Along the Coast

PLASTICS

A plastic bag floating in the ocean would be easy to mistake for a jellyfish, a major part of sea turtles’ diet.

Long-lasting plastics present serious danger to wildlife

By Willie Howard

Environmental groups are ramping up the fight against plastic pollution in the ocean with campaigns featuring images of entangled birds, littered beaches and research showing that tiny, harmful particles of plastic are entering the food chain.

Their goal is as large as the ocean plastics problem itself: steering convenience-oriented consumers away from bags, cups, straws, food containers and other plastic products that often find their way into the water.

The battle is being waged at the national level through organizations such as the Ocean Conservancy and

Second in a two-part series
Read the first part online at www.thecoastalstar.ning.com

locally through conservation groups such as the Sea Angels, the Palm Beach County chapter of the Surfrider Foundation and Beach Guardians Atlantic Coasts.

“The issue cannot be resolved without a change in perception regarding its scope, origin and the part we each contribute towards helping or harming the coast,” said Linda Emerson, founder of Beach Guardians Atlantic Coasts.

“It’s changing behavior,” Emerson said. “It doesn’t take much to keep a couple of reusable bags in your car and take them into Publix.” And releasing a balloon into the sky, she said, is just like dropping it in the ocean.

Plastic pollution is easy to spot. Just walk along the beach.

Volunteers with Sea Angels routinely find plastic bottle caps, straws, bottles, bags, cigarette filters and broken pieces of plastic during monthly beach cleanups near Boynton Inlet.

Monofilament fishing line and Mylar balloons are also common finds, especially when the seas are rough, Sea Angels president Joelen Merkel said. “It’s a daily occurrence.”

Since 1997, the Davis Pavilion at Florida Atlantic University has been the site of the Ocean and Earth Sciences Symposium, held each February to discuss the latest research on coastal processes. The Gladys Davis Pavilion at Florida Atlantic University does not look like the sort of place where these weighty questions are pondered.

To be honest, it used to be the university’s police and parking services building. As pavilions go, it’s small and nondescript.

But every Tuesday through Saturday, six hours a day, men and women, young and old, arrive here to tackle those questions. Since 1997, the Davis pavilion has been the Florida home of Learning Ally, a national, nonprofit organization that records books for people with visual impairments and learning disabilities.

FAU is paid $1 a year for letting Learning Ally use the building. The nearly 100 volunteers who serve two-hour shifts in seven recording booths get nothing.

“I don’t have a specialty,” says Lois Dwyer of coastal Boca Raton. “Last week I finished a middle school science book on volunteers who serve two-hour shifts in seven recording booths get nothing.

“I don’t have a specialty,” says Lois Dwyer of coastal Boca Raton. “Last week I finished a middle school science book on
Issues must be discussed and voted in Florida Sunshine

“I understand it’s already been decided.”

I hear these words far more frequently than any taxpayer or reporter covering town hall should.

Florida law requires elected officials and government employees to operate in a way that is transparent and accountable to their constituents.

Yet, I frequently overhear pre- and post-meeting discussions on topics scheduled for public meetings. I hear (and hear about) discussions in parking lots, at fundraising events, on board agenda meetings and even, on occasion, right on the day before and after meetings.

Most of the time, I shake my head and sigh. I know it’s difficult to follow the guidelines and often these discussions don’t have any significant impact on the residents.

But sometimes they do. Sometimes people are left holding the bill. And taxpayers are left with a bill they did not want.

I understand it’s already been decided. But I hear these words far more frequently than any taxpayer or reporter covering town hall should.

Taxpayers are the ones paying for town hall meetings and on occasion, right on the day before and after meetings.

The commissioners need to stop discussing town hall issues. They need to stop using behind-the-scenes power brokers, spouses or town staff to pass along information on how they plan to vote.

When they don’t, the taxpayer pays. And it doesn’t need to happen.

We need to remember that the taxpayers are the ones paying for town hall meetings.

I frequently hear about discussions in meetings. I hear (and have had) discussions on meeting discussions on meetings.

And when this happens it’s already been decided. I’m the one holding the bill.

The taxpayers are the ones left holding the bill.

Editor's Note

For successful real estate executive, achievement lies in helping kids

By Rich Pollack

For Bobby Julien, what started out as a casual dinner conversation with a friend has evolved into a passion-filled commitment that is making a positive impact on the lives of thousands of area children and their families.

Julien, chief executive officer of the Kolter Group — a diversified real estate development and investment firm based in West Palm Beach — was with his friend Tom Murphy, who mentioned his involvement with the Achievement Centers for Children and Families in Delray Beach.

Julien, Murphy suggested, should consider getting involved.

“He brought the idea up at dinner and sold it hard,” said Julien, who lived in the Delray Beach area for several years and now lives in Gulf Stream with his wife and three children.

“Tom arranged a tour, and when I went there and saw what they did, that was it. I was hooked.”

What Julien saw was a great program he knew instantly he wanted to be a part of.

The Achievement Centers serves more than 1,000 children and their families, providing affordable childcare as well as effective after-school and summer programs.

The new 2015 president of the operational board of directors, Julien, 47, worked his way up in the organization’s volunteer leadership structure, first joining the board of the Achievement Centers Foundation in 2009.

He served three years as board president — the nonprofit wing of the organization — and last year joined the operational board.

When he got established in this area, I wanted to get involved with an organization that helps children,” he said. “There’s such a need and I thought there has to be a way to make an impact.”

Julien’s business background and expertise proved valuable to the organization as it went through a leadership transition in 2013 following the retirement of longtime director Nancy Hurd and the hiring of Stephanie Seibel, who had been executive director of the foundation, as the new CEO.

During his time as foundation board president, Julien worked closely with the foundation’s new executive director, Abigail Goodwin, with a focus on helping expand the organization’s visibility.

“Our goal was to raise awareness of the Achievement Centers to help expand the base of donors,” he said. “We worked super hard on raising awareness through events and through being more visible in the community.”

As part of the effort, the foundation board agreed to expand the team’s staff to four members.

With his team at Kolter — which develops residential and commercial properties, including hotels — Julien has been a driving force behind one of the most successful fundraisers for the centers, the Havana Nights event.

This high-end poker tournament, held in the Cathedral Room at the Boca Raton Resort and Club, raised $300,000 in its inaugural year of 2012, and last year raised $570,000 — with all of the proceeds going to the Achievement Centers and seven other nonprofits.

The Kolter team obtains most of the sponsorships — which range from $5,000 to $25,000 — largely from its vendors, and underwrites all the costs associated with the tournament, Julien said.

“Under Bobby’s direction and commitment, Havana Nights has made a name for itself as one of the most successful charitable poker tournaments in the state, benefiting eight charities,” said Seibel, the Achievement Centers’ CEO.

In his new role as president of the operational board, Julien is now focused on helping the Achievement Centers continue to expand the services it provides to the community. The organization is also exploring ways to provide programs for children beyond the age groups it currently serves.

“Bobby has a genuine interest in creating opportunities that lead young people to improve their futures,” Seibel said. “Moving to the operational board as the new president, his strong leadership will continue to guide the board’s vision for the future of the agency.”

For Julien, the Achievement Centers for Children and Families has become a focus of his efforts to support the community.

“My very fortunate I’m successful and I can help others,” he said. **
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Letters

Plastics are not all alike

Your editorial and article on waste plastics in the ocean and on the beaches were very interesting and do not reflect well on our stewardship of the beaches and the oceans.

Many people would argue that these materials will last “forever,” however long that might be. But before condemning all plastics, remember that there are human hands responsible for each piece of plastic in the ocean.

Also note there is another side to the picture, and that is the engineered version of many of the same materials such as polyethylene, polypropylene, PVC, polyester, et al., used to prevent leachate from municipal solid wastes (that we all generate and discard) contaminating groundwater, that preserve and prevent the contamination of potable water in reservoirs and canals, that allow the construction of space-saving vertical walls at highway intersections and that prevent the erosion of our beaches (not locally as yet).

These are known as geosynthetics, which, in civil engineering and geotechnical (soils) engineering projects, enable cost-effective performance that cannot be obtained by conventional engineering materials. These products function as fluid barriers, soil separators, filters, soil reinforcement, drainage and erosion control.

Interestingly, many of the same people who say ocean waste plastics do have their good sides, just as some people responsibly recycle them and others discard them clearly.

“Plastics do have their good sides, just as some people responsibly recycle them and others discard them clearly without responsible thought.”

Terry Brown's letter asserting that ocean waste plastics are equivalent to the segregationist madness that gripped our country in the 1950s. There is neither appropriate comparison nor equivalence between the two, and Brown's assertion is deeply offensive to those of us who abhor racism. The fact is many of us who live in Ocean Ridge are deeply and genuinely concerned about the impact on our town of large-scale development in the community of Boynton Beach. We wonder whether sufficient planning has been done to protect the quality of life in this terrific little place.

Ocean Ridge already provides beach access through public areas like the Boynton Beach Park, as well as through non-private accesses up and down the Old Ocean Boulevard. None of the discussion about pressures on beach access during the recent past has reflected any form of racism or bigotry relative to the use of the beach, and Brown has ill served the town by provocatively suggesting such a connection.

Furthermore, The Coastal Star did not advance or illuminate any rational discussion by printing his letter. Quite the opposite: The playing of the race card diminishes the opportunity for a realistic opinion exchange over just how much the town of Ocean Ridge must bend to the winds of property development, and developer enrichment, in the town of Boynton Beach. Peter Hoe Burling and Martin L. Gross

Wrong to link beach talks, segregation

Reject iPic theater at Atlantic and Federal

iPic’s present plan for an eight-screen cinema and a 279-space parking garage with 43,000 feet of office and 8,000 feet of retail is too much building, squeezed into too small a space, near the busy intersection of Federal Highway and Atlantic Avenue in downtown Delray Beach.

Their image shows no drop-off/pickup space for iPic’s pedestrian entrance on Federal. Instead, drivers will be stopping in the travel lane.

The Florida Department of Transportation has told Safety Floridaians Expect that the sidewalk that is just now being widened as part of the Federal Highway beautification project will need to be narrowed by eight feet for a distance of 60 feet in length to provide for a temporary parking aisle. Also, there will be a conflict with the existing Palm Tran bus stop.

Why should Delray let iPic reduce sidewalk space that was just widened, for iPic’s business use? The city should also consider iPic’s plans to convert an existing alley into a street without safe pedestrian and bicycle facilities. iPic wants to use it for its valet service and movie patrons’ egress, and possibly ingress.

Delray’s master plan calls for ground-floor retail to encourage pedestrian circulation in order to attract business activity to streets parallel to Atlantic Avenue; otherwise, Delray will continue to be a one-street town. Instead, iPic wants to erect a showy billboard on Federal to attract customers — with no ground-floor retail.

Traffic is already a mess at this intersection, and it will only get worse when Atlantic Crossing and all the other already-approved projects are completed.

Delray should reject iPic’s plan. iPic should choose a more suitable location.

Jim Smith
SAFE Chairman
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Plastics to Avoid

Reducing your use of plastic products can mitigate ocean pollution and harmful effects on wildlife. Here are some plastic consumer items that environmental organizations recommend avoiding, along with some alternatives:

### Product: Plastic food and shopping bags

**Problem:** Bags break down slowly and end up in the ocean and other wildlife that live or feed in the ocean. They can be ingested by sea turtles and manatees.

**Solution:** Buy inex-pensive reusable bags or use paper bags to carry groceries and other purchases. Consider using cloth bags for lawn and garbage. Rubbermaid makes waxed paper trash bags for kitchen use. The Surfrider Foundation suggests replacing plastic drink snack packs instead of zip-seal plastic bags.

**More info:** www.noplasticbags.org

### Product: Plastic straws and lids, such as those that come on drinks from fast-food restaurants

**Problem:** Plastic drink lids and straws can wash into the ocean during a storm drain into the ocean or its tributaries. They break down slowly and can harm wildlife.

**Solution:** Order drinks with no lids — or at least skip the straw. Paper or reusable straws can be substituted.

**More info:** www.chooseabestrawfree.com

### Product: Styrofoam cups and clamshell takeout containers

**Problem:** They're light as fish eggs, which means they're ingested by small fish and eventually eaten by fish, then passed on to humans and wildlife.

**Solution:** Read the fine print on beauty products and don't buy products containing microbeads. Look for multi-bead-free options.

**More info:** www.mommygreenist.com

### Product: Microbeads found in soaps, toothpaste and facial scrubs

**Problem:** Also known as microplastics, these are washed down drains and ingested by small fish, including fish we harvest for food.

**Solution:** Carry reusable coffee mugs and food containers. Say no to Syrofoam cups and clamshell containers made from polystyrene.

**More info:** www.beathemicrobead.org

### Product: Mylar and latex balloons filled with helium

**Problem:** These are released during celebrations or by accident. After they float away, they are pushed by the wind, sometimes over the ocean and its tributaries. They lose their lift and wind up in the water. Sea turtles have died because they mistake deflated balloons for food, then clog their digestive tracts.

**Solution:** Refrain from purchasing balloons or buy balloons without helium inside. Consider alternatives.

**More info:** www.balloonblow.org

### Product: Single-use plastic products, such as water bottles

**Problem:** Like other plastics, discarded plastic bottles can wind up in the ocean and break down into pieces that can enter the food chain.

**Solution:** Drink from reusable glass or metal water bottles instead of single-use plastic bottles.

**More info:** www.banthebottle.net

For other suggestions for avoiding plastic products, see How You Can Too: A Plastic Free Life with no Trash by Beth Terry, (Skyhorse Publishing, $12.91 paperback or $10.99 on Kindle).

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**Plastic Continued from page 1**

Angels founder Robyn Halasz said.

But there’s a more subtle plastics problem in the ocean: chemical pollution that occurs when discarded plastic products break down or enter the ocean as “microbeads” used in beauty products such as exfoliating face cleansers, which often contain polyethylene.

Microbeads go straight into the food chain, bypassing traditional sewage treatment processes, according to studies cited by the Plastic Soup Foundation.

Some marine organisms can’t distinguish between food and microplastics (defined as plastic pieces measuring less than 5 millimeters). Microbeads found in personal care products are typically smaller than 1 millimeter — or about the same size as fish eggs, which means they look like food.

Scientists suggest that toxins absorbed by the microbeads can be eaten by fish, then passed on to humans and wildlife.

Some 660 marine species are negatively affected by ocean debris, and about 70 species have been harmed by the ingestion of microplastics, a study published for the Convention on Biological Diversity showed.

A female whale that mysteriously died after swimming into an industrial tributary of the Chesapeake Bay last year was found to have a plastic DVD case in its stomach. The plastic case had lacerated the whale’s stomach, preventing it from feeding.

Eleven manatees have died in Florida since 2009 after eating some type of plastic that caused an obstruction of the digestive tract, according to the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission.

### Conservation Commission.

The FWC does not track the systemic effects of plastic ingested by manatees, but pieces of plastic have been found in the digestive tracts of 219 dead manatees in Florida, said Brandon Basino of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Research Institute in St. Petersburg.

Sea turtles often mistake deflated balloons for food and eat them, which can be fatal.

Florida law forbids the release of 10 or more balloons in a 24-hour period if the balloons are filled with a gas lighter than air, such as helium.

Balloons and plastic fragments are often removed from the digestive tracts of sick sea turtles, said Kirt Rusenko, a marine conservationist at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center in Boca Raton.

About two-thirds of the sea turtles that are treated for plastic ingestion survive, said Rusenko, who directs the Boca Raton Sea Turtle Conservation and Research Program.

“When we do necropsies on sea turtles, unfortunately, we’ve noticed there’s plastics in all of their stomachs,” Rusenko said.

About 44 percent of sea birds eat plastic, according to a study by the Algalita Marine Research Foundation.

Because plastics are entering the food chain and people eat seafood, environmental groups are warning consumers about the effects of plastic on human health.

“What goes in the ocean goes in you,” warns the Surfrider Foundation’s Rise Above Plastics, or RAP, awareness campaign.

The Surfrider Foundation notes that the same qualities that make plastic durable also make it “an environmental nightmare.”

Plastics degrade into small pieces when exposed to waves and ultraviolet rays, but research shows they can leach toxic chemicals into the ocean in the process.

### Locals promoting awareness campaign

Environmental groups in Palm Beach County are campaigning against plastic products used every day by consumers.

“Awareness is our biggest weapon against the hoards of plastic pollution already infecting our environment,” said Jamie Hamilton, who chairs the RAP campaign for the Surfrider Foundation’s Palm Beach County chapter.

As part of its campaign, Surfrider’s Palm Beach County chapter is offering consumers branded reusable bags and reusable water bottles as well as tips for avoiding plastic in their daily routines.

Drew Martin of Lake Worth, conservation chairman for the Sierra Club’s Loxahatchee Group, advocates single-use plastic food and drink containers as well as plastic eating utensils.

“When I go out to dinner, I take a Tupperware or reusable container to bring home leftovers,” Martin said.

“I go to a picnic, I take my own metal utensils, plate and cup. I travel with a metal bottle that I reuse.”

Halasz said she and her husband won’t take home food from restaurants in polystyrene containers. They simply leave the leftovers at the restaurant instead.

“There’s a lot people can do,” Halasz said. “It’s just getting them in the habit.”

The Ocean Conservancy, the conservation group that organizes the International Coastal Cleanup held in September, launched the Trash Free Seas Alliance in 2012 to stop plastics and other forms of garbage from reaching the ocean.

Corporate partners include The Coca-Cola Co. and The Dow Chemical Co., a major plastics manufacturer.

“The alliance unites industry, science and conservation leaders who share a common goal for a healthy ocean free of trash,” the Ocean Conservancy’s website says.

“Members seek to reduce, and, where possible, reinvent products and services that damage ocean wildlife or ecosystems.”
Delray Beach

Commissioners vote to limit building heights downtown

By Tim Pallesen

City commissioners want to limit the height of new Atlantic Avenue buildings to three floors in new downtown development rules set for final approval on Feb. 24.

Other new buildings in the central business district would be limited to four floors.

Housing density would be restricted to a maximum of 30 units per acre, with a shift away from studio and one-bedroom units.

Other major changes in the first update of the downtown master plan since 2002 include a public open space requirement for new buildings over 20,000 square feet.

The future downtown will be friendlier to pedestrians with front building setbacks increased from five to 10 feet. New landscape rules add five more feet of width from streets.

A professional traffic study will now be required for large projects such as Atlantic Crossing.

“We need this and we need it now,” Mayor Cary Glickstein said before the unanimous 5-0 vote on Feb. 3 to approve the changes on first reading. “This town is a jewel and we need to take a long-term view of the limited space we still have.”

Commissioners were close to approving the new rules last December, but the process was delayed when Colony Hotel owner Jestena Boughton pleaded for the three-floor height limit to keep air and sunlight on Atlantic Avenue.

“Thank you for doing what I asked,” Boughton said to commissioners at the Feb. 3 meeting.

An attorney for one Atlantic Avenue property owner threatened to sue. But the mayor and city attorney said the height limit between Swinton Avenue and the Intracoastal Waterway is justifiable to preserve the historic character of Atlantic Avenue.

The city still might give incentives that allow developers to build larger buildings for specific purposes.

But commissioners rejected a request from the city’s Community Redevelopment Agency to allow office buildings to have five floors.

Two of three seats contested in March 10 election

Delray Beach has competition for two of three City Commission seats in the March 10 election. Candidates are able to file until Feb. 10.

Mayor Cary Glickstein will be re-elected to a three-year term without an election unless a challenger files to oppose him before the deadline.

But incumbent Commissioner Shelly Petrolia will face Ryan Boylston, a marketing consultant who serves on the Downtown Development Authority, for Seat 1.

The contest to replace term-limited Commissioner Adam Frankel in Seat 3 took an unexpected turn last month when apparent front-runner Chris Davey withdrew for family reasons. Davey nearly beat Commissioner Al Jacquet in last year’s election.

That left Christina Morrison, who lost to Jacquet three years ago, and newcomer Bruce Bastian alone in the race before Mitch Katz filed as the third candidate. Katz is chairman of the city Education Board and would, if elected, become the first commissioner in 10 years to live west of I-95.

— Tim Pallesen

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Gulf Stream

Town revises sign law amid claims it quashes civil liberties

By Dan Moffett

Town commissioners gave unanimous final approval to a revised signage law at a Jan. 26 special meeting and — with only Chris O’Hare and Marty O’Boyle, the town’s litigious critics, on hand to offer opinions — immediately faced critics, on hand to offer opinions — immediately faced authoritarian comparisons.

O’Boyle likened the law to suppression of free speech worthy of the world’s worst totalitarian states. “In North Korea, anyone speaking ill of Kim Jong Un will be arrested and never heard from again,” he said. “In Cuba, anyone speaking badly of Fidel Castro or his revolution will be arrested and serve jail time.”

O’Boyle told commissioners the ordinance was so poorly and broadly written that logos on baseball caps and T-shirts could constitute violations of signage. He said that besides suppressing free speech, the new law might also suppress religion by restricting a nun’s right to carry her rosary beads — or, worse.

“For you to say that the pope can’t come to Gulf Stream, based on an ordinance you wrote, shame on you,” O’Boyle told the commission.

Mayor Scott Morgan, accused of advancing a law that could bar Pope Francis from Gulf Stream’s borders, said the town was taking reasonable steps to revise its rules in a way that would satisfy the courts and protect rights, not infringe on them.

“When I look at what you’ve done, it is palpably absurd,” Morgan told O’Boyle and O’Hare. “Arguments comparing this town to despotic regimes are insulting and absurd. Your comments are designed to take what is a good-faith effort by this town to pass a reasonable ordinance — and as always apply the ordinance fairly — but your attempts are to position as such so you can advance legal action against it, again costing us time, resources and money.”

In October, the commission voted to pursue a RICO case against the two men, alleging abuses of public records requests and frivolous lawsuits.

O’Hare and O’Boyle have sued the town dozens of times, charging they were arrested and served jail time.”

Town Manager William Thresher and Police Chief Garrett Ward couldn’t be held personally liable for removing O’Boyle’s signs, and the town had the right to restrict where signs were placed.

However, Middlebrooks ruled that O’Boyle could challenge the town’s old sign code because its “content-based restriction” of certain kinds of signs might constitute an infringement of free speech.

Town Attorney John Randolph says that, in writing the new rules, the town is trying to address that concern with a “content-neutral ordinance that will stand constitutional scrutiny.”

The new rules ignore language and treat all signs the same, whether they’re about real estate, political candidates, building names or sale signs. While ignoring content, the rules do regulate “the time, place and manner of signs,” according to Randolph. No sign can exceed four feet in height. Only government signs are allowed on public property or rights of way.

The ordinance defines a sign as virtually any “reading matter, illustration, logo, insignia, sculpture, molding, casting, object, bunting, symbol” or other object that’s designed to attract attention.

Randolph said the new language is drawn from court-tested sign laws in other communities.

“The town will have to make a determination in the future as to how this ordinance will be applied,” Randolph said, “and presumably, the town, as it has done in the past, is going to apply its ordinances fairly.”

Residents will be spared another dispute over campaign signs for at least another year. The town has no March election, after all five commissioners were elected to two-year terms in 2014, the first election in 21 years.
By Ron Hayes

Shortly before 9 a.m. on the last day of January, about 60 men and women gathered in the community room of the Palmsea condo in South Palm Beach to watch a 90-year-old man named Alfred Benjamin write his name on an airplane wing.

Some of a wing, anyway: an aluminum panel from the right underside of a B-17 “Flying Fortress.”

They were a workhorse bomber, flying missions over Germany and France in World War II, targeting Hitler’s factories, taking flak, getting shot down but surviving, or not.

They were airplanes flown by 20-year-old boys who became men at 30,000 feet, like Alfred Benjamin.

“I went in at 19 and was in battle at 20,” Benjamin told his friends and neighbors. “I was a navigator. I flew 31 missions in seven months in 1944. My longest mission was 10 hours and 15 minutes. The oxygen mask used to freeze around the sides of my face.”

Over his shoulder, the wing waited, adorned with the insignia of the 384th Bomb Group and the autographs of 108 former members.

“I was shot down over Belgium,” Benjamin continued. “The engines failed and burst into flame.”

The wing had arrived at the Palmsea that morning in the back of a 2008 Chevy Silverado driven by two volunteers from Alabama, Mike Jerrell and Keith Ellefson. On Friday, they had stopped in Stuart. Later that morning, they would be in Boynton Beach. Later that morning, they would be in Boynton Beach.

Belgium.”

The wing had arrived at the Palmsea that morning in the back of a 2008 Chevy Silverado driven by two volunteers from Alabama, Mike Jerrell and Keith Ellefson. On Friday, they had stopped in Stuart. Later that morning, they would be in Boynton Beach.

Since its founding at the group’s 2010 annual reunion in Branson, Mo, the “384th Bomb Group Veterans Signing Project” has brought the wing to reunions in Seattle, San Antonio, Dayton and Norfolk.

“About 30 signed it at the reunions,” Ellefson said. “The rest are all individuals our volunteers have taken it to.”

Any veteran of the 384th, whatever his capacity, who served between January 1943 and February 1946, may sign the wing.

“It was started by a NexGen member named Christopher Wilkinson who wanted to commemorate the service of these guys,” Ellefson said.

Ellefson too is a “Next Generation” member.

“My uncle was a ball-turret gunner on them,” he said. “A lot of us volunteers are NexGen.”

The panel was donated by Aero Trade, an airplane restoration company in Chino, Calif.

“It’s a real piece of a real airplane,” Ellefson assured the gathering. “Probably from a late production model that wound up in the boneyard.”

From June 1943 to April 1945, more than 7,000 GIs served in the 384th; 4,380 were combat crew members.

Of those, 1,575 were killed, either in action or flying accidents. Another 884 became prisoners of war.

“I didn’t jump, to tell you the truth,” Benjamin recalled. “I stood in the door and they boosted me out.”

The chute opened. Glancing over, he saw another crew member fumbling in his pocket for a cigarette as they floated slowly to the ground.

“I’d never jumped before,” he said. “I learned how to control the chute on the way down.”

And then he broke through
Town Hall ADA fixes nearly finished in time for March election

By Dan Moffett

Town Manager Linda Stumpf says construction work to make the Manalapan Town Hall compliant with federal accessibility standards will be completed in time to accommodate voters in the March 10 election.

Stumpf said only a few details — handrails on an entrance ramp and some parking lot signs — need to be done to bring the building in line with Americans with Disabilities Act standards and satisfy Palm Beach County elections officials, who are expected to inspect the improvements in mid-February.

“There’ll be no problem with the March election,” Stumpf said.

Town resident Kersen de Jong (who lost his legs in a 1976 accident) had complained to town and county officials about accessibility problems with the building last year, and election officials could reject Town Hall as a polling place if it fails to meet the federal guidelines.

Stumpf said that the total cost of the fixes will run about $64,500.

Meanwhile, work also is continuing on making the town’s library ADA compliant. Changes to that building will cost at least $43,000, she said.

Much of the library’s structure is 35 years old and will require retrofitting inside and outside.

“The disabled in Manalapan will be pleased that improvements are being made at the Town Hall,” de Jong said, but he lamented the slow pace of progress since he first complained to the town in September 2013. “Looking at it, nothing is being done to ramps and access at the library. In total there were 48 violations. Almost done! As President Reagan once said, ‘Trust but verify.’”

In other business:

• Mayor David Cheifetz and the commission received a request from LeAnn Elder of Loggerhead Lane to discuss race relations in Manalapan at the February meeting. Elder told commissioners the town needs to acknowledge that “Manalapan as a community is represented by many ethnicities, including having a population of black residents.”

• She said that she and her family had endured racially offensive behavior in recent months, including an anonymous letter with hurtful comments, and the town should publicly profess its intolerance for racial profiling and comments.

Cheifetz said police and postal officials had investigated the letter thoroughly and increased police patrols on Elder’s street. He called the sender a “coward” and said the town had done all it could.

“Too be critical of this town because of the actions of one jerk is not appropriate,” Cheifetz said.

• The town has gotten no bidders yet for the Audubon Bridge project, Mayor Pro Tem Peter Isaac said, possibly because of the distractions from the holiday season. Isaac said the project was put out for bids again in January, and he still believes construction will begin on time at the beginning of April, with a completion date before the end of the year.

Stumpf said creating a staging area to run materials to the bridge site is proving to be a complication. “Several contractors have indicated that’s added to the cost of the project,” she said.

• Representatives from Florida Public Utilities will answer questions about proposals to install natural gas lines to Point Manalapan during a meeting scheduled for 4 p.m. on Feb. 15 in the town library.

• The commission’s four incumbents who are up for re-election on March 10 have requested candidate applications from Town Clerk Lisa Petersen: Mayor Cheifetz, Vice Mayor Tom Thornton, and Isaiah and Commissioner Chauncey Johnstone appeared headed for another run for office.

Navigator Alfred Benjamin, fourth from left in the back row, poses with his squad. Photo courtesy Alfred Benjamin

“Day We Won The War.”

He was telling war stories, and getting warm laughs.

And then he became the hero. He was telling war stories, and getting warm laughs.

And suddenly I found myself surrounded by men with machine guns.

Belgian freedom fighters.

“The Germans were still in the area, so they hid me in a farmhouse for one night then took me to a Catholic hospital until the Americans came and got me and I was evacuated to Paris.”

Benjamin told about the time his crew bombed a German factory, only to find out later it had been making shoes.

“When we saw newsreels of the Germans with rag on their feet, or bulk, and I decided we’d won the war by bombing that factory. We called it The Feb. 15 in the town library.

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“When we saw newsreels of the Germans with rag on their feet, or bulk, and I decided we’d won the war by bombing that factory. We called it The 4th of July.”

And now if you’d stand, I want to play taps for the group members who were lost,” he said.

The crowd stood reverently, caps off, silent, while Benjamin’s iPad played the sad, familiar notes.

His friends and neighbors were gathering round to shake his hand as Jerrell and Elleson prepared to drive the wing down the road to Boynton Beach so another navigator could sign, then on to Lauderdale-by-The-Sea and so on, for another year.

“We expect it’ll be off the streets in January 2016,” Elleson said.

The wing’s final home will be Hill Air Force Base in Utah, near Wendover Field, where the 384th trained.

