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NOVEMBER 2026

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November 2026



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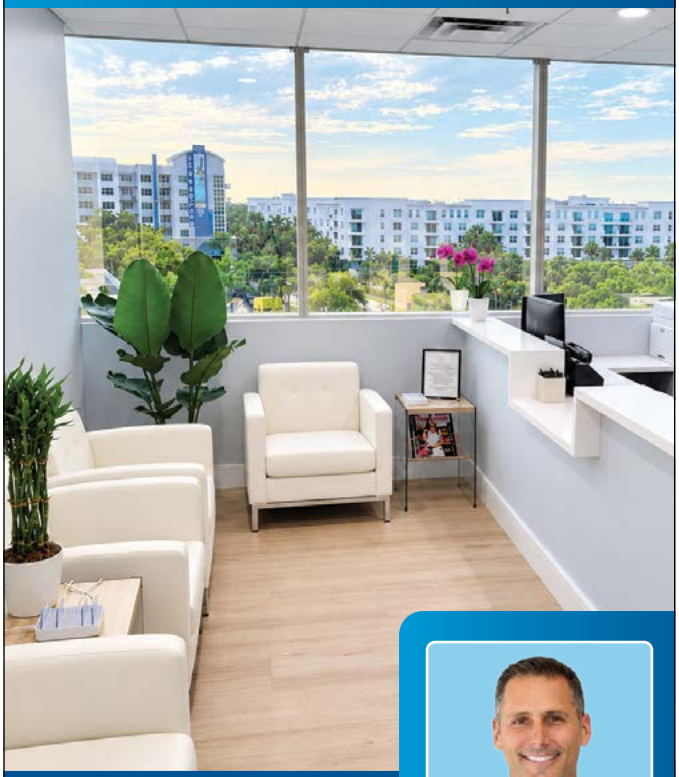
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CONTRIBUTORS
Gregory Edwards • David Ehrenfried
Craig Haley • Michelle Hays
Mrs. Kossenfloffer • Martin Zevin

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
Jay Petkov

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR
Zoe Rosser

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT
Ken Mitchell

WEBSITE ADMINISTRATOR
Pavel Mohajon

PUBLISHER
Richard Rosser

CREATIVE DIRECTOR
Susan Rosser

advertising

Call 954-299-5592

John Irving

Chris Peskar

Sheila Ranson

Sam Rosser

Lisa Spinelli

content submissions

Does your organization have an event you want people to know about? Has your event already happened? Send us your photos and we'll put them in our upcoming issue! Email editor@pointpubs.com. Please include the name and location of the event, the names of those pictured and a brief description.

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Remembering is Better

A Concert, Lighters and Living in the Moment

BY **SAM ROSSER**

I'm too young to remember a time when people waved their lighters in the air at concerts – or so I thought.

I recently went to a Phoebe Bridgers concert where all the phones were confiscated, and at one point during the show, people broke out their lighters. To older readers, that might seem more typical than revelatory, but it really did give me pause. There was something unexpectedly moving about watching thousands of people waving tiny flames instead of tiny screens.

At first, being without my phone didn't feel any different. Getting into the stadium, buying some merch or a drink and finding your seats is stimulating enough to keep you tuned in for a bit. But once the show started, I was sincerely struck by how present the crowd felt. There wasn't anyone filming and experiencing the concert through a six-inch rectangle, and it led to a level of collective effervescence that has become increasingly rare since the advent of cell phones.

The crowd was all out of their seats, moving to the music, singing along to the performance, devoid of any embarrassment that might come from someone nearby recording them. One of Bridgers' songs, "This is the End," crescendos with a visceral scream. Personally, I would have let Bridgers carry the water at that particular part of the song, lest I make it onto some corner of the internet where I'd be embarrassed. Without that barrier, there were 20,000 fans all screaming all at once, leading to a collaborative catharsis that was unlike anything I've experienced before.

Sometimes it is difficult or nigh on impossible to tell you're in one of those moments in life that you'll remember forever. But as I looked around that night, I could see it in the eyes of my fellow concert-goers that they too were drinking in the moment – etching every detail in their minds.

Since the concert, I'm noticing more and more how much screens affect our social fabric. A cell phone makes it so incredibly easy to be anti-social, even inadvertently. Just go sit at a coffee shop for a couple of hours and count the times you catch someone's eye. People are so locked into their screens that they barely take a moment to look around. And I don't blame them; I'm sure whatever's on that screen is more stimulating than whatever some strangers are up to. But is it meaningful?

I'm also not saying that I'm any different; I too love to rot on my couch or in my bed for an undisclosed amount of time and aimlessly scroll to my heart's content. I too whip my phone out at even a hint of social angst.

I'm also sure that I'm not the only person who feels bad about it.

Maybe we all need to be more intentional with how we interact with our various screens. This isn't a novel idea; much has been said by people more knowledgeable than I am about this topic. There are studies being conducted, think pieces being written and arguments raging as you read this. Still, I beseech you to leave your phone at home next time you go out and to pester your friends to do the same.

Even when we aren't using our phones, their presence can change the way we behave. Seeing someone else absorbed in their phone pulls us out of our own experience. We start wondering who they're texting, what they're looking at or whether we should be doing something more interesting ourselves. The possibility of distraction becomes a distraction in its own right.

And when everyone is looking down, nobody is looking around. We miss the little opportunities for connection that make being out in the world worthwhile: a shared laugh with a stranger, a smile across a crowded room, the realization that everyone else is just as awkward as we are.

Maybe that's what I found so moving about the lighters. They weren't simply a nostalgic substitute for phone flashlights. They were a reminder that we don't need to document every experience for it to matter.

So the next time you find yourself at a concert, a bar, a restaurant or even just sitting on a park bench, try looking up. You might be surprised by what you find.

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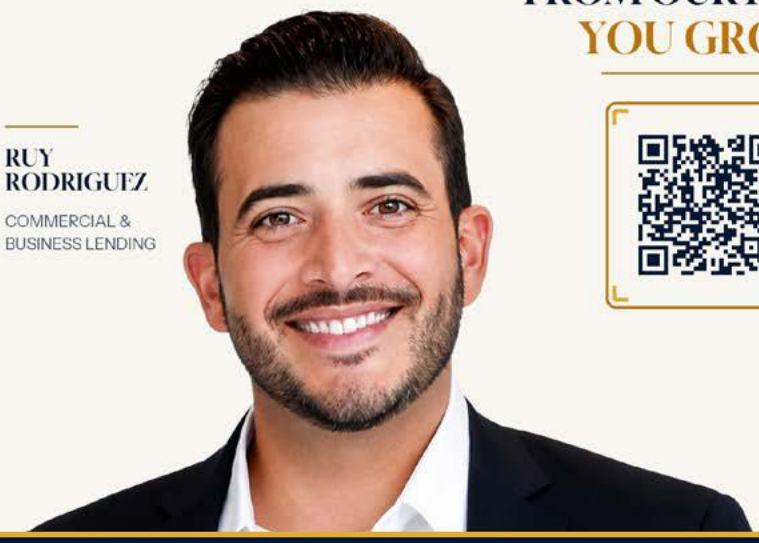
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POMPANO PICKS

Yuletide on Atlantic Parade



WHEN: Thursday, December 3 | 6pm – 9pm
WHERE: East Atlantic Boulevard, Pompano Beach
DETAILS: The annual Yuletide on Atlantic holiday parade transforms Atlantic Boulevard into a winter wonderland with dazzling floats, lively performances and joyful music. Local high school bands rock the streets as colorful floats light up the night, and the celebration wraps up with a special appearance by Santa Claus. The parade steps off from Riverside Drive, travels west along Atlantic Boulevard and ends at SE 24th Avenue, with a judges stand and performances at Harbor Drive and Atlantic Boulevard. The long-running Pompano Beach tradition showcases the families, businesses and organizations that make the community sparkle and kicks off the city's holiday season. pompanobeachfl.gov



Drone Show Extravaganza

WHEN: Saturday, November 7 | 5:30pm – 9pm
WHERE: Fisher Family Pier (beach south of the pier), 222 N. Pompano Beach Blvd., Pompano Beach
DETAILS: A dramatically choreographed presentation by Firefly Drone Shows features 500 drones lighting up the sky in honor of Veterans Day weekend. World-class artists and engineers coordinate the aerial display, supported by Pompano Beach's Fishing Village businesses and Firefly Drone Shows. The celebration also features Junior's Entertainment Group performing Top 40 and retro hits in English and Spanish with tropical rhythms, plus DJ entertainment before and after the live performances. pompanobeachfl.gov

Lighthouse A'Glow

WHEN: Wednesday, December 2 | 6:30pm – 8:30pm
WHERE: Frank McDonough Park, Lighthouse Point
DETAILS: Celebrate the season at one of Lighthouse Point's favorite annual events. Lighthouse A'Glow features local vendors, festive performances from area schools and dance troupes, and plenty of holiday cheer. Don't miss a visit from Santa for memorable photos, plus bounce houses, rides, and activities for kids.



Every effort has been made to provide accurate information. Changes and cancellations do occur. Please double check the details before setting out on your adventure.

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Holiday Fantasy of Lights

WHEN: Saturday, November 21 – Saturday, January 2 | 6pm – 10pm
WHERE: Tradewinds Park, 3600 W. Sample Road, Coconut Creek
PRICE: $31/per car; $63/vehicles with 15+ passengers
DETAILS: Holiday Fantasy of Lights returns for its 32nd year with three miles of giant animated displays, illuminated trees and colorful seasonal scenes. Families can enjoy the spectacle from the comfort of their vehicles while tuning in to a synchronized holiday playlist. A portion of ticket sales supports Gilda's Club South Florida, and guests may bring new, unwrapped toys for Toys for Tots. Visit the website for walk- or bike-through nights. holidaylightsdrivethru.com



Winter Wonderland

WHEN: Saturday, November 21 – Wednesday, December 30
WHERE: Flamingo Gardens, 3750 S. Flamingo Rd., Davie
PRICE: $24/ages 12+; $17/ages 3-11; Free/ages 0-2
DETAILS: Enjoy a walk-through holiday light experience. Guests can visit Santa's Village, enjoy Storytime with Mrs. Claus, and take in holiday concerts each night. S'mores kits are available to roast on-si-teand Hoffman's Chocolates "Sweet Ride" ice cream truck offer holiday treats for purchase. flamingogardens.org

Ocean Way Holiday

WHEN: Thursday, December 3 | 5pm – 9pm
WHERE: Main Beach Parking Lot, 149 SE 21st Ave., Deerfield Beach
PRICE: Free
DETAILS: Ocean Way Holiday invites families to kick off the season with festive entertainment, holiday activities, treats and cheerful photo opportunities. A Santa parade adds to the celebration, and the evening culminates in the big seasonal lighting of Ocean Way. Guests can gather with family and friends to enjoy holiday magic by the beach. deerfield-beach.com



Zoo Lights

WHEN: Friday, November 20 – Sunday, January 3
WHERE: Palm Beach Zoo, 1301 Summit Blvd., West Palm Beach
PRICE: $22/adult; $17/child
DETAILS: Visitors can follow a three-part holiday journey through traditional festive displays, a polar wonderland and glowing bioluminescent pathways. Highlights include a towering Christmas tree, a glowing fountain, a tree show and menorah lighting during Hanukkah. Photos with Santa, letters to Santa with Mrs. Claus, ornament decorating and other hands-on activities add to the seasonal fun. The event takes place on select nights, with designated 21+ evenings reserved exclusively for adults. palmbeachzoo.org

South Florida Symphony Orchestra: Handel's Messiah & Holiday Pops

WHEN: Saturday, December 5 7:30pm
WHERE: Lillian S. Wells Hall at The Parker, 707 NE Eight St., Fort Lauderdale
PRICE: Tickets from $35
DETAILS: South Florida Symphony Orchestra's cherished holiday tradition returns with Handel's Messiah, featuring the Christmas portion and the triumphant "Hallelujah" chorus. The festive family concert also includes a sparkling selection of Holiday Pops favorites performed by guest vocalists and the South Florida Symphony Chorus. browardcenter.org

