Tiny whitefly has big impact on ficus hedges

By Antigone Barton

The little white fly that arrived about six months ago is so small that a magnifying glass is recommended to properly search for it. But since its arrival, it has stripped away barriers between public and private property, cost scores of homeowners tens of thousands of dollars apiece, and done what neither drought nor native plant enthusiasts could do — made people question the value of their ficus hedges.

The whitefly, which hails from Asia, has done this by sucking dry the leaves of the ubiquitous, but also Asia-originating ficus benjamina, turning common privacy hedges into filigrees of brown branches.

"It's hard to believe an insect could do this," said Mike Zimmerman, owner of Zimmerman Tree Service and president of Friends of Mounts Botanical Gardens.

In its impact on the South Florida landscape, he added, "other than lethal yellowing I can't think of anything that's been as devastating as whitefly. Possibly more so — it only came a few months ago." In that time, he and other whitefly watchers agree, it has been carried by winds — and sped on its way by Tropical Storm Fay — as well as by landscapers carrying trimmings from one town to the next, and by new plantings of bushes and trees.

Don't wait until leaves fall — use a hand glass to check leaves for whiteflies

### Treatment

The Palm Beach County Extension Service recommends treating plants through the roots only, to spare beneficial insects the effects of spray, but pest control experts and landscapers recommend both spraying and a granular or liquid root treatment. While this treatment is not considered to pose threats to people or pets, the substance used — neonicotinoids, derived from nicotine should be be avoided while wet.

#### Root drench:
- Can take four to six weeks to work
- Lasts six to eight months

#### Spray:
- Begins killing whitefly immediately
- Lasts four to six weeks
- Some experts are concerned that spraying might harm beneficial insects

#### Beneficial insects:
- Bug experts hope that roughly half a dozen different insects that prey on whitefly will help bring infections under control. Those insects include parasitic wasps, predator beetles and lady bugs. These, however, have limited availability and are expensive.

Graphic: Bonnie LaRoly-Teichert, Antigone Barton

SOURCE: University of Florida IFAS extension & interviews
The holidays are a hard time for many people. Sad things happen when people feel they can’t pay bills and take care of their families. If you read a daily newspaper or watch television, you know this is true. And it’s not just happening on the other side of the bridge: In the past month, the Madoff deceit has caused us all to wonder just how wide the impact of unchecked greed can spread.

We know our favorite charities will be struggling to find money this coming year. If you are still able to give, please do. When charities and pension plans take a hit, the people who need assistance most end up with even less. And consider buying from your local merchants — many of whom are family-run businesses feeling the pinch of a sagging economy.

If your checkbook — like mine — struggles to make financial contributions these days, you can still make a difference. Try rolling up your sleeves and wading in where the need is greatest: Volunteer. Try giving your time and talents. They are needed. They will be appreciated.

The result of your efforts may not seem profound, but a simple smile from an appreciative stranger can brighten a day, and give you hope for a new year.

Best wishes in 2009.

Mary Kate Leming, Editor
Local voices

Countywide Coastal Council seeks community input

By Gail Coniglio

All of our coastal communities face hurdles and extensive timelines presented by state and federal agencies; therefore, it is imperative that we share the common goal to change these regulatory mandates through legislative channels.

The Palm Beach Countywide Coastal Council unanimously supported an initiative to act as a unified body to demand regulatory reform for coastal projects at a meeting held Nov. 21.

We represent a broad cross section of communities that share a need to protect our residents and coastal properties from harm. The erosion on our shoreline poses a critical and worsening threat at a time when the state and federal regulatory climate becomes more and more hostile to coastal protection projects.

It requires more time and more money to obtain limited approvals for permits, which are then scrutinized by special interest groups. We need a more balanced strategy between the environmental interests and a regional beach management plan. Certainly, the requirements for beach renourishment should include regional mitigation, monitoring and funding procedures for our contiguous coastline.

The only way we can have an impact in Tallahassee or in Washington is to stand strongly together. Florida Sen. Jeff Atwater has been active in promoting intergovernmental communication and action on this issue at a state level. U.S. Rep. Ron Klein has assisted Palm Beach County and several individual municipalities in our permitting efforts in Washington.

I believe we can look to Sen. Atwater and Congressman Klein for leadership on this issue. Additionally, Palm Beach County Commissioner Addie Greene is actively engaged in bringing together local municipalities to advance legislative support. A report authorized by the state will be presented in January, addressing the effectiveness of statewide beach management programs and possible changes to state statutes to enhance efficiency. This offers a unique opportunity to determine an action plan that can be promoted at the 2009 state legislative session.

It is my hope that our communities come together quickly to re-energize this council to actively pursue regulatory reform.

I urge all municipalities to draft and approve a resolution that supports these initiatives and forward them to the League of Cities for its endorsement. Our next meeting will be held on Feb. 13, and I look forward to readers’ suggestions and comments.

Tackling the long-term protection of our people, property and economy will be a challenge that requires the unified strength of all coastal communities.

Gail Coniglio is president pro tem of the Palm Beach Town Council and represents the Town of Palm Beach on the Palm Beach Countywide Coastal Council. She can be reached at: Gailconig1@aol.com.
Letters to the Editor

A Boynton Inlet boondoggle

Thanks to your publication for bringing the activity of the Boynton Inlet Committee to light. Boynton Beach for whatever reason is way out of line for pushing this agenda. This is just another boondoggle at the taxpayers’ expense, for which Palm Beach County is infamous. The so-called inlet was never meant for boat traffic. The Coast Guard will not install channel markers that would acknowledge that the waterway is safe or acceptable for navigation. Present charts clearly indicate the dangers of this inlet. When numbers like $50 million to $100 million are thrown out for a new bridge (and the other huge numbers for increasing the width and depth of the channel), this becomes more preposterous. In addition, the engineering studies that will be undertaken to support this hoax will have absolutely no validity and the results will be to support the group pushing this for financial gain. This goes up to and including the Corp of Army Engineers. I personally observed the results of the changes to the Hillsboro Inlet in Pompano Beach. The Corp of Army Engineers altered the natural channel for boaters’ convenience around 1960. The result was that Yahoobay, which was just inside the inlet, disappeared and dredging is required continuously. The inlet is no safer than it ever was. If a boater lacks boating skills and good judgment, no inlet will be safe. This intended move should draw all the attention and opposition that the Briny Breezes incident drew. The taxpayers have had enough.

J. Mark Choberka
Ocean Ridge

Get organized to fight Atlantic Plaza

I really enjoy your paper, as do all of my friends, neighbors and clients. We are all very concerned about what is going to happen at Atlantic Plaza. The height and density of the project keeps growing, despite our protests. Can’t we, as residents and taxpayers in Delray Beach, have some say as to what happens here? The Federal Highway townhouses came out of nowhere and our guess is that most of the people who live in east Delray have no idea what is going to happen here. Is there a way where we can come together as a community and fight these developers and stop these projects from getting hidden under our noses? We all hate what is happening to Delray. I grew up in Boca and watched that town be destroyed and now I’m seeing it happen to our great little town of Delray. I have a group that wants to fight this, but we’re not sure how to go about it, or if we even can.

Terri Groth
Delray Beach

Clarification

In a story about local town halls, credits for two historical photographs were left off in our December edition. The correct credit information is below:

The original Ocean Ridge Town Hall, photo by Grace Browner, from The History of Ocean Ridge, courtesy Gail Adams Aaskov.

Delray Beach Ladies Improvement Association building, photo courtesy The Delray Beach Historical Society.
Manalapan

Beach house size debated
By Antigone Barton

When is a beach house a house on the beach? Is a kitchen the difference between a cabana and a home? Perhaps size really does matter, if, as one zoning commissioner asserted, “anything larger than 1,000 square feet is a house.”

Until this is decided, the difference between a dwelling and a well-equipped changing room may be as subtle as the inflection with which zoning commissioners at their December meeting said “beach house.”

Preparing final recommendations for an April workshop at which the matter will be considered, commissioners focused on the underlying concerns about beach houses. The issue included what they look like from the road and other homes — invisible was said to be preferable — and whether they can serve as full-time separate residences — they’re not supposed to. Zoning commissioners began discussing a beach house size last spring at the request of the Town Commission. In meetings since, they have discussed a formula to determine the allowed size of a beach house by multiplying the average lot width by the average depth, multiplying the result by 1.25 and dividing that by 30.

They also approved a plan that would allow kitchens and sleeping quarters, and would prohibit selling or renting beach houses separately from the rest of a property.

In the December zoning meeting, Commissioner G. Kent Shortz brought further suggestions to limit the height of cabanas to no more than 13 feet above the top of the road, and require them to be set back at least 35 feet from the public right of way, but both were voted down. His suggestion that the commission recommend cabanas be setback at least 20 feet from neighboring properties passed.

Commissioner George Valassis, who said that he had one of the largest lots, but a beach house so small “you can barely use it,” suggested that each property be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Commissioners will next discuss their recommendations and take public feedback at a 10 a.m., Jan. 7 workshop at Town Hall.

The decision of what distinguishes a beach house from a home will then rest with the town commission.

A1A Construction: Road work that has closed State Road A1A for two months would begin in mid-December.

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Gulf Stream

Golf cart ban debated
Commissioner warns of ‘revolution’

By Antigone Barton

The troubles that follow youth and wheels know no borders, and so, in December, Gulf Stream town commissioners discussed the need to crack down on those who would turn downtown streets into a playground.

The issue, here, however, was not drag-racing muscle cars or cruising Camaros, but golf carts.

Or, as Mayor William Koch put it, citing a spate of recent complaints, “The problem of these kids driving golf carts down the streets, over lawns, some without driving licenses.”

Part of the problem was said to come from Gulf Stream School students seeking entertainment while waiting for their rides home. “The problem is the parents aren’t taking it seriously.” Commissioner Joan Orthwein said. “The problem is the parents don’t think it’s a problem.”

But the wayward ways of youth and the indulgence of their parents was just part of the problem, commissioners found, as they considered a spate of dan and drive complaints that have been presented to the mayor and police chief.

Residents who drive golf carts while walking their dogs are another part of the problem. That answer to exercise-free canine ownership has led to reports of brake slamming encounters when the car driver belatedly sees the leash connecting a cart on one side of the road to the dog on the hedge on the other side.

There are some people with disabilities who can’t walk their dogs without a golf cart, one of two residents attending the December meeting offered, giving the example of a woman who relies on her golf cart to accompany her dog’s outings because “she can’t walk.”

This prompted a commissioner to inquire how she cleans up after the pet, to which the resident replied, “she walks over and picks it up.”

Enforcing town code, which permits only those with driver licenses to tool around in golf carts, could address at least half the problem, town Police Chief Garrett Ward said.

But, Town Attorney John “Skip” Randolph said, that code is unenforceable because it conflicts with state law that allows the 14 and older to ride the carts.

Commissioners agreed to revisit the issue, with an aim to reconciling code with law.

“If you banned them, that would be the end of it,” Ward suggested.

“I think you’d have a revolution if you banned golf carts,” Orthwein answered. “I don’t even meet people there.”

In the meantime, Koch promised a stern mention of the matter in the town newsletter.
Along the Coast

Thanks!

Holiday bonus traditions vary

By Antigone Barton

The grinch who stole the economy left the holidays untouched in the season just past, as towns took second looks at pay raises, but followed their standing traditions of glad tidings to staff members.

