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THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GMCA  
DECEMBER 2018

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# PILOT PROGRAM: New Trees on the Galt Mile

By: Eric Berkowitz

Shortly after longtime Commodore resident José “Chepo” Vega stepped down as the neighborhood association’s block maintenance liaison with the City in late 2016, Galt Mile officials appointed Galleon resident John Jors to address neighborhood oversight. Since then, Jors has worked closely with Galt Mile officials, City Commissioner Heather Moraitis, Parks Department Operations Superintendent Mark Almy, Parks Supervisor William McDonough, and Fort Lauderdale Urban Forester Mark Williams to improve spotty municipal maintenance, help facilitate post-Hurricane Irma damage recovery, and replace crisis management with strategic planning.

For months, Jors pressured Parks officials to correct insufficient irrigation of the swale, upgrade the monument site at the south block entrance, repair or replace non-functional up lights and damaged street lamps along Galt Ocean Drive, repair damaged tree supports, adjust tree grates and replace scores of missing, desiccated or storm-damaged trees. To avoid repeating past mistakes, Jors and Williams agreed to re-assess existing flora, and instead of replanting trees predictably susceptible to ocean salt and high winds, develop a list of alternative trees better suited to a beachfront bio-niche.

Years earlier, when standard Simpson’s Stoppers that lined the Galt were repeatedly shredded, they were replaced with Silver Buttonwoods, which also succumbed to the harsh coastal environment. Marshalling his arborist skills, Williams proposed an initial 24-tree pilot to test three species more likely to thrive – a multi-trunk variety of Simpson’s Stopper, Bulnesia and the salt and wind tolerant Japanese Blueberry. Selecting locations where the Buttonwoods suffered the most damage, Jors suggested planting the test trees along sidewalks adjacent to Ocean Sky, Ocean Club, Ocean Summit, Playa del Mar and Galt Ocean Club.

On March 1, 2018, Williams began the swap-out process, cutting the degraded Silver Buttonwoods in half in preparation for a subsequent mechanized root-ball removal. Having additionally extracted two heavily damaged Silver Buttonwoods at Playa del Mar, Williams expanded the test sample to 26 trees. On April 5, 2018, Williams planted and staked the more robust replacement trees.

Although pleased with the overall appearance, when Jors expressed reservations about the “shrubby appearance” of the multi-trunk Simpson’s Stoppers, he was assured by Williams that his perception would change as the trees matured. On May 16, Jors reported feedback from local residents, who cited a preference for the Japanese Blueberry, followed by the Bulnesia, while disparaging the undersized shrub-like Simpson’s Stoppers. Following an autumn spent traveling, on October 17, Jors sent the following report to Galt Mile officials.

## **Galt Mile Landscape Update**

***“I have recently returned to the Galt neighborhood after a couple of months away. These are my general impressions of the condition of the Landscape.***

***Test trees: The test trees on Galt Ocean Drive were installed in April of this year. There were 10 multi-trunk Simpson’s Stopper installed; of those 6 are in good condition, 3 are in poor condition, and 1 very poor condition. Next, there are 7 Bulnesia, 4 in good condition, 3 in poor condition, and 1 in very poor condition. Finally, there are 10 Japanese Blueberry, 9 in good condition, and 1 in poor condition.***

***My conclusion thus far is that the trees that receive overspray irrigation from adjacent buildings irrigation systems are in the best condition. Those that receive nothing but irrigation from rain runoff are in poor and very poor condition. Of course, the wind also contributes to the desiccation of the trees in poor and very poor condition. As far as aesthetics is concerned, the Japanese Blueberry and the Bulnesia have the best appearance. The multi-trunk Simpson’s Stopper appears shrub like, rather than a street tree. In my opinion the Stoppers installed were much too short. In addition, they have received the most negative comments from Galt residents.***

***Going forward with the test trees and any further tree replacement on Galt Ocean Drive, the irrigation issue needs to be addressed. Either some irrigation must be installed, or the adjacent buildings need to provide irrigation for the newly planted trees.***

***The general condition of the Galt landscape is quite good. There are several areas that I would like to address with the city. I feel the south monument area is need of renovation, especially considering the near completion of the A1A project. I am very impressed with the diversity of plantings used in that project. I consider the south monument area to be the “Gateway to the Galt”, and is in very tired condition.***

***In the past year utility work has been done, that caused parts of the concrete sidewalk on Galt Ocean Drive to be replaced. The newly installed concrete is a darker shade of pink. Will this be the new standard for all concrete replacement going forward?***

***I am happy to say that the street lighting has been repaired, however we still have the issue of the up lights on the east side walk of Galt Ocean Drive not functioning.***

***I recommend that another “Galt Walk” be scheduled with the city before the end of the year to discuss remedies and plans for 2019.”***

***Regards,  
John Jors, The Galleon***

## **John Jors: Better Planning & More Water**

The next day, after summarizing Jors’ report at the October 18 Advisory Board meeting, Galt Mile President Pio Ieraci identified AT&T as the vendor responsible for the incompatible sidewalk sections. When informed of their failure to install the approved aggregate mix, AT&T agreed to reconstruct the panels using the color blend specified for Galt Ocean Drive. Ieraci also announced that another neighborhood walk-through with Parks officials would soon be scheduled, providing Jors with grist for his next update.