At the 2010 reunion in Branson, 10 veterans signed the wing. Then 16 a year later in Tucson. “Last year, only six vets signed it in Norfolk,” Elleson recalled.

Nearby Benjamin was urging the crowd to have some Dunkin’ Donuts and coffee.

“I feel wonderful, I’m all elated,” he said. “I’m humbled.”
Delray Beach

Repairs allowed Sandoway House to reopen in late January

By Jane Smith

Luck finally returned to the Sandoway House Nature Center.

Delray Beach allowed it to reopen Jan. 27 after forcing it to close for nearly five weeks to make needed repairs. The city’s building inspector had red-tagged the nature center on Dec. 26, shortly after a silver Ford F150 backed into it and caused about $25,000 damage. “Tragic for us that it came at the busiest time for us,” said Ann Heilakka, co-president of the Sandoway House board. “Kids were home from school, the season had just started.”

An Ontario, Canada, resident told police she pressed the gas pedal instead of the brake when backing into a parking space, according to the police report. The pickup jumped over the parking block and struck the south side of the Sandoway House, where there is a hexagonal tank holding tropical fish and coral.

The pickup hit a tree with its right front before hitting the house, the police report indicates. The report lists $3,000 damage to the house, the police report. The pickup also caused about $25,000 damage to the pickup. Because the building was the house, the police report. The pickup also caused about $25,000 damage to the pickup.

The room had glass shelves that shattered when hit, Fine said. “The glass went flying. No people or animals were injured,” he said. The lath and plaster construction of the building acted like a stretch fabric, he said. He thinks the damage would be higher if the historic building were constructed with different materials. “The hex tank with 1 ton of water helped absorb the shock from the truck,” he said.

At the time of the wreck, the nature center had about 60 people inside and on its grounds. “Half ran screaming, the other half wanted to stay for the shark feeding,” Fine said. The sharks are fed outside in a pool on the north side of the building. The public shark feeding did take place that morning after Christmas.

Because the building was red-tagged, Sandoway House had to get permission to allow its staff to enter to feed the animals and do paperwork. Volunteers and visitors were not allowed.

Fine worried about losing the nature center’s volunteers to other programs. The nature center has a complicated ownership structure. Palm Beach County owns the property, which it bought in 1995 for $620,000. The county leases it to Delray Beach. The city then subleases the property to the Friends of Sandoway House for $1 a year. That’s why the city fronted the money to pay Brang Construction Inc. of Boca Raton to do the repairs, which cost $24,970, according to a city purchase order.

The city will seek reimbursement from the pickup driver’s insurance company, Intact Insurance Co. The driver was not cited because the wreck happened in a parking lot. A 5-year-old girl and 3-year-old boy, relatives of the driver, also were in the extended-cab pickup, according to the police report. The organization lost about $9,000 in revenue during the week the nature center was closed. That figure includes $900 in canceled classes and nearly $8,000 in admission fees, based on figures from the past three years. The Sandoway House board will do extra fundraisers to make up the lost income, Heilakka said. “Putting Around has volunteered to do a fundraiser for us,” she said. “On Earth Day, we always do something. But this year, we will have a 5K race. That’s new for us.”

Initially the Sandoway House staff and board members thought the construction would take place in two stages. The first part would be for structural repairs needed to make the building safe, which would require it to be closed, and the second to allow reconstruction to continue. But Brang Construction was able to do all the work in one phase. “We lucked out,” said Danica Sunborn, executive director of the Sandoway House.

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Massive home prompts effort for tighter rules

By Tim Pallesen

Coastal residents are pointing to one particular oceanfront home as the example of what should be prevented in future construction.

A three-story home under construction at 344 N. Ocean Blvd. is too massive compared to neighboring homes, the Beach Property Owners Association says.

“I would have never bought my home if I knew that was going to be built there,” neighbor Kelly Barrette said at a Jan. 14 meeting to review changes to design guidelines for single-family coastal homes.

“Now we’re seeing these huge houses that are out of scale,” Barrette said. “Our rules can be a little tighter. We don’t have to be like Gulf Stream.”

The controversial 18,612-square-foot house was allowed to be larger only after the property owner paid $5.2 million to buy three adjoining lots.

“I should have shipped it with RSVP!”

“Some of the things that people have done since were not envisioned in the original guidelines,” said Andy Katz, BPOA vice president.

Current guidelines prohibit Quonset huts and geodesic domes. Modern architecture is discouraged, but not prohibited, in favor of a more Bermuda-style architecture with windows and upper-floor setbacks.
The new head of Delray Beach’s Community Redevelopment Agency will receive a slightly more than 18 percent salary increase over his previous salary as the agency’s assistant director. The CRA board approved that salary of $132,893 for Jeff Costello at its Jan. 8 meeting by a 4-2 vote. Board Chairman Herman Stevens and board member Cathy Balestriere voted no. Board member Angela Gray was absent.

"Jeff is my man," Stevens said after the meeting. "I thought it should have been more." Balestriere could not be reached for comment. At the meeting, she said Costello deserved about $140,000 because he knows the staff, has years of experience and saved the board money by not having to search for a new executive.

In December, a 5 percent salary increase was discussed when Costello was approved to replace longtime executive director Diane Colonna. In that position, she made $136,202.70. She left the agency Jan. 2; Costello took over on Jan. 5, the next work day. Costello presented backup information to the board at its Jan. 8 meeting that said as the assistant director he would have been eligible for a March merit raise at 2.5 percent, as the director he will not be eligible for a pay increase until January 2016. "Therefore, a 5 percent salary increase is essentially a 2.5 percent increase," he wrote.

He included a chart that listed executive director salary, acreage, staff and budgets for agencies in three other cities (Boynton Beach, Lake Worth and Riviera Beach) and for Delray Beach.

Costello asked for a salary comparable to Lake Worth’s CRA executive director and received it. Lake Worth’s agency has 517 acres in its borders, has a staff of three and a budget of $1.68 million, according to the information given to the Delray Beach board members. The Delray CRA has 1,961 acres, a staff of 12 and a budget of $35.7 million.

The board members want to review Costello in six months as well as at the beginning of the financial year in October. Also at that meeting, board members decided they want a 2015 goal setting workshop, but not like last year’s when former CRA executive director Chris Brown was the facilitator. Board members did not want a facilitator because they are not shy about voicing opinions and disliked the ranking method (low, medium or high) of each goal.

Costello reserved space for that session on Feb. 25 at the Delray Center for the Arts. He will take that meeting date to the board this month for its approval. According to a November update of 2014 goals, West Atlantic Avenue, North Federal Highway redevelopment and the Downtown Development Association’s marketing plans will likely be on the agenda. *
By Tim Pallesen

Construction for Atlantic Crossing starts this month after a lawsuit by neighbors who sought to alter its design was dismissed by a judge on Jan. 20.

“We’re ready to get demolition and construction underway,” said Edwards Companies President Jeff Edwards, the partner with Ocean Ridge resident Carl DeSantis to build the $200 million mixed-use project on East Atlantic Avenue.

“Our group is not giving up,” said Harbour House condo president Bruce Leiner, who still believes the developer should pay the city for the street right-of-way that the city abandoned in 2009.

Neighbors at the Harbour House condo had sued last year to force an access road from Federal Highway to relieve traffic congestion.

But Circuit Judge Jamie Goodman dismissed that lawsuit against Atlantic Crossing and the city without explanation on Jan. 20.

Atlantic Crossing still wants city commissioners to sign a development agreement that specifies what the developer is obligated to do.

Commissioners delayed the agreement last October pending the outcome of the lawsuit.

“We’re asking the city to work with us to finalize the development agreement without further delay,” Edwards said.

As incentive, Edwards said that the $500,000 the developer pledged for improvements to city-owned Veterans Park immediately east of the project hinges on whether the agreement is signed.

But demolition of two vacant buildings on Atlantic Avenue — the former Delray Beach Antique Mall at the Gillis & Sons building and the Rinceaux Jewelry and Antiques building — is scheduled this month with or without the agreement.

Demolition of the Carroll Financial Center at the corner of Northeast Sixth Avenue and Northeast First Street, the final building on the site’s western block, is projected by late April.

Once the western block is cleared, construction will begin on a 440-space underground garage to be beneath apartments slated to open in 2016.

The existing Atlantic Plaza commercial center will remain open on the eastern block until demolition and new construction there is due in 2017-18.

Once completed, the city’s largest mixed-use development will have 356 luxury condos and apartments, 80,000 square feet of restaurants and shops, plus 79,000 square feet of office space.

Atlantic Crossing estimates the project will bring 1,000 construction jobs and 600 permanent jobs to the city.
South Palm Beach

Town Council wants final say on development projects

By Dan Moffett

Though their town is built-out, South Palm Beach council members say they want more control over important decisions on development projects.

So they’re moving forward with changes that will shift power from the architecture and planning boards to the Town Council. Councilwoman Stella Jordan says that’s the way residents want it.

“From what everyone tells me, they want the final say to be with the council,” she said. “In a town of our size, that’s absolutely doable.”

The issue of who makes the final call on site plans and variances came up in August when the Architectural Review Board approved Paragon Acquisition Group’s revised design for a six-story condominium project on the site of the Palm Beach Oceanfront Inn.

Because Paragon’s plan complied with the town’s building rules, the board had to approve it unanimously, 3-0, and the Town Council had little choice but to accept the vote — or run the risk of getting taken to court.

Council members say that many of their constituents said they were surprised that, given the size of the project and the contentious history of the old Hawaiian hotel property, the town’s elected officials did not get the chance to weigh in on the ultimate design.

In 2010, after months of heated debate over plans for the troubled site, voters went to the polls and took zoning changes out of the council’s hands, requiring a townwide referendum instead.

Town Attorney Brad Biggs has drafted a proposed ordinance that will shift the approval power at Town Hall by making the architectural and planning boards advisory panels and transferring the up-or-down vote to the council.

Biggs warned that some unintended consequences could come with the move, however.

Council no longer would serve as the destination for appeals when projects are rejected, but instead would become the first, last and only voting entity. If the council turns down a developer, the only option for appeal would be taking the case to the circuit courts.

Vice Mayor Joe Flagello believes the council and residents understand that a new approach is right for South Palm Beach.

“I think we know what we’re doing in getting into this,” Flagello said. “I know it’s not typical but it fits for us. Any other town it probably would be a bad idea.”

Councilman Robert Gottlieb, who has pushed for the change since the Paragon approval, said the proposed ordinance, which is likely to come up for a vote at the Feb. 24 meeting, would put the responsibility where it belongs.

“The end result is very simple,” Gottlieb said. “The council should have the final say.”

In other business, the town’s three council members with expiring terms have filed paperwork to enter the March 10 election: Mayor Donald Clayman, Vice Mayor Flagello and Councilwoman Bonnie Fischer.

Town voters will also have four charter amendments to decide — proposals that eliminate term limits for the council and advisory boards, and also revisions to the rules for some special elections and screening town manager candidates.
Library is here for the cerebral, not the Stephen King fan

By Ron Hayes

Atop the clutter on Sid Patchette’s desk in the Lantana Public Library rests a keepsake box, about the size of a briefcase and colorfully disguised to look like a very large book.

Open the cover and you will find the secret weapon with which the city’s library director is plotting to joust with the giant.

“Whenever I catalog a new book, I check the county’s Lantana branch catalog to see if they’ve got it,” he explains, resting a hand on the box. “And if they haven’t got it, I put a copy of my cataloging slip in this box.”

Someday soon, Patchette promises, he will unveil a new feature on his library’s website: “Books Goliath Hasn’t Got.”

Goliath is the Lantana branch of the Palm Beach County Library System, which opened in April 2009 at the corner of Lawrence and Lantana roads, not five miles west of Patchette’s much smaller city library at 204 W. Ocean Ave.

The county branch has access to more than a million books, CDs, DVDs and magazines.

It has five study rooms, a conference room and a meeting room that seats 115.

It has both a children’s area and a teen area.

It has 62 public computers, including 17 in the children’s area alone.

The Lantana library has 23,000 books and two computers. No DVDs, no CDs, no separate spaces for children and teens.

If the county library is Goliath, the city library is David.

“The county built a big-box facility just to our west, and we thought that might be the end of us,” Patchette says. “But what we’ve decided to do, instead of trying to compete head-to-head with DVDs and CDs, is to turn ours into an alternative to the big box.”

Quality instead of quantity.

“We don’t stock multiple copies of the bestsellers. We use our limited budget to create the thinking person’s library,” Patchette explains. “We’ll get just one copy of a new Stephen King, and then we’ll get the book on Books Goliath Hasn’t Got.

“We try to shop ourselves as the serious reader’s alternative.”

The philosophy is right there at the top of the library’s website: “A place for serious readers.

For example, most any library will carry The Moonstone and The Woman In White, by that popular Victorian writer of pots, Wilkie Collins.

Patchette has those, and four or five lesser known titles as well.

The Anthony Trollope collection stretches more than a foot along one shelf, and you’ll find most anything from the University of Florida or Pineapple Press is available.

“Our shelf space is so limited we can’t hold more than 24,000 volumes,” Patchette explains, “so we’re running a self-screening collection. If it isn’t a classic, or hasn’t been borrowed in the past couple of years, it’s a candidate for the used book sale.

Now to be honest, Patchette’s slingshot potshots at the “big-box” Goliath are a wonderful publicity play even cynical newspaper reporters couldn’t resist. But the competition is illusory. The truth is, any book Goliath hasn’t got can be easily transferred from one of the other county branches. And while Patchette’s little library can’t boast multiple meeting rooms and dozens of computer terminals, it has free Wi-Fi, subscriptions to 28 magazines, including The New York Review of Books and Forbes, and online access to about 1,000 newspapers from around the world.

There is no children’s room, but the children’s shelf is perfectly respectable. And large-print editions, as well.

“We’re the only public library in the state that offers free color printing, 10 sheets a day per user,” Patchette boasts. “A person can bring in their laptop, use our Wi-Fi and we’ll print out what they’ve downloaded or created.”

To imagine how far the Lantana Public Library might go in its quest to compete with the big box, look at how far it’s come.

The collection was born in 1947, when the former bridgekeeper’s house on Lantana Road became the town’s first library, run by the local Woman’s Club and stocked with a mere 5,000 donated books, mostly bestsellers.

When the Carteret Savings & Loan on West Ocean Avenue failed in the early 1990s, the town bought the building, and the old bank became the new library.

Mayor Dave Stewart calls that purchase “the best part of the whole little story.”

“If you don’t have your own library, you have to pay the county system,” Stewart says. “So it’s actually saved the residents hundreds of thousands of dollars in taxes.”

The current budget is about $170,000, supplemented by donations from the 150-member Friends of the Library.

And yet Patchette, the library’s director since 1996, doesn’t even live in Lantana.

Five days a week for the past 18 years, he’s commuted from Coconut Grove.

“I leave about 8:15 a.m. and get back … well, it depends on what the idiots are doing out there and how many smash-ups there are.”

A 1968 graduate of FSU with a master’s degree in library science, he came to Lantana after running teachers libraries in Papua, New Guinea, and Malawi, in Southeast Africa, where he met Katrina, his wife of 28 years.

“We’re Palm Beach County’s best-kept secret,” says the Lantana library’s most enthusiastic booster.

But what of those poor library patrons who hunger for the latest page-turner?

“Doesn’t a library that puts The Princeton Guide To Evolution before the latest Stephen King novel risk being accused of elitism?”

“Probably,” Patchette exclaims. “And we don’t give a tinker’s damn. We don’t think it’s elitist. We think it’s an opportunity to serve upward striving people.”

For more information, call 561-5740 or visit www.lantanalibrary.org.

ABOVE: The Lantana Library is located in an old bank building. BELOW: Sid Patchette has been library director since 1996. Photos by Tim Stepień/The Coastal Star
7th Avenue – Delray Beach: Rare opportunity to own a pristine 1925 cottage home. The finest example of Historic Delray Beach. Steps to Atlantic Avenue. $849,000.

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Casa Costa – Boynton Beach: Forever water views from this chic designer decorated 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath desirable 12th floor unit in Casa Costa. Offered at $769,000.

Ocean Ridge: Walk to the beach from this single level Mediterranean style home. Four bedrooms, 3 baths and an office. The inviting pool is surrounded by a tropical garden. $749,000.

Del Ida – Delray Beach: Charming Key West style single family home in desirable neighborhood. Original wood floors, gas fireplace, high ceilings, crown molding, large rooms, beautiful backyard with pool. Walk to beach. $549,900.

Highland Beach: Direct Intracoastal complex with boating, beach, 2 pools and lots of Florida sunshine! Beautifully updated first floor, 2 bedroom and 2 bathroom end unit with an upscale feel! $274,900.
Briny Breezes/Ocean Ridge

Sivitilli pitches de-annexation to Ocean Ridge, Briny

By Dan Moffett

Rob Sivitilli’s crusade to rescue the family’s imperiled 5011 building is looking for help from an unlikely white knight.

It’s Briny Breezes.

After failing to win approval for an ordinance that would grandfather the building into code compliance, Sivitilli is proposing a de-annexation plan to Ocean Ridge.

“You don’t want us,” he’s telling the town, “so let us go.” Sivitilli wants his building to go to Briny Breezes.

Here’s what his plan would entail:

Ocean Ridge agrees to de-annex the 5011 N. Ocean Blvd. property. Briny Breezes agrees to annex the property. The Sivitilli family agrees to sell the land to the Briny Breezes corporation for $10. In return, Briny agrees to lease the building to the Sivitillis for 99 years at no charge.

Somewhere along the line, Ocean Ridge and Briny Breezes officials meet and agree on how the building will be used, and they resolve any differences between the town’s codes, working out as many details as need working out.

The Sivitillis promise to go forward with a $250,000 project to overhaul the 50-year-old building (they’ve already paid $30,000 to the architects for the redesign plans). Then the district’s two state legislators — Sen. Maria Sachs, D-Delray Beach, and Rep. Bill Hager, R-Boca Raton — sponsor a bill in the Legislature presenting the de-annexation for a formal vote. The Legislature passes it early 2016.

So then, the 5011 building becomes part of Briny Breezes, which, in theory, benefits from an increase in its tax base and the availability of a mixed-use strip that provides valuable commercial services, such as a barber shop. Ocean Ridge, in theory, benefits by ridding itself of a nonconforming property without having to bend town rules and also gets a renovated corridor welcoming people at the town’s southern entrance.

Admittedly, the strategy is pretty complex, so much so that Sivitilli couldn’t find a place to start. When he pitched the idea to Ocean Ridge town commissioners in January, they told him to go get Briny onboard first. When he went to Briny, council members told him to go get approval from Ocean Ridge — and also to sell the idea to Briny’s corporate board first.

“In the grand scheme of things, the order I would see something like this happening has to start with ‘Ocean Ridge,’ said John Skrandel, Briny’s town attorney. “Without their full consent, it doesn’t go any further.”

Ocean Ridge Commissioner Richard Lucibella disagreed: “Briny’s the suitor. We’re not.”


Ocean Ridge Mayor Geoff Pugh is more concerned about the precedent de-annexation would set than who starts it.

“It is unprecedented because the town of Ocean Ridge has never de-annexed a property before,” Pugh said.

Commissioner James Bonfiglio said it makes no sense for the town to give away control and still have the 5011 problems: inadequate parking, inadequate setbacks and commercial enterprise in a town that is supposed to be residential only.

“We get the same building we had and thought we got rid of three months ago,” Bonfiglio said.

Ocean Ridge commissioners told Sivitilli and Weiner to bring more information to the commission’s March 2 meeting. They said they were willing to listen some more.

In other business: Pugh and Commissioner Gail Adams Aaskov are up for re-election March 10.

Aaskov has taken out election paperwork and indicated she intends to run again.

As of Feb. 3, Pugh had not committed. “I don’t know,” he said when asked whether he’ll seek another three-year term. Qualifying ends on Feb. 10.

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February 2015
Ocean Ridge Police Chief, Chris Yannuzzi, gestures toward Commissioner Richard Lucibella and Town Manager Ken Schenck while addressing a crowd at the special commission meeting at which his resignation was accepted. Schenck had recommended his termination the previous week. Photos by Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star

CHIEF
Continued from page 1

"It is greatly appreciated, beyond belief," he told his supporters. "Did I make a mistake? Yes, I did." Yannuzzi conceded that he misinterpreted the law governing recovered stolen property when he investigated how a Broward County woman’s credit card turned up on the deck of Lucibella’s oceanfront home in November. Because the credit card was found on private property, Lucibella had no obligation to turn it over to local police. Yet, during a phone conversation, the chief insisted that Lucibella give him the card.

Perhaps Yannuzzi’s costlier mistake was recording the eight-minute call without Lucibella’s knowledge. A furious commissioner threatened to go after the chief’s job because of his harassment. "Found property on my property is mine," Lucibella said.

"You want to play this battle? I’ll tell you what, Monday, the first week of the month, I’m going to make a motion that we let you go, that we separate. I don’t think I have a second. I probably don’t have three votes. But I only have to win once, chief. I’ll make that motion every single month."

Lucibella’s anger grew after learning that the chief had taken the recording to the State Attorney’s Office, the Inspector General’s Office and the Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics. Lucibella described Yannuzzi’s behavior as a “combination of J. Edgar Hoover and Barney Fife,” and pushed for his termination.

Florida statute allows law enforcement officers to record telephone conversations when “the purpose of such interception is to obtain evidence of a criminal act.” Yannuzzi said he believed recording was necessary because the case involved theft and stolen property, though he concedes he did not recognize the legal importance of the card turning up on private land.

Lucibella and his supporters said recording the call was overkill, unwarranted and an attempt to undermine a town commissioner.

Commissioner James Bonfiglio described the matter as a “created crime by the police chief” and accused Yannuzzi of breaching the separation of powers between the commission and Police Department.

Town Manager Ken Schenck agreed, and recommended the chief’s firing to the commission. The chief also faulted Yannuzzi for low morale within the department, though Schenck had given the chief only one written evaluation since he took over in 2010 — and that rated his performance “outstanding.”

Yannuzzi, 58, joined the Ocean Ridge department in 2006. As chief, he has been instrumental in several multi-agency police efforts, including a project to implement license tag cameras on the barrier island.

“Over the past few weeks there has developed a contentious situation between the police chief and one of the commissioners. This has escalated so that it is creating problems in the daily duties,” Schenck wrote to commissioners in recommending termination. "Unfortunately, I don’t see the conflict ending and I’m not sure where it’s headed. It is not a good situation for the workplace.”

Vice Mayor Lynn Allison and Commissioner Gail Adams Aaskov sided with the chief and voted against termination. Mayor Geoff Pugh and Bonfiglio agreed with Lucibella. And Yannuzzi’s fate was sealed.

"I think it was justified for the manager to take the action that he did," Pugh said, and called the chief’s behavior in the Lucibella matter “egregious.”

Lucibella said he did a Google search to locate the woman who owned the card and reported the matter to the Davie Police Department. The commissioner said he learned the Visa card was stolen at a Costco in Broward and deactivated by the owner, who instructed Lucibella to cut up the card. He said he did.

Conflict follows beach feud

Yannuzzi and Lucibella have carried on a long-running feud over how the town should police its beaches, with the commissioner accusing the chief of not doing enough to enforce the law and stop trespassers — presumably like whoever left the card on his deck.

"It’s no secret that I’ve been a critic of Chief Yannuzzi,” he said. “But I bear him no ill will.”

Lucibella said he was "proud" of his stand during the phone call, and the chief was wrong to make a "clandestine recording.”

He said Yannuzzi had all he needed the first two minutes of the conversation and was trying to bait him.

Under terms of the separation agreement the commission unanimously approved, the town will pay Yannuzzi about $82,000. The chief left office Jan. 16, but his resignation will take effect in March. He will receive $10,400 in severance pay and another $43,800 to do consulting work for the town as a civilian for the next five months. Yannuzzi will get about $28,000 more in vacation and unused sick pay.

As part of the deal, Schenck will put a “positive evaluation” in his file. Both sides are to refrain from disparaging comments, and more important, Yannuzzi agreed not to file suit against the town. However, the courtroom door was left open for Lucibella and Yannuzzi to take legal action against each other, or for Lucibella to act against the town.

Town Attorney Ken Spillias said the settlement agreement excludes Lucibella from giving up his right to sue, as the commissioner requested.

"There have been so many inaccuracies, misstatements and out-and-out lies that I don’t have the time, the ability or the desire to address them all," Yannuzzi told the commission in accepting the deal. “I can tell you that on the day of this incident I was dealing with a citizen, not a commissioner.”

Though the commission’s vote for the settlement package was unanimous, Allison and Aaskov still opposed the chief’s termination. Aaskov called the dispute “an embarrassment to the town,” and Allison wondered why Schenck’s complaints about Yannuzzi’s performance had surfaced all at once.

"I still don’t understand — why not a reprimand or a grievance?" Allison said of the decision to remove the chief. "Why we went from zero to termination, I don’t understand."

Nan Yablong, who circulated a petition to recall Lucibella, said dozens of residents had signed: “We’ll get all the signatures we need.”

The commission unanimously approved Lt. Hal Hutchins as acting police chief until Yannuzzi’s resignation takes effect in March. Hutchins will become interim chief then, and he says he’s interested in keeping the job permanently. Commissioners said they will consider him, but also plan to conduct an outside search.

Hear contested telephone recording: thecoastalstar.com
Lantana

Town looking into leasing Third Street parking lot

By Mary Thurwachter

Council members in Lantana had a change of heart about installing parking meters in the town-owned parking lot on South Third Street off Lantana Road.

At the Jan. 26 town meeting, the council decided to look into leasing the lot instead of the original plan to install refurbished parking meters previously used at the beach. In December, when the council voted to spend $29,440 to repave the lot, the decision to add meters was made.

Town Manager Deborah Manzo said it was part of a pattern the town had established to charge for parking after repaving lots that were serving businesses. Bicentennial Park has meters and Sportsman’s Park will soon. In response, objections to the parking meter plan on Third Street have come up twice since then, both times by Stanley Gundlack, who owns the shopping center that houses Benny’s Seafood Restaurant next to the lot.

Gundlack said that if meters were installed he feared residents who have been using the lot to change oil in their cars would vandalize them.

Gundlack suggested the town look into renting the lot to restaurant owners on Ocean Avenue, where parking is at a premium, for employee parking.

“It could be leased to valets,” council member Phil Aridas said. “It’s right across the tracks (from Ocean Avenue restaurants).”

“I like the idea of leasing it out,” Mayor Dave Stewart said. “In the meantime, we should put up two-hour parking signs and enforce it.”

Paving is scheduled to begin early in February.

In other action, the town:
• Approved a shared parking agreement for Mario’s Ocean Avenue restaurant at 225 E. Ocean Ave.
• Chose to name the new park at 106-122 N. Lake Drive “Lyman Kayak Park.”

Ocean Ridge

Spillias switching to town employee for his last year

By Dan Moffett

After 15 years as town attorney, Ken Spillias says he plans on retiring in 2016, and he is going to serve out his last year as an employee of Ocean Ridge.

Spillias won the Town Commission’s blessing for a new employment arrangement that will change his status from an outside contractor to town employee.

Commissioners unanimously approved a contract at the Feb. 2 meeting that will pay Spillias a $90,000 annual salary, beginning March 1, and also about another $16,000 in benefits. Currently, Spillias earns a base retainer salary of $84,000 from the town, working out of the West Palm Beach law firm of Lewis, Longman & Walker. He earns extra fees for specific casework and litigation that the town requests.

Spillias says he is shaping up as a “year of transition” for the town because of the resignation of Police Chief Chris Yannuzzi and the expected retirement of Town Clerk Karen Hancsak, and the switch to employee status will allow him to spend more time at Town Hall to help usher in the changes in administration. He said it will save the town money.

“A lot of the things you now spend extra for — special services like litigation — would come within my responsibilities” as a salaried town employee, Spillias said.

An extra benefit of the shift from private to public sector for Spillias is enrollment in the Florida Retirement System. Spillias served as a Palm Beach County commissioner in the 1980s and needs only to work six months more under the state pension plan to become vested in it with six years’ employment.

Commissioner Richard Lucibella said he had worked and fought with Spillias for many years.

“I can’t picture better representation for a town than he has shown,” Lucibella said. “He has made some very hard decisions on behalf of this town.”

Mayor Geoff Pugh said having Spillias’ expertise in-house for the personnel changes ahead will be invaluable.

“I’m very proud that you would actually do this for us,” Pugh told him.
As deadline nears, Stewart faces no opposition

Looks like Lantana Mayor David Stewart will have no opposition as he runs for a sixth term March 10.

The town’s qualifying period ends on Feb. 10 and as of press time, no one else had qualified.

“I want to continue doing the good work we’re doing, with reasonable and controlled growth and fiscal responsibility,” the Hypoluxo Island resident said.

Stewart, 61, a Lake Worth High School graduate and Lantana resident since 1977, has worked in the air conditioning business for more than 40 years. He was chairman of the town’s planning and zoning board before becoming mayor.

He attended Palm Beach Community College and was active with the Lantana Athletic Association and the Hypoluxo/Lantana Kiwanis Club and is a member of the Lantana Elementary and Middle School advisory committees.

The mayor’s seat is the only council seat up for election this year.

— Mary Thurwachter

Holley demolition complete

Demolition of the A.G. Holley hospital building wrapped up in January, and developers have plans to build a large shopping center with stores, restaurants, a fitness center, pharmacy and a grocery store. Kenco Communities submitted a site plan to the town with its vision of what will rise on the 73-acre Lantana property. The commercial portion covers 34 acres. Residences will be built behind the commercial area. Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star

Continue reading about Lantana Mayor David Stewart and the Holley Hospital demolition project in the full article on page 21.
Lantana

Volunteer looks to enhance nature preserve’s worth to town

By Mary Thurwachter

Full of enthusiasm and armed with chocolate, Denise “Dee” Treinen convened a meeting of the minds on the Lantana Nature Preserve on Jan. 20. All business folks, town officials and members of the Lantana Nature Preserve Commission and Friends of the Lantana Nature Preserve filled the Town Council chambers. Treinen cranked up her Power Point, gave chocolate to guests as she introduced them, and outlined a few ideas she said could help the preserve and the community grow.

