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GALT MILE TRAFFIC AND NOISE ABATEMENT INITIATIVE



Article by Eric Berkowitz

From where the southern exit of Galt Ocean Drive spills into A1A (North Ocean Boulevard) to the intersection of A1A and Oakland Park Boulevard is an infamous patch of road that seems to spontaneously generate traffic accidents. The stretch is also the unofficial last leg of a motorcycle race track that seems to start just north of McDonalds. Drivers heading south on A1A also regularly ignore the traffic light at the Galt Ocean Drive exit juncture. While the participants in this deadly game of vehicular pinball endanger anyone accompanying them on the road, their activities have also reached into the homes within earshot.

On April 7, 2005, District 1 City Commissioner and Vice Mayor Christine Teel convened a meeting at the Beach Community Center to address a blizzard of complaints about the A1A vehicular demilitarized zone and the adherent noise pollution. To help devise an effective strategy, she brought municipal heavy artillery – Ft. Lauderdale City Manager George Gretsas and Chief of Police Bruce Roberts. In response to waves of citizens' complaints, the meeting concluded with a promise by Chief Roberts to develop a "Traffic Enforcement Action Plan" aimed at curbing the described abuses. On May 23rd, Police Media

Relations Coordinator Sgt. Andy Pallen issued a press release illuminating the public about the plan's progress.

Following some public relations fluff, Sgt. Pallen explained the plan's rationale. "This action plan was devised in response to numerous citizen complaints concerning unlawful driving practices. There has been a noticeable increase in this activity and local residents and vehicular traffic has been negatively affected. The goal of this high visibility enforcement was to aid in the reduction of crime, reduce unlawful speeding, reduce excessive noise created by unlawful equipment installed on vehicles, educate offenders who are committing violations and to improve the quality of life for residents." In describing the plan's functional details, Pallen said, "Over this three-day time frame (May 20 - 22), a total of four locations were addressed, with three separate operations being conducted simultaneously. The four locations affected during this initial operation were the 2700 block of North Federal Highway, A1A at SE 5th Street, 3700 block of North A1A, and Federal Highway at Broward Blvd."

Some 25 participating Officers and 6 Police Service Aides issued hundreds of citations, made 16

Continued on page 4

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Ellyn Bogdanoff...Continued

Our ever increasing property taxes will be discussed extensively this session as well. There are many proposals floating and I am working with another member on a unique approach that will hopefully not only solve the portability issue but also address the tax disparity recognized by many neighbors. This is a challenging problem, but we must take a holistic approach to solving it. We are looking at limiting property taxes across the board and possibly replacing it with a more equitable tax.

Education continues to be the number one concern throughout the state and we will be working on middle and high school reform, in addition to many other educational issues. I am a member of the PreK - 12 Committee and for the last year I have done extensive research on bullying in our schools. There have been many articles and tragedies lately and I filed HB 535, which is a culmination of all of our research and input from parents, students, teachers, and administrators. It was recently noted by Bully Police USA, a national grassroots advocacy organization, that if this bill passes, it will be endorsed as their model legislation, and the best in the nation. Idaho has already taken our language and has filed it as a bill for their next legislative session. This is something that will make us all proud. You can view this bill on my webpage at myflorida-house.gov. Let me know what you think.

These are just a few of the many issues we will debate this year. I have always emailed home each week, giving folks the inside scoop on what is happening in Tallahassee, and providing updates on what important legislation is making its way through the process. If you want to be added to my email list, just send me a note at ellynb@bellsouth.net.

