Golfers walk away from resort course, lamenting condition

By Tao Woolfe

A massive kapok tree dominates the walking path behind the Boca Raton Resort and Club. Its raised gray roots, covered with thorns, stretch toward the walkway like a dragon in the sun.

Longtime golfers and members of the club say the golf course and the tree have much in common — they are beautiful and old, but if you look closely, you won’t want to play on them.

The tree’s spikes are a natural defense mechanism, but the run-down state of the club’s fairways and greens is simply a case of neglect, golfers say. Many of the club members have quit and others are hanging on, hoping new owners will buy the seaside resort and restore the golf course to championship status.

The resort, a historic landmark built by Addison Mizner in 1926, has been for sale for more than two years. Rumors swirled this summer about an imminent sale, but current owner Blackstone Group and administrator Hilton Worldwide will not comment on the sale.

Meanwhile, the 18-hole course has deteriorated. The greens, which were smooth, flat and fast, have not been maintained, the players say. The greens’ grass is as tall as shag carpet, making play sluggish. The ponds and waterways sometimes smell like rotting grass and tall grass make the greens hard to play.

See GOLF on page 10

Chabad members ready to move in

By Margie Plunkett

David and Amara Kaiyalethe are building a home in the Boca Villas neighborhood, attracted by the developing city and increasing opportunities to walk places downtown. One destination of prime interest: the Chabad of East Boca Raton, which recently won approval for a new synagogue and Israel museum at 770 E. Palmetto Park Road.

“We wanted to live somewhere within walking distance to the new synagogue,” said David Kaiyalethe, whose home will be about three-quarters of a mile from the Chabad. “On the major holidays we try to keep the traditions. It’s very important on those holidays for us to be able to walk.”

The family is one of many that Rabbi Ruvi New expects will locate here now that the Chabad’s permanent home has been determined. “I already know people who have put down payments on [planned] condos,” he said. “We’re hopeful and optimistic.”

See CHABAD on page 17

Erika fizzes

ABOVE: Surfers prepare to take on the remnants of Tropical Storm Erika along the beach at Palmetto Park Road in Boca Raton. Strong winds and choppy surf attracted surfers and onlookers to the beaches.

RIGHT: There was little sand left for beach walkers in front of the Eau Palm Beach Resort & Spa on Aug. 31.

Photos by Tim Stepien and Willie Howard/
The Coastal Star

See HEROIN on page 9

Delray approves iPic

Theater will open at former library site. Page 25

Local athletes make marks

Swimmer and gymnast shine in Junior Olympics. Page 22

Blues and more

Music lovers rejoice at the reopening of Lake Worth’s Bamboo Room. Page AT7

Images of Briny Volunteers put faded photos into focus. Page 18

Along the Coast

Heroin use on the rise

Delray steps up push for solutions

By Thomas R. Collins

The heroin addict is unconscious, teetering between life and death.

A paramedic swoops in and gives a shot of medication that — almost literally — brings the person back from the dead.

The reaction from the user? Not amazement, not gratitude. And definitely not relief. Instead, there’s anger and contempt. What a powerful high he had going — the addict often says, according to Delray Beach Fire-Rescue Chief Danielle Connor — but the paramedic stole it from him.

Such is the twisted world of a heroin addict — an increasingly common figure in the landscape of drug use in the Delray Beach and southern Palm Beach County area.

In an uptick over a 24-hour period on Aug. 28 and Aug. 29, there were three overdose deaths in Delray Beach that police believe were due to heroin.

The rise in heroin use has
Editor’s Note

Erika a useful practice run in storm season

Water jugs frozen. Check.
Cash from the ATM. Check.
Gas for the generator. Check.

We were prepared for Tropical Storm (or maybe Hurricane) Erika. Then after days of blowing (and raining) through the Caribbean, she hit the mountains of Hispaniola and Cuba, and “poof” she was gone. We heaved a sigh of relief. Then got back to work. This time no evacuations were required and the lights stayed on.

But it’s early September and there are swirls of wind and waves lining up off the coast of Africa and headed in this general direction. Will they make it here? It’s far too early to tell, but if any one of them does, we have many of our preparations already completed. Phew.

Although Erika fizzled, I’m sure our local first responders don’t regret the advance preparations the storm demanded. They will now be able to more quickly act should a new storm threaten. That’s a good thing for all of us.

So this storm was not a waste of time. It was a healthy reminder that each hurricane season we need to take stock and make plans. Each storm threat is different and basic plans should stay flexible enough to morph into what is required to keep us safe regardless of predicted wind speed or tidal surge.

It was good to knock the cobwebs off the shutters and stow away the lawn furniture. It won’t hurt a thing to leave things secured for a few more weeks. Then, when this hurricane season is finally past, we’ll be ready to hose everything off and put it back in place tidy and clean — and then get back to living in paradise.

We’ll be ready for that as well.

— Mary Kate Leming, Editor

LETTERS: The Coastal Star welcomes letters to the editor about issues of interest in the community. These are subject to editing and must include your name, address and phone number. Preferred length is 200 words or fewer. Mail to 5114 N. Ocean Blvd., Ocean Ridge, FL 33435; or email editor@thecoastalstar.com.

Editorial Staff

Coastal Stars

Couple finds job of giving an enjoyable one

By Rich Pollack

Over the years, Barbara and Irving Gutin have funded millions of dollars’ worth of projects in South Florida and prevously in New Hampshire.

They were a major driving force behind bringing robotic surgery to Boca Raton Regional Hospital and helped finance the hospital’s first stroke center.

Their financial support extends throughout the community to organizations such as Family Promise of South Palm Beach County, which was able to establish a mentoring program thanks to a $150,000 grant.

But the contribution that may best illustrate the Gutins’ philosophy of philanthropy could be the donation of a ping-pong table their visiting grandchildren no longer used to a center serving homeless families struggling to get back on their feet.

“Philanthropy doesn’t have to be about a lot of money,” Irving Gutin said. “It just has to be something where you can see the impact.”

The Gutins share their philosophy of philanthropy with many others in South Florida, including Henrietta, Countess de Hoernle, and this month they will serve as honorary chairs of the countess’ 103rd Birthday Philanthropic Concert, “A Knight in Budapest.”

Hosted by the Order of St. John of Jerusalem Knights Hospitaler, the Sept. 19 concert at Lynn University’s Wold Performing Arts Center is both a benefit and a tribute.

Among the charities supported by the order are: The American Association of Caregiving Youth, Boca Helping Hands, Estella’s Brilliant Bus, Family Promise of South Palm Beach County, GulfStream Goodwill Industries, HomeSafe and the Spirit of Giving Network.

“The countess has been an outstanding member of this community,” Irving Gutin said. “She has been a symbol and a reminder for all of us to do good.”

Gutin said that all organizations benefiting from the concert, which will feature the Lynn University Philharmonia under the direction of Dr. Jon Robertson, are ones he believes are making a positive difference in South Florida.

“These organizations are all having a real impact on our community,” he said. “It’s going to be a great evening.”

A former senior vice president of mergers and acquisitions at Tyco International, Irving Gutin understands the importance of due diligence and applies the skills he developed in the corporate world to his family foundation’s philanthropic giving.

“Giving is a tough job,” he said. “It’s a very difficult task to understand where your funds are going and to make sure they’re having the impact that you were promised.”

Their philosophy of philanthropy, the Gutins say, was developed while they were living in a small New Hampshire community, where charitable giving had a strong impact on the area.

If You Go

Countess’ 103rd Birthday Philanthropic Concert, ‘A Knight in Budapest’

In celebration of people who love humanity and contribute to the good of their community, Countess de Hoernle continues to sustain her life of philanthropy through her 103rd birthday wish, to be fulfilled with a memorable concert fundraiser for local charities.

When: 7:30 p.m. Sept. 19
Where: Wold Performing Arts Center, Lynn University, 3601 N. Military Trail, Boca Raton
Tickets: $35-$150
Proceeds: Go to charities addressing needs of the sick and the poor.

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Boca Raton

Gumbo Limbo emergency declared to speed tank repairs

By Steve Plunkett

The pipes that bring saltwater from the ocean to Gumbo Limbo Nature Center’s fish viewing tanks need $2 million of repairs — and fast.

“Those poor fish — you just want to breathe for them. You want to give CPR because they’re having such a hard time,” said Susan Vogelgesang, chairwoman of the Greater Boca Raton Beach and Park District Board.

The board declared an emergency Aug. 17 to speed up the process of having repairs made. The declaration let the district immediately hire consultant Applied Technology & Management to design and build whatever is needed to fix the seawater lines. ATM already had studied the lines for the city. Arthur Koski, the district’s interim executive director, said the consultant would begin with a temporary repair. Designing, getting permits and constructing a permanent solution will take two years, he said.

Koski said air is leaking into the system, but ATM is not sure whether the leak is in the pump house, east of State Road A1A, or in the lines under the highway. There are also issues with the intake lines out in the ocean, he said.

Without the emergency declaration, the district would have had to put the repairs out to bid, adding months to the project.

“It’s obvious that something needs to be done,” Koski said.

The city owns Red Reef Park, which includes the nature center. The district pays for all operating expenses and maintenance. It also funds most capital projects.

Gumbo Limbo’s seawater tanks, which opened in 2012, were built with $2.2 million from the district. Not long after, officials realized something was wrong with the pumps and pipes that bring in saltwater from the Atlantic.

Koski said he first heard of the trouble at a meeting in March 2014. “We knew the problem existed way back then,” he said.

The district started to have a consultant look at the plumbing system, then the city said it could do the work in-house. Earlier this year the city decided to pass responsibility back to the district.

Beach and Park District Commissioner Earl Starkoff said he and his colleagues should monitor both the repairs and their budget to make sure they have enough money.

“We don’t know if the $2 million we’ve budgeted for it is too much, too little or just right,” Starkoff said.

But Commissioner Robert Rollons said it was more important to focus first on making the fixes. “Let’s just keep the pedal to the metal and keep this thing moving forward so we don’t have a catastrophe,” he said.

Judy Gire of the Friends of Gumbo Limbo thanked commissioners for taking the emergency action. “We hope that this approval will be back to the district. Earlier this year the city decided to pass responsibility back to the district.

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Judy Gire of the Friends of Gumbo Limbo thanked commissioners for taking the emergency action. “We hope that this approval will be sufficient to move the project ahead quickly,” she said.
By Rich Pollack

Thanks to significant increases in overall property values and several hundred thousand dollars’ worth of cuts to the town’s proposed 2015-2016 budget, Highland Beach residents are likely to see their municipal tax rate drop for the first time since 2011.

Town commissioners have discussed the possibility of cutting the operating tax rate from $3.95 per $1,000 of assessed value to $3.70 or less per $1,000. The overall tax rate, including debt service, would drop from $4.95 to $4.35 per $1,000 of assessed value.

The reduction in the municipal tax rate to what is known as the rollback rate — the rate that will generate the same amount of property taxes that the city took in the previous year — will mean some residents could see the actual amount they pay in taxes to the town decrease, depending on their property’s assessed value.

“We’re able to provide a tax-rate cut to our residents without reducing the overall quality of service we provide,” said Commissioner Lou Stern. “Because of the property value increase, we’re able to reduce our tax rate and still maintain proper reserves.”

Total assessed value of property in Highland Beach increased from $1.9 billion to just over $2 billion this year.

Commissioners are continuing to make budget cuts, which could drop the tax rate even lower. The final decision will be made later this month.

“I want to make it clear there’s no way we’re raising our taxes,” Stern said. “Taxes are going down.”

The town currently has an $11.37 million budget and town officials had originally proposed a budget that would increase in the upcoming fiscal year to $11.55 million.

Commissioners, however, have trimmed several hundred thousand dollars from the budget, which if approved in its proposed form would stand at just over $11 million.

Among the items taken out of the budget were two major capital improvements that have been placed on hold: license plate recognition scanners for the Police Department and enclosures for two terraces at the library.

A purchase of scanners, with a cost of about $68,000, was placed on hold due to a Florida Department of Transportation ruling that prohibits cameras on state rights of way. The terrace project, with an estimated price tag of $150,000, was added to replace the analyst position.

During discussions of pay increases, commissioners shied away from giving employees 5 percent raises that have been standard in recent years. Instead, they agreed to 3 percent raises at the beginning of the new fiscal year.

Vice Mayor Bill Wetz expressed concern over salaries paid for certain positions and questioned whether the town could continue to provide pay increases for them. “Are there certain jobs in town deserving of the level of pay they receive?” he asked. “I don’t think so.”

Commissioners agreed to a 3 percent increase for employees but also expressed interest in rewarding employees who perform well. “I would like to see some kind of merit program for someone who can save the town money,” Commissioner Carl Feldman said.

The public hearings will be held Sept. 10 and 24.
Ed Slominski says he learned a good bit about conflict resolution while running successful businesses in the Northeast. Where better now to use that knowledge than his adopted hometown of Gulf Stream, where there has been so much conflict and not a hint of resolution in recent years?

Slominski has been working behind the scenes this summer to broker a settlement deal between the town and its two harshest critics, Martin O’Boyle and Chris O’Hare. The idea is to get everyone to the bargaining table, drop the lawsuits and countersuits, and end the costly hostilities.

“There’s so much ego here between the parties,” Slominski says. “Both sides are damaging Gulf Stream’s brand and the community by their actions.”

A growing number of Gulf Stream residents, Slominski believes, have become weary of the court fights that have drained the town’s budget. Town commissioners have set aside $1 million for the next fiscal year to cover the legal expenses from dozens of lawsuits pending with O’Boyle and O’Hare.

“You’ve got wealthy people who’ve decided you can spend money just because you’re right,” Slominski says. “A lot of privileged people got their dander up. That has to stop.”

He finds some fault and some merit on all sides: Town officials have been guilty of selective enforcement of some rules, Slominski says, but O’Boyle and O’Hare have gone too far in their attacks, many of which have been public and personal. The more than 1,500 requests for public records O’Boyle and O’Hare have made to town officials haven’t helped either.

The town’s lawyers, however, overreached in their response, Slominski says, when they filed a RICO lawsuit against the two men this year — a suit that a federal judge threw out in June. In the wake of that dismissal, Slominski has been pitching resolution to all who will listen.

He has floated a plan for settlement negotiations to Mayor Scott Morgan and O’Boyle and O’Hare. Slominski’s idea is to have all parties contribute to a fund as a show of good faith — perhaps hundreds of thousands of dollars each — money that would go to charitable causes. That would help repair damage done to Gulf Stream’s brand, he says.

The more difficult work would begin then with all sides coming to the table and agreeing to resolve their issues and drop their lawsuits. Reaction to Slominski’s proposal has been muted. Morgan has referred settlement talks to the town’s lawyers and publicly expressed skepticism about the level of good intentions on the other side.

Gulf Stream, the mayor says, thought it had resolved all issues with O’Boyle two years ago when it settled a court case over his home renovation plans. But then his lawsuits resumed shortly after.

Jonathan O’Boyle, Martin’s son and a lawyer affiliated with the O’Boyle Law Firm, says the family is open to negotiation. “I have heard about settlement only in the form of getting both sides to talk (something that has been utterly impossible and still may be — let’s see),” Jonathan O’Boyle said in an email to The Coastal Star. “Ed [Slominski] has identified this situation as a runaway train and wants the commission to talk to the litigants, something that Morgan has publicly averred he would not do as leader of the town. If this trend is not reversed, then neither will the trend in rising taxes.”

Slominski, a technology entrepreneur who moved to the Place Au Soleil neighborhood from Boston 10 years ago, has no illusions about the road ahead. But he says the alternative is possible bankruptcy for the town.

If settlement efforts fail, Slominski says, he intends to go to the Palm Beach County Office of Inspector General and ask for intervention from higher powers.
South Palm Beach

By Dan Moffett

South Palm Beach is appealing to oceanfront condominium owners to allow the town easement access to the beaches during emergencies and renourishment projects.

Town officials say they have no way of getting vehicles to the beach without the cooperation of private property owners. Public access from Lake Worth is too far north to be feasible and public access from Lantana may not be granted because the town has liability concerns about potential damage. “Lantana is very protective about their seawall,” Mayor Bonnie Fischer said. “I don’t blame them. They don’t want to blame them. They don’t want to have to deal with damage vehicles might cause.”

Fischer said that if negotiation with the condominium owners doesn’t work, then the town might have to consider claiming the easements by eminent domain.

Vice Mayor Joseph Flagello, who is also president of the Palmsea Condominium board of directors, says his association does not mean that the town wants to create access for the public. The easements are for the town’s official use only.

Council members say they want to reassure condo owners that the request for easements does not mean that the town wants to create access for the public. The easements are for the town’s official use only. "Vice Mayor Joseph Flagello, who is also president of the Palmsea Condominium board of directors, says his association will need reassurance that the town is fully insured and will cover potential property damage vehicles might cause. "That’s the question I’m going to be hearing," Flagello said. "How serious is the town’s request? Very serious."

Fischer said that if negotiation with the condominium owners doesn’t work, then the town might have to consider claiming the easements by eminent domain.

Officials say that there is a last resort that they hope will not be necessary. In other business: The council approved hiring Colin Baenziger & Associates to run background checks and screen prospective candidates for the vacant town manager’s job. Former Boynton Beach Town Manager Kurt Bressner, who is advising the council on filling the position, recommended the headhunting firm over another company the town used last year in hiring Jim Pascale, who abruptly resigned in June.

Colin Baenziger will charge $900 for each candidate it screens, and the council hopes to have identified six finalists to choose from before the tourist season begins and the interviewing and hiring completed before the end of the year.

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Delray Beach

City getting public input for dog beach proposal

By Rich Pollack

If Delray Beach were to create a dog beach, what’s to stop dogs from digging up sea turtle nests?

What would the city do if a dog owner failed to clean up after his or her pet?

And what could be done to make sure that others on the beach without dogs don’t find themselves face to face with a growling German shepherd?

All of these questions surfaced last month during a meeting hosted by Delray Beach’s Parks and Recreation Director Suzanne Davis, who is continuing to seek feedback from residents before bringing recommendations regarding a dog beach to the Delray Beach City Commission.

“We want to be sure we look at all the reasons people are for a dog beach and all the reasons people are against it,” Davis said.

The meeting, the second of three designed to seek input from the community, gave people with concerns about the impact of dogs on the chance to raise questions and at the same time it allowed those in favor of the idea to make suggestions that would address some of the issues.

Davis told residents that after gathering information from other communities with successful dog beaches, listening to residents and studying the results of an online survey, her department would make a series of proposals to City Manager Donald Cooper, who could then bring them to the City Commission.

She said her department is exploring one alternative for a separated dog beach at either or both recreation areas at the north and south ends of the public beach.

Currently, city ordinances prohibit dogs on the city’s public beach.

Many of the questions raised at the Delray Beach meeting were similar to those raised more than a year and a half ago before Boca Raton opened its dog beach.

Since then, Boca Raton has found few of the issues have surfaced.

“It’s going extremely well,” said Boca Raton Parks and Recreation Director Mickey Gomez. “There are no times when there will be 60 dogs out there and there are people who go just to watch the dogs play.”

Gomez said the city has issued more than 1,200 dog beach permits, most of those going to city residents who pay $30 as opposed to non-residents who pay more.

Park rangers at either end of the dog beach, situated between lifeguard towers 18 and 20, check to make sure people have permits to use the dog beach, which is only open Friday, Saturday and Sunday mornings and evenings.

He said the city has found that most dog owners clean up after their pets but added that the city has a maintenance crew follow up after the dog beach closes.

“If we’ve had five incidents of crews having to clean up after dogs that would be a lot,” Gomez said.

Before opening the dog beach, Boca Raton checked with the Save Limbo Limbo Nature Center that said raccoons and other animals were more likely than dogs to disturb turtle nests.

Gomez said there hasn’t been a problem with dogs on the beach disturbing turtle nests.

In Delray Beach, Davis said she is planning to host one more meeting before coming up with recommendations to present to city leaders.

CRA picks firm to analyze tax values

By Jane Smith

This time, the Delray Beach Community Redevelopment Agency commissioners were unanimous at their late August meeting in awarding a $59,000 contract to analyze taxable values in each of its eight subareas.

The contract went to the low bidder, Munilytics Inc. of Davie. The firm also had the shortest estimated completion time — two months — when it was selected in July.

The analysis will be done in three parts. Part A will include: Establish a base year value for each subarea when the CRA was formed in 1985, establish current year value, project values for each subarea for the next 30 years, interview all city and CRA commissioners and each of their respective managers or directors, interview the CRA bond counsel, interview the CRA legal counsel, provide recommendations for the CRA to assist the city with other expenditures and present report and findings to the CRA board and to the City Commission.

Part B covers comparative analysis of CRAs 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 to the Delray Beach economy from CRA investments, demographic data, property values, jobs created and other similar items.

The other bidders also were from Broward County: PMG Associates of Deerfield Beach and RMA Associates of Pompano Beach.

In July, the CRA commissioners were deadlocked 3-3 because Cathy Ballestriere was absent. Finally, CRA then-commissioner and now chairman Reggie Cox made a motion to hire Munilytics. It passed 4-2, with Paul Zachs and Joseph Bernadel voting no. They both preferred PMG, recommended by CRA staff.

Ballestriere was also absent for the August vote.

In other action at the Aug. 27 meeting, the board asked staff to increase 2015-16 budget amounts for the Spady Museum to the $67,357 requested and for the Delray Beach Historical Society to the $52,000 requested. The other nonprofits would receive the amounts that staff had recommended.

The board approved by a 6-0 vote to spend $21,370 to hire Kimley-Horn and Associates to do a study of parking demand and use in its downtown core, generally between Swinton Avenue and the Intracoastal Waterway. The firm was the lowest of four bidders.

The board also agreed to reimburse the city up to $400,000 during the next financial year to operate the downtown trolley. The city had a $100,000 state transportation grant that is expiring, which accounts for the increased request. Finance Director Lori Hayward said the expenses for the current year were only $112,000 so far, not nearly the $300,000 budgeted.

Briny Breezes

Molina stepping down from Briny Council

By Dan Moffett

After serving 20 months as alderman, Barbara Molina has resigned her seat on the Briny Breezers Town Council, citing personal reasons.

“Unfortunately, I don’t have the time,” Molina said. “It’s been a pleasure working with this group. It’s truly a great group and I’m happy and proud to have been a part of it.”

Molina, who has resided in Briny full-time since 2013 when she left her teaching job with the U.S. military in Germany, also served as the town’s clerk pro tem.

The council unanimously confirmed Alderman Bobby Juravsky at the Aug. 27 meeting to fill the clerk vacancy. In June, the council filled its open deputy clerk’s position by hiring Steve Cooper.

“I’d like to say on behalf of the Town Council that we owe you our appreciation for stepping up and filling the position of town clerk pro tem when a volunteer was needed,” Council President Sue Thaler told Molina. “You’ve juggled a lot of balls in the air with all the commitments you have in your life right now.”

Council members are looking for candidates to serve out the rest of Molina’s two-year term, which expires in March.
HEROIN
Continued from page 1
put drug-abuse-prevention specialists and drug-treatment professionals to a new round of litigation.

Results of surveys have shown an increase in heroin use in our community,” Connors said. “It’s truly epidemic levels in our community.”

Delray Beach Police went public with a spike in the city’s heroin use in June, after a huge uptick in heroin overdoses was seen in May. There were 17 in the city that month, compared to nine for the entire calendar year up till then.

There were four deaths from heroin in June claiming the city has not responded to an Atlantic Crossing’s lawsuit. The city’s suit against that drug rehabilitation center that was approved in November 2010.

Since the May uptick, more confidential informants have been used, Goldman said. He said the police have not seen a corresponding rise in people and property crimes — such as assaults and burglaries — as a result of the heroin spike.

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In May, there were 70 calls to Delray Fire Rescue for a suspected heroin overdose, for an overdose or for a death, Connors said. Before that, Delray had had no more than 20 in a single month. In June, there were 70 calls again.

In July, the number of calls dropped to 39. Connors said it wasn’t known how many of those involved heroin, but it stands on reason that heroin drove the spike.

In September, 2013, a similar rash of drug calls was seen. “A bad batch of something” hit the streets, Connors said. “I don’t ever remember — and I’ve been here 22 years — getting these types of calls.”

Connors said 394 drug-related calls to Delray Fire Rescue from August of last year to July of this year, paramedics have injected drug users with Narcan 192 — almost exactly half the time. Narcan, the brand name for naloxone, almost immediately reverses the effects of opiates. So when paramedics use it, addicts are out cold one minute, often on the brink of death, and — and faced with their grim reality — the next.

New laws affecting revocal drug, referrals
A change in Florida law that took effect in July now allows caretakers and other nonmedical personnel to administer Narcan — it can be done with virtually no training. Delray police, often on the scene before paramedics, are working out the logistics of carrying it, including how to store in the police cars.

The drug gives addicts a new lease on life, but, usually, they don’t see it that way — they just want their high back, Connors said. High users, upon seeing paramedics in emergency rooms, sometimes beg them not to inject them with Narcan, Connors said.

Another legislative move, which also took effect in July, creates a voluntary certification program for sober homes, where addicts recently out of rehabilitation programs live to get further support as they continue their recovery.

Law enforcement and treatment professionals frequently refer to “the good and the bad” sober homes, distinguishing between those that are run properly, with recovery the real goal, and those that exist only to work the system and make a profit.

Starting in July 2016, rehabilitation centers will be allowed to refer patients to certified sober homes, which is when experts expect the real change to begin taking hold.

Sober homes are highly concentrated in southern Palm Beach County, particularly in Delray Beach, the city’s chief of police told a drug fix conference. Addiction and recovery website lists the city as one of the country’s Top 10 destinations for sober living, along with metropolitan New York, Los Angeles, and Boston. The 5,000 people going to 300-12 step programs a week, and its eclectic therapy settings, give it “the sobriety footprint of a much bigger city,” the site says.

