

ByTheSeaFuture

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

January 9, 2009

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A major project to replenish the beaches along LBTS was supposed to get underway in 2009. However, new environmental concerns and financial constraints have forced Broward County to go back to the drawing board and redesign the project. The long-awaited beach nourishment project is not expected to commence until the year 2010 at the earliest.

Read Full Story Below

LBTS FACES THREE MAJOR ENVIRONMENTAL DECISIONS IN 2009

by Mark Brown

As 2009 gets underway, there are three major projects in the works which have the potential to dramatically impact the environment of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea for decades to come. All three projects are controversial in their own right, and there is no guarantee that any of them will move forward. At issue are proposals which stand to impact the beaches and ocean waters off LBTS--the heart and soul of the coastal community. The stakes are high and it appears that LBTS may well become an environmental battleground as the pros and cons of all three projects are debated in the months ahead.

The most controversial project, and the one most likely to be considered and decided first, is the Calypso--the enormous liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal which has been proposed just eight miles off the coast of LBTS and the Galt Ocean Mile. This project calls for the construction of two floating docks to receive tankers loaded with liquefied natural gas imported entirely from foreign countries. More than a billion cubic feet of chilled natural gas would be received at the terminal each day, warmed back to a gas stage, then

transferred through an underwater pipeline to Port Everglades.

The Calypso project slipped virtually unnoticed through the federal review process for two years until last summer, when a group of citizens along the Galt Ocean Mile organized to oppose it. As a result of their efforts, the communities of Ft. Lauderdale, Pompano Beach and LBTS all passed resolutions against the project this past summer, and it is also opposed by U.S. Rep. Ron Klein, Florida Senate President Jeff Atwater and numerous local officials.

However, the one official who has not weighed in on the project yet is the one whose opinion counts the most--Florida Governor Charlie Crist. Under federal law, Crist has the right to approve or disapprove the project. Crist will have to make his decision within 45 days after a public hearing is held to review the final environmental impact statement on the project.

According to Lt. Hanna Kawamoto of the U.S. Coast Guard, which is overseeing the review process, no

date has been set for the final public hearing because the Federal Maritime Administration is still negotiating some financial issues with Suez Energy--the foreign-owned energy company which wants to build the Calypso terminal. "Once this issue is resolved a final public hearing will be held," Kawamoto said. "This will take place sometime in early 2009."

The final environmental impact statement prepared by the federal government which was released last fall basically gives the Calypso project the go-ahead. This has touched off fierce opposition among local residents, who insist that the LNG terminal is too big, located too close to the shore, and poses too much of a risk in the event of an accident, fire or deliberate terrorist attack. They also claim it does not make sense for the U.S. to increase its reliance on foreign energy supplies at a time when the country should be moving towards energy independence. Supporters of the Calypso disagree, saying the project is safe and is needed to help Florida meet its future demand for electricity.

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BEACH PAVILION PROJECT RAISES MORE QUESTIONS THAN ANSWERS

by Mark Brown

Construction is finally underway on the long-awaited beach pavilion in the downtown LBTS business district along Commercial Boulevard. When it is completed, the pavilion is expected to become a major landmark in town, providing residents and visitors with a peaceful, shady spot to relax and enjoy a picturesque view of the ocean.

As the outer structure of the pavilion rises along the beach, however, serious questions are being raised about the size, design and scope of this massive and historic building project now underway. Among them are: will the two-story structure be so big that it will actually block the view of the ocean rather than frame it? When and why were public restrooms eliminated from the project? Why is it being built during the height of the winter season when local businesses are most affected by the noise, dust and traffic disruptions caused by the project?



Computer Rendering of New Beach Pavilion

At this point, it is hard to say for sure what the pavilion is even going to look like when it is finished. Since the project was first approved by the town commission in 2007, there have been numerous design changes,

but the artist's renderings which were made available to the public always showed a building with walls. In mid-December, however, a new picture was posted at the construction site which shows a two-story, open-air pavilion with no walls.

Noticeably missing from the rendering are any bathrooms. The original design approved by the town commission called for public restrooms, and there is no record of any subsequent votes by the commission to eliminate them. Nevertheless, the bathrooms are gone, much to the dismay of local restaurants which have to shoulder the burden when nature calls for the crowds of people who flock to the beach. Town Manager Esther Colon said the bathrooms were eliminated to save money, but it is not clear who made that decision or when.

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PUT THE CONTRACTS FOR TOWN MANAGER, ATTORNEY OUT TO BID

by Mark Brown

It has been nearly a year since the town commission hired the law firm of Weiss, Serota to serve as the town attorney for LBTS. Although the firm was only hired on a day-to-day basis, the contract made sense at the time because the outgoing town attorney was anxious to leave, and the town needed an interim attorney so the commission could continue to conduct its business.

Today, the day-to-day contract with the law firm doesn't make sense any more. Either the firm and the attorney it has assigned to LBTS--Dan Abbott--deserve a more secure contract or not. It's not fair to the firm, Abbott, the commission or the general public to keep their status in limbo.

It is difficult for an outsider to judge the performance of the town attorney, since most of his work is done behind the scenes--drafting legal documents, providing counsel and so forth. There is no reason to believe that Abbott has done anything other than a solid job in those respects. However, based on the glimpses of his performance that we do get, it seems the best course of action would be for the town commission to go out to bid on a new contract for a town attorney, to see if any other firms are interested in competing against Weiss, Serota, and then offering the winner of the competition something better than just a day-to-day contract.

And while they're at it, this would be a good time for the commission to begin a top-to-bottom review of the entire town government staff, starting with Town Manager Esther Colon. When Colon was promoted from finance director to town manager two years ago, it was a spur of the moment decision by the town commission. The position was not put out to bid, there was no search for other qualified candidates, no comparing of resumes, and not even a verification of Colon's credentials.

Colon has made no shortage of controversial decisions since she was handed the job of town manager, from the purchase of the overpriced and unnecessary firefighters dormitory to her handling of the pavilion which is being constructed at the beach on Commercial Boulevard. Putting the town manager's job out to bid would provide a perfect opportunity for an independent firm to evaluate Colon's credentials and performance over the last two years, and reassure the commission and the public that she is indeed the best person for the job.

The same goes for all other high-level town employees who, like Colon, may have been hired or promoted without a formal search and review process, or who have been in the same position for a long time. Periodic reviews are standard practice in most lines of work, including government. These reviews are useful because they help keep the employees motivated and focused on their jobs. They help ensure that our elected officials get the staff support they need to make the best decisions, and that the taxpayers get their money's worth out of their government. Town employees are not hired for life, so let's make sure we are employing the best people out there by putting them through job reviews and performance evaluations, starting at the top.

In the case of the town attorney, the need to go out to bid for new applicants is pretty clear. The commission was far from enthusiastic when it hired Weiss, Serota in the first place. To begin with, they were the only law firm that bid on the contract, so there was no competition. Newly-elected commissioners Birute Clottey and Stuart Dodd were so uncomfortable hiring them under those circumstances that they wanted to go out immediately on a second round of bids, but they were overruled when Colon said it would cost too much.

Even Vice Mayor Jerry McIntee had his doubts, saying he had surveyed several communities which employed Weiss, Serota and determined "60 to 40 percent that you guys are pretty good." McIntee went on to recommend only a short-term contract, saying: "then we're in no jeopardy if you turn out to be stiff. We'll just put out a new RFP."

Abbott has not turned out to be a stiff, but he is no Jim Cherof either. As anyone who follows LBTS town commission meetings knows, former town attorney Cherof knew the LBTS town charter by heart, and he always came to commission meetings prepared for the nightly agenda. By comparison, Abbott often seems disinterested, unprepared and uninformed about the town charter or the commission agenda. When called upon to speak, he often prefaces his remarks by saying he is not familiar with an issue, but he then goes on to give an off-the-top of his head legal opinion anyway, without regard to the impact that his words might have.

