

PIONEER DAYS

SOUVENIR
EDITION

February 15, 2018

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

PIONEER DAYS • FEBRUARY 16 — 18

SOUVENIR EDITION

Observer

www.observernewspaperonline.com

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HAPPY PIONEER DAYS

Celebrate
Deerfield
Beach

PIONEER DAYS HIGHLIGHTS

Friday, Feb. 16

- Majesty of Rock
- The Other Guys
- Carolinacation

Saturday, Feb. 17

- Parade / Bed Race
- Selwyn Birchwood
- Fireworks

Sunday, Feb. 18

- Melinda Elena
- Orange Sunshine
- Fast Forward



Cracker Day started in 1947.

Celebrate Deerfield Beach

In just 15.1 square miles of land is harnessed something special – a city called Deerfield. It began from humble beginnings back in 1890 when it was called Hillsborough, sprouting up along the Hillsboro River, named after the Earl of Hillsborough who was given this land by King George III of England.

Henry Flagler's train brought access to the area and Deerfield grew slowly. By 1898, just about a decade before Alice and J.D. Butler moved here in 1910, there were only 20 people in town.

It wasn't until 1939 that the word "beach" was added to the name. During WW2, many troops were based in the area and could see the beauty for themselves and tell

people back home to come on down to the Sunshine State. But tourists did not really pour in until after Connie Francis's movie "Where the Boys Are" filmed in the Ft. Lauderdale area and all of the sandy white beaches became the go-to spot for youth culture around the country.

Many of the people have stayed here to watch its growth through the years. Many remember when the very first Pioneer Days celebration took place. Before it was Pioneer Days, it was called Founders Day and, originally, it was called Cracker Day. The first celebration took place back in 1947. Put on by the Lions Club, the event celebrated the newly opened Pioneer Park

and seemed to bring out the whole town.

The late David Eller, The Observer's former publisher, was a young boy at the time. He liked to tell the story of the event. He said, "I remember the first Founders Days. [I was 6 years old]. I remember the smell of barbecue cooking was really good and made you hungry, anxious to get to it. The Lions Club men cooked. My dad probably made the grill. There was a whole line of them. The men gathered there in the morning. There was steak and chicken. You'd get a choice. It was good. Lots of BBQ sauce. There was a homemade wooden stage, maybe 20 x 30, with steps on both sides. It had

a microphone. There were entertainers invited from all over. Politicians showed up, gave a speech. It was held at the end of the growing season typically at the end of March or April. Farmers had gotten paid by that time.

My father [who owned MWI Corp.] had a lot of people buy things and say they would pay him when they got money from their crops. When everyone collected their money, everyone was happy. It was a big celebration.

There were games. I participated in the 3-legged race, never won. The adults had a grand time singing.

It has gotten bigger every year. I thought it was neat that the grownups were acting so happy. J.B. Wiles always emceed. He loved to dance. He could get up and dance some sort of jig. They would have square dances at night. It was a good time."

Amie Kay Tanner also attended the events as a youngin.' Today, she is the historian at The Butler House.

Tanner said, "When I was young, it was called Cracker Day because there were a lot of Southerners here. They used to call the man who drove the wagon a Cracker because he cracked the whip. It was an endearing term [not a derogatory one]. It was a big day here. It was a very small town. It was held in April when growing

season was over. All the kids looked forward to it. There were rides, the tilt a whirl, and Ferris wheel. There was a cement slab where they played basketball. They had cake walks, square dancing. It was really special. All the politicians would come through. They came out in their starched white long-sleeved shirts and handed out cards. It was fun to see how many we could get, and, by midday, they had their sleeves rolled up.

The food was cooked in an old cookhouse at the park by the Lions Club men. They also made baked beans. The Lions Auxiliary baked cakes and pies and sold them.

I have some of the treasury

reports from auxiliary. It's funny to look at it now – 40 cents for paper plates, 53 cents for wooden forks. It was a real hometown celebration."

These days, the event takes place not at Pioneer Park, but on the beach, with the Saturday parade marching through the town. It includes a lively carnival, plenty of live entertainment, vendor booths and fun.

This event takes place over just one weekend; but we should celebrate Deerfield Beach all year long. There is so much to celebrate, not only our accomplishments from where we have been, but our very bright future. Celebrate Deerfield!



Carol Bennett was crowned Cracker Day queen back in 1955 after selling the most tickets (326) to the barbecue that year. With her is Janice Brown and Governor Leroy Collins.

CAPONE ISLAND

(Now Deerfield Island Park)

The island was formed in the early 1900s by dredging of the Hillsboro Canal and the Intracoastal Waterway and became an island in 1961. One of the only remaining natural habitats for wildlife in the area, visitors can see a glimpse of how Florida looked 100 years ago. Accessible only by boat, tours are free and available every Saturday & Sunday. Call 954-360-1320 for tour information. Park hours are Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For program information call the park office. At one time the famous gangster Al Capone intended to build a mansion on the island as a retreat for his later years. Unfortunately for Mr. Capone, tax evasion laws caught up with him, and he spent those years in jail.



