

ByTheSeaFuture

NATIONAL AWARD WINNING LOCAL NEWSPAPER FOR SOUTH FLORIDA'S COASTAL TOWNS

December 19, 2008

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**MARIE WHITE'S
SANTA COMES TO TOWN**
featuring
**Jolly Elf Minnet
Santa Silverstone
Clotey Kringle**
Story on Page 6

CHRISTMAS-BY-THE-TREE IN CHILLY LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA

by Cindy Geesey

It was a cold but cheery night on December 2 when more than 200 LBTS residents and visitors gathered on the square downtown for the lighting of the 30' Christmas Tree. While the town's lack of financial and planning support necessitated the cancellation of the huge Christmas-By-The-Sea event that has become a much loved tradition, parties were determined to make the most of "Christmas-By-The-Tree."

Chamber Vice President Guy Contrada of Aruba Beach Café welcomed the smiling crowd and thanked members of the Volunteer Fire Department who helped erect the giant tree. Six years ago Chamber Director Dave Gadsby of The Village Grille spearheaded the successful effort by the Chamber to raise funds for the tree and coupled that with the beginning of Christmas-By-The-Sea which included a parade, pictures with Santa, face painting, a hayride, snow falling from restaurant rooftops, and lots of musical entertainment. This year Gadsby arranged for the Chamber tree to "sing" and for snow to fly through its branches, much to the delight of young and young at heart.

Before counting down the seconds for the tree lighting, Mayor Roseann Minnet spoke to the crowd. "Thank you so much for being here and celebrating the holidays in Lauderdale-By-The-Sea." She recognized current Commissioners Dodd, Clotey, Silverstone and McIntee who were all in attendance, as well as past Commissioners John Yanni and Chuck Clark, saying, "Thank you all for making LBTS the town that it is." She noted, "It is thanks to a triangle of businesses, people and government that makes this work." She also asked that everyone "thank the service men and women who are working on behalf of the American citizens and remember their sacrifices during the holiday season."

Santa was busy in the work room so couldn't attend the event, but he sent a stand in, Commissioner Jim Silverstone, who delighted children with his presence. After the official festivities, many parties continued the fun in the downtown restaurants.

By The Sea Future asked a number of residents and

visitors, "What is your favorite holiday gift, memory or tradition?" The responses were heartwarming and varied.

Jason Steele of 101 Ocean: "My Mom and Dad surprised me with an Alaskan Malamute puppy when I was 12; I named him Kodi because he looked like a Kodiak bear!"

Resident Fran Scheffler: "My favorite gift was the walking Shirley Temple doll I got when I was a child."

Peggy Mohler of Aruba Reach Café and LBTS resident: "Of course my very favorite gift was last year when Jim (Silverstone) gave me my engagement ring. He put it on my dog Guinness's collar! Jim looked like he would pass out!"

Resident June Lassell: "I loved opening presents first thing Christmas morning, and I remember the time my Father gave me my first radio when I was a child."

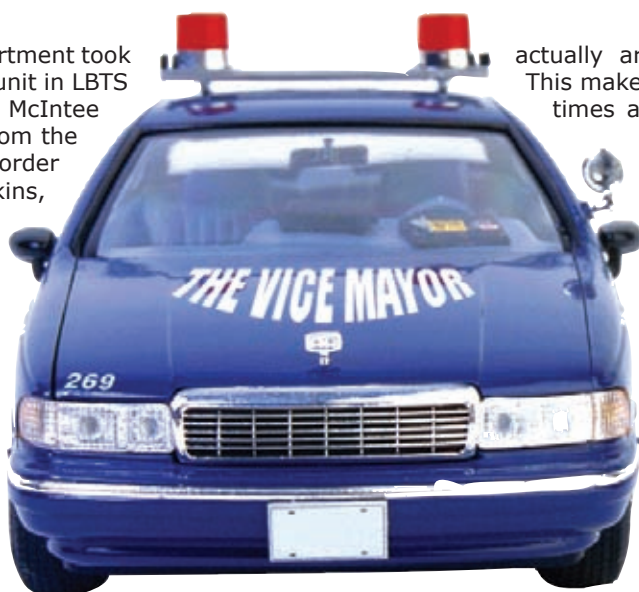
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MCINTEE'S MEDICAL DISCLOSURES SPARK CITIZENS PROTESTS

by Mark Brown

Ever since the volunteer fire department took over as the sole fire suppression unit in LBTS on October 1, Vice Mayor Jerry McIntee has received special treatment from the department. Under a special order issued by VFD Chief Robert Perkins, McIntee is the only member of the VFD who is permitted to drive directly to the scene of all fire and emergency medical calls in his own car and to arrive wearing civilian clothes. McIntee is allowed to run red lights while responding to calls and can park his car wherever he wants, even if he is blocking traffic.

Once he reaches the scene of the call, McIntee radios in to the Broward County emergency dispatch office to advise them that he has arrived. McIntee's call immediately stops the clock, meaning the VFD is considered to have officially responded to the 911 call at that point, even though no firefighters or firefighting equipment have



months, even though there is no fire involved. This has resulted in a number of complaints. In one instance, so many firefighters from the VFD crowded into a building where paramedics from American Medi-

actually arrived at the scene. This makes the VFD's response times appear to be at least two or three minutes faster than they really are in the north end of town, which is the only area that McIntee is allowed to drive to in his own car.

McIntee is also allowed to respond to all emergency medical calls. In fact, all members of the VFD have been routinely responding to medical calls for the past two

cal Response (AMR) were trying to help a heart attack victim that the victim became agitated, according to eyewitnesses.

In another case, McIntee reportedly refused to leave the living room of a victim's home, even though she was uncomfortable that he was present.

However, the incident that has sparked the most concern occurred after McIntee publicly disclosed personal medical details about a resident of Terra Mar Island who had called for an ambulance in November. McIntee responded to that call, along with paramedics from AMR, which is the town's EMS provider. AMR is prohibited by federal law--the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)--from disclosing personal information which could infringe on the privacy of its patients. However, the VFD is not covered by the HIPAA law.

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FROM DOG BEACH TO DORMITORY: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

by Mark Brown

It's the end of the year. That seems like an appropriate time to turn around and review the performance of the LBTS town commission over the past 12 months—especially for the benefit of the many residents who don't live here year-round and can't follow the commission's activities on a regular basis. Accordingly, here are some of the best and worst decisions which our elected LBTS officials made during 2008, along with a few other highlights from the session.

BEST VOTE OF THE YEAR: The best vote came on June 12, when the commission voted 5-0 to oppose the proposed construction of an enormous liquified natural gas terminal just eight miles off the coast of LBTS. Although the vote was non-binding, it sent a strong signal to Governor Charlie Crist that local residents do not want this high-risk project located so close to our community.

First runner-up in this category was the commission's decision to sell the town's underground water lines to Ft. Lauderdale for \$350,000. This put some badly-needed cash in the town's bank account, freed up \$1 million in emergency maintenance reserves, and rid the town of an aging and deteriorating water system which will most likely cost millions of dollars to repair and eventually replace in the years ahead.