Cirque Dreams Holidaze

WHEN: Friday, November 27 – Sunday, November 29
WHERE: Broward Center for the Performing Arts, 201 SW Fifth Ave., Fort Lauderdale
DETAILS: Cirque Dreams Holidaze lights up the stage with an awe-inspiring family holiday spectacular. The annual tradition combines a whimsical Broadway-style musical with contemporary circus artistry as reindeer, penguins, elves, jesters and ethereal aerialists bring an elaborate seasonal wonderland to life. Audiences of all ages can marvel at soaring acrobatics, gravity-defying feats and lively theatrical production numbers performed to original music and fresh twists on popular favorites. browardcenter.org

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Old Town Untapped

WHEN: Friday, November 6 & December 4 | 6pm – 10pm
WHERE: Bailey Contemporary Arts, 41 NE First St., Pompano Beach
PRICE: Free
DETAILS: Old Town Untapped takes place the first Friday of the month. Immerse yourself in the electric atmosphere as local bands and a DJ set the stage with live music. Explore captivating art gallery openings at the Bailey Contemporary Arts Center, discover unique creations from local artists, and indulge in mouth-watering bites from food trucks. pompanobeachfl.gov

Hot Brass: A Tribute to Earth, Wind & Fire and Chicago

WHEN: Friday, November 20 | 7:30pm – 9:30pm
WHERE: Pompano Beach Cultural Center, 50 W. Atlantic Blvd., Pompano Beach
PRICE: $45+



DETAILS: Hot Brass delivers an electrifying fusion of rock, funk and soul while celebrating the timeless music of Chicago and Earth, Wind & Fire. The accomplished musicians bring showmanship and powerhouse performances to favorites such as "September," "Boogie Wonderland," "25 or 6 to 4," "Make Me Smile," "Colour My World," and "You're the Inspiration." pompanobeachfl.gov



The Spaghetti & Matzo Ball Show

WHEN: Sunday, November 22 | 2pm – 5pm
WHERE: Pompano Beach Cultural Center, 50 W. Atlantic Blvd., Pompano Beach
PRICE: $45-$65
DETAILS: The Spaghetti & Matzo Ball Show brings comedian Peter Fogel and singer Lou Villano together for an energetic celebration of music, laughter and old-school showmanship. The two Brooklyn performers recreate the chemistry of classic Vegas-style duos such as Martin and Lewis while sharing songs, comedy and stories inspired by their Italian and Jewish backgrounds. Their talents and decades-long friendship fuel more than 90 minutes of nostalgic entertainment. pompanobeachfl.gov

FARMERS MARKETS



Farmers Market

WHEN: Sunday, November 8 | 9am – 12:30pm
WHERE: Dan Witt Park, Lighthouse Point
DETAILS: The Farmer's Market brings the community together for local shopping, neighborhood connection and a relaxed Sunday market experience.

Green Market Pompano Beach

WHEN: Saturday, November 14 & 28 | 9am – 1pm
WHERE: Pompano Beach Cultural Center Campus, 50 W. Atlantic Blvd., Pompano Beach
DETAILS: The Pompano Beach Green Market brings together local growers, makers and neighbors for a lively community marketplace filled with fresh flavors and creative finds. Visitors can browse farm-fresh fruits and vegetables, artisanal juices, baked goods, locally sourced honey and seafood, exotic orchids, handmade crafts, art and wellness products. The day also features free yoga on the lawn, kids' crafts, music by DJ Trish and unique shopping throughout the event. pompanobeachfl.gov

Deerfield Beach Farmers Market

WHEN: Saturday, October 3 – Monday, May 31 | 9am – 1pm
WHERE: The Cove, 1582 SE Third Court, Deerfield Beach
DETAILS: Visitors can browse local produce, farm-fresh eggs, grape pies, small-batch grass-fed beef jerky, sourdough breads and bagels, homemade desserts and baked goods, handcrafted coffee and teas, fresh smoothies, cold-pressed juices, microgreens and mushrooms. The market also features all-natural dog treats, artisan skincare products, soaps, candles and many more locally made goods. Saturdays, October through May. covefarmersmarket.com

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Last of the Red Hot Lovers

WHEN: Saturday, November 21 – Sunday, November 22
WHERE: Charlotte Burrie Center, 2669 N. Federal Highway, Pompano Beach
PRICE: $20 per person
DETAILS: Neil Simon's classic comedy follows middle-aged, married and overworked Barney Cashman as he makes three increasingly hilarious attempts to join the sexual revolution before it is too late. His would-be partners include Elaine, a foul-mouthed bundle of neuroses; Bobbi, a wildly kooky aspiring actress; and Jeanette, a gloomy housewife married to his best friend. The performance is intended for mature audiences. pompanobeachfl.gov

Black Nativity

WHEN: Friday, November 27 – Sunday, November 29
WHERE: Pompano Beach Cultural Center, 50 W. Atlantic Blvd., Pompano Beach
PRICE: $55
DETAILS: Black Nativity presents an African-American telling of the Nativity story based on the acclaimed song play by poet and playwright Langston Hughes. The production follows Mary and Joseph on their journey to Bethlehem, brought to life through vibrant African costumes and a rousing repertoire of spirituals. Its combination of an African-American perspective, gospel music and theatrical storytelling creates a distinctive and uplifting holiday experience. pompanobeachfl.gov

Jaco's 75th Birthday Celebration

WHEN: Tuesday, December 1 | 7pm – 9pm
WHERE: Pompano Beach Cultural Center, 50 W. Atlantic Blvd., Pompano Beach
PRICE: $60+
DETAILS: The Jaco Pastorius Big Band brings together more than 15 musicians and special guest artists to celebrate Jaco's groundbreaking music and creative spirit. Bandleader Peter Graves shares stories and reflections from years of touring and recording with Jaco while the ensemble performs dynamic big-band arrangements from throughout his career. The program revisits the pivotal music of 1976. The concert celebrates the artistry that transformed the role of the electric bass and continues to influence generations of musicians worldwide. The evening also honors Jaco's South Florida roots and enduring legacy. pompanobeachfl.gov



Santa's Workshop Brunch

WHEN: Sunday, December 6 | 10am – 1:30pm
WHERE: Galuppi's Restaurant, 1103 N. Federal Hwy., Pompano Beach
PRICE: $39.99/adults; $19.99/children
DETAILS: Guests can enjoy an all-you-can-eat brunch buffet, story time with Mrs. Claus, visits with Santa and the elves, and opportunities to write letters to Santa. Ornament decorating, coloring, face painting, temporary tattoos and other activities round out the celebration. galuppis.com

Save the Date Exit 36 Slam Poetry Festival

WHEN: Thursday, December 10 – Saturday, December 12
WHERE: Multiple Pompano Beach cultural venues, Pompano Beach
DETAILS: The ninth annual Exit 36 Slam Poetry Festival is a three-day celebration of poetry, spoken word, literacy, community engagement and the arts, bringing regional, national and international writers, facilitators and artists together for educational, theatrical and literary experiences.

Light Up MLK

WHEN: Saturday, November 28
5pm – 8pm
WHERE: Annie Adderly Gillis Park, 601 Dr. Martin Luther King Blvd., Pompano Beach
PRICE: Free
DETAILS: Light Up MLK brings the community together for an evening filled with music, lights and holiday magic. The celebration features live performances, delicious bites, games and giveaways, culminating in a ceremonial lighting that officially kicks off the holiday season. pompanobeachfl.gov

American Indigenous Arts Celebration

WHEN: Friday, November 6 – Saturday, November 7 | 10am – 5pm
WHERE: Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum, West Boundary Road, Clewiston
PRICE: Free
DETAILS: The festival features dance performances, a hoop dance competition, native drummers and a Seminole fashion show. Visitors can browse art and craft vendors, watch live artist paintings, sample offerings from tribal food vendors and enjoy alligator wrestling and a live wildlife show. The celebration also offers opportunities to explore museum exhibits and the mile-long boardwalk. ahtahthiki.com

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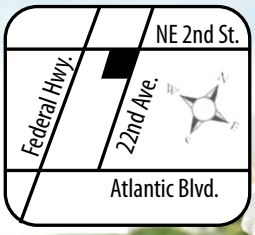
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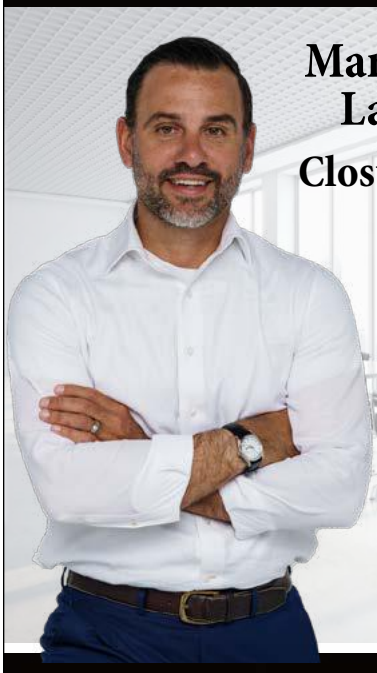


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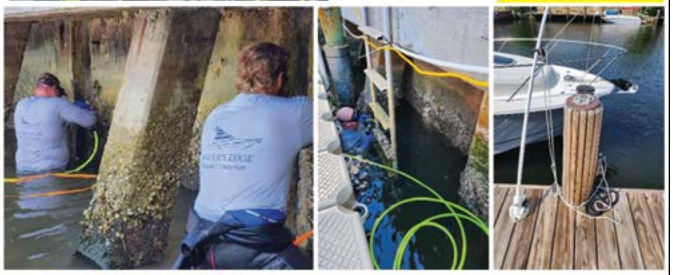
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Broward Health Lighthouse Point ER is Bridging the Gap Between Preventive and Emergency Care with One Convenient Location



Since opening its doors in July 2026, the Broward Health Lighthouse Point ER has offered more than emergency care. The two-story facility is also home to a full-service primary care practice, giving residents in northern Broward County convenient access to routine healthcare, follow-up visits and diagnostic testing all under one roof.

Located at 5360 N. Federal Highway, the 14,074-square-foot facility was designed to bring hospital-level emergency care closer to the community. The first floor features 10 emergency exam rooms, advanced diagnostic services including CT scans and X-rays, a resuscitation room and ambulance access.

The second floor, however, features a Broward Health Physician Group primary care practice, expanding the site's services beyond emergency care. The practice provides the services patients would expect from a traditional primary care office, including hospital follow-up care, pre-operative clearances, physicals and annual wellness visits.

Open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., the primary care practice features eight exam rooms and is currently staffed by Broward Health Physician Group physicians Gaelle Cartright, M.D., and Wesley Cheng, D.O., who are both accepting new patients.

One of the practice's key conveniences is its on-site, point-of-care laboratory, which allows many common tests to be performed with results delivered during the patient's visit. Available tests include hemoglobin A1C, urinalysis, flu swabs, strep testing and more, covering most of what physicians would need to diagnose and manage common conditions. The testing happens on site and results are given to patients while they're still in the office, allowing for faster diagnoses and treatment decisions during the same visit.

Having primary care and emergency services in the same building also creates an added layer of convenience and safety. If a patient experiencing acute symptoms requires a higher level of care during a primary care visit, the emergency room is located directly downstairs, allowing for a seamless transition. That proximity can be particularly reassuring for patients managing chronic conditions, recovering from a recent hospitalization or experiencing an unexpected change in their health. It also gives primary care providers immediate access to emergency services when a situation suddenly calls for more advanced care.

"This primary care office is unique in the way that it bridges the gap between emergency and routine care in one convenient location," said Peta-Gaye Thomas, director of clinic operations, primary care service line for the Broward Health Physician Group. "Whether patients need a quick follow up with their primary or require more immediate care, the option is available at the same place, right in their community."

The two floors create a more connected approach to healthcare, bringing services closer to where people live and providing care in outpatient settings that prioritize accessibility, convenience and efficiency for patients and families.

The Broward Health Lighthouse Point ER was designed with that vision in mind: providing comprehensive healthcare services in a convenient location while connecting patients to the broader resources of Broward Health when they need them.

