

Town Topics



LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA'S OFFICIAL TOWN NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 21, ISSUE 4

www.lauderdalebythesea-fl.gov

APRIL-MAY 2008

Town News

TOWN TOPICS BI-MONTHLY

To be more environmentally-friendly — and to save costs on printing & postage — Town Topics has changed its publication schedule to bi-monthly. This is the April-May issue.

CONSUMER PROTECTION

The Broward County Consumer Affairs Division investigates unfair and deceptive trade practices by businesses. There is a complaint form on Pages 8 and 9. More information about filing a complaint is available at www.broward.org/consumer.

SUGGESTION BOX

There is a now suggestion box in the Town Hall lobby for any resident who may wish to make a helpful suggestion to the Town.

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Town Parking Enforcement officer Staci DeNicolais was named Employee of the Month in February. DeNicolais, who was recognized for her hard work, began working here in May 2001.

DISPLAY YOUR ADDRESS

Your home must have a street address visible from the road. Code inspectors have noticed several homes without any addresses at all. Numbers, which must be at least 3 inches high, are sometimes removed by homeowners for painting and other renovations.

Hop aboard the Pelican Hopper for a friendly ride around Town

Hop aboard the **Pelican Hopper**, a free, air-conditioned shuttle transportation service provided by the **Town** in conjunction with **Broward County Transit**.

Driver **Dennis Royes** offers a warm hello to customers as they step onto the 20-passenger bus, which takes 45 minutes to make a complete run from **Publix** down to **Galt Ocean Mile** before heading north to **Terra Mar Island** and then returning back to Publix.

"Dennis is very courteous and very pleasant," said **Ed Pinetti**, a retired Boston resident who vacations in Lauderdale-By-The-Sea for two months.

A frequent Pelican Hopper passenger, Pinetti said he thinks more people would use the shuttle if they knew how convenient and friendly the service was.



The Pelican Hopper at Publix Supermarket.

(See **PELICAN** on Page 4)

Sunset Lane homeowners advised to hook-up to Town's sewer system

Sixteen homeowners on **Sunset Lane** were recently notified by the **Town** that they have six months to connect to the Town's new sewer system.

The Town's **Development Services Department** notified homeowners by letter in mid-March to begin the process of connecting to the system. Homeowners were given 90 days to connect to the sewer lines.

After connecting to the sewer system, homeowners will begin paying monthly sewer charges to the **City of Pompano Beach**, which provides sewer service to our Town. Pompano Beach also plans to charge Sunset Lane residents a onetime sewer connection charge of **\$125** and a base capital recovery fee of **\$720**. These charges will appear on your utility bill after you apply for your sewer hook-up permit.

If you wish, homeowners may pay these fees beforehand at **City Hall** in **Pompano Beach** (which is on the southeast corner of Atlantic Boulevard and Dixie Highway at 100 West Atlantic Blvd.).

(See **SEWERS** on Page 5)

TOWN DIRECTORY



Mayor

Roseann Minnet

Vice Mayor

Jerry McIntee

Commissioners

Birute Ann Clotney

Stuart Dodd

Jim Silverstone

Town Manager

Esther Colon

Assistant to the Town Manager

John Olinzock

Town Attorney

James Cherof

Town Clerk

June White

Interim Finance Director

Kathy O'Brien

Municipal Services Director

Richard Mesiano

Development Services Director

Frank Rabinowitz

Broward Sheriff's Office

Chief Scott Gooding

BSO Fire Rescue

Chief Richard Sievers

Public Information Officer

Steve d'Oliveira

Lauderdale-By-The-Sea

4501 Ocean Drive

LBTS, FL 33308

Tel: 954-776-0576

TOWN TOPICS

Town Topics is published bi-monthly and is also available on the Town's Web site. Ads can be dropped off at Town Hall and are only accepted from businesses with bonafide Town occupational licenses. Articles can be submitted via e-mail to the Town's Public Information Office at lbtspio@bellsouth.net.

BULK PICK-UP DATES

Here are the Town's monthly 2008 bulk collection pick-up dates for the rest of the year.