WORST VOTE OF THE YEAR: The hands-down winner in this category was the vote to spend more than \$2 million to purchase an old motel next door to Jarvis Hall and convert it into a dormitory and clubhouse for the volunteer fire department. In fact, this was probably the worst vote in the history of the town. The whole point of bringing back the VFD was to save money. By the time the dormitory is finished and paid for, and the costs are added to the VFD's operating budget, there will be no savings at all. The commission will have ended up replacing the full-time, professional firefighters with part-time volunteers, and all we'll have to show for it is an ugly motel/dormitory and probably a worse insurance rating for the town.

First runner-up in this category was the commission's decision to virtually shut down all new development and redevelopment in town by repealing the overlay districts. The town is already suffering from a revenue

shortfall due to the slumping real estate market and declining property taxes. By cutting off new sources of revenue, and preventing private property owners from improving their property, the commissioners have backed themselves into a corner where they might have to raise taxes in order to balance the budget.

Second runner-up was the commission's decision to put bags over the parking meters west of A1A. The bags were supposed to help local businesses, but the free parking spaces have been taken up instead by beachgoers and local employees, leaving few places for customers to park. Meanwhile, the town has lost hundreds of thousands of dollars in parking meter revenues.

MOST ARROGANT VOTES OF THE YEAR: Just one month into the session, the commissioners voted to give themselves a 53% increase in benefits, including \$407 a month health insurance policies and \$50 per month subsidies for their personal cell phones. Even when they found out that the town had to reduce services in some departments and cut the hours of seven full-time employees to make up for a budget shortfall, the commissioners still refused to give up their extra benefits.

WORST-KEPT PROMISE OF THE YEAR: In voting to bring back the volunteer fire department, the commissioners promised that the operations of the VFD would be completely transparent. In fact, the VFD appears to be the most secretive agency in town. We don't know who belongs to the VFD, what level of training they have, who shows up at fires, how they spend their money or how much they are costing the town. There is no professional leadership or independent oversight of the VFD. When information leaked out that the VFD was not living up to its contractual obligations, and that Vice Mayor Jerry McIntee was actually running the department, it was quickly swept under the rug by Town Manager Esther Colon, and no one was disciplined or held accountable for the problems.

RISKIEST VOTE OF THE YEAR: Aside from bringing back the VFD without professional leadership, the commission took a huge gamble by moving ahead with construction of the new pavilion along the beach at Commercial Boulevard. The project is much bigger and far more expensive than any other beach portal in town. If it blocks the view of the ocean or becomes a magnet for homeless people, pigeons or other undesirables, the pavilion will be a huge embarrassment to the town.

CRAZIEST IDEA OF THE YEAR: Without any hearings or public input, the commission voted on June 24 to allow dogs on one of the most popular stretches of beach in town. The commissioners were immediately inundated with protests from local residents, forcing them to repeal the dog beach at the next meeting.

There were several runners-up in this category, including: (1) a proposal by McIntee to create a topless bar district in town; (2) an effort by McIntee to evict the Chamber of Commerce from its long-time home in the town's Visitor's Center; (3) a proposal to build a six-block long boardwalk downtown; (4) the vote to spend \$75,000 to build two concrete bases with flagpoles at the Commercial bridge and call it a gateway to the town; (5) spending \$5,000 in public funds to catch iguanas on private property; and (6) repealing the ordinance which required that coconuts be cut down prior to hurricane season.

MOST UNBELIEVABLE QUOTE OF THE YEAR: This category ended in a tie between Commissioner Jim Silverstone, who said "there were no findings or anything," and Vice Mayor McIntee, who said "they were apologetic to me." Both commissioners made their comments after they appeared before the Florida Ethics Commission to answer charges that they had violated the state's conflict of interest law. In fact, the ethics commission found probable cause that both McIntee and Silverstone had violated the law on several counts. Even though McIntee and Silverstone blatantly misrepresented what really happened at the ethics hearing, the commission voted to reimburse them a total of \$575 to cover the costs of their trip to Tallahassee.



JOHN THOMPSON LOSES AGAIN

by Cindy Geesey

John Thompson, former LBTS resident and malcontent, needs to get a life. His obsession with the town he moved out of and with the individuals who did not support him and his ideas must stop.

Once again complaints he has filed with the Florida Elections Committee have been "dismissed" as being "legally insufficient."

Here's his sad story. I tell it because it's indicative of the nastiness that pervades LBTS only since Jerry McIntee's rise to power. It must stop.

On June 30 Thompson filed a 113 page complaint against me for publishing "a political advertisement on the web site ByTheSeaFuture.org" and failing "to mark prominently the political advertisement as a 'paid political advertisement.'" Blah, blah, blah. Michael Arker, Bob Terrien and Mark Brown were also named in this travesty of a complaint. At one point, he identi-



fied Bob Terrien as a "co-conspirator." Shades of Oliver Stone and his conspiracy theories!

113 pages – can you imagine? One sentence was 131 words long! Don't ask this man the time - he will tell you how to make a clock. Thompson even included an ancient picture of Oliver Parker and me to show that I had once endorsed him, as if that had anything at all to do with his complaint against me. He also included copies of the Chamber of Commerce budget that also had no relevance to anything. I have to wonder: was all this extraneous information included to try to snow the commission or to show how hard he was trying to prove his baseless case?

Despite his best (or worst) efforts, Thompson's complaint was deemed "legally insufficient" by the executive director of the Florida Elections Commission on July 11. True to form, Thompson appealed the decision and supplied 4 pages of additional blank ammunition. His complaint was again turned down as "legally insufficient" on August 4 and he was given another 21 days to try again. He responded, of course, with a 2 page rambling letter full of bolded sentences, italicized paragraphs, all in a tone most disrespectful and condescending.

This time his appeal was denied because he had not met the time requirement of a 21 day response. Again, he whipped off a letter to the commission clerk, with the same arrogant tone twice saying that, "I find your determination remarkable." But then he further says that "I can explain why I might well have been excused had they not been timely filed," and used a personal tragedy as an excuse.

As I stated in my letter to the Elections Commission – "His letters to you are sarcastic, condescending and inappropriate. You have been unfailingly polite and professional in letters and conversations. You deserve an apology."

Two things of which you might not be aware – (1) When Thompson appeared before your commission on previously filed charges, his expenses were reimbursed by a local political action committee, the Citizens Initiative Committee and (2) he is filing all these charges against residents of a city in which he hasn't lived or owned property for many years.

His abuse of the system must stop, and anything you and the Commission can do to achieve that would be

appreciated. He obviously does not have the ability to stop himself.

Lauderdale-By-The-Sea is really a lovely town, and it's embarrassing that we have this childish non-resident set on a vendetta which makes us look foolish."

Yes, we are a laughing stock in Tallahassee.

On November 13 Thompson traveled to Tallahassee (as he told the commission, "by Greyhound bus,") for his final appeal. He used up every second of his allotted ten minute appeal, starting with how he spent his whole career, "in government, with the army, state department, NATO...fighting the evil empire" and was in "Moscow, Warsaw, Zagreb." It is truly pitiful to what lengths he will go to try to impress people. I can just picture the eyes of the committee members glazing over.

This is at least the eighth complaint that Thompson has filed or had a hand in filing in the last 3 years, and he has gotten nowhere in his harassment of people in the town where he used to live. Of course in this latest case, the commission voted unanimously to support staff's recommendation that Thompson's complaints be dismissed as being legally insufficient. No matter how he may try to spin it, once again he lost.