Unrelated pain a path to addiction
Suzanne Spencer, executive director of the Delray Drug Task Force, said the sequence of events leading to heroin addiction in the Delray area, and elsewhere, can be gradual and insidious. An accident causes pain. People take pain medication the proper way. Legislation hits and suddenly they have trouble finding a doctor willing to give them a prescription. They turn to heroin.

“Now one wakes up and says, ‘I think I’m going to have an addiction.’” Spencer says. “And you can just be in a car accident away from becoming a heroin addict, the saying goes.”

Spencer has assembled a “heroin response team” to try to draw up new solutions. The team is looking at potentially modeling something after the Montana Meth Project, a savvy, hard-hitting media blitz that has capitalized on social media.

But there are realities to be dealt with. Team members don’t want to tackle heroin and somehow lead addicts to other addictions. Plus, medical treatment in the treatment of HIV, while welcomed, have taken away what was formerly a natural deterrent: The fear of AIDS got some people to think twice before injecting themselves.

Packet of HIV and cash were seized during a recent drug arrest. Photo provided by the Delray Beach Police

“There are some who feel that HIV is no longer a death sentence,” Spencer said.

Indeed, HIV and hepatitis C infections are generally on the rise, possibly due to a lack of outreach and medication-assistance treatment approaches — said that Delray Beach has been seen as underestimated by methadone treatment for opiate addictions since 2010. His company finally opened a center several months ago.

The treatment challenges for pill addicts and heroin addicts is largely the same, he said. Everyone seems to be at risk: “Access Recovery’s clients are 18 to 71, and I can see the split between men and women,” Cassidy said.

Cassidy said that 63 percent of patients are unemployed when they enter treatment. “There’s that to down that to about 28 percent, he said.

“In a relatively short period of time, people get a job and then they lose their force and are doing something,” he said.

Joe Bryan, executive director of the 12-step, abstinence-based Beachcomber rehabilitation center near Briny Breezes, said that the makeup of the person, not necessarily the drug, dictates his or her recovery success. For instance, those in positions of privilege, who aren’t used to being told no, might have a more difficult time getting and staying sober, he said.

“Just by comparing to certified sober homes, which is when everyone else, Neil said.

Cassidy’s assessment of the future of the battle drug, here and nationally, was more optimistic the problem will go away.

“We don’t spend nearly enough to reduce the demand,” he said. “But that’s basically retooling as a country how we’ve handle the drug problem for 50 years.”

Delray Beach
City seeks dismissal of Crossing developers’ lawsuit
By Jane Smith

Attorneys for Delray Beach responded to an Atlantic Crossing lawsuit with a motion to dismiss on Aug. 18.

The developers sued the city in June claiming the city has not issued a site plan approval that was approved in November 2013 and affirmed by a previous City Commission in January 2014.

In the city’s August motion, Delray Beach contends that the city, in tax revenue, has an unduly and improper collateral attack on a City Commission approved development order” that can be challenged only through a special petition filed within 30 days of the order.

The motion also points out that the lawsuit should be dismissed for failure to state a cause of action because the development order was not attached or made part of the lawsuit.

The city also says it should be dismissed because the developers have not submitted a recorded plat for the project.

The proposed $200 million development sits on 9.2 acres at the corner of Atlantic Avenue and Riviera Street and would have 12 stories.

The city, developed by a partnership between Ohio-based Edwards Companies and local developer Jarjuraabsent.
TURTLES
Continued from page 1

April to determine whether sand dredged from offshore, which is darker and hotter, and mined inland sand, which is paler and cooler, have an effect on turtle gender. Temperature-monitoring devices buried in the sand will remain until October.

All of the sand used on South County beach renourishment projects has been dredged sand except for a dune project in Delray Beach.

“There was mined sand put on the beach in South Palm Beach for many years, but our last project there was in 2010 and that sand has been eroded,” said Leanne Welch, shoreline program supervisor for ERM.

Most reptiles including alligators, crocodiles, turtles and lizards lay eggs that depend on temperature for gender determination.

But turtle sex determination is the opposite of lizards and crocodiles, Welch said. “Warmer temperatures produce more female turtles, but more male lizards and crocodiles.”

On a recent August morning, Martin scooped out big handfuls of sand at the Boynton Beach Oceanfront Park beach, reached down 18 inches, and pulled out a monitor that logs the temperature of the beach sand every 15 minutes.

She dug deeper and retrieved another monitor 27 inches deep, the depth on the beach that green turtles and leatherbacks bury their eggs. Loggerheads lay their eggs at 18 inches.

Six monitors were placed on Oceanfront Park beach, and 30 at the other two beaches. Martin checks each monitor once a month and records the data with the help of Lory Gort, a biology student intern from Palm Beach Atlantic University.

Oceanfront Park has had the hottest sand so far, in the range of 92 to 93 degrees, she said. She noticed that nesting turtles on a North County beach with replacement sand from an inland mine were taking a couple of days longer to hatch than at other county beaches. She also discovered that the sand was cooler than the original sand dredged from offshore.

“Temperature may not be a big deal,” Martin said, “but we need to know that we’re not altering the sex ratio a whole lot.”

County environmentalists are also analyzing sand composition and other factors, such as climate change, which may be making the beaches hotter. Cooler inland sand may be an inadvertent benefit.

“There are so many variables we have to consider,” Martin said. The county will bring in a statistician and the staff will spend six months to a year to analyze the data.

The project is being paid for with a $14,000 grant from sea turtle license plates. So far this turtle season, the numbers of nests have been excellent, she said. “Loggerheads have been numerous with some beaches getting record numbers,” Martin said. “Green turtles are having a phenomenal year with numbers exploding in the last two years. The high numbers are likely due to conservation efforts put in effect two decades ago, she said.

Delray Beach
New arts administrator promises to expand audience

The arts administrator credited with doubling ticket sales and developing a $5 million endowment he led for a decade has been named chief executive officer of the Delray Beach Center for the Arts.

Rob Steele, former executive director of the Williamsport Community Arts Center in the north-central Pennsylvania city of Williamsport, is taking over the top job at the Delray Beach center from longtime CEO Joe Gillie, who retires Sept. 30.

“Joe Gillie has been the champion in establishing the Delray Beach Center for the Arts as a premier arts institution in South Florida,” Steele said in a statement. “My goal is to honor, preserve and extend the rich traditions he has established.”

Steele was chosen from about 100 applicants for the post, said Bill Branning, chairman of the board at the Delray Beach center, and stood out as the right person for the job, with the right skills, talent, experience and energy.

A former restaurateur and vice president of a Michigan bank, Steele was executive director of the civic auditorium in Tecumseh, Mich., before going to Williamsport. At the 2,100-seat Community Arts Center there, Steele focused on community outreach as well as finances, increasing the number of collaborative partners to more than 200 from just 10.

“Community outreach and coordinating broad-based collaborations with local organizations has become one of the hallmarks of my career,” Steele said, and pledged to “reach into every corner of the market” served by the Delray center to expand audiences and develop partnerships.

The Delray Beach Center for the Arts is celebrating its 25th anniversary. It has its roots to 1913 and 1925 were renovated for the Arts is celebrating its 25th anniversary. It has its roots to 1913 and 1925 were renovated and became the nucleus of the county’s Old School Square campus.

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— Staff report
Ocean Ridge

Town chooses six finalists for manager's job

By Dan Moffett

Ocean Ridge town commissioners have narrowed their search for a new town manager to six candidates, and the list includes several familiar names to the Palm Beach County and two former officials from Fernandina Beach.

The commission has scheduled a special public meeting for 9 a.m. on Sept. 8 to interview each finalist for 30 minutes. In all, 29 people applied to replace Ken Schenck, 76, who has held the job since 2006 and is retiring later this year. The town was forced to pay on a base salary of $95,000 for the position.

Here are the finalists:

Michael Czybrow, 51, ranked highest in a straw poll of commissioners with five of them putting him on their short list for the interview session. Czybrow served as city manager of Palatka for 2½ years, until city commissioners dismissed him in February after disputes over policy.

Czybrow was city manager of Fernandina Beach from 2006 to 2012 and previously served as city administrator in Milan, Mich., and Devvitt, Mich. He holds a master's degree in public administration from Bowling Green State University.

Mark Kutney, 61, finished tied for second in the straw poll with four votes. Kutney was town manager of Loxahatchee Groves from 2011 to 2014 and deputy city manager of Belle Glade for four years beginning in 2007. He was a finalist for the South Palm Beach town manager’s job last year.

Jamie Ticomb, 62, also received four votes in the straw poll. He was village manager in North Palm Beach for seven months in 2011, until the Town Council dismissed him. Ticomb was interim town manager in Lake Park in 2012 and served as executive director of the Palm Beach County League of Cities from 1999 to 2013. He was a two-term Boynton Beach city commissioner beginning in 1996.

David Harden, 72, was the Delray Beach city manager for 22 years until retiring in 2012. A Navy veteran with 48 years in public service, Harden was city manager of Winter Park from 1977 to 1989, and currently does municipal consulting work. He received three votes in the straw poll.

Violet (Lee) Leffingwell, 72, who has been town manager and water plant director in Mangonia Park since 2006 received two votes. Leffingwell served as town manager of Glen Ridge for six years beginning in 2000, and also was the town’s building inspector.

Joseph Gerrity, 62, succeeded Czybrow as city manager in Fernandina Beach in 2012 until resigning this year. Gerrity was the police chief of Fernandina from 2002 to 2004 and before that a coordinator for the Suwannee County Commission. He also received two votes.

The next most populous are Guatemala, Cuba and Haiti.

By 9:15, they’ve arrived at the 20th and final question:

What California city has the honor of being the only city in the U.S. to have an element named for it?

“The music plays, the answers flutter into the bucket.”

Brace yourself.

In first place with 109 points is a team that calls itself “And in 1st Place With 144 Points.”

The team is one of a dozen Trivia Masters at Think & Drink Trivia, a company that hosts weekly games at 25 sites, including Jack’s Grumpy Groupie in Lantana and the Dixie Grill & Bar in West Palm Beach.

“I make all the questions up, but don’t confuse that with knowing all the answers,” he confides. “I think of the question and then I Google the answer.”

On a good night, Two Georges can get as many as 21 teams talking. Tonight’s a good night.

“But having a bigger team isn’t necessarily an advantage,” he explains. “When you have two people who are certain they know the capital of Kansas, who are you going to go with?”

“It’s Topoka!”

“I think,” the Trivia Master from New York City says. “(It’s Topoka.)”

The rules are simple. Steve asks a question, then blasts a song you go to the end of the players parade up to his table.

TOP: A team of doctors from JFK Medical Center discusses the answers to a question posed during Think and Drink Trivia at Two Georges.

RIGHT: Trivia Master Steve Steckroth provides the questions. Photos by Tim Stepien/
The Coastal Star

and drop their answers in a bucket. Wagers are two, four or six points.

Four questions and one bonus question to a round, four rounds a night, 20 questions to the game.

No cellphones, please.

“It’s a great way to get to know your friends,” she explains. “A great night out on a Wednesday.”

They’ve certainly not here for the winnings. First place gets you a $20 gift certificate, second place $10, down through free appetizers and desserts, all the way to a ninth-place keychain.

“We’ve won a lot of desserts and a few T-shirts,” says, “and then some of the cheap stuff — Koozies and T-shirts.”

Finally, about 7:30, a young man in an Endless Summer shirt arrives, folding a luggage folder, gym bag and miniature sound system.

Steve has entered the building.

“I got into hosting trivia because I was so bad at it,” he says, unfolding the table. “I wasn’t contributing anything to the team.”

Now Steve Steckroth is one of a dozen Trivia Masters at Think & Drink Trivia, a company that hosts weekly games at 25 sites, including Jack’s Grumpy Groupie in Lantana and the Dixie Grill & Bar in West Palm Beach.

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first clue is worth 20 points, the second clue 18 points, on down.

Now, for 20 points: I am a famous American woman who was born in 1928 and died in 2011. No one rises to drop a guess.

For his teammate, Georgina Leathers of Delray Beach, trivia’s an evening.

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vegetation. Weeds, dead leaves and brown patches can be seen all over the par-71 course bordered by East Camino Real on its south and Federal Highway on its west.

“It’s really unfortunate,” says Michael Wohl, a longtime member who quit recently to join a club on the west side of town. “It’s a great group of members and I still have friends there, but life is short and part of South Florida living is having a great course to play.”

Wohl says he finds it ironic that the ads for the resort still tout the championship golf course as a reason the resort enjoys a top-destination ranking.

“Immerse yourself in the rich history and tradition of one of the finest golf resorts in Florida,” the resort’s website says. “Dating back to the times when PGA professionals Sam Snead and Tommy Amour held positions on staff, this exclusive golf resort has always sought to offer a unique, exclusive and exceptional year-round golf experience.”

“It’s a flat-out lie,” Wohl says. “Boca’s municipal course is 10 times better.”

Neither Blackstone Group nor Waldorf Astoria/Hilton Hotels group, which runs the resort, would discuss the players’ specific complaints on the phone. A spokeswoman for Hilton, however, did send an email addressing the resort’s general policy on golf course maintenance.

“The maintenance and conditions of our golf courses and our hotel is of the utmost importance and is always a focal point of our operations in order to continue to provide our guests and members with an exceptional experience at Boca Raton Resort,” wrote Lisa Cole, southeast director of corporate communications for Hilton Worldwide.

“Regular maintenance of our golf course is done on a daily basis, 365 days of the year, by our well trained staff including a superintendent who is a standing member of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, to ensure the optimal playing conditions,” Cole said.

“In fact, the resort course received a fleet of new equipment one month ago and has released its annual maintenance budget including a committed investment in the seasonal overseeding of the course to occur in November.”

Jimmy Gascoigne, head golf pro at the resort, said he had no comment on whether course refurbishment is planned and referred questions to Cole.

But players say the hotel management makes only minimal improvements and seems indifferent to their requests for a real restoration of the course. This is particularly galling to those who paid $50,000 to join the club and about $12,000 a year to keep up their membership, members say.

“It’s a deliberate attitude of not caring and willful neglect,” says Sandeep Sharma, who recently resigned from the club. “They will say the golf course does not get enough use to justify the expense, but that doesn’t make sense. If you don’t have a good course, you won’t get the guests you need to maintain the rest of the resort.”

Players say they are especially steamed that the owners have spent millions sprucing up the hotel itself, the spa, the gardens and the restaurant while allowing the fairways to languish.

“Sharma and Wohl say they were embarrassed to bring friends to the course. They did not want their friends to smell the stinky waterways or see weed-choked grass and bald patches. Both men, however, said they would rejoin the club if the golf course is improved.”

Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star

During a round in early August many issues were observed on the course. TOP: Soggy spots like this one frequently are a sign of cracked water pipes in the sprinkler system. LEFT: At least three holes had limited amounts of recently laid sod in problem places in the rough. RIGHT: Long brown strips like this one appeared on a green that had been scalped by a mower.
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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

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

Lighthouse Point – Stunning wide water views the moment you walk through the door. This 3,000 SQFT home features a 90ft boat dock, pool, paver patio area, fire place, wet bar & large open living space. $1,049,000

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

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. $659,000
By Sallie James

Boca Raton would add four code enforcement officers, four firefighters/paramedics and five new police officers under a proposed 2015-2016 municipal budget that holds the line on property taxes and adds two new programs and new personnel for city beautification.

The good news for taxpayers is that the city property tax rate would be slightly down from a year ago under the proposed $625 million 2015-2016 budget. The budget includes 34 new full-time positions and an unchanged fire assessment fee.

According to City Manager Leif Ahnell, 2015-2016 city property values have increased 7.62 percent over a year ago, making a tax hike unnecessary.

“We are able to hold the tax rate where we are because of the increase in property values,” said City Council member Mike Mullagh. “We are restoring positions we had eliminated in 2008 and 2009 during the recession.”

Calling Boca Raton a “financially sound” municipality with “world-class” services, Ahnell explained during an August budget workshop that the proposed tax rate for $1,000 of assessed value is $3.68, a slight decrease from the current rate of $3.71 per $1,000 of assessed value.

For homeowners, that means the owner of a $300,000 single-family home will pay $1,033.97 in municipal property taxes, or 1 percent less than a year ago, if the budget is approved. The city’s proposed fire rescue assessment fee is slated to remain steady at the current rate of $85.

In addition to municipal property taxes, tax bills include sums paid to the Palm Beach County School Board, the South Florida Water Management District, park districts and other entities.

The 2015-2016 proposed budget includes a $142 million general fund budget, which provides money for police, fire and street services, and a $372 million operating budget.

The city budget also includes the Economic Development Fund, Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund, Sanitation Fund, Right of Way Beautification Fund, Greater Boca Raton Beach and Park District Fund, Cemetery Fund and Mausoleum Fund and the Golf Course Enterprise Fund.

Residents will have a chance to weigh in on proposed expenditures during two public hearings: The first is at 6 p.m. on Sept. 10 and the second is at 6 p.m. on Sept. 17. Both are at Boca Raton City Hall, at 201 W. Palmetto Park Road.

“I think the city is being very well-run,” said City Council member Jeremy Rodgers. “Our city manager has kept the city quite lean. They are basically funding up for the approved projects that are already on the table.”

The police and fire budgets for the coming fiscal year reflect contract changes that will provide more than $83 million in combined pension obligation savings over the next 30 years. Mayor Susan Haynie has called the contracts the “most meaningful pension reform” that has occurred in the history of the city.

Boca Raton police will receive annual 2 percent raises for the next three years under a three-year contract that also requires police personnel to contribute more to their pension plan.

Firefighters will also receive annual 2 percent raises for the next three years. The Boca Raton Retired Association of Firefighters Local 5560 also agreed to changes in the pension plan that should make the plan actuarially sound.

The proposed budget includes five new police officers, partially funded by the Community Redevelopment Agency, and four new entry-level firefighter/paramedics.

Other additions of note:
- Office of the city manager: A development services team to handle internal operations for the city.
- Water and Sewer Fund: one new safety, security and training officer.
- Beautification Fund: one new maintenance supervisor, 15 new groundskeepers.
- Greater Boca Raton Beach and Park District: one full-time science educator, one senior aquarist, and several other part-time positions converted to full-time positions.

Two new programs: rental registration and vines and exotics removal.

Each program includes three new employees.

## Environment

By Cheryl Blackerby

Is replacement sand on beaches affecting sea turtle gender?

That’s a question county environmentalists will try to answer in a study of three county beaches — Boynton Beach Oceanfront Park, Jupiter Beach, which has three types of replacement sand, and Singer Island.

The temperature of beach sand affects the sex of sea turtle eggs. Sand 84 degrees or higher is more likely to produce males. Sand 84 degrees or higher is more likely to produce males. Sand 84 degrees or higher is more likely to produce males.

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### County studies sand temperature, turtle gender

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Ocean Ridge

Town chooses six finalists for manager's job

By Dan Moffett

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Michael Czyrnob, 51, ranked highest in a straw poll of commissioners with five of them putting him on their short list for the interview session. Czyrnob served as city manager of Palatka for 2½ years, until city commissioners dismissed him in February after disputes over policy. Czyrnob was city manager of Fernandina Beach from 2006 to 2012 and previously served as city administrator in Milan, Mich., and Devvitt, Mich. He holds a master’s degree in public administration from Bowling Green State University.

Mark Kutney, 61, finished tied for second in the straw poll with four votes. Kutney was town manager of Luxembourg Groves from 2011 to 2014 and deputy city manager of Belle Glade for four years beginning in 2007. He was a finalist for the South Palm Beach town manager’s job last year.

Jamie Tictomb, 62, also received four votes in the straw poll. He was village manager in North Palm Beach for seven months in 2011, until the Town Council dismissed him. Tictomb was interim town manager in Lake Park in 2012 and served as executive director of the Palm Beach County League of Cities from 1999 to 2013. He was a two-term Boynton Beach city commissioner beginning in 1996.

David Harden, 72, was the Delray Beach city manager for 22 years until retiring in 2012. A Navy veteran with 48 years in public service, Harden was city manager of Winter Park from 1977 to 1989, and currently does municipal consulting work. He received three votes in the straw poll.

Violet (Lee) Leffingwell, 72, who has been town manager and water plant director in Mangonia Park since 2006 received two votes. Leffingwell served as town manager of Glen Ridge for six years beginning in 2000, and also was the town’s building inspector.

Joseph Gerrity, 62, succeeded Czyrnob as city manager in Fernandina Beach in 2012 until resigning this year. Gerrity was a finalist of the commission from 2002 to 2004 and before that for a coordinator for the Suwannee County Commission. He also received two votes.

TRIVIA

Continued from page 1

For his teammate, Georgina Gilligan, 50, from Boca Raton, says her best answer was on Aug. 25, 1922, when the highest scoring baseball game ever played was on Aug. 25, 1922, when the Cubs beat the Phillies by 3 runs. What was the total points, plus or minus 3 runs?

First, the highest scoring baseball game ever played was on Aug. 25, 1922, when the Cubs beat the Phillies by 3 runs. What was the total points, plus or minus 3 runs?

The music blasts, the answers drop in the bucket. Wagers are two, four or six points.

First question: The highest scoring baseball game ever played was on Aug. 25, 1922, when the Cubs beat the Phillies by 3 runs. What was the total points, plus or minus 3 runs?

Second question: Who was Bob Denver? (The actor who played Gilligan.) And some are tough. Some of the questions are easy.

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Third question: Round 3 begins with Wingmen & the Hotwings and the Conquistadors tied for first place. Who won 90 percent of the time, according to Luckey.

Fourth question: Almost no one. (An air filter used to maintain a sterile environment in operating rooms.)

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However, Mr. Gerrity was forced out of office as Fernandina Beach’s city manager in 2012 after disputes over policy.

The commission will be taking over the city’s reserve officer program, according to Chief Jeffrey Katz, who cited Yannuzzi’s experience in community policing and developing young officers as reasons for his hiring.

What California city has the honor of being the only city in the U.S. to have an element named for it?

The music plays, the answers flutter into the bucket. Then Steve Steckroth, 42, of Boca Raton, says her best answer was on Aug. 25, 1922, when the highest scoring baseball game ever played was on Aug. 25, 1922, when the Cubs beat the Phillies by 3 runs. What was the total points, plus or minus 3 runs?

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Donald Trump’s Toupee finished with 94 points, good for a first-place finish. A George Clooney shirt, and Team Sunshine trailed with 66 points.

The question was: Other than Canada, the U.S. and Mexico, what are the most populous countries in North America?

The music plays, the answers drop in the bucket. Wagers are two, four or six points.

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Top 3: The winners collect their winnings, the folding table and the bar, Donald Trump’s Toupee was convicted of second-degree murder in 1989.
Docks not likely at new Houston’s waterfront restaurant

By Steve Plunkett

The proposed Houston’s restaurant at the old Wildflower site will have a breathtaking view of the Intracoastal Waterway, but it won’t have docks, the developer says.

And a fence will block access on the waterfront walkway to the boat launch area at adjacent Silver Palm Park, said Glenn Viets, vice president of the Hillstone Restaurant Group, which the company was simply reacting to the city chose to build the eatery.

Hillstone Restaurant Group, which the city’s marine advisory board, its planning and zoning board and the City Council are scheduled to discuss the restaurant this month.

New logo adopted to tell airport’s story

By Rich Pollack

During meetings with residents concerned that a new U.S. Customs Station at the Boca Raton Airport would generate more noise, airport leaders realized they could be doing a better job of telling the airport’s story.

“That was the catalyst that made us realize we needed to share the value and history of the airport with our community,” said Cheryl Budd, a member of the Boca Raton Airport Authority who is heading up a committee focused on building awareness. “We learned that we needed to be better engaged and have better communication with our various publics.”

The first sign of the airport authority’s efforts to raise its visibility in the community is a new logo, which received final approval at the authority’s meeting last month.

“We now have a top-notch logo,” Airport Authority member and Boca Raton Vice Mayor Robert Weinroth said. “The A in the logo is designed so it actually looks like the trajectory of an airplane taking off.”

Budd said the airport authority’s marketing committee will work with Green Advertising on a multifaceted awareness campaign that will include educational and public relations components.

“The branding complements the airport’s mission to be a world-class general aviation airport that is a vital element of the area’s economic development initiative,” said Clara Bennett, the airport’s executive director.

“The campaign, which includes an annual contract with Green Advertising for $36,000, will focus on the value the airport brings to the community and its economic impact,” Budd said.

“The goal is to strengthen relationships with the community,” she said. “It’s also about building trust.”

Highland Beach

Leaders to check out library management company

By Rich Pollack

With their library in transition following the departure of its longtime director, Highland Beach town leaders hope to find out more about a private company that manages libraries for communities across the country.

During a Florida League of Cities conference in Orlando last month, several Highland Beach commissioners met briefly with a representative of Library Systems and Services Inc., which manages about 80 libraries nationwide.

Vice Mayor Bill Weitz and Commissioner Lou Stern told other members of the commission that they would be in favor of inviting LSSI to visit Highland Beach so they could find out more about what the company offers. “We know very little about this company but when we have options, we should look at all the data,” Weitz said.

“Right now we’re just in the data collection mode,” said a spokesman for LSSI, said the Maryland-based company was founded by experienced library managers in 1997 to help government agencies operate their libraries efficiently and effectively.

“They saw there was a better way of doing it,” Buckley said.

Because LSSI operates several libraries, Buckley said, the firm can save money on books, software and other expenses through economies of scale.

He added that the firm also has experienced library managers who can use their knowledge to help libraries better meet the needs of their residents.

