OPEN OPEN

THE CULINARY ISSUE

THE PORCHIS THE TREE IS THE WATERING HOLE Where We Gather - Black in <u>Sistrunk</u>

This dynamic exploration of space and community within the African Diaspora uses art, architecture, photography and poetry to examine concepts of community and life in Sistrunk, a historically Black neighborhood in Broward County, with works by Germane Barnes, Darius V. Daughtry, David I. Muir, Adler Guerrier, Olalekan Jeyifous, Adrienne Chadwick, Marlene Brunot, and George Gadson. Curated by Dominique Denis.

Free admission. Open to the public Thursdays and Saturdays 11AM - 2PM, on view through May 2021 with reservations.

African American Research Library & Cultural Center





2650 Sistrunk Blvd, Fort Lauderdale Reservations required: ArtsCalendar.com/Sistrunk #WhereWeGather



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Cover design by Nick Scalzo



A publication of Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale





9/1

B MONUMENT GoRiverwalk.com/9-11-Monument

The monument prominently displays a section of PATH rail that was retrieved from the wreckage of the subway station located below the World Trade Center. It serves as a reminder of the nearly 3,000 lives lost on September 11th, 2001 and honors those individuals as well as their families and first responders.

BE A PART OF HISTORY

Add your name or the name of a loved one to this iconic piece of history on the Riverwalk.

All donations are tax deductible.

BENCH SPONSOR: \$7,000 ETCHED GRANITE PIECE: \$2,000 ANNUAL FLAG SPONSOR: \$1,200 COMMEMORATIVE ETCHED BRICK: \$250



Contact: Genia Duncan Ellis, President/CEO (954) 468-1541 or genia@GoRiverwalk.com www.GoRiverwalk.com



HOLIDAY PARK OPEN DURING CONSTRUCTION

Although there is construction happening in Holiday Park, please note that all park buildings and amenities are open.



Park Facilities and Amenities Open During Construction

- Activity Center
- Basketball Courts
- Concession
- 🗸 Dog Park
- Fitness Stations
- 🖌 Gym
- Jimmy Evert Tennis Center
- Lighted Athletic Fields
- 🗸 Open Play Area
- Pavilion
- Pickleball Courts

- Picnic Area
- Playground
- Racquetball Courts
- Recreation/Social Center
- Restrooms
- Roller Hockey Rinks
- Shuffleboard
- Social Center
- ✓ Volleyball
- Walking/Jogging Trail (partially closed)

Construction Timelines*

- **Parker Playhouse**
- May 2021 Substantial completion

War Memorial/Florida Panthers

- February 2021 Begin site preparation
- May 2021 Begin foundation work
- May 2021 Begin work on new shell structure
- November 2021 Begin renovating War Memorial Auditorium
- April 2022 Work on final items
- July 2022 Project complete
- *All timelines are estimates only.

We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and thank you for your patience. For more information, please call (954) 828-7275 (PARK) or visit www.fortlauderdale.gov/holidaypark.





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A publication of RIVERWALK FORT LAUDERDALE

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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 2021. Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale. All rights reserved. No part of Go Riverwalk April 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 2021.





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JUST SOLD!

3 BEDROOM 3.5 BATH

Designer model Ashley South floor plan with phenomenal 270 degree views of the New River, Ocean & City from every room. Featuring marble floors in the living areas & Brazilian cherry wood floors in the bedrooms.

ASHLEY 3 BEDROOM 3.5 BATH

Perched above it all! This high floor Ashley South model is beautifully upgraded with marble stone floors throughout, custom moldings and stone accent walls.

UST LISTED ASHLEY | \$1,195,000

3 BEDROOM 3.5 BATH

Large corner unit w/ direct river & city views from every room. Designer finishes, custom built-ins, contemporary light fixtures, custom window treatments, pogenpohl kitchen w/ granite counter tops, marble baths & 2 terraces.

CHAMPAGNE | \$1,100,000

2 BEDROOM 2.5 BATH High floor with panoramic ocean, city & river views from everyroom, Custom designer model, marble floors & numerous upgrades.

ASHLEY | \$1,075,000

3 BEDROOM 3.5 BATH

Magnificent views of the River. Expansive open floor plan. Foyer entry, stone floors throughout, 2 large terraces, top of the line appliances & motorized sun shades.

JUST SOLD!

CHAMPAGNE 2 BEDROOM 2.5 BATH

Panoramic views of the river, intracoastal & ocean. Featuring marble floors throughout, gourmet granite kitchen, top of the line appliances.

LISTED BRADFORD | \$979,000

2 BEDROOM 2 BATH High floor with panoramic ocean, city & river views from everyroom, Large totally private terrace, marble floors, custom window treatments & lighting.

BRADFORD | \$875,000

2 BEDROOM 2 BATH

Exceptional ocean, intracoastal & river views. Fully furnished w/ exquisite custom pieces. Expansive terrace & breakfast nook overlooking the river & ocean.



PENTHOUSE \$3,339,000 4 BEDROOM 3.5 BATH

Epic 2 story PH in the heart of downtown. A rare haven of voluminous space & light boasting over 5,000 sq. ft. Unobstructed panoramic river views at any hour & dramatic sunsets over the sparkling skyline of Ft Lauderdale. Two private elevators open to the gallery-like foyer, a dramatic introduction to the extraordinary ambience that make this home perfect for entertaining.

PARK

JNDER CONTRACT

3 BEDROOM 3.5 BATH

Over 3,200 square feet of living area. Beautifully upgraded bathrooms, premium cabinetry, display gallery and space galore for your treasures. COLUMBUS

JUST SOLD!

2 BEDROOM + DEN 3 BATH Outstanding city skyline & ocean views from every room. Private

elevator, floor to ceiling glass, 9 foot ceilings & 2 balconies. CHELSEA

UNDER CONTRACT

2 BEDROOM 2.5 BATH Urban Zen for your vibrant las olas lifestyle! Sleek clean lines, modern finishes & unobstructed river views with breathtaking south Florida sunsets.

IDER CONTRACT RARELY AVAILABLE

1 BEDROOM 1 BATH Featuring a large covered terrace w/ unobstructed river views! Saturnia floors throughout, floor to ceiling windows and marble moldings.



2 BEDROOM+DEN 3 BATH \$1,599,000

Brand new luxurious unit with 14 ft. ceilings! Over 1800 sq. ft. of wrap around terrace overlooking the river, park, pool & city. Porcelain flooring throughout. The master suite features 2 walk-in closets & a luxuriously appointed bathroom.



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Call us today to schedule a showing or list your property!



JUST LISTED 3 BEDROOM 2 BATH | \$689,000 High floor corner unit with 2 wrap around balconies, fantastic views of the ocean, river & city from every room. Large storage room included.

JUST LISTED 3 BEDROOM 2 BATH | \$499,000

City & ocean views, 11 foot ceilings, open floor plan, tile floors in the living areas and carpet in the bedrooms, gourmet kitchen, walk in closets.

UNDER CONTRACT 2 BEDROOM 2 BATH

Corner unit w/ ocean \hat{a} city views on the 20th floor. Tile floor throughout w/ open balcony. Beautiful kitchen w/ granite countertops \hat{a} stainless appliances.

JUST SOLD! 2 BEDROOM 2 BATH

Bright ${\mathfrak A}$ spacious unit with fantastic views of the cruise port ${\mathfrak A}$ airport.

UNDER CONTRACT 2 BEDROOM 2 BATH Corner Unit, split bedroom floor plan, beautiful kitchen with stainless steel appliances & full sized washer/dryer.

2 BEDROOM 2 BATH | \$298,000

Split bedroom floor plan, italian kitchen cabinets with stainless steel appliances, granite countertops & full sized washer/dryer.



2 BEDROOM | 2 BATH | \$360,000

Stunning views of the river, laminate & tile floors. Italian cabinetry, stainless steel appliances & granite counter tops. 2 Parking spaces.