To learn more about the ER or schedule an appointment with a primary care physician, visit BrowardHealth.org.



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Discipline Equals Freedom

BY **CRAIG HALEY**

Jocko Willink is a retired Navy SEAL, best-selling author, and Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu black belt. He's famous for his alarm clock. Every morning at 4:30, he posts a picture of his watch, then goes to work: weights, calisthenics, sprints. Jiu-Jitsu in the afternoon. Every single day. His mantra sums it up in three words: "Discipline equals freedom."

The first time I heard that, it sounded backward. Isn't discipline the opposite of freedom? Stick with me, because it's exactly the other way around.

WHAT DOES DISCIPLINE REALLY MEAN?

Discipline comes from the Latin disciplina – "instruction or training." Its root is discere, "to learn." The word disciple comes from the same place. So discipline isn't about punishment. It's about learning.

My simple definition: discipline is doing what you are supposed to do, whether you feel like it or not. Sounds easy, right? We all know better!



WHAT IS THE PROBLEM WITH MOTIVATION?

Most people wait to get motivated before they do anything. A video, a book, a phone call – something outside themselves to light the fire. The problem is that motivation is temporary. You get fired up for a few days, it wears off, and you're stuck in the mud.

Business philosopher Jim Rohn was teaching a seminar when a guy said he needed his boss to motivate him every morning. Jim smiled and asked, "What if he doesn't show up? You have to have a better plan for your life than that."

That's the whole point. Discipline means taking 100% responsibility for your life. You don't need anyone to show up for you. You show up for yourself.

HOW DOES DISCIPLINE EQUAL FREEDOM?

When you're disciplined, you are the captain of your own ship. You aren't at the mercy of your mood, the weather, or whether somebody gave you a pep talk. When it's time to work out, you work out. When it's time to work on the project, you do it. When it's time to be with your family, you're there – all the way.

Composer John Williams, who created the legendary scores for Jaws and Raiders of the Lost Ark, credits his achievements to unwavering discipline. He writes every day, whether he feels like it or not. Some days the work flows; some days it's terrible. He said that doesn't matter. Showing up every day is what led to the masterpieces.

That's the freedom. Not freedom from hard work – freedom from being controlled by how you feel.

MY BIGGEST DISCIPLINE STEP

Years ago, I was fighting kickboxing as a heavyweight at 225 pounds. I was winning, but it was very, very difficult. Every fight felt like a war.

Honestly, I didn't think it was possible for me to lose the weight. I remember telling my dad, "I want to have abs." He looked at me and said, "We're Haleys. Haleys don't have abs."

Thankfully, my kickboxing coach, Shihan Jim Andrello, didn't see it that way. He sat me down and explained how to eat properly – clean food, healthy choices, good nutrition. No magic pill.

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No shortcut. Just doing the right thing at every meal, whether I felt like it or not. His advice was powerful because I saw him get lean and incredibly fit himself when he was preparing for his kickboxing career.

It worked. I got down to 189 pounds for my next fight, and fortunately, I won. The big thing I remember from that night? Thinking, "Wow, the guys in the cruiserweight division don't hit nearly as hard as the heavyweights!"

But the real win wasn't that fight. That one disciplined decision put me on a lifelong path of focusing on my health, my fitness, and my well-being. I've been able to stay lean ever since. Sorry, Dad – turns out a Haley can do it after all!

Discipline at the dinner table gave me freedom in the ring, and it's given me freedom in my life ever since. I'm forever grateful to Shihan Andrello for that lesson.

HOW CAN YOU BE DISCIPLINED IN YOUR RELATIONSHIPS?

Most people think a marriage is 50/50. I do my part, you do yours. On the surface, that makes sense. In reality, successful relationships are 100/0. You take 100% responsibility for the relationship and what happens in it. When your spouse is upset, don't ask, "What's wrong with them?" Ask yourself, "What did I do – or not do – that caused them to feel that way?"

That's hard to accept and harder to practice, but it works. You can't control what someone else says or does, but you can always control your response. Check your ego at the door and focus on solutions.

What do most people do instead? They react! We've all been guilty of it. Let me be clear: I'm not scoring straight A's on this stuff. Like you, I'm a work in progress – constantly "under construction." But when my focus is on taking disciplined action, the better version of me shows up.

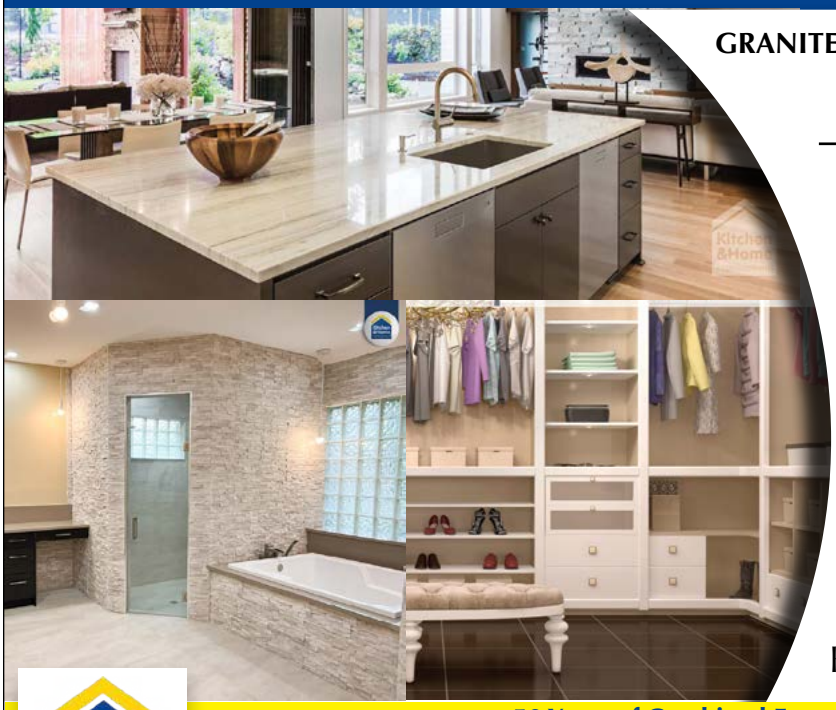
HOW SHOULD WE DISCIPLINE OUR CHILDREN?

Remember, discipline and disciple share the same root – to learn. When we discipline our kids, the goal is to teach them the right way to behave and how to treat people. It should never come from anger or emotion. Easier said than done? Hell yeah! As my dad would say, "That's why they call it work!"

There is no easy way out in life. There is only discipline. Once you understand that and stop fighting it, life gets a whole lot more fun – and your results will go through the roof! ✹

Master Shihan Craig Haley is the Eighth Degree Black Belt instructor at Elite Force Martial Arts, eliteforcemartialarts.com.

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Friendsgiving – *Bah!*

Why We Keep Inventing New Words for Old Traditions—Because "Back in My Day" Didn't Have a Hashtag

BY **DAWNE RICHARDS**



Before you get your turkey in a twist (see what I did there?), relax. As Thanksgiving is upon us, I've been pondering our desire to invent new words for old things. Fun fact: these are called "portmanteau words." Fancy!

Here's a short list of those my bad memory can think of, in two categories, along with my requisite curmudgeonly reasoning.

NOTE: I don't dislike the ideas behind these, in most cases; it's the fact that we as a society seem obsessed with inventing words for things people have done for decades, if not centuries.

PLEASE STOP SAYING THESE

- **BABYMOON:** This one irks me on several levels. First, I think it sounds...dumb. Second, for those of you who've had children, personally, I cannot possibly imagine that a romantic getaway is at the top of your list with days to go before your child is born. Maybe that's just me.
- **BROMANCE:** Needs no explanation.
- **FRIENDSGIVING:** I love this concept; in fact, we used to host a Thanksgiving morning brunch for friends before heading over to my cousin's house for the main event. It was a lovely tradition, even though stuffing oneself on Thanksgiving morning might sound counterintuitive. Alas, friends scattered far and wide and the tradition faded away.
- **FRENEMY** (Friendsgiving's Cousin): I understand what it means. I think we already had ways to express this that weren't some cutesy word combination. "Two-faced" (from my childhood) comes to mind. Or, to put it bluntly, "backstabber." In this particular case, I suspect that many people's "Friendsgiving" events (or at least, Thanksgiving events) may be full of frenemies, or backstabbers; your choice. This actually does make me sad. Thanksgiving is the one day that feels... nondenominational, so to speak. No religion, no politics (if you're smart), just...gratitude. And who can argue with that?
- **GALENTINE'S DAY:** I have no easier, more concise way to refer to this. I do distinctly recall (in the distant past) a Valentine's Day of my young adulthood. Three of us, all single women, decided to torment/treat ourselves to a night at the movies to see An Officer and a Gentleman. We cried not only because of the movie itself, but because (1) we would never have such a fairy-tale ending and (2) if we did, the Gentleman would definitely not be Richard Gere. Ah, youth!
- **GIRLBOSS:** I could go on, and on, and on. Remember "Women are not girls"? 'Nuff said.
- **GLAMPING:** This is just indulgent "camping" that the wealthy have done forever.
- **GLOW-UP:** Ugh. My least favorite. You know what "glows up"? Nuclear reactors.

I'LL ALLOW IT

- **HANGRY:** This is a perfect description of how most of us feel when we're hungry.

Speaking of which...there's much I'm grateful for every day. And I wish everyone – even my frenemies – a happy and healthy Thanksgiving, Friendsgiving, or whatever you call this day of gratitude. Enjoy! ✷

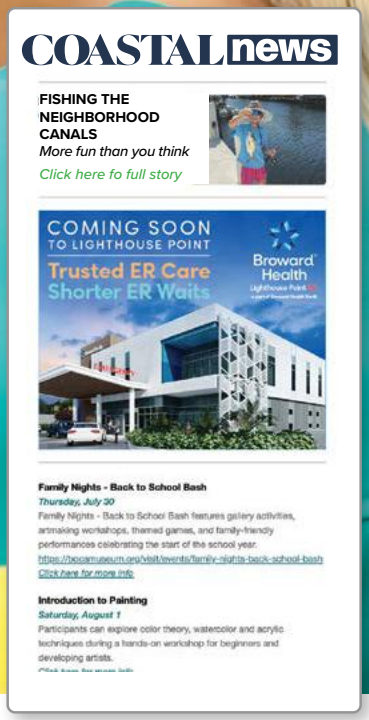
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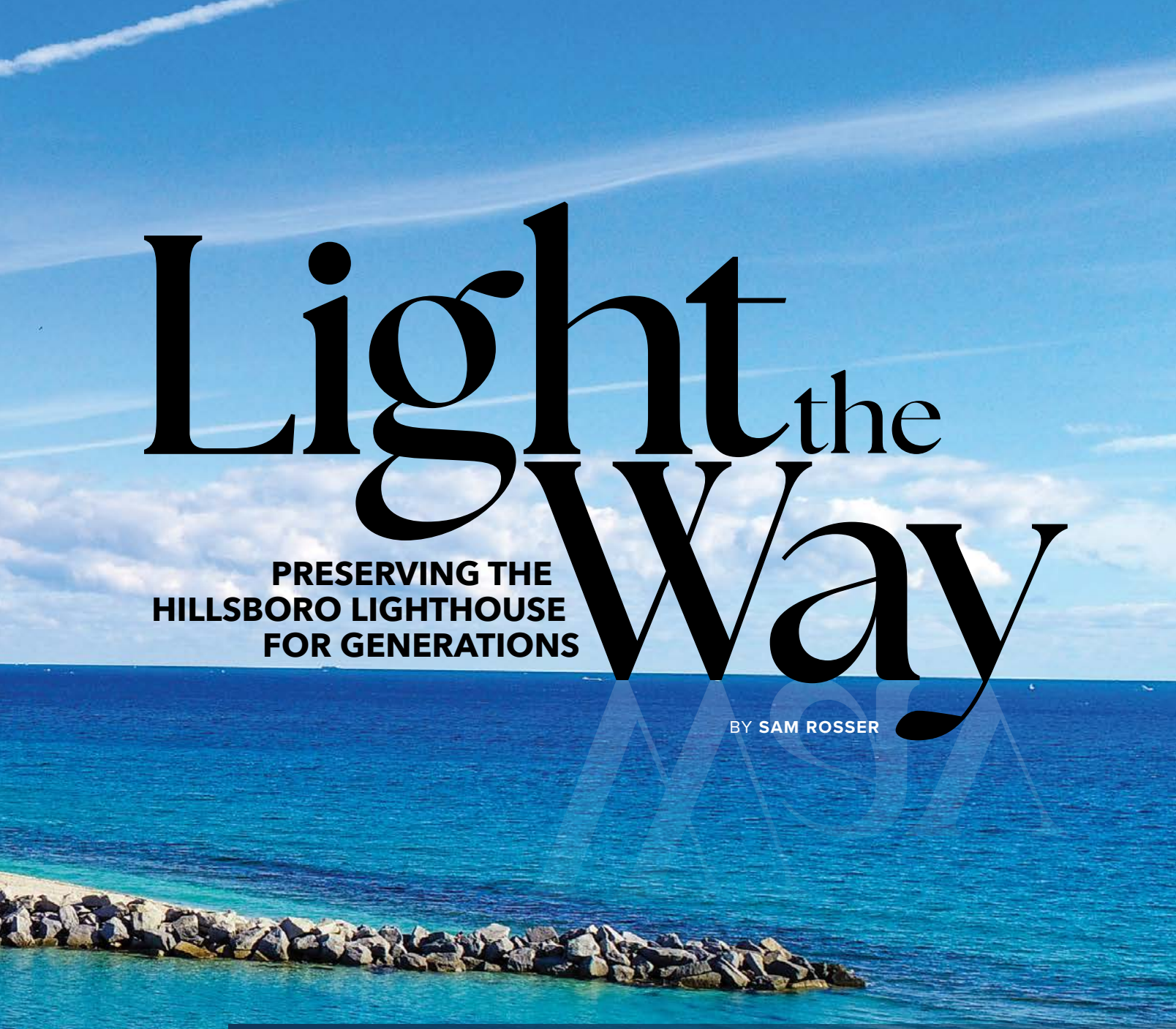
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Light the Way

