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Boca Raton
Parking meters feeding city coffers
But residents not happy with fees and tickets

By Angie Francalancia

Depending on whom you’re asking, the new parking meters in Boca Raton’s Mizner Park and at the city’s beaches are either a boon or the bane of residents’ travels.

Five months after the city installed new meters at what Mayor Susan Welchel calls the “primo” spots near the beach and in Mizner Park, one thing is certain: The program is a boon to the city’s coffers, bringing in more than $250,000 from the $1.50-per-hour fees. About 75 percent of that comes from Mizner Park.

And the average 25 to 30 parking citations the city is writing each day has added another roughly $150,000. Assistant City Manager Mike Woika said. Contributing to that pot: Mayor Welchel and council members Constance Scott and Anthony Majhess, who each got parking tickets this summer in Mizner Park.

There were 129 meters

See METERS on page 6

The house that Howard built

By Tim Norris

Riding shotgun across campus on a Florida Atlantic University golf cart, Assistant Athletic Director Katrina McCormack at the wheel, Howard Schnellenberger lets his right leg slide loose into an eastern breeze.

Two weeks before, doctors at the Sports & Orthopedic Center in Boca Raton had removed Schnellenberger’s right hip and installed a high-tech version to improve the original, tested and tortured through hard-core playing days and the practice-and-sideline exertions of Schnellenberger’s 77 years.

He was back on the practice field the following week.
He is about to climb, this September morning, into the school’s nearly finished and still unnamed football stadium, on a survey tour. He approaches it as he would any of his shared efforts. “Let’s start down here,” he says, “and work our way up.”

To make sure no one confuses the surgery with his status, FAU announced in August that Schnellenberger’s first year in the new stadium he fought so long to realize also would be his last, his final year as a coach, head or assistant. Anywhere.

Schnellenberger has nurtured young men and, with them, campuses and communities for more than 40 years. He learned his trade, he says, from a few of the best teachers football has ever seen — Paul “Bear” Bryant, Blanton Collier, George Allen, Don Shula — and also from his coach at Flaget High School in FAU ready to kick off first season in new football stadium

ABC began broadcasting in color. The Beach Boys turned Surfin’ Safari into their first hit. A gallon of gas cost 31 cents.

Back then, the western reaches of Boca Raton were a vast tract of scrubland and alligators. It was 1962, the year St. Andrew’s School welcomed its first class.

“This was the only thing around here,” says Carlos Barroso, with a sweeping gesture that takes in the school’s perfectly manicured 81 acres. “Lynn University didn’t exist. FAU didn’t exist.”

Barroso, the school’s director of marketing and sales, says St. Andrew’s marks 50 years of educating All of St. Andrew’s 1,313 students turned out to mark the school’s first half-century. Photo provided

Along the Coast

St. Andrew’s marks 50 years of educating

By Mary Jane Fine

A bit of perspective: It was the year Gov. George Wallace allowed two black students to be enrolled at the University of Alabama. President John F. Kennedy guided a nervous nation through the Cuban missile crisis. Diet Rite and Tab debuted that year, and ABC began broadcasting in color. The Beach Boys turned Surfin’ Safari into their first hit. A gallon of gas cost 31 cents.

Back then, the western reaches of Boca Raton were a vast tract of scrubland and alligators. It was 1962, the year St. Andrew’s School welcomed its first class.

Howard Schnellenberger will wrap up a career of more than half a century of football during the debut season of Florida Atlantic University’s new stadium on the school’s Boca Raton campus. Photo by Tim Stepien

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See METERS on page 6
You can benefit two worthwhile arts institutions with a single donation

One of the joys of living in our coastal area is the wide variety of arts and cultural organizations located within short reach.

On any given night, a drive of less than half an hour can enrich our lives by exposing us to visual arts, live music, dance and theater — all of the highest quality.

To help you find and enjoy these cultural experiences, the Palm Beach ArtsPaper has provided professional journalistic coverage of the South Florida arts scene for three years, with such experienced and talented critics as Greg Stepanich, Bill Marx, Mike, Hap Erstein and Chauncey Mabe.

Few small, independent newspapers are located in such an arts-rich community that can justify having a dedicated arts section. That is why at The Coastal Star we are proud to have the ArtsPaper Season Preview as part of our October edition.

Our hope is to keep the ArtsPaper in print all season (October through May) as part of The Coastal Star — and online all year round at www.palmbeachartspaper.com.

Thousands of Coastal Star readers regularly attend performances at our local art venues, and hundreds are donors to these institutions, including many of you who add time as board members.

In better economic times, our community didn’t have an extraordinary job of providing donations in support of the arts. Unfortunately, in the current economy, all arts institutions are facing tough times. Costs are up and attendance is down. Most would be hard-pressed to balance their budgets with ticket-sale income alone.

Fortunately, most are 501(c)(3) organizations and can accept tax-deductible donations from supporters. While the ArtsPaper serves as a close companion to the arts community, it is not a 501(c)(3) and is funded by paid advertising. Most of that advertising revenue comes from the same arts organizations currently struggling to make ends meet.

When long-established theater companies like Florida Stage close their doors or Palm Beach Opera is forced to reduce the number of performances, we know other arts organizations will be cutting back and (as a result) trimming their advertising budgets.

In the case of the ArtsPaper, that lack of ad spending translates into less space for us to promote upcoming shows and events, and that lack of promotion may lead to lower attendance and ticket sales. It’s a vicious cycle.

To break this cycle, here is my challenge to you: Please give additional tax-deductible donations to your favorite arts organizations and let them know you would like to see them use it to advertise in the ArtsPaper.

Don’t wait for their next fundraising campaign. Do it this week.

I know this is not a long-term solution and this idea may sound too simple, but your financial support will keep the local arts scene alive by giving arts organizations more money to promote their artistic offerings. It also will help us keep the ArtsPaper alive.

As a result, my hope is that all of us will enjoy a community enriched by the arts — and arts journalism.

— Jerry Lower, Publisher

The COASTAL STAR October 2011

Peter Brockway, managing partner of a private equity firm, gives time and money to his favorite charity, Boca Helping Hands. Photo by Tim Stepien

His ‘helping hands’ do more than write checks

By Liz Best

Peter Brockway isn’t one to blow his own horn, but when it comes to his favorite charity, Boca Helping Hands, he’ll do just about anything.

Brockway, 55, a managing partner of Boca Raton private equity firm Brockway Moran & Partners, has always believed in offering financial support to worthy causes, but a few years ago he started to feel that just donating money wasn’t enough.

“There’s really nice to be doing more than just writing a check,” he said. “So I made a concerted effort to give my time.”

The first order of business was finding the right organization. Like many, Brockway is moved by the plight of the homeless and hungry.

“And I knew there was a better solution to helping people who are down and out than giving money to them at an intersection,” said Brockway, who lives in Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club with his wife, Susan.

He found like-minded people at Helping Hands and joined the board about three years ago.

Brockway believes the secret to their growth and success is that everyone comes from all walks of life and simply does what they do best. “Everyone on the board comes from different places (and careers). So we have all these skill sets and weave them all together,” he said.

Helping Hands serves hot meals to the needy six days a week and gives families basic staples from their food pantry.

LETTERS: The Coastal Star welcomes letters-to-the-editor about issues of interest in the community. These are subject to editing and must include your name, address and phone number. Preferred length is 200 words or less. Mail to 5011 N. Ocean Blvd. #2, Ocean Ridge, FL 33435 or email editor@thecoastalstar.com.

It also provides job mentoring and programs for children.

“This went from being in a church hall ... to expanding their facilities,” said Brockway. “Over time, there’s been a lot of momentum.”

It’s not surprising that Brockway landed in an organization that helps those less fortunate get back on their feet. When he was growing up on Long Island, Brockway’s mother founded the Meals on Wheels program in the Huntington, NY area and his dad donated his time and talent to the Long Island Heritage Group.

“They were both very civic-minded,” he said. “I was pretty much surrounded by it.”

So are Brockway’s two daughters, who are college students. Both have found ways to do volunteer work as they attend school.

Brockway says it’s easier to volunteer at his age, with an established career. He has a little breathing room and believes Helping Hands is the perfect place to lend a helping hand.

“It’s pretty hard to argue with their mission.”
Local Voices

Don’t hesitate to call about a suspicious person

Residential burglaries in Boca Raton almost doubled last month compared to the same period in 2010. In August 2011, we also had almost 50 percent more automobile burglaries compared to August 2010.

A residential burglary case we worked recently illustrates the challenge we are facing. An observant resident saw two suspects in his neighbor’s backyard.

Responding officers captured the lookouts in the getaway car, waiting in the driveway.

Officers caught the other burglars as they came out of the rear and front doors of the house. All four suspects came up from Broward in a leased vehicle.

These criminals are organized, creative and persistent.

A big part of the challenge is rooted in the fact that groups of suspects are making the trip to Boca Raton from other areas to commit these crimes.

They share information with each other about potential targets, rent or borrow cars, drive to our neighborhoods, and search for unoccupied houses.

Often, they knock on doors and make up stories if they encounter a resident. They may tell you they are “looking for a friend” or they might ask to use your telephone. Likely, you will sense something isn’t right. This is the critical time to call the police.

In 24 hours, we arrested eight people for assorted home burglaries. Almost every day we are making arrests.

We will continue to make arrests, if you continue to point us in the right direction. Most of these investigations start with a phone call from a vigilant citizen.

We are also finding that these criminals make many unsuccessful attempts because residents have hardened the targeted houses.

