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Friday, July 29, 2011 - Vol. XVIII, Issue 30

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Fear factor drives opponents of detox center, owner says

By Judy Wilson

PELICAN STAFF

Deerfield Beach – For 10 years, Sherief Abu-Moustafa has kept a low profile, building his campus for recovering addicts one building at a time. But those days of anonymity in the community may be over.

Abu-Moustafa is seeking to add a detox facility to his holdings and the prospect has some residents up in arms. Several hundred people attended a Planning and Zoning Board meeting earlier this month to protest his application for a site plan at 504 S. Federal Highway where he wants to open a 28-bed detoxification facility.

Few people had anything good to say about his plan to expand the services of The Florida House and the board voted 4-0 to deny the application. Abu-Moustafa plans to bring the site plan to the city commission on August 16.

This week he said he is very disturbed that his opponents are “putting fear into people and decisions are being made on fear, not facts.” According to Abu-Moustafa, the facts are that he operates a fully certified and licensed, private facility

See FLORIDA HOUSE on page 15

It's a Heat Wave, deal with it...



One Lighthouse Point counselor creates a cooling system for the young pram sailors who return to port after a morning at sea. [Staff photo]

Young sailors compete in Mayor's Cup and Commissioners' Race

By Deborah S. Hartz-Seeley

PELICAN CONTRIBUTOR

Lighthouse Point -- Although Wednesday, July 27, proved hot and steamy, there was enough wind to make both the Lighthouse Point Mayor's Cup and the Commissioners' Race on Lake Placid plenty competitive.

First place winner in the Mayor's Cup went to Paul Morris III. He describes the action by saying he came in a good distance ahead of Daniel Lorenz and Graham Altschuler who were neck in neck for second and third place respectively.

The youngsters who sailed had qualified in one of two races held earlier in the week. The top five winners in both of those races were invited to enter the Mayor's Cup. The others went head to head in the Commissioners' Race with Connor Anderson coming in first; Chandler Trousdale, second; and Chase Brown, third.

These races are the culmination of the Youth Sailing Camp, a summer

See MAYORS CUP on page 3

Urban experts focus on MLK corridor

By Judy Wilson

PELICAN STAFF

Pompano Beach – A panel of experts will be in town August 11 and 12 to recommend development strategies for the MLK/Hammondville Road corridor from Dixie Highway to I-95.

The \$15,000 study was commissioned by the West Community Development Agency, or WCRA, and will be done by Urban Land Institute volunteers, planners, developers, architects, financiers and real estate professionals.

The sessions, in commission chambers, are open to the public Thursday, Aug. 11, 4:30 to 6 p.m.

See MLK on page 11

Democrats protest U.S. Rep. West's visit to non-partisan group

By Anne Siren

PELICAN STAFF

Wilton Manors - “This is totally a political stunt. And it's on the heels of his recent comments,” says Michael Emanuel Rajner, legislative director of the Florida Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, or GLBT, Democratic Caucus.

Rajner refers to a recent invitation extended to Congressman Allen West to speak at an Aug. 8 meeting of the Wilton Manors Business Association. At Hagen Park Community Center, 2020 Wilton Drive, at 7 p.m.

See WEST on page 10

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Commissioners debate hiring three new managers

By Judy Vik

PELICAN STAFF

LBTS – Town commissioners are working with a new budget that contains no increases in millage rates or the fire assessment while trying to incorporate three new positions. There has been no change in the millage rate, 3.999 per thousand, since 2008 and the residential fire fee is \$130. That fee raises more than \$1 million.

The first public hearing on the rates is set for 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 12. The millage rate can go lower but cannot be raised from the preliminary rate.

The proposed budget calls for a business development/marketing director and capital projects manager and for a

planning director to fill the former position of development services director.

Vice Mayor Stuart Dodd said he favored a more cautious approach. “We need to get the town in order before hiring an economic development director,” he said.

Dodd said the town appears to need a planner/designer for the many capital improvement projects planned, but he said he wasn’t in favor of increasing staff immediately.

The business development and marketing position also includes administering an incentive program for business.

Dodd said he is in favor of the incentive program but doesn’t think it’s needed in the next year and said hiring marketing and capital projects

managers could be pushed out to the following year.

“Let’s do some of this in-house,” he suggested, adding, “I think the Chamber (of Commerce) should be doing a lot more of the marketing.”

Commissioner Birute Ann Clotey said she didn’t think the positions should be permanent. “These should be temporary services. Maybe we could contract for the positions for the length of the project.”

“If we’re going to continue to move forward, we need professional expert services to save us money in the long run,” Commissioner Chris Vincent said. He said he didn’t know if town staff could do the additional work.

Town Manager Connie Hoffmann said the capital projects manager was extremely important “I don’t think we can move forward

with capital plans without that manager,” she said.

Hoffmann listed several projects planned for next year, including drainage improvements on Flamingo Avenue, Harbor Drive and Bougainville Drive; improvements on the two eastern blocks of Commercial Boulevard and design of South A1A.

“Even to get through the design process, it takes someone to manage it,” she said.

Hoffmann said Bud Bentley, assistant town manager, has spent an enormous amount of time on the North A1A project dealing with design changes and contractual issues.

Mayor Roseann Minnet asked if they could delay hiring the business development/marketing director, and Commissioner Scot Sasser asked if it could be a temporary position, someone who

See MANAGERS on page 19

Gigi & Luca Pet Fair

It’s a super fun day for pets and owners, Saturday, July 30 at the Pet Boutique in The Shoppes of Beacon Light, 1825 NE 24 St., Lighthouse Point from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event includes pet massage, training, first aid and CPR and other demonstrations. Call 954-784-8755.



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Mayor's Cup

Continued from page 1



Young sailors prepare for races on waters of Lake Placid in Lighthouse Point.

program in existence since 1959, according to John Trudel, director of parks and recreation. The camp teaches 40 youngsters ages 8 to 13 the basics of sailing including rigging, sailing into and with the wind and maneuvering.

The children learn and compete in eight-foot Optimist Prams, a sprit-rigged boat designed for children to sail. This year's races were three laps around two buoys placed 150 yards apart with passing on the right.

This is Morris's fourth year participating in the sailing camp. The first year in the program, he took first place in the Mayor's Cup; the second year he came in second. The third year there was no wind,

and he came in last, explains Paul Morris Jr., his dad. This year, he's a winner again. Next year he hopes to become a junior counselor.

"I was pretty happy because this was my second first place," says Morris. "It's pretty cool to be recognized twice."

The winners of the Mayor's Cup will receive trophies at the Sept. 26 City Commission Meeting at 7:30 p.m. in City Hall. The first place winner will also have his name engraved on a plaque that hangs in the City Commission Chamber.

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Sightings

A local calendar for events, meetings and more in North Broward County. Please email calendar items to siren2415@gmail.com or fax to 954-783-0093.

School Supplies Needed

Assumption Catholic Church and the LBTS Chamber are sponsoring a drive to collect school supplies to get local homeless/needly elementary students off to a great new school year. We would like this to be a true commu-

nity effort throughout Lauderdale-By-The-Sea. Please join us by donating new supplies such as: pens, pencils, rulers, scissors, glue, highlighters, crayons, water paints, paper, notebooks, pocket folders, backpacks, calculators and dictionaries. Collection boxes are available at Assumption Church, LBTS Town Hall and the LBTS Chamber of Commerce/Welcome Center from August 1 through August 15.

A small donation from each of us will make a big difference for many families. All materials will be given to local schools.

Art

"Wild florida" art exhibition – Broward Art Gallery at the Galt Ocean Shoppes, 3280 NE 32 St. The event is free and open to the public. Call 954-537-3370.

Art over the Bridge features Atilla Lakatoush, Aug. 5 from 8 to 10 p.m. at 9 Hibiscus Ave., Pompano Beach. Live entertainment, caricaturist and sculpturist.

Hurricanes

Hurricane Info— A seminar Aug. 17 from 9 to 11 a.m., presented by David Bernard, WFOR/CBS4 Meteorologist; Chuck Lanza, Broward Emergency Management Director; Chief Oscar Llerena, BSO; Brooke Liddle, American Medical Response; Chief Steve Paine, Volunteer Fire Dept. will focus on the 2011 hurricane season. The event is sponsored by the Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Chamber of Commerce. Call 954-776-1000

Events

East Village Uncorked August 5, 6 to 9 p.m. - Enjoy over 15 restaurants featuring international cuisine, wine tastings from around the world in participating shops, artist exhibits throughout Harbor Village and live entertainment in three locations at this free event open to the public. Various merchants will be hosting in-store specials and giveaways, interactive art

See SIGHTINGS on page 12

Wakeboarders take the Gold in Milan



Team USA took the Gold Cup, 1st Place at the IWWF World Wakeboard Championships in Milan, Italy this last week. With a first place win from Noah Flegel, Daniel Powers, and Raimi Merritt, the other countries couldn't keep up.

