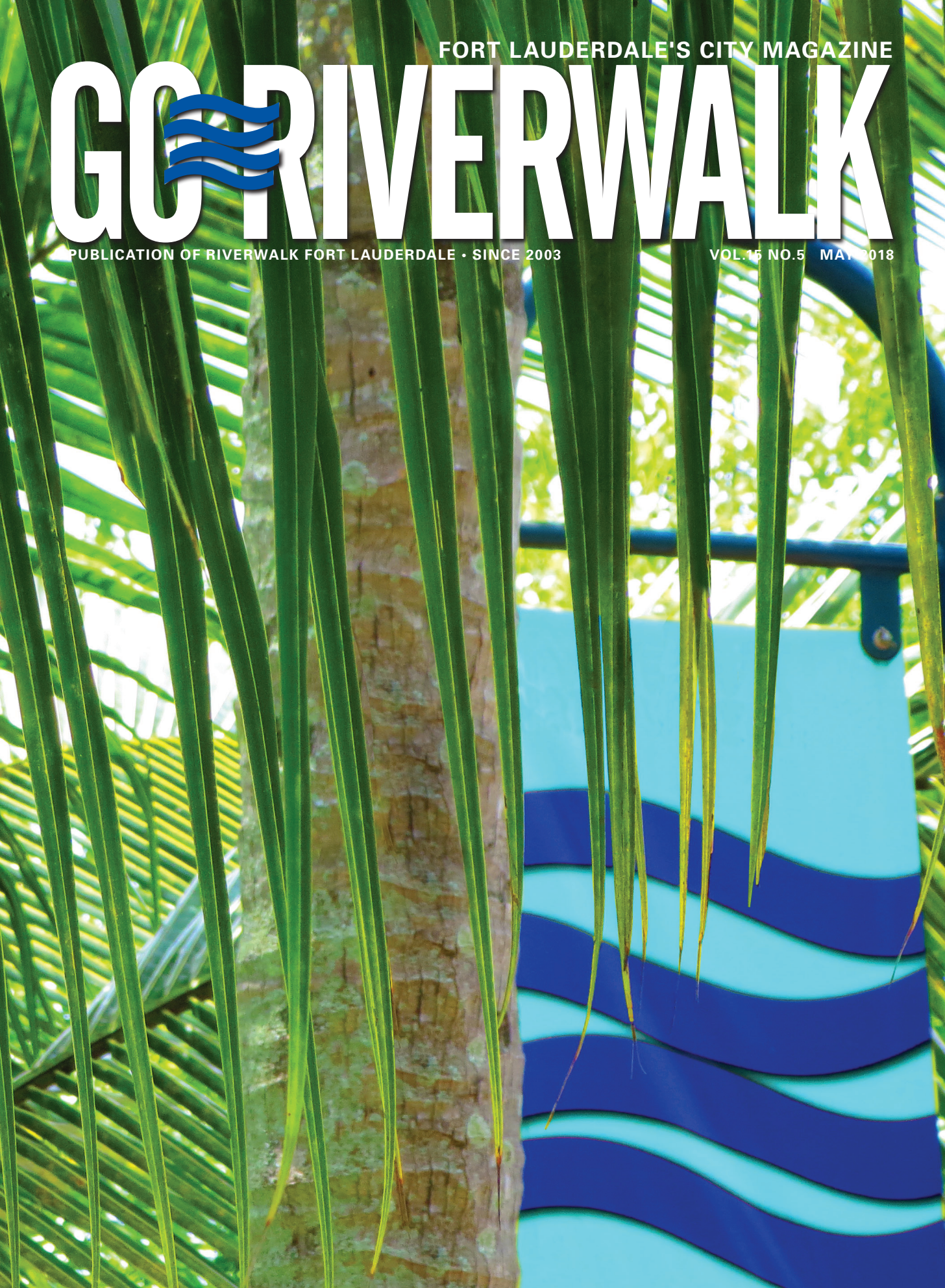


FORT LAUDERDALE'S CITY MAGAZINE

GO RIVERWALK

PUBLICATION OF RIVERWALK FORT LAUDERDALE • SINCE 2003

VOL. 15 NO. 5 MAY 2018





MEET CHEF MARVIN SOLIS

Born in El Salvador as the son of a restaurateur, Marvin was exposed to the hospitality industry at a very early age. Joining his mother at the local markets, Marvin grew up appreciating the value of only the highest quality products. Marvin immigrated to the United States where he began a career with Hyatt hotels. For the past 10 years, Chef Marvin has been working towards his current position as Executive Chef of Tower Club.



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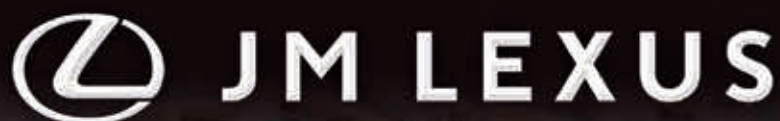
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Go Riverwalk is Fort Lauderdale's City Magazine covering arts, entertainment, business and lifestyles. Go Riverwalk is a Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale publication and publishes 12 times a year to inform, inspire and connect residents, readers and leaders with the people, places, happenings and events that make Fort Lauderdale one of the world's best places to live, work and play. © Copyright 2018, Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale. All rights reserved. No part of Go Riverwalk May may be reproduced in any form by any means without prior written consent from Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale and publisher S.MARK Graphics. Publisher accepts no liability for the accuracy of statements made by the editors or advertisers. The waves device and Go Riverwalk are trademarks of Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale. © Copyright 2018.

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PRICE REDUCED **ASHLEY - \$1,459,000**

RISE ABOVE IT ALL IN THIS HIGH FLOOR 3BR/3.5 BATH DESIGNER MODEL, SITUATED ON THE SOUTH EAST CORNER OFFERING 270 DEGREE VIEWS OF THE OCEAN, INTRACOASTAL, RIVER AND VIBRANT LAS OLAS.

ASHLEY - \$1,395,000

3BR/3.5 BATH SPACIOUS ASHLEY WITH DIRECT RIVER VIEWS. LIMESTONE FLOORS THROUGHOUT, TWO LARGE TERRACES, POGGENPOHL GOURMET KITCHEN, MARBLE BATHS, MOTORIZED SOLAR SHADES/LUMINETTES, CONTEMPORARY FIXTURES, AND MUCH MORE!

ASHLEY - \$1,375,000

3BR/3.5 BATH ASHLEY SOUTH WITH STUNNING OCEAN, RIVER & CITY VIEWS FROM EVERY ROOM. TWO TERRACES, SPACIOUS GOURMET EAT IN KITCHEN WITH POGGENPHOL CABINETRY & GRANITE COUNTERTOPS!

UNDER CONTRACT **ASHLEY**

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

JUST SOLD **CHAMPAGNE**

2BR/2.5 BATH STUNNING DESIGNER MODEL CUSTOMIZED LARGE OPEN FLOOR PLAN OFFERING BRIGHT SPACIOUS LIVING AREAS & TWO TILED TERRACES. TOP OF THE LINE FINISHES, APPLIANCES, & FIXTURES THROUGHOUT.

ASHLEY - \$1,050,000

3 BR/3.5 BATH CUSTOM DESIGNER MODEL. MONOCHROMATIC NEUTRAL TONES THROUGHOUT, MARBLE FLOORS WITH DETAIL INLAIS, MOTORIZED WINDOW TREATMENTS, CUSTOM BUILT IN OFFICE AND MUCH MORE!

CHAMPAGNE - \$995,000

2 BR/2.5 BATH WITH PANORAMIC OCEAN, CITY & RIVER VIEWS FROM EVERY ROOM. GOURMET KITCHEN POGGENPHOL CABINETRY & GRANITE COUNTERTOPS, MARBLE BATHS AND 2 SPACIOUS TERRACES.

UNDER CONTRACT **BRADFORD**

ENJOY OUTSTANDING OCEAN, RIVER, AND CITY VIEWS FROM EVERY ROOM OF THIS 2 BEDROOM 2 BATH SPLIT FLOOR PLAN. WOOD FLOORING, EXPANSIVE BALCONY AND CUSTOM INTERIORS.

JUST SOLD **BRADFORD**

2 BEDROOM 2 BATH SPLIT BEDROOM PLAN. MARBLE FLOORING THROUGHOUT, GOURMET KITCHEN, DIRECT RIVER VIEWS FROM EVERY ROOM, 5 STAR RESORT AMENITIES.



CUSTOM ONE-OF-A-KIND COMBINED UNIT

OFFERED AT \$5,495,000

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.

TOWER SUITE - \$1,995,000

REMARKABLE 41ST FLOOR SUB PENTHOUSE CONTEMPORARY MASTERPIECE BY RENOWNED DESIGNER PILAR REYES SANTAMARIA. COMPLETELY RENOVATED, THIS ONE OF A KIND MADISON OFFERS 3 BEDROOMS, 3.5 BATHS WITH PORCELAIN FLOORING THROUGHOUT, ITALIAN GLASS DOORS, ELEGANT GOURMET KITCHEN WITH LARGE CENTER ISLAND, AND ENDLESS VIEWS OF THE OCEAN, NEW RIVER AND SUNSETS FROM THE OVERSIZED TERRACE.

COLUMBUS - \$1,489,000

TASTEFULLY RENOVATED HIGH FLOOR COLUMBUS MODEL CONDO WITH 3 FULL BEDROOMS, 3 BATHS. PREFERRED "04" LINE WITH TWO BALCONIES FOR UNOBSTRUCTED NEW RIVER VIEWS.

UNDER CONTRACT **MADISON TOWER SUITE**

EXQUISITE 38TH FLOOR TOWER SUITE WITH MAGNIFICENT VIEWS OF THE RIVER & DOWNTOWN. EXPANSIVE WRAP AROUND TERRACE & LARGE OPEN FLOOR PLAN. ELEGANT DESIGNER FINISHES THROUGHOUT INCLUDING MARBLE & WOOD FLOORING, UPGRADED SNAIDERO GOURMET KITCHEN, BUILT-IN CLOSETS, & STUNNING LIGHT FIXTURES.

PRICE REDUCED **GRAMERCY PH - \$899,000**

PENTHOUSE MODEL 2BR/2.5 BATH WITH DIRECT RIVER, OCEAN & CITY VIEWS FROM EVERY ROOM. THE FLOW THROUGH FLOOR PLAN HAS BEEN TASTEFULLY DESIGNED IN NEUTRAL COLORS, 24 x 24 SATURNIA MARBLE FLOORING THROUGHOUT TWO TERRACES.

PRICE REDUCED **COLUMBUS - \$875,000**

25TH FLOOR 2 BR/3 BATH + OFFICE / MEDIA ROOM. RIVER AND CITY VIEWS FROM EVERY ROOM, PRIVATE ELEVATOR ENTRY.

PRICE REDUCED **COLUMBUS - \$795,000**

HIGHEST FLOOR COLUMBUS IN THE BUILDING WITH OUTSTANDING VIEWS, A MUST SEE. SNAIDERO CHERRY WOOD CABINETS & MUCH MORE.

JUST LISTED **COLUMBUS - \$795,000**

19TH FLOOR MOVE IN READY! SPACIOUS 2 BR/3 BATHS, MARBLE BATHS, UPGRADED COLUMBUS MODEL, PRIVATE DOUBLE DOOR FOYER ENTRY, DESIGNER FINISHES, WINE COOLER AND WOOD FLOORS THROUGHOUT.

LEXINGTON - \$749,000

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

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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.

PRICE REDUCED 2BR/2 BATH - \$629,900

20TH FLOOR ELEGANCE, SOPHISTICATION AND CAPTIVATING SUNSETS. NEWLY RENOVATED KITCHEN, NEW S/S APPLIANCES, GRANITE COUNTERS, DUAL BALCONIES WITH NE VIEWS TO THE OCEAN, CITY & SKYLINE.

JUST LISTED 2BR/2 BATH - \$579,000

NE CORNER OF THE SOUTH TOWER WITH CAPTIVATING DIRECT VIEWS OF THE RIVER, DOWNTOWN FT LAUDERDALE & THE OCEAN. SPLIT FLOOR PLAN, TILE FLOORING THROUGHOUT, & 2 ASSIGNED PARKING SPACES.

JUST LISTED 2BR/2 BATH - \$569,000

2 BR/2 BATH CORNER RESIDENCE WITH STUNNING VIEWS OF THE OCEAN, RIVER AND CITY SKYLINE. LIMESTONE FLOOR THROUGHOUT LIVING AREAS, WOOD FLOOR IN BEDROOMS, GOURMET KITCHEN WITH GRANITE COUNTERTOPS, LARGE CORNER WRAP AROUND TERRACE.

JUST LISTED 2BR/2 BATH - \$479,000

MAGNIFICENT 2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH CORNER UNIT WITH TROPICAL GARDEN, POOL & GORGEOUS SUNSET VIEWS. CUSTOM DESIGNED GOURMET KITCHEN, NEW LG APPLIANCES, AND MORE.

2BR/2.5 BATH - \$469,000

CONCERTO 6 CORNER UNIT, WRAP AROUND BALCONY WITH AMAZING VIEWS OF THE RIVER, THE PORT AND THE OCEAN. ITALIAN CABINETRY, S/S APPLIANCES. GRANITE COUNTERTOPS AND MORE!

PRICE REDUCED 2BR/2 BATH - \$359,000

SPLIT FLOOR PLAN WITH A FABULOUS LAYOUT WITH 2 SEPARATE BALCONIES. PANORAMIC CITY AND RIVER VIEWS FROM THIS UNIT.

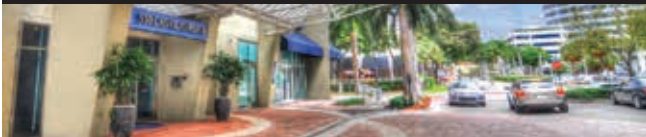
2BR/2 BATH - \$359,000

TWO GENEROUS BEDROOMS - EACH WITH EN-SUITE BATHS. OFFERS OVER-SIZED CLOSETS AND LUXURY PLANK FLOORING.

