Along the Coast

Snowbirds’ of the shore arrive

By Cheryl Blackerby

Marine animals are coming south to Palm Beach County seeking warmer weather and water—ocean snowbirds, if you will. Blacktip and spinner sharks are just starting to show up offshore in their annual migration south from the Carolinas. And manatees are traveling south from north Florida to warm up in subtropical lagoons.

Ninety percent of the migrating sharks, which travel in huge numbers within eyesight from the shore, are blacktips and 10 percent are spinners, said Stephen Kajiura, Florida Atlantic University professor, who researches sharks.

They started arriving in late December and will peak in mid- to late January. Most will be gone by late February, he said.

Last year, the large numbers of sharks thrilled local photographers and tourists, who snapped photos of the sharks that clearly could be seen tumbling in waves rolling onto shore. The previous year was even better.

“We saw 15,000 sharks in Palm Serving Hypoluxo Island, South Palm Beach, Manalapan, Ocean Ridge, Briny Breezes, Gulf Stream and Coastal Delray Beach

Volume 7 Issue 1January 2014

Briny Breezes

Librarian succession: Exit laughing, enter laughing

By Ron Hayes

Lu McNines has closed the book on more than two decades as Briny Breezes’ town librarian.

And Donna Clarke is checking out her new job.

“I’d talked about retiring,” McNines says. “I knew I’d had it too long. People

said, ‘Oh, you do such a great job, don’t go.’ But then when Donna came along, she had everything you need for it. I chose her.”
A wish list for a calm, collective 2014

M terribly had a little too much eggnog over the holidays, but as I contemplate a new year of covering our coastal communities, I’m going out on a limb with my Coastal Star wishes for 2014. Here goes:

Boca Raton: I wish the city would regain a sense of community. Boca must find a way to get residents out from behind their gated communities and involved in the future of their city. With a March election on the horizon, I hope Boca is able to bring out residents who seldom vote. For those who want to buy Briny Breezes, they’ll make an offer. In the meantime, move forward and make Briny Breezes the kind of place you’d want to live for your children and grandchildren.

Delray Beach: Isn’t it time to revisit all of the parking and traffic studies that have been done over the past several years? My wish is for the city and the CRA to put a temporary moratorium on new downtown development until there is a long-term plan for parking and traffic. I love Delray, but have been staying away lately due to the growing amount of traffic and lack of convenient parking.

Gulf Stream: Everyone has rights as a private citizen. Far be it from a newspaper to advocate against the pursuit of individual rights. Unfortunately, in Gulf Stream, the one who takes the brunt of these legal disputes is long-time Town Clerk Rita Taylor. She deserves better. Is there really no better way to resolve disputes? I wish there were.

Highland Beach and South Palm Beach: Yes, I know the two towns are different, but there are similarities. Both towns have an amazing sense of community and civic involvement and both are proud of their individuality. And, both have eroding beaches in front of private condominiums. My wish is that these two towns stay involved with regional beach management planning. Sand doesn’t know boundaries, and I don’t ever want to write about a condo falling into the Atlantic.

Lantana/Hypoluxo Island: Congratulations on your new bridge! My wish is that you’ll work to help the merchants on both sides bring new life to your charming downtown.

Manalapan: My wish is that everyone on the Town Commission (and town staff) stop sending town business-related emails. Not only are you treading the shallow waters of Florida’s Government in Sunshine Laws, but you’re chumming for trouble. Bring your issues to the meetings. Present them at the appropriate time, listen to each other and discuss disputes with a calm demeanor. Government in the sunshine may not be simple, but it works to build the transparency required for a working democracy.

Ocean Ridge: Public beaches get public funding for maintenance renourishment and storm repair. Private beaches do not. If you don’t like people coming across the bridge to use your “beach,” talk to Boynton Beach. Work something out. Boynton’s downtown master plan includes a lot more Las Ventanas (and larger) developments. My wish is that Ocean Ridge work with Boynton now to find solutions before little problems become serious problems.

Briny Breezes: Now that the town has laid the groundwork for evolving the mobile home park into something more storm-worthy, my wish is that they find leadership willing to begin calm, adult discussions on their future. And forget waiting around to sell the park. If someone comes along who wants to buy Briny, they’ll make an offer. In the meantime, move forward and make Briny Breezes the kind of place you’d want to live for your children and grandchildren.

Boynton Beach: OK, The Coastal Star doesn’t really cover Boynton, but as an Ocean Ridge resident, I care what happens just over our bridges. So, I wish that instead of building more towers downtown, city leaders would embrace the city’s unique working marina and “Everyman’s” inlet and attempt to attract a major downtown anchor built around fishing. “Everyman’s” inlet and attempt to attract a major downtown anchor built around fishing.

Coastal Star

Mary Thurwachter, Editor

Ten years ago, David High and his wife, JoAnne, joined some friends in attending a few meetings of the University Club at Florida Atlantic University. Their friends were already members, and it didn’t take long for the Highs to realize that the organization — a branch of Florida Atlantic University’s Foundation devoted to helping the university’s library and raising money for scholarships — was a good fit for them, too.

Today, the Delray Beach couple serves as co-chairmen of the club’s membership committee and are helping to promote the organization’s main fundraiser, Casino Royale, on Jan. 25 at Via Mizner.

“It’ll be a night of gaming, prizes and an auction,” High said. By the time the evening is over, the club hopes to have netted $20,000-$30,000 for the FAU library and for scholarships.

Since the University Club was founded by eight women in 1976, the organization has raised more than $1 million, High said.

“Being in the club, High said, “gets us connected with projects that help others,” he said.

“Plus, it’s a good opportunity for us volunteering and networking. And it keeps us up to date on concerts and other events.”

The Highs moved to Delray Beach from Reading, Penn., in 1996, after High, 73, retired from his job as an electricity industry executive. For a few years, they were snowbirds, but in 2005, they moved here year-round. “We chose Delray because it put us midway between two airports and two cultural centers (Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach),” he said. It is, he added, a perfect location for a couple who enjoys the arts and loves to travel.

“Their home is between the Intracoastal Waterway and the Atlantic Ocean. “I can see boats cruising down the Intracoastal,” he said during a phone interview.

Their home also is close to the Delray Beach Club, where he is president of the board of governors. Within the beach, tennis courts and many activities, not to mention its good restaurants, the club is the perfect place to take their two sons and their families when they come to visit. 

If You Go

What: Casino Royale, the annual fundraiser for the University Club at FAU.
Where: Via Mizner Golf and Country Club, 6200 Boca Del Mar Drive, Boca Raton.
When: 6-10 p.m. Jan. 25
Tickets: $125; $150 for VIP (open bar).
Info: For tickets, underwriting or sponsorship opportunities, call Janice Abreu at FAU, 297-6144 or Alene Brewer, president of the University Club, at 706-3053.
The COASTAL STAR

January 2014

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BEACH AREA ESTATE

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Ocean View Villa | 1705 S Ocean Boulevard
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There has been much discussion about the makeover of the massive Atlantic Crossing project. But improved as it may be, it would be a colossal mistake for Delray Beach to approve Atlantic Crossing’s current design—a traffic disaster in the making.

On Jan. 7, Delray’s City Commission will vote: either for its residents by requiring clear and reasonable traffic fixes, or for the developers of Atlantic Crossing by approving the project as is.

At that meeting, the City Commission will hear appeals from organized, committed residents of the barrier island, the Marina Historic District, Palm Trail Association, Barr Terrace condominium community and North Palm Trail. Importantly, the appeals present the developer and the city a solution: a short list of specific and reasonable traffic-improving measures that would allow the project to proceed.

The appeals are only needed because city staff have made no effort to evaluate the real impact of the enormous volume of additional traffic the project’s restaurants, retail, office space and new residences will generate. By even the most conservative estimates, traffic volume will more than double to over 10,000 trips per day. The developer was not required to do a full traffic study because Atlantic Crossing is in a traffic concurrency exception area, a special status that encourages development. But the city neglected a duty to its residents when it failed to conduct any study of its own, even in the face of unique factors including the drawbridge, an historic neighborhood and several other approved downtown projects.

Residents and civic groups were forced to raise money for their own traffic study, coordinated by the Florida Coalition for Preservation, to assess the true impact. Common sense told residents that the additional traffic from Atlantic Crossing could overwhelm Atlantic Avenue and force overflow traffic into the surrounding neighborhoods—and the study has confirmed residents’ worst fears. During peak traffic hours, the operating capacity on Atlantic Avenue will drop to level F (as in “Fail”) and the ensuing gridlock will force frustrated drivers to find shortcuts through neighborhoods.

Atlantic Avenue is also a designated evacuation route for the barrier island, and the route to the hospital from the barrier island and the other eastern neighborhoods served by Fire Station No. 2 off North Andrews Avenue. Bridge openings during peak hours already cause extensive backups and delays—and the proposed main entrance to Atlantic Crossing is 650 feet from the drawbridge.

Forced to act where the city has failed, residents have distilled their appeals to a few key tactics. One in particular will help move traffic off of Atlantic Avenue: a surface road into and out of the project between Federal Highway and Seventh Avenue, in addition to an entry/exit directly into the underground parking garage. This road—approved by the city in a previous version of the site plan—is well within the developer’s capabilities.

The resident-funded traffic study is credible evidence that Atlantic Crossing as it stands today will have a profoundly negative (and irreversible) impact on the traffic flow on Atlantic Avenue, as well as on the safety and quality of life in the surrounding neighborhoods.

There are good, rational solutions for the city and the developer, and they must work together now to make Atlantic Crossing work for the entire city.

— Kelly and Jack Barrette, barrier island residents

The Coastal Star incorrectly reported in its December edition that Ocean Ridge commissioners voted to permit more living space in new homes by reducing how garages are computed in the total allowable square footage. A motion to do so at the Nov. 4 commission meeting failed for the lack of a second.
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Delray Beach

City allows Arts Garage to buy its venue

By Tim Pallesen

Delray Beach’s excitement over the Arts Garage got a long-term commitment Dec. 10 when city commissioners approved a contract to sell the 10,000-square-foot facility to the arts group for $2.5 million.

The Creative City Collaborative that operates the Arts Garage has until March 2016 to raise the money.

“The City Commission recognized the value that the Arts Garage is to the city,” CCC board president Robert Schmier said after the 4-1 vote.

The Arts Garage has leased the space since it opened in 2011. Supporters were alarmed when a law firm tried to acquire the building.

“We needed to protect the fact that we’re going to be there forever,” Schmier said. “The only way to do that was to buy it.”

Commissioners applauded how the Arts Garage has brought life to Pineapple Grove as both a popular entertainment nightlife spot and a performing arts academy where accomplished performers teach music and acting to children.

“The Arts Garage has turned into an economic magnet for the entire downtown,” Commissioner Shelly Petrolia said.

“Facts show that having arts in Delray Beach means a stronger local economy,” Mayor Cary Glickstein agreed. “The best user of that space is the performing arts center that we are lucky to have there.”

Only Commissioner Adam Frankel objected, saying the $1,000 deposit to hold the space until the $2.5 million can be raised was too generous.

“What’s to say that every nonprofit in town isn’t going to ask for similar terms?” he asked.

Frankel also questioned why the CCC hadn’t raised any money since commissioners agreed to sell the building under a city parking garage last April. “That’s a huge red flag to me,” he said.

Residents move to limit home-design choices

By Tim Pallesen

Coastal residents are moving ahead to tighten the design restrictions for new single-family homes in their area.

“The more restrictive you make this, the higher your property values will be,” Mayor Cary Glickstein, a developer, told residents at the Dec. 12 annual meeting of the Beach Property Owners Association.

Single-family neighborhoods near the ocean already have guidelines that architects must follow to design a house. But residents want to toughen the point system that determines whether a house receives city approval for construction.

“The guidelines are there, but they’re a little too nice,” BPOA president Andy Katz said.

Some residents are particularly concerned that existing guidelines have allowed an imposing three-story home to be built at 344 N. Ocean Blvd.

“No body wants a mega three-story house next to them with somebody leaning over them to look into their yard,” resident Missy Corey said. “Three stories should be a no-no.”

Neighbors who live near the controversial house on Seaspray Avenue met last month to discuss the concern.

“This is not neighbor versus neighbor,” Jack Barrette clarified to BPOA members. “I hear the property owners are very lovely people who have no idea there’s a mountain of trouble.”

The BPOA will hold at least one more meeting with residents before making recommendations to city commissioners for the tougher restrictions.

Coastal resident Mary McCarthy agreed with Glickstein and Katz that the point system needs to be changed. McCarthy and Katz also suggested that the city’s Site Plan Review and Appearance Board look at the more questionable designs.

Several residents also said they want to eliminate “electric teal” from the palette of acceptable colors for coastal homes.
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Town grapples with beach-sign wording

By Dan Moffett

Town commissioners are poised to make another attempt at striking the right balance in the wording used on Ocean Ridge’s public beach signs.

At their Dec. 9 meeting, commissioners got an earful on all sides of the issue — from residents and each other.

Property owners near the dune walkers complained that “public access” signs attract too many out-of-town beachgoers to beaches with no facilities to support them.

Residents who don’t live on the beach said homeowners who recently posted “no trespassing” signs on their properties beside the Beachway Drive walkover are misleading the public and deterring access.

“The two signs that say ‘no trespassing,’ that is a red flag, a stop sign,” Elizabeth Ackerly told commissioners. “It says ‘I don’t belong there.’ And it’s not right.”

Mayor Geoff Pugh said he recalled having similar debates as far back as 2006. “I don’t think the point is about stopping access to the beach,” Pugh said. “But do we need to advertise it with flashing lights and a sign?”

“We’re not talking about inviting people and putting up glaring lights,” said Vice Mayor Lynn Allison. “We’re talking about putting up a small sign that says ‘public access.’ ”

“This is a very complicated issue,” said Town Attorney Ken Spillias, who noted that Ocean Ridge has a 100-year history of public walkovers to its beach, but technically has no legal obligation to post public access signs.

He said the town can’t enforce trespassing violations on its own and must wait until someone complains. Spillias said even determining the high-water mark, where the private properties and public beaches converge, is complicated. It’s based on a 19-year average and “shifts over time.”

Spillias said years ago, some townpeople wanted to post “Ocean Ridge Residents Only” signs. He quickly rejected that idea and spared the town a lawsuit.

Resident Terry Brown said the town was overcomplicating the issue and making a “Keystone Cops fiasco” over what really is a simple matter. “The public has a right to access the beach, period.”

“These two signs that say ‘no trespassing’ are totally misleading,” Brown said. “People will think that the beach is private, which it is not.”

In October, town workers removed two signs at the Beachway Drive walkover that said “Private Beach” and resembled the town’s blue-and-white designs. Town manager Ken Schenck said he had talked about sign possibilities with residents who lived near the walkover, but had “no idea what they were going to do.” He said their signs were removed because they did not conform to code.

Six other dune walkovers have “Public Beach Access” signs. The Beachway Drive crossing is the exception with a sign that lists town beach rules, but without reference to access.

Steve Coz, who lives on nearby Osprey Court, said his neighborhood “bears the brunt” of the people who come across Woolbright Road bridge to the beach.

Coz said some Boynton Beach communities were listing the town’s beach as an amenity for their residents and encouraging its use. “They were putting up signs with vans, trucks, carfuls of people,” Coz said. “They expect facilities. We do not have facilities there. ‘Public access’ says Ocean Ridge is providing something it’s not providing.”

He said that beachgoers have littered the dunes with toilet paper and condoms, but the traffic has decreased since the “no trespassing” signs went up.

Commissioners decided to revisit the issue at their Jan. 6 meeting and told Spillias to research it further.

In other business:

• The commission directed staff to proceed with the abandoning of the western right-of-way in front of the homes at 5516, 5514 and 5512 Old Ocean Blvd. The town has no source of water to maintain vegetation on the 100-foot strip of land. Property owners will take over the strip, handle the landscaping, maintain the right of way and pay the town expenses.

• Commissioners approved the hiring of two new police officers, Frederick “Rick” Stang and Aaron Zawistowski. Stang has eight years’ experience with the Indian River Sheriff’s Office. Zawistowski, a reserve officer, has nine years’ experience with the Indian River Sheriff’s Office and Seminole Tribal Police.
Gulf Stream

Commission advances election changes

By Dan Moffett

Gulf Stream commissioners have given preliminary approval to a proposal that would put staggered commission terms on the ballot for the March election.

But the go-ahead comes with a stipulation that the town’s civic association, which requested the charter change in November, makes a case for final approval at the commission’s Jan. 10 meeting.

“I really don’t think there’s anything on the downside, frankly,” said Commissioner Bob Ganger, who called the proposal “a wonderful thing that the civic association has done.”

The proposed ordinance passed 4-1, with Commissioner Garrett Dering dissenting. Dering said he saw no compelling reason for making the change and thought it was a knee-jerk reaction for the commission to act without more consideration to the town’s entire election process.

“Look at the whole ball of wax, look at the whole deal,” he said. “To me, term limits are a lot more important than staggered elections. I don’t know what you accomplish with them.”

Dering argued that the “real risk, the practical risk is that people move, or die or whatever,” not that commissioners are voted out of office in elections. None of the five commission members has ever won a town election, after all. They all were appointed and then returned unopposed.

Gulf Stream is one of only a few South Florida municipalities that elects all its officials in the same year.

Patsy Randolph, a member of the civic association, told commissioners that staggering the elections would improve continuity and also encourage more residents to get involved in their government.

“If you have an election, you learn how to get involved,” Randolph said.

Mayor Joan Ortwein, who in her 19th year on the commission ranks as one of the longest-serving elected officials in Palm Beach County, said that term limits don’t make sense in a small town.

“We’re talking term limits but we couldn’t fill a position on the architectural review board,” she said. “As we go forward, it’s going to be difficult to find people who are willing to serve.”

If commissioners give their final approval at the proposed ordinance’s second reading in January, then voters would get to decide in March whether the town should change its charter and allow the staggered terms. The plan also calls for putting the seats of all five commissioners up to a vote. The top three vote-getters would win three-year terms and the bottom two get two-year terms.

Ganger said the proposed change could send a signal to residents that government officials are willing to do what they can to promote wider involvement.

“We’ll keep working at it and two years from now, we’ll probably have a different charter and probably have more people participating in the process,” he said.

In other business:
• Commissioners unanimously approved a 4 percent increase in water rates to help preserve the reserves for the town’s aging system.
• The commission also unanimously approved five candidates for the ad hoc committee that will review the town’s codes. Three members are not Gulf Stream residents — Richard Mouw, David Bodker, Benjamin Schreier — and were added to bring in perspectives from the outside.
• William Boardman and Patsy Randolph are the two town resident applicants.

Dering won’t run for new term

No matter how Gulf Stream decides to run its elections, Commissioner Garrett Dering says his days as a town commissioner are numbered.

“I have no intention of running for election this time,” he told commissioners. So, if you’re going to have an election, I have no dog in this hunt.”

Dering, 67, was appointed to the commission in October 2011 to fill the seat of Chris Wheeler, who moved from the town. Dering was unopposed the following March for the remaining two years of Wheeler’s term.

A certified public accountant and retired partner of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, the Kentucky native bought his Ballantrae condo in 1999.

Dering told commissioners the decision to give up the seat is firm: “What did Lyndon Johnson say? If nominated, I will not accept. If elected, I will not serve.”

— Dan Moffett
Audubon bridge project to cost much more than expected

By Dan Moffett

Commissioners will have to dig deeper than expected into town reserves to replace or repair the aging Audubon Causeway bridge on Point Manalapan.

That’s the news Town Manager Linda Stumpf delivered during the commission’s Dec. 17 meeting, after receiving a report from Bridge Design Associates, the town’s engineering consultant.

“They did a complete evaluation,” Stumpf said, “and it was a little bit unsettling.”

The consultant came back with two options: The town can spend about $528,000 to repair the bridge and expect about 10 to 15 years of service before it would have to be replaced. It can’t be repaired again, the consultant said.

Or, the town can spend about $750,000 to replace the bridge and expect about 50 years of use before something would have to be done again.

Back in the spring, when the bridge project first surfaced, the commissioners were talking about a modest repair job of $100,000 or maybe $200,000.

But the bridge has been steadily deteriorating and getting progressively lower evaluations in the Florida Department of Transportation’s biennial reviews.

“If we don’t do anything to the bridge for two years, there will be weight limit restrictions placed on the bridge until we do,” Stumpf said, “which could impede people that are doing major renovations and need to use it.”