In his report, Jors highlights the adverse impact of a 1995 municipal miscue. When the city engineer vetted the self-assessed Galt Mile Improvement project, instead of including in-ground irrigation, the city agreed to maintain the landscaping and hard scape features in “a Disney-Like manner.” The City’s inability to deliver has created a frustrating revolving door – neighborhood officials raise hell, after which Parks personnel scurry to salvage and replace dead or dying flora.



Ordinarily, the city waters new plantings for a few months after installation. Afterwards, the availability of sufficient rainfall runoff determines if this immature landscaping lives or dies. Drought-stressed trees rarely reach maturity. While losing plants to storm damage is unavoidable, that's not the case for trees, hedges, and sidewalk beds lost to insufficient irrigation.

Over the decades, the hundreds of desiccated Galt Mile trees and acres of browned out sidewalk beds that were repeatedly replaced cost taxpayers many \$thousands every year – mostly expensed to labor – as city crews spend months trying to reclaim neglected plantings. For a fraction of this outlay, inexpensive water-saving drip-lines could be connected to existing interred water lines – ending the cyclical brownouts and saving taxpayers a bundle.

Since similar proposals in the past had triggered traumatic stress disorders in city officials, Jors offered an alternative. Noting how the best conditioned trees often benefit from “association overspray”, the City can recruit – or negotiate – association assistance with watering adjacent sidewalk plantings.

Some minor adjustments to association irrigation systems could expand the “overspray” dividend to additional sidewalk beds. In some cases, simply increasing the spread radius on street front sprinkler heads would also irrigate the nearby municipal landscaping. Other associations may have to add one or two sprinkler heads to their systems – or manually water the adjacent sidewalk beds during dry spells.

If city officials offer to pick up the incremental annual water cost for associations that participate in irrigating municipal landscaping, the city could whack the allocation for replacement trees – and the well-salaried Parks Department crews that install, stake and maintain them – for pennies on the dollar.

While remaining focused on curing a host of current maintenance pitfalls, such as improperly staked and poorly pruned trees with low hanging branches that threaten inattentive pedestrians, non-functional up-lights and intermittently operational street lamps, Jors and Williams are committed to ending decades of bad planning and reactionary block maintenance in favor of progress driven by diligent research. The new strategy is getting results – having kick-started a revival along the most defoliated stretch of Galt Ocean Drive. See for yourself. •

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# EDITOR'S COMMENTARY

## Chip LaMarca's OCTOBER 2018 Newsletter

By Eric Berkowitz

*\*Chip LaMarca changed hats. On November 6, the 8-year District 4 Broward Commissioner snatched up the District 93 Statehouse seat vacated by departing Representative George Moraitis, defeating Democrat challenger Emma Collum by a 7% vote margin; 40,426 (53%) - 34,927 (46%) with 1176 votes to Kelly Milam (1%). Despite a Democrat majority, many Galt Mile voters typically subordinate partisan ties in favor of candidates who've reliably delivered on local issues - whether Republican or Democrat. Shortly after his election to the Broward Board, LaMarca blocked a surreptitious attempt by commission peers to sacrifice the popular Galt Mile Library to budget cuts. He then helped revive a long-shelved plan to renovate the local Library - despite its status as a rented site - since County policy skews to investing in wholly owned assets. "Clear the Shelter" event.*

#### LaMarca Heads North

*LaMarca later spearheaded the renourishment of local beaches after decades of frustrating failures by Republican and Democrat predecessors. To avoid the pitfalls that undermined their efforts, LaMarca changed the playing field, offering lawmakers a January 2015 study by the Office of Economic and Demographic Research (EDR - research arm of the Florida Legislature), which focused primarily on the fiscal impact of beach renourishment.*

*Entitled "Economic Evaluation of Florida's Investment in Beaches", the EDR report calculated the Return on Investment (ROI) of Beach Restoration at a hefty 5.4, statistically affirmed how widened beaches reduce the huge cost of storm damage, and characterized District 4 beaches as economic engines that produce \$billions in local and State revenues. Confronted with how neglected beaches reduce the State tax revenues that annually fund pork projects in their respective districts, even skeptical North and Central Florida lawmakers withdrew their opposition, and agreed to support legislation creating a reliable beach maintenance funding mechanism.*

*He also used "enlightened self-interest" to pole-vault over regulatory gridlock in Washington DC. After a prolonged war of nerves, LaMarca returned home with new State and Federal permits and a viable cost-sharing plan. He was also instrumental in establishing the current protocol for stabilizing the County shoreline. A Regional Beach Management policy implemented by Broward Beach Administrator Nicole Sharp includes an expedited response to hot spots eroded by cyclonic storm damage, thereby sustaining a shoreline expanse sufficient for a thriving oceanfront eco-system while reducing the frequency and sizable cost of future full-scale beach renourishments.*

*For saving the Library and capping decades of disappointment with a newly fattened beach, LaMarca banked both gratitude and good will from his coastal constituency. Since the coastal communities that comprise Broward District 4 are largely mirrored in Statehouse District 93, LaMarca's accrued political capital (and a significant campaign war chest) was sufficient to lock up two years in the Statehouse. Although shifting to a statewide forum, LaMarca will - in most part - represent the same constituents. Having promised to make their voices heard in Tallahassee, he is heading north with a new wish list, anchored by a commitment to support self-determination for association homeowners. From the House floor, LaMarca will help address the collusively mandated retrofitting of high-rise associations with fire sprinklers - under the regulatory guise of an Engineered Life Safety System (ELSS). The transition upstate should be somewhat seamless - LaMarca knows Tallahassee.*

