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No decision yet on who is responsible for sewage spill

Pompano Beach – A hearing scheduled for this week to determine responsibility for an accident that dumped 52 gallons of raw sewage into C-1 Canal, in January, has once again been delayed, this time until May.

Gail Custode, enforcement program coordinator at the county's Environmental and Consumer Protection Division, said all the parties are still in negotiation. The first hearing set for March 28 was also postponed.

See *SPILL* on page 15

Little League doubleheader increase in players, finances

By Judy Wilson

PELICAN STAFF

Deerfield Beach – Two years ago, the Deerfield Beach Little League organization was in bad shape. It had \$800 in the bank and 180 kids playing ball.

Today, the numbers and the participation are looking like a homerun.

"We started up this season with \$5,000. I think when it's over we will

See *LEAGUE* on page 13

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Protesters in front of city hall on Tuesday called for Pompano Beach officials to end the euthanasia policy with feral cats and adopt TNR [Trap, Neuter, Release] instead. [Staff]

Activists to city: stop killing cats; both sides now working together

By Michael d'Oliveira

PELICAN STAFF

Pompano Beach – At a meeting Wednesday to discuss the city's feral cat euthanasia policy, city officials invited activists to come up with an alternative and present it to the city commission.

City Manager Greg Harrison, who attended the meeting which attracted a mix of about 25 activists and residents, said there needs to be a "balanced approach" that also takes into consideration residents who have experienced problems with feral cats.

At Tuesday's commission meeting, resident Dawn Truax said she has experienced problems. She said she's not a "cat hater" but wants the city to take action.

"I'm constantly dealing with cat urine and feces in my boat. I'm not asking for euthanasia. I'm asking for something to be done."

As she started talking, some audience members laughed and jeered. "They think this is funny. It's not funny," she responded. "It's out of control."

Those against the city's current policy also spoke at the meeting following a protest along Atlantic Boulevard in front of city hall. About 40 people joined

See *CAT POLICY* on page 11

Assistant city manager resigns amid questions over use of city playing fields

By Judy Wilson

PELICAN STAFF

Deerfield Beach – Assistant City Manager Kara Petty resigned April 18 amid controversy over a private soccer team's use of city fields.

One of Petty's responsibilities in the manager's office was oversight of the parks and recreation department.

See *RESIGNS* on page 28

Social media an influence on Deerfield politics

He's not a wife beater
Anne Geggis

PELICAN WRITER

Deerfield Beach – The first report of Deerfield Beach's new interim city manager last week included the assertion he was not, in fact, a wife beater – in spite of an emailed allegation that was sent and then published on a news blog and a Facebook page.

Interim City Manager David Santucci, 41, has the same name as someone whose wife got a restraining order against him in 1996, according to Broward County court records. Santucci, however, was 18 years old then – nine years before he got married.

But that didn't stop someone posting as "Howard Levy" from broadcasting the allegation on the Facebook page "Deerfield Beach Politics," with a link to the blog, "Deerfield Beach News."

Santucci said the emailed allegation arrived just two hours after his

See *SOCIAL MEDIA* on page 21

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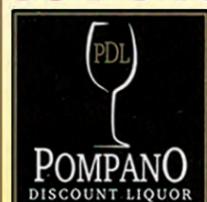
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CRA members decline Popeyes offer to buy two lots in Collier City

By Judy Vik

PELICAN STAFF

Pompano Beach – The Community Redevelopment Agency board on April 16 unanimously rejected a proposed offer by Popeyes fast food restaurant to purchase two vacant CRA-owned lots.

The CRA purchased the lots for \$700,000 in 2006. Popeyes was offering \$307,801, and CRA staff recommended the sale.

The lots are at the southeast corner of Northwest 31 Avenue and Northwest 2 Street.

The applicant, NW 31 Avenue, LLC [also known as Popeyes], proposed using a portion of the lots abutting NW 31 Avenue to construct easy access to the restaurant.

Earlier, the applicant had proposed an early learning center at the site.

The Northwest CRA Advisory Committee recommended approval of that proposal in February. The request was tabled at an earlier CRA Board meeting to get input from the Collier City Civic Association.

Members of the association objected to another daycare center in the area, and Popeyes agents withdrew that offer but still wanted to purchase the property at \$6.15 a square

foot.

In the latest application, Popeyes didn't spell out what the use would be.

Nguyen Tran, CRA director, said the next step would be a development agreement. "Then they could spell out the uses, for example, a grocery store, and we can spell out what we don't want at the site."

Richard Berrie, architect for the applicant, said Popeyes owns two other properties near these lots.

"With these larger parcels, they could entertain better use. They're looking to expand parking and have people be able to make a left turn on NW 2 Street.

After meeting with Collier City residents, Berrie said, "We agreed to take the learning center off the table. Any future plan will require CRA approval."

"You shouldn't sell this property without knowing what's going in there," said Phyllis Smith, president of the Collier City Civic Association. "Popeyes is not friendly to the community. You can't even get a free cup of ice from Popeyes. We're giving them property to build a street."

"We paid \$700,000 for these lots, and we're willing to give them away?" asked board

member Barry Moss. "I agree with Ms. Smith. Selling the land at [the proposed] price, that's a sweetheart deal when we have no idea what they're planning to do with it. Land in this part of the city will become a lot more valuable. \$307,000 is a bit of a stretch that seems a little like a sweetheart deal if I had a suspicious mind, which I don't."

Moss said, "I can't support this."

Moss asked Tran if there was a desperate need to sell these lots.

Tran responded that the Northwest advisory committee was asking where more funds could be found for improvements to Annie Gillis Park.

"This is a bad deal if you're selling it for \$307,000. The

potential value of this land is great. This almost doesn't pass the smell test," said Moss.

Board member Beverly Perkins said she agreed with Moss. "We need to consider the value of the land, and I'm concerned with development so close to residences."

Board member Rhonda Eaton asked why the CRA bought this property in the first place. "Access is pathetic. Who owns the road?"

Tran said he didn't know why the CRA purchased the property. It was bought before his time with the CRA. The land is zoned B-3 or commercial.

McGee said she agreed with Moss about not using the assessed value to gauge the price. "This price doesn't

make sense. If we don't need it [the funds], it doesn't make sense to give it away."

"We have talked for years about making 31 Avenue more welcoming into the city. Now we're selling something that's more valuable than the sales price reflects," Moss said. "I don't blame Popeyes. If I could buy this at a fire sale, I would, too. This neighborhood will change when a sports complex goes in across the street."

Moss said he doesn't object to selling the property at a reduced price if they come back with something that would serve the community. We need to hold onto it."

"It's way too cheap," board chair Rex Hardin said. "I'm voting no." The rest of the board joined him.

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City looks to tourism council for assistance with reef funding

By Judy Wilson

PELICAN STAFF

Deerfield Beach – An artificial reef designed to attract snorkelers to this city may finally be coming to fruition. Last week, the commission approved a contractor to place 870 tons of limestone boulders in four to six feet of water south of the fishing pier.

The boulders will be placed to spell “DFB” and the contract with Pac Com outlines the cost of placing one to three of the boulder mounds. That price ranges from \$158,000 to \$356,000.

The city has obtained a \$30,000 Florida Sea Grant

and will transfer \$104,000 in unused salary funds from the city’s fleet division. Additional funds are being sought from the Tourist Development Council.

Vice Mayor Todd Drosky said County Commissioner Lamar Fisher has been aiding the city’s effort to obtain county funding and Drosky said he will be seeking \$150,000 from the council.

The project was first proposed in 2010 after a study showed a near shore reef here would be feasible, but final permits were granted just late last year. In July, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection gave its okay,

and shortly later, the Army Corps of Engineers signed the paperwork.

The boulders will be placed in 50 by 50 clusters – one letter to each, brought in by barge and lowered to the seabed by crane. Four sea buoys will mark the site.

Resident Glenn Sullivan questioned whether the formation would withstand a severe storm and Chad Grecsek, director of sustainable management, said the Army Corps has given the city assurances it will.

Interim city manager gets pay raise

Deerfield Beach – Interim City Manager David Santucci

can expect a raise that will put him at the top of the city’s salary range.

Commissioners last week directed Assistant City Attorney Anthony Soroka to draw up a contract upping Santucci’s salary by 10 to 15 percent. “Whatever puts him highest,” Mayor Bill Ganz said.

Santucci, who had served as assistant city manager since 2016, asked that he be allowed to return to that position if a new city manager is hired. Commissioners agreed.

Commissioner Ben Preston pointed out that the city could not dictate to a new city manager that Santucci retain his old job. “That may not be

agreeable to a new city manager,” he said.

Mayor Ganz said, “Change is always a risk. This is not a guarantee . . . more like that he can go back [to his old job] but whether he would be kept on, we don’t know.”

Santucci also said a city vehicle need not be included in his new contract.

Soroka is expected to present the contract to the commission in May.

New bus, new routes for Pelican Hopper

By Judy Vik

PELICAN STAFF

Lauderdale-By-The-Sea – This town soon will be getting a new \$150,000 Pelican Hopper bus, paid for with funds from the penny surtax.

The town’s current agreement with Broward County Transit [BCT] expires Sept. 30 and BCT has asked about changes to the Pelican Hopper operation.

“We’re recommending the commission request that BCT reimburse the town for the shuttle’s ancillary expenses,

See **HOPPER** on page 20

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Digital Grass negotiating to manage co-working space at City Vista

By Michael d'Oliveira

PELICAN STAFF

Pompano Beach – Despite advice to seek new proposals for a planned co-working space, city officials will keep negotiating with Digital Grass.

In October of 2018, the Community Redevelopment Agency [CRA] issued a request for proposals [RFP] to find a manager/operator for the 3,300 square foot co-working space at City Vista, 501 Martin Luther King Blvd.

A co-working space is an office location that can be rented by multiple companies. The space would include desks, a conference room and internet access.

Regardless of who manages the space, a membership fee would be charged. The cost of that fee will be determined at

a later date.

Digital Grass Innovation & Technology Group was the only firm to respond to the RFP.

The CRA Board, which is comprised of city commission members, voted to direct staff to negotiate with Digital Grass at its Jan. 15 meeting.

But at the board meeting on April 16, CRA Attorney Claudia McKenna said the CRA should issue a new RFP for the co-working space.

According to McKenna, Digital Grass is offering services and programs that exceed the parameters of the bid. In the interest of fairness, she said other firms should be given the opportunity to respond again.

