

## COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Economic-development initiatives discussed at luncheon

INSIDER, PAGE A6



## FORMER ABODE

Amid divorce, Rudy Giuliani's condo goes on the market

BEYOND THE HEDGES, A12



## DINING DEALS

Summertime specials abound at island eateries

PLATE & CORK, A12

# Palm Beach Daily News

THE SHINY SHEET®

ESTABLISHED 1897

THE LEADER IN COVERING THE ISLAND



THURSDAY-SATURDAY, JUNE 13-15, 2019

\$2.00

## Town wants state to reconsider fountain

### Leaders want official to come look at site and plans to add stairs

By William Kelly  
Daily News Staff Writer

The town will ask the state to reconsider its opposition to the proposed addition of stairs to the back of the Addison Mizner Memorial Fountain.

At issue are two state historic preservation grants, worth \$700,000, that the state has said the town will have to repay if it alters Mizner's original 1929 design.

The Town Council told staffers Tuesday to arrange a conference call with a state historic preservation official who has said the state views the stairs as detrimental to the

fountain.

The town also will invite the official, Timothy Parsons, to visit the Mizner Memorial Park and fountain for a first-hand look. Parsons, director of the Division of Historical Resources and state historic preservation officer, recently told the town he would be willing to take a "fresh look" at the stairs plan. But he

also noted that the division objected to the staircase proposal in 2014.

Bill Bone, leader of a Centennial Commission and a proponent of adding the stairs, said the commission will offer to pay Parsons' travel expenses if he agrees to come to Palm Beach.

"We're just asking the council to stay the course,"

Bone said. "A majority of this council and the Landmarks Preservation Commission would like to see those stairs ... We do not consider this decision to be a final decision."

Mayor Gail Coniglio and other proponents of the stairs say they are needed to unify the fountain with a small park

See STAIRS, A5

## Shark sighting at Midtown Beach



John Komaromi of West Palm Beach walks alongside his daughter Anabella, 9, toting their giant shark-shaped water float at Midtown Beach recently. "It was a Christmas present," Komaromi said. "It's a lot of fun. I can't float on it but she can." [DAMON HIGGINS/PALMBEACHDAILYNEWS.COM]

## Opera's Biaggi stepping down

### Managing Director David Walker will succeed him in October

By Jan Sjostrom  
Daily News Staff Writer

Daniel Biaggi, who steered Palm Beach Opera's turnaround during his 10 years as general director, will step down in October to pursue being an independent consultant in the industry, the company announced today.

"It's exciting to me," Biaggi said. "It's the next step in the big-picture thinking I've always enjoyed."



Biaggi

Managing Director David Walker, 53 and a Singer Island resident, will succeed him on Oct. 15. Biaggi will continue as a strategic and artistic adviser, working on projects as needed.

Walker arrived at Palm Beach Opera in August 2015 as director of institutional advancement, overseeing all aspects of revenue generation.

In a way, he was a general director in the making.

"When we interviewed him four years ago, part of what we were looking for was someone who had the interest and potential to be general director," board chairman Dennis Williams said.

See OPERA, A3

## Donors spring for new holiday tree on Worth Avenue

By William Kelly  
Daily News Staff Writer

It's been nine years since Rush and Kathryn Rogers Limbaugh donated a 40-foot-tall holiday tree to the town for display on Worth Avenue

each Christmas season.

But that tree is in disrepair and needs to be replaced, Public Works Director Paul Brazil said Monday.

"It's just deteriorating because of its age," he said.

Not to worry: Some new

secret Santas have stepped forward. A Palm Beach couple that prefers anonymity is giving \$80,000 to the town — enough to pay for a new holiday tree and for a much-needed police surveillance vehicle, Town Manager

Kirk Blouin said.

The gift also will also cover the cost of regular seaweed removal along the stretch of beach between Via Marina and Gulfstream Road, near where the couple owns a home.

Donations of \$25,000 or

more must be approved by the Town Council, which accepted the gift at its meeting Tuesday.

Blouin said the couple have given to the town before

See DONATION, A2



This oceanfront house and beach cabana at 1290 N. Ocean Blvd. just changed hands for a recorded \$11 million in forfeiture. [PHOTO BY KENT ANDERSON, COURTESY SOTHEBY'S INTERNATIONAL REALTY]

## Seaside house fetches \$11 million in forfeiture sale

### Former Venezuelan official relinquished property, pleaded guilty to money laundering

By Darrell Hofheinz  
Daily News Real Estate Writer

An oceanfront house has been sold for a recorded

\$11 million after being forfeited by a former national treasurer of Venezuela who last fall in a U.S. court was sentenced to serve a 10-year prison sentence.