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LUXURY 1 BED/1BATH-GREAT STEP UP, THE POOL DECK IS YOUR EXTENDED BACKYARD JUST OFF YOUR PRIVATE PATIO.

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JUST LISTED SAN MARCO - \$524,500

NEW CUSTOM RECONFIGURED KITCHEN & MASTER BATHROOM MARBLE FLOORING THRU-OUT, CLOSET BUILT-OUT. SHOWS LIKE A 10!

JUST LISTED RIVIERA - \$449,000

HIGH FLOOR CORNER UNIT, MARBLE FLOORING THROUGHOUT. OUTSTANDING CITY VIEWS FROM EVERY ROOM IN THIS 2 BR/2 BATH.

JUST LISTED ROYAL PALM - \$434,500

2 BR/2 BATH WITH NEW TILE FLOORING IN LIVING ROOM AND GUEST BEDROOM. CUSTOM BUILT-INS IN THE MASTER BEDROOM AND MORE.

FIESTA - \$329,900

HIGH FLOOR WITH BIG VIEWS OF DOWNTOWN FORT LAUDERDALE, GRANITE COUNTERS, WOODEN FLOORS, S/S APPLIANCES AND MORE.

FIESTA - \$329,000

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



WATER GARDEN

JUST LISTED RIVERSIDE - \$848,000

RARELY AVAILABLE SOUTHEAST EXPOSURE 2 BR + DEN/2 BATHS. STUNNING DIRECT RIVER & OCEAN VIEWS FROM THIS HIGH FLOOR, SPLIT FLOOR PLAN, FEATURES INCLUDE DOUBLE DOOR ENTRY, FLOOR TO CEILING IMPACT WINDOWS, GRANITE COUNTERTOPS, SPRAWLING TERRACE, 2 SINGLE PARKING SPACES, AND STORAGE.

JUST LISTED RIVERSIDE - \$795,000

2 BR + DEN/2 BATHS WITH OUTSTANDING VIEWS FROM EVERY ROOM. LARGE UPGRADED KITCHEN, MARBLE FLOORS, GRANITE COUNTERTOPS AND LARGE TERRACE OVERLOOKING THE RIVER.

SEAVIEW - \$769,000

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.

MOONGLOW - \$629,900

27TH FLOOR 2BR/2BTH NE CORNER UNIT W/PANORAMIC VIEWS OF THE NEW RIVER, OCEAN, INTRACOASTAL, BRAZILIAN CHERRY WOOD FLOORING, GOURMET KITCHEN, & MUCH MORE!

JUST SOLD SEAVIEW

BEAUTIFUL 3BR/2 BATH WITH DIRECT RIVER VIEWS FROM EVERY ROOM. CUSTOM WALK-IN CLOSETS, SIDE BY SIDE WASHER & DRYER, MARBLE FLOORING IN EVERY ROOM AND MUCH MORE!

PRICE REDUCED STARDUST - \$599,000

2 BR/2 BATH WITH SOUTHEAST DIRECT RIVER & OCEAN VIEWS. TILE FLOORS THROUGHOUT, BUILT IN CLOSETS & FLOOR TO CEILING WINDOWS.

STARDUST - \$549,000

2BR/2BTH WITH BEAUTIFUL RIVER & OCEAN VIEWS. GOURMET KITCHEN, S/S APPLIANCES, ELECTRIC SHADES, CUSTOM MASTER CLOSET, 2 PARKING SPACES AND STORAGE INCLUDED.

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NuRiver LANDING

JUST SOLD 3BR/2BATH

SPECTACULAR OCEAN, RIVER & CITY VIEWS FROM THIS 3 BEDROOM 2 BATH UNIT DIRECTLY ON THE NEW RIVER. VIEWS FROM EVERY ROOM.

UNDER CONTRACT 1BR+DEN/1BATH

SUB-PENTHOUSE WITH 11 FOOT CEILINGS, OCEAN AND CITY VIEWS!

UNDER CONTRACT 1BR/1BATH

BEAUTIFUL RIVER VIEWS, GOURMET KITCHEN, S/S APPLIANCES AND MORE!

STUDIO/1BATH - \$259,000

UPGRADED STUDIO, NEW S/S APPLIANCES AND DIRECT RIVER VIEWS!

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BY JIM ELLIS
Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale Chair



A FORT LAUDERDALE ICON HAS PASSED

THE HUIZENGA'S LEGACY IN FORT LAUDERDALE WILL BE FELT FOR DECADES TO COME

There are very few communities across the country that are as fortunate and blessed to have a family like the Huizenga's, who gave back so much to the place they lived and loved; it was their home. The Huizinga's gave time, thought, effort and money to help build the beautiful community we live in and enjoy. One wonders where our community would be without them.

With the recent passing of Wayne, it gave me pause to think about all Marti and Wayne have done that shaped our very special town. Thirty years ago, when I first came to Fort Lauderdale, was when I first learned the value of true philanthropy. I watched the Huizenga's actively devote so much to this city I ponder what our town might be like today without their dedication and involvement.

A brief mention of Mr. Huizenga's businesses demonstrates the vast and diverse impact on our local economy. Some of those businesses include Waste Management, Blockbuster Video, AutoNation, the Miami Dolphins, the Florida Marlins, the Florida Panthers, and the thousands of employees connected with these organizations. No other man has had three fortune 500 companies or three professional sports teams to their credit. Not to mention the dozens of other companies Mr. Huizenga invested in and or controlled

throughout his lifetime. His accomplishments are unprecedented. To figure out the positive impact of all this has had on our community is hard to grasp.

Then there are all the charities. This was clearly how the Huizenga's chose to give back to their beloved hometown. I only know of some of their charities, so I will try to list those close to home. Broward Center for the Performing Arts/Marti's Bistro, Museum of Discovery and Science/Blockbuster Imax Theater, African American Research Library, Museum of Art, The United Way, The Boys and Girls Club, Humane Society of Broward, Birch State Park, Jack and Jill Children's Center, Habitat for Humanity, Big Brothers and Big Sisters, and of course Huizenga Plaza and Riverwalk. The Huizenga's donated both time and money to these charities, they, and we as citizens of Fort Lauderdale are better off for it today.

Every great city has a handful of great people they can look to historically as the ones who have made enough of a difference that they should be singled out and recognized. In Fort Lauderdale, a few of those historic icons include Frank and Ivy Stranahan, who had a frontier post on the New River and are credited as the founders of Fort Lauderdale. Hugh Taylor Birch for giving our city a 180-acre park and three miles of

beachfront property, which has been an economic engine. Then there are the Huizinga's, whose list of accomplishments and charitable causes helped Fort Lauderdale grow up and become the special place it is to live today.


I hope that our city recognizes and gives Wayne and Marti Huizenga the respect they and their family deserve for helping to transform our community into the great place it has become. The Huizenga's left a legacy that continues with their children and extended family of nieces and nephews that also carry on to honoring the Huizenga name and the tradition of being generous community partners and leaders. 



PHOTO BY DOWNTOWN PHOTO

The Kickoff to 30 YEARS!



RIVERWALK
FORT LAUDERDALE

80's Dance Party

Esplanade Park

MAY 11TH; 7:00-10:00pm

\$50/person

Lite bites, cocktails & dancing

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THE FUTURE IS FORT LAUDERDALE

THE CITY IS BECOMING THE CENTER OF SOUTH FLORIDA

Riverwalk is bustling, lots of pedestrian traffic, filled with a variety of accents and all enjoying the great weather. As we always do - we try to find great avenues of connectivity for residents and visitors to come to Riverwalk and to enjoy all of the surrounding community of restaurants, museums, art, theatre, shopping and other public amenities. Fort Lauderdale as a city has so much to offer, and we encourage you to read our calendar and consider the vast variety of things in town.

An opportunity for fun is at the Museum of Science & Discovery Science Park - an exciting discovery zone for the entire family. This area is filled with learning experiences and experiments that will challenge and delight. Be sure to put it on your things to do list.

You can take a ride on the Free Riverwalk Water Trolley and enjoy experiences from Broward Center to Las Olas Boulevard with tons of options for fine dining, entertainment, art, culture, festivals and events and more....and yes - it is free.

Sun Trolley offers the red and yellow trolleys to “wave & ride” that will get you around from downtown to the beach and other points. It is interesting to note that this is a city filled with lots of beautiful parks and public spaces including Birch State Park, Bonnet House, Snyder Park, Carter Park, Holiday Park and of course we would be remiss if we did not say Riverwalk! There are kid parks like Hardy Park, dog parks like Bark Park, and community centers all over the city with classes, sports and more available. We live in a great city. Don’t miss


the smooth sounds from Miguel Pilgrims NYSW Jazz Lounge or tasting the great summer beer blends from Tarpon River Brewery both on SW 6th Street

A committee of Riverwalk, Master Plan & Projects, recently did a fact-finding ride and tour on Brightline to West Palm Beach and back. An enjoyable ride - short and certainly comfortable with food and beverage options at the station and on board. One of the goals of the trip was to assess the departure and arrival stations at each end and the connectivity when arriving. Both stations fell somewhat short of the hopeful experience and the walkability to downtown options. The group of 25 provided written assessments, made recommendations and will be assisting in implementing some of those favorable additions. Some of the comments from the group were

- lack of signage/information,
- easy local ground transportation to move people on arrival
- safe and comfortable walkable solutions to Riverwalk and other downtown amenities
- landscape, trash smell, and other aesthetic values were some of the items considered.

In partnership with the City of Fort Lauderdale and Brightline, some of those concerns are currently being addressed and should be implemented in the next 30 to 60 days.

Fast trains offer ease of travel and reduce traffic on the roadway. It encourages locals and guests to venture to new places and to become familiar with their local community. We give Brightline a positive check mark for what they will bring to our City. Tweaking will continue until you will have a great welcoming experience to Fort Lauderdale and move around with ease and safety!

Our 9-11 Capital Campaign, which launched in May, is honored to be selected by Broward County for a \$7,500 contribution to kick off that campaign. This beautiful monument will be located on Riverwalk, and we hope that you will join in by making a contribution to remember those that lost their lives on a tragic day in history and celebrate the legacy they have left to us all. 





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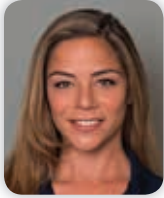


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RIVERWALK MEMBERSHIP



TRUSTEE MEMBER

MAXINE GOMEZ

DRYTECH 24/7

➔ I was raised in Aventura with my family and attended the School for Advanced Studies, a dual enrollment

program, where I graduated with an Associate's Degree and a high school diploma. My original educational path took me through a Neuro Science undergrad with the plan to go medical school, but I caught the entrepreneurial bug and my life changed course.

I launched my first company with a dynamic partner and we worked relentlessly to make it happen. After the success of selling to major retail box stores I was ready for a new opportunity. A friend said, "Maxine, I have trouble finding

reliable remediators, with your work ethic and I think you would do well in this industry." Three years later it was confirmed. Today, I have four full time employees and serve as a certified State licensing instructor.

At DryTech 24/7, we offer many services in remediation including water mitigation, mold removal, biohazard and crime scene sanitization, air purification, and drywall rebuild. We also provide proactive ways of educating clients on how to prevent issues in their homes and work.

I was recently asked why I joined Riverwalk. It's simple; I am in the construction industry, I am actually putting back together pieces of my community. How better to be engaged than to be a part of a board that is so actively involved in the development, enrichment, and activation of our own community.



TRUSTEE MEMBER

LINDSEY NORRIS

FLORIDA RESTAURANT & LODGING ASSOCIATION

➔ As an experienced tourism industry professional, I currently serve as

the Regional Director for the Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association's Broward County Chapter. Prior to joining FRLA this past fall, I served as Regional Partnership Manager for VISIT FLORIDA. Pursuing FRLA's mission of protecting, promoting and educating the industry, I oversee all aspects of Chapter Direction, including Board operations as well as Member retention, service and sales in South Florida. Throughout my career, I have always had a heart for customer service and deep passion for the hospitality industry.

A graduate of the University of Central Florida, I earned

a Tourism Marketing Professional (TMP) certification from the Southeastern Tourism Society in 2017. I am a native Floridian passionate about all things Florida, namely the beautiful beaches.

In addition to FRLA, I am also involved with the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance and serve on the Board of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce. When not working, my hands are pretty full as my husband and I are raising three daughters. However, I also enjoy yoga in an attempt to find my Zen and I relish the title of "Queen of the Pinterest fail".

As an extension of FRLA, I am a proud supporter of Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale. Viewed as the heartbeat of our thriving tourism community, the Riverwalk brings together art, culture, and nature for both visitors and locals to enjoy.



TRUSTEE MEMBER

RICHARD TOMMER

COLLEGE HUNKS HAULING JUNK

➔ Born in Brooklyn, I spent my teen years in Long Island where I graduated from high school. After

my high school graduation, I went on to earn a degree in political science from the University of Albany and attended Albany Law School. Since I was never a fan of winter in New York, I moved to South Florida and opened an insurance agency which I sold after only about a year.

With time on my hands and a growing interest in real estate and urban planning, I went back to school where I earned my MBA in Real Estate Development from NSU. My success in this program prompted an invitation from FAU to be the Environment Growth Management Fellow

at the university where I also earned a Master's in Urban and Regional Planning.

Today I am the co-owner of the Broward franchise of College Hunks Hauling Junk & Moving. We specialize in taking one of the most difficult things in life (moving) and making it less stressful. In addition, we are a major sponsor of the Alzheimer's Association walks and are the logistics sponsor for the Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital Tour de Broward. I am also a Board Member at Rebuilding Together.

When not working, I enjoy attending hockey and football games and playing with my four rescue dogs and two Moluccan cockatoos. I joined Riverwalk because I see it as one of the best local nonprofits and am proud of how they activate our Downtown.

