Inside

Gifts for Mom
You can’t go wrong giving something sparkly in honor of Mother’s Day.
Home, Health & Harmony

Steven Dennison walked out of his home in Briny Breezes on a clear day in January, slipped on his wetsuit and flippers, jumped into the cold Atlantic, and snorkeled north along the coast.

He had no destination in mind, just checking out what Hurricane Sandy’s surge had turned up when it hit Palm Beach County’s east coast in late October.

He was about 350 yards offshore in Ocean Ridge when he saw some debris on the ocean floor and had this thought: “Wouldn’t it be really cool if I found a shipwreck?”

No more than 30 seconds later, he saw a big black object on the sand. “Holy cow, this is huge!” he thought. He stopped swimming, trying to comprehend what was in front of him.

Curiosity compelled him to free-dive down 15 feet to investigate. His heart pounded when he saw it: The huge bow of a ghostly ship jutting from the sand as if rising from its watery grave.

The Coquimbo stands grounded on a reef in this 1909 image. Photo courtesy of the Boynton Beach City Library

Sandy uncovers final resting spot of Norwegian freighter Coquimbo

By Cheryl Blackerby

Steven Dennison discovered the bow of the Coquimbo (top). Photo by Elizabeth Dennison

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By Thomas R. Collins

A high-rise would fill the former Bank of America land at Federal Highway and Ocean Avenue. Rendering provided

Boynton Beach

High-rise proposal surprises residents

A project in one of the most prominent spots in the city — the former Bank of America land at the northeast corner of Federal Highway and Ocean Avenue — would include the new headquarters of Kanner and Pintaluga, a fast-growing personal-injury law firm that’s looking

See HIGH-RISE on page 20
Shorts season: the pleasant interlude between snowbirds and hurricanes

I prayed and soaked and bleached, but nothing would remove the big, green blob from the front of my favorite white, rip-stop cotton Bermuda shorts. Wouldn’t you know it! Right when the temperatures are increasing and the snowbirds and the snowbirds are gone. This is shorts season, darn it, and I hope this isn’t an indicator — completely unscientific — much too early to tell in my shorts season, this is one of us who stay here braving the winter weather and my dear, snowbird friends, May 1997 and have helped it grow ever since. Today, it’s a whole different story.

By Emily J. Minor

Every community has people like Tom Lynch and Marc De Baptiste. Lucky. Kind. Civic-minded.

But not every community has people who put their time and talent where their mouth is, like Tom Lynch and Marc De Baptiste.

Consider: Twenty years ago, De Baptiste, a longtime Delray Beach commercial real estate guy, was, shall we say, lassoed into volunteering with the Boys & Girls Club of Broward County.

“I was asked by a dear friend to participate in their meetings in Fort Lauderdale,” De Baptiste says.

The meetings, he says, were at night — which meant he’d get off the freeway at Atlantic Avenue and drive east, toward his home. “One night it just dawned on me that if there was a need for a Boys and Girls Club in any community, it was right here in Delray Beach.”

So, he called someone he knew who had just the right combination of being well-placed and community-minded: Tom Lynch.

“I think I had just come on as mayor,” says Lynch, the former Delray Beach mayor who owns one of South Florida’s largest insurance companies. “I didn’t know much about the Boys & Girls Club.”

Today, it’s a whole different story.

The Boys & Girls Club has been helping America’s youth get through imperfect family, social and economical situations since the late 1800s — when it was started in Hartford, Conn., for just boys. It wasn’t until 1990 that the club changed its name to Boys & Girls Club.

For the most part, the club offers young residents a place to go when their home isn’t an option. Maybe it’s after school. Maybe it’s on weekends. Perhaps it’s first thing in the morning.

De Baptiste says he’s loved watching the program grow. He’s also loved watching all the young people grow into adults — everything from attorneys and teachers to business leaders and club volunteers.

“Quite simply, these children would go home to an empty house if they couldn’t go home. And, frankly, knowing that the club wants them is a wonderful opportunity for us all,” he says. “Children want to be wanted.”

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Tom Lynch and Marc De Baptiste started the Delray Beach chapter of the Boys and Girls Club in 1997 and have helped it grow ever since. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star
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Local Voices

Once upon a time

Once upon a time in a trailer park by the ocean, A billionaire came by and caused a great commotion. He promised to make us all millionaires and life would be thrilling.

"Whoopie" said the lawyers "on this we will make a killing.

We all knew that there is only one Briny.
That it was a unique way of life soon to be no more.
Our families replaced by a giant resort on our ocean shore.

Maybe this is progress — they’d like to call it so.
But let us treasure our memories as our separate ways we go.

But wait! The billionaire and lawyers have gone.
Now we can truly be thankful for the Briny we have enjoyed for so long.

Together generation after generation can live in Briny for many years.
We can do this by working together now.

— Jack Taylor
Briny Breezes

Resident group takes lead on sea level rise

Protect Our Beaches, a West Palm Beach-based nonprofit group, held its first public meeting in early April to address the effects of sea level rise in Palm Beach County.

The group’s goal is to form a coalition of area associations, businesses and other groups to protect our beaches from erosion due to storm surges and sea level rise. Forming a coalition would provide a more powerful voice and be more effective in saving Palm Beach County’s environment, property and tourist economy.

"Hurricane Sandy was a tap on our shoulder in Florida," said the group’s founder, Sonny Nardulli, who also serves as president of the Eastpointe Condominium Association on Singer Island. "It is time to act now as our window of opportunity is closing."

He went on: "This is a ‘w

Letters: The Coastal Star welcomes letters to the editor about issues of interest in the community. These are subject to editing. Letters 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.

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Along the Coast

Divers monitor reef for human-caused damage

By Cheryl Blackerby

The dredge is gone. It left Delray Beach on April 15 for New York.

Offshore sand has been pumped onto 1.9 miles of shoreline. The job is done for, theoretically, another decade or so, barring hurricanes.

Residents who had looked at narrowed beaches and escarpments carved out by Hurricane Sandy in late October can rest easy. The shoreline is now reinforced with more than 1.6 million tons (1.2 million cubic yards) of sand.

The 9.2 million project, part of a 10-year renourishment plan that happened to coincide with damage from Sandy, is completed.

There were bumps along the way — tugboat lines dropped and dragged across Flower Garden Reef when the barge moved from the Port of Palm Beach to Delray Beach, work stoppages due to rough seas and mechanical problems, and a silt plume running several miles along the coast.

It’s the silt that has Ed Tichenor worried.

Tichenor is director of Reef Rescue, a nonprofit group of divers that monitors Palm Beach County’s reefs. He owned an environmental testing laboratory in New Jersey and he has put his knowledge to work in Florida.

During the dredging, Tichenor monitored the turbidity — silt and other solids — in the water.

The dredge’s permit required the turbidity to stay below a certain level outside the dredge’s “mixing zone,” where the sand is pumped from holes in the ocean floor.

“I began to see turbidity levels that were quite high,” he said. Tichenor’s numbers contradicted the samples taken by the dredge contractor, which were low.

He contacted the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and soon after a FDEP representative and Tichenor together took samples, which again were high. “We watched a contractor take a sample and it failed. The next day, the DEP and I took another sample and it failed again,” he said.

When the level exceeds permit requirements, the dredge must shut down, said Tichenor, adding that the dredge had to shut down for several hours on four days because of high turbidity.

An FDEP spokesperson confirmed that silt levels were high.

“There were five instances where the subcontractor, CZR (the turbidity monitoring subcontractor for the Delray project), reported turbidity exceedances and construction activities were discontinued until the turbidity returned to acceptable levels, as required by the permit. No warnings or citations were issued and the project is complete,” said Mara Burger, spokesperson for the FDEP.

And she had an explanation for the conflicting turbidity readings. “The differences were that while all samples were being taken from the densest portion of the plume, the samples were taken in different locations, which resulted in different readings by the various parties,” she said.

And the silt plume left behind? “Sometimes, as a result of new beach material a small residual plume can occur,” she said.

In the two weeks after the dredge left, the plume dispersed, said Tichenor, and settled on the coral reefs, which is what worries him.

“There’s no longer a visible plume, and now the silt has dispersed in the system and may persist for years, slowly degrading the reef,” he said.

There is no requirement to make that suspended material settle and then dredging and later damage to the reef.

Silt, a sediment with a consistency between fine sand and clay, has settled on parts of the reef system from Delray Beach at the north end of the project to Seagate Reef on the south end, a little less than a mile, he said, adding that the entire reef hasn’t been inspected yet by Reef Rescue divers.

The silt is causing stress to already-stressed coral and can ultimately kill corals, he said.

The silt can harm corals in several ways, all of which are deadly to a reef system.

“The coral generates mucus and expends a lot of energy trying to get the silt off. The silt lowers the light level and corals depend on sunlight to live. And the silt can smother the coral to the point that it may die,” he said.

Silt also affects spawning, which occurs in August and September. The larvae usually settle on hard rock and starts another colony, but if silt is on the rock the larvae can’t attach, he said.

One of Reef Rescue's network of divers, Chase Bilberry, took photos of the reef a week after the dredge left, and showed them to Tichenor.

“ ‘Before dredging’ and ‘after dredging’ photos are shocking,” said Tichenor. “A lot of silt is in the water and turned everything blue and you can’t see the bright colors of the coral. They aren’t getting enough light and they have a coating of silt.”

Delray Beach’s reefs are in trouble, and area residents should be concerned, he said.

“The corals have diseases, they’re impacted by anchoring, climate change — it’s death by a thousand cuts.”

A big problem, he says, is lack of regulatory oversight in this area and the need for monitoring.

“Once an incident is reported by local volunteers, then DEP will do a survey and take enforcement action,” he said.

It was a dive boat captain, he said, that brought the damage to Flower Garden Reef to the FDEP’s attention.
Delray Beach

Beach pavilion gets go-ahead for bid phase

By Tim Pallesen

A new pavilion on the beach at Atlantic Avenue has the green light for Delray Beach to select a contractor and start construction.

“We’ve gotten approval from the state to go ahead,” said local architect Bob Currie, who donated the pavilion design. “Now we’re allowed to get a contractor through competitive bidding.”

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection granted the state permit. City officials set a May 2 preconstruction meeting for interested contractors.

“We’re anxious to get it done,” Currie said. “It looks like it’s finally going to happen.”

The go-ahead is a victory for the Beach Property Owners Association, which raised $59,165 for the pavilion after going to city commissioners in 2009 to request a master plan to dress up the municipal beach.

“The new pavilion is a big part of the beach master plan,” association President Andy Katz said. It sets the style and tone for other things that need to be done in the beach area.”

The existing pavilion must be replaced because its steel rods and ties have rusted, making it structurally unsound.

“The new design pays homage to Delray Beach in the 1920s. But it will be built with modern standards for hurricane protection with stainless steel ties and rods,” Katz said.

The city has set aside $110,000 in its budget to construct the pavilion.

Cost

When that expense was almost cut from the city budget last year, the Beach Property Owners association hosted two Delray’s Got Talent competitions at Old School Square to raise money.

“This is a great example of public and private cooperation,” Katz said.

The contractor chosen by the city will start construction after city’s July 4 fireworks this summer.

Seaside Builders already has offered to build the pavilion at a reduced cost and Katz said another builder might do the same.

“We anticipate that, once the word gets out, a contractor will do this as a public service,” he said.

The new pavilion will replace the existing pavilion at Atlantic Avenue and A1A.

Rendering courtesy Bob Currie

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The COASTAL STAR

News 7
Delray Beach
Cities await Army Corps funding for beach restoration

By Cheryl Blackerby

Delray Beach and Boca Raton are likely to receive long-awaited money for damage to beaches by Hurricane Sandy, according to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The two cities’ beach projects were among 16 projects around the state that the Corps considered for emergency assistance in response to Hurricane Sandy and Tropical Storm Debby.

After the Corps’ damage reports were completed, 12 projects were approved to receive the emergency funds.

“North Boca has received $222,000 out of their proposed $2,340,000. We expect (Boca Raton) to receive the remainder of the funds in the third quarter,” said Amanda Ellison, public affairs specialist, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Delray Beach, she said, “has received $4,460,250 and should be fully funded.”

In total, about $147 million in emergency funds has been approved for the 12 projects as part of the Corps’ Flood Control and Coastal Emergency program.

“Each community applied for the program, and we conducted a study to determine who qualified for the program,” said Ellison. “We had 12 positive outcomes across the state, so this is great news.”

Delray Beach and Boca Raton were told they would receive letters from the Corps congratulating them if they would get the emergency funds and, if so, how much.

“The waiting had been tense for both cities. As of press time, neither city had received official confirmation letters, but officials are hopeful they’re in the mail.”

“We’ve been working with them (the Corps) for a while, and we always maintained hope to get funding to assist us,” said Rich Reade, Delray Beach public information officer.

“It is a surprise, yes, but a pleasant surprise,” said Arthur Koski, acting director and legal counsel for the Greater Boca Raton Beach and Park District, which recently had been asked by the city of Boca Raton for $200,000 to pay for dune restoration after Hurricane Sandy.

Luckily, the district hadn’t settled the check yet to Roko. The following beach projects damaged by Hurricane Sandy are expected to receive emergency funds, says the Army Corps — North Beach and South Beach; Martin County; Fort Pierce; Palm Beach County — North Boca Raton, Jupiter/Carlini and Delray Beach; and Broward County, Segment 2.

In addition, the Corps approved emergency supplemental funds for navigation projects impacted by Hurricane Sandy: Port Canaveral, Palm Beach Harbor, Fort Pierce Inlet, St. Lucie Inlet, Ponce Inlet and Commerce Inlet, Ponce Inlet and the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway from Jacksonville to Miami.

CRA audit set to start

State auditors were scheduled to arrive in the offices of the Joint Delray Beach Community Redevelopment Agency on April 30 to begin an audit for the Joint Legislative Auditing Committee.

The audit was requested by State Sen. Jeff Clemens, D-Lake Worth, in late March. Joint Legislative Auditing Committee Chairman Joseph Abruzzo, D-Wellington, then ordered the review into how the CRA is spending its funds — specifically, whether it’s legal for the agency to give money to the Arts Garage, a nonprofit music and theater venue.

Martin Rossetti, audit manager for the state’s general office, said that the last time the state conducted an operational audit of a CRA was in 2006. Four audits of CRAs have been performed, she said. Rossetti said three auditors were assigned to the Delray Beach review.

“This is an operational audit, not financial, and we don’t want to duplicate a financial audit,” she said. The CRA’s finances are audited yearly by an outside, independent certified public accountant. “The CRA budget for the 2012-13 fiscal year includes $310,735 for the Arts Garage. That’s where they gave $304,795 to the nonprofit last year, according to a staff analysis by the auditing committee.

Gerry Franciosa, president of Delray Citizens Coalition Board, asked the city to find out if the payments were legal; an opinion issued in 2010 by former Attorney General Bill McCollum said CRA grants to promote tourism and economic development, as well as to nonprofits providing socially beneficial programs, would appear outside the scope of the community redevelopment act.”

Delray Beach Mayor Cary Glickstein has sparred with Abruzzo, saying that the audit is politically motivated.

On April 24, CRA Executive Director Dane Castrana said that the state auditors “have asked for everything,” and that “they said they don’t know what they are asking for, of course.”

Lisa Bright, the former executive director of the Boynton Beach CRA, said at a city commission public hearing on April 17, “I am not a person who requested the audit.”

She said she did so because Colonna “willingly interjected herself into the investigation of me” giving a deposition during an investigation of Bright’s conduct at Boynton’s CRA.

Bright said she had a right to request information about the operations of the Delray CRA, as she “attempts to restore my good name” in an upcoming trial. Bright is suing the Boynton Beach CRA for wrongful termination.

Colonna said that Bright’s statement didn’t surprise her. “Anyone can say they asked for an audit, or any other kind of information about the CRA.”

Rossetti said she couldn’t predict how long it would take to complete the audit, or when results would be released. “Every audit is different,” she said.

There are often facets each and every time.”
COQUIMBO
Continued from page 1
The hull that had looked black from the surface was reddish-brown close up, covered with marine organisms. He went down and grabbed the bow, and felt the cold metal underneath the barnacles.

He then saw a metal mast, then another mast, and about 200 feet from the bow he could see the stern and the steering mechanism. The hull was still buried underneath the sand.

“I was in the water for a week after that just looking at it,” he said.

As far as anyone can tell, Dennison, 29, may be the first person in modern times to see the Coquimbo, a Norwegian iron-hulled sailing ship that wrecked on the reef Jan. 31, 1913.

“I have been snorkeling in front of Briny Breezes just about all my life and not once did I see this ship until now. At first, I was startled and very hesitant before approaching any closer. It was one of those moments that you know you stumbled upon something amazing, but you aren’t quite sure what to make of it all. I was so excited yet almost scared because I didn’t know what I had found,” Dennison said.

Ship's first sighting

Historians have known the Coquimbo was out there, and they knew the vicinity. A photo was even taken of it on the reef before it sank.

“We all thought it was probably in pieces buried under the sand,” said Vonnice Smith, Boynton Beach historian and author.

Boynton Beach hotel, and all Coquimbo's foghorn blasts

DeVries, who has researched to historian and author Janet to Buenos Aires, according

ever reported seeing the ship as

Besides Dennison, no one has

vice president of the Boynton

before it sank.

“The hotel did not extend its

“Much of the Coquimbo’s

enjoyed interest to that of the

Dennison moved to Hobe

He is still amazed by that

Dennison has taken his wife,

Chuck and Betty Foland,

live in Briny Breezes in the

May 2013

The COASTAL STAR

News 9

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In Briny Breezes and on the spur of the moment stopped his car near the wreck, and swam out to see the ship — his.

And the Coquimbo was
go on Briny’s beach on his first

He is still amazed by that
day in January. “It was so eerie,

He went off his job as

a technology teacher at a Syracuse high school, and is now studying physical therapy at Broadwater College.

Dennison has taken his wife,

Elizabeth, to the Coquimbo so

she could see what he was so

excited about.

He is still amazed by that
day in January. “It was so eerie,

just swimming along and it was kind of boring, then suddenly this huge, enormous black thing. And I immediately had in mind it was a ship no one knew about. It was one of those days you dream about.”

Dennison told a friend of his, a pilot, about the ship, and the pilot said he could see it from the air.

But that might not be for long. Dennison thought about the time. Sand was already shifting over the ship.

“It’s more than likely that in the near future the Coquimbo will be buried by sand again,” Dennison said in mid-April.

Vanishing act

On April 25, Dennison happened to be driving by Briny Breezes and on the spur of the moment stopped his car near the wreck, and swam out to see the ship — his.

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go on Briny’s beach on his first

He is still amazed by that
day in January. “It was so eerie,

just swimming along and it was kind of boring, then suddenly this huge, enormous black thing. And I immediately had in mind it was a ship no one knew about. It was one of those days you dream about.”

Dennison told a friend of his, a pilot, about the ship, and the pilot said he could see it from the air.

But that might not be for long. Dennison thought about the time. Sand was already shifting over the ship.

“It’s more than likely that in the near future the Coquimbo will be buried by sand again,” Dennison said in mid-April.
Stumpf cleared by audit, receives apology

By Tim O’Melia

Manalapan town commissioners voted, by a 4-2 count, to apologize to Town Manager Linda Stumpf for one commissioner’s allegations of misuse of her car allowance.

An examination of town payroll records by the town’s outside auditors cleared Stumpf of any improper use of the $400 car allowance based on her contract.

“All of these (W2) amounts agree to the penny with the detailed payroll records,” Terry Morton of the audit firm of Nowlen, Holt & Miner told commissioners April 23. “It was handled properly and in accordance with the town manager’s employment contract.”