The Nature Preserve, a coastal hammock between The Carlisle senior living facility on East Ocean Avenue and the Intracoastal Waterway, is well-suited for educational programs and art shows, Treinen, a volunteer at the preserve, said. Other suggestions included recruiting local Boy Scouts to clean up the park, creating a more walkable path for the elderly, and adding new signs.

Treinen, who has a marketing background, discovered the Nature Preserve when she moved to town nine years ago. She said too many people don’t know it exists. “I just had a light bulb shine and realized that all should benefit from this wondrous gem,” she said. “I realized that this was my new passion and a way to leave a legacy and give back to our wondrous community.”

The purpose of the meeting, she said, “was to unify the community, individuals, business owners and organizations who are interested in and believe that the Lantana Nature Preserve is a gem and a goldmine for mining and growing themselves.”

But apparently Treinen didn’t consult with the Friends of the Lantana Nature Preserve about her plans for the gathering or that she asked local businesses for donations or even for the meeting itself.

In an email dated Jan. 28, Ilona Ballour, president of the Friends of the Lantana Nature Preserve, wrote that the Friends is a company registered with the State of Florida and that Treinen, should “not solicit donations, arrange meetings or put out any information or communication, contact the press, etc., on behalf of or without the prior approval of the board of Friends.”

Ballour wrote that while the Friends admires Treinen’s enthusiasm and welcome her association with the Friends, if she chooses to form her own group “in the best interest of the Nature Preserve, please do not use the name Friends of the Lantana Nature Preserve.”

During the meeting, Mayor David Stewart also advised Treinen to check her facts before sending out information on the town’s behalf. “You have my name spelled wrong (Stuart instead of Stewart),” he said while looking at her Power Point. “And you made a mistake — your name spelled wrong are — Tom (Council Member Tom Deringer) a bottle of wine — Beringer.”

The preserve was created by a 1997 ordinance and came out of a lawsuit. The Carlisle pays the town $40,000 a year to maintain it. No money comes from the town’s general fund to maintain it. No money comes from the town’s general fund to maintain it. No money comes from the town’s general fund to maintain it. No money comes from the town’s general fund to maintain it. No money comes from the town’s general fund to maintain it.

Treinen said she encourages others to become members of the Friends of the Lantana Nature Preserve.

For more information about the Preserve, write to the Friends of the Lantana Nature Preserve, 1340 U.S. hwy one, Lantana, Florida 33469.
Boymont Beach

Parking for marina found, at least in short term

By Jane Smith

Business owners at the Boymont Harbor Marina can exhale now that the city has found a short-term solution to a vexing parking problem.

At the January meeting of the city’s Community Redevelopment Agency board, CRA staff received the OK, by a 5-2 vote, to negotiate with the owner of a vacant 3-acre parcel at the northeast corner of Federal Highway and Ocean Avenue, near the marina.

In order to offer about 200 free spaces for marina visitors and users, the CRA will pay $20,000 annually to One Boynton LLC to lease a portion of the parcel, once home to a Bank of America branch. It will cost another $40,000 to stripe and clean up the site, said Vivian Brooks, CRA executive director.

“It’s a simple agreement,” Brooks said after the meeting. “We are hoping to bring it before the board in February. It’s just a matter of repaving and restriping so it should be usable in March.”

CRA staff approached the owner of the parcel. “It’s a redevelopment site where we simply do not have enough charge or don’t charge. We don’t have the authority to say that were designated ‘loading zone.’"

That potential charge drove captains of dive and fishing boats to pack a Dec. 9 CRA meeting, where they said the parking fee would hurt their businesses. They also complained about the 12 spaces near the boat slips that were designated “loading zone.”

That charge is now set to begin Feb. 15, but it may be pushed back again to coincide with the CRA free parking lot.

“It’s a private garage. We don’t have the authority to say charge or don’t charge. We simply do not have enough spaces for the marina,” Brooks told the CRA board members.

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Wills, Trusts & Probate
Elder Law | Guardianship | Real Estate
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The Hiring Of A Lawyer Is An Important Decision That Should Not Be Based Solely On Advertisements. Before You Decide, Ask Me To Send You Free Written Information About My Qualifications And Experience.

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Church of the Palms invites the community to join us for
The Lenten Journey
The Journey begins on Ash Wednesday, February 18th at 6:00 pm for a
Pancake Supper. The Journey continues each Wednesday until
March 25th with Soup & Salad dinners at 6 pm
and Community Worship at 6:30 pm
Call for Supper Reservations
Join us for our Palm Sunday, 3/24 and Easter, 3/31 services at 10:00 am

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WATERFRONT PROPERTIES IN GULF STREAM

PENTHOUSE ON THE OCEAN
Gulf Stream. Stunning penthouse, directly on the ocean, in the Villa d’Este with 3,000+ SF of living space. 3 spacious BRs with en-suite baths, a 33’ x 17’ living room with fireplace and wood floors, gracious marble entry, sun filled enclosed porch, an inviting library/office, and new impact windows. The Villa d’Este offers 3 spacious BRs with en-suite baths, a 33’ x 17’ living room with fireplace and wood floors, gracious marble entry, sun filled enclosed porch, an inviting library/office, and new impact windows. The Villa d’Este offers excellent management with a live-in manager, garage parking, beautiful grounds, & large-heated pool. $1.8M

MEDITERRANEAN INSPIRED ESTATE HOME
Gulf Stream. Situated on a prime point property in Gulf Stream, with magnificent waterway views, this spacious 4 BR, 6,700 SF home is a yacht owner’s dream. With 300’+ of water frontage and a 35’ dock, it can accommodate a 90’ yacht. This impressive residence is one of only 6 homes in a private association with deeded beach access & was designed to take advantage of the setting overlooking a wide expanse of mangroves.

Specializing in the beach area of Delray, Gulf Stream and Ocean Ridge for over 30 years.

Barbara Whittaker
561.271.3317 | barbara.whittaker@corcoran.com
weather, and my next chapter is a college-level U.S. history book that covers 1900-1910."

A 32-year veteran of IBM, Dwyer came to Learning Ally three years ago when the company asked employees to mark its 100th birthday by volunteering somewhere for eight hours during the year. Through a friend, Dwyer found Learning Ally, and she's been there every Tuesday ever since.

"I really enjoy it," she says. "It gives me satisfaction in knowing that I'm helping someone who wants to better themselves, and for whatever reason they learn aurally rather than visually."

Dedicated volunteers have audited thousands

But let's rewind the story a bit. After World War II, the G.I. Bill guaranteed a college education to all returning veterans — some of whom had been blinded in the war. They couldn't read Braille. They didn't have anyone to read for them.

Anne T. Macdonald, a member of the New York Public Library's Women's Auxiliary, heard their frustration. In 1948, she and her auxiliary colleagues turned the library's attic into a makeshift recording studio and Recording for the Blind was born.

In 1995, Recording for the Blind became Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic, to reflect the growing number of users with learning disabilities.

Since 2011, it's been Learning Ally. Today, more than 70 percent of its users are children or young adults with learning rather than visual disabilities.

The recordings that began as 6-inch vinyl disks, then cassettes and compact discs are now downloadable audio files.

Nationally, about 5,000 volunteers contribute 6,000 new titles a year to a library that's passing 80,000 books.

In Florida alone, those titles reach about 5,500 learners, including 4,000 students in public and charter schools, where free access is required by law. Another 1,500 household members pay $119 a year for the service.

"But for that, you can take 10,000 books if you want," says Doug Spere, the organization's media director. "Our service is heavily focused. More than two-thirds of our books are core curriculum texts. Virtually any book a student needs from kindergarten through 12th grade, we have. Plus some popular reading for kids."

In other words, the faithful volunteer readers who arrive at FAU each week are not passing the time with Gone Girl or Marley & Me. They're reading aloud, very carefully, from the same books millions of students fall asleep over every night.

"We need conscientious dedication," says production director Sonia Hedrick. "The books are assigned by our ability, so if I don't have some someone who can read Latvian, we're not going to record a history of Latvia."

Books get complete production treatment

The Beatles had George Martin to produce their recordings. The FAU volunteers have Sonia Hedrick.

A former manager for volunteer programs at Meals On Wheels and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Broward County, Hedrick was feeding Goober, her half-blind shih tzu, one day in 2006. When Goober spliced food, Hedrick picked up his newspaper place mat to shake it clean and her eye fell on a classified ad: "Production director wanted. Need someone to experience managing volunteers."

What do production and volunteers have to do with each other? They wondered.

Hedrick, who has homes in Washington, D.C., and Delray Beach and volunteers for Learning Ally in both cities, "I did one on the American Civil War. I've read some children's books."

Doesn't sitting in a tiny booth, reading text aloud for weeks after week get boring? "Not at all," Saxton insists. "I'm very fond of the spoken word. It's all iPhones these days. Nobody speaks to each other anymore. They're all wandering around muttering to themselves. I think listening to somebody tell a story, whether fact or fiction, is more interesting."

Which is not to say that every human has the patience for it. "The secret is to be attentive and don't hesitate to redo it a dozen times if you make a mistake," says Ken Solomon, 67, who has homes in Washington, D.C., and Delray Beach and volunteers for Learning Ally in both cities. "I did one couple of books for teens. They were pirate stories, so I got to have fun with the voices of the different characters."

Pirates are not his forte, though. On this day, he's recording Last Dance: Encountering Death and Dying. Death and dying aren't his forte, either.

"Actually, I'm a retired accountant, so they give me a lot of accounting books," he says with a smile. "When you do accounting books, you don't worry about being boring."

For more information, visit www.learningally.org or call 297-4444.

Hear a recording of this story at thecoastalstar ning.com

Record-a-Thon

Many worthy organizations sponsor Walk-a-Thons to raise money.

On March 27-29, Learning Ally at Florida Atlantic University will hold the Incapital Record-a-Thon. Donate $3 and you can be a guest reader while learning about Learning Ally's programs. That's only 10 cents per minute.

Actually, any donation is welcome, but readers must call in advance to reserve a 30-minute time slot.

For more information, call 297-4444 or email Sonia Hedrick at sionic@learningally.org.

Dwyer

Scott Ringersen

Brian Saxton records a book at Learning Ally in Boca Raton. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

Valentine’s Day

Sat., February 14

DINNER & DANCE

ELVIS SHOW

$40

Per Person

(Inf. Tax & Grd.

in The

Flamingo Ballroom

$35

Per Person

(Inf. Tax & Grd.

2410 North Federal Hwy. • Delray Beach
Obituaries

Arthur Jaffe

By Ron Hayes

DELRAY BEACH — One summer day in the late 1920s, a little boy named Arthur Jaffe asked a librarian at the Carnegie Library in Butler, Pa., to recommend a book.

“She gave me a children’s abridged edition of Robinson Crusoe, and I couldn’t put it down,” he remembered. “That was the book that got me on reading as a passion.”

In time, that passion for reading grew into a passion for books themselves — their size and weight, designs and decorations — and the boy who loved reading became a man who loved collecting.

When Mr. Jaffe died at home in Delray Beach on Jan. 25, his collection of books had become the Arthur & Mata Jaffe Center for Book Arts on the third floor of Florida Atlantic University’s Wimberly Library.

Mr. Jaffe was 93 and the center’s curator. “You think a book is a cover, a spine, a front and a back, but that’s not what you see here.”

At the Jaffe Center, visitors find books made of aluminum, or wood. A pop-up book about birds that spreads its wings or wood. A pop-up book about birds that spreads its wings and a back, but that’s not what the book is a cover, a spine, a front and a back, but that’s not what you see here.

The Jaffe Center, visitors find books made of aluminum, or wood. A pop-up book about birds that spreads its wings and it’s not going anywhere.

Mr. Jaffe kept a small collection intact. “Until the last year, Arthur was here most days, and very often he’d bring another book, or something else to add to the collection,” Cutrone said. “He couldn’t help himself.”

In his final year, Mr. Jaffe still came to the center two or three times a week. “His speech had declined, but he always came with new ideas,” Cutrone recalled. “He built this place, and it’s here, and it’s not going anywhere.”

“His speech had declined, but he always came with new ideas,” Cutrone recalled. “He built this place, and it’s here, and it’s not going anywhere.”

Last year, Mr. Jaffe received FAU’s Distinguished Service Medalion. “But no title could ever encompass all that Arthur meant to FAU,” President John Kelly said in a message to the university community. “To us he was a living legend who personified the highest and best values of his generation — ‘the greatest generation.’”

Mr. Jaffe kept a small office in the center, and as his 90th birthday neared, he showed a visitor one of his latest purchases — an 1884 edition of Robinson Crusoe. An unabridged, grown-up edition.

“Never actually owned a copy before,” he said with a smile.

Mr. Jaffe is survived by his children, Jeanne Jaffe, of Philadelphia; Jonathan Jaffe, of San Francisco; Joel Jaffe, Houston; and Julie Jaffe, Vashon Island, Wash; and eight grandchildren.

A funeral service and burial were held Jan. 30 in Delray Beach, followed by a memorial service at the Jaffe Center.

Memorial donations may be made to the Jaffe Center for Books Arts at FAU, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton, FL 33433.
Christos Papatheodorou

In Memoriam

ADAM SAHLIN VAN ARNEM

Adam Sahlin Van Arnem passed away in Colorado on December 20, 2014 where he loved the outdoors and the mountains. Adam was born on January 13th, 1988, the beloved son of Bridget and Harold Van Arnem. Adam grew up in Delray Beach where he was an avid skateboarder and cyclist. A terrific free diver and underwater mushroom picker, Adam was an established surfer and he had that eye. He was always kind. He loved people.

“Adam was the brother of Aleise, Heidi, and Heather (Jean Chidiac). He was the brother of Aleise, Heidi, and Heather (Jean Chidiac) of Bloomfield Hills, MI, Harold IV of New York City, NY, Maxwell and Sean of Delray Beach, FL and was uncle to John Joseph of Bloomfield Hills, MI, Harold IV of New York City, NY, Maxwell and Sean of Delray Beach, FL and was uncle to John Joseph. In 2014 where he loved the outdoors and the mountains. Adam was born on January 13th, 1988, the beloved son of Bridget and Harold Van Arnem. Adam grew up in Delray Beach where he was an avid skateboarder and cyclist. A terrific free diver and underwater mushroom picker, Adam was an established surfer and he had that eye. He was always kind. He loved people.

“My dad, Harold Arne, lived with cancer for many years and was an inspiration to us all. He always had a twinkle in his eye.”

Adam was the brother of Aleise, Heidi, and Heather (Jean Chidiac) of Bloomfield Hills, MI, Harold IV of New York City, NY, Maxwell and Sean of Delray Beach, FL and was uncle to John Joseph Chidiac. Adam’s family loved him and looks forward to the day they can be with Adam in Heaven.

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Adam was the brother of Aleise, Heidi, and Heather (Jean Chidiac) of Bloomfield Hills, MI, Harold IV of New York City, NY, Maxwell and Sean of Delray Beach, FL and was uncle to John Joseph Chidiac. Adam’s family loves him and looks forward to the day they can be with Adam in Heaven.

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Robert Dobbins

“I hated to see them go.”

Robert Thomas Dobbins was born on Nov. 16, 1923, in Pittsburgh to Robert and Mary Dobbins. From October 1942 to June 1945, he flew 218 combat missions and logged 1,300 hours “flying the hump” — the Himalayas — in the China Burma India theater, for which he was awarded the Air Medal and Distinguished Flying Cross.

When he enlisted, he lied about his age, Stewart said. “I think he was 17 or something. I guess his dad was mad at him for a while, but he flew more missions than he had to.”

After the war, Mr. Dobbins logged more than 35,000 flight hours with United Airlines and retired after 38 years as first on the seniority list of those still flying today.

When the couple bought a home on Hypoluxo Island, he brought his love of aircraft with him. At Lantana Airport, he kept an E-35 V-tail Bonanza, a 1947 Cessna 120 and a Cherokee 85 which he flew to a second home in the Bahamas. He built the house on “Bimini himself,” Stewart said.

“One day I saw him outside. He’d bought a brand-new washing machine and he’s taking the panels apart so it would fit in his plane so he could take it over there.”

In addition to his love of planes, Mr. Dobbins also indulged a love of automobiles and added a six-car garage to his Hypoluxo Island home to accommodate his Packards, Lincolns, a 1932 Roadster and his favorite, the Model-A. In total, he had more than 50 cars.

“He was always working on them, and his wife would be washing them and helping him,” Stewart remembers. “They were a pleasure to have as neighbors.”

In addition to his widow, JoAnn, Mr. Dobbins is survived by his eight children, David Dobbins, Karen Gridley, Susan Gridley, Bobby Cooke, Deborah Dobbins, Robert Dobbins Jr., Brett Dobbins and Heather Dobbins; 26 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

The family asks that donations be made to TrustBridge Hospice, 1531 W. Palmetto Park Road, Boca Raton, FL 33486.

Hank Peters

Hank Peters was a longtime Major League Baseball executive whose gut instincts about a young talent helped the long-deprived Cleveland Indians reach the World Series in 1995, died Jan. 4 in hospice care near his Highland Beach home. He was 80.

Mr. Peters’ daughter, Sharon, of Delray Beach, said her father had suffered a stroke about two weeks prior, and could just not recuperate.

Dorothy Peters, Mr. Peters’ wife of 60 years, had died in 2010.

Mr. Peters was born Henry John Peters in St. Louis on Sept. 16, 1924. He and his sister, Virginia, were raised by their mother, Estelle, who cleaned houses to support the family. Mr. Peters joined the U.S. Army during World War II, served in Europe during World War II, then briefly attended St. Louis University before answering a newspaper ad for a job with the St. Louis Browns’ minor league baseball team. After that, baseball was his life.

For 47 years, until his retirement in 1991, Mr. Peters lived the often nomadic life of a front-office executive, spending time with the now-defunct Browns and Kansas City Athletics, before landing with the Baltimore Orioles and, finally, the Cleveland Indians.

Mr. Peters had a knack, it seemed, for trusting his instincts when he saw a young, green player try out. And when the Indians went to the World Series in 1995, they went there with players Mr. Peters had recruited — baseball greats like Jim Thome, Manny Ramirez, Charles Nagy, Sandy Alomar Jr. and Carlos Baerga.

Mr. Peters also drafted a guy named Cal Ripkin Jr. while with the Orioles front office.

His daughter remembers her father’s baseball career with fondness, but admits they missed him growing up. There were no cell phones. No text messages. No emails. Just pay phones. And when they were lucky, her dad would find one that worked.

“It could be a little rough on the family,” she said. “Two weeks would go by, and we wouldn’t talk to him.”

Still, her father often folded family vacations into Florida business trips, said Sharon Peters, who said the family began coming to spring training baseball in Florida back in the 1950s.

“And when he was home, he never took up tennis or golf or anything like that, so when he was home, he was home.”

Hank and Dorothy Peters began coming to Highland Beach as part-time residents after his retirement, soon buying an oceanfront place. But for 21 years they worked to return to their home in Baltimore each summer.

After his wife’s death in 2011, Mr. Peters began living in Highland Beach full-time. Sharon Peters said her father loved the ocean, and enjoyed sitting on the balcony, reading. He always kept up with sports, often complaining about too much football news in the sports section.

Mr. Peters also is survived by his daughter, Sharon, of Delray Beach, and two grandchildren. His funeral was Jan. 7.

Barbara H. Carpenter

By Steven J. Smith

DELRAY BEACH — If you want an example of a life fully lived, look no further than the life of Suzanne “Barbara” Hayward Carpenter.

Born in New Orleans, La., on Nov. 16, 1922, Mrs. Carpenter and her family moved to New York when she was 10.

When she grew up, she made her mark in the real estate business in Connecticut. A first marriage yielded two children, Kenny and Ashton. Her second marriage, to Frank Carpenter, lasted 57 years and produced two more children, Tim and Hilary.

Tom Lynch, the former mayor of Delray Beach who is married to Mary, said her husband-in-law in union with Frank Carpenter, a vice president of a real estate firm (the owner of Old Spice), was a wonderful match.

“Frank’s territory was international, so they traveled together all over the world and were very happy together,” he said. Barbara was one of the most astute people I ever met. She had the tremendous ability to read people. She had a true Darwinistic type of philosophy. She adapted well to change and to adversity, which occurred a lot in her life. Her son Ashton was killed in Vietnam. She had back surgery several times, a shoulder replaced. Two hips replaced. I never heard her complain. She smiled all the time — a very positive, uplifting, optimistic person.”

Lynch said his mother-in-law was an accomplished athlete, excelling at tennis and golf. In her later years, she mastered bridge and developed into a talented painter, displaying many works at the Gulf Stream Golf Club in Gulf Stream.

“She had all of her faculties and applied them to her many interests,” he said. “I used to buy her a book and bring it to her on a Saturday. When she was 88, I bought her a Kindle. She loved it and would read e-books voraciously. She was the only one who was even capable of driving a car up to a year ago.”

Mrs. Carpenter died peacefully on Dec. 28, at the age of 92 because of complications of pulmonary disease. Local services were held on Jan. 4, at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Delray Beach and the funeral and interment took place on Jan. 7 at Christ Church in Greenwich, Conn. In lieu of flowers, the family asked for donations to the Hospice of Palm Beach County, which aided Mrs. Carpenter significantly in her final days.

“She was one of the last of her life, her hospice was called in to take over,” Lynch said. “Before that, hospice was available whenever needed. They helped her while she stayed at home, as they had helped Frank about seven years earlier.”

Lynch said his mother-in-law was feisty and energetic right up until the end of her life.

“At one point she nearly went into a coma and was taken to the hospital,” he said. “We all rushed there to see her, only to discover her sitting up in bed, doing crossword puzzles. The doctor came in and said, ‘Barbara, I thought you’d be dead.’ She responded, ‘Doctor, where did you get your degree, anyway? She had a wonderful sense of humor.”
Catherine Jacobus comes from a privileged background in New York City, but she learned early that being wealthy did not shield her from everything. Alcohol and drugs were part of her home life. That’s why she and her late husband, known as Jake, searched for basic-needs programs to support.

“I love bootstrap programs. Money goes to help the poor, nothing frilly,” she said. “I grew up to give. Park Avenue was just my address, not my mindset.”

In addition to the major donations they made over the years to local groups, they have helped about 40 kids go to college, she said. When asked how she found about the kids needing financial support for college, she simply says, “Just heard about them.”

In March, Jacobus, 72, will be the honorary chairwoman of the Circle of Hope gala, held by the Women’s Circle Inc. at the Delray Dunes Golf and Country Club.

Her involvement is monetary, but she likes how the staff stretches the dollars to give disadvantaged women a boost into the working world. The Circle provides free English, literacy and computer classes; support groups; one-on-one assistance with resumes and interview techniques; and a closet of clothes suitable for job interviews.

In 2000 she was on the board of the Achievement Centers for Children and Families when she and her husband led a $4.1 million campaign to build the Community Child Care Center in Delray Beach. She named it after her stepfather (retired singer Morton Downey Sr.) because of the role he had played in her life, including sharing “the knowledge that we are all created equal, and some of us get bigger breaks than others.”

Her mother was heir to the Newmont Mining Corp., started by Jacobus’ great-grandfather in 1921. Newmont, now based in Colorado, is a public company that mines gold and copper worldwide.

Her beloved Jake was her second husband. She had a daughter with her first husband, whom she described as “stuffy.” Jake was not stuffy. When he showed her pictures of his two kids, she thought he would be a good family man. They had three children together.

Q. Where did you grow up and go to school? How do you think that has influenced you?
A. New York City for grammar and high schools. I learned that being rich was not the answer to everything. It was wonderful, slowly learning to get to the point (of realizing it was not a shield). For college, I went to Manhattanville College, just outside New York City. It was all girls and run by nuns at the time. My major was English literature.

Q. What professions have you worked in?
A. At age 22 I was on the board of a Fortune 500 company that my great-grandfather had founded, Newmont Mining. I felt out of place, never talked at the meetings. But I had a list of questions that I would ask another director to answer over lunch before each meeting. I learned that the board members were deeply concerned and had strong family values. They were the best of America.

Now I paint and write poems that people can identify with. After reading my poems, people tell me they were moved, that they can understand them. I plan to self-publish a book of my poems.

Q. What do you see as the toughest challenges the Women’s Circle will face this coming year?
A. Maintaining a high level of service in rocky times.

Q. What advice do you have for a young person selecting a career today?
A. Get absolutely the best education you can, get in the mainstream of your life — 18 to 21 years old. Do a little exploring; take an odd course or trip. Follow your passion unless you can’t. Don’t be afraid to take a risk and remember the world does not owe you anything.

Q. How did you choose to make your home in Gulf Stream?
A. We were living in Little Rock, when Jake realized he no longer had to be at the office each day to run his company. We were tired of the gray skies during winter. That meant California or Florida. When we left Arkansas, the year was 1976 and everyone in California was stoned and naked. That wasn’t for us. So, we came to Palm Beach, stayed with my dad (Downey) and drove down the coast. We found a house in Delray Beach near the ocean and lived there for about 15 years. Great place to raise children, funky older home with small rooms and rooms off of rooms. In early 2000, we found the house in Gulf Stream.

Q. What is your favorite part about living in Gulf Stream?
A. I like the sun, the light and the ocean view, but the heat is too much in the summer. So I leave then.

Q. What book are you reading now?
A. I am reading three books. The Kindly Ones, by Jonathan Littell. It’s about the rise of Nazism and the Holocaust; Far from the Tree, by Andrew Solomon. About heredity and non-heredity in families and for escape fiction, a lighter novel called The Papers of Eastern Jew, by Maureen Lindley. It’s based on a true story about a Chinese princess who became a spy.

Q. What music do you listen to when you need inspiration? When you want to relax?
A. Glenn Close or Meryl Streep. I see them mentally as young, and see them now and know they’ve done beautifully all along.

Q. Who/what makes you laugh?
A. People’s quirks and Colby (her Labradoodle.) I don’t laugh much. I laugh in communions with others. My late husband, Jake and I used to watch Seinfeld and laugh, but I can’t watch those shows since he’s gone.

If You Go
What: Circle of Hope gala
Where: Delray Dunes Golf and Country Club, 12005 Dunes Road, Boynton Beach 33436
When: March 2, 6 p.m., cocktails and silent auction, 7:30 p.m. dinner and dancing. Special guest is Jim Sackett, retired WPTV-Ch. 5 News anchor.
Cost: $100. Seating is limited. RSVP by Feb. 19.
Information: Call (561) 244-7627, Ext. 105, or visit WomensCircle.org
Lack of docks in Palmetto Park Road restaurant plans raises concerns

By Sallie James

Recently submitted plans for a waterside restaurant on the old Wildflower property don’t include any dock space, raising concerns that boaters who patronize the proposed eatery will take up dock space at nearby Silver Palm Park.

The Hillstone Restaurant Group Inc. has asked to build a Houston’s restaurant on the northeast corner of Palmetto Park Road and Northeast Fifth Avenue and lease the land from the city.

Silver Palm Park is on the southeast corner of Palmetto Park Road and Northeast Fifth Avenue. The passive park is equipped with a boat ramp and caters largely to boaters, anglers and pedestrians.

“The plans are currently being reviewed by staff,” Boca Raton Mayor Susan Haynie said. “The current plan that was submitted does not show docks. When the council approved it there was some discussion that the city could perhaps partner with (Hillstone) in the permitting and construction of a dock facility.”

Issues concerning motor vehicle traffic, parking and dock space have plagued the project from inception.

Haynie said the missing dock space on the plans was a bit of a surprise.

“The City Council was very firm when we took the development to staff that that was the feature the restaurant would provide,” Haynie said. “The boat ramp/dockage and boat ramp parking (at Silver Palm Park) is off limits for Houston’s patrons.”

Hillstone is asking to build a $5 million, 7,000-square-foot restaurant on the Wildflower property, with 3,500-square-feet earmarked for indoor customer service and 800 square feet of outdoor seating. The eatery would have 128 parking spaces.

Under the proposal, Hillstone would lease the property from the city for $500,000 a year for 20 years with five, five-year optional extensions. The restaurant would be open seven days a week for lunch and dinner. A key attraction is the waterfront location and its accessibility by boat.

City activist Arleen Owens predicted dock space would become a problem and expressed concern and dismay that the current restaurant plans show none.

“I said (before), if two 40-footers come and they want to have lunch, they are going to tie up over there at Silver Palm Park and walk under the bridge,” Owens said. “If you say there’s a place that’s accessible by water, it needs to have its own dockage.

“The boat traffic problem and the boat parking problem are just as big a problem as that of the cars,” Owens said.

“I feel very strongly that dock facilities must be included as part of Houston’s,” Haynie said.

City Council member Scott Singer said he needed to see the whole proposal before he could decide if the lack of dock space was a “make or break” situation. He said there may be concerns about cost, the impact of the view and the ease by which restaurant-goers could dock.

Singer said the plans are currently being reviewed by city staff.

“I’m not jumping ahead that they didn’t produce that,” Singer said. “I am willing to review the proposal and we will see how the total package sums up.”

Boca Raton
By Rich Pollack

History was made in Delray Beach at exactly 12:45 a.m. on Jan. 6. It was at that moment when Palm Beach County Clerk and Comptroller Sharon Bock told 81 couples — 162 people and dozens of their friends and family members — that the moment they had waited years for had finally arrived.

"Now, by the authority vested in me as clerk and comptroller and under the laws of the great state of Florida, along with the eyes and hearts of your families and friends, I pronounce you legally married," Bock said.

"May you be blessed with a lifetime of health, wealth, love and time to share a long and happy life together."

With those words came cheers amidst the tears, and with those words came a recognition many had long sought.

"On this day, Jan. 6, 2015, our world will change," Bock said, as she began what might have been the first same-sex group wedding in the state of Florida. "It is my honor to officiate this ceremony where we celebrate for the first time in history true marriage equality in Florida. Marriage has now been recognized as a fundamental freedom and a basic civil right of humankind."

Before the first week in which same-sex marriage became legal in Florida was over, Bock’s office had issued 171 same-sex marriage licenses.

"Now, there is hope that it will be easier for the younger generations," Porter said.