Members of Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale express their support and join us in our mission of building a vibrant community. Riverwalk supports Downtown's diverse, mixed-use community of arts and entertainment establishments along with business, residential, judicial, educational, and marine interests.

TO JOIN, VISIT WWW.GORIVERWALK.COM/MEMBERSHIP.



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RIVERWALK'S BURGER BATTLE™ IX

Riverwalk's Burger Battle™ IX brought masses of meat lovers to Huizenga Plaza on Friday, March 23rd. Attendees enjoyed a perfect evening of great weather, food, and drinks, and we cannot forget the great music provided by the Poker Night Band. Everybody relished and struggled with the decision on what burger to vote as Fan Favorite. A special thanks goes to Breakthru Beverage and Stephens Distributing, for providing the adult beverages for the evening. 



All burger competitors gather on stage



Great crowd, great evening



Burger Eating Contest competitors

COMPETITORS



SPONSORS





ROK:BRGR - Winner of Chef's Award Best Burger and Fan Favorite



Judges Chef Jack Kane, Chef Eric Parker, Renée Quinn, Chef Jeff Vincent and Chef Bernardo Espinel



Burger Craze - Winner of Best Burger Joint award



JWB - Winner of Best Knife and Fork award



Metro Diner - Winner of Best Bar and Grill award



Friends gather for an evening of fun



She really enjoys a good burger



A burger with your bro

PHOTOS BY JORDAN DICK



Burger Battle and our friend Jack Daniels



Tastes from Barefoot Wines



Refreshing beer courtesy of Stephens Distributing



ART IN PUBLIC PLACES

SUPPORT RIVERWALK ART WITH SIGNATURE TILES

The City of Fort Lauderdale and Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale have installed four pieces of artwork along Riverwalk.

Commemorative signature tiles are available to be engraved.

Support Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale and art in our community.

www.goriverwalk.com/publicarttiles

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William Glackens, *Study for Music Hall Turn*, c. 1918, Oil on canvas © NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale; bequest of Ira D. Glackens, 91.40.151

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Through October 14, 2018

This exhibition is generously sponsored by Bonnie E. Eletz, 100 Las Olas, Hyatt Centric By Kolter Hospitality, Sansom Foundation, David and Francie Horvitz Family Foundation and Northern Trust.

Also on View:

**Frank Stella:
Experiment and Change**

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 Nova Southeastern University, Hudson Family Foundation, Wege Foundation, Community Foundation of Broward, 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.

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BY JENNI MOREJON
Executive Director,
Downtown Development Authority



THE FUTURE IS FORT LAUDERDALE

THE CENTER OF IT ALL

The DDA recently co-hosted Fort Lauderdale Emerges with the Urban Land Institute to a sold-out audience of real estate professionals, community leaders, government officials, and city planners. It is a fitting event name for a city that has come into its own recently. Speakers noted that Fort Lauderdale is no longer a just a place to pass through on the way to Miami and West Palm Beach, but a true destination in the center of South Florida. Discussion centered on the city's meteoric rise, both literal and figurative, as towers continue to ascend and major public investments like the Wave rail line improve our quality of life.




One of the speakers from the event was Ken Krasnow, Executive Managing Director of Colliers International, which forecasts that 150,000 new employees are slated to come to South Florida in the next five years. Moreover, with Amazon HQ2 a possibility, another 50,000 could be added to the mix. Florida is the nation's fifth fastest-growing state with the second largest population gain in 2017. The majority of this growth is happening in South Florida, whose population is expected to grow by 9.9% over the next five years to 6.7 million. That is roughly 300 additional people per day over the next five years for the tri-county region.

This population surge is the reason that the many new apartment projects continue to enjoy high absorption rates, despite the influx of new inventory. It also highlights the persisting trend of rising rents and the challenge of unaffordability for our community's low-to-middle incomes and workforce. The pace of rent growth is expected to remain between 2 and 3% annually. According to Zillow, rent takes the largest portion of household income, with repercussions on a micro level (less disposable income for food and necessities) and a macro level (diminished rate of millennials buying homes).

Office lease rates are also on the rise in Downtown Fort Lauderdale. The office market in Broward has had the strongest net absorption in the past ten years and the highest in South Florida. Driving much of this activity are companies in healthcare, wealth management, law firms and tech. Recently sold buildings have seen a rise in Class A rents due to new ownership. Additionally, recently improved Class B and C office buildings are also enjoying an increase in their rates.

One of the more notable trends in our Downtown FTL real estate landscape is the hotel boom. A diverse array of hospitality offerings will soon be coming online and in years to come. This has long been a missing piece of the downtown puzzle that will provide our visitors the opportunity to experience our dynamic city from proximity, just like a local.

Downtown Fort Lauderdale real estate has never been hotter. Each sector, including industrial, has seen incredible activity with no signs of abating. As we look ahead into the proverbial real estate crystal ball, it is clear that the future shines brightly on Fort Lauderdale. 



Greg Stuart, Melissa Milroy, Peggy Fucci, and Alan Hooper

PHOTO PROVIDED BY ULI SOUTHEAST FLORIDA/CARIBBEAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

*“Michalengelo and Monet were both artists – with vastly differing styles. So to call Ki’na – the latest of Christina Wan’s eateries – an ‘Asian’ restaurant does not even begin to give you an idea how completely different the offerings are from anything you have had in South Florida... This gem is a **must** for any adventurous eater.”*

Penny Sanfilippo, Go Riverwalk Magazine



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MOVE THE PROCESS ALONG

DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IMPLEMENTS NEW SOFTWARE TO STREAMLINE BUILDING PROCESS

Did you know the current land management system used at the Department of Sustainable Development has been in operation for the past 15 or more years? Did you also know that this system is currently being replaced as a wholesale upgrade? Well...it is.

The City of Fort Lauderdale, along with pretty much any other municipality, uses land management software to track everything from building permits to zoning letters. This software is used by every division of Sustainable Development along with other departments, and quite frankly, our current system is antiquated in terms of capabilities and overall technology.

However, the City has invested in updating this system so that we are state of the art regarding permitting for building, planning, zoning and code enforcement related items. This new software will also allow for a streamlined process, reduce the need for applicants to spend time waiting at the City, and let our


reviewers and inspectors work more efficiently. Basically, everything the old software does not do.

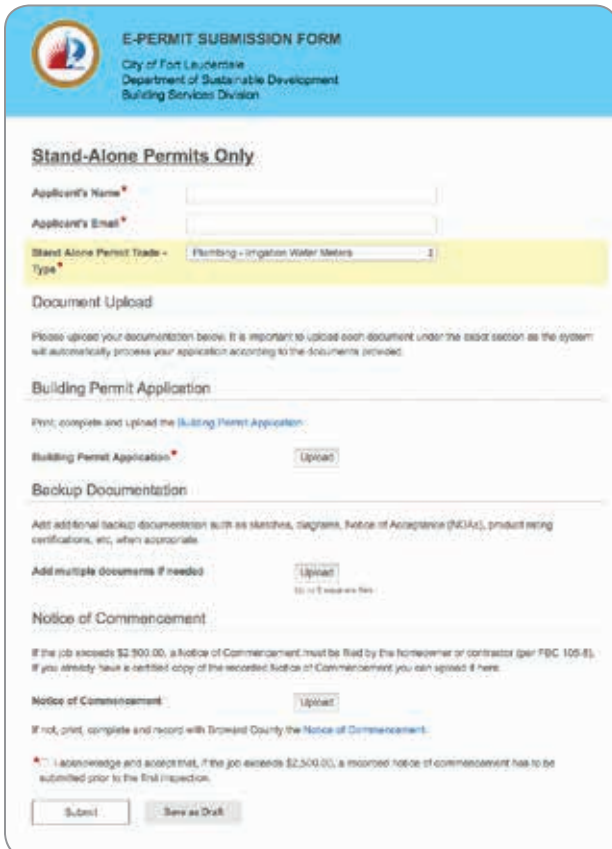
Imagine your architect has submitted the plans for your dream home to the City. With the current software only one review can take place at a time, hardcopy plan sets are physically picked up by a person and transported all over the office by hand, and corrections cannot be submitted until the plans have been given to everyone for review. This is all due to system limitations, is very inefficient and frustrating.

Now imagine a brave new world of digital plan review. The same architect who designed your new home submits everything electronically. A digital version of the plans are transmitted to each staff person for review, and they can all look at the plans and make comments at the same time. Now, let's say your architect is looking at the comments in real time and notices something that can be addressed quickly. They can start a web chat session with the reviewer and have a quick conversation with them to point the reviewer in the right direction or answer a question for clarification purposes.

What's this amazing new software called, you ask? Accela. As they say on their website, "Accela Land Management on the Civic Platform moves your planning, permitting, inspection and code enforcement services away from land-locked, manual systems and towards easy-breezy, efficiency-obsessed cloud solutions."

Anyone who has gone through the process of replacing outdated computer systems can tell you it is not easy and it always has hiccups. However, what I can tell you is that the Department of Sustainable Development is dedicated to making this happen as efficiently as possible and go live with as little interruptions as possible, hopefully around November of 2018.

I am kind of a geek, so I think this is an exciting time for the department and we want to make sure everyone has the best experience possible. To help make that happen, we will be setting up training for anyone who plans to submit permits to the City and make sure to have information posted on the City's website in the coming months. So, keep a lookout for it and make sure to ask about it next time you are at the department. We are excited, and we hope you are too. 





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ATTEND 7TH ANNUAL TRANSPORTATION SUMMIT

LEARN ABOUT DEVELOPMENTS IN CITY MOBILITY

Many of our neighbors and visitors often ask, “How can I learn about all the emerging trends in Transportation and what the City of Fort Lauderdale is doing to convert those trends into action to make our streets safe, accessible and navigable for all?”

The answer is simple. Attend the annual City of Fort Lauderdale Transportation Summit!

The City of Fort Lauderdale's Transportation Summit is a premier event offering you a chance to join industry experts, elected officials, neighbors, and students dedicated to creating safe, livable, connected, sustainable streets for people of all ages and abilities.

The 7th annual Transportation Summit will be held on May 16th, 2018 at the Broward Center of the Performing Arts from 8:30 am to 6 pm. Registration for the event is \$50 for government, \$75 for non-government and our neighbors can attend for free with a neighbor scholarship.

At the summit, a variety of transportation influencers from multiple disciplines will host important discussions on a variety of important issues we are facing in transportation including:

- The future of autonomous vehicles, where this technology is going, and how it will impact how we

build our streets and manage traffic.

- The progress that Columbus, Ohio has made on their \$40 million Smart City grant from the Department of Transportation to transform mobility and technology within their community.
- Presentation by Seattle on how they added 60,000 jobs to the city while decreasing travel by single-occupancy vehicles.
- The accomplishments and innovative improvements made by the City of Fort Lauderdale and our partner agencies in an effort to TRANSform our community into a City of tomorrow.

This is just the beginning of what we will be discussing throughout the day!

At the Summit, we will also be awarding our annual Transportation awards for Neighbor Champion and Outstanding Project or Program. These awards are designed to recognize our amazing partners and neighbors who help make the City of Fort Lauderdale a safer and more connected city of tomorrow.

By participating in this year's Summit, you will be able to collaborate with elected officials, regional experts, and transportation industry leaders to exchange best practices, share innovative ideas, and achieve our common vision of TRANSforming Fort

Lauderdale into the city you never want to leave.

To receive more information on the summit, apply for our Transportation awards, or become a sponsor please visit our website at www.fortlauderdale.gov/tamevents or contact Craig Pinder at CPinder@fortlauderdale.gov. We look forward to seeing you at this year's summit and TRANSforming Fort Lauderdale together. 



THE BEACH BEAT



GOING TO NEW HEIGHTS



USAF Thunderbirds

The U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds, fighter jets and demonstration planes will once again soar over Fort Lauderdale Beach, as the **FORD Lauderdale Air Show** takes flight May 5 & 6, 2018. Free for plane-watchers in the North and Central Beach area, tickets for the

'Aerial 50-yard line' in the Drop Zone Beach and the exclusive Flight Line Club range from \$29.50 - \$179. For spectators interested in escaping the crowds, a number of rooftop and pool parties will take place, offering exclusive VIP viewing areas to watch the show in style. For complete details visit, MyFortLauderdaleBeach.com.

WE'RE HAVING A (BEACH) PARTY



Kickoff the unofficial start of summer over Memorial Day weekend at the **8th Annual Great American Beach Party**, Saturday, May 26 from 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Fort Lauderdale Beach near A1A and Las Olas Boulevard.

The free, family-friendly event will transform a portion of Fort Lauderdale Beach into an entertainment mecca, featuring live music, a beachside food court, and activities for the entire family including a kids zone, sand castle contest, art and car show, and free movie showing on the beach.

MOTHER'S DAY, HER WAY ON SUNDAY, MAY 13



Whether your ideal Mother's Day involves a beachside brunch, a staycation escape or a relaxing spa afternoon, you'll find more than a dozen ways to celebrate Mom her way while getting in a little time for the two of you. View the [MyFTLB Mother's Day 2018 Online Guide](#) for inspiration and special offers.

ON THE HORIZON

May 5 & 6: FORD Lauderdale Air Show
Fort Lauderdale Beach \$\$\$

May 12: Fort Lauderdale Beach Sweep
The Hub at Las Olas & A1A Volunteer Opportunity

May 13: Mothers Day
View Mother's Day Brunch Menus Online

May 19: Waterway Soiree for Children's Diagnostic Center
Bahia Mar Marina \$\$\$

May 19: The White Party for Jorge Nation Foundation
Marriott Harbor Beach Resort \$\$\$

May 26: Great American Beach Party
The Hub at Las Olas & A1A FREE

Stay in the know and sign up for the [MyFTLB Insider](#) at www.MyFortLauderdaleBeach.com



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Downtown Fort Lauderdale is right in the center of one of the largest regional connectivity and mass transportation efforts in history—Brightline. The high-speed rail connecting downtown Fort Lauderdale with downtown West Palm will eventually have service from Miami to Orlando.