Mayor David Cheifetz ordered the special examination, which cost $3,000-$3,500, after Commissioner Hilda Roder accused Stumpf last month of trying to hide the car allowance. He demanded her firing and the return of $5,200 in allowance money. Stumpf said a recording error on a budget spreadsheet put the car allowance in the overtime line item in 2011, although figures for 2010 and 2012 were correctly noted. “I wasn’t trying to hide anything. It was a simple clerical error,” she said. The auditing firm agreed that payroll and tax records were correct.

Roder also said Stumpf should be driving a town-owned car instead of taking the car allowance. Town Attorney Tela White disagreed with Roder’s interpretation of Stumpf’s contract.

The contract says, “The town agrees to pay the town manager $400 per month as an automobile allowance, or to provide an existing town-owned vehicle for her use, if available, and to provide insurance, gasoline and maintenance for the town-owned vehicle at no cost to the town manager.”

White said the town can’t be forced to provide a car and that it’s typically the manager’s choice whether to take an available car or the allowance.

Stumpf took the car allowance for two years but now drives a 2010 Ford Explorer previously driven by the retired police chief. The current chief drives a 2009 GMC Sierra SUV.

Four commissioners said the accusation was unfounded and Commissioner Chauncey Johnstone added that the commission wasted 45 minutes discussing it. “You can keep digging and digging till you reach China, but these are the facts,” he said.

Commissioner Louis DeSefano said Roder should take a different approach with his concerns. “Go to the person involved, have a discussion with them and perhaps then an issue like this can be resolved,” he said.

Cheifetz suggested Roder apologize to Stumpf for “impugning her character” but Roder said he had nothing to apologize for.

Commissioner John Murphy joined Roder in opposing the apology. But, unlike Roder, who wants to force Stumpf to drive a town car, Murphy said she should take the allowance and put another police car on patrol.

The town has four patrol cars. The chief and lieutenant also are issued cars.

The apology did not end Roder’s disagreement with Stumpf’s performance during her two-plus years as the town’s top administrator. Her contract expires Sept. 30. He repeated previous concerns that Stumpf previously declared the town’s crime statistics to persuade commissioners that they replace their police force with the Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office.

He also said she badly handled the town’s water rate.

“These issues revolve around the question of good judgment, character and trustworthiness, which in my opinion are sorely lacking,” Roder said.

In other business, commissioners:

■ Agreed 5-1 to spend $31,000 for a new police car although they will dip into town reserves for most of the money. Commissioners said they wanted to create an annual replacement schedule for town vehicles. Stumpf said one exists but during budget sessions the last two years, the commission decided against replacing the police cars.

■ Approved unanimously limiting the use of portable storage units to seven days with the possibility of a seven-day extension by the town manager and exceptions for bad weather.

■ Delayed spending $2,200 on a landscaping plan for Town Hall until the budget year beginning Oct. 1.

Briny Breezes

Town seeks new bids for police coverage

The Briny Breezes Town Council will seek bids this month to provide police protection for the 488-mobile home town for the next three years or longer.

For the past three years, the town has paid neighboring Ocean Ridge $185,000 annually for police service, including nightly patrols and prompt response to calls.

The town will seek specifications to Ocean Ridge, Boynton Beach, Delray Beach, Gulf Stream and the Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office, but any agency may submit a proposal. Only Ocean Ridge and Boynton Beach responded to bid requests in 2010.

The town is seeking at minimum three-year contract. Proposals are due by June 15.

— Tim O’Melia
Resident wages public battle for renovation variance

By Tim O’Meilia

When he figures he’s been wronged, Gulf Stream resident Martin E. O’Boyle goes beyond the conventional tactics of hiring a lawyer and filing a lawsuit.

He resorts to guerrilla warfare: filing scads of public records requests, flying banners proclaiming his argument, hiring protestors to wave signs and video-taping meetings.

The Palm Beach County State Attorney’s Office and the Longport, N.J. borough commission have been targets of his ire in the past.

Now the Gulf Stream Town Commission is in his crosshairs. In March, the commission rejected his plans for a 25-foot high entry tower as part of the remodeling of his 1983 waterfront home.

“What I said to the (commission) was what I plan is a beautiful building and if you don’t like that I will renovate it in a different fashion where I can still comply with the laws of the United States,” O’Boyle said.

In mid-April, he had a squinty-eyed, white Ku Klux Klan-like hood painted between two upper story windows overlooking his backyard, easily visible by boaters in the canal. Across the hood was lettered “Commissioner Thug.”

Beside the hood was lettered “Stop the Commission” and “This is a satire.” Beneath the hood “WELCOME TO GULFSTREAM” was painted in massive blood-red letters.

A rainbow-hued flag was painted on the doors of his three-car garage overlooking Hidden Harbour Drive. In late April, the backyard drawings were painted over and replaced with fat-bellied Tweedle Dum and Tweedle Dee portraits labeled “Town Manager William Thrasher and Mayor Joan Orthwein.”

The house-painting ploy is just the latest in O’Boyle’s efforts to have his entryway design approved. After disagreeing with Thrasher’s interpretation of the building code, he rained more than 300 public records requests on town hall, seeking documents on variances and town commissioners’ votes dating to 1990.

O’Boyle has refused to pay the $441 bill, disputing the costs. Town Attorney John “Skip” Randolph advised the town not to comply with other requests totaling more than $1,000 until O’Boyle pays. He also is challenging the $1,700 cost of legal advertising.

In a series of 3-2 votes in March, commissioners rejected three of O’Boyle’s four variance requests, concluding they did not meet the eight required criteria.

“I have a problem with the massing of the entryway,” Orthwein said before the vote. She said she feared granting the variances would lead to an avalanche of requests.

O’Boyle insisted that commissioners were substituting their taste for his in the entryway tower design. “It all comes down to a matter of taste. Please defer to our taste,” he asked.

Orthwein declined to comment on O’Boyle’s house painting design except to say, “It’s unfortunate.” Thrasher declined to comment on whether the painting violated the town’s sign code.

O’Boyle hinted that he was willing to challenge an attempt to cite him for a sign code violation. “Maybe I don’t violate the Constitution of the United States,” he said.

O’Boyle used similar tactics in a two-year battle with the New Jersey borough that began in 2007 over a building code citation. According to the Philadelphia Inquirer, he filed numerous records requests, several lawsuits and flew a banner over the beach proclaiming the Longport mayor a “puppet.” He also videotaped every meeting.

They settled in 2011, after then-State Attorney Michael McAuliffe refused to meet with O’Boyle over his daughter’s DUI conviction, O’Boyle filed more than 1,000 public records requests, flew a banner critical of McAuliffe over the county courthouse and bought advertising criticizing him.

“The Irish guys, they don’t give up too easy,” O’Boyle told the Inquirer in 2008. “A friend of mine said, ‘Irish Alzheimer’s is when you forget everything except the grudges.’”

Asked if he was trying to embarrass the town commission, O’Boyle said, “The commission does a good enough job themselves.”

In 2011, after then-State Attorney Michael McAuliffe refused to meet with O’Boyle over his daughter’s DUI conviction, O’Boyle filed more than 1,000 public records requests, flew a banner critical of McAuliffe over the county courthouse and bought advertising criticizing him.

“I think that’s his purpose: get attention and embarrass the commission,” said Commissioner Bob Ganger, who supported O’Boyle’s variance requests, along with Commissioner Garrett Dering.

“We’d be happy to sit down and work things out. There’s no question that town wants the best design we can come up with,” Ganger said. “No one on this board is trying to make anyone’s life miserable.”

O’Boyle also made a more customary response to the denial of his renovation plan. He filed an appeal April 16 in Palm Beach County Circuit Court, asking a panel of judges to overturn the commission’s ruling. His appeal claims the town manager, who is also the building and zoning administrator, and the commission misinterpreted the building code.

O’Boyle also promised to attend all of the town’s architectural review and commission meetings to help ensure the town codes are enforced on the development requests of others.

His questioning at the April commission meeting forced parts of two site plan requests to be postponed.

“If the mayor wants to enforce the code, I’m a good citizen and I will support my mayor,” he said.
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Lantana
Protest of sober house rebuffed by town council

By Mary Thurwachter

Property owners turned out en masse at the April 8 Town Council meeting to oppose a proposed sober house on 118 N. Oak Ave., around the corner from the Ocean Avenue shopping district.

Phylla Small, who owns property on the avenue, brought a petition with 300 names on it. They objected to using the multi-residence gated building for a sober house for recovering alcoholics and drug addicts.

Permitting a sober house so close to a drug store that sells alcohol, and bars and restaurants that sell spirits, would be “a disaster,” Small said. “It does not seem logical when people are so tempted when they are attempting rehabilitation.”

She said people in the neighborhood “feared for their safety.”

But the council could offer little consolation.

“We cannot control sober homes,” Mayor Dave Stewart said, “because people are protected under federal law. Addicts are considered protected under federal law.”

The town’s attorney, R. Max Lohman, agreed.

“Once you’re in a protected class, there’s very little you can do,” he said. “I know it can be difficult. Delray Beach has wrestled with this and continually lost on merits (when taking the issue to court).”

“We don’t get to pick and choose the parts of the Constitution we like,” Lohman said. “There’s not a legally sufficient solution.”

Small said she still wished there were something that could be done.

“The perception of Lantana is that you can do anything here,” she said. “At least in Delray they fought it.”

She said that average property owners were already suffering with the bridge being closed (until November) and that having a sober house would cause property values to plummet.

Alan Ross, who has a shop on Ocean Avenue, criticized the town for not alerting them to news of the sober house.

“We found out two weeks ago at Moe’s gas station,” Ross said.

Stewart said the town was not approached (about the sober house coming in) and could not stop it.

“We have more right to control raucous noise than sober houses,” he said.

Passive park plan worries nearby residents

By Mary Thurwachter

Lantana officials revealed a conceptual plan to turn a one-acre site on the west side of the Intracoastal Waterway into a passive waterfront park with 31 parking spaces.

The site, at 106-120 N. Lake Drive, just north of Ocean Avenue, was purchased early last year by the town for just under $1.2 million and was considered a good deal.

The previous sale price in 2006 was $53 million.

Proposed amenities for the park would include a handicapped-accessible path from the parking meter area to the water, a kayak/canoe launch, and minor upgrades to the existing pier to make it safe for public use, and porch-swing pergolas around a fountain.

“There will be many more meetings (on the proposal),” Mayor Dave Stewart said during the council’s April 8 meeting. “This is just conceptual.”

“I like it — no carbon footprint,” said Council Member Phil Aridas. “It’s a neat little plus for our town.”

Member Phil Aridas. “It’s a neat little plus for our town.”

But neighbors to the property were less enthused.

“Residents need to be considered,” said Monica Kaufman, who lives on North E. Ocean Drive. She was concerned, she said, about people walking through her backyard to get to the park.

Town attorney R. Max Lohman said an application process and site plan would follow. “A details discussion at the council level is not approached (about the proposed park, expressed worries about loss of privacy.

“I bought this house never expecting a public park next to it. It’s scary,” Gantz vowed to take the matter to court.

“I don’t want to spend a fortune on legal fees, but you give me no choice. You guys are limiting my options.”
Abandoned triplex offered to the Lantana Historical Society. Mary Thurwachter/The Coastal Star

**Historical society wants ‘fighting chance’ for building**

By Mary Thurwachter

A town-owned triplex on Prospect Road could become the new home for the Lantana Historical Society. The house at 111 Prospect Road, deeded to the town from the county last year after acquiring it from tax debt, appeared to be doomed to a wrecking ball until town officials had another idea.

“The Historical Society has been burdened with no place,” said Mayor Dave Stewart. “This could be a great opportunity for the town to have a more vibrant Historical Society.”

Despite the fact that the abandoned 2,074-square-foot house would need costly repairs and renovations, inspections revealed the 1956 building to be structurally sound.

Stewart said he was not in favor of the town doing the renovations. However, if the Historical Society wanted to tackle the project, he said the town could consider leasing the building for a $1 a year, much like the arrangement the Chamber of Commerce has for its town-owned headquarters at 212 Iris Ave.

The discussion will come up again at the council’s June 10 meeting, when the Historical Society is expected to put forth its plan for fixing up the dilapidated house.

Historical Society president Rosemary Mouring said she had visited the property with a general contractor and was “very much interested.” She said the organization would need to draw up plans and project costs to see if it could manage the undertaking.

“It’s got a lot of potential,” she said.

Some council members questioned whether the Historical Society had the financial means to handle the project.

“Roof repairs are needed, bathrooms need to be remodeled, there’s mold throughout the house, a termite problem and electrical repairs that need to be made,” said council member Phil Aridas. “Do you have $40,000 to fix up a $30,000 home?” he asked Mouring. “I think we should tear it down and sell it (the property) and put it back into the town.”

Mouring was reluctant to reveal how much money was in the Historical Society’s coffers but said “we should at least have a chance.”

Jack Carpenter, a founding member of the Historical Society, said the group had several Lantana antiques, including two 1893 desks, it would like to keep in a museum of its own. “Give us a fighting chance,” he said.

Stewart said he didn’t expect the Historical Society to do extensive work right away, but hoped that outdoor improvements, such as taking plywood off windows and securing the house, would be made during the first year.

Vice Mayor Lynn Moorhouse said he wasn’t in favor of hiring a contractor, but suggested a grass roots plan to spruce up the property.

“We’re not looking at a lot of money if you get some volunteers out,” he said.

And, in the interest of raising money for the Historical Society, Wayne Cordero, owner of the Old Key Lime House (the second oldest house in Lantana), offered to sponsor a fundraiser, which he suggested could net $25,000 for the effort.

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Historic home goes on market for first time

By Mary Thurwachter

The historic and photogenic beach home where Maggie Miley and her husband, Pete Schofield, reside is one of the oldest houses in Ocean Ridge and has been in Miley's family since 1987. That was when her grandparents, Curt and Martha Joa, who lived in the house next door, bought it from the estate of the original owners.

For the first time in its 90-year history, the home at 6057 Old Ocean Blvd. is up for public sale as Miley and Schofield prepare to move to new digs elsewhere in Ocean Ridge.

Miley bought the property after her grandparents died within two months of each other in the late 1990s. The Joas, long-time Ocean Ridge residents and avid golfers, also had homes in Germany and Wisconsin. They owned a company in Sheboygan Falls, Wis., that makes machinery to make baby diapers and other disposable paper items.

But the original owners of 6057 Old Ocean Blvd. were Ocean Ridge pioneers — two sets of brothers who were world-renowned conchologists and known to be a tad eccentric. They drove old cars, never had an air conditioner and two of them spent much of their time collecting shells or using the ham radio.

When the last two brothers died, they left no heirs, leaving their legal representatives to find a home for their shells and their financial treasure — in excess of $1 million.

The two sets of brothers — Dunbars and McGintys — were from Michigan and their families made their money in the construction business. When the house was built in 1924, Ocean Ridge had yet to incorporate. That didn't happen until 1931.

The two-story house was set up like a duplex, Miley said, with kitchens and bathrooms at opposite ends of the house and some common areas, such as the dining room in between. You had to walk outside on a second floor walkway to get into the bedrooms, she said.

The design had its perks. The calming sounds of waves rolling ashore could be heard from every room. French doors opened to the east to allow sea breezes to drift through and cool the dining room. Dade County pine floors held up well and the pecky cypress garage doors added to the aesthetics.

On the other hand, summertime sleeping in the upstairs bedrooms was a sticky proposition, even with the windows open, since there was no air conditioner. Edward and Pomroy Dunbar lived in one side of the house, while their twin cousins, Thomas and Paul McGinty made their home in the other.

Edward Dunbar, an Ocean Ridge commissioner and municipal court judge, died in 1942. His brother, Pomroy, was the town's first clerk and served as a commissioner for many years and was town manager.

When Pomroy Dunbar and his wife died, the McGinty twins, who were single, inherited their cousin's portion of the house.

Miley said her family called the McGintys "the scientists." The two were known for their beautiful tropical gardens and for their passion for shell collecting. In fact, after Tom McGinty died (his brother died seven months earlier), their million-dollar shell collection was donated to various museums, including the Florida State Museum in Gainesville, Florida Atlantic University, Loxahatchee Historical Society, Morikami Museum and the Palm Glades Girl Scouts Council.

A mollusk expert from the Smithsonian told the McGintys' legal representatives that the collection was "the finest ever for Florida specimens." Besides the shells, the brothers left behind more than $1 million. Eleven nonprofit organizations benefited from the will.

The Joas were approached about buying the Dunbar/McGinty estate after the brothers died.

"My grandmother said the gardens alone, with every tropical plant imaginable, were worth it," Miley said. The house itself was in need of a massive renovation.

Miley, an interior designer, was charged with the 1988 redo
and worked with local architect George Davis. The renovation was extensive. "Only the stucco and the slab remained," Miley said. It took more than a year to complete. "My grandmother wanted it to have a more French look, so we changed the barrel (roof) tiles for a chateau type," Miley said. "Then in 2005, I went back to barrel. The house really has its own style. The way the stucco was applied is certainly identifiable from the 1920s. The Unger home on Coconut Lane has the same," she said.

During the 1988 renovation, the upstairs walkway was enclosed, so people no longer had to go outside to get into the bedrooms. And Martha Joa recruited French stained-glass artist Jean Barillet to install special windows in the courtyard and the four garage door panels. She was familiar with Barillet’s work at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary in Boynton Beach and also hired him to do the windows in the family’s chapel in Plymouth, Wis.

The Joas didn’t add air conditioning right away, but soon reconsidered. It was, they determined, uncomfortably hot without it for those who bunked upstairs.

Miley undertook another redesign when she bought the property in 2001. She hired Ocean Ridge architects Digby Bridges and Mark Marsh to design a 1,000-square-foot addition to the south side of the house. That gave her some spaces she had always wanted — including a roomy master bedroom with a walk-in closet and a large bathroom with a Roman tub, plus a family room.

Miley, who also has a home in Atlanta, said she has fond memories of her many visits to Ocean Ridge as a child. “I remember when we would get off the plane and drive down A1A to the house (there was no I-95 then). I would pick up this scent all the way — a jungle smell, musty, moldy, flowery. It was here until the late 1970s," she said.

“The other thing I remember was the amount of blue crabs on A1A and Old Ocean. When we would cross Old Ocean from the guest house to the main house it was always a challenge not to step on a dead one or get chased by one — and they were large back then!”

As Miley and Schofield (and their frisky pair of Westies) prepare to move, the historic Ocean Ridge home is on the market. The 2,700-square-foot house, with three bedrooms, three bathrooms, two single-car garages and a sparkling lap pool, is listed with Steve Presson of The Corcoran Group for $3.95 million.

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The fate of Ocean Ridge’s five-store business district is back in the hands of town commissioners with the town’s planning and zoning board’s advice to hire a firm to recommend a plan for the next few decades.

The board urged that the planning firm interview residents and hold workshops to determine the feelings of townspeople and the business community, including real estate professionals.

The tiny blip of a commercial district at 5011 N. Ocean Blvd., at the south entrance to town, is scheduled to be phased out by July 2014 under the extension of an agreement with the property owners, Orlando and Liliane Sivitilli.

“This is a discussion we’ve been having for years,” said Town Attorney Ken Spillias, “whether to allow a small commercial district to continue to exist.”

The 5011 property houses Colby’s Barber Shop, the Transition Area triathlon shop, The Coastal Star newspaper, Ocean Ridge Realty and an empty store. Four apartments are on the second floor. Town Commissioner Gail Adams Aaskov, who owns the real estate firm, does not vote on issues regarding the strip.

At the April 15 Planning and Zoning Commission meeting, former Mayor Ken Kaleel urged the board to recommend the study. “What do we want to see in this corridor for the next 20 to 25 years?” he asked.

In general, the board members favored the idea of small, town-serving businesses that don’t generate much traffic. But commission Chairman James Bonfiglio noted that there was no great clamoring for the businesses to remain.

“I see it as a benefit to its neighbors,” said Town Planning Consultant Marty Minor of Urban Design Kilday Studios. “It won’t have a great commercial impact.”

