Delray Beach

iPic push meets with planning board rejection

By Jane Smith

The iPic movie theater team reached for the stars before the Delray Beach Planning and Zoning Board meeting.

To be allowed to build a luxury theater in the city’s downtown, the team used robo calls, TV spots, email blasts and Facebook and Twitter posts. Representatives stood outside City Hall just before that meeting to hand out royal purple T-shirts that read: “I pick iPic.”

The commission chamber was standing room only with board members looking out to a sea of people dotted with folks wearing the T-shirts. Even iPic’s land use attorney, Bonnie Miskel, wore one over her navy blue suit during her presentation.

Despite the strong showing, board members denied the three key items that iPic requested to build an eight screen theater complex on 1.59 acres that used to house the city library, a parking lot and the Chamber of Commerce offices.

The advisory board denied all three of the iPic requests: abandoning an alley, increasing the height from 48 to 59.5 feet and using the site as a theater.

The height denial was unanimous. The alley

See iPic on page 8

Along the Coast

Shrinking habitats bring foxes to coastal towns

By Cheryl Blackerby

In early morning, a gray fox peeked out of dense foliage by the Little Club golf course in Gulf Stream and trotted with its distinctive bounce across the grass, its ears straight up and alert.

“Look, a red fox!” exclaimed a birdwatcher looking for birds, not foxes.

The little fox was actually a gray fox with red fur on its ears, neck and sides. It quickly disappeared into the bushes.

Gray foxes are native Floridians that usually hide in dry forests. But as their inland natural habitats succumb to development, they are being driven into coastal communities.

If there are increased sightings, it probably means construction has run them out of woodlands. "Unfortunately, their natural areas are getting bulldozed and construction is pushing animals out. They’re losing habitat," says Ricardo Zambrano, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission regional biologist. “And we’ve lost a lot of large predators such as bobcats, panthers and coyotes that prey on foxes.”

Urban dwellers tend to love them or hate them. But Florida wildlife experts say there’s a lot to love and admire about the foxes, particularly their choice of food — mostly rats and mice.

“People should rejoice when they see foxes because they keep the rodent population down,” says Sherry Schlatter, executive director of the

See FOX on page 8

Gulf Stream

Town tax rate soars 42% as legal fees rise

By Dan Moffett

Gulf Stream consistently ranks among the state’s most affluent communities, which helps explain how the town has been able to absorb a stunning increase in budget expenses that few other municipalities could.

Over the last two years, residents have watched their tax rate soar about 42 percent — from $3.497 per $1,000 of assessed value in 2013, to $3.90 in 2014, to the current proposed rate of $5 per $1,000.

This comes at a time when the town’s property values have been soaring, too — up 14 percent in 2014 over the previous year and up another 10.6 percent over that this year to $965 million. The town’s total budget has almost doubled from about $3.1 million three years ago to the $5.8 million proposed for the next fiscal year.

Where has all the new revenue gone? Most of it is going to legal bills, which now account for close to 20 percent of the entire budget.

Gulf Stream officials blame two litigious residents for the

See GULF STREAM on page 9

Inside

Recall case costly
Legal fees may top $50,000 for Ocean Ridge. Page 10

Full sail ahead
Sail Inn bar set to reopen after months in dry dock. Page 20

"ArtsPaper" Mr. Robotto
Morikami exhibits showcase Japan’s cultural interest in both robots and fanciful creatures. Page AT7

Teen scene
The Delray Beach SOS Teen Center provides social, cultural and athletic outlets for city’s youths. Page H1
Despite all our efforts, mistakes will happen

We make mistakes. We try really hard not to, but they happen. Sometimes we can’t be all of the information into a story that people think we should, and sometimes the way we say things makes readers think one thing when that’s not what we were trying to say. We’ve heard both of these complaints this past month.

Putting words together in a compact and readable way, forming stories out of interviews, trying to find the facts behind hints and innuendo can be tricky. We do the best we can and hire several different people to look at all the words before we publish. We try not to make mistakes. Really we do.

But sometimes our fingers simply hit the wrong keys on the keyboard. And sometimes we miss these typos before they get into print. That’s what happened with Woody Gorbach’s name in a photo caption. Twice. Once it was Hearvath then it was Gorbath.

His explanation: My husband is an excellent photographer, but a lousy typist. He claims he had to type typing class twice in high school.

But don’t we have copy editors you ask? Yes, we do. And normally we watch caption information very closely, but the first time around with Mr. Gorbach’s name, we just missed it.

My husband was so upset by his first mistake that we published a correction and I didn’t double-check behind him. If you’ve been married for a while, you probably know what a minefield it can be to second-guess your spouse’s work. Right?

So, we made a mistake — again. Unfortunately it was on the name of an elected official who is also a decorated war hero. Embarrassing.

Mr. Gorbach has been a good sport about these mistakes and we’ve promised him a copy of the photograph as an apology. That’s the least we can do.

And we’ll try not to do it again. But if we do, please let us know. If the mistake we make is factual, we’ll do our best to correct it. Even if it’s a typing error.

— Mary Kate Strong
Editor

But here’s something we got right

We won several awards at the Florida Press Association’s Better Weekly Newspapers contest July 24 in Orlando:

Cheryl Blackerby received two first-place awards for environmental and outdoor writing.

Dan Moffett won second place for local government reporting.

Willye Howard won second place for outdoor and recreation writing.

Mary Thurwachter took second place for community history.

Scott Simmons, Jerry Lower and Mary Kate Leming received second place for overall graphic design.

Third place winners were: Mary Hladky, business reporting; Ron Hayes, community history and Emily Tinsley, feature reporting.

We are very proud of our award-winning team.

editor@thecoastalstar.com

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Lynda Hunter, children’s services librarian at the Delray Beach Public Library, plays guitar and performs sing-along tunes to a packed room on June 29. Hunter is celebrating her 30th year at the library, Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

She makes the library fun and exciting for community’s readers-in-training

By Rich Pollack

Lynda Hunter’s first day on the job at the Delray Beach Public Library didn’t go all that well.

A mother of two small children at the time, Hunter had noticed during one of her visits that the library was looking for someone to work part time, checking out books.

“The first day I was really bored,” says Hunter, who has a master’s degree in fine arts education and who had taught school in one of Philadelphia’s toughest neighborhoods.

Three days after she was hired, however, the children’s librarian resigned and the library’s then director, Leslie Strickland, asked Hunter to step in.

Hunter has been anything but bored since getting the job 30 years ago this month and serving children’s programs, ranging from science and geography clubs to the Paws for Reading program, where kids read to service dogs.

“Those are fun,” she says, explaining that the library is packed with computers that children can use and offers a wide range of children’s programs, ranging from science and geography clubs to the Paws for Reading program, where kids read to service dogs.

Now, Hunter is focused on making plans for a 5,000-square-foot expansion of the children’s area — funded through the library’s “Footsteps on the Future” campaign — that will include a state-of-the-art computer lab for kids as well as a music production studio.

“When you get children used to coming to the library, you have a captive audience,” she says. “The expansion is going to help create a positive learning experience. We want to help build self-esteem because when children think they can do something, they can do virtually anything.”

Although change is coming to the library’s children’s area thanks to the expansion, there’s a good chance visitors will find Lynda Hunter surrounded by children who are listening as a positive learning experience. We want to help build self-esteem because when children think they can do something, they can do virtually anything.”
Letters to the Editor

RICO suit stressful for defendant

As a co-defendant in the town of Gulf Stream's recent RICO lawsuit, I would like to set the record straight.

The town initiated this action for one purpose — to censor, intimidate and silence its critics. I have been very careful to make sure my legal complaints against the town were thoughtful, valid and worthy of the court's time.

Mayor Scott Morgan labeled them all "scandalously malicious and frivolous." Now the town's RICO complaint has apparently been determined to be frivolous. How ironic.

Mayor Morgan, using his own words, first offered to exclude me a year ago from this RICO complaint if I agreed to drop all my lawsuits against the town. I did not take him up on his offer.

Last October the mayor and attorney Gerald Richman assured the other commissioners that the RICO threat would make me withdraw all my complaints and cause me to stop asking for public records. Additionally, the commission anticipated that a RICO judgment would get them all their legal expenses back three times.

I consider the mayor's RICO lawsuit against me and his publicity campaign of "bully pulpit" comments at Town Hall meetings, his official letters to residents, town interviews on TV and in newspapers, and even a defamatory law review article by another of the law firm's lawyers intended to "save face."

In July, the commission voted to appeal Marra's decision and ask another judge to examine this expensive and unwarranted RICO lawsuit.

Also at this meeting, the town manager disclosed that next year's budget will allocate $1 million for legal expenses (25 percent of the town's entire budget). Where is this money coming from? At that same July meeting the town approved a preliminary budget that raises the millage rate from 3.1 mills in 2012 to 5.0 mills in 2015. According to the town's own estimates, when adjusted for increases in property value, this is a total increase of 73.57 percent in just three years.

This RICO complaint may have been more out of hubris than actual government purpose, proving to be more self-serving rather than serving the public and certainly intended to protect town leaders by punishing town critics. Consequently, the notion of fair government has been besmirched and unfortunately town residents will be stuck with the hefty and growing bill.

Christopher O'Hare
Gulf Stream

Lantana water crew to be commended

In mid-July, Lantana town crews began working on a water problem along Dixie Highway, near the northern town limits. I understand it had to do with a nonfunctioning fire hydrant.

As a result, East View Street experienced diminished water service for several days. At times, there was no water. By July 17 there was no water at all.

The town's crews continued to work throughout the steamy hot day. By evening, still no water.

I spoke with the men on the job (who were polite and helpful) and they assured me that they would not leave until water was restored.

That turned out to be true, but not before the men had worked long after dark on a Friday evening.

They were aware, I think, that many View Street residents are elderly and the result of a prolonged drought could negatively impact their health.

I want to commend the public service workers for their performance and dedication. This unpleasant development could have been much more serious.

Please convey our appreciation to the workers and managers who helped us.

Ken Matthews
Lantana
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City dives into budget to justify minor tax rate decrease

By Rich Pollack

Pet owners, who for years have been pressing for a designated dog beach in Delray Beach, received a glimmer of hope last month when the city’s Parks and Recreation director conducted the first of at least two meetings designed to gauge community support for the idea.

During the initial meeting, Suzanne Davis explained that she and her department have spent months looking into the feasibility of a pilot project in which a portion of the city’s public beach would be designated as a recreation area for dogs.

“The goal, she said, will be to present the collected information, including best practices from other cities, public comments and suggestions to city commissioners soon.

“We want to get as much information as possible,” she said. “We want to present the pros and cons that will help the commission make an informed decision.”

Davis said one idea under consideration is to designate a portion of the recreation area at the extreme north end of the city’s public beach as a dog beach. She said there is a recreation area at the south end of the public beach, near Atlantic Dunes Park, that could also be used as a dog beach.

Currently, the city does not allow dogs on any portion of the public beach.

While dog owners attending the meeting appeared optimistic, Davis cautioned that more needs to be done before the idea could be presented to the City Commission.

“This is going to happen overnight and if it does, it probably is only going to be a pilot project,” she said.

As part of the fact- gathering process, the Parks and Recreation Department researched how other cities, such as Boca Raton, have successfully implemented dog beaches and conducted an online survey prior to last month’s meeting.

The survey, completed by more than 500 respondents, showed overwhelming support for a dog beach, with 82 percent saying they were in favor of the idea. Those responding — as well as those attending last month’s meeting — were often split, however, on specifics such as whether the dog beach should have limited hours, whether there should be a fee and whether dogs should be required to be on leashes.

Most agreed that those using the beach should have to register and present proof their pet had all required vaccinations. They also agreed that rules — including requiring owners to pick up after their pets — would need to be in place.

During the meeting many residents, as well as Tony Chapital of Responsible Dog Owners of Delray Beach — who helped organize the gathering — said that a dog beach could have a positive financial impact on the city as well as on tourism-related businesses.

Chapital said many local hotels now accept pets and having a dog beach would be an added benefit to out-of- town and out-of-state visitors.

Others at the meeting said the city could use the fees collected at the dog beach as an offset to other city projects.

Among those attending the meeting was Andy Katz, vice president of the Inlet Beach Property Owners Association, who encouraged Davis to conduct additional meetings and site programs where anyone who opposes a dog beach could also be heard.

Calling the first meeting “a foot in the door,” Katz said most of the comments were in support of a dog beach, Katz said members of the group that runs the Arts Warehouse construction.

“The CRA has a proposed $28.2 million budget next year, which includes $8.9 million in city tax increment revenues, $6 million from the county tax increment revenues and $5.6 million in carry over money for projects that are unfinished.

The city department will pay $2.3 million this year to get rid of the CRA, some people say stop funding it, some people say keep it. It is a good thing. The CRA brings in $3.6 million annually.

The CRA board selected Munisilks Inc. on July 23 to analyze the effect of losing tax increment revenues in each of its eight areas, as requested by the City Commission. The results are expected to be done by October.

For the next budget year, the city asked its CRA to pay the total cost of the revamped Clean and Safe program at $2.3 million, a 27 percent increase, and cover an additional $100,000 of the Delray Beach Public Library projects, for a total of under the $7.44 rate, must be under the $7.44 rate. Most taxpayers will pay $59,425, of its operating budget.

The CRA’s 2014-15 tax rate is 7.46 per $1,000 of taxable value.

The CRA board selected Munisilks Inc. on July 23 to analyze the effect of losing tax increment revenues in each of its eight areas, as requested by the City Commission. The consulting engineers for a dog beach, Katz said.

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FOX
Continued from page 1

South Florida Wildlife Center, which handles wildlife rescue and nuisance calls in Palm Beach and Broward counties. “Gray foxes are highly beneficial in our ecosystem.”

Mice in the dunes on the beach and rats along the Intracoastal are bringing foxes to the coast. “And where there are people, there are rodents,” says Zambrano.

That foxes eat dogs and cats is strictly urban myth.

“Beef and salmon is what they eat in the wild,” says Zambrano. “It’s no different than what you or I would eat.”

In fact, the reverse is true. Dogs and cats left outside often attract foxes and kill fox pups.

Gray foxes and raccoons do prey on turtle nests and cause the loss of 5 to 7 percent of the nests in Boca Raton. They are the predominant mammalian predators of sea turtle nests, eating the eggs and killing hatchlings, says Kirt Rusenko, marine conservationist at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center.

“The worst thing people can do is feed the foxes as that increases their population and puts tremendous pressure in the nests in the area. South of the [Boca] inlet this year is our hot-spot so we are pretty sure someone in one of the condos there is feeding the foxes,” Rusenko says.

But the center can keep turtle nests safe with pepper, he says. “Our use of habanero pepper powder on the nests deters them quite well. In really bad areas like south of the inlet we [also] screen the nests with a 4 by 4-foot wire mesh in an attempt to keep the foxes out of the nest!”

Schlueter says raccoons, not foxes, are more commonly the culprit for eating turtle eggs on South Florida beaches.

Like other Florida mammals, foxes can get rabies, but this has not been a problem in Florida, says Zambrano.

Foxes rarely carry rabies, but can get distemper, which is not harmful to people. And the disease is generally not given to domestic animals because most pets get distemper vaccinations.

Nuisance calls about foxes usually are from people who are frightened by wildlife or, more commonly, homeowners who have found fox pups.

“We have already taken in 38 foxes this year, and 23 were babies,” says Schlueeter. “The only thing that could lead people to believe they are red foxes. There are no native red foxes in Florida, although there are a few red foxes on Florida’s Panhandle that are descendants of red foxes released on fox hunts.”

Foxes are shy and nocturnal. If you see a fox in the daytime, it is almost certainly a mother fox foraging for food for babies, says Schlueeter.

She warns people not to feed them or any wildlife. “There’s plenty of food for them in sunny Florida,” she says.

Foxes should be appreciated, not feared, say the experts. “They are adorable, really endearing animals,” says Schlueeter.

And here’s a fun fox fact: They are the only member of the dog family that climbs trees.

If you find an injured or sick fox or other wildlife, contact South Florida Wildlife Center at 954-524-4302 or 866-SOS-WILD.
Town to appeal dismissal of RICO suit against O’Boyle, O’Hare

By Dan Moffett

Gulf Stream town commissioners have unanimously voted to appeal a judge’s ruling that dismisses their federal racketeering lawsuit against residents Martin O’Boyle and Christopher O’Hare.

Commissioners also have agreed to continue their fight against O’Boyle and O’Hare in the state courts, where dozens of civil and public records disputes and other matters await resolution.

Mayor Scott Morgan says that U.S. District Court Judge Kenneth Marra’s decision in June to throw out the town’s class-action RICO suit was not a victory for the two residents’ behavior and should not diminish Gulf Stream’s resolve, especially at the state level.

“Make no mistake. These people will be held to account for their actions,” Morgan said.

“We have not put all eggs in the RICO basket. In fact, our actions have been ongoing in the state cases, predating the RICO action, where we’ve had success.”

Taking the RICO case to the U.S. appellate court, Morgan says, will give the town’s lawyers a chance to argue that the federal statute should be expanded to consider the town’s allegations against O’Boyle and O’Hare.

“The judge is a trial judge,” Morgan said of Marra. “Trial judges do not make law. This is a case of first impression. That means there is no other case like this — not in Florida, not in the entire United States.”

Morgan said O’Boyle sent him a letter in July, urging commissioners to “have a sit-down” and enter into settlement negotiations. But Morgan said the town thought it ended the disputes with O’Boyle in 2013 when the two sides settled a lawsuit over the remodeling of his home. Within months, however, new issues arose, Morgan said, and O’Boyle filed a “new round” of lawsuits.

“A review of history is important,” Morgan said. “We’ve done this (settlement) before, and it cost the town an awful lot of money and embarrassment.”

The mayor said the town’s more recent attempts at finding a settlement “turned into threats, and banners and more litigation” from O’Boyle. Other commissioners agreed.

“I fully support your taking charge of this, and I think you’re handling it the right way,” Commissioner Joan Orthwein told the mayor during the July meeting. “I like your history of it. I think there’s no way we could ever settle again.”

“Amen,” said Vice Mayor Robert Ganger.

O’Hare told the commission he had no choice but to take his issues with the town to court.

“I don’t want to sound like Don Quixote, but there are democratic principles at stake,” O’Hare said. “The only way it seems to get those principles on line is by redress from the courts.”

O’Hare accused the town of mismanagement and wasting taxpayers’ money, with a newly minted budget proposal that sets aside $1 million for legal fees in the next fiscal year, including the RICO appeal.

“I could see the town’s millage rate going to 7.5,” O’Hare said.

Separately, the town’s proposed tax rate of $5 per $1,000 of taxable value, 2014-15 tax rate: $3.90 per $1,000 of taxable value.

Change in property value: 10.6 percent increase

Rebecca Tew, the town’s finance director, said that will provide a cushion against emergencies.

Thrasher said that will provide an infusion of about $672,000.

The GFOA recognized the town for its financial performance.

“Top of the list was the reserves,” Thrasher said. “And all this comes while the town also is paying for a multiyear $4.5 million project to move its utility lines underground.”

Town Manager William Thrasher said his budget proposal will generate enough revenue to replenish the town’s dwindling reserves with an infusion of about $672,000.

Thrasher said that will provide a cushion against emergencies.

Beyond legal expenses, close to 25 percent of the total budget, roughly $1.5 million, goes to Delray Beach for fire-rescue, water and building services.

Gulf Stream’s taxpayers can take some solace from knowing that their town’s budget methodology is well-regarded within its peer group. The Chicago-based Government Finance Officers Association honored the town with its Distinguished Budget Presentation Award this year, giving officials high marks for the budget as “a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide (and) a communications device.”

It is the only national awards program in government budgeting.

The GFOA recognized Rebecca Tew, the town’s accountant, for her work on the budget, and the Town Commission gave her a round of applause at the July meeting.

The GFOA recognized Rebecca Tew, the town’s accountant, for her work on the budget, and the Town Commission gave her a round of applause at the July meeting.

For more information, visit: www.GulfStreamFL.com
where indoor and outdoor living become one. Living areas flow seamlessly into the covered loggia, pool/spa and the ocean, with every possible luxury to guarantee the ideal Florida lifestyle. The main magnificent home is exquisitely designed and elegantly appointed throughout. Perhaps the most appealing feature is the open floor plan, Vantage lighting system and 3 balconies on the second floor. This staircase, huge game room, theatre, gourmet kitchen with Thermador gas range, and a sweeping spiral mahogany staircase lead to the dining rooms, kitchen and master bedroom suite. A masterpiece of classic design with dramatic ceiling heights, a huge game room, theatre, gourmet kitchen with Thermador gas range, Vantage lighting system and 3 balconies on the second floor. This majestic home is exquisitely designed and elegantly appointed throughout. Perhaps the most appealing feature is the open floor plan, Vantage lighting system and 3 balconies on the second floor.

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Built in 1999, this 5 BR, 4 BA plus 2 half bath oceanfront residence boasts 6,980 sq. ft. of living area with panoramic views from the living and dining rooms, kitchen and master bedroom suite. A masterpiece of classic design with dramatic ceiling heights, a sweeping spiral mahogany staircase, huge game room, theatre, gourmet kitchen with Thermador gas range, Vantage lighting system and 3 balconies on the second floor. This magnificent home is exquisitely designed and elegantly appointed throughout with every possible luxury to guarantee the ideal Florida lifestyle. The main magnificent home is exquisitely designed and elegantly appointed throughout.

