



# The Galt Mile News

"An Official Publication of the Galt Mile Community Association"

AUGUST 2008

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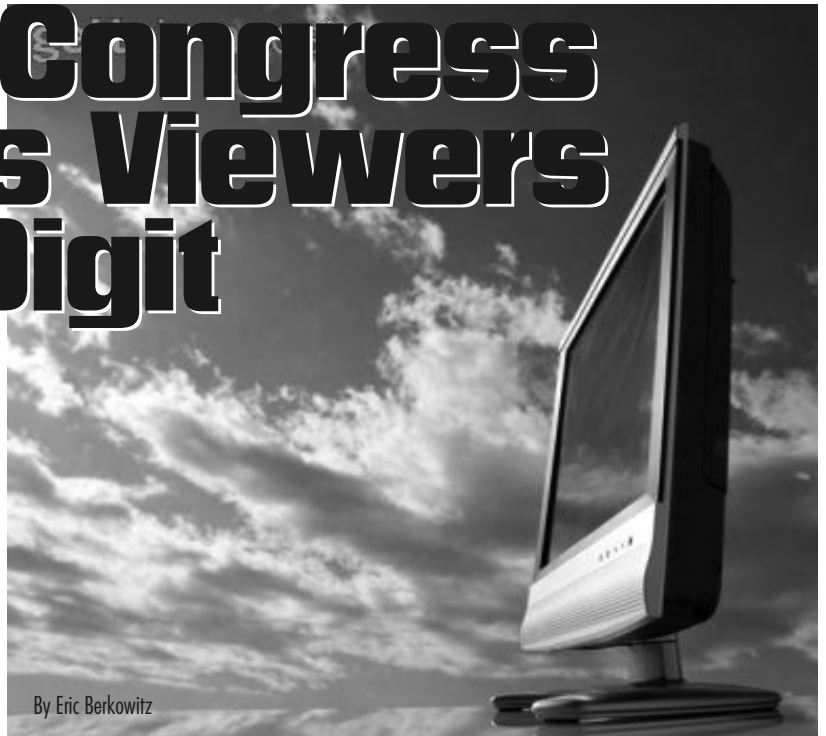
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## DTV: Congress Gives Viewers the Digit

On February 17, 2009, the era of analog broadcast television in the United States will end as the nation's full power television stations complete their transition to an all-digital system. Digital Television (DTV) is an advanced broadcasting technology that enables broadcasters to offer television with better picture and sound quality. It can also offer multiple programming choices, called multicasting, and interactive capabilities. Multicasting allows broadcast stations to offer several channels of digital programming at the same time, using the same amount of spectrum required for one analog program. With traditional analog technology, pictures and sounds are converted into "waveform" electrical signals for transmission through the radiofrequency spectrum, while digital technology converts these pictures and sounds into a stream of digits consisting of zeros and ones for transmission.

So, for example, while a station broadcasting in analog on channel 7 is only able to offer viewers one program, a station broadcasting in digital on channel 7 can offer viewers one digital program on channel 7-1, a second digital program on channel 7-2, a third digital program on channel 7-3, and so on. This means more programming choices for viewers. Converting to DTV also will free up parts of the scarce and valuable broadcast spectrum. Those portions of the spectrum can then be used for other important services, such as public and safety services (police and fire departments, emergency rescue), and advanced wireless services.

While this change will mark the end of the traditional analog method of broadcasting over-the-air television, it won't signal the end of free broadcast television. Consumers who rely on antennas (including outside antennas and "rabbit ears") to receive over-the-air broadcast signals on TV sets having only analog tuners will need to obtain separate digital-to-analog set-top converter boxes to watch over-the-air TV. These boxes receive digital signals and convert them into analog format for display on analog TVs.



By Eric Berkowitz

Analog sets connected to such converter boxes will display digital broadcasts, but without the full, original digital quality.

Analog TV sets that rely on over-the-air broadcasting with an antenna (set-top or rooftop) to receive a signal will be disabled by the cutoff of analog broadcasts on February 17, 2009. One of the following options will insure uninterrupted viewing:

### Cable and Satellite TV

Subscribe to a cable, satellite or telecommunications service provider if all desired local broadcast stations are carried by that service. Comcast, DirecTV and similar pay TV services use DTV equipment to view DTV programming in digital format. The change will not affect viewers using these services.

### TV Converter Box Coupon Program

Purchase a digital-to-analog converter box that plugs into an existing television. The boxes, which are expected to cost between \$40 and \$70, are available for purchase in 2008. Between January 1, 2008, and March 31, 2009, all U.S. households will be eligible to request up to two coupons worth \$40 each in conjunction with the TV Converter Box Coupon Program. These coupons are applicable toward the purchase of up to two eligible digital-to-analog converter boxes sold at participating consumer electronics retailers. The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) manages the coupon program. Apply for coupons online, by phone, fax or through the mail.