In some towns that meant hefty stocking stuffers, but in some it meant that December was just another month.

Falling into the first category was Gulf Stream, where the 17 staff members got a lot. How much is as elusive as a Santa Claus spotting, as the gift comes directly from residents to an account set up by the Civic Association. It’s a town tradition that goes back about 60 years.

“Way back, people gave Christmas gifts directly to police officers,” said Civic Association President Bob Ganger. “And the Civic Association said, that probably isn’t right.”

In the years since, the association has instead collected and combined the gifts, a process that keeps the source of each, and the resulting total, known only to a scarce few. After a reminder goes to all residents around Thanksgiving, checks start arrive at Town Hall. At least 70 percent of residents give, Ganger said, with snowbirds who returned too late to chip in for this season’s greetings sending a check for the next year’s pot.

In towns on either side of Ocean Ridge, though, it is the thought that counts.

Manalapan employees haven’t seen a holiday bonus since 2005, after which legislative restrictions on taxes tightened the town budget to more provable necessities.

Briny Breezes did not have a paid town employee to give a bonus to, until the recent hire of a town clerk, and so had no tradition to follow.

Lantana will, as usual, Town Manager Mike Bornstein said, give each of its 100 employees a $20 gift certificate to Publix.

And in Delray Beach, commissioners gave the gift of time, agreeing recently to add the day after Christmas off to the $100 bonus received by each of the city’s approximately 850 employees.

What a surprise!” administrative assistant Rosanne Dechicchio said. “We were just thrilled.”

And that is what every town wants, says Gulf Stream’s Ganger, who agrees with those keeping an eye on their neighbors’ holiday spirit, adding:

“There’s nothing better than contented and motivated people serving the town.”

LANTANA
Number of employees: about 100
Raise? No increase this year
Payroll: $4.7 million

MANALAPAN
Number of employees: 25
Raise? 4.9 percent cost of living
Payroll: $1.59 million

OCEAN RIDGE
Number of employees: 25
Raise? 3 percent cost of living increase
Payroll: $1.5 million

BRINY BREEZES
Number of employees: a recently hired part time clerk
Raise? Not yet
Payroll: $25 per hour for roughly 25 hours a week.

GULF STREAM
Number of employees: 17
Raise? 6 percent cost of living increase
Payroll: $1.26 million

DELRAY BEACH
Number of employees: about 850
Raise? No increases for civil service employees, those for employees under collective bargaining agreements have either been cut or are currently being negotiated
Payroll: $576.6 million

SOURCE: Municipalities. Payroll numbers do not include benefit packages.
Vulnerability

In addition to the "weeping fig" (Ficus benjamina) the whitefly also has been spotted on the banana tree (Ficus bengalensis), loquat or false banana tree (Ficus pseudolusitanica), Cuban laurel (Ficus acoccarpa), strangler fig (Ficus aurea), fiddle-leaf fig (Ficus lyrata), and the Indian fig or "Banyan" (Ficus benghalensis). Experts also caution the whitefly may turn up on other species of ficus.

FICUS:

Source: University of Florida IFAS extension & interviews

SOURCE: University of Florida IFAS extension & interviews

Coming next month in The Coastal Star: Discover hardy ficus alternatives

Boyon Beach

Some give a "wild thought" or two to Boynton's future

By Hector Florin

Executives of a company responsible for one of the city's largest developments have recently held discussions with city leaders to offer ideas for the future location of government buildings and downtown redevelopment.

Mayor Jerry Taylor and City Manager Kurt Bressner met with the developers before the Dec. 16 City Commission meeting. At the meeting, Taylor brought up the subject of a company's having an interest in finding a new location for City Hall as part of a land swap, he said in an interview. The mayor said he brought up during the meeting tying in the 1927 high school as part of any plans. "That was just me throwing out a wild thought," Taylor said.

Taylor did not identify the company, though Vice Mayor Jose Rodriguez later confirmed it was executives with Compson Associates, which developed Renaissance Commons. At the meeting, Taylor did not identify the company, though Vice Mayor Jose Rodriguez later confirmed it was executives with Compson Associates, which developed Renaissance Commons. At the meeting, Taylor did not identify the company.

Rodriguez said he met with Jim Comparato and Robert D'Angelo of Compson days after the commission meeting. In an interview, Rodriguez spoke of the company's ideas for a series of property swaps, including moving a new public safety building, now proposed at Gateway Boulevard and High Ridge Road, to Renaissance Commons.

The company said it could accommodate the facility at half the current $31 million price tag, according to Rodriguez.

The talks also tied into moving City Hall departments to Renaissance Commons at a later date, and allow Compson to consider building a mixed-use development at City Hall. The company's current location, easy-to-maintain shrub. Now, all of a sudden, it's hard to maintain shrub.

The city would have to open up proposals to any and all persons or companies if any of these ideas are considered, Rodriguez said.

"It's very preliminary," he added. "We have historically had too many developers approach us with things like this. At the end of the day, some of them never step up to the plate." Phone messages left with Comparato and D’Angelo were not returned.

Taylor — who opposes spending taxpayer money to save the historic, yet rundown, high school — brought up tying its future into these discussions and the City Hall property. But Rodriguez said he proposed a commission vote that would link development talks with saving the high school, which the board supported.

The Mediterranean Revival-style building's future has been a constant topic in recent years, with commissioners in October voting to find ways to save the structure.

Completely restoring it would cost millions of dollars, though Rodriguez said a company that submits a bid for downtown redevelopment projects could get additional consideration if renovating the school is part of the plan.

"I know it's expensive, but we haven't really given the opportunity," Rodriguez said. "I think it's important to have a mixture of new and old in our city. It's great architecture that we should be saving.

Rodriguez foresees civic and senior groups now spread throughout the city using the building, and perhaps even adding office space. "There won't be a problem with usage," he said.

Architect William Manly King designed the school, which the board supported. It's been a constant future has been a constant topic in recent years, with commissioners in October voting to find ways to save the structure.

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Boynton Inlet

More of the same

Committee says best option for inlet is leaving it alone

By Thomas R. Collins

Drumroll, please.

After two years of meetings over how to change the Boynton Inlet in response to safety and environmental concerns, the answer is …

keeping it the same?

Possibly.

The Boynton Inlet Committee in December ranked a series of options — including either widening or deepening the inlet, or both — but the option that ranked up the most points was that old standby choice: “Status quo.”

Too many members of the committee were worried about hurricane storm surge that could flood their coastal towns when water rushes from the ocean through a wider or deeper channel.

The results make it less likely than ever that the inlet will undergo any major changes anytime soon.

The tally will now go to the Boynton Beach City Commission, which will consider the next step, if there is one.

The option that was ranked second would shift the south jetty farther to the south. Third was a combination of shifting that jetty farther south and dredging the ebb shoal, which creates nasty waves for boat captains.

Generally, the bigger the change, the lower the ranking. The most drastic change, making the inlet 200 feet wider and 10 feet deeper, ranked last.

Some members say the committee’s inability to come to any real resolution — one that, all at once, tackles safety and water-quality, and prevents worse flooding — suggests thinking about the inlet needs to get bolder.

Some say they should turn to more brazen ideas — even locks that could seal off the inlet if a storm comes.

“The process that we just went through really calls for this question to be asked: Is there an option that can address all of them together and not be mutually exclusive?” said Lantana Town Manager Michael Bornstein, whose Hypoluxo Island enclave would already be completely submerged in a once-in-a-hundred-years storm. “We couldn’t find a way to control the Intracoastal Waterway from surge should a storm hit.”

“There’s ways to control water.”

At a recent meeting of the inlet committee, engineers said such a project would be the first of its kind at such an inlet. It would also come at an enormous cost that no one has even begun to ponder.

Taylor’s response: “I think we ought to be at the leading edge of things.”

Three members gave “Status quo” the highest ranking — six points out of six — in every category, from environmental value to navigation safety, even though the existing inlet is considered unsafe. And those members — Ocean Ridge Commissioner Geoff Pugh, Briny Breezes representative Jerry Lower, and Charlie Frederick — gave almost every other option a zero in every category.

In reporting the results to Boynton Beach Public Works Director Jeffrey Livergood, engineer John Duchock of Boynton Beach-hired Applied Technology & Management said those tallies vaulted “Status quo” to the top.

“We feel that this is a result of a skew in the ranking where three committee members favored the status quo and ranked the rest as unfavorable without consideration of the true merits of those options,” Duchock wrote in an e-mail to Livergood. “This is most likely driven by the perceived impact of storm surge changes.”

Bornstein said that the voting pattern doesn’t change the feeling of committee members that surge was seen as a “veto” issue.

“If one or two groups of representatives skewed the votes or the number, it doesn’t matter, because without them on board it wasn’t going to happen anyway from a political perspective,” he said.

Taylor held out hope for something to happen to the channel.

“We did a lot of work,” he said. “And I really think something needs to be done with the inlet.”

Editor’s note: Committee member Jerry Lower, an Ocean Ridge resident and Briny Breezes shareholder, is publisher of The Coastal Star.
Nominated in Best of Boynton 08’ Female Realtor, Josefina (Jo) James brings you success and 30 years experience and integrity working for you.

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RCRS office located at Marina Village, over Ocean Avenue Bridge, on the left by Two George’s parking garage at 625 Casa Loma Blvd #106.

The universe is so good, it is always giving us symbols of wonder and delight that we incorporate into our lives. For instance, sunrise — a perfect example of beauty, new beginnings, and the constancy of a power and presence greater than ourselves. Every morning we are assured that all is well in the world, no matter what latest drama or trauma has been broadcast. All is well in the world; the sun has risen in a most magnificent way.

The sunrise speaks to us daily and says, “Dare to be remarkable, make no small plans! Look at me, I show up daily in a most beautiful and spectacular way.”

The sunrise is telling us to seize the day and experience our magnificence. We were not created to live a life of mediocrity or to settle for less. Look at the wonder and beauty of each new day. We no longer need to live under the mistaken belief that life is hard. We can transcend any condition, situation or problem. The sunrise tells us that we can transcend all of that. We have been given the power to make a fresh start, to turn over a new leaf, to have a second or third chance.

The past is over, both the victories and the defeats. This is a new day. Set your sights high, the higher the better. Make no small plans, don’t be afraid to choose; be bold! This is a new sunrise, a new year.

“Dare to be remarkable, make no small plans!”

The Rev. Nancy Norman is senior minister of Unity of Delray Beach. She wrote this for The Coastal Star.

TOP: While Old Ocean Boulevard in Ocean Ridge is always popular with runners, walkers and bicyclists it seems busiest at sunrise. ABOVE: Under its owners careful watch, this “woman’s best friend” is well behaved on the beach. BOTTOM RIGHT: At the Colony Hotel’s Cabana Club, Bill Hamilton readiness umbrellas for the day. BOTTOM LEFT: Shari Freed, a resident of the unincorporated pocket, makes communing with the sunrise part of her daily routine.

Photos by Jerry Lower
1/9 – Great Books Discussion Group
Presented by Dr. Barry Gross at the Delray Beach City Hall, 100 N.W. First Ave. 6 pm. ($5). Call 266-9490 or 266-0194.

