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the Real Housewives
OF HOLLYWOOD | PG 5

gazette

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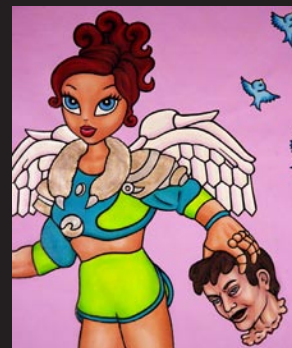
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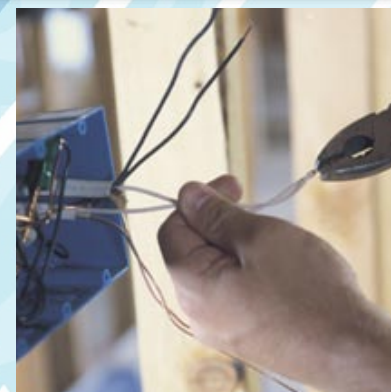
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Real Housewives of Hollywood

EDITED BY BRETT DALY | PHOTOS BY COURTNEY ORTIZ

UNLIKE THE REALITY TV STARS ON BRAVO'S POP SENSATION 'THE REAL HOUSEWIVES' SERIES, THESE WOMEN HAVE NO TIME FOR DRAMA. Instead, they are active role models for their children, shaping the future of Hollywood with their influence and involvement.

Hollywood Gazette caught up with the following leading ladies, nominated last month by our readers. Meet the 'Real Housewives of Hollywood.'

Christine Utter



What do you love about living in Hollywood? I was born in Memorial Regional Hospital and raised my whole life in Hollywood. One of the most important things I love about living in Hollywood is my family lives in Hollywood, and I get to see them almost every day. I have some wonderful friends who I get an opportunity to enjoy some of Hollywood's best activities with like riding my bike along the Broadwalk, spinning at Memorial Gym, bouncing in the bounce house at the ArtsPark and enjoying the beautiful weather.

Tell us a little about your family life. My family life consists of not only being married to my husband, Patrick, but also working with Patrick. We own



and operate two restaurants, Shenanigans Sports Pub and Shenanigans Eastside Pub. The restaurant business isn't a job; it's a lifestyle. Sometimes from early in the morning to late in the evening, almost every aspect of what I do in the course of my day centers around running the restaurants while I juggle a super active 3-year-old son, Matthew.

Tell us about your professional life, and what are your career plans for the future? My professional life, pretty much, is going to stay on a constant course of taking advantage of every opportunity presented my way. I really feel I have a strong calling in the restaurant business. In addition, my family has always been involved in real estate. I also own rental apartments, and I am a licensed real estate agent. In these tough economic times, I feel whatever you are doing in your professional life, just try to do the best you can.

Are you involved in any nonprofit work in the community? Being a business owner, I have had a rewarding opportunity during the course of this year having sponsored and served more than 600 hotdogs at my son's school, First Presbyterian School, at the Fall Fest. I attended and donated all the wine for the Little Flower Church carnival fundraiser. Other nonprofit work I do includes hosting car washes for South Broward High School and Boy Scouts fundraisers, as well as participating and sponsoring many Walks for the Cure, Races for the Cure and Relays for Life. I enjoy participating in not only 5Ks and half-marathons but also fundraisers that have charitable causes. Also, I hosted

the Annual Hollywood Police Athletic League Cigar Night at Shenanigans Eastside Pub on April 28. Besides donating numerous gift certificates and food to charitable causes, some of the most rewarding moments are when either a cancer survivor or a beautiful girl celebrating her 16th birthday requests to have Shenanigans food delivered to the Joe DiMaggio Cancer Institute.

What advice can you offer women juggling careers, raising a family and volunteering in your community? How do you stay sane? Always keep in mind that your family and children are your No. 1 priority. My husband and son, while they do not have the opportunity to participate in the fundraisers, always make a point of coming to show their support. Having an active family and working is probably one of the toughest challenges that any woman can meet. My advice is to try to stay focused on the fact that we are blessed with having children and a family. I find that exercising helps me stay sane.

What do you think needs improvement in Hollywood, and what, if anything, are you doing to improve it? One of the most important things that needs improvement in Hollywood is the US1 corridor. From the airport to our beautiful ArtsPark in Downtown Hollywood, it is the first impression out-of-town guests and tourists see of Hollywood. It is in desperate need of revitalization. Many structures are either abandoned or in horrible condition. My husband and I bought specifically on the US1 corridor and over the last three years have taken two rundown restaurants and

established an excellent place for families and friends to enjoy. I was rewarded on my birthday with receiving an "A" in the Sun-Sentinel Food Section.

What is your family's favorite leisure activity in Hollywood? Our favorite family leisure activity is riding our bikes to Hollywood Beach and on the Broadwalk, swimming in the ocean and spending quiet moments at home where we get the opportunity to cook together, sip on a nice bottle of wine and be thankful that we live in such a beautiful community.

Sue Ann Scharon



What do you love about living in Hollywood? I relocated to Hollywood after living in Alaska, and I have lived here for more than 24 years. I love the fact that this community has a family-friendly atmosphere blended perfectly with an urban touch. The melting pot of cultural diversity provides such an amazing influence, and I find this City to be unique as not so many communities have a beach with a beautiful 7-mile Broadwalk and charming Downtown area.

Tell us a little about your family life. I live in West Hollywood with my significant other, Michael, of 10 years. We have a son together, Jordan, who is 3 years old. My son is my world and has brought me such joy! I know it's a cliché when mothers say that life would be

MONTHLY FEATURE

baby of the month



Emma

Emma Nicole was born on Jan. 10 to proud parents Violet Nikolici and Kenneth Lowrey. Emma has been a true gift and blessing in her parents' lives.

WANT YOUR BABY TO BE "BABY THE MONTH"?

E-mail a hi-res photo plus the name of the parents and your baby's special traits to brett@hollywoodgazette.com.

MONTHLY FEATURE

pet of the month



Mia

Patrick and Michelle Collins adopted Mia after Michelle's brother rescued her from the side of the highway in January 2010. Mia loves to play chase and can even play soccer with a small ball. She is very loving, and she loves to cuddle.

DO YOU WANT YOUR PET TO BE "PET OF THE MONTH"?

E-mail a hi-res photo with the following information:

- Name (owners/parents);
- Pet (breed and name);
- Age & Gender; and
- Special traits & talents

to brett@hollywoodgazette.com.

nothing without their children, but I am a true believer in that statement. My greatest accomplishment is giving life to such an amazing person. He has such a personality that truly fills my heart with love and peace. What can I say... he's my little prince.

Tell us about your professional life, and what are your career plans for the future? I am the communications director for the Greater Hollywood Chamber of Commerce. My responsibilities include anything from website content management to media relations to graphic design. I do it all! I am always looking to progress in my professional career, and I feel with all the new changes in my industry, there is a great need to stay ahead of the curve. With that in mind, education is key; therefore, I am always open to learning. Whether it is going back to school for my master's degree or taking a couple technical courses or attending educational seminars, keeping up with this fast-paced industry will ensure me a successful career and future.

Are you involved in any nonprofit work in the community?

Of course! I currently serve as secretary on the Greater Hollywood Junior Chamber's (Hollywood Jaycees) Board of Directors. I selected this organization because we are all a group of like-minded, young professionals who are equally committed to our careers and to community philanthropy. I find that volunteering with the Jaycees has shown me the importance of giving back to our neighbors in need. We take on meaningful community projects that help support this City but have also incorporated professional development into our program of work all while having fun, too.

What advice can you offer women juggling careers, raising a family and volunteering in your community? How do you stay sane?

Simple: time management! Don't over-extend yourself, prioritize what it most important to you and find the courage to say "no" sometimes. If you are looking to take on a career and volunteer work AND raise a family, it is also imperative that you form a great support system at work and home.

What do you think needs improvement in Hollywood, and what, if anything, are you doing to improve it? Everything and everyone is a work in progress. Rather than focus on areas that need improvement, let's praise the recent work that has been done in our community. I feel that this City of ours is on a STRONG path of progress. For example, I am very excited to see the funding for the 441

Corridor in place and that the City has put in efforts to beautify our area with projects like the new Beverly Park Community Center in West Hollywood to Charnow Park on the Beach. Also, with all the new businesses opening in the Downtown area and the NSU Oceanography ground breaking on Hollywood Beach, we are changing the perception to people that Hollywood IS the place to do business. As a member of the Greater Hollywood Chamber team and as a resident of Hollywood, I help support all these positive initiatives that will better our community and fuel our local economy.

What is your family's favorite leisure activity in Hollywood? I enjoy taking my son to our local parks, soaking up the sun on Hollywood Beach or just relaxing at home with family and friends.

Erin Scissors



What do you love about living in Hollywood? I have lived in Hollywood for 10 years. I love the friends I have met and the sense of community we share. I also love the fact that we are central; it's easy to get to Miami or Palm Beach quickly.

Tell us a little about your family life. I have been married to Bruce for eight years this May 10. We have two fantastic daughters: Avery (4 1/2) and Logan Grace (3 on May 23). We love to spend quality time with friends at our house – lots of kids, cooking and parties. You can always find my girlfriends and me in my kitchen baking before any holiday.

Tell us about your professional life, and what are your career plans for the future? My professional life has endured big changes over the past

couple of years. However, this has enabled me to spend more time with my family and kids and focus on the important things. I also seized the opportunity to explore new ventures; I started a small event planning company, and I teach fitness classes.

Are you involved in any nonprofit work in the community?

Philanthropy has always been one of my greatest passions. I had no idea how much help that people need in all different capacities and walks of life until I first joined the Junior League when I still lived in San Francisco. I realized that I wanted to help people aside from really enjoying helping people. However, with my two young girls, I am not as involved as I used to be. I spent 11 years in the Junior League of Ft. Lauderdale, was on the board of Kids in Distress and was VP of the Young Professional's group for the Ft. Lauderdale Museum of Art. Last October, I put together a race team for the Miami Susan G. Komen race for the cure, and I am looking forward to growing our team every year and raising money to find a cure for breast cancer. I would like to get more involved to raise money for all cancer research. We have all been touched by someone with cancer. It's becoming too many people.

In addition, I volunteer at my daughter's school whenever I can. I have always felt that children should be our most important focus. The smallest gesture can change the life of a child. I would also like to join the Hollywood Women's Club, so look out for me next year! I feel that it's important to be involved in the community in which you live.

What advice can you offer women juggling careers, raising a family and volunteering in your community? How do you stay sane? You CAN do it all! Remember to focus on the important things, and the rest will fall into place.

What do you think needs improvement in Hollywood, and what, if anything, are you doing to improve it? Speed bumps! There are so many children in Hollywood, and we live on a 'cut through' street that is infested with speeders; especially during commute hours. We have been fighting the City for years but have faced a losing battle. We just seem to keep getting a lot more palm trees on our neighborhood streets.

What is your family's favorite leisure activity in Hollywood? The beach! It doesn't get much better than that. We are lucky to have this beautiful Beach and Boardwalk. We also love Eppleman Park!

Jennifer Davis



What do you love about living in Hollywood? My family moved to east Hollywood in August 2001 from west Pembroke Pines, and I've never looked back. The "Bestest" things I love about living in Hollywood are the Mom and Pop businesses in Downtown and on the Beach. I also love the fact that the owners are always approachable and accommodating. The deep-rooted residents of Hollywood are extremely passionate about our beautiful City, and that is why I ♥ Hollywood.

Tell us a little about your family life. I am married for 19 years to Richard Davis Jr., E.A. who has his business in Downtown Hollywood (R S Davis Financial Group). This is both our second marriage, and although we have no children together, we raised our five children together. They are all adults now; Dr. Minca Davis-Brantley, Howard Carter, III, Chanaw (Cici) Davis, Christopher Carter and Julian Davis. And last but not least, the love of our life now, our new granddaughter, Liv Julia Brantley, who is 3 months new.

Tell us about your professional life and what are your career plans for the future? I am an Executive Assistant to the president, senior vice president and corporate council of one of the largest mechanical contractors in the United States. It is a great company, and I have been a part of the team for 16 years now and looking forward to the future.

Are you involved in any nonprofit work in the community? I am the current President of the Hollywood Women's Club. I am the Chair of the Patient Family Advisory Council at Memorial Regional Hospital. I joined the Hollywood Women's Club (HWC) back in 2006. I would often jog by the

charming clubhouse and wonder what goes on inside there; a friend of mine who does facials in Hollywood (again the beauty of living in Hollywood) invited me to an evening meeting. I went a few times and signed up to become a member because I was at a point in my life in which I wanted to get involved in the community. Shortly after becoming a member, one of my sons was in a near-fatal car accident and spent a few months in Memorial Regional Hospital. After his recovery, I emphatically knew I wanted AND I had to give back to this amazing hospital, the nurses and doctors who give their all and to the one nurse who on my son's bleakest day did not even take a bathroom break during her seven-hour shift. By mid-summer 2006, I was being interviewed by the Director of Patient Family Centered-Care at MRH as to my commitment to joining the advisory council – my commitment has been full speed ahead ever since. Simultaneously, I started going back to the HWC meetings, and by 2007, I was nominated and elected as the Corresponding Secretary of which I served two terms in this position.

