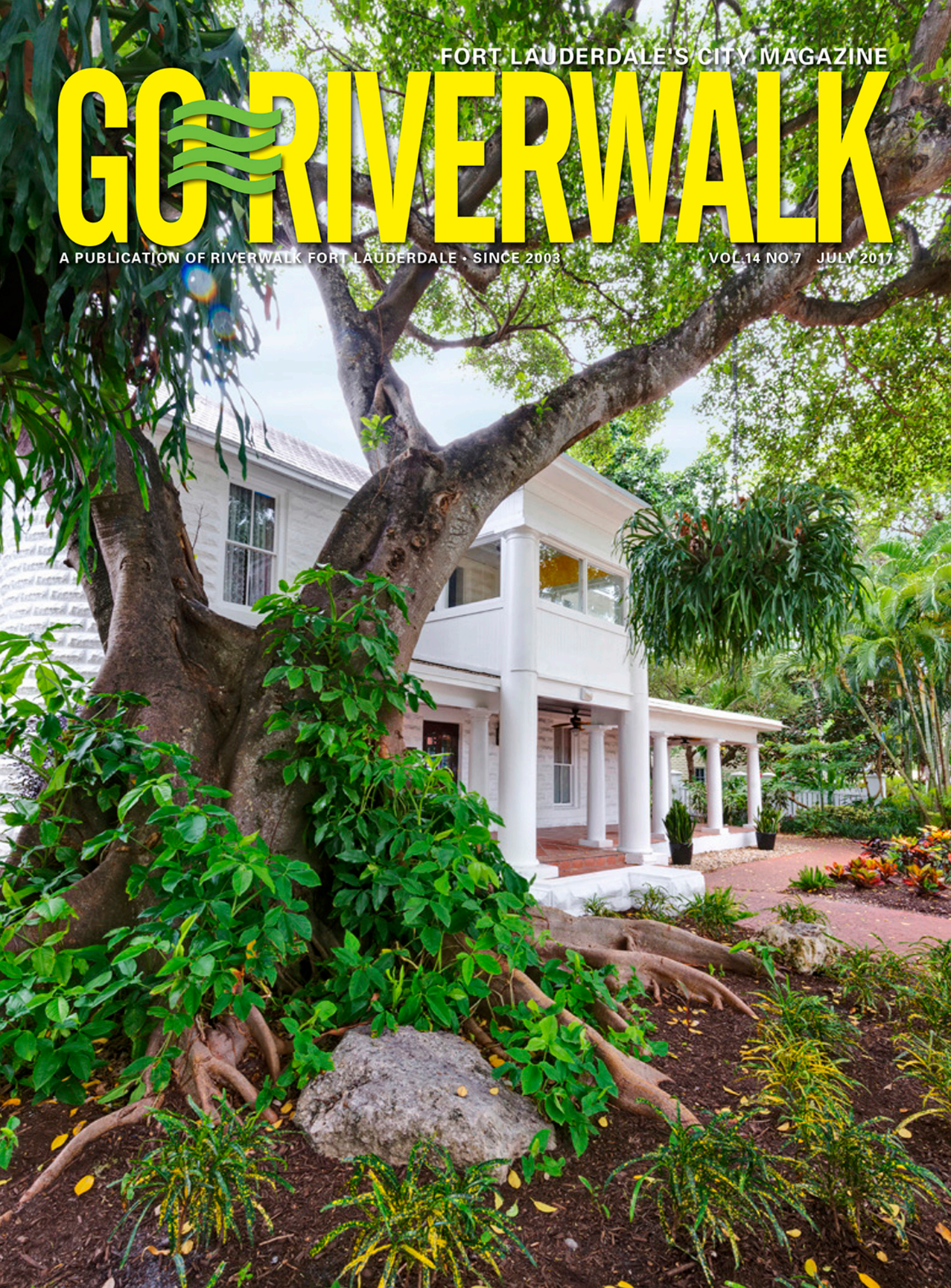


FORT LAUDERDALE'S CITY MAGAZINE

GO RIVERWALK

A PUBLICATION OF RIVERWALK FORT LAUDERDALE • SINCE 2003

VOL.14 NO.7 JULY 2017



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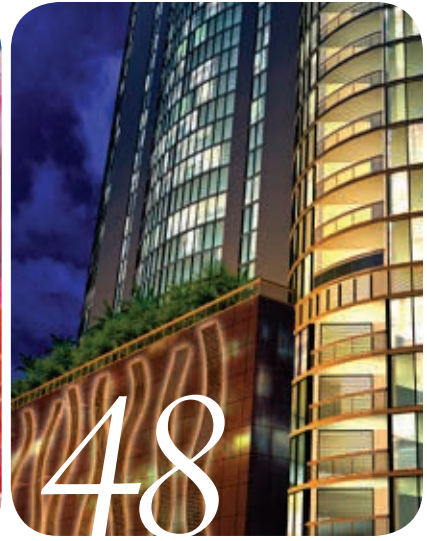
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The newly refurbished
River House

Photo by Jason Leidy

A Publication of Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale



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MISSION STATEMENT

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



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830 LAS OLAS CONDOS!**

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SOUTHEAST CORNER PENTHOUSE

OFFERED AT \$3,595,000

SE CORNER PENTHOUSE W/OVER 4,200 SQ FT OF DESIGNER INTERIOR FINISHES & MORE THAN 1,400 SQ FT OF TERRACES OFFERING VAST VIEWS OF THE FT. LAUDERDALE WATERWAYS. MARBLE FLOORS THROUGHOUT, CUSTOM LIGHTING & DOORS. 3 PARKING SPACES.

ASHLEY - \$1,449,000

DESIGNER MODEL WITH SE VIEWS OF THE NEW RIVER, OCEAN & CITY FROM EVERY ROOM. FEATURES 3 BR/3.5 BATH WITH WOOD FLOORS & TWO TERRACES DIRECTLY ON THE RIVER!

JUST LISTED

CHAMPAGNE - \$1,150,000

2 BR/2.5 BATH UNIT BOASTS SOME OF THE BEST VIEWS IN THE BUILDING OVERLOOKING THE OCEAN, INTRACOASTAL AND RIVER. HUNTER DOUGLAS WINDOW TREATMENTS, CUSTOM LIGHTING FIXTURES AND MUCH MORE.

ASHLEY - \$1,100,000

3 BR/3.5 BATH ASHLEY NORTH WITH TWO TERRACES AND MARBLE FLOORS THROUGHOUT. GOURMET KITCHEN WITH GRANITE COUNTERTOPS, SUB ZERO REFRIGERATOR & MEILE DISHWASHER.

CHAMPAGNE - \$999,000

PANORAMIC OCEAN, CITY & RIVER VIEWS FROM EVERY ROOM IN THIS UPGRADED 2 BR/2.5 BATH CHAMPAGNE SOUTH UNIT.

JUST SOLD

CHAMPAGNE

DESIGNER MODEL WITH STUNNING VIEWS OF THE RIVER, OCEAN AND CITY. 2 BR/2.5 BATH UNIT FEATURES A GOURMET KITCHEN. MARBLE BATHS AND TWO SPACIOUS TERRACES.

PRICE REDUCED

BRADFORD - \$895,000

2 BR/2 BATH, PANORAMIC VIEWS OF THE OCEAN, RIVER & CITY. NEARLY \$200K DESIGNER FINISHES, POLISHED MARBLE FLOORS IN LIVING AREAS, DESIGNER LIGHTING, WATERWORKS BATHS & LARGE TERRACE.

BRADFORD - \$799,000

2 BR/2 BATH, OUTSTANDING VIEWS OF THE OCEAN, RIVER & CITY FROM THIS HIGHLY UPGRADED BRADFORD MODEL WITH CUSTOM BUILT INS, CROWN MOLDING, UPGRADED KITCHEN, IMMACULATE CONDITION!!

BRADFORD - \$749,000

RIVER & OCEAN VIEWS FROM THIS 2 BR/2 BATH SPLIT FLOOR PLAN WITH FULL LENGTH TERRACE, GOURMET KITCHEN & MARBLE FLOORS.

BRADFORD - \$719,000

2 BR/2 BATH WITH LARGE COVERED TERRACE, SPLIT BEDROOM PLAN, MARBLE FLOORS & BATHS, GOURMET KITCHEN AND MUCH MORE.

JUST SOLD

BRADFORD

2 BR/2 BATH WITH STUNNING RIVER & CITY VIEWS. SPLIT FLOOR PLAN WITH OVERSIZED TERRACE. GOURMET KITCHEN AND MORE.



THE PARK PENTHOUSE - TRI-LEVEL MASTERPIECE

OFFERED AT \$12,500,000

SPECTACULAR PARK PENTHOUSE DESIGNED BY STEVEN G. ENCOMPASSES OVER 6,900 SQ. FT. ACROSS THREE LEVELS. OVER 3,300 SQ. FT. OF BALCONIES, AN INTERIOR PRIVATE ELEVATOR, A SPIRAL STAIRCASE WITH A TRI-LEVEL HAND BLOWN GLASS CHANDELIER, EXOTIC WOODS & IMPORTED STONE FINISHES THROUGHOUT.

JUST LISTED - CUSTOM ONE-OF-A-KIND COMBINED UNIT

OFFERED AT \$6,695,000

AN ABSOLUTE MUST SEE WITH OVER 5,000 SQ FEET OF CUSTOM DESIGNED LIVING SPACE ON A SINGLE LEVEL IN THIS LUXURY COMBINATION CONDO. THIS MASTERPIECE BOASTS PRIVATE ELEVATORS, FLOOR TO CEILING GLASS WITH MOTORIZED WINDOW TREATMENTS, AUTOMATED SMART HOME SYSTEM. THREE BALCONIES TO TAKE IN THE STUNNING 270 DEGREE VIEWS OF THE OCEAN, RIVER AND CITY.

JUST LISTED

PARK - \$1,725,000

3BR/3.5 BATH VERY DESIRABLE PARK RESIDENCE WITH FABULOUS RIVER VIEWS. BEAUTIFUL CUSTOM LIGHTING, NEW HARDWOOD FLOORS AND MUCH MORE!

PRICE REDUCED

MADISON - \$1,579,000

34TH FLOOR WITH OVER 2,700 SQ FT OF LIVING AREA, CUSTOM LIGHTING. PANORAMIC CITY VIEWS FROM EVERY ROOM & A WRAP AROUND BALCONY.

MADISON - \$1,549,000

EXQUISITE TOWER SUITE WITH MAGNIFICENT VIEWS OF THE RIVER AND DOWNTOWN. EXPANSIVE WRAP AROUND TERRACE.

COLUMBUS - \$1,049,000

35TH FLOOR 2 BR/3 BATH WITH S/S ARCHITECTURAL SERIES APPLIANCES, GOURMET KITCHEN WITH SNAIDERO CHERRY WOOD CABINETS.

PRICE REDUCED

COLUMBUS - \$975,000

HIGH FLOOR 2 BR/3 BATH + OFFICE /MEDIA ROOM. RIVER AND CITY VIEWS FROM EVERY ROOM, PRIVATE ELEVATOR ENTRY.

LEXINGTON - \$799,000

10TH FLOOR WITH OVER \$125K IN DESIGNER UPGRADES. THIS 2 BR/2.5 BATH SPLIT FLOOR PLAN OFFERS A GOURMET KITCHEN AND CUSTOM LIGHTING.

LEXINGTON - \$789,000

GORGEOUS 30TH FLOOR TURN-KEY FURNISHED LEXINGTON MODEL. PRIVATE ELEVATOR, DESIGNER DECORATED WITH WOOD FLOORS.

LEXINGTON - \$775,000

2BR/2.5BATH WITH FLOOR TO CEILING GLASS. SPLIT FLOOR PLAN WITH OUTSTANDING RIVER & CITY VIEWS.

CHELSEA - \$699,000

2BR/2.5BATH WITH FABULOUS FINISHES INCLUDING CREMA MARFIL MARBLE FLOORING THROUGHOUT, DESIGNER LIGHTING & CUSTOM BUILT-IN CLOSETS.

SOHO - \$649,000

TURNKEY CONDO WITH DIRECT RIVER AND SUNSET VIEWS. GLASS WALLS BETWEEN ROOMS AND NEW UPGRADED GOURMET KITCHEN.

PRICE REDUCED

CHELSEA - \$639,000

STUNNING CHELSEA MODEL, 2 BR/2.5 BATH WITH OUTSTANDING VIEWS FROM EVERY ROOM. TILE & WOOD FLOORING THROUGHOUT.

JUST SOLD

SOHO

COMPLETELY RENOVATED 2BR/2BATH WITH DIRECT RIVER VIEWS. UNIT FEATURES DESIGNER UPGRADES INCLUDING A BRIGHT GOURMET KITCHEN, PORCELAIN FLOORS AND BUILT-IN MEDIA CENTER.

PRICE REDUCED

SOHO - \$547,500

BEST PRICED UNIT IN THE BUILDING. RIVER AND CITY VIEWS FROM EVERY ROOM, FEATURING MARBLE FLOORS THROUGHOUT & GOURMET KITCHEN.