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Presented by Dr. Barry Gross at the Delray Beach City Hall, 100 N.W. First Ave. 6 pm. ($5). Call 266-9490 or 266-0194.

1/9 – Rhythm & Rhyme: Symphony of the Americas – Kids will delight in music sessions given by the Children's song's a classical twist at the Schoolhouse Children's Museum, Boynton Beach. Free to ages 2-5. 3:30 pm admission to the museum. 748-6782.

1/9 – Author BookSigning at Murder on the Beach, 2711 NE 2nd Ave., Delray Beach presents Lanette Colb and her book Out of Body. $3 pm. 6:30-7:30 pm. Visit www.LanetteColb.com.

1/10 – Brown bag lunch & discussion group
Presented by Nancy Horan presented by facilitator Pat Cohen at the Moore Library, 1330 Lands End Road, Delray Beach. Open to ages 3-5 whose parent or guardian are able to attend one, six-hour sessions. 10:30-11:30 am. Registration covers all supplies and equipment. 243-7194.

1/10 – Women in the Visual Arts Reception at the Delray Beach Public Library, 2 pm. Free. 266-9490 or 266-0194.

1/10 – Palm Beach Police Foundation Police Officer's Ball. A fundraising opportunity to honor the men and women who serve the community. Black-tie dinner held at The Mar-A-Lago Club, Palm Beach. 7 pm; Cocktails; 9 pm dinner. $500. 803-0818 or www.pbpolicefoundation.org.

1/11 & 1/13 – Artists in the Park
An outdoor art show with local artists displaying and selling their work at Venetian Park, Delray Beach. 10 am – 4 pm. 266-0393.

1/12 - 1/17 - Open Grass & Arts Music Festival
Will be held at the Old School Square Entertainment Pavilion, Delray Beach. Arts, crafts and food vendors, live entertainment, children's tent and music 220 per day. 10 am - 11 pm; 1/11 - 1 pm - 9 pm. 243-7022, Ext. 322 or www.ogfmconcerts.com.

1/12 – Quilting Bee
Presented by the Friends of the Library at Ocean Ridge Town Hall, 6450 N. Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. 4:30 pm – 3:30 pm on Tuesdays. $25. 655-7227 or www.fourarts.org.

1/12 – Got Gaming?

1/12 – Fire and Remember
A reading held at The Mar-A-Lago Club, Palm Beach. 7 pm Cocktails; 8 pm Dinner. $500. 803-0818 or www.pbpolicefoundation.org.

1/13 – Treasure Island Lecture
Presented by Miguel Lopez-Viego, M.D., Medical Director of the Bethesda Center for Surgical Weight Reduction. Learn about laparoscopic gastric bypass and Lap-Band surgery: 6 pm Free. Call Sandy Arioli at 737-7333 or 468x or e-mail Sandyklo@bethesdahealthcare.com.

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1/13 – Fire and Remember
A reading held at The Mar-A-Lago Club, Palm Beach. Cocktails/Silent Auction at 6:30 pm. $75. 833-3222 or www.pbpolicefoundation.org.

1/15 – quine Bee
March 17, 2021 – 31st Annual St. Patrick’s Day Parade
in Delray Beach. 10 am. Free. Call 266-9490 or 266-0194. www.delraybeachparade.com.

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March 17, 2021 – 31st Annual St. Patrick’s Day Parade
in Delray Beach. 10 am. Free. Call 266-9490 or 266-0194. www.delraybeachparade.com.
1/12 - Bad Bionde's of Poverty Row Film series presenting The Strange Woman (1946) starring Hedy Lamarr with commentary by Hedy Lamarr. Delray Beach Public Library. 1 p.m. Free. 266-4904 or 266-0194.

1/13 - Lantana Council Meetings will be held on the second & fourth Mondays of each month at the Lantana Town Hall, 500 Sgynders Circle. Meeting begins at 7 p.m. Agenda is at www.lantana.org. Tuesday - 1/13 - School of the Arts Foundation Gallery will present Landmark Visions with performance by music students from the Dreyfoos School of the Arts will be held The 2nd Club 2518, County Rd., Palm Beach. 11:30 am (registration), Noon Luncheon. 1:30 pm (performance). $100-$355. 351-495-4469 or www.schoots.org.

1/13 - Florida Wills & Living Trusts - Presented by Attorney Jeffrey Steiner at the Delray Beach Public Library. 2 p.m. Free. 266-4904 or 266-0194.

1/13 - The Esther B. D'Keeve Lecture Series presents Inside the Secret World of the Supreme Court. This event will be held at The Society of the Four Arts Walter S. Gubelmann Auditorium, Palm Beach. 2:30 p.m. $25. 655-7227 or www.fours.org.

1/13 - Advanced Radiation Technology for Treatment of Cancers of the Lung – Community Lecture Series at Bethesda Memorial Hospital presented by Virginia Sharma, M.D., Radiation Oncologist. 4:30 pm. Free. 737-2233 or publicrelations@bethesdahealthcare.com.

1/13 - Renewing the Dream of Gandhi & King: Digital Democracy is presented by Pat Kellerman, presented by Annette Nober at the Delray Beach Public Library. 10 a.m. Free. 266-4904 or 266-0194.

Wednesday - 1/14 - Mystery Book Group discusses The Genius by Jesse Kellerman, presented by Annette Nober at the Delray Beach Public Library. 10 a.m. Free. 266-4904 or 266-0194.

1/14 - The Psychology of Investor Behavior & Associate at the Delray Beach Public Library. 2 p.m. Free. 266-4904 or 266-0194.

1/14 - American Red Cross Designer Show House Preview Party will be held at 1252 Lake Dr., West Palm Beach. 6 p.m. $200. 833-7171 or www.redcrosshouse.com.

Thursday - 1/15 - 33rd Annual American Red Cross Designer Show House opens at the historic Provindencia House at 1172 North Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach. Exclusive showcase of designs by nationally and locally-acclaimed designers. Tours will be given 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Sunday. $20 admission fee. Ticket required at the door. (Thu-Sat). 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. (Sun). Free. 266-4904 or 266-0194.

1/15 - Understanding Other Cultures Book Discussion Group: America: Melting Pot or Mosaic? - The Art Store by Sofia. Kellerman will be presented by Pat Kellerman, Charles Omana & Carl Wetzstein by Stella Suberman will be presented by Pat Kellerman, Charles Omana & Carl Wetzstein by Stella Suberman. Delray Beach Public Library. 2 p.m. Free. 266-4904 or 266-0194.

1/15 - Visual Jeffrey Marks presents James Patterson: Against Medical Advice. “Family’s Struggle with an Amazing Medical Mystery and Dr. Nicholas Perricone – 7 Per Cent Weight loss Program.” Event is held at the Bravac Court’s Café Boulud, 300 Australian Ave., Palm Beach. Includes buffet, waterpark & a copy of one of the featured books. 8:45 - 10 am. Reservations required. $100. Call Sandra Rondinelli at 266-4904 or 266-0194.

1/16 - Great Books Discussion Group presented by Dr. Barry Gross at the Delray Beach Public Library. 10 a.m. Free. 266-4904 or 266-0194.

1/16 - Make & Take: Positively Penguins - Learn more about everyone’s favorite tuxedoed bird at the Schoolhouse Children’s Museum, Boynton Beach. Pre-4 p.m. 10 a.m. - 10 p.m. 50 admission to the museum 742-6782.

1/16 - Oceanfront Concert – Enjoy a free concert featuring a monthly concert series open to the public at Oceanfront Park, Ocean Ridge. 6 p.m.

1/17 - Sandletter Beach Cleanup “Beautiful for a Slice of Pie” will be held at Gulfstream Park, 4489 S. Federal Hwy., Boynton Beach. Bag, gloves and refreshments provided. 9 a.m. – 10 a.m. Parking fee. Free. Call Gary Solomon at 734-9138.

1/17 - Breastfeeding Prenatal Class is taught by lactation consultants at Bethesda Memorial Hospital. This is an opportunity for expectant parents to learn the benefits of breastfeeding, keys to success, supply and where to purchase breastfeeding and pumping equipment. This class is approximately 4.5 hour class divided into two 2 hour sessions. $65. 729-0699 or JCullipher@bethesdahealthcare.com.

1/17 - National League of American Pen Women’s Book Talk is presented by new authors and members of the Boca Raton Branch of the National League of American Pen Women. Delray Beach Public Library. 2-4 p.m. Free. 266-4904 or 266-0194.

1/17 - Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Sixty-Five Roses Ball. The 42nd annual black-tie gala benefitting the organization will be held at The Breakers, 1 South County Rd., Palm Beach. 7 p.m. $500 and up. 683-1965 or palmbeachcf.org.

1/17 – 28th Annual Downtown Delray Beach Festival of the Arts brings together 150 artists displaying works along Atlantic Avenue in Delray Beach. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free. Continues Saturday 12/18, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Sunday 12/19, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. at the Delray Beach Festival on Beach Road. 301 Australian Ave., Palm Beach. Includes Palm Beach. 2:30 pm. $25. 655-7227 or www.fourarts.org.

Monday - 1/19 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Lecture. The Harold P. Bernstein Memorial Lecture will be presented by Joseph J. Ellis, Senior Scholar in History, is presented by the Office of the President of Hofstra University at Hofstra University. 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Pre-registration is required. 369-2229 or publicrelations@bethesdahealthcare.com.

1/19 - Greece is the topic presented by Harold Richer at the Delray Beach Public Library. 6:30 p.m. Free. 266-4904 or 266-0194.

Wednesday, 1/21 – Audubon Society of the Everglades members and guests of the Audubon Society will be hosted by the Boynton Inlet/ Ocean Inlet Park. Meet at playground picnic area. 8:30 am. 561-765-7070 or www.audubon.org.

1/21 - Opportunity Inc. Luncheon and Fashion Show will celebrate the 70th anniversary of Opportunity Inc. and acknowledge the charity’s founders, the Women’s Guild of Bethesda-by-the-Sea Church. Ticket: $25. 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. 732-9221 or www.opportunityinc.org.

1/21 - 100 Best Mysteries Discussion Group meets to discuss Sondra Inoshiro will be held at the Boynton Inlet/Ocean Inlet Park. Meet at playground picnic area. 8:30 am. 561-765-7070 or www.audubon.org.

1/22 – Tales From the Front Stoop will be held at the Breakers, 1 South County Rd., Palm Beach. 2 p.m. Free. 266-4904 or 266-0194.

1/22 – Bridges Memorial Town Council Meeting is normally held the 4th Thursday of each month at 4 pm. The meeting will be held at the Breakers, 1 South County Rd., Palm Beach. 4 p.m. A free concert seaside, a monthly concert series open to the public at Oceanfront Park, Ocean Ridge. 6 p.m.

1/23 – The Esther B. D'Keeve Lecture Series presents Inside the Secret World of the Supreme Court. This event will be held at The Society of the Four Arts Walter S. Gubelmann Auditorium, Palm Beach. 2:30 p.m. $25. 655-7227 or www.fours.org.

1/23 - 100 Best Mysteries Discussion Group presented by Dr. Barry Gross at the Delray Beach Public Library. 10 a.m. Free. 266-4904 or 266-0194.

1/23 – Fun with Food: Freshly Squeezed!! Celebrate National Fresh Squeezed Juice Week with a tasty art project at the Schoolhouse Children’s Museum, Boynton Beach. Pre-4 p.m. $4. 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. $5. 266-4904 or 266-0194.

