Quick start

In eight weeks, Gov. Ron DeSantis has come out blazing on a variety of issues. So far, his actions and comments about water have garnered favor from environmentalists across the state.

BY ROGER WILLIAMS
rwilliams@floridaweekly.com

Given the persistent water problems we’ve seen over the last several years, now is the time to be bold.

— Gov. Ron DeSantis

County’s largest health funder looks forward to its next 20 years

BY MARY THURWACHTER
mthurwachter@floridaweekly.com

Since it was created in 1998 with a mission to improve the health of Palm Beach County residents, the Quantum Foundation has given $130 million in grants to nonprofit organizations.

The foundation was born after JFK Medical Center in Atlantis was sold to Columbia/HCA Healthcare Corp. in 1995. Proceeds of the sale went to the newly formed foundation.

The list of the charitable organization’s accomplishments is impressive. For example, it invested $500,000 to start the school nurse program — which eventually was taken over by the Health Care District of Palm Beach County — that provides medical care in 166 schools.

Other sizable grants have gone to Safety Net Clinics (93 grants totaling $14,041,861) to provide medical care to 32,274 people; Mental and Behavioral Health (42 grants to 30 agencies totaling $6,770,683) for prevention and early intervention programs; Health Insurance Navigation (43 grants to 36 agencies totaling $7,206,969); Basic Needs to Support Health (489 grants totaling $6,990,45) for food, housing, transportation and financial assistance.

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This week readers respond to the col-
umn, “Socialists ‘R’ Us, since 1933,” which
appears in the March 6, 2019 edition of Florida Weekly. The letters have not been
fact-checked. They’re abridged only for length.

From Jill Hegley:
Thank you!

From John Wineland:
A friend directed me to your Commen-
tory “Socialists R Us, since 1933,” and I
have a problem with your definition. Not
totally — but mostly —

“Socialism” means, I think, the pub-
lic ownership of means of production. Does it? If steel mills, oil wells, banks,
auto, trucks, etc. were “nationalized,”
do we have Socialist programs? Of
course! “Socialist ‘R’ Us, since 1933,” if for no
other reason then to refute the inaccurate
thoughts espoused in the article.

The responsibility of government includes building roads, picking up the
garbage, managing the army, police and
fire departments, running public schools,
etc. These are basic government opera-
tions that all governments will carry out
regardless of their ideological beliefs. They are not, as Roger Williams and Ber-
nie Sanders state, socialism.

The thought that if one does not like socialism one should return their Social
Security check since most people will get
more out of it than they put in I would
say that simply implies the program will
go broke. And to behold, the program
is going broke. Like many other govern-
ment programs it has grown so large to be
properly considered an albatross … Social
Security and Medicare eat up almost 40
percent of mandatory government spend-
ing. And mandatory spending makes up
over two-thirds of all federal government
spending. And the people who created this mess can’t fix it. Why? Because they
are too worried about getting reelected
and too busy trying to buy votes.

Denmark, Sweden and Norway (are
not) socialist nations. In none of those
countries does the government exert con-
trol or ownership of business. They all
do provide a government social welfare
safety net. But that is not socialism. It is
their successful capitalists economies that
has allowed them to raise taxes to support
their welfare states … Get the government
gone, thanks to socialism.

Roger, thanks for the commentary and
thank God we have capitalism to pay for
all those socialist programs.

From Kevin Jones:
Do we have Socialist programs? Of
course. Are we given a choice to not participate? Not at all. Your suggestion
to deny such programs is absurd and I
expect nothing less from someone in the
media. I would gladly not have ever paid
into Social Security and be allowed to
manage my own retirement but I can’t.
It’s not an option and by the time I get to
retirement age, it will most likely all be
gone, thanks to socialism.

You mention countries like Denmark, Norway and Sweden but conveniently
forget to tell everyone that the income tax in those countries is higher than 50
percent for everyone, not just the rich … Do we need fire and police? Of course! Any
more socialism than that will completely
destroy this country. Sadly, we are already
on our knees because of socialism, liberal-
ism and political correctness.

From James Dvorak:
So I’ll assume you don’t take Social
Security (which you contributed to from
the first day you earned a paycheck) OR
take advantage of Medicare (which, read
above you contributed to as stated above)
Both created by Republicans and seri-
ously abused by Democrats (“ahem” bor-
rowing from social security without ever paying back, Johnsons).

I travel America and see everywhere
how the CCC (Civilian Conservation
Corp) program created by Roosevelt
put a lot of men back to work (sending
a part of their paycheck home, required).

I see this across America and thank
God for those people of the 1930s as
they created a lot toward the national
parks and so much more.

Medicare for all? Pre-existing condi-
tions? Look it up — people who never
spent a dime on insurance now have a condition and now want health insur-
ance. After I paid into it for the last 50
years. I’m an independent and not a far right
or left idiot who stands firm regardless
of right or wrong —

Nuff said. Can talk forever on this
subject. ■
Mended Hearts Program – Cardiac Support Group
Monday, March 18 @ 10 - 11 a.m.
Palm Beach Gardens Outpatient Rehab Center
2503 Burns Road, Palm Beach Gardens

PBGMC is teaming up with The Mended Hearts Program to provide support for heart disease patients and their families. A small fee* will be collected by the Mended Hearts Program for registration.

Please call 855.387.5864 to make a reservation. Reservations are required.

*$5.00 per year will be collected solely by the local Mended Hearts Program to provide educational materials for members.

*$20.00 per year will be collected solely by the Mended Hearts Program if participants would like to become a national member.

Hands-Only CPR Class
Tuesday, March 19 @ 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Palm Beach Gardens Fire Rescue // Station 1
4425 Burns Road, Palm Beach Gardens

PBGMC has teamed up with PBG 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, CPR demonstration and go over Automated External Defibrillator (AED) use. Participants will have the opportunity to practice their new skills using CPR manikins. Certification will not be provided.

Please call 855.387.5864 to make a reservation. Reservations are required.

FREE Community Chair Yoga Class
Class taught by Sara Chambers, RN, BSN, CYT
Wednesday, March 20 @ 6 - 7 p.m.
Palm Beach Gardens Medical Center // Classroom 4

We now offer a chair yoga class for the community. 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, designed to help participants strengthen their muscles and work on their balance.

Please call 855.387.5864 to make a reservation. Reservations are required.

Take steps toward being heart healthy!
Visit PGBMC.com/pledge to enter to

RECEIVE A FREE COOKBOOK!

New Robotic Assisted Orthopedic Surgical System – NAVIO - ONLY
Hospital in Florida to Utilize
Lecture by Dr. Chadwick Hampton, MD orthopedic surgeon on the medical staff at PBGMC.
Thursday, March 21 @ 6 - 7 p.m.
Palm Beach Gardens Medical Center // Classroom 4
Palm Beach Gardens Medical Center is the ONLY hospital in Florida to now have the NAVIO robotic assisted orthopedic surgical system. Used to perform precise and accurate partial and total knee replacement surgeries, this new minimally-invasive surgery does not require a pre-operative CT scan and is designed to have less pain and swelling post operatively than traditional methods. Join Dr. Chadwick Hampton, Orthopedic Surgeon on the medical staff at PBGMC to learn more about the newest advancement in orthopedic care at our hospital.

Reservations are required. Please call 855.387.5864 to make a reservation. Light refreshments will be served.

Pulmonary Fibrosis – Better Breathers Club
Wednesday, March 27 @ 3 - 4 p.m.
Palm Beach Gardens Outpatient Rehab Center
2503 Burns Road, Palm Beach Gardens

Better Breathers Clubs are welcoming support groups for individuals with COPD, pulmonary fibrosis and lung cancer, and their caregivers.

Reservations are required. Please call 855.387.5864 to make a reservation.

Gardens GreenMarket Blood Pressure Screenings
Sunday, March 17, 24, 31 @ 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.
10500 N. Military Trail, Palm Beach Gardens

Osteoporosis Screenings
Thursday, March 21 @ 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Palm Beach Gardens Medical Center // Outpatient Entrance
OPINION

Reform school

Reform is inevitably a difficult process, and not just for the reformer. It’s particularly painful for the reformer, no matter how meritorious their cause. Who would admit opposing fundamental changes to a health care system in this country that is glaringly overpriced and significantly underperforming? Who would risk efforts to rescue the planet from boiling away?

As the reformers are learning, once they stop preaching to their own choir and face off against those who benefit and prosper from the current setups — like the insurance companies or the energy corporations — their adversaries will do anything to maintain things just the way they are.

The latest batch of reformers who have thunderted into Washington armed with what they believe to be these obvious needs for change are facing a harsh reality. They are learning that our political system is sullied by foul play that protects the interests of those who pay for things. These new “deep state” in this country is the status quo protectors and their bought-and-paid-for officeholders. Their propagandists churn out a steady diatribe of accusations that those seeking change are “radicals,” or even worse, “socialists” who would destroy the American way. Seriously.

That relentless theme is effective in modeling the world. The first lesson in our reform school is that special interests are not about to give up their advantages without a brutal fight. Chris Matthews has good reason to call his TV program about politics “Hardball.” The rattled agents of basic change are reduced to playing whiffle ball unless they are ready to descend into the mess and start wheeling and dealing.

The newbies can ostracize their more experienced natural allies for challenging the status quo all they want. The crusaders’ pithy threats to oppose fellow Democrats in the primaries will only pit off those fellow Democrats. The reformers still need the wherewithal of party members who have been around for a while if there can be any change whatsoever.

When these rookies decided to run for Congress, they were really choosing to play “coin the political establishment” game. The alternative is fighting for change from the outside. On the inside, they quickly find the game is ugly. For many, their brightness is rapidly reduced to a flicker. Light is called the “best antiseptic,” but our system of government is darkened by the history of double dealing. Lust, ambition and overall corrupt self-serving are the dominant motivations.

Never underestimate the desire of the rich and powerful to seek even more riches and power. The recent tax changes are a prime example, which even co-opted the word “refund” selling it as “tax reform” instead of what it really was: a way to shift more wealth to the wealthy.

The health insurance industry is swimming in money. The energy companies are swimming in money. It takes petty cash to drown the reformers by paying off the officeholders.

■

— Bob Franken is an Emmy Award-winning reporter who covered Washington for more than 20 years with CNN.

Don’t root for a Trump primary challenge

The race for 2020 is taking shape, although there are still significant unknowns, including whether Donald Trump will get a serious primary challenge.

His fiercest Republican critics say, “Yes — please, yes.” They are probably wrong, and it’s certainly nothing to root for.

One factor in the race begins with his lockdown support of the right, forcing any primary challenger to the left. This isn’t fertile territory. Self-identified moderates and liberals are only a fraction of the party, and it is grassroots conservative activists who have fueled the most potent Republican primary challenges (Ronald Reagan in 1980, Pat Buchanan in 1992).

Because a primary challenge would naturally come from the left and is unlikely to succeed, it will tend to attract people who don’t have a future in GOP national politics and lack conservative bona fides — the wayward former Massachusetts governor Bill Weld; the centrist governor of Maryland Larry Hogan; the former Ohio governor John Kasich, who convincingly demonstrated his lack of national electoral appeal in 2016. Trump is in a stronger position in the party now. He’s been a rock on judges, abortion and religious liberty. Last time, many Republicans told themselves, “Well, at least compared to Hillary, we don’t know what we’re getting with Trump.” Now, they are grateful for what they’ve gotten.

Could all of this change? It would require a torpedo to the bow from some enormous scandal and a significant ideological betrayal on something else, maybe the Mueller probe, which is currently divided. Trump’s fate is with the party’s.

If Trump becomes seriously vulnerable to a primary challenge, it’s a sign that something very bad has happened that won’t be constrained to him. Say it’s a proof of a criminal conspiracy with the Russians. Is the rest of the party that has defended Trump so vociferously in the Mueller probe going to emerge unscathed? Say it’s a sudden economic downturn. What’s the case that such an event wouldn’t tank the GOP generally?

Indeed, a winning primary campaign against Trump would almost certainly be a catastrophic success. How would the winner get the party back together again for the general election?

Perhaps the hardcore Trump base and media will enthusiastically back whoever slays their champion. But why would they? Besides the inevitable hurt feelings and ideological disagreements, they will surely consider recent precedent — Never Trump would be the analogue to Never Hogan.

There is obviously a character case to be made against Trump, although Republican voters are already aware of his flaws and strongly support him nonetheless.

The contradiction in the case for a primary challenge is this: If it’s a bad thing that Trump is potentially a weak general-election candidate, as Trump’s critics say, then why make him potentially weaker with a primary challenge? What many of Trump’s GOP detractors won’t say out loud is that when they talk of defeating Trump, they don’t mean only in a nomination battle; they mean seeing him lose in a general election.

That Republican voters would sense this, and use it to undeniably recall, is another reason a primary challenge is probably a box canyon.

— Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.
CROS Ministries launches mobile food pantry

CROS Ministries’ has launched its 8th food pantry serving Palm Beach and Martin counties, this time a mobile one. In 2018, CROS served meals to 71,444 individuals through seven food pantries, 35 percent of them children, a news release said. But local communities like central and western Palm Beach County remained underserved until the start of the mobile pantry, which allows the organization to serve those areas. The mobile pantry was made possible thanks to a $200,000 Neighborhood Builder grant from Bank of America, a one-time investment from Florida Power & Light Company through the Stiles-Nicholson Foundation.

Invitational presented by The GEO Club in Jupiter is hosting the 2019 Arc Invitational presented by The GEO Club in Jupiter is hosting the 2019 Arc Invitational presented by The GEO Club in Jupiter is hosting the 2019 Arc Invitational presented by The GEO Club in Jupiter is hosting the 2019 Arc Invitational presented by The GEO Club in Jupiter is hosting the 2019 Arc Invitational presented by The GEO Club in Jupiter is hosting the 2019 Arc Invitational presented by The GEO Club in Jupiter is hosting the 2019 Arc Invitational presented by The GEO Club in Jupiter is hosting the 2019 Arc

Junior Achievement honors seven for work with youth

Seven Junior Achievement champions were honored with a special night for their help in furthering the organization’s mission and reaching more local youth.

