President’s Message
By Ted Fling

Our May general membership meeting brought out Commissioner Charlotte Rodstrom and as usual we thank her for her attendance and involvement in neighborhood activities.

You should review the minutes of our May 6, 2009 meeting on Pages 8-10 for information on the NE 7 Street Right Of Way naming project. Subsequent to the Association’s vote on the matter, a letter has been forwarded to the City for implementation.

Traffic Committee chair Bob Oelke’s synopsis of questions and answers for the DDA about the Wave project resulted in our deferral of their request for endorsement of the proposal, pending clarification of issues he raised.

We are anxiously awaiting the results of the Neighborhood Development Criteria Revisions proposed at the May 12, 2009 City meeting. The Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Associations has proposed many changes to the Uniform Land Development Regulations which govern qualities of our community. The City Commission has already acted on some of those changes and the May meeting provides overviews of the “project goals, objectives, timelines and scope of work.”

During a May 1, 2009 meeting with Florida Power & Light Co., we received plans for extensive tree-trimming and replacement of many deteriorating utility poles along the route of a new feeder line as it runs through our neighborhood. This new line is already in place; pole replacements and vegetation removal were to begin May 18 starting at the Sistrunk Sub Station at 462 NW 6 Avenue and running generally east into Victoria Park to NE 13 Avenue; along NE 15 Avenue from NE 2 Street to Broward Boulevard; along SE 1 Street from SE 15 Avenue to SE 16 Avenue, and along the rear of NE 12 Avenue from NE 5 Street to NE 4 Street. FPL says this aspect of the project should be completed by July 31, 2009. Interruptions to customer service are expected to be minimal. Letters of intent with telephone contact numbers for FPL were forwarded to customers in late May.

Jay Holloway, as chair of our Utilities Committee, has been pursuing FPL to remove the unsightly double poles at many locations in the neighborhood; NE 20 Avenue is a good example of that exercise. The biggest obstacle to speedy removal of a pole is the fact that AT&T and Comcast share the same pole in most locations, and neither of those companies is prone to a speedy transfer of their lines from one pole to another.

Thanks to Glenda Rowley and Lindsay Koehler for getting our Bylaws revised, printed and distributed. Our secretary, Peggy Celano, is the strong, quiet member of our Board; ever seen such draft minutes and blast emails? Larry Wallenstein has taken on the treasurer’s job and continues the high quality of work initiated by Madeleine Klein. Thanks to all of you.

The entrance of this unique hacienda is framed by a magnificently-sculpted seagrape in the shape of a giant umbrella. See Curb Appeal on Page 6.
WAXING TOO PAINFUL? TWEEZING TOO TIRING?

It’s time to try our natural ancient technique of hair removal called “THREADING.”

Benefits:
• Very gentle on the skin
• Does not pull the skin like waxing, no fear of saggy skin
• No fear of burns like waxing
• The shape of the eyebrow is precise
• Can be done on sensitive skin and on persons using Retin-A or Accutane.

20% off
On any threading service
First time clients only - offer expires May 31, 2009

1143 N. Federal Hwy., Ft. Lauderdale
954-396-4412
WWW.THREADINGDIVA.COM

Summer Care... for your Hair
CONTROL CURLY - FRIZZY HAIR
for 4 to 10 months
a revolutionary process that adds shine, softness and straightens hair.

$25.00 off Brazilian or Thermal Salon Straighteners

THE ELITE GROUP
HAIR & COLOR STUDIO
Complimentary Consultations Required.
Appointments: 954.630.2115 /
www.elitegroupbahair.com
4134 North Federal Hwy, Ft. Lauderdale 33308
Website: vpca.org
Officers: vpcafl@aol.com
President: Ted Fling 954-467-6160
Vice President: Jay Holloway 954-873-6645
Secretary: Peggy Celano 954-591-3995
Treasurer: Larry Wallenstein 954-270-5962

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Aesthetics:
Jeanne Lalli
954-462-4347

Children:
Aimee Dunn
954-673-9844

Crime Watch:
Pat Mayers
954-763-7863

FTL Council of Civic Associations Liaison:
Madeleine Klein

History:
Larry Wallenstein
954-270-5962

Home Tour:
OPEN

Master Plan:
Larry Wallenstein
954-270-5962

Membership:
Glenda Rowley
954-467-1407

Newsletter:
Lindsay Koehler
954-610-2295

Planning/Zoning:
Catherine Maus
954-763-9525

Public Safety/CERT:
Thornie Jarrett
954-462-2001

Traffic:
Bob Oelke
954-524-6873

Utilities:
Jay Holloway
954-873-6645

Coordinators:
Event Coordinator
Hans Hochkamp
954-761-1265

Meeting Coordinator
Glenda Rowley
954-467-1407

Recycling Coordinator
JD Camp
954-802-2202

PLEASE NOTE:
The views and opinions stated in this newsletter are solely those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Board nor the members of the Victoria Park Civic Association, Inc.

2009 Membership Application / Renewal

Victoria Park Civic Association, Post Office Box 4472, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33338

Name ___________________________________________________   Telephone _______________________
Last                                                                             First
Name ___________________________________________________   Telephone _______________________
Last                                                                             First
Address ________________________________________________________________________________
City _____________________________________________________   State & Zip _______________________
Email Address To Use For VPCA Alert Emails: __________________________________________________
Profession / Interests ________________________________________________________________

Membership [ ] New [ ] Renewal
[ ] $15 – Single [ ] $25 – Household
[ ] $10 – Senior Citizen [ ] $25 – Business
I Would Like To Help On The Following Committee: [ ] Membership
[ ] Aesthetics [ ] Children [ ] Crime Watch [ ] Home Tour [ ] Traffic [ ] Welcome
[ ] Planning/Zoning [ ] Public Safety [ ] Social [ ] Utilities [ ] Master Plan [ ] Audit

Membership $__________ Capital Improvement Donation $__________ Amount Enclosed $__________
The Victoria Park News serves Victoria Park and its 10,000 residents. This newsletter is published monthly by Steve Kelley.

Color ads, full and half page, are available. Our monthly advertising rates and ad sizes are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/4 page</td>
<td>4 &amp; 3/4” high, 3 &amp; 3/4” wide</td>
<td>$90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 page</td>
<td>4 &amp; 3/4” high, 7 &amp; 1/2” wide</td>
<td>$170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full page</td>
<td>9 &amp; 5/8” high, 7 &amp; 1/2” wide</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Deadlines for camera ready art and prepayment are the 10th of each month for the following month’s publication. For more information about advertising please call Steve Kelley at 954-564-1308, or email at citynews@bellsouth.net.

Mail may be sent to:
633 NW 24th Street
Wilton Manors, FL 33311
www.citynewsfl.com

For advertising information call (954) 564-1308
Jacquelyn Scott & Associates
Your Victoria Park Professionals!

Colee Hammock

112 SE 17th Avenue
4 Bedroom, 2 Bath home located on a beautiful tree lined street just 2 blocks from Las Olas Blvd. Features include hardwood floors, new Master Bath, newer roof, fireplace, 1 car garage and tremendous curb appeal.

Offered at $699,000

Poinsettia Heights Pool Home

1538 NE 17th Avenue
3 bedroom, 2 bath home located just west of US 1. Open, updated kitchen with breakfast bar, updated baths, formal dining room, fireplace & Fla. room. Huge fenced backyard with free form pool and pavered patio.