Continued on page 2

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DTV...Continued

To request a coupon by phone, call 1-888-DTV-2009 (1-888-388-2009). The hard of hearing should call 1-877-530-2634. To apply online, go to [www.dtv2009.gov](http://www.dtv2009.gov) and fill out the online application form and click on the "Submit" button. A Coupon Application may also be mailed or faxed. Coupon Applications can be downloaded in PDF format from [www.dtv2009.gov](http://www.dtv2009.gov). Download and print the application, fill it out and either fax it to 1-877-DTV-4ME2 (1-877-388-4632) or mail it to TV Converter Box Coupon Program, PO Box 2000, Portland, OR 97208. You may request one coupon now and one later, but no more than two coupons per household are allowed. Coupon supplies are limited and expire 90 days after they are mailed. Requests must be received by March 31, 2009. TV Converter Box Coupons are plastic cards that look like gift cards.

Coupons are mailed via Standard mail (not First-class mail), with delivery expected around 2-9 days from the mail date. Certified converter boxes are available from both national and local retailers. Remember to call ahead to confirm availability of coupon-eligible converter boxes at the store on the day you plan to shop.

## New Television with a Digital Tuner

Purchase a new television set with a built in digital tuner. The Federal Communications Commission's digital tuner rule specifies that as of March 1, 2007, all new TVs must include digital tuners. This rule prohibits the manufacture, import, or interstate shipment of any device containing an analog tuner, unless it also contains a digital tuner. Despite this prohibition on manufacture and shipment, retailers may continue to sell analog-only devices from existing inventory. As a result, at the point of sale, many consumers may not be aware that this equipment will not be able to receive over-the-air-television signals after February 17, 2009. To address this issue, the FCC has adopted a rule requiring sellers to display the following text if they are selling TV equipment with only an analog broadcast tuner:

### Consumer Alert

This television receiver has only an analog broadcast tuner and will require a converter box after February 17, 2009, to receive over-the-air broadcasts with an antenna because of the Nation's transition to digital broadcasting. Analog-only TVs should continue to work as before with cable and satellite TV services, gaming consoles, VCRs, DVD players, and similar products. For

more information, call the Federal Communications Commission at 1-888-225-5322 (TTY: 1-888-835-5322) or visit the Commission's digital television website at: [www.DTV.gov](http://www.DTV.gov).

### Interpreting Labels

Many DTVs and digital television equipment will have labels or markings on them that may contain the words "Integrated Digital Tuner," "Digital Tuner Built-In," "Digital Receiver," or "Digital Tuner," "DTV," "ATSC (Advanced Television Systems Committee)," or "HDTV" (Note: HDTV - High Definition television - is one of several digital TV formats). They require no additional equipment to view over-the-air digital programming in digital format.

If your television set is labeled as a "Digital Monitor" or "HDTV Monitor," or as "Digital Ready" or "HDTV Ready," it will require a set-top box with a digital tuner to view over-the-air digital programming in digital format. (This is not the same things as a digital-to-analog tuner.)

If your television set is labeled as "analog" or "NTSC," and is NOT labeled as containing a digital tuner, it contains an analog tuner only and will require a digital-to-analog converter box to view over-the-air digital programming in analog format.

### Digital Television Quality Levels

There are many quality levels of digital television programming. The most common are:

- **Standard Definition TV (SDTV)** – SDTV is the basic level of quality display and resolution for both analog and digital. Transmission of SDTV may be in either the traditional (4:3) or widescreen (16:9) format.
- **Enhanced Definition TV (EDTV)** – EDTV is a step up from Analog Television. EDTV comes in 480p widescreen (16:9) or traditional (4:3) format and provides better picture quality than SDTV, but not as high as HDTV.
- **High Definition TV (HDTV)** – HDTV in widescreen format (16:9) provides the highest resolution and picture quality of all digital broadcast formats. Combined with digitally enhanced sound technology, HDTV sets new standards for sound and picture quality in television. (Note: HDTV and digital TV are not the same thing — HDTV is one format of digital TV.)

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# The Galt Mile News

"An Official Publication of the Galt Mile Community Association"

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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DTV...Continued

### Gaming Consoles, VCRs, Camcorders, DVD players, etc.

Digital television sets are "backward compatible," meaning existing analog equipment (VCRs, DVD players, camcorders, video games, etc.) will work on digital TV sets. However, their video will only be displayed in the maximum resolution that is available with each analog product. Manufacturers are producing a number of different connectors to hook equipment together and improve picture and sound quality when DTVs are used with existing analog equipment. Check with your retailer to determine the types of connectors that will work with your equipment.

