Looking back at Boca

The year is 1958; the view is south on Federal Highway from what is now Sanborne Square (including Town Hall). There were only two stoplights in the city, and the Greyhound bus station was downtown.

The struggles of early settlers, the crops, the allure of the beach and those darn mosquitoes!

By Dan Moffett

The hostilities between the town of Gulf Stream and two litigious residents appear destined to get a whole lot more hostile in the weeks ahead.

And the case the town is preparing against Martin O’Boyle and Christopher O’Hare could ripple through dozens of communities across the state.

Gulf Stream commissioners have given unanimous approval to a legal strategy that will invoke the federal RICO (Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations) statute against O’Boyle and O’Hare, alleging they have engaged in a pattern of behavior intended to intimidate, harass and force settlements from public officials and governments.

Beyond Gulf Stream, town officials say the class-action RICO suit will allege that O’Boyle used a group he founded called the Citizens Awareness Foundation to generate settlements from frivolous public records suits across the state — in communities such as Fernandina Beach, Miami, Bradenton, Cutler Bay and Miami Lakes.

“We thought this was about a feud in Gulf Stream,” said Mayor Scott Morgan. “But we learned it was a lot more.”

Commissioners unanimously approved hiring a team of outside lawyers that includes Gerald Richman, a prominent West Palm Beach attorney, who will spearhead the federal RICO case.

Richman told the commission that O’Boyle and his Citizens Awareness Foundation had used a “scorched earth strategy”

See RICO on page 6

Gulf Stream

Town pursues RICO case against litigious residents

By Emily J. Minor

It’s a Thursday, just a little past mid-morning, and Lois Pope is watching the NASDAQ on a flat-screen TV hanging in her office. The television’s small, and clearly she could afford something bigger. But news is news.

The market’s down, slightly, but nothing alarming.

“I’ve always been interested in topical events,” says Pope, a major philanthropist who recently moved from western Delray Beach back to her beloved Manalapan. “I’m a reader. Always have been.”

She’s also a visionary, an athlete, an art lover, a onetime Broadway performer, a mother, a grandmother, a widow, a dog lover.

Lois Pope. Photo provided

Arts, animals, people keep Pope on her toes

Delray Beach Book rivals in the simple joys of a sunrises, sunsets.

Page AT2

Seawall suits: Collapses generate legal action. Page 9

Page AT1

Alphabet soup: A look at Delray’s agencies – CRA, DDA, DBMC. Pages 26-27

Page AT11

'Kiss of the Ocean' explores art of the Panama Canal.
Editor's Note

Finding cause to vote

I f all of the negative campaign ads flooding the airwaves this midterm election have you feeling like you don't want to vote for anyone, because they won't tell you where they stand on anything, I understand.

At The Coastal Star, we don't do endorsements for many reasons (time and resources being the most significant), but I do want to share some highlighted issues to address before development could be approved.

But since Florida's last gubernatorial election, that group has become the Department of Economic Opportunity. Now decisions about development (or overdevelopment) are pushed to local governments. No offense to the fine volunteers who sit on local boards, but the prospect of another mega-development proposal coming along in our slice of paradise is frightening.

So this is the one topic I've decided to focus my vote on, and I'm searching out candidates who might feel the same way — even if they don't talk about it on the campaign trail.

— Mary Kate Leming, Editor

Election Preview on Pages 12 & 13

Coastal Star

Growth of Bethesda’s signature event pleases this year’s chairwoman

By Rich Pollack

For Nilsa McKinney, it’s a good day when she gets to kick off her shoes and stroll along the beach in shorts and a T-shirt.

And while she loves the sunlight, well, given her druthers, McKinney would much prefer to stay out of the spotlight.

Most of the time she leaves that up to her better-known husband, Frank, a well-recognized luxury-home developer and author.

Every now and then, however, if the cause is good enough, Nilsa McKinney will reluctantly put on a pair of dress shoes and step onto center stage.

“I joke that I wear shoes only because they make my outfit look good,” she says.

McKinney will be in the spotlight this month as chairwoman of the 15th annual Women of Grace Luncheon hosted by the Bethesda Hospital Foundation and benefiting the hospital’s Center for Women and Children.

The event, set for Nov. 12 at the Mar-a-Lago Club in Palm Beach, is expected to draw close to 700 guests and will honor five women selected as Women of Grace. Those honorees are: Barbara Gracey Backer, Laurie Raber Gottlieb, Fonda Huizenga, Una James and Anne Vegso.

A past recipient of the Women of Grace recognition, McKinney says she left her comfort zone and accepted the role as chair of the event due in part to her long relationship with the hospital and her understanding of its impact in the community.

“I took on being chair only because I truly believe in the work of the foundation and of the hospital,” she said.

McKinney, 53, was one of the people who helped start the Women of Grace program 15 years ago, when she took part in a planning session for the event.

That first year, she recalls, the awards were held in the hospital cafeteria with about 80 guests.

“It’s been very satisfying for me to see this event grow the way it has,” she said. “Every year, it’s become the event that nobody wants to miss.”

Over the years, the luncheon has raised more than $15 million this year, McKinney said, the money raised will go toward helping the hospital’s Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, a part of the hospital she visits every chance she gets.

In addition to her support of orphanages, she said, “Every time we visit these countries, the rewards that come back go beyond what we could expect.”

While she remains pretty much behind the scenes, Nilsa McKinney is deeply involved in the couple’s real-estate development company, Venture Concepts International.

An interior designer, she handles the logistics of the business, working out of a trailer on construction sites and putting out fires that come up.

“I’m pretty good at executing plans B, C and D,” she says.

For the McKinnneys, the real-estate projects help make it possible for them to support the local community and to continue the work of their foundation.

“We like to say that we build the big houses so we can then build the little ones,” she said.

Nilsa and Frank McKinney are making it a point to pass on their passion for helping others to their daughter, who has seen firsthand the impact the foundation is making.

“We want her to know the wonderful feeling that comes with giving because it gives you perspective on life,” Nilsa McKinney says. “You find that the simpler things can give you the most joy.”

Things like walking barefoot on the beach in shorts and a T-shirt. ✯
A SELECTION OF OUR ULTRA LUXURY LIFESTYLE PROPERTIES
I am writing in hopes that you will be interested in the other side of the story you recently printed about Manalapan police grievances. The union was accepted in Manalapan as the result of poor management that was evident by the huge turnover prior to becoming unionized. The officers having the ability to defend themselves against the poor management practices that resulted in a number of grievances. The police officers lost benefits and were the third-lowest in pay and benefits in the county prior to the 2012 contract. The contract agreed to in 2012 brought the officers back to where they were years earlier. This is all documented by the Palm Beach County Police Benevolent Association.

The complaint made by me that you refer to in your September article was not a union grievance but a hostile workplace complaint made against Chief Carmen Mattox and another officer. This type of complaint had nothing to do with the union. It is a complaint handled by the human resources department.

I withdrew the complaint, but the town chose to go forward with it.

Another point I take exception with in your article is that you make it sound like I resigned as the result of not prevailing in my hostile workplace complaint. That is not true. I resigned for personal reasons following the death of my mother in April 2014. Your reporting is very one-sided. The town is having the problems that it has due to poor management.

Paul Williams
Former Manalapan police officer

OR police really do protect and serve

I have lived in Ocean Ridge since 1988. Those years have been eventful. Once I opened my mail box to come face to face with a large red snake about twice the diameter of my wrist. With my heart pounding out of my chest, I slammed the door shut and ran to phone the police. I am not sure what they did, but the snake did not come back.

While animal lover “Doc” was still on the police force my Chihuahua, Cutie Pie, got a lamb chop bone stuck in her mouth. I grabbed her and tried to drive to the vet. But AIA roadwork created an obstruction. With lights blinking and sirens screeching, Doc got us there and went back to his job. The veterinarian was able to remove the bone easily.

Then, sad to say, I fell into the “gypsy trap” of a distraction burglary. I collected the insurance, but that did not compensate for the value of never-recovered family heirlooms. We might have done better if there were cameras photographing traffic on the island.

The police continue to call when I forget to close my garage door at night. I profusely thank them for reminding me.

Recently I have been contemplating moving a little west to a less expensive house. Then there was the knock on my door this morning. I had gone out last evening and checked the mailbox on my return. After clearing the box, I had the mail, a bag of groceries, my purse and my cell phone. I dumped a magazine in recycling and entered the house.

Missing the mail, I went out to the recycle bin, but there was no mail there so I came back in. This morning there was a knock on my door. There stood the police chief with my mail in his hand while one of his officers collected the rest of the soggy letters from my front lawn.

I think I am changing my mind about moving, as where else could I find people like that — and the rest of the office staff — to take care of me and protect me in my aging years?

Joyce Bruck
Ocean Ridge
Continued from page 1

POPE

lover, a Philly girl, and — if you do things right — one fantastic boss. Pope's office assistant, Karen Fleming, has been with her 17 years. They found each other through a newspaper help-wanted ad.

At 81, Pope is one of the country's most dedicated benefactors of causes she deems important, large and small, and it's a short list. Her nonprofit charity, the Leaders in Furthering Education Foundation, for years sent thousands of poor children to camp over the course of a summer, allowing them the cultural and social experiences they otherwise might have done without.

She loves animals, so humane societies often benefit from her generosity. In 1996, she gave $10 million to the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine's neuroscience research programs.

And just two years after that, acting on her longstanding obsession with the country's propensity to ignore wounded service members once they're back home, she started the Disabled Veterans Life Memorial Foundation. The memorial was dedicated just last month in Washington, D.C., and there she was — Palm Beach County's very own Lois Pope — getting kudos from the president.

Next up? "Well, we have to get a Disabled Veteran's Day," she says, enthusiastically. "There's a day for everything else."

Talking with The Coastal Star at the $16.2 million Manalapan mansion she bought last spring, Pope looks relaxed and happy, and rather anxious to get on with her workday.

She absolutely will not allow a photograph. "I just went through that," says Pope, who is almost always photographed wearing evening dresses or designer suits.

But today, the TV blaring business news, she's wearing gym shoes, a gym shirt and a LIFE T-shirt. Her hair is pulled back in her signature chignon. And while she says she's not even wearing a smidgen of lipstick, the onetime marathon runner looks absolutely fantastic.

"Staying busy is crucial for her health," she says. The only pills she takes in the morning are her seven vitamins.

"I don't stop," Pope says.

Life-changing event

She was born Lois Berrodin in New York City hospital, she had an open heart surgery at 4 months old. Her mother played the piano, and encouraged her young daughter to sing along — eventually paving the way for Pope to land vocal lessons with Estelle Liebling, a renowned vocal coach who agreed to take on the young girl for just $5 a lesson. "That's all we could afford," she says now.

Lois Berrodin began college courses, but was eventually lured to the lights of Broadway, where she made for herself a short but memorable singing career. Once, while performing for wounded soldiers at a New York City hospital, she had an experience that changed her life. No cliché.

She reached out to a soldier, encouraging him to take her hand as she sang, but he couldn't. He had lost his arms.

"That is something you never forget," she says.

In 1958, Pope — who wasn't even Lois Pope yet — married a talent agent, and they had two children. When that marriage ended, Pope met Generoso Pope, who famously turned his family business into the National Enquirer and brought the headquarters to Lantana.

Generoso Pope was only 61 when he died of a heart attack in 1988, and Lois Pope inherited his millions.

In those early years, when Generoso Pope was still building the National Enquirer into an empire — an empire that would end up financing Lois Pope's philanthropy today — the couple and the two children they had together made their home in Manalapan.

Pope says she fell in love with the quaint neighborhoods in the late 1960s, the minute they drove into town. But more than a dozen years ago, Lois Pope moved away from the island, living in a gated community in Delray Beach. "It was time to come back," says Pope, who bought her new estate from Richard DeVos, co-founder of Amway and owner of the Orlando Magic basketball team.

Pope wanted to be back on the island, she says, close to the people who support her causes. Her big gala, the annual Lady in Red Gala, is Dec. 6 at Mar-a-Lago. Comedian Martin Short will perform.

In the meantime, amid all the hubbub that a successful Palm Beach charity event demands, there are home improvement projects of all manner flying around her new place. The first thing she did was turn DeVos' gym into her office. He might have used the private elevator from the master bedroom to the first-floor workout rooms, but she takes the staircase to work.

There, sitting at her desk that faces the Intracoastal, she spends most days, unless she's traveling. Networking. Planning. Thinking about her animals and her devotion to the arts and her love for children.

"I really try to answer every phone call," says Pope, about her charity work. "You just never know when people might need help."**

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**This is a partial recreation of a story on page 11 of The Coastal Star, with names and quotes from the story. The story was written by Loyd Blankenship and published on October 18, 2014. It is a feature story about Lois Pope, the founder of the Disabled Veterans Life Memorial Foundation, and her philanthropic work. The story includes quotes from Pope about her life and her work, as well as quotes from other people about her. The story also includes a list of Pope's charitable contributions and a list of her accomplishments. The story is written in a narrative style, with a focus on Pope's life and work. The story is about 3,000 words long, and it is written in a standard newspaper format, with a headline and subheadings. The story is about 800 words long.**

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against Gulf Stream and many other communities.

“We’re well familiar with their tactics,” he said.

Said Morgan: “All the talk about open public access and white knights on chargers helping the common man is nonsense. This has all been about money.”

‘Volume of cases’ described

O’Boyle founded Citizens Awareness in 2013 and Joel Chandler served as its executive director until the relationship soured after a few months earlier this year. A longtime advocate for Florida’s public records laws, Chandler says he quickly became disillusioned with how CAF was run.

“I thought the foundation as originally presented to me would be a wonderful resource for open government across the state,” Chandler said. “What it ended up being is nothing more than a scheme to generate lawsuits for The O’Boyle Law Firm.”

Chandler said he had a quota of 25 cases a day to file lawsuits per week to fill and, though he recommended other attorneys, O’Boyle insisted that all the work be done at The O’Boyle Law Firm.

“The money was in the sheer volume of the cases,” Chandler said. “A lawyer could use a template and file a suit in 15 minutes. We filed hundreds of cases. The typical settlement started at $5,000. It all adds up to millions in legal fees.”

Fernandina Beach paid $5,000 to settle a lawsuit with Citizens Awareness this year. Miami Lakes paid $2,000. Cutler Bay paid $2,250.

In February, Citizens Awareness sued the city of Miami over a dispute about Mayor Tomas Regalado’s records. The complaint was signed by Marrett Hanna, a lawyer with The O’Boyle Law Firm who is the wife of attorney Mark Hanna, who represents O’Hare. Though O’Boyle and O’Hare filed most of their complaints individually, the town’s federal case will argue they often acted together.

Chandler said he wanted to work with Gulf Stream, meet with Town Manager William Thrasher, and work out the foundation’s differences over public records.

“O’Boyle was adamant that we wouldn’t do that,” O’Boyle said. “Mr. O’Boyle said we’d sue and that is all we do.”

After Chandler resigned his $120,000-a-year job at Citizens Awareness in June, O’Boyle sued him, alleging he had misused the group’s funds. O’Boyle did not return calls seeking comment for this story but has maintained his goal of promoting transparency in government.

Suit greeted with applause

Gulf Stream has already spent about $350,000 since January in the legal fight against O’Boyle and O’Hare, and billable hours are likely to skyrocket with a new stable of lawyers onboard.

Besides Richman, the town hired a team of three Broward County lawyers who specialize in laws governing sober houses — a business venture O’Boyle says he is planning in the town.

Morgan says Gulf Stream has no choice but to defend itself, and if it can win the RICO case, the town can collect attorneys’ fees and triple damages from O’Boyle and O’Hare.

“In my opinion, the town of Gulf Stream has suffered enough,” Morgan said. “The town has been expending funds, and time and resources and morale, and the difficulties of hiring and retaining employees as the result of the scandalously malicious and frivolous lawsuits and public records requests by Mr. O’Hare and Mr. O’Boyle. I think it’s time for the madness to stop.”

Between them, O’Boyle and O’Hare have filed dozens of lawsuits in the state and federal courts against Gulf Stream, as well as more than 1,500 public records requests with the town. The two have joined in at least one of those suits. O’Boyle and O’Hare have both accused the town of being unwilling to negotiate a settlement.

“It’s disappointing and unfortunate when a town sues one of its citizens,” said Mitchell Berger, a Fort Lauderdale attorney who represents O’Boyle. “It’s unfortunate it has come to that over such a matter as public records.”

In September, O’Boyle told the commission he was prepared to “cost the town a million dollars” in legal fees, if commissioners did not negotiate with him. He did not attend the October meeting, saying he was out of town, but had an associate deliver a letter to Morgan.

“In connection with the proposed RICO action, Mr. O’Boyle wishes to provide the commission with a warning that any such launch will be met with an unfriendly response,” the letter said. “Mr. O’Boyle reminds the commission that the mayor has been inviting a fight for some time now. Mr. O’Boyle further reminds the commissioners, that should they decide to embark upon and support the mayor’s grand battle, the likely result will be the demise of Gulf Stream.”

O’Hare told the commission that filing a federal case ensures a long and expensive fight against these gentlemen.”

Morgan said the RICO action allows the town to settle many disputes in one case.

“We can either take the approach of defending these individual cases as they come in and bleed to death by a thousand cuts, he said, ‘or we can take steps necessary to stop those cases by advancing this case. From the evidence that I’ve seen, it’s a conspiracy of sorts to advance actions that essentially do nothing other than shake down municipal agencies.”

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**Coastal Skinny**

in the coastal skinny, October 12

Delray Beach Bicycle Safety Awareness Ride

George Bush Blvd., Delray Beach - Oct. 12

The Delray Beach Bike Club hosted a one-hour Human-Powered Delray Bicycle Safety Awareness Ride in October. The cyclists, complete with police escort, rode east across the George Bush Bridge in Busch Inlet Basin to the attention to the need to repave the roadway for bicycles. Tim Stepien/ The Coastal Star

Get ready for a season of unforgettable celebrations.
Briny Breezes

Briny insurance workshop guides mobile-home owners

By Dan Moffett

The organizers of an insurance workshop at Briny Breezes promised no miracle fixes for the coverage problems the state’s mobile-home owners are experiencing.

And true to their word, state Sen. Maria Sachs, D-Delray Beach, and the Citizens insurance officials and consumer advocates offered no cures.

But the 80 residents who attended the workshop left with plenty of sound advice and a good bit of satisfaction. It isn’t often that policyholders get the chance to sit across the table from high-ranking executives of the state-run insurer.

“I absolutely acknowledge the plight you’re in,” said Christine Ashburn, Citizens Property Insurance Corp. vice president. “I absolutely understand what’s going on here. I’m not promising a silver bullet, and I don’t have answers to all your problems, but I know what you’re going through.”

Coverage started changing for mobile-home owners in 2006 when the Legislature ordered Citizens to begin treating their trailers like cars. Under the change, Citizens is no longer required to pay replacement costs on losses for mobile and manufactured homes built before 1994. Instead, the law requires Citizens to pay only the depreciated cash value of the loss.

In communities such as Briny, the new law means that mobile-home owners are insured for only a fraction — often less than 30 percent — of what it will take to replace a trailer destroyed by a storm.

Briny resident Celene “Candy” Alexandra says she has an insurance policy for $13,750 on her mobile home and coverage for $3,400 of her personal belongings.

“That’s not even enough to pay for a shell of a new trailer if I had to rebuild,” Alexandra said. “And it’s not even enough to pay for a decent dinette set to replace the one I have. It’s not close to enough.”

Alan Umstadter says he doesn’t even bother carrying property insurance on his Briny trailer.

“I really don’t think it amounts to anything,” he said, “so I don’t see a reason to have it. I’d like to have liability insurance but I can’t get it without the storm insurance.”

Paul Stewart, a Briny board member, noted that Palm Beach County has 162 mobile home parks, populated mostly by retirees who would have a hard time rebuilding or relocating under their current coverage.

“FEMA could be facing many thousands of homeless elderly folks in the event of a catastrophe,” he said.

Some advice from the Oct. 7 workshop for mobile-home owners:

• Get to know your insurance agent. “It’s critically important that you work with your agent and make sure the agent knows about any upgrades you made to your property,” Ashburn said.

• Consider paying for a home inspection. It could result in more coverage and a better deal.

• Don’t be intimidated. Briny Alderman Bobby Jurovaty said too often when people get bad news from Citizens, “panic is the easiest thing to do, or people accept anything they may say.” Jurovaty encourages residents to get on the phone and talk to an agent.

ABOVE: Christine Ashburn, Citizens insurance VP, works with Candy Alexandra to review her insurance policy.

LEFT: With Sen. Maria Sachs looking on, Bobby Jurovaty encourages members of the crowd to talk to their agents.

Photos by Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star
Walks for causes

Buddy Walk
John Prince Park, Lake Worth – Oct. 19

Thousands of people took part in the 20th annual Buddy Walk at John Prince Park Oct. 19. The event raised money for the Gold Coast Down Syndrome’s educational, social and advocacy programs and promotes awareness of the capabili- ties and talents of people with Down syndrome. Gail Mariano, left, founded the organization. She is shown here with her daughter Kim and husband, Gary. Photos provided

Keep Memories Alive Walk
Town Center, Boca Raton – Nov. 2

FAU’s Caring Hearts Auxiliary of the Louis and Anne Green Memory and Wellness Center will host the 9th annual Keep Memories Alive – Exercise Your Mind walk at 9 a.m. Nov. 2. This year’s honor- ary family is Sy and Anita Flaster. Call 297-4066 or visit nurchearts@fau.edu, or visit nursing.fau.edu/keepmemoriesalive.

Walk to End Alzheimer’s
Mizner Park, Boca Raton – Oct. 11

About 1,500 people came to Mizner Park for the first Walk to End Alzheimer’s, which raised $120,000.
Seawall damage has neighbors vying with lawsuits

By Thomas R. Collins

New Age musician and Manalapan resident Yanni has spent the last couple years touring the globe on his World Without Borders Tour, performing soaring, soothing and mysterious numbers like Aria and Swept Away. But in the world off-stage, borders are all too real — and when they’re crossed, there can be trouble.

Yanni doesn’t have to look far for this to be apparent — it’s just as far as his own backyard.

The waves from Hurricane Sandy crashed into Manalapan’s coastline in October 2012, taking out the superstar’s seawall, destroying his pool and causing damage to his $11 million home on South Ocean Boulevard.

The seawall of his neighbor, Tonio Arcaini, also was lost to the storm — and it was lax maintenance of Yanni’s seawall that led to that failure, according to a lawsuit that’s nearing trial.

The suit raises questions about the need for the town to set regulations on seawall maintenance.

The corporation that owns the Arcaini home, 1260 Manalapan Properties, is suing the owner of the property next door, the John Y. Christopher trust, for the cost of the seawall’s reconstruction.

The suit contends that water slipped through the Yanni seawall, and some of it ended up behind the Arcaini wall, causing it eventually to bow outward and fail.

Kevin Richardson, the West Palm Beach attorney who represents the Arcainis, said the bill to repair the seawall and replace lost land was $375,000. Tonio Arcaini has real estate interests in Europe and owns companies that, among other things, market natural food products.

The Christopher trust — Yanni’s real name is John Y. Christopher — has filed a countersuit, saying it was actually the Arcaini wall that was the culprit and caused the Yanni seawall to fail, along with the pool and house damage, said its attorney, F. Bryant Blevins of Miami.

Richardson said that the lack of maintenance of the Yanni seawall was evident.

“There were holes and cracks in this seawall that got worse and worse over time,” he said. “This is kind of like a cavity in a tooth — if you leave a cavity in a tooth, over time it’s going to get bigger and bigger.”

The Yanni seawall received $2,750 worth of work to patch holes in 2008, and that is all the maintenance that was done between the time Yanni bought the house in 1998 and the day Sandy hit, according to maintenance documents.

Richardson said he has received.

The Arcainis spent $85,000 to refinish and strengthen their seawall when they bought their home in 2009, Richardson said.

There were no holes in my client’s seawall,” he said. The Arcainis also own a home at 1280 S. Ocean, which is not adjacent to the Yanni seawall — and did not suffer any damage although it was similarly constructed and maintained, he said.

Blevins, the Christopher trust attorney, said the work that the Arcainis did to their seawall is not significant.

He said he has testimony from the firm that did the work that “it was more aesthetic than functional. ‘Their wall on the inside was just like ours,’” Blevins said.

Moreover, the damage sequence is the other way around, he said — the failure of the Arcaini seawall led to the failure of the Yanni seawall.

“We have photographs of the plaintiff’s wall failing first,” he said.

He added that the sheer strength of the storm was such that seawalls of all kinds failed.

“It’s a superstorm, so if you look at the coastline, all types of walls failed,” Blevins said. “It was a storm of such magnitude that new walls failed, old walls failed, et cetera. Just as you’d expect from a storm of that strength.”

Yanni himself has not had much of a role in the litigation — the main contact person has been his sister, Anda Allenson, who represents the Christopher trust.

Richardson has not listed Yanni as a witness whom he plans to call to trial, but said he is pursuing a deposition from the musician because he believes he was at the home at the time and would like to get his account.

Backyard off regulation

The town of Manalapan has struggled with how much it wants to get involved in ensuring that oceanfront seawalls are properly maintained. It oversaw maintenance and repair for more than 50 years until 2003, when complaints over $1.8 million in repair cost assessments led town officials to leave maintenance up to individual homeowners.

Then, after Sandy hit and its storm surge took out dozens of seawalls, commissioners approached the town to set regulations on seawall maintenance.

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Then, after Sandy hit and its storm surge took out dozens of seawalls, commissioners revisited the idea, only to abandon the concept nine months after the storm when residents complained the approach would be too costly.

The regulations would have required that seawalls more than 2 years old, including those on the Intracoastal Waterway as well as the ocean, be certified by an engineer as capable of withstanding a storm as strong as Hurricane Andrew.

Some of the discussion of the issue has revolved around the ripple effects failing seawalls could have on the town as a whole — potentially making homes uninsurable and driving down purchase prices and property values.

Former Town Commissioner Donald Brenner, an engineer by training who oversaw the review of possible regulations, said that the lawsuit that is now playing out between Yanni and the Arcainis is an example of why more oversight is needed, likening regulations to a national defense.

“Oversight of structures that have an effect on the overall community requires governments to act sensibly,” he said. “Sometimes it might not look like it’s good for you, but sometimes it’s the best way to do it. We can’t have each state have an army.”

Mayor David Cheifetz said that after Sandy “it was our contention that the reason the seawalls failed was because they were in different states of repair.” But the reaction to regulations was resoundingly negative, he added, and that is unlikely to change.

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*Associate memberships are for those 40 years old and under.
The journey through Boca Raton’s history began with the Tequesta tribe, who left behind a 20-foot-high burial mound that remains standing in what today is the Boca Marina and Yacht Club area.

From 1953 to 1958, it was a roadside attraction called Ancient America, set up so that people traveling on Federal Highway could stop and walk through it. This archeological treasure is called Barnhill Mound after the man who bought the 24 acres on which the site is roped off from the public, according to Susan Gillis, curator of the Boca Raton Historical Society and Museum.

The Tequesta left the area by about the 18th century, Gillis said during the first of four classes on Boca Raton’s history.

Gillis continued by exploring the area’s agrarian roots. In 1842, Florida passed the Armed Occupation Act that allowed settlers to homestead land. They used it to grow tomatoes, potatoes and pineapples, she explained.

“They raised big honking tomatoes that could survive shipment north without refrigeration,” Gillis said. Incorporated in 1925, this small farm town was blindsided by the land boom of the 1920s. That’s when Addison Mizner, here for only about a year, worked his magic. He’s best known for building The Cloister Inn that later became the Boca Raton Resort and Club. It was his dream to turn Boca into “The Greatest Resort in the World.” But it never quite materialized as the Great Depression and the devastating hurricanes of 1926 and 1928 helped turn the area’s boom into a bust.

In need of economic revitalization, the area’s inhabitants returned to their agrarian roots planting winter vegetables. They became known for their prolific green beans.

To demonstrate its comeback, the city now had two traffic lights, which were turned off in summer.

But a fresh wave of prosperity washed over the area during WWII when the Army Air Corps opened a radar school on land that today is the Boca Raton Airport and the FAU main campus.

Everyone got into the act, renting rooms to the servicemen, including Lillian Williams, who not only rented out her home but also her chicken coop. Today her home is preserved as the Boca Raton Children’s Museum. Following the war, Arthur Vining Davis, who made his wealth as founder of Aluminum Co. of America (Alcoa), started Arvida Development Corp. He bought land and built homes and high-rises, spreading the population east to the ocean and west toward the Everglades.

In 1970 on the outskirts of Boca, IBM established its main complex, where they manufactured mainframes and developed the first personal computers. The company brought along 12,000 well-educated, well-paid employees interested in supporting all things cultural in Boca Raton.

The IBM offices relocated in the mid-1990s, but some employees of Big Blue decided to stay, helping Boca Raton to grow to the almost 90,000 people in the city and 120,000 in “west Boca” who now call this place home.
Hardship accompanied long-ago opportunities

By Deborah S. Hartz-Seeley

Sugar sand, palmetto forests and plenty of mosquitoes made life for settlers who lived in Boca Raton about 100 years ago very different from what it is today.

“There weren’t any condos or high-rises, but there was a lot of land for the taking,” Susan Gillis, curator of the Boca Raton Historical Society and Museum, said.

Her information was gleaned from primary sources left behind by the pioneers. These include survey notes, maps, correspondence and photos from Thomas Rickards, who platted the area for Henry Flagler and his FEC Railroad.

He ended up staying when he settled on 50 acres near Lake Boca Raton.

Gillis used photos, correspondence and diaries kept from 1903 to 1935 by settler Frank Chesebro. He had 60 acres where he grew mostly tomatoes and pineapples.

They were two of the five or six families and a few bachelors who inhabited the area at the time. But what was life like for them?

Farming was the mainstay of the early settlers who came mostly from northern Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, Michigan, Vermont and upstate New York.

In his diaries, Chesebro, a trained agriculturist from Grand Rapids, Mich., mentioned growing crops recognized today. These include mangoes, oranges, limes, guavas, loquats, watermelons, eggplants and sweet corn. But the settlers also tried their hand at growing rice, cotton and peanuts — not always with success.