Serving as the current President of the Hollywood Women's Club, but more importantly being a member of the HWC, is quite fulfilling in many ways. For example, membership entitles us to be a part of a grand scale of community service projects through the General Federation of Women's Club (an international organization). Membership allows us the opportunity to work closely with local organizations, such as Kids in Distress, Women in Distress, Broward Outreach Center and so many more. Last but not least, membership for me personally has allowed me to often be in the audience of some of the most amazing women in Hollywood who are truly the Salt of our beautiful City.

To date, I have been elected Chair of the Patient Family Advisory Council for two consecutive terms. Serving as the Chair of Memorial Regional Hospital's Patient/Family Advisory Council is beyond rewarding on many levels. On the highest level possible, I am content knowing that I am committed to representing the concerns of the patient and the family to the Hospital Administration. One of the most fulfilling events was working many hours with a small group of council members to obtain funding and to open up the hospital's Resource Center. The Resource Center is completely run by volunteers, and it is one of the very few adult hospitals across the country. Currently, we are diligently working to provide cost-effective, long-term medical lodging for out-of-town pediatric heart transplant patients and adult cardiac and cancer patients. The work is daunting – the benefits are exponential!

What advice can you offer women juggling careers, raising a family and

volunteering in your community? How do you stay sane? To women who are raising families and juggling careers, my advice to you is to always focus on the most important things in your life. For most, it is generally family and career is second, but often our actions are the opposite. Don't beat yourself up about it because each day allows us the opportunity to change and move forward. I've learned through the years to be true to myself no matter how painful, and my personal note to self is, "I am not superwoman." Conversely, though, I believe that women are the catalyst to family, community, feeding the hungry, caring for the needy and nursing the wounded. For example, the founding women of the Women's Club started the first public library in Hollywood and orchestrated connecting telephone lines from Dade County into Broward County. This is the power of volunteering and it starts in our own community, and remember that our children learn from our actions.

What do you think needs improvement in Hollywood, and what, if anything, are you doing to improve it? There are just two "simple" improvements I think are necessary for Hollywood. First, is for Downtown Hollywood (including the often forgotten Harrison Street) to become bustling with viable shops and to become the place to be seen. Secondly, a major face-lift and cleanup of Federal Highway from Young Circle to Dania Beach. I am very supportive and a member of a new group in Hollywood called the "New Image Task Force" whose goal is to improve, restore and make Hollywood safe. Another entity that's been around a while improving Hollywood and whose efforts I support is the Hollywood Lakes Civic Association. There is much to get involved in Hollywood to improve our City.

What is your family's favorite leisure activity in Hollywood? Dining out in our amazing restaurants.

Maureen Freshman

What do you love about living in Hollywood? I have lived in the heart of Hollywood for nearly seven years. More than anything, I love the small-town feel of the City. It is the kind of place where "everyone knows your name."

Tell us a little about your family life. My husband, Hobie, and I have just celebrated our 11th anniversary. The loves of our lives are Hannah, 9; Jacob, 7; and Rachel, 5.

Tell us about your professional life, and what are your career plans for the future? I am a Doctor of Chiropractic, practicing here in the heart

of Hollywood for the past 13 years. I run a family practice, focusing on helping the community live a healthy, drug-free and balanced lifestyle. As far as the future, we plan on continuing to grow the practices (three) through grass roots education and example.

Are you involved in any nonprofit work in the community? My family loves sports. I sponsor, on average, three baseball teams per season, as well as volunteer as a full-time coach. I love helping the young players learn how to be confident in not only sports but also in life.

I am also involved with our local temple (Beth el) and volunteer at my children's public school, Hollywood Central.

What advice can you offer women juggling careers, raising a family and volunteering in your community? How do you stay sane? Balance. A healthy marriage can make all other aspects of life easier. We exercise, work and even party together. We involve the kids at work and play, yet have at least one private date a week. Be involved. Be supportive. Be spiritual.

What do you think needs improvement in Hollywood, and what, if anything, are you doing to improve it? I am one of the few residents who unfortunately feel that the public school system is here for the residents. I could never understand why the City built multiple schools (edifices) instead of financially supporting the schools we already have. My kids love the public school system, and we wish the City showed a little more support. We are donating time and money to helping renovate Hollywood Central.

What is your family's favorite leisure activity in Hollywood? Three activities: spending a Saturday playing baseball at Rotary Park, boating and having pizza on the Hollywood Beach Broadwalk. 🌊



Chaminade students create portraits for orphans

BY BRETT DALY | ASSOCIATE EDITOR
brett@hollywoodgazette.com

Three Chaminade-Madonna College Preparatory art students used their skills with a paint brush to create colorful self-portrait keepsakes for orphaned children in India and Thailand, spending hours of their time to help less fortunate children around the world.

Seniors Raheem Roberson and Chelsea Longworth and junior Nick Moncy participated in The Memory Project, an international initiative in which art students create portraits for children around the world who have been orphaned, abandoned, neglected or disadvantaged. The goal of the portraits is to provide the children with a special memory of their youth, to honor their heritage and identity, and to help them build a positive self-image, according to the organization's website.

"I think The Memory Project was an amazing idea," said Moncy, who painted portraits of a little girl from India and a little boy from Thailand. "The Memory Project opened my eyes and my heart. If I or you were in the position of one of the orphaned children, we would definitely need the

love and care kids can't live without. Knowing this, it is imperative that we reach out to those in need because they are our own flesh and blood. Everyone deserves love, safety and happiness."

Chaminade-Madonna art teacher Angela Canosa assigned the students the assignment for the second consecutive year because she said the project follows the school's mission of helping students become caring participants and leaders in the service of community, church and those in need. Both Moncy and Longworth participated in the project last year as well.

"I think it's great to help the community, and using the talents of these students showcases their artwork for a good cause," Canosa said. "It was a very rewarding project."

Ben Schumaker, a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, created The Memory Project in 2004 after volunteering at an orphanage in Guatemala. He explained that he, as well as the kids at the orphanage, didn't have many personal keepsakes to contribute to his sense of self-identity, and from this, Schumaker envisioned that having portraits made by art

students would be a way to connect American youth with kids from other countries in a meaningful exchange of caring. And since the inception of The Memory Project, art students from the USA, UK and Canada have created more than 30,000 portraits for children around the world.

This year, The Memory Project selected several orphanages in India and Thailand (last year was Uganda) and mailed digital photos of each child to the Chaminade-Madonna art class. The students then created painted replicas of the digital photos. Once the students completed the portraits, The Memory Project distributed them to the orphans. The Chaminade-Madonna students received photographs of the orphans holding their self-portraits as a thank you for their hard work. In addition, the organization sent them a video link, so they could see the children's live reactions.

"I was amazed and I felt good to see the boy I painted very excited holding the portrait I created," said Roberson, who participated in the project for the first time this year. "It made me want to visit him and help him."



An orphan living in India receives a self-portrait created by Chaminade-Madonna junior art student Nick Moncy through The Memory Project. Photo courtesy The Memory Project.

"One of the adults told me that in India only rich and famous people have portraits of themselves and that the kids never would have imagined having their own," he said in a letter to the students after delivering the portraits. "You made it happen for them."

For more information about The Memory Project, visit www.thememoryproject.org.

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Win 90 days of free food and fitness training



BY CARON CONWAY
LEAD CORRESPONDENT
caron@hollywoodgazette.com

One lucky Hollywood resident will embark on the journey to a complete body transformation by the end of summer as the winner of a contest that promotes the benefits of healthy eating habits and a fitness regimen.

Muscle Maker Makeover, a joint venture between two Hollywood businesses, is open to local men and women who are in need of shedding at least 50 pounds. The winner will receive 90 days of complimentary meals at Muscle Maker Grill, home of "Great Food with Your Health in Mind," and 90 days of semiprivate fitness training at Synergize! Home of CrossFit 954, a health-and-fitness studio specializing in body-fat reduction and weight management.



Tony Torres, owner of Hollywood Muscle Maker Grill.

Contest participants must submit an entry form (below), personal essay and at least one full-length photo by Friday, May 27. The winner will be chosen based on the individual's desire and commitment to a complete body transformation and will be announced during a free seminar at Synergize!, 1200 N. Federal Hwy., on Saturday, June 4.

The event will be catered by Muscle Maker Grill and will feature an educational and motivational seminar conducted by restaurant franchise owner Tony Torres, a personal trainer and professional chef, and Synergize! president Shondelle Solomon-Miles, a personal trainer, author and renowned fitness guru. All contest participants will benefit from free tips and online tools to use at home, as well as a discount offer for small group fitness training classes at Synergize! Home of CrossFit 954.

Muscle Maker Makeover emphasizes what Torres calls "the magic recipe" for achieving a leaner, more toned and healthier physique: a combination of smart eating habits and fitness training.

Dieting without exercising will produce cellulite on a thin frame because of the lack of muscle tone, while working out without eating



Tony Torres will treat the winner of Muscle Maker Makeover to complimentary breakfast, lunch and dinner for 90 days. "It's the time that's needed for a successful transformation to occur, and I'm willing to do that to change somebody's life," he said.

properly results in body fat covering definition. "They have to be combined," said Torres, who took over Muscle Maker Grill at 5071 Sheridan St. with business partner Adrian Cruz at the beginning of April and had been the restaurant's manager since it opened last September.

The Bronx native studied at the New York Restaurant School while working as the fitness manager at the New York Sports Club in Manhattan. He's been involved in fitness for 21 years and has competed as an amateur body builder.

Before making the move to South Florida eight months ago, Torres started his career with Muscle Maker Grill in New York, where he was drawn to the company's focus on "food that doesn't taste like you're eating healthy."

A healthy alternative to fast food

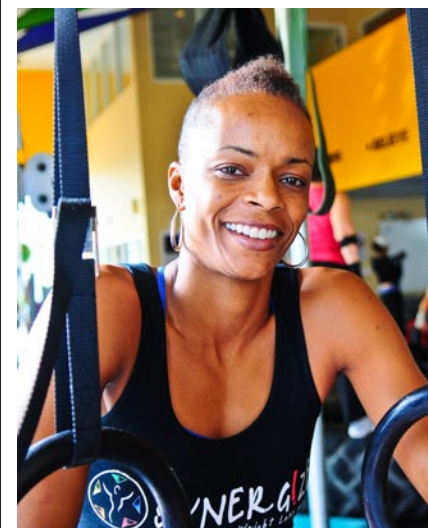
restaurants, the Muscle Maker Grill menu offers a variety of delicious and nutritious options, including freshly prepared Italian and Tex-Mex wraps, pastas, Asian entrées, salads, burgers, signature sandwiches, vegetarian selections and protein shakes —each with an accompanying calorie count and without the unwanted fats, oils and carbohydrates that traditional fast food

eateries are known for. Torres will treat the winner of Muscle Maker Makeover to complimentary breakfast, lunch and dinner for 90 days.

"It's the time that's needed for a successful transformation to occur, and I'm willing to do that to change somebody's life," he said.

Solomon-Miles agrees that to effect a significant change in one's body composition, regular exercise and a proper diet must go hand in hand. "It's really the only way to approach it and expect permanent results," she said.

Contest entry packets must be dropped off at Muscle Maker Grill, 5071 Sheridan St., by Friday, May 27. Front, back and side photos should be taken in minimal attire, such as a bathing suit or sports bra and shorts. Muscle Maker Grill is open from 11



Shondelle Solomon-Miles, personal trainer and owner of Synergize! home of CrossFit 954.

a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

For additional information, call 954-962-2226 or visit www.musclemakergrill.com.

Synergize! Home of CrossFit 954 offers semiprivate training, group exercise classes and nutrition coaching. The CrossFit program at Synergize! encompasses all fitness levels and features exercises like pushups, sit-ups, squats, walking, running, rowing and jumping rope, and utilizes equipment that includes barbells, medicine balls and kettlebells.

For more information, call 954-924-4465 or visit www.SynergizeWeightLoss.com.

MUSCLE MAKER MAKEOVER CONTEST ENTRY FORM

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

Contest entry packets must be dropped off at Muscle Maker Grill, 5071 Sheridan St., by Friday, May 27. Contest participants must submit this form attached to a personal essay explaining why they should be selected and at least one full-length photo. Contest winner will be announced at Synergize!, 1200 N. Federal Highway, on Saturday, June 4. See article above for contest details.



LOCAL BUSINESS PROFILE

Pampering awaits you at Touch of Grace Spa

BY JENNIFER SANDOMIR | MANAGING EDITOR
jennifer@hollywoodgazette.com

If you are looking to pamper yourself this Mother's Day or to give a special gift your mom will love, I am impressed with and recommend Touch of Grace Salon and Spa.

It's one of those places in Hollywood that you've probably driven by a thousand times, never knowing the gem that it is.

I started visiting Touch of Grace because the manicurist Debora Turnball now offers the new Shellac manicure, and I wanted to transition from gels to something more natural. Because I don't have time to visit a salon frequently, I need a manicure that lasts.

I'll start with Debora and the Shellac manicure. The first time I went, she patiently and gently removed my old gels without using power tools! It was a long procedure but well worth it.