The commissioners unanimously approved Stumpf’s plan to get engineers to develop plans for both repairing and replacing the bridge and come back with cost estimates. The commission wants to put the project out to bid in January.

To pay for the construction, the town would use about $125,000 from water plant reserves and as much as $625,000 from unassigned general reserves.

Stumpf said the project could start as early as April, which would enable work to be completed before the next tourist season begins in November.

One-way traffic would continue during the project. FDOT also advised the town to set a 13-ton limit on the structure and restrict boaters from going underneath because of the possibility of falling concrete.

“They strongly suggest we post weight limits on it now, which we really have to do to protect our town,” said Mayor David Cheifetz, who said he leaned toward replacement as the right option, believing that it would be more cost-effective over time than repairing it.

Stumpf had one more piece of bad news for the commissioners: If we don’t do anything to the bridge, we may not be able to put the water line on the bridge until we replace it, which would enable work to begin.

The aging Audubon Causeway bridge must be replaced or repaired. Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star commission. The consultant’s estimates didn’t include replacing the aging water line that runs across the bridge — an undetermined cost that will require some reserve digging, too.

In other business:

• Commissioners gave unanimous preliminary approval to two amendments to the town’s comprehensive development plan.

Cheifetz characterized the move as “simply a housekeeping matter” and said the approval “corrects some inconsistencies in our zoning code.”

But Gary Parr, the vice chairman of the asset management firm Lazard Ltd., appears to disagree with that assessment. Parr bought the historic Casa Alva property in December 2012, and he and his attorneys have asked the town not to make any comprehensive plan changes that would diminish his development rights.

Parr’s 5-acre property was named specifically in the amendment the commission approved. But Cheifetz says the change “doesn’t affect his rights at all.”

Town attorney Trela White characterized the amendment as merely a mapping designation that assigns Parr’s property residential status, not commercial, which doesn’t change its current use.

The two amendments are scheduled to come up for the commission’s final approval at the Jan. 28 meeting. Cheifetz said the town will carry on negotiations with Parr until then.

Cheifetz announced that he has chosen Commissioner Chancey Johnstone to lead a task force on beaches. The mayor said the group has a “fact-finding” mission and will consider a variety of erosion, sand transfer and sea level change issues, then report to the commission.

Other task force members include Michael King, general manager of the Eau Palm Beach Resort & Spa, Bart Smith, manager of the Ziff family estate, resident Kent Shorr and Stumpf.

The two amendments are scheduled to come up for the commission’s final approval at the Jan. 28 meeting. Cheifetz said the town will carry on negotiations with Parr until then.

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SHARKS
Continued from page 1

Beach County alone within 200 meters from shore, and that doesn’t count those sharks going deeper,” Kajiura said. “That was our peak a couple of years ago. Last year was a relatively mild winter and we didn’t see that many. I don’t know what we’ll see this year.” Since 2011, Kajiura has conducted aerial surveys of the sharks off the coast, many cruising past unaware swimmers. FAU graduate student Shari Tellman painstakingly counted the sharks frame by frame from Kajiura’s video for an accurate assessment of the numbers.

Kajiura has lost funding for the surveys this year, but will still do the shark counts for his research. “I’m just doing the surveys out of my own pocket because this is so important.”

Previous funding came from Florida Atlantic University and Southeast National Marine Renewable Energy Center. Kajiura said he is getting help from Paul Kramer, pilot and owner of Learn to Fly Center from Paul Kramer, pilot and owner of Learn to Fly Center, which is a minimum count. “We have this strong correlation between shark abundance and water temperature. The oceans are getting warmer, and what may be happening is that as the water warms up, 20 or 30 years from now sharks could be wintering farther north, and what will that mean to the ecosystems as a whole?” he said.

Kajiura welcomes the sharks even as most people are leery of so many sharks lurking in the water. Although blacktips are probably the cause of the greatest number of bites in Florida, this shouldn’t be cause for too much concern, he said. “There are about 1,000 sharks per square kilometer of ocean, and so when you put that in perspective, the number of incidents are remarkably small, and very few people are bitten and if they are the bites are minor,” he said. “Florida has such clear water that sharks are able to see that you’re a person and not a fish, and they’re not interested.”

The best way to avoid shark bites, he said, is to stay away from large schools of baitfish, and to stay out of the water at dusk and dawn at low light, “when it’s harder for them to see the difference between the sole of your foot and a fish.”

Dismal year for manatees

Manatees began showing up in small numbers in Palm Beach County in December. In mid-December there were only 19 manatees found during an aerial survey, said Paul Davis, division director of the Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management. “When we get cold weather in Brevard and St. Lucie counties, we will see a big jump. The highest we’ve had is 800 at the peak,” he said.

This has been a dismal year in the state for manatee deaths, although Palm Beach County had six mortalities for the year up to Dec. 6, which is a little below the average of 10, said Davis. “We still investigating the cause of those deaths. It appears to be the loss of sea grass in that area because of algae blooms,” Baxter said.

Other causes were watercraft and cold stress, he said. “The number of manatees in Florida, according to aerial surveys in 2011, was 4,834, which is a minimum count.”

Sharks fill the water along the shore of Gulf Stream. Photo provided by Florida Atlantic University
**DOG BEACH**

Continued from page 1

Davidson said.

The dog beach, at the northern end of Spanish River Park, admits canines from 7 to 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. to sunset on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. Dog owners need an annual permit ($30 for residents of the city or the Greater Boca Raton Beach and Park District and $165 for nonresidents).

A three-day pass is $10 and can be purchased at the Spanish River Park gatehouse.

Bark Beach welcomed a dozen or so dogs in its first hour. Dominene Banks, who lives in Boca Raton and works in Delray Beach, brought her 2-year-old Great Dane, Tikea, whose size unsettled some.

“He says I’ll love you to death,” Banks said.

“I’m just so excited you have no idea,” said Laurie Spear, who brought Luna and Calife, her Portuguese water dogs. Spear lived for a while in the Bahamas, which allows pets on its beaches, unlike most of South Florida. Fort Lauderdale and Jupiter were the only cities with dog-friendly sand until Boca Raton joined them.

The first joint exposure to sand and surf left Susan Arendt and her labradoodle, Quincy, wanting more. “I just wish they were open during the week as well,” she said.

The city wants it clear that “Bark Beach is a pilot program.” Permit applications have that statement printed across the top, Recreation Services Director Mickey Gomez said. Permits are available at the community centers in Patch Reef and Sugar Sand parks. The city sold $46 resident permits and seven nonresident permits as of Dec. 30, making it more popular in its first month than Fort Lauderdale’s Canine Beach. Fort Lauderdale sells 250 permits a year (and charges nonresidents $45 a year).

Assistant City Manager Mike Woika said Bark Beach attendance averaged 20 dogs in the mornings and 35 in the evenings for the first three weekends. A dog bit a 7-year-old boy on the beach Dec. 28. He was treated and is OK, Woika said.

“So far staff has reported only one instance of dog waste left on the beach,” Woika said.

**DELRAY**

Continued from page 1

Council member Constance Scott said she spoke with Delray Beach commissioners who want their own dog beach but lack evidence of the need.

She recommended Boca Raton color-code permits to make it easy to spot Delray visitors.

“T hat’s just an idea, a way of doing research for them,” Scott said. But council member Michael Mullaugh thought the added effort was not necessary.

“I have been to plenty of public meetings in Delray, and there’s no hesitancy among residents of Delray Beach to express their opinion on virtually everything,” he said.

“So I believe if they are concerned about having a dog beach in Delray they will say so.”

His comment drew knowing chuckles from his colleagues on the dais.

“My point is, they will get a dog beach there if enough residents in fact want one,” Mullaugh said. “If they have a good experience at ours, believe me, something will be said at a public meeting.”

Fears of an invasion of Boca Raton’s dog beach by Delray Beach pet owners caused council members to reject a $60 nonresident fee originally proposed. Recreation Services Director Mickey Gomez upped his recommendation to $165. Residents of the city and the Greater Boca Raton Beach and Park District pay $30 per dog.

Mayor Susan Whelchel said “numerous people” think the pilot program may not be a success. “If a person, especially a nonresident because of the amount of money, has paid a year’s fee and the park doesn’t make it … will they be reimbursed?” she asked.

Mullaugh said council members could order reimbursements if they vote to discontinue Bark Beach.

The pass for one three-day weekend is $10 for residents and nonresidents alike. Gomez said his staff has no way of checking residency for the passes, which are sold at the dog beach.

But, Gomez said, the city requires documentation for annual passes so it can’t need to color-code permits for Delray Beach pet owners.

“When they come to our beach in Delray they will say, ‘This is my beach,’” he chuckled.

Mayor Susan Whelchel said she had been to plenty of public meetings in Delray, and there’s no hesitancy among residents of Delray Beach to express their opinion on virtually everything, “My point is, they will get a dog beach there if enough residents in fact want one,” Mullaugh said. “If they have a good experience at ours, believe me, something will be said at a public meeting.”

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“When they come to purchase a permit we require proof of residency, so we know exactly where all the nonresidents are coming from,” Gomez said.

Boca Raton modeled its pilot project after Fort Lauderdale’s Canine Beach. Jupiter also has a dog-friendly beach.
Lantana Council to address flooding, meters at beach lot

By Mary Thurwachter

Beach-goers expect to find water at Lantana’s beach — for swimming and wading and splashing along the shoreline. Historically, they could also expect to wade through water in the parking lot, too, after a rainfall of any significance. But the parking lot perils are due for a rescue. At its Dec. 9 meeting, the Town Council authorized a $35,000 contract for engineering services for drainage and paving improvements at the beach.

Money for the project will come from both the utility fund ($44,000) and the general fund ($7,000).

Town Manager Deborah Manzo said the work would likely begin in February and continue until July.

The plans, Manzo said, call for removal of the asphalt followed by a buildup of 5-inch full-depth asphalt pavement.

“A lot of the vegetation around the perimeter of the parking lot will be moved, some to Bicentennial Park and some to other town properties,” Manzo said. “In 2015, we will have to put money in the budget for landscaping.”

Police Chief Sean Scheller said that the town would also be installing two new parking kiosks, possibly ahead of the drainage and paving work, to replace rusting meters.

Currently, some of the parking meters aren’t working. With the new kiosks, customers will be able to pay with coins, bills, credit cards and smartphones. By using the kiosks, police won’t have to spend as much time collecting from the meters, a task they perform three days a week.

In other action:

During December, the council reduced the frequency of meetings for the Nature Preserve Commission from six to two a year. Council members said they did not think the commission needed to meet so often to accomplish its business.

LETTERS: The Coastal Star welcomes letters to the editor about issues of interest in the community. These are subject to editing and must include your name, address and phone number. Preferred length is 280 words or less. Mail to 5011 N. Ocean Blvd. #2, Ocean Ridge, FL 33435 or email editor@thecoastalstar.com.
It was serendipity that excavation of the Boynton Beach Inlet sand trap happened to coincide with the building of two mangrove islands called Grassy Flats in the Lake Worth Lagoon.

On one hand, county officials had non-beach-compatible sand and rocks that needed to go somewhere and, on the other hand, an eco-project for which they were about to spend $500,000 for sand.

That was an aha moment for Dan Bates, deputy director of Palm Beach County Environmental Resources Management, who saw the happy coincidence of two projects coming together and the chance to save a half-million dollars in the process.

“We couldn’t have planned it better. As the inlet project was going on, Grassy Flats was coming up, and we had a great opportunity. The sand and rock byproduct that can’t go on the beach was perfect for this project,” said Julie Bishop, environmental director for the Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management.

The Grassy Flats Lake Worth Lagoon Restoration Project, which will create 0.5 acres of seagrass habitat and 1.1 acres of salt marsh, will increase the food and nursery habitat for fish, manatees and wading birds while improving water quality. Work is expected to be completed by the fall of 2014.

Starting in mid-December, one to two barges a day loaded sand and rocks at the inlet and transported it four miles north to the Grassy Flats project on the east side of the lagoon near the Palm Beach Par 3 Golf Course.

Rocks that are too big for the new islands will go to an artificial reef near the inlet, she said. Beach-compatible sand is put on nearby beaches.

The sand and rocks from the inlet sand trap will be pumped onto the islands to cap the muck sediments that had created a “dead zone” with poor water quality and very little plant habitat.

About 1 to 2 feet of muck sediment — including pesticides and fertilizers — was deposited in the lagoon over time by the C51 Canal. Some of the sediment came from Lake Okeechobee and the rest from the canal basin.

“We actually get discharges to Lake Worth Lagoon from three canals,” she said, adding that the area is far from ocean inlets, and there’s not a lot of natural flushing of the lagoon water.

The new sand will create two islands where 2,900 red mangroves and 25,000 plugs of cordgrass will be planted, which will support wildlife and oyster habitat and improve long-term water quality.

The total Grassy Flats project cost is $2.5 million. “We’re getting wonderful support from grants,” she said. Grants include $110,000 from the Department of Environmental Protection, $777,000 from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife/Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation, and the county is expecting an award of $842,000 from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The balance will be made up in matching funds from Palm Beach County, she said.

“We’re going to cap those muck sediments with clean sand and restore a natural sand bottom with over 10 acres of seagrass habitat, and we expect water quality improvement,” she said. “We will create mangrove islands and a ring of rock to provide oyster habitat.”

The area won’t be called the “dead zone” again, she said. “That is changed. We’ve done over $20 million in restoration,” she said. “We will have a great positive impact on this area. We will see a return of wildlife, wading birds, manatees and mangroves, which work as fish nurseries,” she said.

The two mangrove islands will be exposed at low tide and underwater at high tide when completed, she said. The cordgrass will go in first, acting as a stabilizer until the mangroves take hold in one to two years.

The county hopes volunteers will help plant the islands this summer.

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TOP: Dredging crews have been gathering sand and rocks from the Boynton Inlet for months to improve the navigation there.
BELOW: Some of the materials are being used to create the Grassy Flats project west of the Palm Beach Par 3 Golf Course.
Large rocks are being used to armour the inlet jetty.

Photo by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star
Graphic from Palm Beach County Environmental Resources Management
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Briny Breezes approves historic land use plan

By Dan Moffett

Five years and countless hours of deliberation in the making, the Briny Breezes’ comprehensive land use plan officially became the blueprint for the community’s future when it won the unanimous approval of the Town Council on Dec. 19. The plan would enable the town to expand beyond its mobile-home-park heritage by allowing traditional one-and two-story single-family structures, a commercial corridor of small businesses and low-rise multi-story condominiums and rental units on the west side of State Road A1A.

It is the most significant course-setting for the seaside community since the $510 million Ocean Land sale fell apart in 2007 and left residents wondering what their future should look like. It is the first update of the town’s land-use plan since 1989.

Jerry Low, the chairman of the town’s Planning and Zoning Board that developed the plan, says Briny will benefit from allowing more storm-worthy housing — homes that are more insurable — and having the flexibility to make changes if it wants.

“Right now our zoning says we have two businesses, we have some public facilities, we have some parking lots,” said Low, who is the publisher of The Coastal Star. “We don’t have a lot of freedom in what we can allow ourselves to do. So this whole comprehensive plan is set up with the idea of giving ourselves the freedom to evolve if and when we choose to.”

But changes will occur only if Briny Breezes Inc., which owns the park, wants them. The corporation is a co-operative of residents who own voting shares based on the size and location of their lots. It will be up to the corporation to decide how the new 117-page document is implemented.

“The comprehensive plan allows change but doesn’t mandate it,” said Alderman Sue Thaler.

The plan now goes to the planning commission for final approval and adoption.

In other business:
- The Town Council had to do some scrambling to fill seats and have a quorum for the December meeting after the abrupt resignation of newly minted Mayor Gerard Devine.
- Council members said they were blindsided and have no idea why he quit. “Who knows, it could be anything,” said Alderman Nancy Boczon.
- With Alderman Pete Fingerhut absent, Devine’s exit forced the council to install Alderman Thaler as its president and move Sharon Kendrigan from president to mayor, a position she said she will hold for only a day. Kendrigan said she was standing by her plan that the December meeting would end her seven-year run on the council.

“She will be missed,” said Boczon, who said she asked Kendrigan to stay on as mayor.

“She’s a workaholic. She’s a smart woman who knows how to organize. You couldn’t ask for anybody better.”

Kendrigan said her appreciation for government and public service was kindled during her early years in southern Minnesota farm country when she held office in her local 4-H. “I have learned a lot about government in the last seven years,” she said.

“I’ve enjoyed it and now I wish everyone good luck.”

On another 3-0 vote, the council unanimously approved Barbara Molina to fill the council seat vacated by Kendrigan.

Molina first visited Briny in 2002 and moved to the community full-time in July. For two decades, she lived in Kaiserslautern, Germany, and worked as a civilian teacher for the children of U.S. military members at Ramstein Air Base. She taught French and Spanish and is also fluent in German.

“I think it’s important to be active in one’s community,” Molina said.

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The Coastal Star

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#WinterBlues
First-ever olive ridley sea turtle rescued in Palm Beach County

By Cheryl Blackerby

The rescue of the little olive ridley sea turtle, who made a likely 4,000-mile journey from around Brazil to Florida, was nothing short of a miracle.

She probably drifted in the Gulf Stream — all four flippers tangled in fishing net — before coming to Lantana Beach, thrashing in the surf, on Christmas Day.

She is in critical condition, but her rescuers are hopeful.

She is the only documented olive ridley stranded in Palm Beach County and the first this far north by the nonprofit Loggerhead Marinelife Center.

A couple who were eating at the Dune Deck restaurant saw the turtle pulled to the beach. They cut the fishing net off her flippers, which was the right thing to do. Then they did the wrong thing — put her back into the water on the advice of a passerby.

But the turtle’s lifeguards George Klein and Randy Reed kept a lookout for her and saw her thrashing in the surf. They called Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, which took her to the nonprofit Loggerhead Marinelife Center in Juno Beach.

Underweight and dehydrated, the turtle, named Meghan, on her front left flipper from the net, but that is expected to heal, he said.

“Turtles are wound in comparison to the other problems. She will not be released in Florida, but probably in South America. The details will be worked out with experts, he said. “We’re not sure where she will be released. But we can’t imagine her being released here.”

There have been only three strandings of the endangered olive ridleys in Florida: one in Marathon in 1999, one in Key Largo in 2000, and one in Sunny Isles near Miami in 2001. All three turtles died.

The center’s staff is hoping Meghan will make it. Her Welsh name, after all, means strong and mighty. And Saint skateboarded her patron saint of victims of abuse.

Florida Fish and Wildlife decides where rescued animals go, and the agency decided to take her to Loggerhead. “They determine who has the space and capability to care for the turtle. We have a surgical suite, state-of-the-art X-ray equipment, and we do in-house blood work,” said Longo.

The center treated 80 sea turtles in 2013, which is “on the high end,” said Longo. The average number of turtles treated is 60 to 80. Meghan has a shell 26 inches in length. The olive ridley is named for its greenshine color, and is closely related to the Kemp’s ridley, with the primary distinction being that olive ridleys are found only in warmer waters, according to National Geographic. Olive and Kemp’s ridleys are the smallest of the sea turtles.

> Sustainable practices have taken a large toll, frequently snagging and drowning the turtles.

Visitors to Loggerhead Marinelife Center can see Meghan in her new shallow tank. And they will be able to monitor her progress if she gets stronger. She is moved to the deeper pool.

Of course, no one knows for sure where Meghan’s journey started, or when she got tangled in the net, or how long she was adrift in the Gulf Stream. Experts speculate that she came from Brazil, the olive ridley’s usual habitat in the Atlantic.

Only she knows.

But one thing is definite: Christmas Day was her lucky day, and as of Dec. 31, Meghan was getting the care she needs.

Anyone seeing a hurt sea turtle or other marine animal, should call the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission hotline at 888-4-FWCC (3932).

Clarke chuckled. “You can’t put a memorial plate on the turtle or other marine animal,” she said. “We’re not sure where she survived, will undergo blood work,” said Longo.

“Eventually, she decided she’d be the town’s unpaid, uniring librarian for 22 years.

“Overweight and underweight, given a coax IV, antibiotics to prevent infection and iron to treat the anemia. X-rays showed no bone damage.

The staff is conducting daily glucose tests until levels are stable. She was put into a shallow pool, and if she survives, will undergo rehabilitation, which will include a deeper pool and hydrotherapy to strengthen her flippers, for about two months, said Tom Longo, the center’s communications manager.

The rescue team is there 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. But most of that time, it’s empty.

She is 80-some Louis L’Amour books inside.

Some romances are aptly nicknamed bodice-rippers. Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star

“Historians scan the room she’s seen. Her second goal is to enlarge the DVD collection from its current 150-some titles.