We all need to maintain a “not in my neighborhood” mentality. Don’t wait to call in that suspicious person. Protect your house now.

We are thankful for the help we have received from residents recently. Keep up the good work and stay safe!

For specific crime prevention tips, visit our Home Security page (www.ci.boca-raton.fl.us/police/home_security.shtml).

— Boca Raton Police Chief
Dan Alexander
Make plans to party on the Promenade

Spin, the ultra lounge, opened last month at Mizner Park. Expect a menu of small plates. Photo provided

A pink bra is the breast cancer awareness icon this year — are encouraged.

The walk will be followed by a “Sip and Stroll” around downtown, with a program and map handed out for self-guided strollers to check out the shops, galleries and restaurants within the area. Segway tours and trolley rides are available for those who’ve walked enough. The Boca Historical Society will narrate a walking tour through historic downtown Boca.

Exhibits and displays include fashion trunk shows, a classic and exotic car show by Cruz-N-America, an inaugural “Picture Boca Raton” open photography competition and an Art Attack Artist and Crafter’s Village Art Expo.

Food will be available with special ‘Promenade’ menus at participating restaurants and from gourmet food trucks gathered for a rally here. Giveaways and prizes also are part of the event; a special raffle by Luxury Cars of Boca for a Honda Insight EX hybrid, with $100 tickets, will be drawn. The money goes to the American Cancer Society.

Shops and galleries will be open late Saturday, and the event will wind down with another street dance finale.

Palm Beach was atwitter in September with Jennifer Lopez in town filming Parker, a film based on Donald Westlake’s book Flashfire. But Palm Beach wasn’t the only ritzy locale to be used as a backdrop to the movie, which also stars Jason Statham and Nick Nolte. The cast bunked in Boca Raton at the Resort and Club and filmed at One Thousand Ocean, the new luxury oceanfront condominium at the Boca Raton Inlet.

J. Lo plays a Realtor in the movie and wears a blue dress in some scenes very similar to one worn by the tres chic Senada Adžem, a top selling Realtor who this summer sold a penthouse at One Thousand Ocean for a record-setting $10.4 million. Is J. Lo taking style tips from Adžem, sometimes called the Marilyn Monroe of real estate? Don’t know. We do know J. Lo dined at the same ocean front eatery at the Boca Beach Club (next to the condominium) that Adžem frequents.

More One Thousand Ocean news: Tennis icon Venus Williams scored a big win in Boca, and this one isn’t on the tennis courts. One Thousand Ocean, has commissioned V*Starr Interiors of Jupiter (owned by Williams) to design a new model residence. Jamie Telchin, president of development for LXR Luxury Resorts & Hotels, said he was certain Williams’ team headed by senior project manager Dr. Senada Adžem, no federal agency has judged the merits or value, if any, of this property. All prices and features are subject to change without notice. All drawings are conceptual renderings and developer expressly reserves the right to make modifications.
The annual "Making Strides Miami, put together a menu at Barton G in modern club to the area, bringing an über chic, member ($10 for kids 3-12). Cost is $20 if you’re not an NAA 5 and 26 and Dec. 3). Cost — curiously, indoors — at the Association Kentucky University Oct. 15. Home season against Western the Owls, who kick off their million stadium give students and wellness center, and classes this fall; 64 of those year. The school has more 21 percent increase over last p. There will be more Owls this year to fill the 30,000 steps. They offer up more small plates: Spin (Kobe) sliders, steamed beef buns, short-rib flatbreads, snacks like truffled popcorn and a signature truffle mix. Desserts are spirited: “Drunken” compressed melon and pineapple; “Coffee and doughnuts” beignets with Kahula mousse. A DJ rocks the house on Wednesday nights.

Another Mizner Park long-timer, Dennis Max, is opening a new casual Italian restaurant out west. Assaggio del Forno is slated to open late November in the Regency Court at Woodfield on Yamato Road. Artisanal pizzas and small plats, along with pasta dishes, are on the menu, along with traditional fare. Max will add a salumi bar and serve fresh seafood and meat dishes. The restaurateur took inspiration from eateries in Chicago, New York and Philadelphia.

Headliners around town...

The Theater and Jazz Series at the Wald Performing Arts Center at Lynn University kicks off Oct. 15. The season’s lineup was announced, with headliners Clint Holmes and Jack Jones, and the political satire group the Capitol Steps.

For classical music buffs, they offer up Bravo Amici and the Florida Grand Opera Young Artists. Season tickets are available online at http://our.lynndu or at the Wald box office. For more info, call 237-9000.

The Studio Theater at the Mizner Park Cultural Arts Center will host Broadway and Beyond, a night of Broadway favorite songs, with performer Mary D’Arcy, who played Christine, to Michael Crawford’s phantom, in Phantom of the Opera. Karl Jurman, musical director and conductor of The Lion King, will join her.

The concert is Oct. 20 and benefits the Schmidt Center for the Arts, general tickets are $50. For information, go to www. center4artsboca.com.

Area resident and folk- rock musician of note Rod MacDonald will give eight lectures on “Music Americana — the Magic of Song” at the FAU Lifelong Learning Series, beginning Oct. 6. His new CD, Songs of Freedom, was recently noted in Maverick magazine, where they called it a collection of songs that “inform, question, challenge and celebrate community.”

MacDonald, of Delray Beach, will perform at O’Connor’s in Delray Beach on Oct. 20 and at the Wishing Well in Boca Raton Oct. 21. More information about the lectures is at www. rodmacdonald.net.

Briefly: Plans are under way to complete the movie theater renovation at Mizner Park by late fall, according to Lief Ahnell, Boca Raton city manager. He reported on the project at a June CRA meeting. The theater was shuttered in January.


Boca Raton’s Greenmarket returns for its seasons beginning Oct. 8, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Vendors set up in the southeast corner of the parking area of Royal Palm Place. Emily Lilly is in charge of the market, run in conjunction with the Boca Chites community through mid-May. Call 868-6875.

Jan Norris is a freelance writer. Contact her at www. jannorris.com, Thon Smith is an assignment.

There will be more Owls this year to fill the 30,000 seats at the new stadium, according to the FAU news. Enrollment in the freshman class is at a record level, with more than 3,300 enrolled this fall — a 21 percent increase over last year. The school has more than 29,400 students in all classes this fall, 64 of those make up the new medical school’s first class.

A new student recreation and wellness center, and a new apartment complex for students, along with the $70 million stadium give students something to cheer besides the Owls, who kick off their home season against Western Kentucky University Oct. 15. For the football games, the FAU National Alumni Association is sponsoring the first official tailgating parties — curiously, indoors — at the Marleem and Harold Forkas Alumni Center.

The party starts three hours before every home game (Oct. 15 and 22, Nov. 5 and 26 and Dec. 3). Cost is $20 if you’re not an NAA member ($10 for kids 3-12).

Spin ultra lounge opened last month in Mizner Park, bringing an über chic, modern club to the area. Easter colors — hot pinks, corals, lime greens and violets are spread around the lounge. Perfect small plates. There are just enough eats to keep the drinkers out of trouble. Chef Jason Feinberg, formerly of Bar B G in Miami, put together a menu.
By Steve Plunkett

Residents recycled more plastic bottles, glass jars and newspapers than town officials expected, resulting in almost $35,000 rebate from the Solid Waste Authority and an official letter of praise. “They wanted to extend their congratulations to all our residents,” Town Manager Kathleen Weiser said at the Sept. 6 Town Commission meeting.

“As a result of the outstanding recycling efforts by your residents, the town of Highland Beach has received $34,567.02 since the program was implemented in fiscal year 2010,” SWA customer relations director John Archambo wrote. The rebate represented 949.86 tons of material, “which helps to conserve valuable landfill space and natural resources,” Archambo continued.

Highland Beach received $12,800 back in fiscal 2010. The town anticipated $11,800 in its 2011 budget but had $15,090 by July, three months before the end of the fiscal year. The 2012 budget predicts a $19,000 rebate.

The Solid Waste Authority collects $99 from each condo and $175 per single-family home for solid waste disposal. The fees are a non-ad valorem assessment on property tax bills.

The newest items acceptable for recycling are unwanted mail, school and office papers, all cardboard boxes and steel cans. Other acceptable items are: newspapers, magazines, phone books, paper bags, plastic containers, aluminum cans and milk and juice cartons, and glass bottles and jars.

Recycled materials at single-family homes are collected on Mondays, at condominiums on Mondays and Thursdays.

Along the Coast

By Paula Detwiller

As this year’s sea turtle nesting season winds down, biologists are encouraged by sea turtle numbers and a continuing upward trend in the number of nests seen on Palm Beach County beaches.

“Based on preliminary data, 2011 will be another record-breaking year,” said Paul Davis of the Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resource Management. “We’ve seen a record number of loggerhead and green turtle nests, and one of the highest counts ever for leatherbacks.”

Davis says the time nesting season ends on Oct. 31, he expects more than 20,000 sea turtle nests will have been counted on Palm Beach County’s coastline. Last season’s total count was 19,521.

When Hurricane Irene blew by in late August, high surf washed out about half of the existing turtle nests on our coast, according to Davis and marine conservationist Kirt Rusenko at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center in Boca Raton. Unhatched eggs were destroyed.

Emerging hatchlings were tossed out of their sandy nests. Some died, others ended up far from their nests, and Gumbo Limbo’s hatchling drop-off box filled up quickly.

“Since Aug. 25, we have had more than 300 hatchlings brought to our drop-off box as people are finding them on the beach,” Rusenko said. “Drop-offs can be accepted 24 hours a day. Even if the main gate is locked, they can walk up and put them in the box nearby. We check it regularly.”

