

GO RIVERWALK



FORT LAUDERDALE'S CITY MAGAZINE

A PUBLICATION OF RIVERWALK FORT LAUDERDALE • SINCE 2003 • VOL.18 NO. 9 SEPTEMBER 2021

36TH ANNUAL FORT LAUDERDALE
INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL



SOCIALLY PRESENT WHILE BEING PHYSICALLY DISTANT



The Tower Club provides a safe space with the best views in town.

- The tables and chairs are sanitized with a hydrogen peroxide based solution
- Upgraded A/C filtration for the entire Club to meet the CDC guidelines
- All employees wear masks
- Employees wear different color gloves for different purposes to prevent cross contamination
- The staff has been tested and continue to get voluntary test once every two weeks
- The Club is set to be socially distanced
- Everyone entering the Club is scanned for a fever prior to entering
- Bathrooms are disinfected hourly

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ON THE COVER

The poster for FLIFF 2021 was created by designer and artist Andy Royston. The photograph on which the poster is based, 'Board Girl, Morning Light', was taken on Fort Lauderdale beach at dawn.
www.instagram.com/andrewroyston/



A publication of Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale



9/11 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 and honors the nearly 3,000 lives lost on September 11th, 2001.

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.

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
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BUY A BRICK

BECAUSE YOUR PET IS SPECIAL, TOO!

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.

For more information, call Riverwalk at (954) 468-1541 or email bricks@goriverwalk.com
Visit www.GoRiverwalk.com



The Riverwalk comes alive the first Sunday of each month with three stages showcasing talented local jazz ensembles. The Sunday Jazz Brunch is sponsored by the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, and Stephens Distributing.

First Sunday of Each Month

2021: September 5 | October 3 | November 7 | December 5

11 AM - 2 PM | Esplanade Park | 400 SW 2nd Street, Fort Lauderdale



parks.fortlauderdale.gov



[@playlauderdale](https://www.instagram.com/playlauderdale)



PHOTO BY JASON LEIDY

GO RIVERWALK

FORT LAUDERDALE'S CITY MAGAZINE

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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 September 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.



20TH ANNIVERSARY 9-11 REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY

Saturday, September 11, 2021 | 9:00 AM
9-11 Monument on Riverwalk

*The monument is located on the north side of the New River
near SW 1st Avenue and Las Olas Boulevard*

Riverwalk, in partnership with the City of Fort Lauderdale, will host a 9-11 Remembrance Ceremony to honor all those who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks and commemorate the ultimate sacrifices made by our first responders.



The Riverwalk 9-11 Monument displays a rail segment from the tracks of the PATH (Port Authority Trans-Hudson) rapid transit station that was located at the World Trade Center. After picking up the last passengers on September 11, 2001 at 9:10 a.m., the station was buried under the rubble of the collapsed towers. The monument displays the rail in an uplifted position supported by granite pillars, which symbolize the solid bedrock of Manhattan that supports its massive buildings.



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



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CONDOMINIUM

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LOW**
INVENTORY AT
LAS OLAS GRAND

JUST SOLD!

ASHLEY

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.

JUST SOLD!

ASHLEY

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.

JUST LISTED

CHAMPANGE | \$999,000

2 BEDROOM 2.5 BATH

Direct river views, marble floors throughout, gourmet kitchen with stainless steel appliances, custom closets, built in office & two spacious terraces.

JUST SOLD!

BRADFORD

2 BEDROOM 2 BATH

High floor residence with outstanding river & city views from every room, large covered terrace, gourmet kitchen with top of the line appliances.

*We Have Sold Over 226
Las Olas Grand Properties!*



JUST LISTED

PALMS ON VENICE

3 BEDROOM+DEN | 3.5 BATH | \$3,195,000

Spectacular fully furnished designer penthouse, soaring 15' ceilings, floor to ceiling windows, bosch appliances, italian cabinetry, summer kitchen, private elevator, motorized window treatments & over 2,000 sq. ft. of terrace.



LAS OLAS
RIVER HOUSE

COLUMBUS | 875,000

2 BEDROOM + DEN 3 BATH

City skyline & pool views from every room. Private elevator with double door entry, floor to ceiling glass, 9 ft ceilings, 2 balconies, large gourmet eat in kitchen, motorized window treatments and modern bathrooms.

JUST SOLD!

CHELSEA

2 BEDROOM 2.5 BATH

High floor unit with river & vibrant city views! Light & bright split bedroom floor plan, polished marble floors, opened kitchen.

LEXINGTON | \$829,000

2 BEDROOM 2.5 BATH

Stunning city & river views. Gourmet kitchen, breakfast nook, marble floors, 2 glass balconies & floor to ceiling windows.

JUST SOLD!

LEXINGTON

2 BEDROOM 2.5 BATH

Marble & hardwood floors, split bedroom plan with flow-through design & two balconies offering fabulous north and south river views.

UNDER CONTRACT

SOHO

2 BEDROOM 2 BATH

River views from every room, semi private elevator foyer, wood floors throughout, Sneidero kitchen cabinets and black granite counter tops.



100
Las Olas

UNDER CONTRACT

2 BEDROOM+DEN | 3 BATH

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.



JOHN D'ANGELO | WWW.DANGELOREALTY.COM | 954.463.9881

WE HAVE SOLD OVER 1310 LAS OLAS CONDOS!

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



JUST SOLD! 3 BEDROOM 2 BATH

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.

JUST LISTED 2 BEDROOM 2 BATH | \$479,000

Most desired 2 bedroom floor plan in the building with elevated 11 foot ceilings. Direct river & ocean views from every room, & sparkling city skylines at night.

UNDER CONTRACT 1 BEDROOM 1 BATH

Highly upgraded sub penthouse level condo, unobstructed west facing view of the river, city & spectacular sunsets. 11 ft ceilings and gourmet kitchen.

1 BEDROOM 1 BATH | \$349,000

Stunning direct river views! Covered terrace, open living areas, gourmet kitchen with granite counter tops and stainless steel appliances.



JUST LISTED

GRAND PENTHOUSE | 3BD/3BA | \$2,495,000

A rare haven of custom designed space & glorious light, enjoy stunning views at any hour; morning sunrises over the ocean & dramatic sunsets over the sparkling skyline of Fort Lauderdale. Over 3100 sq. ft. of luxury finishes.

JUST LISTED 2 BEDROOM | 2 BATH | \$559,000

East facing residence with extended terrace and spectacular views. Modern design, prime parking space and storage locker included.

JUST LISTED 2 BEDROOM | 2 BATH | \$529,000

High floor residence with stunning views, bamboo & tile floors, custom built-ins, new refrigerator & washer/dryer. Storage locker included.

UNDER CONTRACT 2 BEDROOM | 2 BATH

Outstanding sub-penthouse with city views from every room, high floor corner unit! Jerusalem marble stone floors throughout.



JUST SOLD!

SEAVIEW

3 bedroom 2 bath "penthouse" with panoramic views of the ocean, intracoastal & river! 10 Ft. ceilings & "wrap around" balconies.

UNDER CONTRACT

MOONGLOW

2 bedroom 2 bathroom sub penthouse corner unit with extended wrap around balcony, dramatic panoramic ocean, city & river views from every room.

UNDER CONTRACT

SKYVIEW

Exquisitely upgraded high floor 2 bedroom 2 bathroom featuring beautiful river views, gourmet kitchen, walk in closets & spacious extended balcony.

UNDER CONTRACT

SUNGARDEN

Upgraded, stunning, sleek & modern 1 bedroom 1 bathroom condo featuring spectacular direct river, city & sunset views.

JUST LISTED SUNGARDEN | \$385,000

1 bedroom 1 bathroom with gorgeous sunset views, spacious gourmet kitchen, large master bedroom, 2 built in closets and dual access bathroom.

UNDER CONTRACT

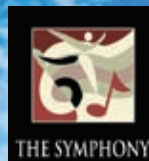
SUNGARDEN

1 bedroom 1 bathroom w/ unobstructed river & sunset views from glass balcony.

UNDER CONTRACT

SUNGARDEN

Upgraded 1 bedroom 1 bathroom with unobstructed direct river views.



JUST LISTED 3 BEDROOM | 2.5 BATH | \$729,000

Highly desired corner unit in south tower overlooking the new river with 2 parking spaces! Gourmet kitchen with granite countertops, large corner balcony, limestone flooring in living area & carpet in bedrooms.

JUST SOLD!

2 BEDROOM | 2 BATH

Outstanding views of the river, the pool and your OWN 40' boat dock, wrap around balcony, limestone floors and 2 parking spaces.

JUST LISTED

2 BEDROOM | 2 BATH | \$389,000

Spectacular river and pool views, gourmet kitchen with stainless steel appliances, large balcony and carpet floors in the bedrooms.

UNDER CONTRACT

2 BEDROOM | 2 BATH

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



BY JOHN ROPES
Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale Chair



A BIT SUNNIER HERE

THE UPS AND DOWNS OF LOCAL REAL ESTATE

The residential real estate market continues to climb throughout the U.S. and especially South Florida and Fort Lauderdale. Why is South Florida such a hot market? Low taxes, open for business, and great weather. People are relocating in droves from northeast and western states and experiencing bidding wars on residential real estate here in South Florida, which is raising home values and sales.

In fact, the number of single-family home sales increased to 23.6 percent overall throughout the state from June 2020 to June 2021 according to data by Florida Realtors, and the average sales price increased by 36 percent. In addition, rent in the city of Fort Lauderdale has risen. According to Rentcafé data as of June 2021, rent here has risen 8 percent on average over all rental types since June of last year.