Offered at $399,000

Victoria Park 70’ of Waterfront

524 Victoria Terrace
Built in 2006, this 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath home features a gourmet kitchen, hardwood floors, 10’+ ceilings, pool, covered porches on both levels, lg. 2 car garage, 70’ of waterfront with dock & is located on a quiet cul de sac street.

Offered at $1,499,000

Victoria Park Townhome

220 NE 15th Avenue
Key West architecture, 3 floors of ultra spacious living areas. 3 bedrooms, 4 baths, over 3,400 sq. ft., plus 2 car garage, pool, Jerusalem stone floors, formal LR & DR, Office, Media Room, 30’ ceiling in LR and a rooftop terrace.

Offered at $979,000

E. Point Towers Waterfront Condo

1170 N. Federal Hwy #504
Short Sale Opportunity! This unit is a 10! Renovated 2/2 with Euro-style kitchen w/ granite & stainless appl, 1,600 sq.ft., impact windows, washer & dryer in unit. South facing, w/great views of the pool and Middle River.

Offered at $209,000

Colee Hammock Townhome

1509 SE 2nd Street
Tri-level contemporary w/3 bedrooms 3.5 baths, over 3,200 sq. ft., elevator, pool, custom Poggenpohl kitchen, 10’ ceilings, marble and wood flooring, 2 car garage & security gate. Only 2 blks to Las Olas Blvd. Built in 2007

Offered at $1,229,000

To view our current listings and search the MLS, please log on to:
www.jacquelyncott.com

Thinking of Selling?
Jacquelyn Scott would like to offer you a FREE market evaluation to determine your home’s real value in today’s market and provide you with advice for enhancing its marketability. Call today!

Jacquelyn Scott
Broker-Associate
954-895-1400
Office: 954-377-5011
js2349@aol.com
Curb Appeal
By Art Levy

When Poncho Villa and his (terribly thorny, nevertheless flowery) brother Bougan snatch their snappy sombreros, drag out their old ocarinas and join the marauding Mariachi band, they will be happy to stroll down NE 5 Street to number 1605, where they will feel quite at home. While their burros look for a place to burrow in the shade, they will be delighted to park under the canopy of green in front of this charming house. They will find a captivating hacienda worthy to write home about (if burros could, in fact, write).

The entrance of this hacienda is framed by a magnificently-sculpted seagrape in the shape of a giant umbrella, which guards the site from the fire of the summer sun. The tree is a superb centerpiece which flaunts its presence along the entire street. The seagrape is native to south Florida and is perfectly content with the salty/sandy/stormy situation in which it is often stuck. It’s horti-name is actually Coccoloba uvifera (literally, “red leaf bearing eggs,” although most people envision the fruit as grapes). But “seagrape” is the term Floridians use, since it doesn’t answer when you call it coccoloba (would you?). This particular tree doesn’t have to worry about greedy grass sucking up all the water from the sandy soil at its base: there isn’t any. The groundcover in the landscape is covered with red rock, which carries the pleasing warm colors of the house to the street. The rock screams out “beware bare feet.” You may tiptoe through the tulips, but you can’t tread your toes around this seagrape. This is tumultuous mulch ‘round coccoloba gulch.

Like sentinels guarding the seagrape are two clumps of Pygmy Date Palms (you may have seen them on American Idol under the name of Phoenix Roebelenii). These are often referred to as ‘classy’ palms (I have no idea why). Slipped in here and there are specimen plants such as a Sago Palm (which is not a palm at all) and assorted agaves. By the way, I am advised that the agave plant is quite edible and the sap is sweet, but there is an interesting caution: the juice from many species of agave can cause acute contact dermatitis, causing reddening which can last up to two weeks. Episodes of itching may recur up to a year thereafter, even though there is no longer a visible rash. If the skin is pierced deeply enough by the needle-like ends of a leaf from these vigorously-growing plants, an area some 2-3 inches across may appear to be bruised. This may last up to three weeks! Oy. Curious facts, since agaves abound in our neighborhood.

Meanwhile, I’m told that the origin of the word hacienda means “things to be done.” The owner of this unique hacienda, Ms. Patricia Hemingway, has done artful things, for sure. Given all the crafty surprises tucked away in the landscaping, a stroll-by study is far better than a drive-by glimpse. I suggest that the next time you take your burro out for a burrito, you detour to NE 5 Street to number 1605 and witness how far the beauty of one home can reach.

Aesthetics Committee Report
By Jeanne Lalli

It was yet another great meeting at the home of Larry Wallenstein and Richard Reed. This time they actually cooked a turkey and served an over-the-top-chocolate dessert. What a treat! Thanks, as ever, for hosting us.

We are happy to report that the annual rejuvenation of our common areas is pretty much complete. Thanks to the many volunteers who turned out for workdays and to Chris of Horticultural Solutions who willingly transplanted materials from one area to another to save us money. He also cleaned several areas without charge.

Some discussion on the graffiti issue was held. See Page 10 for suggestions on products you can use if you encounter this problem on your private property. We will be purchasing a product which can be applied to our entranceway columns to make them easier to clean if graffiti happens again.

Ever on the quest to find new ways to raise funds for the Association, we are planning a walkathon scheduled for November when it is cooler.

That concludes perhaps the shortest Aesthetics report ever!!
Next meeting will be at the home of Trevor Lavelle on June 1 at 7 p.m. See ya.
416 NE 10 Avenue
JUST LISTED! 4BR/3BA, immense master suite, family room, formal living and dining rooms, fireplace, and built-ins galore! $499,000

205 NE 17 Avenue
2BR/18A house + 1BR/18A cottage with kitchen & laundry, separately metered, renovated interiors & deep private fenced yard. $440,000

207 N Gordon
Reconstructed, rebuilt mid-century waterfront, 4BR/3BA, 77ft on wide, deep waterfrontage, 3,500 SF of splashy contemporary finishes, vaulted ceilings, pool & waterfront loggia. $1,995,000

1610 NE 2 Court
Income Property! 2-2BR/18A units + 2-1BR/18A units, separately metered, updated interiors, two Mizner style buildings on single, large lot. $785,000

412 NE 13 Avenue
Spacious 4BR/3.5BA Georgian colonial pool home, 60 ft wide fenced lot, two 1st floor bedrooms, luxury master, 2nd floor loft, balcony and 2 car garage. Over 2,800 square feet. $899,000

1921 NE 7 Place
4BR/28A rests on a deep, private fenced lot and offers formal living and dining rooms, a family room, fireplace, garage, new roof and pavered drive. $519,000

705 NE 1 Street
Best price in Victoria Park! Gated & walled boutique enclave only blocks to downtown and Las Olas! 2BR/1.5BA, wood floors, in suite laundry, screen porch & fenced yard. Pets OK! $220,000

1401 NE 9 Street #39
3BR/2.5BA, 3-level in gated & walled enclave Victoria Park Place, 2-car garage, private courtyard, mastersuite, in suite laundry & many updates. Close to shopping & beaches. $319,000

View all available listings online:
www.timsinger.com

COLDWELL BANKER

910 S.E. 17th Street Causeway
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316

877.846.3500 | 954.463.1373
tim@timsinger.com

For advertising information call (954) 564-1308
By Peggy Celano

Minutes from the May 6, 2009 General Membership Meeting

President Ted Fling called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m.