I can't believe this will be my third session. I am truly enjoying the process and serving the citizens of District 91. Again, thank you for your confidence in me. Do not hesitate to contact me, Gerard or Aaron at (954) 762-3757 if we can be of service. Until next time...•

Gunn...Continued

Ms. Gunn fielded questions about the City's beleaguered Building Department. She credited new Building Department Chief Valerie Bohlander with starting to improve the department's cloudy reputation as unremittingly inefficient and unresponsive. She said, "The Building Department is considering a priority service for emergencies and/or construction projects dogged by inflexible deadlines. For a modest premium, applications would be expedited through the process." Advisory Board members unanimously agreed that they wouldn't hesitate to take advantage of an express permitting program. Eliminating frustrating permit delays is well worth a modest premium. In response to a general request by the Advisory Board, Ms. Gunn promised to alert us as soon as this priority service becomes available.

Ms. Gunn was unusually well informed about our local problems and receptive to recommendations made by Advisory Board members. While comporting a low-key demeanor throughout the meeting, she exhibited an encyclopedic recall of relevant municipal events as well as State and County issues. Kathleen A. Gunn's office is located at 100 Andrews Avenue in Fort Lauderdale. To contact the Assistant City Manager, call (954) 828-5022 or send emails to kgunn@fortlauderdale.gov. The meeting clarified why Mr. Gretsas decided against leaving New York without Kathleen Gunn. Our City Commission is fortunate to count her among the City's assets. •

The Galt Mile News

The Galt Mile News is the official newsletter of the Galt Mile Community. Published 12 times a year, this publication is designed to educate the Galt residents of neighborhood-oriented current events and issues, and to offer residents Galt-specific discounts from various local merchants.



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12 Rolling Stones BankAtlantic Center Tix: ticketmaster.com Urban Outdoor Gourmet Market 1201 E. Las Olas Blvd. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.	13 Panthers vs TB BankAtlantic Center 7 p.m. Vice Mayor Teel Pre-Agenda Meeting Beach Community Center 6 p.m. Info: 954-828-5033	14 Purim Three Latin Tenors Broward Center Tix.: 954-462-0222	15 Tony & Tina's Wedding Broward Center Through 3/26	16 GMCA Advisory Board Meeting Pa DeGennaro's 11 a.m.	17 St. Patrick's Day! Panthers vs NY Islanders BankAtlantic Center 7:30 p.m.	18 Palm & Cypad Sale Fairchild Tropical Gardens Through 3/19 Jazz @ The Museum of Art Roseanna Vitro & Her Trio 7:45 p.m.
19	20 Panthers vs TB BankAtlantic Center 7 p.m. Vice Mayor Teel Pre-Agenda Meeting Beach Community Center 6 p.m. Info: 954-828-5033	21	22 Panthers vs Washington BankAtlantic Center 7 p.m.	23 Impressions of Old South Florida Bonnet House Info.: 954-563-5393 x 127	24 Panthers vs NY Rangers BankAtlantic Center 7:30 p.m. Romeo & Juliet Broward Center Tix.: 954-462-0222	25 Market Pro Computer Show War memorial 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Info: 954-828-5380
26 FIESTA! Ft. Lauderdale Riverwalk 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Info: 954-527-0627	27	28 Miami Piano Festival Broward Center Tix.: 954-462-0222	29	30	31 Int'l Orchid Festival Fairchild Tropical Gardens 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Through 4/2	1 Panthers vs Tampa Bay BankAtlantic Center 7:30 p.m.
2 Sunday Jazz Brunch Riverwalk, Downtown FL 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Info: 954-828-5985	3 Vice Mayor Teel Pre-Agenda Meeting Beach Community Center 6 p.m. Info: 954-828-5033	4 Ft. Lauderdale City Commission Meeting City Hall 6 p.m.	5 Panthers vs Atlanta BankAtlantic Center 7 p.m.	6	7	8
9 Panthers vs Tampa Bay BankAtlantic Center 5 p.m. Urban Outdoor Gourmet Market 1201 E. Las Olas Blvd. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.	10	11	12 Erev Passover	13 Black Eyed Peas with the Pussycat Dolls BankAtlantic Center Tix.: ticketmaster.com	14 David Sedaris Broward Center Tix.: 954-462-0222	15 Tax Day Panthers vs Washington BankAtlantic Center 7:30 p.m.

