s Development Services Department also urged that the request not be approved.

The council’s decision, the final word on the issue unless landowner Natural Lands LLC goes to the courts, was its second affirmation of the CCCL.

In his July 19 ruling, Judge Brandon Schaad, Boca Raton’s development services director, said that notice was based on a zoning confirmation letter the city “mysteriously issued” that did not point out the property owner still would have to get a city CCCL variance.

Also, he said, the state agency sent the city’s copy of the notice to an “incorrect” email address.

“In any case, the city has its own CCCL regulations that are separate and apart from any addition to the state’s regulations, meaning that the FDRP’s actions are irrelevant to the proposed variance,” Schaad said.

Attorney Neil Schiller, representing the property owner, asked Singer and council members Andrew O’Rourke and Monica Mayotte to rescuse themselves from the vote based on comments they made when running for office about protecting the beach.

He also asked that Schaad’s statements on sea turtles and environmental impacts be ignored, saying Schaad was not a qualified expert on those topics.

In its review of the state Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission wrote that “the project does not significantly impact marine sea turtles and their habitat,” Schiller said.

And he argued that reports by Boca Raton’s experts, consultant Mike Jenkins of Applied Technology & Management Inc. and city marine conservationist Kirsten Rusenko, were “flawed” by contradictions and incorrect information, citing an email advising Jenkins that a map of turtle nesting patterns was off due to a “slight geo-shift.”

Even so, Schiller said, “Based on this graphical representation, there is zero sea turtle activity close to the structure itself or the caretreated area under the structure.”

The City Council caused a public outcry in December 2015 when it approved a zoning variance at 2500 N. Ocean to allow something to be built on the 85-foot-wide lot. City rules normally require lots at least 100 feet wide.

Fewer than 10 members of the public spoke at the July 23 hearing; all opposed the CCCL request.

“This isn’t about property values, it’s about protecting the beach,” Schiller said. “This is about preserving and protecting our city’s code of ordinances and our sensitive marine environment.”

Singer, Gray, who founded the group Boca Save Our Beaches after the council’s 2015 decision.

David Sergi, another beach advocate, said there was a reason the council chamber was full with more than 100 opponents.

“I think people have been talking about trains a lot this artistic and golf courses, and they’re just not here tonight; they’re tired,” Sergi said, referring to a five-hour meeting the day before on a possible Virgin Trains station downtown and the proposed Boca National Golf Course.

Schiller repeatedly stressed that the previous lot-width variance showed that 2500 N. Ocean was “suitable for construction.”

“Again — I’m harping on this because it’s so important — in 2015 this body determined this property was developable based on the minimum lot-width variance. The property has not moved location since, neither has the CCCL,” Schiller said.

After the City Council denied a CCCL variance in February for a four-story duplex at 2600 N. Ocean Blvd., that applicant asked that a Palm Beach County circuit judge resolve the EAB and council decisions for irregularities. The legal request is pending.

A court review is a prerequisite to filing a Bert Harris Act lawsuit for damages resulting from a government taking of private property.

Judge sides with city, throws out $137 million Midtown suit

By Mary Hladky

A Palm Beach County circuit judge has thrown out a lawsuit brought by developer and landowner Crocker Partners that sought $137 million in damages from Boca Raton for actions Crocker claims left it unable to redevelop its Midtown property.

In his July 19 ruling, Judge Howard Coates Jr. sided with Boca Raton across the board, granting the city’s motion to dismiss the lawsuit and ruling against all of Crocker Partners’ legal arguments.

“We are pleased to have received a favorable order” on the motion to dismiss, the city said in a statement.

Crocker Partners will appeal the ruling, said managing partner Angelo Bianco.

“We consider it an incorrect application of the law,” Bianco said. “At the end of the day, we believe the 4th District Court of Appeal will rule in our favor.”

Crocker Partners will continue to pursue other lawsuits it filed against the city, Bianco said.

The litigation arose out of unsuccessful efforts by Crocker Partners and other landowners to persuade the city to allow them to build residential units on 300 acres they wanted to redevelop in Midtown, located just east of the Town Center mall.

After years of negotiations, the City Council on Jan. 23, 2018, voted to approve the CCCL regulations that would have allowed residential development. But the council indefinitely postponed that vote and instead agreed to have city staff prepare a “small area plan” for Midtown — a decision that stymied the landowners’ ability to move ahead with redevelopment.

The city abruptly halted small area planning on Oct. 9 and passed a resolution stating the planning was concluded on Nov. 14. Early this year, the City Council approved an ordinance that enacted land development regulations for Midtown that allowed for cosmetic improvements but did not include any residential development.

Crocker Partners first sued on May 23, 2018, seeking to have a judge compel the city to write land development regulations for Midtown, and to rule that the council’s delay in adopting them and creating a small area plan were illegal. It followed that with a Bert Harris Act lawsuit Oct. 23 seeking $137 million in damages caused by its inability to redevelop its land. The act is designed to protect the rights of property owners when a government restricts or limits their private property rights.

Crocker Partners’ third lawsuit, filed on March 27, claims the city made misleading statements in public documents and violated the state’s Sunshine Law to prevent residential development in Midtown. It also accused city officials, including unidentified City Council members, of acting in secret to thwart its plans for Midtown.

Coates’ order states that the Bert Harris Act provides compensation to property owners who lost existing or vested zoning rights, but not to property owners who do not receive new development rights.

Crocker Partners retained the ability to build commercial, retail and offices, as was allowed before and after the council passed new ordinances pertaining to Midtown, the order states.

Crocker Partners contended it had a reasonable belief that the city would allow residential development in Midtown because the area’s last residential development went into the ground.

The small area plan process also gave Crocker Partners reason to believe residential would be allowed because it was discussed and city residents generally did not oppose it.

Coates rejected that, saying it was not a reasonable expectation.

The court denied any such expectations to be founded on comments made by staff, at workshops, or even in council meetings, in the absence of a final act or decision by the legislative body, would open the flood gates to potential claims of parties based on what was said as opposed to what was actually done by a governing body,” he wrote.

In a footnote, Coates also rejected Crocker Partners’ claim that the council’s delay in creating and development regulations for Midtown created an illegal building moratorium. A moratorium that prevents permitted uses of land, but residential development has never been permitted for Midtown, he wrote.
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BOCA HARBOUR DEEPWATER HOME | $1.485 M
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Brian Pearl 561-245-1541 | brian@brianpearl.com

BEACH WALK EAST | $1.399.900 M
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Boyatnt Beach

Restaurant namesake, missing for a week, reunited with owner

By Ron Hayes

How much would you be willing to pay for a newborn yellow-winged Amazon parrot? Anthony Calicchio paid $800.

I had a friend in Stuart who had a white cockatoo with some pink plumage, and its name was Pink Floyd,” he begins. “That’s what got me interested in having a bird.”

Calicchio grew up in Brooklyn. In 2008, he moved down to Boynton Beach to become a chef at Cafe Frankie’s Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria on East Ocean Avenue, and a year later he bought the business — and that newborn yellow-winged Amazon parrot.

“I got him from one of my customers,” he recalls. “She had two parrots. One of them laid four eggs, and Frankie was one of the four. We bartered for him, and I gave her $800 in pizzas.”

Not all at once, you understand.

“Well, I gave her a gift card with $800 on it. Every once in a while she’d come in and get a small pizza and a Coke or something. It took her about two years to use it all up.”

Calicchio’s pizza-rich friend bottle-fed the bird for four months, and then he brought it home.

“I kept him home for one day, and then I brought him to work,” he says.

Frankie the parrot was named after Frankie’s the cafe, not the other way around, and in the decade since, he’s come to work there almost every day.

Perched atop his 5-foot cage just outside the door, where al fresco diners can admire him, Calicchio says, “I’ve had some customers try to teach him to curse, but kids come to see him, so I don’t let that happen.”

To stop by the cafe for the lunch special and not find Frankie strutting, preening or crowing “Hello!” would be like Walmart without the old greeters, or Publix without the free scales.

And then one day last month, his cage stood empty.

Frankie was born on the Fourth of July 2009, and on July 3, 2019 — a day before his 10th birthday — the bird disappeared from Calicchio’s backyard on Southwest Second Avenue.

“It was traumatic,” he recalls. “Frankie was on his cage at home, and I guess he got spooked and hopped over the fence. It’s the first time he’s gone in 10 years.”

The bird had no tag and no microchip implant, but he did have a decade of loyal customers and a local news media that know a good human interest story when one disappears.

TV crews came to show viewers the distraught owner and the empty cage. Newspapers ran stories about the “famed” parrot. Calicchio got 2,000 hits on Instagram. Customers texted him home, he was shaking. He had an orange and bananas, he said, and somebody brought him a mango.

“I was happy to see me,” Calicchio says. “When I brought him home, he was shaking. He had an orange and bananas, and somebody brought him a mango.”

Sitting at a table beside Frankie, Calicchio greeted customers, sharing their happiness when they saw the yellow-winged maitre d’ back.

“It’s just like losing a part of your family,” he said. “I live alone. Just me and him. You know, Amazon’s live to be about 80, and I’m 54. He’s going to outlive me.”

Delray Beach.

According to Calicchio, he then called Rosen and they exchanged photos. Rosen told him they weren’t the same bird because the photo on the flier didn’t show an orange spot on the shoulder and he didn’t have proper documentation. She told him she wasn’t comfortable having him come to her house and declined a $500 reward for the bird’s return — in currency this time, not pizzas.

When Rosen stopped taking his calls, Calicchio called Boynton Beach police, and Officers Jarvi Holiss and Lawrence Rini were on the case. Rosen didn’t answer their phone calls either, according to their written report.

“At this time, Rosen has still declined to return the bird,” Holiss wrote. “Let it be known, Calicchio was unable to provide proper documentation for the bird, however it’s more than likely that the bird Rosen is in possession of is Calicchio’s bird.”

The officers called in Liz Rozich, the city’s animal cruelty investigator.

The next morning, Calicchio and Rozich went together to Rosen’s house and left with Frankie.

“She didn’t say hello,” Calicchio says. “There were six dogs barking at him, and all she said was if he broke out you should put a chip in him.”

Calicchio emphasizes there was nothing sinister or criminal in Frankie’s disappearance. The parrot wasn’t purloined, and no ransom was demanded.

Rosen declined to be interviewed. O’Bryant says she was not trying to keep the bird. “She just wanted to make sure he was the rightful owner because he didn’t have proper documentation,” he said, “and she blocked his calls when he became aggressive.”

On one point, Calicchio agrees with Rosen. Frankie will be getting a microchip implant.

On Friday morning, July 12, Frankie was back at work atop his cage.

“He’s back!” a grinning UPS driver exclaimed as he walked up to deliver a package.

“You got him!” arriving diners exulted.

“Where was he? What happened?” they asked.

“He was happy to see me,” Calicchio says. “When I brought him home, he was shaking. He had an orange and bananas, and somebody brought him a mango.”

Frankie the yellow-winged Amazon parrot is back with Anthony Calicchio and will get a microchip implant to locate him in case he strays again. Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star
By Mary Hladky

Many South Florida cities were in Virgin Trains’ sights, but now it looks like Boca Raton will walk away with the prize if an agreement can be reached between the city and the for-profit rail service.

Virgin Trains, formerly known as Brightline, notified the city in a July 19 letter that it wants to locate a station in the city — the first city stop to be added since it built the Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach stations.

Three days later, a company official met with City Council members, who quickly agreed to explore the idea.

“It is an extremely exciting opportunity,” said council member Andy Thomason. “We have to make sure it is done correctly — for the right reason.

Two of the city’s largest employers — Florida Atlantic University and the Boca Raton Resort & Club — leaped on board.

“It is just so exciting. I am sure we will do everything in our voice,” said former Deputy Mayor Constance Scott, who now serves as FAU’s director of local relations.

“This is the best thing that could happen to Boca Raton,” she said, noting that 10,000 students commute between Broward County to the Boca Raton-based university each day with classes in full swing.

Many other speakers also extolled what they see as the positive impacts of a station — an inducement to lure more corporations to set up headquarters in the city, a rise in property values, an alternative to commutes by car and a way to draw visitors to the city’s cultural venues.

The only significant opposition came mostly from residents of the Library Commons neighborhood immediately north of the proposed station next to the Downtown Library. They complained about the land forms even though quiet zones have been established, the potential of falling property values if Virgin Trains abandons the station and questioned why the city would give away land to multimillionaires backing Virgin Trains.

“I caution you to please go slow,” said one Library Commons resident. “What we have here is a nice residential community … that needs to be protected.”

Virgin Trains wants to move quickly, with the station in operation by the end of 2020.

Mayor Scott Singer, who got the ball rolling by contacting Virgin Trains officials earlier this year, said the city will move quickly to make a decision. But he anticipated it would take at least four to six months to finalize a mutually acceptable agreement and for the City Council to vote on it.

The highlight of the parcels are city-owned properties included in negotiations for a Virgin Trains station to be located next to Boca Raton’s Downtown Library (top left).

Map provided

They also want a trolley or electric car on-demand system to transport people around the downtown and have discussed a walkway across Dixie Highway as a convenience for people who would park in the garage.

The 6-year-old Downtown Library would remain at its current location but would lose most of its parking lot.

Virgin Trains would replace that parking with spaces on the ground floor of the garage that would be reserved free of charge for library patrons. Virgin Trains passengers would park on the upper floors.

The station and parking garage would be located on the library parking lot and Community Garden land.

But Virgin Trains also wants to develop portions of the city-owned land.

Brian Kronberg, Virgin Trains’ vice president of development, told the City Council that while plans haven’t finalized, he envisions ground-floor retail with apartments above them, and short-term rental co-working offices.

He did not offer more specifics or specify ticket prices and did not answer questions after his presentation.

Looking to buy land

But there are many existing privately owned land along Northwest Third and Fourth streets and Northwest First Avenue, located due east of the south portion of city-owned land Virgin Trains wants.

Mike Massarella, one of the owners of Boca Color Graphics on Third Street, said Virgin Trains offered to buy his property in July. Without divulging a price, he said it was a “fair and reasonable offer” but one he will not accept.

“We told them it wasn’t enough,” he said. “We can’t afford to move for what they are offering to pay us” because he cannot replace his building elsewhere in Boca for that amount.

Other business owners in the area also have been contacted, Massarella said, but he was not aware that any of them has agreed to sell as of late July.

He is awaiting a counteroffer. “I don’t expect I have heard the last of it,” he said.

Another nearby business owner, who asked that his name not be used, said he was contacted about one month ago. His lawyer is now reviewing a 10-page contract.

He said Virgin Trains is offering about 30 percent more than the property is worth. But he has not agreed to anything as he awaits word from his lawyer. He also wants to get a substantial down payment and a definite date on when the sale would take place.

While operating as Brightline, Virgin Trains developed land near its stations in Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach to increase revenue. It’s a real estate play similar to that made by rail magnate Henry Flagler who built hotels such as The Breakers in Palm Beach near his FEC tracks.

The MiamiCentral 11-acre project encompasses 1.6 million square feet, including two office towers, two apartment towers and stores and restaurants.

The $1.5 billion Palm Beach project includes Park-Line Palm Beach, a 24-story, 290-unit apartment and retail tower. In Fort Lauderdale, Brightline owns about 8 acres near the train station and proposed a 14-story office tower last year.

The Virgin Group, headed by British billionaire Richard Branson, announced in November a partnership with Brightline that included putting the Virgin name on the trains. Virgin Group owns less than 2 percent of the rail company, according to regulatory filings.

Brightline long rejected pleas to cities to add more stations, saying that would increase passengers’ trouble and that that stance changed this year as Virgin Trains started scouting for new locations.