I was a little skeptical that any special "Shellac" polish could stand up to the strength of gels, but after weeks of my first Shellac manicure, I was pleasantly surprised. There was NOT ONE CHIP, and the only thing that gave away the age of my mani was my



The Touch of Grace staff is friendly and professional.



While the interior is not huge, the spaces are impeccably clean and every detail is attended to.

nail beds. My nails are now strong and healthy again. I'm hooked on the Shellac and tell all of my good girlfriends to try them.

While I am at the salon, I can't help but notice that it is impeccable.

In fact, on my first visit, a health inspector popped in unexpectedly and the spa passed the inspection on the spot. I love a small business that is run with great care and appreciate it even more when the staff is friendly and the prices are reasonable.

The Shellac manicure is only \$25. Much less than the pink and white "gels" I was a slave to every three weeks. I put gels in quotes because what I thought were gels, Debora explained, were actually acrylics. Just so you know - if you think you are getting gels and your salon is using powder, you are actually getting acrylics and being charged for gels.

If you're a man and you've read this far, I'm sorry if I've lost you, but there is something for you at Touch of Grace as well.

Now I know this is a very sensitive subject, so I will try to put it delicately. From what I understand, if you are starting to loose your hair or enjoy the



You would never guess there was a serene and tranquil spa in this strip mall off Hollywood Boulevard.

use of, let's say, a 'supplemental hair enhancement', one of the stylists at Touch of Grace, Jeff Haettich, is a magician specializing in achieving a very natural-looking result. He also does women's hair.

If you already have a great salon you love, then supplement your pampering regimen with a therapeutic massage. Salon owner Jackie Collazos is a licensed massage therapist and specializes in Bamboo massage. I hear it is amazing.

They offer every other traditional and many specialty spa services as well, from facials to waxing. Touch of Grace Spa, located at 4531 Hollywood Blvd., is worth a visit...or two or three. Check out the menu of services online at www.touchofgracespa.com or book an appointment by calling 954-894-3528. 🌿

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Amp up your business with free workshops

ACCION USA Loan Counseling

May 10 and May 24 from 1 to 5 p.m.
Hollywood Branch Library
2600 Hollywood Blvd.

The City of Hollywood has partnered with ACCION USA to meet with Hollywood business owners about their capital needs and to accept loan applications from business owners who meet its program criteria. Consultation is FREE. To schedule an appointment, call 786-556-9640.

Search Engine

Optimization Workshop

May 10 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Hollywood Branch Library
2600 Hollywood Blvd.

On May 10, the City will host a FREE workshop entitled "Search Engine Optimization." Learn how a website can benefit from a search engine optimization process. For additional information or to register, call the Office of Business and International Trade at 954-921-3388.

2nd Annual Regional Small Business Conference and Boot Camp

May 19 from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Anne Kolb Nature Center
751 Sheridan St.

The City partnered with the Cities of Hallandale Beach, Pembroke Pines, Miramar, Dania Beach Community Redevelopment Agency, Dania Beach Chamber of Commerce and others to help businesses access capital and other resources to sustain and grow their companies. For additional information or to register, call the Business and International Trade at 954-921-3388.

One-on-One Business Counseling

May 24 and May 25
from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Hollywood Branch Library
2600 Hollywood Blvd.

The City is sponsoring FREE one-on-one business counseling sessions with a business consultant to promote business success. All current and potential Hollywood business owners are encouraged to take advantage of the free sessions. Call 954-703-7976 to register. ALL SESSIONS ARE FREE.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON PRICING YOUR HOME TO SELL!

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The vast majority of homes expiring unsold today are a result of unrealistic pricing due to poor advice from agents. The problem with this often extends to the next agent, who must overcome the obvious "shopworn" result of the home being on the market for an extended period. Most often this results in the home selling for less than it would have, had the home been properly listed at the start. **"Cindy Abraham and the A team work with you to get your home SOLD!"**

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For information 954 921-3500 www.hollywoodfl.org/artspark

Calendar of EVENTS

What's HOT in Hollywood & Around South Florida

MAY

The Color Purple May 10

MAY 1



GREYSON CHANCE
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 Culture Room
 3045 N Federal Hwy, Fort
 Lauderdale
 954-564-1074

A CELEBRATION OF DANCE AND MOTION
 NU AGE Gymnastics & Dance's elegant rhythmic gymnastists perform breathtaking aerial silks routines, demonstrations of strength in acrobatics, tumbling and



stunting Ballare in a true celebration of life in motion.
Broward Center for the Performing Arts
 201 SW 5th Ave, Fort Lauderdale, 8:30 PM
 954-462-0222

WINNIE THE POOH
 Join Christopher, and his best friend Pooh, and the whole animal crew for a delightful, eye-opening adventure.
Broward Center for the Performing Arts
 201 SW 5th Ave, Fort Lauderdale, 8:30 pm
 954-462-0222

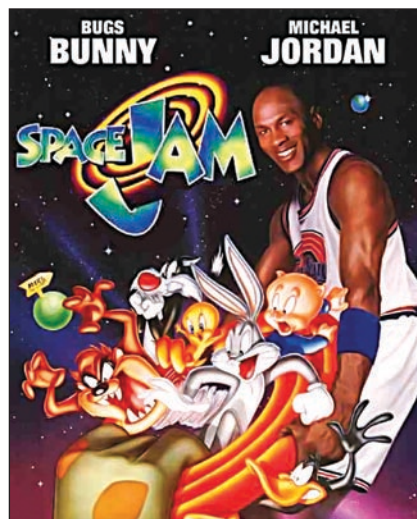
MAY 2
WWE RAW!
 LIVE IN MIAMI!
 AmericanAirlines Arena
 601 Biscayne Blvd, Miami
 786-777-1250

MAY 3
WAYNE L
 Family Fun Show
Hollywood Beach Theater
 Johnson St. & Beach
 954-921-3474

MAY 4
MEET ME AT THE MUSEUM
 A new social event offering a cheese and wine tasting, live music and a tour of the exhibitions. \$15
Boca Museum of Art
 501 Plaza Real, Boca Raton
 In Mizner Park
 561-392-2500

MAY 5
CELEBRATION OF LIBERATION
 A Remembrance of the Occupation. Free.
Holocaust Education Center
 2031 Harrison Street,
 Hollywood
 954.929.5690 x202g

MAY 6
DOCKTOR KABOOM!
 An amazing educational tour of the modern scientific method, using humor and comedy while demonstrating spectacular applications of the physical sciences.
Aventura Arts & Cultural Center
 3385 NE 188th St, Aventura
 305-466-8002



ARTSPARK MOVIE NIGHT
 Space Jam. Free.
ArtsPark
 Hollywood Blvd. & US 1
 954-921-3500

MAY 7
MARLINS SUPER SATURDAY.
 Featuring a post-game performance T-Pain And Jay Sean. First pitch versus the Washington Nationals is set for 7:10 pm
Sun Life Stadium
 2267 Dan Marino Blvd., Miami

MAY 8
MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH
 Treat Mom to an unlimited brunch buffet at the Flamingo Pond. Advanced Purchase Required. \$36
Flamingo Gardens
 3750 S Flamingo Road, Davie
 954-473-2955

MAY 10
THE COLOR PURPLE
 A soul-stirring musical based on the classic Pulitzer Prize-winning novel by Alice Walker and the moving film by Steven Spielberg, THE COLOR PURPLE is an unforgettable and inspiring story.
The Kravis Center
 701 Okeechobee Boulevard
 West Palm Beach
 800-KRAVIS-1

MAY 11
CREEDENCE CLEARWATER REVISITED
 Stu Cook and Doug "Cosmo" may not have intended it, but their band Creedence Clearwater Revisited has taken on a startling life of its own. The Rock and Roll Hall of Famer's from the legendary group Creedence Clearwater Revival launched the Creedence Clearwater Revisited project in 1995 to once again perform live Creedence Clearwater Revival hits to a new generation.
Hard Rock Live
 1 Seminole Way, Hollywood
 954-797-5531

Continued Next Page

Calendar Of EVENTS

MAY 12 CHAMINADE-MADONNA SPRING CONCERT

An evening of song and dance including performances by the choir, jazz and percussion ensembles, and the symphonic band
500 E. Chaminade Drive,
Hollywood, 7 pm
954-989-5150 x134

MAY 13 INTERNATIONAL BALLET CONCERT

Arts Ballet Theatre hosts dance groups from Denmark, Germany, Poland, Peru, Mexico and the US performing Contemporary Dance, Folkloric Dances and Classical Ballet.
Aventura Arts & Cultural Center
3385 NE 188th St, Aventura
305-466-8002

MAY 15



A FLAMENCO JOURNEY THROUGH LIFE

A spectacular presentation that introduces the audience, through dance, poetry, archetypes, and music, to the wide range of intimate emotions of the cycle of life and nature itself.
Broward Center for the Performing Arts
201 SW 5th Ave, Fort Lauderdale, 8:30 PM

MAY 16 NAT KAYE

Music for Dancing
Hollywood Beach Theater
Johnson St. & Beach
954-921-3474

MAY 17 TRAVIS BRIDGES

Sax Solo
Hollywood Beach Theater
Johnson St. & Beach
954-921-3474

MAY 19



BILL COSBY

Bill Cosby live in concert.
Hard Rock Live
1 Seminole Way, Hollywood
954-797-5531

MAY 21 ART WALK

Enjoy an enchanted evening strolling Downtown Hollywood's quaint, tree-lined sidewalks while being serenaded by the sounds of a jazz saxophone, or the soft strings of a violin or harp. See artist painting in the street and visit the art galleries.
Downtown Hollywood
7 to 10 pm
954-924-2980

JACKSON BROWNE

Broward Center for the Performing Arts
201 SW 5th Ave, Fort Lauderdale
954-462-0222

MAY 22 HISTIOCYTOSIS 5K WALK

To raise funds and awareness in the fight against histiocytic disorders. All registered walkers will receive an event t-shirt and refreshments. Complete at your own pace. Adults \$20, 8 am.
3601 N. Ocean Dr., Hollywood
954-309-5593

MARTIAL ARTS SPECTACULAR



Moti Horenstein's Mixed Martial Arts presents Black Belt Spectacular showcasing the best martial arts styles from around the world.
Aventura Arts & Cultural Center
3385 NE 188th St, Aventura
305-466-8002

MAY 23 BOWERY BOYS

Popular Dance Music
Hollywood Beach Theater
Johnson St. & Beach
954-921-3474

MAY 25 SUNDOWN

Hollywood Beach Theater
Johnson St. & Beach
954-921-3474

MAY 27 TO RUSSIA WITH LOVE

Classical ballet theatre that tells the story of a courageous woman who became queen and risked everything to save her people.
The Eissey Campus Theatre
11051 Campus Drive
Palm Beach Gardens
561-207-5900

MAY 28 MEMORIAL DAY BEACH PARTY

Celebrate this Memorial Day weekend at the City of Fort Lauderdale's 2nd Annual Great American Beach Party. Live bands, art shows, outdoor movie. Free.
Fort Lauderdale Beach,
A1A and Las Olas Blvd.
954-828-5363



BILL MAHER

He has set the boundaries of where funny, political talk can go on American television. Maher's combination of unflinching honesty and big laughs have garnered him 22 Emmy nominations.
The Kravis Center
701 Okeechobee Boulevard
West Palm Beach
800-KRAVIS-1

MAY 29 MASTERS OF TANGO

Directly from Argentina. Sensual Tango Dance & music transports you on a tour of "Tango."
Aventura Arts & Cultural Center
3385 NE 188th St, Aventura
305-466-8002

MAY 31 TOM NEELY

Country Solo
Hollywood Beach Theater
Johnson St. & Beach
954-921-3474

Community Redevelopment Agency updates residents on Hollywood Beach projects

BY DAVID UDOFF
CORRESPONDENT

At a community forum last month, new Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Director Jorge Camejo gave a detailed presentation of several ongoing beach projects of particular interest to Hollywood residents, including the Margaritaville project, parking and traffic congestion, and the beautification of the City. In addition, Mayor Peter Bober also updated residents on the Mirador Motel Property.

Sponsored by the Hollywood Beach Civic Association, hardly a vacant chair was available at this well-attended forum that took place at the Hollywood Beach Cultural Center with a lively question and answer session that followed.

Camejo addressed the anticipated Margaritaville Hotel and Resort, a 349-room hotel complete with pools, restaurants, entertainment and a new parking garage. The hotel is expected to be a LEED Silver green building designation, and the structure will span from A1A to the Broadwalk between Johnson and Michigan Streets. Margaritaville developer Lon Tabatchnick, who was present at the meeting, said construction will begin March 2012. Camejo said an

objective of the CRA is the continued investment in capital improvements encouraging economic development. With Margaritaville being built, Camejo believes the willingness of foreign investors to invest in new projects and in real estate will dramatically transform the area and have a "ripple effect" on Hollywood Beach.