After four days of highly competitive riding with 26 riders in the 14-and-under division, just six made it into the finals. It looked like a real shootout among the U.S.A., Australia and Italy. Flegel, a Lighthouse Point resident, was able to throw down one of his best passes, with a Dumb Dumb, KGB, Moby Dick and even a back 540 to take the win.

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Doggie Daycare & Grooming Grand Opening

Wilton Manors - Doggie Daycare & Grooming, 2155 N. Dixie Hwy., announced today that it will be opening its doors for business on Aug. 3 with a ribbon cutting by Mayor Gary Resnick and grand opening party at 6 p.m.

"Alan and I are very excited to bring our 12 years of experience in the pet service industry to Wilton Manors. It's great to introduce the concept of cage-free grooming and doggie day care to South Florida," said Josh Meneses, who owns the business with partner Alan Aghazadian.

With both of their experience, talents and love for animals, Meneses and Aghazadian are bringing a fresh approach to animal care. Safety and cleanliness are the primary focus in their 3000 square foot indoor dog park.

Step into the night in your city

National Night Out is a day when Americans meet in communities to take a stand against crime. For those who cannot make these local events, it's a night of turn on the porch lights. Enjoy!

The following cities will host Night-Out events:

Deerfield Beach -National Night Out Against Crime will be held at Quiet Waters Park, 401 S. Powerline Road, 6 to 9 p.m. at Pavilion 10 where families will enjoy food, music, children's activities and the chance to win prizes.

BSO deputies will demonstrate equipment and conduct Operation Medicine Cabinet to collect unwanted and

expired prescription drugs. Those turning in meds will receive a \$5 gift card while supplies last.

The shredder truck will also be on hand to shred sensitive documents. The first bag is free and it is \$10 for additional bags.

This event is free and open to the public. For more, call 954-571-4552

In Oakland Park, the Broward Sheriff's Office will host the annual National Night Out event from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 2, at Collins Community Center at 3900 NE Third Ave.

This year's event will include a Bike Rodeo, bike helmets and school supplies,

music, games, food, non-alcoholic beverages and static displays. Admission is free.

Pompano Beach - Aug. 2 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at Founders Park, 215 NE 4 Ave. Meet the Police Women of Broward, watch demonstrations of fire rescue, Miami Dolphin Cheerleaders and learn new anti-crime prevention skills. Tour the historical Kester Houses.

Wilton Manors - Aug. 2 from 7 to 10 p.m. The Wilton Manors Police Department encourages residents to hold outside block parties and cookouts to present a united community against crime. Corky Belanger, pilot

Lauderdale-by-The-Sea - Broward Sheriff's Office will celebrate National Night Out Against Crime from 6 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 2, at El Prado Park, 4500 El Mar Drive. The event brings residents together to stand up against crime, promote drug prevention and awareness and strengthen partnerships between law enforcement and the public.

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Anne Siren, publisher

Broward transit system inefficient, uncomfortable and poorly run

To the Editor,

I have recently, due to a major setback, become car-less. So I decided to try this "Mass Transportation" that has been advertised as the answer to traffic.

Well, to my surprise, it is NOT THE ANSWER. It took me 2 hours to go from Atlantic Boulevard and Federal to Commercial and Nob Hill. While I agree it is a ways out there, that time will never get me out of a car, if I am lucky enough to get another one.

Also, I was surprised at the attitude of the bus drivers. I asked 3 drivers questions, since I was new to the system, that they could not either answer or didn't want to bother. Two even got upset with me because I even asked in the first place. Two drivers were quite nice.

I called the number on the back of a schedule to find out why a bus that was scheduled never arrived. When the bus finally arrived, I asked "are you late?" He answered, "I don't know, I am only the driver."

I waited from 12:37 to 1:16 p.m. for a bus due every half-hour.

Bus Stops?

This is Florida. We should all have benches and covers from the sun.

The two benches I experienced had ribbed tops of clear plastic and green walls with little holes in them. The plastic does not stop the sun and the passenger can't see through the little holes to see if a bus is coming. And the driver can't see you waiting.

So in only three days of being car-less, I have become exasperated, hot, uncomfortable, and definitely not sold on Mass Transportation.

The county has to do a better job to sell me.

Pam Ericson
Pompano Beach



Urge commission to reconsider utility tax

To the Editor;

There are some members of the commission who seem to think that we are not aware of state statute 195.207 which states "that no municipal charter may prohibit or limit the authority of the governing body to levy ad valorem or utility service taxes authorized under 167.431"

The Rescind Unfair Taxes Committee is not questioning the ability of the commission to impose a utility tax. We are taking our stance from the Deerfield charter 7.03 that states "the qualified voters of the city shall have the power to require reconsideration of any adopted ordinance". We are not claiming that you did not have the right to pass ordinance 2011/028 on June 7. We are hoping that the 5000 signatures we are submitting will help you to realize this is the wrong tax at the wrong time.

With the nation on the brink of a double dip recession, this is not the time to burden the residents of the city with a new tax.

The administration claims this will be a more equitable distribution of the city's tax burden. Wasn't that the rationale behind the implementation of the Fire Assessment Fee so that everyone would pay something?

The city has published a yellow flyer to support its passage of the utility tax. What this paper amounts to is a class war pitting the have's against the have not's. The carrot being held out is that the millage rate can be reduced. This can be done without the utility tax.

Last year the budget passed with \$8 million in the undesignated reserve. This

See UTILITY TAX on page 8

Let's Set the Record Straight

To the editor,

I am a retired federal employee who took pride in serving my country in a civilian capacity and I am sick and tired of being singled out by Congress as being a major cause to our country's debt problem, nor has the deficit been created by Medicare or Social Security. It was caused by greedy congressmen passing insane laws to benefit their wealthy constituents in an attempt to get themselves reelected, everything from farm subsidies for the wealthy to treadmills for shrimp. The housing bubble; and two off budget wars have also contributed to the deficit and it didn't happen overnight. Let's set the record straight. Every day, millions of federal employees in every single state make our nation stronger and protect America's heartbeat. But now they are under attack. Some members of Congress have proposed cutting retirement benefits (benefits that we have paid for). Federal employees have already sacrificed pay to solve our deficit problem.

Do not scapegoat current and retired federal employees or Social Security recipients for the deficit. I guarantee you that I did not make \$100,000 a year as some Congressmen would like the public to believe is the average salary of a federal employee. That is just plain false information. In fact, I personally know federal retirees whose pension is below the poverty level and who are eligible to receive food stamps. The majority of us are living from paycheck to paycheck.

Let's compare apples to apples. Today, more than 84 percent of federal employees work outside the Washington D.C. metropolitan area.

On average, they are paid 22 percent less than they would be in the private sector in similar jobs. You don't find federal employees working in retail, janitorial positions and fast food resultants, etc. making minimum wage. 44.3 percent of federal employees hold bachelor's degrees versus just 18.7 percent in the private sector. They go to work every day in every state to protect and drive the progress of our country.

Our federal employees ensure that our most basic needs as a society are met -- from the safety of the food we eat to the quality of the air we breathe.

Some spend their days thwarting the spread of infectious disease while others raise the alarm whenever a storm is coming, others deliver mail regardless of the weather. We also tend to forget the FBI agents, CIA Agents and other federal law enforcement officers who keep us safe daily by putting their lives on the line. And, let's not forget the National Forest Service Rangers that have recently lost their lives fighting forest fires. The list goes on and on. Sadly, there is a growing sentiment in America that our country can do without a federal workforce.

America needs our federal employees, and we should not allow bad data to turn federal employees into national scapegoats.

I admit there is a lot of waste in government but remember Congress passes the laws that create that waste and the federal employee has to administer those laws.

Please join me in speaking out. Go to www.ProtectAmericasHeartbeat.org and tell Congress not to attack federal employees and retirees. Then send this e-mail message on to your friends and family! Active and retired federal employees, their families and everyone who relies on federal services needs to hear about this!

Bob Lemley, District 5 VP
NARFE Florida, Inc
[National Active and Retired Federal Employees]

Briefs

The greening continues

Volunteers get one more chance to be part of the historic landscaping effort for the Sample-McDougald House, June 30 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. at 450 NE 10 St., Pompano Beach. Everyone is welcome to show up and plant the grounds of this city's historic home that will serve the community soon as a museum and educational center. The house will also be open for rentals for events.