Motion was made by Bob Oelke and seconded by Treasurer Larry Wallenstein to accept the minutes of the April 1, 2009 meeting.

Larry Wallenstein read the Treasurer’s Report. He also announced the results of our Finance Committee’s April meeting (an annual requirement of our Bylaws): our books are in order and all is well. Hans Hochkamp made a motion to accept the report; Jim Kevern seconded.

Ted introduced David Roth, Executive Editor of Las Olas Magazine, who has expressed interest in writing an article on the Victoria Park Civic Association.

Police Report

Before reporting crime statistics for April, Sergeant Bill Schultz announced that the Police Department will host a Landlord/Tenant class on May 20 at 6:30 p.m. in the new building at Executive Airport. Anyone interested can call the Police Department for more information.

Sergeant Schultz said that April had been a good month, as crimes within Victoria Park decreased.

The Department had one major crime they were still working on, which occurred in the 1700 block of East Sunrise Boulevard. A female was knocked down and had her purse taken and truck stolen.

The one vehicle theft was actually a scooter, and occurred on Federal Highway.

Eleven vehicle burglaries happened, mainly in peripheral areas. Sergeant Schultz listed the top three targets for thieves: laptops, purses, and GPS systems. He termed these type of thefts “smash and grabs,” and stressed how important it is to remove these items from sight. He also mentioned that tourists could be easy victims for thieves, as they might not know the importance of securing valuables.

Of the six residential burglaries, two were bikes stolen from yards.

Another was an attempt only, at Thornie Jarrett’s home. Thornie credited the Police Department for educating him on crime prevention precautions, which he adhered to diligently; he figured the burglar got frustrated and left.

A fourth burglary was the removal of a stove from a foreclosed home.

Sergeant Schultz described another where three suspects were on a property they thought to be vacant. When they kicked in the door, the resident was inside and he scared them off. With the excellent suspect and vehicle descriptions given by the owner, the thieves were apprehended within two hours.

Larry Wallenstein asked about the Sun-Sentinel’s publication The East Side Forum, which profiled Rio Vista neighborhood’s efforts to curtail crime. Their association hires off-duty policemen and leases a vehicle, which could be a marked patrol unit (the parked car alone is a deterrent). Other neighborhoods have invited Rio Vista to speak at their meetings about the program.

Twenty-one arrests occurred in April. One resident asked about a blurp he had read in the paper about a rapist being arrested on NE 11 Avenue; Sergeant Schultz responded that the arrest was an outstanding felony warrant. He concluded the report noting that his days on duty are Mondays thru Thursdays, and urged residents to call him as needed.

Code Enforcement

Code Compliance Officer Ursula Thime asked residents if they had any questions (no one did), and wished everyone a great evening.

Vote Discussion

Ted introduced City Commissioner Charlotte Rodstrom, explaining that her presence was necessary in order to carry the Association’s vote on naming the NE 7 Street Right Of Way. The City Commission needs to approve the agreed-upon name. Jeanne Lalli reviewed the ROW’s history, explaining that the term “pocket park” has been used in a generic sense to describe areas transformed from eyesores to aesthetically-pleasing green spaces. During the early 1990s, the area between NE 14 and NE 15 streets on NE 7 Avenue had been used as a dumping ground for debris. At that time, neighborhood resident John Rude was a VPCA member whose influence convinced the City to turn the area into a green space, which he called “Progress Hammock Park.” In the late 1990s, after a schism within the Association, Mr. Rude ceased his involvement with VPCA and contacted Jeanne, as Chairman of the Aesthetics Committee, regarding maintenance of the space. VPCA added it to its list of maintained neighborhood common areas five or six years ago.

Three months ago, a motion was made to name the ROW in honor of Norm McLean. The Association learned that a City ROW cannot be called a park; it has to be called a greenway. John Rude notified City Commissioner Rodstrom that the pocket park already had a name. The Association’s newly-suggested name was “the Norm MacLean Progress Hammock Greenway.” Commissioner Rodstrom suggested calling it “Progress Hammock Greenway in honor of Norm MacLean,” instead. Thornie Jarrett asked John Rude, in attendance at the meeting, to explain how the park got its name. Continued on page 9
Meeting Minutes - Continued from page 8

name. John verified the schism within VPCA back then and how certain Board members had been dismissed, and that the existing Association said it wanted nothing to do with the pocket park at the time, to the extent that they wanted it paved over.

Mr. Rude cited two other Victoria Park locations which would enhance surrounding areas if converted to pocket parks, and said that a third area was suggested recently. Mr. Rude then read his opinion, stating that a laziness factor does not become the VPCA, along with his idea that the Association create another pocket park in Norm MacLean’s honor.

Discussion continued until Commissioner Rodstrom offered an idea for compromise: to name the pocket park “Progress Hammock Memorial Greenway” and to consider adding a plaque to commemorate not only Norm’s contributions to Victoria Park, but also that of future volunteers. She urged the Association to cultivate the greenways already mentioned, and said to do so would be a wonderful thing. It was Charlotte’s hope that establishing a plaque with Norm’s name was but a first step in honoring him, as well as many others. Member Steve Kirsch made a motion to name the pocket park “Progress Hammock Memorial Greenway.” Membership Chairman Glenda Rowley seconded; the motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Aesthetics

Jeanne Lalli reported that rejuvenation efforts to Association common areas have been completed for this year. Her committee is continuing its work on Victoria Park’s 85th Anniversary Celebration, asking residents who have lived here for a long time to come forward with stories and memories. Jeanne introduced a new fundraising idea, piggybacking on a City program which promotes walking within its neighborhoods. VPCA would like to initiate a “walk with a partner” campaign in November, whereby the money we raise by seeking sponsors would be divided evenly between the Association and a charity/cause yet to be determined. If all goes well, everyone who participates should have a great time on our walk through the neighborhood. Planning is still in the early stages; look for more information as details develop.

History

Larry Wallenstein is seeking two more “longtimer” residents, so if you know of anyone with a family-owned property with a story to tell, please let Larry know; he would be happy to contact them. All are welcome to send their stories to vpstories@aol.com.

Home Tour

Due to work conflicts and time constraints, Janet Schlembach has resigned the chairmanship.

Master Plan

Larry Wallenstein said there would be nothing new until October.

Membership

Glenda Rowley reported that the Association has 383 household memberships and eight business members, down from last year’s 516 (which included households and businesses).

Newsletter

In Lindsay Koehler’s absence, Ted announced that newly-printed versions of the Bylaws were available. He urged members to mark the Victoria Park News as a favorite on the VPCA.org website; the site will be adding items of importance through frequent updates. (Secretary’s Note: a link to the revised Bylaws is located on the left side of the VPCA.org homepage.)

Planning and Zoning

Bob Oelke reported that The Nurtury’s re-hearing rendered the same result as the original: no waivers were granted. He said he hoped that our Association would be supportive of The Nurtury’s effort to find a suitable location within Victoria Park.

Bob gave an update on the Paradise Bank construction project and their intention to widen a portion of NE 6 Street. The area is all staked out, so it should happen soon. A resident asked if the widening would impact any plantings at that part of the street; Bob said it would not. Also, in an effort to make that area more pedestrian friendly, sidewalks are in the works. A short discussion arose when Ted announced that the nearby BP Station was gone; others thought it was only closed temporarily for tank replacement.