The 5011 property is flanked by apartments and backs up to a residential area of largely duplexes. Minor said because of the shallow depth of the parcel — only 60 feet — it would be difficult to house more than small businesses. The 10 parking spaces in front would not be attractive to a high-traffic business.

Across the street, in an unincorporated strip along A1A, are a Texaco station, a real estate office and an empty branch bank building.

The town of Briny Breezes approved a new comprehensive plan last month that would allow a mix of commercial, town-serv ing businesses and condominiums along its A1A corridor across the street and just south of the 5011 building.

Planning board member Mark Marsh said the strip is not ideal for residential use as called for in Ocean Ridge’s plan.

“If Briny does go ahead and do a village market, you would have one piece of that — a small commercial entity,” he said.

In 1969, the Town Board voted to phase out the commercial district over 40 years. The Sivitillis sued in 1997 to overturn the commercial ban. A settlement entitled them to stay until 2000. That was extended and extended again last year to 2014.

“The Sivitillis had plans to convert the property to three townhouses. “We really have a full intention of doing it,” their daughter, Lisa Sivitilli, told the board. “We asked for the extension because of the real estate market.”

She said that several years ago the family gathered 1,200 signatures of people who wanted the commercial strip to remain.

“Now is the time to do that planning.”

By Tim O’Meilia

Ocean Ridge Board suggests planning firm help steer strip’s future

The Sivitillis had plans to convert the property to three townhouses. “We really have a full intention of doing it,” their daughter, Lisa Sivitilli, told the board. “We asked for the extension because of the real estate market.”

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“Now is the time to do that planning.”

By Tim O’Meilia

Ocean Ridge Board suggests planning firm help steer strip’s future
By Tim O’Meilia

Check your calendar, Gulf Stream residents, and move the start of that long-promised utilities project back another three or four months.

How about Labor Day? The town will begin seeking bids on the $5.4 million project until mid-May and contracts will not be awarded until two months later, pushing the start of construction to August or September, said the town’s engineering consultant, Danny Brannon.

The town has banked prepaid assessments made by residents for two years to put power, telephone and cable lines underground. In fact, the town plans to borrow against the assessments to install new sidewalks.

The town is awaiting the plans from Comcast and AT&T, which have had to adjust their drawings after Florida Power & Light submitted its design in mid-February.

“We are running behind due to the response of the utilities,” Brannon told the Town Commission April 12. Brannon also said the town is working on obtaining 37 easements from landowners, mostly along State Road A1A, to bury the utility lines.

Construction was originally to have started in May 2012. The new delay will push completion of the two-phase project to December 2014 or January 2015. “ Seems like every month takes longer than the previous month,” Brannon said.

Residents have mumbled for months about the delays, which prompted the town to file a complaint with the state Public Service Commission about FPL’s delay in submitting design plans.

There is a lot of feeling in this town that we’ve let a lot of people down,” said Town Commissioner Bob Ganger. “People gave money a long time ago and we’ve had no action.”

In other business:

Mayor Joan Ortwene and Vice Mayor Tom Stanley were unanimously reappointed to their posts for another year.

Commissioners prohibited the use of the Town Hall facilities to outside groups until the town adopts a new policy. Although neighboring condominium homeowner associations often use the town commission chambers for meetings, none are scheduled through the end of the year.

The policy review was prompted by an inquiry by resident Martin O’Boyle to use the chambers for a corporate event. Commissioner Mert Anderson opposed the interim ban.

Commissioners unanimously voted to ban donations from private entities to establish memorials on town property. The commission feared that once a donation was accepted for one memorial, others could not be denied.

“Once you accept a memorial from anyone, you’re opening Pandora’s box,” said Town Attorney John Randolph. As a result, only town-sponsored memorials will be approved.

Commissioners voted to support a Gulf Stream Civic Association effort to urge AT&T to improve cell phone service on the barrier island. A civic association survey of 223 residents found that 60 percent said they had weak or no service inside their homes.

But commissioners don’t want a cell tower in town. “We’re speaking out of both sides of our mouths. We want it, but we don’t want the pole,” said Mayor Joan Ortwene.

An example of the proposed six-sided lantern-street light being considered by the commission is scheduled to be installed at the Town Hall for examination by town residents by May. The estimated $380,000 project would be paid for by increasing property taxes slightly the next two years. Fifty-three lights would be installed on interior streets and 35 cobra-head lights along State Road A1A. All would be long-life LED lights.

Ocean Ridge

Crosswalks planned for Woolbright and A1A

By Tim O’Meilia

Crosswalks planned for State Road A1A and Woolbright Road in Ocean Ridge are being challenged by nearby residents.

The town commission scheduled a special meeting May 2 to discuss the complaints so the state Department of Transportation could be notified immediately of the commission’s wishes, Town Manager Ken Schenck said.

The town had asked for the crosswalk installation at the request of Ocean Walk residents north of the intersection. After conducting a traffic and pedestrian survey, DOT engineers concluded that the intersection qualified.

The $84,500 project, paid for with state money, was scheduled to begin immediately and be completed by the end of May.

The pedestrian crossings, including signals, signs, street markings and re-done sidewalks and ramps for the disabled, would cross SR A1A on the north and south sides of the intersection and cross Beachway Drive on the east side of the intersection.

A crosswalk is already in place on the west side of the intersection.

The town is planning its own $3,000 crosswalk across SR A1A between the town hall and the Boynton Beach Park. The town is seeking bids on the crossing design.
to move from Delray Beach into a larger space. The rest of the project would be developed by One Boynton LLC, a subsidiary of Washington Real Estate Partners, which has developed projects of all kinds in South Florida and Washington, D.C.

CRA officials praise the proposal’s Class A office space — it would be the first such building in the downtown — and they like that portions of the site would be publicly accessible.

They are so eager to see the project built that they’ve offered a CRA-owned, half acre of land, free of charge, to the developers. They say that the narrow strip of land isn’t practical for development on its own, anyway. It would be joined with Washington Real Estate’s three acres to the south. Residents at April’s CRA meeting said they felt blindsided by the project — one said the high-rises are an unfortunate addition to “The Great Wall of Boynton.” But board members pointed out that it was the first publicly held meeting on the proposal and that more public meetings would be held.

“We’re not doing it the last minute,” Mayor Jerry Taylor said. “Tonight is the first time we’re hearing about it. It’s being proposed to us this evening…. There are going to be many more meetings about it.”

The project’s site plan will have to come back to the City Commission for approval, but the project, as presented, does not require any changes to zoning and has no obvious barriers to getting a green light under city development rules — several other projects as tall, or taller, are already built. Still, residents seemed taken aback by the level of detail already fleshed out about the proposal — such as its 50,000 square feet of office space, its 282 residential units and its calculation of a $562,004.93 boost in property taxes — and by the CRA board’s apparent support for the proposal before any public input had been given.

“This time of year when everybody on the condo association is heading home, you bring up this stuff,” said James Lynch, who lives in a condo about half a mile from the site. “Why do we always have to see big, big buildings going up?”

CRA officials reminded residents that the city’s master plan would already allow a similar project to be built, even without the offer of the narrow strip of CRA property.

Timeline questions

What city officials have been saying about the project includes some inconsistencies.

CRA executive director Vivian Brooks told The Coastal Star that Kanner and Pintaluga personal-injury law firm came to the CRA in January, asking about the CRA land. “They were looking for our little piece” of land, she said. The land “wasn’t feasible” for their project, so “I said, ‘You...

See HIGH-RISE on page 21

SOURCE: Boynton Beach CRA. Map by Bonnie Lallky-Seibert

About the project

The 222 N. Federal Highway project being proposed by the Washington Real Estate Partners and the Kanner and Pintaluga law firm. All are estimates and the details are subject to change:

- 282 residential units
- 18,350 square feet of retail
- 67,452 square feet of office
- 120 hotel rooms
- 1,168 parking spaces
- Public areas: public walkways and a plaza
- Tax boost if fully developed as proposed: $562,000
- Total cost to build as proposed: $128.7 million

- Phase 1: A nine-story, 50,000-square-foot office building, with 300 parking spaces, to be paid for and occupied by the Kanner and Pintaluga personal-injury law firm. This would be the first Class A office space in downtown Boynton. Proposed completion: Feb. 2015
- Phase 2: A 14-story, high-density residential tower on the property’s north side, to be developed in partnership with a high-rise residential developer. Proposed completion: April 2017
- Phase 3: A 13-story residential tower on the south side. Proposed completion: June 2018

Rendering provided

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ACP INTERIORS
Airport Authority examines options for tower's future

By Rich Pollack

Although Congress restored funding to the Federal Aviation Administration last month to pay for air traffic controllers at major airports and avoid a possible shutdown of the tower at Boca Raton Airport — and 148 towers at small airports across the country — remains up in the air.

While the FAA now has enough money to cover the cost, it is not yet clear how those funds will be applied. As a result, Boca Raton Airport is still operating under the assumption that funding could be discontinued as of June 15.

“At this point, we and all other 148 towers have begun a new campaign to lobby the FAA to fund the towers,” said Janet Sherr, director of landside operations for the Boca Raton Airport Authority.

At a meeting prior to Congress releasing funds to the FAA, the authority began the lengthy process of preparing to seek self-funded air traffic control tower operations. That means leaving a lawsuit and the latest round of lobbying efforts fail to restore funding.

“I am undecided on whether to seek alternative ways to pay for the tower operations will not come until after other avenues are exhausted, the authority at its April meeting authorized staff to begin seeking out qualified firms interested in taking over tower operations should federal funding evaporate due to government sequester cutbacks.

On the advice of legal counsel, however, the board stopped short of making a firm commitment to self-fund tower operations, despite efforts of one member, who said he was concerned about mixed messages being sent to the public.

Authority member David Freudenberg asked that the authority provide the community with a clear statement of what it plans to do if the lawsuit and all lobbying efforts are unsuccessful.

“There is a very clear message to the community that they are aware of the desire to keep the tower open but we’re still saying that the Boca Raton tower is on death row,” Freudenberg said.

Authority attorney, Dawn Meyers pointed out that the board’s decision to take legal action and to proceed with the process of finding a private tower operator should other efforts fail, indicated the direction the panel was headed.

“You have taken two assertive steps showing the community exactly what your intention and commitment is,” she said.

Meyers said that the decision to proceed with a two-step procurement process — which includes a request for qualifications from firms interested in operating the tower, followed by a request for proposals in the event that other efforts failed — did not commit the board to hiring any of the firms that applied.

“We must anticipate that potentially you may be in a position where you’ll have to choose whether or not to keep the tower open,” she said.

High-Rise

Continued from page 20

need to get in touch with this guy,” F. Davis Camalier, the chairman of Washington Real Estate.

And a CRA document describing the request for proposals — the way government land is offered to potential buyers — say, “They have identified 222 N. Federal Highway as one of the sites they are interested in purchasing.”

But Howard Kanner, the law firm’s founder, said it was the CRA that got the ball rolling.

He said Brooks approached him about the possibility of building on the land.

“He came over and spoke to me about Boynton Beach,” Kanner said. “I had never heard about it until I heard from Vivean.”

She told him on the city’s vision for the downtown, Kanner said.

Now, he said, “Boynton Beach is our No. 1 option.”

At the April meeting, representatives of Washington Real Estate told the CRA a board that the law firm would bring about 200 employees to the downtown upon move-in, and will have room to add more.

In an interview, Taylor said he’s excited to have “a couple hundred additional people coming to the downtown to work.”

Kanner, though, said in an interview that the firm has only about 125 employees — including about 25 attorneys, 25 paralegals and 75 other staff members including receptionists and researchers — working in Delray Beach.

The firm would probably start with 150 employees in the Boynton Beach location, but has plans to grow quickly, Kanner said.

“I think within five years it could be 300 to 400 employees,” he said.

The language of the request for proposals says that the CRA is looking for “opportunities to incorporate the RFP site into a larger overall site plan and redevelopment of one or more adjacent parcels for larger scale development.”

The only empty piece of land next to the CRA land belongs to Washington Real Estate.

“On the land that Brooks owns, there is only one building on it,” said Taylor. 

Taylor, who is the founder of Palm Beach County property appraiser, the CRA land has a market value of $425,000.

Campaign contributions

Camalier, who owns a villa in Manalapan, donated $500 — through one of his corporate entities — to Taylor’s political campaign on Feb. 7, five days before the request for proposals was approved by the CRA board. And, through three more corporations, he donated an additional $1,500 to Taylor on March 1.

Taylor, who said publicly that he met with Camalier three times about the project before it was formally unveiled, said the donations were not geared toward generating support for the project proposal.

“No, I don’t think so at all — he’s been around for a long time,” Taylor said. Instead, he thought Camalier was hoping for Taylor to get re-elected to bring more stability to the City Commission.

“Those political steps showing the community exactly what your intention and commitment is,” she said.

Excerpts from the April meeting

At the April meeting, Nos. 1 and 2 applicants — Washington Real Estate and the Delray Beach Community Redevelopment Agency — both donated $150 each to the CRA board’s election campaign on Feb. 7, five days before the request for proposals was approved.

The obvious responder would be the adjacent landowner,” Brooks said. “We don’t want to leave our little piece of land standing there. That wouldn’t make sense from a planning perspective.”

The CRA bought the land for $900,000 in 2002 for the extension of Boynton Beach Boulevard and access to Marina Village. Until recently it had been used for a weekly Green Market.

According to the Palm Beach County property appraiser, the CRA land now has a market value of $425,000.

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This industry report shows clearly how the traditional ways of selling homes have become increasingly less and less effective in today’s market.

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South Palm Beach

Lantana mayor thanks town for cooperation

Dressed un-legislatively in a T-shirt, shorts and boat shoes, Lantana Mayor David Stewart made an impromptu visit to the April 23 meeting of the South Palm Beach Town Council.

"I just wanted to thank your city," Stewart told council members. "With the bridge situation, both cities have had to work together."

Specifically, he was pleased that South Palm Beach police responded to a call in his Hypoluxo Island neighborhood to check on an elderly resident who didn't answer the phone when her son was away.

Lantana and South Palm Beach have a mutual aid agreement to cover Hypoluxo Island while the East Ocean Avenue bridge is under construction. Stewart confirmed that the bridge is scheduled to re-open by Dec. 1. "If we don't have hurricanes or other drawbacks," he said, "I shouldn't say this but sometimes I think South Palm Beach police have been more responsive to calls than I think our department is." He added, "There is good reason for that. According to Google Maps, Stewart's home is one mile (four minutes) from the South Palm Beach police station but, with the bridge closed, seven miles (18 minutes) from the Lantana police station via the Lake Worth Bridge.

"When something like the bridge (closing) happens, it's good to have cooperation," Stewart said.

— Tim O'Melia

While The Coastal Star is delivered to each household in South Palm Beach, Hypoluxo Island, Delray Beach, Briny Breezes, Gulf Stream and coastal Delray Beach, it may not make it to everyone who cares about our towns. If you are not currently receiving our paper, and wish to subscribe, please complete the form below.

**OBITUARIES**

**Dan Young**

By Ron Hayes

MANALAPAN — To the fellow Hoosiers who knew his auto dealership, he was “Big Dan Young, Chevy dealer man.”

To the local institutions that benefited from his generosity, Dan Young was known for his big heart.

Mr. Young was killed March 29 in an automobile accident at the corner of Dixie Highway and Ocean Avenue in Lantana.

He was 83. “I always found him to be such a gracious, giving person,” said Pat Thorne, a friend of nearly 20 years. Sometimes you hated to mention a charity you were working with because you were afraid he’d think, “Oh, I have to give them money.” Among the local institutions that Mr. Young supported are Northwood University, Hospice of Palm Beach County, the International Society of Palm Beach, the Gulf Stream School and Scripps Research.

“My heart broke when I received the call about his death,” said Ben Stefanski, director of philanthropy for Scripps and a longtime friend. “Dan was a champion of all things good and noble, who could always be counted on to be a leader in any fundraising endeavor. He gave from the heart.”

Mr. Young also had served as director of the JFK Medical Center Foundation, where several rooms bear his name. He was just a very caring and compassionate person,” said Madeleine Christopher, the center’s vice president of physician services. “Having been both a donor and a patient here, he just wanted things to be better for those admitted to the hospital, and once he saw something on, he was dedicated to it.”

Dan E. Young was born on June 28, 1928, in Indianapolis and took pride in having developed his retail car dealership from humble beginnings.

Mr. Young shared his life with his longtime companion, Valerie Christopher. In addition to his brother, John, and sister, Beverly Sinkin, he is survived by his wife, Shirley Pollard Young, and their children, Alan V. Young, Cathy Young Dyer, William A. Young and Jennifer Young Taggart; seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Memorials in his name may be made to Scripps Research, Office of Philanthropy, 130 Scripps Way, 4B2, Jupiter, FL 33458.

Robert L. Becker Jr.

By Ron Hayes

GULF STREAM — Robert L. Becker Jr., a winter resident of the St. Andrew’s Club for several years, died peacefully on April 15. He was 87.

A lawyer who specialized in securities and transactional law, Mr. Becker joined the Pittsburgh, PA, firm of Kirkpatrick, Pomeroy, Lockhart & Johnson in 1949 and remained its longest-serving partner at the time of his death. Robert Louis Becker Jr. was born in 1924 in Milwaukee. During World War II, he served on the destroyer U.S. Walkie in the Pacific theater, was discharged as a lieutenant j.g., and went on to graduate from Cornell Law School in 1948.

In obituaries published both here and in Pittsburgh, his family made a point of noting that he had been “a friend of Bill W. since April 17, 1995.” The phrase is well-known reference to Alcoholics Anonymous and its founder.

During his years here, Mr. Becker volunteered at The Hanley Center in West Palm Beach and The Crossroads Club in Delray Beach, reaching out to offer encouragement to others. “He was helpful,” said a friend and longtime board member at The Crossroads Club, a nonprofit meeting facility for people recovering from addictions. “Very outgoing, with a wonderful sense of humor and very athletic.”

Mr. Becker remained active, attending the 7 a.m. meetings almost every day, said the friend, who asked to remain anonymous.

During his recovery, Mr. Becker had been treated at the Hanley-Hazelden clinic in Minneapolis, his friend said, and volunteered at The Hanley Center, keeping in touch with former alumni to help them stay well.

Mr. Becker is survived by Annette Willock, his wife of 32 years; three children from a previous marriage, Anne Hulley of Northampton, Mass.; Emily Nauneim of San Mateo, Calif.; and Robert L. Becker III of Honolulu; eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held April 26 at Third Presbyterian Church of Pittsburgh, where he had served on the Session and taught Sunday school for many years.

The family has asked that donations be made to The Hanley Center, 5200 East Ave., West Palm Beach, FL 33407, or The Crossroads Club, 1700 Lake Ida Rd., Delray Beach, FL 33444, or to a charity of organization of your choice.
Along the Coast
Aquatic muralist, living her dream, reels in Vegas TV-show project

By Ron Hayes

Judy Dempsey knew exactly what would happen. But she wrote the email anyway.

Hey Guys; I am a mural artist in South Florida. I am a huge fan of your show. My specialty is underwater sea life and I would be interested in donating a mural for one of your projects … And hit Send.

“I expected to get a reply that said, ’Thank you, if we ever need …’ ” she admits.

Four hours later, the phone rang and Dempsey was talking to Irwin Raymer, whom dedicated TV viewers know as “The General,” a star of the Animal Planet series Tanked.

Along with his son and son-in-law, Raymer owns Acrylic Tank Manufacturing of Las Vegas, which boasts that it’s the “No. 1 Aquarium Maker In The World.”

Every week, ‘The General and his crew travel the planet, building customized aquaria.

Beer-keg tanks and pinball tanks. A customized tank for a nail salon and a tank with remote-controlled submarines.

“Lifestyles of the Fish & Famous,” they boast.

An aquarium built from a car? That, too.

“What begins in Boynton Beach, however, doesn’t stay in Boynton Beach.