Lighthouse Day, Aug. 13



HAM radio operators will contact lighthouses around the world

The Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society, or HLPS, is observing National Lighthouse Day on Saturday, Aug. 13, with tours of the historic Hillsboro Inlet Light Station and will have three Amateur Radio groups on the site broadcasting during the day. That week will be National Lighthouse Week with many other lighthouses doing the same.

Tours will start with shuttle boat trips from the Sands Harbor Hotel on 125 N. Riverside Dr. in Pompano Beach beginning at 8:45 a.m. through 2:30 p.m..

HLPS Members are free, nonmembers have a \$15 transportation fee. No reservations required. Please use the city (pay) parking lot across the street. The last dates for 2011 are Sept. 10 and Nov. 19. Major renovations to the tower by the Coast Guard will follow and will take 90 days.

For additional tour information visit: www.HillsboroLighthouse.org or e-mail to info@hillsborolighthouse.org or call 954-942-2102.

American Legion Post 142 sends five to Boys' State Dominic Balistreri reports on his experience there



Jim, Dominic and Joe Balistreri pose for a photo with Joe Balistreri, the founder of Balistreri Realty and the man who began a dynasty of fans for Boys' and Girls' State, sponsored by the American Legion. [Photos by Phyllis J. Neuberger]

By Phyllis J. Neuberger

PELICAN STAFF

Boys' State is a unique student exposure to state government, made possible by the American Legion posts across the nation. This year Post 142 in Pompano Beach is proud to have sent five high school juniors to Tallahassee to experience State government where it happens. Four of fortunate students to attend Boys' State from Pompano Beach High School are Dominic Balistreri, Marcus Mark, Keenen Vernon and Brendon Sands. Joel Brown from Pinecrest High School joined the group.

Boys' State Chairperson from Post 142 is Patricia Renneisen who says, "Our post raises the money right here. We spend about \$500 per boy and that includes \$50 for spending money. Post 142's Women's Auxiliary also selected and funded the expenses for three girls to Girls' State this year."

Asked how these fortunate children are chosen, Renneisen explains. "Miss McFadden, guidance counselor at Pompano Beach High School recommends the outstanding boys and girls. We interview them and make the final choices. We get glowing thank you letters from them when they return which makes it all worth while."

She went on to say, "We also sent three girls to Girls' State and I was their counselor."

It's a wonderful program and it's our gift to the community. Each of the boys and girls gets two college credits



Dominic, the senator, holding forth in the actual Florida Senate Chambers.

and I must say, it's great for their resumes and can even be a factor in college acceptance. We, at Post 142, are all happy to volunteer our time and funds to this worthy cause."

Renneisen encourages students who are interested in attending both Boys' and Girls' State next year to let Miss McFadden, or your high school guidance counselor know of your interest. "We're happy to interview as many candidates as the people give us. We wish more students were made aware of this opportunity."

Asked about Dominic, she laughs and says, "We knew he was a perfect fit. He was already politicking when he showed up at the bus, loaded with boys headed for Boys' State in Tallahassee. He brought along enough pizzas for every boy on the bus. They all knew him before they arrived and that's good when you're running for office."

Dominic Balistreri's seven days at Boys' State

"I didn't know it until I was selected, but I am the fifth Balistreri to attend the American Legion Boys' and Girls' State programs," Dominic says. "My aunts Anne and Carol went to Girls' State. My uncle Joe and my dad went to Boys' State. Uncle Joe and Dad gave me pointers on what

Making a Difference

Phyllis J. Neuberger wants your suggestions about people who are making a difference. Call 954-783-8700.



to expect so I was prepared. I knew I wanted to be a senator. There are only 44 out of the 500 boys so I was prepared to campaign and came with posters I had made. It turned out I was not allowed to use them. Our dorm floors became cities with names, and we automatically became part of one of the two fictitious party system."

He continues, "Dad gave me a large suitcase packed with snacks like Ritz crackers, cookies, cheese, chips, drink mixes, trailmix and more. I became the Food Kid campaigner and it helped me get elected to the Senate. I based my campaign speech and slogan on 'Open Food and Experience.' I had an open door and open food policy. I learned that the best way to get through to my constituents was via their stomachs." His analysis got a laugh from his dad and Uncle Joe who were on hand for the Pelican interview.

Continuing, Dominic said, "Uncle Joe, who is an entertainer, lent me a speaker system which was very popular as it was able to blast music to the entire floor. It was a fun way to wind down after a hard day. And it was a good way to identify myself."

Classes and planned events packed their days from 6:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Dominic was elected City Commissioner in the town of Good Haven by the second night. "Then I was elected County Commissioner and had the reputation as the kid with food and sound. Our city commission passed a laundry ordinance which helped our city official do his job more efficiently. Our city of Good Haven was unsuccessful in blocking the building of an Indian casino on sovereign land. To solve the problem, we voted to install toll booths at every exit and entrance to collect our share of the loot. The City Commission also had

See AMERICAN LEGION on page 20

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The Goodyear blimp: A behemoth on the Pompano Beach skyline keeps at least 20 people employed to maintain it

By Bill Johnson

PELICAN WRITER

Ask Corky Belanger what he does for a living and he may say he sells tires. In fact, he is an airship pilot, one of four who fly the Goodyear blimp out of Pompano Beach.

While Belanger's quip is lighthearted, it highlights the fundamental purpose of Goodyear's enormously successful marketing tool. "We

are a tire company, and at the end of the day we want people to think about tires," says Doug Grassian, the public relations manager in Pompano Beach.

Because the blimp's hangar looms over Dixie Highway, just south of Copans Road, almost everyone who lives in the area has seen the blimp coming or going at one time or another. It's a spectacle. It towers nearly 60 feet

high, 50 feet wide and is 192 feet long.

People – some from other countries – stop at the blimp base every day, Grassian says. "Wherever we bring the blimp, people line up." Many of them would like to take a ride.

But one of the first things to know is that you will not likely ride in the blimp. Besides the pilot, there is room for only six passengers, and those seats are reserved for Goodyear's major customers and others who support selected charities. Goodyear supports non-profit organizations that raise money by auctioning rides in the blimp.

On some days, if the blimp is not at a distant city, it may make several one-hour

flights over Pompano Beach. You can watch take-offs and landings from the blimp's base and information center, an attractive area with parking and benches. The base is on the west side of the Air Park. The entrance is on NE 5th Avenue, which runs parallel to Dixie Highway on the east side of the railroad tracks.

This blimp, called the Spirit of Innovation, is one of three Goodyear blimps in the U.S. and one in China. This one may fly anywhere east of the Rockies or to Canada or Mexico. It cruises along at 30 miles an hour, with a maximum speed of 50 miles an hour. It takes three days or more to fly to New York, for example.

The blimp is very busy,



Corky Belanger, pilot pictured which is why it requires four pilots.

If the weather allows it, the

See GOODYEAR on page 12

Utility tax

Continued from page 6

year there is \$1 million in that fund. Take \$3 million from there and add it to the \$1.9 million received when the city employees gave back 5 percent, and you have \$4.9 million or the equivalent of 1 mill of ad valorem tax that can be reduced.

This tax was supposed to raise \$6 million — \$3 million for millage reduction and \$3 million to float a \$25 million revenue bond to improve parks and roads. The utility tax would be the security needed to float the bond which can be passed without voter approval.

This is the "Wrong Tax at the Wrong Time."

Help us to get the commission to reconsider.

Jean M. Robb, chair person
Rescind Unfair Taxes Committee

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Business matters

The Pelican takes a look at local business owners. Call The Pelican to find out how you can tell your story here because business matters. 954-783-8700.

Briefs

Deerfield Beach Chamber Events

August 1 to 31 - 31 Days of Dining in Deerfield - The Deerfield Beach Chamber of Commerce wants to partner with local restaurants to drive business during the month of August. Chamber representative, Marc Lowe, will be visiting 31 restaurants in 31 days.

To encourage diners a 10 percent-off coupon will be available on the Chamber website. Diners will print the coupon and present it upon arrival at the restaurant. Diners will know which restaurant the chamber representative is visiting each day. Call 954-427-1050.

Aug. 4 - 7:30 a.m. -- Breakfast at The Deerfield Beach Chamber of Commerce, 1601 E. Hillsboro Blvd., Deerfield Beach. Speaker is Andrew Duffell with the FAU Research Park Sponsored by Manufacturer Direct Eyewear, there will be a sunglass fashion show.