Ocean Ridge
Lucibella legal defense will cost taxpayers at least $50,000

By Dan Moffett

Ocean Ridge taxpayers appear likely to be charged at least $50,000 to cover Commissioner Richard Lucibella’s legal fees for defense against the failed recall movement that sought to remove him from office.

Fort Lauderdale attorney Sidney Calloway has sent the town town invoices for about $80,000 in services for Lucibella, much of it at $485 per billable hour.

“I could not say that the number of hours was excessive or extreme,” said Town Attorney Ken Spillias, who reviewed the charges. “I think, honestly, the time put in appeared reasonable to me.

The town is covered by insurance, but the policy has a $50,000 deductible. And the carrier has been reluctant to pay anything because one Ocean Ridge official (Lucibella) ended up suing another official (Town Clerk Karen Hancsak), an unusual twist the company claims exempts it from writing a check.

Spillias believes that Florida case law comes down on Ocean Ridge’s side, and the town has a good chance of recovering the $30,000 above the deductible. Spillias’ argument to the insurance company is that the town had a public interest in intervening in the case and an obligation to reimburse an elected official against a legally flawed recall. Also, Lucibella had no choice but to defend himself against the recall group’s charges of malfeasance and had no choice but to sue the clerk because the position is charged with handling the petitions.

The town’s premium for legal liability insurance for the commissioners will be up about $2,000, or 19 percent, in the next year’s budget. “They have not stated that the increase was due to the recall,” Town Manager Ken Schenck said of the carrier, “but my guess is it didn’t help.”

The recall effort fell apart after a five-hour trial when Palm Beach County Circuit Judge Gregory Keyser ruled in June that the petitions didn’t satisfy statutory requirements and were legally insufficient. The 10-page decision ended a five-month campaign against Lucibella that began when he played a key role in forcing out Chris Yannuzzi as police chief in January.

“Anyone who read the statute and was thinking with their head would have looked at the petition and said that’s not going to fly,” Lucibella said during the July 6 town commission meeting.

Beyond the cost of attorneys, Lucibella and his supporters believe the recall dispute has taken a heavy toll on public service in Ocean Ridge. Lucibella said that, going forward, residents will be less likely to run for office, and he blames his fellow commissioners for some of that. He said the town had a responsibility to see that the recall organizers followed proper procedures and also followed the law. Lucibella said because the commission didn’t act against the “sham of a recall,” his only alternative was to go to court and stop it himself.

“We didn’t play hardball on this,” Lucibella said of his court fight. “We went and protected ourselves. We went and protected future commissioners of this town. We got really damn little help from the current commission. I have really no hard feelings about that. You’re trying to protect the town’s best interests. But that was a pretty bad move. Because that’s going to cost the town’s taxpayers a minimum of $50,000.”

Former Mayor Ken Kaleel also criticized the commission for not supporting Lucibella early on.

“This commission should have taken a harder stance on this recall,” Kaleel told commissioners. “We need those fees reimbursed for this town, for the sanctity of future commissions. That recall was a joke. And it never should have gotten past first base. But it did. And this commission sat back and did absolutely nothing.”

In other business, at the July 21 budget workshop, commissioners unanimously voted to keep the town’s tax rate at $5.35 per $1,000 of assessed property value. The rollback rate — the rate at which tax revenues stay the same as last year — is $5.08 per $1,000. Next year’s budget has a deficit of about $180,000, but commissioners hope that shortfall can be reduced by a $129,000 windfall from code violation fines collected from owners of a property at 40 Hibiscus Way.

The commission tentatively signed off on giving the Police Department three new cruisers at a cost of about $210,000 and upgraded radio equipment for $80,000.

Ocean Ridge
Proposed tax rate: $5.35 per $1,000 of taxable value
2014-15 tax rate: $5.35 per $1,000 of taxable value
Change in property value: 6.6 percent increase
Total budget (operating and capital): $6.13 million
2014-15 budget: $6.13 million
2015-16 proposed budget: $6.03 million
2014-15 tax rate: $5.35 per $1,000 of taxable value

Public hearings: 5:01 p.m. Sept. 10 and 17 at Town Hall
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<td>Tropic Cay ~ Delray Beach</td>
<td>$399,000</td>
<td>3 BR, 2 ½ BA, two story townhome in Tropic Isle. 1,800 sq. ft. under air. Top of the line finishes and hardwood floors. 2 remaining Phase 1 units available for $399,000. 4 Phase 2 units starting at $419,000. Cheran Marek, 561-870-8855</td>
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<td>Oceanfront Pied-a-terre</td>
<td>$479,000</td>
<td>Built in 1966, Bermuda High is an oceanfront enclave with 20 units reminiscent of old Florida. Light &amp; bright 1 BR, 1 BA on the second floor. Open beamed cathedral ceilings, updated kitchen with granite and breakfast bar. Sue Tauriello, 561-441-4200</td>
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<td>45 Ocean ~ $495,000</td>
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<td>Beautifully updated 2 BR, 2 BA direct northeast corner unit with 2 balconies offering outstanding ocean views in Highland Beach. New impact glass windows, split bedrooms, custom mirrors and ceramic tile floors. Sue Tauriello, 561-441-4200</td>
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<td>Atlantic Grove ~ $359,000</td>
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<td>3 BR, 3 ½ BA tri-level townhome with a 2 car garage one block to Atlantic Avenue. 1,800+ sq. ft. with spacious living area, formal dining room and kitchen with breakfast bar, granite countertops and custom wood cabinetry. Cheran Marek, 561-870-8855</td>
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<td>Parkview Manor ~ $340,000</td>
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<td>Beautifully renovated 2 BR, 2 BA first floor end unit with a spacious screened porch and hurricane impact windows. Ceramic tile floors throughout, plus an upgraded kitchen. 1 block to Atlantic Avenue. Susan Ring, 561-441-4150</td>
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<td>Rainberry Lake ~ $274,900</td>
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<td>Immaculate 3 BR, 2 BA home with a private fenced yard, patios and lush manicured gardens. An open floor plan with soaring cathedral ceilings, ceramic tile floors, plus a master suite with walk-in closet and updated bath. Marie McInerney, 561-573-0173</td>
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<td>East Wind Beach Club ~ From $290,000</td>
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<td>Very desirable location right across the street from the beach and one block to Atlantic Avenue. All units are 1/1 with a porch. 2 first floor units and 1 second floor unit are currently available. Rentals through on-site manager. Elizabeth Rurey, 561-302-1552</td>
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<td>Meridian Delray ~ $299,900</td>
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<td>Contemporary loft style residence with open living spaces and floor to ceiling impact windows. Light &amp; airy 1 BR, 1 BA second floor unit with a spacious balcony. An ideal location just 3 blocks to Atlantic Avenue. Vince Wooten, 561-809-8277</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coastal Towers ~ $159,900</td>
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<td>2 BR, 2 BA on the second floor overlooking the pool and offering a glimpse of the Intracoastal. Split bedrooms, large screen enclosed porch and eat-in kitchen. A wonderful Boynton Beach community close to the beach / restaurants. Marie McInerney, 561-573-0173</td>
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Delray Beach

Access crossing access road and lawsuit topic of more meetings

By Jane Smith

The Atlantic Crossing project continues to plod through the Delray Beach approval process.

The 9.2-acre development, slated for the southeast corner of North Federal Highway and East Atlantic Avenue, already has its site plan approved but it is awaiting certification.

The latest snag concerns the type of access road off Federal Highway and into the development. Should it be a two-way road, similar to Atlantic Court, which no longer appears on its site plan? Or should the entry lane from Federal Highway go directly into the underground garage?

City commissioners agreed in June that they are not traffic engineers and hired Simmons & White from West Palm Beach to review the two options at a cost not to exceed $12,500. Rob Rennebaum, the program's money man, said of the review, "Without the downtown access road and pedestrian pathway, downtown Delray Beach will spend more than $2 million in the current budget year. The extra money is needed to make the Clean and Safe program work in the downtown, leaders say. "Every time people come downtown, we want to have a clean downtown. It is realistic," said Michael Coleman, new Community Improvement Department director. The city recently created the position under his department, except for the safety part that remains under the Police Department.

The extra $500,000 will cover these additions: one downtown manager, one police lieutenant, two Segways for police use, three-quarters of a code enforcement officer, one sanitation officer, trash can liners, uniforms, one golf cart and pressure-cleaning sidewalks three times a year inside the program's boundary along Atlantic Avenue, from West 12th Avenue east to Ocean Boulevard.

"The downtown manager will supervise the program, which was previously spread among city departments without anyone in charge. Without the downtown manager," Coleman said, "the program will revert back to how it was."

The program's money will come from the city's Community Improvement Agency, because the downtown sits inside the agency's boundaries.

The program consists of increased police patrols, code enforcement, maintenance, lighting, overhang removal, and street and sidewalk cleaning.

Coleman made the pitch for extra money in late June to the CRA board. His police counterpart is now Sgt. Troy Baeer.

"City commissioners had named the Clean and Safe program a priority in April. They thought the downtown's cleanliness had slipped, creating problems because the area represents the city's main asset and runs nearly 18 hours daily, seven days a week."

Different elsewhere

Nearby cities and towns approach their downtowns differently. Boca Raton does not have a specific program, but in its downtown and Mizner Park, work is done on code enforcement, policing and maintenance, said Mike Wozka, assistant city manager. Boynton Beach would like to start a Clean and Safe Program for its downtown. In the next budget year, its CRA hopes to cover litter cleanup costs inside the district on Ocean Avenue, Seaboard Boulevard, Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Federal Highway, according to Vivian Brooks, CRA executive director.

She said she would like to see community-oriented policing. "Police need to get out of their cars and do foot patrols and bike patrols," she said.

The Boynton Beach CRA will hold its budget session on Aug. 6.

Lantana has a small downtown and does not have adequate staff for a Clean and Safe program, said Deborah Manzo, town manager. The town handles code enforcement issues, she said. East Ocean Avenue is a county road, leaving the county responsible for street and sidewalk repairs and maintenance. The town maintains the benches, empties garbage cans weekly, trims hedges quarterly and prunes the trees, as needed, along Ocean Avenue. The Lantana Police Department patrols the

Clean and Safe program enhanced

By Jane Smith

Delray Beach will spend more than $2 million in the next budget year to make its downtown a Disney-esque world of sparkle and safety.

That amount represents a 27 percent increase over the current budget year. The extra money is needed to make the Clean and Safe program work in the downtown, leaders say. "Every time people come downtown, we want to have a clean downtown. It is realistic," said Michael Coleman, new Community Improvement Department director. The city recently created the position under his department, except for the safety part that remains under the Police Department.

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in downtown Delray Beach, police try to make contact because it is such a high-density area, Baer said. The department works closely with stakeholders — visitors, business owners and employees — to tell us about street crime. Coleman started with the Delray Police Department in 1994 and was promoted to captain, before being tapped to run the Community Improvement Department.

Richard Rolle picks up garbage and debris July 24 on Atlantic Avenue in Delray Beach. Tim Steiner/The Coastal Star

Downtown Delray Beach in-season crimes

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Source: Delray Beach Police Department
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<td>4001 N Ocean</td>
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<td>$3,200,000</td>
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<td>Mary Beth Weddle</td>
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Delray Beach
City talks to county again about fire-rescue consolidation
By Jane Smith
The Delray Beach Community Redevelopment Agency voted twice to let a firm to analyze taxable values in each of its eight subareas. Munilytics was picked on Feb. 11, 2016 and will have the lowest price of the three bidders, coming in at $59,000 and estimated time of two months.

"We rely on GIS [geographic information system], info, that is why our costs are low," said Chris Wallace, a Munilytics director. He brought along Will Allen, a retired Delray redevelopment administrator, who has since joined Munilytics. He also is consulting with Davie. Other than Allen, Wallace said, he would need only clerical staff to get the work done on time.

CRA Chairman Herman Stevens asked Wallace how he would evaluate which parts to cut. By marginal returns in each subarea, Wallace said. He added, "I like CRAs. Area is good, so you could move over to another." Stevens finished that thought by saying "and use that money in other areas waiting their turn."

The analysis will be done in three parts.
Part A will include these tasks: Establish a base year value of each subarea when the CRA was formed in 1980; establish current year value; project values for each subarea for the next 30 years; interview city and CRA commissioners and staff; interview the CRA bond and legal counsel and present report and findings to the CRA board and to the City Commission.
Part B covers comparative analysis of CRA as in other Palm Beach and Broward county cities, including date started, annual budget, expected sunset date and taxable value.
Part C calls for an economic analysis of the CRA contribution you are making and you are making will affect the city for generations, particularly the Northwest and Southwest neighborhoods," he said. "It needs to be understandable by me and my grandmother."
Briesemeister also said, "The CRA has been in existence so long that you have to go back to the microbase value. The county property appraiser has only one fiche reader, she said.

That prompted CRA Commissioner Bill Branning to ask what Munilytics would do in that case. "When data does exist but it is not convenient, we will do it by tax rolls," Wallace said.

CRA Commissioner Paul Zacks was captivated by Briesemeister’s presentation. "She read between the lines and knew what we wanted," he said. "As Mr. Ridley stated, this is an important process that will affect Delray for decades. I’m switching my vote to RMA."

But RMA wasn’t part of any move. CRA commissioners voted twice and were deadlocked 3-3 with Cathy Baleslire absent.
Finally CRA Commissioner Reggie Cox, who initially liked PMG because of its redevelopment experience, called the presentations great. "My decision was you are making will affect the city for generations, particularly the Northwest and Southwest neighborhoods," he said. "I need to be understandable by me and my grandmother."

Briesemeister also said, "The CRA has been in existence so long that you have to go back to the microbase value. The county property appraiser has only one fiche reader, she said.

Manalapan
Commission addresses swale parking and planting
By Dan Moffett
Manalapan town commissioners are moving forward with changes that will place new regulations on swales in Point Manalapan neighborhoods.

Town Attorney Keith Davis is drafting a new ordinance that will restrict the types of plants and vegetation that homeowners can plant on swales. Mayor Pro Tem Peter Israel suggested the regulations because of much planting, or use of the wrong plants, has contributed to the drainage problems Point Manalapan has experienced in recent years.

Davis is modeling the town’s new law on similar laws enacted in Ocean Ridge and North Palm Beach. Town Manager Linda Stumpf said the commission plans to consult with an arborist to determine what types of plants do not cause drainage problems, and should be permitted.

Commissioners also are working on a proposal for parking on swales to accommodate domestic help and visitors to residences. The town’s current low limits swale parking to four hours. Residents have concerns over parking on swales often have to work longer and guests want to visit longer. Commissioners at the July 28 meeting gave tentative approval to extending swale parking to eight hours. The change would not apply to construction workers. Commercial service providers, such as landscapers and plumbers, would be required to park in front of the home they are servicing and move their vehicles within the four-hour limit.

Mayor David Cheifetz offered concerns about commercial workers who need more than four hours to finish their jobs. "We all have driveways," he said. "They can park there." In other business, commissioners gave unanimous approval to a new three-year contract for Stumpf, effectively taking her out of the running for town manager openings in South Palm Beach and Ocean Ridge. Both towns had expressed interest in interviewing her.

Stumpf will earn $133,300 next year and $136,300 for the third year after, with a $400 monthly car allowance. The commission also approved a working budget of $500,000 for 2015 that Cheifetz said "should have been done in March but slipped through the cracks."• Drawdy Construction of Lake Worth, contractor for the West Atlantic Bridge replacement, has told the commission that it can’t begin work on the project until September, instead of August. Cheifetz wrote Jack Warner, Delray Beach chief financial officer in an email. "Unlike many other components of city services and contracts, fire service is not currently ‘broken.’" The county’s long-term objective is consolidation of all fire services. The opportunity for Delray will continue to be available if we do not decide this year; therefore no urgency.

Delray Beach provides fire-rescue services to the towns of Gulf Stream and Highland Beach. Those contracts expire next year.
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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. Deeded beach access. $698,000

Churchill - Delray Beach (403): Panoramic Intracoastal views! Rare 3 bed, 2½ bath spacious unit with southern exposure. Updated wood floors, fresh paint and plantation shutters. Blocks from Atlantic Avenue! Move-in ready! $538,000

Casa Costa – Boynton Beach (911): Breathtaking views from this corner 9th floor unit. The completely upgraded unit boasts tile flooring throughout, 3 bedrooms and 2 baths. Being offered furnished. $699,000

LENNY FELBERBAUM

Casa Costa – Boynton Beach (1211N): Forever water views from this chic designer decorated 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath desirable 12th floor unit in Casa Costa. Sold $750,000

7th Avenue - Delray Beach: Rare opportunity to own a pristine 1925 cottage home. The finest example of Historic Delray Beach. Steps to Atlantic Avenue. $799,000

Penthouse Delray Beach: Completely renovated 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom condo. Impact windows/doors, plantation shutters, stainless steel and granite kitchen, screened patio, community pool, Intracoastal waterway views. $399,000

Historic Delray Beach: 3rd oldest home in Delray Beach, perfect Key West charmer, ultimate location to live/work. Wraparound front porch, open floor plan with original hardwood floors, a fireplace, french doors! $825,000

Casa – Pineapple Grove (315): Light & bright, fully furnished pied-a-terre in Downtown Delray Beach! 1 bed/1 bath, turnkey unit, overlooking a private courtyard, high-quality porcelain tile, impeccable condition! $399,000

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**Lantana**

By Mary Thurwachter

Lantana has had the same tax rate for 15 years and that won’t change this year. The rate will remain at $3.24 per $1,000 of taxable value.

“That’s something the people should be proud of,” said Mayor Dave Stewart at the town’s July 13 meeting.

Because property values increased by 10.7 percent, residents will pay more taxes this year. For example, Stewart, who lives on Hypoluxo Island, paid $1,190 in town taxes last year and will pay $1,201 this year.

Anticipated property tax revenues for 2016 are $2.47 million, which is an increase of $236,003 over 2015. The town’s health insurance cost (including dental insurance) is projected to increase by 16 percent, to $1.14 million.

Employees are not expected to receive cost of living raises this year due to a stagnant consumer price index, but merit pay raises are anticipated, based on evaluations. And, at its July 27 meeting, the town approved a one-time $1,100 pre-tax payment for employees in recognition of their dedication.

Capital requests range from $35,000 for beach park playground replacement to $83,769 for two new police cars. Computer equipment, an air conditioner for the computer room, landscaping and irrigation projects and improvements to Sportsman’s Park projects (seawall and paving) are also on the list.

The council will hold public budget hearings at 5:30 p.m. Sept. 16 and Sept. 28 in Town Council Chambers.

**Town awards contract for kayak park**

Lantana’s plan to convert two side-by-side lots on North Lake Avenue into a kayak park advanced on July 27 when council members awarded a contract to develop the park to Rosso Site Development.

The Lake Worth firm will receive up to $153,255 to turn the lots, on the west side of the Intracoastal Waterway, into Lyman Kayak Park.

In December 2011, the town used money from its reserves to buy the lots at 106 and 122 N. Lake Drive for $1.2 million after a residential development fizzled, a victim of the economic slump. The same property sold for $5.3 million in 2006.

The plan calls for a kayak and canoe launch accessible to the disabled, an observation deck, fences, sidewalks, a parking lot for up to 31 cars and a parking kiosk. An existing pier will be upgraded.

The town secured a $250,000 Florida Inland Resources grant money will help club restore windows and doors

By Jane Smith

The Boynton Woman’s Club will be able to restore most, if not all, of the windows and doors in its historic headquarters on Federal Highway in Boynton Beach.

The club recently received a $140,000 state grant from the Florida Division of Historic Resources.

The club will put that money with a $50,000 grant from the Boynton Beach Community Redevelopment Agency and $10,000 in donations.

“It’s fantastic news,” said Warren Adams, Boynton Beach historic planner. He helped two club members prepare the state grant application.

Last summer, the club completed emergency restoration of several French doors and transoms in the second-floor ballroom. The building has 41 openings, including double French doors, transoms, casement windows with and without transoms, and a variety of single windows and doors.

The club will hire an architect to look at each opening and determine the restoration cost. “It’s very difficult to say with older buildings whether (the money) will cover the restoration cost,” Adams said. But it should cover most of them, he said.

Last fall, when the club received the Boynton Beach historic site designation, club President Michele Walter said, “We were able to verify the structure and the assistance from the CRA and City Commission in restoring our windows and doors. We are happy to be part of the revitalization of Boynton Beach.”

The state grant will allow the club to continue with its restoration work, “but much more work needs to be done to bring our building back to its former glory,” Walter said recently.

The clubhouse, on the National Register of Historic Places since 1979, was designed by famed architect Addison Mizner. He did his design "pro bono" because the building would cost more than $50,000. It contains classic Mizner features, such as a barrel-tile roof, arched windows, turquiose trim, pecky cypress trusses on the ceiling and French doors.

From the lobby on either side, two wide wooden staircases curve gracefully to the second floor, which is large enough to seat 400 people. The building opened in the fall of 1926.

Weddings, private celebrations and meetings take place there.

The club will remain open during the restoration.

