Riviera firm’s products proudly say, ‘Made in USA’

BY JAN NORRIS
jnorris@floridaweekly.com

Here’s a twist on business you don’t hear much about—a company that manufactures in the United States, and ships its products to China.

That’s RGF Environmental Group of Riviera Beach, makers of air and water purifiers and food sanitation systems, and through another division, wash water treatment for power plants, mines and military installations. The RGF systems are unique in that no chemicals are used to cleanse air or sanitize ice machines and food lines. The technology is proprietary at the 30-year-old company, but RGF president and CEO Ronald Fink, a former nuclear physicist, says the clean systems are the safe wave of the future with hundreds of applications.

One of his biggest successes is an air purification system, much needed in China, where air quality is some of the worst on the planet, with visible particles in the air. The images of mask-wearing crowds trying to protect their health are real, he said. RGF maintains a sales office in Beijing.

“We sell tens of thousands (of units) a year. People in China hang their heads in shame that they are the dirtiest place on the planet,” Fink said.

Two years ago, RGF Environmental Group nicknamed its factory “Envisionland.” It has trees and a koi pond.

RGF Environmental Group featured in the 2017 Florida Weekly’s Guide to Best 2017

2017 Florida Weekly's BEST

Cheers to these people, places and things that make South Florida so special.
COMMENTARY

The word for 2017? Incredulous

If you feel you are experiencing news whiplash, you are not alone. In a little more than a week, the country went from dropping the "mother of all bombs" on an ISIS hideaway in Afghanistan, to a high-stakes, nuclear face-off with North Korea’s Kim Jong-un. Then, on Tax Day, tens of thousands of protesters demanded President Trump release his tax returns. Afterward (and bizarrely), as if breaking news from an alternate universe, the president and the Easter Bunny observed an Easter Monday detente to host an egg roll on the White House lawn. Thousands of kids played happily, sheltered briefly from the unspeakable adult mayhem to which all children are increasingly vulnerable. It was surreal.

When the moment passed, business as usual returned. Goodwill and peace on Earth vanished like yesterday’s boiled egg. Factional politics continued. The country’s fluctuation with autocentric resumed. We slid further down the slippery slide toward danger. It was unnerving to witness how quickly the normality was palpable: If these eggs we are juggling is the unspeakable adult mayhem to which all children are increasingly vulnerable. It was surreal.

Roald Dahl once described in his fantastical children’s book, “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory,” another scary and endangered country. He called it “Loompaland.” It existed on a small island in the Pacific. Instead of swamps to be drained, it had rapacious jungles and empty, desolate wastelands.

Its native inhabitants were the Oompa Loompas, pint-size, peace-loving people who scratched out a living in this strange place and struggled to make a go of it. Then things got worse. The country was taken over and ravaged from within by fearful, dangerous beasts that Dahl called the Horrorsnootzlers, Noozz-wangers, Vermicious Knids and Whang-doodles.

These dangerous interlopers turned the lives of the Oompa Loompas upside down, leading to the Great Loompa War. The Oompa Loompas suffered terribly. They are tortured, beaten and eaten by the bad guys. They have no hope of fleeing and escaping the violence.

But then, something miraculous happens. Along comes a “phoenix-like man arising from his creative and strange genius.” It is the strangely odd, inimitable Willy Wonka. Willy seizes the plight of the Oompa Loompas. He helps them flee, giving them jobs as laborers in his chocolate factory. Dahl continues the story of how Wonka, who is entering his twilight years, pursues and empty, desolate wastelands.

When the moment passed, business as usual returned. Goodwill and peace on Earth vanished like yesterday’s boiled egg. Factional politics continued. The country’s fluctuation with autocentric resumed. We slid further down the slippery slide toward danger. It was unnerving to witness how quickly the normal transitioned to the aberrant. The threat is palpable: If these eggs we are juggling are broken, there will be no unscrambling them ever again.

Did you know that St. Mary’s Medical Center and the Palm Beach Children’s Hospital provides the highest level of trauma care every day to Palm Beach County residents? Johnell Coe didn’t know either until he was the victim of a random shooting that pierced his heart. Because of the Level 1 trauma care at St. Mary’s Medical Center, Johnell survived, fully recovered and is now a deputy sheriff.

Palm Beach County Trauma System
- highest designation in the state – Level 1
- highest survival rate in Florida for the most severe injuries
- adult and pediatric trauma care
- trauma team with decades of experience available 24/7

We heal for you.
We heal for them.
MAY

COMMUNITY EVENTS & LECTURES

Mended Hearts Program
Tuesday, May 9 @ 6:00-7pm
Palm Beach Gardens Medical Center | Classroom 4
PBGMC is teaming up with The Mended Hearts Program to provide support for heart disease patients and their families. Members will be able to interact with others through local chapter meetings and special events. A small fee* will be collected by the Mended Hearts Program for local member registration. *$5/Year collected solely by the Mended Hearts Program to provide educational materials for members.
Please call 855.387.5864 to make a reservation

Hands-Only Adult CPR Class
Tuesday, May 16 @ 6:30-7pm
Palm Beach Gardens Fire Rescue | Station 1
4425 Burns Road, Palm Beach Gardens
Effective bystander CPR provided immediately after sudden cardiac arrest can double or triple a victim’s chance of survival. Palm Beach Gardens Medical Center has teamed up with Palm Beach Gardens Fire Rescue to provide free monthly CPR classes for the community. Classes will be held at Fire Station 1. Local EMS will give a hands-only, adult CPR demonstration and go over Automated External Defibrillator (AED) use. Participants will have the opportunity to practice their new skills using CPR manikins.
Please call 855.387.5864 to make a reservation

Community Chair Yoga Class
Wednesday, May 17 @ 6-7pm
Palm Beach Gardens Medical Center | Classroom 4
PBGMC now offers a FREE chair yoga class. The class will be taught by the assistant nurse manager of cardiac rehab, Sara Chambers, who is also a certified yoga instructor. Using the same techniques as traditional yoga, the class is modified to allow for gentle stretching and is designed to help improve strength and balance.
Please call 855.387.5864 to make a reservation

Smoking Cessation Classes
PBGMC (3360 Burns Road, PBG FL 33410) | Classroom 3
Palm Beach Gardens Medical Center is teaming up with The Area Health Education Center to provide education on the health effects related to tobacco use, the benefits of quitting and what to expect when quitting. A trained Tobacco Cessation Specialist guides participants as they identify triggers and withdrawal symptoms and brainstorm ways to cope with them.
The class is delivered over six, one-hour sessions, from 5:30-6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, April 26th
- Wednesday, May 17th
- Wednesday, May 3rd
- Wednesday, May 24th
- Wednesday, May 10th
- Wednesday, May 31st
Please call 855.387.5864 to make a reservation

Stroke – Panel of Experts Presentation
Thursday, May 18 @ 6-8pm
City of Palm Beach Gardens Council Chambers | 10500 N. Military Trail
In honor of Stroke Awareness Month, we are teaming up with St. Mary’s Medical Center and Palm Beach Gardens Fire Rescue to offer free stroke risk assessments and a panel of experts presentation with a local stroke survivor. The event will be held at the Palm Beach Gardens Council Chambers, and there will be a question-and-answer session following the presentation.

FOR RESERVATIONS, PLEASE CALL
855.387.5864

Visit PBGMC.com/pledge to receive a FREE Cookbook!
OPINION

Inheriting the wind of political change

Bill Cornwell: In memoriam

Bill Cornwell, known to us as Brother, is our first cousin through our respective mothers. During the 50s, we visited the Cornwells in Decatur, Georgia, nearly every summer. By adolescent comparison, brother was a bit younger than his sister and two cousins, yet his precocious mind soaked up knowledge like a sponge, making him competitive with our own in such games as “Go to the Head of the Class” and “Authors.” He would imitate his father’s jokes about celebrities he watched on TV. In short, the man we knew before last Easter Sunday as a highly intelligent, extremely knowledgeable, clever and witty 60-something was that exact same way as a 6-year-old child.

Two other features of those early years which later manifested themselves in the mature Bill Cornwell were his family legacy of storytelling and his overcoming of adversity. On the screen porch in the evenings during those summers, the adults would sit around and spin stories about everything from family history to current events. The children would be allowed and encouraged to sit on the floor and listen . . . then we would go outside to catch lightning bugs in jars or play a rousing game of L, 2, 3, Red Light. Brother literally sat at the feet of some great storytellers and then became a professional in that art.

Allegedly around the age of 8, Brother developed an orthopedic problem which put him in a leg cast and wheelchair for several years. He learned to turn this problem into an occasion for humor and engagement, including being willing to sit in a wheelchair to draw custom- ers to our sidewalk Kool-Aid stand. His bounce back from this setback as a child prefigured his ability to do so on many occasions in his adult life.

In the 1960s we all came of age in the right wing changing South. Although he grew up steeped in the Old Confederacy’s culture and tradition, Bill attached himself to the ethos of the emerging New South. Raised just outside of Atlanta, turn away and make Trump irrelevant because they’ve concluded that he isn’t due the allegiance a party normally accords its leader.

Both parties have seen defections from their leaders — for, as President Kennedy lamented, “sometimes party loyalty asks too much.” That loyalty is strong but not unbreakable. It was broken among Democrats over the Vietnam War and among Republicans over Watergate. The breaking point is different for different people.

Finally, if dysfunction persists and enough people rebel, conditions can reach a tipping point that shifts the entire envi-
nromnent. In that case, the GOP would face a choice between an ill-suited presi-
dent and the party’s health.

Proverbs was right: “He that troubleth his own house shall inherit the wind.”

Brother was a good and talented boss and mentor at Florida Weekly, a role he greatly enjoyed telling stories, both in print and orally. He was deeply influenced by the progressive history as it was happening.

The breaking point is different for different people.

By troubling the Republican house with visceral alienation from govern-
ment and hatred of the “other,” the party inherited the wind of Donald Trump.

Eventually, Republicans must judge whether Trump has really evolved and thus decide if they will bend to that wind or resist it.”

— Roger Buckwalter is a retired edi-
torial page editor of The Jupiter Courier.

BY THOMAS A. SEALS JR.
AND JAMES H. SEALS

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In the 1960s we all came of age in the right wing changing South. Although he grew up steeped in the Old Confederacy’s culture and tradition, Bill attached himself to the ethos of the emerging New South. Raised just outside of Atlanta, Bill read the Atlanta newspapers and was deeply influenced by the progressive columnists (one would later become his boss and mentor at The St. Petersburg Times), reading about their vision of a new and improved South. Bill reached adulthood with a tastefully cultivated blend of Old and New South, discarding the negatives and embracing the positives.

In college, Bill majored in history, which he believed was a much better preparation for a career in journalism than the study of journalism itself. He regarded reporting the news as writing history as it was happening.

He was diligent, courageous and a great craftsman with words. He particularly enjoyed telling stories, both in print and private conversation, about the people he’d met, places he’d been, and the cultures he had so perceptively witnessed.

Bill Cornwell was a good and talented and perceptive man in a time when those qualities are often in short supply. We will all miss him and his wise voice.

— Bill Cornwell, a writer for Florida Weekly, died April 16.
LEGO® TAKEOVER!

THE GARDENS MALL

April 28th - May 15th, 2017

Discover your inner builder.

Kids of all ages (grown-ups, too!) are invited to build, play, then put their work on display during the LEGO® Takeover! at The Gardens Mall. Guests will have plenty of inspiration after seeing life-sized LEGO® creations featuring everything from LEGO® DC Super Heroes to LEGO® Disney Princesses. The LEGO® Takeover! is free and open to the public during mall hours from April 28th to May 15th, 2017.

Bricks Busting Boredom

During the LEGO® Takeover! Event, bring a donation of new or used LEGO sets to the mall info desk. Our friends at the non-profit Bricks Busting Boredom will deliver them to Nicklaus Children’s Hospitals in South Florida! Small kits or LEGO® DUPLO® blocks preferred.

Visit for full details on events and more:
TheGardensMall.com/LEGO-Takeover

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PET TALES

Kitten fix

When should your kitten be spayed or neutered? Earlier than you might think, experts say

BY KIM CAMPBELL THORNTON
Andrews McMeel Syndication

It’s kitten season! If you are bringing home one of the little fluff-balls, there’s more to think about than cuddling and carrying. Performing and veterinary specialists recommend scheduling spay or neuter surgery before a kitten is 5 months old. That might seem young, especially for such a tiny animal, but cats are precocious when it comes to reproduction. Kittens as young as 4 months are capable of producing kittens of their own.

That’s just one of the reasons that the Veterinary Task Force on Feline Sterilization says the optimal age for sterilization surgery is 5 months or earlier. Supporting the recommendation are the American Animal Hospital Association, the American Association of Feline Practitioners, the Association of Shelter Veterinarians, the Cat Fanciers Association, the International Cat Association and the Winn Feline Foundation.

“The 6-month rule that so many veterinarians and so many clients have in their heads as what is perceived as the ideal time for a spay or neuter procedure is arbitrary,” says AAFP president Lauren Demos, DVM. “There is no solid basis to say that this is the reason spaying and neutering needs to be done at that point in time. There is no specific piece of data that are we aware of that says, ‘This is why cats do better at this date.’”

Kitten population control is an important facet of spay/neuter surgery. Fewer unwanted kittens are always a good thing in any community. But there are other reasons veterinarians and animal welfare supporters think spaying and neutering by 5 months of age is a good idea. Performing sterilization surgery by that age has benefits for owners, cats and veterinarians alike. I don’t know if you’ve ever heard a female cat in heat. I have, and the intensity of the screeching still sticks in my mind some 30 years later. Putting off spay surgery until she’s older can land you with a female kitten who is intent on finding male companionship and who is desirous of letting the whole neighborhood know about it. Intact male cats also vocalize, as well as mark their territory with urine and attempt to escape in search of a willing and able female. Sterilizing them before they hit puberty curbs these unwanted behaviors. It also typically costs less to spay a female who is not in full-blown heat.

Scheduling sterilization surgery at the same time as other routine kitten wellness care can help to prevent the procrastination effect that often occurs when owners must wait two months to bring kittens back in for the procedure. It’s all too easy to get caught up by other things that need to be done. Making time to get the kitten spayed or neutered is one of those things that often gets bumped down the list because it doesn’t seem urgent.

For cats, one benefit that lasts throughout life is a lower risk of mammary cancer. Because the surgery goes more quickly, kittens are typically anesthetized for a shorter period, Dr. Demos says. She adds that younger patients also bounce back more quickly from surgery.

An advantage for veterinarians is that young kittens bleed less than adult cats. They also have less body fat, making it easier to see organs. Are there drawbacks? Some studies have found that certain dog breeds gain weight benefits from spay/neuter surgery at a later age.

But cats don’t seem to have increased risk for any health problems following sterilization surgery, says Julie K. Levy, DVM, professor at Maddie’s Shelter Medicine at the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine.

“There’s so much vigor in the natural cat that we’re not seeing major medical outcomes for minor interventions like we might in dogs.”

Many studies support the safety of altering kittens at 5 months or earlier.
My American vodka beats the giant imports every day.

Try American! It’s better.
Citizen scientists, led by MacArthur Beach State Park staff, will excavate loggerhead sea turtle nests five days after a hatch-out to analyze and record their findings. Following the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission’s strict regulations and protocols on egg excavation, the citizen scientists will hand dig into the nests until they reach the clutch. Once they reach the clutch they will sort the eggs into various groups determining nest productivity and hatching success.

The public is invited to participate in the fifth year of MacArthur Beach State Park’s ongoing Citizen Science Turtle Nest Excavation Program, in which professional scientists and the public collect meaningful data for the purposes of education. Citizen Scientist trainings are set for 9 a.m. June 10 and 24 at MacArthur Beach State Park.

“We will be marking every 20th nest for excavation,” says Park Specialist Art Carton. “With more than 2,000 loggerhead sea turtle nest last year, we are hoping for another busy season. We need the help of additional citizen scientists to make this program a success,” he said.

Those interested in participating in the program are asked to contact Ranger Art at turtles@macarthurbeach.org or 776-7449, Ext. 109.

Citizen Scientist sea turtle nest training set for June 10 and 24
May is National Trauma Awareness Month and we would like to take this opportunity to express how honored we are to have served as part of Palm Beach County’s Level I Trauma System for more than 25 years. With our Level I designation, St. Mary’s Medical Center and Delray Medical Center provide local and surrounding communities with the highest state-designation of trauma care.

Both trauma teams include highly-skilled trauma surgeons, paramedics, emergency medical technicians, specially trained doctors and nurses who work together to help ensure that severely injured patients quickly receive the specialized care they need. They provide lifesaving care to victims of motor vehicle accidents, falls and workplace trauma, among other injuries. We are extremely proud of these dedicated medical professionals who offer their lifesaving care 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Thanks to these combined efforts, our outcomes are notable and many patients have benefited from the joint expertise of our centers. In fact, our current system has helped us achieve a 98 percent chance of survival.

We work hand in hand with the Health Care District of Palm Beach County, Trauma Hawk and Fire-Rescue personnel throughout the county. We are very thankful for the job they all do, and without the help of these resources in our community we would not be as successful as we are today.

While no one plans to experience a traumatic injury, our trauma team is ready 24/7 to help create the best possible outcomes for patients. What is a Level I trauma center? The trauma center at St. Mary’s Medical Center and the Palm Beach Children’s Hospital is one of only two state-designated Level I Trauma Centers in Palm Beach County, and one of nine in the state of Florida. This means that our trauma team works with patients through the entire spectrum of a traumatic injury, including prevention education and rehabilitation. For patients who need additional follow-up planning, our center also provides more specialized treatment through our trauma clinic.

Our commitment to your trauma needs: St. Mary’s Medical Center continues to transform and reinvest in the community as the needs of our county change. We are proud to announce a $10 million trauma expansion project now underway. This expansion will include additional state of the art trauma resuscitation rooms and innovative technology designed around a premier Level I trauma program.

Education and injury prevention is a vital part of our trauma program. We devote a significant amount of time to promoting public safety and trauma awareness in Palm Beach County through classes and outreach programs regarding fall prevention, distracted and impaired driving, and the importance of being aware of your surroundings as a pedestrian.

Helping the community stay safe: No one plans on needing trauma care, but as the thousands of Palm Beach County trauma patients who have been served by our hospital over the last 25 years would attest, it’s a matter of life, or death. Unfortunately, an accident can happen at any time, but the trauma team at St. Mary’s Medical Center has made it their mission to help community members stay as safe as possible. As such, we’re excited to provide a free emergency vehicle escape tool that may help save precious time in the event of a vehicular incident.

To claim your free rescue tool, please call 844-367-0419, or visit www.stmarysmc.com/trauma.

HEALTHY LIVING
Level I trauma centers save lives daily

“Mobility is everything.”
Paley Institute’s Joint Replacement Specialist

Call 561.844.5255 or visit PaleyInstitute.org

Breakthrough Joint Replacement.
As Director of the Paley Joint Replacement Center, renowned surgeon Dr. Jason Weisstein implements highly advanced orthopedic procedures for pain-free mobility. These sophisticated techniques draw patients from around the world seeking a return to their active lifestyle.