“Let’s done such a great job, my first goal is to continue that,” she said. “I want to keep the old charm.”

The center’s staff is hoping rescued animals will be able to make room for newer, more popular titles.

Recently, the library donated any novels not checked out for five years to the Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office, to be placed in the country jail for prisoners.

“Except the bodice-rippers,” McNees noted. She scanned the room she’s tended for 20-odd years, the books she’s loved, the changes she’s seen.

“I remember when the bodice-riper section was enlarged so we could carry more large-print books,” she said.

Large-print bodice-rippers! “No, no, no! We used the extra space for large-print books. Not large-print bodice-ripper books,” Clarke chuckled. “You know,” she mused, “I bet there’d be an audience for that …”

For two seconds, the two women looked at each other in silence, and then the library rang with laughter.

“Tall and strong,” she mused. “I want to keep the old charm.”

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Delray Beach Waterfront ~ $2,650,000
Rarely available premier waterfront 4 BR, 31/2 BA residence on the island. This beautifully appointed pool home has 100’ of frontage on a large free flowing canal with boat lift and direct Intracoastal Views. Laura Gallagher, 561-441-6111

New Monmouth ~ $1,100,000
Enjoy amazing views the minute you enter this 2 BR, 2 BA southeast corner penthouse with impact glass and a 24 ft. x 13 ft. screen porch. Tania Agnan, 561-376-1010

Bar Harbour ~ $575,000
Light & bright 2 BR, 2 BA southeast corner unit on the 5th floor with a view of the Intracoastal and yacht basin. Beautifully renovated designer kitchen with granite and stainless, updated floors and baths. Susan Ring, 561-441-4150

Seagate Manor ~ $509,000
Immaculate 2 BR, 2 BA sixth floor condominium offering magnificent southeast unit with beach views. This split bedroom plan features views from every room, glass accented bathrooms, crown molding, and a view of the Intracoastal. Michael Weiss, 561-573-7592

Downtown Beach Location ~ $335,000
3 blocks to Atlantic. 2 BR, 2 BA condo with two master suites, white-wash floors throughout, updated kitchen and wonderful sun room with Mosaic tile. Hurry, this won’t last! Sue Tauriello, 561-441-4200

East Wind Beach Club ~ From $300,000
Very desirable location right across the street from the beach and one block to Atlantic Avenue. All units are 1/1 with a porch. Two first floor units and one second floor unit are currently available. Great rental income. Elizabeth Rurey, 561-302-1552.

Clearbrook ~ Delray Beach ~ $289,000
Light & bright 3 BR, 2.5 BA two story home with a 2 car garage and a first floor master suite. Large screened lanai with covered porch and sunken spa. Eat-in kitchen with new granite countertops. Judy Sartor, 561-445-6009

Woodlake ~ Delray Beach ~ $229,000
Well maintained 3 BR, 2 BA courtyard villa with a 1 car garage, spacious screened porch and a private fenced yard. High vaulted ceilings, many updates, new kitchen, new A/C and appliances. Michael Weiss, 561-573-7592.

Quail Run Lake Views ~ Boynton Beach
3/2½ villa overlooking the lake. Split plan with cathedral ceilings, hardwood floors and laundry room. $215,000
2nd floor master suite with a view of the lake. Tastefully decorated and sold furnished. $155,000. Linda Welch, 561-951-6433

Crosswinds Lakefront ~ $139,000
Updated and chic 2 BR, 2 BA on the first floor with a screen enclosed porch right on the lake. Ceramic tile floors throughout, eat-in kitchen with granite and stainless steel, plus a separate laundry room. Mary Renaud, 561-441-0634

Crosswinds Single Family ~ $219,000
Beautifully maintained 2 BR, 2 BA with a 1 car garage. This split bedroom plan has ceramic tile floors and Bose sound system throughout, updated eat-in kitchen, new bathrooms, plus a large porch with hot tub. Terri Berman, 561-445-2929

Country Manor ~ $95,000
Beautifully remodeled 2 BR, 2 BA villa. Everything has been updated! New features include granite countertops, newer appliances and cabinets in the kitchen, plus new bathrooms. Sold furnished! Judy Sartor, 561-445-6009
Beach projects move along, after weather-related delays

By Cheryl Blackerby

A sand dredge moved from the Port of Palm Beach to Ocean Ridge Dec. 19, but the beach renourishment project was delayed by weather and the holidays.

The dredge returned to the port and is expected to start work in Ocean Ridge Jan. 3, according to Dan Bates, deputy director of Palm Beach County Environmental Resources Management.

After delays from bad weather including high winds during most of November, the beach renourishment project in south Boca Raton finally started the day before Thanksgiving and finished pumping sand on 0.9 miles of beach Dec. 9.

“The dry beach was widened 60 feet on average the entire length,” said Jennifer Bistyga, engineer with the city of Boca Raton.

The dredge is expected to go to the north Boca Raton beach at the end of February and early March after finishing beach renourishment projects in Ocean Ridge and Delray Beach, she said.

Sand will be dredged from borrow areas about 1,800 feet offshore onto 1.1 miles of beach in Ocean Ridge, said Tracy Logue, coastal geologist for Palm Beach County Environmental Resources Management.

The Ocean Ridge project is expected to take 34 days barring any weather delays. Sand will be put on the Ocean Ridge beach starting at the Ocean Club just south of the southernmost groin and end at Edith Street, she said.

Another Ocean Ridge project, the modification of five T-head groins, was completed in mid-December. These are the southernmost of eight groins south of the Boynton Inlet.

Several of the groins were built of granite boulders, about 2 to 3 feet wide and tall, and are sunk into the ground about 8 feet below the sand floor and stand about 4 and a half feet above the sand.

The groins are built of granite boulders, about 2 to 3 feet wide and tall, and are sunk into the ground about 8 feet below the sand floor and stand about 4 and a half feet above the sand. All eight groins are south of the inlet, and the five that were modified are south of the sand discharge pipe. The modified groins are all behind private property.

“The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers managed the project and used seismic testing to monitor vibration from the excavation, she said. “Since they were running heavy equipment on the beach, they wanted to make sure there was no damage to a house, and no vibrations that could cause a crack in a pool, for instance.”

Excavators were used to remove the big boulders, some of which were deposited inside concrete panels to help reinforce the north jetty. “Rocks had settled inside the concrete panels and there was space to put more rock in. The more rock you have, the more it weakens the force of the waves. The rest of the boulders will be stored and will probably go into artificial reefs,” Logue said.

The beach renourishment projects in Ocean Ridge, Delray Beach and north Boca Raton are U.S. Army Corps of Engineers beach projects. The Army Corps deadline for those projects is April 30, and the work should be finished well before the deadline if seas remain calm, said Bistyga.

The south Boca Raton beach renourishment is not an Army Corps project but the city used the same contractor to save money, she said. ❧
The South Palm Beach Police Department is quietly going through an unprecedented overhaul after the recent departures of two of the most experienced officers in the town’s history.

In November, police Chief Roger Crane retired after 28 years with the department, including nearly two decades as its leader.

Then in December, Lt. Nick Alvaro retired after a 30-year career in law enforcement, 13 of them in South Palm Beach. Alvaro was one of the department’s most versatile contributors. Besides serving as a road patrol supervisor, he was a certified fire inspector and evidence specialist.

Members of the Town Council might have appreciated him most, however, as a grant writer who helped secure tens of thousands of dollars in subsidies for the town.

“Through his diligence and his grant writing, most of it done on his own time, we’ve probably obtained between $70,000 and $80,000 worth of police equipment over the years,” said Vice Mayor Joseph Flagello. “He is a lieutenant who gets the job done with no fanfare, and he will be sorely missed.”

With two vacant positions in the eight-officer department, Town Manager Rex Taylor and acting Chief Carl Webb are busy screening candidates to hire. Taylor says they have some promising prospects, and he thinks they’ll be able to fill the openings relatively soon.

Honoring one of its own

At its Dec. 17 meeting, the Town Council acknowledged the fine performance of another of its officers. Patrol officer Jason LaForte was making his rounds not long before dawn on a November morning when he noticed a resident having a medical emergency in a condominium parking lot.

LaForte quickly assisted the elderly man and summoned help.

“We’re a quiet force, but every once in a while, something comes up,” Webb said.

The chief said the resident was able to survive the incident only because of LaForte’s alertness and fast response.

“His direct action saved the life of one of our residents,” Webb said. “Without that, it’s guaranteed that resident wouldn’t be here today. What a great job.”

LaForte, 41, is a 14-year veteran with the department. The town honored him with a life-saver medal and plaque.

“I’m happy I was there to help him,” LaForte said. “I feel good that he made it all right and he’s still around to be with his family.”

In other business, the council voted unanimously (4-0, with Councilwoman Stella Gaddy Jordan absent because of illness) to send $1,000 to the town of Lantana to help defray the cost of the fireworks display during December’s Lantana bridge opening. “The fireworks were spectacular,” said Councilman Robert Gottlieb. “All our residents enjoyed them.”

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South Palm Beach patrol officer Nick Alvaro is retiring after 30 years of public service. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star
South Palm Beach

‘Hawaiian’ sees upgrades under new owners

By Jane Smith

The town of South Palm Beach will offer its popular Spotlight series of lectures and music, starting Jan. 8 with a piano concert by the Tokyo-born Yoko Sata Kothari. The music selections are offered twice a month on Wednesdays through March.

“Rex Taylor, town manager. “I asked him to change up his music series each time,” said Taylor, who is a Juilliard School of Music graduate, oversees the town’s music series each time,” he said. He is also fond of catchy titles, such as “Why do intelligent people often behave so foolishly?” That lecture by psychologist Bert Diament will kick off the lecture series on Jan. 15 and 16.

Robert Watson, who is a professor and coordinator of American Studies at Lynn University, will speak on “America’s first crisis: The war of 1812” on Feb. 26 and 27. “Dr. Watson has a following,” said Taylor, who looks for lecturers who can give an interesting talk.

Not every lecturer has a doctorate. Frank Cerabino, the local columnist for The Palm Beach Post, has a master’s in journalism from Northwestern University. He’s known for finding the humor in news, and that will be his topic when he speaks on Feb. 12 and 13.

Lecturers and musicians receive an honorarium between $1,000 and $2,000, Taylor said. The Spotlight series, held in the town’s council hall, is open to the public. The lecture and music series cost $70 each. Individual tickets are sold if there is space available. For information, call 568-8888.

The group that owns the Palm Beach Oceanfront Inn is focusing on immediate issues, such as restoring the sea walls. Tim Stepens/The Coastal Star

Cultural series now in 18th year

By Jane Smith

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Meet Your Neighbor: Jeannette Bogart

Jeannette Bogart of Boca Raton hosted a popular cable-TV cooking show in New York and has written several cookbooks on preparing healthful fare.

Newest Munchie Crunchy

A recipe from Jeannette Bogart, AKA Nana Nettie

1/2 cup oats
1/4 cup flaxseed meal
1/4 cup wheat germ
1 tsp. baking powder
1 cup Splenda
1 whole egg
1/2 cup vegetable oil
1/2 cup nonfat milk
1/4 cup walnuts (optional)
1/4 cup water

Line a cookie sheet (approximately 10- x 16-inch) with aluminum foil.
Mix together oats, flaxseed flour, wheat germ and baking powder. In a smaller bowl, mix together egg, oil, milk, Splenda, and water. Stir the contents of the smaller bowl into the larger bowl. Add raisins. Spread mixture on the cookie sheet. Top with walnuts (if desired).
Bake at 350 degrees for 42 minutes.

Nana Nettie’s nutritionist, Joyce Goldstein, RD, CDN, says: Oats help lower cholesterol in the blood. This recipe also offers the benefits of flaxseed (and walnuts) with Omega-3 fatty acids, known to lower total cholesterol and LDL, boost metabolism, provide optimal cognitive function and strengthen the immune system. You get all that plus important vitamins and minerals in this sweet treat.

Q. Where did you grow up and go to school?
A. I went to public schools in New York City, high school in Asbury Park, N.J., and the University of Lausanne in Switzerland for about a year. I was a French major.

Q. What are some highlights of your life?
A. Having three wonderful daughters, traveling all over the world with my husband on business, and producing and hosting my own cable TV show for 10 years. It was a cooking show on LMC TV (Larchmont/Mamaroneck) in Westchester County, N.Y., where we have a home. I’m known as the “bread lady.”

Q. What is your favorite part about living in Boca Raton?
A. The ocean!

Q. Do you have a favorite healthy recipe? What is it and why?
A. Yes, it’s my recipe called Newest Munchie Crunchy. It’s full of good grains. The recipe is included in a cookbook I’m now working on called Finest Foods for Friday Nights and Holidays.

Q. Do you have a favorite cookbook? Why?
A. My favorite cookbook is The Good Housekeeping Cookbook, edited by Dorothy Marsh. It’s very thick. You can look up any dish you want to make and they’ll have it, along with the nutritional information. I lifted it out of my mother’s closet, along with her sewing machine.

Q. Do you have a favorite quote that inspires your decisions?
A. “Don’t ever give up.”

Q. Have you had mentors in your life? Individuals who have inspired your life decisions?
A. The women in my family — my grandmother, my aunt and my mother — were wonderful bakers and homemakers. They made beautiful dinners. People were always coming to our home for dinner parties. I guess these skills came to me by osmosis, and now my daughters are following in my footsteps.

Q. Who/what makes you laugh?
A. My grandson Freddy. He says some really funny things.
Delray Beach

Demand increases for reclaimed water for irrigation

By Sallie James

Using treated wastewater for lawn irrigation was a hard sell seven years ago when Victor Majtenyi first became Delray Beach’s deputy director of public works. But water restrictions changed that perspective forever.

“Now I can’t sell the product fast enough. It’s like gold,” Majtenyi said. “The reason? Reclaimed water isn’t subject to water restrictions like potable water. It’s also a little bit cheaper to use.

To keep up with demand, the city’s ongoing program to use treated wastewater for landscape irrigation is expanding, this time into the barrier island area, where water usage tends to be high, Majtenyi said.

In August, the city completed a $1.47 million installation of distribution pipes and meters in the area bordered by Atlantic Avenue, Casuarina Road, Gleason Street and State Road A1A. The project will assist connecting residents to that system in early 2014. A $170,000 South Florida Water Management District grant helped fund the project, Majtenyi said.

Another section to the west, bordered by Atlantic Avenue, Casuarina Road, Gleason Street and the Intracoastal Waterway is slated for construction in March 2014. Completion is expected in September 2014, Majtenyi said. Another SEWMD grant is providing a $100,000 toward project’s second phase, which is expected to cost about $1.3 million.

Expansion into areas bordered by Casuarina Road south to Pinnetta Road, and Lewis Cove south to Linton Boulevard are planned for the future but not yet scheduled.

On average, Delray Beach customers use about 16.5 million gallons of water a day. The city is currently producing a little over 2 million gallons of reclaimed water a day, Majtenyi said. The March expansion will up that rate to about 2.45 million gallons of reclaimed water, he added.

“We will keep expanding it. Once we get the barrier island done, we will go west of Interstate 95 in some of the other northwest sections of town,” he said.

One reason the barrier islands were selected is that there already was a partial outfall pipe in place, Majtenyi said. Pipe installation for the next phase will be in the city’s right of way, mostly in the roadway. The new meters for the reclaimed water will be installed near the existing meters for potable water.

The city has been using reclaimed water to irrigate Delray Beach golf courses, city parks and roadway medians for years. It’s slightly cheaper to irrigate with the reclaimed water, which costs $1 per 1,000 gallons compared to the approximate $1.25 per 1,000 gallons of potable water, according to Majtenyi.

“The intent is not to be cheaper but as an alternative water source,” Majtenyi said. Delray Beach began using reclaimed water years ago to irrigate because South Florida’s potable water supply is limited, and it provided a sensible alternative for irrigation, Majtenyi noted.

Installation that allow the use of reclaimed water for irrigation include two meters — one for potable water and one for reclaimed water, because the two cannot be mixed, he said.

According to the Palm Beach County Utilities Department, reclaimed water shouldn’t be used to fill swimming pools or spas, or for drinking by people or pets. But because it’s highly filtered and disinfected, there’s no threat from accidental contact like being sprayed by a lawn sprinkler.

Reclaimed water is used in the ponds at Delray Beach’s Wakodahatchee Wetlands, 13026 Jog Road, and at the Green Cay Wetlands, 12800 Hagen Ranch Road, Boynton Beach, according to the Palm Beach County Utilities Department.

Benefits of irrigating with reclaimed water:

- Maintains vegetation on golf courses, residential lawns and common areas, and rights of way.
- Provides not only water, but also residual nutrients to enhance plant growth.
- Reduces withdrawal of water from aquifers and conserves this water for human consumption.
- Helps to recharge groundwater supply after it is filtered by soil and sand layers.
- Reduces reliance on deep injection wells for disposal of effluence.
- Delays capital costs needed for potable water expansion projects.
- Regulated by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

Source: Palm Beach County Water Utilities Department
CRA calls it quits on office/hotel project
By Steve Plunkett

Boynton Beach has dashed its dreams of soon seeing a thriving law firm, two residential towers and a flagship hotel downtown.

After almost a year of negotiations, the Community Redevelopment Agency on Dec. 10 withdrew its request for proposals that envisioned construction on its property at 222 N. Federal Highway.

“We put everything we could on the table. We offered money, we offered land, we offered as much money as we had and as much land as we could,” Mayor and CRA Chairman Jerry Taylor said. “We tried our hardest to make this deal come to fruition.”

Kaner and Pintaluga PA and the CRA started working last January to find a spot for the ambitious Delray Beach law firm to build a 50,000-square-foot headquarters. The lawyers said they would bring 200 jobs downtown by 2015.

The CRA hoped to package its half-acre parcel at Federal Highway and Boynton Beach Boulevard with additional land owned by Davis Camalier through his One Boynton LLC. In July, the parties announced a tentative agreement. The CRA in September offered to give Camalier its parcel as well as $1.3 million and the historic Magnuson House and Little House properties to make the deal work. But Camalier wanted $2.5 million, and the law firm wanted the CRA to build $8.6 million of covered parking. Vivian Brooks, the CRA executive director, said the parking would not generate enough additional tax revenue to pay for the project.

“We’ve spent a lot of time back and forth, back and forth between the three parties, the CRA, One Boynton and Kaner Pintaluga. And where we’ve got at this point is, we’re too far apart,” Brooks said.

Taylor said the Delray Beach lawyers wanted “everything basically for free. They wanted the land for free, they wanted us to pay for parking, they brought nothing in.”

Brooks said the agency would continue to work with One Boynton, which owns most of the land fronting Federal Highway between Ocean Avenue and Boynton Beach Boulevard. “We’ve always said since I’ve been here to Mr. Camalier, when you have a development we’re willing to work with you to make that happen,” Brooks said.

She forwarded the One Boynton site as well as one on North Federal fronting the Intracoastal Waterway to the Business Development Board, which is looking for a place for a 200-room hotel. But she also told CRA board members “there are no other prospects for development on this site in the near horizon, according to One Boynton’s representative.”

Delray Beach sends letter lauding fire-rescue service
By Rich Pollack

Highland Beach wants Delray Beach to know how much they like the fire-rescue service the larger community provides to town residents at a cost over just over $3 million annually — and they would like to keep it that way.

While Delray Beach waits for a price quote from Palm Beach County Fire-Rescue to determine whether a county takeover of its fire-rescue operations is feasible, Highland Beach officials are hoping that Delray Beach will consider the partnership the town has with Delray Fire-Rescue before a decision is made.

A letter sent last month to Delray Beach Mayor Cary Glickstein and signed by Highland Beach Mayor Bernard Featherman praised Delray Beach Fire-Rescue for the outstanding service provided to the town and for the relationship that has been forged since Delray Beach first began providing service in 1993.

Under a current contract, Delray Beach Fire Rescue provides the personnel to staff a fire station owned by Highland Beach and a fire truck and rescue wagon also provided by the town.
Along the Coast

Plug-in car solution not yet wired for condos

By Rich Pollack

Carol Wittenberg loves her 2013 Chevy Volt, a plug-in hybrid that runs on both gas and electricity.

“It’s environmentally friendly, it’s economical and it’s comfortable and quiet,” she says. But when Wittenberg and her husband, Larry, returned to their condominium in Highland Beach last month, the Volt remained in their Michigan garage. There isn’t a charging station nearby to make it worthwhile,” says Wittenberg. As the number of electric cars on the road grows, condominiums with shared parking facilities and even small municipalities are wrestling with the question of how, if at all, to accommodate people like the Wittenbergs and others in a small group of electric-car owners seeking convenient ways to plug in.