You will need one digital-to-analog converter box for each TV set or other device (such as a VCR) that only has an analog tuner. The digital-to-analog converter box basically replaces the analog tuner in one piece of equipment. Watching one program on an analog TV while recording another on an analog VCR will require two digital-to-analog converter boxes.

A VCR equipped with a digital tuner will obviate the need for a digital-to-analog converter box if an analog TV is wired to use the VCR's digital tuner. However, when the analog TV's second tuner is required to simultaneously play and record different channels, a converter box will be necessary.

Although portable, battery-powered digital televisions are coming onto the market, battery-powered analog televisions will not receive over-the-air programming after February 17, 2009 unless they are connected to a digital-to-analog converter box. Since battery powered digital-to-analog converter boxes are not currently available, an external power source (an external battery power station or an emergency power generator) would be required to power the converter box.

### The Public Spectrum Disappearing Act of 2005

Is this exemplary of an enlightened Congress spreading the fruits of technological innovation throughout the land? Not even close. In the 1990s, telephone companies and communications conglomerates were drooling over broadband signal space. Inefficient analog transmissions plow through wide bands of this severely limited commodity.

In 2006, lobbyists funded by The 700 MHz Advancement Coalition, the High Tech DTV Coalition and other communications industry trade groups unabashedly showered Congressional Republicans with truckloads of money to use their majority power for mashing the "hard date" (February 17, 2009) into the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 [Public Law No: 109-171]. The High Tech DTV Coalition is a slush fund for Alcatel, Aloha Partners (bought out in February 2008 by AT&T), Dell, Cisco Systems, Intel, Microsoft, Qualcomm, Texas Instruments, T-Mobile, Verizon Wireless, The Information Technology Industry Council (ITI), The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), The National Telecommunications Cooperative Association (NTCA), The Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA), The Rural Telecommunications Group and The Business Software Alliance. The analog cutoff, signed into law by President Bush in February of 2006, was codified as "The Digital Television Transition and Public Safety Act of 2005."

By forcing TV stations from their analog channels at a specific deadline (the hard date), the DTV law cleared the way for the FCC to auction off what would become surplus analog spectrum for only \$10 billion, paid by communications companies that wanted to grab the channels for wireless broadband services. Watchdog groups statistically supported by the Congressional Research Service (CRS) went crazy as Congress bartered away \$28 billion of the publicly owned signal spectrum for pennies on the dollar. To soften the outcry over the giveaway of public property and justify spinning the hijacking as a "Public Safety Act", a few channels went for free to fire, police and emergency organizations hungry for new frequencies.

The legislation didn't leave the DTV transition solely in the hands of the free market. Without the proper equipment to convert the digital output back into wave-like analog signals when the hard date hit, 73 million analog TVs dispersed among 109 million U.S. TV households, including cable and satellite TV homes, were expected to go dark. If millions of

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# AN APPLE FOR THE JUDGE

By Eric Berkowitz

On Wednesday, July 2, 2008, the Third District Court of Appeals filed a decision that could overturn existing Association insurance policy for items and/or elements located outside association units. The Division of Florida Land Sales, Condominiums and Mobile Homes (now called the Division of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes) issued a declaratory statement contending that Associations must insure property that doesn't belong to the Association. Known as the Costa Del Sol Declaratory Statement (DS 2006-024), authoritative characterizations of the Division's controversial policy have ranged from "contradictory" to "a self-reinforcing delusion" since its 2006 inception. A local Association Attorney exclaimed, "At least I will no longer have to explain an inexplicable ruling!"

Declaratory statements are formal written positions taken by the Division of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes (the Division). Although these statements are binding upon the parties who join in a particular proceeding, since they deal only with a specific set of circumstances, declaratory statements may or may not be applicable to other condominiums or cooperatives, depending on the circumstances involved. In essence, they bear philosophical, not legal, similarities to guidelines and precedents.

On May 23, 2006, the Costa del Sol Association, Inc. petitioned the Division of Florida Land Sales, Condominiums and Mobile Homes for an opinion about whether the association had to insure elaborate screen enclosures, jacuzzis and trellises located on the patios and balconies of unit owners. In 42 pages of the most convoluted logic conceivable, the Division talks itself into requiring the association to assume responsibility for insuring elements which were purchased and installed by individual unit owners for their exclusive use. The ruling magically transforms these elements into "condominium property" and therefore, must be insured by the association as a common expense under Section 718.111(11) of the Condominium Act "merely because they are located on the patio outside, rather than inside, the individual unit." As an unfortunate consequence of this monument to illogic, hundreds of associations forced thousands of unit owners to subsidize the insurance costs of their neighbors' personal outdoor furnishings. The 3-Judge Appeals bench rolled out a common afterthought, "Of course, we reverse."