JUST SOLD! 2 BEDROOM | 2 BATH

Great water views with downtown skyline. Open floor plan. Gorgeous hardwood floors. Updated stainless steel appliances. Pristine condition.

2 BEDROOM 2 BATH \$349,000

18th floor unit with stunning views of the river, split bedroom floor plan, large balcony and tile floors.

2 BEDROOM | 2 BATH | \$339,000

Split floor plan features tile floors throughout, gourmet kitchen with granite counter tops, spacious walk in closet and dual balconies.

1 BEDROOM | 1 BATH | \$300,000

South exposure with cherry hardwood floors & sleek Italian kitchen cabinetry, unobstructed water views from the balcony.

UST SOLD! 1 BEDROOM | 1 BATH

Captivating and unobstructed views of the river and sailboat bend.

1 BEDROOM | 1 BATH | \$258,000

Symphony's lowest priced unit! Corner unit! Priced to sell! Large bright living room. Bamboo flooring. Luxury bath with separate tub & walk-in shower.



SEAVIEW | \$899,000

Live above it all in this double door entry 3 bedroom 2 bath "penthouse" w/ panoramic views of the ocean, intracoastal & river! 10 FT ceilings & "wrap around" balconies.

JUST LISTED MOONGLOW | \$549,000

Best priced east facing 2 bedroom 2 bathroom w/ 10ft ceilings & contemporary remodel. Italian porcelain tile floors. Stunning river and garden views!

UNDER CONTRACT STARDUST

Exquisitely upgraded 2 bedroom 2 bathroom + den. High quality built-ins - office with desk and cabinets; murphy bed in guest bedroom.

JUST LISTED SUNGARDEN | \$359,000

1 bedroom 1 bathroom with unobstructed direct river, city & sunset views from the spacious glass balcony. Wide plank neutral flooring with tall baseboards.

SUNGARDEN | \$359,000

1 bedroom 1 bathroom sub-penthouse with amazing direct river, city & sunsets views! Impeccably maintained w/ high ceilings, spacious living/dining area.

UNDER CONTRACT SUNGARDEN

1 bedroom 1 bathroom with city lights & new river views. Many designer finishes including marble floors & crown molding throughout.

SUNGARDEN | \$349,000

 $Stunning\ unique\ custom\ 1\ bedrrom\ 1\ bahroom\ unit,\ beautifully\ renovated\ w/luxury\ modern\ finishes\ \ features!\ Gorgeous\ Italian\ porcelain\ floors\ throughout.$

SUNGARDEN | \$339,000

Bright & Airy Impeccably maintained 1 bedroom 1 bathroom with tropical unobstructed views of the gardens/pool deck/city from the large glass balcony.

SUNGARDEN | \$299,000

1 bedroom 1 bathroom featuring 9-foot ceilings, crown molding, new lighting, gourmet kitchen w/natural quartz countertops & imported tile backsplash.



1 BEDROOM | 1 BATH | \$329,000

High floor 1/1 with big views! Wood floors throughout, granite countertops, lots of storage, separate tub & shower combo and full size washer/dryer.



BY JOHN ROPES Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale Chair



FORT LAUDERDALE RESTAURANTS

THOSE THAT CLOSED, THOSE THAT CHANGED AND THOSE THAT SEEM PANDEMIC PROOF

t's been a rough year for the hospitality industry in Fort Lauderdale and restaurants in particular. Known for our luxury resorts, restaurants and bars, we rely on these venues to remain *open for business* to draw the tourists that feed our local economy. A benefit to us in Florida is that we were allowed to open businesses back up with proper Covid-19 restrictions to allow our economy to remain alive.

Here are some of our favorite bars and restaurants that closed their doors, some that had to change their service style to stay afloat, and some that seem pandemic proof.

The Mai-Kai Restaurant and Polynesian Show is one of the favorite tourist attractions in Fort Lauderdale and has been spinning fire and serving authentic Polynesian dishes since 1956. Mother Nature has not been kind to the acclaimed local venue, as they closed for the pandemic, then experienced flooding from torrential rains in October 2020 and a broken sprinkler pipe was added to the disaster, flooding the kitchen and caving part of the thatched roof. According to the venue's website, the owners are working on getting an infusion of capital for the extensive repairs needed to reopen — they are calling this a temporary closure. We hope so!

The restaurants that remained open have had to battle many changes. Some of the many adjustments included — no bar seating, plexiglass dividers installed separating closely spaced tables, and a new takeout and curbside pickup focus. Another modification parking lots and parking spaces transformed into patios with dining tables to provide additional outdoor seating. Some dining establishments did not adapt this way early on and had to close their doors, such as



Chuck's Steakhouse and Jackson Prime.

One old-time tourist spot, however, appears pandemic proof — the Elbo Room. They, along with all other bars in Fort Lauderdale had to close for almost six months. During that time, they had to get creative, selling commemorative bricks from the building which was the famous spot where they filmed "Where the Boys Are" starring Connie Frances in the 1960s. That movie put the Elbo Room and the city of Fort Lauderdale on the map as the ultimate Spring Break destination. If the crowds in March of this year were any indication, they still are - pandemic or not.

I hope to see you on the Riverwalk enjoying the "new normal"!

LIVE ELEVATED

PENTHOUSE 4603 READY FOR YOUR DESIGNER'S VISION

4 BEDROOM | 6.5 BATH | DEN 5,281 SQ. FT. | **\$5,950,000**

MOVE-IN READY RESIDENCES AT FORT LAUDERDALE'S TALLEST ADDRESS



RESIDENCE 2301-A 2 BEDROOM | 2.5 BATH | DEN 2,395 SQ. FT. | **\$1,399,000**



ESTATE RESIDENCE 4301 4 BEDROOM | 4.5 BATH | FAMILY ROOM 3,896 SQ. FT. | **\$3,299,000**



Located above the excitement on Las Olas Boulevard, 100 Las Olas offers the height of luxury in the center of it all. The iconic building includes private residences, an array of resort-styled amenities, and unparalleled panoramic views of the Fort Lauderdale cityscape. Residents also enjoy the perks of living above the Hyatt Centric® Hotel, which features 238 guest rooms, Elev8 rooftop bar, lobby-level Harborwood Urban Kitchen and Bar, and Eddie V's Prime Seafood Restaurant. Now is the time to own the Las Olas lifestyle. Schedule your private tour of designer models today.

ONEHUNDREDLASOLAS.COM 954.800.6263 **2 TO 4 BEDROOMS** | **OWN IT NOW FROM \$1 MILLION** | **COMPLIMENTARY VALET PARKING** SALES GALLERY LOCATED AT 100 EAST LAS OLAS BOULEVARD, SUITE 2401, FORT LAUDERDALE

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BY GENIA DUNCAN ELLIS President/CEO Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale



SPRING HAS SPRUNG

MORE EVENTS RETURN TO FORT LAUDERDALE

n the northern hemisphere, spring (or springtime as it is sometimes called) this year is from Saturday, March 20, and ends on Sunday, June 20.

With this arrival, the weather warms up, trees grow new leaves, plants start to flower and young animals such as chicks are born. It also is the season of spring break for schools all over the United States and south Florida becomes a prime destination for those in the cold north.

Other great things happen during spring such as Battle of the Bands on April 9 and Color Run on May 22, celebrating 10 years with Riverwalk and Fort Lauderdale. Other events on tap are Heal the Planet celebrating Earth Day, Polish Heritage Day, Walk like MADD and many more. Las Olas Oceanside Park continues to offer a variety of things including music, markets, yoga and more. These events demonstrate a measured return to the events and activities that make up our city.

April is food and beverage month, or better known to us as Bites and Sips. Food and beverages are part of the backbone of our social culture and during the last year, we have all learned to adjust to the new way of interacting with others. We have lost many great businesses during this pandemic; some have managed to remain operational and there are even new ones that have come into play. Encouraging guests to comply with the newer restrictions is a difficult balance for businesses returning to operation and staff that have long needed to get back to work. The Broward County and CDC guidelines are specific, and the penalties and fines are painful when businesses or their guests do not comply.