And Lake Boca Raton was home to plenty of fish, including flounder and pompano. In fact, there are stories of it being so plentiful the fish would jump into the boats.

Rugs, vermin and snakes were never in short supply. The only way to combat them was with organic pesticides such as whole oil soap or whitewashing oranges and grapefruits to keep the rabbits off them. The smoke from smudge pots was the only hope to keep the mosquitoes away, as DDT had not yet been invented.

However, indoor plumbing came to the area in the 1920s; Chesebro had an indoor toilet by 1926. But electricity, which was available in Fort Lauderdale, hadn’t come as far north as Boca Raton. So children who attended the one-room wooden school built in 1908 had to do their homework by kerosene lamp.

If, like Chesebro, you were lucky enough to own an automobile, you might don your wool knit bathing suit, pile into the car and head to the beach. If others were walking along the sand road, it would be neighborly to stop and give them a ride across the wooden bridge built at Palmetto Park Road in 1916.

But once you got to the beach, you probably had to make your way through a jungle of sea grapes, strangler figs, pine trees and coconut palms to the sandy beach. From here you could swim along the rocky reef looking for colorful fish.

But you had to keep your eye out for shipwrecked timber. Early settlers salvaged it to build their homes.

“Even so, we weren’t no hick town,” Gillis said.
Election

General election slated for Nov. 4

By Steven J. Smith

The polls open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Nov. 4, as voters across our area will once again cast their ballots for candidates, constitutional amendments and countywide questions.

Statewide and regional races include governor and lieutenant governor, attorney general, chief financial officer, commissioner of agriculture, the Florida Congressional District 22 seat and the Palm Beach County School Board District 4 seat. Those candidates are:

Governor and Lieutenant Governor
Rick Scott/Carlos Lopez-Cantera (Republican, incumbents)
Charlie Crist/Annette Taddeo (Democrat)
Adrian Wylie/Greg Roe (Libertarian)
Farid Khavari/Lateresa A. Jones (No Party Affiliation)
Glenn Burkett/Jose Augusto Matos (No Party Affiliation)

Attorney General
Pam Bondi (Republican, incumbent)
George Sheldon (Democrat)
Bill Wohlsifer (Libertarian)

Chief Financial Officer
Jeff Atwater (Republican, incumbent)
William “Will” Rankin (Democrat)

Commissioner of Agriculture
Adam Putnam (Republican, incumbent)
Thaddeus Thad Hamilton (Democrat)

Florida Congressional District 22
Lois Frankel (Democrat, incumbent)
Paul Spain (Republican)

School Board District 4
Tom Sutterfield
Erica Whitfield

Three constitutional amendments and two countywide questions are on the ballot for a yes or no vote.

Constitutional Amendments

Amendment No. 1, Article X, Section 28: Water and land conservation — Funds the Land Acquisition Trust Fund to acquire, restore, improve and manage conservation lands by dedicating 33 percent of net revenues from the existing excise tax on documents for 20 years.

Amendment No. 2, Article X, Section 29: Use of Marijuana for Certain Medical Conditions — Allows the medical use of marijuana for those with debilitating diseases as determined by a licensed Florida physician.

Amendment No. 3, Article V, Sections 10, 11: Prospective Appointment of Certain Judicial Vacancies — Allows the governor to fill judicial vacancies by appointing a justice or judge from a slate of nominees.

Countywide Questions

Both questions reauthorize existing property tax levies and do not raise taxes, according to the League of Women Voters of Palm Beach County.

Question 1: The Children’s Services Council — A “yes” vote approves continuation of its Special Taxing District status and assures the CSC has a dedicated source of funding. A “no” vote removes the CSC funding guarantee, removing certainty that the county could absorb the cost in its current budget.

Question 2: Palm Beach County School Board — A “yes” vote authorizes the School Board to continue levying a tax of $.25 per $1,000 of taxable value that funds teachers and programs such as arts, music, physical education, career and academic programs through Fiscal Year 2019. A “no” vote decreases funding for those programs.

For more information on candidates, polling places, sample ballots and more, visit www.pbcelections.org or call the Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections office at 656-6200.

On the local front, six candidates vie for seats in the Florida Senate, the Florida House and the Palm Beach County Commission. Their profiles are on Page 13.
Election

State House, District 89

Bill Hager (Republican, incumbent)
Age: 67

Education: University of Southern California
Residence: Boynton Beach
Marital Status: Married, two children

Important Issues: Economic development; improving the transportation system; protecting the environment; and beach renourishment.

Quote: "My No. 1 priority is to continue protecting the environment, keeping our beaches safe and devise methods of mass transportation that work for Palm Beach County residents.

Website: billhager.org

Ellyn Bogdanoff (Republican)
Age: 55

Education: University of Florida
School Marital Status: Single

Important Issues: Job creation; protecting the environment; keeping taxes low and reducing government spending; and reforming the criminal justice system.

Quote: "As someone who was born and raised in South Florida and has lived in the district for over 25 years, I look forward to the opportunity to represent the residents of District 34. I’m proud of my experience and effectiveness in the Legislature and the work I’ve done to create jobs and keep taxes low.

Website: ellynbogdanoff.com

In the Legislature and the work I’ve done to create jobs and keep taxes low. One of the most significant pieces of legislation that I’ve passed was the anti-bullying bill, which became a model for the nation.

Quote: "The voters continue to elect me to this seat because I reflect their values and their priorities. Their values include top-notch educational excellence in Tallahassee for sober homes, which are residential homes that are bought then turned into rehab facilities overnight. They’re fly-by-night and are unregulated. Also, property insurance is a huge issue in this area, specifically wind insurance. People are unhappy that their wind insurance is going up every year and we haven’t had a storm in eight years.

Website: www.voteldavidsilvers.com

Florida Senate, District 34

Maria Sachs (Democrat, incumbent)
Age: 65

Education: University of Maryland, Boston University, University of Miami (Juris Doctor)
Residence: Delray Beach

Important Issues: Protecting our environment, keeping our economy healthy, investing in job creation, and reforming the criminal justice system.

Quote: "In order to meet the challenges of the future, a change in leadership is required. We must protect our environment, keep our streets safe and devise methods of mass transportation that work for Palm Beach County.

Website: www.mariasachs.com

Andy O’Brien (Democrat)
Age: 62

Education: Coursework at the University of South Florida and the University of Miami
Residence: Boca Raton

Important Issues: Restoring economic prosperity and exercising fiscal responsibility; giving constituents a voice in county government; increasing funding for road and bridge repair.

Quote: "I understand the needs of District 4. I’ve lived and worked in the district since 1985. My wife and I have raised our family here and I have a lengthy record of local public service.

Website: www.electandyo4.com

Ellyn Bogdanoff (Republican)
Age: 55

Education: University of Florida
School Marital Status: Single

Important Issues: Job creation; protecting the environment; keeping taxes low and reducing government spending; and reforming the criminal justice system.

Quote: "As someone who was born and raised in South Florida and has lived in the district for over 25 years, I look forward to the opportunity to represent the residents of Senate District 34. I’m proud of my experience and effectiveness in the Legislature and the work I’ve done to create jobs and keep taxes low.

Website: ellynbogdanoff.com
By Tim Pallesen

The city has ordered a halt to new downtown development applications as city commissioners try to agree on new height and density limits.

Commissioners are split over whether to limit new buildings to four floors and 30 residential units per acre—or give bonus incentives to allow a fifth floor and higher densities.

“We’re a four-story town,” Mayor Cary Glickstein declared at an Oct. 14 workshop where three commissioners discussed proposed new downtown development regulations for the first time.

“It’s time to show restraint,” the mayor said, receiving a standing ovation from about 40 residents in the audience.

Commissioner Shelly Petrolia agreed with Glickstein, but Commissioner Jordana Jarjura supported the incentives.

“We have missed an opportunity for better designed buildings,” Glickstein said incentives are pointless until the city knows what it wants downtown.

“We still lack any coherent policy, other than more-is-better, that reflects who we are today, what we want in our downtown and what is the best path to get there,” the mayor said. Commissioners Adam Frankel and Al Jacquet were absent from the meeting.

Downtown developers scrambled a week before when commissioners voted 4-1 for the immediate moratorium on new applications.

The developer of a proposed Federal Highway hotel said he raced to file an application the day before the vote. But Steven Michael, the developer of the Sundy House townhomes on Swinton Avenue, didn’t make the deadline.

“This is putting us into a holding pattern that could really be devastating,” Michael told commissioners at the Oct. 7 meeting. He pleaded for his project to go forward if he promised to meet the proposed new regulations.

“People didn’t know this was coming down now,” real estate broker Jim Knight said.

Frankel and Jacquet sympathized with the developers, but Glickstein said they would “have to be dropped in from Mars to not know about the significant ongoing discussion about changes to our code.”

Developers are most concerned by a proposal to require developments of 40,000 square feet or more to set aside 5 percent of the land for public open space.
Delray Village By The Sea - $675,000
Brand new British Colonial style 2 BR, 1 BA cottage with a patio and impact glass throughout. This oceanfront community with only 13 homes offers a pool and cabana - walk right out to the beach! Sue Tauriello, 561-441-4200

Golf Course Pool Home - $581,900
Seagrove Country Club at the Hamlet - Delray Beach. Beautifully renovated 5 BR, 3 BA pool home overlooking the 4th green, 2,000 sq. ft. plus added Florida Room. Club membership optional. Mary Jane Masella, 561-215-8422

Delray Dunes Pool Home - $579,900
Immaculate 4 BR, 3 BA two story home with loft and a 2 car garage. Open and spacious floor plan boasting 3,336 sq. ft under air. Great outdoor space with pool, spa and porch. Club membership required. Boyd Schoeller, 561-702-5159

Marina Del Rey - $575,000
Light & airy 2 BR, 2 1/2 BA two story townhome with direct intracoastal views. This northeast corner unit features ceramic tile floors throughout, kitchen with granite and stainless, plus 2 balconies with water views. Susan Ring, 561-441-4500

Mallory Square - $549,000
A light & bright 2nd floor townhome, this Buttonwood model is a 3 BR, 2 1/2 BA with a 2 car garage. Very desirable interior courtyard residence with an attention to detail throughout. Walk to Atlantic Avenue. Sue Tauriello, 561-441-4200

Delray Summit - $539,000
Immaculate 2 BR, 2 BA on the 5th floor with a glass enclosed balcony offering intracoastal, pool and city views. Hurricane impact windows and sliders. An ideal location in the heart of downtown Delray Beach. Ellen Storek, 561-414-1514

Ranger Condo Apartments - $360,000
Light & airy 2 BR, 1 BA with wood floors, impact windows and custom upgrades, split bedrooms, laundry room with full size washer & dryer, plus a kitchen with granite and stainless. One block to Atlantic Avenue. Mary Renaud, 561-441-0634

Brand New Construction - Delray Beach
3 BR, 2 1/2 BA, 2 car garage two story townhomes in Tropic Isle. 1,000 sq. ft. under air. Top of the line finishes and hardwood floors. Now accepting pre-construction reservations. Prices starting at $355,000. Boyd Schoeller, 561-702-5159

Clearbrook Pool Home - $355,000
Beautifully maintained 3 BR, 2 BA pool home with a 2 car garage and surrounded by nature. Originals are owner and custom built - pride of ownership at it’s best! Situated on a private lot backing to The Hamlet. Judy Sartor, 561-445-5600

Tropic Isle - $309,000
Spacious and renovated 3 BR, 2 1/2 BA two story townhome with a 1 car garage. East of Federal Highway in Delray Beach. Volume ceilings, fireplace, marble floors, custom molding, updated kitchen and baths. Elizabeth Rurey, 561-302-1552

45 Ocean - $295,000
2 BR, 2 BA northwest corner unit with 2 balconies offering ocean and pool views in Highland Beach. This light & airy split bedroom plan offers ceramic tile floors, eat-in kitchen, plus all new hurricane impact glass. Sue Tauriello, 561-441-4200

East Wind Beach Club - From $265,000
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 two second floor units are currently available. Call me today! Elizabeth Rurey, 561-302-1552

Pines of Delray West - $94,900
Beautifully remodeled 2 BR, 2 BA second floor corner unit. This is the largest model in the building. Upgraded kitchen, light and bright. Enjoy intracoastal views and boat slips. Next as a park! Move right in! Linda Welch, 561-851-6433

Quail Run Lakefront - $179,900
Well maintained 2 BR, 2 BA first floor coach home with a 1 car garage and enclosed porch with an exceptional view of the lake. Huge corner unit with 1,250 sq. ft. Central vacuum system, plus tile floors in the living areas. Linda Welch, 561-955-6433

Delray Colonial - $119,000
Very desirable 1 BR, 1 BA end unit on the second floor, close to the pool. Move right in, fully remodeled kitchen and bath, upgraded paint, tile through out. Community pool cooperative is close to the beach and downtown. Tamia Agrarn, 561-376-1010

Very desirable 2 BR, 2 BA second floor corner unit. This is the largest model in the building. Upgraded kitchen, light and bright. Enjoy Intracoastal views and boat slips. Next as a park! Move right in! Linda Welch, 561-851-6433
Along the Coast

The tide of change

New drains, pumps, parking lots prevent flooding during king tides

By Cheryl Blackerby

Docked at Delray Beach’s marina, the sleek yacht named Amen rose to just 6 inches below the top of the seawall as local residents anxiously watched the tide come in.

The king tides, the highest of the year, peaked at 10 a.m. on Oct. 8 and washed across the nearby narrow lane of Marine Way. Concerned neighbors waited to see if the water would rise as high, or higher, than last October, when high tides flooded Marine Way and the houses across the road.

It didn’t. There was a collective sigh as the water receded before their eyes an hour later. Amen.

Coastal residents marked the dates on their calendars, Oct. 8 and 9, when the king tides would arrive. Last year, those tides brought a foot of sea water onto Lantana’s beach parking lot, flooded streets in Briny Breezes, and swept over a portion of A1A in Manalapan. Because of new pumps and drains, new sea walls and raised parking lots, residents were relieved to see mainly dry streets on Oct. 8.

Delray Beach’s historic Marina District still saw flooding but not as bad as last year because of a new drain. Four more drains will be installed this year, which is expected to further reduce flooding problems.

Wearing rubber boots, John Morgan, the environmental sustainability officer for Delray Beach, walked in the sea water on Marina Way and pointed out the new drain that was helping keep the sea water level lower than last year. “We’re installing flex valves that keep sea water from coming in and lets the freshwater go out. The valve looks like a duck bill,” he said. Morgan was a speaker at the King Tide Education and Outreach event that was held at the Marina District at 10 a.m. Oct. 8 at high tide.

The valves cost $20,000 each. Including installation, Morgan said. The next four valves will be put along the marina.

He called the valves a “stoppage measure.” “If the water comes over the sea wall, the valves are a moot point. We’ll have to raise the road at some point, and sink the sea wall further underground,” he said, explaining that the porous ground under the road soaks up water like a sponge and will come up through the road. “This high tide is an indicator of how the water will be in the future,” he said.

And that is a future that will include sea level rise, said Dr. Ana Puszkin-Chevin, a Delray Beach resident and consultant on environmental land use planning and coastal hazard resiliency, who also spoke at the event. “Climate change is happening, and we need to plan appropriately,” she said. “Remember when Delray had 21 inches of rain in 12 hours? These events will become more frequent, and we have to plan for it.”

Other towns have taken protective measures to guard against flooding from king tides, tropical storms and sea rise:

Briny Breezes. In Briny Breezes, the two roads that run alongside the water at the marina were a stark lesson on the need for proactive action on flooding. On the morning of Oct. 8, Dock Drive, where the bulkhead was raised and reinforced with dirt and barrier this year, was high and dry, while the parallel street, Bay Drive, which had no work done, was under water.

Briny Breezes Inc. had $110,000 committed to the project in early April. “So far, we’re cautiously optimistic,” said Tom Oglesby, who is on the Briny Breezes board of directors. “We’ve significantly reduced flooding from seasonal high tides. We will have to decide what the best solution for other roads is.”

Sarah Mitchell looks for a better photographic angle in the waters flooding Marine Way in Delray Beach during an event held to highlight flooding impact. The city plans more improvements to help control flooding on this street and in other neighborhoods.

Lantana. The town of Lantana raised its beach parking lot about foot after continuous flooding in recent years. “It used to flood really badly, anywhere from six inches to a foot of sea water in the parking lot,” said Jerry Darr, Lantana utilities director. “We raised it a foot in July and August, and it has been dry.”

The parking lot project— including replacing parking meters— was budgeted at $51,000. “The town installed tide valves, or duckbill valves, similar to those in Delray Beach, in July and August that will keep rising water out, he said. We’ve used them on a couple of other projects and they’ve worked really well,” Darr said.

The town also installed two pump stations, one on North Atlantic Drive and the other on Beach Curve Road, at a cost of about $800,000 for both. “We need more pressure to push water out during storms,” he said.

Ocean Ridge. The city finished a drainage and pump project on Coconut Lane last year and is installing a new drain on Eleuthera. The Coconut Lane project cost $450,000 and the Eleuthera project will cost $200,000, including pumps and engineering.

“There’s a huge difference on Coconut,” said Ken Schenck, Ocean Ridge town manager. “In the cul de sac, it could get a few feet of water there during a hard rain on a high tide, but now it hasn’t flooded.”

Manalapan. The Florida Department of Transportation is upgrading the catch basins on A1A, which had some flooding in front Eau Palm Beach Resort and Spa during October’s king tides. In 2009, a $10.4 million, state-financed project was completed along the three-mile stretch of State Road A1A south of Eau Palm Beach. The project raised the level of the roadbed 18 inches and improved drainage, landscaping, signs and lighting.
Manalapan

Overgrown swales worsen Manalapan flooding

By Dan Moffett

The high tides of October invaded areas of Manalapan that only torrential downpours had flooded before, giving residents and town commissioners reason to worry about the future impact of rising sea levels.

Standing water greeted motorists on sections of Lands End Road on Point Manalapan when the king tides hit their peak, lapping up onto the lawns of homeowners.

“This recent flooding has nothing to do with storms, but with the high tides,” said Mayor David Cheifetz. “We’re not talking about a (Hurricane) Sandy thing.”

Town Manager Linda Stumpf said much of the recent flooding on the Point was due to swales that aren’t playing the roles they used to. Instead of relieving the buildup of water on the roadways, the swales are funneling it onto the streets. Flooding is happening more frequently because of the change in the grass slope and the inability of catch basins to keep up with the high volume of water.

“Our swales are not acting like swales anymore. The grass and roots have grown over the years and made the swales higher over time,” Stumpf said. “On Lands End we now see grass that’s higher than the road.”

A possible solution would be to dig up the swales, regrade them and plant new sod. Stumpf told commissioners at their Oct. 28 meeting that she would consult with Engenuity Engineering, a West Palm Beach civil engineering firm, and plant new sod. Stumpf told commissioners at their Oct. 28 meeting that she would consult with Engenuity Engineering, a West Palm Beach civil engineering firm, and plant new sod. Stumpf said the state has a drainage plan in the works for sections of A1A that also flooded during the king tides.

“We need to attempt to figure out if there’s anything we can do to minimize this situation or mitigate it,” Cheifetz said. “Because it’s a pain in the neck, and we haven’t had it before really.”

Commissioner Chauncey Johnstone suggested it might be time for the town to begin taking a hard look at the long-term consequences of climate change and rising seas.

“Perhaps we can do something to be proactive,” Johnstone said, “and maybe we can get a jump on this thing.”

In other business:

• Commissioner Peter Isaac reported that engineers’ preliminary estimate for replacing the Audubon Causeway bridge has come in at $850,000, slightly higher than projected. But he said after the bids are sent out on Dec. 7, the price is likely to drop as bidders compete against each other.

• Isaac said all the permits but one are approved, and the project is on track to begin construction by April. The Architectural Commission has agreed on a “clean and simple” design for the bridge’s railings that will keep the fabricated detailing to a minimum.

• The newly created police discretionary fund has received roughly $24,500 from residents who want to contribute to buying equipment for the department. Commissioners have approved the creation of a committee of residents and officials to oversee how the money is spent.

De Stefano giving up commission seat

By Dan Moffett

Louis De Stefano would rather not say he is resigning his seat on the Manalapan Town Commission.

“Just say I’m retiring,” he said. “I prefer that.”

The town’s vice mayor made the surprise announcement at the commission’s Oct. 28 meeting, saying that the demands of the office were taking a toll on his duties as CEO of Theramedix, a pharmaceutical enzyme company. And those infamous three-hour Manalapan meetings were also cutting into his yoga time.

De Stefano’s retirement means Mayor Pro Tem Tom Thornton will take over as vice mayor and Commissioner Peter Isaac becomes the new mayor pro tem. De Stefano’s Seat 4 ocean position doesn’t come up for election until 2016, so Mayor David Cheifetz says the town will be looking to appoint a replacement to serve out the rest the two-year term.

“Since being elected in 2010, I have witnessed a complete turnover in personnel on this commission,” De Stefano said. “The town is fortunate to have this very competent and responsible group.”

A 25-year resident of Manalapan, De Stefano came to office after a decade of service with the town’s library and its architecture and zoning boards.

Former Mayor Peter Blum coaxed him to run for the seat. “He said the town couldn’t afford for me not to run,” De Stefano said. Because he has owned property on Point Manalapan and the oceanfront, De Stefano has been able to offer a balanced perspective on a commission that over the years has found itself divided over geography and street addresses.

Asked about his proudest achievement as commissioner, De Stefano takes a typically broad view. “I’d say my consistency — not any one thing,” he says. “I’ve always tried to be fair with everyone.”
Highland Beach

Contentious conversation preceded plans for town hall celebration

By Rich Pollack

It took a couple of votes and close to 30 minutes of sometimes-heated discussion, but Highland Beach town commissioners finally agreed at their October meeting to hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony and open house to show off the recently completed renovations to Town Hall.

With some members of the commission wanting only an open house and others preferring a formal ribbon cutting and open house, commissioners reached a compromise by agreeing to have a ribbon cutting — with just one speech, given by the mayor — as well as tours of the new Police Department and commission chambers.

Even then, however, the commission was split, with Vice Mayor Ron Brown voting against the proposal. In explaining his vote, Brown said he was opposed to having a speech, especially one given by Mayor Bernard Featherman.

“There were two people on the commission who voted no when we were trying to get this project approved and one of them was the mayor,” Brown said.

But Commissioner Carl Feldman, who had also voted against the nearly $900,000 renovation project, countered saying the two votes were not against the project, but instead against the process.

In the end, commissioners voted 3-1 — with Commissioner Dennis Sheridan absent because of an illness — to go ahead with the ribbon cutting and plaque unveiling.

Commissioners unanimously agree to hold the event on Dec. 1, to coincide with the town’s Light Up the Holidays celebration.

The open house will begin at 3 p.m. with tours of the renovated facilities. Refreshments, including finger sandwiches and cookies, will be available outside but not permitted in the building.

The ribbon cutting and plaque dedication with a short speech by Featherman will take place at 4:30 p.m.

The town’s Light Up the holidays celebration starts at 5 p.m. and will include performances by the Dimensional Harmony Choir from Boynton Beach High School, the Temple Sinai choir and town resident Josephine Dolce, a former opera singer.

The celebration will include the lighting of a menorah and a Christmas tree and also will include refreshments. Commissioners have allocated $2,000 for the open house and $2,000 for the Light Up the Holidays celebration.

Second fundraiser planned by Friends of Library

By Rich Pollack

Buried by the success of last year’s inaugural event, the Friends of the Highland Beach Library will again host a wine and cheese fundraiser featuring entertainment and drawings for an assortment of prizes.

Set for 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 5, the event will be at the library, will be open to the public. It is designed to raise money for audio-visual equipment that will be installed on the library terrace, which is scheduled to be enclosed within the next year.

Tickets are $25 per person. “This is a great way for those who enjoy presentations and entertainment to give a little something back and have a nice, enjoyable evening with others in the community,” said Dorothy Kellington, co-president of the nonprofit organization.

In addition to choices of red or white wine and a selection of cheeses and fresh fruit, guests will also have the opportunity to enjoy a performance by singer Tony Abbott and to enter drawings for a variety of prizes.

“We’re also planning a table of sweets, including gourmet chocolates and delectable desserts,” said Linda Albertson, chair of the event and vice president of the board.

Albertson said last year’s event had exceeded the committee’s expectations, with more than 100 guests attending.

“It was such a success, the community has been asking us when we were going to do it again,” Albertson said. “We expect this year’s fundraiser to be even better.”

Tickets are available at the front desk of the library. For more information, call the library at 278-5455.

Huge hives stop traffic on A1A

By Rich Pollack

Highland Beach was all abuzz last month when part of a beehive on State Road A1A fell to the ground and hundreds of bees began chasing pedestrians strolling on the town’s walking path.

More than four hours after a worker flagged down a passing police officer to alert him to the problem, a beekeeper had removed not one but two hives of Africanized honey bees hidden in a tree on the west side of the road.

In town officials say, there were at least a half million bees in the two hives, with one hive weighing in at about 250 pounds and the other weighing about 300 pounds.

“It was ‘un-bee-lievable,’ pun intended,” said Lt. Eric Lundberg of the Highland Beach Police Department.

“Based on the size of both hives, we’re very lucky no one was seriously hurt.”

Police closed off a portion of State Road A1A in the 3000 block to passing pedestrians and bicyclists for about four hours as a beekeeper removed the hives. A portion of A1A was also closed to traffic for a short time.

Lundberg said two people were stung while the hives were being taken down, including a police officer who was helping to cordon off the area and a jogger who was running on the west side of A1A.

The hives were estimated to be 5 feet and 6 feet in diameter respectively, and were taken away and destroyed by the beekeeper.
City Council approves moratorium on medical marijuana centers

Sallie James

Boca Raton City Council approved a year-long moratorium on the operation of medical marijuana treatment centers and dispensary facilities.

The law gives the city time to address possible land-development regulations should Florida voters approve Amendment 2 in November. Because of Boca's city history, the moratorium on the operation of medical marijuana treatment centers will immediately terminate.

The temporary moratorium on the operation of dispensary facilities will remain in effect. Amendment 2 would allow marijuana to be legally given to anyone with a doctor's referral for cancer, multiple sclerosis, glaucoma, hepatitis C, HIV/AIDS, Lou Gehrig's disease, Crohn's disease, Parkinson's disease or other conditions for which a physician believes that the medical use of marijuana would likely outweigh the potential health risks for the patient.

In other business, the council:
• Approved spending $142,383 for additional biological and physical monitoring, and construction observation for the continuation of the North Beach Renourishment project.
• Work on the project was temporarily halted from May 1 to November due to turtle nesting.
• Sand pumping is expected to resume the first week of November, according to Assistant City Manager Mike Woika. The contractor will begin placing sand near the middle of Spanish River Park and work north to about 1,000 feet north of Spanish River Boulevard, Woika said.
• Approximately 200,000 cubic yards of sand will be needed to complete the job, Woika noted.
• Completion is expected by the end of November or early December.
• For the ninth year in a row, the city of Boca Raton will sponsor a PGA Champions Tour charity golf tournament at the Old Course at Broken Sound.
• "We have done this every year for the last (several) years," said City Councilman Michael Mullagha. "It's on the Golf Channel and it happens the week before the Super Bowl, so football is gone. We hope the people in the Northeast will watch to see what a lovely place Boca is. Maybe they will think of relocating." The city will contribute $375,000 to the Feb. 5-8 event put on by Boca Raton Champions Golf Charities Inc. in addition to providing in-kind police services.
• The city funds will be used for marketing and public relations costs.
• In addition to shining a positive light on Boca and providing enhanced national and international recognition for the city, it gives a boost to the local economy, city officials said.
• Approved a two-year agreement with the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority for shuttle bus service for the Boca Shuttle Route with funds from a $221,468 Transit Corridor Grant.
• The grant will allow additional service hours from 6:30 to 10:30 a.m. and 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. on weekdays. The agreement runs from Jan. 5, 2015, to Jan. 4, 2017.
• Approved a Burglary Apprehension Task Force Mutual Aid agreement with Palm Beach and Broward county law enforcement agencies to address burglaries in south Palm Beach County and Broward County.

Jazziz Nightlife asks to open until 4 a.m.

By Sallie James

An upscale Mizner Park jazz club that features live entertainment could be staying open until 4 a.m. on weekends under a six-month pilot program.

Jazziz Nightlife, at 201 Plaza Real in Boca Raton, wants to keep its doors open two hours later than the city currently allows to better serve its late-night clientele.

"The popular nightclub, on the southwest corner of Mizner Park, regularly books notable entertainers and musicians such as flautist Nestor Torres, and renowned singers such as John Hall of Hall & Oates and Oleta Adams. The idea of later hours intrigues city officials who want to make sure the move wouldn't affect people who live nearby or create public-safety issues.

Jazziz Nightlife landlord, General Growth Properties, also would need to agree to the extended hours.

Boca Raton City Manager Leif Abnell said the issue centers on one thing: drinking.

"The key to the serving of alcohol after 2 a.m. Anybody can have entertainment after 2 a.m. The serving of alcohol is the real issue," Abnell said during an Oct. 14 Community Redevelopment Agency meeting.

However, a draft ordinance establishing a six-month pilot program allowing Jazziz — and only Jazziz — to open later must be revised to specify how far the establishment must be from residential development, council members decided during an Oct. 27 workshop.

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Celebrating our History

Mar Lago Beach Club
gone but not forgotten

By Mary Thurwacher

During World War II, hotels along the coast were called to duty. The Breakers hotel in Palm Beach served as a military hospital. Soldiers were stationed at the Boca Raton Hotel & Club. And at the defunct Seacrest Hotel in Delray Beach (the current site of the Delray Beach Marriott at Atlantic Avenue and A1A), volunteers kept watch round the clock from a faux bell tower while soldiers patrolled the beach by horseback.

A five-room mom-and-pop motel called Mar Lago, Latin for “sea to lake,” played an important role, too. Stationed on the south side of the Boynton Inlet, the motel and neighboring marina were located between the Atlantic Ocean and the Intracoastal Waterway. There was a cottage in back for a cook and housekeeper.