SOUTH OF COMMERCIAL

04/03/08

05/01/08

06/05/08

07/03/08

08/07/06

09/04/08

10/02/08

11/06/08

12/04/08

NORTH OF COMMERCIAL

04/04/08

05/02/08

06/06/08

07/04/08

08/08/08

09/05/08

10/03/08

11/07/08

12/05/08

Garden Club will meet April 14th in Jarvis Hall

The Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Garden Club will meet on April 14th at 9:30 AM in Jarvis Hall for its regular monthly meeting.

The featured speaker is Diane Guidry with Broward County NatureScape. She will speak to the club and its guests about "skyways." The meeting is open to the public.

For more information, call Kit Cashman at 954-642-8785. □

MEETINGS GUIDE

Town Commission

APRIL 8 - 7 PM

MAY 13 - 7 PM

MAY 27 - 7 PM

Meetings are in Jarvis Hall.

Board of Adjustment

APRIL 16 - 11 AM

Meets as needed the third Wednesday of the month.

Code Compliance

APRIL 16 - 1:30 PM

Meets as needed the third Wednesday of the month.

Parking Hearing

APRIL 16 - 3 PM

Meets as needed the third Wednesday of the month.

Planning & Zoning

NO APRIL MEETING

Meets as needed the third Wednesday of the month.

Master Plan Steering Committee

APRIL 21 - 6:30 PM

Meets the third Monday of the month.

TOWN MEETING DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

PUBLIC ACCESS

- The Town Commission agenda and backup materials can be reviewed in Town Hall from 9AM - 4:30 PM. The agenda is posted on our Web site the Friday before the upcoming meeting: www.lauderdalebythesea-fl.gov
- Commission meetings are televised live on Channel 78 and the Town's Web site. Meetings are re-broadcast at noon on Wednesday, Friday and Monday, as well as at 6 PM Thursday and 2 AM Saturday.
- The Town provides appropriate auxiliary aids and services as required under the federal Americans with Disabilities Act. Town Topics will be read, upon request, to those persons with visual impairments. Persons with disabilities should contact the Town Clerk at 954-776-0576 for further assistance in accessing Town information important to you.

Landscape beautification grants are available to local groups

The **Town** is encouraging **Lauderdale-By-The-Sea** homeowner associations, churches and non-profit organizations to apply for landscaping project funds under a **Broward County** beautification grant program.

Broward Beautiful Community Grants is a program under Broward

percent of the project must consist of **Florida Native Plant** species. No invasive plants or annual plants may be used.

Homeowner associations, condominium associations, civic associations, religious organizations and other not-for-profit organizations may apply. Individual homeowners,

businesses, schools and local governments are not eligible.

Grants funds are paid out on a reimbursement basis when the landscaping project is completed.

Except in designated disadvantaged communities, applicants must match grant funds on a 1:1 basis, in cash, donations or in-kind services (volunteer time).

Applicants must also provide or arrange for the perpetual care of the

project. No plantings proposed in the grant application may be required by any Town code or ordinance (or tree removal permit).

The minimum grant amount is **\$1,500**; the maximum is **\$7,500**. Community Grant applications must be submitted by **June 6**.

For assistance from the Town, call **Municipal Services Director Rick Mesiano** at **954-776-5119**. He plans to attend an upcoming grant seminar.

MORE INFO

Please turn to Pages 6 to see an extended Q & A about the Broward Beautiful Grant Program.

Applications are available online at **www.broward.org/bio**. Click on Broward Beautiful and select Community Grants. Applications also can be requested by e-mailing **Browardbeautiful@broward.org**.

For more information, visit **www.broward.org/bio** and click Broward Beautiful. You can also call **Sean McSweeney** at **954-519-0326**. □



FREE TREES: An example of what one community in Broward was able to accomplish under the Broward Beautiful Grant Program.

County's **Broward Beautiful Advisory Board**, which supports local efforts to implement landscape enhancement projects to help beautify local communities.

Grant projects must be visible to the general public. At least 60

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

To fill unforeseen vacancies, the **Town** is always seeking volunteers for Town boards and committees.

If you would like to serve the community in the future, please contact the **Town Clerk's Office** at **954-776-0576**.