Riverwalk has hosted two rounds of Riverwalk Voice and the final round is coming soon. In this round, winners of round one and round two will face off to win the title of Riverwalk Voice. Watch our social media for more information.

Support Riverwalk and sign up for the Color Run — it is guaranteed to provide lots of safe fun for you and your family.

We are most happy to tell you that Riverwalk in partnership with the City of Fort Lauderdale installed 13 new pedestrian lights on Southwest Third Avenue, between Southwest Second Street and the Riverwalk/ New River. Long a concern for the lighting level in that area, the new lights provide a greater sense of safety with the higher visibility. Partnerships of this kind continue to enhance our Riverwalk.

Continue to check our calendar on line and our social media as new things start to open up for weekend safedistancing entertainment!



THE JUDGES



David Lovitt



Susan Renneisen



Kitty McGowan



Burny Pelsmajer



Dave "The Beast" Spitz Black Sabbath, Great White, White Lion, War Pigs

RIVERWALK BATTLE PHE BANDS

A COMPETITION FOR LOCAL TALENT WITH A JUDGE SELECTION OF 1ST PLACE



FRIDAY, APRIL 9 | 5 - 9 PM BACKYARD | 100 SW 3rd Ave, Fort Lauderdale

TICKETS: \$40.00 PER PERSON

Two drinks (beer/wine/well) compliments of the Backyard. Tickets sales limited

Table service provided for food and beverages. Compliant with approved safety protocols. Mask and safe distancing required.

> Tickets online at: http://tinyurl.com/RWBandBattle For further information: events@goriverwalk.com or (954) 468-1541

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• I am the owner of BGM Certified Public Accountants, a boutique firm with approximately 1,000 clients. Our firm offers personalized accounting, tax services plus year-

round budgeting and planning. At BGM, we get to know your business and not just your books.

I feel that I bring a unique perspective to practicing as a CPA because my background is not that of a typical CPA who started a career with a firm as either an auditor or tax preparer. My background is as a CFO and COO of several mid- to large-sized companies, which afforded me the opportunity to develop business acumen and managerial experience. This skill set allows BGM to provide services not available from the typical CPA firm.

Listening is the foundation of a lasting client relationship. We do not want to just make sense of your books; we want to help make sense of your business. We strive to know your business, listening intently to your business problems and financial needs.

I have been a South Florida resident since 1978 and attended college at FAU where I studied accounting. I am a licensed CPA in the state of Florida. My home is in Downtown Fort Lauderdale, where I am active in the business community. These activities include being the past treasurer and board member with the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce, current treasurer of Victoria Park Civic Association and board member of Tower Club in Fort Lauderdale.

For me, membership in Riverwalk is an important way to connect with the Downtown community.



TRUSTEE MEMBER LEONARD DESIR THE DESIR LAW FIRM

• The son of Haitian parents, I was born and raised in what is now called Cutler Bay – one of the very first planned communities south of Miami. After graduating

from Coral Reef High School, I attended the University of Miami where I earned a bachelor's degree in biology. Deciding that the medical field wasn't for me, I earned my law degree from FAMU College of Law in Orlando. It was here where I met my wife and began working at a local law firm.

In 2015, I returned to South Florida and worked for a brief time with a law firm before my entrepreneurial spirit got the best of me and I opened my own practice.

At the Desir Law Firm, I only work with policyholders who have a grievance with their insurance company. My goal is to resolve their problems quickly regardless of whether they are an individual or a business. I truly enjoy helping people and when you are dealing with insurance claims, it means that you are usually helping someone during a crisis.

As a sole practitioner, I understand the importance of networking with other business professionals, which is one reason I joined Riverwalk. I also like being a part of the Downtown community and no other organization represents the area like Riverwalk.

In my spare time, I love basketball — both watching it and playing. At one time, I actually aspired to be the next Spud Webb! My wife and I also enjoy traveling and experiencing our community.

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 MEMBERS MIXER

On March 9, Hotel Maren invited a small number of Riverwalk members to a cocktail reception. Attendees were treated to stunning views of the ocean from the fifth floor pool deck, tours of the hotel and hors d'oeuvres courtesy of the in-house restaurant Riviera by Fabio Viviani. Hotel Maren is one of the newest beachfront hotels on Fort Lauderdale Beach.



George and Dianne Fitzmaurice, and Robert and Elizabeth Cowdrey



Hotel Maren fifth floor pool deck



Debbie and Craig Danto



Terri Chadderton and Ken Ortner



Frank and Roya Baxter



View of A1A North and Fort Lauderdale Beach from Hotel Maren's fifth floor pool deck

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SPRING: IN BLOOM



Celebrate the season on Sat., April 3 at the inaugural *Spring Fling EGGstraveganza*, sponsored in major part by the businesses along Fort Lauderdale Beach, which make up the BID. Families can participate in a variety of safe-distance, inclusive and engaging activities while participating in the market-wide Egg Hunt, little YOLKS Yoga or having Brunch with the Easter Bunny during a special performance by the Leafy Greens Band.

Throughout the afternoon a DJ keep the party hoppin' with fun contests and interactive dances, while the creative can take a spin at the arts and crafts stations. Make sure to snap a selfie in the carrot patch and stop by the caricature station to get bunnified. This is a county approved and covid compliant event. View details and schedule of activites at: **theloopflb.com**

10 THINGS TO DO UNDER \$25



Fort Lauderdale's luxurious beach resorts and five-star dining options might not scream "budget staycation," but yacht rides and expensive spa retreats aren't all our coastal destination boasts. It's easy to explore Fort Lauderdale Beach and area just beyond on a budget, and these 10 activities and events under \$25 will ensure you experience the best that Fort Lauderdale and its surrounding areas have to offer without breaking the bank on your Spring vacation. View the list at **MyFTLB.com**







BY MAYOR DEAN TRANTALIS City of Fort Lauderdale

GOING UNDERGROUND

WHY NOT BUILD A TUNNEL?

whether it would an underground tunnel for commuter rail service downtown.

This represents an exciting possibility that could dramatically reshape the future growth of Downtown as well as resolve long-standing traffic problems. And even more importantly, there is the chance that the project could be done for substantially less than anyone ever imagined.

In mid-February, I led a city delegation to visit the latest venture of business entrepreneur Elon Musk. Musk first built his reputation around the development of the Tesla electric car and then space transportation. Now, he is looking at ways to reduce traffic congestion by offering new low-cost tunneling construction technology. In early March, his team came here to continue discussions.

How did this all start?

Plans are advancing for a Coastal Commuter Link operated by Brightline, which will restart its service later this year. The Coastal Link would include many additional local stops and more frequent service.

But there are some challenges created by commuter rail. With dozens of additional trains running along the FEC



corridor every day, a crucial choke point would occur at the railroad's New River crossing. Easy river navigation is important to our marine industry because many boatyards are located west of the railroad's river crossing, and the marine industry is a critical part of our economy.

The initial suggestion was to build a new high-rise bridge. Imagine a bridge like the 17th Street Causeway cutting through our Downtown. History has shown that communities suffer when such decisions are made.

So, I've been asking: Why not build a tunnel? Skeptics said it would cost \$3 billion and take decades to come to fruition.

Then along came Elon Musk.

He changed the entire outlook of what is possible when he announced he was interested in building tunnels in South Florida to help alleviate traffic. Rather than billions of dollars and decades of work, his company has touted it can produce tunnels in months at a minuscule fraction of the cost.

His firm, The Boring Company, built a 1-mile underground transit loop at the Las Vegas Convention Center at a cost \$52 million. Impressed, officials there now see it as the start of a larger network spanning Las Vegas' entertainment areas.

The Boring Company is extremely interested in helping us. They stand by their numbers, and officials at the Florida East Coast Railroad are as intrigued as we are. The Boring Company says the lower cost is another example of Musk thinking outside traditional norms, just as he reduced the costs of space flight with such innovations as reusable rockets.

His tunneling technology could be a real game-changer for us regarding transportation and quality of life.

