

FORT LAUDERDALE'S CITY MAGAZINE

# GO RIVERWALK

A PUBLICATION OF RIVERWALK FORT LAUDERDALE

VOL. 12 NO. 6 JULY 2015





A large, weathered hangar with a corrugated metal roof and walls. The hangar is situated on a dark, wet tarmac. The sky is filled with dramatic, orange and yellow clouds from a sunset or sunrise. The hangar's interior is lit up, revealing a car parked inside. The overall mood is industrial and atmospheric.

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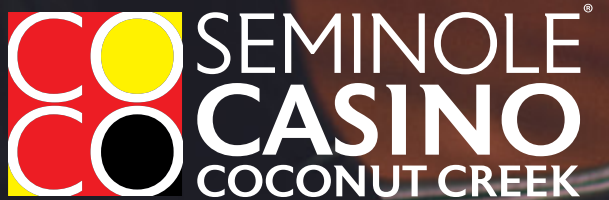


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# MASERATI

*Ghibli*





# CONTENTS

## Features

### 38 FORT LAUDERDALE NEIGHBORHOODS

*by Alexandra Roland*

### 46 UNIQUE HOMES: A LOOK INSIDE

*by Jamion Kries, Pete Stevenson,  
and Gabrielle Roland*

### 54 THE DYNAMIC OF A LOCAL YACHT CREW

*by Jamion Kries*

### 58 LIVING STRONG

*by Clarissa Buch*

### 62 OVER THE TOP LUXURY

*by Bianca Wiesler*

### 64 THE SHADE POST WAREHOUSE

*by Gabrielle Roland*

A view from Las Olas Riverfront. Photo by Jason Leidy



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## RIVERWALK

### 12 THE TEAM

Board of Directors,  
staff, and partners

### 13 RIVERWALK MISSION STATEMENT

### 14 #RIVERWALKFTL

Social media

### 16 FROM THE BOARD

by Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale  
Board of Directors

### 18 ALONG THE WALK

by Genia Duncan Ellis

### 20 MEMBERSHIP

## DEPARTMENTS

### 26 DOWNTOWN LOWDOWN

by Chris Wren

### 28 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

by Jenni Morejon

### 30 TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY

by Diana Alarcon

### 32 DOWNTOWN COUNCIL

by John Jones

### 34 CULTURALLY SPEAKING

by Samantha Rojas

### 36 LOCAL ECONOMICS

by Dan Lindblade

### 80 FICTION

by Deborah Sharp

## EVENTS

### 24 RIVERWALK EXCLUSIVES

Power Mixer

### 70 EVENT CONNECTIONS

Listing of upcoming  
activities

Compiled by Gabrielle Roland

### 78 SNAPPED@

Social scene photos

## SAVOR

### 66 DINING DESTINATION

Tacocraft Taqueria &  
Tequila Bar

by Bianca Wiesler

## ON THE COVER



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Biking on the Riverwalk  
and racing the Jungle  
Queen.

Photo by Jason Leidy



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To be the catalyst in building and  
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PHOTO BY JASON LEIDY





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 RIVERWALK FORT LAUDERDALE   
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Share your photos with us!  
 Use these hashtags for the month of July.

#WEEKENDSONTHERIVERWALK  
 #RIVERWALKFTL  
 #GORIVERWALK  
 #FTLVANTAGEPOINT  
 #DOITLIKEATOURIST



## #DOITLIKEATOURIST

For most, summer vacation is no longer a “thing” in the scholastic sense. But that doesn’t mean that we Fort Lauderdaleians won’t be having a blast. Let us in on the fun. Instagram fun in the sun photos with the hashtag #DoItLikeATourist for possible inclusion in the August issue. Remember to tag @GoRiverwalk!

September

2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

## SEASON PREVIEW

**Want to list your 2015-2016 season events in *Go Riverwalk*?**

From now until Aug. 1 send events (including dates, times, venues, pricing, and contact information) to [calendar@goriverwalk.com](mailto:calendar@goriverwalk.com). We can’t wait to showcase our city’s season!

## #GORIVERWALKPHOTOPICKS

And MAY’S title goes to... **MELISSA STAMOLIS** for her photo submitted on Instagram.

### JULY CONTEST

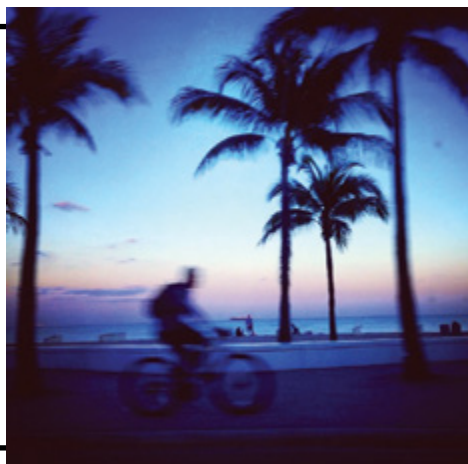
Theme: **Pops of color** Deadline: **August 1**

Photograph vivid color in Fort Lauderdale.  
 Tweet, Instagram, Facebook or email  
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LOOK OUT  
 FOR OUR TEAM!

Our #RWGoSquad will be taking to the streets to ask you about the best of Fort Lauderdale. If you see us around town, stop, pose for a photo, and share your thoughts. You could star in our Best Of issue!





# AMERICAN HERITAGE SCHOOL

KNOWLEDGE, INTEGRITY, COMPASSION

## Confident Graduates Head to Ivy Leagues



*American Heritage has definitely shaped my perspective. Being in a community of like-minded individuals who are so knowledgeable and diverse, where learning happens inside and outside the classroom, was a beautiful environment. This has been the most incredible 13 years of my life, and I wouldn't have wanted to spend it anywhere else.*

**Jude Alawa**  
**Yale University**



*American Heritage has pushed me to reach out to teachers and my peers and interact with them. Being around people who are brilliant and so driven motivates me to be as driven in everything I do. Although I don't know yet what I want to study, I feel fully prepared to go on to Dartmouth and continue learning with confidence.*

**Vivian Zhai**  
**Dartmouth College**



*I've always loved learning, and a huge part of the growth that American Heritage has brought to me has been the people around me. When I realized an institution at the level of Harvard could provide unparalleled possibilities for me, I really set my mind on getting there, and I credit American Heritage School for helping me reach my goals.*

**Francisco Rivera**  
**Harvard University**

*Photos courtesy of Weston Photography*





## A Warm Welcome

**I**n the summer, Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale and the staff enjoy the additional help of some of the finest interns to be found. This year, our team members bring a variety of skills, ideas, and a willingness to help make a difference. As our President Genia Duncan Ellis always tells us – “These are our future board members and what better way to welcome them than to allow them to help create the future.” This year we welcome the following young women. Be sure to say hi and thank you when you meet them.

Megan Riordan is a rising senior at Florida Southern College in Lakeland, Florida expecting to graduate with a BA in communication next year. Her focus is on public relations and event planning. With her communication skills and creative talent she brings a great perspective to her internship at Riverwalk this summer. As a campus tour guide, Megan has been greatly engaged on her college campus. She is the director of musical events as a part of the Association of Campus Entertainment. She brings great experience in creative advertising and is fluent in Spanish. Riverwalk is fortunate to use her skillsets as she prepares for her final year.

Bianca Wiesler is entering her final semester at Florida State University. She will be graduating in the fall with a BS in media and communication studies, with a minor in business. Bianca is a founding sister of Alpha Omicron Pi at FSU, serving as the social media chairperson. She is also a member of Phi Sigma Theta Honor Society. Bianca is excited to come back home to South Florida and pursue a career in communications. As an intern at Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale, Bianca will have the opportunity to try her hand at many things and is a welcomed team member.

Madison Watt is interning at Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale and Lifestyle Publications this summer. She will be attending the University of Florida in the fall as a transfer junior to pursue an English degree with a focus on corporate and managerial writing and a minor in communications. Madison is an avid reader and loves to spend time with her family and friends. She is excited to be a part of two excellent publications that offer opportunities for her to expand her knowledge of both the workplace and the Fort Lauderdale area. This summer she will also be building her portfolio so that she may differentiate



Megan Riordan




Bianca Wiesler



Madison Watt

herself from her peers in the hopes of finding a job when she graduates from the University of Florida in 2017. Riverwalk is fortunate to have her join the team this summer as she brings a creative spirit that will shine through in her work!

Welcome Ladies! 



# AMERICAN HERITAGE SCHOOL

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Exercise stations on the south side of the New River

## Full Speed Ahead

**S**ummer may mean a slower pace in most places but Riverwalk and Downtown didn't get the memo! As we go to print – the second ten-unit exercise station is being installed on the south side of Riverwalk adjacent to Smoker Park. The very cool three-way water fountain is already getting great use!

A summer program generating more art in public places is underway with our local students creating new designs and awesome pieces that will be installed soon. Look forward to reading the story next month about the project and the generous sponsors and creative partners that are making it a reality for these budding artists.

Following a long courtship, Fort Lauderdale has been selected to be a Levitt Pavilion site and to construct and manage a music pavilion open to the public for up to 50 free concerts a




BY GENIA  
DUNCAN ELLIS  
President/CEO,  
Riverwalk  
Fort Lauderdale



year. The competition was fierce to even be in consideration but, Fort Lauderdale put its best foot forward and was rewarded for that effort. Gina Rivera of the City of Fort Lauderdale identified the potential project and with the help of a number of community partners, wooed the Levitt Foundation into giving us a chance to show our stuff!

Following a local tour in February, a presentation, and further discussion, Fort Lauderdale is poised to raise the bar in South Florida!

We welcome our interns for the summer – they couldn't be finer! They will be supporting Riverwalk in a variety of roles including events, administration, *Go Riverwalk* and more. We will be introducing you to Bianca Wiesler, Madison Watt, Megan Riordan, and Kendaline Watt. These young women are forces to be reckoned with so watch their progress!

Be sure to follow *Go Riverwalk* and stay up to date on all of the very cool happenings in Fort Lauderdale. 



# Riverwalk Summer Social Cruise

aboard

## THE ICONIC RIVERBOAT **LIBERTY BELLE**

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For more information call Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale (954)468-1541





MEMBERS OF RIVERWALK FORT LAUDERDALE EXPRESS THEIR SUPPORT AND JOIN US IN OUR MISSION OF BUILDING A VIBRANT COMMUNITY. RIVERWALK SUPPORTS DOWNTOWN'S DIVERSE, MIXED-USE COMMUNITY OF ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT ESTABLISHMENTS AND BUSINESS, RESIDENTIAL, JUDICIAL, EDUCATIONAL, AND MARINE INTERESTS. TO JOIN, VISIT [WWW.GORIVERWALK.COM/MEMBERSHIP](http://WWW.GORIVERWALK.COM/MEMBERSHIP).



TRUSTEE MEMBER

### Doreen Jaworski

RELATED GROUP

• I have more than 20 years of multi-family real estate experience and have been with the Related

Group for 17 years. I am a division president with its management company, TRG.

My primary role is to oversee the leasing and management of all conventional new construction, and my other roles include maintaining a stabilized portfolio of market rate and affordable and distressed communities going through rehabilitation. During my 17-year tenure, I have completed more than 31 lease-ups, including high-rise, mid-rise, garden style, mixed-use, and tax credit communities in Florida totaling approximately 10,000 units.

I received a BS from East Carolina University in 1988, where I was a member of the swim team. I became a member of Riverwalk to help bridge a great partnership between the residents at New River Yacht Club and downtown Fort Lauderdale and the many events residents can take part in.

Additionally, the amenities of Riverwalk enhance the lifestyle for residents as Riverwalk is an extension of their home. Riverwalk gives the residents at New River Yacht Club the ability to be within walking distance from the best attractions of both downtown and the water. Residents can relax while taking in the view of the river from their sky-high apartment, stroll downtown to meet friends for coffee on Las Olas Blvd., take the water trolley, head to the theater, or do a little shopping.



TRUSTEE MEMBER

### Darcy Beeman

EDWARD JONES

• I moved to Fort Lauderdale in 1998 as a result of a job transfer

and fell in love with the beach, the diversity, and the people. In 2000, I joined Edward Jones as a financial advisor and began to build my practice in Fort Lauderdale. In 2008, I became regional leader for Edward Jones for an area that runs from Key West to Hobe Sound. As regional leader I am responsible for the support and professional development of 70 plus advisors.

As an Edward Jones financial advisor, I believe it's important to invest my time to understand what you're working toward before you invest your money. Working closely with you, your CPA, attorney, and other professionals, I can help determine the most appropriate financial strategy for you and your family. I can also help with your retirement savings strategy so you have more options when you retire, regardless of what you decide to do.

I moved my office to the Las Olas area two years ago and love all that it offers. I joined Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale to become more informed about our community, meet other professionals and local business owners, and to find ways that I can give back. I live in Fort Lauderdale with my beautiful five-year-old daughter who I adopted at birth. We enjoy all this paradise has to offer.

## Sustaining the Riverwalk

**WRITER** PATRICK HARRIS  
RIVERWALK FORT LAUDERDALE  
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST



**W**ith summertime in full swing, many of us choose air conditioning as opposed to the hot and steamy outdoors. However, just because it's hot outside does not mean that Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale has stopped working to make the Downtown a vibrant and inviting place for everyone.



#### CORPORATE MEMBER

### Walter Duke

WALTER DUKE + PARTNERS INC.

• I am the president and sole shareholder of Walter Duke + Partners Inc., a nationally recognized commercial real estate valuation and consulting company that has provided innovative

solutions and trusted advice to the commercial real estate industry for 40 years in the Florida market from our firm headquarters in Fort Lauderdale. Our clients include market leaders in every facet of commercial real estate including banks, corporations, governmental agencies, law firms, developers, and investors. My wife Lisa handles the day-to-day business operations and I oversee the practice.

I am privileged to not only enjoy lasting relationships with fellow class members of Leadership Fort Lauderdale Class IV but also with many others who have helped shape the Fort Lauderdale skyline over the years. In addition to us being long-time members of the Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce, Lisa serves on the executive board for Winterfest. We also are trading partners at The Historic Stranahan House and Museum. We like the direction that Fort Lauderdale and particularly downtown is moving and we would welcome the opportunity to be part of moving it forward. Joining Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale was a logical move for us.