Brightline is “expanding your backyard” and making our South Florida region more accessible, connected and convenient. Operating since early this year, residents and visitors can catch a high-speed train in downtown Fort Lauderdale and quickly travel to West Palm Beach for lunch or dinner. For the first time, West Palm residents can travel for approximately 30 minutes via train and be in the heart of our downtown for an evening at the Broward Performing Arts Center. This new service is breaking down barriers and seamlessly connecting communities together. This connectivity and convenience will improve the quality of life for our downtown and city residents.

The train is not only allowing residents to connect with our neighbors to the north, but it is bringing more visitors to our downtown core. Brightline is making it far more convenient for South Florida visitors to explore all that our region has to offer regardless of where they might be staying for the night. Visitors staying in Palm Beach can now conveniently travel via train to check out all that downtown Fort Lauderdale has to offer—our amazing Riverwalk, restaurants, Las Olas shopping, and much more.

In the coming months, Brightline will be expanding service to extend from downtown Fort Lauderdale to Miami. The rail service will take passengers right into the heart of Miami’s downtown where there is new

development popping up all around the railway. Part of the Brightline Miami extension will include a connector to Tri-Rail, which will help expand how passengers utilize both systems. This downtown Miami portion of the project has the possibility of transforming the way commuters travel to and from work, which will ultimately help relieve traffic congestion.

Modern cities are exploring various transportation options, and for the first time, Brightline is offering the city of Fort Lauderdale, as well as Miami and West Palm, the opportunity to truly transform the way residents view getting to and from locations of interest. The impact that Brightline has on our community, our way of life and our mobility is limitless. 



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BY MEREDITH CLEMENTS

Marketing Manager,
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KEEPING THE AMERICAN DREAM ALIVE

WHAT FORT LAUDERDALE AGENCIES ARE DOING TO HELP SUPPORT AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Having a roof over your head and the American Dream of homeownership are beyond the reach for a growing number of employees in South Florida. Recent reports show the gap between what a worker makes and their ability to own a home is widening. The homeownership rate in Broward County continues to plummet and is at its lowest point in the modern age.

With a 2015 homeownership rate of 64 percent, down from 71 percent in 2009, the trajectory is in a freefall. The repercussions have a multiplier effect on our economy. Employees must move further away from their jobs or worse yet, they leave the area entirely. They have less discretionary income, so purchases are at a minimum, etc.

Rents are also outpacing wages for many occupations in Broward County. Over one-half of our workforce is employed in low-wage service sector occupations. These jobs pay 40-60 percent less than the median household income of \$60,900. These facts support a renewed effort by both public and private sectors.

We have made incremental steps at the Chamber with respect to housing programs. The Broward Housing Partnership's mission was to create a land bank and funding for workforce housing. Unfortunately, we were unable to generate the volume of units the market required.

The Florida legislature created the Sadowski Trust Fund in 1992 for housing. It is fueled by a portion of the documentary stamp tax paid on real estate transfers. Only a small percentage of those funds ever make it back to Broward County. In 2017, the trust fund generated

about \$292 million for affordable housing, but more than \$130 of that was moved to the general revenue fund to balance the state budget.

Fed up with state government looting Sadowski, Broward County has issued another report through The Coordinating Council of Broward, a mostly public agency group with few private sector participants.

The council's 64-page report outlines the need and suggests strategies to help with the problem. Here are some of its results:

- a. Generate revenue for affordable housing by creating a Broward County and municipal (cities) Trust Funds.
- b. Establish county and municipal incentives for more affordable housing construction.
- c. Create an independent public-private housing partnership intermediary.
- d. Increase involvement of Broward's CRAs in addressing affordable housing.
- e. Facilitate the acquisition of land for affordable housing.
- f. Preserve existing housing stock.
- g. Equitable transit-oriented development


There are more strategies which if implemented collectively would have a dramatic positive impact on providing the American Dream and preserving our workforce. We must all work together to make this a reality. 



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





FULL STEAM AHEAD FOR 3D PRINTING

MARINE MANUFACTURING EMBRACES THE NEW TECHNOLOGY

Technology advances continue disrupting the status quo as machines and robots take on more and more roles in various production processes. One of the fastest growing components of manufacturing innovation is 3D printing. Despite many using the term “3D Printing” as a synonym for all Additive Manufacturing processes, layered manufacturing processes can differ depending on the material and machine technology used.

In 1984, 3D printing was born when Charles Hull invented stereolithography, a process allowing designers to use digital data to create laser-beamed photopolymer 3D models that could then create an object. Fast forward to 2018 and scientists have fabricated everything from bladders, kidneys, and prostheses to gold and silver rings to unmanned aircraft – and 3D printing potential is still evolving and expanding, significantly cutting production costs and timelines across all facets of fabrication.


In the world of marine manufacturing, the U.S. Navy and Oak Ridge National Laboratory created a submarine hull prototype out of 30-foot carbon fiber composite sections in just four weeks. Because additive manufacturing reduces the weight and improves the performance of objects, the British team of the 2017 Americas Cup printed spare parts for their boat using

a 3D printing process known as direct laser metal sintering. Additionally, a group of five companies recently teamed up to print a premium, bronze alloy boat propeller that weighs 180 kg and measures 1,300 mm, and a Canadian company producing a titanium ballast tank for an autonomous underwater vehicle that will be tracing the bottom of the Arctic Sea had its production time cut in half and its cost reduced by using an electronic additive manufacturing technology (EBAM) 3D printing process.

Perhaps the most startling 3D printing maritime innovation comes from a partnership between Livrea Yachts and Autodesk to build the world’s first 3D printed yacht! The Italian yacht company co-founders, known for employing traditional Sicilian practices, are using a robotic additive manufacturing process that could save money, diminish waste, and reduce specific production times from months to hours.

Equally disruptive to the economy and traditional development is the use of 3D printing to build homes. Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs lists physiological needs first and foremost: air, water, food, sleep, clothing, and shelter, yet 1.2 billion people in the world do not have access to adequate housing. Last year, a company from San Francisco successfully completed a 400 square-

foot house in 24 hours for just \$10,000, and last month, in an effort to provide shelter to underserved communities, Austin-based startup, ICON, partnered with a nonprofit focused on international housing solutions to print a prototype 650-square-foot house out of cement in as little as 12 hours.

Clearly, the future is here, and whether the next product printed is a drone or a jetpack – both of which are on the drawing board, we can be assured that Charles Hull’s technology will continue to carve a path of disruption and innovation that once was the stuff of science fiction. 

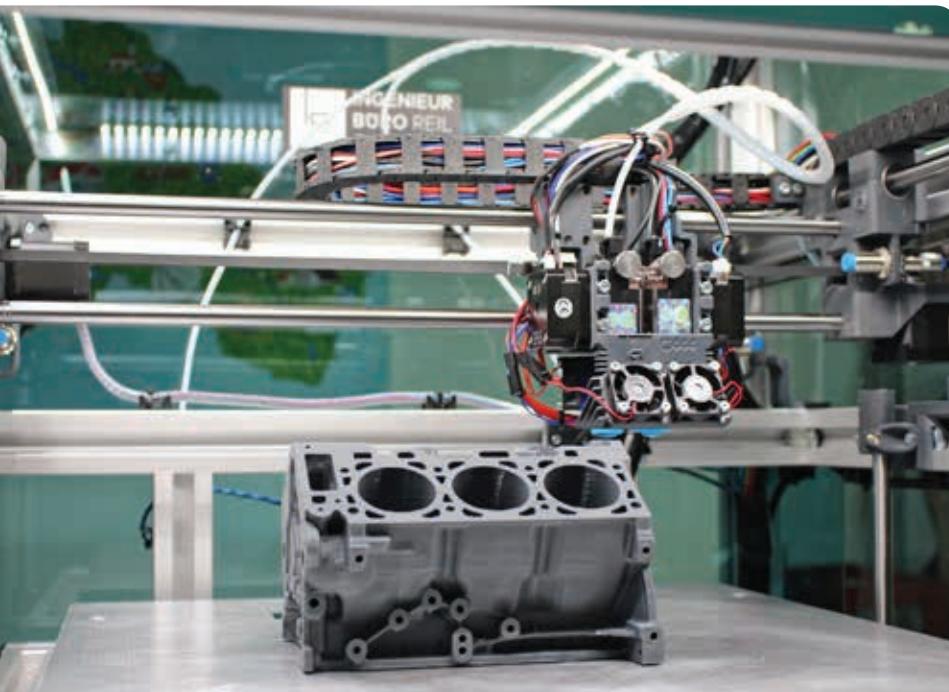


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BY PETE STEVENSON
Director of Marketing & Media
Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale



VEGAN FINE FOODS

THE STORE YOU HAVE BEEN LOOKING FOR

Vegan is not a new trend or fad that is going to go away soon. More people are becoming vegan or embracing some form of vegan eating or lifestyle every day. Steve Smith is no exception. On second thought, he may be the exception. As Smith has been a vegan longer than most people and is now utilizing his areas of expertise, veganism, and business, to give Fort Lauderdale Vegan Fine Foods. "I have been a vegan for twenty years, and it was initially for health reasons I became vegan. However, twenty years ago it was impossible to find stuff, it was basically only fruits and vegetables," laughed Smith.


I got the concept for the Vegan Fine Foods market because like many people that start a business you are trying to solve a problem. The problem I had being a vegan - there was nowhere I could shop and get most of the products that I needed. The other issue I wanted to solve was I wanted to make sure whatever I did buy was truly plant-based," said Smith.

"I had the idea for the store even before I moved to Florida, but I wasn't in a position to do anything about it. I moved to Florida in 2014 as a professor and was offered a position with FAU to teach in the College of Business. So I started preparing myself, and I wrote a business plan," said Smith. He went on, "So I started

looking for possible store locations in Boca, as I was living there at the time. However, when I came down to Fort Lauderdale and saw this space, I said 'Wow this would be the perfect location.'"

After securing the location, on SW 2nd Street next to Esplanade Park, the hard part for Smith was trying to figure out what products to carry. And not because there are too few products to choose from, but so many. "It's amazing how many new vegan/plant-based products are coming out every day. There are products from local individuals, mid-range manufactures and now major companies are getting into vegan," said Smith. He described that Vegan Fine Foods would continue to modify and tweak the product lines they will carry and is very intent on listening to his customers on the products they enjoy or might want to see in the store. "Our customers are going to shape a lot of what we carry here," he said.

In addition to the market, there is a café inside. As Smith points out, he thought it would be nice for all the people that work in the area to have a place to grab a vegan meal. It turns out it was a smart decision. In the first three days of being open, the only problem was that they had so many people coming through the café line, they had a little bit of a bottleneck. That is a good

problem to have, and they have since worked out those logistics. Eventually, Smith wants to expand into vegan lifestyle, health and beauty products. 



Small Business Stats VEGAN FINE FOODS

Owner: Steven Smith

Year Founded: 2018

Number of Employees: 16

Address: 330 SW 2nd Street
Fort Lauderdale, FL

Phone: (954) 533-6412

Website: www.VeganFineFoods.com



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WHY ARE MY TAXES SO MUCH HIGHER THIS YEAR?

PREVIOUS OWNER'S EXEMPTION EXPIRE

The Property Appraiser's Office does not set or collect taxes, we simply assess property for tax purposes and grant exemptions to qualified individuals. When you purchase your home, you typically inherit the previous owner's Homestead Exemption and their lower Save Our Homes value -- but those savings automatically expire at the end of the year. For example, if you purchased your property in 2016, you inherited the previous owner's exemptions and lower Save Our Homes value for last year. In January 2017, these exemptions were removed and the property reassessed based upon your 2016 purchase price and that of other qualified sales of comparable properties. As a result of this reassessment, you probably experienced an increase in the 2017 property taxes for your home. Unfortunately, there is no way to avoid this increase the year after you purchase the property as this reassessment is explicitly required by Florida law (Sections 192.042, 193.011 and 193.155, Florida Statutes).

While Homestead Exemption saves the average homeowner \$600 - \$1,000 in taxes, it also allows for the Save Our Homes cap beginning the year after

you receive Homestead Exemption. This cap limits increases to the assessed/Save Our Homes value to no more than 3% per year regardless of increases to the just value. This is why similar properties can be paying significantly different tax amounts and why there may be an increase in taxes when the Save Our Homes value is reset. The Save Our Homes cap for 2018 is 2.1% rather than the 3% maximum. Should you have any questions about Homestead Exemption or the Save Our Homes cap, please contact our Customer Service Department at (954) 357-6830.

Our staff is readily available to assist you at various community events around the county. To see where our representatives will be, simply visit our Event Calendar online at www.bcpa.net/Events.asp. Look for one of our BCPA tents at these great events and staff will be happy to help you apply for any exemptions you may be entitled to or answer any questions you may have.


If my office can ever be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at (954) 357-6904 or by email at martykiar@bcpa.net. 



PHOTO PROVIDED BY PIXABAY

JUST ONE LOOK
IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS



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INJECTABLES



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EXPLORING DIVERSE CAREER PATHS

FORT LAUDERDALE HAS A WIDE VARIETY OF TECHNICAL TRAINING. WE REVIEW A FEW OF THE OPTIONS

WRITER JAMION KRIES

RESOLVE MARITIME ACADEMY

1600 SE 17th Street, Fort Lauderdale | (954) 463-9195 | www.resolveacademy.com

Resolve Maritime Academy was built in 1994. “The facility was originally built for salvors and other salvage support personnel,” said Tom Jones, Training Manager at the Academy.

The Gray Manatee is state-of-the-art 140-foot shipboard firefighting simulator. It is an exclusive training prop at the Academy for shipboard firefighting; Jones pointed out. The facility is unique in the local area for having this authentic representation of a ship with watertight doors, multiple compartments, and scenario drills where a broken water line is repaired in due time, not to mention the controlled fires which are set. Fire is definitely a motif at this academy and one of the top concerns at sea.