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THE SYMPHONY

3BR/3BATH - \$889,000

LARGE 3 BR/3 BATH EAST FACING CONDO, CORNER SUB-PENTHOUSE WITH BOAT SLIP. UNIQUE UNIT HAS TWO MASTER BEDROOMS WITH OVER 2269+ SQ FT. PLUS A LARGE SUNDECK. 2 PARKING SPACES INCLUDED.

JUST LISTED 3BR/2.5 BATH - \$739,000

SPACIOUS 3 BR/2.5 BATH RESIDENCE. BEAUTIFUL MARBLE FLOORS THROUGHOUT, WRAP AROUND CORNER BALCONY WITH VIEWS OF THE NEW RIVER AND DOWNTOWN FORT LAUDERDALE.

JUST SOLD PENTHOUSE

CAPTIVATING VIEWS THROUGH 10 FT FLOOR TO CEILING ARCHED WINDOWS IN THIS SPLIT 2 BR/2 BATH, NE CORNER TOP FLOOR RESIDENCE. RENOVATED MASTER BATH & GOURMET KITCHEN.

PENTHOUSE - \$549,000

2BR/2 BATH WITH RIVER VIEWS. LIMESTONE FLOORING IN THE LIVING AREAS, CROWN MOLDING & 2 PARKING SPACES.

JUST LISTED 2BR/2 BATH - \$425,000

COMPLETELY RENOVATED UNIT WITH AMAZING VIEWS. WRAPAROUND BALCONY OVERLOOKING THE GREEN GARDEN AND THE POOL AREA. ELEGANTLY FURNISHED AND DECORATED WITH STYLE.

2BR/2 BATH - \$399,000

WHITE, BRIGHT & TROPICAL CORNER UNIT WITH A WRAP AROUND BALCONY. NEW S/S APPLIANCES AND GRANITE COUNTERTOPS.

PRICE REDUCED 2BR/2 BATH - \$374,900

SPLIT FLOOR PLAN WITH AN EXTENDED BALCONY. TILE FLOORING THROUGHOUT, S/S APPLIANCES & ITALIAN CABINETRY.

350 LAS OLAS PLACE



PRICE REDUCED SAN MARCO - \$519,000

UPGRADED SPLIT FLOOR PLAN WITH NEW FLOORING THROUGHOUT. ENJOY OCEAN & CITY VIEWS FROM EVERY ROOM.

FIESTA - \$329,000

ONE-OF-A-KIND 1 BR/1BATH WITH 370 SQ FOOT PRIVATE TERRACE.



JUST LISTED SEAVIEW - \$789,000

IMPECCABLE 3/2 COMPLETELY RENOVATED, DESIGNER FINISHES INCLUDE PORCELAIN PLANK TILE THROUGHOUT, GOURMET KITCHEN S/S APPLIANCES, MOSAIC BACK SPLASH. CUSTOM WINDOW TREATMENTS, DESIGNER LIGHTING. BATHROOMS DESIGNED WITH CUSTOM VANITIES, FIXTURES & GLASS ENCLOSED SHOWER. TWO RIVER FRONT TERRACES CAPTURE SUNSETS & SUNRISES, VIEWS TO THE OCEAN, WINDING RIVER, TWO PARKING SPACES INCLUDED.

JUST SOLD SEAVIEW

3BR/2 BATH WITH BEAUTIFUL OCEAN, CITY & RIVER VIEWS. 2 LARGE TERRACES, OPEN FLOOR PLAN, 24x24 TILE FLOORING THROUGHOUT AND MUCH MORE!

MOONGLOW - \$674,000

FULLY FURNISHED 2 BR/2 BATH HIGH FLOOR UNIT ON THE RIVER. LARGE WRAP-AROUND TERRACE WITH AMAZING VIEWS OF THE RIVER, OCEAN & CITY.

JUST LISTED SKYVIEW - \$525,000

2BR/2 BATH SUB PENTHOUSE WITH 10' CEILINGS, EXTENDED BALCONY & DIRECT RIVER VIEWS, MODERN DESIGN WITH PORCELAIN TILE THROUGHOUT.

JUST SOLD SKYVIEW

2 BR/2 BATH COMPLETE MODERN DESIGN FEATURING WHITE LACQUER KITCHEN WITH QUARTZ WATERFALL COUNTER & MUCH MORE!

SKYVIEW - \$459,000

2BR/2 BATH SPLIT FLOOR PLAN WITH NEW WOOD FLOORING THROUGHOUT. BEAUTIFUL SUNSETS, RIVER & CITY VIEWS.

PRICE REDUCED SKYVIEW - \$444,000

UPGRADED 2 BR/2 BATH WITH NEWLY INSTALLED TILE FLOORS. GOURMET KITCHEN WITH GRANITE COUNTERS & S/S APPLIANCES.

SKYVIEW - \$374,500

WELL MAINTAINED UPGRADED UNIT WITH VIEWS OF THE POOL, RIVER & CITY FROM THE BALCONY. OPEN GOURMET KITCHEN.

SUNGARDEN - \$359,000

DIRECT RIVER VIEWS FROM THIS 1BR/1 BATH UNIT FEATURING WOOD FLOORS.

JUST LISTED SUNGARDEN - \$349,500

HIGH FLOOR 1BR/1 BATH WITH BEAUTIFUL RIVER, CITY & SUNSET VIEWS.

SUNGARDEN - \$309,000

1 BR/1 BATH ON THE 29TH FLOOR WITH DIRECT RIVER VIEWS.

PRICE REDUCED SUNGARDEN - \$299,000

IMMACULATE 1 BR/1 BATH UNIT WITH TILE FLOORS & LARGE WINDOWS.

NURIVER LANDING



JUST LISTED 2BR/2BATH - \$335,000

SPLIT FLOOR PLAN, OPEN GOURMET KITCHEN & NEW S/S APPLIANCES.

2BR/2BATH - \$290,000

BEAUTIFUL DOWNTOWN CONDO WITH 2BED/2BATH SPLIT FLOOR PLAN.

2BR/2BATH - \$285,000

BEST PRICED 2 BR/2 BATH IN THE BUILDING. SPLIT FLOOR PLAN.



RIVERWALK'S CONNECTIONS

The next phase of growth on the Riverwalk is shaping up to be the most exciting connection in our history. Connections are what it's all about and completing the north side of the Riverwalk connects us to the heart of Las Olas Boulevard where a dozen new and exciting changes are also in the works. With Riverwalk connecting to Las Olas, the most traveled pedestrian experience Downtown, you'll be able to walk along the whole north side of the New River's Riverwalk all the way to the Broward Center for the Performing Arts – quite an accomplishment on its own.

Coupled with that are several new concepts in the works, including Tunnel Top Park. This new park will remove the wall surrounding Federal Highway on the tunnel's north end and add a 50' platform over Federal Highway for a pedestrian park. This will allow for a more open space between the Las Olas retail shopping district and our central business district.

Then there's the grand opening of the Related Group's Icon Residences with ground floor restaurants on both the Riverwalk side and also fronting Las Olas. Stranahan House, which sits in the middle, should feel a great influx of visitors! Plus, Riverwalk's Laura Ward Park next door just received a new handicap boat dock.

To the east of the tunnel, where Riverwalk is now connecting, comes a new vision. The City and the property owners along Las Olas from the soon-to-come Tunnel Top Park, east to SE 12 Avenue/Himmarshee Canal are working on a design concept yielding a much-needed and friendlier pedestrian experience. This will be accomplished by removing the 16-year-old, diseased black olive trees in the median and adding over 50 oak trees at the edge of the widened sidewalks, which are going from 5' wide to 11' wide. This creates a new, open, and friendly walking environment so you can relax without bumping into people and enjoy walking side-by-side with your companion.


The Las Olas Company will be celebrating their own grand opening of a brand new 32,000 square foot mixed-use building of retail and office space adjacent to the Riverside Hotel. Also, by the

year's end, a new waterfront Mediterranean style café will open on the New River behind the Riverside Hotel that will have a pathway linking it to Riverwalk's Laura Ward Plaza and the Riverwalk.

Just to the west of the site for Tunnel Top Park, the SunTrust tower building's new owners are looking into turning the ground floor office space into an open retail/restaurant space further enhancing the pedestrian experience. Traveling a little further west on Las Olas, the Stiles Corp. is working with Broward College on a new school campus, retail, office space, a residential tower, along with a second new residential tower on the Riverwalk.

Across the street, the Kolter Group has begun construction on a condo/hotel tower. Crossing Andrews Avenue, you'll enter the old Riverfront complex - acquired by Property Markets Group (PMG) - which along with the Sweet Building, is being torn down. In their place will be over 1,500 residential units, open flowing retail, and office space all directly on the Riverwalk.

Crossing the FEC, soon to be the high-speed Brightline railroad tracks, you'll enter Fort Lauderdale's Historic District and then Esplanade Park, which is about to begin outreach to convert it into the Levitt Pavilion. Finally you end up at the Broward Center for Performing Arts.

All of this is happening now as our Riverwalk connects and furthers your experience on Las Olas Boulevard. Amazing connections make for great experiences along the Riverwalk and Las Olas Blvd. 

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EMBRACING CHANGE

Change – a word that raises all kinds of questions, anxieties, excitement, and sometimes a little fear. Riverwalk is completing a move from the Sweet Building, which is headed to demolition and rebuild, as we watch the old Riverfront area finally be revitalized by several responsible and productive developers. With this change, Riverwalk packed all of our records and worldly possessions and moved to an awesome new space in the AutoNation Building on the corner of SW Second Street and SW First Avenue. Our great thanks go out to Stiles Corporation, Ken Stiles, and Doug Eagon along with Norm Adams, Amanda Warner, and Paola Restrepo for helping us locate space close to our beloved Riverwalk and to make this transition. Partners of this kind are valued and continue to help make a significant positive difference in our community. Please stop by and say hello and let us show off our new digs!


The Riverwalk Connection is just nearly done and is a significant addition to our Downtown. As soon as we cut the ribbon, please make the time to take that stroll, shop on Las Olas, dine in the area, ride the free Riverwalk Water Trolley or catch a Water Taxi to other parts of Fort Lauderdale. Check out the new Icon Building and its lovely integration into the area. Stranahan House has a new seawall further protecting that valuable property from

the climatic changes that we continue to see. The completed walk will showcase this historical property from a completely new perspective. Make sure to go there and learn about our local history and see this lovely property.

We will soon be welcoming Marine Industries Association of South Florida (MIASF) to the Downtown along Riverwalk as they relocate to the Opera House on SW Third Avenue. We anticipate that they will bring a whole new energy to the area and enhance the historical aspect of the marine industry.

The New River was the first highway in this community and they are shepherds of that industry and always have an eye on the future and what it will bring. The marine industry is one of the largest economic drivers in our community not only in terms of jobs, but also because it facilitates the largest boat

show in the world, which brings in record-breaking visitors, sales, and use of local hotels, restaurants, and ancillary marine services. Currently, MIASF is the largest marine trade organization in the southeast United States, adding to the more than 110,000 jobs in Broward County and 136,000 jobs regionally in the marine business. It is forecasted that the economic output is approximately \$8.8 billion in Broward County and \$11.5 billion regionally.

Change. Yes, it is unsettling, but what an exciting time this is! 



Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale has a new location! Our office is now located at 200 SW First Ave., Suite 101 in the AutoNation Building

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RIVERWALK MEMBERSHIP



TRUSTEE MEMBER

CHRIS CAPUTO

AGILE ELEMENT

• Data and technology have always fascinated me. Even at a young age, I could always be found doing something that revolved around technology, especially programming. I eventually followed this passion and earned a bachelor's degree in Management Information Systems from the New York Institute of Technology. A short time later, I earned my MBA from Florida Atlantic University.

Agile Element was formed in 2009 to provide data and analytics to a wide variety of businesses. I like to say that we use data in wild ways. These cutting edge analytics are not off-the shelf-solutions, so we can really drill down and discover what makes a particular company tick. Now, with over 200 customers, I can honestly say that we have created solutions that are unique for each one of these businesses.

In addition to providing data and analytics, Agile Element also provides a variety of other services including software development, web design, search engine optimization (SEO), and social media marketing. Our team of highly skilled professionals takes pride in working collaboratively with our clients to solve complex problems.

When not working, I enjoy time at home or on the boat with my husband and our two dogs Spartan and Rico. Many people also accuse me of being a fitness fanatic as I enjoy running and cycling and have competed in a number of triathlons. I believe it is important to be involved in the community and that is just one of the many reasons why I joined Riverwalk.



TRUSTEE MEMBER

GERALD J. ANGELI

ACR ELECTRONICS

• I am the president and general manager of ACR Electronics, Inc. – a wholly owned subsidiary of Drew Marine that has been saving lives for over 60 years. ACR manufactures emergency beacons so that when you are boating, biking, hiking, camping or participating in any other outdoor activity beyond cell phone range, you can send a signal in an emergency for Search and Rescue to come find you. The company's GPS enabled signaling devices take the "search" out of search and rescue.

