

Festival of the Wreaths



Jessica and Martha Blackie.



Ann Liashek with Jessica and Debbie Schem.



Jennifer and Lynne Mast.



Brookie and Courtney Harper.

'Tis the Season

The holidays are upon us and 'tis the season for celebrating at The Reef. In anticipation, the Club has been eagerly planning, preparing and perfecting its cherished holiday events for Members and their families to enjoy during the most magical time of the year.

Notice Anything New?

Every year, the Member Events Team looks for ways to enhance the holiday lineup, using Member feedback to blend beloved traditions with new experiences. Member Events Supervisor Livan Miranda shared, "Our team is always

focused on offering something different each holiday season, subtly evolving activities so the week feels both familiar and exciting."

Indoor Archery & Laser Battle – While the Member-favorite Flying Trapeze School (**December 26-28**) returns and Ninja Warrior Course (**December 30-January 1**), first introduced last year, makes its comeback due to popular demand, Indoor Archery & Laser Battle (**December 28-30**) debut as exciting new holiday offerings this year. Members may also remember Laser Battle from years past, last coming to The Reef in 2020. There is no age requirement for either

activity and registration is required. To sign up, please contact Concierge at 305-367-6516 or Member Events at 305-367-5874.

Legacy Winter Reunion – Based on feedback from Legacy Members, Club Legacy has moved to **December 29**, allowing December 30 to serve as a rest day before the New Year's Eve Celebration & Fireworks on **December 31**. This year's event will also feature a DJ paired with a live instrumentalist, offering a fresh take on the entertainment in place of the traditional band.

Following the success of the first Legacy Mid-Week Meet-

AROUND THE REEF

TAPAS BAR NOW OPEN!

TODAY, December 26

4-10 p.m.

The new Tapas Bar located in the Fishing Village adjacent to the Spirits Bar and Port O'Call opens TODAY, Friday, December 26. Indulge in Spanish and Mediterranean small plates with a beautiful view overlooking the Marina. Visit oceanreef.com/Dining for hours of operation and the menu.

REINDEER RUN 5K

Saturday, December 27

8 a.m. • Business Center Parking Lot

7:30 a.m. • Pre-Registration

Pre-registration also available at the pool desk today from 12-4 p.m. \$35 per runner includes a shirt.

Registration Required:

305-367-6516

NYE CELEBRATION & FIREWORKS

Wednesday, December 31

8:30 p.m. & 12 a.m.

Ring in the New Year with not one but two spectacular firework displays! View from Buccaneer Island or waterside from your own boat. See page 16 for more holiday events.

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OR "See"



A sunset surprise, by George Joseph.

What have you discovered on your walk, biking or on a daily golf cart ride that you never noticed before?
Email orp@oceanreef.com and share your discoveries.



OCEAN REEF PRESS

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GENERAL INFORMATION**E-mail Updates**

To receive the Friday email containing a link to The Ocean Reef Press via e-mail, send your e-mail address to communications@oceanreef.com.

INFORMATION

- ◆ Published each Friday Nov – Apr.
- ◆ The editorial content of this newspaper is prepared and edited by the Ocean Reef Press Staff. The sale of advertising and printing of this newspaper is performed by Ocean Reef Club. Ocean Reef Club does not guarantee the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any facts or opinions published herein. Ocean Reef Club is not responsible for any content errors contained in any advertising materials published herein.

NEWS & HAPPENINGS

**ORC FIT GAMES**

On **Sunday, December 28**, the Member Fitness Center hosts the ORC Fit Games from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Marlin Beach. This is a complimentary event where Members will test their stamina in a sprint fitness race. For details, contact the Member Fitness Center at 305-367-5820 or see page 54. Visit oceanreef.com/fitness for more fitness happenings and the class schedule.

**GRILL ROOM PRIME RIB NIGHT**

The Grill Room will be hosting a Prime Rib Night with a prix fixe menu, \$48++ per person, on **Sunday, December 28**, from 5 to 9 p.m. Visit oceanreef.com/grillroomprimenight to see the full menu. See page 35 for full hours of operation.

**SAILFISH CLASSIC FISHING TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION OPEN**

Registration is now open for the Sailfish Classic Fishing Tournament held **January 15-17, 2026**. This event is open to all Members and offers two days of competitive fishing along with other social events. Visit oceanreef.com/sailfishclassic to register. For details, email Member Events at memberevents@oceanreef.com or call 305-367-5874.

Gotta Question?

I love all of the holiday décor around The Reef. How does it come to be every year?

Gemma Mathews, Ocean Reef's Commercial Properties Senior Manager, is the one who captains all the Club's holiday decor.

Believe it or not, planning for next season's holiday décor begins almost as soon as this year's decorations come down. From January to April 2026, Gemma will brainstorm with the House & Grounds Committee, considering suggestions from Christmas Palace, the current provider of the holiday décor now in their second year.

Christmas Palace starts to hang the holiday lights up in either September or October, but they aren't turned on until December 1. Wreaths are put up the week of Thanksgiving and the rest of the decorations typically go up the first Monday in December, with the Festival of Trees following.

**Did you know...**

- the Club lights over 300 trees,
- has over 180 wreaths,
- and does nightly inspections to ensure all is as it should be?

Notice a little tinsel out of place? Contact Gemma Matthews at 305-367-6586. And the annual holiday trees are up at 16 locations around The Reef! Members are encouraged to visit the themed trees (on display through **Friday, January 2**) and share photos by hashtagging #ORTree. For a map of Festival of the Trees, visit oceanreef.com/festivalofthetrees.

See page 16 for a list of upcoming holiday events.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

If you would like to submit a question, email the Ocean Reef Press at orp@oceanreef.com.

HAPPENING Today

CARIBBEAN NIGHT AT EVERTON'S

Join Everton on select nights throughout season and transport to the Islands with a Caribbean style menu at Everton's Rum Bar. The first Caribbean Night of the season will be held **today, Friday, December 26, from 2-8 p.m.!**

See page 35 for hours of operation.



FOLLOW OUR MEMBERS-ONLY
INSTAGRAM @ORC_MEMBERS

Follow our Members-only Instagram [@orc_members](#) for event updates and to stay in-the-know on Club happenings. Scan the QR code here.



'Tis the Season

Continued from | 1

Ups over Thanksgiving Weekend, a second has been scheduled for **December 30** to wrap up the Legacy Winter Reunion. The final mixer of the season will take place in April over Easter Weekend. These mixers were introduced after a Legacy Focus Group expressed interest in a refreshed event lineup and more opportunities for Members to socialize and connect. See the full Legacy Winter Reunion schedule on page 9.

Festival on the Green –

Returning to the Driving Range this year, Festival on the Green **December 29** will again feature DJ entertainment, classic carnival fare, BBQ Buffet and plenty of rides and activities for the whole family. Adding to the excitement, the LED robots are back and ready to take over the Driving Range after last year's wash out. Additional weekend

highlights include the Storybook Street Fair (**December 27**) now taking place in the Fishing Village, and Super Bingo on **December 30**, which moves to the Cultural Center Parking Lot to accommodate upwards of 200 carts that come out for this special tradition!

Ring in the New Year

The New Year's Eve Celebration will once again feature two fireworks shows, lighting up the sky at 8:30 p.m. and midnight. DJ entertainment begins at 7 p.m. on the Beach, with headliners "The Hit Factory" taking the stage at 10 p.m. to welcome you into the New Year!

From timeless traditions to exciting new experiences, the holiday season promises unforgettable moments for you and your families.

See page 16 for more details and a full list of upcoming holiday events.

Holiday Fun
with the Rec
Team (Part 2)



by Jody
Steele

Now we head in to the "after Christmas" holiday schedule and again the Recreation Team is ready to lead the way to more fun for kids of all ages at Ocean Reef Club.

Happenings at the Nature Center
Sure to be a big hit for animal

lovers, the Nature Center & RCK Patio will be the site of a *Petting Zoo* on **Saturday, December 27** from 2-4 p.m. With a "farm theme" featured, animals for children to actually see up close will include chickens, ducks, pigs, goats, rabbits, and some special animal babies. The Nature Center will also be open for checking out an array of South Florida animals. *The Nature Center is open Thursday-Sunday from 2-5 p.m.*

Out & About Tours

Guided *Eco-Kayak Tours* are scheduled for **every Saturday and Sunday** at 10 a.m. with check-in at the Pool Desk. This is a wonderful tour for families to get out in "wild" Florida. Reservations are highly

recommended. *Private tours can be arranged by calling 305-367-6516.*

Reindeer Run

Another traditional family activity for everyone, the *Reindeer Run* is on **Saturday, December 27**. Registration is required and includes a great shirt. Maybe you might even spot a reindeer. All participants leave for the journey at 8 a.m. from the Business Center parking lot. Pre-registration is at 7:30 a.m. or by calling 305-367-6516.

Touch-a-Truck

Guaranteed "photo-ops" as adults and kids gather at the Business Center on **Monday, December 29** from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. for **Touch-a-Truck**. This

complimentary event always draws a crowd and lots of enormous and colorful vehicles.

New Year's Eve

Special *New Year's Party* for kids begins at 6 p.m. at Reef Club Kids (younger set) and the Reef Rec Room (for the older kids) with age-appropriate activities and lots of fun. For more information and reservations, call 305-367-6516.

Of course, there are even more activities planned for kids of all ages and all sorts of interests during the holidays at Ocean Reef Club. There is no way to run out of entertainment opportunities on the beach, on the courts, on the golf course and everywhere on The Reef.

SUNRISE & SUNSET TIMES

Friday, December 26 - Thursday, January 1

Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
7:04 a.m.	7:05 a.m.	7:05 a.m.	7:05 a.m.	7:06 a.m.	7:06 a.m.	7:06 a.m.
5:39 p.m.	5:40 p.m.	5:40 p.m.	5:41 p.m.	5:42 p.m.	5:42 p.m.	5:43 p.m.

MEMBERABILIA

Everything Old
is New AgainMy Personal List of
Oldies But Goodiesby Joan
Birsh

With all the fanfare for the many new and anticipated projects that have evolved at our Club, we sometimes lose sight of the buildings, services, staff and amenities that year after year have made Ocean Reef such a special place. I hope My Personal List will remind you of some of the pleasures of living here that, you might have forgotten or not fully appreciated.

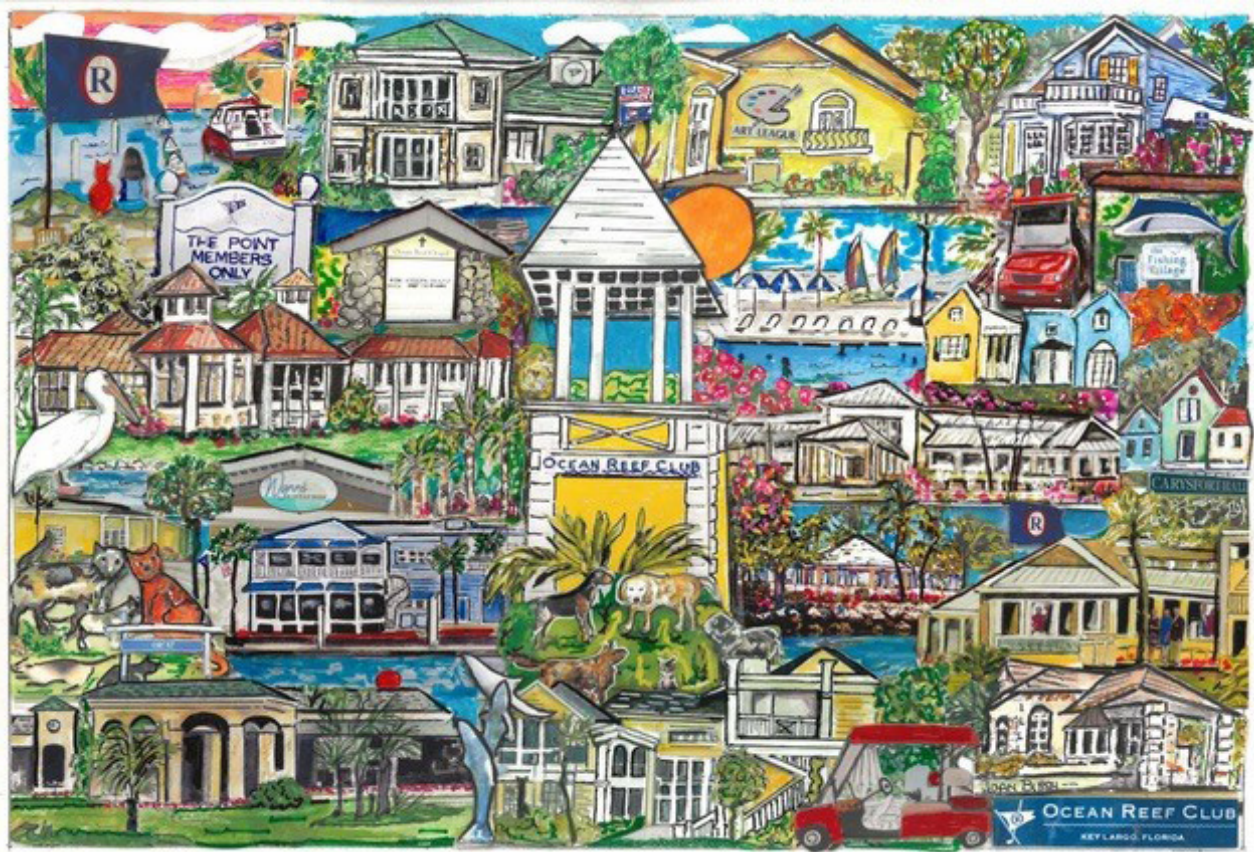
Natural beauty and well-tended landscaping

I returned to my home in Ocean Reef in late September, after a good summer that included theatre in New York and London, a cruise of the Norwegian fjords and two blissful months in the mountains of North Carolina.

That's a hard act to follow, but not for Ocean Reef.

From the moment I drove through the gate, I was struck with the vision of well-tended landscaping, enhanced by Orchids, which had found a home in the front yards of members, who watched them rebloom year after year. And the trees! When did they grow so large that they formed a canopy over an entire street?

I had probably traveled this route from the gate to my house on Harbor Island Drive hundreds of thousands of times – on foot, golf cart, or my old, retired Lexus and yet it was as if I were seeing the beauty of Ocean Reef for the first time.

**Medical Center**

There is scarcely an Ocean Reef member who hasn't had a personal reason to be thankful for the Med Center. My initial experience came some time ago, when I was runover by a wheelchair on a moving sidewalk in an airport in Portugal. When a few days later I arrived at Ocean Reef, I immediately checked in at the Medical Center. On that visit and on all subsequent visits to monitor the healing process of my wound, I enjoyed the careful attention of a wonderful staff.... The Medical Center proved its invaluable worth to me and all OR members during Covid.

Cultural Center

Our Cultural Center provides first class live entertainment, first-run movies and the simulcasts of the Metropolitan Opera. There are lectures, a library and a museum. Every time I give a house guest a tour of Ocean Reef, they are blown away (or maybe "blown back for another visit) by the wonders of CC. They can't believe how lucky we are to live here.

Public Safety

Count on ORCA to alert us to traffic, fires, hurricane threats. They have our number and that guarantees that all of us and our property have a safety net. ORCA removes unwanted pests of all kinds. Last year when a baby possum strayed into my house and played dead on my living room couch, Public Safety woke it up and carefully released it in the mangroves. I hope it found its mother.

Member Fitness Center

For many years I was a regular at the Zumba class at the Fitness Center. I think I was secretly hoping I would become the oldest woman in America to do the Zumba routines. Alas, that dream shattered along with my broken hip. I settled for the Silver Fit class. The good part of that story is that the Fitness Center has classes in everything for everybody. They also have state of the art machines, personal trainers and an Olympic pool. Currently under construction – a new Spa.

Shopping

After writing my "Joan the

Shopper" column for the Ocean Reef Press for what seems like half a lifetime, I feel qualified to say shopping at Ocean Reef has always been a treat. I don't think many members need to be reminded of the quality and diversity of the stores in the Fishing Village (e.g. Lilly Pulitzer, J. McLaughlin, Burgee Shop) and the outliers (e.g. Golf Shop, Tennis Shop, Gift Shop and the Fitness Center and Spa boutiques).... Add to that list the stores on Barracuda Lane, where there are two large women's stores (The Dress Code and Sandpiper) and two stores that feature home furnishings (Abode and Island Interiors) How often do we thank our lucky stars that we don't have to drive to Miami because it is all here in our expertly stocked, conveniently located stores.

Miscellaneous

Just a few more reasons to appreciate Ocean Reef.

WYNN'S – Be grateful! We couldn't have a better "grocery" store at Ocean Reef. Here's just a small sample of what you

ORC MEMBERS – NEWS, VIEWS & TIDBITS

can find at Wynn's – bakery products; take-out (salads, sandwiches or a three-course dinner); wine; flowers; gifts; cards; toys for kids and dogs. And that doesn't begin to be a comprehensive list. If Wynn's doesn't have what you want, they will get it for you.

BELLSTAND – In addition to parking your car, the associates at the Bellstand will pick you up and deliver you to your destination (way better than Uber). They will also help you with heavy lifting of suitcases, etc. And best of all they have a supply of treats, which makes them your best friend's friend.

VETERINARY SERVICES – Lots of places have a doctor on call, but how many have a full-time veterinarian. Ocean Reef has Dr. Lora Cummings. She is now ensconced in the

new Grayvik Animal Center, which will have grooming services for your pet (assuming, of course, that you haven't adopted an iguana).

UPS – I find that having a UPS store, just a cart ride away in the Plaza Building, is an enormous convenience. How else would I be able to mail my grandson the dining room rug that caused me to trip and fall. And if UPS didn't make returns so easy, I'd end up keeping my midnight online purchases, regardless of their being wrong size, wrong color, all wrong.

PAKMAIL – This is our post office. Want to send a letter special delivery or simply mail 150 wedding announcements, leave it to PakMail It is here that you can buy stamps, greeting

cards and small toys and games. Many members have personal mailboxes. PakMail has been around for a long time and I don't know what we'd do without it.

OCEAN REEF PRESS - You are reading the ORP right now, so I guess you know how lucky you are to have a newspaper with news and information on what is going on in your community. I've been writing for the Ocean Reef Press for decades and it has been interesting, stimulating and rewarding (in every way except financially).

Last Word

When asked if he liked Ocean Reef, my husband Arthur always said, "If I knew a better place I would live there." That sums it up. Happy Holidays. Enjoy Ocean Reef. It's the best place to live.

COMING UP AT THE AIRPORT:

Junior Jetsetters

Friday, December 26
3 p.m.

Tuesday, December 30
10 a.m.

Airport Terminal

Junior jetsetters and families and are welcome to take part in this new program at the Airport Terminal!

Learn all things aviation and participate in an array of activities.

For more details and questions, please contact Airport Services Manager, Molly Lechelt at 305-367-3690 or email mlechelt@oceanreef.com.

