



Town Topics

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

VOLUME 18, ISSUE 3

MARCH 2005

Town News

MEETING CANCELLED

The Town Commission's regular March 8th meeting has been cancelled, because the Broward Supervisor of Elections' Office needs to use Jarvis Hall throughout the day and during the early evening hours as a polling place.

A special election is being held throughout Broward County to determine the issue of whether slot machines should be allowed at parimutuels facilities. There is no Town election.

VICE MAYOR HONORED

Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Vice Mayor Ed Kennedy will be honored on March 13th as "Irishman of the Year" by the Emerald Society of Fort Lauderdale, an organization dedicated to helping today's youth by providing scholarships.

Kennedy will be the guest of honor at a breakfast function at Pier 66 in Fort Lauderdale on March 13th.

GROUP LISTINGS PAGE

The Town Civic Groups and Churches listing page was held out of this issue for space reasons. This regular Town Topics feature, which usually appears on Page 7, will return in the April issue.

Various North Beach projects proceeding according to plan

- Some improvements were made as part of annexation agreement.

Here is an update on several capital improvement projects affecting Lauderdale-By-The-Sea residents in the North Beach area, including a Florida Department of Transportation project to install decorative street lights along State Road A1A.

Some projects are already complete, some are close to being finished and some are just now getting underway, according to **Municipal Services Director Bill Mason**.

A1A Utility Line Undergrounding

The Town is burying power, cable and telephone lines underground from Pine Avenue north to 1398 S. Ocean Drive. The \$2.8 million project, which began last year, is 90 percent complete. The project should be completed in

(See **PROJECTS** on Page 4)

U.S. Coast Guard seeks comments on new Commercial bridge openings

The **U.S. Coast Guard** in Miami is seeking comments from Lauderdale-By-The-Sea residents about whether it should continue to open the **Commercial Boulevard Bridge** over the **Intracoastal Waterway** on the hour and half hour.

To establish a set schedule for Intracoastal bridges in Broward, the Coast Guard began opening the Commercial bridge twice-per-hour in December 2004.

The twice-per-hour experiment ended on Feb. 28th, when the Coast Guard reverted to its previous schedule of opening the Commercial Boulevard Bridge every 20 minutes, assuming a vessel needed the bridge opened.

The Coast Guard implemented the bridge opening change to see if it would better meet the needs of boaters and drivers. Knowing the bridge opens on the hour and half hour, drivers can plan their trips to avoid bridge opening delays.

"Schedules on bridges do not improve traffic. What it allows is for local people to plan," said **Barry Dragon**, chief of the Coast Guard's Bridge Operations Section.

(See **BRIDGE** on Page 3)

TOWN DIRECTORY



Mayor

Oliver Parker

Vice Mayor

Ed Kennedy

Mayor Pro Tem

Chuck Clark

Commissioners

David Wessels

John Gianni

Town Manager

Robert Baldwin

Town Attorney

James Cherof

Assistant Manager

Laura Ward

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 Hanrahan

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.

Sister Cities raising funds to ship wheelchairs to San Isidro, Peru

By Dr. Kenneth S. Most

Sister Cities Association

A few Sister Cities announcements are in order this month:

- We had an excellent Christmas party at the **Blue Moon Restaurant** on Dec. 20th, thanks to member **Jack Cooney**, who made the arrangements. Thanks also to Blue Moon for their great hospitality.

- Please send in your 2005 Sister Cities membership dues.

- We will need money soon to pay for a shipment of medical equipment to **San Isidro, Peru**, our Sister City. The collection of wheelchairs is proceeding well and we hope to send a shipment within the next couple of months. If you are planning to contact a prospective donor, let **Gayle Strogen** know, as she is coordinating this project. Her number is 954-303-2195.

- We are sponsoring the First International Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Soccer Competition on March 20. **Carlos Galavis** is organizing this event. Let me know if you are willing to man a refreshment booth and/or provide goodies for sale. Carlos has also agreed to host a Peruvian dinner at his restaurant, **Yummy**, on April 5th. The charge will be \$25 a head and there will be music and entertainment. Book early as there will be room for only 30 people.