I have always been a "factory rat" so my career has had me working in many aspects of design, manufacturing, and supply chain. Some of the highlights of my career have been serving as Vice President of Manufacturing and Supply Chain for the Consumer Products division of Eastman Kodak Company; Vice President of Manufacturing for the Systemedia Division of the NCR Corporation; and Sr. Vice President for Concord Camera Corp.

My degrees include engineering physics from Lehigh University and an MBA from Boston University. Recently, I was appointed an adjunct professor at Nova Southeastern University's Huzienga School of Business and Entrepreneurship. I also serve on the Council of Economic Advisors and I am a Director at the NAL Research Corporation, as well as a member of the Tower Forum.

ACR Electronics, Inc. is a member of Riverwalk because I believe in the development of our local community. Fort Lauderdale is synonymous with water, fun, and outdoor adventures. My mission is to have ACR emerge as a beacon of safety for the local community.



WELCOME

NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS

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Mary Anne Gray
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TRUSTEE MEMBER

MICHAEL SALAD

COOPER LEVENSON

• I am an attorney with Cooper Levenson's Business & Tax and Cyber Risk Management practice groups and I split my time between the firm's Miami, Fort Lauderdale, Sunrise, and Boca Raton offices. I hold an LL.M. degree in Estate Planning and Elder Law and concentrate my practice in the areas of estate planning, probate administration, business transactions, mergers and acquisitions, state and federal tax matters, and cyber risk management. I also regularly counsel clients from the Northeast who are seeking to establish Florida residency. I am licensed to practice law in Florida, New Jersey, and the District of Columbia.

Cooper Levenson is a law firm that was founded in Atlantic City, New Jersey in 1957. The firm has offices in New Jersey, Delaware, Nevada, and Florida and clients throughout the country and the world. The firm has become known as one of the premier gaming, casino, and iGaming law firms in the country. It also built a reputation as a full-service law firm serving businesses and individuals from tax and business law to estate planning and administration, litigation, banking, defense litigation, labor and employment law, health care law, personal injury, maritime law, education law, and much more.

I attended a Riverwalk event a couple of months ago and had an excellent experience. I immediately made the decision to join the group so I can meet more people in Downtown Fort Lauderdale while supporting all of the wonderful endeavors that Riverwalk undertakes for our community.



TRUSTEE MEMBER

RYAN THIEME

MERRILL LYNCH

• Born and raised in Fort Lauderdale, I attended Cardinal Gibbons High School before heading up to Florida State University where I earned degrees in finance and accounting. Upon graduation, I returned to Fort Lauderdale to work with a team of financial advisors at Merrill Lynch.


As a member of The Kahng Group at Merrill Lynch, our investment philosophy is based on wealth management and a disciplined investment process. By focusing on a client's unique financial goals and objectives, time horizon, and risk tolerance, we are able to advise clients on the most efficient investment strategies to pursue desired outcomes. Personally, I enjoy helping clients identify what I call financial blind spots that may cause them or their families harm in the future and devising a strategy that will help them mitigate undue risk and avoid a financial crisis in the future.

In my spare time I love to play basketball. It's a sport I have enjoyed my entire life. When not on the court, I can usually be found playing with my 80-pound Doberman named Ava. As you might expect from a Fort Lauderdale native, I also enjoy boating and fishing and will jump at any opportunity to go out on the water.

Not only is Riverwalk a great asset to our community, but I also see it as a way for me to meet lots of new, like-minded people and a way for me to give back to our ever-growing city. I am also involved with Rotary and co-chair Covenant House's Executive Sleep Out, which takes place Nov. 16.



SPRING GET DOWNTOWN

On Monday, May 15th, Riverwalk members gathered at YOLO to mingle and network. While attendees sipped on cold beers from Stephens Distributing and mixed drinks, The Restaurant People provided delicious bites from YOLO, Spatch, S3, and Boatyard. For information on how you can become a Riverwalk member and be a part of our next Get Downtown event, visit www.goriverwalk.com/get-involved/becomeamember. 



Marsha Feedman and Isabelle Grard



Laurie Grano and Mike DiPietro

PHOTOS BY PETE STEVENSON



James and Robert Dressler



Tom Roses, Jim Ellis, and Chris Haerting



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RIVERWALK'S BURGER BATTLE™ VIII

Riverwalk's Burger Battle™ VIII, presented by RIVA, brought masses of meat lovers to Huizenga Plaza on Saturday, May 20th. Attendees enjoyed the sounds of The Joe Friday Band while they sipped on cold drinks from Breakthru Beverage and Stephens Distributing and struggled with the decision of who they would give their vote to. With six new contenders to the battle, the competition was fierce and delicious! [GO](#)



Chef judges – Gina Sansonia, Camilo Cuartas, Jen Knox, Peter Farrand, Judith Able, and Bret Hauser



Dana Maniscalco and Ray Corso



Jonathan and Karen Padrone



Enrique and Zory Sanchez



Gabriella Reyes and Jennifer Rayo with Jack Daniel's products



Jason Aube, Frank Suarez, Eric Sonabend, Carlos Acaya, Hammy Perez, Vito Mastrorosa, and Jen Knox at the BB&T VIP Table



Yury Mazo and Rebecca Goodrum



Volunteers Sharon Hendrix, Scott Hannux, Pam Moore, and Sandi Bazza



Mary Haig, Tiffany Toranzo, Nicolas Hetu, Ivan Ramirez, Michael Buchinski, Steven Holmes, and Justin Mick from BRGR Stop



Ken Milburn from Burger Craze



Sachin Koorath, Rosie and Sandra Navarro, and Dayan Del Valle



RIVA – Marlene Cupo, Grant Lundberg, and Erica Freedland



Refreshing Goose Beer selections courtesy of Stephens Distributing



Manuel Diaz, Lida Conmbita, Sebastian and Connie Pilato, and Sandra Barclay

PHOTOS BY JASON LEDY



Stevens & Goldwyn Slider Eating Contest in action



Chef Christopher Lee Riley at the Margaritaville Grill



Luis Reyes about to enjoy the Bokampers burger



Alex Graber, Jenny Fara, Denise Curcio, and Matthew Allen from Barefoot Wine

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GET ON BOARD

SUSTAINABLE GROWTH THROUGH THE WAVE STREETCAR

The Wave Streetcar has garnered a lot of attention as of late and rightly so. This is a major public investment and will be the first new rail alignment in Fort Lauderdale since CSX. Thankfully there are other cities we can look to that have taken this leap of faith and now reap the rewards.


The new Kansas City streetcar system reached two million riders before its first anniversary, more than double what planners expected in one year. And the same scenario has happened in Tucson. After seven months in operation, Tucson's Sun Link streetcar exceeded ridership estimates, averaging more than 4,000 people each weekday and 8,000 daily riders on weekends. And here in Downtown Fort Lauderdale, we already have a success story of our own. Since 2012, we have seen an addition of over \$2 billion in new Downtown real estate development, due in large part to the Wave Streetcar. The project has been featured in numerous development marketing materials and proposals, and many developers contacted the DDA prior to commencing their projects, wanting to know two things: that the Wave will indeed happen and that

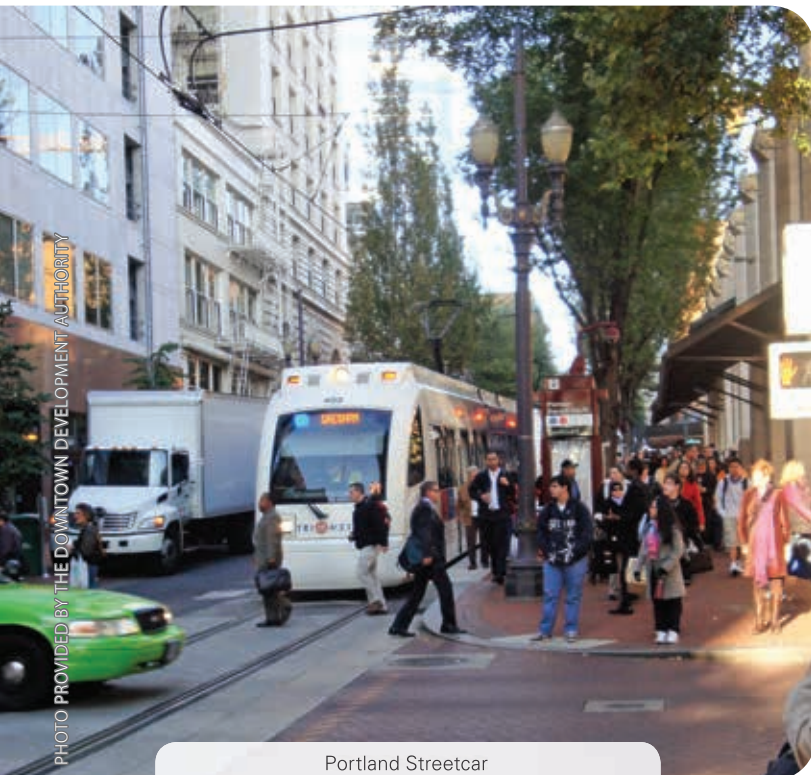
the alignment will not shift.

This incredible level of activity leading up to the Wave is no coincidence. The DDA long ago sowed the seeds for a thriving, livable urban environment with significant population growth and the expanded services to support it. High density land use and transit inherently complement each other and serve as the essential foundation for the sustainability of this growth. It would be an egregious oversight to implement growth policies without providing expanded services like the streetcar to mitigate the effects of that growth.

Some have touted ride-sharing apps as precluding the need for the Wave, but the nature of the two services – while complementary – couldn't be more dissimilar. Ride sharing, like Uber and Lyft, is a commercial operation serving individuals in a single car, keeping the same level of vehicle miles on the road. Streetcars serve a whole community in a few electric-powered vehicles, transforming the urban environment and mitigating some single occupancy car trips. The predictability of fixed rail is not only good for development but also for passengers who can rely on the permanence of the

service. Streetcars also enhance community health by improving air quality and promoting exercise – both in walking and cycling to and from stations. Additionally, this transit investment will spur economic activity by increasing foot traffic and concentrating retail around stations. The Wave will also strengthen connectivity not just in regards to mobility but also socially, getting people out of their cars to interact with other downtowners.

The moment for reconsideration is over. The Wave Streetcar is a fully-funded investment in our community whose resounding benefits will be felt for years to come. After many years of careful planning and hard work, the Wave will break ground later this year and commence service in 2021. Downtown Fort Lauderdale is not a stagnant city mired in the status quo, but a dynamic, growing place that is ever-changing and evolving. And to make that growth sustainable, we need transit like the Wave Streetcar. 



Portland Streetcar



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IN VOGUE DESIGN

EXPRESSIONS OF FORT LAUDERDALE STYLE THROUGH ARCHITECTURE

Merriam-Webster defines fashion as the prevailing style during a particular time. It defines architecture as a method or style of building. Those definitions, admittedly selective, both have something intrinsically similar – style. Style is a distinctive manner of expression, quality, or form. So, that begs the question, can a city have its own fashion in terms of architecture? If you ask me, the answer is an unqualified yes.


Since moving to Fort Lauderdale in 1994 I've had the opportunity to travel to some great cities and I can tell you that they all have their own feel, look, and style. Nobody would confuse San Francisco with New York; Chicago with Miami; London with Paris. Every community is proud of its own sense of style and architecture. The idea that architecture helps to develop and establish the unique character of a city is not new. Surely architecture is only one piece of the puzzle, but what a grand and important puzzle piece it is.

Cities are often associated with their architecture and Fort Lauderdale is no different. We've been blessed with many great buildings from the past and the present, with many more to come. From our North Beach Village with its Mid-century modern and art deco structures from our past, to the Galt Ocean Mile with its high-rise structures constructed during the '70s, to the Downtown with its ever-changing skyline, we are a city in transition.

Our city is still very young, established in 1911, and still has a lot of room for growth when compared to older cities. We have a varied and interesting skyline with iconic buildings such as the River House and the (soon-to-be-completed) Icon Las Olas along with Downtown lighting elements that can be seen from miles away as you enter the city by plane, train, boat, or automobile. We have a world-class beach with a variety of refurbished and newly-constructed buildings. We have established neighborhoods with diverse architecture ranging from Mid-century modern to Mediterranean to craftsman styles.

All these buildings give the city a sense of who it is. We aren't New York; we aren't San Francisco; we aren't Chicago; and we aren't Miami. We are Fort Lauderdale and we have our own sense of style. Love them or hate them, these buildings are here and most are here to stay. In a way, I'm reminded of the Guggenheim Museum. When that building was constructed it was

heavily criticized. But, now it's considered to be one of the crowning architectural achievements of New York. Who knows what structures Fort Lauderdale will be known for in the future. I have my favorites and I'm sure you do too.

Architecture, like fashion, can be in the eye of the beholder. But, as long as we are getting quality design that can stand the test of time and the elements, Fort Lauderdale will continue to be an amazing place to live with a bright future. 