The owner, Joseph Farrell, a veteran of the US Coast Guard, employs many retired Navy Damage Control individuals in his staff. There is no substitute for experience, fighting a fire aboard a boat must happen quickly and effectively, or it will spread quickly once a section of resin begins to heat up, especially among older vessels not up to code with current day standards.

STCW (Resolve Training Certification and Watch Keeping for Seafarers) is a commonly understood acronym among commercial and private crews for firefighting certification. The STCW is backed by the US Coast Guard which certifies the Academy to conduct this essential fire prevention class. This very course even brings insurance costs down according to Jones who says a boat’s crew being trained reduces costs from insurers as a past client gladly mentioned it in conversation with Jones, post-certification.



PHOTO BY DENISE JOHNSTON

MUSE CENTER FOR THE ARTS

99 SW 14th Street, Fort Lauderdale | (954) 525-4004 | www.musearts.org

If you want to run, sing and dance let the Muse Center be your inspiration. Yasemin Satıcı, the owner and director of Muse, says “All disciplines hold equal importance within our program.” The Center focuses on dance, theater, music, and even visual art classes designed to further enhance the performing arts training garnered there. Muse Center will celebrate a decade of operation later this year. The Center has already produced former students who are performing on Broadway Tours and in television shows. Former students continue to reveal their array of talents as time passes and more opportunities are had to thrust them into the limelight.

The Muse Center started the theater company in its third season, which originally took only adult students, but the Muse Center adapted through time, growing and changing with the needs of the local community. It now incorporates teenagers into their theater program. Specific plays are selected to cater to this new and bustling sector for which Satıcı is constantly intertwined. “Every facet of the program whether it be as a teacher in a theater class, designing sets for a show or working with young aspiring musicians as they develop their talent... I really and truly love all aspects of what I do,” said Satıcı.

Parents if you are looking to channel your child’s expressive energy this just may be what the doctor ordered.



PHOTO COURTESY MUSE CENTER FOR THE ARTS

ARC BROWARD

10250 NW 53rd Street, Sunrise | (954) 746-9400 | www.arcbroward.com

The year was 1955; during the Vietnam War. While thousands of men were fighting overseas, nine local families were fighting personal battles of their own. Fighting for the education of their disabled children here in America. Fifty-three years later Arc (pronounced like Ark) is a continued success with programs like Arc Culinary and Arc Tech, which not only train disabled students but also provides them with an income for their work. The income made through running the two operations also provides further funding for continuing both educational programs.

These two technical avenues are open to adults who are 21 years of age or older. Arc, however, serves children as young as three years of age in a pre-school setting where educational and therapeutic services are offered with funding from the School Board of Broward County. Parents as Teachers is another program, which goes even one step further assisting special needs of children from birth that helps identify and address early foreseen challenges on the road ahead. "Arc Broward is a non-profit organization whose mission is to transform the community by providing opportunities for people with disabilities and life challenges to reach their full potential," said Jessica Rodriguez, Chief Development, and Marketing Officer, as she reiterated Arc's mission statement. This will provide newborns with the chance to grow up to become much more productive adults if their disabilities are identified early on.

We are only human by our capacity to respect life in all forms, but it is often the disabled who have shown us how we should treat each other if we take the time out to stop, look, and listen. A lesson so simple it makes a person wonder about those spending billions on wars never won. While the original nine local families won the war against isolation and indifference. It is called Arc. Jessica Rodriguez, Chief Development, and Marketing Officer, at jrodriguez@arcbroward.com or (954) 9400 ext. 2205, welcomes the opportunity to help you explore ways to help Arc if you would like to do so.



PHOTO COURTESY ARC BROWARD

ART INSTITUTE OF FORT LAUDERDALE

1799 SE 17th | Fort Lauderdale | (800) 275-7603 | www.artinstitutesedu/fort-lauderdale.com

The Art Institute is a private well-established institution which has been producing success stories for more than 49 years. There are specialized degrees offered here in fields such as animation, gaming technology, and visual design.

The Institute offers a college-bound program where high school students can get acclimated to upcoming courses in college. The 11-week program is not credit-bearing, but the experience over the approximate two-month course allotment allows students to possibly avoid certain prerequisites since they have already gained prior knowledge.

Enrolling in the Art Institute does not create some fable where you become Vincent van Gough and ceremoniously get transported to the South of France. The objective consensus of graduating students is—there is no substitute for hard work. A student cannot slide by here because the workload will become insurmountable against poor work ethic.

Ruben Ubiera is a prime success story of the Art Institute. One does not have to travel far to see his work dripping like a delicious piece of fruit in the tri-county area. His art is vibrant with an intelligent use of color and a personality that reflects his artistic vibrancy. Whenever it is possible to catch him creating a new wall, Ubiera is enlivened with energy and strikes up a conversation with those lucky enough to see him transform an ordinary masonry wall.

"The Art Institute helped me present myself in a more polished manner, which gave me more opportunities," said Ruben. He went on to say many artists hold an unhealthy fear of the computer as an artistic tool, but you have to learn these tools and not be afraid of them because technology can make you obsolete even as an artist, Ruben conveyed.



PHOTO COURTESY ART INSTITUTE OF FORT LAUDERDALE

BURGER BATTLE™ IX

THE EVENING WAS COOL, AND THE COMPETITION WAS HOT AT RIVERWALK'S ANNUAL EVENT

WRITER SUSAN DUARTE

The IX Annual Riverwalk Burger Battle™ took place on March 23rd, and if you were not fortunate enough to be there allow me to fill you in. For starters, the weather could not have been more perfect. Temperatures were in the low 70's, skies were clear, and thanks to daylight savings guest got some extra time in the sun. This year our group of hungry meat eaters got to sample burgers from 11 competing restaurants, and their only mission was to decide which burger deserved the title of "Fan Favorite." It is practically impossible to enjoy a burger without some fries on the side, so to make sure our guest did not have to go without the Downtowner set up a delicious fry station which surpassed expectations.

Throughout the night guest sipped on Jack Daniels cocktails, Barefoot wines/spritzers, and cold beers provided by Stephens Distributing while jamming out to some classics played by the Poker Night Band. To add to the fun guest got to watch a burger eating contest in which participants had three minutes to eat as many Burgerfi burgers as possible. The crowd roared as the gentlemen stuffed their faces, and in the end, the winner was none other than Fort Lauderdale's very own Nick Brandano.



Poker Night Band

Individuals who splurged for VIP tickets had the opportunity to kick their feet up at designated tables, taste some exclusive cuisine provided by Mangos, and sample cocktails from multiple bars placed throughout the area. Some of the specialty cocktails offered were Lynchburg lemonade (Jack Daniels and lemonade), Herradura Paloma (Herradura tequila and grapefruit juice), and Gentleman and Ginger



Great night in Huizenga Plaza

(Gentleman Jack and ginger ale).

This event is called Burger Battle for a reason, and to say that competition was fierce would be an understatement. Restaurants who participated this year include BRGR STOP, Burger Craze, Bokampers, ROK:BRGR, Hard Rock Café, Gulfstream Park, JWB, Metro Diner, Pelican Grand Resort, Pincho Factory, and last but not least Tucker Duke's. Coming to a conclusion on the best burger all around is no easy feat, so Riverwalk made sure to get judges that would get it right. The judging panel consisted of five local chefs and food experts. Chef Jeff who most recently helmed the kitchen at Beauty and the Feast at the Atlantic Hotel on Fort Lauderdale Beach, Chef Eric Parker- Corporate Chef for Duffy's Sports Grill, Chef Jack Kane-Program Chair of Culinary Arts at The Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale, Chef Bernardo Espinel and Renée Quinn-experienced judge/foodie. The five judges conducted blind tastings of each restaurant's burger and when it was time to make a decision the "Best Burger" went to ROK:BRGR. Their "OX tail marmalade burger" which is a signature blend of short rib, brisket and chuck topped with manchego cheese, homemade oxtail marmalade, crispy potato strings, and special sauce on a brioche bun was quick to captivate the judge's attention. ROK:BRGR's good fortune did not end with the judges, guest also went crazy over this burger and had officially crowned it "Fan Favorite" by the end of the night. Of course, there were other winners amongst the bunch. Burger Craze won "Best Burger Joint" for their "Carolina Jack burger," Metro Diner won "Best Bar and Grill" for their "Bull City burger," and JWB won "Best Knife and Fork" for their "Angus burger." All in all every one of the 11 competitors brought their best to the table, and we could not be more excited for Burger Battle X. It will be the best one yet, and I am telling you will not want to miss it! 🍔



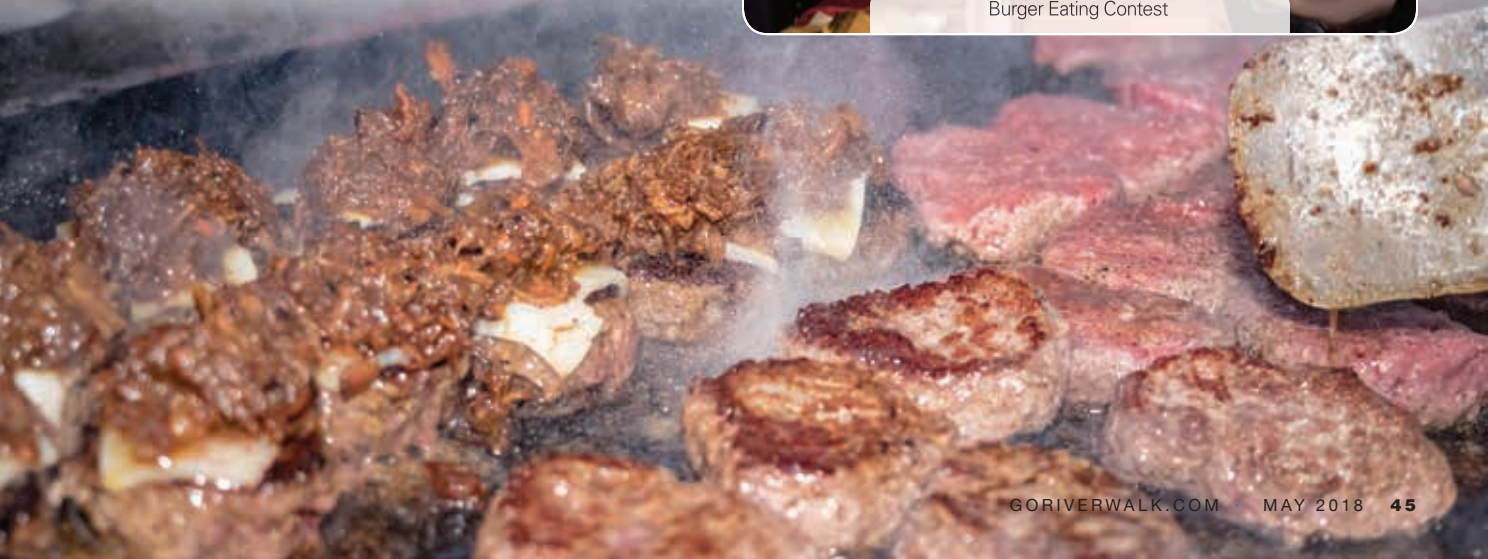
Judges focusing on their burger analysis



Marc Falsetto of ROK:BRGR



Burger Eating Contest



CELEBRATE MOTHER'S DAY WITH A PURPOSE

WRITER LAUREN RAMOS

Everything evolves, and so have holidays and celebrations – Mother's Day is no exception. We may all still celebrate Mother's Day in very similar ways, whether that is taking mom out to a nice meal or buying her flowers. However, giving back to a cause and helping those who may not be able to help themselves speaks more about honoring your mom than does a box of chocolates. Being a mom goes way beyond a title, way beyond a day, and way beyond the commercialism the day has become. That is why this you might want to honor your mom this year by volunteering or making a donation that can make a difference in someone's life. Below we profile just such an organization.

As families make plans to celebrate Mother's Day, a group of determined moms are spearheading a campaign to save their children's lives. Four local mothers have joined others across the country in a

campaign to fund the cure for Hunter Syndrome, a rare genetic disease that kills most affected children in their teenage years. Project Alive, a parent-led nonprofit, has recently joined the Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce in the hopes of continuing to build community awareness about the disease and the potential cure.

Affected children, almost all of whom are boys, have a mutation on their X-chromosome which does not allow their bodies to produce an important enzyme. Without this enzyme, their bodies cannot break down cellular waste, which builds up over time causing progressive damage in almost every system in their bodies. They will slowly lose their ability to speak, walk, and eventually fall into a vegetative state. "It's like Alzheimer's...where a person loses their ability to think but unfortunately at a very young age," says Dr. Kim McBride, Division Chief of Genetics at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, OH. The current average lifespan is in the early teens.

Researchers, like Dr. McBride, at Nationwide Children's Hospital, have developed gene therapy for Hunter Syndrome and are now ready to go to human trials. Geneticist have found that gene therapy is a cure in animal models, but because this condition affects fewer than 500 children in the United States, there is little funding available for such a trial. The mothers behind the Project Alive organization are working tirelessly to raise funding to launch the human trials by the end of 2018. However, there is potential to begin the process in June of 2018, if funding can be obtained. That is why this May, **Project Alive** is launching the **15 by the 15th Campaign**, which asks for a donation of \$15 by May 15th. The campaign goal is to reach 100,000 people, bringing total funds raised to about \$1.5 million, enough to launch human trials for gene therapy while simultaneously giving these mothers back their children's lives — the best Mother's Day present any mother could receive. If you would like to learn more about the campaign or **Project Alive**, you can visit their website: www.projectalive.org.


Whether it is Hunter Syndrome or any other cause, in the spirit of Mother's Day reach down as a mom would and lend a loving hand. 