We are also strong advocates for our iconic marine industry. Last year I was honored by MIA SF with their prestigious Golden Anchor Award given annually for a lifetime of industry contribution and achievement. Lisa's efforts on behalf of the Port Everglades Association Port Economic Engine Performance Report are also legendary. One of our goals in joining Riverwalk is to help advocate for marine related interests along the New River.

I truly believe in the value of public service and in giving back to your community. In addition to our many charitable endeavors I am also the former Mayor of Dania Beach and a current City Commissioner serving my second term. Together, Lisa and I have three children. Kate, 21, enters nursing school at NSU in the fall. Chloe, 20, graduates from UF this spring and has been hired by Zimmerman Advertising. Connor, 19, who is autistic, attends public school in Broward and serves to remind our family on a daily basis of what is really important. I would be remiss if I didn't mention our rescue Shiba Inu Kaze who comes to the office with us every day.

It's important to note that Riverwalk's success would not be possible without community-oriented people who recognize that their financial support helps to make our city a better place. At the same time, Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale recognizes that smaller, monthly gifts are easier for some of our residents as opposed to larger, annual gifts. Therefore,

we have instituted our Sustainer Program. You can become a member of Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale and support our efforts for as little as \$12, \$30 or even \$50 per month.

Becoming a Sustainer is easy! You select a monthly giving amount that works for you, and it is automatically deducted from your credit or debit card each month until you tell us

# Welcome

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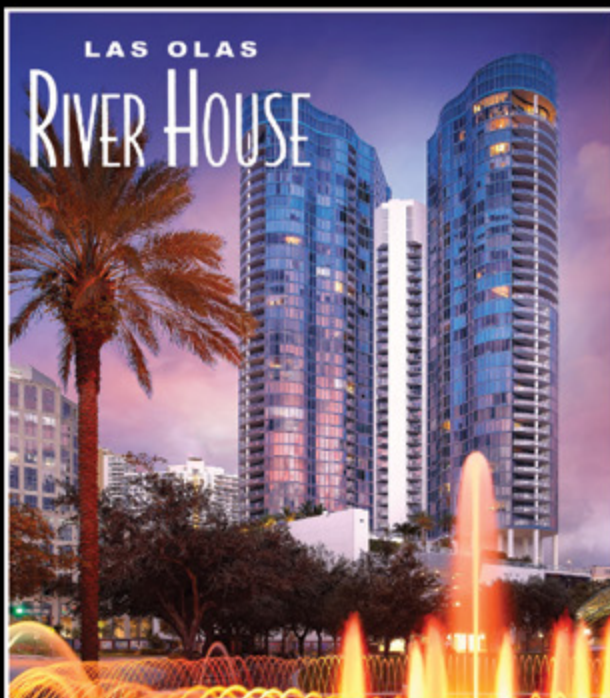
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**COLUMBUS**

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**UNDER CONTRACT**

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**JUST LISTED**

**SOHO**

HIGH FLOOR WITH SPECTACULAR VIEWS. THIS STUNNING 2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH FEATURES A SPLIT BEDROOM PLAN WITH MARBLE FLOORS THROUGHOUT, GOURMET KITCHEN, GRANITE COUNTERTOPS AND 5-STAR BUILDING AMENITIES. \$649,000

**JUST SOLD**

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**JUST LISTED**

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**JUST SOLD**

## 2 BEDROOMS/2 BATH

BEST 2 BEDROOM STACK IN THE BUILDING, RIVER VIEWS, GRANITE COUNTERTOPS AND TILE IN MAIN LIVING AREA.

**PRICE REDUCED**

## 2 BEDROOMS/2 BATH

25TH FLOOR PENTHOUSE LEVEL! OUTSTANDING OCEAN & CITY VIEWS. JUST STEPS AWAY FROM THE ROOFTOP POOL. \$359,000.

**UNDER CONTRACT**

## 1 BEDROOM/1 BATH

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HIGH FLOOR, RIVER VIEWS, GOURMET KITCHEN, STUNNING RIVER VIEWS, AND 5 STAR AMENITIES. WALK TO LAS OLAS.

## THE SYMPHONY



**NEW LISTING**

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## 2BR/2BATH - \$449,000

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## 2BR/2BATH - \$370,000

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## SEAVIEW

RARELY AVAILABLE 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH WITH 3 BALCONIES. HIGH FLOOR WITH SPECTACULAR VIEWS OF RIVER, OCEAN AND PORT EVERGLADES. DESIGNER APPLIANCES AND CUSTOM LIGHTING. \$649,000

**JUST LISTED**

## MOONGLOW

RARELY AVAILABLE 2BR/2BATH SOUTHEAST CORNER UNIT. GOURMET KITCHEN WITH GRANITE COUNTERTOPS., LARGE TERRACE WITH EXPANSIVE RIVER VIEWS. 5 STAR BUILDING AMENITIES. \$639,000

**PRICE REDUCED**

## MOONGLOW

THIS 2 BR/2BATH FEATURES TILE FLOORS, CROWN MOLDING, GOURMET KITCHEN WITH GRANITE COUNTERTOPS AND A EXPANSIVE TERRACE WITH GREAT RIVER VIEWS. \$599,000

**UNDER CONTRACT**

## SKYVIEW

2BR/2BATH SPLIT BEDROOM PLAN FEATURES DIRECT RIVER VIEWS ON WEST SIDE. FRESHLY PAINTED THROUGHOUT, SPACIOUS GLASS BALCONY, GRANITE COUNTERTOPS, AND A BREAKFAST BAR. \$469,000

**JUST LISTED**

## SUNGARDEN

HIGH FLOOR RARELY AVAILABLE UNIT WITH DIRECT RIVER VIEWS. 1 BEDROOM, 1 BATH MODEL FEATURES LARGE MASTER WITH WALK IN CLOSET, FLOOR TO CEILING GLASS WITH RIVER VIEW. \$369,000

## SUNGARDEN

RIVER, POOL & CITY VIEWS FROM THIS 1BR/1BATH RESIDENCE. FEATURES A GOURMET KITCHEN & SPACIOUS BALCONY. \$345,000.

## 350 LAS OLAS PLACE

## 3BR/2.5BATH - \$559,000

HIGHLY UPGRADED AQUAVISTA MODEL OUTSTANDING CITY VIEWS WITH 2 TERRACES.

**NEW LISTING**

## 2BR/2BATH - \$495,000

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B Ocean Resort



Sandra Stafford, Michelle Johnson, and John Guerra



Vache Karakochian, Natasha Alarcon, Richardo Pican, Andrew Shiwpal, and Eric Goldstein



Barry Maxlevy and Tomer Alcalay



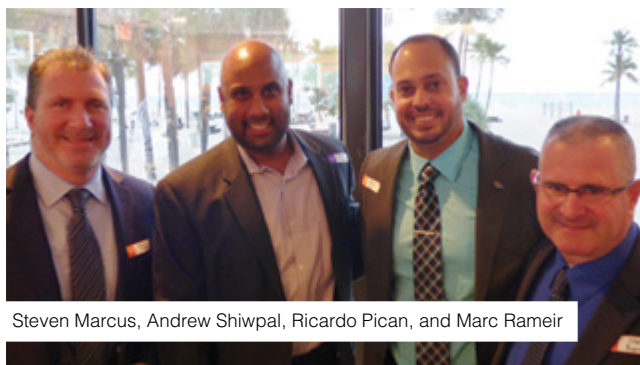
Edward Margolin and Keith London



Aileen Haerting, Melinda Bowker, Michael Kuang, and Michael Haerting



Michele Innocent, Mark Semple, Colleen Flattery, and Katie Donahue




Steven Marcus, Andrew Shiwpal, Ricardo Pican, and Marc Rameir



Chip Meacham, Howard Elfman, Amy Steinberg, and Mark Budwig

## Riverwalk Power Mixer

PHOTOS BY CRISTINA HUDSON

On June 8, B Ocean Resort hosted Riverwalk's summer Power Mixer event, sponsored by S. Mark Graphics, Weichert Realty, and Centuric Cloud Systems. Hors d'oeuvres and cocktails were served throughout the evening. Power Mixer events are a membership feature for Trustee members and above. 

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Broward100.org



#Broward100





AutoNation main stage canopy, 2005



Broward County School Board building, 2005

## Summer Newsflash

HURRICANE SEASON, DOWNTOWN BUSINESSES,  
AND [WWW.GOLAUDERDALE.ORG](http://WWW.GOLAUDERDALE.ORG)

**A**nother Quiet Hurricane Season? Ten years ago we all hunkered down for what was supposed to be a minor storm, only to be met with the messy aftermath of Hurricane Wilma. The storm shredded the canopy over the amphitheater of the AutoNation main stage of Huizenga Plaza. Various buildings throughout downtown had their windows blown out, including the Broward County School Board Building, the County Courthouse, and Broward Financial Center. Power was out for days and anyone with a generator was suddenly very popular.

Downtown Fort Lauderdale has fortunately been spared this kind of destruction for the last 10 years. While we hope for another quiet hurricane season, this lucky streak won't last forever. Now that we're in the dreaded hurricane season from June 1 - Nov. 30, take preparing seriously and stock up on needed supplies so you're not fighting for them with the rest of the population at the 11th hour. Advanced preparations will make all the difference for your company and household. We plan for retirement, for vacations, for college. Hurricanes should be no exception. Just look at post-Wilma photos if you need a reminder.



BY CHRIS WREN  
Executive Director,  
Downtown  
Development  
Authority



### Welcome New Businesses!

Thankfully, our downtown businesses aren't threatened by this seasonal phenomenon, evident in the new business activity that continues at a steady pace. The City business tax office has been very busy as of late with 97 new business certificates issued to new companies downtown within the last three months.

These businesses run the gamut of industries that comprise the bulk of our downtown economy: tourism, legal services, restaurants, parking companies, retail, financial services, and the marine industry. These newcomers are proof that downtown continues to be a thriving place to do business. We're glad they're here.

### Let's Go Lauderdale!

I am very pleased to say that the new website and app devoted to all things Fort Lauderdale is finally here! This interactive program was initiated to coincide with the Wave Streetcar's station screens. Now anyone visiting Fort Lauderdale can utilize the app for the latest information on where to shop, dine, how to get around, and what to do in our beautiful city. Go Lauderdale stems from a project called the Downtown Intelligent Transportation Information System and it's an integrated technology suite that includes a website, a smart phone application, and an interactive kiosk. This is just the latest improvement to make downtown user-friendly and accessible to newcomers, visitors, and seasoned locals. Be sure to check out [www.golauderdale.org](http://www.golauderdale.org) and explore your city!

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## I ♥ Fort Lauderdale

MY LOVE LETTER TO THE CITY

**W**hen did you first realize that you were in love with the place you call home? Was it when you decided not to leave town when you finally could? Or maybe it was when you chose to make this city your home, your comfort zone, and your base camp after living in another place. What drove you to this love affair with your community? Are you in love with the city you call home?

I love Fort Lauderdale. I love the way the winding New River curves like the arch of a brow on a beautiful face. I love the way the swaying coconut palms shade and cool the air and bring a sense of vacation to my weekday. I love watching people walk and bike along our streets and sidewalks, some casually and others with an intensity of arrival like someone who hasn't seen their loved one in days. I love seeing new buildings rising up to create



BY JENNI MOREJON  
Director, Department  
of Sustainable  
Development, City  
of Fort Lauderdale.




neighborhoods and shops and hang outs that I used to only experience while traveling. This is my love affair with Fort Lauderdale.

Now of course I've had many loves. I've traveled across oceans and throughout our country. I've fallen in love with European cities that are centuries old, luring me with cobbled streets and Romanesque architecture. I've had a crush on U.S. metropolises that are alive 24/7 with postcard skylines and street life to amaze. I've even flirted with the spirit of middle-American cities that have captured my palate with farm to

table fare while igniting my urban design eye with amazing sculpture gardens.

But nothing makes me feel as comfortable in my skin as being in Fort Lauderdale. The miles of canals represent my veins and connect my flowing thoughts to my physical self. Diverse and beautiful neighborhoods each represent the spectrum of my emotions, from proper and austere to blithe and bohemian. The pounding waves that beat the shore are in constant rhythm with my heart. Downtown, as the nerve center, produces an energy and vitality that keeps my soul alive.

If you love the place you call home, breathe its spirit into your lungs. Take mental photographs of all its unique features to lure you home when you are away. Love its flaws and imperfections and promote its virtues. Leave it occasionally, returning with a renewed sense of connection and bringing back new ideas and a passion to make Fort Lauderdale the city you never want to leave. Above all, share your thoughts, feelings, and love with your city and it will promise to give back in ways that you could never imagine. 

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SSL Founder / CEO  
Health & Wellness Expert & Author



**Donna Phelan**  
Finance Expert & Author



**Deborah Deras**  
Motivational Speaker & Author



**Julie Guy**  
LITE FM Morning Show Host  
Conference M.C.



**Jacey Birch**  
WPLG Local 10 News Anchor



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**Troy Stradford**  
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## I Want to Ride My B Cycle

A COMMUTE OF ANOTHER KIND

**I**t's official; we are a city in transition! We are out of the gate and moving toward the finish line of becoming a fully connected, pedestrian-friendly, multimodal community. There is evidence of transition popping up all around, from our celebrated painted intersections to the almost completed A1A with bicycle lanes and 11'-17' landscape pedestrian promenade.

Though we have made great strides, an estimated 92% of us drive to work. However, there is an emerging shift. Some are venturing outside the bubble of their automobiles, truly experiencing the community with all their senses, giving a second meaning to a connected community. I asked William Robertson, who lives near the beach and works downtown, and is ranked number one in the Broward B-Cycle leaderboard for riding the most miles – 830 this year – to share some insight behind his commuting choice and experiences.

**DA:** What motivated you to start riding a B Cycle bike to work?

**WR:** Improving my health! Also my vehicle is gas guzzler, a 1997 truck, and there's not a lot of space to store a bike at my condo.



