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Friday, September 28, 2012 - Vol. XX, Issue 39

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60 days left in 2012 Hurricane season

RMA gets continuing contract to market culinary district

By Judy Vik

PELICAN STAFF

Oakland Park – City commissioners have approved a \$254,615 contract with Redevelopment Management Associates, RMA, to implement a five-year redevelopment plan and to market downtown as a culinary district.

The agreement calls for another \$150,000 for incentives and marketing collaterals to promote development in the CRA.

In July, commissioners authorized an agreement with RMA to complete a general review of the city's CRA

See RMA on page 9



Members of the Oakland Park Garden Club transformed parking spaces into a park-like center on "PARK(ing) Day" recently. The event took place at Oakland Park Boulevard and Northeast 6 Avenue. From left are Laurence Pengelly, club secretary; Bonnie Seibert, president; and Linda Gordon, treasurer. The group meets at 6:30 p.m. the third Tuesday of the month at Jaco Pastorius Community Center, 1098 NE 40 Court. [Staff photo by Judy Vik]

Residents want relief from Walmart's drainage project, tree removal

But city says it's all legal

By Anne Siren

PELICAN STAFF

Pompano Beach – When residents on NW 21 Ct. woke up Monday, they saw four 25-foot tanks within 50 feet of their homes.

The tanks were lined up in back of Walmart on Copans Road. Large valves and hoses connected the tanks.

On Tuesday, residents met with Walmart representatives, Mayor Lamar Fisher, an engineer from Kimley-Horn and other city officials to get some answers.

Lucas Anthony from Kimley-Horn explained that the work and the equipment were staged for drainage improvements to the Walmart Shopping Center. He said oil and

fuel leaks from cars in the parking lot combined with automobiles from Mercedes-Benz and Champion Motors dealerships have impacted the water quality for years.

Flooding has been an issue on the property since its construction in the late 80s. During Hurricane Irene, several cars were flooded, and pools of water after a rain are common.

The tanks, on lease from Carbonair, are charcoal filtering mechanisms positioned to clean polluted ground water from the runoff.

In preparation for the project, which will be completed early next year, two ponds behind Walmart have been drained, deepened and expanded as retention ponds for a new drainage

See WALMART on page 14

Property values on the rise so millage is slightly reduced

By Judy Vik

PELICAN STAFF

Lauderdale-By-The-Sea – Town commissioners unanimously agreed to lower the millage rate to the recommended 3.9312 during a special public hearing Monday. The rate was the same as tentatively approved Sept. 12.

The tax rate is down from the current rate of 3.9999 and is fourth lowest in the county.

Property values in LBTS are \$1.761 billion, a 1.7 percent increase from this year's \$1.759 billion, the first increase since 2007-2008.

With the increase in values, the lower tax rate will raise the same amount of revenues as last year, Tony Bryan, finance director, noted.

See LBTS TAX on page 19

Oakland Park resident embarks on 100-mile journey for cancer fight

By Michael d'Oliveira

PELICAN STAFF

Oakland Park – Mike Fitzpatrick has done plenty of walks to raise money and awareness to fight against breast cancer, but never one that lasted 100 miles.

Today starting at Big Dog Station in Oakland Park, Fitzpatrick, an Oakland Park resident, will be walking to Jupiter – a 100-mile

See 100-MILE TREK on page 20



Sushi in Lauderdale-By-The-Sea. See page 17.

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Keeping up with the times, photographer creates fine digital art works

By Judy Wilson

PELICAN STAFF

Deerfield Beach – When he was a young teen, Jeff Graves learned the intricacies of embroidery and threaded a complex, colorful design on the back of a denim jacket. Jump ahead several decades and he is doing the same type of artwork using high-tech computer software instead of a metal hook.

That's typical of the Deerfield Beach photographer who has always evolved in his work place as the graphics industry evolved. Backed up by the latest computer programs, Graves is now creating fine digital art works. It is tedious and time consuming, but the result is a photograph or other image that is markedly enhanced with minute brushstrokes,

See GRAVES on page 3



Photographer Jeff Graves has created a series of fine digital art pieces depicting south Florida.



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Graves

Continued from page 2

custom backgrounds and vivid colors.

For years, he worked with markers and pens to be a freehand illustrator. But this digital age has brought him new options. The computer, he says, actually releases his creative juices while being far less messy than traditional oils, markers or water colors. Nowadays, his airbrush is a special pen that he moves across a digital art pad. "If you have a creative hand, you can do anything you want,"

Graves said showing off the blunt-edged instrument.

Graves can start with a template – the outline of an image – and add his own special brush strokes, colors and background, draw original art, or enhance photographs such as the ones with this article of his friends Ann Marie and Charley Termini of Pompano Beach. [Right]

In his self-contained studio, Graves can print the digital art onto either special paper or canvas and secure it to a frame in a relatively short time.

A native of Chicago, Graves was educated at



College of DuPage and earned his master craftsman degree in applied science at Columbia College. He went to work as a staff photographer for Chicago Bridge and Iron, a builder of industrial and

nuclear structures. It was a job that took him to more than 30 countries and into dangerous locations where he photographed some of the world's largest manmade installations.

Along the way, always inventive, he experimented with new film, new cameras, new methods of developing prints.

He arrived in Deerfield Beach July 4, 1999, "in time to see the fireworks," he said.

Since then, he has moved into film making, editing and video work staying ahead of the field each time new technology comes along. He

is also a well-known figure around the area working civic and charity functions.

Now, he has a body of his new work ready for public display. It is a series of south Florida scenes – subjects as ordinary as the city hall clock tower or as exotic as an Indian alligator wrestler.

Because his material costs are minimal, these originals sell for far less than what might be expected and can be viewed on his website www.jaguarcomm.com.

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Fun-lovers sad to see Fifth Avenue Grill close its doors

By Judy Wilson

PELICAN STAFF

Lighthouse Point – The abrupt closing of the Fifth Avenue Grill this week has left a saddened community. “It was a surprise,” said LHP Mayor Fred Schorr. The food was very good, the atmosphere was great... I am sad to see them go.”

Opened here around 1998, the restaurant was known for its prime rib and summer lobster specials. The plantation-style building at 4650 N. Federal Highway had become iconic – a gathering place for residents of the tri-cities: LHP, Pompano Beach and Deerfield Beach. The succinct message, “Meet me at 5 at the Fifth,” confirmed many a happy hour date.

Schorr remembers it for having a large selection of very good wines stored on the second floor where the proper temperature was insured by a special generator.

“And that is a beautiful bar. I wonder what will happen to that?” the mayor said.

Later this week the answer became clear. The contents of the building will be auctioned Tuesday, Oct. 2.

Both Cheryl Jalbert and Marge Hanley said they were at the Fifth the day it opened and thereafter celebrated their birthday’s there, Jalbert’s just a few weeks ago.

“I am going to miss the place terribly,” Hanley said. “No place will match it for convenience. I was there Saturday night. It was so comfortable.” Her 85th birthday was toasted at the Fifth in May.