1/23 - Laugh With The Library Chapter Book Discussion Group meeting is held at the Delray Beach Marriott 10 N. Ocean Blvd., Delray Beach. Stand-up comedy will be presented by Bobo Jabez and headliner Dom irms. Proceeds used to enhance programs and materials for children and young adults at the Brandon on the Beach Branch. 7 p.m. $50. 266-4904 or 266-0194.

1/23 – Gala Fundraising Event YPOD (Young Professionals of Delray) presents Late Night Laugh With the Library at the Delray Beach Marriott. 11 p.m. 561-765-7070 or YPOD@delraybeachmarriott.com.

Saturday - 1/24 - Northwood University Outstanding Business Leaders Awards Gala is presented by the Chamber of Commerce of Palm Beach County at The Breakers, 1 South County Rd., Palm Beach. 7 p.m. $357. 681-7956 or www.northwood.edu.

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January 3, 2009

The COASTAL STAR

Community Calendar 13

1/24 - 5th Annual Ebony Fashion Fair sponsored by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority West Palm Beach Alumnae Chapter will be held at the Palm Beach Convention Center, 650 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Proceeds provide college scholarships for graduating high school seniors. 8 p.m. 540-646-2600 or www.ebonyfashionfair.com. 1/24 - Performance Poetry Coffee House and Party will be held at the Old School Square Gymnasium, corner of NE 1st and NE 1st Ave., Delray Beach. Featuring Taylor Mail and Lymon Procope. Presented in partnership with the Delray Beach Poetry Festival. 9 p.m. - Midnight. Tickets at the door: $10 (singles), $15 (couple), $8 (students). 241-7922, Ext. 1 or www.oldschool.org.

JANUARY 25 – 31

Sunday – 1/25 – The Frankfurt Jewish book Council will be held at Marcus at the Delray Beach Public Library. 2 p.m. Free. 266-4940 or 266-0194.

1/26 – Palm Beach friends of American Masters of David Adams: Sounds of Israel will celebrate the future of Israel. The gala includes dinner and a special performance by Israeli singer Siti. The Breakers, Palm Beach. 6:30 p.m. $600. 835-0550 or www.atina.org.

1/25 – Catholic Charities, Disease of Palm Beach 25th Anniversary Celebration will recognize the board for 25 years of helping the community. The War–a-Logs Club, Palm Beach. 7 p.m. $275. 775-9865.

Monday – 1/26 – Handwritings of the Famous and the Infamous – Personality Revealed – Writing Series presented by Lilli Weinberger at the Delray Beach Public Library. 2 p.m. Free. 266-4940 or 266-0194.

1/26 – Boynton Beach High School Student Art Exhibit and Presentation will be held at the Boynton Beach City Library Program Room, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach. Students will share what art means to them and to their future. 6 – 8 p.m. 742-6026 or www.boyntonbeacharts.com.

1/26 – Lantana Council Meetings are held on the second & fourth Mondays of each month at the Lantana Town Hall, 500 Gymnastics Circle. Meeting begins at 7 p.m. Agenda available at www.lantana.org. 1/26 & 1/27 - Topical Tropical: 53rd Annual Tropical Short Course is presented by the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 663 W.W. St Rd St., Boca Raton. 1/26 presenters include: Lloyd Singleton, Horticulturist, The Breakers in Palm Beach; Kristin Jacobs, Commissioner, Environmental Advocate, Founder of NatureScape; Georgia Tasker, Miami Herald columnist; Julia Clevett, NGL Creative Design Genius. Event includes raffles, and vendors of plants, books, garden accessories, floral design materials, etc. 8 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. 595 (12 days, lunch included): 500 (single day, lunch included). Call Barbara Horan at 954-698-0109 or barbara@hotmail.com.

Tuesday – 1/27 – POPFusion is held at the Palm Beach Photographic Centre, 55 NE Second Ave., Delray Beach, with a photography auction, portfolio reviews, seminars, photo ops, and book signings. 276-9079 or www.workshop.org.

1/27 – Manalapan Town Commission Meeting is normally held the 4th Tuesday of each month at 1 p.m. Meetings are held at Manalapan Town Hall, 600 S. State Blvd. Manalapan. 1 p.m. Agenda available at www.manalapan.org.

1/27 – Presenting the Power of Your Brain as You Age is presented by Dr. John Combe at the Delray Beach Public Library. 2 p.m. Free. 266-4940.

1/27 – The Esther B. O'Keefe Lecture Series presents Marvin Strauss, Frada Kahle and Daphne Rusher. Portrait of a Graphic. This event will be held at The Society of The Four Arts Villa S. Gubbay Auditorium, Palm Beach. 2:30 p.m. $15 - 7273 or www.fourarts.org.

THE POP-UP STORY OF DELRAY BEACH

1/27 – John James Audubon’s Travels in America is presented by Professor George Fein as part of the Delray Beach Historical Society’s 2009 Lecture Series. Delray Beach Public Library. 6:30 p.m. Free. 276-9578 or www.dbhs.org.

1/27 – Delray Beach’s Annual Citizen’s Roundtable will be held at Old School Square, Delray Beach. Residents are encouraged to attend and participate in discussions on issues and concerns involving the city and its local government. 7 p.m. 243-7190.

Wednesday – 1/28 – Causes of the Civil War – Presented by Ed Lewis at the Delray Beach Public Library. 6:30 p.m. Free. 266-4940 or 266-0194.

Thursday – 1/29 – Art and Jazz on the Avenue – held along Atlantic Avenue in Delray Beach featuring an open house for restaurants, art galleries and shops with live music. Free. 6 – 10 p.m. 279-1380, Ext. 1.

1/29 – Food for the Poor Fine Wines & Hidden Treasures: The Best of Palm Beach paint dinner wines to accompany cuisine created by Chef Ryan Artim at the Ritz-Carlton, 100 S. Ocean Blvd., Manalapan. 6:30 p.m. 550-680-8060 or www.fpbmiami.com.

1/29 – Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County Major Gifts Reception honors top donors. The Breakers, Palm Beach. 6:30 – 9:30 p.m. Minimum gift of $36,000. 242-6650 or www.JewishPalmBeach.org.

Friday – 1/30 – 51st Annual Ebony Fashion Fair presented by Dr. Barry Gross at the Delray Beach Public Library. Free. 266-4940 or 266-0194.

1/30 – Make & Take: Inspire Your Heart with art at the Schoolhouse Children’s Museum, Boynton Beach. Families can celebrate their love of art by making a special heart-shaped art holder. Pre-k kids ages 2.5 - 30 p.m. $2.50 plus admission to the museum 742-0782.

1/31 – “World’s Largest” Pop-Up Book Party will be held in front of the Cornell Museum, 51 N. Santown Ave., Delray Beach to celebrate the unveiling of a giant version of The Pop-Up Story of Delray Beach. Be part of history as book designer and creator Roger Caberto sets his new Gannet world record for largest pop-up book. 7 – 9 p.m. 243-7121 or www.delraypopupbook.com.

Friday – 1/30 – Parker Ladd’s Author Breakfast Series presents Simon Winchester - The Man Who Loved China and Alice Schneider - Snowball: Warren Buffet and This Business of Life. The event is held at the Brazilian Court’s Cafe Boulud, 101 Australian Ave., Palm Beach and includes breakfast, valet parking and a copy of one of the featured books. 8:45 – 10 am. Reservations are required. $100. Call Sandra Rodriguez at 366-4021.

1/30 – Great Books Discussion Group presented by Dr. Barry Gross at the Delray Beach Public Library. Free. 266-4940 or 266-0194.

Saturday – 1/31 – The Pop-Up Story of Delray Beach – Presented by David Marcus at the Delray Beach Public Library. 2 p.m. Free. 266-4940 or 266-0194.

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Best Town! Built by the Best Builder!
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SF, 12’ ceilings & on the Direct wide
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Manalapan. Prices are at their lowest!
Buying this estate home is better than
playing the stock market! 5BR/5.5B
w/4,600SF+/- on the Water. Only $2.45M

NEW ESTATE HOME IN SOUTH END
One of the finest built 4,488 SF British
Colonial homes to come on the market in
many years located in the Orchid Estates
section! Just Thame to Intracoastal. Lush
pool area. $2.05M

LAKE BLOCK EL CID
Expertly renovated in 2005 w/ 2nd
floor addition this forever home/loca-
tion has everything 5 BR, 4.5 bth plus
study, wood floors, gourmet kitchen.
$1,995M

THE PROPERTY $10M+ IN PB
Jensen Beach. Enjoy magnificent Ocean
& Intracoastal views & sunsets from ev-
ery room featuring over 8000SF, impact
windows, Boat slip, 4BR, 5 bth, marble &
wood floors, etc. $1.5M

SOUTH OF SOUTHERN WPB
Elegance & charm capture this 2 story
British Colonial style home newly reno-
vated. 4,100 SF+/-, 4BR+ study, hard-
wood flrs, impact windows & French
doors , pool & guest cottage. $1.049M

FOOTBALL 2007 /2008 SALES
308 Cocumact Roll, Palm Beach SOLD
2860 Ocean Blvd., Palm Beach SOLD
2565 Ocean Blvd, Palm Beach SOLD
2737 S. Flagler, West Palm Beach (El Cid) SOLD
2000 Presidential Way, West Palm Beach SOLD
2002 Notre Dame, Lake Worth SOLD
32 Ridge Blvd., Ocean Ridge SOLD
2098 Cow Lane, Westton SOLD
4603 Water Oak, Palm Beach Gardens SOLD
8014 Flagler Court, West Palm Beach SOLD
6378 Duval, West Palm Beach SOLD
505 Via Escalor, Pbg (SOLD)
1532 Isabella Dr, Palm Beach Gardens SOLD

WORTH A LOOK IN OCEAN RIDGE
TurnKey Ocean Block 3BR+ study beach
house completely renovated including
custom gourmet kitchen, hardwood
floors, new roof, new Trane A/C, & impact
windows. $849K

26 N. HARBOUR DR - OCEAN RIDGE
Recently built custom Key West Style
4BR + study home with all the extras
including high ceilings, impact glass,
customer gourmet kitchen, marble
floors & salt water pool. $1.25M

SOLD
18 RIDGE BLVD - OCEAN RIDGE
Outstanding opportunity to renovate
1 of the few properties still under
$600K in Ocean Ridge. Deeded Beach
access on great lot w/ water views.
$599K

DUPLex + 1
Attention Investors! One of a kind Duplex
w/ 3rd legal apt. above garage in historic
Flamingo Park. Completely redone with
gorgeous original architecture. Now only
$549K.