For example, by winging his legal opinion about the commission's authority to repeal the town's overlay

districts by ordinance, rather than through a voter referendum, Abbott may have put the town at risk for lawsuits from property owners whose property was devalued. That might be good news for the lawyers who will try the cases, but it is not very good for the taxpayers who will pay for them.

Unlike Cherof, Abbott also seems to be reluctant to stand up to the commissioners on everything from parliamentary matters to substantive concerns. He seems particularly reluctant to challenge Vice Mayor McIntee, who hand-picked him as town attorney after he rejected the law firm's original choice of lawyers. Abbott's persistent habit of telling McIntee what he wants to hear, rather than what he needs to know, suggests that he has never gotten over McIntee's threat to fire him and seek new bids for a town attorney the minute he is dissatisfied with his performance.

The town commission has everything to gain and nothing to lose by reviewing its contracts with Colon and Abbott, evaluating their job performances, and issuing new requests for proposals to fill the jobs of town manager and town attorney. Colon and Abbott are certainly welcome and encouraged to reapply for their positions, and if they turn out to be the best candidates, they should be rehired. If better candidates emerge, then it will be in the best interest of the town to hire them instead. In the end, that's what matters the most--hiring the best people to help run the town, especially during these times of serious fiscal constraints.

The town commission should get the new year off to a good start by advertising the positions of town manager and town attorney, hiring an independent head-hunting firm to evaluate the applicants, and making a renewed commitment to good government in LBTS. If the commission feels it is necessary to seek competitive bids on the most mundane spending projects, such as an electronic voting system, then the least it can do is go out to bid on the two highest-paid, most important staff positions in the entire town government. LBTS should not be the only community that hires its top employees without so much as a competitive process, or a standing review of their credentials and performance.

VICE MAYOR AND WIFE, NO LAUGHING MATTER

by Cindy Geesey

I've always admired the wives of our elected officials who support their spouses, give up family time, and conduct themselves with grace and maturity. Most have contributed a great deal to the community themselves. I imagine it's difficult to put up with their husbands being criticized without losing their cool. These women have class and dignity.

And then there's Maureen McIntee. Her last Public Comments rant at the December 16 commission meeting was simply laughable and quite pathetic at the same time. It is certainly proper for her to speak out at commission meetings, but she should speak about town business and stop with the personal attacks and endless self aggrandizing, inappropriate comments. It's one thing to be proud of your husband; it's quite another thing to be arrogant.

It's common knowledge that this is the woman who introduced hissing and booing at commission meetings. She also was responsible for the childish broom campaign and for name calling becoming acceptable in our heretofore civilized town.



Maureen McIntee as Lady Liberty, Halloween '08

At the December 16 meeting, she took a swipe at Mayor Parker for sending birthday cards to voters and pointed out that she and her wonderful husband in contrast received Christmas cards from voters thanking them for all they did. Shame on Mrs. McIntee for making such a needless nasty crack - how could anyone think sending a birthday card was bad? The Parkers sent those cards at their own expense, hand addressed the envelopes, and in a majority of cases included a note to the resident they knew personally. The Parkers certainly received many notes of thanks for their service to the community, but they had enough modesty not to call attention to that fact.

Mrs. McIntee just flipped out when some people in the audience laughed as she talked about how she and her hubby were praised in one Christmas card. It was laughable to see her almost violent reaction to what she labeled a lack of decorum. She whirled around, glared at the offending chucklers and then demanded the Mayor control the audience and also allow her even more time to speak. So after the nasty crack at Mayor Parker, after glaring at the audience, and after yelling at the Mayor, Mrs. McIntee went on to preach about joy, love and peace of the season and then quoted Mother Teresa. Shame on her.

This is especially laughable given the fact that her husband Commissioner McIntee apparently doesn't even know the meaning of decorum. He regularly interrupts the Mayor, other commissioners, speakers before the dais, everyone. When he first took office, it took him months to learn to press his microphone button before speaking...now he just leaves it on all the time and talks at will. The Mayor does her best to try to control his bad behavior, but he doesn't listen to anyone. He has no respect for her, for the hall, or for the citizens.

Public comments should be about the town business and not a forum for a comedy act, personal attacks or irrelevant self praise. I can't imagine the lack of self esteem that would compel a person to get up during a government meeting just to tout their supposed accomplishments. Mrs. McIntee has talked in the past about her husband directing traffic at an accident site somewhere out of town. So what? The funniest thing I ever heard was the story bragging about arriving at some motel and finding a sign welcoming them. I remember seeing that once back in the late '70's in a highway motel near Titusville, but it's certainly not something that's done in 4 and 5 star places that value their customers' privacy. What was the point anyway? "Look how great we are"?

Mr. and Mrs. McIntee, get over yourselves and get on with the business of the town. We have important and pressing goals to achieve. LBTS residents deserve no less.

ByTheSeaFuture

<p>PUBLISHER Michael Arker</p> <p>EXECUTIVE EDITORS Mark Brown Cindy Geesey</p> <p>DISTRIBUTION Ron Piersante</p>	<p>PRODUCTION JMF Multimedia, Inc.</p> <p>EDITORIAL BOARD Michael Arker James Fletcher</p> <p>STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Sunny Veil Eckhardt</p>
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THIS ISSUE'S COVER PHOTO: Mark Brown

ByTheSeaFuture, Inc.
4737 N Ocean Drive, Suite #139
Lauderdale-By-The-Sea, FL 33308
ByTheSeaFuture.com | newspaper@bytheseafuture.com
1-888-771-LBTS (5287)

ByTheSeaFuture has been approved by the
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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I am a retired underwriting Vice President of a major Insurance company with 36 years of countrywide property underwriting experience. I have been watching in amazement as LBTS switched to a Volunteer Fire Department. In all my years in underwriting, I have never seen a metropolitan area convert from a full-time paid, professional fire department to a strictly volunteer force for any reason, especially to save money. Volunteer departments are usually in rural and suburban areas because that is all the tax base in those areas will support. But, the overall goal of every such area is always to some day be able to grow and generate enough tax revenue to be able to afford a full-time professional department. The reasons are very simple: increased safety with the added benefit of reduced insurance premiums for everyone, business and residential.

Why reduced premiums? Here's how property fire premiums are determined. The insurance industry bands together and finances an organization named ISO. This organization's primary responsibility is to review and assign every city, town, berg, etc. with a fire protection class from 1 to 10. These codes tell the insurance world how good the local fire protection is. And, the insurance premium is based on the code assigned by ISO. The fire premiums in a city classified as class code 1 will be much, much lower than fire premiums in a protection class 10 area. Some insurance companies will not even write fire policies in class 10 areas due to their treaties with their reinsurers. The point is that the fire premiums for two identical buildings in two different towns could be vastly different based on the fire protection code of the towns. This code is determined by ISO after an on-site inspection of the town's fire department and how it operates.

In other words, the fire premiums on all the property in LBTS may increase dramatically because the fire protection code will now change from one that reflects a full-time professional fire department to one that tells the insurance world that LBTS now has a volunteer fire department. ISO may want to help LBTS to reduce the code over time by making suggestions; however they have limited manpower and are primarily responsible to the insurance industry by whom they are financed. Their primary responsibility is to inspect and set the fire protection code which determines the premium level. This is why they are in existence.

It's sad to see another reason not to buy property in LBTS added to unbelievable high taxes and the cost of wind/flood insurance. I am a snowbird and have considered buying here because we love it here. But, unfortunately, it just doesn't make any sense to do so with what is currently going on in beautiful little LBTS.