Hollywood officials met with Virgin Trains officials recently, and Palm Beach Gardens Mayor Mark Chiulli asked for a station as well.

Earlier this year, Virgin Trains said it was looking at Fort Lauderdale, Miami International Airport and PortMiami.

In a recent monthly report to city councilors, Virgin Trains said it would add stops at PortMiami, Aventura and Boca Raton. The Palm Beach Post reported.

Whether that is the final word on station additions is unclear. Earlier this year, Boca Raton council members, Kronberg only said that the company is committed to building an additional station on the Treasure Coast.

In its letter to the city, Virgin Trains said it is “evaluating other south Florida cities to expand our service.”

Michael Hacks, director of media relations, declined comment before the letter was sent, saying “we aren’t getting into any details about potential locations at the moment.”

Also unclear is how viable the train service is. Through the first half of 2019, Virgin Trains reported ridership of 481,320 and revenue of $11 million. In a document to bond investors last year, the company revealed it added 2019 ridership in South Florida would top 2.3 million, while revenue would exceed $12 million, the Post has reported.

But Virgin Trains continues to expand. It announced in May it has started construction of long-awaited tracks between West Palm Beach and Orlando International Airport. It expects to start service in 2022.

It also has announced plans to connect Orlando’s airport and Tampa, with a station at Walt Disney World.  

Boca Raton and Virgin in talks about downtown train station
Lethal bronzing disease across Florida

2008
2013
2018

Highlighted counties represent the historical and current distribution of lethal bronzing disease in Florida.

Brian Bahder/ UF/IFAS

BRONZING
Continued from page 1

according to University of Florida research.

Michael Zimmerman, owner of Zimmerman Tree Service, which has offered tree disease diagnosis in Palm Beach County for 39 years, says he has been doing preventive treatment for palms against lethal bronzing throughout the county, including on the barrier islands. Once infected, the tree dies. Unlike lethal yellowing, there is no treatment for lethal bronzing, although the antibiotic oxytetracycline can be given to nearby trees for prevention against the disease, which is spread by planthopper insects.

Prevention requires inserting a port in the palm trunk where the antibiotic is injected every three or four months for at least two years. If homeowners have a big investment in one of the 16 species of trees susceptible to lethal bronzing, they will probably want to consider preventive treatment.

Symptoms of lethal bronzing include bronze-colored dying lower fronds; flower spikes that die prematurely; new palms that die and fold over; and premature fruit dropping, says Laurie Albrecht, horticulture extension agent with the University of Florida/Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences. Once a tree shows symptoms it’s too late for treatment.

Often misdiagnosed

Lethal bronzing is often misdiagnosed as a lethal yellowing, which became prevalent in the southern third of Florida four decades ago, according to Zimmerman. The disease, also spread by planthoppers, killed more than 30 palm species but was particularly devastating to tall coconut palms.

But unlike trees infected by lethal bronzing, trees infected by lethal yellowing could be saved by injection of oxytetracycline every four months. Lethal yellowing is not as prevalent as it once was because of aggressive use of oxytetracycline and removal of diseased trees.

"Lethal yellowing is still here but it’s relatively rare," Albrecht says.

Lethal bronzing, also called Texas Phoenix palm decline, was first seen in Texas, she says. DNA from the Florida disease was a perfect match for the disease found in Corpus Christi, Texas. The only way to diagnose the disease is by core sampling, which is sent for laboratory analysis, Albrecht says, because the disease is similar to other palm maladies such as potassium deficiency.

Lethal bronzing spread quickly throughout the Tampa area, which prompted an inoculation program for about 300 healthy trees at 24 sites around the city. Spread only by insects, the disease cannot live outside a plant or insect, so it can’t be mechanically transmitted by pruning tools or infected roots touching new roots, according to University of Florida research.

Lethal bronzing, which affects a much smaller number of palm species than lethal yellowing, has killed palms including sabal, queen, Chinese fan and Carpentaria.

"It’s all over. We’ve seen it on the barrier islands. We’ve seen a lot of sabal palms go down, which never happened with lethal yellowing. The trees are infected by insects similar to the way mosquitoes transmit diseases," says Zimmerman.

Tracey Stevens, Ocean Ridge’s acting town manager, said, "We have had a couple of complaints, and recently had to remove two dead coconut palms on Old Ocean Boulevard near Colonial Ridge that are in the town’s right of way. “Public Works is currently working with our contractor to assess which trees may need to be treated, and which ones need to be removed if they are too far gone at this point.

Two trees with lethal bronzing were taken down," said Bill Armstrong, head of public works for Ocean Ridge. “We’re keeping an eye on it. Not worried about it yet.”

Prevention is key for saving expensive healthy palms that are susceptible to lethal bronzing, according to University of Florida research.

“Currently, some developers in Palm Beach County are beginning to ask for susceptible palm species to be tested prior to installation,” Bill Schall, the UF/IFAS extension commercial horticulture agent, said in a blog.

“People are putting in expensive palms and you need to take care of them," says Zimmerman. "Preventive care for lethal bronzing is now standard health care."
**Delray Beach**

**Delray continues push to lower city tax rate**

By Jane Smith

Delray Beach commissioners have unanimously approved a slight cut in the tax rate, keeping a promise to city property owners to reduce the tax rate for 10 consecutive years.

The July 9 vote capped the total tax rate at $8.66 per $1,000 of taxable value for the financial year that starts Oct. 1. This marks the seventh consecutive year that Delray Beach is lowering its tax rate.

"I know we are trying to get things done, but I think we can drop the tax rate," Mayor Shelly Petrolia said. "Dropping the rate would make us more attractive to people coming in."

Commissioner Adam Frankel agreed. "We still have financial fees from the new hotels opening," he said, justifying his decision.

"For the first time, I agree," said Vice Mayor Shirley Johnson, who is up for re-election in March.

Neal de Jesus, the interim city manager, presented a recommendation for a slight increase in the tax rate to $7.06 per $1,000 of taxable value.

"Philosophically, there's different ways to look at it," de Jesus said. "In this time of economic prosperity, we should be spending now." The city just passed an amendment to cover a $3 million gap in the current year's budget, he said. Last fall, $2 million was taken out of reserves to cover a shortfall in the public safety pension funds.

"Every time they lower their assumptions of the rate of return on investments, it causes the city to contribute more," de Jesus said.

For the next budget year, the public safety pension boards and the general employees pension board are reducing their rates of return, he said. "For the next year, another $1.5 million to $2 million."

The second major cost comes from increases in employee salaries from contract negotiations and the rising cost of health insurance.

Third, de Jesus said, were the new hotels with increased visitors and buildings coming online. They will affect city services from trash pickup to public safety. "That all costs money," he said.

De Jesus said reducing the tax rate would translate into a $1 million deficit compared with department requests.

Because property values rose in the city by 6.6 percent, Delray Beach has an extra $689.4 million in property tax, said Laura Therzie, interim financial director. At the slight tax reduction, the city will have $70.3 million for its general fund.

For a city homeowner with a house valued at $1 million, the decreased tax rate translates into a $100 annual savings.

Therzie also said the city's roll-back rate is $6.46 per $1,000 of taxable value. The roll-back rate is the number that would generate the same tax revenue as the prior year with allowances for new construction.

In addition, she gave this schedule of budget meetings: Aug. 13, budget workshop; 5 p.m.; Sept. 5, a tentative budget hearing; and Sept. 19, the final budget adoption.

The city's proposed tax rate has two components. The operating tax rate is $6.66 per $1,000 of value and the debt service rate is $0.34 per $1,000 of value.

The tax rates had to be set by the end of July for the county property appraiser to mail notices in mid-August to every property owner. The county appraiser assessed values and proposed tax rates. The rates can be lowered but not raised during the city's budget hearings in September.

Just before the vote, de Jesus reminded commissioners that they were below their 25 percent target for reserves. "It's now 23 percent," he said. "I want to make sure the commission understands this."

In other related news, the Downtown Development Authority received unanimous commission approval to continue its $1 tax levy per $1,000 property value. The DDA will have a $1.1 million budget for the next financial year, up nearly 6 percent from the current budget year with an additional $59,721 of property tax revenue.

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**Marine Way repairs delayed by street ownership dispute**

**TOP:** Resident Clair Johnson had 1,200 sandbags placed along the east side of Marine Way in anticipation of floods from king tides and storms. **BELOW:** City workers removed the bags, much to Johnson's dismay.

By Jane Smith

Another fall of king tides is coming, which is bad news for Delray Beach residents who live on Marine Way. They will likely see water pushing through the crumbled and submerged Intracoastal Waterway seawall, flowing into their yards and, in some cases, their homes.

Last year, the city said it did not own Marine Way and as a result couldn’t start work to deter flooding. Thanks to a recent title search, however, the city now says it owns the block-long street and finally can begin the task.

The city says the work will take at least 24 months but has not said when it will begin.

The city has set aside $2.8 million for Marine Way improvements, to include a new sea wall, road and drainage improvements and a stormwater pump station.

Another $4.6 million is earmarked to rebuild the city marina, just to the south.

Marine Way residents say they have been waiting for more than three decades for relief.

The one-block stretch has a roadbed decayed from tidal flooding, private and unauthorized docks and a sea wall that’s been broken and infected for decades.

When Delray Beach was last ready to start the project, a city consultant contended the city did not own Marine Way, according to a June 24, 2018, letter from former City Manager Mark Lauzier.

"The city has no legal standing to proceed," Lauzier wrote to Marine Way residents.

Again, in December, city staffers said they were researching that the city has ownership of Marine Way.

Frustrated by the delays, longtime Marine Way resident Clark Johnson began signing a three-sandbag-tall wall this spring.

It was on the eastern side of Marine Way, along 440 feet of the Intracoastal.

"I researched the city’s development rules and did not see any mentions of sandbags," Johnson said.

The 72-year-old started filling the sandbags himself, but after he filled and stacked 90, he hired a lawn guy and a worker to do the remaining 1,210 bags. "I'm just too old," he said.

The wall was three-fourths finished when Johnson received a code violation on July 8. The notice gave him 72 hours to remove the sandbags.

"What changed?" the new city attorney asked a different consultant, a lawyer who concluded the city owned the eastern side of Marine Way. "I want to know who is to blame," Johnson said.

"They should have left the sandbags up to see whether they are a short-term fix," Johnson said.

Her title-search documents say she owns the property to the Intracoastal. "The city is overusing its power," she said. "I don't want the city to take away my dock," DePonte said. "It's part of my property's value. I've paid taxes on it for 30 years and have permits for it from the city and the Army Corps." Johnson said the city is relying on a faulty survey from 1939 to show ownership. The surveyor relied on a 1931 deed to whom the property was given to the Frank T. Noble estate erroneously gave the city roads, including Canal Street/Marine Way, that he did not own, Johnson said.

The man plans to take the city to court to cover the cost of the sandbags and the expected water damage to his home in the fall from the king tides.

The four other buildings on Marine Way are owned by lawyer Adam Bankier and developer Burt Handelsman, who said both children. Nobody could be reached for comment.

**Marina delay discussed**

Separately, Delray Beach staff met again in late July with marina-area residents at the Veterans Park community center to explain why the project is still delayed.

The marina work was supposed to start in May, but the two lowest bidders dropped out, according to city documents. On May 21, the City Commission awarded the contract to B&M Marine Construction Inc. of Deerfield Beach. Work began July 29 when B&M started preparing the site. The actual construction will start at the end of August, said Glen Bryant, B&M president.

Even though the commission awarded the project on May 21, B&M could not start immediately, said Isaac Kovner, project manager. Contracts had to go back and forth between the city and B&M, insurance had to be acquired by B&M and then a purchase order had to be signed, Kovner said on July 30.

The city has lost about $25,000 in rental income from the marina, which leases 31 boats, eight designated for live-aboard owners.

The boarders were ordered to leave by May 1 and won’t be able to return for another year if the work isn’t completed.

"Will there be Wi-Fi and any security cameras?" live-aboard boater Dylan Henderson asked.

Kovner said the marina will have Wi-Fi but not security cameras. After groans from some meeting attendees, he said the contractor might be able to supply the connections for the security cameras.

The project will bring new floating docks, a new marina, new security cameras, new parking lots and landscaping. A small park just west of the sea wall will hold stormwater runoff.

Architect Russ Cope, who also chairs a city advisory board, asked about the design of the proposed gazebos at the marina. He suggested the city use the same plans as the new gazebos at the beach.

"That way, no approvals will be needed," he said.
Suzanne Boyd seemed to be living a dream life. She spent 20 years as an award-winning journalist for CBS12 in West Palm Beach and was the co-anchor of the station’s morning show. She was one of the most recognizable TV personalities in the area. But something was missing — quality time with her two children, daughter Laine, 15, and son Trace, 9. She was fed up with going to bed at 6:30 p.m., working the morning show and getting home after the kids had already gone to school. So, she did something about her lifestyle. She retired from the news business in September 2018. Now she has time for her children and more time for herself.

“I can go to bed with them,” she said, “wake up with them, go to their school events. We can go away and work remotely.”

After a few months of experiencing retirement, Boyd finds that she is as busy as ever. She has just rearranged her schedule. She formed Suzanne Boyd Productions and has created, with former CBS12 anchor Eric Roby, a morning digital talk show called Rise Live with Roby and Suzie. She produces a digital livestream show with psychotherapist Shannon Thompson Jones called What Your Friends Won’t Tell You. She also makes time to do a podcast called People of Palm Beach, and she co-wrote The Dream Pillow, a storybook.

“These days, she works by her own schedule and has plenty of time for her children.

“I realized in the process it wasn’t my schedule or my job that made me a busy person,” she said. “Suzanne Boyd is just a busy person and that is not going to change. I enjoy being busy and I love what I’m doing. It is a lot of fun.”

Neighbors in Place Au Soleil in Gulf Stream have also been reintroduced to Boyd, who is 46 and divorced.

“I started to be more social in the neighborhood by walking my dog more often, so I see people a lot more,” she said. “But in the last six months I’ve met many more of my neighbors than I ever did when I was doing the morning TV show.” Sounds like mission accomplished for Boyd. More time for the children. Revamped work schedule. And more time for herself.

“I love being around people and make my living in the public eye, but I recharge by being alone,” she said. “Yoga and quiet time feed my soul. I even found walking on the beach. I never used to do this or go watch the sunrise because I was always inside when the sun rose. But watching the sunrise, those little things that people take for granted. Those are the things that I really do appreciate.”

— Stephen Moore

Q: Where did you grow up and go to school? How do you think that has influenced you?

A: I grew up in a tiny town in North Florida called Monticello. My dad is a sixth-generation Florida farmer, so I grew up working in the fields. I think that taught me the value of hard work. But I also HATED farm life and wanted badly to leave Monticello. I went to University of Florida to study journalism and never looked back.

Q: What professions have you worked in? What professional accomplishments are you most proud of?

A: I’ve worked working since I was 13. I started in the fields as a cotton scout and harvesting nursery stock. I also worked at the local pharmacy fountain as a soda jerk and cashier, and then as a bartender and waitress in college.

I started working in TV and radio in college and got my first reporting gig in Sarasota after college. I was at CBS12 in West Palm Beach for 20 years before retiring from the news business and starting my own company. I’m most proud of our coverage during hurricanes. Even though it was exhausting, it felt like that was the most important job — being there for our community during a frightening and difficult time.

Q: What advice do you have for a young person seeking a career today?

A: Be true to yourself. Never compromise your values. Do what you love.

Q: How did you choose to make your home in Place Au Soleil in Gulf Stream?