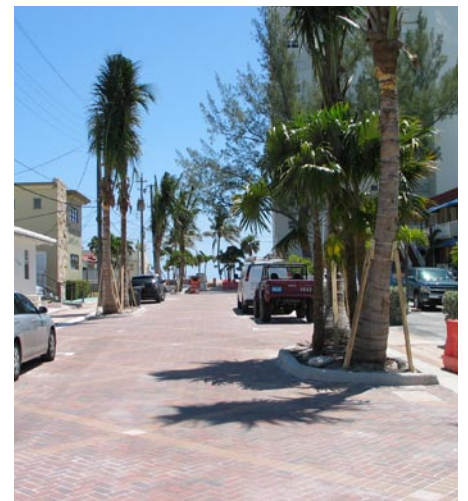
Camejo singled out the historic Hollywood Beach Resort as a specific landmark that has tremendous potential.

"This structure is an under-realized value," he said. "The Mayor and Commissioners have identified the building as a priority for investment. The future appears bright for the Beach community. We are targeting specific industries for tourism and cruise lines. Hollywood Beach is rock solid, and in 10 years from now, we'll look back and say I remember when."

The CRA wants to ensure the Beach accommodates residents while also preserving the value for future investors. Camejo said they need to find a balance between the natural coastline, historical preservation and redevelopment. Another matter discussed was parking and traffic congestion. Camejo said no other parking facilities are planned besides the garage for the Margaritaville Resort.



CRA Director Jorge Camejo addresses Hollywood residents about upcoming and ongoing beach developments at a community forum last month.



The City has started the beautification process of Hollywood Beach streets. Shown here are improvements to Taylor Street.

"At the midpoint along A1A, the Hollywood Beach Resort parking garage is not utilized," he said. "We are working with the property owner to create more signage in order to let the public know this is a parking facility."

The audience also saw details of street-end beautification. The idea is to streamline and eliminate the urban clutter, thus making the streets congruent with the overall feel of the newly renovated Broadwalk.

The City has completed placing street brick pavers and creative mosaic installations on some street ends, and they are replacing lighting poles with ones sensitive to the sea turtle nesting on the Broadwalk.

"The first phase is being completed between Cleveland and Grant Streets," Camejo said. "The next phase is undergrounding of utilities and streetscape beautification from Minnesota to Tyler Streets between A1A to the Broadwalk."

Another purpose of the CRA is to get rid of slum and blight, Camejo said. Although Mayor Peter Bober was hesitant to speak in detail regarding the Mirador Motel Property adjacent to the Summit Condominium because the City is currently in litigation with the owner of the property, he didn't appear to admire the motel building.

A quick rundown of the Mirador Motel Property: The original zoning code stated the developer could build up to 150 feet high. However, in 2004, the Commissioners voted to change the property zoning specifying that a building could not be built higher than 65 feet. As a result, the owner of the property became frustrated, felt misled and sued the City.



Camejo believes the Hollywood Beach Resort shown here has a lot of potential to draw investors to Hollywood Beach.

"We are currently working on a plan that will call for the demolition of the building," Mayor Bober said. "Our City Attorney is working on an agreement with the owner, and we are in the process of how to resolve this litigation as soon as possible that is fair and reasonable and get the best deal we can. I feel we have a terrible case. We took someone's value and diminished it."

The public forum reaffirmed the commitment from Mayor Peter Bober, Hollywood Commissioners and Camejo that the aesthetic appeal of Hollywood Beach is an enormous resource for residents, tourism and business.

Do you have questions about the future development of Hollywood's Downtown and Beach? E-mail them to brett@hollywoodgazette.com and your answers may appear in next month's issue.

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Free "How to Afford Assisted Living" seminar May 16


The Classic Residence of Hollywood will host a free educational seminar on Monday, May 16, so Hollywood residents can learn how they can afford assisted living.

The seminar, which takes place at 2480 N. Park Road, will address how residents can get the most from their long-term care policy and will teach them about how government programs help pay for independent and assisted living, as well as how the right banking and financial planning tools can help them afford to move now. Local attorneys, bankers, social workers and financial

advisers will also answer questions.

"The benefit of this seminar is that people will learn that assisted living is really more affordable than they think," said Laura Hoffman, the community relations manager for Classic Residence. "They will find the hidden treasures of getting the most out of their long-term care policy. It's an educational experience."

The event takes place from 6 to 8 p.m. and includes refreshments, door prizes and giveaways.

To reserve a space, call 954-364-4772. 



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Just West of Douglas Road
954-438-8222

Stirling Memorial Chapel
6970 Stirling Rd.
Davie/Hollywood/Cooper City
Across from The Ark Restaurant
Just West of The Hard Rock Casino
954-893-5311

Hollywood Hills Memorial Chapel
4529 Hollywood Blvd.
NE Corner at 46th Ave.
One Light West of
The Presidential Circle
954-989-9112 or 954-454-6464

Mother's Day Dining Picks



MARTY FOYER
RESTAURANT
/ FOOD CRITIC

Food for Thought
(Tell Me Where Shall I Go.)

All around the town, restaurants will be busy on Mother's Day – make no mistake, I mean very busy. Let me get right to the point. This is a special day for a super special lady...MOM.

Starting off the day with breakfast in bed could be fun, but taking it to the next level would be brunch with family and or friends and a couple good choices would be **The Diplomat Hotel** located at 3555 S. Ocean Drive (954-602-6000) or the Marriott Hotel located at 2501 N. Ocean Drive (954-924-2202). Both are on Hollywood Beach and both are very proven successes. **The Ark Restaurant** always has a Sunday buffet and has one of the largest selections of items to choose from in town at 6255 Stirling Road in Davie (954-584-3075). I'm sure some of the local Country Clubs are doing a Mother's Day brunch, as well.

Let the day continue and turn into twilight. The selections of restaurants continues...China Hollywood for a light dinner or a seven-course meal (pass the plates) and they are wonderful... located at 3605 Hollywood Blvd. (954-966-9600).

The Greek Joint. It's small. It's good, real good, and it packs a wallop. If you're in the mood for Greek, call and make a reservation (954-929-9966). It's located at 2003 Harrison St. Also, owner Jimmy the Greek just partnered up and opened a new restaurant three months ago at 1925 Hollywood Blvd. called The Big Easy. It's a taste of New Orleans and a touch of America, and on weekends, you can sing the Blues – blues band every weekend (954-924-3006).

And with the next restaurants, you just can't go wrong either:

Café Martorano's East Location: 3343 E. Oakland Park Blvd. in Ft. Lauderdale (954-561-2554). **Café Martorano's West Location:** 5751 Seminole Way in Hollywood at the Hard Rock (954-584-4450). Point of information: Steve Martorano is a self-taught Italian cook with fabulous and unique recipes. Steve Martorano Rocks the nights away and so does all his establishments (bravo).

J. Alexander's Restaurant: 8550 W. Broward Blvd. in Plantation (954-916-8841). It has great Prime Ribs and please stay away from the carrot cake (it's addictive).

Tommy's Italian Restaurant: 4777 S. University Dr. in Davie (954 680-0113). The restaurant has excellent signature dish value and always a wine special. Tommy is always right on target with pricing his menu.

Thai House II: 2250 NE 163rd St. in North Miami (305-940-6075). My favorite Thai food in Florida.

Shenanigans East: 1300 S. Federal Highway in Dania (954-923-3008) or West: 3303 W. Sheridan St. in Hollywood (954-981-9702). It's Barbecue St. Louis Ribs at their best and a fun time for all to have. Pat and Christine: Job well done.

Liguori's Fired Up: 5810 S. University Drive in Davie (954-434-2378). With signature dishes like the White Clam Pizza (a meal by itself) and the Chicken Wing Scarpariello (wow), it is as good as it gets. The Zuppa D' Mussels is a must.

Casa D'Angelo: 1201 N. Federal Highway in Ft. Lauderdale (954-564-1234). Fine dining with a flair of class and excellence.

New York Prime: 2350 N.W. Executive Center Drive in Boca Raton (561-998-3881). The best U.S.D.A. Prime Beef served in Florida. As good as Seymour Kaye's Steak House in New York City. Peter Luger Steak House is No. 1 and still rules.

Joe's Stone Crab: 11 Washington Ave. in Miami Beach (305-673-0365) is the best of the very best in restaurants since 1913 and my favorite overall restaurant in the entire country. This is one restaurant everyone has to try at least once.

Mimi's Ravioli: 5714 Johnson St. in Hollywood (954-983-3711). If mom isn't feeling well on that special day – or any day – shop here; it's a great little Italian Market, and almost everything is made with love. (I love this place.)

Here's To Good Food...Here's To Good Friends...Here's To Good Times and Happy Mother's Day. 🍷

Marty Foyer can be reached at diningadventures@aol.com.

HOLLYWOOD BEACH

Learn healthy living habits during a tropical retreat

BY BRETT DALY | brett@hollywoodgazette.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

For residents or tourists looking for the motivation they need to start living a healthier lifestyle, the Desoto Oceanview Inn on Hollywood Beach will offer one-week Healthy Living Retreats beginning Saturday, May 14 and running through Dec. 15.

Each week, the program will feature a whole body curriculum that offers a mix of learning and hands-on participation designed to challenge and to inspire guests to accomplish healthy habits. Teacher and nutritional Chef Eddie Grosman will immerse guests daily in the selection, preparation and serving of vegetarian, vegan and vegan-raw foods, and Tai Chi and yoga instructors will lead guided meditations to challenge the body.

"I believe you can teach people to eat healthy," said Steve Welsh, manager at the Oceanview Inn. "This program is really designed to change everything a person does on a regular basis. It's a lifestyle change."

The inspiration for the program, Welsh said, came from owner Gary Isaacson, who committed himself to living a healthy lifestyle. He and his wife, Laurie, along with Welsh, committed themselves to creating a beachside destination that would delight and stir the senses and ultimately, creating a place that promoted health and nutrition. When Gary passed away from cancer almost two years ago, Welsh saw the opportunity to bring Gary's passion



for healthy living and his dream into fruition.

"We've always envisioned Hollywood Beach as a healthy beach," Welsh said, adding that Hollywood Beach needs an identity that will draw people to it, hoping this could be the theme it needs. "I see this program as a culmination of everything Gary wanted. It really has been a long-term dream of ours."

Welsh said the "Hollywood retreat with a twist" will also include trips to local farmers markets like Josh's Organic Market on the Beach and Whole Foods in Hallandale. Guests will also be introduced to skin-care products to repair and condition the body, as well as kitchen and dining feng shui. And although the program contains a variety of activities and events with no two days being the same, it will also include down time for guests to enjoy and explore the community.

"Give a man a fish; feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish; feed him for a lifetime," Welsh said, citing Lao Tzu. The quote helped inspire the program. "This combination of classes and hands-on living experience at the Desoto Oceanview Inn, with no

distractions, will prepare guests to continue using what they've learned once they get home. Healthy living will become second nature to each guest."

The program costs \$1,995 for couples and \$1,595 for one person. Guests only need to bring clothes, Welsh said.

For more information, call the Oceanview Inn at 954-923-7210 or visit them at www.thedesoto.com.

Cooking demonstrations are available on the Inn's Facebook page. 🍷



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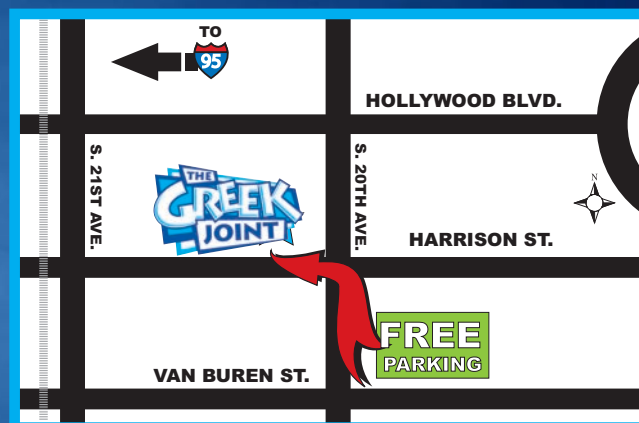
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Letter from the Publisher



Jennifer Sandomir
Publisher

Hello Hollywood!
One of my favorite things to do this past month has been to read the feedback from our annual reader survey. Specifically, the last optional question which is, "Is there anything else you would like for

us to know?"

First, I thank all of you who gave accolades and who acknowledged our efforts. We are a very small staff and work very hard to produce this publication, so on behalf of the Hollywood Gazette team, I am moved by the outpouring of your

appreciation.

On the other hand, I wanted to address some of the concerns many respondents gave, and I want you to know we are listening.

Many of you want to see more hard-hitting, in-depth, community "watchdog" journalism. For the past 10 years, our editorial formula has always been very pro-Hollywood. For some of you, it may seem that we are not providing both sides of the municipal stories and the assumption has even been made that we are funded by the City. That is not the case.

Our pro-Hollywood news angle justification is:

If you're looking for controversial news, there is no shortage of media that do a really great job at providing that to you. We aim to showcase what's great about our community and the people who make a difference. And because we are a monthly publication, any controversial or breaking news stories are old news or resolved by the time we go to press. Our editorial must have a minimum 30 day shelf life.

That being said, I want you to know I hear your request, and while we will maintain our pro-Hollywood formula and continue to cover all things good, we will also make an effort to deliver more "substance" editorially.

If you have a story idea or a letter to the editor, we encourage you to submit it to our editor Brett Daly at brett@hollywoodgazette.com.