BY DIANA ALARCON

Director,  
Transportation and  
Mobility Department,  
City of Fort  
Lauderdale



**DA:** How has biking to work affected your daily commute?

**WR:** Biking gives me time to think about my day, make priorities, and even daydream.

**DA:** What's your favorite part about commuting by bike?

**WR:** Being outdoors since my job is an office job. I thoroughly enjoy the smell of the beach, the sun and wind, even if it's just for a small part of my day.

**DA:** What's the biggest challenge you've come across on your cycling commute?

**WR:** I haven't really come across anything on my 2.7 mile commute. I check the radar on my phone app before leaving work to make sure I don't get caught in afternoon spring showers.

**DA:** What tips/advice can you share with other bike commuters?

**WR:** Follow the rules of the road. Always assume drivers of cars cannot see you. Ride defensively. Make sure your bike lights are in good working order.

**DA:** What have you noticed on your commute to work that can make our streets more bike friendly?

**WR:** I'm really ready for the completion of construction on A1A between Sunrise Blvd. and Oakland Park Blvd. It's been so long since I have ridden a bike [there] because of the limited space that bikes and cars need to share.

**DA:** How much do you save by biking to work?

**WR:** About \$1,000. I used to spend about \$1,200 per year in gas. My B-Cycle annual membership is only \$45. I get a bike, a place to store it, a bike mechanic, and bike maintenance. It's a good deal for me.

As you can see from Robertson, people are changing the way they move in the city. Not only have we seen an increase in B-Cycle and Sun Trolley ridership, but we have also improved this mode of travel by adding almost three miles of bike lanes, and 63 bicycle racks. So go ahead, make some time to travel by another mode. If you pass Robertson on the way, give him a thumbs up! 🍷





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## Interact, Engage, Activate


THREE REASONS TO GET INVOLVED  
WITH THE DOWNTOWN COUNCIL

**W**hy should you get involved with the Downtown Council of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce? First, all Chamber members should know that they are members of all of our Councils as a benefit of Chamber membership.

ON BEHALF OF THE  
DOWNTOWN COUNCIL  
OF THE GREATER FORT  
LAUDERDALE CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE



Secondly, the Downtown Council hosts breakfasts several times throughout the year to discuss current hot topic issues. Members of the Downtown Council's Board of Governors debate topics that affect business issues and economic climate of our downtown community.

Finally, the Council works closely with Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale to activate the Riverwalk and invigorate the downtown community. The Downtown Council is an active member of a city that is vibrant. It's a great place to live, work, and play as well as visit! Get involved to make a difference. 



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## Creating Moments

FACES OF THE COMMUNITY TELL STORIES

**S**ometimes it only takes one moment of inspiration to change a life forever. One moment. It seems that there are far too many people with too few of these moments.

That's why some, like French street artist JR, go out of their way to create moments and increase the odds of changing lives.

*Westside Gazette's* owner and publisher Bobby R. Henry, Sr. has also gone out of his way to create moments. He changed the color of the newspaper building – an independent two-story structure on Sistrunk Blvd. – to bright orange, in order to accommodate more than 50 plus large-scale photographs of members of his community. His family has operated the paper in this area since 1971.

Henry's father began the newspaper because he wished to open a forum where he could tell his own story. He too, wished to create moments with his words and today, his children, grandchildren, and cousins have joined in, along with other staff members, writers, and circulation and advertising staff.

Regarding why downtown Fort Lauderdale's African-American community seems to be growing and evolving, Henry said. "When you are in a community that has natural resources that make you feel satisfied, you might be motivated to make a change from within, rather than move away from something that disturbs you." Whether it be the weather, quality of life, the beach, or the swamp on our western border – these elements make people want to stay and work through things.

On a Monday in May there is some activity going on at the *Westside Gazette* building. It's JR's international initiative – Inside Out. The Department of Sustainable Development in the City of Fort Lauderdale came together with the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA), The Fort Lauderdale Housing Authority, as well as many resident volunteers through Broward 100 – Celebrating the Art of Community to make this a reality.

The mission of Inside Out is to change the world, one individual, one community at a time, by encouraging people to tell their stories through photographs of themselves.

What started out as a one-year project in 2007 just kept on going. Paris, Istanbul, Pakistan, Malawi, Tanzania, South Korea... and right on in to Broward County. Today, the project is in 124 countries comprised of more than 200,000 images, and growing.



Henry, Burrows, neighbors, and city staff in front of the mural



BY SAMANTHA ROJAS

Public Relations Writer, Broward Cultural Division. She can be reached at [srojas@broward.org](mailto:srojas@broward.org).

If you would like to receive the *Cultural Quarterly* online fine arts magazine, visit the website at [broward.org/arts](http://broward.org/arts) and click on Cultural Quarterly to subscribe.



Faces, expressions of pain, love, exuberance, and curiosity pasted on walls of compelling locations.

On the walls of the *Westside Gazette* newspaper building, there are intriguing faces: Ms. Singleton, 102-years-old, one of the county's centurions and a well-known and loved resident of the Sistrunk community, a six-year-old, all smiles. Mr. Burrows Sr., owner and operator of Burrows Electric, is also there, one of the most experienced electricians in the neighborhood, a pillar in the community.

Broward 100 organizers envisioned this when they created four cornerstones of engagement for Broward 100: VisualEYES – a mural project with artworks in each of the nine county commission districts and one at Port Everglades; Calendar 100, an online listing of all Broward 100 sanctioned events; the grand finale signature event Duende; and JR's Inside Out, bringing Broward County onto the world stage.

Already there have been 10 Inside Out projects completed and another 40 in the queue with the goal of 100. More than 4,000 photographs have been taken of Broward County citizens and one of the first Inside Out installments at Broward College is included on the Inside Out international website in a list of 'Best Of's.' There have been Inside Out pastings at The Children Services Council, Miramar Cultural Center, Westfield Mall, SW Regional Library, United Way Broward, and the Pembroke Pines Teen Center.

As the collage developed over the course of this afternoon in May, a humbling and deeply moving story unfolded through the faces on the wall of the neighborhood newspaper. The project is healing and celebratory. Four young boys ride up on their bikes and stop to ask about the project before closely inspecting the faces on the orange wall. "What's going on here?" they want to know. Creating moments.

Visit *Westside Gazette* at 545 NW 7th. Ter., and see for yourself. [GO](#)

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# Knowledge is Power

A STRONG COMMUNITY STARTS WITH DYNAMIC EDUCATION

**A** strong primary and secondary education system is critical for a vibrant economy. Both residents and business owners want a strong school system that combines the best teachers and tools to produce top talent.

That's one reason the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce and 74 percent of voters approved \$800 million in General Obligation Bonds last year for Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) to pay for critical infrastructure and other needs. This will be accomplished through the Safety, Music and Art, Athletics, Renovation, Technology or SMART initiative.

It's important to note that while the SMART bond issuance is significant, it is a starting point to fulfill what are mammoth needs for BCPS – a study indicates over \$3 billion in capital needs.

Broward County Public Schools is the sixth largest public school district in the nation and Florida's first fully accredited public school district, a distinction earned since 1962. With over 260,000 students, 238 schools, centers and technical colleges, and approximately 32,600 employees, BCPS is also the largest employer in Greater Fort Lauderdale, with an annual budget of \$3 billion.

The district consistently receives state and national recognition for academic achievements and innovative educational initiatives. In 2015, The Washington Post ranked 29 Greater Fort Lauderdale high schools as being among "America's Most Challenging High Schools," based on their commitment to providing all students with access to advanced coursework. In addition, U.S. News and World Report recognized 14 Greater Fort Lauderdale high schools for being among the best high schools in the country.


Ensuring students are prepared for success in college

and in the real world is a priority. Students receive computer science courses at every high school, and BCPS is expanding computer science among middle and elementary schools. Computer science is a foundational field that can prepare students for the 21st century workforce. The basic skills can be applied and utilized in many different career paths. The district is expanding its career and technical education programs among middle and high schools, providing students with increased opportunities to earn industry certifications in high-demand career fields, too.

Students can also participate in International Baccalaureate, Advanced Placement, Cambridge-AICE, Montessori, dual language programs and the largest JROTC cadet program in the nation. BCPS is a leader for providing scholastic chess to all second and third grade students. Scholastic chess helps improve students' critical thinking, problem-solving, and social skills.

The district has also been recognized nationally for providing students with innovative Personalized Learning Environments and Digital Infusion initiatives. This includes the award-winning Digital 5 program, which utilizes laptops, digital resources, online instructional materials, and other learning tools to maximize student learning. The district now offers Personalized Learning and Digital Infusion programs for multiple grade levels.

The district's magnet programs provide more than 44,000 students with unique opportunities for in-depth experiences and study in specific areas of interest from aviation, communications and languages, international affairs and business, and science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) to performing and visual arts, pre-law, and public affairs to name just a few of the 70 programs available in 55 schools across the district. Also, BCPS tops all other school districts in the country with more than 1,726 National Board certified teachers in its ranks.

You can see why I am bullish on the state of BCPS and its students. The School Board Superintendent Robert Runcie and his team, and a myriad of others including principals, teachers, counselors, coaches, business leaders, parents, etc., are to be commended for their hard work focused on quality outcomes. 



BY DAN LINDBLADE  
President/CEO,  
Greater Fort  
Lauderdale Chamber  
of Commerce



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# ***A BEAUTIFUL DAY IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD***

FORT LAUDERDALE IS FULL OF RESIDENTIAL POCKETS WITH INDIVIDUAL HISTORIES, ESTABLISHED NEIGHBORS, AND FLAVORFUL HOUSING STYLES. GET TO KNOW SIX FORT LAUDERDALE NEIGHBORHOODS. DISCOVER YOUR CITY'S BIG BACKYARD.

*WRITER* ALEXANDRA ROLAND





# LAS OLAS ISLES

**T**he Las Olas Isles are a testament to Fort Lauderdale's nickname – Venice of America. Sandwiched between the city's downtown and coastline, the area has attracted many who want the comfortable busyness the neighborhood affords.

Streets south of the main boulevard make up the official Las Olas Isles, equipped with their own homeowners' association established mostly for security. Each dead-end street spreads out like finger roads off Las Olas, with flat bodies of water webbed in between. The views of the water from the boulevard rival the linear sights down the residential streets.

On the Isle of Palm, where Las Olas Isles Homeowners' Association president Joey Stotsky lives, water juts up against the back of the homes like on the other Isles. Through the row of palm trees that line the street out front is another view of the water and the rear of the homes on Royal Plaza Drive, the isle to the west.

"When I was a little girl we used to come down here every Easter and for a month in June," Stotsky says. "I would drive down Las Olas and say 'Who lives on these beautiful streets?'"

Although the neighborhood is quiet, construction is plenty on many of the Isles' roads. The neighbors don't seem to mind. There are still ample residents jogging, biking, and walking their pets up and down the Isles and Las Olas.

The construction that is on the north side of the boulevard is another story. With several bridges undergoing construction, that side of Las Olas is slightly congested. "It's not pretty," Stotsky says. "They're redoing them so it's going to probably be another year."

A renovation trend has gripped the area. Bill Bohler has lived on the Isles for four years. He says, "It's in transition from some of the older Florida houses. We bought an old Florida type house here on the Isles and we elected to keep ours single story. Ours is about 3,000 square feet. Then you have some really large, beautiful places, particularly on the point lots. So it's an interesting mix of housing."



Also, construction has yielded bigger, taller and more contemporary houses. The older one-story homes decrease in number as you head east. A 6,140 square-foot \$5 million contemporary home on Royal Plaza Drive was completed by Macken Companies at the start of this year.

Bohler has noticed that the homes are mostly becoming year round residences for owners as opposed to vacation homes.

As of June the City Commission has addressed short-term rentals, which resident Hugh Chappell says have infiltrated the area. The larger Isles homes attract large parties for rentals sometimes as short as several days. Chappell says this increases noise and in some cases damage to property. Chappell lives in a home that was built in 1938 and worries that the integrity of the neighborhood is being compromised but little can be done at the moment because of zoning constraints.

The Seven Isles neighborhood north of the last Las Olas Isle, Isle of Palms, is etched in a east/west composition. There isn't too much construction as compared to the Las Olas Isles and the Hendricks and Venice Isles, which are speckled with apartment buildings both established and new.

ALL NEIGHBORHOOD PHOTOS BY JASON LEIDY

## NEIGHBORHOOD LINKS

Fort Lauderdale Neighborhood  
Civic Associations:  
[fortlauderdale.gov/neighbors/civic-associations](http://fortlauderdale.gov/neighbors/civic-associations)

Map of Fort Lauderdale  
Neighborhood Civic Associations:  
[gis.fortlauderdale.gov](http://gis.fortlauderdale.gov)



# DOWNTOWN

the Riverwalk and transform it into a contemporary downtown of work, live, play. And it has evolved as a role model in America as a new generation of downtown. We're very fortunate to have it."

The neighborhood is also full of little corners that you might not expect, especially if your daily commute doesn't take you down back streets and dead-ends. Near the southern border, smaller law offices and accounting firms housed in older homes dot the neighborhoods. Still, further north, closer to the courthouse and area parking lots are a few remaining duplexes, which stand out for their homely appearance contrasted by tall, sterile, office high rises.

"Our downtown features the best of big city and small city," Eichelbaum says. Very few chain restaurants and boutiques exist in the area. Most are independently owned and owner-operated and have been for decades. "Where else can you dine and say hi to the owner every night?"

Las Olas is a prime example of a main thoroughfare with intimate charm. "We have integrated recreational facilities on the Riverwalk, although we need to get better, and we have the Sunday Market, which brings everyone together in a neighborhood environment."

The positioning of small town and secular perspective gives many residents a multifaceted lifestyle – founded on localized business and luxury commerce. "How many places can you go to with two museums, two cultural performance facilities, three Starbucks, and over 50 restaurants to choose from in minutes?" Eichelbaum says.

According to him, there is no typical downtown resident – from students and young professionals to retirees and snowbirds. The latter presents a seasonality issue. Eichelbaum says that making Fort Lauderdale a year round residence for all is a focus, mostly for the purpose of providing consistent support for the local business and cultural institutions in the area.

