



Town Topics

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

VOLUME 19, ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2006

Town News

MEET THE CANDIDATES

The Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Property Owners Association will sponsor 'Meet the Candidates Nights' on Feb. 8th and March 8th at 7 PM in Jarvis Hall. All Town Commission candidates are invited to participate and all Town residents are invited to attend.

The candidates will give opening and closing statements and also answer questions. The first preference will be given to questioners who are POA members. The forums will be moderated by President Cindy Geesey.

SISTER CITIES RECEPTION

A Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Sister Cities reception will be held on Jan. 17th at the home of Mayor Oliver Parker and

his wife,
Lorene.



The reception is being co-hosted by **The Wheelchair Foundation** to

raise money to pay for wheelchairs to ship to San Isidro, Peru, the Town's Sister City.

A \$100 per person donation is requested. For more information about the event, please call **Sister Cities Chairman Dr. Kenneth Most** at 954-946-1783. □

Town mulls amending height limit in the north area of Town

The **Town of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea** is wrestling with an issue close to the hearts of many residents: the height of future buildings in the community.

A citizens group plans to ask residents in November to limit the height of any new condos north of Pine Avenue, but the **Town Commission** is worried that doing so could violate Florida law and expose the Town to potentially devastating lawsuits.

As a result, the Commission wants to put its own referendum on the March ballot. If adopted, the charter amendment would allow the Town some legal leeway to grant developers a variance to build a condo that exceeds the Town height limit.

The Town currently has a 3-over-1 story height limit, which limits new buildings to a maximum of four stories – or 44 feet. Under the Town's height restriction, the first floor of any new building here cannot be used for any residential purpose.

(See **CHARTER** on Page 4)

Commission continues its efforts to establish townwide ZIP code

The **U.S. Postal Service** said it wasn't willing to designate one ZIP code for the entire Town, but the Town Commission and **Congressman E. Clay Shaw, Jr.**, aren't giving up quite yet.

The Town recently asked the postal service to expand the 33308 ZIP code to include the entire Town of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea. Residents living north of the **Village of Sea Ranch Lakes** use the 33062 ZIP code, but that often causes confusion, since Pompano Beach also uses 33062.

In a recent letter to Shaw, the postal service said that while it recognizes the confusion caused by the Town having two ZIP codes, it "cannot make costly and disruptive changes to our mailing address system" that are not connected to mail delivery.

Vice Mayor Ed Kennedy, however, said he has spoken with district post office officials in South Florida and was told there is a formal process to request a ZIP code change. "There's a good chance we'll be able to get what we want," Kennedy told the Commission.

The Commission asked Kennedy to continue talking with district post office officials and to report back to the Commission. □

TOWN DIRECTORY



Mayor
Oliver Parker
 Vice Mayor
Ed Kennedy
 Mayor Pro Tem
Chuck Clark
 Commissioners
David Wessels
John Yanni

Town Manager
Robert Baldwin
 Town Attorney
James Cherof
 Town Clerk
Alina Medina
 Finance Director
Esther Colon
 Municipal Services Director
Bill Mason
 Development Services Director
Harry Diehl
 Broward Sheriff's Office
Chief Scott Gooding
 Fire Administrator
Frank Buchert
 Volunteer Fire Chief
Ian MacLean
 Town Chaplain
Rev. John Handrahan
 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 at the beginning of each month. Information or ads can be dropped off at Town Hall or submitted via e-mail to the Town's Public Information Office at lbtspio@yahoo.com.

Garden Club will hold tree planting ceremony Jan. 16th at Jarvis Hall

To celebrate Florida's Arbor Day, the **Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Garden Club** will hold a tree planting ceremony on **Jan. 16th at 10:30 AM** outside **Jarvis Hall**.

Arbor Day in Florida is Jan. 20th.

Mayor Oliver Parker will



preside at the ceremony, where the Garden Club will plant a native Florida

tree to commemorate Arbor Day.

Refreshments will be served following the tree planting ceremony in Jarvis Hall.

The first Arbor Day in the United States was held in Nebraska on April 10, 1872.

The idea was the brainchild of **Julius Morton**, a Nebraska journalist and politician who was dedicated to improving agricultural techniques throughout the country. Morton also served as **President Grover Cleveland's** Secretary of Agriculture.

Rummage sale

The Garden Club will also hold its annual **Rummage Sale** on **Jan. 28th** from **8:30 AM to 1 PM**. The club will gladly accept any donations from the community.

The money raised will help offset club operating costs and the cost of community programs. Donations may be dropped off at Jarvis Hall on Jan. 27th before 5 PM.

For more information, please contact **Christine Carlson** at 954-290-5609. You can also e-mail her at cbcarlson210@comcast.net

MEETINGS GUIDE

Town Commission

JAN. 10 - 7 PM

JAN. 24 - 7 PM

Town Commission regularly meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month in Jarvis Hall. Pre-meeting agenda conferences start at 6 PM and are open to the public.

