

Hobe Sound

CURRENTS

COMPLIMENTARY



State Sen. Joe Negron demands that the Army Corps of Engineers leave Lake Okeechobee, gets more funding for water testing.

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Some VIPs will soon receive these hand-crafted invitations by Nadia Utto to attend **It's All Over: Art 2012** on Dec. 14



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Fed Up!

The voices of residents, including Jahn Hepp of Hobe Sound, disgusted by the polluted Lake O discharges threatening the life of the St. Lucie estuary and the Indian River Lagoon, are getting louder: Clean up this mess! Pg 6

News



The Rowdy Micks' Celtic band helped celebrate the Apollo School Foundation's newest grant at its annual Fall Fest.

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HoSo Chamber



The steel drums of The Pine School helped put the Chamber's guests at its most recent fundraiser into the mood for fun.

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Business



Nina Gelardi of Juno Shoe Girl expands her business, moving into a long-empty building in downtown Hobe Sound.

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The "girls" at Hobe Sound Canvas on Federal Highway will tackle just about any job you give them to do--except slipcovers and dog beds.

LIFESTYLE: Fun ideas for December20

Our resident home and commercial decorator, Diana Cariani, offers holiday decorating tips and will even order fresh pine garlands for you.

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No rain, cool breezes, lots of bands, terrific floats, and even handsome princes and beautiful princesses. What more could a small town want?

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The Hobe Sound Community Presbyterian Church goes all out to provide a fun event for area children that included games, treats, and semi-spooky fun house.

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Hobe Sound CURRENTS

Among Dozens of Spots to Find *Currents*

Hobe Sound

CVS Pharmacy
Winn Dixie
Harry & the Natives
Hobe Sound Chamber of Commerce
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Publix Customer Service
Hobe Sound Tire
Texaco Station Hobe Sound
Lakeside Village
Seacoast National Bank
Bank of America
SunTrust Bank
Treasure Coast Hospice
Thrift Store
Hobe Sound Produce
3 Brothers Brunch
Man Li Chinese Restaurant
Tropical Computers
Hobe Sound Public Library
Martin Memorial Health Systems
Pettway Grocery
Cambridge, Ridgeway,
Woodbridge community centers
Heritage Ridge Country Club
The Manors

Port Salerno

Pirate's Cove
Fish Center Art House
Valero's Bait & Tackle
Winn-Dixie

Tequesta

Jupiter Waterways Inn
Mail & News
Publix - County Line Plaza
Chase Bank
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Stuart

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Hobe Sound residents are not used to seeing three-story buildings

in their town, but they're about to get three of them over the next three to four years, with plans for two more three-story buildings in about six years. The Martin County Commission gave final approval of developer's plans on Oct. 23 to build The Palms at Hobe Sound, an assisted-living facility on 12.34 acres on the west side of Federal Highway adjacent to The Catfish House restaurant.

The developers, Arthur Palma of Spencer Investments, Inc., purchased what had been a trailer park more than four years ago, but the economic downturn prohibited its development of a 120-unit housing project, Sunset Ridge, that already had won county commission approval.

Represented by the Cuzzo Design Group of Stuart, the developer switched gears from single-family homes to an assisted-living project for a population that is living longer, often with afflictions such as dementia and Alzheimer's that require assistance.

The new project will provide 270 beds after completion of all development phases, but developers emphasized that it will not be a nursing home. Plans will include a swimming pool for residents and a playground to accommodate visiting families.

The commission voted 4-1 for approval. Commissioner Sarah Heard dissented, calling the size of the project "completely inappropriate for downtown Hobe Sound."

The construction of the development is proposed over a period of six years with a phasing plan that calls for four phases: Each of the first three will contain one building with 24 multiple family units. The last phase will contain two buildings with 24 units each.

For several decades the property had been the site of a mobile home park, all of which were removed prior to 2009. The property now is vacant and undeveloped with very little vegetation, however, a small wetland is on site, which will be protected. ■

Changes are coming to the Winn-Dixie Marketplace Plaza in

Hobe Sound. The former Wachovia Bank building, long empty, will become a new branch of Chase Bank, bringing the number of bank branches in Hobe Sound to six. Chase also recently opened a new branch in Tequesta at the Countyline Plaza.

Yellow signs posted at both entrances to the Winn-Dixie plaza announce that zoning changes have been applied for, requiring that nearby property owners of the proposed project be notified of the hearing, scheduled for Nov. 20 before the Martin County Board of County Commissioners.

"This just is simply to update the zoning," said Joe Banfi, of the county's Growth Management Department. "The building was under old zoning that no longer applies. There's nothing controversial about this; it's just a housekeeping task really." ■

With the bankruptcy of Digital Domain still fresh on his mind,

Martin County Commissioner Ed Fielding said he could not approve any county funds being used to help obtain a \$3 million state incentive grant for TurboCombustor Technology to expand its facilities in Stuart.

His was the lone dissenting vote at the Oct. 23 commission meeting, which approved a \$900,000 grant to help induce TurboCombustor to stay in Martin County to grow its manufacturing operations near its corporate headquarters at 3651 Commerce Ave.

The project also could qualify for another \$350,000 state grant for workforce training, \$420,000 in state sales tax exemptions for machinery and equipment purchases, and a \$2000,000 rate reduction from Florida Power & Light Co., according to Tim Dougher, executive director of the Business Development Board of Martin County.

Next, Gov. Rick Scott must approve the deal, then TurboCombustor will decide whether or not to spend approximately \$16 million to buy, renovate and equip a building with an expansion the company says it needs in order to accommodate orders for the production of aircraft engine components. The company currently employs 397 workers with an annual payroll of nearly \$18 million, according to county records.

Dougher told the commissioners that the company would hire 200 new workers and add \$9 million a year to its payroll by 2016, if it chooses to expand its business in Stuart instead of relocating elsewhere. ■

The highly popular, much-touted Manatee Pocketwalk in Port

Salerno, a Community Redevelopment Agency project, required that an emergency meeting of the Port Salerno Neighborhood Advisory Committee be called by county officials on Nov. 1.

"The CRA requested the input of the Neighborhood Advisory Committee before they make a decision," said Kevin Freeman, director of the county's Community Development Department. "They want to know how the community feels about this request."

The request came from John Hen-



The full-moon high tide pulled the swollen Indian River over the banks of seawalls and over tops of boat docks in Hobe Sound following Hurricane Sandy's drenching rains on Oct. 25.

Hurricane Sandy's brush with Hobe Sound was considered

a non-event here considering the disaster in the northeastern U.S., except perhaps for those who were affected directly. Jacqueline White, a broker with Whitestone International Realty, who just a few weeks ago moved into the former Coldwell Banker A-frame building south of Harry & the Natives restaurant on US 1, came to work the morning after Sandy had visited to find that her brand-new, lighted and gold-lettered sign had been toppled by a wind gust.

"It had been up only three days," she said. "Three days and \$6,000 was ly-

nessee, a Port Salerno activist, former CRA chairman, and part owner of the property that once housed the Finz Waterfront Bar & Grille to fund the temporary removal of the boardwalk, owned by the county, in order that Red Sky may repair its failing seawall in front of the restaurant.

The estimated cost of removing the boardwalk, then replacing it is \$55,000, which the committee recommended with that cap. The only dissenting vote came from the vice-chair, Mike Worden, who said that approval "could be opening a can of worms by setting a precedent with other private property owners...."

Freeman assured her that the situation in Port Salerno is unique in that a private property owner had granted an easement to the county for the boardwalk, which then became a county asset and responsibility to maintain. Its presence impedes repairs to private property.

Hennessee said the condition of the seawall was deteriorating potential building tenants interested in purchasing or leasing the property, considered by many residents to be a keystone in Port Salerno's economic revitalization.

The 2011 dredging of the Manatee Pocket may have sped up the wall's deterioration, Hennessee suggested, because larger boats can now traverse the Pocket,

ing on the ground! I couldn't believe it. Considering what other people are having to deal with, that's minor, but still I was shocked."

Residents all along the Indian River coast also had a surprise that weekend, when a combination of Hurricane Sandy run-off, more fresh water discharges from Lake Okeechobee, and full-moon tides brought the Intracoastal Waterway over its seawalls and into residents' yards, flooding some roads and out-buildings in the process.

In the old Hobe Sound development along SE Indian River Drive, the water completely covered the roadway, not just once, but with every high tide for three days.

"In all the years I've lived here," said Alan Jaffe, of Gleason Street, "I have never once seen the water this high." ■

causing increased wave action against the sea wall, which been pushing against the beams of the boardwalk. A significant gap has developed, requiring barricades to prevent pedestrian access to that portion of the boardwalk.

The Community Redevelopment Agency board will meet Nov. 29 to decide the best method of funding and reconstructing the sea wall, after Freeman consults with the county engineering department for possible alternatives. "We know the sea wall is failing," Freeman said. "We know it's urgent to get it done." ■

First, the JILONA permit is here, then there, then not here,

and now not anywhere. The federal government has again changed its mind about applying for a state permit to stabilize the eroding bluff at the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area (JILONA). No one, however, seems to know the direction the government intends to take, except perhaps Bruce Dawson of the Bureau of Land

Continued Page 4

Continued from Page 3

Management, and he's not talking.

At least, he's not talking to the media or to many members of the JILONA working group, charged with the management of the 121-acre site that falls within the boundaries of Jupiter and Tequesta.

Dawson, who represents the U.S. Dept. of Interior's oversight of the property as part of the National Landscape Conservation System, recently instructed the Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management (ERM) Director Rob Robbins to withdraw the county's application, which had been resubmitted on behalf of BLM at the beginning of October.

This is not the first time Dawson had surprised the JILONA working group by withdrawing a permit application. He took the same action in August.

In an email, Robbins said only that BLM was developing its own plans for the property, but did not elaborate. "The Bureau of Land Management, who owns the subject shoreline, expressed an interest in pursuing the permit themselves," Robbins said. "Since we can't have two pending applications over the same shoreline, we withdrew the County's application."

ERM's services had been contracted by BLM to prepare the original permit in May 2011, but when their contract expired, ERM remained as a member of the JILONA working group and has been donating its services over the past few months.

Robbins had explained to JILONA

members at its September meeting that as long as the state's sovereignty submerged lands (those lands below the mean high-water line) at this portion of the Intracoastal Waterway are not affected by work at the lighthouse shore, then a state DEP permit is not required. The federal government may take whatever direction it wishes to take with the property within county building codes.

Dawson, however, apparently does not want to divulge the government's plans for the eroding bluff, and has refused to answer media inquiries. He also, as of Nov. 2, had not notified all the other members of the JILONA working group that he had withdrawn the permit again, after he and they had agreed at their September meeting to resubmit it to DEP.

Controversy has cloaked the process since the original permit application was submitted more than 18 months ago, which caused a public outcry at federal plans proposing to block all public access to the shoreline from the CR707 Bridge south to the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse point, an exceptional natural area that had been Coast Guard property, yet long used by the public for swimming and snorkeling. The shoreline is known locally as Cato's Bridge Beach.

In an effort to compromise with the county, the state DEP proposed a new design in August that they said would ensure shoreline stabilization and restoration of native habitat without blocking public access. BLM disagreed, and responded by withdrawing the permit

within days without reviewing the state's compromise with JILONA members.

After a meeting with the JILONA working group in September comprising all the stakeholders who had signed a management contract with the U.S. Dept. of Interior, the group decision was to resubmit the JILONA shoreline stabilization permit with the request that the state recognize the application "is the best compromise" among the JILONA stakeholders. Their proposal would leave a 645' portion of the ap-

proximately 1,400' shoreline open, but barricade the rest.

"It must have been a good compromise," said Chip Block, a commissioner with Jupiter Inlet Colony and member of the JILONA working group, "because none of us liked it; it wasn't what any of us wanted."

Including Mr. Dawson, apparently.

According to two JILONA members, no meeting is scheduled for Dawson to update the working group, and no new permit applications have been submitted, according to state records. ■



An assembly of local and state dignitaries and members of William "Doc" Myers' family were present for the recent unveiling of the new sign at what had been the South County Ball Park on South Dixie Highway in Hobe Sound.

Photo: Barbara Clowds

The South County Ball Park on Old Dixie Highway in Hobe Sound

has a new name: the William G. "Doc" Myers Ball Park in honor of Hobe Sound's first physician, who also distinguished himself in local and state politics.

A Republican, Myers served as Martin County commissioner for two terms in the late 1960s-1970s, overseeing the adoption of the county's Comprehensive Growth Management Plan. He also served as state representative from 1978-1982 and state senator from 1982-2000.

"This day has been a long time coming," said County Commission Chairman Ed Ciampi, who presided over the small dedication ceremony Oct. 11 to unveil the park's new sign. He gave a nod to the "most illustrious list of dignitaries we've ever had while I've been in office" at an official county event, including Sen. Joe Negron, former senator Ken Pruitt, several newly elected, current and hope-to-become county commissioners, former legislative aides to Myers, City of Stuart officials, numerous members of county staff, and members of the Myers' family.

Ciampi also acknowledged the efforts of Commissioners Doug Smith, who first proposed the idea last spring, and Patrick Hayes, who worked alongside Negron to make the idea of a sign in tribute to Myers a reality.

"In the Martin County point of view," Ciampi said, since no official hall of fame exists, "this is the highest honor we bestow on an individual."

Negron recalled the time that Myers, after moving from Pittsburgh to Hobe Sound, was setting up his office in Hobe Sound, but refused to have segregated entrances, as was the custom at the time.

"Doc would have none of it," Negron said, commenting on the character of the man. "We treat all patients as my patients, the same." The decision was an unpopular one, Negron added, which probably hurt the physician's business, yet he did not waver. He also was the legislature's "go-to person" on any issue regarding health and human services.

Myers authored the 1990 legislation that created the nonprofit Florida Healthy Kids Corp. When the state's Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services was broken up in 1996, the legislation creating a separate Department of Health was called the "The William G. 'Doc' Myers Public Health Act of 1996."

Myers, who died in May 2010, was born in Kittanning, Pa., and got his undergraduate and medical degrees from the University of Pittsburgh, where he had played football for two years. After establishing his home and practice in Hobe Sound, Myers became involved in the chamber of commerce and local politics. He and his wife, Carol, raised four sons and two daughters.