But what Digital Grass CEO Michael Hall presented was his proposed budget of \$210,000 which includes \$50,000 for management;

\$75,000 for a program director; \$50,000 for an events coordinator/office manager; \$35,000 for public relations and community outreach; \$10,000 for office/miscellaneous supplies and \$5,000 for software/marketing/social media.

Hall referred to those figures as his operations budget; McKenna saw it as exceeding the CRA budget.

She said the proposal exceeds the \$50,000 budgeted by the CRA and other firms may have declined to bid because they didn't think they could go beyond the scope of the RFP.

"That's what we put out on the street. If we're going to change that, find out if people will respond to a different business model . . . Withdraw this one and go back to the drawing board," said McKenna.

A vote to withdraw the RFP ended in failure with a 3-3 tie. Vice Chairperson Barry Moss and board members Rhonda Eaton and Tom McMahon voted to withdraw.

Moss said it would be irresponsible to ignore McKenna's advice.

Eaton said CRAs "are constantly scrutinized" and said she voted to withdraw for that reason. "I don't want to see our CRA put in jeopardy."

Last week, Hall said McKenna's claims are full of "falsehoods" and "direct lies" and that the integrity of his company was being "questioned."

He stated his company did not exceed the RFP and

only responded to what was requested in it.

In its RFP, the CRA stated, "The operator should provide basic support services including IT, facility maintenance, administrative, and security. The operator should also develop programs that support entrepreneurs with mentorships, social networking events, and financial and legal advice."

Digital Grass' proposal includes plans for networking and social programming and symposiums and workshops on various business, marketing and financial topics.

In January, Hall said his
See CO-WORKING on page 15

68th National Day of Prayer

Deerfield Beach – Members of the community are invited to pray together on Thursday, May 2 to observe the 68th Annual National Day of Prayer. This year's theme is "Pray for America – Love One Another" and is based on John 13:34, "Love one another. Just as I have loved you." The observance is at city hall in the commission chambers, 150 NE 2 Ave., from noon to 1 p.m. Congress established the National Day of Prayer in 1952. For more information, call 954-480-4361.

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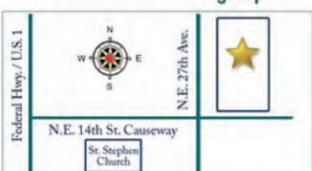


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WID, Light of the World chosen for CDBG funding

By Judy Vik

PELICAN STAFF

Oakland Park – Commissioners will apply for Community Development Block Grants [CDBG] totaling \$189,000 for the year 2020; the funds to be allocated to Women in Distress [WID], Light of the World Clinic and to improve Northeast 11 Avenue.

The two non-profits will share \$30,000 of the grant money; the remainder will go for sidewalks and Americans with Disabilities Act improvements on the avenue.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development funds the CDBG program. Cities qualify based on a low/moderate income population.

Three agencies applied for the \$30,000 in funding for non-profits. Besides the two highest ranked by the city's consultants, a third applicant was World AIDS Museum.

Before the vote, commissioners heard from representatives of all three agencies.

Richard McDuffie, said Women in Distress is the largest domestic violence agency in the state. They provided services to 119 Oakland Park residents in the past year, including 721 nights of emergency shelter. In 51 percent of the cases, services were for children.

Sandy Lozano, executive director of Light of the World Clinic, now in its 30th year said, "The clinic provides free medical

See CDBG on page 7

City spends \$12,000 in legal fees to go after business operating without license

By Katina Caraganis

PELICAN STAFF

Wilton Manors – City officials here have spent over \$12,000 in taxpayer dollars to try and impose a \$150 fine on Challenge Fitness for operating without a business license.

City officials say the gym, located on The Pride Center's campus at 2040 N. Dixie Hwy., has been the source of numerous noise complaints and is operating without a business tax receipt.

In May of last year, a special magistrate slapped a \$150 fine on Challenge Fitness for failing to get the business tax receipt.

The company had until September of last year to clear up the issues or face fines of \$250 per day. According to the city, the gym is appealing the \$150 administrative fee. A message left with the gym's staff was not returned in time for publication.

As a result of the appeal, City Attorney Kerry Ezrol has attended two hearings and the city is accruing steep attorney fees. More legal fees could be forthcoming if Ezrol has to go back into court for oral arguments.

Ezrol stated he sent a letter to Robert Boo, executive director of the Pride Center, demanding the Pride Center repay the city's legal fees but

has not yet received a response.

Earlier this month, Commissioner Gary Resnick questioned the expense.

"No code enforcement fines are being imposed, and the special magistrate doesn't appear to be doing anything," he said. "The question is why are we still defending this? They don't have a leg to stand on." He added that it doesn't make sense to recoup \$150 by spending thousands; the city has to "stop the bleeding" on the fees.

He also said there appears to be conflicting reports from the magistrate and city staff.

"The special magistrate is saying city staff is not giving him enough time to assess fines, but that is contradictory to what city staff is saying. This has been going on forever."

Commissioner Julie Carson agreed, saying she would also like to know the options for the commission. "I think we need to consider what is going on with the magistrate."

City Manager Leigh Ann Henderson said she would research alternatives and bring them to Tuesday's city commission meeting.

But at the meeting, the issue didn't come up until after 11 p.m. and a new commission policy requires meetings end by 11:30 p.m. unless commis-

sioners vote to extend. Resnick said there wasn't enough time to discuss the issue and the commission voted to table it until May.

Sal Torre, president of the Westside Association of Wilton Manors, said he's glad the city is enforcing its business license requirements.

In his column, published this week in the *South Florida Gay News*, Torre wrote, "This taxpayer is absolutely fine with the continued legal expenses being incurred by the city. Turning a blind eye to this issue, allowing our laws and codes to become meaningless, and sacrificing the quality of life of the taxpaying neighbors who live next to this horrific neighbor is not an option for me."

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Anne Siren, publisher

Letters

Resident not happy with decision to move McNab House to McNab Park, hopes city will preserve as much of the park as possible

Dear Editor;

I was not pleased with the results of last week's Community Redevelopment Agency meeting and not with my own comment suggesting I'm okay with preserving the McNab House.

I perceived that audience comments heavily favored saving McNab Memorial Park. My sentiment, and I think sentiment of most people for preserving the park, was more to acquiesce or accept saving the house to accommodate as a compromise, and not in support of moving the house to the park.

Other options were available and were apparently dismissed, and insistence against commercialization was apparently not negotiable.

I'm in disbelief that any historical society would promote destroying a 70-year old memorial park dedicated in honor of a family member who served in WWII.

I perceive that when RMA and the CRA became involved, the mission became commercialization and pro-developers versus what is best for the citizens and those users of the park.

Thursday evening, I attended our local civic association's meeting at the park and kind of lamented in thinking that holding future meetings there may be short-lived.

I ask that our commissioners and mayor consider this in future plans for the park versus things that will enhance the wealth of a few people at the expense of depriving regular people of an athletic park. I pray that you [the mayor and commissioners] will respect the late McNab family members and preserve this park in their memory and not allow it to be taken over for personal gain.

Tim Golly,
Pompano Beach

Compost items accepted at community garden

Pompano Beach – The Patricia Davis Community Garden, 1089 NW 6 Ave., accepts compostable items. Items can be dropped off Mondays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Acceptable items include coffee grounds, banana peels and other non-cooked biodegradable items. Items not accepted include meat, cooked items and weeds. For more information, text 754-265-8511.

Send your letters to the editor to editor.pelican@gmail.com

Motorists take heed; two full closures on A1A in Hillsboro Beach next week

Hillsboro Beach – The ongoing sewer installation project is creating a major change in the traffic patterns next week and the closure of A1A at town hall.

On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday morning, the road will be fully closed from 1085 to 1053 Hillsboro Mile.

That stretch of A1A is occupied by single family homes. All homeowners have been notified and flagmen will be able to identify them. No one else will be allowed through.

Persons living north of those addresses will have to travel north to Deerfield Beach; those living south will have to travel south to Pompano Beach.

The closure at town hall will begin at noon Wednesday, May 1. Only persons with business at town hall will be allowed to turn into the facility. All others will be turned back.

The construction began last September and will continue through this summer.

At the last town commission meeting earlier this month, Police Chief Tom Nagy reported motorists were using excuses to gain access to addresses within the construction zone. He has put on a police detail at the closure points during weekends.

Police Motorcycle Rodeo Rolls into its 30th year; hosted at Citi Centre today and Saturday



Some of this year's officers [pictured above] are Chris Wilson [Fort Lauderdale PD], Darrell Seckendorf [Sarasota Sheriff], Gary Fisher [BSO], Chris Swinson [Coral Springs PD], Mike Pianelli [BSO] and Mike Davis [McKinny, Texas]. [Courtesy]

Jason Soldini

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Pompano Beach – The sight of numerous motorcycle police in and around Pompano Beach this week isn't due to heightened security from a presidential visit. The Southeast Police Motorcycle Rodeo annual Seminar and Safety Trials is being held at the Macys Parking area of Pompano Citi Center, 1955 N Federal Hwy.

The event stretches from Wednesday, April 24, through Saturday, April 27, and provides opportunity for training, a skills competition and fundraising. The only ticket you'll get from these guys is an "admission ticket." The public is welcome and encouraged to attend.

The 150 motomen participants come from all over Florida and even other states as far as Texas and Maryland and include 30 varying police agencies. Deputy Gary Fischer of BSO has participated in the event for each of the 30 years. The riders spend the first few days learning, practicing and improving riding skills. On Saturday, the competition is an opportunity to demonstrate those impressive skills by earning points for each category and the rider with the most points receives the honorable title "Mr. Rodeo."

Saturday evening concludes with a fundraiser banquet, which is primarily why the event was formed in 1989. The main purpose is to raise funds for the C.O.P.S. [Concerns Of Police Survivors]. C.O.P.S. is a national organization that serves to provide support for the families of fallen police officers, including financial, practical and emotional support through various programs.

Officer Chris Swinson of the Coral Springs Police Department, who serves as president of the Rodeo, expressed that he's always felt strongly that ongoing support for those families is important but now that he is a father, it has really hit home. "If I don't make it home one day, I want to know my 4-year-old is going to have the support needed to be okay."

Funds raised also go to support other local charities such as the Boys and Girls Club, BSO Explorers program and Cody's Angels cancer support charity.