PRESERVING THE HILLSBORO LIGHTHOUSE FOR GENERATIONS

BY **SAM ROSSER**



WHY Now

At the mouth of the Hillsboro Inlet resides our community's crown jewel, aptly nicknamed "The Big Diamond" after the shape of the glass on the outside of the lantern room, which sits 175 steps above the sand and breaking waves below. Whether you were born and raised in our corner of South Florida, a snowbird or a new resident, you more than likely have some affinity for our community's unofficial mascot. Frankly, I think it is kind of already our official mascot, but I'm not sure who's in charge of the mascot department, so I could not reach them for official confirmation. Even without presumed mascot status, the Hillsboro Lighthouse remains a beacon, pun intended, for memorable moments that some treasure for a lifetime. The number of engagements, marriages and first illicit beers on the sandbar are surely incalculable. It's simultaneously a gathering place and a symbol; seeing that familiar beam of light swing in your direction on a clear night grounds you and reminds you that you're home.



OPPOSITE The Hillsboro Lighthouse and one of the Coast Guard's cabins

WHY Now

Unfortunately, this pillar of our community is under threat by the very forces that we frequently enjoy in South Florida; the salt air and the sea spray might be restorative to our psyche, but the lighthouse doesn't appreciate it the same way. Simply put, it isn't cheap to have a century-old iron structure directly on the water; many of our readers know it isn't cheap to have a brand-new structure directly on the water. To add insult to injury, the lighthouse can't even get a job babysitting to pay for the repairs, not that a part-time job could even scratch the surface of what is needed.

Immediately, the lighthouse is in need of $1.8 million for repairs, of which the Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society has already raised around $500,000. "We have a functioning lighthouse and we have the chance to take care of it right now; it's been there for over 100 years and there's no reason that we can't put some money away and let them have an income stream... to take care of it forever," said Jane Wye, whose foundation has supported lighthouse restoration projects in the past.

The income stream she's referring to would come from the preservation society's second fundraising goal: an endowment that would fund future restoration projects and regular maintenance without the need for piecemeal contributions. While there are immediate, pressing repairs slated to begin, responsible stewardship of our physical history constantly requires cold, hard cash. A century-old structure directly exposed to the harsh extremes that come from being placed to weather the brunt of the Atlantic Ocean's fury regularly requires a hefty sum.

"I think the real problem is that everybody assumes the government takes care of it," said Wye. In the 1990s, the United States Coast Guard relinquished its stewardship of the lighthouse, which is when the Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society was born. While the Coast Guard still technically owns the Lighthouse, the lighthouse isn't needed anymore for nautical navigational purposes, so local stewardship was required to step in, lest the lighthouse fall into disrepair.

> I think the real problem is that everybody assumes the government takes care of it
>
> — Jane Wye

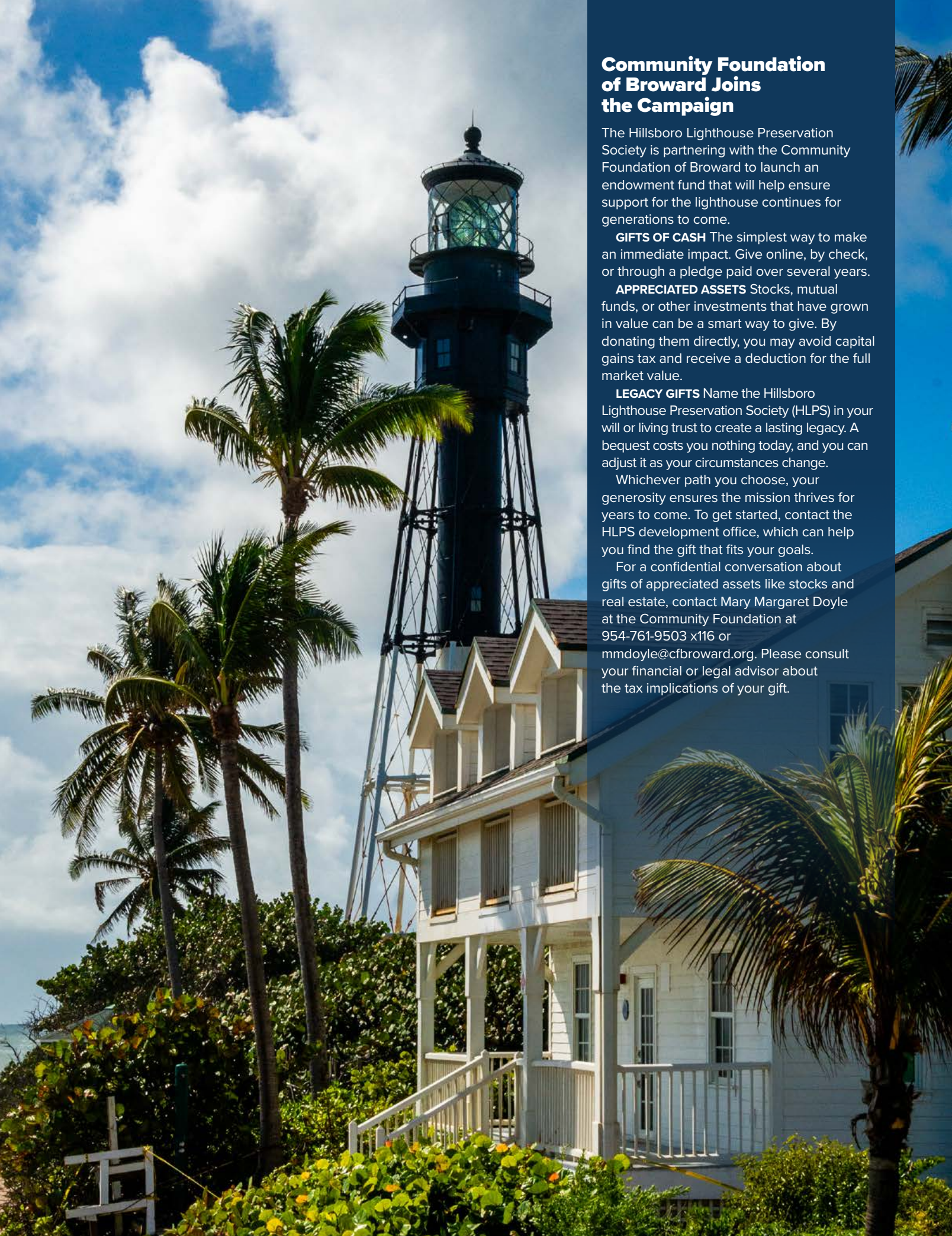
Even with the preservation society's watchful eye, maintaining something so many people take for granted comes with an ongoing challenge: finding the money to keep it going. "They hope people buy the bricks, they hope people go to the gala. It's always a struggle to get operating costs," said Wye.

The lighthouse has endured hurricanes, shifting coastlines, changing technology and more than a century of South Florida weather. Its continued existence is a testament to the people who have recognized its value and made sure it remains standing. Now, the responsibility falls to the community.

Preserving the Hillsboro Lighthouse is about more than keeping an old iron tower from rusting away. It's about protecting a piece of shared identity, a landmark that has watched generations come and go while the shoreline around it has changed. It's about ensuring future residents can stand on the beach, spot that familiar beam sweeping across the water, and feel the same connection to home that so many do today.

The good news is that while the lighthouse's past is most certainly set in stone, its future is not yet written. The preservation society has already made meaningful progress toward its immediate fundraising goal, but it cannot do the work alone. Whether through donations, attending fundraising events or simply spreading the word, every bit of support helps keep our crown jewel sparkling.

We may not know who officially oversees the mascot department, but perhaps that's beside the point. The Big Diamond belongs to everyone. And if it's going to keep watching over this little corner of the coast for another hundred years, it's time to show it a little love in return.



Community Foundation of Broward Joins the Campaign

The Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society is partnering with the Community Foundation of Broward to launch an endowment fund that will help ensure support for the lighthouse continues for generations to come.

GIFTS OF CASH The simplest way to make an immediate impact. Give online, by check, or through a pledge paid over several years.

APPRECIATED ASSETS Stocks, mutual funds, or other investments that have grown in value can be a smart way to give. By donating them directly, you may avoid capital gains tax and receive a deduction for the full market value.

LEGACY GIFTS Name the Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society (HLPS) in your will or living trust to create a lasting legacy. A bequest costs you nothing today, and you can adjust it as your circumstances change.

Whichever path you choose, your generosity ensures the mission thrives for years to come. To get started, contact the HLPS development office, which can help you find the gift that fits your goals.

For a confidential conversation about gifts of appreciated assets like stocks and real estate, contact Mary Margaret Doyle at the Community Foundation at 954-761-9503 x116 or mmdoyle@cfbroward.org. Please consult your financial or legal advisor about the tax implications of your gift.

THE History

Towering above the Atlantic Ocean on the northern side of Hillsboro Inlet, the Hillsboro Inlet Lighthouse is one of the state's most recognizable maritime landmarks. With its distinctive black-and-white iron tower and commanding view of the coastline, the lighthouse has guided mariners for more than a century. Its history reflects the growth of South Florida; while just about everything in its gaze has changed, the lighthouse has remained steadfast at its post, guiding mariners for more than a century.

First illuminated in 1907, the lighthouse was built to address a serious navigational hazard along Florida's coast. Since then, it has survived hurricanes, technological changes, periods of uncertainty and has undergone several major restoration efforts. Today, it remains both an active aid to navigation and an important historical attraction.

THE NEED FOR A LIGHTHOUSE

During the nineteenth century, Florida's southeastern coastline was far less developed than today. Much of the region consisted of stretches of desolate shoreline and mangrove forests. Ships traveling along the Atlantic coast faced numerous challenges, including shifting sandbars, reefs, strong currents and narrow inlets that could be difficult to identify, especially at night or during poor weather.

The stretch of coastline between established navigational lights farther north and south was a significant challenge for mariners. Sailors and local interests recognized the need for a lighthouse near the inlet – losing sight of one light before coming under the gaze of another could be a recipe for disaster in those days.