Even with the low hum of summer season, vehicular traffic is a concern downtown. "We own one of the greatest bike paths in the world, called the Riverwalk and yet we don't have a bike lane," Eichelbaum says. Three painted streets installations took place last summer to, in part, slow traffic through downtown. In June, the association presented to the City Commission regarding traffic and pedestrian safety.

**T**he epicenter of Fort Lauderdale, downtown is synonymous with high rise buildings. And there doesn't seem to be any sign of a shift. With more than a dozen condo/apartment projects taking shape downtown, a resident's window mostly frames the city from above.

The Downtown Fort Lauderdale Civic Association officially delineates the neighborhood's boundaries as Broward Blvd. to the north, Federal Hwy. to the east, Davie Blvd. to the south, and Andrews Ave. to the west, slightly bending even more westward to accommodate the Himmarshee district. It also incorporates a portion of the Riverwalk linear park.

Stan Eichelbaum, president of the association says, "Historically the area that is most of our district north of the river would have been considered a rather run down, old style downtown. Then city activists had the vision to come together and look at the full potential of it and create



# RIO VISTA

**F**or many, Fort Lauderdale is a winter home, a stop along the way to another place. Residents in Rio Vista, though, are pretty much year rounders. It's an established neighborhood with established residents.

Warren Sturman had just married when he moved to the area almost 25 years ago. He wanted to start a family and figured that Rio Vista was ideal.

The neighborhood dates back to Stranahan's time. Rio Vista back then was sprinkled with a handful of homes. "They didn't have a bridge or tunnel and the only way to cross the river was the ferry that Stranahan had over there. So that goes back to the 1800s. In the early 1920s, a lot of the older homes were built," Sturman says.

As Fort Lauderdale transitioned from an agricultural community to a resort town, the Rio Vista area garnered attention and activity. Even after a 1926 hurricane devastated the area, WWII veterans settled in the reconstructed community years later.

Francis Abreu – a park in Rio Vista bears his name – was a local architect who designed a lot of the homes built in the 1920s. On South Ponce de Leon Dr., a few of the older homes are still standing, and tend to be smaller. One exception sits near Francis Abreu park. "Rumor has it that Al Capone was there and Harry Truman stayed over there. Some of these rumors are probably not true but the people who live there now are the third owners," Sturman says.

Nowadays, the neighborhood is cut through with wide suburban roads with speed humps. Each home stands alone, set back on the street, framed by classical architecture and an established tree canopy that tends to thicken the further east you travel. Eventually, you'll hit Cordova Road, which feeds the dead-end streets with cul-de-sacs of sprawling homes that resemble the ones on the Las Olas Isles.

"Years ago the property appraiser came and gave a talk to our neighborhood. It's one of the best talks we've ever had. He said, 'You guys possibly live in the best place on earth.'" Walkability also positions Rio Vista as an ideal Fort Lauderdale suburb. "You have the seaport, the beach, and the courthouse and you have single family houses within walking



distance of the downtown scene. It's an ideal situation," Sturman says.

When he moved in, Sturman and his wife were among only a few young families. He sees the trend restarting. "Now our kids are going off to college and you blink and there's another generation behind us. In our civic association we have a couple of parents with small kids getting involved."

This renaissance has prompted a number of Rio Vista Civic Association sponsored events – a golf cart parade, a camp out in the park the weekend after the Super Bowl, a scavenger hunt, an antique car show at the end of Ponce de Leon Dr., movies in the park.

Parking is one of the neighborhood's largest problems. Most of the older homes were built before there were cars and thus street parking is limited. The Riverwalk Water Trolley has alleviated parking woes of another kind. Now residents walk over to Stranahan Landing and catch the Trolley to get to the Riverwalk or Las Olas.



# SAILBOAT BEND

**A** suburb next to downtown, Sailboat Bend has had its dog days. Thirty years ago, the police wouldn't even venture into the neighborhood. Residents sought to change that image with the founding of the civic association in 1980. A public relations campaign, a house and garden tour, which showcased the best of the neighborhood, and the removal of several decrepit establishments altered the area's vibe.

The neighborhood is deemed the "First Fort Lauderdale," because troops, commanded by Major William Lauderdale sent to seek out Seminole leader Abiaca in the 1830s, established a fort on the north side of where the New River forks. A second Fort Lauderdale was founded down river sometime later.

Now eccentric homes, shady parks, the Sailboat Bend Artist Lofts, a fire station museum, and the Riverwalk fill its rap sheet. "Accessibility to Riverwalk is a major attraction. I walk both dogs down to Riverwalk each morning," Lage Carlson, president of the Sailboat Bend Civic Association says. "It's very inclusive. We have all types of people and everyone pretty much gets a long. Being very close to downtown, it's amazing that this neighborhood is a little oasis of sanity." With feeder streets off of Broward Blvd., the neighborhood is a stone's throw from a major commuter street, yet it holds its own in terms of residential feel. That is one reason why residents are bent on preventing commuters from using Sailboat Bend streets as cut throughs.

Dave Parker, a Virginia transplant, moved to Sailboat Bend in 2001. He served on the neighborhood association's board for six years. The older homes drew him to the area. "A lot of changes have taken place but this is still a very middle class eclectic neighborhood. There are a lot of younger people and some older people that have moved in and fixed up some of these homes. We've had bigger ones come in. [There's] less appreciation for the new McMansions they try to put in." Despite this, Parker says that the neighborhood has retained its charm. "We've had some tremendous fights trying to stop them from putting these larger homes on very small lots. We're trying to

preserve what's here before it's gone. Once it's gone it's never going to come back."

Parker and Carlson say that the neighborhood housing style is reminiscent of Key West – smaller heterogeneous cottages, duplexes, triplexes, a handful of two-story homes.

The Sailboat Bend Artists' Lofts are a huge proponent of the area. Niki Lopez was one of the first artists to apply for and be accepted to live in the artists' communal. She is also involved with the neighborhood civic association.

The affordable housing loft project was funded by a non-profit out of Minneapolis called Artspace. She and other resident artists occupy the 37-unit live-work mini community, which was built in April 2008. It's nestled on the western portion of the neighborhood off a shady strip of SW Second Ct. (Middle St.), and from the outside looks purely residential. At a closer glance, you can see and hear the activity going on inside the workspaces. The 1310 Gallery, where the artists host monthly events, is a portion of the first floor. Events there sometimes host more than 200 people.

The initiative is purposed to connect communities through art. During the Flagler Village Artwalk, the Sun Trolley transports artwalkers to and from Sailboat Bend to the main hub of the event in FAT Village.

Lopez says that, as compared to Wynwood, "[Fort Lauderdale] is starting to be recognized as a creative force in South Florida." She adds that because of Sailboat Bend's connectivity to the art scene, it's an inspiring place to be.

According to Parker, the biggest challenge is trying to preserve the diversity of the neighborhood. On one occasion, association members went out and stood in front of a bulldozer that was set to demolish a Sailboat Bend home of historic value. Residents are known for their dedication. The association is a vocalized group that doesn't balk at the red tape that goes along with petitioning the City for neighborhood needs, Parker says. Just this year, Sailboat Bend was recognized at the Community Appearance Awards for restoration.

"We're working with Dean Trantalis, our commissioner, district two, to chart a more independent course for our neighborhood," Carlson says, "Because we would like to retain the things that we like about the neighborhood."



# DORSEY RIVERBEND

**E**stablished as a neighborhood for black WWII veterans, Dorsey Riverbend is a strong thread in the fabric of African-American history and culture in Fort Lauderdale. Anchored between two boulevards, Broward and Sistrunk, the area was a bustling community held together by small town familiarity.

LaRhonda Ware, president of the Dorsey Riverbend Civic Association for the past nine and a half years and a resident for over 20 years, would visit the neighborhood with her father when she was a little girl in the 70s. The draw was friends and family. Plus Ware's father would conduct business in the community, which was mostly done through bartering.

"You know when you have nothing but you keep a value on reaching for your dreams? People that lived in Dorsey Riverbend, they did that back in the day. They had less and they worked together," Ware says.

Blacks were forced to move westward from the beach because of heavy segregation laws. The community they subsequently helped to create became a hub of African-American culture that over time has been influenced by Caribbean heritage.

"It was a place where people grew," Ware says. "The children ventured out and brought back knowledge. Dorsey Riverbend was a foundation for a lot of African-American communities that are established in Broward County."

In the late 70s, Ware says residents Marjorie Davis, Carlton Moore, Bob Young and others developed a community enhancement plan. "More trees on the swale, a more canopied look, the old houses redeveloped." Lighting, sidewalk, and Sistrunk development for local businesses were also a priority. The development still continues.

Dorothy Johnson still resides in the neighborhood and has mostly since she was born. She is one of the few that lives in her family's home – the house she grew up in. She corroborates that the neighborhood was founded on the essence of community. Dr. Calvin Shirley, one of the first African-American physicians in the area, along with Dr. James Sistrunk and Dr. Von D. Mizell, was the first person to have a TV in the neighborhood. On Saturday mornings, Johnson recalls, he would invite neighborhood boys over to watch the Cowboys play.



Johnson is a vocal resident. She's staunch about her neighborhood retaining its respect. The challenge is that there are so many perspectives regarding the development of the area. This year, she petitioned the City for sidewalk enhancements. Too many people were using the swale area on NW 21 Ave. for parking.

"I, along with my neighbors, petitioned to get curbing. We were picking up junk off the street and cups and beer cans," Johnson says.

The City of Fort Lauderdale completed a \$61,000 sidewalk improvement project along NW 21 Ave. between NW Third Ct. and Sistrunk Blvd. early this summer. Construction included the relocation of existing trees, the addition of a concrete sidewalk, and installation of curbs and grass swales.

Locals can be seen walking through the neighborhood, especially in the late afternoon/evening hours. It is known as the "Front Porch Community." "Dorsey Riverbend was founded on family values and you can see that in the structure of the houses," Ware says. Men sit in the front yard, children play on the street. It breathes a sense of nostalgia for Johnson and Ware.

Area establishments are well known in Broward County – the African-American Research Library, established by former director of the Broward County Library Sam Morrison, as a memorial of African-American history, art, and culture; Betty's Soul Food, which just borders Dorsey Riverbend, on the north side of Sistrunk, just west of the Turnpike, a staple soul food restaurant founded by a self-made woman; the Roy Mizell and Kurtz Funeral Home sits on the north side of Sistrunk.

The homes for WWII veterans were torn down in 1995 to make way for I-95 and Johnson says that compared to years ago, when she could name the families that lived in various homes, recently rental units are now coming in along with people who are slightly more transient. Nevertheless, family-owned businesses like the *Westside Gazette* newspaper and Burrows Electric are like neighborhood sentinels. The history that they and others contributed to is staying put. And that's how the residents like it.



# RIVERSIDE PARK

This [expansion] was going to really destroy the quality of the neighborhood. So we put together a master plan. It was an amazing process. It was a coming together of the entire neighborhood.” Cut through traffic was eliminated, detoured to the major streets like Broward and Davie Blvds. and I-95’s expansion was pushed westward.


After this, people started getting out and enjoying the space around them. Over time, the diversity of the neighborhood has grown into a mixture of races, ages, and socio-economic groups.

President Whittenberger is in his late 30’s. He moved from Victoria Park two and a half years ago. “We wanted something with a little more room,” he says. “The yards are bigger. I feel like you can tell it’s one of the older neighborhoods – it’s got gigantic old trees that are over 100 years old. A cool mix of people. It’s got all the age groups. We have families, a lot with young kids and we have a lot of elderly neighbors as well.” Cooontie Hatchee Park, Riverside Park, and Stranahan High School keep the area family-oriented.

“The way that the streets are set up, it doesn’t really allow anyone to drive too fast,” Whittenberger says. This was an association accomplishment. In years past, dangerous driving and some of the portable housing units increased crime. In 1973, the association was founded in part to address both issues. Now, Whittenberger says you can see families with young babies and strollers walking out in the evening hours.

Homes in the area, are individually styled and depending on what street you’re on are reminiscent of old Florida. Whittenberger says that many were built in the 1900s and were constructed with Dade County Pine. “People decorate their houses quite a bit. It’s a pretty eclectic mix. I’ve seen a lot of people doing their houses in that Miami art deco style.”

Bogard’s neighbor, Paul Stanovich is an active realtor in Fort Lauderdale. He’s lived in the area for 12 and a half years. A home in Little Florida, part of Riverside Park, with vast views of the New River just sold for \$3.5 million. The house across from Bogard recently sold for \$515,000. As distance from the water increases, the home values decrease. Stanovich referenced a home he saw just go on the market for \$129,000. “It attracts a lot of different people. It’s a factor for the diversity,” he says. <sup>60</sup>



**R**iverside Park is a neighborhood with a gradient – a mixture of people, landmarks, and homes – from million dollar houses to section eight projects.

The eastern border incorporates one of the only swing bridges in Florida. Riverside Market and the Craft Beer Cartel are among the neighborhood’s pride and joy. “You get a lot of activity over there by Riverside Market and the park until the late hours because the younger people AKA the hipsters love that Riverside Market,” Mike Whittenberger, president of the Riverside Park Civic Association says.

Sharon Bogard has lived in the area since 1983. “It’s actually pie shaped. So where the river splits, it goes up either side of the neighborhood. So on the north side, where I live, it’s all canals. At that time we had a sailboat so that’s what attracted me.”

Whittenberger, too, thinks that’s quite a draw to the neighborhood – the fact that boating access to the New River is available, which is part of the reason why many residents are apprehensive about the All Aboard Florida rail project. The feeling is that the lowering of the railroad bridge will influence the fluency of maritime traffic.

In the late 80s, Riverside Park Residents’ Association wrote its first master plan, which was adopted by the City of Fort Lauderdale. At the time, I-95 northbound was to be redeveloped, with traffic to be rerouted through Riverside Park according to the Department of Transportation. “Our neighborhood had become a cut through anyway,” Bogard says. “At one point, you couldn’t walk on these little streets because of the traffic. We had city busses coming through here, we had semis cutting through and going over the 11th Ave bridge.



# ***A LA MAISON***

CHARMING, GRAND, ONE-OF-A-KIND - FORT LAUDERDALE HOMES RUN THE GAMUT. HERE IS A LOOK BEHIND THE DOORS OF THREE UNIQUE HOMES AND THE STORIES THAT HAVE UNFOLDED BETWEEN THEIR WALLS.









