

**Sales, special events, and more from the people who make Biscayne Times possible**



ust like that! What passes for winter in South Florida is over, and spring break is here. For those in Miami Shores, though, you have some homework assigned. Village council elections are April 9. Get informed by attending a free candidates' forum March 18 at 7:00 p.m. at the Miami Shores Community Center (9617 Park Dr.). Call 305-758-8103 for info.

And now for a history lesson. In recognition of the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots, **HistoryMiami Museum**

(101 W. Flagler St., 305-375-1492) presents "Queer Miami: A History of LGBTQ Communities." In 1969, a police raid at the Stonewall Inn in New York City set off a series of violent demonstrations that many view as the start of the gay rights movement. Although Miami seems a fairly tolerant city today, it wasn't always so. Marginalized, hidden, and even illegal for much of the past 100 years, the gay community in South Florida was still able to carve its own niche and eventually thrive in our communal paradise. This exhibit, which opens March 16, celebrates that history through artifacts, photographs, archival footage, and more. Admission is \$10 with discounts for seniors, students, and children.

Over at the **Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami** (61 NE 41st St., 305-901-5272) "Larry Bell: Time Machines" is coming to a close March 10. Bell is an important figure in the West Coast minimalist movement, perhaps best known for his transparent cube sculptures that only faintly hint at their industrial nature. The cubes are playful, airy, and full of light, and some are included in this retrospective, the first comprehensive U.S. museum survey of the artist's work in nearly two decades. Don't miss it.

Here's something for the child in all of us. **Aventura Arts and Cultural Center** (3385 NE 188th St., 877-311-7469) presents

*You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*

, running March 14-16 at 8:00 p.m. This 1967 musical comedy is based on the Peanuts comic strip by Charles Schulz, with book, music, and lyrics by Clark Gesner. Tickets cost \$45-\$49.

Musical and cultural entertainments continue at the Corpus Christi Catholic Church (3220 NW 7th Ave.) on March 3, at 3:00 p.m., when **Martha/Mary Concerts** (305-458-0111, [www.marthamaryconcerts.org](http://www.marthamaryconcerts.org)) presents Spanish Brass partners with flamenco-jazz piano legend Chano Dominguez and his son, cajón percussionist Pablo Dominguez, for an afternoon of Spanish flamenco music. A reception follows at beautiful La Merced Chapel next door. Coming in April is the annual Starburst concert, which features young artists at the start of their careers. On Sunday, April 7, at 4:00 p.m., Sahana Shraavan, Giancarlo Llerena, and Valentina Paolucci will join founding artistic director Paul Posnak in La Merced Chapel to highlight their exceptional talents. Both shows are only \$15 and \$20.

If you enjoy studying nature in strangers' yards, here's a great opportunity from a returning advertiser. The 18th annual **Miami Beach Garden Tour** takes place Saturday, March 9, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., with an after-party at the Miami Beach Botanical Garden (2000 Convention Center Dr.). You'll visit several of the city's private gardens, featuring pools, water views, secluded patios, and decorative plantings. The tour begins and ends at the botanical garden, which will concurrently host a flower show, Gems & Junque vernissage, and plant sale. Box lunches, snacks, beer, wine, and bubbly will be available for purchase, too. And consider the pre-tour cocktail party for VIP ticket holders on Friday evening. General admission is \$35. VIP admission and shuttle transportation are available at extra cost. Purchase tickets at [www.mbgarden.org](http://www.mbgarden.org).

Speaking of gardens, according to an unscientific poll, a highly significant percentage of bees, bugs, and butterflies agree that they enjoyed the short, mild winter and are taking advantage of the early pollen harvest this year. Which means allergy sufferers are already feeling the effects of the spring flower season. Whether you know what triggers are causing your symptoms or not, **Florida Center for Allergy and Asthma Care** (877-4-ALLERGY) can help you relieve them. Call for an appointment at any one of the area's 17 convenient locations.