While LSSI runs the day-to-day operation of the libraries it services, Buckley said key decisions continue to be made at the local government level.

He said that any discussions with Highland Beach officials would also be an opportunity for LSSI to determine if working with the town would make sense for the company.

“It needs to be the right fit,” he said.

Weitz said that should the town see potential in partnering with LSSI, he would then seek input from library users and other residents.

Both Weitz and Stern said they’re pleased with the job interim Library Director Suzi Hayes is doing.

Since taking over the position in June, Hayes has instituted a new electronic cataloging system for new books and is preparing a survey to determine what programs and services residents would like to see at the library.

Hayes, along with Town Manager Beverly Brown and Town Attorney Glen Torcivia, also is working on crafting a policy to address outside vendors who offer classes at the library.

Vendors offering programs, such as yoga classes, had been paid directly by class members. The town is looking into liability issues and into the possibility of a more structured system.
Royal Palm condos sail through approval

By Mary Hladky

While two recent downtown Boca Raton development projects garnered impassioned opposition, the 24-unit Royal Palm condominium has sailed to quick city approval and the developer expects to break ground later this year.

The City Council, sitting as Community Redevelopment Agency commissioners, approved the nine-story project in a 5-0 vote on Aug. 10 after only one city resident spoke against it, citing traffic concerns.

The luxury condos at 327 E. Royal Palm Road are priced at $1.6 million to $2.9 million and will average about 3,500 square feet.

“We were pretty confident we would get through the process. I didn’t feel uncomfortable doing that,” Diaz said, adding that he didn’t want to miss out on the winter season.

The buyers, he said, are “entirely local,” generally empty nesters with large homes in the area who want to downsize and live in an urban environment.

Diaz’s father and other family members are developers in Venezuela. One of their current projects, expected to be completed next year, is Parque Industrial del Este, a 2.35 million-square-foot industrial park in Caracas.

But Group P6 is not interested in Miami-Dade County and its large Venezuelan population. Land prices there are too high, Diaz said.

Instead, the company is focusing on eastern Broward and Palm Beach counties. Outside Boca Raton, it is developing two high-end townhouse projects in Fort Lauderdale and two condos in Deerfield Beach.

“The price of land is more reasonable, demand is there and we are not relying on assumptions of foreign buyers,” he said. “We liked the fact we can offer luxury to a local market.”

The 24-unit, nine-story luxury condo will be built at 327 E. Royal Palm Road. Rendering provided.

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By Jane Smith

The Downtown Development Authority board members will discuss how to search for a new executive director at their Sept. 14 meeting.

The Delray Beach board voted 4-3 to not renew Marjorie Ferrer’s contract as executive director at a specially called meeting on Aug. 13. If the vote had not been taken by Aug. 17, her contract would have re-issued automatically on Sept. 1.

She wanted another year to oversee the organization and was planning to retire in 2016, said new Board Chairman Mark Denkler. He was one of the three who voted for Ferrer staying one more year. The other two were Seaborn Smith and Albert Richwagen.

Just three days prior, the board was deadlock on a vote taken after Smith left the meeting. Bonnie Beer sided with Denkler and Richwagen. At the Aug. 11 City Commission meeting, the DDA executive team did not fare well. Ferrer, executive director since 1993, and Associate Director Laura Simon gave a presentation on how the DDA helps attract people to downtown stores and restaurants while creating an attractive place to live and visit. But they did not mention the organization’s budget as the mayor had requested.

Mayor Cary Gilstein took issue with that omission.

“Last year you showed up without any budget,” he said. “This year your presentation made no mention of your budget and you are a taxing authority.”

He pointed out the DDA spends 40 percent of its revenues on general and administrative expenses, which includes salaries, benefits and office space. He considers that percentage “bloated.”

He also reminded the minutes of the board meetings and found them “devoid of any critical analysis towards its executive team, which represents close to 40 percent of its budget. It’s as if the executive team is running the board, not the board running the staff.”

Ferrer said the DDA salaries are 30 percent of the budget, lower than the Downtown Marketing Cooperative’s 36 or 37 percent.

“It’s not a taxing authority, part of that is lost in this conversation,” the mayor said. “I’m not going to belabor it, but I made my point.

Few board members were left when more than three hours later the city commissioners discussed the results of the DDA survey. Most respondents gave positive views to the DDA.

Vice Mayor Shelly Petrolia, who requested the survey from DDA property owners and renters, said she noticed a split in the responses between those who were very satisfied with the DDA and those who were less satisfied or didn’t respond.

She also said parking was mentioned as the main area where property owners want to see the DDA spend its money.

During the next budget year, the DDA will be involved in a pilot program for employee parking at the South County Courthouse garage.

At the DDA meeting on Aug. 10, board member Ryan Boylston raised the succession issue because Simon said she had a job offer. When Simon was hired in 2010, she was told that Ferrer would be retiring in three years, Simon said.

“We can’t keep floating along,” Boylston said. “We have to notify Marjorie that we won’t be renewing her contract in October. We have to do that 45 days before that date.”

Because of the tied vote, the board members scheduled a special meeting for Aug. 13 after asking new board attorney Max Lohman about how much notice they had to give. He said 24 hours.

Lohman reminded the board that they had “segued from the agenda item.”

Board members and Ferrer each will bring their own ideas for the transition to the Sept. 14 meeting. They may send those ideas via email to the organization’s administrative assistant, who will forward them to Denkler, but Lohman warned them against emailing each other. That would be violating the Sunshine Law.

After the vote to not renew Ferrer’s contract, Denkler said, “We have some soul-searching to do on what is best for our organization.”

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Delray Beach

Hampton Real Estate Group, Inc.

Who could resist a one-story estate home with an open floor plan, three car garage, and a master suite and kitchen? Hampton Real Estate Group’s new offer is just one of the many new and custom-built homes in Delray Beach!

Delray Beach

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Delray Beach

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Who could resist a one-story estate home with an open floor plan, three car garage, and a master suite and kitchen? Hampton Real Estate Group’s new offer is just one of the many new and custom-built homes in Delray Beach!
The Chabad, which has long outgrown its current location at 120 NE First Ave., is part of the largest Jewish religious organization in the world, with more than 4,000 locations, according to New. Chabad itself is a Hebrew acronym that stands for “Wisdom. Understanding. Knowledge.”

The Chabad is orthodox, following laws and customs that can be as visible as beards, black hats and separation by gender. Many of the 75 families that are members walk to services each Saturday, said New.

But the Chabad is welcoming. New said, and its membership is a mix — not all are orthodox.

“It’s driven by a vision that seeks to give every Jew an opportunity to connect to Judaism,” he said. “Chabad is nonjudgmental and it’s a big tent, inclusive of every type of Jew. What distinguishes Chabad from typical orthodox, is people who attend the Chabad don’t have to fit into a particular mold — reform or conservative.”

Founded in the 18th century by Rabbi Schneur Zalman and based in Lubavitch, Russia, for more than 100 years, Chabad is part of the Chasidic movement and is now based in New York’s Brooklyn borough.

The religion puts “more of a spotlight on a deeper intellectual connection to Judaism” and emphasizes each person’s connection to God, said New, who started the East Boca group in his living room 15 years ago.

“Chabads are really startups,” New explained. “The rabbi is like a spiritual entrepreneur.” New said, pointing out they’re not hired by boards. They start up the venture and raise funds for it themselves.

New is embarking on fundraising campaigns for the $10 million construction of the new facilities, engaging in parlor meetings, individual solicitations and events like a planned January gala.

The range of services Chabad offers worldwide depends on the needs of the community, from social welfare to humanitarian, schools, camps and programs for young adults, said New.

The Chabad’s outreach here includes local businesses, assisted living facilities and large-scale programs like the annual Hanukkah concert in Mizner Park.

Part of the Kayailethes’ attraction to the Chabad was motivated by their 17-month-old son, Ari. “We wanted to give a positive exposure to good, moral, ethical people as we teach our son about the world,” David Kayailethe said.

The Kayailethes, neither of whom is orthodox, moved from Minneapolis and were introduced to the Boca Villas neighborhood by Amara’s parents. In Boca, they also found the Chabad.

“We went to services and met Rabbi New and the people,” Kaiyalethe said. “They were great. Chabad is very inclusive.”

People at services wear a range of attire, including some in orthodox dress. “You’ll see a bunch of guys in slacks and dress shirts, some in shorts and some in jeans,” Kaiyalethe said. “If a woman wants to cover her hair with a wig or scarf, she does. If she doesn’t, she doesn’t. I can show up any way I want and everyone’s OK with it.”

The name of the Chasidic movement comes from the word chesed, which means loving kindness, Kayailethe explained. “This focus on loving kindness shapes the way you interact with the world. That’s why anyone can come where they are in their journey. Without pressure.”

ABOVE: Amara (l-r), Ari and David Kayailethe pose in the ground floor of the new home they are building in Boca Raton to be within walking distance of Chabad of East Boca Raton. LEFT: Rabbi Ruvi New poses with workers who were installing a sign honoring the Chabad and museum’s new location at 770 E. Palmetto Park Road. The location is on the former site of La Vieille Maison restaurant.

Photos by Tim Stepien and Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star
Redistricting shift may expand Deutch’s clout to coastal communities

By Dan Moffett

A special legislative session failed to resolve the state’s redistricting problems last month, but it might have provided some clarity for coastal communities about their representation in Congress if the process had gone forward.

While lawmakers could not agree on a new map for congressional districts statewide, they did agree on what Palm Beach and Broward counties should look like. That could be good news — or a least a measure of relief — for Democratic U.S. Reps. Lois Frankel and Ted Deutch.

Currently, Deutch’s District 21 and Frankel’s District 22 lie mostly in Palm Beach County and run parallel to each other, running north and south. Frankel’s district is to the east and Deutch’s to the west.

Under new proposed boundaries that most legislators supported, Deutch’s district would be stacked atop Frankel’s. His constituents would all be in Palm Beach County, while Frankel’s would include Boca Raton south of the C-15 canal, and be mostly in Broward County.

But, nothing about this is set in redistricting stone.

Because the Legislature couldn’t agree on how to redraw several districts in central and western Florida, the 12-day session came to an acrimonious end without approval of a new statewide map. The lawmakers’ failure means a circuit court judge will have to redraw the 27 congressional districts.

Frankel and Deutch so far have voiced no complaints about the proposed changes to their districts and have pledged to support each other going forward.

“We both believe in the concept of fair districts and that congressional districts should be drawn to serve the people, not for the pleasure of elected officials,” they said in a joint statement. “We have both proudly worked as a team and with other members of our delegation, serving the residents of Palm Beach and Broward counties over many years. We both fully intend to run for re-election and we look forward to serving in Congress together as long as our constituents give us this honor. We are friends, have great respect for one another and both of us are fully committed to not running against each other.”

Leon County Circuit Court Judge Terry Lewis has scheduled hearings for Sept. 24-28 and hopes to make a recommendation for a new congressional map to the state Supreme Court by mid-October.

In July, the high court ruled that Florida’s districts don’t meet constitutional requirements that prohibit political lines that favor incumbents or parties, and the justices ordered the Legislature to redraw the districts within 100 days.

“The court said that there was gerrymandering and that Republicans had drawn districts based on politics,” said state Sen. Jeff Clemens, D-Lake Worth.

“That can’t be too hard for the Republicans. When Democrats ran the Legislature, they did the same thing.”

Clemens said he’s hopeful that lawmakers will do better in October when they hold a special session to reconfigure the state’s Senate districts, including perhaps his own.

“One way or another,” he said, “we’re going to have to get these districts redrawn.”

Along the Shore

Buyer plans tapas eatery for historic cottage

By Jane Smith

Ocean Ridge Commissioner Richard Lucibella wants to buy the Little House in Boynton Beach and turn it into a tapas eatery.

He and a partner, Barbara Ceuleers, put $335,000 into an escrow account for the historic home and plan to rent it to Lisa Mercado, whom he has known for 30 years. Mercado owns the Ruth Jones Cottage, he explained his interest as, “a clear understanding of the importance of this property.

But Lucibella and Ceuleers didn’t want “to reveal details of our personal wealth in a venue that becomes public information.

Instead they paid in cash and provided contacts and phone numbers for SunTrust Bank’s Private Wealth Management Group to ensure both had enough money to cover the purchase price and the cost of operating a small business.

Lucibella hired Russ Bornstein, senior vice president of CBRE, to represent him before the CRA on Aug. 11.

Mercado also was there to explain her restaurant concept for the Little House. She would use the Living Room as a commissary with most of the prep work taking place there for the finger foods she would serve at the Little House. She also would serve wine and beer.

In addition, she would feature a nightly special that would be prepared at the Living Room and heated at the Little House.

The CRA has been burned before by two restaurateurs on that property: one who couldn’t make a go of a restaurant at that location, and the other who was undercapitalized but had a persuasive personality.

That’s why the CRA insisted on verifiable financial information this time.

The CRA rehired Tom Prakas in July as its restaurant broker for these two properties. Kaplan’s company, Delray Beach CRA member, represented Kaplan to the board. Carney called Kaplan’s failure to return in April “a confusion... But he was committed to this and we’re back.”

Kaplan also apologized to the CRA board members for the “missed communication. I didn’t realize we were still in the running. I thought that the contract had been awarded to someone else.”

He plans to turn the home into an upscale Italian restaurant. Kaplan’s company made a 10 percent deposit on the house.

The CRA rehired Tom Prakas in July as its restaurant broker for these two properties. He will receive 5 percent of the purchase price.

Both properties have a 10-year reverter agreement that says in the first 10 years, if the house doesn’t become a restaurant or turns into an unapproved CRA use, the CRA has the first option to buy the house at market value.

Boynton Beach

Colony Hotel & Banana Club

2 great locations... downtown & the beach

525 E Atlantic Ave thecolonyhotel.com 561-276-4123

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By Steven J. Smith

By all accounts, John Bitove Sr. led an exceedingly rich and productive life, but according to his son, John Jr., he will be most remembered for his optimism. “He saw opportunity in everything,” Bitove Jr. said. “When someone would say a situation was hopeless, he’d convince them why it was not. If someone would say they couldn’t help with a given project, he’d tell them what they could do. That’s why he took up so many community efforts. When people came to him for help, he’d take it upon himself to find a way to help them.”

Bitove Sr., who had a home in Boca Raton, died on July 30 in Toronto at age 87. He was born on March 19, 1928, to Macedonian immigrants in Toronto, where he grew up. He dropped out of school in the eighth grade to work in his father’s butcher shop.

Using his intelligence, positive attitude and work ethic, Bitove went on to obtain the catering rights to Toronto’s SkyDome (now known as the Rogers Centre) and Toronto’s Pearson Airport. He later merged existing companies into Bitove Corp., which grew to become one of the largest dining and catering companies in Canada.

His business achievements, paired with his commitment to giving back to his community, prompted the Canadian government to make Bitove a member of the Order of Canada in 1989.

“It’s the Canadian equivalent to the Presidential Medal of Freedom,” Bitove Jr. said. “It’s the highest honor a civilian can get in Canada. Aside from his business achievements, he had done lots of community work, like building an old-age home for Canadians of Macedonian descent.”

He also started ProAction Cops and Kids, which has gone on to raise millions of dollars funding police-run youth athletic programs across the country to keep kids from troubled areas on the field instead of on the street.

Bitove married Dotsa Lazoff, an American-Macedonian, in 1949. The couple spent 67 years together and had live children — Vonna, Nick, Tom, John Jr. and Jordan — and 16 grandchildren, to whom he was devoted.

He never forgot Macedonia and its people, however, and in 1994 Bitove led an international campaign to have the country recognized as an independent state. For that, he received the September 8th Medal of Honor, the highest merit from the president of the Republic of Macedonia.

“Sept. 8, 1991, was the date Macedonia became an independent country,” Bitove Jr. said. “My father had been involved in coordinating with the U.S. government, the Canadian government and the British government in achieving this, without having any bullets fired.”

Family was most important to his father, he added. Bitove built family compounds in Canada’s lake country and Boca Raton.

“He loved watching the grandchildren and he loved to golf,” Bitove Jr. said. “My parents bought a home in Boca Raton in 1957, when he was in his 20s. Every winter they would go back for extended periods. They were members of Royal Palm Yacht and Country Club in Boca and would stay in Florida from Thanksgiving to Easter. Golfing, family and charity work was what he did the last 59 years of his life. He loved the relaxed attitude of the people in Florida, the variety of the restaurants and the shopping. It was their second home.”

When Dotas acquired Alzheimer’s disease, Bitove was inspired by the work of the Louis and Anne Green Memory and Wellness Center in Boca Raton to found the Dotsa Bitove Wellness Academy in Toronto.

“He preached to everyone about the importance of a facility like this, that keeps families together and keeps them going. And so will many other people.”

“I love watching the grandchildren and he loved to golf,” Bitove Jr. said. “His mind was fine, but his body was breaking down with infections. Over the last seven or eight months it just wore him down.”

Bitove Jr. added that his father was a constant wellspring of positive energy.

“He was always a person who cheered you up and got you focused on what had to be done,” he said. “He had a tremendous can-do spirit. It’s something I miss now in my life, but will always remember him by, in terms of how to keep going. And so will many other people.”

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations go to the Dotsa Bitove Wellness Academy, ProAction Cops and Kids and Canadian Macedonian Place Foundation — all organizations founded by John Bitove Sr.

“Sept. 8, 1991, was the date Macedonia became an independent country,” Bitove Jr. said. “My father had been involved in coordinating with the U.S. government, the Canadian government and the British government in achieving this, without having any bullets fired.”

Family was most important to his father, he added. Bitove built family compounds in Canada’s lake country and Boca Raton.

“He loved watching the grandchildren and he loved to golf,” Bitove Jr. said. “My parents bought a home in Boca Raton in 1957, when he was in his 20s. Every winter they would go back for extended periods. They were members of Royal Palm Yacht and Country Club in Boca and would stay in Florida from Thanksgiving to Easter. Golfing, family and charity work was what he did the last 59 years of his life. He loved the relaxed attitude of the people in Florida, the variety of the restaurants and the shopping. It was their second home.”

When Dotas acquired Alzheimer’s disease, Bitove was inspired by the work of the Louis and Anne Green Memory and Wellness Center in Boca Raton to found the Dotsa Bitove Wellness Academy in Toronto.

“He preached to everyone about the importance of a facility like this, that keeps families together and keeps them going. And so will many other people.”

“In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations go to the Dotsa Bitove Wellness Academy, ProAction Cops and Kids and Canadian Macedonian Place Foundation — all organizations founded by John Bitove Sr.

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Boytown Beach

Road and sea wall repair to go for bid

By Jane Smith

The Boynton Beach Community Redevelopment Agency should pay to fix the north road in the Boynton Harbor Marina and rebuild the 400-foot sea wall while creating a park near it because the two projects are related, its executive director said at the agency’s budget workshop in early September.

To make her point, Vivian Brooks showed CRA board members pictures of the road buckling. “The sea wall deterioration is causing the road to sink,” she explained. “It’s a health and safety issue.”

She wanted to add $740,122 for the road and sea wall repair while the marina open space park is created. The $834,030 budgeted for the park will roll over into the next financial year.

“This is ongoing maintenance that comes with owning a marina,” she told the board members. The sea wall was built in 2001-2002, according to the engineering evaluation.

She plans to put the project out for bid as early as next year and have the work done in the summer. Marina tenants, including boat owners and the Two Georges restaurant have already lived through construction disrupting their business at the marina. Brooks didn’t want to disrupt activity during the height of the season. The board members agreed.

The CRA board will meet Sept. 8 to review and approve the budget.
Briny Breezes

Travel trailers and the simple sedans that towed them used to line Ruth Mary Drive in Briny Breezes.

Volunteers pull images of faded past into current focus

By Ron Hayes

In January 2014, when Lu McInnes retired after 22 years as Briny Breezes’ unpaid, untiring librarian, Donna Clarke took on the job brimming with enthusiasm. She would be a new broom. Winnow out the unused books. Build up the DVD collection. She would clean. She would paint. She did. “Everything looked pretty,” she says. “And then we looked down at those scrapbooks on the bottom shelf and thought, those are really ugly.”

Thirty-five dime-store scrapbooks with cardboard covers. Faded scrapbooks filled with fading photos. “When I pulled them off the shelf, some bugs came out” and nearly a century of memories, precious but poorly preserved.

The “Briny Breezes Photo Album Restoration Project” was born.

“We want to tell the story of Briny Breezes so somebody could sit down and say, ‘Oh, so this is how it happened,’” Clarke says.

Joan Nichols, president of the town’s History Club, became a consultant. Janet DeVries of the Boynton Beach Historical Society dropped by to offer advice about preservation.

In February, the annual bazaar committee donated $1,000 from this year’s earnings. Clarke bought a stack of expensive, archive-quality binders, and now, every Friday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. the project’s nine unpaid, untiring librarian, Lu McInnes retired after 36 years, and made a $1.5 million offer for Briny’s 500 families to preserve and defend the long history of the little trailer park that became a town.

They call themselves the Library Ladies.

On a recent afternoon, they worked quietly — Kathy Gross and Susan Atlee, Brenda Dooley and Sandy Dietzel — carefully peeling old snapshots from fuzzy black pages and transferring them to new binders. “Here’s something we’ve got something about putting in a disposal system in 1969,” Dooley said, pondering a faded color snapshot. “I have no idea what that is, but it’s kind of interesting.”

“If we get rid of it, how do we keep the memories?” wondered Gross.

Everything begins with a 1926 photograph of “the mansion,” the Mediterranean Revival home Ward B. Miller built shortly after he bought 43 acres of oceanfront property back in 1919. “And the most recent entry will probably be photographs from David David’s wedding,” Clarke predicted.

On May 23, 2015, David David, the son of Hugh David, Briny’s mayor for 36 years, married his longtime partner, Edith Behm, in the Briny clubhouse, just north of the spot where Miller’s mansion once stood.

In between, the Library Ladies are archiving hundreds of snapshots, newspaper clippings and Briny minutiae. Here’s a 1937 photograph of the future town, back when it was still Ward Miller’s strawberry farm.

Here’s a 1958 article from Miami Herald detailing an offer for Briny’s 500 families to buy the park from Miller’s son, Paul. Selling price, $1.5 million. “I enjoy this so much,” said Clarke.

And here’s a joyful “Proclamation” inviting all residents to attend a ceremonial burning of the $350,000 mortgage on March 21, 1961. “I enjoy this so much,” said Dietzel. “I’m not into tracking my own family through the ages, but I think it’s nice we’re doing this for future generations.”

Some of what they find is mundane. Fading snapshots of long-gone Brinyites smiling for a Kodak at social events back in the 1950s and ‘60s. The men sport garish jackets, the women in white gloves and fur stoles.

And some of what they find is momentous.

An entire binder will house photos and memories from the 1964 hurricane season, when two storms and a freak tornado tore the park apart.

First came Cleo, on Aug. 27, and then Isbell. Residents were battening down for that second storm about 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 14, when a tornado roared through the park, leaving trailers toppled and rubble behind.

In October, Phyllis Boykin recounted the drama in Briny Breezes: “Les and Fay Jordan were hauling down their awning. All of a sudden without warning Fay was picked up by the impetuous, rampant wind and dropped several feet away. Les grabbed her, threw her to the ground and fell on top of her, holding her immovable.

“Les looked up while holding Fay and saw huge pieces of trailer flying over his head.”

The Library Ladies are cataloging the photos that capture that destruction, including one of the Jordans’ lawn mower hanging atop a power pole.

“I have never been through a hurricane,” said Gross, pondering that lawn mower, “so these are kind of scary.”

Nearby, Atlee spoke up. “My grandparents bought here in 1958,” she said, “so my mother visited here when she was pregnant with me. I was coming to Briny before I was born. It’s important to preserve this.”

And so, for four or five hours every Friday afternoon, the Library Ladies gather to do that.

So far, they’ve gone through 11 of those 35 fading and bug-infested scrapbooks from the days of colorful sports coats, white gloves and furs.

“We’ve made peace with the fact that we may not be done this summer,” Clarke said.
Fascinated with machinery, retiree geared up for bridge job

By Lena O’Connor

A couple of years ago, on a trip to New York, Charlie Holbrook and his wife, Theresa, visited the Museum of Modern Art. He stopped, however, he moved to Holbrook was not bothered fascinated by machinery.

Though born and raised in the Washington, D.C., area, he longed for a subtropical climate.

A plaque honoring the construction of the 63-year-old Atlantic Avenue Bridge.

and working alongside an experienced bridge tender, Holbrook was ready for his first solo shift.

That, of course, had to be the day the bridge would not open. They tell you in training, "Don’t panic, just relax,”” said Holbrook. He called the bridge mechanics and radioed the sailboat captain waiting below for the bridge to open. They were able to fix the bridge in about 20 minutes.

To impatient boaters, cyclists, pedestrians and impatient drivers, it may seem as if the bridge takes at least 20 minutes every time. To them, the bridge tender is a demigod, all-powerful, choosing arbitrarily to delay their progress to the beach or to work.

In fact, as Holbrook is quick to point out, the whole open-cycle cycle takes only six minutes, occurs twice an hour, and then only if there are boats waiting. If the delay is any longer than that, it would be because the bridge is huge and great number of boats is lined up to pass under the open bridge. That could be as many as 10 or so during the busy winter months, often including the Lady Atlantic and Lady Delray cruise boats.

Though small, the bridge tender’s working quarters suffice to his needs, with air conditioning, a bathroom, microwave and refrigerator, and an incomparable view of the Intracoastal Waterway.

In the summer, when boat traffic diminishes, he can listen to boaters and the other bridge tenders on the radio channel and keep bridge records up-to-date.