*As the sole Republican on the County Board, for eight years LaMarca served as the County Commission's liaison to the Republican political Tri-fecta in Tallahassee. He annually carried the County's lobbying plans to the State Capital during the legislative session, where he marketed Broward agenda items to lawmakers, bureaucrats and the Governor. Also, LaMarca shuttled between Broward, Washington DC and Tallahassee for years to resolve beach renourishment regulatory issues with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), NOAA Fisheries and the Army Corps of Engineers Civil Works Program - which gateways federal funds to beach and port projects.*

*Having measured the progress of his local objectives in prior newsletters, instead of an October update, LaMarca expressed his gratitude in a graphic note to his former / future coastal constituents. For Commissioner Chip LaMarca's brief October 2018 message, read on... - [editor]\**

# THANK YOU!

By Chip LaMarca

Dear Broward County Residents,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your County Commissioner for the past eight years. It has been my privilege and the honor of my lifetime to be a voice for the residents of District 4 and Broward County.

I look forward to serving our beautiful Broward County in a different capacity and always advocating for the residents, families, businesses, visitors and our environment.



Statehouse Representative-elect  
District 93



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# EDITOR'S COMMENTARY: Heather Moraitis' OCTOBER 2018 Newsletter

By Eric Berkowitz

EDITOR'S COMMENTARY

*\*District 1 City Commissioner Heather Moraitis wove her October 2018 Newsletter around a tribute to her "favorite state representative", as term limits pulled the plug on husband George Moraitis' 8-year career in the Florida Statehouse. Commissioner Moraitis also announces the inaugural "Light up the Galt" event on November 28 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. amid the North Beach Restaurants and Shoppes (formally known as the Galt Ocean Village neighborhood) - at A1A and Oakland Park Boulevard; cites a monthly opportunity for local businesses to renew parking permits at the Beach Community Center (apply for an initial permit in the Parking Office at 290 NE 3rd Avenue); recruits volunteers for the Community Service Board; notes a variety of Fort Lauderdale events; invites constituents to attend her Pre-Agenda Meetings; once again recommends implementation of a virtual neighborhood watch - a dividend of downloading the free Neighbors App by Ring; and closes by facilitating communication between constituents and the City through the Lauder-serv app.*

## THE NUMBER 1 FAN

*In her Newsletter, Heather Moraitis paints politics as a family function - like sharing holiday dinner or taking family vacations. Since popular Republican Statehouse Representative George Moraitis bagged four consecutive elections in a District with a clear Democrat majority - an area disparaged by Tallahassee Republicans as "The Killing Fields" - her virtually unchallenged first foray into elected office was often credited to their shared namesake. Ironically, his repeated success at the polls was largely attributable to the roles she played in his campaigns.*

*When former Statehouse Representative Ellyn Bogdanoff ascended to the Florida Senate, Broward's Republican Party Leadership hand-picked healthcare entrepreneur David Maymon to fill her shoes. While serving as Director of Capitol Development for the YMCA, Heather Moraitis fine-tuned a skillset that included scaring up cash and networking with local Masters of the Universe. Heather's blue-chip speed-dial list and access to resources helped*

*catapult George passed Maymon in the Primary and Democrat Barbara Stern in the election. The local GOP big shots backed the wrong horse.*

*She spearheaded his 3 subsequent biennial Statehouse campaign victories over Gerri Ann Capotosto in 2012, Scott Herman in 2014 and Ken Keechl in 2016. Moraitis' popularity was fueled by a steady stream of legislation that enabled municipal improvements, fanned State and local economies or protected, expanded and clarified the rights of association homeowners*

*Term Limits ends Moraitis' Statehouse tenure this year. With his mandated departure from the Statehouse months away - on January 22, 2018, George Moraitis was elected Chairman of the snake-bit Broward Republican Executive Committee. Now he decides which local Republican candidates get a taste of Party resources that were initially denied to him. What goes around, comes around.*

## LIGHT UP THE GALT

*On November 28, 2018, the City of Fort Lauderdale and the North Beach Restaurants and Shoppes presented the City's newest light up event - and launch the holiday season along the Galt Ocean Mile! From 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., "Light up the Galt" offered our families an enchanted evening of live music, entertainment, food and fun along NE 32nd and NE 33rd Streets between A1A and the Intracoastal. This seasonal block party featured food and drink specials from over 15 restaurants and bars! A tree lighting ceremony took place at 7 p.m.*

*Attendees enjoyed live performances on four stages, a holiday concert by the Fort Lauderdale Symphonic Winds orchestra and a kids zone. On another stage, the Elisa Rego Band performed Rock & Roll, Pop, and Soul. The Florida Sweet Tarts filled the third stage with sugar plum music from an earlier era and the fourth stage featured the jazz stylings of Cindy Curtiss & Company. Supported by the City, Light up the Galt could prove the signature event that has long eluded the Galt Mile neighborhood. To bring the celebration back annually, all we had to do is show up and chill. Read on for Commissioner Moraitis' October 2018 Newsletter, elsewhere in this edition. - [editor]\**





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# SEA LEVEL RISE PING PONG

By Eric Berkowitz

Recently, District 2 City Commissioner Heather Moraitis jumped on the need for sustainability, exhorting greater resiliency as integral to an infrastructure increasingly eviscerated by tidal flooding and age. Underlying her admonition were decades of neglect, and a planned \$3 billion remediation that may temporarily dampen the local impacts of a planetary endgame.