**Beach parking price going up**

Starting in September, beach-goers who drive to Oceanfront Park in Boynton Beach will pay $10 to park their cars on holidays and weekends year-round and $10 in the winter months, defined as Nov. 16 to April 30. The $5 daily rate in the summer months will not increase.

“The parking lot closes 130 days out of the year because it’s full,” said Warren Adams, Boysnt Beach’s parks, recreation and programs coordinator. He said on July 20 when Boynton Beach held its budget workshop.

By Jane Smith

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**Boynton Beach**

Grant money will help club restore windows and doors

By Jane Smith

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By Jane Smith

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**Tax rate remains the same as the last 15 years**

By Mary Thurwachter

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The council will hold public budget hearings at 5:30 p.m. Sept. 16 and Sept. 28 in Town Council chambers.

**In other news:**

• The Town Council awarded Lantana’s new town manager, Linda Brien, a one-year contract on July 13, after she had been acting director.

• Mayor David Glenn announced the new mayor’s office will be located at a new building on North Eighth Street behind the former hospital site.

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By Jane Smith
The Pizza Guy won't be coming to Boynton Beach. But Johnnie Brown's might take his place.

Sal Campanile, who wanted to buy the Little House and the Magnuson House, backed out in early July. He sent an email to the Community Redevelopment Agency leaders on July 6 that his investors were withdrawing from the project and asked for another four to six weeks.

On July 14, the CRA board voted unanimously to terminate the contracts with Campanile's company for the historic homes. He had offered $325,000 for the Little House, also known as the Ruth Jones cottage, and $255,000 for the Oscar Magnuson House.

"We were more interested in his menu than his finances," said Joe Casello, vice mayor and CRA board member. "We can't stumble on this any longer, it's a huge partnership for the historic homes."

Campanile, a Boynton Beach resident who owns Mastino Wood Fire Kitchen in Delray Beach, spun a tale of growing up in Italy, describing his passion for pizza. He repeatedly said he had said $1.5 million to invest.

Most of the CRA board members blamed themselves, saying they had "egg on their faces." Two tried to blame the restaurant broker who brought Campanile to their attention.

"Maybe we should have been more vocal about vetting the clients," said Tom Prakas, the broker who also found Kaplan and West Palm Beach restaurateur Rodney Mayo.

"Everyone drank his (Campanile's) Kool-Aid. He is a great pizza maker, he threw pizzas in the air. I knew this guy is not closing. He was going to everyone I know in the industry asking for money, asking them to be his partner," Casello added.

Prakas said he couldn't attend the second meeting because of a prior commitment.

“I’d like for you to give us one more shot to do it professionally,” he said. “This time I will be more vocal about who I put in front of you.”

The board agreed by a 5-2 vote to hire his firm for four months. Casello and Commissioner Mack McCray voted no.

This time, potential buyers will have to provide two years’ tax returns, a credit report and an asated financial statement. Prakas said Kaplan is still interested in the properties, as are the owners of Johnnie Brown’s burger place in Delray Beach. The restaurant takes its name from the famed architect Addison Mizner’s pet monkey, Johnnie Brown. The restaurant’s father-and-son owners also once held 20 Primanti Bros. sandwich shops out of Pittsburgh, Prakas said.

The chain became known for sandwiches of grilled meat, coleslaw with a vinegar dressing, tomato slices and french fries between two slices of Italian bread.

They sold the chain to a hedge fund, Prakas said. “They want to do both of the properties,” he said. 

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Friedman takes council seat in Briny

By Dan Moffett

The Briny Breezes Town Council unanimously approved Ira Friedman on July 23 to fill an alderman’s seat that has been open most of the year. Friedman, 74, is a transplant from Boston who has lived in Briny for 18 years. A longtime member of the town’s Planning and Zoning Board, he has been an outspoken critic of high-rise condo development proposals along the A1A corridor.

Friedman, who is known for reminding Briny residents that they live on “the most beautiful 42 acres in Florida,” said friends and neighbors urged him to make his first venture as an elected official when “People came to me and asked me to do this,” he said. “I’ve got a lot of planning and zoning on my mind. But I’m new here on the council, so we’ll see how it goes.”

Friedman takes the seat vacated by Karen Wiggins in April. Wiggins, who moved to California, served several terms on the council, beginning in 2008.

In other business, council members gave preliminary approval to a proposed budget for the 2015-2016 fiscal year that keeps the current tax rate of $10 per $1,000 of assessed property value.

Briny’s taxable real estate values rose sharply over last year, increasing by 9 percent to $38.6 million, according to the Palm Beach County property appraiser. In 2014, values were at $35.4 million and rose a meager 0.52 percent from 2013. Officials credit much of the increase to homeowners who are improving their lots and replacing their units. Fees for building and zoning permits have nearly tripled since 2012.

The town’s budget has grown about 15.5 percent from $659,732 last year to a proposed $762,170. Widening sidewalks to accommodate new golf cart regulations will cost about $75,000, but council President Sue Thaler thinks that expense can be offset by increases in fees for certain police and fire-emergency medical services.

Council members have given up on the idea of raising revenues by increasing fines for parking violations. Town Attorney John Skrandel told the council that the $30 tickets Briny currently gives for standard violations is at the statutory limit and cannot be increased. 

Two grants will aid Boynton fire-rescue

Boynton Beach’s Fire Rescue Department recently received a $37,332 grant from Palm Beach County Emergency Management. The department will use the money to replace or update three battery-powered stretchers, which have been in service for the past seven years. The new state-of-the-art power stretchers will feature a more robust battery system and additional safety features for patients.

The department also received a $33,800 grant from the Florida Department of Transportation to enhance its EMS data collection ability. The money will be used to purchase electronic patient care reporting software and hardware, as well as establish an electronic EMS data collection system. The latter is intended to provide consistent submission of EMS incident data to the Bureau of Emergency Medical Oversight Pre-Hospital System for state compliance to the National EMS Information System. The ePCR system will streamline the documentation process for paramedics in the field and enhance their ability to extract patient data while establishing an electronic-based EMS data collection system to ensure a more accurate EMS billing process.

Boynton Beach provides fire rescue services to Ocean Ridge and Briny Breezes.

With both a library and a bookmobile, Briny readers are covered

By Ron Hayes

On Nov. 8, 2013, the Palm Beach County Bookmobile made its debut stop at the Ocean Ridge Town Hall, filled with books, CDs, DVDs and high hopes. A year later, the books, CDs and DVDs were still there, but the hopes had failed to soar.

When the library reluctantly decided to eliminate the Ocean Ridge stop last November, the only regular borrower was Briny Breezes council President Sue Thaler.

“I read a fiend and went to the bookmobile every two weeks when it came last year,” she explained. “I was crushed when they told me the Ocean Ridge stop was being discontinued.”

Why not come to Briny? she asked Ron Glass, the county’s outreach librarian, and beginning May 8, they did.

“They were able to start even sooner than we asked,” Thaler said, “and the turnout on the first day was amazing. I think at one point there was a line out the door.”

Ocean Ridge’s loss was Briny’s gain.

“We just didn’t get the turnout in Ocean Ridge, but here it’s been great,” Glass reports. “There’s a small-town feel to Briny, so the word gets out. From our very first day, they were here.”

Every other Friday at 1:30 p.m., the 40-foot book parks beside the community center for a 45-minute visit, and judging by the turnout July 17, the service isn’t likely to be canceled for lack of interest.

“This is the nicest library I’ve ever been in,” Brinnyte Nancy Boczon marveled as she waited to check out mysteries by Janet Evanovich and Mary Higgins Clark. “The only trouble is, you come here on Friday and spend your whole weekend reading. But it gets everybody together for a few minutes.”

Briny Breezes is the latest of 43 sites where the bookmobile brings its offerings.

“We carry 1,500 items on the bus and have another 1,500 in the warehouse,” says Glass. “We swap them out depending on the sites we’re visiting that day.”
10 Questions

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR: Susan Caruso

Susan Caruso has loved teaching since she was a youngster. “When I was in second grade I was the kid who volunteered to help the kindergarteners,” she recalls.

These days, the 62-year-old Boca Raton resident has come full circle. Caruso, the founder and executive director of Sunflower Creative Arts, is getting ready to begin her school’s 23rd year. And the school — which offers children of all ages and their families hands-on learning opportunities through play, nature and the arts — is moving into a new, larger facility in Delray Beach. There is an open house planned for Aug. 8, and classes for children from infancy through age 13 — as well as parents — will begin Aug. 24.

The new venue will include sensory, vegetable, butterfly and edible gardens and a plethora of trees. “Our renovations will allow us to be a licensed child care facility while keeping the beautiful, warm heart of the historic home,” she says about the venue that was hand-built in 1949.

“Our program offerings will more than triple to meet the needs of many more families. We will have one of the first nature playgrounds in southeast Florida and a special wing with its own mini playground for our parent-child and after-school programs.” That makes it even easier to continue the school’s mission, “to give children the freedom to discover their unique passions and the support necessary for each one to develop a strong personal voice.”

The arts are an important part of Caruso’s own life as well. “I taught flute lessons all through high school and college and was very involved in band, orchestra, jazz band and musical pit orchestra as well as theater in high school,” says Caruso, who graduated cum laude from the University of Miami with a bachelor’s in music with certification in education.

She plays the flute and also enjoys theater, films, travel, museums, history, gardening, yoga, architecture and food. And, for those who thought they knew this mother of two: “I played a wicked tenor sax and piccolo in a Latin dance band in Queens in the late ’70s.” — Linda Haase

Q. Where did you grow up and go to school and how did it influence you?
A. I grew up in Glassboro, a small college town in southern New Jersey close to Philadelphia’s Jersey shore and the Pine Barrens. Lots of trekking around in woods, farm stands with incredible tomatoes and peaches, the freedom and responsibility of walking to school every day no matter what the weather created my strong connection to and love of nature. I attended fairly progressive public schools due to the college and had quite a few exceptional teachers who were wonderful mentors.

Q. What professions have you worked in? What professional accomplishments are you most proud of?
A. In New York I worked in music publishing and retail at Charles Hanson, Carl Fischer and Frank Music. I also played flute and guitar duo and chamber music in Central Park, Greenwich Village, SoHo and many different venues in the city. Before Sunflower, I taught music enrichment and Mommy and Me classes at a dozen different preschools in Broward and Palm Beach County. I was the music director at Pine Tree Camps at Lynn University for eight years. I am most proud of creating Sunflower Creative Arts and couldn’t be more thrilled that we now have a home of our own in Delray Beach.

Q. What are some highlights of your life?
A. Spending four years in my 20s living and working in Manhattan, five springs in Paris and being the mother of two wonderful sons.

Q. What are your biggest challenges [at Sunflower Creative Arts]?
A. Making sure every family and potential volunteer who would love our unique philosophy is able to find us! Also, now that we have our own space and the ability to meet the needs of so many more families, I want to grow our scholarship fund so that financial status never gets in the way of a family participating.

Q. Who or what makes you laugh?
A. Children of all ages playing freely, running, climbing, pretending and getting messy outside always makes me smile. And Mark Rylance’s portrayal of Olivia in Shakespeare’s Twelfth Night. Absolutely hysterical and brilliant.

Q. What are some highlights of your life?
A. Helen Mirren or Meryl Streep, because they are fantastic actors and can portray strong women and their convictions.

Q. Do you have a favorite quote that inspires your decisions?
A. “Education is the kindling of a flame, not the filling of a vessel.” — Socrates

The school offers two programs free to the public. Regular tuition ranges from $204-$1159 per year depending on sessions chosen. An open house will be held 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Aug. 8 at 227 N. Dixie Blvd., Delray Beach. For more information, call 482-3412 or visit www.SunflowerCreativeArts.org.
Business Spotlight

Monogram Closet moving to letter-perfect new digs

By Scott Simmons

You could call Sabrina Amelung a Delray Beach pioneer.

Twelve years ago, long before Pineapple Grove had evolved into the hip area it is today, she opened The Monogram Closet, specializing in stitching initials onto clothing and accessories.

“Come Aug. 3, she hopes to reopen in a 1930 cottage that was moved to Delray Beach’s next retail frontier, the West Settlers Historic District, on Northwest Fifth Avenue, about two blocks west of the Tennis Center and a block north of Atlantic Avenue.

Amelung is banking on the change.

Pineapple Grove didn’t look like it does now, she said.

Many of the mixed-use buildings that now line Northeast Second Avenue were mere dreams in the minds of builders.

And there was a lot more parking.

“Now? ‘We hear it every day. ‘Can you hurry because I’m double-parked?’” she said.

And she’d have to remind customers that you can’t hurry custom orders.

That includes monograms on purses, tote bags, skirts, baby blankets — just about anything onto which you can stitch the fanciful initials.

It seems like a natural for Delray Beach and the towns along the barrier island, but The Monogram Closet was one of the first stores to specialize in personalizing apparel in southern Palm Beach County.

When I opened, no one knew about us. There was nothing around me in Pineapple Grove. We just kind of cultivated our customers,” Amelung said.

And now?

“All day long, we sell baby items. Monogramming tends to be more of a prepvy look, but even if you’re not preppy, people still like to use it on baby blankets and totes,” she said.

“What’s super hot? Initials on purses, more so than on tote bags. Walking around with your initial purse is very hot now.”

Of course, that’s what Amelung carries as well.

“I carry everything I sell on me all times,” she said laughing.

The shortcut Amelung took from Pineapple Grove to hope onto Interstate 95 led her to the cottage she is transforming into a store.

“I kept cutting through that little strip just to jump on 95. Those two little cottages are a store.

“Customers will now be able to park?” she said.

Amelung said. Her current lease for the CRA-owned building is four years, with options.

After all, it is the options — and word of mouth — that have kept The Monogram Closet going for 12 years.

“I had a lady pop in yesterday. She had flown in from Baltimore. She had seen a tote bag that was monogrammed and asked the lady where she got it. And the lady very nicely told her,” Amelung said.

And just like that, The Monogram Closet gained a new customer.

The Monogram Closet opens Aug. 3 at 182 NW Fifth Ave., Delray Beach. For details, call 921-0236 or visit www.monogramchist.com.

Sail Inn aims to keep old spirit in remodeled digs

By Thom Smith

Life in sleepy Delray Beach was a lot slower in 1953, and a lot simpler. A lot of water has passed under the Intracoastal Bridge since then — and two blocks to the west it was beer and liquor as the Sail Inn was a 20th-century Atlantis.

Government regulations have become more stringent, mushrooming from a few pages to encyclopedic, and mandating clean facilities, safe electrical wiring, all new plumbing, handicapped access, clean water and, especially, clean air.

In June, owner Rick Janke shut it down. But it’s only temporary. Call it a rehabilitative hiatus. And he’s going all out.

“We’ve ripped out everything, filled three dumpsters,” Janke said proudly as he rolled paint on the new walls. “The bar is brand new (glistening navy blue). The bathrooms are twice as big. We now have drinking fountains and they can be reached from a wheelchair. I told them I would give bottled water to anyone who wanted it, but we had to put in the fountains.”

When the Sail Inn was built, “Like Ike” was a catchphrase. The nation was wrapping up the war in Korea, its first face-off against the “communist menace.” The world had entered the nuclear age and any moment Soviet bombers could be rehaping South Florida into a 20th-century Atlantis.

“This place was built to be a bomb shelter,” Janke said.

“All the walls and the roof are concrete. I only live a couple of blocks away, but anytime we have a storm, I come here.”

Customers will now be able to see the original ceiling; the interior walls are brand new — and for the first time in decades, clean — but bare. All the old photos are gone: too infused with smoke, but Janke expects the walls eventually to be covered by new photos.

“We scraped a ton of nicotine off the walls,” Janke said. “Ugh. Now we’ve built a smoking area outside.”

Keeping with tradition, the Sail Inn will not prepare food, but hungry customers are encouraged to order in.

The Sail Inn has attracted its share of characters over the decades, including actor Danny Aiello, race drivers Geoff Brabham, ex-mayors and ex-cons and Palm Beachers in their velvet Prince Albert slippers from Stubbs & Wootton. One, Bob DeMario, fell so hard for the Sail Inn in the late ’80s that he bought it. He later sold it to one of his bartenders, Janke.

Janke will continue the Sail’s involvement with local charities; the music — sometimes recorded, sometimes live — will be back; and with space available, dancing will be encouraged, even if it occasionally turns a little racy.

With a target date of mid-August, loyal “Sail-ers” are already asking about a grand reopening. “I tell ‘em it’s gonna be a hundred [re-openings],” Janke said.

“That’s what it cost to fix it up, a hundred grand. But it’ll still be the same old stinking place … just without the stink.”
Business Spotlight

Hotels like Floridians’ response to summer deals

By Steve Pike

There was a time — not that long ago — when hotels and resorts along the beach had a “slow” season. The snowbirds were gone and the locals stayed home. That’s no longer the case. Thanks in large part to lower gas prices and attractive staycation packages, the area’s beach hotels and resorts are busy in the summer months as in the “season” winter months.

“The trend has changed in recent years with us seeing that summers have gained momentum and have a very healthy buzz,” said Colin Clark, general manager of The Four Seasons Resort in Palm Beach. “For the fourth year in a row we have experienced a record-breaking year. Palm Beach Island and the county continue to be buoyant with increasing visitors each year.”

The Four Seasons’ summer packages are good examples of how area hotels drive summer business, particularly among Florida residents. The resort offers Florida resident rates that begin at $159 per room, per night through September, as well as a third night free for guests over the same period.

Eau Palm Beach Resort & Spa in Manalapan also has a Florida residents’ rate that begins at $199 per night and includes free valet parking and free meals to kids under 12.

Among the summer promotions at the Delray Sands Resort in Highland Beach is one (online only) whereby guests pay the day’s high temperature for a room the first night of a stay. At the newly flagged Tideline Ocean Resort & Spa — A Kimpton Hotel (formerly The Omphoy) in Palm Beach, director of sales Kate Connor said, “We are definitely seeing increased occupancy.”

Tideline offers Florida residents weekday and weekend rates, as well as a “Summer Stay and Save” promotion that gives guests as much as 30 percent room rates. “It’s been a great summer all around for us as well as the other hotels in Palm Beach County,” Connor said. “We’re seeing a lot of last-minute bookings, but we’re also seeing a lot of people taking advantage of those summer offers.”

Summer guest demographics, said Connor, a longtime hotel executive in Palm Beach County, haven’t changed, “but they’re just coming in greater numbers.”

“The majority of the business at those hotels, she said, is from the summer drive market — guests who come from the Orlando and Miami areas to take advantage of the rates and the beaches.

“People realize they don’t have to go far for a great vacation,” Connor said.

South Palm Beach

Town Council looks for help in finding new manager

By Dan Moffett

South Palm Beach Town Council members are turning to an old friend and neighbor for help in finding a town manager who fits their community.

Kurt Bressner, who from 2000 to 2011 was Boynton Beach’s town manager, now works as a senior adviser for the Washington-based International City/County Management Association.

Bressner and other retired municipal officials in the group donate their time and experience to help local governments solve problems. And South Palm Beach is looking to them for all the help it can get right now.

Council members thought they had a town manager for the long haul when they hired Jim Pascale from Princeton, N.J., earlier this year. But after three months on the job, he resigned in June.

Pascale, 63, says he essentially was forced out by town officials who asked him for innovative ideas and then turned against him when he produced them.

“I began to be shunned by the elected officials,” Pascale wrote in an email to The Coastal Star. “Overnight, I became, ‘radioactive.’ They just wanted me, and my recommendations, to go away. They got their wish.”

Mayor Bonnie Fischer said Pascale “just didn’t understand” what was important to the town and its residents. Vice Mayor Joe Flaggello says it was Pascale who came forward, admitted the relationship wasn’t working and offered to leave.

“He told town officials it was best for the town and best for him to go,” Flaggello said. Now the council is committed to undoing the damage, he said, and getting the right person for the job.

“We’ve got a pretty good available pool of candidates,” Flaggello said. “I don’t think it will take many months to get someone in here.”

Four possibilities remain from the group the council interviewed along with Pascale late last year: Mark Kutney of Litchhatchee Groves, Robert Kellogg of Sewall’s Point, James Drumm of Zephyrills and Kenneth Sauer, formerly of Haines City. Linda Stumpf, Manalapan’s town manager who had been in the running, signed a three-year contract to stay in her current position last month.

Bressner said, with ICMA’s help screening and advising, South Palm Beach could have its position filled before the start of the tourist season.

“It’s a safe bet the next town manager won’t talk about dissolving the town, replacing the Police Department or spending millions on park space — as Pascale did.”

“When I was hired I was told they were looking for a fresh set of eyes,” he said. “I zealously fulfilled their wishes, working feverishly, day and night, seven days a week. They got what they paid for, and much more.”

Pascale said when some residents objected to his brainstorming, council members gave him no support and, worse, shunned him.

“They developed feet of clay when a vocal minority voiced their objections before the public review process even began,” he said. “I was never told to slow down or stay away.”

Pascale says the town can’t go on ignoring its problems and deficiencies.

“My separation from South Palm Beach will allow the town to go back to its political leadership style of kicking-the-can-down-the-road,” he said. “But it will only be a temporary respite. Sooner or later, the recommendations I proposed will be publicly addressed. It is inevitable.”

