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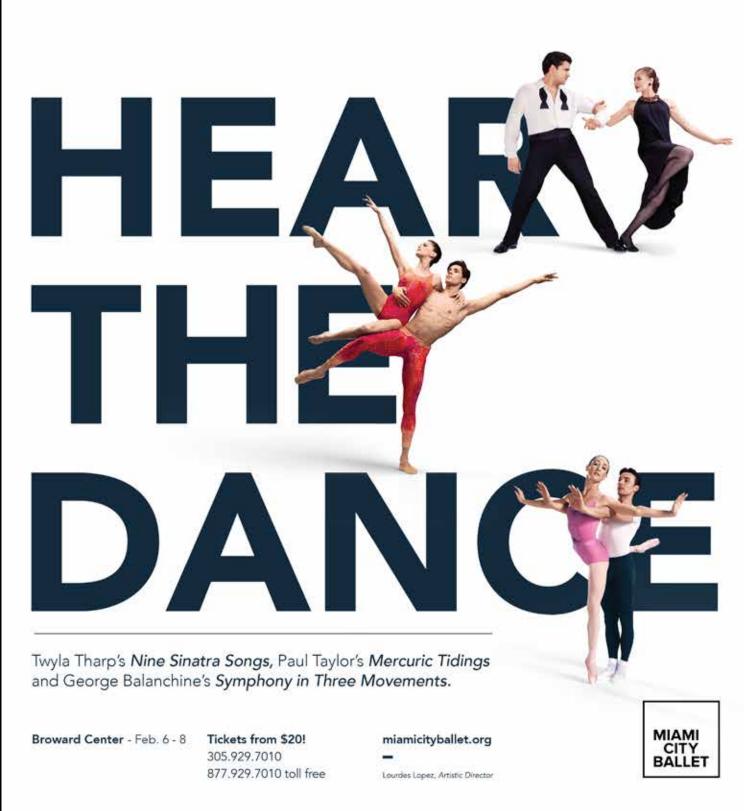
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# **A Way of Looking**

Ever since I was younger, I have associated some intangible, inanimate things with incongruous characteristics – to me numbers have genders, months have colors, and letters have personalities. Number one is a mature male like 10. Two and three are female, two slightly older than three.

It is similar to synesthesia – the neurological phenomenon I discovered one night after spending a little too much time on *WebMD*. Synesthesia comes from the Greek words "syn," which means "together," and "aesthesis," or "perception."

In my mind, January starts out in a light grey color, which morphs into a deep ocean blue as the month continues. It is the part of the year when I can see the clearest view of the months ahead, the brightest being May, (which is orange in color before the green summer). January signifies newness, a clean freshness, deep potential.

That is how this, our perspectives issue, appears to me. New. Fresh. Clean. It is my first issue as executive editor and I feel obliged to briefly walk you through "the book" so that we can perceive together. If this issue was a physical journey, this editor's letter would be the lighthouse where I relayed your imminent passage.

Close the magazine and look at our cover again. Local artist Joe Klucar designed it for the Riverwalk Blues and Music Festival and we have the privilege of debuting it. Read the back-story in the feature "Portrait of an Artist" by Clarissa Buch.

You may notice our new social media page #riverwalkftl. It will give us a stage on which to converse. We will run some of your reactions and thoughts, tweets, photos, emails, and letters (we're hoping you still write them). I am also excited to announce our monthly #goriverwalkphotopicks photography contests, which offer chances for you to win useful prizes and give our Riverwalk more exposure.

We continue with our columns in 2015. John Jones takes over from Stephanie Toothaker as the writer for Downtown Council. In his first column, he focuses on the start of 2015 as the beginning of a story. In Jenni Morejon's Sustainable Development column, she says farewell to a community legend and mentor.

One of our main features, written by Gabrielle Roland and Rebecca Jensen, reveals the perspectives of people who spend their days above, in the middle of, and under Fort Lauderdale, specifically a helicopter pilot, a Riverwalk Water Trolley captain, and a scuba diving instructor.

A short story rounds out the magazine with something light for the imagination. It is the first installment of a 12-part fiction series written by local author Deborah Sharp and illustrated by Denise Baker.

As you read this issue, think about how you perceive the world around us. Noticing our own ways of looking and thinking can be as interesting as discovering someone else's.

—Alexandra Roland, executive editor





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A view of the New River and the Riverwalk. Photo by Jason Leidy





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ON THE COVER

TacoCraft comes to

A Publication of Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale

The 2015 Riverwalk Blues and Music Festival poster by artist Joe Klucar

Correction: In the Athletes and Business article in the December issue, we mistakenly indicated that Jayson Jones won Olympic medals in 2000 and 2008. He competed but did not win medals. Additionally, he injured his spleen in a championship game, not in an early season game as was printed.





# These Children are Preparing for College

Our college preparatory culture begins in elementary school. Our highly qualified, talented, and dedicated teachers enable our students to develop intellectually, emotionally, and socially, and guide them to be leaders who achieve. More than half of the instructional staff hold a post-graduate degree; our student to faculty ratio is 8 to 1.

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"We are proud of all of our young students and their abilities to excel, not only in academics, the arts, and athletics, but also as compassionate and respectful leaders in their community," said Dr. Douglas Laurie, Vice President of American Heritage School. "Our students feel at home here at American Heritage, which gives them the confidence to set high goals for themselves and succeed."

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Join us at our OPEN HOUSE on Saturday, February 21st at 12:45 p.m. Please RSVP online at www.ahschool.com



#### Editor-in-Chief RIVERWALK FORT LAUDERDALE

#### Editorial Board Chair GENIA DUNCAN ELLIS

Executive Editor ALEXANDRA ROLAND

magazine@GoRiverwalk.com alexandra@GoRiverwalk.com (954) 468-1541, ext. 204

Creative Director LINDA FISHER creative@GoRiverwalk.com

Creative Director ALEX I. GERSON

Production Manager KELLY BAKER advertising@RiverwalkAdGroup.com

Director of Photography JASON LEIDY Middle River Arts Photography mraphotography@earthlink.net

Calendar Editor GABRIELLE ROLAND calendar@GoRiverwalk.com

Social Media RENEE K. QUINN

Proofreader PAUL SORENSEN

Webmaster MIKE QUINN

#### CONTRIBUTORS

Diana Alarcon, Clarissa Buch, Denise Baker, Hank Henley, Rebecca Jensen, John Jones, Gregory Oram, Jenni Morejon, Renée Korbel Quinn, Samantha Rojas, Gabrielle Roland, Deborah Sharp, and Chris Wren Publisher JAMIE MCDONNELL

Associate Publisher MARLA HORN LAZARUS Associate Publisher REBECCA MCDONNELL

ADVERTISING & MARKETING Riverwalk Ad Group, Inc. (954) 332-1002

Director of Business Development NANCY PORTO nancy@RiverwalkAdGroup.com

Regional Sales Director GAIL SPIER gail@RiverwalkAdGroup.com

Account Manager BETH BERNSTEIN beth@RiverwalkAdGroup.com

Account Manager SARAH SIBLEY sarah@RiverwalkAdGroup.com

#### DISTRIBUTION

(954) 332-1002

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Go Riverwalk is Fort Lauderdale's City Magazine covering arts, entertainment, business and lifestyles. Go Riverwalk is a Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale publication and publishes 12 times a year to inform, inspire and connect residents, readers and leaders with the people, places, happenings and events that make Fort Lauderdale one of the world's best places to live, work and play. © Copyright 2014, Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale. All rights reserved. No part of Go Riverwalk may be reproduced in any form by any means without prior written consent from Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale and publisher Riverwalk Ad Group, Inc. Publisher accepts no liability for the accuracy of statements made by the editors or advertisers. The waves device and Go Riverwalk are trademarks of Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale. © Copyright 2014.

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CRISTINA M. HUDSON Event Manager

GABRIELLE ROLAND Administrative Manager

PATRICK A. HARRIS Business Development

> LINDA FRUITS Graphic Design

#### **RIVERWALK FORT LAUDERDALE**

305 S. Andrews Ave., Suite 410, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301 Phone (954) 468-1541

Fax (954) 468-1542

info@GoRiverwalk.com www.GoRiverwalk.com

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PHOTOGRAPHY BY JASON LEIDY



MISSION STATEMENT To be the catalyst in building and nurturing Riverwalk as a vibrant community connected by the New River.





# ENGAGING OUR READERS AND SHARING THE LIMELIGHT

WORD ON THE STREET Instagrammers react to Go Riverwalk's December cover

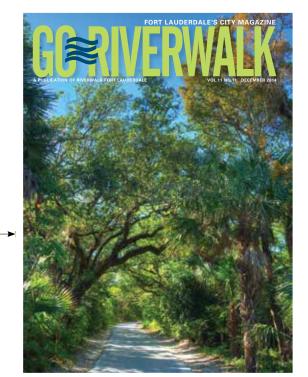
@stephlabeachbum BEAUTIFUL <3

@igpostaholic Awesome pic Jason @ skymongers

@leelaftiz Beautiful cover ;)

@michyellow Yay

@photog5343 Amazing image!



A PENNY FOR YOUR THOUGHTS

We want your input.

FINISH THIS SENTENCE.

YOU KNOW YOU'RE A FORT LAUDERDALIAN IF...

Email responses to magazine@goriverwalk.com and keep an eye out. The best picks could make it into the next issue.

# #goriverwalkphotopicks



INTRODUCING OUR #GORIVERWALKPHOTOPICKS SERIES. ENTER ON TWITTER, INSTAGRAM OR FACEBOOK – JUST USE THE INDICATED HASHTAG.

Last month we tested the waters. We asked you to Instagram Fort Lauderdale from your vantage point. Your overwhelming response (thank you!!) tells us we need to do this more often, so starting now, we're hosting a monthly photo contest.

#### JANUARY CONTEST



Tweet, Instagram or Facebook a photo of why you are proud to call Fort Lauderdale home. Be sure to include the hashtag #goriverwalkjanphotopicks. DEADLINE: FEB.1



PHOTO BY @LEELAFITZ FOR THE #FTLVANTAGEPOINT CONTEST. SEE MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 56



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# **The Price is Right**

RIVERWALK FORT LAUDERDALE INTRODUCES A SUSTAINER LEVEL MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM



BY GREGORY ORAM Chair, Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale appy New Year! It's hard to believe another year has gone by, but Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale had an excellent 2014 – our 25th year! We plan on building on our successes to make 2015 even more spectacular.

We recognize that none of our accomplishments would be possible without our members. I first want to thank all of those members who made a one-time contribution to Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale in December. We greatly appreciate your support for everything that we do to make downtown Fort Lauderdale a destination for residents, businesses, and tourists.

One of the additions to Riverwalk for 2015 is our new Sustainer Level Membership program. This membership level will make it easier for you to support Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale and allow you to take advantage of the many benefits of membership.

Sustainer members are individuals who make an ongoing, monthly contribution to Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale. Whether it is \$12, \$20, \$30 or \$50 per month, your monthly contribution is automatically deducted from your credit card until you decide to change the amount or cancel the deduction.

Ongoing monthly contributions mean no more renewal letters or need for postage and lower administrative costs so more of your dollars can go towards the programming that makes the Riverwalk the vibrant jewel it has become. There are more details on our website – www. goriverwalk.com/membership.

Thank you for your support of Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale. See you on the Riverwalk! <sup>(1)</sup> 9TH ANNUAL

FEBRUARY 20, 21 & 22, 2015

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Presenting Keith Crain and the Ed Morse Automotive Group with the Automotive Lifetime Achievement Awards



#### FRIDAY FEB. 20th

#### duPont REGISTRY ™ LIVE HANGAR PARTY

The weekend will kick off with a spectacular hangar party at Atlantic Aviation with a display of exotic cars, custom motorcycles, private jets, extravagant boats and luxury motorcoaches. Guests will also experience gourmet food, wines and cocktails presented by over 20 of South Florida's finest restaurants.



Wayne Carini- Grand Marshal

### GALA DINNER, AUCTION AND SHOW WITH HOWIE MANDEL

Saturday evening will include the presentation of the Automotive Lifetime Achievement Awards to Keith Crain and the Ed Morse Automotive Group, plus, the Lee lacocca Award will be presented to Ralph Marano. The evening will end with a special performance by TV Star and Comedian, Howie Mandel.



#### SUNDAY FEB. 22nd

#### THE BOCA RATON CONCOURS D'ELEGANCE

Wayne Carini- Grand Marshal · Dr. Paul Sable- Chief Judge Ed Gilbertson- Honorary Chief Judge

On Sunday, over 200 of the finest collector cars and motorcycles from around the country will gather on the showfield. Guests will also enjoy an assortment of food, wines and cocktails from over 30 of South Florida's finest restaurants in the Concours d'Gourmet Café Pavilions.



TO RESERVE YOUR TABLE OR FOR TICKETS TO FRIDAY, SATURDAY OR SUNDAY EVENTS, PLEASE VISIT US ONLINE AT **BOCARATONCONCOURS.COM** OR CALL 954.563.2822.

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# Riverwalk Happenings

MAKE IT A GOAL TO DISCOVER DOWNTOWN



BY GENIA DUNCAN ELLIS President/CEO, Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale come. We hope that you will let us know of more things that you think would be appealing and entertaining for the district.

Along with an influx of downtown residents and the advance of our tourist season comes an increase in free local transportation from the Riverwalk Water Trolley and Sun Trolley. Getting around is easy and economical. A healthy way of movement is important too. Exercise equipment and mile markers are installed along the Riverwalk, available to those that want to exercise, walk, run or jog. The activities listed here encourage a healthy way to have fun, learn something new, or enjoy a group activity.

Riverwalk food kiosks will appear in early January, offering coffee, snacks, light fare, and more in Bubier Park behind Huizenga Plaza. The three operators will offer a variety of food experiences and we hope you will come down often to grab a bite and enjoy the park area.

We continue to work on the completion of Riverwalk on the north side and have applied for permitting to move forward in the process. Completion of the Riverwalk will be a long awaited milestone connecting the waterfront walk.

Again, we encourage you to try out some of the very cool activities being offered. Learn to paddle, take a segway or bicycle tour. Learn about your camera and become proficient in shooting that perfect shot, teach your young dog manners or an older dog new tricks! Put your mind and body in a zen place with yoga or raise your heart rate with a cardio class. Downtown is the "it" destination and we encourage you to enjoy its many offerings.

January brings the start of the New Year and many great things. Riverwalk is tasked with a number of missions but one of our primary goals is to activate the downtown Riverwalk District and to find new, unique things to offer to residents and tourists.

During December, we introduced all of our individual activity groups along Riverwalk and encouraged a collaborative effort to do more things together. As a result of a great collaboration and the willingness of partners at Riverfront, RIVERWALK RECREATION has arrived.

RIVERWALK RECREATION highlights individual services facilitated in a central location – 300 SW Las Olas Boulevard, Suite 111, in the Riverfront Plaza. Offerings include paddleboarding and kayaking with Paddle Riverwalk, segway tours with Jon Rosen, Middle River Arts photography classes with Hank Henley and Jason Leidy, Yoga classes with Patsy Mennuti, dog training classes by a Dog's Best Friend with Tim Mullally, bicycle tours with Chris Haerting and Simon Fernandez, and cardio with Josh Hecht. There are even more to

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# **Beginner Yoga Series** Along the Riverwalk with Patsy Mennuti

Jan 5 - Feb 11 | Mondays & Wednesdays | 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Huizenga Plaza Pavilion | Downtown Fort Lauderdale \$140 for 12-session package | \$15 drop in



Start 2015 with beginner hatha yoga in a series of 12 sessions, twice a week for 6 weeks. For more information or to sign up, visit www.PMYogini.com. Stay for 15 minutes after class for a talk on various aspects of yoga, mantra meditation, breathing, philosophy, working with your energy and lifestyle tips from Ayurveda.