Recycling

J D Camp presented a check to the VPCA for $975, a direct result of member participation in a number of City events: the Starlight Summer Concert Series at Holiday Park; Earth Day; the Holiday Boat Parade; the Scottish Festival; and the Art and Jazz Festival. He said that over the years the Association has earned about $10,000 from its recycling efforts, and that he would like to propose that the money be used for eco-friendly purposes.

Utilities

Jay Holloway reported that FPL removed seven duplicate poles from NE 20 Avenue. Ted interjected a “New Business” item into the committee report, explaining that between May 18 and July 31, FPL wants to replace certain wooden poles with concrete, and others with new wood, in its effort to strengthen utility poles. Ted invited those in attendance to review a map to see which poles will be affected. Also, it is his hope that when the new FPL poles are in place, AT&T and Comcast will be more responsive to

Continued on page 10
Crime Report: Bike Registration For Your Protection

By Pat Mayers

Spring is in the air and it is time to get outside and enjoy the weather...this is why we moved to Florida! Start walking, jogging, roller blading and of course biking in this, our wonderful neighborhood, for a healthier you. Please make sure you are aware of your surroundings at all times. Be sure that your bike is locked and safe in the garage or house when not being ridden: bicycles are one of the top-three stolen items in our City! Make sure that children both young and old do not leave bicycles in the driveway or in the yard unlocked: this is an invitation to have them taken by passersby. Do not invite anyone to take and enjoy your property.

I want to inform you that the City of Fort Lauderdale has a Bike Registration Law. Bicycle registration is mandatory for all City residents and is optional for non-residents. Enforcement of the ordinance began in January, 1999. Registration is quick, easy, and takes place at the Fort Lauderdale Crime Prevention Office at 533 NE 13 Street. Bicycle owners MUST BRING proof of ownership (or fill out an affidavit of ownership at the registration site). For more information, call 954-828-6400. The cost of initial registration is just one dollar. If your decal becomes lost or stolen, it will cost an additional dollar to replace. The registration decal will make your bicycle less attractive to bike thieves, and in the event that your bicycle IS stolen, you are more likely to have it returned to you by the Police if they impound it from a thief.

If your bicycle is stolen, PLEASE make sure you report it immediately to 954-828-5700, extension 6, and make a report. Give them your registration number if you have one. Then, if and when your bike is found, it has a good chance of being returned to you. If they do not find your bike, you will be notified of a time and place when you could possibly get another bike (unregistered bikes which were confiscated).

The purpose of this program is to reduce the number of bicycles stolen and to assist the police in the recovery of stolen bicycles. For more information, call 954-828-6400. Take a few minutes now to prevent theft of your property later.

Meeting Minutes - Continued from page 9

requests to replace theirs.

New Business

Ted introduced the discussion for voting on the Downtown Development Authority’s request that the Association endorse its project “the Wave.” He then turned discussion over to Bob Oelke. (Secretary’s Note: For more in-depth information and details, please see Bob’s article about the Wave on Page 24.) Ron Centamore, President of the Downtown Homeowner’s Association, spoke on the Wave’s behalf and hoped our Association would endorse it as well. He was speaking as a private citizen, and not as President. Jim Kevern made a motion to defer our letter to the DDA until we gather more information; Steve Kirsch seconded, and the motion was unanimous.

Ted reviewed the important dates listed on the agenda under “New Business:”

May 7 - A1A Corridor Study: A proposal to decrease A1A from Oakland Park Boulevard to the City limits would reduce the number of lanes in each direction to two.

May 11, 12, 13, 14 - Neighborhood Development Criteria Revisions: The Holiday Park Social Center is hosting the local event on May 12 from 6 to 8 p.m. Ted assured us there would be free food, but no booze.

Hans Hochkamp made a motion to adjourn at 8:45 p.m. Ted seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

HOW TO GET IT OFF...
GRAFFITI, THAT IS.

By Jeanne Lalli

We were recently put in contact with Topstone Media Blasting to help us remove the graffiti from our entranceway columns. They not only helped us with that, but they also offered some advice on what you as a property owner might do if such a thing appears on your property and you are forced to deal with removing it.

First of all, they said that the graffiti should NOT be blasted first with a heavy pressure cleaner as this could seriously corrode whatever you are trying to clean. Treat the area with a product such as Taganator, Goof-Off or an acetone; mineral spirits might also work. Use a sponge or brush to apply.

The folks from this company said to feel free to contact them with questions, or if you want them to perform the service for you. They also can remove all kinds of things from all kinds of surfaces: they clean most anything damaged by mold and mildew, fire or smoke, unwanted paint or anything on a surface that you want removed. Barrel tile roofs are their specialty. Call Jacquie at 954-636-2846.
Shed those unwanted pounds!

Lose Weight & Feel Great!

Summer Special!

Only $199

A Savings of $125

Includes

- 3 personal training sessions
- Body fat measurement
- Blood pressure and heart rate
- Basal metabolic rate calculation
- Health risk appraisal
- Weight training and aerobic recommendations

BALANCED & FIT, INC.

BODY SCULPTING THROUGH EXERCISE, EDUCATION & MOTIVATION

Call Today! 954.770.7202

bballancedandfit@yahoo.com

www.balancedandfit.com
We can help. Our Professional Mobile Technicians are experts in technology. We can repair your PC, setup and install your home theater, configure your wireless network or provide training and support for your technological gadgets. If you are considering upgrading your home with a home automation system, automated lighting or video surveillance system we have the technical know-how to get the right system installed and working for you. We offer competitive pricing. We are committed to working fast to get you up and running as quickly as possible. Enjoy same day service.

CALL TODAY
1-87-PRODIGY-7

sales • service • computer • home theater • home automation • automated lighting • video surveillance systems

Enjoy

What’s New

Father’s Day BBQ
Afternoon Tea Tuesday
Thirsty Thursday
Fashion Friday
Kids Eat for $3 on Sundays at Indigo
Sunset Dinner in the Grill Room
Classics on Las Olas

visit www.riversidehotel.com for further details

RIVERSIDE HOTEL
620 East Las Olas Boulevard Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301
954-467-0471 or info@riversidehotel.com

For advertising information call (954) 564-1308
Discover the NEW Coral Ridge Yacht Club
Golf, Boat, Dine and Dance
(Yachts and dinghies optional)

VIP Special Limited Time Offering For Full Family & Single Memberships
Legacy Memberships
4-Month Summer Guest Memberships

Exciting, fun activities and events for singles, young families, accomplished professionals and spirited, savvy seniors!
- Unwind at our Intracoastal Waterway Point Bar and Grille parties and buffets.
- Dance and socialize in our “infamous” Clubhouse Breege Bar.
- Rock the night away or swing dance and waltz Wednesday and Saturday nights.
- Sip poolside cocktails after a memorable day of golf.
- Join the dynamic “Cruisers” Boating Weekends and fun tri-county restaurant outings.

Kid’s Camp! Create memories for a lifetime!
- Camps include full swim and dive program, fishing, field trips, games and arts and crafts
- Kids learn to sail, take apart, assemble and sail dinghies (ages 8 to 16).
- Expanded Summer Camp Program (starting June 8th) features Jr and Advanced Sailing Programs, overseen by world-class competitor sailor CRYC Dockmaster Sharon Crockett.