# OPEN SPACE LOOKOUT

WRITER JAMION KRIES • PHOTOGRAPHER JASON LEIDY

The divide between the living room and bedroom

**I**nside Jason and Joni Taylor's Avenue Lofts dwelling emanates vibrations of an eclectic style that is refined by both a post-modern and a French industrial composition of furnishings.

Large beams of light shoot through the New York style loft's 8' x 8' windows, shedding first light on an old mining cart that Jason says is from Pennsylvania, circa 1880, when coal was dug out from the mountains to fuel a bustling railroad industry. The couple first came upon the piece in an antique store in Connecticut only to see an exact replica sold at Restoration Hardware two years later.

Above the old mining cart is a post-modern chandelier that hangs from a single cord that the couple nicknamed the "death star" after a *Star Wars* movie, since it shoots out a solid cylinder of light much like the round ship slowly floating through the outer atmosphere of stars and asteroids.

"This is such a creative space, and we love it because Joni is an educator and an artist and, myself...I work with artists and photographers with *National Geographic*. It's like the [Greenwich] Village in the 80s without the bad drugs."

A unique wind chime hangs in close proximity to the "death star" chandelier. The chime came from the couple's travels to Alaska and displays a brown bear, a black bear, and a polar bear that are ceramic kiln dried pieces from a local artist. "Both being in the arts, we try to support as many artists as possible," Jason said.

The industrial/metropolitan space is distinctive with thick concrete walls that make the inside very quiet, yet allow a voice to carry very well. The couple's charismatic personalities echo off 14' ceilings where exposed ductwork and rugged lighting add to the industrial feel of the abode described as the "Cool, hip, chic loft."

On the east wall of the loft an English theme reflects part of Joni's heritage. Three colorful pieces of playful art by Jamie Reid hang above the bed, which is bordered by polished steel piping that acts as a banister.







Dining area



Prince Albert next to the box of trinkets

Prince Albert, a small metal robot with the face of an old gas meter, wears a silver crown. But there is something very special added to Prince Albert – an old hack license from New York which was Jason's great grandfather's. "Everyone wants jewelry or furniture when someone dies. I just wanted a little something that reminded me of him," said Jason.

Inches away another piece that holds great sentimental value to Jason is his Grandpa Bob's hand-sized mannequin. As an artist, his grandfather would have the piece sitting on his desk, tirelessly working away at his craft. The box the mannequin sits in has many objects like the words "LOVE" from the Oxford Printing Press found in an outdoor market on Portobello Road in London,



The "death star" chandelier above the mining cart table

England. Collectively, the small box "Represents our engagement, wedding, travels, hopes, and dreams," said Joni. Each piece placed just so, like the patient hands of a clocksmith.

The westward wall dons perfectly straight pieces of aluminum I-beams that were cut and affixed to the concrete wall. The beams hold works by the street artist Swoon (Caledonia Dance Curry) whose life-sized wheat paste prints inspire Joni's own art work. Swoon's art gave cancer patients a second chance at life through a charity event where the Taylors purchased the artwork. Further pieces include part of an artist's house that was destroyed by a hurricane in New York and then auctioned off to provide funds for the home's rebuilding.

The Taylors not only support fellow artists, but also the environment. "As the population grows, we are running out of natural resources. We have cork flooring, a renewable resource, lighting from a construction site, and dining room chairs that have been up-cycled," they said.

The Taylors have made their loft a home collecting pieces for the last eight years. They typically enjoy a glass of red wine in the evening accompanied by jazz as the sounds of the FEC railway remind Jason of his New York roots. City Hall, the Las Olas shopping district, the NSU Art Museum, the Museum of Discovery and Science, and IMAX theater are all within moderate walking distance. "We love the location, we love the physical layout with high ceilings, but I think the community is what we really love best."



# WATERFRONT CLASSIC

WRITER PETE STEVENSON

**S**et on three fourths of an acre in the prominent Seven Isles neighborhood sits a unique 11,000 square foot home - distinctive, in that for its size this home is intimate and family-friendly. From the moment you step through the main entrance you're greeted by a warm and inviting living room with marble floors, a two-story fireplace, and pecky cypress wood accents. The Grimme family, who purchased the house in 1996, has redesigned and decorated the home to celebrate family and functionality.

The open-plan layout of the chef's kitchen, family room with billiard table, 400-gallon aquarium, and adjacent bar gives a unified platform for entertaining and family events. The kitchen boasts custom cabinetry, granite countertops, a six-burner Gaggenau gas range, two Sub-Zero refrigerators, two dishwashers, and an adjacent wine room. Also off the kitchen is a fully equipped gym facility with its own bathroom.



Main pool deck

As you move outdoors from the combined kitchen/family room, an amazing waterfront entertaining space greets you with a waterfall pool, cabana bar, and fully appointed summer kitchen.

This timelessly designed Fort Lauderdale home sits at the junction of the Rio Barcelona Canal and the Middle River and thus affords the family greater privacy than traditional





Living room



Family room



Kitchen

canal-front homes. This abundant water view serves as a beautiful backdrop to almost every room in the home. And with over 300 feet of waterfront, there is plenty of space for multiple watercrafts, including deep water and yacht dockage along with a boatlift.

The second story features the grand master suite, with 180-degree water views, two large wardrobes, a spa bathroom, a steam shower, and laundry facilities. Just off the suite is a large outdoor covered lounge with a spiral staircase that leads down to the main pool deck area.

The children's bedrooms, all located in what could be described as their own private wing, have hardwood floors, their own bathrooms, waterfront views, and laundry facilities. But a children's wing wouldn't be complete without a study lounge. A single door, thus allowing either

parents or children a bit of privacy, can close off this entire wing. If the parents need to study or get some work done, they utilize the beautiful third floor study located in the home's turret. The study has 360-degree sweeping views amid mahogany wood covered walls.

The Grimme family's home also features a separate guest suite that includes two bedrooms, a bathroom, a kitchenette, and multiple balconies to view the water and the lush landscape. This landscaping includes a picturesque balance of manicured lawns, exotic plants, and a variety of fruit trees.

In addition to raising a family in this inviting setting, the Grimmes have raised funds and spirits as they have opened up their home to host many charitable, holiday, and school events.



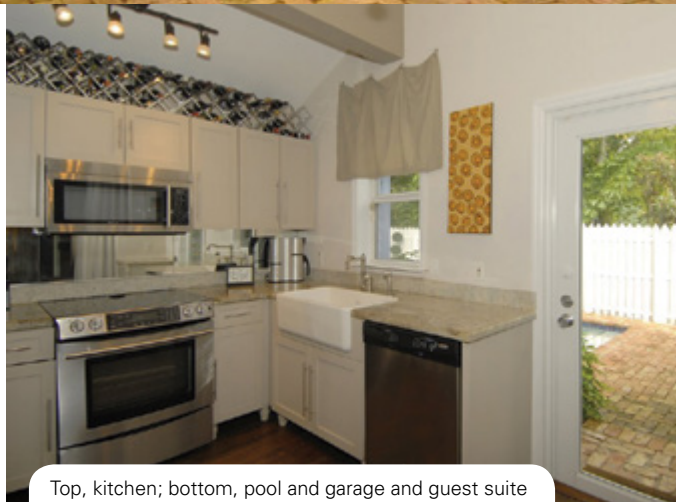
# LITTLE BLUE HOUSE

WRITER GABRIELLE ROLAND

If you've ever taken a short cut through Victoria Park, strolled through on an afternoon walk or just driven around to observe the eclectic collection of homes, you may have stumbled upon a little gem – a blue gem to be exact. John and Kathleen Schobel happened upon the property almost 11 years ago and fell in love instantaneously. John said “We were driving down 14th street and I saw that house with the white picket fence in periwinkle blue and I told our realtor, ‘I want to buy that house.’ And he said, ‘Well, it’s for sale.’ I said, ‘Well let’s go buy it.’” Kathleen added, “We went in and bought it almost immediately.”

Originally flamingo pink, the home was built in 1936 using Dade County Pine for the frame and porch. According to Donna Carbonara, a realtor in the Fort Lauderdale area, “It was one of the first houses built in Victoria Park.” There were two bedrooms, one bathroom, a kitchen, and a working fireplace in the family room. Since then, the structure has been brought up to date with the addition of a master bedroom, an en suite bathroom, additional closet space – a plus in the Victoria Park community – and a swimming pool. The house still maintains some characteristics of a typical home constructed in the 1930s including the ziggurat that leads to the two original bedrooms. According to Kathleen, this kind of structure was favored until the simpler curved archway became preferred by architects in the 1940s.

One original feature that remains is the arched ceiling. This architectural phenomenon was not yet popular in the 1930s and thus the Schobels were told that the original builder was very proud of his modern accomplishment. Higher ceilings provided more efficient ventilation – a plus in South Florida. There are also several original



Top, kitchen; bottom, pool and garage and guest suite







Living room

door handles in the bathroom and family room.

The addition of the master bedroom, bathroom, pool and the enclosure of the porch to extend the family room were done by a previous owner, however the Schobels made several changes within the little blue house to add their own personal touch. Decorations done by interior designer Brad Toth are both eclectic and refined, blending a variety of patterns and tones. Kathleen has even commented on its uniqueness to admirers passing by, saying, "It's as cute on the inside as it is on the outside. It's a charming, magical, little house."

In 2010, the Schobels also made some major structural changes to the property including the procurement of the land next door. The existing house was demolished and in its place, the Schobels erected a two-car garage and a guest suite complete with a rendering of the house in its original color. The addition provided more space for comfortable living. The Schobels also added a hot tub to the existing pool. All these features are connected by an elevated deck, which makes the space ideal for entertaining. The additions also garnered attention from the city, earning the Schobels a Community Appearance Award "in recognition of outstanding achievement for urban environmental design."

The Schobels shared that the lure of Victoria Park was its wealth in character. Kathleen said, "We chose to live in Fort Lauderdale... because of diversity and Victoria Park may be among the most diverse areas in a very diverse city." The diversity also spilled into their collection of neighbors coming from a variety of backgrounds including Peruvian and French.



Dining area

Victoria Park has come a long way since the home was built and even since the Schobels moved in. The variation in home styles has continued to expand and now includes McMansions and condos. On the other hand, John optimistically noted that they are seeing, "A lot of people taking the old houses and improving them and I think it's a huge plus for the neighborhood."

Kathleen summed up their 11-year experience by saying, "It's been a wonderful place to live. We've had lovely neighbors. Victoria Park is a very special place."

After having lived in the little blue house for 11 years, the Schobels are moving on to another South Florida neighborhood and have sold the house to a woman from up the street who, like many, has admired it for many years. [GO](#)



# THE CONFESSIONS OF A YACHTIE

A CREW'S DYNAMIC  
ABOARD *TIME FOR US*

**WRITER** JAMION KRIES



Captain Scott Ellison, chief engineer/ first mate Wayne Jacobsz, head chef Francis Verhoeven, chief stewardess Samantha Morton, and deck stewardess Sarah Moore



**T**he emerald and aqua waters briskly strike the underside of the ship as it comes in from sea. This is no ordinary ship, with no ordinary captain. *Time For Us*, a 120' super yacht weighing 280 gross tons, under the heavy power of robust engines, trudges inward toward Port Everglades and heads for the New River. Captain Scott Ellison, 36, is aboard with his crew.

The eyes of Ellison are steady – he has crossed the Atlantic 10 times in his career. Wayne Jacobsz, 30, his head engineer and first mate, is his second set of eyes and ears. He checks the port side (left) and starboard side (right) in tight cornering situations where the multi-million dollar vessel could be at risk for a collision. Experience and know-how triumph as the super yacht is navigated through the shallows just north of the 17th Street Causeway Bridge.

Ellison is originally from Washington State. He found his way into the maritime industry while traveling in Australia and Asia. He earned a degree in business administration from The University of Puget Sound and never considered working aboard a boat as a career choice.

“It never dawned on me,” he said, until a few chance encounters with some intrepid travelers in the foreign countries he visited inspired him. At 24, Ellison was working aboard a yacht in Fort Lauderdale. “I worked as a deckhand and worked my way up,” he said. His 11-year career has taught him that “Not all boats are a piece of cake. Each one is engineered differently. A boat has a personality.”

The reason Ellison chose yachting is quite simple. “I love being at sea. I love being out. The variety of the job, I like to be up, I like to be moving around. Yachting is a





physical job.” The sea has also afforded Ellison some unique experiences that many only see through projected images on a television screen. “Alaska is definitely one of the most memorable seasons I’ve ever had – humpback whales swimming right next to the boat, bubble feeding,” Ellison said. “We were anchored in these beautiful little bays with no one around, grizzly bears wondering around on the beach. [The owners] had a seaplane as well. We went over glaciers checking out the seals on the ice.”

Originally from South Africa, Jacobz earned a degree in multimedia IT from the University of Pretoria. “I love to see the wonders of the world, traveling and getting paid to do it. [They are] places the average person would not be able to afford,” he said.

His dual role as the boat’s engineer and first mate keeps him well occupied. “You kind of have to get along with everyone. You’re learning in a small environment,” he said referring to interacting with the crew. And it is challenging, at times, being away from his family in South Africa but Skype helps bridge the gap.

He came in to the industry by motoring in a 46’ yacht from Cape Town to St. Martin. A bit of research and encouragement from friends who knew about yachting life led him to his career and he never looked back.

Ellison and Jacobz are not alone though. Samantha Morton, Francis Verhoeven, and newcomer Sarah Moore are also aboard. Morton, 35, is the chief stewardess from South Africa. She is charged with taking care of owner and guest activities. She makes sure that everyone aboard is comfortable and satisfied. She references open communication between crew members as a necessity to keep the ship running smoothly. “It is crucial that everyone is on the same page, so a crew member does not have a ‘wild eyed look,’” Morton said.

