

HOMES  
& BUSINESSES IN  
• DEERFIELD BEACH  
• LIGHTHOUSE POINT  
• HILLSBORO BEACH  
• POMPANO BEACH  
• BOCA RATON



# Observer

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## OF INTEREST



HCA Thanksgiving  
page 2



Mayor's Chess  
Challenge  
page 3



Shaq gives back  
page 6



America's Top Dog  
event  
page 10

"An honest answer  
is like a kiss on the  
lips."

Proverbs 24:26

## ALSO INSIDE

Opinion.....	6
Nautical.....	8
Dining & Enter.....	9-11
Sports.....	10
Happenings.....	11
Religion.....	12
Classified.....	14
Real Estate.....	14-15



## Gateway Thanksgiving

By Diane Emeott

Some 32 volunteers from Weatherby Healthcare in Ft. Lauderdale spent their Tuesday before Thanksgiving helping others in the Deerfield community have a happy holiday. The volunteers, who worked either the morning or afternoon shift at the annual 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Gateway Thanksgiving Outreach on Nov. 20, assisted in carrying turkeys and bags full of all the fixin's

out to people's cars for Thanksgiving. Brown bags contained boxes of mashed potatoes and stuffing, cans of green beans, corn and carrots. Reusable tote bags were filled with fresh potatoes, onion and celery. The last stop on the line was to pick up fresh butter, eggs and Publix refrigerated pastry dough for pies – a real treat!

One of the volunteers said they had 130 bags ready for people who had already signed

up. The 130 families represent over 500 people within their households, added Denise Chavez of Gateway Community Outreach.

See Gateway, pg. 13

(1) Weatherby Healthcare assists at Nov. 20 Gateway Thanksgiving Outreach. (2) Zach Nelson (R) assists Chanel McCloud with her Thanksgiving items. (3) Passing out fresh butter, eggs, pastry dough. (L to R): Tracia Paisley, Julie McLean, Carol Fernaays. (4) Denise Chavez and Gateway Founder & CEO Carol Ray are hard at work grant writing.

## Ocean Way Holiday Celebration

The 5th Annual Deerfield Beach Ocean Way Holiday Celebration, presented by the Deerfield Beach Community Redevelopment Agency, will be held Saturday, Dec. 1, at the International Fishing Pier (200 NE 21 Ave). Festivities will begin at 5 p.m. and run until 9 p.m.

Come out for a family night of fun while walking the parade of lights display. Take your photo with Santa. Step into a life-size snow globe. Enjoy snow flurries, kid's activities, live reindeer, an ice skating rink and entertainment throughout the event! Be sure not to miss the special Holiday Character Show from 7 to 8:30 p.m., followed by a character meet and greet. Arts and crafts, as well as refreshments and food will be available for purchase.

### Road closures:

- The International Fishing Pier parking lot will be closed at 6 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 1 and will reopen around 11 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 1.

- On Saturday, Dec. 1, at 10 a.m., A1A and NE 2 Street will be closed to Ocean Way (NE 21 Avenue) and NE 20 Terrace and will reopen around 11 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 1.

- On Saturday, Dec. 1, at 6 a.m., all parallel parking spaces along Ocean Way (NE 21 Avenue) from NE 1 Street to Hillsboro Boulevard will be closed until Sunday, Dec. 2 during regular parking hours.

### Parking/Shuttle:

Parking on the barrier island will be limited during the event. Complimentary parking will be available at The Cove Shopping Center

(1500 E. Hillsboro Blvd.). Attendees can make the short walk across the bridge to the event or take the complimentary shuttle service between The Cove Shopping Center and the beach. The shuttle service will run continuously from 4:30 to 9:30 pm.

For more information, visit [www.dfb.city/owh](http://www.dfb.city/owh) or call 954-480-4429.



Pier Observation Deck as it looks today. Submitted photo.

## Pier Observation Deck to get expanded roof

By Diane Emeott

Architect Kenneth Carlson got the go-ahead from Deerfield Beach CRA Board to begin designing a roof extension for the pier observation deck at the Nov. 13 CRA meeting.

The Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Board is next slated to meet on Tuesday, Dec. 11 at 7 p.m. at Deerfield Beach City Hall – the next opportunity for three schematic design concepts from Carlson to be presented, from least to most expensive.

The CRA Board unanimously approved Carlson's contract for an amount not to exceed \$18,000.

CRA Director Kris Mory said that while the pier observation deck structure is only 6 years old, "it's already showing signs of aging."

Said CRA Board Member Joe Miller, "I was there today. One option is NOT to extend the pergola — a slatted structural canopy that currently covers only a portion of the observation deck. Miller described it as a "bird's nest and a bird mess," referring to what happens when pigeons roost there.

Board Chair Bill Ganz

agreed, saying, "The pigeon issue is something we should fix in the near future."

The merits of a flat roof vs. a pitched roof were also discussed.

Resident Michael Hudak said, "We need something unified and consistent."

Resident Rita Masi said, "I hope you are very careful with what you *do* put there."

She asked the Board "not to put any plants there that would attract Iguanas and the like."

Board Member Todd Drosky remarked on the fact that with no awning structure, the winds and storms become an issue.

"I would NOT like to see the architect take whatever design concepts he comes up with all the way to the end [of the pier observation deck]," Drosky added.

Board Member Bernie Parness said he liked the idea of a retractable roof.

After an initial meeting with staff at the site, Carlson suggested extending the pergola to the end of the observation deck to provide additional cover.

See CRA, pg. 13



Quite a view! (View of International Fishing Pier from atop Pier Observation Deck).

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