Welcome To the NEW Coral Ridge Yacht Club
NEW General Manager Lee Pires (formerly of Key Biscayne Yacht Club)
NEW Executive Chef Xavier Santiago (formerly of Mar-A-Lago in Palm Beach)
NEW Director of Membership Sales and Marketing Pat Glass (formerly of Coral Ridge C.C.)

Call Pat Glass today for limited summertime special pricing details!
954.383.7828 or membershipdirector@cryc.net
Coral Ridge Yacht Club 2800 Yacht Club Blvd., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304

Home of Winterfest’s Best Boat Parade Party
Buying or selling a property? Give us a call. We specialize in Victoria Park and can help you with all your Real Estate needs.

Maggie King
954-614-4599
Charlie King
954-465-3050

Check out our new comprehensive website.
www.coastalpreferred.com

Victoria Park Closed Sales In April 2009 (information from the Florida Regional MLS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Style</th>
<th>Property Location</th>
<th>List Price</th>
<th>Sale Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single Family Home</td>
<td>617 NE 17th Terrace</td>
<td>$409,000</td>
<td>$340,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single Family Home</td>
<td>1608 NE 5th Court</td>
<td>$299,900</td>
<td>$275,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Townhouse</td>
<td>605 NE 11 Avenue</td>
<td>$285,900</td>
<td>$285,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Condo</td>
<td>100 N Federal Hwy #532</td>
<td>$167,900</td>
<td>$165,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Condo</td>
<td>729 NE 16 Ave #A</td>
<td>$183,048</td>
<td>$155,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Condo</td>
<td>110 N Federal Hwy #836</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Condo</td>
<td>611 NE 14 Avenue #206</td>
<td>$139,900</td>
<td>$131,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your Satisfaction is our Priority!
A short sale can give you real hope for the future.

Don’t let foreclosure ruin your chances to redeem your credit, get a loan, apply for certain jobs or even qualify for health insurance.

At CleanSlate, our team of Short Sale experts will advocate on your behalf to protect your rights as a homeowner and help you to sell your home and avoid foreclosure. We are 100% compliant with all Florida Laws and we can help you achieve a quick resolution to your personal housing crisis. At CleanSlate, we specialize in confidential, out-of-court resolutions that will help avoid a lifetime of potential legal and credit problems – but you need to take the first step. Don’t let foreclosure happen to you. For a free, confidential consultation, call today.

- Avoid Foreclosure
- Quick Resolutions
- Protect Your Future
- Private/Confidential

Help is just a call away.

954.653.7000
www.CleanSlateHFS.com
In Northwest Savings Bank We Trust

The 100 Most Trustworthy Companies

Who can you trust today? It’s a more crucial question than ever now, across the business world. An annual survey identifies the 100 businesses on American exchanges with the most transparent and conservative accounting practices and most prudent management.

NWSB was ranked 54th out of 12,000 publicly-traded companies
NWSB is #1 of only 11 financial institutions to make the list
NWSB was rated the #1 Savings Bank in America
NWSB was rated the #1 financial institution in Pennsylvania
NWSB was rated the #1 financial institution in the regions we serve

OUR STRENGTH IS YOUR SAFETY.

Member FDIC

Where People Make The Difference

Pembroke Pines
2000 North Flamingo Road
Pembroke Pines, FL 33304

Fort Lauderdale
1609 East Sunrise Blvd
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304

Plantation
950 South Pine Island Rd, #180
Plantation, FL 33304

For advertising information call (954) 564-1308
Osso bucco, grilled portobello, chocolate mousse and cappuccino...they’re just a few of the gourmet surprises in the small, built-for-speed cafés and lobby shops tucked inside Downtown’s office towers.

Fort Lauderdale’s growing line-up of lobby breakfast-and-lunch spots can keep you busy this summer exploring creative menu offerings and daily specials, with refreshingly reasonable prices.

Duck into an office tower and you’re likely to find one of downtown’s hidden gems – a mini-café where the owner takes fierce pride in knowing your name and turning out daily specials and signature dishes to keep you coming back. Talk a minute with the owners. You’ll find veteran caterers, retired executive chefs, and telecom execs-turned-foodies who all understand it’s not just about the food.

So, the next time you need breakfast on the go, or a lunchtime oasis, stroll over to one of downtown’s office tower cafés and try a new and intriguing experience.

**SOME OF DOWNTOWN’S OFFICE-BUILDING CAFÉS:**

- **CJ’s Café**, in New River Center, 200 E. Las Olas Blvd.
- **Downtown Sandwich Shop**, 450 East Las Olas Blvd.
- **Green Bean Café**, in One East Broward Tower, 1 E. Broward Blvd.
- **Nate’s Grab and Go Lobby Store**, in Broward Financial Center, 500 E. Broward Blvd.
- **Nate’s Grab and Go Lobby Store**, in National City Center, 200 E. Broward Blvd.
- **Danlu Lobby Shops**, in SunTrust Center, 515 E. Las Olas Blvd.
- **110 Café**, on the 7th floor of the 110 Tower, 110 SE 6 St.
- **La Salsa**, in Bank of America Plaza at Las Olas City Centre, 401 E. Las Olas Blvd.
- **Presidential Café**, in the Tower 101 Building, 101 NE 3 Ave.
- **Steve’s Espresso**, Broward College lobby, 225 E. Las Olas Blvd.
- **You & Me Café**, in One Financial Plaza, 100 SE 3rd Ave.

For details please visit www.ddaftl.org

For more information, email us at: elizabeth@ddaftl.org or call 954-463-6574
Confidential Comprehensive Psychological Services

- Depression
- Anxiety
- Addictions
- Relationship Difficulties
- Career Testing
- AD/HD & Learning Disability Evaluations
- Motivation Difficulties

Mention this ad and receive a free consultation to see if our services are right for you.

Motivational Institute for Behavioral Health, LLC

Lori Eickleberry, Ph.D.
Licensed Psychologist, PY 7732
2881 E. Oakland Park Blvd., Suite 313
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33306
954-315-1774

When you are feeling overwhelmed,

know that help and guidance are a phone call away.

WOMEN’S OUTDOOR WORKOUT

CLASSES
Early morning
Mid-morning
Evening at
Brion Park (Las Olas)
Huizenga Plaza (Riverwalk)

A four-week program for women of all ages, sizes and fitness levels meeting several times per week, depending on the package you choose.

YOU CAN EXPECT...
* Loss of body fat
* Improved self-confidence
* Firmer arms, legs, buns and thighs
* Faster metabolism to burn more calories
* Improved cardiovascular health
* Decreased stress, tension and anxiety
* Improved stamina
* Meet new people
* Better sleep and increased productivity
* Decreased back pain and discomfort
* Look & feel better in your favourite clothes
* Have fun!

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST AT www.womensoutdoorworkout.com AND WIN A PLATINUM MEMBERSHIP!

954-253-5357
Correct Coverage Insurance
954-561-8297 or 877-646-2238
Visit our website at www.CorrectCoverageInsurance.com for full information on all of our affordable health insurance plans

Guaranteed Issue Health Insurance
Family Coverage for under $200 per month
No medical questions asked!