The federal government began formally considering the issue during the nineteenth century. In 1855, an inspection of the nation's waterways identified Hillsboro Inlet as a potential place for a new lighthouse. Recommendations were made to establish a lighthouse in the area, but decades passed before the project received sufficient funding and support.

As maritime traffic increased and South Florida began developing in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the need became more urgent. Congress approved funding through several measures between 1902 and 1904, eventually allocating a total of $90,000 for the project.

CONSTRUCTION AND DESIGN

The lighthouse was designed to withstand the challenging conditions of the Atlantic coastline. In 1905, the Russell Wheel and Foundry Company of Detroit, Michigan, received the contract to manufacture the iron tower. The structure was prefabricated, meaning its components were manufactured elsewhere and transported to the remote coastal site for assembly.

The tower was built as an octagonal, pyramidal iron skeleton surrounding a central stair cylinder. Its open framework reduced the resistance of the structure to wind, an important consideration in a region exposed to tropical storms and hurricanes. The tower rises approximately 137 feet to the light, with its highest point reaching 147 feet from the ground below.

The lighthouse's optical equipment was manufactured by Barbier, Bénard et Turenne in Paris, France,

>>>

THE Preservation MOVEMENT

One of the most important chapters in the lighthouse's history began in the early 1990s. In 1992, the mechanism that rotated the original Fresnel lens failed. A smaller temporary beacon was installed while the historic lighting system was taken out of service.

The failure created a difficult question: should the Coast Guard repair the aging lens, or remove it and replace it with more modern equipment? A study recommended removing the historic lens, prompting backlash from local residents who recognized its historical and sentimental value. In response, community members organized to protect the lighthouse's original equipment. The Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society was founded in October 1997 to help preserve the station, restore the historic lens, and expand opportunities for public education and access.

Restoration required careful work. The original rotating mechanism used approximately 400 pounds of mercury to support and facilitate the lens's movement. Because mercury is toxic, it had to be removed and replaced with a safer mechanical arrangement. Restoration work also addressed the tower's exterior, including the removal of hazardous lead-based paint and the application of a protective coating.

After extensive efforts involving the Coast Guard, engineers and preservation supporters, the original Fresnel lens returned to operation in 2000. Its restoration represented a major milestone for those who believed the lighthouse's historic technology should remain in its original setting rather than be replaced entirely.

A HISTORIC LANDMARK FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

The lighthouse was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on February 16, 1979, recognizing its importance as a historic maritime structure. Its significance extends beyond its distinctive architecture: it represents more than a century of technological development, coastal engineering, public service and community involvement.

Today, the Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society has continued to support the station's preservation and educational mission. Volunteers have helped maintain the historic lens, care for the grounds and make the lighthouse accessible through tours. The Coast Guard continues to own the lighthouse, while preservation efforts help protect its historic features and share its story with the public.

Visitors who reach the station can experience a structure that has witnessed extraordinary changes in South Florida. The remote shoreline that once surrounded the tower has been transformed by coastal development, yet the lighthouse remains the most prominent and recognized structure for miles. Its black-and-white tower continues to stand out against the ocean and sky, just as its builders intended.

The lighthouse also serves as a reminder that maritime history is not simply a story of ships and trade. It is a reminder that real people had to live, work and die in extreme conditions so that others could lead normal, land-based lives. In recent years, it's become a reminder of what a community can do when it decides something is important and what can be done together when the future becomes uncertain.

Today, the Hillsboro Inlet Lighthouse stands as both a working navigational aid and a living monument to history. Its light continues to connect the present with the generations of keepers, mariners, engineers and preservationists whose efforts have kept this remarkable landmark shining.

Repair Needs

As an aging landmark, the lighthouse requires ongoing repairs, corrosion control and component replacements to preserve it for future generations.

- Radial and circumferential struts
- Upper level cross members
- Tension Rods
- Turnbuckles
- Tower, gallery walkway, and lantern room
- Re-glaze (glass replacement and application of new glazing components) lantern room with new high-velocity hurricane zone glass rated for small missile impact resistance, cyclic loading, and water infiltration.
- Remove existing coatings on all structures (tower, columns, struts, tension rods, turnbuckles, components, glazing frames) to bare metal. Capture and safely remove.
- Recoat (paint) all structure surfaces in a high-performance three (3) step process: wasser primer, intermediate coat, and finish coat. Return "Daymark" to original 3-black upper/2-white lower color scheme.
- Re-condition and coat entry platform and new railings.
- Referencing all the work noted above: Scaffolding top to bottom with continuous weather shroud to capture all removals, prevent salt air intrusion during all work processes and ensure proper performance of all new components and coatings.

<<< a renowned manufacturer of lighthouse lenses, for a cost not to exceed $7,250. The original second-order Fresnel lens was a remarkable piece of engineering, designed to concentrate light into a powerful beam visible across a considerable distance.

The distinctive paint scheme became one of the lighthouse's most recognizable features. Its lower section was painted white, while the upper portion was black. This contrast helped sailors identify the tower during daylight, when the beacon itself was not visible. Known as a daymark, the paint pattern served as a visual navigational aid in addition to the light's nighttime function.

THE FIRST LIGHT IN 1907

The Hillsboro Inlet Lighthouse officially entered service in March 1907. Its first keeper, Alfred A. Berghell, arrived with two assistant keepers, Henry A. Keys and Robert H. Thompson. These men were responsible for maintaining the light, inspecting equipment, caring for the station and ensuring that the beacon operated reliably every night. In the lighthouse's early years, the light was powered by an incandescent oil-vapor lamp. The lamp worked in combination with the Fresnel lens to produce a distinctive flashing signal. Unlike an ordinary glass lens, a Fresnel lens uses a series of carefully arranged glass prisms and rings to direct light into a concentrated beam without requiring an enormously thick, heavy piece of glass.

Mariners could use its characteristic flash to distinguish Hillsboro Inlet from other coastal lights and determine their position more confidently. Operating the station required discipline and a considerable amount of physical labor. Before modern electrical systems and automation, keepers had to monitor the fuel supply, maintain the lamp and turning mechanism, clean the optical equipment and inspect the tower and surrounding grounds. Their work was essential to maritime safety, and failures could put ships and their crews at serious risk.

THE LIGHTHOUSE KEEPERS

For the first several decades, the lighthouse station was more than a tower. It was a working community in which keepers and their families lived, worked, and faced the challenges of an isolated coastal environment.

Among the most notable keepers was Thomas Knight, who served as head keeper from 1911 until his retirement at the end of 1936. Knight earned recognition for his work and for rescues involving ships and seaplanes. His career illustrates the broader responsibilities lighthouse keepers sometimes assumed when maritime emergencies occurred.

The keepers' duties extended beyond tending the lamp. They maintained station buildings, monitored weather and equipment and helped ensure that the light remained dependable through storms and changing sea conditions. Living at a remote station also required resourcefulness, as supplies and assistance could be difficult to obtain.

Hurricanes presented one of the greatest recurring threats. Major storms struck the South Florida coast in 1926 and 1928, damaging station buildings, uprooting trees, and altering the surrounding shoreline. The 1926 hurricane was particularly severe, exposing the lighthouse's foundation and demon-

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NAMING OPPORTUNITIES

GIFT LEVEL	# OF GIFTS	SUBTOTAL	NAMING OPTIONS
$500,000	1	$500,000	• lantern room
$250,000	3	$750,000	• Fresnel lens • big diamond glass windows • cylinder center tower
$100,000	4	$400,000	• motor room • service room • upper catwalk • observation deck
$75,000	8	$600,000	• foundation and leg (8) 1 each
$50,000	5	$300,000	*
$20,000	10	$200,000	*
under $20,000	many	$800,000	*
Total		**$3,550,000**	
potential naming opportunities			• cupula & entrance ramp, • barefoot mailman bronze statue, • cylinder windows, • oil house

** to be determined*

You can donate to the Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society at hillsborolighthouse.org or mail checks to Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society P.O. Box 326 Pompano Beach, FL 33061-0326

strating how vulnerable coastal infrastructure could be to erosion and storm surge.

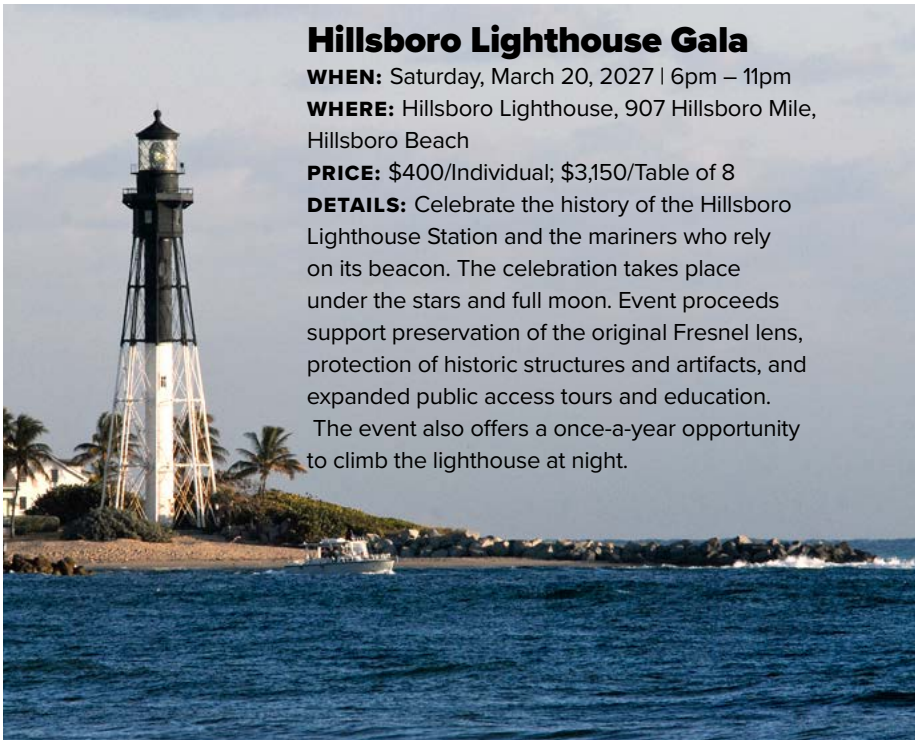
In response to the continuing threat of erosion, a stone breakwater approximately 260 feet long was constructed in 1930. The barrier helped stabilize the land near the tower and protect its foundations from the relentless action of waves and currents. The work was an important part of preserving the lighthouse's structural integrity.

MODERNIZATION AND THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

As technology advanced, the lighthouse gradually moved away from labor-intensive practices. The light was electrified in the 1920s, replacing the original oil-vapor lighting system with electric illumination. In 1939, the United States Lighthouse Service was transferred to the United States Coast Guard. The change brought lighthouse operations under the Coast Guard's responsibilities for maritime safety and navigation. At Hillsboro, the traditional civilian keeper system gave way to Coast Guard personnel overseeing the station.

During World War II, the waters off Florida were strategically important for commercial shipping and military operations. In 1942, the tanker Lubrofol was torpedoed off Hillsboro Beach, highlighting the dangers faced by vessels traveling along the coast during wartime. In the years after the war, a radio beacon was also installed to provide another navigational aid for mariners.

By the mid 1970's, the lighthouse had been automated. Automation meant that personnel no longer needed to maintain the light through the same continuous, hands-on routines required in the early twentieth century. Nevertheless, the tower and its equipment still required inspection, maintenance and repairs to remain operational. ✹



Hillsboro Lighthouse Gala

WHEN: Saturday, March 20, 2027 | 6pm – 11pm
WHERE: Hillsboro Lighthouse, 907 Hillsboro Mile, Hillsboro Beach
PRICE: $400/Individual; $3,150/Table of 8
DETAILS: Celebrate the history of the Hillsboro Lighthouse Station and the mariners who rely on its beacon. The celebration takes place under the stars and full moon. Event proceeds support preservation of the original Fresnel lens, protection of historic structures and artifacts, and expanded public access tours and education. The event also offers a once-a-year opportunity to climb the lighthouse at night.