If you do not receive the paper and would like to, you can sign up online at www.hollywoodgazette.com.

And if you enjoy reading this publication, I urge you to take our annual reader survey online at www.hollywoodgazette.com/survey. I personally read each and every response.

Your anonymous answers and feedback allow us to continue to grow and serve the community.

Thank you for a decade of loyal readership. 🌟

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City honors Nativity Catholic School Track Team

The City of Hollywood recognized the Nativity Catholic School Track Team during the April 6 City Commission meeting for its first place finish at the All Broward Catholic Conference Track & Field Championship hosted by St. Thomas Aquinas High School on Feb. 26.

At the Championship, the team competed in three field events and seven running events, which included short sprints, mile races and two relays, and track coach Candace Ligotti said the Nativity community is very proud of the team's accomplishments.

"The team trained extremely well," she said. "They were motivated from the beginning and took each practice very seriously. Many athletes went above and beyond, training independently. We were impressed by the dedication and level of respect put forth by all. They deserved the win."

The team consists of about 30 athletes who compete, but unlike other middle school sports, anyone can train



with the team at practices, bringing the total number to about 70 participants. Ligotti said that no one gets cut and the ones who do not compete at competitions act as the best sideline supporters for their teammates and train to get better for the next year.

"We have been blessed with young talent, dedication and enthusiasm for many years," said Ligotti, who added that the Nativity Track Team has placed first in either the Boys Division, Girls Division or Overall for the past seven years. "Every year, we are proud to say that we gave 100 percent and can hold our heads high knowing we worked hard for our accomplishments."

For more information about Nativity Catholic School, visit www.nativityknights.com.

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- U17 – 6/3 @ 7:00 PM

- U9 – 6/4 @ 9:30 AM
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Hollywood band gains momentum, recognition in South Florida

BY CARON CONWAY | LEAD CORRESPONDENT
caron@hollywoodgazette.com

Many children who take up a musical instrument fantasize, as they hone their skills in the school band, about someday playing for crowds of fans as a professional musician. For one group of talented Hollywood men, that dream has become a reality.

Formed about a year and a half ago by longtime friends, Behind The Houses is an original surf rock and funk band inspired by the beaches they grew up on and named for their favorite surf spot off Hollywood Beach at Franklin Street. The five members of Behind The Houses, who range in age from their mid-20s to 33, even include a Hollywood Beach lifeguard. All but one member have day jobs.

By night, Behind The Houses plays at hotspots throughout South Florida, including DP's Beach Bar, Mickey Byrne's Irish Pub & Restaurant and Shenanigans Sports Pub in Hollywood and Tobacco Road in Miami. As the Official Tailgate Band of the Miami Dolphins, they've performed for thousands of people at home games. Wherever they play, they attract a loyal following of music lovers who appreciate the band's unique sound and repertoire of catchy original tunes, including fan favorite "Hollywood," which alludes to the "dead presidents" for which many local streets are named.

"We play pretty much every weekend, and we bring a crowd with



IT'S ALL ABOUT THE FANS: DP's Bar of Hollywood Beach (200 N. Broadwalk) is one of the band's personal favorite places to play, the locals know them and love them.

us," said sax player Josh Bishop, whose "real" job is as the band director at Nova High School in Davie since 2008. "It's not every day that you get an original band that plays that often."

At 33, Bishop is the oldest member of Behind The Houses and the only one who's married with children. Many of the group's ties go back to their band days at Olsen Middle School in Dania Beach and South Broward High in Hollywood.

After graduation, Pete Thompson, the band's rhythm guitarist, lead vocalist and songwriter, became a lifeguard on his familiar Hollywood Beach, where on rainy days he would write a few songs.

When Thompson and Jason Ellison, a boat refurbisher by day and the band's drummer by night, became roommates in 2007, the two would always jam after

work. The idea for the band began to take shape when their old friend Dan Bishop, Josh's younger brother, started joining them on bass when he wasn't busy working in the plumbing trade with his father. Nowadays, Dan Bishop, 29, works for an architectural firm that designs bridges.

His brother Josh caught one of the band's shows on Hollywood Beach in early 2010. "I saw them play and thought it was great," he recalled. "There was just one thing that was missing."

And so, Bishop and his saxophone joined the band. The newest member of Behind The Houses is lead guitarist Daniel Infante, 25, formerly part of a duo that would open for the band. Another product of the Olsen Middle music program, Infante also was in a punk rock band with Ellison in high school. Through the years, Infante has

BEHIND THE HOUSES CONT. ON PG 35

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HOLLYWOOD BEACH



It's a Shore Thing

BY BOB LIEBERMAN | bob@hollywoodgazette.com

Circa 1920. Step back in time to a mosquito-infested, hot and humid patch of mangrove wetland and a white sand barrier island covered with sea grapes, sea oats and other native sea grasses. Along comes an enterprising man with a dream to build a tropical resort city for the northerners to escape their harsh winters.

This writer was once told that one in a thousand people have vision and that one in a million have peripheral vision...then there was Joseph W. Young. Today, his dream city has become a reality, a thriving metropolis and that barrier island, our home, is now Hollywood Beach.

Twenty-first century Hollywood reflects much of Mr. Young's original Master Plan. Hollywood is truly Forever (Joseph) Young.

More than 140,000 have put down their roots here. Millions come to vacation on our beautiful beach. Why Hollywood? What brings the people here? Are we truly unique? I have met wonderful people from all walks of life, and I hear over and over again that Hollywood is where they want to beach.

Hollywood is truly like nowhere else.

For example, on Mother's Day, Vinnie and the Beachcombers



Did Ponce de Leon pass by the real fountain? Funny, our new water feature at Charnow Park is always filled with children.

will dedicate their entire show at Charnow Park to all generations of moms. Many restaurants will prepare a special Mother's Day meal, a festive Old World recipe for the entire mishpocha (family).

We also found something else that's special on the beach. The Hollywood Beach Community Center hosts a FREE diabetic support group every Tuesday. Dr. Michael Albisser is a renowned research scientist with more than 125 published articles. He led the team that created the first artificial pancreas, and his proprietary system miraculously predicts the correct treatment for those challenged with this disease. Professor Albisser has changed my life. He is a nice man with a talent to teach.

The Beach also features another unique event this month: Footvolley, a sport that combines aspects from both volleyball and soccer. It has gained popularity over the last several years and the combination sport will come to the sands of Hollywood Beach **May 14 to 15**, so if you're in the mood to watch something different, check it out. And maybe take it up as an exercise to keep forever young.

In the Roaring 20's, Hollywood was heralded as "the healthiest city by the sea." Back then, the press was quoting our very own Mr. (forever) Young.

May you always feel like we feel each May on Hollywood Beach. How lucky are we to have found peace and tranquility, forever and always. 🌊

Former CEO of Matchbox, Bob Lieberman, consults with professionals to help grow their businesses. He has traveled to 103 countries and has called Hollywood Beach home for five years. He is the founder of Bikes 4 Kids and an active member of the City of Hollywood Green Team Advisory board. A former lifeguard, Lieberman can be found regularly patrolling the Broadwalk and protecting Hollywood Beach.



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COMMUNITY NEWS

Local farmers market gives small businesses a place to grow

BY BRETT DALY | brett@hollywoodgazette.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Since its long-awaited opening last October, the Yellow Green Farmers Market has attracted local produce vendors and crafty entrepreneurs selling products ranging from leather apparel made from alligator skin to lucky bamboo plants. But, despite the initial hoopla generated in its first weeks open to the public, the market now also sports over 100 empty booths — a problem General Manager Mark Menagh doesn't really see as an issue.

"People see the empty booths and think we're not meeting some goal," said Menagh, who became the general manager two months ago. "Filling 350 booths would be nice, but that's not the goal right now. Our goal is to give the community an opportunity to develop businesses."

The 100,000-square-foot facility currently has 220 booths rented out, which Menagh said gives the vendors an opportunity to develop their brand and their consumer base without too much competition from similar vendors. For example, the farmers market has five produce vendors, which some residents have commented as not enough, but Menagh said the market has seen an



increase in the number of produce sold over the last couple months. If the market had more, he said, many vendors would not survive.

Instead, Menagh and his team are focusing on bringing in diversity and high-quality vendors to attract repeat consumers among locals for produce and meats and to draw in tourists with the arts and crafts vendors.

"We don't consider ourselves a flea market, but we do have a variety of products," Menagh said. "First and foremost we are a farmers market, but we need to attract tourists, as well as locals."

The market, located at 1940 N. 40th Road, includes booths filled with paintings by local artists, handmade jewelry, organic baby clothes, Asian teas, European pastries, empanadas and many other unique products. Hollywood resident Barbara Bolwell, manages

Bottle Creations, a business that makes decorative lamps out of old alcohol bottles. In addition, the market will soon add an all-organic produce vendor, which local residents have been wanting to see more of at the market.

"I love the Yellow Green Farmers Market," said Lynn Greenberg, who operates the Whimsy at Work booth at the market. She sells handmade jewelry she makes from clay and homemade paper. "The market is a new business, and people need to give us a chance. I'm going to stick it out because I believe in it."

Other vendors have the same attitude about the market, with Susie Cowen, an orchid vendor, saying that the Yellow Green Farmers Market couldn't be much more convenient for vendors. She said the rent is extremely reasonable at \$200 a month, and at the end of the day, she simply has to lock up her booth rather than

hauling all her plants home and setting up again the next day.

"It's such a happy place," she said. "The people who are here are great, and there are a lot of high-quality vendors coming here."

For first time visitors Kim and Larry Gonzales and their daughter, Jada-Skyy, the farmers market offers them a place to buy fresh, natural eggs — Lake Meadow Naturals, LLC, which sells cage-free, local chicken and duck eggs.

"The market is nice," said Larry Gonzales, who lives in Hollywood. "I'll definitely come back because they have great stuff."

General manager Menagh said the Yellow Green Farmers Market provides a sense of community because you shop with locals and you buy from locals. He said it's a great way to support the local economy by patronizing local businesses and entrepreneurs.

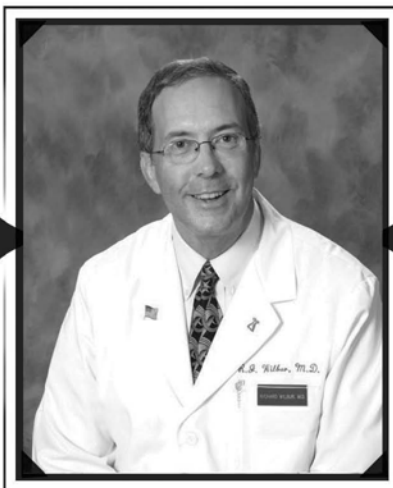
"We're a unique location," he said. "We are a community market. By shopping here, residents have the opportunity to create a unique venue in the community that can't be experienced anywhere else."

The Yellow Green Farmers Market is open year-round on Saturdays and Sundays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, visit www.ygfarmersmarket.com.

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Sixteenth Annual Hollywood's Expo Alfresco Considered Best Yet

On April 13, the Greater Hollywood Chamber of Commerce's Expo Alfresco – The Ultimate Food, Wine & Tradeshow Experience was nothing less than Hollywood's LARGEST outdoor food and wine festival and business expo.

Held at Hollywood's ArtsPark in Downtown Hollywood, the event drew in more than 3,000 attendees. Expo-

goers enjoyed samplings from more than 30 local restaurants, a wine tasting, a Kidz Korner for the little ones and live, continuous music with local band Classic Rock Therapy on the main stage.

Hollywood's Expo Alfresco also offered almost 100 local businesses the opportunity to promote their products or services to thousands of potential clients.

This event was sponsored by: Magic 102.7 FM; GFS Marketplace; the Hollywood Seminole Indian Casino; the City of Hollywood; The Miami Herald; South Florida Sun-Times; ArtsPark; InTown Publishing; Waste Pro; Palm Bay International; and Hollywood Discount Liquor & Wine.

Special thanks to A Great Place to

Sit; Muzart Kidz Konnection; Sidram Power, Inc.; Homelenders; BJ's; Spaten Beer; and Solfaradio.com for their continuous support.

For photos from this year's Expo event, visit www.hollywoodchamber.org/photo-galleries.



Anthony Rucerto of Memorial Regional Hospital Fitness and Rehab Center was among many businesses that showcased their products and services to more than 3,000 Expo-goers. The event featured more than 90 exhibitors and vendors.



The outdoor soiree's entertainment featured local band Classic Rock Therapy (CRT) rocking the main stage.



"I wanted to let you know immediately what a success [Expo Alfresco] was for me," said Chamber member Annie Sturman of Acupuncture Physician. "I loved my location and had lots of interested traffic. I would be willing to attend again next year in the same location! I am beyond pleased."



Left to right: Angela Velez-Stough and Shannon Stough of Benchmark Contracting, Inc. participated in this year's Hollywood's Expo Alfresco.



Left to right: Nilda Predraja and Kenny Rivera of Waste Pro were one of the proud sponsors of Hollywood's ultimate food, wine and tradeshow experience – Expo Alfresco.