When she flew home to Las Vegas on March 5 she was flown to Boynton Beach on March 21, the exterior wall of Acrylic Tank Manufacturing had been adorned with a 30 by 80 foot mural of a mammoth aquarium filled with great white sharks and a greenback turtle, stingrays, sea horses, eels and living coral.

“It’s on the side of our new building,” reports ‘The General, “and between 300 and 500 people pass it every day and say ‘Oh, God, how beautiful!’ She was very sweet and had dinner with my family. We had a fun time while she was here.”

What begins in Boynton Beach, however, doesn’t stay in Boynton Beach.

You may not know her name, but it’s hard to live here and not know her work.

Dempsey’s tropical seascapes adorn the side of Beachcomber Arts on Federal Highway and a wall in the city’s industrial arts section. Her dolphins are on a pharmacy on Woolbright Road.

Private homes in Boca Raton, Cape Cod and the Bahamas are alive with her aquatic works as well, but none quite so ecstatically as her own house in a quiet neighborhood west of I-95.

Mermaids swim on her living room wall, and a marlin in the den. In the backyard, a concrete patio has been painted to resemble a koi pond. Orchids and parrots, flamingoes and sunflowers: Dempsey lives in a flurry of tropical colors.

Born in Toronto, she came to this house when she was 2, and except for a few years away for school, she has never left. “I call it a bad marriage,” she says. “She’s lived here ever since.

But it didn’t always look like this.

“Twelve years ago, I moved back in with my father,” she says. The marriage was over; she was 33, a single woman looking for a new life.

“I had a dumb job in a frame shop,” she says, “making basic money, but I always wanted to do murals.”

She’d studied for two years at the Fort Lauderdale Art Institute and dropped out at 18.

“When I was younger, I used to say I was an artist and sit in a chair and do nothing,” she says.

Dempsey started a painting club, several women meeting weekly on her back porch. A friend urged her to take a chance, put herself out there, and try to find work. Her father was not supportive.

And then, based on her early work, she was hired to paint polo ponies on the bedroom wall of a 6-year-old girl in Wellington, and then an underwater scene in the den. The owners paid her $8,000.

“I quit my job at the frame shop and handed my father a grand,” Dempsey says. “The next day, he packed my lunch and said, ‘Go get another one.’”

She’s been getting them for 12 years, but never as big as the mural she created in Las Vegas.

“I worked 14 hours a day for two weeks, with one day off to visit the Strip,” she says. “It’s all hand brush, no airbrush. Tour buses came by to see the company and people were taking my pictures while I worked.”

A crew from Tanked came by as well and spent two hours filming her at work for a time-lapse sequence in an upcoming episode.

“I didn’t get paid for the work,” she says, “but it was worth it. They’re going to link to my website, so I may get more jobs.”

“I never dreamed that I could do this for a living. Now I make a living, but it’s more to me than a living.

“It’s what I always wanted to do.”

Tanked is broadcast at 9 p.m. Fridays on the Animal Planet channel. Dempsey’s episode has not yet been scheduled. Visit www.judydempseyart.com.

Dempsey’s works can be found throughout the city, including the Medication Station Pharmacy on Woolbright Road. Photos by Kurtis Boggs/The Coastal Star
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901 South Ocean, Delray Beach
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South Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach
Land - Represented the Seller - List $849,000 Sold $750,000

5 Ocean Harbour, Ocean Ridge
Waterfront Estate - Represented the Seller - List $2,695,000 Sold $2,355,000

7 Osprey, Ocean Ridge
Represented Seller - List $1,499,000 Sold $1,425,000

126 Gleason, Delray Beach
Represented Seller - List $1,249,000 Sold $1,225,000

511 Seagate, Delray Beach
Represented Buyer - Sold $1,030,000

40 Bimini, Ocean Ridge
Represented Seller - List $899,000 Sold $830,000

1030 Seagate, Delray Beach
Represented Seller List $1,695,000 - Sold $1,545,000

1042 Seaspray, Delray Beach
Represented Seller List $2,095,000 Sold $1,985,000

3500 N Ocean, Gulf Stream
Represented Buyer - Sold $820,000

3809 Bermuda Lane, Gulf Stream
Represented Seller and Buyer, List $1,995,000 Sold $1,925,000

319 Andrews, Delray Beach
Represented Seller, List $1,695,000 Sold $1,825,000

4333 Ballantrae, Gulf Stream
Represented Buyer, Sold $1,265,000

3232 Polo Drive, Golf Stream
Represented Seller, List $5,250,000 Sold $5,125,000

3580 Polo Drive, Gulf Stream
Represented Seller, List $3,999,000 Sold $3,999,000

1040 Melaleuca, Delray Beach
Represented Seller and Buyer, List $2,095,000 Sold $2,305,000

3018 N Ocean, Gulf Stream
Represented Seller, List $2,295,000 Sold $2,025,000

1215 Crestwood, Delray Beach
Represented Seller, List $2,099,000 Sold $2,025,000

900 Melaleuca, Delray Beach
Represented Seller and Buyer List $2,650,000 Sold $2,650,000

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Christina Benisch uses elements found in her Ocean Ridge garden for her award-winning flower arrangements. This year she represented the Grass River Garden Club at the Society of the Four Arts, and in 2010, she represented the Ocean Ridge Garden Club at the Norton Museum of Art. Photos by Libby Volgyes/The Coastal Star

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR: Christina Benisch

Christina Benisch’s award-winning arrangement in the “Fungus Among Us” class at the Garden Club of Palm Beach’s show.

Moved from New York City, she said, “We bought Jessica Tandy and Hume Cronyn’s home on five acres in Easen, which is now for sale. It had some serious gardens, but Jessica had gardeners. When I bought it, I had only me, myself and I to do the gardening.” Here, she planned and planted the gardens around her home in Ocean Ridge, which was “a wasteland” when she bought it.

Now it’s blooming beautifully, and she recently won the blue ribbon in the Garden Club of Palm Beach’s show, “From the Ground Up” in the “Fungus Among Us” class, using plants from her garden (bromeliads, sago palm, kukuma fern, protea).

“I had some interesting pieces of fungus that I bought from a flea market in Connecticut, and when I learned about the “Fungus Among Us” class, I said, ‘Aha! I can use that,’ and I found this container made of bamboo wood. I knew I had the props that would work, and I was thrilled that I won. I felt like Cinderella. It was a nice achievement.” — Christine Davis

Q. Where did you grow up and go to school? How do you think that has influenced you?
A. I was born in Trinidad and grew up in Ghana, South Africa, Mauritius and East Africa. My father was with the British Colonial Service, so we traveled extensively, which gave me a love of adventure and a somewhat nomadic existence after my college years. My school years, from age 10 to 18, were spent in convent boarding schools in Cape Town, South Africa and Sussex, England. This was “the English way” at the time and it gave me an independence and self-sufficiency, although at times it was a rather lonely childhood.

Q. What careers have you had; what were the highlights?
A. My first job was working for a film producer and theatrical agent in London, after which I worked for a safari company in Kenya in the early 70s where I organized safaris for Stewart Granger and the king of Bhutan among others. I also worked on the movie Living Free.

In Nairn I was hired as a flight attendant for Pan Am because I spoke French and Swahili and had to make the in-flight announcements in those languages. It was a glamorous job in those days as we flew all over the world and met lots of interesting people and celebrities. There were many highlights, but I remember most of all the dangers of being in Tehran when the shah was overthrown and his image was being burned in the street outside our hotel, and also being in a coup in Liberia when the army rebels took over the country. I now operate an antiques and design business in Connecticut and Delray as well as create shell and coral mirrors, lamps and cache-pots for decorators and designers in the area.

Q. How/when did you begin flower arranging?
A. Moving from Manhattan to Connecticut 15 years ago gave me a new appreciation of nature and a love of flowers. I joined a garden club up north and became hooked. I now belong to the Grass River Garden Club as well as the Ocean Ridge Garden Club down here. I am constantly walking Old Ocean Boulevard picking up discarded palm fronds, seeds, twigs and assorted flotsam and jetsam for various floral projects.

Q. How did you choose to make your home in Ocean Ridge?
A. Once our daughters were in college we decided to head south for the winters. As my husband is a golfer, Florida was a no-brainer and I liked the sound of the Delray area as it was small and artsy. We rented from a friend who had a home in Ocean Ridge, fell in love with the community and bought shortly thereafter.

Q. What is your favorite part about living in Ocean Ridge?
A. The sun and the sea. Looking at the water every single day. The small-town atmosphere. It is easy to get involved in life here and to make friends.

Q. What book are you reading now?
A. I just finished reading Black and White Sands, by Elma Napier, a biography of a British aristocratic family who gave up their lifestyle and went to live in Dominica in the 1930s. Recommended by a friend who lives between Ocean Ridge and Dominica. I am about to start Camada, by Richard Ford, also recommended by a friend.

Q. Do you have a favorite quote that inspires your decisions?
A. Well it was “Just do it,” but I opened this month’s Oprah magazine and a quote jumped out: “Instead of worrying about getting older, we can focus on leading a brilliant life.” I thought that was kind of cool, so it may become my new mantra.

Q. Have you had mentors in your life?
A. Many individuals have inspired my life decisions at different times through the years, but I will always remember the kindness and gentleness of my father and the courage and humor of my brother as being inspirational. I turn to my practical and grounded husband to provide a balance to my occasionally erratic and out-of-the-box ideas and notions.

Q. If your life story were made into a movie, who would you want to play you?
A. Probably Dustin Hoffman, who did such a good job with Tootsie.

Q. Who/what makes you laugh?
A. Silly below-the-belt British humor and my witty and irreverent daughters, who constantly poke fun at me and tweet my motherly faux pas and malapropisms for all the world to see. As they say, if you can’t laugh at yourself …
Delray Beach

Arts Garage gets chance to buy its home

By Betty Wells

The Arts Garage, Delray’s Beach’s small, popular music and theater venue, needs to raise $2.5 million in 30 months to pay the city for its home — 10,000 square feet of retail space at the Old School Square parking garage. The executive director believes it can happen.

Dozens of residents praised the nonprofit during an April 16 public hearing packed with more than 200 people at City Hall. Commissioners then voted to let the Arts Garage stay in the spot and have until 2015 to pay for it.

The law firm Kanner & Pintaluga had wanted to buy the space, saying it needs room to expand from about 90 employees to 200.

Proposed were three options: sell the space to the firm for $2.5 million; sell about half the space to the firm for about $1 million, leaving the Arts Garage in place; or sell all the space to the firm Schmier and Fauring, which would have leased it back to the Arts Garage. The commission unanimously rejected those options.

“The answer is clear,” said Mayor Cary Glickstein. “The best user for that space is the performing arts center we are lucky enough to have there now.”

Commissioners Shelly Petrolia and Angela Gray voted with Glickstein; Adam Frankel voted no, and Al Jacquet was absent.

Alyona Ushe, executive director of Creative City Collaborative, the nonprofit that runs the Arts Garage, said the organization has raised about $700,000 in the past year.

When created a little more than two years ago, the group got 75 percent of its budget from the city’s Community Redevelopment Agency. Now, it’s the opposite — the CRA portion is 25 percent, she said, as the CCC has received donations and grants from national and local foundations.

“Two and a half million dollars for a capital campaign is not a lot of money,” she said. “There’s no reason we shouldn’t be able to raise that.”

After the meeting, Petrolia said that she, too, was confident the nonprofit could raise the money. “I’m not really surprised at the support people have shown,” she said. “It’s a topic so much to the city, and the right decision was to keep it.”

Kanner & Pintaluga offered the city $1.7 million for the property last year. The Arts Garage then told the city it would offer up to $2.5 million. The law firm matched that.

Jensen Grant, a lawyer with Kanner & Pintaluga, told commissioners that the firm has grown from 10 or 12 employees in 2006 to 94. The employees are not an insular community, he said, and eat lunch and dinner in the city. The firm is at 101

Pugliese’s Way.

“Unfortunately unless we’re given the additional space here in downtown Delray, we’re probably going to be looking at moving out of Delray Beach,” Grant said.

Frankel said he was “disappointed in the campaign of fear put on by the Arts Garage,” and said he believed the city should accommodate both organizations. Boynton Beach has made incentive offers to the law firm, and Frankel said “we’ll … be reading about Boynton Beach rolling out the red carpet” for the firm.

Glickstein said that while an expanded law firm is a welcome addition, “it does little to advance our long-term goals.”

The mayor cited a study, Arts & Economic Prosperity IV, by the nonprofit Americans for the Arts, that was released in 2012. The study showed that nonprofit arts and cultural organizations pumped almost $45 million into the Delray Beach economy in 2011, nearly four times as much as comparably populated cities such as Miami Beach; Boulder, Colo.; and Portland, Maine.

The study collected data from 12 nonprofit Delray Beach groups to calculate money spent in the community, jobs produced, how much audiences spend outside the venue and other effects.

The Arts Garage, in Old School Square at 180 NE First St., was not included in the study.

The Puppets of the Palm Beaches, which offers puppet shows and has a puppet museum, occupies the space in Old School Square along with the Arts Garage. Its lease with the city expires in 2015; the organization has told the city it will not renew its lease.

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The COASTAL STAR

May 2013

News 27
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GULF STREAM
Fantastic Ocean views from this 3BR/4.2BA, 3,400 SF condo. Spacious floorplan, library, formal dining room, large master suite, high ceilings and private elevator. Web ID 2892 $1.695M

OCEAN RIDGE
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In ancient times, Greeks and Romans revered mothers with special feasts honoring mother goddesses. But Mother’s Day, as a modern-day holiday, is relatively young. In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson signed a resolution setting aside a specific day, the second Sunday in May, to honor the role that mothers play in family life — all because of the efforts of Anna Jarvis. At age 12, she was inspired by her mom to celebrate mothers. She heard Ann Maria Reeves Jarvis say a class prayer to end a lesson

see JEWELRY on page H2

By Jane Smith

TOP: Necklace of multicolored shell pearls, $195-$225. At Unique Boutique, Delray Beach.

ABOVE: Casta Flore flower ring with green and pink tourmaline, gold and diamonds, $2,900. At Furst, Delray Beach.

LEFT: Freshwater 'souffle' baroque pearls; strand with 18k gold clasp with diamonds, $4,500. At Jewelry Artisans, Manalapan.

Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

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JEWELRY
Continued from page H1

on mothers of the Bible: “I hope that someone, sometime will find a memorial mothers day commemorating her for the matchless service she renders to humanity in every field of life. She is entitled to it.”

The daughter never forgot that prayer, vowing on her mother’s Pennsylvania grave in 1905 to devote her life to dedicating a day to honor all mothers, living and deceased.

Jarvis never married and had no children. She gave up her job to focus on writing letters to lobby elected leaders, clergy members, women’s clubs and anyone else she thought could influence the creation of a Mother’s Day.

Fast-forward 99 years to Sunday, May 12. This Mother’s Day will celebrate traditional mothers, as well as honoring all women who nurture us.

“True, it is more commercial than the day Jarvis conceived. She valued hand-written letters and white carnations, her mom’s favorite flower. But spending time contemplating the precise gift to please your mom may ease some of that guilt.

Many mothers are fond of jewelry, perfume or books. But to come to the right decision about a gift to please your mom, you may need to do some detective work.

What type of metal does she prefer: sterling silver, yellow or white gold, or platinum?

What type of gemstone does she prefer? The American Gem Trade Association lists popular colored gemstones and cultured pearls with lore and background information on its website (www.agta.org).

What is her personal style — modern, traditional, classic or Art Deco? Armed with that information, consumers can then successfully navigate a jewelry store.

Here are a few coastal jewelers to help with your selection:

• Jaeger-LeCoultre Rendez Vous watch, rendition of timepiece from 1940s, very feminine, not too large and not too small, starts at $7,800. Features green and pink tourmaline on a gold band with diamonds, $2,900, for moms 25-35.

• Diamond stud sitting atop a flower, $600, for moms 25-35.

• Casta flor ring that features green and pink tourmaline on a gold band with diamonds, $2,900, for moms 25-35 (right).

• Beautifully detailed stackable rings, one to represent each child. Exquisitely crafted in platinum, white, and yellow gold set with an array of precious gemstones and diamonds, from $475-$2,500.

• One-inch hand-crafted, heart pendants of sterling silver or 14k or 18k yellow or white gold, with diamonds, semi-precious or without stones, hearts in sterling silver or white gold for moms who prefer silver jewelry, from $200 to $5,000. 300 Esplanade No. 51, Royal Palm Place, Boca Raton; noon-8 p.m. every day; (561) 393-9899.

• Beautifully detailed stackable rings, one to represent each child. Exquisitely crafted in platinum, white, and yellow gold set with an array of precious gemstones and diamonds, from $475-$2,500.

• Handmade initial letters in gold or silver with birthstone, $119, suitable for young or older mothers.

• For gold earrings, semiprecious and precious stones, $500-$600, suitable for young or older mothers.

• Diamond stud sitting atop a flower, $600, for moms 25-35.

• Casta flor ring that features green and pink tourmaline on a gold band with diamonds, $2,900, for moms 25-35 (right).

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Along the Coast

If tea suits Mom, there are plenty of choices brewing

By Jan Norris

Those looking to take tea with Mom near her big day this month have a few traditional choices, or they can go mod at the Ritz-Carlton.

Afternoon tea — the ritual of a pot of tea served with little sandwiches and sweets on silver trays — has given way to test tubes and whoopie pies at the Ritz in Manalapan.

Hotel spokeswoman Christine DiRocco explains, "It’s more like a coffee break. Tables are set for couples. We bring a pot of water and you choose your tea — they’re loose leaf — from test tubes. The server presents an assortment and then pops the cork on them and lets you sniff."

"They’re served with a few sweet tidbits, also contemporary, Red velvet whoopie pies, Temple Orange marmalade with scones, the house-made banana bread and a chocolate-covered strawberry are among the offerings."

"We’re keeping it more casual," DiRocco said.

That’s in contrast to the Victorian-style teahouse set up in Delray’s TeaLicious Tea Room.

Miriana Matasci, the owner, said her version of the tea is more like a high tea — the afternoon meal for commoners — with more substantial sandwiches and sweets. "We serve high tea any time of day — we embellish it."

"The terms ‘afternoon’ and ‘high’ tea confuse Americans who eat on a different timetable than most Europeans, she said. Europeans eat a later lunch that stands in for dinner, and they need something in their stomachs to tide them until bed later. High tea is an actual meal, and it was served at home. Afternoon tea was served with the scones and clotted cream, light finger bits, and served in the grand hotels as an afternoon pick-me-up from shopping or socializing."

The term "high tea" refers to the height of the home dining table, versus the lower tables set in most parlors around tufted chairs and sofas.

Her version is set in a tea room reminiscent of English parlors, with mismatched chairs, table linens, flowers and the three-tiered trays.

The prix-fixe meal includes soup and salad, and a variety of canapés like stuffed mushrooms and mini- quiches, which are followed with several hot and cold sandwiches — walnut chicken salad, grilled chicken panini, turkey reuben and a smoked salmon croissant. Crab and shrimp salad, spanakopita, crab cakes and a vegetarian hummus with grilled eggplant, sweet peppers, tomato and fresh mozzarella bring a different flavor to this tea. The classics, egg salad and cucumber sandwiches, are also available.

More than 60 teas are offered — and Matasci can tell tea-goers about the health benefits of each. "We have green tea and tea for detox. I drink tea for my health."

But she appreciates those who want the true experience and offers them to both adults and children — the Princess Tea for is just for youngsters aged 5 to 10.

"Of course, we serve scones we bake here every day. We fill them up," Matasci said. "Some leave with a doggie bag."

A similar but scaled-back version is at the Chesterfield in Palm Beach, a Brit-owned hotel. In its cozy library, among stuffed chairs and the low tables, the hotel presents a selection of traditional and flavored teas, scones, clotted cream, preserves, pastries and four sandwiches — egg salad, sliced cold chicken with arugula and herb mayonnaise, cucumber with butter, and smoked salmon with a dill cream cheese.