HOW TO LEAVE SOUTH FLORIDA... ...WITHOUT



MT. DORA

This charming little town in Central Florida is an ideal spot for a weekend getaway. Mount Dora offers a refreshing change of pace from our state's usual tourist attractions: beaches and theme parks. Its walkable downtown is lined with brick streets, colorful storefronts, art galleries and inviting cafés, creating the feel of a small-town escape with plenty to explore. Antique lovers flock here for the town's renowned shops, while local boutiques and specialty stores make it easy to spend an afternoon window shopping.

The waterfront along Lake Dora adds another layer of charm, with scenic parks, boat tours, and peaceful views across the Harris Chain of Lakes. Visitors

LEAVING FLORIDA



EIGHT PLACES THAT WILL MAKE YOU FEEL LIKE YOU'VE CROSSED STATE LINES

AND MAYBE EVEN A FEW TIME ZONES

The United States is a relatively nascent nation, so our cityscapes and neighborhoods often lack the distinctive qualities found in older countries and far away continents. Driving down US-1 or I-95, it's nearly impossible to distinguish one city from the next – without the exit signs denoting the change, you'd never be able to tell when you enter a new municipality.

So we took it upon ourselves to find ways to escape the mundane views of chain restaurants and strip malls without booking a flight to another continent. Here are some of Florida's hideaways that will make people viewing your Instagram story think "I didn't know they went abroad."

by SAM ROSSER

can stroll the palm-lined boardwalk, enjoy a lakeside picnic or watch seaplanes take off and land on the water. Throughout the year, Mount Dora comes alive with festivals celebrating art, antiques, crafts, music, and food, drawing visitors from across the state and all walks of life.

Whether you're sipping coffee on a shaded patio, sampling locally owned restaurants, or simply enjoying the relaxed atmosphere, Mount Dora rewards travelers who appreciate a slower pace. It's an ideal stop for a weekend road trip, offering a blend of history, natural beauty and welcoming hospitality that feels more like the Deep South than it does Floridian.

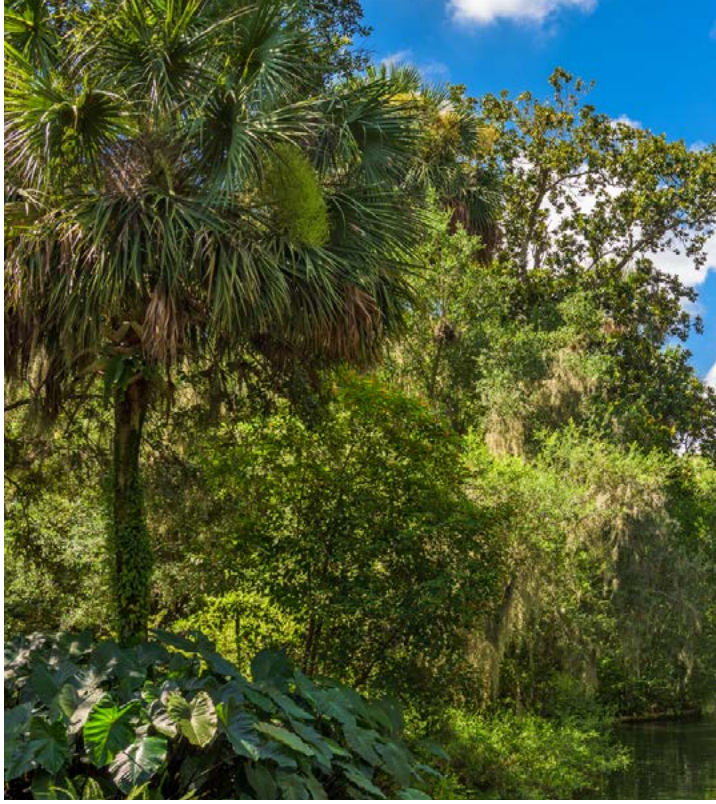
CEDAR KEY

This one is kind of cheating, if we're being honest. Cedar Key is a small town on Florida's Gulf Coast known for its rich history and natural beauty. Unlike many of our state's larger beach destinations, Cedar Key has maintained its Old Florida charm. This town doesn't exactly feel like you're leaving Florida, but rather like you're going back in time to a Florida lost to the years.

The town, or rather village, is known for the fresh seafood at its many waterfront restaurants, giving visitors a taste of Florida's specialties. Outdoor recreation is another highlight, with opportunities for kayaking, fishing, boating, birdwatching, and hiking. The nearby Cedar Keys National Wildlife Refuge protects many small islands that provide habitats for Florida's wildlife.

Cedar Key is an ideal destination for travelers looking to relax and experience a quieter side of the Sunshine State. Its combination of history, scenic waterfront views, wildlife, old town charm and friendly community makes it a memorable place to visit.





BOK TOWER GARDENS

Located in Lake Wales, Florida and founded in 1929 by Pulitzer Prize winner Edward W. Bok, Bok Gardens provide visitors a place where nature, art and music come together. The centerpiece is the 205-foot Singing Tower, which houses a carillon made up of 60 bells. Daily bell concerts fill the gardens with music, which offer visitors an experience that they'd be hard-pressed to find elsewhere.

The gardens feature exotic plants, tall oaks, and peaceful paths that invite visitors to relax in nature. Wildlife like butterflies, turtles, and birds are often seen. Pinewood Estate, a historic mansion, showcases early twentieth-century Florida life.

The gardens were designed by Frederick Law Olmsted Jr., one of the most distinguished landscape architects of his generation. As the son of the man who designed Central Park in New York City, he worked with his father on some of our nation's most recognizable landmarks in Washington, D.C.

45 MILLION
The number of **Florida** road trips taken in 2024. The Sunshine State ranked number one in 2024.

42 MILLION
The number of **California** road trips taken in 2024

38 MILLION
The number of **Texas** road trips taken in 2024

30 MILLION
The number of **New York** road trips taken in 2024

27 MILLION
The number of **Nevada** road trips taken in 2024

Source: roadgenius.com

SUNKEN GARDENS

Even in the heart of St. Petersburg, it's possible to escape into another world. Sunken Gardens has been surprising visitors for more than a century with lush tropical landscapes tucked within the city's busy streets. What was once a drained sinkhole has become one of Florida's oldest botanical gardens, filled with waterfalls, koi ponds and exotic plants.

Winding paths lead visitors



beneath towering palms and past vibrant orchids while flamingos and tropical birds add splashes of color throughout the gardens. It's an easy place to lose track of time, whether you're taking photos, enjoying the shade or simply listening to the sound of flowing water.

Sunken Gardens is proof that you don't have to leave civilization completely to find some tranquility. Pair it with a day exploring downtown St. Petersburg, or let it serve as a quiet reset before heading back to the beach. Either way, it's one of the city's most rewarding hidden gems.

MICANOPY

Just south of Gainesville, Micanopy invites travelers to experience one of Florida's oldest inland towns, where centuries-old oak trees draped in Spanish moss frame streets that seem frozen in time. This quaint town has earned a reputation as a destination for antique shopping, historic architecture and leisurely exploration.

Downtown is filled with antique stores, art galleries and cozy cafés housed in restored historic buildings. Rather than rushing from attraction to attraction and waiting in long lines, visitors are encouraged to wander at their own pace. History is intrinsically woven into nearly every corner, offering a glimpse of Florida long before modern development reshaped our state.

Nature lovers will also find plenty to enjoy nearby. Scenic drives through rolling countryside lead to parks, lakes and hiking opportunities, making Micanopy an excellent stop for travelers seeking to combine history with outdoor adventure. The historic atmosphere has also made it a favorite filming location and an enduring destination for photographers.

HINDU TEMPLE OF FLORIDA

The Hindu Temple of Florida in Tampa offers visitors a chance to appreciate stunning architecture while learning about one of the world's oldest religions. Inspired by traditional South Indian architecture, the complex features intricate carvings, colorful sculptures and peaceful spaces for reflection. Visitors are welcome to observe respectfully, and many come simply to admire the craftsmanship and tranquil atmosphere.

Throughout the year, the temple hosts cultural celebrations including Diwali, Holi and Navaratri, where music, dance, traditional clothing and authentic Indian cuisine create a vibrant community gathering. Educational programs also introduce visitors to Hindu philosophy, language and cultural traditions.

FLORIDA CAVERNS STATE PARK

Florida Caverns State Park is one of the few places in Florida with natural limestone caves. Guided tours lead visitors through passages filled with stalactites, stalagmites, and unique rock formations. The cool cave air offers a refreshing break from the Florida heat. The park also offers hiking, biking, canoeing, fishing, and camping. Trails run through forests and along the Chipola River, where visitors can see local wildlife.

WASHINGTON OAKS GARDENS STATE PARK

The park is known for its formal gardens, towering oaks, and distinctive coquina rock shoreline. The rocky coast offers dramatic ocean views for photographers and nature lovers. The gardens have winding paths, ponds, fountains, and many native and exotic plants. With blooms year-round, visitors enjoy walking, birdwatching, and relaxing in the peaceful setting. Washington Oaks Gardens State Park blends natural beauty and designed landscapes, making it one of Florida's most scenic parks. Its peaceful atmosphere and attractions appeal to anyone who enjoys nature.✹



5 CAR SNACKS EVERYONE CAN GET BEHIND

Pretzels
A classic for a reason. Salty, crunchy, relatively mess-free and somehow appropriate whether you're eight or 48.

Pringles
No one wants to admit they love Pringles, but we all do. And that resealable tube? Basically engineered for road trips.

Cut-Up Red Peppers
For when someone needs to make a responsible choice. A little sweet, crunchy and considerably more fun than pretending celery is a snack.

Celery with Peanut Butter or Cream Cheese
A little protein, a little crunch and just enough mess to make you feel like you're really on vacation.

Quartered Sandwiches
Because eventually everyone needs actual food. Cut sandwiches into quarters so they're easier to eat in the car – and somehow more appealing to kids.

And, obviously, fruit. Grapes, berries, apple slices or whatever travels well.

LOCAL FLAVOR

IN THE NORTH BROWARD BEACHES WITH **MRS. KOSSENFLOFFER**

KEY
$ Inexpensive (under $25)
$$ Moderate ($26-$50)
$$$ Expensive ($51-$75)
$$$$ Pricey (over $75)

Have an update for us? Email additions, closings, or corrections to editor@pointpubs.com. We strive for accuracy, but recommend calling ahead to confirm details before setting out on your dining adventure. Price categories are a general guide. Your check may vary depending on what you order.