She used to work aboard cruise ships. “The pros are that

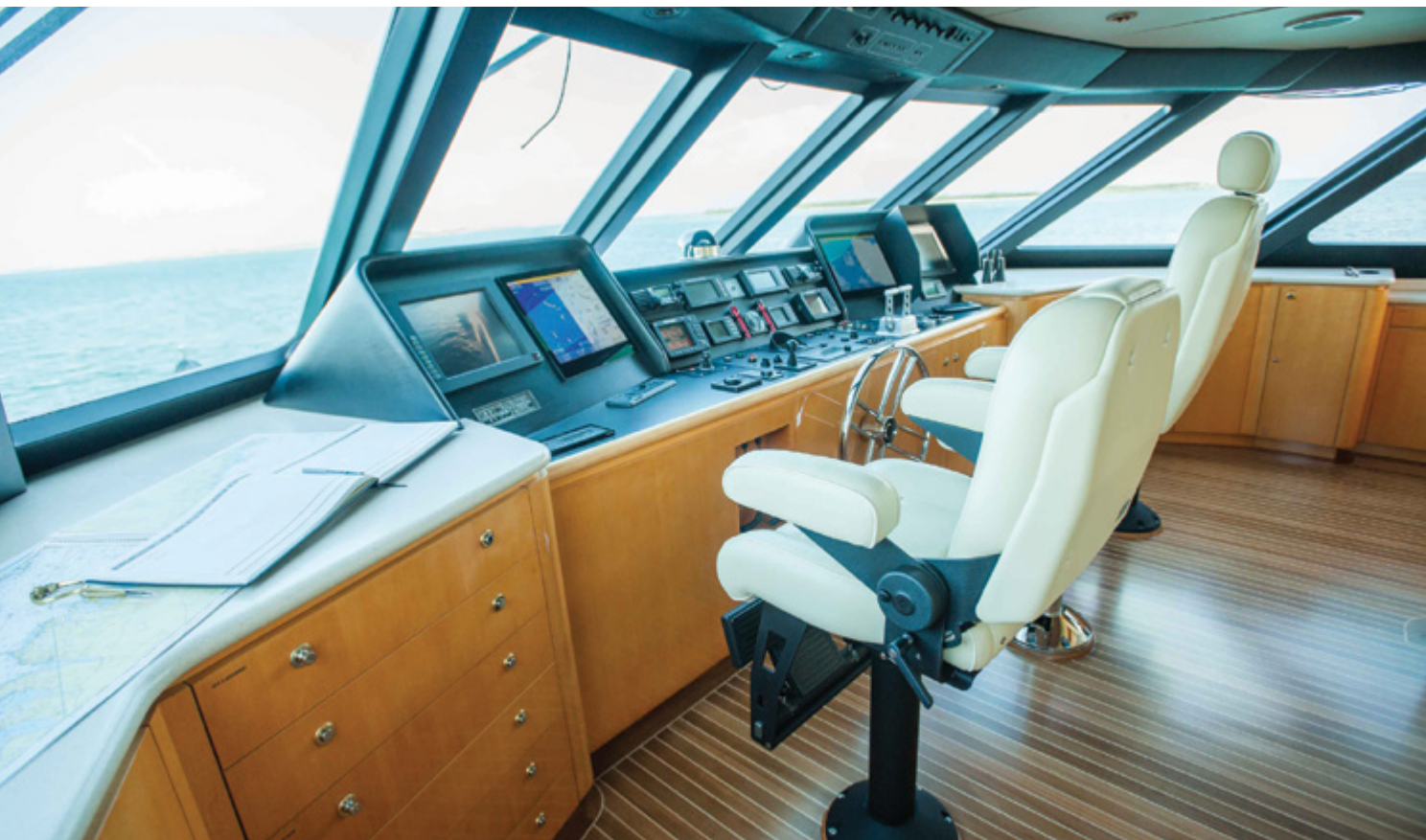
I am learning so much, a bit of everything – lines, fenders, plotting, and how to run the generators. You can kind of run your own little boat if you wanted. I can say I am 10 times happier working on a yacht than working a cruise ship. I’d never go back. It’s very personal. You learn your guests, your owners and their friends. You are more seen as a person and they respect you.”

Francis Verhoeven, 41, is the head chef. Originally from Belgium, he attended six years of culinary school there. Verhoeven has to manage a variety of foods that are pre-selected by the yacht owner as well as guests. He also keeps up with crew requests, like new food dishes.

“It is difficult because I have to make them all happy. My satisfaction comes from instant feedback. It is good energy for the next day and further,” he said. “A good energy is also preserved when you give people space and help each other, creating a good atmosphere. You must work as a team.” Looking out from a wire frame and wide grin, he joked, “People say don’t trust a skinny chef.”

Sarah Moore, 44, is the deck stewardess from Colorado, completely new to the yachting industry. She came from a background in corporate sales management and hopes to transfer her skill set to the marine world. Moore believes team orientation is a large factor in the success aboard a yacht given that the crew, owners, and guests all live in close quarters and many common areas are shared. “It was definitely the nomadic lifestyle I was looking for,” she said. Moore hopes her newfound career will make her a captain one day.

*Time For Us* is heading out to Nova Scotia and New England this summer, sure to bring back stories that will one day fuel the imaginations of friends and family. But for those considering a career on the sea, Ellison has some advice — “It’s an intense environment. Not everyone chooses to continue.” ©



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# ***TO LIVE STRONG***

A BALANCED LIFESTYLE FOR  
YOUR MIND, BODY, AND SOUL

*WRITER* CLARISSA BUCH

**J**une 21 marked the first day of summer, but in Fort Lauderdale it's nearly impossible to pinpoint the demarcation of the seasons. With the city's average daily temperature at 77 degrees in the winter and 89 degrees in the summer, residents and tourists savor paradise all year round. But with paradise comes pressure - most find themselves battling the gravity of staying healthy and keeping their beach bodies intact, all while dealing with the chaos of day-to-day life.

From golf courses to running trails, parks and playgrounds to miles of coastline fit for a swim, the Venice of America has it all. One would think that staying healthy and living in a balanced way would be easy. Though Fort Lauderdale is known for its array of outdoor activities, it's also known for being a corporate hotspot, housing hundreds of businesses, law firms, and organizations, which correlates to a higher stressed population.

Broward College's Employee Wellness Program Manager Brenda Bordogna spends her days helping clients find a happy medium between work and play. She believes that focusing on all aspects of wellness, and not just that beloved beach body, is key.

"Look at each piece one by one - the emotional, the physical, the social, the spiritual - and see what ways you can make changes in order to meet your goals," Bordogna says. "Focusing too strongly on the physical side of wellness may keep you lean and toned, which is wonderful, but if you neglect your emotions, inevitably they will still be waiting for you after the workout."

As the Employee Wellness Program Manager, Bordogna focuses on creating an environment that produces a culture of health and wellness for the

## **FIVE WAYS** TO STAY ACTIVE

**WRITER** CLARISSA BUCH

Don't have time to get to the gym? Don't worry. There are a number of daily activities that if done correctly can burn as many calories as your favorite aerobics class. These numbers are based on an individual weighing 155 pounds. If you weigh less, you'll need to increase either the time or intensity. If you're heavier, you'll burn even more!



**1** Go grocery shopping - Spend at least an hour shopping and burn about 260 calories. Get the heavy objects at the start of your shop to get your heart rate up for the duration of the time.

**2** Clean the house - Instead of looking at cleaning as a chore, think of it as a high intensity workout. Burn a minimum of 330 calories an hour by turning up some music, grabbing a mop and cleaning like you've never cleaned before.

**3** Stroll through the park - Taking a few extra steps everyday and walking for upwards of an hour will have you burning about 300 calories.

**4** Wash the car - Skip the automated car wash and grab a hose and some soap and burn about 330 calories an hour by giving your car a quick makeover.

**5** Dance the night away - Turn on your favorite playlist, grab the kids, a friend or your spouse and have a 30-minute dance party. Not only will you release endorphins and relieve stress, you'll also burn between 205-233 calories.







Broward College community. What Bordogna does is something many corporations are starting to do, which will give Fort Lauderdale residents a better chance at mastering a balanced lifestyle.

But even with help from someone like Bordogna, for those with a family, one too many commitments, or an overload of work, how can attaining a balanced lifestyle be accomplished?

Bordogna puts it simply: create a schedule, plan ahead, tell everyone, and most importantly, make it easy. She recommends working around your individual schedule and then religiously sticking to it – whether that means working out before work, during lunch or after the kids are in bed. Bordogna explains that planning ahead and informing your family and friends of your plan is essential.

“Make meals ahead of time and portion out snacks into containers right when you bring them home

from the grocery store. Not having to rush home to make dinner or get up earlier to make lunches will give you more time to schedule in the activities you want to do,” Bordogna says. “Tell your friends and family and ask them to help support you in achieving your goals. It may seem impossible to have any “me” time when you have so many obligations, but you have to remember that if you don’t take care of yourself, you aren’t your best for others.”


Making excuses and getting derailed from fitness goals and plans are major pitfalls. “Set a reason for why you made these changes and hold on to that,” Bordogna says. “Every time you want to quit, not show up for class or do whatever it is that you know will set you back – stop, take a breath, and think about your reason.”

To the believers in extreme methods like detoxes, cutting out specific nutrients, taking diet pills or wearing a corset to achieve the same results of a healthy and balanced lifestyle, Bordogna says think again.

“For people like this, I would show them good sources for information that show how many of these diets aren’t sustainable, meaning you can’t stay on [them] for an extended period of time,” Bordogna says. “You will likely gain all or more of the weight back and they can be dangerous as well.”

If one is interested in starting a new fitness and lifestyle program, Bordogna recommends visiting a primary doctor and electing for a physical checkup.

“It helps you to know where you are starting at, limitations you need to consider and [it] can help you set a goal,” Bordogna says. “Setting a goal is first and foremost when starting a program. It will give you parameters and a timeline to follow so that you can see your progress.”

If you’re feeling motivated and ready to start your own health and wellness journey, consider her wise words: “Change is hard – you are going to have to break old habits and form new ones, so give yourself time and be kind to yourself.” 



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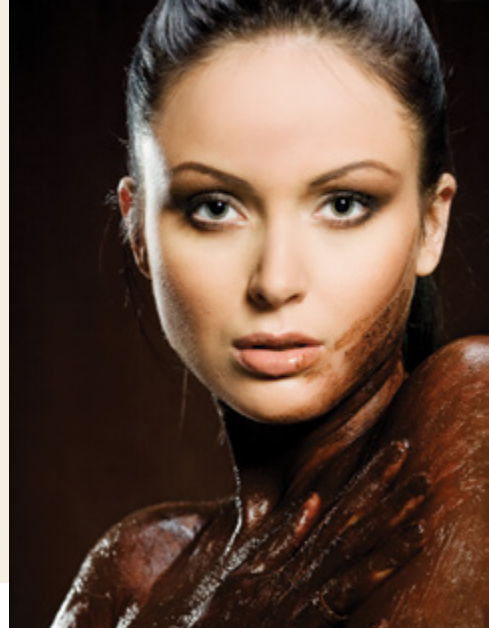
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# CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

INDULGING IS A LIFESTYLE FOR THE RICH AND THE FAMOUS. WHO SAYS OVER THE TOP IS A BAD THING?

WRITER BIANCA WIESLER



## LUXURY ON A WHIM

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VELOCITY JETS LLC | (866) 575-5387 | [WWW.VELOCITYJETS.COM](http://WWW.VELOCITYJETS.COM)

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THE ATLANTIC HOTEL AND SPA | (954) 567-8085 | [WWW.ATLANTICHOTELFL.COM](http://WWW.ATLANTICHOTELFL.COM)


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Forget dining out. A personal chef will take on all the work that goes into cooking a wonderful meal at home. Buying fine, fresh ingredients, preparing a meal, and even cleaning up the mess afterward, these chefs will, quite literally, cater to your needs. They take over your kitchen, prepare your preselected meals, store them in reusable containers, and leave heating instructions. They’ll even leave a dinner waiting for you in the oven. Two hundred and fifty dollars will get you two servings of five different entrees – so dinner and lunch for one week or dinner for two weeks. For \$300, get five different entrees for a family of four. Korean style pulled pork, sesame seared salmon, and Floribbean BBQ pork loin are a few of the dishes listed on their site.

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## SIGHTSEEING ON THE SEA

It should be no surprise that having a yacht party is easy to do in Fort Lauderdale. Courtesy of Lauderdale Yacht Charters, cruise on the *Sea Porsche* for your next party or just a casual outing. Take to the seas for plenty of sightseeing around Fort Lauderdale, or even go as far as the Bahamas. A four-hour cruise with a maximum of 12 people is \$1,500 but if a full day is more of what you’re looking for, \$2,400 will cover eight hours. For multi-day charters, call for pricing.

LAUDERDALE YACHT CHARTERS | (954) 609-5269 | [WWW.LAUDERDALEYACHTCHARTERS.COM](http://WWW.LAUDERDALEYACHTCHARTERS.COM) 





# THE BUTTERFLY EFFECT

WHERE FASHION, ART, AND MUSIC MERGE

WRITER GABRIELLE ROLAND







**I**n Italian, the word *umbra* means a shady spot – the space where a tree, a building, or a structure, casts its shadow on the ground. It is underneath the umbra or umbrella of the Shade Post warehouse, a cultural venue, that fashion designer Kayce Armstrong endeavors to “create a place where all sorts of people can come,” including individuals with varying backgrounds in fashion, art, and music.

Armstrong originally opened the Shade Post warehouse in Hollywood. The venue relocated within Hollywood before moving to Fort Lauderdale. During each relocation the warehouse has doubled in size.


This spring, Armstrong debuted the multifaceted space and an eye-catching butterfly mural, which adorns its exterior walls, was unveiled. Designed and installed by multimedia artist Rubem Robierb, the mural, entitled “Metamorph-Us,” consists of brightly colored 20’ X 13’ butterflies with bullet bodies.

But Shade Post is much more than simply a pretty face. Beyond the butterfly wings there are open spaces designed to accommodate a variety of events like fashion shows and photo shoots. The spaces also function as a lounge or a boutique. Everything in the unit is mobile. A runway can give way to a seating area, only to be reconstructed into a stage the next day. The warehouse hosts regular events featuring musicians, artists, poets, and other members of the art community, giving them a platform to showcase their craft. This allows for the fusion of fashion, art, and music, all under the Shade Post umbrella.