The sea turtle nesting season starts on March 1 each year. Leatherback turtles crawl ashore to lay their eggs early in the season, followed by loggerheads, then green sea turtles.

During June and July, the different species’ nesting periods tend to overlap. “Gumbo Limbo, on the other hand, is one of the few places in the world where we can see all three of these turtle species nesting on the same night,” Davis says. Loggerheads are on the federal government’s threatened species list; leatherbacks and greens are listed as endangered.

In the days after Irene, Gumbo Limbo performed highly releases of the rescued hatchlings back onto the beach, hoping to trigger the babies’ natural instinct to motor down to the water and swim out to sea. But many of them didn’t have the energy left to do it.

“When they hatch out of their nests, sea turtles go into a swim frenzy that can last for hours or days,” explains Gumbo Limbo marine turtle specialist Melanie Stadler. “The swim frenzy is nature’s way of providing them with enough energy to swim 30 miles offshore to reach the sargassum (floating seaweed they feed on).”

Because there’s nobody parking in Mizner Park, and in other beach areas — Red Reef West and the Palmetto Park pavilion. But those in Mizner have brought in about 75 percent of the money — or about $187,500 — while the beach meters amounted for only about $62,500, Woika said.

But installing the meters along Plaza Real in Mizner Park and at the eastern end of Palmetto Park Road near the beach accomplished what some residents and merchants said they needed: turnover.

“In Mizner Park and in some of the areas of the beach, there were people that would take those parking spots and leave a car there all day long,” Welchel said. “In Mizner Park, they often worked in Mizner Park. They would simply pull up to work, take a spot right in front. There would be no turnover for the customers.”

Welchel said she’s heard from merchants that appreciate that there’s rotation among the cars now, she said. Others, she conceded, disagree.

“We have people say to us, ‘Yall ruined Mizner Park because there’s nobody parking there.’ I go to Mizner Park a lot and those premium parking spaces are being utilized every single day. And this is very important,” she added. “We have over 2,000 free parking places in the downtown specifically in Mizner Park.”

The free parking is in four garages located just behind the main shopping area, and they’re available to anyone, Woika said.

For people using the meters, there’s been a little learning curve because there’s one meter box for roughly every eight parking spaces, meaning the meter might not be adjacent to a person’s car.

The meters allow more options for payments than just feeding in coins, though. “These are not your grandmother’s parking meters,” Welchel said. “There are a lot of people who have been a little confused by exactly how you pay for your spot and where you go to pay for your spot. That’s a reasonable concern. But Boca is one of the last cities in South Florida to install parking meters. I would be much more concerned if we did not have 2,000 free available parking spaces.”
Delray Beach
From sparse beginnings, a century of progress

By Paula Detwiler

Climb aboard the time machine. Set the dial to 1911, the year a seaside community in South Florida named “Delray” voted to incorporate.

Now, sit back and watch as the voters elect their first mayor, aldermen, town clerk, and marshal. Witness the drafting of the town’s first ordinances and applaud as the residents of newly incorporated Delray christen their first bridge across Henry Flagg’s East Coast Canal (known today as the Intracoastal Waterway). No longer would they have to drag themselves, their horses, their crops or fresh-caught fish across the canal on a hand-pulled barge.

Delray’s incorporation 100 years ago this month was indeed a turning point for the town, according to local historians.

“Prior to incorporation, the Ladies Improvement Association did all the civilized things,” says Delray Beach Historical Society archivist Dorothy Patterson. “But after incorporation, the men who’d been busy establishing farms and businesses got more involved in improving the town.”

By then, Delray already had a canning plant and was promoting itself as the agricultural capital of South Florida, shipping trainloads of pineapples, tomatoes and other produce to the North.

Soon after incorporation, workers finished building the first bridge across the canal, the first bank opened, a jail was constructed, a newspaper was begun (The Delray Progress), and the first theater began showing silent films.

Incorporation also led to a flurry of new laws. “The town had existed since 1895. I figure by 1911 there were probably a lot of things that were irritating people,” Patterson says. Apparently, vagrancy was high on the list. Here’s an excerpt from one of the new town ordinances, a copy of which resides in the Historical Society archives:

“Sec. 9 — All rogues and vagabonds; idle and dissolute persons, tramps who go about begging; persons who use juggling or unlawful games or plays; common pipers or fiddlers; stubborn children; runaways; games or plays; common pipers or fiddlers; stubborn children; runaways; trespassers, idle and dissolute persons, who use juggling or unlawful games or plays; common pipers or fiddlers; stubborn children; runaways; throwers; pilferers; thieves; lewd, wanton and lascivious persons... shall be considered vagrants, and all other idle or disorderly persons... shall be considered vagrants, and upon conviction of vagrancy, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding fifty dollars or imprisonment not exceeding thirty days, or both.”

Barrier island not part of town

Newly incorporated Delray did not include the barrier island, a sparsely inhabited area at the time. Its only permanent structures were a few rustic beach cottages, a small public bathhouse, and the Orange Grove House of Refuge, which served as emergency lodging for shipwrecked sailors. A group of Bahamians and their families operated a fishing camp on the beach, and pineapple plantations occupied the land between the canal and the waterfront.

“In 1911, the beach in Delray was not anything other than a place you went to occasionally enjoy the ocean,” says Bob Ganger, vice chairman of the Historical Society of Palm Beach County. “It was difficult to get there across the canal, and you couldn’t build anything on the sand. Even the sand road would be tough to negotiate on your horse and buggy.

As a result, property values on the beach were very low. “One of the pioneer families owned a large oceanfront lot with a small cottage that he tried to sell for $60, but had no takers,” says Ganger. “That wouldn’t buy you a tenth of an inch of coastal property these days!”

Growth and prosperity

The area sprang to life after the Atlantic Avenue Bridge opened, and by the 1920s, Ganger says, advertising for beachfront property had become vigorous and widespread. Beach residents wanted to put in electric streetlights, pave the roads and install indoor plumbing.

But joining the town of Delray, which had a shady credit rating, would mean paying higher-than-desired rates for capital improvement bonds.

In 1923, coastal residents sought their own charter and voted to incorporate as “Delray Beach.”

Four years later, the two communities were joined and re-chartered as the city of Delray Beach.

For history buffs interested in more details about early Delray life, a series of commemorative events are planned this month. They include the unveiling of a new historical marker for the Cason Cottage, an effort financed by the late Robert Neff, who died at age 95 on July 24.

“It’s a shame Mr. Neff couldn’t be here to see the festivities,” says Patterson. “He was such an ardent supporter of our local history.”

Delray Beach Centennial events

Tuesday, Oct. 4

Public screening of documentary Delray Then and Now with a discussion of the city’s history led by Dorothy Patterson of the Delray Beach Historical Society. Free, 2 p.m. at the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave.

Wednesday, Oct. 5

“The Early Years of Delray Beach,” a lecture by Rhonda Ganger Oyer III, whose great-grandfather was one of Southeast Florida’s first settlers, and William S. Williams, whose great-grandfather was owner of Delray Beach. Free, 2 p.m. at the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave.

Wednesday, Oct. 5

“The International Girls Club at the Library: Delray Beach, the Early Years,” a lecture and hands-on crafts program for girls 7 and older who live in town, free with registration and parental permission. 3-10 p.m. in the Children’s Department of the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave.

Thursday, Oct. 6

“City Centennial Celebration on the Avenue” featuring live music, a parade with historically costumed marchers and bands, historic vignettes on each city block, art/walk, old-fashioned games and Continental cafe. Free, 6-10:15 p.m. along Atlantic Avenue from Seinton to Fifth Avenue.

Friday, Oct. 8

Spady Museum’s “4th of July Book Sale: Antique Books and Maps,” a sale of over 3,000 books.

Saturday, Oct. 9

“City Centennial Celebration on the Avenue” featuring live music, a parade with historically costumed marchers and bands, historic vignettes on each city block, art/walk, old-fashioned games and Continental cafe. Free, 6-10:15 p.m. along Atlantic Avenue from Seinton to Fifth Avenue.

Sunday, Oct. 10

“The Delray Beach Centennial Bus Tour” of Historic Delray. Includes a narrated, two-hour bus tour of Delray Beach’s five historic districts. 10 a.m. meet at 515. Reservations: (561) 279-4883. Pick up location: Delray Beach Parking Garage at NE First Street and NE First Avenue.

Sunday, Oct. 10

“Delray Beach Centennial Community Garden.” Free, 9:30 to 11 a.m. at the historic garden at the corner of NE 1st St. and NE 1st Ave.

Wednesday, Oct. 12

“In the Beginning,” a lecture on Delray’s pioneer history before, during and after the town’s incorporation, by local historians Dorothy Patterson and Harvey Oyer III. Free, 5:10-7 p.m. at Murder on the Beach Mystery Bookstore, 273 NE Second Ave. (Pineapple Grove Way).

Saturday, Oct. 22

“Centennial Bus Tour of Delray Beach,” a narrated tour of historic sites throughout Delray $35 per person, under 18 free. Tour departs at 11 a.m. Reservations: 243-2662. Departing from the Museum of Lifestyle and Fashion History, 401 N. Congress Ave., Suite 483, Boynton Beach Mall (inside mall near Sears).