Alejandro Andrade pleaded guilty to taking part in what prosecutors said was a \$2.4-billion money-laundering

scheme that helped wreck Venezuela's economy.

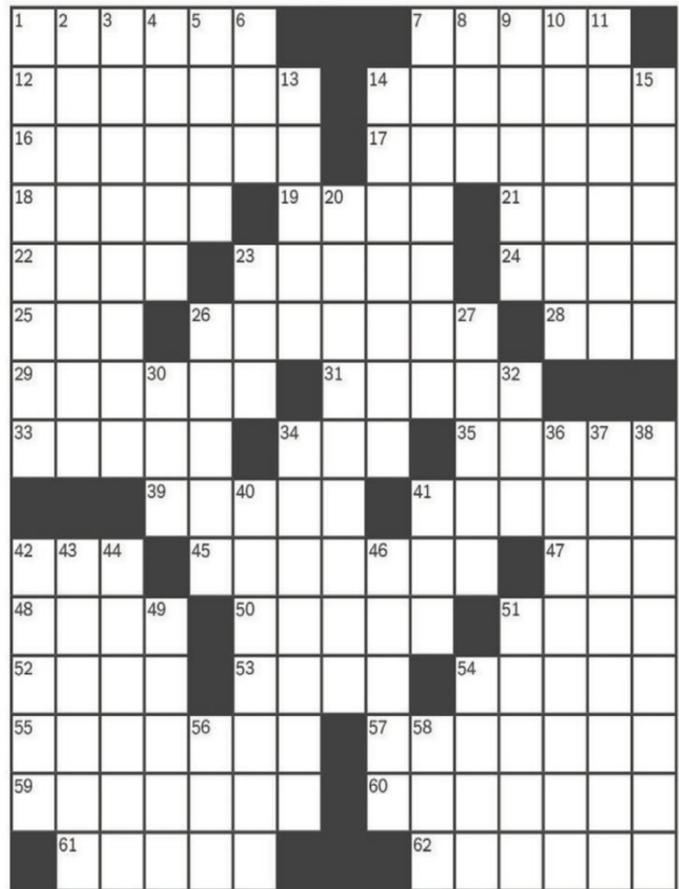
Andrade, who has ties to Wellington, forfeited the house at 1290 N. Ocean Blvd. It was seized and sold by U.S. Customs and Border Protection agents, according

See HOUSE, A4

- ACROSS**
- 1 Some ranges
  - 7 Verses versus verses events
  - 12 Unassisted
  - 14 Two-masted vessel
  - 16 Qualify
  - 17 The way to do this is the #1 how-to search, according to Google
  - 18 Rungs
  - 19 Children's author Silverstein
  - 21 Actress Headey of "Game of Thrones"
  - 22 Sea dogs
  - 23 Slowpoke
  - 24 Calls for reserves?
  - 25 It may be crushed or shaved
  - 26 Blacksmith's workplace
  - 28 Corruption
  - 29 1998 Winter Olympics locale
  - 31 Be sure of
  - 33 Grade school classroom accessory
  - 34 Pre-Christmas purchase
  - 35 Prefix with science
  - 39 Built up
  - 41 Countless
  - 42 Much-used wood for tool handles
  - 45 Perfect child
  - 47 Shareable doc format
  - 48 Instruction to a typesetter
  - 50 Traveling, so to speak, in basketball
  - 51 Goes pffft!
  - 52 A light one goes a long way
  - 53 Dress that may leave the midriff exposed
  - 54 Glutinous rice cake of Japan
  - 55 Midsize Kias
  - 57 Knocked, like heavy machinery
  - 59 30th anniversary gift
  - 60 Not this or that
  - 61 Fast \_\_\_ Felson, "The Hustler" character
  - 62 Locking horns

**DOWN**

- 1 What an accomplice may be doing
- 2 Wild and crazy
- 3 Second person?
- 4 Gritty films, informally
- 5 Ironically, they live on every continent except Antarctica
- 6 Seasoning for une omelette
- 7 Item of cookware
- 8 Most common Korean surname after Kim
- 9 In any way
- 10 Actress Janet with a Tony, Drama Desk and Olivier Award
- 11 Eastern faith
- 13 Like some questions



PUZZLE BY LEWIS ROTHLEIN

- 14 Rod on reels
- 15 Brewmaster's need
- 20 It's a sign
- 23 West Coast air hub, for short
- 26 Stationary
- 27 Scout leader?
- 30 Aladdin's sidekick
- 32 Opposite of paleo-
- 34 Bookstore section
- 36 Like fruit on a tree
- 37 Kept a close eye (on)
- 38 Football offense ... or a hint to six answers in this puzzle
- 40 Brew with a red triangle logo
- 41 Racer Unser and son
- 42 Words before wish or were
- 43 Siberian land feature
- 44 Like some pools and arguments
- 46 Grand tales
- 49 Threesome
- 51 Crooner with a ukulele
- 54 Many a rescue
- 56 Med. diagnostic
- 58 Mauna \_\_\_

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**



**HOUSE**

From Page A1

to a deed recorded Tuesday.