Many sponsors come together to underwrite this event and give back to our often under appreciated law enforcement community. More information can be found on their website at southeastpolice.com.

Jim and Jan Moran Teen Center moves forward

By Judy Wilson

PELICAN STAFF

Deerfield Beach – Plans for a teen center at The Jim and Jan Moran Boys & Girls Club will move forward now that the commission has approved the site plan and vacated a road and utility easement.

Executive Director Brian Quail said design work will start next month on a projected \$1.2 million, 7,200 square foot addition to the club located at 27 S. Dixie Highway.

At issue last week was the road right-of-way that runs between the club and First Zion Missionary Baptist Church. Church leaders said they wanted a portion of that right-of-way in order to expand the dining area on the north side of their building.

Zion Pastor Theodus Times said his congregation does not want a road behind the church.

“We’ve not been considered, not notified,” he said.

After two hours of public testimony as to the need for

the services provided by the Boys & Girls Club, commissioners granted the road abandonment.

A woman from the audience clarified the topic when she said the commentators had “lost focus.” The issue was not about the Boys & Girls Club, she said, it was about the road.

Octavia McDougald, whose family owns land abutting the club, said using the right of way for access into the club could be dangerous for kids. “There’s very little room for a sidewalk,” she said.

Quail said his organization made a “good faith effort” working with the McDougalds and five other absentee land owners to find another way into the club.

He said discussions had been held for seven months. But in the end, “It just wasn’t feasible when the road was already there.

“We’ve co-existed really well and will continue to do that,” he said of the club’s relationship with the church.

“We are using 10 feet of our own property to give them more of a buffer.”

Mayor Bill Ganz summed up the difficulty as having to negotiate with “multiple players.”

The teen club will serve young people 13 to 18 years of age. At the Boys & Girls Club here, 300 teens are currently members. “Our biggest competition is gangs,” Quail said. “When we provide space [for teens], they remain more active in the club.”

The Deerfield Beach Teen Club will be the second one in Broward County. JM Family Enterprises is funding it.

Although ground won’t be broken for a while, the curriculum for the teen center has been developed by surveying 700 Boys & Girls Club members. What do they want? 62 percent said lessons in how to get a job, 61 percent said a drug free, safe space and 54 percent said how to manage money.

So, this center will include a tech lab, a culinary arts kitchen and a recording studio. Courses offered will

be Money Matters, how to manage currency through college years to establishing a small business; Career Launch using career modules from the Broward County School System and “Bring on You’re ‘A’ Game,” lessons in customer service.

Quail said the Boys & Girl club has 25 community partners that hire teens who have taken these courses.

The culinary arts kitchen at North Lauderdale where the other teen center is located is creating jobs for teens. What starts as a life skill course in nutrition and health has the potential for a certification that puts the kids on track for jobs that pay more than minimum wage.

The Jim & Jan Moran Boys & Girls Club celebrated its 20th year here earlier this month.

The Pelican

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for information on advertising.

CDBG

Continued from page 5

care to the uninsured and access to 52 practitioners and 16 specialists at one location, serving children to the elderly. “Through your partnership we can continue to do what we do best and provide underserved, uninsured people with care,” Lozano said. The \$15,000 will pay for a medical assistant.

Dr. Raquel Lopes, executive director of the World AIDS Museum and Education Center in Wilton Manors said, “One of the largest groups contracting HIV today is our youth.” The agency is targeting schools in Oakland Park and providing educational programs.

“They’re all extremely important, necessary and worthy,” said Commissioner Tim Loneragan.

Since the World AIDS Museum had never received money from the city, Loneragan said he would like to see them included in the funding. “I like to spread it around a bit,” he said.

“This rips my guts out,” Vice Mayor Matthew Sparks said, referring to having to choose two of the three applicants as recommended by the city’s consultants. “I will go with the first two [ranked], begrudgingly.”

Mayor Sara Guevrekian said it was important to go by the process and the consultant’s ranking “so this doesn’t have to be personal and subjective. I would not want to pit one against another.”

Commissioners voted 4-0 to support the city’s application to Broward County for the CDBG grant. Commissioner Jane Bolin recused herself because she is a board member of one of the applying organizations.

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Jobs open up for 2020 Census

By Judy Vik

PELICAN STAFF

Oakland Park – In advance of the 2020 Census, the U.S. Census Bureau is recruiting thousands of people across the country including here in Broward County.

These positions provide opportunity to earn income at \$17.50 per hour.

Results of the 2020 Census help determine each state's representation in Congress, as well as how certain funds are spent for schools, hospitals, roads and more. This is a chance to help ensure that everyone is counted.

To be eligible for a 2020 Census job you must:

- Be at least 18 years old.
- Have a valid Social Security number.
- Be a U.S. citizen.

See CENSUS on page 9

Navy Band performs

Oakland Park – The Navy will once again be landing in Oakland Park on Saturday, May 4, as part of Fleet Week. The Navy Band Southeast, featuring its brass ensemble, will perform at from 7 to 9 p.m. at Jaco Pastorius Park, 4000 N. Dixie Hwy.

Concert highlights include renditions of military and patriotic favorites, as well as popular rock and brass band songs. Admission is free. Food will be available for sale by the American Legion Post 222, and the Big Dog Station cash bar will be open for alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages.

Send your news to pelicanfrontdesk@gmail.com

Making a Difference

Covenant House Florida seeks sponsors for annual fundraiser *Broadway Under the Stars* on May 16



Phyllis J. Neuberger wants your suggestions about people making a difference. Phyllis' book, *China Dahl*, is available on Amazon.com. Send your recommendations for this column to pelicanfrontdesk@gmail.com

By Phyllis J. Neuberger

PELICAN STAFF

May 16 is a big night for Covenant House Florida.

Neal Berg, composer/co-lyricist, and award-winning entertainers, Rita Harvey and Richard Todd Adams, will perform under the stars at the Grateful Palate, 3003 N. 32 Ave. in Fort Lauderdale.

This annual signature fundraiser promises to be a spectacular evening where guests can enjoy cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and beverages,



Neal Berg

silent auction and exciting raffles as they mingle with South Florida executives and philanthropists. Valet parking will be available.

While being serenaded, there will be stories of resilience and hope from several young people who have overcome homelessness at Covenant House.

Rebecca D'Amica says, "We have several generous gold, silver and patron sponsors, but we'd like to have even more. We hope to raise \$75,000 or more so that we can continue to provide housing, services and hope to young people who have experienced homelessness.

Sponsorships available are



Rita Harvey

Gold, \$5,000; Silver, \$2,500; Bronze, \$500; Patron, \$500. Donations of any amount are also welcome. Individual tickets are \$125.

For more information, contact Cassie Urbashick at 954-568-7916, Rebecca D'Amico at 954-568-7914 or visit covenanthousefl.org.

What does Covenant House Do?

Trained Covenant outreach counselors travel by foot, bicycle and van to areas where street kids congregate. They offer an introduction to Covenant House through informal dialogue that affirms each youth.

They bring non-perishable food, clean clothing, hygiene



Richard Todd Adams

items and first aid. They provide on the spot counseling for the youth's problems, be it sexual abuse and exploitation, human trafficking, substance abuse, health and injury risk factors.

They offer HIV testing, a pocket referral guide and map to Covenant House services, referrals to safe shelter, medical care or other services and transportation to the crisis shelter if it is available.

Covenant House Florida is located at 733 Breakers Ave. in Fort Lauderdale.

For more information, email rdamico@covenanthousefl.org or call 954-561-5559.

Annual Tree Giveaway this Saturday

Deerfield Beach – Each year, this city celebrates Earth Month with a series of events in honor of Earth and Arbor Day.

This year, the annual tree giveaway on Saturday, April 27 concludes the month's events.

A selection of native and non-native trees will be distributed free at the Central Campus, 401 SW 4 St., from 9 to 11 a.m.

Included will be Dahoon holly, thatch palm, longan, Hayden mango, Spanish stopper and golden shower.

Tree species are subject to availability and are not guaranteed. Participants will be required to provide proof of residency.

For more information, call 954-480-4210. For more information on the Earth Month series of activities, visit dfb.city/earthmonth.

'Dancing in the Street'

Oakland Park – The 3rd Annual Dancing in the Street is scheduled for Friday, April 26 from 6 to 10 p.m. near city hall, 3650 NE 12 Ave. This free live music festival features multiple bands and performers along Main Street.

Entertainment is scheduled from 6 to 10 p.m. on multiple stages set up throughout the city's downtown Culinary Arts District. A "restaurant row" will offer eats and local Oakland Park businesses will host family-friendly activities. Some of the musical artists scheduled to perform include Mr. Nice Guy, Caribbean Waves, Rock Candy, and Sophia Anderson.

Food court vendors will include: Garlic Knot, German Bread Haus, Lazo Empanadas, Leo's Gourmet Frozen Treats, Lucky's Market, Monster Subs, Sandy Sweet Bakery, The Whole Enchilada. A "Kid Zone" will offer a variety of activities such as face painting, bead making, cookie decorating and displays by the Urban Farming Institute and Champions World Boxing. Visit oaklandparkfl.gov or more information.

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Je parle aussi le français

Census

Continued from page 1

Have a valid email address. Complete an application and answer assessment questions. [Some assessment questions are available in Spanish. However, an English proficiency test also may be required].

Be registered with the Selective Service System or have a qualifying exemption if you are a male born after Dec. 31, 1959.

Pass a census-performed criminal background check and a review of criminal records, including fingerprinting. Commit to completing training.

Be available to work flexi-

ble hours, which can include days, evenings and/or weekends.

Most jobs require employees to: Have access to a vehicle and a valid driver's license, unless public transportation is readily available.

Have access to a computer with internet and an email account [to complete training].

Veterans who served on active duty in the U.S. armed forces and were honorably discharged may be eligible for hiring preferences.

The application process takes about 30 minutes and is done online.

Most 2020 census positions will likely last several weeks. Census takers also receive reimbursement for work-related mileage and expenses.

To learn more about positions in this area, contact the area Census office at 1-855-562-2020 and select option 3, or 1-800-877-8339 for TTY/ASCII.

A census count has been conducted every 10 years since 1790 and is required by the U.S. Constitution to re-appoint Congress.

Results are also used for redistricting at national, state and local levels.

Florida gained two congressional seats after the 2010 Census. New York lost two seats.

Ana Maria Diaz, partnership specialist with the Atlanta Regional Census Center, said at a recent Oakland Park City Commission meeting that Florida receives \$29 billion annually or about \$1,445 per person.