BEST WATER BUY IN OCEAN RIDGE
True Florida style home filled with
charm & character featuring 2,300
SF+/- nestled on an interior point lot with
190’ of Water Frontage. Priced for quick
sale. $1.95M

BEST BUY IN OCEAN RIDGE
Two boat slips. Just reduced $200K.
Direct Intracoastal end unit with breath-
taking waterviews in the private Ocean
Ridge Yacht Club. Includes 15K lift. Moti-
vated Seller. $699K

ESTATE SALE ON THE OCEAN
This 3BR Penthouse directly over-
looking the ocean featured in one of
the true luxury buildings on S. Ocean
in Palm Beach is a value you must
check out. $1.25M

SOUTH OF SOUTHERN WPB
Elegance & charm capture this 2 story
British Colonial style home newly reno-
vated. 4,100 SF+/-, 4BR+ study, hard-
wood flrs, impact windows & French
doors , pool & guest cottage. $1.049M

BEST BUY IN OCEAN RIDGE
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156 Glenbrook, Atlantis SOLD
3628 Alta Meadows, Delray SOLD
4670 Lands End, Manalapan SOLD
183 Country Club, NPB SOLD
801 S. Olive, WPB SOLD
1801 S. Flagler , WPB SOLD
5132 Isabella Dr., Palm Beach Gardens SOLD
6718 Duval, West Palm Beach SOLD
4603 Water Oak, Palm Beach Gardens SOLD
8014 Flagler Court, West Palm Beach SOLD
6378 Duval, West Palm Beach SOLD
505 Via Escalor, Pbg (SOLD)
1532 Isabella Dr, Palm Beach Gardens SOLD

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Inn-style accommodations

When friends and relatives flee the frigid North to spend some time with you in sunny Florida, you want their accommodations to be as welcoming as the weather. A bed-in-a-box chain hotel won’t do. You want something more personal, more loving, more like home-sweet-home only with extras, like turn-down service and caring in a way that even the most attentive employees of the hotels on the beach can’t seem to match.

The good news for you and your visitors is that there are several fine B&Bs in our neck of the woods. Each is unique. Some have swimming pools. Most are within easy walking distance of the beach. All are close to restaurants and shops and all serve up complimentary breakfast.

One of the innkeepers, Colleen Rinaldi, says the first time she set foot in the Sabal Palm House she felt like she just received a big hug. Your family and friends may feel the same affection at any of these inns.

They will have their own space when they need it, and so will you. A warning, though: These inns are so hospitable and fun, your visitors may not want to leave. … In fact, you may want to join them for a drink at the tiki bar, dinner in a lush tropical garden, tea and cookies or a refreshing swim in the pool.

Mango Inn, Lake Worth

There’s a doctor and two nurses calling the shots at The Mango Inn, but don’t let that mislead you. This casually elegant 10-room B&B housed in three structures built between 1915 and 1920 bears not a stitch of resemblance to a hospital. Within walking distance of downtown shops and restaurants, the inn has artfully decorated rooms, lush tropical gardens and a pool (breakfast — both nutritious and yummy — is typically served on the veranda beside it). The beach is just a 15-minute stroll away!

Siblings Judi Flynn and Debbie Null are nurses, and Debbie’s husband, Bill Null, is an orthopedic surgeon. Judi, whose ex-husband is a surgeon, and Debbie say both have done a lot of entertaining, so the transition to running a B&B seemed a good idea. After a getaway here, your guests are sure to feel rested and recharged from the surroundings and all the TLC. Come to think of it, you just may want to join them, if only for mango margaritas by the pool! Room rates start at $155 per night. 128 N. Lakeside Drive, Lake Worth. (561) 533-6900. www.mangoinn.com.

Sabal Palm House, Lake Worth

When Stanley and Judith Feder of McLean, Va., come to Florida to see Stan’s 91-year-old dad, they make the Sabal Palm House their home-away-from-home. “We like the coziness and warmth of the Sabal Palm House,” Stan said. “It’s low key and informal. And it’s in a great location, being within walking distance to the beach and to downtown Lake Worth. (Owners) Colleen and John (Rinaldi) are welcoming and caring in a way that even the most attentive employees of the hotels on the beach can’t seem to match.”

From turndown service and fresh flowers to freshly baked chocolate chip cookies and gourmet breakfasts, the Sabal Palm delivers first-rate service. In fact, it’s the only Florida bed-and-breakfast from Orlando to Miami to earn AAA’s Four Diamond Award for nine consecutive years.

The seven-room B&B, with views of the Lake Worth Municipal Golf Course and the Intracoastal, is a short walk across the bridge to the beach. Also within walking distance are restaurants, galleries and stores, including antiques and collectibles shops.

Guest rooms are named after famous artists and have private baths and balconies. Gourmet breakfast is served on fine china; wine, bottled water and soft drinks are complimentary.

Four guest rooms, including the premier Renoir Suite, are in the main house, a two-story, Key West-style home built in 1936. Other rooms are in the Carriage House, above the innkeepers’ quarters.

Room rates start at $135 per night. 109 N. Goldview Road, Lake Worth, (888) 722-2572. www.sabalpalmhouse.com.

Crane’s BeachHouse, Delray Beach

From the moment you walk onto the property you’ll feel like you’re miles away from worry or care, lulled by the sounds on cascading waterfalls and wind rustling through the palm trees.

Guests stretched out on lounge chairs beside the pool freshen their tans and exchange friendly chatter. A pool-side Tiki Bar stands well-stocked with tropical drinks, and 27 hotel guest rooms and suites are uniquely-decorated with local artwork and a beach theme.

Owner Michael Crane calls the ambience “whimsical luxury in a relaxed atmosphere.”

He loves to observe the difference of guests as they arrive and depart, “They come in with shoulders slumped and leave standing tall, relaxed and happy.”

The beach is a short block away, as are shops, restaurants and galleries. Continental breakfast is served each morning at the Tiki Bar and, for those who want to do some of their own cooking, guest rooms have kitchens.

Room rates start at $125 per night. 82 Gleason St., Delray Beach. (866) 372-7263. www.cranesbeachhouse.com.

You can stretch out and relax near the tiki bar at Crane’s BeachHouse in Delray Beach. The beach, shops and restaurants are a block away.
**Sundy House, Delray Beach**

Travelers from far away already know the lure of this bungalow-style gem. But locals are more familiar with Del La Tierra, the inn’s companion restaurant, which serves up globally-inspired fare all week long and a popular Sunday brunch.

The Sundy House — a 1902 building that once housed the family of the first mayor of Delray Beach, has a fireplace and Jacuzzi, very popular with honeymooners.

The stable building has six equestrian-themed guest rooms with kitchenette and the townhouse has one- and two-bedroom suites with kitchens, dining rooms, living rooms, and washer and dryer units.

Close to Atlantic Avenue shops, galleries and restaurants, the Sundy House even provides shuttle service to the beach.

Some guests prefer lounging around the freshwater swimming pond stocked with people-friendly fish, or just hanging out in the Taru Gardens, with more than 500 different plant species.

Continental breakfast is delivered to guests’ room, or served in the Fresco room. Room rates start at $269 per night. 106 S Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. (561) 272-5678. www.sundyhouse.com.


**Give guests the ‘concierge’ treatment at home**

By Jan Norris

Floridians may be in for an invasion of visitors escaping Northern weather this winter. Not all will want to stay in hotels, and being the nice hosts you are, you’ll agree to put them up.

Most of us aren’t equipped to be 24/7 innkeepers, however. But we can take a few tips from the experts.

One knows better how to handle — and charm — guests than Frenchman Bernard Nicole, chef concierge at The Breakers Flagler Club. It’s described as an “inn within the resort” where guests like Susan Lucci request him on repeat visits.

“It’s the details that don’t have to cost much, or require a lot of work — the natural beauty here takes care of many guests,” he said. It doesn’t have to be a lot of work — the beautiful weather and activities that they can get at home every day.”

But first, take care of their room: Freshen the linens, and be sure the lighting is warm, not harsh. Provide reading lamps near the bed.

Go beyond fresh flowers in the bedroom and candles in the bathroom, to personalized touches — decorate in their favorite colors, and have their favorite candy or snack in a bowl. If they were childhood friends, maybe you remember they like Pez, or lollipops, he says.

For visitors who were part of a mutual past, dig up old photos of them, and put them in inexpensive frames around the room, or pull out a college yearbook.

Have magazines or reading materials at bedside that reflect their interests or professions, or buy a tour guide for them if they’re traveling beyond the area.

“If they’re going to a cruise or coming from one, you could have them ship their luggage in advance to your home so they don’t have to bother with it,” Nicole said.

For tourists, put together a folder of local attractions they might enjoy — and print out personalized maps from your house to attach to them.

Point out local lunch spots. Provide a cloth bag of snacks, or instructions on where to find free parking.

Book them reservations for dinner or theater if you’re busy one evening.

Set up a golf or tennis game for them, or book a charter fishing trip. But instead of just a game, get them in with a pro for a lesson or two, or into a clinic.

Lists of museums, or exhibits or tours may interest some; look up hours and fees.

If they are beach lovers, provide a basket of sunscreen, towels, a radio and flip-flops — and bags for shelling and beach cover-ups.

For those who want a taste of Florida, make sure they get to tour the Everglades, Nicole said. “Everyone should go. The Everglades is unique, especially in winter, with the birds, and plants. People forget to go west but there is so much to see there.”

Nothing has to cost much, he said. Making guests feel welcome is key — and the sunshine handles half of that.
SIMPLE IDEAS FOR A FRESH START IN THE NEW YEAR

Choosing the floors is a great way to revitalize any room. Though installing new flooring may seem like a big project, you'll be impressed with the impact new floors can make.

1) Replacing existing carpeting with hardwood flooring for an immediate transformation.

2) An area rug. It's the perfect update to any room. They can add texture and create a focal point.

3) Tile is another great option. Beautiful ceramic styles, in every size imaginable, can make your home even more functional and fresh for the New Year.

4) As an alternative to tile, carpet or hardwood: try laminate. It comes in many looks and prices.

This New Year, make your resolution to strike the perfect balance between comfortable living space and an attractive home, starting from the floor up.

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Preserve America:
Delray Beach recently was honored when first lady Laura Bush, honorary chair of the Preserve America initiative, designated the city as one of the nation's Preserve America Communities. Delray Beach is the first community in Palm Beach County to receive this designation. Delray's collaboration with the Delray Beach Historical Society on the Ethel Sterling Williams History Learning Center Project (also known as the Hunt House), qualified Delray Beach for this designation.

Preserve America is a White House initiative to encourage and support efforts to preserve and enjoy America's cultural and natural heritage. The goals of the initiative include a greater shared knowledge about the past, strengthened regional identities and local pride, increased local participation in preserving cultural and natural heritage assets, and support for the economic vitality of our communities.

League of Women Voters:
Supervisor of Elections-Elect, Susan Bucher (above) speaks at the annual League of Women Voters' holiday event at the Gulf Stream home of League president Pamela S. Goodman on Dec. 22. Bucher spoke about the challenges of her upcoming position including the storage and handling of 1.7 tons of paper from the two-page ballots used in the last general election. The invited League members, guests and some recently elected officials contributed money and food for the Homeless Coalition of Palm Beach County.
Coalition executive director Rita Clark spoke about the desperate need for a homeless shelter in Palm Beach County.
Photo by Mary Kate Leming

YMCA: Manalapan Commissioner Peter Blum (left) joins Ocean Ridge Mayor Ken Kaleel at the DeVos-Blum YMCA annual breakfast. This year's Partner With Youth Campaign received donations totaling $433,000 — exceeding by almost 25 percent the 2007 campaign. Both Blum and Kaleel are on the board of trustees and volunteers in the campaign.
More than 75 donations of $1,200 and greater were received, including support from the YMCA's longtime benefactor, Peter Blum. Blum's gifts over the years have helped to build the YMCA of south Palm Beach County into an organization that serves more than 50,000 community residents each year. The annual Partners with Youth Campaign helps more than 4,000 families receive scholarships to enjoy the facilities and programs offered by the YMCA regardless of their ability to pay.