Join the Hispanic Unity on May 10th from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Hyatt Bonaventure Resort & Spa in Weston, for the Entrepreneur Summit 2011. This event honors business owners who contribute to the economic vitality of South Florida. Take part in high-quality networking, small group consultations with experts and unique business workshops. For more information, please visit www.huf-entrepreneursummit.com.



The GHCC is currently accepting nominations for the 2011 Small Business Person of the Year. Please visit www.hollywoodchamber.org to download your form, or for more details, call 954.923.4000. Deadline to submit nominations is May 10th.

Hollywood Chamber set to host 15th Annual Teachers of the Year Luncheon

The Greater Hollywood Chamber of Commerce plays an active role in rewarding and acknowledging our educators and has done so for 15 years!

On **May 12**, the Chamber, along with sponsors The Miami Herald, Brightstar Credit Union and HEICO and other members of the business and educational community, will honor Hollywood's teachers at the 15th Annual Teachers of

the Year Luncheon.

The Luncheon will be held at Orangebrook Golf & Country Club (400 Entrada Drive in Hollywood).

Registration is \$25 per person and \$250 for a corporate table. To register, visit www.hollywoodchamber.org or call 954-923-4000.



MAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EVENTS

Thursday, May 12

15th Annual Teachers of the Year Luncheon

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Orangebrook Golf & Country Club
400 Entrada Drive

Speaker: Hollywood City Manager
Cameron Benson

Sponsored by: The Miami Herald,
Heico and Bright Star Credit Union
\$25 per person/\$250 table sponsor

Friday, May 13

Good Morning
Hollywood Breakfast
7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m.

Dave & Buster's of Hollywood
3000 Oakwood Blvd.

Speaker: George L. Hanbury II, Ph.D. –
Sixth President to be installed at Nova
Southeastern University

Sponsored by:



\$12 members/
\$20 future members

Tuesday, May 17

FREE Education Seminar: Google
AdWords Business Training
11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Greater Hollywood Chamber of
Commerce

330 N. Federal Highway

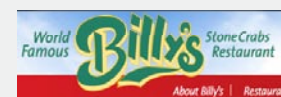
Facilitated by
Bill Gilliland of



FREE for members/\$25 future members
Limited Space. RSVP is required.

Friday, May 20

Sensational Service Awards Luncheon
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.



400 N. Ocean Drive
\$25 per person/\$300 table sponsor

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED
FOR ALL EVENTS!**
Call the Chamber at 954-923-4000
to register for all your Chamber
events or visit
www.hollywoodchamber.org
to RSVP online.

Hollywood Chamber's Project Pride Award goes to TD Bank



Hollywood TD Bank, located at 5171 Sheridan St., was announced as the winner of the Chamber's Project Pride Award for April 2011.

Traditionally, this award has been given to businesses that have improved the physical appearance of their property, contributing to the beautification of their neighborhood. TD Bank not only qualifies but also brings the additional benefit of leading

the way as an environmentally responsible business.

TD Bank is the largest U.S. based bank to achieve carbon neutral status, and the local branch is the first building in Hollywood to be built to achieve the second highest level (gold) of LEED certification.

For nominations, contact the Chamber at 954-923-4000 or e-mail sueann@hollywoodchamber.org.

CHAMBER MEMBER PROFILE: T-MOBILE HOLLYWOOD

The T-Mobile Hollywood Team is thrilled and honored to be a member of the Greater Hollywood Chamber of Commerce. Located at 3251 Hollywood Blvd, #290 in Hollywood, their location has been open for more than 10 years. The team is led by Denise Velez, Aren Escandon and Danny Asorey, who combined have more than 15 years of wireless and management experience.

Their mission is to connect with you and make the wireless shopping experience fun, easy and comfortable for everyone. When it comes to shopping for a new cell phone, whether you are a rookie or a novice expert, they have the experience, knowledge and desire to find the perfect solution for you.

With a new lineup of devices and the latest in the current tablet frenzy, items such as the recently launched



G Slate 4G tablet and the new 4G Sidekick has the T-Mobile Hollywood team excited and ready to help customers. They are also proud to announce the launch of the new small business phone plans that far exceed what their competitors offer and even include free Blackberry 9300 phones – the every business person's best friend.

As active Chamber members, they are looking forward to becoming more involved in community events and activities. As they say in T-mobile, the Hollywood Team knows how important it is to "Stick Together!"

For more information, call Denise, Aren or Danny at 954-893-9986 or visit www.t-mobile.com.

2nd Annual Regional Small Business Conference and Boot Camp set for May 19

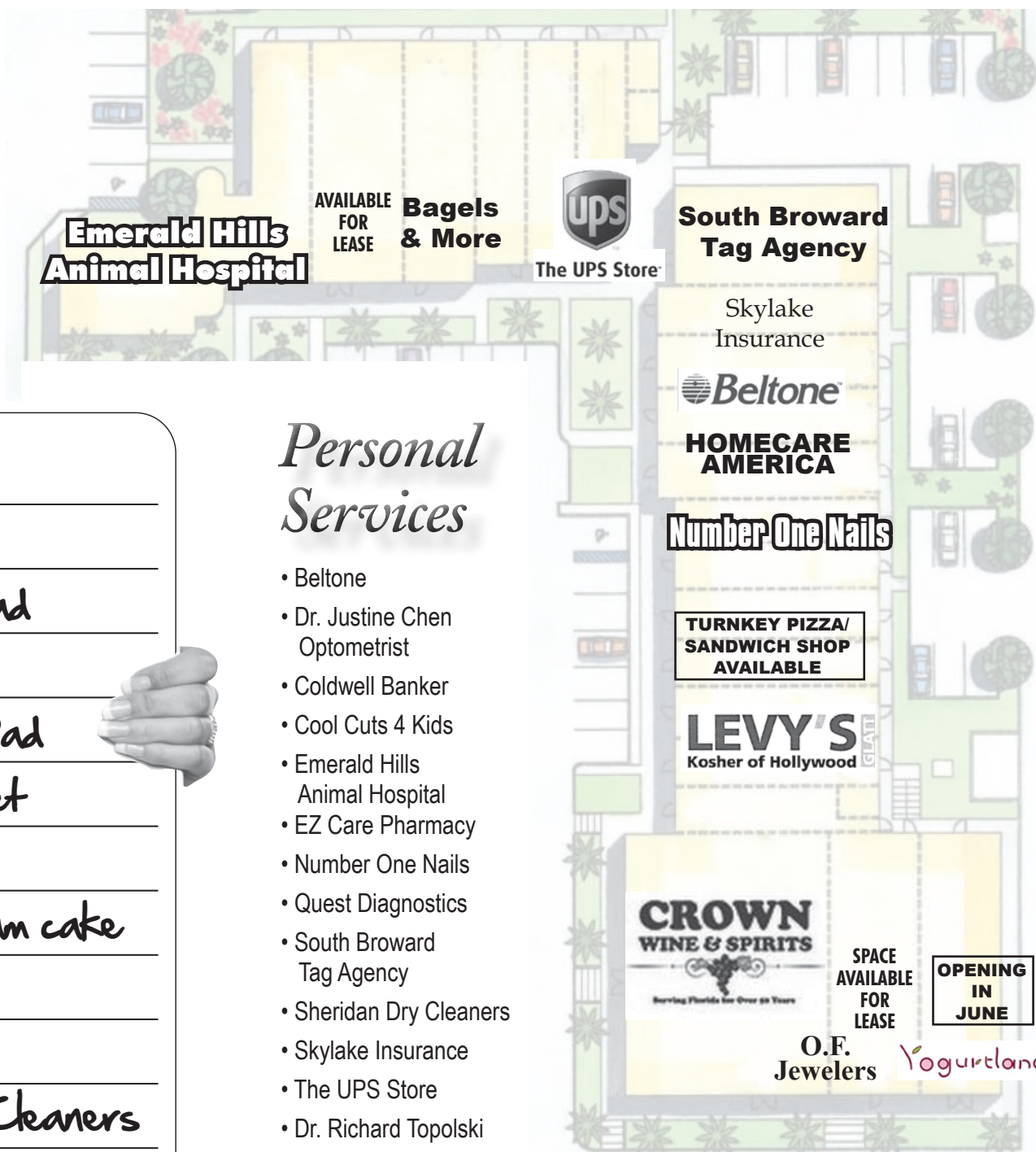
On **May 19 from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.**, the Cities of Hollywood, Dania Beach, Miramar, Hallandale Beach, Pembroke Pines, Broward County's Office of Economic and Small Business Development, The South Florida Regional Planning Council, The Hollywood and Dania Chambers of Commerce, Regions Bank and the Liberia Economic and Social Development, Inc. will host the Second Annual Regional Small Business Conference and Bootcamp.

More than 20 business bootcamp sessions will be held to provide information to sustain, grow and help business owners prepare for economic recovery. Participants will obtain information about:

- Enterprise Zone incentives and tax advantages
- How to qualify for business training grants
- How to get certified as a minority, small or disadvantaged business
- Web page design
- Marketing using social media (Twitter and Facebook)
- And much more.

The event is FREE and will take place at the Ann Kolb Nature Center (751 Sheridan St. in Hollywood) Seating is limited. To register, contact the City of Hollywood Office of Business & International Trade at 954-921-3388 no later than May 16.

Everything that I need



7:00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Coffee
8:00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bank Deposit
9:00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mail gift to dad
10:00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mani/Pedi
11:00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pick up new iPad
12:00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Take dog to vet
1:00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lunch w/mom
2:00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Order ice cream cake
3:00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Haircut
4:00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Renew tag
5:00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pick-up Dry Cleaners
6:00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Get wine & cheese

Personal Services

- Beltone
- Dr. Justine Chen Optometrist
- Coldwell Banker
- Cool Cuts 4 Kids
- Emerald Hills Animal Hospital
- EZ Care Pharmacy
- Number One Nails
- Quest Diagnostics
- South Broward Tag Agency
- Sheridan Dry Cleaners
- Skylake Insurance
- The UPS Store
- Dr. Richard Topolski
- Valley Bank
- Xanadu

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- Shop-N-Save

Dining

- Bagels & More
- D'Lites ice cream
- Hiro Maru Sushi
- Hunan Wok
- Levy's Kosher
- Shenanigans
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- Tijuana Flats

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1 Israelite tribe
- 4 Biblical giants
- 8 Universe (pref.)
- 12 Stitchbird
- 13 Synthetic rubber
- 14 Table scraps
- 15 Eg. god of pleasure
- 16 Tallow (2 words)
- 18 Madame Bovary
- 20 Commotion
- 21 Padded jacket under armor
- 25 Son of Zeus
- 29 Dish (2 words)
- 32 Ganda dialect
- 33 Agent (abbr.)
- 34 Indian sacred fig
- 36 "Blue Eagle"
- 37 Ravine
- 39 Immense
- 41 Swelling
- 43 State (Ger.)

DOWN

- 44 Medieval shield
- 46 Before (Lat.)
- 49 Culm (2 words)
- 55 Fiddler crab genus
- 56 Snake (pref.)
- 57 Unfledged bird
- 58 Centers for Disease Control (abbr.)
- 59 Love (Lat.)
- 60 Tooth (Lat.)
- 61 Exclamation

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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L	A	S	S	E	S	E	X	E	N	O

- 10 As written in music
- 11 Mountain standard time (abbr.)
- 17 Amer. Dental Assn. (abbr.)
- 19 Pointed (pref.)
- 22 End
- 23 Auricular
- 24 Rom. historian
- 26 Build
- 27 Irish sweetheart
- 28 Hall (Ger.)
- 29 Created
- 30 Old-fashioned oath
- 31 Beer ingredient
- 35 Afr. worm
- 38 Vomiting
- 40 Drain
- 42 Amer. Cancer Society (abbr.)
- 45 Habituated
- 47 Alternating current/direct current (abbr.)
- 48 Apiece
- 49 Tibetan gazelle
- 50 Revolutions per minute (abbr.)
- 51 Exclamation
- 52 Nautical chain
- 53 Belonging to (suf.)
- 54 Manuscripts (abbr.)

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A3

Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9.

4				2				
		2		7				
		5	4					1
1				9	5	4		7
	7		6			2		
							3	5
6				5				3
		3			2	1		4
		7			1			

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DIFFICULTY: ★★☆☆

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REAL ESTATE



"Ask the Pink Realtor"

Hollywood Real Estate Q&A

BY ROCHELLE LE CAVALIER | Rochelle@PinkRealtor.com

Have a question about the real estate market? Ask the Pink Realtor: E-mail Rochelle@PinkRealtor.com.

Dear Pink Realtor,

We are long-time residents of Hollywood and have been watching the real estate market closely since "the crash" in 2008. After watching the prices drop, it looks like things are picking up. We own our home and believe this is an excellent time to invest in real estate. We would like to buy soon but do not want to overpay. Is this "the bottom" we keep hearing about?

Sincerely,

Looking to Buy Low

Dear Buy Low,

The good news is that you don't need to buy at the absolute bottom to do well in real estate. As a matter of fact, experts in all forms of investment — real estate, stocks, commodities, currencies, funds, etc. — agree that even the savviest investors are highly unlikely to pinpoint the exact bottom. As long as you buy an investment well and manage it correctly, you will realize a good return.