"The most undercounted population is children up to age five," Diaz said. "We can't afford to not count our children."

Under Title 13, information is sealed for 72 years.

Diaz said information won't be used by any government agencies to punish people if they are breaking the law.

So people are encouraged to be accurate about how many people are living with them.

"No branch of government sees your form," Diaz said.

In 2010, 74 percent of households in the U.S. and in Florida mailed back census questionnaires.

Every household will have the option of responding to the 2020 Census online, by mail or by phone. Ninety-five percent of households will receive the census invitation in the mail March 12 to 20, 2020. A reminder letter and paper questionnaire will be sent to the non-responders April 8 to 16 and a final reminder will go out April 20 to 27 before the Census Bureau follows up in person.

\$1.2 million slated for NW 10 Ave

Oakland Park – Commissioners have awarded Stanford Construction Co. of Pompano Beach a \$1.2 million contract to beautify Northwest 10 Avenue from Prospect Road south to Park Lane West [Northeast 38 Street].

The city plans to make mobility and landscaping improvements to Northwest 10 Avenue with new sidewalks and bike lanes.

The project is in large part funded by a Transportation Alternative Program [TAP] that will provide \$1,080,715 for the construction phase.

Plans include a shared-use path, decorative pedestrian lighting, improved street lighting, drainage improvements, landscaping, irrigation, bike lane and asphalt pavement resurfacing.

Craven Thompson & Associates, Inc. [CTA] developed design and construction plans. Stanford is in the process of completing the Andrews Avenue Project for the city.

Challenging project

"This will be a very challenging project," Commissioner Michael Carn said.

See NW 10 AVE on page 12

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Pompano Beach students take first place in WM's Earth Day event

By Anne Siren

PELICAN STAFF

Deerfield Beach – Residents with serious questions regarding the correct way to recycle might want to check in with the students at Palmview Elementary School in Pompano Beach.

They just won the \$3,000 first prize at Waste Management's 10th Annual Earth Day event held this month at Monarch Hill Renewable Energy Park in Deerfield Beach.

But according to Dawn McCormick at Waste Management, they also won a better and cleaner world for everyone else by learning the art of recycling.

McCormick explains that much time and money is lost when residents use the recycle bins for "garbage."

"It takes time for workers to go down in the machines to remove garbage from recyclables. This drives up the costs of recycling," she said.

But it's not just people who disregard the rules of recycling. Sometime it's nature.

The most recent storm, Hur-



Jaylye of Sanders Park Elementary [Photos by Kara Starzyk]



Jeremiah Wright, Lanita Soto and Jaiven Louis

ricane Irma, added 660,000 tons of debris to the landfill in



Jessenia Lopez of Somerset Academy



Kassides Miller of Palm View Elementary

just four months.

The National Waste & Recycling Association trade group estimates that 25 percent of American recyclables are contaminated with food waste and non-recyclable materials, but students from all 16 local elementary schools are determined to change that.

What to recycle:

Plastic bottles [clean] and containers: that means no plastic bags; they get caught up in the wheelabrator.

Food and beverage containers [clean].

Cardboard must be flattened.

Glass bottles [clean].

Sixteen elementary schools participated in the event. Park Lakes Elementary School in Lauderdale Lakes won \$2,500 for second place and Atlantic West Elementary in Margate took home the third place prize of \$2,000. All other participating elementary schools received \$1,500: Coconut Creek; Tradewinds and Winston Park in Coconut Creek; Quiet Waters in Deerfield Beach; Calvary Christian Academy in Fort Lauderdale; Piney Grove Boys Academy in Lauderdale Lakes; Margate; Heron Heights, Park Trails and Riverglades in Parkland; and Norcrest, Sand-

ers Park and Somerset Academy in Pompano Beach.

Said McCormick, "The event is aimed at third through fifth graders and, perhaps, some students from our first year who are now studying environmental science in college."

Experts explained to the students more inner workings of the Renewable Energy Park, such as how landfill gas becomes electricity and "clean" renewable energy.

To learn more about Waste Management's energy programs, visit wm.com or thinkgreen.com.

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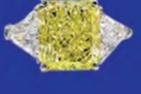
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Funding for this organization is provided in part by the Broward County Board of County Commissioners as recommended by the Broward Cultural Council.

Cat policy

Continued from page 1

the protest, including resident Karen Long. She said there's a "better way to achieve" a reduction in feral cats that doesn't involve killing.

Some of the signs held by Long and other protesters read, "no kill now" and "Pompano Beach shame on you!"

Roslyn Harris, of Friends of Broward County Animals, which advocates for better conditions for animals, said efforts to change the city's euthanasia policy go back to at least 2013.

She's hopeful that something will finally be done now.

Currently, per ordinance, the city euthanizes feral cats. Those against the policy want the city to adopt a policy of TNR [Trap, Neuter, Release].

They claim TNR is more humane and a better solution. If people could trap cats and bring them to a local place where they were sterilized, they say, people would be encouraged to trap more feral cats and reduce the amount of feral kittens born.

It's unknown when activists will present their alternative to the city commission but it will most likely be modeled in part, or completely, on the county's TNR policy.

But for now, Harrison said the city's animal control officers are only authorized to kill sick and injured cats. He said that moratorium has been in



At the commission meeting on April 9, some of the activists who want the city to end its euthanasia policy held up signs in the commission chambers. [Staff]

effect since the middle of this month.

One complaint against animal control has been that people's pets are being euthanized. City officials deny that claim and say they make every effort to ensure pets aren't killed.

To address the healthy feral cats captured by animal control officers, the city will meet with representatives from several cat rescue groups. The meeting's purpose will be to devise a system where the city and the groups can work together to deal with any healthy feral cats found; possibly finding permanent homes or shelters to take the cats.

A hotline, a number people could call to report feral cats, was another suggestion offered. Harrison addressed the lack of communication and partnership with the rescue

groups as a "void" that needed to be filled.

Members of those groups seem very receptive to what Harrison was saying.

But the meeting was also marked by several heated moments.

Resident Jason Dennis described those against the city's policy as "a bunch of crazy cat ladies."

In response, Dennis was called "uneducated" by individuals on the other side of the issue.

Dennis claims he's experienced property damage because of feral cats. "I have a cat problem . . . I want them gone," he said. "So do I . . . I need the city to help," said resident Jan Park.

Karen Brent, who said she favors a TNR program, said both sides have to work together to improve the situation.

BaCA: the Art of Trees



The Art of Trees. [Courtesy]

Pompano Beach – The newest Bailey Contemporary Arts [BaCA], 41 NE 1 St., exhibit, Arboreal, will open on Friday, May 3. The opening reception will be from 6 to 10 p.m. during Old Town Untapped. Arboreal, inspired by trees and human interaction with the natural environment, is free and will be at BaCA until June 28.

"While grandiose trees easily catch our eye, this exhibition highlights the exquisite character of their unexpected and humble comrades. From preserved, pristine cherry blossoms encased in ice to A-bomb survivors in Hiroshima, trees and their parts continually school us on the process of growth, decay, and resurrection," reads BaCA's press release on the exhibit.

"This exhibition features the vibrant hues of nature and the tremendous range of nature's canopies," stated Phyllis Korab, cultural affairs director. "The artists capture the essence of why we strive to preserve our natural environment."

The featured artists are Kate Hawkes, Mario Marzan, Sammi Mclean, Elin O'Hara Slavick, Roger Boulay, Maria Britton, Ivan Santiago, Mike Dillow, Sharon Lee Hart, William Cordova, Izel Vargas, Carol Prusa, Nick Gilmore, Roberto Navarrette and Susanne Slavick. The exhibit is curated by Sharon Lee Hart.

Visit baileyarts.org for more information.

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Three vehicles strike pedestrian and leave scene of fatality in Oakland Park

Oakland Park – The Broward Sheriff’s Office suspects a third car was involved in a fatal collision with a pedestrian on Saturday, April 20 in Oakland Park.

BSO’s Traffic Homicide Investigation Unit needs help locating the driver of a 2000 to 2005 Buick LeSabre. Based on further investigation, detectives believe the LeSabre struck Frank Bryant of Fort Lauderdale about 4:30 a.m. in the 1800 block of West Oakland Park Boulevard.

Bryant crossed the boulevard from north to south in the designated crosswalk. For reasons that remain under investigation, the 54-year-old entered the eastbound lanes and then walked north where he stood near a median. A vehicle traveling west in the far left lane of West Oakland Park Boulevard struck Bryant.

According to detectives, Bryant was struck by three

vehicles – all of which left the scene. Detectives are looking to identify drivers of the LeSabre and a 2009 to 2011 Mazda 6 sedan believed to be involved in the early-morning crash.

There may be damage to the underside of the lower front bumpers. The driver of a Honda Civic was located on April 20 by BSO detectives and is cooperating with the investigation.

Detectives said that excessive speed on the part of the three drivers is not considered to be a contributing factor in the crashes. Their investigation continues.

Anyone with further information is asked to contact BSO Detective Michael Wiley at 954-321-4205 or Broward Crime Stoppers, anonymously, at 954-493-TIPS [8477] or browardcrimestoppers.org.

Isle Casino meeting April 30

Pompano Beach – Plans for the redevelopment of Isle Casino will be discussed on Tuesday, April 30 at 6:30 p.m. at the Herb Skolnick Center, 800 SW 36 Ave. Owned by Eldorado Resorts, the 223-acre Isle Casino site, 777 Isle Of Capri Circle, will be redeveloped in partnership with the Cordish Companies, a real estate development firm.

According to the Cordish Companies website, plans include “new upscale retail, dining, and entertainment . . . a corporate office campus, residential and a hotel.” Vice Mayor Barry Moss, who represents Dist. 5, will host the meeting. Isle Casino is located in his district.

Both Moss and Mayor Rex Hardin have said the project will be good for the city.

NW 10 Ave

Continued from page 1

In this area, “People are accustomed to pulling out of their backyards. Here you will be close to houses. I hope you will be sensitive to residents with timing of work so people are not disturbed too much.” The work will be from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on weekdays.

This project will be designed with landscaping and sidewalks with no access from the rear of homes, said Jennifer Frastai, engineering and community development director.

“This project has been a decade in the making,” said Mayor Sara Guevrekian.