Also available here is the "cream tea" — the tea service with only scones and cream. Chesterfield spokeswoman Joy Groover said guests can arrange the "Victorian tea experience," with tea leaf readers and women in Victorian dresses lecturing on the history of tea, and tea etiquette.

A special afternoon tea luncheon also is presented at the Café des Beaux-Arts at the Flagler Museum for Mother’s Day weekend. In season, the tea lunch is served Tuesdays through Saturdays.

The Breakers no longer offers afternoon tea.

For a proper tea, there are rules, of course.

Greet the host or hostess first, then other guests.

The hostess always pours if a butler or maid isn’t present, and in her own good time. She may ask if you’d like sugar and how many lumps. Two should be a maximum.

If using sugar or lemon in the tea, the sugar goes in the cup first, then a thin slice (never a wedge) of lemon, then the water poured over the strainer full of loose teas (never bags — an abomination to traditionalists).

Milk goes in last, at all. The superstition is "to put milk in your tea before sugar is to cross the path of love" — perhaps leaving you unwed. Lemon and milk (not cream) are never served in the same cup as the milk will curdle. The spoon is always placed behind the cup on the saucer and never left in the cup.

The cup is lifted by holding the cup handle with thumb and all four fingers; the pinky-

TOP: Friends Josepha Peters of Winter Haven, Shake Potoukian of Fort Lauderdale, Cecie Guekjian of Miami and Rosemary VanWitzenburg of Fort Lauderdale raise a cup at Tealicious Tea Room in Delray Beach. The women meet all over the state to try different tea rooms.
ABOVE: Daniella Russo, 8, a second-grader at Morikami Park Elementary School, sips her decaffeinted cherry vanilla tea at Tealicious Tea Room.
ABOVE RIGHT: The Abigail Rose at Tealicious offers a variety of freshly made canapes, tea sandwiches, fresh ripe fruits, mini scones and warm scones served with preserves.
Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

If you go
Tealicious Tea Room
4997 W. Atlantic Ave.,
Delray Beach
638-5155
TealiciousTeaRoom.com
Tea served Monday-Saturday, 11:30-4 p.m.

The Ritz-Carlton
Palm Beach
100 S. Ocean Blvd.,
Manalapan
533-6000; ritzcarlton.com
Tea served daily, 3-5 p.m.

The Chesterfield
363 Coconut Row,
Palm Beach
659-5800; chesterfieldpb.com
Tea served daily, 3-5 p.m.

Café des Beaux-Arts
at the Flagler Museum
1 Whitehall Way,
Palm Beach
655-2833; flaglermuseum.us
Tea served Mother’s Day weekend; the café is then closed until November.

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Tea comes in glass test tubes at the Ritz-Carlton. Photo provided. up more is an affectation. It’s impolite to look over the rim of the cup as you drink.

If you are not served by a butler, use fingers to choose one or two small items from the trays. Typically, the savory foods are eaten first, but since scones are baked especially for the teas, you’re encouraged to eat these first while they’re warm. Scones are split with the knife, and cream and preserves are placed on the serving plate. Condiments are spread on each bite separately. No proper tea foods should require fork and knife; they’re eaten out of hand.

Leading up to Mother’s Day, the teas in area tearooms are booked ahead; reserve in advance and for large groups at any day. For the special Tealicious Tea Room Mother’s Day tea, there are two seatings and by reservation only. The Chesterfield and the Ritz-Carlton will offer Mother’s Day brunches instead.

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Paws Up for Pets

A special memorial statue will honor retired canine officer Drake, a former patient of Dr. Ken Simmons, after a burglary at its home.

RIGHT: Dr. Ken Simmons visits with Zeek Moore, Hannah Banana Marinus and Lexi Panitz in the Doggie Day Care at the Barkeritaville Lagoon at Simmons Veterinary Hospital in Lake Worth. Libby Volgyes/ The Coastal Star

Vet seeks better legal status for police canines

When I first came to Palm Beach County to begin my career as a reporter for the Sun-Sentinel, one of my biggest moving challenges was finding the right veterinarian for my cats, Little Guy and Callie. That was 1987 — well before the Internet exploded with business websites, Facebook, phone apps and other social media venues.

Back then, one had to rely on word of mouth in finding a good veterinarian and other health professionals. I put my reporting skills to use, interviewing dozens of people in my neighborhood and in the newsroom who had cats and dogs. They shared unfiltered feedback on their veterinarians.

In the end, the name that came popping up at the top was Ken Simmons, DVM, a veterinarian in Lake Worth. For the nine years that I lived in Lantana, he helped keep my feline twosome healthy.

At the time, he had a conventional practice with a lobby often filled with dogs, cats and other companion animals. He was a young veterinarian, just five years out of earning his degree from the University of Florida, but was already showing signs of being innovative, progressive and most of all, eager to help pets beyond exams and veterinary procedures.

Fast forward to today. Simmons is no longer my veterinarian, but that is strictly because of geography. I now share my home in San Diego County with two dogs, Chopper and Cleo (who surf!) and two cats, Zeki and Murphy. My foursome receive twice-a-year wellness examinations by the veterinary team at Melrose Animal Hospital. I learned decades ago from Simmons of the importance of such visits that can often help veterinarians detect and treat health conditions early, before they advance and before they become expensive.

In researching ideas for this pet column, I stumbled onto Simmons’ website. In addition to conventional veterinary care provided, his clinic also houses the Barkers Hotel, the Purrington Inn and the Bark Park playgrounds. He has evolved from being strictly a veterinarian to creating a one-stop place featuring pet activities and amenities.

But what caught my attention is his efforts to not only memorialize one of his former canine patients, but to change the law to provide more medical benefits for police dogs throughout Florida. In late November, three people broke into the Greenacres home of Florida Highway Patrol Trooper Bobby Boody. He was not home, but his retired K9 patrol dog Drake was. Drake, a muscular, 80-pound German shepherd, was shot five times.

When he was brought to the Simmons Veterinary Hospital, Simmons went to work to try to save his life.

"There were two bullet holes in his head, he was shot two times in the neck and a fifth bullet shattered his left leg," recalls Simmons. "We were able to stabilize him, but he had lost a lot of blood and I was concerned about a bullet that had hit his esophagus. There was also a mass in his abdomen about the size of a watermelon. So, I made arrangements to have Drake flown to the University of Florida in Gainesville where there was a team of surgeons waiting for his arrival."

Sadly, Drake’s condition worsened and the decision was made to euthanize him the day after Thanksgiving. His death has motivated Simmons to champion the cause of police dogs, both active and retired.

He is proposing the Police K-9 Bill of Rights to Florida legislators that would provide lifetime medical benefits to these dogs, reclassify them as police officers and apply to their owners’ liability in the event of injury or death. Simmons wants to make sure that the police K-9 community can have veterinarians to create a life-sized bronze statue at a special ceremony by Memorial Day.

"For 25 years, I’ve been putting the names of my patients who have passed on in memorial stones, but I felt compelled to do more for Drake," says Simmons. "I remembered Drake when he was a healthy, strong police dog and that is the image that comes through in his bronze statute. He protected us and that is why I am pushing hard for a bill of rights for all police dogs. Together, we can do the right thing for these amazing dogs."


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Constant and steady growth since first opening, we are excited by the reopening of a brand new state-of-the-art 4500 sq. ft. Colonial Gateway Veterinary Center in mid-May.

With the emphasis on wellness and rehabilitation our new facility offers several unique features:

• Runs that offer readily accessible indoor and outdoor space.

• Newest state-of-the-art radiographic and laser equipment.

• Safe and secure exterior grounds that are equipped with an exercise pool by Endless Pools, extensive exercise space covered with artificial turf known as “K-9 Grass” and internet cameras so owners can monitor their pets during their stay.

• Not to mention we can pamper your pet with expert grooming services provided by our groomer John Grumbar, who has 22 years of experience.

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Finding Faith

Café Esperanza trainees get ‘helping hand’ toward new career, fresh start

Boca Helping Hands is getting a helping hand from the Greater Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce in its new job-training initiative to fight poverty.

Café Esperanza — a new catering service that provides training to the unemployed — started by catering a lunch for new chamber members.

“Everything was delicious,” chamber President Troy McLellan proclaimed afterward. He encouraged others to try the catering service, too.

Boca Helping Hands, an interfaith effort known primarily for its soup kitchen and food pantry, graduated its first 10 catering students on April 10.

Students go through three phases of training to gain hospitality industry experience and prepare for restaurant jobs.

“We are taking bold steps to break the crippling cycle of poverty that grips so many families,” Helping Hands executive director James Gavrilos said.

Gavrilos said he was particularly proud to have the chamber as Café Esperanza’s first client.

“If only the business community and the nonprofit community come together can we effectively wage the war on poverty,” he said. “We hope the business community will consider using Café Esperanza for their staff lunches, business breakfasts and team-building dinners.”

The chamber has more than 1,300 businesses as members. McLellan said he hoped being the first client would give “a comfort level” for others.

“Our message was that we’re using them and you should, too,” he said.

Mayor Susan Wheeler, a guest at the March 12 luncheon, also applauded the food.

“I thought it was absolutely outstanding,” the mayor said. “I will use them the next time I need a caterer.”

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women and children, locally and globally, has deepened along with our resolve to impact their lives and future,” Reuben said.

The foundation received 80 grant proposals this year. Three local programs that received grants were iPads for Autism, the PJ Library and Let’s Get Healthy.

The iPads library lending program is a cutting-edge way to educate women and children with autism to unlock their potential. The PJ Library (see below) teaches the tenets of Judaism through children’s books. The third program provides nutrition counseling to 20 single women who receive food from the Jacobson Family Food Pantry.

Women in Israel received grants to complete college, excel in science and technology, and run successful campaigns for elective offices.

Joshua Drowos, a physician and mother to two preschoolers, launched the book giveaway in South Palm Beach County with other mothers.

“PJ Library provides families with the perfect
platform to spent time together, combining Jewish values with a love of reading,” Drowos said. “I can’t think of a better way to engage young Jewish families and strengthen our community now and for the future.”

Parents can contact library director Elana Ostroff at (561) 852-6080 or go to www.plbibrary.org to register.

“This extraordinary program will help us embrace and engage the next generation,” library chairwoman Ilene Wohlgemuth said.

Worship by The Avenue Church is now a tradition at the largest annual festivals in downtown Delray Beach, their organizer says.

Nancy Stewart-Franczak, who organizes Delray Affair and Garlic Fest, says vendors hesitated to work Sundays when she first expanded the festivals into three-day events. Then she included The Avenue Church worship service on stage at Old School Square on Sunday mornings.

“A lot of people have told me it was a blessing to them. They had struggled over whether to participate in our events,” Stewart said. “Now it’s become a tradition that The Avenue Church uses the main stage at Old School Square for all the events we do.”

Church volunteers washed dishes at Garlic Festival this year and participated in other downtown events that Stewart organizes for the Chamber of Commerce.

Senior pastor Casey Cleveland is delighted by the opportunity. “Jesus was always with the people,” he said. “We want to go as Christ went.”

More than 1,000 people braved pouring rain to celebrate a bar mitzvah at Mizner Park Amphitheater for the synagogue that’s become a vibrant center of Jewish life in East Boca Raton.

Dr. Allen Bezner of Highland Beach, who later received the Maimonides’ Physicians Award from Chabad of East Boca, sits next to Marjory Bitson and Alan Bergstein in the front row during Chabad’s bar mitzvah at Mizner Park. Photo by Lisa Nalven

Chabad of East Boca, the only synagogue east of Federal Highway, drew a crowd on March 20 with the first Boca Raton appearance of Mordechai Ben David, a popular Hasidic singer and songwriter.

"Rather than celebrate our bar mitzvah year with a dinner that limits participation, we wanted to do something that would bring the greater community together," Rabbi Ruvi New said. "Nothing does it quite like music.”

Ethan Bortnick, 12, the youngest entertainer to headline a Las Vegas show, also performed. The Freilach Orchestra and Shira Choir flew from New York City to join in. The synagogue presented 15 awards for outstanding contributions to the Boca Raton community.

Howard Kaye received the Community Service Award. The Kosher Market Place was judged best for kosher quality.

Chabad of East Boca received the Kol Halev Award for being a source of joy. "Nothing does it quite like music." Ethan Bortnick, 12, the youngest entertainer to headline a Las Vegas show, also performed. The Freilach Orchestra and Shira Choir flew from New York City to join in. The synagogue presented 15 awards for outstanding contributions to the Boca Raton community.

Ms. Kaye received the Community Service Award. The Kosher Market Place was judged best for kosher quality.

Mizner Park Amphitheater on May 19 for a 65th anniversary celebration to honor the state of Israel. The Maccabeats are young men who perform a cappella, with a fan base of more than 10 million views on YouTube. Israeli folk dancers from the Donna Klein Jewish Academy also will perform. Children’s activities at the free event start an hour before the 4 p.m. stage show. Organizers expect thousands to attend.

Tim Pallesen writes about people of faith, their congregations, causes and community events. Email him at tcpallesen@aol.com.
Ahoy! Look out for pirate’s private paradise on garden tour

I asked to describe the garden at David Nordhausen’s home in Boca Raton, I’d tell you it’s Tarzan meets Captain Kidd. After all, Nordhausen has created the closest thing he could to a jungle in his front yard and, in his side yard, yes, he has a pirate ship complete with plank. “I’ve always thought of myself as a pirate,” says Nordhausen who is an arborist by profession and a buccaneer for amusement. He fell in love with lush vegetation after traveling to Guatemala, Costa Rica, and the Caribbean islands. When he got home he realized there wasn’t much in his front yard. “So I decided to create a controlled jungle unlike anything I’d found in Florida,” he says.

This is just one of the homes you can visit as part of the Mounts Connoisseurs Garden Tour on May 11 and 12, sponsored by Mounts Botanical Garden in West Palm Beach. In its 10th year, the tour will also feature homes with plenty of bromeliads and tropical fruit trees as well as the “over-the-top” garden of a Palm Beach mansion.

While these gardens are fun to see, the tour is designed to educate. “Our mission is to show people how they can garden in Palm Beach County and to let them experience different styles of gardens,” says Mounts Botanical Garden Director David Sistrunk. In 1990, Nordhausen bought his property because it had four live oak trees on it. “These trees had never been butchered so they spread way out,” he says. Today they also tower 40 feet into the air.

He added two royal poincianas to create a dense canopy. Then he set his sprinkler system to mist the air. The water trapped under the trees creates the perfect microclimate for his exotic plants. It’s also a nice place for humans because, on any day, the temperature under the trees is 15 to 20 degrees cooler than anywhere else, he says.

As you follow the Chicago brick paths, you’ll find the giant leaves of the philodendron monstera climbing the trunk of an oak as it reaches for the sun. A giant antler fern hangs from a limb. The charming fans of the Fiji palm, a banana tree and a spreading travelers palm add to the greenery. And a Japanese maple with delicate orange flowers fills a terra cotta pot. Stand quietly for a minute and you’ll recognize the rich resonating tones coming from the hand-tuned wind chime in a poinciana tree. Its music fills the air as does the murmur of water spilling over two fountains. On cool nights, Nordhausen lights the fire pit in this outdoor living room.

At the end of his property you come to a large gate made from well-aged wood found in Mexico and dating back to the 1850s. It’s edged with copper and sports hand-forged iron hardware. Don’t miss the carved wood sign announcing that The Defiant, Nordhausen’s pirate ship, is “anchored” behind the gate. The skull and cross bones flag on the fence removes any doubt. Through the gate you come upon the stern of the ship set under and around a towering oak tree. “At first I thought I’d build a deck that would look like a ship. But when I found a carpenter who loves boats, I decided to build a ship to use as a deck,” he says.

There’s a pier with pilings and a ramp that leads onto the main deck. Notice the authentic cannons and deck guns. Nordhausen says two of the cannons are 10-pound Dutch armaments from 1610.

With all this going on you may have questions about the eclectic mix of plants. Two master gardeners will be stationed at each home on the tour to answer your gardening questions. Deborah S. Hartz-Seeley is a certified master gardener who can be reached at debhartz@att.net when she’s not digging in her yard.

If You Go

The Mounts Connoisseurs Garden Tour, May 11 and 12, includes visits to six private gardens on Saturday; and, on Sunday, a garden in Palm Beach plus Mother’s Day Tea at Mounts Botanical Garden, 532 N. Military Trail, West Palm Beach, where representatives from local plant societies will answer your gardening questions.

Tour tickets good for both days $25; $20 for Mounts members. At time of purchase, you will receive information about the gardens on the tour and directions. For locations to purchase tickets, visit mounts.org or call 233-1757.
Pencil in first Fridays for the dying art of letter-writing

By Ron Hayes

Hardly anybody sends them anymore. Almost everybody still loves them to get them.

We telephone. We email. We text.

Some even tweet.

But how many people send old-fashioned letters, written with a pen, sealed with a kiss?

“I got a letter in the mail one day and it was a revelation,” says John Cutrone. “I stood at the mailbox thinking, ‘Look, I got a real letter!’”

A friend in Maine had actually taken the time to write. Imagine that.

Cutrone, director of the Arthur & Mata Jaffe Center for Book Arts at Florida Atlantic University, was inspired. He would brew a pot of coffee, put out a plate of cookies, provide some nice pens and India ink, fancy paper, and invite the public to stop by and write.

“Real Mail Fridays” was born.

On the first Friday of each month between 4 and 6 p.m., a small but dedicated band of correspondents gathers on the fourth floor of the university’s Wimberly Library to make someone near or far stand by a mailbox and exclaim, “Look, I got a real letter!”

“It’s just about spreading the joy I got from receiving a simple letter,” says Cutrone. “Plus we’re going to save the post office.”

He’s joking, but the U.S. Postal Service isn’t. It lost almost $16 billion last year. The nation’s love affair with email is only a small factor in the downturn — mandated pension payments bear most of the blame — but the challenge is so great the postal service briefly flirted with an end to Saturday deliveries.

Every Forever stamp helps.

At the group’s third meeting, on April 5, a woman named AnnaMaria Windsch-Hunt arrived from Lake Worth with a list of 20 names and addresses. Her bicycle had been stolen from her van recently, she explained, and these 20 friends.

“Instead of buying one of those cards with a manufactured sentiment, I’m telling her why I love her,” said Schwartz. “Letters are very dear to me.”

So dear, in fact, that Schwartz is the author of Girl Friend, a self-published, epistolary novel of World War II.

“When I was a kid in World War II,” she said, “I met a Free French sailor whose ship had docked in New York. I saw that cute beret with the pompon …”

They became friendly, and when he sailed for France, the sailor wrote her.

“Dear Debra … I prefer much more the short evenings with you than the long Sundays without you …

Diane Schwartz of Delray Beach writes a birthday letter to her cousin in Boca Raton. Schwartz is the author of Girl Friend, a self-published novel of World War II.

Boca Raton

By Ron Hayes

Note: Events are current as of 4/26. Please check with organizers for any changes. Send comments to: thecoastalstarcalendar@gmail.com

Saturday - 5/4 - Urban Farming: Vegetables Growing & Bees at Mounts Botanical Garden, 5591 Military Trail, West Palm Beach. Learn how to grow summer vegetables in the sub-tropics and how to prepare a garden for next season’s harvest. The Palm Beach County Beekeepers Association will also provide helpful information. Attendance receive a sending to take home: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. $30 members, $40 non-members. 233-1725.

Tuesday - 5/7 - Boca Raton Garden Club General Meeting in the BGRC clubhouse, 4201 NW 3d Ave. Elizabeth Hoffman presents, “The Natural Preserve Areas of Boca Raton,” 1 p.m. 351-4131.