- A fund-raiser for the Wheelchairs for Peace project will be held soon.

In the meantime, your donations will be gratefully received. Thanks to the Wheelchairs for Peace Foundation, we already have \$11,010 toward the required \$21,000. Look for more info soon.

You can contact Dr. Kenneth S. Most at 954-946-1783. His e-mail is topmost@aol.com. ■

MEETINGS GUIDE

Town Commission

*MARCH 1 - 6 PM

MARCH 22 - 7 PM

*This is a joint workshop meeting with the Master Plan Steering Committee.

The Town Commission meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. Pre-meeting agenda conferences start at 6 PM.

Board of Adjustment

Meets as needed on the third Tuesday of the month at 3:30 PM

Planning & Zoning

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

MARCH 16 - 6:30 PM

Parking Hearing

MARCH 28 - 6 PM

Code Compliance

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

Master Plan Steering Committee

MARCH 3 - 6 PM*

MARCH 21 - 6 PM**

*Meets in Jarvis Hall.

**Meets in Development Services Department.

Citizens are invited to attend these meetings. Two or more Town Commissioners may attend.

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.

BSO working with Town residents on Crime Watch efforts

Following a handful of home burglaries late last year in Lauderdale-By-The-Sea, the **Broward Sheriff's Office** and residents started working together.

Deputies beefed-up patrols and went door-to-door. The efforts paid off. Within a month, the criminals took notice and decided to move on.

The cooperative effort between law enforcement and residents of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea worked so well that BSO initiated a **Neighborhood Watch Program** and now holds regular community meetings to help keep the seaside town safe.

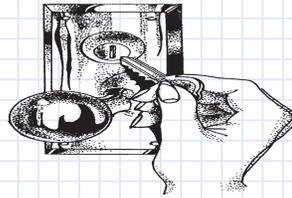
Turnout was robust at the four BSO Neighborhood Watch Program meetings held so far in Town.

For more info on BSO's Neighborhood Watch Program in Lauderdale-By-The-Sea, call **Sgt. Keith Dinkin** at 954-491-3920. ■

CRIME SAFETY TIPS

To help keep your home safe from burglars, be sure to:

- Install and always use deadbolt locks on entry doors.



- Make sure sliding glass doors have working locks and cannot be lifted from their tracks.

- Install and maintain adequate outdoor lighting that is motion detector activated.



- Be certain every window in your home can be securely locked.

- Install and use an alarm system.

- Get to know your neighbors and form a neighborhood watch group.

For more safety information from the Broward Sheriff's Office and ways to keep your home or business secure, visit BSO's Web site at www.Sheriff.org. ■

BRIDGE (continued from Page 1)

He said the average wait for drivers in vehicles stuck at a bridge is 5 to 7 minutes, assuming that only one or two vessels will pass underneath.

The twice-per-hour Commercial Bridge experiment was done in conjunction with other bridges in the county, which also allows boaters to better plan their trips. "We'd like to have all the bridges on a standardized schedule," Dragon said.

He said Town residents should also realize there can and will be occasional exceptions to any bridge opening schedule.

For safety reasons, a bridge tender is allowed under federal law to raise a bridge at any time for a tugboat operator towing a vessel.

Bridge tenders can also keep a bridge open for emergency vehicles that may be approaching. If he does so, Dragon pointed out, the bridge

opening schedule will be thrown off by several minutes, because it must then be raised for boat traffic.

"Those occasions are rare," Dragon said.

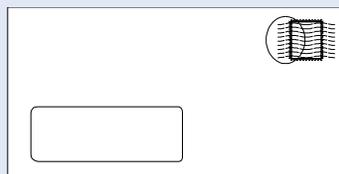
Town residents have until March 15th to send their comments or suggestions to the Coast Guard. Please submit your comments on a regular-size sheet of paper.

"Tell us why it's good or why it's bad and what would be better," Dragon suggested.

If you decide to comment on the Commercial Boulevard bridge openings, the Coast Guard requests that your letter include your name and address. It also asks you to identify the docket number for this notice request – [CGD07-04-136].