I really don't understand how this happened. It makes absolutely no sense how a majority of voters would vote to go from professional fire protection to a volunteer group. What were the voters thinking?? Safety, no! To save money, not going to happen! To give the paid volunteers income?? It's hard to believe.

Charles Cleves, Cincinnati, OH

OPEN LETTER TO TOWN MANAGER

December 22, 2008

To Town Manager
Town of Lauderdale By the Sea

Notice of Intent Not to Renew

Dear Ms. Colon,

Due to the current atmosphere in the Town as created by the actions of William Ciani and Commissioners McIntee and Silverstone we have elected not to renew our parking contract with the Town. In these trying times, LBTS can use its resources and energies in ways far more productive than solving petty squabbles and turf battles.

While the trio mentioned above will surely consider this to be a surrender on our part, we do not consider it to be so. We consider our action to be our first step in helping to return sanity to the governance of this Town. Our future energies will be devoted to helping the "adults" regain control of L.B.T.S. In the past we, along with many others in this community, have made the mistake of being involved only when our individual needs were at issue thus ignoring the many ethical and statutory issues that are plaguing our City. We have seen the "adult" members of the Commission and the Community spend countless hours in selfless service. We intend to be a part of this effort and offer our services.

Please prepare a final accounting to reflect the diminishment of parking spaces during the term of the contract. Please give me a call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Louis Marchelos, Athena By The Sea

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TWO LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS TAKE OFFICE

On January 6, 2009, Democratic Congressman Ron Klein of Florida's 22nd District was joined by his wife Dori and his children, Brian and Lauren, to be sworn in for his second term by Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi. US Representative Klein serves on the House Committee on Financial Services and the Committee on Foreign Affairs. His congressional district includes Lauderdale-By-The-Sea. See photo, below left. Former LBTS Mayor Oliver Parker took the oath of office on January 6 to serve as a commissioner of the Broward County Soil and Water Conservation District. Parker was elected to the position this past November. Parker has vowed to use his new office to push for county-wide building height restrictions, to help limit growth in Broward County. See photo, below right.



United States Congressman Ron Klein was joined by his wife Dori and children, Brian and Lauren, to be sworn in for his second term by Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi.



District Vice Chairman Reginal Smith, District Chairman Thaddeus Hamilton & Grandson, District Supervisor Oliver Parker, District Supervisor Dr. Barbara Thomas, District Supervisor Henry Graham, Exe. Director Russell Setti

LBTS MAIN STREET - AN HISTORICAL ACCOUNTING & COMMENTARY - PART ONE

In 1994, 50 residents of LBTS met at Town Hall to discuss how they could improve the town. With this idea in mind, the town started on a stormy journey for the next six years that would have both its great successes and frustrating failures. In the end, the lofty idea of a Main Street program died. But why?

Over the years, many of the aspirations and dreams of the town have ended in the same way. The town had its factions then as it does now: residential vs. business, pro-chamber vs. anti-chamber, etc., and in many cases these warring factions have taken a heavy toll on our town. For a few, the ability to listen to the other side and to come to some kind of compromise is not a possibility. Unfortunately for these

individuals, it's the old "my way or the highway." It is not that disagreement is not expected or natural, but what you do when it occurs to keep it from becoming a destructive force that matters. This was the plight of Main Street.

Former Vice Mayor Ernie Fontaine (now deceased) was a great believer in "consensus building," and as both commissioner and ardent supporter of the Main Street program he practiced it, including as many people in the decision-making process as possible. The town sorely needs Ernie today, as the factions have grown more pronounced than ever, the divisiveness more destructive and the tactics more outrageous.

In upcoming issues, *ByTheSeaFuture* will take a look back at the major players, the politics, the aspirations, the goals, the methods and the results of Main Street--the good, the bad and the ugly. We will witness the willingness to cooperate and compromise, and the desire to undermine and destroy.

The results of those earlier years can give us a better understanding of where we are today and how we got here, and possibly where we are heading. Hopefully, we can learn this time from what works and what doesn't, so that we can come together and build a better tomorrow for our town.

PROPERTY APPRAISER PROVIDES OUTREACH SERVICE

Dear Lori,
I am the President of my neighborhood homeowner's association. We are always looking for special programs and speakers. What does your office do in terms of community outreach programs and homebound assistance?
D.M., Pompano Beach, FL

In order to serve our diverse community, our office has enhanced community outreach efforts to accommodate individuals and groups. It is our goal to bring community outreach programs directly to where you live and work. You will find our friendly and informed BCPA staff assisting taxpayers with filing of exemptions at civic association meetings, condo clubhouses, shopping centers, city halls, and many other community locations throughout Broward.

We've already scheduled over 300 customer service outreach events for the 2009 tax exemption filing season. For a complete listing of current community outreach events, please visit our online calendar at www.bcpa.net. We have enhanced our website to enable you to easily file for Homestead Exemption or download applications and other helpful forms without having to visit our offices.

For those property owners who are homebound due to a disability or illness, we have a homebound program. Our office will make arrangements for a deputy appraiser to visit your home or hospital to assist with exemption filing.

If you'd like to have someone from our office meet with your members at an upcoming association meeting or to schedule a homebound visit, please contact Community Outreach Coordinator Kelly Brown at 954.257.6035 or email her at kbrown@bcpa.net. Remember: Helping Broward taxpayers is our job!



If you would like more information about exemptions, community outreach events, homebound visits and other important property tax issues, please visit our website at www.bcpa.net or contact our office directly at 954.357.5579.

Lori Parrish, CFA

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ENVIRONMENTAL DECISIONS FOR LBTS IN 2009

Continued from Page 1

The second major environmental project which will be most likely be decided in 2009 is a massive beach replenishment effort along Pompano, LBTS and Ft. Lauderdale. Local communities have been counting on this project to help protect property and stabilize the beaches which were badly eroded after the hurricanes in 2004. The project was actually supposed to get underway this year. However, according to Broward County Beach Erosion Administrator Steve Higgins, the project will be delayed at least until 2010, while the county reconsiders various financial and environmental concerns. "We had nearly completed the engineering and design, but now we have to go back and initiate a new study," Higgins said. "We have to come up with a new design to fit the current condition of the beach and the economic and environmental situation."

Higgins said one of the problems the county faces is a lack of beach-quality sand deposits which can be dredged and pumped onto the beaches. He said the county is looking as far away as the Bahamas to identify potential sources of sand. In addition, he said, the federal government recently listed two species of coral found in local reefs as threatened, which means the county has to come up with a way to deliver sand to the shore without damaging the coral.

Finally, he said, the whole concept of beach replenishment continues to be controversial. "It's expensive, the sand is growing scarce and it's environmentally challenging to do it," Higgins said. "Anything we can do to make the beaches last longer we should be doing. We will undertake a study to see if erosion control structures such as groins or breakwaters could be integrated into future projects." Higgins said he

expects the county to complete the revised engineering and design work this year, with the beach replenishment project getting underway after the sea turtle nesting season ends in 2010.

The third environmental project which will most likely be decided this year is the proposal to build an artificial reef off the coast of LBTS. This project calls for the installation of six steel frames on the ocean floor, to provide the basic structure for a coral reef. The frames would be warmed through low-voltage power lines connected to two solar-powered floating buoys. The idea is to create an artificial underwater environment which would be conducive to coral growth and eventually build a new habitat for fish and other marine life.

While this technology has been tried successfully in some parts of the world, the scientific community is divided on its long-term benefits. The project's sponsor, Global Coral Reef Alliance of Cambridge, Mass., says it has built several electrified reefs in foreign countries and is confident that the technology works. That conclusion has been disputed by other scientific organizations, which say there is no evidence that electrified structures attract coral growth better than non-electrified structures.

The LBTS artificial reef project is currently in the hands of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, both of which have to issue permits before the project can proceed. The DEP approved the town's permit application on December 12, 2008, after attaching strict conditions to prevent any adverse impact to environmental resources.