Everyone who attends receives a \$25 gift certificate for eyewear, Call 954-427-1050.

Budget workshop set

Deerfield Beach - City commissioners will hold their first workshop on the proposed budget for 2011-12 Thursday, Aug. 9, 7 p.m. in city com-

Pompano Beach Chamber events

Aug. 3 - Wednesday Winners group meet at Galuppi's Restaurant, 1103 N. Federal Hwy. at 11:30 a.m. Cost is \$15 for buffet. Call 954-422-1780.

Aug. 3 - Business with a Twist, an after work social at Packy's Sports Bar, 4480 N. Federal hwy., Light-house Point at 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$10 per member. Call 954-941-2940.

Aug. 5 - "The Originals" Enterprise Group meets at The Flower Cottage, 300 E. Atlantic Blvd., Pompano Beach at 8 a.m. for breakfast. Email: cob3@bellsouth.net

Primetune Auto Repair offers a nationwide warranty from bumper to bumper, and even does vintage car restorations



Cathy and Paul Oliva, owners of Primetune Auto Repair in Pompano Beach pause in front of the wall of Paul's many framed recertification certificates.

By Phyllis J. Neuberger

PELICAN STAFF

Primetune is a unique 'Ma/Pa' auto repair shop, located at 2644 NE 5th Ave. in Pompano Beach. Owners, Cathy and Paul Oliva are proud to be an Auto Value Shop.

Cathy explains that this designation means the work done in this shop is covered by a confidence plus, nationwide warranty. The husband/wife team holds itself to high standards, promising skilled repair service to every car.

Where else would a customer give an unsolicited testimonial to a stranger? Carolyn Nick was just paying her bill when the Pelican showed up to interview the owners. She had this to say: "I'm a long time Primetune customer. I come here for oil changes regularly and any other car problem I may encounter. I trust them to do what they say they need to do. They're fair and don't take advantage of those in trouble. I travel from N. Lauderdale to Primetune. As I drive here, I pass up many competitors because I count on this place for its

fairness and service.

Where else do friends and neighbors crowd into a business office for a chat and a cup of coffee? Cathy keeps a fresh pot going all day and says, "Our customers become like family to us and our family is the same to them. We keep track of one another and share the events in our lives—both good and bad."

Where else can vintage car owners get their precious collector cars restored to running condition? Paul brings his expertise to this challenge. He says, "Getting these cars into running condition is a big project and very time consuming so we try to hold the number to two a year. I just finished putting a 1958 Cadillac Biarritz into mechanically running condition. The owner is thrilled and he can now drive it to local car shows."

"We bought Primetune in 1996," Cathy says. "We were located then at Federal and Sample, but moved to this location six years ago. We're proud to be an Auto Value Shop. As a member of this nationwide organization, everything we do is covered by a confidence plus, nationwide warranty. Very few

independent shops, like ours, offer this guarantee. We are also certified to perform regular scheduled maintenance suggested by car manufacturers. Paul is an ASE Master recertified tech and we have a second ASE certified tech. ASE is an acronym for Automotive Service Excellence."

Primetune is also authorized by A C Delco which means that all Delco parts are guaranteed for 12 months or 12,000 miles.

The repair shop is filled with cars, but still appears unusually clean and uncluttered. Cathy points out the carpeting beneath the cars on lifts as the mechanics do their work. She asks, "Have you ever seen mechanics working on a car with carpeting underneath the car? My husband hates dirt on the floor so he places clean carpeting under every lift while he works. We can't close up at night until the floor is swept clean of every speck of dirt."

Paul credits his expertise in fixing car problems to extensive training and buying the right equipment. He says, "All vehicles are now computer controlled so I purchased the big three, Ford, Chrysler, and GM factory diagnostic equipment which allows me to diagnose problems just like the factory does. We don't need to guess what's wrong with any American car; nor do we need to guess about fixing it. We get it right the first time. These tools are invaluable and worth every penny we spent on them."

He points to one wall covered with framed certifications and says, "Every time there's a new course or seminar I take advantage of the learning offered and become certified."

Fred Hetu is an enthusiastic Primetune customer who says "Paul has done work on all four of my cars. I own two new cars and two vintage cars. There's nothing Paul can't fix and you never get anything you don't need from him. He's great and I recommend him to everyone."

Paul says this business needs constant education including what's coming up such as hybrids and electric cars. He says, "I expect a big transition is coming to consumers. This

See AUTO REPAIR on page 14

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West

Continued from page 1

Rajner added that West's recent statement in the Tampa Tribune that "People can change their behavior, but I can't change my color," comparing racial integration in the U.S. military and the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, was an affront to the GLBT community.

While some officials in town agree that First Amendment Rights prevail in all cases, their comments did not come without criticism.

Said Commissioner Julie Carson, "While the Wilton Manors Business Association and its members are free to invite speakers of their choice, and the City of Wilton Manors provides a great venue for those speakers, it is ironic that Allen West will address a group of business owners,

many of whom are GLBT, and others whose businesses rely in large part on the currency of the GLBT community.

"The good residents and business owners of Wilton Manors know that Allen West's anti-gay, misogynistic, and disreputable rhetoric have no place in proper civil or political discourse. His extremist views are not reflective of the soul of American Society, nor are they representative of the heart of the Wilton Manors business owners and residents who struggle to eradicate the very hate speech that the Congressman spews.

"I will certainly be happy to welcome the Congressman to our great Island City and thank him for his military service to our country prior to his talk. I will seek his active support of our business community, as well as his assistance in continuing the fight for GLBT

and all human rights. However, I will be attending an important City Planning and Zoning Meeting beginning at 7 p.m., so I will be unable to be present for the event."

City Commissioner Scott Newton, said "He's our Congressman. Like or dislike, he's the one we have to go to for the U.S. government. We need to listen and voice our opinions of what's going on. I'd rather see him fixing the mess [debt ceiling and budget] in Washington. They tell us that we have to tighten our [city] belts, and they loosen theirs with a higher debt ceiling."

Rajner, who had been in Washington D.C. working on "the implementation of a National HIV/AIDS strategy," said he was "shocked" that WMBA president, Celeste El-

lich, had invited the Congressman to speak.

In a letter, Rajner "demanded" that Ellich "disinvite" West and added the following:

"Celeste, I'm demanding that you take a courageous stand of leadership for the rights of GLBT-Americans as President of the Wilton Manors Business Association and disinvite West to your August 8th meeting. If not, GLBT-community leaders and other social justice advocates will:

Call for your resignation;
Call on businesses to disavow the Wilton Manors Business Association for placing profits ahead of human rights; and

Call on the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender-community to boycott any and

all businesses who are members of the Wilton Manors Business Association, including GLBT-owned businesses willing to put profits ahead of human rights."

On Thursday, Congressman West sent an email to Ellich stating his concerns about a "boycott . . . to hurt hard-working small business owners only because an association wants to be better informed on business related issues that are taking place in Washington, DC."

We added, "I want to request that you [Ellich] take the necessary steps to ensure the format is focused on the Wilton Manors Business Association members."

Ellich did not return calls or emails. The Pelican was unable to reach Congressman West.

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MLK

Continued from page 1
and Friday, Aug. 12, at 5 p.m. But members of the panel will be their work Thursday at noon and according to the Institute's Executive Director Carla Coleman, will "work into the night" returning the next morning for a day long session.

A similar study was done recently in Deerfield Beach where the panel envisioned a

new future for Sullivan Park and the east end of the Cove Shopping Center. Their ideas for creating a "marine village" will be presented in full at the next Community Redevelopment Agency meeting Aug. 16.

In Pompano's WCRA, the task is to develop a public/private strategy that brings in viable mixed uses developed over time, to find ways to encourage capital investment, to consider residential and retail development all with an eye on potential impacts to the

Broward County Transit Center, already in place, historic preservation and the future public library, civic building campus at Pompano Beach City Hall.

"The real challenge is to not stuff too much stuff into a day and a half," Coleman said. "These are not meant to be full feasibility studies."

On the panel will be Neisen Kasdin, a former mayor of Miami Beach and now vice chair of the Miami Downtown Development Authority; Thomas R. Kohler, principal at RERC Strategic Advisors in Orlando; Douette Pryce, President of Pryce Resources LLC in Sewalls Point, FL; Bruce W. Retzsch, principal

at RLC Architects in Boca Raton; Tony Trella, a development consultant and president of The Meranth Company, Deerfield Beach; Surie Yaffar, principal, Zyscovich Architects, Miami; and an not yet named developer skilled in small scale, neighborhood retail development.