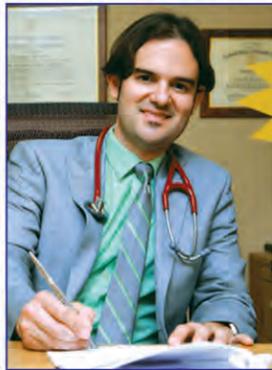
The restaurant closed its door after serving dinner Sunday with apparently no notice to its employees. Monday morning a handmade sign saying “Building Sold” covered the familiar monument marker on the highway. “My family is visiting this week and my daughter loved the prime rib there. I bet she thought we would have dinner there tonight,” Hanley said.

“For some reason I thought the place would never close,” said Jalbert. “Many of us in Lighthouse Point are not at all happy. I feel very sad.” Jalbert said that she was close with some of Fifth’s longtime employees. “It’s like losing

See FIFTH on page 26

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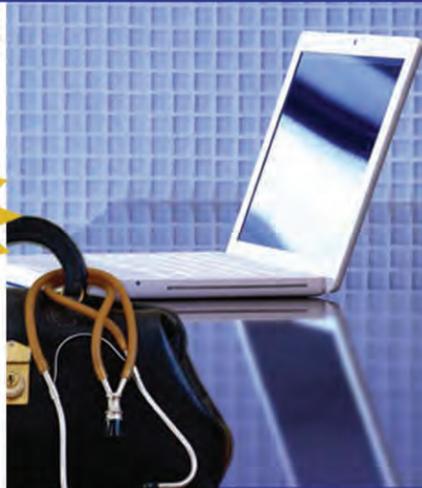
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Upscale movie experience now available in Deerfield Beach

Rotary Club among the first to enjoy new venue

By Judy Wilson

PELICAN STAFF

Deerfield Beach – Three men experienced in the movie-theater business have formed a partnership that continues to change the way people think about going to the movies. It's no longer about what to do on a rainy day. It's no longer about a bag of popcorn, a box of Milk Duds and gum on the floor.

Movie-going today has become an outing enhanced by the latest film technology, upscale surroundings,

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 Who - Liam Neeson, Famke Janssen, Maggie Grace.
 Why - To raise money for Deerfield Beach Rotary Charities.
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See PARAGON on page 24



Exterior of the Paragon Theater in Deerfield Beach shows a slick, new face.



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Anne Hanby Siren

Executive Assistant: Mary Hudson

Graphics: Rachel Ramirez Windsheimer

Bookkeeper: John White

Classifieds: Fran Shelby

Contributing Writers: Phyllis J. Neuberger,

Judy Wilson, Malcolm McClintock, Judy Vik, Michael d'Oliveira

Account Executives:

Paul Shroads, Carolyn Mann, Bill Heaton, Bill Fox

Special Office Assistant: Cathy Siren

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Anne Siren, publisher

Walmart can still do right by the residents who are their neighbors

Walmart on Copans Road may be a giant corporation, but in Pompano Beach, the store just became a bad neighbor.

The problem began with a "drainage project," planned months ago. Now it is a nightmare to the residents whose homes abut the Walmart property.

Here's why.

Without warning or notice, dozens of shade trees disappeared from around two retention ponds that lie between Walmart and the residents on Northwest 21 Avenue.

Without warning, four charcoal filter tanks upwards of 25 feet high and half as wide, appeared within 50 feet of some of these homes.

Water was drained from the two retention ponds and dumped into another pond raising the sea level too high for comfort during the hurricane season.

The tanks are used to clean ground water than has been polluted over the years from rainwater runoff from the parking lot.

Fuel leaks from vehicles at Mercedes-Benz and Champion Motors are part of these spills.

We know that cleaning ground water is a necessary chore for lots such as Walmart.

This is a clean-up operation. What's the big secret?

There is no buffer between the homes and the store, so the work that is going on is out in the open.

With these homes in such close proximity, we wonder how far the soil contamination goes.

And so do the residents who live there.

Through no fault of their own, their own properties could be at risk.

None of this had to happen if the right people had been informed, and that would be the people living right next to Walmart.

They were not.

Walmart has an obligation to prove to the neighbors that their soil has not been contaminated from fuel spill-offs.

They should build a safety fence around these 20-foot-deep lakes that will attract children, especially on hot summer days.

This is an opportunity for the giant corporation to create a new and safe environment for those who live on the borders of Walmart.

The opportunity is at hand. I know the people who are leading this battle for their environment, their quality of life and for their children.

They are good people; they are people of faith, and they are courageous.

But they are not doormats.

No one should tolerate this kind of arrogance aimed at this or any community.

But when mutual respect and responsibility come to the table, the right forward steps can begin.

If arrogance and money continue to rule the day, nothing will come other than a continued battle.

And my points are not going to be with Walmart.

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Area's largest Oktoberfest ready to roll out the beer barrel, German food and music

By Judy Vik

PELICAN STAFF

Oakland Park – With October just around the corner, it's time for Oktoberfest in Oakland Park, the largest of its kind in Broward or Miami-Dade counties and one of the most popular in Florida, according to Siegi Constantine, executive director of Oakland Park Main Street.

The annual event is set for Friday, Oct. 5, and Saturday, Oct. 6, at Jaco Pastorius Park, 4000 N. Dixie Highway. Hours are 5 to 11 p.m. Friday and 1 to 11 p.m. Saturday.

"Everything about our Oktoberfest is authentic –

from the food and beer to the bands performing traditional Bavarian party music," Constantine said. "We have increased our entertainment budget to book one of the nation's finest Oktoberfest bands, the 'Alpine Express.'"

More than 10,000 people are expected to attend, so large amounts of authentic German food and beer will be available, as well as plenty of dance space under large tents.

Hans Huber, owner of the award-winning Ambry Restaurant in Fort Lauderdale, will operate the Bavarian-style "Biergarten" offering a selection of popular German favorites such as bratwurst, knockwurst, spicy currywurst,

haxen semmel (roast pork), goulash soup, sauerkraut and German potato salad. Baked pretzels, brotchen and apple strudel also will be for sale.

In addition to soft drinks, a selection of German wines, flavored schnapps and authentic German-brewed Tucher Oktoberfest beers will be available, including a commemorative 32-ounce mug.

"Oktoberfest is meant to be a celebration for all ages, and we encourage a lot of singing and dancing," said Eric Waters, city special event coordinator. Performances are planned by the "Edelweiss Schuhplattler Dancers," a children's dance troupe,

and the original "Auerhahn Schuhplattler Dancers", an adult troupe.

Also scheduled are the popular "Dachshund Dash," a race for about 50 dachshunds; Oktoberfest games and contests, beer stein races and an apple strudel eating contest.

The Broward Sheriff's Office will exhibit their K-9 unit featuring trained German shepherds performing various police drills on command.

A special attraction will be Oakland Park's own Lindsey Way, "Miss Hooters International 2011."

See OKTOBERFEST on page 25

Sightings

A community calendar for Northeast Broward County. Send your event information to mdpelican@yahoo.com

10-1 – Preschool Storytime from 10:30 to 11 a.m. at Richard C. Sullivan Public Library, 500 NE 26 St., Wilton Manors. Ages two to five. 954-390-2195.

10-3 – Friends of the Wilton Manors Library Board meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the library, 500 NE 26 Street. 954-390-2195.

10-3 – Greater Pompano Beach Chamber of Commerce hosts Business With A Twist from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Two Georges at the Cove, 1754 SW 3 Ct., Deerfield Beach.