Along with balloons and flowers, there was also a celebrity appearance that helped make the event even more festive. Television show host Suze Orman had come to the courthouse — along with her partner — to support friends who were getting married. She posed several times with other couples, including Kandice Dominguez Oltz and Karen Dominguez Oltz of Boynton Beach.

"Everyone here is so happy," Kandice said. "There are just so many people smiling."

The group wedding drew couples from throughout South Florida, with several from Broward County making the trip to Delray Beach and couples from as far north as Port St. Lucie deciding to make the drive.

Bock said her office chose the South County Courthouse for the group ceremony because it was easier to provide security and because of the convenience of a parking garage right across the street from the building.

As they headed out after the ceremony, the couples were invited to have a piece of one of two wedding cakes provided by the Clerk’s Office. Fittingly, one cake was adorned with figurines of two grooms and the other with two brides.
FEMA flood-zone comments and appeals in progress

By Jane Smith

FEMA has opened the final round of public appeals and comments on proposed changes to its Palm Beach County flood maps.

The 90-day period which started Jan. 2, allows South County coastal communities to challenge the flood designations that affect their residents' insurance rates.

The flood zone rating is important for homeowners with a mortgage. The Federal Emergency Management Agency last updated its county maps nearly 30 years ago.

In Ocean Ridge, town engineering staff is preparing documents to appeal the placement of 80 parcels in high-risk flood zones, according to Town Manager Ken Schenck.

"We'll include details on our drainage program," he said.

Last spring, Ocean Ridge had appealed proposed changes in the maps released in 2013 because they excluded only 140 properties from the high-risk flood zone when the town spent $10 million to improve drainage in its south end. Schenck thought another 50 to 100 properties should have been excluded. FEMA categorized the property as in a high-risk flood zone when only a corner of the parcel was in it, he said.

"Appeals must be based on technical data that show proposed maps to be scientifically or technically incorrect," said Damon Lucas, FEMA spokesman. "A comment is an objection to a base map feature change or any other non-appealable change such as correcting the spelling of a street name."

He did not want to speculate when FEMA would finish reviewing the appeals and when the maps would go into effect, but others say it could be December.

Delray Beach condo owner Nancy Schneider learned that homeowners need to know their property's flood zone and standards used to determine elevation.

Under the old elevation standards from 1929, her Patio Beach condo building was not in a flood zone. But FEMA redid the elevation standards in 1988 to make them equitable for any property in the 48 contiguous states. As a result, Schneider's condo is now in a flood zone.

The proposed change forced her to find a surveyor who would note the elevation of her building. She had to put a stop order on the surveyor's charge on her credit card because her company used a mix of elevation standards.

She needed the survey to say the building was at least 6 feet above sea level, according to 1988 standards. It was 4.75 feet, she said after the survey was re-done. "We can't raise it (the building) because it's built on a slab," Schneider said.

Flood zones and insurance is an important topic for South County coastal homeowners, said Andy Katz, vice president of the Beach Property Owners Association in Delray Beach. That group will discuss flood insurance changes at its semi-annual membership meeting on March 25 at the Northern Trust Bank building.

"We will discuss what to do if your property was downgraded from Zone X into Zone AE," he said. "And what you can do if a corner of your property has the (higher risk) flood zone but not the house."

The association will send a newsletter to its membership in early February explaining flood map changes. In the meantime, he urged coastal property owners to go to this county website to determine their property's flood zone: maps.co.palm-beach.fl.us/gis/floodzones.aspx?

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Flood insurance catapulted into the national arena after big payouts from Hurricanes Katrina and Sandy put the National Flood Insurance Program into $24 billion debt. Congress passed the Biggert-Waters Act in 2012 to help bring the flood insurance policies in line with the true risk. Homeowners living in high-risk zones would have seen policy premium increases as high as 25 percent until their policy premium reached full flood rates.

Last spring, rate relief went into effect for primary homeowners. Increases for flood insurance premiums were capped at 18 percent, although second home and business owners can see as much as 25 percent increase.

FEMA has 7,730 flood insurance policies in six South County coastal communities that lie entirely on the barrier island. Of those policies, 77.3 percent are in a high-risk flood zone, according to the agency.

The current changes are based on rain events, not tidal flooding, said Dan Grippo, Boca Raton's municipal services director. His city is confident that the FEMA flood map changes for the barrier island and Intracoastal area residents are about 90 percent accurate.

He encourages residents to find out their property's flood zone and proposed flood zone on the county website. The homeowner will need a survey to show the first floor is above 6 feet, according to the 1988 standard.

More worrisome for South County coastal homeowners is the FEMA coastal study that just started last fall to update the one done in 1996.

The study, expected to be ready in four to five years, is analyzing wave heights and surges, topographic maps, effects of sea walls and previous hurricane information (landfalls, wind speeds, rain amounts, etc.) along the Eastern Seaboard and Gulf Coast.

The 90-day period, which started Jan. 2, allows South County coastal communities to challenge the flood designations that affect their residents' insurance rates. The flood zone rating is important for homeowners with a mortgage. The Federal Emergency Management Agency last updated its county maps nearly 30 years ago. In Ocean Ridge, town engineering staff is preparing documents to appeal the placement of 80 parcels in high-risk flood zones, according to Town Manager Ken Schenck. “We’ll include details on our drainage program,” he said. Last spring, Ocean Ridge had appealed proposed changes in the maps released in 2013 because they excluded only 140 properties from the high-risk flood zone when the town spent $10 million to improve drainage in its south end. Schenck thought another 50 to 100 properties should have been excluded. FEMA categorized the property as in a high-risk flood zone when only a corner of the parcel was in it, he said. “Appeals must be based on technical data that show proposed maps to be scientifically or technically incorrect,” said Damon Lucas, FEMA spokesman. “A comment is an objection to a base map feature change or any other non-appealable change such as correcting the spelling of a street name.” He did not want to speculate when FEMA would finish reviewing the appeals and when the maps would go into effect, but others say it could be December. Delray Beach condo owner Nancy Schneider learned that homeowners need to know their property’s flood zone and standards used to determine elevation. Under the old elevation standards from 1929, her Patio Beach condo building was not in a flood zone. But FEMA redid the elevation standards in 1988 to make them equitable for any property in the 48 contiguous states. As a result, Schneider’s condo is now in a flood zone. The proposed change forced her to find a surveyor who would note the elevation of her building. She had to put a stop order on the surveyor’s charge on her credit card because her company used a mix of elevation standards. She needed the survey to say the building was at least 6 feet above sea level, according to 1988 standards. It was 4.75 feet, she said after the survey was re-done. “We can’t raise it (the building) because it’s built on a slab,” Schneider said. Flood zones and insurance is an important topic for South County coastal homeowners, said Andy Katz, vice president of the Beach Property Owners Association in Delray Beach. That group will discuss flood insurance changes at its semi-annual membership meeting on March 25 at the Northern Trust Bank building. “We will discuss what to do if your property was downgraded from Zone X into Zone AE,” he said. “And what you can do if a corner of your property has the (higher risk) flood zone but not the house.” The association will send a newsletter to its membership in early February explaining flood map changes. In the meantime, he urged coastal property owners to go to this county website to determine their property’s flood zone: maps.co.palm-beach.fl.us/gis/floodzones.aspx? Flood insurance catapulted into the national arena after big payouts from Hurricanes Katrina and Sandy put the National Flood Insurance Program into $24 billion debt. Congress passed the Biggert-Waters Act in 2012 to help bring the flood insurance policies in line with the true risk. Homeowners living in high-risk zones would have seen policy premium increases as high as 25 percent until their policy premium reached full flood rates. Last spring, rate relief went into effect for primary homeowners. Increases for flood insurance premiums were capped at 18 percent, although second home and business owners can see as much as a 25 percent increase. FEMA has 7,730 flood insurance policies in six South County coastal communities that lie entirely on the barrier island. Of those policies, 77.3 percent are in a high-risk flood zone, according to the agency. The current changes are based on rain events, not tidal flooding, said Dan Grippo, Boca Raton’s municipal services director. His city is confident that the FEMA flood map changes for the barrier island and Intracoastal area residents are about 90 percent accurate. He encourages residents to find out their property’s flood zone and proposed flood zone on the county website. The homeowner will need a survey to show the first floor is above 6 feet, according to the 1988 standard. More worrisome for South County coastal homeowners is the FEMA coastal study that just started last fall to update the one done in 1996. The study, expected to be ready in four to five years, is analyzing wave heights and surges, topographic maps, effects of sea walls and previous hurricane information (landfalls, wind speeds, rain amounts, etc.) along the Eastern Seaboard and Gulf Coast.
Business Spotlight

Backyard bounty led to thriving business

By Jane Smith

Pascale Troupin-Castania lives in a jam-filled world in Delray Beach.

From the bounty of her backyard mango trees, she created a company, Pascale’s Confitures Artisanales, that sells jams and chutneys online, in 27 stores and at the Delray Beach Green Market and the West Palm Beach GreenMarket. Her company’s slogan is “The Delray Beach Jam Company.”

“All of our neighbors know us as the Mango House,” she said. After she and her husband, Michael, bought the home in April 2000, they were overwhelmed with the fruit produced by their two large mango trees. They shared the mangoes with their neighbors.

Troupin-Castania, 57, makes all the products with the prep help of a part-time worker who cleans and chops produce for four hours daily. Her husband does the sales and deliveries. He staffs the West Palm Beach booth, while she runs the Delray Beach stand.

Her company produces about 1,000 jars monthly of jams, preserves, chutneys, hot sauces and fruit syrups. She comes from a long line of chefs and became a private chef at age 18 while still living in France. She later worked on private yachts as a chef, including one that docked in the Caribbean during the winter months and in the Mediterranean during the summer. She enjoyed buying fresh produce at the ports and fell in love with the variety of spices.

“I always made jam since I was young,” she said. In 2010, she took three cases of her jam to the West Palm Beach GreenMarket and was surprised when everything sold in a matter of hours. From that start, another friend who was a baker asked if she wanted to share a professional kitchen. She later took over the kitchen, switching out the electric stove for a gas one to better control the heat. “It’s more efficient,” she said.

To make the jams, she selected French copper pots because they heat more quickly. The chutneys, which contain vinegar and would react with copper, are made in stainless steel pots. She now brings only five or six different products to the green markets because she found that customers were overwhelmed when they had more choices. “People in Delray have a sweeter tooth,” she said, making her Pear Vanilla Cardamom and Apricot Lavender preserves top sellers.

Her biggest challenge is finding good quality fruits at reasonable prices.

Pascale’s Confitures Artisanales, 706-2646; www.Mangohouse.net

Pascale Troupin-Castania displays her gourmet product line at the Delray Beach Green Market. Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star
Ideal oceanfront location. Eight bedrooms, eight and one-half baths, 12,105 square feet. $7,500,000

Southern charm abounds in this four bedroom, four and one-half bath estate. 4,000 square feet. $2,975,000

Corner lot in sought after area. Five bedrooms, four full and two half baths. 5,421 square feet. $2,399,000

Spacious one level property with four bedrooms and three baths with nice light and open gallery. $1,950,000

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Red Cross has designs on Birthday Cake Castle

The 39th Red Cross Show House serves up a sweet confection this year, with its choice of Lake Worth's historic La Florentia, also known as the Birthday Cake Castle.

With two rooms galore, and plenty of nooks and crannies, the house is a veritable 7,000-square-foot feast, which will be open to visitors March 5 through April 4, with a special preview party on March 4. Recently bought by Scott Levine, the house was built by Sherman Childs in 1925, receiving its nickname when past owner Upton Close gave the house to his wife, Margaret Fetter Nye, as a birthday present in 1954. Cakey qualities include candle-shaft pillars, izing-like swirls of thick plaster, and even a birthday cake stained like swirls of thick plaster, and more than 20 carved-wood and silver-inlaid doors, and more than 20 interior designers will decorate "slices," both inside and outside to make sure the house lives up to its name.

The turret, or top layer, will be embellished by Efua Ramdeen with Susan Wyatt. Ramdeen, a graduate of the Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale, founded her Boca Raton Institute of Fort Lauderdale, with Melissa and Noe Guerra, NXG Studio and Todd Hase; Timothy Johnson and Fernando Wong, Fernando Wong Outdoor Living; Karen Kirk and Karen Brans, Island Living & Patio; Jeff Lincoln and Jeff Lincoln Interiors; Frank Maguire, Quigley Maguire Collections; Mimi Masri, MM Designs LLC; Stephen Mooney, Stephen Mooney Interiors; Andrew Mormile and Nicholas Skidmore, Forte Interiors Design Build; Scott Robertson, Scott Robertson Interiors; Jill Sherlin, Jill Sherlin Design, Melody Smith, Melody Smith Interiors; William Bainbridge Steele, Williams Bainbridge Steele Design, Veronica Volani-Inza, Veronica Volani-Inza Interiors Design; Keith Williams, Nievera Williams Designs. The Red Cross Show House's Birthday Cake Castle is at 1 Fifth Ave S., Lake Worth. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays to Saturdays, and noon to 4 p.m. on Sundays. Ticket to the preview party is $20 per person. General admission is $35 per person at the door. In addition to tours of the home, guests may also shop at an on-site boutique. For information, call 650-9133.

Mid-October, the George family's Abealena Properties Inc., owner since 1975 of 326 4th Street, sold the property, the actual address is 7901 1st Fifth Ave S., Lake Worth. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays to Saturdays, and noon to 4 p.m. on Sundays. In addition to tours of the home, guests may also shop at an on-site boutique. For information, call 650-9133.

Three parcels of land adding up to 1.77 acres in Boca Raton on the Intracoastal Waterway are listed for sale for the first time since 1978 for $6.2 million. The actual address is 7901 1st Fifth Ave S., Lake Worth. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays to Saturdays, and noon to 4 p.m. on Sundays. Ticket to the preview party is $20 per person. General admission is $35 per person at the door. In addition to tours of the home, guests may also shop at an on-site boutique. For information, call 650-9133.
Women’s Council last year and served as the organization’s secretary in 2014.

At its 2015 annual installation, the Realtors Commercial Alliance Palm Beaches announced Carol Bernton of Keyes Commercial as president. Other officers installed for a one-year term include: Alan Steinberg, Keyes Commercial, as president-elect; Robert Goldstein, Hospitality Consultants, as secretary; and Scott Field, Realty Associates, as treasurer. John Beall, Keller Williams; Mark Dreyer, Re/Max Advantage Plus; Michael Cohen, American Property Exchange; Christina Morrison, Carmel Real Estate Management; and John Schmidt, Coral Source Realty, will serve as 2015 directors.

In December, members of the Realtors Association of the Palm Beaches gathered at the Quantum House, a hospital hospitality house at St. Mary’s Medical Center for families whose children are receiving treatment for serious medical conditions.

To give holiday cheer to those families currently in residence, the realtors and affiliates provided a hearty holiday meal and delivered gifts through its “Chef for a Day” program.

Brian Katz, president and CEO of Katz & Associates Corp. announced that Roxanne Register has joined Katz & Associates as vice president of leasing and sales. Register, based in the company’s Boca Raton office, will focus on expanding the company’s South Florida retail leasing efforts.

With more than 30 years of commercial real estate experience, Register was most recently vice president at CBRE and focused on providing representation to retail tenants, owners and landlords in South Florida. Prior to that, she founded ReCor Realty Advisors LLC in Boca Raton. She has also served as director of leasing with Schawerle & Feuring Realty.

Register joined Katz & Associates with a portfolio of Landlord representations that include Delray Village Shoppes on Linton Boulevard and Uptown Atlantic on Atlantic Avenue, as well as Addison Place on Jog Road.

Bethesda Health recently named Madíveis Hereira, Ed.S, MSW, CIMI, as its oncology patient navigator. For patients and families who have a new cancer diagnosis or are diagnosed with recurrent cancer, she identifies patients’ potential barriers to care, such as psychological stressors, diverse cultural values, transportation, child care, financial problems and end-of-life issues.

Hereira earned a master’s degree in social work and a post-master’s degree in education from Florida Atlantic University. She is a member of the National Association of Social Workers and The Florida Coalition of Oncology Nurse Navigators. The services of the oncology patient navigator are free. For information, call 292-4792.

Boynton Beach resident Brian Sheen, founder of The Florida Institute of Complementary and Alternative Medicine in Boca Raton, recently launched an online program that provides alternative choices to children and adults suffering from ADD, ADHD, anxiety and stress.

After 15 years of research and development, The 7 Keys for Attention Development is a product of Sheen’s work at his nonprofit alternative health school.

“We are so pleased to continue to provide alternatives to help people get off these powerful toxic drugs like Ritalin, Strattera, Zoloft and other medications,” said Sheen, who has a PhD in hypnotherapy from Nova Southeastern University.

In January, at an installation lunch at the Delray Beach Club, members of the Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce thanked 2014 Chairman of the Board Scott Porten and welcomed 2015 Chairman Dan Castillion, as well as its four new board members: Noreen Payne, Northwestern Mutual/ The Ruhl Financial Group; Lee Cohen, Carner, Newmark & Cohen, LLP; Sean Hackler, Freedom Steel Building; and Stephen Murray, Delray Downtown.

Also, the Delray Beach Chamber recently installed its Ambassador Program’s new leadership team. Payne, director of recruiting for The Ruhl Financial Group of Northwestern Mutual, is the 2015 chair; Allison Turner, CEO and owner of Business Consultants of South Florida, is the 2016 chair; and Rich Pollack, owner of Pollack Communications, is the 2017 chair.

The Ambassador Program consists of volunteers from the Delray Beach Chamber membership who assist the chamber in the promotion, volunteer support and development of various chamber sponsored events.

Some Manhattan supermodels head south for sunshine, a chic setting, and a visit with Christy Chis — a former esthetician with Mario Badescu in New York, who’s now at Eau Palm Beach Resort & Spa. As a long-time facial specialist at MB Salon, Chis cultivated a cult following from such beauties as Heidi Klum and Naomi Campbell.

“I am very honest with my clients and take time to learn their needs and wants,” Chis said, “and I only use the very best products. Once they follow my direction, my clients see results.”

Eau Palm Beach Resort & Spa recently received the 2015 AAA Five Diamond designation.

Emily Serpico, a new graduate of Palm Beach State College’s Cosmetology program, is competing in Season 8 of Face Off, the Syfy cable network’s reality competition series that pits special-effects makeup artists against each other in creative battles.

Serpico is the youngest contestant in the history of the show; Face Off premiered Tuesday, Jan. 13 at 9 p.m. on Syfy. While she is sworn to secrecy about the results, she will say the experience was “amazing.”

Christine Davis is a freelance writer. Send Business Spotlight items to her at cdavis9797@comcast.net.
Exceptional Homes

Second home away the inlet, this gorgeous 4BR/4.5BA plus den contemporary home is a boat lover’s dream. 165’ of waterfront on a 1/3 acre lot. Gourmet kitchen includes gas cooktop, large walk-in pantry and opens up to the family room. Professionally landscaped gardens. 50’ lap pool, full-service dock and boatlift. $2,785,000

Ocean Ridge

Beachside estate fully updated 4BR/4.5BA luxury coastal home, move-in ready with 100’ of deeded private beach. $1,450,000

New Listing

Live at the beach. Refurbished 3BR/2BA/2CG pool home with a great open kitchen/family room. Large lot. $688,000

New Listing - Seasonal Lease

Picture perfect Ocean views from this classic 3BR/2.5 pool home. 200’ to private beach access. Available immediately. $12,000/Mo. Seasonal

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561.694.6550
Puppy Love

By Arden Moore

Among all types of love, puppy love ranks among the purest. Little wonder why pet industry surveys report that one in five Americans plan to deliver gifts to their pets this Valentine’s Day, spending a collective $815 million.

In addition to the gifts, expect plenty of Valentine’s Day cards for two-legged sweethearts to include the name of the couple’s beloved pet in the signature. And, in Palm Beach County as well as across the country, Valentine’s Day-themed events for pets are scheduled to promote adoptions and raise money for pet charities.

To me, it feels like Valentine’s Day 365 days a year, thanks to sharing my home with my lovable Furry Fab Four: rescued dogs Chipper and Cleo, Potter, a Boston bull terrier and the canine companion of Zoanne and Neil Hennigan of Ocean Ridge, looks forward to his Valentine’s treats.

Photo by Tim Stepien/ The Coastal Star

At Valentine’s, hearts beat with the power of pet affection

See PETS on page H2
**Paws Up for Pets**

**PETS**

Continued from page H1

and cats, Murphy and Casey. Frustrated moods quickly disappear when they greet me with tail wags and purrs. And in our county lives a gal named Karen Roberts who is bringing the power of pet love into homes and hearts. What makes her tale even more special is how this Wellington resident has learned how to turn personal loss and tragedy into love and hope for countless animals in shelters looking for loving homes.

Roberts happily wears many “collars” in the pet world; pet humane educator, award-winning children’s book author, T-shirt designer, event organizer and proud pet parent to six rescued dogs (Louie, Jackson, Mackie, Roxie, Ainsley and Tucker) plus one in-charge senior cat named Mia.


Karen Roberts sits with Louie, a Chihuahua-Italian greyhound mix that inspired her book. Pet humane educator Karen Roberts will host the event at this vegan-cuisine restaurant. Copies of her books and T-shirts will be available for purchase. For more brunch details, contact Darbster restaurant at 561-586-2022. And to learn more about Karen Roberts, visit www.thesetitlebldog.com.

Karen Roberts sits with Louie, a Chihuahua-Italian greyhound mix that inspired her book. Photo by Melissa McDaniel.

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Health & Harmony

The heart of the matter: Women at greater risk

Let’s get to the heart of the matter. After all, February is American Heart Month. And while lots of heart-shaped boxes have infiltrated stores nationwide, there are some not-so-sweet statistics:

- Heart disease is the leading cause of death for women in this country.
- Every minute in the United States, someone’s wife, mother, daughter or sister dies from heart disease, stroke or another form of cardiovascular disease.
- Heart attacks and strokes kill 11 times as many women as does breast cancer.
- Almost two-thirds of women who die suddenly of coronary heart disease display no previous symptoms.

This is startling — and scary — data. It’s enough to make your heart palpitate. That’s why cardiologist Dr. Seth Baum wants women to learn all they can about this disease — and how to prevent, detect and treat it.

“Cardiovascular disease in women is under recognized and undertreated. As a consequence often the patients herself or her physician may downplay certain symptoms that could be clues to a cardiovascular event,” says Baum, director of women’s preventive cardiology at Boca Raton Regional Hospital’s Christine E. Lynn Women’s Health & Wellness Institute. He’ll be offering his expertise — and providing women with information on preventing, diagnosing and treating heart disease at BRRH’s Passport to Health Program at 5:30 p.m. Feb. 24 at the Wyndham Event Center in Boca Raton.

Women are the ones who control health care. Educating them about cardiovascular risks, signs, and symptoms will empower them to be better equipped to spread the word,” notes Baum, president elect of the American Society for Preventive Cardiology. “The motto ‘an educated consumer is our best customer’ is true in medicine, too.”

Baum’s lecture is part of BRRH’s Spirit of Women program. “At Spirit of Women, we believe that women are the lifelines of our families, of our relationships and of our communities,” notes the institute’s program development manager, Lauren Puleo. “We know that while women make 80 percent of health care decisions for their loved ones, they often push themselves too hard, and forget to care for themselves. We want to educate and excite the community about their health.”

The free program, which began in July 2014, has about 2,000 members. It offers advance notice and invitations to events and lectures, raffle prizes, monthly women’s health educational e-blasts and quarterly health e-newsletters. It also helps acquaint the community with the hospital’s Wellness Institute, whose services include breast and pelvic care, minimally invasive robotic surgery, preventive cardiology, imaging, weight management and cardiac risk assessments (the institute is expanding and adding new services — a 46,000-square-foot building is scheduled to open in June).

Spirit of Women also participated in the Boca Raton Chamber’s Live Your Best Boca Life event with a booth and raffles. Past lectures have focused on topics including breast cancer screening, genetic testing, pelvic health and urinary incontinence.

Baum’s lecture, which will include a Q&A, will come on the heels of the 11th annual National Wear Red Day.

The event, founded by the American Heart Association and the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, was designed to “take action against a disease that was the leading cause of death for nearly 500,000 American women each year — a disease that women weren’t paying attention to. A disease they truly believed, and many still believe to this day, affects more men than women,” according to the National Wear Red Day website.

That’s one of the messages Baum hopes to get across. He’ll also discuss gender-specific risk factors — such as pregnancy-related problems including high blood pressure and elevated blood sugar, and even the size or prematurity of one’s baby — that increase the chance of a woman having a cardiovascular event in the future.

“I want to clear up some myths and help women understand the disease and how to stave it off,” says Baum.

One of those myths: Heart disease is for the older generation. Not so. Risk factors such as obesity and Type 2 diabetes are becoming more common in younger women. And he notes: “Patients with a common genetic cholesterol disorder, familial hypercholesterolemia, can experience heart disease at extraordinarily young ages.”

The differences between men’s and women’s bodies are apparent during a heart attack as well as during treatments for heart disease, he says.

“We women typically have classic chest pain when they are having a heart attack, but they can also have other symptoms. Some women think if they get chest pains they don’t have to worry. This misconception has made women believe they can’t experience classic angina,” Baum explains.

“We women’s small vessels respond differently from those of men. Some of those responses may lead to differences in how they manifest symptoms.”

Here’s another startling fact, just in time for Valentine’s Day: Married men have a lower likelihood of having a cardiovascular event than single men. But married women? Not so much.

“They have more of a likelihood of a cardiovascular event than single women. This distinction may relate to women as caretakers: they don’t take of themselves because they are busy taking care of others,” says Baum, a Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons grad.

To register for Dr. Baum’s lecture, call Puleo 955-5348 or email ltpuleo@brrh.com.


Myth vs. fact: Heart disease misconceptions

As easy as it is to make small changes for a big impact on your heart health, experts say one of the challenges is common misconceptions about heart disease. Here are three myths that doctors want to bust about heart disease.

Myth: “I don’t have to worry because I’m still young. Isn’t heart disease for old people?”

Fact: Obesity, Type 2 diabetes and other heart health risk factors are becoming more common in younger people. And if you use birth control pills or smoke, you need to be even more aware of your heart health.

Myth: “Heart attacks happen mostly to men.”

Fact: Heart disease actually kills more women than men, and more than all types of cancer combined. One in three American women’s deaths is from heart disease or stroke every year.

Myth: “I’ll know if I’m having heart problems because I’ll feel it in my chest.”

Fact: Many people, particularly women, have heart attack symptoms that are less obvious.

Source: Spirit of Women Monthly e-newsletter (November issue)
February 7

**Parkinson’s Exercise Class**

at Sugar Sand Park Field House, 100 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton. Circuit-based workout that targets multiple muscle groups to build balance and muscle.

Modifications given to accommodate pregnant women as well as beginners to advanced fitness levels. 7:45 - 9:45 a.m. 6 class: $166/resident, $197/non-resident. 8 class: $224/resident, $263/non-resident; 16 classes: $448/resident, $521/non-resident. 1174523/1174524.

**Tai Chi for Beginners**

at the Boynton Beach Library, 3618 S. Ocean Blvd. 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. Free.

**Jazzercise/Light Sculpture Garden Class**

at the Society of the Four Arts, Philip Hulitar Pavilion, 400 N. State Road A1A, Boca Raton. $400/resident, $500/non-resident. 16 classes: $650/resident, $812.50/non-resident; 10 classes: $450/resident, $562.50/non-resident. 1183-7703.

**Yoga Class at Red Reef Park**

at Red Reef Park Pavilion, 400 N. State Road A1A, Boca Raton. Saturdays. 10-11 a.m. Free.

**Yoga Class at Lake Worth Playhouse**

at Lake Worth Playhouse, 7551 Lake Ave. A drop-in style yoga class. Routine focuses on sun salutations, balancing poses and deep relaxation. 10:45 - 11:45 a.m. $150/class or $45/class. 1183-4140.

**Fit Mom’s Boot Camp**

at Sugar Sand Park Field House, 100 S. Military Trail, Boca Raton. Fitness program designed to enhance the quality of life through music and dance. Tuesdays. 7-8:45 a.m. Class: $150/resident, $187.50/non-resident. 243-7350.

**Parks & Recreation Support and Discussion Group**

at the Faulk Center for Counseling, 22451 Boca Rook Rd, Boca Raton. Wednesdays. 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. Per class: $15/resident, $18.75/non-resident. 243-7350.

**Moving Forward: Support and Discussion Group**

at the Faulk Center for Counseling, 22451 Boca Rook Rd, Boca Raton. Wednesdays. 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. Per class: $15/resident, $18.75/non-resident. 243-7350.

**Modern Line Dance Class**

at Sanborn Square, 72 N. Federal Highway, Boca Raton. Tuesdays. 2-3 p.m. Free.

**Zumba Class**

at Red Reef Park Pavilion, 400 N. State Road A1A, Boca Raton. Saturdays. 10-11 a.m. Free.

February 8-14

**Sunday - 2/9 - 2/10 - 2/11 - Yoga**


**Health 2 You: Taking the Reins on Your Diabetes**

at the Boynton Beach Civic Center Library, 2000 N.有一次. 10-11 a.m. Free. 243-7350.

**Day Center**

at Red Reef Park Pavilion, 400 N. State Road A1A, Boca Raton. Saturdays. 10-11 a.m. Free.

**Session Free, $5 thereafter. 483-5300.**

**2/9 - Meditation Mondays**

at the Highland Beach Library, 1685 S. Ocean Blvd. Meditation to enhance overall health and well-being. Mondays. 7-8:30 p.m. Free.

**2/9 - sophie's Night**

CALENDAR
Continued from page M7

2/21 - Divorced and Separated Support Group at the Faulk Center for Counseling, 2245 Boca Rio Road, Boca Raton. Wednesdays. 6-7:30 pm. Free. 561-278-6925.

2/21 - Tauriello & Company Real Estate presents... Join us for the 2015 Vision and Hearing Research Symposium
Presented by the world’s largest vision and hearing research center, Massachusetts Eye and Ear.