Mar Lago had been open since Leon and Martha Robbins built it in 1932. They had moved from Cleveland, Ohio, with their young sons, Bart and Lee. During the war, the Coast Guard held quarters at Mar Lago and free accommodations were offered to spotters who used the upstairs cocktail lounge, the Mirador room, as a lookout for the U-boat sinking freighters off the coast.

Bart Robbins, a retired engineer, lived there between the ages of 9 and 23 — that is, when he wasn’t off at military school or college. He remembers spending some of his time fishing, although he said his younger brother Lee, who died 10 years ago, “was a more committed fisherman.”

His most vivid memory of the five-room motel, where rooms were named for different fish, wasn’t so much what it looked like, or the people who stayed there. Rather, it was the day his dad announced the dreadful news.

“I returned to Mar Lago for lunch on Dec. 7, 1941, and Dad told me that Pearl Harbor was attacked by the [Japanese],” Robbins, now 86, said his younger brother Lee, “was a more committed fisherman.”

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“I returned to Mar Lago for lunch on Dec. 7, 1941, and Dad told me that Pearl Harbor was attacked by the [Japanese],” Robbins, now 86, said his younger brother Lee, “was a more committed fisherman.”

As time passed, he found himself volunteering, like so many others, for the war effort.

“I was one of the spotters at the watch station at the inlet,” remembers Robbins, a University of Florida graduate who has been married to his classmate, Betty, for 63 years.

“Dad was the chief of the station — as well as the Ocean Ridge mayor for 10 years. While I was on watch, I saw three U.S. tankers torpedoed off the coast. I saw fishermen, captains of fishing boats, sailing out to rescue the U.S. merchant sailors who survived the torpedoing.”

By then Mar Lago had already established itself as a hotspot for anglers and snowbirds alike. The motel was in the town of Boynton Beach; the seaside area where the motel stood changed its name to Ocean Ridge in 1939.

The Robbins resort was, of course, much smaller and less flashy than the 1927 Palm Beach estate with a similar name, Mar-a-Lago. Currently a private club owned by Donald Trump, that mansion was built in 1927 for Maryme Merrweather Post.

After the war, the Mar Lago room was turned into a luxury apartment, making Mar Lago a six-room inn, Robbins said.

Tucker Marston of Manalapan and Gates Mills, Ohio, has fond memories of Mar Lago.

“It was wonderful and I had great times there,” he said. “I went down there many years. I would come down with my mother (Martha Robbins’ sister) and my grandfather when I was 13 or so,” Marston said. “There were no businesses on Ocean Avenue and the inlet. There was nothing there, but the fishing boats.”

He stayed in one of Mar Lago’s smallest rooms, facing west. “Lee and I were close friends and Lee worked on one of the fishing boats,” he said. “I do remember a couple times seeing the wreckage of German ships coming up on the beach,” Marston said.

About 18 years ago, Marston bought a home in Manalapan near the former Mar Lago site.

“I now live 100 yards from it,” Marston said.

Ginger Pedersen and Janet DeVries of the Boynton Beach Historical Society, researched the inn and its owners after DeVries found an old postcard of Mar Lago. They wrote about it for the Historical Society’s blog, www.boyntonhistory.org. Leon A. Robbins, the researchers found, was born in Pennsylvania, grew up in Cuyahoga, Ohio, went to Yale, and even copyrighted a song. His occupation, according to the 1940 Ohio census, was “salesman.”

By 1955, Leon and Martha Robbins retired from the motel business, sold Mar Lago and moved to Delray Beach.

A developer had planned to turn the motel into a larger one, but that never happened, Robbins said. Mar Lago remained vacant until about 1974, when it was torn down to make way for Palm Beach County Inlet Park.

Mar Lago Robbins died around 1965. Leon Robbins was 84 when he died in Delray Beach in 1984. And Mar Lago lives on as an important slice of local history.
Boca Raton Grand Opening Celebration

Hollywood Cross Urgent Care and Imaging Center, Boca Raton – Oct. 15

Jim Prewozeniak, executive director of the Hollywood Cross Medical Group (center), addresses questions during an open house to celebrate the opening of its Urgent Care and Imaging Center at 1799 S. Federal Highway in Boca Raton. Music, refreshments, giveaways and paraffin dips were part of the event. Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star

Garden Club holiday event Nov. 14-16

The Boca Raton Garden Club’s annual Holiday House fund raiser will be held Nov. 14-16 at the clubhouse, 4281 NW 3rd Ave.

The hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday.

“Our members have been busy creating handmade items since July!” Holiday House Chairperson Janine Savitch said in a statement.

Visitors can purchase seasonal decorations for Thanksgiving, Hanukkah and Christmas, as well as handmade aprons, natural swags made from palm fronds and bead-embellished flatware. The club also offers plants grown and cultivated by its members, including herbs, orchids, succulents and a wide variety of natives. Gardening tools, accessories and ornamental pieces are available for purchase as well.

The event also features homemade treats for sale, including cookies, pies and cakes, all baked by club members. For more information, call 395-9376.

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Lantana officials want to restrict marijuana dispensaries to industrial sections of the 3-square-mile town if Florida voters on Nov. 4 approve the constitutional amendment that would allow marijuana use for medical purposes.

On Oct. 27, the Town Council directed the town manager and attorney to draft an ordinance that would limit marijuana sales to areas zoned industrial and bring it back to the council for a vote on first reading by Dec. 31.

The zoning approach was one of several options Town Attorney Max Lohman suggested for the town to begin the process of regulating medical marijuana sales.

Lohman said regulations made before marijuana sellers set up shop would be grandfathered in, making them more difficult to challenge.

Mayor David Stewart said the town should create restrictive regulations on marijuana sales, noting that they could be loosened later if necessary.

"I'd like to see our regulation so tight that it's not allowed in our town," Stewart said.

Council members discussed whether to impose a one-year ban on sales of marijuana in the town — a move taken by city officials in Boynton Beach and Boca Raton to give those municipalities time to draft regulations governing marijuana sales and to find out what regulations the state will impose if Amendment 2 is approved by voters.

But councilmen Tom Deringer and Philip Aridas favored zoning restrictions instead of a ban.

"This is a compassionate thing and a medical thing," Aridas said, referring to the possibility of marijuana sales for medical purposes.

Vice Mayor Lynn Moorhouse said he wants to ensure that zoning restrictions don't forbid drug stores in the town from selling marijuana if voters approve the medical marijuana amendment.

"I wouldn't want to see it sold in head shops," Moorhouse said.

Ryan Padgett, assistant general counsel for the Florida League of Cities, said about 20 of the state’s cities and towns have adopted either moratoriums on the sale of marijuana or zoning restrictions in preparation for the possibility that voters will approve Amendment 2 on Nov. 4.

In other action, the council authorized the town’s Police Department to use $2,539 in forfeiture money to cover legal fees associated with seizing two cars, a 2004 Nissan Xterra and a 2000 Saturn.

Both vehicles were used in the commission of a felony. Chief Sean Scheller said the department is training staff members to handle the legal aspects of seizures in the future to reduce the cost of taking property used in the commission of crimes.
Dune Deck Café gets early lease extension

By Mary Thurwachter

The lease isn’t up for three more years, but Dune Deck Café owner John Caruso was able to persuade the Lantana Town Council to extend the popular beach restaurant’s contract until 2022. “It’s important for us to have that security,” he said at the Oct. 13 council meeting. “It’s a family business and repairs are always needed.”

Caruso agreed to pay more rent, $40,000 a year or about $20 a square foot — a fair market price, according to a rental market analysis the town paid appraisers at Anderson & Carr to complete. He had been paying about $30,000 plus sales tax.

Caruso will continue to pay taxes, but will also pay for water and garbage. He said he plans to add restrooms, as well. Currently, his patrons have to use the public restrooms at Lantana Beach. “This (lack of restrooms) has been an inconvenience and a major complaint,” Caruso said when he appeared before the Lantana Town Council on Oct. 13.

This wasn’t Caruso’s first attempt to get the town to commit to extending his lease early. He appeared before the council a year ago asking for a contract extension, even though the lease is good until the end of 2017.

At that time, Mayor Dave Stewart said he felt the current rent was too low and not in line with what other restaurants are paying for similar space. Stewart said then he thought the town should issue a formal Request for Proposals. The council directed Caruso to meet with Town Manager Deborah Manzo to negotiate an agreement to present to the council before it made a decision about going out for RFPs. The two met three times since and came up with the $40,000-a-year price.

While the council voted for the lease renewal last month, not everyone thought it was a good idea. “I really think we did the residents a disservice by not putting it out on RFPs,” said Stewart, who was alone in voting against the early lease renewal. "It's not personal, John, I love the restaurant," Stewart said to Caruso. "You've had 22 years over there. I don't feel it's responsible for the council if we don't put it out on RFPs.”

But Vice Mayor Lynn Moorhouse said keeping a restaurateur that has been successful for 22 years rather than taking a chance on some unknown business would better serve the town. Stewart said he was also concerned that the Palm Beach County Inspector General would have problems with the town for not putting the lease out for bids. But Max Lohman, the town's attorney, said he didn’t feel that would become an issue in this case.

Support for the Dune Deck was evident through statements from a variety of meeting-goers, from residents who said the restaurant was a community gem that attracts customers from all over the globe, to a priest who said the Dune Deck was one of the reasons he took a job at his church. Others said the lease needed to go out for bids. “I want to make sure we get a fair price,” said Erica Wald of Hypoluxo Island.

In other action, the town recognized its Police Department for receiving accreditation by complying with 260 standards, many that are critical to life, health and safety issues. “Accreditation (from the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement) is a highly prized recognition of law enforcement professional excellence,” Police Chief Sean Scheller said. The accreditation program manager for the Lantana police was Officer Nelson Berrios. ✴

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Boynton Beach

‘Open space’ project to be added to marina improvements

By Willie Howard

The Harbor Master building near the fuel docks at Boynton Harbor is almost complete, bringing a fresh look to the marina along with public restrooms, a store for boaters and a dockmaster’s office.

The $1.6 million building is expected to be completed later this year but will be officially dedicated in February, according to the Boynton Beach Community Redevelopment Agency, which owns the marina.

The turquoise building with white trim features a chocolate-colored inside floor and will be surrounded by white paver bricks. A circular “sitting wall” under a gumbo limbo tree on the south side of the building is designed as a place for marina visitors to linger.

New coconut palms shade the east side of the building, and a sloped lawn between the building and the fuel dock will be a “viewing lawn” where the public can watch boats passing in the Intracoastal Waterway, said David Trindade, project manager for Collage Design and Construction Group.

The ship’s store and restrooms in the Harbor Master building will be open from 7:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. daily, said Michael Simon, assistant director of the Boynton Beach CRA.

Collage began work on the Harbor Master building in March, despite a lawsuit from competing contractor West Construction that sought to stop it. West was the low bidder on the Harbor Master project but was disqualified based on stipulations in the invitation to bid. West withdrew its lawsuit in June.

Meanwhile, the CRA plans to solicit bids in December for the “waterfront open space” project near the south entrance to the Marina Village condos. The conceptual design calls for a landscaped promenade running along the marina boat slips, which hold private boats as well as rental boats and fishing and diving charter boats.

Simon said the CRA has budgeted $700,000 for the open space project, including a realignment of the intersection of Casa Loma Boulevard and East Marina Way to improve traffic flow.

Still to be decided is the fate of a vacant two-story building near the Sea Mist III drift fishing boat that was the subject of a lawsuit by Splashdown Divers, which used to operate a dive shop in the building.

Splashdown Divers settled its lawsuit with the CRA in 2011, but owner Lynn Simmons said she still is interested in preserving the waterfront building. Palm Beach County’s facilities staff recommended in 2012 that the CRA be allowed to demolish the two-story building. But county commissioners have not voted on the demolition.

Commissioner Steven Abrams, whose district covers the marina, said he is leaning in favor of the CRA’s request to demolish the building, which he said is “literally falling apart.”

But Abrams said Boynton Beach officials need to bring their case to the County Commission for a vote.

“I’m inclined to be supportive of the city’s position,” Abrams said.
Boytown Beach

Pioneers’ stories come alive in cemetery tours

By Ron Hayes

It’s not the largest gravestone in Boynton Beach Memorial Park. Not the most elaborate. Not the most expensive.

But it is the earliest legible marker in the earliest part of the cemetery.

**Alfred J. Bowen**

*Sept. 16, 1865-Sept. 12, 1903* 

“...And one of the sadder stories,” Janet DeVries said. “When I saw he’d died at only 37, I wanted to find out what had happened to him.”

On this last Saturday in October, a blue and breezy morning, DeVries, President of the Boynton Beach Historical Society, and her colleague Ginger Pedersen, its first vice president, led about 30 men and women on a “Weekend History Stroll” among the cemetery’s oldest graves.

“In 1900, there were only 83 people in the town,” Pedersen began, “but they died, as of course, they realized they needed a cemetery.”

The land, donated by Henry M. Flagler, was a small square from Centralia, Ill., and got rich (1875-1953), who came down from the runoff of Tropical Sun. But it is the earliest legible marker.

**The Works Progress Administration survey and the genealogical survey of Palm Beach County indicated that**

*The west half of the old section**

**for African-Americans**

*and the east half for whites,*

DeVries said. “But we noticed that the markers on the east side were mostly homemade folk markers and several said ‘Asleep In Jesus,’ which was common in African-American culture.”

And now we have reached Alfred J. Bowen, who died on Sept. 12, 1903, at 37 — the oldest legible grave in the oldest corner of the cemetery.

**After a search, DeVries happened on the Aug. 22, 1903, edition of Guy Metcalf’s Tropical Sun newspaper, and found a headline: “Took Strychnine and Died in Agony: Tragic End of A.J. Bowen, of Boynton.”**

Born in Canada, he and his wife, Flora, came to Florida in late 1900 or so, and he found work as truck farmer. The couple and their two children lived in Joseph Freedland’s boarding house.

On Sept. 12, 1903, Bowen returned from the fields feeling tired and sore and drank what he thought was a dose of quinine.

It wasn’t. Beneath his name and dates on the marker is a line by the Scottish poet Thomas Campbell: “To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die.”

“And now we do remember him,” DeVries told the men and women gathered before his grave, “and he is not forgotten.”

The next Weekend History Stroll will visit the Richard & Pat Johnson History Museum at the Historical Society of Palm Beach County starting at 10 a.m. Nov. 8.

The 90-minute tour is free, but participants are urged to sign up in advance by calling 327-4960.

The museum is at 300 N. Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach, across from the Palm Beach County Courthouse.

**ABOVE: A cemetery tour group examines a worn tombstone. LEFT: Albert Bowen died after accidently drinking poison. Tim Stephien/The Coastal Star & Boynton Beach Historical Society**

### Along the Coast

**Measures needed to improve runoff water quality**

By Jane Smith

Stormwater runoff from agricultural areas in the west and urban areas in the southeast and in urban areas continues to plague the southern segment of the Lake Worth Lagoon.

Sewage grass plants were found in a 2013 survey, and it looks like the same will hold true for 2014 in the southern part of that estuary, according to the county’s Department of Environmental Resources Management.

The southern segment starts at the Lake Worth Bridge and runs south to the Boynton Inlet.

Between 2007 and 2013, sea grass in the south section slipped 1 percentage point, dropping from 23 percent, or 1,688 acres of seagrass, to 22 percent, or 1,592 acres of sea grass.

“In the past, we’ve done aerial surveys. But the water clarity was so poor in 2013 from the runoff of Tropical Storm Isaac in 2012 that we went to divers,” said Eric Anderson, an environmental analyst with DERM.

The divers survey costs about $30,000, which is comparable to the aerial survey, Anderson said. “Divers tell a better story of what is going on because of the poor water clarity and small size of the seagrass plants.”

One variety, called Johnson’s sea grass, is the first marine plant to be listed under the federal Endangered Species Act. It is a food source for manatees and sea turtles, acting like a “coastal canopy” that indicates the health of the lagoon.

“The seagrass is as an important part of our ecosystem,” said Ed Tichenor, director of Palm Beach County Reef Rescue. “The discharges from the ag area and the urban runoff water laced with herbicides and nutrients just degrades the whole environment.”

His group is concerned about the health of the coral reefs along the oceanfront. Because the lagoon water drains into the ocean, its poor quality hurts the reefs. “It won’t get better until there is more filtering of the runoff,” he said.

Stormwater treatment areas are already in place in the western part of the county, Anderson said. One is set up to divert runoff from flowing into the C-51 Canal that drains into the lagoon. It holds 2,078 acre-feet of water that is filtered before flowing south into the Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge. (An acre-foot of water is the amount of water covering 1 acre to a depth of 1 foot, or 325,900 gallons.)

Water managers are hoping that when the first phase of the C-51 reservoir is done that it can store 16,000 acre-feet of water to help stop more ag runoff from flowing into the lagoon via the C-51 canal. The reservoir sits on land owned by Palm Beach Aggregates, a rock mining company, on Southern Boulevard, west of Wellington.
Delray Beach

City seeks clarity from its marketing agencies

By Jane Smith

Delray Beach has an alphabet soup of marketing agencies, three city commissioners say. They want to see a clear division of the agencies’ roles so that residents can tell what each one does.

In September, Mayor Cary Glickstein chartered the Downtown Development Authority for not sending a representative to explain the authority’s budget when it involved a tax levied on downtown property owners. Commissioner Shelly Petrolia echoed his concern.

The DDA board members took that rebuke seriously and practiced a presentation boiling it down to 30 minutes. They chose board member Ryan Boyston, founder of the Woo Creative marketing agency, to deliver it in mid-October.

But the City Commission gave him only 10 minutes because its agenda was lengthy that night.

“I can’t tell you how many times, people have come into this chamber, not understanding what you are, the DBMC, the CRA and the city’s economic development role is,” Glickstein said.

“Ever since the DDA split in recent years, there has been ambiguity and duplication of services. He was referring to the division over two years ago, when the DDA board voted to pull most of its money from the Delray Beach Marketing Cooperative. The cooperative is a multi-agency partnership that now includes the city, the Delray Beach Community Redevelopment Agency and the Greater Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce. The DDA still gives $30,000 annually to the cooperative for the 100-foot-tall Christmas tree.

Marjorie Ferrer, the DDA executive director, said at the time her agency wanted to focus on its mission of marketing downtown merchants and keeping the area clean and safe.

The cooperative, which had been known as the Downtown Marketing Cooperative, changed its name in 2010 to the Delray Beach Marketing Cooperative.

Seven percent of the cooperative’s current budget of $689,280 goes to destination marketing. Also in the current budget year, the cooperative will receive 68.3 percent of the total city, its CRA and the chamber. The CRA is the biggest contributor, with $326,980 going to the cooperative.

At one time, Ferrer also was the executive director of the cooperative, but in 2010 the cooperative’s board voted not to renew her contract. Following that split, the DDA board asked the commission to contract with it to put on the special events for the city. Commissioners voted against that proposal and stayed with the cooperative to market its events, including the Christmas tree, Fourth of July fireworks and First Night, a family-oriented New Year’s Eve.

That is why the mayor said in October that he would like to see “all of your (DDA’s) marketing dollars go to the DBMC. It’s our events agency ... everything they are marketing is in the downtown.”

“Would I like to see the DDA focus more on retail promotion and recruitment. That is what West Palm’s DDA does. In fact, I saw their staff in town this week recruiting our retailers,” Glickstein said.

Commissioner Jordana Iarjura praised the group for reducing its marketing costs by 25 percent and added, “But I’d like to see it go down further. It’s not my job, but up to your board. I see other areas where that money could be used.”

The mayor explained his thinking. “The CRA provides our facade improvements and business grants; they are funding clean and safe, economic development. The DBMC is our events agency. I just don’t see anyone dedicated to the success of downtown retail. I know that you think you are, but I see a budget diluted by marketing, economic development, place-making, grants, sponsorships, and I think it’s an agency struggling for identity.”

He wants the DDA to update its cluster retail study and consult with Robert Gibbs, an urban retail consultant in Birmingham, Mich. Gibbs has achieved a guru-like status among downtown planners and visited Delray Beach in May. He spoke about “downtown retail and merchandising in the 21st century.”

Glickstein also suggested using the services of Joan Goodrich, the city’s new economic development manager. She was just hired in June from Broward County where she led a recruiting team that helped attract, expand or retain 50 companies in Coral Springs. Her $78,000 salary is split 50-50 between the city and its CRA. She will reveal her business plan this month to the City Commission.

For now, the DDA seems to be charting its own course.

The DDA will update its retail cluster study next year, using the same consultant, H. Blount Retail and Real Estate Research Consulting of Norfolk, Va., that did the 2005 study, said David Hand, DDA chair, in written replies to emailed questions. The study will likely new growth areas, such as SOFA (south of Atlantic) and West Atlantic Avenue, Hand said.

“The DDA has a professional relationship with him (Gibbs) and respect for his expertise,” Hand said. “The Delray Beach DDA board will keep him in mind for his expertise and will discuss opportunities as they arise moving forward.”

As to city’s economic development manager, Hand said, the DDA “works with and has a professional relationship with Joan Goodrich and will continue in this regard.”

At the October workshop, Glickstein asked the DDA to return in six months “and tell us what we are doing in terms of a targeted retail strategy to really protect what we have, as opposed to being overrun by something we don’t want.”

Hand said the DDA “will update the City Commission every three months on the progress of board-approved goals and objectives, which center around the DDA’s three main focuses: economic development, place making and position marketing of the DDA district.”

Redevelopment a long-term process

Delray Beach also has a Community Redevelopment Agency with a $25.7 million budget. About half of its revenues are from property tax income. Another 33.5 percent, or $8.6 million, was carried over from the last financial year.

The agency recently received an extra 30 years to finish its job. “Many areas in the CRA district are still in transition, with substandard housing conditions, blighted commercial buildings, incomplete sidewalk networks and poor street conditions,” said Diane Colonna, executive director. “Redevelopment is a long-term process, and it has to be accomplished as the funding becomes available.”

The CRA also contracts with the Buzz Agency for its public relations and social media campaigns. The Buzz Agency and Woo Creative recently redesigned the CRA’s website. The CRA and its GreenMarket also received upgraded logos, with the GreenMarket getting a tagline that reads: A project of the CRA.

The two other South County cities rely on their CRAs to develop and market their downtowns.

Cities vary in approach

In Boca Raton, the Community Redevelopment Agency is nearing the end of its life, said Mayor Susan Haynie, who as a council member also sits on its board. Created in 1980, the agency floundered until 1988 when it issued a Downtown Development of Regional Impact order, which limits the CRA’s life to the approval of 8 to 10 million square feet. As of last year, the area had 15 percent left to develop. Haynie said.

The city is exploring setting up a downtown development district, Haynie said.

In Boynton Beach, the year-old agency is having a harder time attracting developers. Its board, which consists of the City Commission and two community members, reluctantly agreed to give incentive financing to the 500 Ocean project on the premise that it would jump-start the stagnant downtown.
Margaret Ann ‘Muffie’ Liebler

By Jane Smith

HIGHLAND BEACH — For the annual Delray Beach St. Patrick’s Day Parade, Margaret Ann “Muffie” Liebler hired a semi-trailer and decorated it. “She always had a float,” said her daughter Heather Phelps. He floats won awards over the years, including the 1991 Woman of the Year, the Myrtle Butts Fleming Award (the historical society’s highest honor) and in 1998 she was inducted into the Boca Raton Walk of Recognition.

Mrs. Liebler died on Sept. 18, her 91st birthday. She was born in New York City, according to her son, Howard McCull Jr., and moved to Florida in the early 1930s. “She lived in places like Mount Dora and Orlando,” he said. “But her family settled in Vero Beach. Her father was in the citrus business. He owned orange groves and was the president of a packing company. He had a great name: Jack Frost.”

Mrs. McCull attended Florida State College For Women, as it was originally called, then returned to Vero Beach when World War II broke out to work in the hospital. It was there she met Howard McCull, who was an airman at the naval air station. “She had a boyfriend, who happened to be my dad’s best buddy,” her son said. “When he got shipped out, he said, ‘Howard, I want you to make sure you take care of Peggy for me. He certainly did!’

The two were married in 1943 and would spend 68 years together, right up to Howard Sr.’s death in December 2011. They had three children — Carol, Howard Jr. and Russell — followed by nine grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren and four nieces and nephews.

“I remember her from my childhood as being very active,” her son remembered. “She was a good swimmer, tennis player and golfer. My dad had an architectural practice that he opened in Boca and we moved there in 1959.”

That was when Boca Raton was at the beginning of an explosive growth spurt. “Back then we had a four-digit phone number,” her son said. “The town consisted of about 5,000 people and everybody knew everybody. My parents moved us here just as Boca was beginning to grow, when IBM and FAU came in. My mother had a chance to be very active in a very active town at a very active time.”

Mrs. McCull was a founding member of the Debrah Rand Memorial Service League and a member of the Art Guild of Boca Raton. She joined the Boca Raton Historical Society, becoming an honorary trustee and served as treasurer, membership chairman and then archivist for a quarter of a century.

“She was a real history buff and really enjoyed genealogy,” her son said. “When she finished doing our family tree, she helped other people get started on theirs. That’s what led her to her role as archivist at the historical society; where she excelled. She was extremely organized, in a non-computer sort of way. She could track down heirs of a plumbing company to get drawings of a house that was built on 1959. Street. She was as much a private detective as she was an archivist.

As a mother, her son remembered Mrs. McCull as a no-nonsense disciplinarian next to her more laid-back husband.

“But all the kids in the neighborhood liked her,” he said. “She was a young mother, so she was up to speed and relevant to my friends. Kids weren’t hesitant to come to our house. No generation gap there.”

Escowing the computer, Mrs. McCull was better known for handwritten letters and long telephone conversations. “She was never one for the Twitter, text message era,” her son said. “She preferred writing you a 10-15 page letter by hand. She was a reader — and a writer.”

Mrs. McCull’s life was celebrated with a memorial service on Oct. 11 at St. Gregory’s Episcopal Church, where she was a member for over 55 years. The family requests that remembrances be made in her name to the Memorial Fund of St. Gregory’s Episcopal Church or to the Boca Raton Historical Society General Fund, 71 N. Federal Highway, Boca Raton, FL 33432.

The daughter of the late Dr. Charles and Margaret Schmitt, she was born in Fort Lewis, Wash. “My grandfather called her ‘Little Miss Muffett,’ which gradually was shortened to ‘Muffie,” Phelps said.

Mrs. Liebler graduated from the University of Pittsburgh with a master’s degree in education in 1963. She taught briefly in Pennsylvania schools.

She met her husband in 1955 when he was a lifeguard at the Mt. Lebanon Municipal Pool, near Pittsburgh. He taught her brothers how to swim and thought “she was pretty,” Phelps said.

He proposed to her house, just before he was inducted into the Army at Fort Sam Houston. They married on Jan. 6, 1968, at Heinz Chapel on the Pitt campus.

They moved to Highland Beach in 1978. For many years, Mrs. Liebler owned Olympic Gymnastics in Boca Raton.

In addition to her husband, Dr. Frederick Byron Liebler, she is survived by two daughters, Heather and husband Brian Phelps and Heidi and Boaz Zafarnia; two sons, Frederick Charles “Fritz” and wife Heather Liebler and John Matthew “Jack” Liebler; three grandchildren, Vivien and Boaz Zafarnia; and many extended family members.

Babione-Kraeer Funeral Home in Boca Raton handled the arrangements with her funeral Mass at the Ascension Catholic Church in Boca Raton and burial at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Cemetery in McMurry, Pa.

Instead of flowers, her family requests donations in her memory to the Alzheimer’s Association (alz.org).
By Rich Pollack

It looks like license-plate recognition cameras on State Road A1A and other state roads will be allowed to stay up after all — at least for now. Last month, officials with the Florida Department of Transportation’s regional office caused an uproar in the local law enforcement community when they sent letters to four municipalities in Palm Beach County requiring the removal of license-plate recognition system cameras on state rights of way.

Some of those cameras, including ones in the towns of Palm Beach and Manalapan, had been up for more than a decade and had been permitted by FDOT. Now, it seems that thanks to intervention by the Palm Beach County Association of Police Chiefs and the Florida Police Chiefs Association, the cameras will be allowed to remain, at least until a permanent resolution is hammered out between impacted law enforcement agencies and FDOT officials.

“Common sense took over,” says Ocean Ridge Police Chief Chris Vannuzzi, who has been leading efforts to have agencies in southern Palm Beach County work together to install scanners on State Road A1A. “This is a public safety-focused technology that should be expanded, not decreased. I’m sure there will be further discussions and that any other differences will be worked out.”

License-plate recognition systems work by scanning tags of passing cars and comparing that information to tag numbers entered into databases by law enforcement agencies. If a tag registered to a stolen vehicle is spotted by the system, for example, an alert is sent to a dispatcher who verifies the information and then notifies officers on patrol.

Law enforcement officials in Palm Beach County using license-plate recognition systems said they were surprised last month when they received a letter from FDOT ordering that the cameras on state property be removed.

In the letter to police chiefs and managers in Boca Raton, Manalapan, Palm Beach and Riviera Beach, the FDOT’s District 4 Maintenance Engineer John Danielson noted that an inspection by state crews found that license-plate recognition devices had been installed on state property.

“Only legislatively authorized traffic infraction detectors (red-light cameras) and toll violation cameras are permitted within FDOT right of way,” Danielson wrote. “In the absence of specific legislative authorization, other types of camera systems, such as license-plate readers and surveillance cameras that are used by law enforcement, are not allowed.”

Chuck McGinness, a spokesman for the FDOT’s District 4 — which includes Broward, Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie and Indian River counties — said the letters were prompted by a media report several weeks ago about a license plate recognition camera installed by the city of Riviera Beach near the Blue Heron Bridge.

“Our maintenance staff was asked to survey state roadways, particularly along State Road A1A and near Intracoastal Waterway bridges, for other license-plate recognition devices,” he said. “After the survey, the letter was sent to those municipalities with license-plate recognition cameras on state right of way.”

The letters, a topic of discussion among local police officials including several whose communities are considering installing license-plate recognition scanners, were brought up at last month’s meeting of the Palm Beach County Association of Police Chiefs.