Thompson lost when he twice ran for commissioner. When he wanted to run in 2008, he found no support for the idea of his moving back into town so that he could run. Even his former friends knew he was damaged goods. All his complaints to government agencies have failed. He doesn't live in town. He paints others as wanting high rises when they clearly don't, though he lived in a high rise himself when he was here and had no problem taking a huge profit when he sold it. He's turned into a cry baby and a hypocrite. He fancies himself as an "investigative reporter" but of course has no training in journalism. Investigative reporters investigate in order to produce a story; Thompson comes up with the story and then runs the investigation to try to prove his hypothesis. Backward, indeed. Some people think Thompson knows the factual history of LBTS, but he sees the history only as it fits his agenda.

Move on, Mr. Thompson. You've lost your moral compass and need to prioritize what is important in your life. Do something meaningful where you can be a winner.

ByTheSeaFuture

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ByTheSeaFuture has been approved by the NATIONAL NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION
Three Awards Won for Excellence in 2007

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I want to thank you for the beautifully written article about my work with the homeless shelter. Several wonderful angels of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea donated much needed items such as toiletries and clothing. I went to the homeless shelter on Sunday, November 23 and handed out desperately needed items to over 100 men and women. I want to remind everyone that I go to the homeless shelter on a monthly basis and that donated items are always appreciated. Toiletries such as deodorant, perfume, aftershave, lotion, shaving cream, razors, shampoo, etc. are forever needed and I never seem to have enough. It is heartbreaking to run out of items and still have a line in front of you! Please remember that even one item can make a difference! Donations can always be dropped off at By The Sea Laundry at 4323 N. Ocean Drive. My Mom will even pick up items if that is more convenient for your readers. The director of the homeless shelter says that the residents love to see me come more than anyone else. He said that I always leave everyone feeling better and smelling better, too! Oh, yeah, and can you believe that two homeless people donated \$2 each to help with my next month's donation drive? Now that's what I call a miracle!

Much love,

Hyaat Aldahwi

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I usually don't speak out about issues in town but feel I must now. Recently I was faced with a no win situation - to call 911 or not to call 911. I chose the latter. My husband was very weak and in terrible pain in his knee. He could barely stand and had been using a walker for about a week. I called the doctor and was advised to take him to the ER. When BSO was here I would have just called 911 and he would have been transported.

As of October 1st BSO is gone and AMR is here. I chose not to call 911 because I didn't want a parade led by Jerry McIntee in my house. BSO was able to handle their calls without assistance. At the time I had to make my decision, I felt that Jerry McIntee here barking orders was not something I was willing to put us through. I now see that that was a good choice. Where does Jerry McIntee have the right to discuss any personal business of a citizen who calls 911? It is my opinion he should take off both hats (commissioner and firefighter). He doesn't know when to keep things to himself and certainly is not someone I want to represent me.

Please citizens, town officials, and AMR: Rethink allowing Jerry McIntee to answer the 911 calls.

Janell Duritsa, LBTS Resident

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Cindy,

Just wanted to let you know how much we appreciated your article and photo about the Second Time Arounders Band marching in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York. We always like reading By The Sea Future on-line to keep up with all that's going on in LBTS. Very professional and reader-friendly. Any other former band members (any city) who are interested in marching with us? Check out www.secondtimearounders.org for more details!

Thanks again,

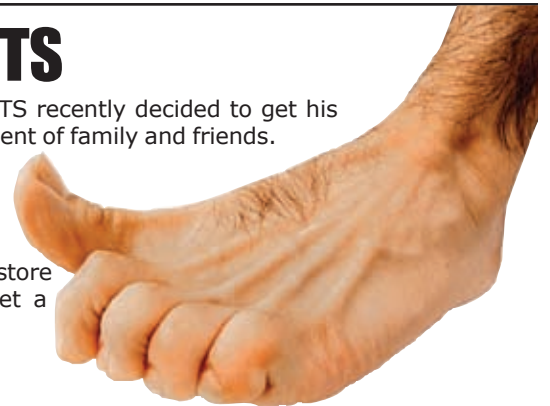
Linda & Lee Butts

LAUGHTER IN LBTS

A most macho male resident of LBTS recently decided to get his first pedicure, much to the amazement of family and friends.

As his best buddy rolled on the floor in laughter at the news, the guy with the beautiful toes gruffly said, "Hey, listen. I'm not gonna take you with me to the chopper store on Federal Highway unless you get a pedicure, too."

That's telling him, Bubba!



The editors and staff of ByTheSeaFuture newspaper extend warm wishes to all for a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and Successful New Year.



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THE HOLIDAY SEASON SPARKLES IN LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA



PHOTO CREDIT: DAN WEBER

The Home of Dan Weber & Bill Vitollo, Terra Mar Island (2006 POA Holiday Decoration Winner)



Niki Eckhardt

2008 Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Chamber of Commerce Christmas Party



Ron Piersante, Mayor Roseann Minnet, Irene Piersante, Lorene Parker and Former Mayor Oliver Parker at the Chamber Christmas party



Past Chamber President Bernie Eckhardt tried to plant a kiss on Chuck Clark at the Chamber party as Reg Brady, Bonnie Clark, Sunny Eckhardt and Lan Brady looked on.

CHRISTMAS-BY-THE-TREE IN LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA



Continued from Page 1

Former Vice Mayor John Yanni: "On Christmas Eve we celebrate with an old Italian tradition of serving 7 different kinds of fish to family and friends. Then we move on to turkey and ham on Christmas Day." Kaye Yanni added, "I always liked it when all the kids came home at the same time!"

Resident Rose Gambetta: "We also serve 7 fishes on Christmas Eve, like calamari, shrimp, scrod, clams, mussels, made all different ways."

Resident Tom Carr: "I don't have a favorite gift, but my favorite memory is having all our friends over for Christmas Eve."

Resident Riley Brady, 3 1/2: "My favorite present ever was a coloring book. This year I want a Rose Petal Cottage."

Resident Vera Dendy: "I love the Christmas meal with everyone around, the family event."

Resident since 1953, Amanda Wuerz: "I always enjoy midnight mass on Christmas Eve."

Visitors Don and Joan Margolies, Silver Springs, MD: "We always like welcoming our granddaughters Annie and Maryanne at this time of year."

Resident Susan Gambon: "My husband and I celebrate Christmas Eve together, alone, just the two of us, at a very posh restaurant. It's a special yearly date that we've gone on for 12 years. When we go home, we hang little Secret Santa gifts on neighbor's door knobs!"

Resident Hyaat Aldahwi: "Every year my Dad and I put up and decorate the Christmas tree (we let Mom have a break) and when we're done, Mom always says, 'Wow, That's the most beautiful tree ever.' She says that every year! I love to decorate the house with our Christmas favorites and then turn off the lamps and watch them glow. We also always add new decorations from friends and loved ones to our tree, and there's always something new to do with an ice skater. Dad's birthday is on Christmas Eve and Mom always makes it a big deal. She always makes him feel special and has a big party for him. Santa always comes on the fire truck to deliver that extra special surprise and then I barely sleep through the night in anticipation of Christmas morning."