A look ahead

- April 18-30 Chicago Broward Center, Tix.: 954-462-0222
- April 20 Clueless on Las Olas benefiting Partners In Education Las Olas Blvd.
- April 21-23 Ocean Fest Dive & Adventure Sports Expo Ft. Lauderdale Beach
- April 29 Fairchild's Spring plant Sale Fairchild Tropical Garden, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



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From the Desk of...

**Vice Mayor
Christine Teel**

Article by Christine Teel

Vice Mayor Christine Teel successfully completed her term as the voice of District 1 on Fort Lauderdale's City Commission. Her representation of the District, in which the Galt Mile neighborhood is located, has been characterized by integrity, concern, diligence and constant communication with her constituents. Evidently, potential opponents realized the futility of challenging Ms. Teel for the seat she will continue to ably occupy. On January 13th, she emailed constituents this message. READ ON... - editor

I am pleased to announce on January 10, 2006, I was re-elected without opposition to serve as your District 1 Commissioner.

For the past three years I have been honored to represent you and am delighted to have the opportunity to again do so for another term.

With the support of many people from the seventeen District 1 Homeowner Associations, community activists, other elected officials, the City Manager and his dedicated and capable staff we were able to accomplish many initiatives during the past three years.

We have the Coral Ridge George English Park Community Building currently under construction with a completion date in May, Bayview Park is being extensively renovated, noise mitigation at the Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport has had positive result with continuing effort, the Galt Mile is receiving updating and restoration of their lighting and landscaping after severe damage from the hurricanes, and the Landings entryway on N. Federal Highway after extensive damage is slated for a total "new updated look".

Imperial Point, Coral Ridge Isles, Knoll Ridge and Bermuda Riviera have worked on traffic calming issues, beautification and waterway problems with success. The City has committed to add a restroom facility to the Imperial Point Park, which has been a need since the park was added to the grounds of Imperial Point Hospital through a partnership agreement with the North Broward Hospital District.

Coral Shores has successfully completed a Vision Statement for their neighborhood in preparation for the upcoming Master Plan for the North Federal Highway corridor. Palm Aire Village, East and West, have been working on improvements to their areas. Attention to landscaping to the common areas was aided by the Citizens Volunteer Corps (CVC) assisting with a project along NW 21st Avenue. Palm Aire West is currently moving forward with a self-assessment project involving a perimeter wall surrounding their borders. This will definitely be a plus for traffic calming, security and beautification.

Continued on page 17

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Continued on page 17

Assistant City Manager Kathleen Gunn

Article by Eric Berkowitz



Fort Lauderdale Assistant City Manager Kathleen Gunn

Assistant City Manager Kathleen Gunn, one of City Manager George Gretsas' secret weapons, addressed the January 19th meeting of the Galt Mile Community Association's Advisory Board. Kathleen, who operates comfortably behind the scenes, is an integral part of a team that actualizes decisions made by the City Commission. Originally from Queens, New York, Kathleen accompanied Mr. Gretsas in his journey from White Plains, New York, where he served as the strong right arm of Mayor Joseph Delfino prior to his Fort Lauderdale recruitment. Aware that his challenge to help the Commission reclaim the City from the brink of fiscal disaster would be formidable, he decided to bring some insurance - former White Plains Downtown Business Improvement District Executive Director Kathleen Gunn. The Assistant City Manager addressed a variety of issues affecting Galt Mile residents.

Since his taking the reins of the City Manager's office in August 2004, Gretsas has seen his Assistant City Managers evolve into

an effective triumvirate. While each one was assigned certain general of areas of responsibility, the distinctions were intentionally left fuzzy. Given how municipal departments impact one another, their loosely defined jurisdictions are conducive to the teamwork that makes them so effective. Kathleen Gunn, Stephen Scott and David Hébert share Gretsas' vision for the City - a commitment to excellence. Ms. Gunn explained how the responsibilities are divided among Mr. Gretsas' Assistant City Managers.