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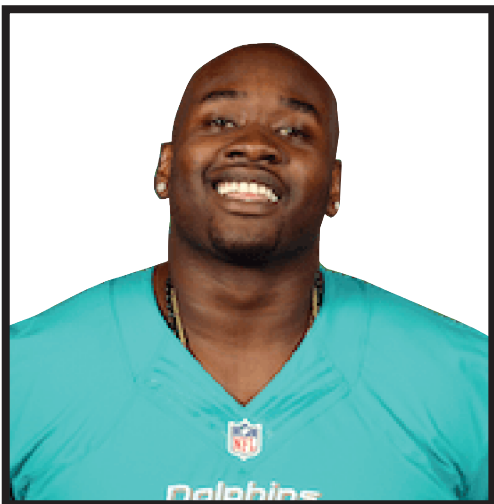


Wishing Deerfield Beach All the Best At This Year's Pioneer Days Celebration and Throughout 2018!

From The Greater Deerfield Beach Chamber of Commerce



Grand Marshal Laremy Tunsil



This year's Grand Marshal of the parade is Miami Dolphin offensive tackle Laremy Tunsil.



Pirate princess and teammates from Muddy Waters.



BSO (Broward Sheriff's Office) Fire-Rescue Team.

Pioneer Day Bed Race

The bed race is happening Saturday, Feb. 17 at 9:30 a.m. at Hillsboro Boulevard at the Intracoastal bridge. Teams will include five people—four push-

ers and one rider, which can be rotated but there always has to be one rider. Participants will make their own decorated bed or buy one from Kiwanis for

\$125. The entry fee for the bed race of \$25 benefits Kiwanis. There will be trophies given out. This year, the following companies are participating:

JWR Construction, Deerfield Fire Department, and Painting with A Twist. Make sure to cheer them on! (Photos above are from previous Bed Races).

Happy Pioneer Days!

I hope you come out to the parade and beach this weekend. There's a lot planned for

you. I hope you have a safe and good Pioneer Days. Come out to the bed race before the

parade. It's always a lot of fun. — Jim Lusk Vice President

Complimentary Shuttle

Parking on the barrier island will be limited during the parade and Pioneer Days festivities. Attendees can make the short walk across the bridge to the event or take the complimentary shuttle service. Complimentary parking will be available in

The Cove Shopping Center, located at 1500 E. Hillsboro Blvd., and St. Ambrose Catholic Church, located at 363 SE 12 Ave., on the east side of the complex.
Shuttle Hours
Friday, Feb. 16
4:30 – 11 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 17
12 -11 p.m.
Sunday, Feb. 18
10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Note: The bridge will close at 9:30 a.m. on Feb. 17 to vehicular traffic due to the parade and reopen following conclusion of the parade.

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CARNIVAL

Bring the whole family out to enjoy the carnival again this year, held in the Main Parking Lot near Deerfield beach (149 SE 21 Ave.)

- Friday, Feb. 16**
5-10 p.m.
- Saturday, Feb. 17**
10 a.m.-10 p.m.
- Sunday, Feb. 18**
10 a.m.- 6 p.m.

All tickets will be available for sale during carnival hours of operation. \$1 per ticket or \$20 for 24 tickets. Wristbands will be sold for \$20 on Sunday.

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Letter from the Mayor

Hello friends and neighbors,



Mayor Bill Ganz

Can you believe that we are celebrating 71 years of Pioneer Days? This is most certainly a

time-honored event that should remind us all of just how far we've come as a society and as a city.

Deerfield Beach is growing, but events like this one help us to remember that we will always be that quaint, coastal town with a village feel. Pioneer Days is an opportunity for Deerfield Beach to remember the past so that we better understand how to move forward toward an even more healthy and prosperous future. I would like to say that

your City Commission is truly excited about the direction and vision of our city. We have never been more motivated about accomplishing our potential—together as one united city.

Moments like Pioneer Days are opportunities for all of us to come together in the community. It is my hope that from District 4 to the shore, families will join us this weekend to celebrate this grand event. I am hoping to see many new faces

along the parade route this Saturday. But, most of all, I am hoping that this weekend we will remember to be kind to our neighbors and kind to each other as we observe and celebrate 71 years of Deerfield Beach traditions ... traditions that began with our pioneers who settled here from many diverse places and made our city what it is today.