Dr. Jason Weisstein is Paley Care.
Dr. Weisstein, a collegiate baseball player and today an avid athlete, knows how critical pain-free mobility is to a full life. With credentials including valedictorian at Mount Sinai School of Medicine and the Castle Connolly Top Doctor Award, he is an expert at minimally invasive, direct anterior hip replacement and state of the art knee replacement techniques.

Dr. Jason Weisstein, MD, MPH, FACS
Pediatric & Adult Joint Replacement & Tumor Surgeon

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PGA dentistry.com
Celebrating National Nurses Week

It takes great nurses to make a great hospital. And Jupiter Medical Center has the greatest of all. We are proud to have a team of talented and skilled nurses who provide compassionate care each and every day.

Thanks for caring for our patients, their loved ones and our community!

Learn more at jupitemed.com

1210 S. Old Dixie Hwy, Jupiter, FL 33458
RIVIERA
From page 1

month,” Mr. Fink said. “We sell as many there as in the U.S. They’re sold to HVAC distributors who in turn sell to HVAC contractors.”

The units work with hydroperoxide, a molecular organic formula. “We can kill a sneeze in 3 feet. They also kill mold — probably the biggest problem down here.”

The air purification systems ranging in size from small room-sized to huge building units are in schools, hospitals, on ships and in hotels. “We did the American Cancer Society building, and put them in the Chicago schools.”

Hertz Rent-A-Cars will get mini-units that plug into a car lighter port to remove smoke from a car. “They (small units) are getting more popular,” he said.

Other units using a proprietary UV light system sanitize and clean the environment, targeted to “bio-accidents” involving body fluids.

“The units work with hydroperoxide, a molecular organic formula. “We can kill a sneeze in 3 feet. They also kill mold — probably the biggest problem down here.”

The applications take the company around the world in the medical field and for the military. “It’s good in hospitals — we can kill MRSA — one of the biggest problems in hospitals,” Mr. Fink said. Common staph is conquered, too.

The food sanitation units work with “soft” radiation. This UV light/solar radiation differs from the hard gamma type as used in X-rays and other commercial radiation, he said. Food-borne pathogens are eradicated with the process.

It’s timely for restaurants fighting against outbreaks that can shut down an entire chain.”

They’re having all their vendors put in the equipment.”

Another growing line from RGF is its ice sanitation equipment. “It’s where most food poisoning comes from in a restaurant. People think that, at 0 degrees, there’s no chance of bacteria, but listeria does grow on ice.”

For the ice, photohydroionization is used — PHI for short. The chemistry comes easy to Mr. Fink, 70, who got his start playing around with nuclear physics as a youngster, he said. He was precocious, and taking university courses at 12.

“I was a kid about 12 years old, and was playing with ultraviolet light. I did it on fluorescent minerals — they glow bright and shiny, so I did the science fair.”

His project attracted the attention of the U.S. government. “Two guys in suits came up to me at the university. ‘What are you going to do out of school?’ they asked me. This was ’61 or ’62. ‘Call us,’ they said. They were with the defense intelligence agency.”

He signed on with them, and wound up in the nuclear weapons testing program. “Just outside of (Las) Vegas they had a test site, I worked there. We were blowing up things in the desert.”

He continued in the nuclear program, working at the Diablo Canyon nuclear plant, and at several others as nuclear power became a potential alternative to fossil fuels for electricity.

After the 3 Mile Island incident and others, nuclear energy began to raise alarms, he said, and safety as well as viability became a concern. He eventu-
SCOTT SIMMONS/FLORIDA WEEKLY
A worker uses a metal-bending machine to create components of RGF air filters.

At Jupiter Medical Center, we attack cancer from every angle.

At Jupiter Medical Center, patients with cancer are surrounded by our team of experts and all the latest technology and treatment options. It’s a 360-degree approach designed to guide patients from diagnosis to recovery.

- Specialists in your type of cancer
- Innovative technology, including IBM Watson for Oncology
- Cancer conferences, clinical trials & immunotherapy
- Academic affiliation with Mount Sinai New York
- Award-winning patient safety & satisfaction
- Genetic testing, counseling & support services

If you have cancer, choose 360 degrees of care. To schedule a consultation with a Jupiter Medical Center physician, call (561) 285-3564.
Experience the new look of Devonshire, the premier life care retirement community at PGA National. Major renovations are now complete!

- SEE our award-winning clubhouse by Florida-based designers Peacock+Lewis
- EXPLORE new amenities including the Churchill Lounge, Stratford Performing Arts Center, and Oxford Restaurant
- ENJOY the same amenities and services you expect from an upscale resort—every single day.

Demand is at an all-time high!

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Introducing the new standard for resort-style senior living.

Experience the new look of Devonshire, the premier life care retirement community at PGA National. Major renovations are now complete!

- SEE our award-winning clubhouse by Florida-based designers Peacock+Lewis
- EXPLORE new amenities including the Churchill Lounge, Stratford Performing Arts Center, and Oxford Restaurant
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Demand is at an all-time high!

Call 1-800-989-7097 for your free 36-page brochure and to schedule your personal tour.
Recognizing community LEADERS

Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction: Summer 2017

The new Calcagnini Center for Mindfulness at Jupiter Medical Center, in collaboration with the University of Massachusetts Center for Mindfulness, is pleased to offer Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction (MBSR). MBSR is proven to be an effective treatment for reducing stress and anxiety related to work, family and finances. Learn to activate and enhance your natural capacity to care for yourself and find greater balance in your life.

Participants meet once a week from May 23-August 1, 2017. Program session includes eight classes and one, all-day retreat.

Reservations are required. Space is limited to 30 participants per session. For more information on class fee, or to register, please visit jupitermed.com/mindfulness or call 561-660-1828.

EXECUTIVE WOMEN HONORS FOUR WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Four local women — excelling in criminal defense law, education, and mental health treatment and helping the underprivileged — will be honored by Executive Women of the Palm Beaches at the group’s 34th annual Women In Leadership Awards on May 11 at the Cohen Pavilion of the Kravis Center in West Palm Beach.

“The Executive Women of the Palm Beaches is excited to announce the honorees who were

SEE LEADERS, A16

Learn more at jupitermed.com/mindfulness

1210 S. Old Dixie Hwy. | Jupiter, FL 33458
LEADERS

From page 1

selected from a record number of outstand- ing nominees,” said Amy Morre, a lawyer and one of three co-chairs for the event. “The dedicated women represent the public, private, volunteer for the event. “The dedicated women from a record number of out- standing nominees,” said Amy Morre, a lawyer and one of three co-chairs for the event. “The dedicated women represent the public, private, volunteer for the event. “The dedicated women

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Having worked and lived in Iowa most of her life, Sheila Kinman says she was ready for a change when she accepted a position as vice president for development with the Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties.

“My husband, Eric, and I were looking for a new place to live, and Florida, with the sunshine and beach, was high on our list,” said Mrs. Kinman, who began work- ing for the foundation two months ago.

“Everything is so new, but the people are just as nice,” she said. “The commu- nity as whole has been very welcoming and the team and board of directors here has been wonderful.”

Along with her efforts for development, Mrs. Kinman links Community Foundation donors to philanthropic causes, facilitates legacies, and provides guidance for charitable funds that impact the commu- nity and nation.

“I get to impact donors with causes they care about and it’s very rewarding,” Mrs. Kinman said. “When we all give back, the quality of life improves for all of us.”

She works closely with the foundation’s programming team to join donors who are interested in co-investing in local charities for greater leveraged impact.

Her biggest challenge, she said, will be increasing visibility for the foundation and the services it provides.

As of the largest community foun- dations in Florida, the foundation man- ages an endowment of $154 million, and has been serving the region for more than 40 years.

Along with its donors, the foundation makes grants, awards scholarships and helps community efforts to improve the lives and opportunities of residents—both now and in the future.

Previously, Mrs. Kinman was chief advancement officer at the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines.

For more than seven years, the foun- dation’s assets grew from $63 million in 2009 to more than $440 million.

She also focused on developing strate- gic relationships with professional advis- ers and grew the Greater DesMoines’ Charitable Investment Program to more than $70 million in assets during her time in the city. “We’ve worked together for a change when she accepted a position as vice president for development with the Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties.

“My husband, Eric, and I were looking for a new place to live, and Florida, with the sunshine and beach, was high on our list,” said Mrs. Kinman, who began work- ing for the foundation two months ago.

“Everything is so new, but the people are just as nice,” she said. “The commu- nity’s chief executive officer, she is responsible for providing leadership and inspiration to a campus of more than 9,000 students and 225 employees. Dr. Wihbey ensures the quality and rel- evance of the cam- pus’ academic pro- grams, oversees campus operational activities, and leads through encour- aging ideas and strong relationships, said Natalie Alvarez, a luncheon co-chair- person. “She is actively involved in the PGA Corridor Association, Women in Business Steering Council, and the Palm Beach Gardens Medical Center Board of Governors,” said Ms. Alvarez, a vice president at Sabadell Bank & Trust in Palm Beach Gardens.

* Nellie L. King, of Jupiter (private sector), a noted criminal defense attorney, past presi- dent of the Florida Association of Crim- inal Defense Law- yers who mentors young female law- yers and who super- vised significant work with former President Barack Obama’s Clemency Project. The ecmenity initiative focused on minimum-mandatory sentencing policies, which resulted in the inar- ceration of thousands of Americans for nonviolent drug offenses, many of whom were serving life sentences. Ms. King also is a past president of the Palm Beach County Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. She serves on the Board of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, Boys Town South Florida and the Criminal Justice Commission.

* Jeannine Wibhey, Ph.D. of Palm Beach Gardens (public sector), provost for Palm Beach State College’s Lake Worth campus. As the campus’ chief executive officer, she is responsible for providing leadership and inspiration to a campus of more than 9,000 students and 225 employees. Dr. Wibhey ensures the quality and rel- evance of the cam- pus’ academic pro- grams, oversees campus operational activities, and leads through encour- aging ideas and strong relationships, said Natalie Alvarez, a luncheon co-chair- person. “She is actively involved in the PGA Corridor Association, Women in Business Steering Council, and the Palm Beach Gardens Medical Center Board of Governors,” said Ms. Alvarez, a vice president at Sabadell Bank & Trust in Palm Beach Gardens.

* Sharon Gill of Lake Worth (volun- teer sector), founder and CEO of Oasis Compass Agen- cy, which helps the underprivileged with a food pantry, clothing, housing, and skills development and job placement. Ms. Gill left Jamaica for the United States at age 21 with $86 in her pocket. Decades later, she is the CEO of the Gill Law Firm and Oasis has assisted more than 10,000 individuals in Palm Beach County become self- sufficient, motivated, empowered and successful members of the community, added attorney Michelle DeLong, one of the three co-chairs of the lun-cheon. Ms. Gill serves on the boards of the Women’s Chamber Foundation, EmpowHer of the Palm Beaches, Umom and Palm Beach Atlantic Alumni.

* Linda DePiano, Ph.D. of Palm Beach Gardens (nonprofit sector), CEO of the Jerome Golden Cen- ter for Behavioral Health in West Palm Beach and a champi- on of mental health in Palm Beach Coun- ty for more than 34 years, said Executive Director, Dr. Lo- gos, is a well-established psychiatric hospital, mobile crisis team, outpatient services, housing, and addiction and co-occurring programs (treatment for people who have substance use disorders, as well as mental health disorders). “In addition to her responsi- bilities at the center, she also is a leading advocate of addressing mental health and related issues throughout our commu- nity,” said Ms. Fischer.

* The Women In Leadership Awards are presented by Executive Women of the Palm Beaches in recognition of local women who have sustained outstanding accomplishments and dis- played generosity of spirit, commitment to integrity and diversity, and genuine connection with others in the commu- nity.

Keynote speaker for the luncheon will be Capt. Mark Kelly, commander of Space Shuttle Discovery’s Final Mission (2011), space and aeronautics writer and publisher of NASA News/MSNBC and husband to former U.S. Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords. A highly decorated astronaut since 1996, Capt. Kelly’s career with NASA includes spending more than 50 days in space and commanding both the Space Shuttle Endeavor and the Space Shuttle Discovery. He is one of only two individuals who has visited the International Space Station on four different occasions.

Proceeds from the luncheon will ben- efit the Executive Women of the Palm Beaches Foundation, said Realtor Vir- ginia Spencer of Illustrated Properties, who is the organization’s past president and event co-chairwoman.

Tickets are $130 for EWPPB members; $150 for friends and guests; and $80 for nonmembers. Major event sponsors include Whole Foods, Florida Power and Light, phi- lanthropist Frances Fisher and her hus- band, M. Brian Wong, and Chesterfield Palm Beach, and many other community organizations. Spon- sorship opportunities are still available.

“It is an honor to recognize the 2017 nominees for the impact they have made in Palm Beach County,” said Ms. Fischer, EWPPB president.


To learn more or to purchase tick- ets, visit www.ewpb.org/wila or call Executive Women of the Palm Beaches at 860-7070.
SOCIETY

The Benjamin School art exhibit reception at The Gardens Mall

1. Alex Pace, Anthony Pace and Theodora Pace
2. Denise Ponchock, Doreen LeTendre and Susa Ponchock
3. Charles Haag, Hudson Hale, Francois Michelon, Alex Michelon and Rania Michelon
4. Morli Lofman and Sarah Davis
5. Grace Flatscher, Chrissy Wheaton, Jordan Wheaton, Julia Kirschenbaum
6. Abbe Groffman and Bradley Groffman
7. Craig Franzen, Grace Mack and Anne Franzen
8. Jared Roth, Haley Roth and Lori Roth
9. Marcy Ferruggia, Mariol Tyers-Mede and Charlotte Aspirt
10. Joyce Goldberg, Caroline Groffman, Leslie Groffman and Karen Groffman
11. Morli Josza and Eden Josza
12. Odalis Garcia, Katherine Garcia and Hollie Waxman
13. Rachel Rudner, Evelyn Rudner and Jacob Rudner in background

“Like” us on Facebook.com/FloridaWeeklyPalmBeach to see more photos. We take more society and networking photos at area events than we can fit in the newspaper. Send us your society and networking photos. Include the names of everyone in the picture. Email them to society@floridaweekly.com.
SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Fall in love with this 22nd floor condominium at the Ritz Carlton Residences, Singer Island, which is a professionally decorated former model by SEEDS of NYC. It has an “open floor plan” for relaxed living. It’s a perfect winter retreat!

Enter the condominium and find a visual masterpiece with Intracoastal views from every room. The balcony is one of the largest in the building, able to accommodate a small crowd for boat watching.

There are two bedrooms, plus a small den/office or extra sleeping room. The master suite includes a spacious bathing area, a walk-in closet and Intracoastal views by day and city lights by night. Move in ready with tastefully appointed furnishings, including electronics.

The kitchen includes beautiful Italian cabinetry and top-of-the-line appliances including SubZero and Meile.

Grandly situated on 8.8 acres along the crystal blue waters of the Palm Beach coastline, The Residences are a private oasis that rises 27 stories and offers panoramic ocean views. Imagine a home not only defined by sophisticated style and sumptuous furnishings, but equipped with impeccable service delivered by the Ritz Carlton. From valet services to on-site dining and dedicated concierge, you’ll enjoy five-star living. Nestled between the celebrated Worth Avenue, PGA Golf and Wellington’s polo community.

Come enjoy the “Ritz” lifestyle!

The new Mini Cooper Countryman gets a growth spurt

The Minis just keep getting bigger. Last year we tested the new Clubman and called it an “oxymoron on wheels” because it was the largest car in the company lineup. But not to be outdone, the Countryman crossover is all-new for 2017, and it assumes the new title of a rolling contradiction.

This Mini Cooper Countryman is eight inches longer than its predecessor, and it has also swollen taller and wider by a few inches. But its second-generation growth spurt doesn’t make the vehicle look bloated. In fact, the effect is quite the opposite.

The first Countryman was stuck in an odd placement of trying to look like the original Mini retro hatchback that spent too much time at the gym. This new, larger one has a bit more space to gradually develop the more muscular lines demanded of a crossover. So the 2017 model loses some of its heritage as it grows up into something more attractive.

Its growth is really appreciated inside. The previous generation was developed for offering one of the longest station and radar parking assistant. a touchscreen sat nav, wireless charging the head-up display is built into a nifty piece of plexiglass that rises from the center and called it an “oxymoron on wheels” countryman’s solid engineering, mixed with retro charm and premium places. But within this old-school design are some nice modern features. For example, the head-up display is built into a nifty piece of plexiglass that rises from the dash when the car is started. It’s part of a $2,250 technology package that also adds a touchscreen sat nav, wireless charging station and radar parking assistant.

Mini is owned by BMW, which is known for offering one of the longest configurations lists around. So it’s best to choose options wisely. In fact, our test car was arranged in the worst way for people who like the spirited performance of the Mini. The Cooper version gets a 1.5-liter turbocharged three-cylinder unit rated at 134 horsepower. This is the same choice engineered to have lively steering but feel even the biggest Mini has been engineered with retro charm and premium places. Spectacular Intracoastal contemporary home with dock and stunning wide water views. Built with R28 rated insulation, solid poured concrete construction, hurricane fortified, high elevation, open floor plan, solar and elevator ready. Gaggenau and Thermador appliances. Energy green friendly, zero scape, led lighting with only 600 watt draw, custom French pattern travertine flooring, and separate guest quarters.

Stephanie Lefes | 561.789.2393

www.FloridaWeekly.com
PERFECT PALM BEACH HOME | $5,845,000 | Web: 0077233

This is the epitome of the sublime, Palm Beach home, situated less than 100 yards from the beach, with a private cabana. A day dock on the Intracoastal with the lakeside bicycle path nearby. The large garden is filled with lush, verdant trees, plants and lawns and is peppered with perfect spots to sit, relax and enjoy the tropical environment. This beautiful space is anchored by a stone-edged, stepped pool and an adjoining covered patio, perfect for outdoor dining. The house is light and airy, with a library, separate dining room, spacious living room and a more casual living area, which accesses yet another loggia and patio.

Lore Smith | 561.386.9777

Palm Beach Brokerage | 340 Royal Poinciana Way, Palm Beach, FL 33480 | 561.659.3555 | Sothebyshomes.com/Palmbeach
Enter Tower Suite 7A and experience a world class condominium with panoramic direct oceanfront views. With over 7,440 square feet, every room has a view! Total square footage over 9,179! Tastefully completed in a beautiful array of classically designed finishes, yet comfortable and cozy - the perfect back drop for an estate on the Ocean! Massive living areas including two living areas, den/office, formal dining room, custom chef’s kitchen with LEEDS cabinetry, butlers/catering kitchen, bar/beverage area, master bedroom suite with his and her baths, master suite sitting room with morning kitchen, 3 guest bedrooms with ensuite baths, private elevator foyer. Lutron controlled lighting and automated window treatment. This residence is being offered at $7,999,000. For a private tour, please call Jeannie Walker (561) 889-6734.
Platten brings ‘Fight Song’ sensibility to SunFest

BY ALAN SCULLEY
Florida Weekly Correspondent

The first time Rachel Platten had a chance to make a name for herself in pop music, she felt it slipped through her fingers. And she was well aware that second chances don’t come along for many artists — especially those reaching the wrong side of a certain milestone birthday.

“Those were really, really hard when everything fell away,” said Ms. Platten, who performs at 2:30 p.m. May 7 at SunFest. “Thank goodness you won’t have to.”