If the Coast Guard decides to implement the twice-per-hour bridge opening schedule on a permanent basis, Dragon said the decision would be made sometime this summer. ■

CONTACT INFO



You can mail your comments to the **U.S. Coast Guard** about the twice-per-hour Commercial Boulevard Bridge schedule on or before March 15th.

Please be sure to include this docket number reference: [CGD07-04-136]. Your comments should be typewritten on a regular-size piece of paper and mailed to the following address:

**Commander
Seventh Coast Guard District
909 SE 1st Ave. Room 432
Miami, FL 33131**

PROJECTS (continued from Page 1)

mid-April.

“The hurricanes caused delays,” Mason said. “FPL pulled their crews off the job for several months.” The project was part of the Town’s North Area annexation agreement.

The Town will complete restoration of damaged property (sod and trees will be replaced) after poles are removed from affected properties. Some residents will experience power shortages from 1 to 3 hours when FPL transfers power to the underground lines. Residents will be notified by FPL several days in advance.

Sanitary Sewers

The Town is preparing to solicit bids from contractors to start installing sewers in Terra Mar Island. The project will begin later this year. The design and permitting process is complete. Sewers will be installed in Bel Air next year. The Town is also in the initial review and planning stages of a project to install sewers



at the Palm Club and on Sunset Lane.

Neighborhood Street Lights

The Town installed 22 street lights in Bel Air last year. The project is complete. Lights were placed at the ends of each street and in the middle of each block, making it safer for residents to walk at night.

Terra Mar Island Bridge

The Town has allocated \$100,000 to make repairs to the bridge, but must wait for Pompano Beach to

begin repairs on its side of the bridge (both must be done at the same time). Pompano expects to make its repairs at the end of this fiscal year or next year. The bridge repairs needed are minor.

Neighborhood Traffic Calming

Speed humps and signage were installed at strategic places in the North Beach area last fall to help ease traffic. The project is complete.

Decorative Street Lights

The Florida Department of Transportation is installing about 50 decorative street lights along State Road A1A in the North Beach Area. **This is not a Town project.** The installation of the poles was delayed because of DOT contract problems.

There were also problems with the initial street poles, which turned out to be defective and had to be replaced. The project started in May 2004 and had been expected to be completed in two months. ■

**FREE MOVIE NIGHT AT
COMMUNITY CHURCH**

WED., MARCH 30 at 7 PM

JERRY McGUIRE



Lauderdale-By-The-Sea
Community Church
Friedt Hall

**FREE POPCORN
& SOFT DRINKS**

There is a short discussion after the film. For information, call 954-776-5530.

**The Community Performing Arts Center
of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea presents ...**



“REMEMBER ME?”

MARCH 16 - 19

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED!

A comedy by Sam Bobrick. Produced and directed
by Vincent J. Ragusa. Associate Producer: Connie Ragusa.

For tickets and info, call 954-202-2666.



CHOCOLATE & JAZZ!

MARCH 22 / 7 PM / TICKETS: \$10

Indulge in chocolate delights at Community Church, 4433 Bougainvillea Drive. Sponsored by the Women's Group. Includes entertainment & chocolate treats. If you love chocolate, this is your event! For info, call 954-772-4391 or 954-776-5530!

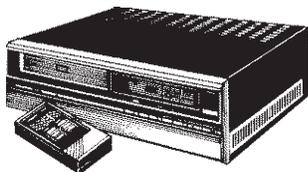


BACK on the MARKET

For Sale

Two pairs of roller blades
Like new. Black. Sizes 8-9
and 9-10. Call 954-771-7939.

Hitachi VCR. Perfectly good
condition. \$20. Call 954-771-0821.



For Sale

Lord of the Rings standees.
Three different sizes. \$10, \$20 & \$40.
Must be seen. Call 954-771-0821.

Needed

A new, loving home for a cat.
Neutered, black, green eyes, 10.
Call 954-492-4015.

BSO District 13 Police Blotter



01/03/05

A subject was arrested at 2621 North Ocean Boulevard in Fort Lauderdale on an active warrant reference violation of parole reference possession of cocaine.