See SIGHTINGS on page 12

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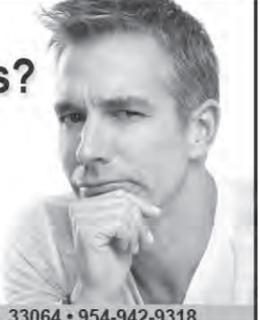
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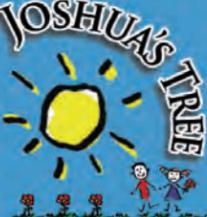
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Business matters

The Pelican takes a look at local business owners. You can tell your story here because business matters. 954-783-8700.

County bans misleading gas prices

Broward – This month, Broward Commissioners banned “misleading” gas prices. Previously, some gas stations would advertise lower prices but when customers begin to pump they realized that the advertised price was cash only.

“Paying for gas should not be guess work. Now when you see a posted price at the gas station, you’ll know that’s the most you’ll be charged. It should do away with the bait and switch practice of advertising one price if you pay with cash and a higher non-advertised price if you plan to use a credit or cash card,” said Commissioner Lois Wexler. Failure to comply with the county ordinance will result in a fine of \$250 for the first violation and \$500 for repeat violations.

Youth soccer registration

Oakland Park – Registration is underway for the city’s upcoming youth soccer season. All players must be between the ages of 4 and 16 as of November 12, 2012. The registration fee is \$55 for residents and \$100 for non-residents. Practices and games are held at the Wimberly Athletic Complex, Stevens Field and Northeast High School. Registration will end on October 12 or when the league is full. For more information, visit www.oaklandparkfl.gov or call 954-630-4515.

Send your news to mdpelican@yahoo.com

Glen A. Waskin, D.O. and Megan Goitia, ARNP at Broward Family Medical Group have you covered 24/7

By Phyllis J. Neuberger

PELICAN STAFF

“We’re on staff at North Broward, Imperial Point and Holy Cross,” says Dr. Waskin. “We follow our patients from our office suite to the hospital. Because all of our records are electronic, we have instant and complete information on the health history of each patient available on our iPads. We can avoid duplication, wasted time, errors in diagnosis, and can share information quickly with each other and concerned family.”

Interviewed in his offices at 2701 NE 14 St. in Pompano Beach, Dr. Waskin says, “I’ve been in practice here in Pompano Beach for 12 years. Our group consists of a very qualified office staff, Megan Goitia, a licensed nurse practitioner who is my right arm, and me. We are an HMO and Medicare provider accepting most major insurances. We’re proud of the care we provide. Our patient approach is prevention.”

Asked how he prevents serious health issues, he explains. “Prevention relies on educating the patient to the important factors that cause major health problems. For example, serious heart problems are the result of many factors. He ticked off a few of the known causes for serious heart trouble... blood pressure, cholesterol, weight, inherited tendencies and smoking. We try to eliminate the causes before the bad result happens. Each person has an individual health history which usually explains the symptoms that he or she comes to us with. We determine the source of the symptoms and hopefully teach the patient how to eliminate the symptoms and change the outcome for the better.”

“As a trained doctor of osteopathic medicine, I treat



Broward Family Medical Group includes a professional office staff under the direction of Glen A. Waskin, D.O. and nurse practitioner, Megan Goitia. The team offers patient care and preventive medicine. An HMO and Medicare provider, most insurances are accepted.

the entire body, not just the symptoms. In fact, osteopathic medicine was created by a medical doctor who wanted to diagnose and treat core problems rather than the one resulting problem. And that’s what we do here. We have physical therapy in the office. I am trained to treat musculo-skeletal issues which means that we can sometimes find and solve a problem right here in the office instead of referring a patient for unnecessary testing.”

Broward Family Medical Group serves all ages from children to seniors, including women’s basic gynecology. An on-site lab means blood work and routine lab tests can be done in office, saving patients another stop.

Megan Goitia is a family nurse practitioner, Board Certified by the ANCC, or

American Nursing Credentials Center. She works under Dr. Waskin’s license and according to him, is his right arm.

“We see patients together and work as a team,” she says. “In Florida, we can do almost everything a physician can do. As it happens, we coordinate everything we do on our electronic medical record system. My specialty is diabetes and cardiovascular risk reduction. I do this by trying to prevent complications in these areas through education of the patient and monitoring areas of danger to control the condition.”

In keeping with a focus on prevention, Waskin and Goitia conduct frequent education seminars in their large reception area. Alerted through flyers and advertising,

attendance is high. Waskin says, “We usually pack this area with about 30 patients who want to know more about diabetes, breast cancer, prostate problems, cholesterol and more. We try to alert patients to recognize symptoms before they become big problems.”

In October a seminar is planned to discuss the new Medicare benefits for 2013. The doctor says the most frequently asked question is: How will the new health care plan affect me and my existing policy? He adds, “We’re meeting with different health plans right now to find out what their new benefits are so that we can present an unbiased seminar to enlighten the public. The window for changing plans

See MEDICAL GROUP on page

9

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Medical group

Continued from page 10

keeps shrinking. This year, the open period will be Oct. 15 to Dec. 7. Our information will help patients decide what options HMO or private pay insurance plans offer and what might work best for them. Medications and co-pay costs are considerations.”

Patients give them thumbs up

Naomi Lewis says going to Dr. Waskin four years ago was the best decision she ever made. “I had very high blood pressure which he has put under control with medicine and counseling. I watch my weight by eating properly. He gets right to the point and keeps me in line because he cares, and I know it. He’s challenging, handles patients very well, and I can’t say enough good things about him.”

Richard Romano calls

Dr. Waskin, “the doctor with golden hands. I’ve been going to him for nine or 10 years. He diagnosed me with diverticulitis when I was already infected. He probably saved my life. I was hospitalized, and he saw me every day including Sundays. I also have a form of leukemia so he watches me carefully. He has sent me to specialists when something doesn’t seem right. He’s a caring doctor, and his entire staff is the same.”

This group prides itself on its friendly and courteous office staff and flexible hours to accommodate people who can’t come in during the day because of work schedules. Patients who are sick will be seen without an appointment. Open Mon., Tues., Thurs. and Fri. from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Wed. from 8:30 to 7 p.m. Call 954-545-1560 for appointment.

Send your news to mdpelican@yahoo.com

Water, sewage rates go up in Wilton Manors

By Michael d’Oliveira

PELICAN STAFF

Wilton Manors – Water rates are increasing 6.3 percent and sewage rates 3.4 percent starting Oct. 1.

Wilton Manors, which gets its water from Fort Lauderdale, allowed for the increase when it passed its \$24 million budget and 6.9605 percent millage rate on

Monday.

To maintain the city’s water and sewage systems, city officials say they were forced to pass the increase onto residents.

“We’re not going to build ourselves a water plant because of the cost,” said Commissioner Scott Newton. “All they do is supply us with water. I think it’s disgraceful [they’re increasing it this

much],” said Newton.

“[Water’s] still relatively cheap,” said Commissioner Ted Galatis.

Commissioners were a little more upbeat about the budget, millage rate and property values.

“For the first time in five years, values in Wilton Manors have increased,”

See WILTON MANORS RATES on page 21

RMA

Continued from page 1

plan, the Redevelopment Capital Program, or RCP, and develop a strategic plan for the next five years.