Junior Achievement of the Palm Beaches & Treasure Coast honored the seven during this year’s 74th annual Hall of Fame Gala, attended by 230, at the Kravis Center’s Cohen Pavilion.

Honored were:

■ JA Star Students of the Year — Jensen Beach High School National Honor Society
■ JA Volunteer of the Year — Omar Soto, Rybovich SuperYacht Marina
■ JA Corporate Partner of the Year — Joe Russo, Palm Beach Tech & 1909
■ JA Philanthropic Partner of the Year — Stiles-Nicholson Foundation.
■ JA Teacher of the Year — Zondell Morris, Palm Beach Lakes Community High School
■ JA School District Champion — Donald Fennoy II
■ JA Lifetime Achievement Award — Mary Ann DePont

The evening included a silent and live auction to support the organization in providing financial literacy, entrepreneurship and career readiness education to local K-12 students.

Junior Achievement used the night to also celebrate its centennial year, promote programming and introduce the newest program, 3DE by Junior Achievement, which begins next school year at Lake Worth High School, a news release said.

“A Call to Heart” portion of the evening, emceed by State Attorney David Aronberg, raised $50,000 to support local students. Digital Vibe, a JA BizTown partner, provided the evening’s music.

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Treat Neck Pain, Back Pain and Sciatica caused by:

Bulging/Herniated Discs - Degenerative Disc Disease Facet Syndrome - Failed Back Surgery

Without the use of drugs, injections or surgery!

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- 561.630.9598
- www.papachiropractic.com

We provide spinal decompression treatments!
Will see auto accident sufferers same day!

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We provide spinal decompression treatments!
Will see auto accident sufferers same day!
HEALTHY LIVING

Gardens Medical using CT-free robotic orthopedic surgery

Hospital is first in Florida to use the procedure

With no preoperative CT-scan required, NAVIO patients receive the benefits of robotic assistance without additional time spent for preoperative procedures. Instead, the surgeon collects anatomical data during the procedure to build a 3D model of the patient’s knee. This information helps the surgeon place the implant and balance the knee’s ligaments for optimal alignment and well-balanced knee.

For more information on this procedure, check out our March 21 lecture from 6 to 7 p.m. For more information go to our website at www.pbgmc.com/events.

Survey findings housing, the economy and poverty as pressing needs

A recent Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin counties survey found housing, economic development and poverty are three of the most pressing issues that need to be addressed.

The survey, known as the Community Impact Report, revealed residents remain hopeful, with three of four believing nonprofits and community organizations are the strongest agents of change and 99 percent planning to act about something they discussed during their conversation.

West Palm Beach is one of 10 cities supported by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation that replicated the replacement surgeries using the JOURNEY UNI knee.

This technology for partial and full knee replacements uses a CT-free intraoperative registration, planning and navigation platform to assist the surgeon in building patient-specific surgical plans.

NAVIO robotics assists the surgeon in preparing the knee with the precision of robotics in a freehand sculpting technique. This technology is going to give patients less pain and swelling postoperatively than traditional total joint replacement methods.

Some of the potential benefits for this type of surgery include:

- Does not require a preoperative CT-scan.
- Fewer doctor office visits to prep for surgery.
- Minimally invasive.
- Freehand sculpting intended to allow for better precision and accuracy.
- Designed to have less pain and swelling postoperatively, and can lead to faster recovery times.

The path to good health begins with primary care!

Whether you need:

- Treatment for acute or chronic illnesses
- Cardiovascular diseases
- Treatment for minor injuries
- Injury prevention
- Executive, sports and/or school physical exams
- Health screenings
- Preventive care
- Geriatric and elder care
- Diet and nutrition counseling
- Urgent same-day appointments

Jupiter Medical Specialists’ primary care physicians can put you on the path to a healthier life.

The three most important priorities to help drive change were identified as job/vocational training for youth, quality schools with quality teachers, and affordable, quality child care and preschool.

After reviewing the survey data, the foundation will share the results with government officials, community leaders and nonprofits to determine how to best advance some of the ideas and solutions generated during On the Table.

They were asked to complete a survey that probed into topics, ranging from housing and socio-economic issues, to healthcare, education, homelessness and job security.

More than 900 residents completed the surveys, which revealed these findings:

- To improve economic conditions, residents identified job training, skills development opportunities, number of good-paying jobs and increased wages as the most important priorities to help drive change.
- To improve health and social conditions, survey respondents called for access to quality affordable housing, access to core services for all and services to address homelessness.
Beaches attract visitors in record-setting numbers

The beaches have experienced record-breaking visitation numbers, according to Discover the Palm Beaches, the tourism marketing organization for Palm Beach County.

DTBP’s year-end hotel performance numbers show 8.05 million visitors came to beaches from January to December, which increased 1.7 percent over 2017 and marked 10 years in a row of visitation growth, officials said. The visitation generated a record-high $7.4 billion in economic impact to the area, supporting more than 70,000 jobs in the county.

International visitors increased by half a percent to 749,000, with notable growth from the UK (growing 9 percent to 39,000 visitors), Brazil (growing 3 percent to 29,000 visitors) and Colombia (growing 5 percent to 22,000 visitors). Domestic visitation grew 1.2 percent to nearly 4.5 million visitors from outside Florida. Visits originating within Florida grew 2.8 percent to 2.8 million visits, with Orlando showing the strongest growth with a 13 percent increase for the year.

“It’s clear tourism’s continued growth speaks volumes about Palm Beach County’s core strengths and traditions in the hospitality arena, but rest assured the best is yet to come. We’re thrilled to see 10 consecutive years of increasing visitation and thankful our community engagement with tourism partners and the resources provided by the county have helped us reach new heights,” said Jorge Pesquera, president and CEO for the agency.

Important drivers of 2018’s visitation growth include the expanding meetings and conventions market, a strengthened marketing plan and news exposure for the destination. In February, DTBP announced it launched new marketing and leisure sales representation in five international markets: Argentina, Canada, Colombia, Germany and Mexico—in addition to the company’s representation in Brazil and England—with the purpose of increasing visitation from these countries.

“We are building long-term economic strength for the future of Palm Beach County, and the continued growth in visitation shows that our collaborative tourism strategic efforts are working,” said Glenn Jergensen, executive director for the Palm Beach County Tourist Development Council. "The Palm Beaches are on an unprecedented trend of leisure, arts/culture, sports and meetings/convention tourism successes, and we’re aiming to become a year-round travel destination.”

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute will present a lecture by Jeremy Richman, a neuropharmacologist and CEO of the Avielle Foundation, on March 19 at 4 p.m. at its complex at Florida Atlantic University’s John D. MacArthur Campus at Jupiter.

“The Neuroscience of Being Human(?)” will examine recent brain research that can help people identify the signs and symptoms of someone troubled or in crisis, to responsibly advocate for those at risk of violence to themselves or to others, and foster healthy and compassionate individuals and communities, organizers said.

Mr. Richman’s daughter, Avielle, was killed in a shooting in her first-grade classroom at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., in 2012. In response, he and his wife started the foundation, which is committed to preventing violence and building compassion through brain health research, community engagement and education.

The lecture is part of “Brainy Days 2019,” a celebration of neuroscience in March sponsored by FAU’s Brain Institute and the Palm Heath Foundation. “Brainy Days” is a community outreach initiative to share the progress of research and help dispel the stigma associated with brain disorders.

Tickets are $25 for members and $35 for non-members. For more information, contact 561-799-8547 or visit www.fau.edu/osherjupiter.

The Highwaymen display their road art

Road art is on display in Palm Beach Gardens.

GardensArt, a rotating Art in Public Places program, is presenting “Along the Road,” original Florida landscapes by the Highwaymen. The exhibition of 25 paintings representing 11 artists is on display through April 11 at Palm Beach Gardens City Hall Lobby, 10500 N. Military Trail.

Exhibit hours are Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

For 60 years, Floridians have known these artists as the Highwaymen, a news release said. Selling their works of art along the road, the Highwaymen developed a rapid style of painting that captured a romantic vision of Florida.

A7

 florida weekly | week of march 14-20, 2019
and business (lower taxes, deregulate),
education (privatize), immigration (build
the wall, no sanctuary cities), health care
and abortion (no Affordable Care Act
or Medicaid plus) and the environment
deregulate, drill, frack).

Just one week before the election,
on Halloween, he had joined President
Trump at a noisy chest-thumping rally in
Fort Myers, where he was energetically
applauded and promoted by the presi-
dent — something that not only scared
the Democrats but may have pushed De-
Santis across the finish line in first place,
allowing him to defeat Democrat Andrew
Gillum by less than 1 percent of the vote.

For five previous years as a U.S. con-
gressman from Florida's 6th District near
Jacksonville and Daytona Beach, DeSantis
voted against nearly every proposed bill
aimed at protecting or regulating the use
of public land and water in the United
States. In most cases those votes against
environmental protection amounted to
votes for corporate interests in mining,
production or other uses.

But since Jan. 6, the day DeSantis was
sworn into office in Tallahassee, Demo-
crats and a rising tide of activists who
identify not with a party but with a single
issue — saving Florida's degraded water
systems and environment — have been
steadily and persistently taking on the
state — later he would begin replacing
the governing board of the St. Johns River
Water Management District — and he ap-
nounced he would push for billions in
water and Everglades restoration.

"Given the persistent water problems
we've seen over the last several years,
now is the time to be bold," he said.

So far, officials at U.S. Sugar Corp.,
which has vast holdings around Lake
Okeechobee — where water advocates
have long insisted water, not sugar cane,
should be stored, cleaned and released
toward to Florida Bay — did not re-

"He's had a wonderful honeymoon,"
Mr. March said on air the night of the
governor's speech. "He's pleased Democrats
with a number of moves, (with his) envi-
ronmental packaging, the pardoning of the
Groveland Four. He's appointed Demo-
crats (to some government positions), and
he's pleased his base by appointing some
very conservative justices to the (Florida)
Supreme Court.

Four young black men in Lake County,
one a minor, became known as the Grove-
land Four after being accused of raping
a young white woman in July 1949. Ulti-
mately they were either hunted down and
killed, shot and killed by a sheriff while
in custody, or in one case imprisoned for
almost 20 years then released, dying
the next year (1969). They never received a
fair trial, courts later concluded. Although
the terrible injustice had been locally and
regionally acknowledged in 2016, Gov.
DeSantis wasted no time in pardoning
them, posthumously.

But the honeymoon period, with its un-
expected bipartisan support for the gover-
nor, could be waning.

"It's going to be tough to find areas
beyond (water policy)," Mr. March said.
"He's strongly in favor of expanding the
state voucher program, and he's appoint-
ed justices to the court more likely to al-
low that. On school security, he wants to
arm teachers. These are things the Demo-
crats are not in favor of. State lawmakers
across the aisle are not seeing eye-to-eye
(on education, gun control or abortion,
which Gov. DeSantis has made a promi-
ent social issue)."

Gov. DeSantis became the first in the
state's modern history to enter office
without the energetic support of Big Sug-
arr. At 40, a graduate of Dunedin Public
High School, Yale University and Harvard
Law School and a former Naval officer
who served as a military lawyer, the gov-
ernor's popularity has risen from under
50 percent to more than 60 percent in the
polls, in just eight weeks.

Is he a contemporary political version
of Associate Justice Hugo Black, the lon-
gest serving member of the United States
Supreme Court (1937-1971) who came
from Alabama, had been a member of the
Ku Klux Klan in his youth, but became
known for his enduring legacy as a great
Civil Rights advocate through the midsec-
tion of the 20th century? Has he changed
political stripes?

This week Florida Weekly asked that
whimsical question, taking a look at Flor-
ida's new governor through the eyes of
environmentalists, politicians, professors,
longtime political commentators and oth-
ers with a stake in the future and a will-
 ingness to advocate or at least closely ob-
serve, now.
Our governor has proven he's serious. Now it's time for our Legislature to prove they're also up to the task. We'll probably hear a lot about septic tanks and plastic straws during this legislative session. But until we address the elephant in the room — BMAPs, which look at all sources of run-off pollution — I'm not sure much will change with our water quality."

— Jason Pim, small business owner and commodore of the CMCS sailing club

On the environmental issues alone, Lucy Morgan, a Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter for the St. Petersburg Times and the Tampa Bay Times who has known every Florida governor since the late 1960s, said she had "low expectations" for DeSantis, "given his past record on environmental issues and his close association with Donald Trump.”

Ms. Morgan’s view changed.

“I guess I should say that his initial actions on the environment offer hope for improving protections in Florida. I am particularly pleased to see someone — anyone — do something about the image caused by former Gov. Rick Scott. The moves DeSantis has made against the work of the South Florida Water Management District are a big part of what desperately needed to change.

But that doesn’t mean he’s an environmental hero, necessarily.

“I'm not sure I'd award him Hugo Black status, because we have yet to see how much backbone he has over time and (under) pressure from sugar lobbyists and others who would denigrate our environment to make more money,” said Ms. Morgan, who now writes occasional commentary for the Florida Phoenix.

“Ask me again in three years what I think.”

At a Golf Coast fundraising event for Captains for Clean Water earlier this month, 450 people gathered at the one-time winter homes of Thomas Edison and Henry Ford on the banks of the Caloosahatchee River, which was choked by dangerous blue-green algae through 2018.

Among them were Republican politicians of every stripe, from mayors and city council members to county commission- ers, state congressional leaders and U.S. Congressman Brian Mast, hailing from Florida's 18th congressional district, which stretches from Jupiter and Port St. Lucie on the Indian River Lagoon west to Lake Okeechobee.