In the Third District's decision, Senior Judge Alan R. Schwartz wrote "In the total absence of any cognizable legal basis for the inside-and-outside distinction drawn by the Division, which would as well apply to a bar-beque or even a lounge chair placed on the patio, it is self-evident that this ruling cannot stand." In a judicial version of "What were they thinking," the Judge states, "What is more, it cannot survive any of the conceivable standards of review which may apply to our consideration of the case. It is both a clearly erroneous assessment of the facts, and entirely contrary to any acceptable interpretation of the statutory language the administrative agency in question is charged with enforcing."

Apparently amused by how the Division had to misconstrue the Statute, misinterpret the association's documents, and contradict their own previous rulings to arrive at their decision, Judge Schwartz evaluated the effects of their triple whammy by examining the ramifications of the resulting policy "In addition, by way of gilding the lily, we may add that the consequence of the decision below is the utterly unfair one of making

Continued on page 10

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# GALT MILE LOSES JIM GILL

On June 9, 2008, the Galt Mile Community lost a good friend whose contributions continued until the day of his passing. At 99, James T. Gill outpaced peers half his age, effectively blending common sense with fiscal insights borne of extensive experience. He faithfully represented Plaza South Condominium in the Galt Mile Community Association as a longtime member of the neighborhood association's Board of Directors. James masterfully balanced the needs of his association with those of the overall community.

Originally from the streets of Manhattan in the Big Apple, Jim graduated from Columbia University on 116th Street in Harlem. A banker with instinctive commodities expertise, Jim rose through the ranks of the Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company while locating his family across the Hudson River in Fort Lee, New Jersey with his wife and partner, Dorothy. Having served as Past President of the New York Board of Trade and the East

34th Street Association in New York, Jim retired as a Vice President of the bank and moved to Fort Lauderdale at the age of 62 in 1971, where he bought Apartment 23L in the then brand new Plaza South Condominium.

Jim participated in the Galt Mile Improvement Project, prompted the City of Fort Lauderdale to attend to the block's sidewalks and tree beds and fought for Beach Renourishment. In addition to his civic contributions, Jim was an active member of St. Pius X Catholic Church. Beloved husband of the late Dorothy (Strohmeier); devoted father of Robert J. Gill, Carol Ann Gilhooley (Thomas) and Mary Ellen Gill; cherished grandfather of Christine and Nicholas Vogt and Kelly and David Pitts, Jim filled the hearts of friends and family.

Mass of Christian Burial took place on Saturday, June 14, 2008, 10:00 A.M. at St. Pius X Catholic Church, 2511 North Ocean Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Interment Private. Arrangements were by Baird-Case Jordan-Fannin Funeral Home, 4343 North Federal Highway, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308, (954) 492-4000. Memorial Donations may be made to the St. Pius X Church Music Ministry. •

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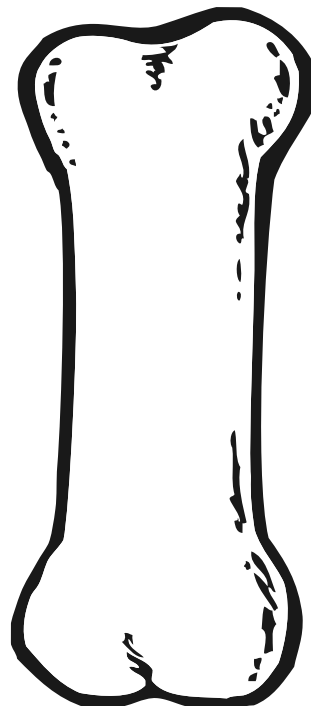
DTV...Continued

consumers suddenly couldn't watch TV because of this government fiasco, lawmakers anticipated that the resulting anger and confusion could precipitate unwanted scrutiny. As such, they included up to \$1.5 billion to subsidize digital-to-analog converter boxes.

Unfortunately, the coupon program appears to be underfunded. Of the \$1.5 billion allocated to fund the coupon program, \$160 million is dedicated to administrative costs, leaving a balance of \$1.34 billion for coupon subsidies. The U.S. has about 20 million homes that rely exclusively on free, over-the-air broadcasting, according to officials in the Government Accountability Office and industry executives. These homes have 45 million analog TV sets. A \$40 coupon for each TV set would cost \$1.8 billion. Providing coupons for the 28 million analog sets in pay TV homes which rely on a rabbit-ears antenna would raise the price tag to nearly \$3 billion – twice the amount allocated. Additionally, since the boxes are predominantly priced between \$60 and \$70, coupon bearers will be forced to cough up another \$20 to \$30 per set. Unless Congress decides to fund the difference, owners of analog televisions will have to pay an extra \$1.46 billion to \$2.19 billion to watch "free" broadcast TV.