40 Cinnamon Bark Lane



Ocean Reef Club Vacation Rentals

Pumpkin Cay Unit 18A



Angelfish Cay Unit 30A



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Wishing you the happiest of holiday seasons and a joyful New Year!

We are grateful for the support you have shown us over the past year. We look forward to sharing in the delights that 2026 brings.

With gratitude on behalf of your Club Management team and associates,

Alex

Alex Tonarelli
Ocean Reef Club President



New Tapas Bar Rejuvenates Fishing Village



by Terry Baxter

The evolution of Ocean Reef over my 20+ years as a Member is remarkable. Many additions we now take for granted have been new over that period – Town Hall, Carysfort, the Spa and Fitness Center, the Medical Center, the Clubhouse complex, The Chapel, even my residence at 121 Marina. It's hard to imagine Ocean Reef without these life-changing amnesties.

A small patio on the Marina side of the Fishing Village was a long-overlooked asset. The small stores at its rear housed the Port O' Call liquor store, the Dive Shop, and a series of rotating retail outlets. The space was really put-on-the-map when Sean Carroll was hired to be the manager of Wine & Beverage (15) years ago. Sean charmed his wine and spirit vendors into bringing their products to Ocean Reef for periodic wine tasting...FREE. The venue became a magnet for Members every week or two. The Club provided cheese trays and hors

d'oeuvres – who doesn't like free drinks? Happy crowds were converted to good wine. Wine sales grew.

Alex Tonarelli, Ocean Reef President, and Erwin Pals, VP of Food & Beverage, recognized the value of the prime spot on the water and began tossing around ideas to capitalize on it. Four years ago, they appointed a project team to assemble the puzzle pieces for the transformation. Chrisna Wessels, Assistant Director of Capital Projects, was the key part of a team effort. She was the ramrod that brought the project from concept to the finish line. The mission was to relocate Port O' Call, slowly reclaim the retail spaces, construct a new Spirits Bar, design a pergola to offer weather protection, and create a concept that preserves the character of the Fishing Village.

Port O' Call moved to larger and more luxurious quarters in the north corner of the patio. Alex said, "The beauty of Port O' Call is that the staff designed it themselves. They wanted to have a comfortable atmosphere to talk about wine and spirits and an attractive bar to try samples." Last year, the well-appointed Spirits Bar debuted next door. The stage was set.

Erwin said, "The result was not intended to be a restaurant experience. We want it to be casual, with small sharing plates. The shared experience is important." Alex agreed. "Social



Erwin Pals and Alex Tonarelli review the renderings for the new Tapas Bar adjacent to the Port O' Call.

is what the Club is about. We wanted a spot for Members to mingle and converse. They can sit around the food bar, similar to the Islander's Sushi Bar and have wine or cocktails. And the person bringing them to the table is an expert like Wyatt Hosmer." What a conversation starter.

The team settled on tapas

as nearly a definition of what they were looking for – "small dishes designed for sharing and enjoyed socially." The new Tapas Bar opened this week. **Jody Steele's** excellent article last week outlined the menu of light Spanish and Mediterranean style savory dishes that sound delicious. I will meet you there.



Crudo: fresh, daily catch, Key lime-orange cure, avocado, piquillo pepper, fennel, radish and cilantro.



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From the CH Prime Garden to Your Plate



by Ian Fleischmann,
Executive
Clubhouse
Chef

I've been cooking long enough to know that once you hit a certain level, every serious chef pretty much knows the same tricks. We can all sear a scallop the same perfect way, make a lobster bisque in our sleep, and break down a fish blindfolded. Technique gets you to the door, but it doesn't make you stand out anymore.

So what does? Ingredients. Plain and simple. The chef with the absolute best stuff on the bench wins. As we're all shopping at the same handful of purveyors, even the "best"

stuff is still the best stuff everyone else has access to. So it takes something special to differentiate your Mahi from the Mahi at the other outlets here.

I thought for a while about what I could do to make things stand out at CH Prime. The only solution was to research and find herbs, spices, veggies and fruits that we can't buy. Heirloom varieties that don't exist in commercial settings. Right outside the restaurant, next to Toski's, we built the CH Prime garden. It's my sandbox. We're packed with cultivars you won't find at any market: three different basil that taste like cinnamon or straight lemon, Indian spiky cucumbers that look like medieval weapons, passion fruit dripping off the trellis, and Thai purple lemongrass that makes the whole row look like a Dr. Seuss book.

The real nerd-out moment came when we got seeds from Row 7 Seeds. A company founded by 3 Michelin star chef Dan Barber. While the big agro



Passion fruit flower.



Chef Dan Barber's Haba-nada Peppers.



Chef Ian Fleischmann with a harvest of Thai Basil, which is featured in both a cocktail in CH Lounge and Prime's Tuna Crudo dish.

Time Flies...



Don't let it fly away with your Tax Deduction!

Time and the IRS are not known for their flexibility, but we are...

Open a fee-free, named Charitable Fund by December 31st to get your 2025 tax deduction and all the time you need to decide how to best distribute your charitable gifts.



Learn more at www.oceanreefcommunityfoundation.org.
(305) 367-4707 • foundation@oceanreef.com
Visit us at the Ocean Reef Business Center, Ste. 148.

companies have spent decades breeding vegetables to survive cross-country trucking and sit pretty on a shelf, breeding all of the nutrients and taste out of the plants in the process, Dan went the opposite direction: pure flavor, nutrition, and wellness. My favorite plant is the Habanada pepper. It's a habanero that cleverly removed every trace of fire from. Zero heat, all of that insane tropical-fruit perfume. Haba-nada.

We didn't stop at the garden either. I went full mad-scientist in the kitchen and started my own fermentation program. Soy sauce, but make it ours. We flew in real koji spores straight from Japan (*Aspergillus oryzae*, the magical fungus behind sake, miso, and proper soy sauce). Instead of soybeans, we cooked down shiitake mushrooms with pinto beans grown thirty minutes away in Homestead, inoculated the mix, and let the

spores do their thing. Five days later we had beautiful, fragrant koji that's now tucked away in jars, slowly turning into pinto bean "soy" sauce that is ready in January.

While we were in fermentation mode, we figured why not miso too? Same deal, no soybeans. This batch is hazelnut, pumpkin seed, and sesame seed hanging out with that same koji, getting funky and deep. Come January, we're unleashing a dish that pulls from the garden and these ferments all at once, and I honestly can't wait for you to try it.

Come by CH Prime and ask what just came out of the garden today. Our Tuna dish features Lemon Balm and Thai Basil. Our bar program in the lounge has Cinnamon Basil Blooms in their cocktails. Chances are it's something no one else has on their dishes right now, and it's headed straight to your plate.

ALL CHARITIES

Solutions for New Year's Resolutions



by Sarah A. Cart

The new year fast approaches. If resolutions are on your mind and you're debating "being more active," All Charities has your back. Multiple sports-centric offerings going on the auction block over **All Charities Weekend** (ACW, this season, **Feb. 20 - 22**) will be there to help you find your passion and maintain your momentum. You'll find many long-time favorites featuring the golf, fishing, pickleball, croquet, and yoga we've all come to love, but too, there will be a wealth of interesting new opportunities to

inspire you.

For your consideration:

Embark on a Central American Safari for two (cameras only please!), while being pampered at a Francis Ford Coppola property.

Go "Everesting" (scaling a total of 29029 feet, equivalent to the height of Mt. Everest, in 36 hours).

Head to Kentucky for bird hunting in beautifully wooded, lakeside surroundings with luxurious lodgings, or journey to Steamboat Bay Fishing Club as a party of eight to their private retreat set in Alaska's Tongass National Forest region to pursue king and silver salmon, halibut, and lingcod. Grab three friends and let Butterfield & Robinson lead you as you hike and bike among the misty mountains, golden temples and ancient cultures of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

Cruise the BVI aboard the 114-foot Ocean Alexander Ziggy – six of you as pampered guests of Bonnie and Harold Ziegler.

Watch the best at work:

There are also precious opportunities to cheer on others whose active lifestyles put them at the top of their game.

- Horse Jumping and Polo Experience in Wellington.
- The Ladies' Singles Finals at Wimbledon.
- That annual green jacket event in Augusta.
- The Grand Prix in Monaco on a Silversea Cruise.
- Formula 1 in Barcelona.

Or if you just want to move in style from one sports opportunity to the next, take a chance and buy a non-deductible **Lexus raffle ticket** for a car that could be YOURS (not a lease!). The \$1,000 tickets are **available to ANY Member** (Equity, Legacy, or Social), and the winner of the 2026 RX 350 from Preferred Partner Lexus of Kendall/West Kendall will be announced at the All Charities Gala, Saturday, Feb. 21, but need **NOT be present**. For details, reach out to the All Charities office (305-367-5996 or allcharities@oceanreef.com).

So, what's this "All Charities" about? As the annual fundraising event for the Ocean Reef Community Foundation (ORCF), ACW originated in

2008 to strengthen non-profit entities here on the Reef (the Medical Center, Cultural Center, Academy, Art League, ORCAT, Conservation Association, and Chapel and Fellowship Center, known as ORCF's "Recipient Partners") and provide substantial support to non-profit organizations in Monroe and Dade counties via thoughtfully researched ORCF financial grants to empower the youth, families, and health of our neighboring communities. Almost \$80 million has been raised over the years, with nearly \$25 million awarded beyond the gates via ORCF's Community Grants program.

A glance back: There is so much for which to be grateful as All Charities enters 2026. Members' support at all levels, Equity, Legacy, and Social has grown so much that Richard Weinstein, ORCF's president and COO, marvels that "Social Members' dues check-off participation is similar to that of Equity in terms of number/percent of participants, which is amazing! An outstanding demonstration of their true passion for this, their club!"

FEATURED BOTTLE of the Week



Amaro Montenegro

For the featured bottle this week we go to Emilia-Romagna in Italy, home to the iconic producer Amaro Montenegro. Started in 1885, Stanislao Cobianchi had a desire to create a liqueur softer and more approachable than the harsh and bitter tonics of his time. Montenegro's flavor profile comes from a blend of herbs, spices, and citrus, all processed through a series of infusions. While it began as a regional specialty in the north of Italy, it has since grown into

international fame and can be found behind bars across the world. Sip it neat and enjoy its notes of orange, clove, and vanilla, or give an herbal boost of complexity to cocktails. My favorite use for Montenegro is in a very simple two-part drink, The M&M, the recipe is listed below.

Try it in a drink at the Spirits Bar for \$15, or take home a bottle from Port O' Call for \$53.

-Wyatt Hosmer, Port O'Call & Spirits Bar Manager

The M&M

- 1-part Amaro Montenegro
- 1-part Mezcal

Shake, strain, and drink neat or on the rocks



2025 WINTER REUNION DECEMBER 26 – 30, 2025

Legacy Members are invited to join us for complimentary events this holiday week!

Reservations are required: 305-367-5874.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26

Legacy Welcome Reception
5 - 6pm • Residence Club
Come pick up your Welcome Gift!
Reservations required.

Super Bingo

7pm START • Town Hall
Reservations required, \$50++ per pack. Legacy Members receive an extra Bingo game.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27

Street Fair
6-9pm • Fishing Village
Spin the wheel for a prize!

Reindeer Run 5K

8am • Business Center Parking Lot
\$25 per runner includes a shirt.
Meet us there for a special gift.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

Pre-Concert Tailgate
6 - 7:30pm • Amberjack Lawn
Complimentary to Legacy Members, featuring drinks, appetizers & lawn games. All ages welcome! Reservations required.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29

Club Legacy
8 - 11pm • Town Hall Terrace
Exclusive to Legacy Members and their friends with DJ entertainment, dancing and cocktails available for purchase. Ages 21 & older. Reservations required.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30

Legacy Member Mid-Week Mixer
4-6pm • Town Hall Waterside
Enjoy complimentary lite bites, beer and wine while creating their 2026 Bingo Card.

Tailored to your lifestyle



Marina Village 19A

3 BD, 3 BA | \$11,500,000 | 2931
Barbara Sibley | 305.394.0061



Pumpkin Cay Garden Home 62

5 BD, 4.5 BA | \$9,900,000 | 2875
Mary Lee | 917.603.3252



Pumpkin Cay 69B

3 BD, Plus Loft, 3.5 BA | \$8,450,000 | 2890
Helena Morton | 305.522.2196



Pumpkin Cay 79A

3 BD, Plus Den, 3 BA | \$7,550,000 | 2888
Helena Morton | 305.522.2196



Residence Club B-PH8

3 BD, 3.5 BA | \$7,475,000 | 2784
Russell Post | 305.451.8199 | Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633



Marina Village 2A

3 BD, 3 BA | \$6,250,000 | 2930
Barbara Sibley | 305.394.0061
Contingent by Parris Everhart | 305.522.2738



Residence Club C117

2 BD, 2.5 BA | \$5,190,000 | 2891
Russell Post | 305.451.8199 | Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633



Fisherman's Cove Landings 6A

3 BD, 3 BA | \$5,000,000 | 2848
Mary Brady | 201.303.2052



The Sanctuary Gardenia 201

3 BD, 3.5 BA | \$4,995,000 | 2744
Russell Post | 305.451.8199
Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633



Angelfish Cay 3-4

2 BD, 2.5 BA | \$4,690,000 | 2920
Helena Morton | 305.522.2196



Angelfish Cay 8A

3 BD, 3.5 BA | \$4,600,000 | 2721
Cassy Everhart | 305.522.2332
Morgan Smith | 305.321.1143



Residence Club Penthouse 5

2 BD, 2.5 BA | \$4,299,000 | 2765
Mary Brady | 201.303.2052



FC Landings 9A

2 BD, 2 BA | \$3,995,000 | 2621
Jay Rourke | 786.493.8105
Megan Lyons | 786.201.5265



Pumpkin Cay 8B

3 BD, 3 BA | \$3,995,000 | 2829
Russell Post | 305.451.8199
Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

Affiliate Club of the Week:

London Golf Club

The London Golf Club is located in Kent, United Kingdom. Founded in the early 1990s the London Golf Club officially opened in July 1994, with the Charity Challenge Skins Match that was played on the Heritage

Course, designed by Jack Nicklaus. Today, London Golf Club continues to host prestigious tournaments and prides itself on already having hosted the best players in the world. Ocean Reef Members who visit the London Golf Club through the Affiliate Club Program may enjoy dining and limited amenities at their club. For more information on the London Golf Club, visit oceanreef.com/london-golf-club/.

CALLING ALL LEGACY MEMBERS

Introducing the New Legacy Webpage

The Legacy Member webpage is here! This new feature provides a hub for all information to keep you connected and share updates tailored to your

Membership. At oceanreef.com/Legacy (or log on and click "Legacy Members" under "Quick Links"), you'll find the latest Club updates, upcoming happenings, quarterly newsletters, event announcements, and important news exclusively for Legacy Members. And don't miss upcoming Legacy-tailored happenings planned by your Member Events Team. See page 9 for the Legacy Winter Reunion schedule.

Proposed for Membership Through January 1, 2026

The following individuals are being considered for Ocean Reef Club membership. Direct communication concerning these nominations to Vice President of Membership, Islande Dillon, at 305-367-5921 or idillon@oceanreef.com.

Equity Membership

John Johnston is a Sr. Legacy Member applying for Equity Membership. Mr. Johnston is acquiring 8 Pumpkin Cay Unit B, and the Equity from Michael Rappaport. Mr. Johnston is a resident of Oakbrook, Illinois. He belongs to Big Foot Country Club, Butterfield Country Club, and Key Largo Anglers Club. His sponsors are Dick Grasso, Jane Johnston, Michael Thornton, and Charlie Johnston on behalf of the Board of Directors.

RULES REMINDER

Children under 12 years of age are permitted to use the Club's facilities only if accompanied or supervised by an adult, subject to additional limitations set forth in other provisions of these Rules and Regulations.

Children under the lawful drinking age are not permitted in any lounge unless accompanied by an adult. Members are responsible for their children when on the Club's facilities.

To access the entire "ORC Rules, Regulations and Policies" document, please scan the QR code or visit oceanreef.com/rules.



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FOR MORE INFORMATION

Daniel Viadero
Banking Officer
305-789-1174



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ORCA NEWS

ORCA 2025 Year in Review

The past year marked meaningful progress for the Ocean Reef community, as ORCA advanced major infrastructure projects, strengthened community services, and welcomed new Fire Rescue leadership. These accomplishments reflect ORCA's continued commitment to Ocean Reef's future while protecting the quality-of-life residents value.

As we look ahead, ORCA is pleased to share highlights from 2025. For a preview of initiatives planned for 2026, members are encouraged to attend the Town Hall Meeting on **Friday, January 16**, which will provide an opportunity to engage on issues important to the community.

MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

Sunrise Cay Bridge Restoration Completed

The Sunrise Cay Bridge restoration was successfully completed in 2025, improving safety, durability, and long-term reliability. While limited work may continue beneath the bridge to extend its lifespan, all regular traffic has fully resumed.

Ocean Reef Drive Bridge Enhancements

Upgrades to the Ocean Reef Drive Bridge included the relocation of electrical lines and removal of two yellow curbs. Planned improvements for 2026 include replacing shaker tiles along both sides of the bridge to further enhance structural performance along this primary community corridor.

Anchor Drive Center Median Completion

The Anchor Drive center median project was finalized with new landscaping, irrigation, and lighting,

improving both aesthetics and visibility along this heavily traveled roadway.

Angelfish Cay Paving Project

Angelfish Lane was fully paved, providing a smoother driving surface and improved access for residents, service vehicles, and emergency responders.

South Harbor Drainage Improvements

The trench drain along South Harbor was replaced with individual drainage wells, improving stormwater runoff management during heavy rainfall events.

Dispatch Creek

ORCA continues to collaborate with Ocean Reef Club as we await final permits to move forward with efforts to restore water quality at Dispatch Creek.

COMMUNITY AND SERVICE INVESTMENTS

New Grayvik Animal Center, Home of ORCAT

Construction of the new Grayvik Animal Center was completed, delivering a modern, purpose-built facility that supports ORCAT's mission of animal care and welfare. The center represents a significant investment in compassionate community services.

Comcast Technology Upgrade

As part of its agreement with ORCA, Comcast continued its community-wide technology upgrade under its nationwide "10G" initiative. This project brings fiber-optic internet directly to each home (fiber-to-the-premises), ultimately providing residents with significantly faster and more reliable internet speeds, with future expansion capabilities.

Welcomed New ORCA Fire Rescue Chief

ORCA welcomed Chief Gil Hernandez as Fire Rescue Chief, marking a new chapter of leadership focused on

NEW YEAR'S EVE/DAY HOURS

Wednesday, December 31

ORCA Administrative Office, Public Works, ORCAT/Grayvik Animal Center, and NKLUC will close at 1 p.m. The Welcome Center will be open 7-11 a.m.

Thursday, January 1

ORCA Administrative Office, Public Works, Welcome Center, ORCAT/Grayvik Animal Center, and NKLUC will be closed.