A 1990 law, known as the Global Change Research Act, requires federal agencies to provide the president and the Congress with an overview of the latest climate science and a thorough review of the impact of climate change throughout the U.S. every four years. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is the lead federal agency on the report for the U.S. Global Change Research Program, which produced the Climate Science Special Report (CSSR) in November, which is Volume 1 of the 4th National Climate Assessment. The full National Climate Assessment will be published in late 2018.



Summarizing the assessment's findings, Katharine Hayhoe, one of the report authors and a professor and director of Texas Tech University Climate Science Center in Lubbock, concluded "This report underscores the vast body of evidence that firmly establishes how climate is changing, humans are responsible, the risks are real, and the window of time to prevent serious and even dangerous impacts is closing."

A cooperative product of 13 federal agencies, the report affirms that climate change is driven almost entirely by human action, warns that sea levels in South Florida could rise another 2 feet by 2060 - and as high as eight feet by the year 2100, accompanied by an increase in the frequency and intensity of heavy rainfalls and hurricanes. Federal researchers document how climate-related damage across the United States is already unfolding as a result of an average global temperature increase of 1.8 degrees Fahrenheit since 1900.

Factors driving temperature increases since 1951 include greenhouse gas emissions that trap heat in the atmosphere, widespread clearing of oxygen-generating forests and highly lucrative agricultural land management abuses. The report highlights how fossil fuel emissions have the potential to accelerate human-induced climate change and contribute to unmanageable changes that may ultimately become irreversible.

### **Bad News for Fort Lauderdale**

This places Fort Lauderdale in the cross-hairs. The 165 miles of waterways that once functioned as the city's gravity-based drainage system have succumbed to rising seas and record rainfalls. While eroding roads, bridges and overtopping seawalls, seawater is undermining municipal infrastructure from below.

Protective strategies used by coastal cities like New Orleans and Amsterdam - repelling ocean flooding with levees and seawalls - won't work in South Florida. Hal Wanless, a climate scientist at the University of Miami, explains that porous limestone bedrock under Fort Lauderdale allows water to penetrate the foundations of structures in oceanfront and low-lying neighborhoods. Usurping a 1969 Time Magazine phrase referencing reforms in the Catholic Church, Wanless likened the futility of efforts to defend against rising sea levels to "rearranging deck chairs on the Titanic". We either stop the damage or risk an unimaginable price.

The 152 tidal valves installed by the Public Works Department on drainage pipes in at-risk neighborhoods (at roughly \$25,000 apiece) were meant to prevent high tides from backflowing into streets. However, if rain floods the street or canal levels top seawalls during high tide, the valves don't open, temporarily turning flooded neighborhoods into multi-block bathtubs.

To prevent the seawater and sewage from spilling into homes, residents build sandbag walls, dozens of storm drains are plugged to limit backflow, vacuum trucks drink some of the seawater from roads, as signs admonishing "No Wake" are erected along each block. Tiger Dams proved a bust, as these plastic tubes filled with fresh water simply float atop the denser seawater.

Explaining that Fort Lauderdale is concentrating its flood mitigation efforts on those immediately at risk, Assistant Director of public works Nancy Gassman said, "Wealthy neighborhoods closest to the ocean have the worst flooding right now." Since Florida sits on a limestone sponge, low-lying neighborhoods across the entire peninsula are also increasingly inundated (knee-deep in seawater, Sawgrass Mills was closed for three days last June).

Keren Bolter, a local climate scientist who studies sea level rise, observed "There are winners and losers," adding "In a few decades, most waterfront properties in Fort Lauderdale will flood for days, weeks at a time." The risks will be borne by millionaires on oceanfront lots and the working poor who live along low-lying inland canals.

### **Regional Call For Help**

In 2016, 15 South Florida Mayors asked Florida's Presidential candidates for help, describing how rising sea levels will spell disaster for millions of local residents. In an open letter, they wrote "We are already experiencing the effects of a changing climate. Sea levels off the coast of South Florida rose about eight inches in the twentieth century. As a result, we have seen more tidal flooding, more severe storm surges, and more saltwater intrusion into aquifers. By 2050, mean sea level around Florida is expected to rise about a foot, a shift which could wipe out as much as \$4 billion in taxable real estate in the four-county region of Southeast Florida. At three feet of sea level rise, the loss could total \$31 billion, with large sections of the Everglades, the Florida Keys and the Miami metropolitan region under water."

Citing how helping their hometowns would collapse the US economy and put energy providers out of business, Marco Rubio quietly declined and Jeb Bush responded "There's someone in a garage somewhere, parochially I hope it's in Miami, that's going to have a clue, to have an answer to this." Bush also said that he told his wife that she should prepare for a move if rising sea levels intensified tidal flooding.