Ray Lubomski, community and economic development director, reported that one of the main accomplishments last year was reprogramming Broward County’s RCP funds into projects that further the five-year plan. Two properties

were purchased, and several public improvement projects were funded with RCP monies, including fountains on 12th Avenue and a plaza near Oakland Park Station.

A major tenant for the Oakland Station, the Funky Buddha Brewery, has signed a lease with the landlord to locate a craft brewery and tasting room at Oakland Park Station. This business, along with a Green Market and a future restaurant will establish the north anchor of the

downtown culinary center.

RMA has recommended that the parcel at 1299 Oakland Park Blvd. [the former Players Club] be developed as a south anchor to the Culinary Arts District as a culinary or hospitality school.

Lubomski said RMA and his staff are working with the property owner to recruit culinary-related businesses with an emphasis on culinary schools.

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Briefs

Florida Trail Association meets

Coconut Creek – The Florida Trail Association meets Thursday, Oct. 11 at 7:30 p.m. at Fern Forest Nature Center, 201 Lyons Road South. The topic is Camping Equipment 101. Members will share their latest and greatest equipment advice.

The Florida Trail Association helps maintain and promote the Florida National Scenic Trail and provides an opportunity for hiking and camping in Florida. For more information, call 954-609-4727.

Hire students with disabilities

Fort Lauderdale – To encourage employers to hire students with disabilities, the Businesses Building Bridges Showcase will be held Monday, Oct. 1 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Fort Lauderdale High School, 1600 NE 4 Ave., Fort Lauderdale.

Business leaders attending will hear representatives from Memorial Hospital Miramar and Sunshine Cleaning Systems share their experiences of hiring students with disabilities for permanent and internship positions, and the positive impact it has made in their businesses. Businesses that want to attend should RSVP by Sept. 26 by contacting Gail Fallon at 754-321-2008. Appetizers and beverages will be served at the event.

Send your news to mdpelican@yahoo.com or call 954-783-8700

Council of Catholic Women of St. Paul of the Apostle Church volunteer around the calendar to help those in need

By Phyllis J. Neuberger

PELICAN STAFF

Peek in on a weekly meeting and watch these dedicated volunteers working away at St. Paul of the Apostle Church Social Hall at 2700 E. Sample Road in Lighthouse Point. They are as busy as Santa's elves producing crafts for their annual Christmas Bazaar. On November 10 and 11, holiday shoppers will find small trees already trimmed, ornaments, nativity sets, crocheted blankets, Thanksgiving place cards, placemats, aprons, pillows and many other items, handmade with love.

Group President, Cathie Desjean and Vice President DeeDee Coulombe were interviewed by *The Pelican* as they worked. Cathie says, "We use the money we raise to provide scholarships to



Emma Francem may be 97, but her nimble fingers keep working away on a beautiful throw, made of individual flower puffs which will be sewn together to make a throw.



Creating holiday ornaments and stuffed animals are Marie McGill, Angie Peters and Carol Kosobucki. [Photos by Phyllis J. Neuberger]

Making a Difference



Phyllis J. Neuberger wants your suggestions about people who are making a difference. Phyllis's new book, China Dahl, is available on amazon.com. Call 954-783-8700.

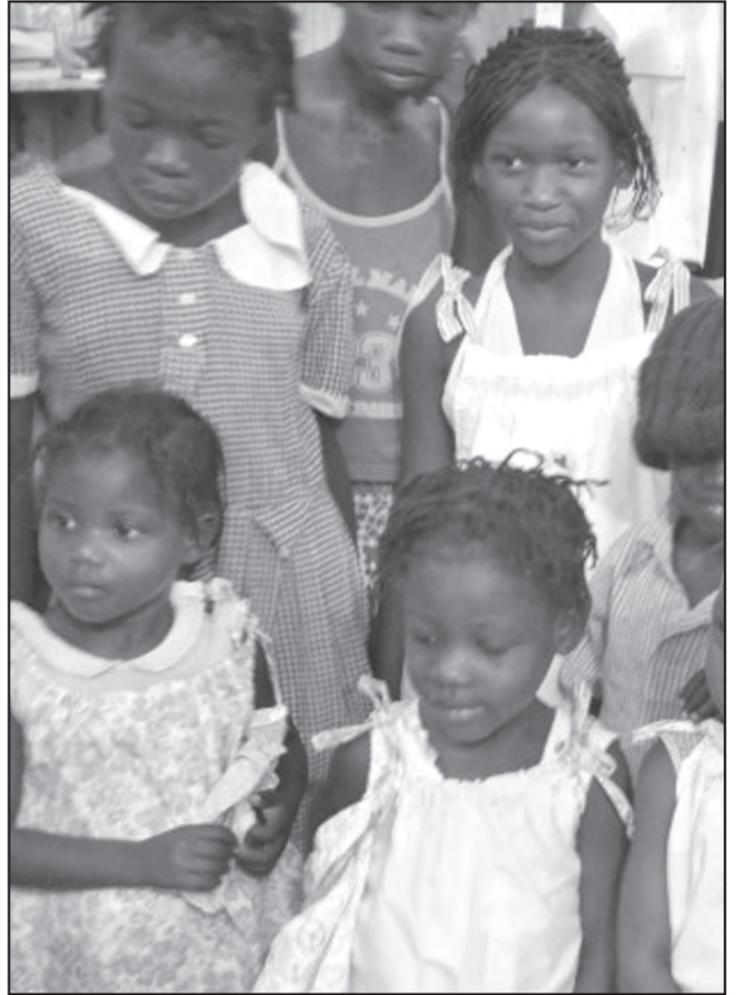
parishioners who want to send their children to parochial schools."

She went on to say, "We just finished our dresses for the Haiti project which was a big success and very gratifying to all of us. Parishioners donated new and used pillow cases and our group turned them into little slip dresses for children from infancy to 14 years of age. We bought 147 pair of panties to go with our 147 dresses.

They were delivered by Food for the Poor to the community of Titanyen, Cabaret, Haiti. We kept busy on this project for three months, cutting, sewing, ironing etc. It was more than worthwhile when we saw pictures of the smiling little girls in their dresses. It made every one of us very happy."

Asked how many women are in the group, DeeDee says, "There are about 75 members, 45 of whom are active. We're all elderly, but we manage to show up every week for about three hours and we work on events around the calendar. We would love to have some young blood, but it seems most of the young women are working women." She paused to introduce Emma Francem who is 97. Emma was very busy making individual flower puffs which would later be sewn together to create an exquisite throw.

After the Holiday Bazaar,



The Council of Catholic Women turned pillow cases into 147 dresses for little girls in Haiti. Delivered by Food for the Poor, here are a few of the happy recipients. [Photo courtesy of Food for the Poor in Titanyen, Cabaret, Haiti]



Trimming trees for the Holiday Bazaar are DeeDee Coulombe, Cathie Desjean and Diana Marcinka.

the women get busy on Aunt Marie's Attic Sale in February. Cathie says, "Our entire parish contributes to this rummage sale, but it is our Council of Catholic Women who run it. It's always a big success proving that one person's junk is the next person's treasure." She laughed. "Some of us end up buying as much as we donated."

Continuing, "We have an annual fashion show at the Lighthouse Point Yacht Club. We model clothes from different retailers. This year, Stein Mart has generously offered to work with us."