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.



# CORPORATE MEMBER

KOPELOWITZ OSTROW P.A., MANAGING PARTNER

• After graduating from law school at Nova Southeastern University in 1997, I established my own law practice and in 2001, co-founded the current firm. It has since grown to nearly 40 attorneys

in three offices in South Florida. In addition to overseeing the firm's day-to-day operations and strategic direction, I practice full-time in the areas of consumer class actions, commercial litigation, business counseling, and sports agency law. I am a Martindale-Hubbell AV® Preeminent<sup>™</sup> rated attorney in both legal ability and also ethics, which is the highest possible rating by the most widely recognized attorney rating organization in the world.

I often serve as outside general counsel to companies, advising them in connection with their legal and regulatory needs. I currently represent multiple Fortune 500° Companies in association with their Florida litigation. I have also appeared on *CNN*, *ABC*, *CBS*, *FoxNews*, *ESPN*, and other major national television networks in connection with cases, which often involve athletes in the NFL, NBA, and MLB.

I am the founder and president of Class Action Lawyers of America and a member of the American Bar Association and The Florida Bar – fully admitted to practice in the United States District Courts for the Southern, Middle, and Northern Districts of Florida, Eastern District of Michigan, Northern District of Illinois, Western District of Tennessee, Western District of Wisconsin, and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit.

I am a lifetime member of the Million Dollar Advocates Forum, the most prestigious group of trial lawyers in the United States, which is limited to attorneys who have won multi-million dollar verdicts.

When not practicing law, I serve on the board of governors of Nova Southeastern University's Wayne Huizenga School of Business and I am also a member of the Broward County Courthouse Advisory Task Force. I am the managing member of One West LOA LLC, a commercial real estate development company with holdings in downtown Fort Lauderdale, and the managing member of TKSF Management Group LLC, a company that operates a chain of Tilted Kilt Pub & Eatery<sup>®</sup> restaurants throughout South Florida. In addition to supporting a number of charities, I proudly serve as a founding board member of the Jorge Nation Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that partners with the Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital to send children diagnosed with cancer and their families on all-inclusive dream trips to destinations of their choice.

I am also a corporate member of Riverwalk and I support the downtown mission.



#### EXECUTIVE MEMBER

#### **Bradley Arendt**

RMA REALTY MASTERS ADVISORS

• A Chicago native, I was lured to Florida by real estate opportunities I saw in the market – also, I had family that lived close by in Naples, and getting away from the Chicago winters was a plus. I came to South

Florida with Sheldon Good & Co., a national leader in commercial real estate auctions, to open their regional office.

Shortly after moving to the area, I teamed up with Realty Masters Advisors (now known as RMA). RMA is a boutique commercial real estate company located in Downtown Fort Lauderdale that is focused on brokerage and advisory across South Florida's urban cores.

Outside of the office, I enjoy college football, traveling, wine, and the outdoors. I am a supporter of the Wounded Warrior Project, which is an organization dedicated to helping our injured veterans.

I joined Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale to support the community, the New River, and local businesses. I think I can contribute by generating ideas on how to enhance and incorporate the Riverwalk as a downtown focal point. Growing up in Chicago, another city with a river running through its core, I witnessed the same progression. I currently live in downtown Fort Lauderdale with my oneyear-old grey lab, Hudson.



# TRUSTEE MEMBER

ADELSON LAW FIRM FOUNDER

• Fort Lauderdale is where I live, work, and play. You will often see me biking around Las Olas and on the Riverwalk enjoying all that Fort Lauderdale

has to offer.

I became a member of Riverwalk, Fort Lauderdale because I want to give back to the community that has embraced me since 2006 (when I moved to Florida from New York), and to be part of and ensure the Riverwalk's growth and vitality.

I am a graduate of Hofstra University School of Law and University of Michigan and in July 2014, I founded the Adelson Law Firm in downtown Fort Lauderdale. It is a professional workplace law firm working with employers and HR professionals to create collaborative, efficient, and cost-effective programs to manage employees and workplace issues, with a special focus on South Florida's hospitality and service industries.

I am also a Florida certified civil circuit court mediator for all areas of litigation, with a focus on labor and employment law. I also serve as a neutral investigator for workplace disputes and I mediate internal disputes for companies.

I have appeared as a commentator on FOX News.com and WIOD Radio, Miami. As a published authority on legal employment matters, I have written articles for publications such as *WestlawNext in Practitioner Insights, The Fox Business Insider, Human Resources Executive Online Magazine*, and *The Miami Herald*.

I am an active volunteer for Rebuilding Together Broward and the Jewish Federation of Broward County and a member of the Federation's board of directors. I am a co-chairperson of the Women's Executive Council, the Federation's professional women's philanthropy group.

I look forward to being an active part of Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale.

# Welcome

NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS



**CORPORATE** J. Michael Marshall GrayRobinson

> Steve Tilbrook GrayRobinson

Michael Weymouth The Las Olas Company

> **EXECUTIVE** Bradley Arendt

Realty Masters Advisors

TRUSTEE Sherri Pfefer

Perfect Partners Las Olas

Lori Adelson Adelson Law Firm

Keith Blackburn Greater Fort Lauderdale Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce

> Robert Barron Berger Singerman, PA

Mary Adams The Employee Relations Group

Patrick Harris Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale

Chris and Michael Haerting Cycle Party

#### DOUBLE

Leslie and Doug Dettman April Kirk Patricia Zeiler

#### INDIVIDUAL

Peter Anderson Cheryl Halliday Anita Fried Stephen Moss Judith Stern Christopher Brown Cindy Guntner Steve Einhorn



### **RIVERWALK MEMBERSHIP**



#### TRUSTEE MEMBER

SALES ASSOCIATE

Sherri Pfefer COLDWELL BANKER

• Becoming a realtor was a natural progression for me. I grew up in a commercial real estate family and my first career was in public relations and marketing,

working for corporate America. When one of my clients needed a revitalization plan to rebuild a real estate business, I decided to not only help my client, but also to get my real estate license to bring my client's plan to fruition.

Today, I own a local PR firm, brainstorm2go.com, and I am also proudly associated with Coldwell Banker's Las Olas office and a member of the Perfect Partners team with Jody Steinlauf.

I moved downtown in 2013 to take advantage of the cultural offerings and be in a better position to help my clients wanting to move to east. I enjoy volunteering for many local charity organizations and I have been actively involved with the Kids In Distress Auxiliary, holding a board/committee position for the last four years.

Knowledge, outstanding service, and customer satisfaction are the most valuable qualities I have to offer my clients. I consider myself extremely creative and I am a mother. Biking along the beach, walking around the river or playing tennis at the park is how I spend my free time. I am also very passionate about food. I look forward to building a relationship with Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale and being a part of its future growth.



#### TRUSTEE MEMBER

#### Vivian Kamareddine

PRAKAS AND COMPANY REAL ESTATE AGENT

• I am a long time resident of South Florida and currently work in the Fort Lauderdale area.

Supporting Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale's mission and its continuous endeavors to create a family friendly and united community with events throughout the year is a priority.

I am currently a real estate agent with Prakas and Company and have experience with residential leasing and sales and innovative marketing strategies for an international clientele. As a licensed community association manager, I manage various properties including commercial and residential properties in Fort Lauderdale. I am also multilingual and certified in short sales and foreclosures (SFR).



#### TRUSTEE MEMBER

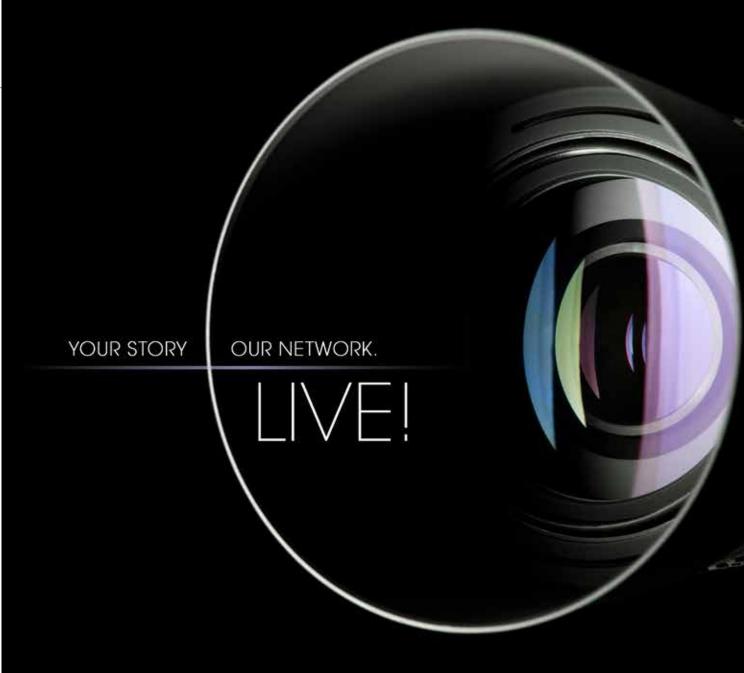
#### **Robert Barron**

BERGER SINGERMAN, PA PARTNER

• I am a corporate and commercial real estate attorney and a partner of Berger Singerman LLP. I have represented many clients in negotiations, the structuring and documenting of real estate asset transactions, the structuring of corporations, limited partnerships, limited liability companies and joint ventures, and corporate business acquisitions. I have also represented numerous lenders and borrowers in connection with real estate and asset-based financing. I was

listed by Best Lawyers in America for Corporate Law and Real Estate Law, Legal Elite and Super Lawyers.

I am involved with numerous community and charitable organizations, including the board of governors of the Health Professions Division of Nova Southeastern University; dean's leadership council for NSU-COM; board of directors and executive committee for Henderson Behavioral Health; former chair of the board (2010), executive committee, finance committee and board of directors of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce; board of directors of Tower Forum; board of trustees of Leukemia Lymphoma Society of South Florida; chair of the Legal Opinion Standards Committee for the business law section of the Florida Bar; and former chair of the board of directors of Sheridan House Family Ministries, Inc.



#### STUDIO FACILITIES . PRODUCTION SERVICES . POST-PRODUCTION





## **RIVERWALK EXCLUSIVES**



# Fall Get Downtown 2014

PHOTOS BY HANK HENLEY

On November 20, guests socialized and networked at Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale's fall Get Downtown, now in its 16th year. Fort Lauderdale's largest outdoor cocktail hour featured live entertainment, bites from South Florida restaurants, and cocktails from Premier Beverage. Five restaurants took home titles in the Flavors of Fort Lauderdale competition including S3, Best Bites; Susie's Scrumptious Sweets, Best Sweets; Jimmy John's, Best Customer Service; Gran Forno Pronto, Best Presentation; and Fork and Balls, Best Overall.

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Demetrius Byrnes, Juanisha Smith, Brittany Hopman, Rebecca Ruskin, Jeetane Patel, and Mary Rucker, Jimmy John's







# What a Difference a Year Makes

PREPARING FOR A NEW YEAR AND WELCOMING NEW INPUT

esidential development came back to downtown in a big way. Rental units are in high demand, with an average occupancy of 97 percent. There are approximately 4,000 rental units in various stages of development. Doug Eagon, former DDA board member and president of Stiles Corporation, explains, "Downtown Fort Lauderdale and its surrounding area is experiencing a very robust real estate market. The office sector has been experiencing meaningful additional leasing. Vacancies are falling. Downtown is still predominated by the financial services and legal professions but we have also seen some technology and online retailing companies occupying office space."

The DDA and the City continue to work with the county on releasing more units to keep our downtown growing. "Because of all of this positive activity in the residential, office, and retail sectors, downtown is continuing to add to its vibrancy. All of these real estate sectors, along with our cultural and educational assets are contributing to an urban center where an increasing number of people want to live as well as work," Eagon said.



BY CHRIS WREN DDA executive director, Downtown Fort Lauderdale

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In 2014, the DDA initiated many programs that will continue to keep us busy this year. The Ambassador Program launched, the Riverwalk Connection project entered permitting, a decorative fence wrap was installed at the county courthouse construction site, the light canopy was installed on SW Second Street, and the Federal Courthouse Public-Private-Partnership Feasibility study began. Additionally, the Wave Streetcar was recommended by President Obama for \$50 million, 30% of the design plans were completed in January, and the final designer was selected. Plans to extend the airport and seaport were also initiated. The DDA also co-produced another awesome St. Patrick's Day Parade and Festival in 2014. It was the event's fifth anniversary and a day full of bagpipes, marching bands, beer, corned beef, and all things Irish. Get ready for the next one on Mar. 15!

#### Jim Ellis Joins the DDA Board

I am very pleased to announce that Jim Ellis is our newest DDA board member. Ellis is a downtown legend. He began his entrepreneurial career at the age of 23, as founder, president and CEO of Movies



To Go, Inc., a video store chain that grew to 30 stores in six years. In 1987, Movies To Go was the largest privately held, independently owned, video chain in the country. It was acquired by the then fledgling Blockbuster Entertainment company.

In 1990, Ellis founded Ellis Diversified, Inc. (EDI), a real estate development and investment firm involved with principally developing and investing in multi-story high-rises (Sunrise Harbor, Wilton Station, 350 Las Olas Place, The Tides at Bridgeside Square, Eclipse, etc.), while also developing award-winning estate homes in Lake Tahoe, Fort Lauderdale, and the Bahamas.

He has been a very active champion of his community and was selected as Citizen of the Year of the City of Fort Lauderdale last year in recognition of his many accomplishments and valuable contributions to the community. With leadership like this, 2015 is bound to be another outstanding year for downtown! Elevate your experience. Play your favorite Las Vegas style slots, enjoy the thrill of live Blackjack, indulge at the world-class NYY Steak and live it up at Legends Lounge.

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# **Leaving a Legacy**

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF A COMMUNITY BUILDER

At this time of the year, after months of holidays filled with giving and gratitude, many of us pause to reflect upon lessons learned, successes achieved, and goals to still fulfill. In this special edition of the Sustainable Development monthly article, I express appreciation for an exceptional individual and recognize an important milestone in his career and life.

On New Year's Eve, prior to emceeing the Fort Lauderdale Downtown Countdown on Second Street in the Riverwalk District, Greg Brewton, the recent director of the Department of Sustainable Development officially retired from the City of Fort Lauderdale after 35 and a half years of devoted public service.

There is no doubt that Greg has a genuine love for Fort Lauderdale. He grew up in the city and raised his three sons here. A proud graduate of Dillard High School, Greg attended Michigan State University (Go Spartans!), where he received a degree in urban planning and learned teamwork, leadership, discipline, and resilience on the gridiron. After graduating,



BY JENNI MOREJON Jenni Morejon is director of the Department of Sustainable Development for the City of Fort Lauderdale.

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he was drafted into the National Football League (NFL) for the 1977 season by the St. Louis Cardinals.

In July of 1979, Brewton returned to his hometown and began his career at the City of Fort Lauderdale as a planning assistant. As a result of his diligence and determination, Greg was promoted several times during his longstanding career. He rose to planner, principal planner, zoning administrator, deputy director, and in 2011, director of the Department of Sustainable Development.