PHOTO BY THE LAUREN RAMOS



Yacht Hop, Dinner & Dockside Dessert Party

Saturday, May 19, 2018 5:30pm

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FORT LAUDERDALE'S MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION

TACKLING ISSUE FOR TODAY AND THE FUTURE

WRITER PETE STEVENSON

Fort Lauderdale has a new Mayor and several new and returning City Commissioners. We thought we would talk to them briefly and look at issues that are important to them and the city. As with all governmental matters, there are usually several sides or opinions, and we also wanted to know how our new commissioners will work with people with differing opinions than their own. What is refreshing is that on the whole, the commissioners agreed on the main issues the city needs to tackle now and into the future, even though they may have different methods of reaching those goals.

MAYOR DEAN TRANTALIS

Dean Trantalis is Fort Lauderdale's new mayor. Mayor Trantalis has served on numerous city and county boards, councils and as a former two-time commissioner representing District 2. He will bring to bear all that expertise as he works to address a variety of issues for the growing City of Fort Lauderdale. "We have a lot of business to deal with in Fort Lauderdale; these include moving towards solving our homeless problem and trying to build more affordable housing for entry-level career builders. We also have to work on our infrastructure and part of that requires us to take a pause in our development, and those are some the things we heard throughout the campaign," observed Trantalis.

Trantalis identified education and training as an issue high on everyone's priority list. "We need to start thinking about training programs, especially for at-risk youths, particularly in industries that we already have a presence in. For example, we have a great training program already within our Housing Authority of Fort Lauderdale that provides opportunities for youths to become electricians, carpenters, and plumbers," said Trantalis. The



program he is referring to is Step Up – an apprentice initiative that is state certified and operated by the Housing Authority of Fort Lauderdale. The goal of the program is to provide apprentices, within the construction field, with the opportunity to create a portfolio of education, training, and employment skills to increase their potential for permanent employment.

"The City of Fort Lauderdale was ready for someone from the LGBTQ community to lead the governing body of the city. Previously I became the first openly gay City Commissioner, and it has become a milestone for our city because finally, it gave recognition to what was already a reality – that we are a very diverse community and I was just a manifestation of that diversity. It is not going to change the city, because the city has already changed," observed Trantalis.

How will our new Mayor work with others who may not share his view of issues? "I have always felt it is important to listen to the people and look for that common denominator amongst individuals and see where we can agree. After we deal with these local problems, what can the Mayor of Fort Lauderdale mean to the outside world? I think we have missed opportunities in the past. I want to reach out to other cities and to include Fort Lauderdale in the family of cities of this country," said Trantalis.

Whether the Mayor differs with others or commissioners on issues or on how to handle a particular topic he is however in complete agreement with all about green space in our city. "Riverwalk is a big part of a network of green space opportunities we have in our downtown. Fort Lauderdale is also unique in that we are also one of the few seaside cities that has as much green space as we do. Just look at Birch State Park, Bonnet House and other areas around the beach. I want to keep Fort Lauderdale as the green beach, whereas in other cities their beach has become all steel and concrete. We have to do what best fits our community," concluded Trantalis.

HEATHER MORAITIS

Commissioner Heather Moraitis is a Fort Lauderdale native and was actually born in her district. Moraitis is no stranger to politics as her husband is George Moraitis who served in the Florida House of Representatives in the 93rd District. “I campaigned with my husband, and I learned how government works at the city, county, state and federal level. It works when all of them come together,” explained Moraitis.



As for issues to tackle, Moraitis stressed improved K through 12 education. “I would love to see charter schools in Fort Lauderdale. I have spent some time looking at the six charter schools in Pembroke Pines. They are city-run schools, and it might be time to consider something like that in Fort Lauderdale. I like the Broward Schools; I just think there is an opportunity for some choices. I hear it from the business community as well, as they try to recruit people and they want that choice. Middle schools is where we need to get more parents involved, and many charter schools have that, where parents have to volunteer and have to attend some meetings with the charter school,” offered Moraitis.

Another issue she felt important to Fort Lauderdale’s success is affordable housing. “It is a big issue in recruiting millennials and young families to move to Fort Lauderdale. It is difficult to afford to live in Fort Lauderdale with kids. We want to make sure we are a place where everyone can afford to live,” stressed Moraitis. “When I say affordable housing, I know there are some great new hip spaces in Flager Village, and those may be great for millennials, but for a family with children, we need housing they can afford to buy. But what does that look like? Does that mean we have more townhouses on single-family properties?” posed Moraitis.

The Wave may be a sensitive issue, but almost every commissioner addressed the topic. “Any part of a modern urban area needs some rail transportation. I am a big fan of the Wave, but it has to come in within budget. Once the Wave is here and operating most people will like it, the hard part is getting to that point,” said Moraitis.

“Another challenge is resiliency. I am talking about resiliency in terms of our drainage based on the tides and seawalls. I believe that it is going to be a really big challenge we will face. How do we address it? Because this topic goes beyond pipes and infrastructure, it is redefining how we live with the rising water around us. There is no easy answer. It is going to take some new ways of thinking, working, budgeting and spending. It is an issue we have to work on now,” expressed Moraitis.

On working with people on differing opinions,

she explained her method this way, “I will take the Wave for example. I believe you have got to get all the information. Let’s have a workshop and invite all the players and also let’s get all the numbers and see where we are with the budget. Once we get all of that – let’s talk and make a decision.”

We asked Commissioner Moraitis about the value of green space in an urban setting. “There are so many more places along the Riverwalk and beyond that have been activated, and I am a big fan of a city with good walking spaces,” concluded Moraitis.

STEVEN GLASSMAN

Steven Glassman is the new commissioner for District 2 and has a background in education, arts, and local community activism. “I have always been involved. I have been a neighborhood activist my whole life, especially in the twenty years I have lived in District 2.



Having served on numerous city and county zoning and planning boards this process is very familiar to me. My passions include historic preservation along with the arts and culture,” explained Glassman.

On infrastructure, Glassman talked about current and future issues. “We need to fix the traffic issue and work on our infrastructure, which was a big campaign issue. I do not see how we can grow and prosper if we do not have a solid foundation in infrastructure. If we don’t deal with these issues along with sea level rise, then everything else is for naught. We need to be smart. People want to live in a city where the quality of life is sustainable and where it is both protected and improving. How do we want to grow? We have to make sure we are taking care of the people who are here now and planning for the populations of the future,” declared Glassman.

“I was a teacher in a former life for almost twenty years, so education is important to me, and I believe we have to do more to attract young families. I don’t think our schools are what they need to be in Fort Lauderdale,” said Glassman. He went on to express his concerns for young people after they leave high school. “We have to do more in terms of economic development to ensure that young people want to stay here. We need a diverse job base beyond the service and the marine industries. We need to broaden into areas like technology and the arts.”

Every commissioner stressed the importance of housing both regarding helping people here now and for business to attract new employees. Glassman was no exception, “Workforce housing is another big need in our city. If people cannot afford to live here, they are not going to stay. In fact, many of our police and firefighters do not live in the City of Fort Lauderdale. We will also lose others, like teachers and nurses. A city needs to have

affordable housing for people at all economic levels.”

Being a neighborhood activist for many years, Glassman talked of the importance of neighborhoods to a city, “With this new commission; we are going to have the opportunity to protect the integrity of and enhance each neighborhood. Which I think has been pushed aside in the rush to develop the beach and downtown, we may have neglected some of the neighborhoods, and I feel they need attention. We also need to improve the ascetics of the city. Some areas are a little bit worn around the edges. I think major gateways to areas like Las Olas and the beach need to be pristine, as they are economic engines for the city,” expressed Glassman.

How will commissioner Glassman work with others whose opinion differs from his? “I think first of all we can learn a lot from people with differing opinions. Your own opinion is going to evolve based on discourse and education on a topic. We do need to do a better job of working with all our counterparts. I do not think we have done as well as we can in working with the county government and the School Board of Broward County. We could solve some problems working together on issues like education and the homeless,” explained Glassman.

On addressing the issue of green space in the city, Glassman said, “I think the Riverwalk District is key. I think green space is important for a city. The Riverwalk’s linear park offers such a respite for people in the city. Just to have the walkways along the water and with so many different ways to recreate. We are currently a beautiful city, and I want us to remain a beautiful city.”

ROBERT MCKINZIE

Robert McKinzie is Commissioner of District 3 and the only returning commissioner. He carries the knowledge of getting things done at the city level, and that is by having a broad vision. “As a commissioner, I believe it is about representing the whole city not just about a district. We all want the same things in every district – good schools, smart development, and workforce housing,” noted McKinzie.

“I believe redevelopment is going well, especially along the Broward Boulevard corridor. However, you have to think outside the box. Once we got the Walmart anchor there, other businesses followed. So we now have an economic engine there that is providing jobs. I think the way we are growing we are becoming a world-class destination. We have always had our beach, we have always had our tourism, now growth in the downtown and south of the city ties it all together,” explains McKinzie.

Traffic and development are issues Commissioner



McKinzie addressed. “I think we’ve blown this congestion topic out of place. If I have to go Miami or Palm Beach, no matter what time of the day it is – there is traffic. We all know we have a regional traffic issue here. But if we look at the Master Plan, when we created all these districts for development we took into consideration height density, green spaces, and traffic and it has all been part of the Master Plan. Our development process vets these projects. For example, I can’t go 24 stories high with a project when the Master Plan only allows for ten stories in a certain area. We can kill any project we want to, but that is not our job. Our job is to help the city grow in the best way that it can. I hope this commission has the momentum to complete the vision of the Master Plan,” offered McKinzie.

The issue of improving schools and school safety is also a concern for Commissioner McKinzie, “If you don’t have the best schools, you don’t have the best people coming to your city. We can always do something to increase public safety. As you know gun violence just didn’t start with the Parkland School shooting, it has been an ongoing issue. The Parkland School shooting, while tragic, I think has raised the consciousness of America. But Parkland goes on every day in urban cities, and people around here see it has finally come to their backyard. “I don’t think you arm a teacher, but rather I think we have to increase our policing budget,” declared McKinzie.

How does Commissioner McKinzie work with differing views? “You always have to deal with the facts. Whenever I get a phone call on an issue, I always say there are three sides. The side of the caller, the other side and then going out and getting the facts. I do not care how big or small the issue is you have to look at all the facts. For example the Wave, I think we have to look at everything, the benefits, the costs, etc... If the costs go beyond a threshold, the train kills itself, or it manifests into what it should be. The truth can always be twisted, but the facts will never lie,” said McKinzie.

Commissioner McKinzie gave us his view on Fort Lauderdale Riverwalk. “The Riverwalk brings everything together, and it just doesn’t stop at the river. Riverwalk, in my opinion, is that marketing piece that really sells the City of Fort Lauderdale as a whole. The Riverwalk is how we connect the dots in terms of events and activities in the city,” observed McKinzie.

BEN SORENSEN

Commissioner Ben Sorensen will represent Fort Lauderdale’s 4th District on the Commission. He is no stranger to public life and reaching out



to help people. “I grew up in a family where you were expected to give back and be part of the community. Serving and helping the community was just part of what we did,” said Sorensen.


Sorensen sees the issues ahead and has a positive outlook on addressing them. “I think Fort Lauderdale is at a really great inflection point of growth and a vibrant downtown in attracting business. However, we have to make sure; in the midst of this growth, we are not losing sight of the wonderful neighborhoods and our quality of life. I would put Fort Lauderdale up against any city with these great neighborhoods that are so close to downtown. Therefore, we need to keep and protect that way of life. That’s the dynamic I’m excited about, and we can do both. But its got to be done very carefully and with tact and vision,” said Sorensen.

“One of the top challenges is our infrastructure. Our sewer and storm-water system is aging, so we have to upgrade those and pass a 200-million-dollar bond to work on that. It is a massive undertaking, and we have to get that right. We have got to take care of the nuts and bolts of the city. Fort Lauderdale needs to be a thought leader in sustainability and dealing with rising

sea levels. There is no reason we cannot utilize the expertise we have at Nova Southeastern University and our marine industry.

Sorensen also stresses needs the will help our citizens, while at the same time appeal to business. “In addition to attracting new business, we want to attract the millennials for many unfilled positions, that is why we need affordable housing, along with pushing forward our values as a city of fairness, equality, and inclusiveness. Not only is that important from a value standpoint but it is important from a business and labor attractive standpoint,” declared Sorensen.

Regarding how Commissioner Sorensen works with groups of differing opinions, he refers to himself as a “Big Tent Guy.” He believes in getting all stakeholders together so they can have an open and meaningful dialog and ultimately reach a mutual understanding.

Finally Commissioner Sorensen’s view on green space and Riverwalk. “I think Riverwalk is vital to our city because the Riverwalk is able to manage, oversee and activate core parts of our downtown. We as a commission need to see what else we can do to support the Riverwalk,” he concluded. 



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TACOS AND TEQUILA — CINCO DELICIOSO!

A TOUR OF MEXICO IN FORT LAUDERDALE

WRITERS PENNY SANFILIPPO AND JONNY ALTObELL – THE UGLY SISTERS

The Southeast part of Florida is not known for Mexican food. That is the province of the American Southwest, Texas, Southern California and perhaps some small towns in western Florida. Latin influence is strong locally – just not necessarily Mexican. So as Cinco de Mayo approaches we Americans that love tacos and tequila become Mexican just as we became Irish for St Patrick's Day. Here are our picks for a wall-less salute to our friends South of the Border.

LONA COCINA TEQUILERIA (just look for Lona)

Westin Beach Resort, 321 N. Fort Lauderdale Beach Blvd. | Fort Lauderdale

What a delightful surprise housed in a hotel. Unlike many European hotels, American chains have suffered from mediocre to awful food no matter who owned the properties. NOT TRUE HERE – the Westin has found a winner - a place you want to go to even if you are not a guest of the property. The restaurant opened officially on January 2, 2018.