His eldest son, William G. "Bill" Myers Jr., spoke briefly at the dedication ceremony, saying that not many people knew his father had been a lettered athlete in school, and that he also somehow attended all the baseball, football and tennis matches his children had played. "A ball field is an appropriate place," Myers Jr. said. "He loved this town... Dad would have appreciated this." ■

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Major HoSo cultural event opens Dec. 14

When artist Bosha Stone talks about the potential to create a Contemporary Cultural Center in Hobe Sound, her enthusiasm for the project spills into every word. Her listeners come away from the conversation as convinced as she that the possibility not only exists to have a vibrant place for contemporary art, music, and dance in this small town, but will be embraced enthusiastically.

Actually, the concept already has been heralded by local and international artists who have pledged to participate and to conduct artists' workshops, as well as by the local Chamber of Commerce and government officials who see an economic engine being ignited. Residents and visitors throughout the Treasure Coast also are eager for expanded cultural opportunities in one of the world's greatest sportfishing and golf locales.

The genesis happened one year ago with the Hobe Sound Festival of Trees POP-UP event and contemporary art show at The Commons, a vacant building designed for light industry in the heart of Hobe Sound at 8827 Robyn Street, owned by Robert and Jan Webster. Construction of the facility was completed the same year the real estate market collapsed, and the building had never been occupied.

"Something happened when I first saw this building," Stone recalls. "I don't know exactly how to explain it, but its grey concrete floors, and white walls, and 18-foot-high ceilings were like a blank canvas, just so SoHo, the perfect place for contemporary art. No matter where else we looked then, and no matter what we've considered since then, we always come back to this building."

The "we" in her comments include a group of local, state and international artists and several residents who were so impressed by last year's showing that they've pledged their support to take the project into a permanent home, which also will house artists' studios and offices, as well as offer performance venues for film, music and dance.

"Our POP-UP event last year was so enthusiastically received, it surpassed any and all of our expectations," she said. "We were not even sure what to expect, but this year, enthusiasm has greeted us every sin-

gle time we have asked about someone's interest in participating."

Last year's event actually was two separate events, a silent auction of Christmas trees designed specifically by the artists as a fundraiser for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Martin County, plus a showing of the artists' contemporary works. This year, the focus will be artists' conceptualizations based on the predictions surrounding the end-of-the-world date of the Mayan calendar.

"Much of the work depicts rebirth," Stone says. "It's inspiring and beautiful, but of course we

also have works coming that make you think. One, for instance, is a backpack, rugged and stuffed full of everything a person needs to survive a cataclysmic event, and it's titled, 'Road Trip,' by Irwin Berman and that's exactly what it would be, wouldn't it...a road trip." She pauses, and smiles.

The opening celebration will be Friday, Dec. 14, at The Commons from 5:30-9 p.m., and tickets are \$10, giving attendees the opportunity to meet many of the artists whose paintings, sculpture, fiber art and photography will be displayed. New this year, emphasizing the broad focus on culture, will be film, dance and music performances, with performers remaining close to the crowd, rather separated by a stage.

Area restaurants, including the Courtyard Grille, Taste, Flash Beach Grill, Krumcakes Bakery, all in Hobe Sound, will create "artistic" hors d'ourves, and the Pizza Girls of West Palm Beach will offer caviar pizzas at a cocktail party unlike any other this season.

A private, invitation-only VIP event will be offered to potential donors who have expressed interest in supporting the creation of the Contemporary Cultural Center earlier that evening, all of whom will soon receive a personal invitation in the mail, designed by Hobe Sound artist Nadia Utto.

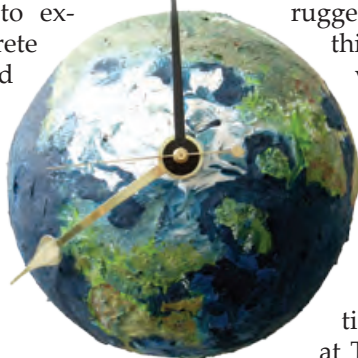
"They're really impressive," Stone says, "If you can imagine getting a black box in the mail,



"Sacred Ground," mixed media by Jen Dakota that measures 30" x 15."



Bosha Stone, artist, visionary, and coordinator of the cultural POP-UP event.



"All the Time in the World" clock by local artist Nadia Utto.



"Circle Of Life," a fingerpainting by Jen Dakota, which is 68" x 45."

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Hobe Sound

Fed Up!

The message at the Rivers Coalition rally at the St. Lucie Lock and Dam on Oct. 25 from nearly every speaker, was the same: We're mad. We're fed up. We want something done now to protect the St. Lucie estuary and south Indian River Lagoon.

But what can ordinary citizens do? Both the River Coalition and the Martin County Board of County Commissioners are saying to residents—and to those who care about water quality, wildlife and the restoration of the Everglades anywhere in the world—to make your voices heard.

The Rivers Coalition has started collecting names for a citizens' petition of

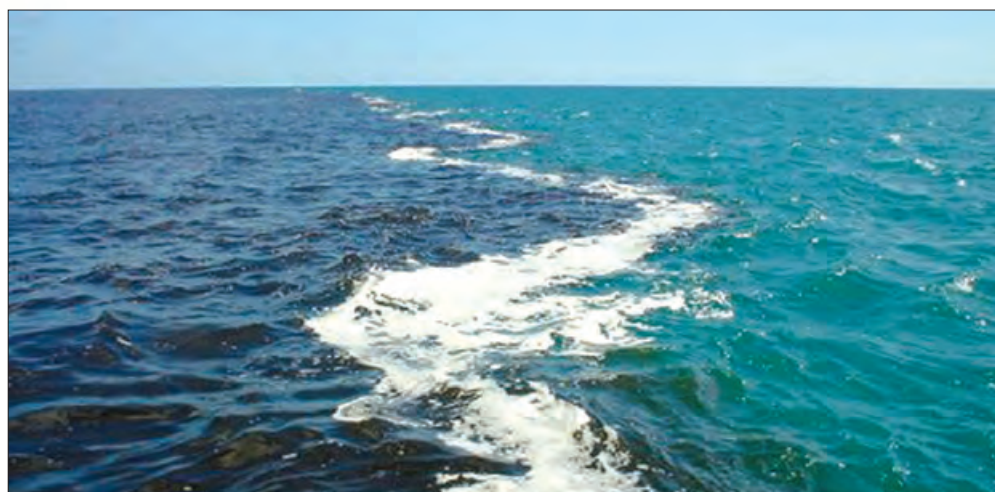
100,000 signatures for them to present to lawmakers demanding that the "unnatural flows from Lake Okeechobee" be stopped, recognizing that petitions themselves seldom produce results alone, but are important in indicating a community's unity and resolve.

"We need that leverage," said Leon Abood, chairman of the Rivers Coalition based in Stuart. "These officials are elected, and we want them to know that real people are out here, upset and paying attention."

The lagoon and estuary, recognized as the single most important contributor to both Martin County's economic health and its quality of life, have long suffered from altered water flow patterns and degraded water quality, primarily as the result of discharges from Lake Okeechobee. The rain events caused first by Hurricane Issac in September, followed by seasonal downpours in October, and capped by Hurricane Sandy on Oct. 25 brought water levels in Lake Okeechobee high enough that the Army Corps of Engineers decided to release



Indianriverkeeper Marty Baum, right, talks with Martin County Commissioner Sarah Heard, left, and Sen. Joe Negron at a Rivers Coalition Rally at the St. Lucie Lock and Dam in October.



The brown plume of polluted water from the Lake Okeechobee discharges meets Atlantic waters.

Photo: Rivers Coalition

water—more than a billion gallons a day at times—to allow for additional storage in the lake for the remainder of hurricane season, which ends Nov. 30.

The Rivers Coalition also is raising funds for another attempt at a legal challenge, if necessary, to force the state and federal governments to follow their own anti-pollution, clean water standards, and are collecting donations to its Legal Defense Fund.

Martin County officials also are encouraging residents to "speak up" for the St. Lucie River in a social media campaign being organized by Intergovernmental and Grants Coordinator Kate Parmelee, along with Gabriella Ferraro and authorized by county commissioners.

The grass-roots campaign, "Speak up for the St. Lucie," is using Facebook photos to rally support for the projects that will help lessen future impacts to the estuary, including construction of the C-44

reservoir and rehabilitation of the Herbert Hoover Dike that surrounds Lake Okeechobee, protecting residents in those low-lying areas from serious flood events.

Samples of letters are on its Facebook site that citizens are encouraged to use as models for writing to their representatives in Congress and to the Corps of Engineers. They also are encouraging postings of sightings that show examples of the degradation taking place, and asking that viewers join the campaign's email action list to stay abreast of updates and activities.

The Speak up for the St. Lucie Facebook page is at facebook.com/SpeakUpForTheStLucie and the Rivers Coalition website, which also has a link so its petition may be signed electronically, is riverscoalition.org. Its Facebook page is Facebook.com/riverscoalition.

The next Rivers Coalition meeting will be in January 2013.

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Recently posted on the River Coalition's Facebook page are two photos of the water's apparent negative effect on marine animals, a dead male dolphin found off Snug Harbor, and a turtle with a growth on one of its flippers near the Jensen Beach Causeway.

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No good news from two Rivers Coalition speakers

The messages that came from speakers at the two most recent meetings of the Rivers Coalition during September and October shook their audiences to the core. One speaker was Bob Washam, director of environmental health for Martin County, who revealed at an October meeting in Stuart City Hall that the health department's budget for water testing had been cut in half to about \$15,000 annually.

Testing was being done only at public beaches and at the Roosevelt Bridge every other week, with no other monitoring.

The audience's response to Washam's information was surprise, followed by anecdote after anecdote of people who had gotten ill, or gotten ear and throat infections or skin rashes after being in the water at spots throughout the Treasure Coast.

"We're surfers, we're in the water all the time," said a SeaTow boat captain from Stuart. "Surfers don't get sick, but one of my friends came down with an ear infection, another one has pink eye, and I know it's from this filthy water, but if it's not being tested, we're not going to know it.... We have laws against this kind of pollution, and the government needs to follow their own laws."

The only spot at the time with bacteria levels too high to be safe for the public was at the Roosevelt Bridge, Washam said. Hobe Sound Beach had had some "moderate" readings for bacteria levels since the discharges began Sept. 19, but all the other beaches had tested at safe levels, Washam added—on the days the water got tested.

Sen. Joe Negron was in the audience at the meeting, and he promised the group that he would find more funding for the Martin County Health Department to increase both frequency of testing and the number of locations to protect public health. (His office announced new funding the first week of November.)

Negron also called for removing authority for monitoring water levels at Lake Okeechobee from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, whose expertise is in engineering, he said, to the South Florida Water Management District, in conjunction with local scientists and experts in water quality—and where political pressure could be exerted to ensure that water was not released too soon.

Mark Perry, executive director of the Florida Oceanographic Institute on

Hutchinson Island disagreed with Negron, saying, "If the Corps goes, so goes their money. We need that money spent here, not someplace else."

He also pointed out that the South Florida Water Management District had sided with the Corps of Engineers in the Rivers Coalition failed lawsuit against the federal government over pollution of the St. Lucie River.

SUGAR INDUSTRY SPEAKS

The speaker at the September meeting was David Goodlett, representing the Sugar Cane Growers Cooperative of Florida, who told a packed-house audience that giving up agricultural lands to allow areas for natural drainage south of Lake Okeechobee to the Everglades could never be part of any solution to alleviate the effects of discharges into the St. Lucie or Caloosahatchee Rivers.

The sugar industry operates on too thin a profit margin, he told the group, to give up land that could hurt its production and perhaps shut down the industry.



Sen. Joe Negron addressed a crowd of about 80 people who braved the rains from Hurricane Sandy to gather at the St. Lucie Lock to show his support and to urge that the control of Lake Okeechobee be moved from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to local scientists and experts.

Community activist Jackie Trancynger of Jensen Beach responded to Goodlett, "As long as that's the attitude of Big Sugar, then I don't want one more cent of my taxes going to sugar subsidies." Her comment drew audience applause.

The Rivers Coalition, now a group of 58 diverse business and civic organizations, was formed in 1998 with a far smaller group in response to a period many consider the worst destruction ever in the St. Lucie River and south Indian River Lagoon as the result of lake discharges. Millions of fish then had open lesions, and the river experienced algae blooms and fish kills.

The Coalition's goal is to replicate nature's original flow of water from the lake into the Everglades to be filtered naturally before discharging into the Florida Bay, with a series of holding ponds in agricultural areas south of Lake Okeechobee. It is called Plan 6, an unfunded initiative.

Goodlett, who represents a cooperative with 54 sugar cane growers comprising about 75,000 of the 375,000 acres of sugar cane in south-central Florida, said that the water leaving their processing facilities is cleaner than the water going into it. He suggested that advo-



Sewell Point's Mayor Jacqui Thurlow-Lippisch, an active member of the Rivers Coalition, surveys the polluted brown water leaving the St. Lucie lock as it enters the St. Lucie River.

Photo: Courtesy of the Rivers Coalition.

cates look at the source points of pollution, which come primarily from the north, and address those, rather than to looking to the sugar industry to resolve the pollution issues.

FLOOD CONTROL POLICY

In 1925, the St. Lucie River was connected to Lake Okeechobee by the St. Lucie Canal for flood control for communities along the lake's shores and to enhance coast-to-coast boat traffic. Since that time, whenever rain events have caused water levels in Lake Okeechobee to rise significantly, the Army Corps of Engineers discharges water east into the St. Lucie River and west into the Caloosahatchee River.

The Army Corps said the discharges are the only way it can move huge volumes of water fast enough to maintain the integrity of the 75-year-old, 110-mile Herbert Hoover Dike that encircles the 730-square-mile lake.

The most recent discharges have caused oysters to die, according to Mark Perry, executive director of the Florida Oceanographic Society in Stuart and a Rivers Coalition member. As much as 40% of the more than \$2 million investment into new oyster beds in the St. Lucie are now dead, he reported to Coalition members, and other potential issues such as algae blooms and sick fish probably are on the way.

"If the freshwater discharges from the lake continue," he said, "we could see our problems worsen, but right now, the river needs a break."

The discharges began following a month of above-average rainfall here kicked off by Tropical Storm Isaac on Aug. 25. From Oct. 3 through Oct. 31, the Army Corps released almost 1.2 billion gallons per day into the St. Lucie River through the St. Lucie Lock and Dam in Tropical Farms.

Army Corps Lt. Col. Tom Greco, the Jacksonville district deputy commander, reported to the Martin County Commission at their invitation to speak at its Oct. 9 meeting that this season's unusually high rainfall and lack of water storage to the north and south of the lake were the primary reasons for this round of discharges.