Unless specified above, Welcome Center Hours during the next week will be 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Regular hours will resume on Monday, January 5, 2026.

operational excellence, preparedness, and continued dedication to the safety of Ocean Reef residents and guests.

ORCA remains committed to making 2026 another productive and impactful year. Members are encouraged to participate in the January 16 Town Hall Meeting and to take advantage of the programs,

presentations, and services offered throughout the year. Stay connected through **ORCA News** for updates, milestones, and community stories. Your feedback is important, and questions and comments are always welcome.

Together, we will continue building the vibrant, one-of-a-kind community we are proud to call home.



Mission Trip to Guatemala June 15-20



Join us for our 10th mission trip to Casa Bernabé Orphanage to help children in poverty. No experience necessary (just a willingness to help) or donate on our website below.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Christina 410-599-1550

Visit our website to see what we've been doing

www.orcfororphans.com



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TICKETS:

\$50 Donor • \$30 Donor Child
\$60 Non-Donor
\$35 Non-Donor Child

Pre-performance buffet for
7PM show only.

Buffet begins at 5:45PM.

Adults \$45++

Kids 12 & under \$25++

Reservations: tickets@oceanreef.com

SUNDAY,
DECEMBER
28
4PM & 7PM

DRESS: Jeans acceptable

SPONSOR: Ocean Reef Club Sotheby's International Realty

SCAN THE QR CODE
TO GET A SNEEK
PEEK!



For Tickets/Dinner Reservations, email:
Tickets@OceanReef.com



CULTURAL CENTER CURTAIN CALL

A Delicious Start to the Food & Film Season

By Kyle Landers, Cultural Center
President

The Food & Film Society season began on a high note on December 15 with a wonderful evening featuring *Love, Sarah*. More than 150 Members joined us for an experience that seamlessly blended film, conversation, and exceptional cuisine.

The evening opened with a warm introduction by Campus at Cultural Center Committee Member, **Jody Steele**, followed by thoughtful notes to ponder from Margaret Cardillo, an award-winning filmmaker, screenwriter, children's book author, and professor at the

University of Miami. Margaret invited guests to reflect on how *Love, Sarah* beautifully balances moving forward from grief without focusing on loss, instead honoring memory, legacy, and the power of community.

Following the film, Members enjoyed a themed dinner prepared by Chef Paul Larson and Chef Russell Karath. A highlight of the evening was the charming mini pastry shop created by Chef Russell and his team in the center of the room, a delightful tribute to the heart of the film.

Wine selections were introduced by Wyatt Hosmer, Port O' Call and Spirits Bar Manager, adding another thoughtful layer to the evening.

Special thanks to **Bill** and **Becky Dickinson** for their continued dedication to producing the Food & Film series and helping make this evening a perfect kickoff to the season.

Film Society: Food & Film Widow Clicquot, 2023

Monday, January 5 at 4:30 p.m.

Set in early 19th century France, this stunning film traces the life of Barbe-Nicole Clicquot, who with incredible determination changes the wine industry and builds a champagne empire that flourishes still today. Complex characters, outstanding performances, and a beautiful music score mesh intricately to create a fascinating drama.

Dr. Christina Lane, award winning author, screenwriter, and professor at the University of Miami will introduce and share her insightful comments about this artfully crafted film and authentic entrepreneur. A dinner will follow (by reservation only) inspired by the film. Ocean Reef



Club's outstanding Culinary Department will prepare a special French menu that follows the theme of the movie.

Membership in the Film Society is \$125 and includes all films and programs. The optional \$65++ dinner is available by reservation only and space is limited. All dinner participants must be a Film Society member.

For more information, contact the Cultural Center by emailing orfilmsocietyseries@oceanreef.com.

OUT & ABOUT



The Keys Searchers and Reef Seekers Questers groups sponsored René Silvin to present a lecture on the life and times of Audrey Hepburn. The group successfully channeled their inner Audrey!

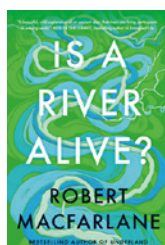
AT THE CULTURAL CENTER

Library Corner



by Susan Bohan

trivial amusements on-line have degraded our intelligence and ability to think.



"Is A River Alive?" by Robert MacFarlane – through journeys to Ecuador, India and Canada, the author explores rivers' ecological significance and legal rights mixed with personal observations.

"Everything is Tuberculosis: The History and Persistence of Our Deadliest Infection" by John Green – how a disease existing for thousands of years persists to kill over 1 million people yearly because of lack of access to prevention techniques.

Sometimes reading is a way to escape what is happening in the world but it can also be a way to learn that history often does repeat itself. The following are the most recent non-fiction books added to the Library Collection at the Cultural Center:

"The Sirens' Call: How Attention Became the World's Most Endangered Resource" by Chris Hayes – an ambitious analysis of how

"The Romans: A 2,000-Year History" by Edward Watts – explores Rome's history and resilience through diverse rulers from Augustus to Manuel Comnenus and its political evolution.

"If Anyone Builds It, Everyone Dies: Why

Superhuman AI Would Kill Us All" by Eliezer Yudkowsky and Nate Soares – discusses how the world is devastatingly unprepared for machines now being created to be smarter than any person in a no-nonsense style backed by 2,000 of the world's top scientists.



CARS AND COFFEE

Saturday, January 3
9-11am • Business Center Parking Lot

Members are invited to bring vintage automobiles, sports cars or any cool conveyance, or just stop by for a morning of "car talk" over complimentary coffee and lite breakfast bites.







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HOLIDAY SEASON

'Tis the season to celebrate at The Reef!

HOLIDAY SERVICES

December 14 - 22

6pm • Hanukkah Candle Lighting • Chapel Lawns

Wednesday, December 24

4pm • Catholic Mass at the Chapel

9pm • Service at the Fishing Village

11pm • Candlelight Service at the Chapel

Thursday, December 25

12pm • Christmas Day Mass at the Chapel

Wednesday, December 31

4pm • NYE Mass at the Chapel

FESTIVAL OF THE WREATHS: DECK THE WALLS

Friday, December 19

6 - 7pm • Carysfort Hall • Come enjoy hot cocoa and caroling and vote for your favorite wreath on display. Complimentary.

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS FISHING VILLAGE OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, December 20

10am - 4pm • Fishing Village

MOVIE NIGHT: JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM

Monday, December 22

5pm • Cultural Center

JUNIOR TENNIS CLINICS

December 22 - January 4

Various Times • Please call the Tennis & Games Center for more information 305-367-6583.

GINGERBREAD TEA

Tuesday, December 23

1 - 4pm • Town Hall • To-Go Pick Up at 12pm
Decorate your own gingerbread creation.
\$70++ per house • Reservations: 305-367-5931

FESTIVAL OF THE TREES

Tuesday, December 23

4 - 6pm • Pick up a map at the Membership Office or Concierge Desk • Follow the map to explore the festive trees and holiday displays around The Reef. End your journey at The Point for the sendoff to the Santa Boat Cruise at 6pm. 305-367-5874.

SANTA CRUISES THE REEF

Tuesday, December 23

6 - 8pm • Ocean Reef Channels • Santa travels through the waterways at The Reef in style!
Details: 305-367-5874

JUNIOR GOLF CLINICS

December 23-29

10 - 11am • Sign up online or call the Golf Shop for more information 305-367-5912.

SANTA ON THE BEACH

Wednesday, December 24

5:30pm • Buccaneer Island • Santa arrives at 5:45pm.

ELF TUCK-INS

Wednesday, December 24

Starts at 7pm • To be sure your home is on the elves' list call: 305-367-6516. Reservations required.

SANTA'S SLEIGH WRECK GOLF TOURNAMENT

Thursday, December 25

8am - 1pm Tee Times • Dolphin Course
Details & Tee Times: 305-367-5912

MOTHER-DAUGHTER TENNIS ROUND ROBIN

Friday, December 26

6 - 8pm • Please call the Tennis & Games Center for more information 305-367-6583.

FLYING TRAPEZE SCHOOL

December 26 - 28

Field at Four Corners • \$225++ per person
Beginner Classes are at 9 & 11am. Advanced Class is at 1pm. Try N' Fly daily from 3-5pm. Complimentary.

SUPER BINGOS!

Friday, December 26

7pm Start • Town Hall

Tuesday, December 30

7pm Start • Cultural Center Parking Lot

Reservations required, \$50++ per Bingo pack (8 Rounds). Details & Reservations: 305-367-5874

REINDEER RUN 5K

Saturday, December 27

8am • Business Center Parking Lot

7:30am Pre-Registration.

\$35 per runner includes a shirt.

Registration Required: 305-367-6516

COOKING SCHOOL: "COOL KIDS COOKING"

Saturday, December 27

9:30-11:30am & 12:30-2:30pm

Details & Reservations: 305-367-5931

REAL ESTATE OPEN HOUSE TOUR

Saturday, December 27

1 - 4pm • The Reef

PETTING ZOO

Saturday, December 27

2 - 4pm • Nature Center • Join us for fun filled day of outdoor activities and arts and crafts! \$10 per participant. Details: 305-367-2611 x2473

STORYBOOK STREET FAIR

Saturday, December 27

6 - 9pm • Town Hall Waterside • Complimentary.

INDOOR ARCHERY & LASER BATTLE

December 28 - 30

12-3pm • Town Hall • \$20++ per person.

Registration Required: 305-367-6516

FATHER-SON TENNIS ROUND ROBIN

Sunday, December 28

6 - 8pm • Please call the Tennis & Games Center for more information 305-367-6583.

CONCERT ON THE BEACH FEATURING "ALTER EGO"

Sunday, December 28

8pm • Buccaneer Island • Complimentary.

TOUCH-A-TRUCK

Monday, December 29

11am - 1pm • Business Center Parking Lot
Complimentary.

FESTIVAL ON THE GREEN

Monday, December 29

6-9pm • Driving Range • Bracelets on sale starting December 19 at Membership Office or Concierge Desk. Details: 305-367-5874

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Tuesday, December 30

9 - 11am • Carysfort Ballroom

Details & Reservations: 305-367-5931

NINJA WARRIOR COURSE

December 30 - January 1

11am - 5pm • Field at Four Corners

Join us from 4-5pm daily to compete in a timed challenge to be crowned the fastest and win a prize. \$25++ per person for the full day.
Details & Reservations: 305-367-5874

JUNIOR TENNIS ROUND ROBIN & PIZZA PARTY

Tuesday, December 30

5:30 - 7pm • Please call the Tennis & Games Center for more information 305-367-6583.

HOLIDAY PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT

Wednesday, December 31

9am-12pm • Tennis & Games Center

NEW YEAR'S EVE GALAS

Wednesday, December 31

Seatings at 6:00 & 8:30pm • Carysfort Hall

Seatings at 6:30 & 9:00pm • Palm Court

Details & Reservations: 305-367-5931

RCK & REEF REC ROOM NYE PARTY

Wednesday, December 31

6pm-12:15am • Reef Club Kids & Reef Rec Room

Registration Required: 305-367-6516

NYE CELEBRATION & FIREWORKS

Wednesday, December 31

Complimentary • Buccaneer Island

Fireworks Displays at 8:30pm and 12am

7pm-10pm • DJ Entertainment

10pm-1am • Headliner: "The HIT Factory"

HANGOVER OPEN

Thursday, January 1

8am & 1:00pm SG • Hammock Course

8:15am & 12:45pm SG • Dolphin Course

Please call the Golf Shop for more

information 305-367-5912.

CHRISTMAS DINNER BUFFETS
Wednesday, Dec. 24 • Thursday, Dec. 25
4:30 & 7pm Seatings • Carysfort Ballroom

OCEAN ROOM BUFFETS
5:30 - 9:45pm

Saturday, Dec. 27 - Saturday, Jan. 3
booking with outlet policy applies

STARLIGHT DINNERS
December 28 & 30
Various Times & Locations

**ISLANDER NEW YEAR'S
EVE DINNERS**
Wednesday, December 31

LOW COUNTRY BOIL
Thursday, January 1
6pm • Marlin Beach

Details & Reservations: 305-367-5931



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AT THE CULTURAL CENTER

Celebrating Our Cultural Center Donors



by Kyle Landers,
Cultural Center President

We are pleased to recognize and celebrate the generous individuals and families who have recently joined the Cultural Center Donor Program, as well as those who have deepened their commitment by advancing to a new donor level. Their support plays an essential role in sustaining the Cultural Center's mission by bringing inspiring performances, exhibitions, educational programs, and meaningful cultural experiences to our community.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW DONORS

Please join us in welcoming the following new donors to the Cultural Center family.

Founder Level

- Sandi & Rick Gabriel
- Abby & Rob Ruhlman
- Stacey & Michael Lahey
- Laura & Bill Koeblitz
- Denise & Tim Prete

- The Chiapparelli Family
- Julie & Clarke Futch
- Joan & Michael Conley
- Ellen & Tom Cray
- Mary Beth Cresci
- Tracy & Thomas Vieweg, Jr.
- Christie & Bob Zoba
- Helen & John Drawbert
- Chris & Dana Chiapparelli
- Charles V. Simms
- Kathy & John Weiland
- Esther Lerner Carrico & Dan Carrico

Director Level

- Sherry & Gary Forsee
- Carol & Robbo Newcomb
- Denise & Charles Gonzalez
- Kathy & Greg Thompson

Benefactor Level

Lynne & Nevan Little
Joyce & Tony Esernia

CONGRATULATIONS ON ADVANCING TO A NEW DONOR LEVEL

We also extend our sincere appreciation to the following donors who have increased their level of support this year.

- Nanette & Tom Watjen, Up to Director
- Sue & Bill Butler, Up to Benefactor
- Lucy & Mickey Gilbert, Up to Benefactor
- Diana Frazier & Rudy Schupp, Up to Benefactor
- Patricia & John Imbesi, Up to Benefactor

Your continued generosity strengthens the Cultural Center

and helps expand the scope and quality of our programming.

How the Donor Program Works

The Cultural Center Donor Program offers multiple levels of support, allowing donors to contribute in ways that align with their personal interests and philanthropic goals. Gifts may be made annually or through multiyear commitments and directly support cultural programming, artistic initiatives, educational offerings, and future enhancements of the Cultural Center.

Donor Privileges

Donors enjoy a variety of exclusive benefits, which may include:

- Priority access to select performances and ticketing opportunities
- Discounted rates on tickets
- Invitations to donor only events, receptions,

and behind the scenes experiences

- Recognition in Cultural Center publications and donor listings

Privileges vary by donor level and are designed to foster a deeper connection to the Cultural Center and its mission.

Learn More

Those interested in becoming a Cultural Center donor or advancing their current level of support are encouraged to contact Lisa Dykes, Director, at ldykes@oceanreef.com or 305-367-7339.

We are deeply grateful to all of our donors for their generosity and belief in the power of the arts. Your support ensures the Cultural Center remains a vibrant and inspiring cornerstone of our community for years to come.

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Discover the unique



41 South Bridge Lane

3 BD, 2 BA | \$4,350,000 | 2775
Patti Furneaux | 305.321.3156



7 Perky Road

Homesite | \$3,995,000 | 2800
Russell Post | 305.451.8199
Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633



2 Harbor Island Drive

Vacant Homesite | \$3,499,000 | 2904
Daisy Gonzalez | 305.904.6223



Pumpkin Key Private Island

26-ACRES | BAY FRONT | PRIVATE ISLAND | \$75,000,000 | 2670

Russell Post | 305.451.8199 | Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633

Ocean Reef Business Center | Fishing Village | oceanreefclubsir.com | 305.367.2027



Cay Harbor 5C

2 BD, 2 BA | \$3,750,000 | 2852
Cassy Everhart | 305.522.2332
Morgan Smith | 305.321.1143



Fisherman's Cove 23B

2 BD, 2 BA | \$3,675,000 | 2902
Daisy Gonzalez | 305.904.6223



Fisherman's Cove 26B

2 BD, 2 BA | \$3,650,000 | 2674
Cassy Everhart | 305.522.2332
Morgan Smith | 305.321.1143



Fairway Lakes 47

2 BD, 2.5 BA | \$3,200,000 | 2719
Helena Morton | 305.522.2196



Residence Club 209

1 BD, 2 BA | \$3,150,000 | 2823
Rupert Rodriguez | 786.857.4523



Fairway Lakes 36A

2 BD, 2 BA | \$2,895,000 | 2937
Eric Woodward | 305.394.4461



Fairway Lakes 28A

2 BD, 2 BA | \$2,699,000 | 2870
Cassy Everhart | 305.522.2332
Morgan Smith | 305.321.1143



Residence Club 105

1 BD, 2 BA | \$2,449,000 | 2793
James Morrison | 305.393.3407



Angelfish Cay 76B

1 BD, 1 BA | \$2,375,000 | 2797
Karyn Thiele | 305.394.4185

The Christmas Crib



by Rev. Dr.
Dan Meyer,
Chaplain-In-
Residence

The Crib in Bedlam

It was bedlam in the Harrison household on Christmas Day. Wired on too many candy canes and the frenzy of gifts too easily given and too quickly torn apart, the kids were running amok.

When the two-year old smashed the creche-scene in a fit of jealous rage, mom could take it no more. Grabbing young Tyler by the arm, she hauled him upstairs and practically threw him into his playpen. The child wailed like his life was over, and 'though the door was slammed shut

as his mother left, everyone downstairs could still hear the tantrum.

A few minutes later, grandfather entered the child's room. Tyler was clutching the edge of the playpen and still jumping up and down crying. At the sight of his grandfather, the boy's little hands shot up as he bumbled through his tears: "Out, Gramps, out!"

It was only natural for the older man to reach down to lift the child out of his predicament. As he moved to do so, however, the voice of his daughter snapped from behind: "NO, Dad, that's NOT helpful! Tyler, you are being punished, you must stay in."

The grandfather was at a loss. The child's tears and outstretched hands reached deeply into his heart. But the mother's wisdom in correcting her son couldn't be taken lightly. As he stepped back from the crib, Tyler's wailing soared to a new crescendo.

Collecting herself in the

kitchen a moment later, mom returned to the living room shaking her head in exasperation. It was then that she noticed that the noise from above had stopped.

"I don't believe it," she said. Quickly mounting the staircase she burst through the bedroom door, her mouth already moving to berate her father for stopping the lesson before it's work was done. But what she saw simply made her stand in shock.

Grandpa had NOT removed the child from the playpen. He had climbed into the pen WITH him.

The Manger in Bethlehem

Do you think Mary grasped the staggering descent at the heart of Christmas? Did it occur to her as she gazed into those quietly blinking eyes and touched that puckered mouth, that this tiny, helpless infant in her arms was, actually, the most enormous presence and the greatest power in the Universe?

Did the significance of the words of the angel now really come home to her -- that this was not simply a baby she held but "Emmanuel" -- literally meaning "God WITH us"?

Did she understand on that holy night that the Most High God had climbed over the rail between eternity and time and let himself down into the crib of humanity? More importantly, do we get that?