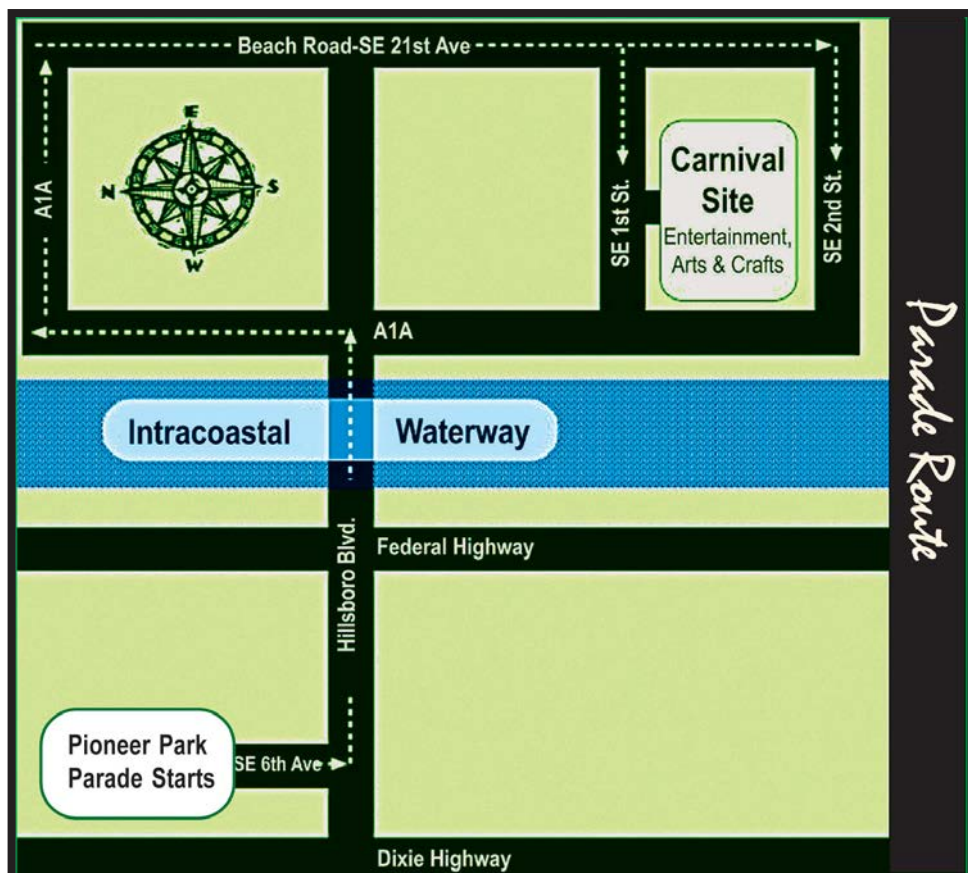
Cheers, Deerfield Beach!

— Mayor Bill Ganz



Florida Fun Train rides again!

Look for the Florida Fun Train to be in this year's Pioneer Days parade once again. Hire the fun train for your next event. For more information, call 954-933-8427.



ROAD CLOSURES

- US1 will be closed at SE 10 and NE 2 Streets
- Hillsboro Boulevard eastbound will be closed at NE 2 Avenue
- Hillsboro Boulevard westbound will be closed at A1A
- A1A will be closed at NE 7 and SE 3 Streets

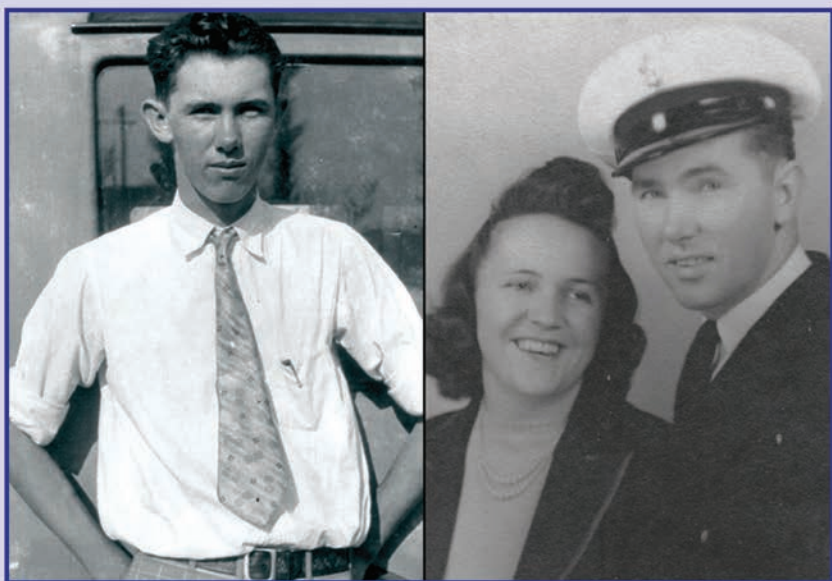
The detour route will be as follows:

- SR 810 (Hillsboro Blvd.) traffic west of SE 5 Street will be rerouted to Dixie Highway
- Northbound Federal Highway traffic will be rerouted to Dixie Highway
- Southbound Federal Highway traffic will be rerouted to Dixie Highway
- Northbound A1A traffic will be rerouted to Camino Real in Boca Raton
- Southbound A1A traffic will be rerouted to SW 14 Street in Pompano Beach
- On Friday, Feb. 16 at 5 a.m., Ocean Way from Hillsboro Boulevard to SE 4 Street will close, reopening 6 a.m. on Monday, Feb. 19.

Odas L. & Rossie Tanner

Original Deerfield Beach Pioneers

Thank you Odas L. and Rossie Tanner for your efforts to make Deerfield Beach the beautiful city we know today.



- Odas came to Deerfield Beach in 1920; Rossie came in 1947
- Charter Member Deerfield Beach Lions Club 1947
- Charter Members Deerfield Beach Historical Society
- Charter Members Gold Coast Shrine Club 1953
- Members of First Baptist Church
- Served as City Councilman 1955 - 1965
- Built many private homes, commercial buildings, condominiums, the Deerfield Beach Woman's Club & the "new" City Hall

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Pioneer Days Parade Participants