Of all times of the year, we (Jonny, Jason and myself) were invited during Spring Break – traffic made us frantic. Therefore the warm greeting by the General Manager, Dayron Epstein and his crew made up for crazed drivers on A1A. The restaurant walls in the outside dining area (which seats 127 guests) are painted with an homage to tequila in the form of the plant that it comes from; the agave. There is a fabulous overlook of the Atlantic (with traffic in between) but the sound system mutes the autos and we were oblivious to the road noise as we enjoyed the ocean's darkening after sunset. Lona is very environmentally aware - the lighting (a soft yellow) - was designed to NOT attract any sea turtles in the area. Our next happy surprise was the excellent margaritas delivered by Matthew – our server. Modestly called the Lona Margarita – this concoction of top-shelf tequila, orange liqueur, lime juice, and agave syrup, was so good we had two. We think the Mandarine Napoleon was the secret – orange liqueur without cloying sweetness many others exhibit.

The evening weather was perfect. The margaritas were served with crisp corn chips and tomatillo, black bean and corn salsa. We were not starving, so we shared a few apps: the Huitlacoche Quesadilla (wild mushroom topped with microgreens and served with a fresh slaw) and a Pumpkin Tamale with a killer Pasilla chili sauce garnished with ultra crispy kale and Cojito cheese. Be warned though: those soft yellow turtle safelights can make things appear to be a slightly different color. However, Jason's usual excellent photography shows you the true shades of the meal. We did see impressive burgers served at the next table and watched many happy diners enjoy the Baja tacos and fajitas. We wished we had room to try the Cabbage Al Fuego- a creamy mix of cauliflower purée, cream and Cojito cheese with a touch of truffle oil. Next time for sure! If you are looking for a perfect setting with great food – venture here. You won't be disappointed.



PHOTOS BY JASON LEIDY



WRITERS RENÉE K. QUINN,
PENNY SANFILIPPO and JONNY ALTABELL

CARLOS AND PEPE'S

1302 SE 17th Street Causeway | Fort Lauderdale

There aren't very many restaurants that can boast the longevity of this Fort Lauderdale spot. Indeed, much of the development on the 17th Street Causeway was not even a thought when the first tacos were served here back in 1979. The flooring is genuine Saltillo tile, and the dining area has the feel of a comfortable old friend with assorted table sizes, eating nooks, and there are even some outdoor sites. A new lease on life was begun in 2017 when longtime patrons became owners. John and Sandy Benz partnered with long time (37 years) former employee Roberto Martinez. Sandy, who grew up in this area, came with classmates who flocked to Carlos and Pepe's when it opened and remembered the food and drinks fondly; Mexican food was not common (read: nearly non-existent) here in 1979.

Small changes are ongoing, with more planned. However, the owners are not interested in change for the sake of change. They aim to be authentic, NOT trendy. This includes the interesting mix of Hawaiian art. The original owner – now in his 80's – was a surfer and this is his homage, not to be replaced. The regulars keep on coming back for great food and tasty margaritas (even better at happy hour).

We were a party of five and shared a few items worth mentioning. First – the chips. Multicolored, they are served hot, with two kinds of salsa. This is of course when you promise yourself you will save room for the entrée. Yeah, like that happened. We had a large order of guacamole served in a crispy corn tortilla “bowl,” very pretty and the container was great eating when we finished the dip. The excellent Mexican Black Bean Soup is served in a bathtub-sized bowl with cheese, sour cream and salsa cruda for toppers. We also ordered a fresh Spinach and Portobello Mushroom Quesadilla and the Beef Fajitas to share. Both were delicious and plentiful. All the seafood is delivered daily and would only be fresher if you caught it yourself.

The menu is extensive- and funny- you must take time to read it both for foodstuff and sly humor. We have had the pleasure of tasting the Super Nachos at previous visits, and the tortillas are made in-house. Cinco de Mayo will be a big blow-out (earlier and extended hours) because it is a Saturday and well, Cinco de Mayo!

Nacho usual kind of Mexican restaurant – and we hope great food just keeps getting better. If possible.



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



OLÉ OLÉ

WRITER RENÉE QUINN

Fresh ingredients and creative recipes provide an amazing cocktail experience at El Camino. We interviewed Founder Brian Albe to learn more about Las Olas' newest taqueria.

Renée Quinn: How did you create your concept? Share a bit of background about how this craft taqueria came into existence and the story behind the name?

Brian Albe: I was always enamored with Mexican culture. I really felt like South Florida needed something authentic. As far as the name goes, El Camino represents my road/journey of opening restaurant concepts over the past 15 years!

Quinn: What is your go-to/favorite Mexican fare?

Albe: Hands down tacos!

Quinn: What sets your restaurant apart from others?

Albe: The thing that separates us from other Mexican restaurants in the quality of the product. We use only the best local and authentic products possible. All of our margaritas have freshly squeezed juices daily. We also have the largest mezcal and tequila list in South Florida.

Quinn: What is your favorite Delray El Camino memory?

Albe: Finally opening up and seeing how happy people were to enjoy what we worked so hard on creating.

Quinn: What flavors complement El Camino's Margaritas?

Albe: Flavors that we pair in our margaritas are watermelon and jalapeno with smoked sea salt, fresh squeezed pineapple, guava, passionfruit, and avocado to name a few.

Quinn: What is your essential craft bar accessory?

Albe: The jigger! This ensures that everyone coming through the door gets the exact same margarita no matter who is working at any time.

Quinn: What trend excites you most about today's craft scene?

Albe: Mezcal Mania and juicy New England style IPA's like El Camino Haze. This is our collaboration with our amazing friends at Funky Buddha Brewery.

- El Camino is known for Amazing food, great cocktails, and fun vibe!
- Must have ingredients in food + cocktails Love + Passion
- This time next year you will be drinking El Camino Haze with a shot of Pierde Almas mezcal



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WATERMELON JALAPEÑO MARGARITA

blanco tequila, fresh citrus (lime), smoked sea salt rim

SPICY AVOCADO MARGARITA

Cilantro Avocado, jalapeños, Triple Sec, lime juice and blanco Tequila with Tajin on rim

SMOKEY PALOMA

Fresh citrus (grapefruit and lime), Aquafava, Aperol, simple syrup, Mezcal topped with Grapefruit Jarritos

El Camino — Fort Lauderdale

817 E Las Olas Blvd. | 954-530-1188

www.elcaminoftlauderdale.com



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**

PHOTO BY JASON LEIDY

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

GENERAL EVENTS

Fleet Week 2018

Apr. 30 - May 6
 U.S. Navy and Coast Guard will feature seven ships total.
 Port Everglades
www.browardnavydaysinc.org



2018 Community Involvement Awards

May 2
 Broward Schools honors volunteers, mentors and business partners
 Bailey Hall
 (754) 321-2300
www.browardschools.com

12th Annual Starfish Luncheon

May 2
 Women in Distress honors their community partners
 Signature Grand
 (954) 760-9800
www.womenindistress.org



Dinner at the Square

May 2
 Does Your Vote Count?
 Broward College Willis Holcombe Center
www.broward.villagesquare.us

Broward & Beyond Business 2018

May 4
 Attendees learn from industry experts and successful peers
 Signature Grand
 (954) 357-6400
www.broward.org/bizbeyond



10th Annual Golf for Art

May 5
 Meet 10 time PGA TOUR Winner Mark McCumber.
 Hollywood Beach Golf Club
 (954) 921-3274
www.artandculturecenter.org



Free Comic Book Day

May 5
 Get introduced to the world of comics for free!
 Lauderdale Comics
 (954) 530-6722
www.freecomicbookday.com

Literary Feast 2018 - Cheers to 30 years

May 5
 Supporting Broward County Library literacy programs
 Pier 66 Hotel & Marina
 (954) 357-7384
www.bplfoundation.org



Broward March for Babies

May 5
 A day of fun with entertainment, food, exercise, and activities for all ages.
 Nova Southeastern University March of Dimes
 (954) 568-2100
www.marchforbabies.org

Peter London's Fusion Master Dance Class

May 5
 For students ages 12 and up to hone their skills
 Miramar Cultural Center
 (954) 602-4357
www.miramarculturalcenter.org

Fort Lauderdale Air Show

May 5-6
 Featuring the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds
 Fort Lauderdale Beach
 (321) 395-3110
www.fortlauderdaleairshow.com/2018-air-show/

Kyaunnee Richardson

May 6
 Join A Child is Missing for an evening of dinner, dancing, mingling, and a silent auction.
 Bahia Mar
 (954) 763-1288
www.achildismissing.org

Wings for Life World Run 2018

May 6
 A global running event to find a cure for spinal cord injury.
 BB&T Center
www.wingsforlifeworldrun.com/us/en/



Jersey Boys

May 8-20
 The true story of how four blue-collar kids became one of the greatest successes in pop music history.
 Broadway in Fort Lauderdale
 Broward Center for the Performing Arts
 (954) 462-0222
www.browardcenter.org

Honoring the Great Ladies of Jazz

May 9
 Jazz concert presented by the Gold Coast Jazz Society.
 Broward Center for the Performing Arts
 (954) 524-0805
www.goldcoastjazz.org

Friends of MODS Presents 5th Annual BFF Luncheon

May 9.
 A Friend-raising lunch
 The Tower Club
 (954) 467-MODS (6637)
www.mods.org



6th Annual Red Hot Party

May 10
 LGBTQ bachelors and bachelorettes up for auction to support Deliver the Dream
 Hunters Fort Lauderdale
 (954) 564-3512
www.deliverthedream.org

I Am King: The Michael Jackson Experience

May 10
 A musical and visual journey into the world of the King of Pop
 Miramar Cultural Center
 (954) 602-4357
www.miramarculturalcenter.org

100 Years Gala

May 10
 A gala celebrating the actual day the school opened
 Old Davie School
 (954) 797-1044
www.olddavieschool.org



Riverwalk's 80's Dance Party

May 11
 Bust a move while supporting Riverwalk
 Esplanade Park
 (954) 468-1541
www.goriverwalk.com

Terry Fator

May 11
 The Season 2 winner of America's Got Talent performs
 Coral Springs Center for the Arts
 (954) 344-5984
www.thecentercs.com



Making REAL Connection

May 11
 2-1-1 Broward will honor community partners at the Kip Hunter Marketing Signature Grand
 (954) 390-0493
www.211-broward.org

James Taylor & Bonnie Raitt

May 11
 The renowned singer/songwriters make a stop in South Florida.
 BB&T Center
 (800) 745-3000
www.thebbtcenter.com

The Emperor of the Moon

May 11 - June 3
 Thinking Cap Theatre presents a hilarious and thought-provoking farce by England's first professional female playwright, Aphra Behn.
 The Vanguard Sanctuary for the Arts
 (954) 610-7263
www.vanguardarts.org

Old Davie School's 100 Year Celebration & Festival

May 12
 A day of family fun on the ground of the Old Davie School
 Old Davie School
 (954) 797-1044
www.olddavieschool.org



John Kay & Steppenwolf

May 12
 Considered one of rock's most enduring and respected bands, Steppenwolf has sold over 25 million records worldwide
 Seminole Casino Coconut Creek
 (954) 977-6700
www.casinococo.com

Shakespeare: Music and the Bard

May 12
 Presented by Seraphic Fire and Firebird Chamber Orchestra
 All Saints Episcopal Church
 (305) 285-9060
www.seraphicfire.org



The Color Run

May 12
 The Hero Tour 2018
 Huzenga Plaza
 (954) 468-1541
www.thecolorrun.com

Pirate Festival

May 12

This event promises ample entertainment for participants and spectators alike! Presented by Rotary Club of Fort Lauderdale. Esplanade Park (954) 424-0731 www.ftlpiratefest.com

#ParklandStrong: A Benefit Concert by AEG Presents

May 16

Proceeds will be donated to the official Broward Education Foundation Stoneman Douglas Fund. Pompano Beach Amphitheater www.theamppompano.org

**Nash Bash: 19th Annual Salute to Leadership Gala**

May 18

Broward Partnership awards gala to recognize this year's class of outstanding advocates. Signature Grand (954) 832-7037 www.bphi.org

54th Annual ISHOF Induction Ceremony

May 18-20

A star-studded weekend with multiple events spread out over three days International Swimming Hall of Fame (954) 462-6536 www.ishof.org

**Smoke on the Water BBQ Feast & Competition**

May 19

Local pitmasters compete to see who has the best barbeque Esplanade Park (954) 468-1541 www.goriverwalk.com

2018 Golden Compass Gala

May 19

Honoring Michael Bayley, president and CEO of Royal Caribbean International presented by Seafarer's House Pier 66 Hotel & Marina (954) 734-1580 www.seafarershouse.org

Florida Emancipation Day Mini-Festival

May 19

Commemorating the struggles and triumphs of the African American people of the state. Old Dillard Museum (754) 322-8828

Justin Timberlake

May 19

Man of the Wood Tour BB&T Center (800) 745-3000 www.thebbtcenter.com

Butterfly Gardening Workshop

May 19

Learn how to start your own butterfly garden! Butterfly World (954) 977-4434 www.butterflyworld.com

Brian Wilson

May 20

Pet Sounds: The Final Performances Pompano Beach Amphitheater (888) 929-7849 www.theamppompano.org

FAR Gallery Reception

May 26

Works by the panelists and participants FATVillage (954) 760-5900 www.fatvillageprojects.com

**Great American Beach Party**

May 26

The free event will transform a portion of Fort Lauderdale Beach into an entertainment mecca Fort Lauderdale Beach (954) 462-8190 www.artserve.org

Shania Twain

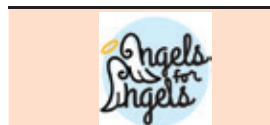
June 1

Shania Now Tour BB&T Center (800) 745-3000 www.thebbtcenter.com

Taste the Islands Experience

June 2

Enjoy authentic sights, sounds and tastes of the Caribbean Fort Lauderdale Historical Society (954) 200-5110 www.ttiexperience.com

**Angels for Angels Charity Ball**

June 2

To benefit the Foundation for Angelman Syndrome Therapeutics W Fort Lauderdale Beach Hotel (305) 924-1601 www.cureangelman.org

I Am the Elephant

June 8

Using Art to Involve Discussion with Niki Lopez Old Dillard Museum (754) 322-8828

South Florida Pride Wind Ensemble

June 9

Cartoon Classics Broward Center for the Performing Arts (954) 462-0222 www.pridewindensemble.org

Butterfly Gardening Workshop

June 9

Learn how to start your own butterfly garden! Butterfly World (954) 977-4434 www.butterflyworld.com

Two on Tap

June 10

Taking audience back to the era of Fred & Ginger Sunrise Civic Center (954) 747-4646 www.sunrisefl.gov

Rock of Ages

June 14 - July 1

An arena-rock love story presented by Slow Burn Theatre Company Broward Center for the Performing Arts (954) 353-0746 www.slowburntheatre.org

Selling! Out: The History of Gay Male Images in Advertising

Through May 13

Stonewall National Museum (954) 763-8565 www.stonewall-museum.org

Trans Cuba

Through July 15

Opens May 18 Stonewall National Museum (954) 763-8565 www.stonewall-museum.org

Florida Is..