The Meaning of It All

What does it mean that God entered the crib of human flesh and life?

First, it means that *God understands everything about the confines of human life that limit and stress us*. He knows the fatigue and aches you feel at the end of a trying day. He has hit his thumb with a hammer and suffered with a cold. God knows what it is to be hungry, to thirst, and to have a headache. He understands what it's like to feel pulled in a dozen different directions by clamoring people and to not want to watch the news. God has felt the terror of his body giving out and

shuddering under the cold, creeping shadow of death.

That God came into the crib with us also means that *God knows what it's like to endure the consequences of human moral failure*. He has felt what it is to live with angry or insensitive people. He gets what it is to be criticized and maligned and misunderstood. He knows the pull of temptation you feel and the agony of hard choices. He understands loneliness and the pain of separation from those you love, or rejection by those whose love you want. He can be with you and me in these things, because he has been there himself.

*And, finally,
Christmas means
that God offers hope
and help for us all.*

And, finally, Christmas means that *God offers hope and help for us all*. It is important to remember that while the One we honor during this season has come into our crib, he comes from way beyond it, from far "above the rail."

Like a Cosmic Grandparent, God has abilities we don't have in ourselves. He can counsel us through our present troubles and tantrums. He can pronounce us forgiven of our failures and grant us a new beginning. He has the capacity to carry us to new life, even after our bodies wear out.

Whatever our religious background or none, every time we give good gifts to imperfect children or stop to offer someone our full presence when we could have left them to struggle alone... Each time we stoop to render help we did not have to give or look UP with hope from whatever mess we've gotten ourselves into, we are entering into the mystery and marvel of what Christmas means.

If we could each do it just a bit more, it might change the quality of the New Year ahead.

AFTERLIFE



SUNDAYS AT 10:30 AM

JAN 4 & 11 | FEB 1, 8 & 22 | MAR 1

What happens when we die? Does our soul really go on and, if so, to what kind of a place? What about heaven and hell? Who goes where and why?

If you have ever wondered whether or not to believe in the AFTERLIFE and what to believe about it, join us for this fascinating series of messages from Chaplain-in-Residence, Dan Meyer.

"I go to prepare a place for you."

JOHN 14:2



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We Mourn the Loss

June Helen Dieckhoff



On December 17, 2025, June "Helen" Dieckhoff lost a hard-fought battle with kidney disease. She passed at home surrounded by love.

She was born in Queens, NY, May 18, 1937, to Alfred Duncan and Helen Galvin. After a sad and motherless adolescence, made worse by the death of her father, her life began to take shape at age 16. As a student at Babylon High School (Long Island, NY) she met her "one and only" Richie Dieckhoff. They were married in 1958. A few years later, after her first child was born, she decided to leave her job with the telephone company to stay home and raise her children. It was an idyllic life, in a modest

neighborhood surrounded by young families. In 1975 she began a successful career at Swissair. She and Richie took full advantage of her position with the airline and became enthusiastic world travelers.

In addition, they were avid boaters who enjoyed adventures on their boat "Dutch", spanning from Rhode Island to the Bahamas. In 1991 while exploring the Florida Keys they happened upon Ocean Reef Club. This is where Helen called home until her death. A fun and energetic person, she enjoyed participating in many of the Ocean Reef community activities and clubs as well as entertaining in her own home.

A faithful and devout Catholic, she will be interred at St. Justin the Martyr, Key Largo. A funeral mass will be held at the Ocean Reef Chapel January 31st at 10 a.m. She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law Laura and Jim Woods, her son and daughter-in-law Richard H. Dieckhoff Jr and Michelle Dieckhoff, along with cherished grandchildren, Richard and Jimmy Woods, Carly June and Isabella Dieckhoff.

Her greatest legacy is her love for her husband Richard. It fueled her fight to stay alive. A beautiful and rare 72 yearlong love story. This is what she will be remembered for. A life full of love. A life well lived.

In lieu of flowers the family asks you hug a loved one.

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We Mourn the Loss

James B. Porter III



James B. Porter III died December 3 at 4:15 p.m. at his home in Key Largo. Jim is survived by his wife, Pam Porter, his sister, Elizabeth (Betsy) Porter Rountree, his three children, Caleb Porter of Boston, Elizabeth Porter Cavanaugh of Washington, DC, and Seth Porter of South Carolina, and his grandchildren, Colin, Jake, Stella, Monroe, Abraham, Willa and Eleanor.

James B. Porter III was a

distinguished leader in the global paper and packaging industry, renowned for his strategic vision and decades-long commitment to operational excellence. He built a 46-year career spanning forestry, containerboard, corrugated packaging, and global business development before retiring at the end of 2020.

Jim earned a bachelor's degree in forest management from the University of Missouri and completed graduate studies in business including the Advanced Management Program at Harvard Business School, underscoring his commitment to both technical forestry knowledge and strategic business leadership. He began his career in the forestry and paperboard business with Menasha Corporation – working first in timberlands, later rising to general management with Menasha's paperboard operations.

In 1993, Jim joined Southern Container and helped build the Solvay Paperboard Mill as Vice President. Jim and his incredible team grew Southern Container

into a very well-managed business — the best in the industry at the time.

As President and Chief Operating Officer of Southern Container, he oversaw operations during a pivotal era and in 2008, when RockTenn Company acquired Southern Container, Jim joined Rock Tenn's senior leadership team. Under his leadership, the company expanded into an industry heavyweight with about \$18 billion in net sales over approximately a dozen years. Then after the merger of Rock Tenn and MeadWestvaco, becoming WestRock, Jim served as President of several key divisions. In that role, he led global fiber procurement and oversaw WestRock's operations and expansion in Latin American markets (notably Brazil) and its joint-venture operations in Mexico with Grupo Gondi where he remained on their Board of Directors following his retirement.

Jim's many industry accolades include the following ...

In 2018, Jim was honored with the RISI Lifetime Achievement Award — a testament to his long-term impact in the packaging industry. In the same year, he was inducted into the International Corrugated Packaging Foundation (ICPF)'s Circle of Distinguished Leaders, marking his status among the top echelon of industry executives. He also received the Pulp and Paper Safety Association Executive Eagle award in 2017, and he is a past chairman of the Fibre Box Association. He is a past chairman of the Containerboard Sector of the American Forest and Paper

Association and a past member of the Board of Directors for Corrugated Packaging Alliance, the International Corrugated Case Association and World Containerboard Association. Jim served on the boards of the American Forest Foundation, the Family Forest Impact Foundation and the Forest History Society. He was inducted into the International Corrugated Packaging Foundation's Circle of Distinguished Leaders, was a member of the Society of American Foresters and was an SAF Certified Forester.

Jim was devoted to building a strong culture supported by committed teams and consistent execution. He was known by his many team members throughout his career as a caring and supportive leader who encouraged each member's personal and professional growth in support of company success.

After retiring Jim dedicated time to conservation and sustainable forestry. He served on the board of environmental organizations such as the American Forest Foundation and the Forest History Society. Together with his wife, Pam, and supported by his son, Seth, Jim actively managed a large tree farm under sustainable forestry practices — reflecting his lifelong commitment to stewardship of natural resources. They were recently honored with South Carolina, Southern Tree Farmer of the Year and have been nominated for National Tree Farmer of the Year.

In lieu of flowers please donate to the cancer society of your choice.

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SAVE THE DATE

COMMUNITY WIDE EVENT SPONSORED BY
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TEXAS HOEDOWN BBQ & ORC CONCERT

Friday, January 16 • Doors open at 7:15 p.m.

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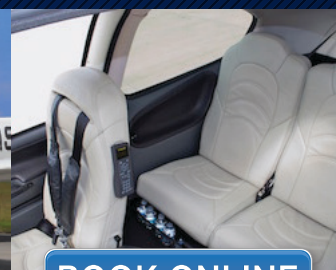
There will be a special *Friday Night Lights*
Shabbat Service led by Joe Buchanan at 6 p.m.

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We Mourn the Loss

Paul Sullivan



Paul "Sully" Sullivan, 87, passed away peacefully on December 11, 2025, in Key Largo, Florida with his children by his side. Born on November 26, 1938, in Toronto, Canada, Paul immigrated to the United States with his parents at the age of nine and proudly became a U.S. citizen at sixteen.

Paul grew up in Queens and attended Xavier High School before attending college at Fairleigh Dickinson University. It was there that he met the love of his life, Nancy Lee Henry, beginning a partnership that would define his life.

Paul served in the U.S. Army Reserves and, following an honorable discharge, joined his father in the family Chevrolet dealership in New Jersey. He went on to enjoy a long and successful career as a car dealer, known for his work ethic, integrity, and easy rapport with customers and colleagues alike. His best deal ever was to barter a leased car for New York Giants season tickets for years in their heyday in the 80s.

An accomplished skier and scuba diver in his younger years, Paul eventually traded the slopes and blue waters for the fairways after marrying into the Henry family—an avid golfing clan. Golf became his great pastime, particularly at Roxiticus Country Club in Mendham, New Jersey, where Paul and Nancy were longtime members and cherished the rolling hills, beautiful course, and enduring friendships they

found there.

Known affectionately to family and friends as "Sully," Paul was deeply rooted in the Pottersville community of Tewksbury Township, New Jersey. He served as a volunteer firefighter for many years, supported the annual Pottersville Antique Show for decades, and was a familiar and beloved sight working the griddle at Pancake Breakfast fundraisers for the fire department—always ready with a smile and a story.

Paul and Nancy shared a love of travel and family traditions, taking their children each year on winter and spring trips down the East Coast to the Florida Keys. For many years they vacationed in Duck Key, enjoying fishing, boating, and simply being out on the water together. In the early 1980s, introduced by friends from Roxiticus, Paul and Nancy discovered Ocean Reef Club—a place that quickly became their second home. After years as social members, they purchased their home on the Dolphin Course in 1995, where they built a life filled with friendships, golf, and community.

At Ocean Reef, Sully was a proud member of the legendary golf group known as "Hanks Hackers" and, together with Nancy, hosted the annual "New Jersey Open," welcoming dozens of Ocean Reef friends from the Garden State for years of memorable tournaments and camaraderie. He was well known for driving his golf cart everywhere with his dogs riding along—and, of course, his pipe always close at hand. It was unmistakably Sully's way.

Paul was predeceased by his beloved wife, Nancy Lee Henry Sullivan, who passed away on November 6, 2014—a loss he felt deeply every day thereafter.

He is survived by his daughter, Wendy O'Sullivan, and her husband, Andrew Russette; his son, Scott O'Sullivan, and his wife, Elizabeth O'Sullivan; and his cherished grandsons, Tommy

O'Sullivan and Michael O'Sullivan. Paul loved his children, their spouses, and his grandchildren fiercely. His friends were family, and his family was his greatest joy.

Paul enjoyed his Thursday night dinners with friends at the Raw Bar and their amazing team that has become family to us all. He was also grateful for the wonderful caregivers that took care of him for this past year and the truly

unparalleled support of the Ocean Reef Medical Center and Foundation.

Paul "Sully" O'Sullivan will be remembered for his devotion to family, his loyalty to friends, his love of golf and the Keys, and his lovable but grumpy demeanor. He leaves behind a legacy of connection, tradition, and love that will endure for generations.

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CHAPEL & FELLOWSHIP NEWS

DECEMBER 26 – DECEMBER 31

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26

AA Meeting
Chapel Board Room, 8 a.m.

Shabbat Service
Chapel Cornerstone Room, 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27

Catholic Mass with Father Stephen Hilley
Chapel Sanctuary, 4 p.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

PCOR Kids Sunday School
Chapel Children's Room, 9 a.m.

Traditional Worship Service with Rev. Dr. Dave Worth
Chapel Sanctuary, 9 a.m.

The Light from Ocean Reef Class
Chapel Sanctuary, 10:30 a.m.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29

AI-Anon Meeting
Chapel Fellowship Hall, 9 a.m.

AA Meeting
Chapel Board Room, 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31

Intercessory Prayer
Chapel Board Room, 8 a.m.

New Year's Eve Catholic Mass
Chapel Sanctuary, 4 p.m.



SHABBAT



SERVICES

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26 & JANUARY, 2

Cornerstone Room – 6:00pm

Join us as we welcome Shabbat together as a community with a brief service.

All events at the Ocean Reef Chapel

NEWS FROM THE MEDICAL CENTER

**ANNUAL SUNPASS
REGISTRATION
STILL OPEN!**

Open to all Members, you can register on **December 30**, for the annual Sunpass in the Club's Human Resources Computer Lab from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Then, beginning **Wednesday, January 7**, you will have the option to register every Tuesday and Wednesday until **January 21**.

If you would like more information, please contact Olympia Newton at newtonolympia@monroecounty-fl.gov or call 305-853-7359.

The Kindness Connection

The connection between mental and physical health is well documented.

According to an article in Harvard Health there is also mounting evidence and studies that acts of kindness do more than make the giver and recipient feel good.

Tyler VanderWeele, the co-director of the Initiative on Health, Spirituality, and Religion at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, states, "There's compelling evidence that kindness is linked

There's compelling evidence that kindness is linked with a number of aspects of health and well-being.



with a number of aspects of health and well-being. Some studies have indicated it can improve happiness and a sense of engagement with life, reduce symptoms of anxiety and increase a sense of social connectedness."

For a variety of reasons, Holiday periods can trigger feelings of isolation and sadness. Small acts of kindness- whether random or premeditated can help fuel your brain for positive

and happy feelings. Even micro-kindness acts of smiling at a stranger, not complaining when you might otherwise, sending a random "thinking of you" note or going out of your way to say, "I see and appreciate all you do"- these small gestures can make someone else's day and build on an attitude of kindness. Shifting focus from yourself and negative thoughts to helping others creates a positive cycle and can improve how you feel. Ever let anyone else go first in traffic and then look back and see the next person did too? Random kindness is contagious- so pass it along!

The Medical Center's Visiting Specialists Program also includes mental health practitioner Sarah Couper, APRN and chiropractic/holistic practitioner David Coppola, DC.

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VISITING SPECIALIST SCHEDULE

Please bring your identification and insurance cards to each visiting specialist appointment. They bill separately from the Medical Center. To schedule with a visiting dermatologist, please call their office directly. Specialist with phone numbers do their own scheduling. For all other specialists, please call 305-367-6702.

Audiology**Daisy Elwick**

Jan 5, 7, 8, 12, 14, 15

Monica Taggart

Jan 6, 20, 27

Cardiology**Julio Barcena**

Jan 9, 16, Feb 6, 20

Howard Bush

Jan 22, Feb 19, March 25

Benjamin Hurwitz

Jan 17, Feb 14

Chiropractic**Howard Furshman 305-668-9545**

Jan 9, 23, Feb 13, 27, March 13, 27

Jesse Suess

Dec 31, Jan 7, 14, 21, 28, Feb 4

Colorectal Surgery**Dan Ruiz**

Jan 19, Feb 16, March 16

Dermatology**Peter Bittar 305-456-1425**

Jan 13, 27

Alysa Herman 305-444-4979

Jan 8, 15, Feb 5, March 5, 19

Varee Poochareon 305-740-6181

Jan 7, 14, 21, 28, Feb 4, 11, 25

Debra Price 305-670-1111

Jan 16, 30, Feb 13, 27

Jill Waibel 305-279-6060

(Jan 10, General Dermatology)

Jan 22, Feb 12, 26 March 12, 26

Endocrinology**Heberto Valdes**

Tele-Med 786-595-9930 Opt 1

ENT**Pablo Arango**

Jan 5, Feb 2, March 2, April 6

Gastroenterology**Sandra Rodriguez**

Jan 12, Feb 2

Gynecology**Jason James**

Jan 8, Feb 12, March 12

Holistic Medicine**David Coppola 305-890-6378**

Dec 30, Jan 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22

I.V. Therapy 305-907-7550**Scott Williams**

Dec 29, Jan 5, 12, 19, 26

Nephrology**Anthony Farias**

Jan 12, Feb 23, March 30

Neurology**Victor Faradji**

Jan 8, Feb 5, March 5, April 2

Neuro-Spine**Raul Vasquez**

Jan 20

Ophthalmology**William Culbertson 786-530-2289**

Jan 6, Feb 3, March 3, April 7

Mark Dunbar 786-530-2289

Jan 27, Feb 24

Richard Parrish 786-530-2289

Jan 7, Feb 4, March 4, April 1

Elena Roth 786-530-2289

Jan 22, Feb 26

Zach Segal

Jan 20, Feb 17, March 17, April 21

Optometry**Susanna Tamkins 786-530-2289**

Feb 20, April 17

Orthopaedic Hand Surgery**Annie Plate**

Jan 15, Feb 19, March 19, April 16

Roberto Miki

Jan 23, Feb 20, March 20, April 17

Orthopaedic Sports Medicine**Michael Swartzon**

Jan 9, Feb 6, March 13, April 17

Orthopaedic Surgery**Joseph Fernandez**

Jan 23, Feb 20, March 20

Derek Papp

Jan 8, 29, Feb 12, 26, March 12, 26

James Voglino

Jan 23, Feb 27, March 13

Plastic Surgery**Anne Taylor 614-569-2649**

Dec 27, Jan 3, 10, 31

Podiatry**Brigette Smith**

Jan 14, 28, Feb 11, 25

Polly Reeves

Jan 15, Feb 12, March 12

Sophia Masri

Jan 23, 30, Feb 6, 27

Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner**Sarah Couper**

Jan 19, Feb 16, March 23

Pulmonary & Sleep Disorders**Raul Valor**

Jan 16, Feb 13, March 13

Spine Care & Pain Management**Ronald Tolchin**

Jan 6, 20, Feb 3, 17, March 10, 31

Urology**William Tingle**

Jan 14, Feb 11, March 11, April 8



*We wish you and yours
a brilliant New Year —
may it sparkle with
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2025 ASSOCIATE AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

Since 2004, Ocean Reef's Awards of Excellence program has recognized Associates that go above and beyond in making lasting impressions on Members, guests and each other. On Thursday, December 18, the Club recognized some of the most exceptional Associates for 2025 at the annual Associate Holiday Party, held in Town Hall. These individuals have not only excelled in their roles but have consistently set the standard for excellence, embodying the values that make Ocean Reef Club such a remarkable place to be. Please join us in celebrating the following 2025 Awards of Excellence winners for their outstanding contributions. Read more about their accomplishments in upcoming editions.



Banquet Beverage – Team of the Year.



Kareem Anguin, Islander – Manager of the Year.



Sandy Benoit, Toski's, and Francois Louis-Jean, Stewarding – Associate Spirit of Ocean Reef Club winners.



Calvin McIntyre, Banquets – Supervisor of the Year.



Heather Furlani, Salon & Spa, and Jean Claude Adonis, Bellstand – Associates of the Year.



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The Double Life of Mark Ray



by Felicia M. Koretsky

Call it Clark Kent foolery.

In Metropolis, all it took was a pair of thick-rimmed glasses, a fedora, and a gray suit to dupe an entire city from realizing Superman was actually mild-mannered *Daily Planet* reporter Clark Kent.