Formerly a model in Europe, Armstrong studied the practices of designers like Giorgio Armani, which she has implemented at Shade Post. She emphasizes the importance of a fashion house in the production of designs. “Your house is where it all begins and you need to work on that first. Then when you get big enough and you want to spread your wings, you can go further. It’s important that you have that grounded home.”

Shade Post is the house and AOS (Art of Shade) and AOS Legacy are both eco-conscious labels within the house. Designs from both labels are available for purchase at the onsite eco boutique. Keeping the design and production proceedings in-house helps to maintain the quality of the fashion products.

The addition of the warehouse and mural has colored this part of the city and Armstrong and Robierb anticipate that it will have far reaching effects in the local community. He said, “There is nothing better than butterflies – the biggest icon of transformation – to represent the transformation of the whole area.

The beauty of the mural is that it is accessible to everyone.” Shade Post is located at the corner of NW First St. and NW First Ave., across from the Broward Central Terminal. Each day, thousands of people circulate through the transportation hub. Armstrong explained, “Our hope is that we can bring a positive, helpful, creative light to the area.” 





# The Craft of Mexican Cuisine

JEY HOSPITALITY'S NEWEST VENTURE BRINGS TACOS, TEQUILA, AND VIBRANT STREET ART TO THE HIMMARSHEE NIGHTLIFE SCENE AND BRUNCH TOO.

*WRITER* BIANCA WIESLER





**D**owntown Himmarshee Village is being transformed into a hub for social eaters, with new restaurants helping to pave the way for this growth. Tacocraft, which opened in January of this year, is the third restaurant that JEY Hospitality has added to SW Second St. Set between ROK:BRGR and Himmarshee Public House, the new Mexican tequila and cocktail bar offers a blend of authentic Mexican menu items and ingredients. JEY Hospitality Group is known for taking something traditional, like comfort style food, and adding a kick of bold flavors.

Walls adorned with urban murals and industrial décor throughout the room take the taqueria's customers to what feels like Los Angeles. Ruben Ubiera, a Miami artist best known for his work in Wynwood, was brought to Fort Lauderdale to create several amazing pieces to maintain this atmosphere at Tacocraft. Throughout the restaurant, Ubiera's pieces incorporate street art, day of the dead figures, and Mexican themes. Tacocraft has an environment that appeals to all groups of people, welcoming customers to come experience the food and the ambiance. There is an especially captivating piece on the back wall, exhibiting a woman as a DJ, covered in tattoos and skull makeup.

Appetizers include fresh, homemade, seasonal salsa and guacamole made to order, and entrées feature authentic street tacos, salads, burritos, and high stacks of nachos. The street tacos, made with corn shells, are the highlight of the menu, with many options for customers to choose from. As the name of the establishment suggests, these tacos are hand crafted with the freshest ingredients. Tacocraft makes sure that whatever cannot be homemade is always sourced locally in South Florida. Popular menu items include the chorizo and ROK:shrimp tacos. Patrons can also opt for "gringo style" tacos, ordering them with flour tortillas.

Tacocraft fulfills the downtown area's need for a full service Mexican restaurant, serving a wide variety of menu items and drinks. The taqueria serves over 100 different kinds of tequila, some of which are house infused with flavors like pineapple and jalapeño. The restaurant offers a homemade Mexican Fireball, which incorporates clove and cinnamon infused tequila. They also





## Pairing

BLACK  
DIAMOND  
MARGARITA  
Dobel tequila,  
black cherry  
puree, simple  
syrup, fresh  
lime juice black  
sea in a salt-  
rimmed glass



Chorizo tacos



"Prime" steak carne asada taco




ROK: shrimp tacos

maintain authenticity with an assortment of craft beers on tap, all of which are Mexican.

With specials throughout the week, Tacocraft offers cost effective deals to customers daily. Margarita Monday has \$5 margaritas from 5 p.m. to closing time, which gives patrons a chance to try many of Tacocraft's handcrafted cocktails. Some of the best deals happen on Taco Tuesday, with \$2 tacos, \$4 craft beers, and \$6 margaritas, all day and night while a live DJ plays. Not only can you join in on the Happy Hour fun Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday for 2 for 1 drinks, but there's also Tacocraft's new Late Night Happy Hour. On Thursday through Saturday nights from 12 a.m. to 2 a.m. they bring 2 for 1 drinks back, as well as additional food specials.

If Saturday night has gotten the best of you, or you're just preparing to face Monday again, customers can head down to Sunday brunch. With a live DJ, a completely different menu, and free sangria and mimosas for ladies, Tacocraft completes the "Brunch Trifecta" every Sunday from 10:30 a.m. with its fellow JEY Hospitality neighbors. Get there early, as it is one of the busiest business days.

You can also enjoy Tacocraft daily starting at 11:30 a.m., with indoor and outdoor seating able to accommodate 60, whether it's a lunch break for business professionals or a group of young adults kicking off the weekend.

"What we do is the opposite of fast food," says Marc Falsetto, co-founder of JEY Hospitality. The group maintains this ideology in all their locations, which they hope to expand throughout South Florida. They are looking to bring Tacocraft to the Miami, Broward, and Palm Beach counties. 

## If you go:

### Tacocraft Taqueria & Tequila Bar

204 SW Second St.

(954) 463-2003

[www.tacocraft.com](http://www.tacocraft.com)



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Compiled by  
**GABRIELLE ROLAND**  
Calendar Editor

### **Monthly Exhibit: Independence Day**

July 2015  
Historic Stranahan House  
Museum  
(954) 524-4736  
[www.stranahanhouse.org](http://www.stranahanhouse.org)

### **2015 Turtle Walk**

July 1, 2, 7 - 9  
Visitors will enjoy an entire evening of sea turtle exploration and identification while uncovering the natural history and myths of turtles. Nature permitting, participants will have a chance to watch a 300 pound loggerhead sea turtle venture out of the ocean to lay her eggs. Begins at Museum of Discovery and Science  
(954) 713-0930  
[www.mods.org](http://www.mods.org)

### **Friends of the Fort Lauderdale Libraries Books and More Event**

July 3  
Broward County Main Library  
(954) 357-7443  
[www.broward.org/library](http://www.broward.org/library)



### **Summer Nautilus LIVE Series**

July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31,  
Aug. 7 and 14  
Connect with Dr. Bob Ballard's world-renowned research vessel, *Nautilus*, and learn about ocean research as it is happening. The *Nautilus* will spend the summer exploring the waters of the Gulf of Mexico, the Galapagos, and the Pacific Coast.  
Museum of Discovery and Science  
(954) 467-6637

### **Cool Saturdays Summer Special**

July 4  
Enjoy a guided tour of the Bonnet house the first Saturday of the month in July through October at a discounted rate. The Bonnet House Museum and Gardens  
(954) 653-1554



### **Fourth of July Cookout**

July 4  
Fort Lauderdale Marriott  
Harbor Beach Resort and Spa  
(954) 765-3100  
[www.marriotttharborbeach.com](http://www.marriotttharborbeach.com)



### **Meet The Animals**

July 4 and 5  
There are a variety of creatures that call the Museum home from sharks and geckos to snakes and alligators. Stop by and learn the truth about some resident critters.  
Museum of Discovery and Science  
(954) 467-6637

### **Starving Artists Exhibit 2015**

July 6  
Broward County Main Library  
(954) 357-7443  
[www.broward.org/library](http://www.broward.org/library)

### **Neon Trees with Coin, Fictionist**

July 9  
Revolution Live  
(954) 449-1025



### **Between the Buried and Me with Animals As Leaders, The Contortionist**

July 10  
Revolution Live  
(954) 449-1025

### **NPC Southern States Championships**

July 10 and 11  
War Memorial Auditorium  
(954) 828-5380

### **Nanotechnology Speaker Series**

July 10, 31 and Aug. 7  
The museum's resident physicist Hiram Bleecker will present on the following topics: nanotechnology behind materiel science, nanotechnology in molecular biology, and chemistry in nanotechnology.  
Museum of Discovery and Science  
(954) 467-6637

### **Fort Lauderdale Historical Society Speaker Series: Frank Walker - "Spring Break as He Recalls It"**

July 13  
New River Inn Museum  
(954) 463-4431  
[www.fortlauderdalehistoricalsociety.org](http://www.fortlauderdalehistoricalsociety.org)

### **Orchid Greenhouse Tour**

July 14  
A Bonnet House Orchid curator will show you around greenhouses and discuss how orchids are bred and cultivated. A treat for orchid enthusiasts and novices. Orchid seedlings will be available for purchase.  
Bonnet House Museum and Gardens  
(954) 653-1554

### **Chamber Music Concert IV: Russian Soul**

July 14  
Josephine S. Leiser Opera Center  
(954) 522-8445  
[www.southfloridasymphony.org](http://www.southfloridasymphony.org)

### **Wednesday Cinema Classics**

July 15  
Enjoy a classic 1921 silent movie presentation.  
Broward County Main Library  
(954) 357-7443

### **Up Close and Personal™: Paulette Dozier**

July 16  
NSU Art Museum  
Fort Lauderdale  
(954) 709-7447

### **Ant-Man: An IMAX® 3D Experience**

July 16 - 30  
Armed with the ability to shrink in scale, but increase in strength, master thief Scott Lang must embrace his inner-hero and help his mentor Dr. Hank Pym protect the secret behind his spectacular Ant-Man suit from a new generation of towering threats.  
Museum of Discovery and Science AutoNation IMAX Theater  
(954) 463-IMAX (4629)

### **Soar with Reading**

July 17  
Museum of Discovery and Science  
(954) 467-6637

### **Fight Time Promotions Pro MMA**

July 17  
War Memorial Auditorium  
(954) 828-5380

### **The Performer's Studio: Paulette Dozier**

July 17  
NSU Art Museum  
Fort Lauderdale  
(954) 709-7447



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### **Escape the Ordinary: Let's Colonize the Moon**

July 20  
A discussion of moon colonization led by solar system ambassador Eric Vandernoot. Broward County Main Library (954) 357-7443



### **Love Letters**

July 21 - 26  
Broward Center for the Performing Arts (800) 745-3000

### **Escape the ordinary: Discussion of Colorless Tsukuru and His Years of Pilgrimage by Haruki Murakami**

July 22  
Broward County Main Library (954) 357-7443  
[www.broward.org/library](http://www.broward.org/library)

### **The Vamps with Before You Exit**

July 22  
Revolution Live (954) 449-1025

### **Forre & Co. Fine Art Gallery presents Café Society Benefitting the Venetian Arts Society**

July 23  
Forre & Co. Fine Art Gallery (954) 709-7447

### **Jake Miller with Jasmine V, Alex Angelo**

July 25  
Revolution Live (954) 449-1025

### **Cruising Down the River**

July 25  
Bonnet House Museum and Gardens (954) 653-1554

### **Smokey Robinson**

July 25  
Hard Rock Live  
[www.hardrocklivehollywoodfl.com](http://www.hardrocklivehollywoodfl.com)

### **National Dance Day - Free Lessons**

July 25  
Broward County Main Library (954) 357-7443



### **Bubbleology**

July 25 & 26  
Museum of Discovery and Science (954) 467-6637



### **Bucker's Craft Fair**

July 25 & 26  
War Memorial Auditorium (954) 828-5380

### **Escape the Ordinary: Discussion of In The Kingdom of Ice by Hampton Sides**

July 27  
Broward County Main Library (954) 357-7443  
[www.broward.org/library](http://www.broward.org/library)

### **Jurassic World: An IMAX® Experience**

Through July 30  
Museum of Discovery and Science AutoNation IMAX Theater (954) 463-IMAX (4629)

### **Terminator Genisys: An IMAX® Experience**

Through July 30  
Museum of Discovery and Science AutoNation IMAX Theater (954) 463-IMAX (4629)

### **Mission Impossible: Rogue Nation: An IMAX® Experience**

July 30 - Aug. 27  
Museum of Discovery and Science AutoNation IMAX Theater (954) 463-IMAX (4629)

### **Woman's Equality Day Display**

Aug. 2015  
Broward County Main Library (954) 357-7443

### **Monthly Exhibit: Back to School**

Aug. 2015  
Historic Stranahan House Museum (954) 524-4736  
[www.stranahanhouse.org](http://www.stranahanhouse.org)

### **Hispanic Artists from the Collection of NAEMI**

Aug. 2015 and Sept. 2015  
Broward County Main Library (954) 357-7443  
[www.broward.org/library](http://www.broward.org/library)

### **Mad Decent Block Party 2015**

Aug. 1  
Revolution Live (954) 449-1025

### **Exhibition - "Aesthetic Decisions"**

Through Aug. 2  
This group exhibition curated by Bonnie Clearwater, director and chief curator of NSU Art Museum | Fort Lauderdale, features 20th and 21st century works that explore the philosophy of aesthetics. NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale (954) 525-5500  
[www.nsuartmuseum.org](http://www.nsuartmuseum.org)

### **Educational Resources for Non- Traditional Students**

Aug. 5  
Broward County Main Library (954) 357-7443



### **Whitesnake**

Aug. 5  
Hard Rock Live  
[www.hardrocklivehollywoodfl.com](http://www.hardrocklivehollywoodfl.com)

### **Monster Jam**

Aug. 7 & 8  
BB&T Center (800) 745-3000



### **Ice Cream Chemistry**

Aug. 8 & 9  
Museum of Discovery and Science (954) 467-6637

### **Jill Scott**

Aug. 8  
Hard Rock Live  
[www.hardrocklivehollywoodfl.com](http://www.hardrocklivehollywoodfl.com)

### **Fort Lauderdale Historical Society Speaker Series: Ellen Kennedy - "The History of Port Everglades"**

Aug. 10  
New River Inn Museum (954) 463-4431  
[www.fortlauderdalehistoricalsociety.org](http://www.fortlauderdalehistoricalsociety.org)



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### **The Get Up Kids with Braid, The Weaks**

Aug. 11  
Revolution Live  
(954) 449-1025

### **Alice in Chains**

Aug. 11  
Hard Rock Live  
[www.hardrocklivehollywoodfl.com](http://www.hardrocklivehollywoodfl.com)