Rachel Platten will perform at 2:30 p.m. May 7 at SunFest.

Ballet Palm Beach condenses the story of ‘Sleeping Beauty’

DREAMY

Lily Ojea stars in the title character in Ballet Palm Beach’s production of “Sleeping Beauty.”

Ballet Palm Beach artistic director Colleen Smith has condensed the ballet for modern audiences.

“We can’t sit that long,” she laughed. Her professional company will perform the abbreviated version, with music by Pyotr Tchaikovsky, at three special Mother’s Day shows at the PBSC Eissey Campus Theatre in Palm Beach Gardens.

The dance is “interesting, concise and beautiful,” Ms. Smith said. “I thought about my favorite moments and I tried to imagine sitting through four hours of ‘Sleeping Beauty.’ Thank goodness you won’t have to.”

Ballet Palm Beach artistic director Colleen Smith has condensed the ballet for modern audiences.

Reggie Wilson’s Fist and Heel Performance Group performs May 5-7 at Kravis.

Kravis show highlights young musicians

BY JANIS FONTAINE
jfontaine@floridaweekly.com

Local kids on the big stage

The annual Spotlight on Young Musicians concert comes to the Kravis Center stage at 7 p.m. May 5. This annually awaited community outreach event is a collaborative effort between the Youth Orchestra of Palm Beach County, the School District of Palm Beach County and the Palm Beach County Music Teachers’ Association. The concert features hundreds of talented young performers who devote their spare time to rehearsing for this annual show. Since 1992, nearly 20,000 students have performed at the Kravis Center as part of this program.

Tickets are $10 in advance, $12 the day of performance, available at 832-7469 or www.kravis.org.

Also on stage at the Kravis Center this weekend is Reggie Wilson’s Fist and Heel Performance Group. This is a “PEAK” performance, meaning it features innovative, groundbreaking artists from around the globe showcasing their envelope-pushing best. The performances focus on ethnic diversity and contemporary themes, and are designed to support and enhance the creation, interpretation and understanding of a variety of forms of artistic expression.

The Fist and Heel Performance Group will dance choreographer Reggie Wilson’s compelling new work, “Citizens,” which investigates what it means to belong and not belong. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, May 5-6, with a matinee at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, May 6. Tickets are $52, available by phone at 832-7469, online at www.kravis.org or in person at the box office.

“Beyond the Stage,” a free, special post-performance talk by Steven Canas, will be held after Friday’s performance.

MNM Productions’ summer/fall season

Also coming to the Kravis Center’s Rinker Playhouse stage are MMN Productions three major musical productions for summer and fall: Monty Python’s “Spamalot” (May 19-June 4), Stephen Sondheim’s “Company” (July 21-Aug. 6) and La Cage Aux Folles (Oct. 6-22).

Marcie Gorman-Althof and Michael Lifshitz are the producing partners behind MMN Productions, and they chose “Spamalot” for its hilarious dialogue and Tony Award-winning music.

SEE HAPPIENINGS, B9
Mayonnaise. It’s something we take for granted because we now can buy it in a jar. But before there was Hellman’s Real Mayonnaise, before Chef Lindsay Autry could write an ode to Duke’s or Kraft had its Miracle Whip, people had to make the condiment at home. The recipe went something like this: You mixed egg yolk, lemon juice, vinegar, mustard and salt in a bowl. Then you whisked oil into it, a few drops at a time, until it was emulsified. Then you whisked oil into it, a few drops at a time, until it was emulsified. It could be a tedious process.

Thank goodness for technology. My grandmother, Kathryn Bolender, remembered her mother-in-law, Martha Bolender, making mayonnaise. Martha never did anything on a small scale. She loved to entertain and she loved to cook. And as soon as Hobart, the maker of Kitchenaid, came out with a floor mixer, she bought one. My grandmother remembered the women of their Indiana neighborhood bringing vegetable oil rations to her mother-in-law’s house during World War II.

“...For another column.”

“You could set that Hobart to add the oil one drop at a time,” Grandma would say. “That mayonnaise was so good.” I’m sure it was. After all, the eggs had their sugar rations to make taffy, which consumed the day it was made. Another time, the women pooled their sugar rations to make taffy, which Grandma remembered as being messy. But it was an opportunity to socialize in a war-weary world. We all can use more of that, conflict or not.

Nowadays, most people are happy with premade mayonnaise, though my good friend, food writer Jan Norris, notes folks did begin making aioli at home when the condiment became popular 20 years ago. Another food writer, Roberta Sabban, laughed when I mentioned homemade mayonnaise, saying people are scared of it. “That mayonnaise was so good.” But Jan and Roberta no doubt will agree almost everything tastes better when you make it fresh.

When I get home, I’m going to look up Martha Bolender’s recipe for mayonnaise. Something tells me the recipe, written in her own hand, is in the box, next her formula for Indiana-style chili sauce. I want to make that, too. And when I do, that will call for another column. I

This 9½-inch Azalea pattern mayonnaise bowl and underplate were made in Japan between 1932 and 1941 by Noritake. It would have been sold with a matching ladle.

THE FIND: Noritake Azalea pattern mayonnaise bowl

Where: World Thrift, 2425 N. Dixie Highway, Lake Worth; 561-588-4050
Paid: $4.95

The skinny: Noritake made its Azalea pattern as a premium for the Larkin Co., which sold soap and other household products. By the 1930s, Noritake was making more than 50 different pieces for the company.

The Japanese-made Azalea was handpainted — most china patterns are created with transfers or decals — and you can see the brushstrokes in each petal. The glory day of Azalea was in the 1920s. But collectors covet pieces made in the 1930s.

By that time, the world was in the throes of the Great Depression, so in an effort to boost sales, Noritake updated the line to include new pieces with more gold decoration. The company made the pattern until the start of World War II.

This dish and underplate date from that second iteration. Pieces from then are harder to find. A set identical to this is listed at over $300 on eBay right now. That seems like a lot for something that was sold for pennies back in the day. And that’s why I’m glad I paid $5 for mine.
JMC’s Black-Tie Ball has a New York state of mind

There is still lots happening on the social scene, even though Easter is behind us.

The Black-Tie-Ball is on the top of our list, followed by Adopt-A-Family Golf Tournament and the Christian Women’s Connection Luncheon.

This season, the Jupiter Medical Center Center, and his beautiful wife, Shari.

Guests enjoyed a “New York State of Mind,” complete with video mapping of Times Square, Manhattan skylines and a little Italy after-party. Adding to the Big Apple ambiance, guests were treated to a performance by Michael Cavanaughs star of Billy Joel’s Tony Award-winning Broadway musical “Movin’ Out.”

This beautiful evening was an undeniable treat for everyone who attended, with everything coordinated by the event committee. Money-wise, this means raising close to $900 million for the Comprehensive Cancer Program at Jupiter Medical Center, which included three naming opportunities offered in the live auction, at the new $50 million Anderson Family Cancer Institute, coming to Jupiter Medical Center.

Event committee members included: Shari and Dr. Lee Fox, ball co-chairs; Erinn Campbell, auction chair; Lynn Stockford, physician relations chair; along with members Andrea Albertini, Diane Cours, Mary Humansenaks, Marilyn Lallonte, Aphrodite Mouli, Penny Murphy, Adriana Roselli, Carla Schwartz, Dina Turner and Kimberly Villa.

The money raised will help provide advanced cancer care.

The true success for any charitable event comes from the spouses and underwriters. Here, those donors and businesses included the Platinum Sponsors. The Lawrence J. & Florence A. De George Charitable Trust.

Diamond sponsors: NuVista Institute for Healthy Living and Diane and James Perrella.


New York-themed Black-Tie Ball

Scenes from Jupiter Medical Center’s Black-Tie Ball, held at The Breakers in Palm Beach.

TOP: Michael and Holly McCloskey.

ABOVE LEFT: Dr. Lee Fox, chief of radiology at Jupiter Medical Center, and his wife, Shari, chaired the ball.

ABOVE RIGHT: Mike and Heather Gervais

LEFT: Lynda and Rick Stoddard


The fashion and jewelry sponsor was: Saks Fifth Avenue, Palm Beach Gardens. Magazine sponsor was Palm Beach Illustrated.

Live auction donors were: 1000 North, Kleinfeld Bridge and Saks Fifth Avenue, Palm Beach Gardens.

Philanthropic Supporters: Herbert and Karen Baum, Boston Private Wealth, Crowe Horwar supporters traveled a few extra miles across the Intracoastal Waterway to The Breakers in Palm Beach.

It was to attend one of the most important fundraising events of the season for the North County area, the “4th Annual Black-Tie Ball” presented by Sheridan, An Envision Healthcare Company.

Chairing this year’s ball, held April 1, were Jupiter residents Dr. Lee Fox, chief of radiology at Jupiter Medical Center, and his beautiful wife, Shari.

Guests enjoyed a “New York State of Mind,” complete with video mapping of Times Square, Manhattan skylines and a little Italy after-party. Adding to the Big Apple ambiance, guests were treated to a performance by Michael Cavanaugh, star of Billy Joel’s Tony Award-winning Broadway musical “Movin’ Out.”

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ABOVE RIGHT: Mike and Heather Gervais

LEFT: Lynda and Rick Stoddard

Christian Women’s Connection Luncheon in Tequesta

The Christian Woman’s Connection of the North Palm Beaches held the final luncheon of the season April 21, at the Tequesta Country Club. They enjoyed a meal created by the country club chef; toasting off the party was the serving of their annual tea.

Entertainment was provided by musicians Marlene and Oscar Rodriguez. Guest speaker was Barbara Hattemer and there was a beautiful fashion show provided by Stonecroft Ministries International. There are no dues and the group meets once a month from October to April. Everyone is welcome.

Look for events in October. Visit www.cwcnpb.org or call 561-326-2234 or visit www.jupitermed.com.

Adopt-A-Family gets set for Better Ball Golf Tournament

Although the clock is busy clicking away on the deadline, Adopt-A-Family of the Palm Beaches has geared up for one of its signature events of the season, the sixth annual Better Ball Golf Tournament.

Scheduled for May 4 at the Dye Preserve Golf Club in Jupiter, the event will generate money for the organization dedicated to helping families in crisis return to stability.

Last year, money raised from the sold-out event enabled Adopt-A-Family to help more than 2,000 families, including either directly ending or preventing episodes of homelessness for 635 families in Palm Beach County.

Proceeds from the Better Ball Golf Tournament support Adopt-A-Family’s ongoing efforts to help homeless or at risk of becoming homeless families return to self-sufficiency.

To learn more about Adopt-A-Family of the Palm Beaches, or to donate, visit www.aafpbc.org or call 561-252-1361.
FRIDAYS/5/5
West Palm Beach Antiques Fes-
tival — One of the largest shows in the
state, noon-5 p.m. May 5, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
May 6 and 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. May 7.
South Florida Fairgrounds, West Palm
Beach. Tickets: early buyer VIP three-
day pass, $20 by check payable to
Hitler in advance; $20 at the door begin ning at 5 p.m. Info: 786-524-1099.
SaturdaY/5/6
“Amazing Butterflies” — Opens May 6 through Sept. 29, South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dree her Trail, West Palm Beach. An interac tive exhibit spotlighting the entire life cycle. Explore the butterfly gardens that are part of the Conservation Course, an 18-hole miniature golf course. Tickets: $15 adults, $11 age 3-12, free for members and younger than 3. 832-7469; Kravis.org.
TUESDAY/5/9
The 2016-2017 Palm Beach Film Series —
Screening “Peter the Third,” a comedy about age, friendship, and retirement, at 130 p.m.
May 9 at the Weizman Delray Commu nity Center, 7091 W. Atlantic Ave, Delray Beach, and May 14 at Temple Beth El, 2051 N. Flagler Drive, West Palm Beach. Tick ets: $10 Sundays, $7 Tuesdays for mem bers, $8 for nonmembers. Call 833-0399.
WEDNESDAY/5/10
Donn R. Colee Jr. book pre sen tation and signing — 7 to 10 p.m.
LOOKING AHEAD
Clematis By Night — 6-9 p.m. Thursdays at the West Palm Beach Waterfront, 101 N. Flagler Drive at Clem atis Street, West Palm Beach. www.
clematisbynight.com.
■ May 4: No Clematis by Night. Enjoy Sun fest!
■ May 11: Cover Up
■ May 18: Big Al & the Heavyweights
■ May 25: B-Side Jones
The 34th Annual Women in Leadership evening a meet at The Box Gallery, 811 Bech ter Drive, West Palm Beach. Info: 786-524-1099.
■ May 7: First Friday
■ May 27: Smidley
■ May 28: Poppin’ Piano
■ May 29: The Karami
■ May 30: Family Fun Night
■ May 31: Cover Up

SATURDAY/5/6
A Night with Ballet Atlantica —
5-7 p.m. May 5, 101 N. Flagler Drive in Dreyer Road, West Palm Beach. The Ballet Atlantica has created three short presen tations for the evening. A meet and greet with Jesse Seth Hammel, the founder and artistic director, will be followed by a performance from 7 to 8 p.m. Tickets: $20 in advance at evenbrite.com, $20 at the door beginning at 5 p.m. Info: 786-524-1099.
Spotlight on Young Musicians —
May 5, Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. A Community Outreach Event In partnership with the Youth Orchestra of Palm Beach County, the Civic Center, and the Palm Beach County Music Teachers’ Association. Tickets: $10 in advance; $12 at performance. 832-7469; Kravis.org.
AT DRAMAWORKS
Palm Beach Dramaworks at The Don & Anne Brown Theatre, 201 N. Clematis St. downtown West Palm Beach. Call 544-4042, Ext. 2; www.palmbeachdrama works.org.
AT THE EISSEY
Eissey Campus Theatre, Palm Beach State College, 1105 Campus Drive off PGA Blvd, Palm Beach Gardens. Tickets: 207-5900; www.eisseycampustheatre.org.
Palm Beach Ballet performs “Sleeping Beauty” — May 6, 7 and 14. 805-545.
The Symphonic Band performs “American Tapestry” — 7:30 p.m. May 19. $11.
AT THE GARDENS MALL
The Gardens Mall, 3103 PGA Blvd, Palm Beach Gardens. 775-7860; thegardensmall.com.
Lego Takeover! — Bricks 4 Kidz hosts this event in the Grand Court with Lego building contests and entertain ment. Register at www.mybricks4kidz.com.
The Gardens Mall Walking Club —
5-10 a.m. Saturdays. Free. $8 for members, and membership is free in May.
AT HARBOURSIDE PLACE
Live Music on the Waterfront — 7-9 p.m. Friday and Saturday in the amphitheater.
Tai Chi Class — 9 a.m. Saturdays. Cost: $10.
Jupiter Green & Artisan Mar ket — 10-4 a.m. Sundays, year-round.
AT THE KELSEY
Real Friend; Have Mercy; Tiny Moving Parts; Broadside; Noth ing, Nowhere — May 26
Tigers Jaw, Santseneca & Smidley — May 27
AT THE KRAVIS
Kravis Center for the Performing Arts, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Info: 832-7469; www.kravis.org.
Spotlight on Young Musicians —
May 5.
Reggie Wilson/Fist and Flue Performance Group — May 5-6.
“The Sound of Music” — May 9-14
AT THE LIGHTHOUSE
Jupiter Lighthouse participates in the Blue Star Museums program. Children must be at least 4 feet tall to climb. Tours are weather permitting; call for four times. RSVP required for most events at 747-8830, Ext. 101; www.jupi terlighthouse.org.
Lighthouse Moonrise Tours — May 10. View the full moon from the top.
AT MACARTHUR
John D. MacArthur Beach State Park —
10900 Jack Nicklaus Drive, Singer Island, North Palm Beach. 774-7649; www.macarthurbeach.org.
Intro to Snorkeling — 11 a.m. May 6, 13, 20, and 27. Learn the basics in this land-based course. Free with park admission. Reservations required.
Cruisin’ Food Fest — Noon-4 p.m. May 13. Cool cars, live music, giveaways and a food truck invasion. This event will be held the second Saturday of each month.
Beach Cleanup — 9-11 a.m. May 13. Help ocean wildlife including endan gered sea turtles by collecting trash. Community service hours provided for students. Sign up with Art at 774-7649, Ext. 109.
AT THE MALTZ
Goldner Conservatory of Per forming Arts Shows:
“West Side Story” — May 12-13
“Guys and Dolls” — June 23-24
AT THE JCC
The Mandel JCC, 5221 Hood Road, Palm Beach Gardens. Info: 689-7700; www.jcconline.org/pbg.
May 4: Duplicate bridge games, Bereavement support group
May 5: Bridge: Beginner’s supervised play, duplicate bridge games
May 7: Disney character breakfast
May 8: Bridge: Advanced beginner’s supervised play, Timely Topics discussion group, duplicate bridge games, mah-jongg and canasta play sessions
May 9: Duplicate bridge games, Surviv- al Rosarion: Exploring Israel through the Lens of the Six-Day War Begins
May 10: Bridge: Beginners and advanced beginners supervised play of the hand, duplicate bridge games, mah-jongg and canasta play sessions
May 11: Duplicate bridge games
May 12: Bridge: Beginner’s Supervised Play, Duplicate Bridge Games
May 13: Kid’s Night Out
May 15: Bridge: Advanced beginner’s supervised play, Timely Topics discussion group, duplicate bridge games, mah-jongg and canasta play sessions

AT MOUNTS


Landscape Design: Bold Exteri- or Spaces — 6-7 p.m. May 10, Mounts auditorium. Instructor: Benjamin Burle, Landscape Designer, teaches this new Landscape Design 101 class. $25 members; $30 nonmembers

Connoisseurs Garden Tour — May 13-14. Tour nine private gardens in Palm Beach Country on this self-guided driving tour and get a sneak peek at and preview tour of the new exhibition, “Windows on the Floating World: Blume Tropical Wetland Garden.” Hours: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. May 13 and 11 a.m.-4 p.m. May 14, $20 members; $30 nonmembers. Get tickets at Mounts.

Culinary! Uncommon Herbs & International Festos — May 23

AT THE PLAYHOUSE

Live Theatre in the Stonzek:
“Good People” — Through May 7.

Movies in the Stonzek Theatre:
“Cezanne et Moi” — May 5-11.
“The Death of Louis XIV” — May 12-18.
“The Blackcoat’s Daughter” — May 12-18

AT THE IMPROV

Tony Rock — May 4-7.

AT THE SCIENCE CENTER
The South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreher Park Road, West Palm Beach. Admission is $16.95 for adults, $12.95 for children ages 3 to 12 and $14.95 for seniors aged 60 and older. Admission is free for kids younger than age 3 and museum members. Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Info: 832-1988; www.sfsciencecenter.org.

GEMS Club @ STEM Studio Jupi- ter — 5-7 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month at the STEM Studio; 112 Main St., Jupiter. Girls in grades 3-8 explore the worlds of math, science, engineering and technology. $10 fee includes dinner and refreshments. Pre-register at www.sfsiciencecenter.org/stem-studio-gems.

AT FOUR ARTS
The Society of Four Arts, 2 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. Call 655-7227; www.fourarts.org.

Exhibition: “Illustrating Words: The Wondrous Fantasy World of Robert L. Forbes and Ronald Searle” — In the Mary Alice Fortin Children’s Art Gallery.