Tuesday, Oct. 25

“How Far Have We Come: 100 Years,” a lecture on crime, Prohibition and gambling in Delray Beach since 1911 by local historian and reporter Eliot Kleinberg and former crime reporter Jonathon King. Free, 5:30-7 p.m. at Murder on the Beach Mystery Bookstore, 273 NE Second Ave. (Pineapple Grove Way).

Thursday, Oct. 27 (tentative date)

Public dedication of a State Historical Marker for Cason Cottage, presented by the Delray Beach Historical Society. 5 p.m. at Cason Cottage House Museum, 511 SW First St. For more information call, 246-9728.
Boca Raton

By Margie Plunkett

A glass company fighting the city’s thumbs down on green impact windows it had already installed at the oceanfront Marbella Condominium withdrew its appeal.

Continental Glass Systems, which was scheduled to appear before Council Sept. 27, said it expects to work with the condominium to resolve the issue, according to Deputy City Manager George Brown.

Before going forward with another plan, the company would have to apply for a permit and would be subject to Community Appearance Board review, Brown said.

The CAB in July denied Continental’s request to change the color to green from gray at 86 units at the 150-unit Marbella, 250 S. Ocean Blvd., after the glass company had already changed windows at the condo.

More than a year earlier, Continental had applied for a permit to install new windows that matched the old, which were gray. But in February 2011, the City Code Compliance Division received a complaint that green glass was being installed.

Continental later applied for the color change as the city requested, but was turned down in a 5-2 vote. The dissenting members said they couldn’t support the change even if it were made to the entire building, according to a city memo, because the Marbella would not look good with green glass.

Of the total 150 units at the Marbella, 49 had earlier replaced glass with matching gray windows as permitted by the CAB. The work was done by various contractors.

Continental replaced 86 windows with green glass. And 15 other units still have grey glass, although they haven’t applied for window permits, the memo said.

Birthdays

Countess de Hoernle’s 99th birthday

Peter Blum Family YMCA, Boca Raton

Children serenade the Countess de Hoernle as she celebrates her 99th birthday on Sept. 19 at the Peter Blum Family YMCA of Boca Raton, where she is an honorary trustee and has been a board member for more than 16 years. Photo by Jerry Lower
A few years ago, Marilyn Morgan wrote a book detailing the trials and triumphs of raising a special needs child. It’s a subject she knows well. Her oldest son has Fragile X, a genetic condition that causes a range of developmental problems, including learning disabilities and cognitive impairment.

“Morgan wrote a book detailing the trials and triumphs of raising a special needs child. It’s a subject she knows well. Her oldest son has Fragile X, a genetic condition that causes a range of developmental problems, including learning disabilities and cognitive impairment.

“We did not have the diagnosis for our son Dan until he was 21 years old,” said Morgan, a retired reading and language teacher. “After all those years of using trial and error to obtain results, I had a story to share, to enable me to assist other parents trying to raise a special needs child.”

She titled the book *The Broken Toy: The Story of a Fragile X Syndrome Child.* “My younger son Bob wrote the poem entitled ‘The Broken Toy’ for a poetry assignment,” Morgan said when explaining how she chose the title. “He compared Dan to a favorite toy that no longer was intact, but was loved more than any other toy.”

Dan, now 33, is participating in a five-month drug study in Nashville for people with Fragile X, and his mother remains hopeful about the outcome. She plans to update her book, too.

Dan is doing well, she said. He takes Palm Tran to his job as a french fry chef at McDonald’s. He enjoys swimming and is a big White Sox fan. He continues to excel at Special Olympics bowling events. His constant companion is Mandy, a zippy Shih Tzu-poodle mix service dog who walks three times a day.

In October, Dan will accompany his parents to Chicago where he will be the best man at his brother’s wedding.

Meanwhile, Marilyn and her husband, Mike, who began as high school sweethearts, are looking forward to a wedding ceremony. “I love when a plan comes together,” Marilyn said.

At home in Highland Beach, Marilyn Morgan with her son Dan, husband, Mike, and their dog Mandy. Photo by Tim Stepien.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR: Marilyn Morgan

A. My parents have always inspired me. I strive to show integrity and strength as my father always did, and to make family a priority as both my parents did.

Q. Who or what makes you laugh?
A. My husband, Mike, (also a retired teacher) is always there for comfort and humor.

Q. Where did you grow up and go to school?
A. Chicago, Ill. I was determined to obtain a master’s degree and did graduate with a master’s degree in education, 20 years after my undergraduate graduation. I was forced to stop and delay my continued education twice to care for Dan, who was a very sick infant.

Q. How did you choose to make your home in Highland Beach?
A. We found our dream location in Highland Beach four years ago. We had been coming to Florida on vacations and wanted to live here.

Q. What is your favorite part about living in Highland Beach?
A. Living on the beach is my favorite part of living here. A daily view of the ocean is spiritually uplifting.

Q. What is the last book you read?
A. *The Help.* It’s a great book about women of courage.

Q. If someone made a movie of your life, who would you like to play you and why?
A. Angelina Jolie. She is a strong, caring woman who has faced many obstacles and still gives back to the world and puts her family first.

Q. What music do you listen to when you need inspiration? When you want to relax?
A. Music by Taylor Swift, Sister Hazel, Plain White Trees and James Taylor.

Q. What do people not know about you that you wish they did?
A. That I am very sensitive to others feelings, and that if you are my friend, you are my friend for life. I also have time now to pursue my hobby of oil painting.

Q. Do you have a favorite quote that inspires your decisions?
A. I love when a plan comes together.

Q. Have you had mentors in your life? Individuals who have inspired your life decisions?
A. The Help.
communications, steers a golf cart across a wide expanse of emerald-green lawn, along herringbone brick paths, past building after white-and-pale-yellow building, Bahamian colonial style. The administration building. The visual arts building. The library and book store. The science building. The Upper School cafeteria. The athletic center (there’s a baseball field and an Olympic-size swimming pool, too.) The dorms. The faculty homes. It is like touring a small boutique town.

In this, its 50th anniversary year — the school was founded in 1961, opened to students a year later — he emphasizes the changes the campus has seen. It began, with 122 students and an Ivy League faculty, as a boys’ boarding school; this year’s enrollment, coed, is a record 1,313. The school initially mimicked the British system, with fifth and sixth forms, only later adopting the grade terminology.

Tuition in the early days was a looser, less regulated matter, so a headmaster might lower the financial bar for a given student and raise it for one whose family had a heftier income. Tuition nowadays is on a set scale — pre-K $18,540; Upper School (grades 9-12) day students $24,300; Upper School boarding students $43,000 — but 15 percent of the students receive financial aid.

Early in this campus tour, Barroso stops at the Performing Arts building and the office of Teresa Vignau, St. Andrew’s theater director and speech teacher — and her very own chapter of the school. Vignau remembers, “then, after the filming, they put them all back.”

These days, her point-of-pride is the 655-seat theater and its state-of-the-art lighting booth. “Too many times, we teach our past instead of the kids’ futures,” Vignau says, a reference to the continual updating of equipment here and throughout the school. The arts live large here: the music department teaches everything from bagpipe to jazz band, chorus to songwriting; there are separate studios for sculpture and painting and photography; and a gallery for displaying student work; a mirrored dance studio boasts three ballet teachers.

Much as St. Andrew’s celebrates its progress, it lives comfortably with now: A Seminole-built chickee chapel, once the site for graduations, still graces the grounds, while a white, steepled chapel, open to the public on Sundays, now hosts graduations for students from 20 countries and across the U.S. (Gulf Stream School is a major feeder school; 43 Gulf Stream students currently attend St. Andrew’s.)

Michael Goodman, a 1989 St. Andrew’s graduate, has sent his son Matthew and daughter Katherine to St. Andrew’s. Photos courtesy of St. Andrew’s School

St. Andrew’s opened in 1961 as a boarding school for boys — even the cheerleaders were male. "My kids, when they come home and you ask them, ‘How was school?’ they say, ‘It was perfect.’ It’s tough to beat that.”

Teresa Vignau, right, St. Andrew’s theater director and speech teacher, also was the school’s first female graduate. She works with students to get a realistic look to a costume by driving over it.

“Kids, when they come home and you ask them, ‘How was school?’ they say, ‘It was perfect.’ It’s tough to beat that.”

Notable St. Andrew’s grads

Michael Goodman, a 1989 St. Andrew’s graduate, has sent his son Matthew and daughter Katherine to St. Andrew’s. Photos by Jerry Lower

St. Andrew’s: Continued from page 1
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GIOVANNI’S PIZZA
HOLLOWAY’S IRISH PUB
JAKE’S STONE CRAB
LEMONGRASS ASIAN BISTRO
MASTRA MEDITERRANEAN BISTRO
RAFFAELLO RISTORANTE
RISTORANTE SAPORI
ROSARIO’S RISTORANTE
SAQUILLA CAFE
TABLE 42 ITALIAN KITCHEN
THE FUNKY BISCUIT
THE RUSTIC CELLAR
THE WISHING WELL IRISH PUB
TROPICAL SMOOTHIE
YAKITORI SAKI HOUSE

SALONS & SPAS
BACK BAY SALON
BOCA NAILS
BRAZILIAN MED SPA
ELEGANCE SPA & HAIR STUDIO
GAMINE BEAUTY BAR
GREEN WAVE BODY WAXING
KEYANAH DAY SPA
LA MIRAGE
OASIS BARBER SHOP
OXGEN SALON
ROYAL PALM NAILS & SPA
SALON 300
TIPSY SALON, SPA & LOUNGE

SPECIALTIES
BENNINGTON TOBACCONIST
FRED ASTAIRE DANCE STUDIO
LIFESTYLES OF LYNNE GIFTS
LUXURY CARS OF BOCA
SHOWTIME PERFORMING ARTS THEATRE
THE MERRY MAILMAN
TOBI’S GROOMING

FINE JEWELRY
D’VARA JEWELERS
HARRY’S DESIGNER JEWELS
J MARK JEWELERS
VERDI JEWELERS

ART & DESIGN
ART ATTACK
FIAT CUSTOM DESIGN FRAMING
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Official Partner of
Louisville, Ky., Paulie Miller, when he ranks among them. He has been part of national championships in college and pro football, but he never has stooped to imitation.