A: I had a friend who lived in Place Au Soleil and absolutely loved the neighborhood. I found out that Bernard and Stephanie Molyneux were renovating a home in here and I made them an offer when the home was completely gutted because I knew if I went on the market it would be gone in a heartbeat.

Q: What is your favorite part about living in Gulf Stream?

A: The community feel, the safety. They really care about our community.

Q: Do you have a mentor? If so, who?

A: Tim Stepien, my former boss. He was fed up with going to school.

Q: Do you listen to music when you are feeling down or when you are feeling happy?

A: Any music! I love music. I’m a huge Dave Matthews fan. I’ve probably seen him in concert close to 100 times.

Q: What music do you listen to when you want to relax?

A: When I was working at CBS12 and waking up at 2:30 a.m., the officers would often wait at the end of my street to make sure I got out the door and in my car safely. They really care about our community.

Q: What book are you reading now?

A: The Opposable Mind, by Roger Martin. It was a gift from a local CEO who said it helped him in business.

Q: What music do you listen to when you want to relax?

A: Any music! I love music. I’m a huge Dave Matthews fan. I’ve probably seen him in concert close to 100 times.

Q: What music do you listen to when you want to relax?

A: Any music! I love music. I’m a huge Dave Matthews fan. I’ve probably seen him in concert close to 100 times.

Q: Who/what makes you laugh?

A: My kids.
South Palm Beach
South Palm could join Palm Beach for beach restoration project
By Dan Moffett
After Palm Beach County abruptly pulled out of a plan to stabilize her town’s eroding shoreline in February, South Palm Beach Mayor Bonnie Fischer said she was determined to find another option.
Now Fischer says she’s working on the details of a Plan B that she says would bolster the town’s dune line and replenish the lost sand on its beaches.
The partner this time isn’t the county but the town of Manalapan, which Fischer is negotiating an agreement with her neighbor to the north to work together on a beach dune restoration project that calls for burying tons of newly dredged sand from Palm Beach and moving it to the shores of the South Palm Beach condos.
Besides sand, the project would involve new plantings — sea oats in particular — to fortify the town’s dunes.

The cost to South Palm Beach could run about $700,000. The town has the money, approaching the all-time high of 2018-2019 fiscal year in a stronger economic climate, to fortify the town’s dunes.
The advantage of using dredged ocean sand, rather than hauling it from inland sources, as that town does in surrounding municipalities, is that the sand is what’s already on the beaches.
Fischer said she has the support of Palm Beach Mayor Gail Corrigan and her counterparts’ Town Council for the partnership.
“Gail has been extremely helpful,” Fischer said. “We’re very fortunate if this goes through with Palm Beach and we’ll be able to get some sand. Otherwise, we have no other option. We’re all private beach. The state’s not going to come in and fund a project.”
State Rep. Mike Caruso, R-Delray Beach, has confirmed that no help is likely to come from Tallahassee anytime soon.
During a report on the legislative session given to South Palm Beach council at its July 23 meeting, Caruso said the devastation caused by Hurricane Michael last year has drawn all the state’s beach resources to the Panhandle.
“Mexico Beach still doesn’t have electricity and still doesn’t have water,” Caruso said. “One of the things we were disappointed about is that almost all the dollars for beach restoration and dune recovery were shipped up there to help those folks who were devastated by Michael.”
Fischer said she hopes to have Robert Weber, the coordinator of Palm Beach’s coastal protection and dredging program, discuss the plan at South Palm Beach’s Aug. 13 meeting. Work could begin as early as November when turtle season ends.
One major hurdle that remains is gaining easement access to bring the sand to the coastline. Fischer and Town Manager Robert Kellogg have been meeting with condo groups during the past month, trying to reach agreement.
Easements from condos were also a problem with the county project, which called for installing a network of seven concrete groins to hold sand and stabilize the town’s beaches.
The project, which was conceived after Hurricane Wilma tore up the South Palm waterfront in 2005, also was met with opposition from neighbors to the south who claimed the groins would interfere with the natural flow of ocean water.
The town of Manalapan and the Eau Palm Beach Resort & Spa threatened to sue to stop the project. In the end, county officials cited soaring costs — from a $10 million plan to something closer to $25 million — for shutting it down.
“It’s still a roll of the dice because one storm could take out all the sand,” Fischer said of South Palm’s Plan B. “But we don’t have another choice.”

An upbeat financial report for the town
By Dan Moffett
South Palm is closing out the 2018-2019 fiscal year in a stronger financial position than it has been at any other time during the past decade.
And the town’s future appears to be even brighter — at least for the short term.
Property values are up 5.57 percent over last year, extending an upward trend from the past decade. The Palm Beach County property appraiser puts the town’s assessed value at about $362 million, approaching the all-time high mark of $432 million in 2007 before the Great Recession and real estate downturn.
By the end of the next year, the 30 luxury condominiums at 3550 S. Ocean Blvd. are expected to be completed and move onto the tax rolls, adding another $80 million to $100 million of valuation.
Town Manager Robert Kellogg says South Palm’s budget for the second half of the fiscal year includes $1.05 million for the first year.
Mayor Bonnie Fischer and her council at its July 23 meeting, Caruso said the town’s last budget was $1.05 million for the first year.
“I’m happy to announce that the merger is moving along very smoothly,” Fischer told the commission.
“At the end of last year, we ran about $700,000. The town has the money, approaching the all-time high of the 2018-2019 fiscal year in a stronger economic climate, to fortify the town’s dunes.
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South Palm could join Palm Beach for beach restoration project
By Dan Moffett
The Palm Beach County Zoning Commission unanimously approved a variance request for the developer of the Gulf Stream Views townhouse project on July 5, allowing the construction of 14 small swimming pools on the property.
The approval came over the objections of two dozen residents of Briny Breezes and the County Pocket who attended the hearing — and the objections of the commission’s own staff.
County planners and plan reviewers had recommended that the request from New Jersey-based NR Living be denied, asserting that the developer failed to satisfy several criteria necessary for allowing the exception.
Residents complained about flooding problems since late last year when dozens of trucks of fill were hauled into the 2-acre site to raise the grade to 16 feet.
But commissioners dismissed those complaints, saying the issue before them was the swimming pools — not drainage problems or runoff from the site.
“Another variance for developers. The hardship is that happening is to neighboring residents who now are experiencing flooding,” Commissioner John Henry said.
“Tough sell for developers. But we’ve had a lot of good work, a Palm Beach County circuit judge ruled July 30.
Gulf Stream and a 12th O’Boyle lawyer, Elaine Johnson James, were also given 10 days to agree on her legal fees or seek a hearing to determine them.
James, who represented resident Martin O’Boyle’s lawyers argued they should be paid for work through the judgment; the town said it should be liable only up to when the last records were produced.
Kegel agreed with O’Boyle.
“It is clear to the court that the town has failed to respond to what was candidly necessary,” Kegel wrote. “Nevertheless the court concludes that ... the plaintiff is entitled to costs of enforcement (attorney’s fees) through the conclusion of the case.”
Jonathan O’Boyle, Martin’s son, will receive the largest amount under Kelley’s ruling. O’Boyle has filed a request that O’Boyle made to see got copies of a letter he had written the town about rules on sober homes. The town gave him three additional documents two days later, filed

County Pocket/Briny Breezes
County zoning board unanimously OK splash pools for townhouse project
By Dan Moffett
Records Act in four others.

The town owes 11 lawyers more than $65,000 for their legal work, a Palm Beach County circuit judge ruled July 30.
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Penn-Florida Cos. has secured a $225 million construction loan from Madison Realty Capital for the third and final tower of The Residences at Mandarin Oriental, 105 E. Camino Real, Boca Raton.

Construction of The Residences, which commenced several months ago, is scheduled to be completed in less than two years along with the new Mandarin Oriental Hotel. Anthony Orso, president of Newmark Capital Market Strategies, arranged the financing.

The project broke ground at Southeast Mizner Properties, an Elad Group company. The project broke ground at Southeast Mizner Boulevard in Boca Raton this year, and construction is underway on 121 one- to four-bedroom condominiums designed by Garcia Stromberg/ GS4 Studios. They are slated for completion in the fourth quarter of 2020. Prices range over $6 million.

Quisenberry, who has a private practice in Delray Beach, is passionate about animal rescue and volunteers weekly with organizations that provide medical treatment and care for stray pets.

"I am excited to build upon his foundation and continue his standard of care, community involvement and work to support Sandoway’s mission," Quisenberry said. "Dr. McOwen’s dedication to his profession with organizations that provide medical treatment and care for stray pets weekly is inspiring," Quisenberry said.

Mike Walsh has listed his 8,796-square-foot, six-bedroom home at 1003 Rhodes Villa Ave., Delray Beach, for $6.295 million with Nicholas Malinosky and Randy Ely, agents with Douglas Elliman. The property has 243 feet on the Intracoastal Waterway and is equipped to fit two 112-foot yachts. Amenities include a movie theater, gym and wine room. Walsh is president at Ocean Properties Ltd., a privately held hotel management and development company that has more than 30 hotels in Florida and operates more than 100 properties in North America.

The annual awards list the top one-half percent of the nation’s real estate professionals.

In the Individuals by Sales Volume category, David Roberts, Royal Palm Properties, Boca Raton, placed 42nd with $142,952,038. Candace Friss, the Corcoran Group, Delray Beach, placed 73rd with $142,952,038. Pascal Liguori, Premier Estate Properties, Delray Beach, placed 76th with $140,678,000.

In the Individual Teams by Sales Volume category, the Corcoran Group, Delray Beach, celebrated a major expansion at a grand reopening party in June.

The Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce chair's club recently hosted a presentation by Carolyn Gosselin, senior vice president of investor relations with the Florida State Chamber of Commerce. Her “Uniting Business for Good” rating construction, professional and business services and health services at the top in 2019 Florida forecasts for jobs created and industry growth rates.

"Dr. Q," known as Dr. Kristin Quisenberry, has been named the new lead veterinarian at Sandoway Discovery Center. Dr. Scott McOwen, an original founder of the center, who has guided its animal-care efforts for two decades, has been named director emeritus.

"Dr. McOwen’s dedication and commitment toward education and preservation of our coastal ecosystem is inspiring," Quisenberry said.

"For the category Teams by Sales Volume, Nicholas Malinosky and Randy Ely of Douglas Elliman, Delray Beach, placed 188th with $148,558,425.

Barcarella

The Mandalin buildings will dominate the northeastern corner of Camino Real and Federal Highway.
to Debbie Wemyss, the PR Star. The President Award went to Moore PR.

The Presidents Award went to the South Florida Sun-Sentinel for its sensitive coverage of the Parkland school shooting and aftermath.

The South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreher Trail N., West Palm Beach, received two awards for its work in the STEM educational field: the Florida Department of Education Commissioner’s Business Award and the School District of Palm Beach County’s Business Partner Gold-level Award.

Through a partnership with the American Boat and Yacht Council, Palm Beach State College now offers a curriculum designed to train marine service technicians. Students will gain hands-on experience in labs and on boats and each receive a postsecondary adult vocational certificate. Graduates also leave the program with an ABYC student certification.

Classes for the program start Aug. 22, and those interested in enrolling should attend the information session on Aug. 7, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in room ETD 103 of the Education and Training Center on the Lake Worth campus, 4200 S. Congress Ave.

For more information, call Eligio Marquez Jr., transportation technology program director, at 868-3542 or email marquezejr@palmbeachstate.edu. More information is also available at www.palmbeachstate.edu/programs/_marine_service.

The expanding marine industry in Palm Beach, Broward and Miami-Dade counties had an estimated economic impact of $12 billion in 2018, an increase from $11.5 billion in 2014, according to a study by Thomas J. Murray and Associates, provided by the Marine Industries Association of Palm Beach County. This growth translates to a 2018 total of 32,233 employees in marine services in the tricounty area.

In July, Palm Beach Media Group, a subsidiary of Hour Media and publisher of Palm Beach Illustrated and Naples Illustrated, acquired the assets of Florida Design magazine and its family of home design publications, which were headquartered in Boca Raton.

The League of Women Voters of Palm Beach County’s Topic Luncheon at 11 a.m. Aug. 21 will feature Wendy Sartory Link, Palm Beach County supervisor of elections. The cost to attend is $25 before Aug. 14, and $35 afterward. It will be held at the Atlantis Country Club, 190 S. Atlantis Blvd. RSVPs are requested at www.lwvpbc.org or by calling Esther Friedman at 968-4123.

Also, Boca Chamber Festival Days, an annual August happening where nonprofit chamber members join forces with for-profit chamber members, offers residents the opportunity to partake in a select variety of community events. For a list, visit https://web.bocaratonchamber.com/advocacy/boca_chamber_festival_days.aspx.

Demolishing memories
Wright by the Sea, Delray Beach — July 26

Wright by the Sea, for 68 years a family-owned hotel at 1901 S. Ocean Blvd., is being razed to make way for 19 luxury residences on the almost 2-acre beachfront parcel. The new enclave is named Ocean Delray. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star
Like its owner, Old Key Lime House retains one-of-a-kind spirit

By Charles Elmore

To hear Wayne Cordero tell it, opening restaurants turned out to be a leap of faith as daunting as diving into any circus ring. As a child, he wanted to be a biker, and as an adult he wanted to be a restaurateur. “Although I’ve succeeded, I’ve failed many times in the restaurant business,” said Cordero, 79, who has opened, closed or sold more than 40 eateries in his day, from crab houses to Mexican. “Anybody will tell you it’s one of the hardest businesses.”

Over the years under his family’s ownership, the Old Key Lime House will go down as anything but a passing splash. It has swamped the average restaurant lifespan of roughly 4.5 years.

Indeed, the Lantana landmark is itself Florida’s oldest waterfront restaurant, counting previous owners who sold fish and oysters decades before Lantana was incorporated as a town. A series of restaurants occupied it before Cordero bought it in 1986. “When I walked in here for the first time, it had been closed for like two years,” he said. “Nobody had bought it. I walked around the back and saw the water. I thought, ‘Gee, I like this. Holy cow. What don’t they see here?’”

First-time visitors to the restaurant can experience the same odd sensation of stepping through a portal. They enter a wooden house painted in a colorful Key West or Bahamian style, but the back of the house melts into a sprawling indoor-outdoor space that includes a little, quiet area with no central air conditioning. Fans and cold drinks abound.

Five restaurants in one

Folks soon realize what Cordero means when he says it’s like five restaurants in one. Walls hold everything from historical photographs to family memorabilia, along with tools that used to be a tackle box and a stuffed brown bear. “Without them, we didn’t have a plan to rezone an adjacent property Cordero owns so it can be used for office or commercial space, despite support from several speakers such as Dave Arm, president of the Chamber of Commerce,” Michelle Donahue, of Hypoluxo Island, called herself a regular customer of the Old Key Lime House and a regular customer, who also opposed the zoning change. “When the time comes for the family to sell, ‘what does that do? What’s the comprehensive plan? I’m afraid that by zoning that commercial you’re opening yourself to a whole different ballpark that could change the dynamic of the center of our town.”

Wayne Cordero said he was not disappointed by that outcome, calling the concerns of neighbors understandable, even as Lantana will continue to face difficult decisions about growth and development ahead.

Donahue said she has become an even bigger fan of Cordero and the Key Lime House since that meeting. Last December, when she and other residents joined forces with Community Greening of Delray to plant 15 oak trees along Ocean Avenue, the Corderos stepped in to not only pay for the project ($5,000), but also to send a crew from the restaurant to help.

“Without them, we didn’t have the money,” Donahue said. “They showed their community support not only with their pocketbook, but with their labor.”

Despite hurricanes and the eb and flow of business tides, Wayne Cordero shows no signs of regret for diving right into this particular restaurant deal. In hindsight, it looks like pretty good horse sense.