In other business, on July 28 council members unanimously approved keeping the town’s tax rate at $4.32 per $1,000 of assessed taxable value. South Palm Beach has had the same millage rate for the last seven years, despite losing half its property value during the 2008 Florida real estate crash.

Proposed tax rate: $4.32 per $1,000 of taxable value 2014-15 tax rate: $4.32 per $1,000 of taxable value Change in property value: 5.4 percent increase Total budget (operating and capital): $1.84 million Public hearings: 5:01 p.m. Sept. 10 and 6:15 p.m. Sept. 22 at Town Hall.

New home construction in South Palm Beach
Delray ranks No. 3 as happiest seaside town

I n line with votes cast by Coastal Living magazine's readers and website visitors, Delray Beach ranked third on its list of the "Happiest Seaside Towns."

Here’s what Coastal Living’s editors had to say about Delray Beach: "Talk about a place that has its priorities in order. At the heart of this fun-loving city of 61,231 are two miles of glorious white-sand public beach where sky blue cabanas and loungers stand ready to serve. Just a bit of Côte d'Azur meets Old Florida. But there's nothing snooty about Delray. Enjoying the influences of tony Palm Beach 24 miles to the north and urbane Miami 50 miles to the south, the city has quietly grown its own sense of culture, including a lively nightlife that parties on weekends, an up-and-coming arts district, a world-class tennis facility, beautiful Japanese gardens, and a seafood museum."

Delray Beach is home to 61,231 people, including 12 senior communities, 34 hotels and motels, and 187 restaurants. Its annual event calendar attracts more than 1 million visitors per year, generating more than $200 million in revenue. The city has a diverse economy, with a strong focus on tourism, retail, and real estate, and is home to several notable businesses, including Lush, a leading home fragrance and beauty brand, and a local seafood restaurant, Cozi.

The city is also known for its excellent public schools, with 16 elementary schools, 7 middle schools, and 4 high schools. It is home to the Community High School, a magnet school for the performing arts, and the Community Middle School, a magnet school for the sciences.

Delray Beach is a walkable city, with many amenities within walking distance, such as the Delray Beach Performing Arts Center, the Delray Beach Tennis Center, and the Delray Beach Museum of Art. The city is also home to the Delray Beach Farmers Market, which is held every Saturday morning.

The city is well-connected by public transportation, with buses and trolley services available. It is also home to several major employers, including Delray Beach Community Hospital, the Delray Beach Police Department, and the Delray Beach Fire Department.

Delray Beach is a great place to live, work, and play, with a strong sense of community and a commitment to excellence in education and the arts. It is a city where people come together to celebrate life and enjoy all that it has to offer.
Ground breaking
500 Ocean, Boynton Beach – July 9

Altamonte Springs-based LeCesse Development Corp’s 500 Ocean broke ground July 9 on the southwest corner of Federal Highway and Ocean Avenue. The project, to be built in phases, will comprise 341 apartments, 13,300 square feet of retail space and 6,600 square feet of office space, with the first part expected to be completed in the summer of 2016.

In exchange for $4.49 million in incentives over the next 10 years, the developer will build the apartments to a special green building certification in return for the City of Boynton Beach’s commitment to provide three electric vehicle charger stations as well as include office space. The money will come from tax revenue created from the construction. Above: (l-r) Boynton Beach City Commissioner Mike Fitzpatrick, Vice Mayor Joseph Casello, Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Jonathan Porges, Boynton Beach Mayor Jerry Taylor, Community Redevelopment Agency board member Woodrow Hay, CRA Executive Director Vivian Brooks and MSA Architect’s George Mouirz turn dirt with ceremonial shovels at the ground breaking. Taylor Jones/The Coastal Star; rendering provided

Boynton Beach resident Claudia Bartra, co-founder and CEO of La Granja Restaurants, will be one of 12 Latinas honored for their contributions to South Florida communities at the Hispanic Women of Distinction charity luncheon in Davie on Aug. 16. The event is presented by Bank of America in partnership with Latina Style magazine, and co-sponsored by Baptist Health South Florida, Latin Business Today, Univision Networks and Sylvestre Cancer Center.

La Granja, a family-owned business that began 20 years ago, has more than 40 restaurants, including some franchises owned by former employees. For locations, visit lagranjarestaurants.com.

Hair Cuttery, a family-owned and operated chain of hair salons, plans to donate back-to-school haircuts to children in need this August through its 16th annual Share-A-Haircut program. From now through Aug. 15, for every child up to age 18 who purchases a haircut at one of Hair Cuttery’s salons, one free haircut certificate will be donated to an underprivileged child in that same community.

“The first day of school everyone deserves to look and feel their best, and our stylists love nothing more than being able to give children in their community a much deserved boost of confidence,” said Dennis Ratner, Hair Cuttery’s founder and CEO.

Certificates are distributed with the help of local government and community nonprofit organizations. To date, the Share-A-Haircut program has reached more than $925,000 children with haircut certificate donations, valued at $16.65 million. To find a nearby salon, visit haircuttery.com.

In June, the Realtors Association of the Palm Beaches’ Young Professionals Network hosted its annual White Affair Fundraiser, which raised $8,900 to benefit Dress for Success Palm Beaches and Pay It Forward. Event sponsors included All My Sons Moving and Storage; cornerstone Lending; ASD Surfaces A Francois and Co. Company; Picture It Sold Photography; Braman Motorcars; Tito’s Handmade Vodka; Kendra Scott Jewelry; Ham Studios “Highly Ambitious”; The Sugar Monkey and Title Trust.

Women artists, ages 55 years and older, who live or work in Palm Beach County, have up until Aug. 7 to apply for the Dina Baker Fund for Mature Female Artists at the Cultural Council of Palm Beach County. The $10,000 fund, which aims to stabilize and strengthen the careers of qualifying artists, can be used to support professional development, arts-related exhibition expenses, equipment, supplies, health care costs and/or basic living expenses. For information on how to apply, call the Cultural Council at 471-2901.

The Bachelor of Science in nursing program at Palm Beach State College has earned accreditation from the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing. For information about the program, visit www.palmbeachstate.edu/ programs/bachelor.

Also the college’s ophthalmic medical technology program, the first of its kind in South Florida, was recently awarded accreditation by the Commission of Accreditation of Ophthalmic Medical Programs. This program is one of 30 nationwide to earn this accreditation and one of five programs in the U.S. accredited for certified ophthalmic medical technologist training. For more information, visit www.palmbeachstate.edu/ programs/OMT.

Dr. Richard Staller of Advanced Dentistry of South Florida, through a Palm Beach County inter-agency council for persons with developmental disabilities grant, will provide a free dental care day to clients of the Jewish Association for Residential Care on Aug. 17. This “Caring Heart Day” will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Advanced Dentistry South Florida, 15340 Jog Road, Suite 100, Delray Beach. Staller along with Dr. Naved Fatmi, owner of Regency Court Dentistry, in partnership with Palm Beach County Dental Hygiene Association, will provide pro-bono dental care to these clients at this event. For information, call 495-2099.

Send business news to Christine Davis at cdavis@979@gmail.com.
Exceptional Homes

109 Bonito Drive • Ocean Ridge
Beautiful Mediterranean home on 100 ft. deep water. Just seconds to the Boynton Beach Inlet. Spacious, light filled and open. Top quality finishes throughout. Features include a large first floor bedroom plus library, second floor master suite with balcony for watching the sunset over the Intracoastal. Fireplace and 3-car garage. $2,490,000

120 Dolphin Road • Ocean Ridge
Beachside Perfection! Stunning contemporary 4BR/3.5BA totally updated home shows like new. Elegantly decorated and landscaped just two houses away from 100 ft. of deeded beach. Soaring ceilings, light filled rooms, dramatic staircase, 2 master bedrooms, 42 ft. heated pool and spa, state-of-the-art electronics, sound system and much more. $1,550,000

1 Beachway Drive • Ocean Ridge
Move-in ready 4BR/4.5BA fully updated coastal home with 100 ft. of deeded private beach. Soaring ceilings, luxurious and spacious floorplan, brand new impact glass. First floor master bedroom suite, custom eat-in kitchen, plantation shutters and much more. Lushly landscaped garden and pool area, perfect for indoor and outdoor entertaining. $1,450,000

Val Coz
Realtor Associate

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Along the Coast

Shall We Dance?

Boca’s Ballroom Battle to benefit college-scholarship program

By Amy Woods

A footloose and fancy-free fundraiser for the George Snow Scholarship Fund has brought together eight amateur rug-cutters who will twirl their way across the parquet Aug. 28.

Boca’s Ballroom Battle — an evening of dining and dancing — pairs local volunteers who have agreed to shake their “groove thang” with professionals from Fred Astaire dance studios in Boca Raton. This year’s theme: the ’80s.

“All of these individuals are givers,” Debi Feiler, the fund’s vice president of program services, said of the hand-picked hoofers. “They all have, at one point, been out there in some charitable fashion doing something for the community.”

The lineup is comprised of Brian Altschuler, Peg Anderson, Elias Janetis, Frank McKinney, Holly Meehan, Chris Nichols, Donna Parlapiano and Wendy Sadusky. Each is tasked with bringing in as much money as possible through pledges. *The Coastal Star* caught up with McKinney, Meehan and Sadusky to ask them why they dare to dance.

See BALLROOM on page AT6
Boynton Intracoastal Group kickoff meeting
Private home, Boynton Beach – July 17

The Boynton Intracoastal Group marked its kickoff with a meet-and-greet party at the home of Boynton Beach Commissioner Michael Fitzpatrick and wife Lisa Hanley. Residents from Sterling Village, Snug Harbor, Seagate of Gulfstream, Hampshire Gardens, Colonial Clubs I & II and Los Mangos make up the BIG group. The coalition is designed to promote information-sharing, enhanced security, civic involvement and a fun, social time for members. Dues and fundraising efforts go toward purchasing fuel for the Citizens on Patrol car.

RIGHT: (l-r) Peggy Nugent, BIG secretary, with Fitzpatrick and Hanley. Also in attendance were members of a similar group, Inlet Cove Association, Vice Mayor Joseph Casello and Boynton Beach Police Department Crime Prevention Officer Rita Swan. Photo provided

Soroptimist installation luncheon
Tavern at the Wick, Boca Raton – June 20

To commemorate a successful year, Soroptimist International of Boca Raton & Deerfield Beach celebrated by touring The Wick Theatre & Costume Museum and dining beneath antique chandeliers. The highlight of the afternoon was the announcement of the 2015-16 board of directors in a themed ceremony that had each member receiving a colored ribbon that collectively was woven into a pattern, symbolizing a friendship bracelet and enabling the women to go out and do good deeds for the community. ABOVE: (l-r) Director Maureen Burke, Treasurer Cynthia Cummings, Jennifer Fulton, Gwen Herb, Vice President of Membership Elke Schmidt and Honorary Director Helen Babione. Photo provided by Barbara McCormick

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Boca Festival Days

AUGUST 1-8

Saturday - 8/12 - Summer Spectacular: Works of American Masters at FAU University Theatre, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Presented by Boca Ballet Theatre. Sat 7:30 pm; Sun 2 pm. $50 students, $60 seniors & children. 954-6888; boca ballet.org


Tuesday - 8/14 - A Night of Brazilian Jazz at ZigZagler in Town Center Boca Raton, 6000 Glades Rd. Benefits Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce Women’s leadership fund. 6-7 pm. $25/society, $85/dinner table. 561-844-0620; heprostirankampa.org

Wednesday - 8/15 - Guided Tour Boca Raton Resort & Club at Community Table, 1901 Boca Raton Blvd. Benefits Tri-County Humane Society. 5:30-6:15 pm meet and greet adorable dogs; 6:30-8:30 pm all-inclusive 3-course dinner. $50. 482-1251; tricountyanimalrescue.com

Saturday - 8/18 - Movers and Shakers at DaVinci’s of Boca at Town Center Boca Raton. Benefits Junior Achievement of South Florida. Silent auction. 6-9 pm. $25-150, includes 2 drinks, cigar, hor d’oeuvres. 954-979-7124; boca chamber.com

Tuesday - 8/21 - Battle of the Bartenders at M.E.A.T. Eatery, 980 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. All locations around town. 1-5 pm. $50. 239-5483; bocaratonchamber.com

AUGUST 9-15

Monday - 8/10 - Margarita Monday of Boca’s Tacos & Tequilas, 5256 Town Center Cir, Boca Raton. Benefits Kids’Futbol Foundation. 5:30-7 pm. $25/society. Includes 2 signature drinks, appetizers. 954-844-2000; kids futbolfoundation.org

Tuesday - 8/11 - Place of Hope Back to School Pep Rally at Lakeside Terrace, 7880 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. Benefits Boca Chamber of Commerce. Benefits Campion Youth Project. Honoror: Mary Wang, President, Office Depot Foundation. 7-9 pm. $50/advance; $60/at the door. 391-7401; bocaratonchamber.com

Tuesday - 8/12 - Dog Days of Summer Cooking Class at Palate Airing Cooking School Polo Club Shoppe, 5500 Champion Blvd, Boca Raton. Benefits Tri-County Humane Society. 5-8 pm. $45. 30-3 pm all-inclusive 3-course dinner. 561-482-8170; boca animalsrescueinc.com

Thursday - 8/13 - Football Fever at Community Table, 1901 Boca Raton Blvd. Benefits Making a Difference; drawings and giveaways. 5:30; game time 8:30. $10 at the door (includes 2 soft drinks, pizza). 687-5743; web.bocaratonchamber.com

AUGUST 16-22

Monday - 8/17 - 2nd Annual Boca’s Got Talent at Strikes @ Boca, 21046 Commercial Blvd, Boca Raton. Sponsored by Seniors Helping Seniors, benefits The Alzheimer’s Association. Silent auction. 8 pm meet and greet adorable dogs; 6:30-8:30 pm all-inclusive 3-course dinner. $50. 482-1251; Boca Festival Days signature event. 7-10 pm. $75/regular; $120/VIP . 395-4433; thesymphonia.org

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AUGUST 23-29

Monday - 8/24 - Martinis Monday at Salt Steakhouse, 6010 Camino Real, Boca Raton. Benefits The Arc of Palm Beach County. $25. 561-842-6230; arcfl.org

Wednesday - 8/26 - Lip Sync Battle at Blue Martini at Town Center Boca Raton, 6000 Glades Rd. Benefits Best Kid-N Cat Careline Generation Hope. 6:30-8:30 pm. $25/society, $50/table. Silent auction 3:30-5:30 pm. 395-4433; bocaratonchamber.com

Wednesday - 8/27 - The Winner’s Circle at H.M.T. Eaton, 9841/9846 Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Benefits Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce. All tips and portion of proceeds benefit Best Foot Forward Foundation. 5:30-7:30 pm. $25/advance; $35/at the door. 395-4433; bocaratonchamber.com

Tuesday - 8/28 - 5th Annual White Coats-4-Care Reception benefiting the League of Ribbons, Lynn Cancer Institute. 4:30-6:30 pm. Reservations (mention “Dip for LCI”): 997-7472; kidsafefoundation.org

Saturday - 8/29 - Wine & All That Jazz at Deering Bay Yacht Club, 1251 Northeast 104th Ave, Miami. Benefits The Alpert Jewish Community Foundation. 5:30-7:30 pm. $25 advance; $30 at the door. 395-4433; bocaratonchamber.com

AUGUST 30-SEPTEMBER 5


Monday - 8/31 - Zinburger Bash for the Red Cross at Zinburger Wine & Burger Bar at Town Center Boca Raton, 7880 Glades Rd. Benefits American Red Cross. Genrous sampling of burgers, salads, side dishes, milkshakes. 6-8 pm. 515-430-9315; tricountyanimalrescue.com

Pay it Forward

Boca Chamber Festival Days spices up summer

By Amy Woods

August in Boca Raton used to comprise 31 druggery, droplike days. Not anymore. The month will outshine the summer sun with the arrival of Boca Chamber Festival Days.

The annual event that pairs for profit businesses with nonprofit organizations and raises awareness, funds and support for local charities has transformed the off-season.

The slow month of August is no longer slow,” said Sarah Pearson, senior vice president of external relations for the Greater Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce. “It’s a way for us to keep the economy going, keep people out and about.”

City residents definitely will have a reason to be out and about this month as more than 30 social gatherings are on the calendar.

The first fundraiser took place a few days early — July 28 — with Women in Distress of Broward County’s Clothes Off Our Backs donation drive for needy families.

Other events planned for the month from the well-known White Coats-4-Care Reception benefiting Florida Atlantic University’s Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine, to the always-entertaining Boca’s Got Talent! benefiting the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation.

Boca Raton’s Summer Spectacular — Works of American Masters, Tri-County Animal Rescue’s Dog Days of Summer and the League of Ribbons’ FondueRaiser add to the well-rounded schedule of activities. “It’s just a focused way to give back in general,” Pearson said. “That’s why I think it’s different. Some events are fun. Some are serious. Some make you cry. It’s pretty amazing.”

Jon Sahn has chaired Boca Chamber Festival Days for three consecutive years and said the 2015 installment promises to be one of the best.

“Over the last three years, we’ve really kicked it up a notch with the events and the events,” Sahn said. “Obviously, the goal is to create awareness of all the amazing not-for-profits that we have that are part of the chamber.”

The chamber helps forge partnerships between event-sponsoring for-profits and reward-reaping nonprofits and also markets and promotes the festival online and through social media. A breakfast kicked it all off to the 1,500 members.

“By creating awareness, you’re creating opportunities for bringing new donors to these charities, bringing new volunteers to these charities, bringing board members and resources to these charities,” Sahn said. “If you’re involved in something that makes your community better, it’s good for business.”

He said he plans to attend at least 25 events.

“Philanthropy and community involvement is something that I believe in,” Sahn said. “This is like the best time of the year for me.”

The shop’s open! August best time to...
Around Town

Daley sisters running for glory on track

Running may be the purest form of athletic endeavor, but except for the Olympics and the Boston Marathon, it is usually ignored. So many people have never heard of the Schapperts. Oh, sure, folks connected with Pope John Paul II High School know. And the cognoscenti at Villanova and the United States Track and Field Federation. But with a lot of skill and a little luck, Nicole and Stephanie may soon distance. Mom and dad, too.

Nicole Schappert Tully, winner of the 15:05 time in her first 5,000 meter race, qualified for the National Fallen Firefighter Foundation’s All-American Track Meet at Villanova. Jane Ackerman Schappert was an All-American swimmer at Cardinal Newman and Villanova. Her kids have a good chance of joining her in the Palm Beach County Sports Hall of Fame.

Victoria School

Palm Beach. The reception was at Edward Catholic Church. Her 15:05 time in her first 5,000 meter race qualified her for the NJ/NY Track Association’s meet at the University of Miami, for the run-up 11 percent from 2013. For 2014, raking in $1.69 billion, 38 percent of Coral Sky’s all-time classic shows.

The dipturus is involved, the only thing strange about the 500,000 grand prize was a strange name for a tour, but for the others music helps, as well as a rancid taste. At the micro-brewery, the Dipturus left him with a strange taste.

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hazelnuts, pine nuts and crispy malanga chips, and best cheek ramen topped with grilled scallions and poached quail eggs, nestled in broth fortified with smoked soy blew the judges away.

The final elimination round is set for Aug. 5 between Chris Miracolo of $3 on Fort Lauderdale Beach and Blake Malatesta of Delray's 50 Ocean.

Franco was hardly dismayed by the loss as he has lots of work ahead at Oceans 234, which is being completely renovated.

Comings and goings: After a two-month delay, Tap 42 finally opened in mid-July at the Shops at Boca Center. A popular Lauderdale spot for years, Tap 42, as in 42 beers on draft, is craft beer-based but customers are also drawn to such menu items as the Prohibition Burger, only $5 on Monday nights.

After 39 years, 264 The Grill in Palm Beach has served its last lobster. The building, a Roaring '20s-era Addison Mizner design, has been sold and restaurant owners Patricia Gatti and Avery Watson were given a week to vacate. They're looking for a new location.

Fans of Sunday's jazz jams can still catch the Susan Merrill Trio at Zuccarello's on Okeechobee Boulevard in West Palm Beach.

The Fourth of July weekend pumped new life into Lake Worth's Bamboo Room. The reopening of the club attracted more than 1,600 customers, more than enough to persuade the new owners to continue the trial.

Plans are to open Friday and Saturday nights through the summer and early autumn and then expand to a five-night schedule.

Owners Ryan Mueller and Blaine Minton will continue the live music tradition, but will probably add a small cover charge, offer a light sandwich-based menu and expand on the roots music format established by the club's founder Russ Hibbard. Blues and jazz will be supplemented by rock, country, reggae and more.

We reported last month that Pizzeria Oceano, the extremely popular personal pizza joint in Lantana, was no longer serving pizza, as owner Dak Kerprich was moving the pie operation to Swell Pizza in Delray. Well, the name Pizzeria is gone and the Oceano part seems to be leaving. The new name, Jerk Oceano, is shortened Irie-style to "Jerk O." The fare still

Dining

Two Georges at Cove serves 8 perfect shrimp

The Plate: Shrimp Kabob
Where: Two Georges at The Cove, 1754 SE Third Court, Deerfield Beach; 954-421-9272 or www.twogeorgesrestaurant.com/thecove
The Price is right
The Skinny: We have been craving shrimp lately. Call us prawns in the game of life.