Guevrekian said the late city manager John Stunson initiated a change in the Northwest 10 Avenue roadway designation and had staff pursue planning and funding back in 2009. It was his idea to have connectivity [continuity of the streetscape enhancements as well as safe walkability] from the easternmost boundary to the westernmost boundary in the city of Oakland Park.

Guevrekian said she looks forward to the aesthetic and safety improvements for multimodal transportation.

-Judy Vik

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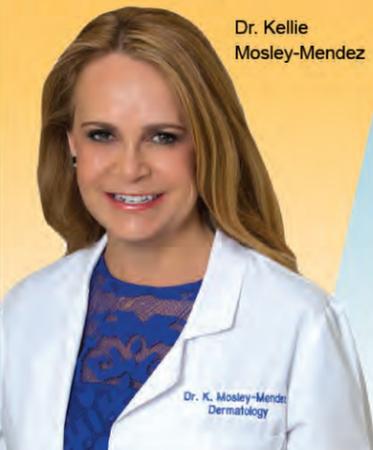
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Little league

Continued from page 1

have \$12,000 in the bank,” League President Jason Siracusa said.

And about 240 kids are on the fields at the Deerfield Beach Athletic Center at Deerfield Beach Middle School.

The 2019 season got underway in February with 20 teams in six age divisions: six T-ball teams and three coach-pitch.

The majors added a team as did the 50-70 division and the juniors, who last year were district champs. The growth of younger players – five to eight year olds – is particularly exciting for the league’s future, he said.

This year those junior players will advance to the senior division [ages 13 to 16]. The team is coached by Siracusa



Jason Siracusa at the Deerfield Beach Athletic Complex. [Staff]

who already has title dreams.

He credits social media and getting the word out to local schools, especially St.

Ambrose, for the increase in numbers. The healthier bank account came about when he organized concession stand volunteers, added an efficient hot dog machine, reworked pricing and began taking credit cards.

“We were losing money on gum,” he said. “Now everything we buy makes us money.”

After he raised the price of water to \$1.50 a bottle, he was told it was cheaper at Walmart. “Yeah,” he said, “But you can’t play baseball at Walmart.”

Deerfield’s teams play intra-squad ball for the most part. Games against the other teams in District 10 are exhi-

bitation during the regular season. Then the real competition begins when the cities’ all-star teams battle for district championships.

District 10 is composed of Parkland, Coconut Creek, Fort Lauderdale, Northeast, Coral Springs and North Springs.

Siracusa says the fields at Deerfield Beach Athletic Center are kept in top shape by the city and are the envy of all but North Springs where, along with great fields, the concession stand serves up-scale refreshment.

This year, the Tuesday after Memorial Day, Deerfield Beach Little League will host the coach-pitch all stars in a double elimination tournament. “You’ve got to see these kids play,” he said.

Other tournaments scheduled here for post-season action are the 7 and 8 Select, age 9 to 11 all stars and seniors all stars. These series determine the District 10 champions.

The senior season is just beginning. Deerfield is fielding two teams made up of players who have finished up high school ball.

Always looking to improve the league, Siracusa, who has lived in The Cove about 15 years and has both a son and a daughter playing little league, figures next year he will have 300 players.

Games are also played at Pioneer Park and Quiet Waters Elementary School, but neither of those fields have

concession stands. So he’s thinking food trucks might be an answer.

Siracusa also wants to hold a registration for next year at the Oveta McKeithan Recreational Complex to bring in more kids from the westside. Currently, his players come mainly from the east side of town, Pompano Beach and Lighthouse Point. “We are looking for diversity,” he said.

Right now, operating with a board of five people, Siracusa needs people to help him run the organization.

He has streamlined much of the operation including the uniforms and hopes by bringing in all-star tournaments more kids will get wind of the league.

The vast majority of adults working with the kids have one of their own on the field. Siracusa said, while everyone gets a Level 2 background check, that parental factor reduces the risks. Volunteers who don’t have a player in the program get additional scrutiny, he added.



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The Board of Trustees of Boca Raton Regional Hospital will be conducting an open Board meeting to finalize the approval process of the Hospital’s Strategic Partnership with Baptist Health South Florida.

Consistent with the organization’s bylaws, interested community members are invited to join the Board of Trustees for this meeting. A public comment period will be provided for members of the community to ask questions and provide feedback.



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Pursuant of the Letter of Intent dated December 7, 2018, by and among BRRH Corporation (“BRRH”) and Baptist Health South Florida, Inc. (“Baptist Health”), BRRH and its affiliates will become part of the Baptist Health System through a corporate affiliation to be implemented through amendment to BRRH Corporation’s and BRRH Affiliates’ articles and applicable governance documents. As a result of the Transaction, BRRH and BRRH Affiliates will remain Florida not for profit corporations, and will be under the ultimate control of Baptist Health.




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Take Note!

Hold that swing; golf course gets new turf

Pompano Beach – The Pines golf course, 1101 N. Federal Hwy., is under construction through June for re-grassing.

Players can use the city's second course, The Palms, during this period.

The Pines course, a Greg Norman design, is expected to re-open at the end of June, weather permitting. Call 954-781-0426 for more information.

Seafood Festival takes over this weekend

Pompano Beach – Two things to remember this weekend: slather the sunscreen and remember the new venue for the Pompano Beach Seafood Festival.

Due to development at the beach, the 35th annual festival will be held at Community Park, 1806 NE 6 St., today through Sunday.

The festival includes an array of South Florida food from local restaurants and music from country to Jimmy Buffet.

The arts and crafts marketplace will offer unique finds for shoppers. Get tickets and more information at pompanobeachseafoodfestival.com.



The Kester House kitchen, available for a in-person view during the upcoming historical tour. [Courtesy]

Grab your ticket for May 11 historical tour

Pompano Beach – Question: Why do termites avoid the Kester Cottages?

Answer: Because they were built over 100 years ago with termite-resistant Dade County pine by pioneer W.L. Kester.

For those who want to learn more about Pompano and why this city added the word "Beach" to its name long after it was incorporated in 1908,

tours will be offered.

The next bus tour of the Pompano Beach Historical Society takes place Saturday, May 11. The tour departs from Founders' Park, 217 NE 4 St., and stops at two classic Kester Cottages filled with period furniture. Board the bus at 10 a.m. for the two-hour narrated tour. Tickets are \$15. Call 954-782-3015.

-Anne Siren

Funds available for homeowner rehabilitation and purchase assistance

Deerfield Beach – This city has funding available to assist low to moderate-income homeowners with purchase and rehab assistance.

To apply for the Homeowner Rehabilitation and Purchase Assistance programs, the following documents are mandatory for registration: proof of home ownership, proof of income for all household members, proof of hazard and flood insurance and proof mortgage payments are current.

Applications are available at 325 NW 2 Ave. and 533 South Dixie Highway, Suite 102, or online at deerfield-beach.com/56/community-development and dbhaonline.org.

For more information, contact Loleta Harris at 954-425-8449, ext. 113 or lharris@dbhaonline.org.

Funding for these programs is through the Community Development Block Grant [CDBG], Home Investment Partnership [HOME] and State Housing and Initiative Partnership [SHIP] grant programs.

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Co-working

Continued from page 4

company had aspirations to do more than just “sit at the door and collect fees.”

The goal is to offer business development services. At that meeting, CRA Director Nguyen Tran also said the goal was business development.

Tran called the space “a Starbucks on steroids” and said it would tie in with other CRA programs, including the community garden and the culinary kitchen program.

In January, the majority of CRA Board members expressed support for negotiating. McMahan opposed the project at first because he thought it was not a wise use of CRA money. “I don’t think we have money to spend, \$210,000 on staffing, for ‘I hope this works.’”

After his motion to postpone the vote failed, he voted in favor of negotiating.

At its April meeting, the NW CRA Advisory Committee also voted unanimously to recommend Digital Grass.

Whitney Rawls, committee chair, abstained from his committee’s vote because he told Digital Grass about the RFP. The committee voted unanimously to recommend Digital Grass for the project.

Rawls attended the April CRA Board meeting and spoke in favor of Digital Grass.

He cited changes in work orders for construction contracts as one example of the city and CRA altering RFPs after bidders respond.

Rawls also said it would be unfair to put the RFP out for bid again because a competing company could come in and copy Digital Grass’ ideas.

Spill

Continued from page 1

Custode said with multi-party respondents, lengthy negotiations are not unusual. “We are trying to negotiate a settlement and take corrective action without the need for a hearing,” she said.

“We are still trying to determine who is culpable and the extent of the penalties.”

The City of Pompano Beach, the Florida Department of Transportation and Prince Contracting were all named in the complaint filed with the county in February.

The sewage leak occurred in C-1 Canal Jan. 4 when a contractor dug into a 42-inch sewer pipe at 1-95 and Northwest 15 Street. It took officials almost seven days to stop the leak. During that period, the sewage carried into downstream canals and polluted the waterway.

There are six counts to the complaint. Pompano Beach City Manager Greg Harrison has replied to all of them in writing, saying in essence the incident was not on city right of way nor city roadways so was not the city’s responsibility.

-Judy Wilson

Poinciana units approved



The units were previously approved by the commission but that approval expired and the owner had to resubmit. [Courtesy]

Lauderdale-By-The-Sea – Commissioners on Tuesday approved a site plan for Bonnan Florida, LLC for an eight-unit multi-family residential development at 4433 Poinciana St. The property is currently vacant.

In November 2017, commissioners approved a site plan for a three-story, eight-unit building at the site. The original site plan approval expired because more than a year elapsed before a building permit was issued.

The applicant requested site plan approval for the same plans. The ground floor will include parking area and amenities, including a fitness room, party room, pool and deck. Four units will be on each of two upper floors.

Town staff reviewed the application for compliance with town code. The town’s architect reviewed the project to ensure it meets the town’s preferred MidCentury Modern architectural style. The Planning and Zoning Board reviewed the application and unanimously recommended approval.

-Judy Vik

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Deerfield High communications/broadcast students win 32 awards

By Judy Wilson

PELICAN STAFF

Deerfield Beach – Deerfield Beach High School senior photojournalist Cassidy Schuck won four All-Florida Awards for photography and brought home a Best of the Best at the Florida Scholastic Press Association Convention held in Orlando this month.

Schuck received the top honor for her action photo of two college football players fighting to catch a pass during the Oklahoma vs. Alabama game in December.

She was also a finalist for her work in the Sports Reaction category, her Nature Photo as well as the Tom Pierce Photojournalist of the Year Award.