"Assistant City Manager Stephen Scott is in charge of Administrative Services," said Gunn, "providing guidance for the City's Human Resources and Information Technology Departments. He oversees the Finance Department." Mr. Scott helped the City Commission steer the city's budget through a process that recently resulted in Moody's and Standard & Poor's upgrading of the city's bond rating. He also has the unenviable task of reorganizing the city's Building Department.

Continued on page 10

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Gunn... Continued

City crews recently cut the trees marked for removal to a height of 4 feet. Mr. Thornburg explained that the trees were left at this height to more easily extract and replace them. The trees, however, have sizable root balls that have become intertwined with power lines and water conduit running beneath Galt Mile sidewalks. After Wilma, Associations involved in the emergency removal of downed trees were compelled to gingerly remove the remnant root balls. Several landscape architects had recommended poisoning the root balls, inducing a natural shrinkage prior to their removal. They admonished that this be done carefully to avoid creating a permanent brown space. Otherwise the root balls must be surgically removed to avoid unintentionally blacking out an Association or cutting its water line.

Ms. Gunn touched on a problem discovered during the city's response to Wilma. City officials met in the Emergency Operations Center to administer the City's response and recovery to the effects of the storm. Obviously absent was a designated Emergency coordinator responsible for the entire area. Broward County operates the traffic light system throughout the City. There are a variety of Fire and Police Departments throughout Broward that would benefit from better coordination when forced to work together during area-wide emergencies. Additionally, Broward's 31 municipalities compete for the County's limited resources. With the departure of former Broward Administrator Roger Desjerlais, with whom Gretsas enjoyed a good working relationship, it became critical for the City to foment a new understanding with the County. The City is currently working with New Broward Mayor Ben Graber and Interim County Administrator Bertha Henry to that end.

Presidents Council Chair Pio Ieraci exclaimed that he had noticed an increase in crime in the upscale Rio Vista neighborhood (vehicle and home invasions), for which he attributed possible responsibility to a manpower shortage. Kathleen explained that the Safir Rosetti Staffing Study of the Ft. Lauderdale Police Department, an authoritative evaluation of the city's law enforcement capabilities, indicated that administrative deficiencies precluded the Department from realizing its potential. In fact, the study reports, "According to analysis of 2003 and 2004 for a comparable population group, there is not a definitive correlation between the number of officers deployed per ten thousand residents and crime reduction." It observes that, "When compared to a comparable population group of cities, Ft. Lauderdale in 2004, was the highest in authorized force and spending per ten thousand residents, and among the lowest in Calls for Service handled per Police Officer. Authorized staffing levels are not the driving factor of the recent crime increase in Ft. Lauderdale. This recommendation is based on a belief that current authorized staffing levels, is effectively organized, managed, deployed and utilized should be appropriate to fulfill the Department's mission." In response, City Manager Gretsas appointed Mr. Hébert to serve as a liaison between his office and the Police Department. Chief Bruce Roberts has since delivered a decrease in the City's overall crime rate. Kathleen also confirmed that Hébert continues active recruitment of Police and Fire personnel to bolster manpower.

Fort Lauderdale's economic development falls under Kathleen's purview. Kathleen is working diligently to bring new businesses to Fort Lauderdale. She explained, "While the City stops short of paying businesses to relocate here, we've created a process that eliminates the irritating bureaucratic roadblocks that ordinarily plague companies doing business in a new city." Assistant City Manager Gunn continued, "While we welcome any new business, we are targeting mid-sized businesses." By way of example, she mentioned Kaplan University. This nationally acclaimed educational service business is well known to many students and their parents. "They are bringing 600 jobs to Cypress Creek (6301 Kaplan University Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309), with another 600 in the future," exclaimed Gunn. "Mid-size businesses lessen the city's dependency on any individual institution for the stability of its tax base."