However, the application has not been approved by the Army Corps, which found that the project was "not consistent" with applicable federal and state rules. Efforts to reach the Army Corps for comment have not been successful. If a permit is approved by the Army Corps, the town may still have to go through an administrative hearing to allow opponents to comment on the project, so any potential starting date for construction of the artificial reef remains completely up in the air.

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LBTS BEACH PAVILION PROJECT FRAUGHT WITH CONFUSION

Continued from Page 1

Adding to the confusion is the fact that the town's permit application calls for siding on the building, and includes underground plumbing lines for restroom facilities, even though neither one is apparently a part of the actual project.

Broward County approved the plumbing and electrical components of the town's permit application on December 12, 2008, but rejected the structural design for a number of reasons. The county did not sign off on the structural permit until December 23. Nevertheless, construction got underway several weeks prior to final approval of the permit application and continues uninterrupted.

The pavilion is expected to cost about \$380,000 with Broward County picking up about half the project's cost. The permit application allows the project to be completed as late as June 26, but the town decided to start construction during the height of the winter tourist season.

The town has already been forced to close off the road at the end of Commercial Boulevard several times to accommodate construction vehicles, creating traffic backups, noise and safety concerns. The beach pavilion is expected to open in February.



Construction is Underway at New Beach Pavilion

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SEA WATCH HOLDS FULL MOON FÊTE



Join your neighbors and your many friends on Sunday, January 11, from 5:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. at the Sea Watch Restaurant at 6002 North Ocean Boulevard for their annual Full Moon Party.

There will be live entertainment, drink and appetizer specials, contests and prizes for all, plus special activities for the kids.

Please call 954-781-2200 for more information about this exciting, romantic, educational and very unique event to be held directly on the shores of the Atlantic Ocean in our own backyard at Sea Watch.

INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL PLANS

Experts will be on hand to answer your questions at the next meeting of the LBTS Property Owners Association 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. If you have any questions, please call POA President Cindy Geesey at 954-776-5974.



HELP THE CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE

Turn your trash into treasures by donating your unneeded items to the annual Rummage Sale sponsored by the Women's Association of the Community Church of LBTS. The ladies are looking for household items, good usable clothing and linens, children's toys, collectibles, furniture, books, electronics, baskets, jewelry, and decorating items.

The actual sale will be held from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 14 at the Church at 4433 Bougainvillea Drive. There will also be a 50/50 give away and basket raffle, and refreshments and homemade baked goods will be sold. For more information or to make donations, call the church office at 954-776-5530.

STRESS MANAGEMENT FOR NEW YEAR

Accept that some days you're the pigeon, and some days you're the statue.

Always keep your words soft and sweet, just in case you have to eat them.

Always wear stuff that will make you look good if you die in the middle of it.

Drive carefully. It's not only cars that can be recalled by their maker.

If you can't be kind, at least have the decency to be vague.

If you lend someone \$20 and never see that person again, it was probably worth it.

It may be that your sole purpose in life is simply to be kind to others.

Never put both feet in your mouth at the same time, then you won't have a leg to stand on.

Nobody cares if you can't dance well. Just get up and dance.

Since it's the early worm that gets eaten by the bird, sleep late.

The second mouse gets the cheese.

When everything's coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.

Birthdays are good for you. The more you have, the longer you live.

You may be only one person in the world, but you may also be the world to one person.

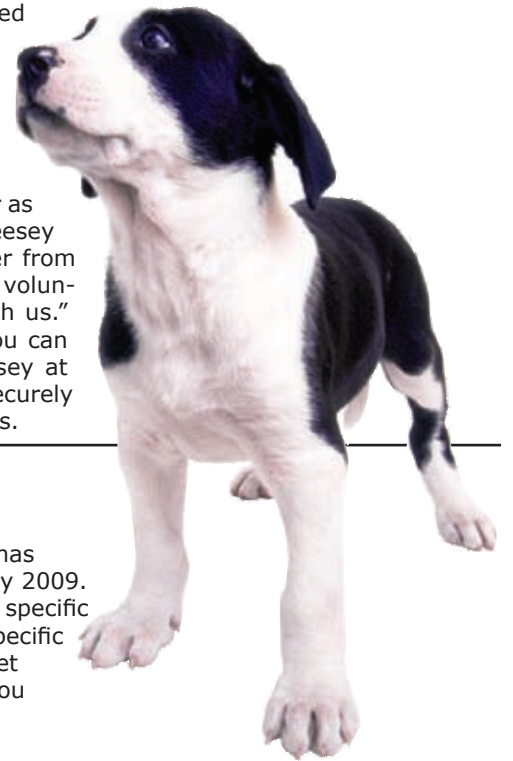
Some mistakes are too much fun to only make once.

We could learn a lot from crayons. Some are sharp, some are pretty and some are dull. Some have weird names, and all are different colors, but they all have to live in the same box.

A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour.

CALLING ALL ANIMAL LOVERS

The annual Walk For The Animals sponsored by the Broward County Humane Society will be held on Saturday, March 7 at Hui-zenga Park in Fort Lauderdale. The LBTS Property Owners Association will once again participate by sponsoring the LBTS Sandy Paws Pack, and all residents and visitors are invited to join in as a walker or as a donor. Association President Cindy Geesey says, "We'd like to have one animal lover from each of the condos and residential areas volunteer to sign up a few people to walk with us." If you'd like to volunteer to walk or if you can make a donation, please call Cindy Geesey at 954-776-5974. You can also donate securely online at www.FirstGiving.com/SandyPaws.



BE HUMANE

The Humane Society of Broward County has scheduled four vaccination clinics for early 2009. Because of the popularity of these clinics specific days are now devoted to cats only and specific days are devoted to dogs only. If your pet needs vaccinations here are the details you will need.

Saturday, January 31: 7:00 AM – 9:00 AM is for CATS ONLY
 Sunday, February 1: 7:00 AM – 11:00 AM is for DOGS ONLY

Saturday, March 28: 7:00 AM – 9:00 AM is for CATS ONLY
 Sunday, March 29: 7:00 AM – 11:00 AM is for DOGS ONLY

The clinic is held in the back parking lot of the shelter located at 2070 Griffin Road, just west of I-95. Appointments are not necessary.

Regular Service Dog Package (dogs 4 months and up)
 \$35 if spayed or neutered; \$50 if NOT spayed or neutered
 Package includes: Rabies with Broward County tag*, 5 in 1 Booster, Bordetella, Frontline (1 dose)

Puppy Package (3 months and under)
 \$25; Package includes: 5 in 1 Booster, Bordetella, Dewormer

Cat Package (4 months and older)
 \$25 if spayed or neutered; \$40 if NOT spayed or neutered
 Package includes: rabies with Broward County tag*, FVRCP, Revolution (1 dose)

Kitten Package (3 months and under)
 \$15; Package includes: FVRCP, De-wormer

Vaccines and services sold individually:

Micro Chip & Registration \$20; Heartworm test \$20; 5-in-1 Booster shot \$10; Bordetella shot \$10; FVRCP (cat booster): \$10; Droncit (de-wormer): \$10; Rabies with Broward County tag* NOT spayed or neutered \$30.00; Rabies \$10.00, with tag* \$15.00 (Broward County tag)

*Tag is for Broward County Residences only. The Humane Society of Broward County is a private, non-profit organization supported by donations from companies and people who want to help us help the homeless animals. For more info call 954-989-3977 or visit our website at humanebroward.com to see pets available for adoption, make a donation or find out about upcoming events. The shelter has only one location and is not affiliated with any national or local organization with a similar name.