Not only would it allow commuter rail to move forward and solve the New River issue, but we could tunnel the system under major Fort Lauderdale intersections to relieve congestion on our roadways. Think of the end of tie-ups because of trains on Davie Boulevard, Broward Boulevard and Sunrise Boulevard and maybe even Northeast 13th Street.

Then, imagine other possibilities where tunneling for transit could help South Florida traffic. What about reviving a commuter service between western suburbs and downtown Fort Lauderdale, for instance?

Mayor Dean Trantalis visited a project under construction by Elon Musk's Boring Company in Las Vegas in February. A contingent from the city discussed the company's tunnel-digging technology and whether the city could use it to help bring commuter rail to Fort Lauderdale.





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ADAPTING TO THE NEW NORMAL

ONE THING FROM THE PANDEMIC THAT COULD BE HERE TO STAY

The Culinary Scene During Covid

During these unprecedented times, businesses especially restaurants had to adapt to the new normal. Restaurants were dealing with a decline in business that they never dealt with before. When the original lockdown happened in March of last year, our restaurants were unable to seat people inside their dining rooms, and had strict social distancing requirements had to rely heavily on carryout and delivery, which included beer, wine and mixed drinks. At the beginning of the pandemic, Gov. DeSantis filed an executive order allowing alcohol to go to help alleviate the stress the pandemic was placing on our culinary industry.

During this year's 2021 legislative session, several bills have been filed to make the governor's executive order permanent, which would allow alcohol to go and for delivery. Under current law, qualifying restaurants may be licensed to sell beer, wine and liquor for consumption on premises only. The governor, along with the Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association supports the to-go legislation. The alcohol to-go bill, SB 148, would still require limitations on alcohol sales.

SB 148 bill only includes beer, wine and liquor. Floridians would need to order at least 51 percent food, and the bill also keeps the current Florida statue requiring all drinks to be sealed. To-go drinks will be picked up with an airtight seal on top, then placed inside of a bag. If delivered, they must be placed inside of a trunk, or a compartment which the driver cannot touch while operating a vehicle. Once delivered, IDs will have to be shown in order to receive the alcohol. At this time, the bill has received unanimous approval in its first committee stop.

Another bill, HB 449, specifically allows frozen, or mixed drinks to be included in alcohol to go. I look forward to supporting these upcoming bills. I will continue to support our local businesses during these difficult times.

PPP Loan Update

Many eligible businesses, including the culinary scene, have applied and were approved of PPP loans during the pandemic. Please be aware there is an update about the process for reporting PPP loans. PPP lenders will collect the processing fee on fully disbursed loans that they are eligible to receive. For First Draw PPP Loans made on or after Dec. 27, 2020, SBA will pay lenders fees for processing those loans in the loans in the following amounts:

- 50 percent or \$2,500, whichever is less, for loans of not more than \$50,000;
- 5 percent for loans of more than \$50,000 and not more than \$350,000;
- 3 percent for loans of more than \$350,000 and less than \$2,000,000; and
- percent for loans of at least \$2,000,000.

For Second Draw PPP Loans, SBA will pay lenders fees for processing those loans in the following amounts:

- 50 percent or \$2,500, whichever is less, for loans of not more than \$50,000;
- 5 percent for loans of more than \$50,000 and not more than \$350,000; and
- 3 percent for loans above \$350,000.
- If you have any questions, please be sure to visit SBA.gov for further information.

As always, it is an honor to represent you as your state representative in Tallahassee. (9)





NSU ART MUSEUM FORT LAUDERDALE February 28 - October 3, 2021

Exhibition Organized by The Fashion and Textile Museum, London

The World of Anna Sui is generously sponsored by The Douglas A. Hirsch and Holly S. Andersen Family Foundation in honor of Jane B. Holzer. Additional support provided by The David and Francie Horvitz Family Foundation.

Exhibitions and programs at NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale are made possible in part by a challenge grant from the David and Francie Horvitz Family Foundation. Funding is also provided by the City of Fort Lauderdale, AutoNation, 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 Fort Lauderdale is accredited by the American Association of Museums.

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BY PHIL THORNBURG Director, Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation Department Writer Angela Sabina



SUMMER GAMES

FORT LAUDERDALE SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION NOW OPEN



Registration is now open for our summer camps. With something for everyone, we offer a variety of camps including elementary camps, middle school camps, high school camps, art camps, coding camps and sports camps. Covid-19 protocols apply to all programs.

Our elementary camps are action-packed with playtime, creative expression and friendly competition. Children will express their imagination with free play, play games, create arts and crafts, leap into sports and fitness and so much more! These camps are open to grades one through five. Community camp locations include Bass Park, Beach Community Center, Carter Park, Croissant Park, Holiday Park, Osswald Park, Riverland Park, Riverside Park and Warfield Park.

Our middle and high school camps combine performing arts with traditional camp activities. Children will enjoy making new friends while promoting their social growth and physical health. Camp locations include Carter Park (grades six through 12) and Holiday Park (grades six through eight).

The South Side Cultural Arts Center is hosting the Greenroom Performing and Cultural Arts summer camp for grades one through five. Whether your child is a budding artist, an avid performer, or a talented dancer, Camp Greenroom will put them center stage to showcase their talents.

Lauderdale Manors Park will be offering Future Coders for grades six through eight. Coding is now considered basic literacy in the digital age. It is important for kids to understand and be able to work with the technology around them with confidence. Campers will spend four days a week learning basic coding skills and working on fun, creative, hands-on projects.

Carter Park and Holiday Park will host our Speed and Agility Camp for all ages. Designed to keep young athletes in shape during the summer break, personal trainer extraordinaire Tony Sands and former NFL player Bennie Blades will practice various skills and drills to ensure the future athletic stars are ready when the new season begins. George English Park will also host a tennis camp for grades one through eight.

For complete details on all our summer camps, follow us on social media or visit www.fortlauderdale.gov/parks.



Share Your Input and Let Your Voice Be Heard!

Take the Fort Lauderdale Police Department Community Survey Today



The Fort Lauderdale Police Department (FLPD) is conducting a survey to gather the opinions and suggestions about policing from the City's residents. The survey has been designed to gather results to better direct and enhance the services the Department provides to the community.

- Your opinion matters: FLPD will take your responses seriously and into account when making policing decisions.
- Make your voice heard: Communication with members of our community is crucial in providing compassionate and responsible services.
- Be a part of the change: Help us lead the way in positive, meaningful relationships between police and the community we serve.

Please complete the short survey at flpd.org/community/communitysurvey or scan the QR code. A printed copy of the survey is also available in the FLPD Headquarters lobby located at 1300 W. Broward Boulevard. The deadline to complete the survey is Monday, May, 31, 2021.



For more information about the survey, please visit flpd.org/community/communitysurvey. For questions or comments, please email PDSurvey@fortlauderdale.gov.



BY KAREN WARFEL City of Fort Lauderdale Transportation Planning Manager



TRANSPORTATION BIG AND SMALL

IT'S IN THE LITTLE THINGS

he Transportation Department articles are usually about large projects and initiatives, but many of the projects we work on day to day are about the little things that matter just as much, but just aren't as flashy.

We work every day on the little things, knowing how important they are, but usually not hearing about the difference they may make in people's lives — the crosswalk that lets someone now safely cross a street without fear or having to go far out of their way, a bike rack that allows someone to secure their bike in front of the business they are visiting, a sidewalk providing a safe place to walk through a neighborhood, or a bus bench providing a place to sit while waiting for the bus.

I was recently reminded of how important the little things are by phone call we received requesting a memorial plaque be placed on a bus bench. It is in honor of a nurse that waited for the bus home after each shift. I knew instantly, before hearing the details, that it was the same nurse that I would see each morning on my way to work waiting for the bus. When I first saw her, she would be sitting on the curb or a shopping cart waiting for the bus like in the picture below. Now I know her name was Katrina and she was going home after a night shift at the Broward Addiction Recovery Center.