Her work appeared in *The Pelican* last year when she covered the Bucks' bid for the state crown.

"Cassidy will leave Deerfield Beach High School as the most decorated journalist in school history. In three years of competing, she won over 20 awards from a variety of journalism organizations.

"Her photography, design and writing skills are professional quality and her work ethic is rare among high school students," said Jeff Romance, coordinator of the magnet broadcast and communication program at the school.

Also receiving recognition for Nature Photography was

See AWARDS on page 25



Cassidy Schuck's winning photo, taken during the Oklahoma vs. Alabama game in Miami last year.



Cassidy Schuck and Magnet Coordinator Jeff Romance. [Photo by Noah Fineberg]

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CALENDAR of events 2019

Email your calendar events to thepelicancalendar@gmail.com. Events are free unless stated.

This Weekend

4/26 – 6 to 9:30 p.m. Swing on the Boulevard. Jazz and swing lessons at Ali Cultural Center, 353 MLK Blvd., Pompano Beach.

4/27 – 7 p.m. Gold Coast Youth Orchestra performs at First Presbyterian Church, 2331 NE 26 Ave., Pompano Beach. Tickets \$10. Orchestra membership is open to musicians from middle school

to college. Call 954-501-0401 for information or to purchase tickets.

4/27 – 6 to 9 p.m. Ole Smokey Whiskey & Shine Tasting – Pompano Discount Liquor, 652 E. McNab Rd., Pompano Beach

Green Markets

Saturday – Pompano Beach. 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Dixie Highway and Atlantic Boulevard. 954-786-5535.

Sunday – Farmers Market. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. El Prado Park, 500 El Mar Drive, Lauderdale-By-The-Sea. 561-714-2745.

Art

5/30 - ArtServe's "Reflect: Healing Through Art" Exhibition Unites Community. Exhibits with discussion on June 5, 6 to 8 p.m. to focus on healing through art. 954-776-1999, ext. 255.

Through May 3 – Claudia Castillo Art Studio, 2215 Wilton Manors Drive, Wilton Manors. Presents "Under Pressure" by Hugh Williams. Reception April 20 at 6 p.m. Free and open to the public. 954-274-7047.

ART Mondays. 2 to 5 p.m. Herb Skolnick Civic Center, 800 SW 36 Ave., Pompano Beach. Paint clouds, a gazebo, streams, pines and palms in Palm Aire. First and third Mondays of the month. Artist Pat Anderson. Registration. 954-786-4590.

Auditions

Broward Women's Choral Group seeks women singers. 10 a.m. to noon. Unitarian Universalist Church, 3970 NW 21 Ave., Oakland Park. Held every Wednesday. Call before attending. 954-942-8711.

Chamber events

5/14 – South Florida Women's Chamber of Commerce meets from 11:50 a.m. to 1:10 p.m. at 200 W. Commercial Blvd., Fort Lauderdale. "Out of the Box Lunch." Networking at City College. Cost \$15. Call 954-334-0771.

Clubs

5/1 – South Florida Chapter of American Needlepoint

Guild meeting. 10 a.m. Imperial Point Colonnades, 2156 NE 67 St., Fort Lauderdale. Meets first Wednesday of every month. 954-401-2800.

South Florida Depression Glass Club members meet on the third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Wilton Manors Women's Club, 600 NE 21 Ct., Wilton Manors. Learn more about Vintage Glass & Pottery that is Made In America. 954-649-9547.

Events

5/4 – 7:30 a.m. 5K Run for the Angels at Pompano Air Park runway to support Angel Flight, free air flights that provide children and adults access to physicians who can save their lives. Signup at runsignup.com.

5/10 7 p.m. "Music Under the Stars" at the beach great lawn [Atlantic Boulevard and Ocean Drive] Inner Court [Jazz Fusion]. 054-786-4111.

5/12 – 2:30 p.m. Film series, The Last Resort. NSU Art Museum, Fort Lauderdale. Tour the exhibit Remember to React followed by a screening of The Last Resort with Q&A with co-director Dennis Scholl. Tickets \$9 to \$18. 954-525-5500.

Hikes

4/28 Apoxee Wilderness Trail, 3125 North Jog Road, West Palm Beach. Alan Collins will walk about 5 miles on trails in marshes and tropical hammocks. Walk starts at 7:30 a.m. Bring water. Contact: Alan Collins, 561-586-0486.

Music

4/30 - 7:45 p.m. Symphony of the Americas presents "Classics Reborn," including Mendelssohn, Rossini and Mozart. Broward Center Amatur, 201 SW 5 Ave., Fort lauderdale. Tickets \$50-\$75. 954-335-7002.

Theater

4/26 – 28 – 'Til Death Do Us Part. You First! Peter Fogel's hilarious multi-media solo show. True Confessions about Marriage, Sex, & other things that end prematurely. Mizner Park Cultural Center, 201 Plaza Real Boca Raton. 844-672-2849

Tours

Historic Butler House tours. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. 380 E. Hillsboro Blvd., Deerfield Beach. Guided tours of the historic Butler House, home of pioneers J.D. and Alice Butler. deerfieldbeachhistoricalsociety.com.

Sample-McDougald House – 450 NE 10 St., Pompano Beach, the 1916 Sample-McDougald House is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Daily historic tours. Call 754-307-5446.

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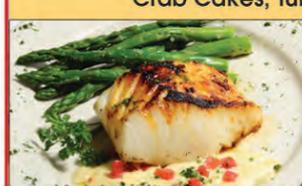
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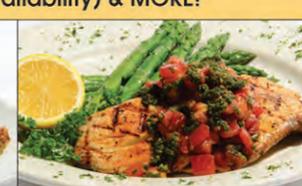
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After favorable reviews, city hikes salaries for manager, clerk, auditor

By Anne Siren

PELICAN STAFF

Pompano Beach – It was quiet on the eastern front, but Commissioner Beverly Perkins from the northwest community made some noise prior to approving a three percent raise for City Manager Greg Harrison.

She prefaced her remarks with a goal to work closer with Harrison and then pointed out three recent issues that have fueled her disappointment.

Perkins said she had asked Harrison to retille the Houston/Sworn Aquatic Center but only got a cleaning; her request for remodeling the BSO sub station in her district was handed off to a developer and post hurricane debris being

placed next to the Stephanis Boys and Girls Club had been an affront to her district.

The annual review for the manager, internal auditor and city clerk had been off schedule due to separate circumstances. Mayor Hardin explained the reviews are normally held on the anniversary of the employee's hire.

Harrison, hired May 1, 2015, will have an increase of three percent, His bi-weekly salary of \$9,504.23 was increased to \$9,789.36. Total annual salary before the raise is \$247,110.

Also receiving increases were city clerk, Asceleta Hammond. Hammond's biweekly salary of \$4,236.60 was raised to \$4,363.70. Total before the raise is \$110,151. Hammond was hired Sept. 21,

1998.

Deusdedit C. Kiyemba, internal auditor's salary rose from \$129,242.10 to \$133,119.22. Kiyembawas hired June 2, 2014.

City hires on-call food companies for emergency meals

Pompano Beach – City officials have contracted with

two companies to provide emergency meals in case of a disaster.

The companies, Piccadilly Holdings Restaurants, LLC and DRC Emergency Services, LLC will provide food for city employees and first responders in case of a storm or other disaster. Both companies agree to provide

three "nutritious" meals daily during the emergency.

City officials estimate that 1,000 meals would be needed for first responders, up to three meals a day. The on-call contracts will be activated immediately unless a storm's projected path changes course.

Hurricane season begins in June.

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4. Pineapple Watermelon Sour Ale
7. Won the World Home Brew contest in 1996
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9. Miami's first craft production company
10. New Zealand social enterprise brewing company

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1. Japanese beers founded in 1876
3. Single in the sun Belgian Ale
5. Started business with a 5 gallon home brew kit in an apartment
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Gibbons forging new football team after eight seniors graduate

By Concepcion Ledezma

PELICAN SPORTS

Fort Lauderdale – Fresh off a state championship season, Cardinal Gibbons High Football Coach Matt DuBuc is anticipating the spring football game May 8.

But he will be coaching without eight of this year's starters – no longer eligible because they are graduating.

The team's ability to win now will be tested on May 8 as they play a half against Clearwater Central Catholic and a half against Miami Belen Jesuit.

"We're solid with our three returners," DuBuc said, referring to linebacker Tray Brown, Michal Antoine at defensive back and safety Majon

Wright. Brown had a busy freshman season during the Chiefs' championship campaign. He was second on the team with 96 total tackles, behind departing senior Yahweh Jeudy [124].

Antoine was sixth on the team with 29 solo tackles and an interception. Majon Wright, who also has an interception to his credit, doubles as a wide receiver on offense.

The remaining eight spots on defense are open, according to the coach.

"I feel good about the spots that will be filled," DuBuc said. "The guys competing for the spots are very capable players, and we've got a couple of transfers [who will be in the mix]."

Linebacker/tight end Jack O'Keefe and Roman Parodie, transfers from Stoneman Douglas, are expected to compete for starting positions.

"Considering the tragedy at Douglas," the coach said, "[Gibbons] made provisions for them to come. They told me how it's been a tough adjustment at Douglas after the shooting."

On offense, the Chiefs are expected to remain on solid ground at quarterback with the return of Brody Palhegyi.

As a sophomore, Palhegyi won four playoff games in a row, including the championship game, after filling in for injured starter Nik Scalzo, who has since earned a scholarship at the University of Kentucky.

In all, Palhegyi is coming off a season where he completed 67 percent of his passes [42 of 62] for 577 yards with seven touchdowns and three interceptions.

Palhegyi is expected to be pushed by Brady Kelly, a senior who has transferred from University School.

Coach DuBuc is most encouraged by the return of three senior running backs: Tajae Davis, Coleman Davis and Samir English-Brown.

Davis, who will become a senior, is the most experienced of the three with 298 yards on 59 carries [5.1 yards per carry] and five touchdowns.

Last season, Bennett gained 177 yards on 36 carries [4.9 per carry average] and two

touchdowns. English-Brown has 73 yards on 10 carries, plus 32 receiving yards on five catches.

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Hopper

Continued from page 3

such as onboard and app trackers, in-town bus stop signs, route schedules, bus wrap, new route marketing campaign dollars and staff time," Debbie Hime, special projects coordinator, told commissioners at Tuesday's meeting. The request is for \$25,000 in the first year.