Congressman Mast rallied the crowd, in- viting everyone to be “the captains” or leaders in the bipartisan fight for clean water.

“Florida probably won't have another opportunity like this for at least the next decade,” he later told Florida Weekly.

Right now three crucial events are occurring simultaneously, he said: “The Army Corps of Engineers is (working) to write the Lake Okeechobee System Operating Manual that is the most important document when it comes to toxic discharges; Gov. DeSantis is leading the charge at the state level with a bold vision to fix our water quality; and I'm leading the charge at the federal level to get infrastructure projects built, making public health a priority for the Army Corps and stopping the pollution at the source.

“...we must continue advocating for zero discharges to the St. Lucie and everglades dry season flows to the Caloosahatchee that it needs to be healthy — not a drop more.

Together, because we have can make historic progress to protect public health and our environment. But we absolutely need to work together for Gov. DeSantis, clean water and a thriving environment mean money and man-made marvels.

It’s all great so far. I thought he was going to be an utter failure, but he’s shown some courage standing up to everything one would expect of a Republican.

“I used to work with Republicans and Democrats all the time. Things have gotten so far out of balance it’s really refreshing to see someone buck the status quo.

And everybody loves clean water. "I think he can do some, maybe not all of what he proposes. He’s on the right track. He’s showing leadership — showing that you can have an opinion that meets everyone’s hopes.

“Don’t get me started on (former Gov. Rick) Scott. I don’t think he served Florida very well. There was a reason they called him ‘red-tide Rick.’ He didn’t like the Everglades. He came down here and smelled it and went back to Tallahassee and nothing got done.”


“Getting a reservoir built south of Lake Okeechobee, significantly increasing funding going to restoration, and better managing water resources throughout the state, so we have a sustainable environment — that's what we have to do.

I don't see water as a Democrat or Republican issue. Our last governor was not good on water issues, but Gov. DeSantis has made it his priority. It's a wake-up call to all Republicans and Democrats in Tallahassee.

This is a partnership. The federal government is going to fund projects they believe in and see will make a difference. They want to see leadership on the state's part, and I think Congressman (Brian) Mast has had some frustrations — how special interests have meddled in the formation of our water policy.

'As a funder, you're not going to be that passionate about funding if you think special interests have been in there. There are so many other projects in this country that need of special funds. ‘But Congressman (Francis) Rooney and Congressman Mast (sound) very supportive of the governor's initiative, recognizing it will be an uphill battle.

SEE DESANTIS, A10 ➤
They’re the two members of Congress most affected by this problem. They can take the message to Washington.”

**Paul Owens, president, 1000 Friends of Florida:**

“I can’t help but have a positive reaction to environmental protection returning to its rightful place as a bipartisan priority in Florida.

“Changing the boards of water management districts: It’s important to have people in place who share your commitment. That’s the significance of the new appointments.

“For the last eight years the water management districts have not shown a lot of initiative on water quality issues, particularly as we reached a crisis in 2018. So, $2.5 billion over four years is $625 million per year, which is exactly what he’s proposed in his budget. And the executive order coming two days after his inauguration had enormous symbolic value.

“But all a governor can do is make a proposal. It’s up to the Legislature to follow through. I think he’s going to get some pushback from (the) Legislature … so it will require a lot of follow through from the governor.”

“We laid out six issues to tackle Florida’s environmental challenges in an August report, and three of them were water: safeguarding the supply, promoting conservation of water and restoring water quality. We talked about sufficient funding, appointing effective leaders (and) a commitment to enforcing laws already established.

“The others include conserving natural lands (by) taking environmentally fragile land off the table so development is directed elsewhere; water quality — and it would be nice to hear more from the governor and legislative leaders about this.

“And the sixth priority: addressing climate change and community resilience — We are ground zero for climate change here in Florida. We really need to incorporate that into our planning for the future. The governor has talked about sea level rise and community resilience, but those principles aren’t mentioned in his executive order, and there is no explicit mention of climate change.”

**Peter Bergerson, professor of political science, Florida Gulf Coast University:**

“Gov. DeSantis wants to hold the conservative base as closely as he can. That base is conservative base often centers around social issues like abortion, a free market less regulated, a very cautious approach to education.

“He is now opposed to the core curriculum. Those three issues appeal to part of the conservative base.

“What everyone is talking about is his issue on water and the environment — that’s the headline he wants. And he doesn’t want the focus to be on the other issues appealing to a conservative rural base. So he wants to expand the base but hold on to the Tea Party voters.

“What role will Trump play? That’s hard to say. (DeSantis) more than tipped his hat to Trump during the primary, he hugged him like a twin brother. I don’t see him playing publicly a close role to Trump. But when Trump unveils his infrastructure plan, Republican governors will want a piece of that pie. Some of the major projects are going to require federal funding. If the majority leader in Florida wants highways in rural areas, or repairs northwest Florida … that’s going to need federal funding. The Everglades will need federal funding.

“So, I’d be surprised if he gave to Trump the bear hug Gov. Charlie Crist once gave to (President) Obama. Because Trump’s popularity is 50-50 at best in Florida. (DeSantis) doesn’t want to deal in the independent voter. That voter will determine his future success as well as Trump’s, so far sure Gov. DeSantis will not be playing with his children again and building a Lego wall.”

**Rob Mohes, president and CEO, Conservancy of Southwest Florida:**

“I’d give him an A for his first eight weeks — he’s toured the state and objectively assessed risks to human health and the environment, and the anger, frustration and angst of every Floridian.

“I believe there’s a genuineness to his commitment. A, he acknowledged a problem; B, he’s interested in results; and C, he’s prepared to look at science, not just certain advisors who might be less objective.

“The water is a unifier issue — it hurts everyone. We need to look at all sources of run-off pollution — agricultural, urban, industrial. We need to look at all the tools — BMAPs (Basin Management Action Plans) and TMDLs (Total Maximum Daily Loads) are intimidating numbers, but all of us in Florida should start to learn more about them. They’re the ways we measure storm runoff into our waterways and manage nutrient pollution — the fuel for harmful algal blooms.

“In short, Florida’s Basin Management Action Plan program is simply not working — if Florida can’t start enforcing better pollution regulations and manage growth responsibly, none of the great people the governor has appointed to the water management boards and new task forces are going to have much of a shot at improving the situation.

“Our governor has proven he’s serious. Now it’s time for our Legislature to prove they’re also up to the task. We’ll probably hear a lot about septic tanks and plastic straws during this legislative session. But until we address the elephant in the room — BMAPs, which look at all sources of run-off pollution — I’m not sure much will change with our water quality.”
Florida Weekly welcomes submissions for the Society pages from charity galas and fundraising events, club meetings and other to-dos around town.

We need 300-dpi photographs of groups of two or more people, facing the camera and identified by first and last names. Questions? Email society@floridaweekly.com.

North Palm Beach Public Library annual meeting

1. D.C. Gossman and Eve Gossman
2. Marilyn Young, Maire Pantani and Vera Armstrong
3. Mary Phillips and Patty Sullivan
4. Muriel Seidman, Irving Seidman and Maire Pantani
5. Randy Woods, Terry Graham and Skip Sullivan
6. Cathy Graham, Zak Sherman and Patty Sullivan
7. Shawn Woods and Randy Woods
8. Skip Sullivan and Zak Sherman
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Society Page Gallery

1. Adriana Guimaraes and Brian Pink
2. Bob Hall, Chris Nolan and Brian Hurley
3. Carolina Gonzalez and Jason Damm
4. Jackie Copan and Paul Copan
5. Karen Israel and Steve Israel
6. Niki Gottesman, Maurice Amiel and Liz Perry
7. Kim Vallon and Cecile Katz
8. Stephen Raid and Elizabeth Raid
9. Lisa Swinson and Katherine Hammaerman
10. Nancy Bolton, Jeff Bolton and Maurice Amiel
11. William Valle and Jennifer Rodriguez
12. Rachel DeAngelo and John DeAngelo

Photo Credit: Juli Briskman
From pioneering Palm Beach County’s very first open-heart surgery program to bringing some of the latest cardiac treatment options to our community, Palm Beach Gardens Medical Center continues our mission to be the hospital you trust with all of your heart.

Call 877.346.1842 or visit pbgmc.com/events to sign up for a FREE heart screening.

A Community Built on Heart.

Florida Weekly welcomes submissions for the Society pages from charity galas and fundraising events, club meetings and other to-dos around town. We need 300-dpi photographs of groups of two or more people, facing the camera and identified by first and last names. Questions? Email society@floridaweekly.com.
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PET TALES
When less is more
Smaller incisions, less pain
among the benefits

BY KIM CAMPBELL THORNTON
Andrews McMeel Syndication

When Rebecca Barocas went to the veterinary clinic to pick up Anja, the 18-month-old German shepherd she had recently adopted, it was hard to tell that the 50-pound dog had just undergone spay surgery. Anja was bouncing around and then bounded into the truck before Barocas could lift her in. Barocas attributes Anja’s high spirits after what is typically an abdominal surgery to the minimally invasive laparoscopic procedure she had sought out for the dog.

Those of us who’ve had gallbladders removed, hips replaced or other surgery performed using minimally invasive techniques know the benefits: less pain and quicker recovery time. Pets needing surgery can experience the same advantages, including less time spent under anesthesia and a shorter period of hospitalization. If your pet needs joint repair, bladder stone removal, gastropexy (“tacking” the stomach to prevent bloat), fracture repair, liver or kidney biopsy or other surgery, it’s worth asking your veterinarian whether a minimally invasive procedure is available and appropriate.

Pets first benefited from minimally invasive techniques in the 1970s. The procedures allow for better visualization, magnification and lighting, as well as smaller surgical incisions. But are these types of procedures minimally invasive to your wallet? Not necessarily. I discovered this about six years ago when I was looking into laparoscopic spay surgery for Harper, my cavalry King Charles spaniel, who was 5 years old at the time. A traditional ovariohysterectomy was about $700, while a “lap spay” was about $2,200. A more recent price check brought quotes ranging from $1,100 to $4,000.

“Unfortunately, it does not always mean lower cost for the owner because there’s a significant increase in the amount of equipment that gets used in these, but we do see benefits to the patient,” says Kevin Winkler, DVM, a veterinary surgeon who practices at Blue Pearl Specialty and Emergency Hospital in Sandy Springs, Georgia.

But for owners with pet health insurance or who can afford to pay for the procedures without financial strain, minimally invasive surgery can be a good decision. A Great Dane undergoing gastropexy, for instance, can have a 2-inch incision instead of a 12-inch incision that requires opening up the dog completely on the belly. Dr. Winkler says, “That dramatically speeds recovery, allows these guys to get back to normal much faster and decreases some of the risk associated with the large incision.”

Advanced scoping procedures have also allowed orthopedic surgeons to repair certain types of fractures and dislocations through much smaller incisions. The procedures allow for better and more rapid bone healing in dogs with significant trauma.

“This is why we do have a smaller incision from a wound standpoint, but we’re disrupting significantly less tissue that may be traumatized from the original injury,” Dr. Winkler says. “One of the areas where we have had wonderful success with minimally invasive surgery is in sacroiliac dislocations or luxations. We now have patients who are walking on these legs in 24 to 48 hours versus two weeks, so it’s been a wonderful advancement for the dogs.”

As with any surgery, not every dog, cat or other animal is necessarily a good candidate for a minimally invasive procedure. Veterinarians will look at the animal’s overall health to make a decision about the risk of anesthesia for any procedure. Other factors: Not every veterinarian has the training or necessary equipment to perform them.

But for pet owners who have seen the results in themselves, their friends or relatives or their pets, there’s no going back. “I would definitely do it again,” Barocas says. “For me, it’s the gold standard.”

Laparoscopic procedures may help dogs and cats recover more quickly from surgery.
QUANTUM

From page 1

assistance.

The foundation gave $700,000 to the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine at Florida Atlantic University to develop community-based curriculum and programming to help build the healthcare workforce in Palm Beach County, as well as provide care to those in need. Twenty-four grants totaling $3,363,963 went to support nurses for education, support and to sustain quality nurses in the county.

The South Florida Science Center, collected 11 gifts totaling $3,059,149 to pay for popular exhibitions such as “A Journey Through the Human Brain” and “Science on a Sphere.”

Those gifts were transformative, says Kate Arrizza, CEO of the South Florida Science Center and Aquarium.

“Our ‘Breakthrough Project’ funding from Quantum has truly transformed the Science Center,” said Ms. Arrizza. “As our foundation president. “While we started with a basic directive to provide Palm Beach County residents with access to health services, we grew and adopted companion strategies to help address important mental and behavioral health needs. In 2021, we launched Quantum in the Community as a way to develop whole-health initiatives and recognize the social determinants of health — which we now know are really where health happens in a community. Members of the original board, like Mr. Meyer, had been members of the JFK Hospital board of trustees who were not employees.

Mr. Meyer — who has degrees from the Wharton School, London School of Economics, Georgetown University Law School and Harvard Business School — is an expert on investing and philanthropy. His chairman of Meyer Jabara Hotels, whose portfolio includes 27 hotels in 11 states.

In Palm Beach County, Mr. Meyer has developed many real estate projects that include Interstate Plaza, a 76,000 square foot office building in Boca Raton; 160 Belvedere, a 300,000-square-foot office building and Embassy Suites hotel in West Palm Beach; The Dunes of Ocean Ridge, an oceanfront condominium; Jupiter Square, a shopping center; the Marriott Residence Inn in downtown West Palm Beach; and Devonshire at JNA National, a senior life care community.

His volunteer work includes serving as chairman of the Kravis Center, where he currently heads the operations committee. For 20 years, he was a member of the national board of the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County and is chairman of the Jewish Community Foundation.

He was the first philanthropist-investor in the Palm Beach Philanthropy Tank and a founder of Temple Judea in Palm Beach Gardens. Mr. Meyer also was past chairman of The Quantum Foundation, the 20th largest charitable foundation in Florida.