The commercial/office real estate market in Fort Lauderdale is straggling in comparison to residential, with office vacancy rates at 18.9 percent, according to Avison Young's second quarter report for 2021. There are hopes for filling some offices again with business relocations and offers of negotiated rental fees and terms. Business owners still seem to be questioning

the necessity for rented workspace, and some are utilizing new office solutions such as shared office space. These new office innovations have been created by companies like WeWork, Regus and Circle Hub, redesigning offices for collaborative and shared office suites, also offering varying short-term rentals.

The "ups" may continue to go up in residential and the "downs" should hopefully begin to neutralize and move upright if Fort Lauderdale succeeds with their push to attract new businesses to Downtown. They are gaining momentum in that respect, recently welcoming new businesses such as Future Tech, a technology firm, BelHealth Investment Partners, a small private equity fund, and Memic Innovative Surgery, a medical device and robotics surgery device company.

The country is still struggling to get back to new-normal with the Covid-19 pandemic, especially with concerns of the Delta variant. Florida, however, was rated No. 4 for rate of economic recovery in the U.S. in a study conducted by WalletHub. Everything is just a bit sunnier here in Florida, and Fort Lauderdale specifically.

See you on the Riverwalk! 



PHOTO BY JASON LEIDY



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BACK TO FUN

SEPTEMBER HEATS UP WITH A MULTITUDE OF EVENTS

Changes continue in our downtown with new projects working their way through the City system as we work to build a community of places with a multitude of things to do. Workers are returning to offices, meetings are held in person, and slowly, we are returning to a more normal existence. Challenges remain in dealing with Covid-19 but as vaccinations and testing continue, we are hopeful we will soon get ahead of this challenge.

With the new and updated changes going on, we find our community has again expressed a loud and boisterous desire to see events come back. The City of Fort Lauderdale Jazz Brunch, a longtime tradition, has returned, many of the local walks/runs,

charity events, Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show, Tortuga and others have proceeded through the permitting process and are back. Through the summer months, we have had the pleasure of Starlight Musicals as well as Carter Park Jamz, and other cool music and movie events.

September brings a number of new and returning events Downtown, including:

- Corporate Run on Sept. 2 at Huizenga Plaza
- Pre-Labor Day Festival on Sept. 4 at North Beach Restaurants and Shoppes
- Sunday Jazz Brunch returns on Sept. 5
- Shane Duncan Band Concert at the Las Olas Veranda on Sept. 10
- Tunnel to Towers 5K starting at Huizenga Plaza on Sept. 11
- 9/11 Monument Ceremony remembering that tragic day – 20 years ago, Sept. 11
- Get Downtown – Back to Work at Huizenga Plaza, Sept. 16
- Surf N 'Sounds hosted by Riverwalk at Esplanade Park Sept. 25
- History Fort Lauderdale on Riverwalk hosts New River Open Air Market weekly from 9 a.m. to 5 pm. on Sundays.

Remember events at Museum of Discovery & Science, Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Museum of Art, Bonnet House Museum & Gardens as well as features at Stranahan House and History Fort Lauderdale change often and can be easily located in the Riverwalk Calendar.

Go to this Riverwalk Calendar link where you can sign up for the Riverwalk weekly email blasts, and we will keep you up to date on all of the happenings: <https://www.goriverwalk.com/events/greater-fort-lauderdale-event-calendar>

Do not forget that Las Olas Oceanside Park is programmed every week with a market, yoga and more.

October and the following months are filling up quickly with more exciting things to do.

We are always looking for input from our readers as to the kind of things to do or enjoy and we will work to bring those to you and through our many partners.

Do not forget we are in hurricane season and while we are hoping none come our way – we remind you to be prepared ☹️

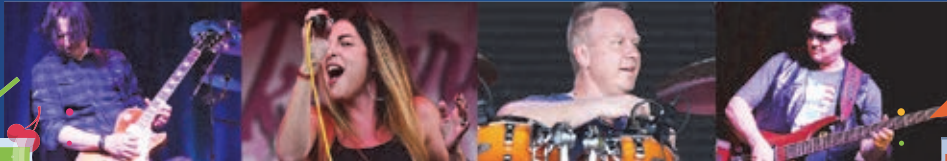




PRESENTS

GET DOWNTOWN BACK TO WORK!

FEATURING



STEEL
HOUSE

Join your fellow Downtown Fort Lauderdale
business people for happy hour in the park.
Cash bar, entertainment and more!

SEPTEMBER 16, 2021 | 5 to 8 PM
HUIZENGA PLAZA | 32 E. LAS OLAS BLVD.

Pre-register for free entry:
<https://tinyurl.com/RWGetBackDowntown>

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RIVERWALK MEMBERSHIP



TRUSTEE MEMBER

STEVEN HAINES

SYMPHONY OF THE AMERICAS

➊ Having grown up around music and raised by parents who were teachers, it was probably inevitable that I would find my home and career within the arts. Even though I have a degree in French and

international communications from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, I began working for a musical troupe right after graduation and have never looked back.

I first came to Florida in the early 1990s, working in marketing for the Boca Pops, Palm Beach Pops and eventually the Florida Philharmonic. My next round of travels took me to the Philadelphia Pops where I ultimately became the president/CEO and oversaw their budget grow from \$1 million to more than \$5 million annually.

When the chance came to return to Florida after stints in San Francisco and Tucson, I jumped at the opportunity. Now as the executive director of the Symphony of the Americas, my goal is to successfully bring the organization into the post-Covid era with a new music director and grow both musically and studiously. We wish to engage with new audiences and make symphony music accessible to everyone regardless of age or background. It's our belief that music can transform a society and be instrumental in building better communities.

While I don't currently have very much free time as I settle into my new role, I do enjoy biking and travel. I love the Riverwalk both aesthetically and for everything the organization does to make our community a beautiful and vibrant place to live which is one reason I became a member.



TRUSTEE MEMBER

VICTOR KENDALL

FLORIDA GRAND OPERA

➊ My entire career has been spent as a teacher and administrator in the performing arts, and public media. I earned my B.A. in music from John Dickinson College in Carlisle,

Pennsylvania, and M.A. in ethnomusicology from the University of Washington in Seattle, Washington. Early in my career, I was an instructor of music at Grinnell College, Franconia College, and Dickinson College.

In 1979, I received the National Endowment for the Arts Music Fellowship Grant and in 1980 won the American Symphony Orchestra League's coveted Orchestra Management Fellowship. More recently in 2019, my KUHF-FM 88.7 Chamber Music Ensemble was awarded a National Endowment for the Arts Chamber Music grant. Recently, I co-founded the American Zeitgeist Chamber Music Ensemble.

My career began as a production assistant for the National Symphony Orchestra, went on to be the administrative assistant to Lena Horne in "Lady and Her Music," then orchestra manager for the Long Island Philharmonic, and general manager for the Dance Theatre of Harlem. I also served as the executive director for the Queens Symphony Orchestra, president and CEO for the Texas Institute for the Arts in Education, and development director for the Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion. I also have served as the director of philanthropy and major gifts for KUHF-FM 88.7 Houston Public Radio, president and CEO for Friends of WLRN, and most recently chief advancement officer for Florida Grand Opera.

I understand the importance of being actively involved in the community and support those organizations that help make us thrive which is why I joined Riverwalk.

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

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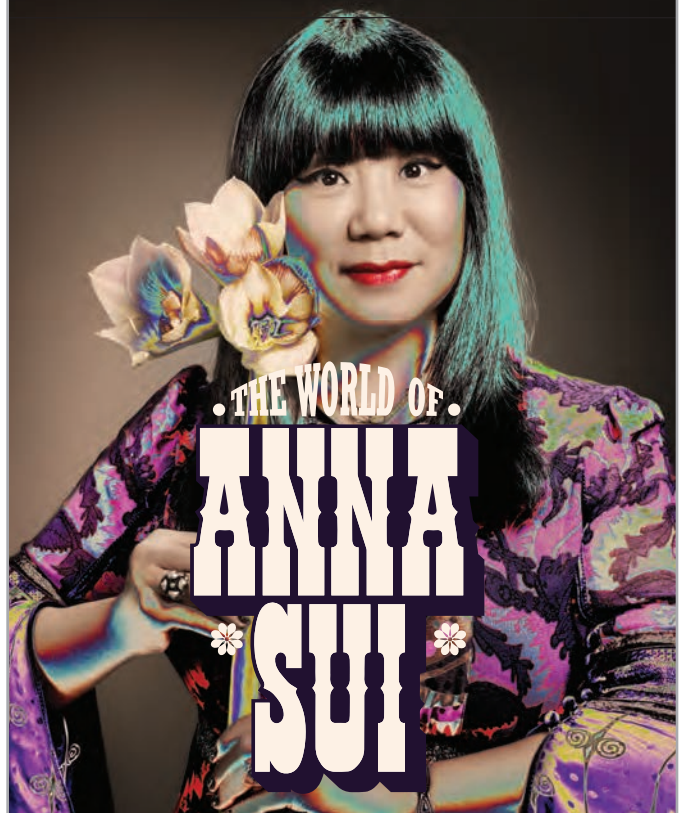
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Funding is also provided by the City of Fort Lauderdale, AutoNation, Community Foundation of Broward, Broward County Board of County Commissioners as recommended by the Broward Cultural Council and Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau, 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.



Photo by Joshua Jordan. Exhibition Organized by The Fashion and Textile Museum, London



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GREETING THE SEASON

Labor Day and the unofficial end of summer are upon us. For those living in Fort Lauderdale, we realize it's not time to start breaking out the boots and sweaters yet. For now, we're simply content knowing cooler temperatures and the Fall & Winter holiday season are drawing closer. Because, really, who of us doesn't look forward to *the most wonderful time of the year*? However, if you're one of those who get bummed out about summer's fateful end, read on to learn more about how we plan to close out summer and welcome the new seasons in.