“If it’s something that’s creating a buzz in our industry,” says Lisa Magill, an attorney who specializes in community association law for the firm of Becker & Poliakoff. At the heart of the issue is the question of who should pay for installations of charging stations, and then once they’re in, how to ensure residents of an entire building don’t end up paying for the electricity used by a few individuals to charge cars.

Even municipalities are facing the challenge, with the town of Highland Beach deciding against the installation of a community charging station because the benefits for a few would not justify the expense paid by all of the town’s taxpayers.

Compounding the problem are the regulations in condominium documents that can range from requiring a majority vote of the board of directors for approval of a charging station to a favorable vote by 75 percent of the unit owners.

South Palm Beach resident Paul J. Least learned first hand about those rules and regulations when he tried to charge the Nissan Leaf he just purchased, using an extension cord that he ran from his first floor condo unit to a parking spot right out front. Soon he was told by the condo association management that he could face hefty fines if he didn’t remove the extension cord.

Least says he offered to pay for electricity and for proper wiring but the condo management refused. Now, he says, he’s forced to keep the car in storage until he returns up north where he doesn’t anticipate any problems plugging in.

“If I knew I was going to have these problems, I wouldn’t have bought the car down here,” he said.

As more and more situations like Least’s arise, condo boards and managers are seeking guidance on how to proceed. “A week doesn’t go by when I don’t get a call from a condo manager,” says Anne-Louise Seabury, electric vehicle program manager for Florida Power & Light Co. “They’re wondering where to start.”

The answer is not an easy one. “I’ve worked with a lot of condos and everyone is different,” she says. For their part, condo association managers and leaders say that there aren’t enough electric-car owners living in condos to make installations of community charging stations an issue. That was the consensus during the October meeting of the Beach Condominium Association of Boca Raton and Highland Beach, according to Jack Fox, president of the group, which includes the managers, directors and officers of 63 communities.

“At this point the feeling is that there isn’t that many people with electric cars,” Fox said. “I think going forward, if electric cars become more prevalent, condos will respond to the demand.”

In the short term, he says, some condos are allowing owners to have charging stations in their garage parking spots, but they’re asking them to pay for the full cost of installation and the electricity they use.

That’s exactly what happened at The Yacht and Racquet Club of Boca Raton.

During the summer, the Rev. David M. Franco, O.F.S.F., a retired priest from Michigan living in a condo he inherited from his parents, purchased a pre-owned Nissan Leaf and went to his condo association to let the manager know he wanted to install a charging station that he could use in the garage.

“The manager said as long as I pay for the installation and my own electricity, it’s fine,” Franco recalls.

After doing a bit of research, Franco discovered that the costs of buying a Level 2 charging station — which can charge his Leaf in just a few hours — and installing it, were fairly affordable. The charging station itself cost about $1,100, while running the necessary wiring from the garage electrical panel cost about $900.

In addition, Franco paid an extra $50 for a meter that measures the amount of electricity he uses. Every quarter he sends a check to the condo association, which pays for electricity used in common areas. The first check, written for four months, came to just $67.50.

While Franco’s is a success story, he says that the idea of a community-wide charging station — activated by credit cards — is not gaining much traction at the condominium. “The problem is people have to look at electric cars not as a novelty but as a mode of transportation,” he said.
Frederic J. Puttlitz

By Jane Smith

HIGHLAND BEACH — Frederic J. Puttlitz, 69, died Dec. 13 at Boca Raton Regional Hospital from pancreatic cancer.

Mr. Puttlitz was born Aug. 15, 1944, to Adalbert and Elizabeth Agnes Puttlitz. He met his wife, Dorinda Lawhead, on her first day of class at a college in Farmingdale, N.Y. “I said, ‘Excuse me, sir,’ because he was balding and looked older, ‘where is the cafeteria?’” Dorinda “Din” Puttlitz said. Her parents had just dropped her off and she was hungry. He escorted her to the cafeteria and soon they were constant companions.

They married in September 1968 and moved to Florida from Albany, N.Y. Because she had multiple sclerosis, her doctor had advised a warmer climate. Mr. Puttlitz, who was working for IBM, knew the company had a new plant in Boca Raton and told his wife not to worry, they were moving near the ocean.

He worked as an electrical engineer for IBM and gave up promotions because he did not want to move me to a colder climate, his wife said. An devout Catholic, he was an active member of St. Lucy Catholic Church in Highland Beach, where he was treasurer of the Men’s Club and took charge of many of its social events and fundraisers.

“Mr. Puttlitz liked a good cabernet wine and enjoyed cruising across the ocean to Europe where they often took an apartment for a week in Vienna or Amsterdam, his wife said. In addition to his wife, Mr. Puttlitz is survived by three brothers: Albert (Marie), Donald (Barbara) and Karl (Dianne) Puttlitz; Donald and Patricia Lawhead, in-laws; and many nieces and nephews.”

Elaine McCormick

By Ron Hayes

BRINY BREEZES — During her 11 years in Briny Breezes, Elaine McCormick took part in community shows, parades and clubs. She was also active at St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church and VFW Post #533. And she earned a certificate from a clown school. “She loved clowns,” recalls her husband, James. “She said, ‘I’m a natural,’ so she got a diploma. She was a fun lady.” Mrs. McCormick died Dec. 12 at home. She was 79 and had battled leukemia. She died of cancer,” James McCormick noted. “There was no pain.”

Born Jan. 25, 1934, in New York City, Mrs. McCormick attended Saints Peter and Paul Grammar School, followed by the Special Surgery of New York City, where she worked for five years after completing her nursing training. After moving to Keansburg, N.J., with her husband, Mel Rosario, she worked at King James Nursing Home and did private duty nursing in Colts Neck, N.J. She was active in the Middletown, N.J., Elks Lodge #2179 and president of its Women’s Auxiliary, where she organized travel vacations, fashion shows and auctions to benefit local charities. She moved to Briny Breezes in 2002, after her husband’s death, and married James McCormick, a longtime family friend from the Keansburg Elks Lodge.

“She carried the water for anybody,” Mr. McCormick said. “She would help anyone, known or unknown, with no accolades expected. And she was a go-getter. She loved Briny Breezes. She loved the people here.” In addition to her husband, Mr. McCormick is survived by three stepsons, James McCormick Jr., Patrick McCormick and Sean McCormick, a stepdaughter, Jennifer Colon; a grandson, John Quinn; and a great granddaughter, Amelia Quinn. A funeral Mass was held Dec. 20 at St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church, with interment at Fairview Cemetery in Keansburg, N.J. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her name to Hospice of Palm Beach County.
Pedro Maldonado learned how to make jewelry by assisting his father, a master jeweler in Cuenca, Ecuador. "My father was a well-known jeweler there," the son says. "He created a 35-pound monstrance for a Catholic church." Its parishioners donated their jewelry for it.

Decades later, Maldonado, who owns Jewelry Artisans in Manalapan, is creating the world's most valuable dreidel for the Chabad of South Palm Beach. They are neighbors in the Plaza del Mar shopping center.

In the summer when Shaina Stolik — whose husband is the Chabad's rabbi — learned that Thanksgiving and Hanukkah would share the same date, she started to think of a world record to match the once-in-a-lifetime occurrence. She eventually thought a dreidel, a spinning toy, would be appropriate. Chabad's congregants donated jewelry for it. Stolik plans to enter it into the Guinness Book of World Records in the new category of "world's most valuable dreidel." To qualify, the dreidel would have to be appraised and it would have to spin. She estimates the finished value will be about $9,000.

Maldonado hopes to finish it in early January, working in his newly expanded space. The expansion gave him a jewelry-making area viewable to his customers. He also built out the space, meaning he put in the hardwood floor and built the display cases, trimmed with aluminum. "My wife says if the jewelry making doesn't work out that I can make furniture," he says.

He also expanded the space so that his two teenage sons could work alongside him and learn how to make jewelry. Maldonado has a long history in the area. His Jewelry Artisans opened in 1991 in the plaza. Before that, he had a jewelry store for seven years in Palm Beach. His store manager, Emi Ebben, has worked for him for 23 years. She is a graduate gemologist with a degree from the Gemological Institute of America.

Earrings, priced between $3,000-$5,000, are the most popular, he says. His store does about $500,000 in annual sales. Jewelry Artisans also cleans and maintains jewelry for its clientele. One woman brought in jewelry owned by her late father-in-law to turn into something she could wear. The wedding band was sawed in half to create two arcs that would be turned into earrings. His cufflinks would become post earrings.

For rings and pendants, he often raises the stone atop a bed of filigree work to allow the light to shine through to the stone. He signs his pieces with a heart and his name.

"I've been around jewelry since I was a kid," he says, "it comes naturally to me."
**Business Spotlight**

**New businesses filling out Plaza Del Mar**

Palm Beach in Manulapan is the new home for Palm Beach Travel and Allstate Insurance. Annie Davis, owner of Palm Beach Travel, opened her travel agency after seeing a need for a local agency. An American Express affiliate, her agency specializes in Platinum and Centurion travel as well as cruises, tours and family reunions.

As cruises, tours and family reunions, a need for a local agency. Palm Beach Travel, opened her travel agency after seeing a need for a local agency. An American Express affiliate, her agency specializes in Platinum and Centurion travel as well as cruises, tours and family reunions. Hillory Longo opened her Allstate franchise in September to her family and friends in the community. Her agency offers coverage for auto, life, residence and more, and her team includes four licensed producers with more than 80 years of combined insurance and financial services experience.

For information about Palm Beach Travel, call 385-5885. For information about Allstate in Plaza Del Mar, call 293-4277.

One tenant has been in the 1980s since a 12,000-square-foot office building at 4600 North Ocean, Boynton Beach, from the basement.

That would be attorney Erik Joff, whose firm Hinman, Howard and Kattell, was the first non-bank tenant in the building.

“We opened on April Fool’s Day 1980,” Joff said. “The primary reason for the group that caused the building to be built was the old First National Bank in Palm Beach.”

He recalled other past tenants: Payne-Webber, Alan Bush Brokerage Company, Prudential Bache, Commercial Landlord. Also, some retired gentlemen had offices here: the former owner of the Baltimore Colts, who had a major national beer distributorship, Becks Beer; and we also had one of the founders of Friendly Ice Cream here.”

The second floor of the building was to be an executive office suite, Joff said, and he took over some of the space when he arrived from Binghamton, N.Y. (where his firm’s main office is located) to open a branch here.

In November, the building was bought by Ben Tomto, a commercial landlord.

“It’s a fantastic location,” between Deerfield Beach and Palm Beach, there are only four commercial buildings this size in that stretch, so demand is high and the supply is low, and everybody wants to be a block from the beach,” Tomto said.

He is currently focusing on bringing the building up to his standards “and not look like a 1980s flashback.”

The nonprofit Boca Raton Regional Hospital will establish its first facility in Broward County after recently breaking ground in Deerfield Beach. The 25,000-square-foot ambulatory care center will handle primary care, urgent care, radiology and breast health, and will have 25 to 30 employees.

Also, the hospital is building the Marcus Neuroscience Institute on its main campus, scheduled to be completed in spring 2014, and following that, it plans to break ground on the Christine E. Lynn Women’s Health and Wellness Institute.

The Greater Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce announced that Yvonne Boice, owner of The Shops at Village Pointe and Fugazy International Travel, will receive the 2014 Businesswoman of the Year Award. She will be honored at the sixth annual luncheon on Feb. 1 at Woodfield Country Club, Boca Raton. Approximately 200 guests are expected to attend.

For information on sponsorship opportunities, corporate tables and tickets, call Chassty Navarro at 395-4433, Ext. 233, email her at cnavaro@bocaratonchamber.com, or visit www.bocaratonchamber.com.

It can’t get any easier to enjoy a great meal at Caffe Luna Rosa, because the Delray Beach restaurant has partnered with SnappyEats.com to offer quick and easy online ordering and pickup. Visit www.caffeunarosa.com, place your order, and drive to the restaurant’s valet station, where you can park and have your order picked up by your dinner or drive to the restaurant’s valet station, where you can park and have your order picked up by your driver. Ordering and pickup is available. Contact Kate Park for additional information: 561.212.4246 • www.DelrayVillage.com.

The senior living community Abbey Delray South in Delray Beach has completed a $6.2 million renovation that includes the creation of three dining venues.

“A dental patient is a person who has teeth, and we have the technology and the technology and the technology that can assist them with their care,” said Dr. Robert L. Reshfsky, a dental patient who has teeth.

To provide its clients with great services, Reshfsky has recruited key individuals from his previous company, Century Financial Services, along with professionals from other insurance companies. The firm also is hiring more top property and casualty sales executives. Qualified applicants can visit the website for more information.

Century Risk Advisors is at 2600 N. Military Trail, Suite 240, Boca Raton. For more information, call 409-2420 or visit www.centuryriskadvisors.com.

The Seagate Country Club, which was purchased and renamed the Seagate Country Club in November 2012, was then fully renovated to create a world-class golf facility to complement the award-winning Seagate Hotel & Spa and Seagate Beach Club,” said E. Anthony Wilson, Seagate Hospitality Group CEO.

As the original home of the First Golf Digest School, the renovation preserved the original Joe Lee-designed course while enhancing the course with state-of-the-art grasses and technology that were not in existence when the course was designed in 1973.

The club features a practice facility that offers a fully outfitted driving range, putting green, short game pitching and bunkers, as well as a staff of PGA professionals who are available for private lessons, including Darren Panks, Andy Anderson, Whitney Young and Craig Harmon.

Annual golf members and resort memberships are available. Contact Kate Park for information on memberships at kpark@seagatedelray.com.

Black-tie galas have a long history in Palm Beach, but the Greater Boynton Beach Chamber of Commerce has a different color in mind. Its first eco-chic Green Gala will be held Jan. 25 at The Omphoy in Palm Beach.

Green living, sustainability, community and creative culture will be showcased, Omphoy Chef Michael Wurster is creating a special home-grown menu, and guests will bid at an environmentally conscious silent auction. Entertainment will feature fire dancers, garden fairies, belly dancers, stilts walkers, dancers from Groovolution Dance Studio and a DJ.

Jonathan T. Porges has been named the new president and CEO of the Boynton Chamber. Porges has served on the chamber’s board of directors since 2009 and as its chair for the past two years.

Ethel Isacson Williams, regional manager of corporate external affairs at Florida Power & Light Co., has been named the 2014 chairman of the board of directors. Williams has been a board member since 2010.

Christine Davis is a freelance writer. Send business news to her at cdavis@sbt.com.
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NEW LISTING

DELRAY BEACH
Magnificent French-country style 5BR/4.3BA estate situated on .64 acre parcel. Features perfectly landscaped grounds, 23’x50’ pool, and 440 SF guest house. Web ID 3167 $3.45M

NEW LISTING

OCEAN RIDGE
Pristine 3BR/2.5BA Oceanfront beach house. Features include newly updated gourmet eat in kitchen, fireplace, lap pool/spa, 3rd floor terrace with great ocean and sunset views. $1.325M

NEW LISTING

DELRAY BEACH
Luxurious 4BR/51BA Key West style townhome, close to the beach and Delray’s famed Atlantic Avenue. Top quality finishes, pool and hot tub, ocean views from large deck. Web ID 3081 $1.995M

PRICE REDUCTION

OCEAN RIDGE
4BR/3.5BA home features brand new kitchen, baths, and flooring. Mature tropical landscaping and a 42’ heated pool plus spa complete the outdoor space. Web ID 3168 $1.195M

PRICE REDUCTION

OCEAN RIDGE
Mediterranean inspired 3BR/4BA beach area home with 3,700 SF of living space, library & fireplace. Tropically landscaped grounds on estate size lot. Web ID 3102 $895K

NEW LISTING

OCEAN RIDGE
Classic 2BR/2BA only half block to Atlantic Avenue’s fantastic restaurants and shopping. Enjoy all Delray Beach has to offer. The Perfect getaway. $445K

SOLD

DELRAY BEACH
Beach area 4BR/3.5BA dream house—all the charm and grace of a vintage beachside property with all the conveniences and updates of today. $2.1M

SOLD

DELRAY BEACH
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**ONWARD AND UPWARD**

Before you fly the friendly skies, you’ll be spending some time at the airport, where things are changing all the time. Here’s the latest news at three nearby international airports.

By Mary Thurwachter

Airports are constantly evolving to meet the needs of passengers and those who come to see them off or greet them upon arrival. New flights, services, restaurants and shops and even new positions are being added to streamline travel time.

“There are so many new and exciting things happening at Palm Beach International Airport,” said Stephanie Richards.

New herself, Richards was hired in 2013 as PBIA’s first marketing director.

See AIRPORTS on page AT2

**PBIAS Comfort Zone offers spa services including haircuts, manicures, pedicures and massage. Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star**
AIRPORTS 
Continued from page 1

“Thanks Again” (thanksagain.org) has been completely recovered, it is time to go back to the first ones and recover them again.” She even posted pictures of fabric swatches. “What else is new at PBIA?”

Keep your shoes on

TSA PreCheck, which allows low-risk travelers to experience faster, more efficient screening at participating U.S. airport checkpoints for domestic and international travel, became available at PBIA in 2013. PreCheck permits some passengers to keep belts, shoes and light outerwear jackets on when going through the TSA PreCheck program. Those eligible for TSA PreCheck include U.S. citizens of frequent travelers programs, can apply online (www.tsa.gov/tsa-precheck/application-program).

To qualify, you need to complete the online application. Pay an $85 fee, verify your identity and provide fingerprints at a TSA PreCheck enrollment center. If approved, you remain eligible for five years before having to reapply.

In-and-on-land service

New air service from PBIA to San Juan, Puerto Rico, the Bahamas, and New York LaGuardia began in 2013, as did a nonstop (American) flight to Los Angeles. Additionally, Netjets, a Berkshire Hathaway charter company, opened a private terminal at PBIA. More than 10,000 Netjets flights come in and out of the airport every year. The facility offers a children’s entertainment room, conference and business center, flight planning facilities, crew lounge and six acres of paved ramp and car-parking area.

PBIA recently opened Comfort Zone, a full-service spa offering haircuts, manicures and pedicures and massage, all good news for those seeking a little stress release before boarding. The popular little putting green (near Sam Snead’s Tavern), pool table, Kids Zoo play area and rotating art exhibit are not new. But those features earned PBIA a designation as the “Airport With the Most Unique Services” by the Airport Revenue News in 2013 in the small airport category.

Not new last year, but still popular, is PBIA’s cell phone parking lot for those waiting to pick up arriving travelers. Another perk airport-goers make good use of is being able to pay for parking with their cell phones.

Fort Lauderdale

Two of the biggest news items at the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (www.fll.net) were the addition of numerous destinations and the opening of three new restaurants.

Greg Meyer, an airport spokesman from the Broward County Aviation Department, said JetBlue added flights to Medellin, Colombia; San Jose, Costa Rica; Lima, Peru; Worcester, Mass.; and Port Au Prince, Haiti.

Also new in 2013 was a United flight to San Francisco, Silver Airways service to Orlando, and a Frontier flight to Trenton, N.J.

In November, Norwegian Air Shuttle (a new airline for FLL), added service to Stockholm, Copenhagen and Oslo, and on July 4, Norwegian will start a nonstop service to London.

Three new restaurants opened in the food court in Terminal 3 — Jamba Juice, Pet Wei and Steak ‘n Shake.

A TSA PreCheck express lane has also been added at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport, offering expedited screening to select travelers. A new runway is under construction, but that shouldn’t be a problem for those driving to the airport unless they travel south on U.S. 1, said Allan Siegel of Broward County Aviation. “This ramp is closed,” he said, “so drivers have to travel north on U.S. 1, then make a U-turn to travel south.”

Miami

At Miami International Airport (www.miami-airport.com), 36 new automated passport control kiosks were added in the Customs and Border Protection area. MIA is one of three U.S. airports using the new technology, which allows U.S. and Canadian citizens to have their passports processed in less than two minutes via a self-service kiosk instead of waiting in line for a CBP officer. In fact, every four kiosks do the work of one CBP officer, making the 36 kiosks the equivalent of adding nine new CBP officers, said March Henderson, media spokesman for the Miami-Dade Aviation Department.

Passengers who fly American, Delta and United Airlines can participate in the TSA PreCheck program.

Henderson said that several new flight routes were added in 2013 or will be added in 2014.