"The wetter it gets, the more limited we are in terms of our decision making," Greco said. "We don't want to release one more gallon than is necessary." ■

--Barbara Clowdus

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More than two dozen Rivers Coalition River Kidz carried protest signs.

EDITORIAL: Keep some holiday cheer here

Merchants are gearing up for the biggest holiday shopping day of the year—the day after Thanksgiving—but before you head out the door, think about this:

If every employed person spent just \$50 monthly at locally owned, independent businesses, we could fix our own economic doldrums without waiting for government, according to a 2009 study by Civics Economics, a nationally recognized economic analysis and strategic planning consultancy based in Chicago. (Retirees and homemakers can spend \$50 monthly, too, for an even greater impact, but the study was based on a fewer number, only those who have a job.)

How can that happen? No matter where you live, for every \$100 spent locally in independent stores, \$68 returns to the community in taxes, payroll and other expenditures. When that same \$100 is spent in a large national chain, only \$43 stays in your community. And when you make an Internet purchase, zero....not a dime....returns to your community, unless that online business is based there, according to the study.

So we're asking that you reserve at least \$50 of your November shopping-spree budget to spend at local merchants. That means any store, retail or service or locally owned franchise, and any independent restaurant. And the \$50 can be spread among them.

This simple strategy with such major implications was born in 2009 on a blog post by retail marketing consultant Cinda Baxter

of New York, who founded The 3/50 Project.

A former independent brick and mortar merchant, Baxter has received two national Retailer Excellence Awards and press coverage ranging from Forbes to The Wall Street Journal for the impact The 3/50 Project has made on small towns throughout the country.

Her "shop local" strategy is different than most, however, because she advocates on behalf of all independent brick-and-mortars, including hair salons and dry cleaners, as well as retail stores and restaurants. Neither does she ask consumers to give up shopping at "big box" chains or on the Internet. She understands our modern-day habits. She asks only that we spend just a portion of our monthly budget with the independents who rely on those local dollars.

Recently, The 3/50 Project launched the LookLocal iPhone app that consumers can use to find the local, independent merchants in whatever town they're in. Downloads are free. A business's inclusion in LookLocal also is free and automatic for independent merchants who sign up as supporters on The350Project.net website.

Why the interest in local merchants? In Hobe Sound, we have two new businesses that have opened their doors since the summer: Krumbcakes Bakery & Cafe and the Hobe Sound Art Gallery. Both offer an exceptional experience for their customers.

We also have one business, Juno Shoe Girl, who moved into a long-vacant building in the near-ghost town of the Dixie

Highway shopping strip, renovating and redecorating a dream boutique. Hobe Sound should have touched off fireworks when she opened her doors in October, and every Hobe Sound merchant and every resident should have walked inside and said, "We are so glad you are here. Your presence makes a positive difference in our downtown."

Such a wonderful sight for long-sore eyes! Perhaps she has planted a seed that will bloom into more store openings.

That's the aim of several Dixie Highway merchants, including Taste restaurant, Cottage Cache, Hobe Sound Jewelers, Hobe Sound Art Gallery, as well as Juno Shoe Girl as they take the first steps in creating a downtown Hobe Sound Business & Merchants Association.

Port Salerno's restaurants already have recognized the need to work together to self promote and have banded together to create an active restaurant association, especially important with the sudden closing of Finz.

Both organizations have the same goal: If they want shoppers to come inside, they must make consumers aware they are here, and they must provide them a positive experience when they stop in.

At the same time, consumers must accept some responsibility for where they choose to spend their money and realize the power they hold in their wallets.

Because if they are not willing to set aside at least a portion of their budget to spend locally, then they might as well call in the bulldozers. ■

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Why not a JILONA plan to serve all interests?

This letter was written October 24 to The Honorable Ken Salazar, Secretary of the Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20240, in response to the Hobe Sound Currents editorial (October 2012) regarding the apparent lack of regard for public input concerning plans for the Jupiter Inlet Natural Outstanding Area (JILONA) that lies in Tequesta and Jupiter.

Dear Mr. Salazar:

I'm writing about an issue which may seem local in nature but, by its very location at the site of a National Historic monument, is of national interest.

The Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse has stood sentinel over the Jupiter Inlet in Florida for over one hundred years. It has seen Confederate gun runners, prohibition rum runners and desperate refugees entering this inlet along with modern-day families enjoying the many recreational opportunities along the shore.

Generations of them have come to bring their children to swim, kayak, canoe and fish at this park area which has been designated by your Bureau of Land Management as the "Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area" (JILONA).

The property surrounding the Lighthouse has trails, historic buildings and is the home of the Loxahatchee River Historical Museum. This combination of educational and recreational amenities is what these National areas are all about. But, a Mr. Bruce Dawson, from the Bureau of Land Management, whom I have not met, is working against the public interest in an attempt to close the shoreline in response to pressure from the Loxahatchee River Historical Society. The Society finds the noise from playing families disruptive to their operations, particularly as they are marketing the outdoor site as a wedding destination.

While I applaud the plan to market the site for unique weddings, I do not think this should trump the traditions of public access to this shoreline for recreational purposes. Many couples plan outdoor weddings at public sites that are not closed to the public. Florida beaches are certainly favorite choices for such occasions. Boat motors and playing children are a part of this site which hosts a combination of activities. Maybe Mr. Dawson and the representatives of the Historical Society can include the public in their planning meetings and come up with a solution to keep the shoreline open and serve all interests in this growing debate.

Susan L. Duncan
Former Director, Loxahatchee Historical Society
Hobe Sound

GUEST EDITORIAL: Estuary worse than we thought

By Marty Baum - Indian Riverkeeper

The 2008 study by Hazen and Sawyer (environmental engineers and scientists headquartered in New York) determined that one acre of seagrass is worth \$5,000-\$10,000 an acre to local economies. Some studies go as high as \$20,000 per acre, but even lowball is significant. Lowball is a \$150-\$300 million dollar impact on our local economies that is now being seriously threatened.

After recent conversations with Dr. Grant Gilmore at Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute and Warren Falls at Ocean Research & Conservation Association, I came away stunned at the scope of the losses, and the lack of public awareness about it—including my own.

We have lost 45% of the seagrass meadows in the central and upper Indian River Lagoon, Banana River, and Mosquito Lagoon since the summer of 2010. That's some 32,000 acres.

There are two separate issues: the brown algae blooms that have been ongoing in the upper lagoons, and then the 12,000 or so acres from Vero to Sebastian that has disappeared for unknown reasons.

The brown algae bloom is the same kind that has been assaulting the Texas and Louisiana coasts for nearly a decade. The water being introduced into the lagoon is and has been too rich in nitrogen and phosphates thus providing the food/fuel

for the blooms. We are about to see that here on the St. Lucie, although ours has been mostly blue/green algae blooms.

The rhizomes that allow the seagrasses to rejuvenate are nearly depleted in the northern lagoons as the seagrasses have been denied the sunlight needed to recharge the rhizomes. What that means is that with about one more year of occluding sunlight, there won't be enough energy left to regenerate, and these seagrass meadows will be dead forever. The only way for it to return will be with "new" seagrasses.

In the central lagoon, from Vero to Sebastian, we have lost about 12,000 acres to an unknown calamity. They experienced algae blooms, some that lasted nine months, but that is not a long enough occlusion to outright kill them. The problem here is the seagrass meadows have died at the rhizome level, and we don't know why. No roots, no rhizomes, no grass. It seems to have stopped growing, but we simply don't know. These 12,000 acres will not readily regenerate; we are looking at many years of slow colonization, or manual replanting.

The seagrass meadows we have in the Indian River Lagoon—the 156 miles from Jupiter to Ponce inlets—are the lifeblood of our diversity. The Indian River Lagoon is, maybe was, the most diverse estua-



rine ecosystem in all of North America. This is due largely from the richness of our seven different kinds of seagrasses. A tropical seagrass meadow is the third most diverse ecosystem on planet Earth, only tropical rainforests, and tropical coral reefs are richer.

Let me give you an example of the difference that it makes. If you examine one square inch of sandy or mucky bottom, you will find about five thousand organisms. Add a couple blades of seagrass to that inch, and it now contains several HUNDRED thousand organisms. Each square meter contributes about five pounds of detritus, organic litter (read "energy") back into the meadow, that is twice the amount of a mangrove forest/swamp, another nursery that needs addressing.

Dr. Gilmore tells me that 10,000 fish per acre is a reasonable estimate for healthy seagrass meadows here. That is in addition to the 400 species of marine organisms that use meadows as a primary habitat.

The Indian River gives to us all, and this death and destruction being imposed on OUR Indian River lagoon is getting worse. ■

The foods that bind us to our pasts

A conversation the other day with George Kleine, a former professional chef, occasional Currents food columnist, and editor of The Ridge-way Reporter, led naturally to food, specifically regional dishes that inhabit our memories and create intense longings, probably as much for the time and place as for the food. The new Krumbcakes Bakery speaks to many of George's memories of New York, especially its luscious crumb cakes with mile-high, crumbly toppings.

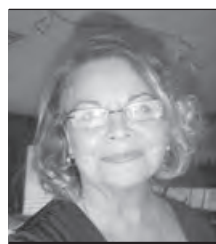
My children, nearly all born in Coral Gables, spent most of their childhoods in West Virginia, where the staple in every lunchbox, from coal miners to school children, was and are pepperoni rolls. Chunks of pepperoni wrapped in bread dough, which rises until the bulk conceals all evidence of what's inside, are baked to a golden brown. They come out of the oven hard crusted, which softens as they cool, but they don't have to be refrigerated because the meat inside is cured. (And full of preservatives and nitrates and nitrites, but who cares?) They are easy to pack, easy to eat, and they don't spoil, regardless of how long a hunter must sit in a tree-stand waiting for his target.

Then someone started dropping chunks of mozzarella into the rolls

along with the pepperoni, elevating them to gourmet status. Now many of my children feel cheated if I don't pick up the rolls that include mozzarella on my trips to West Virginia, and I know better than to come back to Hobe Sound empty handed.

Conversely, when my eldest son first moved to Florida after graduating in West Virginia, he was surprised to find that he could not buy CocoWheats, chocolate-flavored Cream of Wheat, in local supermarkets in Cocoa Beach. (Does seem like they missed a marketing opportunity there.) So every couple of months, I shipped him boxes of CocoWheats and bags of pepperoni rolls to ease his homesickness. (Oh, by the way, it wasn't HOMEsickness; it was just missing the FOOD.)

Another son's recent research of our family tree revealed how my Norwegian ancestors also longed for their own foods, especially my great-grandmother, who had been raised on the Norwegian coast. At age 28 she found herself on a land-locked corn farm in Iowa with no means to return to her native land with its cuisine of fish, including fermented trout (Rakfish), poached, dried or salted cod, and pickled herring, or the wild game of moose or reindeer. She so often lamented about not having "proper"



Barbara Clowdus

Unfiltered

food to eat that her granddaughters wrote about her misery years later.

Our country's cuisine has been broadly influenced by immigrants, of course, who adapt what's available and bring with them spices and foods unobtainable here to create a "new" cuisine, not fully native and certainly not fully American, whatever that is. Chris Pepitone at Hobe Sound Produce on Federal Highway recently bought the entire inventory of a Japanese market, and he's reselling most at just \$1 for each bag, bottle or can. "I don't have any idea what this stuff is," he says, with a laugh, "and I'm not sure I want to find out." A few expended dollars and a little daring, however, will treat you to a genuine culinary adventure.

Most of us learned to cook in our mothers' or grandmothers' kitchens, but I learned from my father, not so much what to cook, but what NOT to cook. He came home once with a recipe for a

sauerkraut pancake, dumping a mound of flour on the counter, adding some salt and pepper, then kneading into the flour a can of drained sauerkraut, shaping the mess into a large, flat patty, and placing it oh so carefully onto the middle shelf in an oven preheated to 350 degrees. Thirty minutes later and after one attempted bite, we piled into the car to eat at Burger King, what my brother and I considered a rare culinary treat.

When I abruptly left Florida in the early '70s to live in West Virginia, it was the sun, the salty air, and the sky I missed the most, not the food. Then in a mountain hamlet one day, we stopped at a restaurant owned by a woman whose ancestors had lived in Alsace-Lorraine, the same heritage as my father. We had sauerbraten, warm applesauce with a touch of horseradish and caraway seeds, and rice baked in cream flavored with cinnamon sugar and vanilla, all served with locally cured Swiss cheese on homemade bread. These were the dishes his mother had prepared for us whenever we visited Ohio, and suddenly this new place so far from my south Florida home seemed oddly, comfortably, familiar.

But why, I thought, had my grandmother not taught her son how to cook? ■

Hobe Sound CURRENTS

PUBLISHER AND EDITOR

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WEBSITE DESIGN

Sonic Fish Studios

PRINTER

Southeast Offset Inc

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In defense of 'offshore' tax havens

Gordon Barlow is a former manager and director of the Cayman Islands Chamber of Commerce, an accountant and trust officer by training, now retired. The following article was written for his personal blog, and posted there in August.

Except when the residents of any community are not genuinely free to leave it (for whatever reason), logic tells us that members of the community have consented to be bound by all the community's laws. That's only common sense. They may not like all the laws; they may even hate and resent some of them, and agitate to have them changed. But whatever their feelings, they always have these three options. 1) they can stay and work to change the laws they hate; 2) they can stay and accept the laws they hate; or 3) they can leave. I can't think of a fourth option.

Tax laws, gun laws, traffic laws, abortion laws, it doesn't matter which laws. If your (homeowners association) committee orders you to paint your front door purple, and you don't like purple, the same three options exist. If your spouse snores all night and keeps you awake, same thing. "Community" is a broad concept.

If a community's rulers are crooks or charlatans, liars or tax-dodgers; if they are sex-maniacs or half-wits or psychopaths; if they do things that are illegal, immoral or stupid: the options are always the same. The USA has been



Gordon Barlow

Outside, Looking In

cursed with elected or appointed officers who are all of those things; so has Britain; so have most nations in history. In all cases, their subjects have been faced with the same three options. Some of their subjects have knuckled under, some have rebelled, some have fled.