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Allison - Sovelove
Dr. Lynn Allison and Harvey Sovelove were married Nov. 23 at the bride’s home in Ocean Ridge, surrounded by family and friends from all stages of their lives.
The groom’s grandson’s Tyler and Jack Sovelove of Lopez, Washington served as ring bearers. The bride’s goddaughter Karlee served as flower girl.
The bride has resided in Ocean Ridge for 11 years after living previously in Barbados. The groom is from Brooklyn, N.Y., and Boca Raton.
The bride is an Ocean Ridge commissioner and is president of International Enterprise Developments, Inc., a micro-enterprise development company with a contract for the city of Pompano Beach.
The groom is a retired air traffic supervisor and controller from the New York area. The couple will reside in Ocean Ridge and Little Harbour, Abaco, Bahamas.

Celebrations
Boynton Woman’s Club celebrates centennial

By Ron Hayes

On a winter’s day in 1909, the Norwegian sailing ship Coquimbo ran aground on the coral reef off Boynton Beach, and refused to budge.

But come May, the spring storms at last accomplished what a steam-powered tug from Key West had failed to do. The ship’s hull cracked, and a cargo of longleaf pine lumber washed ashore — and became the first Boynton Woman’s Club.

The lumber, once bound for Europe, was used to build the fledgling civic organization’s first clubhouse, a two-story building at the corner of Ocean Avenue and Southeast Fourth Street.

That building is gone now, but a hundred years later the club still thrives.

On Jan. 25, the Boynton Woman’s Club will celebrate its first century with an open house from 2 to 6 p.m. at its current clubhouse, a sturdier and more permanent building, completed in 1926, just in time for the clubhouse to serve as a shelter during that season’s hurricane. It wasn’t the first, or last, contribution the club would make to the community.

“Before we had buses, the women used to load the kids up in a car and take them to free dental care, or have a dentist check their teeth at school,” remembers Marie Shepard, 87. “Of course, that was before everyone got so concerned with liability insurance.”

Shepard’s family has been involved with the club as long as there’s been a club. Her Aunt Alice was its president in 1920s; and Marie herself was president in 1986-88.

For a civic organization with such a long and fabled pedigree, the club is remarkably egalitarian. Annual dues are only $55, and you have don’t have to be a resident of Boynton Beach to join. Patricia Kropf of Ocean Ridge serves on the club’s property management committee, and former Ocean Ridge Commissioner Nancy Hogan is also a member.

You don’t even have to be a woman.

Boynton Beach native Harvey Oyer II became an affiliate member several years ago, but his family’s involvement reaches back decades. “When my mother and father were married in 1924,” he recalls, “the bridal party was held upstairs in the old building. And the first public speech I ever made was at a Rotary Club meeting at the new club in the spring of — oh, about 1944.”

The Boynton Woman’s Club was born when 30 women gathered in the town’s two-room schoolhouse to raise money for a community meeting hall. The Coquimbo provided the meeting hall, and those 30 women became the club.

Today, the club boasts about 100 members — most over 40, they concede, and mostly retirees like Dot Neenan, who came to town 14 years ago after a teaching career in Connecticut.

“My neighbor was a member, so I came along,” she says. “The club’s a good way to learn about the community and the people in it. Otherwise, you’re just in your own little housing development and you don’t broaden out and meet other people.”

Now Neenan directs the club’s scholarship committee, which passes out five $1,000 scholarships each April to deserving Boynton Beach high school students...

Is she the chairman of the committee? Or the chairwoman?

Like those pioneer women who started the club a century ago, Neenan is stubbornly practical. “It doesn’t make any difference to me,” she says with a laugh, “as long as I get my money for scholarships.”
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Readings can prompt new view of poetry—and maybe of life

By Greg Stepanich

Four hours after the oath of office is administered to Barack Obama, a group of professional writers and everyday folks will gather around a microphone at the Crest Theatre in Delray Beach to read eight-line poems inspired by the event they have just witnessed, the inauguration of the 44th president of the United States.

Poems written to mark a society’s public events are a tradition old as humanity itself, but they’re something new for this fifth year of the Palm Beach Poetry Festival, which convenes at Old School Square for a six-day stretch beginning Jan. 19.

“Regardless of your political affiliations, Obama is facing horrendous challenges, and if there’s an outpouring of support and good wishes from the poetry community, I think it will mean a lot,” said Miles Coon, who founded the festival in 2004.

From its origins as an oilhand thought for Coon, a lawyer and former chief executive officer of his family’s apparel-store supply business, the festival is now a nonprofit corporation that runs poetry outreach programs year-round, and whose winter gathering of wordsmiths had an economic impact on the Delray Beach area last year that it estimates at half a million dollars.

This year’s festival features 13 American poets who have reached eminence in the profession through books, major arts awards and faculty positions at leading universities. They will still offer free coffeehouse parties for invited participants, give readings and lectures, and join in the evening coffeehouse party that will close the festival Jan. 24.

The advanced and intermediate workshops, which cost each participant $725 and $525 respectively, are reserved for the aspiring writers who have been accepted into those sessions, but the rest of the conference is open to the public, and includes nightly readings, poetry slams and the event that has proved most popular over the past years, a panel discussion hosted by the poets of poems that are their favorites or that had the greatest influence on them.

Ticket prices per event are $8 for students, $10 for seniors, and $12 for adults. The Obama inaugural event is free.

It is a great goring of verse in a short time frame, and it’s something that the festival’s coordinator, Laura McDermott, is familiar with from her own efforts to get more people to hear, appreciate and write poetry.

McDermott, 27, a Deerfield Beach native who holds degrees from Florida State and Florida International universities, discovered a love for poetry in the middle of her undergraduate years while taking an English course from poet David Kirby.

“I said to him the first day, ‘I don’t like poetry.’ He said, ‘Really?’ I said, ‘Yeah, and I guess it’s going to be your job to make me like it, or something like that,’ ” McDermott said. “And he said, ‘OK, that’s my challenge.’ ”

McDermott, who’s been the official person for the festival for three years, found her mind totally changed by the poetry she encountered in Kirby’s class, especially work by Denise Duhamel, one of this year’s poet participants. One of the key reasons was that she was reading work that was quite unlike what she was used to from her pre-college days.

A stigma that was set from high school to college, you know, it’s always about flowers and love, and it’s only by old dead white guys, said McDermott, who now teaches English courses at four South Florida colleges.

As one of the invited participants, she was relieved to hear that she’d found her calling. McDermott began holding regular poetry readings at the Luna Star Cafe in North Miami, well-attended gatherings that lasted for two years and won her the attention of the press and of Coon, who brought her aboard as a coordinator in 2006.

Duhamel, a Hollywood resident who’s been teaching at Florida Atlantic University for eight years, said it’s easier to get people interested in the art form by reaching them through contemporary writers who have the same languages and same concerns, rather than starting with work from the past.

“We start with poets who are alive and work your way backward,” she said. “Take someone like Gregory Orr (a festival participant this year). If you read him first, then you can go back to Robert Frost.”

“A lot of people who write with a light, funny tone (Sex With a Famous Poet, On Being Born the Same Exact Day of the Same Exact Year as Boy George), Duhamel’s latest collection of verse, Ku Ching!, is due out in February from the University of Pittsburgh Press.

Duhamel, who will do a reading Jan. 20 as well as teach, said she plans to give the participants in the five days of her workshop a combination of lectures and workshops. It’s a new twist to the workshops of the type they’ve brought.

“People want honest feedback that can help them craft the poem they’re working on at the moment,” said Duhamel, 47, who said she will attempt to make the writers “hyper-aware” of how the festival is crafting their poems. “Not everyone is going to be wonderful at everything.”

Coon, who will turn 71 the day after the festival closes, looks to poetry later in his career, when seeking a way for his self-described type A personality to deal with the frustration of a corporate breakdown that left him with plenty of money but no input in the business.

“I began writing short stories because I felt like I was living in one,” said Coon, who was going to work every day as non-executive chairman of the board of an English company that never sought his advice. “But they kept getting shorter. My stories wanted to be poems.”

Soon, he was in an online poetry workshop of six people working with poet Marilyn Monroe, who participated in the festival last year, and began writing furiously. After working with poet Thomas Lux, a returning guest of the festival this year, Coon entered the master of fine arts program at Sarah Lawrence College, a two-year program that took him four years to finish because he took time off for winters at his home on Palm Beach, where he now lives year-round.

“It was the happiest four years of my life,” said Coon, whose work has been published in various literary magazines including The Cortland Review.

The festival now has a budget in the range of $125,000 to $150,000, Coon said, and praised the donors, including investment bank Morgan Stanley, who have helped make the event possible. He also urged poets who have had negative experiences with poetry in the past to come out to the festival saying, “Come to one reading and see what you’ve been missing,” he said.


orchestra hosts the winner of its annual concertos competition. 7:30 p.m. Saturday, 4 p.m. Sunday, Roberts Theater, St. Andrew’s School, Boca Raton. 237-9000 or www.lynn.edu/cocktails.

Sunday, Feb. 2
Delray String Quartet: The quartet gives the world premiere of the String Quartet No. 2 by Thomas Sleeper, the well-regarded University of Miami composer from whom the work was commissioned. Violinist Paul Green also joins the group for the beautiful, vaudeville Quartet Quoter (in B minor, Op. 116) of Johannes Brahms. 4 p.m., Colony Hotel, Delray Beach. $35. 210-4118.

Sunday, Feb. 2-Monday, Feb. 3
Munich Symphony: The great French pianist Philippe Entremont does double duty as player and conductor of the German orchestra as concerts by Beethoven: the Fifth (Emporer) on Sunday, and the First on Monday. Beethoven’s Eroica Symphony rounds out Sunday’s program, and Mendelssohn’s Italian Symphony, along with the Serbon Five Pieces for Orchestra and Wagner’s Siegfried Myth, rush out Monday. 2 p.m. both days. Kravis Center. $35–$100. 832-7469 or www.kravis.org.

Wednesday, Feb. 4

Friday, Jan. 16
Artie Lange: His mother told him he was too fat to fish, and he’s turned that story and his notice personal life into a hot comedy career, including work on MADtv and the Howard Stern Show. 8 pm, Florida Theatre, Palm Beach Community College, Lake Worth. 8 pm. 529-535. 886-3355.

Friday, Jan. 16-Sunday, Jan. 18
Miami City Ballet: Edward Villella’s company presents The Four-Feet Dancing in the Dark (Villella/Ellington, et al.), Mercurs, Tales (Taylor/Schubert), Baller Aymphila (Balanchine/Tchaikovsky). At the Broward Center for the Performing Arts. 8 pm Friday, and 2 and 8 pm Saturday, 2 pm Sunday. 516-575. 954-463-0222 or www.browardcenter.org.

Friday, Jan. 16
Estampas Portenas: The Argentine dance company founded by Carolina Soler presents Tango Fire, a program devoted to the earthy, seductive dance form with which the South American nation is indelibly identified. 8 pm, Kravis Center. 516-550. 832-7469 or www.kravis.org.