Andrade was sentenced in November in a federal district court in West Palm Beach. He served as national treasurer under former Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez.

Matthew C. and Astrid C. Womble bought the house, the deed shows.

Matthew Womble co-founded and is managing director of EverWatch Capital, a so-called "family office" with a group of companies that focus on investments, according to the firm's website. Previously, he was a co-managing member of Black Beach Capital LLC, a private-equity investment partnership that was the predecessor to EverWatch.

His wife, an attorney, oversees operations at EverWatch and is a director of the firm and its general counsel. The Wombles are based in the company's office in Greenwich, Connecticut. Another office is in Providence, Rhode Island.

The Wombles own no other property in Palm Beach County in their names, according to a search of courthouse records.

Corcoran Group agent Dana Koch confirmed that he and his mother, Corcoran agent Paulette Koch, represented the buyers, but he declined to comment further. He also said his clients did not want to discuss the purchase.

Agent Todd Peter confirmed he and two of his colleagues at Sotheby's International Realty handled the seller's side of the deal. The other Sotheby's agents were Cristina Condon and Frances Peter, Todd Peter's wife. Todd Peter also declined to



**After pleading guilty, Alejandro Andrade was sentenced in November in West Palm Beach to 10 years in federal prison for taking part in a massive money-laundering scheme that helped put Venezuela's economy in a freefall, prosecutors said.** [PALMBEACHPOST.COM FILE PHOTO]

discuss the transaction. The deed was signed by Amelia Castelli as deputy fines, penalties and forfeiture officer in the Miami field office of U.S. Customs and Border Protection. The document was dated May 30.

**Other property forfeited**

As part of Andrade's plea deal, he agreed to forfeit the Palm Beach house along with a Wellington estate valued at \$4 million, a \$1.1 million house in Delray Beach and other property in Wellington. He also gave up 17 show horses, a Bentley, two Mercedes-Benzes, a Porsche and a collection of high-priced watches.

Prosecutors acknowledged Andrade's assistance led them to others involved in the global money-laundering operation.

The house at 1290 N. Ocean Blvd. last changed hands for a recorded \$8 million in April 2013, property records show. The buyer then was a limited liability company named 1290 Investments LLC of Coral Gables, the deed showed.

At the corner of Merrain Road, the Bermuda-style house and its beach cabana stand on property measuring a little more than four-tenths of an acre, including the beach parcel.

With 126 feet of oceanfront, the property is slightly less than a mile south of the northern tip of the island. The elevation of the site is high enough so that the eastern windows of the main house afford views of the Atlantic Ocean across North Ocean Boulevard.

In all, the six-bedroom house and cabana have 6,416 square feet of living space, inside and out,

property records show. The house had been renovated several times since it was built in 1955, according to construction records.

Sotheby's International Realty had marketed the property for sale at \$14.45 million for about three months before the listing expired in early May, according to records in the Palm Beach Board of Realtors Multiple Listing Service.

"The home's open floor plan is ideal for entertaining," said the listing.

Sliding glass doors open to an oceanside terrace. On the west side of the house is an expansive poolside loggia with a summer kitchen and space for seating and dining. The property also has a gated entry and a two-car garage.

**Prosecutors: Others involved in scheme**

In exchange for a \$1-billion cut of illicit profits, Andrade allowed Caracas

media mogul Raul Gorrin Belisario and two others, who weren't yet charged, to loot Venezuelan coffers, Assistant U.S. Attorney Vanessa Snyder said during November's sentencing hearing in West Palm Beach.

Each of his three co-conspirators was to make \$800 million by getting favorable treatment from Venezuelan money exchanges, Snyder said. All three agreed to split their hauls evenly with Andrade, she said, which would have netted him \$1.2 billion.

Further, after Andrade stepped down as treasurer in 2011, he introduced Gorrin and the others to his successor, Claudia Patricia Díaz Guillén, who joined the scheme, prosecutors say. Andrade was rewarded again for making sure the financial spigot remained open, Snyder said.

Reporting by Palm Beach Post writer Jane Musgrave contributed to this story.