DeeDee ticks off another event. "At Christmas we work with Operation Christmas Child. This is a wonderful effort. This year we hope to fill 80 shoe boxes with personal necessities and little items. These boxes are shipped around the world to be given to children in need."

"We're not through yet," Cathie says. "There's still another new yearly event. We love this one because it's so easy. We Shop for a Cause in partnership with Macy's. We sell Macy Shopping Passes

See CATHOLIC WOMEN on page 12

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Catholic Women

Continued from page 10

for one day. The charity gets a 25 percent discount and we get \$5 for each pass sold. We all love this event because all we have to do is shop and that's easy for most women isn't it?"

At back to school time in the fall, this group contributes back packs filled with supplies. They contribute to other small, but meaningful projects throughout the year to help the less fortunate around them.

"We meet once a month

from October to May," Cathie says. "I've been president for four years. Nobody wants the job because it's so time consuming, but I feel it's worth it because the rewards are endless."

DeeDee, who has also served as president, agrees, saying, "I wake up every morning and thank God that I can continue to do this."

Anyone who is interested in joining the Council of Catholic Women who work nonstop for a variety of worthy causes can call 954-783-5122.

Thank you for all that you do for your community and beyond.

Sightings

Continued from page 7

Cost is \$10 for Chamber members who RSVP by Oct. 1 and \$15 for non-members. 954-941-2940.

10-4 – Breakfast N' Deerfield from 7:30 to 9 a.m. at Deerfield Chamber of Commerce Banquet Hall, 1601 E Hillsboro Blvd. Featured speaker is Florida Senator Jeremy Ring. Cost is \$12.50 for members and \$17.50 for non-members. 954-427-1050.

10-4 – Complimentary breakfast for seniors and up to two friends at Galuppi's, 1103 N. Federal Hwy., Pompano Beach, at 9:45 a.m. Dr. Paula Hedglon presents "Bringing Back Life To Seniors, Naturally." Please RSVP by Oct. 2. 954-249-2277.

10-5 – Boca Raton – The

See SIGHTINGS on page 16

Breathe! Doggonit!



This week, Pompano Beach Fire-Rescue rescued two chihuahua puppies from a trailer fire on Ninth Drive. No people were home at the time of the fire, but firefighters found one Cockatoo bird deceased in its cage. The two dogs rescued were one pregnant female named "Princess and one male named "Borom Bola." Borom Bola was unconscious and in critical condition. Firefighters revived both dogs by administering oxygen. Both dogs were then brought to an animal hospital across the street from the trailer park. [Photo courtesy of Pompano Beach Fire Department]

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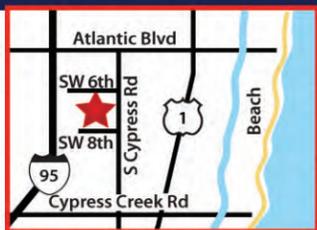
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Walmart

Continued from page 1

system.

This community has a few more months of living with a rock-pit and a charcoal filtering system.

But everything is legal and permitted according to city hall.

That wasn't good enough for Robert Holmes, president of the Sanders Park Homeowners Association.

"[Walmart] had a moral obligation to advise us of this project," said Holmes.

Attorney Susan Motley, on behalf of Walmart, said the residents had been notified. But when the addresses were reviewed, those who had received the 12 letters lived at least one-quarter mile east of the project. No one on the abutting street received notification.

"Walmart did what they wanted to do without respect to the neighborhood," said Holmes.

Residents here have already experienced one shock. They found that dozens of sea grape trees that had served as noise and vision barriers to Walmart and I-95 had been removed.

Congeniality would not describe Monday's meeting. Said The Rev. Marguerite Luster, spokesperson for the Liberty Park Homeowners Association, "We had birds, butterflies and plants. Now we have erosion."

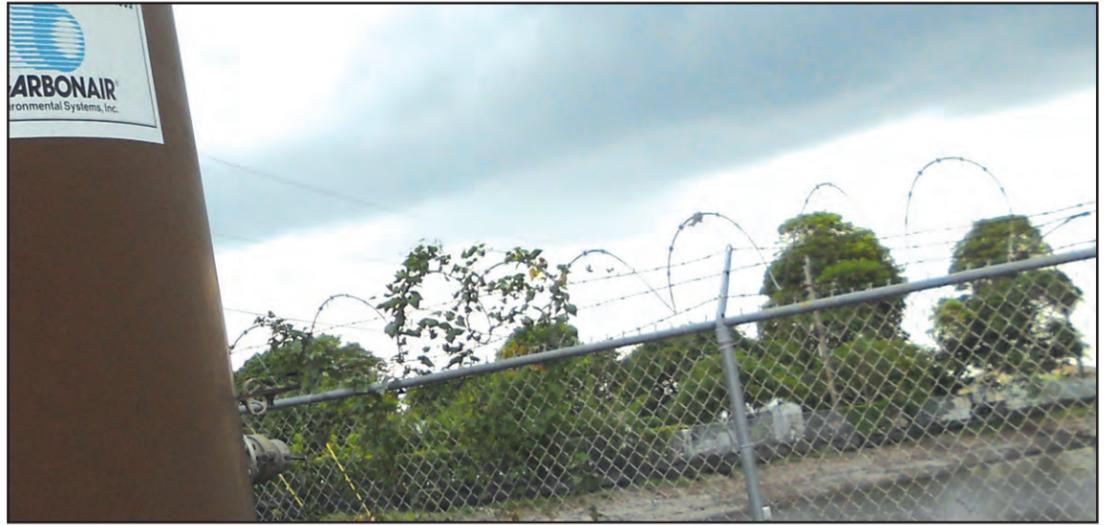
Luster wants the sea grape trees back in place. That won't happen soon. Although a landscape plan for the completed project includes trees, sea grapes were not on the list. Oaks and Sabal Palms were recommended, but Mayor Lamar Fisher suggested the tree plan could be redrawn.

Ed Phillips, former city commissioner, was more concerned about the proposed 20-foot deep retention pond that could be a danger to young children living in the neighborhood.

On Wednesday, four young boys with fishing poles had already hopped the fence. To their dismay, they were quickly spotted by Commissioner Woody Poitier who had been on location with Luster.

One city official said there is no requirement for fencing the lake. In fact, he said, the lake is the buffer zone

See WALMART on page 15



Residents living on the shore of the rock pit are concerned about erosion. There are no plans for a seawall, Walmart will be replacing trees. [Staff photos]

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Some residents want this pit fenced in, calling it a danger to young children.

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Walmart

Continued from page 14

between Walmart and the community.

Walmart, unlike more recent commercial projects, is not required to adhere to a city code that requires a strict buffer zone between the residential community and the commercial entity because Walmart was approved prior to the 1990 passage of a buffer code.

Today, the code requires a 10-foot high "wall or opaque fence" with landscaping on both sides.

Frustrated by a future of visual blight, noise pollution and possible erosion, Luster said she would continue her fight. "This problem is bigger than us," she said.

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Sightings

Continued from page 12

40th anniversary celebration of Boca Raton Christian School takes place Friday, Oct. 5 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Boca Raton Community Church Sanctuary, 601 NW 4 Ave. Free admission. 561-391-2727.

10-7 – 16th Annual **Dunn's Run** takes place at 7:30 a.m. at the main Deerfield Beach Parking lot located on Ocean Way and Southeast 2 Street and proceeds benefit the Boys & Girls Clubs of Broward County. Visit www.dunnrun.com or call 954-563-2822.