Once in a while, though, there are magical moments. He recalls his first glimpse of a massive dark shape lumbering north. It was dark, about 9:30 p.m., when Holbrook got his first breathtaking nighttime view of a tug barge, the workhorse of the Intracoastal Waterway and the Atlantic coastline.

Looking south toward the Linton Avenue Bridge, Holbrook could see the lights that outlined the dark shape of the enormous barge slowly heading his way. He could hear the captain saying on the radio, "We require an opening," as if any bridge tender would say no to a boat behemoth that was 75 yards long, 40 feet wide and transporting a 30-foot-long piece of piping so large a man could stand up fully inside it.

"It’s eerie to see it coming," said Holbrook. Even with the bridge raised, a barge that size has about eight feet of clearance on either side as it goes under. Though the bridge tender’s job includes plenty of solitude, it’s not necessarily lonely. Even though he has security cameras on his control panel, Holbrook must also emerge from his office and check the bridge for pedestrians before he raises the span. After just a few months on the job, he has now become a familiar figure to those who cross the bridge regularly.

“People wave and honk, I see friends of mine. I watch the waterway, the paddleboards going up and down. It's a thrill to see that bridge go up, every time.”
Lake Worth

Casino plans get 2nd airing, in more controlled setting

By Jane Smith

The aroma of fried chicken wafted through the casino ballroom at Lake Worth residents checked in to a “courteous conversation” about future plans for the Lake Worth Casino complex.

A partner in the historic Sunyde House in Delray Beach also opened the historic Gulfstream Hotel in downtown Lake Worth paid for the spread. Fresh fruits, crudites and dip, slices of wrap sandwiches, cheeses and bottled water were served during the Aug. 24, 2012, event.

String music played on the sound system while the residents were processed. The Palm Beach Sheriff’s Office deputies stood guard.

Residents had to submit questions in advance and show their driver licenses before they could enter the ballroom. The food included sandwiches, salads, received wrist bands. Nearly 200 residents were seated by 5:20 p.m. Renting the ballroom cost at least $168, which also includes the tables and 200 chairs.

“We are here to listen,” said Michael, a principal of Hudson Holdings, sponsor of the event. “We do have a large vested interest in the Gulfstream Hotel, but we are not here to present our project but to let the community talk.”

Michael told the residents that the code issues the company had in June with the Lake Worth were cleared up, which was verified by city staff. To quell questions about the Gulfstream Hotel, which was purchased in May 2014 but remains closed, he said Hudson Holdings submitted preliminary plans that day. The city has a rezoning application asking for permission to tie the Gulfstream and six other parcels together.

Michael told the residents there said they wanted improvements at the beach complex. Their ideas included: Build a new, deeper swimming pool without a wall so that when

Lantana

Water Tower developers highlight jobs, tax revenue … and tower lights

By Mary Thurwachter

The Lantana Town Council will get its first look at the site plan for Water Tower Commons, the 73-acre development planned for the former A.G. Holley tuberculososis complex.

But the Greater Lantana Chamber of Commerce got a peek at plans during a July 31 gathering at Publick Gates Generation Restaurant.

Planner Ken Tuma of Urban Design Killday Studios said that the old water tower on Lantana Road will be the centerpiece of the development and the tower will be bathed in blue LED lights.

The 127-foot tower “may not be the coolest thing during the day,” he said, “but at night it will be amazing.”

Some elements of interest include a traffic light at the proposed Water Tower Commons, Lantana Road, a 40,000-square-foot grocery store on the northwest corner of the project, a waterfall-like structure on the main street and lots and landscapes of the town, including four to six trellises with bougainvillea.

A proposed gas station would require a special exception from the town’s code.

Developers said Water Tower Commons would create an estimated 700 retail jobs and bring the town about $1 million a year in property taxes.

Residential units will likely include apartments, condos and town homes. Stores and offices are also part of the mix.

Tuma and the site plan came before the Plan Review Committee on Aug. 18. Although no recommendations for approval were given, town staff did provide comments since the plan still lacked the meshing of commercial and residential that town officials have sought since developers Southeast Legacy Investments introduced plans at the beginning of the year.

Headed by Kenco Communities’ Ken Endelson, Southeast Legacy coupled with Wexford Capital to pay $15.6 million to the state for the land a year ago.

The tuberculosis hospital, owned by the state, closed in 2012. According to a memo to Tuma from David Thatcher, Lantana’s development services director, “on several occasions, the town has recommended that the applicants reconsider the overall design concept of the entire development to ensure integration of the residential and commercial activities as contemplated by the town’s comprehensive plan.”

Thatcher said the proposed development should closely follow building regulations in the code rather than request many deviations. Willie Howard contributed to this report.

Town lot to be used by restaurant employees

By Mary Thurwachter

With bustling restaurants and shops along Lantana’s Ocean Avenue, parking has long been a concern. A lease agreement between Mario’s Ocean Avenue restaurant and the town for employee parking on a little-used town-owned lot on Third Street will give some relief.

Restaurant owner Henry Olimino will pay the town $3,750 a year for exclusive use of the lot for his employees. It is next to Benny’s Seafood restaurant and west (across Dixie Highway and the railroad tracks) from Mario’s, will not be used for customer valet parking.

The money will be used to help defray the town’s cost to repave the lot, a $29,440 expenditure agreed on last December. For a while, the town plans to use old parking meters from the beach on the lot, but neighbors complained and the idea of leasing the lot by one or more of the restaurants was brought up by council member Tom Deringer.

Mayor Dave Stewart said he thought the lease was too low, but voted with other council members to approve the deal. Lantana Chamber of Commerce President Dave Arm told the council leasing the lot is “a small price to pay.”

In other action during August, the Town Council:
• Approved an extension of a lease agreement between the town and the Chamber for the property at 212 Iris Ave. for $1.
• Reappointed Arthur Brooks as a regular member of the Planning Commission and Edward Shropshire and C. Lynn Tate as alternates.
• Approved $5,000-a-month agreement with Ballard Partners Inc. for lobbyist services. The lobbyists helped the town secure $1 million from the state last year toward creating and rebuilding ball fields from prime space on the A.G. Holley property. The developers agreed to pay another $2.5 million for the project.

Delray Beach

New rules on moving historic structures

By Jane Smith

Delray Beach city commissioners took three unanimous actions on Aug. 18 before voting on the iPc theater:
• Approved the second reading of the historic structure move ordinance. Changes from the first reading include added criteria for moving structures within a historic district or onto an individually designated property; and added language to allow staff to approve these requests administratively, provided they meet all zoning requirements, are not seeking relief of any kind and are not proposing alterations to the structure.
• Approved hiring Chicago Bridge & Iron Inc. for $78,843 to monitor the second year after beach replenishment, according to state of Florida permit requirements. The company will

gather data onboard and offshore to help assess the performance of the beach replenishment and plan future projects.
• Approved, as part of the consent agenda, adding three firms to help ease building permit crunch during peak times. The firms received three-year contracts with two one-year renewals. These firms were the lowest bidders: M.T. Caughey, CAP Government Inc. and GFA International.
Candace Tamposi, principal of Sacred Heart School in Lake Worth, knew she was going to be a principal when she was in high school. “My grandmother and her sister and brother were educators,” she said. “And my mother was an educator. I just followed in their footsteps.”

Tamposi hails from Nashua, N.H., and now lives in Ocean Ridge. She moved to Crystal River in 1981 with her family and took up a career in real estate development from 1981 to 1992. She returned to education after receiving her master’s in educational leadership from Nova Southeastern University. Her first principal’s position came at St. Ann Catholic School in West Palm Beach in 1992. She moved to Sacred Heart School in 2001, where she became principal two years later.

Sacred Heart’s student population is around 250 and accommodates grades pre-K to eighth. It has a benefactor-funded program to Sacred Heart School almost failed six years ago, when the economy turned the school around. My mother was an educator. I just followed in their footsteps.” — Candace Tamposi, principal at Sacred Heart School in Lake Worth, surrounded by students. Previously, she was development director at Rosarian Academy, then principal at St. Ann Catholic School in West Palm Beach. Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

We look at Sacred Heart as the best high schools . . . then on to the best colleges, studying to be attorneys, engineers, doctors. We look at Sacred Heart as the school of the future. ” — Candace Tamposi

Q. How did you grow up and go to school? How do you think that has influenced you?
A. I grew up in Nashua, N.H., and went to Mount St. Mary’s Seminary, then on to the University of New Hampshire. My Catholic education had a huge impact on my goals, and it was always my dream to be a school principal.

Q. What professions have you worked in? What professional accomplishments are you most proud of?
A. I was in real estate development for a while, but education is my home. Sacred Heart School almost failed six years ago, when the economy fell. We were close to closing our doors and were given only six weeks to turn things around. My pastor, Joseph Papes, and I made an appeal to the community and redesigned our vision for the school to beinclusive of children with learning differences and to allow children from low income and multicultural environments to come to a good school. We partnered with the state of Florida to step up McCabe Scholarships and we renovatedour classrooms and started our campaign to build our new pavilion. It was the largest commitment I ever made and we turned the school around.

Q. How did you choose to make your home in Ocean Ridge?
A. I used to live on the island of Palm Beach. I was so impressed driving down the coast along A1A and saw this little tiny community where you could get a beautiful home on the water that you could never afford in Palm Beach.

Q. What is your favorite part about living in Ocean Ridge?
A. I live a block from the beach. It’s a pristine, beautiful community, with no commercial development. It’s a spectacular, best-kept secret. And I’ve watched it grow. I’ve enjoyed raising my children here, and my husband and I recently moved into the Yacht Club, which we love.

Q. Did you ever get called to the principal’s office when you were in school? And what did you learn from it?
A. I was a hellion in school. I went to an all-girl Catholic school. My biggest offense was I didn’t like to wear my skirts below my knee, so I would roll them up. The sisters were opposed to uniform violations, so I got into trouble for that. I was on a four-year academic scholarship, so they always reminded me I needed to walk the line — or else!

Q. What book are you reading now?
A. I just started The Girl on the Train, by Paula Hawkins. I hope it’s good! My daughter, Ali Tamposi, is a songwriter. She co-wrote What Doesn’t Kill You (Stronger) for Kelly Clarkson and got a Grammy nomination for that. So I’ve been a huge fan of music forever. Everything from Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young to rap to contemporary to jazz to symphonic. Even marching bands!

Q. Do you have a favorite quote that inspires your decisions?
A. “Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world.” — Nelson Mandela

Q. Have you had mentors in your life? Individuals who have inspired your life decisions?
A. When I first came to St. Ann, I met a woman named Sister Carolyn Dowd, who is now celebrating 55 years of teaching and recently celebrated her 78th birthday. She’s still working with me. We’ve worked together for 25 years. She keeps me in check and doesn’t let me get away with murder! She makes sure I stay focused and on track.

Q. If your life story were made into a movie, who would you want to play you?
A. How about Meryl Streep! I think she can do anything.

Q. What music do you listen to when you need inspiration? When you want to relax?
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A. I just started The Girl on the Train, by Paula Hawkins. I hope it’s good! My daughter, who lives in Los Angeles, and I are reading it at the same time. I recently finished The Goldfinch, by Donna Tartt, which I couldn’t put down.

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By Steve Pike

The lean frame, tan and flowing blond hair, you'd give Crew Bold the ideal South Florida "surfer boy" look. Indeed, the 14-year-old Delray Beach resident does spend some time on the long boards, short boards and boogie boards on the area's beaches. But if you want to find him, you'd best look inside — at the Boca Twisters practice facility on Northwest Boca Raton Boulevard, where Bold is developing into one of the nation's top junior gymnasts.

This past May, Bold, a freshman at Boca Raton High School, used a second-place finish on the rings and fifth-place finish in the floor exercise to tie for sixth place all-around among Level 9 13-year olds at the Junior Olympics National Championships in Daytona Beach. For Bold, that success was just another step — or perhaps vault — in an already seven-year career that started with flips in his front yard.

"My parents didn't want me getting hurt, so they put me in gymnastics when I was 7," said Bold, who has two older brothers and a younger sister. "I ended up being pretty good at it."

So good, in fact, that the sport basically has taken over his life outside of school. Bold, who is 5-feet-4 and weighs 118 pounds, spends the better part of five hours a night, five days per week working on his six routines — rings, floor exercise, pommel horse, high bar, vault and parallel bars.

"I think I'm very good at the high bar, but I'm an all-around gymnast," Bold said.

"He's also a leader in the Boca Twisters gym, a reflection of his talent, dedication and maturity — and off the mats," said Shane Cummings, a coach at Boca Twisters who has judged many of Bold's state competitions. "With Crew, it's the same thing. He's always kind of been a leader of the group, even if he wasn't the oldest."

Crew Bold, 14, practices at Twisters Gymnastics in Boca Raton. He placed sixth all-around in his group in May at the Junior Olympics nationals. Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

He doesn't fool around in practice. He has his goals — he wants to be in the Olympics. He wants to be great and he knows what it takes and he knows he has to work hard. He definitely shows that in practice."

From a judge's perspective, Cummings said, Bold is toward the top tier of gymnasts his age in the country.

"The skills (routines) that he does are difficult for kids his age," he said. "You normally see them for kids who have more body strength and with kids whose bodies are more developed."

Bold's movements and confidence in the gym show that he likely could be an outstanding athlete in any sport — he played soccer in his younger days and did flips after each time he scored a goal — but gymnastics is the sport that calls his soul.

"While many boys his age look up to the likes of NBA stars LeBron James and Dwyane Wade, Bold's heroes include U.S. gymnastics team members Jake Dalton and Danell Leyva, the latter of whom lives in Homestead.

"I think I'd be good at other sports, but gymnastics has taken over my life," Bold said. "I don't really have any interest to do other things. When I was 9 or 10 years old, people told me I was a freak of nature."

Most kids that age would take the remark as an insult, but to Bold, it was — and remains — a badge of honor.

"It's something you have to be born with," he said. "Gymnastics is a crazy experience. It takes a lot of training and focus. I guess I was born to be an athlete and chose to be a gymnast."

By Steve Pike

Maya Kirie gently pressed her head on the left shoulder of her mother, Joanna Malin.

"She's exhausted," Malin said Aug. 22 after watching her daughter swim for two hours in the East Coast Aquatic Club's swim-a-thon at the Lake Worth community pool.

But if you know anything about Maya Kirie, a 12-year-old resident of the county pocket, you know she wouldn't want it any other way.

A sixth-grader at St. Joseph's Episcopal School in Boynton Beach, Kirie has sped up the charts of the ECAC since she joined the club this past May after spending 2½ years at boarding school in her mother's native England. So much so that she posted five personal-best times this past July at the Florida Gold Coast Junior Olympics in Plantation and has emerged as one of the ECAC's most promising young swimmers.

"Since she's been back she's really gotten into swimming like crazy," said Malin, who achieved a personal best of her own Aug. 21 when she became a naturalized U.S. citizen.

Kirie, by the way, raised more than $1,800 in the swim-a-thon. ECAC head coach John Steen Kjaerulf said the club expected to raise between $13,000 and $15,000 overall, which goes to support its equipment and activities, which includes an invitational meet this November in the Dominican Republic. The final tally won't be known until after Sept. 4.

"I couldn't imagine not swimming," said Kirie, who practices two hours per day, six days per week primarily at Aqua Crest pool in Delray Beach under the tutelage of coach Barbara Bertram. "It's very important to me."

Kirie's power in the water belies her 5-foot-1, 105-pound frame, which makes her ideal for swimming the "long" course, 50-meter and longer races versus the shorter 25-yard races.

"I prefer long course," Kirie said. "It's just different and you don't have as many flip-turns. But I like the short course, too. After the long course, you realize how short the pool really is."

Kirie is one of 160 competitive swimmers for ECAC, which Kjaerulf founded two years ago. Like Kirie, it hasn't taken much time for the club to make its mark. The club's girls and boys teams each finished second at the FGC Junior Olympics — good enough for a combined second-place overall finish.

Kjaerulf, a native of the Canary Islands, was a member of three state championship swim teams at Spanish River High School in Boca Raton and was an All-America at Florida Atlantic University, so there is no doubt he knows swimming and swimming talent. But he admits that Kirie took him a bit by surprise.

"When Joanna brought Maya for tryout, I could see she could definitely swim," Kjaerulf said. "I was just a bit taken aback but thought she could pick up quickly. Little did I know it was quicker than I thought it would be."

"She can swim pretty much anything and everything. She has a very smooth stroke but is very raw because she is new to competitive swimming. There is huge room for improvement, but she is improving daily."
French bakery produces palette of pastries worthy of display

By Jane Smith

At Jan Loïc Autret’s French bakery in Delray Beach, the baker displays pastries, breads and sandwiches as works of art. He elevates his croissants in bas-relief. He wants the customers to see the various colors of the pastries that indicate they are handmade.

Presentation matters, he insists. His breads and pastries need to look as good as they taste.

“People love food in Delray,” he said, when asked why he decided to sell at the city’s GreenMarket.

“I set up my booth so that the customer sees what I see,” he said. It is why he takes time with his displays, a skill he honed while working at the Four Seasons Resort Palm Beach.

One Saturday morning at the market, he looked out to see 60 people in line and started to cry. To him, that line validated his bakery business.

Autret even created his own hairstyle with shaved sides and a classic top that he calls “Loïc Style.” He wants people to focus on him and not the scars from an accident in Cambodia when he was 20 and in the French Army. About 15 years ago, his hair stylist began highlighting the curlicue.

More than 10 years ago, Autret switched careers. He was a paratrooper in the French Army when he fell in love with an American woman who lived in Florida. He studied French baking and pastry making at the Ecole de Gregoire Ferrandi, the French school of the culinary arts, before moving to Florida and marrying the woman of his dreams.

His bakery, opened in March, sits south of Plastridge Insurance and straddles Northeast Fifth and Sixth avenues with parking on each side.

He and his business partner, Christian Backenstrass, have 10 employees and sell varieties of croissants including Belgian chocolate and almond cream along with French fruit tarts, baguettes, specialty breads — including Kalamata olive loaves — and sandwiches on baguettes.

Through a glass wall, Autret can see people putting on the finishing touches on his “52 Shades of Loïc” with exploding dark chocolate inside and topped with white chocolate drops that melt on the hot cookie.

“Dark chocolate is an aphrodisiac,” he said. The bakery has a selection of high-top tables for in-store dining and an array of outside tables for al fresco eating when the weather cooperates.

Coffee and teas are also served. Its Marie-Antoinette Tea is brewed using a French press. Autret said water is heated to a near-boil and a French press is used to show the black Ceylon tea leaves, apple pieces and rose petals floating, as if “in an aquarium.”

Backenstrass said he met Autret at the GreenMarket and their kids attend Spanish River Christian School in Boca Raton. He knew Autret was an authentic French baker after tasting his croissants. ★

Loïc Autret French Bakery, 814 NE Sixth Ave., Delray Beach, www.loicautretbakery.com, 266-3516; also at the Delray Summer GreenMarket, eastern part of the tennis center parking lot, 201 W. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach, through September. During winter months, Loïc Autret has booths at the Delray Beach and Boca Raton green markets.

Revised iPic plan gets yes vote from Delray commission

The east view of the proposed iPic theater complex. The area at lower left is where a ‘living wall’ has been proposed to soften the street level view of the building. Rendering provided

By Jane Smith

City commissioners smoothed the way for the iPic luxury movie theater to open in downtown Delray Beach when a majority voted for it in August.

The revised iPic project had changed somewhat since July when the city’s seven-man Planning and Zoning Board voted unanimously against the increased height and 5-2 against a movie theater at that location, between Northeast Fourth and Fifth avenues along Atlantic Avenue, and against an alley abandonment included in the plan.

The changes:

• Moved the valet circulation to within the project, instead of onto the side streets that connect with Atlantic Avenue;

• Offered to create a living wall, measuring 30 feet high by 70 feet wide, to soften the street level view of the theater building on Southeast Fifth Avenue, known as southbound Federal Highway;

• Increased the open space to 3,550 feet.

At 6:20 a.m. in the wee hours of Aug. 19, the commission voted 3-2 to reverse the P&Z board’s recommendation. The chamber still held half of its audience, even though the commission had to vote at 11 a.m. and then again at midnight to extend the meeting.

iPic chief Hamid Hashemi attended the meeting where his company used a mobile screen to show a movie clip and renderings of the proposed project.

The $53 million project combines eight movie auditoriums with 529 seats on the ground floor, 42,900 square feet of office space in two levels, 7,500 square feet of retail along Southeast Fourth Avenue and a three-level parking garage.

Mayor Cary Glickstein voted for the conditional use — allowing a theater in the downtown and increasing its height to nearly 60 feet — and for abandoning the north-south alley that was part of the original requests sought by the city’s Community Redevelopment Agency.

“If not iPic then what? Under both our old and new land development regulations the property could be developed to a size and intensity larger than what iPic proposed,” he explained a few days after the meeting. “Most citizens wanted exactly what was being proposed — a downtown movie theater and office space for jobs.”

He also liked that the movie theater would give residents something to do that didn’t involve a restaurant, boutique or bar. He said changing the land price now — or other changes to the CRA’s request that some consider flawed — would present “significant reputational risk to a city, or any organization, for changing the rules or moving the goalposts.”

After midnight, when trying to explain his vote, he said, “I wish my dad was still around. He was such a great resource on what has happened in other places.” Successful cities adapt and capitalize on the opportunities presented, he said.

The project’s land use attorney, Bonnie Miskel, gave commissioners a 10-page memorandum of law just before they began their discussion.

A few days after the vote Glickstein said that “Ms. Miskel’s memorandum was relevant, but was largely codified in the staff analysis that supported the application based on an accurate application of our imperfect rules.”

He also wanted to see the project’s size decreased. He asked the iPic developer “to let some air out of the tires for us,” but he did not give specifics.

In addition, he made a requirement that the design can’t be changed once the project goes out for bid; he wants to see the building keep its stainless steel skin that was proposed.

For public parking spaces, the mayor wants to see a net so that the project would offer the same number of public spaces that will be lost.

He directed the city’s planning director to determine that count before the project has its site plan review.

Commissioner Mitch Katz, who voted to allow a movie theater downtown but against the height increase and alley abandonment, asked whether residents could have access to the roof space so that they could go up there and have a picnic to watch the sunset. The iPic team readily agreed.

Katz asked whether the city could consider the majority of property taxes generated by the finished project, instead of having the bulk of it go to the CRA.

The mayor said, “I asked the city attorney to look into lowering the portion across the CRA district that goes to the CRA. … Yes, I fully support that.”

Vice Mayor Shelly Petrolia, who cast three votes against the project, filed a complaint on Aug. 21 with the county Inspector General about the alley abandonment vote.

“I wanted to follow the city ordinances, but we did not do that,” she said a week after the vote. “I expect that if it comes back that we need to get an outside legal opinion and can be done in time, the commission will take a vote on that.”

The iPic project has to go through four more reviews before it can break ground. ★
Business Spotlight

Gulf Stream residents expand business to Boca

Gulf Stream residents Bernard and Stephanie Molyneux plan to expand their business, ACP Home Interiors/Antiques & Country Pine. Their new 8,000-square-foot store is slated to open Oct. 1 at 850 N. Dixie Highway, Boca Raton.

“I grew up in Boca Raton, and my husband opened his first store in Boca. We are coming full circle,” Stephanie Molyneux said. The couple sells European-inspired, coastal-chic furniture as well as industrial-style furniture. They also have a boutique at 2050 N. Federal Highway, Delray Beach, as well as a warehouse open to the public in Deerfield Beach. “We offer something a little different in each store, so it’s exciting to visit each location,” she said.

Hate to go grocery shopping? Well, download an app that will arrange Publix Super Markets deliveries, and you don’t have to go anymore. In mid-August, ShipIt, a Birmingham, Ala.-based startup, deployed a beta version of its same-day grocery delivery services across South Florida (including Boca Raton, Boynton Beach, Delray Beach, Highland Beach, Lake Worth, Lantana, Manalapan and Ocean Ridge).

Customers can download the app or go to www.shipit.com to sign up for a membership to begin shopping and scheduling deliveries. They can join the app in its beta version for $49 and get one year free of delivery charges on orders over $35. Any items sold by Publix can be included in the order.

ShipIt, which is not affiliated with or endorsed by Publix, launched a beta test in Tampa early August, and also has rolled out in Birmingham, Dallas and Nashville.

The Boca Raton Whole Foods Market’s “Donate Your Dime” program aims to help find a cure for people with Crohn’s disease and ulcerative colitis. To participate, bring in your own shopping bag and you’ll have a choice of receiving 10 cents back or donating the dime to a selected charity. “Donate Your Dime” chooses a different charity each quarter, and now through Oct. 1, funds will go to the Crohn’s & Colitis Foundation of America.

Sixty-two physicians on the medical staff at Boca Raton Regional Hospital were listed as “Top Doctors” by Castle Connolly Medical Ltd., a research firm specializing in providing consumers with information about the nation’s best doctors and hospitals. These doctors accounted for more than half of the 116 doctors represented among the 13 hospitals in Palm Beach County. For a list of the doctors, visit www.thecoastalstar.ning.com.

Delray Medical Center broke ground on its new 120,000-square-foot, four-story patient tower and five-level parking garage, slated to open in early 2017. The $79.4 million expansion will include the addition of 96 private patient rooms, cardiovascular clinic, expanded endoscopy suites and a helipad with direct elevator access to the emergency department.

Bethesda Health now offers the MAKO robotic-assisted Partial Knee Resurfacing System and Total Hip Replacement procedure, using the RIO Robotic Arm Interactive Orthopedic System. The RIO system enables accurate alignment and placement of implants. The MAKO treatment is less invasive than traditional total knee surgery, and offers more accurate cup placement and accurate leg length restoration. Bethesda Health Inc., a health care organization with two not-for-profit hospitals, Bethesda Hospital East in Boynton Beach and Bethesda Hospital West.