Over a year ago, I was able to work with our bus bench provider, Gold Coast Bench Inc., to place a bench at the bus stop so that she would have a proper place to sit. Little did I know how much it meant to her until she recently passed away and her coworkers wanted to honor her at the bench.

It is the little things that matter. And that bench mattered to her each day. The bench is now dedicated "*In Loving Memory of Katrina G., dedicated BARC Nurse.*"

The City Transportation Staff works closely with Gold Coast Bench and Broward County Transit in the placement of benches not only in these specific instances, but throughout the City. The transit ridership at the stops is reviewed and the availability of space for a bench. Those benches are critical for transit riders who are waiting for what can be an hour between buses in Florida weather without a place to sit while waiting for the bus.

Benches can also add to a street's sense of place that is not based on transit. They can create a place to rest and enjoy nature, people watch, and take a rest during a walk. They support parks by providing a place to stop and enjoy a beautiful view along the Riverwalk or the many other parks and open spaces we have throughout the City. Along Northwest Second Street between Andrews Avenue and the Flagler East Coast Railway, this street and others were recently transformed in what is termed the Mobility Hub. The streets are now comfortable to walk with a sense of place in support of the various modes of transportation occurring in the Hub. The benches provide an important piece of that streetscape along with the landscaping and wide sidewalks to provide a place to rest.

Sometimes it is the little things that make all the difference.



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BY PHILLIP DUNLAP Director, Broward Cultural Division



STREET ART

CULINARY AND LIBATION EXPLORATIONS ALONGSIDE ARTS AND CULTURE



A s a relatively recent transplant to Fort Lauderdale, I have enjoyed exploring the various neighborhoods within this diverse city. As someone who works in the arts, finding an apartment in the Flagler Village neighborhood, which is home to two of our most unique, arts-centric districts, the MASS District and FATVillage (Music and Arts South of Sunrise and Flagler Arts and Technology, respectively), has been especially gratifying. The districts are home to many great restaurants, bars, art studios, boutiques, and of course, exciting street art.

I recently accompanied my team from the Cultural Division to FATVillage on a tour of the great murals located there. Our purpose was to explore ways to create self-guided street art tours of neighborhoods in Broward County (more on this in subsequent issues). The visit also served as a great reminder of the wealth of art that can be found around us and the role public art (whether planned or unplanned) can play in enhancing our environment.

Some of these murals came to life through collaborations between FATVillage and various artists, while others simply appeared, according to Tayina Deravile, FATVillage's director of arts administration and community engagement. Both of Downtown Fort Lauderdale's arts neighborhoods offer unique experiences for residents and visitors. Whether you explore on your own or attend one of the lively art walks, you can easily spend a couple of hours exploring the art, followed by lunch and coffee at one of the many great restaurants and coffee shops.

Considering this is the culinary and libations issue, here are some of my favorites. If you're looking for a great coffee experience with your art, head over to Brew Urban, located in FATVillage. If food and art is more your speed, check out Henry's Sandwich Shop, Here and Now, or Sistrunk Market Place. These gems can be found among the district's warehouses and murals and may just show you a side of Fort Lauderdale you never knew existed. ⁽¹⁾

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



A FORT LAUDERDALE RENAISSANCE

THE OUTLOOK REMAINS OPTIMISTIC FOR WHAT'S NEXT

fter more than a year of pandemic pandemonium, it appears that the impact of Covid-19 is finally, albeit slowly, starting to ease for local businesses.

Yet, instead of a return to the "normal" of the past, many Chamber investors find themselves navigating the uncharted waters of a "new normal," chock-full of unpredictable government stimulus funding, altered consumer behavior, a topsy-turvy labor market, and turbulent supply chain. All these among other challenges that continue to require keen flexibility and nimble adaptation. Only time will tell exactly what the business scene will look like when these waves of change subside and the waters calm, but the outlook remains optimistic.

In fact, at the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce's most recent Council of Economic Advisors meeting, one council member predicted that Fort Lauderdale is headed for an incredibly positive "renaissance" that will occur over the next decade.

Spearheading the revival are an increase in migration of tech companies from California to South Florida, a newfound work-from-anywhere flexibility, and a release-the-floodgates rush of tourists, both in and out of season.

The modern-day gold rush that many say is coming to South Florida is foreshadowed with signs among local industries. Some are already receiving more inquiries than ever from companies, primarily in the technology industry, who are interested in either moving operations or expanding to South Florida. With California being a more expensive place to operate, lower Florida taxes, less expensive real estate, and incentives offered by local utility companies make moving to the Sunshine State a sweet deal for many of these businesses. In addition, companies and their employees do not have to compromise on great year-round weather or deal with the uncertainty of earthquake and fire threats.

According to the Council, the pandemic has drastically changed the labor landscape, as more employers and employees realize it is possible to work (and attend school) from anywhere. Given the choice of locale, sunny South Florida tends to be the destination of choice for many. During the Council meeting, local hoteliers reported seeing this trend reflected in hotel stay patterns. Guests are looking for longer-term stays with "homier" amenities, like living spaces and kitchenettes.

The beginning of the Greater Fort Lauderdale's rebirth may be right around the corner, as Council members in hospitality and tourism are seeing more bookings than ever for summer 2021, suggesting that a flux of "summer birds" may flock to our beaches if Covid-19 cases keep trending downward and vaccine distribution continues to expand, allowing cooped up tourists to travel once again. This potential burst of visitors may be just the boost local



businesses need to make up for pandemic losses. Despite the optimism, some pandemic challenges are likely to persist through 2021.

Though the added flexibility of the labor market may bring more remote workers to South Florida, there is still concern about the local workforce. A disconnect remains between job openings, competitive pay, qualifications, and safety concerns, especially among industries with essential workers. There is also uncertainty about when many women, who have needed to sideline their careers to handle childcare duties and schooling, will be able to return to work.

Much also remains to be seen in the construction and manufacturing industries. Construction teams are navigating high project backlogs and dealing with a gap between halted projects and new projects with start dates nine months to a year out. Council members in manufacturing reported their industry is experiencing turbulence due primarily to pandemic pricing of materials. For example, the price of steel has quickly doubled from around 20 cents to 40 cents per pound. Domestic steel, normally pricier than the imported alternative, is now competitively priced; however, it needs to be requested three to four months in advance. Copper, aluminum and precious metals are also up as much as 50 percent.

Although the retail industry has seen the closures of some national tenants, South Florida remains a hot market for the national chains who have the means to open new locations. Stores doing well include high-end jewelry boutiques, pet stores, home improvement stores (up 14 percent), sporting goods retailers and experimental retail with online brands looking for brick and mortar space. Malls are looking to reinvent themselves to attract customers in a new era. Strong top-line performance this year will depend on people feeling safe enough to venture out.

Regardless of what the future brings, The Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce remains committed to serving as a steadfast resource for our investors and is laserfocused on three main goals for the business community:

- 1) Focus on economic recovery and get the community healthy,
- 2) Amplify the voices of businesses across the area, and
- 3) Ramp up support for the business community.

After darkness comes the light, and our hope is that 2021 will finally bring us closer to the end of the tunnel. ⁽¹⁾



LAS OLAS CHEMIST REVIVES THE OLD FASHIONED PHARMACY EXPERIENCE

EXPERIENCE FIRST-HAND THE CHARMING FEEL AND TAILORED WELLNESS ADVICE

or those who grew up going to old school pharmacies with their warm and inviting feeling, newer pharmacies of the 21st century like Walgreens and CVS just don't have that same comforting feel. You simply don't get that experience of the pharmacist greeting you and your family by name or receiving personalized advice tailored to each customers' ailments and prescriptions because they truly know you.

However, that was until Fort Lauderdale's Las Olas Chemist brought back the tradition and charm of a small neighborhood pharmacy to South Florida locals.

Las Olas Chemist fits the definition of a family owned business having been passed down over three generations.

"I am actually a third generation pharmacist. My dad, my uncles, and my grandfather all owned what you would consider old fashioned pharmacies," said Marc Leach, owner and head pharmacist of Las Olas Chemist.