BUT FIRST, SEPTEMBER

Continuing its weekly *'More at the Market'* programming, the **Las Olas Oceanside Park Farmers Market** will host pop-up fundraisers on select Saturday's. The first hosted event is a can food drive in honor of Hunger Action Month (Sept 18) to benefit Feeding South Florida.



Never miss a Monday workout. In mOcean at 6pm

Get a head start on working off all the seasonal treats the holiday season brings during **BOGO Workout Week (Sept. 6-12)**. Bring a friend or family member *free* to any one of our LO/OP Fit classes, courtesy of sponsors American Express & FLIPANY. View class details and register on theLOOPflb.com

If you have yet to experience **Movies by Moonlight**, the final film of the series, *La La Land* takes place **Fri, September 24**. Presented by the City of Fort Lauderdale BID, the movie coincides with the last week of **Dine Out Lauderdale**, making it the opportune time to enjoy a budget-friendly Dinner & A Movie night. As a special bonus, pick up a VIP ticket at participating beachfront Dine Out restaurants and receive a complimentary snack pack and chair or blanket courtesy of sponsor, **Boccacino Cafe & Pizzeria**. View website for details. *Free*.

FALL'S BEACHSIDE BOUNTY

October brings a bounty of events and activities throughout the LOOP Parks District, and an infinite number of experiences to enjoy Oceanside, along the Intracoastal and atop the Las Olas Beach Garage Terrace. Visit theLOOPflb.com for complete details



Friday Night Sound Waves returns 10/8-12/31

Friday Night Sound Waves returns to the LOOP, October 8 through December 31. If you recognize the familiar date which closes out the 2021 season series, the producers, title sponsor, the **Fort Lauderdale Beach BID** and the evening co-sponsor, **Elbo Room**, are planning an extended concert and activities on New Year's Eve from 6:30 pm - 1:00 am. From opening night with the **ReaXtion Band** to the final four-weekend spectacular, **WONDERLAND**, the free, family-friendly concerts will have a unique theme - starting with **Peter Meyer's Stars & Promises sponsored by Broward Cultural Division**, Thanksgiving weekend, and end with an 11-piece big band fronted by the celebrated Sinatra-crooner, **Jeff Granger** on Christmas Eve.

View the complete schedule at FridayNightSoundWaves.com

Fall's favorite traditions and flavors of the season come together October 23 during the inaugural **Pumpkins & Palm Trees** in conjunction with the Saturday Farmers Market at the LOOP. From a Pumpkin Patch to Photo Experiences, Live Music and Contests, as well as Arts & Crafts, Games and Weird Science activities for kids with MODS, the day-long fair offers a little something for everyone. *Free*.

The **Fort Lauderdale Concours presented by Lotus**, debut's **Fri, October 29** atop the Las Olas Beach Garage Sunset Terrace. This world-class, groundbreaking classic car show/cultural event celebrates the automobile and its convergence with art, music, fashion, and pop culture. \$\$\$\$



GOING UNDERGROUND

A POTENTIAL SOLUTION TO TRAFFIC CONGESTION

At our last meeting before a summer recess, the City Commission formally received a proposal from Elon Musk's The Boring Co. to build an underground transit system from Downtown to the beach via Las Olas Boulevard. We gave other companies 45 days to submit competing proposals for consideration.

This could be a real game-changer for Fort Lauderdale in how we address traffic congestion. An underground transit line could remove tourists and suburban beach-goers from street-level traffic, reducing the gridlock that city residents regularly face.

The exact details of The Boring Co.'s plans are confidential as we await any other proposals. However, The Boring Co.'s transit concept is fully operational in Las Vegas.

The system there carries passengers via dedicated Teslas in a pair of one-way tunnels underneath the city's massive convention center. Vegas and The Boring Co. are planning a major expansion that will extend the loop along the Strip.

The Teslas in the Vegas loop operate much like taxis. The number of Teslas in operation can vary based on demand. Drivers take passengers directly to their destination rather than making stops at each station. Eventually, Las Vegas wants state approval for the cars to be autonomous.

Our consideration of the idea is just beginning. Any proposal we favor will need to be studied from

a geotechnical standpoint and the financing of the project determined.

But these are not insurmountable.

Remember, we already have two tunnels in South Florida. The Kinney Tunnel was completed in 1960, and the Port of Miami a tunnel opened in 2014. Further, The Boring Co. dealt with a variety of subterranean conditions in Las Vegas, including building tunnels through a high water table.


In terms of financing, state and federal aid is possible as is money from the voter-approved transportation surtax. Other options include a ridership fee. The Boring Co. proved in Las Vegas that their system can be built at an affordable cost.

I view a route to and from the beach as the start of something bigger. When the city backed off construction of the Wave streetcar, all involved acknowledged that another public transit solution would need to be found considering the size of our city and growing traffic volume.

A second phase of an underground network could extend to the airport, seaport and convention center. Other future lines could be along Southeast 17th Street and Sunrise Boulevard or out west to the Nova Southeastern University campus, the Hard Rock casino and the Sawgrass Mills mall.

By pursuing transit networks, we are not taking away our focus from other priorities in the city.

Efforts to upgrade our aging water and sewer infrastructure are ahead of schedule, with the new central city sewer line is completed this summer. Work on addressing flooding is advancing, and our waterway cleanup project is well underway.

Nor are these the only solutions to traffic congestion we are pursuing. We are building a 17th Street bypass, improving traffic signalization on key corridors, and working with the state to ease congestion on Sunrise Boulevard. A study is underway of a rapid-transit loop downtown on Andrews and Third. We also are making headway on the creation of commuter rail service across South Florida. 





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CALLING FLORIDA HOME

STATE LEGISLATURE PRIORITIZES OUR NATURAL RESOURCES

Broward County has seen an influx of homeowners relocating amid the Covid-19 pandemic. Although Covid affected the economy extensively, it also caused property values in South Florida to soar, which led to a market rebound beginning in July 2020.

Individuals from the Northeast flocked to our community due to our great weather, low taxes and interest rates, a lower cost of living, and family friendly outdoor activities that were still being practiced amid an otherwise restricting period. Many have traded in their snow boots for sandals, and are paying cash for homes.

This trend has resulted in an increase in the median home sale price, making this a very competitive buyer's market. This is different from past real estate trends, because many people are not buying homes simply for the lifestyle that a second home provides. Many are buying to live here full-time. With this influx of residents comes the need for more schools, restaurants, cultural arts venues, and offices. In response, the state budget has allocated \$3.1 billion for state infrastructure, \$1.8 billion for environmental programs, \$1 billion for a new Emergency Preparedness and Response Fund, and \$438 million for education and economic support programs.

There is no doubt that those relocating to Broward County want to spend their fair share of time enjoying the outdoors and as such we have prioritized our natural resources by securing \$2.1 billion for Everglades restoration and the protection of our water resources, \$402 million for Florida Forever to conserve land, \$150 million for Beach Restoration Projects, and \$50.7 million for State Park Improvements, which are the two highest levels of funding for these projects in history.

To also assist with residents, Freedom Week Sales Tax Holiday was recently enacted that served as a seven-day recreation sales tax holiday from July 1 to July 7. This sales tax holiday waived taxes on admission to museums, live

music events, sporting events, cultural events, theaters, and state parks, fitness facility dues and fees, and outdoor recreation supplies, such as those needed for boating/water sports, camping, and fishing. I believe strongly that our commitment to embracing the outdoors promotes the wellness of everyone moving south.

Those relocating here who have never been through a hurricane will have the opportunity to prepare. We have funded a Disaster Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday, and we also have plenty of resources to refer to that will help you know what to expect and how to prepare (i.e., FloridaDisaster.org). Additionally, homeowners who take proactive measures to protect their property from flooding are being incentivized. Homeowners are encouraged to take the steps necessary to protect their homes and their families from the disastrous impacts of flooding by offering tax breaks to those who voluntarily elevate their property. This proposed constitutional amendment exempts the added value to the property from the elevation from property tax assessments.

This housing market boom is correlating to a historic low of homes being listed for sale and an increased demand for homes as many millennials are looking to buy a first home. With single-family homes being less available, there has been an increase in the sales of condos and townhomes. The cost of a single-family home in Broward County increased 6.1 percent, while the inventory of a single family home has decreased 53.5 percent, and condo prices increased 7.9 percent, while their inventory has decreased 45.7 percent. We are hopeful that this real-estate market will continue to help drive the local economy, but we will follow the trends that continue to benefit the Broward County real-estate market.

As always, it is an honor to represent you as your State Representative in Tallahassee. 

