

Walk For Library 3
 Historic Hotel Demolition 4
 Events Around Town 21 & 23

FREE

Serving the City of Dania Beach and Neighboring Communities

JANUARY 2012

Dania Plans To Rebuild City Marina



The City of Dania Beach's marina will be improved later this year with the addition of new and additional dock space, a new harbor master building and other facilities.



By David Oakes

The City of Dania Beach's 92-slip marina, located behind Florida Atlantic University's SeaTec complex and across the parking lot from Dania Beach Pier, is about to get a \$4.9 million face lift to become one of the leading passive marina facilities in South Florida.

The plywood boards overlaying the weathered wooden planks are coming out. Pilings are being replaced. New floating docks put in. A new harbor master building will be built, a pavilion erected, as well as four fish cleaning stations and bar-be-que grills installed around the docks.

"It absolutely will be a state-of-the-art facility," said Tyler Chappell, a principal in the The Chappell Group, an environmental consulting firm in Fort Lauderdale, and a member of Dania Beach's Marine Advisory Board.



Chappell

Ideas collected from Dania Beach residents on the city's marine advisory board and the company managing the marina, as well as visits to other South Florida marinas by representatives from the Chappell Group, the engineering firm of Craven Thompson and the architectural firm ACA resulted in the design and engineering of the city's proposed marina.

Construction is scheduled to start in

August 2012. In the meantime, The Chappell Group is obtaining environmental permits from federal, state and Broward County agencies.

The marina, located at 101 N. Beach Road, currently has a harbor master house that is shared with Dania Beach's life-guarders. A chipped concreted pad fronts the marina, which is entered through a black metal security gate.

When bids were accepted in 2010 for a management company to operate the marina, it was noted the marina was in disrepair, and required improvements to receive the rents that the city wanted for the 42 fixed and 50 floating dock slips. Westrec Marina Management, was selected to manage the marina. Dock space costs \$350 per month for floating dock space, and \$575 per month for permanent dock space. Up to 50-foot boats drawing from four to six feet can be accommodated by the marina. Last year, the Dania Beach City Commission agreed to undertake improvements to the marina, which will be partially funded with county grants.

The marina is accessed by water from the Intracoastal Canal by crossing under a bridge with an 18-foot clearance spanning the entrance to John U. Lloyd State Park, or by land from the parking lot at the city's beach. No fuel is sold or boat overhauls are

Continued On Page 2

Deputy Lacertosa Runs Ironman Challenge

By Rose Lizana

A year and a half ago a Dania Beach resident, BSO Deputy Tina Lacertosa, ran the Boston Marathon and at the time, she said she was thinking about participating in an ironman challenge.

Lacertosa, 32, completed the ironman in Panama City on November 5, 2011.

The ironman competition consists of a 2.4 mile swim, then a 112 mile bike ride, and then a 26.2 mile run. She completed the Ironman in 11 hours, 42 minutes.

Lacertosa attended elementary and middle schools in Hollywood and Dania and then graduated from St. Thomas Aquinas High School and the University of Maryland where she played soccer.

She trained for the Ironman event for six months and followed a nutritional regimen of eating healthy foods that would give her stamina.

Some days she would swim for an hour and then run for two hours. Other days she would bike ride for three hours and then run for hours. She trained every day for two to five hours a day.

"Training became my whole life," said Lacertosa, "I had no social life because between working and training. I was so tired."

The ironman competition was also a mental challenge.

"After completing the swimming and bike riding leg, you would still have to complete a marathon," said Lacertosa, "So thinking positive was also

Continued On Page 3

Quarterdeck Restaurant Considered For Pier

By David Oakes

The Quarterdeck, a well-known South Florida restaurant chain, has made an offer to the City of Dania Beach to operate the restaurant on Dania Beach Pier under its brand name and employ 85 to 95 people.

In late December, Paul Flanigan, the chain's owner, was the only person to respond to the city's letter of interest to operate the pier restaurant.