Coleman, a resident of Pompano Beach, has headed up the Urban Land Institute, or ULI, for more than seven years. Regional offices are in Lighthouse Point where she operates with a staff of two out of a tiny space. "We are lean and mean," she said.

Her region extends from Indian River County through Miami-Dade and into the Caribbean. The ULI is funded by its 700 members.

Coleman calls it a "white hat" organization that brings together private interests to

determine the best uses for land. "I love this job. There is something different every day," she said. The ULI also exists to educate, but not lobby. When the state's new growth management law was pending during the last legislative session, Coleman held two information sessions on the new law and the changes that could be expected. "As an organization, we did not take a stand, but we tried to get a handle on it," she said.

In several months, a full report of the MLK study will be produced and posted on the ULI website. In the meantime, the panel will hit the highlights of the findings at Friday's public meeting.

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Goodyear

Continued from page 8

blimp is in action almost all the time. One of its most visible locations is over high-profile sports events – NASCAR races, football, baseball and basketball games, providing overhead video of the locations.

The blimp is equipped with sophisticated equipment to operate an electric sign with commercial messages and to provide high-definition pictures for television. Goodyear donates about half those messages to charitable organizations. Grassian, the Goodyear spokesman, says the company doesn't charge

the TV networks for the aerial coverage, but, of course, the company gains visibility and promotional credit in return.

Maintaining the blimp in Pompano Beach is a major investment for the company. Besides the four pilots, a ground crew of 16 is needed to maintain the blimp and to launch and land it. The company leases about 32 acres of land at the Air Park and, according to Steven Rocco, the Air Park manager, Goodyear pays approximately \$65,000 a year.

In simplest terms, the blimp is a helium-filled balloon with engines burning aviation fuel to propel it.

Because of the mainte-

nance requirements, whenever the blimp takes off, the maintenance crew takes off as well – a caravan of sorts. Each operation includes a large bus, a tractor-trailer rig and a passenger van. They may be needed at any time for maintenance on the blimp or the electronic equipment.

Learning to fly the blimp is very different from learning to fly an airplane. Unlike an airplane, which has two sets of controls, the blimp has only one set of controls, which makes training more cumbersome and time consuming. An experienced pilot may take a year of training in the Goodyear blimp before being certified by the Federal Aviation Administration.

Flying it is also very different from flying an airplane. Pilot Corky Belanger, of Boynton Beach, explains that frequent changes in the atmosphere or weather conditions cause the helium to get heavier or lighter, so constant

adjustments must be made. At times, pilots must use much force to maneuver the behemoth. Like a battleship, it doesn't turn on a dime.

The blimp provides the type of flying that Corky Belanger enjoys most. His dad was a Goodyear pilot, and he grew up around blimps. He never wanted to be "a bus driver." Slamming the door on a couple of hundred passengers in a commercial airliner flying at 32,000 feet never appealed to him. "I like flying low and slow," he says. "I see the world from a whole different aspect."

He will happily carry on the Goodyear promotional campaign that began in 1925 – flying this helium-filled billboard in the sky. Public relations manager Doug Grassian, who lives in Coral Springs, points out that this is one form of advertising that

has not been overtaken by the rapid-pace communication of the social media, such as MySpace, Facebook and twitter. "The blimp is an old idea. It doesn't go fast and it's not immediate," he says. After 86 years, the blimp is indeed an old idea – but one that remains extraordinarily effective.

Sightings

Continued from page 4

projects, and more! Win a \$50 shopping spree! Pick-up a Discovery Tour Guide at participating merchants in Harbor Village, Atlantic Square Shopping Center or at the CRA information booth. Free Parking is available. Event is located just west of the Intracoastal on East Atlantic Boulevard in Pompano Beach.

See SIGHTINGS on page 17

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Fort Lauderdale's Christina Wan's restaurant serves up traditional Chinese cuisine in elegant setting

By Malcolm McClintock

PELICAN STAFF

"My family has been serving authentic Chinese food in South Florida since 1966," says a perpetually beaming Christina Wan.

The friendly Hong Kong native is proudly upholding a long standing familial tradition that has, over the past half century, spawned successful eateries in Miami, North Miami Beach, Hollywood and Fort Lauderdale.

The soft ambient lighting, the woody overtones of the chairs and banquettes, the traditional Chinese artwork, the soothing warmth of the champagne colored walls and the impeccable cleanliness of the locale all coalesce to create a sophisticated and elegant ambiance without the inflated prices to match.

"I opened this place on Federal Highway about 6 1/2 years ago with the help of my husband Jason," says Wan while surveying the opulent, fully-stocked bar and tastefully



[Above]: Bursting with flavor, the Crystal Shrimp are loaded with healthy veggies. Left: These curry infused Singapore Noodles overflow with shrimp, chicken, pork and vegetables.



[Above]: Tasty appetizers: pork dumplings and juicy barbecue ribs are just some of the popular starters offered at Christina Wan's.



Christina Wan, the smiling face of her Fort Lauderdale eatery, shows off a few classic Chinese delicacies.

decorated landscape of her restaurant. "He does the cooking while I take care of the front of the house."

Although originally from Vietnam, husband and co-owner Jason has honed his Chinese culinary skills under the tutelage of Christina's father. The Saigon born Chef is now the artist responsible for producing the mouthwatering masterpieces that keep customers coming back again and again.

Located near downtown

See Christina Wan's on page 16



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No. 11 Station to get new digs on the beach



Rendering of Fire Station No. 11, built to withstand a Category 5 hurricane

"It has been a lot of work by a lot of people and a great day for us," said John Jurgle, Pompano Beach Assistant Fire Chief.

On Thursday, city officials, residents and fire fighters broke ground for Fire Station 11, 109 N. Ocean Blvd. replacing the original station that has served the beach area since 1957. Station 11 represents the 11th fire station in Broward County.

The Two-story, 13,204 Sq. Ft. building will have three bays for engines and a living, working area.

Fire Station 11 is designed to withstand a Category 5 hurricane and will be LEED certified, a category of buildings that are designed with specific environmental and efficiency elements.

The \$2.7 million construction, and it is expected to be operational within a year.

Auto Repair

Continued from page 9

new technology will present new challenges which we are fully prepared to meet. I think we will see charging stations in private homes, and spaced along interstate highways, rest stops and eventually along main roadways. Consumers will be surprised to find that these new vehicles are as peppy as gas

driven cars. The demands for fossil fuels will decrease and the price of gas will really drop. It's the old rule of supply and demand."

Cathy and Paul are on hand five days a week. "Weekends are family time spent with our two sons," Cathy says. "Paul Jr. is 15 and Kyle is 12. Both boys want to work here when they can on school holidays. Paul is starting them at the bot-

tom fixing stock in the parts department and cleaning the shop. I'm very busy running this office but I still make time to volunteer for His House Children's Home in Miami Gardens. Right now, I'm hitting on friends and customers to help me fill 60 backpacks for the kids heading back to school."

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Florida House in Deerfield beach

Florida House

continued from page 1

for people coming off addictions. He does not accept court-ordered clients nor those institutionalized under the Baker Act. He does not accept sexual predators. Cost of care at The Florida House runs \$15,000 a month and clients stay for periods of 30 days to a year.

He runs a special program for professional people: doctors, lawyers, pilots. "These people are not monsters. They are your son, or daughter," Abu-Moustafa said.

The Florida House already offers detox treatment using other facilities in the area. After the three-day detox, the clients come to Florida House to complete their rehab.

Before he paid Carlos Sanchez, owner of the cigar store and smoking club \$1.3 million for his property, Abu-Moustafa checked with the Planning and Zoning Department to insure he met all regulations for expanding his campus. He was told a substance abuse treatment center is a permitted use of the B-2 zone. So he had \$100,000 in design work done and is beginning the process of getting detox certification from the state, "a very strict process."

Senior Planner Marcia Stevens confirms that the detox center is a permitted use, but said that Abu-Moustafa also has to meet all the other qualifications of the code. In this case, the planning board turned down his site plan taking their cues from the Land Development Code which speaks to neighborhood compatibility. "It can be applied to any situation, Stevens said." "It is a long standing part of the Land Use Code."

The 7,000 square-foot building backs up to four or five single-family homes on SE 5 street and SE 5 Court and is buffered by a fence and dense foliage.