The passion and loyalty Greg has for the city has been continuously demonstrated in his interactions with the community and the lasting professional and personal relationships he has established. Greg played an integral role in bringing together staff and the community while he managed transformational projects like beach redevelopment efforts in the 1980s, the citywide rezoning program in the mid-1990s, and most recently, the business and community development initiatives along the Sistrunk corridor.

During his 35 and a half years with the City, Brewton received the Brian Piccolo award, was honored as a founding member of the 100 Black Men of America, Broward County Chapter, and most recently accepted the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce's 2014 Hall of Fame Award.

Hundreds of Greg's colleagues, friends, and family members celebrated his retirement on Dec. 19, 2014 – The Fort Lauderdale City Commission deemed it "Greg Brewton Day." The event took place at none other than the "Greg Brewton Sustainable Development Center" at Lincoln Park on Sistrunk Boulevard, blocks away from the home he was raised in.

Clearly, Greg Brewton has established a legacy that many aspire to, including me. He embodies the ethics and moral values that are paramount for public service officials. He leads by promoting a positive attitude and is guided by a solid faith that good will come with hard work and commitment. On a personal level, I want to thank Greg for the opportunities he has given me, for the life lessons he has shared with me, and for the unwavering support and encouragement he has provided as I follow in his footsteps and lead the City's Sustainable Development team in the fulfillment of his legacy. (9)

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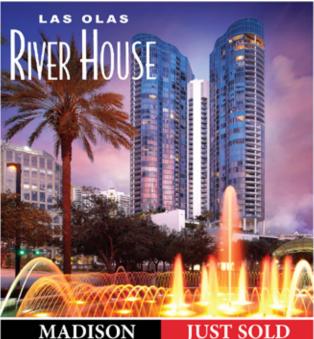


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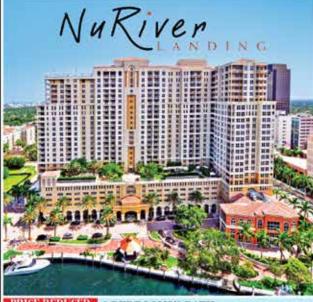
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NDER CONTRACT SKYVIEW

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SUNGARDEN

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

SUNGARDEN

RIVER, POOL & CITY VIEWS FROM THIS LOVELY IBR/IBATH RESIDENCE, CARPET & TILE FLOORING, \$329,000.

#### FEATURED PROPERTIES FOR LEASE

SEAVIEW 3 BEDROOM/2BATH: ANNUAL, FURNISHED \$4,000

MOONGLOW 2 BEDROOM/2BATH: ANNUAL, FURNISHED \$3,200







to be a street fair though. Its purpose as related to Fort Lauderdale was to create a venue for people to discover downtown and its cool shops, restaurants, and museums; to play on Las Olas Boulevard by dancing, running, walking, enjoying the market, participating in arts and crafts, and learning about health and safety in

# Where the Sidewalk Ends



Fort Lauderdale is working to change the way people view streets – not only as a means to move cars but also as way to move people, in whatever mode they choose. The first flagship event of Open Streets Fort Lauderdale highlighted this shift. On Nov. 23, more than 3,000 residents and visitors stepped out on to Las Olas to walk, jog, bicycle, skateboard, and hula-hoop down the middle of the boulevard in a car-free environment.

Open Streets is an international movement that brings communities together and generates awareness about active transportation – specifically biking and walking.

The recent Open Streets Fort Lauderdale event created a pedestrian and bicycle-friendly boulevard allowing residents to access the special programming of the day including a celebration of the completed painted intersections, the Las Olas Sunday Market, and Winterfest Family Fun Day. Patrons also visited local businesses along the way.

To emphasize safety, the City and agency partners provided pedestrian safety information, bicycle safety tips through a bike rodeo and helmet fittings, and FDOT Alert Today Alive Tomorrow information.

The Open Streets initiative is not designed



BY DIANA ALARCON Transportation and Mobility director, Transportation and Mobility department, City of Fort Lauderdale

a fun way; to celebrate the completion of the painted intersections and the transformation of Fort Lauderdale into a multimodal connected community; and to engage with neighbors, meet friends, make new ones, and get to know city business owners.

The event also showcased how active transportation provides economic, health, environmental, and community benefits. It encourages residents to explore their own streets from the vantage point of a cyclist or a pedestrian instead of as a driver and it gets people out of their cars and engaged with community partners and local businesses. This provides critical support to our local economy.

Highlighting alternative modes of transportation produces environmental benefits like reduced emissions, less congestion, and cleaner air. Events like this one can introduce participants to sustainable practices too. Recycling receptacles can be provided along the route. Fresh, locally-grown produce could be displayed for sale to passersby. Information on sustainable activities available within the city could also potentially be offered.

Activating our streets in new and creative ways is a component of our Connecting the Blocks program. The initiative does not just include infrastructure improvements, but it also focuses on getting people out in the streets to enjoy new features, celebrate community, and be healthy. This recent Open Streets event did just that and events like it will continue in the future, increasing awareness regarding safe ways for all – pedestrians, bicyclists, transit, and vehicles – to use city streets. <sup>(1)</sup>

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### DOWNTOWN COUNCIL



# Starting Here, Starting Now

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BY JOHN JONES John Jones is the executive pastor at First Baptist Church in downtown Fort Lauderdale and the Downtown Council chairman

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The concept behind Maltby's lyric is mirrored in the Downtown Council's mission to build and maintain a vibrant business and cultural community through communication, collaboration, and leadership.

When Richard Maltby and David Shire posted the musical revue *Starting Here, Starting Now* at the Manhattan Theater Club in 1976, they described the inspirational value of beginnings, and they revealed a key ingredient in the recipe for success in any story. The title song says, "Starting here, starting now, when we walk, we'll walk together. Year by year, starting here."

Today, we find ourselves at the start of a new year in one of the greatest cities in our nation. And, as we walk forward into the future, we will walk together.

The concept behind Maltby's lyric is mirrored in the Downtown Council's mission to build and maintain a vibrant business and cultural community through communication, collaboration, and leadership. As part of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce, the Downtown Council is comprised of leaders from virtually every sector, each desiring to add his or her unique voice to the story that will be 2015 here in downtown.

Throughout the year we will work more directly with the Chamber's other councils to focus on organizing fewer events with increased impact. This collaboration will allow us to maximize attendance at events where we can articulate our core values and strategic initiatives, thereby improving our communication. Whether it is one of our foundational breakfast meetings or our celebrative Downtowner of the Year luncheon, we will seek to esteem and elevate the very best of business and culture in our community. As a council, that is our commitment as this year's story begins.

And so, we start together. While there will be many twists and turns as the plot unfolds, it is going to be an incredible journey! The tension will rise and fall with each new chapter, but our determination will carry us from beginning to end – starting here, starting now.



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#### CULTURALLY SPEAKING



### **Funding the Arts**

WHY GRANTS ARE INTEGRAL IN SECURING THE FUTURE OF THE ARTS

n Broward County there are a few entities that support not-for-profit arts and cultural organizations and artists through grants. In the last 10 years, for example, Broward Cultural Division has distributed more than \$41 million to enhance the community's cultural environment through the development of the arts. They have been distributing arts and cultural grants since the early '80s. Since 1984, the Community Foundation of Broward has dispersed \$7.1 million to create positive change through arts and culture. Funding Arts Broward has dispensed more than \$2 million in the last 11 years to support the belief that the arts have a direct economic function and impact on quality of life, community value, and education. Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Florida Youth Orchestra, and The Fort Lauderdale's Children's Theatre are among the many steadfast offerings and venues available as a result of this funding. Grants fuel economic and artistic exchange.

In America, nonprofit arts and culture organizations and artists use this grant funding as leverage to raise other funding. Ticket sales typically account for 60 percent of their budgets, with the other 40 percent coming from foundations, businesses, and private donations. Nine percent of the latter also comes from federal, state, and county taxes. In Broward, more than 800 arts and cultural organizations are dedicated to



BY SAMANTHA ROJAS Public relations writer for Broward Cultural Divsion. She can be reached at srojas@broward.org.

If you would like to receive the Cultural Quarterly online fine arts magazine, visit the website at www.broward.org/ arts and click on Cultural Quarterly to subscribe.

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nurturing and enhancing the arts through the production of artistic endeavors and performances. Almost one million business in the U.S. are involved in the creation and distribution of the arts.

Besides the entertainment and film industries, many of these organizations seem unable to run at a profit-making capacity. Soul nourishment – made possible through the arts – is not an overtly saleable concept. Even the largest of the large, Broward Center for the Performing Arts, derives a large part of its budget through fundraising from private donors and government-assisted grants.

There is a gap between what people are willing to pay for in the arts and culture sector, and the cost of production. That disparity is important – it is why grant funding is necessary. Private citizens, foundations, and governmental entities think it is necessary to fill in this gap. We need firehouses and police departments to service a community – these are tangible needs. Music and theater are intangible but may well keep the world alight. In the midst of darkness and desolation, a piece of music can make a sad soul remember



itself or give a happy soul the courage to help a neighbor or take a risk to improve his or her family's life.

Many don't consider the arts a priority in daily life. Even so, there is a growing segment of the population that feels that the arts are worthy of philanthropic enterprise. With a clear and guided focus on where grant money is going and why it is necessary, funding organizations can continue to work together in building strong major arts and cultural organizations and securing budgets geared towards self-reliance. Not-for-profits can be bona fide businesses in the arts. (1)



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## **Riverwalk Yogini**

THE RIVERWALK BEGINNER YOGA SERIES, A PART OF THE RIVERWALK RECREATION PROGRAM. PATSY MENNUTI OFFERS THE CHANCE TO UNWIND ALONG THE RIVERWALK.

WRITER CLARISSA BUCH · PHOTOGRAPHY JASON LEIDY



onveniently located on the Riverwalk, a beginner's yoga series will be offered at the Huizenga Plaza pavilion for residents and visitors looking for a peaceful and healthy way to end their day. Patsy Mennuti, or PM Yogini to all the yogis out there, teamed up with Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale to offer a 12-session yoga program launching Jan. 5.

Mennuti, a longtime Fort Lauderdale resident and former Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale president/CEO, felt that the Riverwalk would be an ideal place to teach classes. "I love the downtown Riverwalk area, and I think it is a perfect setting for yoga," Mennuti said. "I'm so happy to come back and offer something that I truly love."

After leaving Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale in 2009, Mennuti began practicing yoga and Ayurveda, traditional Hindu medicine. In 2010 she became certified in Hatha and Raja yoga from Hale Pule, a yoga training retreat based in Kauai, Hawaii. Mennuti continues to travel back to Hawaii to assist in yoga teacher trainings and to further her own studies.

"Once I experienced the power of yoga, I realized that I wanted to share it with other people who are also interested," Mennuti said.

She often meets people who want to try yoga but don't know where to start. The challenge inspired her new series. "A lot of people are really intimidated to just walk into a yoga studio. I really want people to understand that you can practice yoga at any stage in life or level of strength or flexibility."

In conjunction with this new series, Mennuti's main goal is to give anyone interested in yoga – whether a beginner or one with experience – the confidence to walk into any yoga studio and feel comfortable. "My classes can apply



to two different types of students: beginners with no experience or those who have practiced yoga for a long time and want to go back to the basics," Mennuti said.

The sessions will run on Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. until Feb. 11. As an added bonus, Mennuti will also offer a 15-minute post-class talk on various aspects of yoga, mantra (sacred chants), meditation, breathing, philosophy, working with your energy, and lifestyle tips from yoga's sister healing science, Ayurveda.

The cost for the 12-session series is \$140, and students may also drop in for \$15 per class. For more information on the Riverwalk Beginner Yoga Series, visit www. pmyogini.com.

## HORE VARABLE BOUND A LOOK BEHIND TWO MAJOR COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS AND THEIR MISSION TO PROVIDE MORE AND BETTER HOUSING IN BROWARD.

WRITER ALEXANDRA ROLAND

5

ew forms of community service are as hands on as building homes. And few are as metaphorical. The home is at the center of a human's life and helping to build or refurbish such an entity can establish a needed foundation for a family. Over the next year, Tenisha Askins, her husband Alton Benefield and her four children, ages 16, 15, seven and two, are looking at 400 hours of "Sweat Equity" - a responsibility incorporated into the Habitat for Humanity program for accepted families. Askins and her family are getting a new home and they get to help build it.

Currently, they live in a threebedroom house with one bathroom in Deerfield Beach. "We fight for the

bathroom every morning," Askins said. "And we've been there for about three years, so that's getting very tiring." A phlebotomist at a University of Miami satellite office in Broward, she heard about Habitat for Humanity when a patient came into the office with a flyer.

Askins' need highlights adequate housing as a local concern. Close to 900 families applied for Habitat for Humanity assistance during their open enrollment period in 2013. The organization typically helps about 30 families a year, a total of 366 in 31 years of operation. Families generally have to apply multiple times before getting approved. "I think it was last year – our last family that was approved, this



Tenisha Askins with husband Alton Benefield, her four children, and her step-daughter

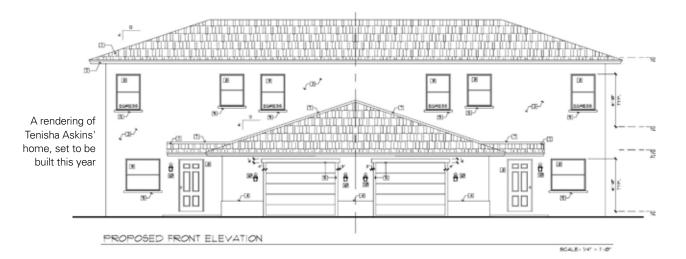
was the seventh time they had gone through the application process. And they made it this time," Perry Ecton, executive director of Habitat for Humanity of Broward County said. "We don't discourage you from coming back. Most families go through it two to three times."

Rebuilding Together Broward reports a larger ratio of applicants to the number of families helped, but only those who meet the criteria are provided with an application. The organization started as one of Leadership Broward's annual projects and became its own 501(c) (3) in 2003. It is a local affiliate of a national organization purposed to remodel the homes of qualified applicants and raise awareness about

home safety and efficiency. During their last fiscal year, Rebuilding Together Broward received 250 applications and helped 55 families. Nine hundred and fifty people have been assisted since the organization's inception.

"We never turn any veteran away from applying and all veterans are handled on a case by case basis regardless of their situation," said Sandra Veszi Einhorn, executive director of Rebuilding Together Broward. "Anyone other than a veteran – we have very specific criteria for applying."

An applicant's total combined household income must be no more than 50 percent of median income. The





single-family residence has to be owner occupied and the homeowner must be elderly, disabled or a grandparent, who cares for grandchildren.

Complete demolition and housing reconstruction are not part of the Rebuilding Together Broward program. The focus is on helping approved homeowners unclutter their homes and outfit them for safety and energy efficiency. Einhorn said that much of their assistance includes installing bath mats, replacing fire detectors, or aesthetic work, like exterior painting.

"Our activities are centered around holistically looking at the home. We do home repairs to improve unsanitary, unsafe living conditions. We perform safety improvements and modifications, we do energy retrofits to make a home more energy, water, and resource efficient, and the final component of what we do is neighborhood revitalization. Exterior repairs can not only improve the home but can also improve the neighborhood as well," she said. "Our target is to look at not only the home but also at the occupants of the home and determine what that home needs for the occupants to be more physically, emotionally, and mentally healthy."