We recommend a three part strategy for viewers with analog TV sets. First, get your coupons ASAP. Since the vast majority of Galt Mile residents are serviced by cable, satellite or some alternate pay television medium already enabled to receive the digital signal, the local demand for these coupons is anticipated to be minimal (As of June 22nd, only 128 coupons were applied for in zip code 33308). However, if any of your analog sets aren't connected, GET THE COUPON NOW – almost 18 million have already been spoken for! Next, send your representatives in Washington an email expressing your gratitude for their vigilance in safeguarding your interests as well as the public trust. Finally, flip on C-SPAN to find out if any of your other appliances are scheduled for a rendezvous with Waste Management.

For additional information, go to the Galt Mile Community Association web site ([www.galtmile.com](http://www.galtmile.com)), scroll down and click on "DTV: Congress Gives Viewers the Digit". Links to the web sites named in this article are embedded in its web counterpart, including links to the TV Converter Box Coupon Program where you can apply for up to two coupons. Get yours before they become featured items on EBay!•



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# REPRESENTATIVE ELLYN BOGDANOFF'S SUMMMER NEWSLETTER



*Last December, an article posted on the GMCA web site and reprinted in the January Galt Mile News about an obscure project with the typically tropical designation of "Calypso" was met with a combination of concern and disbelief. As Galt Mile residents learned that a \$79 billion French Energy conglomerate called SUEZ, through its United States subsidiary Suez Energy North America (SENA), intended to build a Deepwater Port across from the Galt Mile Beach for the offloading of liquefied natural gas (LNG), they sent hundreds of emails to the Galt Mile Community Association requesting more information. Along with a Florida energy perspective by the Florida Public Service Commission and an overview of the project rationale by Calypso LNG LLC, information was presented summarizing the concerns exhibited by several other communities that faced the construction of similar installations. Projects with exotic and maritime names like Cabrillo, Pelican, Neptune, Broadwater and Dolphin drew staunch local opposition in locations from New England to California. When the residents of these sites learned about the dangers undisclosed by the project operators, they suffered the same shock and disbelief experienced here.*

Continued on page 11

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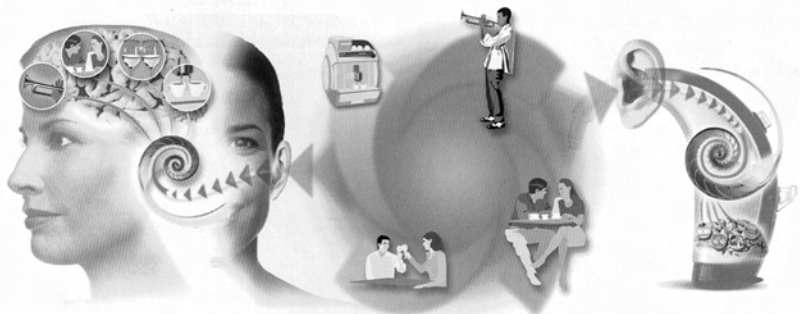
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SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

<p><b>10</b></p> <p>Urban Gourmet Market Las Olas Blvd. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Info.: 954-462-4166</p>	<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>12</b></p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p>	<p><b>15</b> Hot Rod Monster Jam Summer Heat (Through 8/16) BankAtlantic Center</p> <p>Jazz on the Square The Village Grille Commercial Blvd. &amp; A1A 7 p.m.</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>Kuantum's New Age Film Festival (Through 8/17) Cinema Paradiso Info.: 786-277-3618</p>
<p><b>17</b></p> <p>Urban Gourmet Market Las Olas Blvd. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Info.: 954-462-4166</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>Public School Begins</p>	<p><b>19</b></p>	<p><b>20</b> American Idols BankAtlantic Center Tix.:954-835-SHOW</p> <p>Stone Temple Pilots Hard Rock Live Tix.: 954-523-3309</p>	<p><b>21</b> Boston Hard Rock Live Tix.: 954-523-3309</p> <p>Art Metrano's Accidental Comedy Jews Don't Belong On Ladders Through (8/24) Broward Center Tix.: 954-462-0222</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>Jazz on the Square The Village Grille Commercial Blvd. &amp; A1A 7 p.m.</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>Saturday Summer Serials Cinema Paradiso 2 p.m. Info.: 786-277-3618</p>
<p><b>24</b></p> <p>Urban Gourmet Market Las Olas Blvd. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Info.: 954-462-4166</p>	<p><b>25</b></p>	<p><b>26</b></p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>Jazz on the Square The Village Grille Commercial Blvd. &amp; A1A 7 p.m.</p>	<p><b>30</b></p>
<p><b>31</b></p> <p>Urban Gourmet Market Las Olas Blvd. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Info.: 954-462-4166</p>	<p><b>1</b> Labor Day</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>Vice Mayor Teel Pre-Agenda Meeting Beach Community Center 6 p.m. Info: 954-828-5033</p>	<p><b>3</b> Ft. Lauderdale City Commission Meeting City Hall 6 p.m.</p>	<p><b>4</b> Kathy Griffin Hard Rock Live Tix.: 954-523-3309</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>Jazz on the Square The Village Grille Commercial Blvd. &amp; A1A 7 p.m.</p>	<p><b>6</b></p>
<p><b>7</b></p>  <p><b>Sunday Jazz Brunch</b> Riverwalk, Downtown FL 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.</p>	<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>10</b></p> 	<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>Jazz on the Square The Village Grille Commercial Blvd. &amp; A1A 7 p.m.</p>	<p><b>13</b> ADVISE AND CONSENT: Film &amp; Discussion with special guests: Advise and Consent star Don Murray &amp; Otto Preminger biographer Foster Hirsch Cinema Paradiso Info.: www.fliff.com</p>