Learn About Groundbreaking Research and Treatment from the Country’s Leading Experts on Vision and Hearing Loss

Thursday, February 12, 2015
9:00 am – 12:00 pm

The Colony
155 Hampton Avenue
Palm Beach, FL 33480

Presenters:

H. Barry Barr, M.D., F.A.C.S.
Surgical Director of the Center

J. Anthony Court, O.D.
Chairman of the Board

F. N. Maguire, M.D.
Chief, Neuro-Otology Service

K. M. Krause, M.D.
Chair, Department of Otolaryngology

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February 2015

March 1-7

Wednesday - 3/4 - Agouti and Statins: Facts and Myths by Dr. Charles H. Henneman at FAU Barry and Florence Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton. Presented as part of the White Chine-ever Event series at FAU Lifelong Learning Society. Annual membership: $45. 10-11:45 am. $52/advance member, $55/residents. 731-2273 or email publicrelations@BHInc.org.

Thursday - 3/5 - Surgical Weight Reduction Symposium - Presented by Dr. Miguel A. Lopez-Veryo, M.D., at Bethesda Hospital East, Clayton Conference Center, 2255 S. Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach. Learn how laproscopic gastric bypass and laproscopic sleeve surgery can help change structurally and functionally eating habits. Presented by Dr. Miguel A. Lopez-Veryo, M.D., Internal Medicine. All fitness levels welcome. Thursdays through 5/15. 10-11 am. $120 non-residents; 12 classes: $66/residents, $82/non-residents. 742-6441. 3/5-7:10-8:10 pm. 8 classes: $48/residents, $60/non-residents. 742-6441. 3/6-7:10-8:10 pm. 8 classes: $48/residents, $60/non-residents. 742-6441. 3/7-7:10-8:10 pm. 8 classes: $48/residents, $60/non-residents. 742-6441.

Saturday - 3/7 - Free CPR Training on Countywide CPR Day at Delray Beach Fire Rescue Headquarters, 507 W. Atlantic Ave., Palm Beach County Fire Rescue, 2385 S. Ocean Blvd, Palm Beach County Fire Rescue, 1000 Lucerne Ave., Lake Worth, and other locations. Residents receive Hands Only CPR training taught by students from the Palm Beach County School District Medical Magnet Program along with Palm Beach State College Paramedics. Students who are Hands-on CPR instructors: 30-minute sessions. 9 am-noon. Free. 818-1818.

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February 2015

NEW LISTING

Gulf Stream Waterfront - $2,745,000
Classic 4 BR, 4 1/2 BA carattera Colonial in Place Au Soleil with 65’ frontage. Completely renovated and expanded in 2010 with impact glass throughout. 5,297 sq. ft. under air. Southern exposure with pool/spa and dock.  
Cheran Marek, 561-870-8855

NEW LISTING

Beach Area Pool Home - $1,695,000
Charming 3 BR, 3 1/2 BA int-level pool home featuring a 1/3 guest apartment with full kitchen in the Seagate neighborhood. Open beam wood ceilings, updated kitchen with custom cabinetry, breakfast bar, granite and stainless, plus updated bathrooms.  
Emily Roberts, 561-441-1723

NEW LISTING

Sea Ranch Boca Raton - $1,495,000
3 BR, 3 BA fifth floor corner condominium boasting stunning ocean views from the entire living area. 2,682 sq. ft. under air with marble floors and wrap-around balconies. Enjoy resort style living on 38 lushly landscaped acres.  
Ellen Storck, 561-414-1554

NEW LISTING

Beach Area Duplex - $1,150,000
Ideally situated 2 blocks to Atlantic Avenue and 2 blocks to the beach, this 1 BR, 1 BA duplex may be converted to a single family home, per city approval. Each unit has an open floor plan with 1000 sq. ft. of living area.  
Vince Wooten, 561-809-8277

NEW LISTING

Sherwood Park - $899,000
Custom built 5 BR, 5 1/2 BA estate home with a 3 car garage, 40’ x 20’ pool and situated on a 1/2 acre lot with large fenced back yard. 4,600 sq. ft. under air, ensuite bedrooms, impact windows, spacious gourmet kitchen and many upgrades.  
Jim Wrenn, 561-680-7234  Tania Agran, 561-716-1010

NEW LISTING

Ocean Terrace - $440,000
1 BR, 1 BA third floor condominium offering a balcony plus an ocean view! Tastefully decorated in neutral tones with ceramic tile floors and white kitchen. An ideal location: 1/2 block to beach and close to Atlantic Avenue.  
Ellen Storck, 561-414-1514

NEW LISTING

Tuscany On The Intracoastal ~ $305,000

NEW LISTING

Tropic Cay - Delray Beach
3 BR, 2 1/2 BA, 2 car garage two story townhomes in Tropic Isles. 1,800 sq. ft. under air. Top of the line finishes and hardwood floors.  
Cheran Marek, 561-870-8855

NEW LISTING

Beach Area Duplex for Sale - $1,150,000

NEW LISTING

Clearbrook Pool Home - $319,500
Light & airy 3 BR, 2 BA courtyard pool home with a 2 car garage and a detached 1/2 guest house. Very open floor plan with cathedal ceilings throughout. Situated on a private lot backing to The Hamlet.  
Emily Roberts, 561-441-1723

NEW LISTING

Tahiti Cove - 2 Units at $350,000 each
Rarely available, two units. 1 BR, 1 BA with a covered porch and direct Intracoastal views. Only 1/2 blocks to the beach.  
Erin Ring, 561-641-6880, Susan Ring, 561-641-4150

NEW LISTING

Sea Ranch Boca Raton - $2,300,000
3 BR, 3 BA top floor corner condominium boasts stunning ocean views from the entire living area. 2,682 sq. ft. under air with marble floors and wrap-around balconies.  
Ellen Storck, 561-414-1554

NEW LISTING

Delray Colonial - $115,000
Very desirable 1BR, 1BA and unit on the second floor close to the pool. Move right in, fully remodeled kitchen and bathrooms, plus ample storage.  
Tania Agran, 561-376-1010

NEW LISTING

Pines of Delray West - $89,900
Beautifully remodeled 2 BR, 2 BA second floor corner unit. This is the largest model in the building. Upgraded eat-in kitchen with marble floors and Corian countertops. Heat as a pet! Move right in! Linda Welsh, 561-931-6423

900 East Atlantic Avenue | Delray Beach, FL 33483 | 561.278.5570 | www.Tauriello.com

The COASTAL STAR

H9
Secret Gardens

If you head south from the Flagler Museum in Palm Beach, taking the waterfront Lake Trail, you’ll soon arrive at the Olivia Kiebach Garden.

And you’ll know it when you see the towering kapok tree that bursts into full red bloom as the spring approaches.

It stands sentinel over a sweeping expanse of lawn leading up a gentle slope and the garden itself. Here, three richly landscaped terraces sit behind the Royal Poinciana Chapel that opened in 1895 on land donated by Henry Flagler.

For this garden, I wanted to create a multi-use space that is broken up into private areas that people can enjoy for relaxation and contemplation,” says landscape architect Mario Nievera, who volunteered his time for this community project. “There can be a lot of activities in this one space but nobody need feel like they are on top of each other,” he adds.

When he first started working on the garden in 2010, there wasn’t much here but St. Augustine grass, eight date palms that he moved to new locations and, of course, that famous kapok tree that probably was collected by Flagler who lived just next door in Whitehall, his Gilded Age estate.

For the garden, Nievera chose low-maintenance and drought-resistant plants such as the Thai hybrid crown of thorns that has oversized coral and pink flowers. He avoided annuals that would have to be replaced.

Instead he chose natives such as sea grape, cocoplum and pigeon plum trees, as well as exotics such as hibiscus and pink razzleberry that add color year-round.

Spherical topiaries are trimmmed into conical shapes that help bring a sense of order to an otherwise lush landscape. To attract butterflies and other bits of nature, Nievera — who co-owns the firm of Nievera Williams Design in Palm Beach and New York — chose plants such as milkweed, red jatropha and yellow cassia trees.

But you won’t hear much from the birds and the bees as the air is filled with the noise from the birds and the bees as the fountain and the garden is a beautiful water feature between the chapel and the Intracoastal Waterway. Photos by Nell Ann McGee/The Coastal Star

The Olivia Kiebach Garden is a delight to visitors from any angle. TOP: A child is dwarfed by the huge buttressed roots of the kapok tree. LEFT: Munching on the leaf of a milkweed, these caterpillars will mature into monarch butterflies. CENTER: Brown seeds dangle from the hugh buttressed roots of the kapok tree. LOWER LEFT: Four water sprays and a central water spout create a beautiful water feature that is broken up into private areas that people can enjoy for relaxation and contemplation. Photos by Nell Ann McGee/The Coastal Star

Concrete benches that actually look like they are made of wood tucked in among the plants. Sit for a few moments and enjoy the view down to the moored boats in the Intracoastal Waterway and across to the West Palm Beach skyline. It just doesn’t get prettier than this. And for those who arrive by car, don’t miss the small garden at the back of the parking lot that leads to the historic Seagull Cottage. Erected in 1886, this is the oldest house in Palm Beach. Today it serves as the Parish House for the Poinciana Chapel.

Here Nievera has planted fakahatchee grass, cardboard palms, crinum lilies, pigeon plums, coconut palms and plenty of orange-flowered firebush. He believes these would have been in the garden when the gray-shingled cottage was built and later sold to Flagler in 1893.

Deborah S. Hartz-Sleeter is a certified master gardener who can be reached at debhartz@att.net when she’s not in her garden.
WATERFRONT HOME - INLET CAY
Ocean Ridge. New construction Feb. 2015. Built by Variga Homes, Inc. 4 BR, 4.5 BA, over 4,400 SF. Open floor plan with views of Inlet. Price: $3,465,000. Steven Presson 561-843-6057 stevenpresson.com

HUGE DEAL IN GULF STREAM
Gulf Stream. This 6,900 SF Mediterranean-style 3-story home with expansive views overlooking Gulf, private 4-car garage, gourmet kitchen, & guest house. Price: $3,695,000. Steven Presson 561-843-6057 stevenpresson.com

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West Palm Beach. Fabulous open floor plan waterfront home located on the Intracoastal with deep-water access. 4 BR home brings it all together, $5,195,000. Steven Presson 561-843-6057 stevenpresson.com

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Boydton Beach. Magnificent custom 4 BR, 3.5 BA, study home with own white sandy beach overlooking Mangrove waterfront homes. Price: to sell $4,595,000. Steven Presson 561-843-6057 stevenpresson.com

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Ocean Ridge. Close to the ocean, this 2,500 SF duplex with 3 BR, 2 BA, can be a winter getaway home or forever home, a leaseable rental property. CBS construction. Steven Presson 561-843-6057 stevenpresson.com

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TRUE LUXURY TOWN HOME
Ocean Ridge. Brand new modern Huntington Beach home includes Elevator, 1-car Garage, high ceilings & ocean views. $1,495,000. Steven Presson 561-843-6057 stevenpresson.com

BEST OF WATERFRONT LIVING
Ocean Ridge. Restored custom-built 2-story 3 BR/2.5 bath, 3,100+ SF, deep-water dock, vaulted ceilings, impact doors & windows, plantation shutters, tile & wood flooring. $1,349,000. Steven Presson 561-843-6057 stevenpresson.com

PRESSON + CORCORAN = SOLD
Ocean Ridge. Represented buyer. Purchased from my website www.stevenpresson.com on the sale of this beautiful waterfront townhome in Palm Beach Cove. $995k. Steven Presson 561-843-6057 stevenpresson.com

PRESSON + CORCORAN = SOLD
Ocean Ridge. Represented the buyer. Large homes on the future site of a spectacular new waterfront spec home designed on a cul-de-sac. $895k. Steven Presson 561-843-6057 stevenpresson.com
The Grass River Garden Club provided beautiful holiday floral arrangements for the pediatric staff at Bethesda Health. ‘I know the flowers brightened the nurses’ day,’ said Andrea H. Lambrakis, community relations coordinator for Bethesda Health, in a thank-you letter. ‘Your club’s generosity and thoughtfulness is very much appreciated.’

Members of the Grass River Garden Club recently helped the students at Paul’s Place replant their vegetable garden. Paul’s Place is an after-school program at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Delray Beach that serves children from the neighborhood. When the vegetables are harvested, they are incorporated into the students’ dinners at the after-school facility. Photo: (front row, l-r) Ruxane Jean, Dave Auguste, Vanessa Pierre, Giovanni August and Paul’s Place director Kathy Fazio. (middle row) Tanisha Emiric, Ayana Michel, Brandon Simervil. (back row) Garden club members Jean Copp and Susan Vicinelli and Paul’s Place teacher Mark DeLorenzo. Photo provided by Hawley McAuliffe.

Holiday Flowers
Bethesda Health, Boynton Beach – Dec. 12

Gardening
Planting Party
St. Paul’s Church, Delray Beach – Nov. 14

The Grass River Garden Club provided beautiful holiday floral arrangements for the pediatric staff at Bethesda Health. ‘I know the flowers brightened the nurses’ day,’ said Andrea H. Lambrakis, community relations coordinator for Bethesda Health, in a thank-you letter. ‘Your club’s generosity and thoughtfulness is very much appreciated.’

Floral display
Private home, Ocean Ridge

Ocean Ridge resident Pat Kropp’s Clerodendrum flowers have been attracting attention from passersby. If you know of a distinctive plant display in your neighborhood, please contact The Coastal Star at news@thecoastalstar.com.

Tim Stepien/
The Coastal Star
VILLAGE OF GOLF

Just four miles from where seagulls fly and the Atlantic Ocean washes ashore lies a place where generations have enjoyed the privacy and privilege of living in one of South Florida’s premier gated communities. A place interconnected with nature’s abundant green spaces and homes situated on large lots affording elegance and grace in everyday life. Gated and secure, it is a place to call home, a place where children are free to play, where the private golf club offers its members no tee times and where a lifetime of friendships flourish.

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TROPICAL ELEGANCE ABOUNDS

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Stunning hardwood floors and outstanding millwork define this 4 BR plus den/6.1 BA home sited on 1.23 acres, saltwater pool and spa, large private back yard. $1,850,000 RX 9977123

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Sited on over an acre of land, sweeping golf course views. Estate home 3 BR/4 BA main house, sep. guest house, outdoor cabana kitchen with fireplace. $1,445,000 RX 33218182

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Finding Faith

St. Vincent Ferrer fest draws big crowds, raises big funds

The big festival at St. Vincent Ferrer this month isn’t just great family fun — it also is a fundraiser projected to raise $300,000 for the parish school.

More than 1,000 volunteers pitch in Feb. 20-22 to produce an annual event expected to draw 10,000 adults and children.

The carnival midway with 20 thrill rides such as Rock Star and Power Surge is the biggest attraction for kids.

Live entertainment includes Irish step dancers, an Elvis impersonator and tribute concerts to Jimmy Buffett and the Eagles.

Food varies each day, starting with a Friday night fish fry where Monsignor Tom Skindelski serves his signature corned beef and cabbage are served at $10.

Saturday is barbecue day, and New England clam chowder.

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Advent Lutheran became a “church without walls” on Jan. 25, as members fanned out to eight places in the community to make a difference in the lives of others.

The Rev. Richard Barbour charged his Boca Raton congregation to emulate the ancient church that didn’t have buildings.

“They were not insulated or isolated from the world around them,” Barbour said. “They shared the good news with anyone who would listen and helped anyone in need.”

So teams of volunteers packed grocery bags for the poor, hosted a pancake breakfast for at-risk youths, visited the elderly, cleaned the beach, beautified the Family Promise day house and Tri-County Animal Shelter plus other tasks for the community instead of their normal Sunday morning worship service.

The search to find a new rector at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Delray Beach has been successful.

The lengthy search began after the Rev. Chip Stokes left in May 2013 to become Bishop of New Jersey. Two finalists who visited the church last month were not offered the job.

“The sense of the search committee and the vestry is that we haven’t found a new rector yet,” committee chairman Mike Armstrong said.

A second search will begin after Easter.

Tim Pallesen writes about people of faith, their congregations, causes and community events. Email him at tcpallesen@aol.com.

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Rocky hard-bottom spots and wrecks along the beaches of southern Palm Beach County offer snorkelers the opportunity to find a wide variety of fish and other marine life.

There’s also maritime history to be explored under the waves in 15 to 25 feet of water off the beaches of Delray Beach and Manalapan. The easiest to find among the near-shore wrecks is the SS Inchulva, better known as the Delray wreck because the remains of the 386-foot British steamship can be found in 25 feet of water about 150 yards off the south end of Delray’s public beach. (Coordinates: 26°27.213 N and 80°03.037 W).

The Inchulva was carrying lumber, wheat and cotton from Texas to Virginia when it sank during a hurricane on Sept. 11, 1903, killing 9 of its 28-member crew.

A state historical marker on the beach-side approach to Casuarina Road commemorates the wreck, which is scattered in five sections.

If you plan to swim out to the Delray wreck from the beach, bring a float-mounted dive flag.

Snorkelers are required by law to use dive flags on floats outside of guarded swimming areas so they are visible to passing boaters.— and the Delray wreck is outside the beach swimming area that is protected by city lifeguards.

Dan Volker, editor and publisher of the South Florida Dive Journal, suggests snorkeling with a kayak or inflatable beach float in addition to towing a dive flag. Larger floating objects are easier to spot than the dive flag alone, and they give snorkelers a place to rest.

Snorkelers interested in fish can bring a plastic-coated fish identification guide with them—or study a book such as Reef Fish Identification by Paul Humann and Ned DeLoach before heading out.

Volker enjoys photographing the colorful blennies he finds when snorkeling and diving because he says the small tropical fish have such human-like faces.

When choosing a day for snorkeling, look for a west wind or calm day that leaves the ocean flat near the beach. If possible, consult a lifeguard before heading out.

In the waters off Manalapan, the remains of the 222-foot Lofthus can be found in 15 to 20 feet of water about three-quarters of a mile north of Boynton Inlet. The best access to the state-designated underwater archaeological preserve is by boat.

The Lofthus is about
Scott Robins of Miami Beach won most outstanding catch in the Silver Sailfish Derby tournament for this 138.8-pound yellowfin tuna caught Jan. 9 off Boynton Beach. He fought the tuna for 90 minutes on 20-pound-test line. Photo courtesy of Weez in the Keys.

175 yards off the beach. Its parts are scattered over an area measuring 80 yards by 15 yards, with the ship’s bow oriented northeast. (Coordinates: 26/33.776 N and 80/02.309 W).

Three main sections of the Lofthus rise as much as 6 feet above the bottom. Built of iron and steel, the Lofthus washed ashore on Feb. 4, 1898, while carrying lumber. The Norwegian ship was blown apart with dynamite so the lumber could be salvaged. Some 117 years later, divers and snorkelers find fish around its twisted remains.

“It’s a pretty dive, and it has a lot of fish on it,” Volker said.

Veteran dive boat operator Lynn Simmons of Splashdown Divers, based at Boynton Harbor Marina, often takes divers and snorkelers to the Lofthus.

“We are blessed with lots of good stuff out here,” Simmons said.

Parents with young snorkelers can try searching for fish in the waters off Gulfstream Park. Wave action has exposed fish-attracting hard bottom near the beach.

Capt. Phil Wotton of Palm Beach County Ocean Rescue said a calm day and high tide create the best conditions for snorkeling along the shoreline at the park.

Gulfstream Park, located at 4489 N. Ocean Blvd., is open from sunrise to sunset daily. Parking is free.

Blue marlin released: Justin Cohen, 15, of Morganville, N.J., caught a small blue marlin Jan. 10 while fishing with Capt. Geno Pratt on the Geno IV charter boat based at Boynton Harbor Marina. The fish ranged from 24 to 32 inches. Try fishing with dead sardines or threadfin herring baits such as blue runners, sardines or threadfin herring (greenies).

Minimum size: 24 inches (to the fork of the tail). Daily bag limit: Two per person.

Willie Howard is a freelance writer and licensed boat captain. Reach him at towllie@belouth.net.
Outdoors Calendar

FEBRUARY 7
Saturday - 2/7 - Sand Sifters Beach Cleanup at Oceanfront Park, 6419 S. Ocean Blvd., Ocean Ridge. Meet at the pavilion in the lower parking lot. 9-10 am. Free. Contact Jeff@jeffrydog.com.
2/7 - Boardwalk Tours at Green Cay Nature Center, 12800 Hagen Ranch Road, Boynton Beach. Join a docent for a guided tour of Green Cay’s wetlands for all ages. Held every Monday. 9:10 am, 1.6, 9 pm; Thurs. 10 am & 1 pm; and Sat. 9 & 11 am. Free. 966-7000 or pbcgov.com/parks.
2/7 - Outdoor Sea Tank Feedings at the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1211 N. Ocean Blvd., Boca Raton. For all ages. reservations required. 544-8615 or gumbolimbo.org.
2/7 - Mangrove Paddle at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center. Following the tour, paddle through the water, in case of tipping. Ages 7-adult, an assistant from a companion; and must have a life jacket. $3/person. 966-7000 or pbcgov.com/parks.

Outdoors Calendar

FEBRUARY 7
Saturday - 2/7 - Sand Sifters Beach Cleanup at Oceanfront Park, 6419 S. Ocean Blvd., Ocean Ridge. Meet at the pavilion in the lower parking lot. 9-10 am. Free. Contact Jeff@jeffrydog.com.
2/7 - Boardwalk Tours at Green Cay Nature Center, 12800 Hagen Ranch Road, Boynton Beach. Join a docent for a guided tour of Green Cay’s wetlands for all ages. Held every Monday. 9:10 am, 1.6, 9 pm; Thurs. 10 am & 1 pm; and Sat. 9 & 11 am. Free. 966-7000 or pbcgov.com/parks.
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FEBRUARY 22-28
Thursday - 2/26 - The Night Stalkers at Green Cay Nature Center, 12800 Hagen Ranch Road, Boynton Beach. Join a naturalist on a night-time boardwalk tour looking at nature from the point of view of nocturnal residents. For all ages. 6:30pm. 55+ Reservations required. 966-7000 or pbcgov.com/parks.
Friday - 2/27 - Night Hike at Dunningey Nature Center, 13203 Park Access Rd, Boca Raton. Come see what is looking in the owary at night! Join us for a walk through the wetlands, call for owls and shine for gators! Bring bug spray and flashlight - Spanish River Park. Fee: $5. 6:30pm. 55+ Reservations required. 629-7879 or audubon.org/park/hikes.
Teen takes tech approach to stalking the lion without paws

By Willie Howard

In today’s world, divers help control invasive lionfish on South Florida reefs by spearing them, handling them carefully and bringing them home for dinner.

Middle school student Alexis Base of Boynton Beach envisions a more high-tech system for controlling lionfish.

She’s developing an image-recognition program that would allow autonomous underwater vehicles, or AUVs, to recognize — and possibly capture or kill — invasive lionfish on Florida’s reefs.

Alexis, 13, of Boynton Beach, is an eighth-grade student at A.D. Henderson University School on the campus of Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, where she studies ocean engineering.

Her lionfish image-recognition project idea recently won first place in computer science, excellence in marine biology and a host of other awards at the Palm Beach Regional Science and Engineering Fair. Her project advances to the state science fair in Lakeland in late March.

“Alexis chose a project involving an invasive species to Florida to help solve this intense problem,” said Suzette Milu, a middle school science teacher at A.D. Henderson.

“The cool thing is she not only followed the science method taught in all schools but learned to use software to design a model camera to carry out her hypothesis and further research.”

Her science fair project focused on using AUVs to recognize lionfish by comparing them to stock photos of lionfish using Google image processing.

She found that the Google system was able to correctly identify her lionfish photos 67 percent of the time and was able to identify lionfish in videos 13 percent of the time.

Her conclusion: There’s still work to be done on lionfish image recognition, but she believes there is potential for using AUVs to track down lionfish in places that are hard for humans to reach — such as the bottom in 300 feet of water.

Alexis began thinking of how to use AUVs to control nonnative fish when one of her instructors explained the problem of reef-invading lionfish — fish transplanted from the Pacific and Indian oceans that prey on more than 70 Florida native fish and invertebrates, including yellowtail snapper, Nassau grouper and parrotfish.

Alexis is not new to submersible technology. As a member of A.D. Henderson’s underwater robotics team, she competed with fellow students in a national underwater robotics competition last year with an ROV (remotely operated underwater vehicle) the size of a shoebox that was required to swim through hoops, open a gate and pick up objects on the bottom.

“Alexis is passionate about science and in the past two years has grown to be a leader and mentor to many students,” Milu said.

She writes programs in the ROBOTC language and learned about three-dimensional design during the Tech Garage summer program at FAU.

“When she talks to me, it’s like another language,” said Alexis’ mom, Michelle Base.

“We’re very proud of her.”

Alexis’ sister, Hailey, a sixth-grader at A.D. Henderson, is no slouch in the science department either.

Hailey’s science fair project, focusing on the gregarious nature of Atala caterpillars, won fourth place in zoology at the Palm Beach County science fair. She concluded that juvenile caterpillars are more social than their adult counterparts.

Alexis hopes to continue developing her lionfish image-recognition project if she is accepted to FAU High School next year.

She hopes to earn college credit while attending high school at FAU; finish her undergraduate degree by age 18, and go to work for Lockheed Martin or Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute, where she already has tutored other students as part of the Sea Perch underwater robotics program. 

Alexis Base of Boynton Beach enjoys going to Ocean Inlet Park with her family. The eighth-grader’s latest science project focuses on using autonomous underwater vehicles to recognize and potentially harvest non-native lionfish, which damage Florida’s reefs and the native fish populations.

Willie Howard/
The Coastal Star
Meet the Pro

Coach a tennis teammate, even if in background

By Steve Pike

For the uninitiated, tennis (except for doubles) is rarely viewed as a team sport. But in reality, the majority of the game’s most successful players have had a strong coach in their backgrounds. Andre Agassi and Monica Seles, for example, each rose to the top with the help of legendary coach Nick Bollettieri.

Boca Ratons Andy Roddick became one of the worlds top players under the guidance of Brad Gilbert.

Meet the team of Igor Bobkov and Timur Ismailov. The duo certainly isn’t in the “household name” category of say, Gilbert and Roddick, but each is working hard in Delray Beach to establish himself in the world of professional tennis.

Actually, Bobkov already has a solid reputation as a coach in his native Ukraine, where he has coached seven players to “Master of Sport” titles in the past 20 years. Bobkov, who has coached with Alex Demidenko — the former No. 1-ranked singles and doubles player for the Soviet Union — discovered and coached fellow Ukrainian Kateryna Bondarenko, who has won more than $2 million in prize money since 2000, as well as developed the career of Russias Nadeza Petrova, who has won 13 WTA titles and more than $12 million prize money in 15 years on the pro circuit.

Teaching out of ProWorld Tennis in Delray Beach, Bobkovs current protege is Ismailov, a hard-hitting 20-year-old from Tashkent, Uzbekistan, who hopes to qualify for the Delray Beach Open, Feb. 13-15 at the Delray Beach Tennis Center. Ismailov, a member of Uzbekistans 2014 Davis Cup team, has been ranked as high as No. 504 in the ATP world ranking and currently is No. 522.

“Tim is a guy who can easily be in the Top 100,” said Bobkov, who in the 1980s was ranked the No. 10 singles player in the Soviet Union and No. 5 in the Ukraine. “Hes a hard worker with a good all-around game.”

Undoubtedly Bobkov, 48, sees a lot of himself — and what could have been for him — in Ismailov. In the 80s, there were essentially no professional sports in the Ukraine — then part of the Soviet Union. Players with world-class potential were denied most opportunities to compete internationally for fear they would defect, as Czech star Martina Navratilova did in 1975.

Bobkov, whose 18-year-old son lives in war-torn Ukraine, shrugged slightly when he thought about those lost days.

“I think I would have done pretty well,” he said.

These days, however, Bobkov is focusing on Ismailov, whom he first saw play two years ago in Uzbekistan. When Ismailov came to Delray Beach two months ago to live with a family friend and hone his tennis game, he contacted Bobkov to come from China, where he was teaching, to Delray Beach.

As sports synchronicity works, Bobkovs friend, psychologist Dr. Ira Schwartz, lives part-time in Delray Beach and has served as the couples tennis partner and teacher.

“Igor is an incredible tennis player,” Schwartz said. “He’s also very knowledgeable and has a wonderful talent for being able to relate to students and teach things in a gentle way.”

What Bobkov is trying to relate to Ismailov, is more of the power game that was popular in mens tennis when he was growing up.

“We’re working a lot on serve and volley,” Bobkov said. “Not that many players play a serve and volley game anymore. Tennis has become a little boring with all the baseline play. It can be a more exciting game and I think Tim can be an exciting player.”

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This 3,163-square-foot home has high ceilings and natural stone floors flowing from the entry through the living room and kitchen. Hardwood floors complement the rest of the living areas, which boasts space and volume and light. The bedrooms all feature plenty of storage and have been designed with upholstered walls. The powder room is outfitted in onyx with Sherle Wagner fixtures. Recently reduced to $2,195,000.