Board of Adjustment

Meets as needed on the third Tuesday of the month at 3 PM

Planning & Zoning

Meets as needed on the third Wednesday of the month at 6:30 PM

JAN 18 - 6:30 PM

Parking Hearing

NO MEETING

Code Compliance

Meets as needed on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 2 PM

Master Plan Steering Committee

JAN. 16 - 6 PM

TOWN MEETING DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

PUBLIC ACCESS

- The Town Commission agenda and related backup materials are available for review in Town Hall during business hours (9AM - 4:30 PM). The agenda is posted on our Web site: www.lauderdalebythesea-fl.gov
- Commission meetings are televised live on Channel 78. Meetings are also re-broadcast at noon on Wednesday, Friday and the following Monday.
- The Town will provide 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.

Lori Parrish slated for January Property Owners' meeting

By Cindy Geesey
Property Owners Association

Plan to join your neighbors at the Property Owners Association meeting at Jarvis Hall on Monday, Jan. 23rd at 7 PM to ask Broward County Tax Appraiser Lori Parrish any questions you may have about her office and property tax issues.

All Town residents, including those who live in Terra Mar or Bel Air, who own single-family residences or condos are welcome to attend.

Paid POA members, however, will be given priority to ask questions, such as the status of pending state legislation on the portability of Save Our Homes.

Refreshments will be served

beginning at 6:45 PM.

If you have questions, please call **President Cindy Geesey** at 954-776-5974.

Dues are due

Your \$10 membership dues for 2006 is now due. Checks may be made payable to the LBTS Property Owner's Association and sent to the following address:

Marilyn Carr, Treasurer
254 Miramar Ave.
LBTS, FL 33308

The POA is already planning several informative meetings and fun social events for 2006 and we invite you to be involved in your community.

The POA's stated goals are to increase our property values and preserve our quality of life! □

Walk for the Animals will take place on March 4th

Join members of the **LBTS Property Owners Association** on **Saturday, March 4th**, when they link up with hundreds of pet



lovers in the annual **Walk For The Animals** sponsored by the **Humane Society of Broward County**.

Walkers in the **LBTS Sandy Paws Pack** will enjoy a free IHOP breakfast, entertainment and a short 1.25 mile stroll down Las Olas Boulevard, accompanied by every breed (and mix!) of dog imaginable (plus a duck, some birds and other surprises).

Sports team mascots will be there. Face painting is part of the fun, so it's a great place to take the kids.

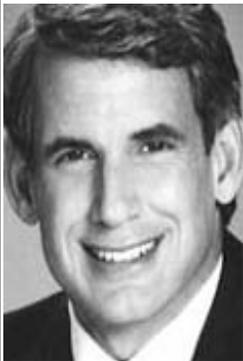
"This is a really fun event, it's great to do something to help homeless animals, and we hope LBTS will have at least 10 walkers in the Pack," said POA President Cindy Geesey.

Anyone is welcome to join the LBTS Pack. Prizes will be awarded to walkers who get at least \$75 in pledges – more pledges, more prizes!

If you love animals but can't come to the event, your donation to the Humane Society in the name of our pack would be appreciated.

For more details, call **Cindy Geesey** at 954-776-5974. You can also visit this Web site: www.browardhumane.com/Walk2006. □

Weatherman Bryan Norcross will speak at North Beach Civic Association meeting



Bryan Norcross

The **North Beach Civic Association** will hold its annual meeting on **Tuesday, Jan. 31st at 7 PM in Jarvis Hall**.

The meeting will include the following:

- Annual election of officers.
- Food and drink will be served beginning at 6:30 PM.
- Personal appearance by

Channel 4 Weather Anchorman **Bryan Norcross**, who will provide an overview of the past hurricane season, a prelude to next season and answer your questions.

Norcross is a hurricane expert who made his mark talking millions of Floridians through the worst hours of Hurricane Andrew in 1992.

□ A director of the WCI Communities' Oceanside project, going up at State Road A1A and Atlantic Boulevard in Pompano Beach, will give a presentation on this large scale residential, hotel and retail development.

For more info, contact **Fred Hartmann** at 954-644-9021. □

KIWANIS BINGO

EVERY THURSDAY STARTING JAN. 5TH AND ENDING APRIL 7TH. EARLY BIRD IS 6:30 PM. REGULAR BINGO AT 7 PM. FOR MORE INFO, CALL 954-491-9737.



CHARTER (continued from Page 1)

The Town adopted its current height limit in 1973, which many residents feel helps the Town maintain its charm and beautiful ocean views. Because the height limitation is in the Town Charter, only Town voters have the authority to amend the height limit.