McCormack pulls the golf cart up to the stadium’s south end, nosing near a dozen royal palm trees stacked sideways under a looming six-story elevator, past a massive electronic scoreboard. The trees want planting.

Schnellenberger steps out and walks, with a determined limp on his right side, over machine-furrowed ground toward the nearest exit. McCormack, serving as his guide and aide-de-camp, prepares the way.

Sunlight fans across a tightly cropped field that looks ready for play, but at the south end the goal posts have been yanked out. They were too low, McCormack says.

"How did they screw that up?" Schnellenberger says. Ah, but everything else, the multilevel press-boxes with the latest communications links, the air-conditioned indoor 8,000-square-foot premier club, the alfresco priority center nearby.

"Look at the beauty of this stadium," he says. "It’s not some concrete monstrosity."

Around a majestically elevated bowl, seats ascend in blue rows, ready to be bolted down. "We’ve got almost 2,000 palm trees in here," says the coach, now eyeing the workers who have been Lockhart, a 20,000-square-foot premier club with its tiki bar seating 150, the 24 suites and 26 loge boxes, the curving front ticket gates and drive-up valet area … Schnellenberger extends a right hand and pronounces the place "palatial.

"That view," he and the other workers say, stepping up, "is the sun rise over the Atlantic."

"Which view?" Schnellenberger asks another worker. "That view, he and the other builders hope, will expand by another 30,000 seats, with pulsed support, a winning record and a place in a major conference.

"We’re making compromises, Schnellenberger says. "The vice president of finance tells us ‘no, no, yes.’ For the first time (in five years of planning), ‘I’ve seen a little bit of cutting back, but not to the point you’d notice.’"

Then they step into the recruiting room. This, the coach says, is crucial. "The players and the parents come down here to watch us play," he says. "It’s one of the major reasons a stadium on your campus is so important. They’ll come here before the game, we’ll have cheerleaders and students what-not as ambassadors, and it’s a great place to get together."

Beyond it, a carpeted dressing room plays 80 wooden lockers. "When I got here," the coach says, "you didn’t have a nail to hang a jock strap on."

Bringing big change

At this moment, much of the FAU stadium appears unfinished. Fine tuning follows the finished-by deadline of Sept. 15.

The stadium opens Oct. 15 with a game against Western Kentucky, and the school hopes for a capacity crowd of 30,000. More than 3,000 people, by McCormack’s measure, are physically building the stadium, not counting donors and bankers, not counting architects and planners and overseers of the general contractor, Balfour Beatty Construction.

She could say, with as much confidence, that Howard Schnellenberger inspired and worked for every inch of this place. It will stand as the last of his other legacies on campus: the Tom Oxley Athletic Center, the baseball and softball fields and practice grounds spreading beyond, the recreation and wellness center nearby.

No state or federal money will go into it, the coach says. It belongs with the school’s larger Innovation Village project, but it’s also the most visible end-product of Howard Schnellenberger’s construction of an entire Division I football program, from the ground up.

Until 1964, Florida Atlantic’s Boca Raton campus was what was left of an Army airfield and palmetto scrub. Most of the athletics facilities came much later.

Since Schnellenberger arrived in 1998 as director of football operations and became head coach a year later, the Owls’ home field has been Lockhart, a 20,000-seat high school stadium 20 miles away. Now they’ll have a home of their own.

"Boca will never be the same," he says. "It’ll be better. I’ll be a major college town. Gonna have conference centers around here, gonna have hotels. Got the med school coming on line. This can be a centerpiece."

For the moment, the centerpiece might be him.

Media people call him "The Voice," and from his silvered height, 6-3, he delivers encouragements and responses in a weathered basso profundo. He is not, he says, what Paul "Bear" Bryant was, not the one all eyes turned to when he entered a room.

Maybe. Today, at least, all eyes are turning to Schnellenberger. "Big fan! Big fan!" one worker says, grinning, and another says, "That’s a legend right there. A legend!"

His own eyes are focused outward. After a ride up an elevator, to the sixth level, he is looking for the ocean view. Howard Schnellenberger grew up land-locked, transported by his parents from Indiana at age 3 and raised in Louisville. He played sandlot football with friends who were living down in Miami Beach, where they can watch the sun rise over the Atlantic.

"It took us 40 years to get to the ocean," he says. They were living down in Miami Lakes and kept a home there even when he worked out-of-state. When he joined the FAU staff, he and Beverlee found a home in Ocean Ridge at Coventry Place, now Turtle Beach, where they can watch the sun rise over the Atlantic. This, he says, is his last neighborhood.

Walking back through construction, past the golf cart, he talks about support, about 100 early donors who each pledged at least $50,000, about 50 of whom together gave $13 million and gained the right to approve details; about gifts-to-kind from local businesses and newspapers; and about the school coming on line. "It’s looking ready for play, but at the south end the goal posts have been yanked out," he says. "I can’t get over the width of the halls in this place, the spaces in it."

The ocean view, well, Howard Schnellenberger’s been wanting one since the family first ventured to Florida. Now he has it.

"We’ll find a way," the coach says. It belongs with the school’s larger Innovation Village project, but it’s also the most visible end-product of Howard Schnellenberger’s construction of an entire Division I football program, from the ground up.

"Working yourself out of a job," the coach says. "Me, too."
Food

Florida Atlantic University and its food concession company say they plan to offer typical stadium fare, plus a few surprises — like skewered chicken — when the new football stadium opens Oct. 15.

By Deborah S. Hartz-Seeley

When hungry spectators at the new Florida Atlantic University football stadium take a break from the Owls’ action, they’ll find typical stadium fare with a few surprises.

So says Greg Moran, the resident district manager for Chartwells, responsible for food service on the FAU campus including the stadium.

“Local cuisine is one of the frontiers that haven’t been fully engulfed yet,” Moran says.

As game day approaches, his staff will grow by 150 to 200 employees who will work as bartenders, kitchen staff, servers and dishwashers at the stadium. There will be only about two weeks between the end of construction and the first game, during which Moran will have to expedite the menu.

“If you don’t have a kitchen outside the stadium, Moran has special considerations when it comes to the menu. “We have to be sure the food can be held for an extended period of time and that it tastes good whether it was cooked five or 30 minutes before it is served,” he says.

As game day approaches, his staff will grow by 150 to 200 employees who will work as bartenders, kitchen staff, servers and dishwashers at the stadium. There will be only about two weeks between the end of construction and the first game, during which Moran will have to expedite staff training.

Although the current list of suites is heavy on traditional favorites, Moran hopes to add more Floribbean favorites.

“Local cuisine is one of the frontiers that haven’t been fully engulfed yet,” Moran says.

When hungry game-goers find themselves on the third floor, they can visit 11 concession stands that might include a sushi and lo mein station. Sweet stations will offer items such as chocolate-dipped strawberries and seasonal fresh fruit for dessert.

For those whose pockets are as empty as their stomachs, ATMs will be available throughout the stadium and food outlets accepted all major credit cards.
Halloween

A mini Labradoodle tries a Frankenstein costume on for size. Photos by Tim Stepien

Happy Halloween tails

Dogs will do tricks for treats in costume

By Deborah S. Hartz-Seeley

P umpkins, ghosts, witches, devils. This Halloween, these are not only popular costumes for people but also for their pets. "Buying a costume for your pet is a feel-good sort of thing," says Kimberly Currier, owner of Waggs to Riches in Delray Beach. "Many people get more fun and satisfaction from outfitting their dogs than they do from dressing themselves." Even in our down economy, people are decked out their dogs for trick or treat. "It gets bigger and bigger every year," says Caroline Clore, owner of Paws on the Avenue in Lake Worth.

And it’s not just the pet owners who seem to enjoy getting into the holiday spirit. "When the dogs are in costume, they prance around. I think they know how cute they look," says Debbie Broyles, owner of Fins Furs n’ Feathers in Boca Raton. One of this year’s hot costumes is a mermaid outfit that features purple sequins and an aqua tail, Broyles says. It’s only been on sale for a week at Fins Furs n’ Feathers but needs to be reordered. At Paws on the Avenue, a pirate’s costume fitted with golden buttons and red satin trim on the coat and pantaloons shows great promise, Clore says. But the fun doesn’t stop there. Bumble bees, pink and blue butterflies and polka-dot lady bugs are also popular attire. Animal options include a lamb, a pig, a gray elephant complete with trunk and a black-and-white spotted panda — all to dress your dog.

"When dressing up their pets, people like something that resembles a colorful jester’s collar complete with pompoms," says Clore. "They look for something unique." For the furry friends of foodies, there’s a taco costume complete with pepper strips and shredded cheese, two peas in a pod and a plump hot dog on a bun with a tempting zigzag of mustard and ketchup. Your dog will look good enough to eat.

The costumes are easy to put on and take off because they are made with Velcro. "You can get them on the most unruly dog," Clore says. And they are designed to fit just about any breed including the two mutts, Junior, 11, and Winky, 13, that Clore rescued. "They are hysterical on pets from a Chihuahua to a golden retriever to a Rottweiler. They come in all sizes," Currier adds.