“Our early efforts to fund and now sustain many of our local community health centers and to help patients navigate insurance and secure access to quality health care are continuing to pay off,” he said. “Now we are expanding the foundation’s focus to include mental health — from assisting programs like the Anti-Defamation League’s ‘No Place for Hate’ program-in schools to working with the Center for Childhood Counseling to call attention to ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences), to our funding of the Science Center’s new brain exhibit — we can’t ignore the headlong focus on mental health.

ACEs are important now more than ever, Mr. Meyer said, especially in light of headlines focused on mental health.”

“But the foundation hasn’t been asking anyone for pledges. “We don’t raise a penny of money from outside sources,” said founding board member William “Bill” Meyer. “We started with $10 million and we have spent $10 million in Palm Beach County over the last 20 years and we now have $150 million in the bank. It’s really been our ability to prudently invest the funds we had and earn a yield higher than the $5.5 million we were spending every year.” As it enters its third decade, the foundation looks forward to many more years of grantmaking. “Our focus has evolved,” said Eric Kelly, foundation president.

“After we started with a basic directive to provide Palm Beach County residents with access to health services, we grew and adopted companion strategies to help address important mental and behavioral health needs. In 2021, we launched Quantum in the Community as a way to develop whole-health initiatives and recognize the social determinants of health — which we now know are really where health happens in a community.

Jupiter Medical Center has consistently ranked the highest among hospitals in Palm Beach County and throughout the Treasure Coast — indeed we are the anchor the dollars from Quantum allowed us to work with children by moving away from a reactive approach to focusing on preventative measures. One area the funder has stepped back from is drug prevention and treatment.

“Early on we made a number of grants relating to drugs,” Mr. Meyer said. “We found that after we analyzed the impact that our grants were making, that we were not having any kind of significant impact on the negative trends of drug use.

We basically backed away based upon the lack of success of our early grants in that area. It was decided to measure success when it comes to drugs.”

A misconception

Despite all the successes the foundation can measure and all the folks it has helped since it began, many still have a misconception about what it is.

“It’s interesting that most people think that the Quantum Foundation exists to raise money for Quantum House (www.quantumhouse.org).” Mr. Meyer said, “But they don’t realize that we made the initial gift that created the Quantum House (a caring home that lessens the burden for families whose children are receiving treatment in Palm Beach County for a serious mental condition). And because we were the lead gift, they made the decision that they would name their first building The Quantum House and that became the name of the organization.

“And so, in an unusual turn of events the organization that we funded is better known than the organization that did the funding,” he said. “It’s an unusual situation to have someone who think of the Quantum Foundation think we exist as their foundation, rather than the broad level of gifts we made throughout the county.”

For information, call 561-832-3497 or visit www.quantumfnd.org.

Jupiter Medical Center

Jupiter Medical Center First in Region to Earn Five Stars

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Awards Jupiter Medical Center the Only Five-Star Rating in Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie and Indian River Counties

Jupiter Medical Center has received a five-star rating for quality of care—the highest ranking awarded by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid services (CMS). CMS is a federal agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that administers the Medicare program and works with state governments to administer Medicaid and other services. Jupiter Medical Center is the first and only hospital in Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie and Indian River counties to receive the five-star ranking, which places the hospital in the top 10 percent nationally.

CMS uses summary star ratings—one to five stars, with five being the best—on its Hospital Compare website to help patients and families evaluate health care options in a given geographic region. The Hospital Compare overall hospital rating summarizes more than 600 measures into a single star rating for each hospital. Jupiter Medical Center has consistently ranked the highest among hospitals in Palm Beach County and throughout the Treasure Coast.

“The five-star rating comes on the heels of Jupiter Medical Center earning an “A” for patient safety from The Leapfrog Group, a national organization focused on health care quality and safety. In addition, Leapfrog reviewed all of the “A” providers to single out the country’s highest quality hospitals. Jupiter Medical Center is one of only 118 facilities across the nation to be named a Top Hospital by The Leapfrog Group. Just six percent of eligible hospitals in the U.S. hold this elite designation.

“This is an extraordinary achievement for Jupiter Medical Center,” said Don McKenna, president and chief executive officer. “Few hospitals across the nation have been able to earn a five-star rating and we stand as first in our region. This would not be possible without the unified and collective commitment of our board of trustees, medical staff, all 1,700 team members and more than 600 volunteers.”

For more information on Jupiter Medical Center, please call (561) 263-2200 or visit www.jupitermed.com.
Cryptocurrencies remain risky investment

Jimmy Patronis, Florida’s chief financial officer, has launched a new consumer protection website to protect citizens against cryptocurrency scams. While these electronic currencies are no longer making headline news like they were last year, many investors and consumers are still buying and using the mysterious money forms.

Cryptocurrencies are simply a form of money that exists electronically. They are not created by any government but instead are created and stored on decentralized peer-to-peer networks. Cryptocurrencies are part of a blockchain where records of ownership and transactions are stored and linked together where they are public. They cannot be modified or tampered with. The value of these electronic moneys is based on supply and demand factors and constantly move like a stock or bond. Cryptocurrencies are bought and sold on electronic exchanges or, in limited circumstances, can be used to purchase physical goods and services.

The most popular cryptocurrency is Bitcoin which makes up about half of the total cryptocurrency market by value. When Bitcoin was created in 2009, it was valued at just a few pennies a coin. In 2017, as mainstream media started to cover Bitcoin, the currency rose in value exponentially until it reached almost $20,000 per coin by the following year. Recently, Bitcoin has fallen in value as most businesses still do not accept Bitcoin and investing in Bitcoin has been problematic. Today Bitcoin trades at around $3,800 per coin. Most other cryptocurrencies have fallen in tandem with Bitcoin. However, that has not stopped other cryptocurrencies from forming. In fact, there are now over 2,000 different electronic currencies that are traded. This is one of the reasons I do not recommend investing in cryptocurrencies — it is difficult to predict which one will be successful and which will fail.

Today, the “hot” currency is Binance Coin. Binance is actually the largest Bitcoin exchange and recently the company launched its own cryptocurrency. This year alone, the coin has risen over 120 percent in value. Many analysts attribute this rise more to the success

“You have to engage customers in a forever transaction, and that requires a whole different mindset from what most companies are used to.”

— Robbie Kellman Baxter, author of “The Membership Economy: Find Your Superusers, Master the Forever Transaction, and Build Recurring Revenue.”

SEE INVEST, A18

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

MORE AND MORE COMPANIES ARE looking to move to a subscription-based business model. No wonder: Offering membership to your customers has many benefits. You’ll enjoy predictable revenue, enviable cash flow and the kinds of customer interactions that foster long-term relationships and loyalty.

SEE SUCCESS, A18

As businesses move to subscription-based models, customer satisfaction is crucial.

SUBSCRIBE FOR SUCCESS

MONEY & INVESTING

CRYPTOCURRENCIES REMAIN RISKY INVESTMENT
SUCCESS
From page 17

But it’ll be tough to make the transition and stay successful in the long run if you don’t consider what Robbie Kellman Baxter calls “customer success.”

“You have to engage customers in a forever transaction, and that requires a whole different mindset from what most companies are used to,” says Ms. Baxter, the author of “The Membership Economy: Find Your Superusers, Master the Forever Transaction, and Build Recurring Revenue.” She’s also the creator of a LinkedIn Learning class called “Sales: Customer Success.”

“You must stay constantly connected to the customer, deliver very personalized service and earn their trust,” she says. “This is what today’s customers want.”

And it won’t happen on its own, she cautions. “You have to go very intentionally at it.”

Ms. Baxter says many companies are finding that establishing a customer success function is the answer.

Customer success is a functional area that first became popular among B2B software companies and that today is being embraced by all kinds of subscription-based businesses. They realize that once they lose a subscriber, it’s very hard to win them back — so it’s better to make sure subscribers don’t leave in the first place.

Here are a few reasons the author calls this function as a must-have for any organization seeking to move to a subscription-based model:

Customer success goes far beyond customer service — Customer service is a cost center with the goal of resolving complaints as quickly as possible. It’s reactive, as reps wait for calls and then respond.

In contrast, customer success is proactive and can be a profit center. From the moment of the initial transaction, customer success managers are reaching out to customers to ensure that they are getting the most value from the products and services they are already paying for.

“Customer success specialists can be the subscriber’s BFFs — insiders who engage them and help them get the very most out of their product,” Ms. Baxter says “They are problem solvers and connectors. They’re a little bit account management, a little bit support and a little bit consultant.

“They do whatever it takes to make their customers happy. And they work best when they’re not hamstrung by bureaucracy.”

Customer success prevents churn — It does this by helping members see the full value of your products and services right away. If a service is hard to use — say, a sporting events streaming service — the customer success specialist helps new members get set up, find the games they want, suggests others they might be interested in, etc. In other words, customer success gets customers engaged and helps them make your product a habit in the days, weeks and months after they sign up.

“Customer success also keeps customers engaged by periodically checking in to make sure they are using the service.” Ms. Baxter says. “Engagement is the No. 1 predictor of retention. If you’re not going to the gym, or playing games, or downloading movies, or whatever, you’re probably thinking about canceling your membership. The customer success manager tracks engagement, notices when something’s not right and fixes it before the member cancels.”

Customer success wins loyalty through engagement — A customer success manager is ultimately judged on customer engagement, which is a leading indicator of retention, which leads to revenue and profitability. Additional metrics beyond engagement and retention might include net promoter score (a customer’s likelihood to make a referral), actual referrals made and willingness to serve as a reference. All of these metrics tie to lifetime customer value.

Customer success fosters trust — “If your mom or a friend called you to ask for help, you’d go out of your way to do what you could for them,” Ms. Baxter says. “You’d use your smarts to find the answer to their problem, even if it wasn’t in your manual. You’d be honest about whether they should or shouldn’t upgrade. You’d share insider tips and tricks to get the most out of the services they’re paying for. That’s what customer success people do every day. It’s a powerful thing, and it’s easy to see how it builds trust.”

Customer success is one of the fastest growing and most exciting careers available today.

“Customer success teams are popping up everywhere these days,” she notes. Businesses that depend on long-term engagement to maximize lifetime customer value, such as retail and consumer subscriptions, are adding customer success managers to their teams “at lightning speed,” she says, adding a few unlikely brands with thriving customer success functions include Zipcar, Dun & Bradstreet and Visa.

Ms. Baxter says any company looking to upend itself as drastically as it must in order to move to a subscription model would be foolish not to at least consider a customer success function.

“It’s right there in the name,” she says. “You’re helping your customers succeed, not just at the outset but throughout the life cycle of your relationship. When you do that, they’ll buy from you, too, which means sticking with your brand for the long haul.”

INVEST
From page 17

of the exchange than the belief that the coin will become a future success. Going forward, the success of the overall cryptocurrency market will depend on three main factors. The first is the currency’s acceptance by traditional retailers. Recently, Starbucks made news when it was reported that it would be accepting cryptocurrencies in its stores via a partnership with a cryptocurrency exchange, Bakkt. Later, it was revealed that this was not quite true; instead the Bakkt exchange would simply be in a position to convert currency like Bitcoin to U.S. dollars which could then be spent to buy a cup of coffee. Until businesses directly accept cryptocurrencies in exchange for goods, these forms of payment will never fully take off.

The second factor which will influence the success of cryptocurrencies is treatment of these moneys by banking and investment regulatory agencies. Up until this point, government authorities have been slow and hesitant to approve the trading of cryptocurrencies on traditional exchanges or the formation of funds to track these electronic moneys. Without the ability to be treated like a traditional investment, mainstream investors will be hesitant to commit sizeable amounts of money to investing in cryptocurrencies.

Finally, fraud and theft remain a serious problem for buyers of cryptocurrencies. Owners of these coins have lost millions of dollars as the result of hacks, thieves and fraudulent exchanges. Once the coins are stolen, they almost never can be recovered, which makes them an appealing target. This issue must be addressed before cryptocurrencies can earn the trust of the overall public. Until these three problems are solved, Bitcoin and other currencies will continue to lose value and be an unsuitable investment for all but the most speculative of investors.
Leasing a new vehicle is very different from buying. When you sign a 36-month or 48-month lease, you oblige yourself for 36 or 48 monthly pay- ments, even if you can no longer drive. You're also responsible for maintaining insurance on the leased vehicle, even if it's not being driven. You may become incapacitated or your driver's license can be revoked. If you die, your estate is obligated for the remaining payments.

It's possible to have your lease assigned to another person, but this must be approved by the leasing company. There are companies that, for a fee, specialize in finding people to assume lease payments, but these people must have the approval of the leasing company.

You may have noticed that most new car advertising is for leasing, not buying. This is because car dealers average a much higher profit from a leased car than a purchased car.

"You may have noticed that most new car advertising is for leasing, not buying. This is because car dealers average a much higher profit from a leased car than a purchased car."

— Earl Stewart

www.earl@estoyota.com

It's been seven years since Ford sold a Ranger in the U.S. We've all grown up a little since then, including this truck. The new 2019 Ford Ranger wants to retain that simple rugged appeal that once made it the go-to choice for everyone from small business owners to young first-time truck buyers. But its absence from the market might also be because it was away at finishing school.

For all the above reasons, the car dealer, manufacturer and car sales- man more of an upper hand. There's an old joke that goes like this: "If you sit down at a poker table, look at all the other players, and can't figure out who the sucker is, it's probably you." Always be extra careful when you're playing somebody else's game.

Ford's Ranger is back to being the truck you remember

BEHIND THE WHEEL

Ford's Ranger is back to being the truck you remember

It's rated at 270 hp and 310 lb-ft of torque for this truck, and it delivers a peppy feel in the city while also providing the ability for extra grunt when it's time to pull some stumps in the country. With the optional tow package, the Ranger is rated for up to 7,500 pounds — that's as much as some F-150s.