The iconic Birch Tower situated in North Beach Village

PHOTO BY JASON LEIDY

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BY DIANA ALARCON

Director,
Transportation and Mobility Department,
City of Fort Lauderdale



ROADS FOR EVERYONE

RESPECTING THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS BRINGS SAFER STREETS

Happy Independence Day! And Happy Fourth of July! It is a great time of year to reflect on the past and honor the brave men and women that fought for our independence and set the path for us today. I am so grateful for all the opportunities that this country has provided for my family and me, and those opportunities would not have been possible without the sacrifice and kindness of others.

My youngest child graduated from high school this year and I was moved by all the graduation speeches that were centered on being kind, courteous, and thoughtful especially in a time when there has been so much sadness, fear, and disdain for different beliefs. In order to move past these hard times, we must learn to embrace and respect the ideas, cultures, and customs of others.

Over the past year we have been sharing with you the City's Vision Zero initiative and our goal of reaching zero fatalities on our roadways. This is a very aggressive goal, but similar to the other problems occurring around the world, we must come together to solve this life-changing problem.

Taking inspiration from the graduation speeches shared with my son's class, I share with you all the first step in reaching this ambitious goal: respecting one another when traveling on our roads. Regardless of where you come from or what you believe in, the roads were made to move all people not just a select few. So next time you are in your car or on your bike to get to work or grab a cup of coffee, remember that the person driving just a little slower in front of you or the bicyclist riding on a sharrow in your lane has the same right to be on that road as you do.

There were 32 fatalities on our streets last year due to not respecting each other while sharing our roads and that number this year is already at 15 and counting. Many of these daughters, sons, mothers, fathers, and friends could have been saved if we just took the extra time in our day to be kind, courteous, and respectful of others using the road that was made for everyone.

I challenge everyone today to make a difference next time you feel the need to speed to your next meeting or to cut someone off for going slower than you would

like. These small actions could save a life. We must also do our part to spread this message of respect and tolerance to our friends, neighbors, and even strangers. Once we all have taken this one small step, then we can begin to see that number go down and the goal of zero be realized.


As you and your family celebrate our Independence Day with fireworks and barbecues, always remember that the best way to honor those who gave us this independence is to push away hate and be kind to others. 



PHOTO PROVIDED BY THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE



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BY DIANE D'ANGELO

Chair, Downtown Council of the Greater
Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce



CONSTRUCTIVE COMMENTARY

STATE LEADERS DISCUSS LEGISLATION REGARDING THE LAKE OKEECHOBEE BILL, VISIT FLORIDA FUNDING, AND THE EDUCATION BILL

At a recent Chamber breakfast hosted by the Downtown Council, we heard from State Senator Gary Farmer, State Senator Perry Thurston, and State Representative George Moraitis. Ashley Walker, partner with Mercury, LLC, was the moderator.

It was a good exchange of ideas, with different perspectives and explanations as to why each chose to vote for or against specific legislation. They all felt that the legislative process this year was lost. When bills are debated in the public eye and subject to input from various sources, the bills are better. Numerous times this year, bills were debated in committees and passed on to the next steps. Then they ended up being horse traded by the legislative leaders without input from the other members.

One of the pieces of legislation the speakers discussed was the Lake Okeechobee Bill. The bill aims to prevent algae blooms that have been harmful to the environment and tourism. One of the interesting facts Senator Farmer shared with us is that when they tested the water in Lake Okeechobee, two of the most prevalent chemicals were Prozac and Splenda. Apparently, people do not metabolize those substances and septic tank leakage puts them into the lake.

Visit Florida, which is very important to the hospitality industry, was funded at \$25 million, a 67 percent decrease from the previous year. Representative Moraitis commented that Speaker of the House Richard Corcoran felt there was a lot of waste in the program. Over the years, the program had grown from \$30 million to \$85 million. It was supposed to be a public/private partnership but what they found is that most of the private contributions were in-kind. Senator Thurston said he has always asked for accountability and he served on a committee that recommended Visit Florida be fully funded. The horse-trading led to the final \$25 million funding, which was lower than they wanted.

The process was the biggest issue with the education bill. The bill was not released until late in the evening on May 5 and session was to close on May 8. What started as a six-page bill was delivered as a 278-page bill and a 27-line title had become a 282-line title. The bill also contained provisions that were previously voted down in committee.

The next Chamber breakfast will be held on Aug. 24 at 7:30 a.m. at the Tower Club. To purchase tickets, please visit www.ftlchamber.com. 



PHOTO BY ART POLLACK

Diane D'Angelo, Rep. George Moraitis, Sen. Gary Farmer, Sen. Perry Thurston, and Ashley Walker at the May Downtown Council breakfast

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BY MEREDITH CLEMENTS
Marketing Manager,
Broward Cultural Division



IN MEMORIAM

PAYING HOMAGE TO THE LATE ROSEMARY DUFFY LARSON AND HER GRACIOUS SUPPORT OF THE ARTS

As students of philosophy, the root of our studies circled around dialogues that sought to reveal how to live a happy life. Often we would conclude that living one's life to the fullest brings the most amount of happiness, but the notion of 'living life to the fullest' is also vague and broad, frequently clarified on an individual basis.

So when we see someone in our community who not only dedicated their life, but also their legacy to a greater cause, we pause to cherish and celebrate that individual.

Today, nearly a year after Rosemary Duffy Larson has passed, we continue to celebrate her philanthropic investment in the local arts community.

Ohio-born Larson led a life of civic and political engagement, appointed to chair committees and even selected as one of 300 women to attend the "Women's Role in Politics" conference at the White House. Her dedication to the arts was evident and continued when she moved to Fort Lauderdale in the 1980s where she served on more than seven health and cultural boards and chaired numerous balls.

When you do a Google search for her, you find multiple galleries, foundations, centers, and articles about events and opportunities for the local creative community.

Larson made sure her involvement would endure by investing more than \$4 million in Broward organizations through her trust, including the following gifts:

- Rosemary Duffy Larson Museum at Broward College, Davie Central Campus
- Rosemary Duffy Larson Auditorium at ArtServe
- South Florida Symphony Concert Series
- Symphony of the Americas Concert Series
- The Girl Choir of South Florida Concert Series
- Florida Singing Sons Concert Series
- Florida Children's Theatre Concert Series
- Gold Coast Jazz Orchestra Concert Series

The late Rosemary Duffy
Larson, local supporter
of the arts

"LIFE IS SHORT. ART IS LONG."

— Hippocrates

The president of Royal Dames of Cancer Research, Rhonda Ritchie, says she was, "a beloved Royal Dame who was very dedicated and upon her passing her legacy has impacted so many organizations throughout the community. Her dedication to health issues and her love and support of the arts here in Broward is an inspiration for generations to come."


It is clear that Larson lived her life to the fullest and so with the upcoming anniversary of her passing at age 100, we here at the Broward Cultural Division with guidance from our Broward Cultural Council are reminded of why we focus our days on the enrichment of our community by investing and building the arts scene. 



IMAGE PROVIDED BY THE BROWARD CULTURAL DIVISION

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MEASUREABLE HEADWAY

A STRENGTHENING ECONOMY REVEALS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR OPTIMISM

Greater Fort Lauderdale's economy continues to purr like a well-tuned machine. Most CEOs remain bullish in their outlook as virtually every market metric showed solid returns though one underperformed 2016.

Unemployment in April dropped to its lowest level since the Great Recession at 3.8 percent with 38,820 collecting unemployment. Year-over-year Broward County generated 40,075 net new jobs from April 2016 to April 2017.

Nearing "full employment" means that talent is at a premium and salaries are rising. The Chamber, along with other partners like the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance, the Broward Workshop, CareerSource, and others, continues to work with all partners in identifying and maintaining a strong and vibrant workforce.

There was some softness in the tourism sector as bed tax revenue after four months decreased two percent from the previous year during the same period. Total revenues revealed \$27.2 million, which was \$441,987 below 2016.

Airport traffic at the Greater Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (FLL) has expanded


for 37 consecutive months with eight straight months of international growth. In April, 2.9 million passengers traveled through FLL, which was a marked 19 percent increase over last year.

Eight of the top 10 carriers showed growth with Southwest Airline posting a 40 percent increase over last year. Southwest's CEO Gary Kelly announced four new international routes at a sneak peak of Concourse A – part of a \$295 million modernization and expansion of Terminal 1.

Sentiment is strong on the economy among business owners and leaders. Three-quarters of the Chamber's Council of Economic Advisors were more optimistic about economic conditions than they were six months ago. The Council met in session recently for its quarterly meeting with the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta's Miami Branch.

In September, 75 delegates will participate in Washington Summit 2017 presented by FPL and hosted by Congressman Ted Deutch. The Chamber produces the program to lobby Congress, the administration, and others on critical issues vital to the region.

"Resilient communities, funding for a new federal courthouse and Port Everglades along with a host of other relevant issues will be our focus in DC," said Keith Costello, Chamber Chairman of the Board and President of First Green Bank. "We know from experience that Washington is a lot more responsive when we bring our issues to them."

Working together we have built a strong economy. The opportunities ahead are many. How we embrace them will make all the difference. 

Southwest's CEO Gary Kelly at a recent preview of Terminal 1 expansion at the Greater Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (FLL)





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NAUTICAL STYLE

THE LONG AND SHORT OF TYPICAL BOATING AND MARINE INDUSTRY APPAREL

What can a guy who wears jeans and a fishing vest to work every day legitimately say about fashion? Believe it or not, a lot. Historically, fashion has factored into many levels within the broad scope of the recreational boating and marine industry.

Perception is that yacht owners from around the world put great stock into popular trends and are extraordinarily fashionable and fastidious about appearances. I'm sure you can picture the slick magazine ad with a handsome couple dressed meticulously in the latest designer outfits while relaxing on the aft deck at dusk, being served champagne and caviar. But in reality, yacht owners are just like you and me when they're relaxing; when not in board shorts and bikinis, most boaters are generally inclined to wear the same comfortable clothing they would wear while volunteering at a local event like the Annual Broward County Waterway Cleanup or the Plywood Regatta.

The term 'yacht broker' may conjure an old-school image of a salesman bedecked in a Brook's Brothers blue or pink button-down shirt, tan slacks, and sockless feet in fine leather loafers. Not true of today's professionals. Outside of the marine industry in South Florida, shorts and deck shoes may not generally be considered business attire, yet even traditionally-clad bankers will don shorts and a t-shirt when picking up a shovel to help our community build a house for a needy family with Habitat for Humanity or interacting with kids and adults on Marine Industry Day.


Yacht crews across the spectrum of vessels are likely to be seen wearing nautical uniforms that are nearly identical and immediately recognizable: navy shorts,

white collared shirts, and Sperry Docksideers. And everyone knows a captain when they see one in light, bright, dress whites. Most crew, even off-duty, take pride in the service they provide and in the industry that typically pays them 28 percent more than the state average wage.

The marine industry in South Florida employs thousands of blue-collar workers who build, repair, maintain, and service vessels of all sizes. And in shipyards and marinas where they work, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is a demanding critic, requiring them to adorn protective gear from steel-toed shoes and hard hats to safety goggles and heavy-duty gloves that keep them safe and help them get the job done.

As an industry, our members are typically fashion-blind and do not judge people by what they wear. We've heard the expressions, "The suit makes the man" and "Dress for success", but the one we like to live by is, "You're never fully dressed without a smile." What someone has on the outside doesn't convey who they are on the inside. Actions are really what we care about, good deeds are always in great taste, and imitation is the highest form of flattery.

That's not to say that some people don't enjoy dressing up to attend and support special local events like the Winterfest Black Tie Ball and the Marine Industry Cares Foundation Gala. Even then, we are centered on the purpose.

We admire authenticity. We appreciate quality. We applaud durability. We believe it's permanently in style to be honest, thoughtful, and caring. 

Typical yacht crew garb from the 2017 Collection via Smallwood's Yachtwear located in Fort Lauderdale



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY SMALLWOOD'S YACHTWEAR

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Exhibitions and programs at NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale are made possible in part by a challenge grant from the David and Francie Horvitz Family Foundation. Funding is also provided by The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, Nova Southeastern University, Hudson Family Foundation, Broward County Board of County Commissioners as recommended by the Broward Cultural Council and Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau, the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture. NSU Art Museum is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums.



BY PETE STEVENSON
Director of Marketing & Media
Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale



UNITED NATIONAL CONSUMER SUPPLIERS

GIVING ENTREPRENEURS THEIR PIECE OF THE PIE IN THE ONLINE MARKETPLACE

We have all read the wording on Amazon that states, “This item is sold by XYZ Company and fulfilled by Amazon.” What does that mean? How does it work? Well, that is where a company headquartered in Fort Lauderdale comes into play. United National Consumer Suppliers (UNCS) is a wholesale distributor that uses technology to help support businesses large and small succeed in the online marketplace.

Founder Brett Rose explains, “We buy and sell products that are overstock, closeouts, offseason, and overproduction from manufacturers. We then sell to off-price and Amazon retailers. For example, we may get a call from Crayola and they say they have 135,000 pieces of overproduction. We will then turn around and sell them to anyone we can think of – Marshalls, Ross, or TJ Maxx.”