As a longtime resident of an Offshore tax-haven (and a former resident of two others), I marvel at the criticism levelled at Cayman, Bahamas, Bermuda and all the other Offshore centers. Lately, there has been a lot of fuss in the USA over Mitt Romney's use of Cayman to minimise his exposure to US taxes. I find little to like about Romney, and I know almost nothing about US tax laws: but I find it hard to believe that he has defied the laws. More likely, he is simply taking advantage of loopholes in them.

In technical terms: he would be avoiding taxes, but not evading them. Avoidance is legal, evasion is illegal, and the practical difference is the price of a good tax-lawyer. Logic tells us that Americans who have the means to leave their country but don't, have

consented to accept their tax laws, or are working to change them. Hey, that's life. Leave us out of it.

Offshore tax-haven sectors, generally speaking, exist to accommodate rich people with clever and high-priced lawyers. Poor people can't afford to pay expensive lawyers to read every line of the wretched IRS code. Clever lawyers sniff out loopholes in the code, and recommend them to their rich clients in exchange for exorbitant fees.

Americans who resent Offshore tax-havens should ask themselves this: Who is it that composes the IRS code, and leaves the loopholes? The US Congress and its minions, that's who. Second question: When each loophole is discovered by some clever and high-priced lawyer, whose responsibility is it to close the loopholes so that they can't ever be used again? The US Congress again. Well, fancy that!

Who benefits from the existence of the loopholes, besides Mitt Romney? Answer: IRS employees, clever and high-priced lawyers and their employees, residents of Offshore tax-havens, Mitt Romney and colleagues, and – ta-dah! Members of the US Congress and their minions. Sigh. Who ya gonna call – tax-busters? Huh. Ain't nobody here but us chickens, boss!

We in the tax-havens don't feel guilty in the least. We pay plenty of taxes, down here: just no Income Tax. We believe Income Tax is theft. Well, isn't it? ■

State grant centerpiece of Apollo Fall Fest

The Celtic music seemed a touch more sprightly, the catfish just a tad yummier, and the Apollo Foundation volunteers definitely were smiling more brightly at the Apollo School Fall Fest on Saturday, Nov. 3, at the Hobe Sound Community Center in Zeus Park.

The light switch at the end of nearly 15 years of fundraising to restore Martin County's last remaining two-room schoolhouse has been flipped fully on now, thanks in part to a \$150,000 state grant funded by Florida taxpayers, ushered through the state budget process by Sen. Joe Negron.

"We're very close to concluding all the paperwork, to actually getting the money," said Kathy Spurgeon, who spearheaded the project and has held her breath since the grant was first announced several months ago, "and when we do get it, then we can finish the inside...the electrical work, the painting, the air-conditioning...all those line-item types of things."

The renovation, funded in part with Historic Preservation Grant assistance provided by the Bureau of Historic Preservation, Division of Historical Resources of the Florida Department of State and assisted by the Florida Historical Com-

mission, does not include landscaping, or a parking lot, or furnishings, or displays, which is where the monies raised from a decade's worth of Fall Fests and Apollo Proms will be spent.

"There's so much that we're going to be able to do with this grant money," Spurgeon added, "but there's also much more to be done."

Spurgeon has her eye on one of Hobe Sound's "mushroom" houses nearby on Zeus Park Crescent that may be soon razed to make room for a more modern house.

"People either love 'em or hate 'em," she says, "but they are a real part of Hobe

Sound's history, and on the practical side, they would provide a kitchen for events held at the Apollo School, which has no kitchen, but of course, first we have to figure out how to move it over here to this piece of property, and how much that would cost to do...."

Even if a mushroom house does not fit into the Apollo School plan, other improvements do, including a small parking lot on the east side of the building and a gazebo and formal garden on the west side, Spurgeon said, but not until the front steps are built and the lights finally are turned on. ■

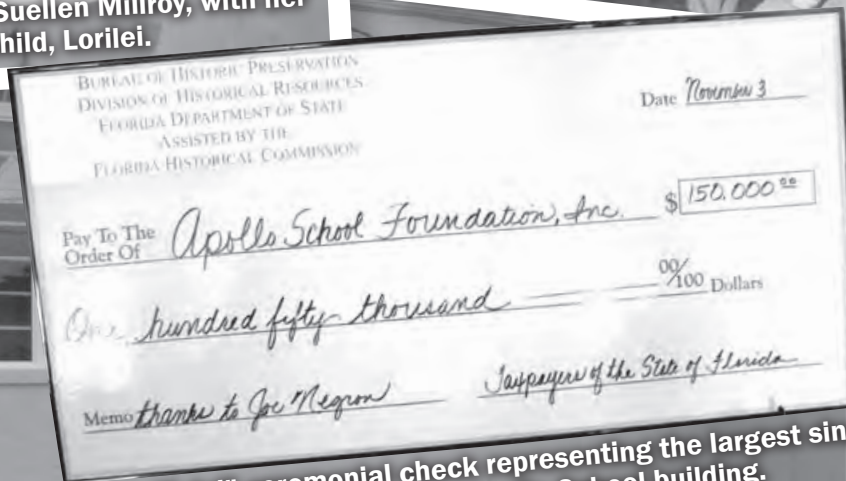
—Barbara Clowdus



The happiest Apollo Foundation volunteer? Suellen Millroy, with her first grandchild, Lorilei.



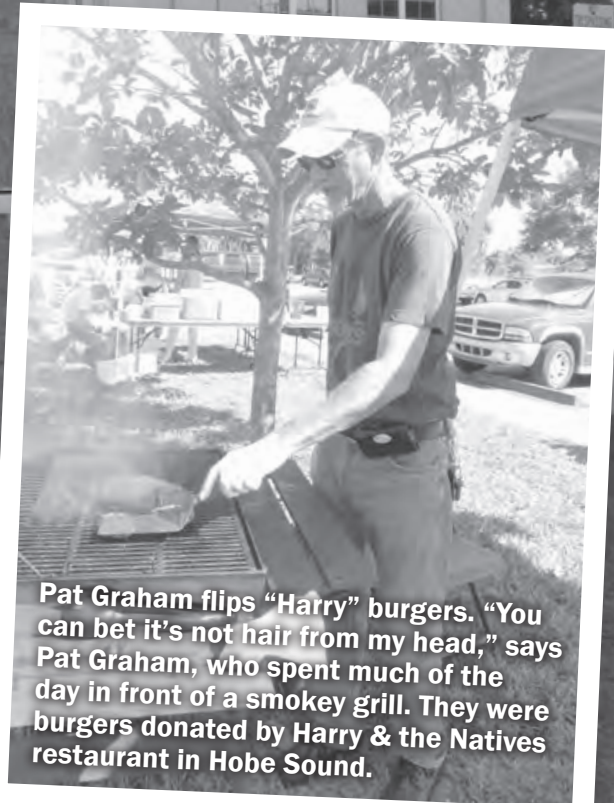
The Rowdy Micks, as they have for nearly a decade, entertained the crowd with fine—and sometimes rowdy—Celtic music. Bottom row, from left, Freeman Sherrill, Mick Geever, John Millroy, Rowdy Carlton, and top row, Peggy O'Neill, on left, and Kathy Zogran.



The "official" ceremonial check representing the largest single contribution to renovating the Apollo School building.



Kathy Spurgeon, who is beginning to see 15 years' of effort finally bear fruit.



Pat Graham flips "Harry" burgers. "You can bet it's not hair from my head," says Pat Graham, who spent much of the day in front of a smokey grill. They were burgers donated by Harry & the Natives restaurant in Hobe Sound.

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No dog beds here

The business cards for Hobe Sound Canvas, housed in a bigger-than-it-looks, pink-and-white building at 10520 SE Federal Highway, say Flo & Jen & Linda. No last names.

"I own the business, technically," says Flo Moody, from behind her industrial-strength sewing machine, "but Linda runs the joint." She points across eight feet of plywood to Linda Taylor, also ensconced behind a heavy-duty stitcher, who could capture an audience's attention even at a mortician's convention with her quick wit and veritable anthology of anecdotes collected from more than a decade of coping with requests from the most unusual to the most mundane uses for canvas.

"I tell everybody, if it will hold still, we'll cover it," she says, "but I will not do slipcovers. All that work, then they never look right after you sit on 'em. They pull out, they come loose....You just might as well get the thing reupholstered...but I don't do that, either."

Yet, one of the business's specialties is the re-upholstery of boat cushions and marine couches—often for large yachts docked at Jupiter Island homes or in Palm Beach—projects requiring the expertise of Sue Kissel and Jenny Shawfield, Moody's daughter.

"She's my niece, too, but no, Flo and I are not related," Taylor says, with a slight cock to her head to see if you can figure out that conundrum: Ah, sisters-in-law.

Moody confirms it, adding, "I was married to Linda's brother. I got rid of the husband and kept the sister-in-law." Together, the two friends and business associates tackle countless projects in addition to marine cushions that have included surf board bags, awnings, patio cushions, banners, campers, tents, just about anything. One day they had an awning that was so long, they had to run it inside through the back double doors, through the sewing machine, and out the front window in order to work on it.

They make "house calls" to work on vessels too large to be brought to the rear of their shop, one of which was more than 100' long, but the back yard of the



Linda Taylor



Flo Moody

shop can accommodate boats up to about 30' in length, making jobs for smaller boats more cost effective, because they can complete them faster.

But they don't do sails—that's a special craft all its own, says Taylor—and not dog beds, either. "I hate dog beds," says Taylor, "and at my age, if I don't want to do something, then I don't have to do it." Moody starts laughing, as she points to a large green dog bed trimmed in red piping, one of Taylor's most recent projects. "Well, sometimes there are exceptions," Taylor says, "but I still hate dog beds."

Taylor says that all their work is custom-fitted, cut from one piece of high-quality canvas for uniformity in a range of colors, so some projects—such as patio umbrellas—would be far more costly for them to make it rather than for a customer just to buy a replacement umbrella that is mass-produced.

"Well, that is, unless you want very high-quality canvas umbrella," Taylor adds, "and in that case, you just bring it in and we'll cover it...Just come in and see 'the girls,' that's what everyone around here calls us, 'the girls.'" ■

Which may be why they do not need any last names on their business cards.

—Barbara Clowdus



Juno Shoe Girl

A happy accident brought artist and shoe designer Nina Gelardi to Hobe Sound, where she first opened the Juno Shoe Girl shop featuring designer sandals last year in the Garden of Goods building on Dixie Highway. She had been living in Atlanta, happily working there as a shoe designer, when a new marriage brought not only a husband into her life, but his house in Hobe Sound, too.

"I already had a house in Atlanta," she said, "and since that's where we'd met, we decided to sell both houses and get a new house in Atlanta."

Her house sold within three days, then the housing bubble burst, and his house

sat on the market. And sat some more. As a result, they were spending more and more time in Hobe Sound, Juno Beach and the surrounding area.

"I discovered that I really liked it here," she said, "so I suggested to my husband, why don't we just move to Hobe Sound?" So they did, but there was not much demand here for a shoe designer. She struck out on her own using the contacts she had made in Italy and in India as a shoe designer, applying her own artistic talent, and believing in a dream to establish her own business.

"I was really nervous about it at first," she said, "but I'm really happy now that I did it."



Nina Gelardi, owner of Juno Shoe Girl, moved into a larger building on Dixie Highway so she could offer more than just sandals, including handbags of heavyweight canvas from Island Bag/Embroidery Loft, all of which carry sea-inspired designs with threads that just happen to match Juno Shoe Girl sandals.



Handmade in Palm Beach, these popular leather sandals with detachable alligator charms can be custom made to fit your feet or choose from Juno Shoe Girl's selection of standard sizes.



Not everything is a sandal. Breathable, waterproof, comfortable loafers, as seen on the "O" list of favorite things, Aqua Kicks, also wait to be discovered at the Juno Shoe Girl shop.



Just for fun are these stretch rings—sea-inspired bling. "I sold out of the octopus ring in just a couple of days," says Gelardi. "Octopus! Who knew?"

A wire-wrapped shell and stone collage adorns the top of a leather sandal Gelardi hand paints and assembles in her Hobe Sound studio. They are made to order and sewn in Palm Beach, requiring about four weeks' delivery time.



The nooks and crannies of the store—and there are many of them—hold artful surprises, such as this mermaid cat-fish wall hanging by Blackwater Folk Art, cut from discarded tin left in the debris of Hurricane Katrina. Paintings by local artists and by personal friends who live out of state hang on the walls. A hand-painted lamp and table (in the style of Mackenzie-Childs, but much less expensive) sits in the store window, and paper-mache sculptures add whimsy to the store's entry.



A hallmark of Juno Shoe Girl sandals are the interchangeable, snap-on ornaments Gelardi calls "shoe jewelry," allowing one pair of shoes to take on new personalities with just a snap. "They attach very tightly, but should you lose one," Gelardi says, "I'll replace it the first time free of charge." There's also always the option of glue, too.

Gelardi also can custom-design shoes to fit "problem" feet, such as when one foot is longer than the other, or when other foot issues interfere with a normally comfortable fit.

Her newest designs include a slight wedge. She selects all the leathers, the colors, and creates the designs herself. During the summer, when business typically is slow in Hobe Sound, Gelardi remains busy making sandals for Cape Cod visitors, which typically sport crabs and seahorses.

After spending time in the area, Gelardi found she also liked Juno Beach, so adopted Juno as the name of her business, Juno Shoe Girl. "Hobe Sound Shoe Girl just didn't sound as catchy," she says, with a smile.



Necklaces, bracelets, and matching earrings coordinate well with Juno Shoe Girl sandals, including this brass necklace with shell accents and a trendy "bubble" necklace that also comes in orange, white, fuchsia and brown.



Shoes and accessories pick up shared color notes that coordinate perfectly.



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Stop in if you have questions.

Did you see the sign on the old Hobe Sound post office building on

Dixie Highway—right next to the Courtyard Grille—that says **Hobe Sound Art Gallery**? Many residents and visitors have seen the sign and have commented in response, "I wonder what that's about?"

It's a quaint, new art gallery opened by an artist who spent much of his life as a riverboat captain, Capt. Robert Lump. Now retired, he can devote more of his time to painting.

"Actually, I've not had much time to paint," he says. "I've been too busy opening the gallery."

He and his wife, Sally, first came to Hobe Sound from Little Rock, Ark. last year to participate in the Hobe Sound Festival of the Arts. They fell in love with the town, says Lump, and decided to make it their home.

His new gallery offers a mix of works by local artists and those from other states and include fine watercolor, oil and acrylic paintings, stained-glass window ornaments, rosemaled jewelry boxes, and limited edition prints.