“This has been a delight,” he said. “It’s an idyllic spot.”

Mary Thruwachter contributed to this story.
OBIITUARY

Clyde E. DeShields

By Sallie James

BOCA RATON — He was a savvy Boca Raton entrepreneur whose 62-year-old business is still open today, but those closest to Clyde E. DeShields say his greatest legacy was his devotion to family and dedication to helping single mothers. Mr. DeShields died at home on June 18 after a lengthy history of cancer. He was 89.

Mr. DeShields was born March 20, 1930, to Clyde and Dovie DeShields in Atlanta, but grew up in Fort Lauderdale, where he delivered newspapers as a boy, raised chickens and raced horses. His daughter, Debbie Stine, said he was always looking for ways to get ahead in life, having grown up in the care of a single mother from age 10. His mother worked multiple jobs to make ends meet.

Her struggles were something he never forgot, and his determination to help single mothers came from witnessing his mother’s efforts to support three children.

“His mother worked in the local drugstore and he knew he had to help out, and that is where a lot of that stemmed from. They were very, very poor,” Stine said.

In the early 1950s, Mr. DeShields served in the U.S. Army, spending time in South Carolina, Indiana and Japan. He married Marjorie Larson in 1952, and founded Smith and DeShields Inc. in Boca Raton in 1957.

He became known as a fierce competitor and a fair employer. The family-owned business — which manufactures doors, door hardware and molding — is operated by his children today, with offices in Boca Raton, Jupiter, Fort Myers and Naples.

Mr. DeShields was an avid outdoorsman who loved to fish, ride horses and enjoy nature. In 1979, he and his wife purchased property in Montana, where he fell in love with the West. But his roots were always in Boca.

He was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church and quietly provided financial assistance to single mothers and their children through his church connections. But he never sought acclaim for his good deeds, his daughter said.

He recently received a thank-you note from a young woman he had helped all the way through college. She wrote that if he hadn’t been in her life, she wouldn’t have been able to achieve what she had.

“He wasn’t the guy who was raising his hand in church. He wasn’t on the board of elders. He just did what Jesus told us all to do,” Stine said. “He was a mentor. There are no buildings named after him or streets named after him. He just did it.”

A longtime business associate wrote this to the family after learning of Mr. DeShields’ death: “Clyde was one of the most honest and kind individuals I have ever known. It was truly my pleasure to have known him so many years. He was always a man of his word.”

He is survived by his wife; sons David (Janice) DeShields, Daniel (Maryann) DeShields and Steven (Cynthia) DeShields; daughter Debbie (Jim) Stine; 10 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Services were July 26 at Glick Family Funeral Home, with burial at Boca Raton Cemetery. Donations in Mr. DeShields’ memory can be sent to St. Paul Lutheran Church and School, scholarship fund, 701 W. Palmetto Park Road, Boca Raton, FL 33486, or Eagle Mount, 6901 Goldenstein Lane, Bozeman, MT 59715.

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WINDING UP ON TOP

‘It was unbelievable’: Ocean Ridge pitcher closes out NCAA title

By Brian Biggane

There is no greater feat for a college athlete than to win an NCAA championship. Ocean Ridge resident Jake Eder reached that pinnacle in late June and did it in style, pitching three innings to close out Vanderbilt’s 8-2 victory over Michigan. That gave the Commodores the College World Series title in Omaha, Neb.

“When it was all said and done, it was unbelievable,” said Eder, a 6-foot-4, 210-pound sophomore left-hander who turns 21 this month.

Eder, a product of Jim Breslin’s Top 10 Florida Baseball Academy in Boynton Beach, pitched three years for Atlantic High School in Delray Beach before completing his high school career at Calvary Christian in Fort Lauderdale. Recruited by several schools,

Delray Beach’s Cori ‘Coco’ Gauff, 15, reacts to one of her Wimbledon match victories. She reached the round of 16. Photo provided AELTC/Florian Eisele

Coco’s stunning Wimbledon debut, AT6

The Aristocrats bring virtuosity to the Funky Biscuit. Page AT9
Philanthropy Notes

Cotillion Academy teens to learn leadership skills

The Junior League of the Palm Beaches is recruiting middle school students from South County to sign up for the 2019-2020 Cotillion Academy. The academy — one of the league’s oldest legacy programs as it enters its 62nd year— teaches dance, etiquette and leadership skills through monthly classes that run from October to April.

“What these students are gaining is not only just dance and etiquette and leadership skills but also confidence—boosting skills,” President Laura Wissa said. “These children flourish. These children blossom.”

“They learn everything from the foxtrot and the rumba to the salsa and the waltz as well as how to hold their partners properly in a ballroom-style setting.

“Since we are teaching middle-school-aged students, we use an open-frame partner positioning to ensure that no one is uncomfortable and everyone stays appropriate,” Cotillion Co-Chairwoman Kayla Foriere said.

The etiquette lessons include how to greet acquaintances and make introductions — in addition to table manners — all with a modern twist.

Foriere Puddington

“I think we have come a long way in making Cotillion relevant and inclusive to middle schoolers while still keeping the tradition alive,” said Foriere, a Cotillion Academy graduate.

“The structure of it was very much the same as it is now. We wore white gloves and had instructors teach us dance and etiquette. It was a great experience, and there are so many elements that I have been able to apply throughout my life.”

Co-Chairwoman Kelsey Puddington said one of the things that has changed is technology.

“For instance, when is sending a thank-you text or email appropriate vs. a traditional thank-you card in the mail?” Puddington said.

“Sixty-two years ago, there were no cell phones or texting. All communication was done person to person.”

The leadership component will be taught by Craig Domeck, dean of the Catherine T. MacArthur School of Leadership at Palm Beach Atlantic University.

“We have taken traditional as well as just dancing and etiquette and modernized it by adding a leadership component,” Puddington said.

“That makes our program incredibly unique.”

The program culminates April 7 with a ball at the Four Seasons Resort Palm Beach. For more information, call 689-7590 or visit www.jlpb.org.

Foundation funds to help local youths in poverty

Boca West Children’s Foundation granted a record $1.1 million this past season to Palm Beach County nonprofits that support local youths.

Since its inception in 2010, the foundation has given more than $8 million to the cause.

“Sixty-two years ago, there were no cell phones or texting. All communication was done person to person.”

The grant will enable the center to meet the growing need for mental health services for the at-risk population in Palm Beach County. It also will provide education and training to the next generation of mental health professionals through a community-outreach intervention program.

“Through this generous grant from Quantum Foundation, the Faulk Center will work to strengthen children and families with mental health services provided by graduate students pursuing master’s or doctoral degrees in psychology, social work and mental health counseling,” CEO Vicki Katz said. “As a direct result, these students — engaged in the mental health community — receive an enriched sense of purpose in their lives to pursue professional careers in the Palm Beach County workforce.”

The foundation’s mission is to fund initiatives that improve the health of the community and its residents.

Grant to help Faulk Center meet growing need

The Faulk Center for Counseling has received a one-time grant of $65,000 from the Quantum Foundation to fund ACCESS: Child and Family Counseling for Medically Underserved & Uninsured Children and Families.

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Celebrations

Taste of Recovery
Old School Square, Delray Beach — June 1

The third-annual benefit featured savory bites from a variety of area restaurants along with live entertainment. More than $75,000 was raised for the Crossroads Club, a nonprofit 12-step-based meeting center that supports an average of 900 men and women a day who are pursuing recovery. Delray Beach City Commissioner Bill Bathurst presented the Vision of Hope Award to Marc Woods. The People’s Choice award went to Louie Bossi’s and the Critic’s Choice award went to Proper Ice Cream. Each of them donated their $2,500 winnings back to the Crossroads Club.

Founder’s Luncheon
Kravis Center, West Palm Beach — May 7

The Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties welcomed nearly 500 guests to the annual event that highlights key findings from the On the Table initiative. ‘This year, we were honored to celebrate the profound impact our new initiatives and fund holders have on our community,’ Bradley Hurlburt, president and CEO, told the crowd of board members, corporate sponsors, donors and local nonprofit leaders. ‘With over 4,000 participants, we were thrilled to share the results of our first-ever On the Table initiative, which found that housing, economic development and poverty are some of the most pressing issues in need of community resources. We look forward to continuing the conversation with residents on these issues and more for the second iteration of On the Table in November.’

LETTERS: The Coastal Star welcomes letters to the editor about issues of interest in the community. These are subject to editing and must include your name, address and phone number. Preferred length is 200-500 words. Send email to editor@thecoastalstar.com.
Lisabet Summa is putting her name on a restaurant at last. The longtime chef, consultant and partner of Big Time Restaurant Group has opened Elisabetta’s Ristorante, Bar and Pizzeria on Atlantic Avenue.

The Italian restaurant borrows a good deal of its menu from Louie Bossi’s — another in the BTR group with partners Todd Herbst and Bill Watson — and takes over the two-story space that was 32 East in Delray Beach.

We spoke by phone the week before she opened.

“I’m excited and nervous, too,” Summa said. “I’ve been with them 25 years — that’s almost half my life. This is the first time my name is on a restaurant, though.”

BTR is behind City Cellar in West Palm Beach, Big City Tavern in Fort Lauderdale, and numerous Rocco’s Tacos.

Hard to believe it’s already been 11 years since Rocco’s took off, Summa said. “We were three or more years ahead of the trend of taquerias,” she said.

The group has moved from American regional cuisine at its original City Tavern to chef-driven Mexican at Rocco’s to taking on Southern Italian-American with Louie Bossi’s — and now Elisabetta’s, Summa said. Her part of it draws on her father’s roots in Basilicata, Italy.

“I’m 50 percent Italian on my father’s side. Growing up, going to a really Italian community in St. Louis where all father’s relatives were, was really my immersion into Italian food, or at least, what my Italian family was cooking: braciole, lasagne. I never went to a specialty grocery store to get, say, aged Parmesan. It was an Italian community with Italian restaurants, grocery stores. It was called The Hill.”

She’s close to Louie Bossi, whom she hired and mentored 15 years ago. “I call him my brother; he might as well be.”

The Delray restaurant was first announced as Louie Bossi’s, but was changed to Elisabetta’s early on.

“We needed to diversify,” Summa said. “It’s such a different space being two stories. And it’s too close to Boca to have it be a Louie’s.”

His recipes, including the famous fist-sized meatballs, form the core of the menu.

“I’d say about 15 percent are new dishes,” Summa said. “We looked at things from his menu we could improve on. We have to have cannoli. Have to have meatballs — they’re his nonna’s recipe or his mom’s.

“We stayed in our lane. So much of Southern Italian is expected and known. We didn’t want to reinvent the wheel with Italian. We did add more vegetable focus. We have a raw and lightly cooked crudité, pinzamonio — a veggie-centric platter of crudité. It’s a salad, cold, all veggies dressed like a salad.”

The walnut vinaigrette on the vegetable salad is from a recipe and technique shared by Judith Olney, cookbook author.

Summa incorporates as many local products as possible, but, she said, “This time of year, we’re dead in the water with local farms.”

New pastas and pizzas are on the menu, including a guanciale pizza made with house-made guanciale and stracciatella. A couple of new sandwiches also complement the menu, she said.

“One is with a caponata, and one with imported tuna.”

Several dishes will come from the modern combi oven added in the rebuilt kitchen. With every restaurant the group builds, the kitchen is upgraded, something she’s proud her group can achieve.
Dining

A hearty salad at Deck 84

The Plate: Balsamic Chicken Salad
The Place: Deck 84, 840 E. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach; 665-8484 or www.deck84.com.

The Bistro

The Skinny: One of the nicest things about Deck 84 is how much it evokes old-time Delray Beach, especially if you sit outside. The Atlantic Avenue bridge opens and closes just as it did decades ago, when Busch’s Seafood had the space.

But the restaurant and its menu are decidedly 21st century in their approaches.

Case in point: This month’s Plate.

You could smell the chickeny goodness of this salad as soon as the server approached the table.

Large pieces of white-meat chicken that were grilled until tender sat atop a bed of mixed greens and romaine. Cherry tomatoes lent a sweet touch that was tempered by the plentiful chunks of tangy goat cheese and the toasted pine nuts.

Lettuce: It’s too healthy, that is crispy on top — the sweet onion fried until lighter than air. It was dressed with a balsamic vinaigrette that complemented the chicken.

Scott Simmons

Summa said she has always stressed and taught food costs and balance sheets in the kitchen, so the staff understands the cost of the business.

“The staff is taught food is money,” Summa explained. “If you walk into a kitchen and see a piece of lettuce on the floor and point it to ask, ‘What is that?’ your cooks answer ‘Mom.’

“The comb oven is a modern marvel and expensive, the first one in our group of restaurants.”

“We named it Sophia, for Sophia Loren. She’s beautiful. She gets cleaned every night. If you tell me if my staff if they keep your food costs down, you can buy equipment like this,” Summa said.

A trip to Italy with the chef who heads the team at Elisabetta’s, Kevin Dart, led to an orange-olive oil cake for the dessert list.

“We went to Italy and visited Dario’s, the famous butcher in Chianti. We tasted this cake and I came home and asked my pastry chef to find a recipe for it,” Summa said.

“Classics are coming over from Louie Bossi’s — cannoli and cheesecake.

“The recipe for Louie’s cheesecake is the best, so it’s perfect. Again, we stayed in our lane. A twist on the cannoli: It’s house-made. We make the cannoli, fry the shells, and use a pistachio paste.

“The cannoli, however, will be the gelato. ‘Instead of a salumi bar in Louie’s, we’ll have a gelato bar. Friends of ours from Italy who had a shop are our own gelato consigliere,’” Summa said, laughing. “Gelato is an important tradition in the south. It’s lower fat and lower sugar than American ice cream. Italians get a gelato a certain time of day like we get a latte or italians get a gelato a certain sugar than American ice cream.

“We named the gelato bar. Friends of Elisabetta’s, Kevin Dart, led to an orange-olive oil cake for the dessert list.

“The recipe for Louie’s cheesecake is the best, so it’s perfect. Again, we stayed in our lane. A twist on the cannoli: It’s house-made. We make the cannoli, fry the shells, and use a pistachio paste.

“The gelato is an important tradition in the south. It’s lower fat and lower sugar than American ice cream. Italians get a gelato a certain time of day like we get a latte or coffee — it’s just a tradition.

Four flavors a day will be offered, along with special toppings created in-house.

“We soak raspberries in a vanilla gelato; an aged balsamic vinegar, which is traditional with strawberries in Italy; a salted marcona almond chocolate-covered brittle; and a honeycomb with a thyme-honey-butter sauce,” Summa said.

She has gone beyond the norm to it keeps the creamy dessert smooth. “We’ve put a lot of time and money researching gelato. We have an Italian gelato freezer; it melts differently at a different temperature than ice cream, so you can’t just adjust a regular American ice cream freezer. It’s one that keeps it from icing, and makes it always scoopable and the same texture throughout.

With a number of Italian restaurants already in downtown Delray, Summa is aware of the competition. She’s making this her priority, however, and anxiety isn’t helping her migraines. But she’s trying to relax, sewing new aprons for her sous chefs — her new hobby, she said.

“What do we do is different. Hopefully it will meet expectations. We love Delray. We’ve been there so long. It’s a place where people congregate, hang out,” she said.

“With our time comes a bit of boldness. I think there’s always room at the top. That’s the only place we aim to be when we open.”

Elisabetta’s Ristorante, Bar and Pizzeria, 32 E. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach. Open 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. daily for lunch (brunch on weekends), dinner and late-night menus. 560-6695; www.elisabettas.com

Boca’s Mizner Park is turning over its shops and restaurants, and the general manager of Brookfield Properties, the landlord, says a few established restaurants from Palm Beach County will open there.