Low-income homeowners spend more than the average amount of money to cool and heat their homes because of the structure's typical lack of efficiency. As part of Rebuilding Together Broward's Green Housing Initiative, a partnership with Florida Power and Light is in the works to facilitate home energy audits. They'll also work with the U.S. Green Building Council's Green Veteran group towards the same goal.

Habitat for Humanity deals with the actual construction of homes for families who are living in dangerous conditions or are in need of larger living space, as is the case with Askins. She and her family will be moving into a five-bedroom duplex property in Fort Lauderdale and it will be the first home that she will own.

Askins and her family will be offered a zero percent mortgage from Habitat for Humanity. Ecton said, "Not only are we the developer, the builder, and the general contractor, we are also the mortgage company as well. We hold the paper." The family supplies a \$1,500 down payment. "We hold all of the mortgages and they pay us a mortgage that we cap at 30 percent of their income," said Kenny Brighton, Habitat for Humanity of Broward County's director of development. "So the person [Tenisha is] living next door to, they might have a different mortgage payment, depending on their income. To adjust for that, we just elongate or shorten the length of their mortgage until they pay it off."

Current family status – how many children are in the household and marital status – and a debt to income ratio analysis determine eligibility in the first stage of the application process. A second interview is set up for employment verification, a credit check, and a background check. "I don't care if your credit score is 500 or 900. We just want to know what you've done in the past couple of



The before and after of a Rebuilding Broward project

years to be positive," Ecton said. "It's what have you done to move yourself to where you want to be. Where you should be." A third interview, this time at the applicant's home, completes the process.

"The process was actually quite smooth," Askins said. "It made it even easier when they called me back and said, 'OK, you've been accepted." That was two years ago. "I'm still in shock a little bit. I'm still keeping it a secret – I only told a few family members."

Rebuilding Together Broward has a volunteer base of 700, but still has trouble keeping up with the needs of applicants. "We don't accept any roof applications unless it's for a veteran because the need for roof replacement is just so overwhelming, we can't keep up with the need."

Funding – engendered for Rebuilding Together Broward exclusively through the private sector – dictates a large part of what these organizations can facilitate. Habitat relies on donations from corporations and the private sector as well. The organization acquires property through donations – from banks and private citizens – and will occasionally make purchases. "One hundred percent of the money raised goes into building a house. None of it goes towards operations. The Habitat Restore on Broward Boulevard nets about \$1 million a year. It pays all of the operational expenses for the affiliate," Ecton said. The organization nets \$800,000 a year from mortgage payments. Those funds go towards buying more property.

Lack of funding is noticeable. During the economic recession, Ecton said that Habitat had to decrease the number of families to be helped and not as much property could be acquired, which only heightened what he considers a major challenge in general. There is a scarcity of land in Broward and depending on pricing, Habitat has to reevaluate where the organization is able to buy.

Additionally, awareness is a problem, Einhorn said. "The general public thinking [is] that there's only one housing agency out there, not really recognizing Rebuilding Together and what we do. We need to be doing better in terms of awareness and marketing ourselves."

Still, volunteers aren't lacking. Habitat for Humanity





partners with 3,000 to 4,000 volunteers a year. Rebuilding Together Broward has plans to recruit even more assistance through its Innovators to Renovators initiative, a program designed to enlist volunteers with a typical nine to five desk job, and who are looking to learn and utilize skills they may already have. Einhorn said that the Rebuilding Together Broward projects also focus on helping volunteers to find engaging work.

It is a cause with effects that can reverberate. Construction began on Askins' home after Jan. 1 and is expected to be complete within seven to eight months. Askins anticipates peace of mind. "It's the second thing that I will actually own besides a car. It's the American Dream to own a home and I'm beyond overjoyed."



## **Icon on the River**

THE LONG AWAITED ICON LAS OLAS PROPERTY IS PROJECTED TO BE THE MISSING LINK ON THE RIVERWALK'S NORTH SIDE

he Icon residential project planned for Las Olas Boulevard is more than a decade in the making, and those 13 years come with quite an extensive public saga. After litigation with the City and Stranahan House and a downturn in the economy, the developers of the Icon residential project are ready to bring in the shovels and start construction. "I don't want to talk about the history of it, I want to talk about the present," said Patrick Campbell vice president of the Related Group, which bought the Las Olas property in 1999. "We're going to build the building that we always intended to build."

According to Campbell, they are following a 27-month schedule beginning in January. That means in a little over two years, downtowners could witness the former Hyde Park Market and now vacant lot transform into high-rise residences.

Campbell said that much of the project remains unchanged from the plans approved by the City in 2006. Forty-five stories will house 272 units and Related plans to lease instead of sell, at least initially. "Currently, the property is being built and financed as a rental but we think that the market will dictate whether it will be rentals or condos."

Icon Las Olas will house mostly two and three bedrooms with a few one and four bedroom apartments available. Designed units are on average 1,590 square feet.

Currently, between their rental, condo, and single-family divisions, the Related Group has over 4,000 units underway in the Broward area, including the Auberge Beach Residences coming soon to the property that was formerly Ireland's Inn. Campbell said that Icon Las Olas will be different. "There's no new inventory downtown, this will be the first of its kind. And I think that ultimately it will be a condo and it'll be the first new condo built since the last wave of development," which Campbell said ended in 2007. "It's by far the best remaining piece of property downtown, so I think it actually fulfills the completion of the area and a piece of the Riverwalk that has been long missing."

He classifies it as a "super high-end, luxury," urban, downtown product. "I think it will be a combination of young professionals and empty nesters looking to live in the downtown area." Related plans to maximize the urbanity of Icon's location – that means two public plazas, one that is facing the street, and a second one that will become part of the Riverwalk. "We're completing that missing link with two very public plazas that actually become part of City property when we're done."

From what we've heard, everybody is excited that there's finally going to be a building there instead of a vacant lot, so [people are] supportive, including our neighbors at Stranahan [House]."

# THE WAY I SEE IT

WE PERCEIVE FORT LAUDERDALE EVERYDAY. WE DRIVE THROUGH CITY STREETS, AND WALK AND BIKE ON SIDEWALKS. SOME CROSS OVER BRIDGES, OTHERS GO UNDER THEM. OUR ROUTINES ARE ALMOST UNNOTICEABLE TO OURSELVES – UNTIL WE ARE EXPOSED TO SOMEONE ELSE'S. IN A CITY WITH SO MANY LAYERS, WE WOULD BE REMISS NOT TO LOOK AT OUR HOME FROM WHERE ANOTHER PERSON STANDS. A HELICOPTER PILOT, WATER TROLLEY CAPTAIN, AND SCUBA DIVING INSTRUCTOR DESCRIBE THEIR VIEW OF FORT LAUDERDALE FROM ABOVE, THE MIDDLE OF, AND BELOW THE CITY.

WRITERS REBECCA JENSEN AND GABRIELLE ROLAND



## VIEW FROM THE TOP

ELIER VAGUEZ, HELICOPTER/FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR, FLORIDA COAST TO COAST HELICOPTERS, INC.

#### Go Riverwalk: How long have you been flying?

**Elier Vaguez:** I started [training] in 2006 and I started working here at Florida Coast to Coast Helicopters in 2011. So [working for] four years now.

#### **GR**: Where do you fly?

**EV:** Basically, we fly anywhere from Pompano to Miami, sometimes the Keys, and all the way up to Orlando. We do a lot of work in the Broward and Fort Lauderdale area – tours and aerial photography of new construction.

#### GR: What's the highest you have flown?

**EV:** About 6,500 feet over the Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport. It was actually a photo-flight and the photographer was hired to take aerial shots of the airport. In order to fit the entire airport into [the shot], we had to go up that high.

#### GR: How large is the helicopter you fly?

**EV:** I normally fly two helicopters. They're pretty normal to small in size. One is a two-seater. The maximum weight on it with occupants and fuel is 1,370lbs so

it's very light. The other one is a four-seater and that [maximum weight] is 2,500lbs.

### *GR:* What does a typical day in your life as a pilot entail?

**EV:** I live an hour away so I have to get up about two hours before my normal workday. Working hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. so I get up around 7, I leave [home] at 8 and get to work [at the Pompano Beach Airport] at 9. The first thing we do is look at the weather to see where the winds are coming from. That way, we have an idea of how we're going to be landing at different airports wherever we go.

We also have to check for temporary flight restrictions. Normally, you get those when the President is coming or government officials like the Vice President. You get them over stadiums when they have games going on. If you're flying in one of those [areas] without permission, you can lose your certificate and get yourself in a lot of trouble. Even jail time and fines. So that's very important for us to check in the morning before we start flying.

Then we have to go out and preflight the aircraft, make sure it's safe for flight, make sure we have our fuel and



everything we need. So we'll get the helicopters ready, push them out, order our fuel and then we go out on the flight. Sometimes it's a training flight so we're teaching someone. Sometimes it's a tour, and sometimes it's aerial photography.

We normally go out for anywhere [between] an hour to four hours per flight. When you fly with students, you go out for about an hour so you go out on flights from three to five times a day. On longer days with photography we'll do maybe two flights, but end up flying at least five hours in a day. On some of the photography flights that we do, [photographers] are taking pictures of new construction anywhere from Pompano down to Miami or up to Palm Beach. So when you see the cranes and things like that on Fort Lauderdale Beach and Las Olas, we take pictures of those construction sites. We'll fly our photographers and get the shots they need.

## *GR*: How close can you get to the buildings when you fly in downtown Fort Lauderdale?

**EV:** We actually can get fairly close and regulations basically allow us to [descend to] any altitude we need as long as we are not causing a potential hazard to people or property on the ground.

### *GR*: What is your favorite part of Fort Lauderdale to fly over?

**EV:** Probably Port Everglades. It's nice because a lot of the time, you have all of the cruise ships there, and you have the view of the airport – Fort Lauderdale [Hollywood] International. You have the view out to the water. You can see downtown and as you're turning, you can see the cruise ships, the pools, the people. It's beautiful because from one location, you get so many beautiful angles.

Also, the Riverhouse condos look really nice from the air and on a good day, you can see them from really far away too. I love those and their shape on top. The angles look really nice.

We fly lower than most of all the small general aviation airplanes and our visibility is better so our point of view is different from someone who is flying an airplane. We get to see more details a lot closer. It's more of a personal view.

## *GR:* From your perspective as a flight instructor, how do you view Fort Lauderdale?

**EV:** Normally on the beach we go down to 300 feet. So you can see people enjoying the beach and people in the pools at the hotels. It's a very nice looking city. You can see all the



canals, everything. We see the Water Taxi on the [river] all the time. Beautiful city. Fun. Nice place to be.

What's amazing to me and a lot of people on the tours is when you're flying, especially around the Las Olas area, and you look on either side of the Intracoastal, you see all the homes with yachts and beautiful boats in the back. One of the comments we get from a lot of people on the tours is how many pools they see from the air. They don't really expect to see that many pools. It's an absolutely beautiful and fun city. And you can see that in action with everyone on the beach - people kitesurfing, especially when it's windy.

#### GR: What is the most unusual thing that has happened to you while flying?

**EV**: One thing that kind of stands out, is around the time that a hurricane was in the area. We didn't get much other than rain and winds. I was outside one of those days and I could see the water breaking over the beach and onto A1A. So that was kind of interesting to see the water going over the road and almost up toward the bridges. It looked good from the air and it was just amazing that it could do that.

View of Fort Lauderdale Beach from above

Also, usually with students when they first start, they can barely control the helicopter and then over time you see how they get to manage it and they learn to fly it and start to feel really comfortable. So, getting a student from not knowing anything about helicopters to the point where they're almost completely comfortable flying it is an incredible experience.

It's funny. A lot of people come here and sometimes ask to fly over their homes. They think they know exactly how to find their home because they've driven there so many times and they know the roads. It looks so different from the air that a lot of the time. they can't find it. The view from the air is completely different from what you get on the ground.

#### GR: Describe what it's like up there in three words.

**EV:** An amazing experience. I tell people and anybody I meet, if they've never done it, it's the experience of a lifetime. It's something that you just have to try. It's just absolutely beautiful. The way the helicopter flies and the visibility we have with the large windows - it's very nice.

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Captain Jack

## THROUGH THE CITY

CAPTAIN JOHN FROMHARTZ, AKA CAPTAIN JACK, RIVERWALK WATER TROLLEY

#### Go Riverwalk: How long have you been a boat captain?

**John Fromhartz:** In general – since 2001. With the Water Trolley – the last six weeks, from the inaugural day. They called me down here and asked me to run the boat for them.

#### **GR:** What is your background?

JF: I came down [from Connecticut] in ninth grade and graduated from Fort Lauderdale High School. The tallest building in Fort Lauderdale was eight stories at the time. My mom had a restaurant downtown here in Fort Lauderdale. I think it's a bank parking lot now. She was near the old Fort Lauderdale High School. I went two years to the old school and graduated the first year of the new school. I'm a Flying L.

#### *GR*: What does a typical day in your life as a Riverwalk Water Trolley captain entail?

**JF:** I wake up at 6:30 a.m. every morning and drop Wynter [my granddaughter] off at school at 7:10. Then I come back [home] and get myself ready for work.

We start at 11 a.m. in the morning, every morning

and then we shut down from 2 o'clock to 4 o'clock in the afternoon. Then we start up again and go to 11 p.m.

I arrive at the boat and make sure it is ready to go. Jan Baracek, my mate, usually in the daytime, he takes care of everything, checking the engines and everything - all the fluids. And if he's not there, then I have to do it or Wynter. I try to talk her into doing it on Saturdays and Sundays, but when she doesn't want to do it, I get down and do it.

For lunch, we go to different places. Sometimes I even go home if my son is working. He's the only one who can feed and take care of the dogs. So if my son is working, I'll go home and check on them. But it's a run. I have to go on I-95. I live in Pompano, so I get about 15 to 20 minutes at home and then I have to turn around and come back.

The Riverwalk Water Trolley route is about a 25-minute loop from one end to the other and back and on an average day we do it probably 20 to 21 times. It can be monotonous except for the people you get to talk to.

#### GR: Have you met any interesting people?

JF: Most of the people from the condominiums are the regulars here. I would say we probably get half regulars,



half tourists on the boat right now and the regulars are gradually telling all their friends. They really all think it's great. They really do.

#### GR: What is your favorite part of the job?

**JF:** Getting on the controls of the boat. The maintenance is really good on these boats so you don't have to worry about it. The boats run really well and it's almost a blessing. Especially on the river because you might have \$10 million yachts on either side of you when you're pulling in and you don't need the steering wheel to lock up or the generator to shut off.

### *GR*: From your perspective as a boat captain, how do you see Fort Lauderdale?

**JF:** Well it's like living in paradise. You go along the river every day and see all the big houses. We don't really see the big houses on this route, but I worked for the Water Taxi for 11 years so I got to see all the houses. Now [I'm] right in the city. It's a little more congested on the water because of the bridges. And the big boats have to come up the river for maintenance yards.

I see [Riverfront] coming back. I was here in its heyday with the Water Taxi. As a matter of fact I was the last boat out of here at 1:30 a.m. and it used to be jamming at 1:30. and I see it coming back to those standards again.

### *GR:* Has this job given you a different perspective of the Riverwalk?

JF: Well it's a different job. We're not here to make money. We're here to show the people that they can get on the boat and go around town and do things. That's a different perspective there.