10-16 – **Wilton Manors Candidates Night** at 7 p.m. at Hagen Park, 2020 Wilton Drive. All four candidates for city commission will attend to answer questions. Refreshments will be served. 954-783-8700.

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By Malcolm McClintock

PELICAN STAFF

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There is always a great pleasure in discovering an unassuming eatery that packs a stupendous culinary punch. In this particular case, the tiny and impeccably clean Sushi By The Sea delivers an astoundingly fresh array of made-to-order sushi offerings and, as a bonus, some mouth-watering Peruvian favorites on the side.

The indefatigable husband and wife team of Michihiro Hirano and Vivian Ophelan have nurtured a surprisingly satisfying juxtaposition of



This popular Bento Box version features salmon, snapper, eel, tuna and shrimp nigiri along with seaweed salad, kanisu, edamame and a sliced California roll. [Photos by Malcolm McClintock]

traditional gastronomy from the former's native Nippon and tempting delicacies from the latter's home region in

Peru. The gregarious Vivian studied at the world-renowned Johnson & Wales Culinary

school and then at the Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale "but I really learned the most by working in Japanese restaurants. In fact, that is where I met my husband!"

Indeed, the couple met at the now defunct Sagami Japanese restaurant where Michihiro, who also happens to have a degree in business, plied his trade as a Master Sushi Chef. After the birth of their second child, the epicurean duo decided to open their own restaurant in beautiful Lauderdale-By-The-Sea.

"The sushi boom of 1995-

See SUSHI on page 18

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Sushi

Continued from page 17

2005 led to too many sushi restaurants being opened. Unfortunately, this created a situation where the quality of the product got diluted," laments Vivian.

"For more than 17 years, my husband was trained by some of the top Masters in Tokyo and the U.S. That's why I know that we offer the most authentic and traditionally prepared sushi anywhere around. And since we are small, we can keep the prices very reasonable."

For starters, Sushi By The Sea proposes a good selection of tantalizing appetizers such as pan-fried Gyoza beef dumplings, melt-in-your-mouth seared Tuna Tataki with Ponzu sauce, spicy octopus or conch salads, avocado with miso dressing or even a simple serving of Edamame with sea salt.

Of course, a cornucopia of sushi rolls also makes an appearance on the menu. From Salmon California to the Spider with soft shell crab to the Scallop Volcano to the Lobster Feast, each will provide the deep satisfaction expected from an expertly and creatively prepared roll.

"It takes a minimum of ten years apprenticeship to become a sushi master and even after that, you are not finished learning. Luckily, my own Master comes to visit me every Monday," says Michihiro of his mentor

Nobuyuki Higuchi [best known as Nobi]. "That's why it is a great day to try our daily special because it will likely have been prepared by the Grand Master himself!"

For those who appreciate the delicate simplicity of sashimi [sliced raw fish] or nigiri [sliced raw fish on rice], Michihiro's bite-size masterpieces will titillate the senses with the clean, harmonious essence of his gastronomic deftness.

"I go to the fish market myself to select my own seafood because I know exactly what to look for to ensure the highest quality. For example, I only buy Scottish salmon because it has a much richer texture and deeper flavors."

If a hot meal is desired, the outstanding chicken or salmon Teriyaki with rice are

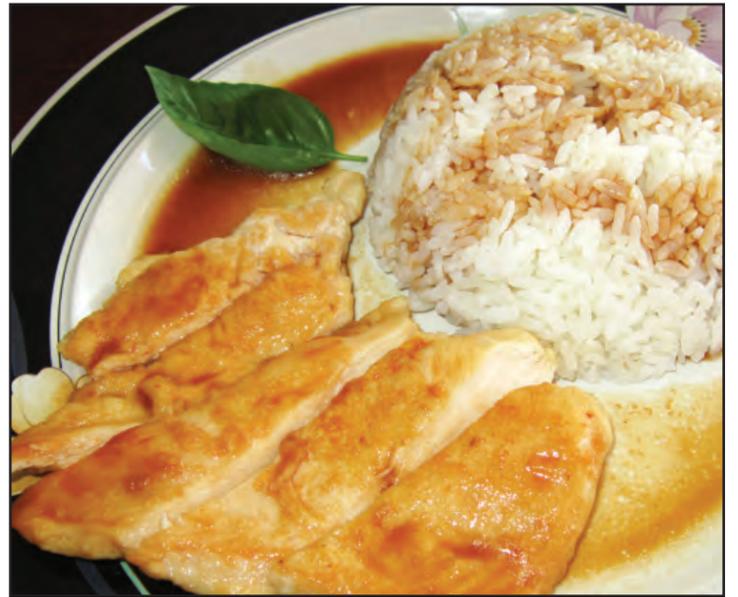
customer favorites. Served with either miso soup or Asian salad with ginger dressing, they provide a deeply satisfying meal at any time of the day.

Also worth investigating is the wondrous Tempura Soba featuring hearty Udon noodles in a rich chicken broth topped with lightly battered and fried shrimp.

Not to be outdone, Vivian is always on hand to whip up a tasty Peruvian style Shrimp & Red Snapper Ceviche bathing in a citrus and Andean pepper marinade.

Customers also rave about the Parmesan cheese baked scallops with lime juice and parsley.

"Personally, I really like our filet mignon sautéed with onions, peppers and tomatoes over white rice," says the mother of two who also



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LBTS Tax

Continued from page 1

Connie Hoffmann, town manager, said the town is budgeting conservatively. "We have seen others that didn't. [They] are getting into trouble," she said.

The town property tax accounts for 20 percent of the total tax bill. Other agencies, including Broward County and the Broward County School Board, account for the rest.

"I wish the other 80 percent were as conscientious as we are," said Commissioner Stuart Dodd.

Commissioners also approved the town manager's recommended annual budget of \$20 million, up from \$17.7 million.

The budget includes a 50 percent reduction in the water utility tax, which cuts \$145,000.

Vice Mayor Scot Sasser said he would like to go after the rest of that tax in the new year. "I want to keep pressing to keep the tax rate as low as possible," he said.

The budget includes \$5.9 million in capital improvements, including streetscape and drainage improvements and sewer repairs.

About \$1.5 million will go to improvements on Bougainvillea, 19th Street in Bel Air and in the Hibiscus Avenue, Allenwood Drive, Tropic Drive area. Work on Bougainvillea started this week.

No debt funding is required. All the improvements are being made with existing funds.

Parking revenues are up \$571,000 over what was budgeted for this fiscal year. Those funds will be used for new parking on South Bougainvillea, re-configuring the A1A parking lot and a public safety lot.

Parking revenues in the new year will be impacted by improvements planned on Commercial Boulevard and reconfiguring the A1A lot. The town has saved \$100,000 by contracting out the parking operation, Hoffmann said.

Commissioners earlier unanimously approved a fire assessment fee for single-family residents of \$130, the same as the current fee, and the fourth lowest in the county. The fees will raise \$1 million for fire protection services.

"Phooning" Photo Contest

Pompano Beach – Festival Flea Market Mall is holding a "Phooning" photo contest until Oct. 21. "Phooning" is a pose where a person stands on one foot, tilted at the waist with one arm held out in front, the other bent behind. Photos can be taken of a person "phooning" and submit it to Festival Flea Market Mall's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/FestivalFleaMarket.