Calaveras Cantina, already seated in Jupiter’s Harbourside Plaza, brings its modern Mexican fare with a lively bar scene to Mizner in the former Junior’s space.

Gary Rack, which closed this year, will be occupied by The Blue Fish, a Japanese sushi restaurant chain from Texas.

The Subculture Group, led by Dubliner and Kappo owner Rodney Mayo, is expanding its holdings in the plaza by adding Lost Weekend, a bar with pool and other games, art and food. It is set to take over the former Cheese Course next to the iPic Theater.

Subculture Coffee, a modern coffeehouse with branches on Clematis in West Palm Beach, Jupiter, Delray Beach and South Beach, will lease space as well.

Uncle Julio’s, a Mexican eatery that anchored the north end of the plaza, will become a bowling venue, Strike 10.

Meanwhile, Max’s Grill, an original restaurant in the plaza, is having a revamp. It’s partially closed off but still serving as it undergoes a freshening with new interior.

As the mixed-use plaza changes, other tenants will be announced for the 28-year-old site built by Tom Crocker.

In brief… The Arts Garage in downtown Delray Beach gets a new bar program, with a full permanent bar inside the venue. It’s to keep prices down yet offer guests drinks before and after performances. Beer, wines and liquors will be available. Patrons can no longer bring their own alcohol, but they are still welcome to bring their own foods, according to Arts Garage spokesperson Stephanie Immelmann.

Chef Thomas O’Pli Holt at 50 Ocean in Delray Beach has come up with a fun way to highlight special menus featuring American regional cuisine. Once a month through July 2020, he’ll take diners on a Great American Road Trip with menu offerings representing famous streets in America.

First stop is Delray’s Atlantic Avenue, where he’ll honor George Morikami’s fruits and vegetable farms, the Orange Grove House history as a shipwreck refuge, and the speakeasy that was the old Arcade Tap Room. Included are historical footnotes about the area. For this menu, foods such as a kumquat-Mediterranean hearts of palm salad, smoked swordfish, and a sour orange pse will represent Delray Beach.

He’ll also highlight dishes from such areas as Calle Ocho in Miami, Lombard Street in San Francisco, Chicago’s Miracle Mile, 6th Street in Austin, Texas, and Hanover Street in Boston.

Tickets for the Atlantic Avenue dinner, scheduled Aug. 7 at 6:30 p.m., are $85.25 per person (valet parking included); part of the money goes to the Delray Beach Historical Society. Get tickets at www.50ocean.com.

Get ready for Rose’s Daughter: The Italian sister restaurant to nearby Brule opens in Pineapple Grove this month. Read all about it at https://thecoastalstar.com/profiles/blogs/dining-

pineapple-grove-s-newest-italian-

restaurant-boasts-chef-s-family-

recipes… Delray Beach loses Sardinia Enoteca, a modern Mediterranean that opened to much fanfare two years ago. It closed mid-July…

You still have a few days to get in on Dine Out Delray through Aug. 7. More than 38 restaurants participate in the prix-fixe lunch and dinner deals. Find them at www.downtowndelraybeach.com/restaurantweek.
Delray athletes winning international acclaim

By Brian Biggane

Fifteen-year-old Cori “Coco” Gauff of Delray Beach made international headlines when she became the youngest woman in the modern era to qualify for the main draw at Wimbledon — and reached the fourth round, becoming the youngest to achieve that feat since Jennifer Capriati in 1991.

Gauff wasn’t the only southern Palm Beach County athlete to enjoy remarkable success this summer.

Professional golfer Gary Woodland, who moved to coastal Delray Beach three years ago, also made a splash when he earned the first major victory of his career at the U.S. Open in mid-June at Pebble Beach.

Woodland, a member at Pine Tree Golf Club in Boynton Beach, had only two-10 finishes in 30 previous tries at majors, a sixth at the 2018 PGA Championship and an eighth at the 2019 PGA.

And Gulf Stream resident Kevin Anderson, who beat Roger Federer in five sets on his way to a runner-up finish at Wimbledon last year, won his first two matches before falling in straight sets to Argentina’s Guido Pella in July.

While most of the pre-tournament hype centered on Serena Williams’ pursuit of her 24th major victory, Gauff arguably became a bigger story right out of the gate when she defeated her childhood idol, Venus Williams, in straight sets to Argentina’s Guido Pella in July.

While most of the pre-tournament hype centered on Serena Williams’ pursuit of her 24th major victory, Gauff arguably became a bigger story right out of the gate when she defeated her childhood idol, Venus Williams, in straight sets in the first round at the All England Club.

A former No. 1-ranked junior who earned her first WTA-level match victory at the Miami Open this past spring, Gauff impressed not only with her play on the court but with her display of maturity and perspective off it.

“Definitely a lot of buzz among the players when it came to Coco Gauff’s story,” Anderson said. “I remember hearing when she became the youngest player to qualify for Wimbledon and I felt a little proud that she lives in Delray Beach, too. Not only was she playing great and beating incredible players, but she was also handling the spotlight really well. I know we’re all looking to see what she does next and I hope she continues to do well.”

“My goal was to play my best,” Gauff said after defeating Williams. “My dream was to win. That’s what happened. I think people kind ofLimit themselves too much. Once you actually get your goal, then it’s like, ‘What do you do now?’ I like to shoot really high, so I always have many goals along the road, but that way you have the ultimate goal.”

The daughter of Corey Gauff, who played basketball at Georgia State, and the former Candis Odom, who was a track star at both Atlantic High School and Florida State, Coco moved with her parents to Delray Beach at age 7, one year after taking up the sport, to concentrate on tennis.

She has become a frequent visitor to the Delray Beach Tennis Center for training.

In 2014, at 10 years, 4 months, Coco became the youngest winner of the USTA Clay Court 12-and-under nationals. She won the girls singles championship at the 2018 French Open, her top result as a junior.

Mark Baron, tournament director of the ATP Delray Beach Open, said he was out to lunch at City Oyster on the par-3 16th hole as part of pre-tournament activities; the video of that pairing has become the most-watched in the history of the PGA Tour.

Two days after his U.S. Open win, the two appeared together on NBC’s “Today” show.

While a lengthy layoff due to an elbow injury hurt Anderson’s chances at Wimbledon, he made an impact in another way.

The president of the ATP Players Council, Anderson made an environmental statement by getting 4,500 plastic wrapping bags banned from the event.
Continued from page AT1

he made Vanderbilt his last visit and formed a bond with pitching coach Scott Brown.

"I pretty much knew I wanted to go there as soon as my visit ended," Eder said.

Used as a starter in nine of his 11 appearances as a freshman, Eder struggled, compiling a 4-4 record and 5.45 earned-run average.

"I kind of went through some stuff," Eder said. "The first year in the SEC is kind of a learning curve."

Coach Tim Corbin moved him to the bullpen to start this past season, first as a closer, then a middle reliever and finally what he termed "kind of an end-of-the-game type pitcher."

"He really grew over the course of the season," said Corbin, who was named National Coach of the Year after the season. "This is a kid who really, really loves pitching. It's all he thinks about, it's all he does. He's got a bright future just because of his passion for what he does, and how he goes about it."

Eder's numbers improved dramatically across the board, notably in ERA, where he improved to 2.97, and in strikeouts-to-walks ratio, which improved to 3.72 to 3.5-35.15.

"We had a closer per se, but he was kind of that next guy," Corbin said. "One of (our) top guys out of the bullpens. He really grew into that, and just developed more consistency the last third of the season."

Corbin trusted Eder enough to use him twice as the Commodores, who finished 59-12, won the Southeastern Conference tournament. He pitched two shutout innings in an 11-1 win over Auburn, then allowed one unearned run over 3 1/3 innings in an 11-10 victory over Mississippi in the final game. His lone appearance in the NCAA Regional featured a perfect ninth inning in an 8-5 victory over Indiana State after the Commodores had scored four runs in the inning.

After the Commodores took off for Duke in the Super Regional, Eder got the College World Series souvenir.

"I got two strikes on the guy and when I saw him pop it up," to centerfielder Pat DeMarco, "I knew. I just kind of turned around and waited for him to catch it and everyone celebrated."

"For me the goal is to come back and try to win another national championship," he said. "The draft will take care of itself."
Paws Up for Pets

When hurricanes head for South Florida, Dianne Sauve stays put. She does so to supervise the safety of many pets living in Palm Beach County. For the past 18 years, Sauve has endured nasty storms such as Irma and Wilma in her role as director of Palm Beach County Animal Care and Control.

Hurricane season is underway, with typically the most serious storms striking in September and October. That’s why Sauve unpens two key words: Plan now.

As the pet parent to four rescued dogs, Bradley and Delilah Rose and cats Grace and Hannah, Sauve knows of the importance of having a disaster preparedness game plan for her pets and herself. “Because I am required to report to the Emergency Operation Center as leader of the animal services unit, planning ahead is a must,” Sauve says. “I want the animal services unit to report to the Emergency Control Center at 6000 Northtree Blvd. in the West Boynton Recreation and Fitness Center at Park Vista High.

All household will be directed to the pet-friendly shelter at Park Vista High. Animals are permitted, and all other members of the household will be directed to stay at the nearby people-only shelter at Park Vista High.

You must register in advance and show proof of residency to bring your pets to the shelter. Keep in mind that only one person per household will be allowed to stay in the pet-friendly shelter, which will provide food. The pets will be housed in a separate area with scheduled times for their owners to visit them.

No reptiles or livestock animals are permitted, and all other members of the household will be directed to stay at the nearby people-only shelter at Park Vista High.

When you send your pet to a kennel or other boarding facility, you should bring carriers for cats, leashes and collars for dogs, up to five days of food and medications, water and food bowls, plus light bedding. If you send your pet to a kennel or other boarding facility, you should bring carriers for cats, leashes and collars for dogs, up to five days of pet food and medications, water and food bowls, plus light bedding.

If you go to the county shelter, consider bringing for yourself and your pets, copies of your homeowner’s insurance policy, driver’s license and health insurance cards. During and after a hurricane-stay alert and be in safety mode. Recognize that post-storm fences may be down, dangerous wildlife will be displaced, and outside water sources may be contaminated. Sauve says. “When you walk your dog on a leash after the storm, keep them out of standing water. Watch where the pets walk because dangerous and sharp debris are prevalent post-storm. And remember that the power of the storm not only can rattle you, but may affect your pets’ emotional state and cause them to react any way but calmly. ‘Dog bites increase after a disaster,’ says Sauve. ‘Our pets sense any anxiety or stress from their owners and they themselves have experienced mental trauma from the sounds and/or displacement from a storm. Do everything you can to keep your pet calm before, during and after a storm.’ Sauve misses her four pets when she is on the job at the packed shelter during storms, but she knows they are safe so she can focus on caring for pets in need.

‘I most enjoy making a difference in the lives of animals in our community and being able to add or strengthen laws that better protect animals,’ says Sauve. ‘I take great satisfaction in knowing that we have worked hard to save the animals in our community that are most at risk.’


Pets need hurricane season prep along with owners

Preparedness tips
To make sure you and your pets are ready before the next hurricane or any other disaster strikes, the ASPCA offers more details on its website. Go to www.aspca.org/pet-care/general-pet-care/disaster-preparedness.

It can accommodate up to 400 pets and 200 people.

‘Because the county currently only has one pet-friendly shelter, we can fill rapidly,’ says Sauve. ‘The pet-friendly shelter should be reserved for those people with no family to assist and for those people with pets who live in evacuation zones, or in housing such as modular units or mobile homes.’

You must register in advance and show proof of residency to bring your pets to the shelter. Keep in mind that only one person per household will be allowed to stay in the pet-friendly shelter, which will provide food. The pets will be housed in a separate area with scheduled times for their owners to visit them.

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Make sure your cat is comfortable with being around its cage before a storm arrives. Photo provided

papers for my house, laptop, chargers for my phone, medications, basic bedding, a few clothes and toiletries,” she says. “As I exit my 1939 home, by now filled with outside furniture and plants, I say a prayer and remind myself that the house has survived many storms and that I know she’ll stand strong until I return.”

The only pet-approved county shelter is located inside the West Boynton Recreation and Fitness Center at 6003 Northtree Blvd.

“Lastly, I grab my bug-out bag, which includes insurance cards or board games. To learn more, go to http://discover.pbcgov.org/publicsafety/animalcare/Pages/Hurricane.aspx.

And for a list of pet-friendly boarding facilities and hotels to contact in advance, go to http://discover.pbcgov.org/publicsafety/animalcare/pdf/Boarding_Facilities.pdf.

Because space is limited at the county shelter, Sauve encourages pet owners to make arrangements to take their pets and stay with friends or relatives before storms arrive. She encourages all residents to have a bug-out kit that should include your pets’ food and medications, leashes, spare collars and identification tags in case you get separated. Pack bottled water, three days of clothing and basic toiletry items for yourself and your pets as copies of your homeowner’s insurance policy, driver’s license and health insurance cards.

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Music

Los Angeles-based Bryan Beller (above) and his instrumental trio The Aristocrats will play portions of a new double-CD album, *Scenes From the Flood*. Photo by Jon Luini

Bassist Beller brings funk-fusion trio to Boca’s Funky Biscuit

By Bill Meredith
Palm Beach ArtsPaper Music Writer

Music has a history of artists deserving of wider recognition — especially instrumentalists — and especially now, in the modern era of TV shows that only hype singers and dancers toward their 15 minutes of fame. Los Angeles-based bassist Bryan Beller is on the current short list of those most deserving musicians.

The 48-year-old native of Charlottesville, Va., has gained some degree of acclaim by playing with virtuoso guitarists, from the underrated fusion of former Frank Zappa band member Mike Keneally, and Zappa’s son Dweezil, to the largely instrumental metal of Joe Satriani and another Zappa band alum, Steve Vai. But Beller also has four far-reaching solo efforts since 2003, including his dense new double-CD studio opus, *Scenes From the Flood*, due for release next month.

And since 2011, his instrumental trio The Aristocrats (the-aristocrats-band.com), with British guitarist Guthrie Govan and German drummer Marco Minnemann, has defied categories with a largely improvised mix of jazz/fusion, funk, metal, country and practically every other style imaginable. Think of a mix of Return To Forever, King Crimson, the Dixie Dregs, Brand X and Rage Against the Machine, and you’re in the ballpark.

Guthrie has prodigious technique, and would probably be more of a guitar hero stateside if he wasn’t still based in England; Minnemann’s boundless chops can include separate, Buddy Rich-style solos on drums, cymbals, and stick-on-stick. The group has a new fourth studio album, *You Know What...?*, and performs at the Funky Biscuit in Boca Raton on Aug. 15.

“We’ll definitely play portions of the new album,” Beller says.

Art

Movie posters exhibit at Norton about more than films

By Myles Ludwig
Palm Beach ArtsPaper Contributor

The movie poster is a metaphor in design, albeit with a specific purpose: A kind of Coming Attractions on paper. *Coming Soon*, the new show at the Norton (it runs through Oct. 19), is a marvelous view of design as metaphor. Some 215 movie posters from the U.S. and other countries have been curated from the 3,000-plus collection of Dwight Cleveland by Matthew Bird of the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) and Norton Assistant Curator J. Rachel Gustafson.

The work represents a capsule history of the form, both style and technique extending from hand-colored glass slides for silent movies to stone-inscribed lithograph, painting and hand-stenciling to the current photo offset.

It is a wonderful show.

It covers work from the early 1900s to the 1980s and is “the largest-ever museum exhibition of classic movie posters from one of the most prominent collections in the world,” the Norton says.