The Obama administration had pledged to cut US greenhouse emissions from all sectors up to 28% below 2005 levels by 2025. Far ahead of schedule, the energy industry had already cut its carbon footprint by 25% in 2018. In contrast with hardliner claims that curbing carbon pollution would bankrupt energy providers, the efficiencies used to decrease emissions also generated record industry profits (i.e. FPL adjusted: 2016 - \$2.9 billion, 2017 - \$3.2 billion).

### **Chinese Con Job?**

Since limiting global average temperature increases to a safe threshold of 3.6 F would require significant reductions in carbon pollution levels and a severe drop in net greenhouse gas emissions, the National Climate Assessment acknowledges that such a shift will be particularly difficult to achieve given the current administration's attempt to justify a policy that rewards increased emissions by supplanting science with political rhetoric.

In 2015, Florida Governor Rick Scott placed a gag order on the state's Department of Environmental Protection, banning the terms "climate change" and "global warming", although the state is among the most vulnerable to sea level rise, as three quarters of the State's population who generate 79% of Florida's annual economy are domiciled along the 1,000 miles of pounded coastline and adjacent low-lying areas. When questioned about the unprecedented coastal flooding and rising seasonal temperatures, Scott repeatedly answered, "I'm not a scientist."

Although explored and documented by various cultures for thousands of years, as improved dating techniques enhanced the study of ice age paleoclimates in the early 19th century, Climate Science was splintered from Earth Science as a separate discipline. Debunking the Aristotelian concept of static polar, moderate and equatorial climate bands in each hemisphere, by 1850, Austrian scientists proved that climate was the product of complex interactions by energy circulating through the atmosphere. Called "Dynamic Climatology" or Climate Change, it helped circumvent key obstacles to satellite technology and space flight, spawned the science of meteorology, and remains the foundation for climate science in every country on the planet, including the United States.

Even so, Donald Trump has called the science of climate change a "con job" and a "myth" that was "created by and for the Chinese in order to make U.S. manufacturing non-competitive." Actually, the tenets of dynamic climatology were successfully applied by European scientists more than a hundred and fifty years ago, when China was a wholly agrarian society.

Having scrubbed references to climate change, greenhouse gases and clean energy from government websites (Energy Department, Transportation Department, Environmental Protection Agency, and State Department), the Trump administration is dismantling the Clean Power Plan and impeding enforcement of clean air and clean water laws. When NASA reported that satellite data confirmed the link between human activity and global warming (most recently citing how the loss of 7500 gigatons of Greenland's ice mass produced a pronounced wobble in the earth's axis), Trump requested the defunding of NASA's four satellites that monitor the earth's climate. Last June, he withdrew the U.S. from the UN-sponsored 195-nation Paris climate accord.

EASILY REMOVE AND PLACE ON YOUR FRIDGE

DECEMBER/JAN

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

# HAPPY NEW YEAR

<p><b>2</b> Chanukah Festival Beach Pavilion (LBTS) 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Info.: 954-607-1104</p> <p>Erev Chanukah</p> <p>SunTrust Sunday Jazz Brunch Riverwalk 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Info.: 954-396-3622</p>	<p><b>3</b> GMCA Presidents Council Meeting Southpoint Condominium 7:30 to 9 p.m. Info.: PioR@bellsouth.net</p> <p>Commissioner Heather Moraitis: Beach Community Center, 6 p.m. Info.: 954-828-5033</p>	<p><b>4</b> Holiday Music &amp; Movies Broward Center for the Performing Arts 7:45 to 9:45 p.m. Info.: 954-335-7002</p>	<p><b>5</b> BINGO Regency South Party Room 7 p.m. Info.: Bob Pearlman: 954-547-4063</p> <p>L-B-T-S Christmas By The Sea Anglin Square 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.; Tree lighting: 6:15 p.m. Info.: 954-640-4200</p>
<p><b>9</b> Jazz Picnic in the Park Performer: Nightlife Ilene Lieberman Botanical Gardens 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Info.: 954-777-2042</p> <p>Chanukah Festival on Las Olas - 2018 Huizenga Plaza Noon to 5 p.m. Info.: 954-667-8000</p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>The South Florida Condo, HOA &amp; Co-op Expo Broward County Convention Center, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Info.: 212-683-5700</p>	<p><b>12</b> BINGO Regency South Party Room 7 p.m. Info.: Bob Pearlman: 954-547-4063</p> <p>Riverwalk 30th Anniversary Party Historic Maxwell Room 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Info.: 954-468-1541, Ext. 208</p>
<p><b>16</b> Santa's Little Helpers (Through 12/17) Flamingo Gardens 2 to 5 p.m. info.: www.flamingogardens.org</p> <p>Fort Lauderdale Jingle Bell Jog 5K DC Alexander Park 5K Start Time: 7:30 a.m.; Little Elf Dashes: 8:30 a.m. Info.: 954-661-2732</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>Commissioner Heather Moraitis: Broward Health Imperial Point, AUD A&amp;B 6 p.m. Info.: 954-828-5033</p>	<p><b>18</b> Hamilton (Through 1/20/19) Broward Center for the Performing Arts Tix.: ticketmaster.com</p> <p>Fort Lauderdale City Commission Meeting City Hall, 6 p.m.</p>	<p><b>19</b> BINGO Regency South Party Room 7 p.m. Info.: Bob Pearlman: 954-547-4063</p>
<p><b>23</b></p> <p>Dancing-By-The-Sea Beach Pavilion, LBTS 5-7 p.m. Info.: www.lbtsevents.com</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>Chinese Lantern Festival Central Broward Regional Park &amp; Stadium (3700 N.W. 11th Pl, Lauderhill) 5:30 to 10 p.m. Info.: 855-618-8188</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>Christmas</p>	<p><b>26</b> BINGO Regency South Party Room 7 p.m. Info.: Bob Pearlman: 954-547-4063</p>