Rose continues, “There is a shift in the economy with all these mom and pop entrepreneurs popping up. And Amazon has given these entrepreneurs a platform to build their own business.”

How it works: say you want to start selling teapots. UNCS will put you in their system and pull all the data from Amazon. The data tells you that you could sell 10 teapots a day on Amazon for \$20 each. UNCS will sell you a supply of teapots for \$12 each. There’s an \$8 difference. Amazon’s fees would be \$4 for each teapot. Thus, you would make 20 percent on your investment. You never handle, store, ship or warehouse the product. You send your purchase orders to UNCS, they stick the label on the box of teapots and send it off to Amazon for fulfillment. Since Amazon shoppers can easily see the lowest price for all those types of teapots, UNCS helps your business, sourcing the lowest price and delivery data to best position your products in the Amazon marketplace. So all you need to be an Amazon retailer is

a computer and credit line, which you can get with UNCS.

Every great business has an interesting origin story. “I started in a little cottage in Lake Ridge,” Rose says. “I had one little room as my office that I could only use when it wasn’t raining because the roof leaked. I borrowed a computer from my parents, a one-megapixel camera from a friend, and a credit card. I went to my parents and said: ‘I would like to take a semester off and I want to buy four trucks of pocketbooks.’ I bought four trucks of pocketbooks and sold them. The first three trucks delivered and the fourth one flipped on the side of the road. In the first year I was doing a deal a month, the second year we did a deal a week, and now we do about 10,000 transactions a year.”

As UNCS has grown over the years, so has their support of charitable organizations. “Social responsibility is a big thing at this company and probably what I’m most proud [of],” says Rose. Sure they donate money and sometimes products to a wide variety of charitable organizations, but what is even more important is time. And that is why UNCS gives each employee an extra paid week off, in addition to the traditional vacation time, to support any organization of their choosing.

Rose went on, “We have people who volunteer at soup kitchens, work at their children’s school and [we] even have a couple who go to Honduras each year to build homes for the poor.” So whether it’s helping small businesses build value or a small village build homes,

UNCS is truly an exceptional Fort Lauderdale company.



UNCS founder Brett Rose



UNCS staff

Small Business Stats UNITED NATIONAL CONSUMER SUPPLIERS (UNCS)

Year founded: 2002

Founder: Brett Rose

Number of Employees: 38

Interesting fact: Employees are allowed to bring their children or pets to work any time they wish.

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LAS OLAS BOULEVARD

Stroll, people watch, sip a latte at an outdoor café or shop at the chic boutiques along Las Olas Boulevard, a sophisticated mile of fashion, art, and sidewalk cafés. Stop by the Stranahan House, a preserved 1900s house furnished with antiques of the era. Join the party, a “Cycle Party,” and go on a foodie tour of Las Olas Boulevard on a quadracycle. Or “follow the red brick road” of Riverwalk, the landscaped park, to the Arts & Entertainment District.

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Located along the New River, offering an array of exciting entertainment options with world-class concerts, events, unique galleries, and dining – Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Florida Grand Opera, Fort Lauderdale History Center, NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale, and the Stranahan House, the 22-block district includes Las Olas Boulevard for fashion, dining, and nightlife. Take a Segway Fort Lauderdale tour and cruise along the New River.

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HOORAY FOR HOLLYWOOD

Rent a “fun cycle” at the beach and cruise along the two-and-a-half mile paved boardwalk, lined with cafés and shops. Browse art galleries, boutiques, and sidewalk cafés Downtown. Walk through the Downtown Hollywood Mural Project, curated outdoor contemporary art murals by nationally and internationally recognized artists. Or explore ArtsPark at Young Circle. Get around via the Hollywood Trolley.



Las Olas Blvd. attracts scores of tourists and locals looking for a quintessential Fort Lauderdale shopping and dining experience

PHOTO PROVIDED BY THE GREATER FORT LAUDERDALE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU

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ON DEATH AND TAXES

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW IF A HOMESTEADED OWNER PASSES AWAY

As your Broward County Property Appraiser, it is my goal to continually educate and inform residents about relevant issues affecting homeowners. Homestead Exemption saves the average homeowner approximately \$1,000 per year in actual taxes. This valuable exemption automatically renews each year unless there is a change of ownership or eligible use of the property. For full information on exemptions please visit our website at www.bcpa.net or call us at (954) 357-6904.

Sadly, after the loss of a loved one who was Homesteaded, the law considers the passing of the owner as a change of ownership. A surviving resident must not benefit from the Homestead tax status of the departed but must update the change in ownership status. A change in ownership, like the passing of one of the owners, can impact the status of the Homestead Exemption. Florida law requires that the Property Appraiser be informed of any change of property use or ownership status.

If anyone named on the Homestead Exemption has died, you must report it to our office to avoid potential penalties. The Homestead Exemption of a deceased person must be removed in the year immediately following the individual's passing. Unfortunately, Homestead Exemptions do not transfer to family members and do not remain with the property after the Homesteaded owner passes away.

If you are a co-owner and sole beneficiary to the property in the will, you may apply for Homestead Exemption while the will is probated as long as the property is your permanent residence.

Not reporting a change of ownership, passing of a Homesteaded owner or Homesteaded trust beneficiary, or divorce or separation may result in a costly back tax lien, plus penalties and interest for continuing to improperly receive the benefits of the expired exemption. State law allows for a back tax for as many as 10 years, plus payment of substantial penalty and annual interest (50 percent of the unpaid taxes for each year and interest at a rate of 15 percent per year).

To ensure property owners continue to receive their tax-saving exemption and do not overlook reporting a change, our office mails a Homestead Renewal Notice and "Change Card" to all Homesteaded properties in January. This card allows property owners to verify that the status, use, and ownership of the property has not changed. If there has been no change, the property owner does not need to do anything and can simply keep the notice as proof of their exemption renewal.

If you are a surviving spouse or otherwise believe you are entitled to an exemption, you must file your own Homestead Exemption application to receive the benefit.


If my office can be of assistance to you with Homestead Exemptions or other available exemptions, please visit our website at www.bcpa.net or contact our Customer Service Department at (954) 357-6830. 



PHOTO PROVIDED BY BIGSTOCK



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THE RISE OF ALL THE RAGE

HOW TRENDS BECOME IN VOGUE ON THE RUNWAYS AND SIDEWALKS OF THE LOCAL FRONT

WRITER GABRIELLE ROLAND



Catwalks and red carpets are studded with the most eye-catching and head-turning fashion pieces. Each morning after an awards ceremony or major event, we see bloggers and consultants posting their own hot and not lists, praising bold, risky outfits and scratching their proverbial heads at nonsensical, fashion faux pas. What does it take to be the next in vogue style or “it” designer, or more specifically, to be a feature of South Florida’s upcoming fashion season?

Florentina West, creative director for the Fort Lauderdale Fashion Week, which took place Mar. 16-18, recalls encountering promising fashion designers from Fort Lauderdale eager to showcase their designs but forced to travel to Miami for its fashion week. Just as in the case of its southern neighbor, Fort Lauderdale boasts its fair share of talented designers. West says their creativity needed an outlet in its hometown. Thus, Fort Lauderdale launched its very own fashion week in 2015. The then nascent event was held in Euro Motorsport on Broward Boulevard. Fast cars and fashion make a good pair and were the ideal springboard for the threaded venture.

The 2016 event brought 600 guests to a massive venue – a hangar at the Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport – and this year’s fashion week graced the Westin Beach Resort across from the iconic Fort Lauderdale Beach. West describes Fort Lauderdale Fashion week as an event that “carries and supports the up and coming designers.”

Events like these act as portals of fashion inspiration, distilling international and national styles and trends and prompting them to trickle to the streets of South Florida seamlessly. The Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention and Visitors Bureau hosted its first Underground Lauderdale Fashion Weekend in Fort Lauderdale, which took place Mar. 30 – Apr. 2 of this year. The weekend brought together the likes of renowned fashion designer Nicole Miller, New York City socialite

2017 TREND ALERTS


- Buttons – step aside lace-ups and corsets. Buttons are making a comeback.
- Artful earrings – the 80's called. They said we could borrow some of their style.
- Fur – slap a Fort Lauderdale twist on this winter trend and dress up your look with a fur collar.
- Nylon trench coats – a trend that won't leave us sweating on a not-so-cool Florida afternoon
- Sparkling boots – shine bright like a diamond in your twinkle toes.
- Vintage florals – the summer floral trend won't end as soon as you think. Mix it up with a more vintage vibe.

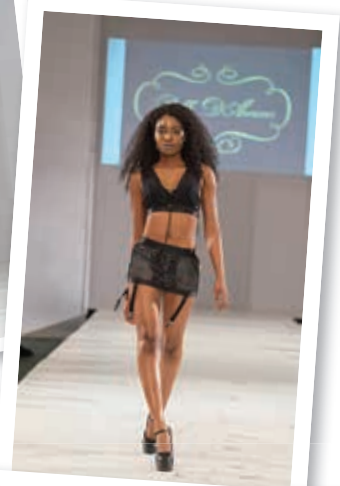
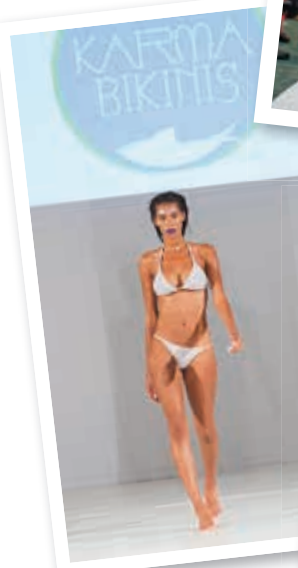
Susanne Bartsch, and featured designers from the local scene.

This year at Fort Lauderdale Fashion Week, local brands like Eido Swimwear, Hot Miami Styles, and OMG Swimwear, were showcased alongside other well-known names like Banana Republic and bebe. Models strutting down the catwalk donned South Florida-approved bathing suits, resort wear, feminine flowy dresses, and bright, lively colors. The planning team at Fort Lauderdale Fashion Week anticipates a swing towards couture for next year with more avant garde pieces taking center stage.

Still, the question remains: how does fashion permeate the real world? How do these bold looks trickle down to dot South Florida closets? Professor Chrisa Tataakis of the Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale has been educating students on the ever-changing industry for over 20 years and identifies the original chain as such: couture show yields a ready-to-wear version of the piece, which is then duplicated by various designers in their signature ways. The spreading of these collective styles finally sparks a pervasive trend. The fashions start out as literally one-of-a-kind and eventually end up in everyone's closet or at least on everyone's mind.

Things are a little different now. Instagrammers and bloggers detail the nuances of local fashion on the regular. News no longer takes time to disseminate. Information is detailed and instantaneous. Now the freshest trends are brought to your attention with the tap of a finger.

Tataakis explains, "Times have changed because of social media. Within 24 hours you can have a trend at any price point out there." This means that what was seen on the red carpet on Thursday night, could very well be on the rack at your local stores by the weekend. That's much quicker than the six months to two years it used to take for trends to find their way to the mainstream. It's fashion for the people, exactly when they want it. 



Designs – via Hot Miami Style, VERSA- LUX, Karma Bikinis, Bella D'Amour, and Banana Republic – showcased at the 2017 Fort Lauderdale Fashion Week

A NOSTALGIC SLICE OF HISTORY

THE HIGHLY-ANTICIPATED REOPENING OF THE RIVER HOUSE IS FINALLY HERE

WRITER GENIA DUNCAN ELLIS


The River House, located on Riverwalk in the historic district, will reopen this July just in time for summer. The building underwent a major restoration lasting over 15 months, which recreated the original finish and style that made the restaurant and event space an icon in Fort Lauderdale. Throughout the building, all areas have been returned to the original finishes and furniture has been refurbished to create a wonderful historic and nostalgic slice of history.

The initial opening will encompass banquet facilities and daily lunch and bar service with a limited evening plate menu until October when full dinner service and Sunday Brunch will be available. Bookings are now being accepted for all parties, social events, and weddings.

Chef Brian Porteus, formerly of Sandy Lane in Barbados, leads the charge as executive manager and chef with his focus on farm-to-table foods with a classic style that will ensure that the historical fine dining and service remain world class.

Marie Pascale, a renowned wine maker from the Champagne region of France, leads the creative side of the house with a classic take on events and ambiance and hopes to create the River House wine and champagne label in the near future!

We welcome the renovations to this wonderful facility and innovative approach to making something new and exciting happen on Riverwalk.

Visit www.thenewriverhouse.com or call (954) 661-7474 or (954) 314-8699 for further information. 



River House interior rooms and bar



PHOTOS BY JASON LEIDY



RIVERWALK AMBASSADORS

MOTIVATE | ACTIVATE | PARTICIPATE

JOIN OUR TEAM!

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
11AM - 5 PM *(Three hour shifts)*

Riverwalk Trust and the City of Fort Lauderdale are looking for energetic, outgoing, and enthusiastic volunteers to serve as Riverwalk Ambassadors.