Some announcements come from the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority: Tri-Rail now offers a free shuttle to Palm Beach International Airport from every train that stops at the West Palm Beach station. Tri-Rail recently introduced its first bike car, a specially equipped Bombardier trailer car, and currently, nine coach cars are being retrofitted with bike racks so that there will be a bike car available on every train. Bicycle lockers are available at all stations with the exception of Pompano Beach and Miami. Two new well-manicured pet-relief areas have been added on the east and west ends of the Palm Beach International Airport terminal outside the baggage claim, and the airport provides complimentary waste bags so owners can pick up after their pets.

For a healthier vacation, Kimpton’s Tidelands Ocean Resort & Spa offers guests opportunities to unwind, rev up and detox at scheduled times throughout the day now through Sept. 24. Its “Morning Boosters” feature complimentary coffee and tea along with kombucha shots and healthy bites. “Afternoon Iced Tea” in the lobby includes a glass of passion fruit mango tea, garnished with orange jelly-O cubes. Its Kimpton’s signature “Wine Hour” in the evening has a mental wellness twist with sangria and a complimentary evening snack. Also, hotel guests who mention the Summer of Wellness secret password “farmers market” on the property will score additional complimentary surprises and delights. The resort is at 2842 S. Ocean Blvd., Palm Beach. For information, call 540-6440.

Crane’s Beach House Boutique Hotel & Luxury Villas will host its Sept. 17 Thursday Fun-Raiser for the Plumosa School of the Arts. The food will be from Papa’s Tapas. Open to the public, the event will be held from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at the hotel’s Tiki Bar. Admission, which comes with one free drink ticket, is $20 in advance and $25 at the door. Crane’s is at 82 Gleason St. in Delray Beach.

Heroes Sports Bar & Grill, 224 N. Third St., Lantana, celebrated its grand opening mid-August.

FLAVOR Palm Beach is back for its eighth September, offering foodies the chance to experience dishes from discounted prix fixe menus at more than 50 Palm Beach County restaurants. They will showcase three-course lunches for $20 and dinners from $30. The Palm Beach County Food Bank will receive a benefit for reservations made through www.FlavorPB.com, and each new UBER rider using the code Flavor2015 will get a free ride and earn the Food Bank $5. For a full list of participating restaurants and menus, visit www.FlavorPB.com. Reservations are suggested.

The Palm Beach Poetry Festival will host the Fifth Annual 100K Poets and Musicians for Change poetry reading at the Bottega Wine Bar at 3 p.m. Sept. 26. A global happening, this free event will take place at the same time in more than 800 venues in 115 countries. Poets are invited to

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Business Spotlight

Gulf Stream residents expand business to Boca

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The and 5000 are included to the public.

Beach Chamber of Commerce Business Expo is free and open on 400-foot-deep, direct-access piers, each with a single-family home and a half-dozen of its neighbors, referring to this property and said. By estate section, he's been available until now,” Ely said. A new development has not been completed in about a year. Prices ranged from the low $400,000 to $600,000, with the Corcoran Group handling the sales. A big plus: Each unit will have a two-car garage and driveway, said Corcoran agent Cameron Sydenham. “Compared to other urban developments where guest parking is a nightmare, St. George has no parking issues. It’s also low density, with only a total of 38 units spread out over three acres.”

The majority of the buyers will be local residents, he predicted.

Because of the Florida Clerk’s significant budget deficit of $22.4 million for the current fiscal year ending Sept. 30, Palm Beach County Clerk’s Office’s courthouse budget was cut $2.6 million. To accommodate the shortfall, 41 full-time and 16 part-time positions were cut, and the Delray Beach and Palm Beach Gardens branch offices will be closed to the public on Sept. 4 and 18.

Boca Raton resident Scott Gregory has been appointed as the director of operations for the South Florida Wildlife Center. Gregory most recently served as director of the Great Bend Zoo in Great Bend, Kan. Before that, he was the wildlife director at Calusa Nature Center and Planetarium in Fort Myers.

Waste Management Public Affairs Manager Teresa Chandler won the PRSA Sunshine Radiance Award in the newsletter category for Waste Management. These awards recognize outstanding strategic public relations programs by Florida practitioners or organizations highlighting campaigns that demonstrate excellence in research, planning, implementation and evaluation.

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Ocean view galore from this rare offering in Casa Del Rey! Enjoy the panoramic ocean vistas from this versatile, two bedroom, two bath apartment in beautiful Delray Beach. With today’s highly desired open floor plan, dramatic double door entry, elegant kitchen that flows perfectly into the living and dining venues and features lumbared marble and crisp Colan surfaces, crown moldings, master closet conveniently built-out, full-sized washer and dryer, & prime covered parking space, this apartment is a true find and promises not to last. $569K. WEB# 3419953

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Magnificent custom built 4BR+den home. This luxury property strikes the perfect balance between formal and casual lifestyle. Nestled between the Intracoastal waterway and dedicated beach access on a large 17,000 SF lot. Spacious open chef’s kitchen, smart house systems and spacious covered outdoor living – all custom designed by top professionals. $2,425,000

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We love our coffee — and our coffee shops, too. A mundane cup of joe at the kitchen table isn’t enough to satisfy us anymore. We’ve become coffee snobs. So it comes as no surprise that the coffee café business is booming. In a recent study, FindTheHome and FindTheCompany, two technology companies that collect and interpret data, identified cities in the United States where coffee shops are on the rise.

Coffee shops go beyond a cup of joe

By Janis Fontaine

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Coffee shops go beyond a cup of joe

By Janis Fontaine

ABOVE: Patrons gather around tables at The Seed in Boca Raton.

RIGHT: Andres Rodriguez serves customer Doug Marks of Boca Raton on a Sunday morning at Gizzi’s Coffee in Delray Beach.

Traditional latte with organic milk art at The Seed in Boca Raton.

Photos by Taylor Jones/The Coastal Star

Traditional latte with organic milk art at The Seed in Boca Raton.

Photos by Taylor Jones/The Coastal Star

Traditional latte with organic milk art at The Seed in Boca Raton.

Photos by Taylor Jones/The Coastal Star
The Junior League of Boca Raton celebrated its one millionth diaper donation at the end of the 2014-15 season, surpassing all expectations for the 4-year-old initiative. The accomplishment demonstrates the community’s support of the Diaper Bank project while also bringing to light the need for diapers throughout the area. According to the United Way of Palm Beach County, one in three mothers struggles with diaper purchases. ‘The impact of the Junior League of Boca Raton continues to be felt in meaningful ways in households throughout our community,’ Boca Raton City Councilman Scott Singer said. The Diaper Bank distributes the diapers to 22 nonprofits.

When summer hits, Manahattanites and media descend on the ritzy region of Long Island. This year, representatives from the Delray Beach Marketing Cooperative joined the big shots. As a sponsor of the beachfront-estate affair, the cooperative had plenty of opportunities to spread word about the South County city. ‘So much positive press will come from this … not to mention the number of people who are excited to come visit,’ Associate Director Stephen Chrisanthus said. ‘When the summer comes to a close, and the spotlight turns away from the glamour of the Hamptons, I got a good feeling this same crowd will being turning south in search of the warm Delray lifestyle.’

Bradley Falcone, a graduate of Atlantic High School and Eagle Scout who will attend Florida State University, won a $1,000-per-year scholarship for four years from the Highland Beach chapter of UNICO. Photo provided
Philanthropy Calendar

Pay it Forward

Do not hallucinate.

Pay It Forward celebrates the many philanthropic events in our community. Events are current as of 8/28. Please check with organizers for any changes.

SEPTMBER

Thursday - 9/7 - Thursday Fun-Raiser at Crane’s Beach House Boutique Hotel & Luxury Villas, 82 Grosvenor St., Delray Beach. Enjoy live music, a free drink ticket and tasty treats from local restaurants to benefit Benton House on Sunset Blvd. Doors open at 5:30 pm. 352-570-2780 or edline.net/page/plumosa_elementary_school. Saturday - 9/17 - Order of St. John of Jerusalem Knights Hospitaller’s benefit concert at Lynn University, 3601 N. Military Trail, Boca Raton. Celebrate Henrietta de Hoofter’s 100th birthday by attending A Knight in Burgundy performed by the Lynn University Philharmonic. 6:30 pm. VIP reception, 7:30 pm concert. $35- $150. 273-9007 or lynneu.edu/events. Thursday - 9/24 - Achievement Centers for Children & Families’ Indulgence at Delray Beach Center for the Arts at Old School Square, 100 N.W. S. N. Swinton Ave. Indulge in cocktails, hors d’oeuvres and experiences including musical entertainment, as well as the season’s hottest hair and makeup tips. 6-9 pm. $75. 530-266-0001 or delrayindulgence.com.

OCTOBER

Wednesday - 10/7 - Soroptimist International of Boca Raton/ Deerfield Beach’s Women of Distinction Awards Breakfast at Boca West Country Club, 20583 Boca West Drive. Honor women in the community who are making a difference in the lives of others through raising money for local charities. 9:30 am reception. $60. 859-1880 or SOI@boca-west.com. Thursday - 10/8 - Delray Beach Public Library’s Girly, Girls, Hats & Heels at Ogden Place Hotel, 3601 N. Federal Highway, Delray Beach. Enchanting champagne, a silent auction and the latest fashions while recognizing Breast Cancer Awareness Month. 10:30 am-2 pm. $60. 266-0733 or delraylibrary.org.

SUNDAY - 10/11 - 2nd Annual National Hiking Day at John Prince Park, 2700 Sixth Ave., Lake Worth. Come out for a family fun event featuring a one-mile walk, free breakfast, children’s activities, live entertainment and raffle prizes. 8 am-midday. Free. 752-3383 or ogdenplacelibrary@gmail.com. Saturday - 10/12 - Delray Beach Public Library’s Food, Glorious Food! Healthy, Local & Delicious at Palm Beach Zoo & Conservation Society, 1301 Summit Blvd., West Palm Beach. Visit with more than 700 animals from all over the world during an exotic adventure of a mayhem and mystery, ending with prizes for those who guess the cupola. 10-11 am. $25-50. 6 p.m. 210-929-2929 or zoonightlyevent.com. Saturday - 10/13 - 11th Annual Cooperative AIDS Program at FindCare’s The Smart Ride from Miami to Key West. Get ready for a 165-mile bicycle journey involving more than 500 participants pedaling to raise awareness and funds for the HIV/AIDS organization. Riders must raise a minimum of $1,510. 866-466-7970 or thesmartride.com. Saturday - 11/14 - Crohn’s & Colitis Foundation of America’s Murder at the Menagerie at Palm Beach Zoo & Conservation Society, 1001 Summit Blvd., West Palm Beach. Visit a James Bond theme and elegant dining. Friday-Sunday - 11/20-22 - Chris Evert/Raymond James Pro-Celebrity Tennis Classic at Boca Raton Resort & Club, 501 E. Camino Real, and Delray Beach Stadium, 2001 W. Atlantic Ave. Watch celebrities including Dennis Miller, Timothy Olyphant, Merine Quinnan and Alain Thicke participate in a pro-am tournament highlighted by a cocktail reception and charity gala. 11 a.m. Friday-Sunday. $50-$297. 6 p.m. Friday cocktail reception. 10:00 a.m. Saturday charity gala. 759. 394-2400 or chrisevert.org.

By Amy Woods

Pay it Forward

September 2015

Philanthropy Calendar

Pay it Forward

Colorful new reading space encourages children to put noses in books

Lantana Elementary School opened a new chapter in its history when it cut the ribbon to the Reading Oasis.

More than 1,200 children’s books fill newly installed shelving lining freshly painted walls. Beanbags color the google logo dot the floor. Inspirational paintings between a book publisher and the local Kiwanis Club. Materials for underprivileged kids, “The Reading Oasis was made possible toward the $10,000 project, and the club — armed with a check from Kiwanis International — came up with the rest. “These Reading Oasis rooms, they’re very successful,” said Kiwanian Robert Martin, a Boynton Beach veterinarian who donated $500 toward the cause. “We’ve seen the difference in academic success that they make.”

The club has launched a fundraising campaign to cover its share of the costs, as well as the ongoing expenses of replenishing the book supply.

“There’s a huge, huge disparity in the availability of books and reading materials for underprivileged kids,” Martin said. “The idea is to bring it to children who otherwise would not ordinarily have a chance.” One hundred percent of donations to the Hypoluxo-Lantana Sunrise Kiwanis Club goes back to the community. To support the Reading Oasis, call Rob Martin at 317-583-0 or club Treasurer Sharon Randolph at 832-1175.

Philanthropy Calendar

Pay it Forward

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Around Town

Can the Bandit raise money for Burt’s museum?

B ack in the ’70s, the Pontiac Trans Am was bad ass. And one particular ’79 model was the baddest of the bad. Four hundred cubic-inch V8. “Black and bold” paint. Huge 150 cubic-inch V8. Even the monster four-barrel carb. Scoop that delivered air to the monster four-barrel carb. T-tops. Power windows. Even cruise control (a rarity then).

Oil prices were rising through the sunroof and more drivers were pulling into import lots as MPG overruled HP. But Pontiacs still grabbed attention, thanks largely to Burt Reynolds’ astute performance behind the wheel in his Smokey and the Bandit movies. Firebird sales reached an astounding 10 grand.

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They don’t make ’em like that anymore. Pontiacs are history. Oh, sure, restored Trans Ams can be bought … but few are like this, much less for three bucks. That’s the price of a raffle ticket being offered by The Burt Reynolds Institute for Film & Theatre (no connection to the old BRIT). This fund-raising goal is to help build the new Reynolds Institute and reopen the Burt Reynolds Museum. And as a bonus, for $20 or more, donors will receive double the cash value of tickets. For example, $30 would produce 20 chances instead of 10. (www.BurtWintheBandit.com or 877-700-8946)

Enough with lobster, says Gulf Stream resident and Burt Reynolds developer Anthony Pugliese. After owning The Station House, famous for its Maine lobster, for nearly 15 years, he’s selling. The sprawling one-story restaurant on Lantana Road seats about 270, has room to expand, and according to various real estate sites, takes in about $2.7 million a year. Asking price $1.95 million.

Pugliese, 68, says he wants to devote more time to his real estate business. And don’t forget that problem with a little court case. On Aug. 26, Pugliese and his business manager, Joseph Reamer, agreed to a plea bargain for trying to swindle more than $1 million from Subway founder Fred DeLaca. They were partners in a failed concept for a 4,000-acre planned community in Central Florida. Pugliese was recently diagnosed with cancer, his attorney said, and did not want to add a lengthy trial to his family’s burden. Still, Pugliese could get 18 months in jail and 10 years probation.

How much stock should we — in southern Palm Beach County — put in a report that originated in San Francisco? It’s like comparing hurricanes to earthquakes, although not quite so dramatic. A financial analyst’s website with the oh-so-California name NerdWallet has released a statistical analysis that claims Boca Raton is the best city in Florida to open a restaurant. Using U.S. Census reports, NerdWallet compared population growth, density, payroll costs and growth in labor and housing costs for 530 U.S. cities with populations of at least 50,000. Boca came in 27th. An earlier NerdWallet study ranked Boca 11th best in the world, but the look sure is, and quite simply, Meat Market, at 191 Bradley Place, is hot. Owners David Tornek and Sean Brasel, who’s also the chef, hope to keep it that way. Gone are the heavy stucco walls,但在 Jacksonville, the look sure is, and quite simply, Meat Market, at 191 Bradley Place, is hot. Owners David Tornek and Sean Brasel, who’s also the chef, hope to keep it that way. Gone are the heavy stucco walls, but few are like this, much less for three bucks. That’s the price of a raffle ticket being offered by The Burt Reynolds Institute for Film & Theatre (no connection to the old BRIT). This fund-raising goal is to help build the new Reynolds Institute and reopen the Burt Reynolds Museum. And as a bonus, for $20 or more, donors will receive double the cash value of tickets. For example, $30 would produce 20 chances instead of 10. (www.BurtWintheBandit.com or 877-700-8946)

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_Pugliese noted that Boca had a 94.1 percent increase in population between 2000 and 2010, compared to 78.6 percent for all of Florida. The median household income was $75,474, compared to $44,648 for Florida. The number of 18- to 34-year-olds also increased, from 21 percent in 2000 to 34 percent in 2010._

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— Cindy Barks

Stronger, together.
On Sept. 16, he’ll face either Bruce Feingold of Dada or Chris Miracolo, former chef at Max’s Harvest, now at $3 in Fort Lauderdale. They’ll compete for that final spot on Sept. 23.

For more than a decade, South Shores Tavern in Lake Worth was a lively gastropub with a reputation for community involvement. Few knew the space had been on the market for five years, and when the new owners took over in July, they quickly closed it. The buyer has not been identified, aside from the corporate name of Peters 502-504 Lucerne LLC, which is linked to a Boca Raton family.

Florida corporate records reveal two other links, the Vegan Sisters and Way Beyond Sushi, that lead nowhere, and previous restaurant ventures Kyoto in Delray and Suite 225 in Lantana.

Speaking to The Palm Beach Post, Chris Fleming, a spokesman for Peters 502-504 Lucerne, said the site will remain a restaurant and the new owners are looking for the right tenant, one willing to invest as much as $200,000 to improve the building, built in 1955.

This name’s a keeper: Screamin’ Reels IPA. Six-packs of the first canned brew from Saltwater Brewery in Delray are now available at grocers and other retailers, bars and restaurants. Saltwater already serves the southeast Florida coast from Key West to Sebastian and plans to expand to Mouse country and North Florida soon. Football fans should be elated, too, as cans of Screamin’ Reels will be sold at Sun Life Stadium. Next in line for the cannyre: Sea Cow Milk Stout and Wheat Wave.

Tickets should go fast for this year’s Go Pink Luncheon, Oct. 21 at the Boca Raton Resort & Club. For wildly inventive comic actor Martin Short, however, cancer is no laughing matter. When he was 17, his mother died from breast cancer. Five years ago, ovarian cancer claimed Nancy Dolman, his wife of 30 years. Tickets are $175 and proceeds support breast cancer programs at the Christine E. Lynn Women’s Health & Wellness Institute at Boca Raton Regional Hospital. (955-4142)

Acerbic comedian Dennis Miller, the right wing’s answer to Bill Maher, is among early commitments to the 26th Chris Evert/Raymond James Pro-Celebrity Tennis Classic, set for Nov. 20-22. Miller, who is making his first appearance, will join Evert veterans singer-songwriter David Cook, actors Alan Thicke and Timothy Olyphant, actress Maeve Quinlan and International Tennis Hall of Famer Pam Shriver.

The Boca Raton Resort & Club will host pro-am matches and a cocktail reception on Nov. 20 and the annual charity gala the following evening. The celebrity tennis will be played Saturday and Sunday (21-22) at the Delray Beach Tennis Center. For ticket info, visit www.chrisvert.org.

Delray’s Atlantic Plaza is now home to what is claimed to be the largest restaurant on Florida’s West Coast. It is the opportunity arose for Free House, the three jumped at it. The Boca Raton Resort & Club has been host to pro-am matches and a cocktail reception on Nov. 20 and the annual charity gala the following evening. The celebrity tennis will be played Saturday and Sunday (21-22) at the Delray Beach Tennis Center. For ticket info, visit www.chrisvert.org.

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Boice

Darrick Parrish, a retired air traffic controller who lives in Palm Beach Gardens, won the 2015 Ernest Hemingway lookalike contest in Key West in July. A persistent fellow, Boice won on his 15th attempt. He joins select company: Of the 36 winners since the contest began in 1980, four have called Palm Beach County home. For ticket info, visit www.chrisvert.org.

Dining

Southern-fried delights at Fat Rooster

The Plate: Lucy’s Chicken Biscuit Oh My!
The Place: Gary Rack’s Fat Rooster, 204 E. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach; 266-3642 or www.thefatrooster.com.
The Price: $4

The Skinny: After a morning of newspapering, we were starved — nothing like working with the prose of journalism pros to whet an appetite.

We tried an appetizer of the combination of sweet and heat in the apple and “Papa” until Boice, although Bob Doughty (2005) comes close. He delivered the mail in Deerfield Beach.

Lots of activity at the Norton Museum of Art this month. But don’t worry about all those construction vehicles in the west parking lot, or the activity around the museum’s giant banyan tree. It’s staying put. But the museum is closing … for all of three weeks … to set up the next big exhibits.

Even as work progresses on its giant $60 million, three-year makeover, the Norton will remain open, presenting on Sept. 26 its first big event of the season, the 10th annual Mid-Autumn Festival (or Moon Festival). A salute to its world-class Chinese art collection, the day will be filled with activities, tours and talks, a performance by renowned Liu Fang, on pipa and guzheng (lute and zither), plus tea and mooncakes.

Moon Fest guests will be able to enjoy two summer exhibitions given extended runs: The Summer of ’68: Photographing the Black Panthers, featuring the work of photographer Ruth-Marion Baruch and hubby Pirkle Jones, will run through Jan. 17; Going Places: Transportation Design, from the Jean S. and Fredric A. Sharf Collection, continues through Jan. 3.

Thanks to a reciprocal agreement among the Norton and other museums, two special treats will add punctuation: Vincent Van Gogh’s The Poplars at Saint-Rémy (Nov. 5-April 17) and Edgar Degas’ Portrait of Mlle. Hortense Valpinçon (Nov. 5-May 15).

Reach Thom Smith at thomsmith@ymail.com.

If you’re in an accident, knowing what to do and who to call really helps!
Contact us to request a free copy of “WHAT TO DO IN AN AUTO ACCIDENT”
We’re here when you need us.

Craig D. Earnhart
Your Local Delray Beach Injury Attorney
561.265.2220
info@DelrayInjuryAttorneys.com
DelrayInjuryAttorneys.com
Theater

Clematis Street to don a second theater company: Naked Stage

By Hap Erstein
ArtsPaper Theater Writer

It has been a rough year for theater companies in Palm Beach County, with the demise of Boca Raton Theatre Guild, Women's Theatre Project, Delray Square Performing Arts and the Plaza Theatre, as well as the move away by Slow Burn Theatre from Boca to the Breakers.

Suddenly, though, there is some positive news with the announcement that Miami’s Naked Stage Theatre Co. is coming north to downtown West Palm Beach, setting down roots on Clematis Street in the city’s so-called “arts and entertainment district.”

Naked Stage has been in operation for the past nine years, producing such classic works as No Exit, The Turn of the Screw and Miss Julie with a contemporary twist, plus a few new plays, in the tiny Pelican Theatre on the Barry University campus. The husband and wife team of Katherine and Antonio Amadeo — the company’s entire production staff — have done some impressive shows there, while acknowledging that the location is remote and limiting.

“It’s in the middle of nowhere, really,” Antonio says. “For the audience experience, there’s really nowhere to go eat afterwards and all that kind of stuff.

“We knew we didn’t want something a lot larger, but

issue was location,” he says. “Something that was closer to home — Boca Raton — and had a lot more foot traffic.

“Then four or five months ago, we started talking more seriously about it and we actually didn’t expect it to happen this quickly,” notes Antonio. “We started thinking, ‘If we could get our dream location, where would we look?’

And obviously Clematis is one of the top, if not the top, areas we wanted to look at. And we happened to find a building.”

The building is 522 Clematis St., formerly a garden retail store called Authentic Provence, now in the process of being bought for Naked Stage by supportive investor Michael Paul, who not coincidentally is Katherine’s father.

Although Mayor Jeri Muoio had long been in favor of creating a theater district downtown, the street was zoned for retail and restaurants. That has since been revised, thanks in part to some lobbying by the only other theater on Clematis — Palm Beach Dramaworks.

“Bill (Hayes) and Sue Ellen (Beryl), Dramaworks’ top executives, ‘have been so wonderful,” enthuses Katherine. “They’ve really been like mentors for us for years now. They’ve given us advice on pretty much every step of the way. And not only that, they’ve attended meetings with us, they’ve written letters for us, they’ve gone and spoken to

Music

The song remains the same: Iconic Bamboo Room reopens

By Bill Meredith
ArtsPaper Music Writer

It’s only slightly more than 48 hours, but the July 31, grand reopening of the Bamboo Room — the historic, if on-and-off, Lake Worth live music venue from 1999 to present-day — but general manager Ben Foster appears calm. At least on the surface.

“They just hired me,” he says, “so it’s pressure-packed, but I’ve opened a lot of venues before. We’ll start out with mostly local talent, but plan to feature jazz, blues in the early evening, partly to suit the history of the room. And we’ll book national acts too, another tradition, but that I’ll take some time. I’d say by November.”

Foster helped to open Lafayette’s Music Room in Memphis (the chain nightclub now replacing the defunct local B.B. King’s in CityPlace). He was hired nearly two months ago after the Bamboo Room held a three-night trial run July 2-4, which persuaded financial businessmen and new investors Ryan Mueller and Blaine Minton to reopen the doors permanently rather than sell the Bamboo Room.

Since there were no promises beforehand, those three nights needed to be a success, but attendance went well beyond expectations, averaging more than 500 patrons per night.

Though interim entertainment director Ryan McJury’s services weren’t extended, his efforts, from social media updates to handing out fliers at area concerts, greatly aided those results. The upstairs interior was repeatedly so crowded that staff had to route customers around the side of the building, where they could either climb the back stairs to the outdoor patio or stay under the tent erected in the parking lot.

By the time fireworks went off July 4, the decision to officially reopen had practically been made.

I never could’ve imagined that this would happen, Foster says managing partner David Minton, Blaine’s father. “I knew people loved the Bamboo Room and wanted it open again, but that really showed how much.”