Showstoppers include dramatic paintings of the American flag in the style of Jasper Johns...only better.

"The new Hobe Sound Gallery has some amazing works on display in there," said Tom Balling, president of the Hobe Sound Chamber of Commerce, when he introduced Lump at a recent Chamber breakfast. "I've been in there, and if you get a chance, you should stop by. I think you'll be pleasantly surprised."

The Hobe Sound Art Gallery is at 11970 SE Dixie Highway, Suite 1, about one-quarter mile south of Bridge Road on A1A. Hours are 1-7 p.m., Wednesday through Saturday, but Capt. Bob says he's delighted to have an excuse to come in during off hours too, just call him: 772.341.1343. ■



The Hobe Sound Art Gallery is in the same building as the Courtyard Grille restaurant on Dixie Highway in Hobe Sound.



Once filled with new cars, the former Massey Yardley car dealership

showroom on Federal Highway near the Ridgeway community is now filled with car accessories, and the bays in back are full of customer vehicles being modified or restored.

"What we would like to be more recognized locally for are our accessories," says Mauricio Zambrano, who along with his partner, Oscar Florez, have taken over half the showroom to display the wares offered by their new business, **Amazonia Inc.**

"Customers can find any vehicle accessory, from a floor mat to lift kits, performance, tool boxes, bed liners, wheels, tires and more," he says, beaming like a proud papa.

Some of their modified 4x4 vehicles are even for sale, but that's not the focus of the two, young entrepreneurs.

Zambrano, who holds an MBA in marketing, was formerly a Land Cruiser restorer in a two-bay shop, when he decided to join forces with Florez, a mechanical engineer from Atlanta.

"We are now able to do pretty much any work or modification related to the automotive world," he says. To reach Amazonia, call 561-855.1523.



Oscar Florez, left, and Mauricio Zambrano

The other half of the showroom is the new home of Hobe Sound Thunderoad motorcycles, previously next to the Hobe Sound Canvas Shop in Hobe Sound. ■

When the Bike Street USA sign went up at a former video store in

the Winn-Dixie Plaza in Hobe Sound, residents thought at first a competitor was elbowing its way into the full-service, family-oriented Village Bike Shop market here.

As it turns out, they were a little right and a little wrong.

The Village Bike Shop in Hobe Sound was purchased by the Bike Street USA franchise based in Broward County, but Dawn Arvin—who purchased the decades-old Hobe Sound shop about three years ago—will remain on board as an employee, according to a company spokesman.

Since June, **Bike Street USA** has acquired six existing bicycle shops from Port St. Lucie to Boynton Beach, and has announced plans to have a total of 12 bike shops operating soon along the Treasure Coast.

Shop owners have said that the deal offers the best of both worlds by allowing the individual shops to retain the particular mix of products that their customers have grown to expect, while offering a broader selection of brands and accessories to their customers.

The Village Bike Shop is in the process of moving into a remodeled, 3,900-square-foot building on the U.S. 1 side of the Winn-Dixie Plaza along Bridge Road. Its hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 722.402.7353. ■

A worthy event: the Chamber's Casino Night

More than just the Hobe Sound Chamber of Commerce were winners at its Oct. 27 fundraiser, Sailing on the Good Ship Algozzini, a cruise ship-themed casino night hosted by the Hobe Sound Golf Club and sponsored by Metz Construction Company.

Casino winners, who had spent the evening at gaming tables that included poker, black jack, craps and roulette—even slot machines—traded in their chips for tickets, which were raffled to win prizes donated by Hobe Sound Chamber members. Tim Ellis, of CSCI Shell Contractors, won an LG 50" Plasma 3D TV. Kathy Bell, of Jewels by the Sea, won a spa package courtesy of The Skin Inn. Florida Power & Light project manager, Charlie Gears, made his wife smile when he won the designer sterling silver bracelet courtesy of Barton's Jewelers.

Other prizes such as a golf package worth \$2,400, a designer floral arrangement, a hotel stay, a catered sunset cruise aboard a 30-foot boat, and a 50/50 raffle prize of more \$1,300 were awarded to other participating guests.



The Hobe Sound Golf Club was transformed into a "casino" for the Hobe Sound Chamber of Commerce fundraiser, Sailing the Good Ship Algozzini.

Photos: Leo Arbezniik

A special performance by the Knights of Steel, a student steel drum ensemble from The Pine School in Hobe Sound, set the tropical mood for the evening, followed by a rousing "official" opening

of the "casino" with flashing lights and DancenSound DJ Rich Otten spinning a Pink Floyd classic, "Money."

A tropical feast prepared by the Golf Club mimicked cruise ship food pres-

entations, and included shrimp and scallop ceviche served in Metz Construction wine glasses topped with a plantain chip, tomato and mozzarella skewers, smoked fish dip martinis, prosciutto and melon lollypops, a mashed potato bar, tropical marinated chicken, pineapple glazed ham and a serve-to-order pasta bar.

The desserts, prepared by Eventful Moments, included a pineapple tree and chocolate fountain and homemade cookies and brownies atop a chocolate milk-filled wine glass.

Other sponsors included Florida Power & Light, the law Offices of W. Trent Steele, Oakowsky Properties, Capps Roofing, Inc., Copley's RV Center, Inc., Braman Motorcars of Jupiter, The Pine School, AMAC Insurance, Edward Jones-Andy Andersen, Seacoast National Bank, Peggy's Natural Foods, The Manors of Hobe Sound, The UPS Store and EyeMarketing.

Be sure to make a mental note to attend the Chamber's Casino Night next fall. No other local event can quite compare. ■



Chamber Past President Wayne Klick Photo: George Kleine



Presenting Sponsors Frank & JoAnn Tricarico, owners of Metz Construction Company



Elaine Kwan, Hobe Sound Ladies Club, wears her matching Phil Algozzini Hawaiian shirt

Community safety meeting slated

The Martin County Sheriff's Department has announced a community safety meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 13, at the Schmul Center at the Hobe Sound Bible College Academy, 11295 SE Gomez Ave. in Hobe Sound from 6-7 p.m. The guest speaker is Sgt. Ed Brochu of the Sheriff's Department who will address the issues of home burglaries, public safety, and gangs. Sponsored by the Hobe Sound Chamber of Commerce, the event is free and open to the general public.

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◆ **MARJORIE E. LIEBMANN**, 87, of Hobe Sound, died Oct. 25 at the Stuart Nursing and Restorative Care Center in Stuart. Born in the Cayman Islands, she had been a resident of the Treasure Coast for a year coming from Venice, Fla. where she had lived for 35 years. Before retiring, she was an accounting clerk for the Winn-Dixie Supermarkets. She was a member of the Venice Bible Church and attended Peace Presbyterian Church in Stuart. Survivors include a daughter, Lana Chalker of Hobe Sound; a son, Brian A. Ray of Orlando; sisters, Ivilie Defaut of Tequesta and Blondell Brown of Riverdale, Ga.; a brother, James Borden of the Cayman Islands, four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Joseph W. Liebmann; a son, Robert A. Gressman; and a brother, Herbert C. Borden. Memorial contributions may be made to Treasure Coast Hospice.



◆ **JAMES M WILLIS**, 76, of Hobe Sound, died Oct. 9. Born in Cambridge, Ohio, he had resided in Hobe Sound for 17 years, coming from Boca Raton. A real estate agent, he was a member of the Stuart Congregational Church; the Masons and Shriners. He received his bachelor's degree from Denison University in Granville, Ohio, in 1957 and was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. Survivors include his wife of 56 years, Mary A. (nee Bailey) Willis of Hobe Sound; daughter, Debra Seator of Port St. Lucie; two grandchildren, Chase Decker and Taylor Decker; and one great grandchild. He was preceded in death by his son, Robert Steven Willis. Memorial contributions may be made to Treasure Coast Hospice.

◆ **LELAND "LEE" JOSIAH WHEATON**, 81, of Hobe Sound, died Oct. 19 at his residence. Born Feb. 6, 1931, in Dansville, N.Y., he moved to Hobe Sound in 1991 from West Chester, Ohio. He held a bachelor's degree from Alfred State College in New York and was an engineer, retiring from Henry P. Thompson Company and former owner of L & D Industries in Middletown, Ohio. After retiring to Florida, he worked for Horner Discus International for 20 years. An Army veteran of the Korean Conflict, he served 37 months in Japan. He received the Good Conduct Medal; Korean Service Medal and United Nations Service Medal. He was a member of St. Christopher Catholic Church in Hobe Sound; Jupiter Model A Club; National Swimming Pool Institute; and life member of Hall-Bryan VFW Post 10132 in Hobe Sound. Survivors include his wife of 40 years, Dolores "Dee" Wheaton of Hobe Sound; children, Gail Wheaton Roth and husband, John, of New York; Dennis W. Wheaton and wife, Laura, of Ohio; Cheryl LaMonte and husband,



Thomas, of New York; John L. Wheaton of Michigan; Lenore Warren and husband, Gary, of Idaho; Leland Jay Wheaton and wife, Tina, of Florida; Joseph C. Stoken and wife, Mary, of Florida; Ashlie Stoken-Baring and husband, Blake, of Florida; 13 grandchildren and six great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, Len and Myrtle (nee Francis) Wheaton; children, Mark Stoken; Matthew Stoken; Luke Stoken; John Stoken and Manda Stoken; brother, Lester Wheaton; and sister, Alma Wheaton. Memorial Contributions may be made to Treasure Coast Hospice.

◆ **HERBERT "RED" L. CHAPIN**, 95, died Oct. 18 at Martin Nursing and Restorative Care Center in Stuart. Born in Stratford, Conn., he moved to Hobe Sound in 1986. He worked as a letter carrier for the United States Post Office for 30 years before retiring. An Army veteran of World War II, he received the Good Conduct Medal; European African Middle Eastern Theater Campaign Ribbon; American Campaign Ribbon and the World War II Victory Medal. He was a member of St. Christopher Catholic Church; Knights of Columbus Council in Stratford, Conn.; and a life member of the DAV. He was an avid golfer, hunter and fisherman. Survivors include three nieces, a nephew, and best friends, Joe and Peggy Falahee of Hobe Sound. He was preceded in death by his wife, Ruth Chapin; parents, Mr. & Mrs. Charles P. Chapin; sisters, Geta Nevins; Doris Shepherd; and brother, Melvin Chapin. Memorial contributions may be made to Treasure Coast Hospice.



◆ **DALE R. COCHRAN**, 92, of Hobe Sound died Oct. 16 at Pine Grove Manor in Hobe Sound. Born in Biggs-ville, Ill., he moved to the Treasure Coast in 1979 from Battle Creek, Mich, living at first in Fort Pierce before moving to Hobe Sound. He retired from Post Cereals as head cook after 30 years of employment. He had also been an independent truck driver. He was a member of Church of Christ in Stuart, where he had been an elder. Survivors include his wife, Minnie Cochran of Hobe Sound; four stepchildren, Robert Wayne; Ronald Edward; Brenda Kay; and Debra Lee, all of Stuart; and several cousins, a niece, and nephews. Memorial contributions may be made in his memory to Treasure Coast Hospice.



◆ **BEA M. BALDASSARE**, 94, of Hobe Sound, died Oct. 11 at Sterling House of Tequesta. Born in Clarksburg, W.Va., she had lived in Hobe Sound since 1990, moving from Somerset, N.J. She had been a nursing home aid in the health care industry and was a member of the Hobe Sound Community Presbyterian

Church. Survivors include her son, Mark Baldassare, of Kensington, Calif.; a brother, Jack Sariego of Philadelphia, Pa., four grandchildren and two great grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband, Constantine Baldassare, son Benny Pulido, and brothers, Frank, Henry, Joe, and Raymond Sariego.

◆ **DOROTHY LATIMER ZIEGLER**, 93, of Hobe Sound, died Oct. 11 at The Gardens Retreat in Palm City. Born in Wilimantic, Conn., she had previously lived in Hampton and Danielson, Conn., before relocating to the Martin County area in 1976. She was a Registered Nurse and had worked for Windham Hospital for 20 years in Windham, having graduated from the Rhode Island School of Nursing in 1940. She was active with the 4-H Clubs of Conn, and was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She also loved to dance. She is survived by her son, Mark Norman Latimer and his wife, Marilyn, of Norfolk, Mass.; daughter, Susan Blair Perez and her husband, Julio, of Hobe Sound; five grandchildren, Paul, Andrea, Daniel, Christopher, and Sarah, and four great grandchildren. She was predeceased by her first husband of five years, Paul Seaman Latimer, and her second husband of 23 years, Carl Josef Ziegler. Memorial Contributions may be made in her honor to The National 4-H Council, PO Box 37560, Baltimore, MD, 21297.



◆ **MARJORIE GUERNSEY**, 83, a resident of Hobe Sound and a former resident of Oswego, N.Y., died Wednesday, Oct. 10, at Martin Medical Center in Stuart. She was born in Buffalo, N.Y., on June 21, 1929, the daughter of the late Frank and Dorothy (Millier) Shaw. A graduate of the Rochester Business School Institute, she was a board member and comptroller of Oswego County Savings Bank in Oswego prior to retirement. She moved to Florida 20 years ago and was a communicant of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Stuart, where she served as a Eucharistic minister. She was a former communicant of St. Mary's Church in Oswego. She also was a president of the Oswego Chapter of Zonta International, member of N.Y. State Women Bankers Association, treasurer of the Council of Catholic Women and a volunteer at the Carpenter's Kitchen. She belonged to the Ladies of the Preserve of Hobe Sound. Survivors include her daughters, Laura (Benjamin) Davis of Carthage, N.Y., Janet Siembor of Syracuse, N.Y., and Kathleen A. Rushmore of Hobe Sound; sons, Robert F. (Christina Aarne) Guernsey Jr. of Fulton, N.Y., Michael R. (Yuri Aikyo) Guernsey of Brewerton, N.Y. and Thomas P. (Lisa Chase) Guernsey of Fulton; a sister, Patricia (John) Cooney of Port St. Lucie; brothers, Francis J. (Mildred) Shaw of Pittsboro, N.C., and James E. (Audrey) Shaw of Moravia, N.Y.; 13 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren and several nieces, nephews,

and cousins. She was preceded in death by her husband of 47 years, Robert F. Guernsey Sr., who died in 1995.