Continued on page 13

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Gunn...Continued

Partnering with Economic Development's Ronald Hicks – formerly of New York's Empire State Development Corporation – she emphasizes the accessibility of domestic and international markets, a favorable tax structure, the availability of business assistance and prime office space, and help obtaining housing. While these bottom line factors impact relocation decisions, she added that, "Senior management is often sold by the quality of life benefits afforded by Fort Lauderdale." Kathleen tells relocating business prospects about Fort Lauderdale's consistently beautiful weather; access to convenient air and ground transportation; the world famous beach; Florida Atlantic University; enterprise zones and the availability of a highly trained, well-educated, diverse work force. She characterizes Fort Lauderdale's fiscal recovery as a major enticement. She said, "Increasing the City's fund balance from \$875,000 to \$20 million and eliminating a \$21 million insurance deficit over the past few years underscores the City's credibility as a stable base of operations."

Pio Ieraci also voiced concern over the chilling effect that skyrocketing tax bills for non-homesteaded properties would have on future growth. Kathleen responded that the city represents a fraction of the overall millage rate. Broward County, the School Board, the Hospital District and the South Florida Water Management District all contribute to the property tax rate. She also indicated that for many years, the city manipulated its budget to artificially depress

tax rates. As stated by former acting City Manager Alan Silva, the city was "paying for last year's expenses with next year's receipts." When the economy soured, the city's budget hit a wall and came crashing down like a house of cards. The substantial increases instituted during the past few years brought tax receipts into balance with real expenses. The astronomical increase in property values has contributed to the disproportionate burden shouldered by non-homesteaded and newly purchased properties. She said, "While the city supports portability for 'Save our Homes' protection of newly purchased homesteaded properties, only the legislature can reallocate tax burdens."

Ieraci opined that one way to spread the pain was through incremental growth. Regency Tower President Dott Nicholson-Brown asserted that Tallahassee was also responsible for higher property taxes. She said, "Despite recent tax windfalls enjoyed by the State, South Florida has been regularly shortchanged by the Florida legislature in several areas – including healthcare and education." GMCA Secretary Eric Berkowitz agreed, adding, "Previously powerful South Florida legislative coalitions that historically succeeded in securing South Florida's fair share of State funds are no longer viable. As such, the north and central Florida controlled legislature consistently deprives South Florida of equitable distribution of resources, particularly educational funds."

Continued on page 22

TAX TIME IS COMING SOON

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Gunn...Continued

David Hébert has had to change hats in tempo with the city's needs. As head of Fort Lauderdale's Public Information Office, Hébert kept the public apprised of the City Commission's efforts to return the city to fiscal respectability. Communicating the Commission's strategy and the City Manager's progress helped garner public support for the painful steps necessary for Fort Lauderdale's recovery. Like Gretsas, Hébert appears at every noteworthy municipal event. In the wake of catastrophic hurricanes, he helped distribute supplies to residents. Following accidents – construction, Police or Fire-Rescue – Hébert was on hand to develop a rapid, effective city response. Ms. Gunn also described his guiding of the NEAT (Neighborhood Enhancement Action Team) program to a successful outcome. She said the program was "designed to encourage residents to report illegal dumping, remove illegally parked or abandoned vehicles and keep the community free of code violations. The program's focused police activity, tree and paint giveaways and code enforcement efforts helped curb crime and bring code violators into compliance." A former advisor to the Westchester County District Attorney in New York, Hébert also served as a liaison between the City Manager's office and Fort Lauderdale Police Chief Bruce Roberts. As such, his status as the link between the Police and Fire-Rescue Departments and the City Manager was a natural.