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Proposed route changes

Commissioners approved numerous changes to routes and scheduling for the free Pelican Hopper.

The Pelican Hopper will go north on A1A to Pompano Beach and south to the Galt Ocean Mile and into Fort Lauderdale.

Hours will be 9 a.m. to 5:25 p.m. on weekdays. Routes run until 9 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. There will no longer be service on Sunday nights.

Routes start at 9 a.m. at Publix in the Sea Ranch Lakes Shopping Center.

Proposed changes include running the entire length of El Mar Drive to Pine Avenue to better serve lodging businesses. Each of the portals along the beach on A1A will have a bus stop.

One big change, Hime

stressed, is the county will no longer allow "wave and ride." Passengers must board and get off the buses at designated stops. The driver will not be able to let passengers out at a stop sign.

The bus will no longer go through the neighborhoods of Terra Mar and Bel Air. Instead the bus will go south to Southeast 12 Street in Pompano Beach at the Lakeside Shoppes where Stinger's Bar & Grill and other businesses are.

Passengers can meet up with Pompano Beach's Green Route shuttle at the 12 Street stop, travel to Pompano City Centre and connect to Lighthouse Point and Hillsboro Beach.

The proposed route includes 74 stops, and the entire route takes an hour," Hime said. All BCT but stops along the route

will be used.

The proposed route included trips to Holy Cross Hospital Monday through Friday bus not on Saturday.

Resident Brian McSweeney suggested another stop is needed on Bougainvillea between the BCT stops. He said it was "a pretty long stretch" without a stop, and elderly residents on Bougainvillea take the shuttle.

McSweeney and John MacInenny were against eliminating Holy Cross on Saturdays.

Hime said she would get BCT to take another look at the Holy Cross service.

She said the numbers were looked at earlier and "we didn't think ridership warranted it." She said passengers were going shopping, not to the hospital.

Commissioner Randy Strauss said one resident rides

the bus on Saturday to the hospital to use the gym. That trip also "opens the corridor to banks and other shopping," he said.

Town Manager Bill Vance said, "We will keep a close eye on the numbers. We don't want to jeopardize our funding." In order to keep the service, the town must have seven riders an hour; now they have 10.

"Re-designing routes doesn't belong at the commission meeting," said Vice Mayor Elliot Sokolow. He moved the commission adopt the resolution approving the ILA agreement for community bus service and modifying routes.

Changes included asking that the Saturday stop at Holy Cross be kept and requesting another stop on Bougainvillea Drive.

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Social media

Continued from page 1

appointment to take the place of resigned city manager Burgess Hanson.

He has not been able to locate the email account's named owner, he said.

"I can unequivocally tell you that it's not true and it's a disgrace to the men and women who have to deal with those situations on a daily basis," he told the city commission.

The post alleging the wife-beating has since been taken down and the owner of "Deerfield Beach News" did not respond to efforts to contact him.

Social media has been a force to be reckoned with ever since it went mainstream back in the early 2000s.

Most cities have pages used to keep residents informed in times of emergency or the schedule for the next festival. Deerfield Beach has hooked tens of thousands of viewers to its Facebook page and city

pages with its one-of-a-kind underwater video.

In recent years, though, its impact on some cities' local governments has taken a darker turn.

A 2017 Lighthouse Point election pitting political maverick Maria O'Donnell against incumbent Mayor Glenn Troast was fought on numerous Facebook pages on which photoshop was used to unflattering effect.

Neither of the candidates take responsibility for any of those pages in that election that Troast won handily.

On the "Deerfield Beach Politics" Facebook page, the rumor mill is in full swing over this month's exit of Hanson, followed by Kara Petty, an assistant city manager.

Readers of the page, now with a few more than 800 members, have been hearing since 2015 that the city is financially mismanaged.

Among other rumors, the page's readers also might be inclined to believe the city's water has an elevated number of carcinogens like Flint,

Michigan, where children have been found with elevated levels of lead in their blood. And that Mayor Bill Ganz was receiving money from developer James Batmasian, just like Susan Haynie, the suspended mayor of Boca Raton. Haynie was arrested, accused of corruption, and could be going to trial in October.

Ganz, who has called out the page's administrators from the dais, said he mostly laughs at the allegations, including the latest, which claims he "aided and abetted" Hanson's misuse of city funds that Ganz on April 9 told his fellow commissioners he required Hanson pay back.

"They pick up a pile, throw it against a wall, and when it doesn't stick, they back away from it, act like it never happened and they move on to the next pile," he said.

Deerfield Beach resident John Grassi was the only one of the page administrators to return a call about the Facebook page.

He declined to comment, citing issues with *The Pelican* and this reporter. He might talk to another reporter or media outlet, he said.

Meanwhile, Rebecca Medina Stewart, Deerfield's public information officer, said she's looking forward to the day when social media platforms are forced to more closely monitor who and what is being posted on their platforms

to prevent false rumors from spreading.

By and large, Medina Stewart says she refrains from commenting on an allegation made on the page, unless a public health issue is at stake, as it was when the safety of the city's water was being questioned.

"Publix purchases and sells our water — it's being tested daily," she said. "It's important that the public knows that particular piece of information is not true."

Sum total, though, she believes that social media is allowing city government to do its job more effectively. During Hurricane Irma, for example, the city's Facebook page reach extended to more than 120,000 users.

"Lost dogs have gone back to their happy homes" after being posted on the city's Facebook page, she said. "We had a Silver Alert — an elderly man went missing — and he was found."

Also, the power of social media has been making a showing at Pompano Beach City Commission meetings over the last month. A Facebook page, "One Shot to the Stomach" has garnered more than 400 followers since it started in February, taking on the city's policy of euthanizing stray cats.

Dozens have shown up, wearing red, in front of the city commission to voice their

displeasure. They all stand as one of their group goes to the microphone to address the commission.

She couldn't have done it without Facebook, said Belle Laue, the group's organizer.

"One Shot to the Stomach" page has been the catalyst for nearly all other actions; it caused an outcry within the community which led to getting the city's attention," said Laue, a Pompano resident. "Our page has been extremely important in regards to building momentum and energy for resident awareness and actions such as showing up to commission hearings, calling and emailing the commissioners, etc."

One of the page's most commented posts shows a pile of dead cats. It is not, however, a picture of cats euthanized by the city's animal control officers, as some of the reactions inferred.

But Laue has no apologies. "It's a representation to remind people that innocent animals who were once living creatures have been killed."

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HOW TO SOLVE:
Each row must contain the numbers 1 to 9; each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9; and each set of 3 by 3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 to 9.

(Answer appears elsewhere in this issue)

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The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

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ACROSS

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32 Cut the grass	67 Small brook			
35 Usable asset	68 Internet destination			
37 Celestial being				
39 Cup edge				

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CLASSES

Line dancing at the Beach Community Center by Galt Ocean. A fun exercise for both the mind and the body. Wednesdays from 6 - 8 pm. Beginners Welcome! 781-812-5878 for details.

See CLASSES on page 23

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Classifieds

Continued from page 22

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Play Bridge & Mahjong Fridays at 10 a.m. Jarvis Hall, 4501 N. Ocean Drive, Lauderdale-By-The-Sea. Call 954-640-4225.

Scrabble - Free. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Emma Lou Olson Civic Center. 954-786-4111.

Bingo - St. Nicholas Episcopal Church, 1111 E. Sample Rd., Pompano Beach. Thursdays 1 to 4 p.m. and Sundays 2 to 5 p.m. Call 954-942-5887.

Bingo - Tuesdays at St. Martin Episcopal Church at 11:30 a.m. 140 SE 28th Ave., Pompano Beach. Call 954-941-4843.

Shuffleboard - Mondays and Wednesdays 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. at McNab Park, 2250 E. Atlantic Blvd. Call 954-786-4111.

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Earth Day celebration at Patricia Davis Community Garden

Pompano Beach - To mark Earth Day Saturday, members of the community and the Patricia Davis Community Garden enjoyed fresh produce mostly grown from the garden. There were also a few plantings of new additions to the garden. [Staff photos]



Xavier Global cuts up some greens.



Chris Reesor, manager of the garden, adds some new plants.



Anna Sasniresan, owner of Zestipes, prepares a salad.



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Awards

Continued from page 16

Joseph Barak and his sports action photo was a finalist.

Romance has headed up the magnet program for 22 years. It is likely that this year the school won the most awards ever at the convention – 32, he said. The awards were given for student work published in the *Pathfinder*, the school newspaper; in the literary magazine *Quintessence* and for work at the school's TV station, DBTV.

Teachers in the magnet program are Alyssa Timmins and Adam Radecki. Timmins is a graduate of Deerfield Beach High School's CBA program. A second-year teacher, she teaches TV production and digital video production.

"My students were able to compete at a state-wide level and I'm so proud. Freshman Sandrene Johnson won a first place for Collaborative PSA."

Radecki came directly to Deerfield after graduating from Flagler College in 2003, teaches English and is the yearbook advisor. It was the first time the students had cre-



The students of Deerfield Beach High School's communications and broadcast magnet program. [Photo by Noah Fineberg]

ated a literary spread for the magazine and it won the Best of the Best Award.

"I am singularly impressed by the students' imagination, vision and doggedness," Radecki said.

The *Quintessence* piece that won Best of the Best was Reflection American Dreams co-authored by Christina Fuller, Thatiani Pierre, Ananda York and Jonathan Fleeds.

Many of the competitions were timed to assess how the student teams worked under deadline pressures.

Forty-eight students from

the school attended the convention, the largest in its history.

All the school's publications are only available in digital formats. Not having to sell ads to pay printing costs has freed up the students to concentrate on communication skills, Romance said.

Pompano Beach High School

Communications students at Pompano Beach High School also had a successful year. Alexis Torres was a finalist for Spot Photo, Charlotte Hood was recognized for her piece on a lecture about school technology in the *Tornado Times* and Clara Garriga Dominguez was in a finalist in the category of Personality Portrait.



Jack Brand, Leila Plummer, Edwin Lopez and Josh Harris won second place for their Edit-to-the-Beat Video Editing competition at FSPA.

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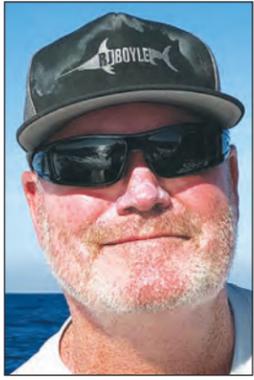
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Fishing report

Sailfish everywhere right now



The sailfish bite has been crazy everywhere north and south. We don't really see this too much in April but we will take it all the same.