◆ **MARIE C. MARCH**, 92, of Hobe Sound, died Oct. 5 at Treasure Coast Hospice in Stuart. Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., she moved to the Treasure Coast in 1980 from West Islip, N.Y. A homemaker, she was a member of St. Christopher Catholic Church in Hobe Sound. Survivors include her sons, William F. March and wife, Flo, of Lancaster, Pa.; Dennis P. March and wife, Jean, of Beaufort, S.C.; Ronald J. March and wife, Janet, of Holbrook, N.Y.; Gary T. March of Somers, Conn.; Gregory M. March of Hobe Sound; daughter, Regina March of Hobe Sound; sisters, Kathryn Fickies of Bath, Pa., and Patricia Jensen of Palm Coast, Fla.; brother, William Franklin of Arizona; 14 grandchildren; 12 great grandchildren, and her beloved Molly. She was preceded in death by her husband, William P. March; brother, Benjamin Franklin; and sister, Irene Gunn. Memorial contributions may be made to Treasure Coast Hospice.



◆ **PHYLLIS MAY OWENS**, 91, a 26-year resident of Tequesta, died Tuesday, Oct. 30. Born August 26, 1921, in New York, N.Y., to parents Christopher and Phyllis. She is the sister of Henry J. Vagts of Center-ville, Mass., and Peggy Gallo (deceased) of Tequesta. She married C. Walter Stone (deceased) of Mt. Vernon, N.Y., in 1943 and had two children, Chris Stone of Tequesta and Claire Stone Greenspon of Darien, Conn. That marriage ended in divorce after 24 years. She then married Timothy V. Paige (deceased) of East Longmeadow, Mass. In 1986, she married Walter Weidner (deceased) of Collinsville, Ill. In 1992, she married Jack A Owens (deceased), of Palm Beach Gardens. An executive secretary, she worked at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md., and at the Hunt Botanical Library at Carnegie Mellon Institute in Pittsburgh. While working, she also attended college for 16 years and received her bachelor of arts degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 1967 and became a first grade teacher in Upper St. Clair, Pa., before retiring to Tequesta. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Tequesta. She also was a volunteer for Jupiter Medical Center Auxiliary and a member of WICS. In East Longmeadow and later in Illinois and Florida, she was an angel square dancer and performed at the Florida State Fair and at Six Flags Amusement Park. Until recently, she was a member of the Coquettes, a dance group that performs at local nursing homes. She danced at the Moose on Friday nights with her dear friend, Bill Burridge, of Jupiter. She is survived by her son, Chris Stone and his wife, Norma, her daughter, Claire Greenspon and her husband, Bob, four grandchildren, two great grandsons, a niece, nephew, and her brother, Henry Vagts, his wife, June, and their four daughters. Memorial contributions may be made to the First Presbyterian Church of Tequesta, 482 Tequesta Drive, Tequesta, FL 33469.

HOMEcoming

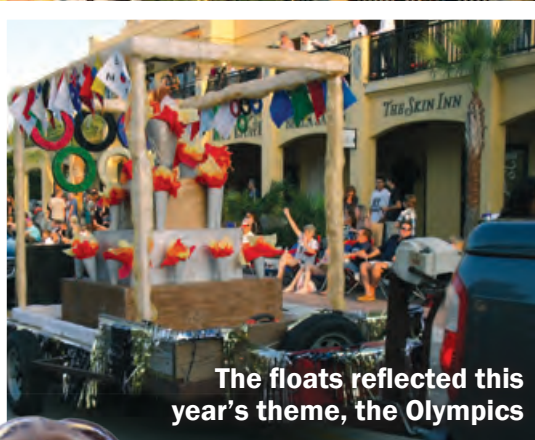


Matt Hough and Christina Marin



Parade Marshall Jeff Limber, Teacher of the Year

Taylor Knight, 3, dances in the street



The floats reflected this year's theme, the Olympics



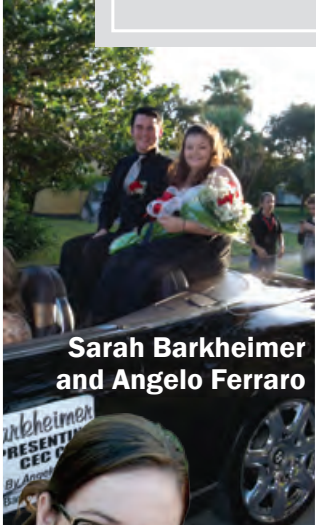
SOUTH FORK HIGH SCHOOL HOMEcoming 2012

Spectators lined Hobe Sound streets leading from Zeus Park, to A1A and east on Bridge Road for the South Fork High School Homecoming Parade on Tuesday, Oct. 16. "This is why I love Hobe Sound so much," one spectator said. "It's all ages out here, not just kids."



Barbara Anderson, student government advisor and parade master

Bulldogs wear pink ribbons?



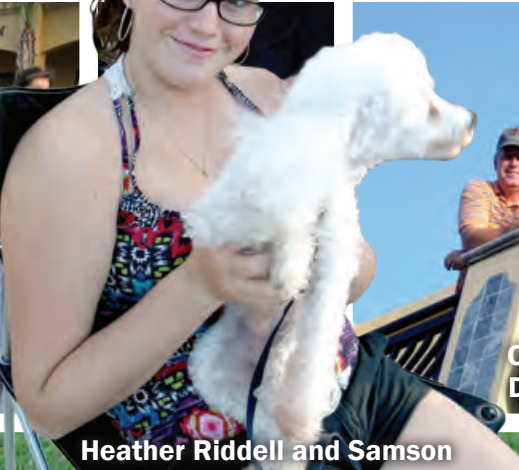
Sarah Barkheimer and Angelo Ferraro



Drum line



Murray Middle School



Heather Riddell and Samson



Commissioners Ed Ciampi, Doug Smith, Patrick Hayes



Trombonists take a break

Weekend, Nov. 10-11 Stuart Air Show



The Stuart Air Show, sponsored by Sikorsky Aircraft Corp., will be staged at Stuart's Witham Field on Saturday and Sunday and includes a USAF glider demonstration, a Navy Leap-frog Parachute Team, heritage flights of the P-51 and A-10, and the US Navy's F-18 Demonstration Team, as well as a host of static displays, children's rides, vendor booths and food. Gates open at 9 a.m. both days and close at 5 p.m.; aerial performances begin at 1 p.m. and end at 4:30. Admission is \$18, free for active military and veterans, and children 10 and under are free. For more information, go to stuartairshow.com.

Saturday, Nov. 10 Harvest Hoedown at Jonathan Dickinson

A old-fashioned harvest hoedown and picnic under the stars will be Saturday, Nov. 10, at 6 p.m. at the Kitching Creek Pavilion at Jonathan Dickinson State Park on US 1 south of Bridge Road in Hobe Sound. While the frogs croak and crickets chirp, you can enjoy an evening of food, drinks, and country-western dancing, led by Burt and Carol Summers, Florida's most entertaining callers. They'll show beginners how to square dance, teach us the Virginia Reel, line dancing, and even the Cowboy Charleston. You'll also be served a barn dance dinner by Boy Scout Troop 840, which will include hamburgers \$3, hotdogs \$2, baked beans \$1, chips \$1, soft drinks/water \$1, dessert cookies 50 cents, and hot popcorn for \$1. Beer and wine will be available with donations. Admission is \$10 per person to cover costs (\$5 for kids 12 and under), but reservations are limited. Call Pat Magrogan at 561-746-7353, or email pmmagrogan@att.net.

Saturday, Nov. 10 Jupiter Holiday Craft Festival

Shop handcrafted leather goods, paintings, photography, personalized products, glassworks, and much more—all made in the USA—at the 11th Annual Holiday Craft Festival on the Ocean on Saturday, Nov. 10, from 10am to 5pm. Stroll along scenic A1A between Donald Ross Road and Loggerhead Park in Juno Beach while you shop handmade fine crafts that suit every budget. FREE admission.

Saturday, Nov. 10 Tequesta Fire Chili Cook Off & Beer Tasting

The tickets are \$35 each, but the proceeds benefit Honor Flights for World War II Veterans, and you get to eat everyone's chili and taste a variety of beer at no additional charge. The event, sponsored by the Tequesta Brewing Company and local fire-fighters, will be at Paradise Park in Tequesta from 2-6 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 10. For more information, contact David McGovern at 561.262.7087.

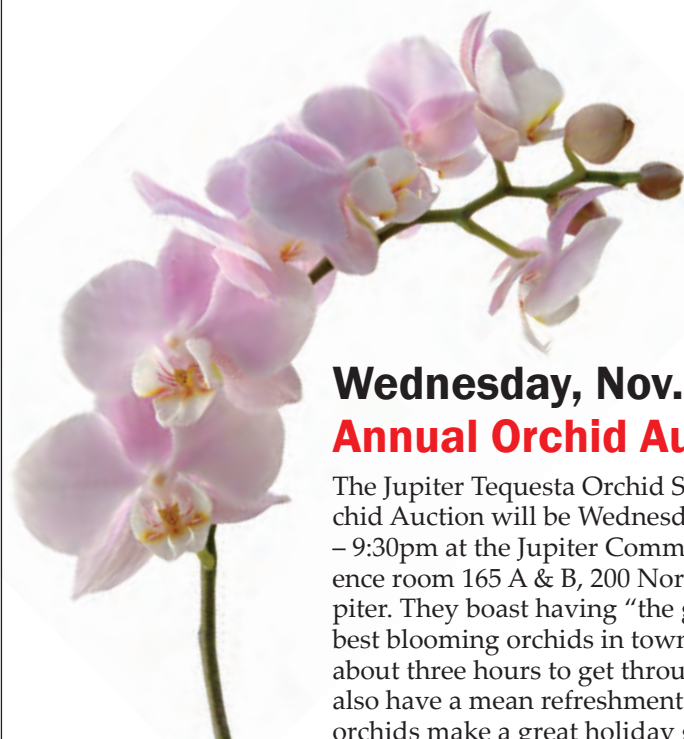


Monday, Nov. 12 An Artist's Lesson, Open to Public

A renowned artist, illustrator, author and instructor, Robin Lee Makowski, will be the featured guest of the Art Associates of Martin County (AAMC) at its monthly meeting Monday, Nov.12, at St.Mary's Episcopal Church, Smith Hall, 623 E. Ocean Blvd. in Stuart from 7:30 – 9 p.m. The meeting is free and open to the public. Makowski will talk about "Tools of the Trade," explaining various artists' materials and demonstrating the differences by painting on paper, rag board, and Aquabond. She will also discuss marketing artwork, as well as tips for pricing. Her work has appeared in National Geographic and American Artist magazines, and she has won numerous awards and recognitions. She has returned to her former Studio E at the Fish House Art Center in Port Salerno and was recently appointed Art Studio Coordinator at the new Elliott Museum on Hutchinson Island. For more information, contact the artist at 772-263-2587 or email: robin@rlmart.com.

Monday, Nov. 12 Stuart Veteran's Day Parade

The parade starts at 10 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 12, and includes a host of military, firefighters and police units, as well as area bands, to celebrate and honor the nation's veterans. The day will include a rededication of Memorial Park in downtown Stuart. For more information, call 772.220.4127 or email info@stuartparades.com.



Wednesday, Nov. 14 Annual Orchid Auction

The Jupiter Tequesta Orchid Society's Annual Orchid Auction will be Wednesday, Nov. 14, from 6:30 – 9:30pm at the Jupiter Community Center, Conference room 165 A & B, 200 North Military Trail in Jupiter. They boast having "the greatest, biggest, and best blooming orchids in town to bid on," requiring about three hours to get through them all. They also have a mean refreshment table. Remember that orchids make a great holiday gift!

Saturday, Nov. 17 Barefoot on the Beach

If ever there was a time to support the work of the Florida Oceanographic Society, this is it. Buy a ticket for \$75 that will benefit them as you enjoy a seaside clambake, including lobster, on Stuart Beach with Caribbean music, beverages and dancing under the stars from 6-10 p.m. Wear your best whites and leave your shoes at the door! \$85 for members, \$95 for non-members. After November 10, ticket prices go up to \$105. This is a 21+ event. Purchase tickets online or call 772-225-0505.



Saturday, Nov. 17 Rio Breakfast & Bake Sale

Perfect for shoppers looking for bargains, the community of Rio (in Jensen Beach) will host a Breakfast, Indoor Flea Market & Bake Sale featuring jewelry, antiques, household items and homemade baked goods from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 17, at the Rio Civic Center, 1255 N.E. Dixie Highway. For more info, call 772-334-2039.

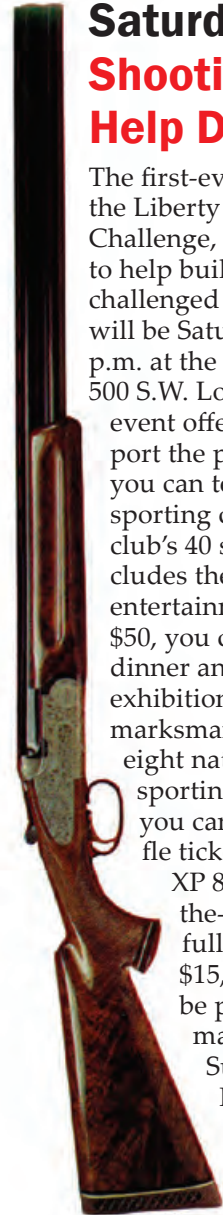
Saturday, Nov. 17 Tequesta Fest

Not quite a rodeo, but with all the country-western music, cowboy boots and hats, and good ole cowboy grub, you just might think that's where you're going on Saturday, Nov. 17, from 1-7 p.m., at Paradise Park in Tequesta. This family-friendly event with a \$10 non-resident admission charge per adult (children under 3 are free) offers games, carnival rides, more than 50 different vendors, food, brews and good music. A great way to spend a Saturday afternoon.

Weekend, Nov. 17-18 TCCS to perform Randall Thompson

The Treasure Coast Community Singers Classical Choir will perform its first concert of the season on Saturday, Nov.17 and Sunday, Nov.18 at the North Stuart Baptist Church, 1950 NW Federal Highway at 7 p.m. on Saturday and 3 p.m. on Sunday. The concert, entitled "Randall Thompson, Our American Musical Heritage," will feature a variety of anthems from his repertoire inspired by the words of Robert Frost and Walt Whitman and the paintings of American primitive artist Edward Hicks. He is best known for his "Alleluia" which was written for the 1940 opening of the Berkshire Music Center in Tanglewood. Advanced sale tickets are \$15 with group and student discounts available. Tickets may be purchased on-line at www.tccsingers.org; by calling the TCCS voice mail at 772.224.8807; or at the church Monday -Thursday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Admission at the door is \$20, but seating is limited. For more information visit www.tccsingers.org.