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Michael Weiss
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mweiss@fiteshavell.com

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North Palm Beach
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The area is alive with the sights and motions of the arts season.
FEBRUARY
Saturday - 2/7 - Women In The Visual Arts’ Lynn Travis Stender Art Scholarship Fundraiser at Boca Raton Resort & Club, 501 E. Camino Real. Get “Wild About Art” and view a collage project while having a gourmet luncheon with an auction and raffle prizes. 10:30 am. 510. 865-7301, 362-6335 or pbch.org.
2/7 - Boynton Woman’s Club Roaring ’20s Celebration at 1001 S. Federal Highway, Boynton Beach. Support the campaign to restore and preserve the historic club building, constructed in 1925 and designed by Addison Mizner, during a speakeasy-style gala. 6:30 pm. 555. 336-2300 or boyntonwoman.com.
2/7 - Norton Museum of Art’s Gala at 512 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Get one of the best tickets in town to a historic club building, constructed in 1925 and designed by Addison Mizner, during a speakeasy-style gala. 6:30 pm. 555. 336-2300 or boyntonwoman.com.
2/7 - Florida Youth Dance Gala at Duncan Theatre at Palm Beach State College, 4200 Congress Ave., West Palm Beach. Enjoy the talents of dancers from leading academies in Boca Raton, Hallandale Beach, Miami, Pembroke Pines, Pompano Beach, Port Saint Lucie, Sarasota, Tampa and West Palm Beach. 7:30 pm. 440. 3907R or floridayoungdancers.com.
Sunday - 2/8 - Kids’ Centers’ Annual Gala at 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Sip and savor at a pre-Sunday - 2/8 - Kravis Center’s Annual Tampa and West Palm Beach. 7:30 pm. $30.
2/8 - Lighthouse International’s POSH Palm Beach Sale at Lake Pavilion, 105 S. Flagler Drive, West Palm Beach. Shop the sale that features donated clothing and accessories from celebrities, designers, retailers and socialites. 10 am-6 pm. Tuesday, 9 am-6 pm. Wednesday and 9 am-5 pm. Thursday. 11:30 am and 500. 242-6670 or lighthousefoundation.org.
Monday - 2/9 - Lighthouse International’s POSH Palm Beach Gala Dinner Dance at Club Còrse, 225 Palm Beach Ave., Palm Beach. Partake in an exclusive preview dinner dance to ring in the POSH Palm Beach Gala. 7 pm. 370. 832-1522 or lighthouse.org.
Thursday - 2/12 - Alzheimer’s Community Care’s Teal Runway Palm Beach Lunch at Four Seasons Palm Beach, 2000 S. Ocean Blvd. Support campers throughout Palm Beach County by attending an event that includes a fashion show and silent auction. 11 am-3 pm. 683-2700 or alzcare.org.
Friday - 2/20 - Opportunity Inc.’s The Opportunity Gala at The Breakers, 1 S. County Road, Palm Beach. “Bring the Generations Together” at a themed evening of cocktails, dinner and dancing, to support one of the oldest education-based charities in Palm Beach County. 7-11 pm. 404. 722-9021 or opportunityinc.org.
Sunday - 2/21 - Unity School’s 50th Anniversary Gala at Delray Beach Marriott, 10 N. Ocean Blvd. Gather with families, friends and supporters of the school to celebrate a half century of educating area children, with proceeds going toward academic, athletic and technological advancements. 6 pm. 520. 298-4475 or unithschool.com.
MARCH
Monday - 3/2 - Circle of Hope’s 11th Annual Friendraiser at Delray Dunes Golf & Country Club, 12005 Dunes Drive, Delray Beach. In honor of Unity School’s 50th anniversary Chairman Catherine Jacobs in an evening of dinner and dancing to support the Women’s Circle of Hope’s annual auction, 6-11:30 pm. 500. 364-7262, Ext. 105 or womenscircle.org.
Tuesday - 3/3 - Lourdes Moreno McKee’s “The Difference to Love Luncheon” at the Beach Club, 755 N. County Road, Palm Beach. Raise money for the nonprofit’s inner-city living communities at an event that will feature keynote speaker Mary Higgins Clark. 11 am-2 pm. 515. 525-625, 655-4445, Ext. 3018 or lourdesmckeen.com.
Tuesday - 3/3 - The Center for Family Services of Palm Beach County’s Old Bags Luncheon at The Breakers, One S. County Road, Palm Beach. Don’t miss a delicious luncheon that will include a silent auction of more than 400 stunning handbags ranging in value from $25 to $300, 10:30 am-3 pm. 550. 612-322 or cfspcb.org.
Friday - 3/6 - Lupus Foundation of America, Florida Chapter’s Closet Couture Luncheon at Benvenuto Restaurant, 1730 N. Federal Highway, Boynton Beach. Take in a performance by jazz vocalist Erin Dickens, founder and former member of Manhattan Transfer. 11 am-2 pm. 500. 279-8405 or lupus.org.
Saturday - 3/7 - Kids’ Safe Foundation’s “Shine the Light Gala” at Woodfield Country Club, 1600 Club Road, Boca Raton. Enjoy an open premium bar, amazing food and an evening of entertainment. 7 pm. 500. 805-844-7233 or kidsafefoundation.org.
3/7 - Temple Beth El’s Global Gala at 2831 S. Flagler Dr., West Palm Beach. Pay tribute to long-standing temple supporter the Yemen Family as it presents an extraordinary evening of music, friendship and fun. 7:30 pm. 510. 833-0310 or biblewelph.com.
Thursday - 3/12- Achievement Centers for Children’s & Families’ Delray Beach Home Tour. Walk through some of south- county’s most-unique beach residences in the southern beach area of Delray Beach. 10-4 pm. 500. 266-0033, Ext. 16 or 3/16 - 40th Annual Luncheon to benefit Valentine’s Day Dinner Dance at The Breakers, 1 S. County Road, Palm Beach. Enjoy an open premium bar, amazing food and an evening of entertainment. 7 pm. 500. 805-844-7233 or kidsafefoundation.org.
3/16 - Temple Beth El’s Global Gala at 2831 S. Flagler Dr., West Palm Beach. Pay tribute to long-standing temple supporter the Yemen Family as it presents an extraordinary evening of music, friendship and fun. 7:30 pm. 510. 833-0310 or biblewelph.com.
Thursday - 3/19 - Achievement Centers for Children & Families’ Delray Beach Home Tour. Walk through some of south- county’s most-unique beach residences in the southern beach area of Delray Beach. 10-4 pm. 500. 266-0033, Ext. 15 or 3/20 – The National Society of Arts and Letters Florida East Coast Chapter’s Red Rose Gala at The Mar-a-Lago Club, 1101 S. Ocean Blvd., Palm Beach. Hon. special guest Patrick Park at an event.
Go back in time at benefit for old Boynton School

By Amy Woods

It’s not unusual for former students of the old Boynton School to stop by the building that now houses the Schoolhouse Children’s Museum & Learning Center. But it is unusual when 250 of them do.

That will be the case Feb. 28 during the Reunion Bash, a day-long fundraiser honoring the kindergarten-through-12th-grade institution built in 1913. “It actually should be a lot of fun,” said Suzanne Ross, executive director of the museum. “A lot of people do want to come and see their old school.”

Among them: a woman who was a student in the 1930s. “So if I did my math correctly, she’s how old?” Ross said.

If You Go

What: Reunion Bash to benefit the Schoolhouse Children’s Museum & Learning Center.
When: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (daytime event) and 6 to 10 p.m. (evening reception) Feb. 28
Where: 129 E. Ocean Ave., Boynton Beach
Cost: Free for daytime event; $75 for evening reception
Information: Call 742-6780 or visit schoolhousemuseum.org or facebook.com/schoolhousereunionbash

Children pose at their desks inside the old Boynton School circa 1959. Today, the building is home to the Schoolhouse Children’s Museum & Learning Center. Photo provided by Amy Woods at amywoods@bellsouth.net

Funds raised will pay for exterior and interior renovations, new exhibits and programming.

“We hope that it’s successful enough that it will be a signature for us each year,” Barlage said. “So it’s kind of an experiment.”

If the Schoolhouse Children’s Museum in east Boynton is one of the most important things we have downtown,” Barlage said. “It’s been influential for Boynton Beach, and what we’re trying to do now is just bring more of an awareness.”

We invite you to save the date for the

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Delray Beach Marriott

Chairmen

Beau Delafield    John Lynch    Patsy Randolph    Tom & Kirsten Stanley

For sponsorship information please contact:
Kristen Cummins (561) 683-3287 or kcummings@bgcpbc.org

Get it Forward
Celebrations

10th-anniversary celebration
Eleven Salon & Spa, Delray Beach – Nov. 11

Eleven Salon & Spa celebrated its first decade of doing business with an aviation-themed party benefiting Wheels from the Heart. The evening saw more than 550 guests and featured the awarding of a Toyota minivan to Navy Reserve veteran Michele Trinidad. ABOVE: Roxanne Oden and Ben Gardiner. Photo provided by Janis Bucher

Let’s What You See Luncheon
Cultural Council of Palm Beach County, Lake Worth – Jan. 5

The council attracted nearly 50 arts fans to the first of two luncheons, this one featuring former U.S. Ambassador to Hungary Nancy Brinker. ABOVE: Peg Greenspon, Brinker and council President and CEO Rena Blades. Photo provided by Jacek Photo

Leadership Gifts Event
St. Andrews Country Club, Boca Raton – Dec. 4

One hundred fifty of the Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County’s top donors gathered for an elegant cocktail reception and dinner, where they heard from former Israeli ambassador Michael Oren and U.S. Rep Ted Deutch (D-Fla.). ‘We’re thrilled to pay highest tribute to three groups of our community’s most distinguished local contributors to the well-being and security of our Jewish family,’ event Co-Chairwoman Toby Cooperman said. TOP: Leon and Toby Cooperman, Deutch, Oren and Myrna and Norman Ricken. UPPER LEFT: Beverly Sallz, William Newman and Betty Kane. BOTTOM LEFT: Ed and Freyda Burns. Photos provided by Corby Kaye’s Studio Palm Beach

Culture & Cocktails
The Colony, Palm Beach – Jan. 12

The Cultural Council of Palm Beach County welcomed an audience of more than 200 to the series’ second social gathering, titled ‘A Conversation with Two Fascinating Couples.’ The evening featured celebrated photographer Harry Benson and wife and editor Gigi, along with business leader and art collector Wilbur Ross and wife and author Hilary. RIGHT: Linda Rosenkrantz and Ellen Wedner. TOP: Leon and Toby Cooperman, Deutch, Oren and Myrna and Norman Ricken. UPPER LEFT: Beverly Sallz, William Newman and Betty Kane. BOTTOM LEFT: Ed and Freyda Burns. Photos provided by Corby Kaye’s Studio Palm Beach

Wrap-Up Breakfast
Delray Dunes Country Club, Delray Beach – Dec. 5

The YMCA of South Palm Beach County’s board and staff members, along with volunteers, celebrated the success of the 2014 campaign at a morning event with the theme ‘Stories.’ Guests shared their experiences with the agency and recognized the fact the $380,000 goal was surpassed. RIGHT: President and CEO of the YMCA of South Palm Beach County Dick Pollock poses with Peter Blum, founder of the Boca Raton YMCA, and Donna Angus. Photo provided
Celebrations

**Community Foundation luncheon**
The Capital Grille, Boca Raton – Jan. 9

The Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties sponsored an intimate afternoon for donors and supporters. During the luncheon, Barbara Stark, executive director of the Milagro Center, spoke about the organization’s $18,000 grant from the foundation, which created a new musical-instrument program for disadvantaged children. ABOVE: Mari Adam, Nadine Allen and Caroline Moran. RIGHT: Brad Hurlburt, president and CEO of the Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties, Stark and Sanjiv Sharma. Photos provided by Tracey Benson Photography

**Angel Moms Founders’ Day Luncheon**
Delray Beach Club – Jan. 8

Celebrating its first anniversary, Angel Moms, a support group of Place of Hope at the Haven Campus in Boca Raton, welcomed 100 supporters of foster-care children to an event that featured a guest speaker addressing the topic of human trafficking. ‘By providing women with a nurturing place to go and choices for their futures, we interrupt the patterns that lead them to be in vulnerable, dangerous situations,’ Executive Director Charles Bender said. ABOVE: Jeannine Morris and Bonnie Borolian. Photo provided

**‘Keep Memories Alive – Exercise Your Mind’**
Town Center at Boca Raton – Nov. 2, 2014

Florida Atlantic University’s Caring Hearts Auxiliary, of the Louis and Anne Green Memory and Wellness at the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing, raised more than $210,000 at the ninth annual walk. The fun-filled event brought together nearly 400 participants to raise money for scholarships and caregiver-support programs. Attendees were encouraged to exercise their minds by playing brain-stimulating games. ABOVE: Anne and Louis Green. Photo provided by Downtown Photo

**Walk of Recognition**
Royal Palm Place, Boca Raton – Nov. 20

The Boca Raton Historical Society & Museum had its 18th annual event celebrating those who have been leaders in shaping the future of the city. ABOVE: Andrea Garcia, honoree Connie Siskowski and sponsor Alyce Erickson. Photo provided
THE ONLY WAY TO UNDERSTAND THE LIFESTYLE – IS TO LIVE IT.

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East Intracoastal View
Listing Price: $1,999,500
935 SE Atlantic Drive
Hypoluxo Island, FL 33462
Bedrooms: 4 Full Bath: 4 Partial Baths: 0
Living Square Feet: 3,046
Waterfrontage: 132 feet
MLS #: F101-2461

West Intracoastal View
East Ocean View
Listing Price: $32,499,000
1071 S Ocean Boulevard
Manalapan, FL 33462
Bedrooms: 7 Full Bath: 13 Partial Baths: 1
Living Square Feet: 29,962
Waterfrontage: 330 feet
MLS #: #14-2157

East Intracoastal View
Listing Price: $6,295,000
85 Culex Road
Manalapan, FL 33462
Bedrooms: 7 Full Bath: 7 Partial Baths: 2
Living Square Feet: 7,315
Waterfrontage: 132 feet
MLS #: #15-13

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Lantana’s Ocean Avenue goes Italian

Dak Kerpich, who hopes to have an offspring of his Lantana wood-fired brick oven gourmet pie shop open in Delray Beach this spring. A site is being eyed at Northeast Third Avenue and Second Street, pending city approval. This baby, to be called Swell Pizza, will be even less glamorous than the Ocean Avenue site’s half-dozen interior counter stools and equally limited, umbrellaed outside tables. Pizza and salads only, with the same locally harvested organic and freshly caught ingredients, but take-out and delivery only.

Max’s Social House has finally opened in mid-January in the old Falcon House site on Federal Highway in Delray Beach. Creator Dennis Max has designed “Soho” as a crafts establishment with craft cocktails and beer and finely crafted menu items including house-made pickles and a Yale-hotel dog, bahn mi style with strachai aoli, crispy onions and jalapeno.

Santos American Buffet has opened a new location at 340 N. Federal Highway, Boca Raton, in the former Gary Woos location. The menu combines traditional Japanese sushi dishes and modern American cuisine. Brunch on Saturdays and Sundays, served from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., features organic eggs and all-you-can-drink 57 mimosas. Call 923-9378.

Surfing is at once both kinematic and artistic. Anyone who’s seen the peripatetic Palm Beach County Surfing History Project that just wrapped up a run at the Delray Beach Historical Society can appreciate the dynamic interaction of physics and individual expression as well as its historical importance to the Palm Beaches. So there is no scarcity of surrounding history.

International Stars of Ballet: American Ballet Theater. Boston Ballet, National Ballet of Canada, Houston Ballet dancers (Amphitheater, 7 p.m. March 8). Last but not least, men and women of letters:

“Let Me Be Frank With You,” Pulitzer Prize winner Richard Ford (4 p.m. March 7).

“The Cancer Puzzle”: Physician, researcher, Pulitzer winner Thomas Friedman (7 p.m. March 9).

“Smarter Than You Think: How Technology is Changing Our Minds for the Better” Technology expert Clive Thompson (7 p.m. March 10).

“That Used To Be Us”: Journalist and Pulitzer winner Thomas Friedman (7 p.m. March 11).

“Alex’s Wake”: Broadcaster and author Martin Goldsmith (4 p.m. March 15). See festivaloftheartsboca.org.

His nickname, “Steady Rollin’,” is appropriate. In the spirit of peripatetic blues singers such as Woody Guthrie and Leadbelly, Bob Margolin is back on the road, gathering for the third annual Festival of the Arts BOCA. It’s a program where the music takes him. After bouncing from Memphis to Atlanta in recent weeks, he’ll visit Arts Garage in Miami, then head back to the Midwest, and on to St. Louis, Chicago, and on to Austin. Just hitting his prime at 66, Margolin heads an impressive blues lineup at the Garage. Johnny Rawls, whose Red Cadillac won the Living Blues Award critic poll in 2013 for best soul/blues, and outstanding blues singer, plays Feb. 13. A day later, Berklee-trained singer and sax player Vanessa Coulter offers a blues Valentine and Danny Brooks, billed as the Texaspouri Soul Man, offers a blend of country, gospel, roots and R&B on Feb. 21.

A week later, ardent supporters of Arts Garage will gather for the third annual...
Grilled & Glamour evening of art, food and friends with a healthy dose of West Coast jazz blues and swing bolstered by body guitars, reverb tanks, upright basses, harmonicas, pianos and organs from Toots Lorraine and The Traffic. Produced by the Arts Garage Guild, the event raises money for the Garage's programming and educational initiatives. Tickets are $100 each, $550 for a table of six. Sponsorships are welcome. (artsgarage.org)

Dana Leong's musical skills are hardly typical. A multi-instrumentalist known for his jazz, pop and classical work with trombone and cello, he has collaborated, produced and performed with the likes of Ray Charles, Wynton Marsalis, Kanye West and Yoko Ono. The Plumosa School of the Arts Foundation believes Leong's versatility is ideal for inspiring the school's students to develop their talents. He and his trio will headline the foundation's "Shooting for the Stars," concert at the school auditorium Feb. 20. For tickets, $35 to $75 (VIP), go to plumosafoundation.org.

On the large-scale party scene, it's garlic in Delray Beach or grapes in Boca Raton. The 16th Delray Beach Garlic Fest kicks off Feb. 6. Besides all things garlic, the party includes spicy music at Old School Square with the saucy brass of Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue on Feb. 7. Providing lead-in at 6 p.m. for Shorty will be longtime local favorite Fabulous Fleetwood. Details at dbgarlicfest.com.

At Broken Sound in Boca, the first week of the month is taken over by the ninth annual Allianz Championship, with a 54-hole tournament featuring 81 Champions Tour veterans and a full schedule of golf and social events, including Grapes on the Green, Feb. 7. For $70, guests join the competing golfers for dinner prepared by Oceans 234, The Flaming Greek, Kanpai Sushi, Potions in Motion and Amazing Chocolates and wines from David Frost. The 2014 event provided an estimated $15 million economic impact on the region, a sizable chunk going to 19 charities and service organizations, including Boca Raton Regional Hospital, Allianz Championship, a year ago of new president John Kelly, the Owls of Florida Atlantic University are "soaring to new heights," and on March 21 will celebrate his first year at the FAU Foundation's annual gala — not in a hotel ballroom, but at the FAU stadium ... on three levels of suites, club rooms and outdoor areas, with a gourmet meal, live entertainment, a silent auction and fireworks. Kelly and wife Carolyn chose to forgo a formal inauguration and instead inaugurated the new Kelly Family Scholarship Fund with a personal donation. Net proceeds from the gala also will go to the fund and they are urging other supporters to contribute as well. See fauaga.info.

On the anniversary of the 7.0-magnitude earthquake that hit Haiti on Jan. 12, 2010, 140,000 meals for children community has packaged more than 140,000 meals for children in Haitian orphanages. Here and there:

Emmy winner Linda Evans speaks Feb. 26 at the Reflections of Hope Luncheon for Jewish Family Services (852-5013 or ralesjfs.org) at Boca West and author, TV show host and Hollywood resident Brad Meltzer headlines the 29th annual dinner dance for the Jewish Association for Retarded Children March 8 (558-2572 or jarch.org).

Reach Thom Smith at thomsmith@ymail.com.

###

**Dining**

**Blackened chicken makes tacos a winner**

**The Plate:** Chicken Tacos

**The Place:** The Beach Club on the Waterfront, Lake Worth Golf Course, 1 Seventh Ave. N., Lake Worth; 585-8976 or beachclublakeworth.com

**The Price:** $10.95

**The Skinny:** If you haven’t been to the Lake Worth golf course, you need to pay a visit to the clubhouse. It’s laidback, and the scene — on the Intracoastal Waterway just north of the Lake Worth Bridge — is beautiful.

The evening of our visit, we were starved, and we were interested in being too healthful when it came to ordering dinner. But we were interested enough in our coronary health to skip the burgers and fries, and at least try for something lighter, so we opted for chicken tacos.

The chicken, ordered blackened, was delicately seasoned and was wonderfully flavorful and tender. It was combined with peppers, onions, Monterey jack and Cheddar cheeses, salsa and was served with spicy mayo on the side. Also on the side: Rice and black beans that were topped with more of that mild salsa.

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**Stiletto Race**

**Fashion Week, Delray Beach — Jan. 23**

The third annual Vince Canning Stiletto Race took place along Southeast Fourth Avenue in downtown Delray Beach, with registration proceeds going to the Achievement Centers for Children and Families. ABOVE: Mark Denkler of Vince Canning Shoes wow the judges with his ‘Sexy Strut.’ LEFT: Amanda Denkler, left, of Delray Beach, and Ashley Michaels are neck and neck in the ‘Women’s 75 Meter Dash.’ Denkler won the first-place trophy. Photos by Tim Stepien/ The Coastal Star

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By Greg Stepanich

Ask composer Ben Moore about writing an “accessible” opera, and he’s not all that comfortable with the term.

“I like to say melodic, lyrical and memorable. Those are good words,” Moore said.

And for the people behind his newest project, Moore is the ideal person to bring to the operatic stage a musical language in which lyricism is the driving impetus.

“I had known Ben for many years … and I just thought he was a superb composer. But more importantly, a contemporary composer of lyrical, melodic music,” said Sandy Fisher, a Metropolitan Opera board member and former head of the Richard Tucker Foundation who commissioned Moore’s opera. “We need so much of that now in the world of contemporary music.”

Moore’s first opera, Enemies, A Love Story, has its world premiere Feb. 20-22 at Palm Beach Opera. It’s the first time in the company’s 54-year history that it’s presented a brand-new work, and it marks a milestone in the company’s development.

“I think the big benefit is that Ben wrote so many songs before he started writing the opera, so he really knows how to write for the voice, and how to show off the voice in a good way,” said Daniel Biaggi, Palm Beach Opera’s general director.

Enemies, with a libretto by Nahma Sandrow, is based on a 1966 novel by the Chilean writer Roberto Matta (1911-2002).
Some of Kaye Voyce’s designs for Enemies, A Love Story.

Lynch

Sandel-Pantaleo

Sandbox

Pastin

OPERATESTAGE DIRECTION IS BY SAM

The scenic design is by Allan Moyer, with lighting by Aaron Black, costumes by Kaye Voyce, and video projections by Greg Emert. The production of the opera is being written under the direction of Fisher and his wife, Joanna, and by Bruce and Suzie Kovner. A usual production for Palm Beach Opera costs around $700,000 to mount, but this one, which is entirely new, will run about $1 million, Biggi said.

Moore, 55, occupies an unusual position in the contemporary arts world. Raised in Clinton, N.J., he originally pursued a career in medicine, following in the footsteps of his physician father, and graduated from Hamilton College having taken a full complement of pre-med courses. But instead of applying to medical school, I got scared. I said to myself, ‘I want to try something completely different for a couple of years,’ he said. So he went to New York City to become an actor, and for the next six years, performed in off-Broadway, musicals, and Shakespeare productions.

‘That still wasn’t the career he wanted, so Moore decided to return to school to pursue one of his other passions: visual art. He earned an MFA at the Parsons School of Design, and has developed a substantial career in painting. And it was at this same time that he also turned his attention to music.

‘It was only around age 50 that I started to pay attention to music. I’d always been composing at the keyboard, recording it, but never taking it seriously’, Moore said.

‘So everyone was telling me: “When are you going to pick something? When are you going to stick with something?” he said. “But that’s the way it worked for me.”

Moore’s songs have been picked up by some of the elite singers of the classical and Broadway worlds, from Audra McDonald to Susan Graham and McDonald to Susan Graham and Lena Olin. Set in New York in 1999, an opera based on a novella by Nobel Prize-winning Yiddish author Sholom Aleichem, is considered a Holocaust story, a work for children based in part on a novella by the Nobel Prize winner.

‘Ben happens to be a friend of mine, and it was kind of a natural to start doing his music years ago. I’m really happy to see that (his songs are) starting to show up on young singers’ programs here and there,’ Voigt said at the time.

Fisher, a former CBS labor counsel and television producer whose credits include development of The Maguire Show, said he first broached the idea of an opera to Moore over a casual lunch nine years ago. Moore was enthusiastic, but said it would take too much time away from the things he needed to do to make a living, Fisher said.

Fisher encouraged him to look for a suitable property, and it was about a year later when Moore called him and said, “I think I’ve found something fabulous,” he said. Fisher read the book, agreed, and after securing an option from Singer’s publisher to create an opera, then two men hammered out an agreement. “I agreed to start sending Ben some money. Not a huge amount, because it wasn’t like he was going to spend all that. Every day, he’d call me and say, ‘I sold this,’ Fisher, who as head of the Berkshire Opera Company in Massachusetts from 1996 to 2002 commissioned Stephen Paulus to write Summer, an opera based on a novella by Edith Wharton that premiered in 1999.

As Enemies progressed, it became clear to Moore that he needed time to work on the music and leave the libretto work to someone else. Sandrow, a scholar of the theater whose Vagabond Stars is considered the definitive history of Yiddish theater, joined the project in 2010 after Moore found her through mutual contacts.

‘I wrote a scene, and it turned out to be so special with what he was imagining, so there we were,’ Sandrow said. The two worked closely together, trading ideas back and forth about how music and words would best work together. Sandrow said the story is compelling for two good reasons above all.

‘Love and death,’ she said. ‘It has distinct characters, a dark, lightening. It’s terrific for an opera.’

It is also a Holocaust story, a subject that was problematic at first for writers trying to come to terms with it after the end of World War II. ‘They wouldn’t touch it,’ Sandrow said. ‘I think they were afraid it would burn their fingers.’

As Moore and Sandrow wrote, arias and ensembles from the work were presented at Fisher’s New York apartment, to which prominent people in the opera production world were invited. The first act was ready for a workshop at New York’s Center for Contemporary Opera in January 2011, and in October of that year, Kentucky Opera gave the entire opera a world premiere performance under the auspices of a development grant from Opera America.

A recording of the work in progress made it to Biggi’s desk, and in 2012, he booked it for the company’s One Opera in One Hour series at the Harriet Himmel Theater in CityPlace (now on hiatus, but expected to return). That condensed version of Enemies, directed by Fenel Luna Lamb, was set at the Himmel and at the Lighthouse ArtCenter in Tequesta at the end of February 2013.

‘I was an incredible piece,’ said Lamb, who was in West Palm Beach in January to direct Palm Beach Opera’s season-opener, Puccini’s La Bohème. ‘It has a lot to say, and it has a lot of sweeping, beautiful music. I think this community will be entertained and moved by it.’

But the question remained: Should Palm Beach Opera take it on as one of its three mainstage productions?

‘I think we’d think we’d done maybe two or three 20th-century works, and works in English overall, to start to introduce American opera and 20th-century opera,’ said Biggi, whose company has predominantly been a presenter of canonical opera. ‘It was very happy to see that it was very well-attended … and especially that all of the various board members who were there — who at the time were not necessarily the fastest to jump on board with new projects — were very excited about it and thought the music was very melodic, that it was very easily accessible and that the story was something they could relate to.

‘And so both from people who simply came to One Opera in One Hour as well as from the board leadership, it seemed to be very successful. And that, in essence, gave us the courage to commit to it,’ he said.

Moore was in the middle of finishing his second opera, a work for children based on Homer’s Odyssey. Called simply Odyssey, it will have its premiere run Aug. 11-20 at Glimmerglass Opera near Cooperstown, N.Y.

‘We are not sure what the ultimate message of Enemies, though its story is shadowed by atrocity and bleakness, is an optimistic one.

‘I hope that people feel just that: a sense of hope for humanity, and that for certain plot developments in the opera.

‘I really think the message, and it’s the message in Sandrow’s book, too, is that the human spirit has carried on in spite of unforgettable events. And it will continue.

‘Not just life itself, but the hope for the future, and the spirit and the meaning of life, will continue,’ he said.
inventory that now features more than 1,000 pieces. Buyers come from local areas as well as Europe and Central America. With two Art Bites shows behind her and interest building up by the hour, Snider now looks forward to the culmination of her projects: a new gallery space opening in Nicaragua and the upcoming release of a book that should stimulate the conversation on Central American art. Last month, Nicaraguan pieces from the collection were on display at the Highland Beach Library. Our chat took place on a recent Saturday morning.

I was able to actually travel to these countries and meet the artists. How do you go about finding them, especially the new talent?

Every country is different, you know. I go there with an open mind and things are going to morph in the way that they are going to be accepted to morph.

I have an interesting story about Nicaragua. While staying in Managua, I saw these paintings that were like from cave drawings, but they were done in oil and there was one man sitting there, in this big empty restaurant, and I said: Who did these paintings? And he said: I did. They are from the caves of Nicaragua. We started to talk.

Well, he had been represented here in Delray Beach by a gallery years ago and he had lived in Lake Worth where I was living at the time and we were laughing about these coincidences. He is a highly regarded artist here and he drove me around and introduced me to all the major artists.

So I go there with an open mind and it just happens. And here’s the funniest part, I don’t speak very good Spanish. I speak enough to get a point across, but I don’t speak well enough to make a business deal. But it doesn’t matter because you are talking about their art and their country’s art. It’s important to them and it’s important to me and once we make that connection, the language doesn’t seem to be a barrier.

Obviously you are not just interested in the old masters, but emerging artists as well. Is it your strategy to find young artists because emerging artists to me is someone who is just starting to take the market and acceptance of his/her work. These artists that I deal with have become masters in their own time because they don’t have the moniker of master yet, but they are making their own language and art and have put in the time and are being collected by their own museums.

I know harder for a gallery to sell a less-known name than a name that is already recognized?

The important difference between a Roberto Matta and Armando Mejia is price. You are going to be paying $15,000 to $150,000 for a painting by a known master whereas with a contemporary artist, you can buy a large work for $5,000 to $8,000. It depends on the collector.

I have some collectors who invest in the contemporary artists because they know that there is going to be a significant rise in the value of the works. I have other collectors who like figurative and others who are looking only for abstract.

The really cool thing is that most artists go through phases. I have two very famous artists: Armando Morales, the most well-known Central American artist, from Nicaragua, and Benjamin Cañas. Both went to the United States and to European countries to study. In the 60s they both went through a period of abstraction. After abstraction, Cañas went through a period of Mayan imagery and Morales went through a still-life period. At the end of their careers, both went into figurative. It’s interesting to watch these parallel.

Tell me what “provenanced” art is, in your own words.

Provenance is the history of whatever piece of art is involved. It’s the story, where that painting has been.