The official re-opening weekend of July 31-Aug. 1 saw patrons party like it was 1999. As when the venue first opened, local jazz artists were featured (Lina and the Blue Collective), and as more recently, pop/rock acts (Dawn Patrol) played later closing sets. The most noticeable blueprint changes — later hours (closing time is now 2 a.m.) and an emphasis on popular drink specials ($3 Budweiser 16-ounce cans) — were initially frowned upon, but became more of a staple in the past five years.

“Last weekend was good,” Foster said during the first week of August, “if a little slower as the nights went on. But we haven’t done a lot of marketing yet, so that’s something we need to put some money into.

We also need to book that big national act to make a splash.

When we do, that’s probably when we’ll start charging a cover, along with any groupings of four or five local acts together. We’ll start opening Thursday through Sunday in the middle of August, and we plan to make Sundays our regular LGBT night, with either DJs or bands.”

That initial, overwhelming, cover-free July 2-4 response made official owners out of Mueller and Minton, whose inventory at early totals, close to $1 million among the purchase of the Bamboo Room, licensing, and upgrades. The two were already fans and patrons, and their agreement

to keep the same name and general format helped seal the deal with previous owners Russell Hibbard and Karen McKinley.

That husband-and-wife team first opened the Bamboo Room in 1999. Hibbard’s horn playing came in handy as he played the jug in one of the room’s long-standing local monthly house acts, the Banyan Street Jug Band, and his booking of national acts was a treat. The late Bo Diddley toured through, as did another since-deceased blues legend, guitarist Hubert Sumlin, who appeared as a guest with The Codetalkers, a frequent regional act co-led by singing guitarists Bobby Lee Rodgers and Col. Bruce Hampton.

Yet Hibbard’s creative booking could certainly extend beyond the blues. Another guest of the Codetalkers was incendiary guitarist Jimmy Herring, now with jam band Widespread Panic. Allman Brothers Band bassist Berry Oakley and Burbridge brought in his solo group for a memorable night; roots-rock heroes NRBQ and fusion quartet Garaj Mahal made rousing appearances, and singing pop/funk guitarist Elvin Bishop even had folks dancing at the back bar.

And all of them frequently mentioned how much classier the club was than on Cleves and juke joints they’d become accustomed to playing.

The ensuing sale of Hibbard’s to Muoio had long been in favor of creating a theater district downtown, the street was zoned for retail and restaurants. That has since been revised, thanks in part to some lobbying by the only other theater on Clematis — Palm Beach Dramaworks.

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See BAMBOO on page AT8
**BAMBOO**

Continued from page A77

(which also featured Harring and Burbridge), lovingly referred to the club as the "Bob Boom Room." The tiny auxiliary venue, located within the historic Paradise Building, hasn't changed much since opening. There's still a line, tickets are still sold, posters still adorn the walls, and photos of artists who've performed there are on the walls. The floors are still wooden, the ceiling is wooden, open, and very high — all great for acoustics.

A south end bar and walk-in order offer practically any libation possible; chairs dot tables and the east side wall, and the dance floor is usually open to the elements. Anyone who sings can do so on the outdoor patio, which has no roof and speakers so patrons can still see and hear the music. The stage is spacious, and the club features a house PA system, mics and stands, drum kit, amplifiers, monitors, and a Hammond organ. "To my knowledge, it's all the same equipment as before, including the Soundcraft mixing board," says lead engineer Matt Ball. New owners Mueller and Minton both live in Delray Beach, where Mueller's RJM Real Estate Group is based. Minton works nearby in Boca Raton as a wealth adviser and producer for Frederickson Management under the Morgan Stanley umbrella.

Both now seem like kids in the candy store at the club, expressing how wowed they were by the community's response to the temporary July 12 opening and talk about an official website (www.bambooroommusic.com) and its Facebook site (facebook.com/...). For the best shows coming out of London. At the National, they're doing a lot of younger, hipper, fresher music. And for the younger people who want to see plays with 20-, 30-year-olds onstage." The Amadeos do not expect their audiences at Barry University to follow them to West Palm Beach, but they never previously had a subscription base there anyway. "Realistically, we know the South Florida audience doesn't really travel to two counties," says Antonio. "So it's going to be exciting to see what we develop in West Palm Beach as far as audience." Previously, Naked Stage would work on a project without a published deadline, opening it when it was ready. "This will be the first time we'll be able to put together a full season and cultivate a subscription base," says Katherine. "That will be a huge change for us."

From observing audiences in West Palm and performing in 2008, Hibbard and McKinley closed the Bamboo Room, which stayed dark until 2011. The original, well-attended reopening party that year featured Broward County-based blues act David Shelley & Bluestone, led by the namesake singer, guitarist and percussionist who died last month at age 57 after a long cancer battle.

Hibbard, also an avid auto racer, had decided to turn the booking reins over to managers Donald Becker and Craig Young. For the next few years, there was still a roots music foundation, interspersed with jam bands like venerable area Grateful Dead offshoot Crazy Fingers, tribute acts to icons from The Beatles and Eagles to Elton John and U2, and '70s rock stars like singer/guitarist Pat Travers, who released a 2013 CD/DVD set called Live at the Bamboo Room. Hibbard, though, was probably better suited to being a hands-on owner than an absentee one. He and McKinley turned out the lights again in 2014, leading to the sale nearly a year later this April.

"We do know we want about 145 to 150 seats," Antonio says, having consulted when they were doing the Kravis Center. "It's interesting to West Palm Beach that have no experience with theater. It's harder to pull them in, and then it's hard to get them to come back, even if they loved the show. That's not as large an issue in West Palm Beach."

The Authentic Provence interior will be completely gutted and reconfigured as a theater, so it will be at least a year until Naked Stage opens on Clematis. "Since I'm the producing director for Naked Stage, I put together my ideas for what I think the theater should be, based on the size of the venue," says Joe. "Then we contacted an architect, Bob Currie, who will be taking those ideas and putting together a legitimate plan for the theater. He has been instrumental in building 13 or 14 performance spaces. He was the architect for the Mizner Park Amphitheatre, for one of the Burt Reynolds theaters and he consulted when they were doing the K Source."

"We do know we want about 145 to 150 seats," Antonio says, likening the playing space to what Florida Stage has in Manalapan. "But not quite as three-quarter-round."

Having a second theater on Clematis Street does not really turn it into an arts district, but Antonio thinks more will follow.

"The idea is to now get the mayor and the city commissioners to start seeing the venue and putting out the idea that they want theaters to come here," he says. "Now that there's been a code change, they can now start putting efforts and funds towards actually making an area for theaters, not just theaters, but we're talking art galleries and all sorts of things."

"This is sort of the beginning of what could be. It's very exciting."
recent reviews. Visit palmbeacharts.org for full reviews.

110 in the Shade (Palm Beach Dramaworks, closed Aug. 30)
The typical team of composer Harvey Schmidt and lyricist Tom Jones hit the jackpots with off-Broadway’s The Fantasticks. They next adapted N. Richard Nash’s The Rainmaker on a larger scale, with full chorus of townfolk, Agnes de Mille choreography and Broadway-scale orchestrations.

While many say the show was 110 in the Shade, and lightning did not strike twice for the songwriting team. Although the score was recognized for its countrified charm, the production remained in the shadow of blockbusters like Hello, Dolly! and Funny Girl, managing to eke out a run of 350 performances.

Eight years ago, 110 in the Shade returned to Broadway in a revival that starred the luminous Audra McDonald as the show’s blossoming wallflower, Lizzie Curry. Last month, Palm Beach Dramaworks gave it its company’s popular staged concert treatment, chiefly to showcase the soaring soprano voice of Jessica Hershberg.

Although director Clive Cholerton’s bare-bones production had many elements worth recommending, Hershberg was certainly the main one. She compelled us to care for Lizzie, a plain woman drifting into spinsterhood who falls for Starduck (Cooper Grodin), a smooth-talking drifter who shows up, claiming to be able to bring rain to her drought-stricken Texas town.

Cholerton really needs a new word for this production format, which over the years has become increasingly staged and memorized. For 110 in the Shade, Michelle Peterson used a few nice de Mille-esque dance steps, Howard Breibart and his four-piece band supplied a flavorful accompaniment and John Lawson’s grainy projections were a mood and locale-rich substitute for a set. Dramaworks’ summer concerts are not necessarily “theater to think about,” but they do fill our heart and give the audience something to hum on the way home. And in Hershberg, the troupe found a performer to marvel at. — Hap Erstein

The End of the Tour (opened July 31)
The End of the Tour opens with writer David Lipsky (Jason Segel) receiving a phone call that, “according to an unconfirmed report, David Wallace is dead.”

After that announcement of author Wallace’s 2008 suicide, the movie flashes back to 1996—Wallace is dead.” An unconfirmed report, David Lipsky (Jesse Eisenberg) receives a phone call that, “according to his editors at Rolling Stone, Wallace’s seceded Middle America home, where he joins the novelist on the last stop of his Infinite Jest book tour.

Lipsky interviews Wallace at diners and on couches, and in cars, airplanes and hotels over a whirring 10 days. Along the way, Lipsky discovers a man who is naturally funny and eloquent but also reticent of fame and its attendant allure.

Segel’s embodiment is marvelous in its implacability. Devoid of “acting,” it’s easily the best and most mature performance he’s given. Eisenberg’s performance is equally terrific, if inherently more workmanlike. It’s filled with the nervous, starry-eyed affectations of a young man possibly out of his depth.

100 minutes or so, as Lipsky, a magazine writer who has just published his first novel, talks his editor at Rolling Stone into letting him do a profile on Wallace (Jason Segel). The magazine sends Lipsky to Wallace’s seceded Middle America home, where he joins the novelist on the last stop of his Infinite Jest book tour.

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As the tête-à-tête wends through Minnesota, Lipsky tries to discover a narrative shape for his endless hours of interviews, and this too is a battle. He’s prone to sound summations of Wallace’s psychology, which Wallace promptly shoots down.

“The End of the Tour” is sure to be the litgeeks’ favorite film of the year. Will it appeal to a broad swath of moviegoers, or will it just preach to the converted? It’s good enough to deserve the best of both worlds: playing to Wallace’s base and introducing new converts. — Palm Beach ArtsPaper staff

Summer Spectacular: Works of American Masters (Boca Ballet Theatre, FAU)
Boca Ballet Theatre wrapped up its 24th season with performances Aug. 1 and 2 that brought a diversity of talent, elegance and comedy to the stage of FAU’s University Theatre.

It featured top-notch professional dancers along with the 32 aspiring performers from the United States and Canada who were finishing up the Ballet Theatre’s five-week Summer Intensive Workshop.

The production highlighted the efforts of agile corps de ballet members chosen at auditions in Atlanta, New York City, Salt Lake City and Boca Raton.

Variety was the spice of this signature event as the dancers performed five ensembles. I was particularly impressed with the tenacious effort of the Boca Ballet Theatre’s Serenade.

From the opening entry’s emphasis on structure, the show moved through a couple of shorter pieces to the finale, Con Amore, a humorous performance that had many in the audience laughing out loud.

One ballerina, Anabel Alpert, 17, of Delray Beach, has just been accepted to the Miami City Ballet School. She was Clara in last year’s production of The Nutcracker and appeared as the walls girl in Serenade. — Dale King

The Nutcracker (Boca Ballet Theatre, FAU)

THE STARS OF FOREVER TANGO
FEB. 19-21 | Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 & 8pm; Sun., 2pm
The award-winning Slow Burn Theatre makes its Crest Theatre debut with a show that has two musicals in one! This 8-time, Tony nominated show (including Best Musical), features two acts of love and intrigue.

SUNDAY NIGHT FEVER
MAR. 5 & 6 | Sat. & Sun. ONLY. 2 & 8pm NATIONAL TOUR
Based on the 1970 movie starring John Travolta and packed with legendary hits from the Bee Gees along with new songs written for the show.

TERRY BARBER: Around the World in 80 Minutes
April 2 | Sat. 8pm
This internationally acclaimed counter tenor is known for his extraordinary range, vocally and stylistically. He’s a past member of the Grammy winning group, Chanticielli.
Art

Delray Beach artists shine in Cultural Council spotlight
By Lucy Lazarony

The Cultural Council of Palm Beach County kicks off its 2015-16 season of art exhibits with Made in Delray. Spotlighting the works of 17 artists living and working in Delray Beach, Made in Delray takes over the Cultural Council’s main gallery from Sept. 11 through Oct. 31.

“I wanted to illustrate the diversity (of artists) in Delray Beach and also wanted to find new talent,” says Nichole M. Hickey, manager of artist services at the Cultural Council.

“I began in the database of artists at the Cultural Council from Delray Beach and then went from there,” Hickey said. Artists featured in the exhibit include abstract painter Carolyn Barth, woodturning artist Tim Carter, stained glass artist Robert Schmidt, mixed media artist Steve Blackwood, plein-air painters Ralph Papa and Donna Walsh, and sculptors Abbey Funk and Jeff Whyma.

She called the sculptures of Whyman “harmonious.”

“I love his glasses and I like the piling of the materials on top of each other,” Hickey explains. “It seems so hap hazard but it has no much structure to it.”

She describes Funk’s sculptures as “mythical iconography.”

“Her Papa’s plein-air artwork, Hickey’s artwork Papa’s use of contelli-shaped colors. “I like his treatment of the sky,” Hickey says. “These little wiggles of delight. He gets all the colors of the sky, all the Florida colors.”

Other artists showcasing their work in Made in Delray are painters Vincent Capec, Amanda Johnson, James Kerr, Patti Maguire, Susan Romaine, Vickie Siegel, Roxene Sloate, Nancy Spielman and Lorrie Turner.

Hickey describes Romaine’s art as “photorealist.”

“Her’s got a Hopper-esque quality to her art,” Hickey says. “They’re all little studies, the treatment of the light and shadow.”

Hickey says the wetland paintings of Roxene Sloate are “so gentle and so romantic.”

And she enjoys Siegel’s work with photo transfers, using old images of Delray Beach.

“It’s very inventive,” Hickey says. “I haven’t seen anyone doing this before.”

Hickey says she will select six to eight pieces from each artist for consideration in the exhibit.

“Totally a collaborative process,” she says. “I always ask for more art work than I need.”

Papa’s oil painting By the Tracks was chosen to represent the exhibit on a postcard. Photos provided

Book Review

Disconcertingly, Watchman turns a hero into a racist
By Bill Williams

ArtsPaper Book Writer

Go Set a Watchman (Harpers, 278 pp., $27.99) recently became an overnight blockbuster, selling more than 1 million copies in the first week.

Book critics understandably sought to compare the story line in Watchman with the theme in Harper Lee’s first book, the classic novel To Kill a Mockingbird, which was published in 1960 and won a Pulitzer Prize. Some expressed surprise that Atticus Finch, the admirable hero in Mockingbird, had developed an ugly racist in Watchman, which is set in the 1950s in the fictional town of Maycomb, Ala.

The pivotal theme in Go Set a Watchman involves Finch’s daughter, Jean Louise (“Scout”) in Mockingbird, who is angry and in shock when she returns home from New York City at age 26 to find that her father, uncle, aunt and boyfriend are racist.

Watchman meanders for the first third of the book, but then when Jean Louise learns that her father and her boyfriend, Henry Clinton, are active in the racist Maycomb County Citizens’ Council. She sneaks into a meeting, where she hears a loudmouth bigot proclaim that “no niggers and no Supreme Court” are going to tell him what to do.

The next day, Jean Louise tells Henry, “I say you and Atticus in your glory down there at that table with that scumbag…that dreadful man, and I tell you my stomach turned… I threw up. … How in the name of God could you?”

Much of the story focuses on Jean Louise’s bafflement as to how she could have grown up without knowing about her family’s beliefs regarding race. Comparing the two books can be confounding because of the order of publication. First, we have the scantily Atticus in Mockingbird and then, oops, Atticus becomes a raving racist two decades later.

But Watchman was written first and kept under lock and key for more than a century. It is not clear how or why Harper Lee agreed to allow publication now.

All her life Jean Louise adored her father, who raised her after her mother died when she was 6. In several drawn-out scenes, Atticus, who is 72 in Watchman, defends his views of the Negroes by the carload, “he asks, ‘in our schools and churches and that way? Do you want us to live in our world? ... Do you want your children going to a school that’s been dragged down to accommodate Negro children?’ “Honey,” he goes on, ‘you do not seem to understand that the Negroes down here are still in their childhood as a people.”

Jean Louise reacts with bitter denunciations of her father, calling him “a coward as well as a snob and a tyrant.”

The story takes place during a decade in which the U.S. Supreme Court struck down separate-but-equal schools for black students. Opposition to integrated schools was based in part on fear of intermarriage.

Written in the third person, Watchman includes frequent flashbacks to Jean Louise’s childhood years. In one comical scene, fifth-grade schoolmates convince Jean Louise, then known as “Scout,” that she could become pregnant if a boy French-kissed her.

Reminiscent of Mockingbird, Atticus agrees to defend a black boy accused of killing a white man in a drunk-driving accident. He takes the case, he says, to keep it out of the hands of “colored lawyers” brought in by the NAACP.

The book’s title from a biblical passage involves Jean Louise’s longing for a “watchman” to guide her through life’s difficulties.

Lee, who is 89, suffered a stroke in 2007 and now lives in a nursing home, partially blind and deaf.

For decades she resisted suggestions that she write another book, although one could argue that she already had written another book — Watchman. Overall, Watchman disappoints. Perhaps our expectations were too high. The book is a masterpiece, not a great work of literature.

Bill Williams is a former editorial writer for The Hartford Courant. He is a member of the National Book Critics Circle and is based at bilwill@comcast.net.
A moving tribute to the human spirit and reminder of the fundamental importance of freedom and tolerance during the 70th anniversary of World War II.

For more information, visit delrayarts.org or call 243-7922, Ext. 1. To learn more about Imagina, visit www.imaginachildrenfoundation.org.
It's beautiful and you can drink it

They say they eat first with your eyes, so do you drink first with your eyes?

Some baristas think so, and so they go the extra mile to please your vision before they please your palate by creating “consumable art” using a spoon, toothpick and the foam in your latte. You don’t even have to like coffee to appreciate a palm tree or an animal sculpted in the silky foam. Now it’s a competitive event!

The United States Coffee Championships, which take place annually in Long Beach, Calif., feature five competitions over four days:

For true aficionados of the brewed beans, it doesn’t get any bigger than the World Latte Art Championship, which drew 36 of the world’s top foam artists to Sweden to face challenges including a free-pour of two identical reproductions of the best designs from an earlier contest. Baristas are judged based on visual attributes, creativity, identical patterns in the pairs, contrast in patterns, and overall performance. In the end, Caleb Cha of Australia took home top honors at this “living gallery of some of the finest consumable art in the world.”

The Seed in Boca is planning a latte art challenge for baristas in early fall.

Oceana Coffee, with locations in Tequesta and Stuart, hosts barista throw-downs every month except November and December. Amy and Scott Angelo opened their business in 2009 and also have a roasting house where they roast more than 25,000 pounds of coffee beans last year. In their contests, the baristas have four minutes to create as many lattes with art as they can. Celebrity judges pick the winners.

Call 410-2453 or email amy.angelo@oceanacoffee.com.

Good help is hard to find

In Delray Beach, Andres Rodriguez opened Gigi’s in the corner of a strip center on Federal Highway, just south of Linton Boulevard, 11 years ago. The former cruise ship officer handled food and beverage for Royal Caribbean, but he gave up a life at sea to try to save his marriage. The marriage didn’t survive but the coffee shop did.

“I like the idea of coffee shops,” he said. “He greets every customer like an old friend. With tables and sturdy chairs, plus a few couches and armchairs, Gigi’s is cozy — a place you might run into a friend or a neighbor.

Most of Gigi’s coffee — about 95 percent — is organic, but a few of the flavored brews aren’t available as organic. His biggest challenge is getting and keeping good employees.

“I’m constantly training someone new,” Rodriguez said. Many of the employees — like his “right hand,” Ashley Kite

Local spots for a cup of joe

Featured coffee houses:

The Seed, 9995 W. Palmetto Park Road, Boca Raton, 1671-2272 or www.theseedcafe.com.


Some other favorite coffee houses (in no particular order):

Sage Cafe, Via de Palmas, Boca Raton, 334-8804 or www.sagecafebocaraton.com.

More than a cafe, it’s an Italian bistro, famous for its house�made gnocchi and tapas. Family-owned, it roasts boutique coffees and trains the baristas in European-style preparations.

The Coffee District, Suite #107, Delray Beach, 334-4693 or www.thecoffeedistrict.com.

Full art gallery, suspension bridge, shops and a wood-fired coffee shop. Now it serves Panther coffee drinks, cold-brewed cold coffee, and yuzu mate tea.

The Coffee Cafe, 225 N. Second Ave., #405, Delray Beach; 455-0417 or www.thecoffeefcl.com.

Coffee District in the Pineapple Grove district of Delray Beach offers bar and table seating to enjoy your choice of hot and cold coffee, espresso and drinks, plus pastries, plus payroll, plus payroll, plus payroll. It also serves more than 100 microbrews.


It’s all about the mug, they say at The Great Cafe. No paper cups here. But donuts of varieties of coffees from around the world. You’ll find soft couches and comfortable chairs. Homemade desserts and iced tea.

BONNIE SHOEMACHER, 1625 S. Federal Highway, Boynton Beach, 877-3623.

This European bakery owned by husband and wife team Ralph and Patricia Smolders, who have owned a bakery in the Netherlands for 15 years, recently opened on the southeast corner of Federal and woolbright. The menu coffee from Cuasier Culture Coffee plus tea, bread, pastries, sandwich, salads and soup.

THE COFFEE DISTRICT, 1625 S. Federal and Woolbright. The menu: breakfast, pastries, sandwiches, salads and soups.


THE COFFEE DISTRICT. The office of FAU who ordered an espresso, and is super-fit. She’ll gladly explain the reason you need to come back for a juice fix tomorrow.

One trend on point in the summer heat is ice coffees. Who knew that making iced coffee by pouring hot ice over so ice so is easy? Now, a good iced coffee is cold-brewed (sometimes called cold pressed if a coffee press is used). Coarsely ground beans are steeps overnight in room-temperature water, and then the coffee is strained and chilled. Science supports cold-brewing. Eade said.

Locally baked goods

Sometimes, to give your customers the best product, it’s best to bring it in-house.

The Seed stocks fresh-baked sweets by local bakers (the coffee crumb cake is a local favorite), and at Gigi’s, Rodriguez gets baked goods, including vegan and gluten-free options, locally as well.

Getting customers in the door at off-peak times is perhaps the biggest challenge. Gigi’s hosts open mic nights and poetry readings. The Seed

COFFEE

Continued from page AT1

United States with the most cafes per capita. Palm Beach County contributed four of the top 25 cities, beginning with West Palm Beach at No. 25, Jupiter at No. 23, Delray Beach at No. 7 and Boca Raton at No. 2 with 16.15 cafes per 10,000 people. Fort Lauderdale and Miami also made the list and Miami Beach was at the top.

Two Boca Raton moms tapped into the trend by opening The Seed.

Rachel Eade, 32, and Carly Altier, 31, met through their children’s school. When they shared their ambitions over the watermelon-jalapeño cocktails, they both knew they were on the same page.

“We need the organic juice bar,” Eade said.

The women call their store, tucked between a salon and a gym, a “farm-to-cup” experience.

But about the coffee.

Coffee shrubs produce an edible red or purple fruit called a cherry. Each cherry contains two seeds, called beans because they look like beans. A single coffee shrub will produce about a pound of hand-picked beans, or, seeds. The beans are a pale green before they are dried and then roasted to a deep warm brown. Most are organically grown in South or Central America, with Costa Rica and Brazil the most popular sources.

The Seed roasts coffee several times a week through a partnership with Wells Coffee Company, a small Boca Raton business owned by Brandon and Michaela Wells. “We all share a passion for coffee,” Eade said.

Wells employee David Imber, 21, roasts beans in a company-owned, a year ago. Four months later, they opened the doors of their specialty coffee shop in the juice bar, across the street from Boca Raton High School.

Most are organically grown in 2009 and also have a roasting house where they roast more than 25,000 pounds of coffee beans last year. In their contests, the baristas have four minutes to create as many lattes with art as they can. Celebrity judges pick the winners.

Call 410-2453 or email amy.angelo@oceanacoffee.com.

— Janis Fontaine

Barista Cortney Vaughn uses organic milk to make her art on a traditional latte. The Seed coffee shop in Boca Raton. Taylor Jones/The Coastal Star

It’s raining. A 6-pound batch of green crackles of the beans as they listening to the pop and sometimes a hiss as the beans are roasted. It takes about 12 minutes to roast beans in a coffee shop.

Brandon Rodriguez, the Seed’s roaster, gives his “right hand,” Ashley Kite

at the Seed.

Cold-brewed coffee is grown in the Pineapple Grove district of Delray Beach offers bar and table seating to enjoy your choice of hot and cold coffee, espresso and drinks, plus pastries, plus payroll, plus payroll, plus payroll. It also serves more than 100 microbrews.


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Getting customers in the door at off-peak times is perhaps the biggest challenge. Gigi’s hosts open mic nights and poetry readings. The Seed

owners have been rallying local merchants, includingסטר members of Pop Up Collective, “a caravan of local and small shops,” one evening in July.

Vendors gathered at the store to show off their wares, meet their neighbors, network and build business. Rodriguez says the event was a standing special: Buy any coffee drink before 8 a.m. and get a free refill that same afternoon between 2 and 6 p.m.

Darin Johnson, a student at FAU who ordered an espresso, said there’s no place else in town where he could have coffee. Of course it has WiFi, and most of the guests have laptops or tablets open in front of them. Most are using it under 40 — looking for place to connect in person or online. A few just came to post their feelings on Yelp.