As an Ambassador you will have an opportunity to:

- Welcome neighbors and visitors, answer questions, and hand out brochures from a Riverwalk Kiosk.
- Provide information about restaurants, shops, events, and activities in downtown and along the Riverwalk.
- Enhance Riverwalk's identity as a vibrant, engaging, downtown Fort Lauderdale destination.
- Earn community service hours for your school, nonprofit, or philanthropic organization.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

JoAnn Smith | club10@aol.com | 954.298.5607

Jorg Hruschka | Chief Service Officer

JHruschka@fortlauderdale.gov | 954.828.5568



If you would like this publication in an alternate format, please call (954) 828-4755 or email publicaffairs@fortlauderdale.gov.



THE BUSINESS OF RETAIL

LOCAL RETAIL SHOWS RESILIENT SUPPORT OF ECONOMY AND COMMUNITY

WRITER ALEXANDRA ROLAND



Jezebel Past and Present, situated in the Gateway Shopping Center, has been owned and operated by Mary Ptak (above) for the past 30 years



On a Saturday in May, two young girls set up a booth in Jezebel Past and Present, a gift shop with vintage undertones in Fort Lauderdale's Gateway Shopping Center. Their merchandise was lemonade and slime, the modern-day Playdough 2.0. If they wanted to know a thing or two about starting their own business, they came to the right place.

"They made little things of slime and they sold them for \$2," says Jezebel owner Mary Ptak. "They were adorable and it's nice to help girls see what it's about." Ptak has been in the retail business for 30 years, originally owning a large vintage store in Wilton Manors before opening her current shop 25 years ago. She knows retail's ups and downs in and out, plus small business success and its impact on the local economy.

A study done by the National Retail Federation (NRF) notes that retail forms a solid thread in the U.S. economy at large. It classifies anything from general merchandise stores and clothing shops, to health, gardening, and sporting goods stores and food and beverage places as under the retail industry umbrella.

You go into Jezebel's for the items you can't find at big box stores like that quirky greeting card – Ptak carries thousands of them and most from mom and pop establishments – when a Hallmark just doesn't cut it or that "Florida" gift you need to get friends when visiting them out of town. Most of the quirky plaza is made up of eccentric ventures – Heart Rock Sushi, Acacia, Monster Subs – with a loyal following.

"Plaza Gateway is one of the last vestiges of a funky little place to shop," Ptak says. "It has to mean something to the community or we wouldn't be here. People like to come to our store just because it's a happy place. I have people who come in and say, 'It's depressing today. I just want to come and walk around in your store and hear fun music and look at fun products.'" Situated at the US-1 and Sunrise Blvd. interchange, the plaza isn't off the beaten path, but the nook is away from the easy-to-access, in-plain-site beachfront shops and Las Olas Boulevard boutiques. As a result, customers primarily fall in the local or snowbird category.

A little further up the street is a retail tycoon. The Galleria Mall, built in the '50s and enclosed as an

indoor space in 1980, houses 100 stores and welcomes about nine million shoppers annually. Currently, anchors like Macy's, Neiman Marcus, and Dillard's hold the largest spaces and thus inventory, while specialty shops like the only Apple store in Broward County are a strong pull for both locals and tourists.

"I think retail plays a huge role in Fort Lauderdale especially in the tourism industry," says Melissa Milroy, Galleria's senior marketing manager. "Certain times of the year, a huge percentage of our shoppers are tourists and obviously when they're here, statistics show that the number one, sometimes number two thing that they want to do while they're on vacation is to shop."

On a national note, the NRF reported that in 2012 there were 3.8 million retail establishments in the country, which accounted for 12 percent of American businesses, generating \$1.2 trillion in GDP while yielding 29 million jobs. Florida doesn't lag behind when it comes to the individual state's performance. It ranked in the top 15 states in terms of the number of retail establishments and jobs in the country.

"When you think about the number of jobs that have been created, we're a huge asset to the local economy. We generate a huge sales tax revenue, which obviously invigorates the region," Milroy says. The stores at the Galleria employ between 2,000 and 2,500 people who in turn spend money in the local economy.


Something similar can be said of smaller businesses. "An overwhelming majority of retail businesses – 99 percent – employ fewer than 50 people. In fact, these retailers provide 40 percent – or 11.5 million – of the 29 million jobs in retail," the NRF report states.

Retail is, however, subject to ebbs and flows, the latter being mostly prominent during season, and the former evident during the summer or most drastically in times of

general economic strain. Admittedly, shopping patterns have dipped especially during the Great Recession. Ptak says people are more protective of their pocketbooks. Plus, practically anything can be purchased online with a virtual shopping cart, a credit card, and a few clicks of a mouse. Still, Milroy believes malls and retail are durable, even with changing times. "I think people still want that direct connection with the merchandise and certainly fashion. You want to try things on and make it a social interaction – to meet up at the mall and maybe grab something to eat and walk around to a few stores."

Milroy sees malls heading towards a mixed-use platform. The Westfield Broward Mall in Plantation has incorporated a movie theater and pockets of dining establishments. The same can be said for the mammoth Sawgrass Mills Mall – a retail city of its own. The Galleria contains Elizabeth Arden Red Door Spa and Regus office suites. The Capital Grille, Truluck's Seafood, Steak and Crab House, Blue Martini, and P.F. Chang's serve to heighten the shopping experience.

Retailers are prepared to flex their resiliency and grow with the times and their customers. Ptak references Jezebel's social media presence, which has yielded almost 2,000 followers on Facebook and Instagram combined. She credits her regular supporters with helping stores like hers not disappear. In turn, she supports local artists and entrepreneurs just the same. Ptak keeps her inventory less expensive, cheerful, and eye-catching.

Sure, you can order that candle, duvet, or bikini online, but there's something about leaving a store, bags in hand just after a sale or supporting a local business owned by a shopkeeper or restaurateur you've known for so long, it makes the city feel like a hometown. Fort Lauderdale isn't lacking these experiences. People demand and retail supplies. 

The Galleria Mall contains approximately 100 stores and restaurant or entertainment options such as Seasons 52 and the Capital Grille and Elizabeth Arden Red Door Spa



CONNECTING THE DOTS

ICON LAS OLAS AND THE RIVERWALK CONNECTION – TWO LONG-AWAITED ENHANCEMENTS THAT LINK THE DOWNTOWN

WRITER PETE STEVENSON



Related Group chairman and CEO Jorge Pérez

For close to 30 years, Fort Lauderdale has dreamed of completing the master plan of connecting the Riverwalk on the north side of the New River. This connection will allow people to walk, bike, and jog along the river from the Broward Center all the way to Las Olas shopping and beyond. Now, the final piece is set to open this summer.

Also set to open at this connection point is Fort Lauderdale's tallest building – the Icon Las Olas. This new, luxury rental has had to wait almost as long as the Riverwalk connection to see completion. The Icon has been the dream and inspiration of Jorge Pérez, founder, Chairman, and CEO of The Related Group. The Related Group is a prominent developer of refined, cosmopolitan, high-rise developments throughout South Florida.

"We think the Icon has the best location," Pérez says. "It is the only residential building that has a presence that touches both Las Olas and the New River. We believe that there are high-end professionals that want rental as a choice and not because they have to rent. Rental rates in urban areas are going to be high, but they are not going to have this unique location. We are doing the best finishes like Italian cabinetry, marble bathroom floors, amenities that are second-to-none, two swimming pools, one on the ninth floor and a rooftop pool. Three high-end restaurants, two of which will be Las Olas facing and one on the riverside."

A recent survey of baby boomers indicated that the generation wants





better transportation options, walkable communities, technology-enabled cities, and housing that allows “aging in place.” Living in Fort Lauderdale and especially along the New River meets most of these criteria.

Luxury used to be all about exclusivity and seclusion, about hiding out in the suburbs behind gates and guard houses. Now people want to be active, out, walking, and biking. They want to be involved. Busy people today want better access to more cultural venues, a wider variety of restaurants, and less reliance on automobiles. The suburbs typically offer larger, more affordable homes with yards and garages, plus easier access to malls and big box stores. However, more and more people do not want a yard to mow or a garage to clean. Malls and big box stores have lost their luster as virtually anything can be ordered online. If you work and live nearby, you gain the most valuable commodity – time.

Pérez explains, “At the Icon you are within three blocks of almost every major office building in Fort Lauderdale. You are within walking distance to the museums, the Broward Center, and Las Olas shopping. This is the most pedestrian-friendly building, but at the same time, if you didn’t want to leave the building, there is an entire world to take care of most of your needs. It’s like a biosphere.”

In addition to restaurants, Icon will contain a spa, gym, Pilates and spinning studios, 24-hour concierge and valet, morning breakfast café, and more.

“The Riverwalk will be an incredible amenity for people in the Icon,” Pérez says. “More and more people don’t want to drive and deal with traffic. That is why Downtown living is becoming such a priority for many who work in Fort Lauderdale.”

THE POWER OF ADORNMENT

MIRINA COLLECTIONS RETURNS TO SOUTH FLORIDA TO OPEN ITS NEWEST STORE IN THE GALLERIA MALL

WRITER WILLIAM COHN



Above – Mirina Collections founder Oguzhan Avcioglu; bottom and right – Mirina Collections pieces displayed at the brand's recent Red Carpet event on Las Olas

When Oguzhan Avcioglu founded Mirina Collections in South Florida in 2015, the businessman and fashion entrepreneur knew that the New York City market was the place to sell the brand's unique line of statement accessories and clothing. After being featured in New York Fashion Week's Spring 2016 presentation, Mirina Collections relocated to the Big Apple completely to see if it could thrive in the city's fashion market. Now, after a year of garnering success in the New York market, the luxury lifestyle brand is returning to its South Florida roots. Mirina Collections is opening its newest store in the Galleria Mall in July.

Brittany Casey, Director of Marketing for Mirina Collections, says that before coming to Fort Lauderdale the company had success in the New York market because the city is all about diversity. "Mirina Collections prides itself on carrying jewelry that screams 'rich in culture,'" she says. "From our large statement pieces, head pieces, hand jewelry, eye wear, [and] body jewelry, you will see culture in each and every one of our pieces."

The fact that South Florida is a cultural melting pot like New York only made it more appealing to Mirina Collections, which does not fall short of appealing to a wide variety of audiences. From the Topkapi design that references the famous palace in the Ottoman Empire to the Empire State of Mind necklace, a nod to the Empire State Building, Mirina Collections aims to have something for everyone. "We were able to connect with ladies of all audiences, demographics, backgrounds, cultures, [and] religions by simply styling them in a statement piece that reminds them of their roots," explains Casey.

Not only does the brand appeal to a diverse group of women, but Mirina Collections offers a range of product categories, which is equally well-rounded. Set on making a statement from head to toe, the brand sells both ready-to-wear and haute couture dresses, which can be accessorized with the company's famous statement jewelry or fine jewelry. Eyewear, handbags, and swimwear are also sold.



PHOTOS BY JUSTO RUIZ, COURTESY OF MIRINA COLLECTIONS



Because Fort Lauderdale is so centrally located in South Florida, the minds at Mirina Collections knew that it would be the best city in which to open a new store without isolating customers geographically. “We felt if we went too far south or too far north we would close off our audience,” Casey says. “The one thing we found that worked well in NYC was giving our customers the opportunity to get to us. So we want to leave that same opportunity open here.”

Mirina Collections was just named the top one percent company by Shopify, a distinction that makes the company stand out amongst Shopify’s 325,000+ websites. This also means that Mirina Collections is in the top one percent of Shopify stores in regards to monthly revenue, which comes from the brand’s website.

Another stepping stone for Mirina Collections was the event the brand held on May 27 in Fort Lauderdale to familiarize their new consumer base with the variety of upscale goods they offer. “Not only did we get to meet our current customers, but we also were able to learn about the market in South Florida and what collection pieces our design team can focus on when creating pieces for the South Florida market,” Casey says.

To learn more about Mirina Collections and to view their products, go to www.mirinacollections.com or visit their store across from Cole Haan at the Galleria Mall this summer. 





TOAST TO SUMMER

TO LIFE, TO LOVE, TO US

WRITER RENÉE K. QUINN

Check out www.goriverwalk.com for more spirited #BITES, SIPS, and recipes.

TOAST CELEBRATES LIFE'S HIGHLIGHTS

We toast in gratitude, we toast in memorial, we toast in celebration. These are the emotions that give birth to Florida's homegrown Vodka Toast.

Toast Vodka is the anthem of celebration because there is always something in life to toast: to life, to love, to us. I'm honored to have had the opportunity to announce philanthropist and community leader Bob Drinon's new adventure as CEO/partner for Florida-based Toast Vodka. We sat down at Grille 401 on Las Olas to sip and learn about Florida's newest spirit.

Toast Vodka's CEO and partner is embarking on a new chapter while embracing his roots in the liquor industry. Drinon and his wife Susan, are known for their passion for and support of several local and national charities. Earlier this year, they were recognized at the Association of Fundraising Professionals Gala as "Philanthropists of the Year" with Breakthru Beverage Florida.