The base Ranger starts at $25,495, and that's comparable with most similarly equipped midsize trucks. There are three trim levels, all of which have four-wheel drive available for $4,848. Not many people will check all the option boxes on the Ranger, but the few who do would have a $48,000 pickup.

This is the new grown-up Ranger. It's got more power, more features and more space. But it's still ready for some adolescent hijinks if you are, too.
This is a magnificent Palm Beach direct oceanfront estate with a sprawling 242 feet of beach frontage.
Built by Hugh Davis in a French Normandy style, this one-of-a-kind custom estate includes five bedrooms, seven full and nine half-bathrooms, along with two fully appointed guest apartments and 8 car garage.
The home offers 35,000 sq. feet of indoor and outdoor living space with ocean views from almost every room due to its perfectly thought-out floor plan. It’s an entertainer’s dream, complete with library, home theater, wine room, fitness center, barber shop, and so much more.
Breathtaking backyard with outdoor loggia, summer kitchen, infinity pool and spa overlooking the tranquil beaches of the North End.

Price: $59,900,000
Agent contact info:
Ashley McIntosh, 561-685-0861
or Ashley.McIntosh@elliman.com
Gary Pohrer, 561-262-0856
Gary.Pohrer@elliman.com
Vince Spadea, 561-655-8600
or Vince.Spadea@elliman.com
Most real estate firms optimistic; technology continues to challenge

The evolving technological landscape, competition from nontraditional market participants and housing affordability continue to be among the biggest challenges facing real estate firms in the next two years, according to a report by the National Association of Realtors. NAR’s 2019 Profile of Real Estate Firms found that commercial real estate firms were more likely than residential firms to cite local or regional economic conditions as the biggest challenges, while residential firms were more likely to mention competition from nontraditional market participants and virtual firms.

The survey found a majority of firms have an optimistic outlook for the industry’s growth. Though expectations have slightly decreased from last year’s survey, firms remain confident and expect profits from real estate activities to increase or stay the same over the next year.

“Real estate firms continue to look optimistically toward the future, with a majority expecting profits to increase in the next two years. These trends are positive signs, particularly in our constantly evolving industry,” said NAR President John Smaby, a second-generation REALTOR from Edina, Minn., and broker at Edina Realty.

The report is based on a survey of firm executives who are members of NAR and provides insight into firm activity, the scope of benefits and education provided to agents and future market outlooks.

The report shows that almost 60 percent of firms expected profitability (net income) from all real estate activities to increase in the next year. Forty-four percent of firms expected competition from virtual firms to increase in the next year and 45 percent expected the same from nontraditional market participants.

“It is clear that the real estate industry is rapidly changing, and with that comes growing competition in the market,” said NAR CEO Bob Goldberg. “NAR continues to stay ahead of the evolving trends in technology as we work with market disruptors to best serve our members and ensure they have the resources needed to be successful.”

Firms also predicted the effects of different generations of homebuyers would have on the industry. Fifty-eight percent of firms were concerned with Millennials’ ability to buy a home while 46 percent experienced similar heartburn with Millennials’ view of homeownership.

Firms typically had 30 percent of their sales volume from past client referrals and 30 percent from repeat business from past clients. Fifty percent of senior management received errors and omissions/liability insurance at 40 percent. Thirty-five percent of senior management received errors and omissions/liability insurance, 15 percent vacation/sick days, and 10 percent received health insurance.

The National Association of Realtors is America’s largest trade association, representing more than 1.3 million members involved in all aspects of the residential and commercial real estate industries.
Florida Weekly welcomes submissions for the Networking photo pages from business events, grand openings, professional association meetings, etc. We need 300-dpi photographs of groups of two or more people, facing the camera and identified by first and last names. Questions? Email society@floridaweekly.com.

1. Alicia Tracy, Laura Copeland and Ellen Santita
2. Dorett Miller, Charles Cohen, Ann Marie Sarrel and Rick Gonzales
3. Mark Foley and Keith James
4. Dave Douglas, Deb Strange, Cindy Sexton and Jerry Satoles
5. Ray Dorsey, Karen Carr and Robert Bonds
6. Casey Wray, Judy Green and Rachael Sausner
7. Keith Spina, Dennis Grady, Sarah Alexhorn and Peter Cruise
8. Peter Cruise, Julia Murphy and Alex Polynar
9. Andre Varona and Kirsten Stevens
10. Shannon Foster and William Cummings
11. Matt Forrest, Mark Marciano and Gregg Weiss

Michele Jacobs and Jason Emmett
Featured Listing
3BR/3BA - Immaculate single story home located in gated community with a spectacular panoramic water view. Oversized screened in patio with a heated pool and a new electric hurricane shutter system. Beautiful waterfront view from the kitchen, family room, master bedroom and office/3rd bedroom. Whole kitchen cabinets with granite counter tops, SS appliances & a double oven. Large lot. accordion hurricane shutters. Full house generator. Water filtration system for entire home. Water from the lake is connected to the sprinkler system for the lawn. Golf membership available but not mandatory.

$905,000
TIFFANY ARCARO | 561-889-4112
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In the world of restaurants, chefs and hospitality, the James Beard Foundation Awards are the crème de la crème. Or as most look at it, the Oscars of the food set.

Just to be nominated to the contest that recognizes chefs, top restaurants and food sets is a refreshing change, Patrick Dougherty has earned acclaim for simply thinking outside the box. The North Carolina-based artist creates a sculpture of saplings that are dubbed, was created as the installation “Cutting Corners, “twisted works of art that blur the lines between art, architecture and nature. He started small more than 30 years ago, crafting thinking outside the box. In just 27, but for now, the nominees are enjoying a first-time nomination in Palm Beach County, arguably the coolest venue.

They were named as semifinalists in the finals. For Niven Patel at Ghee Indian Kitchen, Miami; Jeannie Pierola of Edison: Food+Drink+Lab, Tampa, and Melissa Do-nahue-Talmage of Sweet Melissa’s Cafe in Sanibel, it’s a first-time nomination.

The list will be culled to finalists March 27, but for now, the nominees are enjoying a first-time nomination in Palm Beach County, arguably the coolest venue.

The Norton Museum of Art is supporting the Palm Beach Book Festival by hosting a special Art After Dark meet-up honoring Florida author Stuart Woods from 6 to 7 p.m. March 15 at the Norton Museum of Art.

The event begins at 7:30 p.m. For more information or for tickets, call 561-429-4008 or visit www.palmbeachbookfestival.com.

Cool off with the PB Symphony thing. Getting a little humid? The Palm Beach Symphony performs its “Cool Winds” program on March 18 at the Society of the Four Arts, 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach, arguably the coolest venue in Palm Beach.

Conductor Ramón Tebar will steer the symphony in a morning-afternoon-and-night-inspired program featuring Mozart’s “Sinfonia Concertante for Four Winds,” in E flat major, followed by Haydn’s “Symphony No. 6 in D major” (“Le midi”), “Symphony No. 7 in C major” (“Le matin”), “Symphony No. 8 in G major” (“Le soir.”)

The event begins at 7:30 p.m. For tickets, call 561-655-7226 or visit www.fourarts.org.

Love food and helping kids? April always brings an exciting opportunity to savor delicious bites and help hungry kids at the same time through the annual Taste of the Nation gourmet food festival which supports the national No Kid Hungry campaign.

This year local eateries are getting a head start on Taste of the Nation, the megafood and spirits event scheduled for April 4, with drink specials under the banner “The Shape Up,” which sounds like music to their ears.

Recipe for success? Chefs nominated for Beard awards

In the world of restaurants, chefs and hospitality, the James Beard Foundation Awards are the crème de la crème. Or as most look at it, the Oscars of the food set.

Just to be nominated to the contest that recognizes chefs, top restaurants and service, wine and beverage programs as well as humanitarian food projects brings prestige.

Nominees are sharing notoriety with chefs such as Alice Waters, Wolfgang Puck, Jeremiah Tower, Thomas Keller and Charlie Trotter who’ve changed the way Americans eat at restaurants and at home. This year, Florida has six chefs in contention out of 20 for Best Chef awards, South. They were named as semifinalists in the contest that culminates in an Oscar-worthy awards gala on May 6 in Chicago. Nominees are Lindsay Autry, The Regional Kitchen & Public House — a two-time nominee in West Palm Beach; Clay Conley, Buccan, Imoto and Grato in Palm Beach and West Palm Beach — a five-time contender. Brad Kilgore of Alter in Miami is also a previous nominee who made it to the finals. For Niven Patel at Ghee Indian Kitchen, Miami; Jeannie Pierola of Edison: Food+Drink+Lab, Tampa, and Melissa Donovan-Talmage of Sweet Melissa’s Cafe in Sanibel, it’s a first-time nomination.

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Patrick Dougherty creates a sculpture of saplings that challenges notions of art and space together.

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Stuart Woods, Mystery Writer of the Year, is the author of more than 50 novels, with provocative names like “The Money Shot” and “Indecent Exposure.” He’ll be moderated in this casual conversation by another prolific author — Andrew Gross — who has penned a series of NYT best-sellers, including “Everything to Lose,” “Eye Wide Open,” and “The Blue Zone.”

Tickets to the conversation between Mr. Woods and Mr. Gross are $30, and the proceeds benefit “buy a book for a child,” the Book Festival’s April initiative and Children’s Book Festival.

For more information or for tickets, call 561-429-4008 or visit www.palmbeachbookfestival.com.
Picture this: Painting has a backstory – and, hopefully, a pedigree

**THE FIND:**

An oil painting on canvas signed “Amore.”

**The Place:** MorseLife's Nearly New Thrift Shop, 361 S. Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach; 561-655-3230.

**Paid:** $21 — it was priced at $30, but the store was running a Valentine's special and everything was 30 percent off.

**The Skinny:** I was destined to buy this painting — never mind that wall space is at a premium at my house and the overflow of my art collection winds up on the walls of my office at Florida Weekly. Now, about that painting. It's a small oil on canvas that measures about 20 inches high. I'm sure I'll find a spot to hang it!

**Mike Simmons / Florida Weekly**

**THE FIND:**

This oil on canvas painting that’s signed “Amore” measures about 20 inches high.

**JOHANN STRAUSS II’S**

**DIE FLEDERMAUS**

March 22-24

**ONE WEEKEND ONLY!**

Don’t miss Strauss II’s must-see, comedic masterpiece!

**Great seats start at $20.**

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All mainstage performances at Kravis Center for the Performing Arts

**Palm Beach Opera**
Two shows opening at Armory

March is a busy month at the Armory Art Center in West Palm Beach. The opening reception and awards for the 2019 “Armory Artists Show” and the opening reception for the “Armory Faculty Show” are set for 6-9 p.m. Friday, March 15. The “Armory Faculty Show” runs through April 6 in East and Greenfield Galleries. The “Armory Artists Show” runs through April 12 in Montgomery Hall.

This year’s guest judge for the “Armory Artists Show” is Chana Budgazad Sheldon, executive director of the Museum of Contemporary Art North Miami. This is an annual exhibition and sale of artwork from artists who create work in all departments in the Armory’s art school.

“This year there is an exceptional number of artists enrolled in classes and faculty members who will be exhibiting their work — so there will be a wide breath of technique and talent,” said Liza Niles, chief of education and exhibitions at the Armory.

These two exhibitions celebrate the connection between the artists and their teachers in all media.

The “Annual Faculty Exhibition” is open March 16-April 6 in the East and Greenfield galleries. The “Annual Armory Artists Show” is open March 16-April 12 in the Montgomery Hall.

Cost to attend is $5 for nonmembers, free for members. The Armory is at 811 Park Place, West Palm Beach, 561-832-1776 or www.armoryart.org.

Get barefoot on the beach

A taste of Havana is coming to the Palm Beaches.

On April 12, the 18th annual Barefoot on the Beach will have a “Havana Nights” theme at The Breakers Beach Club, complete with cigar rollers and mojitos.

Guests in all-white will enjoy a cocktail hour starting at 7:30 p.m. followed by buffet dinner, entertainment, and live auction with travel packages and one-of-a-kind experiences.

Proceeds will benefit all of 13 Boys & Girls Clubs throughout Palm Beach County, which provide a haven for children 6-18 during nonschool hours. The clubs serve more than 9,300, who find positive role models, learn values and participate in programs including educational, sports, arts and STEAM.

Space is limited, and the event sells out quickly, organizers said. Cabana and ticket reservations are encouraged. Cabanas are available from $15,000-$25,000. Individual dinner tickets are $450 per person. For details, contact Olivia Giamanco, senior director of philanthropy at 561.683.3287 or ogiamanco@bgcpbc.org. Registration is also open online at www.bgcpbc.org.

Short films by, for and about women hit the screen

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Florida Atlantic University will host the Lunafest Film Festival on March 21 at 6 p.m. in the complex at FAU’s John D. MacArthur Campus, 503 Parkside Drive in Jupiter.

Lunafest is a traveling film festival of award-winning short films by, for and about women. This season, the program of eight films will travel to more than 155 cities and screen in front of 25,000 people. Each year, the institute hosts the festival, which raises funds for scholarships for students pursuing a degree at FAU Jupiter, as well as the main beneficiary, Chicken & Egg Pictures. This nonprofit supports women nonfiction filmmakers whose storytelling addresses social change. Tickets are available for $25.

For more information, call 561-799-8547 or visit www.fau.edu/osherjupiter.
Emmet Cahill, Irish tenor — 7:30 p.m. March 14, Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Church, 451 S. Military Trail, West Palm Beach. The principal singer with the popular Celtic Thunder performs solo featuring works forming his debut orchestral album, “Emmet Cahill's Ireland.” Tickets are $59-$84 at www.emmetcachill.com/tour-dates/, at the church or at the door. 561-683-3555.