The premature spring presages an early and perhaps long summer, so now's the time to call returning advertiser **All Florida Pool and Spa** (11720 Biscayne Blvd., 305-893-4036) to ensure

your pool will be ready. Still too cool for you to swim, you say? Consider installing a new hot tub or grill, so you can enjoy the perfect backyard weather in typical Miami fashion.

Fashion? Lolling around the pool area is an event that requires appropriate, if seemingly casual, attire for our fashionistas. Call owner Bianka Martin at **Biknx Beautique** (4338-A NW 7th Ave., 305-780-9905) for advice on creating your own personal couture statement for the season.

Once you're in your new duds, you might realize your old haircut is a complete dud, of another kind. Quick, make an appointment with Hannah Lasky at **Hannah and Her Scissors** (611 NE 86th St., 305-772-8426) to update your crowning glory. While there you can ask Hannah about the salon's big move in April.

Needless to say, with bikini season already here, a trim waistline is the fashion statement many of us wish we could make. **Jackson Health System** (160 NW 170th St., North Miami Beach, 305-585-TRIM) offers several surgical routes to weight-loss success for those patients whose difficulties with dieting have reached dangerously unhealthy levels. The next lecture is Thursday, March 14, at 6:30 p.m., and it's free.

**North Shore Medical Center** (1100 NW 95th St., 305-835-6000) offers frequent free seminars on bariatric procedures that are the medical center's specialty. (Call for schedules.) In fact they have a Weight Loss Surgery Program. Make an appointment to discuss the consequences of excessive weight and the center's solution to your particular health concerns.

If it's your smile that has you concerned, say hello to new advertiser, husband and wife team José J. and Noly Alvarez, both DMDs, at **José J. Alvarez & Associates** (3483 NE 163rd St., North Miami Beach, 305-224-6714). The center specializes in difficult implant cases that other doctors take a pass on.

**Mount Sinai Medical Center** (305-674-CARE) recently opened its new Skolnick Surgical Tower and Hildebrandt Emergency Center at the main campus (4300 Alton Rd., Miami Beach). The 50 private rooms in the emergency center can accommodate 75,000 yearly visits, while the new surgical facility boasts 12 state-of-the-art operating rooms. All the equipment is new and features the latest in diagnostic technologies, so your board-certified ER physician can quickly and accurately figure out what's ailing you.

Perhaps you required a visit to the ER because of a little home repair accident. Ladders, circular saws, live wires are all out to get the amateurs, no matter how safe they plan on working. Avoid that altogether, and hire handyman **Jeff Krasne** (954-347-2048), a licensed (more than 30 years) and insured contractor who can tackle most of your repair needs.

The same advice goes for fixing your car. Instead of making a greasy mess, drive your buggy to **Honda of Aventura** for reliable servicing. (2150 NE 163rd St., North Miami Beach, 855-971-2975). The dealership repairs all makes and models, not just Hondas. Check the *BT* ad for coupons.

Was your tax refund a little short this year? Now you're thinking maybe a staycation is in order? Or the kids and their college chums are coming in for spring break? Check out new advertiser **Zenmotel Mimo** (7126 Biscayne Blvd., 305-456-7233), and check in to a new live-work-play concept in the Mimo Historic District. The 1939 building is actually an Art Deco gem that's been renovated for contemporary sensibilities. Need to stay tuned in? No problem. There's computer access with high-speed wi-fi and large-screen TVs for all your work and social needs. Ready to tune out? The meditative motif of the guestrooms encourages serenity and is the source of their slogan, "Your *om* away from home." The boutique hotel is currently offering a "spring super sale." Visit [zenmotelmimo.com](http://zenmotelmimo.com) for prices and conditions.