Pictured here is Abie Raymond and his crew aboard "Bouncers Dusky" with a beautiful sail just prior to the release.

Several boats caught up to 15 sails on Wednesday.

Kite fishing with goggle

eyes has been the technique of choice. Kings, tunas and snapper are also chewing so get out there. The weather

looks great but check it before you go out.

Get tight!
RJ Boyle

Traffic delays expected on Southeast 2 Avenue

Deerfield Beach – Milling and resurfacing along Southeast 2 Avenue will begin the week of April 29 weather permitting and is part of a citywide street resurfacing project.

FDOT improvements, signage, bike lanes and curb ramps will also be done. Traffic control will be in place and detours will be marked.

Drivers should expect travel delays. Plan accordingly and use caution when driving through these areas. For more information, contact the John Melton at jmelton@deerfield-beach.com or call 954-480-4272.

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Text to 911 only when you can't call for assistance

On April 2, Broward County officially launched the new Text-to-911 emergency service. Text-to-911 allows you to send text messages to local 911 dispatch centers during an emergency, when calling is not an option.

Text-to-911 is another tool for people to get help in a life-threatening emergency. It is not a substitute for calling 911 and is designed to help the hearing and speech impaired who may not be able to communicate by calling 911, or anyone who fears they'll put themselves in danger by speaking out loud. Below are several important factors to know before using the new text to 911 service.

Call if you can, text only if you can't

Know your exact location

Cell phone providers only offer text messaging as a "best efforts service;" delivery of text messages are not guaranteed, can be delayed by your carrier and may not be received in a timely manner.

Do not send photos, videos or emoji's

Keep text messages plain and easy to understand – no slang or abbreviations

Texts to 911 have a 160-character limit for a single text.

The Text-to-911 system currently processes texts in English; language translation is currently not available

You must have text messaging included on your wireless phone plan

If texting to 911 is not available in your area, your phone carrier will send you a message requesting that you make a voice call to 911

Text-to-911 is not a social media app. It is to be used for emergencies only.

Misuse of 911 can result in criminal charges, fines and jail time

-County Commissioner Lamar Fisher

CDBG funds slated for senior center

Lauderdale-By-The-Sea – Commissioners on Tuesday approved a grant application for \$30,000 in funds available through the federal Community Development Block Grants program. The funds will be used for improvements to the town's senior center activities at Jarvis Hall.



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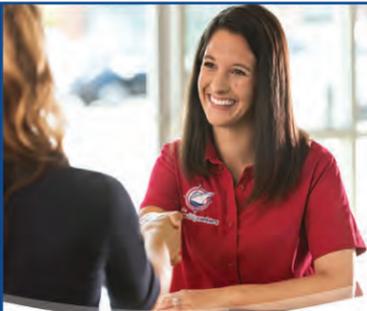
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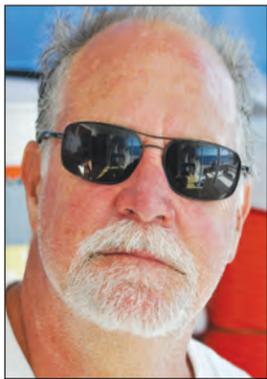
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Catching the Ocean View

Getting your 'salt' on this weekend



By Jim "Chiefy" Mathie
 PELICAN STAFF

If you're an ocean person like me, this weekend is filled with everything you need to get you "salty."

Starting Friday night and ending Sunday night, April 26 through the 28, it's the 35th Annual Pompano Beach Seafood Festival.

If that doesn't whet your appetite, there's the 12th annual The Blue Wild held at the Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County Convention Center this Saturday and Sunday.

The struggle I have is not being able to be in both places at the same time.

My Friday night will start at the Seafood Festival, which is now located at the Pompano Beach Community Park and Amphitheater, 1806 NE 6 St.

Although the beach will be missed, the new location of-



fers more room, better parking and easier access.

It also allows musicians Zach Deputy, Foghat and The Guess Who to perform on the Amphitheater stage. Two additional stages host local and tribute bands, making a total of 28 bands performing on three stages throughout the weekend.

There's over 175 arts and craft vendors to visit and a new area dedicated for both car and boat displays.

But it's the food, I mean seafood, that makes this festival special if you're an ocean lover. I always look forward

to having my taste buds tantalized with incredible dishes served up by many different food vendors.

A local favorite of mine is Papa Hughie's Seafood World and Raw Bar in Lighthouse Point. They have combined with Pompano Beach's 26-degree brewery to create a local brew pub with four beers on tap.

This will be a nice complement to Papa's Raw Bar's famous stone crabs, oyster shooters and seared tuna.

Saturday and Sunday, I will be at The Blue Wild. There are 150 vendors in 65,000



The Chiefy Crew with Sheri Daye at the Blue Wild. [Staff photos]

square feet of exhibit space on the ground floor of the Broward County Convention Center, 1950 Eisenhower Blvd, Fort Lauderdale.

This Ocean Adventure Expo appeals to the diver, spearfisherman, fisherman, boater and water enthusiast. It is the largest watersports and marine art expo in the southeastern United States.

I'll be doing a 30-minute workshop on Saturday, April 27 at 3:45 p.m. on *Catching the Bug—The Comprehensive Guide to Catching the Spiny Lobster*. I'll also be showcasing my two books, *Catching the BUG, 2nd Edition* and *Catching the Spear-it* at a table near the front entrance with the other authors.

The Blue Wild show is organized by "Speargun Hunter" host Sheri Daye and has expanded the last few years to include almost everything above and below the ocean.

My suggestion is to find time this weekend to attend



Troy Ganter from Papa's Raw Bar.

both events. If you're hungry and thirsty for seafood and good adult beverages, head over to the Pompano Beach Seafood Festival.

If you need to look at the latest diving, fishing, and water sports gear, then stop by The Blue Wild. Either location will get you "salty," and that's never a bad thing.

Visit thebluewild.com and pompanobeachseafoodfestival.com for more information.

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PP

Resigns

Continued from page 1

The use of city fields requires mutual agreements, fees and assurances that adults working with children pass Level 2 background checks.

Allegations that Barwis Performance Center was using city fields for an elite soccer program arose several weeks ago after citizens complained the company had not followed the standard approval process. Reportedly, the fields were used 38 times without the proper agreements.

Petty's departure came three weeks after City Manager Burgess Hanson's resignation. Mayor Bill Ganz asked for Hanson's resignation over the city manager's failure to repay an unauthorized cost of living wage.

Since then, it was discovered that Hanson had also received longevity pay not included in his contract.

Petty's resignation leaves Interim City Manager David Santucci without the two assistants Hanson had employed, himself and Petty.

Responding to a question from *The Pelican*, Santucci said, "I recognize the workload is not manageable by any one person. Thankfully, I have the support of staff and faith in their ability to perform admirably."

As interim city manager, Santucci said permanent staffing changes and appointments in his office are not appropriate.

"I will be looking internally for assistance in supporting the administration, community and city commission for as long as it required," he said.

Petty requested administrative leave until June 14.

In her letter to Santucci, she said her seven and half years in Deerfield Beach had been "the most rewarding in her 20 years" in government. She came here as director of parks

and recreation and was promoted to the senior assistant manager position in 2016.

The details of Barwis's agreement with the city remain unclear, but this week Santucci confirmed the company was not charged for using the fields because the soccer program operated under Athletic Angels, Barwis's not-for-profit organization.

Santucci said the city's fee schedule allows use of fields and facilities by non-profits at no charge.

However, he said the usage should have been brought to the city commission for a vote, which was not done.

Santucci added that Barwis provided an affidavit stating that the adults working with the young players did have Level 2 background checks as required by the city for those using city facilities. That information has been an issue.

Play has been suspended on the fields, Santucci said.

Early in the week, Commissioner Ben Preston said he understood the company had permission from the city, "but

not in the proper way."

At press time, phone calls and emails to Donny Vanker, director of strategic partnerships at Barwis, had not been returned.

Mayor wants national search for city manager

Deerfield Beach – Mayor Bill Ganz said this week he will "strongly advocate for a nationwide hunt" to replace City Manager Burgess Hanson who resigned April 5.

Ganz added, "We need to evaluate the work place . . . and maybe eliminate one assistant city manager position and take part of that salary for the city manager."

Hanson had worked with two assistant city managers. One of them, David Santucci is now the interim city manager. The other, Kara Petty, resigned last week.

Of the reduced manpower, Ganz said, "I believe department directors will fill in . . . everyone needs to step up including the elected officials."

Commissioners will have to modify their expectations

and have patience with the administration, the mayor added.

One of the issues leading up to Petty's departure was the manner in which agreements with Barwis Performance Center to use city fields was handled.

Ganz said Thursday the fact the city accepted an affidavit from Barwis claiming its employees had Level 2 background checks was a problem for him.

"Since when do we allow organizations to use affidavits [instead of providing proof of the checks]?" he said. "It's not proper procedure."

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Solution to Sudoku

1	6	9	8	2	7	3	4	5
7	4	2	5	1	3	6	9	8
3	8	5	9	6	4	7	1	2
9	5	3	7	8	2	1	6	4
4	7	6	1	5	9	8	2	3
8	2	1	3	4	6	5	7	9
2	1	4	6	3	8	9	5	7
6	3	7	4	9	5	2	8	1
5	9	8	2	7	1	4	3	6

Solution to Crossword:

M	A	L	L	C	R	A	G	A	T	L	A	S
O	L	E	O	R	A	C	E	T	R	A	C	E
S	O	F	A	U	P	I	N	T	I	T	H	E
S	E	T	T	L	E	D	E	T	A	C	H	E
H	I	L	L	R	A	C	K					
A	B	A	S	E	A	B	A	S	H	M	O	W
R	E	S	O	U	R	C	E	S	E	R	A	P
B	R	I	M	E	E	R	I	E	A	N	T	I
O	R	D	E	A	L	E	G	L	E	C	T	I
R	Y	E	C	A	S	T	E	T	E	A	C	H
M	O	T	E	E	A	C	H					
I	N	D	O	L	E	N	T	P	H	O	B	I
D	I	A	R	Y	T	R	I	P	R	O	O	M
O	C	T	E	T	R	I	L	L	S	I	T	E
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