But there is something so satisfying in a meal of the firm, plump shellfish. You can butter them, bread them, stick coconut on them, but they really don't need a lot of fuss for their flavor to shine through.

And that's why we were drawn to the shrimp skewers at Two Georges.

The dish consists of eight good-size gulf shrimp served with a skewer of bell peppers, cherry tomatoes and onion.

We ordered ours blackened, so they had a mild spice, but that didn't keep the fresh shrimp flavor from shining through.

Our server said most people order this dish served over a rice pilaf, but it's not every day that you can get a baked potato, which is what we ordered.

Also good: The Crab Imperial ($24.99), which was all crab and no filler, and the grouper (also $24.99), a wonderfully fresh piece of fish that was perfectly cooked.

— Scott Simmons
Shall We Dance?
Boca’s Ballroom Battle to benefit college-scholarship program

Frank McKinney
Occupation: Real-estate artist
Residence: Delray Beach
Dance partner: Pam Casanave
Song: You Shook Me All Night Long, by AC/DC

CS: Is dancing difficult?
FM: I am very athletic, so I thought, “Wow, this dancing thing should be pretty easy.” That was certainly learned to be untrue.
CS: Have you ever done anything like this before?
FM: Never, but I love the feeling of experiencing things that are well beyond my comfort zone, and I have two left feet. I’ve stepped on my partner’s toes a few times. I’ve probably broken her toes.
CS: What is your goal?
FM: To raise enough money to cover five scholarships. I never had a chance to go to school, so to be able to send kids who can’t afford it means a lot to me.

Holly Meehan
Occupation: Volunteer extraordinaire
Residence: Boca Raton
Dance partner: James Brann
Song: Footloose

WS: What is your goal?
CS: Who recommended you?
HM: My husband David and I took dance lessons 10 years ago before our wedding, but I’m not sure that counts.
CS: What is your goal?
HM: Breaking previous records is always my goal — anything to raise the bar. Like any charity organization, it makes a difference to see volunteers really get involved and show their passion, and if I can dance my way to help a local student get funding for college, how could I say no?

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www.churchofthepalms.net

If You Go
What: Boca’s Ballroom Battle
When: 5 to 11 p.m., Aug. 28
Where: Boca Raton Resort & Club, 501 E. Camino Real
Cost: $75
Information: Call 347-6799 or visit scholarship.org

Wendy Sadusky, designing housewife, strikes a pose with dance partner Jacob Jennings at Fred Astaire dance studios in Boca Raton. Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

Wendy Sadusky
Occupation: Designing housewife
Residence: Boca Raton
Dance partner: Jacob Jennings
Song: Hey Mickey, by Toni Basil

CS: What is your background?
WM: Those were my pastels and Madonna lace.
CS: What is your goal?
WM: It’s really, really fun. I’ve never danced, though, so it’s really something different. It’s about lines and angles and trying to make yourself look good.
CS: What is your goal?
WS: $25,000. The opportunity to give these children a chance to go to college is so important. They’re kids that work hard, get good grades, and they would have zero chance without funding.

If you go:
What:
When:
Where:
Cost:
Information:

Holly Meehan, photographer and volunteer, busts a move with dance partner James Brann.
Cultural Council hopes to bring harmony, success to area musicians

By Bill Meredith
ArtPaper Art Writer

As emails go, one from May 28 proved unusual enough that it needed to be re-read. It was from Kathleen Alex, chief financial officer at the not-for-profit Cultural Council of Palm Beach County, inviting area musicians and music biz types to a June 15 meeting at the organization’s Lake Worth headquarters.

And while the underlying purpose may have been to get attendees to enroll in the council’s still-new Musicians Services program (a mission it accomplished), this email contained welcome language. Alex wrote that she, along with visitors services and music coordinator Marlon Foster and Chief Financial Officer Kathleen Alex prep for an event. Photo by Michael Colanero

and further promote a thriving musical community in Palm Beach County. And the meeting — even if it was based mostly on common-sense issues — proved a good foundation to build upon. The council’s $60 annual membership is primarily for fledgling individual artists; the $125 performer membership for established working musicians, and the $250 band membership a discounted group rate for five people or fewer, with escalating benefits like listings, discounted advertising, and prospective paid performances at council events and area venues.

In many attendance June 15 were already members, including singer/songwriters Jason Hanley, Craig McNinis and JC Dwyer, drummer Jeff Abbott (whose jazz group Sugawack had joined as a band), and regional School of Rock owner Rick Rothschild — whose son, singing guitarist Ben Rothschild, also joined as a band with his group of fellow students, Jumbo Shrimp. With only word-of-mouth advertising, the council had 24 memberships and growing after its first year, including Julius and Julia Sanna’s cultural group Positively Africa, former Greenwich Village singer/songwriter Rod MacDonald, and some of the area’s best guitarists, from blues (Mario LaCasse) to jazz (Jim McCready) to fusion (Frank Axtell).

Prospective members who attended the meeting included Bamboo Room entertainment. See MUSICIANS on page ATB

Morikami inhabited by iconic, mythic robots and creatures

By Gretel Sarmiento
ArtPaper Art Writer

If I told you the first hotel run solely by robots just opened and it features a dinosaur concierge, where in the world would you picture it? It counts if you mention anywhere in Japan — though, technically, it opened in Nagasaki.

The Land of the Rising Sun is also proving to be the most machine-loving, with an avowedly robot culture and a robotic technology that is boundless. Although, we wouldn’t necessarily deduce this from Japan’s Robot Kingdom: There are simply not enough robots in this exhibit housed in the Morikami Museum through Sept. 13. An easy fix is to leave at home our adult expectations and bring our inner child. This is a quality-over-quantity type of show.

The young-at-heart audience is bound to get captivated by this animal aids our acceptance of this animal. Zoids like him belong to one of two opposing forces: the Helic Republic or the Zebas Empire. A member of the Republic, Dibison shows the characteristics of a mad bull ready to crush the enemy lines with its sharp metal horns. This 1888 model comes in black and green, and we can tell, from the massive cannons mounted on its back, it is not a toy to play with but to battle with. The I-Sobot, with its boxy torso and claw-like hands, can fool us into thinking height is proportionate to ability. At less than 7 inches tall, this little guy can move its joints freely and perform more than 200 movements, including standing on its head, doing pushups and dancing the Hula. It contains a library of 200 words and phrases and responds to basic voice commands. As impressive as that sounds, the most remarkable thing displayed is not an object that speaks to Japanese technical ingenuity but to the heart behind it. Paro is a therapeutic robot that provides comfort and relief to patients living with emotional and physical stress. Keeping in mind that negative associations develop sometimes with commonly known animals, Japan came up with a soft and nurturing robot that provides comfort and relief to patients living with emotional and physical stress. Keeping in mind that negative associations develop sometimes with commonly known animals, Japan came up with a soft and nurturing robot with emotional and physical stress. Keeping in mind that negative associations develop sometimes with commonly known animals, Japan came up with a soft and nurturing robot.

Shin Getto Robo action figure (2001). Morikami photo
director Ryan McInnis, who helped parley the venue’s soft July 2-4 reopening into a recent permanent one before being replaced by general manager Ben Foster, promotion; and ‘zine impresario Steev Rullman (Pure Honey); and reggae bandleader, vocalist and percussionist Marlon Foster. Alex and Blades deftly held the meeting together. All three play or have played instruments, have spent significant time in musical hotbeds, and therefore have strong backgrounds in the art. Blades hails from Houston, one of the epicenters of Texas music, and played the flute while often witnessing live opera and classical music with her family. At the June 15 meeting, she furiously wrote out notes on a mounted oversize pad while the suggestions flew. Still, it’s Foster and Alex who are in charge of the membership program’s nuts, bolts and purse strings. Alex dabbles in multiple instruments and is from Buffalo, N.Y., solo and with fellow West Palm Beach-based singer/guitarist Dwyer in Dover, and is also a visual artist who’s a council member in both media. "It seems geared toward the greater good, which means like-minded individuals can help it grow organically. Every scene has its good people, and this can help to find them." "The Cultural Council has been around for 38 years, and has always been involved with visual artists," Blades said, "but never in such a day-to-day way as it’s become with our Visual Artists Services program. When we moved into our Lake Worth location in January of 2012, we knew the community would lend itself toward us serving all artists. And with Marlon and Kathleen’s help, the musicians are coming on board." They’ll need some time to catch up to the visual artists. "Between individuals and organizations," Alex said, "I’d say we have about 120 visual arts members. But I’m hoping we can get to the next level musically this year by getting to 100." The stately former movie theater at 601 Lake Ave. is certainly better-suited to art exhibitions than to concerts, but that hasn’t stopped Foster and Alex. They’ve presented several shows by members among their “Lobby Desk Concerts” during the past year, along with monthly open mics in an interior room. All council events resume with more frequency once tourist season starts in October. "Marlon was practically overjoyed after the meeting," Alex said, “both with how many people showed up and how much they were willing to voice their opinions.” "We want to have future meetings for other topics and updates," said Foster, “but things that were discussed that we can work toward right away include contract templates for gigs, trying to connect through Facebook and other social mediums. And I still think people will come out more if they’re offered quality entertainment. I know I do!" How long it might take for area audiences to know or care more about quality and creativity over karaoke, soloists with programmed backing tracks, and other lowest-common-denominator ilk is the unanswered question. But the council didn’t just end up in Lake Worth — a throwback small-town artistic community that’s resisted commercialization — by coincidence. "We liked the idea of being integral in helping the community build through the arts,” Blades said. Foster says he wants the Musicians Service effort to “change things, even though it’ll take awhile.” "I want area musicians to be valued for their work, and to help them to negotiate better and not have to settle. We can be a good backup for musicians, and help all of our work together to form a musical community; to help one another out rather than undercut."
Symphony of the Americas joins Austrian orchestra for Summerfest

By Greg Stepianich

For nearly 25 years, the musicians of the Symphony of the Americas have presented Summerfest, a series of concerts and cultural exchanges that take the Fort Lauderdale-based group to other parts of the Americas as well as venues across the tri-county area and Treasure Coast.

This summer, the group’s string section is joined by the Arpeggione Chamber Orchestra of Hohenems, Austria, a group that has worked with SOTA in 2005 and 2007. The two groups will present the final two concerts of Summerfest on Aug. 7 at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton and Aug. 8 at the Parker Playhouse in Fort Lauderdale.

“With the String section of the orchestra, we’ll have an opportunity to experience music that kind of music, so no matter where we go, it’s just like a transformation,” LaBonte said. “In every country, they haven’t always had the opportunity to hear that kind of music, so no matter where we go, it’s just like a transformation.”

Outreach is a central part of the orchestra’s mission during Summerfest, and LaBonte said the group has been responsible for the seeding of school string programs in several schools in Panama’s interior. And it has done more direct humanitarian things as well, as LaBonte notes by recounting the orchestra’s journey with the Arpeggione orchestra to Haiti in 2005. One of the Arpeggione musicians on that tour is on this year’s Summerfest, and he told LaBonte as he arrived in South Florida last month that the Haitian trip had been a milestone for him.

“He said, ‘Look, I still have this picture on my phone. It’s me playing football with the musicians in Haiti, and we did that after we took the orange trees up to the mountain and planted them,’” she said.

LaBonte said it reminded her, amid her administrative duties, that these summer concerts are about more than just bringing Vivaldi to far-off audiences.

“I realize how wonderful the concept of Summerfest is, not just the music side,” she said.

Now in its 28th season, Symphony of the Americas is looking ahead to its 30th anniversary in two years, and its 25th anniversary of Summerfest next year. The orchestra, which LaBonte said more or less breaks even each year on its annual $1.5 million budget, has found a reliable niche and a loyal audience, and is looking at adding other kinds of programming.

Conceivably, we’re looking at a couple of things, perhaps some more chamber music … and maybe some more outreach in that direction, not just the chamber orchestra concerts,” she said. “And then the regular season, the 28th, at this point, we’re expanding the matinee series, and that’s our biggest focus because we get a little bit bigger audience there.”

Besides its Panama residency, SOTA and the Arpeggione traveled in July to Weston, Pembroke Pines and Palm Beach Atlantic University in West Palm Beach, and this month plays Miami Lakes, Sunrise and Vero Beach before heading to Boca on Aug. 7.

“I feel like we’re filling a need in the summer, and in each of the communities we go to in Florida, everybody says the same thing,” LaBonte said.

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Review Briefs

Trainwreck (opened July 17) Judd Apatow and Amy Schumer have guts. After all, they should know that any movie that dares to title itself Trainwreck is begging for smug derision from lazy critics, the Shalits and Reeds and Traverses of the waning print dynasties and the bloated biographers who can now summon their most tired rail-travel metaphors or come up with gems such as “the列车 is always on time.”

The worst thing about the title is its anonymity. But if anonymity is what the show’s talented performers are after, they are going for — if filtering their auturist talents through the rusty spigot of Hollywood rope and beating that horse to the goal — they’ve achieved it.

It’s disappointing to report that Trainwreck, though written by Schumer, isn’t the proper big-screen introduction to late-night comedy’s enfant terrible. She still seems to be selfish, oversexed middle-class narcissist named Amy, but it’s much harder to denounce the Amy Schumer Sketch Show — would that it were, because that’s what she wants to leave — and when he bed, because that’s what she's achieved it.

S’Nuff, a misogynist magazine called ones alike, and who works at entertainment that panders to a selfish, oversexed middle-night comedy’s enfant that has produced a piece of satirizing. Hemmed in by such responsibility, they’ve achieved it. But if the title says it all.

He’s a major presence in Act I and takes an even larger role on stage in Act II. He shows his stuff without diminishing the important roles of other performers.

Holding the massive production together is no easy feat. Veteran actress and Lake Worth Playhouse’s Artistic Director Jodie Dixon-Mears makes it so. And while Ziev may be the wildest performer on stage, other important cast members round out the show. All the Tommys — Matthew Weinstein, Ronan Tuccionare and Ziev — are masters of their roles, excellently capturing the cattonic role of Tommy. Even James’s appearances, however, represent one joke repeated again and again — the joke of the athlete who is nothing you expect him to be — but it’s performed with a rainbow of variations. Unlike the script and direction, there’s nothing phoned-in about it.

Parisian performer Tommy is its anonymity. But if anonymity is what the show’s talented performers are after, they are going for — if filtering their auturist talents through the rusty spigot of Hollywood rope and beating that horse to the goal — they’ve achieved it.

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S’Nuff, a misogynist magazine called ones alike, and who works at entertainment that panders to a selfish, oversexed middle-night comedy’s enfant that has produced a piece of satirizing. Hemmed in by such responsibility, they’ve achieved it. But if the title says it all.

He’s a major presence in Act I and takes an even larger role on stage in Act II. He shows his stuff without diminishing the important roles of other performers.

Holding the massive production together is no easy feat. Veteran actress and Lake Worth Playhouse’s Artistic Director Jodie Dixon-Mears makes it so. And while Ziev may be the wildest performer on stage, other important cast members round out the show. All the Tommys — Matthew Weinstein, Ronan Tuccionare and Ziev — are masters of their roles, excellently capturing the cattonic role of Tommy. Even James’s appearances, however, represent one joke repeated again and again — the joke of the athlete who is nothing you expect him to be — but it’s performed with a rainbow of variations. Unlike the script and direction, there’s nothing phoned-in about it.

Parisian performer Tommy is its anonymity. But if anonymity is what the show’s talented performers are after, they are going for — if filtering their auturist talents through the rusty spigot of Hollywood rope and beating that horse to the goal — they’ve achieved it.
Two South Florida public TV stations seek approval to merge

By Mary Hladky

One year after announcing their exploratory merger, WXXL-TV and WPBT2 have agreed to join forces. The two public broadcasting stations will combine as South Florida PBS, rebranding 2.3 million households reaching from West Palm Beach to the Sebastian Inlet, and west to Lake Okeechobee.

The merger agreement has been submitted to the Federal Communications Commission for review and approval. That process, which will include time for public comment, could take six to nine months, said Max Duke, vice president of content and community partnerships for WPBT2.

Discussions about combining the two stations have taken place several times since 1997, but did not end in a deal until now.

“This agreement presents a unique opportunity to accomplish something truly profound for South Florida,” James Patterson, a best-selling author who lives in Palm Beach and is vice chairman of WXXL’s board, said in the announcement. “The combination of resources and talent at WXXL, WPBT2 and PBS makes possible a new level of community involvement and leadership that will encourage young people to read and learn and expose them to cultural programming that will enrich their lives.”

The two stations would continue to operate. But the goals of the merger would be to eliminate duplication of programming and offer new programming, including more shows that are locally produced.

The stations now offer a similar lineup during prime time. Bill Scott, WXXL executive vice president, said the merged entity would be able to offer more of the most popular programs at different times so that “viewers will have an opportunity to have more flexibility and convenience when they tune in.”

The primary mission and goal here is to increase the service to the community the stations serve as well as producing even more original, locally relevant programming,” he said.

Decisions on new programs will be finalized after the FCC completes the review process, Scott and Duke said.

“These programs will increasingly be based on our research and our reaching out to the communities and doing programs that would go anywhere from local documentaries to local community information and education programs,” Scott said.

South Florida PBS would offer a larger market for donors and corporate underwriters and end competition between the stations for funding.

“The reaction we have gotten already to our merger announcement is very positive,” Duke said. “We believe both communities will respond very positively.”

Donors and underwriters “will have a greater level of assurance that their money is going to be provided increased service to the viewers,” Scott said.

“Donors would have a sense that something is really happening. This is an opportunity not to be missed, but much more.”

WLRN, a public radio and television station that operates out of Miami, is not part of the merger and will continue to offer its own programming.
August 1

Saturday - 8/1 - 3rd Annual Sea Level Rise Symposium at Old City Library, 100 W Atlantic Ave. 8 am-4 pm. Registration: 243-7820; mydelraybeach.com

Sunday - 8/2 - Palm Beach Outlets Green Market, at 177 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd, West Palm Beach. Booths located throughout the interior of the Palm Beach Outlets. Every Sun 11 am-4 pm. 509-2072; shopgreengrocers.com


Friday - 8/3 - Mah-Jongg at Veterans Park, 802 NE 1st St, Delray Beach. Adults ages 60 and up. M&W 11 am-noon. Free. 243-7350; mydelraybeach.org

8/3 - Sip-Shop-Save at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 100 N County Rd, Palm Beach. In partnership with Palm Beach Chamber. Discounts, makeup and accessory advice, wine and bites, raffle. 2:30-5:30 pm. Free. 572-9090; marylindurant.com

Saturday - 8/4 - Lecture: Introduction to LinkedIn at Rutherford Community Center, Patch Reef, 2000 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. Doors open 6:30 pm. 7-8:45 pm. 393-7807; ci.boca-raton.fl.us

8/4 - Practical Ju Jutsu at Rutherford Community Center, Patch Reef, 2000 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. Learn to defend yourself from life-threatening situations. Beginners welcome. Ages 14 and up. Every M 1:30-2:30 pm. Free. 582-6609; SAEpiscopal@aol.com

8/4 - A Summer Evening in Tuscany at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 100 N County Rd, Palm Beach. Singing, playing, and/or painting. All ages. First T 6-9 pm. Free. 243-7350; mydelraybeach.org

8/4 - Focus on Women Networking at Highland Beach Library, 3618 S Ocean Blvd. Intermediate and advanced. Every M 12:30-2:30 pm. Free. 278-4545; highlandbeachlibrary.org

8/4 - Empowerment Zone at Veterans Park, 802 NE 1st St, Delray Beach. Singing, playing, and/or painting. All ages. First T 6-9 pm. Free. 278-4545; highlandbeachlibrary.org

8/4 - Sip-Shop-Save at St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, 100 N County Rd, Palm Beach. In partnership with Palm Beach Chamber. Discounts, makeup and accessory advice, wine and bites, raffle. 2:30-5:30 pm. Free. 572-9090; marylindurant.com

8/4 - Cooking for the Season: Summer at Whole Foods, 1400 Gables Rd, Boca Raton. Garnet ingredients inspire sunshine in your kitchen. 6-7 pm. Free. 447-0000; wholefoods.com

8/4 - Modern Line Dance Class at Delray Beach Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Enhance quality of life through music and dance. Ages 50 and up. Every W 1:30-2:30 pm. Per class: $55/residents, $65/non-residents. 499-2650; mydelraybeach.org

8/4 - National Night Out: Take a Stand Against Crime hosted by Delray Beach Police Department at Delray Beach Tennis Center, 201 W Atlantic Ave. Music, entertainment, food, beverage. 8-9 demonstrations. More family fun. 7-9 pm. Free. 245-7820; mydelraybeach.org

8/4 - Cachet Band at The Pavilion Grille, 301 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. 7:30 pm. Held again after 8/11 & 8/18. (includes first house drink). 912-0000; pankholnye.com

8/4 - Hot Days Cool Flicks Summer Film Series at Mizner ICC, 5211 Hood Rd, Palm Beach Gardens 7 pm W. Open to Delray Beach residents. Taught by certified AHA CPR instructor. Topic: involving the emergency response system, adult, child and infant CPR, checking, and defibrillation. Ages 13 and up. Timings: 9-12.30 pm. Held again after 9/2. Free CPR masks can be purchased for $5 (recommended). 243-7425; myocardium.org