**MOVIE TIMES**

**AMC CityPlace 20**  
**545 Hibiscus St., West Palm Beach 561-833-2310**  
 Aladdin (PG) Thu. 12:35, 1:50, 3:40, 4:55, 6:45, 8, 9:50, 10:20  
 Avengers: Endgame (PG-13) Thu. 12, 3:10, 6:20, 9:30  
 Booksmart (R) Thu. 12:10, 2:35, 5:15, 10:20  
 Brightburn (R) Thu. 12:55, 3:15, 5:40, 8:05, 10:20  
 The Curse of La Llorona (R) Thu. 2:35, 5:05  
 Dark Phoenix (PG-13) Thu. 7  
 Dark Phoenix 3D (PG-13) Thu. 10  
 Dark Phoenix: The IMAX 2D Experience (PG-13) Thu. 6, 9  
 A Dog's Journey (PG) Thu. 12:05  
 Godzilla: King of the Monsters (PG-13) Thu. 12, 2:05, 5:10, 6:20, 8:15, 9:35  
 Godzilla: King of the Monsters -- The IMAX 2D Experience (PG-13) Thu. 1  
 Godzilla: King of the Monsters 3D (PG-13) Thu. 3:10  
 The Hustle (PG-13) Thu. 12:20, 2:45, 5:20, 7:55, 10:20  
 The Intruder (PG-13) Thu. 12:25, 3, 9:50  
 John Wick: Chapter 3 -- Parabellum (R) Thu. 12, 3:05, 6:10, 9:15  
 Little (PG-13) Thu. 2:50  
 Long Shot (R) Thu. 12:10, 3  
 Ma (R) Thu. 12:05, 1:05, 2:10, 3:50, 4:50, 6:30, 7:30, 9:10, 10:10  
 Pokémon Detective Pikachu (PG) Thu. 12:05, 2:30  
 Poms (PG-13) Thu. 12:30, 3:55  
 RiffTrax Live: Star Raiders (Not Rated) Thu. 7:30  
 Rocketman (R) Thu. 12, 1, 3, 4, 6, 6:55, 9, 9:55  
 The Secret Life of Pets 2 (PG) Thu. 6, 8, 8:15, 9:30, 10:10  
 The Secret Life of Pets 2 3D (PG) Thu. 7:15  
 The Sun Is Also a Star (PG-13) Thu. 7:05

**Eva & Maria**  
 SKIN CARE  
 Hungarian Organic Facials, Products  
 336A S. COUNTY RD • PALM BEACH  
 561-832-1993  
 www.evamariaskincare.com

**A NURSES REGISTRY**  
 FULLY LICENSED  
 IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA  
 Bonded and Insured

RN LPN  
 CNA HHA

Personal Assistant  
 Hospital • Residential Facility • Travel

Qualified Skilled Professionals

Available 24/7-Short Notice  
 No Overtime (except holidays)  
**(561) 671-1947**  
 BP / Flu Shot Clinic  
 In Palm Beach

Emergency Hurricane Plan  
 For You And Your Pet  
 (BASED ON AVAILABILITY)

ACCREDITED BUSINESS palmbeach.com  
 www.anursesregistry.com

Next to Good Samaritan Hospital  
 In The Victor Farris Building  
 Suite #3901  
 1411 N. Flagler Dr.,  
 West Palm Beach  
 License No. NR30211298

**OBITUARIES**

*In Memoriam*

For more information call the Obituary desk at **561.820.4376**

**BAKER, Elsie**

Elsie (née Cole) Baker, of Palm Beach, FL; and Pinehurst, NC; passed away peacefully on June 7, 2019 at the age of 101.

Mrs. Baker was predeceased by her parents Winthrop and Margarite (Sanchez) Cole, her brothers Harold and Ronald Cole, and her husbands, Wolfram Lewis, Douglas Leigh and Hollis Baker.

She is survived by her daughters, Amanda Borghese (Francesco); Elsie "Pidgie" Chapman (Richard); Prudence Blair (Kent); and her son Winthrop. She is also survived by her sister Jackie, six grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, one niece, and one nephew.

Elsie lived a long and exciting life enjoying life worldwide travels, a true lady- beautiful and gracious, a loving mother, grandmother, and friend. She will be greatly missed.

A Funeral Mass will be held on Tuesday, June 11, 2019 at 12:00 Noon at Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church in Pinehurst, NC.

On line condolences can be made to [www.bolesfuneralhome.com](http://www.bolesfuneralhome.com)  
 Services are entrusted to Boles Funeral Home of Pinehurst, NC.



**SUPPORT SERVICES.**

Find bereavement support groups.

[PalmBeachDailyNews.com](http://PalmBeachDailyNews.com)  
 Click on Obituaries

Find bereavement support groups.

[PalmBeachDailyNews.com](http://PalmBeachDailyNews.com)