PHOTOS BY JASON LEIDY



CARBONELL AND SILVER PALM AWARD WINNERS

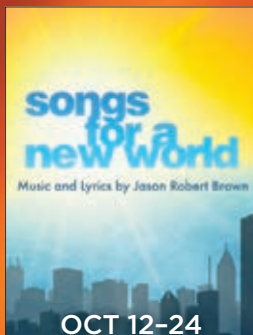


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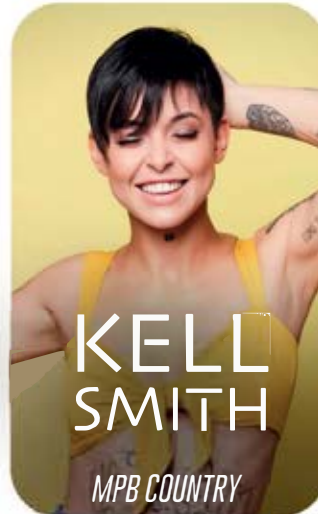
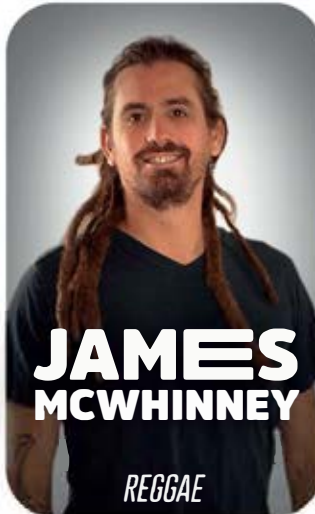
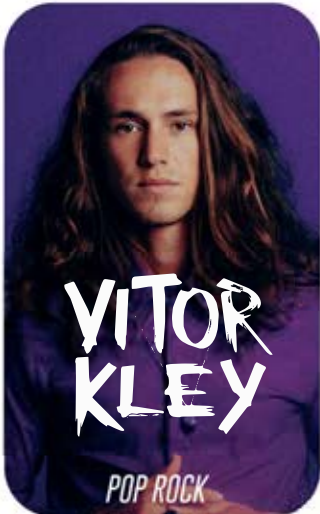
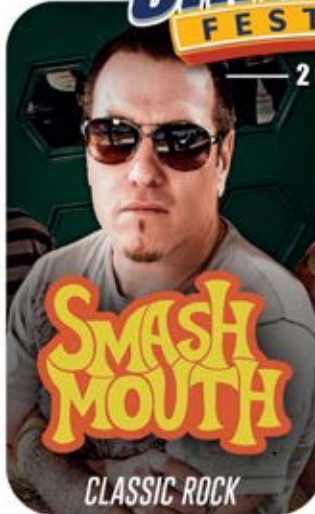


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BY PHIL THORNBURG

Director, Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation Department
Writer Angela Havell



LET'S DIVE IN

RENOVATIONS CONTINUE FOR FORT LAUDERDALE'S AQUATIC COMPLEX

The City of Fort Lauderdale continues its commitment to remaining a leader and pioneer in aquatic centers and swim training facilities by celebrating the completion of a permanent 27-meter precast concrete dive tower on July 1. The iconic platform is the first permanent high diving tower built not only in the U.S., but the western hemisphere as a whole, the second permanent dive tower in existence worldwide, and the only one to be constructed out of concrete.

Designed and built by Hensel Phelps Construction Company, the tower features nine flared platform levels resembling a ship's hull, for use in three different competitive sporting events: springboard, platform, and high diving. The 27-meter tower stands 101 feet above grade and requires a 162-step climb to the top.

The City held a dedication ceremony, which included the placement of the last crowning piece of the tower. The mayor, commissioners, and City staff hosted the event featuring several prominent divers, teams, and coaches as special guests including Fort Lauderdale Dive Team Olympians Head Coach Dave Burgering and Michelle Sandelin, World High Diving Champion Steven LoBue, the Fédération Internationale De Natation (FINA) High Diving Technical Committee Chairman, International Swimming Hall of Fame Chairman of the Board along with Olympians and national team members from the University of Miami representing the United States, Australia, Canada, Great Britain and Sweden.

The tower's distinctive and impressive design is already drawing interest; however, it's not the

only improvement that the City has planned for the International Swimming Hall of Fame Aquatic Center. Additional enhancements include a new FINA compliant diving pool to complement the tower as well as a FINA compliant competitive swimming pool. FINA is the international governing body of swimming recognized by the International Olympic Committee for administering international competitions in water sports. In light of the potential for high diving to become an Olympic event as early as 2024, the City's forward-thinking reinvestment has the capability to transform an initial renovation into an international attraction and prospective training facility for elite professional high divers.

The aquatic complex renovations will also feature a new two-story building that includes an open air rooftop amenity deck, teaching pool, training pool, expanded pool deck, grandstand, bleachers, stadium lighting, complete replacement of the existing south bath house building as well as overall parking improvements. The comprehensive renovations are expected to recapture the City's reputation as the swimming and diving capital of the world while ensuring access to swimmers and residents at all levels of expertise from beginner to expert world champions. 



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT



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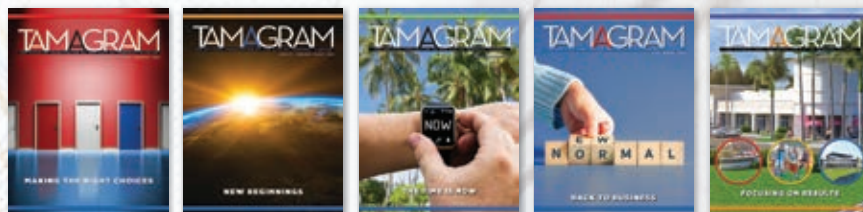
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BY KAREN WARFEL

City of Fort Lauderdale
Transportation Planning Program Manager

KINNEY TUNNEL TRANSFORMATION

WORK BEGINS THIS MONTH TO CREATE A BEAUTIFUL OPEN SPACE

The vision to transform the area above the Henry E. Kinney Tunnel into a public plaza that was born many years ago will soon come to fruition. Beginning in September, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) will start construction on the overall project which includes not only the creation of the plaza but also a complete rehabilitation of the tunnel itself and smart technology to improve traffic flow between I-595 and Broward Boulevard on US 1/ Federal Highway.

The area above the tunnel currently serves as a cold barrier between the Historic Shops District and Downtown District but the project will transform this area into a beautiful public open space that is a connection instead of a barrier.

The new plaza will create an additional 117 feet of space above the north side of the tunnel to

accommodate a plaza. Improvements to the existing area above the tunnel include new fountains, seating areas, artificial turf and landscaping, and decorative patterned pavement from the tunnel top to the New River creating a world class space that will be a destination instead of just an area to walk through to get to other parts of Las Olas Boulevard.

The project is a joint effort between the FDOT and the City of Fort Lauderdale to improve elements in and above the tunnel. The other major components of the project include the rehabilitation of the tunnel and its mechanical infrastructure and adding Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) along US 1 from I-595 to Broward Boulevard. The ITS will include the installation of a new fiber optic cable, closed captioned TV cameras to provide real time traffic monitoring and incident detection, Arterial Dynamic Message Signs which will provide motorists with traveler and relevant tunnel information, and sensors to support incident detection and provide traffic data.

The project will also include the resurfacing of US 1 from Rio Vista Boulevard to just south of the Tunnel. All of these elements will work together to make travel smarter and more efficient.

During this construction project, there will be significant impacts to travel through the tunnel between this September and late 2023. For the majority of the construction period, there will be one lane open in each direction; however, there will be periods of full closures including when the work being done may be a safety hazard to vehicles, such as the piers are installed for the tunnel extension.

Construction on the Tunnel Top Plaza is anticipated to begin in March 2022.

Additionally, vehicle traffic will be impacted along Las Olas Boulevard between Southeast Sixth Avenue and Southeast Eighth Avenue for the first nine months of the project.

Pedestrian access will be maintained throughout the work zone and business access will be maintained at all times.


FDOT will be releasing weekly lane closure and detour information and advance notice of major shifts in the closure alignment. Interested parties can get added to the distribution list by contacting Daniela Silva, Community Outreach Specialist, at msilva@corradino.com or (786) 441-3088. 



PHOTO BY NICOLE BRYANT WITH THE CORRADINO GROUP



BY PHILLIP DUNLAP
Director,
Broward Cultural Division



REAL ESTATE TRENDS AND ART

HOW REAL ESTATE AND PUBLIC ART INTERSECT IN OUR COMMUNITY

I am often asked why there isn't more public art in Fort Lauderdale. It makes sense that these questions come my way, because Broward County has a 40-year-old Public Art and Design program.

On the surface, the answer is simple: The County's public art program is tasked with incorporating art into County facilities and locations like Port Everglades, the airport, County parks, roads and bridges. With few exceptions, this does not include City of Fort Lauderdale buildings or public spaces. The impacts of this leave large gaps in arts and culture infrastructure of our community. And while many Broward municipalities (Fort Lauderdale included) are working to fill those gaps, it is not only the role of public entities to support and add to our arts ecosystem.


Aside from the work of public entities like the Cultural Division, businesses and developers can have active roles in the creation of public art. Just look at the new Society Las Olas development as a great example. Public/private partnerships can also make an artful impact. Artist Avi Ram's mural for Visit Lauderdale can be seen in the entry way to the W Hotel on Fort Lauderdale Beach. Marcus Borges' recent mural was commissioned by us at the Broward Cultural Division in the FATVillage Arts District, and the public murals on Virginia Shuman Young Elementary School were implemented by Twenty6North.

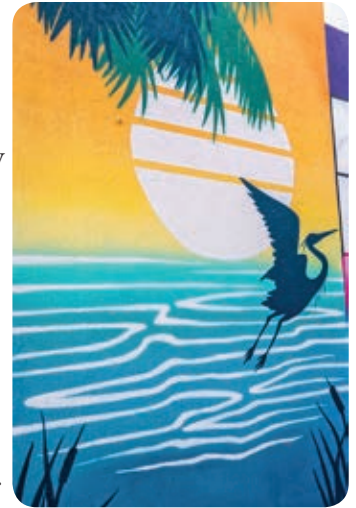
Art in public places enhances the built environment, creates a sense of place and influences property values. Take Anish Kapoor's "bean" sculptures in Tribeca and Chicago's Millennium Park. Love them or hate them, it is hard to argue that these iconic pieces do anything but add value.

Public art is not solely the responsibility of public entities, nor is it solely the responsibility of the private sector. A more complex solution to these gaps, but only one piece of the puzzle, is the creation of public art programs in all Broward municipalities.