DEC 1: 4th Annual Vegfest Expo, War memorial Auditorium, Noon to 6 p.m., Info.: info@livingfoodslifestyles.com  
 DEC 1-2: Riptide Music Festival, Fort Lauderdale Beach, Noon to 9 p.m., Info.: www.riptidefest.com  
 DEC 2: Menorah Car Parade on Las Olas, Las Olas Chabad Jewish Center, 12:30 p.m., Info.: 954-780-6770  
 DEC 2: Chanukah Festival on Las Olas - 2018, Las Olas Chabad Jewish Center, 2 p.m., Info.: 954-780-6770  
 DEC 2: 5th Annual Lace 'em Up On The Levee 5K/10K, Markham Park, Wave-in Start: 10K: 7a.m.; 5K to 7:40 a.m.  
 DEC 3: Fort Lauderdale Job Fair, Embassy Suites by Hilton Fort Lauderdale, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Info.: 1-866-838-5111  
 DEC 5: Galleria Menorah Lighting, Galleria Mall (2nd Floor), 5:30 p.m., Info.: 954-568-1190  
 DEC 8-9: L'illusion du Plumage, War Memorial Auditorium, 6:30 p.m., Info.: info@lillusionduplumage.com  
 DEC 9: Gravel Gladiator Ride, Black Point Park & Marina (Homestead), 7 a.m., Info.: info@velosportevents.com  
 DEC 12: Coral Springs Holiday Parade, Along Sample Rd., 7 to 11 p.m., Info.: 954-345-2112  
 DEC 15: Delray Beach Jingle Bell Jog 5K, Anchor Park (340 South Ocean Blvd.), 5K Start Time: 7:30 a.m.; Little Elf Dashes: 8:30 a.m., Info.: 954-661-2732  
 DEC 15: Holiday In The Park, Reverend Samuel Delevoe Memorial Park, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Info.: 954-763-1288  
 DEC 15: 3rd Annual Breakfast with Santa, Hagen Park Community Center (Wilton Manors), 10 a.m. to Noon, Info.: 954-390-2130



# ONE SOURCE FOR COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

THU	FRI	SAT
<b>5</b>  <b>EAR!</b>		<b>1</b> Riverwalk Mutts & Martinis America's Backyard (1100 SW 3rd Ave) 3 to 6 p.m. Info.: 954-468-1541 Ext. 208  Household Hazardous Waste & Electronics Drop-off Events Public Works & Engineering Division (6011 Nob Hill Road, Tamarac) 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Info.: 954-828-8000
	<b>6</b>  A Christmas Wish with Herb Alpert & Lani Hall Parker Playhouse 8 to 10 p.m. Info.: browardcenter.org	<b>7</b> Food Trucks In Lights Flamingo Gardens 5 to 9 p.m. Info.: www.flamingogardens.org
<b>13</b>  Palm Beach Food And Wine Festival (Through 12/16) Many Venues across town, Palm Beach Info.: 561-320-2030	<b>14</b> Garden of Lights (12/14-16, 21-23, 28-30) Flamingo Gardens 5 to 8 p.m. info.: www.flamingogardens.org  Geminid Meteor Shower (GEM)	<b>15</b> XFN22 Mixed Martial Arts War Memorial Auditorium 7 p.m. Info.: 561-299-8059  Seminole Hard Rock Winterfest Boat Parade Intracoastal from New River in Fort Lauderdale to Lake Santa Barbara in Pompano 3 to 11 p.m. Info.: 954-767-0686
<b>20</b>  G.M.C.A. Advisory Board Meeting Nick's Italian Restaurant, 11 a.m.	<b>21</b>  First Day of Winter	<b>22</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>  31st Annual Toys in the Sun Run Festival Marketplace, Pompano Beach Gates Open at 6:30 a.m.; Kickstands Up Promptly at 9:30 a.m. Info.: 954-868-1416

## THE FUN CONTINUES !

### DECEMBER 31

**14th Annual New Year's Eve Downtown Countdown**  
SW 2nd St., (between SW 2nd Ave. and SW 4th Ave.)  
1 p.m. to 3:30 a.m.  
Info.: 954-396-3622 or 954-828-5363

### JANUARY 5-6

**31st Annual Las Olas Art Fair Part I**  
600 East Las Olas Blvd  
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Info.: 561-746-6615

### JANUARY 6

**SunTrust Sunday Jazz Brunch**  
Riverwalk  
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Info.: 954-396-3622

### JANUARY 9

**Classical Concert**  
Performer: Violist Marcus Thompson  
Hagen Park Community Center, 7 p.m.  
Info.: 954-390-2130

### JANUARY 10-13

#### MARVEL UNIVERSE LIVE!

BB&T Center  
Thur: 7 p.m.; Fri: 10:30 a.m., 7 p.m.; Sat: 11 a.m., 3 p.m., 7 p.m.;  
Sun: 1 p.m., 5 p.m.  
Info.: 866-248-8740