American Airlines launched service in November to four new destinations:

A putting green (above) and the Kids Zoo play area (left) at Palm Beach International are not new to the airport but helped earn PBIA the designation of “Airport With the Most Unique Services.” Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

Cozumel, Mexico; Curitiba and Porto Alegre, Brazil; and Milan, Italy. A daily service to Brazil, which makes a stop in Curitiba before continuing to Porto Alegre, brings the number of Brazilian destinations served by MIA to nine — more than any other U.S. airport.

New service to the Caribbean resort island marked the airport’s 14th European destination, and low-cost carrier Jetairfly is set to launch MIA’s 15th route to Europe in April with nonstop service between MIA and Brussels.

American inaugurated service to San Diego in 2013, making this the third destination in California with nonstop service from MIA in addition to Los Angeles and San Francisco.

In October, WestJet launched nonstop service to Calgary, Canada. MIA gave its military hospitality lounge a renovation last year. The facility has a main lounge, two private rest areas, a children’s play area and computers for servicemen and women to access the U.S. Military database with their military I.D. Complimentary refreshments and computers and telephone service are also offered for veterans and active duty military members and their families.

When it comes to shopping and eating, new options were added in October: GNC, a specialty retailer of health and wellness products, and the Clover Irish Pub, which offers a taste of the Emerald Isle.
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Chef gone today, back tomorrow

T h at’s what Lindsay Autry promises after her departure from the kitchen at Sunny House. The award-winning chef, who moved to the popular Delray Beach restaurant from The Omphoy, said she is leaving to pursue other projects. No hard feelings about Sunday, Autry says. She planned to stay only six months but liked it so well she stayed 18.

Those other projects include helping with Palm Beach Wine Auction at Mar-a-Lago, Jan. 30 with Zach Bell of Addison Reserve and executive chefing Swank Farms’ table luncheons. With proper backers, a restaurant of her own — in addition to the Reserve 30 with Zach Bell — is a definite possibility.

Sundy House promises a chef gone today, back tomorrow. The kitchen at Suny House in Boca Raton, is the man in the kitchen for the Boca-based Fresh Meal Prep. The fledgling company expects to deliver more than 1 million gourmet fresh meals in South Florida in 2014. But to get it off the ground two years ago, partner Pat Chun gave up a head coach job at Arkansas to come back home almost. He was born in Plantation and graduated from Plantation High School. He played at Drake University in Iowa and then spent nearly two decades gaining the experience that FAU Athletic Director Pat Chun believes will lead the Owls to greatness.

Tradicional Friday meals at the Dolphins training camp at Nova Southeastern University consisted of wings, pizza or subs. Monster calories for the monsters, or as Dolphins General Manager Jeff Ireland called it: “trans-fat Friday.” But Elkman persuaded Ireland to give his always fresh, never more than 500-calorie meals a shot.

Not only are the meals served at training camp on Fridays and after home games, but quarterback Ryan Tannehill, defensive end Cameron Wake, center Mike Pouncey, receiver Brian Hartline and several other Dolphins have them delivered to their homes year-round.

Plans start at $75 for two meals, five days a week and customers can work with staff nutritionists to set goals and track progress. (www.freshmealsplan.com)

We have a new bird in Owl country. A Partridge now rules the roost in FAU’s football stadium.

Charlie Partridge upped his assistant head coach and defensive line coach jobs at Arkansas to come back home almost. He was born in Plantation and graduated from Plantation High School. He played at Drake University in Iowa and then spent nearly two decades gaining the experience that FAU Athletic Director Pat Chun believes will lead the Owls to greatness.

Partridge has never been a head coach, but Chun is impressed with his ability to recruit, especially players from Florida, even to the not-so-sunny Midwest. But he persuades top recruits to forsake offers from a Southeastern Conference school such as Arkansas or Big 10 stalwart Wisconsin for the fledgling program at FAU?

A bowl bid would have helped, and after winning its final four games to finish with a 6-6 record, the Owls were bowl-eligible. But bowl-bound teams should have fans. Rarely did more than 10,000 fans attend a game. Fewer than 5,000 bought season tickets. Bowl sponsors want to attract loyal fans who not only attend the game but also will spend several days in town, fill hotels, dine in local restaurants, rent cars and visit attractions.

Of course, FAU isn’t alone. Big rival Florida International in Miami sold 10,045 season tickets yet could be dropped from Division I because it can’t average 15,000 per game. At least FAU’s program is gaining some recognition.

Former star Alfred Morris (Washington Redskids), among the top five NFL rushers, is one of four former FAU players on NFL rosters.

The new stadium has certainly caught the NCAA’s attention. It announced Dec. 19 that the Division I semifinals and championship game for women’s soccer next December will be played in Boca. The tournament will be a joint effort by FAU and the Palm Beach County Sports Commission.

Partridge also persuaded assistants Brian Wright and Joe DeCesare to come on board, and after winning its final four games to finish with a 6-6 record, the Owls were bowl-eligible. But bowl-bound teams should have fans. Rarely did more than 10,000 fans attend a game. Fewer than 5,000 bought season tickets. Bowl sponsors want to attract loyal fans who not only attend the game but also will spend several days in town, fill hotels, dine in local restaurants, rent cars and visit attractions.

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Lee Musiker, Grammy and Emmy-winning music director and pianist for such legends as Tony Bennett, Barbara Cook, Mel Tormé and Buddy Rich will serve as guest conductor Feb. 4 at the Kravis Center. He’ll be joined by an all-star ensemble of Pops veterans including vocalists Lynn Roberts and Tony DeSare, trumpeter Longineau Parsons and violinist Mary Rowell.

To buy tickets, sponsor, underwrite or inquire about the Pops or its Music and You Program, visit www.palmbeachpops.org or call 832-7677.

Arthur Godfrey and Jake Shimabukuro may not have started this way, but the Delray Public Library is inviting ukulele lovers of all ages to “Get-Togethers” at 6 p.m. Jan. 14 and 28. Leading the strumming and singing is ukulele virtuoso Tavit Smith. P.S. He was born Thomas Smith (no relation) but changed it to Tavit Smith in honor of his grandfather. And he has lots of stories to tell.

(266-9490)

To celebrate National Book Month, the Delray Beach Public Library will host its 15th annual Author’s Showcase at 2 p.m. Jan. 12. The free event features 13 authors, most with local ties, including two who deal with coincidental subjects:

At Coral Springs High School and Penn State, Nick Gancitano was one of the top football kickers in the nation, but a knee injury in his first season with the Detroit Lions ended his pro career. He tried selling insurance and taught school but, unsatisfied, he turned to meditation, yoga and creative visualization to find fulfillment. Ultimately he used them to develop a holistic approach to train place kickers. Now one of the nation’s top kicking trainers and a motivational speaker, the Boca resident has written The Edge of Glory — The Athlete’s Inside Guide to Greatness.

Ethel Skolnick began his sportswriting career in earnest at The Palm Beach Post and covered the Miami Heat's championship seasons before moving on to Bleacher Report and Turner Sports. Raising Your Game, written with Lighthouse Point psychologist Dr. Andrea Corno, offers child athletes and their parents advice about playing and not playing youth sports from 100 accomplished athletes, from LeBron James to Brandi Chastain. The featured authors will speak briefly about their books and sell and autograph them as they meet the public.

Its title, 7 F Words for Living A Balanced Life, should attract attention.

The death of Palm Beach Pops founder and impresario Bob Lappin in August forced cancellation of the subscription concert season. But while the organization decides its future course, the Pops remains active, with music education in schools and the occasional concert. The first will honor Lappin.

Hoot/Wisdom, FAU’s on-campus recording company. Submit a demo, Smith urged. Kinsey’s recording of I Like It made Hoot/Wisdom’s Compilation 2 album in 2012.

Kinsey, from New Smyrna Beach, later transferred to the University of Central Florida to join his girlfriend, Sierra Deaton of Winter Springs. Both took failed slots at American Idol before teaming up big-time on The X Factor. They won the latest competition, and with it $1 million and a future steered by their mentor, Simon Cowell. Stay tuned.

Santa arrived early at The Wick Theatre. On Dec. 19, during a performance of White Christmas, Countess Henrietta de Hoernle opened her festive pocketbook and contributed $250,000 to the new theater’s donor naming rights program. The lobby will bear her name.

De Hoernle, 101, urged guests to support the Wick while honoring someone they love. Naming rights range from $1,000 for a seat to $750,000 for the costume museum. The Wick’s next production, 42nd Street, opens Jan. 9 with Loretta Swit in a featured role.

Up the road in at The Plaza Theatre, Manalapan, another veteran of the boards, Renee Taylor, stars in My Life on a Diet, Jan. 16 to Feb. 9.

Claiming to offer more fun per square foot than any other arts entertainment center in the region, the Lake Worth Playhouse presents Ain’t Misbehavin’ from Jan. 16 to Feb. 2. And on Jan. 8, you can catch Barbara Van Eyck’s one woman show, Country to Pop, A Tribute to Patsy Cline. Tickets are only $20, and it’s live, a lot better than a movie.

If you missed Itzhak Perlman’s performance at the Kravis Center in December, don’t despair: The violin virtuoso will open Boca’s eighth annual Festival of the Arts on March 6 and return March 9. Both shows are at Mizner Park. Those in a jazzy mood can catch Arturo Sandoval’s tribute to Henry Mancini with special guest Monica Mancini and the Henry Mancini Institute Orchestra March 8.

As a preview, the Festival will offer four-time Grammy winner David Holt and rising star Josh Goforth Jan. 12 at Mizner Park in a pickin’ and grinnin’ tour de force. Tickets are $30, $20 for students.

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Philanthropy Calendar

CARIBBEAN COWBOY BALL
Red Reef Park, Boca Raton

Feb. 22: Guests will be kicking up their heels, oceanside, at the casual annual affair that raises money for the George Snow Scholarship Fund. Time is 6 to 11 pm. Cost is $157. Call 347-6799 or visit www.scholarship.org. Photo: Steve Schmidt, Ingrid Fulmer, Jennifer Wagner, JoAnne Williams, Brenda Husinka and Frank Feiler. Photo provided

Pay it Forward
Wednesday 2014

Pay it Forward is a calendar designed to celebrate the many philanthropic events in the community. Events are current as of 1/22. Please check with organizers for any changes.

JANUARY

Monday - 1/20 - Taste of Compassion at Norton Museum, 1515 S. Olive Ave., West Palm Beach. Celebrate with Quantum House as the popular event turns 10 and a management of wine and food is served in a new venue. 7:00-11:15. 494-0170 or www.quantumhouse.org.

Thursday - 1/23 - Five Wines & Hidden Treasures Gala at The Mar-A-Lago Club, 1000 S. Ocean Blvd., Palm Beach. GATHER for a cocktail reception featuring five wines, a silent auction, a gourmet dinner and dancing and support Food for the Poor. 6:45 pm. 505-880-4046; www.foodfortoorp.org.

1/22 - The Great Gatsby Gala at The Flagler Museum, 1 Whittredge Way, Palm Beach. Join the Community Foundation for Palm Beach County and Martin County for an evening of glitz and grand entertainment in the style of the Roaring Twenties. 7:00. 504-9833; www.greatgatsbygala.org. Saturday - 1/25 - Casino Royale at Via Mizner Golf & Country Club, 6200 Boca Del Mar Drive, Boca Raton. Help raise funds for the University Club, a branch of Florida Atlantic University’s foundation, during a night of dinner, dance, gaming, entertainment and an auction. 6-10 pm. 512-5150; 297-3444, 760-4050 or https://fau.edu/fund/entertainment/university-club/ 14-07-casino-royale.

1/25 - Boca Raton Regional Hospital Ball at Boca Raton Resort & Club, 501 E. Camino Real. Get into the surf sounds of legendary rock ‘n’ roll band The Beach Boys at the 52nd annual ball commemorating the establishment of the Marcus Neuroscience Institute at Boca Raton Regional Hospital. 6-11:30 pm. 540-9555 or www.brh.com.

Saturday - 1/26 - A Night To Remember at Abacoa’s Atlantic, 101 Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach. Enjoy the intracoastal Waterway, enjoy wine and hors d’oeuvres, and participate in a silent auction to benefit Boca Museum of Art. 5:30-9:30 pm. 267-1015 starting 1/25, 260-2500, Ext. 1127 or www.bocamuseum.org.

Tuesday - 1/28 - Circus at the Center for Creative Education, 425 24th St., West Palm Beach. Be a child again at the fun, casual event under the big top dressed in “circus diva” attire. 6-10:30 pm. $275 per person, $550 per couple. 858-9927 or www. cc-ce.org.

Thursday - 1/30 - Palm Beach Food Auction at The Mar-A-Lago Club, 1000 S. Ocean Blvd., Palm Beach. Spiritual leaders, wins from around the world, to be treated to a five-course dinner and bid in the live auction to raise money for the Francis Center’s anti-human trafficking programs. 6 pm. 511-6120 or www.palmbeachwineauction.org.

February

Saturday - 2/1 - FTI Consulting Great Charity Challenge at Palm Beach International Equestrian Center, 10000 Equestrian Way, Wellington. Join the greatest equestrians in the world at this family-friendly night of world-class horse jumping to benefit 34 local charities. Activities include face painting, petting zoo, carnival rides and live entertainment. 6 pm. Free. 954-11311 www.ftichallenge.com/home.

Saturday - 2/1 - The Main Event at The Mar-A-Lago Club, 1000 S. Ocean Blvd., Palm Beach. Palm Beach Home & Garden Magazine and Palm Beach Post will host and a “dine two-pouch to cance” at the boxing-themed gala co-chaired by Donald Trump. 6:30 pm. 570-1100. 653-1449 or www.canec.org.

2/1 - Building Hope Gala at The Polo Club of Boca Raton, 4500 Champagnie Blvd. Bring hope to the children of Haiti with an evening of camaraderie featuring silent auction, cocktails, gourmet dinner and dancing. Benefits Food for the Poor. 6:30 pm cocktails and auction, 8 dinner. 252-956-427-2223. Ext. 6049 or www.foodfortoorp.org.

2/1 - Outstanding Business Leader Awards Gala at The Breakers, 901 S. County Road, Palm Beach. Recognize local leaders for their business achievements and exemplary volunteering throughout the community to benefit Nordhoff University. 7 pm. 573-4559 or www.nordhoff.edu.

2/1 - Gala, formerly Bal des arts, at Norton Museum, 1515 S. Olive Ave., West Palm Beach. GATHER to celebrate the arts, the head and neck at an informative breakfast. 9 am. Free. 667-573-4335 or www.shepards.harvard.edu.

Saturday - 2/2 - ForEverglades Benefit Luncheon at The Breakers, 901 S. County Road, Palm Beach. Zac Brown Band kicks off the 10th anniversary of The Everglades Foundation at a gala fundraiser. 11 am. 713-1140. 5 p.m. 914-442-210, Ext. 253 or www.bocacountychamber.com.

Wednesday - 2/5 - American Red Cross Designer’s Show House Preview Party at 124 Churchill Dr., West Palm Beach. Sip wine as a first look into an exciting new residence that brings together the best minds in the world of home decor, all to benefit American Red Cross Palm Beaches - Treasure Coast Region.


Saturday - 2/6 - Cleveland Clinic Florida Ball at The Mar-A-Lago Club, 1000 S. Ocean Blvd., Palm Beach. Follow the yellow brick road to the event of the season, “Somewhere Over the Rainbow,” a black-tie competition and a red slipper affright benefitting the nonprofit medical center. 7 pm. $112.50. Ticket includes dinner, refreshments, dancing, a cash bar, dancing, live music and entertainment, 7 pm. 803-204-3644 or www.clevelandclinic.org.

Thursday - 2/13 - Palm Beach Vision Ball at Addison Reserve Country Club, 7200 Addison Reserve Blvd., Delray Beach. Get ready for a fiery competition as the finest country club chefs go knife-to-knife for top honors during the Iron Chef-style event benefiting Hospice of Palm Beach County Foundation. 6-11 pm. 505-266-6042 or hq@cbhospice.com.

February 27 - 2/13 - Palm Beach Vision and Hearing Research Symposium at The Colony Palm Beach, 105 Hammock Ave. Support Massachusetts Eye and Ear / Schepens Eye Research clinicians and scientists who are driven by a mission to find cures for blindness, deafness and diseases of the head and neck at an informative breakfast. 9 am. Free. 667-573-4335 or www.shepards.harvard.edu.

Friday - 2/21 - Boca Raton Vision and Hearing Research Symposium at Boca Raton Marriott at Boca Center, 5700 Town Center Circle. Support Massachusetts Eye and Ear / Schepens Eye Research clinicians and scientists who are driven by a mission to find cures for blindness, deafness and diseases of the head and neck at an informative breakfast. 9 am. Free. 667-573-4335 or www.shepards.harvard.edu.

Monday - 2/24 - Heart of a Woman Luncheon at Boca Raton Resort & Club, 501 E. Camino Real. Join special guest Oprah Dukakis at the traditional celebration of strength, courage and determination in women and support Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse. 10:30 am silent auction, noon luncheon. 521-345-5797 or www. azolve.org/heart-of-a-woman.

2/24 - Braviss Center for the Performing Arts Annual Gala at Kravis Center, 701
Pay it Forward

Funnymen Dennis Regan to make Delray Beach Public Library supporters LOL

By Amy Woods

A class-act comedian with a pedigree that includes the Late Show with David Letterman and The Tonight Show with Jay Leno, as well as Comedy Central and Showtime, will headline Laugh with the Library, Chapter 8, on Jan. 31. The jokes will fly all night during the fun and friendly fundraiser that benefits the private, nonprofit Delray Beach Public Library on Atlantic Avenue.

“It’s hard to believe it’s our eighth chapter,” said Goldstream resident Becky Walsh, co-chairwoman of the event. “It’s like a well-oiled machine. We all work together so effectively. We have a terrific support group through our board and library staff.”

While the committee has fine-tuned its event-planning skills, selecting the funnyman (or woman) who will make the 500 or so guests laugh out loud presents a challenge. “Whether it’s your neighbor’s suggestion, or you hear a bit on the radio or TV, or recommendations from talent agencies, we narrow it down to about five comedians,” Walsh said. “Then, we sit in a room and watch YouTube videos. Of course, we do have a budget, which does get in the way sometimes.”

Walsh brought Laugh with the Library to Delray Beach in 2007, after she saw a similar fundraiser in New Hampshire featuring standup performer Bobby Collins. Last year’s Chapter 7 installment, with Tom Cotter of America’s Got Talent fame, sold out and raised more than $70,000. “You couldn’t ask for more,” Walsh said. “We already have a few ideas for Chapter 9.”

IF YOU GO

What: Laugh with the Library, Chapter 8, to benefit the Delray Beach Public Library
When: 7:30 p.m. Jan. 31
Where: Delray Beach Marriott
Cost: $175
Info: Call 266-0775 or visit www.delraylibrary.org

Paul Castronovo, the hilarious host of the locally broadcast Paul & Young Ron Show, will serve as master of ceremonies. Warming up the crowd before Regan takes the stage at the Delray Beach Marriott will be Angela Manfredi, a Laugh with the Library favorite.

The idea was not to be a black-tie event,” said Bonnie Stelzer, director of community relations for the 100-year-old library. “It was to be a casual, fun evening. People don’t always think of the library synonymous with comedians. Usually, it’s, ‘Shhh, be quiet.’ ” The evening will include a cocktail reception and dinner by the bite, and all proceeds from the $175 ticket price will benefit the library’s youth outreach efforts.

“We believe in education through literacy,” said co-chairwoman Heidi Sargeant, of coastal Delray Beach. “This event’s monies go directly to programs for our at-risk children and teens. It’s a feel-good moment to see these funds put into action.”

Sponsor Mark Petersen of Bank of America with co-chairwomen Becky Walsh and Heidi Sargeant. Photo provided

Okenesobbe Blvd., West Palm Beach. Take in a performance by Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater followed by a black-tie dinner dance. 6 pm. $175-575-631-4320 or www.kranes.org

Tuesday-Thursday - 2/25-27 - Spring Boutique Trunk Show at Colony Hotel & Cabana Club, 525 S. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach. Shop more than 40 vendors from throughout the country offering arts, crafts and couture to benefit Wayside House. 10 am-6 pm. Fees: 279-0055, Ext. 1011 or www.waysidehouse.net.