LIVE MUSIC
Cafe Boulud: The Lounge — 9 p.m. Fridays, in the Brazilian Court Hotel, 301 Australian Ave., West Palm Beach. Info: 659-8100 or 655-5430; www.cafeboulud.com/palmbeach.

Camelot Yacht Club — Jazz ses- sions start at 8 p.m. Tuesdays at Camelot Yacht Club, 114 S. Narcissus Ave., West Palm Beach. TCHAA! Band performs. 318-7675.


Motown Fridays with Memory Lane — 9:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

Saturday Late Night with the Dawn Marie Duo — 9:30 p.m. mid-night, music and dancing, plus cameos by Royal Room headliners and other celebrity performers.

Copper Blues at CityPlace — 550 S. Rosemary Ave., West Palm Beach. 404-4101; www.copperblueslive.com/westpalmbeach.

Ryan Owens — 5 p.m. May 5
Stone Mojo — 8:30 p.m. May 5
Erik O’Neill — 5 p.m. May 6
S6 Ace — 8:30 p.m. May 6
Steve Chumley Duo — 8 p.m. May 7
The Kinected Duo — 8 p.m. May 8
Xander James Duo — 8 p.m. May 9
Eddie Willer — 8 p.m. May 10
Big Medicine — 8 p.m. May 11
Michelle Wolf — 5 p.m. May 12
Making Faces — 8:30 p.m. May 12
PQA Commons — 300 PQA Blvd, Palm Beach Gardens. Info: 630-8630; pqacommons.com.

Spoto’s Oyster Bar: Acoustic gui- tarist Sam Meador, 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, Steve Mathison & Friends, 5:30-8 p.m. Friday. Info: spotos.com; 776-9448.


Vic & Angelo’s: “Live Music Under the Stars” — Crooner Giovanni Fazio, 6:30-9 p.m. Tuesdays; Dawn Marie, 6-9 p.m. Thursday. Info: vicandangelo.com; 630-9899.

Ongoing
The Ann Norton Sculpture Gar- den — 100 S. Flagler Drive, West Palm Beach. Tickets: $15 adults, $10 seniors 65+; $7 for students, free for members and younger than age 5. Info: 832-5328; www.annorg.

Special Exhibits:
“Todd McGrain’s The Lost Bird Project” — On display through June 28.

“RISING: The Mystical World of Sophie Ryder” — On display through May 28.


The Armory Art Center — 1700 Parker Ave., West Palm Beach. 832-5776; www.armoryart.org.

Dreyfoos Visual Arts and Digi- tal Media Senior Exhibition — Through May 5.

Benzaiten Center for Creative
**CALANDAR**


**The Cultural Council of Palm Beach County** — 601 Lake Ave., Lake Worth. Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Info: 471-2901; www.palmbeachculture.com.

**Mark My Words** — Through May 27. Showcases works by artists in Palm Beach County.

**Downtown at the Gardens** — 17301 Lake Victoria Gardens Ave., Palm Beach Gardens. 340-1600; downtownatthegardens.com

**Concerts in Centre Court** — 6-9 p.m. Friday. Free.

**May 5** Groove Merchant

**Flashback Feature** — 6:30 p.m. May 6

**The Flagler Museum** — One Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, noon-5 p.m. Sunday. Tickets: free for members; $18 adults, $10 youth (13-17) with adult; $3 child (6-12) with adult; younger than 3 free. 655-2833; www.flaglermuseum.us


**John Prince Park Walk** — 7:30 p.m. May 6. 2520 Lake Worth Road, Lake Worth. A 2-4 mile stroll. Call Paul at 963-9906.

**Hike in Jonathan Dickinson State Park** — 5 a.m. May 7, 16450 SE Federal Highway, Hobe Sound. A moderate paced 7-12 mile hike. Meet at the front gate. Lunch afterward at the Dune Dog Café. Call Mary at 212-2189.

**Mother’s Day Walk** — May 14, Jonathan Dickinson State Park, 16450 SE Federal Highway, Hobe Sound. Meet 8:45 a.m. Call Paul at 963-9906.

**The Happiness Club of Palm Beach** — Meets at 5 p.m. the first Monday of every month at Bice Restaurant, 1335 Pennsylvania Ave., Palm Beach. Donation: $20 at the door or online at www.HappinessClubPalmBeach.com.


**Lake Park Public Library** — 529 Park Ave., Lake Park. 881-3330; lakeparkfl.gov

**Art exhibit:** Creative Photography and Collages by Susan Oakes.

The Lighthouse ArtCenter — Gallery Square North, 373 Tequesta Drive, Tequesta. Hours: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday. Admission is $5 Monday-Friday, free on Saturday and for members and exhibiting artists. Info: 746-3101; www.lighthousearts.org.

**47th annual K-12 Art Show & Sale** — Through May 25

**Third Thursday** — 5:30-7:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month. Wine and passed hors d’oeuvres reception, exhibits and gallery talks.


**Pilates** — 10:30-11:30 a.m. Thursdays. Bring your own mat. By donation.

The Multilingual Language & Cultural Society — 210 S. Olive Ave., West Palm Beach. Info: www.multilingualsociety.org or call 228-1688.

**Italian Movie Club** — 4-7 p.m. May 20. Screening “Mimi Metalurgico.”


**Art After Dark** — 5-9 p.m. Thursdays.


**The third annual Best in Show Festival** — May 13-Aug. 12.

**Palm Beach Gator Snow Ski Club** — Meets at 6:30 p.m. the second Thursday of the month at the North Palm Beach Country Club, 951 U.S. 1, North Palm Beach. Info: www.gatorstownskiclub.com.

**The Palm Beach Zoo & Conservation Society** — 1001 Summit Blvd., West Palm Beach. Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tickets: $18.95 adults; $16.95 seniors, $12.95 age 3-12, free for younger than 3. Info: 533-0887; palmbeachzoo.org.


**Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers** — May 5.

**Jimmy Buffett** — May 16.

### AREA MARKETS

**Riviera Beach Marina Village Green & Artisan Market** — 5-9 p.m. Wednesdays, year-round, 200 E. 13th St. at Broadway, Riviera Beach. Also has a flea market and antiques. Info: 203-222-3574 or www.harrysmarkets.com.

**Lake Worth High School Flea Market** — 5-9 a.m. Sundays and Saturdays, under the Interstate 95 overpass. Info: 439-1539.

**The Gardens GreenMarket** — 5 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Through May 25.

**Lake Worth High School Flea Market** — 5-9 a.m. Sundays and Saturdays, under the Interstate 95 overpass. Info: 439-1539.

**The Gardens GreenMarket** — 5 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Under the Interstate 95 overpass. Info: 439-1539.

**Jupiter Green & Artisan Market** — 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sundays year-round, 200 N. U.S. 1, along the Intracoastal in Harbourise Place. Info: @harboursideplace.com.

**The Green Market at Palm Beach Outlets** — 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sundays, 175 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd., West Palm Beach. Info: 515-4400; www.palmbeachoutlets.com.
SUNFEST From page 1

“Things were happening very quickly. I didn’t know if I honestly appreciated or grasped what an opportunity it was at the time,” she said. “And the second part of it was I didn’t feel like I deserved it in some way. It just fell away very quickly. The label went away, my manager went away and the song died and that was it,” Ms. Platt- en said.

But it didn’t take long for Ms. Platten to realize that her big shot had come and gone — an especially disheartening situa- tion for an artist who had already invested plenty of time and sweat into trying to start a music career.

Despite the odds, Ms. Platten wasn’t ready to give up. She found a new man- ager in Ben Singer, who understood that Ms. Platten had to make her own breaks. He advised her to buckle down and write songs, journaling, talking with friends — all in an effort to understand why she questioned her success — while searching — all in an effort to understand why she questioned her success — while searching through my heart and my vision. And writing helped to kind of move through the process,” Ms. Platten said. “What I learned was if I could take the focus off the song, all of its entries in a way and very personal. So it’s rewarding to be playing shows in support of the album all feel very me, very honest,” she said. “All of them are the way I feel about ‘Wildfire,’ which was released Jan. 1, 2016. The sound Ms. Platten created on the album is a good fit for today’s commercial pop. Songs like “Stand By You” (which as the album’s follow-up single topped the album’s follow-up single topped the Billboard Adult Top 40 chart), “Beat- me Up” and “Speechless” have are- na-sized production, big pop hooks and enough emotional depth to feel a bit deeper than the usual top 40 fare. She gets some variety with the funky “Hey Hey Hallelejah” and the stripped back piano- based ballad “Better Place.” Ms. Platten said she got exactly the kind of album she wanted in “Wildfire.”

“I wrote over 200 songs for this album, and the ones that I ended up using on the album all feel very me, very honest,” she said. “All of them are the way I feel about the world. It was me surveying the world, taking it in and drinking it in, processing it and giving it back out to everybody through my heart and my vision. And also the sounds, the landscape, the soundscapes, it truly represents, finally after so long, what I wanted to hear.”

“They are songs that I poured a lot of my heart into,” she said. “They’re journal entries in a way and very personal, So it’s really neat that I got to play them live and see them coming to life with an incredible band and team that are just doing so much justice to the songs.”

PGA ARTS CENTER IN PALM BEACH GARDENS PRESENTS

“Hilarious. Hysterical. A Steady Stream of Fun!”
- LA Weekly

“Compelling”…
- The Miami Herald

“Beguiling!”
- New York Times

“Had the audience in the palm of her hand”
- KABC Talk Radio

August 3 - 27

PGA ARTS CENTER (Formerly PGA Cinema/Laemhan’s Plaza)
4076 PGA Boulevard, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410
(physically located off PGA Blvd on PGA Blvd, heading East, take first right after passing 1,950, at Shell Gas Station, and then take the 3rd driveway on the right into the shopping center)
Tickets: 1-855-HIT-SHOW (1-855-448-7469)
Groups (12+): 1-888-264-1788 • PGAArtsCenter.com

Friday, May 5
>> Ford Stage
7:15 p.m. Joe Galaxy
8:30 p.m. Tinashe
9:45 p.m. Flo Rida

>> Tire Kingdom Stage
6:15 p.m. VNVN
7:15 p.m. Le AND Laini Wolfgang
9:15 p.m. Ziggy Marley

>> Jeffre Blue Stage
6:45 p.m. NOSLEEPKB
8:45 p.m. Katie Bennett
9:15 p.m. Fetty Wap featuring Monty

Saturday, May 6
>> Ford Stage
1:15 p.m. Magic City Hippies
2:30 p.m. Stick Figure
4:30 p.m. Dirty Heads
7:15 p.m. Mereba
8:15 p.m. Jon Bellion
9:45 p.m. Marshmello

>> Tire Kingdom Stage
1 p.m. Luxury Company
2:15 p.m. Night Ranger
4 p.m. Looverby
7 p.m. Rocket to Anywhere
8 p.m. Filter
9:30 p.m. 3 Doors Down

>> Jeffre Blue Stage
1:30 p.m. Madame Mayhem
2:30 p.m. Ocean Park Standoff
3:45 p.m. Breaking Benjamin
6:45 p.m. Ryan McKenize
7:45 p.m. Rebel and a Basketball
9 p.m. Tori Kelly

Sunday, May 7
>> Ford Stage
12:45 p.m. Thomas Wynn & The Believers
2 p.m. Widespread Panic
5:30 p.m. Wavves
6:30 p.m. The Naked and Famous
7:45 p.m. Blink-182

>> Tire Kingdom Stage
1 p.m. Ambrosia
2:30 p.m. Christopher Cross
4:45 p.m. Reckon
5:45 p.m. St. Paul & The Broken Bones
7:15 p.m. Steve Winwood

>> Jeffre Blue Stage
1 p.m. Emily Kopp
2:30 p.m. Rachel Platten
5 p.m. Alex Di Leo
6 p.m. Kaleo
7:30 p.m. X Ambassadors
9 p.m. BB&T Fireworks Show

Fun, Old, New

July 6 - 30

PGAArtsCenter.com

“Hilarious. Hysterical.”
- The Chicago Reader

“Always hilarious…”
- LeBain Travel & Culture

“…fast paced humor with musical comedy mixed in…delicious to watch…”
- Chicago Stage Standard

“A Master of Caricature. He’s A Major Talent!”
- New York Times
DREAMY

From page 1

keep as many as I could." Sometimes for the good of the dance/story she had to let some good things go. It was hard, but Ms. Smith thought it was a good life lesson.

Ms. Smith’s “Sleeping Beauty,” at about one hour and 15 minutes, “doesn’t drag.” Her retelling of the fairy tale — Princess Aurora has been cursed by the wicked fairy Carabosse and is put in a deep, protective sleep by the kind Lilac Fairy, but she can only be awakened by a prince who is noble enough to break the spell with a kiss — has a faster pace and “a unique, whimsical spin on the story.”

Ms. Smith says the ballet is very family-friendly without being childish. “It’s important to me to be accessible to young kids,” and she encourages parents to bring the kids and introduce them to the ballet. Even if they only make it through the first half, Ms. Smith said, the ticket prices are reasonable. (Tickets start at $10.)

Ms. Smith has also cast 14 of her young academy students in the ballet as woodland creatures, including a frog and a fox. It gives her novice dancers a chance to perform in “a safe place,” Ms. Smith says.

The balance of the Mother’s Day program is filled with two more short works choreographed by Ms. Smith: “In the Mood,” to Glenn Miller’s big band favorites, and “Rondo Capriccioso.” “I prefer making my own work and telling my stories,” Ms. Smith said. In October, she presented her version of “Snow White,” her first full-length ballet, and in March 2016, she performed her balletic interpretation of the F. Scott Fitzgerald classic, “The Great Gatsby.”

Ms. Smith has been part of the dance community in Palm Beach County since she founded her ballet school, Ballet Palm Beach Academy, 25 years ago this year. She founded the professional dance company in 2001 as the Florida Classical Ballet Theatre. In 2013, the name was changed to Ballet Palm Beach.

She says the guiding force from the very beginning — and what guides everything she does, really — is her strong Christian faith. “I didn’t start out with a huge master plan. I never really thought about the idea of what ballet school should be like, including Lily Ojea who will dance the lead in “Sleeping Beauty.” Ms. Ojea started dancing at age 3 and started taking lessons at the academy when she was in the second grade. At 18, she was dancing professionally with the Alabama Ballet in Birmingham. She also danced for Hosanna Sacred Arts and New Orleans Ballet Theatre, before returning to Palm Beach County.

“Sleeping Beauty and Other Works”

The performance of the lively piece in 2013 for BPB’s first “flash ballet,” an outreach program that brings big ballet to the community and “Everyone loved it,” Smith said. Mr. Ojea lead in “Sleeping Beauty.” Ms. Ojea started dancing at age 3 and started taking lessons at the academy when she was in the second grade. Ms. Smith is looking forward to the fete and seeing some old friends, she says, but these days, she is “totally smitten” with her four grandchildren and is looking forward to seeing them. “These days, if it’s not work, it’s family,” she says.

Ballet Palm Beach brings its flash ballet, “In the Mood,” to the stage. In it, professional company members will dance to Glenn Miller’s big band favorites. 

Macabre” and “Rondo Capriccioso.”

“‘I had a teacher who had a stick.” So the rules are relaxed, about things like hair and clothing.

“Wear what you want,” Ms. Smith says, as long as you’re learning and working and growing. At its core, she wants her school to be “a safe and comfortable place to learn.”

More than half of the members of the ballet company are former students, including Lily Ojea who will dance the lead in “Sleeping Beauty.” Ms. Ojea started dancing at age 3 and started taking lessons at the academy when she was in the second grade. At 18, she was dancing professionally with the Alabama Ballet in Birmingham. She also danced for Hosanna Sacred Arts and New Orleans Ballet Theatre, before returning to Palm Beach County.

“Sleeping Beauty and Other Works”

Ms. Smith’s friends and colleagues, company members, current and former students will gather to celebrate that vision that inspired Smith to start the academy 25 years ago on May 19 at the Maltz Jupiter Theatre. “A Celebration of Ballet Palm Beach,” praising Ms. Smith’s 25 years teaching ballet to children will feature a short mixed-bill program followed by drinks, dancing, and desserts. Tickets are $30 for adults and $25 for children. VIP tickets are $82, which includes a pre-performance cocktail hour with Colleen Smith and premium seating.

Ms. Smith is looking forward to the fete and seeing some old friends, she says, but these days, she is “totally smitten” with her four grandchildren and is looking forward to seeing them. “These days, if it’s not work, it’s family,” she says.
John Barry Greene will portray King Arthur, Laura Hodes is the Lady of the Lake, and Joshua McKinney takes on the role of Lancelot. The show will have a total cast of 20 directed and choreographed by Broadway veteran Kimberly Dowd Smith, with Silver Palm Award winner Paul Reekie serving as musical director. 

Stephens Soundheim’s “Company” features an all-star cast of 14 South Florida theater favorites supported by Robert Johnson in the role of Bobby. Bruce Liner, who directed “Side By Side By Soundheim” and “The World Goes ’Round,” will direct “Company,” with Paul Reekie again serving as musical director.

This fall, the Tony Award-winning hit “La Cage Aux Folles” will feature Michael Ursua as Albin, Larry Alexander as Georges and Elijah Word as Jakob. The 22-member cast will be directed and choreographed by Kimberly Dowd Smith, with musical direction by Paul Reekie.

To reserve tickets for the three shows, which are $35 each, call 832-7469, go online at www.kravis.org or get tickets in person at the Kravis Center box office, 701 Okeechobee Blvd, West Palm Beach.

Come to the market
Every Friday evening from 6 to 9 p.m. beginning May 12 through the summer, Piatashe French Bistro, at 101 N. Clematis St., West Palm Beach, will transform into a French bazaar.

“Le Marché” which is French for “the market” will feature 12 fair-style stations offering French favorites like made-to-order crepes, gourmet cheese, a charcuterie, fresh-baked breads, an oyster raw bar, pommes frites, macarons and special weekly creations by Chef Isaac Cerny.

For spirits, customers can choose from a wide selection of wine or splurge on a specialty cocktail.

Tickets for the kickoff event on May 12 are $10 and 50 percent of the proceeds will benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society and Jonathan Duer’s “Man of the Year” Campaign.

The classic Parisian eatery (with a Mediterranean twist) offers casual French fare, cocktails. A selection of wine or splurge on a specialty cocktail.

Tickets are $10, by phone at 832-7469; online at www.kravis.org, or in person at the box office, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach.

The hills are alive
The cast has been announced for the national touring production of “The Sound of Music,” which comes to the Kravis Center May 9-14. With music by Richard Rodgers and most powerful I believe I have ever heard in a theater before.” Nicholas Rodriguez does the heavy lifting as Captain Georg von Trapp, and Mr. O’Brien says not only is Rodriguez a personal friend, but he’s “a theatrical gift.”

In supporting roles, Melody Betts will play The Mother Abbess, with Merwin Foard as Max Detweiler, Teri Hansen as Eliza Schraeder, Austin Colby as Rolf and Paige Silvester as Liesl. The von Trapp children are played by Elliott Weaver (Friedrich), Stephanie Di Fiore (Louisa), James Bernard (Kurt), Dakota Riley Quackenbush (Brigitta), Taylor Coleman (Marta) and Anika Lore Hatch (Gretl).