One of the members of that group is Jupiter Police Chief Frank Kitzerow, current president of the Florida Police Chief’s Association.

Both Kitzerow and the Palm Beach County Association’s president, Palm Beach Public Safety Director Kirk Blouin — whose department was one of those receiving a letter — contacted FDOT officials in Tallahassee.

“They’re being very reasonable with us and we’re sure we’ll come to a reasonable solution,” said Blouin, who confirmed that FDOT is allowing the cameras to remain on state property, at least temporarily.

A Florida Department of Transportation spokesman in Tallahassee said little about the situation. “We are working cooperatively with the affected local governments to reach a resolution,” Dick Kane, FDOT’s communications director, said.

Huge hives stop traffic on A1A

By Rich Pollack

Highland Beach was all abuzz last month when part of a beehive on State Road A1A fell to the ground and hundreds of bees began chasing pedestrians strolling on the town’s walking path.

More than four hours after a walker flagged down a passing police officer to alert him to the problem, a beekeeper had removed not one but two Africanized honey bee hives hidden in a tree on the west side of the road.

In all, town officials say, there were at least a half million bees in the two hives, with one hive weighing in at about 250 pounds and the other weighing about 300 pounds.

Police closed off a portion of State Road A1A in the 3000 block to pedestrians and bicyclists for about four hours as a beekeeper removed the hives. A portion of A1A was also closed to traffic for a short time.

The hives were estimated to be 5 feet and 6 feet in diameter respectively, and were taken away and destroyed by the beekeeper.
Bo Reynolds’ music draws from the neighborhoods (like Briny Breezes) near his home in the County Pocket. "The Path Down To The Beach" reflected his love of the laid-back life he’s found here. It’s kind of like being on a vacation. Reynolds, 55. “I tend to absorb the places I’m living.”

Q. When did you grow up and go to school? How do you think that has influenced you?
A. I grew up in Yuma, in southwest Arizona, and went to school in an agricultural area very close to the border with Mexico. I grew up listening to the border radio stations, so a lot of Mexican influences are in my music.

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Q. How did you choose to make your home in the County Pocket?
A. We sold everything from Bend and got a 38-foot motor home and hit the road and started playing music. We came across from Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico and all across Texas, down from Mobile to Cedar Key and Tampa. My wife grew up here from the age of 10. She went to Boca Raton High School and used to ride her bike down A1A and passed the pocket a lot. She’d stop at the Seaside Deli, went by Briny Breezes almost every day. She said I want you to see this place because it’s going to go away. This is old Florida. So we drove through the pocket and there was a Fore Rent sign and she said, ‘Maybe we should just stay here a month.’ After a month, we said maybe six months. We’ve been here a year and a half and we love it. It’s an inspirational time and place for me. The people. There’s a lot of surfers who’ve been here a long, long time. There’s something young about it. Everybody knows each other and keeps an eye on each other’s stuff. It’s kind of like being on a vacation.

Q. What is your favorite part about living in “the pocket”?
A. The people. There’s a lot of surfers who’ve been here a long, long time. There’s something young about it. Everybody knows each other and keeps an eye on each other’s stuff. It’s kind of like being on a vacation.

Q. What other careers have you had, and what were the highlights?
A. I almost always had a day job, customer service mostly. I’ve sold RV’s and boats for years. I did commercial printing for 10 years in Austin, Texas, down from Mobile to Cedar Key and Tampa. My wife grew up here from the age of 10. She went to Boca Raton High School and used to ride her bike down A1A and passed the pocket a lot. She’d stop at the Seaside Deli, went by Briny Breezes almost every day. She said I want you to see this place because it’s going to go away. This is old Florida. So we drove through the pocket and there was a Fore Rent sign and she said, ‘Maybe we should just stay here a month.’ After a month, we said maybe six months. We’ve been here a year and a half and we love it. It’s an inspirational time and place for me.

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Q. What music do you listen to when you need inspiration? When you want to relax?
A. Lately I’ve been listening to Jake Shimabukuro. He’s brought a lot of people to the ukelele. In his hands it’s not a toy; it’s some serious stuff. I’ll never be able to play like that, but I never get tired of listening to him.

Q. Do you have a favorite quote that inspires your decisions?
A. “If you keep doing what you’ve always been doing you’ll keep getting what you’ve always been getting.”

Q. If your life story were made into a movie, who would you want to play you?
A. Jeff Bridges.

Bo Reynolds’ CDs are available at boreynolds.com, amazon.com or cdbaby.com.
Want to live on a tropical island in the intracoastal? Now you can! Build your dream home on this 104’ direct intracoastal lot with aluminum dock, seawall, and boat lift already in place $1,750,000.

3 custom home builders have plans (approx 4/70 sf) available for you to choose from starting at $1,050/ sf or build your own! Also available, half-acre, cul-de-sac lot in Pointe Vedra Beach with plans for up to 1,000 sf! Free membership to La Coquille Club and use of amenities at Lou Palm Beach included! Asking $749,000.

Commercial C-3 0.41 acre S. Federal Highway – Priced for multi-family/ event catering & B&B’s. Parking lot 2 bldgs, 1660sf AC, state of the art commercial kitchens! $499,000.

Lake Worth Direct Intracoastal – Rare 60x192 lot with large estate homes on either side. Call today for more info. Hurry, this one will not last! $599,900.

Sloane – 3 br townhome, 2 full & 1 half bathrooms, 1 car garage, 1974 sf under air, upgraded interiors, annual leases. Total sf 3,863 under AC.

Barefoot Cove – Beautiful key west style town home. 30.5 with high ceilings, short stroll to intracoastal pool with miles of views, sandy beach to launch your kayak! diagonal lot downstairs. Better carpeting upstairs, knockdown texture, sunny paver patio most furniture can stay! $379,000.

Acreage – 3 bedrooms, 3 full bath home on 1.3 acres with large office/bed. 2 wood burning fireplaces, 18” tile, granite counters and upgraded cabinets in kitchen and baths. New AC 8-2014. $449,000.

Boynton Beach
City votes historic designation; grant money sought for Woman’s Club

By Jane Smith

The Boynton Woman’s Club received another plume for its bonnet when it was designated a Boynton Beach historic site. The clubhouse, already on the National Register of Historic Places since 1979, was designed by Addison Mizner. It is the scene for weddings, private celebrations and meetings.

“We’re very happy to have the designation,” said Michele Walter, Boynton Woman’s Club president, after the City Commission passed the ordinance 5-0 in early October. “And we’d like to thank Warren Adams, historic planner, as well as the CRA and city commissioners for their support for our restoration efforts. Their cooperation and support of the CRA grant helped us in the restoration of the three doors and windows in our second floor ballroom.”

Adams is helping the club members apply for a state matching grant that had to be filed by Oct. 31. The state will rank the grant recipients and send that list to the Legislature. “Then it depends on whether the Legislature appropriates the money,” he said.

If the Woman’s Club gets the grant, it would have to raise a matching amount. Adams said the group would use the value of his time for a percentage of the matching amount. The money will be used to refurbish the original windows and French doors.

“We have 41 openings to address, this includes double French doors, some with transoms, casement windows with and without transoms and a variety of single windows and doors,” said Barbara Wineberg, the club’s fundraiser. “We are hoping it will cover them all, but we won’t know for sure until we get an architect there to examine each one.”

The Woman’s Club building, sitting on the east side of Federal Highway between Boynton Beach Boulevard and Woolbright Road, is the city’s grandest structure.

“The family of Maj. Nathan Smith Boynton, the city’s founder, donated $35,000 in his memory to the project. Famed architect Addison Mizner did his design “pro bono” because the building would cover $50,000. It contains classic Mizner features, such as a barrel-tile roof, arched windows,
CRA sets incentive package for 500 Ocean project

By Jane Smith

After waiting for more than 10 years, Boynton Beach will finally get a project that could jump-start its downtown.

City commissioners sitting as the Community Redevelopment Agency board gave tentative approval to a $4.3 million package to construct the $67 million 500 Ocean multifamily project. With two community members on the board, the vote was unanimous in mid-October.

“I can’t tell you how long I waited for this to happen,” Mayor Jerry Taylor said.

To him, the 500 Ocean project with its 341 apartments in a mix of five- and six-story buildings with a seven-story parking garage, will be a catalyst for downtown Boynton Beach.

Before agreeing to provide the financial incentive over 10 years, some of the CRA board members demanded to know whether the developer who received approval would be around in the end.

“It’s a long-term deal for LeCesse,” said Tom Hayden, development director at LeCesse Development Group of Altamonte Springs. “We are proud of this one, we will be here at the end.” LeCesse is a partner in the multifamily project’s developer Morgan Boynton Beach LLC.

But that quasi-promise still left some of the commissioners uneasy.

The 4.7-acre property at the southwest corner of Ocean Avenue and Federal Highway has been vacant for about 12 years.

The incentive money would come from property tax revenue generated by 500 Ocean’s construction. LeCesse requested the money to be front-loaded to cover the gap between the expected rental income and increasing construction costs. For the first four years, the developer would get 75 percent of the tax revenue and the CRA 25 percent.

To do the deal, the CRA requested the developer add 6,000 square feet of Class A office space above its retail space. The office space would bring more professional jobs to the downtown, said Vivian Brooks, executive director.

The CRA also requested the building be green-certified to fit into the city’s climate action plan and green building program.

Commissioner Mike Fitzpatrick asked why the developer had not produced the financial documents requested when it first sought the money in the summer.

Hayden dodged that question by saying his investors would be reluctant to provide that type of information. “I would say they would provide it before closing,” he said.

Fitzpatrick said that would be after the CRA board votes. “I don’t see any hard evidence that you need our money,” he said.

Hayden did not reply. Taylor came to his rescue when he said the need for the money was explained in the presentation.

The board felt more comfortable when Brooks said the developer won’t see any money until it secures a construction loan.

Ground will be broken for the project next spring, Hayden said. Then it will take another 18 to 24 months for the project to get its certificate of occupancy.

Brooks will bring a revised agreement for the board to sign in the future.
**Business Spotlight**

‘Retired’ executives a boon to local businesses

By Jay Waitkus

Martin Kahn says he likes “to see the good side of people, and see them make it.” Kahn means it, too. The 85-year-old Highland Beach resident has a personal file with the names of nearly 2,000 clients whose lives he has touched over the past two decades.

As chairman of South Palm Beach SCORE, the Boca Raton-based chapter of a nonprofit organization that provides mentoring opportunities and other resources to businesses throughout the United States, Kahn — like his fellow counselors — is deeply committed to assisting those in the business community.

“It’s altruistic and based on people who have great business experience who care about helping other people,” he said.

The chapter’s chairman, Hal Finkelstein, agrees. “Our mission is to help small businesses succeed and grow,” said Finkelstein, 72, a resident of Boca Raton.

Based in Herndon, Virginia, SCORE was founded in 1964 as the Service Corps of Retired Executives, before shortening its name to the acronym it is more commonly known by today.

With 11,000 volunteers from the business world, the organization, which includes more than 320 chapters nationwide, has provided assistance to more than 10 million clients during the past 50 years.

“There are a lot of good people in this country who believe in giving back to the community and helping others,” said Kahn.

Like the national organization, the South Palm Beach chapter, at 7999 N. Federal Highway, Suite 201, in Boca Raton, has a lengthy history of service.

Founded in 1977, the chapter was based in Delray Beach before moving to Boca in 2003.

An active branch, the chapter has twice been named SCORE’s National Chapter of the Year — first in 1999, and again under Finkelstein’s leadership in 2012.

Its roster of counselors, more than 30 in all, includes former CEOs, CFOs, division managers and business owners.

Most, said Finkelstein, are still involved in the business world in some capacity.

Along with regular hours of operation, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday to Thursday, assistance from the chapter is available on weekday afternoons and Saturdays upon request, Finkelstein said.

The services the group provides include business coaching, consulting and workshops.

Finkelstein said Skype and email conduct individual mentoring sessions in person, with volunteers from the chapter willing to travel to a business’ location if such help is needed.

Finkelstein said the group has provided services to 17,000 businesses with more than 50,000 employees between them during the last two years.

Kahn said the chapter has helped people from across the state and the nation, adding that his own clients have come as far away as Alaska and Honolulu.

All of the chapter’s mentoring services are free, although the group charges fees of $39-$99 for workshops and solicits donations to raise money for its expenses.

The chapter’s showcase event is its annual conference at Lynn University, a gathering attended by businesses from all over the state. The next conference is May 9, 2015.

As chairman of the local chapter, Finkelstein said the best part of his time with SCORE is twofold: One is helping others make their businesses successful; the other is preventing those who have ended up in a difficult position from doing irreparable harm to their finances.

Finkelstein’s background in business is diverse.

A former resident of New Jersey, Finkelstein owned a New York-based construction company for approximately 30 years. He also served as a member of New York Gov. Nelson Rockefeller’s construction task force and as a lead engineer for the Apollo missions for ground tracking stations.

In addition, Finkelstein hosted a number of radio programs and wrote 15 engineering books focusing on the construction industry. He has also been involved in the world of online business.

After moving to Florida in the late 1990s, Finkelstein wanted to give something back to the business community in a way that would allow him to draw on his extensive background.

He joined South Palm Beach SCORE in 2007, and was elected chairman two years later.

Like Finkelstein, Kahn has been very successful. For more than 40 years, he owned his own interior design business in New York.

Retiring in 1992, Kahn has been with SCORE since 1993, when his wife, Caryn, saw a public service announcement about the group.

Since moving to South Florida in 2005, Kahn’s work on behalf of the organization has continued in earnest.

“It’s a very time-consuming job,” he said, “but it’s very rewarding, because sometimes you meet that one client and they’re able to succeed and you’ve helped them to attain their life’s dream.”

One of the chapter’s success stories is that of the Boca-based Custom Artisan Cabinetry, which designs, manufactures and installs custom cabinetry.

Jose Barni, 27, the company’s owner/manager, said the family-owned business has been involved with SCORE since 1999, receiving help in such areas as networking, accounting, marketing and Web development.

Barni, who has attended several of SCORE’s roundtable discussions, said the main thing the group has provided his business with is insight.

“Any time we have some sort of tough decision to make or an idea to bounce off the counselors, they’re always available,” he said. SCORE’s assistance, he added, has been “invaluable” to his company.

Barni said South Palm Beach SCORE is the best chapter in the nation, crediting leaders such as Finkelstein, Kahn and the group’s treasurer, Mike Lugo, for maintaining the chapter’s high quality of service.

“I think my business would never be headed in the direction it’s headed in now without their help,” he said.

Barni said he is planning on becoming a mentor to other entrepreneurs when he retires.

Kahn advocates such a call to service, adding that anyone who has been successful has skill, knowledge and wisdom that could be passed on.

“If you enjoy helping others and have had an interesting, worthwhile career, there are people who can benefit from your expertise, and SCORE would be a wonderful place to bring your skills,” he said.

Finkelstein emphasized the impact the group has on people’s lives.

“SCORE helps save a lot of jobs by helping a lot of businesses grow and succeed,” he said. “I think we add greatly to the economy, both nationally and here in Florida.”

For more information about South Palm Beach SCORE, visit the group’s website at www.scoreSouthFlorida.net or call 954-5180.
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Vanilla Ice plans 13 DIY episodes on Inlet home

Rob Van Winkle, aka rapper Vanilla Ice, is offering to do a 13-episode TV show about his renovation of this $10.5 million home in Manapulant. Photo provided

Brooker James Arena, of Arena and Company, which has headquarters at the Boynton Beach Mall, has produced a YouTube video starring Rob Van Winkle, better known as Vanilla Ice, about a property for sale at 4020 S. Ocean in Manapulant. Owned by Ken Brown, it’s currently listed by Marisela Cotilla and Michael Castro of Douglas Elliman and Sheri Rebak of Mindy Golden of Reback Realty for $10.5 million.

“This is one of the most unique ice验证 that has ever of, Van Winkle said in the video. “We are going to put this on TV, make 13 episodes. One of the stories behind this house into something that’s truly magical.”

In an email response, Van Winkle added: “This is a great opportunity for investors or homeowners looking for a jewel in the heart of Palm Beach. The home is located at Bay Island and it would be a complete new build. This will make a magical TV show.”

Vanilla Ice Project.

of HGTV and DIY Network’s featured during season five the Lantana house would be Arena said he was told that Island property in October. Also closed on a Hypoluxo and the ocean. The property is Intracoastal Waterway property is in the land, a double agents, said that the value of the million. Reback Realty

Marisela Douglas Elliman

4020 S. Ocean in Manalapan. At the Boynton Beach Mall, and in addition to the deep

and in addition to the deep

discounts, refreshments will be offered from area restaurants as well as entertainment by local performing artists. Tap selling nonprofit organizations will receive additional bonus prizes from Lord & Taylor and all ticket proceeds sold on the day of the event are divided between the participating organizations. Lord & Taylor is at 200 Plaza Real, Mizner Park, Boca Raton.

Jan Savarick, president of Boca Raton Regional Hospital Foundation, plans to retire. “I am going to be a full-time homemaker to the hospital,” said Jerry Fedele, the hospital’s president and CEO. “It’s been here for 13 years, and the hospital has evolved from a very good hospital to an academic center. During the last six years, since I’ve been here, I’ve worked with her personally. She does it all: major gifts, spectacular community events, the golf tournament, and a big part of the marketing component by reaching out and educating about the services we have here, and she sits in patients’ rooms in the hall. She hands it all 24 hours a day, seven days a week.”

Savarick

She’s been here for 13 years, and has so many interests and so many things that she’s decided on anything specific yet. “I’m seeing too many small nonprofits failing because they are focused only on the good services of their mission. I might want to do some consulting; they are interested to help me. It’s not something that I would make me a millionaire, but I would help select. My primary passion is the world of contemporary art, so I’d like to marry my personal passion with something that I’m doing in the business world.”

“Without a park, but a museum can be like a day in the garden or at the beach. But this Boca Raton Regional Hospital’s Christine E. Lynn Women’s Health & Wellness Institute offers the SensorySuite by GE Healthcare, which surrounds a woman with an interactive mammography experience designed to stimulate sight, smell and hearing. Studies have shown that when women can choose to have their mammogram in an environmental ambiance they have a better overall experience and are more likely to schedule regular exams.

For those with chronic hip pain who’ve resorted to replacement surgery and still have problems, Boca Raton Regional Hospital orthopedic surgeon Charles Tomar may have a solution: the glucosamine max. This procedure divides and rotates muscle from the gluteus maximus to replicate function of the medius and minimus hip abductors that are torn beyond repair. The glucosamine max transfer is usually overlooked as an option, however, because X-rays are more commonly ordered than MRIs. While an X-ray may say for a new hip, it’s the MRI that can reveal evidence of atrophy and chronic tearing, which are the probable causes of pain. The glucosamine max transfer is usually a last resort and is recommended for patients with chronic, degenerative issues or complications from other surgeries.

Brenner Real Estate Group, in cooperation with Balistreri Realty, has been awarded the brokerage listing for the sale of 31 luxury condominium units at Royal Poinciana, on West Hidden Valley Drive and Northwest 76th Street in Boca Raton, with its sales center at 93 Via Floresta Drive. The owner of the property is Sabal Financial Group LP, a hedge fund based in Newport Beach, Calif. The gated community of Royal Poinciana has 90 units, 31 of which have been rental apartment units. An onsite general contractor is renovating these units to make them ready for sale as townhomes by the Beach. The units range from 1,930 to 2,410 square feet with three- and four-bedroom layouts and two-car garages, with 50 of the units as two-story, single-family, semi-attached homes and 40 as three-story attached townhomes. Prices will range from $325,000 to $450,000. For information, visit www.royalpoincianabo.com or call 941-833-3333.

Baptist Health South Florida, together with Bethesda Health and Bethesda Hospital, signed an affiliation agreement in October. “We believe that this potential affiliation will leverage our shared vision for improving the health of our respective communities,” said Roger L. Kirk, president and chief executive officer of Bethesda Health. “Over the coming months, we will be working collaboratively on a strategic business plan to ensure that our mutual goals for the affiliation are closely aligned,” said Brian E. Keeley, president and chief executive officer of Baptist Health South Florida.

In mid-October, the George family, owners of 326 and 400 East Atlantic Avenue in Delray Beach since 1915, listed the properties for sale for $21.5 million through Howard Winkle added: “This is a great opportunity for investors or homeowners that feel that it’s an opportune time to bring their assets to the market. Bregman said.

“In general, the market in Downtown Delray Beach is very hot. And I’m not saying hotter. Atlantic Avenue is a very limited area, so barrier of entry is very expensive. I think, in general all development — hotels, condos, theaters — only advances it.”

Around the corner, iPic Entertainment’s proposal for a mixed-use development anchored by an eight-screen, 529-seat luxury movie theater was accepted by Delray Beach’s Community Redevelopment Agency. The $25 million dollars from some local business owners who believe that the theater will cause traffic congestion problems.

“IPic has resubmitted its development proposal, and the access to the alley has been eliminated from the original proposal. Now the access to the garage would be Southeast Avenue, which is next to the alley,” said Scott Pape, the city’s Planning and Zoning senior planner.

“We need to review their revised plans, and once we have consensus to move forward, A will go through planning and Zoning.” No date has been set.

Marianne Gourmet Shop, 803 George Bregman for this democratic.

Delray Beach, has added hours and menu items. New hours are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday.

“We extended times to help moms prep healthy snacks and meals and will stay open,” said owner Sara DeVries. “We’re offering more kid-friendly foods, like chicken cutlets, salads, mac and cheese, chicken ala king, foods, like grilled salmon and shrimp. We have all kinds of casseroles, like macaroni and cheese, and baked ziti with meat sauce.”

Also, keep in mind the gourmet shop’s Thanksgiving menu, “We do the whole nine yards. Come and purchase the whole dinner, or pick and choose items by the pound. Everything is
made right here.” In addition to old stand-bys like chicken salads, tuna salad and Turkey Terrific Sandwiches with fried potatoes and cranberry mayonnaise are an array of desserts and daily specials.

“Also, people like to bring in their own dish, and ask us to fill it up with their favorite. They can entertain at home, and they may think they ‘home-cooked it’.”

BCBGMaxazria, a luxury national-brand women’s clothing boutique, plans to open its doors in a storefront in the 411 E. Atlantic Ave. building by the end of November, if not sooner, said the soon-to-be store manager, Robert Latch, who is currently working out of the company’s Boca Raton Town Center store. Construction is underway and BCBG is currently hiring sales staff.

Bob Weisblut,

Fresh Produce opened in October at 401 E. Atlantic Ave. “Fresh Produce clothing has had a strong presence in the Delray Beach area since the 1980s at Dock Square Clothiers,” said Mary Ellen Vernon, Fresh Produce founder and chief brand officer. “Everything about this location aligns beautifully with the spirit of Fresh Produce, from the vibrant colors to the calm, casual feel.”

Early November, Robert Greenfield, former owner of DYG and Greenfields on Atlantic, will open his new restaurant, Green Fields Organic Bistro, in Boca Rey Plaza, 4900 Linton Blvd., Suite 14. Offering a smoothie bar, organic foods and other healthy choices, the menu will include salads, soups, organic mac and cheese, wraps, sandwiches, seafood, juices and desserts. Green Fields also will offer take-out and delivery.

The Delray Beach Green Market at Old School Square Park has in its 15th season and will be open every Saturday through May 9, with a few location changes and closures because of festivals. The market will also host two special events this season: the 18th Annual Chili Cook-off on Feb. 21 and the 14th annual Easter Bonnet Pet Parade on April 4. This season, more than 65 vendors have returned. Old School Square Park is located at 51 N. Swinton Ave. in downtown Delray Beach. For more information, email greenmarket@de��racyja.org or call 276-7511.

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Plaza Theatre files for bankruptcy despite ‘good work’

By Bill Hirschman

The Plaza Theatre in Manalapan declared bankruptcy and closed its doors Oct. 17 on the day that it was poised to begin its third season.

Meager season subscriptions and $50,000 in bills persuaded founder and artistic director Alan Jacobson to consider bankruptcy and to close the 246-seat theater in the Plaza del Mar shopping center at 262 S. Ocean Blvd., which once had been home to Florida Stage.

Jacobson opened Plaza Theatre in 2012.

The Coastal Star/file photo

Attitude of gratitude

Inspired by images’ reception, photographer creates book

By Steve Pike

“There is never one sunrise the same or one sunset the same.” — Carlos Santana

Kim Weiss can relate to a guitar legend’s sentiments. So much so, in fact, that she has authored a book called Sunrise Sunset: 52 Weeks of Awe and Gratitude.

The book features a collection of orange-hued sunrise and sunset pictures Weiss took from the terrace of her Boynton Beach apartment that overlooks the Boynton Beach marina, Intracoastal Waterway and Atlantic Ocean. Each picture is accompanied by an inspirational passage from people such as daytime TV star Gloria Loring, poet Rodger Kamenetz and sci-fi author J. Gabriel Gates.

Weiss, the director of communication of Health Communications Inc., the book’s publisher, debuted Sunrise Sunset on Nov. 1 at Barnes & Noble at University Commons in Boca Raton. She will have another book signing Nov. 16 at Unity Church in Delray Beach and appear at the Miami Book Fair on Nov. 22-23.

See GRATITUDE on page AT10

Kim Weiss captured images of sunrises from the terrace of her Boynton Beach apartment. Photo provided

The mummy’s secrets, Page AT9

Pay it Forward - Page AT2
Celebrations - Page AT4
Thom Smith - Page AT6
Calendar - Page AT17
Tots & Teens - Page AT22
Philanthropy Calendar

Pay it Forward

Women of Grace Luncheon
The Mar-a-Lago Club, Palm Beach

Nov. 12: More than 600 attendees will honor five local women whose outstanding volunteer service has inspired and enriched the South County community at the 15th-annual event. To submit your events, contact Amy Woods at amywoods@bellsouth.net.

Nov. 7: More than two dozen philanthropic organizations and their boards will come together at an annual event recognizing female volunteers for their dedication and expertise. Time is 10:30 am (reception) and noon (luncheon). Cost is $95 to $200. Call 620-2553 or visit jlbr.org/wvoy. Photo: More than 100 attendees at the 2013 Women of Grace Luncheon.

Nov. 1: Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County’s Women’s Philanthropy Season Opening at Woodfield Country Club, 1030 Club Pl., Boca Raton. Enjoy a morning of inspiration and empowerment, including a presentation by featured speaker Jeanne Smith, daughter of Polish rescuer Irene Gut Opferman. 8:30 am registration, silent auction, special entertainment by a local school choir. 10 am-1 pm. $55. 752-4277 or jflbr.org. Photo: A guest at the 2012 Women of Grace Luncheon.

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November 2014
By Amy Woods

Everything from cake balls to clothing, holiday ornaments to home décor and something called Popsicle pearls will top the tables of the Naoma Donnelley Haggin Boys & Girls Club’s Holiday Trunk Show.

The Delray Beach nonprofit’s signature event enters its 12th year Dec. 1 through 3 at the Seagate Hotel & Spa, featuring more than 30 vendors.

“They’re pearls for hot girls,” Holiday Trunk Show Chairwoman and Gulf Stream resident Susan Mullin said of the Popsicle pearls. “You literally put them in the freezer. They’re a riot.”

This year’s fundraiser promises to be bigger and better because of the fresh assortment of merchandise Mullin and her 20-plus-member committee have selected.

“We’ve got toys for hot girls,” she said. “We’ve got gifts. We have a wonderful shoe company. We have just a ton of new vendors. I think everyone will be very surprised and pleased.”

Last year’s Holiday Trunk Show raised more than $109,000. The preview cocktail party, which drew about 200 shoppers/supporters, takes place Dec. 1, and the show is open to the public Dec. 2 and 3.

Proceeds benefit the club’s programming efforts, which focus on six core areas: career and education development; character and leadership development; fitness, recreation and sports; health and life skills; technology; and the arts.

Proceeds also help fulfill the club wish list. Among the items to be checked off are a 15-passenger van, flat-screen television, laptop computers and an LCD projector.

The club’s Family Liaison Initiative, a monthly educational and family-fun night for parents, will receive a boost, as well.

“We’re always looking to take in more kids to our club, but it costs money to do that,” Mullin said.

The septuagenarian has chaired the Holiday Trunk Show for most of its 12 years and now involves her husband, Michael.

“I really enjoy it.”

**IF YOU GO**

**What:** Holiday Trunk Show  
**When:** 6-8 p.m. Dec. 1; 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Dec. 2 and 3  
**Where:** The Seagate Hotel & Spa in Delray Beach  
**Cost:** $85 Dec. 1; free Dec. 2 and 3  
**Information:** Call 683-3287 or visit bgcpbc.org  
**Sponsors:** The 2014 event will be sponsored by the Seagate Hotel & Spa, Searcy, Denney, Scarola, Barnhart and Shipley, and Lang Realty.

Jaene Miranda, president and CEO of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County, Susan Mullin, chairwoman, and Michael Mullin. Photo provided
Girls, Pearls, Hats & Heels
Delray Beach Club – Oct. 2

The Delray Beach Public Library’s third annual fundraiser netted more than $35,000 during an afternoon of shopping for the latest accessories and shoes. Close to 300 women put on their pearls, favorite hats and heels and shopped from the heart. Photo: Co-Chairwomen Caron Dockerty and Nancy Dockerty, with Honorary Chairwoman Kate Toomey and library Development Director Kimberley Trombley-Burmeister. Photo provided

Football victory
St. Joseph’s Episcopal School, Boynton Beach – Oct. 9

It was a banner season for the Jaguars. The football team had a 9-1 season and defeated Unity School in its final game. The Lady Jaguars varsity volleyball team had an 8-4 season and made it to the semifinals. ‘St. Joseph’s is proud to offer a stellar athletic curriculum for area students and the community,’ Athletic Director Andrew Wideroff said. Photo: (in front) Football team members Tyler Thomas, Alex Ream, Mason DuBois, Gustavo Fedele, Bobby Valashinas, (in back) Sebastian Tirado, Campbell Little, Cody Wheeler, Trevor Black, Gabe Guny, Quinn Lowry, John Westine, Chad Mulling, Coach Rick Nevad, R.J. Broda, Tyler Drew, Wideroff, Priyank Patel, Ethan Baxter and Nick Sama. Photo provided

2014 Saint Francis Award
St. Joseph’s Episcopal Church, Boynton Beach – Oct. 5

The 2014 Saint Francis Award was given to the sea turtle monitor team from Gulf Stream and south Ocean Ridge during the Blessing of the Animals at St. Joseph’s Episcopal Church. Photo: Sea turtle volunteers in attendance were Darlene Duggan, Jim Jolley, Joan Lome, Margie Talbott and Jackie Kingston, who are joined by Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office Deputy Brian Daly riding Arthur. The volunteers were nominated by the Rev. Wendy Tobias. Photo provided

Platinum Anniversary
Barr Terrace, Delray Beach – Oct. 18

William and Adlyn Sherman celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary. Now 92, the couple met when they were 16 at New Hartford High School in Utica, N.Y. They married in San Francisco in 1944 while William was serving as a Naval officer in World War II. The couple takes joy in their family, which includes four children, seven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. They have lived at Barr Terrace in Delray Beach since 1998.

