



On March 15th we lost our good friend Robert Welstein. Bob died at the age of 96, maintaining his vibrant faculties to the very end.

He grew up in Chicago's West Side and served as a cryptographer in the Army Air Force when World War II broke out. Bob then worked in the accounting field for almost twenty years before, as he put it, getting out of that racket to take over a supply business. He was successful enough in that endeavor to retire in South Palm Beach before turning 60.

Rather than just taking it easy, his years in South Palm Beach were very fruitful. He developed interests and friendships that filled his life and turned much of his attention to enhancing the well-being of his neighbors in South Palm Beach as well as the greater community. When he lost Eleanor, his wife of 62 years, he became even more active in volunteer work, eventually running the lecture bureau of the Center for Lifetime Learning at Palm Beach State College.

He also served on South Palm Beach's CAAB for many years (including taking on the role as Chairman) and used the skills he had honed at Palm Beach State College to run our Quest for Knowledge. Thankfully, we were able to honor him in his lifetime by renaming the program the Bob Welstein Quest for Knowledge, a fact that clearly pleased him.

He is survived by his daughter Donna, his son Harvey, four grandchildren, and a great grandson. We who were privileged to call him friend will remember him for the twinkle in his eye, his warm handshake, and quick wit.



SOUTH PALM BEACH NEWSLETTER

The official newsletter of the Town of South Palm Beach

Second Quarter 2015

Mayor and Council Sworn In



Vice-Mayor Dr. Joseph M. Flagello

Mayor Bernice "Bonnie" Fischer

Woodrow "Woody" Gorbach



Photos credit: Tim Stepien)

Having been sworn in on March 24th, the newly-elected South Palm Beach Town Councilmembers joined their colleagues, Councilwoman Stella Gaddy Jordan and Councilman Robert Gottlieb (first and second from the left, respectively) on the dais.

TOWN MANAGER'S MESSAGE



Jim Pascale

Please join me in welcoming our newly-seated 2015-2016 Mayor and Council. I am confident that under their legislative leadership much will be accomplished.

I encourage you to carefully read the article in this newsletter calling for volunteers. Please answer the call - we need you.

My first three months on the job have been, in a word: hectic. I plan on reporting to the Mayor and Council at the April 28th meeting my initial observations on projects and issues I

believe we should concentrate our efforts on. Come listen and share your thoughts.

Finally, look for a flyer to be posted on your building bulletin board calling for a meeting of Town and Condo board officials and the public at large. Let's put our collective heads together to make South Palm Beach the best that it can be.

MAYOR'S MESSAGE



Bonnie Fischer

As my first contribution to the Town newspaper and my first Town-wide communication as Mayor, I want to express my thanks to everyone who came out to vote on March 10th. I am pleased that all four Charter Amendments were approved by the voters on Election Day. They resulted from a Town-Sponsored Workshop Meeting that took place several months ago at my request in an effort to begin to streamline and add efficiency to our local Town Government. It's a start and I pledge to continue to introduce and reflect suggestions

from all residents toward the goal of adopting measures to further efficiency, transparency, and citizen participation in the Town of South Palm Beach.

Additionally, I will expand Mayoral activities beyond the boundaries of the Town of South Palm Beach and suggest that other Councilmembers engage in similar undertakings. I feel that it is beneficial for your elected officials to be active on a community-wide, county-wide, and state-wide basis. As a coastal Florida community, South Palm Beach has problems similar to a lengthy collection of Florida towns and cities stretching from Pensacola in the Panhandle to Jacksonville on our Atlantic border with Georgia. It is useful and productive to participate in organizations such as the Florida League of Cities and the Southeast Coastal Ocean Task Force. I want to continue to encourage these activities.