Kathleen Gunn's venue includes Parks and Recreation, Business and Economic Development. While Kathleen characterizes the management team as effective, she isn't - and doesn't plan on ever being - satisfied. "We are always looking for ways to improve life for Fort Lauderdale's residents." At the meeting's outset, she described the city's progress in rehabilitating A1A and Galt Ocean Drive from the devastation caused by Hurricane Wilma. Evidently, the Department of Public Works filled two warehouses with electrical supplies to replace components lost to the storm. They are now empty. There is a two month backlog in accessing the equipment needed to repair the neighborhood's decimated lighting. The downed decorative street lamps along Galt Ocean Drive are even more difficult to replace than the City's standard street lighting. Having lost 30% of its tree canopy to the storm, shredded landscaping presented the City with another nightmare. The good news is that the Parks Department is prepared to commence fulfilling a promise to upgrade the Galt Mile's landscaping made by Urban Forester Gene Dempsey last June.

Ms. Gunn told Advisory Board members, "Parks Department Director Phil Thornburg is prepared to move ahead with replacing the Galt Mile's landscaping." Mr. Thornburg explained in a January 17th email to GMCA President Robert Rozema that the Galt landscaping project was imminent. Thornburg said, "The contract for the removal of the root ball and the installation of the new trees will be out to bid this week. My guess is that by the time we get our work done and the contract is awarded and started, we are looking at the end of February or first of March." Director Thornburg continued, "We have over 300 total trees that will be installed and the contract is not going to be cheap. We have found the money to do this and are moving forward. I appreciate your patience on this, but I assure you, the project is coming soon." Kathleen Gunn said they would avoid planting trees that weren't appropriate for their Galt Mile locations such as Ficus and Black Olive.

Continued on page 12

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FROM THE OFFICE OF REPRESENTATIVE



Article by Elyn Bogdanoff

ELLYN BOGDANOFF

February 2006 Update

On February 6th, Florida District 91 Representative Elyn Setnor Bogdanoff released her latest "Legislative Update". She reviews some legislative tactics being explored to address the deteriorating insurance dilemma faced by Floridians. At a previous meeting with Galt Mile officials, Elyn was alerted to the depth of concern exhibited by constituent Associations and their member residents about spiraling insurance costs. In response, she committed herself to investigating possible resolutions and keeping us informed about relevant legislative actions. In addition to addressing important issues, this newsletter evidences Elyn's habit - peculiar for a politician - of keeping her word. It reads as follows: - editor

Session is almost here. There are so many critical issues that we will need to deal with over the next 60 days. I know taxes and insurance are on the minds of many. I and several legislators with an interest or expertise in insurance matters met with Florida's Chief Financial Officer, Tom Gallagher this week. We listened to some of his plans to make insurance more affordable and accessible and he asked for our ideas. It was a very productive meeting. One key proposal is to advocate for a national disaster fund. Dozens of states experienced a declared "national disaster" in the last two years, which engages a large percentage of our federal elected officials to bring this issue to the forefront.

Two weeks ago, I presented a proposal to the insurance committee regarding Citizens Property Insurance. Although Citizens was originally created as a temporary solution, I am recommending that it become a permanent option in Florida, but have recommended many changes to its structure. The changes will assure residents access to insurance, while encouraging the private insurance companies to do business here despite their exposure to hurricane losses. The proposal is too long and detailed for this article, but I am happy to talk to anyone who might have an interest. I will be sure to keep you posted on our progress.

Continued on page 22

Teel...Continued

The City recently welcomed Twin Lakes North to District 1 due to their annexation from Broward County to Fort Lauderdale. This neighborhood of approximately 325 single-family homes is located west of Powerline Road, and south of Commercial Boulevard. They had a choice to join the City of Oakland Park or Fort Lauderdale. After careful consideration, the residents of Twin Lakes voted to become a part of Fort Lauderdale. I will be working closely with them to make them feel "at home" in our great City!

Our City's financial difficulties in 2003 have greatly improved. Wall Street has recognized our efforts by upgrading our bond rating. Our reserve accounts have grown ahead of the established goals and the insurance deficits have been eliminated. We made substantial cuts in expenses, established strict rules of accountability and have enjoyed the positive results.