"The (Dania Beach City) Commission has directed me to begin negotiating with Mr. Flanigan," said Dania Beach City Attorney Tom Ansboro. "The five restaurants that he has, he owns. He's never leased before. But I am confident we are going to make the deal happen because it's

Continued On Page 4



33-Year BSO Veteran Richard Tarrant Retires



BSO Detective Rich Tarrant receives a plaque from BSO at his retirement party held at Paolo's. From left are Tarrant, his wife Connie, Dania Beach Police Chief Donn Peterson, and BSO Colonel Thomas Wheeler.

By Jessica Lizana

BSO said goodbye to one of its family members last month when Detective Richard "Richie" Tarrant retired after 33 loyal years of service.

"Everyone told me I would know when the time came to retire," Tarrant said, "and one morning I just woke up and knew it was now."

Originally from New York, Tarrant was born and raised in the Bronx and joined the military right out of high school in 1967.

"I joined the navy and got to see the world," Tarrant said, "I travelled all over Europe, but decided to make Florida home."

With his military mentality of protection and discipline, Tarrant settled in Florida in the 1970s and began training at the

Continued On Page 2

Tarrant

Continued From Page 1

police academy and graduated in 1977.

The City of Dania Beach hired Tarrant in 1978 right out of the academy.

"I spent my entire 33 years on the force in Dania and loved it," Tarrant said, "I got to know the people in this city. When you get to know the people you are protecting, really know them, then what happens to them becomes that much more personal."

Tarrant rose in ranks to detective and won countless awards during his years of service to the city.

Now living in Cooper City, Tarrant hopes to stay involved with the many organizations in Dania Beach he has devoted his time to over the years.

Though it was part of his job to get involved in the numerous charities and organizations around town, it was Tarrant's personal touch of going above and beyond the call of duty that has earned him the praise of the community.

"We all started to get really upset when Richie was saying goodbye at our

last meeting." Senior Citizens Club President Chickie Brandimarte said. "We just couldn't keep it together. There is no way to know how many of our members he helped save. Richie came to every single meeting for the past ten years and spoke to our members to teach us about the latest scams out there, and while I'd hear stories from people outside of our club falling victim to a scam, I know of maybe only one person in our club that did, and it is because of Richie that we stayed so safe."

Though only 62, Tarrant felt it was the right time to retire.

"I have social security and retirement and this just isn't the time in my life to risk getting hurt anymore," Tarrant said.

"I've loved putting myself out there and working to protect people in the field, but now it's about me and my family; and golf," Tarrant said, "I'm free and I'm enjoying my golf league with all my retired friends from the force. It's just a great time."

"And of course my wife Connie is right there with her list of things for me to do," Tarrant laughed, "so my free time fills up pretty fast."



Having fun at the retirement party for Rich Tarrant are Michael Tarrant, Rich's brother from Atlanta, Connie Tarrant and husband Rich, Holly and Al Lamberti, Sheriff of Broward County.

Connie, Tarrant's wife of 10 years, will retire from her job with the City of Dania Beach in just four months.

"As soon as Connie retires too, I am

taking her to Europe." Tarrant said. "I got to see so many places while I was in the navy, but now I can't wait to experience the world with her."

Marina

Continued From Page 1

made at the marina – making it a passive or recreational marina. It also has water and electric hookups for renters.

The new buildings and facilities offered by the upgraded marina will give the facility a fresh, clean appearance, including:

- A 2,000-square-foot, metal-roofed pavilion for picnics and outdoor meetings.
- A 2,250-square-foot building that will house the dock master's office, which a panoramic view of the docks, a lounge for boaters, a laundry area and rest rooms.
- Four bar-be-que pits located next to the pavilion.
- Four covered fish cleaning stations with running water situated along the docks.
- Increasing the number of slips from 92 to 120, increasing the number of transient slips from seven to 21, adding 14

new slips, and installing 47 new fresh water and electric pedestals. A sewer pump out station be available at the dock master building.

- Wood used to construct the docks will be guaranteed to last up to 30 years.
- A gated entrance to the marina, and secure entrances to the docks.

All of the new buildings and structures will have matched appearances and colors with metal roofs, stucco finish on the buildings and wood framing for the pavilion. Brick pavers will form a walkway paralleled by palm trees along the 1,400-foot seawall running the length of the marina, replacing grass and dirt.