- Deerfield Beach Little League
 - City of Deerfield Beach- Sustainable Management
 - Island Water Sports
 - Stranahan High School Marching Band
 - Two Men & a Truck
 - Campbell & Rosemurgy Real Estate
 - Broward County Commissioner Chip LaMarca
 - Deerfield Beach Middle School
 - H. James Curry, Esq., Candidate for Circuit Court Judge
 - Nora Rupert, Chair, Broward Co. School Board
 - BSO Fire - Bike Unit
 - BSO Fire – Engine
 - BSO Fire - Medical Rescue
 - BSO Fire - Motorcycle Unit
 - Deerfield Beach High School
 - Gold Coast Region M.A.R.C.
 - Deerfield Beach MCJROTC
- Plantation High School Band
 - Rotary Club of Deerfield Beach
 - Woman’s Club of Deerfield Beach
 - Boy Scouts of America, Pack 119
 - Ft. Lauderdale High Marching Band
 - Center for Active Aging
 - BSO Law Ghost Vehicle
 - BSO Law Mounted
 - BSO Law Tundra Truck
 - BSO Motors
 - DFB Teen Center
 - BSO PAL Deerfield Beach
 - Deerfield Beach Elementary PTA
 - Broward Health Imperial Point
 - Office of Marty Kiar
 - Kiwanis Club of Deerfield Beach
 - Pioneer Days Parade Banner
- Grand Marshal - Laremy Tunsil
 - Mayor Bill Ganz
 - Vice Mayor Joe Miller, Comm. Dist 1
 - Commissioner Gloria J. Battle, Dist 2
 - Commissioner Bernie Parness, Dist 3
 - Commissioner Todd Drosky, Dist 4
 - Management Team
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ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

Main Stage

Friday, Feb. 16

5-6 p.m.: Majesty of Rock (*Journey Tribute*)

6:30-7:45 p.m.: The Other Guys

8:30-10 p.m.: Carolinacation
(*Red Hot Chili Peppers Tribute*)

Saturday, Feb. 17

10 a.m.: Parade

1-2 p.m.: On The Roxx

2:30-3:30 p.m.: Life of the Party

4-5:30 p.m.: L-Tribe

6:15-7:45 p.m.: Selwyn Birchwood

8:30-10 p.m.: Vertigo (*U2 Tribute*)

9:05 p.m.: Fireworks

Sunday, Feb. 18

12:30-2 p.m.: Melinda Elena

2:30-3:30 p.m.: Orange Sunshine Band

4-5:30 p.m.: Fast Forward

(*Kenny Chesney Tribute*)

Hillsboro Blvd. & Ocean Ave.

Walt Rooney: Saturday, Feb. 17, 1-6p.m.
& Sunday, Feb. 18, 12-5 p.m.

Hillsboro Blvd. & 3rd Street

Steve Minotti: Saturday, Feb. 17, 1-6 p.m.
& Sunday, Feb. 18, 12-5 p.m.

CARNIVAL

Main Parking Lot

Friday, Feb. 16, 5-10 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 17, 10 a.m.-10 p.m.


Sunday, Feb. 18, 10 a.m.- 6 p.m.

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On the Roxx

Whether you want to jam out to music from the '80s, do some disco dancing, or listen to rock, oldies or top 40, On the Roxx is for you. This band does tributes and beyond. Who knows what they will have in store for audiences at Pioneer Days this year.

The leader of the band and singer Diane DeNoble is originally from Philadelphia, but has made her home in West Palm Beach, FL. In addition to being a songstress, this entertainer extraordinaire is also a dancer and actress. She

has performed on Broadway, in Las Vegas, Atlantic City, Bali and on cruise ships all over the world. Guitarist/vocalist Mike "BIG DOG" Hundley began his career playing guitar at a local church at the age of nine. He moved into other venues as a teen and has now played with many of the area's most popular bands. Bassist/vocalist Paul Lee has been playing professionally since the early '80s. His innovative slapping style, speed and technique emphasizes low, mid and high frequencies. Originally from Chicago Heights, Rob Stevenson plays the drums and does vocals. He has worked with many headliners in the past, and his musical prowess has been seen in both Chicago and Florida.

On the Roxx is performing on the Main Stage on Saturday, Feb. 17 from 1 to 2 p.m.,

For more information, visit www.ontheroxxband.com.



Life of the Party

Ready for a party? Then, Life of a Party is ready to deliver. They have performed at everything from a birthday party to a corporate event. They have sailed the seas on cruise ships and entertained people at casinos. Yes, they have done it all. Now, this husband and wife

duo are coming to Pioneer Days. Queen T. thrills as Tina Turner, Whitney Houston and more while Tim J. Rich conquers the keys and soothes with his rich and soulful vocals from artists like Marvin Gaye, Stevie Wonder and even Bruno Mars. This pair has showed their stuff solo and also with a six-piece live band before. They work hard to bring life into every performance.

Life of the Party will be performing on the Main Stage on Saturday, Feb. 17 from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.,

For more information, visit www.lotphandtampa.com.



Carolinacation

(Red Hot Chili Peppers Tribute Band)

Carolinacation is ready to bring it 110 percent to Deerfield Beach. This Charlotte, NC band loves the Red Hot Chili Peppers so much they decided to create this tribute band. It was formed from Roey Haviv (on bass), Eric Esposito (on lead guitar), Mike Graci (on drums) and Jordan Chapman (vocals). They have been playing their hearts out, touring up and down the east coast, for the last three years.

Haviv said, "We were always getting hired to work with other artists. We

were the local hired guns. [So we decided to form our own group]. It took us about a year to find Jordan, our singer. We refused to settle. We [started this band because] we are huge fans. One of the reasons I picked up the bass guitar was that, in 1989, my brother picked up their "Abbey Road" LP. I had wanted to be a drummer, but [when I heard their music], I switched to bass."