Show times are 8 p.m. May 9-13, and 2 p.m. May 10, 13 and 14. Special free “Beyond the Stage” performances featuring local school choruses and singing groups are planned. These mini-concerts take place in the Dreyfoos Hall Lobby before each performance. Groups performing include:

- The Kravis Center Young Singers Afterschool Connection: 7:45 p.m. May 9.
- The CCA Fine Arts Students: 125 p.m. May 10.
- Plumoza School of the Arts’ K-2 Chorus: 7:45 p.m. May 10.
- Egret Lake Elementary School Chorus: 7:35 p.m. May 11.
- Loxahatchee Groves Elementary Chorus: 7:35 p.m. May 12.
- Broadway Reach: 125 p.m. May 13.
- Lake Worth High School Trojan Pride Chorus: 7:15 p.m. May 13.
- CMT – Children’s Musical Theatre: 125 p.m. May 14.

Tickets start at $20, by phone at 832-7469; online at www.kravis.org, or in person at the box office, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach.
Can you guess what the movie might be?

**Hint:** It is an animated Disney movie about a forgetful, blue fish on a search to find her long-lost parents.

Grab your friends and your favorite blanket or chair and join us for pre-movie games, prizes and fun for the whole family!
Ring in the weekend Friday nights at Concerts in the Court. A different band each week from pop to rock, country to jazz—loud, live and FREE.

6-9PM CENTRE COURT

5/5 Groove Merchant  Jazz / Pop
5/12 On the Roxx  Pop / Rock
5/19 Twisted Tapestry  Indie Rock

Downtown at the gardens
DowntownAtTheGardens.com

Gail V. Haines/Florida Weekly

I'm the newspaper. Send us your society and networking photos. Include the names of everyone in the picture. E-mail them to society@floridaweekly.com.
Lighthouse to undergo restoration

The light at the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse will be turned off in May as it undergoes necessary restoration permitted by the U.S. Coast Guard. Plates on the 1860 lighthouse’s cast iron roof are rusted, and repair is required to preserve the integrity of the structure and to keep its First Order Fresnel Lens waterproof.

Other May preservation work includes repairs to the cupola and watch room door, and the installation of a safety handrail at the top of the spiral staircase for easier entry into the watch room.

Experienced lighthouse preservationists will assist in the restoration, including historic architect Ken Smith (Ken Smith Architects, Jacksonville), lens conservationist Joe Cocking (Lighthouse Lamp Shop), metalsmith expert Alex Klahm (Architectural Metal and Design) and Anthony Houllis (Razorback LLC, Tarpon Springs.)

Although the lighthouse tower will be closed for climbing during the month of May, the Lighthouse Keepers Workshop will be open to visitors to experience the new exhibit, “Keeping the Light at Jupiter Inlet: Adventures in the Lives of Lighthouse Keepers.” Admission prices will be reduced during the May restoration. The lighthouse reserves the right to additional days in June if weather delays work in May.

To learn more or to contribute to the lighthouse restoration, visit www.jupiterlighthouse.org or call Development Director Belle Forino at 747-8380, Ext. 107.
FLORIDA WEEKLY
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WEEK OF MAY 4-10, 2017
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Taurus (April 20 to May 20)
Taurus is typically patient, but this month you may find yourself feeling impatience. Your desire to get things done and move forward could lead you to make hasty decisions.

Gemini (May 21 to June 20)
You might find yourself feeling a bit restless and eager to try new things this month. Your natural curiosity will be piqued, and you'll be eager to explore new ideas and experiences.

Cancer (June 21 to July 22)
This month, Cancer may experience some ups and downs in their personal life. They may face challenges that require them to be resilient and adaptable.

Leo (July 23 to August 22)
This month, Leo may feel a bit more introspective and focused on their personal growth and development. They may find themselves seeking solitude and moments of self-reflection.

Virgo (August 23 to September 22)
Virgo may feel a bit more scatterbrained this month as they juggle multiple tasks and responsibilities. Communication may be a challenge, but they'll ultimately find a way to organize their thoughts and work through any obstacles that arise.

Libra (September 23 to October 22)
This month, Libra may find themselves in a bit of a rut, feeling as though they're stuck in a routine or pattern that's no longer providing the fulfillment they desire.

Scorpio (October 23 to November 21)
Scorpio may feel a bit more getElemental this month, with their desire for change and transformation. They may find themselves seeking out new experiences or opportunities to push their boundaries.

Sagittarius (November 22 to December 21)
Sagittarius may feel a bit more introspective this month, with a focus on their personal growth and development. They may find themselves seeking solitude and moments of self-reflection.

Capricorn (December 22 to January 19)
This month, Capricorn may feel a bit more grounded and focused on their goals and aspirations. They may find themselves putting in extra effort to achieve their aims.

Aquarius (January 20 to February 18)
This month, Aquarius may feel a bit more introspective and focused on their personal growth and development. They may find themselves seeking solitude and moments of self-reflection.

Pisces (February 19 to March 20)
Pisces may feel a bit more grounded and focused on their goals and aspirations. They may find themselves putting in extra effort to achieve their aims.
BrickTop’s has been open almost a month in the former River House location on the Intracoastal in Palm Beach Gardens.

The bright, airy dining room with full-length windows surrounding it brings a water view to all the tables. A new tiki bar was installed outside along the water, where boaters can dock and dine.

The menu follows the one in Palm Beach, a sibling on South County Road. It should attract an older upscale crowd that appreciates the classics such as lobster bisque and Dover sole meuniere, along with the requisite New York strip steak and prime rib. There are other seafood, meat and poultry entrees, as well as salads and sandwiches.

A small sushi menu changes daily.

The wine list is heavily domestic, and more than half the bottles are also offered by the glass. A few local brews are included on the beer menu, and specialty cocktails are included at the full bar.

The restaurant, a chain originating in Nashville, Tenn., is open daily for lunch and dinner.

BrickTop’s, 2373 PGA Blvd., Palm Beach Gardens. Phone: 530-4313; www.bricktops.com.

Taste of the Nation a success

Congratulations to the Palm Beach Taste of the Nation organizers, who have raised more than $800,000 for the No Kid Hungry campaign (see photos from the event below).

Along with ticket sales to the event held at the Kravis Center in April, culinary prizes, a silent auction, and a raffle for an “instant wine cellar” of 100 bottles helped push the event over the fundraising goal.

Chefs Lindsay Antry, Zach Bell, Clay Conley and Tim Lipman, along with event chair Denise Mariani and Virginia Philip, master sommelier, organized the event, earning enough money for Taste of the Nation to feed more than 1 million healthy meals for area children.

Charities benefiting include Florida Impact, FLIPANY and Feeding South Florida.

Share Our Strength is the national parent organization behind numerous Taste of the Nation food events across the country.

The South Florida Taste of the Nation, with Miami-Dade and Broward county chefs participating, is May 12 at Soho Studios in Miami. For tickets and information, go to www.nokidhungry.org/SouthFlorida.

In brief

Julien Gremaud, chef-owner of West Palm Beach’s Avocado Grill, will open a sister restaurant in Downtown at the Gardens this fall. ... The Big Time Restaurant Group behind Rocco’s Tacos and City Cellar has added Louis Bossi Ristorante and Pizzeria to its stable. The Italian restaurant with in-house made pastas, salute and steak-aging cabinets, opened with big parties this past week in Boca Raton in the Hyatt on Palmetto Park Road. It follows the Fort Lauderdale initial restaurant; others are planned including the next one in Delray Beach. ... Bagel Boyz has closed at Legacy Place in Palm Beach Gardens.

SOCIETY

Taste of the Nation raises $100,000, Kravis Center, West Palm Beach
Taylor Hughes' own recipes. Ining in nutritious food made from owner Taylor Hughes' own recipes. The restaurant has a variety of home-made wraps, salads, baked goodies, protein bars, protein shakes and soups. Chef Hughes didn't arrive on the restaurant scene by any traditional route. She rode in on a horse. Chef Hughes, a competitive equestrian, grew up on Long Island in New York. At age 18, she was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. She started educating herself on nutrition and what makes the body function optimally. Chef Hughes knew she was going to make a lifestyle change and basically eat for her disease. After much research, studying ingredients and kitchen experiments, she came up with many recipes that let flavor shine through without tainting the food with additives.

"I didn't want to deprive myself of those nostalgic foods that I had grown to love without knowing what damage they were capable of doing to my body," Chef Hughes said. So, she mastered the art of substitution. "I'd substitute certain ingredients to still achieve the food I wanted from food," for example, she uses apple sauce instead of butter in baking and yogurt instead of mayonnaise. "I've always been playful," she said, "and creative." A graduate of George Mason University with a degree in theater, Chef Hughes said cooking is just another way of being creative.

She came to Wellington when competing on a traveling circuit, and would stir up her healthy meals in hotel rooms. "I'd stock my mini-fridge with fresh veggies and make a beautiful salad to bring with me to the horse shows each day," Chef Hughes said.

Other competitors noticed what she was eating and asked her to make them meals like hers because there weren't any healthy alternatives available. "Equestrians are athletes," Chef Hughes said. "They don't want to eat a meal that holds them back or makes them feel sluggish." And it wasn't just the horse crowd in need of healthy food. "Many people don't have time to prepare or put as much thought into new tasty ways to craft healthy food like I make," she said. "People need quick, delicious and nutritious food."

After a delivery service she launched took off, she opened her restaurant, Taylor Made Café in Wellington, in 2010. "People are looking for fresh, clean eating that's not going to break the bank," she said. "They don't want to be scared of what they put into their bodies."

Clean eating has worked wonders for her, she said. Chef Hughes doesn't ride horses anymore, but enjoys running, hiking, swimming, competing in triathlons, hiking and doing yoga. She feels good. In fact, she and her husband, Lee, are expecting their first child in August.

Taylor Hughes
Aged: 34
Original hometown: Old Westbury, N.Y.
Restaurant: Taylor Made Café, 1260 Southshore Blvd., #105, Wellington, 729-0441, www.taylormadecafe.com. Open Monday through Friday 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. and closed Sunday.

Mission: To make healthy, delicious, unique cuisine that's fresh, pure and easy to get.

Cuisine: Homemade and unique health food made by constantly creating new recipes and manipulating fresh ingredients without tainting them. The magic of combinations is key.

Training: Self-taught

Self-taught chefs aren't found everywhere, and it's wonderful when you find them. Chef Hughes is one of those chefs. She came into Wellington, and in seven years, she has turned around a restaurant that is not only successful, but one that is known for its healthy, fresh, and unique cuisine. She is one of those chefs that you have to respect and appreciate for what she has done.

The Details: If you enjoy reading Frank Cerabino's column in The Palm Beach Post you also will enjoy his accordion playing and his crooning — he has the Friday night gig each week at Paris in Town.

As usual, Frank was charming, and I was delighted to see the food matched the entertainment. Because I sat outside, where it was warm, I opted for the Paris in Town salad, a hearty scoop of creamy chicken salad, with blue cheese and roasted red peppers set atop a bed of fresh mesclun.

One of my friends feasted on the lamb shank, which was braised in white wine and tomatoes concassées (essentially, chopped tomatoes), and another tried the mushroom ravioli, served in a port-wine reduction sauce with mushrooms. Both dishes were hearty and tasty.

— Scott Simmons

Scott's Three for Three Places at Downtown at the Gardens A trio worth noting

1

Texas de Brazil is a Brazilian steakhouse at Downtown at the Gardens.

COURTESY PHOTO

2

Grimaldi's sells pizzas from its coal oven at Downtown at the Gardens.

COURTESY PHOTO

Florida Weekly File Photo

3

Scott's Three for Three Places at Downtown at the Gardens A trio worth noting

Texas de Brazil
11701 Lake Victoria Gardens Ave., No. 2104, Palm Beach Gardens; 293-7478 or www.texasdebrazil.com.

Grimaldi’s
11701 Lake Victoria Gardens Ave., No. 3101, Palm Beach Gardens; 625-4065 or www.grimaldispizzeria.com.

There’s a reason why this restaurant is located strategically near the escalators that take visitors to and from the cinema. A pizza from Grimaldi’s coal oven is the perfect meal over which to discuss the movie you just saw or are about to see. It’s as good a reason as any to order pizza, anyway you slice it. So there.

—— Scott Simmons
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FRENCHMAN’S CREEK, PBG
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Cheers to these people, places and things that make South Florida so special.
Welcome to Florida Weekly's Best special section.

The is Florida Weekly's take on some of the best, of course, but also some of the wackiest, most wonderful, obscure, ridiculous and even scandalous people and things that make South Florida such a great place to live.

Many “best of” publications are filled solely with content that’s bought and paid for; that’s not our style at Florida Weekly. Yes, our advertisers — the folks who make this piece of Floridian pulp and history you hold in your hands possible — receive shout-outs from us in these pages. It’s only fair. But the bulk of our Best section has nothing to do with invoices or ballot-box stuffing.

The nonscientific, noncrowd-sourced process by which we choose our Best winners begins with a brainstorming meeting of our writers and editors. A couple of months later, after scouring the nooks and crannies of the region and our Florida Weekly archives, this section emerges: page after page of things we praise and applaud, and our well-deserved vacation, insurance or planning help you find financing, to make sure it's always the best professional route. Take that path when you need help with "The people and institutions make the place, and Palm Beach County has its share of characters, achievers, do-gooders, movers and shakers — and scores of institutions and nonprofits — to keep our staff supplied with stories all year round.

CALL US CRAZY — PAGE 9
Sometimes it’s called Flori-Duh, and often the news stories across the country begin, “A Florida Man (or woman).” There’s no denying it. We have wild politics and colorful folks who do interesting, notable, corrupt, or even illegal things.

LET US ENTERTAIN YOU — PAGE 10
When it comes to leisure time, we cannot live on beaches and sunsets alone. We need live theater and music, shopping and movies, resorts, museums and galleries, places to take the kids and grandparents and other guests to explore on their own when everyone needs a little space. Lucky for us, South Florida has the Best of them all.

ONLY IN PARADISE — PAGE 4
The people and institutions make the place, and Palm Beach County has its share of characters, achievers, do-gooders, movers and shakers — and scores of institutions and nonprofits — to keep our staff supplied with stories all year round.

BON APPÉTIT — PAGE 23
Learning about food, dining out, cooking, taking photos of the food we eat — it’s the great American pastime. Every kind of cuisine, offering the BEST, freshest ingredients and a wide variety of ambiance, can be found here.

GETTING AROUND — PAGE 26
What moves you? Oh the places we can go and the choices to get there — boats, ferries, cars, trucks, trolleys... When the mood strikes, take your pick and roll out! We have them all.

HOME, SWEET HOME — PAGE 27
Whether you already live in South Florida or look forward to settling here someday, there are lots of people at the ready to make sure it’s always the BEST home, sweet home — from those who can help you find financing, to building, furnishing or decorating your abode, to someone to watch over it when you have to tear yourself away for what ever reason.

Save the Dates: 2017-18 Season

Fall Concert
Esay Campus Theatre: Saturday, October 21, 2017
Duncan Theatre: Saturday, October 28, 2017

Holiday Concert
Duncan Theatre: Saturday, December 2, 2017
Esay Campus Theatre: Friday, December 8, 2017

Big Band /Pops Concert
Esay Campus Theatre: Saturday, February 3, 2018
Duncan Theatre: Saturday, February 10, 2018

Scholarship Concert
36th Annual Rudolph von Unrath Scholarship Concert | Duncan Theatre: Saturday, April 7, 2018
Esay Campus Theatre: Saturday, April 14, 2018

Americana Concert
Esay Campus Theatre: Friday, May 18, 2018
Duncan Theatre: Monday, May 21, 2018

All performances at 7:30 p.m.
Single Tickets: $20
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Only in paradise

The people make the place and Southeast Florida has its share of characters, achievers, do-gooders, movers and shakers to keep our staff supplied with stories all year round. This is our list of notables who exemplify the best of what our area has to offer.

**BEST VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION**

The Big Heart Brigade

Along about Thanksgiving, an army of more than 2,500 volunteers descends on the Palm Beach Gardens fire station to organize the biggest charity dinner in the county. Feeding more than 75,000 people, groups of firefighters, police officers, business people, and just plain folk gather to distribute turkeys with trimmings around the community. Since its founding in 1992, it’s estimated they’ve provided a holiday meal to more than 1.5 million people. They work year-round volunteering for others, as with Wounded Warriors, and Haitian earthquake victims, as well. More info: 561-320-2597 or www.bigheartbrigade.com.

**BEST BOOK TO PROVE WE HAVE CHARACTER**

“Legendary Locals of West Palm Beach”

Janet M. DeVries and Ginger L. Pedersen offer up a time capsule, capturing the stories of people who made history of one sort or another in the city that was born to serve the rich and famous. Pioneers and celebrities, the great givers and big thieves are profiled here, along with noted politicians, educators, athletes, and entrepreneurs who influenced the building of the city and surrounding county. Available on Amazon and at area bookstores.

**BEST UNOFFICIAL MAYOR**

Aaron Wormus, West Palm Beach

You can find him walking along the streets of downtown, daily, getting to work, but it’s easier to read him at @aGuyonClematis on Twitter, or check out his Facebook page under his name. It’s where you can learn about all the unofficial goings-on of downtown and surrounds, West Palm Beach, and see some of the more unusual people and things that go down there. It’s where the fund worker hangs out, and participates in promoting the city he’s come to call home – a long way from his native Finland.

**BEST CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVE TO BEHAVE HONORABLY**

Brian Mast

When Congress recently recessed and lawmakers returned to their districts to face their constituents, it wasn’t pretty. Hundreds, and sometime thousands of angry voters confronted their elected representatives. Shouts of “Don’t take my healthcare away!” and “Do your job!” rattled some congressional representatives so badly they refused to do a town hall or otherwise show up.

Among those who did take the heat was U.S. Rep. Brian Mast, who kept his cool, responded without anger and endured the crowd’s frustration, fury and hostile inquiries on a range of hot topics.

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 Fri. & Sat., February 16 & 17, 2018 @ 8PM

**PARSONS DANCE**
Fri. & Sat., March 16 & 17, 2018 @ 8PM

**Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo**
Wednesday, February 28, 2018 @ 8PM

**MIX TAPE MUSIC SERIES: THE 70’S & 80’S**

**We Rock then We Soul: Recreating Iconic Concert Tours of Earth, Wind & Fire and Chicago**
Wednesday, January 24, 2018 @ 8PM

**Hotel California**
Monday, March 19, 2018 @ 8PM

**Modern Gentlemen**
Friday, January 12, 2018 @ 8PM

**The Coasters**
Thursday, January 25, 2018 @ 8PM

**Mary Wilson of the Supremes**
Thursday, February 22, 2018 @ 8PM

**Pop, Rock & Doo Wopp LIVE**
**Featuring Shirley Alston Reeves, Dennis Tufano and Emil Stucchio**
Monday, March 12, 2018 @ 8PM

**JUKEBOX MUSIC SERIES**

**Telegraph Quartet**
Wednesday, January 17, 2018

**Lincoln Trio**
Wednesday, January 31, 2018

**Attacca Quartet**
Wednesday, February 21, 2018

**Irrera Brothers**
Wednesday, March 21, 2018

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BEST LOCAL POLITICIAN
Lantana Mayor David Stewart

He looks like Ernest Hemingway, dresses like Jimmy Buffet, and has a Santa Claus twinkle in his eye. But make no mistake, his fishing village, but this mayor is nobody’s fool.