Gigi’s is surrounded by car dealerships and small businesses, including three soccer moms on iPhones, too.

The Seed has hosted a few open mic nights, giving people a chance to do more now that school’s out. And the shop is planning to do more now that school’s out. And the shop is planning to
Meatball Frenzy". A classic Italian meatball contest will be held this year. The contest will feature 10 teams, each consisting of five members. The team with the most meatballs in the shortest amount of time will win. The contest will begin at 1:00 pm and is open to the public. The event is free and all proceeds will go to charity. For more information, please contact the Meatball Frenzy committee at meatballfrenzycommittee@gmail.com.
Beach Cleanup
Boca Raton Inlet Park – August 15

Twinz Mitch and Chris Tolbas of Lantana carry garbage collected during an organized beach cleanup at the Inlet Park. The cleanup was hosted through Sea to Shore Alliance and supported by Nomadic Surf and Share-Shop and the Liebe Tim. Steepen/The Coastal Star

If you would like to help: The 30th Ocean Conservancy’s International Coastal Cleanup is planned for Sept. 19 at two South County Locations: 8-10 a.m. at Sandy Cove House Nature Center, 142 S. Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. 243-7277, SandyDockHouse@bellsouth.net; and 8-11 a.m. at Spanish River Park, 3001 N. Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. 544-8615, gumbolimbo.org.

Both events are free, but resources are required.
9/6 - Food Truck Safari at Palm Beach Zoo, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm. Enjoy food trucks and live music, cash bar, and food for purchase. $3.00 per vehicle (4 people). 5100 North Military Trail, Palm Beach, FL 33400. For more information, call 561-962-3373.

9/6 - 10/19 - Florence Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. 7-9:30 pm. $37/advance of the Fall Lecture Series at FAU Lifelong Learning Society. First of four lectures; part of the Fall Lecture Series at FAU Lifelong Learning Society. Annual membership: $45. W through 12/7: 9-10:30 am; $74/advance member. $55/$40 non-member.

9/6 - 10/19 - The Wretched Refuse: America's Immigrant Experience in Print & Film with Rosalind C. King at FAU Lifelong Learning Society. 777 Glades Rd, Boca Raton. First of eight lectures; part of the Fall Lecture Series at FAU Lifelong Learning Society. Annual membership: $46. W through 12/19: 9-10:30 am; $74/advance member. $55/$40 non-member.

9/7 - 10/23 - Benita - The Aviator's Wife

9/7 - 10/23 - Grover Cutover

9/7 - 10/23 - Bitten: My Unexpected Love

9/8 - 11/20 - First Friday Art Walk


9/8 - 10/23 - Legal Battles with Irving Labovitz, actor. Ages 18 & up. T or Th through 10/22. 10-11:30 am. $37/advance of the Fall Lecture Series at FAU Lifelong Learning Society. Annual membership: $45. W through 12/12: 9-10:30 am; $74/advance member. $55/$40 non-member.

9/9 - 10/23 - Canasta Class

9/9 - 10/23 - Pickleball

9/9 - 10/23 - Jazz: Troy Roberts

9/10 - 10/23 - Canasta Class

9/10 - 10/23 - DANCE: Holiday Traditions (miscellaneous)


9/10 - 10/12 - Lonely Hearts of New York with Dr. Giuseppe Albanese at FAU Lifelong Learning Society. Annual membership: $45. W through 12/12: 9-10:30 am; $74/advance member. $55/$40 non-member.

9/10 - 10/12 - The Joy of Opera: In Search of the Real Canto with Giuseppe Albanese at FAU Lifelong Learning Society. Annual membership: $45. W through 12/12: 9-10:30 am; $74/advance member. $55/$40 non-member.

9/10 - 10/12 - 2015 Pegasus Cup Golf Tournament presented by Greater Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce at Old Naples Golf Club, 1735 Old Naples Rd, Bonita Bay, Regency & Delray Beach. Start time: 12:30 pm; Reception & Awards: 6:30 pm; ceremony @ 5:00 pm; $250/$300; chamber@bocaonyachtclub.com; bohoyachtclub.com.

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SOLD

TROPICAL ISLE WATERFRONT

Mediterranean style 5,060/7,784 sf home situated on a 907 ft lot with dock & boat lift. 4BD/4.5BA and fabulous open loft. Conveniently positioned between 2 islands for easy Ocean access. $1,075,000

NEW LISTING

BIO BAMBOO LANE

Terrific 3BD/2.5BA home with deep water canal and desirable Southern exposure. Expansive open floor plan, wood flooring and crown moldings. Only 3.5 miles to the Intracoastal and minutes to downtown Delray. $465,000

SOLD

PALM TRAIL

Old Florida 3BD/2.5BA home renovated with over 5,000 SF. Private courtyard, chef’s kitchen, large rec room wing with separate office and 4-car garage. 3 blocks to downtown. NOW AT LOW VALUE! $1,095,000

NEW LISTING

COASTAL HOUSE

Enjoy Florida sunsets and watch the boats go by from your balcony. Perfectly situated between the Intracoastal and Ocean with dedicated beach access. This 2BD/2BA will feel like you are living in a single family home. $565,000

SOLD

BERMUDA HIGH WEST

Stunning 3BD/3.5BA condo with gorgeous Intracoastal views from all rooms. Beautifully redesigned, this condo will elevate your expectations. Private beach club & 3 guest ports for your friends & family. $1,099,000

SOLD

WATERFRONT TOWNHOME

Waterfront, gated and pet friendly! Fully furnished 2BD/2.5BA overlooking your own private dock only minutes to the inlet and restaurants. Spectacular pool, hot tub and dock on the Intracoastal. $399,000

Terri Berman
561.445.2929
theresaberman@aol.com

Laura Gallagher
561.441.6111
laurengallagher@aol.com

Your Window Into Delray Beach Real Estate

THE GROVE AT LAKE IDA

OPEN EVERY SATURDAY & SUNDAY 10AM - 4PM

Linda Lake
561.702.4898
llake1@bellsouth.net

THE WILLOW

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

The Magnolia $1,550,000

The Magnolia $1,525,000

The Magnolia $1,495,000

3 of 7 Properties SOLD

THE WILLOW

1937 cottage in sweet spot in the beach town Lovingly restored over the years. Spectacular rooms, original details, fully equipped gardener’s & exercise pool. $289,000+Conditions. One block to beach & Atlantic Ave. $2,495,000

PALM TRAIL NEIGHBORHOOD

Fabulous new modern transitional style home. 2 master suites, media room and 3.5 baths, set with private entrance. Safer high-end neighborhood. Very close to Ocean, Intracoastal and downtown Delray. $1,495,000

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Sophisticated Delray oasis in the center of town, 3,776 SF of living spaces with private pool & 2-car garage. Own unit connecting w/ completion early 2016. Visit www.delavilaproducts.com for more information. $1,295,000

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Smooth as silk

Aerial art is a hybrid of dance, sport

By Lona O’Connor

Two young British ice skaters are practicing on aerial silks under Lucy Nguyen’s supervision.

Mia Drury, 13, who already spent six months at circus school in Sarasota, is completely at ease.

Her friend Morgan Swales, 16, takes a little while to get the hang of hanging upside down, supported by little else than the end of a long strip of aerial silk fabric wrapped strategically around her foot and leg. But she is soon gliding, too, arms outstretched like a ballerina.

The bright red and yellow silks are used by people practicing aerial dance, a hybrid form of gymnastics and dance, made world-famous by Cirque du Soleil.

See SILK on page H4
Hospice care can provide loving end for our pet companions

The only downside I see in adopting dogs or cats is that their lifespans are far too short. Because they live, on average, only into their teens, I remind myself to brace each day that I am fortunate to be with my senior dogs, Chipper and Cleo, and my young orange tabby, Casey. Like many of you, I pray that they enjoy long, full lives and when the time is right, I will be able to say goodbye and give them a loving send-off. But often when a pet becomes gravely ill, we feel powerless. We struggle with whether or not to extend expensive medical care or to have the pet euthanized in a veterinary clinic. No matter what decision we make, we find ourselves second-guessing ourselves whether we made the right call at the right time for our four-legged companion.

Fortunately, there is a new ally to help us and our dying pets — pet hospice care. This veterinary medical specialty focuses on two missions: to provide comforting veterinary care for terminally ill or geriatric pets, and to address the emotional needs of pet parents and counsel them on what to expect.

A pair of veterinarians, Dr. Mary Gardner and Dr. Dani McVety, co-founded Lap of Love in 2010. This Florida-based company has grown to provide pet hospice care now in nearly two dozen states.

“TThe most important message I can tell people who have pets who are old or struggling with a medical condition is to not give up,” says Gardner. “All too often, I see pets who were euthanized who would have greatly benefited from hospice care. There are many medications we can provide to our pets that can make their final months more enjoyable, most of which are not expensive.”

She adds, “Veterinary hospice provides pets comfort, pain relief, anxiety relief and the love they need during the final stage of their life. Hospice provides owners the tools to manage their pets not only medically and physically, but also emotionally. Most importantly, we help owners plan for the goodbye.”

Melissa Crowe of Boca Raton fell instantly in love the day she adopted an 8-week-old Lhasa Apso pup, Gizmo. When Gizmo was about 9, Crowe was bedridden with two broken legs from a motorcycle accident. “Gizmo never left my side and when I was in a wheelchair, he rode in my lap,” she recalls. “That dog knew I was in pain and he was my angel. He knew his job was to be by side.”

Gizmo is now 14 and coping with arthritis and a very limited use of one eye (the other was surgically removed due to a detached retina condition). Crowe knows Gizmo is nearing the end of his life and heard about Lap of Love from a friend who used the pet hospice care services for her 19-year-old cat.

“Pet hospice care, to me, is a better option than just euthanizing in a veterinary clinic,” says Crowe. “This is huge for people who care about their pets. My grandma lived to be 102 and had hospice care. To me, I regard people in the hospice field as angels. They and I were able to end his life with dignity and not expensive.”

According to Angel, Cabo was born with an intestinal malabsorption disorder and saw many specialists during his 11½ years. As his health faded, Angel took her brother’s advice and sought pet hospice care.

“I did not want Cabo to suffer and I wanted to be able to say goodbye to him in my own home where he felt safe,” says Angel. “Dr. Laura Allison of Lap of Love paid many visits to Cabo and Angel and performed the at-home euthanasia on Cabo, who was surrounded by friends.

“Dr. Laura was so loving and caring and we were able to have enough time for everyone to pay their respects to Cabo,” says Angel. “I know I saved him from that trash can years ago, but he also saved me and blessed my life with so much love. The care, attention and thoughtfulness I received from Lap of Love and Dr. Laura is immeasurable.”

And so is the power of love unleashed by our pets. The fee varies, depending on the type of service: in home hospice, in-home euthanasia or phone consults. It can be $200 for an in-person consultation /euthanasia visit. Call to find out what the fees will be for your specific requests/services.

To learn more about Lap of Love’s services, visit www.lapoflove.com.

East Wind Beach Club ~ From $290,000

Very desirable location right across the street from the beach and one block to Atlantic Avenue. All units are 1/1 with 2 balconies offering outstanding ocean views in Highland Beach. New impact glass windows, split bedrooms, custom mirrors and ceramic tile floors.

Elizabeth Rurey, 561-302-1552

Tropic Cay ~ Delray Beach

3 BR, 2 1/2 BA, 2 car garage two story townhomes in Tropic Isle. 1,800 sq. ft. under air. Top of the line finishes and hardwood floors. 1 remaining Phase 1 unit available for $399,000. 4 Phase 2 units starting at $419,000.

Cheran Marek, 561-870-8855

Oceanfront Pied-a-terre ~ $479,000

Built in 1966, Bermuda High is an oceanfront enclave with 20 units reminiscent of old Florida. Light & 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

Tropic Cay – Delray Beach

3 BR, 2 1/2 BA, 2 car garage two story townhomes in Tropic Isle. 1,800 sq. ft. under air. Top of the line finishes and hardwood floors. 1 remaining Phase 1 unit available for $399,000. 4 Phase 2 units starting at $419,000.

Cheran Marek, 561-870-8855

Direct Oceanfront ~ $1,550,000

A rare opportunity to own a 3 BR, 3 BA tri-level townhome with an attached carport in Delray Beach. Abundant natural light, spacious updated kitchen with granite, huge top floor master suite with luxurious bath. 2,200 sq. ft. under air.

Diana Byrne, 561-707-8561

Lake Ida Waterfront ~ $1,499,000

Key West style lakefront retreat with 160’ frontage, dock and boat camp. 4 BR, 4 1/2 BA pool home featuring a 1/1 guest quarters over the 2+ car/boat garage. 4,227 sq. ft. under air with stunning chef’s kitchen.

Cheran Marek, 561-870-8855

45 Ocean ~ $489,000

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

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 living areas flow seamlessly into the covered loggia, pool/spa and the ocean, where indoor and outdoor living become one.

Sue Tauriello • 561-441-4200

A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR $5.5 MIL.

900 East Atlantic Avenue | Delray Beach, FL 33483 | 561.278.5570 | www.Tauriello.com
Sierra Lewis, 17, taking a summer break from Idaho, hangs from silks during a class given by Lucy Nguyen at Sunshine Circus Arts in Delray Beach. Photos by Tim Stepien/The Coastal Star

The silks are affixed to the very high ceiling of the Delray Beach warehouse located just west of I-95 where Nguyen, who says she is over 40, runs Sunshine Circus Arts. The girls shimmy up the silks, high over the thick mat that covers the floor. They seem to float upside down or sideways, adding yoga-like twists and splits that are as beautiful to look at as they are difficult to achieve.

Making aerial dance look effortless takes months of developing strength and flexibility. (Aerial dance is different from aerial yoga, which also uses silks to assist with poses.)

Karen Drury explains that working on aerial silks adds upper-body and core strength, making it excellent cross-training for her daughter, who, with her brother Henry, is already a British champion pairs skater.

“It is not necessary to be an elite athlete to benefit from aerial dance. Some people who practice aerial dance, like Carol Datura Riot, 33, have no aspirations to join Cirque du Soleil — and a distaste for heights, doesn’t look down. Again, she says, climbing the silks outperform you on every level,” says Riot, who, with her brother Henry, is already a British champion pairs skater.

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“The key is the development of upper-body strength.”

“I suggest that people who have never hung by their hands or their legs should start by doing pull-ups at the local park,” said Nguyen.

She starts out new students with poses. She arranges herself in a full split as handedly as the two teens did. After she finishes her silks routine, she discreetly takes several very deep breaths. She is philosophical about working alongside young elite-level athletes.

“You know they’re going to outperform you on every level,” she says, climbing the silks again.

“I think it’s fun, so you don’t realize it. But you’ve got to be able to think and do and still breathe. You can come in cold, depending on how strong you are and how active you’ve been,” said Nguyen. “I have some ladies in their 40s and 50s who do it. It can be frustrating and hard. Like anything new, it depends on how you stick to it.”

At Florida State University, Nguyen performed as many as eight shows a week with the FSU circus troupe. She also has worked at the South Florida Fair and has been part of the background entertainment at parties and fundraisers.

“You’re being pretty for an hour, you’re part of the ambiance,” said Nguyen.

“Talented athletes, especially if they have gymnastics or other athletic backgrounds.”

For those who are adept at aerial dance, especially if they have gymnastics or other athletic backgrounds.

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September 9-5 • Saturdays at Sanborn: Yoga Class at Sanborn Square, 72/1600 Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Register/get parking pass at Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. Classes held on the grass over looking the beach. 9-10 am. Every Sat 9-10 am. 50% off for members with participating health plans. 7.08-7342; pugnete.com
• Joint Beholder Boca Heart Hospital Sand Dollar Room, 2151 S Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Learn what to expect before, during and after surgery for total joint replacement. First and third Mon 6-7 pm. Free. 731-7713; mha8040@bathesdaweb.com
• Meditation Mondays at Highland Beach Library, 4000 Linton Blvd Suite F, Highland Beach. Meditate to enhance overall health, well-being. Every M 5-6 pm. Free. 278-5455; yogahighlandbeachlibrary.com
• Joint Beholder Boca Heart Hospital Sand Dollar Room, 2151 S Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach. Learn what to expect before, during and after surgery for total joint replacement. First and third Mon 6-7 pm. Free. 731-7713; mha8040@bathesdaweb.com
• Joga Class at Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. Moving meditation for focus, concentration, release of stress, attention skills. Every W 5-7 pm (beginners), 7-9 pm (intermediate). 50% off for members with participating health plans. 50% off for members with participating health plans. 7.08-7342; pugnete.com
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• Wednesday 9-9:30am At Home Consultation by Certified Personal Trainer Diane Bijolle. Every Sat 10-11 am through 10/3. $85/residents, $150/non-residents. 742-6211; boynton-beach.org
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Haiti Faith Project participants join in dedicating church they helped build

T he South Florida Haiti Project, a nonprofit outreach ministry based in South Florida, joined in the dedication of a newly built Episcopal Church in Bondeau, Haiti, on July 12. The new Bon Samaritan Episcopal Church is now the largest Episcopal church in Haiti.

The Rev. Andrew Sherman, president of South Florida Haiti Project and rector of St. Gregory’s Episcopal Church in Boca Raton, said there was a church service. Services were held in a classroom large enough for about 75 people. The problem? More than 350 people wanted to attend. Many would stand or sit outside.

At the dedication, the children of Bondeau played music on refrubished instruments they received from SFHP through a United Thanks Offering Grant. The grant money purchased 55 instruments they received.

The new Bon Samaritan Episcopal Church in Bondeau, Haiti, is finally large enough for the town. Photo provided

St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Delray Beach, the Chapel of St. Andrew in Boca Raton, St. Andrew’s Schools in Boca Raton, the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd in Tequesta, the Episcopal Church of the Advent in Palm City, St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church in Palm Battery and many others. For more information, call 212-8304 or 445-5440.

Avenue Church anniversary
The Avenue Church, which meets at 10 a.m. Sundays at the Delray Beach Community Center, 50 NW First Ave., Delray Beach, will celebrate its fifth anniversary on Sept. 27 with a special sermon of gratitude followed by a goodold-fashioned potluck feast.

Pastor Casey Cleveland said when the church started, it had a core of about nine people. That jumped quickly to 25 within a few weeks, and now the church has more than 150 core members and lots of other congregants who haven’t made a commitment yet.

“Our church has a real family feel,” Cleveland said by phone. “We’re a neighborhood church and we’re proud to be part of Delray Beach. The city has been very welcoming to us.”

The church has a varied demographic, Cleveland said. “You can find a CEO, a doctor, a homeless person and teenager sitting together. We meet in a gymnasium and I think that helps people get in the right frame of mind.” Cleveland said.

People dress casually, in jeans or shorts. “We’re an unplugged church for unplugged people,” Cleveland said.

The anniversary service and potluck will begin at 10 a.m. Sept. 27, at Delray Beach Community Center. If your last name begins with A-H, bring a dessert. I-P bring a salad; J-O bring a side dish. The main dish is provided.

For more information, call 927-4000 or email info@theavechurch.com.

Rector search continues
St. Paul’s Episcopal Church of Delray Beach continues its search for a rector.

The website offered an update. “Although many members of the rector search committee are out of town for the season and others are frequently traveling, the rector committee has continued to move forward without delay,” it said.

It had been conducting interviews via Skype, but Bishop Coadjutor Peter Eaton cautioned the committee not to “settle for a good enough candidate. St. Paul’s is in the enviable position of being able to carry on as long as necessary to find a great rector.”

The Rev. David Knight has been serving as the interim rector since Sept. 1, 2013, and he’ll continue to serve until a permanent rector is found. Michael Armstrong and Kristen Murtough, who spoke for the rector search committee, also said, “Please be assured that although we are in the ‘quiet phase’ of the search process, the search is very active and proceeding well.”

Have questions? Email rectorsearchstpauls@gmail.com.

Interfaith Café: Atonement
The Interfaith Café will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. Sept. 17 at Trinity United Methodist Church, 16700 Jog Road, Delray Beach.

The Interfaith Café promotes interfaith dialogue, awareness, and understanding by uniting people of different faiths in conversation. September’s topic is “Atonement in Our Faith Traditions.”

Coffee, tea and light desserts are served. A donation of $5 is required to defray expenses. For information, call Pablo at 901-3467.

Welcome, Kelly Williams
Kelly Williams joined First United Methodist Church of Boca Raton in June as the new associate director of music. Williams’ responsibilities will be directing the music ministry on the west campus and working with the pastor in worship planning, directing the church and children’s choirs, organ and piano for the services.

Williams plans to start a children’s choir in September with children from both campuses. First United Methodist Church of Boca Raton has campuses at 625 NE Mizner Blvd., and 9087 Glades Road. For information, call 395-1244; www. fumcboaraton.org

New synagogue
Congregation Beit Kulam will be holding High Holy Days services at The Wick Theatre, 7901 N. Federal Highway in Boca Raton.

Rabbi Joan Cubelli, formerly at Temple Beth Shila, will lead. She’s the first female to be ordained as Rabbi in s’micha (rabbinical ordination) from Tifereth Israel Rabbinical Yeshiva in its 60-year history. She is excited to be accepted as a member of the American Council of Rabbis.

As she looked for a venue, Cubelli knew she didn’t want a high school. “I didn’t want the venue to be too large and too impersonal.” Beit Kulam means The House of Everyone and is Atonement in Our Faith. It’s a beautiful name and is proceeding well.”

There are a lot of unaffiliated Jewish families in our area and I want to reach out to them.”

At the services, you can expect a lot of music. Cubelli’s team, Cantor Geniune Miller and music and choir director Cindy Cubelli, hold services that “are very participatory, very warm, highly spiritual and very welcoming. Everyone feels like they’re part of the family.”

Rosh Hashanah services will be held at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 13, and 10 a.m. Sept. 14. Yom Kippur services will be held at 7 p.m. Sept. 22 (Kol Nidre) and 10 a.m. Sept. 23. Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services are also offered.

Tickets are $125 for members, $140 for nonmembers, and $50 for students and children. Break the Fast meal tickets are $40 ($50, 995-2333).

SEPTEMBER 5
Saturday - 9/5 -Men’s Retreat at Temple Sinai, 3475 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. Retreat: Service and social hour 7:30 pm. Call 478-398-3075 or templeseveni.com.

SEPTEMBER 6-12

Tuesday - 9/8 - Lectio Divina (Divine Prayer) at Trinity United Methodist Church, 400 SE 3rd Ave., Delray Beach. Traditional Benedictine practice of spiritual reading, meditation and prayer Every Tue 11 am. Free. 278-4266, trinityumc@comcast.net.

Wednesday - 9/9 - Rector’s Bible Study at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 3475 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. Every Wed 6 pm supper (soup and salad, donation requested); 7 pm Bible study (free). 395-4280; stpaulcseopisc.org.

SEPTEMBER 13-19
Saturday - 9/13 - Ever Ross Hashanah Dinner at Temple Emanu-El, 11500 Jog Road, Delray Beach. Six-course dinner of brisket and chicken plated with sides. 7:30 pm. $97 ($90 members), $140 ($150 nonmembers). 275 children ages 5-12: $27-360. 913-3092, templeemanuel.org.

SEPTEMBER 20-26
Wednesday - 9/23 - The Break at Temple Sinai, 3475 W Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach. Hot and cold buffet afterwards. 8:00 pm. $97 ($90 members), $144 ($150 nonmembers). 913-3092, templeemanuel.org.

For information, call 995-2333.

Janis Fontaine writes about people of faith, their congregations and community events. Contact her at janisfontaine@ outlook.com.
A team of anglers fishing in the Mark Gerretson Memorial Fishing Tournament brought to the scales what is possibly the largest tournament fish of the season so far in Palm Beach County: a 71.6-pound wahoo. Team Nailed It, led by Ed Rose of Boca Raton, caught the huge wahoo by trolling a bonito strip rigged behind a purple Islander lure in 300 feet of water north of Boynton Inlet.

Team member Steve Bunch of Lantana said they caught the wahoo around 11:30 a.m. and said it was their only bite of the tournament. The Nailed It team donated 10 percent of their $8,000 winnings ($800) back to the Gerretson tournament, which benefits youth causes in the Delray Beach area.

The Hold Please team won the dolphin division with a 24.6-pound mahi mahi caught on a live goggle-eye fished under floating debris in about 900 feet of water south of Boynton Inlet.

Team Emijess, led by T.J. Andrews of Delray Beach, won the “Mark’s Trifecta” prize for catching all three species of fish in the tournament — kingfish, dolphin and wahoo. The Emijess anglers also caught the heaviest kingfish, 25.8 pounds.

Tucker Sheehan, 11, of Boynton Beach won the junior angler division with the 10.6-pound kingfish he caught while fishing with his dad, Capt. Chip Sheehan, on Chip’s Ahoy.

This year’s tournament attracted 42 boats and was based at the Deck 84 restaurant in Delray Beach.
on the Water

Stock ditch bag for offshore emergencies

The ditch bag, used for near-shore ocean fishing on a 23-foot boat, includes, from left, light sticks, emergency rations, a whistle, drinking water, cord for tethering people together, a strobe light and a flashlight. The floating yellow ditch bag also contains sunscreen and a basic first-aid kit. Willie Howard/The Coastal Star

The disappearance of two boys who ran a 19-foot boat into the ocean off Jupiter in July reminds everyone who operates a boat on the ocean of a simple fact: the need to be prepared to survive in case the boat fails.

Family members said the 14-year-old boys, Austin Stephens and Perry Cohen, were avid fishermen and experienced boaters. They were last seen in a dinghy near Jupiter Inlet the morning of July 24. The Coast Guard found their capsized boat two days later, drifting off Volusia County.