Town boards include **Planning & Zoning, Board of Adjustment, Master Plan Steering Committee** and **Walk Around Committee**. □ □

LBTS resident wins fourth runner-up spot in teen pageant

Town resident **Roxana Winiarczyk** was the fourth runner up in the **Nationals' 2008 Miss Jr. Teen Ft. Lauderdale/West Palm Beach Pageant** in March.



Roxana Winiarczyk

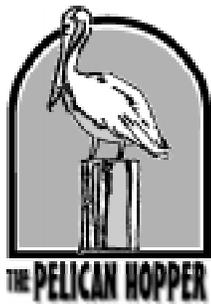
Her high place finish secured her an all-expenses paid trip to the **2009 National Pageant** in Orlando. □

PELICAN (continued from Page 1)

“A lot of people don’t know about it,” he said. “It’s a good thing to have.”

Said a Canadian woman sitting behind Pinetti: “I wish we had this in Canada.”

The community shuttle bus, which stops in front of **Publix Supermarket** at the **Village Shopping Center** in **Sea Ranch**



Lakes, is a familiar site to Town residents.

The service is absolutely free to residents and tourists! Riders who later make connections to other BCT routes, however,

must pay the appropriate bus fare.

The shuttle, which operates from **9 AM to 5:25 PM Monday thru Friday**, travels around Town every 45 minutes with various assigned stops, including three locations connecting with the **Fort Lauderdale Galt/North Beach Community Bus**.

The bus also operates **Saturday**



from **10 AM to 7:55 PM**, and on **Sunday** from **8 AM to 6 PM**.

“I carry the (Pelican Hopper) schedule with me every day,” said **John Clougherty**, a tourist from Boston who was taking the shuttle to Galt Ocean mile for a haircut.

The shuttle is used by young and old alike. A young mother and her son boarded the bus and used it to go to **Municipal Park**, which is located behind **Town Hall** [the

SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY



FREE RIDE: Bus driver Dennis Royes offers a friendly hello every day to all the customers who use the Pelican Hopper shuttle service in Town.

“A lot of people don’t know about it. It’s a good thing to have.”
— Tourist Ed Pinetti

Pelican Hopper is parked in front of Town Hall when it’s not in use].

Another woman walking out of Publix carrying two plastic bags with groceries saw the Pelican Hopper and immediately hopped on the bus. Since it was about to begin its route again, it meant the woman was willing to stay aboard almost the entire 45-minute route.

“A lot of people take it to connect

to the county buses,” Royes said. “It gets busier when it’s hot or it rains.”

On this particular morning, the passengers were getting aboard at several stops. “This morning was busy,” he added.

The Pelican Hopper operates as close to its schedule as possible, although traffic conditions may sometimes cause the bus to arrive slightly early or late.

The shuttle is wheelchair accessible in accordance with provisions under the **Americans with Disabilities Act**. It also comes equipped with a bike rack.

For timetable and destinations, go to: **www.lauderdalebythesea-fl.gov**. Once there, click on Pelican Hopper.

There is no service on New Year’s Day, Martin Luther King Jr’s Birthday, Presidents’ Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, the day after Thanksgiving and Christmas Day.

For more info, call **954-776-0576**. □

SEWERS (continued from Page 1)

Please note: The base capital recovery fee and onetime sewer connection charge are **NOT** Town charges. If you have any questions about these two Pompano Beach fees, call Pompano Beach's **Customer Services Department at 954-786-4637**.

Under the City of Pompano Beach's ordinance, Sunset Lane homeowners have six months to connect their homes to the sewer system. If they fail to do so, **THEY WILL STILL BE BILLED** by the City as if they were connected.

Sunset Lane
homeowners are advised to start the permit application process to hook-up to the sewer line as soon as possible.

Homeowners or the contractor they hire for the project must first obtain a sewer hook-up permit from Broward County through the Town's Development Services Department. Since obtaining a permit is expected to take up to two weeks, it is advisable for homeowners to start the permit application process to hook up as soon as possible.

A Broward County permit specialist works at the Town from **9 AM to 3 PM Monday through Friday**. If homeowners have any permit questions, please call 954-776-3611.

Should you have general questions about the process of connecting to the new sewer system (other than the fees and charges imposed by Pompano Beach), please call the Development Services Monday thru Friday at **954-776-3611**. □

Mapping underway for local reef project

Pending permit approval from the **Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission**, plans are proceeding to build a Town-sponsored artificial reef off **Commercial Boulevard** south of



the pier to help boost local fish populations.