Most of the artists are unknown, but there is a sprinkling of famous names, some of whom I know personally.

You can enjoy this show on two levels. One, for its panoply of design concept and technique, typography and reproduction and two, for the stirrings of nostalgia for movies of bygone days. I was particularly moved by Disney’s poster for *Pinocchio* (1940) which was one of the very first movies I saw as a child. It shaped an existential myth that has stayed with me through my life (and has acquired new meaning considering a recent article in the *New York Times* Magazine on the reanimation of a dead pig’s brain and the ethical problems it presents).

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At Maltz summer program, teens play teens in tragic Shakespearean love story

By Jan Engoren
Art/Paper Contributor

What do teenagers know about love? Apparently, a lot, as the original Romeo and Juliet were star-crossed teenagers. At the Maltz Jupiter Theatre, teen students are getting the chance this month to show they know it’s all about a youth production of Shakespeare’s Romeo and Juliet. One of Shakespeare’s most popular plays, the plot — if you’ve somehow missed it over the years — revolves around the tragic destiny of two teenagers from warring families in 16th-century Verona, Italy. Over the centuries it’s become more than a play; it’s a touchstone of Western civilization.

The story still resonates today — the hate between the Capulets and Montagues and the tragic consequences brought about by prejudice and misunderstanding. Liberals vs. conservatives? Republicans vs. Democrats? Christians vs. Muslims? The rise in tribalism and nativism? Society (then and now) exploits our differences. The parallels to today are not lost on these young actors.

“I am attracted to stories that make us question ourselves and our place in the world,” says the play’s 15-year-old director, Alexander Goodwin-Elam of Jupiter. “We learn from our mistakes.”

Goodwin-Elam says he enjoys the directorial process. “Translating the vision I have in my head to others is really fun,” says the director, who admires Emmy-nominated director Marcia Milgrom Dodge, who also won a Carbonell for best director for her production of The King and I at the Maltz in 2014.

Goodwin-Elam and the other students are paired with individual theater staff members as part of the Youth Artists’ Chair for one-on-one mentoring and guidance during the creation process of the show. The Maltz’s Brittani Seach, who is “naturally bossy” and the production unique is the role she set for student costume designer Penelope Hess on the lead role of Juliet. Photo by Linnea Bailey

The meaning of the words, he said it began to come naturally. He says Romeo is a bit of a smart-aleck and he likes that side of him, as well as the fact he likes to hang with his buddies, as does McCall.

Roberts responds from her makeshift balcony: “O Romeo, Romeo! Wherefore art thou Romeo? Deny thy father and refuse thy name; or, if thou wilt not, but swear my love, and I’ll no longer be a Capulet.”

The die is cast for these young actors.

Roberts, who admires the acting skill of Jim Carrey, says the attention of playing the lead role can be stressful at times. To relax, she doodles flowers on the script.

“Juliet is a strong, logical and intelligent person,” says Roberts, who can relate to the character she plays. “I put all my life experience into my character. Juliet is a part of me now.”

Isabella Betz, 16, a student at the Dreyfoos School of the Arts, is the production stage manager. As someone who is “naturally bossy” and organized, she said she excels in this role, despite having started as an assistant director. Her job is to organize the props and get the stage ready for the scenes. She prepares rehearsal documents each night for the production team.

The rest of the student creative team consists of: Emma Hanna Holloway (associate lead director), 17, of Jupiter; Lily Stewart (dramaturg), 15, of Palm Beach Gardens; Ryan Carroll (lighting designer), 17, of Jupiter; Penelope Hess (costume designer), 12, of Palm Beach Gardens; Mia Rubin (sound designer), 15, of Jupiter; and Michelle Hookenson (props designer), 17, of Jupiter. All students had to pass through an extensive interview and selection process to be part of the show.

“What makes this production unique is the staging,” says Julie Rowe, Maltz.
ARISTOCRATS

Continued from page A9

Beller says by phone from Baker City, Ore., in between Aristocrats West Coast tour stops in early July. “But we’ll go back through the catalog and play a few select older numbers and fan favorites as well. It’ll definitely be an evening of Aristocratic musical mayhem.”

Such a “rowdy democracy of musicianship,” as Govan has dubbed The Aristocrats, is the result, while Beller has prepared for since starting his recording career 25 years ago. Few other bassists could be creative enough to navigate the serpentine, genre-defiant catalog of Keneally; then turn around to hold down the bottom on Satriani’s newo-metal musings. And the trio setting, in which every musician has to listen and know when to pass the baton and when to run with it, is probably the most musically demanding of all.

The Aristocrats suitably formed in an improvised setting when Beller and Minnemann were paired up to play with fusion guitarist icon Greg Howe at the 2011 Anaheim Bass Bash at the Winter NAMM (National Association of Music Merchants) show. When Howe couldn’t make the performance, Govan (Asia, GPS) became an eleventh-hour replacement after an impressed Beller viewed a video of him on a fan’s recommendation. The trio had only one rehearsal, yet put on a spontaneous performance that wowed both the crowd and the participants.

“The chemistry was so great,” says Govan, “that when we came onstage, we all said to each other, ‘This is working. We should record this.’”

After moving as a child to Westfield, N.J., and growing up there, Beller proceeded to study all day, seven days a week, for five years of piano lessons as his previous studies included months of jazz theory lessons along the way, which made up his game as far as what he expected. “It’s been 11 years since I did a studio album,” he says, “and I felt like I had a lot to say. The Aristocrats are a setting where we can have fun and play a lot of notes, but my own material tends to be more introspective and serious. I wanted to write an album that involved a lot of tension and release, based upon the concept of intention meeting reality.”

As they considered all that they might think I’d written it, because it has such an intricate bass part,” says Beller. “But that’s one of Guthrie’s tunes. He’d even sent me a demo recording with him later on. “When I listen to ‘Last Orders,’ you might think I’d written it, because it has such an intricate bass part,” says Beller. “But that’s one of Guthrie’s tunes. He’d even sent me a demo recording with him. I got my ass kicked.”

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Book Review

Journalist Brooks finds service is the true road to character

The Second Mountain: The Quest for a Moral Life, by David Brooks; Random House, 346 pp, $28

By Bill Williams
ArtsPaper Books Writer

New York Times columnist David Brooks won wide praise for his 2015 book The Road to Character, which celebrated the happiness found in personal achievement.

He now believes he was wrong and that “the rampant individualism of our current culture is a catastrophe.” He argues in his new book that true joy comes from service to others.

Brooks cites many examples of exemplary generosity. A woman in Houston started giving free haircuts to homeless people. A husband and wife in Washington, D.C., invited the hungry friend of their son to come for dinner. Soon more than 25 poor children, some homeless, would come for the Thursday evening meals. Some stayed overnight. Brooks was impressed and he began attending the meals, which include group sharing.

Brooks co-founded Weave: The Social Action Project at the Aspen Institute to generate support for generosity, believing that social isolation is a core problem “that underlies a lot of other social problems.”

The most compelling section of the book involves Brooks’ decades-long search for wisdom about religion and God. He grew up in a Jewish home, but he identified as an atheist for much of his adult life. He longed to know the truth about God, Christianity and Islam. He could find no evidence that believers are holier than atheists and agnostics.

Brooks cites the wisdom of several well-known saints who influenced him, while conceding he still has doubts about the existence of God and the truth of religion.

He is not alone. Even famous religion writers and clerics face periods of torment and doubt. Brooks mentions Mother Teresa, the Catholic nun who long wrestled with confusion about the existence of God.

“I realized,” Brooks says, “I was a religious person. I became aware of this supernatural presence, which is God, permeating the physical world.” Brooks was drawn to both Christianity and Islam. “If Jews don’t want me as a Jew, they’re going to have to kick me out.”

He is less persuasive when writing about marriage, saying that finding a marriage partner “is the most important decision you will ever make.” After 28 years of marriage, Brooks and his wife divorced and agreed not to talk about it in public. “I was lonely, humiliated, adrift,” he says. Later he married a former office assistant who is 23 years younger than him.

Brooks is a fine writer, although the text is too long and frequently repetitive. Better editing would have helped. Under a subsection “The Loneliness Crisis,” Brooks says that one-third of Americans over age 45 are chronically lonely. The number of people who live alone and rarely speak to their neighbors is growing.

Brooks compares his mountain metaphor in two books. The Road to Character celebrated the ego, while The Second Mountain places the heart and soul at the center. He concludes by listing more than 60 beliefs that define a Second Mountain person, which might prompt readers to say “enough.”

This is a useful book for believers and non-believers alike. Brooks persuades us to think deeply and honor our doubts and questions about religion and God. “I’ve written this book, in part, to remind myself of the kind of life I want to live.”

He concludes, “I am a wandering Jew and a very confused Christian.”

Bill Williams is a freelance writer in West Hartford, Conn., and a former editorial writer for The Hartford Courant. He is a member of the National Book Critics Circle.
Maltz
Continued from page A10
Jupiter Theatre's director of education.
Because the theater is under a $32 million renovation, an in-the-round space was immediately
controversial. A intense issue that raged
throughout the project, as Arturo was then
a poet and would-be novelist, but Marianne would inspire his foray into
songwriting. She was, most famously, the subject of Cohen's best-known early hit "So Long, Marianne," whose titular send-off indicated a kind of subconscous tell.
Like many of Cohen's admirers, the poet and novelist Bob Dylan admired Cohen in his way to be free, which is to say unshackled in matters of both the heart and lower organs. In another well-
chosen bit of archival audio, he shares his delight at living through the sexual revolution of the '60s.
Part of the movie's challenge is to reconcile this aspect of Cohen's persona — the love-them-
and-leave-them hedonism — with his intellectual support for the advancement of women in public life.
We're not all one thing, and in avoiding the temptations of biographical, Broomfield offers a thorny critique of Cohen, as a brilliant singer, songwriter and poet — even a quite different man, who might be a chronic
lover and, sometimes, a terrible human being.
Cohen would say things to Allen that would drive her to contemplate suicide. Because of his hurtful straying, his ever-present dalliances with other women, she once told an interviewer, "I wanted to put him in a cage, lock him up and throw away the key."
Unlike the more reverent 2005 doc Leonard Cohen: I'm Your Man, music is incidental to Marianne & Leonard —
which was made without the assistance of Cohen's estate. It's deployed largely to illustrate personal peaks and valleys in the couple's relationship.
In its 96 minutes, Marianne & Leonard moves with delicate chords and supple rhymes of an early Cohen ballad — ethereal but impactful, with a residue that lingers. — Paul Beach
ARTS PAPER STAFF

Palm Beach Chamber Music Festival (July 20, Crest Theatre, Delray Beach)
Music for string quartet took up the first half of this third program of the festival.
Flutist Karen Fuller joined violinists Dina Kostic and Claudia Ballif in an engaging recital with René Reder; and cellist Susan Bergeron for the Nocturne and Scherzo by Arthur Foote (1853-1937), written in 1918. Lasting about 10 minutes, it explores some elegance as well as more forthright emotions in the two popular pieces. The highest levels of elegant play and the sheer pleasure of delicious design.

The second half of the program opened with the work of the obscure composer Alessandro Besozzi (1772-1781). The Trio No. 6 in D flat is one of many works for small ensembles. Erika Yamada, oboe; Mei-Mei Lau, violin; and Michael Elliott, bassoon, played the brief movements smoothly.
Clarinet trio (Op. 3) by Alexander von Zemlinsky (1871-1942) shows Wagnerian influences as well as Brahmsian ones, harmonically advanced and dense in texture.
Michael Forte, clarinet; cellist Bergeron and pianist Joseph Kingma negotiated its patterns successfully but in general did not contribute sufficient musical personality to make the piece memorable. — Dennis D. Rooney

If You Go
Romeo and Juliet is being presented at the Maltz Theare at the Mizner Park
Indiantown Road
When: 7:30 p.m. Aug. 8 and 9; 2 p.m. Aug. 11
Tickets: $25; $20 students
Info: www.jupitertheatre.org or 576-1222

FILM
Friday, Aug. 8
Remember Me: Remember: My Name: The singer-songwriter (The Byrds, Crosby, Stills and
Nash) whose career has been marredly run-ins with the law, drug abuse and personal problems. Bergins discusses this life in revealing interviews at the War Memorial Opera House, Boca Raton; Boca 54-60690 or Live at Worthwhale.org.

THEATER
Thursday, Aug. 8
Sunday, Aug. 11
Romeo and Juliet: An all-student production of Shakespeare's classic romance, original by 13-year-old actors in the title roles. 7:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday; 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday; 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday; 7:30 p.m. Sunday. 575-2223 or Jupitertheatre.com.
**Health Notes**

Baptist Health merger with Boca Regional is complete

Boca Raton Regional Hospital has officially merged with Baptist Health South Florida.

The final merger was announced on July 1, more than a year after Boca Regional began discussions with Baptist in hopes of elevating the hospital’s position as an academic referral center in South Florida.

It was the final step in growing up for a beloved community hospital born out of tragedy in 1967. The poisoning deaths of two young children became the impetus for its funding. The town had about 10,000 residents at that time and a devoted group of volunteers with a mission. The new partnership ensures both not-for-profit organizations will continue to meet their mutual missions and commitments to elevate health care in an area that reaches across four counties.

“Our organizations share the same calling to improve the health and well-being of individuals and deliver compassionate health care to our patients at the highest standards of excellence and safety,” said Brian E. Keeley, Baptist Health president and CEO.

“We foresee an exciting future at Boca Regional Hospital that will cement its title as the preeminent health care provider in the community.”

Boca Raton Regional Hospital has earned "Thrombectomy-Capable Stroke Center" certification from The Joint Commission, in collaboration with the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association.

“Our expertise in treating stroke through this minimally invasive, catheter based technique helps improve patient outcomes,” said Brian Snelling, MD, director of cerebrovascular neurosurgery and stroke at Marcus Neuroscience Institute. “This capability also significantly adds to the spectrum of advanced stroke-related services offered at the institute.”

Quantum Foundation recently funded $1.1 million to Palm Beach County programs aimed at access to health-related resources. Of the 12 honorees, Meals on Wheels of the Palm Beaches received $75,000 for its Meals for Veterans program. It supports lower-income, homebound, isolated veterans aged 70 to 95.

In addition, Genesis Community Health Center, with sites in Boynton Beach and Boca Raton, received $100,000 to provide access to health resources and a medical home for underinsured and uninsured people in southern Palm Beach County.

Also, South Tech Skills Academy received $35,000 to serve South Palm Beach County by providing hands-on training in its practical nursing and medtech program for a traditionally underserved student population.

Florida is home to approximately 1.5 million military veterans and has the third-largest veteran population in the United States. Researchers from Florida Atlantic University’s Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing have received a $1.5 million grant from the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, to form a primary care workforce of practicing registered nurses who understand the needs of military veterans.

The project, “Caring-based Academic Partnerships in Excellence: Veteran RNs in Primary Care,” is designed to educate and provide clinical training for bachelor of science in nursing students in primary care and to provide professional development to practicing registered nurses in primary care.

Sallie James contributed to this story.

Send health news to Christine Davis at cdavis9797@gmail.com

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**SINCE 1985 FOR ALL YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS**
Outbreaks of measles, hepatitis have travelers asking about vaccinations

A good first step for travelers planning overseas trips is the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website, a repository of updated vaccine and medication recommendations. The CDC’s Travelers’ Health website spans the globe, from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe.

The next step? It may be your doctor’s office, with a rolled-up short-sleeve. And this summer, local doctors say even staycationers are asking about vaccinations.