Local Bob Wolfe: "I remember always going to my Grandparents' house on Christmas Eve and then to Church. We enjoyed a great German dinner and cookies and finally opened our gifts."

Resident Janet Jordan: "Five years ago, my daughter was 15 and earned her spending money through babysitting. At Christmastime, many of her babysitting families gave her Coach gift cards, as most teen girls, including my daughter, were 'into' Coach that season. She took all of her gift cards and surprised me on Christmas with a gorgeous Coach handbag. It was the sweetest, most extravagant and selfless surprise I'd ever received. I take very good care of it!"

Kyle Gould of The Country Squire: "Our tradition is celebrating Mass on Christmas Eve and then waiting until Christmas morning to open gifts."

C.J. Baltali: "I remember getting the book Polar Express when I was seven years old; just like in the book, I left a bell for the reindeer in my stocking and kept believing."

Resident Bill Davis of Away Inn and Diner By The Sea: "My wife and I did everything on Christmas Eve - all the decorations, wrapping, toy assembly - for our six sons. Years ago I also used to be a clown at Christmas at Sears!"

Ed White of Croton Arms: "I was always into musical instruments and remember getting an electric guitar when I was 11 1/2 years old, and then in six months I had a band. I haven't stopped and now have six guitars, a banjo and a keyboard."

Annelie, Peter and Tim Ekstrom of Sweden: "We always have dinner with the whole family on Christmas Eve."

Bunny and Tim Wilson of White Plains, NY: "We just bought a place on Seagrape Drive and will celebrate with family and friends."

Ronnie and Marie Ritacco of White Plains, NY: "We always have a large family get together and our immediate family numbers 23!"

Resident Marie Chiarello: "Favorite gift? That's easy. Diamonds!"

Local Nick Alfano: "Everyday in Florida is Christmas!"

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MCINTEE'S MEDICAL DISCLOSURES SPARK CITIZENS PROTESTS

Continued from Page 1

Speaking during the November 25 town commission meeting, Commissioner Stuart Dodd asked Chief Perkins how much longer the VFD intends to continue sending out fire trucks to respond to medical calls which don't involve a fire. Perkins said the policy is still under review but will stay in effect for at least another month. McIntee defended the practice, saying it is useful to have firefighters on hand in case AMR needs some help. He then publicly disclosed extremely personal medical details about the resident on Terra Mar Island to help make his point.

McIntee's statement sparked an immediate backlash in town. Terra Mar residents Vito and Marie Chiarello have drafted a petition, stating that it is unfair for

McIntee to use his positions as a commissioner and a fireman to obtain and disclose personal medical information about town residents. The petition asks that residents be given the right to prohibit McIntee from entering their home during a medical emergency. Local online journalist Barbara Cole went one step further, sending a letter to the fire department requesting that no member of the VFD be allowed inside her home on a medical call if AMR is called in for service.

The situation became further complicated when AMR proposed to create an oversight committee to review its handling of emergency medical calls. AMR did this after questions were raised about AMR's response to a near-drowning incident in LBTS on October 30. In

offering to set up the review committee, AMR agreed to let one member of the town commission serve on the panel, with the position rotating among the five commission members every three months.

This prompted another round of concern that instead of just McIntee being privy to private medical information about town residents, it would give all five commissioners access to that information with no restrictions on what they might do with it. Notwithstanding these concerns, the commissioners agreed to take part in AMR's oversight committee, and they elected McIntee as the first commissioner to serve on the panel.

CHEERS TO LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA

by Cindy Geesey

There were rounds of parties in LBTS during the holiday season, evidence that laughter, camaraderie and the love of neighbors and friends do still exist here.

Chamber of Commerce -- Following a fun tree lighting ceremony at the beginning of the month, members celebrated again at Shooters with a cocktail party that drew dozens of partiers.

Diner by the Sea -- Co-owners Bill Davis and Billy Sand invited customers to bring a covered dish and join them at Sand's popular restaurant, The Wine Cellar, for dinner and drinks. The house was full with over 150 guests as people reminisced about the Pier Coffee Shop, whose waitresses are now a big draw at the Diner.

Sister Cities -- Chairman Dr. Kenneth Most assembled members for a dinner party at Pa DeGennaro's, and plans to visit other local eateries with international cuisine in 2009 were discussed.

Garden Club -- The luncheon at Jarvis Hall featured festive table settings and arrangements, delicious food, and smiles of the members.

Altar Guild -- Following Mass, members held a pot luck luncheon where there was so much to eat that all the leftovers were delivered to the needy.

Lauderdale Beach Republican Club -- Gifts were exchanged, munchies were enjoyed, plans for the year were discussed. Members continue to bring non-perishable food for donation to the Broward Feeding Cooperative.

Marie White's Santa Comes to Town -- Children gathered at the beach at Commercial to tell Santa what they wanted for Christmas and to have pictures taken with the great man. According to the late Marie White's niece, Jeanne Bonney, "It was a special privilege for me to be part of this event that my aunt was passionate about. Although I miss her terribly, for three hours on Saturday she was with me through the enthusiasm and selflessness of the people who carried on her passion. Once again, I "got" why my aunt loved LBTS so much and why she was always so proud to be a resident of the "prettiest small town in America." I have never seen a group of people have so much fun doing for others in such a simple way. Wherever she is now, I know where she was last Saturday: she was on the beach with Santa in Lauderdale-By-The-Sea."



Co-owners Bill Davis and Billy Sand of Diner by the Sea were great hosts at the party for their customers held at The Wine Cellar.



Joan Englander, Joyce Murray, Lorene Parker, Marie Chiarello, Barbara Capozzoli, Susan Gambon, Roseann Minnet, Assumption Church Altar Guild President Elaine Grant



A beaming Marilyn Carr shows off her "Blue, Blue Christmas" at the recent LBTS Garden Club Luncheon.

HOLIDAY DECORATION CONTEST

Elves from the LBTS Property Owner's Association will be visiting all areas of town this weekend to judge the annual Holiday Decoration Contest. Categories include single family homes, low rise condos, high rise condos, restaurants, merchants, hotels and motels, and apartments and multi-family buildings.

According to President Cindy Geesey, "This contest used to be held every year when I was growing up here in the fifties and sixties and my parents always decorated. I was disappointed that there was no contest when I moved back in 1996 so decided to encourage the town to get in the holiday spirit and started the contest again."

Judging will be based on color, creativity, theme and impact. Winners of the past two years are ineligible.

All areas of LBTS will be judged, but if you want to make extra sure that your place is considered, please call Cindy at 954-776-5974.



GET WELL SOON

Best wishes for a speedy recovery go out to the following LBTS residents --

Vincent Ragusa, Eldon Moore, Tom Carr and Rob Duritsa



NEW YEARS EVE AT PELICAN SQUARE

Come watch the ball drop in downtown LBTS on New Year's Eve. Join family and friends from 5 PM until 2 AM at Commercial and El Mar. It's a great town tradition and the best part is that the party is free and so is the parking!

POA TO MEET IN THE NEW YEAR

The official annual meeting of the LBTS Property Owners Association will be held on Thursday, January 29 beginning at 7:00 p.m. at Jarvis Hall, with a "Meet and Greet" at 6:45 p.m. The program will include a CPA who will speak on financial planning in the current economic environment. LBTS resident Ed Herson will also make a presentation on Medicare - what to expect and what to look out for.