At Ocean Reef, the same phenomenon is alive and well. Swap the tasteful nautical polo and the belted, ironed pair of slacks for a T-shirt, a baseball cap, and headphones, and everyone is blissfully unaware that the same guy overseeing the Islander and Palm Court is also the hair-free, carefree backup DJ rocking the dancefloor at the Burgee Bar.

"Wait... isn't that...?"

How no one has noticed the resemblance is anyone's guess. Maybe it's the technicolor strobe storm interfering with their vision. Or maybe the extra rounds of Burgee's adult beverages. Or perhaps, like the people of Metropolis, after-hours Reefers can't imagine that the always composed, always reserved manager, Mark Ray, is leading a double life. He's part staffing maestro, budget keeper, dress code enforcer, and dining crisis avenger, and another part beat master, remix wizard, and playlist oracle.

A native of Attleboro, Massachusetts, just outside Providence, Rhode Island, Mark grew up as the middle child in a working-class family. Meals were always on the table, but anything beyond the basics had to be earned once you were old enough to work. That early lesson in self-reliance shaped everything that followed.

Work, Life & Music

At 17, Mark started out delivering pizzas, waiting tables



Mark Ray - Islander and Palm Court General Manager by day, DJ by night.

at Friendly's, and hosting at Olive Garden before moving on to fine dining and private country club positions. He was out of the house and financially independent by his 20s. He earned a seafarer certification and worked as a server and maître d' on Norwegian Cruise Lines, only to discover he preferred working by the sea rather than on it.

Music was woven into his DNA. Some of his earliest memories are riding in the car with his mom, blasting Bon Jovi and Whitesnake, or jamming with his dad to ZZ Top and Jethro Tull; rhythm was simply part of the household. He picked up his first Yamaha drum kit in elementary school, and by the time he finished high school, he was playing late into the night with neighborhood bands.

As he grew older, his tastes expanded. He admits his early music palate leaned heavily toward rock, but one job at a record shop widened his world. There, he discovered European dance tracks and developed a taste for soulful, melodic, nightclub-ready house music. He spent time guest-DJing in Providence nightclubs, and when his interest in the technical side of music began to beckon, he took a break between jobs to study audio production in Los Angeles.

While Mark is still a diehard Metallica fan, The Righteous Brothers and Dutch electronic legend Ferry Corsten have earned permanent spots on his playlists. With a laptop full of tracks spanning every mood and moment, he's ready to match any vibe.

On the decks, he's always kept things simple: his DJ name is just "Mark," though he'll respond to



"Marky Mark" or "DJ Ray" if the moment calls for it.

Busy on Weekends

Choosing a career in hospitality, where weekends often translate to working, DJing remains a fun side hustle. But his double life has largely remained a secret from Members.

The Associates (his very own Jimmy Olsens and Lois Lanes), caught wind of his DJ ambitions early on. Since he started at The Reef in the mid-2000s, he's spun at Associate events and private parties, while steadily rising through the ranks at the former Galley, Burgee Bar, Ocean Room, and Clubhouse. He's now the General Manager of the Islander and Palm Court.

Secret Disguise

When the regular Burgee DJs are out, the call goes to Mark. Always ready to save the day, with his charged headphones and his playlist ready, he delights in rescuing the dancing citizens of ORC.

For someone who's spent nearly two decades working on

and off The Reef, his youthful looks remain another disguise. At 47, Mark Ray's blue-eyed baby face may disarm, but his real superpower is his work ethic and ability to reflect.

"People today talk about work-life balance. But really, it's all just life," he says. "Work isn't separate from life, it's part of it."

And while Mark sometimes heads over to the Burgee after a night at the Islander faster than a speeding train, without the inconvenience of leaping over any tall buildings, to make his transformation, he's not the only one with a secret identity.

Burgee nights, especially on holiday weekends after 10 p.m., have a way of loosening even the most well-pressed collars. It's proof that plenty of Reefers have a little alter ego waiting to emerge under the disco lights. Club inhibitions commonly take flight when Members of all ages become dancefloor besties, uniting in song (and unidentifiable dance moves) to *Sweet Caroline*, *Wagon Wheel*, and *Pink Pony Club*.

Mark or Clark?

So ask yourself: Is Mark really Clark? Or is he simply a reminder that even the most unassuming among us can harbor a secret superpower, the courage, grace, and resilience to rise above, transform the everyday into something remarkable, and inspire those who share our Planet Ocean Reef- all without anyone suspecting a thing.

Have a comment, tip, or general feedback for Felicia? Reach her at Feliciakoretsky@gmail.com.



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Marina Village 11A

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Russell Post | 305.451.8199 | Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633



5 Diana Road

4 BD, 4.5 BA | \$9,750,000 | 2909

Cassy Everhart | 305.522.2332 | Morgan Smith | 305.321.1143

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Pumpkin Cay Garden Home 68

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Residence Club B207

2 BD, 2.5 BA | \$5,275,000 | 2927
Cassy Everhart | 305.522.2332
Morgan Smith | 305.321.1143



Fisherman's Cove Landings 5A

3 BD, 3 BA | \$4,990,000 | 2859
Rupert Rodriguez | 786.857.4523



3 Spray Road

3 BD, 2 BA | \$4,550,000 | 2946
Helena Morton | 305.522.2196



Residence Club B-215

2 BD, 2.5 BA | \$3,995,000 | 2945
Russell Post | 305.451.8199
Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633



Creek House PH3

2 BD, 2 BA | \$2,995,000 | 2939
Bill Dickinson | 305.304.8311



Creek House 302

2 BD, 2 BA | \$2,695,000 | 2944
Karyn Thiele | 305.394.4185

Ocean Reef Business Center | Fishing Village | oceanreefclubsir.com | 305.367.2027

The one for every possibility



103 Andros Road

4 BD, 5F/2H BA | \$29,500,000 | 2851
Marlina Lerma | 305.801.2699



6 Sunrise Cay Drive

6 BD, 6F/2H BA | \$29,500,000 | 2924
Russell Post | 305.451.8199 | Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633



35 Cardinal Lane

4 BD, 4.5 BA | \$28,000,000 | 2675
Amy Fernandez | 305.979.9646



22 Channel Cay Road

5 BD, 6.5 BA | \$19,675,022 | 2861
Russell Post | 305.451.8199 | Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633



115 Andros Road

3 BD, 3 BA | \$14,975,000 | 2943
Russell Post | 305.451.8199 | Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633



43 Cardinal Lane

4 BD, 5 BA | \$14,250,000 | 2913
Jay Rourke | 786.493.8105 | Megan Lyons | 786.201.5265

Ocean Reef Business Center | Fishing Village | oceanreefclubsir.com | 305.367.2027



22 Harbor Island Drive

4 BD, 5.5 BA | \$10,490,000 | 2905
Russell Post | 305.451.8199
Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633



32 Cardinal Lane

4 BD, 4 BA | \$9,500,000 | 2915
Listed and Contingent by:
Barbara Sibley | 305.394.0061



30 Halfway Road

Golf Homesite | \$8,250,000 | 2766
Jay Rourke | 786.493.8105
Megan Lyons | 786.201.5265



600 Coral Lane

6 BD, 6.5 BA | 7,500,000 | 2896
Mary Brady | Agent/Owner
201.303.2052



20 Bay Ridge Road

4 BD, 5 BA | \$7,295,000 | 2912
Cassy Everhart | 305.522.2332
Morgan Smith | 305.321.1143



30 Country Club Road

3 BD, 2 BA | \$6,600,000 | 2934
Barbara Sibley | 305.394.0061



17 Caloosa Road

4 BD, 3 BA | \$6,595,000 | 2892
Cassy Everhart | Morgan Smith | 305.321.1143
Contingent by
Jay Rourke | Megan Lyons | 786.201.5265



15 Thatch Palm Way

4 BD, 4 BA | \$5,150,000 | 2914
Jay Rourke | 786.493.8105
Megan Lyons | 786.201.5265



10 Grayvik Drive

2 BD, 2 BA | \$5,495,000 | 2910
Cassy Everhart | 305.522.2332
Morgan Smith | 305.321.1143



62 Marlin Lane

5 BED / 4 BATH / 1 HALF BATH MLS #2875

\$9,900,000

5 BED / 4 BATH / 1 HALF BATH – \$9,900,000

Introducing this stunning Pumpkin Cay Garden Home, which is beautifully decorated and features five bedrooms and four and a half bathrooms, along with a fabulous two-bedroom suite located above the garage. The private pool has been resurfaced and enhanced with a waterfall and a Badu swim jet, complete with a saltwater chlorinator. The interior has been completely remodeled down to the studs, showcasing designer finishes and fixtures. The primary suite features His and Her closets designed by California Closets and a perfect sitting room to enjoy the sunsets. Enjoy the convenience of roll-down screens on both the porch and the Florida room, as well as a Sonos sound system. This home offers the lifestyle of a spacious residence without the hassle of maintenance! Plus, you'll have your very own brand-new seawall dockage, perfect for your 40-foot boat, all just minutes from the ocean. It is truly turnkey and ready for you to move in! Two-car garage with soft coat floor surfacing. MLS #2875



101 Anchor Drive

PENDING!

4 BED / 4 1/2 BATH MLS #2908

\$11,850,000



8 Sunset Cay Rd

PENDING!

4 BEDROOMS | 5 BATHS | 2 OFFICES MLS #2912

\$14,750,000



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917.603.3252

marylee@oceanreefclubsir.com

www.MaryLeeOceanReef.com



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MEMBER NEWS



Mr. Calvin and Dr. Lauren Jenkins were married on April 5, 2025 in Omaha, Nebraska. Parents of the groom are Jill Bresnahan and Philip Jenkins and parents of the bride are Jim Weis and the Honorable Francie Riedmann. The couple are residing in Houston, Texas where Calvin is a consultant for PricewaterhouseCoopers and Lauren is a plastic surgery resident physician.



Wes and Meghan Palmer were overjoyed to welcome their daughter, Merritt, in May. They recently had the chance to celebrate her christening along with Godmothers Ashley Orleans Carson and Kristen Fajt-Parker. The Palmers look forward to their first trip to The Reef as a family of four (including their Bernedoodle, Teddy) over the holidays.

KEYS CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

An Inspiring Story On Screen & In Person

Before Anthony Robles takes the stage as this year's "Be an Angel" Luncheon speaker, the Keys Children's Foundation invites the community to experience his extraordinary story on screen.

Unstoppable, the 2025 film chronicling Robles' life, will be shown in a complimentary screening on **Wednesday, January 7** at 2 p.m. in the Cooking School. The film follows Robles' journey from underestimated underdog to NCAA National Champion - a powerful story of perseverance,



Watch "Unstoppable" with KCF on Wednesday, January 7 at 2 p.m. in the Cooking School.



KCF Speaker Anthony Robles.

faith, and determination that has inspired audiences nationwide.

That same inspiring voice will be heard in person at the Keys Children's Foundation "Be an Angel" Luncheon, held **Friday, January 23** at Town Hall. Orchid sales begin at 11 a.m., with the luncheon following at 11:30 a.m. Robles - NCAA All-American Wrestling Champion, ESPN analyst, Nike athlete, motivational speaker, and novelist - will share a message that resonates far beyond sports: that adversity does not define limits.

Invitations to the luncheon are now out, and reservations are required by **Wednesday, January 14**. Donations are welcomed, with proceeds supporting KCF's mission to provide education, healthcare, and recreational programs for

disadvantaged children and families in the Upper Keys.

For an invitation or additional information, please contact **Debbie A. Hartmann** at 203-656-4437 or

Debbie.A.Hartmann@gmail.com. You can also find details at thekeyschildrensfoundation.org.

Watch the story. Feel the impact. Join us as Anthony Robles brings that inspiration to life.

Returning

2026 Keys Children's Foundation "Be an Angel" Luncheon

ORCHID ARRANGEMENT SALE

Orchids by
"A Heavenly Garden"

January 23, 2026
11:00 am
Reception Foyer @ Town Hall

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

For full list of events pick up a copy of This Week at The Reef!

26 FRIDAY

Danish & Coffee

7-10am • The Point (Members Only)

Swim Club & Sweat Class

8am • Member Fitness Center

Flying Trapeze School

9am & 11am Classes, 1pm Advanced Students • Field at Four Corners

Caryna Nina Trunk Show

9am-4pm • Member Fitness Center

Holiday 105 Tennis Tournament

11am • Tennis & Games Center

Reindeer Run 5K Pre-Registration

12-4pm • Pool Desk

Stand Tall Posture & Balance

2pm • Member Fitness Center

Junior Jetsetters

3pm • Airport Terminal

Floating Sound Bath

5pm • Member Fitness Pool

Legacy Welcome Reception

5-6pm • Residence Club

Shabbat Services

6pm • Chapel Cornerstone Room

Mother-Daughter Tennis Round Robin

6-8pm • Tennis & Games Center

Super Bingo!

7pm Start! • Town Hall

27 SATURDAY

Danish & Coffee

7-10am • The Point (Members Only)

Reindeer Run 5K Fun Run7:30am Pre-Registration
8am Start • Business Center
Parking Lot**Intro to Pickleball & Cardio Tennis Clinic**

9am • Tennis & Games Center

Cooking School: Cool Kids Cooking

9:30am & 12:30pm • Carysfort Kitchen

Junior Golf Clinic

10-11am • Driving Range

Maui Jim Trunk Show

11am-4pm • Buccaneer Island

Real Estate Open House Tour

1-4pm • The Reef

Petting Zoo

2-4pm • Nature Center

Catholic Mass with Fr. Stephen Hilley

4pm • Chapel Sanctuary

Storybook Street Fair

6-9pm • Fishing Village

28 SUNDAY

Danish & Coffee

7-10am • The Point (Members Only)

All Level Cardio Clinic

8am • Tennis & Games Center

Traditional Worship Service with Rev. Dr. Dave Worth

9am • Chapel Sanctuary

Guided Eco-Kayak Tour

10am • Meet at Pool Desk

Junior Tennis Clinic

11am • Tennis & Games Center

Family Game Night

5pm • Card & Game Room

Starlight Dinner & Trapeze Show

6 & 8pm • Field at Four Corners

Father-Son Tennis Round Robin

6-8pm • Tennis & Games Center

Concert on the Beach featuring "Alter Ego"

8pm • Buccaneer Island

29 MONDAY

Danish & Coffee

7-10am • The Point (Members Only)

Silver Fit & Barrelattes Class

10am • Member Fitness Center

Touch-a-Truck11am-1pm • Business Center
Parking Lot**Farmer's Market Open**

11am-4pm • Field at Four Corners

Indoor Archery & Laser Battle

12-3pm • Town Hall

Festival on the Green

6-9pm • Driving Range

Monday Night Poker

6:45pm • Card & Game Room

Club Legacy

8pm-11am • Town Hall Terrace

30 TUESDAY

ORC Run Club

6:45am • Member Fitness Center

Pancake Breakfast

9-11am • Carysfort Ballroom

Irresistibles Trunk Show

9am-3pm • Member Fitness Center

Junior Jetsetters

10am • Airport Terminal

Ultimate Demo Day

10am-4pm • Driving Range

Legacy Member Mid-Week Mixer

4-6pm • Town Hall Waterside

Super Bingo #27pm Start! • Cultural Center
Parking Lot**Grand Seafood Buffet**

5:30-9:45pm • Ocean Room

31 WEDNESDAY

Intercessory Prayer

8am • Chapel Board Room

Holiday Pickleball Tournament9am-12pm • Tennis & Games
Center**Golf Clinic with Dave Vihlen**

10-11am • Driving Range

Islander New Year's Eve Omakase Dinner

5:30 & 8pm • Islander Sushi Bar

RRR & RCK NYE Party8pm-12:15am • Reef Club Kids
8pm-12:15am • Reef Rec Room**NYE Celebration & Fireworks Display**

8:30pm & 12am • Buccaneer Island

01 THURSDAY

Hangover Open8am & 1pm Shotgun • Hammock
Course
8:15am & 12:45pm Shotgun •
Dolphin Course**Zoe's Empire Trunk Show**

9am-3pm • Member Fitness Center

Low Country Boil

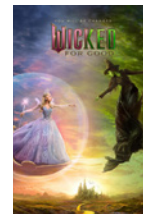
6pm • Marlin Beach

Karaoke at Burgee Bar

10pm-1am • Burgee Bar

ON SCREEN
& STAGEGeneral Admission \$12,
Donors \$10, Children (under 12) \$6

Movie Hotline: 305-367-6306

**"Now You See
Me: Now You
Don't"**
(PG-13)Friday, December 26 • 4:30 & 7:30pm
Monday, December 29 • 4:30 & 7:30pm
Wednesday, December 31 • 4:30pm**Live
Performance:
360 ALLSTARS**Sunday, December 28 • 4 & 7pm
Reservations required.**"Wicked: For
Good"**
(PG-13)Friday, January 2 • 4:30 & 7:30pm
Sunday, January 4 • 4:30 & 7:30pm
Wednesday, January 7 • 7:30pm**Library Hours**

Monday • 10am-12pm

Cultural Center Museum

Daily • 9am-4pm

For more information, please visit
OceanReefCulturalCenter.com.

ORC STORE HOURS

Monday, December 29 - Sunday, January 4

Member Fitness CenterMon.-Wed. & Fri. 5:30am-7pm
Thurs. 5:30am-4pm
Sat. & Sun. 6:30am-7pm
305-367-5820**Ocean Reef Gift Shop**Mon. - Wed., Fri. & Sat. 8am-7pm
Thurs. 8am - 5pm • Sun. 7am-7pm
305-367-2611, ext. 7139**The Burgee Shop**Mon.-Wed. & Fri.-Sun. 9am-5pm,
Thurs. 9am-3pm
305-367-5515**Golf Shop**Daily 7:30am-5:30pm
305-367-5912**Port O'Call Wine & Spirits**In the Fishing Village.
Mon.-Sat. 11am-9pm
Sun. 11am-8pm
305-367-5999**The Spa Boutique**In the Fishing Village.
Tues., Wed., Fri. & Sat.
305-367-2336**Tennis Pro Shop**Daily 8am-5:30pm
305-367-6583

SPOT ON SHOPPING

Joan the Shopper – Happy New Year!



Shopping Opportunities in Fishing Village and Beyond

First stops for visitors and Members alike are the three stores in the Fishing Village, that I think of as the "biggies" – **Lilly Pulitzer**; **J. McLaughlin**; **Vineyard Vines**, which has two stores – one for men, the other for women. These stores are so well-known that mentioning them here seems sufficient.

What follows is a list of the stores you might overlook.

Location: The Fishing Village

***Burgee Shop....** This Member's favorite store sells clothing for the whole family. Most items are marked with the Ocean Reef name, initials and/or the burgee.

***Leggiadro....** High-end designer shop for women's clothes. Beautiful sweaters and scarves.

***Dockside Living....** Everything for entertaining at home or on your boat. Plus, unusual caftans, jewelry, handbags, etc.