Efforts in public safety are now showing a positive trend with a substantial reduction in the crime rate. As always, public safety will continue to be in the forefront of our endeavors.

In closing, I want to thank you all for your cooperative and "can do" spirit. It is because of you my job has been such a pleasure. I always welcome your comments and suggestions and encourage you to be active in your neighborhoods. The neighborhood associations are where we are able to come together and make improvements to our quality of life.

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Noise...Continued

5. Researched various other cities experiencing similar problems. Recommended ordinances that will provide additional enforcement tools to officers.

6. Contacted every complainant when received.

CONCLUSION: FLPD is committed to providing enforcement efforts to address these citizen complaints. Enforcement has proved difficult as there are no specific noise violations related to this complaint. FSS traffic citations are written whenever possible. The City Prosecutor related that use of a noise meter doesn't apply to moving vehicles.

Officers must determine if a motorcycle has stock verses after market mufflers before they can write a citation specifically for that violation. They look for baffles and if found, determine that the motorcycle has legal mufflers. Few motorcycles have been found with no pipes or 'straight' pipes without some kind of baffles as required."

So far, Chief Roberts has made good on his commitment to the community. The continuous pressure applied by FLPD to deter motorists from piloting noise-challenged vehicles on A1A along the Galt Mile has provided auditory relief to the area. While noise complaints are down, it's frustratingly difficult to measure the bottom line success of the Chief's efforts. Hopefully, the strip will develop a lasting reputation as an intimidating traffic checkpoint, discouraging future abuse. This will only happen if the effort is sustained. Drivers who've become comfortable with speeding down A1A as a result of never having been challenged must now "unlearn" this dangerous and illegal behavior. It took years for the strip to evolve into a "free zone" for speeders. Hopefully, it won't take as long for it to revert back to a safe - and quieter - thoroughfare.

Unfortunately, the tools ordinarily used by the City to legally moderate decibel levels are unavailable for use against vehicular noise pollution. As such, officers assume the unenviable responsibility of relying on their subjective judgment when targeting offending vehicles. Major Negrey also implies that police enforcement ordinances are insufficient to squarely impact the problem. Her investigation into how other municipalities negotiate noise polluters elicited a recommendation that the City Commission "provide additional enforcement tools to officers."



Chief Bruce Roberts

Not a bad idea. Kudos to Police Chief Bruce Roberts, City Manager George Gretsas, Vice Mayor Christine Teel and Major Mary Negrey, not only for cutting the neighborhood decibel level and deterring drag racing along A1A, but for keeping their promises. •

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Information provided by Eastside Properties, 954-565-7644

Twelve more properties were sold in the Galt Ocean Mile Community:

L'Hermitage #407 (3/2.5) \$899,000 - closed 1/17/06	Ocean Club #405 (2/2) \$485,000 - closed 1/13/06
Plaza South #8J (2/2) \$680,000 - closed 1/18/06	L'Ambiance (3/2.5) \$1,175,000 - closed 1/23/06
Coral Ridge Towers E #1703 (1/1) \$219,000 - closed 1/10/06	Galt Ocean Club (1/1.5) \$375,000 - closed 1/17/06
L'Ambiance #402 (3/4.5) \$1,775,000 - closed 1/23/06	Playa del Sol #1812 (1/1.5) \$381,000 - closed 1/13/06
Coral Ridge Towers N #1514 (1/1) \$230,000 - closed 1/5/06	The Galleon #404 (1/1.5) \$340,000 - closed 1/27/06
Plaza East #7B (2/2) \$525,000 - closed 1/6/06	Coral Ridge Towers E #205 (2/2) \$175,000 - closed 1/23/06



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Noise...Continued

arrests and seized two vehicles. They even bagged 60 grams of cannabis and 10 rocks of crack cocaine. However, the key to the plan's fruition would be education and repetition. Acknowledging this, Pallen said, "Due to the success of this operation, similar action plans are pending."