"I am willing to accommodate any concerns," he said of the neighbors' fears. He has already agreed to eliminate an outdoor patio because of the protest. "You think I want unhappy neighbors? I'll work with the community," he said. "I'll make it beautiful"

Abu-Moustafa built The

Florida House from three separate properties, one retail, two residential, that had been troublesome spots for local law enforcement. Since he arrived here 10 years ago from Boston as an addict himself, he acquired each parcel, all in the 500 block of S. Federal Highway. One of the commercial spots has become JoJo's Café and is open to the public.

The irony for Abu-Moustafa, 42, is that he has operated The Florida House with little fanfare for years. "No one even knows what this is," he said. In those years, he has made major improvements and today the buildings are well tended, the landscaping lush, the pool fit for a resort.

The Florida House can accommodate 80 clients and about the same number of people are employed there including his wife Robin, who is the clinical director, and a number of psychiatrist, psychologists, clinicians and nurses. "Our clients don't come here for the sun and fun, they come because we are a respected facility," Abu-Moustafa said.

But the 'No Detox Facility in my Neighborhood' Facebook page created to gather support against his proposed facility continues to mention drug dealers. Writes Gina Dallen "...drug dealers come around and stash drugs for the addicts." And JW Dooley said, "I don't want to gamble my child's safety because you need a place to detox."

"They are stuck with the same record," Abu-Moustafa said. "They are creating Freddy Krueger and Elm Street. A detox center is the last place to find drugs."

He wishes his neighbors and city commissioners would come and visit. So far, only Mayor Peggy Noland has taken a tour of his campus. Abu-Moustafa thinks she was impressed with his operation, but the mayor could not be reached for comment at press time. "My door is open," he said.

If the city commission turns down his detox site plan, Abu-Moustafa says he will not go away. "I will sue the city. It can buy the property and pay my lost wages... The city gave me permission. It is my legal right. I am not someone who takes his ball and goes home."



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Restaurant

Continued from page 13

Fort Lauderdale, Christina Wan's not only enjoys the patronage of area residents but also many local celebrities, judges, lawyers and business people in general. "Our customers like us because we have a very friendly environment," adds Wan who greets all her regular patrons by their first names.

The hereditarily industrious restaurateur presents a menu that encompasses specialties from the various culinary regions of China. Sinophiles will deeply relish the plethora of Cantonese, Szechuan and Mandarin specialties on hand.

Many guests begin a meal with a tasty soup such as wonton, egg drop or chicken corn. It is also worth noting that Christina Wan's serves an outstanding hot & sour soup which is generally considered the hallmark of a high quality Chinese restaurant.

On the appetizer front, a few dim-sum offerings such as pork, shrimp or vegetarian dumplings are fun items to share amongst friends. "We hand-make our dumplings. It takes more time and work but they are truly excellent," says the affable proprietor.

Other classic starters include honey garlic chicken wings, satay beef, tenderloin pork slices and the famously delectable barbecue ribs.

With regard to entrees, Christina Wan's delivers a wealth of highly prized delicacies. Be it Mandarin scallion

beef, Mu Shu pork, sweet & sour crispy chicken, Cantonese roast duck, spicy garlic shrimp or fried tilapia with Szechuan sauce, the options are as plentiful as they are varied.

"Our black pepper scallops are very popular but my favorite dish is the orange beef. We make it the traditional way. It is hard to find it as crispy and flavorful as ours," says Wan with a knowing smile.

"Everything is made fresh in house. We make our own dough, batter our own chicken and make all of our sauces. Our food is very light and flavorful because it is made the traditional way," adds Wan who also offers a low-carb menu for health-conscious customers.

Served with vegetable spring roll and jasmine rice, lunch specials such as lemon grass chicken, shrimp in lobster sauce or pepper beef start at \$7.95. Sunset dinners include soup for \$12. Regular entrees are in the \$9-\$16 range. Beer is \$3.50, wine glasses \$5 and bottles begin at \$19.

There is ample free parking. All major credit cards are accepted and delivery is available. Large groups are welcomed and catering is also offered.

For an authentic, affordable and elegant Chinese dining experience in downtown Fort Lauderdale, the family run Christina Wan's is an option that should always be at the top of one's list.

Malcolm McClintock holds an MBA and has lived in Thailand, Spain, France, Mexico, Canada and the US where he has developed a deep apprecia-

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Standing in front of the Portuguese flag, friendly waitress Josy shows off a typically large portion of chicken parmigiana.

Simply tossed with olive oil and vinegar, the grilled chicken salad is flavorful, healthy and plentiful.

Served with spaghetti and tomatoes, the chicken parmigiana is an enormous plate of tender breaded chicken breast smothered in cheese and tangy homemade pasta sauce.

Three Portugalia specialties – the Ameijoas à Bulhão Pato, the Bolinhos de Bacalhau and the Camarao à Guillo. The little neck clams are prepared with garlic, cilantro, olive oil and white wine. The deep fried Bacalhau cod fish cakes can be enjoyed with various tangy sauces. The sautéed shrimp are smothered in a mild spicy garlic sauce. All meals come with warm Portuguese bread known as Pano Seco.

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New faces, new boards appointed to give advice in Oakland Park

By **Judy Vik**

PELICAN STAFF

Oakland Park – Seven residents were appointed to a newly formed Charter Review Board at the July 20 City Commission meeting.

The board will exist for a term of 15 months and conduct a minimum of two public hearings. The board will file a report of its recommendations [of charter changes] with the City Commission no later than

the end of the twelfth month. After 15 months, the board will sunset and cease to exist.

Named to the board by commissioners were: D'Ann Clark, Jack Doren, William Sears, Layne Dallett Walls, Daniel West and Joanne Darling. City Manager John Stunson appointed Caryll Stevens.

Clark is a senior attorney with the office of the chief counsel for the Internal Revenue Service in Plantation;

Doren, a retired psychologist, chairs the city's Planning & Zoning Board and Sears is a retired electrical engineer with FPL.

West is a former hospital CEO with Cornerstone Health Group in Houston, Texas; Stevens is employed by RMS Accounting; and Darling is a consultant with Comp Health and a Realtor.

Walls, owner of Aerko International, was a city commissioner for 12 years and mayor for three years.

Stevens was a commissioner for 16 years, serving four years as mayor.

Thirteen residents applied for the seats.

Six members retain seats on School Advisory Board

Commissioners re-appointed the six members of the city's School Advisory Board.

They are Tom Glaser; Layne Dallet Walls, Lewis

Naylor, Eddie Murphy, Patrick Brochu and Bernardo Ramos.

Glaser is a teacher at Mater Academy Charter High School, Miami-Dade County; Walls, owner of Aerko International in Oakland Park; Naylor, Realtor/owner, Realtor Realty, Inc., Oakland Park.

Murphy is pastor of St. Andrews WMC, Fort Lauderdale; Brochu, director of marketing and events, Kawa Orthodontics, Boca Raton; and Ramos, security officer, Hilton Fort Lauderdale Beach Resort, Fort Lauderdale.

Purpose and duties of the board are to advise the city commission on all issues relating to educational matters which impact the quality of education for city residents or will impact education facilities in the city.

Members serve for one-year terms. Nine residents applied for the positions. Each commissioner appoints one member, and the city manager

appoints one.

Beautification Advisory Board

Commissioners also named two residents to the Beautification Advisory Board to replace two members who resigned.

Appointees are Gary Lanham, a real estate broker and president of Real Estate Recovery; and Douglas B. Weisz, director of marketing and operations for Air Ambulance Professionals.

This committee recommends plans to the City Commission to improve the general health, sanitation, safety and cleanliness of the city. Members encourage and recommend placing, planting and preservation of trees, flowers and shrubbery on public and private properties. They review and make recommendations on all city landscape projects related to enhancing city parks, buildings and rights of way when costs exceed \$5,000.

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Sightings

Continued from page 12

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Clubs

Democratic Women's Club is co-chairing the State Convention, Sept. 15 to 18. At the Hilton Deerfield Beach, 100 Fairway Drive, Deerfield. To participate as delegates or alternates call Maggie Davidson at 954-942-8711.

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Percussionists, euphonium and clarinet players are especially needed. If you enjoy "making music," call Jim McGonigal, Music Director at 954-647-0700 for more info.

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Managers

Continued from page 1

is a catalyst to bring in the right business.

Hoffmann said marketing is a lot about building relationships and trust. She couldn't see bringing on a temporary staff person to do that. An option is to do it by contract. "Then if it's not paying off, it's easier to say this goes away."

As far as business development, she said her impression is the commissioners want to bring in additional retailers and hoteliers and help those already in town.

"I need clear direction. I need clear consensus on what you want. It's like we take two steps forward and one back," Hoffmann said.