He added, "We noticed that not a lot of people dared to tribute them. We could not find any on the east coast. It is a physi-

cally demanding gig ... musically and you have to be full of energy. We come out and sweat like we've played two hours of basketball. We go out and try to be as loyal to the actual band as possible, to sound like them musically and act like their live shows."

Carolinacation will be performing on the Main Stage on Friday, Feb. 16 from 8:30 to 10 p.m.

For more information on the band, visit www.carolinacationband.com.



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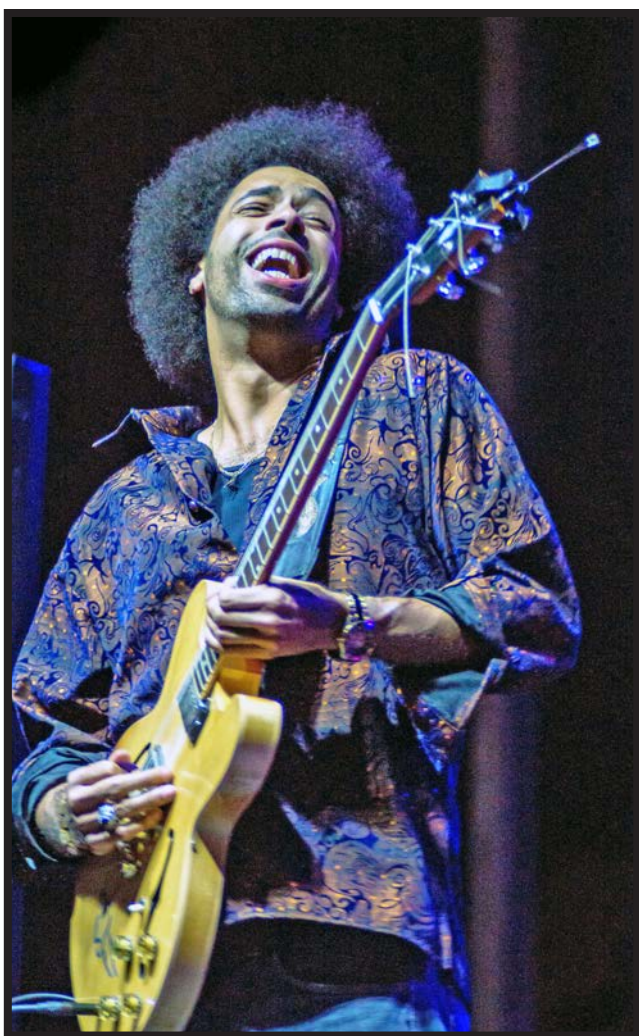


Photo by Gail Gerdes, courtesy of Alligator Records

Selwyn Birchwood

Feeling like the Blues? Make sure to check out the rhythms of the award-winning Selwyn Birchwood. When this musician first heard Jimi Hendrix, he knew he had found his path. He became enamored by the likes of Albert King, Freddie King, Albert Collins, Muddy Waters, Lightnin' Hopkins and Buddy Guy. Today, he has

opened for the likes of Buddy Guy and other blues stars like Robert Cray, as well as sharing the stage with the likes of Joe Louis Walker.

This Orlando born entertainer has made a name for himself in not only South Florida but also internationally, in places like Spain, Switzerland, Norway, the Czech Republic, France,

Ireland, Canada and Mexico.

Although he started playing guitar as a teen, Birchwood did not start his band until 2010. But before he did, he went on tour with Blues legend Sonny Rhodes, who happened to hear him play and was impressed, and asked him to join him on the road.

Just four years later, Birchwood would be releasing his debut album with Alligator Records "Don't Call No Ambulance," which received rave reviews from publications like *Rolling Stone*, *The Wall Street Journal* and others. The album received the Blues Music Award and Living Blues Critics' Award for Best Debut Album Of 2014, and he won the 2015 Blues Blast Rising Star Award.

In addition to other accolades he has attained, Birchwood received nominations at the 39th Annual Blues Music Awards for Contemporary Blues Album Of The Year for his most recent album release, 2017's *Pick Your Poison*, as well as Contemporary Blues Male Artist Of The Year. The 39th Annual Blues Music Awards will be presented in Memphis on May 10, 2018 at the Cook Convention Center.

His band includes saxophonist Regi Oliver, bassist Huff Wright and drummer Courtney "Big Love" Girlie.

Selwyn Birchwood will be performing on the Main Stage on Saturday, Feb. 17 from 6:15 to 7:45 p.m.

For more information, visit www.selwynbirchwood.com/bio.



Majesty of Rock

(as Chain Reaction- Journey Tribute Band)

Majesty of Rock is bringing their super group sound to Pioneer Days. You may have seen them perform throughout South Florida before. Look at their schedule and you will see a lot of recognizable local venues. This band is made up of Brooklyn-born vocalist John

D'Agostino and musical director Laz Christofi, who plays guitar and does vocals, bass player/vocalist Rob Doyle, who comes from Canada, and keyboardist/vocalist Barry Gruber, who hails from Ohio.

With Majesty of Rock, you get two bands in one. This

foursome not only recreates Journey under the name Chain Reaction, but also Styx using Forever Styx. For Pioneer Days, they will be Chain Reaction, so, Journey fans, come on out and enjoy the energy of this rockin' tribute band!

Come see Chain Reaction on the Main Stage on Friday, Feb. 16 from 5 to 6 p.m.