POLICE DEPARTMENT



Carl Webb

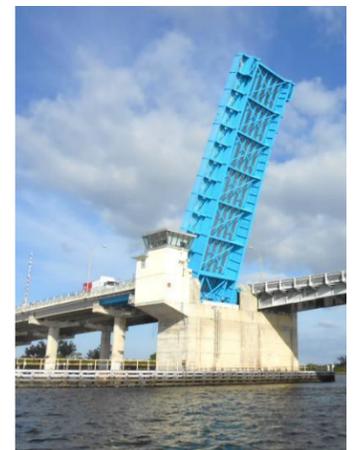
Lieutenant Robert Rizzotto and I have spent the last few months upgrading our department with some of the most up-to-date equipment and technology available. For the protection of our residents and officers, we purchased new Tasers, handguns, ballistic vests and patrol rifles, and have increased hands-on weapons training. The outdated and obsolete in-car video systems are all being replaced.

A 2015 Ford Explorer for road patrol was purchased from last year's budget and from this year's budget an Explorer is on order to replace my 2006 Ford Expedition. We have also purchased new black and gold graphics for the patrol vehicles, and, changed from white to silver the body colors.. Our "Community First" mission helps make the Town of South Palm Beach a great place to live and work.

Recognizing all the national controversy surrounding today's law enforcement, I want to reassure you that that whether you are a longtime, part-time, or new resident if you have a question or a concern, feel free to stop-in or call and we will do whatever we can to keep all of our residents and visitors safe and secure. It has truly been an honor and privilege to serve this town for the past 26 years and I anticipate the future being just as rewarding.

LAKE AVE. BRIDGE REHABILITATION

Since February 3rd, the westbound portion of the Lake Ave. Bridge has been closed completely for bridge rehabilitation following the eastbound bridge repair. Westbound traffic is being placed onto the existing eastbound bridge, reducing traffic to one lane in each direction. This closure is necessary to facilitate the removal of existing paint, to perform concrete repairs, and to apply anticorrosion protection and paint upgrades. Work includes the full removal and replacement of the bascule and flanking span steel superstructure coating system, spall repair, cathodic protection upgrades and the maintenance and operations of the bridge. This 0.297-mile project began construction on October 2, 2014 and is expected to be completed in May 2015, weather permitting. The work is being done by Coastal Gunite Construction Company, Inc., with Stantec overseeing the project, for the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT).



COMMUNITY AFFAIRS ADVISORY BOARD (CAAB)

We are pleased to announce that, due to popular demand, we have extended our yoga class to continue through the summer months. The yoga class is held in the Council Chambers at Town Hall on Saturday mornings at 9:30 am.

The CAAB is constantly planning new events and seeking volunteers to help plan these activities. If you are interested in serving on CAAB, please apply on the Town's website at <http://southpalmbeach.com/new-custom.html> or call Town Hall at 561.588.8889 and let us know of your interest.

VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED



Community starts with individual commitment. Volunteerism is particularly acute in a small town like ours. With an estimated population of fewer than 1,500 year-round residents, 3,000 "in-season," it is critical that you step forward and volunteer. Can we count on you for your support?

We are looking for volunteers with all kinds of expertise and experience. No matter what your special skills and experience are, if you're willing to give back to your community, we'd like to hear from you.

Go to the Town's website at <http://southpalmbeach.com/new-custom.html> or call us at 561.588.8889, and tell us how you'd like to lend a hand. We'll find a place for you.

UPCOMING MEETINGS



Your input is needed. Please support your community by attending our public meetings and sharing your thoughts. Below is a list of upcoming meetings:

- Town Council (7:15 PM) April 28th, May 26th, and June 23rd
- CAAB (10:00 AM) May 21st

All meetings will be held in our Town Hall Council Chambers, 3577 South Ocean Blvd.

BALLOT QUESTIONS APPROVED

Voters approved all four ballot questions. Therefore:

- Term limits were removed for Mayor & Council Members, as well as for volunteer appointments to all Boards and Committees;
- The Citizen Advisory Council was disbanded;
- Mayor and Council may now fill certain qualifying vacancies on Town Council through appointment rather than requiring a special election; and
- A candidate for Town Manager may now have fewer than ten years' experience.