### JANUARY 12

**8th Annual Stone Crab & Seafood Festival**  
Esplanade Park  
11 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Info.: 954-468-1541, Ext. 208

### JANUARY 12-13

#### Sailfish Smack Down

North of Pompano Beach Pier, Pompano Beach  
Info.: joe@extremekayakfishing.com

### JANUARY 13

**41st Annual Oshogatsu: A New Years Celebration**  
Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Info.: 561-495-0233

**First Saturday of Every Month:** Beach Cleanup, Commercial Blvd. & the Beach LBTS (Meet at Pavilion), 9 to 9:30 a.m., Info.: 954-776-1000

**First Saturday of Every Month:** North Beach Art Walk, 3280 NE 32nd St, 7 to 11 p.m., Info.: 954-537-3370

**Second Saturday of Every Month:** Beach Sweep, Fort Lauderdale Beach Hub, 300 S. Fort Lauderdale Beach Blvd., 7 to 11 a.m., Info.: 954-709-3197

**Second Saturday of Every Month:** Burlock Coast Farmer's Market, Burlock Coast at the The Ritz-Carlton, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Info.: myfortlauderdalebeach.com

**Second Tuesday of Every Month:** Orchid Greenhouse Tours, Bonnet House, 11 a.m. to Noon, Info.: 954-703-2606

**Mondays:** Food Trucks at Artspark, 5:30 to 10 p.m., Youngs Circle in Hollywood

**Fridays (through May):** Friday Night Music, El Mar Drive between Village Grille/Pump and 101 Ocean, 6:30 to 10:30 p.m., Info.: www.lbtsevents.com

**Sundays:** Tour-the River Ghost Tour, Stranahan House & Water Taxi, 7:30 p.m., Tix.: 954-524-4736

**Sundays:** Las Olas Sunday Market, 333 East Las Olas Blvd. & SE 4th Ave., 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Info.: 954-426-8436

**Sundays (through May):** Farmer's Market at El Prado Park, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Info.: 561-714-2745

**Saturdays:** Saturday Night Under the South Florida Stars, Fox Astronomical Observatory at Markham Park, Sunset to Midnight, Info.: 954-384-0442

**FOR A COMPLETE LISTING OF EVENTS, GO TO THE CALENDAR AT WWW.GALTMILE.COM**

# *From the Desk of* Commissioner **HEATHER MORAITIS**

October 2018

I would like to thank my favorite state representative, Rep. George Moraitis, for his service to our community over the past eight years. His term is over in November and I know he will miss representing our neighbors in Tallahassee. Our family will always have fond memories of knocking on doors, calling voters, waving signs, and getting to know your concerns. Of course we look forward to making more memories as I continue the family campaign tradition! I am proud of what George accomplished for our community and the appropriations he worked for to improve Port Everglades, our beaches, seawalls at Birch State Park, A1A roads & landscaping, and most recently funding for a new Henderson Health facility. Thank you George!

Your number #1 fan,

*Heather Moraitis*  
District 1 City Commissioner

## **Parking Customer Service at Beach Community Center**

A City of Fort Lauderdale parking customer service representative will be at the Beach Community Center the last Wednesday of every month for existing North Galt permit holders. The representative will be available from 11 am to 3 pm except for a lunch break between 12:30 and 1 pm. Checks will be the only method of payment since the representative is at a remote location.

If you are not a current North Galt permit holder and would like to purchase one, you must make a new permit request at the Parking Office located at 290 NE 3rd Ave. A parking agreement will need to be signed with the vehicle information and tag number required. Once the agreement has been signed and an account established, the permit holder may pick up future permits at the Beach Community Center location.

## **Apply Today!**

The Community Service Board is available to serve on for District 1. If you are interested, please apply online. Feel free to contact our office or Erica Franceschi at [EFranceschi@fortlauderdale.gov](mailto:EFranceschi@fortlauderdale.gov) or 954-828-5288 with questions.

## **City of Fort Lauderdale 24-Hour Customer Service Center - 954-828-8000**

The City of Fort Lauderdale is here to serve our neighbors 24-hours-a-day, and now you can easily contact us right from your smartphone or other mobile device when you are on-the-go. You can report a streetlight outage, clogged stormdrain, pothole, or broken waste cart; find out your sanitation pick-up days or how to pay your water bill; and more. Download the FREE Lauderserv app from the Apple App Store or Google Play today.

## **Neighbors App By Ring**

The Fort Lauderdale Police Department encourages our neighbors to download the Neighbors application (iOS/Android), join their neighborhood and discover the power that can emerge from combining neighbors, cameras and the Fort Lauderdale Police Department. Visit [www.flpd.org/ring](http://www.flpd.org/ring) to learn how to download the Neighbors app by Ring.

## **For More Information**

- Sign-up for Email Updates/Newsletters to get additional links to important city information, upcoming events, photos, commission agendas, and meeting reminders for district meetings. Contact District 1 Assistant, Melissa Coningsby, [MConingsby@fortlauderdale.gov](mailto:MConingsby@fortlauderdale.gov) or 954-828-5033, to receive emails or to schedule an appointment.
- Follow Commissioner Moraitis on Facebook, Twitter, or LinkedIn @heathermoraitis

## **Please Join Us For A Pre-Agenda Meeting:**

Next Meeting: December 5, 2018 from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Beach Community Center (3351 NE 33rd Ave.).