There are numerous buildings in Town, however, that exceed the 3-over-1 height limit. Many were built prior to 1973, when the height restriction was first adopted. Other buildings that exceed the limit do so because they were first built in unincorporated Broward County, but later brought into the Town via annexation.

That was the case when the Town annexed the North Beach Area in October 2001. Numerous condos along the beach in that part of Town are 15 stories high.

Under Florida law, the property rights of individuals are protected under the **Bert J. Harris, Jr., Private Property Rights Protection Act**, which created a cause of legal action for aggrieved property owners who demonstrate that governmental action occurring after May 11, 1995, "inordinately burdens" their property rights.

Fearing the Town would be subject to expensive lawsuits from property owners under Bert J. Harris, the Town plans to place its own height limit charter amendment on the March ballot for voters to consider.

If voters adopted the proposed amendment in March, the height limit would remain the same, but allow the Town to grant a variance

ASK LORI PARRISH

No tax relief from Hurricane Wilma

Despite a new state law allowing an extension for property tax early-payment discounts to hurricane-ravaged counties, the **Broward County Commission** did not extend the deadline for Broward taxpayers.

The law, passed by the **Florida Legislature** in December and signed by **Gov. Jeb Bush**, extended the date by which taxpayers can receive discounts on their 2005 property tax payments for up to 60 days.

This taxpayer-friendly legislation required the **Broward County Commission** to adopt an emergency ordinance. Unfortunately, the Commission failed to enact this measure.

Broward County property owners pay their current year property taxes to the **Broward County Revenue Collector**,

not the Property Appraiser.

Broward taxpayers who paid their bill by Dec. 31st still received a 3 percent savings. January payments are eligible for a 2 percent discount while

February payments receive a 1 percent discount. Taxes in all Florida counties are due by April 1st.



For additional information regarding property tax payments, visit www.broward.org/revenue.

You can also contact the Broward County Call Center at 954-831-4000. □

so that the owner of a 15-story condo damaged by a hurricane to rebuild to the same height limit.

This would only apply to condominiums in Town located north of Pine Avenue.

It isn't certain what would happen if voters approved the Commission's referendum in March and the citizens' referendum in November. If the approved charter amendments conflict, it's possible the courts could rule them invalid.

The Commission plans to ask the **Florida Attorney General** for a legal opinion on the issue of whether the Town would be liable under Bert J. Harris as a result of a charter referendum placed on the ballot by citizens, and not the Town Commission. □



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Get ready for Taste of the Beach!

Get out your forks!
Taste of the Beach, an annual culinary event sponsored by the **Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Chamber of Commerce**, is scheduled for **Feb. 22nd** from **6 to 10 PM** at **El Prado** (across from **Town Hall**) and the beach.

From cookies to crustaceans and sushi to scampi, you will be amazed by the wide variety of delights you can sample from more than 30 of South Florida's finest seafood and



culinary establishments.

The cost is \$30 per person and drinks are included in the price. The fundraising event benefits the chamber and the Culinary School at

the **Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale**.

Dress is casual.

Don't worry about rain, because the event is held under a huge tent! For more info, call **Chamber Executive Director Judy Swaggerty** at 954-776.1000.

Little League tryouts

Tryouts for the 2006 Little League season for **Fort Lauderdale Coral Ridge Little League** will take place on **Jan. 21st** and **22nd**. The tryouts will begin promptly at the scheduled times listed below, so be sure to get there early.

Saturday, Jan. 21st: Kids ages 8 through 12 try out at 9 AM at **George English Park** behind Bayview Elementary.

Sunday, Jan. 22nd: Kids ages 13 and 14 try out at 1 PM at **Holiday Park** on Field No. 5. Holiday Park is located where Sunrise Boulevard meets Federal Highway in Fort Lauderdale.

Any cancellation caused by weather will be made up on **Monday, Jan. 23rd** at **6:30 PM** at Holiday Park. □

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Here is a listing of **Lauderdale-By-The-Sea** homeowner groups, community groups, civic organizations and churches. To update listings, please call the Town's **Public Information Office** at 954-776-3611.

HOMEOWNER ASSOCIATIONS



Bel Air Civic Association

Contact: Michael Power Tel: 954-661-5558

LBTS Property Owners' Association

Contact: Cindy Geesey Tel: 954-776-5974

North Beach Civic Association

Contact: Mark Brown Tel: 954-781-6538.

Terra Mar Island Civic Association

Contact: Kit Cashman Tel: 954-943-5594.

COMMUNITY GROUPS

Garden Club

Meets Second Monday, 9:30 AM, Jarvis Hall.
Contact: Christine Carlson Tel: 954-290-5609.