### *GR:* Do you have any recommendations for tourists or newcomers?

JF: I would say get off at the west end by the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, especially if they have kids, then you've got the IMAX theatre there and the Museum of Discovery and Science. There really aren't a lot of things to do for kids in this town, I don't think. Especially downtown, but the museum is one place.

And for the older people who just want to go shopping, go to the other end and get off at the tunnel there at Stranahan House.

## *GR*: Describe what it's like out there on the New River in three words.

JF: A fantastic voyage.

# UNDER THE SEA

BILL COLE, OWNER AND SCUBA DIVING INSTRUCTOR AT SEA EXPERIENCE

#### *Go Riverwalk*: Scuba diving is often associated with the Florida Keys. Why did you choose to start your diving school in Fort Lauderdale?

FEATURE

5.8

**Bill Cole:** I've been diving since 1977. I moved here because I was planning to go to another commercial diving school in Jensen Beach. We moved in 1980 and found somewhere in between my wife's job and Jensen Beach. That was Pompano Beach, and so that's where we moved. And I never went to the commercial diving school. I got my captain's license and got involved here with the dive shop and the rest is history. The Florida reef track starts in the Tortugas and runs all the way up to Jupiter, all along the southeast Florida coast, and the Florida Keys. The reason diving is associated with the Keys is because it's promoted heavily down there. When I first started here, back in the early '80s, we were the only dive boat in the area. There were a couple of small six-passenger boats, but we were the only commercial boat that carried larger groups of people. There are quite a few more here now. There are at least 10 dive-boats in the greater Fort Lauderdale area, between Pompano and Dania, and here, of course. We're the best, but there's competition.

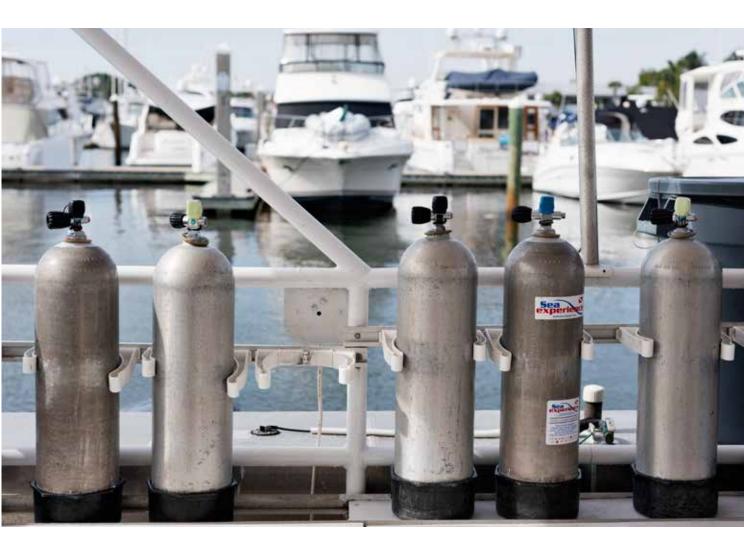
## *GR*: Sea Experience is located in Fort Lauderdale, but do you dive in other areas too?

Diver Bill Cole

**BC:** We take trips out to Chuuk Lagoon, the Bahamas, and the Cayman Islands, but mostly here in Fort Lauderdale because the diving here really is world class.

## *GR*: What does a typical day in your life as a scuba diver entail?

**BC:** Most divers like to start the day early because the ocean is a little calmer. If you start early and get out on the boat when the water is calm, you can be back by lunchtime and have the rest of the day for yourself. A typical trip takes about four hours, and we usually do two dives. It's a lot of work to get everything on to the boat, so it's worth taking an extra tank and making the most of it. First, we do a deeper dive, usually a wreck dive, then a shallower reef dive. Air is used up faster when you dive deeper, so we can stay on the shallow dive for at least an hour and enjoy swimming around. Those dives range from 15 to 25 feet. We go snorkeling, too. Both of our boats are glass-bottomed. One is strictly for snorkeling and glass-bottom boat rides. That one goes out for a two



and a half hour trip twice a day. Snorkeling is really fun, and very popular.

#### GR: From your perspective as a scuba diver, how do you see Fort Lauderdale? What does it look like from under water?

BC: It's beautiful! There are thousands of fish, coral reefs, wrecks that have been sunk out here. Just so many little fish, and some big fish. We see Goliath grouper on these wrecks. They're completely docile, but they can be five or six hundred pounds. It's so funny to watch someone who doesn't see them coming. People are shocked.

People come here for their vacations, or a day early for a cruise, and they'll come out on the dive-boat and they're just amazed. With all the big hotels and condos, they're amazed that there is a beautiful coral reef out here. And everything is close. In a lot of places, you have to take a long cruise before you can get to the reefs. Here, there is a lot of shore diving, too. Lauderdale-By-The-Sea is famous for their shore diving, and that's only about 40 yards off the beach. We stay really close to the shore. People talk about getting too far off shore, like in the movie, Open Water, but no one would get stranded at sea with us. It's highly unlikely that someone here would leave you, but if that happened, it's only a short swim





to get to the beach. It's not like the Great Barrier Reef, hundreds of miles away from anything.

#### GR: Does Fort Lauderdale have any unique landmarks that you see only when you dive?

**BC:** Fort Lauderdale has become known for its wrecks. People like to dive to see these because wrecks attract tons of fish; they're like fish magnets! There are huge ecosystems living on the wrecks.

I would say that the majority of the wrecks we see when we dive have been sunk on purpose. They are cool because they are underwater, where they shouldn't be. One of my favorite wrecks here is called the Tenneco Towers. Back in the '80s, the Tenneco Oil Company donated an oil rig that was cut into three sections and then sunk right off the shores of Hollywood, south of Port Everglades. Inside the sections of the rig, there are different levels and stairways with ropes hanging from them. What's special about this is that most wrecks have walls, made from the hull of the ship, but this tower has no walls. The ropes on the tower started out at about one inch thick, but now they are huge because, due to the constant water flow, soft coral started growing on them like crazy. And it's really noisy down there because of all the crustaceans living on the wreck, too. You're not supposed to hold your breath when you dive, but when you exhale, if you just pause a minute and listen, it snaps and crackles.

### GR: What is the greatest depth you have reached while scuba diving?

**BC:** The deepest I've gone is 187 feet, but that's not incredibly deep. That was in Chuuk Lagoon. There are some really deep wrecks there. One hundred and eightyseven feet sounds really deep. We run an open water class for when people first learn to dive. The third dive you'll go on reaches a depth of 60 feet. First-time divers are surprised, 60 feet is a lot for them. But when you look at it on land and measure it out, it really isn't that far. When you think about being under all that water, it starts to feel deep.

#### GR: In three words or phrases, can you describe what it's like underwater in Fort Lauderdale?

**BC:** One word I use on days when it's really clear and calm is one that's not even a word; it's "blue-tiful." The water is so blue and incredibly clear. Blue-tiful. Incredible. Full of life.

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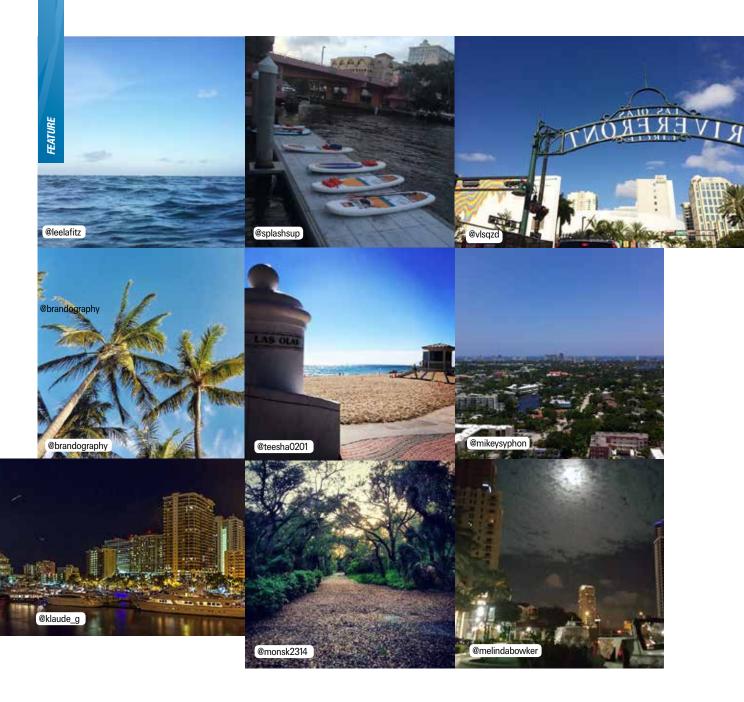
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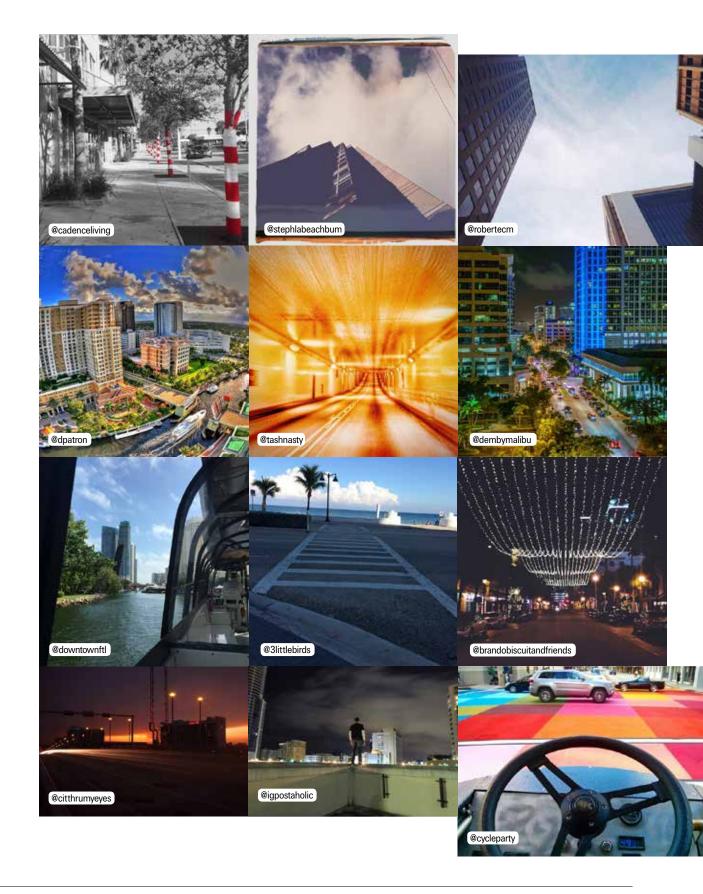
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IT'S ONLY FITTING THAT IN OUR PERSPECTIVES ISSUE, WE INCLUDE YOURS – THAT IS, HOW YOU SEE THINGS FROM WHERE YOU STAND. WE ASKED YOU TO INSTAGRAM PHOTOS THAT CHRONICLE YOUR VIEW OF FORT LAUDERDALE – YOUR COMMUTE TO WORK, YOUR JOGGING ROUTE, THE CITY STREETS YOU CROSS ON THE DAILY. OUT OF OVER 200 SUBMISSIONS HERE ARE OUR TOP 21 PICKS.

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"Fire at the Juke," last year's Riverwalk Blues and Music Festival poster

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## **PORTRAIT OF AN ARTIST**

ARTIST JOE KLUCAR'S DISTINCT STYLE DOESN'T FIT IN A CATEGORY - IT IS A PRODUCT OF HIS BACKGROUND AND IMAGINATION

WRITER CLARISSA BUCH

oe Klucar's artistic style is nothing short of original – his work, novel enough to be selected as the official poster for the Riverwalk Blues and Music Festival for the past 11 years. His kind of art is "pop surreal," as he puts it.

Klucar developed a knack for drawing at an early age. As his aptitude grew, so did the attention of his family and teachers. Their validation only fueled his developing passion – he learned more and sought to improve. One of his first jobs was at an art store – Rex

Art Supplies in Coral Gables. He used the opportunity to learn from the artists that stopped in. After several jobs in the art field, he started out as a graphic designer with



Artist Joe Klucar 下

an illustrator focus. That was in 1992. Two years later, he worked for Warner Brothers Publications, where he became an art director.

"I've been an artist my whole life," Klucar said. "I currently work as a graphic designer and senior art director at an advertising agency."

He has been a design professional for the past 18 years, but a chance meeting with neopop artist Romero Britto while working at Warner Brothers inspired him to think about actually pursuing art more seriously. Exposure

to various genres over the years has shaped the formation of his own style, which he says doesn't necessarily fit into a category.





"It's always so hard to classify my art. I don't really like to label, but if I had to pick one, [pop surreal] would be appropriate. The style is very pop, and I like to throw in surreal elements."

That style is the common thread in his growing repertoire of Riverwalk Blues and Music Festival posters. In honor of Black History month, this year Klucar decided to pay tribute to "Strange Fruit," one of Billie Holiday's most iconic songs. The 1939 record, a reaction to the inhumane racial injustices of the time, was written by New York City native Abel Meeropol. He initially wrote the lyrics as a poem after he saw a photograph of a lynching.

To Klucar, "Strange Fruit" is one of the most powerful songs in music. It is the vision for the 2015 festival poster (on the cover of this *Go Riverwalk* issue), which pictures Billie Holliday standing behind a microphone with her eyes closed. An abstract composition of hearts dangle behind her. "I was just really inspired by the song and what it means and stands for. It's just so powerful."

Klucar anticipates festivalgoers will appreciate the piece because of its pop elements, but also hopes they will recognize its deeper meaning. "When I created the painting "Strange Fruit," I thought, like the song, it could serve as a reminder of the racial injustice in our nation's past. Today, we are witnessing the largest protests over racial injustice in my lifetime. I was aware that racial injustice still exists today, but I had no idea it was going to be so topical."

He also thought it would be a great opportunity to feature a woman on the cover.

"There are so many blues festivals where you typically see a man featured [on the poster], but to have a woman, I think would be great," Klucar said.

The only concern Klucar has is the fact that the piece deals with such a heavy subject matter. "I would hate people to think that I was trivializing it. I just hope that it's taken with love, [to] honor those whose lives were lost and affected. My intention is from a place of love."

This year's festival event takes place on Feb. 14 and 15 in Esplanade Park. There is a chance to own this piece of South Florida music history as Klucar is currently selling the painting. For more information, contact Klucar through his website, www.klucardesign.com.

# HISTORIC HIMMARSHEE VILLAGE







## JUST ENJOY YOURSELF ...



## **Mixology Lab**

PREMIER'S NEW MIXOLOGY AND TRAINING CENTER FACILITATES COLLABORATIVE COCKTAIL CRAFTING

WRITERS JASON LEIDY WITH RENÉE QUINN AND PHOTOGRAPHY JASON LEIDY



hen one of the largest distributors of wines, spirits, and other beverages decided to open new executive offices in Downtown Fort Lauderdale, they wielded a secret weapon. Most wine and spirits distributors have mixologists on staff. Premier Beverage Company has its own mixology and training center, stocked with a drool-worthy list of products and staffed with award winning mixologist Nick Nistico, Premier's beverage program development specialist.