The **Town Commission** in 2007 approved a \$60,000 contract with the **Global Coral Reef Alliance**, a non-profit organization, to build an artificial reef with

a solar-powered, low-level electric current to stimulate coral growth.

Dr. Thomas J. Goreau, president of Global Coral Reef Alliance in Cambridge, Mass., said scuba divers with **Cry of the Water**, a local non-profit environmental group working on the project, are close to completing mapping of the reef site.

He said the project, if approved, will be located near the Town's **Snorkel Trail** off Datura Avenue.

"Our goal is to restore the coral reef fish habitat, which has declined severely," Goreau said. □

BSO chief will address Chamber breakfast about identity theft

The **Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Chamber of Commerce** invites you to attend its upcoming breakfast on how to protect yourself from identity theft.



The event is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 16th** from **8 to 9 AM** at **Jarvis Hall**. A continental breakfast will be served.

The program speaker is **Broward Sheriff's Office Chief Scott Gooding**.

The Chamber breakfast is being sponsored by **Bank United** and **Danto Builders**.

For more information, please call the Chamber of Commerce at **954-776-1000**. □

Remove coconuts prior to the start of hurricane season

The **Town of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea** has an ordinance requiring all homeowners to remove the coconuts from the palm trees on their property during the month of **May**.



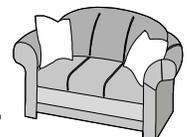
The Town adopted this law in 2005 to cut down on the damage caused by flying coconuts during a hurricane.

If you have questions, call **Code Compliance** at **954-776-3611**.

BACK on the MARKET

For Sale

New sofa sleeper and love seat. JCP Collection. \$1,000 or best offer. To inquire, call 954-781-1412.



Frequently Asked Questions/ Broward Beautiful Community Grants

How does this grant program work?

This program supports community driven projects. Homeowner groups propose landscape projects for funding by submitting a grant application to Broward Beautiful by June 6. The application will include a list of plants, plant costs, a simple planting sketch and photographs of the project area. Broward Beautiful ranks all applications and recommends the highest ranked projects within each Commission District for funding to the limit of available funds. Following execution of a grant agreement between Broward County and the applicant, the homeowner group will install the project. Broward Beautiful will then inspect and approve the completed project and authorize payment.

Who can apply for this grant?

Homeowner, condo & civic associations, religions organizations and other not-for-profit organizations.

What can grant dollars be used for?

Grants may be used to furnish and install trees and plants and a limited amount of sod and mulch. Other elements of the project may be allowable as a portion of the applicants match.

What types of projects can be funded?

- A. Landscape projects using at least 60 percent Florida Native Plant species
- B. Projects must be visible to the general public and provide some public benefit
- C. Projects may not use Invasive plants or annual plants
- D. No plantings may be required by any code or ordinance, or tree removal permit.

Can individual homeowners or businesses apply?

No. Individual homeowners, for profit businesses, public schools, and City governments are NOT eligible. Cities may apply under the Broward Beautiful State Thoroughfare Beautification grant program. Broward Beautiful does not have grant programs that individual homeowners or for-profit businesses are eligible for.

Can we start before we are awarded a grant?

No. This grant is ideal for homeowner groups in the early planning stages of a landscape improvement project. No work may begin on any grant project until a Notice To Proceed letter is issued by Broward County. Applicants are typically notified of grant awards in August and must then enter into a grant agreement with the County, which will issue the notice to proceed once the grant agreement has been executed by all parties. Typically a notice is issued by November.

What does the applicant need to contribute?

- A. **MATCH:** Except in designated disadvantaged communities, Community Grant applicants are required to match grant funds on a 1:1 basis (i.e. one dollar match for each grant dollar) in cash, donations, other non-county grants, or in-kind services (e.g. volunteer time) directly benefiting the project. No match is required for projects in designated disadvantaged communities.
- B. **INSTALLATION:** Grants are paid on a reimbursement basis following project installation.
- C. **MAINTENANCE:** Applicants must arrange for the perpetual care of the project.

HOW CAN MY ORGANIZATION APPLY?