Fridays/15

Bike to Work Day and Safety Fair — 7 a.m. March 15, along any of three routes which will take 30-45 minutes and finish at City Hall for a safety fair in the courtyard, 401 Clematis St., West Palm Beach. Rides will receive information on Vision Zero and how through the “three Es” — engineering, education and enforcement. Rides include:

North Ride: 7:30 a.m. from the Monument Park Tri-Rail Station, 1415 45 St., West Palm Beach. Coordinator Nicholas Hernandez; 561-478-5713 or email nherndaez-palmbeach.org.

South Ride: 7:30 a.m. from the Symphony Park Olive Community Covenant Church, 583 N. Congress Ave., West Palm Beach. Coordinator Mark Hassell; 561-236-3916.

West Ride: 7:45 a.m. from Target, 1301 N. Federal Highway, West Palm Beach. Coordinator Tara Moreno; 561-687-8607 or Alex Hansen 561-729-4672.

St. Patrick’s Day Preparty in Downtown WPB — Friday night pre-party gets the green going early. From 5 to 10 p.m. March 15, enjoy live music, drinks and food kicks at the Delray Beach Tennis Center, 201 W. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach. Vendors, games and kids’ activities are also planned. www.delraystpatricksfestival.com.

Faculty Recital: Joseph Kingma — 7:30 p.m. March 15, PBAU, Vera Lea Rinker Hall, 501 S. Olive Road, West Palm Beach. The first prize winner of the American Liszt Society’s first Franz Liszt International Piano Competition performs. Free. www.josephkingma.com; 888-468-6722.

SATURDAY/16

Rust Market — 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 16, Rust Market, 42 Park Ave., Lake Park. More than 30 vendors of vintage and collectibles, clothing, jewelry, books, pottery, antiques and more for purchase. Free parking. www.kelseyvint age.com.

Delray Beach St. Patrick’s Day Block Party — 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 16, Grieco Kia of Delray Beach, 2255 S. Federal Highway, Delray Beach. Register online at www.badassrunners.com.

St. Patrick’s Day Festival — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. March 16, Delray Beach Tennis Center, 201 W. Atlantic Ave., Delray Beach. Food, cold beer and cocktails, live music and games, vendors and a kids’ area. The parade kicks off at 2 p.m. March 16. Free admission, cost of rides. www.delraybeach.com/events.

Palm Beach Book Festival — March 16, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton. 8:30 per panel or $85 for all. Free parking. www.palmbeachbookfest.com.

Panel 1: The O Magazine panel, features authors Tayari Jones and Isdra Novey, moderated by Leigh Haber

Panel 2: Author Susan Orlean with moderator Christopher Bonanos

Panel 3: Local author James Patterson with moderator Bob Scheer.

Panel 4: Authors Ben Bradlee Jr. and Ben Fountain

Panel 5: Author — Mitch Albom

Trucktopia 2019 — March 16, 300 Evernia St., West Palm Beach. Kids can touch, see, and learn about their favorite trucks and first-responder vehicles from the police department, fire department, utility services, and more. Operators will be on hand to demonstrate their vehicles and how and why they work and explain what they do. www.downtownwpb.com; 561-833-8873.

St. Patrick’s Parade — March 16, beginning at the Palm Beach Shores Community Center to South Ocean Drive. Food, music, beer, drinks, deejay, raffle. www.palmbeachshoresfl.com.


Balkun Brothers — 9 p.m. March 16. The psychedelic rock / punk / metal / funk group led by the brothers Nick and Steve from Hartford, Conn., debuts. Age 21 and older.

Exmag for St. Patrick’s Day — 4 p.m. March 17, Minnesota hip-hop-jazz funk band, Electric Baby.

Roozelle Courier Returns — 9 p.m. March 20, South Florida’s sacred steel/ funk/soul/iam master. Age 21 and older.

SUNDAY/17

Roxy’s Annual St. Patrick’s Day Block Party — 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 17, in the 300 block of Clematis Street, West Palm Beach. A full day of DJs, zomers, leprechauns, entertainment. 561-296-7699 or visit www.rossypub.com.

Showcase of Dance — 7:30 p.m. March 17, Helen K. Persson Recital Hall, 501 S. Olive Road, West Palm Beach. Bands of merrymakers, singers and dancers, with Terryl Lawrence, professor of art history and mythology. Tickets for free to PBA students, faculty and staff and family. www.pba.edu/calendar; 3355-688-6722.


MONDAY

The Palm Beach Symphony performs “Cool Winds” — 7:30 p.m. March 18 at Society of the Four Arts, Palm Beach. Selections from Mozart and Haydn. 561-281-0415; www.palmbeachsymphony.org.

WEDNESDAY

Hot Topic Luncheon: “A Whole New World” — 11:30 a.m. March 20, Atlantis Country Club in Lake Worth. Featuring Josephine Baker, advocate, singer and dancer, with Terry Lawrence, professor of art history and mythology. Lunch is served at 11:30. $35 RSVPs online at 561-948-4233.

Plant Auction — 6:30 p.m. March 20, Mounts Botanical Garden, meeting hall, 531 S. Military Trail, West Palm Beach. The Cultural Center of the American Hibiscus Society hosts this show during its monthly meetings for members and guests. Free. 561-833-8873.

Plant Auction — 6:30 p.m. March 20, Mounts Botanical Garden, meeting hall, 531 S. Military Trail, West Palm Beach. The Cultural Center of the American Hibiscus Society hosts this show during its monthly meetings for members and guests. Free. 561-833-8873.

TUESDAY


Actors, Filmmakers and Writers wanted — Meets monthly at Actor’s Rep, 1000 N. Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach. Actors, writers, and filmmakers are invited to a free monthly event. Registration is required. www.actorreps.org/allevents.

“Helmut Koller: Solo Exhibition” — Through March 17, The Fritz Gallery, 300 N. Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach. Helmut Koller is known for his vibrant large-scale canvases of species of the animal kingdom, ruminants are explored in a “New Pop” style. On display through March 17, RSVP to info@fritzgallery.com or 561-906-5337.


Looking Ahead

Third Thursday @ 3 Lecture Series: Sara Ayers-Rigsby — 3-4 p.m. March 21, Johnson Palm Beach Concert Hall, 550 N. Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach. Topic: “The Long Lens of History: Recent excavations at the Jupiter Inlet Lightstation Outstanding Natural Area.” Ayers-Rigsby is the director of the southeast and southwest regions of the Florida Public Archaeology Network. 561-832-4646, Ext. 100; www.hopbc.org.

Pathways, Perspectives...And Beyond — 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Portal at Royal Poinciana Chapel, 600 Cocoanut Row, West Palm Beach. Points of view, timely topics are explored in a video short films followed by interactive discussion facilitated by Tom O’Brien and Rabbi Emme Cahill. Topics include “Remarkable Race and White Privilege,” Free to Palm Beach Fel lowship of Christians & Jews members, $20 nonmembers. Light refreshments and pizza, RSVP requested at 561-833-6150.

Clematis by Night — 6-9 p.m. Thursday, West Palm Beach Waterfront, West Palm Beach. Music, food, drink, vendors and a sunset. Info: www.clematisbynight.net.


March 28: No CBN due to boat show.


I Love Pahokee Day Festival — 6:05-3:30 p.m. March 16, Lake Okeechobee Dike, Pahokee. “The Let’s Love Pahokee Day Festival is a youth fishing tournament, and family friendly activities including tug-a- war, jump rope, cornhole and horseshoe toss. The Club Youth Fishing Tournament begins at 9 a.m. with fishing rod and tackle provided. Family activities from 11:30 a.m. to
CALANDER

3:30 p.m. Info: pahokeechamber@att.net.

Lecture: palmBeach symphony — 11 a.m. March 23, Mandell JCC, Palm Beach Gardens. Dr. Roger Ward speaks about “the Fate of Jewish Collections During the Nazi Occupation” (1940-1944). Free. Part of the Antisemitism and the Holocaust Speaker Series. Register at www.jewish-palmbeach.org/holocaustcenter or call Melanie at 561-242-6642 or email melanie.gold@palmbeach.org.


Ah! Je Veux Vivre — 2:30 p.m. March 24, St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 180 S. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. A pre-concert lecture with Dr. Paul Cienniwa followed by a 3 p.m. concert featuring Emily Carter, soprano, with pianist Erin Hall. Free. Join us for a light reception at 1:30 p.m. Contact 561-276-1888 for tickets or more information.


Lighthouses Lectures: Coast Guard in Jupiter & Hobe Sound — 2:30 p.m. March 29, Jupiter Lighthouse, 174 Military Trail, Jupiter. Historian Josh Liller will speak about the military operation of the lighthouse and feature the latest research and photos from the Coast Guard Historian’s office. A Q&A session will follow. Free, but RSVP with Jupiter Library at 561-744-2301.

“Let’s Move” Kickball Tournament — 9 a.m.-noon March 30, Pompano Park, 101 NW Second St., Delray Beach. Friendly, competitive kickball fun. 561-441-9411.

At Dramaworks

Palm Beach Dramaworks — The Don and Ann Brown Theatre, 201 Clematis St., West Palm Beach. 561-843-4042, Ext. 1.

“Fences” — March 27-April 21.


“Fences” — March 15.

“At the Kravis

Kelsey Custom Getdown: Custom Car Show & Block Party for Big Dog Ranch — March 23.

AT THE KELSEY


An Evening with Vintash Band & Michaela Paige — March 15.


TR3AL: Intoxication Tour — March 17.

Satisfaction: The International Rolling Stones Tribute Paint It Black Tour — March 22.

At Four Arts

The Society of the Four Arts — 100 Four Arts Plaza, Palm Beach. 561-655-7226; www.fourarts.org.

Art Exhibitions — Hours: Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 1 to 5 p.m. Admission: $30; free for members and age 14 and younger.


Esther B. O’Keeffe Speaker Series: Lectures take place at 3 p.m. in the Gubelmann Auditorium. $35; free for members with membership card. Public tickets sold at the door 30 minutes before lecture begins.


Live Performances —

Scharfon Ensemble Berlin — 3 p.m. March 17. $30. Free for members.

Palm Beach Symphony — 7:30 p.m. March 18. $40. Free for members.

Donald Sant Saxophone Quartet — 7-2 p.m. March 20. $40. Free for members.

Jessica Rivera, soprano, with Mark Carver, piano — 3 p.m. March 24. $35. Free for members.

Apollo’s Fire — 7:30 p.m. March 27. $40. Free for members.


At the Krasiv

The Krasiv Center — 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. 832-7469; Krasiv.org.

Capitol Steps — Through March 17. $42.


Argus Quartet — March 18. 7:30 p.m. Clara Kim, violin, Jason Isokon, violin, Dana Kelley, viola, Joann Whang, cello. (Young Artists Series). $80 for all four performances. Single tickets are $30.


Lecture Series: Marc-a-Lago: From Cereal Heiress to Winter White House — March 22. 2:30 p.m. Lecture; Richard René Silvin. (ArtSmart Continuing Arts Education). $25.


Sir James Galway, flute — March 25, 8 p.m. Regional Arts Classical Concert Series). Tickets start at $25. Arrive by 6:45 p.m. for Beyond the Stage, a preperformance talk by Sharon McDaniel in the Picower Foundation Arts Education Center.


Catherine Russell — March 29-30. $39.


#SFL P1CKS

#CLASSICAL

KLAUS HOWARD CV


#MOVES


#CHAMBER

Argus Quartet — 7:30 p.m. March 18, Kravis Center. 561-832-7469 or www.kravis.org.
**Calendar**

**AT THE LIGHTHOUSE**


Lighthouse Sunset Tours — Spectacular sunset views and an inside look at the nuts and bolts of a working lighthouse. Tour time: 75 minutes. $15 members, $20 nonmembers. RSVP required.

Lighthouse Moonrise Tour — See the moon rise over the lighthouse. $20 members, $25 nonmembers.


**AT MACARTHUR BEACH**


Birding by Kayak — 1-3 p.m. March 17. $20 with Park admission; $30 for a double kayak. Pay at the park. Reservations at 561-624-6952.

**AT THE PLAYHOUSE**


Main Stage: “Wait Until Dark” — Through March 17.


**The Palm Beach Zoo & Conservation Society** — 1001 N. Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach. Hours: 9 a.m. every day, except Thanksgiving and Christmas. Tickets: $18.95 adults; $9.95 seniors, $12.95 age 3-12, $4 free for younger than 3. Info: 561-533-0887; www.palmbeachzoo.org.

**The South Florida Science Center and Aquarium** — 4801 Dreher Park Road, West Palm Beach. Dinosaur Invaders April 23-29, Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Info: 561-832-1988; www.sfsciencecenter.org.

**AT THE MUSEUMS**

**Museum of Art** — 1450 S. Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach. Free admission for members, children younger than 12, and educators and active duty military (and immediate families) with valid ID. Free admission to all Friday and Saturday. Regular admission is $18 adults; $15 seniors, and $5 for students with valid ID. 561-746-3101; www.museumofart.org.

Exhibitions:


* “Going Public: Collectors Celebrate the Norton” — Through June 4.


* “Building Palm Beach: Additions, Extensions, and Early Twentieth Century Art” — Through March 17.


* “Birding by Kayak” — 1-3 p.m. March 17. $20 with Park admission; $30 for a double kayak. Pay at the park. Reservations at 561-624-6952.
Symphonic Band presents ‘Screen and Stage Spectacular’

One of the area’s top volunteer musical ensembles will perform concerts this month.

The Symphonic Band of the Palm Beaches “Screen and Stage Spectacular” is coming to the Eissey Campus Theatre in Palm Beach Gardens on March 23 and the Duncan Theatre in Lake Worth on March 30. Both concerts start at 7:30 p.m., and $20 tickets are available at 561-832-3115 or www.SymphonicBand.org.

The performances feature professional vocalists Juan Mansilla and Molly Ann Ross, and include selections from “Phantom of the Opera,” “Star Wars,” “Tosca,” “Sweet Charity,” “Snow White,” “Carmen,” “Barber of Seville,” “West Side Story” and more.