With that said, the evidence is mounting that Broward County's housing market is in the early stages of recovery. Broward was one Florida's hottest housing markets in March, as sales and prices posted gains for the second consecutive month. Sales of existing homes reached 1,169 last month, up 8 percent from a year earlier, the Florida Realtors said last month.

And, Broward's median home price inched up 8 percent to \$175,400 from a year ago. Even sales of existing condominiums are on the rise. Broward's median condo price rose 1 percent. This is impressive given that they have been on a consistent downward tumble since 2008. This all points to a stabilizing housing market. If there ever were a time to buy, this would be it.

Important to note: While the housing market has become increasingly stable, the mortgage market has become more flexible. There are now financing options available for owner-occupants and investors alike that did not exist just one year ago.

Many bank-owned properties will only accept cash offers. With financing still difficult for many buyers, cash deals are driving sales. Naturally, competition for the best deals is fierce. In addition, the number of available homes in the Broward metro area fell by 12.45 percent in February from January, the largest decline in the nation, according to Move, Inc. Broward's inventory declined by about 2 percent in March. Inventory is especially low in stable communities where there was no new construction during the past three to five years. Still, analysts caution that a large supply of homes nearing foreclosure represents a formidable "shadow inventory." Banks eventually will

place those homes on the market, hurting prices of nearby properties.

The bottom line, Buy Low, is this: The market is showing signs of stability and potential recovery. Lenders are once again lending. Rent rates are up. This real estate market represents a historically unprecedented opportunity. There are excellent opportunities all around you. Do the proper due diligence and make your move.

Dear Pink Realtor,

I am shopping for my second home in Hollywood. The area is perfect for me, and I am finding very good deals for my dollar. The one thing I am not so sure about is the property taxes. My Realtor said it is easy — just 2 percent of the price. But, a friend of mine said that his condo tax is not 2 percent of what he paid. How do I know for sure?

Sincerely,

Curious Canadian,

Dear Canadian (no, folks, not a typo. This is "Canadian" in French), Bienvenue en Floride!

Your friend is correct. Property Taxes in Broward County are calculated based on a millage rate of 21.7 mills (or 2.17 percent) of the assessed value. The assessed value is calculated annually. This estimate does not include any non-ad valorem assessments/fees.

When you purchase your home, you will inherit the seller's exemption status for the current tax year. Review your closing statement, as the seller likely gave you a deduction for the seller's pro rata share of the current year taxes. Because of that, you will be responsible for payment of the entire tax when it arrives in November. Next year, your home will be reassessed based upon your purchase price (and the sale prices this year of other qualified market sales in your neighborhood). Finally, remember that you will need to file for a homestead exemption on the property for next year, as the seller's exemptions will automatically be removed at the end of this year.

The Broward County Property Appraiser has a great online tool to help you estimate your future tax in real time at <http://www.bcpa.net/TaxCalc.asp>.

LeCavalier serves as Fund Manager for SISCO Limited Partners, a private equity fund that rehabilitates foreclosed properties and rents them via affordable housing programs in Broward County, is a licensed Real Estate Agent, an Accredited Residential Manager (IREM, ARM) and a Certified Investor Agent Specialist (CIAS).

The importance of home inspections prior to purchasing a home



BY DAVID MULLANE

The term “Building Science” may sound academic, but this is something very practical that each of us uses almost

every day.

Simply put, Building Science is the knowledge of how and why houses, apartments and offices work. I will assume you already know that toilets have to flush and drains have to drain. Within a properly functioning building, air has to move, water has to run, electricity has to flow safely through its wiring and the building has to stand up on its own to keep you safe and dry.

Reporting on how all this works is the job of a Licensed Home Inspector. This must be done before a property is bought or sold to be effective. In too many cases, inexperienced buyers think they can save money by avoiding Building Professionals.

Today’s market consists of 50 percent of first-time buyers who soon realize there is more to this than meets the eye. Buyers look online (74 percent) to bargain hunt. Most of them (69 percent) fortunately end up with a broker. Most likely, as a buyer gets serious with this search, a good broker shows up somewhere along the pipeline and proves his or her value. That good broker should protect the buyer by insisting on a Professional Home Inspection.

Buyers and brokers still have to learn that “as-is” doesn’t exactly mean what it says. In the case of property foreclosed on by a financial institution, they will not want to learn that the air conditioning is broken or missing, that a drain field doesn’t drain or that a situation in the electric service could be dangerous or even deadly for a broker or buyer. In most cases, if properly presented, these faults will be corrected before the buyer can walk away. However, buyers are excited about “the American dream” of home ownership, and many brokers are afraid they may

anger the financial institution and lose the deal.

Here are two very recent scenarios: A buyer and a seller stood in the kitchen of a brand new townhouse. I was inspecting things as I have learned to do, and both parties complained when I attempted to run the dishwasher through a full cycle. The seller had just shown the buyer that the inside of the dishwasher was soaked with water droplets, and therefore, it must have just been run. They were annoyed that I may be wasting their time. Upon my inspection, I found that the dishwasher was not connected to the water or the electricity. The seller was naturally “puzzled” about how that could be. I injected a more interesting question when I asked him, “Where did the water drops come from?”

A more serious situation was one in which the backyard looked nice and green with a level yard for the buyer’s children to play. Upon closer inspection, however, I discovered the yard was only level because the caretaker must have used a “weed-

whacker” to make it level. While I walked around as I have learned to do, I noticed some ground area lower than the rest of the yard. The lawn was cut at different lengths to look level. We found that the septic tank and drain field had collapsed. The bank replaced it at no cost to the buyer.

There are countless stories about similar findings by “pesky” Home Inspectors. Home Inspectors are professionally licensed and regulated. They are for your benefit, and they work for your protection. Hire a licensed professional. Enjoy peace of mind. 🏠

David Mullane is a member of the Affiliate South Broward Board of Realtors, the National Association of Certified Home Inspectors, the Florida Association of Building Inspectors (candidate) and the Indoor Environmental Air Quality Council. He is licensed with the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation and the City of Hollywood Inspection Service.

David Mullane is the owner and operator of Hollywood Home Inspectors. For more information, call 954-224-8361 or e-mail inspcprof@bellsouth.net.

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Saturday, May 14

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The National Association of Letter Carriers, in conjunction with the United States Postal Service®, will be collecting non-perishable food items like canned meats and fish, canned soup, juice, pasta, vegetables, cereal and rice on Saturday, May 14 to help families in need in our community.

You can help by placing your food donation at your mailbox on May 14 before your letter carrier arrives with the day's mail. It will be taken to the Post Office™ and then delivered to local food banks or pantries. Please do not include items that have expired or those in glass containers.






Hollywood boy commemorates Holocaust in a unique way

BY BRETT DALY | ASSOCIATE EDITOR

At his Bar Mitzvah almost two years ago, Hollywood resident David Brodie asked his family and friends to make a donation to the Holocaust Documentation and Education Center rather than to him. The Center sent out a request for donations weeks earlier and because David had a grandfather who was a partisan during the Holocaust, he knew it was important to help the Center spread its message.

After collecting those initial donations, David pondered the gravity of 6 million people killed during the Holocaust and had an idea: David would commemorate the 6 million victims by collecting one penny for each person who perished. The action, he said, would help people understand what 6 million looks like and would help people never forget the victims.

"I want people to see the impact of 6 million," David said. "I want to remember all those lives lost during the Holocaust and make sure everyone realizes that the Holocaust happened and affected a lot of people. It was a crime against humanity."

The soon-to-be 15 year old has collected about 2 million pennies to date, and the Documentation and Education Center has the bottles of pennies on display.

"When you see all these pennies and bags, it really hits you," said Helen Brodie, David's mother. "It's amazing. We are so excited and proud of David. He's an inspiration to us all."

David said his main motivation behind the project comes from his grandfather, who always shared his stories from the Holocaust with his family. As a partisan, his grandfather survived by hiding in forests. Some



PHOTOS BY TOM OLSEN

Hollywood resident David Brodie is collecting 6 million pennies to represent and honor the 6 million people who perished during the Holocaust. So far, David has collected 2 million pennies.

Jews who managed to escape from camps even formed their own fighting units. These fighters, or partisans, were concentrated in densely wooded areas. One large group of partisans in occupied Soviet territory hid in a forest near the Lithuanian capital of Vilna. They were able to derail hundreds of trains and kill more than 3,000 German soldiers, according to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. Hearing stories like these inspired David, and after his grandfather's passing, David made a promise to keep his grandfather's legacy alive.

The Holocaust Documentation and Education Center — founded in Hollywood in 1980 as a nonsectarian, nonprofit, multifaceted organization

with a mission to put names and faces to the Holocaust victims — provided the perfect venue to do just that.

David chose to represent victims with pennies because he said everyone has pennies in his or her pockets. It's easy to donate spare change, he said. He has received a lot of support from the community, and Helen said they have even received donations from people in New York, New Jersey and Costa Rica. If people send checks or dollars, David simply converts them into pennies and has them delivered to the Center by a Brinks truck. David has not decided what to do with the money once he reaches his goal because now he just wants to focus on spreading his message and collecting pennies.

"I personally feel that when younger generations see my project, they will realize that the Holocaust is an important thing to remember," David said. "Whatever it takes to get to 6 million pennies, I'm willing to do."

Anyone interested in making a donation can e-mail David at neverforgetneveragainpennies@gmail.com or visit the Holocaust Documentation and Education Center located at 2021 Harrison St. For more information about the Center, visit www.hdec.org.



David poses with his family and Rositta E. Kenigsberg, president of the Holocaust Documentation and Education Center, where David's project is featured.

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Over \$20K raised for Casablanca Academy Scholarships



CasaBlanca Academy is a non-profit organization whose mission is to provide programs for children on the autism spectrum and similar disorders using a unique learning environment, therapeutic interventions, relationship building skills and educational strategies. Over \$20,000 was raised for

scholarships to the school at last month's Party with a Purpose, a monthly event to promote local nonprofits in partnership with Hollywood Gazette and Dave & Buster's. City of Hollywood Mayor Peter Bober (above) attended in April to announce the raffle winners. 🌟

Party with a Purpose 2011 schedule and nonprofit organizations

The public is invited to attend and support nonprofit organizations in the community. One-hundred percent of your \$10 admission at the door is donated to the nonprofit of the month. Admission includes hors d'oeuvres, billiards, shuffleboard and half-price cocktails.

Tues., May 17 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Hollywood Dave & Buster's

Benefiting: Broward Outreach Center, which offers comprehensive homeless assistance in South Florida by providing spiritual, educational and financial support.

Tues., June 21 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Hollywood Dave & Buster's

Benefiting: Ft. Lauderdale Children's Theatre, a not-for-profit organization offering theatre arts classes and camps for children and teens.

Tues., July 19 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Hollywood Dave & Buster's

Benefiting: Hollywood Women's Club, a nonprofit organization of women residing in Hollywood and the surrounding area who work to improve the community through volunteer service.

Tues., Aug. 16 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Hollywood Dave & Buster's

Benefiting: Hollywood Scholarship Foundation, a nonprofit foundation awarding students of South Broward County tuition scholarships to attend college.

Tues., Sept. 20 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Hollywood Dave & Buster's

Benefiting: Community Enhancement Collaboration, Inc. Washington Park, a nonprofit corporation that fosters the development of grassroot leaders within the county and communities and enhances the quality of life for the Washington Park area.

Tues., Oct. 18 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Hollywood Dave & Buster's

Benefiting: Russell Life Skills and Reading Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to eradicating illiteracy among youth.

Tues., Nov. 15 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Hollywood Dave & Buster's

Benefiting: South Florida Ballet Theater, a nonprofit organization that brings professional dance training and performances to the community and provides low-income children the opportunity to dance. 🌟

Center for Gynecologic Oncology conducting a study for women with recurrent ovarian cancer

The Center for Gynecologic Oncology in Hollywood announced it is actively enrolling women with recurrent ovarian cancer for participation in a new clinical research study called TRINOVA-1. Although there have been many significant treatment advances in recent years, 70 to 90 percent of women treated for ovarian cancer ultimately experience a relapse of their disease, and there are more than 225,000 new cases of ovarian cancer worldwide each year, according to the International Agency for Research on Cancer.

"For women undergoing a relapse, the way forward is sometimes uncertain," said Jacob Tangir, M.D., principal investigator for the study at The Center for Gynecologic Oncology. "We are pleased to offer women the opportunity to participate in the TRINOVA-1 trial. There's more we need to learn about recurrent ovarian cancer, and through this trial, we ultimately hope to gain a better understanding of potential treatment options for women affected by this disease."

The purpose of the TRINOVA-1 trial is to find out whether adding the investigational drug AMG 386 to paclitaxel chemotherapy improves the length of time until the disease progresses compared to treatment with

paclitaxel chemotherapy alone.

AMG 386, developed by the biotechnology company Amgen, is a product known as an angiogenesis inhibitor. Angiogenesis refers to the body's normal process of creating new blood vessels in order to grow and heal. Cancer cells also require new blood vessels supplying oxygen and nutrients in order for tumors to grow beyond a certain size. Angiogenesis inhibitors are designed to stop the development of these vessels, starving the cancer and slowing down or preventing its growth.