Most costumes provide something to cover the body plus headgear. Take the Mickey Mouse costume that includes brown, yellow and red pants and mouse ears for your pooh’s pate. Instead of purchasing Halloween dress, some pet owners like to make costumes for their pups. Clore recalls a past Halloween when she saw a dog dressed up like a lint trap. Socks and a T-shirt were attached like static-filled clothing from the dryer. She also had a customer who set up a Chiquita Banana theme by dressing five Chihuahuas as bananas and letting them run around in a bunch. Another put a caped terrier into a model airplane, turning him into Snoopy and the Red Baron.

If you don’t want an outfit that’s quite so elaborate, you can purchase a T-shirt or fanciful collar instead. Collars come embroidered with skull, crossbones and yellow cutlass. Or get one that resembles a colorful jester’s collar complete with pompons.

"That way, you can make a small investment and still be part of the party," Clore says. Of course, a big part of Halloween fun is the treats made specifically to tempt your furry friends. "They sell like crazy," says Cloer, who is "mom" to two Chihuahuas, Lilly, 4, and Rosie, 6. Aunt JoAnn’s Gourmet Dog Biscuits supplies treats to local shops that are located in Boca Raton. The company offers a line of organic baked goods for dogs. At Halloween, company owners Linda Barie and Donna Bowers shape and bake 3-D spider cookies from biscuit dough. They decorate them with orange candied yogurt.

"Dogs get ahold of them and really like them," Barie says. The women also make dog-friendly cookies cut into shapes such as pumpkins, candy corn, black cats and ghosts. And just for fun, you also can find fluff squeaky toys with a holiday theme. Think a fuzzy pumpkin your dog can open up to find smaller pumpkin plush toys inside. There also are witches that cackle when squeezed, as well as spiders, snakes and ghosts.

Some costumes come with a plush toy as part of its gear. If you dress your pup in the Hugh Hefner costume from Waggs to Riches, he’ll not only

get a red satin smoking jacket but also a squeaky toy pipe. Then there’s the furry brown monkey costume that comes with a plush toy banana. Now that your dog is in disguise, you’ll want to show him off.

This is the twelfth year Paws on the Avenue is hosting a Halloween party. It will run noon to 6 p.m. on Oct. 29 on L Street next to the shop in Lake Worth. There will be a costume contest, of course, as well as other games and treats. At Fins Furs N’ Feathers, pet owners who bring in a dog wearing a costume on Halloween will receive extra dog treats plus a 15 percent discount on anything in the store besides dog or cat food. And, at Waggs to Riches, they’ll be welcoming those costumed kids and their pets who participate in Trick or Treat Along the Avenue in Delray Beach on Oct. 29.

The storeowners enjoy hosting their customers and their dogs who take Halloween seriously. "I love how people get creative about costumes for their pets," says Clore. "Every year they try to create something even better than the year before."
Dog inspires artist in national design contest for pooch park

If you had $500,000 to create a dream dog park for you and your best buddy, what would you do?

One look at her high-energy dog, Dani, and Tracy Rosof-Petersen knew it was a question she must answer with an essay and short video.

The result? This Lake Worth artist and dog lover is now one of 15 national finalists in contention for the second annual Beneful Dream Dog Park Contest.

The winner is expected to be named sometime in October — a fact she knows quite well. That’s because I — along with television host and design expert Jason Cameron — serve as the contest’s judges.

Cameron, a licensed home improvement contractor, hosts two popular cable TV design and contracting shows and loves his three-legged dog. In 2010, we teamed up to select a winning entry submitted by Pat McNeely and watched the first $500,000 Beneful Dream Dog Park transform into reality earlier this year in Johns Creek, Ga.

At the time of writing this column, I did not know the winner. Final scores were being tallied by the Beneful team. What I can confirm is that later this month, Cameron and I will be part of a special ceremony taking place in Lake Worth to award the $500,000 Dream Park, designed by Rosof-Petersen.

Whether or not she wins this year’s contest, I say Rosof-Petersen deserves to take the well-earned (play) bow.

Arden Moore, founder of Four Legged Life.com, is an animal behavior consultant, editor, author, professional speaker and certified pet first aid instructor. She happily shares her home with two dogs, two cats and one overworked vacuum cleaner.

Tune in to her Oh Behave! show on Pet Life Radio.com and learn more by visiting www.fourleggedlife.com.

Interpreting dog body language at dog parks

Just like us, not every dog wants to be best pals with every dog he meets. Sure, some form friendships at the speed of a tail wag. Others occur after the perfunctory sniffing and a mutual short romp. But accept the fact that not all dogs dig all dogs.

In canine introductions, consistency reigns. Dogs don’t lie. They don’t disguise their feelings. Problems arise when people misread canine communication — or intercede too quickly and then a yip turns into a snap.

Here are Arden Moore’s tips to set your dog up for success — and safety — at the dog park:

• Assess your dog’s attitude. Some crave canine companionship. Others focus solely on shagging tennis balls and could not care less if there are other dogs in the park. Some prefer hanging out with people.

• Enter the dog park with confidence. Remember, your dogs are masters at reading our emotions — and often feed off our moods. If you are fearful or angry or unsure, they know it. Time your dog’s entrance when there are not a lot of dogs hovering at the gate. Bunched-up dogs in a tight space triggers the fight-or-flight response. Speak in an upbeat tone as you encourage your dog to “go play.”

• Watch in silence as your dog mingles. Don’t panic if one dog puts his head over the back of another. They are just determining who is top dog. Don’t gush or shirk if one dog’s hollies are raised. In some breeds, like Siberian huskies, raised hair on the back happens automatically whenever they are stimulated. Some dogs like to yap during an intro, especially vocal breeds like schnauzers or beagles. There may be a quick verbal exchange in what I describe as “canine air guitar.” Often, it ends quickly and the two will play or choose to go in different directions. If you sense an escalated exchange, direct your dog to join you in another area of the park.

• Keep your dog’s leash draped around your neck in case a meet-and-greet erupts into a brawl. Act quickly. Speak in a low, commanding tone to both dogs to “knock it off!” or “leave it!”

• Meet-and-greet erupts into a brawl. Act quickly. Speak in a low, commanding tone to both dogs to “knock it off!” or “leave it!”

• Keep your dog’s leash draped around your neck in case a meet-and-greet erupts into a brawl. Act quickly. Speak in a low, commanding tone to both dogs to “knock it off!” or “leave it!”

• Resist the temptation to grab your dog’s collar because you risk misreading canine communication — or intercede too quickly and then a yip turns into a snap.

• Assess your dog’s attitude. Some crave canine companionship. Others focus solely on shagging tennis balls and could not care less if there are other dogs in the park. Some prefer hanging out with people.

• Enter the dog park with confidence. Remember, your dogs are masters at reading our emotions — and often feed off our moods. If you are fearful or angry or unsure, they know it. Time your dog’s entrance when there are not a lot of dogs hovering at the gate. Bunched-up dogs in a tight space triggers the fight-or-flight response. Speak in an upbeat tone as you encourage your dog to “go play.”

• Watch in silence as your dog mingles. Don’t panic if one dog puts his head over the back of another. They are just determining who is top dog. Don’t gush or shirk if one dog’s hollies are raised. In some breeds, like Siberian huskies, raised hair on the back happens automatically whenever they are stimulated. Some dogs like to yap during an intro, especially vocal breeds like schnauzers or beagles. There may be a quick verbal exchange in what I describe as “canine air guitar.” Often, it ends quickly and the two will play or choose to go in different directions. If you sense an escalated exchange, direct your dog to join you in another area of the park.

• Keep your dog’s leash draped around your neck in case a meet-and-greet erupts into a brawl. Act quickly. Speak in a low, commanding tone to both dogs to “knock it off!” or “leave it!”

• Resist the temptation to grab your dog’s collar because you risk being bitten. Instead, loop of the leash over your dog’s chest and pull the dogs apart. Assess for any injuries and leave, allowing time to calm down.
Boca Raton

Wild animals long gone from city acreage now roam free on the Web

By Liz Best

When you think of Boca Raton, images of beautiful beaches, high-end restaurants and trendy shops may come to mind, but lions and tigers and bears? Oh, my.

OK, so there weren’t lions, tigers or bears at Africa USA when it opened its gates west of Boca Raton in 1953, in what is now the Camino Gardens subdivision, but the 100-acre property was home to some 200 exotic species. Monkeys, gazelles, giraffes and zebras featured in what is considered to be one of the first wild animal attractions in the world.

The park closed 50 years ago, on Labor Day 1961, following a series of zoning disputes with the city and the county. Africa USA was the brainchild of John “Pete” Pedersen, a visionary with only a sixth-grade education, who had a banking open to open a park where animals weren’t in cages but in their natural surroundings. Keep in mind, this was the pre-Disney era and, in fact, Walt Disney was a frequent visitor to the park.

Pedersen’s daughter, Shirley Schneider of Boynton Beach, says her dad was determined to be a millionaire and wanted to live to be at least 100. He became a millionaire when he sold the park for $1.1 million in October 1961. He also came darn close to his second goal when he died in 1996 at the age of 99.

After purchasing the land for $25 an acre, Pedersen imported animals from Africa to populate his little piece of heaven. Admission was free and for 95 cents, visitors could tour the park by tram on the Jungle Train Tour.