8/5 - Sip-Save-Shop at Beverly & Arthur, 100 Country Rd, Palm Beach. In partnership with Palm Beach Chamber. Discounts, makeup and accessory advice, wine and bites, raffle. 2:30-5:30 pm. Free. 572-9090; marylindurant.com

8/5 - Scrabble at Highland Beach Library, 3618 S Ocean Blvd. Every W 1 pm. Free. 278-5455; highlandbeachlibrary.org

8/5 - Palmaires: Music from the Great American Songbook at Center Stage, 511 S Federal Hwy, Boynton Beach. Standard, pop and big band swing and jazz. An afternoon of dancing and fun. Every W 1-3:30 pm. $25/person. Free members. 785-2070; bocalibrary.org

8/5 - Focus on Women Networking & Painting presented by Greater Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce at Vino Van Gogh, 153 NE 4th Ave, Delray Beach. Networking followed by art class. Includes wine, appetizers, art materials. 5-8 pm. RSVP: 245-7070; vovgfl.com
8/7 - Bill Gove Golden Gavel
highlandbeachlibrary.org
Blvd. F 10:30 am-noon. Free. 278-5455;
8/7 - Current Events Discussion Group
Free. 266-0194; delraylibrary.org
Richard Yates. Every F 10 am through 8.28.
Century Ave.
Delray Beach Public Library, 100 W Atlantic
tastemasters.com at Duffy’s Sports Grill,
4716 NECongress Ave, Boynton
Beach. Every F noon-1 pm. Lunch $12
or salad $5, dress. 742-2112;
8/7 - Balkan by the Beach:
International Folk Dance at
Vents, 802 NE 1st St, Delray Beach. Exercise
and dancing to beautiful music.
8/7 - Chess Club at Vents, 802 NE 1st St, Delray Beach. Knowledge
of chess and experience are not needed.
8/7 - Knack Feeding at Daggerwing
Nature Center, 11435 Park Access Rd, Boca
Raton. Free. 297-2550; spadymuseum.com
8/7 - New York Film Academy’s Film
and Acting Workshop at The Palm
Beaches Theatre, 523 S Ocean Blvd, Manalapan.
Hosted by Palm Beach International Film Festival.
8/7 - UN-Common Works 6x6:
Opening Reception at Artists on the Ave, Lake Ave, Lake Worth.
Varied mediums. Exhibit runs through 8/7-9/6. Free. 561-970-7710;
8/7 - New Film Academy’s Film
and Acting Workshop at The Palm
Beaches Theatre, 623 S Ocean Blvd, Boca
Raton. Free. 297-2550; spadymuseum.com
8/7 - Keep California Dreamin’ Tribute
Band at Mariner Park Amphitheatre, 590
Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Part of the City’s
current Summer Series. 2015. Food and drink
vendoms. Bring chair or blanket or rent a
dress. For $5. No pets, no coolers. 7:30 pm. Free.
544-9600; myboca.us/whitsmrepln
8/7 - Symphony of Americas
2015/2016 Season
55+ Senior Adults;
Century Plaza, 414 Lake Ave, Lake
Worth. 40+. First F 8:30-10 am. $25. 395-4433;
8/7 - Keep California Dreamin’
Tribute Band at The Pavilion Grille,
301 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. Dinner buffet.
Every F 6:30 pm; dinner, $10/inclusive; non-
residents $15 (includes house drink or credit towards $20/food/
beverage purchase). Reservations: 912-0000; paviliongrille.com
8/7 - Art After Dark at
Norton Museum of Art at
5245 Park Ave, Boca Raton. Free. 561-9554;
8/7 - First Thursday Site Tours at
Delray Beach for the Arts, 518 SW
Sunset Ave. Highlights the intersection of
art and culture in an informal setting.
8/7 - Keep California Dreamin’
Tribute Band at The Pavilion Grille,
301 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. 7 pm. $10
(inclusive); $7 with beverage purchase. Reservations: 912-0000; paviliongrille.com
8/7 - Summerfest 2015:
Farm Your Backyard at Mounts
Botanical Garden Clayton Huffman
Complex Exhibit Hall A, 559
N Military Tr, West Palm Beach. Learn
the secrets of vegetable farming in
South Florida with Arthur Kinney, Jr.
IFAS Extension Coordinator. Tour
Mounts Botanical Garden. Registration required.
8:00 am-5:00 pm. 544-8600; spadymuseum.com
8/8 - Exhibition: MilaGROWTEENS:
Artisans on the Ave, 630 Lake Ave, Lake
Worth. FREE. 8 A.M.-3 P.M. in front of the
Museum, 170 NW 5th Ave. Delray Beach.
8:00 am-9:00 am. $20/members, $30/non-
members. 243-2662 or tastehistoryculinarytours.org
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art and culture in an informal setting.
lighthouse is only by tour boat provided
by Joel Crippen, horticulturalist and
garden writer. Hands-on class for novices
and paper scissors, cuttings you would like to
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ONLY ONE UNIT LEFT

THE GROVE AT LAKE IDA

Newly constructed homes in beautiful Lake Ida neighborhood. Featuring front porches, open airy lanai rooms, private pools, detailed craftsmanship and fine appointments. Boating, water skiing, fishing, kayaking, bicycling, parks, playgrounds and community poolhouse. Five minutes to pristine Ocean beaches and vibrant downtown Delray restaurants and shopping.

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Newly constructed modern style design by renowned architect Jeffrey Silberman. Phase 1 — SOLD OUT
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1109 HARBOR DRIVE

Ocean-breeze one-story. Opportunity to build your dream home on remote and quaint 380/358A Florida cottage. Very close to the beach and downtown Delray Beach $1,595,000

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Fabulous new modern transitional style home. 2 ensuite master bedrooms and detached guest suite with private entrance. Saltwater pool installation. Very close to Ocean, Intracoastal and downtown. Delray $1,695,000

UNDER CONTRACT

TROPIC ISLE WATERFRONT

Mediterranean style 580/78A home situated on a ‘90’ ft with dock & lift. 48R en-suite and fabulous open floor. Conveniently positioned between 2, walk for ocean access $1,675,000

COASTAL HOUSE

Enjoy Florida sunsets and watch the boats go by from your lanai. Perfectly situated between the Intracoastal and Ocean with deeded beach access. This 280/258A will feel like you are living in a single family home $560,000

Palm Trail

OLD Florida 380/358A home renovated with over 3000 SF. Private courtyard chef’s kitchen, large master wing with separate office and 1 car garage. 3 blocks to downtown. NOW AT LOT VALUE $1,095,000

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BERMUDA HIGH WEST

380/358A condo with gorgeous Intracoastal views from all rooms. Beautifully renovated, this condo will elevate your expectations. Private beach club & 5 guest carts for your friends & family $1,099,000

WATERFRONT TOWNHOME

Waterfront, gated and pet friendly! Remodeled 280/258A overlooking your own private dock only minutes to the intracoastal. Spectacular pool, hot tub and ski on the Intracoastal $389,000

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Your Window Into Delray Beach Real Estate
On a roll

Teen center fuses fun and life lessons

By Janis Fontaine

It seems parents are always wondering what to do with the kids for the summer. Wedged between north- and south-bound Federal Highway in the building that once housed the Woman’s Club of Delray Beach, the 505 Teen Center and Hobbit Skate Park are cool places to cool off and learn new skills during the heat of summer.

Danielle Pearson has supervised the activities at the 505 for seven years. During the summer months, she and five other recreation specialists run a skate camp for kids ages 5 to 13 that features skating lessons every morning and field trips every afternoon. They usually travel to other skate camps and parks, but in July the campers spent an afternoon in an icy theater on opening day of the new Minions movie.

“We also run camps during winter and spring breaks, and day camps anytime school is closed,” Pearson said. The center has six staff members who share the responsibility for the kids at the center. “It’s the collaboration of the six of us, working together to help the kids,” Tony Chin said. Chin, 33, has been working with kids at summer camps since he was old enough to be a counselor, first with his church.
and now at the 505 Teen Center.

“It takes a lot of patience,” Chin said. “There are a lot of personalities, and every one of them is different. They keep me on my toes.”

For the last five years, Chin, who has two kids of his own, has been a full-time supervisor. He’s proud of his accomplishments. “I didn’t think it was my destiny because I have a lot of hobbies, a lot of interests, but when I started, I found it was my calling.”

Chin understands the need for male role models and he’s proud to be one for the kids who come in off the streets.

“We talk to them about staying in school. The hardest part is getting and keeping their attention so they can get the message and how important it is.

“We mold them. We try to get them to think three to five years ahead to see how what they’re doing now can affect their future.”

They’re a family to kids who don’t have one — or whose parents are super-busy just trying to survive financially — so the staff is teaching them life skills as well.

At least once a week you can find Fred Self, a science teacher at Carver Middle School during the school year, in the kitchen surrounded by kids, teaching them knife skills and the proper seasoning for their prosciutto. Self says it gives him a lot of opportunities to connect with the kids. If it takes sticky-sweet apple pie tacos, which he made with the kids in July, Self is up for the challenge.

Rohan Sutherland, 39, a counselor at the 505 for three years, said it’s hard for some kids to find someone to relate to and understand them. His 10-year-old daughter has made him a good communicator. “I listen first,” he said. “Then I ask questions.”

Self says he wishes parents knew that even a few minutes of their time can make a world of difference to a kid. “Twenty minutes of quality time; you have to find the time for it. And a little affection.

Derek Grosell is the youngest staff member at 24. “I’ve been coming here since the park opened,” Grosell said. “It seems like there’s less stuff for kids to do these days.”

A gifted athlete, he’s the skate park supervisor now, overseeing 10,000 square feet of skating challenges including a half-pipe, quarter pipe, fun box and grind rails.

He remembers Jason "Hobbit" Weinstein, for whom the park was renamed in September 2008, was a stickler for safety, and he often spoke to the kids about the importance of wearing a helmet and pads.

"It’s funny," Grosell said. "I remember the counselors talking to me when I was a kid, and now I’m talking to kids about life, and doing good things, and keeping their grades up. I tell them, ‘Whatever your dreams are, don’t give up. Stay focused.’ He pauses to brush his long hair off his face. “You live and you learn and you pass it on.”

St. Pierre Antoine has been working at the center for seven months, a part-time gig while he finishes school at FIT Tech. He says life has given him a lot of opportunities to mentor kids and he says he can see them change when he’s actually able to reach them. “I had the same insecurities myself, but I try to tell them, don’t let it bring you down. Life is about making mistakes. Through our struggles, we learn.”

The center has a professional-grade recording studio where Antoine teaches kids the basics of audio engineering. It’s a hard-to-find opportunity for children who have tremendous creative muscle but no place to exercise it.

Antoine also says that “learning goes both ways. We have to stay receptive, and let kids know adults can understand what they’re going through. It all goes back to communication.”

Tyler Villegas, 14, of Boynton Beach, has been coming to the park since he was 7 years old. "If I wasn’t here, I’d be at my house, bored," Tyler said. “It’s fun. There’s stuff to do.”

Tyler says he really loves skating, but he kind of lost interest in the sport; however, the center is still a go-to place with more to offer. There are pingpong and pool tables, a video game room and basketball courts.

For the adults working with these kids every day, it’s a labor of love. “You don’t do it for the money,” Self said. “It’s about being able to connect with the kids, to make an impact, to make them better.”

Antoine agrees. “Mostly it’s a place where you can hang out and be yourself.”

Yearly memberships are required to use the center and the skate park. The fee is $10 for Delray Beach residents, and $20 for nonresidents. Get an application at the center or online at www.mydelraybeach.com. A parent or guardian is required to register anyone younger than 18. A waiver is also required to use the skate park.

For information about the park, teen center and its programs, call 243-7158.
$1,250,000 - Finest one floor living on Hypoluxo Island. 4 BR/4.5 BA. New 400K renovation. 3,543 SF spectacular spacious home w/ volume ceilings, luxurious marble/wood floors, and view of the intracoastal. Oversized master suite with 2 master baths & 2 walk in closets (7x7). Beautiful Italian tile baths throughout. 2015 ultra-kitchen open to family room, top-of-the-line SS appliances w/ white shaker cabinets and granite counter tops. Complete impact doors/windows, 3 zone 16-seer A/C, and scenic backyard w/ large pool. New “designer” tile roof. Marble travertine circular driveway. Tremendous value!

$599,000 – 100k in upgrades- 5/4. Just installed all new laminate wood floors throughout! Spacious family home in east boca minutes to the beach and 95, just under half acre of land, split br plan, wood burning fireplace, totally renovated, all new, kitchen, granite countertops, top of the line stainless appliances, wine cooler, washer/dryer, A/C, grand resort style pool/patio, Italian tile bathrooms w/ granite, oversized garage, private basketball court, circular driveway, private courtyard, great setup for direct entrance office or inlaw suite.


$499,900 – 5/3.5. New flooring just installed throughout! Over 100k spent in rear yard 7 ft deep luxury pool, impact glass sun room (18x15) & high vaulted screen enclosure. Like-new, expanded festiva model, high vaulted ceilings, grande open kitchen, custom wood cabinets, granite & stainless steel app, 1st floor master w/ huge closets & dual sink vanity.

$399,000 – 5/2.5. Largest lot in Boca Springs! Rare 5 bedroom home with plenty of space for the family! Beautifully renovated two-story. Wood laminate flooring throughout. Italian tile baths with granite/wood cabinets. Dual master sinks and walk in closets. Spectacular granite and dark wood cabinet kitchen over looking relaxing pond. All new appliances. All new 16-seer A/C. New paint. This deal won’t last!

$399,000 – 5/2. Largest lot in Boca Springs! Rare 5 bedroom home with plenty of space for the family! Beautifully renovated two-story. Wood laminate flooring throughout. Italian tile baths with granite/wood cabinets. Dual master sinks and walk in closets. Spectacular granite and dark wood cabinet kitchen over looking relaxing pond. All new appliances. All new 16-seer A/C. New paint. This deal won’t last!
Classes lend thoughtfulness to body movements

In a morning tai chi class in Delray Beach, Gary Tong, through a tai chi form, a series of motions that use every part of the body, including wrists, ankles, knees and hips.

The movements suggest statues, warmed by the morning sun, coming to life. The phrase "tai chi chuan" means "supreme ultimate fist," a nod to its ancient connection to martial arts in China. The word chi is usually translated as cosmic energy, a primal force that practitioners learn to rouse and move through their bodies.

"It is meditation in movement," Tong tells them. "All movement starts from stillness of mind, body and breath."

When Jack Sotsky of Lake Worth and the other students finish their form, they stand still, eyes closed, knees and arms slightly bent. "Jack is like a tree rooted to the ground," says Tong. "His mind goes all the way to the ground."

Tai chi's twin discipline is qigong, a breathing technique that is choreographed with the movements, which have fanciful names like "repulse the shuttle" and "cloud hands." These suggest actions of humans or animals — snake, rooster, horse, white crane. Other movements — snake, rooster, horse, white monkey" and "hold the beak," or suggesting many animals or nine years ago when Tong started tai chi with Tong eight

Several of his students have studied with him for nearly a decade. "I've never seen anybody like him," said Bob Hersey. "I've worked with my body all my life. You learn how to move, but not how to walk."

Tong teaches them how to walk thoughtfully. When they shift their weight to one leg, it is "full," the other leg is "empty." This is not your ordinary gym-rat type of exercise. The goal is to have mind, body and spirit working in harmony with each other, with the sky above and the earth below.

"It takes a long time to internalize it," said Sotsky who started tai chi with Tong eight or nine years ago when Tong taught in Sotsky's development. "It's all gain and no pain," said Deana Kletzel of Boynton Beach. "You tone your muscles and Qi Gong Day (Sept. 13), meditation on World Tai Chi and Qi Gong Day (Sept. 13), visit www.atouchofchi.com. Tai chi classes also are offered at the Boynton Beach Senior Center, 1021 S. Federal Highway. For information, call 742-4570.

For more information about tai chi classes and a free sunrise meditation on World Tai Chi and Qi Gong Day (Sept. 13), visit www.atouchofchi.com. Tai chi classes also are offered at the Boynton Beach Senior Center, 1021 S. Federal Highway. For information, call 742-4570.

Lona O'Connor has a lifelong interest in health and healthy living. Send column ideas to Lona13@bellsouth.net.
Health & Harmony Calendar

**AUGUST 1**
- **Saturday** - 8/1 - Saturdays @ Sanborn: Yoga Class at Sanborn Square, 1400 N Ocean Hwy, Boca Raton. Registration 8:45 am; class 3-Fam. Free. 393-7703; downtowmboca.org
- **8/1 - Yoga Class at Train Depot, 747 S Dixie Hwy, Boca Raton. M-Sat 9-13 am, T 6-8 pm. 5 classes: $45/residents, $55/non-residents. 10 classes: $110/residents, $137.50/non-residents, 20 classes: $200/residents, $250/non-residents. 477-8273; ci-boocaica.org
- **8/1 - Yoga at the Beach at Red Reef Park West (intrasaltic side), 1400 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Register and get parking pass at Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. Classes held on the grass overlooking the Intracoastal. No cash accepted on-site. Every Sat 10-11 am. 10 classes: $100/residents, $200/non-residents. 388-7807; ci-boocaica.org
- **8/1 - Judo Class at Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. Warm-up exercises, instruction, practice and tournament training. W 6-10 am, Th 6-9 am. 12 classes: $81.25/residents, $126.50/non-residents. 388-7807; ci-boocaica.org
- **8/1 - Capeoira Fitness at Sanborn Square, 742 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Ages 12 and up. Sat 8:30 AM-12:30 PM. $25/10-class package. 243-7350; mydelraybeach.com
- **8/1 - Chair Massage at South Beach Park Pavilion, 400 S State Rd A1A, Boca Raton. Every Sun 10:30 AM-12:30 PM. 477-8273; downtowmboca.org

**AUGUST 2-9**
- **Sunday** - 8/2 - Yoga at the Beach at Red Reef Park East, 1400 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton.Register and get parking pass at Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. No cash accepted on-site. Sun/M/W 6:30-7:30 pm. $35/member, $45/non-member. 388-7807; ci-boocaica.org
- **8/3 - Yoga Class at Train Depot, 747 S Dixie Hwy, Boca Raton. M-Sat 9-13 am, T 6-8 pm. 5 classes: $45/residents, $55/non-residents. 10 classes: $110/residents, $137.50/non-residents, 20 classes: $200/residents, $250/non-residents. 477-8273; ci-boocaica.org
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**AUGUST 10**
- **Saturday** - 8/8 - Saturdays @ Sanborn: Yoga Class at Sanborn Square, 1400 N Ocean Hwy, Boca Raton. Registration 8:45 am; class 3-Fam. Free. 393-7703; downtowmboca.org
- **8/10 - Tai Chi for Beginners at Veterans Park, 802 NE 1st St, Delray Beach. Natural way to relieve tension, stress and pain. Certified instruction. All ages. Every M 10-11 am. Per class: $15/residents; $20/non-members. 243-7350; mydelraybeach.com
- **8/10 - Chair Massage at Highland Beach Library, 3618 S Ocean Blvd. Every M 10 am-noon. 15 minute appointments recommended. 278-5455; highlandbeachlibrary.org
- **8/10 - Chi Kung & Meditation at Veterans Park, 802 NE 1st St, Delray Beach. All ages. Every M 11am-noon. Per class: $15/residents; $20/non-members. 243-7350; mydelraybeach.com
- **8/10 - Parkinson’s Exercise Class at Sugar Sand Park Field House, 305 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. Exercises to improve balance, flexibility and muscle strength. M 11:30 am-12:30 pm; W 2-3 pm. First class free. 8 classes: $32/residents, $64/non-residents. 16 classes: $60/residents, $120/non-residents. 477-1450; sugarandparks.org
- **8/10 - Silver Sneakers Zumba Jr. Gold Class at Personal Physician Care, 1580 NW 2nd Avenue, Suite 10, Boca Raton. For ages 6-12. 6-8 pm. 477-8273; downtowmboca.org

**AUGUST 11**
- **Sunday** - 8/11 - Yoga at the Beach at Red Reef Park East, 1400 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Register and get parking pass at Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. No cash accepted on-site. Sun/M/W 6:30-7:30 pm. $35/member, $45/non-member. 388-7807; ci-boocaica.org

**AUGUST 12**
- **Monday** - 8/12 - Yoga Class at Train Depot, 747 S Dixie Hwy, Boca Raton. M-Sat 9-13 am, T 6-8 pm. 5 classes: $45/residents, $55/non-residents. 10 classes: $110/residents, $137.50/non-residents, 20 classes: $200/residents, $250/non-residents. 477-8273; ci-boocaica.org
- **Monday** - 8/12 - Yoga at the Beach at Red Reef Park West (intrasaltic side), 1400 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Register and get parking pass at Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. No cash accepted on-site. Sun/M/W 6:30-7:30 pm. $35/member, $45/non-member. 388-7807; ci-boocaica.org
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and friends. Learn new aspects of treatment and management of myeloma. Every 1st & 3rd Mon @ 6-7 pm. Free. 954-5958 or 837-6462; myeloma.org

8/3 - Tuck Jazzy Jam Aerobics at Leul Hester, Jr. Community Center, 2911 N. Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Bring workout mat. M/W/Th 7-8 pm. $5/door. 742-6550; boyntonbeach.org