On January 26, 2006, Major Mary Negrey of Police District 1 summarized for Chief Roberts the scope and results of his "Traffic Enforcement Action Plan" and the war on motorcycle noise. To edify concerned Galt Mile residents, Vice Mayor Christine Teel released the Major's description of steps taken by the Department subsequent to last May's report along with this quote from the Police Department, "We are looking for any and all methods of resolving the problem. We will be working on the situation and Capt. Jan Jordan from our evening shift is our lead contact person." This is Major Negrey's transmittal to Police Chief Bruce Roberts:

"Since April 2005 when we met with citizens at a meeting at Galt Ocean Mile we have worked to address complaints regarding motorcycle noise in a variety of ways. The following actions have been taken to date:

1. Contacted Harley Davidson of Fort Lauderdale on N. Federal Hwy. to gain compliance regarding concerns from neighbors regarding noise
2. Contact Ale House Management in May 2005 regarding their weekend "bike" events. Successfully ended these events.
3. Conducted large scale multi-location traffic operations to target illegal driving behavior. Locations included Galt Ocean Mile, S. A1A and SE 5th Street, 2700 Block N. Federal Hwy and 1200 N. A1A.

- April 8 - 14 citations
 - April 9 - 15 citations
 - May 10 - 25 citations
 - May 6 - 148 citations
 - May 20, 21, 22 - 629 citations (3 locations each day)
 - June 18 - 42 citations
 - June 19 - 71 citations
 - July 30, 31 - 182
 - Shift 1 (April through June) 152- citations
 - Shift 2 (Mini - Action Plan Sept 22 - 28) - 45 citations
 - Traffic Unit (April through June) - 25 citations
 - August, Oct and Nov specific plans cancelled due to Hurricanes
 - Dec 18, 19 - 11 citations
 - Shift 2/3 Overlap Action Plan 2pm-4pm (Jan 8, 14, 21, 22) - 2 citations, 4 MI's
- Total Citations - 1361

(Note: Most of these citations were to vehicles for various violations, including loud mufflers, stereos, equipment violations, speeding, etc. Approximately 220 were for various motorcycle violations.)

4. Researched and published to patrol officers information regarding motorcycle mufflers as well as FSS applicable to the problem. (including noise of all kinds).

Continued on page 6

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Safety On The Roads

A Florida resident who intends to change their legal name because of a recent marriage or for other reasons; and residents who move or change their mailing address should be advised that they must obtain a new driver's license without delay.

FSS - 322.19 Change of Address or Name

(1) Whenever a person, after receiving a driver's license, changes his or her legal name, that person must within **10 days** thereafter obtain a replacement license that reflects the change.

(2) Whenever a person, after receiving a driver's license, changes the residence or mailing address on the license, the person must - **within 10 calendar days** - either obtain a replacement license that reflects the change or request in writing a change-of-address sticker.

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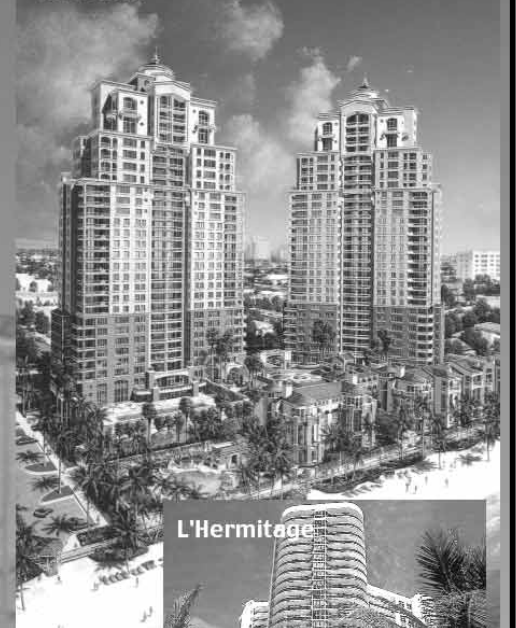
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