MEOW-MEOW BASICS

Ever wonder why your feline stalks you? Thinking about getting another cat and not sure how to introduce the new kitty to your other pets? The Humane Society of Broward County will be offering "Meow-Meow Basics," a free seminar to be held Saturday, January 31 at 11:00 AM at the shelter. You will learn everything you need to know to raise a happy, healthy, well-behaved feline. Staff will discuss behavior modification tips for litter training, scratching, stalking, climbing, hiding, biting, cat fights, fearful cats, and chewing. Other topics include kittenhood, multi-cat households, cats and your pregnancy and introducing a new pet. Reservations are required so please call Heather at 954-266-6875.



HAPPY NEW WINES IN 2009

Mariano of **Old City News Stand** Cigars 'n Wine invites you to stop by 4400 Bougainvillea Drive on Friday, January 23 at 6:00 p.m. to enjoy the newest wine tastes for 2009 as well as new premium cigars. Gourmet snacks will be provided by Delacaseas Catering.

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!
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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 Clottey and Jim Silverstone voted on each issue. Here is how they voted on December 20, 2008. Read the full commission meeting report below for details about how it all went down.

ITEM VOTED ON:	Minnet	McIntee	Silverstone	Clottey	Dodd
spend \$56,000 for paving and drainage improvements along Seagrape Drive	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
direct town manager to develop town-wide parking permit plan	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
direct town attorney to draft ordinance restricting campaign contributions from vendors	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
require all town events to be run through the town manager's office	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
schedule a commissioners' roundtable meeting with no set agenda	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

COMMISSION MEETING REPORT - 12-20-08

The LBTS town commission wrapped up its 2008 session by failing to act on one of the most hotly debated items of the year--the proposal to create an independent committee to oversee the volunteer fire department. Commissioner Stuart Dodd, who has been trying to bring the issue to a vote for several months, took a final stab at it on December 20, during the continuation of the December 16 commission meeting.

Dodd had the support of Mayor Roseann Minnet, who said the oversight committee is needed to take the politics out of the VFD and assure that the town's public safety needs are being met. However, Commissioner Birute Clottey, who had previously expressed her support for an oversight committee, refused to go along with it, saying she first needed to know more details about how the committee would operate. Commissioners Jerry McIntee and Jim Silverstone--who both serve on the VFD--have opposed the oversight committee all along.

The review committee was first proposed after a series of incidents called into question the VFD's hiring and firing practices, its compliance with its contract with the town, and allegations that McIntee pressured a high-ranking officer to resign. The town has refused to investigate these matters on its own. Dodd pointed out that both

Ft. Lauderdale and Pompano Beach have public safety review boards, but McIntee insisted that the VFD does not need any outside review. "It throws shame on them," McIntee said.

In other news, the commission set the stage for a major overhaul of the town's parking requirements later this year. The commissioners directed the town manager to come up with a new plan which will enable residents to purchase year-round parking passes. The passes will either give residents discounts or a limited amount of free parking at meters. The plan is expected to take into account factors such as whether the resident lives here year-round or seasonally, where the meters are located, senior citizen discounts and hardship permits. The commission was also scheduled to vote on a proposal to remove all the bags from the parking meters in town, but this item was pulled from the agenda at the last minute.

The commissioners voted 5-0 to spend \$56,000 to make street improvements, including drainage, along the north end of Seagrape Drive. The funds will be transferred from an account that had been set aside to build new bus shelters along A1A, so passengers don't have to wait in the sun or rain. The commissioners withdrew a proposal to plant more trees at the beach portal on Washingtonia

Avenue to provide more shade. They voted 5-0 to require that all future town-sponsored events in which private donations are raised be run through the town manager's office. They also voted to hold a commissioners roundtable on January 20 where they can discuss town business among themselves without violating the state's sunshine law.

Commissioner Silverstone proposed to drastically change the town's campaign finance rules, to prohibit candidates from spending any personal funds in their campaigns and to prohibit contributions from unions or corporations. Silverstone was immediately shot down by town attorney Daniel Abbott, who said such restrictions would be unconstitutional. The commission then directed Abbott to draft a less restrictive ordinance which would limit contributions from companies or vendors who do business with the town.

Finally, the commissioners refused to act on a request by the owners of the parking lot in front of the fishing pier to allow cars to exit from the back of the lot down a town-owned alley. The request followed an incident in which a tractor-trailer got stuck in front of the lot, blocking traffic downtown for several hours.

LBTS MAYOR'S COMMENTS



Mayor Roseann Minnet

Happy new year, Lauderdale-By-The-Sea! We started 2009 with a roar as the new year's ball dropped at Anglin Square. Many local residents and revelers were there to toast 2009. The VFD, AMR and BSO were all present to make sure everyone had a safe new year's night. I want to thank the local businesses for their time and effort to put on a wonderful event. It was great to see the dedication of our business community.

The year 2009 will bring a new pavilion to our beach area, the finalizing of the Sea Grape street improvement project, the completion of the new public safety facility and many other improvements to LBTS. We

will be studying plans to improve the south section of El Mar Drive, now that the funds from Oriana are available. So looking back on 2008, many positive improvements have been made to our town. I am looking forward to 2009 with optimism.

Starting on January 20, the commissioners will hold a roundtable discussion to promote a better exchange of ideas and cooperation. I want to thank Commissioner Dodd for moving this idea forward. I also want to thank Commissioner Clottey for her efforts to combat the iguana issue and bringing the need for lifeguard safety to the forefront. Collectively, this commission is working together.

January 13 is the first commission meeting of 2009. It will start with a workshop on code ordinances. The past few months there has been much concern over boat storage, short-term rentals and many other issues. Now is the time for this commission and the residents to bring the code book together and truly make LBTS one town.

Efforts have been made in the past to try and merge these areas together, but unfortunately nothing seems

to work. I am hopeful by working together to create a cohesive code of ordinances, we can treat this area as one. I encourage all residents to write to your commissioners and let them know your thoughts. We want to hear from you.

I also want to thank everyone who has supported me this past year. Your suggestions have been greatly appreciated. LBTS is your town and we are all shareholders. Think of it this way: you own stock in LBTS, so make sure the dividends you are receiving are what you want. If not, make your voice heard. Come to the commission meetings or use the suggestion box in town hall.

Let's make 2009 the year of the voice of the people, and dedicate ourselves to making LBTS a greener, more environmentally-friendly town. Please remember to recycle, use the Pelican Hopper when you can, reduce and reuse. These are just a few of the ways we can reduce our carbon footprint. So as we enter the new year and we talk about resolutions, let's resolve to make LBTS a healthy place to live. Happy new year to everyone!