Welcome another new *BT* advertising partner: **Palermo Restaurant and Wine Bar** (4582 NE 2nd Ave. 786-502-4460). Although the name suggests strictly Italian fare, this recently established restaurant takes a very long route from Sicily by diverting first to Buenos Aires. Italian migrants to Argentina brought their traditional foods, while the Argentine Pampas provided large pastures for cattle. The cuisine relies heavily on both, so at Palermo you can enjoy both a juicy skirt steak and a personal pizza. The restaurant is kid friendly, has an extensive wine list, and is affordably priced.  
*¡Salud!*

Further south, **Bayside Marketplace** (401 Biscayne Blvd., 305-577-3344) hosts a happy hour on Friday, April 5, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., featuring food and drink specials from Segafredo Café and 305 Daiquiri Bar. If that's not enough, the VIVA Classic Rock band will be performing. All of

this right on beautiful Biscayne Bay.

Traveling north instead? **Sushi Lucy** (1680 NE 123rd St., North Miami, 786-391-2668) offers Kaitenzushi, an entertaining way to deliver the Japanese treat to your table. Here, small boats carrying plates of food journey on a miniature river until they reach their port of call. When you see something you like drift by, you simply pick it up. The bill is based on the color and number of plates you accumulate on your table. It's not quite like fishing, but can be just as fun. Hot specialties, such as pork gyoza, shrimp yakitori, or crab tempura, are offered on a separate menu.

You say you want to head back to the hotel with some tasty comfort food, instead? Order a pie at **Andiamo! Brick Oven Pizza** (5600 Biscayne Blvd., Miami, 305-762-5751). In addition to an extensive list of specialty pizzas, the restaurant also offers sandwiches, salads, appetizers, and desserts. Plus, we hear that tantalizing new items are on the way.

Then there's the **Legion Park Farmers Market** (6601 NE Biscayne Blvd.), open every Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Thanks to the Urban Oasis Project, locally farmed produce, meats, and other products -- many organic -- are available for nominal cost from about 30 vendors. And SNAP benefits are doubled. Remember, winter is the season that Florida produce shines in the warm sun. Also, the last Saturday of each month is dedicated to the Pallets in the Park program, which features local musicians and poets.

If you have passed the age of worrying about tax refunds, earn extra life credits at the **Osher Lifelong Learning Institute** at Florida International University (3000 NE 151st St., North Miami, 305-919-5900). This unique program is open to members 50 and older who want access to university courses, special events, lectures, lunches, and more at FIU's Biscayne Bay campus or in Miami Shores. Visit [olli.fiu.edu](http://olli.fiu.edu) for more info. The semester begins in early March, and membership is only \$40 per year. Classes, field trips, and other activities may mean additional fees. But guess what? There's no homework!

The same can't be said for the kids at **Monsignor Edward Pace High School** (15600 NW 32nd Ave., 305-623-PACE), who are expected to turn in their assignments on time. This month, however, the focus is on the annual Spartan Golf Classic at the Country Club of Miami (6801 NW 186th St., Hialeah) held Friday, March 29. The fundraiser supports the Spartans-4-Spartans program, which helps students encountering special financial hardships. Don't play? Consider

sponsorship instead. Call the school at 305-623-7223, or e-mail [redmundson@pacehs.com](mailto:redmundson@pacehs.com) for more info. Closer to home, Pace Drama is presenting

The **Metropolitan International School of Miami** (3621 NE Miami Ct., 305-576-6070) is now accepting applications for its preschool and kindergarten classes, which emphasize age-appropriate activities that help children get accustomed to the formal learning process. Younger children learn motor and interpersonal skills, while older kids begin classes that teach math, language arts, science, and social studies. Call today for more information.

Those youngsters probably won't need to learn how to start a business for a few more years -- which requires lots of homework. But if you call attorney **Steve Polisar** (305-672-7772, x 206), you can avoid one of the more stupefying problems of opening your own bar or restaurant -- the permitting process. Steve has a long history in Miami-Dade and knows how to lubricate the wheels of progress in your favor. Call today and earn an "A" on this test.

Don't forget: The 2019 Pelican Party benefit supporting the **Pelican Harbor Seabird Station** (305-751-9840, [pelicanharbor.org](http://pelicanharbor.org)) is April 13 at the Miami Shores Country Club. Now is the time to inquire about sponsoring the fundraiser or contributing items to the auction.

Feedback: [letters@biscaynetimes.com](mailto:letters@biscaynetimes.com)