Please complete and submit seven copies of the application package (including all attachments) to arrive no later than **noon on June 6** at EPD-Biological Resources Division, Attn: Broward Beautiful, 115 S. Andrews Ave., Rm A-240, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301. Late and faxed applications will be ineligible.

Online applications are also available at www.broward.org/bio/bb_grant_application.pdf. You can also request one by phone (954-519-0326) or via e-mail: (BrowardBeautiful@broward.org).

How much money could we apply for and how much is available in total?

The minimum grant is \$1,500; the maximum grant is \$7,500. Approximately \$200,000 is available in 2008.

PLEASE GIVE A COMPLETE DESCRIPTION OF YOUR COMPLAINT

Cross out Social Security Numbers, Bank & Credit Card Numbers on all supporting documents provided.

Please Read - Disclosure Statement

All Information provided to the Consumer Affairs Division is a public record and is available for inspection by the public under the Florida Public Records Law. This includes all of the information you have included in this complaint and supporting documentation.

EASTER-BY-THE-SEA A HUGE SUCCESS!

Thanks to residents and visitors in **Lauderdale-By-The-Sea** for helping to make the new **Town Commission's** first community event a tremendous success! The turn-out for the event was nothing short of phenomenal. The **Easter Egg Hunt** was the main event. Hundreds of eager and smiling children were biting-at-the-bit while awaiting their turn to run for the candy and toy-filled eggs. The **Easter Bunny** then made his grand entrance to take pictures with the children and their hand-painted bunny faces.

The little ones competed in the **Egg-In-A-Bucket** race with the winners receiving Easter story books signed by the Easter Bunny! The older kids competed in **Bunny-Hop Sack Races** and an **Easter Egg Relay Race** with their parents.

The highlight was the **Ladies Easter Bonnet** and **Gentlemen's Crazy Pants** contests! They were wild and fun and not to be missed next year. The grilled hot dogs were delicious, as were the homemade bakery treats and cupcakes for the kids.

Thanks to those who donated to the event: By-The-Sea-Times, Athena's Greek Restaurant, Aruba Beach Café, Village Grille, Pa DeGennaro's, Sal's Towing, LBTS Walgreens, Community Church, Kilwins, Hand-Craft Cleaners, Publix Supermarket and Jerry Sehl.

A special thanks to event volunteers: Chair (Vice Mayor Jerry McIntee), Event Coordinators Cristie Furth and Maureen McIntee, the Volunteer Fire Department, Citizens Initiative Committee, Town employees and staff.



Photo By Marc Furth

BIG TURNOUT: Hundreds of residents and children turned out for Easter-By-The-Sea in March, helping make the Town event a huge success.

HOOKING UP!



WIRED: The Town recently buried key phone and computer lines connecting Town Hall to Municipal Services. To improve efficiency, Town Hall was also connected to the trailer that houses the Development Services Department. The project involved relocating the generator in front of Jarvis Hall to provide Town Hall with emergency power.



Lauderdale-By-The-Sea
4501 Ocean Drive
Lauderdale-By-The-Sea, FL 33308

KEY PHONE NUMBERS

- MAYOR ROSEANN MINNET**
 H: 954-942-2194 / C: 954-801-6747
- VICE MAYOR JERRY McINTEE**
 H: 954-943-8539 / C: 716-868-3333
- COMMISSIONER BIRUTE ANN CLOTTEY**
 H: 954-895-6595 / C: 954-895-6595
- COMMISSIONER STUART DODD**
 H: 954-772-4121 / C: 954-612-1600
- COMMISSIONER JIM SILVERSTONE**
 H: 954-771-0355 / C: 954-232-8340

TOWN HALL 954-776-0576

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES 954-776-3611

- CODE COMPLIANCE
- ZONING DEPARTMENT
- BUILDING DEPARTMENT

MUNICIPAL SERVICES 954-776-0576

- PARKING
- PUBLIC WORKS
- COMMUNITY STANDARDS

POLICE & FIRE

- EMERGENCY / 911
- LBTS BSO OFFICE / 954-491-3920
- SHIFT COMMANDER CELL / 954-275-9939
- FIRE & RESCUE OFFICE / 954-831-8200

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