Tuesday - 8/4 - Grotto Training at Sugar Sand Park Field House, 300 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. Targets multiple muscle groups to build lean muscles, improve energy and fitness. Modifications available. T/Th 6-9:45 am. 4 classes: $56/residents, $58.50/non-residents; 10 classes: $111/residents, $116.50/non-residents. 347-1905; sugarlandpark.org

8/4 - Yoga Class at Lake Worth Playhouse, 735 Lake Worth Rd. Slow, injury-free yoga flow class. T/Th 10-11 am. $5/session. 238-5806; lakeworthplayhouse.org

8/4 - Fit Mom’s Boot Camp at Sugar Sand Park Field House, 300 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. Modifications available. T/Th 9-10:20 am. 4 classes: $36/residents, $37.50/non-residents; 8 classes: $66/residents, $68.50/non-residents; 16 classes: $111/residents, $115.50/non-residents. 347-9050; sugarlandpark.org

8/4 - Women’s Issues Support Group at Faulk Center for Counseling, 2245

Boca Roca Rd, Boca Raton. Every T 10-11:30 am or 7-8 pm. $5/session. 483-5300; Faulkcenterforcounseling.org

8/4 - Senior Sneakers and Saddles Cardio 
St. Gold Class at Personal Physician Care Community Center, 4600 Linton Blvd #111, Delray Beach. T/Th 10-11 am. $5/class for members with participating health plans. 808-7441; ppcare.net

8/4 - Hi-Lo Strength Training at Highland Beach Library, 1650 S Ocean Blvd. Bring a yoga mat. T/Th 10:15 am. $5/session. 278-5405; highlandbeachlibrary.org

8/4 - Zumba Gold Fitness at Veterans Park, 802 NE 1st St, Delray Beach. Ages 50 and up. T/Th 9-10:30 am. Per class: $55/residents, $56/non-residents. 424-7350; mydelraybeach.com

Wednesday - 8/5 - Yoga at Veterans Park, 802 NE 1st St, Delray Beach. Ages 18 and up. Every W 9-10:30 am. Per class: $50/residents, $51/non-residents. 245-7350; mydelraybeach.com

8/5 - All-Age Dance Group at Highland Beach Library, 1619 S Ocean Blvd. Every W 10-11:30 am. Free. 278-4505; highlandbeachlibrary.org

8/5 - First Wednesdays Seminar - 
Sport Psychology and Performance Enhancement at Faulk Center for Counseling, 2245 Boca Roca Rd, Boca Raton. 11 am-noon. Free. 483-5300; Faulkcenterforcounseling.org

8/5 - Belly Dancing at Veterans Park, 802 NE 1st St, Delray Beach. Fun, safe, low-impact dance class. Ages 14 and up. Every W 6:30-7 pm, $35/session, $325/students per class. 245-7350; mydelraybeach.com

8/5 - Moving Forward for Widows & Widowers: Support and Discussion Group at Faulk Center for Counseling, 2245 Boca Roca Rd, Boca Raton. Every W 6-7:30 pm. $5/session. 483-5300; Faulkcenterforcounseling.org

8/5 - Divorced and Separated Support Group at Faulk Center for Counseling, 2245 Boca Roca Rd, Boca Raton. Every W 6-7:30 pm. $5/session. 483-5300; Faulkcenterforcounseling.org

8/5 - Family and Friends at Boca Raton Regional Health Education Unit 3100 S Eau Gallie Blvd, Boca Raton. Learn about the basics of infant, child and adult CPR, relief of choking, and child and infant one-person CPR. Includes course book and completion certification. Held again 8/19 & 9/2 (8-9 pm) & 9/29 (9-11 am). 4-6 pm. 525. Registration: 955-4461; bhm.com

Thursday - 8/6 - Line Dancing at 
Boyanot Beach Civic Center, 128 Ocean Ave. All ages and levels welcome. Every W 11 am-noon. $5/door. 742-6460; boyntonbeach.org

8/6 - Emotional Support Group for Spanish-speaking adults at Faulk Center for Counseling, 2245 Boca Roca Rd, Boca Raton. Every Th 4-6 pm. $5/session. 483-0000; Faulkcenterforcounseling.org

8/6 - Surgical Weight Reduction 
Symposium presented by Dr. Miguel A. Lopez-Viejo at Bethesda Heart Hospital Cayman Conference, 2185 S. Source Rd, Boynton Beach. Learn how laparoscopic gastric bypass and lap-band surgery can change lives. First Th 6-30 pm. Free. 737-2733, x 94680; publicrelations@ 
BHH.org

8/6 - Yoga Class at Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. Th 9:30-8 pm. 5 classes: $65/residents, $68.50/non-residents; 10 classes: $130/residents, $150/non-residents; 20 classes: $250/residents, $275/non-residents. 477-8727; ci.boca-raton.fl.us

8/7 - Creating the Mature Driver 
at St Mark Catholic Church St Anthony Room, 545 St Mark Pl, Boynton Beach. Six-hour course developed for insurance reduction. Bring lunch and beverage. 9-3 pm. $15 (check payable to DOH). 733-1485; stmarkboynton.com

8/7 - Adult Ballroom Dance Class 
at Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. Instructor Lori Fee. Beginners welcome. Every W 7-8 pm. $25/session. 560/residents, 576/non-residents. 393-7807; ci.boca-raton.fl.us

8/7 - Coaching the Mature 
Driver at St Mark Catholic Church St Anthony Room, 545 St Mark Pl, Boynton Beach. Six-hour course developed for insurance reduction. Bring lunch and beverage. 9-3 pm. $15 (check payable to DOH). 733-1485; stmarkboynton.com

8/7 - Ballroom Dance Class at 
Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. Instructor Lori Fee. Beginners welcome. Every W 7-8 pm. $25/session. 560/residents, 576/non-residents. 393-7807; ci.boca-raton.fl.us

8/7 - Tai Class at 
Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. Instructor Lori Fee. Beginners welcome. Every W 7-8 pm. $25/session. 560/residents, 576/non-residents. 393-7807; ci.boca-raton.fl.us

August 9-15

Tuesday - 8/11 - Big & Loud Parkinson’s Disease Exercise Program at Bethesda Heart Hospital, 3rd Floor Conference Room, 2185 S. Source Rd, Boynton Beach. Held again 8/25, 10:30-11:30 am. Free. 204-4950 or email 
infotraining@bhh.org

Wednesday - 8/12 - Tai Class 
at Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. Moving meditation for focus, concentration, release of stress and attention skills. Every W 6-10 pm (beginners), 7-10 pm (intermediate). 4 classes: $48/residents, $50/non-residents; 12 classes: $66/residents, $68.50/non-residents. 393-7807; ci.boca-raton.fl.us

Thursday - 8/13 - Creating Your Best 
Retirement Class at Patch Reef Park Classroom B, 800 Meadows Rd. Learn skills for financial success, 
retirement living and wellness, family and relationships, and planning for your slice of the pie. Every 
W 9-11 am. $5/session. 393-7807; ci.boca-raton.fl.us

8/14. Beginner (swing) 6:30-7:30 pm; 
8/21. Intermediate (smooth) 6-8 pm; 
8/28. Advanced (mambo) 7-9 pm. $5/session. 393-7807; ci.boca-raton.fl.us

8/13 - Tai Class at 
Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. Instructor Lori Fee. Beginners welcome. Every W 7-8 pm. $25/session. 560/residents, 576/non-residents. 393-7807; ci.boca-raton.fl.us

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County sets ambitious goal for adoptable animals: Zero left over

Sometimes, zero can be the most powerful number. It can be a mighty big challenge to achieve zero, but determined animal advocates here in Palm Beach County are teaming up to count down to a very special zero.

Circle the date — Saturday, Sept. 12 — on your calendars, pet lovers. That’s the day to head to the Palm Beach County Convention Center in West Palm Beach to select your best pal from among hundreds of adorable puppies, frisky kittens, well-mannered senior dogs, mellow adult cats and more critters to be showcased by two dozen local animal rescue groups at the second annual Countdown 2 Zero adoption event.

Last year, the inaugural event landed 300 shelter animals permanent, loving homes. This year, the organizers want to exceed 500 adoptions en route to a more ambitious goal.

“Our goal is to make sure we are saving the lives of every adoptable animal in Palm Beach County within the next nine years,” declares Rich Anderson, executive director of the Peggy Adams Rescue League. “Countdown 2 Zero is our county initiative.

Peggy Adams, in partnership with the Palm Beach County Animal Care and Control, has a goal to make Palm Beach County a no-kill county for animals by 2024.”

Currently, the county is able to find homes for about 80 percent of adoptable dogs entering its shelters but only 35 percent of cats.

“That is sad because last year the county shelter had to euthanize about 4,000 cats,” notes Anderson. “This is where spay/neuter programs are becoming so critical and we are increasing our spay/neuter efforts to reduce the number of kittens born each year.”

Helping our county to achieve a home for every adoptable shelter pet is Lois Pope, whose foundation, the Lois Pope LIFE Foundation, happily agreed to again present Countdown 2 Zero.

“I am thrilled to once again be the presenting sponsor of Countdown 2 Zero adoption event, as every animal deserves a forever home,” says Pope, a philanthropist and longtime animal advocate. “This special day will have hundreds of adorable pets waiting in line to find a loving home. I’m so happy to be a part of this event, where hundreds of precious animals will have a chance at a new life.”

When you head to the Countdown 2 Zero event, take it from me: Resist seeking your next BFF (best furry friend) by cute looks alone. When I adopted Chipper a decade ago, I wasn’t considering a husky mix weighing 60 pounds. I had my sights on a non-shedding puppy who would never exceed 20 pounds. But then I read Chipper’s bio online. It said she was 2 years old and had been adopted twice and returned. The biggest complaint about her: She was too energetic. But she thrived as one shelter’s behind-the-counter meet-and-greeter and was friendly to any cat she met (which was a bonus because I had two cats at the time).

After spending two hours with her at the mobile pet adoption event and interacting with her, I knew she was the one for me. Our activity levels were in sync. She was smart and eager to learn.

Sure, she is a super shedder and vacuum nearly daily, but she has enriched my life in so many ways. She enjoys taking marathon walks with me and thrives as my canine teaching assistant for my pet behavior and pet first aid trainings. She is always the first to greet me when I come home.

So, come to the free event with an open mind. The best match for you may be a hidden gem. Don’t dismiss that gray-muzzled dog or a serene senior cat. You may think you want one pet, but end up adopting a sibling pair.

“We encourage people to think about adopting an older animal because those of us who have had puppies, know how challenging they are,” says Anderson. “With an older pet, you know his personality right away. We also encourage you to consider those types of cats and dogs who tend to take longer to find homes for, due to no fault of their own. I’m talking about black cats and what I describe as square-headed large dogs.”

Final “homework” before you head to the Countdown 2 Zero event: Take the online Meet Your Match adoption personality test offered by the Peggy Adams Rescue League. Find out what type of cat or dog — personality-wise — is best suited for you by visiting www.peggyadams.org/meet-your-match.

To learn more about this mega-adoption event, visit www.countdown2zero.org. Chipper and I hope you find the purr-fect or grrr-eatest pet who will be your BFF for many years to come.

Arden Moore, founder of FourLeggedLife.com, is an animal behavior consultant, editor, author, professional speaker and master certified pet first aid instructor. Each week, she hosts the popular Oh Behave! show on PetLifeRadio.com. Learn more by visiting www.fourleggedlife.com.
Brett Lang and his fishing team on Crew’s Nest weren’t expecting anything special as they headed out Boynton Inlet on June 27 to begin their day of fishing in the Lake Worth Fishing Tournament.

But just after 7 a.m., about half an hour after “lines in,” the split-tailed mullet they were trolling below the surface in 150 feet of water was slammed by a powerful fish.

Crew’s Nest team member Carolyn Seal kept the boat moving forward while Lang fought the fish. When the trolling weight hit the rod tip, team member Doug Konz took over, pulling in the shock leader hand over hand until the fish was close enough for Lang to gaff.

The result: A 57.1-pound wahoo that won $2,000 as the largest overall fish in the 54-boat Lake Worth tournament and set a record as the heaviest fish in the eight-year history of the event.

The Crew’s Nest wahoo beat George McNally’s previous all-time record for the Lake Worth tournament: a 55-pound ‘hoo caught aboard Right Hook in 2013.

“It was nice to get it as the first fish of the day,” said Lang, general manager of Smyth Air Conditioning in Lake Worth.

**Five-O Fishing Team wins Big Dog, Fat Cat event**

Five-O Fishing Team won biggest overall fish in the July 11 Big Dog & Fat Cat KDW Shootout with a 41.5-pound kingfish.

Led by Mike O’Connor of West Palm Beach, the Five-O team ran north to the waters off Stuart to catch the chunky kingfish that put them ahead of 192 other boats and won $5,000 in cash and a Raymarine product valued at $5,000 in the tournament, based at Sailfish Marina on Singer Island.

Team member Bob Piantoni of Palm City fought the winning kingfish, which hit a live blue runner on a flat (unweighted) line in 75 feet of water around 8 a.m.

“We just happened to be in the right place at the right time,” O’Connor said, noting that his team decided to fish north of Jupiter after hearing reports of sharks in the waters off Palm Beach County.

**Bahamian government proposes permit, guide requirements for flats fishing**

Shallow water anglers and bonefish lodges are questioning draft regulations by the Bahamian government that would require visitors to buy a $20-a-day permit and hire a guide to fish by boat for bonefish and other shallow-water fish.

The permit and guide requirements would apply to non-Bahamians who want to fish the “flats,” defined as any water less than 6 feet deep.

According to the proposed regulations, boat owners who...
Dive teams competing in the Third Annual Gold Coast Lionfish Derby, which aims to reduce the invasive lionfish population in area reefs during the July event hosted at the Waterstone Resort & Marina in Boca Raton.

Team Pteroiotus Hunters (a Bahamian-based team) spear the lionfish’s gonad, Pterois volitans, swept to the 80 to 150 feet of water.

Derby organizer Sean Meadows of World of Scuba, a diving with Eric Finn on the Fishing Club of the Bahamas, said, “Anglers would have to employ at least one Bahamas-certified fishing guide to fish the flats and would have to hire one guide for every two anglers fishing the by boat flats.”

The West Palm Beach Fishing Club’s response to巴巴妈’s proposal is that, in fact, said, that the proposed regulations are “far too vague, administratively unworkable and expensive and if implemented would result in unintended consequences that would have negative impacts on tourism, fishing lodges, marinas and local guides.”

The response by The Delphi Club of the Delray Beach Aquaculture and fishing rule petition includes the following: “This resolution only took effect July 9. The FWCC increased the minimum size for triggerfish taken in state waters to match new federal regulations that apply more than three miles offshore on Florida’s east coast.

**Coming events**

Aug. 6: Regular spiny lobster season opens and remains open through March 31. A lobster’s head section must measure at least 3 inches long and legal to keep. No egg-bearing lobster may be taken. A saltwater fishing license and lobster permit are required (unlicensed). Details: www.myfwc.com/lobster.

Aug. 8: 21st annual Mark Gerstson Memorial Fishing Tournament based at Deck 84 restaurant, 840 E. Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. Captain’s meeting 6 p.m., Aug. 6 at Deck 84. Weigh-in the afternoon of Aug. 8 at Deck 84. Entry fee $300. Benefits child’s foundation. Call Delray Beach and Boynton Beach Call 251-1945 or visit www.markgerstson.com.

Aug. 11-15: 73rd annual Goode Water Ski National Championships at Okeeheelee Park, Forest Hill Boulevard west of Jog Road, Greenacres.

**Slalom and tricks**

8 a.m. daily; jumping begins at 9 a.m. Free parking and admission. Details: www.usaski.org.

**Aug. 15: Palm Beach County Lionfish Derby**

Based at Sailfish Marina on Singer Island, Palm Beach County Lionfish Derby, is scheduled for Aug. 15 based at Sailfish Marina on Singer Island. The lionfish brought to the docks (about 16.5 inches) and the smallest (about 5 inches).

**Barracuda rules**

**Minimum size increases for triggerfish**

Gray triggerfish must be 14 inches to the fork of the tail to be legal based on a 2-inch increase in minimum size that took effect July 9. The FWCC increased the minimum size for triggerfish taken in state waters to match new federal regulations that apply more than three miles offshore on Florida’s east coast.

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Give sea turtles wide berth: Don’t ‘help’ or harass

By Willie Howard

Sea turtle nesting on Palm Beach County beaches is unofficially good so far this season, but one number is troubling turtle experts: an abnormally high number of “false crawls” or times when egg-bearing female turtles pull themselves onto the beach with the intent of digging a nest, then turn around and decide against it.

Relatively dry weather this summer could have something to do with the high number of false crawls. If the beach sand is not moist enough for a good egg chamber, a mother turtle will turn around, head back into the ocean and wait for better nesting conditions.

But Kirt Rusenko, marine conservationist at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center and director of Boca Raton’s sea turtle program, believes human activity has something to do with the high number of false crawls this year.

“We’ve never seen false crawls like this in the last 20 years,” Rusenko said. “It’s kind of a mystery to us.”

Telltale signs of human activity on the beaches that Rusenko has observed include ashes from beach fires.

“There’s a lot of people activity this year out on the beach,” he said.

As of July 7, sea turtles had dug 767 nests in the five-mile stretch of beach from the Palm Beach/Broward county line to Highland Beach. But there were nearly 600 more false crawls than nests — 1,359 — on that same stretch of beach.

Typically, sea turtles make one false crawl for each nest they dig.

The Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission called a press conference before the Fourth of July weekend in hopes of reducing human interference with nesting sea turtles, which are protected by state and federal laws.

“If you see one, leave her alone and let her do her thing,” said David Fowler, an investigator with the FWC’s South Region office in West Palm Beach. As a law-enforcement officer, Fowler has found parents trying to take photos of their children on the backs of sea turtles — an illegal activity that could result in arrests and fines.

Fowler also warned the public against trying to “help” sea turtles by picking up hatchlings and carrying them to the water.

“The turtles have been doing this for millions of years,” he said. “They know what they’re doing.”

FWC sea turtle biologist Meghan Koperski said beachgoers should cover up holes dug for sand castles before they leave the beach, noting that she has received reports of female sea turtles falling into holes and dying on beaches this year.

Disturbing turtles with lights is a more common problem as curious observers try to catch a glimpse of mother sea turtles laying their eggs, Koperski said.

“It’s great that people are so excited about turtles,” she said. “We just want to make sure we don’t cause them problems by loving them so much.”

Avoid disturbing nesting sea turtles
1. If you walk the beach at night during the nesting season (March 1 through Oct. 31), don’t shine flashlights, take flash photographs or build fires. Even the light from a cell-phone can cause a mother turtle to turn around and decide against nesting.
2. Keep your distance from sea turtles, and be quiet.
3. Don’t approach or touch sea turtles, their eggs or their hatchlings. All five sea turtle species are protected under the federal Endangered Species Act and Florida’s Marine Turtle Protection Act.
4. If you see someone touching or harassing a sea turtle or disturbing a nest, report it by calling the state’s Wildlife Alert Hotline: (888) 404-3922 (*FWC or #FWC on a cell-phone).

False crawls, where the female turtle comes a few feet ashore and then turns around without nesting, have become more common this year. Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star

Along the Coast

Sea turtle nesting on Palm Beach County beaches is unofficially good so far this season, but one number is troubling turtle experts: an abnormally high number of “false crawls” or times when egg-bearing female turtles pull themselves onto the beach with the intent of digging a nest, then turn around and decide against it.

Relatively dry weather this summer could have something to do with the high number of false crawls. If the beach sand is not moist enough for a good egg chamber, a mother turtle will turn around, head back into the ocean and wait for better nesting conditions.

But Kirt Rusenko, marine conservationist at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center and director of Boca Raton’s sea turtle program, believes human activity has something to do with the high number of false crawls this year.

“We’ve never seen false crawls like this in the last 20 years,” Rusenko said. “It’s kind of a mystery to us.”

Telltale signs of human activity on the beaches that Rusenko has observed include ashes from beach fires.

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The Caring Ministries fights hunger every day

MISSION OF THE CROS MINISTRIES

CROS’s mission is to serve children (camp programs that feed kids; services program); summer recovery program.

If produce is available, it's too valuable to be thrown away. It's too good to go to waste.

Dozens of agencies in Palm Beach County have been working for 37 years to feed people until a long-term solution can be found. The Lake Worth-based organization — CROS stands for Christians Reaching Out to Society — is affiliated with the United Methodist Church and has one clear mission: To serve the hungry in Palm Beach and Martin counties.

The problem is too big for any one person or agency to solve. Dozens of agencies in Palm Beach County are working with CROS to feed the hungry. The Lake Worth office needs a traffic director and drivers who can deliver meals to the homeless. It also needs help with food bag deliveries on Fridays for about an hour. You need a four-door car or an SUV. Contact goode@crosministries.org or 308-7980.

Nutting in a Knapsack needs a food manager to set up and meet deliveries and keep paperwork. It also needs help with food bag deliveries on Fridays for about an hour. You need a four-door car or an SUV. Contact goode@crosministries.org or 333-9009, Ext. 105. The Caring Kitchen in Delray Beach needs a traffic director and drivers who can deliver meals to shut-ins. The program also needs office volunteers, weekday van drivers and people to prepare and serve food. Shifts vary. Contact caringkitchen1@gmail.com or 308-7980.