***Island Garden....** This trendy little store (across from the Raw Bar) has classy, often exotic, women's clothes & accessories.

***MarineMax Ship Store....** This Fishing Village shop caters to fishermen (and women). Including great raincoats, tees, pants, and shoes, that are just fine on land as well as sea.

***Spa Boutique....** This store carries some of the fine beauty products that were sold at the Spa in the Member Fitness Center. There's also a makeup tester station and a few special wearables.

***Reef Gallery....** I think of it as the Tiffany's of OR. This store carries some practical and some priceless (you wish) jewelry and fine paintings

that often depict land or seascapes of Ocean Reef.

Location: Barracuda Lane (Turn at the Medical Center and go straight past the Airport) and you will find, what I believe, is The Reef's new mini mall.

***Abode....** A home furnishing store, owned and operated by a decorator. Small things (e.g. cordless lights) and big things (e.g. a special ordered dining room table) are available

***The Dress Code....** Here you can find a funky tee-shirt, a sequined jacket, a daytime dress or an evening gown. The merchandise is unique and comes from all over the world.

***Sandpiper....** This store has been a favorite of OR Members for many years. Relocated to Barracuda Lane, it continues to carry the large selection of the clothes that Members love (casual, comfortable, attractive).

Location: Ocean Reef Clubhouse

***Golf Shop....** You don't have to be a golfer to shop here. Beautiful tops, sweaters, hats, shoes and all-weather jackets are just fine on or off the course.

Location: Get on Anchor Drive at the 4-way stop. Keep on going. The Tennis & Games Center is just past the Racquet Club.

***Tennis (Pickleball) Pro Shop...** Popular are the pickleball shirts and sweaters that say "pickleball". Beautiful tennis clothes with many items that can go anywhere. Racquets, paddles, balls for both sports.

Location: left of the entrance to the Inn.

***Gift Shop....** Here's where you can find everything – jewelry, magazines, sunglasses, totes, cover-ups, Ocean Reef wine, and beautiful cards that wish you Happy Holidays!

by Joan Birsh

WINING & DINING

MONDAY, DEC. 29 – SUNDAY, JAN. 4

Palm Court

Lunch Mon., Tues & Thurs.-Sun. 11:30am-3:30pm
Wed. 11am-3pm

Beach Bar & Grill

Cocktails Mon., Tues & Thurs.-Sun 11am-8pm
Wed. 11-1am • Food Daily 11:30am-5pm

Everton's Rum Bar

Daily 2-8pm

Islander & Sushi Bar*

Mon.-Sat. 5:30-10pm • Sun. 5:30-9pm

The Ocean Room

Breakfast Buffet Daily 7am-12pm
Dinner Buffet Mon.-Sat. 5:30-10pm

Gianni Ristorante*

Dinner Mon.-Sat. 5:30-10pm • Sun. 5:30-9pm

Raw Bar

Lunch Daily 11am-4pm
Dinner Daily 4-9pm
Lobster Bake on Thursday

Port O' Call Wine & Spirits

Mon.-Sat. 11am-9pm • Sun. 11am-8pm

Spirits Bar

Mon.-Sat. 4-10pm • Sun. 4-9pm

Tapas Bar

Mon.-Sat. 4-10pm • Sun. 4-9pm

Reef Treats

Breakfast Daily 7am-1pm
Coffee & Sweets Mon.-Sat. 7am-10pm • Sun. 7am-9pm

Fitness Café

Mon.-Fri. 7am-5pm • Sat. & Sun. 7am-3pm

Reef Eats

Breakfast Daily 7am-12pm
Dinner Mon-Sat. 4-11pm • Sun 5-10pm
305-367-5898

The Point (Members Only)

Coffee Daily 7-10am
Cocktails Tues. & Thurs.-Sun. 5-8pm

Burgee Bar

Lunch Daily 12-5pm
Dinner Daily 5-10pm
Cocktails Mon. & Tues. 5pm-2am • Wed. 5pm-3am
Thurs.-Sat 5pm-1am • Sun. 5pm-12am

Reef Lounge

Small Plates Daily 5-10pm
Cocktails Mon.-Sat. 5pm-12am • Sun. 5-11pm

CH Prime (Members Only)*

Dinner Tues.-Sat. 5:30-10pm • Sun. 5:30-9pm

CH Lounge (Members Only)*

Tues.-Sat. 5-10pm • Sun. 5-9pm

Toski's

Mon.-Wed., Fri. & Sat. 9am-5pm
Thurs. 7:30am-5pm • Sun. 9am-4pm

Rum Runner

Hammock & Dolphin Courses
Mon.-Wed., Fri. & Sat. 9am-5pm
Thurs. 7:30am-5pm • Sun. 9am-4pm

Hammock Hut

Mon.-Wed. & Fri.-Sun. 9:30am-4pm • Thurs. 8am-5pm

Grill Room

Brunch Sat. & Sun. 10am-3:30pm • Lunch Mon.-Fri. 11am-3:30pm
Bar Snacks Daily 3:30-5pm • Dinner Daily 5-9pm

Town Hall Waterside

Tues., Thurs., Fri. & Sat. 5-10pm • Sun. 5-9pm

Reef Hut

Lunch Mon.-Sat. 11am-4pm
Dinner Mon., Tues., Thurs. & Fri. 5-8pm

Visit oceanreef.com/Dining for menus and weekly specials.

For dining reservations, call 305-367-5931.

*Reservations required.

THE DIVE SHOP AT THE REEF

Testing Innovation at Sea:

The Dive Shop Team an Integral Part of Testing Diver Safety Technology

by Jessica Dale, Instructor/
Conservation Liason, The Dive Shop at The Reef

The Dive Shop collaborates with Tiger Tech Solutions to evaluate a wearable armband that tracks divers' vital signs in real-world offshore conditions.

The Dive Shop at The Reef was recently chartered by **Michael Wittels** and his nephew Harrison of Tiger Tech Solutions, a company focused on wearable health-monitoring systems and



An up-close look at the Warfighter Monitor.

advanced data-driven technology

Tiger Tech Solutions joined us on two separate charter days at South Carysfort Reef, with both dives conducted at an approximate depth of 40 feet. The first dive day marked the initial introduction of the Warfighter Monitor armband in an open-water environment, allowing the team to observe baseline performance and functionality under controlled yet realistic conditions. The product being tested was the Warfighter

Monitor, a wearable armband designed to record a diver's vital signs, including oxygen saturation, respiration rate, heart rate, and body temperature. The second outing built upon those findings, providing an opportunity to further evaluate the technology's consistency and reliability during repeated use.

The team successfully transmitted real-time physiological data wirelessly from a diver at depth to the boat at the surface, where it was displayed on a tablet. Testing the armband at depth and during active dives was a critical step in evaluating its performance, reliability, and comfort over time. With Shawna Copp at the helm as captain and myself serving as mate and divemaster, our crew worked closely with the Tiger Tech team to ensure safe operations while supporting their testing objectives. These outings provided valuable opportunities to observe how the technology

performed in an active offshore environment, where variables such as motion, weather, and extended time on the water play a critical role in product development.

The Dive Shop is excited to welcome Tiger Tech Solutions back in the New Year, as the collaboration continues and testing progresses to depths of up to 100 feet. We are grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with members of the Ocean Reef Community across a variety of endeavors.

The Dive Shop wishes all in the ORC community a happy holiday and joyous New Year. Come join us for many exciting underwater and on water opportunities including snorkeling, diving, coral restoration, dive certification at all levels, private charters and sunset cruises! Contact the Dive Shop at 305-367-3051 or email us info@thediveshoporc.com.

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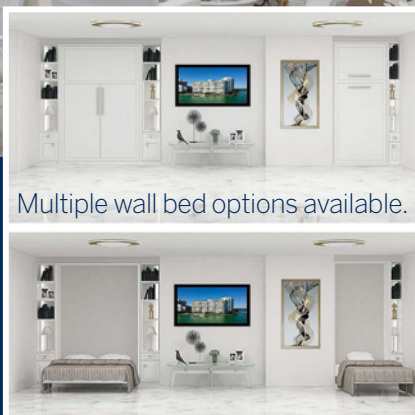


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Tricolor Heron

Two Sides of a Three-Color Bird



by Harold
Brewer

A Tricolored Heron can be a patient hunter. These medium sized herons are relatively uncommon here at Ocean Reef. At a distance they are easily confused with Little Blue Herons or even the much larger Great Blue Herons. Once known as Louisiana Herons these birds frequent the margins of wet coastal areas foraging for small fish, frogs and other bite size snacks. Their foraging style varies from slow and stealthy to aggressive darting or running with wings spread after their prey. In the photo to the left

we see a Tricolor studying the shoreline of one of our golf course ponds. Cool, calm and patient while looking for any telltale movement that might indicate the presence of a meal.

In the right photo we see a very different aspect of this bird. The angry bird gone bad. Most herons are colony breeders. During the height of breeding season it is not unusual to see large mixed species in colonies with their nests packed close

together on mangrove islands or thick vegetation around ponds.

The heron's plumage along with body parts such as legs, bills, and other areas of skin change into dramatic colors. This is mating attire designed to attract mates. Another change, in human terms, is emotional. The herons, male and female, become aggressive, offensive, defensive, noisy and sometimes downright dangerous. The Tricolor in the right photo

is seriously upset by its close neighbor next door. The flared feathers make it appear to be two or three times its normal size. There is no mistaking the intent of that sharp bill swinging around like a sword. The bird world equivalent of a late-night bar fight. Normally the damage from these brief conflicts is minimal and things soon return to a more normal level of nesting bird chaos.



A Tricolored Heron searches for his next meal in one of our golf course ponds.



This Tricolored Heron has his feathers flared to appear more threatening.



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HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING



Academy students perform at this year's Holiday Tree Lighting.



Blake and Brooks Burish.



Logan Vincent.



Kenzi and Rori Howell.



Paw-some friend Ash Hamilton.

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Fisherman's Cove 23B | 2BD/2BA | \$3,675,000



2 Harbor Island Drive | Golf Course Homesite | \$3,499,000



Residence Club PH3 | 3BD/3.5BA | \$7,195,000



Fisherman's Cove 23A | 2BD/2BA | \$3,675,000

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Daisy Gonzalez, Real Estate Advisor

305.904.6223 | daisy@oceanreefclubsir.com

oceanreefclubsir.com | sothebysrealty.com

ACADEMY AT OCEAN REEF

The Academy Celebrates the Holiday Season



by Jerome Murphy,
Head of School

Our Academy children have been in full holiday spirit over the last few weeks! Starting with our annual Holiday Dress Down Week, Academy students enjoyed dressing down in different holiday related themes each day of the week last week.

Beginning with our role at this year's Tree Lighting Ceremony, our students were delighted to lead a reading of the poem, *Twas the Night Before Christmas*, before coming together to sing some



Holiday Sweater Day at The Academy.

of our favorite songs at this time of year, *Jingle Bells*, *Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer*, and *Santa Claus is Coming to Town*. Equipped with their bells and beautiful voices, the children sounded great and the littles clearly stole the show! See photos on the facing page.

Following up on the Tree Lighting ceremony performance, The Academy's Treble in Paradise all-star choir took to the road

last week to spread holiday cheer among many organizations on The Reef. Tour stops included the ORC Admin building, Sotheby's, the Medical Center, Public Safety, the Residence Club, Ooh La La Spa and Salon, and the Angler's Club.....with a pit stop for ice cream at Reef Treats, of course!

As a fitting end to the week, The Academy children were

delighted to welcome Santa Claus to our house! After reading Christmas stories to our Toddlers and Pre K students, accompanied by milk and cookies, Santa sat with our K-8 students to hand out gifts to each student as part of our all school student book exchange program.

When it comes to celebrating the holidays, our Academy students are all in!



Academy caroling at the Residence Club.

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📍 8 BARRACUDA LANE

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EXCLUSIVE LISTINGS



19 East Snapper Point Dr. | Bayfront
5 BD/6.5 BA | \$29,475,000 | 2843

NEWLY LISTED



115 Andros Road | Ocean Front
3 BD/3 BA | \$14,975,000 | 2943



6 Sunrise Cay Drive | Oceanfront
50' Dock Sunrise Marina | \$29,500,000 | 2924

NEWLY LISTED



5 S. Pelican Drive | Large Lot with Dockage
4 BD/4.5 BA | \$12,475,000 | 2946

POST | TAYLOR GROUP

EXCLUSIVE OPEN HOUSE LISTINGS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27 | 1-4 PM

OPEN HOUSE | SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27TH | 1-4PM



21 South Bridge Lane | Canal Front
4 BD, 4F/2H BA | \$15,475,000 | 2907



Marina Village 11A
80'x 28' Dockage | 3 BD/3 BA \$10,275,000 | 2941

OPEN HOUSE | SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27TH | 1-4PM



PC Garden Home 68
Dockage | 4 BD/3.5 BA | \$8,695,000 | 2821



Residence Club B-215
2 BD/2.5 BA | \$3,995,000 | 2944



Russell Post | 305.451.8199
Molly Taylor | 508.524.4633

Happy Holidays

May this holiday season fill your hearts with love,
your homes with joy and your lives with laughter.

Wishing you and your family love, peace and joy!

Russ, Molly, Amanda and Alex

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Ocean Reef Club

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ART LEAGUE

Art League Excursions: Culture, Connection, and Unforgettable Experiences



by Deborah
Goodwin
Geller

Our recent Art League excursion to "Man of La Mancha" at the beautiful Coral Gables Theatre was truly a memorable experience. The powerful performances, timeless music, and inspiring story made for an unforgettable afternoon of theater. The evening continued with a lovely dinner at Francesco, where conversation flowed easily and

new friendships were formed. Sharing great art and great food reminded us why these excursions are such a special part of our Art League community.

If you missed this one, now is the perfect time to plan ahead. Registration is open for our next outing:

"100 Years of Design & Flavor – A Miami Beach Art Deco Celebration" on **January 10**, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. This curated experience promises a rich blend of architecture, design history, and culinary delights, celebrating the iconic style that defines Miami Beach.

We would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Alan Ganey, Managing Partner of Tagliatella Galleries, who generously provided VIP tickets for our recent Art Miami excursion. The day was a tremendous success - highlighted by the exciting purchase of a painting by one of our attendees.

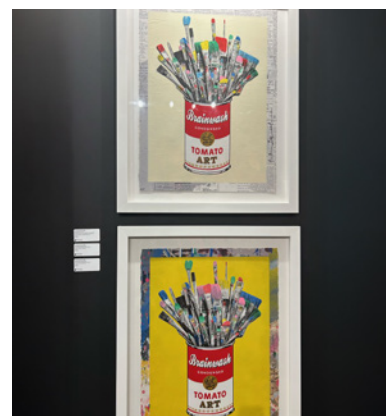
Looking further ahead, mark



Alan and Deborah Geller, Steve and Linda Kaplan, Martha Russel, Pam Schumer, Mary Beth Cresci, Betsey Skudder, Chris Streit, Edmee Zahringer, Karen DiMaura, Didi Streit, Lorne Price, Jeff Schumer, Phil Russel, Linda Altman, Virginia Smith and Ray Smith at "Man of La Mancha".

your calendars for **Tuesday, January 20**, 4:15 - 10:30 p.m., when we head deeper into the Keys for "An Evening with Delirium Music," including dinner at Mile Marker 88, a beloved Islamorada landmark restaurant.

These excursions continue to bring art lovers together through culture, conversation, and shared discovery. We hope you'll join us on an upcoming adventure!



One of many sights during Art League's recent Art Miami excursion.

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Q&A With Massage Therapist Lauren Williams



"Spa Notes"
by Michelle
Santiago,
Spa
Manager

Massage therapy is more than a luxury it's an essential part of maintaining both physical and mental well-being. Regular massages help relieve muscle tension, improve circulation, reduce stress, and support the body's natural ability to heal. In a fast-paced world where stress and physical strain are common, massage offers a proactive way to care for the body, prevent discomfort, and promote overall balance. From easing chronic



Massage Therapist at The Spa, Lauren Williams.

pain to enhancing relaxation and sleep quality, massage therapy plays a vital role in long-term wellness and self-care. This season we are excited to welcome a new massage therapist to our team, Lauren Williams!

Q: How long have you been a licensed massage therapist?

A: I've been licensed for 5 years

now. I originally got licensed in Washington state right before Covid happened.

Q: What inspired you to become a massage therapist?

A: I was inspired to get my massage license to help people. I like the instant gratification from someone getting relief after being in pain.

Q: What are the main benefits of massage therapy?

A: The main benefits to any massage can range from circulation to mental health. The power of touch can be more powerful than what people give credit for.

Q: How do you customize sessions for individual clients?

A: I like to add in simple stretching depending on what the client comes in for.

Q: What should a first time massage client expect?

A: A first time client can expect a relaxing massage based off of

their needs, from light massage to deep tissue.

Q: What should clients do after a massage to maximize benefits?

A: Client should be sure to stay hydrated and keep a little movement throughout the day. I always say movement is life even if it's the most basic 10 minute walk.

Q: What is the most rewarding part of your job?

A: The most rewarding part of my job is helping clients and the people around me. Suggesting something as simple as a stretch to a friend or coworker that could make a difference in their everyday life is a pretty cool feeling.

Q: What is a fun fact about you?

A fun fact: my birthday is on the shortest day of the year, winter solstice. December 21.

Please call 305-367-6506 to book an appointment with Lauren!

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Follow our journey to stay updated on new listings, lifestyle moments, and market insight.

Images are artist's concept.

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Chef Betania's Kitchen

Octopus Ceviche (Serves Six)



by Betania Salles,
Carysfort Kitchen
Executive Chef

My father was a butcher, as you can imagine, not a lot of seafood in my house growing up, so that said, not everything from the ocean makes it to my plate but some of them I just can't get enough...weird, I know. I do have some recipes that I really enjoy and this is one of them.

I used to make this dish at my restaurant all the time and I can tell you that was always a hit.

Ingredients:

- 16 oz. octopus tentacles, fully cooked
- 1/2 cup Roma tomatoes,

small diced

- 1/2 cup red bell pepper, seeded and small diced
- 1/2 cup red onion, small diced
- 1/3 cup cilantro, chopped
- 1 tsp. kosher salt
- 1/4 tsp. black peppercorn, freshly ground
- 2 tbsp. lime juice, freshly squeezed
- 3 tbsp. white wine vinegar
- 1/4 cup extra Virgin olive oil

Directions:

1. If you are using raw octopus, place it in a deep pot, cover with water, add 1 whole Vidalia onion and cook for 50 minutes. Remove from the liquid. Cool down and follow the steps below.
2. Cut the octopus into thin slices. Place them in a glass or ceramic salad bowl.
3. Add the remaining ingredients. Gently toss to coat.
4. Cover and refrigerate for 20 minutes to allow the flavors to meld. Remove from the refrigerator 10 minutes before serving time. Mix again and serve immediately.