For more information, visit <https://majestyofrock.band/the-band>.



Vertigo

In the 1980s, the band U2 took the world by storm with their powerful message and melodies. The band Vertigo

calls themselves the ultimate tribute band, bringing to the stage all of those favorites, like "Sunday Bloody Sun-

day," "With or Without You," "Beautiful Day" and so many more. On their playlist are songs from decades of their hits. Based in South Florida, the band includes Paul Martini as Bono, Aj Lynne as the Edge, Bobby Silvia Bell as Adam and Larry Morse as Larry. Together these musicians amass over 35 years of experience.

Vertigo will be performing on the Main Stage on Saturday, Feb. 17 from 8:30 to 10 p.m.

For more information, visit <http://u2byvertigo.com>.

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L-TRIBE

L-TRIBE, one of South Florida's hottest, most versatile bands, is an extraordinary group of dynamic professionals who play a variety of R&B, Rock, Funk, Hip-Hop, Reggae, Latin, Jazz, Blues and more.

The band's founder and drummer, Lionel Harrison, is the son of Wilbert Harrison, who is most known for the hits "Kansas City" and "Let's Work Together."

Performing professionally for decades, members of L-TRIBE have re-

corded, played, and shared the stage, with numerous famous musical artists and dancers. Musical artists include Al Dimeola, Betty Wright, Blue Magic, Bob Marley, Buddy Guy, Clarence Clemens, Enrique Iglesias, George Benson, George McCray, Jaco Pastorius, Janet Jackson, Julio Iglesias, K.C. and The Sunshine Band, Kool and the Gang, Mighty Sparrow, Rose Royce, Russell Malone, Sherry Winston and The Staple Singers, to name a few.

L-TRIBE performs as

a five to 10 piece band. The band is comprised of Lionel Harrison (drummer/ vocalist), Tori Rossi (vocalist), Ali Darvish (vocalist/ bassist), Noel Torres (keyboard player/ vocalist) and William Rodriguez (lead guitarist/ vocalist)

L-Tribe will be performing on the Main Stage on Saturday, Feb. 17 from 4 to 5:30 p.m.

For more information about this band and to see their song list, visit <http://l-tribeband.com>.

Orange Sunshine

Get your groove on with this psychedelic band that takes you back in time to the 1960s. This is not your ordinary tribute band. Instead of emulating one group, they emulate them all, or at least some of the bands they are most keen on from the era.

In a set, you may hear everything from "California Dreamin'" and "I'm A Believer" to "Nights in White Satin" or "Sound of Silence." They may throw in some James Brown, Beatles and a wide variety of other musicians.

The band endured the passing last year of their founder Stephen B., who was the musical director and took the lead vocals, as well as being the bassist, keyboardist and occasionally guitarist. They have been able to carry on despite this great loss of their friend, keeping the music of the '60s alive by continuing to perform.

Tony Viscardi handles the guitar and does vocals. He said he has gotten his inspiration from everyone from The Beatles to Eric Clapton.

Rob Burruano masters piano and synthesizers. He is the one who provides the sound of harpsichords, clarinet, sax/trumpet sections, French horns, rich string arpeggios and more. He began his love for music at the age of 5.

Drummer Daryl Leoce began playing drums after seeing The Beatles on the *Ed Sullivan*



Show. In numerous "garage bands," he started playing some of the popular clubs in the New York area, working with Mark Rivera, from Billy Joel's band, and others.

He even had a single released that received a lot of college airplay. He lists Dino Danelli, Mitch Mitchell, Steve Gadd, Stewart Copeland and Jeff Porcaro as influences.

Lou Mancuso is a lead vocalist and guitarist. He has been seen working with tribute bands for Rod Stewart,

The Four Seasons and The Beach Boys.

Also joining them is Sandy Winnerman, an accomplished bass player and vocalist from New Jersey, who has brought new life to the group.

Orange Sunshine performs on the Main Stage on Sunday, Feb. 18 from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

For more information on Orange Sunshine, visit www.orangesunshine.biz.

HISTORIC KESTER BUILDING



The Kester Building was used as a commercial hub in the center of town. It was later damaged in a hurricane and then rebuilt. It is now occupied by A Summer Place Consignments and has undergone a 3 year renovation from the damage incurred by Hurricane Wilma. The building is now more visible than ever as a Deerfield landmark. During the late 1920s and early 1930s, William L. Kester built bungalows on the beach and along Hillsboro Blvd., which provided jobs and low-income housing for people. An example of a Kester Cottage is now located next to the Butler House.



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Walt Rooney & Friends

Grab a pint and get ready to do an Irish jig to Walt Rooney's uplifting Celtic tunes. This traditional Irish Pub music has been termed a mix of "Jimmy Buffet meets the Irish Rovers." His group's lilting harmonies paired with acoustic instruments make for a listening environment that ranges from peaceful melodies to rousing kick up your heels tunes.

Rooney has performed everywhere from the Palm

Beaches to the Keys on piano, guitar and harmonica while doing lead vocals. Locally, you can find him playing at Holloway's Pub, Briny Pub and the Tin Fish. He is usually joined by Bahama Bob, who is a local icon up in Port St. Lucie; Hollywood Mike, who likes to show his stuff on the guitar and works with many bands; David Stype, who adds some variety with banjo, fiddle, button accordion and dobro; and Newell Bate, a percus-

sion expert as well as solo performer on guitar, piano and lead vocals. In addition, several guest performers will be joining the jam to create a unique sound.