Tiger Bay Club Luncheon
City Fish Market, Boca Raton – Oct. 8

Stanley Tate, founder of the Florida Prepaid College Program, served as guest speaker at the Gold Coast Tiger Bay Club gathering, regaling the group with a background that includes living in the White House and talking about the college program that has enabled tens of thousands of students each year to better their lives and futures. ABOVE: Jon Lee, Marshall Isaacs, Anita Feinstein and Robert Cleveland. Right: Robert Fralberg and Arlene Herson. Photos provided

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The COASTAL STAR
November 2014

Celebrations
Building dedication
Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton – Sept. 23

Officials ushered in the June and Ira J. Gelb, M.D. Auditorium in the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine building at Florida Atlantic University in honor of the philanthropists’ $250,000 donation to their scholarship fund. ‘It is my honor and privilege to officiate the dedication of the June and Ira J. Gelb, M.D. Auditorium, which will allow hundreds and thousands of our students to come through these doors to learn to art of medicine, science and healing for decades to come,’ said David Bjorkman, the college’s dean and executive director of medical affairs. Photo: Christopher Fluhr, FAU Foundation secretary, with Marilyn and Jay Weinberg. Photo provided

Celebrations

Women of Distinction Awards Breakfast
Boca West Country Club, Boca Raton – Oct. 1

Soroptimist International of Boca Raton/Deerfield Beach had its 41st-annual breakfast with a crowd of 250 who gathered to congratulate the accomplishments of 32 nominees. Each nominee was introduced and presented with a bouquet of yellow roses, a souvenir portrait and a congratulatory plaque. Photo: Nominees Pam O’Brien, nonprofit leader; Wendy Poe, for-profit leader; Pamela Higer-Polani, professional, and Betsy Owen, volunteer. Photo provided by Barbara McCormick

Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting
Milagro Center, Delray Beach – Sept. 26

The nonprofit cultural-arts and education-based organization unveiled its new art gallery, The Blueprint Gallery, before a gathering of more than 70. The center’s board and staff members took part in celebrating the debut of the inaugural exhibit with the Greater Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce. Photo: Nancy Merolla, David Kissell, Alison Hill, Anna Girgis, Kurt Knaus and Kendra Williams. Photo provided by Robert Romero

Wine Social
Tanzy, Boca Raton – Oct. 7

More than 70 guests attended the American Fine Wine Competition’s fun-filled event that included a tasting of 50 U.S. wines complemented by an array of appetizers. All proceeds benefited Women In Distress of Broward County, a domestic-violence center. Photo: Edie and Ira Holz, Jay Valenski, Kimberly Davidson, Andrew and Robin Baker and Karen Wilson. Photo provided

50th-Anniversary Year of Celebration
The Ocean Club, Ocean Ridge – Sept. 21

Unity School kicked off its half-century mark with a pool party for 200 students, their parents and supporters, featuring beach football and volleyball contests, a 20-foot water slide, swimming in the ocean and lunch. A total of $10,000 was raised for the school. Photo: Event Chairs Grayson, Ava, Melissa and Scott Porten, with board member Dawn Plasencia. Photo provided

Opening Event
The Addison of Boca Raton – Sept. 16

The Greater Boca Raton Estate Planning Council drew a large turnout for its 2014-15 season kickoff, where established and prospective members gathered for a meet-and-greet cocktail reception. Photo: Laurence Blair, Steven Belson and Daniel Siegel. Photo provided by Jeffrey Tholl

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Boynton Beach looking livelier with younger residential crowd

Maybe it’s Boynton Beach’s time. For years it has played second or even third fiddle to Delray Beach and Boca Raton, and even Lantana, which boasts its own little “restaurant row” — but good things are starting to happen. With residential occupancy above 94 percent, Las Ventanas, the residential-commercial complex at the corner of Woodbright Road and Federal Highway, is attracting a younger residential crowd. Just what entrepreneurs such as Clint Reed and Sean Iglehart needed for their super-cool Sweetwater Bar and Grill on the ground floor. But as happened a few blocks north with The Backyard, its reputation quickly spread, attracting patrons from places as distant as Miami and Jupiter. Of course, not all ventures are winners. A few storefronts away, Bad Ragaz Hall & Grill went out of business after a few months, with nearby Barluga’s closing on the corner of Ocean and Federal. Anyway, word on the ground is that the area is quickly coming to life, with February 2015 being a major player in the Boca-Raton restaurant scene.

Of course, not all ventures are winners. A few storefronts away, Bad Ragaz Hall & Grill went out of business after a few months, with nearby Barluga’s closing on the corner of Ocean and Federal. Anyway, word on the ground is that the area is quickly coming to life, with February 2015 being a major player in the Boca-Raton restaurant scene.

— City Hall, the Police Department and the old high school. Officials are considering proposals for restoration. Built in 1913, the Boynton School holds lots of memories for residents present and past. The folks at the Schoolhouse Children’s Museum & Learning Center hope those former students have some old memorabilia — yearbooks, photos, even report cards — that can be displayed at the first Reunion Bash Feb. 28 at the museum.

Event-wise, Boynton is coming to life, with February promising to be very hot. Outdoor displays are already being installed for the 2015 International Kinetic Art Exhibition and Symposium, a celebration of art in motion, with presentations, artist receptions and live entertainment, Feb. 6-8. Open air artists will work on projects around the city Nov. 8, Dec. 18 and Feb. 6 and 7. Much of the activity will take place around the Town Square, another hot redevelopment site. The 17-acre site includes several buildings — City Hall, the Police Department and the old high school. Officials are considering proposals for restoration.

School was made easy

Boynton also is becoming “lacrosse town.” By year’s end, Coppertop Brewing Company should be pouring growlers in the warehouse district north of Quantum Way and west of I-95. Brewmaster is Matthew Cox, formerly at Big Bear Brewery in Coral Springs; Al Letiera, previously tied to SweetWater Brewing Company in Atlanta, is handling the business side. Offerings will include an amber German-style lager, a potent IPA featuring Tomahawk hops and a Belgian Wit brewed with barley, wheat and oats.

The 10,000-square-foot warehouse and adjacent 2,000-square-foot tasting room at 151 Commerce Road are just a keg’s roll from Due South brewery, which just celebrated its third Oktoberfest. In two years, Due South brewmaster Mike Halker already has poured a few corks, claiming three golds, five silver and four bronze medals at the Best Florida Beer Competition.

You can enjoy not only wine and delicious seafood but arts and crafts and entertainment at Delray Beach’s third annual Wine & Seafood Festival Nov. 8 and 9. No charge to stroll, but it’s pay-as-you-go for food, drink and the various tastings and seminars. (www.delwineandseafood.com).

A week later, the party slides down to Florida Atlantic University for three days of the 45th annual Boca Raton Wine & Food Festival. A vineyard party and gala VIP Dinner Under the Stars on Nov. 14, the Grand Tasting on Nov. 15 and a Craft Brew Battle on Nov. 16. Unlike Delray, all events are ticketed, but the prices include all food and beverages.

Chris Evert left international competition 25 years ago, but she never left tennis. She remains one of the best TV analysts in the business; most days she’s at her tennis academy in west Boca, challenging young hopefuls — “racquet back, eye on the ball” — and she continues to back programs that fight drug abuse and child neglect and support children and families in Florida.

The Chris Evert/Raymond James Pro-Celebrity Tennis Classic opens Nov. 21, with “Tennis with Chrissie and Friends,” a pro-am at the Boca Raton Resort & Club ($2,500), featuring stars from the worlds of entertainment and tennis who will compete Nov. 22 and 23 at Delray Beach Tennis Center ($20 general admission) and attend the gala Nov. 22 at the Resort ($750).

New faces this year include morning TV hosts Gayle King and Marc Marciano, comedian Dennis Miller, actor Timothy Olyphant and Sarah Ferguson, the Duchess of York. Among the returnees: media types Jon Lovitz, Al Roker, Katie Couric, Steve Quinlan, Kevin McKidd, Gavin Rossdale, David Cook, Hoda Kotb, Brian Kilmeade, and tennis stars Martina Navratilova, Patrick McEnroe, Vinnie Spadea, Brenda Schultz McCarthy, Darren Cahill, Rennae Stubbs, Brad Gilbert, Cliff Drysdale and Lisa Raymond. (www.chrisvert.org)

The folks who run Eau Palm Beach haven’t had the easiest of times since they decided to go it alone and kicked out Ritz-Carlton management two summers ago. Without the Ritz cachet and its international...
It's an eating scene at BurgerFi

**The Plate:** VegeFi Burger
**The Place:** BurgerFi, 6 S. Ocean Blvd., Delray Beach; 278-9590 or burgerfi.com
**The Price:** $6.97

The crispy burger was flavorful, with enough spice to keep it from being bland. The bun was lightly toasted and condiments were fresh. BurgerFi is a hopping place. The chef, who runs the Versace estate in Miami, has ordered his joint venture with Burt Rapoport to be ready in December. Though he has a stake in Kimpton Hotels, he's hosed impromptu events all over the world, from the Boynton Inlet to the Port of Palm Beach. At his restaurant, the most expensive item is a $500 bottle of wine.

**The Skit:** I could have asked, “Where’s the beef?”
And I’m sure BurgerFi could have answered with my choice of meaty burgers.

The quinoa burger was grilled to perfection and served with the mayo-based BurgerFi sauce (I think ketchup also is an ingredient), white cheddar cheese, and thick tomato on a multigrain bun.

**Witches Brew Happy Hour Fundraiser**
Tim Finnegan’s Irish Pub, Delray Beach - Oct. 24

**Witches of Delray prepare to embark on a seven-mile Halloween Witch Ride — wearing costumes and riding decorated bicycles to raise money for the Achievement Centers for Children and Families in Delray Beach.**

**Dining**

**The Plate:** Keke’s Breakfast Cafe
**The Place:** 530 S. Federal Hwy., Boynton Beach; 243-8202
**The Price:** $9-

It was an eating scene at BurgerFi. The chef, who runs the Versace estate in Miami, has ordered his joint venture with Burt Rapoport to be ready in December. Though he has a stake in Kimpton Hotels, he's hosed impromptu events all over the world, from the Boynton Inlet to the Port of Palm Beach. At his restaurant, the most expensive item is a $500 bottle of wine.
Continued from page AT1

and although we don’t have that much debt, we do not have the funds to continue at the moment. We have done everything in our power the last three months to seek out donors and raise money, but our efforts have been unsuccessful. We fought until we just couldn’t fight anymore.”

He planned to ask other theaters to honor the subscriptions already sold as the Caldwell Theatre Company did when it closed in Boca Raton.

“We are committed to making certain ALL of our paying customers are taken care of,” the theater said in an email Oct. 23. “We are working with another theater in the area who will be honoring ALL of our subscriptions already sold as the Caldwell Theatre Company did when it closed in Boca Raton.

“We are working with another theater in the area who will be honoring ALL tickets purchased for the Plaza Theatre 2014-2015 Mainstage season, including all single-ticket purchases for the 2014-2015 season, subscription and groups.”

The email did not say what theater the company was working with, but said it would release further details later.

“This is heart-breaking. We did not want our names damaged because they had passed up other jobs on the prospect of work at the Plaza. Most other theaters in the region have solidified their casting for the season.

The Plaza offered an eclectic slate each year aimed at an older mainstream audience. It encompassed straight plays like Neil Simon’s Chapter Two, large musicals like Charles Strouse/Stephen Schwartz’s Rags and many musical revues like You Made Me Love You, based on the music of Al Jolson, Eddie Cantor and Fanny Brice.

The quality varied from thoroughly entertaining to lackluster, but several shows earned standing ovations and Plaza shows produced Carbonell nominations for best ensemble for I Love You You’re Perfect Now and Waistwatchers. The Assembled Parties.

In fact, a few people who did not want their names used complained that this had damaged them because they had passed up other jobs on the prospect of work at the Plaza. Most other theaters in the region have solidified their casting for the season.

The theater had been flush with money in 2013 after it mounted a spoofy hoot by Jacobson called Waistwatchers The Musical, he said. It played to 20,000 patrons and was repeatedly extended. “We could have run it for a solid year,” he said. But he put it on hiatus over that summer so the theater’s student conservatory could present two shows, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee and William Mastromonaco’s Sleepwalk, examining teen suicide.

Even this past season, sales were respectable for Rags, about immigrants at the turn of the century, and Life on a Diet, a one-woman comic memoir read rather than performed by its author, Renee Taylor, although critics and many theater professionals were distinctly dismissive of both.

“But we burned through money during the season, because sales were disappointing for several shows”, he said, including I Love You You’re Perfect Now Change, Dirty Blonde, about Mae West, and Cougar, a Waistwatchers-type musical, among other offerings. Through the summer, the ticket sales ran $100,000 short of expectations.

Jacobson, a businessman as well as an artist, said, “Your intellect tells you one thing, your heart tells you something else. Our staff said, ‘We’re gonna do well.’ My gut was telling me, no, but my heart was trying to believe it.”

Facing the $50,000 debt plus the need for a nonexistent $100,000 in cash flow against a $1.2 million annual operating budget, he closed up shop.

Jacobson said many factors contributed to the closure, including

deferring our salary this year,” he said.

“The agonizing thing for me was less the going out of business; the more agonizing thing for me was having to tell people I had hired that they no longer had work.” He had hired most of the talent for the coming season for anticipated shows like the Maury Yeston/Arthur Kopit version of Phantom and Richard Greenberg’s Broadway hit play The Assembled Parties.

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Ramses the Great, who ruled ancient Egypt for 66 years during Egypt’s 19th Dynasty, is said to have sired more than 96 sons and 60 daughters during his lifetime. One of his sons, now known as the Ramesside mummy, is on display through next spring at the South Florida Science Center and Aquarium as part of its new exhibit, Afterlife: Tombs and Treasures of Ancient Egypt.

“The way ancient Egyptians coped with dying was to keep on living,” says Lew Crampton, president and CEO of the Science Center. Ancient Egyptians made elaborate preparations and rituals for their life in the afterworld. These included funerary items for protection and guidance, amulets such as scarabs for magical powers and good fortune, sacred texts, carnelian, crystal and amethyst jewelry and even food items that were placed in their coffins to accompany them into the afterlife and prepare them for eternity.

The exhibit, the largest touring exhibition of Egyptian material, is put together by United Exhibits Group of Copenhagen and the Bolton Museum of the United Kingdom, and is making its North American debut in Palm Beach County. Over the past 10 years, more than 4.5 million people worldwide have seen the exhibit, organizers say.

“The artifacts on display illustrate that the Egyptian culture was truly one of the most advanced and elaborate of its time,” Crampton says.

The Ramesside mummy, which has its teeth and nails intact, is approximately 3,500 years old, and was determined to be a 25-year-old son of Ramses II after undergoing an MRI and CAT scan on the British TV show Mummy Forensics. Facing east, toward the rising sun, the unwrapped mummy is said to be cursed, according to Kate Arrizza, the COO of the museum.

“When the show was in Taiwan, the moment this mummy was placed in his coffin, there was an earthquake. All the lights went out except for the one shining on him,” she recounts.

“When he was installed here, I got goosebumps,” she says. “There was an unsettling aura in the room. And my staff says they’ve seen his eyes open and close.”

“I don’t like to be here with him alone,” Arrizza says.

Also on display is a 2,000-year-old mummy of a girl found inside Thutmose’s III tomb. The mummy underwent a CAT scan and MRI last month at St. Mary’s Medical Center in West Palm Beach to determine her cause of death.

Originally believed to have died of complications from tuberculosis, the girl, who was between 30 and 42 months old — 2½ to 3½ years — most likely died of appendicitis, the scan revealed.

“What was most surprising was how well the mummification process kept the bones and features of the child intact,” said Dr. Chad Kelman, chairman of the radiology department at St. Mary’s, who conducted the scan along with Dr. Michael Katz, the hospital’s chief pediatric radiologist.

Kelman, who said he was at first apprehensive about the scan, said it was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

See EGYPT on page AT10
A sad, compelling memoir of lives brought low by Alzheimer’s disease

By Bill Williams

Harvey Gralnick was a 56-year-old esteemed doctor at the National Institutes of Health in Maryland when his wife and colleagues began noticing changes in his behavior — forgetting things, getting lost, lashing out. A medical examination found nothing wrong, but two years later a physician suggested that Gralnick might be suffering from early-onset Alzheimer’s. I had never heard of the disease, and no doctor had ever mentioned it,” writes Gralnick’s wife, Meryl Comer, in this frank, sad memoir of Alzheimer’s patients and their families.

As his illness progressed, Gralnick became “more aggressive, egocentric and emotionally abusive.” He forgot names, became irritable and aggressive, egocentric and aggressive. Comer became “more patient.” Alzheimer’s patients and their families are “more patient.”

Eventually Gralnick was forced to retire, and Comer gave up her job as a TV newscaster to care full time for her declining husband. As Gralnick’s condition progressed, Comer moved him into various institutions, but nothing worked. Staying at one top-notch facility would have cost $180,000 a year. Their savings soon evaporated and she resigned herself to caring for him at home, with the help of aids. Comer suffered from exhaustion, isolation and depression. She changed his diapers, brushed his teeth, showered him and cleaned up his accidents. One day as she was washing him, he punched her in the face, smashing her front teeth and causing blood to gush from her mouth.

She thought about divorce or helping her husband to end his life, but rejected those options as selfish and immoral. After Comer’s mother started showing similar signs of dementia she, too, was diagnosed with Alzheimer’s. She did not want to leave her home, but Comer insisted that she move in with her and her ailing husband.

More than 5 million Americans suffer from Alzheimer’s. Comer wants to educate people about the importance of early testing and detection. There is no cure for the illness, but early treatment can slow its advance. The illness received publicity when former President Ronald Reagan said he was suffering from Alzheimer’s, but for the most part this dreadful disease has not received wide public attention.

The author’s husband has been living with Alzheimer’s for nearly two decades, far longer than expected. Years ago he was told that he likely had only months to live. Comer dreads the possibility that she may inherit Alzheimer’s from her mother because she has one of the genetic markers associated with increased risk of the fatal illness. Comer forgets names and misplaces keys, causing her to worry, even though such forgetfulness can be a sign of normal aging and not necessarily an indicator of dementia.

Although Gralnick cannot speak, does not recognize his wife, sleeps most of the day and is confined to a wheelchair, her illness remains steadfast. “I have slept by his side all these years to reassure him that he is safe at home,” she writes. “I kiss him at night and snuggle in close, like we used to do.”

Comer is a first-time author and the book is a bit disjointed and repetitious. Nevertheless, her compelling account will be of interest to anyone who has a friend or family member suffering from Alzheimer’s.

This is a tough book to read and one feels sorrow and compassion for Comer, as well as for her ailing husband and mother.

On the final pages, Comer intones, “When I stare in the mirror, I see only exhaustion and her ailing husband. I consider myself lucky in that regard.”


Bill Williams is a member of the National Book Critics Circle. Reach him at billwaw@comcast.net.

**EGYPT**

Continued from page A19

"Not only did we most likely determine her cause of death, we verified her gender, age and race using the bone features such as height and hand and wrist circumference,” Kelman said.

"All in all, objects on display include more than 200 artifacts between 1,500 and 6,000 years old, including painted masks, coffins, jewelry and vases used to hold the internal organs that were removed before the process of mumification.

The exhibition culminates in a re-creation of the Valley of the Kings tomb where visitors enter a reproduction of the chamber of Thutmose III and see the Rameside mummy. "A few of our guests are able to experience the lives of ancient Egyptians through more than 200 authentic and exquisite artifacts,” says Crampton.
Art

A man, a plan, a canal, Panama: The big cut, 100 years later

By Gretel Sarmiento

A varied program of pop tunes, film scores, and Broadway hits

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This exhibition has been organized by the Foundation for the Exhibition of Photography. Museum admission is free with a museum ticket; a donation is suggested. There will be a public lecture at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, November 21st.

Norton Museum of Art
525 Okeechobee Blvd.
West Palm Beach, FL 33401

November 2014

The COASTAL STAR

ArtsPaper/Art AT11
Our Town (Palm Beach Dramaworks, through Nov 9)

By Dale King
ArtsPaper Theater Writer

True to its promise to provide “theater to think about,” Palm Beach Dramaworks has opened its 2014-15 season with Thornton Wilder’s unadorned but hauntingly personal play, Our Town. The play, written in 1938, is a delight to the ears and eyes, even though Wilder decreed there be no sets or props. A fine 20-member cast of veteran players and talented newcomers does well with just an occasional chair, a wooden plank and mimed gestures.

Scenic/lighting designer Paul Black has created a weathered wooden backdrop with a stairway and supporting beams to give the actors the semblance of spatial dimension. Costume designer Robin McGee has dressed everyone in perfect turn-of-the-20th-century attire, also elegant in its simplicity.

The three-act play – with a single intermission between Acts I and II – is set in the fictional town of Grover’s Corners, N.H., from 1901 to 1913. It depicts the everyday lives of an average community’s citizens in the early 20th century. But it’s more than a recreation of cooking, cleaning, doctoring and schooling. Our Town celebrates both the marvel of everyday existence and the eternal essences shared by every human being.

What differentiates this play from others is the device of the Stage Manager (Colin McPhillamy), an omniscient figure in charge of the action – from telling actors when to leave the stage to announcing the start and end of each act. He brings a generally cool sense of composure to his portrayal.

The inhabitants of Grover’s Corners include some of South Florida’s best-known thespians — Elizabeth Dimon as Mrs. Gibbs and Kenneth Kay as Doc Gibbs, Patti Gardner as Mrs. Webb and Dan Leonard as Mr. Webb, John Felix as Professor Willard and Margery Lowe as Mrs. Soames — along with two newcomers in the central roles of George Gibbs (Joe Ferrarelli) and Emily Webb (Emiley Kiser).

Act I, called “Daily Life,” is pretty simple, as is Wilder’s intention. The audience does see a growing interest between George and Emily, one that will develop into courtship and marriage in Act II, “Love and Marriage,” which is devoted to virtually nothing else.

Ferrarelli and Kiser portray the young lovers with glowing radiance. Their sweet spontaneity in the scene where they sip strawberry ice cream sodas at the drugstore as they come to grips with their love produces a wealth of tender, almost intoxicating emotions.

No one, not even the characters, seems ready for Act III, “Death and Dying, Summer 1913.” It presents us all with a view of the world to come, and reinforces that sad admonition that “you can’t go home again.” Emily’s parting words ring true as she wishes that those on earth would learn to appreciate life before it ends.

In their roles as George and Emily, Ferrarelli (in his professional debut) and Kiser are exceptional and very natural. They both aptly display a grasp of emotions perfectly suited to their parts. Dimon warmly depicts Mrs. Gibbs, and Kay’s occasionally stern demeanor is nicely juxtaposed with Dimon’s loving touch. Patti Gardner plays Mrs. Webb with a charming flair. As her husband, Dan Leonard can also be stern, but is clearly a soft touch. The way he comforts his daughter’s fears before her wedding is delightful.

Adding finely observed touches are Michael Collins as Simon Stimson, the chorister whose drinking problem is spoken about in whispers; Lowe as Mrs. Soames, a friend and neighbor who adds a comic touch during the wedding by commenting over and over to the audience about how beautiful it is, and Felix as Professor Willard, whose geology-obsessed cameo is a hoot.

Director J. Barry Lewis draws fine work from all the players in this now-classic work of the American stage, and Dramaworks’ production lets Wilder’s austerely presented but powerfully realized slice of life speak for its eloquent self.

IF YOU GO
Our Town runs through Nov. 9 at the Don and Ann Brown Theatre, 201 Clematis St., West Palm Beach. For tickets, call 514-4042, Ext. 2, or visit www.palmbeachdramaworks.org.

Once again, Our Town is worthy of a visit

From left: Emiley Kiser, Colin McPhillamy and Joe Ferrarelli in Palm Beach Dramaworks’ Our Town. Photo by Alicia Donelan

KINGFLING
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The King Fling returns this fall to welcome back the Palm Beach community with live bites from top local restaurants, wine, music and the chance to shop the King Library book sale before it opens to the public the next day. In addition, special guest author Scott Eyman will hold an exclusive book signing in our Pinnell Pavilion.

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THE FOUR ARTS KING LIBRARY
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Music

Here are excerpts of reviews from recent shows. Longer versions are online at www.palmbeachartsblog.com.

Fred Hersch (Arts Garage, Delray Beach, Oct. 17) Pianists who play solo concerts, even ones who have made their names in jazz, realize they’re best-served to have some classical acumen because of the inherent recital expectations of an unaccustomed atmosphere. In that regard, New York City-based Fred Hersch arrived at the Arts Garage in Delray Beach well-armed. “I’d like to play a couple of original dedications,” Hersch said early on. “The first is to Thelonious Monk, and it’s called ‘Dream of Monk.’” Hersch’s playing has always had a connection to the late, enigmatic pianist, and the spiked chords and bluesy nuance of this composition proved straight out of the Monk playbook. Hersch even bounced out of his seat to put on a late piano figure, counterpointing his usual posture — head down, facing the keys — which resembled a virtuoso version of Schroeder from Peanuts.

His second dedication was the title track to his 2010 CD Wall/Door, written for ballet dancer and fellow Cincinnati native Suzanne Farrell. Hersch loves waltz-like time signatures nearly as much as he loves Monk, and the dynamic piece’s 6/8 cadence evoked a dance-like feel and shades of Debussy. Joni Mitchell’s quirky “My Old Man” proved putty in Hersch’s gifted hands, which moved the music with more bluesy, improvisational feel before the pianist stated her lyrical all melodic melody several minutes in. Hersch then closed the first set with a medley of Cole Porter tunes. The slow, gorgeous “So In Love” segued into a playful, Monk-ish “You’re The Top,” complete with a string trio.

Set two was shorter, but no less remarkable. Hersch continued his immaculate ballad artistry on both standards (a beautiful take on Jerome Kern’s “The Song Is You”) and originals (his classically nuanced Leaves of Grass composition “At The Close of the Day”) in-between two of the evening’s memorable compositions — “At the Close” and “Day”).

Cyrus Chestnut (Arts Garage, Delray Beach, Sept. 27) Jazz improvisation, Cyrus Chestnut took the stage at the Arts Garage audience, is “the art of composition at a very rapid pace, without the benefit of editing.” In 17 well-chosen songs spread over two sets, the pianist performed his own treatments of his own pieces and American Songbook standards, transforming them into mini-tone poems in which straight-ahead chorus playing alternated with experiments in coloristic effects, from the muffled bass-drum thump of a New Orleans funeral to all-out right-hand tremolos at the top of the instrument’s register.

Chestnut has a vast piano vocabulary that allows him to present familiar pieces in ways that seemed to take even him by surprise, such as his early reading of Vincent Youmans’ classic “Tea for Two,” which started with the same key of the 1924 standard in sheet music—simple style, and in the middle became a series of hashed, anguish chords over a steady dotted rhythm low in the bass.

But Chestnut also has a very sense of humor that gives his audience a feeling of being invited in to watch a musician at play. His soft, gentle reading of the Jimmy Van Heusen standard “Polka Dots and Moonbeams” transitioned into, of all things, Merv Griffin’s theme for “Final Jeopardy,” which broke up the large house. And yet Chestnut didn’t just quote it for an easy laugh. His interpretation turned the music into a relatively long trills over a smoothly flowing bass, which also was largely quiet and intimate, suffused with long trills over a smoothly flowing bass line. It came after a vivid, punchy traversal of Cole Porter’s “It’s All Right With Me,” a hard-core fast-swing style, with strong comping in the left hand and sparkling runs in the right.

— Greg Stepanich


eTwo jazz masters, rare chamber music, and a new day for Lynn Phil

Arthur Berger (1932-2003), could have been heard Saturday night at the Lighthouse ArtCenter in Tequesta, where the Palm Beach Chamber Music Festival musicians gave a concert featuring Berger’s music on the second program of their winter series. The four performers at the well-attended concert Saturday night — bassist Karen Dixon,oboist Erika Yamada, clarinetist Michael Forte and bassoonist Michael Ellert — gave a strong account of Berger’s Woodwind Quartet, blending admirably well in the ArtCenter gallery, which is well-suited for the four instruments. One only wished for a bit more lightness; at times there was a deliberateness to the performance that detracted somewhat from the music’s basic wit.

The concert opened with another woodwind quartet, Claude Arrieux’s Suite en 4 Quatre, played with skill and verve. The other two pieces on Saturday night’s program were for strings, beginning with the first movement of Beethoven’s so-called Eyeglasses Duet for viola and cello, well-played by violist Rebecca Diderrich and cellist Ashley Garrison. The concert closed with the only complete string trio of Schubert (in B-flat, D. 581), written in 1817 when the composer was just out of his teens. For this work, Diderrich and Garrison were joined by violinist Mei Mei Luo. Schubert’s writing here is more like Mozart in its exposed format that quickly shows up rhythmic inaccuracies, among other things. Everything has to be just-so, or the music doesn’t quite work.

