

- HOMES & BUSINESSES IN
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- LIGHTHOUSE POINT
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# Observer

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### OF INTEREST



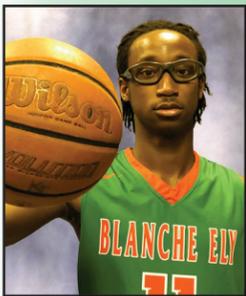
Recognitions at City Hall

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Party for retiring BSO deputy

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“Reckless words pierce like a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.”  
Proverbs 13:18

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## Paws for a Cause

By Rachel Galvin

For the 4th year, the Woman's Club of Deerfield Beach held its Paws for a Cause event on March 11. Baja Cafe, where the event was held, donated a percentage of all proceeds during the time of the event to Canine Companions for Independence. The Woman's Club also had plenty of baskets they were raffling off for the cause.

Tiffany Hunter brought her dog Pongo, a golden retriever/lab mix, again to do a kissing booth. Pongo

is a service dog and is almost 9 years old and helps Tiffany, who is in a wheelchair, to do daily tasks.

“He helps me; when I drop things, he picks them up. He can go anywhere I go. He can do money transactions, hold the credit card,” said Hunter, who added, “We have done this a few times now. It is always good... anything to tell people about Canine Companions and the Woman's Club.”

Pet Vet set up a table again this year and let people spin a wheel and get a prize. They gave out brochures, towels and

pens. They talked about their \$25 new patient exams.

“We've been here 25 years,” said Practice Manager Amy Nichols, who added, “We also give 15 percent off for first responders and the military.”

While people mingled in the parking lot, many with their pets, they could listen to music played by Bamboo Taxi.

To find out more about The Woman's Club, visit [www.dbwc.org](http://www.dbwc.org). For more about Canines for Companions, visit [www.cci.org](http://www.cci.org). For more information on Pet Vet, visit [www.petvetfl.com](http://www.petvetfl.com).

(1) Just a few of the many dedicated members of the Woman's Club. (2) Mary Beth Williams came with her dog, Holly, to support the event. (3) Pet Vet gave away goodies & information. (4) Tiffany Hunter with her dog, Pongo.

## City Bike Share Program discussed at Deerfield commission

By Diane Emeott

To kick off the start of “Florida Bicycle Month,” Deerfield Beach City Commission got to hear about the benefits of Dockstyle Bike Sharing vs. Dockless Bike Sharing at its March 6 commission meeting.

City of Deerfield Beach Sustainability Coordinator Hillary Marshall said the reason she brought forward a discussion of implementing a city Bike Share Program was because the city had been approached by one of the vendors — Spin, a dockless bike sharing vendor.

Initial commission comments: Commissioner Bernie Parness wondered about the liability issue for a dockless bike share program. Vice



Mayor Joe Miller called bike share “an idea whose time has come,” adding, “There's no parking at the beach. You rent a bike at City Hall. Ride to the beach. Once you put the kickstand down, you're stopping your rental.”

Commissioner Gloria Battle said she was of the opposite opinion.

“How many accidents have we had between a bike and a car?” she queried.

Commissioner Todd Dro-

sky said he would like to see more from the companies offering bike share programs, adding it was an idea worth exploring.

“This is just [an information item, not an action item]. I support getting more information on it,” said Mayor Bill Ganz.

See City, pg. 13

## Deerfield Commission supports Gun Reform Legislation

By Diane Emeott

Twenty days after the 19-year-old gunman used an AR-15 semi-automatic rifle to kill 17 people in Parkland on Feb. 14, Deerfield Beach's Commission approved a resolution to support Gun Reform Legislation with a 4 to 1 vote at the end of its March 6 commission meeting.

Vice Mayor Joe Miller, who had the sole “no” vote, said afterward, “Though I had a problem with specific words, I am with you in spirit for what you are trying to do.”

The resolution calls on the State of Florida, Governor Rick Scott, President Donald Trump and the Federal government to reduce gun violence in America and help prevent future mass shootings through a number of measures.

On Monday, March 13, President Trump tweeted there is “not much political support” for raising the age limit from 18 to 21 to purchase firearms -- after initially supporting tough new gun law legislation after he spoke with parents and students. He now favors “fixing” (rather than expanding) the background check system, improving mental health programs, and arming properly trained teachers -- something teachers and many parents oppose, according to *NBC Nightly News*.

On Friday, March 9 -- also the last day of the state's 2018 Regular Legislative Session -- Gov. Scott met with parents of the Parkland shooting victims before signing into law Florida Senate Bill 7026, the \$400 million “Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act.”

[Marjory Stoneman Douglas was a journalist, civil and women's rights activist who wrote for the Miami Herald. Her 1947 book “The Everglades: River Of Grass” helped transform the notion of the Everglades as a swamp into one of a national treasure that needs to be protected. She lived to be 108 years old in nearby Coconut Grove.]

Also on March 9, the National Rifle Association (NRA) sued the State of Florida. The lawsuit

says the age minimum section of the new law violates the U.S. Constitution 2nd and 14th Amendments.

Gun World of South Florida, at 1700 Powerline Rd. in Deerfield Beach, said they changed their policy for selling rifles three weeks ago “and now it has become law anyway.” According to their website, there is a minimum age of 21 for handgun rentals and a minimum age of 18 for rifle rentals to be used on the premises. [They also offer a gun shop, a 15-lane range, and introductory handgun, shotgun and rifle classes].

### Deerfield resolution

1) Requires a background check for every firearm sold

2) Supports passage of a Red Flag Law [which allows law enforcement to confiscate guns from individuals deemed a risk to themselves and others]

3) Supports raising the age for legal purchase of firearms, magazines and ammunition to 21

4) Supports passage of legislation to keep military-style weapons and high-capacity magazines away from schools

The resolution also urges the Florida Legislature to repeal punitive punishments of elected officials set forth in Section 790.33 of Florida Statutes, before authorizing the City Clerk to transmit the resolution and provide for an effective date.

“All this is, is us [the city] taking a position ... asking others to take action,” Mayor Bill Ganz summarized, saying the League of Women Voters asked the city to do this, and had different language in their version.

“We are completely handcuffed in being able to put something forward in our city. They make the laws in the northern part of the state. I don't like that they strip away our authority and Home Rule ... They are trying to limit us from putting into place an ordinance to protect our citizens,” said Ganz.

See Gun Reform, pg. 13

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