Members will also be electing officers to serve for the next 2 years. According to current President Cindy Geesey, "We are looking for volunteers who would like to give a little of their time to this non-political civic association comprised of friends and neighbors who enjoy educational and helpful programs. This is a congenial group that works well together to keep our beach village a joy in which to live, and your participation is important."

If you would like to serve on the board or know someone who would, please call one of the nominating committee members listed below no later than January 22. In order to vote, you must have been a member for at least 30 days and have paid your 2009 dues. Nominations from the floor will also be accepted, and voting will be done by a secret ballot.

Buster Celestino - 954-946-1588 | Marilyn Carr - 954-938-9076
Bob Keane - 954-938-6951 | Vincent Ragusa - 954-202-2666

A check for \$10 dues for 2009 should be made out to The Property Owners Association of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea and sent to Treasurer Marilyn Carr at 254 Miramar Avenue, LBTS, 33308. If you have questions, call Cindy Geesey at 954-776-5974.

Visit Old City News Stand for fine wines, great cigars, lottery tickets and an enormous variety of magazines and newspapers including this one!



Drop In Soon!
 4400 Bougainville Drive
 Lauderdale-By-The-Sea
 (954) 772-4119



WHERE DO YOUR TOWN COMMISSIONERS STAND?



In each of our issues, ByTheSeaFuture publishes a list of the major votes taken by the LBTS Town Commission and a breakdown of how Mayor Roseann Minnet and Commissioners Stuart Dodd, Jerry McIntee, Birute Clotney and Jim Silverstone voted on each issue. Here is how they voted on December 16, 2008. Read the full commission meeting report below for details about how it all went down.

ITEM VOTED ON:	Minnet	McIntee	Silverstone	Clotney	Doda
ordinance to require that dangerous dogs be muzzled or confined	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
require owners of dangerous dogs to pay a \$250 annual permit for them	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
pay \$350 for "welcome to Lauderdale-By-The-Sea" signs on Commercial Blvd. flagpoles	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
give away the beds, lamps and other furniture in the town's new public safety dormitory	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
prepare ordinance to remove bags from town's parking meters	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
table action on town rules dealing with boat and camper parking	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

COMMISSION MEETING REPORT - 12-16-08

It looks like the on-again off-again bags covering some of the town's parking meters are about to come off again. At the December 16 town commission meeting, the commissioners instructed the town attorney to draft an ordinance which would allow them to remove the bags and reinstate paid parking at all meters throughout the town. The ordinance has to pass twice before it can take effect, so the earliest the parking bags can come off would be February.

The commissioners indicated that they plan to experiment with the no-bag policy for three months, to see if it has a detrimental effect on the businesses along Commercial Boulevard west of A1A. The decision followed a workshop at which the majority of the speakers favored the removal of the bags. The town has also been conducting a straw poll on removing the parking bags, but it has only attracted a small number of votes and they were about evenly split.

The town had originally put the bags over the meters in an effort to help attract more customers to local businesses. However, the businesses quickly found that the free parking spaces were being taken up by beachgoers and local employees, leaving no place for customers to park. The town tried to limit the free parking to two hours, but that did not seem to make a difference, so now the bags are about to be history.

It may be the end of the line for the parking bags, but it's just the beginning for the town's new video camera surveillance system. LBTS Police Chief Scott Gooding told the commission that the Broward Sheriff's Office has installed six permanent surveillance cameras to monitor incoming and outgoing traffic at the three entrances to town. In addition, the BSO has a seventh camera in operation which is portable and can be moved around to monitor trouble spots.

Gooding said the surveillance system will help the BSO identify cars, license plates or people who might have been involved in crimes to help solve them. Just as important, he said, the system should serve as a huge deterrent to new crime. "People should be aware if they come through town and do bad things, they're going to be videotaped," Gooding said. The chief said other communities, including Boca Raton and Hollywood, have already stopped by to inspect the LBTS system and plan to bring similar systems into their towns.

Gooding said he plans to purchase and install at least six more surveillance cameras in LBTS. The equipment is being paid for out of a special law enforcement fund, so no tax dollars are involved. Once the new cameras are in place, he said, people will be able to view live images through them from their home computers.

In other news, the commission gave final approval to an ordinance which requires that dogs which have been determined to be dangerous be muzzled or confined. It also requires the owners of dangerous dogs to pay a \$250 annual permit to keep them. Mayor Roseann Minnet voted no, saying the county already has an adequate dangerous dog ordinance in effect.

The commissioners also heard from a number of residents of Terra Mar Island and Bel Air, who were recently cited for having boats or trailers parked in the driveways or front yards. The residents asked the commission to clarify the town's ordinance regarding boat and trailer parking to enable them to keep their vehicles in their driveways. The commissioners put off any action on the issue until the next commission meeting on January 13.

The commission also voted to install signs on the new flagpoles along Commercial Boulevard which say "Welcome to Lauderdale-By-The-Sea," at a cost of \$350. In addition, the commission voted to give away the beds, lamps, blankets and other furniture which has been removed from the motel which the town purchased and is renovating to serve as a dormitory for the volunteer fire department.

LBTS MAYOR'S COMMENTS



Mayor Roseann Minnet

As the new year approaches, let us all ask ourselves what can we do to be a better advocate for our town. It is important to develop relationships not only with our local elected officials, but also with our county, state and national leaders. The past election in November pointed out how important it is for us all to remember that we are shareholders at every level of government.

Your communication has an effect, whether you send an email or letter, make a phone call, or meet with your Senator or Representative. Whatever method you choose, be specific about

what action you want and familiarize yourself with the issues. Take the time to prepare your thoughts and follow up as many times as it takes. Following are important links for your information:

- Broward County: www.broward.org
- Florida Senate: www.flsenate.gov
- Florida House: www.myfloridahouse.gov
- U.S. Senate: www.senate.gov
- U.S. House of Representatives: www.house.gov

Before I close for the new year, I want to thank everyone for their support. I have brought to the forefront the Calypso project, and I will continue to fight to keep this town safe. The Adopt-a-Street program is moving forward and the first October Greenfest went well. If anything, the past year has taught me that no matter what, you cannot make everyone happy.

I have said from the beginning, you will get the facts, but you may not always like the response. LBTS is a community of 5,800 people, small by some standards

but great in passion. I value the moments when residents come up to me and share past stories about the town. The reminiscing always makes it all worthwhile. History is an amazing thing and interpretations are many. History is not just measured by words. It is also measured by the actions we take toward our neighbors.

So, the real question is, can we as a community live together in peace with mutual respect, with the freedom to argue and disagree, without denying each other's dignity? I am looking forward to 2009, to bringing new initiatives to our town, to working hard on the various task forces I have been appointed to, and most of all, to being an advocate and voice for the people of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea.

Best wishes for a happy holiday season and a prosperous and healthy new year!

REALITY CHECK: TOWN CLERK CHARGES \$327.59 FOR NOTHING

In recent weeks, the LBTS town administration has gone to great lengths to prevent a full and independent investigation of reported problems involving the volunteer fire department and Vice Mayor Jerry McIntee's role with the VFD. The town commission has refused to appoint an outside counsel to investigate these matters, and both the chief of the VFD and the town manager have refused to respond to public information requests concerning these issues.