Saturday - 5/11 - Tropical and Subtropical Fruit Workshop at the Clayton Hutcheson Beachside, 5591 Military Trail, West Palm Beach. Presented by Palm Beach County Cooperative Extension Service and University of Florida/IFAS. Learn how to handle environmental stress, nutrient and fertilizer management, irrigation management, pests and their control, pollination requirements and production of cultural practices of tropical and subtropical fruit. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. 233-1725 or www.pbcgov.com/coextension.

Saturday - 5/18 - Summer Gardening Strategies at Mounts Botanical Garden, Auditorium, 531 N. Military Trail, West Palm Beach. It’s summertime and the gardening will be easier with these sure-fire tips on how to help a garden thrive during the hot, humid season. Learn about plants that tolerate the heat & humidity. 9-11 a.m. $30 members, $35 non-members. 233-1725 or www.mounts.org.

If You Go

What: “Real Mail Fridays” — an effort to revive the dying art of snail-mail.
Where: The Arthur & Mata Jaffe Center for Book Arts in the Wimberly Library, 777 Glades Road on the Florida Atlantic University campus.
When: 4-6 p.m. on the first Friday of each month.
Cost: A donation of $10 is requested.
For more information, visit www.jaffecollection.org or call (561) 297-0455.

Schwartz is 87, but she still has, and treasures, that letter. It appears verbatim in her novel, with the names changed.

“The only people who write letters are people who have declining years,” she lamented.

“We were taught grammar, and how to write, and how to express ourselves. Nobody does that anymore.”

Judith Klauf of Delray Beach sat beside her, composing a letter to her grandson, Pfc. Josh Sandage, 21, who is stationed at Fort Benning, GA.

Is it true that young people don’t send real mail anymore?

“To me he does,” Klau said. “He’s written two wonderful letters to me, and I’ve written about 21 to him. At least.

Meanwhile, Cutrone, the director who started Real Mail Fridays, was satisfied with a letter to her grandmother, Pfc. Joshua Sandage, who is 21 years old and stationed at Fort Benning, GA.

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A few years ago, while recuperating from surgery on a broken leg, I visited a naturopathic medicine practitioner who had suffered a similar injury. She gave me a lot of practical advice — including a line I will never forget.

“You will heal well if you eat nutritious food and get plenty of sleep and sex,” she said.

Hmmm! I’d never had a doctor prescribe sex before. Maybe Marvin Gaye was on to something when he wrote the lyrics to Sexual Healing: “And when I get that feeling, I want sexual healing. Sexual healing is good for me.”

Makes me feel so fine, it’s such a rush!

Helps to relieve the mind, and it’s good for us.

At the time, though, I just didn’t have “that feeling.” My libido was stuck in neutral.

Thanks to a new book, Kiss and Tell: Secrets of Sexual Desire from Women 15 to 97, I have been reassured that “neutral” is a natural state of being for women, especially those who’ve been with the same partner for many years.

“It’s not because we don’t like sex. It’s because we have about one-tenth the amount of testosterone (the sex-drive-producing hormone) men do,” says Anne Rodgers, a former Palm Beach Post editor who wrote the book along with Wellington gynecologist Dr. Maureen Whelihan. “So our partners need to learn ways to shift us into drive.”

The book is based on survey of 1,300 women — all patients of Dr. Whelihan — and follow-up interviews with 100 of those patients. The women were asked questions such as what stimulates their desire, what they think about during sex, and what is their quickest route to orgasm.

Kiss and Tell is part social history (with first-person accounts of the impact of the 1960s sexual revolution) and part Penthouse Forum (it appeals to the voyeur in us). We meet Alexa, a self-described bisexual who wrote the book with her first orgasm at 82. The survey includes women who are single, married, divorced, widowed, straight, lesbian and bisexual.

“There are a million things that stimulate women’s desire,” Rodgers says. “One woman wrote, ‘the smell of suntan lotion.’ Another wrote, ‘wearing tight thong underwear.’ But for women of all ages, kissing ranked very high as the No. 1 trigger.”

I have to agree. A good kiss can launch a very good lovingmaking session.

And as the book makes clear, women who have satisfying sex lives are happier. But I wondered: Are they healthier? Why exactly is sex “good for us,” as Marvin Gaye put it?

Whelihan, who is a founding partner of the Center for Sexual Health and Education in West Palm Beach, was happy to address my question in an email.

“Sex is an integral part of both physical and emotional wellness,” she wrote. “There is an innate need to be touched. Human contact stimulates the natural transmitters in the brain like dopamine and norepinephrine that give us drive and energy.

“Sexual activity burns calories and increases the heart rate and blood pressure,” she continued. “Stimulating the pelvic floor with thrusting and orgasm help maintain pelvic support as well as bladder function well into a woman’s 80s. Regular intercourse keeps the vagina supple and lubricated without the need for estrogen creams.

“Statistically,” she concluded, “women who have sex three times a week live seven years longer!”

All the more reason to discover the secrets of desire. Kiss and Tell is available for sale online at kissandtellbook.com or Amazon.com.

Anne Rodgers (left) and Dr. Maureen Whelihan collaborated on the new book Kiss and Tell. Photo provided by Lee Hershfield.

Anne Rodgers and Maureen Whelihan.

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- Exposed 18’ wood circular ceilings
- Individual HVAC system with exposed aluminum
- Individual kitchenettes with under-counter refrigerators, sinks and microwaves
- Individual restrooms
- Designer tile and flooring in kitchenettes and restrooms

FOR LEASING INFORMATION CONTACT: Jim Knight 561-756-2833
Saturday - 5/4 - Saturdays @ Sanborn:

Note: Events are current as of 4/26. Please check

5/4 - Boca Bootcamp  
Center, 128 E. Ocean Ave. All ages and levels  
Hwy., Boca Raton. Held every Sat. Registration:  
8:45-9:35 am. First class is free. 8 classes: $56/ 
training and stretching. Held every M & W.  
at Sugar Sand Park Field House, 300 S. Military  
Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach. 9:30-11 am. $20.  
5/4 - Yoga Class  
$15/residents, $19/non-residents per class, or  
postural alignment and stabilize the core.  
Reef Park West, 1221 N. Ocean Blvd., Boca  
Raton. 393-7807.

5/4 - Zumba Class  
$94/non-resident; per 12-pack: $100/resident,  
$50/non-resident; per 8-pack: $75/resident,  
$45/non-resident. 393-7703 or www.downtownboca.org.  
5/4 - Capoeira Fitness  
$243-7350.

5/4 - Yoga Workout at the Beach  
Held every Sat. 10:30 am. Free. 243-7352.

5/4 - Tai Chi Class  
$347-3900.

5/4 - Divorced and Separated Support  
Group. Held every Thursday. For  
ages 18 and up. 8 am. Free. 243-7352.

5/4 - Get Fit Mom’s Boot Camp  
393-7703 or www.brrh.com.

5/4 - Women’s Issues Support Group  
at Bethesda Memorial Hospital, 2851 S. Seacrest Blvd.,  
Boca Raton. 6-7:30 pm. First session free, $5  
runs through 7/3. For ages 16 & up. 7-8 pm.  
Per 6-pack: $25/residents, $30/non-residents.  
Runs through 7/18. For ages 10 & up. 4:40 pm-  
Saturday - 5/25 - Belly Dancing with  
Scherzach at Primrose Park, 91 NE 12th St.  
Delray Beach. A fun, safe, light exercise  
class that can improve your strength, flexibility,  
cardiovascular, coordination, and self-confidence.  
No experience or partner required. Runs through 7/3 for  
adults. 12:10-1:30 pm. 561-567-6065.

5/5 - Light Kickboxing  
$55 divide. 727-463-9463.

5/5 - Tai Chi - Beginners  
9-10 am. Held every Thursday. For  
ages 18 and up. 10:30 am. Free. 243-7352.

5/5 - Women’s Issues Support Group  
Runs through 7/3. For ages 16 & up. 12:30-1:30 pm.  
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ages 18 and up. 8 am. Free. 243-7352.
The owner of the Finn-Atic Fish Co. has the perfect last name for his fresh fish business: Finn.

By Jane Smith

Eric Finn, who was graduated from Florida Atlantic University in 2008 with a degree in marketing and a passion for spearfishing, soon soured on the corporate world. He turned to his love of spearfishing to support himself as a commercial fisherman, selling to restaurants and retailers. Then last year, he wanted to sell to consumers without the hassle and cost of a physical location. His Internet site went live in October, and is updated daily with the fresh fish available.

“Our specialty is hogfish,” he says of his spearfishing prowess. Hogfish sells for $19.99 a pound, making it the most expensive fish sold by Finn-atc. The fish is filleted by hand.

Lobster, when it is in season, is also popular. “We have a selective way of harvesting that doesn’t involve nets,” Finn, 27, says. “So there’s no waste.”

Finn-atc fish also is available at the Delray GreenMarket on Saturdays until mid-May and the Carnival Flea Market in west Delray Beach on Thursdays. About half of the company’s sales come from the website, the rest from the markets. A sliding scale of delivery fees ($10-$30) is based on ZIP codes in Palm Beach and Broward counties; orders over $100 are delivered for free.

Wife Lisa, a schoolteacher and co-owner of Finn-atc, helps him at the GreenMarket. His deckhand and all-around mate on the 23-foot Finn-atic fishing boat is Chris Burke. Burke’s girlfriend, Christine Nocastro, works the Thursday market.

Finn is mulling the start of a subscription service this summer, so that consumers won’t have to log on to his website weekly but still can receive fresh fish each week. He is also interested in putting coupons in monthly local magazines to help grow his business.

“Eventually, we’d like to get into shipping across the country,” Finn says. “Many of our green market customers are snowbirds who go back north for the summer but still want fresh fish.”

A fifth-generation Floridian, former chairman of the Historical Society of Palm Beach County and prolific chronicler of this area’s pioneers, Harvey Oyer III knows Florida well. But even he had never heard of the Florida Distinguished Author award, until he won it.

Oyer has been named the Distinguished Florida Author for 2013 by Florida House, a nonprofit, privately funded “embassy” situated across from the U.S. Supreme Court on Washington’s Capitol Hill.

The education committee, which also honors the visual arts, has named sea life painter Guy Harvey this year’s Distinguished Artist.

Both will be honored during a three-day celebration culminating May 16 with a dinner in the Grand Hall of the Library of Congress.

“I didn’t know anything about it until they notified me,” Oyer said, “There are many great authors associated with Florida — Ernest Hemingway, Robert Frost, Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings — but if you notice the ones [Florida House] selected in the past, they tend to be writers who not only lived here, but actually write about Florida. I’m deeply honored.”

Past recipients include Bob Beatty, Carlton W. Ward Jr. and Marjorie Stoneman Douglas.

Oyer’s great-great-grandparents, Hannibal and Margretta Pierce, arrived in southeast Florida in 1872. Their daughter, Lillie Pierce Voss, was Oyer’s great-grandmother, the first white child born between Jupiter and Miami. A plaque across from the Marriott Hotel in Delray Beach marks the approximate place of her birth in August 1876. And Lillie’s brother — Oyer’s great-grand-uncle — stars in The Adventures of Charlie Pierce, a trilogy of children’s books that celebrate his family’s Florida history, and for which Florida House now celebrates him.

“This is the 40th anniversary of Florida House and the 500th anniversary of Ponce de Leon’s landing, so we wanted to honor someone who really celebrated our history,” said Susan Clemons, another fifth-generation Floridian and a board member of Florida House, who nominated Oyer. “We’ve never had a children’s author before, and Harvey’s a wonderful person who’s worked so hard to celebrate our state.”

About 85,000 students throughout South Florida now read the Charlie Pierce series as part of their fourth-grade history classes.

“For more information, visit http://floridaembassy.com and www.theadventuresofcharliepierce.com.”

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### REDUCED TO SELL

**STUNNING BUILDABLE LOT – CHURCHILL WAY POINT MANALAPAN ON .75 ACRE**

Most serene setting in Manalapan with over 250 Ft of water frontage. Plans for previously permitted 8,000 SF home and new renderings for 4,600 SF home available. Conveys with gratis membership to Ritz-Carlton Hotel membership.

**$1,600,000**

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### REDUCED

**WIDE WEST INTRACOASTAL VIEWS HYPOLUXO ISLAND ON S ATLANTIC DR**

2 Bedroom/2 Bath + Den + Family Room, 2-car garage. Private setting with pool/spa and deep-water dock, ocean access. Large, screened lanai accessed from family room, LR with fireplace. Gorgeous sunset views!

**$1,500,000**

---

### JUST SOLD

**40 AUDUBON CSWY**

This beautifully appointed and landscaped residence has a 1,500 SF Master Suite on 1st level. Water views from the moment you enter the home.

Offered at $2,499,000

**SOLD FOR $2,300,000**

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### JUST SOLD

**1520 LANDS END RD.**

Contemporary 2-story with 5 En-Suite Bedrooms and 1 Half Bath, 2-car garage is sited on over 200 ft of water frontage with long south views.

Offered at $1,695,000

**SOLD FOR $1,600,000**

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### PENDING SALE WITH BUYER

**314 N ATLANTIC DR. HYPOLUXO ISLAND – LANTANA**

Waterfront home on North End of Island walking distance to beach, shopping, Ritz-Carlton Eau Spa and dining facilities.

---

### HYPOLUXO ISLAND JUST REDUCED!

Affordable and charming pool home, with wood floors and screened patio off of eat-in kitchen. 1-car carport. Location, location, location! Fantastic, large yard in best of all neighborhoods walking Distance to ocean beach, dining and shopping. Needs some TLC.

$294,000
The COASTAL STAR

House of the Month

Delray Beach home offers updated charm

This beach-area dream house offers all of the charm and grace of a vintage beachside property with all the conveniences and updates of today. Seamlessly renovated in 2010 by Seaside Builders, this four-bedroom, 3½-bath home has it all.

Situated on one of the most desirable streets in Delray Beach, it is close to the ocean and two blocks to Atlantic Avenue. The house sits on a large, lushly landscaped lot with a 10-foot access in the backyard onto a basin and the Intracoastal — it’s the perfect place to launch a kayak or paddleboard or just watch the boats go by.

Inside, all the rooms feature custom millwork, hardwood floors, hurricane-impact windows and doors, and high ceilings with architectural detail. The charming foyer leads to the warm and inviting living room with wood-burning fireplace.

An open foyer leads to the living room, which has a wood-burning fireplace.

The large gourmet eat-in kitchen flows into the family room, Florida room and exterior living spaces, including the pool and dining pergola.

The elegant en suite master bedroom looks onto the pool and Intracoastal. Away from the master bedroom are three spacious guest bedrooms and two full baths.

Offered at $2.1 million by Val Coz, Fite Shavell Associates. Call (561) 655-6570 or (561) 386-8011 to schedule a showing.

This 2,850-square-foot Delray Beach home has been scrupulously updated but still retains its vintage appeal.
Delray Beach Waterfront ~ $2,195,000
Lifestyle. Location. This 3 BR, 3 BA pool home situated one house from the Intracoastal and two blocks from the beach. 100' on deepwater canal. Private dock with electric and water. Linda Lake, 561-702-4898

Bel Lido ~ Highland Beach ~ $1,520,000
16’ of dockable space with picturesque southeast water views. Loggia. 3 BR; 2.5 BA pool home with a 2 car garage. 2,700 sq. ft. of living area with marble and tile floors, handmade master suite and docked beach access. Sue Tauriello, 561-441-4200

Delray Dunes ~ $1,200,000
Enjoy spectacular views of the golf course and brand new clubhouse! Totally updated 4 BR; 4½ BA Bermuda style pool home boasting over 4,000 sq. ft. of living area. Quality craftsmanship and beautiful appointments throughout. Look no further! Erik Ring, 561-441-6880.

Limetree Court ~ $106,000
Well maintained 2 BR, 2 BA single story villa in a 55+ Boynton Beach community. Great pool and Intracoastal views. Deeded boat dock and 27,000 lb. boat lift included. Elizabeth Rurey, 561-302-1552

Delray Beach Club Condominiums ~ $345,000
Open and bright 2 BR, 2 BA southeast corner unit on the sixth floor offering outstanding Ocean and Intracoastal views. Very spacious living area with custom mirrors. A much sought after gated community. Ellen Storck, 561-414-1514

Close To The Beach ~ $349,900
Charming 2 BR, 1 BA Delray Beach home with a 1 BR, 1 BA attached apartment, each with a private, fenced back yard. An ideal location, just off Federal Highway. Walk to shops and restaurants on Atlantic Avenue. Laura Gallagher, 561-441-6111

Inlet Harbor Club ~ $289,900
A boaters dream location right across from the Boynton Inlet. Beautifully updated 2 BR, 2 BA condominium with a screen enclosed porch offering Intracoastal views. Deeded boat dock and 1,000 lb. boat lift included. Elizabeth Rurey, 561-302-1552

East Wind Beach Club ~ $250,000
Right across the street from the beach and one block to Atlantic Avenue. 1 Bedroom, 1 Bath unit on the second floor in the west building. Great ocean and pool views! Good investment with wonderful rental income. Elizabeth Rurey, 561-302-1552

Downtown Delray Beach ~ $480,000
70’ x 132’ Vacant Lot. An ideal location across from City Hall and the Tennis Center One block off Swinton/Atlantic intersection. Perfect for professional office or boutique townhomes. Francisco Perez-Azua, 561-702-0028

Sea Fields ~ Delray Beach ~ $389,900
Exceptional 1 BR, 1 BA co-op with a southern exposure right across the street from the beach. Impact windows, granite countertops and sold turn-key. Currently only one unit available in this intimate complex with only 30 units. Elizabeth Rurey, 561-302-1552

Andover Lakefront ~ Delray Beach ~ $475,000
Beautiful 3 BR, 2½ BA lakefront pool home with a 2 car garage, 2,400 sq. ft. of living area. Open floor plan with cathedral ceilings, clerestory windows, French doors and Mexican tile floors. A through block adjacent to gated community. Elizabeth Rurey, 561-302-1552

Downtown Delray Beach ~ $410,000
Very spacious 3 BR, 2½ BA tri-level townhome with a spiral staircase and private elevator. Great pool and Intracoastal views. A desirable southern exposure with a first floor covered patio. 2,900 sq. ft. of living area. Linda Lake, 561-702-4898

East Wind Beach Club ~ $106,000
Well maintained 2 BR, 2 BA single story villa in a 55+ Boynton Beach community. New ceramic tile floors and plantation shutters throughout. eat-in kitchen with stack washer & dryer, plus a covered porch with hurricane shutters. Linda Welch, 561-951-6433

Bellamar House ~ Gulf Stream ~ $725,000
Rarely available 3 BR, 2 BA direct oceanfront with a southwest exposure offering sweeping million dollar water views. An ideal two floor location; this is one of only 3 units in the building offering west and east balconies. Boyd Schoeller, 561-702-5159

Sea Fields ~ Delray Beach ~ $398,900
Exceptional 1 BR, 1 BA co-op with a southern exposure right across the street from the beach. Impact windows, granite countertops and sold turn-key. Currently only one unit available in this intimate complex with only 30 units. Elizabeth Rurey, 561-302-1552

Casa Costa ~ Boynton Beach ~ $375,000
Enjoy fabulous ocean and Intracoastal views from this 2 BR, den/office, 2 Bath penthouse unit. Interior features include extra high 10’ ceilings, gourmet kitchen with stainless and split bedrooms. 2 resort style pools. Mary Renaud, 561-441-0634

Del-Ida Park ~ Delray Beach ~ $349,000
Charming 2 BR, 1 BA cottage situated on a large, private lot. Lots of room to expand or convert to office space. OSSHD zoning. Walk to shops and restaurants on Atlantic Avenue. Laura Gallagher, 561-441-6111

Downtown Delray Beach ~ $480,000
70’ x 132’ Vacant Lot. An ideal location across from City Hall and the Tennis Center. One block off Swinton/Atlantic intersection. Perfect for professional office or boutique townhomes. Francisco Perez-Azua, 561-702-0028

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Impact 100 members neither waste time nor money, but with their signature flair and a fair share of fanfare, they awarded $200,000 on April 18 to area nonprofits Women of Tomorrow and Equine-Assisted Therapies of South Florida.