And while this performance was often highly emotive and lovely, it had a basic off-centeredness because it wasn’t precise. The basic precision of the graceful first movement, for instance, proved to be a little too fast when it came to the last bars, which have three very fast arpeggios in the three instruments that were blurry rather than elegant. — Greg Stepanich

Lynn Philharmonia (Wold Performing Arts Center, Boca Raton, Sept. 28) This opening program of the Lynn University Conservatory of Music’s student orchestra was easily the finest opening concert of the season it has ever given, and in its freshness, maturity and achievement it marked a new day for the Boca Raton college’s program. It was not far shy of the standard usually achieved by the New World Symphony of Miami Beach, and it means area audiences are the lucky beneficiaries of a much improved orchestral environment for the season.

The credit surely has to go to its director, Guillermo Figueroa, a first-rate violinist and fine conductor who sat in the concertmaster’s chair for this school and their careers. For this school and their careers, it became the whole second half of the improvisation.

Also drawing sighs of performer recognition from the audience was the take in the second set on Paul Simon’s “Bridge Over Troubled Water,” which also was largely quiet and intimate, suffused with long trills over a smoothly flowing bass line. It came after a vivid, punchy traversal of Cole Porter’s “It’s All Right With Me,” a hard-core fast-swing style, with strong comping in the left hand and sparkling runs in the right.

— Greg Stepanich
Actress Elizabeth Price.

By Dale King

Arts/Paper Theater Writer

Act II of The Theatrical Life of Elizabeth Price is about to begin.

Act I started 18 years ago when Price, then 22, with a bachelor’s degree in English from Tulane University and years of stage acting experience, headed west to Los Angeles and a hoped-for career in TV, film and theater.

Three years later, “I had given up,” said Price, now a grad student at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton. “I had made a lot of crappy TV and some small, independent movies. It was not going well at all.”

So she moved to Austin, in her native Texas, to try her hand at directing, writing and producing. Then, it was off to Italy to teach English for three years, then back to New Mexico for another shot at theater. It was then she had a realization.

“I had acted since I was 7, but I did not have a master’s degree.” Her life trek turned to South Florida, where she earned a bachelor in acting diploma from Barry University.

Now 40, she graduates in December from FAU with a master’s of fine arts in acting. She has already lined up her “first post-grad school professional role” at Arts Garage in Delray Beach. She makes her debut this month in a new work, The How and the Why, by TV and feature film writer Sarah Treem (Homes of Cards). Treem’s play is about two women, evolutionary biologists, who meet before a national conference and clash on issues such as evolution and feminism. Price will work with director Margaret Leadford, producer Paul Goldner and “one of the best actresses in South Florida,” Laura Turnbull.

This summer, Price completed a part she has eyed for a long time, giving a portrayal that may resonate on the FAU stage for years. She played Barbara, the outspoken, angry and angst-ridden daughter of Violet Weston in the FAU Festival Rep 2014 production of Tracy Letts’ August: Osage County.

Price said she saw the dark-humored stage production several years ago, well before the Meryl Streep-Julia Roberts film. “Ever since then, I wanted to do it. I love new work, and it’s ultra-contemporary. At FAU, I also got to work with some fantastic people.”

At the same time she was performing in Osage, she also had a non-singing role in Bonnie & Clyde, the musical, the other Summer Rep production at FAU this year. Clearly, though, she said Osage triumphed in her theatrical heart. “I am completely devoted to it.”

A three-act play running more than three hours, Osage was a challenging show, she said. “We had enough rehearsal time so that we went in really solid. But because we had two shows going at once, we had to stay on top of the lines. It took work and a tremendous amount of focus.”

She thanks director Jean-Louis Balerd for challenging her “to give more” to her role as Barbara. “He is an excellent guide. He would say, ‘No, you can still go further’ and ‘No, you can give me more.’”

She did, and was drained by the end of each Osage performance. To graduate, Price has to write a thesis on a significant character she has portrayed, and chose Lyubov Ranevskaya from Chekhov’s The Cherry Orchard. Like the Barbara character, Price also considers that role “challenging.”

Enticed into acting by her parents who “saw I had some talent,” Price admits having performed in “everything from tragedy to contemporary.” She starred in Tennessee Williams’ Summer and Smoke, her first play at FAU and first time working with director Balerd. In her second year as a grad student at FAU, she was in Oscar Wilde’s The Importance of Being Earnest, and in the summer of 2013 performed in The Man Who Came to Dinner.

With a penchant for “moving and living in new places,” Price said she may relocate out of South Florida a year or so, but “if things go well,” she’ll likely stick around.

As she makes her stage debut a second time around, she expects to be more adept at her craft. “As I went out there the first time, I thought I didn’t need acting classes or training.”

Now, with established creds, “it should go better. I have also had a lot of life experience.”

The Goldners have been involved with Palm Beach Opera since 2007, with Sandra as a member of the Palm Beach Opera Guild and Paul as a member of the board of directors.

“We are immensely grateful to Sandra and Paul Goldner for their gift, and thrilled that we will be able to grow our children’s education programs thanks to their vision and generosity,” said Daniel Biaggi, Palm Beach Opera’s general director.

For more information, visit www.pbopera.org.

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Palm Beach Opera gets $500,000 grant

From staff reports

Palm Beach Opera has received a $500,000 matching grant from longtime supporters Sandra and Paul Goldner.

“The idea here is that when children are exposed to the arts they understand and appreciate the extraordinary beauty and value that is involved and is better than most adults,” says Paul Goldner. “Our desire for the Opera is to focus attention education by using its resources to expose children to opera. I think it is a very worthwhile venture and I hope that other people will feel the same way so that we can create a substantial fund to keep these programs going for a long time.”

Palm Beach Opera has three education programs. Concerts in the Classroom for grades K-12, Opera Rehearsal 101, which allows middle and high school students to attend the final dress rehearsals of main stage operas, and PBO Studio, an apprentice program for high school juniors and seniors.

All of Palm Beach Opera’s education programs are free for participants.

Armory Art Center names new director

The Armory Art Center has selected Kim Harrt as its new executive director.

Harrt began her new position Oct. 13. She has more than 20 years of senior management experience with large and small YMCAs throughout the Northeast.

Originally from the Midwest and most recently from Bar Harbour, Maine, Harrt helped to bring arts curriculum to YMCA’s nationwide. Harrt has experience in non-profit governance, finance, programming, grant writing, public speaking and in evaluating community needs.

“I am excited to marry my love of the arts with my skills in executive non-profit management,” Harrt says. “It is a longtime dream.”

Harrt replaces interim executive director Nancy Lambrecht. Board vice president for the Armory Art Center, Lambrecht volunteered her services for six months before Harrt’s selection as executive director.

For more information on the Armory Art Center, visit www.armoryart.org.

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Adam Sandler and Rosemarie DeWitt in *Men, Women and Children*.\(^{10}\)

video on YouTube and discovers his own cosmic insignificance. Finally, Allison Doss (Elena Kampouris) is a high schooler with an eating disorder enabled, like everything else in the film, by the World Wide Web.

Based on a novel of the same name by Chad Kultgen, the movie’s formula is familiar and ’90s-chic: the rot at the core of the American suburban family. *Men, Women & Children* is Happily Ever After and American Beauty plus the Internet—an exposé of moral drift and disconnection made all too easier by instant clickability. The arc, for most of these characters, is one of shame toward enlightenment. It’s common for Reitman to linger on their faces for an extra beat before they click on something they’ll regret later, analyzing the contours of self-disgust those faces contain. That’s not a worthless movie by any means; we need a film that speaks to the modern human condition, depicting us as a sea of self-involved zombies in throng to our portable devices. And the acting is solid across the board, especially from Greer, who masters her character’s shameless attempts to relieve her youth; and from Sandler, who has a long, melancholy face fit for these quiet-desperation roles.

But I felt very little as this procession of ignominy and desperation roles is heartbreakingly calculated to a T, designed to a T, Bramble of pain. It’s a shot of stupefying naiveté masquerading as a profound societal corrective: Unplug, and your problems vanish. Ultimately, it is about the serious stuff. Busy battling insecurities and vicariously through her son for a younger model in California, and his world is abandoned him and his father whose wife recently put down her fistful of pills and rescues him, bringing him into her home where she suffers through a miserable marriage to Luke Wilson. Wig and Hader play off each other remarkably, making us yearn for more dramatic work from them. — Hap Erstein

The Skeleton Twins: Scratch a proficient sketch comedian and you will usually find a performer capable of dramatic roles as well. Consider Kristen Wig and Bill Hader of Saturday Night Live fame, who handle darker material with impressive skill in a new independent film, The Skeleton Twins. It has its amusing sequences—most of which are crammed into the promotional trailer—but the story of two sibling misfits with suicidal tendencies is heartbreakingly serious stuff. Busy battling depression, Maggie and Milo have not been in touch for a decade, but when he bitches a wrist-slitting attempt, she puts down her fatalist of pills and rescues him, bringing him into her home where she suffers through a miserable marriage to Luke Wilson. Wig and Hader play off each other brilliantly, making us yearn for more dramatic work from them. — Hap Erstein

A preachy critique of the overconnected, an Oz odyssey, and two comics go dark

**Men, Women and Children (Opened Oct. 17)**

Earlier this year in this publication, I forgave Jason Reitman for Labor Day, because every great director delivers a dunker now and then. But after viewing his latest, *Men, Women and Children*, it seems evident that his Midas touch has turned to lead.

Unlike Labor Day, however, *Men, Women and Children* is a movie of buckling ambition, an attempt to comprehend the 21st-century zeitgeist that stretches all the way to the cosmos. In the opening image, the satellite Voyager caresses the wings of Saturn to a score of Woody Allen jazz music, while narration from Emma Thompson discusses the gold-plated recordings it houses, a survey of American culture curated by Carl Sagan.

What does this planetary framing device have to do with the terrestrial ensemble dramady we’re about to see? Not much, really, despite the tangential gazing and groping for significance the scenes assume later on. Reitman is not Terrence Malick; he tells more than he shows, and he never misses an opportunity for pretentious self-importance, the kind of which Sagan would have nothing to do with.

Here on Earth, a cluster of Texas families are in trouble, all of it exacerbated by technology: Don and Rachel Truby (Adam Sandler and Rosemarie DeWitt) escape their sexless marriage by drifting into the arms of other men; their 15-year-old son’s (Travis Tope) addiction to ever-more-deviant pornography is preachier than an after-school special, a sermon.

But I felt very little as this procession of ignominy continued its march into the abyss, and that’s because of the movie’s utter transparence, its schematic blueprint of pain. It’s calculated to a T, designed foremost as a cautionary tale, an after-school special, a sermon.

Indeed, *Men, Women and Children* is preacher than a megachurch keynote, a secular harangue that too often stretches credibility to make its grandiose points. It fundamentally undermines its seriousness in its final image of empty symbolism, a shot of stupefying naiveté masquerading as a profound societal corrective: Unplug, and your problems vanish. It almost makes me want to, finally, open up a Twitter account. — John Thomson

Tracks: A small, involving film about one woman’s 1,700-mile trek across the desert of Australia, *Tracks*, stars Mia Wasikowska (of Tim Burton’s *Alice in Wonderland*) as Robyn Davidson, the obsessed, stubborn, unstable woman determined to make the unsafe journey, even though she’s not sure why. She is not completely alone, for she takes along with her four camels and a dog, and gains the puppy dog attentions of a National Geographic magazine photographer (Adam Driver) who shows up at regular intervals. The film makes the Aussie landscape look at beautiful as it is foreboding. Ultimately, it is about the triumph of man—or, rather, woman—testing herself against nature. — Hap Erstein

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November 2014

The Wick Theatre PROUDLY PRESENTS

Leslie Uggams

MUSIC & LYRICS BY
Jerry Herman

BOOK BY
Jeremy Lawrence & Robert E. Lee

7091 North Federal Highway
Boca Raton, Florida 33437
561-995-2333 www.TheWick.org

“An absolute must-see” - National Geographic Traveler

Flagler Museum 2014 - Season Program Guide available now (561) 655-2833 or visit www.FlaglerMuseum.us/spg for a free copy

Fall Exhibition Kiss of the Ocean: The Rise of the Atlantic and the Pacific
The story of the Panama Canal, October 14 - January 4, 2015
Cafe des Beaux-Arts
Open for the Season in the Flagler Kenned Pavillion
November 28, 2014 - April 5, 2015
Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Festivities and Special Holiday Lecture
December 7, 2014 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Holiday Tours of Whitehall
December 18, 2014
11/1 - Shred Event Fundraiser at Lantana Commons - 1400 Glades Road, Boca Raton. All ages, children must be accompanied by an adult. 9 am-1 pm. Free. 544-8405 or www.lantanacommons.org


11/1 & 12/2 - Ocean Ridge - First Monday at Ocean Ridge Town Hall, 45400 N. Ocean Blvd. 6 pm. Agenda: www.oceanridgeflorida.com

11/1 - AJC Film Fora: A Recipe for Delicious Cinema by Shelly Ho Yee at FAU - First and third Thursdays at Delray Beach City Hall, 1001 NE 4th Ave. 7 pm. Free. Reservations: www.jewishfilm.org/florida

11/1 - Concert at Rafter Club w/ Sherry Norman at Rafter Club, 1801 N. Ocean Blvd., Delray Beach. 7:30 pm. $34/adults, $10/students. 272-1281, Ext. 4.

11/1 - Star Spangled Heroes: Meet the Vets at Daggerwing Park, 1510 SW 17th St., West Palm Beach, 6-8 pm. Presented by the American Legion Post 52. Reservations: 865-8666 or www.lwartleague.org

11/1-2 - Opera with Ariane Csonka Comstock: Sessions at the School of the Fine Arts, The Fitz Eugene Dixon Education Building, 2 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Camstohl brings her unique vision of the world of opera as metaphor for life itself. Mondays through 11/19. Noon-1:30 pm. $45/adults, $25/students, $56/season member. 297-3977.

11/1 - Black Swan Productions - Dance Ensemble/Fall Dance Series at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. Hosted by Shelly Isaacs. 11/3-11/4. Presented as part of the Boynton Beach Community Cultural Arts Series. 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. The performance features a diverse display of classical and contemporary dance by renowned dance choreographers, PBA faculty, students, and community members. The public is invited to enjoy the performances. Free. Reservations: 393-7852.

11/1 - Adopt-A-Family Day - Speaker: Frank Barbieri, Palm Beach County Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. 5 pm. Guest speakers will speak about its programs and the day's sales will benefit Adopt-A-Family, plus Lantana Firemen's Fund and Club Autism. Free. 567-6666 or info@adoptafamily.org.

11/1 - Tuesday - 11/4 - Election Day - State and Federal Municipal Elections

11/1 - Community Calendar - Delray Beach
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11/1 - Halloween at the Boys Club - Presented by the Boys Club of Boca Raton, 2000 Forest Ave., Boca Raton. Learn basic tricks such as Tamps, Apps (tip cup), and hand movements. November 1, 6:30 pm-9:30 pm. $5/resident, $8/non-member. 454-2366 or www.bcubo.org


11/1 - Community Calendar - Delray Beach
11/1 - Honey: a Natural History - Presented by the Cultural mikvah at James and Susan Patey at The College, 1555 N. Military Tr., Lake Worth. Free. 243-6995

11/1 - Empanda Day - City of Boca Raton. The event is a free celebration of Dominican culture with music, food, dance and more.

11/1 - Affordable Care Act Assistance at FAU Barry and Florence Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton. First of four lectures presented as part of the Fall Lecture Series at FAU Lifelong Learning Society. Annual membership: $45. Mondays through 11/19. 10:30-11:30 am. $34/member, $54/non-member, 297-3977.

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Honoring Our Veterans

Friday - 11/7 - Veterans Day Concert at Genesee Community College, Perry, 7601 Genesee Ave. Join the Genesee Community College Percussion Ensemble at 6:30 pm and the Finger Lakes West Swing Band at 8 pm. Free. 585-442-4200 or 585-442-2241.

Saturday - 11/8 -Tribute to Veterans at Vet Central Park, 4950 Main Street, Riga. See page 11 for details.

Sunday - 11/9 - Honor Flight Visit to West Point, Sleepy Hollow and Arlington National Cemetery. Call 914-237-9422 or email info@honorflightny.org for details and for Heroes at home.

NOVEMBER 9-15
- 11/9 - Volunteer Delray 2014 at Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach. The Volunteer Delray 2014 Poker Night is Friday, November 14th at 6:30 pm. To register or for more information please call 732-2861 or visit www.volunteer-delray.com.
- 11/9-10 - The Blown Away Bowl-a-Rama at Old School Bowling Center, 585-8664. The Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County hold their 30th annual bowling tournament. Free admission.
- 11/9-11 - National Blown Away Bowl-a-Rama at Old School Bowling Center, 585-8664. The Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County hold their 30th annual bowling tournament. Free admission.

11/10 - Rejoice Music Festival: Taccone Piano Competition at Palm Beach State College, 1000 S. Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach. Call 561-868-6000 or visit www.pbsc.edu/culture for information.

11/10 - 3rd Annual Delray Beach Wine and Seafood Festival at Old School Square, 51 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. Proceeds benefit the Delray Beach Center for the Arts. Call 655-6556 or visit www.delraybeachwineandfoodfestival.com.

11/11-16 - 5th Annual Boca Raton Wine & Food Festival at Old School Square, 51 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. Proceeds benefit the Delray Beach Center for the Arts. Call 655-6556 or visit www.delraybeachwineandfoodfestival.com.

11/10-16 - 5th Annual Boca Raton Wine & Food Festival at Old School Square, 51 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. Proceeds benefit the Delray Beach Center for the Arts. Call 655-6556 or visit www.delraybeachwineandfoodfestival.com.

11/12-13 - A Cappella Night at The Crest Theatre, 201 S. Military Trail, Palm Beach Gardens. The Coastal Living A Cappella Night features the Central Florida University A Cappella Ensemble, the West Palm Beach Community College Market Street Singers, and the Cypress Lake High School A Cappella Ensemble. Call 627-5500 or visit www.cresttheatre.org for information.

Friday - 11/7 - Veterans Day Concert at Genesee Community College, Perry, 7601 Genesee Ave. Join the Genesee Community College Percussion Ensemble at 6:30 pm and the Finger Lakes West Swing Band at 8 pm. Free. 585-442-4200 or 585-442-2241.

Saturday - 11/8 -Tribute to Veterans at Vet Central Park, 4950 Main Street, Riga. See page 11 for details.

Sunday - 11/9 - Honor Flight Visit to West Point, Sleepy Hollow and Arlington National Cemetery. Call 914-237-9422 or email info@honorflightny.org for details and for Heroes at home.

NOVEMBER 9-15
- 11/9-10 - The Blown Away Bowl-a-Rama at Old School Bowling Center, 585-8664. The Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County hold their 30th annual bowling tournament. Free admission.
- 11/9-11 - National Blown Away Bowl-a-Rama at Old School Bowling Center, 585-8664. The Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County hold their 30th annual bowling tournament. Free admission.

11/10 - Rejoice Music Festival: Taccone Piano Competition at Palm Beach State College, 1000 S. Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach. Call 561-868-6000 or visit www.pbsc.edu/culture for information.

11/10 - 3rd Annual Delray Beach Wine and Seafood Festival at Old School Square, 51 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. Call 655-6556 or visit www.delraybeachwineandfoodfestival.com.

11/11-16 - 5th Annual Boca Raton Wine & Food Festival at Old School Square, 51 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. Proceeds benefit the Delray Beach Center for the Arts. Call 655-6556 or visit www.delraybeachwineandfoodfestival.com.

11/10-16 - 5th Annual Boca Raton Wine & Food Festival at Old School Square, 51 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. Proceeds benefit the Delray Beach Center for the Arts. Call 655-6556 or visit www.delraybeachwineandfoodfestival.com.

11/12-13 - A Cappella Night at The Crest Theatre, 201 S. Military Trail, Palm Beach Gardens. The Coastal Living A Cappella Night features the Central Florida University A Cappella Ensemble, the West Palm Beach Community College Market Street Singers, and the Cypress Lake High School A Cappella Ensemble. Call 627-5500 or visit www.cresttheatre.org for information.

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**November 20-22**

**Saturday - 11/20 - West Palm Beach Art & Antiques Art (A) to Z at Sag Harbor Sand Parking Community, 301 N. Dixie Hwy, Boynton Beach. An array of art from local artists at 304 booths. Entry at the gate. 10 am-5 pm. 772-345-3797.

**Sunday - 11/21 - Jewish Book Fair - A Celebration of Books** - Presented by Ahavath Achim. A celebration of books and Jewish culture with children's, Jewish, and general books for adults from 11 am-4 pm. No pets or outside food/beverages. 7:30-10:30 pm. 462-6222 or www.bookfairpbc.org.

**November 23-29**

**Sunday - 11/23 - Get in the Run SRX** - Presented by 661 Palm Circle. The Implosion Run is a community event set to ignite the community, friends, families, andSRX runners. No pets or outside food/beverages. 7:30 am-12 pm. 772-395-9622 or http://www.theimplosionrun.com.

**Monday - 11/24 - Adult Portraiture Class** - Presented by the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Federal Hwy, Boynton Beach. Participants are introduced to the process of portraiture when they take this course. 9 am-4 pm. $12. Registration: 742-6221.

**Tuesday - 11/25 - Confessions of a Falsehood Standard** - Presented by the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Federal Hwy, Boynton Beach. Delve into the world of fiction and discover the skills needed to create a convincing lie. 11/17, 11/18, 11/20, 11/21, 11:30 am-1:30 pm. $40, $50, students, $12.50, seniors, registration: 742-6221.

**November 26-22**

**Saturday - 11/26 - Holiday Tree Lighting** - Presented by the Boca Raton Preservation Society at Mizner Park. The tree will be lit, and Santa will be on hand to distribute tokens to children. 6-9 pm. Free. 644-4848.

**Sunday - 11/27 - Men's Break: Hoppin' Hot** - Presented by the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Federal Hwy, Boynton Beach. Participants are introduced to the process of portraiture when they take this course. 9 am-4 pm. $12. Registration: 742-6221.

**Monday - 11/28 - Holiday Tree Lighting** - Presented by the Boca Raton Preservation Society at Mizner Park. The tree will be lit, and Santa will be on hand to distribute tokens to children. 6-9 pm. Free. 644-4848.
relationship between the Jewish people and W. Atlantic Ave. Discussion spans the 1000 year
Monday - 12/1 - The Israel-China Free. www.artfestival.com
along 4th Ave. and Atlantic Ave. 10 am-5 pm.
boutiques, salons, spas and galleries. All day.
support more than 400 unique downtown
in downtown Delray Beach. Shop small and
pm; Sun.: Lunch: 1 pm; show starts at 3pm. Pre-
the Atlantis Country Club, 190 Atlantis Blvd.,
at [email_address] or www.bocafed.org.
266-9490.
Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County
- Presented
12/1 - Reading Behind The Words: Lifelong
by Dr. Robert Watson as part of the
12/5 at Boca Raton Public Library, 400
- Presented
12/1 - Epiphany: The Ultimate Tribute
- Presented
12/1 - Eyes to the Skies
- Presented
367-7073.
Newly 1500+ box office seating. For tickets:
12/6 - Grunge & Glamour Retro Fusion -
832-7469. 
12/6 - Shell Chic Designs with Robin
12/8 & 15. 2-3:30 pm. $45/three sessions.
RFCD. Free. 561-278-0424 or 100ftchristmastree.com.
Festivities begin at 5pm; lighting at 7:15pm.
12/5 - A Holiday Wish - Presented as part of the
12/5 - Eyes to the Skies
- Presented
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Delray Surf Festival celebrates the beach lifestyle

Even if the waves aren’t big, it’s always a fun time at the Delray Beach Surf Festival. “Our motto of the whole surf festival is the winner is the one who is having the most fun,” said Sven Mautner, organizer of the event. “If the waves were, fantasy. . .fantsy. . .This is sort of a family fun surf festival.”

In the event’s second year, there’s a slew of activities planned to entertain people of all ages — in addition to the surf competitions.

Among the events is a clown show, beach games, relays, prizes, food, music and hundreds of people, all celebrating the beach.

For younger kids, there’s a boogie board “competition” where they can help push children into the waves.

One of the more popular activities for kids is digging in the sand for shark teeth. The teeth were all collected during a local dredging project.

“Kids have the shark teeth,” Mautner said. “Kids can take them home.”

There’s then the really intense competition: tug-of-war.

On either side of the rope, opposing sides could be one local Basalt restaurant against the other. Surfers against lifeguards. One family against another.

Then there’s the wave intensity competition: all hands on deck tug-of-war. That’s when hundreds of people grab the rope at the same time to tug.

In other words, it’s not just about winning; it’s about the vibe … it’s very friendly. We have a good mix of short boarders, long boarders and paddlers and everyone knows everyone. Crystal clear blue water and a gorgeous beach. Plenty of parking.”

But if there are waves, then, yes, there will be surfing. The competition can be stiff among teenagers. There are also divisions for 10 and under, and 35 and up.

There are surfing prizes in categories such as most courageous and longest ride.

The event is nonprofit, and the mayor of Delray Beach supports the event as surf, said Mautner. All proceeds for the festival will go toward the purchase of two beach chair lifts so that people with disabilities can safely enjoy the water.

Tots & Teens Calendar

**NOVEMBER 1**

- 11/1 - Coral Reef Shark Feedings at Sugar Sand Park, 300 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton. American Red Cross Certified staff covers a simulated real-world environment. Attendees will be put on to celebrate new found skills after the five weeks of training. Mondays through 12/13. 5-5:30 pm; $125/residents, $150/non-residents. 534-7900 or www.SugarSandPark.org.
- 11/1 - Teen Tournament: Naruto Revolution at the Boynton Beach Community Center, 129 E. Ocean Ave. Kids can participate in a wide variety of activities that support the Boynton Beach Community Center, including karate, rock climbing, archery, and ceramics. Cash prizes are given to the participants who support the Boynton Beach Community Center, 129 E. Ocean Ave. Colorful and fun theme.
- 11/1 - Food & Film Experience for ages 7-9 at Sugar Sand Park, 300 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton. Students write a script, create locations, learn multi-angle filming techniques, act, edit, and score sounds, effects, music, and sound effects. 9 am - 1 pm; $88/resident, $110/non-resident; Full six-week session: $97/resident, $120/non-resident. 347-9900.
- 11/1 - Teen Tournament: Naruto at the Highland Beach Library, 1641 S. Ocean Blvd. Challenge your friends to a friendly gaming tournament. Grades 6-12. 3-5 pm; Free. 436-1409.
- 11/1 - Food & Film Experience for ages 7-9 at Sugar Sand Park, 300 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton. Students write a script, create locations, learn multi-angle filming techniques, act, edit, and score sounds, effects, music, and sound effects. 9 am - 1 pm; $88/resident, $110/non-resident; Full six-week session: $97/resident, $120/non-resident. 347-9900.
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**November 9-15**

**Monday 11/9** - Musical Theater & Dance Class for ages 5-9 at the Boynton Beach Community Center, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. Learn martini routines to your favorite dance and show songs. Class will improve coordination, stage presence, creative thinking and public speaking. Adult girls - black leotard and shorts; boys - white shirt and black tights. $50/non-resident. 347-3916.

**Monday 11/9** - Teen Crafternoon: Dream Catchers at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. Learn about various Native American cultures and make dream catchers. 3-5 pm. Free. 742-6900.

**Tuesday 11/10** - One Day Skate Camp at 505 Teen Center & Hobbit Skate Park, 505 SE 5th Ave., Delray Beach. Board set-up, safety helmets and knee/elbow pads. 5-15 years of age. $106.25/non-resident; ages 18 & up: 6:30-8:30 pm, $100/resident, $125/non-resident. 243-7158.


**Tuesday 11/10** - Tae Kwon Do at Sand Park Field House, 300 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton. High-quality instruction for aspiring martial artists. Ages 5-8 at 4:30-5:30 pm, ages 9-11 at 5:30-6:30 pm. $100/residents, $125/non-residents. 742-6650.

**Tuesday 11/10** - Claying Around at the Boynton Beach Art Center, 125 SE 2nd Ave. Kids learn to achieve a variety of effects in pencil, watercolor, charcoal and pastel while exploring various techniques using clay. All supplies included. Ages 5-12. Winter through 12/22. Ages 5-8: $4-7.90 am. $4/week, $25/resident, $30/non-resident. Registration: 742-6650.

**Tuesday 11/10** - Mommy, Mother Nature & Me: Fall & Winter Exploration at the Boynton Beach Art Center, 125 SE 2nd Ave. Each week a different theme is explored in a whole new way as they experiment with paints, natural materials and crafts. Ages 3 1/2-5. Thursdays through 12/18. 9-11 am. $36/residents, $45/non-residents. Registration: 742-6650.

**Tuesday 11/10** - Imagination Station at the Schoolhouse Children's Museum, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. Get creative with one week or a series of four paintings in four hours. Materials included. Wednesdays through 11/14. Ages 5-7. 4:45-6:15 pm, $55/resident, $70/non-resident, $85/week, ages 8-13: 4:30-6:00 pm, per class, $55/resident, $70/resident, $95/non-resident. Full session, $100/resident, $125/non-resident. 347-9484 or www.SugarSandScienceCenter.org.

**Thursday 11/12** - Futsal (Indoor Soccer) at Intracoastal Park, 2240 N. Federal Highway, Boynton Beach. An age-appropriate sport designed to produce a masterpiece of their very own. Ages 5-12. Thursdays through 12/18. Ages 5-8: 3:30-5:30 pm, $40/residents, $50/non-residents. 742-6650.

**Friday 11/13** - Parents Night Out: Egyptian Mummies at the Schoolhouse Children's Museum, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. An age-appropriate program that takes children on a fun experiment. 6-9:30 pm. $20/residents, $25/non-residents. 742-6650 or www.boyntonlibrary.org.

**Saturday 11/14** - Spectacular Spiders & Wonderful Webs at the South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreher Trail North, West Palm Beach. High-quality instruction for aspiring marine biologists. Grades K-5. 9:30-11:30 am. $36/residents, $45/non-residents. Registration: 742-6650.