And I imagine that’s what collectors find most attractive sometimes: the story behind it. Yes. Going back to Armando Morales, he had a technique, which most people don’t know about, of taking a blowtorch after he completed his painting and cutting into the outline. That helped his figures come away to create this illusion of space, which he was noted for. Collectors like to know that. It makes the work more interesting.

Provenance is one thing. Now, there is something new and that is certificates of authenticity. This is a kind of new demand of collectors, especially with Cuban art. It can help you determine if a piece is fraudulent, but the problem is that a lot of the certificates are fraudulent. They are almost easier to duplicate than the works.

Provenance really tells you where everything’s been. To me, it’s a better way to ascertain authenticity. The other thing that’s really good for obtaining authenticity is the published records of the artists when they make a catalogue raisonné.

We are working on making the catalogue raisonné for Benjamin Cañas with his daughter and his widow. We have seen pieces of his artwork for sale that were not his. We know the reason why.

If you have a piece of art that you wanted to get authenticated, you really have to take that piece of art to someone who specializes in that artist. Not to an appraiser. Like Armando Morales, I can go to a man in Nicaragua who has a gallery that carries his work and he can tell me the truth.

I bet you have learned a lot from experts like him.

Well, you have to have resources. I have to tell you, I have bought a piece that was not correct and I cannot sell it now. But you learned from that.

Oh, big time!

Tell me what sets you apart from other galleries?

We are probably the most unique art gallery in Delray. That is what sets us apart, that we have decided to delve into this very interesting area of modern and contemporary Central American art. Coming from Costa Rica, I was interested in the masters there. My business partner owns property in Panama and Nicaragua and he was interested in investigating the masters there. So we started off with the original Latin American collection, which included a lot of Mexican art, and we will continue to carry it because we believe in those Mexican artists. But along the way, we realized that there was hardly any information and very little promotion about these fantastic Central American artists who did the same thing as the Mexican and South American artists but in a different way. They were not all from wealthy families. Sometimes they were promoted by their own governments and sent to study in France or the United States. Some of them remained there — Armando Morales stayed in France for 20 years — but a lot of them came back and merged their indigenous cultures. I think that is the most interesting thing. Nowhere else do you have the Mayans and the Boruca Indians of Costa Rica.

I’m going to say this and you tell me whatever comes to mind. Emotional response vs. educated response.

I like an uneducated viewer because then I can tell them stories. But you learned from that.

If you wanted to get authenticated, I would give you a response.

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I’m going to say this and you tell me whatever comes to mind. Emotional response vs. educated response.

I like an uneducated viewer because then I can tell them stories. But I really like the educated person. The person who comes in here and knows that’s a Vladimir Cora just by looking at it, those are the people who really excite me. When I visit museums and look at their exhibitions, I usually don’t read anything about the artist. I just look at the work. I probably should, but I try to resist and just see what I feel. I’m so glad to hear you say that. Whenever I go to a museum, I refuse the headphones and I don’t even read. Sometimes I’d check a name or a title, but until a piece grabs me I don’t investigate further.

I tell a story of how I was in New York one time and I went to a museum and the entire show was Cy Twombly. I walked around and I just didn’t get it, you know. But there was one piece I kept looking and thought about a lot. Later, I was studying photography when, suddenly, I saw a photograph of grass emerging through the snow. Then, I understood Cy Twombly. That was a very important moment for me. It helped me to discern what I liked in art. I like that the things that are hidden or the power of nature or the invisible things are brought out in a visible way.

How important would you say it is to insist when searching for good art?

With the modern masters is easier because you have discovered them. With newer artists, I look for things that are different: a different imagery, a different way of thinking and an understanding unique about their styles. I know when I see it and it says something to me.

What is your opinion about artists who start out with something intimate and personal and end up finding the commercial route?

You can’t blame them. They should sell their work. Absolutely, that’s what it’s all about. What I don’t want to see is them bastardizing their work by making too much or not putting in the time that they originally put in to create their art. They start to make too many pieces and you can’t sell it. And that happens sometimes. None of my artists ever do that.

I have a lot of printmakers and they make prints, but that’s considered original art. It’s not representative. I don’t want that and why do I wish and they wish me well, but I think they start to lose the essence of their gift when selling is their motive.

It must be so hard to resist that temptation, especially in the times we live now. Even during the economic event you must do it big. If I were to say that I paint just for myself and no one else, I have a feeling nobody would understand. We live in a very material world now. That’s what people understand. I wear this very nice little purse I bought in Guatemala for $8. It’s handmade and I like it, but it doesn’t bring me in any money. Some artists don’t buy into that and some do. I guess it’s just a personal preference.

Are you an artist yourself?

I’m a printmaker. I studied printmaking years ago. I never did it for a livelihood. I would like to do it again and probably well. I was a photographer as an art student. I have never been a painter. I never even had the desire.

When does the book on Central American modern masters come out?

Fall 2015.

I went down to each country and met with historians, art directors, anybody I could find, to talk to them about the book. We are doing a coffee-table style book with some of their famous images. We will have six essays written by authors from each country. The book will be in Spanish and English.

We are trying to seek out more information than just ‘born in…’ and ‘exhibited in…’

What do you mean?

We want to get into those interesting stories about why and how an artist created a certain piece of art, what their art brought to the other countries put into their art. We are asking those types of questions.
Film

Selma (opened Jan. 9)

Directed by groundbreaking filmmaker and film distributor Ava DuVernay (she’s the first black female director to earn a Golden Globe nomination), Selma is not a cradle-to-grave Martin Luther King Jr. biopic along the lines of Spike Lee’s Malcolm X.

Instead, she focuses only on the events from the 16th Street Baptist Church bombing through the passage of the 1965 Voting Rights Act, arguably King’s most significant legal accomplishment.

This was a smart decision, because rather than crafting a formulaic process of Great Man signposts, DuVernay and screenwriter Paul Webb capture the entire scope of the movement, from its agitators to its obstructionists, creating a comprehensive historical re-enactment from the stuff of Hollywood.

The heroes include student activist John Lewis (Stephan James), the future Georgia congressman, beaten down by authorities but rising back with more fire than ever; Carmen Ejogo) reveal his flaws — namely his philandering — to divorce. She’s become addicted to Vicodin, Percocet and the like, ingesting them like M&Ms, obtaining them from unscrupulous physicians, hiding them behind picture frames and at the bottom of laundry baskets, and usually washing them down with wine. Chronic pain feeds chronic addiction, pondering over her one of countless slaves to the vicious cycle of pill dependence.

It’s also made her a pain to be around. She alienates her support group to the extent that she’s booted from its roster, and she barely takes interest in her dedicated housekeeper Silvana (Adriana Barraza, whose performance here is really the one to watch) when she needs a favor, whether it’s driving her to a nearby clinic or to a pharmacy in Tijuana, where she can smuggle pills across the border.

Cake is not a humoresque slog, but even the comic relief is fundamentally sad, inspired by the shrapnel of wrecked lives and hopeless futures. Visions of suicide are never far from Claire’s mind, and she receives intermittent ‘visitations’ from Nina (Alicia Keys), a young woman from her support group who took her own life. Full-blown hallucinations not being a side effect of Claire’s medication, it’s hard to buy into these whimsical asides, which never gel with the slice-of-life naturalism of the rest of the movie. — John ThomASON

News

Norton opens public phase of $60 million expansion

ArtsPaper staff

WEST PALM BEACH — The Norton Museum of Art launched the public phase of a capital campaign for its proposed $60 million expansion.

The project, designed by architecture firm Foster + Partners, is under the direction of Pritzker Prize-winning architect Lord Norman Foster.

The planned Foster + Partners’ expansion relocates the museum’s main entrance to South Dixie Highway, a main thoroughfare on the museum’s west side, and allows visitors to see through the entire east-west axis of the building.

What was previously a parking lot at the current entrance on the museum’s south side will be transformed into a 9,000-square-foot sculpture garden, providing an open-air venue for Art After Dark, the Norton’s weekly series “where culture and entertainment meet.”

The garden will be next to a glass colonnade that connects the museum’s interior and exterior spaces.

The Norton’s expansion will increase gallery space by 12,000 square feet and create new public spaces including the garden and a state-of-the-art auditorium.

The new gallery space will maximize the museum’s ability to display its collection, which showcases American art, Chinese art, European art, and contemporary art and photography.

This expanded gallery space will also feature the museum’s special exhibition program, which explores topics ranging from fine art to popular culture.

With nearly $34 million raised, the museum has reached more than half its goal.

A groundbreaking is planned for 2016.
Books

MacDonald's first book may hit a note with South Florida audiences

By Bill Meredith
ArtsPaper Music Writer

Delray Beach-based author Rod MacDonald’s primary audience for his debut novel, The Open Mike, is likely to include many of the folks who have followed his primary career as a singer/songwriter. Considering that he got his musical start singing and playing guitar in Greenwich Village in the 1970s, where the Greenwich Village character (the similarly named Reo MacGregor) does the exact same thing, much of the intrigue hinges on how much of this tale is actually autobiographical.

All of which means the afterword, in which Broward College senior professor of English Robert Koppelman describes the differences between MacDonald and MacGregor, might have made an even better foreword. Koppelman explains that MacDonald wrote much of the book’s first of two sections, the opening, 50-page “The Book of Reo,” as a series of short stories while living and performing in Greenwich Village in the early 1980s. Originally titled “The Book of Rico,” the section was retitled with the less Spanish-sounding name Reo. MacDonald, who's of Scottish descent, then chose MacGregor because it was the surname of Rob Roy, the Scottish folk hero of the early 18th century who was immortalized by Sir Walter Scott’s 1817 novel Rob Roy (and by Liam Neeson’s portrayal in director Michael Caton-Jones’ 1995 film of the

Singer/songwriter Rod MacDonald started playing guitar in the 1970s. By the more cohesive 220-page, 38-chapter second section that bears the book’s title, the veil appears to be removed for anyone familiar with MacDonald’s history. The reader finds out that, like MacDonald, Reo is from Connecticut; has an older and influential sister, graduated from Columbia Law School; but chose to become a singer/songwriter rather than taking the Bar exam, and worked in journalism (MacDonald was once a correspondent for Newsweek; Reo worked for the fictitious Newsstand). The second half of The Open Mike’s closing title portion, starting with chapter 20 (titled “See You Around”), improves its focus. With perhaps too many chapters tied up in Reo’s relatively anonymous sexual conquests, it re-introduces the reader to a flawed female character named Castillo from the beginning of the book.

The author craftily implies Castillo’s imbalance, and primary relationship with another man, more through her actions than words. It’s eventually revealed that she, too, is a singer-songwriter and tortured artist (like most characters in The Open Mike), and the fact that her other lover is never officially revealed actually makes things more dramatic. MacDonald also introduces some other lover is never officially revealed actually makes things more dramatic. MacDonald also introduces some

Greenwich Village celebrities of the era with fictitious names. His friend, the late singer/songwriter Dave Van Ronk, obviously is the colorful Duke La Mont introduced in the book’s latter title section. MacDonald colorfully writes that La Mont is, “renowned for singing in a powerful, tender manor, more compelling in that gruff voice than a sweet singer could ever approach. It was, Reo, imagined, like painting with a different substance, oil instead of water, charcoal over pencil; and it came with this wonderful, funny litany of wisdom.”

Coming along in the wake of the Coen Brothers’ Greenwich Village-based 2013 film Inside Llewyn Davis — itself based partly on the posthumous 2005 memoir The Mayor of MacDougal Street by Van Ronk — should help garner The Open Mike interest and sales.

MacDonald’s alliterative writing style shines through enough in the book to cover up most of its disjointed undercurrent, and makes for an intriguing read. It may not prove the visual equal of his first album, the 1983 gem No Commercial Traffic, but the book’s final third especially ties up some loose ends, makes Reo a more mature and sympathetic character, and results in a solid first literary effort.

News

ACO conductor Robertson retiring this year

ArtsPaper staff

FORT PIERCE – Atlantic Classical Orchestra artistic director and conductor Stewart Robertson will retire following the completion of the 2013 concert season because of health complications due to Parkinson’s disease. Robertson also will be discontinuing his worldwide conducting activities.

“When we are deeply saddened by this news, all of us associated with the ACO fully support Stewart’s decision to focus on his health,” says another lover is never officially revealed actually makes things more dramatic. MacDonald also introduces some

Music Series, and a four-part educational program, Behind the Baton. This year, the ACO added a regular series of concerts at the Vero Beach Civic Center in Vero Beach. Robertson led the ACO and guest artist Elmar Oliveira in the Schumann CD on the Artek label released in 2013. As Atlantic Classical Orchestra is conducting a national search for an artistic director and conductor to replace Robertson.

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Theater

‘Les Liaisons Dangereuses’: Fifty shades of sex, power and betrayal

By Hap Erstein
ArtsPaper Theater Writer

In 1782, French novelist Pierre Choderlos de Laclos wrote Les Liaisons Dangereuses, a nasty tale of sex, lies and belles lettres, which became an instant best seller. You could call it the Fifty Shades of Grey of its day.

In 1985, Christopher Hampton adapted the tale of Vicomte de Valmont and the Marquise de Merteuil, former lovers who embark on a mutual challenge of seduction and conquest, for the stage. Palm Beach Dramaworks’ production of the steamy script opened Jan. 30 and plays through March 1.

The play, like the book, shines a spotlight on the seamiest side of man’s nature, sending the message that not much has changed since the late 18th century. “For me, that’s what it says,” offers the production’s director, Lynnette Barkley. “Human beings are human beings, whether it’s 1782 in Paris or 2015 in West Palm Beach.”

She is pretty sure, however, that neither de Laclos nor Hampton are condoning the unseemly actions of their characters. “It’s a cautionary tale, about the ethics of winning at any cost, about power,” says Barkley. “We’ve all done things in our lives that we’re maybe not proud of. And you might recognize some of those and you might choose to not do that again.

“For me, it’s about karma, that your actions have consequences. That when you make choices in your life, it goes around and eventually it does come back to you.”

Still, actors Kate Hampton and Jim Ballard, who play Merteuil and Valmont at Dramaworks, have to justify their characters’ actions to themselves in order to play them. Hampton — no relation to the adaptor — claims to have no problem with the task. “I think it’s easy to justify it actually. Because it’s just a magnification of what people feel all the time. They just don’t go as far as Merteuil and Valmont do,” suggests the actress. “You can understand as an audience member, I think, what the dynamics are between them. It’s just that most people wouldn’t act so atrociously.

“It’s a game for them, but it just keeps escalating. They use people as pawns, to get back at each other. First, it’s revenge. I can understand that, but I wouldn’t necessarily act on it. That’s the difference.”

As Ballard says of his character, “He’s a viper. That’s my image of him. It says it in the novel. His venom is his wit and his words. That’s what he uses to get by. His whole day revolved around what he was going to eat and who he was going to sleep with tonight.”

The de Laclos source material has led to several film versions, including two from 1989 — Dangerous Liaisons and Valmont — as well as a more tongue-in-cheek contemporary version, 1999’s Cruel Intentions, set among high schoolers.

Barkley’s experience is largely as a choreographer, which is why, she believes, she was selected to helm this play. “The play has 18 scenes and visually, it is a dance. It is changing partners and dancing with the next partner. It’s a daisy chain of events. That definitely affects the way I stage the play, the flow of it, it just keeps going.”

Stylistically, she says, “I’m thinking musical, without it being a musical.”

If her production were rated like movies are, Barkley suspects it would receive an “R.” “There’s no nudity, because I think it’s much sexier with clothes,” she says. “Once the clothes come off, you lose the sexual tension. But there is sexual content.”

“It’s not ‘Little House on the Prairie,’ that’s for sure,” chimes in Hampton. “It’s sexy, it’s funny, it’s got a lot of humor in it. It’s about intrigue, love, lust, revenge, and it’s a great story,” says Barkley. “Did I mention that it’s sexy?”
theatre Reviews

A joyful ‘La Cage; surprising ‘I and You’

Here are excerpts from reviews on TheArtsPaper website. Visit www.palmbeachartspaper.com for full reviews.

La Cage aux Folles (Wick Theatre, through Feb. 15)

Only an incurable optimist like Jerry Herman would write that “The best of times is now,” as he did in his enduring hit musical, La Cage aux Folles. He wrote it in 1973, in the midst of the Reagan administration, as the AIDS epidemic was on the increase. That’s how much of an optimist he is.

The song appears in the first gay-themed musical to hit Broadway, a number that still gets audiences singing and clapping along, as the production at The Wick Theatre attests. The crowd-pleasing show does not require star names, but that is the Boca Raton company’s bent lately and the production is certainly given a boost by the talents of Broadway veterans Walter Charles and Lee Roy Reams as St. Tropvez nightclub owner Georges and his longtime partner and drag queen headliner, Albin/Zaza.

The once groundbreaking show seems more tame today, but it still packs an emotional wallop as the gay couple’s grown son learns to appreciate his unconventional parents.

Reams has played his showy role hundreds of times, wearing it as comfortably as the glittery gowns he dons. By the time he gets to the title number, he has the audience eating out of his hand, so much so that it willingly follows him as he adds bits from his concert act, including impersonations of Mae West, Tallullah Bankhead and Marlene Dietrich.

As “plain homosexual” Georges, Charles plays, um, straight man to Reams, and their chemistry together is palpable. He looks awfully frail, but when the music starts (on either “You Don’t Know What Love Is” on the Sand” or the admonishing “No Bad News”), and rock score by Charlie Smalls with several infectious tunes (“Ease on Down the Road,” “No Bad News”) and power ballads (“Believe in Yourself,” “Home”).

But William F. Brown’s script keeps shifting tone, alternately taking Baumb’s iconic story seriously and then undermining it with cheap jokes.

So you would think that director Andrew Kato’s plan to dazzle and distract us with large-scale spectacle has merit, but the visually attractive theatrical hijinks prevent our being swept up in the plight of Dorothy and her small band of needy compatriots.

On the plus side is a small girl with a large singing voice, and her affinity for rock ’n’ roll takes her beyond her small stage. Eventually, she shares information about her illness and her affinity for rock ’n’ rollinger Lee Lewis. Anthony rhymesponds on the jazz saxophonist John Coltrane and tells her a morbid tale of events on the basketball court.

Gunderson’s compact, crafty project, particularly after she puts Caroline on an English class assignment, managing her school work by computer, Caroline has little contact with anyone other than her mother as she waits for a much needed liver transplant. Still, as the play opens, Anthony appears in her room with the news that they have been paired on an English class assignment, due the next day.

But William F. Brown’s script keeps shifting tone, alternately taking Baumb’s iconic story seriously and then undermining it with cheap jokes.

As the title suggests, The Wiz is a retelling of L. Frank Baum’s enduring fable The Wizard Of Oz, but from an African-American viewpoint. It features a bouncy jazz and rock score by Charlie Smalls with several infectious tunes (“Ease on Down the Road,” “No Bad News”) and power ballads (“Believe in Yourself,” “Home”).

Through April 5, 2015


Grand, labyrinthine, yet surprisingly intimate. The Wandering Veil is resplendent with personal narrative, political metaphor, and myth emphasizing memory, loss, love, and exile.

Also on view: Surrealism and Magic, exploring the Surrealists’ fascination in magic, arcane learning, and indigenous spirituality.
Soundstand pop at Mizner; Martha Graham still thrills at Duncan

Here are excerpts from reviews on The ArtsPaper website. Visit www.palmbeachartspaper.com for full reviews.

**Sunshine Music & Blues Festival (Jan. 18, Mizner Park Amphitheatre, Boca Raton)**

Husband-and-wife guitarists Derek Trucks and Susan Tedeschi, co-leaders of the Tedeschi Trucks Band and founders of the Sunshine Music & Blues Festival, put together an impressive and varied lineup to precede their closing set during a stop at Mizner Park Amphitheatre in Boca Raton, and got relatively cool, clear weather to go with it.

A capacity crowd, which slowly filled in as the 11-hour event transpired, thus missed some of the early highlights. Florida-raised blues singer/guitarist Sean Chambers warmed up a sparse main stage crowd with his half-hour set starting at noon. He was followed by the 45-minute set of British blues singer/guitarist Matt Schofield on the secondary stage, placed 100 yards east. Both stages featured strong, clear sound and sight lines. It’s just too bad that many missed the early afternoon main stage sighting of Los Angeles roots rock icons Los Lobos. Featuring guitarists David Hidalgo and Cesar Rosas, bassist Conrad Lozano and drummer Louis Perez (vocalists all), plus saxophonist Steve Berlin and percussionist Enrique Gonzalez, the underrated band blended the acoustic nature of its latest release with fiery plugged-in versions of some crowd favorites.

Its hourlong set culminated with a raucous electric rendition of “Don’t Worry Baby,” from the group’s 1984 breakthrough album *How Will the Wolf Survive?* The subsequent hour by the growing audience showed how much it appreciated Los Lobos surviving for more than four decades.

There were more arrivals during the subsequent second stage set by The Both, the celebrated new duo of famed pop songwriter Aimee Mann and post-punk singer/guitarist Ted Leo. Mann played mostly bass in a lineup with drummer Matt Mayhall, resulting in a power pop trio.

“We welcome to the Sunshine Music & Blues Festival,” Mann announced, “We’re not very busy, so we must be the music part.”

His bass and occasional acoustic guitar playing were indeed very musical; Leo played a hollow-body electric guitar with a wide range of effects, as well as occasional keyboards, and the duo sang harmony together — in similarly-higher-pitched voices — more often than individually during tracks from the buoyant “Milwaukee” to the somber “You Can’t Help Me Now.” Those who’d just arrived had timed it well, since the mid-afternoon main stage set by the Chris Robinson Brotherhood proved the festival’s daytime highlight. Formed in 2010 after the announcement of yet another extended hiatus by Robinson’s notorious, Georgia-spawned rock band the Black Crowes, the CRB proved funkier, more psychedelic, and more Dead-like than Robinson’s primary group.

Looking like a White Album-era John Lennon with his shoulder-length hair, beard and shades, the singer played rhythm guitar and fronted a quintet including lead guitarist/vocalist Neal Casal, latter-era Crowes keyboardist/vocalist Adam Macdougall, bassist/vocalist Mark Dutton and drummer Greg Mitchell.

Robinson’s singular, leather-lunged voice was in great form, ranging from soaring crescendos to a soft, low-outset in the hourlong set’s Zeppelin-esque moments to the soulful screams of an overwrought Southern minister. — Bill Meredith

**Martha Graham Dance Company (Jan. 23, Duncan Theatre, Lake Worth)**

After performing last year at the Duncan Theatre, the Martha Graham Dance Company returned to South Florida to launch the popular modern dance series at the Duncan Theatre.

The company was very good when it performed in the large Dreyfoos Hall at the Kravis Centre, but here in the smaller and more intimate setting at the Duncan Theatre, the company was even better up close and personal.

In the Graham company, lead roles are regularly exchanged among the artists but at Friday’s performance, the casting seemed perfect and the dancing was outstanding. There was an artistic seamlessness evident in the performance that cradled each of the pieces that the 89-year-old company presented.

**Inspired by the bold color strokes in the paintings of Wassily Kandinsky, Graham created Diversion of Angels in 1948. It is a plotless work set to a romantic score by Norman Dello Joio that uses three couples to touch on the different stages of love: young, passionate and mature. However, it is the women in duets that are highlighted, not only by their movement but also with the bold color statement of their dresses. Xiao-Chuan Xie was delightful, full of energy and youth in yellow. Peju Chien-Pott, as the woman in red, was beautiful, with a commanding technique as she streaked across the stage or as she stopped and extended her leg high in a steadfast tilt. Natasha M. Diamond-Walker was stately and constant in white. Graham’s Errand Into The Maze, which still delivers the same impact as it has for almost 70 years, was danced with great power and depth by Ying Xin and Abdil Jacobsen. Xin, as Adriadne, battled her inner fear as she encountered Jacobson as the Minotaur. Xin’s dramatic portrayal as she eventually overpowered her fear was rich and authentic and she expertly layered it over her amazing technical prowess. Jacobson managed not only to make the almost awkard movement seem intrinsic but also to exude a male essence that gave a tinge of sensuality to the dance that he presented.**

— Tara Mitton Catao

**Music & Dance Reviews**

**March 2015**
Art

‘The best of the best’: Art and antique show returns for 12th year

By ArtsPaper Staff

This Presidents Day weekend, more than 160 exhibitors will descend on West Palm Beach, bringing with them the best in art, antiques and jewelry from all over the world, attracting tens of thousands of private collectors, museum curators, investors and interior designers. The 12th annual Palm Beach Jewelry, Art and Antique Show will assemble from Feb. 13-17 at the Palm Beach County Convention Center.

“This is the only show dealing with art, antiques and jewelry in the country, and the largest vetted show in the United States,” says the fair’s aptly named organizer and founder, Scott Diament of Palm Beach Show Group.

“We’ve got everything from decorative arts, arms and armor to Tiffany lamps, Old Master paintings, jewelry, tapestries and porcelains,” Diament says. “We have fine arts from 2,000 years ago across all cultures and more than $2 billion worth of valuables.”

With jewelry coming from Fred Leighton jewelers and Richter’s of Palm Beach, Diament is justified in saying the show will have "the best of the best." But he’s also quick to point out that not everything is exclusive to Palm Beach and Naples millionaires.

"Many items are affordable, and anyone can take home a valuable piece of porcelain, a small piece of jewelry or antique glass for $200-$300," says Diament.

“Chinese tureen, circa 1740.

"We have some of the world’s treasures right here in Palm Beach County, coveted by kings across the world. Where else can you experience all the world’s treasures all at one time and all in one place?” Diament asks rhetorically.

One of the best is the Chinese export porcelain by British antique dealers Cohen & Cohen, whose pieces have been displayed in world museum's including The British Museum, The Groeningen Museum, The Peabody Essex Museum and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

Coming from London to Palm Beach with Michael Cohen, and then on to Maastricht in the Netherlands for one of the biggest and most prestigious fairs, is three of his prized examples of top-quality porcelains.

They include a rare 13-inch-high enamel vase, circa 1730 from the Yongzheng period, a tureen, cover and stand, circa 1740 from the Qianlong period; and a rare porcelain figure of a woman, dating from 1740, dressed in the costume of the Jewish community in 16th-century Frankfurt.

“The vase is of fantastic quality,” Cohen says. “One of the best we’ve ever had. The tureen is extremely rare, modeled after a European baroque silver form. It’s decorated in famille rose enamels, with scrolling flowers and foliage – truly exquisite.”

A highlight of the weekend is the designer showcase, curated by Campion Platt, with designers such as Lars Bolander, Jennifer Garrigues, Suzanne Kasler, Bill and Phyllis Taylor, and Gil Walsh.

Walsh, of Gil Walsh Interiors in Palm Beach, works in collaboration with Aerin Lauder, who in addition to her cosmetics line, has a line of home décor, furniture and textiles.

“We’re creating an interior inspired by Aerin’s love of 1930-1940s décor and design,” says Walsh from her office in West Palm Beach.

“We’re working with the dealers to select items in the art deco style of renowned French designer Raymond Subes, Serge Roche and French furniture designer Jules Leleu, as well as items from Maison Jansen, the first major global design firm in France,” says Walsh.

“We’re mixing these vintage pieces with contemporary art by Helen Frankenthaler and abstract expressionist artist Vivian Springford; even an Andy Warhol,” she adds.

On Feb. 14, Carolyn Englefield, interiors editor of Veranda magazine and author of Veranda: A Passion for Living, will host a panel discussion with the designers followed by book signings.

The following day, Cohen, who is the chairman of the British Antique Dealers Association (BADA), will give a talk called ‘Forty Years of Dealing: My Top 30,’ detailing his most memorable and favorite objets d’art over his 40-year career.

“Scott Diament has transformed the Jewelry Art and Antique Fair into the only major art, antique and jewelry show in Palm Beach,” says Cohen. “He has a true passion for what he does and is determined to have the best show in Palm Beach. We are happy to participate in it.”

The Jewelry, Art and Antique Show runs Feb. 13-17 at the Palm Beach County Convention Center, 650 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. It opens Feb. 13, with an opening-night preview party from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., and then each day from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. except for Tuesday, until 6 p.m. Tickets for opening night are $100; general admission is $20 for Saturday through Tuesday, and is valid for all four days. Visit palmbeachshow.com or call 822-5440.
Four-day art festival offers something for all

By Tao Wooofe

After 50 years of standing behind local artists and their work, the Delray Beach Art League is stepping out to celebrate its own creation. It will do so in high style, of course, with a four-day art festival — from Feb. 26 to March 1. Exhibits and performances of all kinds, and even a feast, will fill the Delray Center for the Arts with color, music and movement.

Because art can’t be contained, the festivities — street performances by jugglers and dancers, exhibits of artists old and new, contests, kids’ activities, food vendors and portrait artists — will spill out onto the grounds and courtyard of the arts center at 51 N. Swinton Ave.

Outdoor light was crucial for certain Impressionists known as plein air painters. The French term en plein air, or “in the open air” describes an artistic style that continues to this day.

The festival will open with its own plein air competition, Thursday, Feb. 26, during which artists will paint outdoors until 3 p.m. Those works will be on exhibit from 4 to 7 p.m., and will be awarded judges’ prizes totaling $2,000 at a 5 p.m. ceremony.

“This is a big celebration of the league’s 50th anniversary, but it’s also designed to get people to come out and see great art,” says Manny Jomok, a watercolorist and chairman of the 16-member celebration committee. “There will be all kinds of things going on for all ages.”

On Friday, Feb. 27, a big brown bag will be held in the art center’s gymnasium. Besides gourmet food, live music and dancing, the event will feature raffles, a silent auction, and guest speakers. Tickets, which cost $40, will be sold to the public on a first-come-first-served basis. During the day Friday, a portrait art exhibition will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. This multimedia exhibit features works of oil, watercolor and acrylic, plus sculpture and photographs.

Saturday and Sunday the work of young artists, compositions, and live music will be showcased from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

A few local artists formed the Delray Art League in 1965. It now represents more than 230 members whose juried works can be seen at regular exhibits in Veterans Park, Old School Square and Delray Beach City Hall.

Many of the artists’ works are on display in galleries around the country, says Jomok, who became a noted watercolorist and art teacher after retiring from the U.S. Postal Service in 2008. He credits the league with helping him blossom into his new career.