Photos must be taken in front of the "phooning" backdrop. The contest is open to students, faculty, staff and parents associated with any public or private K-12 school in Broward, Miami-Dade or Palm Beach counties. Photos will be judged based on school spirit, originality and creativity.

Finalists will be selected Oct. 22 through Nov. 1. Online voting will take place Nov. 3 through 16 and the winners will be announced Nov. 17. The school receiving the most votes will get \$5,000 for its Parent Teacher Association. First and second runner-ups will receive \$1,000 and \$500. Visit www.festival.com for more information.

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100-mile trek

Continued from page 1

journey spanning three or four days – and back again with the goal of raising about \$2,500 for the American Cancer Society in Broward and Palm Beach counties.

“It’s all about support for breast cancer. This is the longest [walk] by far. I’ve been training for a good part of eight months. I’ve walked 20 miles twice,” said Fitzpatrick, who will mostly travel along A1A and Federal Highway. “I’m an avid walker. I think it’s a health benefit, and maybe it will motivate other people to get out and walk.”

Helping Fitzpatrick in his walk for breast cancer is Gabriel Bartice and the “Party Patrol” which will ride ahead of Fitzpatrick soliciting donations along the way.

“One-hundred percent of the proceeds will go straight to breast cancer [research]. I think anybody will be impressed with anyone who can walk a hundred miles,” said Bartice, who volunteered with Fitzpatrick as a board member for the American Cancer Society’s Oakland Park Relay for Life, which occurred in April.

“I am a cancer survivor myself. I had a rare form of pancreatic cancer. It affects one in two million and I was the one,” said Fitzpatrick, who learned about the full ramifications of his disease in an unusual way.

“The doctor wrote on a cocktail napkin ‘it’s like changing your oil. You got to take this out, that out. The only thing is you can’t put anything back.’ I guess that cocktail napkin was the only thing he had in front of him,” said Fitzpatrick, who lost half his stomach, half his small intestine and half his pancreas during the 13-hour surgical procedure that ultimately saved his life.

“I told them ‘don’t touch the liver,’” he joked.

Bartice has also been touched by cancer but not as closely as Fitzpatrick.

“My grandmother suffered from breast cancer and thank god she’s a survivor,” said Bartice, who mails his grandmother a shirt for each breast cancer walk he does “just to let her know that someone’s walking for her.”

And on Saturday, Oct. 6 those wishing to donate further to the cause of fighting breast cancer can join Fitzpatrick and Bartice at a fundraiser at American Legion Post 222, 4250 NE 5 Ave., Oakland Park, from 6 to 10 p.m. Along with the American Cancer Society, the event ben-



Today Mike Fitzpatrick, left, takes the first steps of his 100-mile journey from Oakland Park to Jupiter and back again. The goal of the walk is to raise \$2,500 to benefit the American Cancer Society in Broward and Palm Beach counties. Gabriel Bartice, right, will be riding ahead of Bartice during the walk to solicit funds. [Staff Photo]

efits Feeding America, which provides food assistance to needy individuals and families.

The \$20 entrance buys a night of live entertainment by The Ink Spots Generations and the Shambala Band and a

pasta meal.

For each person who attends, Ford will donate 40 meals to Feed America. To donate to Fitzpatrick’s walk or for more information about the charity event, call 954-708-3765.

Mayor touts redevelopment in State of the City address

By Michael d’Oliveira

PELICAN STAFF

Pompano Beach – Mayor Lamar Fisher had one main message for those who attended the State of the City Address yesterday: redevelopment is a big part of the city’s recent past, its present and its future.

Fisher, who said he was excited about the progress the city was making in reshaping itself, said developers, small businesses and city government were all working



FISHER

See CITY on page 21

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City

Continued from page 20

to redevelop various existing buildings and empty pieces of land throughout Pompano.

Speaking to members of the Greater Pompano Beach Chamber of Commerce at the Elks Lodge, Fisher went through a list of public and private projects that were

either recently finished, in the process of being built or are on the drawing board including: two new fire stations, the Broward County Library and Civic Campus to be built next to city hall, redevelopment of the Pompano Pier, streetscape and parking improvements along Atlantic Boulevard, plans to revamp and redesign the Atlantic Boulevard

Intracoastal bridge and the city's planned Martin Luther King Boulevard retail development which broke ground recently.

"We're in the process of redesigning the Atlantic Boulevard Bridge. That is going to make a dynamic impact on our community," said Fisher.

The two new fire stations include Fire Station 11, located north of Atlantic Boulevard on the beach, and a new one to be built in the Cresthaven neighborhood. "The [current] Fire Station 11 is over 50 years old," he said, adding that the city specifically raised fire assessment fees to fund the construction of the Cresthaven station.

Private redevelopment includes the recently completed Publix on Atlantic Boulevard, which the mayor dubbed the signature project along Atlantic Boulevard, a planned Madison's Steakhouse on Atlantic Boulevard next to the Intracoastal, a new Marriott on the beach currently under construction and the Whole Foods going into the former Kmart at Copans Road and Federal Highway.

The breakfast is an annual event of the Pompano Beach Chamber of Commerce. This year's breakfast sponsor was Iberiabank.

For more information about chamber membership, call 954-0412940.

Wilton Manors rates

Continued from page 9

Gallegos.

According to the city, refinancing and the increase in property values led to a lower parks debt service rate, 0.2508, and city hall debt service rate, 0.5029. Those debts and the operating millage rate of 6.2068 combined to make the total tax assessment 6.9605 mills.

Taxable property values increased by 3.63 percent in Wilton Manors. That increase led to an additional \$140,000 in revenue for the city's budget. Overall, taxable value rose county-wide by 1.48 percent.

As part of the budget, commissioners gave themselves a \$50-a-month raise, something that hasn't happened in eight years, and gave the general employees a one percent cost of living adjustment. While Vice Mayor Tom Green and Commissioner Julie Carson voted against the raise, some residents expressed support for giving commissioners an even bigger increase.

Currently, commissioners make \$7,200 a year and the mayor makes \$8,400. With the increase, commissioners will make \$7,800 and the mayor \$9,000.

"It's not a great budget, but it's a good budget," said Green.

But while congratulating city staff, commissioners also expressed worries about the budgets that have yet to be formulated - especially the future costs of fire and emergency services, pensions and the possible loss of \$650,000 in revenue that stems from communications taxes.

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Paragon

Continued from page 5

Entertainment LLC, Paragon has retrofitted four old, failing movie houses, has built two new ones, and is in the process of renovating a seventh location.

The theater here at Powerline Road and Hillsboro Blvd., is headquarters for Paragon Entertainment Group, LLC. Whalen is the CEO, Wilson is in charge of architectural design and Lightstone is senior vice president and head buyer for the Film Group, an entity that books films for not only Paragon Theaters, but Muvico, Bow-Tie Cinemas and Rave Cinemas.

Whalen, whose background is in finance, was CEO of Muvico from 2006-09 and initiated the concept of state-of-the-art theaters.

Later, he was responsible for the sale of four Muvico locations, including Airport Road in Boca Raton, to Cinemark for \$50 million. He is a resident of Parkland.