**Sunday 11/15** - One Day Skate Camp at 505 Teen Center & Hobbit Skate Park, 505 SE 5th Ave., Delray Beach. Board set-up, safety helmets and knee/elbow pads. 5-15 years of age. $106.25/non-resident; ages 18 & up: 6:30-8:30 pm, $100/resident, $125/non-resident. 243-7158.

**Monday 11/17** - Teen Crafternoon: Cooking Fun Class at 505 Teen Center & Hobbit Skate Park, 505 SE 5th Ave., Delray Beach. Boynton Bites. Cooking skills or bring a favorite activity to work and share. For grades 7-12. 4:30-5:30 pm. 742-6390 or www.boyntonlibrary.org.

**Monday 11/17** - Spectacular Spiders & Wonderful Webs at the South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreher Trail North, West Palm Beach. High-quality instruction for aspiring marine biologists. Grades K-5. 9:30-11:30 am. $36/residents, $45/non-residents. Registration: 742-6650.

**Tuesday 11/17** - Teen Crafternoon: Dream Catchers at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd.
FITE SHAVELL DOMINATES THE MANALAPAN AND PT MANALAPAN MARKETS IN 2014!

More sales than our top 10 competitors combined and 4 times the sales of our nearest competitor

Manalapan and Pt Manalapan Sales Volume

Note: All sales data collected from the Palm Beach MLS for transactions closed Jan 1, 2014 through September 24, 2014.

DUNES OF OCEAN RIDGE
Boutique style 3BR/2.5BA Oceanfront endline with over 3,000 total SF. Large living room, kitchen with high-end appliances, dining room, and outdoor patio of Chicago brick for relaxing and grilling your favorite catch. Wonderful amenities including large pool, gym, bath grounds and wide sandy beaches. $949,900

5 LITTLE POND
Charming 3BR/3.5BA villa located on the secure tropical island of Manalapan and nestled in a neighborhood of multi-million dollar estates. This secret paradise is only minutes from Atlantic Ocean and the 5 Star EAU Resort and Spa, where property owners are provided amenities at no charge. $749,900

NEW LISTING
1370 S OCEAN BLVD
One of only two "Manalapan direct Ocean front estates" boasting 3000+ feet or more of direct Ocean frontage. Shingle/Modern Transitional style house encompasses the best of modern beach living. This newly remodeled house features 7200 sf, guest house and completely new pool recreation area with slide and rock features imported from Hawaii. All new hurricane doors and windows. Price available upon request.

1495 LANDS END RD
10,953 SF. 6BR/6.3BA estate on an oversized intracoastal lot with panoramic water views. Resort-like backyard with heated pool/Spa and a large covered patio. $4,995,000

1595 LANDS END RD
4BR/4.5BA home with spectacular water views. 190 x 110 SF lot with pool and dock. Residents at Manalapan enjoy grants, beach club membership, with resort amenities. $2,795,000

DELRAY BEACH
648 George Bush Blvd.
561.243.6000

PALM BEACH
101 North County Rd.
561.655.6570

NORTH PALM BEACH
11237 US Hwy. 1
561.694.6550

Bill Quigley
561.346.3454
wquigley@fitsheavell.com

Jack Ellinson
561.373.2989
jellinso@fitsheavell.com

Bunny Hiatt
561.818.6044
bhiatt@fitsheavell.com
“If you put it out there that you are going to provide for 250 people, you watch how God strikes his hand to provide, and you realize how blessed we are.”

Sherry Johnson, CCC director

A sampling of the foods the Cornucopia project provides to the needy. Flowers and cornucopia provided by Lynda Tatara of The Blossom Shoppes in Boynton Beach. Photo by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

Time of plenty, time of need

By Jan Norris

More than 250 families will have a complete holiday dinner on their tables for Thanksgiving this year, thanks to the Community Caring Center of Greater Boynton Beach — and a whole community of volunteers.

The CCC’s Cornucopia program, now in its 12th year, depends on donations of food and money as well as volunteer time from a number of community organizations to fill and distribute the Cornucopia “baskets” of foods to needy families.

“We strive for 250 baskets,” said Sherry Johnson, director of the Boynton Beach center that also runs the Secret Garden

See CORNUCOPIA on page H2
CORNUCOPIA  
Continued from page H1

Cafe. “But we’ve been so blessed — in some years, we received food from R.J. Gators and other places, and exceeded that number by hundreds. We served as many as 890 families one year.”

The number of filled baskets is usually around 325, she said — and figuring for families of four, that’s a minimum of 1,300 people fed during the project. “We give them the food — a voucher for a turkey, ham or chicken — and the basket of rice, sweet potatoes, green beans, stuffing, celery, onions, gravy packets. They’re able to put together a traditional meal, cooked at home to their liking,” she said.

Jill Clemens of Boynton Beach, a caretaker for an elderly friend, has been able to find full-time work. She received a Cornucopia basket to help feed her son and her father last year. “It really helps a lot,” she said. “They give you a bunch of veggies and other food, and a voucher for a turkey.”

She’s able to stretch food for several meals, and often can get both a small turkey and a ham with the voucher, making it all about feeding even more meals.

“I’m having a hard time, taking care of the elderly gentleman, getting him his infusions and take care of whatever he needs at his apartment, so this is a big help to us,” she said.

The recipients are chosen by application which are accepted from mid-September through mid-October. Donations come in from all over, thanks to involvement with areawide food drives like Project Thanksgiving and Food for Families.

Sandra Vanegas works with Johnson as the coordinator of the Cornucopia program at CCC. She also works to help coordinate the dozens of families that receive food and other aid from the center throughout the year.

How to help

The Community Caring Center puts out the following wish list for items to include in its Cornucopia baskets. To be included, donations are needed by Nov. 17.

• 500 cans of green beans and/or cranberry sauce
• 250 boxes of stuffing mix and/or mashed potatoes
• 250 packages of gravy mix
• 250 (1-pound) bags of rice
• 250 cans of pumpkin pie mix and/or sweet potatoes or yams
• 250 bunches of celery
• 250 (3-pound bags) of potatoes
• 500 packets of gravy mix

Volunteers are needed to pick up foods, organize the baskets and hand them out at the CCC on Nov. 22. For information, contact the Community Caring Center, 364-9951, Ext. 22 or 25. Money donations can be mailed to the Community Caring Center of Greater Boynton Beach, 145 NE Fourth Ave., Boynton Beach, FL 33435.

Miracle Chef

Boca Helping Hands, Boca Raton — October 17

Six teams of volunteers ‘competed’ with one another during Boca Helping Hands’ Miracle Chef event Oct. 17. The teams prepared dishes using nothing but recovered food, drawing attention to the need for food recovery in our community. Supporters and volunteers enjoyed sampling dishes that often fill the plates of the 175-200 served daily at Boca Helping Hands. ABOVE: Chef Doug Kinzer, ‘Team Cuisine’ enjoys sharing his mashed potato creation. To learn more about food recovery and efforts to feed those living with food insecurity in Boca Raton, contact Bozena Szalobryt at Bozena@bocahelpinghands.org. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

“We do take applications from others, but we want to make sure our own clients are taken care of before we open it to the needy beyond our community.”

Vanegas said the Palm Beach County Food Bank helps a number of other centers and organizations who help feed the needy, and the center coordinates with them and local congregations to make sure everyone highlighted as needy gets a holiday meal.

Churches and synagogues put out the call from the shopping list, and they take a collection, sometimes for a specific food — say, a case of onions or canned green beans. “Seniors at Sterling Village donate in lieu of their 85th birthday gifts,” Johnson said. “There are Red Hat societies, woman’s clubs, fire departments, sports leagues and others who get together to donate. “Rorabeck Produce usually donates the celery and onions — those are sometimes the hardest to get,” she notes.

The city and its workers are important to the program as well, she said. “Lori Lavertere (city manager) and her staff, and Karen Abramson in the library are wonderful supporters of our efforts.”

At the library, the program “Food for Fines” provides donations to the baskets in lieu of fines for overdue books. “She’s always in awe, she said, at how it all comes together from so many sources. “If you put it out there that you are going to provide for 250 people, you watch how God strikes his hand to provide, and you realize how blessed we are.”

The most important item for donation is the turkey, Johnson said. “First gifts of $10 go to buy vouchers from Publix, Walmart and Winn-Dixie.”

The foods and voucher are sometimes enough to help a struggling family eat through the next month, she said.

A youth group that changes to provide for 250 people, you watch how God strikes his hand to provide, and you realize how blessed we are.”

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Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County salutes the organizations we fund that provide high-quality services and evidence-based programs for children, parents and caregivers. Because of these organizations’ work, more children are born healthy, grow up safe from abuse and neglect, are ready for kindergarten and have access to afterschool and summer programs.

ORGANIZATIONS, PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

These organizations offer the following programs and services for children, parents and caregivers in the funding year beginning Oct. 1, 2014:

- The Arc of Palm Beach County, Inc.
  - First Step to Success, Healthy Steps for Young Children
- The Center for Family Services of PBC, Inc.
  - Prenatal Plus Mental Health Services
  - Triple P (Positive Parenting Program)
- Children’s Forum, Inc.
  - Quality Program Assessment
- Children’s Home Society of Florida
  - BRIDGES
  - Wyma’s Teen Outreach Program (TOP)
- Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County
  - CSC Scholarship Initiative
  - GOLD Assessment Management
- Easter Seals Florida, Inc.
  - Early Steps
- Families First of Palm Beach County
  - Healthy Families Florida
- Family Central, Inc.
  - Family Child Care Home Technical Assistance Specialists
- Father Flanagan’s Boys Town Florida, Inc.
  - Primary Project
- Florida Department of Health/Palm Beach County
  - Data Entry Team
  - Dentist Services for Pregnant Women
  - Healthy Beginnings Nurses
  - Nurse-Family Partnership
  - WHIN Nurses
- Health Council of Southeast Florida, Inc.
  - Fetal and Infant Mortality Review
- Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies Coalition of PBC, Inc.
  - Centering Program
  - Centering Program Expansion
  - Healthy Beginnings Entry Agency (Prenatal)
  - MaimiCare
- HomeSafe, Inc.
  - Growing Smart
  - Healthy Beginnings Entry Program (Birth to 5)
- Housing Partnership, Inc.
  - BRIDGES
  - Wyma’s Teen Outreach Program (TOP)
- The Jerome Golden Center for Behavioral Health, Inc.
  - Healthy Beginnings Mental Health Services
- Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County, Inc.
  - Budding Readers
  - Gables Family Education Program
  - Parent-Child Home Program Oversight
  - Reach Out and Read Program
- Lutheran Services Florida, Inc.
  - Head Start Program Match Funds
  - PEPP Head Start Program Matching Funds
- Nutritional Lifestyles, Inc.
  - Prenatal Plus Nutrition Service
- Palm Beach State College
  - Professional Development System
  - SEEK Scholarships
  - Parent-Child Home Program
- Parent-Child Center, Inc.
  - Healthy Beginnings Mental Health Services
  - Triple P (Positive Parenting Program)
- Parents to Prosperity, Inc.
  - Circle Campaign at BRIDGES
- Prime Time Palm Beach County, Inc.
  - Afterschool Program Development
  - Enhanced Learning Opportunities
- Redlands Christian Migrant Association, Inc.
  - Matching Funding
- School Board of Palm Beach County, Florida
  - Technical Assistance Specialists
- Single Cell Foundation of Palm Beach County and Treasure Coast, Inc.
  - Community Value
- Tomas Bolyan
  - Healthy Beginnings Transportation Consultant
- Urban League of Palm Beach County, Inc.
  - Wyma’s Teen Outreach Program (TOP)
- Other programs & services provided by Children’s Services Council
  - Incredible Years
  - Triple P (Positive Parenting Program)
  - Training & Materials
- New programs & services in 2014-2015
  - Capacity Building Initiative
  - Child First Program, Training and Materials
  - GOLD Assessment
  - Help Me Grow
  - Developmental Services
- Prenatal Services
  - Mental Health Services
  - Teen Triple P (Positive Parenting Program)

OUR PARTNERS

Children’s Services Council also partners with the following organizations to serve our children:

- Florida Rural Legal Services, Inc.
  - Access for Success (Glades)
- Friends of Community Services, Inc.
  - Summer Camp Scholarship Program
- Health Council of Southeast Florida, Inc.
  - PBC Counts Portal Collaborative
- Housing Partnership, Inc.
  - Safe Kids Coalition of Palm Beach County
- Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County, Inc.
  - Juvenile and Foster Children’s Projects
  - Relative Caregivers Project
- Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County, Inc.
  - Early Literacy Book Distribution
- Nonprofits First, Inc.
  - Agency Certification and Management Services
- Palm Beach Board of County Commissioners
  - Drowning Prevention
- Palm Beach County Education Commission, Inc.
  - Initiative
- Palm Beach County Food Bank, Inc.
  - PBC Food Bank, Inc.
- Resource Depot, Inc.
  - Initiative
- United Way of Palm Beach County, Inc.
  - 211 of Palm Beach/Treasure Coast
  - Common Eligibility
  - Continuous Improvement Initiative
  - Mentoring Initiative
  - Non Profit Legal Assistance Program
  - Special Needs Initiative

CHILD CARE & AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

- About 17,000 children receive Children’s Services Council scholarships for child care and afterschool care.
- More than 200 child care providers, such as Opportunity Inc. and Delray Achievement Center, participate in our quality improvement system. For a list, visit: [www.cscpbc.org/childcare](http://www.cscpbc.org/childcare)
- More than 120 afterschool programs, such as Boys & Girls Club, Adopt-A-Family and FAU-Pine Jog, receive educational enhancements, such as science, technology, engineering, arts and culture and math. For a list, visit: [www.cscpbc.org/afterschool](http://www.cscpbc.org/afterschool)

For more information about Children’s Services Council of Palm Beach County, please visit our website: [www.cscpbc.org](http://www.cscpbc.org) or call the Parent Info Line: 888-634-7900
FEATURED LISTING

NEW WATERFRONT HOME ON INLET CAY
Ocean Ridge, NEW CONSTRUCTION FEBRUARY 2015. Enjoy magnificent sunset views looking down the canal onto the intracoastal built by Varga Homes, Inc. Features: 4 BR/5.5 BA, 4,448 SF, 4 BR + Study, marble floors and too many details to mention. Boat Lift $2,095M.
Steven Presson 561.843.6057, stevenpresson.com

BEST VIEWS ANYWHERE
Bayton Beach. Magnificent, Custom 4 BR + Study home with own white sandy beach overlooking Manasquan Oceanfront Homes. Priced to Sell $1,495M.
Steven Presson 561.843.6057, stevenpresson.com

NEW LISTING
RIDGE HARBOUR ESTATES
Ocean Ridge. Renovated custom built 2-story 3 BR/2.5 bath, 3,100+ SF, deep-water dock, Fabulous floor plan, windowed ceilings, large impact doors & windows w/electric shades, plantation shutters, tile & wood flooring. $1,349M.
Steven Presson 561.843.6057, stevenpresson.com

SELLER WANTS OFFERS
SENSATIONAL VALUE IN GULF STREAM
Gulf Stream. This 8,900 SF Bermuda style 3-story home with expansive views overlooking golf course, 6-car parking garage, gourmet kitchen, impact windows & doors. Priced for immediate sale. $2,795M W/L 4 3299789
Steven Presson 561.843.6057, stevenpresson.com

NEW LISTING
INCOME PRODUCING PROPERTY NEAR BEACH
Ocean Ridge. Close to the ocean, this 2,000 SF duplex with 3 BR, 3 bath can be a wonderful winter getaway home or for investors, a highly flexible, leaseable rental property. CBS construction, large eat in kitchen, 6 beautiful garden views. Steven Presson 561.843.6057, stevenpresson.com

SALE PENDING
NEW CONSTRUCTION IN OCEAN RIDGE JUST COMPLETED
Steven Presson 561.843.6057, stevenpresson.com

INcredible OPPORTUNITY FOR UNDER $1-MILLION
Ocean Ridge. Beautiful custom built 5,400 SF home offers 5 BRs and 6.5 baths located on a .4 acre lot on a beautiful cul-de-sac. Cypress wood ceiling, gorgeous wood flooring, 40x28-foot living/dining area. $995K
Steven Presson 561.843.6057, stevenpresson.com

Client Testimonial:
“Dear Steven, Thanks so much for representing the sale of our home in Ocean Ridge last year. It’s easy to see after working with you why you are so successful in your business. You are a true gentleman and very easy to work with. We always felt we were in the best of hands with you and appreciate all that you do.” Sincerely, Ocean Ridge Seller 2013.

Steven Presson
Top 1% Nationwide
Integrity, Persistence, Results.
561.843.6057 | steven.presson@corcoran.com

corcoran
corcoran group real estate
SOUTH FLORIDA NEW YORK THE HAMPTONS
www.stevenpresson.com
WHERE LUXURY HOME BUYERS GO FOR COASTAL COMMUNITY PROPERTIES ON THE INTERNET

- INCREIBLE OCEANFRONT ESTATE
  - 3.29 M Acreage on 1.02 acres on the Ocean
  - Sold
  - Steven Presson
  - 561.843.6057
  - stevenpresson.com

- RARE BEACH BLOCK OPPORTUNITY
  - Newly renovated 3 BR home on the water
  - Sold
  - Steven Presson
  - 561.843.6057
  - stevenpresson.com

- WATERFRONT VALUE
  - Unique opportunity to live on the water in a renovated home
  - Sold
  - Steven Presson
  - 561.843.6057
  - stevenpresson.com

- WATERFRONT DREAM DESTINATION
  - Spectacular 1 story completely renovated 4 BR home
  - Offered at $1,995,000
  - Sold
  - Steven Presson
  - 561.843.6057
  - stevenpresson.com

- MCCORMICK MILE WATERFRONT
  - Best of Old Florida on the water
  - Sold
  - Steven Presson
  - 561.843.6057
  - stevenpresson.com

- OLD FLORIDA LIVING ON THE WATER
  - Newly renovated 3 BR home on the water
  - Sold
  - Steven Presson
  - 561.843.6057
  - stevenpresson.com

- BOATERS PARADISE
  - Henry handling style home with 300 ft of water frontage
  - Offered at $1,995,000
  - Sold
  - Steven Presson
  - 561.843.6057
  - stevenpresson.com

- ELEGANT WATERFRONT HOME
  - Enjoy the charm of this impressive 4 BR, 3 Bath home
  - Offered at $1,995,000
  - Sold
  - Steven Presson
  - 561.843.6057
  - stevenpresson.com
Moms, tots combine quality time outdoors and fitness


That’s because the hourlong Stroller Mommy ‘n Me workout is designed to get moms in shape — while having fun. The group meets at Veterans Park in Delray Beach, then “strolls” over to A1A, combining intervals of power walking and jogging with strength training. “My program is unique because you get to be with your child while getting fit in the great outdoors looking at the beautiful ocean. No gym can offer you that,” explains the 49-year-old Delray Beach resident.

“I find and hear that the first thing new moms give up is their workout and interaction with the outside world, and that’s exactly what they need. Working out is just not for your body, it also benefits your mental health.”

Erin Omiatek Ortiz agrees. “After having my daughter, I had gained 60 pounds from not working out and being on bed rest most of my pregnancy. When I went to begin my training with April she inspired me to get back to ‘me.’ She asked questions and share their stories,” explains the 49-year-old Boynton Beach resident.

“I wanted to do something with the boys. I love teaching my kids and the stroller stride classes take place inside the mall,” she explains. “My program is unique because you get to be with your child while getting fit in the great outdoors looking at the beautiful ocean. No gym can offer you that.”

April Markee’s fitness class is no stroll in the park. “Unfortunately, I was not able to have children so my biggest obstacle starting this class was getting a group of moms together, since I did not belong to any mommy groups. So you can imagine when my first mommies showed up to a class and there I was with an empty stroller, a sign on the front and the seat filled with weights and bands. It was a little awkward for the first few minutes.”

But it didn’t take long for her to form a bond with both moms and babies. “I love teaching my mommies and watching their babies grow. I never thought I would get so attached to the babies. And I enjoy the friendships with the moms,” she says.

And, of course, the chance to help others get in shape. “I change the workout daily depending on the fitness level of the moms, the ages of the babies and what area of the body they want to focus on,” she explains.

“I’ve had several moms call and say ‘April, I’m overweight, out of shape and embarrassed to go to a gym, will I be able to do your class?’ The answer is yes. The mommies are all in the same boat at one point, so they are a very welcoming and an understanding group. All my exercises can be modified — they are for all fitness levels, and the mommies can go at their own pace.”

But, she admits with a smile: “I always kick their butts.” (She’s right: This is one tough class. I couldn’t keep up — and, since my son is 20, I wasn’t even pushing a stroller).”

Jean Warner drives nearly an hour from her Wellington home at least twice a week to join the class. “I wanted to do something with the boys and meet other moms,” says the 41-year-old mother of a 4-month old and a 14-month old. “I love it. We sweat a lot so we must be working hard.”

For Lisa Hawk, the class has an unexpected and delightful benefit. Her 20-month-old son, Barrett, always takes a good nap after a class. “He is outside, he is engaged, he enjoys all the different sights and sounds and gets to meet other babies,” says the 41-year-old Boynton Beach resident.

It’s a come-as-you are group, says Markee: “We don’t judge, you can show up with spit-up on your shirt, you can talk to other mommies, you can stop to breastfeed or fuss with your child. We are the only fitness class that stops for a pee and poop break, and for $10 it’s cheaper than a babysitter.”

Markee also leads a stroller exercise group at Okeeheelee Park and customizes workouts for groups of five or more who want to meet in other areas. For more information, visit strollermommy.me.com.

Linda Haase is a freelance writer on a quest to learn — and share — all she can about how to get and stay healthy. Reach her at lindawrites76@gmail.com.
Health & Harmony Calendar

If back pain is hurting your life, seek the help of Delray Medical Center for help. Our board-certified some surgeons and highly skilled nurses and therapists provide advanced, minimally invasive procedures that offer a faster recovery and shorter length of stay than traditional surgeries. Our team is experienced in complex spinal procedures and offers some of the latest treatment techniques, along with comprehensive rehabilitation services. So stop suffering and get back to living with the talented team at Delray Medical Center.

Health & Harmony

NOVEMBER 1
Saturday - 11/1 - Capoeira Fitness
Resident, $27/non-resident. 393-7807.

Two sessions: Wednesdays - Mixed ages &

11/1 - Judo Class -
$15/residents, $19/non-residents per class, or

the Intracoastal Waterway. Cash not accepted
Community Center. Held on grass overlooking
at the Boca Raton Community Center, 150
1400 N. Ocean Blvd., Boca Raton. Registration
Every Saturday - Every Saturday
am; class: 9 am. Free. 393-7703.

Hwy., Boca Raton. Every Sat. Registration: 8:45
modifications are given to accommodate
at Sugar Sand Park

11/3 - Meditation Mondays
Mondays. 7 pm. Free. 278-5455.

Beach Library, 3618 S. Ocean Blvd. Meditate
11/3 - Tuck Jazzie Jam Aerobics
at the Ezell
5300 or www.faulkcenterforcounseling.org.

11/3 - Men's Issues Support Group
meets every Monday at the Faulk Center for
11/3 - Yoga with Rassika Sabine Bourgi
at Sugar Sand Park Field House, 300 S. Military
477-8727 or www.ci.boca-raton.fl.us.

residents, $81.25/non-residents; 10 classes:
9:30-11 am & Th.: 6:30-8 pm. 5 classes: $65/
non-residents. 243-7350.

11/3 - Yoga for ages 18 and
non-residents. 954-913-7659.

11/3 - Taxis For Peace
11/3 - Get FitMom's Boot Camp
at Sugar Sand Park Field House, 300 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton.
9:00 am. Free. 203-7350.

11/3 - Ask the Physician Lecture Series
at Bethesda Hospital East, Clayton Conference Center, 2011 S. Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach. 4:30 pm. Free. 731-2273.

11/4 - Women's Issues Support Group
11/4 - Breastfeeding Support Group

at the Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd., Boca Raton. 9:10 am. Free. 393-7703.

11/4 - Moving Forward: Support and

11/4 - Emotional Support Group
Thursday - 11/6 - Emotional Support Group
11/4 - Get FitMom's Boot Camp of Sugar Sand Field House, 300 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton.
Carlo exercises, strength training, running drills, body weight resistance training, agility drills and core strengthening. Perfect
for new moms to get back on track and as well as moms to be staying active and fit during pregnancy. Modifications given
to accommodate all levels of fitness. 16/30- 10:40-12:40 am; 6 classes: $56/residents, $67/non-
residents; 8 classes: $32/residents, $38/non-
residents. 11/4-393.

11/4 - Yoga for ages 18 and

11/5 - Modern Line Dance Class
11/5 - Yoga for ages 18 and
non-residents. 16 classes: $96/residents, $120/
非-residents. 11/5-393.

11/5 - Ask the Physicians Lecture Series
11/5 - Yoga for ages 18 and

11/5 - Ask the Physician Lecture Series
2011 S. Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach. 4:30 pm. Free. 731-2273.

11/5 - Get FitMom's Boot Camp
at Sugar Sand Park
477-8727 or www.ci.boca-raton.fl.us.

residents, $76/non-residents; 20 classes:
$200/homes; $252/homes
non-residents. 477-8721 or www.boca-ra
non-residents.

11/5 - Get FitMom's Boot Camp
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non-residents. 477-8721 or www.boca-ra
non-residents.
While we are full of good intentions, many of us postpone or cancel workouts with co-workers, friends and family members. We are just too tired, too busy or too stressed to sweat.

We have become a nation of expanding waistlines with one in three Americans deemed overweight. But the more shocking headline is that nearly one in two adult dogs is plump, sporting more waddle than wiggle. Sadly, many canine chums are following their people down the path to obesity, all the way to the last table scrap.

Fortunately in South Florida, there’s a dog-loving fitness duo committed to making fitness fun and to bringing out the best behaviors in our best workout buddies — our dogs.

I recently caught up with David Acosta, fitness trainer with Camp Gladiator, an outdoor fitness boot camp in Delray Beach, and Jorge Mendiola, dog trainer extraordinaire who operates All Star Dogs Inc. throughout South Florida.

Earlier this year, Acosta was leading a fitness boot camp class outside at the Old School Square in Delray Beach when he noticed Mendiola practicing various obedience cues with his very talented young golden retriever named Shaylee and a client’s German shepherd. “Jorge was getting these dogs to do amazing tricks,” recalls Acosta. “The dogs were excited, pacing quickly right beside him, making sharp turns and leaping up on cue. Everyone, including Jorge, seemed to be having fun.

Jorge noticed Acosta motivating his students through their fitness moves of planks, squats and lunges. After class, Jorge and his very talented young golden retriever named Shaylee and a client’s German shepherd.

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Jorge noticed Acosta motivating his students through their fitness moves of planks, squats and lunges. After class, the two introduced themselves and decided to co-sponsor a Furry Fitness event, held last month at Old School Square. Their hope is that enough local people will see the benefit of working out with their dogs so that they can begin offering regular classes.

The people-dog fitness trend is one that is catching on coast to coast. Dawn Celapino, founder of Leash Your Fitness based in San Diego, has hundreds of two- and four-legged students in her classes “co-taught” by her very fit Cairn terrier named Jack. In Chicago, Tricia Montgomery is keeping Midwesterners and their canines in shape with her company, K9 Fit Club. We need and deserve a people-dog workout program in Palm Beach County. This cross-species, cross-training approach yields many benefits, including:

• The ability to walk, run, twist, bend and reach without a lot of huffing and puffing.
• The feeling of waking up refreshed, not achy or sluggish.
• The bolstering of your immune system to protect both of you against infections.
• The ability to concentrate and learn new skills (and new tricks for your dog).
• A closer friendship and stronger communication with your dog, staving off behavior problems triggered by dogs who are bored and under exercised.
• Added years to your life and life to your years for you and your dog.
• Reduced risks for such health conditions as diabetes, arthritis and heart conditions that are costly and far too prevalent among people and dogs who pack on excess pounds.

Regular exercise unleashes endorphins and other feel-good chemicals that can be as effective as some medications prescribed to combat stress, anxiety and depression.

Before you put on your sneakers and grab your dog’s leash for an outdoor romp, schedule an appointment with your doctor and get your dog checked out head to tail by your veterinarian.

Acosta and Mendiola stand ready to offer plenty of fun exercises you and your dog can perform indoors and outdoors. The beauty of playtime with your dog is that it can occur anytime, anywhere. For the most part, your dog doesn’t require special equipment. Unlike some of your two-legged friends, your dog won’t make up a lame excuse not to join you.

Even at age 12, my dogs, Chipper and Cleo, are raring to go for a walk with me at the drop of a lease. They also motivate me to participate in 5K9 fun runs, hiking treks and swimming at dog-welcoming beaches. Indoor doorways, we play “I hide you-see” and do friendly games of tug-of-war. We also spend time learning new tricks like weaving in and out of my legs and Chipper’s favorite: puppy pushups. She plops into a down, pops up quickly into a sit and repeats this sequence several times.

I encourage you to learn more about the quest by Acosta and Mendiola to shape up Palm Beach County by visiting www.campgladiator.com (and go to the Delray Beach location) and All Star Dogs Inc. on Facebook (www.facebook.com/AllStarDogsInc).


Pets Calendar

Note: Events are current as of 11/24. Please check with organizers for any changes.