Pompano Beach

Anthony's Coal Fired Pizza **ITALIAN • PIZZA** You can credit this place with bringing the whole "coal-fired pizza craze" to South Florida. Pizza and chicken wings — do you need any more? 1203 S. Federal Highway, 954-942-5550 acfp.com **$$**

Aromas Del Peru **PERUVIAN** With several South Florida locations, the folks at Aromas Del Peru are bringing Peruvian favorites to Pompano. 1 N. Ocean Blvd., 954-354-2323 aromasperu.com **$$$**

Baresco **MEXICAN • COCKTAILS** We've said it before, and we'll say it again — tacos by the ocean? Does life get any better? 225 N. Ocean Blvd., 954-904-4567 eatbaresco.com **$$**

Beach House **AMERICAN** This is the perfect place to take out-of-town guests. Snag one of the stadium seating style booths overlooking the Atlantic. 270 N. Ocean Blvd., 954-607-6530 beachhousepompano.com **$$**

Brew Fish **AMERICAN** Dine outside in the tiki hut overlooking a peaceful waterway. They have a comprehensive bar/pub-style menu. 200 E. McNab Road, 954-440-3347 brewfish.com **$$**

Calypso Restaurant and Raw Bar **CARIBBEAN** Calypso, a local favorite since 1990, is known for fresh fish, Bahamian conch, Jamaican jerk, and island-inspired American dishes. 460 S. Cypress Road, 954-942-1633 calypsorestaurant.com **$$**

Checkers Old Munchen **GERMAN** For a traditional German meal, try the wiener schnitzel — it's divine — a lightly breaded veal cutlet sautéed in lemon butter and topped with homemade brown gravy. 2209 E. Atlantic Blvd., 954-785-7565 checkersoldmunchen.com **$$**

Chef Dee's **SUSHI • SEAFOOD** A small neighborhood place with plenty of charm. Impressive sushi rolls and a varied menu. 3919 N. Federal Highway, 954-582-4444 chefdeespompano.com **$$**

Dangerous Minds Brewing Co. **BREWERY • PIZZA** This spot at Pompano Citi Centre offers artisanal pizzas. All the beers are brewed on-site. 1901 N. Federal Highway, 954-657-8676 dangerousmindsbrewing.com **$$**

Darrel & Oliver's Cafe Maxx **INTERNATIONAL** This restaurant is an anchor of the South Florida fine-dining scene. If you are looking to celebrate, Cafe Maxx is a great choice for a special night out. 2601 E. Atlantic Blvd., 954-782-0606 cafemaxx.com **$$$$**

Deccan Spice **INDIAN** Choose from classic dishes such as chicken tikka, biryani and curries, along with Indo-Chinese twists such as crunchy stir-fried noodles. There are plenty of vegetarian options on this menu and many variations on naan — Indian flatbread. 1149 S. Federal Highway, 954-366-1847 deccanspicepompano.com **$$**

Deep Oceanfront Dining & Bar **AMERICAN** Beachfront dining at the Beachcomber Resort. Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. 1200 S. Ocean Blvd., 954-941-7830 deepoceanfront.com **$$$**

Galuppi's **AMERICAN** What could be more entertaining than watching golfers swing and blimps ascend as you sip a drink at an outdoor bar? 1103 N. Federal Highway, 954-785-0226 galuppis.com **$$**

Gianni's Italian Restaurant **ITALIAN** Gianni's is practically a landmark. Enjoy traditional Italian fare at this family-owned and operated establishment, serving everything from pasta to specialties like Chicken Gianni's and fresh seafood. Don't skip the romaine salad with the blue cheese. Pair your dish with a bottle of wine or a cocktail from their full bar. They also offer daily lunch specials Monday – Friday. 1601 E. Atlantic Blvd., 954-942-1733 giannisitalianrestaurant.com **$$$**



Houston's **AMERICAN** Enjoy this contemporary eatery for lunch or dinner. An outdoor bar and seating on the Intracoastal are available. 2821 E. Atlantic Blvd., 954-783-9499 houstons.com **$$$**

J Mark's **AMERICAN** This spot is a relaxing, modern restaurant and bar with food and service to match. 1490 NE 23rd St., 954-782-7000 jmarksrestaurant.com **$$$**

Kin Asian Street Food **ASIAN • SUSHI** Enjoy creative ramen soups with pork belly and jammy eggs, delicious rice bowls, and standout dumplings. The shiitake buns—filled with mushrooms, pickled mustard, peanuts, and cilantro—are a treat, and the gyoza is light and flavorful. Sushi lovers will also find a broad menu, making this a fun spot to try new flavors. 143 SW Sixth St., 954-532-4567 kinasianstreetfood.com **$$**

La Perla Di Pompano **ITALIAN** This intimate Italian eatery offers a wide selection of Italian dishes, including four different risotto dishes alone. 420 N. Federal Highway, 754-222-9174 laperladepompano.com **$$$$**

La Veranda **ITALIAN** The atmosphere is elegant, yet comfortable and warm. Inside or out, one can enjoy a special evening in the Tuscany-inspired surroundings. 2121 E. Atlantic Blvd., 954-943-7390 laverandapompanobeach.com **$$$**

Legends Tavern and Grille **AMERICAN** Enjoy gastropub fare, including sandwiches, burgers, wings, salads and a huge choice of appetizers. 10 SW Sixth St., legendstavernandgrille.com **$$**

Lola's on the Water **AMERICAN** Dining on the Intracoastal, this spot reminds you why you live here. Indoor and outdoor seating is available. 125 Riverside Drive, 954-788-1700 lolasonthewater.com **$$$**

Lucky Fish Beach Bar + Grill **AMERICAN** Lucky's is a beachside tiki bar just south of the pier, known for its simple eats, ocean views, and great people-watching. Takeout is available for a beach picnic. 222 N. Blvd., luckyfishbeachbar.com **$$**

Miraggio Italian Grill **ITALIAN** A gorgeous restaurant on the Intracoastal serving classic Italian fare, including wood-fired pizzas and pastas. 3100 E. Atlantic Blvd., 954-876-1066 miraggioitalian.com **$$$**

Myron's **DELI** Bringing the flavors of a traditional New York-style deli to South Florida, Myron's Delicatessen serves generous portions of classic comfort food in a casual, welcoming setting. Guests can enjoy piled-high corned beef and pastrami sandwiches, matzo ball soup, deli favorites, breakfast specialties, and freshly baked desserts. Whether stopping in for a quick lunch or a hearty meal between casino activities, Myron's offers an authentic deli experience. 777 Isle of Capri Blvd., 954-972-2000 caesars.com **$**

Nonna's Bistro & Cafe **ARGENTINEAN • BAKERY • CAFE** Some of Nonna's offerings include pasta frola cake, American keto salad, and a charcuterie board for two. Carryout and delivery are available. 2608 N. Ocean Blvd., 954-532-9920 nonnasbistroandcafe.com **$$**

Oceanic **AMERICAN • SEAFOOD** Along with stunning ocean views, the restaurant offers a comprehensive menu emphasizing seafood. The architecture dazzles, inspired by the great ocean liners of years past. 250 N. Ocean Blvd., 954-366-3768 oceanicpompano.com **$$**

Peking Duck **CHINESE** Start with the bone-in spareribs glazed in a sweet, sticky sauce, or try the delightfully puffy crab Rangoon. The standout is the Peking Duck, served with crisp skin, pancakes, and classic accompaniments. 1200 E. Atlantic Blvd., 954-946-0436 pekingduckpompano.com **$$**

Revelry **COCKTAILS • SMALL PLATES** This hidden gem is the perfect speakeasy escape, featuring a carefully crafted ambiance and a diverse menu. 227 S. Federal Highway, revelryfla.com **$$**

Ruby's by the Sea **ITALIAN** Tucked away in a small strip mall near the Hillsboro inlet is Ruby's, serving classic Italian fare. 2608 N. Ocean Blvd., 954-933-7154 rubysbythesea.menu **$$**

Seaside Grill **SEAFOOD • AMERICAN** Enjoy a view of the Atlantic while enjoying fresh seafood and an icy cold cocktail. Located at Lighthouse Cove Resort on the ocean. 1406 N. Ocean Blvd., 954-783-3193 seasidegrill.com **$$**

Shishka Lebanese Grill **MEDITERRANEAN** It's not easy to make a good falafel, but the ones at Shishka are worth every calorie. 1901 N. Federal Highway, 954-943-2999 shishkagrill.com **$$**

South Bar & Kitchen **AMERICAN** South Bar & Kitchen offers an array of Southern comfort foods with a heavy Louisiana influence. 165 NE First Ave., 954-890-2000 southpmp.com **$$-$$$**

The Foundry **AMERICAN** Known for its artfully crafted dishes, The Foundry offers a fusion of contemporary flavors and a lively dining experience. 2781 E. Atlantic Blvd., 754-205-6977 thefoundryfl.com **$$**

The Kester **AMERICAN** A fresh, globally-inflected take on coastal dining, The Kester offers adventure at every meal. 1200 North Ocean Blvd., 954-944-9515 marriott.com **$$-$$$**

The Taco Station **MEXICAN** Just steps from the ocean, this spot serves generously filled tacos loaded with onion, cilantro, pico de gallo, shredded cabbage, and cilantro cream. 3432 E. Atlantic Blvd., 954-657-8167 tacostationpompano.com **$**

The Vault **AMERICAN** With its 1920s ambiance, The Vault brings the spirit of the past to life through both atmosphere and cuisine. Offering a modern take on classic American dishes, the menu features small and large plates—with solo and shareable options perfect for sampling and savoring. Known for its unbeatable $10 lunches, vintage-inspired cocktails, and standout happy hour, The Vault is quickly becoming a local favorite. 61 NE First St., 954-218-3627 vaultpompano.com **$$**

Yamu Thai **JAPANESE • THAI** A small spot by the sea with your favorite sushi, Thai and Japanese dishes. 2608 N. Ocean Blvd., 954-532-7901 yamuthaijapanese.com **$$**

Zoe's Beachside Grille **AMERICAN** Zoe's Beachside Grille is a relaxed oceanfront spot with great views and an easygoing feel. The menu leans classic American. 1350 N. Ocean Blvd., 954-590-1055 zoesbeachsidegrill.com **$$**

Lighthouse Point

Bonefish Mac's Sports Grill **AMERICAN** This popular spot features an extensive menu with large portions including seafood, steaks, appetizers, burgers, their famous Key Lime pie and more. Enjoy happy hour all day every day at the indoor and patio bars. Specials include Monday prime rib night, Tuesday kids-eat-free, weekday lunch specials and an early lite menu. 2002 E Sample Road, 954-781-6227 bonefishmacs.com **$$**



1601 E. Atlantic Blvd., Pompano Beach
(954) 942-1733 • giannisitalianrestaurant.com
Lunch: Mon – Fri 11:00am - 2:30pm
Dinner: Mon – Sun 4:00pm - 9:30pm

the Vault



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LOCAL FLAVOR

Cap's Place **SEAFOOD** A hidden seafood joint dating back to Prohibition. Take the short boat ride over to the restaurant. 2765 NE 28th Court, 954-941-0418 capsplace.com **$$$**

Fetta Republic **GREEK** Traditional Greek offerings close to home. 2420 N. Federal Highway, 954-933-2394 fettarepublic.com **$$**

Fish Shack **SEAFOOD** This restaurant used to be a "best-kept secret." But now that they have moved into the Shoppes at Beacon Light, the word is out. The Fish Shack keeps it simple, serving fresh fish prepared in several ways. There is more to the menu, but it is called The Fish Shack. 2460 N. Federal Highway, 954-586-4105 **$$-$$$**

Le Bistro **CONTINENTAL** Classically trained chef Andy Trousdale serves up classics and inventive new dishes at this little neighborhood gem. Fresh and local produce is always used, and vegetarian, dairy-free and gluten-free menu items are available. A note to the wise: the porcini mushroom soup is worth every calorie. The restaurant also offers cooking classes and wine-tasting dinners. More than worthy of a special occasion. Reservations are recommended. 4626 N. Federal Highway, 954-946-9240 lebistrorestaurant.com **$$$**

Lighthouse Thai Sushi **JAPANESE • SUSHI** This spot in the Shoppes of Beacon Light hits the spot when you seek a casual sushi or Thai dinner. The rolls are fresh, fun and tasty and the various Thai curries will leave you craving more. 2476 N. Federal Highway, 954-532-6342 lighthousethaisushi.net **$$**

Papa's Raw Bar **SUSHI • SEAFOOD** While the fresh food is the real star, the Keys-inspired decor accounts for part of its charm. The menu goes beyond typical raw bar offerings with inventive tacos and sliders. Papa's also offers an impressive array of sushi and sashimi. And to wash it all down, they have about a zillion craft beer options and a good wine list too. 4610 N. Federal Highway, 754-307-5034 papasrawbar.com **$$-$$$**

Rocca Trattoria **ITALIAN** This classic and cozy Italian trattoria exudes warmth and charm. The menu showcases authentic Italian cuisine, with a focus on traditional recipes. Each dish is crafted with care and attention to detail, from pasta dishes bursting with flavor to pizzas topped with fresh ingredients. The staff is friendly and attentive, ensuring that every visit is memorable. 2014 E Sample Road, 954-876-1733 roccatrattoriaitalianrestaurant.com **$$**

Señor Ceviche **PERUVIAN** Don't let the name fool you. While there is plenty of ceviche, the restaurant serves up plenty of other Peruvian specialties. 3100 N. Federal Highway, 954-933-1476 srcevicherestaurants.com **$$-$$$**

Sicilian Oven **PIZZA • ITALIAN** Coal-fired pizza, a fabulous salad and wings — what more do you need? If you do need more, the menu is loaded with Italian classics. 2486 N. Federal Highway, 954-785-4155 sicilianoven.com **$$**