Through May 19

An evolving body of two-dimensional works that depict the natural beauty of Florida. The Frank Gallery (954) 392-2120 www.thefrankgallery.org

Al Razza - A Survey of Artworks

Through May 19

An interesting examination of a lifetime of creativity and dedication Coral Springs Museum of Art (954) 340-5000 www.coral Springsmuseum.org

Pan American World Airways

Through May 19

Take a trip down memory lane with a delightful second look at memorabilia and aviation photographs Coral Springs Museum of Art (954) 340-5000 www.coral Springsmuseum.org

Habitat

Through May 20

A multi-disciplinary village of artist environments Art & Culture Center/Hollywood (954) 921-3274 www.artandculturecenter.org

Plush

Through May 20

An annual installation dedicated to Pleasurable, Lush, Utilitarian, Subjects of Humanity Art & Culture Center/Hollywood (954) 921-3274 www.artandculturecenter.org

ORIGIN - Sri Prabha

Through May 20

The artist challenges our sense of gravity and simultaneously asks us to find our center. Art & Culture Center/Hollywood (954) 921-3274 www.artandculturecenter.org

Making Marks

Through May 30

40th annual student art exhibition Broward College Larson Gallery (954) 201-6840 www.browardvpa.com/gallery

Carnival & Cabaret

Through June 30

Exploring the flamboyant festivals in Venice, Rio and New Orleans as seen by porcelain artists from Europe Wiener Museum of Decorative Arts (954) 376-6690 www.wmoda.com

ARTSERVE

(954) 462-8190

www.artserve.org

Cold Reading Workshop

June 2

A one-day only adult acting workshop

BONNET HOUSE MUSEUM AND GARDENS

(954) 703-2606

www.bonnethouse.org

Drawing Workshop

May 10-11

A two day workshop on the art of drawing

BROWARD CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

(954) 462-0222

www.browardcenter.org

Bubble Guppies Live: Ready to Rock

May 5

The gang embark on an adventure as they search every corner of their underwater world for their missing friend!

Israeli Dance Festival: Hope

May 27

Festival Yachad will feature more than 500 young dancers on stage

**A Conversation with President Bill Clinton and James Patterson**

June 12

Discussing their new book, The President is Missing

**Audra McDonald**

June 13

The winner of six Tony Awards, two Grammys and an Emmy Award



FORT LAUDERDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY (954) 763-6882

www.fortlauderdalehistoricalsociety.org

Community Conversations

May 7
Featuring George LeMieux and Laura Mize discussing their new book Florida Made

FRIDAY NIGHT SOUND WAVES-THE HUB fridaynightsoundwaves.com



Turnstiles

May 4
The Ultimate Tribute to the Music of Billy Joel

Ladies of Soul

May 11
Perform tunes ranging from Motown and R&B to Disco and Top 40

Big Harvest

May 18
Brings a fresh and energizing new reggae sound

The All Access Band

May 25
Will have everyone up and dancing

Pamir Guanchez and His Latin Flow

June 1
Performs an evening of mambo rhythms and lyrical latin flavors

School of Rock

June 8
Kick off with summer with some great music

The Fabulons

June 15
Perform music from the 50's through the 80's

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



The Gipsy Kings

May 5
Featuring Nicolas Reyes and Tonino Baliardo



Fifth Harmony

May 11
The Miami based, internationally reknowned girl group performs



Dane Cook

May 12
The comedian and actor performs



Kenny Loggins

May 15
The Grammy Award winning musician performs his hits.



Kool & The Gang

May 16
With Maze featuring Frankie Beverly

George Lopez

May 26
The Wall World Tour



Harry Connick, Jr.

June 3
A New Orleans Tricentennial Celebration

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



Asian Pacific American Heritage Celebration

May 12-13
Enjoy the culture, food, and music of the Polynesian Islands

Eye of the Storm

May 19
Hurricane Science, Mitigation and Preparedness

Galapagos 3D

Through May 31
IMAX @ Museum of Discovery and Science

Under the Sea 3D

Through May 31
IMAX @ Museum of Discovery and Science

Dream Big: Engineering Wonders of the World

Through June 6
IMAX @ Museum of Discovery and Science

Pandas 3D

Through Sep. 30
IMAX @ Museum of Discovery and Science

NSU ART MUSEUM FORT LAUDERDALE (954) 262-0249 www.nsuartmuseum.org



Art of Wine and Food Series

May 3
May's theme is Chill Out for Summer

Creativity Exploration

May 12
May's topic is Repetition and Relaxation

Art Roundtable

May 22
Featuring artist Michelle Lisa Polissaint

Art of Wine and Food Series

June 7
June's theme is Red, White and Wine

Creativity Exploration

June 9
June's topic is Connections and Creations

Frank Stella: Experiment and Change

Through July 8

Midnight in Paris and New York

Through Sep. 23
Scenes from the 1890's - 1930's: William Glackens and his contemporaries

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



Kris Kristofferson

May 2
The three-time Grammy Award Winner performs

Mike Birbiglia

May 11
The NewOne, a hilarious blend of storytelling and stand-up

ONGOING

Riverwalk Water Trolley

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 County Parks & Recreation Guided Nature Walks

Sundays
Call ahead to confirm
Fern Forest Nature Center
(954) 357-5198
www.broward.org

Heart Serve YOGA at ArtServe

Sundays
Taught by Bhani Repetti
ArtServe
(954) 462-8190
www.artserve.org



JM Lexus Sunday Jazz Brunch

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

Memoir Writing with Anita Mitchell

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

Genealogy Club

Fourth Monday of the month
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

Networking Social

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

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

Full Exposure Photography Club

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

Evening Observations

Wednesdays
Explore the stars and the universe
Buehler Planetarium, Broward
College Central Campus
(954) 201-6681
www.broward.edu

Behind the Scenes

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

**Free First Thursdays**

First Thursday
FREE museum admission from
4 – 8 pm.
NSU Art Museum
(954) 525-5500
www.nsuartmuseum.org

CALM - Coloring for Adults

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

Third Thursday Cooking Series

Third Thursday of the month
A program of monthly cooking
classes that are free and open to
the public.
Yellow Creative Arts
(954) 491-1591
www.yellofl.com

Ranger Guided Walks

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

Live Animal Shows

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

First Friday Jazz Jam

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

First Friday Piano Bar

First Friday of the month
A night of live music entertain-
ment, tapas, wine and brews.
Yellow Creative Arts
(954) 491-1591
www.yellofl.com

Old Town Untapped

First Friday of the month
South Florida's premiere craft
beer and arts festival
Bailey Contemporary Arts,
(954) 786-7824
www.baileyarts.org

Friends First Friday Book Event

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

Food in Motion Flagler Green Market

Second Friday of the month
Food trucks, artisan market and
free beer!
Peter Feldman Park
(954) 785-7475

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

**Intermediate Art of
Photography with Jack Wild**

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

**Modern Dance with
Shawna Bowden**

Saturdays
Professional training and perfor-
mances in modern dance for stu-
dents and audiences at all age levels
ArtServe
(954) 462-8190
www.artserve.org

SunTrolley Guided Tour

Third Saturday of the month
A narrated tour of Fort Lauderdale
and the beaches
Galleria Mall
(954) TROLLEY
www.suntrolley.com

**FAT Village Art Walk**

Last Saturday of the month
The signature Artwalk event in
Fort Lauderdale.
Flagler Village
(754) 800-1640
www.flaglerartwalk.com

MASS District Art Walk

Last Saturday of the month
Tour the studios of music and art
south of Sunrise
MASS District
(954) 866-3890
www.massdistrict.com

Free First Full Weekend

First Weekend of the month
Bank of America cardholders receive
FREE museum admission.
NSU Art Museum
(954) 525-5500
www.nsuartmuseum.org

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

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Intermediate Dog Obedience Class
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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.
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.
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.
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



PHOTO BY JASON LEIDY

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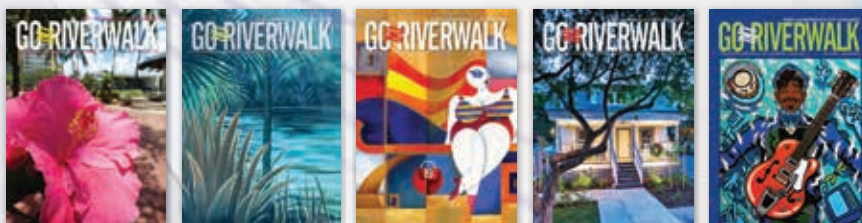


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42ND ANNUAL CARBONELL AWARDS CEREMONY

The evening's winners included Best Play *Kings of Harlem*, M Ensemble. Best Musical - Michael McKeever and Stuart Meltzer, producer and director of *Sunday in the Park with George*, Zoetic Stage. Best Actress Musical - Sarah Gracel, *Dreamgirls*, Broward Stage Door Theatre. Best Actress, Play - Niki Fridh, *Grounded*, Thinking Cap Theatre. Best Actor Musical - Shane Tanner, *Sweeney Todd*, Palm Beach Dramaworks. Best Actor Play, David Kwiat, *The Caretaker*, Zoetic Stage.



KINGS OF HARLEM, M ENSEMBLE



MICHAEL MCKEEVER AND STUART MELTZER



SARAH GRACEL

PHOTOS BY CODY DECARLO

GILDA'S CLUB OF SOUTH FLORIDA

Gilda's Club of South Florida honored longtime community partners Calvin, Giordano, & Associates and Peter and Denise Wittich at its 22nd annual "Live from South Florida...It's Saturday Night" on Saturday, March 10, 2018, at Pier Sixty-Six Hotel & Marina. The event pays homage to Gilda's Club namesake and original Saturday Night Live cast member, Gilda Radner. Over \$170,000 was raised to benefit Gilda's Club, which supports those impacted by cancer.



PETER AND DENISE WITTICH, KIM PRAITANO



JOHN ARASI, CARMEN ARASI, GLYNDY PINERES



PETE CIMINO, NEIL KALIS, CHRIS GIORDANO

PHOTOS BY DOWNTOWN PHOTO

NYSW JAZZ LOUNGE OPENS

Miguel Pilgram, CEO of The Pilgram Group, celebrated his latest real estate venture in Downtown Fort Lauderdale on March 16, 2018, with the opening of his jazz lounge. The NYSW Jazz Lounge opened for a VIP event with special guests including the Fort Lauderdale business community.



ALEX & INEZ ROMAGUERA AND MIGUEL PILGRAM



TEANA MCDONALD AND DAWN PRICE



AARON ROBINSON, AARON WELLS AND JORGE REYNEGA

PHOTOS BY JAMES HILL

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TOM ROSSETTI

TITLE OF WORK: *MORNING LIGHTS*

Tom Rossetti is like a rare painting. He has the brilliant brushstrokes of an artist blended with the keen vision of a smart businessman. Usually, these two disciplines do not often mix – like oil and water(color). Over the years, this publication has written about the many local resources available for artists to expand their business acumen. Resources Rossetti would not need, but he could actually teach. However, we are here to look at Rossetti as an artist.


“I did grow up here in Fort Lauderdale, so I am a super rare native. My life always has been about aesthetics and beauty. I started off playing the piano, and I took piano lessons for ten years. I was really good at playing the piano, but I couldn’t create on the piano. I could read music and play great songs, but I just couldn’t create. So when I was in high school, I was also very good at art, and I thought I could create more through art than I can with music,” explained Rossetti.

After this creative epiphany, Rossetti decided to go to college and pursue his art career. He went on to Florida Atlantic University to do just that. Upon graduation,

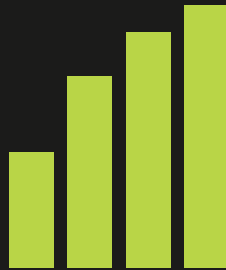
he initially started working in galleries and quickly landed a prestigious position with a directorship of a gallery at the Design Center of the Americas (DCOTA). “I was only 24 years old at the time, and I still don’t know how it happened,” laughs Rossetti. So after a stint at the DCOTA, he and a manager left there, and they opened their first art studio, which was located out by the old Sunrise Musical Theater. From there they began to create custom commissioned pieces for designers. Working with designers and creating commissioned pieces would be a primary focus throughout Rossetti’s career and also had an impact on his style.

Rossetti’s painting career did take a bit of a hiatus throughout the years. “For much of my career, I went the route of gallery director, and I directed many galleries. It wasn’t until I left the New River Fine Art Gallery on Las Olas 10 years ago that I got back to painting. I got back working with designers again,” said Rossetti. He has painted some major projects over the years. He was commissioned to paint enormous murals for a

superyacht and continues to create a lot of pieces for yachts, completing over sixty paintings for yachts in 2017 alone. He was also commissioned by the Las Olas Grand to create seventy-nine paintings for their riverfront condominiums. He explained his level of creativity varies when working with designers. “Sometimes a designer is very involved in the creative process, and others only provide a color palette and size,” he explains.

Today Rossetti does most of his painting in his gallery and retail space - Rossetti Fine Art in Wilton Manors. He explained he has recently been in the abstract landscape painting phase, as is demonstrated by the piece shown *Morning Light*. 





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