BEST LOCAL REPORTING
Andrew Marra’s coverage of Palm Beach County schools for The Palm Beach Post.

George Orwell said it best: “Journalism is printing what someone else does not want printed. Everything else is public relations.” We’ll bet the Palm Beach County School District didn’t want Palm Beach Post reporter Andrew Marra to print that members of the public who had signed to air complaints at public meeting were quietly being discouraged from speaking. And we bet they didn’t want to read about the Boca Raton High School teacher they were trying to jail for mentoring a troubled student. But Mr. Marra told her story, and the district backed off. Whether it’s superintendents, teachers or the teachers union, Mr. Marra is relentless, and relentlessly fair, in telling the stories they often don’t want told.

BEST FISHING GUIDE
Cpt. Willie Howard

When he’s not out in the Gulf Stream, fishing for mahi-mahi, bluefish and Spanish mackerel from his 25-foot Pursuit C-250, Capt. Willie is writing about it. A veteran journalist who covered the Outdoors beat for a dozen years at The Palm Beach Post, Willie still keeps a hand in, writing about fishing for Florida Sportsman and The Coastal Star. But he’d rather be on the water. His child-friendly, no alcohol policy garners five-star ratings from online anglers who praise his knowledge and friendliness. www.FishingBooker.com or tiowillie@bellsouth.net.

BEST REASON TO GIVE TO CHARITY
Impact The Palm Beaches

Its guiding principle is “One Woman, One Meeting, One Vote,” and its mission is to award $100,000 grants to charities with an action plan. The organization’s first grant funded a mobile trailer that offers showers to the homeless. Each member donates $1,000 toward a pooled fund, then, at one meeting, reviews the applicants’ projects in the areas of arts and culture, education, the environment, family and health and wellness, and votes on the recipients.

BEST-DRESSED MUNICIPAL ATTORNEY
R. Max Lohman

Attorneys have to be sticklers for detail and with R. Max Lohman, who represents Lantana, Palm Beach Gardens and Delray Beach, there can be no doubt. Just look at the way this former Navy pilot dresses. Tailored suits, crisply ironed and votes on the recipients.

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BEST SHOW-STEALING GOLFER
Rickie Fowler

We loved seeing Team USA prevail in the Ryder Cup, but the team photo, in which golfers brought in their significant others for celebratory smooch, left us with a renewed affection for Honda Classic winner Rickie Fowler. Finding himself single in the picture, the 27-year-old Jupiter golfer could only offer a simple shrug, leaving female fans everywhere ready to blow him a kiss.

BEST LOCAL INNOVATION
Saltwater Brewery’s dissolving six-pack rings

First they made the beer, then they made the edible six-pack rings from the spent wheat and barley remaining after they made the beer. And then Saltwater Brewery of Delray Beach started winning international prizes for creative innovation and compassionate business practices. No, the beer drinker doesn’t eat the six-pack rings. Ocean marine life does. Last year, the World Economic Forum estimated the oceans are now home to 165 million tons of discarded plastic — some of it from beer-drinking boaters. Edible beer rings won’t solve the problem, but it will help. And we’ll drink to that! Saltwater Brewery, 1701 W. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach. www.saltwaterbrewery.com.

BEST FEMALE ATHLETE
Serena Williams

Game. Set. Match. She has dominated women’s tennis for 20 years and shows no signs of letting up. Ms. Williams dreamt of being the best player in the world since she was a little girl and made her dream come true with countless hours on the court, killer confidence and top skills, including her epic serve.

BEST COMPANY TO WORK FOR
Florida Power & Light

As a 10-year employee says, “our corporate culture, which is epitomized in our values, makes this the best place to work. We are committed to excellence. We treat people with respect. And we do the right thing!” Then again, a well-run cafeteria and an on-campus gym don’t hurt the cause either.

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Sometimes it’s called Flori-Duh, and often the news stories across the country begin, “A Florida Man,” ... and there’s no denying it. We have wild politics sometimes, and colorful folks who do interesting, notable, corrupt or even illegal things.

BEST VACATION TIMING
Volkswagen exec’s trip to South Florida

Oliver Schmidt is a German executive, but he knows the USA quite well. He was in charge of Volkswagen of America’s engineering and compliance during the time when the company’s diesel cars were cheating their EPA pollution tests. Mr. Schmidt happened to be in South Florida this January on a family vacation and our government gave him a surprise extended stay. He was arrested, charged with 11 felonies, and remains in jail without bond. The trial is set for the beginning of 2018.

BEST USE OF AN OLD SCHOOL BUS
The wall of buses at PBIA

We already know it’s nearly impossible to drive around a big yellow school bus. But now the Secret Service is betting you can’t drive through one either. They line up out-of-service buses along the fence line when President Trump parks Air Force One at Palm Beach International Airport. And while the wall of school haulers is a bit of old-school security, we imagine there are a few extra defenses in place besides the big yellow blockade.

BEST PLACE TO BE SEEN
The Society Pages in Florida Weekly, of course!

If you’re a V.I.P. in Palm Beach County society, our photo coverage of local charity galas and area festivals have no doubt featured you. And if you’re only a face in the crowd, we treat you like a V.I.P.

WORST PLACE TO BE SEEN
The Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office Booking Blotter.

It’s the guiltiest pleasure in town — as long you’re not in it. Every day, we law-abiding citizens just can’t resist visiting the sheriff’s department website to click through the mug shots of everyone invited to the county jail in the past 24 hours, just to make sure no one we know is there. But remember, an arrest is not a conviction, and everyone is innocent until proven guilty. Especially if you find a friend. www.pbso.org.

BEST CROWD MAGNET
A Trump protest march

Any Trump protest march will do. He is the man people love to hate these days. Protesters are typically equipped with straw hats and sunscreen, lest they turn the same much-lampooned hue of the famed Orange Prez.
Let us entertain you

When it comes to leisure time, we cannot live on beaches and sunsets alone. We need live theater and music, shopping and movies, resorts, museums and galleries, places to take the kids and grandkids and other places to send our houseguests to explore on their own when everyone needs a little space. Lucky for us, South Florida has the BEST of them all.

BEST PLACE TO MEET YOUR FAVORITE AUTHOR
The Esther B. O’Keeffe Speaker Series, The Society of the Four Arts.

When former First Lady Barbara Bush spoke, the crowd overflowed the 700-seat auditorium and into the art gallery across the hall. At $35, tickets aren’t cheap, but the authors who have graced the stage Tuesdays at 3 p.m. in season represent literature’s best and brightest. Over the years, we’ve been entertained and enlightened by David McCullough and Doris Kearns Goodwin, Garrison Keillor, Tom Wolfe and many more. And after they speak, most authors hang around to greet the public and sign their books. The Society of the Four Arts, 2 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach 561-655-7226 or www.fourarts.org.

BEST PLACE FOR MODERN DANCE AND LIVE MUSIC
Duncan Theatre

Once again, the Duncan Theatre amazed us with a dizzying array of performances that showcased the finest in cutting-edge dance, chamber ensembles, and vintage popular and rock music concerts during its just completed 30th anniversary season.

Just when you think the masterful line-up of modern dance companies couldn’t surpass prior seasons, the Duncan Theatre delivered a strong and diverse series representing the contemporary art form. From Philadanco’s socially relevant and topical dances to Cuba’s Malpaso Dance Company’s introduction to Palm Beach audiences to the return of L.A.’s hottest company — Bodytraffic to the breathtaking acrobatics and antics of MOMIX’s Opus Cactus, the offerings amazed and enthralled the community. The Classical Café series featured the Florida premiere of the Shaw-Magnussen Duo (cello and piano) and the return of the Vienna Piano Trio.

Popular music offerings were equally diverse with concerts by Tony Award nominee Jarrod Spector, early rock 'n' roll icon Chubby Checker, an Australian Circus inspired by a classic rock soundtrack, the inventive creations of “America’s Got Talent” finalist William Close and The Earth Harp, bluegrass phenom The Hillbenders transforming The Who’s “Tommy” from rock opera to Bluegrass Opry, and original band members and studio musicians of Billy Joel’s early acclaimed albums — The Lords of 52nd Street — transporting us back to 1970 through classic Grammy-winning tunes. As in the past, we can hardly wait to learn what is in store for Palm Beach County audiences next season! The Duncan Theatre is at Palm Beach State College, 4200 Congress Ave., Lake Worth; 561-868-3309 or www.duncantheatre.org.
Bill Jackson, a retired school-teacher. At work in restaurants and clubs throughout the county, she's Jacqie, hostess of "Jacq-ieoke," a tune-belting goodtime gal who knows how to make shy men and women stand up and sing along. Catch her at Benny's on the Beach every Wednesday, noon to 9 p.m., and Fridays noon to 9 p.m. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. For other dates, 345-520-6021.

BEST CELEBRITY AUTHOR
Scott Eyman

Ever since 1990, when he published "Mary Pickford: America's Sweetheart," Scott Eyman has been West Palm Beach's own Hollywood historian. A former books editor of The Palm Beach Post, Mr. Eyman has published 14 more titles since then, including "John Wayne: The Life & Legend," a New York Times best-seller, and three memoirs co-written with actor Robert Wagner. Not a big John Wayne fan? Trust us, like all great biographers, Mr. Eyman can fascinate you with the lives of Hollywood legends you didn’t know you cared about. Louis B. Mayer, Cecil B. DeMille, John Ford? If Mr. Eyman writes it, you can trust it. www.ScottEyman.com.

BEST PLACE FOR KARAOKE
Any place Jacqie Jackson appears.

"Basically, I'm Ward Cleaver in a dress," she says. "I'm a heterosexual male cross dresser." At home, he's Bill Jackson, a retired school-teacher. At work in restaurants and clubs throughout the county, she's Jacqie, hostess of "Jacq-ieoke," a tune-belting goodtime gal who knows how to make shy men and women stand up and sing along. Catch her at Benny's on the Beach every Wednesday, noon to 9 p.m., and Fridays noon to 9 p.m. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. For other dates, 345-520-6021.

BEST CELEBRITY AUTHOR
Scott Eyman

Ever since 1990, when he published "Mary Pickford: America's Sweetheart," Scott Eyman has been West Palm Beach's own Hollywood historian. A former books editor of The Palm Beach Post, Mr. Eyman has published 14 more titles since then, including "John Wayne: The Life & Legend," a New York Times best-seller, and three memoirs co-written with actor Robert Wagner. Not a big John Wayne fan? Trust us, like all great biographers, Mr. Eyman can fascinate you with the lives of Hollywood legends you didn’t know you cared about. Louis B. Mayer, Cecil B. DeMille, John Ford? If Mr. Eyman writes it, you can trust it. www.ScottEyman.com.

BEST PLACE FOR KARAOKE
Any place Jacqie Jackson appears.

"Basically, I'm Ward Cleaver in a dress," she says. "I'm a heterosexual male cross dresser." At home, he's Bill Jackson, a retired school-teacher. At work in restaurants and clubs throughout the county, she's Jacqie, hostess of "Jacq-ieoke," a tune-belting goodtime gal who knows how to make shy men and women stand up and sing along. Catch her at Benny's on the Beach every Wednesday, noon to 9 p.m., and Fridays noon to 9 p.m. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. For other dates, 345-520-6021.

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BEST PLACE FOR KARAOKE
Any place Jacqie Jackson appears.
**BEST PLACE FOR A KISS**
On the lips.

**BEST PLACE FOR A FIRST KISS**
The Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse

The Jupiter Lighthouse sizzles with romance and has ever since Harry DuBois proposed to Susan Sanders at the top of the stairs in the late 1890s. The iconic beacon of light still attracts lovers who come for a first kiss, a proposal or just to share a magnificent view with someone special.

**BEST PLACE FOR STAY-CATION**
Palm Beach's best kept secret summer getaway... whether it is a family reunion or weekend with the kids, a romantic spa retreat at the newly reimagined Spa at PGA, a girls weekend or a guys golf getaway, the newly redesigned PGA National truly has an offer tailored for you. Try one of the specialty spa or PGA suites, complete with a massage table or pool table in room.

Plus, kids 12 and under, stay, play and eat breakfast for free, when staying with an adult who is paying the resort fee. Unlimited golf packages start at only $94.50 per person, double occupancy, per room per night. And Florida residents rates start as low as $110 per room per night. All rates plus tax and resort fee. Call 877-631-4693 or visit www.pgaresort.com.

**BEST EXCUSE TO STAND IN LINE**
Those free samples at Costco.

Heaven help any inattentive shopper who gets between that retiree on a scooter and the fresh batch of blue crab dip on a cracker! And good luck easing your cart through the gaggle of hungry schnorrers grabbing at the poststickers, the spring rolls and the smoked turkey on a toothpick, too. Circle the store four times and with enough patience, you’ve had a free meal.

**BEST EYEGLASSES**
Sherry Frankel's Melangerie in the Via Amore on Worth Avenue is an emporium filled with fun gifts for people with pets, ladies who lunch, hostesses and others. Mrs. Frankel has an eye for the quirky and she frames those peepers with glasses that let customers know she’s happy, she’s fun and she wants them to be, too. We see, and we are when we’re in her shop.

256 Worth Ave., Palm Beach. 561-655-1996.

**CHEAPEST PLACE TO BE A SPENDTHRIFT**
Jupiter Medical Center Thrift Shop

If you are in the market for a business outfit, or a designer gown, or sport togs for your outdoor pursuits, there are few places you can have a better time with a few bucks than the Jupiter Medical Center Thrift Shop.

There is something there for everyone, including sports equipment, jewelry, furniture, knick-knacks, cut glass, toys, and books. Best of all, the re-cycling of perfectly good stuff has multiple beneficiaries. The proceeds from the sales support a good cause, and you can indulge your spendthrift ways without any guilt whatsoever. What’s not to like about that? 205 Center St., Jupiter. 561-746-6601.

**BEST PLACE TO HOOK A BIG ONE**
Juno Beach Pier

They say a bad day of fishing beats any good day at work. We concur. Even a bad day on this wide concrete pier, 990 feet out, and deep enough to reel in some big ones, still makes for a great morning or late afternoon. Not a fisherperson? They offer yoga, music, and kids’ programs on the pier, as well. The Loggerhead Marinelife Center manages the pier. 855-6185 or www.marinelife.org/pier

**BEST PLACE TO BREW INTELLIGENT CONVERSATION**
Socrates Café at the Highland Beach Library.

All voices are welcome, but political discussions are discouraged. (Too hot to handle?) The group votes on topics, such as prejudice, for which everyone has an opinion.
Music all day long, food, timed tapings of specialty release craft beer all day, art, the unveiling of its Phase 2 mural, vendors and many more surprises! Mark your calendar for May 13 and spread the word on The 3-year Anniversary Block Party. www.brewhousegallery.com.

**BEST WAY TO SEE A BEACH SUNRISE FROM YOUR BED**
Earl Stewart’s “Sunrise Club”

Join the “Sunrise Club” by going to Facebook, and calling up Earl Stewart’s page. The car dealer of Lake Park treks to the beach outside his house in Jupiter Inlet Colony, and does a live feed with commentary, every day, as the sun creeps over the horizon. Clear, cloudy, windy, stormy — he’s out there, at least briefly, but usually for 15 minutes. You get a weather report, a turtle nest report, bird sightings, maybe see Chimmy Choo, a neighbor’s dog, playing in the surf, and that great sunrise. It’s posted all day, so even if you don’t get up with the chickens and fish, you can still watch a local beach sunrise. Because of “shares,” it’s now watched as far as Dubai. www.facebook.com/earlstew.

**BEST SEASIDE RESORT TO FIND OLD FLORIDA**
Wright by the Sea in Delray Beach

Forget the big hotels and book a room at Wright by the Sea in Delray Beach for a real sense of Old Florida style. Guests will find a private beach, cool pool, an observation deck where they can sip a cup of coffee and watch the sunrise, and plenty of coconut palm trees providing shady spots for reading or stretching out in a hammock. 1901 S. Ocean Blvd., Delray Beach. 561-278-3355 or www.wbtsea.com.

**BEST SPOT TO HANG**
The Jupiter Beach Resort & Spa’s hammock garden

The adults-only hammock garden on the beach is our favorite hotel place to give peace a chance. Breathe in the sea breeze. Breathe out the stress you arrived with. Know that here you have it made in the shade.


**BEST BIRDWATCHING SITE**
Wakodahatchee Wetlands

The Delray Beach bird sanctuary in the middle of a residential area on the Water Utilities property is a hotbed of feather-and-beak activity. The mangroves are virtual rookeries squawking with wood storks, herons, and other Florida birds tending their chicks. Serious birders get away from the excited crowds and to the back of the park, where ponds foster the rarer South Florida winged beauties like whistling ducks, and green-winged teal. A three-quarter-mile, easily walked (disabled friendly) boardwalk loops around the park. You’ll see plenty of other wildlife; keep your eyes open. Crowded in season; go early in the day. At any time, bring sunscreen and bug repellent. 13026 Jog Road, Delray Beach. 561-493-6000 or www.discoverpbg.org/waterutilities/.

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**MIROMAR OUTLETS’ MEMORIAL DAY SIDEWALK SALE**

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Bring this ad to the Mall Office or Information Kiosk for a FREE VIP Savings Brochure and enter to WIN a $100 Gift Card
BEST PLACE TO GET YOUR ROW ON
Loxahatchee Scenic River

You can't beat the Loxahatchee River for a glimpse of Old Florida, or the stories that surround it. The fast river was the first National Wild and Scenic River named in Florida. Native growth lines the banks, and it's not at all unusual to see alligators here – keep appendages in the canoe. Put in at Riverbend Park for a 2- to 3-hour loop trip. It's fairly easy, and they'll rent you a canoe or kayak here.

9060 W. Indiantown Road, Jupiter. 561-741-1359 or www.canoeoutfittersofflorida.com.

BEST BIZARRE BASEBALL EXPERIENCE
Star Wars Night

Roger Dean Stadium becomes a galaxy far, far away every April when members of various costume clubs storm the field in body armor and headgear, looking like they just came off the set of the episodic movie. Last year, the 501st Legion's Everglades Squad brought likenesses of Jawas, TIE pilots and Tusken raiders, as well as Darth Vader. The Mandalorian Mercs boasted bounty hunter Boba Fett. It is a strangely satisfying sideshow to the action on the diamond. www.rogerdeanstadium.com.

BEST GRASSROOTS-ISH EVENT
swede fest

Palm Beach County has made the cult-like film event its own after stealing the idea from the freaks in Fresno, Calif., who started it. The fest involves three-minute remakes of scenes from Hollywood blockbusters on laughably low budgets. The term originated from the 2008 movie Be Kind Rewind, in which two clerks at a video store accidentally erase all their VHS tapes and go about reshooting them, amateur-style, dubbing their disasters swedes.

BEST HANGOUT FOR LITTLE KIDS
Burns Road Playground

Every nanny and granny knows the playground at the Burns Road Recreation Center is the hot tot hub. Its slides – sizes small, tall, and little-kid scary – are the main attractions, but a climbing rock, a flying saucer with net spider web to try, a rope ladder bridge, and swings for all sizes keep them moving. Shoes come off and socks rule on the soft fake turf. Bonus: When it's hot, the splash park next door is the cool rule. When it's hot, the splash park next door is the cool rule. Double bonus: Plenty of shade, benches, and free wifi from the city for the babysitter.