Ginger Pedersen, a dean at Palm Beach State College, wasn’t born until 1963, two years after Africa USA closed, but she remembers well the spunky spirit her grandfather carried throughout his life.

“He did a lot of out-of-the-box thinking,” she said. “He never stopped thinking and he was an extremely positive person. I think that’s one of the reasons he lived as long as he did. I don’t think he really thought he would die.”

During its heyday, the park featured a man-made lagoon, waterfall and 260-foot geyser (Pedersen wanted his own version of Old Faithful). Today, the only remnant of the park is the geyser base.

Lynn Kalber of West Palm Beach moved to the nearby Boca Square subdivision in 1967. The park was closed, but it still managed to keep the neighborhood kids entertained.

“There was a little island still there with a small, gated and locked bridge to the island and that’s where the monkeys lived,” she said. “Also left were large groups of peacocks that roamed the Camino Real area, and they came over into our neighborhood, too. … As kids, we thought it was very cool to have monkeys and peacocks living so close by. Our own private zoo, of a kind.”

Pedersen’s daughter, Schneider, remembers a story her father told about his first circus, which seems to have sparked his interest in the business of entertaining the masses.

Around the turn of the century, the circus rolled into his hometown of Racine, Wis. Penniless, he was determined to get inside the big tent.

He was only 5 or 6, but he wanted to see the circus,” she said. “He went all around (the circus grounds) saying, ‘Would you please give me a job so I can see the circus?’ He just met with dead ends.”

That is, until, a man named Red sat the young Pedersen down and told him not to move. Pretty soon the tent was full of spectators and a cowboy on a beautiful white horse entered and stopped right in front of Pedersen.

“The horse bowed to him and then the cowboy bowed. Then he removed his hat to reveal Red,” said Schneider.

She says her grandmother got a spanking when he got home but didn’t care because it was the happiest day of his life.

Africa USA may be a distant memory 50 years after its closing, but Pedersen’s descendants are doing their best to keep the legacy alive.

Ginger Pedersen maintains a website (www.africa-usa.com) and updates it often with historical information, old photos and anything else she can find that pertains to the old theme park. After all, she may have been born after the park closed, but she feels like she grew up there nonetheless.

“Oh, I heard all the stories.”

Africa USA boasted a 260-foot geyser. The theme park closed in 1961 and the area now is home to Boca Raton’s Camino Gardens neighborhood. Images provided

In addition to its geyser, Africa USA had a waterfall and a man-made lagoon.

Africa USA also had villages depicting life on the Dark Continent.

This ticket for the Jungle Train Tour shows the train chugging through Africa USA. It cost 95 cents.
Education, education — particularly adult education. It’s the root that has characterized Chabad of East Boca through the years. It’s the tree whose fruit includes the chabad’s new Machon Menachem Rabbinical College. It’s the harvest soon to ripen as the first ever rabbis “made in Boca.”

“It’s a significant milestone in the advancement of the Jewish community of Boca Raton,” said Rabbi Ruvi New, “insomuch as this is a school of advanced Jewish learning and the only one of its kind that will actually offer rabbinic ordination.”

Although there are rabbinic schools in Broward and Miami-Dade counties, he said, the 14 students completing their studies here represent “the first time in the history of Palm Beach County that there are rabbis who are trained and ordained here.”

Count on others flocking to join them in what he called a sort of a coming of age. “In Jewish history, the stamp that puts the community on the map is having what’s called a yeshiva, where there are scholars who are devoted full-time to their studies — higher, advanced levels of Jewish studies.”

Beyond the obvious attraction for the students, he said, is that “part of their training is to be tutoring people and teaching classes to people at all levels, whether it’s how to read Hebrew, or more advanced levels of study. But we’ve set up three nights a week where people from the community can come and study with the students. So that’s a unique opportunity for them.

“They’ll also be sitting with local business people and reaching out to them, and generally helping with our outreach efforts. So they bring a tremendous energy and idealism to our organization and to the community at large” — illustrated in the Sept. 15 official welcoming ceremony attended by 150 people.

The rabbinical college only is the first phase of an overall vision laid out at an inaugural gala dinner in April at the Boca Raton Resort and Club. Phase two, New said, is to build what will be called the Jewish Heritage Museum, “a very dynamic, technological wonder kind of place. It’s going to bring Jewish traditions of yesteryear and today together in a very exciting way that will be an educational center for the entire South Florida community, whether Jewish or non-Jewish.”

It’s all part of the overall mission of chabad to reach out to the community through education and humanitarian efforts, he said. “Chabad is the largest movement in the Jewish world. To give perspective, in the state of Florida alone there are about 150 chabad centers, about 100 of those probably in South Florida. So it’s a very dynamic and dominant force in Jewish life today.

‘What people are attracted to is that we are very accepting, we are very open-minded, and at the same time we deliver a message that’s very authentic, that resonates, that’s real. I think that’s why you see a proliferation of chabad centers’ — 3,000 branches worldwide, he said. That worldview helps explain why New was born and bred in Australia — where his grandparents went on behalf of the chabad movement. His primary training was through the Rabbinic College of Australia and New Zealand, and advanced his studies in New York, before his educational outreach work on behalf of the movement from South America to the former Soviet Union and Asia.

“So we’re a branch of this global network that has a very global vision,” New said, “and that is to educate, to be a light unto the world, and to bring the world to a point where it is enlightened with purpose and with meaning and an awareness of God. And when the world will be saturated with that, it will be a world at peace, and harmony. And that’s what we’re working towards.’

On the web: www.chabadbocabeaches.com


At the Machon Menachem Rabbinical College, it’s all about education. Photo provided
October 1 - Yoga Workout at the Beach held every Saturday and Sunday at 10/1-2.

October 2 - Annual Hispanic Heritage Festival held at Royal Palm Plaza, Monument Plaza, 101 Plaza Real South, Boca Raton. Features ethnic foods, unique arts and crafts, children's activities and live Latin music. Part of the proceeds fund scholarships to students that need to further their education.

October 2 - Kabbalah & Coffee at Chabad of East Boca Raton, 100 NE 1st Ave, Boca Raton. Includes weekly Living Torah Video Presentation. The class can be viewed by logging on to http://torahacle.com/chabad-boca.htm or encouraged to purchase full Devotion at www.kehotonline.com. Held every Sunday morning, 9:30-10 am. Call 457-7352.

October 2-5 - Mixed Media Colloge is presented as part of the ARTful Adventure Sunday series at The Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Features recent art by 37 artists that teach in three University programs, including the department of visual arts and art history, the School of Communication and Multimedia Studies, and the School of Architecture. Runs through 10/2-5, 1-5 pm. For free. 297-2966.

October 3 - Small Fry Storytime for ages 3 and up at the Highland Beach Library, 1010 S. Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Held every Tuesday. Free registration. Call 278-5457.

October 3 - Construction Group - led by David Yarosh at the Highland Beach Library, 1010 S. Ocean Blvd. Held every Wednesday. 9-10:45 am. Free. 297-2966.

October 3 - Scramble at the Highland Beach Library, 1010 S. Ocean Blvd. Open every Wednesday. Organized by Baptist Flynn & Pat Scharfe. Held every Wednesday, 12:40-2:40 pm. 278-5457.

October 3 - Fun With Food Cooking Class for ages 9-11 at the Traphole, 767 S. Lake Highway, Boca Raton. Create a meal around mini burgers using funny molds, whimsical shapes, desserts and more on sticks. Recipes included. Four-week session is held Wednesdays through 10/3-21. 5-6 pm. Child: $109, non-resident: $129.

October 3 - Attention Deficit Disorder in Children & Adults at Whole Foods, 4400 Glades Road, Boca Raton. Meet OPAL's representatives. $4 for each additional child. 9-10 am. 393-7807.


October 3 - Torah for Thought at the Sawgrass House Nature Center, 425 S. Ocean Blvd., Deerfield Beach. Make a shark tooth necklace while learning fun and interesting facts about the shark. Next program: Tuesday - 10/4-5: 10:40 am - 11:40 am. Free. 393-7968.

October 4 - Lunch 'N Learn - Presented by Bob Lowi, Boca Raton. Held at the Highland Beach Library for ages 3 and up. Held every Thursday. 12:30-1:30 pm. Free. 278-5457.

October 4 - Field Trip: Design Your Own Paper City for ages 3 and up at the Highland Beach Library, 1010 S. Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Held every Tuesday. 1-2 pm. Free registration. 278-5457.

October 4 - World Politics And Film: How Nations Move Pictures In About Global History and Events at FAU Barry and Florence Fredenberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton. This is the final of eight lectures presented as part of the Fall Lecture Series at FAU's College of Business. Students perform pieces from Mozart and Mahler at the Keith C. and Elaine Johnson World Performing Arts Center, Lynn University, 3600 N. Military Trail, Boca Raton. Sat.: 7:30 pm; Sun.: 4 pm. 551-5350.

October 4 - Event Construction Weekends on the Intracoastal Waterway. Cash will not be accepted at the door. Live Latin music. Part of the proceeds fund scholarships to students that need to further their education.

October 4 - Older Together - Presented as part of the Jazz Bossa & Blues Live series at Carmen's Restaurant - led by Bob Lowi, Boca Raton. Held every Tuesday at 9:30-10:30 am. Free. 777-3171 or www.fau.edu/lls.

October 4 - 10th Annual Hispanic Heritage Festival held at Royal Palm Plaza, Monument Plaza, 101 Plaza Real South, Boca Raton. Features ethnic foods, unique arts and crafts, children's activities and live Latin music. Part of the proceeds fund scholarships to students that need to further their education.