The training center isn't like a man cave with a fully stocked bar. Nor is it a cold corporate test kitchen. Imagine instead a faux-laboratory where Nistico trains and consults with members of the trade, collaborating on new trends and techniques – anything from glassware to garnishes. This unique facility has been developed as a place for the trade to learn and experiment. With an adjoining conference room, it is not hard to imagine a range of opportunities for training and educational programs. The space has hosted community and governmental leaders, including Florida CFO Jeff Atwater, U.S. Representative Debbie Wasserman Schultz, and Fort Lauderdale's Mayor John "Jack" P. Seiler.

The center's purpose is creative in nature as well. This unique facility has been developed to promote the art of fine wine and cocktails and to give those in the industry an opportunity for continuing education with product demonstrations and special guest speakers. Premier's highend inventory is paired with the creativity of mixology. Speaking to the level of investment, vice president of on premise strategy and development Scott Hersh says, "It



speaks for itself when you see the inventory level and all our top and most expensive brands."

Almost surgically clean surfaces frame the space, and lighting, designed to showcase the product and mimic a restaurant or bar environment, ranges from romantic nightclub to photo studio hues. There is a technology component too. The mirrored back wall of the bar acts as a presentation screen outfitted with multiple high definition TV monitors. Overhead cameras can broadcast a direct view of the techniques demonstrated at the bar to the Internet or the aforementioned presentation screens.

Chiller cabinets keep each product at the ideal temperature. Ice galore is on hand – from crushed to crystal clear spheres. And there is an assortment of hand forged steel blades for slicing and dicing whatever is needed to craft cocktails. There is also an astonishing selection of displayed glassware.

Of course the best tools are only as good as the people handling them. In some regards, the character of this place is a reflection of the man behind the bar. Nistico has many accolades – he has designed bar programs throughout the country and in 2013 he snagged more wins at cocktail competitions than any other bartender in the world. Last year, he trained more than 4,000 bartenders in the hotel/ restaurant industry. But what is most evident when walking into Premier's new facility is his hospitality.

Nistico grew up in an Italian household, so he is no stranger to hosting guests and making them feel welcome. His experience in the hospitality industry comes into play too. He understands what it is like to open a restaurant because he has been involved with the opening of many. He can relate to those in the restaurant industry and has a working knowledge of culinary practices and the chefs that teach them.

Mixology may be rooted in chemistry but it's the art that strikes a chord with those in the trade and ultimately restaurant patrons. At Premier's training center it's a collaboration of the art and the science.



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**IOR** 

Perhaps black or with a dash of cream. No sugar, to allow the aromas to speak on their own. And stirred. Definitely not shaken. Find out where (and how) to drink tea in Fort Lauderdale. **CONSULT OUR GUIDE ON PAGE 72**.







## **Beyond the Tartan**

THE NEWLY OPENED TILTED KILT ISN'T ABOUT TYPICAL PUB GRUB. A COMBINATION OF TRADITIONAL IRISH, ENGLISH, AND SCOTTISH NOSH, PLUS TARTAN KILTS HAVE PATRONS DOING DOUBLE TAKES.

WRITER KATIE DRESSLER · PHOTOGRAPHY JASON LEIDY

number of ventures have occupied the space at the Las Olas Boulevard and Andrews Avenue junction over the years. Some have wondered if the northwest corner was forever doomed to remain barren. Several establishments have opened and closed their doors at the 219 S. Andrews Avenue address, including the now relocated Laughing Matterz dinner theater and the Copacabana Supper Club, which quickly flat-lined only months after opening. Tilted Kilt has come to town to reverse the curse and bridge the gap from East Las Olas to the lesser-traveled West Las Olas area.

This Tilted Kilt location, which opened on Nov. 7, is the first local offshoot of the national chain and is managed by TK1 South Florida, LLC. TK1 intends to open four more

locations in Broward and Dade Counties. Until then, this location is the largest sports bar in downtown Fort Lauderdale – it boasts 8,500-square-feet, 111 flat screen TVs, and two full service bars offering 72 beers on tap.

If those larger than life features aren't enough to capture your attention, the "Kilt Girls" decked in white midriff tops and Scottish tartan (a pattern of crisscrossed vertical and horizontal lines in typically red, yellow, green, and blue colors) kilts possibly will. Understandably, the average person may speculate that scantily-clad women is the

main draw, but general manager Marcelo Deveza believes the restaurant has been well received because it is a "human

TILTED KILT PUB & EATERY 219 S. Andrews Ave. Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301





Grilled salmon salad



brand." Tilted Kilt prides itself not only on the looks of its admittedly attractive staff, but also on the staff's ability to be interactive, connect with guests on a personal level, and make them feel like a part of the atmosphere.

Deveza says, "The reason why it's called Tilted Kilt is [because] we're Scottish, Irish, and English. Then, being a U.S. brand, we took the three different countries and added ourselves in and now we're tilted." This rings true when reviewing the surprisingly expansive menu that includes options that differ significantly from average sports bar food.

Patrons can opt for healthier offerings like the black bean veggie wrap and spinach chicken salad. Or they can go the conventional route. Traditional Irish dishes like Shepherd's

## FORT LAUDERDALE



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### Pairing

ALAMOS MALBEC This Argentinian wine is made with grapes that grow in the foothills of the Andes Mountains. Its fullness comes from the region's mineral-rich soil.



**SIGNATURE DISH:** Olde Dublin Irish Stew - beef pot roast, red potatoes, carrots, celery, onions, and peas slow-cooked in a rich and hearty Guinness beef stock and served with a side of garlic bread.



Pie, or the ever-popular British fish and chips round out the menu. They also have you covered with common comfort foods like pizza, burgers, and wings.

The Olde Dublin Irish stew is one of the restaurant's signature dishes and includes tender beef pot roast with red potatoes, carrots, celery, onion bits, and peas. It is slow-cooked in a rich Guinness beef stock so the flavors are bold and stock is hearty – it comes with garlic bread in case you feel like soaking up the stew.

Another popular dish is the Chef's Choice steak, a robust plate of grilled steak seasoned with TK's own signature blend of herbs and spices. The dish comes with either French fries or red skin smashed potatoes, as well as steamed seasonal vegetables, and garlic bread. For something lighter, choose the grilled salmon salad served with diced tomatoes and julienned cucumbers, and tossed in avocado ranch dressing. Kitchen manager and chef Derrick Brown understands the need to provide diverse dining options in order to remain competitive and stay hip.

Perpetuating the "human brand" concept and creating an authentic atmosphere that appeals to the spectrum of diners seems to be a priority for Fort Lauderdale's latest pub/sports bar concept. <sup>(1)</sup>

# ON FORT LAUDERDALE BEACH

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DD, FUH S SHBOWLS

# HOW TO TEA

That's right. We made tea a verb. Because sometimes, tea isn't just a drink. It's an experience. Break out your mug (saucer optional) and consult our guide on how to tea in Fort Lauderdale. Pinkies up!

WRITERS ALEXANDRA ROLAND AND GABRIELLE ROLAND



# **Tea Begins with Tea**

It's the flavor, the cup, the service, the ambiance. Here are a few places in Fort Lauderdale for a good cuppa.

### EAT the Tea 900 NE 20th Avenue (754) 200-8355

If you fancy something unusual, you're going to want to come here. Chocolate coconut and black gun powder are among their black teas but they also carry red, green, and white blends. It's a tea bar that serves superfood. You can warm up and feel healthy doing it.

### Brew Next Door at C&I Studios NW 1st Ave (954) 357-3934

It's coffee house meets bar from up north. Brew Next Door at C&I Studios opened in FAT Village a year ago. Situated right on the tracks, the café's back garage door is usually open, weather permitting. There is a wall of over 3,000 books behind the bar that serves, among other things, tea. If you're in the mood for a cold drink, order the brewed peach iced tea or try the peppermint served hot. Staying for a bit? They'll serve your selection in a large mug.

### Suan Thai and Japanese Restaurant 290 N. Federal Highway (954) 870-6147

If you're a seasoned tea drinker, our list may not impress you. But Suan's selection might. The Thai Japanese newcomer recently began selling a fragrant selection: pomegranate lemonade with ingredients from Spain and Sri Lanka; the Provence lavender rooibos herbal tea, a mixture of elderberry, rosehip, blueberry, rooibos, and rose and lavender petals; and the low-caffeine jasmine green tea from China.

### Riverside Hotel, Indigo Restaurant (954) 467-0671

There is no official high tea or afternoon tea here, but sitting on the patio of the Indigo Restaurant to people watch on Las Olas over a cup of tea can be just as nice. Herbal selections like orange blossom, Earl Grey, English breakfast, energy, green, and relax teas come served in a small pot with a cup for one.

### Expresso Coffee Co. 1900 S. Andrews Ave. (954) 527-1222

Whatever negative connotations come to mind when you hear the word drive-thru – suppress them, now. Don't let the name fool you, this freestanding coffee shop serves tea iced – tangerine green, fruit and flower, and Earl Grey – or hot – chai, lemon orange, apple cinnamon, green, and traditional British PG Tips. Pastries are available in the morning but typically sell out in the afternoon.



# Loose Leaf If you're in the mood to stay

at home and DTY (do tea yourself) stock up on your favorite blends from these spots in the Fort Lauderdale area.

Sasaya Japanese Market 1956 E. Sunrise Blvd. (954) 761-8010 This market sits in the Gateway Shopping plaza and sells Japanese green tea leaves and matcha powder.

### Best of British 1425 SE 17th Street (954) 525-0009 Stay classy and do it the British way. Here, they sell traditional English brands I

traditional English brands like PG Tips and Yorkshire Gold.

601 S. Andrews Ave. (954) 728-8330 Go here for mainstream tea brands like Bigelow, Celestial Seasonings, Lipton, and Tetley.

### Teavana 2414 East Sunrise Blvd. (954) 564-1015

This national retailer offers unique blends like white chocolate peppermint rooibos, pumpkin spice brulee, s'mores oolong, and marshmallow macaroon herbal teas. They also sell teapots, teacups, infusers, and storage tins.

### EAT the Tea 900 NE 20th Avenue (754) 200-8355

Stop by for an assortment of 50 types of organic teas, sold by the ounce. And if you still can't find what you're looking for, they'll try to get it for you.

# Tea Time There's a tea for every time of day.



MORNING BOOST Earl Grey English breakfast Chai Tetley PG Tips black tea Rooibos Tea

AFTERNOON PICK-ME-UP African rooibos Raspberry Peach Iced lemongrass Ginger Oolong



EVENING CALM Chamomile Chocolate tea Celestial Seasonings -Sleepytime Celestial Seasonings -Tension Tamer Yogi detox



ANYTIME TEA Lady Grey Orange, lemon and peppermint varieties Roasted Japanese green tea

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# Livin' La Vida Taco

FORT LAUDERDALE'S FIRST TAQUERIA COMES TO HIMMARSHEE VILLAGE

t's about to get hipper in historic Downtown Himmarshee Village. JEY Hospitality Group will launch their newest restaurant collaboration with TMEX Cantina's Chuck Bergwin this month. TacoCraft is Fort Lauderdale's very first taqueria - chefdriven interpretations of authentic tacos paired with an upscale yet casual dining experience. Once known for its party scene (the last of the

spring breakers), Downtown Himmarshee Village is becoming a foodie landmark and hangout for craft cocktail aficionados.

"We are excited to be opening our concept in Himmarshee Village," said Marc Falsetto, co-founder/partner of JEY Hospitality Group, which also owns ROK:BRGR and Himmarshee Public House. "We had a perfect opportunity to partner with Chuck Bergwin, a long time restaurateur and neighbor. It is a perfect fit to compliment the street and our other two concepts."

Overseeing the kitchen is Robbyns Martinez, corporate chef at JEY Hospitality. Mexican native Jaime Diaz will lead as executive chef. This creative team takes a farm to table approach BY RENÉE K. QUINN, QuinnProQuo's business strategist, media socialista and community advocate specializing in downtown Fort Lauderdale. As a mixologista, she dishes the latest in food trends, cocktails, craft beers and, culinary events.

towards Mexican comfort foods and adds a modern spin. Fresh, local, and sustainable ingredients are at the core of their recipes. Authentic tortillas are handcrafted by Mexican señoras taught by their mothers and grandmothers over the generations. Falsetto's favorite? "Our New York Strip taco! Prime New York strip sliced thin, oak roasted tomatillo salsa, crisp manchego, cilantro, on a handmade corn tortilla. Simple and amazing!"

To highlight TacoCraft's downtown urban location, nationally acclaimed street artist Ruben Ubiera was commissioned to create street art and hand painted murals, bringing the Wynwood vibe of Miami to Himmarshee. The "Day of the Dead" inspired décor displays rich, vivid colors blending with wood tones and mixed with steel accents. Check out the insane industrial chandeliers and Ubiera's displayed art pieces.

The space features a large terrace and

the seating area revolves around the bar in this Mexiurban setting.

"We are exploring the vastness of the art of the taco, elevating the menu, [adding] more boutique Tequilas, [setting a] cool but funky vibe, supporting local artists [and] farms, saving the planet one taco at a time" said Bergwin.

The mixologist inspired bar menu features over 100 tequilas, handcrafted margaritas, and dozens of Mexican beers. It highlights

local breweries in Wynwood and Fort Lauderdale. Tequila based cocktails will be crafted with fresh ingredients such as habaneros, pickled jalapenos, exotic fruits, and house infusions.

Bergwin summed up the experience: "There is something Tom Robbins once wrote that has always stayed with me. 'Never underestimate how much assistance, how much satisfaction, how much comfort, how much soul and transcendence there might be in a wellmade taco and a cold bottle of beer.'"

> TACOCRAFT TAQUERIA & TEQUILA BAR 204 SW Second Street www.facebook.com/ tacocrafttaqueria



Ruben Ubiera is a Dominican neo-figurative artist, known for his graffiti inspired technique, urban murals, and mixed-media pieces and installations all created with reclaimedobjects and found artifacts. He paints and draws in a style deemed Postgraffism, but he prefers to call it urban-pop, since he has lived most of his life in urban, populated areas. Most of his inspiration is derived from the relationship between man and his urban environment. His family moved to the Bronx, NY, when he was 15. He was heavily influenced by the graffiti art that surrounded him there.

"My work, it's an evolution from the urban art that we are accustomed to seeing on an everyday basis. Not graffiti. Postgraffism. Postgraffism is a new kind of urban art - an eloquent evolution of what's happening on the streets with graffiti and the like. The beauty (or the perception of beauty) changes with time. It evolves. So does our appreciation for what is around us."

His work includes still-life and situational portraiture but he tends to focus on depicting his immediate urban surroundings and portraying everyday complex human emotions using strong lines and vivid graphic color contrast. All of this is executed on found objects, not canvases. Ubiera believes that his work has no frame, much like the everyday art that is developing on the streets.





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Compiled by GABRIELLE ROLAND Calendar Editor



SCIENCE



Straight Up Lauderdale Through Jan.