Now the town is going to extraordinary lengths to discourage the public from so much as asking questions about the fire department, by charging exorbitant fees even where no information is being provided to the person who requests it. Case in point:

On October 26, ByTheSeaFuture submitted an email request to both VFD Chief Robert Perkins and LBTS Town Manager Esther Colon, seeking a copy of an incident report concerning a near-drowning off the coast of LBTS. Perkins did not respond to this request, even though he is required to do so by law. Colon asked Town Attorney Daniel Abbott to respond on her behalf, even though the document request did not involve any legal issues.

On October 27, Abbott sent the following email response to ByTheSeaFuture: "I am advised that the Town does not have a copy of the incident report of which you speak. Accordingly, the Town has no documents to provide you in response to your request."

On December 10, ByTheSeaFuture received a bill from LBTS Town Clerk June White for attorney Abbott's services in responding to this public records request in the amount of \$61.42. White, who is the town's official custodian of records, said the bill reflected 18 minutes worth of work by the town attorney.

On October 29, ByTheSeaFuture hand-delivered a list of questions to Town Manager Colon, concerning a report that the VFD was not meeting its contractual obligations to the town, and that Vice Mayor McIntee had threatened one of the department's top officers and caused him to resign. On October 30, Town Attorney Abbott again responded on behalf of Colon. Abbott sent

an eight-sentence email to ByTheSeaFuture, which stated that the questions did not constitute a request for documents, therefore the town manager was not obligated to answer them.

On December 10, ByTheSeaFuture received a bill from LBTS Town Clerk June White for attorney Abbott's services in the amount of \$184.27. White said it took Abbott 54 minutes to determine that no information would be provided to the newspaper and to write his short email.

On October 31, Town Attorney Abbott sent the following email to ByTheSeaFuture: "Thank you for your response. Once again, please feel free (both on this issue and any other issue in the future) to request from me any public record held by the Town, and I will help facilitate the production of same."

On December 10, ByTheSeaFuture received a bill from LBTS Town Clerk June White in the amount of \$81.90, for the cost of receiving this two-sentence email. White said it took 24 minutes for Abbott to research and write this letter. This bill ignores the fact that the email from Abbott was completely unsolicited, and was not even in response to a public records request.

Final tally: The total amount of information which the town and the VFD provided to ByTheSeaFuture: zero. The total amount of hours which the newspaper was billed for the town attorney's services: 1.6. The total amount of money which the newspaper was billed for its public records requests: \$327.59.

Under Florida law, the town is required to make a reasonable effort to respond to all public information requests. ByTheSeaFuture has turned this matter over to the State Attorney's office, and requested an investigation to determine if the town is violating the Florida Public Records Act by refusing to release documents and by charging exorbitant fees for routine public information requests.

U.S. REP. KLEIN TO SUPPORT ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLAN IN NEXT TERM

by Mark Brown

With the national economy in a shambles, U.S. Rep. Ron Klein says he is looking forward to returning to Washington in January to begin working on a national economic recovery plan. Klein, who was reelected to a second term in Congress last month, said he intends to direct much of his attention to legislation to help stabilize the real estate market and prevent people from losing their homes.



Congressman Ron Klein (D)

The economy is one of several areas that Klein will be focusing on next year. The Congressman said he also intends to renew his efforts to enact a national catastrophic insurance fund, to help states share the costs of recovering from natural disasters such as hurricanes and floods. Klein will also be supporting a number of projects of local importance to south Florida, including beach and reef stabilization and expansion of the new veterans outpatient clinic in Sunrise.

In a recent interview with ByTheSeaFuture, Klein said the economy is far and away the biggest problem facing our country. "Florida is still a very desirable place to live and retire," Klein said, "but we have to do a better job of stabilizing the real estate market. Home values are down, while other people are being priced out."

Klein, who serves as a member of the House Committee on Financial Services, says he favors innovative approaches to help keep people who are facing foreclosure in their homes, such as encouraging banks to refinance them with 40-year loans. "In difficult times like this, we don't need more foreclosures. We need to keep people in their homes." He added that this would not apply to real estate speculators or people who made bad investments. "I'm not looking to give out free lunches, just to keep people in their homes," he said.

Klein said he also expects a national economic recovery plan to focus on creating jobs through investments in roads, water projects and other infrastructure improvements. He said he would like to see the Small Business Administration provide immediate, short-term loans to small businesses to help them keep their employees and stay open. He also favors a major commitment by the federal government to help promote energy independence--a program which he feels also has the potential to create many new jobs over the next 10 years.

In addition to serving on the Financial Services Committee, Klein is a member of the foreign Affairs Committee. He said he expects the Obama administration to take a very different approach to foreign affairs than President Bush, focusing more on regional concerns than a country-by-country basis. He also thinks that foreign policy should encompass a more comprehensive view, including variables such as energy independence, and not just military and intelligence concerns.

Last year the House passed the legislation which Klein introduced to create a national catastrophic insurance fund. However, President Bush did not support the bill and it died in the Senate. This year Klein is optimistic that the bill will be enacted into law because it has the support of President-elect Obama. The bill would permit states like Florida, which are prone to natural disasters, to contribute to a national fund. If a disaster such as Hurricane Wilma strikes, the national fund will be available to help pay the recovery costs, so the financial burden will not be imposed entirely on local residents.

Klein said he will also be working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in support of the development of new technology to help the local beaches and reefs sustain themselves. In addition, he is working closely with the Veterans Administration to make sure that the new veterans outpatient facility being built in Sunrise is a "first-rate facility." This includes making sure that there is adequate public transportation and that the services match the needs of the more than two million veterans who live in south Florida.

In that regard, the Congressman is looking for local veterans who are interested in serving on his veterans advisory committee. Interested veterans should contact Felicia Goldstein in Rep. Klein's office at 954-522-4579.

STARVE THE SHORT SELLERS

by Michael Levy

Brokers won't tell you that your stocks are being loaned out to short sellers unless you ask.

The reason most investors open a margin account is it is more liquid and easier to buy and sell stocks. This dupes the investor into opening a margin account that may devalue their holdings by allowing it to be loaned to short sellers.



In a margin account, when a stock is sold the funds from the sale can be traded right away. In a cash account the investor has to wait three days for the sale to settle before the funds can be used again to trade. However, most investors do not realize the agreement they have signed in a margin account gives the broker control of the stocks to loan out to short sellers.

I have conducted a survey of many investors in the stock market who invest because they believe in the USA's record of excellent returns in the markets. I did not include speculators who short stocks or investors who hedge by straddles etc. Out of all the folks I asked, 100% of them said they would not allow their stocks to be lent out to short sellers. Most remarked they would have to be insane to bet against themselves by loaning out their stocks to be shorted.

Solution to Boost the Stock Market

All investors in the USA to check with their brokers or mutual funds to find out if any part of their portfolio of stocks are being loaned to short sellers. If they do not want to help bring about the demise in the value of the stocks they hold by loaning them out to short sellers then close the margin account and only trade in a cash account.

All Corporations quoted on the stock market should send out a letter to their shareholders and employees asking them to check if their account is cash or margin. Remember cash accounts cannot be lent out to short sellers.