Ballet Gamonet: The Miami company founded by Jimmy Gamonet brings one of its programs to two shows at the Duncan Theatre, Palm Beach Community College, Lake Worth. 8 pm. 529-535. 886-3355.

Friday, Jan. 16
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**Wed., Jan. 28**  
Wynton Marsalis and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra: The trumpeter, who is the country's most outspoken advocate for traditional jazz, comes to town with the band in residence at New York's Lincoln Center. 8 pm. Kravis Center. 551-320-1010. 832-7469 or www.kravis.org.

**Section 107, 108, 109**  
-La Montresor on film:

- Aïda:

- Norma:

- Rigoletto on film:

- Cavalleria Rusticana:

- Santuzza:

- La Cenerentola on film:

- La Traviata:

- Requiem:

- L'Incoronazione di Poppea on film:

**POPULAR MUSIC**

**Saturday, Jan. 3**

-

- Blue: A Tribute to Joni Mitchell: A concert that honors the work from the first of the Canadian singer-songwriter’s long and varied career. 7:30 pm Friday and 2 pm and 7:30 pm Saturday. Kravis Center. 832-7469 or www.kravis.org.

**Saturday, Jan. 3, Sunday, Jan. 11**

-


- The Mireamar Cultural Center, Miramar (Tuesday), the Kravis Performing Arts Auditorium at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton (Wednesday), and the Broward Center for the Performing Arts (Thursday). 854-555-278-7677 (PBCC); 800-546-9439 (FAU); or 954-462-0222 (Miramar and Broward).

- Michael Andrew: A retro-pop crooner in an evening of songs made famous by Dean Martin and Bobby Darin. With Bob Lappin and the Palm Beach Pops. 8 pm. Kravis Center. 832-7469 or www.kravis.org. Parker Playhouse, Fort Lauderdale. $25-30. 8pm.


- Michael Andrew: A retro-pop crooner in an evening of songs made famous by Dean Martin and Bobby Darin. With Bob Lappin and the Palm Beach Pops. 8 pm. Kravis Center. 832-7469 or www.kravis.org. Parker Playhouse, Fort Lauderdale. $25-30. 8pm.


Sunday, Jan. 11
Memories of Elvis: Chris MacDonald recreates the music and stage persona of the King himself. 8 pm, Maltz Jupiter Theatre, Jupiter. $23-$40. 561-339-7469 or www.maltzjupitertheatre.com.

Monday, Jan. 12
American Big Band: A 28-member cast of jazz musicians, singers and dancers recreates the sounds and styles of the Big Band era of the 1930s and 40s with music by Benny Goodman, Glenn Miller, Duke Ellington, and others. 11 am and 2 pm, Kravis Center, West Palm Beach. 832-7469 or www.kravis.org.

Tuesday, Jan. 13
A Night of Live in a retrospective of his 40-year career.
Live in Liberty: Rod Stewart: The singer and part-time South Floridian takes the stage for two shows at the Hard Rock Live, Hollywood. 7 pm, both performances. 954-375-7000 or www.ticketmaster.com.

Wednesday, Jan. 14
78soul Jam: The DJs, Harold Melvin and the Blue Notes, Hezekiah and The Main Ingredient revisit the soul hits that made them famous. 8 and 9:30 pm, Hard Rock Live, Hollywood. $25-$50. 954-375-7000 or www.ticketmaster.com.

Thursday, Jan. 15
Defending the Caveman: A one-man show by Theodore Tenabaum, "the Jewish Mark Twain," and whose stories recounting the life of Sholom Bikel, based on the 1970s hits of Abba. 8 pm Tuesday-Saturday; 7:30 pm Wednesday, Thursdays and Saturdays; 8 pm Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Florida Stage, Manalapan. 542-545-3533.

Friday, Jan. 16
Continuing through February on Feb. 1: A cargo ship is lost at sea and its survivors must band together to survive the unknown dangers of a deserted island. 7 pm, the Kravis Center. 832-7469 or www.kravis.org.

Saturday, Jan. 17
The Magic of Leonard Cohen: A tribute to the popular lyricist, born in Savannah, Ga., in 1960 and one of the most respected songwriters in the American Songbook. With six performers including creator and narrator Barry Day. 5 pm, 7:30 pm Monday, at the Kravis Center’s Parker Playhouse. 832-7469 or www.kravis.org.

Tuesday, February 3
America: Songwriters Danny Beeban and Gerry Beckley never did ride off into the sunset on that horse with no name, and they’re still at it today, nearly 40 years after founding a band that was ubiquitous on the 1970s charts. The authors of Sister Golden War welcome songwriter Christopher Cross as a special guest. 8 pm, Kravis Center. 515-395-1826 or www.kravis.org.

Thursday, Feb. 5
Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons: Even at 74, the quintessential Jersey boy who helped lead his band to pop stardom in the 1960s is still singing about Sherry, baby. The Rock Hall of Fame member appears at 8 pm. Kravis Center. 515-592-1826 or www.kravis.org.

The Long and Winding Road: Jim Witter and his band revisit the songs of John Lennon and Paul McCartney. At the Eissey Campus Theatre, Palm Beach Community College, Palm Beach Gardens. 525-330-207-5990.

Friday, Jan. 16
Mighty Clouds of Joy: Celebrated since the mid-1960s is still singing about sunset on that horse with no name, and a young bride-to-be named Sophie who wants to find out who her real father is, based on the 1970s hits of Abba. 8 pm Tuesday-Saturday; 7:30 pm Sundays; 8 pm Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Florida Stage, Manalapan. 542-567-4100 or www.oceanpalmshorpe.org.

Tuesday, Jan. 20
Mommy Mia!: The musical about a young bride-to-be named Sophie who wants to find out who her real father is, based on the 1970s hits of Abba. 8 pm Tuesday-Saturday; 7:30 pm Sundays; 8 pm Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Florida Stage, Manalapan. 542-567-4100 or www.oceanpalmshorpe.org.

Wednesday, Jan. 21
Cirque Odyssey: A cirque show about a modern-day Robinson Crusoe who opens up an athletic new world. At the Eissey Campus Theatre, Palm Beach Community College, Palm Beach Gardens. 8 pm. 525-330-207-5900.

Thursday, Jan. 22
The Bridegroom of Blowing Rock: A musical about the romance in 1865 in North Carolina, about the romance between a blind young woman and a Union soldier. Through March 3. 2 pm and 8 pm. Saturdays and Sundays; 2 pm and 7 pm; Fridays and Thursdays. Florida Stage, Manalapan. 542-567-3533.

Ocean Grown International
Presents two revolutionary product lines, harnessing the power of nature, anti-aging ocean actives:

- OceanBreakers “BURN” weight-loss program for adults, teenagers and children — with natural Fucoxanthin from the ocean.

Ocean Grown International
Presents two revolutionary product lines, harnessing the power of nature, anti-aging ocean actives:

- OCEAN Blue and Body, with the world’s most powerful antioxidant, Astaxanthin.

No obligation consultation and lifestyle coaching.

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tw@oceanblueandbody.com
mygift@oceanblueandbody.com

Ocean Ridge Lot
One Block to the Beach!
Michiko Kurisu is committed to the idea of substantial, provocative art in public spaces. A 10-year resident of coastal Delray Beach, she has built a career in art, photography and design. Most recently she unveiled a permanent light-based art installation at the southeast corner of Veterans Park in Delray Beach — under the Atlantic Avenue Bridge. Michiko is a graduate of Brown University with coursework at the Rhode Island School of Design. She has lived and traveled in 16 countries.

Q. Where did you grow up, and how do you think that has influenced you?
A. I grew up on a ranch in Oregon. Growing up in open space with woods and creeks and ponies definitely makes TV pretty dull. Because so much of my growing up happened in relatively wild nature, places that I would return to throughout the seasons, a sense of connection to place, and place as narrative became second nature to me.

Q. What inspired your light project under the Atlantic Avenue Bridge?
A. I have always been attracted to creating site-specific work. The call to artists was for a site-specific installation, and I liked that. It was about creating not just an object, but a complete experience.

Q. Are you involved in other artistic projects?
A. Yes. I photograph all the time, and am working on more light-based art.

Q. What is your favorite thing about working in the arts?
A. For me, making art is a response to life, to what living seems to require. What I love about the realm of public art is its utterly physically and psychologically democratic nature: Public art has the potential to reach audiences who may or may not give a hoot about art per se, and to transform their experience. I think the public realm is one of the most challenging places for art to exist.

Q. What advice do you have for a young person who wants to get into the arts today?
A. I am a young person! Carpe diem.

Q. Why did you choose to live in coastal Delray Beach?
A. It was by accident, really. I came here to work on a one-and-a-half-year contract. That was about 10 years ago. There were no live/work loft spaces at that time, so I figured the beach would keep me sane.

Q. If your life story were made into a movie, who would you want to play you?
A. I don’t know, but I’ve been accused of acting like that squirrel in Over the Hedge. Occasionally I get mistaken for Lucy Liu and Pocahontas.

Q. What music do you listen to when you need inspiration? When you want to relax?
A. Argentine tango, classical Indian, João Gilberto.

Q. What book are you reading now?

Q. Who/what makes you laugh?
A. People falling out of chairs and Japanese Candid Camera.
Hampton Real Estate Group, Inc.
5108 N. Ocean Boulevard
Ocean Ridge, Florida 33435
Monday – Friday 10AM – 5PM  Saturday & Sunday 12PM – 4PM
We speak Dutch, German & French
561-278-5104  1-800-351-0585  561-586-2700
Email us at hamptonregroup@aol.com

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1 Bdrm/1 Bath available for annual
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Cottage style duplex. Pets ok. Move right in.
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Palms of Palm Beach
2 Bedrooms/2 Bath cond on 322 Ocean views.
Great location. 1st floor, walk right out to pool
& beach. $399,000
Call Ada Verkaden 561-762-8625 or
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Email us at hamptonregroup@aol.com

Gulfstream Shores
1 Bdrm/1 Bath units with Direct ocean views starting at $350,000. Pets allowed.
No age restriction.
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East of A1A
Attractive custom built 3 BR/2BA home with
beach access. Main living area upstairs w/ balcony/Guest suite downstairs w/patio.
2 car garage. $949,000
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Villas of Ocean Ridge
Totally renovated Oceanfront 3 BR/2 Bath condo, marble throughout, washer/dryer, 2
garage spaces, tennis, pet welcome. Complex has
260 ft of beach. $1,100,000.
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1 Bdrm/1 Bath units with Direct ocean views starting at $350,000. Pets allowed.
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Call Debby O’Connell 561-573-5099

OCEAN RIDGE MEDITERRANEAN ESTATE
A true tropical paradise awaits in this deep water estate. Direct Intracoastal Waterway access with
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4 bedrooms (split) and 4 baths with great walk in
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Spectacular wide water views.
Custom waterfront estate 7,400 total sq ft.
4 Bdrm/5.5 Ba, Boat Dock, 4 car garage, pool,
Mediterranean style built in 2000 on .67 acre lot.
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Beachside cottage east of A1A
2Bd/2Ba updated kitchen, w/d, soaring
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2 Bdrm/2 Bth condos with ocean views.
Remodeled, walk out to pool & beach.
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2 Bdrm, 2 Bath, the only double unit in complex.
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Beachside cottage east of A1A
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Best location in complex-beautiful ICW views from all rooms of this updated 2/2 condo. Walk
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Beachside cottage east of A1A
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ceilings, private encl. back yard. Accordian shutters, casual tropical setting $475,000
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Palm Beach Villas
Completely remodeled 1 BR/1.5 BA
Bring your pet, across from beach, new appl.,
W/D, walk to Ritz & shopping. $179,000
Call Ada Verkaden 561-762-8625
The Arts

Four years later, WXEL deal still undone

By Thomas R. Collins

Barry University took over the license of the WXEL radio and TV stations 11 years ago — and seven years later, put up a for-sale sign. The sign is still up. The four-year effort at a sale has left the future of Palm Beach County public broadcasting up in the air. Now, there might be an end in sight.