4404 Burns Road, Palm Beach Gardens. 561-630-1100 or www.pbgfl.com.

BEST HANGOUT FOR TEENS
Jupiter Skate Park

Keeping them off the streets, area skate parks are where it's at for riders of the new wheeled craze: scooters. These skateboards-with-handles are allowed at Jupiter Skate Park, as well as the Palm Beach Gardens Skate Park, and Phipps Skate Park in West Palm Beach — all teen friendly. Special times are set aside for younger riders. Card-carriers must sign waivers and wear helmets — spills and the occasional collision are inevitable on the concrete ramps, angled slides and half-pipes. Paid pros practice here on boards, bikes, and the two-wheeled scooters. 1501 Frederick Small Road, Jupiter; 561-630-5684 or www.jupiter.fl.us.

BEST PAVEMENT PERMUTATION
Street Painting Festival

Lake and Lucerne avenues in Lake Worth turn into artistic asphalt when hundreds of chalk-wielding creatives descend on the downtown district to draw everything from colorful landscapes and dramatic portraits to modern scenes and three-dimensional vignettes – all where tires usually tread. It enters its 23rd year in 2018 and attracts more than 100,000 visitors to the city for free event that includes beer tents, live music and the opportunity to see an outdoor gallery come to life.

BEST PLACE TO CELEBRATE MOTHER’S DAY WITH THE WOODHOUSE DAY SPA®

Celebrate Mother’s Day with The Woodhouse Day Spa®.

Receive a beautiful floral robe she’s sure to love with a Gift Card purchase of $30 or more.

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Experience a Tranquil Transformational Environment

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PalmBeachGardens.WoodhouseSpas.com 561-385-4772

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ILLUSTRATED PROPERTIES IS #1 IN PALM BEACH COUNTY AGAIN!

#1 MARKET LEADER
WITH MORE THAN $1.3 BILLION IN SALES, 2016


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BEST PLACE TO BIKE SLOW AND EASY
The Bluegill Trail

Opened in 2016, the 9-mile Bluegill Trail runs all the way from Grassy Waters Preserve in West Palm Beach to Riverbend Park in Jupiter. Wending through the Loxahatchee Slough Natural Area, the trail provides a wealth of wildlife viewing, and plant-spotting. Extra wide shell-rock trails and wooden boardwalk bridges, with piers and shady stops along the way make it an easy cycle; great for families. Best bikes are hybrid; the shell rock can be hard on thin road tires. Enter at Riverbend Park in Jupiter, or Sandhill Crane Park off PGA Boulevard, or Grassy Waters Preserve in Palm Beach Gardens, or off Northlake Boulevard in West Palm Beach. Visit www.discoverpbg.org/erm/.

BEST KID-FRIENDLY EVENT
Touch-a-Truck

The half-day Touch-a-Truck events, put on individually by the cities of North Palm Beach and Jupiter, are singularly the most popular free event to happen to the 8-and-under set. A gaggle of garbage trucks, a screaming flock of fire-rescue vehicles and a swagger of S.W.A.T. armored carriers, plus construction tractors, dump trucks, diggers, semis, animal rescue trucks, and all things wheeled and noisy are parked and open for kids to clamber aboard. Garbage workers stand alongside fire chiefs to entertain with lights, levers, and cranks. Lots of educational fun, and a great lesson in “wait your turn,” as lines are always long. Check city websites for schedules.

BEST USE OF A TURNTABLE
Elliott Museum

Everything from vinyl records to chickens are best done on a rotisserie, but the Elliott Museum in Stuart uses a special one to display classic cars on demand. Like the world’s best vending machine, visitors can choose from a touchscreen display what car they would like to see. Then an automated rack and elevator system retrieves the specific vehicle from the three-story, 55-car glass warehouse. It is then placed in a central display, where it rotates for everyone to see all the best details of the car. 825 NE Ocean Blvd., Stuart. 772-225-1961 or www.elliottmuseum.org.

BEST HIDDEN GARDEN
Cluett Memorial Garden, Bethesda-by-the-Sea

Churches are always peaceful stops, but the garden at this Palm Beach landmark church is special. Gazebos, a large lawn with plants and trees labeled for visitors, sunny benches, and a gazebo make it a delight to visit. In the surrounds of the oldest church in the county (128 years of worship), there’s a tranquility here that brings respite to worn souls.

BEST LOCAL PHOTO BOOK
“The Cottages of Lake Worth - Living Large in Small Spaces”

This book shows off the historic homes throughout Lake Worth that might be called Tiny Houses today. There are more than 1000 of the little houses in the city, many restored. Painted Key lime green, coral pink, bright yellow and sky blue, and landscaped to reflect their tropical setting, the cottage owners make the best of lean living space. Writers Dean Sherwin, Janice Sneater and photographer Taylor Jones contributed to the production of the 240-page book. Pick it up online or at area bookstores.
In a project that went through just in time to say “play ball!” for Spring 2017, the Ballpark of the Palm Beaches welcomed the Washington Nationals and Houston Astros to their roster of Spring Training teams to the county. A former dump site, the land was envisioned as a ballpark by the county commission, but former Congressman Mark Foley helped bring it to fruition, marrying the baseball commission and the Washington and Houston teams to the county’s plan. Inaugural fans have bought into it, and await the parking construction missing from this year’s plan. 5444 Haverhill Road, West Palm Beach. 561-676-2017 or www.ballparkpalmbeaches.com.

**BEST SPOT TO KAYAK**
John D. MacArthur Beach State Park

Mac Beach, as it is known, is old Florida at its finest. Visitors to the 438-acre piece of paradise, preserved between the gated community of Lost Tree Village and a sky-high strip of condominiums on Singer Island, will find kayak nirvana at the edge of the mangroves. Paddlers can rent rides from the concession or bring their own and head out into the wildlife-laden estuary, where anhingas, egrets, herons, pelicans and roseate spoonbills await. 10900 Jack Nicklaus Drive, North Palm Beach. 561-624-6950 or www.macarthurbeach.org.
BEST ROAD SHOW
“The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time”

This easily is among the best of the Kravis Center’s Kravis on Broadway series of touring shows.

This powerful story of an autistic boy who sets out to find who killed his neighbor’s dog boasts high-tech sets and performances that matched the flash of the electronics.

BEST CLUB MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMS
The Club at Ibis

While the superb quality of the golf initially draws many to Ibis, it’s the extraordinary quality of life (referred to as The Ibis Experience), that makes this a well-satisfied membership.

Cultural opportunities abound, thanks to the tireless efforts of the Ibis Cultural Association.

With over 20 clubs within the club, members can participate in acting and writing workshops, language and art classes, musical presentations and photography exhibitions, sharpen their cooking skills or showcase their vintage auto in the Ibis Car Club. The events roster is full and diverse for a community that is engaged and active all year long.

BEST EYE TO THE FUTURE
Norton Museum of Art

Ground has been broken and buildings are coming down as the Norton’s $60 million-plus expansion begins to take shape. Already, passersby can see where the museum’s new entrance, oriented along South Dixie Highway, will be. www.norton.org.

BEST PLACE TO SEE A GATOR
Grassy Waters Preserve

A mosaic of wetlands that spans 23 acres on both sides of Northlake Boulevard west of town is inhabited by several species of wildlife. None is as reliable to view during a visit as the alligator. The reptile can be found floating in the swamp, sunning on the boat ramp or crawling along the edges of the slough. A camouflage appearance works to its advantage, but with a keen eye, a gator surely will be spotted.

8264 Northlake Blvd., West Palm Beach. 561-804-4985.

BEST LOCAL MUSICAL PRODUCTION
“Gypsy,” Maltz Jupiter Theatre

The Maltz has made lots of strides the past few years, performing awe-inspiring dramas — “Glengarry Glen Ross” and “Disgraced” are two standouts from recent memory. But it proved that it remains the master of musicals with a standout production of “Gypsy,” directed by Marcia Milgrom Dodge and starring Vicki Lewis, who has the chops to play the ultimate stage mother with heart.
Lake Park Arts District

Come to downtown Lake Park’s core and you can stop for a bite, see a concert, shop for vintage and decorative accessories and leave invigorated without ever having to move your car.

Much like Miami’s Wynwood district, the Lake Park Arts District attracts some of the area’s top visual artists, as well as performers from across the nation. And several new restaurants have joined the favorites that already were making this downtown area a destination.

The Lake Park Arts District is South Florida’s newest cultural hub. At this budding art district you can find everything from a live music venue, tattoo shop, a healing arts center, restaurant, art gallery, and everything in between.

Gulfstream Goodwill Industries

Gulfstream Goodwill Industries, a nonprofit established in 1966, runs 28 thrift stores in five counties, including 16 in Palm Beach County. Goodwill is the original recycler, accepting donations of gently used items to prevent them from going to landfills. But the environmentally conscious organization is also a goldmine for creative reuse. You can find many treasures at Goodwill, including items you can transform into new materials or products of better quality or for better environmental value. The revenue generated when you shop at Goodwill supports more than two dozen health, human and social service programs, including deaf, vision, youth and adult justice and residential services and more. www.gulfstreamgoodwill.org.

“Collected Stories,” Palm Beach Dramaworks

All we could say was, “Wow!” at the end of Palm Beach Dramaworks’ production of the Donald Margulies play “Collected Stories.” In this tale, the protégée of a noted author writes a novel based on her mentor’s affair with a famous poet. In the play, Margulies poses the question: Whose story is it? Actresses Anne-Marie Cusson and Keira Keeley were passionate and engaging in their roles as professor and protégée.

Miromar Outlets, Estero

With more than 140 top designer and brand name outlet stores, if you start at one end of Miromar Outlets and shop your way to the other, you can stretch your dollar approximately two miles — and save up to 70 percent off retail prices. Miromar Outlets in Southwest Florida has been voted for the 18th year in a row Best Factory Outlet Mall in addition to Best Shopping Mall. A one-of-a-kind blend of superb outlets, architecture and dining had established Miromar Outlets as the premier shopping destination in Southwest Florida. Top Names include Saks Fifth Avenue OFF 5th, Neiman Marcus Last Call and Bloomingdale’s The Outlet Store. www.MiromarOutlets.com.

www.AquaHomeInteriors.com
561.630.8070

MAINSTREET AT MIDTOWN • 4747 PGA BOULEVARD PALM BEACH CARDENS, FL 33418
Bon appétit

Learning about food, dining out, cooking, taking photos of the food we eat — it’s the great American pastime. Every kind of cuisine, offering the BEST, freshest ingredients and a wide variety of ambience, can be found here.

BEST HIDDEN EATS
Queen of Sheeba

Shh… don’t tell too many about this Ethiopian gem on the north end of West Palm Beach — we won’t be able to get in. It’s a tiny restful place, run by a brother-sister duo, with grains and vegetables cooked with the sweet and savory spices indicative to the African cuisine, served with injera — the dipping crepe-like bread. Lots of options for vegetarians and vegans here. Don’t miss the honey wine. 716 N. Sapodilla Ave., West Palm Beach. 561-514-0615 or www.queenofsheebawpb.com.

BEST LOCALLY PRODUCED WINE OR SPIRITS
Accomplice Brewery & Ciderworks, West Palm Beach.

Who says it’s all about location, location, location? This is not the sort of neighborhood pub you could possibly happen on by accident, but a growing number of craft cider lovers are finding this hard-to-find local brewery deep in the industrial district off Florida Mango Road. The menu’s a chalkboard on the wall, the cuisine a food truck parked outside, and the entertainment beer pong. But, oh, those homemade ciders! Blackberry Jam and Bone Dry Apple, Mango Madness and many more. 1023 N. Florida Mango Road, West Palm Beach. 561-514-0615 or www.accomplicebrewery.com.

BEST PLACE FOR STEAK AND SEAFOOD WITH A VIEW
Ironwood Steak & Seafood at PGA National Resort & Spa

Ironwood Steak & Seafood opens to the lobby and iBar and offers a wonderfully fresh and unexpected approach to classic steak, local seafood, plus wine produced by PGA Tour legends like Jack Nicklaus, Greg Norman and Ernie Els. An alfresco dining experience is available at iDeck, a terrace with stunning views of the property’s serene landscaping, picturesque zero-entry pool and tranquil lake. Notable is the “Tomahawk for Two,” a bone-in 32-ounce cross of Wagyu and Black Angus beef, dry-aged for 21 days, then cooked to perfection at 1,200 degrees in a state-of-the-art Vulcan 1200 broiler. Other menu favorites include the Organic Roasted Beet Salad, Chophouse Crabcake and Diver Scallops with grits. 561-627-4852 or www.ironwoodpga.com.

BEST CASUAL DINING ON WORTH AVENUE

Ta-boo

John F. Kennedy dined here. The Duke and Duchess of Windsor noshed here, too. And Rod Stewart still dines here. There’s a reason for that: It’s classic fare done right. But the next generation of diners can tell you that Ta-boo has a lovely happy hour menu and that the Sunday brunch is sublime. Try the crab cakes, which are heavy on crab and light on filler. It’s a fun spot for lunch, brunch or dinner. 221 Worth Ave., Palm Beach; 835-3500 or www.taboorestaurant.com.
Mounts Botanical Garden

2017 Connoisseurs Garden Tour

A Mother’s Day Tradition

Saturday, May 13
10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 14
11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

$20 - Members
$30 - Non-Members

Visit nine private garden homes throughout Palm Beach County including a sneak preview of the new Windows on the Floating World – Blume Tropical Wetland Garden.

For tickets and more information visit www.mounts.org or call 561-233-1757.

Best Place to be Treated Like an MVP

Duffy’s Sports Grill

It’s no surprise that the family-run, Florida-based restaurant, Duffy’s Sports Grill, continues to expand throughout the state and create loyal fans wherever they open. This neighborhood hot spot sets itself apart with exceptional food, friendly service and, of course, sports. With more than 100 TVs, it’s a sure bet that if the game you want is on, it’s on at Duffy’s. Whether you want to catch the game, or catch up with family and friends, plan to feast on ribs, wings, seafood and a variety of signature grilled items from their chef-driven menu. Then wash it all down with local craft beer or signature cocktails. Be sure to join their MVP loyalty program so you can get exclusive offers and even score free meals. Visit one of 13 locations in Palm Beach County. www.DuffysMVP.com

Best Place to Break Your Diet

Jupiter Donut Factory

Center Street, north of Indiantown Road, is where the heart of old Jupiter is still present. There, tucked into a small strip mall where you can get a haircut, buy a sandwich, and load up on bait and tackle, you’ll find Jupiter Donut Factory, the town’s beachhead on doughnut greatness. Customers line up out the door patiently waiting to pick their baker’s dozen. That’s the minimum if you want to sample some of the multiple choices and flavors offered. The glazed and red velvet versions are top sellers, but the Donut Factory’s repertoire includes 40 riffs on the confection. Jupiter Donut Factory opens at 6 a.m. and stays open only so long as doughnuts are left. Don’t be late or you’ll miss the most delectable part of your day. 141 Center St., Jupiter. 561-741-5290 or www.jupiterdonuts.com.

Best Place to Dock & Dine

Waterway Cafe

Waterway Cafe is a South Florida dining tradition since 1986. It features a delectable menu of fresh seafood, steak, chicken, pasta, pizza and desserts combined with unparalleled ambience. There is no better place to sit back and enjoy the Intracoastal. Afraid of the wait? Don’t be—at Waterway Cafe, you can radio in from your boat & have a table or food waiting upon your arrival. With 800 feet of docks, bring the sailboat or the yacht and enjoy a tropical drink in paradise. Come for Sunday brunch, from 9 a.m. to noon. 2300 PGA Blvd., Palm Beach Gardens. 561-694-1700. www.Waterwaycafe.com.

Best B&B Breakfast

Sabal Palm Bed & Breakfast

Breakfast, they say, is the most important meal of the day and for a really memorable one, we recommend apple pie pancakes or baked omelets at Sabal Palm Bed & Breakfast in Lake Worth. Guests will also enjoy the inn’s special fruit cups, or anything else consumed in the tropical courtyard.

109 N. Golfview Road, Lake Worth, 561-582-4090 or www.sabalpalmhouse.com.
BEST WATERFRONT DINING
The Entertainer Yacht Dinner Cruise

You can’t get more waterfront than aboard a yacht. The Entertainer, based in Lake Park, offers up a variety of cruises for hire. Book a cocktail party, dinner, reception, or luncheon, and sail away across the wide Intracoastal. They’re new in town and more offerings are likely soon. 561-290-9515, or The Entertainer Charters on Facebook.

BEST PLACE TO SQUANDER A TAX REFUND
Rachel’s Gentleman’s Club

Steaks. Yeah, they go for the steaks – “The best anywhere,” is what we’re told again and again. But the live entertainment – involving women dancing on laps and poles and stages – is the main draw. “The classiest,” club around, so we’re told. You can get your car detailed while you’re inside, so think of it as a car wash with benefits, if you don’t go for the food. 2905 45th St., West Palm Beach. 561-616-9600 or www.rachelsplambeach.com.

BEST RESTAURANT FOR AL FRESCO WINE AND CHEESE
The Cooper

The PGA Commons restaurant beckons any day of the week, but it beckons most on Sunday afternoons, when a glass of vino and a plate of aged artisanal goodness are in order. A feast of fancy fromage from all over the world comes with crackers, fig jam, honey and spiced pecans. Choose from the following: Beemster Vlaskaas, Gruyere, Hudson Valley Camembert, Humboldt Fog, Irish Porter Cheddar, Manchego, Parmigiano-Reggiano, Rogue Smokey Blue, SeaHive and Sottocenere al Tartufo. 4610 PGA Blvd., Palm Beach Gardens. 561-622-0032 or www.thecooperrestaurant.com.

BEST EATS AT MIDNIGHT
City Cellar, CityPlace

You can sit at the bar at City Cellar at the witching hour and still get great food here. The pizzas, a house specialty, are first-rate. The rosso or bianca can be a tough choice; once you’ve decided sauce or not, then comes the real question: stay simple with the Margherita – fresh basil, and mozzarella; or the Salsicce, with housemade fennel sausage, caramelized onion and mozz. Maybe a Rustica, with rapini, mushrooms, prosciutto and mozz. A charcuterie plate, with much of the salame, including a wild boar variety, cured in house, is a second tasty option. Pair it with a modern cocktail – also their specialty. 700 Rosemary Ave., West Palm Beach. 561-366-0071 or www.citycellarwpb.com.
BEST LOW-DOWN, DIRTY, NO GOOD, JUKEBOX BAR
Ralph’s Stand Up Bar

What a throwback. It’s claimed to be the oldest bar in Palm Beach County. Yeah, there are really tables — covered in old photos — and chairs and a bar, and a patio out back. But it’s the neighborhood meetup place atmosphere that sells. Where the regulars and curious newcomers and bikers converge to knock a few back and rock to Vince and the Phat Cats playing live. We’ll stand up for that! 113 Center St., Jupiter. 561-746-6812. Find them on Facebook.