The Nauti Dawg Marina Café **AMERICAN** Nestled at the Marina, the Nauti Dawg is a local favorite. Start with the tuna wontons—crispy fried wonton wrappers topped with tuna tartare, seaweed salad, red pepper mayo, wasabi and a hit of sriracha. You can't go wrong with the fresh fish sandwich—ask what the catch of the day is. The restaurant is dog-friendly. 2830 NE 29th Ave. (at the Marina), 954-941-0246 nautidawg.com **$$**

Deerfield Beach

Amante's Italian Restaurant **ITALIAN • PIZZA** Amante's serves pizza and pasta in a setting steps from the sea. 2009 NE Second St., 954-637-2300 amantesrestaurant.com **$$-$$$**

Baja Cafe **MEXICAN** Locals flock to this long-established favorite for a Mexican dinner or just drinks. 1310 S. Federal Highway, 954-596-1304 bajacafefl.com **$$**

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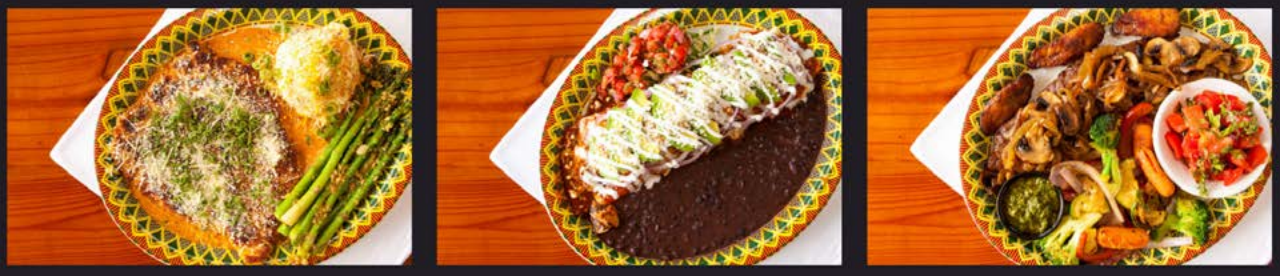
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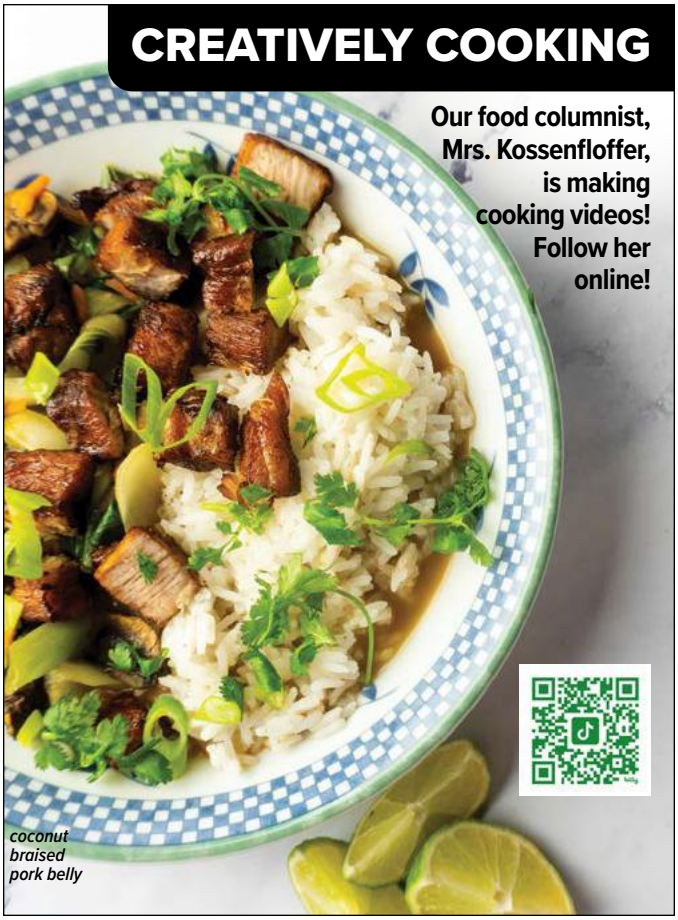
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LOCAL FLAVOR

Bravo Mar **PERUVIAN** The Bravo family has been bringing Peruvian food to South Florida for 17 years. Their newest venture marries the flavors of Peru with a coastal twist. 1965 NE Second St., 954-531-0330 bravomardeerfield.com **$$-$$$**

Casa Maya **MEXICAN** Start with a margarita, and it only gets better from there. This is not your typical Mexican joint — it's better. Try gobernador tacos: a combination of shrimp with diced poblanos, onions, tomatoes, and cilantro, on a crispy corn tortilla, topped with melted cheese. 301 SE 15th Terrace, 954-570-6101 casamayagrill.com **$$**

Deer Creek Grille **AMERICAN** Enjoy the club atmosphere with gorgeous views of the lush gardens and waterfall. The restaurant offers daily lunch and dinner specials, a Sunday breakfast buffet and covered patio dining so you can dine al fresco. 2801 Deer Creek Country Club Blvd., 954-421-5553 deercreekflorida.com **$$**

JB's on the Beach **SEAFOOD** The restaurant boasts glorious beach views and a private glass room perfect for business or family affairs. 300 N. Ocean Way, 954-571-5220 jbsonthebeach.com **$$$**

Little Havana **CUBAN** Little Havana has fantastic lunch specials, and most of their dinner plates will feed two. Their masas de puerco fritas and their Little Havana steak are two standout menu items, along with their zesty chimichurri. 721 N. Federal Highway, 954-427-6000 littlehavanabarandgrill.com **$$**

Lucky Lou's **SEAFOOD • PUB FARE** Located just one block from the pier, Lucky Lou's Raw Bar is a casual neighborhood hangout featuring a full raw bar, fresh seafood, burgers, salads, and sandwiches. The lively bar scene centers on oysters served every way—from raw to grilled. 123 NE 20th Ave., 954-531-0943 luckylousrawbar.com **$$-$$$**

Luigi di Roma **ITALIAN** The atmosphere is always lively at Luigi di Roma. Naturally, you will find all your favorite Italian dishes on the menu, with everything from eggplant Parmesan to shrimp scampi and everything in between. You can also order take-out online. 718 S. Federal Highway, 954-531-6151 luigidiroma.com **$$-$$$**

Ocean's 234 **SEAFOOD** Amazing views of the pier, with gluten-free options available. 234 N. Ocean Blvd., 954-428-2539 oceans234.com **$$$**

Patio Bar & Grill **CONTINENTAL** Enjoy cocktails just feet from the sandy beaches of Deerfield. This relaxed spot at the Wyndham serves casual fare. 2096 NE Second St. (at the Wyndham Resort), 954-596-8618 deerfieldpatiobar.com **$$**

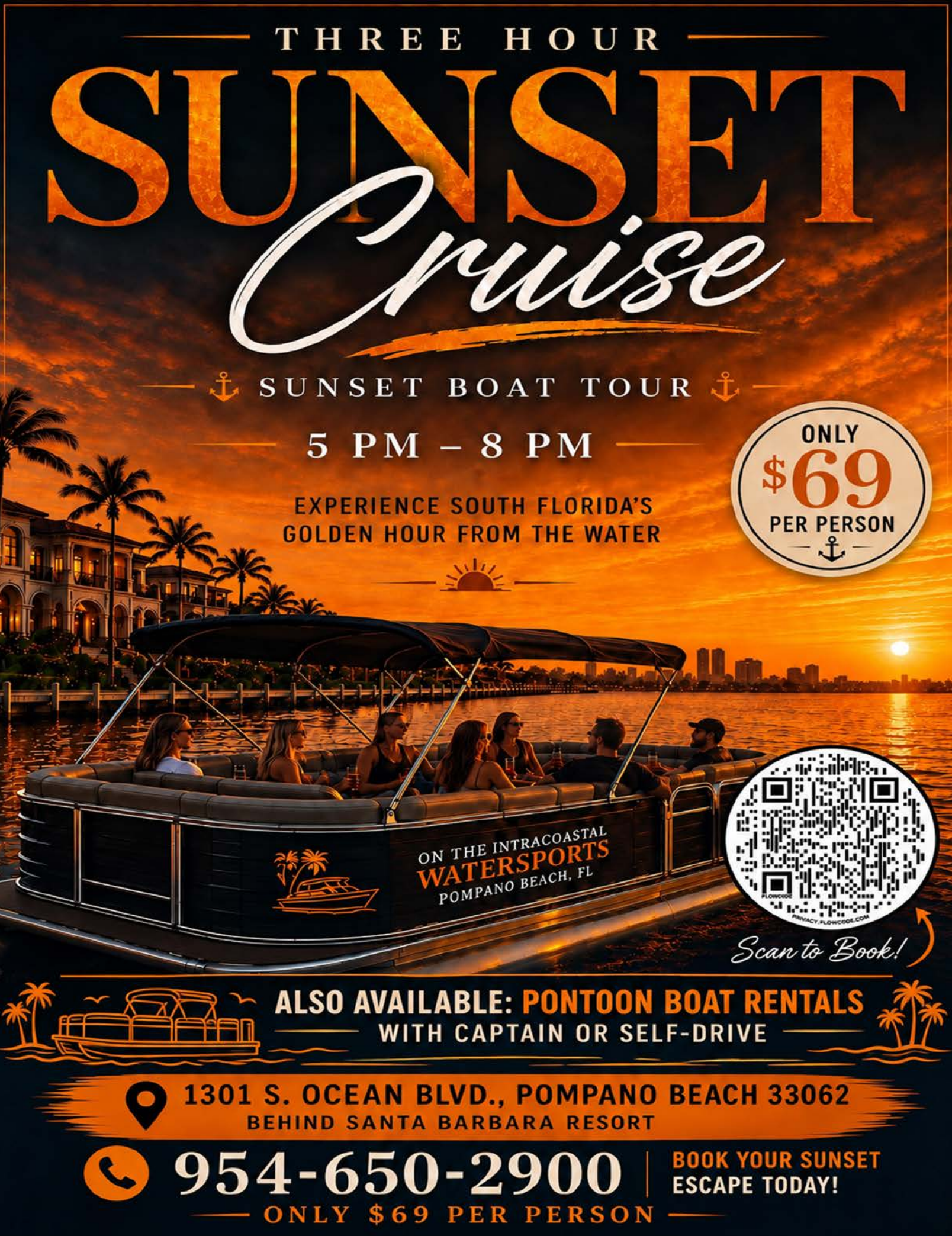
Patrizia's of NYC **ITALIAN** At Patrizia's, you will find all the classic Italian dishes we all love. The vibe is lively and the food is tasty. What more do you need? 1544 SE Third Court, 954-751-9797 patrizias.com **$$**

The Cove **AMERICAN** Enjoy cocktails, frozen drinks, and marina views at the outdoor tiki bar — perfect for relaxing on warm Florida evenings! Indoor dining is also available. 1754 SE Third Court, 954-421-9272 thecovedeerfield.com **$$**

The Whale's Rib **SEAFOOD** Oysters, clams, and other shellfish straight from the raw bar. Seafood specialties, ginormous sandwiches, hand-crafted cocktails and famous Whale Fries. 2031 NE Second St., 954-421-8880 whalesrib.com **$$**

Tijuana Taxi Co **MEXICAN** Perhaps it's the all-day happy hour (Mon.-Fri., 11am-7pm) with $6 signature margaritas, but as soon as you enter, the day's weight lifts off your shoulders. There is outdoor patio seating available and a large U-shaped bar inside. The portions are generous — certainly enough for a doggie bag. And for the little ones, there is a kids' night on Sunday after 5pm: kids eat for $1.99 from the $7.99 kids' menu. 1015 S. Federal Highway, 954-708-2775 tijuanataxico.com **$$**

Traditions **FRENCH** As the name implies, diners can expect traditional French cuisine. Start with the mussels and move on to the duck, or the lamb or the sole — it's all well prepared. 626 S. Federal Highway, 954-480-6464 traditionrestaurant.com **$$$**


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