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**\*OPEN 5PM DAILY**

**\*HAPPY HOUR MONDAY THRU FRIDAY 5-7PM**

**\*CANDACE'S SPECIAL FOR HER GALT NEIGHBORS**

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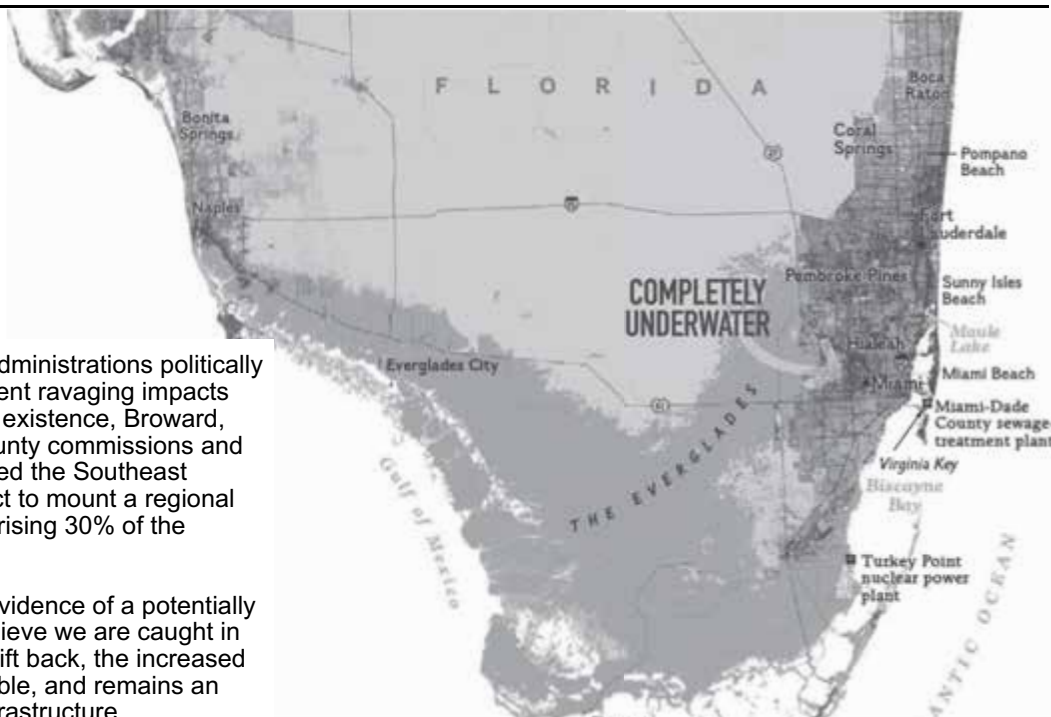
Sea Level...Continued

### Going it Alone

Abandoned by myopic federal and state administrations politically driven to rationalize ignoring both the current ravaging impacts and foreseeable dangers by denying their existence, Broward, Miami-Dade, Monroe and Palm Beach county commissions and hundreds of besieged municipalities created the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact to mount a regional defense and protect a demographic comprising 30% of the state's population.

Whether you agree with the new federal evidence of a potentially catastrophic warming climate, or if you believe we are caught in some natural cycle that may eventually shift back, the increased flooding from rising sea levels is indisputable, and remains an imminent threat to failing South Florida infrastructure.

Despite annually expanding local and regional efforts to enhance resilience while beating back ever-intensifying tidal floods, Fort Lauderdale and other South Florida cities lack the resources to stave off sea levels rising at this accelerated rate for the rest of this century and into the next. Without Federal and State subsidies, skyrocketing mitigation costs may ultimately precede an inland migration – as intimated by Jeb Bush. Given the current political environment – you might consider investing in scuba gear and a wetsuit. Either way, our grandchildren will reap the consequences of our decisions. •







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December 12, 2018

12:30 pm

December 19, 2018

7:00 pm

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Ft. Lauderdale 33308



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Learn more at [www.symphonywaterways.com](http://www.symphonywaterways.com)

Join us for a tour of our  
luxury community and

—  
Wednesday, December 19th  
@ 4:30pm  
RSVP to (754) 212-1870

**SYMPHONY AT THE WATERWAYS | 3001 E. Oakland Park Blvd | Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33306**

ALF #12940



# Give Yourself the Gift of Good Mental Health

## **STAYING POSITIVE DURING THE HOLIDAYS**

Though we look forward to the joy of the holiday season, this time of year can become overwhelming.

The Behavioral Health Department at Broward Health Imperial Point can help you navigate the physical and mental pressures commonly experienced during the holidays.

### **Managing the Holiday Blues Lecture**

**Maureen McManus, LMHC**  
***Mental Health Counselor***

December 18 at 3pm • Cafeteria

*Light refreshments will be served*

To register, please visit  
**[BrowardHealth.org/Events](http://BrowardHealth.org/Events)**.



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**November 1st - December 17th**

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2805 E Oakland Park Blvd,  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33306

1007 N Federal Hwy,  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304

(954) 568-1990

Mon - Fri: 8:30 AM - 7:00 PM

Sat: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

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