Proceeds from this 37th annual Rudolph von Urnuth Memorial Scholarship Concert will fund scholarships for local student musicians. The annual event is tops in the ensemble’s philanthropic activities, including $60,568 donated to Palm Beach County music programs and students so far, a news release said.

Modern Gentlemen to play Eissey

An evening of harmonies is coming to Palm Beach State College’s Eissey Campus Theatre on March 19.

The Modern Gentlemen will present a concert as part of the Art in the Garden series. For well over a decade, the group wowed audiences as the four voices alongside rock ‘n’ roll icon Frankie Valli. The Modern Gentlemen also developed their own identity. Together in the studio, they fine-tuned their signature sound to iconic Frank Sinatra hits, blending the classic sounds of yesterday with the modern style of today. The concert is at 8 p.m. March 19. Tickets are $30-$40. Info: 561-832-9900 or www.eisseycampustheatre.org.

Regional Arts Classical Concert Series

SIR JAMES GALWAY, FLUTE
LADY JEANNE GALWAY, FLUTE
MICHAEL MCHALE, PIANO

Monday, March 25, 2019 at 8 p.m.
Dreyfoos Hall • Tickets start at $25
• Gaubert/Sonate No. 3
• Faurs/Morceau de concours
• Fauré/Fantasie, Op. 79
• Poulenc/Sonata
• Hardy/Ireland Fantasy
• David Overtone/Irish Folk Songs
• Doppler/Andante & Rondo for two Flutes, Op. 25 – with Lady Galway
• Morlacchi/II Pastore Sivuzzo (The Swiss Shepherd)

Beyond the Stage: Join us for a pre-performance talk by Sharon McDonald at 6:45 p.m. in Persson Hall.

Series sponsored by Leonard and Sophie Davis
HAPPENINGS

From page 1

like a glass of kale juice but isn’t. For the month of March, participating Palm Beach County restaurants will offer special cocktails and each purchase puts a percentage — at least a dollar per drink — into the Taste of the Nation for No Kid Hungry campaign coffers.

The two bartenders who collect the most in donations will win “The Shake Up” challenge. Their names will be announced April 1 and the winners are asked to serve a special cocktail at Taste of the Nation event. Participating restaurants so far include Avocado Grill, Brick & Barrel, Brule Bistro, Dada, Eau Palm Beach, Four Seasons Resort, Grandview Public Market, Grato, PB Catch, Pistache, Salute Market, The Cooper, and The Regional.

Palm Beach’s Taste of the Nation 2019 is just one in a national series of tasting events featuring the country’s most celebrated and generous chefs, sommeliers and mixologists. The annual Palm Beach event, Taste of the Nation takes place April 4 at The Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach and features more than 50 of your favorite chefs and mixologists. The event will also include a live auction with one-of-a-kind culinary lots.

General admission is $150. VIP tickets are $250 and feature early entry and access to a private lounge and exclusive tasting area. For tickets, visit www.knfdonation.org/palmbeach. For more updates, check out www.inscriptionofakind.com.

Change to performance

The Society of the Four Arts has announced a change in programming. Katherine Jacobson was scheduled to perform at 3 p.m. March 31 with Leon Fleisher, but Ms. Jacobson is unable to perform. Mr. Fleisher will now perform a different program of Bach, Debussy and Chopin, and the virtuoso will provide commentary about each song. A Q&A with Mr. Fleisher will follow his performance. Tickets are $30 at www.fourarts.org.

Be a GreenMarket vendor

The super-popular West Palm Beach GreenMarket is accepting applications from new and returning vendors for its next season, 2019-2020, its 25th! Get your local small business in front of the community and share your unique products. Applications are now available on the city’s website. The deadline to apply is March 31. Visit www.wpb.org.

SLet’s go, Noles! The 9th Annual Palm Beach County Seminole Club Pub Crawl returns to Clematis Street on March 23. Your fellow Florida State Seminole fans celebrate the height of March Madness with specials at O’Shea’s and Grease Burger Bar, with more locations soon.

The cost is $20 in advance and $25 at the door. Get $5 off for participating in the March 16 Seminole Service Day. Save money on transportation with the Uber discount code “PBNOLESCRAWL19” to save $5 each way. Discounts are limited. For tickets, visit www.wpbseminoleclub.com for more information.

Mar-a-Lago lecture

Curious about Mar-a-Lago? The ArtSmart Lecture Series will feature on the well-known address in its lecture “Mar-a-Lago: From Cereal Heir to White House,” at the Kravis Center on March 22. Follow the estate’s history from the days of Marjorie Merriweather Post to actress Dina Merrill to the Hilton family and now President Donald J. Trump — who has taken this esteemed property, already an architectural art form, from interesting to historic. You might even learn who slept at the winter White House over the years.

The lecture begins at 1:30 p.m. Friday at the Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets are $25. For more information call 561-832-7469 for visit www.kravis.org.

Rachel Bennett, Clay Conley, Lindsay Autry, Melissa Donahue-Talmage and Norman Van Aken.

CHEFS

From page 1

In that respect, Melissa Donahue of Great Neck, New York, was impressed by the nomination in Palm Beach County. “It still feels very fresh and not quite real. The Beard award has always kind of been the goal,” she said.

For her, winning would mean the acknowledgement of the level of a professional kitchen she grew up in and has strived for. “It’s also a way to bring the area’s food into the conversation. I think it’s great for the community as well as for the restaurants that are part of South Florida outside of Miami. It’s a testified to this area that two chefs out of the 20 on the list are from Miami. It’s a testament to this area that we’re getting recognized on the state level that we’re getting recognized on the well-known address in its lecture “Mar-a-Lago: From Cereal Heir to White House,” at the Kravis Center on March 22. Follow the estate’s history from the days of Marjorie Merriweather Post to actress Dina Merrill to the Hilton family and now President Donald J. Trump — who has taken this esteemed property, already an architectural art form, from interesting to historic. You might even learn who slept at the winter White House over the years.

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SOCIETY

Opening of ‘TWISTED: Patrick Dougherty Entwined, Mounts Botanical Garden

1. Rosy Lim, Rochelle Wolberg, Patrick Dougherty
2. Paton White and Martha Gilbert
3. Jeff Krebs, Sam Dougherty, Melissa Carter, Matt Boyson, Joel Crippen, Patrick Dougherty, Ron Rice, Marissa Jacobs, Debbie Sandler, Samantha Weiner and Rochelle Wolberg
4. Sandy Smith and Molly Sims
5. Julie Kime and Ilene Passler
6. Lulu Reed and Polly Reed

Florida Weekly welcomes submissions for the Society pages from charity galas and fundraising events, club meetings and other to-dos around town. We need 300-dpi photographs of groups of two or more people, facing the camera and identified by first and last names. Questions? Email society@floridaweekly.com.

The Modern Gentlemen

March 19, 8pm

For well over a decade, they wowed audiences as the four voices alongside rock & roll icon, Frankie Valli! During their long tenure, they developed their own identity. Together in the studio, they fine-tuned their signature sound to iconic Frank Sinatra hits, blending the classic sounds of yesterday with the modern style of today. This discovery led to a cool new take on the popular hits of Pop, Rock, Jazz, and Doo Wop!

MUSIC OF THE KNIGHTS®

Conmemorating the majestic musical masterpieces of

Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber
Sir Elton John
Sir Paul McCartney

March 21, 8pm

Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber, Sir Elton John and Sir Paul McCartney are not only knights — they also happen to be three of the most successful songwriters of all time with careers that span decades. “Music of the Knights®” honors their lasting musical influence with songs like “Memory,” “Don’t Cry for Me, Argentina,” “The Phantom of the Opera,” “Circle of Life,” “Can You Feel the Love Tonight,” “Yesterday,” “Hey Jude” and so many more!

Get Your tickets at the Ticket Office or Online!

1051 Campus Drive, Palm Beach Gardens
Phone: (561) 207-5900
Web: EisseyCampusTheatre.org
Hours: Monday—Friday 10:00am-5:00pm
& Two hours prior to curtain
B10 | ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT | WEEK OF MARCH 14-20, 2019
www.FloridaWeekly.com | PALM BEACH FLORIDA WEEKLY

LATEST FILMS

‘Captain Marvel’

Is it worth $10? Yes

Many times when you go out to dinner you’re looking forward to the entrée, but you’re really hungry so you start with an appetizer. And it’s just OK. It satiates but does not impress. With many looking forward to Marvel Cinematic Universe’s main course of “Avengers: Endgame” debuting April 26, “Captain Marvel” is a so-so appetizer that fails to impress.

It’s an origin story, told in a convoluted way and with a bland performance from Brie Larson in the lead. Larson is first known as Vers, a Kree warrior who still has a lot to learn from her mentor, Yon-Rogg (Jude Law). After a mission goes awry, she crash lands on Earth in a Blockbuster video. It’s 1995, and she soon meets a young Agent Coulson (Clark Gregg), whose only function is to allow people to say, “Hey look, it’s Coulson!”, and a young Nick Fury (Samuel L. Jackson), who still has two eyes. The villainous Skrulls, led by Talos (Ben Mendelsohn), follow Vers to Earth, needing something only she can provide.

In between fighting off Skrulls, Vers’ backstory is clumsily unveiled. She once lived on Earth and was an Air Force pilot named Carol Danvers. We see how she received the power to emit photon blasts from her hands, and how she learned how to harness her power for use against her foes. Through it all, she’s a bit of a bore. We never get a sense of what she’s like as a person, what motivates her, what’s important to her and what is not. Worse, this is not a character with inherent personality (like Iron Man), and Larson doesn’t do much to make her compelling. If she were more likeable, the movie would be more likeable as well.

The narrative structure doesn’t help, as the jumping timeline is overdone. It’s hard to pack surprises into an origin story, so it’s no surprise that co-writers and directors Anna Fleck and Ryan Boden offer none. We see some of the “twists” coming long before they happen, and for the ones we don’t see, we either don’t care or don’t buy it. Neither is a reaction the filmmakers were looking for.

The visual effects are sufficient though not necessarily impressive. The most notable effects work is de-aging Gregg and Jackson to look 20 years younger, as we’ve seen the energy blasts, explosions and space battles before. That said, it’s exciting to watch Captain Marvel fully embrace the extent of her power. Mediocre an appetizer as “Captain Marvel” may be, darn if I didn’t leave the theater looking forward to how the titular figure will fit into “Avengers: Endgame.” So because it effectively serves its purpose in readying the palate for more, and not because it stands well on its own, a moderate recommendation is earned.

■

dan HUDAK
punchdrunkmovies.com
SOCIETY

Jason Newsted mural, Lighthouse ArtCenter, Tequesta

LEON FLEISHER
CLASSICAL PIANIST

Sunday, March 31, 2019 at 3 p.m.

Tickets are $30 online and at the door.

Hear pianist and living legend Leon Fleisher perform beloved classical music. During this rare solo recital program with commentary, you’ll hear the world-renowned pianist perform a selection of his favorite pieces from over the years, and then discuss the masterworks.

After the recital, the audience is invited to join a Q&A with Leon Fleisher.

www.fourarts.org
100 FOUR ARTS PLAZA | PALM BEACH, FL | (561) 655-7226

FOUR ARTS. FOR EVERYONE.

1. Bob Newsted and Jason Newsted
2. Allie Snyder and Jennifer Chaparro
3. Jason Newsted and Nicole Newsted
4. Janeen Mason, Nancy Politsch and Holly Gizz
5. Penny Robb and Fernando Porras
6. Sue Snyder and Holly Gizz
7. Jason Newsted and Joe Ledesma
8. Jason Newsted, Nicole Newsted, Erik Patterson and Lydianne Carreras

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Mounts Botanical Garden

Discover a 14-acre tropical oasis! Venture into our new Stickwork masterpiece, “Cutting Corners” and become part of a living art experience! Features five interlocking structures created entirely of willow by artist, Patrick Dougherty with the help of 100 volunteers.

Upcoming Classes and Events - Details at Mounts.org
March 30th - Junior League’s Kids in the Kitchen
A healthy living, family event, 10 am - 1 pm
April 4th - Succulents 101
Learn the secrets to caring for succulents. 10-11:30 am
April 27th & 28th - Spring Plant-A-Palooza
Shop over 80 vendors throughout the Garden!
Discover a world of plants, trees, shrubs and herbs as well as garden-themed accessories and gifts.
Sat. 9 am-4 pm; Sun. 9 am-3 pm

25 Garden Areas • Gift Shop • Nursery
Celebrating our 40th “Ruby” Anniversary. Come find this hidden gem!
31 N. Military Trail, West Palm Beach | Mounts.org | 561.233.1757
**STICKWORK**

From page 1

Samuel and his volunteers used 58,000 pounds of willow pulled into Mounts’ parking lot in West Palm Beach. Furthering the process, Mr. Dougherty and the garden curator-director, Melissa Wolberg, trained volunteers to twist and weave the willow branches to create the desired effects — worked eight hours a day, seven days a week. They took a two-day break before the final push to recharge. (Well, almost seven days a week. They took a two-day break before the final push to recharge.)

“We’ve been so happy with the garden’s staff. They were so ready for us,” Mr. Dougherty says. “This has been a real lesson in pop culture, an insider perspective on the world, with fresh eyes. And that’s just fine with the artist, who likes the idea that wandering through the work will leave people “feeling like they don’t know exactly where they are.” Consider it an opportunity to hit the reset button and see the garden, if not the world, with fresh eyes.