By starving the short sellers of stocks to borrow the stock market will rally back to Dow 11,000...Together we can all make a difference.

Michael Levy is an international radio host and the author of nine inspirational books. In 1998 Michael established Point of Life, Inc., as a vehicle to project his philosophy. The website www.pointoflife.com and the associated newsletter (Point Of Life Global Newsletter) are visited and read by thousands of people around the world every month. Michael is a frequent speaker on radio, television and at seminars where he shares and discusses his views about the purpose of life, finance and stock market investments, also living a healthy, stress-free life. His new book; Paradise Graces A Simple Mind, is now available from all good bookstores.

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NEWS FROM THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

by Cindy Geesey

Seven positions on the board of directors were open for election in November, and seven members ran for those positions so no election was actually needed. Returning board members include Guy Contrada of Aruba Beach Cafe, Bill Davis of The Wilmington Group, Andy McConnell of AMC Graphics, Lucke Ricciuti of The Village Market, and Paul Novak of the High Noon Resort. New members who will serve on the board are Dorothy Hacker of Away Inn and Malcolm McClintock of Alabaska. All will serve a two year term.



Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Chamber of Commerce

When asked his thoughts about joining the Chamber Board of Directors, McClintock said, "I am happy to join the board of directors of the LBTS Chamber of Commerce. I hope that through my business experience in the hospitality industry as well as my involvement in the community as a writer for the Pompano Pelican Newspaper, I can help the Chamber achieve its many laudable goals. My first child will be born here in a few weeks and I want to make sure that he or she grows up in a vibrant and prosperous community. LBTS is a beautiful town and I will strive to contribute as best I can to its continued success."

Executive Director Judy Swaggerty is already hard at work on the annual Taste of the Beach that will be held on Monday, February 24 from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. She promises that, "this will be the best Taste ever and we look forward to providing a great time for all our returning and new guests." Judy and Chairman Cindy Geesey are working on finalizing the 2009 Visitor's Guide, and this award-winning 100 page plus color informational book will be available at the Welcome Center in January. 40,000 are printed and distributed worldwide.

If you have any questions about the Chamber or would like to volunteer, call Judy at 954-776-1000.

GARDEN CLUB'S FLORAL CHRISTMAS

The setting was welcoming, the flowers were of course beautiful and the ladies were gracious as they met for the annual Christmas luncheon of the LBTS Garden Club. Showing that good things come in small packages, each member received a gift of Christmas greenery arranged in a mini crystal bowl set on a small mirror – creative and perfect for the season. According to member Barbara McGuinness, "It was a great day, the tables were beautiful, and the food was wonderful. Everyone seemed to have a good time and enjoyed working together."

On display were five seasonal tablesettings, giving members a hint of what will be presented for judging at the major show in Jarvis Hall on Saturday, March 21. This show's judging was done by LBTS resident Marylynn Blaisdell.

The next meeting of the Garden Club will be at Jarvis Hall on Monday, January 12 at 9:15 a.m. followed by the annual Rummage Sale on Saturday, January 31 at Jarvis Hall beginning at 8:30 a.m. Buying is heavy at this popular event, so plan to get in line early. If you have items to donate, please call Barbara McGuinness at 954-933-3057.



"Christmas By the Pond" was presented by Nancy Leslie.



Chris Villata provided the table setting of her Grandmother's china & Barbara McGuinness the flower arrangement for their cooperative effort, "An Old Fashioned Christmas."



Mayor Roseann Minnet admires Cheryl Hess' presentation which was designed "in honor of our service people and their sacrifices."



LBTS resident and flower show judge Marylynn Blaisdell displays a decorative screen that can be used with long banquet and buffet tables.

WELCOME NEW CHAMBER MEMBERS

Subway is still going strong in the Sea Ranch Center but with an enthusiastic new owner, Gregg Hade. He chose this location because of its proximity to the beach and invites locals and visitors to, "Come by and visit whenever you want a great meal at a great price." Gregg provides fast and friendly service and your choice of Subway's famous hot and cold sandwiches, Italian subs, pizza, salads, apple pie, cookies, chips, and drinks. Bread is baked twice a day and the aroma alone will make you hungry. The specialty of the house is oversized subs for just \$5.00. Visit Subway on the north side of Sea ranch Center or call 954-545-0221 to order ahead.

Old City News Stand at 4400 Bougainvillea Drive remains the best place in LBTS to find your favorite local or out of town newspaper, a wide range of magazines, and racing forms. Owner Mariano Giana greets every customer with a smile and says that, "LBTS is a great area, safe and beautiful." He's run this business for five years and also offers snacks, drinks, beer, and cigarettes. Old City News Stand is the only place in town that carries a variety of premium cigars and a great selection of wines from Italy and Argentina. Lotto tickets are also available. So ask Mariano for a lottery ticket, a relaxing wine, and a potent cigar; then you can sit back and enjoy the finer things in life while you wait to find out if you're a lottery winner! Call 954-772-4119 for more information.

United Postal Center Plus, located just over the bridge at 3032 Commercial Boulevard, can help you with all your packing and shipping needs. Dan Ford has operated this business for the last three months and specializes in "packing and shipping just about anything to just about anywhere." Local residents, visitors and businesses use his company because of their "good customer service, convenient location, and remodeled showroom." Dan describes his business as "a small pack and ship store, authorized agent for UPS, FedEx and most post office services." They also offer fax and notary services, internet access, mail boxes and gifts (such as vine ripe Florida tomatoes and seasonal fresh fruit). Dan says, "I'm glad to be in the neighborhood and look forward to meeting more of you and supporting your businesses. For information, call 954-351-9551.

If you aren't now a **Pampered Chef**, Lisa Mueller says you should be. She'll help you host a party in your home where you and she will prepare and serve an appetizer or other recipe for your family and friends to share. "Kitchen tools and other items will be available for purchase and everyone who loves cooking and/or eating will have a fun time," says Lisa. This direct sales company is also looking for more people who would like to own their own Pampered Chef business and enjoy making friends and money at the same time. To schedule a party or to get more information, call Lisa at 954-234-7262 or visit www.pamperedchef.biz/lisam.

Manolo's Scooters at 263 Commercial Boulevard is run by Manny Mercado and Omar Colon, and they say they chose to open in LBTS because of "a great lady at the Chamber, Judy Swaggerty, who helped us for a year or more to find the right spot." They promise to provide the best customer service in their sales and rental business along with good prices. They fleet includes TNG and Lambretta scooters, from 49 cc to 250 cc. They invite all the locals and visitors to stop by and try out a scooter. Call 954-533-2527 or visit www.manoloscooters.com for more information.

CONDO FOR SALE

Beach condo perfectly remodeled, spacious 1 bed 1 1/2 bath in Parliament House across from private beach with intracoastal view. Join the "happenings" with all the Up and Coming Trendy Shoppes and new Pompano Pier. \$239K. Call **DOLORES BROWN** at Florida Sun Belt Realty, Inc. 954-973-6263

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ART SHOW WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The Second Annual Art Show sponsored by Our Art-by-the-Sea featured 24 works by member artists, and a number of winners were from Lauderdale-By-The-Sea.