Through Women of Tomorrow’s mentor and scholarship program, professional women are paired with small groups of at-risk public high-school girls to teach them personal and professional skills necessary for life success, reaching goals and increasing self-esteem.

Founded in Miami by Jennifer Valoppi in 1997, Women of Tomorrow now operates in 43 Florida and 13 metro Detroit cities, serving more than 2,500 at-risk young women annually in 130 public high schools with its network of more than 350 professionals. Valoppi said the Impact 100 funding will allow her organization to have a south Palm Beach County office, hire an area person, double its mentors here and increase its services to an additional 75 young women in south Palm Beach County. Equine-Assisted Therapies of South Florida, founded 30 years ago and based in Coconut Creek, offers people with special needs recreational therapy with the grant.

By Christine Davis

Impact 100 members, including Laura Stoltz (raised fist), react as the winners of the $100,000 grants are announced at the Delray Beach Marriott. Photos by Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star

Selected nonprofits profit from group’s largesse

Above: Molly Murphy spoke about her first-hand knowledge of the healing effects of equine therapy.

Left: Jennifer Valoppi from Women of Tomorrow promised to expand her group’s mentoring programs reach to 10 high schools in southern Palm Beach County with the grant.
Molly Murphy, the organization’s outreach manager and presenter on April 18, used herself as an example. Diagnosed with cerebral palsy, she became a student in the program when she was 9 years old. Thanks to the therapeutic exercise afforded through horseback riding that stretched out her muscles, she avoided a series of surgeries. The Impact 100 funding will allow Equine-Assisted Therapies to take on 75 new south Palm Beach County riders in need and increase the programs’ presence in the area.

Impact 100 is a donor-advised fund of the Community Foundation of Palm Beach and Martin Counties, which acts as the organization’s back office. Each of Impact 100’s 220 members wrote a check for $1,050.

“[We call what we do] efficient philanthropy. ’One woman. One vote. One meeting,’ ” said co-founder Tandy Robinson of Delray Beach. In its second year, membership has doubled under the leadership of founders Robinson, Cindy Krebsbach and Lisa Mulhall. Anyone can be in the organization, said board member Karen Sweetapple of Boca Raton. “You don’t have to put in a lot of time, and people are interested in our organization for that reason. “We put the word out as much as we could, so that we could take letters of inquiry from nonprofits who proposed to make an impact in south Palm Beach County,” she said.

This year, 85 nonprofits applied in one of five categories: arts and culture, education, environment, family and health and wellness.

“Behind the scenes, members who choose to be reviewers, read, rate and discuss the nonprofits, and decide which ones will be asked for a full grant application,” Robinson said. At that point, the field was narrowed down to 29. “Those organizations received a 90-minute site visit, and from there, the members decided who would be the finalist in each category,” she said.

On April 18, those five made a presentation to the Impact 100 members at the Marriott hotel in Delray Beach, outlining how they planned to spend the money if they won the funding, how they would impact south Palm Beach County and how they planned to make their proposed program sustainable.

After the presentations, the members voted. While the top two nonprofits received the bulk of the money, the three other nonprofits received the remaining funds. They were: Delray Beach Center for the Arts at Old School Square’s program, Delray Reads — Summer Glide; Coastal Conservation Association of Florida’s south Palm Beach County artificial reef habitat project; and Children’s Home Society — Family 4 Kids.
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Delray Beach. Beautiful ocean views abound from this updated 2 BR/2 bath apartment. The unit offers a brand new kitchen and large, open living dining room with lots of natural light. Comprised of 1,824 total sf this condo is the perfect place to relax and enjoy warm ocean breezes. WEB #2563471

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Around Town

Sports Legends to salute unintended honoree

Jeff Bolton was one of the good guys. Great accountant. Tremendous sports fan. Loving husband. Unwavering father. When he learned six years ago that his son Jason had acute myeloid leukemia, a nasty bone marrow disease that attacks maybe five in 100,000 of us each year, he declared war, physical and psychological.

He found the best doctors at Dana-Farber Children’s Cancer Center in Boston. He virtually quit work for eight months to keep Jason company during his treatment. He rounded up all kinds of sports memorabilia and autographs, some for Jason, lots for other young patients. As painful as the treatment was for Jason, Jeff did his best to make the boy’s life a party.

It obviously worked. Today Jason’s in remission and back in school in Palm Beach Gardens.

Bolton returned to work, steadily building Da$zkal Bolton, the Boca-based accounting firm he co-founded.

But he wasn’t finished. He wasn’t about to forget about all the other kids. He joined the board of the Bone Marrow Foundation and chaired its annual “Sports Legends” event.

The next one is May 5 and 6 at Addison Reserve in Delray Beach — dinner and auction Sunday and golf the next day. The usual good feeling, however, will be tempered — Bolton won’t be there.

On Friday, April 19, while swimming in the Bahamas during the firm’s annual end of tax season holiday, Bolton, 47, was caught by a tricky rip current. In a flash, he drowned.

“I don’t know too many people as generous, kind and down-to-earth as Jeff Bolton,” close friend Harvey Oyer III said.

After briefly considering a postponement, foundation executives decided to proceed with the Sports Legends event.

Former Pittsburgh Steelers Coach Bill Cowher is designated “legend,” but the real honoree will be Bolton.

The crowds may not have been SRO, but Delray built considerable capital from the Federation Cup tennis matches on April 20 and 21. Of course, it doesn’t hurt to have the Williams sisters on — and in — your court. Home, after all, is in Palm Beach Gardens, so Atlantic Avenue isn’t unfamiliar.

During the draw ceremony and press conference, Venus, Serena and their teammates couldn’t hold back knowledgeable giggles at the mention of “the cupcake shop,” an obvious reference to Cupcake Couture. A little farther south, Venus had made a post-tennis investment in her interior design career by decorating one of the 52 luxury condos at One Thousand Ocean on Boca Raton Resort & Club property on the north side of the Boca Inlet.

The weather may have played a role in the United States’ favor. To locals, the low 50s, were downright pleasant, but withStockholm in the low 50s, Delray may as well have been Dubai to the Swedes.

Faced with protests from students, faculty and community leaders, prisoners-for-profit company GEO Group withdrew its offer to pay Florida Atlantic University $6 million for stadium naming rights. FAU President Mary Jane Saunders has signed a modified Teddy Roosevelt response — “Speak softly but say nothing,” except to brag about school successes.

For example, students from the school’s Diplomacy Program in the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts & Letters received a seventh consecutive Distinguished Delegation Award for participating in the 2013 National Model United Nations competition in New York City.

More than 6,000 university students from around the world participated in the annual six-day U.N. simulation. Perhaps Saunders should sit in on some of the Diplomacy Program’s sessions. Established in 1996, it provides training “in the art of negotiation, conflict resolution and global problem solving.”

As GEO Group withdrew from the 12-year stadium deal, it simultaneously announced a gift of $500,000 to the school’s scholarship fund. Hmm — $6 million divided by 12 is, right, $500,000. Yet hardly a peep from protesters. If the $6 million pledge was dirty money, why is GEO’s half-million OK?

To pour more spicy wing sauce on the owl, in mid-April former athletic director Craig Angelos claimed to have lined up a six-year, $1 million annual deal with a large, unnamed South Florida automobile dealership chain.

His superior, he said, told him to hold off in hopes of a better deal with … Chick-fil-A.

Oops. Chick-fil-A has never sponsored a stadium. Great waffle fries, but much to the dismay of Sunday shoppers at Boca’s Town Center mall, they’re closed on Sunday.

Company policy is rooted in founder Truett Cathy’s vow to “not deal with money on the Lord’s Day.” Then last summer Trusty’s son and company CEO Dan Cathy spoke out against gay marriage, and word got out that the company’s charity wing had given millions to oppose gay rights.

Furthermore, the stadium opened in 2011. Chick-fil-A was there … until it was bounced by Chartwells, the stadium concessionaire, because of its “late arriving and understaffed” crew, according to Owl Access, a sports website that covers FAU athletics.

Chick-fil-A was replaced by Mississippi Sweets, a local barbecue restaurant.

Tired of waiting, the car dealer drove off, and the search for a stadium sponsor has resumed. It won’t be GEO Group Stadium. Or Owlcatraz. But don’t expect the hoot and holler to subside just yet.

Some alumni are sticking by their alma mater. The Gotta Luv Them Fishing Tournament will benefit the FAU National Alumni Association. Kickoff party and auction are set for May 31 at Deck 84 in Delray Beach, with lines-in next morning at 8. Top prize for the biggest kingfish, dolphin, tuna or wahoo is $2,500. Entry fee is $400 per boat.

The tournament is sponsored by the Gotta Luv Them Foundation, which was just established by three FAU alumni, Chris Trentine, José Herrera and Tyrone Bradley, to promote fundraising that benefits education, especially at FAU. Contact (954) 900-6080 or gottaluvthem.org.

After a week’s delay, Stage Left Theatre’s production of Last of the Red Hot Lovers enjoyed sold-out performances at Boynton Beach’s Madison Center. Next up, July 8-11, is The Cat Princess, the first summer children’s show.

Auditions are set for May 6 at 7 p.m. at Madison Center, 145 SE Second Ave. (Call 301-5404 or email peterpag@comcast.net or stagelefttheatre.net for details).

“We got in half a season and will do the kids shows in the summer and see how it goes,” Artistic Director Peter Pagliaro said.

With two plays and two musicals planned for the fall, Pagliaro is optimistic for a change. For 18 years he ran the Royal Playhouse, first in Royal Palm Beach, then in suburban West Palm Beach for 10 years, then one more year in Lake Park before moving to Boynton.

“We’ve been bouncing around,” Pagliaro said. “We had great facility at Syms Plaza in West Palm Beach (Forest Hill and Military Trail) until Syms went under and the bank foreclosed on the center. Now Boynton has offered us the...
The Great

The Atlantic Grille at The Seagate
E. Atlantic Ave., 665-4900 or theatlanticgrille.com

The Price: $9

The Skinny:

If you want the best, go for the worst … at Bad Ragaz Hall & Biergarten, which has finally opened at Las Ventanas at the corner of Federal and Woolbright in Boynton. For $58, chef and owner Alessandro Silvestri serves up one of the nine wursts in the kitchen — including brat, knack, rinds and Weiss — which guests can wash down with a VB (Very Important Beer) from one of three taps at the table or from more than 75 others from the bar.

On the horizon:
May 8, 6-10 p.m. — On the Avenue in Delray Beach, Artists from Artists Alley in the Pineapple Grove Arts District will show their work along Atlantic Avenue. Chefs from Papa’s Tapas will cook up giant paella to sell. Music by Across the Universe, Beatles tribute band.
May 18-19, 6-10 p.m. — Old School Square Beer Fest at the Delray Center for the Arts. More than 50 craft brews and wine, live music, food trucks. Advance tickets, $30, $60 for VIP, $10 more at gate. (delraycenterforthearts.org)
May 31, 5:30 p.m. — John Scully, the man behind the Pepsi Generation, the man who made Apple more than a fruit, Palm Beach resident and as of March 8, newsworthy, will speak about local entrepreneurship at Palm Beach State College’s Duncan Theatre. For tickets, $50, (561) 868-3450 or www.palmbeachstate.edu/foundation/steam.
June 1, 1 p.m. — The Great Summer Quest at the Ritz-Carlton, Manalapan. Corporate teams and individuals participate in limousine-assisted scavenger hunt for big prizes, followed by cocktail party. Benefits Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County. Entry: $450 individual; $2,500 for team of six. (683-3287).

Here and there:
The knot may be closer for former Delray resident and still occasional visitor Nick Loeb and his Modern Family squeeze, Sofia Vergara. The Colombian actress, who survived a bout with thyroid cancer, conceded on Entertainment Tonight, “At 40, nature doesn’t cooperate as much.”
Loeb, a businessman who also developed Onion Crunch, isn’t hurting for cash, but Vergara may be the bigger bank account. Forbes magazine declared her the highest paid actress in television, based on her series pay plus returns from her production company, a Kmart clothing line, and multimillion endorsements for Pepsi and Burger King, among others.

Tony “The Coach” Robbins has bought the spec-built oceanfront home at 750 S. Ocean Blvd. in Manalapan for $24,175 million. The specs: 12,124 square feet, six bedrooms, seven full baths, four half baths, two two-car garages, pool, media room, wine cellar, club room, 175 feet of oceanfront and Intracoastal waterfront, two-acre lot.

A reader spotted a plane flying along the beach in Delray recently, towing a banner with the message: TAKE UR TICKETS FROM UR CAR. Signed: The Boca Raton Police Dept.

Thom Smith is a freelance writer. thomsmitth@ymail.com.

Dining
A generous spread of Mediterranean goodness

The Plate: Mediterranean Hummus Plate
The Place: Jellies Bar at The Atlantic Grille at The Seagate Hotel and Spa, 1000 E. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach; 665-4900 or theatlanticgrille.com
The Price: $9

The Skinny: Sometimes you want something light, and nothing suits a breezy April evening quite like a plate of hummus.

It’s both good and good for you. The hummus at The Atlantic Grille was smooth and had a nice tang. It was served with wonderfully roasted red peppers that were cooked to intensify the flavor but retained an almost al dente texture — they were not falling apart. Add to that a minor mountain of Kalamata olives and creamy cubes of feta, and you have the perfect meal. The Atlantic Grille takes it a step further and offers a salad composed of crispy array of mixed greens all topped with fresh balsamic vinaigrette that was redolent with balsamic vinaigrette that was redolent with...
Although the arts center has run for two years was in danger last month of going the way of the Florida Philharmonic or Ballet Florida, Alyona Ushe says she didn’t allow herself to think of that possibility. “I didn’t have the luxury,” said Ushe, executive director of the Arts Garage in Delray Beach. “If you’re going to fight for something you believe in, you have to believe you’re going to be successful.” And the fight to keep the Arts Garage in place at 180 NE First St. ended April 16 with a decision by the Delray Beach City Commission to leave the nonprofit where it is for now rather than make it surrender its city-owned space to a law firm that wanted to use it for a call center. The commission gave the Garage 2½ years to raise enough money to buy the space, and Ushe is aiming to bring in about $3.5 million. “We’re convinced that we can do it,” said Ushe, whose office now has six full-time employees. She may expand that to $5 million if the Arts Warehouse on Northeast Third Street is added in. The city bought that building for around $1.1 million in 2010. “In our ideal world, in a perfect world, we would have an arts district in Pineapple Grove that would have two cornerstones, two anchors. One would be the Warehouse and the other would be us,” she said. “With the Artists Alley exploding as well, it begins to feel like a true arts district. And hopefully, we can stop having this knee-jerk reaction to everything that happens here, and look at a strategic plan, look at what’s best for the city, look at what’s best for the arts district, for the artists.” As it happens, it will be a busy May for the Garage. In theater, the Garage’s Performing Arts School will present the dance musical Footloose (May 16-19), while in music, jazz pianist Dolph Castellano (May 10) and Miami timba band Tiempo Libre (May 25) are scheduled, along with jazz fusion band Oriente (May 11), funk-Latin band Aaron Lebos Reality (May 24), and blues guitarist Doug Deming with harmonica player Dennis Gruenling (May 18). The month opens May 3 and May 4 with Voices of Pride, the gay men’s chorus, in two concerts to mark the ensemble’s 10th anniversary. Programs through the summer are booked, and the group is working now on the upcoming season, Ushe said. Lou Tyrrell’s Theater at Arts Garage, which wrapped its season last month with the world premiere of Duncan Macmillan’s Long’s Lungs, will mount four productions next season, one more than it did in 2012-13. Ushe said she was “humbled” by the support Arts Garage has received. “It’s a new lease on life,” she said. “We have time to make a significant difference and solidify permanently our future here in this county.” To donate to Arts Garage, call 450-6357 or visit www.artsGarage.org.

It’s your choice: The Grammy-nominated concert choir Seraphic Fire, which added Boca Raton’s St. Gregory’s Episcopal Church to its regular roster of venues two seasons ago, closes its current season at the church May 9 with a program called Cathedral Classics. This will be a concert of requested pieces drawn from ideas submitted from 323 people on the choir’s email list. As of late April, the program has been finalized, but some of the most popular choices were Gregorio Allegri’s Miserere, Mozart’s Ave verum corpus, the Alleluia of Randall Thompson and Thomas Tallis’ If Ye Love Me.

The Boca concert comes two days after the release of the group’s newest disc, titled Seraphic Fire. It’s a collection primarily of contemporary sacred music. The choir, founded by Patrick Dupré Quigley, also learned last month that it is the recipient of a $12,500 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to support its next recording, which will be called American Voices and should be released in September 2014. Seraphic Fire will return to St. Gregory’s for the 2013-14 season, which will include a newly commissioned completion by American composer Gregory Spears of the Mozart Requiem, J.S. Bach’s Magnificat, and Haydn’s Seven Last Words. The choir’s two Christmas-themed concerts — a selection of carols by candlelight and Handel’s Messiah — have been sellouts at St. Gregory’s, and the other concerts have had attendance in the 70-80 percent range. “We surpassed our expectations in attendance there, and that goes in hand in hand with the level of support we get through donations,” communications manager Michael Burgess said. “This is a community that has embraced Seraphic Fire.” The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. at the church just outside Mizner Park. Tickets are $38. Call (805) 285-8906 or visit www.seraphicfire.org to buy them in advance.

State of talent: For more than six decades, the Boca Raton Museum of Art has hosted a juried competition devoted solely to artists of local Florida. The 62nd version of the All-Florida Juried Competition and Exhibition opens at the museum May 8 and runs through July 14. About 550 artists from across the state submitted pieces. This year’s juror, Mark Scala, chief curator at the Frist Center for the Visual Arts in Nashville, chose 149 pieces by 122 artists for the exhibition, including paintings, drawings, sculptures, photographs, videos and installations.

Kelli Bodle, an assistant curator at the museum and the curator of the exhibition, said photography is a major part of this exhibition, along with large abstract paintings. “In society, more people are picking up cameras. They’re more convenient now, and people are using them for fine arts careers,” Bodle said. “That is definitely the most predominant form for this show.” Bodle said the exhibit demonstrates that Florida has substantial arts activity. “From my professional perspective as someone who has lived in the Midwest and the Northeast, we have just as vibrant an arts scene here,” she said. “Miami is burgeoning. Palm Beach is doing well . . . We’re hitting almost every conceivable culture or cultural event (in the show), and every part of the state seems to have its own little specialty.”

The museum at Mizner Park is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday, noon to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Adult admission is $8; seniors 65 and older get in for $6. Call 392-2500 or visit www.bocamuseum.org.

Notes: This is the last month to see the Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens’ farewell exhibit by its retiring curator, Tom Gregersen. He shares “cool stuff” from the Delray museum’s vaults as a meditation on the art and culture of Japan. The exhibit closes May 19 . . . Michael Fagien began his Jazziz magazine 30 years ago while a medical student at Tulane University and operated a Jazziz Bistro for some years at the Seminole Casino in Hollywood. His club at Mizner Park, Jazziz Nightlife, opened May 1 with a surprise guest, Michael Ringwald. Other acts this month include Nicole Henry (May 9), Larry Carlson (May 15-16), the Yellowjackets (May 22-23), and Nestor Torres (May 29-30).

Summer Arts

Arts Garage staying put; Seraphic Fire ends season; Florida art at Boca Museum

A

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This image by George Banet of Highland Beach is in the All-Florida Juried Competition at the Boca Raton Museum of Art.

This is a fanaced disc, titled Miserere of the most popular choices

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The ArtsPaper

Greg Stephanich is editor of The ArtsPaper. Email him at gstepanich@pbartspaper.com.