Light Up Lauderdale, presented by Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale in association with the City of Fort Lauderdale, features a promenade of light displays along the Riverwalk. In its sixth year, this free-to-the-public holiday display showcases the mile-long brick Riverwalk pathway in downtown Fort Lauderdale, giving residents and visitors the opportunity to enjoy the city center. The area is decorated with lighted trees, garland-wrapped poles, and sponsored displays along both sides of the New River, stretching from Federal Highway to Marshall Point Bridge (Southwest Fourth Seventh Avenue). Parking can be found in multiple garages, parking lots and at meters throughout the downtown area. (954) 468-1541 www.goriverwalk.com



 The Big Read: To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee Jan. - Feb. Broward County Main Library (954) 357-7386 www.broward.org/library

# Fort Lauderdale Children's Theater Quarter 3 Classes Jan. – Mar.

Activities focus on identifying ways that the body, voice, and imagination work together. Fort Lauderdale Children's Theater, Galleria Mall (954) 763-6882 www.flct.org

### "unWRAPPED" Exhibit Through Jan. 2 ArtServe

(954) 462-8190 www.artserve.org

### 2014 Winter Break Camps

Through Jan. 2 Museum of Discovery and Science (954) 713-0930

# International Gem & Jewelry Show

Jan. 2 – 4 War Memorial Auditorium www.intergem.com

### Amazing Butterflies Guest Speaker Jose Muniz

Jan. 3 Museum of Discovery and Science (954) 713-0930



27th Annual Las Olas Art Fair Part I Jan. 3 and 4 Las Olas Boulevard www.artfestival.com

### 🚷 Gregg Allman

Jan. 4 Hard Rock Live (954) 767-0686

### 🚱 Skate Las Olas

Through Jan. 4 From noon to 9 p.m. daily, the 1,800 square foot outdoor skating rink will be open for holiday fun for all ages. Las Olas Boulevard www.lasolasboulevard.com

### **&** "Stars of David"

Through Jan. 4 A funny new musical revue celebrating the lives of Jewish public figures and based on the best-selling book by Abigail Pogrebin. Broward Center for the Performing Arts (954) 462-0222 www.browardcenter.org

### Tropical Beats Series: Starry Night

Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six (954) 522-8445 www.southfloridasymphony.org

### Birding Class: Birding by Season Jan. 4 Bonnet House Museum & Gardens (954) 703-2606



### Black Holes: Space Wraps and Time Twists Through Jan. 5

Through sail: 5 Through a combination of hands-on physical models, computer-based investigations, immersive experiences, and a technology-assisted learning environment, visitors can make sense of the weird ideas behind black holes, and examine the evidence.

Museum of Discovery and Science (954) 713-0930

### ArtBRAVO Exhibit Jan. 7 - 30

ArtServe presents the 9th annual "ArtBRAVO!" exhibition and juried fine art competition. Local artists will display work to be selected for artistic distinction, concept, and mastery of technique. "ArtBRAVO!" will feature paintings, photography, mixed media, sculpture, ceramics, glassworks, and, new this year, digital/projection art. The gallery reception and award presentation is Thursday, Jan. 15 from 6 to 8 p.m. ArtServe (954) 462-8190 www.artserve.org



Disney's The Lion King Jan. 7 - Feb. 1 Broward Center for the Performing Arts (954) 462-0222 www.browardcenter.org

### Watercolor in the Gardens

Session 1: Jan. 7– Feb. 11 Join fine artist and watercolorist Karen Eskesen in the historic Bonnet House Gardens. The workshop includes traditional techniques – realism in watercolor and line drawing – and time to paint in the gardens. Bonnet House Museum & Gardens (954) 703-2606

### "The Courage to Remember" Holocaust Exhibit

Through Jan. 8 Broward County Main Library (954) 357-8692 www.broward.org/library



Learning to have fun in the kitchen

### Curry Up! Jan. 8

Menu: potato and pea samosas with mango chutney; eggplant and chickpea curry with naan bread; chicken tikka masala with jasmine rice; almond and pistachio kulfi. Publix at Plantation 1181 S. University Drive, Plantation (954) 577-0542 \$40





😳 Holiday Hangover Happy Hour Jan 8 Make 2015 historic! Kick off the

New Year with a special happy hour. Historic Stranahan House Museum (954) 524-4736

### 🍪 Seth Rudetsky's **Broadway Concert Series:** Audra McDonald Jan. 8

Broward Center for the Performing Arts (954) 462-0222

### 💷 Ruth Cohan Jewish **Book Review Series 2014-**2015

Jan 8 Discussion on The Winter Guest by Pam Jenoff. Broward County Main Library (954) 357-7443



### Fully Committed

Jan. 8 - Feb. 1 This devastatingly funny one act follows a day in the life of Sam Peliczowski, an out-of-work actor who mans the red-hot reservation line at Manhattan's number-one restaurant. Broward Center for the Performing Arts (954) 462-0222 www.browardcenter.org

### Acrylic in the Gardens

Session 1: Jan. 8 - Feb. 12 Join fine artist Nia Nakis in the historic Bonnet House Gardens. Workshop includes basic principles of acrylic painting and time to paint in the gardens. Bonnet House Museum & Gardens (954) 703-2606

### ಠ Don Williams Jan. 9

Parker Playhouse (954) 462-0222 www.browardcenter.org

### 🕀 Fort Lauderdale Beach **Collector Car Show and** Auction Jan. 9 – 11 War Memorial Auditorium

www.ftlauderdaleauction.com



4th Annual 5K 4 Kids Race Jan. 10 The race will benefit Children's

Diagnostic & Treatment Center. St. Anthony's Catholic Church (954) 728-1040

🝪 Raury Jan. 10 Revolution Live (954) 449-1025 www.jointherevolution.net

### 🕮 2nd Annual Makers

**Square Faire** Jan. 10 and 11 Museum of Discovery and Science (954) 713-0930

### 🖉 New Year Season Volleyball Kick-Off

Jan. 10 and 11 **Broward County Convention** Center (561) 586-1437

### Butterflies - Paintings by Marcos Antonio

Jan. 10 - Feb. Broward County Main Library (954) 357-7443

### 6 Winter Jam 2015 lan 11

BB&T Center www.thebbtcenter.com/events

### 🔮 Official Jam Cruise 13

Jan. 11 **Revolution Live** (954) 449-1025 www.jointheevolution.net



### 🖤 The Big Read Kick-Off: To Kill a Mockingbird

Jan 12 The kick-off will feature performances by the Senior Moments Band and a lecture by D. Christine Jackson of Nova Southeastern University. Broward County Main Library (954) 357-7443

🕗 Fort Lauderdale **Historical Society Speaker** Series: Helen Landers -"Memories of Broward as it Was"

Jan. 12 New River Inn Museum (954) 463-4431 www. fortlauderdalehistoricalsociety.org

### 😲 Bonnet House Lecture Series

Jan. 12 Bonnet House Museum & Gardens (954) 703-2606

### 🥙 Zentangle with

Shawn Ann Havden Session 1: Jan. 13 - 27 Session 2: Feb. 10 - 24 Zentangle is a method of creating beautiful images from repetitive patterns. It increases focus and creativity, providing artistic satisfaction along with an increased sense of personal wellbeing. Bonnet House Museum & Gardens (954) 703-2606

### Calligraphy with Tony Pastucci Session 1: Jan. 13 - Feb. 10 The Bonnet House Museum & Gardens (954) 703-2606

## \delta Periphery with

Nothing More, Wovenwar, Thank You Scientist Jan 14 **Revolution Live** (954) 449-1025 www.jointherevolution.net

### 6 Gold Coast Jazz Society: "Jazz Meets Broadway" Janis Siegel and the Shelly Berg Trio Jan. 14

The Shelly Berg Trio performs with a special guest vocalist for an evening of jazz. Broward Center for the Performing Arts (954) 462-0222 www.browardcenter.org



🕮 Brain: The World Inside Your Head Jan. 14 - May 3 Using innovative special effects, hands-on learning activities, video games, optical illusions and interactive displays, the exhibit shows how the brain functions and malfunctions. Museum of Discovery and Science (954) 713-0930

WINTERFEST



How To Put In A
 Butterfly Garden Presented by John J.
 Pipoly III,
 Ph. D., FLS
 Jan. 15
 Broward County Main Library
 (954) 357-7443
 www.broward.org/ibrary



### Learning to have fun in the kitchen

# Squish Squash Jan. 15

Menu: roasted butternut soup with hazelnut oil drizzle; butternut squash tart with goat cheese; pumpkin spiced rubbed pork loin with ginger acorn squash; allspice pumpkin filled sticky buns with cinnamon ice cream. Publix at Plantation 1181 S. University Drive, Plantation (954) 577-0542 \$40



The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies: An IMAX® 3D Experience Through Jan. 15 Museum of Discovery and Science AutoNation IMAX Theater (954) 463-IMAX (4629)

Weeds and Seeds: A History of Dining in Southern Florida presented by Michele Williams, Ph.D. Jan. 15 Broward County Main Library (954) 357-7443

# Bonnet House Fine Artist Exhibition

Jan. 15 – Mar. 1 "In the Details" is an exhibition by the Bonnet House fine artists in the Carl Weinhardt Gallery. Bonnet House Museum & Gardens (954) 703-2606 www.bonnethouse.org



 The Amazing Vojtěch Kubašta: A Showcase of His Pop-up and Illustrated Children's Books Through Jan. 16 Broward County Main Library

Broward County Main Library (954) 357-8243 www.broward.org/library

### 🚷 Led Zeppelin 2

Jan. 16 Revolution Live (954) 449-1025 www.jointherevolution.net

VAS Seminole Girl Sculpture: Florida Dedication Jan. 16 Stranahan House Museum (954) 709-7447 www.venetianartssociety.org



Jonathan Biss, Solo Piano Recital Jan. 16

American pianist Jonathan Biss is regarded for his artistry, musical intelligence, and deeply felt interpretations. He has gained international recognition for his orchestral, recital, and chamber music performances and for his award-winning recordings. Broward Center for the Performing Arts (954) 462-0222 www.browardcenter.org Broward College 2014-15 Signature Arts Series -The Beethoven Project Jan. 16 – Mar. 27 Bailey Hall (954) 201-6884

### Sandy Hackett's Rat Pack Show Jan. 17

Presented by Broward Center for the Performing Arts. Parker Playhouse (954) 462-0222 www.browardcenter.org



Riverwalk Stone Crab and Seafood Festival

11 a.m.-5 p.m. Family friendly festival offering seafood dishes starting at \$5 each, hermit crab races, music, and more. Esplanade Park (954) 468-1541 www.goriverwalk.com Free



# Family Fun Series: "Kitten's First Full Moon" Jan 17

An exciting new musical revue based on favorite contemporary children's books. Approximately one hour in length, recommended for grades K – 4. Broward Center for the Performing Arts (954) 462-0222 www.browardcenter.org

### 🥑 Russell Peters

Jan. 17 Hard Rock Live (954) 767-0686

### Gun and Knife Show Jan. 17, 18, 21 and 22

War Memorial Auditorium www.suncoastgunshows.com

# **B** Love, Loss, Redemption Jan. 18

Maestra Sebrina Alfonso will conduct the South Florida Symphony Orchestra as it performs works by Mendelssohn, Brahms, and Sibelius, featuring violinist Kim Chee-Yun. Broward Center for the Performing Arts (954) 522-8445 www.southfloridasymphony.org

# Seminole Stories: The History of Seminole Music Jan. 21

Learn the history of the Native American tribes of the Southeast. Presented by Seminole tribal member Everett Osceola and in conjunction with the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum. The Seminole Stories series honors the rich culture and history of our area's first settlers. Historic Stranahan House Museum (954) 524-4736

### 2015 Broward College Speaker Series: Anthony Robles

Jan. 21 Robles is a NCAA Championship Wrestler, motivational speaker, and author. The title of this lecture is "My Story: Unstoppable". The series is presented by Hoffman's Chocolates. Broward Center for the Performing Arts (954) 462-0222 www.browardcollege speakerseries.com

### **Paper Diamond** Jan. 22

Revolution Live (954) 449-1025 www.JoinTheRevolution.net





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### 🛡 American Realism Jan. 22

Learn about eight artists in the late 19th and 20th centuries that captured the American scene in many ways. Broward County Main Library (954) 357-7443

### Concerts Under the Stars

Jan. 22 and Feb. 12 Enjoy a live performance by the University of Miami Frost Opera Theater on the Bonnet House veranda with complimentary wine, dessert, and coffee. (954) 703-2614 www.bonnethouse.org

### 🖯 Annual MS Gala Luncheon Jan. 23

Money raised from the event will fund cutting-edge research initiatives and ensure that critical programs and support services are available to the more than 7,500 South Floridians living with multiple sclerosis. Broward County Convention Center (954) 731-4224 www.nationalmsscociety.org/fls



🚱 An Evening with **Michael Bolton** Jan. 23 Hard Rock Live (954) 767-0686

"The Second City Hits Home" Jan. 23 Broward Center for the Performing Arts (954) 462-0222 www.browardcenter.org

### Fort Lauderdale Orchid Shows Jan 23 - 25

War Memorial Auditorium www.flos.org

### 🚱 Keller Williams

Jan 24 Revolution Live (954) 449-1025 www.jointherevolution.net

### 🚱 The David Bromberg Quintet Jan. 24 Broward Center for the Performing Arts (954) 462-0222 www.browardcenter.org



### UIA World Uncorked Jan. 24

JA World Uncorked, a Fork and Cork Affair, presented by Premier Beverage, is a multifaceted four-hour culinary event benefiting the educational programs at Junior Achievement of South Florida. JA World Huizenga Center www.iaworlduncorked.com (954) 979-7120

### The Art of Fashion Jan 24

The event will feature the new designs of Marcello Vittoria Maison du Couture and will benefit the Venetian Arts Society. Mercedes-Benz of Fort Lauderdale Showroom www.venetianartssociety.com



🖉 Chess Tournament at the Museum Jan. 24 and 25 Museum of Discovery and Science (954) 713-0930

### Arlo Guthrie's "Alice's Restaurant Massacree"

Jan. 25 Parker Plavhouse (954) 462-0222

www.browardcenter.org

### **Potted Potter: The Unauthorized Harry Experience - A Parody** by Dan and Jeff Jan. 27 - Feb. 1 Broward Center for the Performing Arts

(954) 462-0222



🍪 Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons Jan 27 Hard Rock Live (954) 767-0686

### The Key to A Powerful Novel with Joyce Sweeney Jan 31

Learn writing techniques with author Joyce Sweeney as part of the Big Read series of events. Broward County Main Library (954) 357-7443 www.broward.org/library

### Monthly Exhibit: Valentine's Day February

Historic Stranahan House Museum (954) 524-4736 www.stranahanhouse.org

### 🥙 Café Dolly: Picabia, Schnabel, Willumsen Through Feb. 1

This exhibition presents paintings by three provocative artists: the work of late French artist Francis Picabia; work dating from the 1980s to the present by New York artist Julian Schnabel; and work from the late 19th to mid-20th century by Danish artist J. (Jens) F. (Ferdinand) Willumsen. Museum of Art | Fort Lauderdale (954) 525-5500 www.moafl.org

### Homemade for Sale Presentation

Jan 31 Broward County Main Library (954) 357-7443 www.broward.org/library



**5th Annual Holy Cross Hospital Golf Classic** Feb. 4 Coral Ridge Country Club (954) 229-8562

🚱 Less Than Jake and Reel Big Fish with Authority Zero Feb. 4 **Revolution Live** (954) 449-1025 www.jointherevolution.net

### 😏 Leadership Broward Expedition Leadership - A One-Day Summit Feb. 6 Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six www.leadershipbroward.org

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

Feb. 6 Broward County Main Library (954) 357-7443 www.broward.org/library

### 🔮 Pops Series: The WannaBeatles: "The Day the Music Changed" Feb. 6

In celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Beatles performance at the Ed Sullivan Show, the South Florida Symphony is presenting a concert with the WannaBeatles, a Grammy-nominated band. First Baptist Church, Fort Lauderdale (954) 522-8445 www.southfloridasymphony.org