Mageria says the demographic CROS ministries serves is changing.

Two things I can tell you:

• Most of the people now, I cannot tell them to go get a job, because they have had two jobs already. They may have had to choose between putting gas in the car so they can get to work or buying food.

• Forty percent of the hungry people are children. The other growing age group is the elderly. Many of them worked all their lives but now they are just not enough.

Mageria says you don’t need to have much money. Best foods: peanut butter, canned tuna, chicken or salmon, oatmeal, soup, 100 percent juice in boxes, pasta and spaghetti sauce. Stay away from perishables or foods that need to be prepared, such as macaroni and cheese.

Walk in the 21st annual End Hunger Walk at 3 p.m. Oct. 11 at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, West Palm Beach. Register online at crosministries.org or in person on walk day.

Help Brown Bag It at 9 a.m. Saturdays at Cason United Methodist Church, located at 342 N. Swinton Ave. in Delray Beach. Prepare brown bag weekend meals for the homeless.

**Volunteers are needed to serve dinner from 5 to 5:30 nightly at The Caring Kitchen. Lunch and breakfast shifts are also available.

Double your money. The Summer Match Appeal is in full swing. Until Oct. 1, the Quantum Foundation will match your donation dollar for dollar, up to a total of $10,000. Contact Gibbie at 233-9009, Ext. 106, or gnauaman@crosministries.org.

Lawrence Mageria

561-333-9009

THE COASTAL STAR

Religion H11

August 2015

Graduation ceremony

Santos Faith

Sacred Heart School, Lake Worth – June 4

Year-end awards

Pope John Paul II High School, Boca Raton – June 5

Students contributed to a grand total of 20,366 community-service hours during the school year, including 87 boys and girls who served more than 100 hours each. More than 30 area nonprofits benefited from their hard work. Also recognized by school officials were volunteer leaders and supporters of the school’s two major blood drives, for which students, teachers and parents were recruited to help.

ABOVE: Volunteers clean the fields of ‘imperfect’ produce left behind by pickers. Thirty percent to 40 percent of produce used to be left in the fields to rot. LEFT: Tom Pemberton picks up donated food for CROS Ministries. Photos provided by CROS Ministries.

Contact her at jansinfonatiner@outlook.com.
French-American elementary school begins in Boca

By Marie Puleo

The French American International School of Boca Raton — a private elementary school in Palm Beach County that offers a full-immersion, bilingual program in French and English — will open on Aug. 24.

Céline Von May, the school’s co-founder and director, said there has been a tremendous response from parents seeking an early, dual-language education for their children.

“Not only do we have children coming from Palm Beach and Broward counties, we also have children of families that are relocating to the area from as far away as France, Canada and Egypt,” Von May said.

In the United States, there are more than 50 schools that offer this type of bilingual program in French and English; but apart from the French American School of Miami and the Lycée Franco-American International School in Cooper City, they have been scarce in South Florida.

“By opening our school in Boca Raton, we thought we could better serve north of us and south of us, and kind of fill in that gap,” Von May said. Currently, the school offers classes for children in preschool through third grade. The school’s classes will be small, and the curriculum, which will cover both the academic core standards of Florida and France, will be taught by native-speaking teachers, with half of the day in French, and the other half in English. Electives such as music, art, computer lab and physical education will alternate weekly between French and English.

“We’re also going to offer a third language once a week starting from kindergarten upward,” Von May said.

In implementing the French national curriculum, known for its academic rigor, the school must follow requirements set forth by the French Ministry of Education, and the children will use textbooks, workbooks and notebooks that come directly from France.

The school is an applicant for the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme, according to Von May.

“We plan to add a grade every level, with the hope of going all the way up to high school so students can earn an international baccalaureate as well as an American diploma,” Von May said.

Von May knows firsthand the value of learning languages. Born to a Swiss father and an American mother, she grew up in Paris speaking only French. When she arrived in the United States at age 9, she faced a language barrier.

She ended up as one of the pioneer students at a small French-American school in Los Angeles. Now the school – the Lycée International de Los Angeles – has five campuses with over 1,000 students. As an adult, Von May taught at a French lycée in the San Francisco Bay Area.

When Von May arrived in Boca Raton three years ago, she was looking for a French lycée that her daughter could attend, but there was none to be found.

“I thought, this just can’t be,” she said. And that’s when she had the idea to start one of her own.

“What the school is offering is very attractive,” said Cristina Broussard, whose 8-year-old daughter will be attending the school. “Learning other languages and being exposed to other cultures challenges the children and gives them an advantage in their education and development as people.”

The school is at 2500 NW Fifth Ave. It is housed in a section of a building that it rents from the Connected Life Christian Church, but the school is nonsectarian.

It will roughly follow the Palm Beach School District calendar, but will have longer school days and two extra vacation weeks. Classes begin at 8:30 a.m. and go until 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Tuition is $10,000 per student plus a $500 fee for materials and polo shirt with logo and a $90 non-refundable application fee.

For details, visit www.frenchamericaninternationalbocaraton.org.

Céline Von May, director and co-founder of the French American International School of Boca Raton, grew up in Paris. Taylor Jones/The Coastal Star
**August 9-15**

**Sunday - 8/9** 
**Movie Night**
*Boo! (PG)*
at Sugar Sand Park Community Center, 300 Military Trail, Boynton Beach. Free admission. 8:30 pm.

**Monday - 8/10** 
**Kid Activity Lab**
*Practice & Play* (Family Fun Workshop)*
128 E Ocean Ave. Registration required. 305/742-6875.

**Tuesday - 8/11** 
**Field Trip to the Beach**
Dine and Dance with the Starfish (Family Fun Workshop)*
498 Crawford Blvd, Boca Raton. Ages 4-11. $4/child; $3/member; $3.50/class. Registration required. 305/742-6875.

**Wednesday - 8/12** 
**YOUth LEADership**
*Youth Mentoring Program* (Family Fun Workshop)*
Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E Ocean Ave. 4-6:30 pm. Free.

**Thursday - 8/13** 
**Junior Dragster**
*Junior Dragster Race* (Family Fun Workshop)*
Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E Ocean Ave. 9 am-3 pm. Free.

**Friday - 8/14** 
**Summer movies**
*Summer movies* at Community Skate Park and Teen Center. SE 5th Ave., Delray Beach. Support your local offering this Friday night. Do something good! Support your local offer. 6:30 pm.

**Saturday - 8/15** 
**Crop-a-Doodle-Doo**
*Crop-a-Doodle-Doo* (Family Fun Workshop)*
Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E Ocean Ave. 9 am-3 pm. Free.

**Monday - 8/17** 
**Comedy Camp**
*Comedy Camp* (Family Fun Workshop)*
Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E Ocean Ave. 9 am-3 pm. Free.

**Wednesday - 8/19** 
**Early Childhood**
*Early Childhood Art Program* (Family Fun Workshop)*
Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E Ocean Ave. 9 am-3 pm. Free.

**Thursday - 8/20** 
**Enrichment**
*Enrichment* (Family Fun Workshop)*
Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E Ocean Ave. 9 am-3 pm. Free.

**Friday - 8/21** 
**Sensory Storytime**
*Sensory Storytime* (Family Fun Workshop)*
Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E Ocean Ave. 9 am-3 pm. Free.

**Saturday - 8/22** 
**Magic Show**
*Magic Show* (Family Fun Workshop)*
Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E Ocean Ave. 9 am-3 pm. Free.

**Monday - 8/24** 
**Recreation**
*Recreation* (Family Fun Workshop)*
Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E Ocean Ave. 9 am-3 pm. Free.

**Wednesday - 8/26** 
**Science Fair**
*Science Fair* (Family Fun Workshop)*
Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E Ocean Ave. 9 am-3 pm. Free.

**Thursday - 8/27** 
**Teen Activity Lab**
*Teen Activity Lab* (Family Fun Workshop)*
Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E Ocean Ave. 9 am-3 pm. Free.

**Saturday - 8/29** 
**Drum Clinic**
*Drum Clinic* (Family Fun Workshop)*
Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E Ocean Ave. 9 am-3 pm. Free.

**Monday - 8/31** 
**Mini Maker Academy**
*Mini Maker Academy* (Family Fun Workshop)*
Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E Ocean Ave. 9 am-3 pm. Free.

**Thursday - 9/3** 
**Science Camp**
*Science Camp* (Family Fun Workshop)*
Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E Ocean Ave. 9 am-3 pm. Free.

**Sunday - 9/6** 
**Van Tour**
*Van Tour* (Family Fun Workshop)*
Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E Ocean Ave. 9 am-3 pm. Free.

**Monday - 9/7** 
**Storytelling**
*Storytelling* (Family Fun Workshop)*
Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E Ocean Ave. 9 am-3 pm. Free.

**Wednesday - 9/9** 
**Racquetball**
*Racquetball* (Family Fun Workshop)*
Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E Ocean Ave. 9 am-3 pm. Free.

**Thursday - 9/10** 
**Cooking Class**
*Cooking Class* (Family Fun Workshop)*
Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E Ocean Ave. 9 am-3 pm. Free.

**Saturday - 9/12** 
**Art & Craft**
*Art & Craft* (Family Fun Workshop)*
Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E Ocean Ave. 9 am-3 pm. Free.

**Monday - 9/14** 
**Magician Show**
*Magician Show* (Family Fun Workshop)*
Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E Ocean Ave. 9 am-3 pm. Free.

**Wednesday - 9/16** 
**Tennis Clinic**
*Tennis Clinic* (Family Fun Workshop)*
Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E Ocean Ave. 9 am-3 pm. Free.

**Friday - 9/18** 
**Dance Camp**
*Dance Camp* (Family Fun Workshop)*
Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E Ocean Ave. 9 am-3 pm. Free.

**Monday - 9/21** 
**Mini Maker Academy**
*Mini Maker Academy* (Family Fun Workshop)*
Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E Ocean Ave. 9 am-3 pm. Free.

**Wednesday - 9/23** 
**Adult Education**
*Adult Education* (Family Fun Workshop)*
Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E Ocean Ave. 9 am-3 pm. Free.

**Friday - 9/25** 
**Science Fair**
*Science Fair* (Family Fun Workshop)*
Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E Ocean Ave. 9 am-3 pm. Free.

**Monday - 9/28** 
**Magician Show**
*Magician Show* (Family Fun Workshop)*
Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E Ocean Ave. 9 am-3 pm. Free.

**Wednesday - 9/30** 
**Tennis Clinic**
*Tennis Clinic* (Family Fun Workshop)*
Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E Ocean Ave. 9 am-3 pm. Free.

**Friday - 10/2** 
**Dance Camp**
*Dance Camp* (Family Fun Workshop)*
Boynton Beach Civic Center, 128 E Ocean Ave. 9 am-3 pm. Free.
1660 LANDS END ROAD POINT MANALAPAN
Gorgeous, East-facing vacant lot with 160 feet of water frontage is the perfect complaint sale or lease of your property. 1660 LANDS END ROAD
SOLD FOR $1,175,000
SOLD FOR $1,900,000
I CAN SELL YOURS TOO…
A WATERFRONT GEM!
Glorious, East-facing vacant lot with private dock and easy ocean access.

110 ATLANTIC DRIVE A WATERFRONT GEM!
This Key-West style home is sited on a bluff overlooking the ocean with private dock and easy ocean access. List price: $1,749,000

118 SE ATLANTIC DRIVE HYPOLUXO ISLAND WATERFRONT
This Caribbean style pole home is sited on a bluff overlooking the ocean with private dock and easy ocean access. List price: $1,750,000

115 N ATLANTIC DRIVE A WATERFRONT GEM!
This Key-West style home on Hypoluxo Island has amazing wide, views of the intracoastal waterway and a unique courtyard entry with grand entertaining areas.

LISTED & SOLD FOR $1,900,000
activities and informative workshops, participates in various community service projects for the City of Boynton Beach and local charitable organizations. High school students. Every Sat 10 am-expect, first meeting 9/5. 500-50 students, 750/hom residents. 362-7031, boyton-beach.org

Thursday - 4/7 - Animal Keeper for a Day at Daggerwing Nature Center, 11435 Park Access Rd, Boca Raton. Work behind the scenes with animal care staff and volunteers from cleaning cages and preparing diets to going on a “tulip walk.” Learn what it really means to care for these special animal ambassadors. Kids may get messy. Ages 8-11. 10 am-1 pm. Reservations: 629-7890, pbepw.com/parks/nature

Friday - 4/8 - Ani-Movie Revue at Showtime Performing Arts Theatre, 501 SE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. 11:45 am & 1:45 pm. Free. 475-4610, showtimeboca.com


Friday - 4/10 - Annual Back to School Splash at Sugar Sand Park, 100 Park Rd, Boynton Beach. Water slides, games, giveaways, prize drawings, free for ages 3 & up. Weather permitting. 10 am-1 pm. Free. 474-7391, parksdirect.org

Friday - 4/10 - Family Studio at Norton Museum of Art, 6551 S Olive Ave, West Palm Beach. Children and adult partners tour the current special exhibition, then create their own artwork. Ages 5-12 with parents. Every Sat through 9/15. 10 am-12:30 pm. $15/child materials fee payable at the door by the participating neighborhood families. 521-1196, norton.org

Friday - 4/10 - Group Swim Lessons at Lake Dreyton Park, 1001 NW 12th Ave, Boynton Beach. Ages 3 and older. Young children must be potty trained. Held Sat through 9/15. Four 45 minute classes per session, levels L1-L5: 10:30 am & 11:30 am, level L1, 11:15 am, registered, $50/member, $62-6774, boyton-beach.org

Friday - 4/10 - School Bash hosted by the “505” Teen Center at Pumpoy Park, 1001 NW 2nd St, Delray Beach. Noon 1 pm. Free. Suggested donation to help fund camp costs for neighborhood participating 4-10th graders. 243-7858, mydelraybeach.com

Friday - 4/10 - Science Demonstrations at Children’s Science Explorium, 300 S Military Tr, Boca Raton. Hear your favorite science-inspired stories. Ages 5 and up. Every Sat 11:30 am, 12:30 pm, 1:30 pm, 2:30 pm. Free. 347-3912; scienceexplorium.org

AUGUST 16-22

Sunday - 8/16 - The Wonderful World of Music presented by The Symphonia at Willow Theatre at Sugar Sand Park Community Center, 305 Military Tr, Boca Raton. Children participate in the music making process. Features Beethoven and Mozart. Under the Sea. Imperial March from Star Wars, and more. 11 am 1 pm. $7/adults, $5/children 12 and under. 347-1000, willowtheatre.org

Monday - 8/17 - First Day of School: Palm Beach County Public Schools. palmbeachk12.edu


Thursday - 8/20 - Fishing at Daggerwing Nature Center, 11435 Park Access Rd, Boca Raton. Learn the basics for freshwater fishing and put your new skills to the test pole blaming, casting tips, freshwater fish identification, and fish habits. Fishing supplies provided. Bring your own protection, water bottle, and wear closed toed shoes (or water shoes) that can get wet. $5/person, $3/children. Ages 5 & up. 10 am-1 pm. Reservations: 629-7890, pbepw.com/parks/nature

AUGUST 23-29


Six-week class held 11/1-7/8. Age 5-8: 3/3: 415 pm, age 5-8: 4:30-5:30 pm, $52/residents, $57/non-residents. 362-7031, or ci.boca-raton.fl.us

225 - Eco-Savy: GEMS Club at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreyer Rd W, West Palm Beach. Empower young girls to explore STEAM fields. Girls grades 3-5. High school girls can volunteer to be mentors. Last 5-7 pm. 545-4464. Registration 379-7713, sfsciencecenter.org/gems

Wednesday - 8/26 - Stroller Daze 2015 at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreyer Rd W, West Palm Beach. Seared parents and young children. Storytelling, children activities, crafts, first truck exploration, planetarium show, Discovery Center exploration, science demos, more. Snacks and special menu available for purchase at Subway cafe. Ages birth-4 years. 9 am, 11 am, $10/adult, free children and members. 532-1988, sfsciencecenter.org

Thursday - 8/27 - 5/6 - Thumbeline at Sol Children Theatre, 3315 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton. Thu., Fri, Sat, 7 pm; Sat/Sun 2 pm. $12/adults, $8/71 and younger. 447-8287, solchildren.com

Friday - 8/28 - 5th Annual Pirates & Princesses Party at Patch Reef Park Pirates Cove Playland, 2000 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. All pirates, swashbucklers, princesses and parents are invited to walk the plink, dig for treasures and more; features water play area. Ages 2-5. 10 am-noon. $5 suggested donation. 367-6112; ci.boca-raton.fl.us

F 8/28 - Special Storytime at Boca Raton’s Mad Place Children’s Play Area, 601 N Congress Ave. Free. 9 am-1 pm, 3 pm. 243-7858, mydelraybeach.com


Saturday - 8/29 - Our Kids World Family Fun Fest at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 9067 Southern Blvd, West Palm Beach. Hands-on educational activities, two entertainment stages, sports, music and television characters, Fun Zone filled with inflatables! Ages 3 and older. 10 am-5 pm. $30/child; each additional child $10. 545-4464, sfsciencecenter.org

Saturday - 8/29 - Sunday - 9/6 - Storytime at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. All supplies provided to create a chalkboard book. 6:30-7:30 pm. Free. Registration: 395-7968, baldictory.org

Friday - 9/4 - Parents Night Out: Into the Wild at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreyer Rd, West Palm Beach. Hands-on science experiments, science-related career facing watershorefront with local charitable organizations. High school seniors and juniors. 9-6 pm, Sat 10 am-5 pm, Sun 10 am-4 pm. $11, $8/7-12, and $15-18. Reservations: 315-8762, sfsciencecenter.org/parents-night-out


Monday - 8/3 - Twilight Wacky Wednesday: Blackboard Notebooks at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. All supplies provided to create a chalkboard notebook. 6:30-7:30 pm. Free. Registration: 395-7968, baldictory.org

Friday - 9/4 - Parents Night Out: Into the Wild at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreyer Rd W, West Palm Beach. Hands-on science experiments, science-related career facing watershorefront with local charitable organizations. High school seniors and juniors. 9-6 pm, Sat 10 am-5 pm, Sun 10 am-4 pm. $11, $8/7-12, and $15-18. Reservations: 315-8762, sfsciencecenter.org/parents-night-out


AUGUST 30-SEP. 5
This Key West-style, pastel color-influenced three-bedroom home has four full baths. The home is on a huge, direct Intracoastal lot with a refreshing pool area with covered outdoor dining. A long waterside dock is perfect for evening sunset watching, for your boat and has no fixed bridges to the ocean.

The large front yard comes into view via the circular driveway, which is surrounded with mature tropical landscaping. A two-car garage is tucked into the front design of the residence. The front entry is graced by a covered veranda to welcome your guests.

The private master bedroom takes up the entire second floor. It has two ample walk-in closets. The master bath has dual sinks, a separate shower and a Roman tub with whirlpool. Ceramic tile carries throughout the main level of the house. A family room, living room, and other bedrooms are located on the first floor.

Open house is 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 1, and Sunday, Aug. 2, at 1620 N. Lakeside Drive, Lake Worth.

$1,199,000. Jennifer P. Spitznagel, Manatee Cove Realty, 619 Lake Ave., Suite A, Lake Worth, FL 33460, 561-301-5535, jennspitz@aol.com.

Lovely in Lake Worth: A home with a view

This secluded secret north-end Lake Worth neighborhood features the Snook Island kayak trail and a public golf course and restaurant all overlooking the Intracoastal.
COASTAL STAR
August 2015

FITE SHAVELL & ASSOCIATES

1730 LANDS END ROAD
Newly constructed home sits on .7 acres with 310‘ of Intracoastal views. 10,000 SF. Dockage just minutes from the Ocean.Gratis Beach Club membership. $9,995,000
Bill Quigley 561.346.3434

719 PELICAN DRIVE
New construction on a private cul-de-sac. This Intracoastal beauty features 5BR/6.5BA. Private pool & outside loggia. $4,495,000
Bill Quigley 561.346.3434

961 LANDS END ROAD
Newly constructed 5BR/7.5BA pool home sits on the wide Intracoastal with dockage and Ocean access nearby. $4,295,000
Bill Quigley 561.346.3434

1348 S ATLANTIC DRIVE
Updated 4BR/4BA Mediterranean home with 4,000 SF. State-of-the-art 3D home theater and large open gourmet kitchen. Owner motivated. $995,000
Bill Quigley 561.346.3434
Mac McFadden 561.302.2446

14 LITTLE POND ROAD
2BR/2BA free-standing Mediterranean villa surrounded by courtyards with lush tropical landscaping. Located on the serene, secure island of Pt. Manalapan. $849,500
Bill Quigley 561.346.3434

DUNES OF OCEAN RIDGE
Direct Oceanfront townhome features 3BR/2.5BA and 3,000 SF. Lush tropical grounds, pool and leasable boat dock with quick Ocean access. $875,000
Bill Quigley 561.346.3434
Mac McFadden 561.302.2446

Your Window Into Manalapan/Ocean Ridge Real Estate

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PALM BEACH GARDENS 561.694.6550
PALM BEACH 561.655.6570

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mqigley@fiteshavell.com

Mac McFadden 561.302.2446
mmcfadden@fiteshavell.com