### **Varekai** **By Cirque Du Soleil**

Aug. 12 – 23  
BB&T Center  
(800) 745-3000  
[www.cirquedusoleil.com/varekai](http://www.cirquedusoleil.com/varekai)

### **The Man From U.N.C.L.E.: An IMAX® Experience**

Aug. 13 – Sept. 17  
Museum of Discovery and Science AutoNation IMAX Theater  
(954) 463-IMAX (4629)



### **Tiny Giants 3D**

Through Aug. 31  
Museum of Discovery and Science AutoNation IMAX Theater  
(954) 463-IMAX (4629)



### **Sesame Street Presents the Body** May 22 – Sep. 8

The exhibition emphasizes scientific investigation and developmental and curriculum-based learning goals for children ranging from two to eight years old. These learning goals tie into the National Science Education Standards, the Benchmarks for Science Literacy and the Sesame Street Healthy Habits for Life Curriculum.  
Museum of Discovery and Science  
[www.sesamestreetpresents.org](http://www.sesamestreetpresents.org)

### **Exhibition - "From Within and Without: The History of Haitian Photography"**

Through Sep. 13  
Haiti's catastrophic 2010 earthquake destroyed much of the nation's history, art, and culture, causing an irreparable rupture with the past. Photographs made before 2010 are generally all that remain of the rich culture, monuments, and way of life predating this disaster  
NSU Art Museum  
Fort Lauderdale  
(954) 525-5500  
[www.moafll.org](http://www.moafll.org)

### **Exhibition - "Helhesten: The Hell-horse: Danish Cultural Resistance During World War II"**

Through Oct. 4  
NSU Museum of Art | Fort Lauderdale  
(954) 525-5500  
[www.nsuartmuseum.org](http://www.nsuartmuseum.org)

### **"A Different Perspective: Your Take on History" Exhibit**

Through Oct. 25  
New River Inn Museum  
(954) 463-4431  
[www.fortlauderdalehistoricalsociety.org](http://www.fortlauderdalehistoricalsociety.org)

### **Pablo Picasso: Painted Ceramics and Works on paper, 1931-71**

Through Nov. 1  
NSU Art Museum | Fort Lauderdale  
(954) 262-0245



### **Humpback Whales 3D**

Through Jan. 31, 2016  
Museum of Discovery and Science AutoNation IMAX Theater  
(954) 463-IMAX (4629)

## ONGOING



### **Riverwalk Water Trolley**

Ongoing - Seven days a week, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 11 p.m.  
The Riverwalk Water Trolley travels along the New River from the Broward Center for the Performing Arts to Stranahan house. There are four stops on the north side of the river and four on the south side. Passengers ride for free.  
(954) 761-3543  
[www.riverwalkwatertrolley.com](http://www.riverwalkwatertrolley.com)

### **JM Lexus Sunday Jazz Brunch**

First Sunday of the month  
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Riverwalk Park  
(954) 828-5363



### **River Ghost Tours**

Sunday night  
Historic Stranahan House Museum  
(954) 524-4736  
[www.stranahanhouse.org](http://www.stranahanhouse.org)



### **Las Olas Outdoor Green Market**

Sundays • 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Plaza at YOLO  
(954) 462-4166

### **Farmers Market**

Tuesdays through Sept. 9  
Broward Health Center  
(954) 318-6148

### **English Café**

Every Tuesday  
Learn to speak English in a friendly environment.  
Broward County Main Library  
(954) 357-7439  
[www.broward.org/library](http://www.broward.org/library)

### **Open Mic Tuesdays**

Fourth Tuesday of the month  
Chris Monteleone hosts the forum for musicians, singer-songwriters, bands, spoken word artists, comics, painters, and sketch artists.  
ArtServe  
(954) 462-8190  
[www.artserve.org](http://www.artserve.org)

### **El Club**

Tuesdays  
Brush up on your Español.  
Broward County Main Library  
(954) 357-7439  
[www.broward.org/library](http://www.broward.org/library)



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## **Crossroads Café**

Wednesdays  
Broward County Main Library  
(954) 357-7439  
[www.broward.org/library](http://www.broward.org/library)

## **Behind the Scenes – Private Living Quarters Tours**

Second and fourth Wednesday of the month.  
Take a sneak peek inside normally closed areas of Evelyn and Frederic Bartlett's private living quarters.  
Bonnet House  
(954) 703-2606  
[www.bonnethouse.org/hours-fees/](http://www.bonnethouse.org/hours-fees/)



## **Starry Nights**

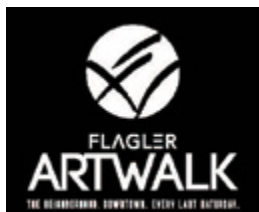
Thursday Evenings  
NSU Art Museum  
Fort Lauderdale  
(954) 262-0245

## **First Fridays: Book Event and Pickers Sale**

First Friday of the month  
Pick up new and used books and gently used items.  
Sponsored by the Friends of the Fort Lauderdale Libraries.  
Broward County Main Library  
(954) 357-7443

## **Food In Motion Flagler Green Market**

Second Friday of the month  
Feldman Park  
(754) 800-9765



## **Flagler Artwalk**

Last Saturday of the month  
FAT Village  
(754) 800-1640  
[www.flaglerartwalk.com](http://www.flaglerartwalk.com)



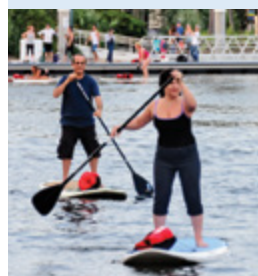
## **Docent Guided House Tours**

Ongoing  
Historic Stranahan House Museum  
(954) 524-4736  
[www.stranahanhouse.org](http://www.stranahanhouse.org)

## **RIVERWALK RECREATION**

Riverwalk Recreation members enjoy discounted rates on rentals for paddleboards, kayaks, bicycles, and e-bikes.

Members are also entitled to discounted Cycle Party Social Mixer tours. Options include a single membership for \$29 each month and a two-person membership for \$39 each month. Contact Riverwalk Recreation for further details.  
(954) 526-5159  
[www.RiverwalkRec.com](http://www.RiverwalkRec.com)  
300 SW 1st Avenue, Suite 111



## **Paddleboard Riverwalk**

Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
\$25 for a one-hour rental, \$35 for a guided group tour, and \$40 for a night tour. Lessons and rentals will also be available.  
Esplanade Park  
(877) 779-9299  
[www.paddleriverwalk.com](http://www.paddleriverwalk.com)

## **• Cardio Mix with Josh Hecht**

6:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays  
Times and dates subject to change depending on weather restrictions.  
Esplanade Park  
(954) 232-7737

## **• A Dog's Best Friend Group Classes**

Intermediate Dog Obedience Class: Thursdays, 7 p.m.  
Masters Dog Obedience Class: Thursdays, 8:15 p.m.  
Both are six week courses. If you have already attended a Basic Obedience Class, and you are looking for a class to take your dog's training to the next level, this class is for you.  
Esplanade Park  
[www.adogsbestfriend.com](http://www.adogsbestfriend.com)

## **• Riverwalk Segway Tours**

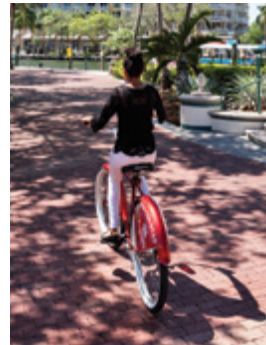
Everyday • 8 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Take a one- or two-hour Segway tour in Fort Lauderdale on the Riverwalk. No experience, balance, or coordination needed. Training provided.  
One-hour tour: \$59 per person; Two-hour tour, \$89 per person.  
(954) 304-5746  
(advanced reservations)  
[www.segwayfortlauderdale.com](http://www.segwayfortlauderdale.com)

## **• Photography Classes on the Riverwalk**

First Saturday of the month  
Join award winning photographers Hank Henley and Jason Leidy along the Riverwalk in downtown Fort Lauderdale for a three hour workshop featuring lecture, hands-on, and extended online components. From this foundation, you can further your skills via sessions that are customized to your specific goals.  
(817) 266-2946

## **• Cycle Party Tours**

Everyday  
Adults \$29, youths (5-15) \$15  
[www.cycleparty.com](http://www.cycleparty.com)



## **• Bicycle Tours**

Daily 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
The price is \$29 for a two-hour independent tour and \$39 for a two-hour guided tour. Tours are along the north and south sides of the New River.  
(954) 562-5159  
[www.riverwalkrec.com](http://www.riverwalkrec.com)

## **• Kayak Rental**

Daily 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Two-hour rentals:  
\$29 - single \$39 - tandem  
Four-hour rentals:  
\$49 - single \$69 - tandem  
Along the New River  
(954) 562-5159  
[www.riverwalkrec.com](http://www.riverwalkrec.com)



## **• Ecoboats**

Daily 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Reservation required.  
Monday–Thursday: \$80/hour  
Weekends and Holidays: \$90/hour. Minimum 2 hours, maximum 6 hours.  
2525 Marina Bay Dr. W.  
Fort Lauderdale 33312  
[www.ecoboatsftl.com](http://www.ecoboatsftl.com)  
(954) 5000-ECO



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## Housing Trust Group's (HTG) Village Place Apartments Grand Opening

HTG celebrated the grand opening of Village Place Apartments, a \$25 million, 112-unit affordable housing senior community in Flagler Village.



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## Fifth Annual Walk Like MADD and MADD Dash 5K Fort Lauderdale

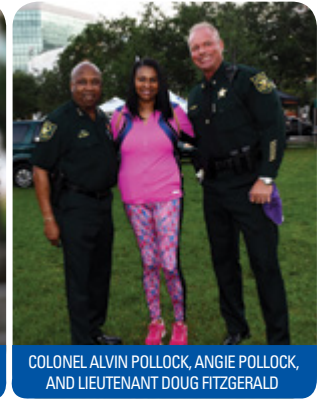
Over 2,000 people participated in the event that raised awareness about drunk driving and more than \$185,000.



HEATHER GERONEMUS, TONY SEGRETO,  
JESSICA KERSEY, AND DARLENE MARCROFT



JULIA DALE



COLONEL ALVIN POLLOCK, ANGIE POLLOCK,  
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## Fourth Annual Magnolia Luncheon

United Way Broward recognized local businesswoman and philanthropist Lynne Wines at the annual award ceremony.



MARIA MAS BLET, ROSY LOPEZ, AND LISA EFIRD



NICOLE KRAUSS AND LYNNE WINES



SASHA MOON AND BRIDGET CHRISTIE JEFFRIES

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**866-910-1420**

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# *The Adventures of Himmarshee Hal:* **Night Watchman**

WRITER DEBORAH SHARP • ILLUSTRATOR DENISE BAKER



**H**immarshee Hal was entrusted by his college fraternity buddies with planning a Fort Lauderdale reunion. His first problem was July.

When he booked the gathering, this recent Michigan transplant had yet to experience summer's assault: A heat so energy-sucking that even the palm fronds on the Riverwalk droop in exhaustion.

In hindsight, Hal should have arranged air-conditioned activities for a bunch of girthful guys pushing middle age. Or waited for February.

Instead, he splashed in a waterfall of frat brother sweat as they pedaled a four-wheel, 15-seat Cycle Party on a downtown pub crawl. Suppose one of the enormous Michiganders keeled over? Would he take the quadracycle with him, like Moby Dick taking Ahab down?

All around Hal, though, guys grinned. They praised him with damp high-fives: "This is a blast, dude!"

Hal suspected a correlation between discounted cocktails and enthusiasm. Still, he relaxed, surrendering to high spirits and what felt like the 50th sing-along of "Bicycle Race," by Queen. *I want to ride my bicycle, I want to ride my biiiiike...*

Suddenly, a heavy brother clutched his heart. Hal froze . . . until the buddy pledged eternal love to a

redhead in a tight skirt outside Tarpon Bend: "Your

daddy must have been a baker, 'cuz those buns are sweet!"

Another slapped his beer gut, yelling an invite: "Wanna touch the fuel tank for my love machine?"

Hal was relieved Cayla hadn't come. His new girlfriend would have called his pals idiots.

Last stop: American Social on Las Olas. While the guys went inside to give sociability a bad name, Hal begged off with a rising-early excuse. As he left, slurred shouts rang out. A gorgeous girl attempted to load an older man into a Porsche. His woozy punch barely missed her. Hal could not abide men picking on women. He intervened.

The girl smiled gratefully. "He always gets like this when he drinks."

Wobbly, the guy gave a head shake. He grabbed her purse, spilling out several men's watches. Lifting a wrist, he grunted: "Rohr-ex!"

"Rolex?" The girl sneered. "These are knock-offs I sell at the flea market."

As Hal helped pick up her things, one wristwatch stopped him cold.


"You're a liar," he accused her. "I'm calling the cops."

Later, the police id'd the girl as part of a ring that drugged, then

robbed, rich men. They lauded Hal for her capture. That he'd almost abetted her getaway went unsaid.

Hal had realized the watches weren't fakes the moment he spotted a \$23,000 Patek Philippe, a model he knew in detail. His dad wore one just like it. Hal was supposed to inherit the watch. But after one of Hal's monumental screw-ups, his father promised it to Hal's kid brother instead.

Was it time for his dad to reconsider? Would summer be the season of Hal's redemption?

Nah, probably not. But it was nice to ponder as he headed home, sweating, along the Riverwalk. 

*Deborah Sharp is a Fort Lauderdale native, a former journalist, and the author of the Mace Bauer Mysteries. She lives along the New River with her husband, Kerry Sanders.*

Follow Himmarshee Hal's  
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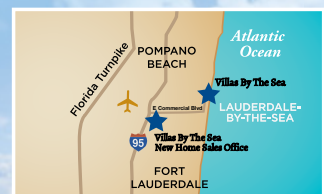
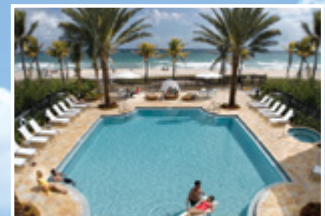
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