Visit our website at www.CorrectCoverageInsurance.com

Crown Pavers
Interlocking Brick
Patios – Driveway – Repairs

Call for a free estimate
Harold Lovell, President
954-467-8900 office
954-520-9403 cell
Licensed / Insured
CBC 057675
A leading orthodontist in Ft. Lauderdale for 30 years
• Braces for adults & children
• Invisalign Specialist for adults & teens
• Children’s treatment starting at age 7

$500 off Full Orthodontic Treatment
LIMITED TIME OFFER
Offer good through June 30, 2009
New patients only. Must present coupon.

Call today to schedule your complimentary exam
954-776-6166
5400 N. Federal Hwy. Suite 101
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308
www.shortorthodontics.com

SPECIAL OFFERS: Act Now!

Haven’t renewed your VPCA membership yet (or want to join for the first time)? Bring your checkbook to the June 3 general membership meeting and sign up, and you will receive a beautiful “Views of Victoria Park” poster.

Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month (except August) in the cafeteria of the St. Anthony school at 901 NE 2 Street; enter just west of NE 9 Avenue on the north side of the street.

And just in case you’ve never made it to Sun Trust’s Jazz Brunch on the Riverfront...remember that this fabulous event takes place on the first Sunday of each and every month, so we’ll hope to see you on June 7 by the New River (bring your sunscreen!).

Continuing on a musical theme, join your neighbors on the great lawn in Holiday Park at 7 p.m. on Friday, June 19th for the first Starlight Musical of 2009. (Concerts each Friday through August 7, thanks to Bank of America, the sponsor.)

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Animal Care & Regulation 359-1313
Beach Patrol 468-1595
Building/Construction Services-Permitting & Inspections 828-5191
City Clerk 828-5002
City Hall 828-5000
City Manager 828-5013
Code Enforcement 828-5207
Economic Development 828-4515
Police non-emergency 828-5700
Fire non-emergency 828-5320
Licenses—Occupational 828-5196
Parking Passes, Fines & Info 828-3700
Planning & Zoning info 828-5191
Special Events Hotline 828-5363
Streets & Medians 828-8000
(call for street lights, damaged sidewalks-signs-fences-potholes-vandalism)
Damaged street signs 484-9600
Damaged trees/landscaping in median/right of way 828-5784
Severely trimmed trees 828-5200
Dead animal 765-5124
Traffic signal out 484-9600
Buildings 828-5207
(abandoned, damaged/derelict structure, work without a permit)
Drug Sales/Usage 828-5661
Trash & Debris 828-8000
(in yards, alleys, overflowing dumpster, illegal dumping, overgrown vacant property, Trash in swale or street, neglected swale)
Trash 771-0880
(Recycling, bulk trash, trash carts, etc.)
Water & Sewage 828-8000
(broken sprinkler, hydrant, water main, sewer line)
Water Billing 828-8000
Vehicles 828-5207
(abandoned, parked in right of way)
War Memorial Shows 828-5381
Public Info. Office 828-4746
Broward Co. Mass Transit 357-8400

The Mayor and all City Commissioners may be contacted at:
100 N. Andrews Ave.
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301
828-5004
828-5667 (fax)
Expert Cleaning by Desi!

- Carpet cleaning 2 rooms $50, or sofa
- Free Deodorizer

Tile & Grout - Mexican Tile
Wood Floors
Marble - Terrazzo

Call Today Desi (954) 383-5054
Things you need to know, things you wanted to know, things you would care less if you ever knew!

By Hans Hochkamp

The word “nightmare” is the private name of a female medieval demon which attacks sleeping people. “Mare” means goblin in Old English. Pleasant dreams!

The first woman governor, Nellie Tayloe Ross of Wyoming, was elected in 1924 upon the death of the previous governor, her husband.

Mary Phelps Jacob received the first patent for a bra in 1914. Her corset, replete with whaleback bones, was visible under a brand new evening gown she purchased. She used handkerchiefs and ribbon to replace the bones. She sold the patent to Warner Brothers Corset Company in Bridgeport, Connecticut for $1,500. You’ve come a long way, baby!

The first car race in the United States was sponsored by the Chicago Times-Herald in 1895. The contestants drove from Chicago to Waukegan. It was won by James Frank Duryea (1869-1967).

The guillotine was first put to lethal use on April 25, 1792, at 3:30 p.m., in Paris at the Place de Greve on the Right Bank of the Seine. It separated highwayman Nicolas Jacques Pelletier’s head from the rest of his body. Definitely cures a headache.

An average person has about 6 quarts of blood running through their body. Fill ‘er up!

If you’ve got a normal head of hair, you have about 100,000 hairs on it. Oh well, 99,999 missing!

If your sense of smell isn’t working, you can’t taste an onion.

A Texan convicted of robbery worked out a deal to pay $9,600 in damages rather than serve a two-year prison sentence. For payment, he gave the court a forged check. He got his prison term back, plus eight more years. Dummy!

The distance of a marathon was first standardized at 25 miles in 1896. During the 1908 London Olympics, Queen Alexandra wanted her grandchildren to see the start of the race, so the starting line was moved back one mile and 385 yards...onto the front lawn of Windsor Castle. How many racers failed to finish because of this?

If you were a tobacco farmer in the 30’s and 40’s, you wouldn’t have had to fight in WW II. President Roosevelt declared tobacco “an essential crop” at the outbreak of the war, exempting tobacco growers from the draft.

A little astronomy:
All the moons of the solar system are named after characters from Greek and Roman mythology, except the moons of Uranus, which are named after Shakespearean characters.

Jupiter’s moon Ganymede is the largest moon in the solar system, and is larger than the planets Mercury and Pluto.

Oops, Pluto got downgraded. No longer a planet.
Pluto is the second-largest known dwarf planet in the solar system (after Eris) and the tenth-largest body observed directly orbiting the Sun. Originally classified as a planet, Pluto is now considered the largest member of a distinct population called the Kuiper Belt.

Saturn’s moon Titan has hundreds of times more oil and natural gas than all the known reserves on Earth.

The planets in the solar system rotate anticlockwise, except Venus, Uranus and Pluto which rotate clockwise. No one knows why.

How about a milkshake?! The first written reference to a milkshake was in a British newspaper in 1885. The recipe included a shot of whiskey. My favorite!

Before he went into business with the McDonald’s brothers, Ray Kroc sold machines that could make six milkshakes at one time. The brothers bought eight of them, which sparked Kroc’s interest in their burger business. That’s no crock!

According to The Guinness Book of World Records, Ira Freehof, owner of Comfort Diners, made the world’s largest milkshake in 2000. At 6,000 gallons, it was the equivalent of 50,000 normal-size shakes.

Malt, the key ingredient in a malted milkshake, is a substance made from sprouted grain. It is a good source of carbohydrates and protein. Malt is also used in brewing beer and in yeast. Now you’ve got something!

According to the USDA, a standard 100g milkshake contains 3.9 grams of fat, 18.27 grams of carbohydrates, and 3.5 grams of protein.

Australians can still buy traditional milkshakes in “milk bars,” which are much like old-fashioned drugstores with counter service. They’re usually served in the traditional steel cup, but may be poured into a paper cup for carry-out orders.

QUOTE: “The eternal silence of these infinite spaces fills me with dread.” Blaise Pascal

QUOTE: “From what we get, we can make a living; what we give, however, makes a life.” Arthur Ashe

QUOTE: “Time misspent in youth is sometimes all the freedom one ever has.” Anita Brookner

QUOTE: “All I really need is love, but a little chocolate now and then doesn’t hurt!” Charles M. Schulz
for our New Teaching Series:

**WOW Sayings of Jesus for the Messy Moments of Life**

“You’ve heard what He said, but do you know what He meant?”