**NOV. 2-8**

**Monday - 11/3 - Dog Obedience Classes at the Boca Raton Community Center, 158 Crawford Blvd., Boca Raton. Six-week session runs Monday-Saturday, Beginner: 6:15-7 pm, Intermediate/Sanes: 7-8 pm, $90/re- sidents, $112.50/non-residents. 393-7807 or www.ci.boca-raton.fl.us.**

**November 2-8**

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**Tuesday - 11/4 - Intermediate Dog Obedience Classes at South Tech Academy, 1300 SW 30th Ave., Boynton Beach. Students get hands-on experience with antics and white training funds for the school. Must have proof of rabies vaccine. Dogs over 70 lbs not permitted. No Nannies, pen, ball, doghouse or German shepherds. Includes brushing and bathing, nail trimming, and gland expression, ears and eyes cleaned. Drop off: 7-7:30 am, Pick up: 2:30-3 pm. Grooming: $25/breed at cat. Shaving: $25/ small dogs, $5/large dogs. Held again: 11/12 & 18 and 12/13. Reservations: 469-9404 or email ardenmoore@palmbeachschool.org.**

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HALCYON
RX-10045153
$879,000
Dede Gluck 561-714-4170

DEDE GLUCK 561-714-4170

BARCLAY
RX-10040795
$598,900
Donald Gorbach 561-707-6210

ROBIN TURNER 561-267-5888

AMBASSADORS
RX-10082364
$579,900
Donald Gorbach 561-707-6210

ROBIN TURNER 561-267-5888

SLOANS CURVE
RX-20067056
$750,000
Dede Gluck 561-714-4170

Dede Gluck 561-714-4170

AMBASSADORS
RX-10079826
$194,800
Allison Melvin 561-441-1927

HYPOLUXO ISLAND
RX-10041059
$499,000
Dede Gluck 561-767-0860

Diane Duffy 561-767-0860

DORCHESTER
RX-10066164
$535,000
Ann Corbin 561-512-6674

DORCHESTER OF PALM BEACH
RX-10061295
$335,000
Laura Urness 561-239-1911

Robyn Lawson 561-866-1969

MARINA VILLAGE
RX-10063208
$570,000
Allison Melvin 561-441-1927

ROBYN LAWSON 561-866-1969

MARINA VILLAGE
RX-10081772
$329,000
Donald Gorbach 561-707-6210

LAURA URNESS 561-239-1911

LA PENSEE
RX-10084015
$265,000
Holly Hickman 561-346-5594

LA PENSEE
RX-10075843
$1,199,000
Robin Turner 561-267-5888

LAURA URNESS 561-239-1911

CONCORDIA WEST
RX-10079154
$270,000
Lauren Melvin 561-441-1927

AMBISSADORS
RX-10079826
$475,000
Donald Gorbach 561-707-6210

DONALD GORBACH 561-707-6210

MOORINGS
RX-10045746
$399,900
Laura Urness 561-239-1911

ROBYN LAWSON 561-866-1969

HYPOLUXO ISLAND
RX-10074699
$849,000
Diane Duffy 561-767-0860

Diane Duffy 561-767-0860

ONE CITY PLACE
RX-10077947
$379,000
Robyn Lawson 561-866-1969

ROBYN LAWSON 561-866-1969

CLARIDGES
RX-10070115
$319,900
Janine Tompkins 561-909-5139

HOLLY HICKMAN 561-346-5594

MARINA VILLAGE
RX-10070152
$215,000
Holly Hickman 561-346-5594

HOLLY HICKMAN 561-346-5594

OCEAN RIDGE
RX-10090457
$975,000
Anne Walsh 561-523-4755

OCEAN RIDGE
RX-10077756
$640,000
Dede Gluck 561-714-4170

Dede Gluck 561-714-4170

HYPOLUXO ISLAND
RX-10066074
$393,000
Dede Gluck 561-714-4170

Dede Gluck 561-714-4170

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Secret Garden

Gardeners’ efforts rewarded with bountiful veggie harvest

On this Sunday morning, Jessica Holtzman walks through the Boca Raton Community Garden to check her 4-foot-square raised bed. Here she’s planted carrots, radishes, fennel, mustard, beans and parsley. She is waiting for the seeds to sprout from the dark earth.

“I didn’t realize what food looked like when it grew on plants. This is so cool to watch my things take off,” says Holtzman, 30, who lives in a nearby townhouse with only a small yard.

Now in its fourth growing season, this is the largest community garden in South Florida. It is situated on an acre of land contributed by the city.

Today the Boca Raton Junior League collaborates with the city to help run it. There are almost 100 raised beds, built with the help of people at Home Depot and The Boca Raton Elk’s Lodge.

Alan Kirschner, 53, has a meeting in a few minutes but he stops by to be sure his neat rows of heirloom tomatoes are thriving in their raised 12-by-4-foot plot.

“This is the third growing season for Holtzman, who owns 12 bee hives. She tends to her plots carefully, ensuring that the plants have adequate water and sunlight.

Although the garden is not completely self-sufficient, the produce grown here is donated to local food banks and shelters. The garden committee also organizes regular workshops and classes for members, sharing knowledge and skills.

This year, the garden committee has requested that all members plant native plants, as these provide a source of nectar for pollinators and help support local wildlife.

In her garden, co-chair Laura Zaki intends to plant a variety of herbs and vegetables, including tomatoes, onions, and peppers.

The garden has seen a significant increase in participation over the years, with new members joining every season. With the help of volunteers and organizers, the garden continues to thrive and expand, becoming a hub of community engagement and local food production.

Garden Calendar

Date: Events are current as of 10/24. Please check with organizers for any changes.

NOVEMBER 1

11/1-2 - Fall Plant Sale and Hibiscus Show at Mounts Botanical Garden, 531 N. Military Trail, West Palm Beach. Over 80 vendors will be on hand at all the state showcasing an amazing assortment of plants and seedlings. Sat. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sun. 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. $10/student members, free to members. 233-1757 or www.mounts.org.

NOVEMBER 2-8

Tuesday - 11/1 - The Boca Raton Community Garden Club at Boca Public Library, 915 Spanish River Rd. Lisa McDulin, special project manager at the club, will present a talk on the importance of raised beds in urban gardening. 7 p.m.

Saturday - 11/8 - Common Diseases in the Garden with Jeff Nurge at Mounts Botanical Garden, 531 N. Military Trail, West Palm Beach. Jeff Nurge speaks about the selection and placement of native plants. 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. $30/members, $40/non-members. 233-1757.

Saturday - 11/15 - Bromeliads: Divide and Conquer at Mounts Botanical Garden, 531 N. Military Trail, West Palm Beach. Jeff Nurge speaks about dividing and caring for bromeliads. 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. $30/members, $40/non-members. 233-1757.

NOVEMBER 9-15

Saturday - 11/8 - Hands-On Orchid Workshop at Mounts Botanical Garden, 531 N. Military Trail, West Palm Beach. Learn to grow your own orchids with hands-on instruction. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. $25/members, $30/non-members. 233-1757 or www.mounts.org.
Along the Coast

Bright-green Cuban anole expanding its Florida territory

By Cheryl Blackerby

If you've seen a neon green lizard that looks a lot like the talking lizard in Geico commercials, it's probably a Cuban knight anole.

First seen in Palm Beach County in 1997, the sleek lizards, about 18 inches long, have been breeding in Palm Beach County for less than 10 years, according to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

And those populations are expanding. Sightings now range from Key West to Palm Bay on the east coast and from Naples to Tampa on the west coast.

“They're popping up in new areas in different counties more recently,” said Liz Barraco, spokesperson for Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

The threat to native wildlife is fairly small, although they sometimes prey on smaller anoles, frogs and bird eggs, she said.

“There’s a problem with any non-native invasive species. But they're not eating mammals. They certainly have some impact, but we haven’t been focusing on them. You have to pick and choose (what you try to remove),” she said.

It’s hard to miss an anole sitting in your flower bed — brilliant green with yellow flash marks below each eye and on each shoulder, big eyes and huge pink dewlaps. It also has a brown phase.

“They definitely catch your eye,” she said. “They’re very bright. It has a much larger jaw. It looks very different from lizards you’re used to seeing.”

They’re not harmful to people although they may bite if handled or if frightened.

“The Cuban anole can be aggressive if it feels threatened, but there’s not much interaction with people. They're arboreal so they hang out in trees,” she said. In summer, they hang head-down on large tree trunks, supporting the front of its body away from the tree with its legs.

The knight anole, which is native to Cuba, has become established over much of the heavily planted suburbs of South Miami, where it is often called “iguana.”

They are often mistaken for the much larger green iguana, which is a similar bright green. The green iguanas that proliferated in Palm Beach County starting in 2003, have been less noticeable since 2010 when a lengthy freeze killed off many of them. The iguanas are vegetarians and don’t compete for food with native lizards.

“The iguanas have been recovering some but we don’t have large numbers,” she said. “The biggest problem people have with iguanas is poop by the pool.”

The three non-native species FWC are most concerned about, she said, are Burmese pythons, nile monitors and Argentine black and white tegus.

If you see any of these three, or any non-native species such as the Cuban anole, take a photo, note the location and report or send it to 888-Ive-Got1 (888-483-4681) or go to IveyGot1.org. This is a good way to help FWC keep track of non-native animals. If you don’t know what an animal is, send a photo, and an FWC expert will get back to you.

Do not attempt to capture a tegu, python or monitor. A list of trappers can be found at MyFWC.com.

Along the Coast

Bright-green Cuban anole, which prefer to perch head-down in trees, are hard to miss with their neon-green coloring.

BOTTOM: The lizard also has a brown phase. Both of these were photographed in the same pigeon plum tree in Ocean Ridge. Photos by Jerry Lower/ The Coastal Star

TOP: Cubic knight anoles, which prefer to perch head-down in trees, are hard to miss with their neon-green coloring.
Preserve restored to coastal habitat over two decades

By Cheryl Blackerby

The lush green 4.6-acre slice of Old Florida is incongruously wedged between The Carlisle assisted living facility on East Ocean Avenue and the Intracoastal Waterway. Drivers have to look closely to see the preserve’s entrance, almost hidden in trees and shrubs. The Lantana Nature Preserve is a secret garden of tranquil trails shaded by sea grapes, towering sabal palms and oaks. Red and white mangroves line the waterway, their tangle of knee-high roots marching out to sea, creating fish nurseries.

About 40 visitors including a few master gardeners gathered around Steve Bass, former manager of Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, for an Oct. 12 tour arranged by the Friends of Lantana Nature Preserve. Bass planned the planting of the land in the mid-1990s, which turned a barren, garbage-strew site, with no vegetation except for a few invasive plants including Brazilian pepper and Australian pines, into a natural Florida landscape.

Resident Ilona Balfour remembers the days when the land was an eyesore and an embarrassment. “The town began dumping nasty stuff like tires and refrigerators and beginning to Lantana for $10 for use,” he said. On the tour, he pointed out a giant swallowtail butterfly with a 5-inch wingspan, a banana spider weaving its sticky web, an aptly named paradise tree, the bright purple “beauty berries,” and wild coffee.

“The visitor listened closely as Bass tossed out fascinating facts; for example, that most of Florida’s trees, except paradise trees, don’t have trunk rings because their growth is continuous, so it’s difficult to tell their ages.

“The preserve has finally become what its original owners intended. Around 1910, the 12 acres were sold to Lantana for $10 for use by the town’s residents. The Carlisle was built on 7.35 acres of the land. Vocal residents who wanted a natural retreat preserved the site.

Today, volunteers help maintain the preserve at 400 E. Ocean Ave., just east of the Lantana Bridge. Dr. Paul Arena, ecology and environmental science professor at Nova Southeastern University, is the chairman of the Lantana Nature Preserve Commission and a resident of Lantana.

“I made it my mission to make sure this rare treasure of coastal habitat is protected. I am adviser of the Nature Club and for the last six years have been volunteering to remove invasives, clear trails, and plant one of the few native butterfly gardens in South Florida,” he said. “The town has made significant budget cuts the last few years and less time is spent on maintaining the preserve, making the hard work of volunteers even more critical to its health and survival.”

Benchs provide visitors with a comfortable place to rest and observe nature.
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Isabella Malaga was surprised when her parents and rabbi introduced her to the homeless children at Family Promise.

“I realized that they don’t look like they are homeless,” the 13-year-old said. “They’re just normal people who had some bad luck.”

Volunteers from churches and synagogues take turns to provide food and shelter at night for South County homeless families in the Family Promise interfaith network.

Families go to a former convent at St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church in Delray Beach during the day for counseling and lunch as the parents look for jobs and apartments.

Isabella volunteered to serve food and play with the children. Then she realized that the children didn’t have a playground.

So Isabella, whose family attends B’nai Torah in Boca Raton, chose a playground outside a Catholic church as her bat mitzvah project.

She decorated boxes as little houses that she asked friends and relatives to fill with coins, raising $2,000. She also persuaded the owner of the Hitching Post, a retailer west of Delray, to donate a play-set.

Family Promise children now can play as their families make the transition from homelessness to independence.

“Isabella is exceptionally kind,” her rabbi, David Steinhardt, said. “There’s a sweetness in her that’s obvious when you meet her.”

Tim Brumfield, the new organist and music director at St. Gregory’s Episcopal Church in Boca Raton, had it all in New York City.

As organist at St. John the Divine, the largest Gothic cathedral in the city, Brumfield performed with pianist Dave Brubeck, saxophonist Paul Winter and folk singer Judy Collins. As his career took off, he also was music director in off-Broadway shows.

“But I felt I’d reached the pinnacle of what New York City could be for me,” Brumfield said.

So Brumfield searched for a location for what he calls his second act. St. Gregory’s popped up in his Internet search. He applied for a job opening and got hired.

He debuted here performing the organ for Phantom of the Opera as the classic 1925 silent film starring Lon Chaney played in the sanctuary on the Friday before Halloween. Brumfield knew the music because his annual Halloween Extravaganza and Procession of the Ghouls became a popular New York event at St. John the Divine.

A value to having Brumfield in South Florida might be the New York City friends he invites for performances this winter.

Gospel singer Theresa Thomason performs at St. Gregory’s on Jan. 18, followed by jazz trombonist Wycliffe Gordon on Feb. 1.

The new senior pastor at First Methodist Church in Boca Raton has his eye on the university in town.

The Rev. Marcus Zillman is impressed by his new congregation. “It’s evident to me that this church wants to share the love of Christ in this community,” Zillman said of First Methodist’s outreach efforts.

Zillman, 41, previously served a Hobe Sound church. He was a campus minister at the University of Miami for six years before that.

“I have a heart for college students and young adults,” he said. “I’m excited about extending First Methodist’s relationship with Florida Atlantic University.”
The new stained-glass window above the altar at St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church tells the story of the Lake Worth congregation as it celebrates its 100th anniversary.

“We talked a lot about who we are,” said Christie Ragsdale, who chaired the committee that worked with McMow Art Glass to create the 5-foot-diameter window. “They were an emotionally driven group,” McMow owner Shannon Materio said. “They had their heart in it.”

They designed the disciples Andrew and Peter in the middle as fishers of men. “The window represents our role in spreading the word of Christ,” Ragsdale said.

Eight symbols that surround the center of the window are a Bible, a pineapple for hospitality, a harp for music, a crown for the kingship of God, a dove for the Holy Spirit, white and grapes for bread and wine, bread and fish for feeding the hungry and a lantern. The lantern takes the St. Andrew’s history back to before the worship service in 1914 when a mother and her three children walked seven miles for a Sunday night prayer service because the closest Episcopal church was in West Palm Beach.

The priest there gave the family a lantern for their walk home. Then he helped Lake Worth start a church of its own.

More than 400 people from 34 congregations, civic organizations and schools walked in the End Hunger Walk on Oct. 12. The 20th annual event raised more than $35,000 for the Caring Kitchen in Delray Beach and six food pantries also operated by Christians Reaching Out to Society Ministries.

CROS Ministries also was one of food banks that received 18,000 pounds of food donated by members of the B’nai Israel congregation of Boca Raton in their 21st annual Fight Against Hunger.

The popular old-fashioned Christmas bazaar, presented by the ladies at First Presbyterian Church in Delray Beach, is set for Nov. 7-8. The Holly Days Bazaar will be in the new Holly House, where the women have gathered twice a week all year to prepare their handicrafts. “It’s a way of life,” co-chair Donna King said. “We go Tuesdays and Thursdays to create things and to support one another.”

Creations such as miniature Christmas trees, wreaths and ornaments sell as quickly as the mango chutney in the bakery sale. Proceeds benefit church improvements and missions.

The bazaar is 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for the Friday and Saturday opening, then 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesdays and Saturdays from Nov. 11 to Dec. 13.

St. Gregory’s Episcopal in Boca Raton also has its annual Christmas Emporium on Nov. 7-9. Church members have donated everything from champagne to dog treats for holiday gift baskets for sale.

Members of the community-outreach-focused congregation helped make a difference in the lives of others during the synagogue’s High Holy Days hunger program — among them, ‘Feed My Community,’ in which more than 5,000 bags were filled with 18,000-plus pounds of nonperishable food. The food was distributed to local food pantries. Photo: Lumi Pollack, 5, helps collect canned goods. Photo provided.
When designers and artists combine their skills and talents to give an old chair new life, they can come up with fetching creations. And when those creations are put up for auction and proceeds go to a good cause, well, that’s a pretty picture for all concerned.

That’s what happened last month when the International Furnishings and Design Association Florida hosted its inaugural Take A Seat project. Caroline Baer Rogow, president of IFDA Florida, said the local chapter was following what chapters in Japan and New York did for the first time last year. Japan raised money for tsunami victims and New York gave proceeds to victims of Hurricane Sandy.

“We were so impressed,” said Rogow, of Panache Designs Inc. “We wanted to do one this year, and we plan to make it an annual event. Our chapters from around the world worked together to conduct local exhibitions at the same time.”

Participants began by taking a new or vintage chair and up-cycled it to create unique pieces of art. The chairs were displayed at Capitol Lighting through Oct. 11 after an Oct 1 kick-off party at Rosenbaum Fine Art Décor in Boca Raton.

On Oct. 11, the organization raised more than $10,000 during a gala charity auction at the Boca Raton Museum of Art. Proceeds, in fitting with the worldwide Heroes at Home theme, are going to Habitat for Humanity for veterans housing.

Jeanne Coppers, one of the designers, called her piece “Surfers Paradise” after the Australian town where her son, a surfer who grew up in Ocean Ridge, currently lives. “I bought a chair for $6 from the Habitat thrift shop, took the seat off of it and replaced it with a skim board,” she said. She also attached a skim board to the back and hung a little grass skirt around the seat. Then she under-lit the chair with blue light, which she said showed up nicely for the auction, held outside at night.

“Because I’m such a water sports person, the surfing theme was perfect for me,” she said.

Her whimsical chair fetched $250 at the auction.

Rogow’s chair featured a donated original canvas painting by artist Salvatore Principe. “We took an unloved chair and transformed it,” said Rogow, who lives in Hillsboro Beach. “Now it has a heart — a purple heart synonymous with warriors” and a good fit for the theme.”

It also has new upholstery and a new owner — it sold for $1,500 at the auction.

Rogow said the local project involved 25 designers and artists. “Most submissions came from designers, but some were from well-known artists (e.g., Kris Smith, Andres Conde, Jeff Whyman) who helped us a lot.”

Exactly how much money was raised has yet to be tabulated, Rogow said. “Money is still coming in.”
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Many experienced South Florida anglers have become proficient at catching ocean fish that make excellent table fare.

But sometimes so much effort goes into catching fish that anglers don’t do the fish justice when it comes time to serve them at the dinner table.

Mike Kuckelman, offshore angler and professional chef, is talented at catching and cooking wild ocean fish.

A corporate chef for Bush Brothers Provision Co. in West Palm Beach, Kuckelman shared some of his fish-cooking secrets at the Sept. 23 meeting of the Boynton Beach Fishing Club.

Fishing club members enjoyed samples of Kuckelman’s mouth-watering smoked fish dip, fried fish and seared yellowfin tuna over sautéed Chinese vegetables.

None of the dishes exceeded two, three or four ingredients and a few minutes to prepare.

Here are a few fish recipes that Kuckelman was kind enough to share:

Smoked fish dip: Start with kingfish or Spanish mackerel fillets, soaked overnight (in a refrigerator) in a brine solution consisting of water, non-iodized salt, brown sugar, honey and molasses. After brining, dry and smoke the fish at about 220 degrees using wet pieces of white oak or maple wood (or a smoking wood of your choice) to produce the smoky flavor.

Fried fish: Use a light, white fish such as scrod. Dip the fillets in flour, then egg wash, then breading (Drake’s Crispy Fry Mix). Refrigerate the breaded pieces for half an hour, then fry them in hot oil (canola or peanut oil). The fish pieces float when they’re done. For a beer batter, use a warm beer and whip it until the beer goes flat, then add the Crispy Fry Mix.

New England tartar sauce: Hellmann’s mayonnaise mixed in a food processor with white onion, capers, dill pickle relish, salt and pepper and a hot sauce such as Cholula. Let it stand for six hours before serving.

Bahamas-style fried lionfish: First, don’t forget that lionfish have 18 venomous spines on their bodies and must be cleaned carefully. Rinse the fillets in cold water. Lightly flour them, dip them in egg wash, coat them with cornflake crumbs and fry them at 350 degrees until golden brown.

Dipping sauce: Equal parts mayonnaise and ketchup with a dash of hot sauce, mixed well.

Seared sesame seed tuna over Chinese vegetable vegetables: Buy or catch fresh yellowfin tuna. Coat the tuna in sesame oil, then roll it in sesame seeds. Sear the tuna in an iron skillet holding hot vegetable oil. Leave the fish pink in the center. Sauté the vegetables in a separate skillet holding a combination of sesame oil and vegetable oil. Kuckelman uses bok choy, matchstick carrots, white onion, snow peas, strips of red bell pepper and Napa cabbage. Leave the vegetables crunchy. Add fresh grated ginger, a pinch of salt, a shot of soy sauce, a splash of rice vinegar and a dash of ponzu sauce at the end. Slice the tuna and serve it on top of the sautéed vegetables.

Darrell Frey and his father, Darrell Frey Sr., combed the reefs north of Boynton Inlet on Oct. 18 to spear 114 lionfish, more than any other dive team in the eBoatListings Lionfish Derby.

The Freys, both of Lake Worth, were diving with electric scooters from their 20-foot boat. They won $500 and lots of bragging rights.

Only one lionfish behind the Freys was their friend and frequent dive partner Christian Rouleau of Hypoluxo, whose Reel Impatience team finished with 113 lionfish. The Reel Impatience team also won the prize for the smallest lionfish, at 90 millimeters (about 3.5 inches).

The Freys spearred the longest lionfish of the tournament, 389 millimeters (about 15.3 inches). But because teams could only win in one category, the prize for largest lionfish went to the Wet Pleasures team, with a lionfish measuring 386 millimeters (about 15 inches).

Nine dive teams participating in the Oct. 18 derby harvested a total of 406 lionfish. The non-native fish with venomous spines degrade Florida reefs by eating native fish and stealing their food.

No fishing license is required to harvest lionfish using a net, pole spar, Hawaiian sling or other spearing device designed for taking lionfish.

The Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) encourages divers to report their catches online at www.myfwc.com/fishing/saltwater/recreational_lionfish/report.

The 55th annual Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show opened Oct. 31 and continues through Nov. 3 at seven locations along the city’s waterfront.

A wide variety of boats will be on display — from mega yachts to runabouts, skiffs, inflatables, dinges and kayaks — along with fishing and diving equipment, nautical clothing and marine electronics.

Show hours are 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. except on Nov. 3, when the show closes at 5 p.m.

Tickets cost $22 online or $24 at the show. The online ticket price for ages 6-15 is $7. Children under 6 are admitted free.

A photo ID is required for admission to the Broward County Convention Center.

For tickets and parking information, go to www.showmanagement.com or call (800) 940-7642.

As the weather gets cooler, more manatees are expected to move into South Florida waters from points north.

Seasonal manatee speed zones for boats take effect Nov. 15 and remain in effect through March 31.

In cold weather, the endangered marine mammals are often found near the warm water outflow of Florida Power & Light Co.’s Riviera Beach power plant (south of Peanut Island). Common feeding areas include the waters inside Boynton Inlet and Lake Wyman in Boca Raton.

In addition to obeying speed zones on the water, boaters should wear polarized sunglasses, watch for large, circle-shaped tail swells and snouts on the surface and stay in marked navigation channels as much as possible. Slow to idle speed in shallow water, especially around sea grass.
To report a sick, dead or injured manatee (or a suspected violation of boating laws), call the Wildlife Alert Hotline at (888) 404-3922.

Tip of the month: Fish offshore for dolphin. November generally brings a fall run of dolphin fish (mahi mahi) to the Gulf Stream waters off Palm Beach County. Start by talking with other anglers to find out how far out weed lines and dolphin are being found. Easterly winds are best.

Search for floating mats of sargassum (tan-colored weeds) and objects floating in the ocean, such as logs, pallets or boards. Floating objects attract small fish, and small fish attract big ones.

The best dolphin action tends to be in clear, blue Gulf Stream water. Watch for birds such as frigatebirds, which can indicate dolphin below.

Troll with rigged ballyhoo, rigged squid, lures or bonito strips behind sea witches. Keep spinning rods ready to pitch baits to dolphin that follow others to the boat. Minimum size: 20 inches to the fork. Daily bag limit: 10 dolphin per angler. Boat limit: 60.

Willie Howard is a freelance writer and licensed boat column. Reach him at tiowillie@bellsouth.net.

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Willie Howard is a freelance writer and licensed boat column. Reach him at tiowillie@bellsouth.net.
By Willie Howard

The factory that builds Tibor Reels — a famous name in the world of saltwater fly fishing — is hidden in a nondescript metal parts factory in New York when he met Pate in 1970 during a trip to the Florida Keys. 

Pate was lamenting the fact that the drag systems on fly reels of the day were not adequate to handle powerful saltwater game fish, such as the tarpon he battled in the Keys. 

So Juracsik returned to his machine shop on Long Island and built a fly fishing reel. He produced the first Billy Pate reel in 1976. It was built, as Tibor reels are today, with a large surface area for the drag — the “brakes” of the fishing reel that slow down fish when they’re hooked and stripping away line. 

Tibor reels are not cheap. 

The factory that builds Tibor reels is not cheap. 

Juracsik was running a precision metal parts factory in New York when he met Pate in 1970 during a trip to the Florida Keys. 

Juracsik is proud of the fact that his reels are manufactured in Delray Beach and moved his company there in 1998. 

The Delray Beach company employs 32 people who make fly fishing reels and specialty metal parts for the family’s sister company, Ted Juracsik Tool & Die. 

Workers at Juracsik’s factory begin the reel-making process with cylinders of solid aluminum called slugs. The factory includes an anodization room where aluminum surfaces of the reels are prepared for finishing. 

Tibor reels are not cheap. They range in price from about $365 to $865. But Juracsik says Tibor fly fishing enthusiasts, such as his friend Lefty Kreh, another IGFA Hall of Fame member, appreciate his attention to detail. 

The company says its fly reels are maintenance-free and are warranted for life. 

“Of all our reels can be used on any reel,” Juracsik said. “When people go fishing, they can’t have the reel fail when they go to the end of the world to catch a world record. It’s very important.” 

More fly fishing world records have been set — 876 at last count — with Tibor reels than with any other brand, according to the International Game Fish Association, the nonprofit organization that verifies and maintains world fishing records. 

Juracsik, 77, is a lifelong Hungarian. Some of the Tibor line of reels bear Juracsik’s name; others are called Billy Pate reels in honor of the late fly fisherman, who was inducted into the IGFA’s Fishing Hall of Fame in 2003. 

Juracsik moved his company to Fort Lauderdale in 1979. He found a building to house his company there in 1998. 

Ted Juracsik Reels — a famous name in the fly fishing world — is hidden in a nondescript metal parts factory in New York when he met Pate in 1970 during a trip to the Florida Keys. Juracsik lives in Boca Raton and spends much of his time fishing from a second home in Chokoloskee. 

George H.W. Bush, who enjoys fly fishing in the Florida Keys. A few weeks after mailing the reel to the White House in the early 1990s, Juracsik got a call from the 41st president's personal secretary. He later received a photo and a letter of thanks from the president. The company says the Bush family has since purchased several Tibor reels. 

Juracsik moved his company to Fort Lauderdale in 1979. He found a building to house his company there in 1998. 

Ted Juracsik Reels — a famous name in the fly fishing world — is hidden in a nondescript metal parts factory in New York when he met Pate in 1970 during a trip to the Florida Keys. Juracsik lives in Boca Raton and spends much of his time fishing from a second home in Chokoloskee. 

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Royal Palm Country Club
golf pro overseeing
major renovations

By Steve Pike

The Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club is undergoing some significant changes.

The most visible is the renovation to its golf course. Coming next is a $30 million enhancement project that will include construction of a new yacht clubhouse, new floating docks to allow for vessels up to 130 feet long, a new outdoor waterfront entertainment patio and new pool and additional outdoor dining venues.

Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club members this past April overwhelmingly approved the marina project (funding for a golf course renovation was separate). That same month, the members elected Dr. Patricia Reese as their first female Commodore.

The private Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club has approximately 485 members.

The marina and golf course projects, said Michael Shanley, the club’s membership director, “is very important to our current members as well as new generations.

“This [project] positions us to meet the evolving needs of our members now and for years to come,” Shanley said.

It all begins with the 7,116-yard, par 72 golf course. Originally designed by Robert Trent Jones, with the legendary Sam Snead as its first professional, the course was redesigned in the 1980s by Joe Lee. It was redesigned in 2003 as a Jack Nicklaus Signature course. This time around, the Golden Bear, who lives in North Palm Beach, returned to reshape the greens back to their original contours and dimensions, as well as expand some tee boxes and work on the bunkering.

“We completely renovated every bunker on the golf course,” said Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club head golf professional Andy McMechan, a Boca Raton native who has been the club’s head professional since 2010.

“One of the goals Mr. Nicklaus wanted to accomplish was to see every fairway bunker from the tee and to every greenside bunker from the fairway.”

McMechan, who graduated from Pope John Paul II High School in Boca Raton and Stetson University in DeLand, came to Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club from Boca Raton Resort & Club, where he worked his way from outside attendant in 1994 to director of golf in 2007.

“This (Royal Palm) was a great opportunity for me,” McMechan said. “Being from Boca Raton, I played this course since I was 12 years old. But it was a much different club then.”

It will be a different club again, particularly visually, not only because of the bunkers, but also because of the landscaping. Many of the natural grasses have been replaced by more colorful native plants and shrubs. In addition, approximately 100 palm trees that were marked for destruction as part of the marina clubhouse renovation were moved to line the fairways.

“We were able to move 110 full-size, mature trees onto the golf course that have been on property for 50 or 60 years and we got them for the moving price,” McMechan said. “They really add to the look of the course.”

Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club head golf professional, Andy McMechan.

Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

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