## A look ahead

September 20 - 21 Aroid Show and Sale Fairchild Tropical Gardens, Info.: 305-667-1651 ext. 3344

September 26 - 28 Hollywood Beach Clambake Info.: 954-924-2980

October 2 - February 23 Pablo Picasso Museum of Modern Art, Info.: 954-525-5500

October 4 - 5 Las Olas Art Fair

October 12 - November 9 Fort Lauderdale International Film Festival, Info.: 954-760-9898



09/04/08  
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Judge..Continued



Senior Judge Alan R. Schwartz

members of the association responsible for insuring property which they do not and cannot use, and from which they derive no benefit – indeed, in which they apparently have no insurable interest which would even permit their maintenance of valid insurance.”

The Senior Judge wraps up what he considers a Comedy of Errors by pointing out that “the ruling is contrary to previous rulings of the Division itself.” As such, he

cites the Four Sea Suns Condominium Ass’n, Inc. v. Pariseau, Salomone v. Golden Horn Condominium Ass’n, Inc., The Plaza East Trilogy: “Not a Nursery Rhyme, But Scary Warfare,” all of which assert that items which were purchased, installed, may be removed, and are usable only by individual unit owners clearly belong to and are the responsibility of those unit owners. He states, “Those cases, and not the one before us, were correctly decided.”

Joined by Judges Frank A. Shepherd and Richard J. Suarez on the Appeals panel, Schwartz finally waxes poetic, exclaiming “In sum, it is bad enough to compare apples and oranges; it is much worse to find that apples are oranges. The ruling below is reversed.” Another one bites the dust. •

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Bogdanoff...Continued

Shortly after confirming that a breach in the project's delivery system would release an ignitable vapor cloud capable of a 2000 BTU conflagration, far beyond the suppression capabilities of any local Fire Department, and that the cloud could span the distance from the installation to their homes, residents wondered why their public officials would expose them to this danger. Further investigation revealed that many Security organs of the Federal Government, including the Government Accountability Office, the Department of Homeland Security, the Congressional Research Service and the Pentagon, identified LNG facilities and transport tankers as extremely high value targets for terrorist strikes. Surprise quickly turned to anger when they learned that local communities and their governments were cut out of the approval process by the Energy Policy Act of 2005, a \$33 billion gift to the energy industry that placed sole authority for facility licensing approval into the hands of a federal bureaucracy staffed by current and former energy industry executives, spokespersons and stakeholders - the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

However, Title 33, Chapter 29 (Deepwater Ports) of the United States Code § 1508 (b)(1) states "The Secretary shall not issue a license without the approval of the Governor of each adjacent coastal State. If the Governor fails to transmit his approval or disapproval to the Secretary not later than 45 days after the last public hearing on applications for a particular application area, such approval shall be conclusively presumed." An "adjacent coastal State" is defined in Title 33, U.S. Code § 1508 (a)(1) as "any coastal State which (A) would be directly connected by pipeline to a deepwater port as proposed in an application, or (B) would be located within 15 miles of any such proposed deepwater port." That means Governor Charlie Crist is the only human being in the State of Florida empowered to stop Calypso.

Although every public official, civic organization and local government has expressed opposition to the project or is in process of doing so, they have no direct input into the approval process. Letters from City Commissioner Christine Teel,

Broward Commissioner Ken Keechl, and Senator Jeffrey Atwater as well as Resolutions by The City of Fort Lauderdale and the Town of Lauderdale-by-the-Sea expressing unconditional opposition to the placement of Calypso adjacent to the heavily populated Galt Mile beach were sent to the Governor. Petitions distributed to the twenty six member associations of the Galt Mile Community Association are being filled out, retrieved and replaced with new ones on a regular rotation. Thousands of individual letters, emails, phone calls and faxes have been sent to the Governor since April, asking that he reject Calypso's license. While this is a testament to the residents' universal apolitical position on this issue, it is only useful to the extent that the Governor is willing to support that position.