Kiwanis Club

Meets Second & Fourth Monday, 6 PM, Damon's Grill.
Contact: Sunny Eckhardt Tel: 954-772-6831.

Optimist Club

Meets Second Wednesday, 7 PM, Damon's Grill.
Contact: James Silverstone Tel: 954-771-0355
or Oliver Parker Tel: 954-772-6468.

Lions Club

Meets First & Third Wednesdays, 7:30 AM, Jarvis Hall.
Contact: Marguerite Remigy Tel: 954-971-1707.

Woman's Club

Meets last Thursday, 11 AM.
October through April. Tel: 954-772-0707.

Oceanside Chapter of Hadassah

Meets the third Tuesday, Holy Cross Hospital. Contact: Joan. Tel: 954-565-0161.

CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS

Chamber of Commerce

4201 Ocean Drive Tel: 954-776-1000.
Monday - Sunday: 9 AM - 5 PM.

Community Performing Arts Center

Contact: Vincent Ragusa Tel: 954-202-2666.

Citizens Action Committee

Contact: Bob Karley Tel: 954-772-7332.

Hillsboro Inlet District

Meets Third Monday, 7:30 PM, Dixon AHL Recreation Center in Lighthouse Point Town Hall. Contact: Oliver Parker Tel: 954-772-6468.

Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Merchant Association

Contact: Angela Aldahwi Tel: 954-958-9241.

Lions Eye Foundation

Contact: Nels Pearson Tel: 954-564-5258.

National Save The Sea Turtle Foundation

Contact: Jennifer Hartwig Tel: 954-351-9333.

Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

Business Meetings: First Monday at 7 PM. Drills Second, Third & Fourth Mondays. Tel: 954-772-8978.

Sister Cities Association

Contact: Dr. Kenneth S. Most. Tel: 954-946-1783.

CHURCHES



Assumption Catholic Church

2001 South Ocean Blvd., LBTS, FL 33062
Tel: 954-941-7647. Winter Mass Schedule:
Saturday: 4 & 5:30 PM (Vigils).
Sunday: 8 AM, 9:15 AM & 10:30 AM.

DAILY: Mon-Fri 9 AM

Community Church of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea

4433 Bougainville Drive
Tel: 954-776-5530. Sunday Worship: 10 AM.
Women's Group meets on the second Wednesday at Friedt Fellowship Hall. Dinner meetings held September through May. Moderator: Jeannette Checchia.
Tel: 954-772-4391. Taize Worship Service is the first Thursday of the month at 7 PM.

First Church of Christ, Scientist

251 Commercial Blvd.
Sunday Service & School: 10:30 AM.
Wednesday Meeting: 7:30 PM.
Reading Room: Monday - Saturday
10:30 AM - 1:30 PM. Tel: 954-772-0424.

BSO POLICE BLOTTER

11/06/05

A subject was arrested at 4328 Seagrape Drive for giving a false name to a law enforcement officer who was conducting an investigation.

11/18/05

A subject was arrested at 4117 Bougainvillea Drive for aggravated assault.

11/26/05

— A subject was arrested at 4600 El Mar Drive on an active warrant reference writing a worthless check.

— A subject was arrested at 4600 El Mar Drive on an active warrant reference displaying an unlawful tag.

11/28/05

A subject was arrested at 4605 Ocean Drive for obstructing/resisting for giving false information.

11/29/05

A subject was arrested at 3000 East Commercial Boulevard for obstruction/resisting. The vehicle was followed from 1302 Zone and a traffic stop was conducted. The passenger was arrested for giving a false name.

11/30/05

— A subject was arrested at 300 SE 11th Ave., on an active capias reference violation of parole/robbery.

— A subject was arrested at 4605 Ocean Drive on an outstanding battery capias out of Hillsborough County.



KEY PHONE NUMBERS

TOWN HALL

954-776-0576

BUILDING / CODE COMPLIANCE / 954-776-3611

MUNICIPAL SERVICES / 954-776-5119

POLICE & FIRE

EMERGENCY / 911

NON-EMERGENCY / 954-765-4321

BSO BUSINESS OFFICE / 954-491-3920

SHIFT COMMANDER CELL / 954-275-9939

BSO FIRE & RESCUE BUSINESS OFFICE / 954-831-8200

WEB SITE

www.lauderdalebythesea-fl.gov

TOWN TOPICS

Town Topics is published 12 times per year and is available on the Town's Web site the first of the month. All articles or ads for the upcoming issue must be submitted by or prior to the seventh of each month. Ads must be dropped off at Town Hall and are only accepted from businesses with bonafide Lauderdale-By-The-Sea occupational licenses. All articles must be submitted on a computer disc in word format. Articles can also be submitted via e-mail to the Town's **Public Information Office** at lbtspio@yahoo.com. E-mail submissions are preferred.

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

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PERMIT 572**