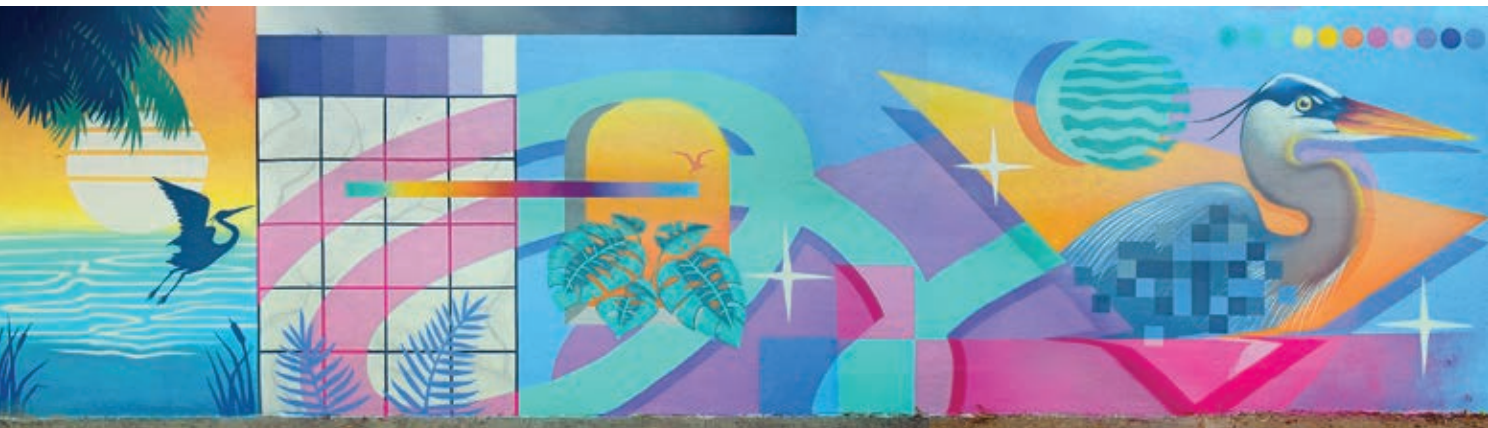
Imagine the impact if every one of Broward's municipalities had its own public art program. Currently, only eight of the 31 cities in Broward have them, and the exciting thing is that more are showing interest in creating their own programs.

To its credit, the City of Fort Lauderdale recently created a Public Art and Public Placemaking Advisory Board and passed a public art ordinance to fund public art in the city. The City of Dania Beach has recently created a public art ordinance and the Cultural Division worked with the city to create its first public art master plan. The Division will continue to work with local municipalities to create public art programs and promote public/private partnerships as a way of filling these gaps.

Let's work together to encourage and support the creation and implementation of public art programs in Broward's municipalities. And the next time you see a great new public artwork, go ahead and stop to take a picture and share it on social media. Public art is for all of us. 



PHOTOS BY DOWNTOWN PHOTO





HEADING YOUR WAY

HAIRSTYLIST PIVOTS DURING PANDEMIC AND FINDS UNTAPPED MARKET

With people returning to their lives, pre-pandemic, we can also finally resume activities we couldn't previously do for over a year like getting a haircut or touching up our highlights. But many still aren't comfortable going back to a salon no matter the state of their hair.

Luckily for those in desperate need of a cut or fixing the aftermath of applying at-home hair color, hairstylist J.C. Reigart found a silver lining during a difficult year by venturing into the surprisingly untapped market of at home salon services with his business, Heading Your Way Salon Services.

Reigart got his start cutting, coloring and styling hair while attending cosmetology school at the Graham Webb International Academy in Washington, D.C. in 1990. After he completed his studies, he went on to apprentice at a salon in England where he got hands-on experience working in each salon department.

After his apprenticeship, he moved to Fort Lauderdale, where he started working in traditional salons before eventually switching to working at iStudios, which offers individual studio spaces shared by other independent hairstylists.

But once the pandemic hit last year, Reigart had to re-evaluate the way he ran his business.

"I remember getting an email from iStudios and they told us that we had from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. to come in to pack up whatever we might need for a few weeks," he said.

"So, I went in with three suitcases and packed up everything to bring home."

Unfortunately, the pandemic lasted much longer than a few weeks, which led to many of Reigart's longtime

clients being in desperate need of his services.

This need sparked a new idea for the entrepreneur.

"About two weeks in, I started getting texts from my clients asking if there was any way they could come get a haircut or if I could just mix their color for them and they could apply it at home," Reigart said.

With requests pouring in, he decided he could accommodate his clients by working out of his garage with the door open and masks on to keep everyone safe.


Before he knew it, he was busier than ever, which led to him going directly to his clients and Heading Your Way Salon Services was born.

The full-service Heading Your Way offers all the typical salon services, such as haircuts, color, blowouts and more to clients but in the comfort of their own home and at reasonable prices, which has also led to the unexpected result of helping a niche clients base as well.

"Something unexpected to come out of this business is being able to help clients who are physically disabled or immunocompromised and can't get to their local salon which has become such rewarding part of my job," Reigart said.

Today, what started as an alternative has become a widely sought-after mobile salon service that requires clients book appointments a month in advance and the business doesn't show signs of slowing down.

"I really thought when salons started reopening, people would want to go back into that environment but a lot of people either need or just enjoy the experience of someone coming to them that much more," he said.

For appointments, the best way to get in touch with Reigart is to call or text him to which he will respond by the end of the day. 



HEADING YOUR WAY SALON SERVICES

Owners: J.C. Reigart

Number of employees: 1

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J.C. Reigart of Heading Your Way mobile salon services with clients Alyssa, left, and Marsha Zimberg.

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INTRODUCING: THE RACIAL EQUITY COUNCIL

CHAMBER LAUNCHES INITIATIVES TO BOOST INCLUSION IN BUSINESS COMMUNITY

The Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce recognizes that society has fallen short in creating a fair playing field for Black Americans regarding wealth and opportunity.

That's why we recently established a new Chamber group: The Racial Equity Council (REC).

The REC's mission is to incorporate racial equity within our culture and structure; create, deliver and collaborate on our racial equity agenda with other leaders and organizations; and assist Black communities within our region.

But, we can't do it alone. To help develop, fund, deploy and evaluate minority-centric programs, the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce is working alongside other leading organizations to launch initiatives that boost inclusion in our business community. These well-known organizations include Broward College, the Community Foundation of Broward County, the Urban League of Broward County, and the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance, the Broward Workshop, the Federal Reserve Bank, and many more.

In April, the Chamber's Board of Directors appointed Anthony J. Abbate, AIA, LEED AP, to lead the REC. Abbate is a longtime professor at Florida Atlantic University's School of Architecture. He has traveled extensively among other cultural accomplishments, participating in conferences and lecturing at universities in Australia, Mexico, and Colombia.

Abbate will ensure that the Council executes the Chamber's ambitious plan to help end systemic racism in our local community.

Among others, the Council is tasked with identifying Black leaders and inviting them to have a seat at the table, fostering opportunities for minority-owned businesses and pathways to achieve prosperity through paired mentorship opportunities at the Chamber, assisting in rebuilding trust between law enforcement and local communities, removing barriers to the development of affordable housing throughout the region (read: support developers pursuing these projects), and delivering racial bias training programs for business owners and employees.

Already, representatives from the Chamber have participated in a series of online racial equity training sessions. The training was hosted by the Community Foundation of Broward, in partnership with the Children's Services Council, and brought local leaders together who explored and discussed ways to overcome systemic racism and implicit bias.


Last year, the Broward County Commission finalized and approved the creation of a Racial Equity Task Force. The county Task Force aims to identify systemic and racial inequities to develop a detailed plan aimed at eliminating racism and creating more significant racial equity in Broward.

The Task Force includes members from a broad cross-section of communities, which have been negatively impacted by systemic and institutional racial inequities. It also includes local individuals and organizations that have demonstrated a commitment to eliminating systemic racism and have taken action to create greater racial equality.

Commissioner Dale V.C. Holness, who sponsored the ordinance that won Commission approval, recently cited the results of a study conducted this year by the global financial company Citi.

"The failure to close the racial inequality gaps experienced by Black Americans has cost the United States economy an estimated \$16 trillion over the last 20 years. Closing these gaps would add an estimated \$5 trillion of additional Gross National Product over the next five years. That means prosperity for all of us," said Holness.

U.S. Congresswoman Barbara C. Jordan said in 1977: "What people want is simple. They want an America as good as its promise." More than 40 years later, we are still struggling to keep that promise for Black Americans.

Our racial equity agenda is predicated upon partnerships and collaboration. Working together is the only way we can make a difference. My email is dan@ftlchamber.com. Please reach out. We have much work ahead. 



ADVERTISE IN GO RIVERWALK

FORT LAUDERDALE'S CITY MAGAZINE

WHAT WE DO!

Go Riverwalk Magazine connects our readers with all facets of Fort Lauderdale:

- A flourishing downtown
- Citywide array of social, cultural and neighborhood events
- The world-class business and professional community
- Trend-setting fashion and shopping
- Avant-garde dining options

DISTRIBUTION

1,500 magazines direct mailed to Riverwalk members and subscribers.

4,500 + copies are delivered to high-traffic locations including:

- Hotels
- Fine retail and restaurants
- High-end luxury apartments
- Downtown office buildings
- Auto dealerships
- Banks
- Restaurants
- Real estate offices
- Hair salons
- Exercise clubs
- Art galleries

THE NUMBERS!

6,000
PRINT MAGAZINES MONTHLY

10,000+
OPT-IN E-MAIL SUBSCRIBERS

76,650+
FACEBOOK FANS

19,000+
TWITTER FOLLOWERS

18,200+
INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS

6,000+
SNAPCHAT

135,850+
TOTAL AUDIENCE

For advertising
information, contact

Mark Budwig,
Publisher

(954) 523-1980

Advertising@GoRiverwalk.com





BY PHIL PURCELL

CEO/President, Marine Industries Association of South Florida

Writer Liz Wegerer



A CLASS A INVESTMENT

THE GROWTH OF SOUTH FLORIDA 'AQUASITIONS'

Despite many economic sectors contracting because of the global pandemic, Florida real estate — South Florida, in particular — is stronger than ever before. Since we emerged from the statewide lockdown last year, property sales have soared to historic highs, boosted by unprecedented demand across all property types in both the residential and commercial markets.