BUILDING DEPARTMENT



Any homeowner who plans to (a) construct, enlarge, alter, repair, or change a structure or (b) erect, install, enlarge, alter, repair, remove, convert, or replace any required impact-resistant coverings, electrical, gas mechanical or plumbing system, or to cause any such work to be done must first make application to the building official and obtain a permit. If you are uncertain as to whether your anticipated activity requires a permit, please call the Building Department with questions or concerns at 561.588.8889.

The Building Department reports that the issuance of permits has remained steady since last quarter. Many homeowners are remodeling and continuing to make improvements to their property.

Concrete restoration is ongoing in town at the Dune Deck, the Barclay, and the Tuscany condominiums (the Tuscany Board suspended all restoration work in December and will resume April 27th). The Building Department is aware of the dust issues from these projects, and has promptly responded to all residents' complaints in an effort to ensure compliance with the Town's ordinances and the Palm Beach County Health Department regarding fugitive dust. Please be patient as the work continues.

As a reminder, the town's website at www.southpalmbeach.com affords you the opportunity to provide feedback on your experience in dealing with building department staff.

FORMER MAYOR DR. DONALD W. CLAYMAN HONORED



Former Mayor Dr. Donald W. Clayman was recently honored for his almost seven years of dedicated service to the South Palm Beach community.

On behalf of all the residents of South Palm Beach we thank you Dr. Clayman for your tireless efforts and significant contributions to our town and we wish you a long, healthy and satisfying retirement.

TURTLE SEASON

March 1, 2015 was the official start of sea turtle season. Please help us protect these magnificent creatures by remembering a few simple things:

- It is against the law to touch, disturb, or approach nesting adult sea turtles, the hatchlings (babies), or their nests. Sea turtles are federally protected by the Endangered Species Act and the Florida Marine Turtle Protection Act. If there is a marked nest, please stay away several feet.
- Do not hand rake any areas of the beach before 8:00 AM. Every morning we need to assess the beach in terms of any activities that happened the previous night.
- Do not leave any type of sand pits, sand castles, beach chairs, boats, or trash on the beach.
- Every night turn off outside patio lights and shield indoor lights, by closing blinds and drapes to keep light from shining directly onto the beach. This also applies to residences on a high floor. Lights disturb nesting turtles and hatchlings.
- Avoid using flashlights, or flash photography while on the beach at night. This includes all cellphone devices. In addition to spooking adult females coming in to nest, the light can disorient and damage the hatchlings sight.
- If you see an injured or dead sea turtle, or any unauthorized person disturbing the nests and the turtles, please call the South Palm Beach Police Department at 561.540.5757, South Florida Sea Turtle Monitors at 561.856.7110, or Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Wildlife Alert Reward Program at 888.404.3922, as soon as possible.

THE MONITORS

This year we have several new individuals join the South Palm Beach sea turtle monitoring program. You may spot them in the early mornings and evenings

performing many different tasks such as surveying for nests, releasing hatchlings, and picking up debris.



Left to right: Robert Schonfeld ("The Turtle Man"), Phil Aridas, Mary Lacorazza ("Manalapan Mary"), Charlie Pittman, and Katherine Hyslop



Cindy Lawrence and Jennifer Pacheco

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

SUGGESTIONS FOR HELPING TO CONSERVE WATER

- Replace toilets with ultra low-flush models, or retrofit with low-flow flappers;
- Retrofit faucets with aerators, or consider alternative faucet types, such as self-closing or automatic sensor-controlled faucets;
- Replace showerheads with low-flow models;
- Check for leaks. Do dye tablet or food coloring tests in toilets to check for hidden leaks. Be sure to flush the coloring after 10-15 minutes to prevent staining;
- Check for dripping faucets indoors and out;
- Efficient washing machines can save up to 20 gallons per load. They also save on energy. If you are replacing laundry facilities, consider the new horizontal axis models. They not only save up to 40% on water used, they also deliver substantial energy savings - up to 65%;
- Water boilers also require blow-down, or bleed-off, just like air conditioners. Monitor total dissolved solids, and blow down only when necessary; and
- Avoid excessive filter or softener back flush. Back flush only when needed.