“The reason that question has really hit my office a lot recently relates to the current outbreak in measles nationally, as well as the local hepatitis A outbreaks,” says Dr. J. A.cey Albert, a member of the Bethesda Health Physician Group who is board-certified in internal medicine and pediatrics. Albert’s practice is on South Ocean Boulevard in Palm Beach, just west of Kruselung Park.

Measles: For Florida, not a big concern

From Jan. 1 through July 13, the CDC says there were 1,123 individual cases of the airborne virus in 28 states, the highest number since 1992. Two of those measles cases were in Florida, in Broward and Pinellas counties, the Florida Department of Health says.

“Those cases in Florida were acquired after foreign travel, outside of the United States. And that’s really the point to make. Measles was declared eradicated in the U.S. in 2000. And with that planning with those clusters of people who are going unvaccinated for various reasons — whether it’s religious reasons, or the misinformation about the measles vaccine as well as the local hepatitis A outbreaks,” says Dr. J. A.cey Albert, a member of the Bethesda Health Physician Group who is board-certified in internal medicine and pediatrics. Albert’s practice is on South Ocean Boulevard in Palm Beach, just west of Kreusler Park.

Hepatitis A: Palm Beach County cases reported

From Jan. 1 through July 13, the FDOH says there were 1,898 hepatitis A cases in Florida, 37 of them in Palm Beach County. In 2018, the statewide total was 548. “We actually are seeing sort of an outbreak in Palm Beach County,” Albert says. “It’s important to point out, though, that while those restaurant workers who tested positive hit the news, the Department of Health has not identified those as the sources of this outbreak.”

Between late May and early June, three food-service employees from different restaurants tested positive for the viral liver disease.

Alex Shaw, director of communications and public information for the Palm Beach County office of the FDOH, confirms this. “As far as the Division of Epidemiology within the PBC Health Department is concerned, they’re no longer under investigation,” he said of the restaurants in an email.

“Hepatitis A is an illness that usually is foodborne; what we call fecal-oral. It’s from fecal contamination that’s then taken in usually by eating food,” Albert says. “Men who have sex with men have some increased risk, as do IV drug abusers, who can spread it directly through needle contact. But it’s typically a foodborne illness.”

Shaw says the investigation into the spike in hepatitis A cases is ongoing, a collaboration among affected counties, FDOH’s central office and the CDC.

“Because they have yet to actually identify a source for this outbreak, that’s actually, I think, a bigger impetus for patients, from the standpoint of being immunized for hepatitis A,” Albert says. “I haven’t been nailed down to, it’s this vegetable from this farm, or it’s this restaurant on these dates. So, the recommendation that I have for my patients in the setting of this outbreak is, if you haven’t gotten it (the vaccine), go get it.”

Albert says while hepatitis A has been relatively rare in the United States, it’s “extremely common” in most other parts of the world. The hepatitis A vaccine is recommended for travelers to both Afghanistan and Zimbabwe, for example.

“I’ve got a lot of patients who love to travel abroad,” Albert says. “And for almost every single travel destination, when we look up what shots are recommended, hepatitis A is almost always on the list. So certainly, for anybody who travels, there’s sort of that secondary protection in that, maybe you’re not going to get exposed to it here in South Florida in the summer of 2019, but you might get exposed to it wherever.”

Joyce Reingold writes about health and healthy living. Send column ideas to joyce.reingold@yahoo.com.
**Religion Calendar**

**Note:** Events are current as of 7/24. Please check for any changes or updates.

### AUGUST 3

**Saturday - 8/3 - Yoga at the Beach**
Yoga class presented by Yoga Journey at Safari Sands, 72 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton, 2703 South Beach Dr., 9 am - 12:30 pm. Free. 276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

**Wednesday - 8/7 - Tai Chi Class**
Tai Chi class by Monk Yun Rou at First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach, 2703 South Beach Dr., 9 am - 12:30 pm. Free. 276-5796; unityofdelraybeach.org

**Saturday - 8/3 - FIRST THURSDAY**
The first Thursday of each month, features a Faith-Based Workshop. Check the workshop details at: www.firstpresbyteriandelray.org

### AUGUST 4-10

**Sunday - 8/4 - Tai Chi Class (Adults Only)**
Class at Veterans Park, 8001 NE 2nd St, Delray Beach. All ages. Every Sat 8:15 am - 10 pm. Class $15 per month, $25/long-term. 770-2780; mydelraybeach.org

**Monday - 8/5 - Life Issues: A Support Group for Adults**
Meeting at Boynton Beach Fellowship Church, 100 NW 1st St, Boynton Beach. Every Mon 11 am. Free. 772-7272; unih3b.org

**Tuesday - 8/6 - Tai Chi Class**
Tai Chi class at Sanctuary Community Church, 2000 San Remo Blvd, Boca Raton. Meet, interact with fellow myeloma patients, family members, friends. Learn new aspect of Qigong. 9 am-12 pm. 510-9090; faulkcenterforcounseling.org

### AUGUST 11-17

**Thursday - 8/15 - Tai Chi Class**
Tai Chi class at Sanctuary Community Church, 2000 San Remo Blvd, Boca Raton. Meet, interact with fellow myeloma patients, family members, friends. Learn new aspect of Qigong. 9 am-12 pm. 510-9090; faulkcenterforcounseling.org

**Tuesday - 8/20 - Treatment Options for Pain Management**
Talk with organizers for any changes.
Note: Events are current as of 7/24. Please check for any changes or updates.
Finding Faith

Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County celebrates 40 years

E ighty years ago, a few Jewish leaders from southern Palm Beach County realized that the county was too vast, and its Jewish population was growing too fast, for a single, countywide Jewish Federation to be effective.

Together, this group — James Baer, Karl Enselberg, Albert Gortz, Phyllis Cohen, Shirley Enselberg and Marjorie Baer — signed the original articles of incorporation, filed with the state on Nov. 1, 1979, and saw the organization blossom, just like they thought it would.

When the Jewish Federation began, the Jewish population in that area was around 15,000 people, and its leadership could fit around a kitchen table, former vice president Gortz said.

The first agency the federation founded was its Jewish Family Services arm, which came from individual and 75 percent of that money, came from individual donors, grants, endowments, and 1 percent were classified as secular, 8 percent Orthodox and 14 percent Just Jewish and a place to turn when they need help.

New residents are no longer retirees but young families that need schools, services, recreation and a place to turn when they need help.

All Jews are no more alike than all Christians are, and Levin says "modern Judaism has a place for everyone." He says denomination shouldn't separate Jews from one another but draw them together under one grand blanket.

By the numbers, the federation's 2018 study reported its local residents had dropped by 10 years. New residents are no longer retirees but young families that need schools, services, recreation and a place to turn when they need help.

All Jews are no more alike than all Christians are, and Levin says "modern Judaism has a place for everyone." He says denomination shouldn't separate Jews from one another but draw them together under one grand blanket.

By the numbers, the federation's 2018 study reported its local residents were: 37 percent Reform, 25 percent Conservative, 15 and 14 percent Just Jewish and secular, 8 percent Orthodox and 1 percent were classified as other.

Levin says all denominations are welcomed. To set parameters for behavior and to unify them, Levin and 17 other rabbis and Jewish leaders signed a Civility Statement of Public Disclosure, and committed themselves to good and proper conduct in speaking and listening, even during "vigorous debate about political and social issues."

This commitment to unity and acceptance helped earn the federation the International Jerusalem Unity Prize in 2018, a prestigious award that "acknowledges the efforts of organizations and individuals in the Jewish world who actively work to advance unity."

In keeping with the unity theme, the federation sent a delegation of six local rabbis to receive the prize at the home of Israeli President Reuven Rivlin.

But the leaders caution: Don't mistake civility for weakness. The Jewish Community Relations Council steps in with help during emergencies, but it also fights anti-Semitism, whether in our courts, our newspapers or our schools, and it stands up and fights vehemently for any Jew — really any person — being exploited or abused.

Helene Paul of east Boca Raton will wield the gavel at the local Jewish Community Relations Council this year, where she'll lead the charge to improve life for Jews in South County.

"If you need help, or you want to help, that's why we're here," Paul said by phone from Martha’s Vineyard. An ongoing responsibility, Paul said, is “making sure Holocaust survivors’ needs are met.”

That's right in line with the federation’s ultimate goal, Levin said. “To bring harmony to the community and expand the way we can touch people’s lives.’

Janis Fontaine writes about people of faith, their congregations, causes and community events. Contact her at janisfontaine@outlook.com.
Winning Wahoo
Palm Beach Yacht Club, Hypoluxo — June 26

The Whoa Nelle team (from left, Kate Spinweber, Barry Spinweber, Rhonda Thoop and Todd Spinweber) shows the 49.5-pound wahoo that won largest fish in the Lake Worth tournament. The team caught the fish north of Boynton Inlet on a surface-trolled ballyhoo in 425 feet. The tournament attracted 44 teams. Photo provided by Leonard Bryant Photography

On the Water

Gerritson Memorial Set for Aug. 10

T he 25th annual Mark Gerritson Memorial Fishing Tournament is scheduled for Aug. 10, with the weigh-in at Veterans Park in Delray Beach. The tournament begins with a captain’s meeting and final registration set for 6-9 p.m. Aug. 8 at the Elks Lodge, 265 NE Fourth Ave., Delray Beach. Fishing for kingfish, dolphin, wahoo (and a mystery fish) will be from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The entry fee is $225 per boat, up to four anglers. The annual tournament benefits youth and family causes in the Delray Beach area.

Anglers are being alerted to donate used fishing rods (in working condition) to be given away to boys and girls under 12 during a free raffle at the captain’s meeting. Rules and the entry form can be found at www.mgmsf.net.

Divers take 353 lionfish in Boynton Beach derby

Fourth right-light derby removed 353 invasive lionfish from South County reefs during the Rock the Marina Lionfish Derby, held June 22.

Four dive boats based at Boynton Harbor Marina took divers to the reefs. Experts from the Reef Environmental Education Foundation measured and examined each lionfish for research.

Native to the Indian and Pacific oceans, lionfish were established on Florida reefs, where they eat native fish and compete with them for food.

Divers must be trained to handle lionfish because they have 18 venomous spines.

The lionfish derby was organized by Boynton Beach Dive Center and the Boynton Beach Community Redevelopment Agency.

62.7-pound wahoo wins KDW Classic

Dustin Half and his teammates won top wahoo and largest fish of the Palm Beach County KDW Classic tournament with a 62.7-pound wahoo caught in the waters off West Palm Beach. Half said he and his teammates on Half Time were trolling a large swimming ballyhoo in 425 feet when the big wahoo hit.

The annual tournament benefits youth fishing programs and ski scholarships. Benefits youth fishing programs and ski scholarships. Benefits youth fishing programs and ski scholarships.

Coming events

AUGUST 3

Saturday - 8/3 - Beachwalk Tours at Green Cay Nature Center, 12000 N Ocean Blvd, Boynton Beach. Daily guided tour of wetlands. All ages. Times vary, call for details. Free. 966-7000, pbcnature.com

8/3 - Team Tours of the Marsh at Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge Barge, 17254 13th Rd, Royal Palm Beach. M/W/T-Th 10:30 am; M/T-Th/Sat 10:30-11:30 am. $5/adult, $3/student. Reservations: 751-0912.

8/3 - Outdoor Marine Aquarium Feedings at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Daily 12:30 pm. Free. 444-8605, gumbolimbo.org

8/3 - Sea Turtle Talk at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. All ages; children must be accompanied by an adult. Daily 2 p.m. Free. 444-8605, gumbolimbo.org

AUGUST 4-10

Tuesday - 8/6 - Guided Walk at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Guided 1-mile nature trail winds through the butterfly garden, coastal hammock, mangroves, to a sandy beach by the Intracoastal. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Every T/Th 11-12 am. Free. 444-8605, gumbolimbo.org

6/ - Boynton Beach Fishing Club at Harvey E. Oyer, Jr. Park, 2010 N Federal Hwy. Join other fishermen, discuss hot topics, learn new tricks of the trade. 1st T/Th 7-9 am. Free. 502-6519, bibc1963@fl.rr.com

Wednesday - 8/7 - West Palm Beach Fishing Club Fishing Derby - 8/14 - Lantana Pilot Schol. How to - Where to - When to - How much - Fishing. 7 pm. Free. 832-6700, westpalmbeachfishingclub.org


8/10 - Intra-coastal Adventures: Kayaking at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Age 6-adult. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Every T/Th 9-11 am. $23/student, $30/season member. 444-8605, gumbolimbo.org

8/10 - Intra-coastal Adventures: Paddleboarding at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Age 6-adult. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Every T/Th 9-11 am. $23/student, $30/season member. 444-8605, gumbolimbo.org

AUGUST 11-17

Sunday - 8/11 - Intra-coastal Adventures: Stand up Paddleboarding at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Age 12-adult. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. 9-11 am. $23/student, $30/season member. 444-8605, gumbolimbo.org

Wednesday - 8/14 - Lantana Beach Cleanup at 10001 N Ocean Blvd. Gloves & bags provided. 2nd W 9-10 am. 585-8664, willow@lantana.org

AUGUST 17-23

Sunday - 8/17 - Intra-coastal Adventures: Canoeing at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Age 12-adult. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. 11:30 am-1 pm. $15/student, $22/season member. 444-8605, gumbolimbo.org

AUGUST 18-24

Wednesday - 8/21 - Beach Treasures at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Limpets, topsnails, a few of the shells that can be found on Florida’s beaches. Learn about coastal life, the animals that make them. Casual shoes to a sandy beach by the Intracoastal. All ages, children must be accompanied by an adult. 10-12 pm. Free. 444-8605, gumbolimbo.org


2000-a-thon teams. Contact Palm Beach County Fishing Foundation for details/reservations: 832-6700, westpalmbeachfishingclub.org

Fishing Club

AUGUST 25-31

Wednesday - 8/28 - West Palm Beach Fishing Club at 2105 1st St, Captain Beazer Smith. Red Fishing Techniques. 7 pm. Free. 832-6700, westpalmbeachfishingclub.org

Thursday - 8/27 - The Night Stalkers at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center 12000 N Ocean Blvd, Boynton Beach. Join a Naturalist on a boardwalk tour looking for nocturnal critters, discuss nocturnal ecology, the butterfly garden, coastal hammock, mangroves, to a Sandy beach by the Intracoastal. Wear clothes that can get wet. No flip flops or sandals. Dogs allowed, on leash. 8-10:30 pm. Free. 444-8605, gumbolimbo.org

Saturday - 8/31 - Beach Cleanup at Ocean Inlet Park, 6890 N Ocean Blvd, Ocean Ridge. Last Sat 10-11:30 am. Free. 585-8664, willow@lantana.org

SEPTEMBER 1-7

Thursday - 9/5 - Okeechobee Flats Fishing at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Limpets, topsnails, a few of the shells that can be found on Florida’s beaches. Learn about coastal life, the animals that make them. Casual shoes to a sandy beach by the Intracoastal. All ages. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Every T/Th 9-11 am. Free. 444-8605, gumbolimbo.org

8/7 - Sea Angels Beach Cleanup at Ocean Inlet Park, 6890 N Ocean Blvd, Ocean Ridge. Last Sat 10-11:30 am. Free. 585-8664, willow@lantana.org

Saturdays - 8/28 West Palm Beach Fishing Club at 2105 1st St, Captain Beazer Smith. Red Fishing Techniques. 7 pm. Free. 832-6700, westpalmbeachfishingclub.org

Saturday - 8/25 - West Palm Beach Fishing Club at 2105 1st St, Captain Beazer Smith. Red Fishing Techniques. 7 pm. Free. 832-6700, westpalmbeachfishingclub.org
Explorium, 300 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. 8/3 - Drop-In Story Time at Children's Science Explorium, 300 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. Ages 5-6 years as of 11/1 of year playing. 9 am. $6/child 5-15. 1:30-4:30 pm. $50/resident; $62.50/non-resident. 495-0233; morikami.org

- The Harlow Thienes by Cherie Dimalanta at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 8/6 - Group Swim Lessons at The Swim Center, 21618 St. Andrews Blvd, Boca Raton. Per class $5/member; $6/non-member + $6/child 12 & under. 266-0798; delraylibrary.org

- Family Fun: Youth Calligraphy - Mini Workshop at Schoolhouse Museum & Learning Center, 5291 Army Tr, Boca Raton. Every W/F through 8/28. Beginner 2 age 5-6 3-4:30 pm. $65/resident; $81.25/non-resident. 494-7208; schoolhousemuseum.org

- Coastal Star to every house, townhouse and condo in South Palm Beach County, Hypoluxo Island, Manalapan, Ocean Ridge, Bridgeview, the Pocket, Gulf Stream, coastal Delray Beach, Highland Beach and coastal Boca Raton. One of the two zoned services provide intensely local, news features and calendars. Combined, we publish nearly 17,000 copies of the best local coverage every month.
Tots & Teens Calendar

First Presbyterian Church of Palm Beach

Join us for the 2nd Summer Hymn Sing

Sing and hear selections of the great hymns & history of our church. Join us for worship on Sunday, August 11 at 11 a.m. with coffee & munchies in the Sun Room Café following the service. The clinic is located at 115 W. Ocean Ave. Phone: 848-3515.