Many well-known factors contribute to this demand, including South Florida's hospitable weather, its abundant waterways, and the area's welcoming business climate. Newcomers continue to flock to our region, particularly Broward County, to enjoy a sunnier and more relaxed lifestyle. Many also seek out solid real estate investments.

A big part of this success is supported by the marine industry. Our industry is intricately woven into the fabric of the overall South Florida experience, from the marinas that dot our local waterways and the number of registered boat owners in our state (the highest in the nation) to the boat yards and dealerships that sell and service boats of all sizes.

It is undeniable that the South Florida marine industry plays a major role in the strength and success of the overall economy and the commercial and residential real estate here.

Commercial Real Estate

In the past 19 months, commercial marine industry acquisitions — or as we like to call them “aquasitions” — have approached \$2 billion. There is no mistaking that private equity firms, family offices, and individual investors from around the world view the South Florida marine industry as a Class A investment.

The most recent big deal was the purchase of Yacht Haven Park & Marina for \$58 million by a group led by Gary Cioffi and Christopher Hein. This transaction highlights how a marine industry deal trickles down to benefit the overall economy. As part of the sale, the buyers acquired an \$81.7 million purchase and renovation loan, and plan significant improvements to the existing facilities. These renovations will generate opportunities across the economic spectrum — both within and outside the marine industry.

Other high-profile marine industry transactions in the past year and a half, like Roscioli, Rybovich, Lauderdale Marine Center, Nautical Structures, Boat Owners Warehouse, and Maverick Boat Group, are further proof of just how appealing South Florida's marine industry is as an investment — one that is capable of delivering solid returns even in uncertain economic times.

Residential Real Estate

But it isn't just commercial real estate that is booming. South Florida is currently enjoying the strongest residential real estate market in decades. Residential real estate sales have consistently hit record highs in recent months, up well over 60 percent from the same time last year, according to local real estate experts.

One of the biggest segments of this market is waterfront, single-family homes. This makes sense because boat sales have also increased dramatically since the pandemic started, as families seek out safe ways to enjoy time together. Once the new boat is purchased, many buyers take the next step and want a home where they can keep their new boat conveniently accessible in their own backyard.

Of course, the marine industry contributes to robust residential home sales in other ways, too. Workers in our industry — and there are more than 120,000 marine industry employees in Broward County alone — also buy homes here. From Parkland to Pompano Beach to Miramar to Hollywood and all communities in between, those working in the marine industry are ready and willing buyers of residential real estate in the area.

Whether it is a commercial “aquasition” or the purchase of a waterfront home with dockage space or a convenient condo close to the job, the marine industry is a proud contributor to the South Florida real estate market. We are excited to see the continued interest and growth in the area and look forward to playing our part well into the future. 





THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SEPTEMBER 20 DEADLINE

QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR 2021 PROPERTY ASSESSMENT OR EXEMPTIONS?

Our office recently mailed more than 776,000 TRIM (proposed tax) Notices to Broward County property owners. Florida law requires the property appraiser to assess every parcel of real and tangible personal property in Broward County as of Jan. 1, 2021. The 2021 just values are based on the 2020 market data. The TRIM Notice you received shows your 2021 just value, exemptions you are receiving, and the proposed tax amounts as set by the various taxing authorities listed on the notice. It is important to remember the Property Appraiser's Office does not set or collect taxes.

If you believe you are entitled to a Homestead Exemption or any other exemptions not shown on your TRIM Notice, you may still late file for any 2021 exemption until Sept. 20, 2021. For a list of all the available tax-saving exemptions and to apply for exemptions online, please visit our website at <https://web.bcpa.net/bcpaclient/#/Homestead> or call us at (954) 357-6830.

If you have any questions regarding your property's just value or exemptions, please contact my office directly at the following numbers:

- Property tax exemptions and general questions: (954) 357-6830
- Residential property: (954) 357-6831
- Condo, co-op and timeshare property: (954) 357-6832
- Commercial real property/duplexes: (954) 357-6835
- Tangible (commercial) personal property: 954) 357-6836

- Agricultural property/classifications: (954) 357-6822
- Report homestead fraud: (954) 357-6900

If you have questions or concerns about any of the proposed tax rates or non-ad valorem fees, including fire assessments, please contact the taxing authority listed on the TRIM Notice.

The ABSOLUTE deadline to file an application for any 2021 exemption or appeal your property's just value is September 20, 2021.

Value Adjustment Board

The Value Adjustment Board (VAB) is an independent quasi-judicial review board. If you believe your property assessment is not what a buyer would have reasonably paid for your property on Jan. 1, 2021, you should first contact our office. If after speaking with one of our appraisers, you still do not agree, you can file an appeal with the Broward County Value Adjustment Board. If you were denied an exemption, you may also file an appeal with the Value Adjustment Board challenging this denial.

The absolute filing deadline for Value Adjustment Board petitions is Sept. 20, 2021. If you would like to file a petition online, please visit the VAB website at <https://bcvab.broward.org/axiaweb2021>. Should you have any questions for the Value Adjustment Board, they can be reached at vab@broward.org or (954) 357-7205.


If my office can ever be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at martykiar@bcpa.net. 



PHOTO BY JASON LEIDY

THE CENTER OF IT ALL

FORT LAUDERDALE'S THRIVING DOWNTOWN

BY JENNI MOREJON, PRESIDENT/CEO, DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY



Downtown Fort Lauderdale has been growing for the past three decades and isn't slowing down any time soon. The pandemic turned the world upside down, but our burgeoning city has continued on an upward trajectory to become a vibrant hub for businesses to put down roots and new residents to call home.

Despite a national slowdown in investment activity in 2020, Fort Lauderdale ranked 12th in the nation for investor demand according to PWC's Emerging Trends in Real Estate 2021. Of the top 15, Fort Lauderdale is the only Florida city that topped the list.

Work

Fort Lauderdale is proving to be one of the most resilient cities in the U.S., bouncing back from the pandemic faster than many. Greater Fort Lauderdale's unemployment rate of 6.9 percent indicates significant recovery in motion compared to the pandemic high of 14 percent in Q2 2020. According to WalletHub, Fort Lauderdale ranks among the top U.S. cities bouncing back the fastest.

Downtown is home to more than 5,350 businesses and has a daytime workforce population of 61,000. Significant recent developments have brought total office space inventory to 7.6 million square feet, with more on the way.

Despite the shift to remote working, Fort Lauderdale has continued to see great interest in its office market, especially as companies from other states have set their sights on relocating to South Florida. Gross office rental rates continued on an upward path to \$46.56 per square foot at the end of 2020, a 10 percent year-over-year increase. Low interest rates, limited high quality supply, high

demand and capital availability bode well for more deal activity in 2021-2022.

Live

New luxury residential projects revitalized Downtown, bringing an influx of residents who previously set their sights on oceanfront properties. At the same time, amenity-laden apartment buildings are attracting millennial renters, young professionals, and even Miami-transplants looking for a relaxed city vibe.

With a total population of nearly 19,000 in DowntownFTL, net migration to the Greater Fort Lauderdale area has been climbing year-over-year with a forecasted spike in net relocations coming in 2022 and 2023.

More than 3,600 residential units have been built in the past three years, with another 1,300 under construction and 6,000 approved to be built. With this large inventory of apartment units coming to the Downtown market, the average velocity of move-ins has been more than 100 per month since mid-2019, with the highest growth in the last year, reaching more than 200 move-ins per month. This has allowed DowntownFTL apartment rental rates to remain competitive in the South Florida market, with the average hi-rise rent of \$3.15 per square foot and \$2.35 for mid-rise.

Experience

Retail follows rooftops. That's no exaggeration as today there's more than 2.4 million square feet of commercial space in Downtown, a 75 percent growth in five years. During this time, retail rental rates per square foot have increased by 49 percent (currently \$35.56 per square foot),



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY FORT LAUDERDALE DDA & SUBLIME IMAGERY

but still pale in comparison to prices in Downtown Miami, which have skyrocketed 80 percent (currently \$57.56 per square foot). This makes DowntownFTL an attractive destination for new commercial businesses opening their first shop or expanding into the Broward market.

Downtown Fort Lauderdale is experiencing a blossoming culinary scene and attracting renowned restaurateurs who offer residents and guests world class dining experiences. Diners are looking for quality and authentic experiences and DowntownFTL restaurateurs are delivering. One in four Fort Lauderdale restaurants are in Downtown, and more than two dozen restaurants have opened or are coming soon to feed our growing resident, employee and visitor base. From Eddie V's to Bodega Taqueria, and Sushi Garage to Heritage, there's something for every palate in DowntownFTL.

Stay

No longer just a spring break destination on the beach, demand for hotels in Downtown has brought attractive new developments, and they're thriving. A total of 483 new hotel rooms were delivered since the start of the pandemic with the opening of Hyatt Centric Las Olas, Tru by Hilton/Home2 Suites in Flagler Village, and Quantum at Flagler Village. More rooms are on the drawing board with at least five upcoming hotels in approved developments: Riverparc Square, 1007 East Las Olas Boulevard, FAT Village East, SELO, and Searstown.

Hotel market fundamentals outpace the state and nation reflecting the resilience of the Fort Lauderdale tourism industry and a pent-up demand for travel following the 2020 shutdowns. In February 2021, Fort Lauderdale reached the highest hotel occupancy rate (67.38 percent) compared to Florida (56.10 percent) and the United States (43.8 percent). FTL also achieved greater revenue per available room at \$133.23, compared with \$83.12 in Florida and \$43.05 in the country.