01/04/05

A subject was arrested at 4244 El Mar Drive on minor theft charges.

01/07/05

A subject was arrested at State Road A1A and Imperial Lane on an outstanding warrant reference public intoxication.

01/10/05

A subject was arrested at 4321 North Ocean Drive for battery on a law enforcement officer.

01/15/05

A subject was arrested at 4631 Bougainvillea Drive for domestic battery.

A subject was arrested in the 1700 Block of Commercial Boulevard on an active warrant reference trespassing a structure/conveyance.

A subject was arrested at 4557 North Ocean Drive on six outstanding warrants from Hillsboro County, four for worthless checks and two for domestic battery.

01/17/05

A subject was arrested in the 200 block of Commercial Boulevard on an active felony warrant from Brevard County reference violation of parole/grand theft.

01/18/05

A subject was arrested in the 200 block of Commercial Boulevard for driving with a suspended license.

01/21/05

A subject was arrested at 4400 Bougainvillea Drive for driving with a suspended license. A teletype check revealed an active warrant for the same.

A subject was arrested at 4103 North Ocean Drive for stealing a sandwich from the 7-Eleven store. The store clerk positively identified the subject.

01/22/05

A subject was arrested at 200 Commercial Boulevard for failure to stop at the stop sign at Commercial Boulevard and El Mar Drive. Teletype check revealed that the arrestee is a habitual traffic offender with a suspended driver's license.

01/27/05

Three subjects were arrested at 4319 North Ocean Drive for petty theft at Walgreens.

01/29/05

A subject was arrested at 4425 North Ocean Drive for aggravated battery.

Community Performing Arts Center sponsoring theater summer camp

The **Community Performing Arts Center of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea** is sponsoring a Summer Performing Arts Camp for children 8 to 13 and 14 to 17 years of age. The camp runs from July 11th through Aug. 5th.

Students will be exposed to all aspects of the theater, including stage performing, acting, singing, dancing, stage combat, stage make-up, prop building, costuming and much more.

The professional coaches at the camp are:

- **Marsha Van Winkle**, an acting professional and NYU filmmaker.
- **Karen Pritchard**, a choreographer and producer from England.
- **Vincent Ragusa**, executive



director of the Community Performing Arts Center.

Space is limited to 30 students per age class.

For more information, call Vincent Ragusa at 954-202-2666. ■

Property Owners to meet on March 23 in Jarvis Hall

The **Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Property Owners Association** will meet on March 23rd at 7 PM in **Jarvis Hall**.

Bank United Vice President **Kal Pachori** will discuss mortgage rates and answer questions on financing.

The following officers were elected at the January meeting: **President Cindy Geesey**, **Vice-President Jerry Sehl**, **Secretary Maureen Stanton** and **Treasurer Marilyn Carr**.

Vice President Ron Piersante and **Secretary Cathie Moore** stepped down from the board after serving for three years.

“They both did a great deal to increase interest in the group, to grow the membership and to establish professional procedures,” Geesey said. “Our sincere thanks go to them both.” ■

EASTER EGG HUNT!



**SATURDAY
MARCH 26TH AT
9 AM IN JARVIS HALL**

**THE EASTER BUNNY
WILL ARRIVE IN A
“MAGICAL BASKET!”**

AGES 0-4, 5-8 & 9 & UP

There will be a special egg for each child!

SPONSORED BY THE TOWN, THE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AND THE LBTS OPTIMIST CLUB.

The **Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Woman’s Club** invites you to attend its upcoming



Dessert Card Party & Silent Auction

Saturday, March 12th at 11 AM in Jarvis Hall

Please bring your own game or cards. Donation: \$5

For more info, call 954-772-2267.



STAR GAZING
A free concert on the beach!

SATURDAY / MARCH 12TH
AT 7 PM / ON THE BEACH
AT EL PRADO & EL MAR

FEATURING
PATTI LEE JAMES
HELLO GOODBYE
GEORGE GALFO'S MYSTICS

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE!

Produced & directed by The Community Performing Arts Center and sponsored by the Town of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea.

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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