Sasser said he would like to go with contracts "to test the efficacy" of the plans. "I'd like to take one step forward but not three back," he said.

Minnet said she had no problem with contracts. "Let's take baby steps."

Commissioners agreed to go ahead with contracts for the marketing position and business development. Hoffmann said she sees the business development positions as two contracts, one for retail and one for hotel. "We have very specific needs. I would rather buy specific expertise."

Sasser said he would like a pilot program, "not an open checkbook."

Attorney fees

City commissioners agreed to a 10 percent cut in attorney fees, after Mayor Minnet called for a \$50,000 reduction. Town Attorney Susan Trevarthen currently operates with a \$350,000 budget.

Hiring a planning director could reduce some of her costs, Trevarthen told the commission. She has developed forms to minimize legal reviews and her firm has not changed its rate structure.

Hoffmann said now that "some kinks have been ironed out," she would be open for a retainer with the town attorney rather than the hourly rate. "I cannot control legal expenditures. There needs to be some avenue to control that, since we're on an hourly basis," she said.

"We should have some of the responsibility over this," Sasser said. "We can manage below what's budgeted. When we make decisions, I'd appreciate it if we didn't go over old ground."

When the topic of a retainer with the town attorney first came up at a May roundtable, Sasser said he was the only one in favor of it. The decision was 4-1 against the idea. "I thought we were over this," he said.

"How many times do you know where someone comes in under budget?" Minnet asked Sasser. "Let's work within a reasonable budget."

Trevarthen noted that the firm has come in under budget for two years.

Commissioners agreed to reduce the budget for the town attorney by 10 percent.

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American Legion

Continued from page 7

the task of nominating supreme court justices.

The elections for senator happened on day four. The stomach campaign worked for me and I was elected as a senator."

We had classes in Florida law, history and government taught by professors from Florida State University and one judge from District Court One. Once I was elected, I wrote a bill to locate red light confirmation devices at every intersection with accident

records of 30 percent or more above the norm. My bill was debated and passed. Most of the proposed bills were shot down, but we did move 40 through the Senate. We were allowed one joke bill and it passed suggesting that inmates on death row could live if they survived five rounds of gladiator combat. The last round was with lions and tigers."

"This was an incredible experience. I came away with great respect for the system which puts up so many roadblocks, it's amazing that anything gets accomplished. I was impressed by my peers and I'm already texting with a number of them. After

seeing the FSU campus and getting familiar with it, I want to attend college there when I graduate high school next year. I feel grateful to the American Legion for creating and paying for this program and I encourage juniors next year to find out who makes the recommendations and make your interest known to that person."

Joe Balistreri was tickled with his nephew's recounting of his stay at Boys' State, and he said, "It's one of the fastest and clearest ways to see how government works and how our elected officials can and do manipulate the rules. It's a fast track at Boys' State and I coached Dominic on distinguishing himself quickly to get the most out of the experience."

Jim Balistreri, Dominic's

dad, says, "I was thrilled when Dominic was chosen and grateful once again to the Legion for sponsoring this wonderful place. I will never forget how impressive it was to sit in the real chambers where all of our laws are passed. Ever since I attended Boys' State I have been interested in politics. I hope to run for state office in the future."

Asked what office he would like to seek, Jim says, "I'd like to be Governor of Florida."

Then he adds, "The whole program is so real and well orchestrated, I take my hat off to Post 142 of the American Legion. They've created an intense, fun and unforgettable week for all who attend."

Thank you American Legion for this outstanding gift to the young men and women in our community,

July 4th armed robber at large

Pompano Beach - Broward Sheriff's Office robbery detectives are looking for a masked man, captured on surveillance video robbing a Shell gas station store. The robber, dressed in a red baseball cap, light green shirt, shorts, sneakers and sunglasses with a dark bandana covering his lower face, had a knife, threatened the clerk and took cash from the register. He may have spoken with a Spanish accent. The robbery took place at about 3 p.m. July 4 at 3101 W. Atlantic Blvd. Anyone with information should BSO Robbery Det. Steven Hoover at 954-321-4270 or to Crime Stoppers of Broward County at 954- 493-TIPS

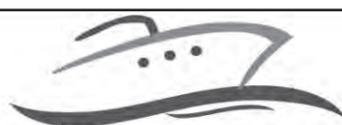
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Friday, July 29 Low 1:37 AM High 7:46 AM Low 1:55 PM High 8:26 PM	Monday, August 1 Low 3:55 AM High 10:15 AM Low 4:15 PM High 10:40 PM	Thursday, August 4 High 12:12 AM Low 6:24 AM High 12:49 PM Low 6:50 PM
Saturday, July 30 Low 2:23 AM High 8:36 AM Low 2:41 PM High 9:11 PM	Tuesday, August 2 Low 4:42 AM High 11:04 AM Low 5:04 PM High 11:25 PM	This Week's Tide Tables should not be used for navigational purposes. Boaters should confirm tables with the Coast Guard Weather Station information taken from www.saltwatertides.com
Sunday, July 31 Low 3:09 AM High 9:26 AM Low 3:28 PM High 9:55 PM	Wednesday, August 3 Low 5:31 AM High 11:56 AM Low 5:56 PM	

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Weekly Fishing Report

Capt. RJ Boyle is an experienced angler in South Florida. His studio is located in Lighthouse Point. Call 954-420-5001..

Mixed Bag

Pompano Beach - Be ready for anything this weekend. I was picking up bonitos from my friend, Capt. Charlie Brown, at the Seamist in Boynton Beach Wednesday and Thursday.

Both days he had over 25 bonitos, 8 nice kingfish, and a wahoo over 20 pounds. The guys at Hillsboro Inlet on the *Helen S* reported about the same catch.

For the guys fishing offshore most were pleased to find dolphin ranging in size from 5 to 25 pounds. The driftboats were catching their fish on sardines drifted with double hooks (3407 mustads).

The best of the dolphin were caught on larger double hooked rigged ballyhoo. There was a ton of small dolphin around as well, so be sure not to take anything under size.

The legal size for dolphin is 20 inches to the fork.

We have also noticed that the Florida Fish and Wildlife folks have been stopping lots of boats in the area.

Make sure you have all of your licenses, extinguishers, and the necessary items to be legal.

Mini season is usually a time when they crack down on local boaters.

Get Tight
RJ Boyle

2011 Chevrolet Volt: a game changer

By Ric Green

PELICAN WRITER

Chevrolet introduced the first GM electric car late last year. The five-door compact -hatchback 2011 Chevrolet Volt is a plug and drive automobile with an asterisk. You can plug it in overnight using the same wall outlet that you plug your toaster into and by morning, the car's battery is fully charged. It provides 30 to 40 miles of battery range, Exceed the charge life, and here is where the asterisk comes in, it can go up to another 300 miles from a gasoline engine-generator that sends power directly to the car's motor.

I recently got to spend a week with this glimpse of the automotive future. Every day

I drove it around northeast Broward. Some days I stayed close to my office, other days I traveled from Fort Lauderdale to Deerfield and back. Then at the end of the day I pulled the Volt up to my house, took the charging unit out of the trunk and plugged one end into one of my house's electric outlets. Then I popped open the gas-cap-like door that revealed another outlet, plugged the cord from my house into the car and each morning I woke up to the Volt with its lithium-ion battery pack fully charged.

Each morning the charger icon on the dashboard said I could drive 40 miles, but in

the south Florida heat and my desire to run the air conditioning at full blast worked to lower that number. Coupled with my lead foot, I would get closer to 30 miles from the evening charge.

If I exceeded the range of the battery charge, the Volt automatically switched to the gasoline powered engine. It did so without notice or incident and I could continue on my way.

However the Volt's gasoline engine doesn't usually power the car directly. It is the second electric engine powered by the gas generator that recharges the battery that

See CHEVROLET on page 24

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For the Deerfield Beach Sharks, a girls 10-and-under fastpitch softball team, it's one goal down, one to go, Pompano Beach Hammerheads go to nationals

By Cindy Thuma

PELICAN WRITER

Deerfield Beach - On July 10, the Sharks won the United States Specialty Sports Association's, or USSSA, Florida 10-and-under championship. The team followed up by winning a national championship warm-up tournament on July 17.

Currently the team is in Central Florida playing in USSSA's World Series. As of press time, the Sharks had gone undefeated through seeding play and are entering elimination round play.

In softball-crazy South Florida, the Sharks have

chewed up the competition in the 2010-2011 season. Of the 17 tournaments they have played since they started the season in late October, they have won 15, dominating most of them. Going into the USSSA World Series, their record was 80-6.