Wednesday - 2/26 - Bijoux at Norton Museum, 561 S. Olive Ave., West Palm Beach. Save the date for the exhibition and sale of contemporary art jewelry by international artists, many of whom will be in attendance for the preview cocktail party. 6 pm. $175 per person, $250 per couple. 832-5196, Ext. 1121 or www.norton.org/

MARCH

Saturday - 3/8 - Artful Extravaganza Fair at South County Civic Center, 16700 Jog Road, Delray Beach. Browse among more than 40 vendors, including artists, authors, crafters and jewelers to raise funds for the Boca Raton Museum of Art and jewelers to raise funds for the Boca Raton Museum, 1451 S. Olive Ave., West Palm Beach. “The idea was not to be a black-tie event,” said Bonnie Stelzer, director of community relations for the 100-year-old library. “It was to be a casual, fun evening. People don’t always think of the library synonymous with comedians. Usually, it’s, ‘Shhh, be quiet.’ ” The evening will include a cocktail reception and dinner by the bite, and all proceeds from the $175 ticket price will benefit the library’s youth outreach efforts.

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January 2014

The COASTAL STAR

Pay it Forward AT7
Celebrations

Wee Dream Ball
Boca West Country Club, Boca Raton – Dec. 13

Soaring columns of fire and ice crowned by explosions of pastel hydrangeas wowed the crowd at the dream-themed benefit for Florence Fuller Child Development Centers. More than $400,000 was generated — to ensure that disadvantaged children will continue to have access to the centers’ programs and services. ABOVE: Jackie Reeves, Robin Deyo, Jerry and Terry Fedele and Karen Foreman. Photo provided by Janis Bucher

League of Women Voters fundraiser
Taverna Kyma, Boca Raton – Nov. 15

The League of Women Voters of Palm Beach County welcomed more than 90 supporters from around the state to a charity event that helped raise money for the education and advocacy on behalf of county voters. ‘In this coming year, (the league) will provide non-partisan information about the issues and the candidates, and we will continue to advocate for the right of all citizens to vote,’ event organizer Dorothy Einstein said. ABOVE: Nancy Finn, Nancy Nelson and Linda Sorenson. Photo provided by Michiko Kurisu

Prism Concert
Kravis Center, West Palm Beach – Dec. 17

Best-selling author and Palm Beach resident James Patterson, along with wife Sue, a Dreyfoos School of the Arts Foundation board member, sponsored a sold-out performance of the school’s annual Prism Concert. For the second consecutive year, the Pattersons bought out the Kravis Center’s 2,100-seat Alexander W. Dreyfoos Jr. Concert Hall so all proceeds from the one-night-only show would go to the school. A cocktail reception for supporters preceded the concert. RIGHT: Don and Linda Silpe, with Jay and Ava Silpe. Photo provided by Lucien Capehart Photography

YMCA breakfast
Delray Dunes Country Club, Delray Beach – Dec. 6

Volunteers, board members and employees of the YMCA of South Palm Beach County celebrated the success of the 2013 Annual Campaign with an event recognizing the $366,000 raised for the financial-assistance program. Each attendee received a YMCA-branded pedometer, as the campaign’s theme was ‘walk a mile in their shoes.’ ABOVE: Randy Nobles, President Richard Pollock and Charles Deyo. Photo provided

NSAL season opener
Private home, Highland Beach – Nov. 9

The National Society of Arts and Letters, Florida East Coast Chapter, celebrated the start of the season with the music of Stephen Sondheim at an event themed ‘Broadway Under the Stars.’ More than 70 guests enjoyed an evening of socializing, spirits and stellar entertainment at the home of Robert and Dorinda Spahr. ABOVE: Jon Robertson and Alyce Erickson. Photo provided by Barbara McCormick

Best Bite on the Avenue
Crane’s BeachHouse Hotel & Tiki Bar, Delray Beach – Nov. 14

More than 500 hungry friends turned out for a restaurant competition and charity fundraiser featuring drum-line, jazz and patriotic performances. The winning establishment, Tryst Gastropub, received $500 to donate to Project Holiday, an organization that supports local families who have loved ones serving in the military. Nine other charities benefited from the event. ABOVE: Michael and Karen Crane, with Cathy Balesriere, general manager of Crane’s BeachHouse Hotel & Tiki Bar. Photo provided by Michiko Kurisu

Community Foundation luncheon
Boca Raton Resort & Club – Nov. 19

A luncheon and discussion with Brad Hurlburt, the new president and CEO of the Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties, highlighted an event designed to educate donors and supporters about the ways the nonprofit organization assists causes to build a healthier place to live, work and play. Guests at the luncheon shared stories about how the foundation has impacted their lives. ABOVE: Foundation board members Katharine and David Dickenson. Photo provided by Janis Bucher

Florida Green School Awards
Hyatt Regency, Orlando – Oct. 29

The Florida Department of Education’s Office of Environmental Education, along with the Florida Green School Network’s partners, recognized 15 — out of a pool of more than 100 — honorees for their green initiatives. Among them: Saint Joseph’s Episcopal School’s Live Green Campaign eighth-grader Erin Donahue. Erin, 13, earned the award for developing and launching the K-Cup Crusade, which used the coffee and tea packets to rebuild community gardens lost during Hurricane Sandy. ‘It’s amazing what we kids can do when we have adults and teachers who listen and encourage us,’ she said. Photo provided
Celebrations

Medical Scholarship Awards Luncheon
Ruth's Chris Steak House, Boca Raton – Nov. 4

Members of the Boca Raton Woman's Club were thrilled to be able to share proceeds totaling $28,000 raised at the 2013 Honor Your Doctor event. Colleges receiving funds to assist students studying in the medical field included Florida Atlantic University, Lynn University and Palm Beach State College. ABOVE: Marljane Smith, Helen Babione, club President Gwen Herb and luncheon chairwoman Janice Williams. Photo provided by Barbara McCormick

Sea Coast Toast
Spanish River Library, Boca Raton – Nov. 8

The Friends of Gumbo Limbo raised more than $10,000 during an evening of food, drinks, music and auctions, with all proceeds going to Gumbo Limbo Nature Center's educational and conservation programs. The Friends recognized Jim Abernethy, a conservationist whose educational efforts aim to change public views of the ocean's largest fish. ABOVE: Sea Coast Toast committee members Brandon Canute, Robyn Morigerato, Judy Gire, Connie Thoms-Mazur, Diane Valenti, Sue Comoglio, Diane Bilodeau, Mary Lacorazza and Karin Marques. Photo provided

Building dedication
Gulf Stream School – Dec. 13

Parents, board members, supporters and students gathered to dedicate an expanded wing of Gulf Stream School. The Crocker Family Pavilion, Julien Family Classrooms and Davies Family Kitchen were celebrated with a ribbon cutting and the serving of snacks.

LEFT: Penny Kosinski, Lisa Morgan, Bobby and Dr. Joanne Julien, Hilary Lynch, Head of School Joe Zaluski and Gregory Young snipped the ribbon while members of the student body looked on.

Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star

Impact 200 reception
Delray Beach Marriott – Dec. 3

Wendy Steele, who believes philanthropy should be a party to which everyone is invited, was the featured guest at an event for the organization the Cincinnati woman founded 12 years ago. More than 100 members of Impact 100 and their guests gathered to learn about 'The Power of Women Giving as One.' Tandy Robinson, one of the founders of the Palm Beach County chapter, introduced Steele and shared how the group has awarded $300,000-plus in grants to nonprofit organizations serving south Palm Beach County. ABOVE: Lisa Mulhall, Wendy Steele, Cindy Krebsbach and Sue Diener. Photo provided by Sherry Ferrante Photography

Holiday mixer
Delray Beach Public Library – Dec. 9

The Delray Beach Public Library thanked its donors and sponsors at a mixer that took place following the lighting ceremony for the 100-foot Christmas tree on Atlantic Avenue. Guests, who had a birds-eye view of the tree lighting and the fireworks from the library's terrace, were treated to refreshments and holiday cheer that included cookie decorating, gospel songs and storytelling. LEFT: Library supporters Amy and John Crompton. Photo provided by Ira Rosenthal

Holiday Trunk Show
The Seagate Hotel & Spa, Delray Beach – Dec. 3-4

The Naoma Donnelley Haggin Boys & Girls Club saw more than 250 guests attend the 11th annual fundraiser that featured 30-plus specialty vendors and a variety of gift items. The more than $80,000 raised will help support programming for the 300 local children who use the club. LEFT: Co-chairwomen Susan Mullin and Kari Shiple and a handful of little girls have fun at the Holiday Trunk Show. Photo provided
Holidays
Boyon/Delray Boat Parade
Intracoastal Waterway – Dec. 13

Dozens of illuminated boats, including ‘reel cool cat’ (right), took part in the Boynton Beach/Delray Beach Holiday Boat Parade that began at the Boynton Inlet and ran south along the Intracoastal Waterway to Delray Beach.

Jerry Lower/
The Coastal Star

Dining

Enjoying our salad days at Little House

The Plate: Grilled Portobello Salad
The Place: The Little House, 480 E. Ocean Ave., Boynton Beach; 420-0573 or thelittlehousebb.com.

The Price: $9.

The Skinny: The aroma alone of this salad could have sold it for us, the dressing was so intoxicating.

The recipe goes something like this:

Take thick slices of creamy mozzarella, stack them with grilled portobello mushroom slices and fresh tomatoes, then drizzle with capers, balsamic vinaigrette and pesto. Then enjoy!

Also noteworthy during our recent lunch visit: a hearty white bean chili ($9.50) that was filled with confit chicken, a tangy Chinois salad ($10.95) that packed a plate with plenty of fresh cabbage, peanuts and chicken, and fresh ceviche ($9) that was perfect for sharing as an appetizer or eating as a main course.

— Scott Simmons

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80999 OLD HWY, ISLAMORADA | 6 BEDROOMS, 7.1 BATHS
Florida Keys. Palm Harbor - a tropical paradise second to none. 6.4 acres of direct waterfront. The property is very private and meticulously maintained. Enjoy a breathtaking white-sand beach, private peninsula & private yacht basin. This is truly a once in a lifetime opportunity. Call for details. Listed at $16M.
Randy Ely 561.271.2762, Nicholas Malinosky 561.306.4597

901 SOUTH OCEAN BLVD | 6 BEDROOMS, 7.3 BATHS
Delray Beach. Extraordinary new construction coming soon! The property sits on one of South Florida’s best land parcels with incredible privacy, great elevation, stunning ocean views and one of the deepest oceanfront parcels the South Florida coastline has to offer. Asking $19.95M.
Randy Ely 561.271.2762, Nicholas Malinosky 561.306.4597

799 SANCTUARY DRIVE | 8 BEDROOMS, 9.3 BATHS
Boca Raton. Spectacular estate has been extremely well maintained and is in impeccable condition. Boasting over 350’ of water frontage and protected dockage for multiple watercrafts with the ability to accommodate a yacht over 100’, all overlooking the water. Listed at $11.45M.
Randy Ely 561.271.2762, Nicholas Malinosky 561.306.4597

70 CURLEW ROAD | 5 BEDROOMS, 5.2 BATHS
Manalapan. Welcome to one of the most sophisticated Bermuda style homes on a unique oversized estate lot. The property was completely renovated in 2010 with extraordinary details and some of the finest custom finishes. Listed at $3.1M.
Randy Ely 561.271.2762, Nicholas Malinosky 561.306.4597

1003 RHODES VILLA AVENUE | 6 BEDROOMS, 7.3 BATHS
Delray Beach. Extraordinary point lot located just minutes from the famed Atlantic Ave. Built in 2004, this has all the important features of New Construction. The property sits on over 240’ of protected dockage and is located in a no-wake zone. Listed at $5.995M.
Randy Ely 561.271.2762, Nicholas Malinosky 561.306.4597

355 OLD SCHOOL ROAD | 5 BEDROOMS, 6.1 BATHS
Gulf Stream. Fantastic single story residence with stunning golf course views on over an half acre lot. One block from the ocean. Features include an expansive rear loggia, large pool and spa, 3-car garage, impact doors and windows throughout, and private master suite. Listed at $3.295M.
Randy Ely 561.271.2762, Nicholas Malinosky 561.306.4597

61 SPANISH RIVER DRIVE | 4 BEDROOMS, 3.1 BATHS
Ocean Ridge. Fantastic waterfront opportunity in pristine condition with beautiful water views. The residence is located on an exclusive island in the coastal town of Ocean Ridge. Completed in 2008, the residence lives and feels like new construction. Listed at $2.595M.
Randy Ely 561.271.2762, Nicholas Malinosky 561.306.4597

940 INDIGO POINT | 3 BEDROOMS, 3.1 BATHS
Gulf Stream. Brand new construction. Impeccably designed, home offers a comfortable take on luxury waterfront living. Water views from nearly every living space. Not only does this property provide direct Intracoastal views but it allows one to seamlessly dock a boat w/130’ of waterfront. Listed at $2.149M.
Randy Ely 561.271.2762, Nicholas Malinosky 561.306.4597

#1 Luxury Real Estate Team in the Beach Area
Visit RandyandNick.com for all of your Real Estate needs

Before you list your luxury property with another agent call Randy and Nicholas for a comprehensive marketing plan and a full List of references including all of our current and past Sellers!

Randy Ely 561.271.2762 | Nicholas Malinosky 561.306.4597
1/4 - Sand Sifters Beach Cleanup at Oceanfront Park, 645 N. Ocean Blvd. Delray Beach. Free. Registration: 243-7352 or www.delraygreenmarket.com

1/6 - Baby Bookworm at the Boynton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Story time for ages 0-24 months. M through 2/10. 9:30-10:30 am. Free. 742-6650.

1/6 - Pickleball at the Boynton Senior Center, 128 E. Ocean Ave. Beginners - Sat.: 10 am-11 am. Intermediate - Sat.: 11 am-12 pm. $15/residents, $20/non-residents. Registration: 793-2600.

1/6 - Creative Movement and Drama for ages 3-5 at Lake Worth Playhouse, 201 N. Dixie Hwy. Lake Worth. Held again 1/13 & 27. 10 am-11 am. $25/residents, $30/non-residents. Registration: 462-4411.

1/6 - Got Gaming? at the Civic Center, 128 E. Ocean Ave. Presented by The Boca Raton Civic Theatre. 11 am & 1 pm. $32/non-residents. Registration: 793-2600.

1/6 - F. Scott and Ernest: Friends and Family at FAU Barry and Florence Weir Glover, Financial Advisor, as part of the Financial Conversations on Monday afternoons held at FAU Barry and Florence Weir Glover, Financial Advisor, as part of the Financial Conversations on Monday afternoons held at FAU Barry and Florence Weir Glover, Financial Advisor, as part of the Financial Conversations on Monday afternoons held at FAU Barry and Florence Weir Glover, Financial Advisor, as part of the Financial Conversations on Monday afternoons held at FAU Barry and Florence Weir Glover, Financial Advisor, as part of the Financial Conversations on Monday afternoons held at FAU Barry and Florence Weir Glover, Financial Advisor, as part of the Financial Conversations on Monday afternoons held at FAU Barry and Florence Weir Glover, Financial Advisor, as part of the Financial Conversations on Monday afternoons held at FAU Barry and Florence Weir Glover, Financial Advisor, as part of the Financial Conversations on 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1/7 - Baby Bookworm Story Time: 10:30 am. Free. 278-5455. At the Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W. Atlantic Ave. Children learn to be more independent as they meet new friends and learn through conversation with and about the artists. Two sessions: T通过 2/11 (through 2/14). 9:30-11:30 am. $54/residents, $68/non-residents.

1/7 - Exhibition: Deadly Medicine: Creating the Signs of Labor - Presented by the Delray Beach Civic Center, 128 E. Ocean Ave. Learn about the signs of labor, breathing techniques and the medical ethics that contribute to the annihilation of European Jewry. Exhibit challenges viewers to reflect on the present-day ramifications of the Holocaust. Tuesdays through 1/28. Noon-1 pm. Free. 742-6221 or www.delraycra.org.

1/7 - Couples Round Dance: 10 am. Free. 391-8900 or www.tbeboca.org. At the Boynton Beach Civic Center, 1901 N. Seacrest Blvd. Learn a fun and informal environment. This is a basic dance lesson to teach couples about social dancing. Two sessions: T through F, 9-11 am. Annual fee: $15/residents, $20/non-residents.

1/7-8 - Hammock Trails - Presented by the COASTAL STAR. Go on a guided hike through the 400-acre Park. Wear comfortable clothes, no open-toed shoes; bring plenty of water. Meet at the Highland Beach Library, 3618 S. Ocean Blvd. 9:00 am. Reservations required. 742-6221 or www.travelfla.com.

7/12 - The Gerewohn! Perry and Berl at Cranes Bend - Presented by the Delray Beach Civic Center, 128 E. Ocean Ave. For ages 18 years and up. Enjoy a sport that takes skill and strategy. For more information, reservations, and special events, call 276-6707 or www.boyntonlibrary.org.

7/12 - The Jewish Connection with the Moon: The Talk of Kings Book Discussion Group - Presented by the Safety Council of the Four Arts, Walter S. Gubelmann Auditorium, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton. Information on community services, resources and statewide special events. For middle, high school and college students. T & Th. 6:30-8:30 pm. Free. 586-4555 or www.fau.edu/lls.

7/12 - Basic Driver Improvement Class - Presented by the Safety Council of the Four Arts, Walter S. Gubelmann Auditorium, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton. Information on community services, resources and statewide special events. For middle, high school and college students. T & Th. 6:30-8:30 pm. Free. 586-4555 or www.fau.edu/lls.

7/12 - The Hippocrates! Perry and Berl at Cranes Bend - Presented by the Delray Beach Civic Center, 128 E. Ocean Ave. For ages 18 years and up. Enjoy a sport that takes skill and strategy. For more information, reservations, and special events, call 276-6707 or www.boyntonlibrary.org.

7/12 - Couples Round Dance: 10 am. Free. 391-8900 or www.tbeboca.org. At the Boynton Beach Civic Center, 1901 N. Seacrest Blvd. Learn a fun and informal environment. This is a basic dance lesson to teach couples about social dancing. Two sessions: T through F, 9-11 am. Annual fee: $15/residents, $20/non-residents.
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We are focused on old-fashioned customer service combined with a modern, eco-friendly approach.

Call for Free Estimate
muchmore. Treats provided: 7 pm. 515/10
town residents. 310/16 married.

1/13 - Pioneering in Palm Beach -
Pre-

by local historians Delilah Gerhard and
guests. 7:30-8:30 pm. Free. 648-9101.

1/13 - Local History and
talks. 300 Okeechobee Blvd.


1/13 - Get a Grape: Wine Education Class

at the Boca Raton Histori-

1/15 - Get a Grape: Wine Education Class

1/15 - Don’t Believe Everything You

1/16 - A Night at the Old Casino -

1/17 - Boca Express Train Museum Tour

1/17 - Friday Night at the Museum

1/17 - Art of Murder and Mystery

1/17 - Friday Concert: John Matz (tenor)

1/17 - Concert: John Matz (tenor) -

1/17 - Concert: Jessie Katz (organ) -

1/17 - Free Concert: The Fabulous

1/17 - Free Concert: Big Joe and

1/17 - Free Concert: The Fabulous

1/17 - Free Concert: Big Joe and

1/17 - Meeting: Victoria Fonseca -

1/17 - Concert: Joe Diorio (pianist)

1/17 - Book Club: Alice in Wonderland

1/17 - Dance: The Good Night

1/17 - Jazz in the Gardens

1/17 - King Tut: Egyptian Art and

1/17 - Pop Culture: Curatorial Highlight

1/19 - 25th Anniversary Downtown

1/19 - Pop Culture: Curatorial Highlight

1/19 - A Song for Corretta -

1/19 - Lecture: In The Name of God by

1/19 - 1st Sunday Lecture: Greg Fedor

1/20 - Free FCAT Tutoring

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if you can handle the heart of the cards, 5-7 pm.
Free: 742-6410.

1/21 - Bob La L raft Women's Se- crets to Feeling Beautiful Every Day by
at the Pine Crest
1/21 - John Timpanelli
Boca Raton. 1st Friday and 3rd Tuesday of
Public viewing day observations at FAU's
1/21 - FAU Astronomical Observatory
347-3938 or www.bocopolice.com. Police Services Department crime prevention
400 NW 2nd Ave. Part of the Boca Raton
Describes how a tiny Florida resort village
Colleen Schuhmann as part of the Financial
Presented by
Poetry Festival
1/21-22 - Presented as part of The Talk of
Comedy Union, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton. 7-8:30 pm. Free. 392-2500.

1/22 - John Timpanelli at the First Coast School Theater, 331 NE 2nd St., Boca Raton. Presented by the Swing and Jaz
Ensemble at Florida Atlantic University.
Street, First Do No Harm
museum admission. 392-2500.