First Prize for Photography went to Reverend Jim Goldsmith of the Community Church (photo below) for "Birds of a Feather," that features four interpretations of a seagull in flight. "Nassau" by LBTS resident Fran Scheffler won second prize in the Painting category, and Arnie Regan won second prize for his Watercolor, "Fun Under the Sun." Congratulations to all our talented locals.



IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE OUR NEW MENU.

It's a new day. And we're celebrating with six new menu items, each certain to tantalize your taste buds. We've also invigorated some of our old favorites with a fresh, new flavor. Great food. Great prices. Now more than ever, Buca is an incredible value. So come in soon, because there's always a good reason to Buca.



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Locals Yvonne Den Broeder and Anthony Chouvalis (right) were misidentified in a photo in our previous issue. Here they pose with Joe and Diane Anderson, friends for over 25 years, at their local Friday meeting place, Pa DeGennaro's.



Bertie and George Jones recently celebrated his birthday at Pa DeGennaro's with friend and bartender Debbie Wright.



LBTS Mayor Roseann Minnet, Dennis & Linda Ritchie and President Bob Wolfe party at the Lauderdale Beach Republican Club holiday meeting.



New owner Gregg Hade of SUBWAY at Sea Ranch offers the best in custom subs and was also a drop off point for gifts for the Children's Ho

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

* Televised on Channel 78

Jazz on the Square every Friday starting at 6 p.m. at Village Grille

December 20, Saturday: Congregational Breakfast at the Community Church begins at 9:00 a.m.

December 24, Wednesday: The annual Candlelight Service will start at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Church and will include a choir and instrumentalist with the theme "Lessons in Carols." Call 954-776-5530.

December 31, Wednesday: Celebrate the New Year at Commercial and El Mar from 5:00 p.m. until 2:00 a.m. Watch the ball drop at midnight! Free admission and free parking. Call the Chamber at 954-776-1000.

January 1, Thursday: Bulk trash pick-up south of Commercial.

January 2, Friday: Bulk trash pick-up north of Commercial.

January 5, Monday: Homestead Exemption Sign-Up at Jarvis Hall, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

January 7, Wednesday: The Lauderdale Beach Republican Club meets at 5:30 p.m. at Zo's Off the Hook Sports Bar at 2861 Commercial Boulevard. Guest speaker will be Fort Lauderdale Commissioner Cristine Teel. Call Bob Wolfe at 954-492-5387.

January 8, Thursday: Assumption Church Altar Guild will celebrate Mass at 9:00 a.m. followed by a presentation by BSO Police Chief Scott Gooding on Identity Theft. Call Carol Hardin at 954-941-7868.

January 12, Monday: Garden Club meets at Jarvis Hall at 9:15 a.m. to hear a program about threatened sea turtles. Call Kit Cashman at 954-642-8785.

January 13, Tuesday: Town Commission Meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. preceded by a workshop on code, height limits and capital improvements at 6:00 p.m.

January 13, Tuesday: Our Art-by-the-Sea Association meets at the Community Church at 7:00 p.m. for a presentation on acrylic as a medium. Call Fran Scheffler at 954-772-1684.

January 15, Wednesday: The Lions Club meets at 7:30 a.m. at The Holiday Inn. Call Mike San Miguel at 954-647-7752.

January 17, Saturday: Congregational Breakfast at the Community Church begins at 9:00 a.m.

January 17-18, Saturday-Sunday: Assumption Church Altar Guild will hold a rummage sale in the Parish Hall from 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

WANTED: A PURRFECT HOME

Dear Animal Lover:

My name is Dolly and I need a new home. I had a wonderful Mom for 15 years, and I recently went with her to a nursing home, but now she's no longer able to care for me there.

My doctor says I am an amazingly healthy senior citizen, and I have had all my annual shots and a recent check up. I am a short haired Calico so of course I'm beautiful as well as good tempered.

I love to be petted and to play with my toys. I'm very affectionate and would be a good companion for a kind human who perhaps has just lost their beloved cat and needs a new best friend. I've always been an "only cat" so would do best being the center of attention in a new home.

If you know of a special person who would love me and be happy to be loved back, please call my Big Sis, Kathy Rogers right away, at 954-782-6427.

Purrs,

Dolly



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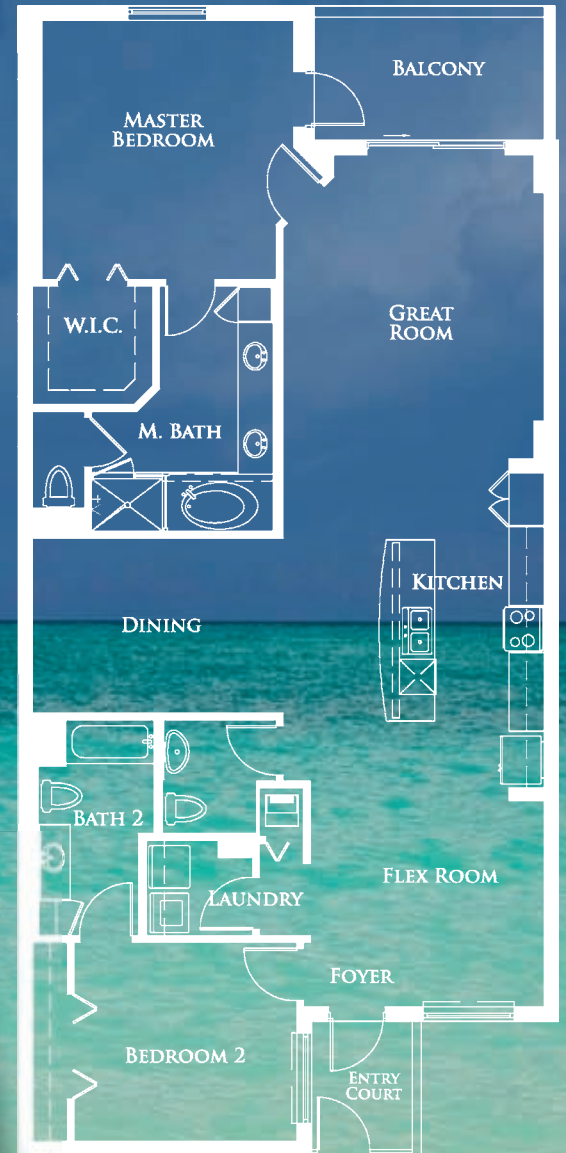
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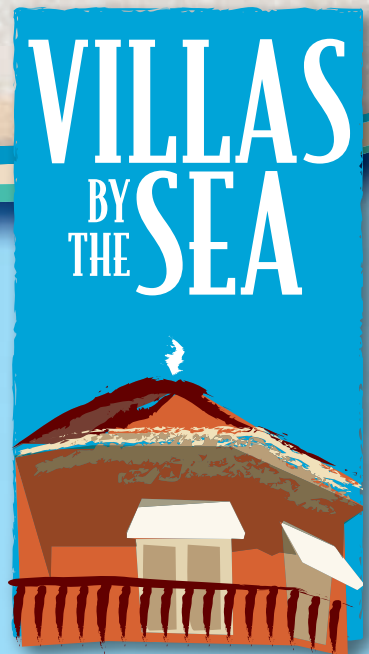
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