Jazz fusion band Oriente will perform at the Arts Garage on May 11. Photo provided

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Fifty-eight girls took part in the American Girl Fashion Show put on April 13 at the Delray Beach Marriott. The event raised nearly $30,000 to benefit the Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County. It took 35 volunteers to keep pace with the more than 750 in attendance.

**TOP ROW, left to right:** Virginia Kinsey helps the staff of Fly Dry as they style the hair of dozens of dolls. Helen Peck photographs her daughters, Reagan and Elizabeth, while they perform on the runway. Later in the ‘green room,’ dad Chris Peck gets hugs from both girls.

**ABOVE:** As girls dance on the runway during a musical performance, the audience joins in the fun.

**LEFT:** Jaya Kinsey and Isabella Henderson, with their matching dolls, saunter down the runway together.

**BELOW:** The excitement of the day has Sophia Dickenson (in the hat) and her new friends screaming for joy.

Photos by Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star
Celebrations

Graduation
St. Andrew’s School – May 18

Nicholas Michael Kaleel of Ocean Ridge is preparing to graduate from Saint Andrew’s School in Boca Raton. Commencement exercises will take place at the Chapel of Saint Andrew the Apostle on the school’s campus. Prior to Saint Andrew’s, Kaleel attended Gulf Stream School. Graduating with honors, he is a member of Junior Achievement and attended two Harvard Model Congress meetings in Boston, the largest congressional simulation conferences in the world. An avid runner, Kaleel was co-captain of Saint Andrew’s boy’s varsity cross-country team. The team attended state championships for two consecutive years. He was also a member of the boy’s varsity track and field team. Kaleel was a Bethesda Hospital teen and Food for Families volunteer. He is a lifeguard at the De-Vos Blum Family YMCA in Boynton Beach. His hobbies include cycling and surfing. Kaleel will attend the University of Miami this August.

St. Joseph’s Episcopal School
Earth Day Educational Celebration – April 18

Third-graders Isabela Chido, Boynton Beach, and Casandra Jones, Delray Beach, give each other high-fives after taking first place in a quiz about trash and recycling. All grade levels at St. Joseph’s Episcopal School in Boynton Beach took part in the Earth Day celebration. The school has been awarded a 2013 Green School of Excellence for Palm Beach County for the second year by the Palm Beach County Solid Waste Authority. Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star

Caridad Center Board Member Introduction
Gulf Stream – April 10

Robert Souaid of Gulf Stream, new to the board of the Caridad Center, and his wife, Jane, hosted a cocktail party at their home to introduce the Gulf Stream community to the work being done at Caridad Center. Located in western Boynton Beach, it is the largest free medical, dental and vision clinic in Florida. TOP LEFT: Jane and Bob Souaid. TOP RIGHT: Scott and Hilary Wilson, Delray Beach. RIGHT: Marilyn Mayer, Rob Mayer, Gulf Stream. FAR RIGHT: Herve and Vanessa Puyplat, Ocean Ridge.

Membership Breakfast
Via Mizner Golf & Country Club Boca Raton – April 11

Neil Austrian, chairman and CEO of Office Depot, gave a glimpse into the future at the monthly gathering of the Greater Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce. Austrian explained how the failed merger between Office Depot and Staples helped the company strategize with Office Max more efficiently and said the deal is expected to be completed by the end of the year. ABOVE: Mary Wong, president of Office Depot Foundation, and Neil Austrian of Gulf Stream. Photo provided
Costumed characters, old cars and live music took partygoers on a tour through the decades during the Delray Beach Public Library’s Birthday Bash celebration of its 100th birthday held April 11. Guests, including the 15 ‘Centennial Celebrities’ — the 100-year-old residents invited to the event as guests — reflected on the library’s history of books, culture and contribution to the community.

ABOVE: Library employee Jane Weiss wears one of the more than 30 replicas of 1913 bathing caps she made for co-workers to wear during the Centennial Birthday Bash Community Day held April 13.

RIGHT: Dr. Lynda Hunter and her puppet ‘U Too Can’ talks to the children while they make crafts during the 100th birthday celebration. Dr. Hunter is the head of the Children’s Department at the Delray Beach Public Library.

Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

The Spady Museum celebrated an inaugural event at a hip, bohemian hangout and launched its redesigned website all on the same day. Live performances, along with sponsorships, donations and silent-auction bids, helped raise more than $2,200.

Photo: Sal Giorlando (second from left), of coastal Delray Beach, presents Charlene Jones, of the Spady Museum, with a check for $400 while Kevin Rouse (left), of Kevro’s Art Bar, and George DeMartino look on. Photo provided

Ocean Ridge artist Ona Steele (left) talks with friends and family who attended the opening of her first major art exhibition, held at the recently remodeled Art House of Delray in Delray Beach. Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star
May 4

Barefoot by the Sea
Sandoway House Nature Center, Delray Beach — April 14

The Delray Beach Historical Society and the Historical Society of Palm Beach County joined forces for a program celebrating the history of the Barefoot Mailman.

ABOVE: Arts Garage’s student band, Rogue Set, including keyboard player Maddox Kumar of Ocean Ridge and Will Fogarty of Gulf Stream entertained the crowd.

LEFT: Delray Beach residents Avery Elliott and Morgan Gallagher, made necklaces from beads and shark’s teeth.
5/7 - 62nd Annual All Florida Juried Art Show: $35/residents; $40/non-residents plus a one-time $5/residents; $6/non-residents or monthly. Class held every T & Th. 6-7:30 pm. Per class: Pompey Park, 1101 NW 2nd St., Delray Beach.


5/8 - Socrates Café: Enjoy refreshments for only $5. 2-5 pm. 832-1939. Join us for stories, sing songs and learn from guest speakers, view a planetarium show and experience the Museum, learn from engaging adults and retirees. Every second Wednesday at the Norton Museum of Art, 1451 S. Olive Ave., West Palm Beach. Drivers 55 and older. Free. 868-3120.

5/8 - Dx3: Delightfully Delicious DEAR General Meeting: 416-9600 or www.pbwatercolor.org. Pre-registration. adults only, $7 per person. A one-time special lecture presented as part of the Spring Lecture Series at the FAU Barry and Florence Friedman Auditorium, Boynton Beach. Class held every Thursday at 11:30 am. 731-3524.

5/8 - Group Swim Lessons: $40/resident, $50/non-resident, $10 per session is $40/resident, $50/non-resident plus a one-time $5/resident, $6/non-residents or monthly. Class held every T & Th. 6-7:30 pm. Per class: Denson Pool, 225 NW 12th Ave., Boynton Beach.

5/8 - Children Of The White House: A one-time special lecture presented as part of the Author’s Series at the Delray Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. 1-3 pm. Free. 273-7139.


5/8 - Socrates Café: Conversations: Doris Duke’s Shangri La at the Norton Museum of Art. 9:30-11:30 am. $10. 868-3120. One-time special lecture presented as part of the Spring Lecture Series at the FAU Barry and Florence Friedman Auditorium, Boynton Beach. Class held every Thursday at 11:30 am. 731-3524.


5/10 - Sogetsu Ikebana Flower Arrangement Introductory Class: Presented by Roz Davidson as part of the Author’s Series at the Delray Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. 1-3 pm. Free. 273-7139.

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St. Paul Lutheran School. Shotput starts: 1 pm, Dinner & auction: 5 - 7 pm, $300 dinner only, $150 for you & guest. 351-8548 or www.stpauldelray.com

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[...] 800 Palm Trail, Delray Beach, FL 33483 • 772-471-2666

**Moms & Dads June 9-10 Sat. 3-5 pm, Sun. 11 am - 1 pm, Girls 8-10, $25, Adults $20**

5/16 - Mother’s Day Brunch Buffet
at The Cat's Delray Public
2-4 pm. $30. 266-7959.

5/16 - 62nd Annual All Florida Juried
Exhibition: A Quilting Evolution
at the Coral Museum of Art & American Culture,
51 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. Presented
in partnership with the Gold Coast Quilters
Guild of South Florida, 1109 E. Camino Real,

5/16 - Footloose! The Musical
at the Boca Raton Museum
of Art & American Culture, 51 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. Produced benefit of the Architecture, Arts & Humanities Foundation. First benefit of the Boca Raton Museum of Art’s new Community Room, 3618 S. Ocean Blvd. 5 pm. $30. 492-2500.

5/16 - Curtains Up!
Footloose! The Musical
at Crane’s BeachHouse

5/16 - A Review of Robert Burns
at the Kravis Center

5/16 - Taste of Boynton’s Food and Wine
Red Carpet Event at Indian Spring Country Club,
1701 Old Ranch Road, Boynton Beach. An evening of menu items from your favorite restaurants with wine tasting. Cocktail hour 8:30-10 pm, 5:45 admission. 550 at the door. 723-9501

5/16 - Boynton Beach Art District
Open Mic Night at 422 W. Industrial Ave., Boynton Beach. Held the third Thursday of each month. 7-10 pm. Reservations: 794-9119 or http://openmicdelray.org.

5/16 - Robin Holland - Presented by the Palm Beach Players
at the Kravis Center
$40-$75. Reservations: 243-4330.

5/16-18 - Delray Beach ITF
Open Tennis Tournament at Old Vines Delray Beach, 2076 or www.oldvinesdelraybeach.com. $25-$100. Reservations: 800-392-4200.

5/17 - Newbury Park Cricket Club
at Delray Beach Public
$100/mother & child, $50/additional adult, $25/child. 394-2626.

5/17 - Delray Beach Jazz Brunch
at the Highland Beach Library
Quartet
9490 or www.delraylibrary.org.

5/17 - Artsy Alibi Opening Show - Held every Thursday in the new warehouse arts area in Pineapple Green Arts District, running north and south between N. 6th and 4th streets, east of 1st Avenue and west of the railroad tracks in Delray Beach. 6-9 pm. Free. www.artstoryfl.com

5/17 - Mother’s Day Brunch Buffet
at Hotel Delray
$100/mother & child, $50/additional adult, $25/child. 394-2626.

5/17 - Mother’s Day Jazz Buffet
at the Palm Beach troupe at 7pm
$45. 256-7766.

5/17 - Mother’s Day Buffet Buffet at the Atlantic City Club, 190 Atlantic Blvd. Enjoy a special Mother’s Day performance by Valerie White, talented vocalist and metabolic children who’ve shed off 40% of their weights. $19.50 adults, $14.50 children 4-12, Free/children ages 3 and under. Reservations: 912-0000.

5/17 - Mother’s Day Italian Buffet at the Downtown Delray Italian Club

5/17 - Mother’s Day Brunch Buffet at the Atlantic City Club, 190 Atlantic Blvd. Enjoy a special Mother’s Day performance by Valerie White, talented vocalist and metabolic children who’ve shed off 40% of their weights. $19.50 adults, $14.50 children 4-12, Free/children ages 3 and under. Reservations: 912-0000.

**NEWLY PRICED**

**STUNNING DIRECT INTERCOSTAL**

Delray Beach. Gated compound, 99’ICW, 50’ dock, gardens, vanishing edge pool. 5 BR, 6.3 bath, has fabulous kitchen that opens to family room with water views. $2,750,000. 367-7035.

**CHARMING BEACH SIDE LIVING AT ITS BEST**

Delray Beach. Vintage 1940 Delray cottage, 3 BR, 2 bath with ocean views. $780,000 243-2888 Wendy Overton 772-471-2666

**NEW PRICED**

**GATED TURTLE BEACH**

Ocean Ridge. Renovated with new kitchen appliances, glass impact, master bath/2-car garage, this condo lives like a single family home. Short stroll to tennis court, pool and 200’ deeded beach. $645K WEB #2423884 Wendy Overton 772-403-0233

**DELIGHTFUL SURPRISE AT TALBOT HOUSE**

Delray Beach. Unique enclave of 4 residences, this 3 BR, 3 bath townhome lives like a house. Private backyard. Spacious living downstairs w/ Great Room, one bed/bath. Community pool, decked out in beach decor, ocean access across street, 1 block to Atlantic Ocean. $695K WEB #2529344 Wendy Overton 772-403-0233
Plaza in Downtown Lake Worth (Corner of 5/17 - Evening on the Avenue

Stone Gallery, 15 S. J St., Lake Worth. 6-9 pm.

- Adult Ballroom Dance Class at the Cultural Arts Center. $5 per person. 264-4222.

- Ocean Avenue Concert: The People Uptown at Ocean Avenue Amphitheater, between Seasoutheast Boulevard, and NE 1st Street in Boynton Beach. Food and beverages available. 7 pm. Free. 792-326.

- 19/20 - Punch & Judy, and The Three Sillies at Six Children Theater, 513 N. Federal Hwy., Boca Raton. F & Sat. 7 & 7 pm. Sat. & Sun. 2 pm. $12/adv, $15/$14. 404-1829

- 19/20 - A Night at the Delray Beach Playhouse, 590 W. 9th St. Held again 5/21.


- 5/18 - Art Film - Meet the Artists: The Real Story at Delray Beach City Hall, 100 NW 1st Ave., Part of the Boca Raton Museum of Art's "Held 5/16 & 19." 2 pm.


- 5/18 - Tour: Meet the Artists and Art Film- Meet the Artists: The Real Story at Delray Beach City Hall, 100 NW 1st Ave., Part of the Boca Raton Museum of Art. 501 Plaza Real. Held again 5/19 & 22. 2-4 pm. Free with paid museum admission. 588-8344.


5/19 - 5/21 - FAU Astronomical Observatory Summer Tour: Group Lighthouse Excursion. The Lighthouse is only by tour boat. The Lighthouse tour departs daily (weather permitting) at 9:00 am, 10:30 am, 11:30 am, 12 noon, 1:30 pm and 2:30 pm. 550-4046 or 546-2126.


- 5/18 - Steve's Charity Pizza Challenge at Steve's Wood Fired Pizza, 4910 Gladwin Road, Boca Raton. Proceed benefit the Steve Caro Memorial Foundation. 7 pm. Free. 486-7091.


5/19 - Future Stars Performing Arts Competition at the John Denson Arts Center, 351 S. Nicar Ave., Delray Beach. Attend the competition at 11:30 am-12:30 pm. $5/with paid museum admission. 737-2600.

5/20 - Retired Educators Social Club at Delray Regional Library, 100 NE 1st St., Delray Beach. Free 3 pm. 792-4327.

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Shark Fishing
Ocean Ridge beach – March 24

AFTER: Boca Raton residents Adam Fisk and Megan Dahlem give hand to Cody Matthew, during a 25-minute fight with a Boca Raton 300-pound bull shark. RIGHT: After posing for a couple of photos, the FAU students released the shark. Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star

Selling Your Own Home
10 Inside Tips for Selling Your Home Yourself
For FREE REPORT Visit: www.PalmBeachBrowardCountyRealEstate.com

1. Don’t hire a real estate agent. Many people believe that hiring a real estate agent is necessary to sell a home. However, this is not true. Most people who sell their homes on their own end up with more money in their pockets and a quicker closing process. A real estate agent typically charges a 6% commission, which can be a significant amount of money for a seller. By selling their own home, a seller can avoid paying this commission and keep more of the profit from the sale.

2. Set a competitive price. It’s important to price your home competitively to attract buyers. A home that is overpriced will likely sit on the market for a long time, which can lead to price reductions and lower your final selling price. To determine a competitive price, research similar homes in your area that have sold recently and factor in any necessary repairs or upgrades.

3. Make your home attractive. A clean and well-maintained home will be more attractive to potential buyers. Tidying up the house, making repairs, and adding some minor updates (such as new paint or new flooring) can go a long way in making your home more appealing.

4. Use social media to promote your home. Social media is a powerful tool for promoting your home and reaching potential buyers. Post photos and videos of your home on your personal social media accounts and consider creating a dedicated Facebook or Instagram page for your home.

5. Host open houses. Open houses are a great way to get your home in front of potential buyers. Consider hosting open houses on the weekends, or during evenings if you have a young family.

6. Negotiate with buyers. Negotiating with buyers can help you get a better price for your home. Be willing to negotiate on the price, terms, and any repairs that may be needed.

7. Use a virtual tour. A virtual tour can give buyers a better sense of what your home looks like and can be a helpful tool in the buying process.

8. Be flexible with showings. Be flexible with your schedule when it comes to showings. Try to be available during the day, evenings, and weekends.

9. Have a professional photoshoot. Professional photos can make your home look its best and can help attract potential buyers.

10. Follow up with potential buyers. Follow up with potential buyers after showings to see if they have any questions or concerns. This can help keep them interested in your home and can lead to a faster sale.

For more tips and strategies for selling your own home, check out our FREE REPORT at www.PalmBeachBrowardCountyRealEstate.com. Learn more today at 561-547-0549 or visit us online at www.judithjust.com.
100 CHURCHILL WAY
Exquisite 6BR/6.5BA Mediterranean estate on Manatee Cove. 8,200 total SF with attached guest suite. Free Ritz Beach Club membership with purchase! Web ID 2791 $3.5M

1235 LANDS END ROAD
Exceptional 3BD/3.5BA home offers gorgeous wide water views of Intracoastal. Free Ritz Beach Club membership with purchase! Web ID 2794 $2.795M

713 SE ATLANTIC DRIVE
Beautifully renovated 3BR/2.5BA home located on enchanting Hypoluxo Island. Designer decorated with all the amenities. A must see! Web ID 2606 $849K

1555 SOUTH OCEAN BOULEVARD
Picturesque parcel that reaches from the Ocean to Intracoastal Waterway, sunrises and sunsets are part of the package at this 5BR/7.3BA estate in Manalapan. Web ID 1110 $10.5M

1690 LANDS END ROAD
Mediterranean style 5BR/5.5BA waterfront home with 110’ on the Intracoastal. High wood-beamed ceilings, library with fireplace and dock. Web ID 1113 $2.495M

1201 N. ATLANTIC DRIVE
Fabulous 5BR/5.5BA home located on “no wake” wide Intracoastal on Hypoluxo Island. Custom kitchen, pool and gorgeous views. Web ID 2852 $1.995M

812 E. MARBELLA LANE
Amazing wide water views from this 4BR/4.2BA home with deep water dockage. Oversized great room, vaulted ceilings and pool. Web ID 2792 $1.699M

70 CURLEW ROAD
Stunning details throughout this 5BR/5.2BA with over 6,500 SF. Private guest suite. Gratis beach club membership. Web ID 2877 $3.35M Furnished

101 CHURCHILL ROAD
5BR/6.5BA home with Palm Beach & Intracoastal views. Designed by John Volk. 8,180 SF+ detached 2-story guest cottage, pool & cabana. Web ID 1106 $4.295M

1020 SOUTH OCEAN BOULEVARD
Direct Ocean to Lake property with 209‘ of direct Ocean frontage on 2+ acres and private dockage. Build your dream home. Plans avail. for 20,000+ SF home. Web ID 1127 $13.5M

1201 N. ATLANTIC DRIVE
Mediterranean style 5BR/5.5BA waterfront home with 110’ on the Intracoastal. High wood-beamed ceilings, library with fireplace and dock. Web ID 1113 $2.495M

1695 LANDS END ROAD
Fantastic views from stunning 9,700 SF 6BR/6.5BA waterfront estate with deep water dockage. Free Ritz Beach Club membership with purchase! Web ID 993 $4.095M

11 SABAL ISLAND DRIVE
Elegant 4BD/5.5BA Mediterranean estate offers host of luxuries. Overlooks Intracoastal. Boat dock with 33,000 lb. lift. Just minutes to Ocean access. Web ID 994 $2.095M

4 LITTLE POND ROAD
Near the former Vanderbilts Estate, this beautifully appointed 2BR/2BA villa. Gratis Beach Club membership included. Free Ritz Beach Club membership with purchase! Web ID 1097 $695K

45 AUDUBON CAUSEWAY
Classic, Point Manalapan estate with over 5,800 SF under air. Spacious 3BR/4.5BA floor plan features high ceilings and custom crown moldings & cabinetry. Web ID 1224 $1.6M

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