“Cutting Corners” is the installation “TWISTED: Patrick Dougherty Entwined at Mounts Botanical Garden” has been dubbed, was created from truckloads of willow saplings. It stands about 18 feet high. "TWISTED’’ comes on the heels of other successful exhibits the nonprofit has hosted in recent years, including “Nature Connects: Art with LEGO Bricks” (2015) and “Washed Ashore: Art to Save the Sea” (Angelo Pozzi, artist; 2018). “These kinds of projects increase revenue and attendance, which in turn supports the mission of the garden to inspire and educate through nature,” Ms. Carter says. Just a few days before the private naming ceremony on Jan. 26, the work remained cloaked in scaffolding. Ominous storm clouds threatened a handful of stabil- wort volunteers, who remained on the scene. As the wind picked up, Mr. Dougherty looked at the twisting, turning structure much the way a painter would look at a canvas nearing completion. Instead of adding one last dab of paint to a canvas, however, Mr. Dougherty was weaving a few final branches from the dwindling pile of willow into his work of art. "You're looking at the surface, looking for a way to infuse it with life and vitality,” he explained. He succeeded. The piece, which reaches a height of 18 feet, feels animated. Many of the saplings used in its construction, were still sprouting leaves when they were woven into the structure. They will die in time, but the sturdiest pieces, those used in the framing of the five interconnected structures, may take root. Even if they don’t, “Cutting Corners” will continue to be energized with a very distinctive life of its own.

For more information, visit www.mounts.org. For tickets, available at www.musicworksconcerts.com or 1-800-995-4849. They also can be had at the Eissey tinker office.

**Singer-songwriter Jimmy Webb to perform at Eissey**

Grammy-winning songwriter Jimmy Webb will be in concert March 22 at 8 p.m., at Eissey Campus Theatre at Palm Beach State College in Palm Beach Gardens.

Mr. Webb’s hits read like a who’s who of music giants — Glen Campbell, Linda Ronstadt, Richard Harris, Donna Summer and more. His songs have topped the charts with songs like “Wichita Line- man,” “Dunia” and “MacArthur Park.” In concert and in his memoir, “The Cake and the Rain,” Mr. Webb reveals secrets of how songs came to be and his adventures in the 1960s and ’70s.

“Never before have I heard an original piece that stood on conventional ped- estals like traditional sculpture. As you’ll see if you visit the new exhibit ‘TWISTED: Patrick Dougherty Entwined at Mounts Botanical Garden,’” his work has evolved in a big way since then. A really big way.

Mr. Dougherty still refers to his pieces as “stickwork” but now he works with saplings — by the truckload. Seriously. In January, a semi-trailer loaded with 30,000 pounds of willow pulled into Mounts’ parking lot in West Palm Beach.

Over the following weeks, Mr. Dough- erty with the help of his son, Sam, and a cadre of 106 volunteers — all of whom were trained by the artist to twist and weave the willow branches to create the desired effects — worked eight hours a day, seven days a week to bring the design to life at Mounts, which is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year. (Well, almost seven days a week. They took a two-day break before the final push to recharge.)

“We’ve been so happy with the garden’s staff. They were so ready for us,” Mr. Dougherty says. “This has been a real pleasure.”

During the process of what Rochelle Wolberg, the garden curator-director at Mounts, likes to call a “community build,” the volunteers — including Mounts’ mem- bers and staff, master gardeners and Palm Beach County Extension staff members, as well as representatives from Semi- nole Trails Elementary School, the Junior League of the Palm Beaches and various horticultural and plant societies — contributed a total of 632 hours of sometimes sweaty, often loud, even occasionally wet, manual labor.

When the work was completed, a mass- sized, living artwork 75 feet long and 35 feet wide happily sprawled on the grass of Mounts’ Great Lawn. Patrick Dougherty has now made seven of these large-scale environmental works, but none are the same. He found inspiration for his work, which has been dubbed “Cutting Corners,” during a preliminary visit he made to Mounts last summer. The scale is intended to compete with the trees, he says, without over- whelming the landscape. The way the five structures lean out from the center mimics the garden plants around them. The rolling roof line infuses the piece with a playful personality, while setting it apart from the architectural buildings on the property.

A multitude of openings — doors and windows, he calls them — were positioned and a humorous tour into the days and nights of a songwriting prodigy, a lesson in pop culture, an insider perspective on the musical giants of the ’60s, the Rat Pack heyday, the London Mod’s, Laurel Canyon and more.

Mr. Webb has released a dozen solo albums since the 1970s, while con- tinuing to write for other artists. His CDs “Just Across the River” (2010) and “Still Within the Sound of My Voice” (2013) feature duets on some of his big- gest songs with friends Billy Joel, Vince Gill, Willie Nelson, Linda Ronstadt, Lu- cinda Williams, Mark Knopfler, Brian Wilson, Art Garfunkel, David Crosby, Graham Nash, Lyle Lovett and Keith Ur- ban, among others.

In 2016, Mr. Webb premiered his first classical piece, “Nocturne for Piano and Orchestra (Nocturne for ‘Lefty’)” with Orchestra Kentuck.

Tickets, $35-$50, are available at www. musicworksconcerts.com or 1-800-995-4849. They also can be had at the Eissey tinker office.

Jimmy Webb will tell his life story with his songs in a concert set for 8 p.m. March 22 at Eissey Campus Theatre.

COURTESY PHOTO

In concert, the man who gave the world “Wichita Lineman,” “Didn’t We,” and “MacArthur Park,” will be in concert March 22 at 8 p.m., at Eissey Campus Theatre at Palm Beach State College in Palm Beach Gardens.

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PIECES (February 19th to March 20th) Instead of spending too much time floundering around wondering if your deadline, you need to spend more time actually working toward reaching it.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You'll want to discourage well-meaning but potentially ill-advised interference in what you intend to accomplish. Your work has a better chance to succeed if it reflects you.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) The Bovine's well-deserved reputation for loyalty could be tested if you learn that it might be misplaced. But don't rely on rumors. Check the stories out before you decide to act.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You've been going on adrenaline for a long time, and this unexpected lull in a recent spate of excitement could be just what you need to restore your energy levels. Enjoy it.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Friends can be counted on to help you deal with a perplexing personal situation. But remember to keep your circle of advisers limited only to those you can trust.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Security-loving Lions do not appreciate uncertainty in any form. But sometimes changing situations can reveal hidden stresses in time to repair a relationship before it's too late.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) This is a good time for single Virgos to make a love connection. Be careful not to be too judgmental about your new “prospect” — at least until you know more about her or him.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Your sense of justice helps you resolve a problem that might have been unfairly attributed to the wrong person. Spend the weekend doing some long-neglected chores.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 22) You might feel justified in your anger toward someone you suspect betrayed your trust. But it could help if you take the time to check if your suspicions have substance.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Ignore distractions if you hope to accomplish your goal by the deadline you agreed to. Keep the finish line in sight, and you should be able to cross it with time to spare.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Your creative self continues to dominate through much of the week. Also, despite a few problems that have cropped up, that recent romantic connection seems to be thriving.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) As curious as you might be, it's best to avoid trying to learn a colleague's secret. That sort of knowledge could drag you into a difficult workplace situation at some point down the line.

BORN THIS WEEK: You have a natural gift for attracting new friends, who are drawn to your unabashed love of what life should be all about.
Florida Weekly welcomes submissions for the Society pages from charity galas and fundraising events, club meetings and other to-dos around town.

We need 300-dpi photographs of groups of two or more people, facing the camera and identified by first and last names. Questions? Email society@floridaweekly.com.

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It’s a great day for the Irish (and their fans) across county

Looking for the green beer and big par- ties for St. Patrick’s Day? Among the largest is always Paddy Mac’s in Palm Beach Gardens (10971 Mili- tary Trail). With two tents outdoors and the full party indoors that spills into the parking lot, it’s big, loud, crowded and fun, too.

The menu is limited to a few items, but they make the effort—a monu- mental one considering the crowds wade through the masses here. We don’t want to say the food isn’t the thing, but really, it isn’t on this day. It’s about beer, numerous bands and a massive party.

Next up: the block party at Roxy’s Pub (309 Clematis) in downtown West Palm Beach. You know it’s serious when they shut down a whole street. It’s family-friendly during the early hours (it starts at 10 a.m.) with entertain- ment and leprechaun dancing, then turns into a raucous green fest as the sun sets. It carries on till 3 a.m. It’s about beer, and there’s a massive party.

After the big Delray Beach parade— the largest in South Florida, it’s off to Tim Flanagan’s (2985 S. Federal Highway). Pub grub and beer await.

Drive to Boca Raton for the rest of the best. The Dubliner (435 Plaza Real in Mizner Park), O’Brian’s (50 S. First Ave.), The Black Rose (234 S. Federal Highway), and the Irishmen (1385 NW Boca Raton Blvd) are all in on Sunday with bands, tents and more. You can do a pub crawl here as they are fairly close together. (Get that rideshare!) All offer the food isn’t the thing, but really, it isn’t on this day. It’s about beer, numerous bands and a massive party.

The bars all along Lake Avenue (309 SE First) will have food and drink specials all day with entertainment in most.

Between the only other Florida Bricktop’s, there are just a few items, but they make the effort—a monu- mental one considering the crowds wade through the masses here. We don’t want to say the food isn’t the thing, but really, it isn’t on this day. It’s about beer, numerous bands and a massive party.

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Bacon and Bourbon Fest

You’ll barely be recovered from this weekend’s St. Paddy’s Day fests before Wellington gets into the thick of things with its Bacon and Bourbon Fest, March 22-23. Organizers will bring a collection of more than 40 bourbons and whiskies for the food isn’t the thing, but really, it isn’t on this day. It’s about beer, numerous bands and a massive party.

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MARCH IS COLON CANCER AWARENESS MONTH
Colon Cancer Prevention Fair at Palm Beach Outlets
Saturday, March 23rd - 10am-2pm
Palm Beach Outlets:
1751 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd, West Palm Beach
1 in 4 adults aged 45-75 years old are still not getting screened for colon cancer as recommended. The bottom line? This test might save your life. If you're over 45, you can check yourself by stopping by to pick up a free and easy at-home test kit.

MARCH IS NATIONAL NUTRITION MONTH
Eating Healthy – The Plant Based Way
Wednesday, March 27th - Noon
Katherine Yi, RDLD
Good Samaritan Medical Center – HR Classroom
1309 N Flagler Dr, West Palm Beach

Men’s Health Day Luncheon
Thursday, March 28th - Noon
Rishi Panchal, DO – Cardiologist
Good Samaritan Medical Center – HR Classroom
1309 N Flagler Dr, West Palm Beach

Living with Leg Pain? Understanding Peripheral Vascular Disease
Tuesday, April 2nd - Noon
Rishi Panchal, DO – Cardiologist
Good Samaritan Medical Center – HR Classroom
1309 N Flagler Dr, West Palm Beach

Atrial Fibrillation: New Alternatives to Blood Thinners for the Prevention of Stroke
Thursday, April 4th - Noon
David Weisman, MD – Cardiac Electrophysiologist
Good Samaritan Medical Center – HR Classroom
1309 N Flagler Dr, West Palm Beach

MARCH IS COLON CANCER AWARENESS MONTH
Call 844.790.7315 to receive a FREE at-home colon cancer screening test.

MARCH IS COLON CANCER AWARENESS MONTH
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Guaranteed Dates
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When your doctor says it’s time to schedule a colonoscopy, do you start thinking up excuses to put it off? You may be concerned about unpleasantness and inconvenience as you prepare for the exam. But it’s time to stop worrying – the prep process is much easier these days.

Yes, one of the keys to a successful colonoscopy is the “clean-out” beforehand. But improvements – in the liquid you drink, the amount you must drink and the timing – make the whole process easier to swallow.

**Regular colonoscopies can save your life**

Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths among men and the third leading cause among women in the United States.

Most patients who develop colon cancer have no obvious risk factors. “The colon, itself, is a risk factor,” says Lester Rosen, MD, a colorectal surgeon at Cleveland Clinic Florida’s Tomsich Health and Medical Center in West Palm Beach.

Bowel residue polyps are a precursor for cancer, and they can be overlooked if the colon lining is not clear of solid and liquid. “Many people fear drinking the laxative prep to cleanse the bowel more than the colonoscopy itself,” says Dr. Rosen. But it’s a key part of the procedure.

**Three steps for a good prep:**

- Cut out fiber. Two days before the exam, start a low-fiber diet.
- Switch to clear liquids. The day before the procedure, consume only clear liquids. “It’s important to keep patients hydrated and flush the prep through the intestinal tract,” advises Dr. Rosen. “The clear liquids aid in that process.”
- Start the prep. Many physicians today prescribe a split-dose regimen, where half the prep is taken the night before and the other half in the morning. But, if the exam is in the afternoon, the prep is taken the morning of the colonoscopy.

**A better-tasting solution**

“The liquid bowel-cleansing agents now taste better and less of the liquid is consumed. This means that the prep is, quite literally, easier to swallow,” explains Dr. Rosen. Those two factors, combined with the split-dose approach, improves the experience for patients.

Regular colonoscopies can detect colon cancer early on. It’s important to follow your physician’s screening recommendations.

To schedule a colonoscopy today, call 800.639.DOCTOR.
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OCEAN’S EDGE 301, SINGER ISLAND
Condo with Private Pool | 4BR/4.1BA | 5,634 SF | $5.499M

FRENCHMAN’S CREEK, PBG
Deep Water Estate | 6BR/8.2BA | 7,003 SF | $3.49M

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Totally Renovated | 3BR/4.1BA | 3,325 SF | $2.549M

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Waterfront Villa | 3BR/4BA | 2,992 SF | $1.875M

WATER CLUB #1402 N, NPB
Ocean to IC Views | 2BR/2.1BA | 1,959 SF | $1.525

WATER CLUB #1602 N, NPB
Higher Floor | 2BR/2.1BA | 1,959 SF | $1.495

PGA NATIONAL, PBG
Luxury Lifestyle | 5BR/4BA | 3,527 SF | $775K

DUNES TOWERS, SINGER ISLAND
Wide Water Views | 2BR/2BA | 1,330 SF | $374K

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