The Palm Beach County School District is making a bid to buy the station. And Miami-based WPBT, which runs the public station Channel 2, says that a joint agreement between itself and the district would give WXEL, supported by many donors in the coastal towns of southern Palm Beach County, a bright future.

“It is our mission to educate,” School District spokesman Nat Harrington said. “This is an asset that would allow us to program for numerous student groups simultaneously.” WPBT’s president and CEO, Rick Schneider, said linking his station and WXEL makes perfect sense.

“There’s no question in my mind that in today’s media environment these stations ought to be working together,” he said.

Deals have come and gone before. Barry initially sought to sell WXEL to a New York buyer for $5 million, but the deal fell through when the Federal Communications Commission decided it was best that the station not be sold to a group that wasn’t local.

The Community Broadcast Foundation, a group of local residents, also is now making a bid to buy the station. Harrington said the foundation would likely have a role in any deal the School District would strike.

“With substantive financial support, we are bringing back local control of WXEL TV and radio, to ensure the quality educational and enlightened programming continues to serve the Palm Beaches and the Treasure Coast,” the foundation writes in its proposal posted on its Web site. “We will call the WXEL communities to galvanize behind its cause.”

The foundation’s leader, Murray Green, didn’t return repeated calls for comment.

The Palm Beach County School Board recently approved spending $4.5 million on a potential purchase of the WXEL license, over the objections of the teachers union, which called it a “boondoggle” that would come at the expense of teacher salaries.

Harrington said one of the district’s main points in negotiating a deal is that, “We don’t want to have any operating expenses related to this station.”

WXEL station manager Jerry Carr has said the up-in-the-air status of the station has made it tough to get big donations.

Barry spokesman Mike Laderman said donations are down but that they’re down at many organizations because of the economy and it’s hard to know what’s due to the limbo status of the station.

“We’ve probably suffered some, but in terms of how much, I wouldn’t know how to calculate that,” he said. He said there isn’t much to say about the negotiations with the Palm Beach County School District because it is so early.

“We want what’s best for the community up there as well as all the employees of the station,” Laderman said. “We don’t want to rush anything.”

Schneider of WPBT said barry doesn’t expect any deal to be struck until “January at the earliest.”

He said that a partnership between WXEL and WPBT would mean redundant programming and pooling the two stations’ resources to put together more quality products.

It would also allow each station to better target its core audience. “WXEL could truly be aimed at the Palm Beach County market and WPBT could do some things differently as well,” he said.

Teaming up in the non-profit sector is different from the for-profit sector, he said, causing some reservations to joint agreements between local newspapers and other media outlets that are widely seen as getting inferior news coverage.

“I just think there is a benefit in combining resources,” he said, “and it is not a competitive benefit, the way it is in the commercial marketplace.”

Food

CrockPot wings for a hot bowl game treat

By Jan Norris

A couple of years ago, I got a dip recipe from a friend at The Post, Victoria Malmer. It was a hot chicken-wing dip that was cooked in a CrockPot. It turned out to be one of the most popular recipes of all time.

It’s made the rounds, but I still love it. I decided to make it in a pan, however to create a faster, all-in-one layered dip.

You can still double or triple the amount and cook it and keep warm in a CrockPot, but it does make a lot, for a small crowd, my 9x13-inch pan version might be all you need.

Hot Wing Layered Dip

1 1/2 cup bottled blue cheese salad dressing
4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts, cooked, cubed
1 /3 bottle Frank’s hot wing sauce (or to taste)
Scoop-type chips for dipping (warm them in oven)
1 cup grated Monterey jack cheese

In a pot, melt the cream cheese sauce. Combine the cheese with the chicken cubes with the wing sauce. In another bowl, toss the chicken with the wing sauce. Combine the cheese with the chicken and spread in a 13x9-inch glass pan. Spread grated cheese on top.

Refrigerate, covered, if desired, until 30 minutes before serving. Bake at 325 degrees until cheese is melted and dip is warmed. Serve with chips.

Poetry

She forgot me

By Jan Norris

That woman, the person who loved me so
And loved us all — till she forgot our faces,
Had long traveled through my youth and woe
And now retained nought — just shadowy traces.
She forgot me.

To my brother and me, she is still ‘mommy,’
Our ageless ‘mommy’ — my only loyal friend.
If only this malady had set her free!
The body motored on while thought saw an end. And she forgot me. She was all: protector, creator, parent, Bluestocking, art lover, and participant
In all of life’s vital signs — was short time lent.
And cruelly and insanely, that life was spent.
Indiscriminately, she forgot me.
Too soon, my father withered from frustration
And grief — two living corpses at his table.
And now, I am faced with the revelation:
That if my mind also becomes unable,
I know that I’ll forget her.

Shelley Atbrans is a writer living on Hypoluxo Island. She wrote this about her mother who passed away in 1993.

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The coastal star
January 3, 2009
House of the Month

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

The gourmet cook’s kitchen includes reclaimed hardwood floors, floor-to-ceiling custom cabinetry, butler’s pantry with dumb waiter and state-of-the-art stainless appliances.

The master bedroom suite is just steps from the heated pool and spa. French doors bring welcoming light into the space.

This luxury estate is lushly landscaped with mature, stately palms, Chicago brick driveway and patios, a three-car garage and is fully gated and fenced.

Dine in beautiful surroundings. The dining area features multiple French doors that open to a patio awash with tropical plantings.

Imagine being surrounded by 7,000 square feet of dramatic, detailed affluence within steps of the Atlantic Ocean and the Intracoastal Waterway.

The top quality amenities in this seven-bedroom, 7.5-bath estate home include: Hurricane impact windows and doors, a gourmet cook’s kitchen with marble countertops and center island, reclaimed hardwood floors, fireplace, second floor family/play room, butler’s pantry and oversize laundry.

The amenities continue outdoors on the lushly landscaped 17,000+-square-foot lot with a heated pool and spa, three-car garage, and Chicago brick driveway and patios — all fully fenced and gated, and all within walking distance to private beach access. All for $2,395,000. Owner financing is available.

For information, contact: Val Coz, Realtor; Coastal Property Specialist at 561-386-8011 or vcoz@fiteshavell.com

Ocean Ridge home offers coastal living at its finest

The amenities continue outdoors on the lushly landscaped 17,000+-square-foot lot with a heated pool and spa, three-car garage, and Chicago brick driveway and patios — all fully fenced and gated, and all within walking distance to private beach access. All for $2,395,000. Owner financing is available.

For information, contact: Val Coz, Realtor; Coastal Property Specialist at 561-386-8011 or vcoz@fiteshavell.com
Children and parents wave as Santa brings up the rear of the Delray Beach Holiday Parade on Dec. 13. This year’s theme was “A Traditional Holiday.”

Isabel O’Carroll, daughter of Finbar and Liz O’Carroll of Ocean Ridge, gets in a pet with Santa’s reindeer dog during the Light the Lights event Dec. 5 when the Town of Ocean Ridge officially dedicated its new Town Hall and police complex. Photo by Jerry Lower

Bev Williams (sometimes known as Mrs. Santa Claus) baked more than 55 dozen cookies and spent the better part of two days delivering them to some of the older residents of Briny Breezes. Using a golf cart driven by “elf” Karen Wiggins, she made the rounds handing out individually packaged cookies and spreading holiday cheer. Photos by Jerry Lower
Off The Porch, “Captain Rick’s” charter boat from Boynton Beach thrills spectators during The Boynton Beach/Delray Beach Holiday Boat Parade along the Intracoastal Waterway. Photo by Jerry Lower

Hypoluxo Island residents celebrated the holidays with their first annual Winter Party in the Park sponsored by the Hypoluxo Island Property Owner’s Association on Dec. 12.

Above left: Hypoluxo Island resident Ilona Balfour decorates gingerbread cookies for her grandchildren, Sebastian and Sophia Balfour. Above: Krista Maragos of Hypoluxo Island reads a book with her visiting friend Desiree Hage of West Palm Beach. Left: Toward the end of the evening, Hypoluxo Island baby Sloane Clarke braves Santa’s lap for the first time.

Photos by Tim Stepien
WATERFRONT OCEAN RIDGE
Beautiful waterfront views of bird sanctuary make this 3/3/2 pool home unique. The one-story Bermuda features some updating including impact glass throughout, heated pool and new hardwood and ceramic tile floors. Seconds to the Boynton Inlet and an easy walk to the beach.

$890,000

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

$795,000

EAST OF A1A
Beachside Beauty in Ocean Ridge. Delightful Henry Harding Bermuda, east of A1A and steps to private beach access. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, pool and updated with impact glass throughout, lovely country style kitchen, home office, Mexican tile floors, fireplace and vaulted cypress ceilings.

$1,400,000

TURN KEY LUXURY IN OCEAN RIDGE
This ocean block one story 3/2 with den and heated pool has been completely updated from the inside out. Situated on a private, oversize corner lot, features include: impact glass throughout, saturnia floors, granite/stainless kitchen, volume ceilings, more.

$1,300,000

EAST BOYNTON BEACH
Just 2 blocks from Ocean Ave and an easy stroll to the marina, Two George’s & The Banana Boat, this 1/1 condo has a brand new kitchen and bath. Low HOA and central location make this a great starter home, getaway or staff housing. First floor, corner unit.

$105,000

WATERFRONT OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS!
Great deepwater property in East Boca’s prestigious Golden Harbour. Over 100ft of protected dockage seconds to the Boca Inlet. Original 3/2/2 pool home ready for your renovations, or teardown and build new. Plans for 5,000+ sq ft luxury home available.

$1,300,000

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

$815,000

SECRET GARDEN BY THE SEA
East of A1A in Ocean Ridge’s best beachside neighborhood, this authentic Bermuda home has been meticulously maintained. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, fireplace, vaulted cypress ceilings, covered loggia. Private deeded beach access, 3 homes from the sand.

$1,500,000

BEACH LOVER’S DELIGHT
East of A1A in neighborhood of multi-million $ homes, walk to the beach from this classic 3/3 ranch on 14,000 sq ft lot. Original terrazzo floors, large covered patio, high elevation, new metal roof, new AC. Also available for rent, please inquire.

$1,100,000

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

$250,000

5 STAR LUXURY: SINGER ISLAND
Stunning views from this 17th floor condo in the Resort at Singer Island. Designer furnished with all the amenities. Terrace views north with wide vistas to the ocean and the intracoastal. Two master suites complete the package. Also available for short or long term rental.

$899,000

Val Coz
Realtor Specializing in Coastal Properties
Ocean Ridge Resident Since 1985
Direct: 561-386-8011
vcoz@fiteshavell.com

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