Move

Major improvements to downtown parks and streets are ready to be realized and investments in mobility and infrastructure are in the pipeline to support the city's sustained growth. The DDA's top priority is to reimagine

Huizenga Park by creating a new vision and design concept that creates the most beautiful, dynamic urban park in DowntownFTL for generations to come. Complemented by Tunnel Top Park which will be built in the coming years at the entrance to the Shops on Las Olas, and the iconic Riverwalk stretching two miles along the New River, outdoor shared spaces in DowntownFTL will soon rival other world class cities.

Innovative transportation solutions are being evaluated, from the "Las Olas Loop," an underground tunnel to be engineered by Elon Musk's The Boring Co., to commuter rail service along the Florida East Coast railway. These investments in better transportation will improve the functionality of the city and sustain the continued population growth of Fort Lauderdale.

On the Horizon

In addition to the major growth Downtown Fort Lauderdale has witnessed in just the past 10 years, the future of Fort Lauderdale features more than 20 new developments in the urban core with 13,000 new residential units, 600,000 square feet of retail and restaurant, 1.1 million square feet of office space and 1,000 new hotel rooms planned to be developed over the next 10 years.

This was always the plan. The vision for a compact, dense urban center in Broward County was mapped out decades ago. Today, Downtown Fort Lauderdale is well on its way to being the livable metropolitan city that continuously evolves as the center of the South Florida region, where all are inspired to "Live like locals" while being globally connected.

For more information about DowntownFTL, visit ddaftl.org. 

Jenni Morejon is president and CEO of the Downtown Development Authority, an independent taxing district established by the Florida State Legislature in 1965. Led by a seven-member appointed board of directors, the Fort Lauderdale DDA has spearheaded legacy projects over the past 50 years to ensure Downtown is and remains the urban center of Broward County.





BEST OF BITES AND SIPS

WE REVISIT SOME OF OUR FAVORITES

WRITER RENÉE K. QUINN

As summer comes to an end, we eagerly await fall cocktails and creative culinary dishes. This month we are reflecting on our favorite bites and sips around town in Flagler Village, Las Olas and the beach.

Chef Rino's Heritage

Flagler Village
Italian specialties, pizza,
wine and craft cocktails
@heritageftl



Eddie V's

Las Olas
Prime seafood and steaks
and signature cocktails
@eddievs_



Del Frisco's Grille

Las Olas
Prime Steak Salad
and Negroni
@dfgrille.ftlauderdale



Cuba Libre

Las Olas
Latin-inspired dishes
and rum
@cubalibrefortlauderdale





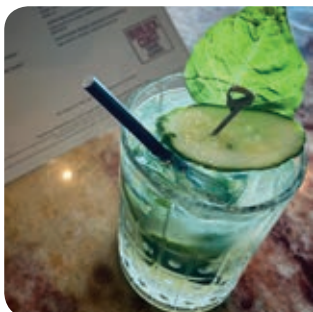
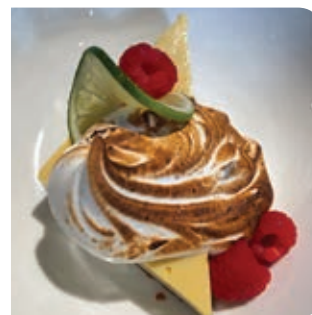
The Capital Grille

Galleria Fort Lauderdale
Perfectly seasoned steak
and lobster and the
generous pour wines
@thecapitalgrille



Wild Sea

Las Olas
Fresh Mahi tacos
and a daiquiri
@wildsealolas



Burlock Coast

The Ritz Carlton Fort
Lauderdale Beach
Beachside cocktails and
delicious bites
@burlockcoast



Cooper's Hawk

Galleria Fort Lauderdale
Fresh dishes and
custom wines
@chwinery



Takato

Conrad Hotel Fort
Lauderdale Beach
Asian-inspired craft
cocktails and dishes
@takatorestaurant



More details on all our favorites@

SpiritedSFL SpiritedSouthFlorida.com



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



GENERAL EVENTS

Artist Jose Figueroa

Sept. 1
Muralist discusses his drawing practice and first public mural project
Stonewall National Museum and Archives
Virtual
954-763-8565
www.stonewall-museum.org

Pre-Labor Day Event

Sept. 4
Block party with car show, kids zone & bands on four stages
North Beach Restaurants & Shoppes
954-828-5365
www.parks.fortlauderdale.gov

Alan Parson Live Project

Sept. 8
British rock pioneer with special guest
Broward Center for the Performing Arts
954-462-0222
www.browardcenter.org

Brian Regan

Sept. 9
Comedian's sarcastic take on daily life
Broward Center for the Performing Arts
954-462-0222
www.browardcenter.org



Disney On Ice: Mickey's Search Party

Sept. 9-12
Join Mickey and friends for an adventure on ice!
BB&T Center
954-835-7000
www.thebbtcenter.com

Uncork your Support

Sept. 10
Food and wine fundraiser with wine expert Anthony Acampa
Children's Home Society of Florida
Virtual
954-225-0355
www.chsfl.org

9-11 Remembrance Ceremony

Sept. 11
Ceremony to honor those who lost their lives on Sept. 11, 2001
Riverwalk and City of Fort Lauderdale
9-11 Monument on the Riverwalk
954-468-1541
www.goriverwalk.com

PAW Patrol Live!

Sept. 11-12
Acclaimed Nickelodeon show live
Broward Center for the Performing Arts
954-462-0222
www.browardcenter.org



An Evening with Antoni

Sept. 11
Queer Eye star with new cookbook
Broward Center for the Performing Arts
954-462-0222
www.browardcenter.org

Tribute to America's Heroes

Sept. 11
Skydiving, Thundercat Boat, Drift Car and GT sports car demos
The Veterans Trust
Fort Lauderdale Beach
www.theveteranstrust.org

Get Downtown Back to Work

Sept. 16
Riverwalk's signature fall networking happy hour event is back!
Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale
Huizenga Plaza
954-468-1541
www.tinyurl.com/RWGetBackDowntown

Let's Explore with Dora & Diego!

Sept. 17-19
Exhibit opening weekend with character appearances
Museum of Discovery & Science
954-467-6637
www.mods.org

Run 4 The Kids 5k

Sept. 18
Fundraiser for scholarships and support services
Jack & Jill Center
LauderAle Brewery & Virtual
954-463-8772
www.jackandjillcenter.org

Firefall, Pure Prairie League, And Orleans

Sept. 22
Three hit bands in one night!
The Parker
954-462-0222
www.browardcenter.org

Embracing the Power of Story

Sept. 24
34th Annual Conference on Children's Literature
Broward County Library
954-357-6555
www.broward.org/Library

Geoff Tate: Empire and Rage for Order

Sept. 24
Multi-platinum selling, Grammy nominated singer/songwriter
Broward Center for the Performing Arts
954-462-0222
www.browardcenter.org

Movies by Moonlight: La La Land

Sept. 24
Featuring Ryan Gosling & Emma Stone
The LOOP
Las Olas Oceanside Park
www.MyFortLauderdaleBeach.com

Surf N' Sounds

Sept. 25
Celebrate our So Flo salt-water lifestyle, with vendors and performers.
Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale
Esplanade Park
954-468-1541
www.tinyurl.com/RWSurfNSounds

Nurse Blake: The PTO Comedy Tour

Sept. 25
Fun-filled comedian celebrating the hard work of nurses everywhere
Broward Center for the Performing Arts
954-462-0222
www.browardcenter.org

Rick Springfield

Sept. 26
Grammy Award-winning musician
The Parker
954-462-0222
www.browardcenter.org

Jon McLaughlin

Sept. 26
American pop singer-songwriter
Broward Center for the Performing Arts
954-462-0222
www.browardcenter.org



Spyro Gyra

Sept. 28
American jazz-fusion band
Broward Center for the Performing Arts
954-462-0222
www.browardcenter.org

20th Annual Power Lunch

Sept. 29
Celebrating the Jack & Jill Center and honoring community members
Friends of Jack & Jill Center
First Baptist Church Fort Lauderdale
954-463-8772
www.jackandjillcenter.org



Leonid & Friends

Sept. 29
Amazingly talented Chicago-tribute band
Broward Center for the Performing Arts
954-462-0222
www.browardcenter.org

Rosé Soirée

Sept. 30
Honoring Rita Case and celebrating the young ladies of JA
Junior Achievement of South Florida
Lauderdale Yacht Club
954-979-7124
www.jasouthflorida.org/events

Lindsey Buckingham

Sept. 30
Visionary Fleetwood Mac member
The Parker
954-462-0222
www.browardcenter.org

Crowder — The Milk & Honey Tour

Oct. 4
Christian alternative rock star
Broward Center for the Performing Arts
954-462-0222
www.browardcenter.org

Eat Your Heart Out

Oct. 7
"Fun"raiser featuring gourmet creations
Heart Gallery of Broward County
The Galleria at Fort Lauderdale
954-918-3008
www.heartgalleryofbroward.org

211 Broward 25th Anniversary Celebration

Oct. 9
Honoring Helpline Heroes
The Westin Fort Lauderdale Beach
953-390-0493
www.211-broward.org

Jim Jefferies: The Moist Tour

Oct. 9
Comedian with belief-challenging style
Broward Center for the Performing Arts
954-462-0222
www.browardcenter.org

Justin Hayward: Nights

Oct. 10
Moody Blues vocalist and lead guitarist
Broward Center for the Performing Arts
954-462-0222
www.browardcenter.org

Pablo Cruise

Oct. 10
Storyed band reunited
Broward Center for the Performing Arts
954-462-0222
www.browardcenter.org