At the state tournament, for example, the Sharks went 6-1, scoring 55 runs and allowing 5. At the national tournament warm-up at Okechee Park in suburban West Palm Beach, they went 5-0, scoring 32 runs and allowing 4.

"One of the main reasons we've done so well, I think is the girls genuinely like each other," said head coach Karla

Antonio. Another team plus is a great coaching staff, she said, and a third is they've been focused on two specific goals since the start of the season.

"Winning state and then nationals, that's been our goal from the beginning," Antonio says.

The team started out in Boca Raton as an 8-and-under team for the West Boca Diamonds. Antonio took the team's nucleus and moved it as an independent team. The team first played at a Coconut Creek private school's facilities.

"In January, we became homeless, going from park to

park," Antonio said. Finally Deerfield Beach offered the team a home. "And from there, we started winning," Antonio said.

The team added some new blood with tryouts in August and by October, the winning had begun. Still, Antonio and the players know there are no gimmies. Two teams in particular have provided stiff competition, the West Pines Diamond Dusters from Pembroke Pines, and the

Wellington Wild.

The Diamond Dusters have proved to be particularly thorny competition.

"Every time we play them, it's a battle," Antonio said. As for Wellington, "The Wild is very tough, too," she said. "We might meet them in the next round here (at nationals)."

The team's players come from Miramar to southern

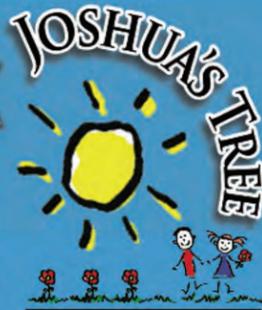
See SHARKS on page 23

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Sharks

Continued from page 22

Palm Beach County.

They are: Brandi Antonio, Brooke Antonio, Rosemary Barrientos, Karissa Bauzon, Maegan Calandra, Jordyn Griffith, Gabrielle Jadotte, Sami Restrepo, Amy Robbins, Tiffany Saba and Mia Velez.

The coaching staff has the expertise and experience of a major college program.

Antonio was a track star in college, and in 2006 was awarded Drake University's Double D Award. She later coached track at a Texas high school and a Nebraska university.

Joining Antonio on the coaching staff is her husband, Jose Antonio, who is a professor of exercise science at Nova Southeastern University. The Sharks travel to NSU once a week

for hitting practice, and Nova softball coach Lesa Bonee also works with the team. Other members of the coaching staff are Kevin Griffith, Devin Higginbotham, Caitlyn Bliss and Jordan Angel.

Pompano Beach Hammerheads heading to nationals,
Pompano Beach - This football club is heading to Central Florida for nationals, too. The Pompano Beach club plays soccer and plays it well with national and world championship team wins

already to its credit.

As one of the county's smaller elite soccer programs, the Sharks play 3v3 soccer and are sending their under-11, under-12, under-13, under-18, under-14 girls and under-30s teams - a total of 36 players in all -- to the Challenge Sports 3v3 championships at the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex in Kissimmee, July 28-31.

"We haven't been able to get enough kids to put together 11v11," said program director and coach Jimmy Elder, who said he likes

the challenges 3v3 soccer provides. In 3v3, games tend to be lightning fast and result in higher scores. It's a great conditioner and players build speed, endurance and skills. Referees love it, too because there is no offside rule.

"Playing 11v11 is easy; playing 3v3 is hard," he said. "You have to be fit to play and you can't hide."

Scoreboard

Pompano Beach Men's Golf Assn.

Wed., July 27

1st place team

Tom Pawelczyk, Bill Hayes, Ernie Palinchik 58
 Closest to the Pin Palms #11

Pompano Beach Nine Holers

Group A

Susana Rust, Carolyn Kastelic (tie) . . . 30

Group B

Joanne Price 30
 Helene Caruso, Diane Constantino (tie) 34

Pompano Beach Women's Golf Assn.

July 26

Class A/B

1st Janet Stuart 69

Class C

1st Wiltrud Messinger 72

Class D

1st Lu Rispoli 79

2nd Elaine Schoengood 81

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Chevrolet

Continued from page 21

keeps the Volt on the road for up to another 300 miles or so. Running on gas only the Volt's motors still generate power at a respectable 37 miles to the gallon.

The Chevrolet Volt drives entirely like a "normal car." A normal car with a 16-kilowatt-hour lithium-ion battery, a 1.4-liter, 16-valve, 4-cylinder, in-line gasoline engine that is fed by a 9.3-gallon fuel tank. It's got front-wheel drive and does a peppy 8.8-second zero-to-60.

Appearance wise it is surprisingly sleek. It has clean lines, a youthful, video game feel to its dashboard display, and a few luxury-car amenities, such as the "not-needed-in-south Florida," butt-warmer seats.



As you would expect, the interior of the Chevrolet Volt has lots of techy toys including a color display with a built-in hard drive. In terms of function, the Volt's main controls are fairly intuitive, and the futuristic gauge readout is easy enough to be read at a glance. Then there is a little ball, sort of like the bubble in a water level game that helps you stay in the most energy-efficient driving range.

It's big and green when you are conserving fuel or battery energy and smaller and angry orange-yellow when you're not. For me it was challenging at times.

Standard features include 17-inch alloy wheels, automatic headlights, heated mirrors, keyless ignition, remote ignition, automatic climate control, cruise control, auto-dimming rearview mirror, six-way

manual front seats, tilt-and-telescoping steering wheel, cloth upholstery, Bluetooth, OnStar, a navigation system with touch screen, voice controls and real-time traffic, and a six-speaker Bose stereo with CD/DVD player, auxiliary audio jack, iPod/USB interface and 30GB of digital music storage.

The Premium Trim package adds leather upholstery, a leather-wrapped steering wheel and the "We don't need these

in Florida" heated front seats. The Rear Camera and Park Assist package adds a rearview camera and front and rear parking sensors.

Lastly there is the price tag. A not-so-modest MSRP of \$40,280. Coupled that with a \$7,500 federal tax credit it nets out to \$32,780. The question you will have to ask yourself is "how much do you want to pay to be green and drive this game changer?" For me, I love the message, but I feel the jury is still out on the messenger!

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Although his business is leverage buyouts which means buying and selling companies, Ben Smith, 38, the owner of the two Lighthouse Inns, 3305 SE 5 St. and 3208 NE 11 St., Pompano Beach since 2008 says, "These two assisted living facilities are keepers. I'm attached to the residents and would feel like I abandoned them if I sold the Inns.

My aunt, Sue Beall, is the very capable administrator of both residences and Suzi Mautner is our director of marketing. These two people are my life savers."

Mautner, who is a seasoned executive in this field, was asked how these Inns differ from other rental assisted living residences.

She replied, "We do all of the services one expects. The difference is in the exceptionally caring staff. We're intimate residences with a capacity of 33 in Lighthouse Inn South and 43 in Lighthouse Inn North. We're small enough to give personal attention.

The residents all know each other and have concerns for each other the way family members do for one another."

Continuing, she adds, "Our case manager/social worker

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Suzi Mautner director of marketing and Ben Smith, owner.

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applies for financial assistance for new residents wherever it is indicated. Many of our residents are receiving benefits from the government and VA programs. Until they moved in, they never realized they were entitled to them. This assistance helps them relax and forget their worries about being able to maintain themselves financially. A licensed therapist attends to individual and group therapy when the need exists."

Both facilities have activity directors who keep residents busy with walks to the ocean, bingo, card games, jewelry making, painting and other crafts. There's an exercise class every morning.

Ivan Lozada has lived at Lighthouse Inn South for four years. "I like the staff. They

take good care of my room and me. The food is good and always fresh. Ribs, chicken and meat loaf are my favorites. They bake the cakes and pies right here too, but butter pecan ice cream is still my favorite. I often walk the beach with my friends and I like bingo."

Cindy Ryan, thinks these Inns as life savers. "My dad lived at Lighthouse Inn, North for six years. I was impressed with the quality of care he received. When my husband needed assisted living, I moved them both to the South Inn. And I, unexpectedly ended up here too. They are very good to us. My husband needs constant attention and it is provided by willing and pleasant staff."

These two residences allow small pets. Mautner says, "if the resident can care for them.

Our staff assists residents with bathing, dressing and grooming, medical management, housekeeping and personal laundry service. Physical and occupational therapy, doctor visits and podiatrists are available on site. We arrange for transportation for off site visits to dentists, doctors and other activities. Family and friends are welcome visitors from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m."

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