First Presbyterian Church of Palm Beach

AUGUST 8-14

First Friday Night Promenade Program: My First Experience as a Drop of Water at Sugar Sand Park, 300 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. It’s a chance to come see and touch some of the fun new exhibits. Registration: 393-7852; bocalibrary.org

Saturday - 8/11 - COBRA Music Festival at Sugar Sand Park Field House, 300 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. Season runs from Nov-Feb. All ages. Every T 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 393-7960; sugarlandpark.org/friday

Saturday - 8/11 - COBRA Youth Basketball Registration at Sugar Sand Park Field House, 300 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. Season runs from Nov-Feb. All ages. Every T 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 393-7960; sugarlandpark.org/friday

Saturday - 8/11 - Sunday Family Movie at Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. Presented in partnership with Code Palm Beach. Computer code technology. No experience necessary. Bring a laptop that will be provided. Every Sun 11-12 pm. Free. Registration: 393-4795; delraylibrary.org

AUGUST 11-17

Sunday - 8/11 - Sunday Family Movie: Early Man at Sugar Sand Park Community Center, 2000 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. In this prehistoric family adventure, 3 ancient cave boys become unlikely mentors to a young girl. Registration: 393-7852; bocalibrary.org

Monday - 8/12 - Intermediate Coding for ages 12-17 at Sugar Sand Park Community Center, 2000 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. Includes hands-on activities. Age 13-17. Every T 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 393-7852; bocalibrary.org

Tuesday - 8/13 - TAB (Teen Advisory Board) Meeting at Sugar Sand Park Community Center, 2000 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. Interview held in the parking lot on a first come, first serve basis. Must be at least one hour after scheduled start time, stars must be visible for telescope to align. Age 16-12. Every Th 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 393-7852; bocalibrary.org


Thursday - 8/15 - Lego Buddies at Sugar Sand Park Community Center, 2000 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. A creative and fun workshop where you can build anything you want! Registration: 393-7852; bocalibrary.org

Saturday - 8/17 - Code Palm Beach Workshop at Sugar Sand Park Field House, 300 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. Season runs from Nov-Feb. All ages. Every T 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 393-7960; sugarlandpark.org/friday

Sunday - 8/18 - Sunday Family Movie: Early Man at Sugar Sand Park Community Center, 2000 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. In this prehistoric family adventure, 3 ancient cave boys become unlikely mentors to a young girl. Registration: 393-7852; bocalibrary.org

Monday - 8/19 - Intermediate Coding for ages 12-17 at Sugar Sand Park Community Center, 2000 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. Season runs from Nov-Feb. All ages. Every T 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 393-7852; bocalibrary.org

Tuesday - 8/20 - Treasure Hunters Night at The Museum at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 N Dr, West Palm Beach. Empower young girls to explore STEM fields. Girls age 6-16 can take the lead while learning to be mentors. 7-5 pm. $24/adult/12 & the discount (the discount is $17). Registration: 393-7700; sfsciencecenter.org/womenstem


Friday - 8/23 - 3D Printing Workshop at Sugar Sand Park Field House, 300 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. Season runs from Nov-Feb. All ages. Every F 10-11 am. Free. Registration: 832-2026; sfsciencecenter.org/3dprinting

Saturday - 8/24 - Monthly Programming at The Museum at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 N Dr, West Palm Beach. Theme TBA. Age 5-17. Every S 10-11 am. Free. Registration: 832-2026; sfsciencecenter.org/monthlyprogramming

Sunday - 8/25 - Sunday Family Movie: Early Man at Sugar Sand Park Community Center, 2000 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. In this prehistoric family adventure, 3 ancient cave boys become unlikely mentors to a young girl. Registration: 393-7852; bocalibrary.org

Monday - 8/26 - Intermediate Coding for ages 12-17 at Sugar Sand Park Community Center, 2000 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. Season runs from Nov-Feb. All ages. Every T 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 393-7852; bocalibrary.org

Tuesday - 8/27 - Boys Night Out at Sugar Sand Park Field House, 300 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. Season runs from Nov-Feb. Age 6-12. Season runs through 12/12 (no class 9/26, all other classes held in the gym). Every T 6-7 pm. $160/resident, $210/non-resident. 347-3950; sugarsandpark.org


Thursday - 8/29 - Girls Night Out at Sugar Sand Park Field House, 300 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. Season runs from Nov-Feb. All ages. Every Th 6-7 pm. Free. Registration: 393-7960; sugarlandpark.org/friday

Friday - 8/30 - Treasure Hunters Night at The Museum at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 N Dr, West Palm Beach. Empower young girls to explore STEM fields. Girls age 6-16 can take the lead while learning to be mentors. 7-5 pm. $24/adult/12 & the discount (the discount is $17). Registration: 393-7700; sfsciencecenter.org/womenstem
Thursday tickets $250; Fri tickets $350; Sat tickets $525; Sun tickets $350. For more information, visit LICEDUCATION.COM

**Community Calendar**

**August 4-10**

**Art-Sea Living**

**Monday:**
- **Morning Coffee:** 10-11 am.
- **Adult Watercolor:** 10 am. Free. 243-7000 x5001; mydelraybeach.com
- **Senior Bridge:** 1-2 pm. 243-7350; delraybeach.com

**Tuesday:**
- **Morning Coffee:** 10 am. Free. 243-7000 x5001; mydelraybeach.com
- **Gym: Morning Stretch:** 10:30 am.
- **Bridge: Duplicate:** 10 am. Free. 243-7350; delraybeach.com
- **Soroptimist: Bridge:** 10 am. Free. 243-7350; delraybeach.com

**Wednesday:**
- **Morning Coffee:** 10 am. Free. 243-7000 x5001; mydelraybeach.com
- **Preschool Storytime:** 10:30 am.
- **Adult Painting:** 8 pm. Free. 243-7000 x5001; mydelraybeach.com

**Thursday:**
- **Morning Coffee:** 10 am. Free. 243-7000 x5001; mydelraybeach.com
- **Adult Painting:** 8 pm. Free. 243-7000 x5001; mydelraybeach.com

**Friday:**
- **Morning Coffee:** 10 am. Free. 243-7000 x5001; mydelraybeach.com
- **Adult Painting:** 8 pm. Free. 243-7000 x5001; mydelraybeach.com

**Saturday:**
- **Morning Coffee:** 10 am. Free. 243-7000 x5001; mydelraybeach.com
- **Soroptimist: Bridge:** 10 am. Free. 243-7350; delraybeach.com

**Sunday:**
- **Morning Coffee:** 10 am. Free. 243-7000 x5001; mydelraybeach.com
- **Gym: Morning Stretch:** 10:30 am.
- **Bridge: Duplicate:** 10 am. Free. 243-7350; delraybeach.com
- **Soroptimist: Bridge:** 10 am. Free. 243-7350; delraybeach.com

**Music Classes**

**Monday:**
- **Street Piano:** 10-11 am.
- **Adult Watercolor:** 10 am. Free. 243-7000 x5001; mydelraybeach.com
- **Senior Bridge:** 10 am. Free. 243-7350; delraybeach.com
- **Gym: Morning Stretch:** 10:30 am.

**Tuesday:**
- **Street Piano:** 10-11 am.
- **Adult Watercolor:** 10 am. Free. 243-7000 x5001; mydelraybeach.com
- **Senior Bridge:** 10 am. Free. 243-7350; delraybeach.com
- **Gym: Morning Stretch:** 10:30 am.

**Wednesday:**
- **Street Piano:** 10-11 am.
- **Adult Watercolor:** 10 am. Free. 243-7000 x5001; mydelraybeach.com
- **Senior Bridge:** 10 am. Free. 243-7350; delraybeach.com
- **Gym: Morning Stretch:** 10:30 am.
**August 11-17**

**South Beach Comedy Club**

Joke Competition at Rubin Barry Silver at Congregation Shirat Hayam

7103 Collins Ave, 5th floor, Miami Beach

Free. RSVP by 8/11: 702-522-4369; mydelraybeach.com

**August 15-17**

**Florida State Fairgrounds**

8/15 - Food and Wine Festival

9 a.m.-9 p.m. Free. 205-622-9300; fstatefair.org

**August 21-25**

**Hollywood**

**2nd Annual Back to School Traffic Jam**

8/21 - Back to School Traffic Jam at Hollywood Community Park

4001 W Broward Blvd, Hollywood

8 a.m.-11 a.m. Free. 954-523-4790; cityofhollywood.com

**August 22-31**

**Theater**

**Walton Performing Arts Center**

8/22 - The 24 Hour Play Challenge

10-11 p.m. $20-$25. 954-772-4530; waltonperformingartscenter.org

**August 23-25**

**Atlantic State Park**

8/23 - Bike the Beach

9 a.m.-3 p.m. Free. 888-548-1872; atlanticoceanfun.com

**August 24-31**

**Miami Beach**

**4th Annual Miami Beach Film Festival**

8/24 - Miami Beach Film Festival 2019

30th annual screening of movies. 3 p.m.-8 p.m. Free. 305-673-5500; miamibeachfilmfestival.com

**August 25**

**Miami Beach**

**Fifth Annual Miami Beach Film Festival**

8/25 - Miami Beach Film Festival 2019

8 a.m.-9 p.m. Free. 305-673-5500; miamibeachfilmfestival.com

**August 26-31**

**Miami Beach**

**6th Annual Miami Beach Film Festival**

8/26-9/1 - Miami Beach Film Festival 2019

54th annual film festival. 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Free. 305-673-5500; miamibeachfilmfestival.com

**August 31**

**Miami Beach**

**7th Annual Miami Beach Film Festival**

8/31 - Miami Beach Film Festival 2019

55th annual film festival. 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Free. 305-673-5500; miamibeachfilmfestival.com

**September 1-7**

**Miami Beach**

**Miami Beach Film Festival 2019**

8/31-9/7 - Miami Beach Film Festival 2019

56th annual film festival. 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Free. 305-673-5500; miamibeachfilmfestival.com

**September 1-6**

**Miami Beach**

**Miami Beach Film Festival 2019**

8/31-9/6 - Miami Beach Film Festival 2019

57th annual film festival. 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Free. 305-673-5500; miamibeachfilmfestival.com

**September 7-14**

**Miami Beach**

**Miami Beach Film Festival 2019**

9/7-14 - Miami Beach Film Festival 2019

58th annual film festival. 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Free. 305-673-5500; miamibeachfilmfestival.com

**September 14-21**

**Miami Beach**

**Miami Beach Film Festival 2019**

9/14-21 - Miami Beach Film Festival 2019

59th annual film festival. 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Free. 305-673-5500; miamibeachfilmfestival.com

**September 21-28**

**Miami Beach**

**Miami Beach Film Festival 2019**

9/21-28 - Miami Beach Film Festival 2019

60th annual film festival. 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Free. 305-673-5500; miamibeachfilmfestival.com
- Part of Boca Chamber Festival Days. 8-10 am. Free. 393-7964; bocalibrary.org
- 9/27 - Boundary Water: A Bird’s-Eye View at the Wine Cellar, Renaissance Commons, 100 Gardens Dr. Boca Raton. Gold Coast Down Syndrome Organization programs for children and adults with Down Syndrome and their families. Free. 4:30-7:30 pm. Free. 237-7713; specialservices@bocalibrary.org
- 9/27 - 40th Annual Lip Sync Battle at Crazy Uncle Mike’s, 6495 Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Benefits National Colorectal Cancer Holmes, Inc. Part of Boca Chamber Festival Days. 6-8 pm. 551-6375; 2019lipsyncbattle.com
- 9/27 - Last Tuesday Jam Session at Arts Garage, 94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach. Last Tuesday. Free. 6-7 pm. Free performance; 545-6015. artsgarage.org
- 9/28 - Workshop: Poetry Open Mic on the Avenue at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Walk-in; no prior accepted in time permits. 4-6 W 7-30 pm. Free. Reserve a spot: mykal.Banta@delraylibrary.org; 266-0196; delraylibrary.org
- 9/28 - Opening Reception: Transcendental Art Exhibit at Sugar Sand Park, 300 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. 5-10 pm. Free. 832-5196; sugarsandpark.org
- 9/28 - Norton Cinema: Jailhouse Rock at Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. Adults. 6-7 pm. 5. 450-6357; artsgarage.org
- 9/29 - Concussion Awareness Night at Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. 237-7000; lynn.edu/events
- 9/3 - Studio 54 Band at the Piano Ganile, 310 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. 6 pm dinner. 7 pm dancing. 315 cover 912-900; pianogarage.org
- 9-7 - Ginny and Dee's Wingly by Susan Zoder at Florida Atlantic University Theatre Lab at Palm Beach State College, 677 Glen Rd, Boca Raton. Runs through 9/29. Sat/Sun 3 pm, Sat 7-10 pm. 320 tickets, children under 18 with adult admission. 297-1026; tea@uabh.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 1-7
- Saturday - 9/1 - LOTOS Music Festival presented by Jonathon Burt at Mizner Park Amphitheatre, 500 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Outside food, beverages, chairs & pets not permitted. 3-11 pm. 515-3789; intomusicfest.com
- 9/3 - 2305 Palm Beach at various restaurants throughout the Palm Beach County. Benefits Meals on Wheels Palm Beach. Participating restaurants provide specially priced 3-course meals for lunch & dinner. Check website for participating restaurants. 520-545-5250. RW.org
- Monday - 9/2 - Labor Day
- 9/2 - 3220 Calson Drive. The Eagles. Boca Raton, FL 33434. info@artspaper.com, or call us at 561-337-1553.

For more info, email us at ArtsPaper@thecoastalstar.com, or call us at 561-337-1553.
**Direct Oceanfront**

**Tropical Modern Design**

**3492 S OCEAN BOULEVARD | PALM BEACH**

- Tropical Modern Design, 5 Bed, 5 Bath, 7,800 SF Direct Oceanfront Home
- 11,000 year-old Aucuba Blue Lava Kitchen Countertops from France
- 1,270 SF Oceanfront Master Suite 31’ Above Sea Level
- 3-story Oceanview Glass Elevator encased in a Glass Wine Room & Bar
- Indoor Jellyfish Sphere with Touch Tank (the only one in a private home)

Listed at $17,500,000