1/22 - Earhart Betrayed -
1/22 - Author Robert Wheeler: Amelia

1/24 - Free Friday Concert: The Brass
Glinis Redmond followed by DJ dance party.
Part of the Free Friday Concerts

1/25 - William Shakespeare's Macbeth
non-resident. 347-3916.

1/26 - Rob Prester, Jazz Pianist
mended. Two two-hour sessions offered: 11 am,
and Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Road,
and Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Road,

1/27 - Cercle Francais: French Conver-
1/27 - An Afternoon Book Group at the
by Alyson Richman

1/27 - Concert: History Matters at the
1/27 - Manalapan Library Lecture Series:
S. Ocean Blvd. 5 pm. Free. 278-5455.

1/27 - Open House: The Arts at Pompey Park
200 N. Military Trail, Palm Beach. Florida. Ariane Csonka Comstock brings

1/28 - Performance poetry by Taylor Mali and

1/29 - Williams Shakespeare -

1/30 - Chamber Music -
1/30: $14/adults, $10/students/children 3-12,

1/30-1/31 - Free Friday Concerts at
Second Avenue Park, 1250 SE Second Ave.,

1/30-1/31 - High-Fidelity Audio Society of
Florida. Join us on Flickr.

1/30-1/31 - The Way of Taiko: The Heartbeat
Japanese Museum & Gardens, 7-8:30 pm. Free.
1/30-1/31 - Tremors of Taiko: The Heart and

1/31 - At the Morikami Japanese Museum
1/31: $10/adults, $5/students/children 3-12.

1/31: $30. W-Sat.: 8 pm; $30. W-Sat.: 8 pm.

1/31: $75. 11/30-12/31.

1/31: $100. 12/30-12/31.

1/31: $30. W-Sat.: 8 pm; 1/31-2/2 & 2/7-9: 2 pm.

1/31: $35. 347-3900 or www.willowtheatre.org.

1/31: $20. 354-3928.

1/31: $45-60. 514-3020 ext 22.

1/31: $25. 347-3916.

1/31: $35. 347-3900 or www.willowtheatre.org.

1/31: $30. W-Sat.: 8 pm; 1/31-2/2 & 2/7-9: 2 pm.


1/31: $10. 347-3916.

1/31: $175. 11/30-12/31.

1/31: $150. 12/30-12/31.

1/31: $100. 12/30-12/31.

1/31: $75. 11/30-12/31.

1/31: $45-60. 514-3020 ext 22.

1/31: $25. 347-3916.

1/31: $35. 347-3900 or www.willowtheatre.org.

1/31: $20. 354-3928.

1/31: $45-60. 514-3020 ext 22.

1/31: $25. 347-3916.

1/31: $35. 347-3900 or www.willowtheatre.org.

1/31: $20. 354-3928.

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Charming Hypoluxo Island waterfront home. 3,650 SF, one level 4BR/4BA updated home with French doors leading to the backyard with expansive water views. Web ID 3209 $2.295M

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**FINDING THE HOME OF A HOUSE**

Couple creates comfy refuge in cottage renovation

**By Christine Davis**

Will Kirsten and Tom Stanley be having crab for dinner soon? When renovating, they did find a really big one under the kitchen, so who knows? It might have friends. Even if not crab, something good is sure to be cooking, and Tom will be doing it.

The couple (who met in high school) love Florida and old houses. Both are long-time Florida people; Tom’s family came to Delray Beach in 1914 and Kirsten’s parents moved here when she was young. Both have experience with building: Kirsten is the executive vice president of Meisner Electric and, Tom, an attorney, is a Gulf Stream town commissioner and former chairman of the Delray Beach Historic Preservation Board.

So, it’s no surprise that they opted to buy and renovate a 1927-era cottage in Magnificent Manalapan estate offers water views in two directions.

See COTTAGE on page H2

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**Religion**

Episcopal bishop helps St. Gregory’s mark its 60th anniversary. Page H4

**Pets**

Battle against puppy mills comes to Delray Beach. Page H12

**Secret Gardens**

Boca hospital offers an outdoor retreat. Page H6

**House of the Month**

Magnificent Manalapan estate offers water views in two directions. Page H15

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**Inside**

The Coastal Star • January 2014
The process of permitting appeared to be the result of sloppy add-ons over time, Kirsten believes, because the heart of the house is perfect. “All we did was paint.”

The living room does have wonderful features: hardwood floor, bead board paneling, cypress ceiling, fireplace and bay window. Just adjacent, to the north, is the original master suite, which is also quite handsome, with a pitched cypress ceiling, bead board paneling and hardwood floors.

Through French doors to the south of the living room is the formal dining room, with another set of French doors that open to a courtyard. “We want to use the patios as an outdoor breakfast area,” Kirsten says.

A third bedroom offers pretty views of the pool area, and the Stanleys already had updated the adjoining bathroom. It was the kitchen and the guest wing that was discombobulated and kind of thrown together. “When we bought the house really had good bones,” says Tom.

The laundry was in an outside breezeway — not very convenient, says Kirsten — and the garage needed to be torn down and rebuilt to accommodate two cars.

The home’s need for renovation appeared to be the result of sloppy add-ons over time, Kirsten believes, because the heart of the house is perfect. “All we did was paint.”

But from the beginning, it felt like home. “We looked at three houses, and this was the second. The house immediately spoke to us. We deliberated for 45 minutes and said we wanted it,” Tom says.

“The nine-foot ceilings were a key feature. We thought we could work with that, and the house really had good bones.” They hired Mouw Associates Inc. as general contractors, Roger Cope as architect, Clint Oster with General Landscaping Corp., and Meisner, of course, as electrical contractors. There were setbacks. The process of permitting took longer than expected, which changed the construction schedule; and also Kirsten needed to have cancer treatment.

“She doesn’t delegate,” Tom says. “I had to let decisions be made without me, and act like I was happy with them,” she says, smiling.

But she’s one strong positive thinker. “The flip side: You realize what you really want.”

Over time, they realized they wanted to use the new bedroom as their master suite and they changed the home’s focal point. “Before, you couldn’t get to the pool from the house, so we reoriented the whole house towards the pool,” Tom explains.

In addition, the home has some wonderful new “old” features — the front screen door and shutters that used to be in Tom’s grandparents’ 1938-era house, and a butcher-block table in their kitchen that his grandparents bought from the Army airbase (now the site of Florida Atlantic University’s campus) after it closed. Now that the work is done, the couple can finally relax. “It’s an escape and an oasis,” Kirsten says. “We feel like we are miles away on vacation,” Tom says. And now, of course, Tom can open the refrigerator door and wash dishes without knocking his head or hurting his back.
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Bishop’s visit celebrates St. Gregory’s 60th

K atharine Jefferts Schori has weathered the storms as presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church in America.

But the sun was shining bright Dec. 7 when she stepped into the ocean off Boca Raton for baptisms during the 60th anniversary celebration at St. Gregory’s Episcopal Church. It came where there was wretched conflict and departures from the church,” Schori said. “We’ve done that.

She assumed her post in 2006, when it would have been impossible not to make enemies on the issues of sexuality and theology. Church conservatives fought her because she supported marriage and ordination for gay men and lesbians.

She has taken a hard line against dissenting dioceses. Under her leadership, the Episcopal Church has spent millions in legal fees to keep the church buildings of congregations that broke away. But St. Gregory’s has always been peaceful. And so it was during the anniversary weekend that culminated with a gala jubilee luncheon at the Royal Palm Yacht and Country Club after Sunday worship.

Mia Kain, a Boca Raton High School student studying journalism, asked Schori the first question at a news conference.

“How do you feel being the first female leader of the church?” she asked.

“Some have objected to me being bishop,” Schori replied. “They have been polite to my face. But the conversation on blogs isn’t always social.”

“Pray for Delray” is the theme for the city’s annual prayer breakfast, set for Jan. 14 at Pompey Park.

Speakers include the Rev. Casey Cleveland of The Avenue Church, the host of the event. Chamber of Commerce president and CEO Karen Granger will be the emcee.

Entertainers include Mary Gaines Bernard, the sister of the late Donna Summer; Tony Lebron, the latest winner of the Gospel Dream television show; and the Rev. Daniel Williams of the Redemption Church.

Tickets for the 7 a.m. breakfast are $25. Contact Sarah Vallety at 279-0907. Proceeds benefit City House.

The archbishop will place holy relics of three martyrs in the altar, sealing them with waxes and myrrh so they can never be opened again. The ceremony dates back to the fourth century, when liturgies were performed over the tombs of martyrs in the catacombs. St. Mark Greek Orthodox Church began 34 years ago. Its sanctuary was built in 1998.

Calvary United Methodist Church in Lake Worth has closed less than a year after celebrating its 100th anniversary.

Declining membership and lack of money were to blame. The congregation was thriving with 1,400 members when it moved into its distinctive A-frame sanctuary in 1968. But with changing demographics in downtown Lake Worth, the congregation shrank to 289 members with 95 attending church.

The congregation voted to close by a 25-12 vote on Dec. 2. Methodists in Lake Worth date back to April 1912 — the same day that the Titanic sank — when a Methodist pastor came to town to perform the first Methodist baptism.

Worship services began in January 1913 at a home. Church women painted coconuts to raise money to build a church, which was completed in April 1913. In recent years, Calvary leased space to four Hispanic and Haitian congregations and six drug and alcohol recovery groups to pay the bills.

The congregation, knowing the end was near, celebrated its centennial by baptizing descendants of its charter members during its anniversary.

Tim Pallesen writes about people of faith, congregations, causes and community events. Email him at tpallesen@sool.com.
Period Costume Re-enactment
St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, Lake Worth – Jan. 5

On Jan. 5, St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church will hold a period costume re-enactment to mark its founding in 1914. Prior to its founding, Lake Worth’s Episcopal family, the Cooks, had to travel to Holy Trinity in West Palm Beach. At 4 p.m. Jan. 5, parishioners and friends will caravan up Dixie Highway to Holy Trinity for a 5 p.m. service with the choirs of Holy Trinity and St. Andrew’s participating. Info: 582-6609. Pictured: St. Andrew’s parishioners Christie Ragsdale and Margot Emery in 1914 attire. Photo provided by John Robuck

Presentation of Bibles
Delray Medical Center – Dec. 18

On Dec. 18, the Knights of Columbus Blessed Mother Council No. 13388 of Emmanuel Catholic Church presented 15 Bibles to Delray Medical Center. Pictured: Bob Budd, Chuck Dolce, Becky McCoy, Kevin Flannery and Bob Bonney. Photo provided

Lego Challenge
St. Vincent Ferrer – Dec. 8

Seventh-graders at St. Vincent Ferrer Church and School participated in a Lego Challenge to raise money to buy iPads and computers at the school. Their class was the first to have 100 percent participation. Photo provided

Religion Calendar

Sunday 1/5 - Period Costume Re-enactment at St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, 100 N. Palmway, Lake Worth. Celebrate Lake Worth’s Episcopal founding with a caravan up Dixie Hwy to Holy Trinity Church for a 5 p.m. service. Info: 582-6609. 1/5 - Your Beautiful Fruit: Seven Fruits - Seven Dimensions of Your Soul - Presented as part of the Rosh Chodesh Society Course at Chabad of East Boca Raton, 120 NE 1st Ave. 7-8:30 pm. $20/class. 417-7797.

Wednesday 1/8 - The Burning Bowl at Unity of Delray Beach, 101 NW 22nd St. Let go of negative energies and make room for love, healing and acceptance. Love offering. 7 pm. 276-5796.

Tuesday 1/14 - Pray for Delray - Hosted by The Avenue Church at Pompey Park Gymnasium, 1101 NW 2nd St., Delray Beach. Kick off 2014 in prayer. Some of Delray’s most prestigious men and women come together to represent all areas within our community. Featuring keynote speaker Pastor Carey Cleveland. Proceeds benefit City House of Delray. 7-9 am. $25. 279-0907.

Wednesday 1/22 - Fitness for the Soul at Unity of Delray Beach, 101 NW 22nd St. Learn to keep your soul fit with God’s love. Taught by Madaline Lawrence. 7:15 pm. Held again 1/29. Love offering. 276-5796.
Hospitals usually aren’t particularly pleasant places to visit. “Anyone who comes here is, for the most part, in a very stressful situation,” said Thomas Chakurda, referring to the Boca Raton Regional Hospital, where he is vice president of marketing.

Whirring machines, hurrying doctors and nurses as well as the inevitable buzzers and alarms on monitors are anything but relaxing. But at BRRH, they are trying to counter the high-tech atmosphere indoors with a natural space or park-like area outside.

No one is quite sure about the origin of this garden on the north side of the building between the parking lot and the emergency room entrance. If you look at early photos, the land is almost empty except for what looks like a drainage pond.

But over time, landscape shrubs have been added, trees planted and concrete paths laid. “It’s been cultivated so it looks more appealing and offers a tranquil setting for visitors,” Chakurda said. Although the garden isn’t the result of philanthropy, some things in it have been dedicated. For example, Jaycox Lake is an S-shaped water feature with four shooting jets of water to keep it aerated. It’s named for the director of engineering at the hospital from 1965 to 1983. The grassy area that measures about 150 by 250 feet, is nicely shaded by more than a dozen oaks and a variety of palms, including robellinis, royals and thatch palms. Touches of red come from the flowers of the firecracker plant and splashes of orange are contributed by the flowers on the ixora. The feathery foliage on the aptly named bottle brush tree will soon be showing red. In the meantime, plenty of yellow, red, purple and green crotons add their own bright displays. Variegated ginger tosses in its yellow and green striped leaves. And when it’s ready, the wild coffee drips with red berries. You can sit on one of the wooden benches and enjoy the oversized crinum lilies brushed by a light breeze. You’ll be entertained by a flock of Muscovy ducks that swim in the pond and sun themselves.

ABOVE: Mature oak trees provide shade to Jaycox Lake with its pulsing fountain, while a flock of ibis looks for food on the grounds.

FAR LEFT: Variegated crotons glow in late afternoon light.

LEFT: Small markers encourage walkers to keep healthy habits.

Photos by Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star
on the grass. Their red masks make them look almost comical. You also can watch them strut their stuff.

You can just sit.

"Many find this a healing environment in almost a spiritual sense," said Chakurda.

Staff members come here for a break or lunch at one of the picnic tables. Ambulatory patients have been known to escape their hospital floors. “It’s where I’m from in New York,” Felbert said. “You sure wouldn’t find a spot like this at a hospital.

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Colleen Philipp of Waterford, Mich., also took a break while her father, Ray Philipp of Boca Raton, underwent tests. “I have a fond memory of this place,” she said of a visit 10 years ago when her father was here for surgery. She remembered a terrapin turtle surfacing from the depths of the lake.

“At the time it was kind of frightening because they are such strange creatures,” she said. But on this visit, she’s keeping her eyes open. “I kind of hope to see him again,” she said.

Deborah S. Hartz-Seeley is a certified master gardener who can be reached at dehartz@att.net when she’s not in her garden.
Dye’s renovation polishes gem of a golf course

By Steve Pike

Geoffrey Hume looked across the practice tee at St. Andrews Club north of Delray Beach and surveyed the club’s emerald fairways and greens.

“I call this my ‘little jewel on the ocean,’” said Hume, the club’s general manager. That jewel has a new polish, thanks to legendary golf course architect Pete Dye, who along with his wife, Alice, son P.B. and St. Andrews Superintendent Charley Crell, rebuilt the club’s 18 greens.

The project, which took place this past summer and into the fall, was much smaller than Dye’s redesign work at neighboring Gulf Stream Golf Club, but just as important to St. Andrews Club members, who for the past several years had been putting on slow, inconsistent greens.

Many of those greens had developed what are known as “turtleback.” A turtleback is a large hump or mound in a green caused by years of top dressing. It often limits the area where a pin can be placed and causes even well-struck balls to miss their targets.

“You almost couldn’t get a ball to stay on a couple of the greens,” Hume said.

To make matters more challenging, St. Andrews’ greens were filled with different kinds of grasses that made them difficult to read and gauge the speed. For example, if two players had 4-foot putts from different sides of the hole, one player might have been putting on a completely different grass than his or her partner.

“We were dealing with a lot of intrusion, where we had multiple types of grasses on the greens and within the whole course,” Hume said.

That’s no longer the case. St. Andrews Club’s greens now each feature TifEagle Bermudagrass, which is popular in South Florida, along with TifGrand Bermudagrass (a newer form of cultivar) on their collars. The turtlebacks are gone, too.

“Everything was done that needed to be done,” said Crell, who came to St. Andrews Club in December 2012 from PGA Golf Club in Port St. Lucie.

“Anything that [has] age to it, like an old house, needs to be updated. It’s the same with a golf course.”

Crell and the Dyes also replaced irrigation around the greens, renovated each tee box and added tee boxes to a few holes, including a forward tee on the 160-yard, fifth.

The fifth hole — the longest at St. Andrews — is probably the best example of the entire project. The green, which originally hugged the Intracoastal along the left side of the fairway, was moved approximately 15 yards to the right, allowing the hole to play as long as 185 yards.

Much of the old material that was removed from the greens, Hume said, was used to create a berm along the third hole that protects the course from rising Intracoastal tides.

“We had problems with swamping,” Hume said.

“Nothing is worse for a golf course than salt water.”

The berm is a preview of what is coming at St. Andrews Club.

“This summer we’re going to do a lot of reclamation of land because of what we’ve lost to erosion,” Hume said. “In the next couple of years we’re planning to renovate the rough and fairways.

And add more polish to the jewel.”
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Gulf Stream. Rare waterfront parcel offers the discerning buyer a fabulous opportunity to build an estate home located in a most pristine and secluded location. Offering 180’ of expansive waterfront with an 80’ dock, it is a boater’s paradise. Candace Friis 561.573.9966

EXCLUSIVE GULF STREAM CONDO
Gulf Stream. This 2 BR, 2 bath is perfect for year round living. Offering open spacious living. Features include build-ins, custom shades, moldings and a full size W/D. The complex is close to the beach and Delray’s famed Atlantic Ave. Offered at $389K. Candace Friis 561.573.9966

MAGNIFICENT WATERFRONT CONDO IN THE HEART OF S PALM BEACH
Delray Beach. Intracoastal and pool views abound from this SW facing condo. Large living and dining rooms. New kitchen, balcony with views. Full amenity building 24/7 DM, pool, exercise room and F/T manager. Deeded beach access. A must see. Candace Friis 561.573.9966

EXPANSIVE WATER VIEWS ABOUND
Manalapan. This Intracoastal estate home is sited on a half-acre with 208’ of uninterrupted south facing water views. The location surrounds with the serenity of Florida’s finest. Beautifully finished home is a must see. Offered fully furnished. Candace Friis 561.573.9966

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Newly designed and renovated, this magnificent oceanfront estate is sited high on a dune offering panoramic ocean views. Offering 15,000 SF, this 7 BR villa has 30’ ceilings and high impact 2 story-windows. An estate for the discerning buyer complete with 6-car garage & carport for 6. Candace Friis 561.573.9966, Betty Devitt 561.573.4391

GULF STREAM WATERFRONT, NEARLY 2.5 ACRES
Gulf Stream. Rare waterfront parcel offers the discerning buyer a fabulous opportunity to build an estate home located in a most pristine and secluded location. Offering 180’ of expansive waterfront with an 80’ dock, it is a boater’s paradise. Candace Friis 561.573.9966

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over half a billion in sales accomplished with a tradition of integrity and trust
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Health & Harmony

Where are they now?
Our ‘biggest losers’ revisited

Two years ago this month we shared the stories of our “biggest losers” — local people who had lost a significant amount of weight. This past March we wrote about twin brothers from Boynton Beach who both lost more than 120 pounds — one on The Biggest Loser TV show, the other by following along at home.

We recently checked back in with some of our “losers” to see where life has taken them, and whether they’ve managed to maintain their healthier physiques.

Jane Hebert, Briny Breezes
It’s been four years since Jane Hebert’s New Year’s resolution to lose 100-plus pounds. When we interviewed her in 2012, she had accomplished that goal, slimming down from 260 to 155. Today Hebert’s bathroom scale still reads 155. She still adheres to the Weight Watchers eating plan. And she still, at age 79, walks five miles a day around her Briny Breezes neighborhood with the help of her walking sticks.

“I have arthritis in my knees, and sometimes I don’t feel like going,” she admits. “But if I don’t get out in the morning and get that walk in, I feel like I’m dragging all day.”