"I am happy and proud to be partner and CEO with a company that shares my family and community values," Drinon says. "I am also very pleased to still have the Breakthru Beverage relationship as our distributor."



Bob Drinon and DJ Louis

To understand how this vodka came into existence, we met with Dieuvény "DJ" Louis, Toast Vodka founder, to learn about his life-changing experience that led to the creation of what will be known as his legacy.

DJ, originally from Haiti, immigrated to West Palm Beach when he was 10 years old. Raised in the church, he studied music and became a guitarist. As his musical skills evolved, he began collaborating and producing. At 21, he got involved in the Miami club scene and event management. Striving to give back, DJ planned a small benefit concert to assist youth in Haiti, which quickly morphed into a major festival, bringing acts like Wyclef Jean and Rick Ross as headliners. DJ personally embraced charitable work in Haiti with the proceeds.

On Jan. 12, 2010, while volunteering in Haiti, DJ's life changed forever. He checked into his hotel, planning to take a nap, but instead he headed out for some food. Within minutes of leaving the hotel, a 7.0 magnitude earthquake hit the island, killing everyone inside his hotel.

The reality of his close call set him on the mission that created Toast, a vodka that would be a "toast" to life and a celebration of living and giving.



Tarik Smith, Bob and Connor Drinon, DJ Louis, and Jason Leidy

Made in Florida

WRITER RENÉE K. QUINN

Mixing up the latest in culinary experiences, craft cocktails, and craft beers. Connecting with spirited friends to share ideas, stories, and life! Get social, tag @cocktailr in your Tweets and Instagram finds.



EXPERIENCE TOAST VODKA CHILLED TO PERFECTION

Enjoy naked or with a twist of lemon. “Toast Vodka was created to fill a gap that I felt was missing in the vodka category,” says Toast founder, restaurateur, and entrepreneur Dieuveny “DJ” Louis. “The American market tends to consume vodka as a mix. We wanted to create a vodka that was more than just a mix. We spent four years fine-tuning Toast to create one of the best vodkas [on] the market. Whether it’s the purist or the novice, there’s nothing like Toast Vodka. It can truly be enjoyed by all.”

WHY TOAST VODKA?

This delicious vodka is a corn-based, six times distilled spirit, that is non-GMO/gluten free and made locally with unflavored coconut water. This results in a lusciously refreshing summer sip.

DJ recommends this tasty spirit be stirred with ice and served chilled in a martini glass with a twist of lemon. Bob Drinon likes his Toast Vodka naked, in a rocks glass with ice. How will you Toast? Tag #ToastVodka. Cheers to a spirited summer.



Jodi Patten, Grille 401 -
Director of Beverage

PHOTOS BY JASON LEIDY

Imbibe Toast Vodka at:

GRILLE 401 – 401 E. Las Olas Blvd.

LOBSTER BAR SEA GRILLE – 450 E. Las Olas Blvd.

YOLO RESTAURANT – 333 E. Las Olas Blvd.



Check out www.goriverwalk.com for more spirited **#BITES+SIPS** and recipes. Join Renée’s **#conSPIRITors** by following her on Twitter and Instagram (**@cocktailr**) and liking her Facebook page, Spirited South Florida. Remember to **#DrinkResponsibly** **#GetSpiritedSouthFlorida**



WRITERS PENNY SANFILIPPO and JONNY ALTABELL (a.k.a. the Ugly Sisters)

They have owned Ala Carte Catering in Fort Lauderdale for more than 20 years. They recently retired from running their Downtown restaurant, the 11th Street Annex, and are looking forward to sharing all things food (restaurants too) with the readers of Go Riverwalk.



JEWEL IN THE CROWD

THE INDIAN HARBOR FUELS OUR CONTINUED LOVE AFFAIR WITH ALL THINGS CURRY

WRITERS PENNY SANFILIPPO AND JONNY ALTABELL – THE UGLY SISTERS

The Indian Harbor is a delight to those of us who love Indian food. This gem, located in the Harbor Shops on Cordova Road, will surprise you from your first step in the door to your last morsel of food. Anil Kumar and his wife Chandrika have created a dining environment with a nautical nod. Clean spare lines with burgundy accents and open shelves, which function as room dividers, allow natural light to highlight the colors of the food.

Kumar's vision for this restaurant began in Chicago and he packed up his life and moved to Fort Lauderdale to pursue it, lucky for us. His vision is apparent in the menu development featuring healthy ingredients including vegan options – a collaboration with his general manager Ganesh Vilas, and their very accomplished and awarded chef. Exotic menu ingredients come from Orlando when not available here.

F.O.C. (Fear Of Curry) is common to Americans. According to Vilas, curry is not inherently hot. To a classically-trained chef it is like saying “mother sauce” and refers to a base that can be adjusted for numerous dishes. Turmeric, cardamom, ginger, cinnamon, and cloves are good for the body and are the most commonly used in curry. Even the rice is cooked with bay leaves, cinnamon sticks, and clove oil to give fragrance and flavor.

Street food is served – only the banana leaves normally used for serving are omitted. All the fun and flavor is there in the Chaat or Puri selections. Indo-Chinese fusion dishes are featured along with many regional specialties – all clearly marked with sauce ingredients – making this one of the most informative menus we have seen. The Gobi Manchurian (battered cauliflower in a sweet/salty brown sauce) had such chew and texture that a cattle baron might become a vegetarian. Seafood is featured in a variety of appetizers and entrées because we are in South Florida. Standards that many of us know and love are present (think Tikka Masala) but there are so many novel curries that it would be silly not to try something new. The nearly full page of breads would put most pizzerias to shame: the Kashmeri Naan has nuts, raisins, cherries, dates, and cheese.

If London is considered to be the Curry Capital of the world and Scotland is the Mecca of Indian Cuisine, we are lucky to have this little jewel of India in Fort Lauderdale. 🍽️



Top – Tikka Masala
Bottom – Saag Paneer

The Indian Harbor

1830 Cordova Rd.

(754) 200-4891

www.theindianharbor.com

Open for lunch and dinner –
reservations suggested for dinner

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY THE INDIAN HARBOR

Visit www.SOTA.org
or call 954-335-7002

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and more!*

Saturday, July 15 | 7:30 pm

Miramar Cultural Center
954.602.4500

www.miramarculturalcenter.org

Wednesday, July 19 | 7:30 pm

Dor Dorim Auditorium, Weston

www.westonphilharmonic.org

Saturday, July 22 | 7:00 pm

Broward Center for the Performing Arts

954.462.0222

www.browardcenter.org

Thursday, Aug. 3, 2017 | 7:30 pm

Pompano Beach Cultural Center

954.545.7800

www.ccpompano.org

Saturday, August 5 | 7:00 pm

Florida Atlantic University Theater

800.564.9539

www.fauvents.com

Thursday, Aug. 10 | 7:00 pm

Susan B. Katz Theater, Pembroke Pines

954.322.2597

www.ppines.com



BURGER BATTLE™ VIII RECAP

A panel of six chef judges – three women and three men – showed up to taste their way through this year's Burger Battle™ VIII. I mention the judges first because we were judges a few battles ago and although many envy that tasting job, we can tell you that you CAN get too much of a good thing.

The job is to evaluate how well the final product is put together and since one of the judges was a competitor last year that first-hand perspective was brought to the panel. The judges' points are tallied to determine the winner of "The Best Burger" title and the restaurant category awards while the "Fan Favorite" is voted on by the public. Six new competitors signed up to bring the field to 14 competitors and they had a beautiful (and dry) Saturday to make their special burgers.

The burger has come a long way from the "Hamburger sandwich" offered at the St. Louis World's Fair in 1904 with many others claiming to have been the originators. I wonder how many would recognize the combinations served at the battle.

The restaurants that competed tried to give new and unique twists, which varied from cuts of meat used in the burger, toppings from smoky to spicy, and an array of pickles, veggies, and, of course, cheeses of all kinds.

The Burger Battle™ IX is eagerly awaited in Fort Lauderdale and next year's date has already been set for Friday, Mar. 23, 2018. This is a little earlier than usual, which may allow many of our winter visitors to attend. Hope to see you then! ☺



This year's winners were:

Best Burger (pictured)
BOKAMPERS

Fan Favorite
METRO DINER

Best Burger Joint
BURGER CRAZE

Best Bar and Grill
HARD ROCK CAFÉ

Best Knife and Fork
PELICAN GRAND

PHOTO BY JASON LEIDY



For additional events, check the Greater Fort Lauderdale events calendar:
www.goriverwalk.com/events/greater-fort-lauderdale-event-calendar

GENERAL EVENTS

Summer Stage Theatre Camp

Session 1: Through July 7; Session 2: July 10 - Aug. 4
 Campers work with trained instructors in acting, music, and dance to mount a full-scale production at the end of each four-week session. Camp is held at the Galleria Mall, with performances at Bailey Hall. Florida Children's Theatre in the Galleria Mall
 (954) 763-6882
www.flct.org

Summer Arts Series

Through July 20 and July 20 - Aug. 17
 Four exhibitions will feature works of various media including watercolor, oil, acrylic, and photography and a percentage of all art sale proceeds will benefit Bonnet House and its programs. Frame 'n Art by the Sea Gallery
 (954) 703-2606
www.bonnethouse.org

Summer Sizzle Salon Exhibit

Through July 21
 Paintings, drawings, photography, sculpture, and jewelry on display by local artists. Reception to be held on July 1.
 Broward Art Guild
 (954) 537-3370
www.browardartguild.org

Cruisin' Down the River

July 8
 Join the Bonnet House Museum and Gardens and Kelly's Landing Seafood Restaurant for a whimsical cruise down the New River.
 New River
 (954) 703-2606
www.bonnethouse.org

Fort Lauderdale Historical Society Lecture

July 10
 History Museum Fort Lauderdale
 (954) 463-4431
www.flhc.org



OVO by Cirque du Soleil

July 13-23
 Immerse yourself in the world of insects, teaming with joy and amazement.
 BB&T Center
www.cirquedusoleil.com/ovo

RoboConnect Networking Breakfast

July 18
 RoboConnect provides Fort Lauderdale professionals the opportunity to come together to enjoy a morning of coffee, pastries, and networking with like-minded peers. RoboVault Self Storage
www.robovault.com

LittleBig GlamSlam Fashion Show

July 19
 Big Brothers Big Sisters of Broward County's networking group Women on the Verge will launch its first annual LittleBig GlamSlam fashion show. Bahia Mar Fort Lauderdale Beach
 (954) 584-9990
www.bbbsbroward.org



26th Anniversary Summerfest

July 22
 Symphony of the Americas (SOTA) presents its 26th Anniversary Summerfest with Maestro Brooks-Bruzzese. Acclaimed soloists from European chamber orchestras and SOTA principal musicians perform music by Vivaldi, Mendelssohn, Piazzolla, Ravel, and more. Broward Center for the Performing Arts
 (954) 335-7002
www.symphonyoftheamericas.org

Continuous Improvement Conference 2017

July 23 - 25
 The event is designed to help industry professionals achieve operational and performance excellence by offering best practices, sharing expertise, and presenting successful business leaders as speakers.
 Broward College Central Campus
 (954) 201-7876
www.browardcic.com



Exhibit: Tim Forman Art

Through Aug. 6
 Exhibit opening will be held on July 2.
 History Museum Fort Lauderdale
 (954) 463-4431
www.flhc.org

ARTSERVE
 (954) 462-8190
www.artserve.org

RedEye

July 15
 Live bands, Indie films, a spoken word salon, a video game den, food, live art, and a surprise at every turn - all for less than the cost of a movie ticket. This year's theme, "Untamed" dares you to step into a brave new world where you can create your own reality for a night. The featured artist is Lebo.

3 Secret Love Essentials

July 19
 A dynamic one-hour seminar designed to help you immediately start transforming your experience of dating.

Inside/OUT: Art as Healing Therapy

Aug. 3 - 25

BROWARD CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
 (954) 462-0222
www.browardcenter.org

Bring It! Live

July 1
 Come see the main event featuring Miss D's top girls as they high kick, shake, and flip their way to the top.

PAW Patrol Live! Race to the Rescue

July 22

BROWARD COUNTY MAIN LIBRARY
 (954) 357-7443
www.broward.org/library

Starving Artist - Seventeen Years of Starving

July
 An exhibit of local artists.

Upcycled Downtown Craft

July 8
 Make a craft that you can take home with you the same day.

See a Great Movie

July 11
 Watch a classic movie and then give your opinion about the film.

BCL Social Club: A New Activity Each Week for Adults

July 11, 18, and 25
 A new activity and game club for adults. Try a new activity each week.

Karaoke Fun

July 19

The Moon In My Backyard: Exploring the Lunar Service on Earth

July 20
 Presented by Ibianny V. Salcedo, NASA JPL Solar System Ambassador.

Local Writers on Their Craft

July 22
 Listen as South Florida writers talk about writing books and having them published.

See a Silly Movie

July 24
 Watch a funny movie and see what our pets do while we are away.