BSO POLICE BLOTTER - DECEMBER 2008

12/01/08	W/F arrested at 4548 North Ocean Dr. for active warrant from Lee County re: possession of Marijuana.	12/11/08	W/M arrested at 5703 North Ocean Blvd. for active warrant out of Broward County re: alcohol violation.
12/02/08	W/M arrested at 1850 South Ocean Boulevard for two active warrants out of Broward County reference no valid driver license and operating without valid driver license.	12/12/08	W/M arrested at the intersection of Basin Drive and East Tradewinds Ave. for misdemeanor traffic warrant.
12/03/08	W/M arrested at 4600 Poinciana Street for felony traffic/habitual.	12/13/08	W/F arrested at 4109 North Ocean Drive for active warrant reference disorderly conduct.
12/03/08	W/F arrested at 4553 Bougainvillea Drive for three active warrants reference petit theft, alcohol violation and drinking in public.	12/15/08	W/F arrested at 200 Block Commercial Blvd. for confirmed felony warrant re: possession of Oxycodone.
12/03/08	W/M arrested at 4110 El Mar Dr. for active warrant re: violation of probation for possession of cocaine.	12/16/08	B/M arrested at 4658 Bougainvillea Drive for two active warrants reference violation of probation for driving while license revoked, no bond and possession of controlled substance.
12/03/08	B/M was stopped at 4300 North Ocean Drive for expired tag. Further investigation revealed suspect's drivers license was suspended and he was classified a habitual offender. Subject was arrested.	12/16/08	W/M arrested at 4553 Bougainvillea Drive for D.U.I.
12/06/08	W/M arrested at 4633 Bougainvillea Drive for active warrant reference operating without driver license and failure to register vehicle.	12/20/08	B/M arrested at 250 Commercial Blvd. for aggravated battery. W/M arrested at 200 Commercial for D.U.I.
12/07/08	W/M arrested at 200 Block of Commercial Boulevard for D.U.I.	12/22/0	B/M arrested at 254 South Tradewinds Avenue for disorderly conduct.
02/09/08	W/M arrested at 222 Commercial Boulevard for possession of 3 grams of cannabis.	12/25/08	W/F arrested at 1390 South Ocean Boulevard for leaving the scene of a crash with property damage more than \$5,000.00, Broward County Ordinance 3-3 for possession of open alcoholic beverage and no proof of insurance.
02/16/08	W/F arrested at 4553 North Ocean Dr. for active theft warrant. B/M arrested for possession of crack cocaine.	12/26/08	Two W/Ms arrested at 101 Commercial Boulevard for misdemeanor battery.
12/08/08	W/M was passenger in vehicle stopped for traffic violation at 221 Commercial Boulevard teletype check revealed active warrant. Subject was arrested and transported to main jail.	12/26/08	W/M was issued a Notice to Appear at 4660 North Ocean Drive for violation of Broward County Ordinance 21-143.
12/09/08	B/M arrested at 276 Commercial Boulevard for driving with a suspended license/habitual.	12/30/08	B/M arrested at 4301 North Ocean Drive for possession of Oxycodone and retail theft.
12/11/08	W/M arrested at 200 Commercial Boulevard for D.U.I.	12/31/08	W/M arrested at 4400 El Mar Drive for disorderly conduct.



TENDER SOLUTIONS FOR TOUGH TIMES

My "Chicken Cooked in Red Wine Sauce" proved to take the heat out of many a kitchen this season and so I pass the recipe on to you. Make more (is betta') than you think you'll need and you won't regret it. I always think slow cooked meats taste better made the day before (flavors marry) and leftovers are wonderful tossed with big papardelle noodles.

Ring in the New Year can bring about memories of resolutions past. Too much, too little, too late, too fast and resolving whatever our challenge can turn even an optimist into a stew. The champagne taste and beer pocket book that we may find ourselves in can be resolved at least tonight with three things ... a chicken in every pot, a bottle of red wine and friends.

Life may not be the party we hoped for, but while we're here we should dance, sing and cook ! Happy 2009!

LENORE'S SPECIAL SEASONAL RECIPE FOR THIS ISSUE:

CONTEMPORARY COQ AU VIN or CHICKEN IN RED WINE SAUCE

- Good Olive Oil
- 6 oz. Bacon or Pancetta
- 1 (4-5 lb) Chickens, each cut into 8 serving pieces
- Kosher Salt and freshly ground Black Pepper
- ½ lb. Carrots, cut diagonally into 1" pieces
- 1 Yellow Onions, sliced into half moons
- 2 t. chopped Garlic
- ¼ C. Cognac or fine Brandy
- 1 (750 ml) good bottle dry red wine
- 2 C. Chicken Stock
- 1 bunch fresh Thyme sprigs
- 4 T. unsalted butter at room temperature, divided
- 3 T. all-purpose flour
- 16 each pearl whole onions
- 1 lb. shiitake and baby bella mushrooms

Heat 1T. olive oil in a heavy gauge pan over medium heat. Add the bacon and cook for 6-8 minutes, until lightly browned. Remove the bacon to a plate with a slotted spoon.

Meanwhile, pat the chicken dry with paper towels. Liberally sprinkle the chicken on both sides with salt and pepper. After the bacon is removed, add a few of the chicken pieces in a single layer and brown for about 5 minutes, turning to brown evenly. Remove the chicken pieces to the plate with the bacon and continue to add the chicken in batches until all the chicken is browned. Set aside.

Add the carrots, yellow onions, 1 T. salt and 2 t. pepper to the pot and cook for 10 to 12 minutes, stirring occasionally, until the onions are lightly browned. Add the garlic and cook for 1 more minute. Add the Cognac, Stand back! And carefully ignite with a match to burn off the alcohol.

Put the bacon, chicken and any juices that collect on the plate into the pot. Add the wine, chicken stock, and thyme sprigs and bring to a boil. Cover the pot with a tight-fitting lid and place in simmer low for 30 to 40 minutes until the chicken is no longer pink.

Mash 2 T. of the butter and the flour together in a small bowl and stir the paste into the stew. In a medium sauté pan, melt the remaining 2 T. butter and cook the mushrooms and onions until browned. Add to the stew. Bring the stew to a simmer and cook for another 10 minutes. Season to taste.

Enjoy!
Lenore



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HOLIDAY DECORATION WINNERS

Thanks to all those who spread Holiday Cheer by decorating LBTS in style for the 2008 Decoration Contest, sponsored by the LBTS Property Owners Association! Many thanks to judges - Commissioner and Mrs. Stuart Dodd, Bob and Eileen Keane, Judy Jones, Loyola Gray, Susan Gambon, Bob Wolfe, Lan and Regis Brady, and Ron and Irene Piersante. (Please note that winners are ineligible for the next two years).

- Single Family Homes -- 279 South Tradewinds Avenue
- Apartments/Multi-family -- 4528 Poinciana
- Restaurants -- Sea Watch
- Merchants -- P.J. Rossi Jewelers
- Hotels/Motels -- Rainbow By The Sea
- Lo-rise condo -- Leisure Gardens North
- Hi-rise condo -- Sea Ranch B

Congratulations to all!

USING THE POWER OF THEATRE

by Ron Levitt

A new Fort Lauderdale-based firm - Active Arts of Florida - hopes to use the "power of theatre" to partner with other organizations by providing a wide range of services to help the elderly and the young. Abel Cornejo, executive director of Active Arts, said a large number of community organizations have been targeted to work with his firm, including service groups, theatre companies, condominium associations, retirement homes, and other parties offering benefits, particularly for the elderly and obese children.



"Our mission is to keep minds and bodies healthy through active participation in the arts. We do this through a combination of dramatic exercises, physical activity, intellectual stimulation and facilitating opportunities for social interaction with others in the community," Cornejo explained. "Our formula is based on identifying a community problem and then using theatre as a tool to find an answer. Drama can provide a forum for some of our most basic human needs because it demands involvement, participation and confidence in one's self."

Active Arts has set several immediate goals, including:

-- Working with the elderly: "A drama group can alleviate many of the problems of the older population because it encourages interaction and reduces feelings of isolation and depression." Cornejo explained that ElderArts classes are positive and up-beat utilizing creative movement, story telling, role playing, improvisation and music.

-- The Honors Project: working with the increasing elderly gay population, who are half as likely as the general older citizens to live alone, have no close relatives and are less likely to have children to help them with problems such as loneliness and depression.

-- Turning Up the Drama: a program to reach out to the growing number of obese youngsters. It would use theatre as a means of helping youngsters with diabetes and other problems relating to overeating, under-exercising.

All of the programs would have "theatre" as a means of solving issues. Highly trained instructors will go to each location and provide classes in creative drama. Each session is structured to maximize the participant's time and class activities are formulated to engage the mind as well as the body. Using theatre as a means of self-improvement is the program founded by Cornejo, who has more than 20 years experience providing arts, culture and educational opportunities to communities throughout the United States.