Hoping to follow in his family's footsteps, Leach bought his first pharmacy in Fort Lauderdale 20 years ago. After some time, he realized it didn't fit his vision of what a pharmacy should look like.

"It didn't feel like what I thought a pharmacy should be. It just sort of looked like any other chain pharmacy," he said. With the vision of that charming old fashioned pharmacy in mind, Leach took a chance and opened Las Olas Chemist on the famed Las Olas Boulevard and it has become the go-to pharmacy for locals.

Aside from offering traditional over-the-counter prescription medicine, visitors can purchase a variety of herbal and homeopathic supplements, gifts and more when visiting this quaint boutique neighborhood pharmacy.

"We take a very different approach to pharmacy by offering products to our customers that you can't find anywhere else," Leach said. Yet, where Leach and his fellow pharmacists really pride themselves on being different from their competitors is their expertise in customer service that is tailored to each and every customer that comes into their store.

"I believe the only way to dispense medication is to dispense it along with information," he said.

He said he has found that it was more common than not that people forget to follow certain instructions that came with their medication. For Leach, remedying this was as easy as reminding his customers when picking up their prescription to do things like take it with food or to not mix certain medications which unfortunately not many other pharmacists take the time to do.

"I found that dispensing the medication without that consultation, you're not doing a whole lot of good for the patient," he said.

At the end of the day, however, the reason Leach has found as much success as he has with Las Olas Chemist can be seen in how much he cares for his patients and their wellbeing.

"The satisfaction of really knowing that you helped someone and improved their health in a positive way is why I do what I do," said Leach. (1)



LAS OLAS CHEMIST Owner: Marc Leach Number of employees: 3 Address: 1211 E. Las Olas Blvd., Fort Lauderdale Phone: (954) 462-4166 Website: stores.healthmart.com/lasolaschemist/stores.aspx



BY PHIL PURCELL CEO/President, Marine Industries Association of South Florida Writer Liz Wegerer



SECOND TO NONE

THE NAUTICAL INFLUENCE ON OUR CULINARY SCENE

A s they say in the real estate business, location is everything. Proving this old adage true, Fort Lauderdale has grown into a regional powerhouse, thanks in large part to its proximity to abundant navigable waterways. Throw in a climate that boasts nearly year-round sunshine, balmy temperatures, and a robust marine infrastructure, and it's no surprise the city has become a mecca for boaters from around the world.

Admirably, Fort Lauderdale's culinary scene has kept pace with the city's phenomenal growth. Today you can find restaurants that run the gamut from barefoot beach shacks to five-star establishments and everything in between. Not surprisingly, the city's dining selection is heavily influenced by the area's most abundant natural resource – water.

Everyone from international chefs to acclaimed restauranteurs to entrepreneurs with an idea have infused their Fort Lauderdale-area restaurants with the nautical vibe that has spurred Fort Lauderdale's growth for decades. From menus to décor to service, the marine lifestyle can be observed in all corners of the city's thriving and vibrant restaurant scene.

Take, for example, YOT Bar & Kitchen. The creative brainchild of legendary restauranteur Mike Linder, YOT follows in the footsteps of his previous creations, Jet Runway Café and Silver Linings Inflight Catering. An upscale eatery ensconced on the waterfront of the Lauderdale Marine Center on the New River, YOT also offers yacht provisioning services. This nod to the demands of visiting boats and crews reflects a deep understanding of the needs of those who make Fort



Lauderdale a destination on their global sailing itineraries.

But it's not all about catering to visiting yachts. A little farther down the New River, you'll find The Wharf. This open-air event space was designed as an entertainment destination that includes pop-up food trucks helmed by some of the region's most notable chefs, including Dean James Max, Timon Balloo, and Jose Mendin. Wharf designers, understanding the unique demands of Fort Lauderdale residents and visitors, included nearly 500 feet of dock space to ensure this new multi-use project was not just on the water but accessible by water, too.

Then there are those unique concept spots that couldn't exist anywhere but Florida. Located on the sandbar just north of 17th Street, Jay's Sandbar Floating BBQ plies its trade — pork barbecue and alligator bites — to hungry boaters, swimmers and paddlers every Saturday and Sunday from a pontoon vessel anchored near the sandbar. Just swim up and order. It's casual establishments like these that add to Fort Lauderdale's colorful reputation as a foodie destination.

Of course, there's reason to get in a car and head inland, too. Upscale restaurants like Casa D'Angelo and the ultra-exclusive Secret Garden Dining Club (available only to dining club members or guests of The Pillars Hotel), offer five-star experiences that are worth the drive.

For those looking for a slightly more casual driving destination, Cap's Place is also worth the trek eight miles north. Accessible only by motor launch from a private dock next to Lighthouse Point Yacht Basin & Marina, Cap's is on the National Register of Historic Places and boasts that you can "enjoy Florida like it used to be." Having served a bevy of famous and infamous names over its nearly eight-decade history, Cap's definitely has the authentic, old school Florida vibe dialed in.

There is no doubt that Fort Lauderdale has grown into a world-class destination for culinary adventure. From five-star restaurants to floating food trucks, there's something for every palate. But I would be remiss if I didn't call out a local favorite.

Without a doubt, Hot Dog Heaven holds a place in many local hearts, including mine. For more than 40 years, the husband-and-wife team of Barry and Pamela Star have been serving up authentic Chicago-style dogs and other street food classics from their unassuming hot dog stand on Sunrise Boulevard. You haven't truly visited Fort Lauderdale if you don't make a stop here. Bon appétit!



BY MARTY KIAR Property Appraiser Broward County



NEW FREE SERVICE

PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY FROM SCAMS OR FRAUD

Owner Alert Notification Service

he Broward County Property Appraiser's Office is pleased to announce Owner Alert – a free service designed to help you protect your property from scams or fraud by notifying you if a document is received by our office changing the ownership of your property.

Property fraud is a very serious issue! Criminals can record fraudulent deeds transferring ownership and then try to mortgage, sell or rent the property. Owner Alert helps stop these unlawful acts. Let's work together to protect your home from possible fraud.

Subscribing to this service is quick and easy – simply visit our website at https://web.bcpa.net/owneralert to register your property. There is no fee for this service and you can unsubscribe at any time.

Ownership records are changed based on deeds recorded with the Broward County Records Division and then provided to our office. BCPA has no legal authority to determine whether a deed is fraudulent. Once registered, Owner Alert will notify you if there is a change of ownership to your property and provide you with important information.

If you have any questions about the Owner Alert notification service, please call (954) 357-5579 or email us at OwnerAlert@bcpa.net.

Commercial Property Surveys

Covid-19 has seriously impacted our community and everyone has felt its effect in some way. To help our office better understand any impact this pandemic has had on businesses, our office recently mailed a letter to all commercial and apartment building owners. Any information provided by local business owners will assist our office with accurately determining a fair and just market value for these properties for the upcoming 2021 tax year.

Should you have any questions about this survey, please call (954) 357.6835 or email IncExp@bcpa.net.

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. (9)



LAS OLAS' VIBRANT EXPERIENCE ALONG THE NEW RIVER

WRITER RENÉE K. QUINN



've lived, worked and played in Fort Lauderdale most of my life. I'm a Riverwalk advisory board member, past president of Riverwalk Trust, and more recently, a resident of Downtown Fort Lauderdale. During all this time, I've been passionate about encouraging the activation of our Riverwalk Park. That's why I am proud to have my banner along the Riverwalk connection next to Las Olas' newest experience, SALT 7, led by Executive Chef Paul Niedermann.

I spent time with SALT 7's president/owner John A. Kostoglou, who has lived locally for the past few years getting ready to open his successful Delray Beach concept at the Icon Las Olas.

Let's get the obvious question out of the way: SALT 7 stands for seven blends of sea salt from around the world that are used to season the restaurant's dishes.

HOW DID YOU CREATE YOUR CONCEPT?