Genealogy Club

July 24

Poetry Readings with Mia Leonin

July 29
 Presented by South Florida Poetry Journal.

All About Solar Eclipses

Aug. 12
 Learn all about solar eclipses from the members of the South Florida Amateur Astronomers Association (SFAAA).

Summer Learning Program

Through Aug. 20

HARD ROCK LIVE
 (800) 937-0010
www.myhrl.com



Rod Stewart and Cindy Lauper

July 6
 Two of music's most acclaimed artists and powerhouse live performers Rod Stewart and Cyndi Lauper will kick off their 18-city tour at Hard Rock Live.



Peter Frampton

July 14



New Kids On the Block "The Total Package Tour"

July 16
 New Kids On The Block brings "The Total Package Tour" alongside Grammy-winning superstar guests Boyz II Men and Paula Abdul.



Ace Frehley and Ratt

July 22



Blondie and Garbage
"The Rage and Rapture Tour"

Aug. 8
Iconic rockers Blondie and Garbage bring "The Rage and Rapture Tour" with special guest Deap Vally to Hard Rock Live.

The Best Side of the Moon
2017 Tour

Aug. 10
The Australian Pink Floyd Show will include a new set of Pink Floyd songs, "The Best Side of the Moon," incorporating a full performance of the rock album.

**MUSEUM OF DISCOVERY
AND SCIENCE**
(954) 467- MODS (6637)
www.mods.org



Transformers: The Last Knight:
An IMAX 3D Experience

Through July 6
IMAX Theater



Spider-Man: Homecoming: The
IMAX Experience

Through July 20
IMAX Theater

Five-Day Camp Adventures

July and Aug. 4 - 18

Red, White and Boom! Weekend

July 1 and 2

Spidey Activities Weekend

July 8 and 9



Summer Time Moonlight
Sea Turtle Walks

July 11 - 13
Visitors will have the opportunity to learn about sea turtle nesting and, nature permitting, observe a loggerhead sea turtle lay her eggs and then head out to sea.



Dunkirk: The IMAX Experience
July 20 - Aug. 31
IMAX Theater

Ice Cream Science Weekend

Aug. 12 and 13



Birds of Paradise:
Amazing Avian Evolution

Through Sept. 4
This stunning exhibit was developed by National Geographic and The Cornell Lab of Ornithology and captures all 39 known species of birds-of-paradise.



Amazon Adventure 3D

Through Oct. 31



Dream Big: Engineering
Wonders of the World 3D

Through Oct. 31

**NSU ART MUSEUM FORT
LAUDERDALE**
(954) 262-0258
www.nsuartmuseum.org

Mini Muse

July 6
Children ages 5-10 and their families will create art inspired by the current exhibition.

Micro Mini Muse

July 6
Children ages 3-5 and their families will create art inspired by the current exhibition.

Exhibit: "Human Animals:
The Art of the Cobra"

July 9 - Sept. 10

Art Roundtable: Allison Bolah

July 18
Join local artist and educator Allison Bolah as she discusses the roles language and paradox play in her art practice.

Exhibit: Regeneration Series:
Anselm Kiefer from the
Hall Collection

Through Aug. 27
Organized by the NSU Art Museum in collaboration with the Hall Art Foundation, this exhibit launches the new Regeneration Exhibition Series that focuses on post-World War II European artists whose works address issues of identity and the convergence of history and mythology.

Exhibit: "Some Aesthetic
Decisions: Centenary
Celebration of Marcel
Duchamp's Fountain"

Through Sept. 3

Exhibit: "William J. Glackens:
A Modernist in the Making"

Through Oct. 2, 2018

PARKER PLAYHOUSE
(954) 462-0222
www.browardcenter.org

Sinbad

Aug. 11
Ranked by Comedy Central as one of the 100 Greatest Standups of All Time, actor and comedian Sinbad has had audiences laughing for more than three decades.

ONGOING

Riverwalk Water Trolley

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

Broward Means Business

Quarterly
History Museum Fort Lauderdale
Fort Lauderdale Historical Society
(954) 463-4431
www.flhc.org

Full Moon Mangrove Tours

The night of the full moon
Hugh Taylor Birch State Park
Friends of Birch State Park, Inc.
(954) 566-0660
www.birchstatepark.org



JM Lexus Sunday Jazz Brunch

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

Chair Yoga with
Ester Christopher

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

El Club

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

Living Well Program -
Tai Chi and QiGong Sessions

Tuesdays
Hugh Taylor Birch State Park
Friends of Birch State Park, Inc.
(954) 566-0660
www.birchstatepark.org

Open Mic Tuesdays

Fourth Tuesday of the month
ArtServe
(954) 462-8190
www.artserve.org

English Café

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

Crossroads Café

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

Full Exposure
Photography Club

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

Behind the Scenes

Private Living Quarters Tours
Second and fourth Wednesdays of the month
Bonnet House Museum and Gardens
(954) 703-2614
www.bonnethouse.org



Free First Thursday Starry Nights

Thursdays
NSU Art Museum
(954) 525-5500
www.nsuartmuseum.org

Live Animal Shows

Fridays and Saturdays
Hugh Taylor Birch State Park
Friends of Birch State Park, Inc.
(954) 566-0660
www.birchstatepark.org

Board Games for Adults

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

CALM - Coloring for Adults

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

Ranger Guided Walks

Fridays
Hugh Taylor Birch State Park
Friends of Birch State Park, Inc.
(954) 566-0660
www.birchstatepark.org

Friday Night Sound Waves

Fridays
Slide off your shoes and sink into your beach chair every Friday night, during the Free Friday Night Sound Waves live music series at The Hub on Fort Lauderdale Beach. The Fort Lauderdale Beach Hub www.fridaynightsoundwaves.com

Friends of the Fort Lauderdale Libraries Books and More Event

First Friday of the month
Broward County Main Library
(954) 357-7443
www.broward.org/library

Food in Motion

Flagler Green Market
Second Friday of the month
Feldman Park
FAT Village
(754) 800-1640

The VoiceBox

Fourth Friday of the month
ArtServe
(954) 462-8190
www.artserve.org

Advanced Art of Photography with Jack Wild

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

Introductory Art of Photography with Jack Wild

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



Flagler ArtWalk

Last Saturday of the month
FAT Village
(754) 800-1640
www.flaglerartwalk.com

RIVERWALK RECREATION

@ Riverwalk • (954) 526-5159
www.RiverwalkRec.com

• A Dog's Best Friend Group Classes

Intermediate Dog Obedience Class
Thursdays | 7 p.m.
Masters Dog Obedience Class
Thursdays | 8:15 p.m.
Esplanade Park
www.adogsbestfriend.com

• Cycle Party Tours

Everyday | Reservation required
Jump aboard a 15-person quadracycle and experience Fort Lauderdale in an entirely new way.
(954) 633-4665
www.cp-tours.com/fortlauderdale/cycle-party

• Bike & eTrike Tours

Everyday | Reservation required
Tours are along the north and south sides of the river focused on the Riverwalk.
(954) 633-4665
www.cp-tours.com/fortlauderdale

• Kayak & Paddleboard Rentals

Everyday | 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Along the New River Explore the yachting capital of the world in a kayak or on a paddleboard. Launching from Esplanade Park.
(954) 633-4665
www.cp-tours.com/fortlauderdale

• Fort Lauderdale Segway Tours

Everyday | 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Reservation required
Take a one- or two-hour Segway tour in Fort Lauderdale on the Riverwalk. Training provided.
(954) 304-5746
www.segwayfortlauderdale.com

• EcoBoat Rentals

Everyday | 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Reservation required
2525 Marina Bay Dr. W.
www.ecoboatsfl.com
(954) 5000-ECO

• Ebb and Flow Yoga

Tuesdays
Bring your mat to Fort Lauderdale's scenic gem, Riverwalk, and enjoy a peaceful after-work or pre-dinner yoga session with Marilyn DeMartini.
Esplanade Park
(954) 649-4904



PHOTO BY JASON LEIDY

Bank of America.



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Holiday Park | E. Sunrise Boulevard and Federal Highway



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JADED
(Aerosmith Tribute Band)



JULY 14
Across the Universe
(Beatles Tribute Band)



JUNE 23
Tim Charron Band
(Country Rock with a Twist of Lime)



JULY 21
Classic Rock Therapy
(Classic Rock)



JUNE 30
Jimmy Stowe & the Stowaways
(Tropical Rock/Jimmy Buffet)



JULY 28
Fabulous Fleetwoods
(Southern Rock)



JULY 7
RD Project
(Latin)



AUGUST 4
Brass Evolution
(Classic Rock Horn Band)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL (954)828-5363
OR VISIT WWW.FORTLAUDERDALE.GOV/STARLIGHT.



/playfortlauderdale



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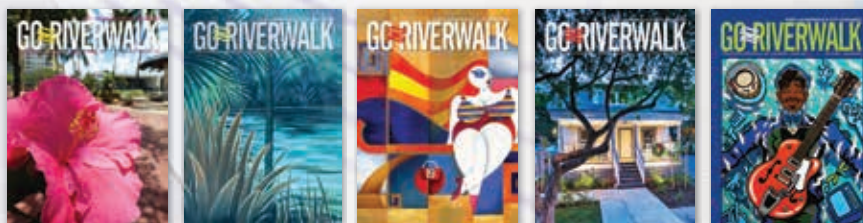


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2017 SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Delivery Dudes Chief Operating Officer Ryan Sturgis was the keynote speaker at the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce annual event, which honored the likes of Agile Element, Data Clique, the Eppy Group, and more for their contributions to the Fort Lauderdale business community.



DAN LINDBLADE



MAYOR JACK SEILER, GOLDEN JOHANSSON, AND RYAN STURGIS



SMALL BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR JOE EPPY OF THE EPPY GROUP, HEIKO DOBRIKOW, AND KEITH COSTELLO

PHOTOS BY RON GLAZER

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY OF BROWARD 2017 CELEBRATION GALA

Over 400 influential leaders within Broward's social and corporate communities gathered at the Fort Lauderdale Marriott Harbor Beach for the event, which raised over \$291,000. All proceeds will go to pediatric cancer research.



GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ. AND
NOREEN SALAH BURPEE



DAVID AND SYDNEY LISTER



DAVE AIZER AND BRIE MAZIN

PHOTOS BY DREAMFOCUS PHOTOGRAPHY

SYMPHONY OF THE AMERICAS KENTUCKY DERBY PARTY

Guests were treated to mint juleps and traditional Derby glasses as souvenirs. Musical entertainment was provided by Symphony of the Americas guest artists.



MICHELLE HOWLAND AND JESSICA CAMPBELL



CHUCK HANSEN AND NANCY KEATING



BONNIE MASON AND MELANIE POPPER

PHOTOS BY WADE CALDWELL PHOTOGRAPHY

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- The world-class business and professional community
- Trend-setting fashion and shopping
- Avant-garde dining options

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EMILY SHEILA

Miami-born folk singer Emily Sheila is taking the music scene by storm. Her folky, soft beats and gentle rhythms evoke notes pleasant to the ear that soothe the soul. Pegged by the *Miami Herald* as a Fiona Apple and Adele hybrid with her own unique twist, this 26-year-old is sharing her inspiration and love for music in any way she can.

She discovered her singing talent at age 12 after deciding to take voice lessons so she could accompany herself on piano, which she was also learning. Backyard BBQs and hanging out with family prompted Sheila to discover her love of performing. At 16, she began taking it seriously, playing in a local Starbucks where she worked at the time. It wasn't long after that she decided to kick it up a notch with a bachelor's degree in voice specialization from Barry University.



PHOTO BY XOMARA MEZA

"We don't have a genre," she says of her group, which includes drummer Sheriff Velazquez and bassist Cool Kid Danny. "We play a bit of everything, but if it were to be classified, it's called 'the Wine Genre'. You pour yourself a glass of wine, grabbing your paint brushes ready to create; ride in your car feeling the breeze through your fingers, your hands out the window. [It's] the type of music that's meant to heal emotional wounds and self-doubt. The type of music that makes you feel so good, you raise your hands not caring who the hell stares. That's the new genre, 'the Wine Genre.'"

Every musician has that seed of inspiration. "What inspires me is real life situations – the waves, sunlight through tree leaves, sadness – anything I can relate to emotionally."

During the day, she is a music teacher for children and teens ages four to 18 and at night she performs. "I've got to say one of the best places I've played at in Fort Lauderdale is Revolution [Live]. The sound was on point. I've also played at various venues such as


Kreepy Tiki Lounge, Stache, America's Backyard, and ArtServe."

So, what's to come for this blossoming artist aside from exciting new gigs?

A second album.

"It will be all the new songs I have written the past two to three years.

If I could describe the album it would be based on self-confidence, individuality, and acceptance."

Catch her on Instagram, @EmilySheilaBand, and listen to her on Soundcloud (www.soundcloud.com/emilysheilamusic) and watch her on YouTube (Emily Sheila). 

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Victoria Hilber, Membership Director at 954.764.8550 Ext. 228
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