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New Year's Day 9am-7pm



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ORC Sudoku

Fill the entire grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 block contains each number from 1 to 9 exactly once.

6							3	
2	7			8				
4					5		1	
8	1			3	4		6	5
			8					
	3		7		6	8		
				2				
	4							2
			5			1		6



See answers on page 57.



OUT & ABOUT



Dana Guiffreda's four-legged friend Bodie proves that at Reef Treats, even the cookies are dog friendly.

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SPORTS

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Pros Go Head-to-Head in Padel Exhibition

Last Friday, dozens of Members gathered themselves at the new Padel Courts, located in the Town Hall Waterside parking lot for an exhibition match featuring Club Professionals Alex Henderson and Jan Koupil facing off against Jiri Jenicek and Jim Morton. The matchup showcased the Pros' talents, while offering an engaging introduction to padel for Members curious about this new sport taking The Reef.

Director of Racquet Sports Hannah Fleckenstein kicked off the event with an overview of the game and its rules, then paused play throughout the match to explain strategies, highlight key moments, and answer questions from the audience.

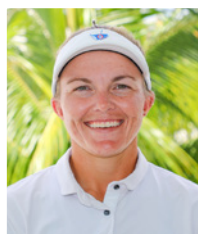
Members interested in learning to play padel can schedule a time with the Tennis & Games Center. For those already familiar and looking for a game, contact 305-367-6583 and the team will help arrange one for you.

So... what is padel anyway? Hannah has the answer below!



Members watched our Pros in action during last week's Padel Exhibition.

What is Padel?



by Hannah
Fleckenstein,
Director of
Racquet Sports

Padel is a fast-growing racquet sport that blends elements of tennis and squash, offering a dynamic and social way to stay active. Originating in Mexico in the 1960s, it has gained international popularity, especially in Europe and Latin

America, and is now emerging as a favorite at clubs across the United States. The game is typically played in doubles on a smaller, enclosed court, making it accessible to players of all skill levels.

The court itself is about one-third the size of a traditional tennis court and is enclosed with glass and mesh walls. These walls are integral to play, allowing the ball to rebound in strategic ways, similar to squash. Unlike tennis, where the ball is considered out when it hits a wall, in padel, the walls are used as part of the game, creating longer rallies and new

tactical opportunities.

Players use solid, perforated paddles rather than strung racquets, and the balls are slightly smaller and less pressurized than standard tennis balls. This combination encourages control and precision over raw power, making the sport highly strategic. Points start with an underhand serve, and volleys, smashes, and wall rebounds all play key roles in determining the outcome of each rally.

Padel emphasizes teamwork and strategy. Because it is almost always played in doubles, communication

between partners is critical. Positioning, anticipation, and shot placement often matter more than strength or speed. Players must be aware of the court, the walls, and their partner's positioning, making the game mentally engaging as well as physically active.

**Padel Courts are available
9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.
Reservations are required:
305-367-6583.**



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A New Era of **Hope** for Epilepsy Treatment

One in every 30 individuals experiences seizures. For those affected by epilepsy, Baptist Health Miami Neuroscience Institute offers renewed hope through advanced care and a world-class multidisciplinary team. Bringing together neurologists, neurosurgeons, neuroradiologists and social workers, the Institute delivers seamless, personalized treatment using state-of-the-art technology.

Central to this expertise is **Aviva Abosch, M.D., Ph.D.**, a globally recognized neurosurgeon and a leader in epilepsy surgery. Dr. Abosch pioneers advancements in deep brain stimulation (DBS) and neuromodulation that continue to change lives. "Understanding your specific condition and recognizing your personal triggers is a crucial step in managing epilepsy," she says.

At the heart of the Institute is its advanced epilepsy monitoring unit, where patients are safely observed with continuous video EEG technology, giving physicians critical insights that help them target and treat seizures more precisely. "Once we know the source and the network it drives, we can personalize treatment," says **Luis Tornos, M.D.**

The Institute offers a full spectrum of options, including responsive neurostimulation (RNS), DBS, laser ablation

(LITT) and vagus nerve stimulation (VNS), always customizing therapy to each patient's needs. The team's commitment is clear: restoring quality of life and independence for patients and their families.

Our Epilepsy Experts

Luis Tornos, M.D.

Director of Epilepsy Program

Aviva Abosch, M.D.

Director of Epilepsy Surgery

Adriana Grau Chaves, M.D.

Carlos Millan, M.D.

Natalia Rincon, M.D.

Learn more at BaptistHealth.net/Epilepsy.

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BONEFISH BONNIES

Bonnies Start the New Year With Kayak Clean-Up



by Mary Bloom,
Bonefish Bonnies

Are you a Bonefish Bonnie? Are you interested in becoming one? If you are either, come join the Bonnies on **January 5** for the first Kayak Clean-Up of 2026. Make a New Year's resolution to be a part of the effort to keep our waters clean. The Bonnies provide gloves, trash pickers and trash bags, the Recreation Department provides the kayaks and you provide the sunscreen; everything you need for a fun

and meaningful two-hour clean-up with old and new friends. Meet at the kayak launch area on Buccaneer Island at 9 a.m. and if you have the time, stay for an impromptu lunch. RSVP to **Tina Jones** at tina@primeassetsllc.com or call **Michelle Musto** at 727-481-4229.

A Very Special Luncheon

On **January 7** the Bonnies will be gathering at Key Largo Angler's Club to honor and celebrate the life of longtime Bonnie, Nina Patterson. Members of Nina's family will be joining the Bonnies to share memories of the moments that made Nina so special to the Bonnies. As part of this luncheon, a speaker from the Bonefish & Tarpon Trust will be sharing updates about the organization which Nina deeply loved and passionately supported. Bonnies should RSVP to Bonefishbonnies@gmail.com. Registration begins at 10:45 a.m.



Bonefish Bonnies kayak clean-ups help protect fish habitats as well as boaters' propellers.

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December Fishing Report



by Tori Fraga,
Charter
Desk
Manager

Here's your Ocean Reef fishing report, current conditions and what's biting right now. Very mild winter conditions are setting in with sunny skies and cooler mornings. Early to mid-day a northeast breeze and calm seas make for good fishing opportunities. The water temperatures remain in the mid-70s, which keeps many species active inshore and offshore. The tides are moderate with better bites happening around these tide changes.

Offshore Action

Captains are reporting sailfish

are here! These fish have been very active on the edge chasing live bait. The blackfin tuna are showing up combined with scattered wahoo, king mackerel, and bonita.

Reef Action

One of the most consistent ways to put fish in the boat, especially this time of year. The cooler water and clearer conditions now concentrate many reef fish which often makes the bites more predictable. Multiple mutton snapper, mangrove snapper, porgies and grouper catches have been reported by our reef fishing captains.

Inshore Action

Fishing on the flats and backcountry remains productive. Despite it not being peak tarpon season captains have reported smaller resident tarpon being caught using live bait. Reports of snook being caught along the shorelines, creek mouths, and deeper

channels with current. Bonefish have been seen tailing across the flats with the opportunity to cast your bait or fly on their heads.

For availability and booking inquiries please contact the Ocean Reef Charter Desk at 305-367-2227.



RECENT CATCH



Dichel and Cheryl Owsley doubled up on snook while out with Captain James Koch!



ANDY HOFMANN

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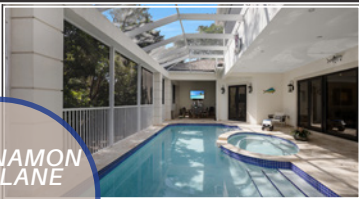
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2 BD 2.5 BA
CLS 2925



**DS-29
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\$2,975,000
CLS 2741

RECENT SALES

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\$2,950,000
CLS 2874

AS-06 / 48' SLIP
\$1,475,000
CLS 2845

FS-25 / 71' SLIP
\$1,998,000
CLS 2725

ROD & GUN CLUB

Holiday Strategies from Rod & Gun Club



by Christine Patton,
Rod & Gun Club

Now that Christmas is behind us, and any pressure from deadlines and delivery schedules is past, you and your visitors can relax and enjoy what Keys living is all about — reveling in the natural world, sunshine and water, flora and fauna.

The Rod and Gun Club Holiday Tournament, **December 30** this year, is a time-honored tradition that allows everyone to get out and go fishing, and the winners enjoy the instant fame of getting their photograph in the Reef Press with bragging rights for the next 12 months.

Best of all, it's easy!

Just put together your team of four (members and sponsored guests) with unlimited onlookers and cheerleaders on board. Send

a representative to the Captain's meeting the day before (5 p.m. at the Fishing Village Weigh Station on **Monday, Dec 29**) and fish the following day from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., with a weigh-in at the same Weigh Station from 3 to 4 p.m.

No restrictions on tackle, the boat counts as a team and the scoring is 10 points per pound of eligible fish caught, and 200 points for billfish releases. Winners are announced immediately. Junior Angler categories included — this is the tournament for everyone! No entry fee, no restrictions — questions? Call Ken Reda at MarineMax (305-367-3969) or check RodandGun.org.

Maybe more importantly, the time spent fishing is more valuable that you may know. I recall **Ed Hajim**, a very wise club Member, making a presentation on his strategies for success in life — by which he meant happiness rather than material wealth. His technique for building relationships with his grandchildren struck me as pure genius — he took them out in a boat and spent the day with them, talking. The conversation might be slow to start, but there was no hurry...

ROD & GUN FISH OF THE MONTH

New Month: January!

Wahoo, Sea Trout & Blackfin Tuna

Weigh in the biggest catch and win a gift certificate for MarineMax. For more details, visit RodandGun.org.

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COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

The Last Best Gift



by Peter Liashek,
USCG Aux
Flotilla
Staff Public
Education
Officer

Now that the gifts have all been opened, and the wrappings cleared away, let's take a moment to consider one last best thing we can give to those around us that might count more than all the rest. The gift of safety at sea, for ourselves, for those we love, and for everyone else on the water.

Why do I need a boating license is a question I am often asked by Ocean Reef Members.

The second part of this question is usually rationale for why they don't feel the need. "I've been boating for 20 years. I know what I'm doing!" Well, that may be so, but in many fields continuing education is needed to maintain competency. Boating is no exception.

Rules of the road, updated laws, and safety requirements are just a few important things to review. Maintaining boating skills is the best way to avoid mishaps on the water. The latest USCG accident statistics note that Monroe County has the second highest number of accidents in Florida, and the highest mortality rate from boating incidents. 77% of reported deaths occurred when the boat operator had not taken a formal boating education course.



The NASBLA approved Florida Safe Boating Card.

Most states now require a state boating license regardless of age. New York and New Jersey require anyone boating in the state to have taken a boating course. Massachusetts will require it beginning in April. This is new, and applies to YOU.

In the past, boating courses were given by various agencies, however, the content of these courses was not uniform. The National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) was formed to oversee uniform boating education courses throughout the country. They review curriculums and ensure a national standard. Today, all states, except Connecticut, allow reciprocity if you have taken a NASBLA certified course. Many states add the specific boating laws for that state as part of the course.

When you take the Florida Safe Boating course, the last chapter reviews specific Florida laws. If you are boating in another state, as long as you know the relevant boating laws for that state, the Florida Safe Boating License counts. Each state's laws are easily found on the internet. If you boat in a state that requires a license and you do not have one, you create liability for yourself should an accident occur.

On behalf of the Ocean

States' Reciprocity for ADULT Visiting Boaters with NASBLA-Approved Course



Most states have reciprocity arrangements and accept the Florida NASBLA certification.

Reef Flotilla, I will teach the FL Safe Boating Course on **January 7, 2026**, in the Key Largo Building starting at 9 a.m. I invite all ORC Members and friends to attend. At the completion of the course, you will receive the Florida State

Boating Card which gives you reciprocity in many states where you might boat in the summer. And, more importantly this course will give you the information you need to be safe on the water. What better gift can you give to those you love?

FLORIDA STATE BOATING COURSE

Wednesday, January 7

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Wally Hayward won the Men's Swim Challenge and daughter Riley finished first in the Ladies' category with a new Club record of 27.1 seconds.



Ugly Sweater Day at MFC.

Fitness Racing & Hybrid Training



"Fitness Focus" by Luis Bracamonte, Director of Fitness & Wellness

Fitness racing blends endurance, strength, and functional movement into a single event. Unlike traditional races or pure strength events, fitness races require a well-rounded level of physical capacity. Some of the most popular examples include Hyrox, Deka Fit, CrossFit, and obstacle races such as the Spartan.

Hybrid training is a method that develops aerobic capacity, muscular endurance, strength, and power. The core pillars of hybrid training include building an aerobic base with steady-pace sessions, threshold work at race pace, strength training focused on functional patterns at moderate loads to improve performance and reduce injury risk, and hybrid workouts that blend strength and conditioning.

Fitness racing is popular because it provides a measurable, standardized form of competition. It appeals to athletes and fitness enthusiasts who seek muscle, strength, stamina, and endurance. Hyrox is the leader in the field.

On **December 28**, at Marlin Beach, the Member Fitness team is organizing a sprint fitness race,

called the **ORC Fit Games**, consisting of 20 calories on the Airdyne, 500 meters on the C2 Skier, 500 meters on the C2 row, and 100 meters of farmer carries with either a 16kg or a 24kg kettlebell. The equipment is the competition equipment used for the Hyrox events. We will have awards for the top finishers in each age group. The event is complimentary. To sign up, contact the Member Fitness Center or show up at Marlin Beach between 9 a.m. and 12 p.m.

To learn more about hybrid training, the ORC Fitness Games, or any other fitness and wellness program, such as personal training, stretching sessions, Pilates, or private yoga, contact us at 305-367-5820.

SWIM CHALLENGE RESULTS

50 yards freestyle

Times include the age group handicap.

Men:

1. Wally Hayward 27.6 sec 20 points
2. Tom Halliday 28.4 sec 16 points
3. John Welch 28.6 sec 14 points
4. Steve Levin 30.8 sec 12 points
5. Ray Herman 33.6 sec 10 points
6. David Rountree 37.2 sec 8 points
7. Bob Brainard 37.3 sec 6 points

Ladies:

1. Riley Hayward 27.1 sec Club Record 30 points
2. Wendy Brainard 34.9 sec 16 points



Patti Baker and Trainer Moises Cabrera.

3. Kathleen Metzman 56.8 sec 14 points
4. Sherri Boston-Herman 1:03.5 sec 12 points

FITNESS CHAMPIONSHIP AFTER TWO CHALLENGES

Men:

- 1st Mark Foreman 20 points tie
- 1st Wally Hayward 20 points tie
- 2nd Brent Moody 16 point tie
- 2nd Tom Halliday 16 points tie
- 2nd Bob Brainard 16 points tie
- 3rd Charlie Olmert 14 points tie
- 3rd John Welch 14 points tie
- 3rd Ray Herman 14 points tie
- 4th Bob Schwartz 12 points tie
- 4th Steve Levin 12 points tie
- 5th Nick Murphy 8 points tie
- 5th David Rountree 8 points tie
- 5th Jake Down 8 points tie
- 6th Randy Furshman 6 points tie
- 6th Lou Metzman 6 points tie
- 7th Greg Wroclawski 2 points



Brenda Sport (right) with Yoga Instructor Elisabet Stadelman.

- tie
- 7th Jerry Henn 2 points tie
- 8th Mike Rounds 1 point

Ladies:

- 1st Wendy Brainard 32 points
- 2nd Kathleen Metzman 30 points tie
- 2nd Riley Hayward 30 points tie
- 3rd Sherri Boston-Herman 20 points
- 4th Sharon Wessinger 14 points
- 5th Elizabeth Beaman 12 points tie
- 6th Stephanie Foreman 10 points tie
- 6th Margaret McNamara 10 points tie
- 7th Catherine Wroclawski 6 points
- 8th Maggie Murphy 4 points

Next championship challenge: Push Up Challenge on **Wednesday, January 7, 2026.**

Keeping Busy in Golf



"From the Gold Tees" by Ben Claus, Director of Golf

Hole-in-Ones!

Congratulations to **Joey Rivera**, who made a hole-in-one on Saturday, December 13 with his 5 wood on Hole #18 of the Dolphin Course!

Congratulations as well to **Wilson Vaughan** who made a hole-in-one of his own on Wednesday, December 17 with his 9-iron on Hole #6 of the Hammock Course!

Ultimate Demo Day

On **Tuesday, December 30** from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., we welcome our club fitters from Titleist, TaylorMade, Callaway and XXIO for our Ultimate Demo Day event! This is one of our busiest days of the year on the driving range, as our partners from golf's largest brands set you up with brand new clubs for 2026. To register, please call the Golf Shop at 305-367-5912.

9 Hole LGA Weekly Event

The 9-Hole LGA celebrated the holidays out on the Hammock Course with the Holiday Party Scramble!

Congratulations to our



Astonishing hole-in-ones! From left to right: Joey Rivera – Dolphin Course, Hole #18 and Wilson Vaughan – Hammock Course, Hole #6.

winning foursome on the Front Nine which consisted of **Kathleen Metzman, Giovanna Lucy, Sandra Fish, and Bebe Hofmann**! In second place was the ever-energetic team of **Stacey Lahey, Carolyn Sheehan, Molly Lanzon, and Laney Hinkebein**.

Flipping over to the Back Nine, our winners dominated their side of the golf course, not only winning top honors, but also securing both course contests along the way! Congratulations to **Sheila Scalia, Courtney Bridge, Meredith Tedford, and Michelle Musto** who blazed their competition with a two-stroke victory. Special recognition to Sheila Scalia who won both the Closest to the Hole and Longest Drive contests on the back! In second place, **Terry Ferrarone, Sabrina David, Lisa Johnson, and Amy Olmert** took the



runner-up prize.

MGA Weekly Event

MGA went out on the Hammock Course and participated in the ABCD – 2 Best Ball of 4 format!

On the Gross side, coming in 1st Place, **David Ross, Keith Davidson, Don Bermant and Kevin Fitzpatrick** earned top honors, winning with a 2 Best

Ball Gross score! Edging out the team of **Andy Andrews, T.J. Letarte and Jay Rourke**.

In the Net Division, coming in first place, **Ricky Fortis, Al Rex, Hilary Rolih and John Spina** with a very impressive 2 Best Ball Net score. Behind them in 2nd Place, we had the team of **Dragos Alexe, Matt Santoro, Dan Attridge and Todd Doolan**. Coming in 3rd Place Net, we had the team of **Stephen Newman, J Guarch and Chris Cooper**.

Then, our Closest to the Hole contests were on Holes #6 and #12. John Spina claimed #6 by knocking it and on the back nine, Jeffrey Goldstein claimed #12.

Follow Us on Instagram

The Golf Shop is on Instagram! Feel free to follow us [@ORC_Golf](#). From there, you will find updates on tournament results, golf shop news, and much more. Follow us to keep up-to-date with all things Ocean Reef golf.