Sundays at 10:15 AM

116 NE 24th Street • Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33305
For more information about NorthStar Community Church
Call us at 954.564.4374 or visit us at www.NorthStarFTL.org

---

**Las Olas Cafe**

The best kept Secret on Las Olas

Featuring our Summer Recession Special!

Full Three Course Dinner for $25

With this ad

Reservations recommended

On the Boulevard...

922 East Las Olas Blvd. – Private Parties Available
www.lasolascafe.com – Phone 524.4300

---

**Choice Design Studio**

Get Noticed!

We Do It All! Let Us “Proof” It To You!

- Advertising
- Business Cards
- Brochures
- Flyers
- Illustrations
- Laminating
- Labels
- Logos
- Menus
- Newsletters
- Postcards
- Posters
- Signs
- Table Tents

At Choice Design Studio you’ll get personalized service with custom designs specifically for you to get the impact you need to succeed! Our prices are competitive with a quick turn around. Plus we pick up and deliver! You’ll be pleased with the quality of product and service you will get at Choice Design Studio. Let us “proof” it to you!

Choice Design Studio
Graphic Design/Printing/Laminating
954.701.5191 • sivon@aol.com
www.choice designstudio.com

Save $20 On Design Call Today!
TRAFFIC REPORT:
An in-depth look at The Wave

By Bob Oelke

On a hot summer day in Fort Lauderdale, nothing’s more fun than bodysurfing at our world-renown beach. It can be thrilling when you catch just the right wave and ride...ride...ride it to shore. But if you’re not careful, a whitecap can smack you down, leaving you with scrapes...and sand in your shorts.

At VPCA’s April general membership meeting, Chris Wren of the Downtown Development Authority unveiled plans for the Wave, a new electric streetcar system in downtown Fort Lauderdale. The DDA’s website (www.ddaftl.org) features an entertaining 8-minute video of the Wave, showing its proposed route and benefits for the City. It’s nice to imagine floating along our downtown streets on a quiet streetcar which connects our neighbors in Flagler Heights with downtown offices, condos, government buildings and restaurants...all the way to Broward General Hospital at the south end of the line. If you’ve ridden on a streetcar in Europe or a cable car* in San Francisco, you can understand their allure. But like sunny days at the shore, there’s a grittier side to this Wave, too.

The DDA proposal comes with a $125 million construction price tag. According to Jeff Weidner of Florida’s Department of Transportation, this is an “affordable” project because your Federal and State tax dollars are available to pick up much of the tab. Federal taxpayers will pay 50% of the construction cost, while Florida taxpayers will pay 25%, leaving approximately $31 million to be picked up locally. Our City has committed $10.5 million of local property tax dollars to this project, with the balance to be paid through special assessments on downtown property owners. Different assessment rates apply, depending on whether the property is commercial, residential or vacant. A small sliver of Victoria Park falls within the assessment district: along North Federal Highway from Broward Boulevard to NE 6 Street, one block deep to NE 7 Ave. The special assessment will also apply to downtown properties owned by: the taxpayer-supported Broward County School District, North Broward Hospital District, Florida Atlantic University and Broward Community College. Other government buildings, such as City Hall, the county courthouse and main library, are exempt, as are the Museum of Art, Performing Arts Center and properties owned by non-profit organizations. All downtown parking garages are also exempt.

In an era of taxpayer “tea parties,” debates about earmarks, budget deficits and the proper size of government, one could ask whether this is a critical need to be funded by federal, state and local taxpayers? Public transit can be an engine for economic growth and relieve congestion caused by automobile traffic. If, like many of us, you agree that more mass transit options are sorely needed in South Florida, there’s one more question our local leaders should ask: is the Wave a cost-effective use of taxpayer dollars?

According to the National Alliance of Public Transportation Advocates (www.napta.net), a national grassroots organization which supports increased investment in public transportation, streetcar systems should cost about $10 million per mile. Not surprisingly, the streetcar systems built with private funding cost less per mile, while construction budgets for taxpayer-supported systems are much higher. Several cities have invested in streetcar systems within the past decade:

Portland, Oregon built its current 4.6-mile loop for approximately $12.4 million per mile
Tampa’s 2.1-mile system cost $13.7 million per mile
Little Rock, Arkansas installed 2.1 miles for $7.1 million per mile
San Pedro, California built a 1.5-mile line for $4 million per mile
Kenosha, Wisconsin constructed a short line at a cost of $3 million per mile

By comparison, the DDA’s Wave would cost $49.9 million per mile. If the Wave’s construction costs were similar to these other cities, we could install 10 miles of track for the proposed budget of $125 million. (That’s enough to connect the current Tri-Rail station and Park-and-Ride lot with downtown, downtown with the beach and extend the proposed Wave line to all the way down, Andrews to the airport.) So a gritty question remains: why would The Wave cost so much to build? We’ve asked the DDA to explain the “extra costs,” but as of our print deadline they have not supplied us with the details.

Once the Wave is constructed, Broward County has accepted responsibility for ownership, and the DDA estimates annual operating costs at $2.5 million. Assuming a $1.25 one-way fare (comparable with County bus fares), the system will need 2,000,000 riders a year to cover that cost. The DDA projects daily ridership will expand from the 100 who currently ride the downtown Sun Trolley to 6,000 riding the Wave. That very optimistic projection is based, in part, on better bus connections between downtown and the Tri-Rail station two miles to the west. Yet DDA’s research shows that people do not like to ride a bus, and Tri-Rail’s state/county funding is seriously in doubt.

Most streetcar systems in the US do not currently break even. Fares from Tampa’s 400,000 annual riders cover less than one-half of that system’s $2.4 million cost. Portland has weekday ridership approaching 14,000, but a large portion of its service area is a “fare free zone.” As a result, Portland’s farebox revenues contribute less than 10% of its $4.9 operating cost. If the Wave’s ridership doesn’t cover

Continued on page 26
PROFESSIONAL BABYSITTING SERVICES FOR VICTORIA PARK FAMILIES

- HAPPY TO PROVIDE MULTIPLE REFERENCES
- 15 YEARS EXPERIENCE
- EXPERIENCE WITH MULTIPLES
- QUALIFIED, SAFE, NURTURING
- FULL OF ENERGY
- FLEXIBLE
- LAST MINUTE CALL? NO PROBLEM!
- LOCAL RESIDENT

YOU CAN REST ASSURED THAT YOUR CHILDREN WILL BE SAFE, HAPPY, AND HAVING FUN!

FOR MORE INFO CALL 786.277.7141 OR EMAIL SABRINA.JOY@GMAIL.COM

Detail Roofing, Inc.

RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL
Re-Roofs & Repairs • Tile • Metal • Shingles
Serving Broward County for over 20 years
Licensed & Insured
CCC 1326461 - State certified
Credit Cards Accepted

954-564-0115
1167 NE 24th Street
Wilton Manors, FL 33305

Always Fresh Off the Grill!!!
Dine-In
Carry Out,
& Catering
DELIVERY
NATURAL CHICKEN GRILL
Our Chicken is Marinated in Our Very Own Special Blend of Caribbean Herbs & Spices!

Let us deliver your dinner!