Cornejo - a board member of the Theatre League of South Florida -- has worked at Florida International University, New College of California, the Experimental Performance Institute, the Eugene O'Neil Playhouse, Oakwood Terrace Rehabilitation Center for the Elderly, Abrons Arts Center in New York, the Fort Lauderdale Children's Theatre and numerous other educational and theatrical organizations. He has received specialized training from the School of Physical Theatre in London, the International School of Corporeal Mime in London, Dell Arte International School in California and the American School of Commedia del Arte in Philadelphia.

Active Arts of Florida can be reached at 954-756-1071 or active.arts@live.com. www.activeartsflorida.com

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WELCOME NEW CHAMBER MEMBERS

The name **The Sandal Factory** tells only part of the story of this great new shop at 3301 N. Ocean Boulevard, south of LBTS on the Galt Ocean Mile. They have a huge selection of sandals including Island Slippers, Crocs, Sperry Topsiders, Mephisto, Birkenstock, Bass, Aerosoles, Merrell and Sketchers. General Manager JC Buitrago says, "We've been in the business in the Florida Keys with multiple stores for over 25 years, and when we wanted to move north decided that this beach area was the best suited for our extensive lines of sandals, comfort shoes, and resort wear." He adds "We offer a wide selection, reasonable prices, and excellent customer service." (NOTE: One Chamber director visited the store three days in a row and agrees with JC's claims!) There's a varied selection of t-shirts, bathing suits and fine resort wear for locals and tourists alike, and the sunglasses include brands like Maui Jim, Oakley, Body Glove, Angel and Arnette. Stop by and let Laura Ganim, the manager, or Crystal and Maria, very helpful sales associates, show you all they have to offer. 954-563-8882.



Manager Laura Ganim and associate Maria Matherly show the vast selection of items available at The Sandal Factory.

Il Lugano Luxury Suite Hotel at 3333 NE 32 Avenue in Fort Lauderdale is owned by Michael Weber, an LBTS resident. This new all suite hotel offers full amenities, guest transportation to beach via 2 Cadillac Escalades, and celebrity chef Todd English and De Campo Restaurant with Northern Italian cuisine. Michael suggests that it's the perfect place to send your guests so they

don't mess up your home! He specializes in providing excellent service, beautiful accommodations, fine cuisine and a high level of hospitality. Michael invites everyone "to encounter the Il Lugano experience of upscale hospitality. For more information, call 954-564-4400 or visit www.illugano.com.

Khalid Abroum is the new owner and operator of the **Kwik Pic** at 222 Commercial Boulevard. He says, "I love this area, it's heaven on earth." He plans to continue the operation of Kwik Pic as a convenience store and deli as it has been run for the last 15 years, serving the people of LBTS. He offers friendly service and will accommodate everybody who needs anything. Kwik Pic offers grocery items, cigars and cigarettes, fine wine and beer, Lotto tickets, phone cards. If there's something you need that Kwik Pic doesn't have, they will get it for you. He advises his fellow business people to "hold on and things will get better!" Barclay Garnett of **Pubset, Inc.** has operated this business for sixteen years and specializes in design, short run printing, event and retail signage, and trade exhibit materials. He can help you with design and layout and then produce newsletters, postcards, flyers, business cards, large format posters, banners, signs for use inside and outside. He wants customers to know that, "We've been in business for sixteen years and will be here to serve you for a long time." Call Barclay at 954-772-7275, stop by his shop at 5399 NE 14th Avenue in Fort Lauderdale, or visit www.pubsetsf.com.

If you're looking for "An Adventure of a Lifetime," then **Billie Swamp Safari** is the answer. They specialize in nature and eco-tours for both locals and visitors, and you can read all about 'em at www.seminoletribe.com/safari. Swamp Buggy Eco-tours and Airboat Rides depart daily and take you through 2200 acres of untamed Everglades with abundant native and exotic wildlife. Enjoy a snake and alligator show, swamp critter show, dine in the Swamp Water Café and shop for authentic Seminole arts and crafts. You can even stay overnight in a rustic camping village in native-style chickees. Exclusive custom tours are also available; call Cindy Malin at 800-GO-SAFARI.

Local resident Sandi Galo-Mann moved to LBTS 3 years ago because of "the beautiful beach, small town feel, and ability to walk everywhere!" Recently she founded

Palette, Mask & Lyre, a professional non-profit theater company designed to educate, entertain and challenge the experienced and new theater goer. Sandi promises a fun evening with presentations that are heartfelt, exciting and thought provoking. She says, "I am glad to be among the many wonderful businesses in LBTS and hope that we will bring more activity to town." For more information, call Sandi at 954-235-4005 or visit www.palettemaskandlyre.org.

If you're looking for unique, high quality but affordable art and accessories, then be absolutely certain to visit **Vincent Byrnes of Art & Design**, 2724 E. Commercial Boulevard. You'll find a wide range of items to make your home more beautiful or to give as that perfect gift. Vincent says that customers choose his business because of the excellent customer service and the great value. They also offer creative interior design services to suit every budget. Stop by to see Vincent or call him at 954-491-1007.

Dr. Carlos Bonilla at **Bonilla Chiropractic**, 416 SE 11 Court in Fort Lauderdale, has had his business for over 4 years but is a fairly new, welcome resident of LBTS. He is dedicated to the health and wellness of the community and serves people of all ages. His goals are to help healthy people stay healthy and to help those in pain recuperate. He says his customers "appreciate my friendly and gentle approach" and that he uses "light chiropractic adjustments to realign the spine and take stress off the nerves." Dr. Bonilla wants his fellow business people to know that he "welcomes you all to call and ask questions or stop by and visit. Walk-ins are welcome." You can also call 954-525-2225 for an appointment.

Florida Luxury Rentals at 2501 E. Commercial Boulevard helps people from all over the world who are looking for a special vacation with luxurious accommodations. Owner Diane Schaffer specializes in fully furnished homes in the east Fort Lauderdale area, both for short term stays and for annual rentals. The main reason customers choose to do business with Diane is because of the excellent reputation of the business and the "A" rating with the Better Business Bureau. Any referrals from her fellow business people in LBTS would be appreciated, and you can reach her at 954-776-4450 or find out more at www.floridaluxuryrentals.com.

Meet More New Chamber Members on Page 10!

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John Salvatore of Delacaseas serves a delicious tuna melt to one of his favorite customers, Sandy Sara of Monroe, MI.



Janet Deni of Kilwin's Ice Cream on Commercial Blvd. prepares, shares and wears her chocolates.



Joan Proietto and Alana Brady checked out the bracelets at Pamela Rossi's Pandora Party at P.J. Rossi Jewelers.

MORE NEW CHAMBER MEMBERS

How can you make a special occasion even more special? Call Ric Snyder at **Elegant Arrivals Limousine!** They provide quality transportation throughout Fort Lauderdale and surrounding areas with "Red Carpet Service." Ric says, "We offer complimentary beverages and flowers for special occasions and will treat you like royalty." The business is used both by corporate customers and by individuals and is growing fast due to positive word of mouth referrals. "All fellow LBTS Chamber of Commerce members will receive special discounts on our services - just mention that you're a member to receive the discount," offers Ric. Call 1-877-461-5516 or visit www.elegantarrivalsfl.net for more information.

Whether you're looking for unique jewelry creations for yourself, for special gifts, or for a fund raising project for your organization, **Harmony Bangles Jewelry** is the answer. Charlene Gibian has had this business for two years and specializes in handcrafted jewelry combining vintage and new beads and component items. They custom design and craft a variety of jewelry items and will replace or repair anything they make. They also offer gift certificates and will hold parties for personal fun and for charity projects. Charlene says, "Check us out! We do what we love and love what we do! We believe it shows in our work!" Call her at 954-242-8866 or visit www.harmonybanglesjewelry.com.