The marina's design had some challenges, according to Adolfo Cotilla of ACAI in Fort Lauderdale, the principal architect on the project.

"Locating and designing the new harbor master building to provide maximum visibility of the entrance to the marina and



Cotilla

the docks from the harbor master's office and designing the facilities to provide a unique image while being visually compatible with the existing building on the site were challenging," Cotilla said.

Another challenge is protecting sea grass growing in the marina tidal basin during and after construction.

"Sea grass is a protected species and is considered essential for fish habitats," Chappell said.

The marina also will be Americans

With Disabilities Act compliant, meaning that people using wheelchairs, walkers and other assisted devices will be able to access the marina and docks. It will be one of the only marinas in South Florida that meets this criteria.

"This has been a great project," Chappell said. "The team meshed well and came up with a design that the city really likes. It will tie in nicely with the beach master plan and the pier."

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I Have A Vision For the Pirates Inn Property

Soon after we had the Pirates Inn torn down, I was sitting in my car at the intersection of Dania Beach Blvd. and Federal Highway waiting to cross East. I looked at that open area on the Northeast corner... and I saw a vision of an open grassy passive park right in the center of Dania Beach with a gazebo in the center and benches scattered around. What a wonderful welcoming location to our city.

Coming to that intersection from the East, I could see how a grassy open park would make the view of our antique section look clean and alive. It would be a shame to build anything on that corner to block the openness of this view in the center of our city.

I know the property is very expensive and too valuable to make it a park for our residents. Tell that to Andrew Frost, C.W. Thomas, Patrick J. Meli or John Mullikin. Many family names have left our city with a park for our Dania Beach

residents to enjoy a green space in our city. There must be someone in our city that could tag this location for a city park and probably enjoy a tax write off for the rest of their life.

No doubt, a park like that could bring people to leave their car at our new garage and "meet at the park." It could bring life to our downtown restaurants and shops on Federal Highway and East Dania Beach Blvd. How about an ice cream from Dairy Belle or Jaxson's and listening to live music from the gazebo as you enjoy the cool evening sitting on a park bench. Who said you can't bring those good old days back. And maybe the businesses could leave their doors open a little later.

I'd love to work with that special family or other people with "My Vision" to bring that unique sense of the old time feel that our Dania Beach once had. Anyone at city hall can give you my number.

- George Jason



DANIA BEACH PRESS

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

Rose Lizana
PUBLISHER

Jessica Lizana
EDITOR

David Oakes
ASSOCIATE EDITOR
PRODUCTION MANAGER

Contributors

Ann Page
Jim Silvernale
Les Langlois
Katherine Lizana

Send News & Letters to:
P.O. Box 128
Dania Beach, FL 33004

(954) 925-4227 • (954) 923-9279 FAX
daniapress@aol.com

The opinions and views expressed by contributors to this newspaper are their own and do not necessarily reflect those of the publisher. The editor reserves the right to eliminate any written submission. Written submissions become the sole property of this publication.

The contents of this newspaper are copyrighted by the Dania Beach Press, Inc. © 2011

CAN CHIROPRACTIC HELP YOU?



Dr. Keith Buchalter
Member of Florida Chiropractic Association

ABSOLUTELY!

\$15⁰⁰

NEW PATIENT OFFER*

(Reg. \$180⁰⁰)

*For Initial Exam & 2 X-Rays if Necessary for Care

Must present ad to qualify Expires in 30 days

Hours: M-W-F 9AM-6PM • Tues/Thurs 9AM-1PM

Closed for Lunch 1-2 PM

Serving South Broward for Over 10 Years

South Broward Chiropractic Center

954.929.1888

427 Sheridan Street • Dania • Sheridan Square (Publix) Shopping Center

It has always been our policy that the patient and any other person responsible for payment has a right to refuse to pay, cancel payment or be reimbursed for payment for any other service, examination or treatment which is performed as a result of and within 72 hours or responding to the advertisement for discounted service, examination to treatment.