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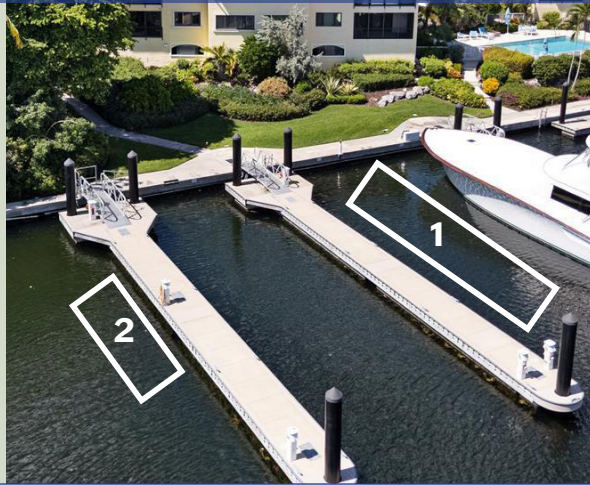
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SWING TIP



Brad Pinho demonstrating how to execute a consistent chip with proper grip.

Mastering Your Short Game



by Brad Pinho,
Golf Teaching
Professional
& Club Fitter

Mastering the short game in golf is often hindered by the lack of confidence in chipping and pitching around the greens. Virtually every golfer, regardless of their skill level, has encountered moments of doubt or what's commonly referred to as the 'yips.' While some attribute this to mental obstacles, it primarily stems from a single fundamental issue: the incorrect motion during the swing.

Many golfers struggle because they attempt to guide and control the club predominantly with their lead/non-dominant arm during impact. This leads to excessive tension and rigidity in the arms, causing considerable upper body and head movement. When the

head moves too far behind the ball, it results in inconsistent shots—both chunked and thin. Consequently, excessive upper body movement makes the challenge of delivering consistent chips and pitches more difficult.

Discovering the correct grip—something that can be assessed by one of Ocean Reef's Golf Professionals—is crucial. With the proper grip, golfers can confidently relax their arms during the swing. The key takeaway here is to maintain relaxed arms and allow the club head to take charge. As the arms naturally extend towards the ground, the club head should effortlessly navigate through the turf, paving the way for the integration of the upper body into the swing.

By enabling the arms to extend towards the ground, the sensation should be of the club head smoothly guiding the weight forward toward the target. This simple adjustment facilitates the transition of weight and movement, culminating in a more fluid, controlled, and precise short game.

Sudoku answers
from page 46.

6	9	5	2	7	1	4	3	8
2	7	1	4	8	3	6	5	9
4	8	3	6	9	5	2	1	7
8	1	2	9	3	4	7	6	5
7	5	6	8	1	2	9	4	3
9	3	4	7	5	6	8	2	1
1	6	7	3	2	8	5	9	4
5	4	9	1	6	7	3	8	2
3	2	8	5	4	9	1	7	6

GOLF



SCOREBOARD

9 HOLE LGA WEEKLY EVENT

Thursday, December 18

Front Nine Division

1st Place: Kathleen Metzman, Giovanna Lucy,
Sandra Fish, Bebe Hofmann

2nd Place: Stacey Lahey, Carolyn Sheehan,
Molly Lanzon, Laney Hinkebein

Closest to the Hole: Molly Lanzon

Longest Drive: Bebe Hofmann

Back Nine Division

1st Place: Sheila Scalia, Courtney Bridge,
Meredith Tedford, Michelle Musto

2nd Place: Terry Ferrarone, Sabrina David,
Lisa Johnson, Amy Olmert

Closest to the Hole: Sheila Scalia

Longest Drive: Sheila Scalia

MGA WEEKLY EVENT

Monday, December 22

1st Place Gross: David Ross, Keith Davidson,
Don Bermant, Kevin Fitzpatrick

2nd Place Gross: Andy Andrews,
T.J. Letarte, Jay Rourke

1st Place NET: Ricky Fortis, Al Rex,
Hilary Rolih, John Spina

2nd Place NET: Dragos Alexe, Matt Santoro,
Dan Attridge, Todd Doolan

3rd Place NET: Stephen Newman, J Guarch, Chris Cooper

4th Place NET: Jon Guyette, William Orgel,
Van Weinberg, John Kazmer

5th Place NET: Ralf Sellig, Conor Mullett,
Isaac Garazi, Jim Stewart

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A Week of Play, Music & Matchups

by Hannah Fleckenstein,
Director of Racquet Sports

Ocean Reef Club will keep the courts buzzing with a packed stretch of competition, connection, and entertainment. From fast-paced tournaments to family-friendly match play, festive pickleball, collegiate tennis, and beachside action, the upcoming schedule is set to bring Members together for plenty of on-court excitement and off-court energy.

- **105 Tournament - Friday, Dec 26, 11 a.m.** The action will get underway with the always-energetic 105 Tournament, where quick points and constant movement will keep players on their toes. Fast rotations and lively matchups will set the tone for a high-energy start.

- **Mother-Daughter Round Robin - Friday, Dec 26, 6-8 p.m.** Friday evening will shift to a feel-good vibe with the Mother-Daughter Round Robin. The round robin format will encourage teamwork, laughter, and shared moments on court, making it a highlight for families and spectators alike.

- **Live Music Gameio - Saturday, Dec 27, 4-5:30 p.m.** Saturday afternoon will turn up the energy with Live Music Gameio featuring Gordon Daniels. With music filling the air and Gameio play on the courts, the event will create a social, upbeat atmosphere perfect for both players and fans.

- **Father-Son Tennis Tournament - Sunday, Dec 28, 6-8 p.m.** The Father-Son Tennis Tournament will bring friendly rivalries and memorable moments to center court. The evening format will blend competition with connection in a relaxed and supportive setting.
- **Tennis Junior Round Robin**

& Pizza Party - Tuesday, Dec 30, 5:30-7 p.m. Junior players will take the spotlight during the Tennis Junior Round Robin, where steady match play and a fun competitive environment will help build confidence and experience while keeping players active and engaged.

- **Holiday Pickleball Round Robin - Wednesday, Dec 31, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.** Midweek action will ramp up with the Holiday Pickleball Round Robin, offering a festive way to stay active during the holiday stretch. The round robin format will keep players mixing, moving, and competing throughout the morning.
- **Pop Tennis Clinic and Round Robin - Thursday, Jan 1, 5:30-7 p.m.** The new year will kick off with a Pop Tennis Clinic and Round Robin. Fast-paced points, quick learning, and plenty of energy will make this an easy and fun way to start the year on the court.
- **Duke Women's Tennis Team Exhibition - Friday, Jan 2,**

4-5:30 p.m. The excitement will continue with a special Duke Women's Tennis Team Exhibition. Members will enjoy a front-row look at elite collegiate tennis, showcasing high-level movement, strategy, and shot-making.

- **Duke Round Robin and Brunch - Sunday, Jan 4, 9-10:30 a.m.** Sunday morning will blend competition and camaraderie with the Duke Round Robin and Brunch. Players will enjoy playing with a Duke Women's tennis player against other member-Duke player pairs. The round robin will be followed by brunch, where members can mingle with the Duke players and coaches.
- **Beach Tennis at Marlin Beach - Sunday, Jan 4, 2:30-4 p.m.** The week will wrap up with Beach Tennis at the Marlin Beach volleyball court, offering a scenic and laid-back way to take the game to the sand. The event will provide the perfect closing note to a busy stretch of programming.



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PADEL TIP

Make Friends with the Glass

by Hannah Fleckenstein, Director of Racquet Sports

If you're new to padel, the glass can feel like an enemy. In reality, it's one of your best teammates. Instead of panicking when the ball sails past you, let it hit the glass and rebound back into your strike zone. That extra bounce buys you time to get balanced and choose

a smarter shot. The more comfortable you become using the walls, the calmer your game will feel — and the longer your rallies will last.

A good way to build trust with the glass is to practice intentionally letting balls go by during warm-ups. Stand a step off the wall, watch the rebound, and focus on smooth footwork rather than rushing the swing. Once you stop treating the walls like a surprise obstacle, you'll start seeing them as a built-in reset button when rallies speed up.

PICKLEBALL RESULTS

MIXED PICKLEBALL LEAGUE

1st Place: Bonny Calvo
2nd Place: Manuel Calvo

MEN'S PICKLEBALL LEAGUE

1st Place: Chris Smith
2nd Place: Don Clark



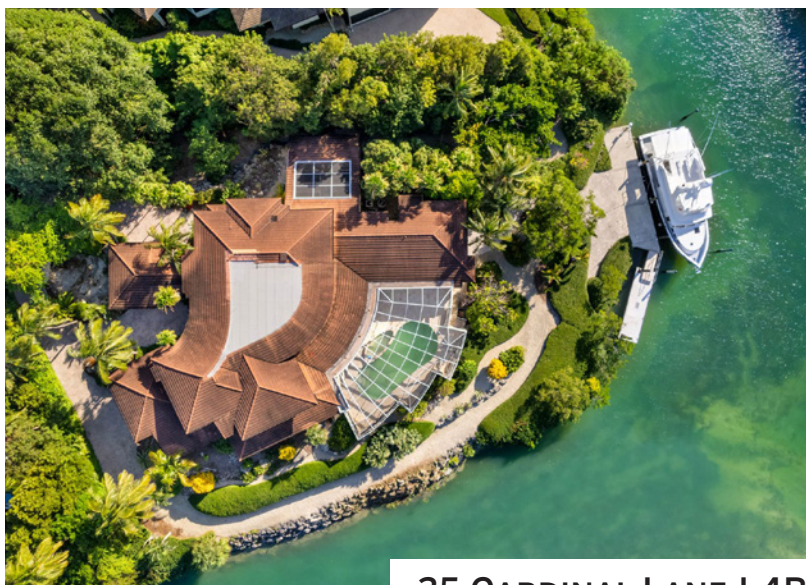
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A Choice of Finesses



by Dave
LeGrow,
Card &
Games
Director

As a consistent overbidder, one learns how to minimize damage when you clearly are in over your head...

Holding the following hand, Ivan the Terrible's partner (Vladimir Victim) opened 1NT:

North

S A 7 6
H K 5 3
D J 6 5 3
C A Q J

Ivan bid 2C (Stayman, looking for a major suit fit), holding:

South

S K J 9 8 4 2
H Q J 2
D A 7
C 6

When Vlad denied a four-card major by responding 2D, Ivan jumped to 3S, and Vlad bid 4S.

The contract looked

reasonable, and Ivan received the lead of the King of Diamonds. It looked like the contract depends upon which finesse(s) to take... a diamond loser, a heart loser, and either a club or a spade loser... how best to proceed? What would you do?

If you take a finesse immediately, and it loses, you will also lose a diamond trick immediately, so we do not want to risk losing the lead just yet! Now you are on a guess what to do next! But there is a better play...

Win the opening lead with the ace of diamonds, and play the ace of clubs. Continue with the queen of clubs; if East does not play the King (remember, we don't know where it is...), throw away the losing diamond (a "loser on loser" play). If West wins the trick, you have, at least, eliminated one of those losers, and regardless of the spade and heart holdings, should take 10 tricks.

But if East DOES play the King, you should trump the trick, enter the dummy with the Ace of spades, play the Jack of Clubs and NOW you can discard that pesky losing diamond. This play is guaranteed to make your contract, even if you end up losing a heart and a spade trick.

BRIDGE RESULTS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12

North-South

1st Place: Deborah Nutt - Gail Yoh
2nd Place: Ted Fowler - Joyce Fowler

East-West

1st Place: Hollis Petersen - Ann Petersen
2nd Place: Rosalie Svete - Cynthia Mitchell

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15

North-South

1st Place: Monica Phillips - Pamela Harding
2nd Place: Rosemary Jones - Joanne Wills

East-West

1st Place: Barbara Besse - Margie Smith
2nd Place: Martha Kavanaugh - Pat Richwagen

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17

North-South

1st Place: Ted Fowler - Joyce Fowler
2nd Place: Jeff Schumer - Charles Simms

East-West

1st Place: Rodman Patton - Christine Patton
2nd Place: Cynthia Comenos - Pamela Harding

FAMILY GAME NIGHTS

Sunday, December 28 & January 4

5-7 p.m. • Card & Games Room

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floor with king bed and 2 guest room
suites 2nd Floor with queen beds
Bonus room - 2 king beds
Screened in large lanai with heated
pool and hot tub
Outdoor grill & dining areas and large
gourmet kitchen
2-story living room with fireplace
Walking distance to Fitness Club & Spa
5 star property
Email or Call
moniquestanwick@gmail.com
301-643-3200

WATERFRONT COMPOUND

Located in Sunrise Cay - 65 foot dock
6 BR - 6-1/2 BA
Each bedroom has an ensuite bath.
Great for family or corporate gatherings.
Launching beach for paddle
boarding/kayaking.
Heated saltwater pool and spa.
Please no pets.

Call or text 305-440-0495.
Email: CardinalORC@gmail.com

A COTTAGE ON CALOOSA

SeaGrace was renovated in 2023.
3 Bedroom 2 Bathroom.
2 king beds and 2 full beds plus a
pull-out couch.
Large pool and playroom.
Great outdoor living spaces.
Peaceful sunsets overlooking
lagoon and golf course.
Long and short term rentals available.

Text: 843.437.2999
<http://www.seagraceor.com>

PUMPKIN CAY 46B

One-of-a-Kind 4/4.5,
2 Master Suites, 14ft Ceilings,
Oversized Patio w/ Phantom Screens,
Spectacular Water Views!
High End Appliances, Gas Range,
Oversized Kitchen Island,
Stunning 19ft Wet Bar,
Garage, Elevator and Rare 40ft Dock.
Pet Friendly!

Call or Email for Availability/Pictures
andrewkatlin@gmail.com
954-593-0973

4 SOUTH PELICAN DRIVE FOR RENT

Sunrise Cay home
With 60 foot dock
10 minutes by boat to the ocean
6 BR, 5 BA plus
extra 2 ½ BR with BA & bunk rooms
Includes use of golf carts
Screened in pool with Jacuzzi
Rated 5 stars by many guests.

Contact Adriana: 786 -390- 4542

ANGELFISH CAY CONDOS FOR RENT

Two separate units side by side
available for rent.
12B - Newly renovated and
furnished 2/2 condo.
11B - 1/1 condo with a
Washer/Dryer.
Both units are pet-friendly.
Private pool & recreational area
with additional Washer/Dryer
included next to units.

For more information:
Call or text 305-609-4377.
Email: eliasbaroni911@gmail.com

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Short walk or golf cart ride to
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6 Bedroom / 6.5 Bath
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Additional Rental Properties:

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Bahamas, and St. Barts

Call or Text call Leslie at 954-562-8030
For email & photos see
bestoceanreefrental.com

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A resort within a resort
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LAKE VIEW CORNER CONDO

Available late April 2026 forward.

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No pets please.

For more information, photos & availability, contact Maria:

48AFairwaylakes@gmail.com or 781-258-7249

35 HARBOUR GREEN

Rentals are available now to December 15, April 17 to April 26 & from May 25 throughout the summer months of 2026

5 Bedrooms 3 King Beds 5½ Baths
All bedrooms have en suite baths

For photos and rental rates:

<https://www.35harbourgreen.com/>

Email: Kfitz@me.com

PUMPKIN CAY 19A CONDO

Water views from every window!

2BR/ 2 Full BA
(2 king beds plus bunk room)
sleeps 4 adults and 2 children
(dual bunk beds)

Fully furnished first floor unit
renovated in 2022

Few steps to the pool

In-unit washer and dryer

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For pricing & availability email
pc0819a@gmail.com

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Email: Rarquilla5@gmail.com

Call or text: 513-535-6656.

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Available: All Holidays & summer.

Long-term options.

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Multiple covered outdoor porches.

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Email: scottschilling@gmail.com

Call or text: 508-254-0427 or 610-585-2410

Website: 14bayberrylaneoceanreef.com

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With Bonus Loft

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315-374-5956 or

rhparadise@aol.com

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Charming 2 bedroom/2 bath
oceanfront condo.

Exquisite view overlooking pool.

Includes high-end appliances,
washer & dryer in unit, & wifi.

Master king-size bed.

Guest two queen-size beds

Please no pets.

36ft assigned dock.

Call or email for
availability & pictures:

937-477-4256 or jpilati@me.com

39 CINNAMON BARK LANE

Hammock Course view

Large 5 BR 5 1/2 BA home

Swimming pool & indoor elevator

Tall ceilings and stone floors

Walk to the Spa & Member Fitness

Entire house modern & new

Email: tholbrook@me.com

Cell: Tricia 205-413-3701

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 For Advertising Contact
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305-367-5806
aandreola@oceanreef.com

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Shannon H. Summersgill, CPA.....	305-850-8662

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K2M Design.....	305-289-7980
Tim Slawson, PA-AIA Architect.....	305-773-2529
Wade Architects Design.....	305-409-6920
Wietsma Lippolis.....	312-519-1900

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Florida Trust & Estate Counsel, PLLC.....	305-441-7091
Pelaez Maas Law PLLC.....	305-247-7132
Persaud Law Group.....	305-367-3300
Reef Title.....	305-367-9323
Robinson Law, PA.....	305-662-7618

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Williamson Automotive.....	305-670-7100
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Dolphin Life.....	305-453-4321
Dolphin Research Center.....	305-289-1121
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Florida Keys Wild Bird Sanctuary.....	305-852-4486
Habitat for Humanity of the Upper Keys.....	305-453-0050
Keys AHEC.....	305-619-8021
Marine Lab Education Center.....	305-451-1139
Mote Marine Laboratory.....	941-266-9317
Ocean Reef Community Foundation & All Charities.....	305-367-5963
Pawstive Beginnings.....	305-376-1887
Reef Environmental Education Foundation.....	305-852-0030
Wesley House Family Services.....	305-809-5000

COMMUNITY

Chapel & Fellowship Center.....	305-367-2049
Cultural Center at Ocean Reef.....	305-367-6300
Florida Keys Electric Cooperative.....	305-852-2431
Florida SBDC at FIU.....	305-779-9230
Ocean Reef Club.....	305-367-2611
Residence Club.....	305-509-7755

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Apoint Construction.....	305-692-0010
Bellingham Marine.....	904-358-3362
Closet Factory.....	954-821-9444
Elite Metal Works & Fence, Inc.....	305-209-2959
Ensign Construction.....	305-394-8150
Florida Inspection Services.....	305-395-0486
Florida LeMark Corporation.....	305-593-1442
Keys Green Builders Inc.....	305-280-2604
Noly Builders, Inc.....	305-367-0034
G2G Construction Group.....	305-964-7244
Titan Construction & Development Inc.....	305-367-0002
Tri-Tech Construction Inc.....	305-374-4955
Turk Builders.....	305-367-3044
Upper Keys Marine Construction.....	305-853-2644
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First State Bank of the Florida Keys.....	305-809-5510
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Northern Trust.....	305-789-1174
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Bascom Palmer Eye Institute.....	305-482-4092
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Ocean Reef Club Sotheby's International Realty

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Pumpkin Cay 9A | 2894
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Harbour House 22 | 2818
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