Walt Rooney & Friends will be performing on Saturday, Feb. 17, from 1 to 6 p.m. and on Sunday, Feb. 18, from 12 to 5 p.m. on the Hillsboro Boulevard & Ocean Avenue Stage.

For more information on Walt Rooney, visit www.waltrooney.com.

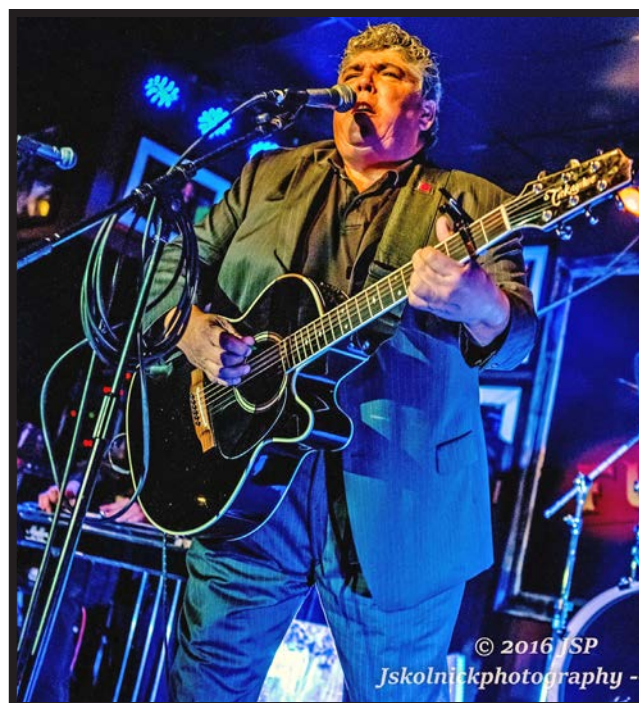
Steve Minotti

For more than 30 years, Steve has been bringing to the world his own version of classic rock & roll. He lists his influences as Buddy Holly, Bob Dylan, James Taylor, Jackson Browne and Cat Stevens, to name a few. For him, music is more than just the sound; it's also about the message. He gravitates toward those songs of the '60s and '70s that had lyrics you could actually understand.

You may have seen him and his friends perform for years all around town at different events, including running his own "In the Round" performances with other singer/songwriters at American Rock Bar & Grill.

This local originally lived in Bridgeport, Connecticut and began playing music at the age of 17. In addition to traveling around Florida, he has also gone elsewhere on the east coast, including Kenny's Castaways in the "Big Apple" & Douglas Corner Café in Nashville, TN.

In 1992, he spent a month touring Brazil along with his band Peace Man. He opened up for Donna The Buffalo and Blues Traveler at the 2008 Garlic Festival. He was cast as Neil Diamond in the re-creation of *The Last Waltz* at the Crest Theater in the Delray Beach Cultural Arts Center. He was a regular at Elwood's Dixie BBQ



in Delray Beach for nine years. In December of 2010, he performed for Chrystal Hartigan's Songwriter's Showcase with some of the most promising songwriters in South Florida.

He has worked with Surfers for Autism and as the Entertainment Chair for Relay for Life for the American Cancer Society. In addition, he has helped out such events as Medical Marijuana Benefit Concerts and Everglades Awareness Benefits held at Tobacco Road.

He's co-hosted an Internet radio show with Jacqueline Jax on [A.V.A. LiveRadio.com](http://A.V.A.LiveRadio.com) and is a repeat guest on WDJM 1420 AM, WSBM 740 AM, as well as appearing on WLRN 91.3 FM with Michael Stock.

He has worked with Electric Groove Recording Artist

Shawn "Guitar" Starski (who also hails from Deerfield Beach and who toured with Jason Ricci & The New Blood) on his critically acclaimed debut solo CD "The Gallery."

In January 2016, he released his new CD "Hats Off" with producer James McVay, Chuck Fiore on bass, drummer Barry Bernstein and brother Kenny on guitars, banjo and background vocals.

He just played at the Main Street Live in Daytona Beach and will be at the Strawberry Festival in March.

Steve Minotti will be performing on Saturday, Feb. 17 from 1 to 6 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 18, from 12 to 5 p.m. at Hillsboro Boulevard & 3 Street.

For more information, visit www.steveminotti.com.

**WISHING THE CITY OF
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A GREAT PIONEER DAYS!
FROM THE DEERFIELD BEACH
KIWANIS CLUB**





Melinda Elena

Starting her career at 16 years old as a singer, Melinda Elena released her first single "Movin' On" in 2012. She was working nightly singing her heart out and, about a year later, she decided to participate in 107.9's WIRK

FM's Red Solo Cup competition, which she ended up winning. Her prize was to be able to join Country singer Toby Keith on stage to sing that ever-popular song "Red Solo Cup" at the Cruzan Amphitheater in front of about 25,000 people.

That certainly boosted her career and her drive to become a touring professional singer and songwriter. Melinda's style is versatile, including R&B, Jazz and Blues.

She has worked with multiple bands of different genres as their lead singer. Her band members all perform Jazz and Blues regularly with national bands and now are working with her. Melinda continues to do gigs at various night clubs, restaurants, concert halls and more.

Melinda Elena will be performing on the Main Stage on Feb. 18 from 12:30 to 2 p.m.