The concept was created approximately 20 years ago. In my own experience going out to dinner, I would be out with friends and we would have a great dinner and then we were always looking for somewhere else to go.

It came to the point when everyone became tired of nightclubs so essentially everyone went home after dinner. I believed that we could create a great dining experience with music and a fun atmosphere.

Therefore we came up with Eat Stay and Play. After years of development in Cleveland I have always had a

love for the state of Florida. My business partner, George Valantasis, is from Florida, and he is my cousin. He came to work with me in Ohio and learned all aspects of operations. During that time we both wanted to be in Florida so we started developing a concept that we would bring to Florida. We found our location in Delray Beach and this is where SALT 7 started nine years ago. We are now the proud owners of SALT 7 Fort Lauderdale.

FAVORITE COCKTAILS

Two of my favorites are the staple Island Time (a spirited blueberry lemonade) and the Icon Watermelon (pictured). Our cocktail program is developed by talented mixologist Timmie Hoffman for the Fort Lauderdale location.

TREND FOR 2021

Because of the pandemic and people being cooped up, we think that the major food trend in 2021 will be food that brings joy. Not "comfort food" but food that makes you think about other memories or gets you outside of what's happening in the world.

Our Fruity Pebbles Sundae would be a good example. It brings you back to childhood. Our Sushi Pizza is such a fun take on a sushi and pizza combo.

You mix a fun/vibrant menu with a great atmosphere and that's what we feel like diners will be looking for in 2021. *I believe the light is shining through for the restaurant industry.*





CHEF PAUL NIEDERMANN was born and raised in Cooper City, Florida. He moved to

City, Florida. He moved to Miami and then eventually Los Angeles, where he entered and won a reality cooking show called "Hell's Kitchen."



Cooking runs in my family so I knew I had to carry a legacy that my family loves and in return, makes other people happy! My father was the executive chef for some predominant Florida restaurants and even ran a college university's kitchen back in the day. My mom was a whiz, whipping up home-cooked meals my entire life. With both my parents so great in the kitchen, I was exposed to two completely different cooking styles and knew I wanted to be a chef.

What I did not know was that my world was about to be turned upside down before even turning 30. Winning 'Hell's Kitchen' (in 2011) was not just a highlight but something that really set my career in a path I never could have imagined.

WHAT WAS IT LIKE BEING ON 'HELL'S KITCHEN'?

Imagine trying to do your job with a bunch of other people who are equally talented and someone you have idolized your entire life is on the side line judging your every move. Now imagine 17 cameras pointed at you and a million people watching from their homes.

The pressure was intense and failure was something that I would not look at. Having Gordon Ramsay on set was intense enough, but when you throw everything I mentioned into the mix, you now have a recipe for great T.V. but some very stressed out chefs.

The panic and stress you see on T.V. are very real but I wouldn't change it for the world. Making it on the show was an accomplishment on its own but winning was one of the pinnacles of my career. Of course, you get some money and an awesome job after you win but the experiences proceeding were the highlights.

WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU'RE NOT COOKING?

Friends and family are very important to me so when I'm not at work I really enjoy taking advantage of one of Florida's biggest pastimes, fishing. It allows me to unwind and just forget the stress of working in a kitchen. Besides that I'm really big into sourcing the finest local ingredients from unexpected places so I can bring them into the kitchen and share them with my guests. Even when I'm not working, I'm working. Funny how that works but it works I guess, ha-ha.



POWER PLANTS

UNLOCKING THE FLAVORS OF HERBS AND SPICES

WRITERS RENÉE K. QUINN WITH PENNY SANFILIPPO AND JONNY ALTOBELL, THE UGLY SISTERS

ngela Dugan is out to change the way you drink — one cocktail at a time.

We recently had the totally enjoyable experience of visiting Dugan and Dame — a modern apothecary facility in Palm Beach County. The term apothecary is used here on purpose. Although Angela creates specialty add-ins for cocktails, the process is very time honored. Her expertise as a mixologist and credentials in nutrition and herbalism meld together in the creative tonics and bitters produced at their facility.

The "their" is Angela and her husband Vaughan, who started the business after the birth of their first child.

It's a no frills working space, with a bar included, where Angela whipped up a couple of favorites for us. There are also shelves and shelves of organic or wild crafted dried herbs — some from far places and others from here in the Sunshine State.

As people who appreciate plants for cooking, and herbs and spices for their flavors, it was nearly visual overload. Some names we recognized (and have grown ourselves) while others were much more esoteric. The couple had to obtain FDA approval before producing products commercially for public consumption. Many of the tinctures produced



must be steeped in alcohol to release their flavors, and of course, act as a preservative. The volume of alcohol, though varied from flavor to flavor, is no greater than vanilla extract when measured by a drop or two in a recipe.

Angela designed her "tonics" with specific alcohol profiles in mind. The three flavors she produces are mixtures of various wild crafted botanicals, citrus peel and pure Florida cane sugar. Suggested dilution is one half to 1 ounce tonic syrup topped with club soda. This produces a refreshing, but not too sweet drink to which alcohol may (or not) be added. You can vary the amount for more intensity of flavor (or sweetness).





The Classic Tonic was produced with gin in mind (see page 36) and the familiar bitterness is provided by Quassia tree bark — not quinine.

The next two tonics are a complete departure from any pre-bottled drink you've ever had.

Five Spice brings to mind exotic Oriental cuisine — with as they state " ... encompassing all five flavors — sweet, sour, bitter, pungent and salty." It begs to be paired with a bold tequila, or Asian whiskey.

And finally, Smoke'n Flowers has hints of smoke (yea! No more lighting a lump of wood and capturing it in a glass for trendy smoked cocktails!) plus delicately infused flower petals. Great with whiskies or bitter cordials. As someone who likes to cook — but not necessarily wanting to do all the steps necessary for truly fancy drinks — the hard work has been done for you.

But wait ... there's more.

Dugan and Dame's Bitters are so unusual that you can look like a pro bartender with a few drops of any of their five varieties. They can also act as a substitute for tamer vanilla and/or almond extracts in cooking for a treat.

Bitter Ghost contains not only the herbal magic mix of their bitters, but Florida-grown Ghost Peppers (HOT!).

The Lady Gray reminds you of a great cup tea as Bergamot and Cardamom peep through. We found the use of Florida native Yaupon Holly (Ilex sp.) leaves fascinating as a stand in for classic tea leaves. Sassy, which makes use of a couple of famous native plants — sassafras and sarsaparilla both with centuries of usage in medicine and beverages. Morning Wood is a part of a partnership between Dugan and Dame and local coffee producers resulting in a very rich coffee flavor with a hint of licorice.

And finally, a classic aromatic with blends of spices, roots and flowers without the added sweetness that many aromatic bitters have. And the fun part — you can order a Cocktail Bitters Bar Pack with all five flavors on their web site (www.dugananddame.com). It's a perfect gift for yourself (or others). The tonics are also available online. We hope to see them in some local liquor stores soon. Be sure to ask for them until then.

It's a long way from her girlhood and the family kitchen in Oklahoma to South Florida, but we're so glad Angela made that journey.

Cheers! 🕲

Continued on page 36



SOME TAKES ON TONICS AND BITTERS

TONIC

The same root word as "tone." In traditional medicine, tonics help restore balance rather than cure a single ailment. They are often bitter, as bitter substances increase salivation and can aid in digestion.

GIN AND TONIC

This famous "tonic" is made with quinine, extracted from the bark of the <u>Cinchona</u> tree and was an anti-malarial treatment used by the British during their colonization of India. Problem? The tonic was so unpalatable soldiers would not consume it. The medics soon realized that some additive was necessary: enter gin.