BEST FREE COOKING CLASS
Nina Kauder at El Sol

A CIA-trained chef, Ms. Kauder teaches a free monthly class at the El Sol Neighborhood Resource Center in Jupiter, where a vegetable garden provides fresh ingredients on the spot. Even carnivores are sated once she proves vegetable dishes can be as hearty as meat-filled ones. She also gives classes around the county at the library, Mounts Botanical Garden, and Greenlands in Delray; some with nominal costs. 106 Military Trail, Jupiter; 561-745-9860. For info on Ms. Kauder’s classes: www.beanscene-florida.com.

BEST LOCAL GREEN MARKET
West Palm Beach GreenMarket

The first, and still tops in the area, though it has competition. A wide variety of produce and food vendors, nursery offerings, open spaces that are dog-friendly, and a beautiful waterfront combine to make for a near perfect shopping experience. With the antiques marketplace right next door, it’s an ideal morning spent. Lake Worth’s and Palm Beach Gardens’ markets are worthy seconds. At Centennial Park, West Palm Beach, Flagler and Clematis Street, through April. www.wpb.org/departments/.

Getting around

What moves you? Oh the places we can go, and the choices to get there — boats, ferries, cars, trucks, trolleys… When the mood strikes, take your pick and roll out! We have them all.

BEST AFFORDABLE FLORIDA LAND YACHT
The Cadillac Eldorado

The dream is simple: retire to Florida and take it slow. So, what better way to do that in a droptop so big that no one can pass you? The Cadillac Eldorado convertible is one of those iconic classic cars that just begs for a trip up the ocean roads. And right now, the final generation of the factory ragtops (1971-76) is priced lower than an economy hatchback, which means there’s enough money left in the budget to fix the air conditioner. But be warned, the fuel bill will make you wish for an increase in Social Security, and road hogs tend to get waved at by only one finger.

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What sets this family-owned business apart from the competition is their unique customer-centered approach to car care.

If you are looking for a better place to service your Audi, BMW, Benz, Mini or Porsche, this is a must-go place. Take your car to Foreign Affairs Auto for its next maintenance service or repair and be pleasantly amazed how easy car care should be. This auto repair company was established 35 years ago and continues to offer its award-winning customer service in Palm Beach County. When servicing your vehicle at Foreign Affairs, you truly receive a top-class customer service experience. Enjoy a delicious cappuccino in the beautiful lounge while waiting for your vehicle to be serviced. When you walk in through their doors, you will never realize you were in an auto repair shop. It’s incredibly unique. Prefer not to wait? They have you covered with complimentary shuttle service to and from your home or work.

Word travels quickly. It is apparent that their clients rave about their commitment to full transparency by their 5-star online ratings. This highly specialized workshop provides all of its customers with real-time photographs of any recommendations made. Foreign Affairs Auto is at 1681 N. Military Trail, West Palm Beach; 561-478-9999 or online at www.foreignaffairsauto.com.

HOME, SWEET HOME

Whether you already live in South Florida or look forward to settling here someday, there are lots of people at the ready to make sure it’s always the BEST home, sweet home — from those who can help you find financing, to building, furnishing or decorating your abode, to someone to watch over it when you have to tear yourself away for whatever reason.

BEST SELECTION OF CABINET HARDWARE
Anderson’s Classic Hardware

Celebrating its 82nd year in West Palm Beach, family-owned and operated Anderson’s Classic Hardware continues to offer the Best selection of distinctive hardware in its 2,500-square-foot showroom. It is here that you will find the “jewelry” for your cabinets, with a large selection of knobs, handles, pulls, hinges and other decorative accents. There also is a complete line of faucets, doorknobs and locks and other home hardware from top manufacturers. The service-oriented and knowledgeable staff at Anderson’s will help you find the perfect final touch. 605 S. Olive Ave, West Palm Beach; (561) 655-3109 or www.andersonshardware.com.

BEST HOME FURNISHINGS AND ACCESSORIES
Excentricities

For more than 30 years, Excentricities has been synonymous with home furnishings and accents throughout Florida with its unique style and fresh
that thrive on the 14-acre site. Coming this June, the largest new garden in the 40-year history of Mounts, Windows on the Floating World — Blume Tropical Wetland Garden, will open. Mounts is open seven days a week, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Visitors also can buy tropical and subtropical plants at the Mounts Nursery from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays. 561-233-3377 or www.mounts.org.

BEST PLACE TO SPEND MONEY
PRIVYLY
Patrick Day Home Gallery

The 10,000-square-foot showroom filled with domestic décor will have homeowners’ heads spinning as its at abundance of around-the-world merchandise. Finds come from Bali, Burkina, Thailand, Vietnam and other corners of the globe, ending up in the Jupiter storefront and tempting those with coastal cravings. Doesn’t everyone need a table lamp shaped like a piece of Elkhorn coral, or a life-size palm tree in a wicker basket or triptych of wild water lilies? 1226 W. Indiantown Road, Jupiter. 561-748-0282 or www.patrickdayhome.com.

BEST PLACE TO STYLE YOUR HOME OR BUSINESS
Aqua Home & Design

Welcome to Aqua Home & Design, your style destination for home and office. Allow Aqua to inject their expertise from designing for some of Florida’s most elite builders and homeowners to turning your vision into a stunning reality. With a sleek showroom located in Mainstreet at Midtown, Aqua Home & Design is your headquarters for exclusive gifts and home décor. Featuring vendors from Italy to New York, Aqua believes the essence of great design is attained inspired and comprehensive experience. Aqua’s mission is to guide each client through their own unique design process to ensure confidence in achieving the desired result. Aqua Home & Design — what South Florida has been waiting for. 4747 PGA Blvd., Palm Beach Gardens, 561-233-1757 or www.aquahomeinteriors.com.

BEST PLACE TO ACHIEVE A PALM BEACH LOOK ON A BUDGET
DeJaVu Design Center and Estate Liquidators

Recently voted “The Best Consignment Store in Palm Beach Gardens,” DeJaVu Design Center is comprised of three unique stores totaling 20,000 square feet located just east of Interstate 95 on PGA Boulevard. It specializes in higher end designer and specialty furniture, antiques, art, estate jewelry and decorative items at the best prices in town. It’s the perfect place to shop for a new “family heirloom,” a unique piece that can be repurposed or used as a fabulous gift. Now accepting quality consignments, 561-225-1950; 4086 PGA Blvd., in Palm Beach Gardens, just east of I-95.

BEST PLACE TO SEE WHAT’S IN BLOOM
Mounts Botanical Garden of Palm Beach County

You can cultivate ideas — or you can buy plants — at the Mounts Botanical Garden, which boasts more than 2,000 species of tropical and subtropical plants

Feeling good, looking good

Let’s face it, Floridians feel better and look better than folks in most other parts of the country. After all, it was here Juan Ponce de Leon came in search of the fountain of youth. Whether you need treatment for an illness, or seek to brighten your physical appearance, the BEST providers are here.

BEST GUY TO KEEP YOU IN THE GAME
Dr. Michael Papa

When Dr. Papa began serving Palm Beach County in 1989, he implemented an innovative gentle approach to chiropractic care and physical therapy and has built on that foundation for 25 years. His multidisciplinary practice offers a combination of health care, chiropractic care, complementary therapies and state-of-the-art diagnostic testing that enhances his ability to treat each patient’s individual needs, bringing lasting resolutions to their health concerns. Papa Chiropractic and Physical Therapy, 2632 W. Indiantown Road, Jupiter: 561-744-7373, 9089 N. Military Trail, Palm Beach Gardens, 561-630-9998; and 9099 S. U.S. Highway 1, Port St. Lucie, (772) 337-1300 or www.papachiro.com.

BEST HOME HEALTH CARE
Visiting Angels of the Palm Beaches

This family owned, home health agency prides itself on providing high quality, private duty home care and customized companionship services so their clients can “thrive, not just survive!” A Florida Weekly “BEST” award winner for two years in a row, Visiting Angels’ focus on character, compassion, and client satisfaction won them the Best of Home Care — Provider of Choice® Award, four years in a row. They received high marks of 99.2 percent for compatibility of caregivers, warmth, knowledge, timeliness, communication, and responsiveness. If you or a loved one are looking for a refreshing approach to home care, call 561-328-7611 or visit: www.visitingangels.com/PalmBeaches.

BEST PLACE FOR PAMPERING
PGA National Resort & Spa

Whether you desire an invigorating massage or the Hydrafacial celebrities swear by, it’s all here at the expansive 40,000-square-foot European-style spa. Renowned as the ultimate in relaxation and rejuvenation, the spa recently underwent a revitalization to its pool deck complete with new furnishings as well as renovation of the sleek ladies’ lounge and wet room, including all new sauna, steam rooms, indoor Jacuzzi and locker rooms. Guests are pampered with over 100 treatments amidst lavish amenities and newly updated décor. Spa guests luxuriate in the iconic Waters of the World pools, featuring healing minerals from the French Pyrenees and wondrous salts from the Dead Sea in Israel. With 32 treatment areas, medical spa services, a poolside café with a full bar and a full-service nail and hair salon, the Spa at PGA National is unlike any other place for pampering in the South Florida. 561-627-3111 or www.spaatpga.com.
At your service

For those with the time, skills and the tools, do-it-yourself projects have their place. But when it comes to the serious business of life, we always go the BEST professional route. Take that path when you need help with finances, legal matters, insurance or planning that well-deserved vacation, among other things.

BEST WAY TO SEE THE WORLD
Atlas Cruises & Tours

For over 29 years, Atlas Cruises & Tours has been providing extraordinary travel experiences. The company has a strong online presence, along with a

BEST PLACE TO ‘TAP IN’ TO YOUR SOULFUL SPACE
The Inner Brew

Inspired by the vision of The Brewhouse Gallery, Donna Ahern & Joi Dupre created The Inner Brew, a Movement & Healing Arts Center. Located at 736 Park Ave in Lake Park, the studio offers yoga, adult dance classes, jiujitsu, massage therapy, consulting, workshops and studio rental.

The Inner Brew is a gathering place for the community to “Tap In” to the soulful space that brews within. Share in the passion and enjoy classes, workshops, healing arts and community. Visit www.theinnerbrew.com for class schedule and services. Contact The

Inner Brew at 561-469-9763 or info@theinnerbrew.com. MM36438

BEST WAY TO HELP BLIND BABIES
Lighthouse for the Blind of the Palm Beaches

Lighthouse for the Blind of the Palm Beaches offers free vision screenings for children from birth through five years of age. Babies and young children do not know if what they see is typical or atypical. Early vision screenings can pick up problems that a parent, child or teacher may not notice. Unfortunately, these problems will not correct themselves with age. A screening that takes minutes to complete can change the life of a child forever. All services of the Lighthouse are offered free of charge. Your support of their organization is appreciated so they may continue to improve the lives of those living with visual impairments. www.lighthousepalmbeaches.org

BEST PLACE TO UNWIND AND GET AWAY FROM IT ALL
The Woodhouse Day Spa

Tune out the noise and escape to an indulgence of the senses at The Woodhouse Day Spa. Here you can sip some herbal tea or enjoy the sauna while you choose from over 70 spa treatments to de-stress, decompress and detoxify from your daily grind. Customers are pampered from head to toe with nurturing, age-defying facials, luxurious massages, refreshing Vichy body treatments and spa manicures. It’s a great getaway with your significant other, friends or family. Or, even better, take a personal spa day just for you. 11300 Legacy Ave., No. 140, Palm Beach Gardens. 561-385-4772.

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If you want to savor the spectacular waters that engulf Southwest Florida, look no further than Captiva Cruises to take you there. Celebrating 30 years, this excursion boat company has mastered a variety of different vessels anchored in McCarthy’s Marina at the world-famous South Seas Island Resort on Captiva. Among the local Gulf treasures you can explore by different sports teams. Eighty percent of faculty hold master’s degrees, six hold a PhD and the seven Learning Support Specialists to ensure student success. Tuition package includes laptop/tablet, transportation, meals, books and learning support. Financial aid available. www.oapb.org.

Worth a drive
Yes, it’s great here. But have you checked out Florida’s west coast? Here’s the best of the best from a couple hours away.

BEST PLACE TO SAY, ‘I DO!’
PGA National Resort & Spa
PGA National Resort & Spa is an elegant, yet contemporary venue offering a storybook setting in a lush tropical oasis. With menus created to complement your big day, the catering team works hand in hand with you to arrange every last detail. Custom menus are offered as well.

Resort and spa is a complete package for hosting weddings, corporate charters and more. Call today, stop by the office for a cup of coffee and chat with an experienced travel adviser or visit the website to tour your travel dreams into reality. 561-687-3301 or www.AtlasTravelWeb.com.

BEST PLACES TO PREPARE FOR COLLEGE
Oxbridge Academy
Oxbridge offers a unique, project-based approach to education that engages students in hands-on activities that speak to their talents and interests.

One hundred percent of graduates are accepted to colleges and universities, including some of the most competitive Ivy Leagues. Signature programs include: Cambridge Studies, Aviation, Independent Field Research and Novel Writing. Advanced Honors Seminar classes and 75 elective courses offered. Award-winning debate team, 30 student clubs and 27 different sports teams. Eighty percent of faculty hold master’s degrees, six hold a PhD and the seven Learning Support Specialists to ensure student success. Tuition package includes laptop/tablet, transportation, meals, books and learning support. Financial aid available. www.oapb.org.

BEST PLACES TO SAIL AWAY
Captiva Cruises
If you want to savor the spectacular waters that engulf Southwest Florida, look no further than Captiva Cruises to take you there. Celebrating 30 years, this excursion boat company has mastered a variety of different vessels anchored in McCarthy’s Marina at the world-famous South Seas Island Resort on Captiva. Among the local Gulf treasures you can explore by boat are the Cayo Costa State Park Islands, Cabbage Key and Useppa Island. When you boast that your boat are the Cayo Costa State Park Islands, Cabbage Key and Useppa Island. When you boast that your

BEST PLACE FOR A WATERFRONT EXPERIENCE
Lani Kai Island Resort
Open 365 days a year, the Lani Kai is a top Fort Myers Beach destination and boasts the perfect beach vacation in Southwest Florida. Within walking distance of all of Fort Myers Beach’s best and most attractions, the Lani Kai is in the heart of it all — there’s simply isn’t a better waterfront location than this popular resort with newly renovated rooms and private water front balconies facing the Gulf of Mexico or Estero Bay. Direct beach access, rooftop lounge, seven bars, three restaurants, a coffee shop, and full amenities. Events and entertainment happen all year long and beach activities are fun and plentiful. 239-463-3111; www.LaniKaiIslandResort.com.

BEST PLACE TO BIKE SLOW AND EASY
J.N. Ding Darling National Wildlife Refuge, Sanibel Island
The J.N. Ding Darling National Wildlife Refuge has a spectacular five-mile stretch of paved road with a 15 MPH speed limit. You’ll see tons migrating birds and the ever-present alligators on the scenic ride. But really any of the miles of bike paths on Sanibel are exceptional.

BEST WAY TO GET TO KEY WEST
Key West Express, Fort Myers Beach
You shouldn’t have to wait to get to Key West in order for your Key West experience to get started. Just step off the boat and instantly feel the weight off your shoulders drift away. Let this fast ferry cut through the Gulf waters while you sit on the top deck and watch the water roll by with the wind whipping at your hair. Or head to the bar and start the rauscous storytelling even before you’ve hit Duval Street. Faster than driving, cheaper than flying, it’s simply the best way to travel to Key West. Sit back, relax and let Key West Express get you there, because that should be half the fun. 239-463-5733; www.KeyWestExpress.net.

BEST EXCUSE TO STAY ON CAPTIVA
South Seas Island Resort
South Seas Island Resort is more than a tropical retreat: Welcome to true Island Life. It’s 300 acres of natural beauty on Captiva Island for guests of all ages and interests: 2 1/2 miles of pure white sandy beaches providing perfect shelling, 20 sparkling swimming pools with waterslides, parasail rides, kayaks, standup paddleboards and banana boats. See sea turtles, ospreys, manatees and hawks from your personal craft or from a Captiva Cruises vessel while sipping cocktails. That’s just the beginning. There’s epic fishing, world-renown golf, tennis, arts programs, exercise and yoga experiences, amazing dining and entertainment and full-service spa services. For youngsters, there is a Discovery Center, environmental programs, kids’ night out and games of all kinds. All 471 accommodations feature private balconies or lanais, spacious bathrooms and breathtaking views. Just escape. 844-2ESCAPE; www.SouthSeas.com.

BEST PLACE TO REVITALIZE
Shangri-La Springs, Bonita Springs
Built in 1921, this legendary historic property in old downtown Bonita Springs is the hidden treasure of Southwest Florida. Nestled among a lush botanical garden, the Resort offers an organic restaurant that sources its food from the property’s certified organic gardens. They also have a prized organic full-service spa, offering natural, organic body treatments and a steam room, sauna and private courtyard they even have an extensive program line-up, offering yoga to crystal bowl meditations, weekly live music and several workshops. Local artists and artisans are featured in the charming boutique gift shop; Free Art and Nature nights offer extensive interactive multi-media experiences every second Wednesday of the month and the beautiful Great House gallery features new local artists for two months at a time. Sign up for the garden and history tours and learn about the spring on the property from which Bonita Springs gets its name or about the two rare giant Mysore fig trees that canopy the historic buildings among many other things. The unique, rich landscape that makes South- west Florida known as a paradise is exemplified on these grounds, where paradise is found. 239-949-0749; www.ShangriLaSprings.com

FLORIDA WEEKLY
7th Annual Lighthouse Ladies KDW Tournament

Saturday, June 17

Be part of one of the most exciting fishing tournaments around, while giving back to your community. The tournament benefits children’s programs of Lighthouse for the Blind of the Palm Beaches.

Don’t miss these great events (open to the public)!

Kickoff Party
May 17: 6-10 p.m. • Sponsored by Charley’s Crab, Palm Beach

Captains’ Party
June 15: 6-10 p.m. • Sponsored by The Beach House Island Bar and Tiki, Jupiter

Awards Dinner
June 17: 6-10 p.m. • Jupiter Community Center, Jupiter

To register or sponsor:
lighthouse@lighthouseofpb.org
or (561) 586-5600

Myakka River State Park

The Myakka River State Park east of Sarasota on SR 72 is laced together in 58 square miles of wetlands, prairies, hammocks and pinelands by the river itself, designated a Florida Wild and Scenic River. With two large lakes, carefully kept trails and camping sites ranging from rustic and remote to comfortable (five palm log cabins built during the Great Depression by the Civilian Conservation Corps have been modernized), visitors can boat, canoe and kayak, fish or explore on foot to see nearly every kind of wildlife that still exists in such terrain. And if on foot is no good, visitors can take the safari trams or airboats that get to the backcountry without sweating. Maintained by staff with a cadre of remarkable volunteers, the place is near perfect.

Marco Escapes

Living up to their claim of being Marco Island’s Leading Luxury Brand, Marco Escapes delivers with only the finest vacation home and condo accommodations on Marco Island and greater Naples area. With unparalleled decor, seclusion and privacy of their stunning line of luxury waterfront and Gulf side vacation properties, coupled with their unparalleled professionalism and stellar guest support, we recognize Marco Escapes an unforgettable setting for family vacations or a romantic rendezvous for two. 239-217-6300; www.MarcoEscapes.com.
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- Alzheimer’s & Parkinson’s Plan of Care
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- Hourly thru 24 Hour Care: CNAs, HHAs
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