The Monkees Farewell Tour

Oct. 12
The latest chapter in Monkee-mania
Broward Center for the Performing Arts
954-462-0222
www.browardcenter.org

4th Annual Heroes Luncheon

Oct. 14
Paying tribute to unsung heroes
FLITE Center
Bahia Mar Fort Lauderdale Beach
786-252-0919
www.flitecenter.org

Riverwalk Craftoberfest

Oct. 16
Craft beer, spirit and cocktail tastings
Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale
Esplanade Park
954-468-1541
www.goriverwalk.com

LIMITED ENGAGEMENT



Summer Special

Through Sept. 5
Limited engagement
\$20 adult admission; 17 and under free
Bonnet House Museum & Gardens
954-563-5393
www.bonnethouse.org

Here Be Dragons

Through Sept. 6
Fire-breathing beasts of legend
Museum of Discovery & Science
954-467-6637
www.mods.org

Big Bugs Exhibit

Through Sept. 6
10 giant insect sculptures and South Florida insects, with live specimens
Flamingo Gardens
954-473-2955
www.flamingogardens.org

Dora & Diego: Let's Explore

Opening Sept. 17
Go on an adventure in the enchanting world of Dora the Explorer
Museum of Discovery & Science
954-467-6637
www.mods.org

The Art of Tim Forman: Florida Everglades

Through Sept. 26
Impressionist Tim Forman's Florida Everglades landscapes
History Fort Lauderdale
954-463-4431
www.historyfortlauderdale.org

Thomas Bils: Still Cheaper Than Paying

Through Fall 2021
Miami-based Thomas Bils artistry on his bills
NSU Art Museum
954-525-5500
www.nsuartmuseum.org



The World of Anna Sui

Through Oct. 3
Exhibit of famed New York fashion designer
NSU Art Museum
954-525-5500
www.nsuartmuseum.org

Save Our Seas Distinguished Speaker Series

First Thursday through Oct. 7
Scientists, conservationists and researchers
Museum of Discovery & Science
Virtual
954-467-6637
www.mods.org

Carter Park Jamz

Third Friday through Oct. 15
Monthly evening concerts and food trucks
City of Fort Lauderdale
Carter Park
954-828-5365
www.fortlauderdale.gov/jamz

Songs For A New World

Oct. 12-24
A new musical that examines life, love and the choices that we make
Slow Burn Theatre Company
Broward Center for the Performing Arts
954-462-0222
www.browardcenter.org

Into America's Wild

Through Dec. 31
Explore the great American wilderness
AutoNation IMAX Theater
Museum of Discovery & Science
954-467-6637
www.mods.org

Dino Dana the Movie

Through Dec. 31
10 year-old Dana's dinosaur journey
AutoNation IMAX Theater
954-467-6637
www.mods.org

The Carter Project

Through January 2022
Miami-based architect Christopher Carter's home/studio project
NSU Art Museum
954-525-5500
www.nsuartmuseum.org

ONGOING

Guided Museum Tours

Daily at 1, 2 & 3 PM
Tours of Fort Lauderdale's oldest surviving structure
Historic Stranahan House Museum
954-524-4736
www.stranahanhouse.org



Fort Lauderdale Parks & Recreation
Programming for all ages: Virtual fitness classes; virtual art classes; Club 55+; aquatics; youth summer camps; court sports
Various locations
954-828-7275
www.fortlauderdale.gov



Broward County Public Library

- Arts and crafts
- Book club and storytelling
- Education, literacy and writing
- Finances and career
- Technology and science
- Yoga
- Tai Chi

954-357-6555
www.broward.org/library

NSU ART MUSEUM

FORT LAUDERDALE

Free First Thursday Sunny Days

First Thursday
Free admission and 2-4-1 beer and wine

Bank of America: Museums on Us

First full weekend
Free admission for BOA customers

Free Fort Lauderdale Neighbor Day

Last Sunday
Fort Lauderdale residents receive free admission
954-525-5500
www.nsuartmuseum.org

EcoBoat Rentals

Daily | Reservation required
Cruise the Intracoastal Waterway in eco-friendly, electric boats
2525 Marina Bay Dr. W.
954-5000-ECO
www.ecoboatsfl.com



Kayak Tours

Daily
Explore our unique local ecosystem
Park & Ocean
Hugh Taylor Birch State Park
954-563-2900
www.parkandocean.com

Fort Lauderdale Segway Tours

Daily | Reservation required
Take a one- or two-hour Segway tour on the Riverwalk. Training provided.
954-304-5746
www.segwayfortlauderdale.com

A Dog's Best Friend Group Classes

Thursdays | Reservation required
7 p.m. | Intermediate Dog Obedience Class
8:15 p.m. | Masters Dog Obedience Class
Esplanade Park
954-791-2717
www.adogsbestfriend.com

Book Sale

First Fridays
Monthly fundraiser with eclectic offerings
Friends of the Fort Lauderdale Libraries
Broward County Main Library
954-357-6555
www.broward.org/Library

Interpretive Walks and Tours

Friday & Saturday
Interpretive ranger-guided programs
Hugh Taylor Birch State Park
954-564-4521
www.floridastateparks.org

DeMurs Farmers Table

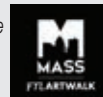
Saturdays
Local vendors and organic produce
St. Ambrose Episcopal Church
954-908-9944
www.facebook.com/demursfarmerstable

Las Olas Oceanside Park Market

Saturdays
Farmers, antique & artisan market
The Market Company
Las Olas Oceanside Park
305-531-0038
www.facebook.com/oceansideparkmarket

FTL Art Walk

Last Saturday
Live music, original art & more
MASS District
954-866-3890
www.massdistrict.com



FATVillage Art Walk

Last Saturday
Open galleries, local artists, vendors and live entertainment
954-866-3890 | www.fatvillage.com



New River Open Air Market

Sundays
Local vendors offer their goods
History Fort Lauderdale
954-463-4431
www.historyfortlauderdale.org

Kosher & Organic Farmers Market

Sundays
Kosher and organic offerings with family games
L'Chaim Farm
305-707-1065
www.lchaimfarm.com

Jazz Brunch

First Sunday
Returning Sept. 5
Esplanade Park & Riverwalk
954-828-5365
www.fortlauderdale.gov

Sprouting Stem

Varies
Introducing little scientists (aged 0-6) to STEM-related topics
Museum of Discovery and Science
954-467-6637
www.mods.org/sprouting-stem

Urban Jungle Artisan Market

Varies
Monthly eclectic market
JAM Hospitality Group
Northeast 13th Street
www.urbanjunglemarketfl.com

RIVERWALK RECREATION

Shippie House
220 S.W. 3rd Ave. | Fort Lauderdale
954-526-5159



Cycle Party Tours

Daily | Reservation required
Jump aboard a 15-person quadracycle and experience Fort Lauderdale in an entirely new way.
www.cycleparty.com

Paddle Pub Tours

Daily | Reservation required
Jump aboard a 20-person Paddle Pub and experience Fort Lauderdale and the waterway in a new way.
www.paddlepub.com/fort-lauderdale

Bike Tours

Daily | Reservation required
Tours of Fort Lauderdale and Riverwalk for all abilities.
www.RiverwalkActivities.com



Kayak & Paddleboard Rentals

Daily | 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Explore the Yachting Capital of the World along the scenic New River, launching from the Riverwalk.
www.RiverwalkActivities.com



PHOTO BY JASON LEDY



TOWER CLUB OLYMPICS CELEBRATION

Consulate-General of Japan celebrates Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics Games at Tower Club reception.



MIWAKO PATTON, CONSULATE-GENERAL OF JAPAN, AND CONSUL KEISUKE SAITO



TAIKO DRUMMING GROUP FUSHU DAIKO



DAPHNEE SAINVIL, CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; ABBAS KARIMI, PARALYMPIC TEAM SWIMMER, AND DEBORAH ROSENBAUM

PHOTOS BY CARLOS GOYCOCHEA/PIERSON GRANT PR

ARTSERVE 'SUPERFICIAL IMPRESSIONS' RECEPTION

ArtServe kicked off the exhibition to promote contemporary works of art from more than 25 of South Florida's talented photographers.



ARTSERVE BOARD CHAIR JEFF LOWE AND BOARD VICE PRESIDENT JULIE WILLIAMSON



JANIS KRAMER AND JAN COWART



TANIRA KANE, ANDREW BECKER AND MATTHEW HAIMM

PHOTOS BY MARIA PIERSON/ARTSERVE

LEADERSHIP BROWARD FLY PROGRAM

Leadership Broward completes successful Title 1 schools student program.



STUDENTS LEARNED THE VALUE OF TEAMWORK AND COMMUNICATION



STUDENTS RECEIVE INSTRUCTION ON CLIMBING THE ROPES



CHRISTAL HILLS, KAREN AVRAHAM, CARLYLE BENNETT AND MAKALIAH MOO YIN

PHOTOS BY LEADERSHIP BROWARD



MUSEUM OF DISCOVERY AND SCIENCE

FLY INTO MODS

HERE BE
DRAGONS

Presented by

Joe DiMaggio  Children's Hospital

**Now through
September 6**



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 **JM LEXUS**



**Nicklaus
Children's
Hospital**



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JANUARY 17, 2022**

401 SW 2nd Street • Downtown Fort Lauderdale • 954.467.6637



- Vivienne
Pediatric cancer survivor

I beat cancer

with **BROWARD HEALTH**



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WILL BE DIAGNOSED WITH CANCER THIS YEAR.**

When Sarah brought her 2-year old to the ER at Salah Foundation Children's Hospital, she didn't expect to learn that her daughter had acute lymphoblastic leukemia. Today, Vivienne is dancing her way through elementary school and has been in remission since 2017.

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BrowardHealth.org/BeatCancer • 954.712.6626



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