Wilson, an architect, was in charge of corporate development at Muvico at about the same time and created Muvico's signature, themed images. He lives in Boca Raton.

Lightstone began his career at United Artists and established the strongest film-buying department in the industry. He served as COO before founding his own Denver-based production and distribution company, New Deal Pictures.

The brand they are offering the public gives them luxury amenities at traditional movie prices. They do this

by retrofitting existing theaters and retail space that has become available due to high vacancy rates. Where they do new builds, they look for other entertainment opportunities such as bowling.

The company opened its first theater in April 2010 in Fredericksburg, VA with 12 high-definition digital screens, VIP seating, a bar and lounge, a 16-lane bowling alley and gourmet restaurant.

The second theater opened two months later in Coconut Grove in an old AMC venue that underwent a \$4 million upgrade. In 2011, Paragon acquired and renovated two theaters in Minnesota.

That same year in May, it opened the 8-screen theater in Deerfield Beach once owned by General Cinema and then Sunrise Theaters. The space was completely renovated with The Lot Bar and Lounge, PepsiMax Extreme Theater for 3D offerings, Sony 4K digital projections, VIP luxury seating, expanded food of-

fering and reserved seating. According to a Paragon news release, sales are up over 50 percent from previous levels.

Newest locations are at Ocean Walk Shoppes in Daytona Beach and in Newport News, both currently being renovated.

Whalen wants to add a community component to the theaters offering special viewings for charity and space for corporate and private parties. Recently Sheriff Al Lamberti picked Paragon for a political fundraiser.

Several schools and youth groups have held functions here as well. He also arranged at the request of City Commissioner Ben Preston for a special showing this summer of "Red Tails" for a group of local teenagers.

Next Sunday, Oct. 7, 2 p.m., the Deerfield Beach Rotary Club will raise money for its charities by selling \$10 tickets to "Taken 2," the story of a retired CIA agent whose former wife is kidnapped in

Istanbul by individuals he confronted in the 2008 movie "Taken."

The film stars Liam Neeson, Famke Janssen and Maggie Grace. The club will realize \$4 for every ticket sold and 50 percent of food and bar sales from an expanded menu that includes flatbreads, pulled pork sandwiches, quesadillas, a chipotle chicken wrap, fries, and a killer brownie dessert.

"We hope the theater will be utilized more," Niki Wilson said. "There is indoor and outdoor seating areas and enough lobby and patio space to stage parties."

Help for seniors

Broward – The County's Elder Helpline is administered by the Aging and Disability Resource Center of Broward County. Bilingual staff, able to respond to calls in English, Creole Spanish, are available from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.

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Oktoberfest

Continued from page 7

Sal's Towing of Oakland Park has offered to provide free transportation home for those who may not feel fit to drive, and the nearby Days Inn Hotel at Oakland Park Boulevard/I-95 offers discounted Oktoberfest rates for the weekend.

Long-time presenting sponsors Lipton Toyota/Scion and the city of Oakland Park are joined by Broward Health Imperial Point. Other sponsors include the Ambry Restaurant, Around Town Newspaper, Algae to Omega, AOW Select, Central Bark Doggy DayCare, Days Inn, FPL, Holy Cross Hospital, Pelican Newspaper, Sal's Towing, S. Mark Graphics, The Agenda/GuyMag.com, and TSAO Design Group.

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Fifth

Continued from page 4

an old friend." According to Jalbert some employees that she knew were not told until Monday they should not come to work.

The Grill was owned by Restaurant Holdings LLC in Delray Beach along with The Banana Boat and Prime Catch in Boynton Beach. A family-run operation, Luke Therien said it had become difficult for his father John to manage the business from his home in Palm Beach. "We had 15 good years there and we built that restaurant from the ground up."

Therien said mounting competition from steakhouses in Boca Raton hurt business in northeast Broward. Along with the recession, it was the high number of high end

restaurants that opened within a 15-minute drive that closed the doors at Fifth.

"Our draw was from south Boca. Can you count the number of steakhouses that have opened in the Boca corridor? You are talking about at least seven high-end restaurants. In order to compete we had to bring down our prices because the people who want to spend good money on steak are in Boca.

"But we had a good bar

business until the end."

Buyer of the property is Fred Hunter Funeral Homes another family-operated company with funeral homes in Fort Lauderdale, Davie/Cooper City and Hollywood and well as a crematorium and a cemetery. This location will be its first in north Broward. After renovating the building they plan to open by the end of the year Therien said.

The demise of the restaurant

See FIFTH on page 27



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Saturday, Sept. 29	Tuesday, Oct. 2	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
Low 2:09 AM High 8:28 AM Low 2:32 PM High 8:42 PM	Low 4:05 AM High 10:24 AM Low 4:28 PM High 10:31 PM	
Sunday, Sept. 30	Wednesday, Oct. 3	
Low 2:49 AM High 9:09 AM Low 3:12 PM High 9:20 PM	Low 4:42 AM High 11:02 PM Low 5:06 PM High 11:08 PM	

Fifth

Continued from page 26

also disturbs Gil Pierson who, like his LHP neighbors, has been a regular there.

"I had heard they were trying to sell it for some time," he said. "But I didn't expect to close without warning. I've been going there 15 years. It was one of the nicest places we had around here."

According to the tax rolls, the location is assessed at \$1.7 million by the county tax appraiser and in 2011 the owner paid \$34,000 in property taxes.

Several weeks ago a restaurant that predated Fifth Avenue by many years, Fin and Claw, closed its doors in the Shoppes at Beacon Light. And this week, one of the Shoppes' longtime tenants Pat Anderson is closing her art shop Saturday night.

Anderson, well-known

for her tropical designs, also owned a retail clothing and gift store in the Shoppes which she closed last year after her husband Pete died. "I could not be an artist and a business person too," Anderson said. "I had not painted in two years!"

To reduce her art shop inventory, Anderson is selling everything at deep discounts today and tomorrow.

Anderson admits that the reason for her getting out of retail is the "lack of business"

but she also says, "I want to share my art so I will be much more accessible." She will continue to design a Christmas ornament for the Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society and work with the historic McDougald House.

So also has become involved with a cultural arts society in The Keys that envisions embellishing the Overseas Highway with colorful art.

Boaters wanted for Holiday Boat Parade

Pompano Beach – Own a boat? Want to show it off? The Greater Pompano Beach Chamber of Commerce is looking for boats to be part of its 50th Annual Pompano Beach Holiday Boat Parade. Entry is free and every boat that participates will receive a hand-painted collectible glass ornament designed by local artist Pat Anderson. Big and small boats with few or many decorations will be accepted. The parade will be held Sunday, Dec. 9 starting at 6 p.m. Sponsorship opportunities are also available. To enter, call 954-941-2940.

Sushi celebration

Lauderdale-By-The-Sea – Sushi By The Sea, 238 E. Commercial Blvd., is celebrating its 1st anniversary on Monday, Oct. 1 from 7 to 9 p.m. There will be free maki and sake and live music. Call 954-267-8819.

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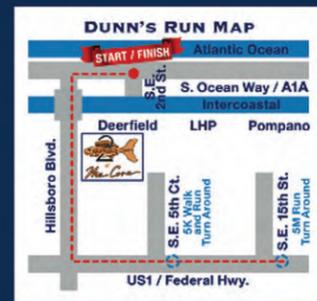
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