Saturday, Nov. 17 Shooting Challenge to Help Disabled Kids



The first-ever, one-of-a-kind fundraiser, the Liberty Coach/Kiwanis Club of Stuart Challenge, will donate 100% of its proceeds to help build a playground for physically challenged children. The shooting event will be Saturday, Nov. 17, from noon to 7 p.m. at the South Florida Shooting Club, 500 S.W. Long Drive, in Palm City. The event offers several opportunities to support the playground additions. For \$200, you can test your shooting skills in the sporting clay from 14 overlooks on the club's 40 shooting stations—and that includes the cocktail reception, dinner and entertainment from 5:30 p.m. to dusk. For \$50, you can just attend the reception and dinner and take in the entertainment. The exhibition shoot is performed by expert marksman Scott Robertson—who's won eight national and two international sporting-clay contests, or for \$100, you can purchase one of the 250 rifle tickets to win the Polaris Ranger XP 800 Limited Edition, a top-of-the-line, all-terrain vehicle with a full luxury package. It's valued at \$15,000—and you don't even have to be present to win. For more information, visit GCY Professional Surveyors & Mappers, 1505 S.W. Martin Highway, Palm City, or call Barbara Essenwine at (772) 286-8083 or visit www.kiwanisclubofstuart.org.

Weekend, Nov. 28-Dec. 2 The Singing Christmas Tree



Our Hopscotch columnist, Suzanne Briley, says that the Hobe Sound Ministries' 16th Annual Singing Christmas Tree is THE holiday event every family should experience. This year, the all-amateur production with a surprising degree of professionalism will be on Wednesday, Nov. 28, then again on Friday through Sunday, Nov. 30 to Dec. 2 at 7 pm each evening. (No performance on Thursday.) Mark your calendars now, because this spectacular event, attended last year by more than 6,000 people, will feature 75 singers in a beautifully lighted Christmas tree of thousands of lights, a 25-piece orchestra, a children's choir and a drama cast of 50 at the Hobe Sound Bible College at 11295 Gomez Ave in Hobe Sound. Admission is free, but an offering will be taken. Call 772-546-5696 with questions or visit www.hobesoundsingingtree.com.

Saturday, Dec. 1 Hobe Sound Christmas Parade & Art Stroll

One of the most popular events of the year, the Hobe Sound Christmas Parade sponsored by the Hobe Sound Chamber of Commerce as a gift to the community, will kick off at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 1, in Hobe Sound. The Art Stroll opens at 10 a.m. on Dixie Highway. The parade route is the traditional one that takes more than 60 units from the Zeus Park neighborhood, north on A1A and west on Bridge Road past the reviewing stand on the balcony of the Mancuso Building, back to Zeus Park. Santa will be riding atop a Martin County fire truck waving to youngsters of all ages to end the parade and open the holiday shopping season in Hobe Sound. When you see Chamber volunteers Lillian Johnson and Mike Ennis, be sure to thank them for their extra effort to coordinate this local, joyful event.



Saturday, Dec. 1 Eagles Art Event in Okeechobee

The annual F.O.E. 4137 Auxiliary 4th Annual Art Event will start at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 1, at 9985 Hwy. 441 North in Okeechobee and will last all day. Those wishing to escape the traffic and closed roads caused by the Hobe Sound Christmas Parade now have the perfect place to escape. Call Lynn Earley at 863.697.2443 if you would like to participate as either a vendor or an artist. (Artists' spaces are only \$60 each.) Already committed to attending the event are some of the original Florida Highwaymen Artists, including Robert Butler. His son, Daniel Butler, another fine artist, also will attend as well as many other members of the Florida Highwaymen artists and/or their family members, and other fine artists from throughout Florida.

Weekend, Dec. 1-2 TWO Holiday Boat Parades!

After the Hobe Sound Christmas Parade finishes on Saturday afternoon, hop over to Sandsprit Park in Port Salerno for a festival that begins at 6 p.m., then is a viewing station to watch the Martin County Holiday Boat Parade of Christmas light-festooned boats floating past. The boats will be staged in the St. Lucie River near City Hall in Stuart, then proceed southeasterly to the end of Manatee Pocket at the former Finz Restaurant ending at Twin Rivers Park in Rocky Point. The holiday boat parade, which starts at 7 p.m., and the festival are sponsored by the Marine Industries Association of the Treasure Coast, Inc. If you wish to include your boat, call 772.692.7599.

If you cannot get enough of boat parades, another one will launch the following night, Sunday, Dec. 2, at the Riverwalk Plaza in Jupiter, at US 1 and Indiantown Road. This too will be a party with no admission charge that begins at 5 p.m. and is expected to last until 9:30 p.m. The Town of Jupiter and the Marine Industry Association of Palm Beach County are hosting the event that includes food, music and other festivities, but bring your own chair or blanket. The Riverwalk Events Plaza is at 25 South Coastal Way under the east span of the Indiantown Road Bridge in Jupiter.



Weekend, Dec. 7-9 Jupiter Inlet Holidays at the Light

An inaugural event centered at the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse and Museum will celebrate the holidays with a three-day event—all with admission charges to benefit the Loxahatchee River Historical Society and Lighthouse Museum—that focus on family fun. They include a Family Fun Night on Friday, Dec. 7, from 5:30-9:30 p.m., to see holiday lights and the lighthouse after dark, eat modestly priced foods as you listen to local holiday choirs and carolers perform, view holiday trees, have your picture taken with a surfer Santa, and tour the museum. Adults \$10; Children under 18, \$5. The event continues during the day on Saturday, Dec. 8, for Family Fun Day from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. with added crafts for kids. Regular museum and lighthouse admission prices apply. On Saturday night, Dec. 8, from 5:30-9:30 is the Lighthouse Tropical Holiday Party with a \$50 admission fee that includes dinner, dancing and listening to the tropical holiday sounds of Reel Ting. Seating is limited, so purchase tickets early. On Sunday, Dec. 9, is the Festival of Trees Kids View & Vote their favorites among the tree displays, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Regular lighthouse admission applies. For more info: call 561-747-8380.



Fun ideas for December decorating

Once again, it's that wonderful time of the year when everyone gets into the hustle-and-bustle mode. To keep things a little more relaxed this holiday season, make a schedule of how many days you need for shopping, entertaining, baking, and gift giving, and stick to it! Try to get everything done early, so you have time to enjoy your holidays with friends and family, even have a party!

Choose your favorite decorating color and carry it throughout your home—red, silver, blue, or winter white—and add that color to your wreaths, trees, pillows, garland, and everywhere in between. It will tie everything together beautifully throughout your home.



To spruce up all areas of your house, nothing beats the look and smell of fresh pine garland. The possibilities are endless for either indoors or outside, on your stairs, mirrors, chandeliers, or on your table as a runner. You can decorate these very simply with just coordinating bows or go all out with lights, beads, pine cones, and color-coordinated ornaments. Spritz them with water now and then to keep them looking and smelling fresh. Also, be sure to get enough for your front entry as it is a great way to welcome your guests.

Pre-order them early at the local home supply stores that carry trees, because garlands arrive late, or contact me directly, and I'll place an order for you personally.

Freshen up your pots with poinsettias, and the mini-artificial trees work great, too. If you happen to have an old pair of ice skates, try something new for your front door. Decorate them with some greenery, floral sprigs, and a bow for color. You can hang them or just place them near your entry for that extra special winter touch.



A great way to use up any extra artificial garland you may have is to get extra large, plain wooden letters to spell JOY or NOEL. Wrap the garland tightly around them, covering them completely, and hang them in a window or prop them in a nook that needs a little holiday cheer. This also can work as a monogram for a hostess gift when attending a holiday gathering.

This holiday season; get your kids, grandkids, or even the neighbor's kids involved in making an Advent calendar. You'll need a poster board or a very large frame and 12 letter-sized white envelopes, sealed and cut in half. Glue the sealed side down to the poster board/frame so you have a nice flat surface to work with, and let the kids decorate each envelope with seasonal paper (gift wrap works great), ribbon, buttons, stickers, etc. After they finish, you can print little sayings and add small goodies to each envelope. Number all 24, so that as each day arrives, they can check their envelopes to see what gift awaits.

Another great tool for the holidays is Epsom salts. It looks like real snow. To create your own mini village, tuck your



Diana Cariani

Simply Seasonal

favorite mini houses, churches, etc., inside your glass containers with Epsom salts surrounding them, which will give the look of a large snow globe.

If you have the large version of the Christmas villages, a unique way to display them (as we tend to run out of room with each new piece) is to use an armoire or an old jelly cabinet just for the season. It is tidy, and you can easily close the doors to protect your breakables if little guests arrive for a festive evening.

This is the time of year to gather closely with your loved ones, to carry on your family traditions or take the time to start your own new ones. Have a wonderful holiday season, and we look forward to a happy and safe 2013 with special ideas next month for great New Year's Eve decorating! ■

Diana Cariani, a mother of four from Hobe Sound, loves to decorate homes and businesses throughout the Treasure Coast. Send her your decorating tips or questions at diana@hscurrents.com.

An old lifeguard's tales still entertain, inspire

Long ago, I sat on Palm Beach and listened to the tales told by Sam Barrows. The year was 1959, and at the time he was the oldest lifeguard in the U.S. I was fascinated as he told me of a shark attack rescue and of the more than 1,200 people he had saved over a period of 50 years. Often after a daring rescue, the near-victim would walk away without a word of thanks. I later wrote and sent his stories to "Life" magazine.

He started as an apprentice lifeguard on Coney Island in 1910, long before the days of Red Cross swim lessons, rescuing as many as six people in one day. Only 10% of the total population knew how to swim at that time. Sam knew the sea in all its changing moods—its captivating calm and its pitiless cruelty—and as he stood next to me, acutely aware of all the swimmers around him, I admired this unique person whose life of courage had benefited the many people who owed him their lives.

Over the previous 50 years, he also had witnessed drastic changes in costumes worn on the beach from tip-to-toe bathing suits to the scanty briefs of the present day. He remembered a girl of 13 who even was arrested for not wearing a heavy woolen bathing costume with buttons from head to toe!

Sam had been a professional boxer, and as he trained to become a lifeguard he was required to demonstrate a pugil-

istic skill and complete a stringent test of ability and strength. Arriving in Palm Beach after three years of apprenticeship, he began a career dedicated to the conservation of human life. During that time, he experienced many naturally thrilling experiences.

During one September, when the seas are active with migrating fish, Gertrude Holiday was swimming 200 feet off shore. The ocean was calm and the water was lovely. Suddenly a dark, ominous shadow appeared—a hammerhead—moving menacingly and quickly toward her. As she turned to swim to shore, she felt the cold, abrasive hide of the hungry monster rub her leg, causing sudden bleeding to discolor the water. Even before Miss Holiday screamed for help, Sam had seen the shark. Grabbing an emergency canister, he swam toward the stricken girl, seized her with one hand, while keeping the carnivorous beast off her with the other.

On shore, volunteers grabbed the tow line attached to the canister and pulled. The girl had lost consciousness and the shark, maddened by the taste of blood, was not ready to give up. It moved toward the intended victim. Barrows kept himself between the shark and its prey, using his feet and free hand to fight off the attacks. The tow line had been pulled to shallow water, and sensing danger of becoming beached, the shark turned and

disappeared into the deep. Later, Gertrude Holiday recovered, though with some difficulty, and Sam Barrows was awarded a gold medal by the Town of Palm Beach.

Another tale that Sam related to me was a daring double rescue in a boiling sea near the Breakers Hotel in Palm Beach. Two chefs from the kitchen had gone in the surf without any sort of swimming skills and both had to be pulled out by Sam. He also told me of a man who insisted on swimming after Sam had warned him of the dangerous rip-tides from the mountainous waves, even after Sam had blown his whistle and warned him yet again. His rescue was difficult and prolonged, with Sam pulling the man to shore by his hair. The man complained to the town manager that Sam had given him a bad headache.

In those days, Palm Beach had a beautiful pier, stretching far out into the sea. (It was later destroyed in a storm.) Many times Sam was called upon to dive down and retrieve lost eyeglasses, keys, or something dropped in by mistake. He once rescued a pair of dentures. Other responsibilities that Sam assumed on the beach were baby sitting, raking up tons of seaweed brought in by the tides, administering first aid for jellyfish stings, and recovering lost fishing poles. He filled many needs.

Later, Sam and his friend Gus Jor-



Suzanne Briley

Hopscotch

dan, a Norwegian swimmer, and other swimmers formed an organization called "Cowboys of the Sea," open only to those who had saved another's life. Its membership eventually consisted of millionaires, taxi drivers and various classes of people who had saved someone's life. Often Sam and the "Cowboys" could be seen out beyond the pier riding on the backs of giant sea turtles. The badges given to members then are scarce today.

Much has changed now, and Sam has been succeeded by highly trained men and women who are following the standards set by their predecessors, but these days, most people at the beach also know how to swim!

(My photos of Sam Barrows and other stories may be seen at the Historical Society collection at the old courthouse in West Palm Beach.) ■

Suzanne Briley, artist, author, entrepreneur and environmentalist, lives in Zeus Park in Hobe Sound. She may be contacted at hopscotch@hscurrents.com.

Fundraiser will create all-inclusive playground

STUART—It's a favorite downtown destination for parents seeking a chance to relax as their children climb, swing, dig and run. But for parents of children with disabilities, Kiwanis Park was just another inviting oasis of play that was all but off limits to them.

With the community's help, that should soon change. Kiwanis has big plans—literally site plans and blueprints—for the park to add access and equipment specially designed for children with disabilities. Not only will equipment on the new playground feature ample rubber matting to cushion children during any falls, there will be extra wide lanes and ramps for easy wheelchair access. The swings also will allow direct connection of the occupied wheelchairs themselves, rather than removing children from the chair and strapping them into an oversized swing.

The upgrade will cost about \$200,000, as the club is staging its first-of-a-kind fundraiser. One-hundred percent of the proceeds from its inaugural Liberty Coach/Kiwanis Club of Stuart Challenge—which



takes place from noon to 7 p.m. Nov. 17 at the South Florida Shooting Club, 500 S.W. Long Drive, Palm City—will support the effort.