SALADS • SOUPS • WRAPS • PITAS
SEAFOOD • SURF & TURF • CHICKEN CHOPS
CHURRASCO CHOPS • CHICKEN MEALS

1926 Cordova Rd * Ft Lauderdale (954) 527-1000
(Behind Embassy Suites in Harbor Shops just left of Publix)

Mention this ad to receive the special below for the months of April/May

Chicken Family Meal
$13.99
Whole Chicken, 2 Large Sides, 4 Sauces & 2 Pita Breads

2 Chicken Family Meal
$23.99
2 Whole Chickens, 4 Large Sides, 8 Sauces & 4 Pita Breads
its operating costs, County taxpayers will be on the hook for the difference until 2029. To be fair, Broward also subsidizes Tri-Rail, water taxi and bus riders, and it would be nice to have our county commissioners openly disclose all of these to taxpayers. In the long run, will the cost of operating The Wave crowd out more cost-effective regional transit programs, such as repositioning Tri-Rail on the FEC tracks or relieving commuter congestion into downtown?

As the DDA likes to point out, “transit oriented development” increases real estate values near streetcar stations. Unlike bus systems, which can change their routes to adjust for future demands, streetcar routes are set in stone (or asphalt). Developers, businesses and residents prefer to know that the streetcar will always stop near their new developments, which is why property values increase around streetcar stations, but not at bus stops. In effect, tax dollars used to build the Wave subsidize property owners along the proposed route. Of course, governments pick economic winners and losers all the time when they decide where streets and other infrastructures are to be built. And it’s true that those higher real estate values will eventually support higher property taxes once redevelopment occurs. One cannot fault the DDA for touting construction of the Wave: some downtown developers will benefit significantly from that public investment, but what exactly will taxpayers receive in return for granting a $100+ million subsidy?

All transportation projects rely on some form of taxpayer subsidies: gas taxes build roads, fees on tickets pay for airports, private railroads are granted right-of-ways and favorable property tax rates, so it is unfair to focus solely on the subsidies proposed for the Wave. It is also true that reliance on automobiles creates congestion, air pollution, urban sprawl, and dependence on imported oil, while parking lots visually pollute the landscape. Mass transit should be an important component of our urban planning.

Very few streetcar systems have been built in the US recently, although many are now on the drawing board. Portland seems to be the leader in this trend, and many municipalities around the country have looked to their experience in planning transit-oriented development projects. Streetcar manufacturing is also creating a new source of local jobs in Portland: United Streetcar (a subsidiary of Oregon Iron Works, Inc.) began manufacturing the first US-built modern streetcar in 2008. That, and the fact that a former Portland city commissioner is now a vocal transit consultant, may explain part of that city’s “leadership” in pushing other cities to build streetcars.

The question remains whether the large taxpayer subsidy of the Wave is justified by its benefits to the public at large, or whether a scaled-down version would give us a bigger bang for our buck. With any luck, our elected officials will ask those questions and get acceptable answers before committing taxpayer dollars. The City of Portland requires an independent third-party evaluation of the cost-effectiveness of proposed streetcar projects. Don’t the taxpayers of Fort Lauderdale and Broward County deserve the same careful consideration?

The DDA has asked the Victoria Park Civic Association to write a letter in support of the Wave. Current members of VPCA will be voting on that at our next general membership meeting. If you’d like your voice to be heard on this issue, pro or con, please attend the meeting on June 3rd. If you haven’t renewed your membership, now would be a good time....

The idea of riding the Wave through downtown is certainly refreshing, but at the end of the day, let’s not be left with sand in our shorts.

* If all of this is enough to make your head go clang, clang, enjoy a “Cable Car” at home instead: 1 1/2 oz Captain Morgan’s Spiced Rum, 3/4 oz Orange Curacao, 1 1/2 oz Lemon Sour (two parts lemon juice, one part simple syrup, or simply substitute Sour Mix). Combine in a cocktail shaker with ice. Rim a cocktail glass with superfine sugar (rub rim with lemon wedge and dip into sugar). Shake ingredients well and strain into the glass, garnish with an orange peel spiral. And remember: Don’t Drink and Drive!
SIX MONTHS FREE RENT*
Call Now  Limited Time Offer

BRAND NEW AIR CONDITIONED STORAGE

5 x 10 = $4950 per/mo  10 x 10 = 8550 per/mo
7.5 x 10 = $5950 per/mo  10 x 15 = $9450 per/mo

Secure Inside Storage with Outside Access

Private Gated Access  Security Cameras & Door Alarms  Car Storage

50% OFF
RETAIL STOREFRONTS AND OFFICES

A LITTLE DRIVE FOR BIG SAVINGS ALL YEAR LONG

FREE MOVE-IN TRUCK

1900 NW 19th St
Ft Lauderdale, FL 33311
954.653.1670
www.bestfloridastorage.com

*Limited to first 100 renters Limited number of units available 6-months free with 6-month paid rental
1926 RESTORED LANDMARK
Own a grand masterpiece of Victoria Park history. Historically restored with windows & doors, generator, new plumbing & electrical, new kitchen & bathrooms. One-of-a-kind mahogany door, hardwood floors, Cuban tiles, fireplace, cherry built-ins, historical replica appliances, antique light fixtures, pool & spa w/ hand painted Italian tiles.
Exclusive $699,000

GREAT EAST VP LOCATION
Authentic Victoria Park gem nestled behind a privacy hedge. Updated & remodeled, but with it’s original character, this home offers a chef’s kitchen, spacious baths, skylight, high ceilings, French doors, replaced windows & open bright spacious areas. Ideally located off Vic. Park Rd.
Exclusive $499,500

WALK TO LAS OLAS
Impeccably maintained 3/2 pool home with a living room, dining room, and large family room off the eat in kitchen. There are hard wood floors, fireplace, a huge master bedroom and a fantastic pool and attached spa and water fall which are set in a lush tropical background. Walk to everything!
Exclusive $575,000

WITH SEPARATE COTTAGE
Exclusive $509,000

VICTORIA PARK POOL HOME
Move right into this spacious 2 bedroom Victoria Park pool home which is affordable priced to sell. Features include a fireplace, tiled floors, and a heated pool. Generous size rooms include: living room, dining room, eat-in kitchen, and family room.
Exclusive $275,000

COLEE HAMMOCK BEAUTY
This just finished 4/3 Colee Hammock home has been doubled in size with a brand new addition. Features include: gourmet kitchen, huge master bedroom suite with a colossal gorgeous bathroom, heated pool, Key West style covered porches, hurricane windows and doors, and garage.
Exclusive $899,000

HUGE 4,000 sq ft SINGLE LEVEL
Over 4,000 sq ft of quality gorgeous features including high ceilings, colossal living areas, grand foyer, French doors, separate guest-nanny’s suite, fireplaces, wet bar & fabulous private heated pool & spa set in a resort-like backyard. Wonderful custom gourmet kitchen off large media room.
Exclusive $849,000

VICTORIA PARK PERFECTION
High-end finishes and top quality craftsmanship were used to totally finish this distinctive 3/2 1/2 pool home with 2 car garage. Ebony wood floors, large marble master bath with steam shower, top Italian kitchen and heated spa with attached pool set in a fine tropical surrounding.
Exclusive $749,000

OUR VICTORIA PARK EXPERT. FOR OUTSTANDING RESULTS CALL KEITH!
954.270.5959