An extensive search followed, but the teens have not been found.

It’s not clear what safety equipment the boys had on their boat. But it’s fair to say that if they’d had access to drinking water, life jackets and a satellite beacon when the boat capsized, the boys would have had a far greater chance of being rescued.

How should boaters be to roam the vast Atlantic waters off South Florida? To some degree, it depends on how far they’re planning to venture from land and the type of boat they’re running.

But generally speaking, boaters head into the ocean off Palm Beach County — where the Gulf Stream current typically flows north at walking speed — should carry some type of floating emergency kit, best known as a ditch bag, that can be grabbed quickly as life jackets.

What should a boater’s ditch bag contain?

Ted Sensenbrenner, assistant director of boating safety for the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, recommends the bag be filled with basic safety equipment.

A cell phone in a waterproof bag

A hand-held VHF radio, kept charged and ready to use, allows you to reach other boaters in your area (and could enable you to reach the Coast Guard if you were close enough to shore). Every other boater on the water, within range, can hear a distress call if his boat’s VHF radio is tuned to Channel 16. A boater who is already on the water might respond well before the Coast Guard begins a search.

A satellite beacon

Personal locator beacons, or PLBs, can be purchased for about $250. Prices for EPIRBs (emergency position-indicating radio beacons) start at about $450. Once activated, the beacon sends a boater’s identifying information and location through a network of satellites and ground stations, alerting the U.S. Mission Control Center in Maryland, to begin the rescue process.

Satellite beacons must be registered with NOAA and maintained to be effective. (Note: BoatUS rents EPIRBs and PLBs for those planning boat trips such as a Bahamas crossing. Prices start at $45 a week. Go to www.boatus.org and click on “equipment rentals.”)

Signal devices, including flares designed for day and nighttime use, strobe lights that can be attached to life jackets, a waterproof flashlight and a signal mirror.

Drinking water, along with food bars and/or sealed emergency rations. A basic first-aid kit and prescription medications needed by those on board are also recommended. You can’t really come up with a rescue plan unless you’ve nourished your body and your brain,” Sensenbrenner said.

Ditch bags should be clearly labeled and kept in an easy-to-reach place. A well-stocked ditch bag is worthless if it goes to waste. Everyone on board should be made aware of the location of life jackets and the ditch bag before getting underway.

For the bag itself, choose a bright color that could be spotted easily from the air if you were adrift in the ocean. Bags designed for boating emergencies are often yellow, trimmed with reflective tape and have pockets for radios, flashlights, satellite beacons and other emergency gear.

Don’t be overwhelmed by the cost and time needed to assemble a ditch bag. A basic emergency boating bag is better than none at all, but Sensenbrenner said a personal locator beacon, or PLB, should be part of a serious boater’s gear.

Capt. Nick Cardella of Boca Raton-based Nick C Fishing Charters said he carries a ditch bag when he’s headed offshore to fish for dolphin or swordfish on his 28-foot Bluewater.

“It really is something you should carry on the boat,” he said. “Storms come up fast.”

For longer trips, such as crossings to the Bahamas, consider a life raft. Life rafts can be rented for those who plan to use them only a few times a year. They inflate automatically and are typically stocked with survival gear.

Capt. Geno Pratt, who operates the 51-foot Geno IV charter boat based at Boynton Harbor Marina, carries an eight-man life raft and an EPIRB that activates automatically on trips to the Bahamas.

“Make sure you have good life jackets and an EPIRB,” Pratt said. “That will save you.”

Just say “wahoo!”

David Belzer caught a 42-pound, 1-ounce wahoo July 25 by simply drifting a dead sardine at night on the Living on Island Time drift boat.

Capt. Max Parker said Belzer was drifting the sardine on a pair of 500 hooks and about 5 feet of 50-pound-test monofilament leader, which could have easily been severed by the toothy wahoo.

The Island Time was drifting in 160 feet of water off Delray Beach when the wahoo struck around 9 p.m.

September events

Sept. 1: Snook season opens and remains open through Dec. 14. A Florida saltwater fishing license and a snook permit (unless exempt) are required. Daily bag limit: one snook. To be legal to keep, snook must measure between 28 and 32 inches in total length. Different rules apply to snook taken on the state’s west coast and the Florida Keys. Details: www.myfwc.com/fishing/saltwater/

Sept. 19: X Generation 440 Challenge fishing tournament for kingfish, dolphin and wahoo. Includes $500 prize for heaviest cobia, mutton or yellowtail snapper or bonito or blackfin tuna. Based at Palm Beach Yacht Center in Hypoluxo. Capt. Michael Belzer Jr.’s 8-8-8 Sept. 18 at Palm Beach Yacht Center. Entry fee $250.

Details: 577-0706 or www.xgeneration440.com.

Sept. 19: Volunteers needed for the Coastal Cleanup. Registration begins at 8 a.m. at most locations, including Spanish River Park and South Inlet Park in Boca Raton, the Sandoway House Nature Center in Delray Beach; Ocean Inlet Park in Ocean Ridge; and Harvey E. Oyer Jr. Park in Boynton Beach. Details: www.keeppsbeautiful.org.

Sept. 24: CCA Florida’s South Palm Beach County Chapter holds its fifth annual banquet and auction, 6 p.m., Benvenuto restaurant, 1730 N. Federal Highway, Boynton Beach. Tickets: $100 per person. Corporate tables for 10 guests $500. Call Matthew Behm, 644-2788 or email: mbehm@ccaflorida.org.

Sept. 26: Basic boating safety class offered by Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 54, 8 a.m. at the Coast Guard Auxiliary building (next to the boat ramps) at Harvey E. Oyer Jr. Park, Boynton Beach. Fee $40. Call Ron Cuneo, 389-1850.

Tip of the month

Dive for spiny lobster. Boat traffic often dwindles with the opening of school and the sometimes-stormy weather associated with the peak of the hurricane season. Late summer storms can stir the lobsters around, sometimes causing them to line up and walk along the bottom, looking for new places to hide.

A quick recap of the rules: A lobster’s head section must measure at least 3 inches to be legal to keep. No egg-bearing lobster may be taken. The daily bag limit is six. A saltwater fishing license and lobster permit are required unless exempt. The season remains open through March 31.

Boats supporting divers or snorkelers should fly a red-and-white dive flag (at least 20 by 24 inches), and divers in the water should tow a float-mounted diving flag or a float displaying the dive flag emblem.

Boat operators must stay at least 300 feet away from dive boats/floats in open water and at least 300 feet away in inlets, channels and rivers. Those approaching closer should do so at idle speed.

No boat? Try looking for lobster under rocky ledges or around wrecks accessible from the shore. But be careful to tow a float-mounted dive flag while you’re searching.

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

Note: Events are current as of 8/28. Please check with organizers for any changes.

SEPTEMBER 5
Outdoors Saturday - Sand Sifters Beach Cleanup at Dunasroom Park, 6471 N Ocean Blvd, Ocean Ridge. Meet at the pavilion in the lower parking lot. Bring water, hat, sunscreen -8:15 am. Free. jeffjviro@gmail.com
9/5 - Boardwalk Tours at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 12800 Hagen Ranch Rd, Boynton Beach. Docent-guided tour of wetlands. All ages. W 9 am, 1 & 3 pm; Th 9 am; Sat & Sun 9 am & 11 am. Free: $6.50 - $12.50. gumbolimbo.org
9/5 - Outdoor Marine Aquarium Feedings at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. All ages; children must be accompanied by an adult. Mangrove and nearshore reef aquariums daily 9:30 am-10:30 am; tropical coral reef and shrimp tanks 12:30 pm. Free. 544-8665; gumbolimbo.org

SEPTEMBER 6-12
Tuesday - 9/8 - A Walk On The Ashley Trail at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Guided walk along a quarter-mile natural trail winds through the butterfly garden, coastal hammock, and mangroves, to a sandy beach by the Intracoastal. All ages; children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Every Tue 10-11:30 am. Free. 544-8665; gumbolimbo.org
Saturday - 9/12 - Naturalist Program: Birding 101 at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Learn about birds and birdsongs. All ages. 3:30-5 pm. $5/admission; $3/members. Reservations required. 544-8665; gumbolimbo.org
9/12-13 - South Florida Fall Boat Show at Bartow Yacht Club. Discounted guided tour of wetlands. All ages. W 9 am, 1 & 3 pm; Th 9 am; Sat & Sun 9 am & 11 am. Free: $6.50 - $12.50. gumbolimbo.org

SEPTEMBER 20-26
Tuesday - 9/22 - Boynton Beach Fishing Club at Harley E. Orey Jr., Park, 100 N Federal Hwy. Join other fishermen to discuss local topics and learn new tricks of the trade. Fourth T 7-9 pm. Free. 703-5638; boyntonbeachbounce.net
Wednesday - 9/23 - Intro to Canoeing at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 11435 Park Access Rd, Boca Raton. Learn paddling techniques. All ages. 10 am. Free. Reservations: 544-8665; gumbolimbo.org
Thursday - 9/24 - Night Stalkers at Green Cay Nature Center, 12800 Hagen Ranch Rd, Boynton Beach. Nighttime boardwalk tour with a naturalist looking at nature from the point of view of its nocturnal residents. All ages. 2:30 pm. Free. Reservations required: 544-8665; gumbolimbo.org

SEPTEMBER 27-OCT 3
Wednesday - 9/30 - Beach Treasures at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Lepidoptera and tropicbirds are a few of the shells that can be found on Florida's beaches. Learn about beaches and the animals that make them. Caravan to Red Reef Park, 1400 N State Rd A1A, to search for seashells. All ages; children must be accompanied by an adult. 1-2:30 pm. Free. 544-8665; gumbolimbo.org

SEPTEMBER 28-29
Tuesday - 9/29 - Gardening Group at Gregory’s Episcopal Church, 100 NE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. Care for the flower garden. All ages. Every 5 Thu 8:30 am. Free. 395-8285; gumbolimbo.org

October 1-3
Friday - 10/2 - “The REAL DEAL” Testa’s Palm Beach County Most Popular Restaurant Award at Testa’s Palm Beach, 221 Royal Poinciana Way, Palm Beach, FL 33480. 561-832-0992. www.TestasRestaurants.com Call for All Your Banquet Needs

Grassy Flats Restoration
Lake Worth Lagoon – Aug. 22
Volunteers plant mangroves on a small island built to improve water quality and habitat as part of the Grassy Flats restoration project. They planted about 450 small mangroves and 4,000 seeds of Spartina grass. The two Grassy Flats islands are near the Palm Beach Par 3 Golf Course. Willow Howard/The Coastal Star

Garden Calendar
Note: Events are current as of 8/28. Please check with organizers for any changes.

SEPTEMBER 13-19
Saturday - 9/17 - 30th Ocean Conservancy’s International Coastal Cleanup at Southway-Hunter Center, 142 S Ocean Blvd, Delray Beach. Hosted by City of Delray Beach and Saward House, coordinated by Keep Palm Beach County Beachscapes, Inc. 8 am - Free. Registration forms: 423-7277; sandowayhouse@bellsouth.net
9/17 - International Coastal Cleanup presented by Gumbo Limbo Nature Center at Spanish River Park, 1001 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Groups and individuals must pre-register; community service hours awarded. All ages; but adults must participate with children under age 18 - no drop-offs, 8-11 am. Free. Reservations required: 544-8665; gumbolimbo.org
9/19 - International Coastal Cleanup at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. All ages; children must be accompanied by an adult. Every T&W 10-11:30 am. Free. 544-8665; gumbolimbo.org
9/26 - Seining the Lagoon at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 1801 N Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Explore grasses and flats of the Intracoastal Waterway behind Gumbo Limbo. Hand-held dip nets and large seine nets allow participants to catch and release a variety of fish, shrimp, crabs and marine life. Wear clothing that can get wet. No flip-flops or sandals. Old Sneakers or water shoes only. Ages 10 to 18, children must be accompanied by an adult. 2:30-4 pm. S/children, $10/children. Reservations and pre-payment required: 544-8665; gumbolimbo.org

SEPTEMBER 20-26
Tuesday - 9/29 - Gardening Group at St. Gregory’s Episcopal Church, 100 NE Mizner Blvd, Boca Raton. Care for the flower garden. All ages. Every 5 Thu 8:30 am. Free. 395-8285; gumbolimbo.org
Wednesday - 9/30 - Summer Evening Stroll with the Director at Mountains Botanical Garden, 563 N Military Trail, West Palm Beach. Walking tour. Meet at garden entrance on Military Tr. 6-7:30 pm. Free. S/members; $23.50/individual. mountains.org
9/30 - Delray Beach Orchid Society at Veterans Park Recreation Center, 802 NE 1st St, Delray Beach. Second W 7 pm. Free. 412-6752; delreybeachorchidsociety.org
Thursday - 9/30 - Boca Raton Orchid Society at Safe School Institute, 1790 SW Spanish River Blvd. Second Th 7-9 pm. Free: 394-9104; brousociety.org
9/30 - Orchid Society of the Palm Beaches at Mounts Auditorium, 531 N Military Tr, West Palm Beach. Second Th 7:30 pm. Free. 407-8022; orchidsocietyofthepalmbeaches.com
10/1-3 - Everything Orchids: A Shady Orchid Show at Mounts Botanical Garden, 531 N Military Tr, West Palm Beach. Professional. Every Sat 9 am-1 pm through 10/17. S/members, $10/no members. 233-1757; mountains.org

SEPTEMBER 27-OCT 3
Saturday - 10/3 - “Attack Air Potato” Day at Barwick Park, 735 Barwick Rd & Orchard View Park, 4060 Old Germantown Rd, Delray Beach. Help put the potato plant breathers, bring gloves. 9 am-noon. Free. 243-7137; beardsleyd@mydelraybeach.com
Sunday - 10/3 - Designing & Creating the Home Landscape at Mounts Botanical Garden Auditorium, 531 N Military Tr, West Palm Beach. Speaker: Laura McCandless, certified landscape professional. Every Sat 9-1 pm through 10/17. S/members, $10/no members. 233-1757; mountains.org

SEPTEMBER 28-29
Tuesday - 9/29 - Boardwalk Tours at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, 12800 Hagen Ranch Rd, Boynton Beach. Docent-guided tour of wetlands. All ages. 9 am. Free. 544-8665; gumbolimbo.org

SEPTEMBER 30
Thursday - 9/30 - “The REAL DEAL” Testa’s Palm Beach County Most Popular Restaurant Award at Testa’s Palm Beach, 221 Royal Poinciana Way, Palm Beach, FL 33480. 561-832-0992. www.TestasRestaurants.com Call for All Your Banquet Needs

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Learning ‘Do-Re-Mi’ helps a child learn ABCs

By Janis Fontaine

The experts at Kindermusik International — which has 5,000 teachers worldwide — say it’s never too early to benefit from music education.

Over three decades, Kindermusik educators in the U.S. have taught more than 1.5 million students (some as young as 6 weeks old).

One of the local Kindermusik teachers is Cathy Hazard. She has been working with children for more than 20 years and teaching Kindermusik techniques to kids ages 2 months to 4 years in Boca Raton and Delray Beach for more than 10.

"Hazard is a Kindermusik "maven," the organization’s word for a top performer. Parents are partners in their child’s education, and the parents learn as much as the kids do in the beginning."

Mom or Dad, or Grandma or, in some cases, the nanny, take the techniques, the rhythms and rhymes, home with them to practice together — which strengthens the parent-child bond, Hazard said.

Studies proving the relationship between music education and improved verbal and reading abilities, spatio-temporal reasoning, even the ability to raise IQ have been widely performed over the last decade. They came to the same conclusion: Learning music helps students academically.

A study published in December 2014, by Dr. James Hudziak at the University of Vermont College of Medicine, found music education also helps a child learn ABCs.

Hudziak told The Washington Post, “it accelerated cortical organization in attention skill, anxiety management and emotional control.”

So, less anxiety, better concentration and fewer mood swings.

Growing up, Hazard, 59, and her family were all musically inclined and loved singing together so much people compared them to the von Trapp family.

Hazard was naturally good at building businesses and she hoppedscotched through a few careers before an epiphany 10 years ago.

"I kind of lost my smile climbing the corporate ladder,” Hazard said. “I needed to do something different."

She had a friend who had a Gymboree franchise and she needed help. Hazard took over its music program and found she loved it. She liked being silly and playing with babies and coaching stressed Moms in connecting with their kids through music. When the company changed hands, Hazard struck out on her own. Kindermusik seemed like a good fit, and it was.

Now Hazard, who lives in Boca Raton, teaches nine 45-minute classes each week at either Sugar Sand Park on Military Trail or Patch Reef Park on Yamato Road. The symbiotic relationship with the parks system helps raise the visibility of both groups. "We have an amicable relationship,” Hazard said.

A 12-week session costs from $204 to $255, plus a materials fee of $50 to $75, so it’s not insignificant.

Jennie Kreger of Boca Raton enrolled son Charlie, now 4, in Miss Cathy’s class when he was a baby. Now Charlie has moved on to preschool and Kreger has been bringing her daughter Annie, now 2, since she was 6 months old. Kreger had seen the positive effects of the program on her niece and nephew and wanted to give her own children the same opportunities.

"It’s amazing how quickly they pick up the songs,” she said. Annie knows all the words and motions to I’m a Little Tea Pot. “Miss Cathy has a way of engaging even infants. She’s very encouraging to parents, and she grows the class at each child’s pace, to match the child’s ability."

"Another thing that was really important to me,” Kreger said, “was she was very liberal about makeups. Kids get sick. I’m a Little Tea Pot, maybe because she was a mom herself. Hazard raised three kids (they’re 40, 37 and 35 now) and has five grandchildren. But she’s become a part of many of the families she taught.

“My belief is I am their very first teacher,” she said. “It’s my duty to make sure they feel loved, respected, nurtured and heard.”

She sees her role as a sort of bonus grandmother. “We work on core skills,” she said. Things that can be measured or quantified, like colors and letters and body parts.

The best part, Hazard said, is when a mom comes in and says, "You're not going to believe what my kid did!"

"That makes my heart sing,” Hazard said.

Susan Pavao of Boca Raton also teaches for Kindermusik, but her kids are a little older, from 18 months to 3 years old.

"I average approximately 125-150 students per session and I have three sessions per year and I have been teaching for more than 13 years.” She also teaches music in Hebrew school to grades K through 3 as well as private guitar and piano lessons.

"Some of my families are on their third or fourth child with me. I have a lot of repeat families."

Pavao’s oldest student is 16 now and he started in music with her at 12 months.

"When children fall in love with music, it’s something they have their whole lives,” Pavao said.
Tots & Teens

Note: Events are current as of 9/6. Please check with organizers for any changes.

SEPTEMBER 5

- Hosted by USTA at Indian Spring Tennis Center, 30451 N Military Tr., Boca Raton. Young, fit athletes receive training & coaching in this fast-paced sport. For info, contact info@ IndianSpringTenniscenter.com. 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Free. 742-6782; sugarlandpark.org

- Yoga with Moose at Patch Reef Park, 2000 Yamato Rd, Boca Raton. Biking, hula hoops, obstacle courses, T-ball, more. For ages 3-8. 10 a.m. Free. 742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

- Young at Heart: Special Tail Wagger Toun with Stella at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. 2 a.m. Drop-off community kids learn to do a little of everything to develop their fine and gross motor skills, build confidence and learn self-regulation. 3-4 p.m. $9. 742-6782; boca.org

- Kids on the Rocks at Morikami Museum & Japanese Gardens, 701 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Free. 561-476-4121; morikami.org

- Fall Flat Fee Drop In at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Drop-in fee: Youth: $13.50, Adult: $18.50, $100 for six sessions. Registration: 742-6782; boca.org

- Cute & Curious Free Film Festival at Sugar Sand Park Community Center, 300 S Military Tr., Boca Raton. Showing of children's films. 9/29, 10:30-11 a.m. $15. 742-6782; boca.org

- Harnessing Health at Children's Science Explorium, 3501 Military Tr., Boca Raton. Informational event held in the parking lot by harnessing permission. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. 9/7, 1-2 p.m. Free. 393-7969, boca.org

- Fingerpals: You & Me at Children's Museum at Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. Kids learn to do a little of everything to develop their fine and gross motor skills, build confidence and learn self-regulation. 9/5, 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Free. 742-6782; boca.org

- Stories with Moose at Sugarland Park Community Center, 300 S Military Tr., Boca Raton. Biking, hula hoops, obstacle courses, T-ball, more. For ages 3-8. 10 a.m. Free. 742-6390; boyntonlibrary.org

- Soccer Skills & Sports☆ for Kids at First Baptist Church, 1179 E Ocean Ave, Boynton Beach. For ages 3-4 years. Every M through 10/8. 5:45-6:15 pm. $49.50/12 weeks. 742-6782; boca.org

- Fiery Cactus at Seacrest School, 321 S Ocean Blvd, Boca Raton. Free. 441-8560; schoolhousemuseum.org

- Youth Tennis Pathway at Boynton Beach Tennis Center, 3111 S Congress Ave. Kids learn to play tennis, game, partner play. 4-7 p.m. $20/session. 742-6782; boca.org

- Musical Theatre & Dance☆ at Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd. Biking, hula hoops, obstacle courses, indoor play stations. Drop in anytime during 9-11 a.m. Free. 742-6782; boca.org

- Girls' Night Out at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 NW 2nd Ave. Drop-in fee: Youth: $13.50, Adult: $18.50, $100 for six sessions. Registration: 742-6782; boca.org

- Kids on the Rocks at Morikami Museum & Japanese Gardens, 701 Morikami Park Rd, Delray Beach. Free. 561-476-4121; morikami.org
SEPTEMBER 20-26


Friday - 9/25 - Special Super Hero Storytime at Boca Raton Main Children’s Play Area, 8018 Congress Ave. Put on your capes and capes and Averner are encouraged to dress up in your favorite Super Hero and participate in the exchange of ideas, stories, and other Super Hero arts and crafts. Free comic book courtesy of Spiderman Comics, Inc. Free. 954-716-0250, boca-writersclub.org


Saturday - 9/26-10/2 - Boca Raton Choral Society at the Boca Raton Community Center at 5150 NW 1st Ave. For the creative child determined to be on stage. A show choir to celebrate over 50 years of music. Ages 10-18. Every W 7 pm through 11/14, $125/resident, $150/non-resident. 347-1975, boca-ratos.org


Monday - 9/28 - Acting 101 at the Boca Raton Community Center at 5150 NW 1st Ave. For the creative child determined to be on stage. A show choir to celebrate over 50 years of music. Ages 10-18. Every W 7 pm through 11/14, $125/resident, $150/non-resident. 347-1975, boca-ratos.org

Tuesday - 9/29 - Wicked Weather: GEMS Club at South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreher Tr N, West Palm Beach. Young puzzle-solvers, age 3-4. M/W/F or M-F 9 am-noon through 10/30. 347-7035, southfloridascience.org

Wednesday - 10/7 - HealthChick Trivia Night at Sugar Sand Park, 2240 N Federal Hwy, Boynton Beach. Hands-on science experiments, science-related craft, exploration of Science Center and Aquarium, pizza dinner and all-day planetarium shows. Ages 4-12. 10-4 pm. $15/adult, $8.50/child additional. 852-2204, civiccenter.org

Saturday - 10/10 - Story Center: Telling Tales for Adults at Boca Raton Public Library, 400 Military Tr, Boca Raton. Grades 6-12. 6-7 pm Free. Registration required. 954-203-4001, SugarSandPark.org
1660 LANDS END ROAD
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Gorgeous, East-facing vacant lot with 160 feet of water frontage is the perfect setting for my client’s new home in Point Manalapan!

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House of the Month

Elegance and history on Delray’s Banker’s Row

Regarded as one of Delray Beach’s most coveted Mizner-era Mediterranean properties and as a stop on the Historical Society of Palm Beach County’s home tour, this two-story four-bedroom, two-bath main house with carriage house is in the heart of the downtown on exclusive Banker’s Row.

Behind a Spanish-inspired stucco wall with an iron gate you discover a private tropical oasis. An inviting courtyard entry with original water fountain and three hand-honed pecky cypress doors with classic decorative tile steps leads you into the lovingly restored main house.

The large backyard has a covered lanai, an original coral water fountain, ponytail palms and a 100-year-old banyan tree. The carriage house (one bedroom, one bath) has been transformed into a fully equipped guest house (or income property) with separate courtyard entrance and gated driveway.

The grand living room features vaulted open beam pecky cypress ceilings, original Cuban tile floors, original decorative iron wall sconces, a wood-burning fireplace and a spectacular arched window which floods the room with light. The kitchen has been completely redone with state-of-the-art stainless steel appliances, cook island, gas Viking range, granite counters and new cabinetry while keeping the vintage style. Additionally, a dining nook, pantry and new laundry room have been added.

The main floor offers two spacious bedrooms with oak flooring, one with an office/library possibility, and a marble and travertine bath with French shower. The second-level master bedroom opens onto a romantic terrace overlooking the tropical gardens. A second bedroom features a Juliet balcony and the second bath offers original claw tub and pewter accessories.

$1,650,000. Leanna Fruinn, Broker, Engel & Volkers Delray Beach, 900 East Atlantic Ave., 561-445-1415. leannafruinn@gmail.com

The original main house of this property, called Villa Abrigo (House of Comfort), was built in 1926.

Deck offers space for relaxing outdoors.

Above: The living room boasts vaulted ceilings and soaring windows.

Left: A separate guest cottage stands adjacent to a century-old banyan tree.

Far Left: An updated kitchen has state-of-the-art appliances, granite counters and custom cabinets.
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

825 W OYSTER LANE
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Bill Quigley 561.346.3434

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
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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
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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
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