This was a much different concoction than we now know, being mostly gin, the bitter tonic and no carbonation or sugar. The drink became famous in Britain because of India, but the tree is actually from Peru and other locations in South America (where it was used medicinally to treat malaria centuries prior to the advent of Europeans). The active component has never been successfully synthesized; therefore, demand is still great. Africa is now a world leader in the growth of <u>Cinchona calisaya</u> with smaller amounts from South America. The bitter used in Dugan and Dame's tonic is from another South American species, <u>Quassia amara</u>, which is also an effective anti-malarial and reportedly part of the formula for the famous Angostura Bitters

BITTERS AND MEDICINE

Bitters are made very much like medicines of old. That is, leaves, flowers, roots and even bark are decocted in a base (usually alcohol) to extract flavors and plant compounds. They were even available during Prohibition in the United States despite often being mostly alcohol. The bitter flavors historically serve to stimulate appetite and increase digestion and many famous aperitifs have been developed by Europeans: Peychaud's, Campari, Fernet Branca and Amer Picon among them.



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



A POWER WHICH DIRECTLY INFLUENCES THE SOUL COLOR IS THE KEYBOARD, THE EYES THE HAMMER THE SOUL IS THE PIANO WITH MANY STRINGS, THE ARTIST IS THE HAND WHICH PLACES, TOUCHING OF NEY OR ANOTHER TO CAUSE VIBRATION IN THE SOUL.



GENERAL EVENTS

Uther Spaces and Worlds: Painting the Beautiful, the Sacred and the Absurd April 2, 2021 Virtual lecture and talk by Jackie Tileston The Frank Virtual 954-392-2120 www.thefrankgallery.org

Easter Beach Yoga April 4, 2021 For all levels Fort Lauderdale Beach Yoga & Fitness Fort Lauderdale Beach 954-609-9074 www.BeachYogaFit.com



Cooking for Hope — Chef Dean Max April 7, 2021 Celebrity cooking class and fundraiser House of Hope Virtual 954-524-8989 www.houseofhope.org

Theresa Caputo Live: The Platinum Experience April 10-11, 2021 Famous Medium Broward Center for the Performing Arts 954-462-0222 www.browardcenter.org



Kevin Nealon April 11, 2021 Comedic performer of Saturday Night Live fame Broward Center for the Performing Arts 954-462-0222 www.browardcenter.org

Dinner on the Square April 14, 2021 Discussion on response to Covid-19 Broward College — The Village Square Virtual 954-201-7048 www.broward.villagesquare.us

Ken Peplawski Quartet April 14, 2021 With special guest Wendy Pederson Gold Coast Jazz Broward Center for the Performing Arts 954-462-0222 www.browardcenter.org

Assemblage: The Art of the Found Object April 15, 2021 Painting workshop for teens The Frank Virtual 954-392-2120 www.thefrankgallery.org



Jonathan Antoine April 16, 2021 Musician from Britain's Got Talent Parker Playhouse 954-462-0222 www.browardcenter.org

Dave Mason: The Feelin' Alright Tour April 22, 2021 Rock & Roll Hall of Fame artist Broward Center for the Performing Arts 954-462-0222 www.browardcenter.org

The Sound of Music at MDDS April 24, 2021 Family-friendly classics and science of stringed instruments Musicfor America Museum of Discovery & Science 954-467-6637 www.mods.org

Program VI — Spring Gala April 24-25, 2021 End-of-season performance Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida Broward Center for the Performing Arts 305-947-3998 www.artsballettheatre.org

IDth Annual Walk Like MADD Fort Lauderdale 5K April 25, 2021 In-person and virtual 5K fundraiser for MADD Mothers Against Drunk Driving Huizenga Plaza & Virtual

954-448-7880 www.walklikemadd.org/fortlauderdale

Heal the Planet Day April 25, 2021 Family-friendly Earth Day celebration Heal the Planet Esplanade Park www.healtheplanet.com



FLO'theLOVEofMusic

May 1, 2021 World debut showcasing multiple performers from around the world Broward Center for the Performing Arts 954-462-0222 www.browardcenter.org

The Taste The Islands Experience May 8, 2021 Caribbean culinary celebration The Taste The Islands Experience Charles F. Dodge City Center www.titexperience.com



The Manhattan Transfer May 14, 2021 Grammy award-winning vocal group Parker Playhouse 954-462-0222 www.browardcenter.org



Buddy Guy and the Kenny Wayne Shepherd Band May 14, 2021 *Two bands join together for blues concert* Broward Center for the Performing Arts 954-462-0222 www.browardcenter.org

LIMITED ENGAGEMENT

Changing Landscapes Through April 22 Annual environmental exhibit ArtServe 954-462-8190 www.artserve.org

Beyand the Shimmering Waters Through May 28 Everglades and Immokalee Photography History Fort Lauderdale 954-463-4431 www.historyfortlauderdale.org

Necessary Trouble Through May 28 *Civil Rights Era Photography and Contemporary Art* Girls Club 954-828-9151 www.girlsclubcollection.org

The World of Anna Sui Through October 3, 2021 Exhibit of famed New York fashion designer NSU Art Museum 954-525-5500 www.nsuartmuseum.org

I Paint My Reality

Through Fall 2021 Surrealism in Latin America NSU Art Musuem 954-525-5500 www.nsuartmuseum.org

ONGOING

Historic Stranahan House Guided Tours Daily at 1, 2 & 3 PM *Tours of the historic Stranahan House* Historic Stranahan House Museum 954-524-4736 www.stranahanhouse.org

\$10 Tuesday

Every Tuesday Discounted admission on Tuesdays Museum of Discovery & Science 954-467-6637 www.mods.org

Bonnet House Upstairs/

Dawnstairs tours 2nd & 4th Wednesday VIP tours of normally closed areas of the estate Bonnet House Museum & Gardens 954-563-5393 www.bonnethouse.org

Free First Thursday Sunny Days

First Thursday Free admision and 2-4-1 beer and wine NSU Art Museum 954-525-5500 www.nsuartmuseum.org

Bank of America: Museums on Us

First full weekend Free admission to NSU Art Museum for BoA customers NSU Art Museum 954-525-5500 www.nsuartmuseum.org

Bank of America: Museums on Us

First full weekend Free admission to MODS for BoA customers Museum of Discovery & Science 954-467-6637 www.mods.org

Las Olas Oceanside Park Market Saturdavs

An eclectic array of traiditional fair, handmade goods and more The Market Company Las Olas Oceanside Park 305-531-0038 facebook.com/oceansideparkmarket

FTL Art Walk

Last Saturday Monthly event for art lovers and enthusiasts MASS District 954-866-3890 www.massdistrict.com

Free Fort Lauderdale Neighbor Day Last Sunday

Fort Lauderdale residents receive free admission NSU Art Museum 954-525-5500 www.nsuartmuseum.org





TRIBUTE TO HEALTHCARE HEROES

Broward Health Foundation's Tribute to Healthcare Heroes raises more than \$225,000 for Covid-19 relief fund.



SPREADING SMILES DENTAL PARADE

Children's Diagnostic and Treatment Center hosted a drive-through dental-themed parade for special needs and at-risk children on Feb. 27.



HANDY (Helping Abused Neglected Disadvantaged Youth), Broward College and Twenty6North Productions unveiled the first of six murals in Broward County.



GREGORY HAILE, PRESIDENT OF BROWARD College; and Melissa Shiff and Lina Nageondelestang, handy board members



ARTIST NATE DEE AND KRISTEN NELSON, HANDY DIRECTOR of grant development and compliance



KIRK BROWN, CEO OF HANDY, KANECIA And Kametrius, Handy Youth PHOTOS PROVIDED BY CHILDREN'S DIAGNOSTIC AND TREATMENT CENTER

BUY A BRICK FOR THAT SPECIAL SOMEONE

Commemorate your loved one with a brick along Fort Lauderdale's Riverwalk. Signature Bricks are available for any occasion and make perfect gifts. Bricks are installed once a month, so order yours today! Gift certificates available.

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44

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*Valid for up to four guests through April 30, 2021. Cannot be combined with other offers and/or discounts. The Discovery Pass includes access to all Museum exhibits, demonstrations, wildlife, outdoor science park and one IMAX film (based on availability). Tickets are valid during normal Museum operating hours and do not apply to special events or member programming. For hours and pricing, please visit mods.org.



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