



Boca Raton E-News

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February 2010

Gumbo Limbo Rescues Sea Turtles

In January, sea turtles across the state of Florida experienced a massive cold-stunning event. Thousands of sea turtles, mostly endangered green turtles, living in shallow bays and estuaries in central and northern Florida, became lethargic, or “stunned,” due to the prolonged drop in temperature. The turtles floated helplessly on the water’s surface or even drifted ashore.

Officials from the [Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission](#) worked with personnel from a variety of organizations to coordinate the rescue of these sea turtles. [Gumbo Limbo Nature Center](#) first received sea turtles at our brand new rehabilitation facility on Monday, January 4. Each turtle was given fluid to treat dehydration, an



antibiotic, and other medicines indicated by blood work results. Once given the veterinarian's approval, turtles were tagged and released into warm waters. Many turtles, however, were in need of additional care, and were not able to be released after their initial work-up. By late January, 166 turtles had been taken in at Gumbo Limbo; approximately 110 of these turtles were released into the warm waters of the Atlantic Ocean shortly after arrival in Boca Raton; the remaining turtles required treatment ranging from a few days to several weeks.

The staff at Gumbo Limbo gratefully received help from numerous veterinarians, vet technicians, and sea turtle biologists. Staff and students from [Florida Atlantic University](#) provided tremendous support in the form of space (the laboratory building to warm turtles that would have otherwise been turned away) and volunteers, especially students from the FAU Sea Turtle Research Program and the Pre-Vet Club. The [New England Aquarium](#), [Boca Raton Ocean Rescue](#) and [Whole Foods Market](#) of Boca Raton also provided invaluable help.

Smart Heart Day ~ February 12, 2010



On Friday, February 12, 2010 [Boca Raton Fire-Rescue Services](#) and [Boca Raton Community Hospital](#) will once again partner to present the 16th Annual Smart Heart Day. This free health screening event will be held in the auditorium of the 6500 Building, located at 6500 Congress Avenue, Boca Raton, from 8:00 am until 12:30 pm. To pre-register, call 561-955-4468.

Smart Heart Day provides programs aimed toward prevention, education, and screenings as a way to reduce health and safety risks for our community.

- Free blood pressure check, glucose and cholesterol screening
- Stroke risk assessments
- Health Fair
- Light refreshments
- Fasting recommended
- Free parking

Mayor
Susan Whelchel

Deputy Mayor
Susan Haynie

Council Members
Anthony Majhess
Michael Mullaugh
Constance J. Scott

Food for Thought at the Library Café

Located in the [Spanish River Library](#), TODD'S Library Café is dedicated to providing quality food at a reasonable price. Open from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm, Monday to Saturday, and noon to 6:00pm on Sunday, the airy and light-filled Café boasts lakeside views. From muffins and gourmet coffee to soups and sandwiches, the Café menu offers a wide variety of specialty foods with lunch specials daily.

The Library Café is under new management by a locally-owned company that has operated in Boca Raton since 1997 and also offers an excellent catering service.

If you're planning a special occasion or a business meeting, TODD'S Library Café can cater it! For information regarding catering, call (561) 544-8594.



Library Resource of the Month

The [Boca Raton Public Library](#) has an exceptional collection of business and investment materials. Historically, the most-used item in this collection has been the print version of the *Value Line Investment Survey*. As a result of a contribution from the [Friends of the Library](#), patrons now have access to the online version of *Value Line* as well. This new database is a unique source of investment information designed to help investors make informed investment decisions. It contains business descriptions, financial data, statistics, analyses, and evaluations of 3,500 select companies. Library patrons may access this new resource at either of the Boca Raton Public Library locations or remotely with a current Boca Library Card.

For more information, stop by the Library's Reference Desk or call 561-393-7906.

Connecting to Nature

Do you remember times when your mom opened up the door and you eagerly ran outside to play? It was a time to bond with your friends while climbing trees, building forts, exploring fields and creeks, and collecting seeds and rocks as if they were special treasures. Those connections with nature not only delighted us but also instilled lifelong lessons about the importance of the preservation of nature for future generations.



Today, too many children spend hours everyday in front of electronic devices and are not often outside unless participating in organized sports. Studies have shown that children actually have increased focus and higher grade performance when regularly exposed to nature! Talk about an FCAT boost! As we all enjoy the weather this time of year, it is the perfect opportunity to reconnect with the environment. So grab your binoculars and head to your nearest environmental learning center for a walk under a tree canopy! [Gumbo Limbo Nature Center](#) offers a large variety of programs that appeal to all ages. Reconnect with nature today and awaken your senses to the sights and sounds that bond us all together.

Beach Renourishment Projects

Two sand renourishment projects are planned for Boca Raton beaches. The contractor for both projects is [Great Lakes Dredge and Dock Company](#). The first project already underway is the North Beach Second Beach Renourishment Project. It begins approximately 1,000 feet north of Spanish River Boulevard and extends 1.45 miles south to Red Reef Park. Nearly 780,000 cubic yards of sand will be piped onto the beach, refilling the beach design template from renourishment done in 1998. Sand will be pumped from an offshore borrow area located 2,500 feet



Great Lakes Dredge and Dock Company equipment

north of the project area onto the dry beach. Working 24 hours a day, the project should take between 30 and 45 days to complete.

Immediately upon completion of the North Beach project, the dredge contractor will move south and begin construction on the South Boca Raton Beach Renourishment Project.

For weekly updates on the progress of the beach construction, visit the Municipal Services website using this link: <http://www.ci.boca-raton.fl.us/muni/BeachConstr/>.

Please Note: Limited areas of the beach will be closed during construction to preserve public safety.

Upcoming City Events

Admission to all events is free, unless indicated otherwise.

February 1 through 28 **STUDENT ART DISPLAY**

Art in Public Places

Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Boulevard

February 4 through April **TOY TIME**

Fabulous Folk Toys Exhibit

Children's Science Explorium, 300 S. Military Trail

February 3 through 28 **CHILDHOOD WONDERS**

Women in the Visual Arts Exhibit

Saturday, February 6 *Meet the Artists*

Sugar Sand Park Community Center, 300 S. Military Trail

Saturday, February 6, 13, 20, 27, 8:00 am **BOCA RATON GREENMARKET**

Local vendors and live music

S. Federal Highway & S. Mizner Boulevard

Friday, February 12, 8:00 am - 12:30 pm **SMART HEART DAY**

Community Health Screening

6500 Congress Avenue

February 15 through 21 **ALLIANZ CHAMPIONSHIP**

Champions Tour Golf Tournament

The Old Course at Broken Sound

Friday, February 19, 7:00 pm **MUSIC IN THE PARK**

Five Boroughs

Mizner Park Amphitheater

Interested in volunteering? Opportunities are available throughout the year. Visit the Recreation Services [Volunteer](#) webpage.

Happy Valentine's Day!