October 4 - Lunch 'N Learn - Presented by Bob Lowi, Boca Raton. Held at the Highland Beach Library for ages 3 and up. Held every Thursday. 12:30-1:30 pm. Free. 278-5457.

October 4 - 11th Annual Hispanic Heritage Festival held at Royal Palm Plaza, Monument Plaza, 101 Plaza Real South, Boca Raton. Features ethnic foods, unique arts and crafts, children's activities and live Latin music. Part of the proceeds fund scholarships to students that need to further their education.

October 4 - Lunch 'N Learn - Presented by Bob Lowi, Boca Raton. Held at the Highland Beach Library for ages 3 and up. Held every Thursday. 12:30-1:30 pm. Free. 278-5457.
16/10 - 17/10 - High Beach - First Frida Kahlo exhibit of each month at High Beach Town Hall, 3064 S. Ocean Blvd. 3:30 pm. Free. www.fau-highbeach.org
16/10 - 20/10 - Boca Raton - Second and Fourth Tuesday of each month at Boca Raton Public Library, 201 W. Palmetto Park Road, Boca Raton. 6:30 pm. Free. www.boca-raton.org/271-3071
16/10 - 20/10 - Boca Raton - This is the first of eight lectures presented as part of the Fall Lecture Series at FAU Lifelong Learning Society. Annual membership: $35. Held Thursdays through 11/12: 1:30-1:55 pm. Member: $36.50. Free for non-members. 297-3171 or www.fau.edu
17/10 - 21/10 - Middle East Revolts and Revisions at FAU Barry and Florence Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton. This is the first of eight lectures presented as part of the Fall Lecture Series at FAU Lifelong Learning Society. Annual membership: $35. Held Thursdays through 11/12: 1:30-1:55 pm. Member: $36.50. Free for non-members. 297-3171 or www.fau.edu
18/10 - 22/10 - Musical Theatre - Join the FAU Theatre Department for a musical theatre performance of Joaquin Rodrigo's Concierto Aragonés, performed by kois, with special guests Cyrielle Forough (violin) and Sung-Im Lim. This performance of the concerto is part of the Fall Lecture Series at FAU Lifelong Learning Society. Annual membership: $35. Held Fridays through 11/12: 3:45-5:30 pm. Member: $36.50. Free for non-members. 297-3171 or www.fau.edu
18/10 - 22/10 - Miami Beach - Free film screenings are held by the Gold Coast Down Syndrome Association at the Highland Beach Library, 3618 S. Ocean Blvd. Free. 278-9500 ext. 101. www.gcdss.org
19/10 - 23/10 - Boca Raton - This is the first of eight lectures presented as part of the Fall Lecture Series at FAU Lifelong Learning Society. Annual membership: $35. Held Thursdays through 11/12: 1:30-1:55 pm. Member: $36.50. Free for non-members. 297-3171 or www.fau.edu
19/10 - 23/10 - Memories, Milestones and Miscellaneous: A Writing Workshop, held by Eve Fleischer. This workshop is presented as part of the Fall Lecture Series at FAU Lifelong Learning Society. Annual membership: $35. Held Wednesdays through 11/12: 1:30-1:55 pm. Member: $36.50. Free for non-members. 297-3171 or www.fau.edu
20/10 - 24/10 - Executive Forum Lecture Series: Chris Prindle, vice president and chief investment officer of Excel Funds. Presented by FAU's College of Business. Each week, the speakers will provide a brief overview of their area of expertise as well as other professional experience, followed by a discussion of key issues facing the economy and the business climate in general. 5:30-7 pm. RSVP online at www.fauadamscenter.org. 297-2880.
20/10 - 24/10 - Wine Tastings at Carmen's Restaurant: The Atop of the Town. 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton. Presented by Carmen's Restaurant. 5:30-7 pm. RSVP online at www.fauadamscenter.org. 297-2880.
20/10 - 24/10 - Broadway & Big Band of the '40's & '50's, Presented by Carmen's Restaurant. 5:30-7 pm. RSVP online at www.fauadamscenter.org. 297-2880.
20/10 - 24/10 - Broad & Big Band of the '60's & '70's, Presented by Carmen's Restaurant. 5:30-7 pm. RSVP online at www.fauadamscenter.org. 297-2880.
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Pumpkins and ghosts dominate October events

Say Boo! to Halloween with everything from ghostly hauntings to pumpkin-inspired meals and details.

A not so scary place to start is at "Halloween in the Hammock" at the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center in Boca Raton on Oct. 22. Take a mysterious (but not frightening) stroll through the hammock where visitors have the opportunity to find spiders, snakes, and ancient shell ornaments and maybe others surprise the hammock has hidden. There’s also an hour-long nighttime nature walk with ghostly guides and guides.

Walks will depart every half hour from 6:30 - 9 p.m. for age 6 to adult, but children must be accompanied by an adult. Advance: $7 for members, $10 for two members. Walk-ins (if available): $15 per person. Reservations and pre-payment requested at least three days in advance. For more information, see www.gumbolimbo.org.

On Oct 28, Trick ’Em Treat ’Em Costume Party for children ages 3-10 will be held at the James A. Rutherford Community Center, Patch Reef Park, 2000 Yamato Road, Boca Raton. The costume party includes munches, mayhem, games and more. 10 a.m. - noon. Free. For more details, call 367-7035 or see www.bocaboodyard.com.

Get into the swing of things during Monster Mash - at The Swim Center, 21618 St. Andrews Blvd., Boca Raton on Oct. 29. Come in costume, bring a swing activity. The activities will be held in and out of water. Featuring trick-or-treating, bounce house, face painting, popcorn and more. For ages 6 up and 11 a.m. -1 p.m. Free. 544-8452 or www.21618swimcenter.com.

On Oct. 30, ages 9-14 can participate in a Special Halloween Workshop: Horror Claymation at Sugar Sand Park, 300 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton. Participants make their own Horror Claymation Movie while learning about storyboarding, set design and character design, stop-motion animation and post production, including sound effects, voices, music and titles. Materials and equipment included. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. $60/residents, $75/non-residents. 347-3901 or www. sugarlandpark.org.

At Mizner Park Amphitheater catch a bewitching stage show complete with a large cast of "scary" dancers, "ghoulish" singers and thrilling magical illusions on Oct. 28. The Spook-Tacular Stage Show is free, but please bring chairs, coolers, pets, umbrellas, outside food or beverages on backpacks. Produced by ZMC Entertainment, the show is 7-9 p.m. For more information call 393-7823.

There’s plenty more stuff for the big kids too. The Boca Raton Resort & Club’s Cielo Restaurant will host the Tower Bar of Terror with a Halloween celebration at 8 p.m. Oct 29. There will also be a Teen Scream party at 8 p.m. Oct. 29 (with non-alcoholic) mysterious cocktails. The evenings are open to club members and resort guests.

The resort’s “Uniquely Boca” package is good through Oct. 10 and is Waldorf Astoria’s Luxury Fall Escapes is good through Dec. 15. Visit www. bocaboret.com.

The Ritz-Carlton Palm Beach is going pumpkin crazy in October, with such things as pumpkin muffins and pancakes for breakfast; pumpkin bisque, apple pumpkin and apple-rhubarb for dinner; and for dessert, pumpkin cookies, pumpkin ice cream and pumpkin crème brulée.

The resort’s Eau Spa by Cornelia is even getting into the act with a Pumpkin Perfecting Facial (220). "Pumpkin is a super-ingredient for the skin and a powerful anti-oxidant," said Spa Director Kristin Carpenter. "It is high in zinc, beta carotene, Vitamin C, Vitamin E and Vitamin A so not only does it help light the free radicals that are believed to cause aging but it is also acts as a natural cleanser that exfoliates, soothes and softens your skin. Plus, it smells good enough to eat.”

The Ritz-Carlton Palm Beach also is hosting a sweet and spicy Cupcake Tea and Costume Party on Oct. 22 featuring Great Pumpkin Cake Cupcake and Vampire’s Blood Red Velvet Cupcakes. The event is from 1 to 3 p.m. Reservations are required. The price is $50 for adults and $35 for children. Visit www. ritzcarlton/palmbeach.com.

--- Staff Report
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.

200 East is near beaches and is easy walking distance to dining and entertainment at Mizner Park and Royal Palm Place.

The kitchen offers plenty of prep space, plus state-of-the-art appliances and granite countertops.

Downtown Boca condo offers comfort, convenience

Be part of Boca Raton’s emerging downtown scene at 200 East. The community, on East Palmetto Park Road, also offers a refuge.

That’s how Unit 717 was designed. The unit, a Madrid model, is a two-bedroom, 2.5-bath home that offers a den. The 2,251-square-foot unit is fully furnished.

The kitchen, which offers a Miele coffee machine and top-of-the-line appliances, has plenty of granite countertops and an island that will make entertaining a breeze.

Bedrooms offer spacious walk-in closets and are carpeted. But marble floors that run throughout the public spaces help unify the home. A 228-square-foot private veranda offers outdoor space.

In addition to its location near fine dining, beaches and entertainment, 200 East offers concierge services, a resort-style pool and a fitness center.

Offered at $949,900
Visit the sales center at 200 E. Palmetto Park Road, Boca Raton.
Phone: 368-5105
Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Saturday and noon-5 p.m. Sunday.
Complimentary valet parking.
www.200eastbocaraton.com

ABOVE: The bedroom suites offer a retreat, and the balcony offers views of downtown Boca Raton.

LEFT: Marble floors unify the public spaces of the home.
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