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Miami City Ballet Program II: "Hear the Dance" Feb. 6 - 8 Broward Center for the Performing Arts (305) 929-7010 www.miamicityballet.org

Beventh Son: An IMAX\* 3D Experience Feb. 6 - 28 Museum of Discovery and Science AutoNation IMAX

Science AutoNation IMAX Theater (954) 463-IMAX (4629)



Orchid Care Class
 - Orchid Basics
 Feb. 7
 Bonnet House Museum &
 Gardens
 (954) 703-2606
 www.bonnethouse.com

### Bob Seger & The Silver Bullet Band Feb. 7 BB&T Center

BB&T Center www.thebbtcenter.com/events

### **A Taste Under the Stars** Feb. 7

Junior Welfare Society's 59th Annual Toyland Event. A casually sophisticated evening of dancing and dining under the stars featuring Mark Zaden and The Weedline Band. Lauderdale Yacht Club (954) 769-4687 www.juniorwelfaresociety.org

### Big Read Writing Workshop with Marjetta Geerling

Feb. 7 Broward County Main Library (954) 357-7443 www.broward.org/library

### Shade In The Sunshine State: A History of Segregation in Florida presented by Author Liz Coursen Feb. 7

The hour-long lecture, based on the companion book, Shade in the *Sunshine State: Reflections on Segregation in Florida*, will discuss the history of segregation in Florida, alternating between first-person remembrances and real-life visual images of contemporaneous advertising, postcards, and newspaper articles. Broward County Main Library (954) 357-7443 www.broward.org/library

### Birding Classes: Warblers & Songbirds

Feb. 8 Bonnet House Museum & Gardens (954) 703-2606

Andy's Annual Family Pasta Dinner Feb. 8 The Signature Grand (954) 792-2EAT

### Fort Lauderdale Historical Society Speaker Series: Jack Drury

Feb. 9 New River Inn Museum (954) 463-4431

fortlauderdalehistoricalsociety.org



### Bonnet House Lecture Series

Feb. 9 History and prehistory of the New River with Dr. Michelle Williams. Bonnet House Museum & Gardens (954) 703-2606



Content of the sector of the s

### Symphony of the Americas: Dvořák Totems with Cellist Yehuda Hanani Feb. 10

In the Native American Culture, the totem and the spirit it embodies represent the bond of unity within a tribe or a clan. Antonin Dvořák was heavily influenced by the music of Native Americans. Symphony of the Americas explores this inspiration with an all-Dvořák concert. Broward Center for the Performing Arts (954) 462-0222 www.browardcenter.org

# Native Species Support Butterflies

Feb. 10 Learn about which native species support butterflies with Julio Perez and Dr. John Pipoly, Broward County Extension Education, Parks and Recreation Division. Broward County Main Library (954) 357-7443 www.broward.org/library

# Zentangle Class Intermediate

Feb. 10 – 24 Enjoy a live performance by the Lynn University String Quartet on the Bonnet House veranda with complimentary wine, dessert, and coffee. Bonnet House Museum & Gardens (954) 563-5393 www.bonnethouse.org/calendar

**Wale with Doja Cat** Feb. 11 Revolution Live (954) 449-1025 www.jointherevolution.net



Journey to the South
Pacific: An IMAX\* 3D
Experience
Through Feb. 12
Museum of Discovery and
Science AutoNation IMAX
Theater
(954) 463-IMAX (4629)



 Island of Lemurs: Madagascar 3D Through Feb. 12 The film takes audiences on a journey to Madagascar. Museum of Discovery and Science AutoNation IMAX Theater (954) 463-IMAX (4629)

### 🚷 Between the Sheets

Tour Feb. 12 Chris Brown with Trey Songz featuring Tyga. BB&T Center www.thebbtcenter.com/events

### 🚱 Concert Under

the Stars Feb. 12 Bonnet House Museum & Gardens (954) 703-2614 www.bonnethouse.org

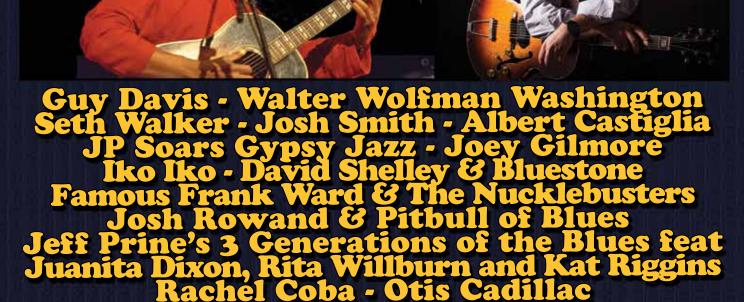




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 Ruth Cohan Jewish Book Review Series-Jabotinsky: A Life by Hillel Halkin Feb. 12 Broward County Main Library (954) 357-7443 www.broward.org/library

Aaron Neville Feb. 12 Parker Playhouse (954) 462-0222



**Andrea Bocelli** Feb. 12, 14, 15 Hard Rock Live (954) 767-0686

"Tony n' Tina's Wedding" Feb. 12 - 22 At "Tony n' Tina's Wedding," audience members play the roles of Anthony and Valentina's family and friends. Broward Center for the

Performing Arts

(954) 462-0222



Florida Grand Opera Performs Cosi Fan Tutte Feb. 12 and 24 Broward Center for the Performing Arts (800) 741-1010 www.fgo.org

Humpback Whales 3D Opens Feb. 13 Museum of Discovery and Science AutoNation IMAX Theater (954) 463-IMAX (4629)



Gold Coast Jazz Society: Arturo Sandoval and the South Florida Jazz Orchestra Feb. 13 Broward Center for the Performing Arts (954) 462-0222 www.browardcenter.org

# Orchid Care Class - Orchid Repotting

Feb. 14 Bonnet House Museum & Gardens (954) 563-5393 www.bonnethouse.org

# Content of the second s

Seth Rudetsky's Broadway Concert Series: Cheyenne Jackson Feb. 14 Broward Center for the Performing Arts (954) 462-0222

### Dancing Pros: Live

Feb. 15 Broward Center for the Performing Arts (954) 462-0222 www.browardcenter.org

### **Gordon Lightfoot: "50 Years on the Carefree Highway"**

Feb. 15 Presented by AEG Live and the Broward Center. Parker Playhouse (954) 462-0222 www.browardcenter.org

# **25th Annual Walk** for Animals

Feb. 28 Huizenga Plaza www.walk4theanimals.com

### "Feast of Colors" Exhibition

Through Mar. 2 The Atlantic Hotel & Spa www.artserve.org



American Scene Photography Martin Z. Margulies Collection Through Mar. 22 Martin Z. Margulies has avidly collected photographs for more than 20 years, and this exhibition is drawn from his extensive collection. Museum of Art | Fort Lauderdale, Fort Lauderdale

Lauderdale, Fort Lauderdale (954) 525-5500 www.moafl.org

### Images from the Stranahan Collection

Through Mar. 22 New River Inn Museum (954) 463-4431 www. fortlauderdalehistoricalsociety.org



Tiny Giants 3D Through Aug. 31 Museum of Discovery and Science AutoNation IMAX Theater (954) 463-IMAX (4629)

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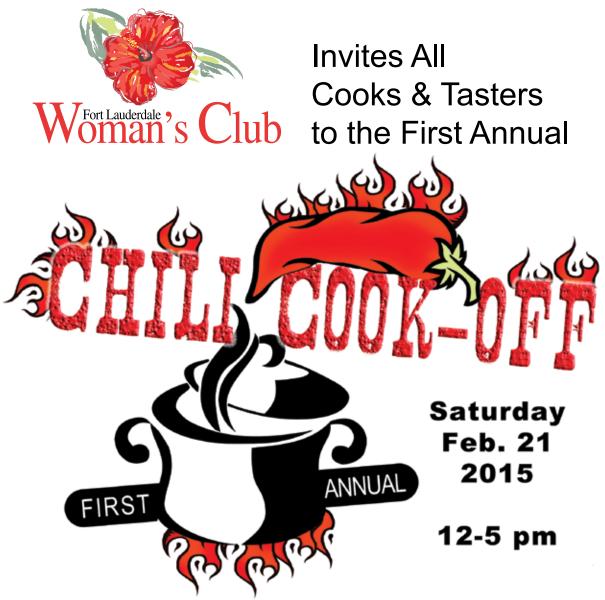


Cardio Mix with Josh Hecht 6:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays Times and dates subject to change depending on weather restrictions. Esplanade Park (954) 790-4953 (954) 468-1541 www.goriverwalk.com

Contemporal A Dog's Best Friend Group Classes Intermediate Dog Obedience Class Thursdays, 7 p.m.



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# Competition will be at Esplanade Park

# FOR MORE INFO: tsamplesinc@gmail.com

All proceeds benefit the FLWC, one of our city's oldest civic organizations and last remaining historic buildings in Fort Lauderdale.







Wasters Dog Obedience Class Thursdays, 8:15 p.m. Both are sixweek courses. If you have already attended a basic obedience class and

a basic obedience class and are looking for a class to take your dog's training to the next level, this class is for you! We will be working on higher level distraction work, fading hand signals, food lures, distance and distraction recalls, and stavs.

Esplanade Park 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 for advanced reservations. www.segwayfortlauderdale.

com

Siverwalk Beginner Yoga Series Jan. 5- Feb. 11, Mondays and Wednesdays Huizenga Plaza www.pmyogini.com

Photography Classes on the Riverwalk First Saturday of the month Riverwalk HHHenleyIII@gmail.com

# ONGOING

# 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



### Las Olas Outdoor Green Market

Sundays • 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Neighbors come to the Las Olas Sunday Outdoor Green Market to shop and socialize. Many bring their dogs for exercise. There are even watering stations for those hot Florida days. Looking for local and organic produce? You'll find that here. Plaza at YOLO (954) 462-4166

### 🛡 English Café

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

### 🛡 El Club

Every Tuesday Brush up on your Spanish skills. Broward County Main Library (954) 357-7439 www.broward.org/library

### Crossroads Café Wednesdays

Broward County Main Library (954) 357-7439 www.broward.org/library

Behind the Scenes Second Wednesday of the month Take a sneak peek inside normally closed areas of Evelyn and Frederic Bartlett's private living quarters. Bonnet House Museum & Gardens (954) 703-2606 www.bonnethouse.org



First Friday Jazz Jams First Friday of the month ArtServe (954) 524-0805 www.goldcoastjazz.org

### 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



**Docent Guided House Tours** Ongoing Historic Stranahan House Museum (954) 524-4736 www.stranahanhouse.org



### Moon Rock Display Ongoing The moon rock exhibit features

a 20 minute film of Apollo 7, the first manned mission in the Apollo program to be launched and the first three man American space mission; posters of the Apollo 7 mission; and two life-size fiberglass NASA astronauts. Broward County Main Library (954) 357-7443

### Welcome Center Monthly Rotating Exhibits Ongoing

Bonnet House Museum and Gardens (954) 703-2606



When the Indigo Room or Is Memory Water Soluble? Ongoing Museum of Art | Fort Lauderdale (954) 525-5500



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### Winterfest Black Tie Ball

Guests donned formal wear for the evening of dancing and entertainment presented by Moët & Chandon in association with Absolut Vodka and Milestone Wines.





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# **21st Century Museum of Discovery and Science Gala**

The event was a tribute to Terry Stiles for his 30+ year involvement on the museum's board of trustees. Photos by Downtown Photos and Darryl Noble





Information: 954-513-2270 2801 SW 12TH St. • Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33312





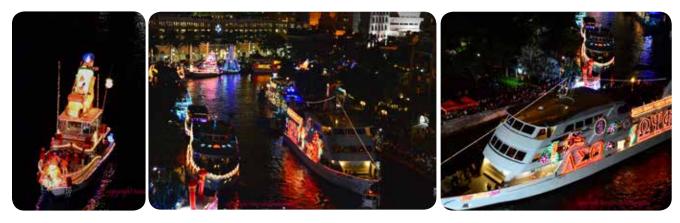
### 19th Annual AT&T Jeb Bush Florida Classic - 65 Roses Gala

The gala was part of a three-day event, which raised \$712,000 for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.



# Winterfest Boat Parade

Audiences lined the shore on Dec. 13 to watch the annual Winterfest Boat Parade procession along the New River. Photos by Tom Serio





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# **The Adventures of Himmarshee Hal:** *Fresh Start*

WRITER DEBORAH SHARP · ILLUSTRATION DENISE BAKER

al's father had warned him. This latest venture was doomed. Who did Hal think he was, using the remnants of his trust fund to move from Michigan to Fort Lauderdale? And hanging a shingle as Himmarshee Hal, Private Eye? No one in their old-moneyed family had ever done such a thing. He was setting himself up for failure. Again.

Shuffling along the Riverwalk, Hal thought of snowdrifts and stinging cold back in Bloomfield Hills. Here, yachts motored past. Holiday lights shimmered on the New River. On New Year's Eve, a light windbreaker sufficed. Hal had to chuckle when he thought of his father, chipping ice from his windshield.

Still, two weeks in business, and just one call.

Wrong number.

Music and revelry drifted downriver from Esplanade Park. A new year was supposed to signal fresh starts. But Hal felt lonely, a little lost. He wandered away from the party, passing the courthouse and condos. A small dog darted into his path, tail wagging.

"Hey, buddy. You lost?"

The dog looked like the outcome of a three-way between a pug, a Chihuahua, and a dachshund. Hal scratched behind the mutt's ears, and got a face licking in return. He hoped whatever the dog had just eaten wasn't as dicey at its pedigree.

A sharp whistle sounded, followed by a petite brunette shaking a leash and empty collar. "Bad, Brutus!"

The affectionate grin she gave the dog undermined her stern tone. Hal's heart warmed. "Hey," he said. "It's New Year's. How come you're all alone?"

Guardedness replaced her grin. They spoke simultaneously:

"I didn't mean . . ."

"I'm married . . ."

Hal glanced at her hand. No ring. "Okay." He stepped back, trying to look safe. "Happy New Year."

"Sure." Her scowl softened, but barely. "Thanks for rescuing Brutus."

Unlucky in business; unlucky in love. Maybe he was a loser, like his dad said. Hal sank onto a bench across from the Stranahan House. He'd studied his history. He tried to conjure an image of Seminole Indians in dugout canoes, coming downtown to trade. Staring, head in hands, Hal didn't notice he wasn't alone until the stranger sat down.

"You're not about to do anything crazy, are you?" The man nodded at the dark water. "You look a little depressed."

Hal assured the stranger he wasn't suicidal. Then he poured out his worries about leaving home, spending almost all he had to become a private investigator.

"The cases will come."

Follow

Himmarshee Hal's

next escapade in

the February issue

of Go Riverwalk

Hal raised a brow. "How do you know?"

"I'm in a similar line of work." He pointed east, toward the beach. "I live aboard my boat at Bahia Mar. If you ever want to talk, I'm on *Busted Flush*, Slip F-18."

They stood. Shook hands. Surprisingly, Hal felt cheerier. "Wait, I didn't catch your name."

"Travis," said the big man. "Travis McGee." 📵

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.

New to Fort Lauderdale? Google Travis McGee if you don't recognize the mythical stranger.

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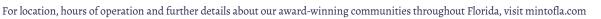
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