The event offers several opportunities to support the playground additions. For \$200, you can test your shooting skills in the sporting clay from 14 overlooks on the

club's 40 shooting stations—and that includes the cocktail reception, dinner and entertainment from 5:30 p.m. to dusk. For \$50, you can just attend the reception and dinner and take in the entertainment. The exhibition shoot is performed by expert marksman Scott Robertson—who's won eight national and two international

sporting-clay contests during his 23 years as a competitive shooter.

Or, for \$100, you can purchase one of the 250 raffle tickets to win the Polaris Ranger XP 800 Limited Edition, a top-of-the-line, all-terrain vehicle with a full luxury package. It's valued at \$15,000—and you don't even have to be present to win, though clearly you'll want to be, as this event offers something special with some very special people in mind.

Founded 64 years ago, Kiwanis Club of Stuart is the local chapter of the international organization of community volunteers dedicated to supporting programs that help young people grow to become exceptional adults.

For more information on the Liberty Coach/Kiwanis Club of Stuart Challenge or to get tickets for the event or the raffle of the Polaris Ranger XP 800 please visit GCY Professional Surveyors & Mappers, 1505 S.W. Martin Highway, Palm City, or call Barbara Essenwine at (772) 286-8083 or visit www.kiwanisclubofstuart.org. ■

--Ike Crumpler

Challenge: taking care of those with dementia and Alzheimer's

Caring for a person with Alzheimer's disease at home is a challenging task that can become overwhelming at times. Each day brings new demands and challenges as the caregiver copes with changing levels of ability and new patterns of behavior. In any demanding situation, the better you care for yourself, the better you will be able to care for your loved one.

SETTING UP HOME CARE

Soon after a diagnosis of Alzheimer's, it will be necessary to get started on making changes that help provide a sense of well being and physical safety for the affected person. Things that were taken for granted before, such as home safety and socializing, will now require some planning. There will be a need to communicate in new ways and make changes to the home environment. These changes include:

- Adjusting your communication style to your loved one's changing needs as the disease progresses.
- Scheduling visitors to avoid surprises and have something to look forward to. Even if the elder with dementia does not recognize those who visit, the contact is nonetheless valuable for them.
- Establishing routines in activities of daily living.
- Maintaining social contacts and fun.
- Setting up a safe home environment.

Considering placement in a facility or hiring a private in-home care agency if caregiving becomes unmanageable for you or your loved one.

PROMOTING COMFORT AND SAFETY

As the symptoms of Alzheimer's progress, the person becomes more emotionally fragile. At first, there may be the sense of grief and dread that accompanies the awareness of having a progressive, terminal illness. During this

early stage of the disease, caregivers can promote the patient's sense of well being by providing emotional support and by helping to maintain familiar activities and social contacts.

Eventually though, the diagnosis of Alzheimer's is forgotten and the ability to be rational fades. Logical thinking can no longer be used to help alleviate fear and confusion. As problems with memory and judgment increase, the patient becomes more vulnerable to accidents and injuries. Problem behaviors develop that place the person at increased risk of getting lost or getting hurt.

Caregivers must hone their communication skills and make changes to the home environment in anticipation of the problems of mid-stage Alzheimer's disease. Following are some tips for promoting physical safety and emotional comfort.

- Be sensitive and gentle about informing the patient of the diagnosis. There will be times when you'll want to remind the person that they have Alzheimer's. At other times it might be better to refer to a "memory problem." Even if you repeatedly tell the elder that they have Alzheimer's disease, they may not remember that you told them. Be prepared to patiently repeat the information at times when you're trying to help the person understand why they can't do something or why you are taking over a task the person used to do.
- Develop a positive attitude. Many people look at their caregiving responsibility as a way of being involved with their loved one. Their caring is based on unconditional love, and they do not consider it a burden. Dementia patients are able to read body language and to respond to the positive attitudes of the caregiver. Where patient and caregiver have had problems in their past relationship, it can be especially challenging to empa-



Steven
Snell

*Ebbing
Tides*

thize and be kind, so a support system for the caregiver is most important.

- Learn to communicate with an Alzheimer's patient. Acknowledge requests and respond to them. Don't argue or try to change the person's mind, even if you believe the request is irrational. Be affectionate with the patient, if this feels natural. Try not to set up a cycle of paying attention only when the person displays problem behaviors. Break this negative cycle by being supportive of positive behavior.

- Remember the worth of the person as a human being. Even if they don't seem to respond, the person deserves to be loved and cared for, touched, and spoken to. Much like an infant, the dementia patient thrives on human contact. If treated poorly, the person feels rejection, loneliness, grief, and pain. Your warm, supportive care is essential to the dementia patient's well being.

- Managing behavior problems is important, but be accepting of the increasingly limited capabilities of the person with dementia and implement care strategies accordingly. Do your best to be patient, kind, flexible, supportive, and calm. This disease is no one's fault, although it is very aggravating and disappointing. By the same token, don't take problem behaviors (such as aggressiveness or wandering) personally. Accept the symptoms of the disease and proceed from there. Remember that the person is not behaving this way on purpose. For some of these

problems, medications may be helpful

- Expect the patient to totally lose their memory. Be ready with boundless patience. Many Alzheimer's sufferers have no awareness of their loss of memory. You may feel aggravated at repetitive behaviors or with having to repeat what you just said, time and time again. The positive side of this is that the person is not as upset as you are; they don't realize what is happening to them or how it affects you. And remember, to the patient, every time they ask the same question, it is the first time that they think that they asked it!

- Get emotional support for yourself. These suggestions can be hard to implement. You have your own sense of grief and loss about the diagnosis – feelings that may be compounded as you see the person you've known and loved gradually lose their familiar personality and abilities. Your lifestyle may be radically changed, especially if you are the lone caregiver. Besides, some caregivers may have responsibility for a person who they weren't very close to, or who treated them badly in the past, making it particularly hard to stay positive or to empathize with the patient.

Remember there is plenty of support for you in this journey if only you reach out for it. (www.helporg.com) ■

Steven R. Snell, of Hobe Sound, provided care for both of his grandparents for the last 10 years of their lives, which included cancer treatments, stroke & TIA-related dementia, in-home care, assisted living placement, memory care and end-of-life hospice care. That experience led him to a new career, and he now owns a nationally accredited senior care home health agency with offices in Hobe Sound, West Palm Beach, and Port St. Lucie that seeks to help others navigate the sometimes complex senior care options. He can be reached at ebbingtides@hscurrents.com.

Where are the pompano?

Everyone is looking for the pumps and wants to know where they are. I can assure you after spending the last four months preparing, I'm ready to launch my rigs anywhere to enter the rodeo!

I decided on Oct. 1 to get on the road and locate these flighty creatures myself. My contacts from Sebastian north to St. Augustine relayed virtually no surf action, except for bluefish and tons of finger mullet. There were some large spanish macks off the Sebastian Inlet, and a bunch of undersize pompano on the jetty, so I

figured it was time to check in with Larry "Fishman" Finch, a well-known northern pompano slayer from Jacksonville.

We've fished together on numerous occasions, and we are very true to the info we share. He's been fishing Fernandina and catching whiting and a few barely keeper pumps. No sign of those first big two-to-four pounders, which are the forerunners of our usual migratory start. The normal human would concur it was time just to wait and listen, but NO, I got in the truck and ventured to North Carolina!

I visited my friend, Tommy Farmer, the U.S. casting champion for 2011, and picked up his exclusive Carolina Cast Pro graphite surf rods for my retail business. I also was fortunate enough to receive an afternoon seminar on off-the-ground casting methods. Now it was time to survey the beaches. Tommy, a prolific red drum angler, well understands the formula that triggers the pompano migration. What he offered was pretty much what I expected to hear, but it was somewhat troubling nonetheless.

The locals had just started catching pumps this week, and the ocean temps were still around 80 degrees. Two things ignite the fish to start tripping south. One is the arrival of 65 to 68 degree water from a bombardment of cold Nor'easters and, thus far, this hasn't begun. Second, the internal fish clocks will move them when we approach winter and the days get shorter. These obstacles are supposedly cyclical, but I have my own opinions.

The facts are that what we call Florida pompano were caught as far north as Long Island, the Jersey Shore, and Virginia Beach this summer! By the way I didn't realize that these more northern pompano are also described as Florida Pompano. Now that my first safari was over, I started the 750-mile drive back to the warm tropics of Jupiter.

While passing the extreme outskirts of Hatteras, I called Ryan White, the owner of Hatteras Jack Tackle Shop, which is within a couple hundred yards of the beach. He offered that they were nabbing big silvers and there are plenty of them. He was in tune with this late start and knew I wasn't delighted.

I've heard that we will have a colder winter than last year, so this is good news. We also have a good pompano population that have stuck around all summer in 70 to 90 ft. of water. I have caught two, 1 lb. pumps during the fringe tropical depressions that occurred this July and August. There are numerous newborn and 9 to 10 inch fish in our surf when the water is presentable. These fish were raised in our rivers



**Rich
Vidulich**
*Pompano
Reporter*

and have been driven out by the huge fresh water intrusion provided by the Lake O dumping.

When the salinity in our ICW drops really low numerous species go out our inlets and we catch yellow underbelly stained young pompano. The problem is our ocean is dismal in appearance and the fish have sought cleaner and deeper water. This unclean water extends intermittently strong from Delray Beach to Jacksonville. Polluted waters have to clean up before we see some blues and mackerel in the surf. This exact scenario played out last year and the pump bite started at the Lake Worth Pier where the brown water curled in at Sloan's Curve and some of us stayed glued to finding a good ocean to fish in. This was Nov. 10 last year, and the pumps and mackerel ran parallel outside many miles of brackish seas to hit shoreline at the first available blue water area. Five days later that school bit big time at the Angling Pier in Ft. Lauderdale.

It's going to take some vicious weather to move the Northern colder waters into our region, but it will happen. Perhaps with Tropical Storm Sandy changing our weather patterns with steady northeast winds and big swells, we will start the transition we need. I'd like to be able to predict the fishing future, but weather patterns are so erratic that it's difficult.

I'll keep you posted, and I look forward to some positive work by Mother Nature and the Army Corps closing the flow of fresh water. ■

Rich Vidulich, a commercial fisherman, lives in Jupiter and fishes the beaches of the Treasure Coast. Send your comments/questions to fishing@hscurrents.com.



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(The winner does not need to be present.)

Should less than 1,500 tickets be sold, the drawing will be a 50/50.
All proceeds will benefit local Rotary charities.
Tickets are available at the Hobe Sound Chamber of Commerce
monthly breakfasts; from Ameriprise Financial on Kanner Highway;
from Coldwell Banker on US 1; Mr. Mailbox in Hobe Sound's
Marketplace Plaza or the Seabranh ShipCenter on Fed. Hwy.



Rich Vidulich has an unexpected reunion with a fellow surf fisherman at the Florida Sportsman Show recently at the South Florida Fairgrounds. "Watch out POMPANO, we're BACK!"

A Hobe Sound Halloween Celebration!

After a rain-soaked week, the sun shone brilliantly on Saturday evening, Oct. 27, for the Hobe Sound Community Presbyterian Church's Third Annual Halloween Trunk or Treat.

"The idea is to give children throughout the entire community an opportunity for fun and fellowship in a safe setting," says Pati Higginbotham, the Christian education director for the church.

Church members decorate the trunks of their cars in either a fall or Halloween theme, then line a parking lot, trunks open, waiting for costumed little ones to help themselves to a treat.

"I've got healthy treats," said Pastor Chip Falcone to the line of youngsters waiting next to the trunk of his car. "I've got pretzels. I'm sure you don't want those, but the car next to me has some good treats I know you'll want!"

Other churches in the area also host "trunk or treat" events as an alternative to neighborhood trick or treating.

Higginbotham takes the event one....or two....steps further by organizing games, such as pumpkin bowling and sponge throw that offer prizes like glow-in-the-dark bracelets or coloring books. The Teen Group also devised activities that were especially popular, including a mildly scary "fun house", eating donuts with no hands (trying to, anyway) hanging on a string, and face painting. Each year, more children and their families attend, since the event is open to the public, as well as to church members.

"Yes, it's a lot of work and a lot of planning," says Higginbotham, "but the more the merrier, and it is so much fun!"



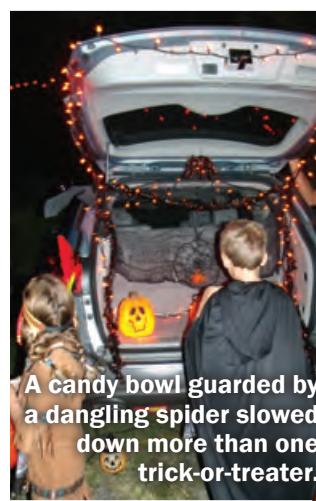
Some trunks were spookier than others.



Jennifer Kinsberg, 8



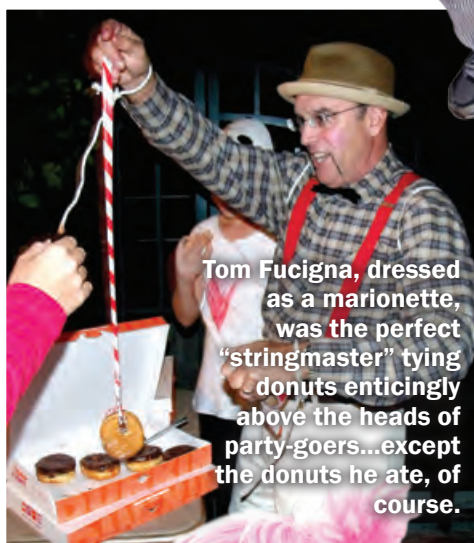
Looks easy, but getting that first bite of donut is hard.



A candy bowl guarded by a dangling spider slowed down more than one trick-or-treater.



Kyle Beavers, 6



Tom Fucigna, dressed as a marionette, was the perfect "stringmaster" tying donuts enticingly above the heads of party-goers...except the donuts he ate, of course.

Jen Meher won the "Best Halloween Trunk" award with her fortune-telling booth.



Ingrid Wanez, 10



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THE APOLLO SCHOOL -- The public's first look at the inside of the partially restored Apollo School in Hobe Sound came early in October as part of the Martin County Historic Preservation Month celebration. Much work, including new windows, has been completed, but much more remains to be done, according to Kathy Spurgeon, head of the Apollo School Foundation. Volunteers Miriam Holt, left, and Mary Cox spent the day greeting guests who stopped by to get a glimpse of the past.