The league donates thousands of dollars in scholarships to art students at Florida Atlantic University, Atlantic High School, Milano School and the Plumosa School of the Arts Foundation.

The league also helps Delray Beach elementary and high schools buy art supplies and equipment.

“A percentage of our sales goes to our education fund,” Jomok says. “A big part of our mission is to support art and development of education in the community. The festival is a great way to do that.”

For more information, visit www.delrayartleague.com.
Art
Move along, folks, there’s plenty to see here
By Jane Smith
Fine art will meet hard science when Boynton Beach hosts the International Kinetic Art Exhibit and Symposium Feb. 7 and 8. The event and yearlong exhibit, which will cost about $120,000, is free and open to the public.

Kinetic art is art that moves — by wind, water or touch — to achieve its greatest effect. The city already has 16 outdoor artworks installed in its downtown core, bordered by Boynton Beach Boulevard on the north, Seacrest Boulevard on the west and Federal Highway on the east. Most sit along Ocean Avenue.

“We want to push the boundaries of traditional art forms,” said Debby Coles-Dobay, public art manager for Boynton Beach. “We want to help people expand their minds when they see how art blends with technology; other than it is whimsical and fun to look at.”

An exhibition tent will be set up along Seacrest Boulevard. Inside will be a variety of kinetic art works, including mobiles, said Coles-Dobay. The tent also will contain a site-specific installation inside its peak. “Lumens and Candelas” was created from flexible neon lights, Fresnel lenses, LED fans and Plexiglas by Texas artist Adela Andea. The artwork, 24 feet long by 8 feet wide — will hang from the ceiling so that visitors will be able to walk underneath it. The city’s majestic kapok tree, at the corner of Ocean and Seacrest, will be adorned Feb. 5 with swirling strands created at Kinetic-Connections workshops. The sessions were held all over the county, including three at the Boynton Beach Library. Kids, women and men brought found items, such as keys and buttons, and then attached the objects to cardboard pieces that volunteers later used fishing line to string together to create swirling strands. The 16-foot strands will be sold for $150 each, with a percentage returning to the Art in Public Places program, Coles-Dobay said. The city commissioned kinetic artist Elayna Toby of Palm Springs to oversee the project.

A highlight will be the Selfie Station, a video loop of selfies made by participants in the Kinetic-Connections. The video will be displayed on a computer screen under the kapok tree.

About 80 kinetic artworks produced by artists from seven countries and 12 states, as well as local ones, will show their works, Coles-Dobay said. The symposium, the education part, will feature eight presentations focused on the history, present and future of kinetic art. Presenters include working kinetic artists and educators such as Jerry Kedziora, a Polish artist whose work is on display at the Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens in West Palm Beach. He will speak about “Whimsical Kinetic Artforms.” The talks will be held in the Civic Center.

Also in the Civic Center, HackLab North Boynton will have a “Daft Booth,” inspired by the Grammy Award-winning group Daft Punk. Inside the booth, the participants will transform into DJs by using buttons, lights and sounds.

Kids and their parents are invited to create solar butterflies at the Children’s Schoolhouse Museum and Learning Center. French solar kinetic artist Alexandre Dang will lead two one-hour workshops each day to help participants construct dancing solar butterflies that they will attach to solar mechanisms and place in the museum’s courtyard.

“It’s fine art connected to STEAM,” Coles-Dobay said. “Everyone talks about STEM education, we think art should be part of it,” creating the STEAM acronym that stands for science, technology, engineering, art and math.

The event will wrap up Sunday with an awards presentation. The Kinetic Art Organization will award three prizes in its International Kinetic Art Competition. In addition, participants who walk around the festival will be given a sheet of paper to rank their top three artworks. The results will be tallied in time to present the People’s Choice Awards.

With the educational aspect and the chance to talk with the artists, Coles-Dobay said, “It’s beyond your normal art fair.”

Klara Kristalova: Turning into Stone, Saturday, Feb. 7-Sunday, Dec. 8: A Palm Beach performance by Kristalova, 65 works by renowned artists such as Claude Lorrain and Thomas Gainsborough. $5. Call 954-462-0222 or visit www.morikami.org.

King of Pop painting exhibition: Feb. 13-March 21: The Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam presents 130 works by the most famous painter of the 20th century; 25 works are one-of-a-kind replicas of his most famous works. $15. Call 514-934-1300 or visit www.rijksmuseum.com.


Korovin Painting at the Park: Through Feb. 23: The 19th-century Russian painter, Vasily Surikov, and his masterful landscapes are一点儿一点儿地读取,
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, seacall, and boat lift already in place. $1,750,000 – 3 custom home builders have plans (up to 4,700sf) available from which to choose, starting at $200k, or build your own!

Also available – half-acre, saltwater lot in Point Manasota with plans for up to 6,000sf! Free membership to La Coquille Club and use of amenities of Eau Palm Beach included! Asking $789,000.

COMMERCIAL/MULTI-FAMILY – C-3 0.41 ACRE, 5 FEDERAL HWY – Congregate property for multi-family/event/catering/S&B. Large, on-site parking area, lustrious main house and guest cottage, 1,600 sf AC, detached outbuilding with commercial kitchen. $485,000.

TUSCANY – rarely available penthouse unit w/fabulous ocean views. 1/1.5. Storage on both sliding doors & balcony. Full service bldg. w/garage parking available. Come enjoy the beach lifestyle. $147,300.

BARCLAY – 2/2, beachfront bldg., covered parking, tennis, ocean view. $265,000 or Intracoastal View, 2/2 newly remodeled $295,000.

CLARIDGES – Palm Beach, 2/2 apt available with ocean and Intracoastal views from $269,000 to $568,000. Updated pool and deck with bbq grill, geothermal hot water. Call today!

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.

BAREFOOT COVE – Key west style townhome, 3/3.5, high ceilings, intracoastal pool, miles of views, sandy beach, diagonal tile downstairs, Berber carpeting upstairs, knockdown texture, sunny power pool! $349,900.

BOYNTON BEACH SF – 3/2 that is well maintained, vaulted ceilings, charming courtyard and foyer, walk-in tub/shower in master, automatic roll down shutters, generator, back porch converted into Florida room with A/C. Furniture can stay. $399,900.

CONDOS
- MURPHYHILLS 1/1 .......... $41,300
- TROPICANA .......... $44,900 to $59,900
- LAKE CLARK GARDENS 2/1 ...... $55,900
- HIDDEN HARBOUR 2/2 ......... $107,000
- MAYFAIR ........... $49,900 to $235,500
- TUSCANY 2/2 .......... $535,000

RENTALS
- LAKE WORTH 1/1 .......... $800/mo
- LAKE WORTH 2/1 .......... $1,195/mo
- MAYFAIR 2/2 ............ $1,915/mo
- AMBASSADOR 2/2 ....... $2,700/mo
- BARKLEY 2/2 ............ $2,300/mo
- MAYFAIR 3/3 .......... $5,500/mo
- HYPOLUXI ISLAND 2/1 ....... $14,000/mo
- BOYNTON 1/1 ............ $950/mo
- LUMINA 3/3 ............ $3,000/mo
**February 7**
Saturday - 2/7 - 10th Annual Science of Chocolate at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreyer Trail, West Palm Beach. Activities include liquid nitrogen ice cream, painting with M&Ms, make your own cocoa beans, chocolate taste testing, small chocolate painting. 11 am - 5 pm. Free with paid admission to Science Center. 803-7898.

- 7/ Neil Berg’s 102 Years of Broadway at Kings Point Playhouse, 700 W. Atlantic Dr., Delray Beach and Spanish River Church, 2400 Tamarind Dr., Boca Raton. Part of the Community Performing Arts, 2015 Concert Season 2 pm and 7 pm at Kings Point Playhead; evening performance 2/9 at 7:30 and 10 and at Spanish River Church. 541-1616 or 544-8007 or online.

- 7/Faul Faculty Concert at Florida Atlantic University Boca Raton campus, University Theatre, 777 Glades Road. Irena Rafina, Sandra McCullough, Melissa handel and Rebecca Larson perform works for voice, violin and piano by Sparke, Dearman, Bach and Mascagni. 2 pm. 571-3733-7400.

- 7/ The Beauty and the Beast at Shoshunt Performing Arts Theatre, 156 SE Mizner Blvd., Boca Raton. 5 pm and 7:30 pm. 886-8111.

- 7/ The X-ing Guys: World’s Smallest Big Band presented by CAL Productions at West Palm Beach Civic Center, 503 SE Mizner Blvd., Boca Raton. 2 pm. $5. Bar: 10 am - 1 pm. 858-8111.


- 2/7 - Sandoway House Nature Center, 142 S. Ocean Blvd., Boynton Beach. Volunteer fish, nurse sharks, and spiny lobsters eat for free. Feeding begins at 10:30 am T-Sat. and 1:30 pm Sun. 10 am - 3 pm daily. Free. 752-7092.

- 2/7 - Indian Aquarium Feedings at Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N. Ocean Blvd., Boynton Beach. 12 pm. Free. 393-7968.

- 2/7 - Community Performing Arts 2015 Concert Season 2 pm and 7 pm at Kings Point Playhead; evening performance 2/9 at 7:30 and 10 and at Spanish River Church. 541-1616 or 544-8007 or online.

- 2/7 - Indoor Aquarium Feedings at Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N. Ocean Blvd., Boynton Beach. During our 10:30 am feeding, you will see a large variety of aquatic life up close as they eat their morning meal. Free. 393-7968.

- 2/7 - 18th green, enjoy samples from the wine and entertainment. Be transported into the wild for a few hours. 2/7 - Wild West Fundraiser $10 suggested donation. 297-3820. The Theater, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton. 7 pm. 

- 2/7 - tj & the Bears - First and third Thursday at Boca Raton Theatre, 201 W. Palm Beach Park Road. 6 pm. Agenda: ciboca-raton.com/rat.

- 2/7 - Golf Stream - Second Friday at the Gulf Stream Tiki Bar, 100 NE 7th Ave. 10 am - 9 pm. Free. 848-3404.

- 2/7/3 - tj & the Bears - First and third Thursday at Boca Raton Theatre, 201 W. Palm Beach Park Road. 6 pm. Agenda: ciboca-raton.com/rat.

- 2/7 - Ladies Night of drinking, casino-style. 2/7 - Beauty and the Beast at the Performing Arts Theatre, 503 SE Mizner Blvd., Boca Raton. Saturdays through 2/7. 

- 2/7 - Performance - Beauty and the Beast at Showtime Performing Arts Theatre, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. Boca Raton. Daily. All ages, children must be accompanied by an adult. 2 pm. 571-3733-7400.

- 2/7 - 16th Annual Delray Beach Garlic Fest at Delray Beach Golf Club for the Arts - Meadow Pavilion and Old School Square Park, 51 SW 4th Ave., Delray Beach. Garment, food, national art exhibition, professional cooking competition, large children’s area, 10 vendors, full liquor bars. Presented by Delray Beach Arts, Inc. Sat. at 11 am - 7 pm. 742-6390.

- 2/7 - Under the Hollies at Benzonia - Presented by Porque Productions; At the Studio at Walker Avenue, 201 Pizza Place Rd, 2nd Floor, Boca Raton. runs through 5/14. Sat. at 10 am - 7 pm. Free. 515-9980. 886-8111.

- 2/7 - The X-ing Guys: World’s Smallest Big Band presented by CAL Productions at West Palm Beach Civic Center, 503 SE Mizner Blvd., Boca Raton. 2 pm. $5. Bar: 10 am - 1 pm. 858-8111.


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2/10 – Opera Cabaret – Presented by Palm Beach Opera at the Palm Beach Improv, 203 S. County Road, Palm Beach. A cabaret of palm beach opera's young artists. Tickets are $25.

2/10 – The Improvised Shakespeare Company at Kravis Center Rehearsal Hall, 777 S. Olive Ave., West Palm Beach. The Improvised Shakespeare Company creates a fully improvised play in Elizabethan style. Tickets are $10. 224-7460.

2/11 – Fun and Prosperity – Thursdays through 4/9. 2/12 – 2/16: Prosperity Program Lecture and Cooking Demonstration Presented by Chef Roy de la Cosa at Delray Beach Public Library, 1060 N. Military Trail, Delray Beach. All-ages. 2/12. Free. 266-4980 or delraylib.org

2/11 – Shortbread Cookie Class at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. Register in person or call 742-6886 to reserve your spot. 2 days. 371-4224.

2/11 – Art History: Te & Through Impressionism – Part of the Women’s Dinner Series at the Bethesda by the Sea Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd, West Palm Beach. 2007. $15/ resident, $20/ non-resident.

2/11 – Silver Science Days at the Bethesda by the Sea Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. 1:30-2:30 pm. Free. 742-6886.

2/11 – Lecture: Youngme Moon, Donald K. David Professor of Business Administration – Part of the Women’s Dinner Series at the Bethesda by the Sea Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd, West Palm Beach. 2007. $15/ resident, $20/ non-resident.


2/11 – Concert: Thomas Hampson, American Baritone, at the Willard Palm Beach Hotel, 501 Plaza Real. 7:30 pm. $475 members; $550 non-members.


2/11 – Writer’s Forum at the Dreyfoos School of the Arts, 1340 East Trail Rd., West Palm Beach. 7-9 pm. Free with paid admission. 392-2500.

2/11 – Movie: Lincoln (PG-13) at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. 2-4 pm. Free. 472-6886.

2/11 – Michael Reagan – Part of the Adriat D Chappell Lecture Series at the Court Theatre, 31 N. Ocean Ave., Delray Beach. 2/12. 2:45 pm. $24/2, 732-1. Free to delraytheaterlive.org subscribers.

2/11 – Art After Dark & Curator’s Talk at the Boca Raton Museum of Art, Mizner Park, 501 Plaza Real. Celebrate the art of Jazz with the Marshall Tuck Classic Jazz Ensemble in the outdoor Sculpture Garden. 4-7 pm. Free with museum admission. 392-2500.

2/12 – Jazz in the Garden at Boca Raton Museum of Art, Mizner Park Plaza, 51 Plaza Real. Enjoy the art of Jazz with the Marshall Tuck Classic Jazz Ensemble in the outdoor Sculpture Garden. 4-7 pm. Free with museum admission. 392-2500.

2/12 – Concert: Thomas Hampson, American Baritone, at the Willard Palm Beach Hotel, 501 Plaza Real. 7:30 pm. $475 members; $550 non-members.

2/12 – Symposium Show & Salute at the Dreyfoos School of the Arts, 1340 East Trail Rd., West Palm Beach. 7-9 pm. Free. 392-2500.

2/13 – Georgia O’Keeffe: Woman of the Wilds at Mounts Botanical Garden, 561 N. Military Trail, West Palm Beach. Explore the artistic and creative process of stone sculpting with American sculptor Dj Garrity. 2/12 Lecture, 2/14 Workshop & 2/16-20 Sculpture Grant. $25 members, $35 non-members. 233-1750 or MountsBG.org

2/13 – Friday – 2/14 – 2/16: Rhythms of Stone Lecture and Workshop at Mounts Botanical Garden, 561 N. Military Trail, West Palm Beach. Explore the artistic and creative process of stone sculpting with American sculptor Dj Garrity. 2/12 Lecture, 2/14 Workshop & 2/16-20 Sculpture Grant. $25 members, $35 non-members. 233-1750 or MountsBG.org

2/13 – Key West Style by Chef Rey De La Osa at Delray Beach Lecture and Cooking Demonstration at the Delray Beach Museum, 501 Plaza Real. 7-8 pm. Free. 392-2500.

2/13 – Family Day – Parade at the Bethesda by the Sea Center, 1281 Ocean Ave., Palm Beach. 2-6 pm. Free. 742-6886.

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Delray Beach. 8 pm. $49/general admission, 2/13 - An Intimate Evening with Livingston Family Singers. 7:30 pm. $10 general admission; 300 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Part of the Flagler Museum Series, One Whitehall Plaza, West Palm Beach. Experience chamber music in a unique setting featuring three highly acclaimed musicians. Includes hors d’oeuvres and champagne reception with the musicians following the concert. 7:30 pm. $20/preferred seating, $15/regular seating, 544-8615 or gumbolimbo.org.

2/17 - FAU Astronomical Observatory - tickets, and may purchase additional tickets for 5 pm. $10/individual tickets. 514-4042.

2/17 - FAU Police Department at the Boca Raton Public Library. 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Free. 805-8562.

2/17 - Dinner & Dance Cruise on the Intracoastal Waterway with Capt. John beyname. 11:30 am-4 pm. $39.50. 748-9473.

2/17 - Jazz and Love Valentine’s Day Concert - Presented by Odyssey Entertainment, LLC, at The Crest Theatre, 51 N. Swinton Ave., DeLand. For adults. 7:30 pm. $45. 386-2499.


2/17 - BOCA Talks: Coaching the Mature Driver - Presented by Safety Council of Palm Beach County, Inc. at South County Civic Center, 901 South Ocean Blvd., Boynton Beach. Free. 7:30 pm. 840-9565 or safetycouncilpbc.org.

2/17 - BOCA Talks: Drawing with Pencil at the Art Center, 1600 South Olive Road, West Palm Beach. No experience necessary. $10. 943-7151. 2/17 - BOCA Talks: The Visual Imagery of King Cole and Betty Huges - Part of the BOCA Whitehall Lecture Series. Featuring Virginia Zeani 3 pm. $35. 800-769-7777.

2/17 - BOCA Talks: What’s Up Wednesday Series - Free. 742-6886 or boyntonlibrary.org.

2/17 - BOCA Talks: Fashion History departs at 11 am from Macy’s store in The- Breakers, One South County Road. This is a VFW Benefit Concert featuring Willie Natoli, $100 reserved seats, $5/students. 278-6003.

2/17 - BOCA Talks: The Regional Meeting, the Central City and the Capitol Dome - Part of the BOCA Whitehall Lecture Series. 226-5222. Free. 742-6886 or boyntonlibrary.org.


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2/17 - Art School Workshop: Koto, The Way of Plucking Strings. Presented by the Morikami Museum and Gardens, 4000 North Palm Road, Delray Beach. Koto is a traditional stringed instrument first introduced to Japan from China. Learn the fascinating history of this exquisite instrument and listen to its captivating and transworld sounds demonstrated by koto teacher Mrs. Yoshiko Takeno. $120. 11 am – 1:30 pm. 954-431-1700 or email artschool@bocamuseum.org.

2/17 - Art School Workshop: Demonstrations of Koto, The Way of Plucking Strings. Presented by the Morikami Museum and Gardens, 4000 North Palm Road, Delray Beach. Koto is a traditional stringed instrument first introduced to Japan from China. Learn the fascinating history of this exquisite instrument and listen to its captivating and transworld sounds demonstrated by koto teacher Mrs. Yoshiko Takeno. $120. 11 am – 1:30 pm. 954-431-1700 or email artschool@bocamuseum.org.

2/17 - Art School Workshop: Hanging at Boca Museum Art School, 801 Palm Beach Road, Boca Raton. Learn to make stencils and stamp relief of personal symbols and shapes to print onto dyed fabric to create your own "12" style fashion artwork with a bamboo rod for hanging. 1-4 pm. Tuition: $120. 512-2922 or delraycenterforthearts.org.

2/17 - Art School Workshop: Gilding Workshop at Boca Museum Art School, 801 Palm Beach Road, Boca Raton. Learn to make stencils and stamp relief of personal symbols and shapes to print onto dyed fabric to create your own "12" style fashion artwork with a bamboo rod for hanging. 1-4 pm. Tuition: $120. 512-2922 or delraycenterforthearts.org.

2/17 - Art School Workshop: Hanging at Boca Museum Art School, 801 Palm Beach Road, Boca Raton. Learn to make stencils and stamp relief of personal symbols and shapes to print onto dyed fabric to create your own "12" style fashion artwork with a bamboo rod for hanging. 1-4 pm. Tuition: $120. 512-2922 or delraycenterforthearts.org.
Way, Palm Beach. Part of the 2013 Whitehall Lecture Series. Persons were one of five individual endowed chairs at the National Academy of Science. Fall 2011-13. 1 pm to 3 pm. 365-5912.

2/12 - The Anderson Brothers at Park Vista High School, 7950 Jog Rd, Lake Worth. Presented by the Swing and Jazz Preservation Society. 3:45 pm. 460-2890 or lynn.edu/tickets.


2/13 - Calligraphy: Art and writing. 10 am-3 pm. Free. 746-5595 or artfestival.com.

2/13 - The Magic of the Mediterranean: a Daylong event for book lovers. 9:30 am-4:30 pm. $20. 547-WILD x285.


2/13 - The Gin Game at Studio Two Theatre, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton. A play about the art of living with cancer. 2-3 pm. $20. 237-3277.

2/13 - Lincoln & The Civil War at Sanctuary, Congregation B’Nai Israel, 2200 Yamato Road, Boca Raton. A documentary film examining the war that ended the Civil War. 7 pm check-in; 7:30 pm reception; 8 pm event. $10 in advance, $15 at the door. 398-2000 or sanctuarycr.org.


2/15 - Black Pep Rally: at 180 NE


2/15 - Movie: The Last Airbender at the Old School Square Park, 50 NE 2nd Ave., one block north of Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach. 1 pm. Free. 822-1520 or www.wpb.org.

2/16 - Delray Beach Garden at the Old School Square Park 50 NE 2nd Ave., one block north of Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach. 9 am-1 pm. Free. 547-3100 or www.lab fountainsofdelray.com.

2/17 - The Art of Bonsai: Beginners class at the Boynton Beach City Library, 208 S. Seacrest Blvd. Adults. 1:30-2:30 pm. Free. 742-6390.


2/19 - - Part of the 2013 Whitehall Lecture Series. Persons were one of five individual endowed chairs at the National Academy of Science. Fall 2011-13. 1 pm to 3 pm. 365-5912.

2/19 - The Gin Game at Studio Two Theatre, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton. A play about the art of living with cancer. 2-3 pm. $20. 237-3277.

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Thursday, 3/3 - Adult Beginner’s Tap Class

Friday, 3/4 - The Many Styles of Frank Sinatra: The Music and Career of a Man Who Changed the World

Saturday, 3/5 - Sumi-e Ink Painting Floral & Landscape Classes - Students learn the form of Japanese ink painting at the Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Road, Delray Beach. Fresh flowers, students are taught traditional flower arrangement classes. Course meets 1/7, 1/14, 1/21, 1/28, 2/4, 2/11, 2/18, 2/25 from 9 am to 12 pm. $100 for series. 540-9602.

Saturday, 3/5 - Fashion: A Conversation with Charles and Diana Uryvayeva Piano Recital

Saturday, 3/5 - The Many Styles of Frank Sinatra: The Music and Career of a Man Who Changed the World

Sunday, 3/6 - SUNY Stony Brook Choral Society

Sunday, 3/6 - Not收費的免費課程

Monday, 3/7 - Adult Beginner’s Tap Class

Monday, 3/7 - U.S. History Society at FAU

Tuesday, 3/8 - Dramalogue Talking Theatre

Tuesday, 3/8 - U.S. History Society at FAU

Tuesday, 3/8 - U.S. History Society at FAU


Thursday, 3/10 - Music of the Baroque: A Stroll through the Early Musical Masters

Friday, 3/11 - The Many Styles of Frank Sinatra: The Music and Career of a Man Who Changed the World

Saturday, 3/12 - The Many Styles of Frank Sinatra: The Music and Career of a Man Who Changed the World

Sunday, 3/13 - U.S. History Society at FAU

Monday, 3/14 - U.S. History Society at FAU

Tuesday, 3/15 - U.S. History Society at FAU

Wednesday, 3/16 - U.S. History Society at FAU

Thursday, 3/17 - Music of the Baroque: A Stroll through the Early Musical Masters

Friday, 3/18 - The Many Styles of Frank Sinatra: The Music and Career of a Man Who Changed the World

Saturday, 3/19 - The Many Styles of Frank Sinatra: The Music and Career of a Man Who Changed the World

Sunday, 3/20 - U.S. History Society at FAU

Monday, 3/21 - U.S. History Society at FAU

Tuesday, 3/22 - U.S. History Society at FAU

Wednesday, 3/23 - U.S. History Society at FAU

Thursday, 3/24 - Music of the Baroque: A Stroll through the Early Musical Masters

Friday, 3/25 - The Many Styles of Frank Sinatra: The Music and Career of a Man Who Changed the World

Saturday, 3/26 - The Many Styles of Frank Sinatra: The Music and Career of a Man Who Changed the World

Sunday, 3/27 - U.S. History Society at FAU

Monday, 3/28 - U.S. History Society at FAU

Tuesday, 3/29 - U.S. History Society at FAU

Wednesday, 3/30 - U.S. History Society at FAU

Thursday, 3/31 - Music of the Baroque: A Stroll through the Early Musical Masters

Friday, 4/1 - The Many Styles of Frank Sinatra: The Music and Career of a Man Who Changed the World

Saturday, 4/2 - The Many Styles of Frank Sinatra: The Music and Career of a Man Who Changed the World

Sunday, 4/3 - U.S. History Society at FAU

Monday, 4/4 - U.S. History Society at FAU

Tuesday, 4/5 - U.S. History Society at FAU

Wednesday, 4/6 - U.S. History Society at FAU

Thursday, 4/7 - Music of the Baroque: A Stroll through the Early Musical Masters

Friday, 4/8 - The Many Styles of Frank Sinatra: The Music and Career of a Man Who Changed the World

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Monday, 6/20 - U.S. History Society at FAU

Tuesday, 6/21 - U.S. History Society at FAU

Wednesday, 6/22 - U.S. History Society at FAU

Thursday, 6/23 - Music of the Baroque: A Stroll through the Early Musical Masters

Friday, 6/24 - The Many Styles of Frank Sinatra: The Music and Career of a Man Who Changed the World

Saturday, 6/25 - The Many Styles of Frank Sinatra: The Music and Career of a Man Who Changed the World

Sunday, 6/26 - U.S. History Society at FAU

Monday, 6/27 - U.S. History Society at FAU

Tuesday, 6/28 - U.S. History Society at FAU

Wednesday, 6/29 - U.S. History Society at FAU
Pink Shirt Day is on the path to happiness

By Shelly Gilken

On Feb. 25, there will be a sea of pink in South Florida. In 2013, businesses, at parks and government offices, pink shirts will dominate the wardrobe in an organized effort to raise awareness on bullying. In addition to wearing pink, teachers and other participants will attend workshops and events that help build character in kids to limit the impact of a bully.

“Children and adults, the most important people to wear pink that day and create a sea of pink to raise awareness for issues related to bullying. Compassion. Empathy. It helps build character in kids and teachers and other participants will attend workshops and events that help build character in kids to limit the impact of a bully.

“The reason people bully other people is because they’re not happy themselves. There’s a focus on being happy and your own happiness. How full is your bucket?”

Caldier said. For example, one of the activities for students is to write down one thing each day that they can do to help prevent bullying and then go through the process of ripping up and throwing them in the trash. Positive thoughts are written down and placed in a recycling bin.

“Our curriculums get so busy and we don’t have the time to learn and need to be taught that often there isn’t time for character education,” she said.

Additional events to supplement the day’s events are being planned by the Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County. In previous years, since the inception of Pink Shirt Day for the last four years.

The concept of Pink Shirt Day originated in Canada when students at a past Pink Shirt Day at South Olive Elementary School in West Palm Beach. Photo provided.
Monday - 2/22 - Kangaroo Kids Programs: For ages 3-5 at the Boynton Beach Community Center, Patch Reef Park, 2000 Yamato Road, Boca Raton. Kangaroo Kids Programs is a unique program that encourages children to move and play to build their sensory-motor skills. Children create amazing art and storytelling projects. Ages 3-4. Sat: 9:30-10 am. 365-2301. 365-2400.

Wheel of Fortune

Tuesday - 2/23 - Tot Tumbling/Gymnastics: For ages 2 months-3 years at the Intracoastal Park Clubhouse, 2240 N. Federal Highway, Boca Raton. Kangaroo Kids programs for ages 3-5. Participants learn about their relationship with their toy by sharing songs, puzzles, stories, songs, and motor skills development activities. Kangaroo Kids ages 2-3: Participants hop fun activities for new-borns and young children for prowl with age-appropriate art projects, songs, stories, and motor skills activities. Ages 6-12 months. 365-1960. 365-2030. 365-2301.

Page to Screen Commando Wave by Jacqueline Dowies for ages 9-12 at the Boynton Beach Community Center, Patch Reef Park, 410 S. Beach Rd. Free. 365-7910.

Karate Classes for ages 5-12 at the Boynton Beach Community Center, Patch Reef Park, 410 S. Beach Rd. Kids improve social skills, learn discipline, concentration, and high level physical fitness. Ages 5-12. 365-7910.

Program Exhibition Studio classes for ages 6-14 at Sugar Reef Park, 2000 Yamato Road. B. O. A. Class: Children discover over 40 different styles of art, with unique environment awareness awareness. Additional elements include breathing, poses, cooperative movements, relaxation techniques and visual imagery. Thursday through 12/4. Please call 742-6217. 742-6217.

2/24 - Art Games Class at Intracoastal Park, 24045, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Class allows students to learn about a master artist on exhibit at the Boca Raton Museum and have the opportunity to create a masterpiece in the style of the selected artist. 2-1/2 - 3:15 pm. Registration: 390-2560 or sugarsandpark.org.


3/3 - Taylored Athletes Elite Training Basketball Classes for ages 9-14 at Sugar Reef Park Field House, 2000 Yamato Road, Boca Raton. Class allows student to learn coaching and warm-ups and dances to their favorite songs. Wednesday through 4/7. 3:00-3:30 pm. 350-2301, 365-7905 at the Boca Raton rec.

Kangaroo Kids

2/26 - Children’s Carousel Concert Series: For ages 3-12 at the Boca Raton Community Center, Patch Reef Park, 2000 Yamato Road, Boca Raton. Concert Series runs March 4-6. 4:30 pm. 365-2301, 365-2400, 365-2700.

2/27 - Mint and Tonic: For ages 6-12 at the Sugar Reef Park. 2000 Yamato Road. Class allows students to learn the buckwheat and fun of Mardi Gras by making a mask. Two sessions offered 1 pm-2:15 pm and 3:30-5:15 pm. 365-2301, 365-2031, 365-2400.
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