The Galt Mile neighborhood is fortunate in that regard. Our State Senator, Jeffrey Atwater, is the President-elect of the Florida Senate. Our State Representative, Elyn Bogdanoff, is the "Majority Whip" in the Florida Statehouse. The Governor is therefore predisposed to heed our concerns as voiced by these legislative leaders. Supporting their constituents, they both expressed opposition to the project at the "bait and switch" Calypso meeting in Dania Beach. They've also met with concerned Galt Mile residents at several venues to organize a coherent strategy to engage the Governor.

In her Spring Newsletter to constituents, Representative Elyn Bogdanoff briefly describes the project and the regulatory licensing process. She also confirms a statement she made at the Dania meeting; she has engaged the Governor - as promised. Following her discussion with the Governor, GMCA officials were contacted by his office staff, requesting information enumerating and supporting local concerns. The Majority Whip also advises constituents to contact the Governor directly, supporting her contention that neighborhood opposition is apolitical and overwhelming.

While an overwhelming majority of the declared opposition to the beachfront gasworks is rooted in the direct catastrophic threat it poses to life and property, many residents are also understandably disaffected by a regulatory framework that enables the conscription of local fire, medical, and "consequence management" resources (funded by local taxpayers) into the project's mandated "security plan"-forcing residents to finance their own protection. Representative Bogdanoff also focuses on an underlying reason for skyrocketing energy costs - continued energy dependence on foreign fossil fuels.

Continued on page 13



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L' Ambiance



L' Hermitage

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Bogdanoff...Continued

*The Dania meeting that she attended was also one of three venues at which SUEZ officials admitted that the installation of Calypso would have no impact on the cost of energy or the availability of natural gas, which will continue to go to the highest bidder. Contrary to intimations made in the multi-million marketing campaign recently ramped up by the project's high end Public Relations firm, they also admitted that liquefied natural gas has absolutely no effect on the price of gasoline – unless you own a vehicle that burns methane vapor.*

*Whether motivated by a survival instinct or a predilection for saving money and/or the environment, Representative Bogdanoff intimates that supporting additional infrastructure designed to increase energy dependence guarantees unsustainable energy costs. She recognizes that the health of our economy and environment will in large part depend on whether we increase "the production and use of alternative energy" or continue to send "billions of dollars in oil profits overseas." Interpreting this crossroads as an opportunity that can be realized over the next decade, she redefines the issue as deciding between expensive dirty fuels that help finance threats to national security or clean abundant cheap energy - a classic no-brainer! Read On! - [editor]\**

## Florida's Energy Future Starts Now

Dear Neighbors:

With gas prices going up every day and the cost of electricity rising too, Florida needs to make some important decisions about our energy future. This year in Tallahassee, I worked hard to make Florida a leader in creating an innovative energy policy that protects the environment and helps us control our energy future.

Over the past month or two, I have seen an increasing concern about a deepwater port being proposed offshore from the Galt and I share those concerns. As this issue developed I began to do some research and I would like to share with you what I know:

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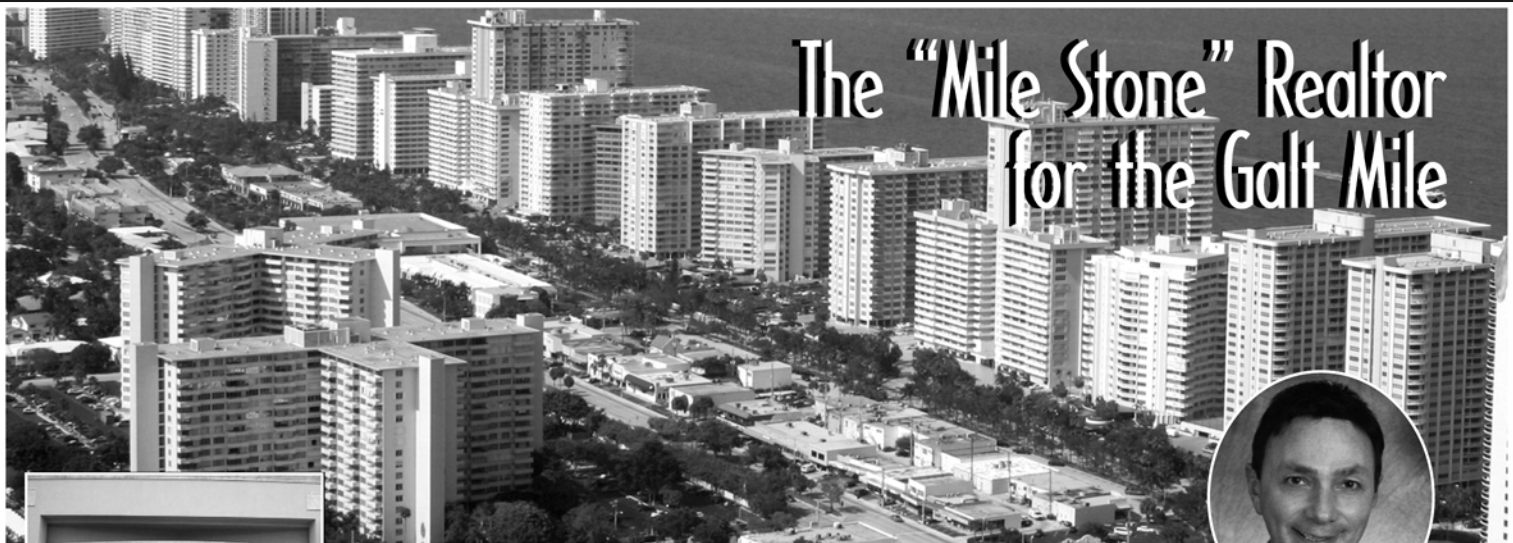
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Continued on page 15



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## just sold

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

### L'Hermitage 1

Unit #802, 3-2 1/2  
Listed at 899,000  
Sold for 837,500  
closed at 5/12/08

### L'Ambiance

Unit #2303, 3-2 1/2  
Listed at 1,299,000,  
Sold for 1,100,000  
Closed 6/30/08

### Playa del Mar

Unit #2902, 2-2  
Listed at 610,000  
Sold for 525,000  
Closed 7/14/2008

### Ocean Summit

Unit #304, 2-2  
Listed at \$550,000  
Closed at 435,000  
May 01 2008

### Playa del Mar

Unit #1417, 3-2 1/2  
Listed at 724,000  
Sold for 670,000,  
Closed 5/21/08

### Playa del Mar

Unit #601  
Listed at 780,000  
Sold for 630,000  
Closed 5/29/08.

### Galt Towers

Unit 10K, 1-1  
Listed at 200,000  
Sold for 195000  
Closed 7/21/08





The proposal (Calypso) calls for two buoys to be submerged and anchored approximately 8 to 10 miles due east of Oakland Park Blvd. The buoys are connected to an undersea pipeline that will be dug under three coral reefs, makes landfall in the port and connects to the Florida Gas Transmission system. Two ships, designed to receive and re-gasify liquefied natural gas (LNG) cargo from foreign sources and inject it into the pipeline, will be permanently-moored (other than during a hurricane) to the underwater buoys.

The Coast Guard is the lead permitting agency and the U.S. Maritime Administration is the lead administrative agency that will issue the final Deepwater Port License. In order for the Maritime Administration to approve a deepwater port license application, approval must be obtained from the governor. The governor can veto the project, however if the governor does not respond within 45 days after the final public hearing on the license application, approval is deemed given under federal law.

I have talked to the Governor personally about this project and he understands the community's concerns and has committed to engage his staff and learn more about the issue and your concerns. I urge you to send your thoughts to his office.

Whether you think that we need to stop importing so much foreign oil for national security reasons or you want to do something about climate change, I think we can all agree that it's time to change the way we deal with energy and fuel.

In the next ten years, I believe the energy business is going to be reinvented. We have an emerging industry right here in Florida, which converts citrus waste and sugar into clean energy. This growing industry will help us stop sending billions of dollars in oil profits overseas to countries that are hostile to our nation. I think we all can agree that increasing the production and use of alternative energy will benefit our state now and will bring great rewards for Floridians in the future.

We are working hard to encourage clean energy innovation in Florida. The legislation I supported this session makes a significant step of moving our state to the national forefront in energy conservation and environmental protection. Thousands of jobs are going to be developed in clean energy technology in the near future and I want Florida to be at the center of that new industry.

Over the next few months I will be out and about in the community where I will keep you posted on this issue and many others that our community will address in the coming months. Please do not hesitate to call my office at (954) 762-3757. Our office hours are 8 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday, and I am always available by email. If you would like me to add you to my email list and receive weekly updates from the Capitol, please let me know by emailing me at [Ellyn.Bogdanoff@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:Ellyn.Bogdanoff@myfloridahouse.gov) or by calling our office.

Thank you again for allowing me to serve as your representative in Tallahassee.

**Until next time... Ellyn•**

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