Hebert hasn’t been sick in two years — not even a cold, she says — and her annual checkups at the doctor are textbook perfect.

“It’s just unbelievable how good I feel, and that’s what keeps me motivated.”

Vanessa Lovvorn, Delray Beach
Our other Biggest Loser “cover girl” two years ago, Vanessa Lovvorn, had slowly reduced her weight from 345 to 241 by changing her eating habits and working with a trainer at a local gym. Smiling broadly at our camera, she told us her goal was to lose another 60 pounds.

About a month later, the whole picture changed.

“It happened Feb. 22, 2012,” says Lovvorn, now 34. “I had worked out, and my back wasn’t feeling that great. By the time I got home, I had shooting pain and numbness down my leg. I went to walk downstairs, took two steps, and couldn’t move. My husband had to carry me to the bedroom.”

Two days later, a scan revealed Lovvorn had five bulging discs in her lower spine. She underwent emergency surgery on March 1. Doctors removed a portion of the most severely protruding disc, the one that was crushing a nerve root, she says.

But the pain persisted. She received multiple steroid treatments intended to reduce inflammation around the nerves and relieve her pain. Nothing worked. At the suggestion of a doctor, she applied for, and now receives, disability benefits.

She has gained back 95 pounds.

“People say, ‘How come you let yourself go?’ Well, my back hurts every single day; I can’t stand for longer than 20 minutes, can’t bend over, can’t twist, at times I need to use a wheelchair. When you can’t put pressure on your spine, it’s tough to burn calories.”

Lovvorn is trying to stay positive in her new, limited world. She says spinal stenosis (degeneration of the spinal canal) runs in her family. But she knows her condition would be easier to manage without so much excess poundage.

“I’m fighting the battle of the bulge,” she says, “but I’m not giving up the battle of the bulge — my weight.”

Joe and Henry Ostaszewski
On the last season finale of The Biggest Loser, contestant and former Ocean Ridge police officer Joe Ostaszewski weighed in at 317. He didn’t win the competition, but he had lost 147 pounds of body fat and gained 12 pounds of muscle. He also inspired his twin brother, Henry, to lose 137 pounds — an impressive accomplishment considering Henry’s hectic life as a full-time IT manager and shared-custody parent.

The “O’ Bros,” as they call themselves, were high school football players in Delray Beach and Lantana and later attended Florida State University on football scholarships. They were big guys (over 360 pounds each) who liked big meals. But that’s history now.

“I’ve changed the way I see food,” says Joe. “It used to be purely for pleasure. Now I look at food as fuel or nourishment. I ask myself, what food do I need to eat to keep me feeling this good?”

Today Joe hovers between 225 and 235 pounds. Henry weighs about 260. They kayak, mountain bike, and snowboard effortlessly for the first time in decades. They ran their first triathlon in June. And they no longer worry about fitting into airline seats.

The twins, now 44, are busy building a nonprofit organization called Wear Your Soul (www.wearyoursoul.com), whose mission is to involve kids in outdoor recreational sports in hopes of reducing or preventing childhood obesity.

“Losing weight and getting in shape just improves everything — your health, your outlook, your attitude,” says Henry, reflecting on the past year. His advice? “Try to eat clean and always look for ways to keep moving.”

Vanessa Lovvorn lost nearly 100 pounds, but has regained 95 pounds after suffering a herniated disc from her activities. Tim Stepen/The Coastal Star

The Corcoran Group is a licensed real estate broker.
Health & Harmony Calendar

JANUARY 4
Saturday 1/4 - Yoga Class at San Spanish Yoga Class at 72 N. Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Held every Sat. Registration: 8:30 am; class: 9 am. Free. 393-7700 or www.downwardsbo.ca.

1/4 - Jazzercise/Body Sculpting at Sugar Sand Park Pavilion, 400 S. Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Held every Sat. 10 am. Free. 393-7700 or www.downwardsbo.ca.

1/4 - Capo Fiorina for ages 12 & up at San Spanish Square, 72 N. Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Saturday, 10 am. Free. 393-7700.

1/5 - Health Starts Here Social at Whole Foods, 616 SE 1st Ave, Delray Beach. Boca Raton. Be inspired by recipes and en-joy an array of healthy delicious. House. Saturday, 10 am. Free. 449-0007.

1/5 - Yoga at the Beach - Saturdays and Sundays at Red Reef Park West, 2211 N. Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Sunday, 1 pm. Free. Registration: 588-8889.


1/6 - Yoga Class at the Faulk Center for Counseling, 22455 Boca Raton Rd, Boca Raton. Wednesdays, 10-11 am. Free. 393-7700. RSV: 866-7086.

1/6 - Total Brain Workout at the John Denson Medical Building, Room 126, 777 SE 1st Ave, Delray Beach. Tuesday, 1-2 pm. Free. 297-3035.

1/6 - Yoga with Live Music at San Spanish Square, 72 N. Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Call Betty Devitt for private showing.

1/6 - Almost 3,000 SF
· Two blocks to Atlantic Avenue
· Two Brs + large den and Florida room
· Almost 3,000 SF
· Spacious grounds and large pool

Call Betty Devitt for private showing

Selling luxury beach properties for over 30 years
Battle against ‘puppy-mill’ dog sales comes to Delray

What a difference a span of 51 years can make. In 1953, singer Patti Page rose to the top of the musical charts with her seemingly sweet song, *How Much Is That Doggie in the Window?* Back in the 1950s, the local animal shelter was called the pound and was often located in a distant part of town. There were no laws on or enclosed dog parks or doggy day care centers. If you wanted a dog, you bought one from a breeder, a pet store or kept one from a litter of pups produced by your unspayed female. That sweet song now strikes a sour note with animal advocates who are doggedly doing all they can to eliminate the sale of puppies or dogs who come from mass-producing centers and are shipped to independent pet stores. They want these “puppy mills” (and “kitten factories”) shut down.

These individuals are careful to distinguish these pet store sales from responsible and reputable professional breeders, who meet certain breed guidelines and who welcome people interested in adopting to visit their homes where the young pups are being weaned. Today, the fight to ban the sale of pets in retail stores is being waged in big and small cities all across America and has now reached Delray Beach. An ordinance that would stop the sale of puppies or dogs who come from mass-producing centers and are shipped to independent pet stores has now reached Delray Beach. It is expected to be on the Delray Beach City Commission agenda in late January or February, and confirmed interim City Attorney Terrill Pyburn has confirmed the legality of the proposed ordinance.

Aberle approached the store owner and offered to help her find reputable local breeders to provide healthy puppies.

“Far too many healthy puppies and dogs are euthanized in shelters all across America,” she says. “Contributing to this problem are these puppy mills that produce thousands of purebreds and so-called designer breeds that are sold for $1,000, $2,000 or more a pop in these pet stores.”

“Why should dogs and cats be sold when there are 8,000 dogs being euthanized a year in Palm Beach County because they have no homes?”

Last fall, Farber paid a visit to the Waggs to Riches store, questioned the owner and began doing research online about where the store obtained its puppies. She also aired her concerns on a Facebook pet store, where she encountered an avalanche of calls to action and an introduction to Aberle.

“I even offered to pay for her to fly with me to one of the commercial breeders she buys her puppies from in Kansas, but she refused,” says Aberle. “Aberle is referring to Kimberly Curle, owner of Waggs to Riches. The store’s website proclaims to be the nation’s premier full-service pet boutique and offers the finest in toy breed puppies.”

“I attempted to reach Curle for comment via phone messages and emails, but she did not reply. Curbing the sale of ‘doggies in the window’ is a growing crusade being waged by pet lovers all across America. It has also become a legal hot button on the local and state levels.”

“It has been America’s dirty little secret long enough,” says Farber. “The time is now to close down these puppy mills.”

Currently, Lake Worth is the only city in Palm Beach County to ban the retail sale of dogs (the law passed in 2011). And at the time of this column’s deadline, the state of Connecticut plus 28 municipalities have ordinances banning the retail sale of dogs.

On the West Coast, the city of San Diego passed a ban on these pet store sales in November, but it is now being legally challenged in federal court by David Salinas, the owner of San Diego Puppy store. He recently opened a pet store and began selling puppies in Oceanside, where I now live.

On a recent Saturday, dozens of people with signs proclaiming “Ban Puppy Mills” peacefully passed out educational fliers and encouraged motorists passing by the Oceanside Puppy store to honk in support.

While the sound of car horns may not be as melodic as a Patti Page hit song from the 1950s, it was music to my ears.
Great reads: Four novel approaches from local authors

By Ron Hayes

A TV fishing host goes in search of a secret love child. An African warrior finds adventure on that war-torn continent. A hurricane tears through a tiny oceanfront Florida park. And a Palm Beach County firefighter recounts his real-life memoirs.

Weed Line: A Shagball and Tangles Adventure, by A.C. Brooks

Shagballs and Tangles are finally leaving Lantana. In their third outing, Weed Line, author A.C. Brooks sends his heroes to St. Croix, St. Thomas and St. Martins as they scour the Caribbean to track down Shagball’s deceased aunt’s secret love child.

Along the way, they mix it up with a corrupt Virgin Islands seneschal, two Colombian drug lords and a submarine full of cocaine.

“The books are really more humorous than anything else,” says Brooks, a Lantana resident. “There’s a action and a little bit of romance because the ladies like it. My brother-in-law, a television show host, and his vertically challenged sidekick, Tangles, the former Elvis impersonator, hung out at the Boynton Beach Marina and The Old Key Lime House restaurant.

In their third outing, Weed Line, Brooks has lived here for 20 years and sells commercial insurance. “I get up and find a way to make a living,” says Brooks. “That’s what I’ve always said.”

He’s also a “tough” and “tough” author who writes about what he knows. Brooks is prolific. His first novel was published in 2010, the second in 2011 and the latest in April. A fourth, Deep Drop, will be out in the spring.

“Learning to write takes a lot of little books,” Brooks says. “You just need to get up and do it. I’m a procrastinator like everybody else. I might go weeks without writing — especially in the summer when the fishing’s good. You have to treat writing like a job. Get up and find a way to keep the story going even if you’re stuck.”

Originally from Gates Mills, Ohio, Brooks has lived here for 20 years and sells commercial real estate when he’s not chronicling his characters’ adventures on their boat, the Lucky Dog.

“I try to do most of the writing during the day and judge my real estate work in between,” he says. “When businesses pick up, I get less time to write.” When I’ve got my wife, Penny, pushing me. She’s running editor and screens each chapter to make sure I don’t get too crazy.

Weed Line is available through amazon.com or at the Old Key Lime House in Lantana, Main Street News in Palm Beach and Palm Beach County Fire-Rescue

The Honeyguide, by James Gardner

When James Gardner visited Africa for the first time in 1968, he marveled at all the golf travel bags in the airport.

And then he realized they weren’t golf bags. He had landed during the Rhodesian Bush War, and those were body bags.

Gardner fell in love with that troubled continent anyway and during 25 more visits over the next 45 years he’s brought home to Ocean Ridge the inspiration for The Dark Continent Chronicles, a trilogy of geopolitical thrillers.

“My hero is named Rigby Croxford,” Gardner says. “He’s a white Rhodesian who’s like a Navy SEAL, but a SEAL on steroids.”

In the first novel, The Lion Killer, Croxford is hired to rescue an American tourist on safari from Congolese rebels.

In The Zambesi Vendetta, Croxford finds himself leading five spoiled American teenagers on a photo safari. And this year has brought The Honeyguide, with Croxford visiting America to defend his brother-in-law, a television newscaster caught up in a sex scandal.

The series has drawn praise from Palm Beach mega-seller James Patterson, who says, “I have seldom come across such fine, descriptive writing in a thriller.”

Born in Albany, Gardner came to Florida in 1947. In 2003, he retired as a senior vice president with Smith Barney to devote his time to writing. "My most productive time is 9 to 3,” he says. “By 3 I’m wasted, and I go play golf or fly a plane. You come to it the next morning and it has to be completely edited. What sounds good at 3 p.m. is pretty bad at 9:30 in the morning. Writing books is mostly rewriting, but I really enjoy it.”

An avid golfer, scuba diver, sailor and pilot, Gardner will visit Borneo in March, “to see the Komodo dragons and orangutans” — then to Europe in June for the 70th anniversary of D-Day. And he’s already at work on the first volume of a second trilogy.

“My hope is that some day a movie will be made of The Lion Killer,” he says. The Dark Continent Chronicles are available exclusively through amazon.com.

On the Edge of Dangerous Things, a novel by S. Snyder-Carroll

On the Edge of Dangerous Things is the first in a planned trilogy, and Snyder-Carroll is already hard at work on Vol. 2, tentatively titled Collecting.

“I get up in the morning and I run, usually anywhere from 3 to 6 miles,” she says. “Then I take a quick shower, eat some food and write until 3 p.m. Then I go to the beach and read.”

Since leaving teaching, Snyder-Carroll says, she’s been rediscovering the classics she first read in college. Thoreau. Tolstoy. George Eliot, and her favorite, Nathaniel Hawthorne. “Hawthorne was my inspiration,” she says. “In all his novels he has a female protagonist — like Hester Pryme in The Scarlet Letter — who’s a dark lady — with an empathy for women who’ve had a tough time.”

For more information, visit www.snydercarroll.com or amazon.com.

Hot Zone: Memoirs of a Professional Firefighter, by Christopher Teale Howes

A lot of little boys dream of growing up to be firemen. Christopher Teale Howes did it.

From 1976, when he joined the Del-Trail Fire Department as a rookie, until his 2007 retirement as a district chief in Fire-Rescue’s Battalion 2, Howes fought fires in Palm Beach County.

And then he moved to Armathwaite, Tenn., and wrote a memoir about that life.

“The book is a quick read,” Howes says. “At the beginning of each part there’s an essay titled ‘On The Job’ that’s an in-your-face look at what it’s like.”

Born in Maine, Howes was working at Ken & Hazel’s, his father-in-law’s Delray Beach restaurant, when some friendly firefighters who ate there urged him to try out for the department.

His book recounts the formation of Palm Beach County Fire-Rescue in 1984, and the tremendous growth of the county’s fire-rescue service in the decades since.

“It’s an inherently dangerous profession,” Howes says, but also an inherently misunderstood profession, and he hopes Hot Zone will give readers a more realistic vision of the job.

“The biggest misconception is that we’re around the station all day waiting for a call,” he says. “That’s doesn’t happen any more. If we’re not running calls, we’re training. Everybody there is a medic now as well as a firefighter, and keeping up with those skills is a constant struggle.

“To give you a sense of how busy Palm Beach County Fire-Rescue is, in the year I retired, we had more than 50 fire stations with 1,500 personnel, and ran 112,000 calls throughout the whole county.”

For more information, visit www.kithowes.com or amazon.com.

By Ron Hayes

SBR/PHOTO
IN-TOWN CHARMER – ARTS OVERLAY DISTRICT, LAKE WORTH
This in-town home is a short walk to the beach and steps from shops/dining in downtown Lake Worth. Charming, 1938-built income-producing property retains the charms of its era while offering new electric, Central A/C, tankless water heater system, and new drip irrigation and sprinkler system. The first floor lives like a single family home with 2 Bdrm /1 Bath. Wood flooring throughout. The two self-contained units above have updated kitchens, covered balcony space and work well as rentals, in-law units, or guest suites. Enjoy your home and collect rent! Gorgeous gardens, large yard and detached 2-car garage. Zoning allows for use as a Professional Office space. By Appointment Only.

Zone D Multi-Family/Professional Office $299,000

OCEAN RIDGE – WALK TO BEACH
This 5,400 SF custom-built home is sited on a 40 acre parcel with perfect privacy on Coconut Lane. 5 en-suite bedrooms with large, walk-in closets and skylights in bathrooms. Split-plan layout includes Master Suite on East side of house and 2 Guest wings on the West side of house. Beautiful wood flooring in living areas. Eat-in kitchen has cook island, double ovens. High ceilings throughout with vaulted, cathedral ceilings in Great Room. Spacious covered lanai, pool and large private yard. 2-car garage. Just a short walk down the block to Ocean Inlet Park. Location, location, location!

5 Bedrooms, 5 Full Baths, 1 Half Bath $1,275,000

POINT MANALAPAN WATERFRONT
Waterfront estate with approximately 7,200 total sq. ft. This home was totally gutted in anticipation of a complete renovation and expansion. Sited on a large, 97’ x 200’ parcel with 97 Ft. of water frontage, it offers wide, West Intracoastal views and a private, deep-water dock. Renovate or build new—the value is there for either! Please call for additional details.

5 Bedrooms, 5.1 Baths, 2-Car Garage $2,250,000

EASY OCEAN ACCESS – HYPOLUXO POINT
Boaters dream location! 5 minutes to the Boynton Beach Inlet and ocean. This _______SF home has a private dock on a protected canal that can accommodate a larger boat. Great split floor plan. Master and one guest bedroom open to yard and large covered lanai. No HOA. Perfect seasonal or year-round residence for boaters and pet lovers.

3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, 2-Car Garage $520,000

HYPOLUXO ISLAND WATERFRONT – LANTANA
This home has bragging rights for its wide, West Intracoastal water views and gorgeous sunsets. Light and bright throughout, the foyer entry opens to a spacious living room with fireplace and vaulted ceilings. Kitchen, family room and living/dining areas access the screened, covered lanai, pool, and garden/outdoor dining areas. A private, deep-water dock offers easy ocean access. Within walking distance is the ocean beach, dining and shopping on E. Ocean Avenue in Lantana.

3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, 2-Car Garage $1,650,000

Diane Duffy
Realtor PA
561-767-0860
dianeduffy@comcast.net
Each month, The Coastal Star features a house for sale in our community. The House of the Month is presented as a service to our advertisers and provides readers with a peek inside one of our very special houses.

The oceanfront view comes with a strikingly designed infinity pool.

The 1.61-acre estate at 860 S. Ocean Blvd. overlooks the Atlantic Ocean and Intracoastal Waterway, and has a perfect flow for entertaining.

Ocean-to-Intracoastal elegance in Manalapan

This striking ocean-to-Intracoastal estate is one of 25 properties in Manalapan’s coveted Estate section. This 1.61-acre property is elevated approximately 20 feet above sea level. As you enter through the 10-foot-tall wooden privacy gates, follow the marble brick driveway along a winding, tree canopied approach, and cross a bridge between double waterfalls and gardens, the picturesque two-story residence comes into view.

The living rooms, master bedroom and two guest rooms open to ocean vistas with outdoor living spaces. The main house features five bedrooms with en suite baths and the guest home offers another bedroom with 2½ baths. The home also has a private elevator, backup generator, tennis court, two wine cellars and an ultra gourmet kitchen with solid custom cabinetry. All the finest design details imaginable are built into a one-of-a-kind residence.


A full-amenity dock on 150 feet of Intracoastal Waterway makes a perfect home for a yacht.

LEFT: The home theater has tall ceilings and open ambience.
**Boca Country Club**

$439,000 - Stunning penthouse with 20 ft cathedral ceilings, overlooking 3 holes on the golf course. Three screened patios. Updated kitchen with granite countertops. Private elevator with only 2 condos per floor.

**Delray Dunes C.C.**

$569,000 - Outstanding golf course home overlooking the 8 & 9 holes. Boasting the largest private oversized lot is set back from the golf course. The home has a large lanai area that open to the pool with a waterfall. It has a split floor plan with large oversided rooms.

**Tropic Isle**


**Delray Dunes C.C.**

$350,000 - 4/3 completely remodeled home on a premier golf course lot overlooking the 13th, 14th, and 15th holes. The home has wood floors, a gourmet kitchen, crown molding and impact glass. There is a large pool area with a summer kitchen. Call for more information.

**Delray Beach**

$749,000 - 3/2.5 townhome on Intracoastal, deeded dock included in sale. 2 large decks. Recently updated. 2 blocks to beach and close to Atlantic Ave shops & restaurants.

**Shorewalker Place-Delray Beach**

$479,000 - Great 4 bedroom with wide open golf course views of the 5th green and 6th hole. Screened in pool area with large covered lanai. Split floor plan. Great family home.

**Tropic Isle**


**Delray Dunes C.C.**

$495,000 - Great golf course home overlooking the 13th fairway. Ground floor master bedroom with his & hers walk in closets and a oversized master bath with separate shower and Jacuzzi tub. Fenced backyard with pool and hot tub.

**Delray Dunes C.C.**

$295,000 - Great golf course home with wide open views of the 2nd hole. This two bedroom home can be converted into a three bedroom. Lowest priced home in this gated community. Call for more information. Delray Dunes is a mandatory membership community.