Lighthouse Repair & Collision will fix whatever your car needs, from routine oil changes to more complicated repairs to work on antique cars. Roberto was for-

merly at Pump by the Sea (A1A & Commercial) for over 8 years repairing cars. He says customers choose to do business with him because of his honesty and invites everyone to "Come see me, I won't let you down!" He is just north of LBTS at 1941 NE 34th Court, Lighthouse Point. Roberto can be reached at 954-942-4950 or on his cell at 954-303-6394.

Berzerk Werks manufactures hanging planters that fold for storage, they have resin cast nautical key borders for the walls, and they offer unique mirrors for homes. Owner Jamie Grinis says, "Our products are made of recycled oak, cedar, cypress, mahogany or pine. The resin products are signed by the artist and are limited quantity editions." Berzerk Werks' products are "great for gifts for plant enthusiasts and for anyone looking for American handmade crafted products that are pleasing to the eye with each one being unique."

Jamie is pleased to join the LBTS Chamber of Commerce "offering quality products at reasonable prices and fitting into the business community promoting the same ideals they have - honesty, friendliness and integrity." Jamie also says, "I was a founding member of the Ocean Volunteer Fire Department (known as Station 36) and it was an honor to help everyone throughout the years; now I can return the favor with our products." Call Jamie to find out more about Berzerk Werks at 954-788-3188 or visit www.berzerkwerks.com.



New Owner Khalid Ahroum has learned about the operation of Kwik Pic from previous owner Hayder Aldahwi.



Stefano and Anna Fabris display the artwork of local artist Fran Scheffler and also sell her other items at Abru Caffè.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

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.

January 20, Tuesday: Master Plan Steering Committee meets at Jarvis Hall at 7:00 p.m.

January 21, Wednesday: Our Art-by-the-Sea Association will enjoy a lunch at 11:45 p.m. at Il Mulino's followed by a guided tour of Bonnet House at 1:45 p.m. Call Marion Elizondo at 954-785-7408.

January 21, Wednesday: Planning and Zoning meeting starts at Jarvis Hall at 6:30 p.m.

January 25, Sunday: Assumption Church Altar Guild will sponsor a day at the Hard Rock that includes the theater performance "Cirque Dreams" and time for gambling and lunch. Call Dorothy Smith at 954-942-9946.

January 27, Tuesday: Commission meeting starts at Jarvis Hall at 7:00 p.m.

January 28, Wednesday: Assumption Altar Guild will hold a Chinese Auction from 6:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. that will include dinner and dancing. Call Marie Chiarello at 954-784-6931.

January 29, Thursday: The LBTS Women's Club meets at the clubhouse at 4411 West Tradewinds Avenue at 11:00 a.m. Call Linda Collins at 954-334-6662.

January 29, Thursday: LBTS Property Owners Association meets at Jarvis Hall at 7:00 p.m. for a meeting to elect officers and to hear a presentation on financial planning and insurance. Call Cindy Geesey at 954-776-5974.

January 31, Saturday: The LBTS Garden Club annual rummage sale will be held at Jarvis Hall from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Call Kit Cashman at 954-642-8785.

February 2, Monday: Homestead Exemption Sign-Up at Jarvis Hall, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

February 5, Thursday: Bulk trash pick-up south of Commercial.

OUR ART BY THE SEA MEETS

Artists and art lovers alike are invited to participate in activities in January organized by Our Art By The Sea. The first meeting of the year will be on Tuesday, January 13 at the Community Church, 4433 Bougainville Drive from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. The main presentation will be "Hands on with Golden Paints," an educational presentation on acrylic as a medium by Eydi Lampasona. Attendees will see many examples of different products put to use, take home free samples to try later and have their questions answered. For more information, call Program Chair Fran Scheffler at 954-772-1684.

A field trip is planned for Wednesday, January 21. That will begin with a lunch at 11:45 a.m. at Il Mulino's Restaurant at 1800 E. Sunrise Boulevard, followed by a guided tour of Bonnet House at 1:45 p.m. The tour will include explanations of the history of the house, information about the artwork inside, and a tram ride around the grounds. The cost is just \$14. Reservations are necessary, so please call Marion Elizondo at 954-785-7408.

WOMEN'S CLUB EVENTS

The first 2009 meeting of the LBTS Women's Club will be held at the clubhouse at 4411 West Tradewinds Avenue on Thursday, January 29 starting at 11:00 a.m. The group is planning their popular annual fundraiser, the 2009 Silver Tea, which will be held at Jarvis Hall on Saturday, February 7 beginning at 11:00 a.m. As part of this elegant affair, attendees are invited to wear their most charming chapeau and enter a hat contest. For more information on attending these events or joining the club, call President Linda Collins at 954-334-6662.

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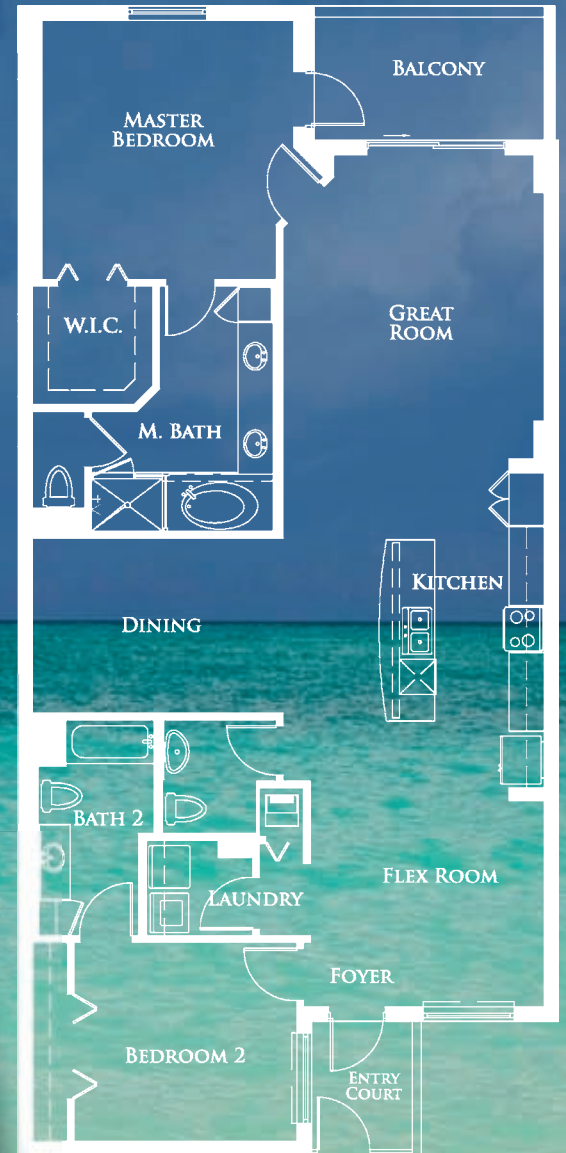
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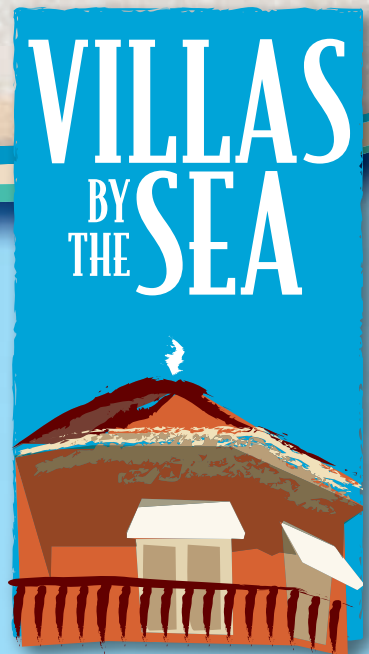


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