Participants in the study will receive treatment with either paclitaxel chemotherapy plus AMG 386 or paclitaxel chemotherapy alone. The study is open to women 18 years of age or older who have been diagnosed with recurrent ovarian cancer, have undergone surgery to remove at least one ovary and have been previously treated with chemotherapy for management of their disease.

Taking part in a clinical research study is voluntary and a personal decision that should be made after speaking with your doctor. For more information, call Gisela Pereira, RN, of The Center for Gynecologic Oncology at 954-602-9723 or visit www.TRINOVA-1.com. 🌟

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STUDENT NEWS

Chaminade students beautify City Hall

BY BRETT DALY | brett@hollywoodgazette.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Students from Chaminade-Madonna College Preparatory's Environmental Club endured the grueling Florida sun on March 30 to beautify City Hall with a butterfly garden and wildlife habitat as part of the Hollywood City Hall Native Tree and Plant Garden project.

Thirteen students dug holes, weeded and planted trees along with members from the City of Hollywood Green Team and Tree Subcommittee, the Department of Public Works, Global Hollywood and other community volunteers.

"We are a school based on service," said France Tortora, moderator for the Environmental Club. "That's what we want to do at Chaminade-Madonna. We want to build a better community. We want to instill in our students that there are many ways to build a better world. These students are very interested in planting trees for more oxygen and reducing their footprints."

The purpose of the Environmental Club is to create

awareness within the school community about environmental issues, to develop school-wide initiatives to reduce waste and to recycle, and to volunteer with projects within the local community aimed at maintaining the environment. The club has also established "Mission Recycle," a recycling program on the high school's campus in which environmental club members set out recycling bins that city employees collect each Friday.

"The most satisfying thing about participating in the club I think would be knowing we are helping a greater good and being an important part of keeping our community a nice place to live and be in every day," said senior Elizabeth Ionescu, who has participated in the club since her freshman year. "It was important to clean City Hall because as the prominent building in the community, it is important to set an example and keep the outside green and nature friendly."

For senior Gabriel Baratto, the project gave him a chance to give back to his community and show that everyone can do something, no matter how small, to help save the environment, and for senior Jose Lavergne, even



Chaminade-Madonna College Preparatory Environmental Club students take a break from the Hollywood City Hall Native Tree and Plant Garden project to pose with City of Hollywood Green Team members and community volunteers. Photo courtesy Chaminade-Madonna.

though he felt exhausted at the end of the day, he was excited to see how his hard work paid off.

"It was definitely hard work and hot, but we learned a lot about native plants to Florida," he said. "I enjoyed it so much that I plan to volunteer with other environmental causes in college."

The students also participated in another City of Hollywood beautifying project on April 12 near the Art and Culture Center of Hollywood on Harrison

Street. In addition, Tortora said the club has participated in beach cleanups and many of her students have gone back to participate in these events on their own.

"I'm very proud of my students," she said. "They really stepped up. It's amazing the amount of work they've done."

For more information about Chaminade-Madonna, visit www.cmlions.org.

There's snow place like Hollywood Beach



Four-year-old Ghea Richardson and her mother, Angela, are native Floridians who have never seen snow. One day while at Hollywood Beach, Ghea made a "sandman," a Floridian snowman. Angela thought her daughter did such a wonderful job that she had to share it with the community.

BEACH NEWS

Flourishing yoga movement takes root on Hollywood Beach

Beachcombers strolling past Magnolia Terrace on Hollywood Beach will encounter more than the crisp, blue ocean and rainbow-colored beach umbrellas. They will also see rows of people situated on mats or towels undulating in unison under the gentle guidance of yoga instructor Tiffany Weber while Eastern music and burning incense fill the air.

They are participants in Hollywood Beach Yoga, the latest activity on the Beach that is quickly gaining popularity among an eclectic and loyal following. They come together on the Beach for an hour of inspiration and exercise and to share a sense of community all for no cost. Participants can make a donation if they wish.

A recent graduate of the Aananda Yoga Teacher Training located in Ft. Lauderdale, Weber was inspired to establish the Hollywood Beach Yoga movement in response to her perceived need for a place where people from all walks of life can benefit from the healing powers of yoga. She envisioned an opportunity

where participation is not limited to an individual's financial disposition. Her desire was to establish a yoga practice where no one is turned away because of his or her inability to pay. Everyone is welcome at Hollywood Beach Yoga.

"Hatha yoga dates back to the 15th century in India," Weber said. "It was developed to purify the body prior to entering a deep state of meditation. It is practiced to promote physical and mental health, and it induces a profound sense of well-being."

Rita Regev, a Sunny Isles real estate executive, is an avid participant and big supporter of Hollywood Beach Yoga. She uses the yoga classes as a tool for managing stress and bringing balance to her life.

"The morning sessions prepare me for my hectic days with increased energy and a sense of spiritual well-being," she said.

Although information about the classes can be found on meetup.com, much of its explosive growth is attributed to word-of-mouth as new participants share their positive experiences with friends and co-workers. For example,



Abelina Cardona heard about the spiritual get together through a co-worker. She likes to attend the evening sessions to unwind after her busy work day at a local branch of a major bank.

"Tiffany's yoga sessions provide me with the perfect outlet to detoxify from work and escape from life's distractions," she said. "I feel cheated every time I miss a class."

Classes meet Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays at 9 a.m. and 8 p.m. at 2501 S. Ocean Drive.

For more information, contact Tiffany Weber at 954-551-9265 or visit <http://www.meetup.com/Hollywood-Beach-Yoga/events/17235366/#comments>.



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BEHIND THE HOUSES CONT. FROM PG 22



played with more than 20 bands in a range of musical genres from jazz to rock to metal.

Josh Bishop's prior band experience differs somewhat from his bandmates. Progressing from the school band in sixth grade to a rock band in high school, he pursued his dream of playing professionally by joining the Marine Corps Band in 1996. During his seven years serving in the Marines, Bishop performed for foreign dignitaries and traveled throughout the U.S and abroad. He relocated to Georgia, where he worked in law enforcement, earned a degree in criminal justice and played bassoon with the Albany Symphony Orchestra before returning to Florida in 2004 and making a major career change to music education.

These days, Bishop is "teacher

by day, musician by night, daddy and husband the rest of the time." He acknowledges that the members of Behind The Houses, with their repertoire of about 35 original songs, strong fan base and steady gigs, are already living out their

childhood dream. But this group of longtime friends has aspirations of national or even world tours.

"Every single one of us believes that we can definitely take that path," Bishop said. "We do exactly what we need to do to create this unique, well-balanced sound that people like. I believe in the music."

Behind The Houses' upcoming shows include Mickey Byrne's Irish Pub & Restaurant, 1921 Hollywood Blvd. (May 14); DP's Beach Bar, 200 N. Broadwalk (May 20); Tobacco Road, 626 S. Miami Ave., Miami (May 21); and Mickey Byrne's (May 28).

For more information on Behind The Houses and to hear original songs from the band's upcoming album, visit www.behindthehouses.com.

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SMALL BUSINESS MARKETING

Taking advantage of group buying sites



BY WENDY CROCQUET LIEBER
wendy@athena-marketing.com

Group buying sites like Groupon.com and LivingSocial.com are great marketing vehicles for local businesses if used correctly. These sites, with their daily offers, provide businesses access to a wider audience that can result in repeat business if leveraged correctly. Here are the basics of how they work:

1. Businesses provide an offer that represents a 40 to 60 percent discount on average (i.e. an \$80 massage is available for \$40 that day).

2. You set a minimum and, as importantly, a maximum quantity (i.e. must sell 30 for the deal to be ON and will only sell 100 MAXIMUM).

3. The group buying site takes 2.5 percent off the top for credit card processing fees and splits the remaining revenue with you based on some percentage. Groupon does a 50/50 split while Living Social takes slightly less. Some of the other sites take a lower percentage but don't have as big of a following, so it's all relative. (For example, you sell 100 massages at a discounted rate of \$40 for total sales of \$4,000. One-hundred dollars comes off the top, leaving \$3,900 to split. You get \$1,950, which is paid out over a 60-day period: 30 percent within 5 days, 30 percent within 30 days and remaining balance within 60 days.)

If you have a product that does not lend itself to repeat or recurring business, group buying sites might NOT be for you. They are perfect for businesses that want to attract new customers and turn those customers into repeat business. Here are some tips to help you leverage their power:

1. Build in incentives to turn the one-time sale into a recurring sale. For example, you are a restaurant offering \$100 worth of food for \$50. When your customers redeem their offer, ask them if they would like to receive additional exclusive deals. If they say yes (which they will if they had a good experience), get their e-mail address or invite them to be part of your social community, so you can communicate monthly special offers

without having to give up any margin to anyone else.

2. Give them something right there on the spot that motivate them to buy more immediately. Let's say you are a spa that sold a massage. See if they want to add on a facial or manicure at the same time or buy a series of massages at a discount if paid up front. Make the sale right there.

3. Ask for a testimonial that you can use on your website, social media or other marketing materials. This is a great way to build trust with other clientele.

Buy a video camera, so you can record the feedback on the spot when someone agrees to it (which they will if they had a good experience).

4. Don't use group buying sites to generate sales. Use them to generate new fans. Make sure you are equipped to handle the additional call, online and on-site traffic volume for the two or three weeks following the offer.

5. Above all, make sure you provide an outstanding customer experience. You will be reaching a lot of new customers, as well as reconnecting with some past customers who forgot about you because you weren't communicating with them on a regular basis. Dazzle them. Remember nothing kills a bad product like good marketing, so if you aren't sure you can deliver it, work that out before you use a group buying site. Work it out regardless.

Above all be open-minded. These are great marketing vehicles that work with the right strategy and follow up that can dramatically change your business. One last thing: Group buying sites aren't just for consumer businesses. More and more B to B's are getting in the game and figuring out how to leverage these powerful vehicles. If you are interested in determining whether you have a product or service that makes sense for a group buying site, call or e-mail me to discuss or brainstorm. 🌟

Wendy Lieber is the president of Athena Marketing, a trusted marketing adviser and resource to companies interested in the growth and success of their business. To contact her, e-mail wendy@athena-marketing.com or call 954-294-6467 or follow her blog at www.wendylieber.wordpress.com.

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Emilio Estefan to be honored at the 14th Annual Cuisine for Art Fundraiser

Musician, producer, author, restaurateur and filmmaker Emilio Estefan will be honored at this year's Cuisine for Art Fundraiser slated for Thursday, May 19 at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino.

Estefan is being honored for his contributions to the community in the arts, culture and hospitality industries.

Benefiting the Art and Culture Center of Hollywood, this event features elected officials, as well as local movers and shakers, serving as celebrity waiters.

This year's celebrity waiters are elected government officials and community leaders. Cuisine for Art Event co-chairs are Jules Meyer, Susan Renneisen and Anna Smith.

The party kicks off at 6 p.m. with wine and vodka cocktails courtesy of Southern Wine and Spirits and delicious signature hors d'oeuvres.



Emilio Estefan

Following will be a sit-down dinner featuring petite filet mignon and fennel roasted salmon, a silent auction of one-of-a-kind items, a raffle for prizes and entertainment by Rock With U.

Event sponsors (as of now) include AutoNation, Florida Power & Light, Hazen and Sawyer, Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, Southern Wine and Spirits and The Westin Diplomat Resort & Spa.



Memorial Healthcare System's Senior Vice President and Chief Strategic Officer John Benz (left) shares a light moment with City of Hollywood Commissioner Dick Blattner during last year's Cuisine for Art.



City of Hollywood Commissioner Patty Asseff serves wine during last year's Cuisine for Art.



Cuisine for Art co-chairs from left to right are Anna Smith, Susan Renneisen and Jules Meyer.

International superstars Emilio and Gloria Estefan own a number of business establishments, including seven Cuban-themed restaurants. Some restaurants are in Miami; Miami Beach; Downtown Miami; part of the American Airlines Arena; Walt Disney World's Downtown Disney in Orlando; Mexico City; and Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. They also own two hotels: The Costa d'Este in Vero Beach and The Cardozo in Miami Beach. A multi-Grammy award-winning producer and songwriter, Cuban born Emilio is the founder and CEO of Estefan Enterprises, which is involved in music,

TV and film production, as well as restaurants and hotels.

Cost of this business casual attire event is \$99 per person before or on Monday, May 16; \$120 per person after that date and at the door.

To reserve your seat, become a sponsor or receive more information about this event, visit www.ArtAndCultureCenter.org or call 954-921-3274. The Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino is located at 1 Seminole Way and complimentary self-parking is available in the garage and parking lots.

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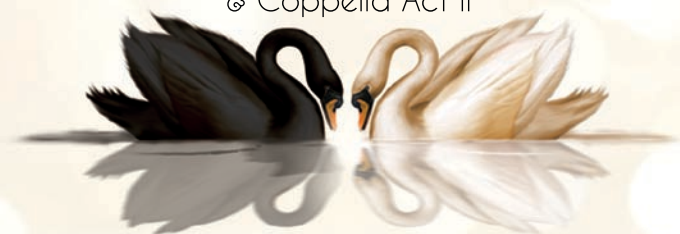
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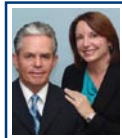
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