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/MelindaElenaMusic.

The Other Guys

Consisting of five pieces, The Other Guys includes Rick Di Lorenzo on guitar and vocals, Tom Magri on bass, Ellen Patterson on vocals, Morgan McCormick on keys and vocals and Paul Vassallo on drums and vocals. This high energy band has been playing all around South Florida.

"Our goal with The Other Guys is primarily to play Rock, but also give our audiences the music they really want to hear, including Country, Classic Rock, R & B, as well as current Top 40," said Di Lorenzo, adding, "The Other Guys started out as a four piece,



then we decided to add keys, which filled out the sound and opened us up to more variety and song selections."

The Other Guys will be performing on the Main

Stage on Friday, Feb. 16 from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m.

For more information, visit www.theotherguysfl.net.



Fast Forward (Kenny Chesney Tribute Band)

Derek "Cowboy Kenny" Villegas started his first band in 2000. Derek spent several years as lead singer and entertainer playing honky-tonks and dance halls throughout South Central Texas and the Texas Hill Country. His band was featured at many county fairs, corporate events, concerts and City of San Antonio events. Derek has been featured at private events for corporate giants, including Oracle, Halliburton, IBTTA (International Bridge, Tunnel and Turnpike Association), Meritage Homes and

Legacy Homes. Derek has since relocated to Florida and has been drawing rave reviews from audiences all over South Florida with his strong yet warm vocal style, often drawing comparisons to Country music Star Kenny Chesney. Derek has quickly developed a reputation as an exciting top entertainer with his high energy, dynamic stage presence and ability to connect with diverse crowds.

After years of fans likening his look and sound to Kenny Chesney, Fast Forward, The Ultimate Kenny

Chesney Tribute Band, was born with Derek as Kenny performing such hits as "No shoes, No Shirt, No Problem," "There Goes My Life," and "She Thinks My Tractor's Sexy."

Band members are Derek Villegas, John Bennett, Juan Aguirrechu, Jeff Ankeney and Gary Lapenski.

Fast Forward will be performing on the Main Stage on Sunday, Feb. 18 from 4 to 5:30 p.m.

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/FastForwardFlorida.



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MWI Corporation is Deerfield Beach's oldest manufacturer, established in 1926. The company, founded by the Eller family, was originally a manufacturer of iron and steel equipment. MWI realized the need for pumps for irrigation, drainage and flood control applications. Two years after the founding of MWI, the hurricane of 1928 hit Florida and over 2500 lives were lost in the flooding that it caused. Subsequently, the U.S. government constructed one of the most extensive flood control systems in the world – and thousands of MWI pumps became an important part of this vast water control network.

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Still Celebrating...



Sip & Stroll

By Rachel Galvin

It seems every week the City of Deerfield Beach is doing another event. One of their newest was Sip & Stroll, which just took place on Saturday, Feb. 10 at Constitution Park's Arboretum.

The soft croaking of frogs and chirping of crickets could be heard in the background as guests strolled in the dark on paths illuminated by strung Christmas lights and well-

placed lanterns, creating a surreal and romantic experience.

But that only defines the "stroll" portion of the event. Besides being able to discover and enjoy the beauty of the arboretum in a new way, people could mingle with each other while partaking in cuisine from different restaurants, including Oceans 234, Cafe Med, Sticky Buns, Sumo Japanese Restaurant, Jbyrd's Muddy

Waters Restaurant & Raw Bar, fruit from J&J's Produce, as well as wine, beer or other drinks, provided by Double Eagle Distributing, Sparkling Ice and elsewhere. Tasty Sweet Bites also served up chocolate covered aerated marshmallows, which were a big hit – made in Sweden. Mayor Bill Ganz, Commissioner Gloria Battle and Commissioner Todd Drosky were among the at-

tendees, which included many individuals from various local civic organizations that are involved in seemingly every event, and others who may have ventured out to an event like this for the first time. It was really a great mix of people at this 21 and over event.

Artist Renda Writer sold his handwritten artwork. On his World Peace Mural Tour, he just went to areas like Haiti and Mexico and is next going to Louisville, KY.

JM & the Sweets performed

in front of people who sat to listen to their rhythms. Meanwhile, in the very west of the arboretum, in the rainforest, a lone guitarist, Israel Yeshuah, played among the fog, an eerie and beautiful site.

The Deerfield Historical Society gave away popcorn and had a raffle in an area they set up with historical photos displayed, and talked about their upcoming "52 Moments" event, which will be on Thursday, Feb. 15.

The Sip & Stroll was put

together due to the effort of the Deerfield Beach Historical Society, the City of Deerfield Beach, the Arboretum and the Deerfield Beach Chamber of Commerce.

On the way out, people could strike a pose in front of a beautiful brick wall façade and take a swag bag home with them with some coupons and goodies. It was a lovely event and people in attendance already are looking forward to it next year and thinking about how to make it even bigger and better.

THE OLD SCHOOLHOUSE

The Old Schoolhouse, originally called Deerfield School, was built in 1928. It is the oldest restored school house in Broward County and was declared a historical site in 1974. The original school had two classrooms, which were separated by a folding partition. The west room is now a replica of a school room of the early 1920's. The east side is a meeting room for civic and other community groups. The Old Schoolhouse, restored through the efforts of the Deerfield Bicentennial Commisioners, is now under the administration of the Deerfield Beach Historical Society.



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