

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

# Observer

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OF INTEREST



Kiwanis Golf

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High Tea at Sample Mc-Dougald

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Coastal Cleanup

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"The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty."  
Proverbs 21:5

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## Jr. Anglers Day

By Rachel Galvin

The end of the pier was a mass of people and fishing poles on Saturday, Sept. 15 at the Jr. Anglers Day event. Over 200 people attended this yearly event, which was canceled last year due to Hurricane Irma. This year, it was all blue skies and participants seemed very happy to be in attendance.

"The kids are learning to fish. There's a whole lot of activities. I am excited about the growth of this event. I know we can more than double [the number of participants next year]. As people come out and see what we're doing, I know we'll be able to make this one of our city's premier events," said Vice Mayor Gloria Battle.

"It's been great. A lot of the kids are catching fish for the first time. There is a lot of excitement. It gets kids outside to see what Deerfield Beach has to offer," said Mayor Bill Ganz.

A nearby resident chimed in with "Some kids are catching six fish!"

Kids were asked to catch and release the fish this day.

"I love it," said Skip Dana about the event. He is well-known in the fishing and boating com-

munity. He came out with his daughters, Ellie, 11, and Katie, 8, and helped with the event.

"It's nice that there are arts & crafts [by All About Entertainment] and face painting [by Lola's Signature Events] and kids learn how to cast and tie knots... and the kids get to fish for a half hour [which fits their attention span perfectly.] They get a lunch from Chick-Fil-A, and there is a steel drum. How can you go wrong?" he added.

Helen Whitehorn was playing the steel drum with Steve Collazo, from Parks & Recreation, as a deejay.

"I think it's neat. I like it. We are at the pier a lot, but this is the first time he has been fishing," said Angela Storr about 5-year-old Grandnephew Tyren. "He got three fish. It is a neat program. There are a lot of kids out here."

"We come sometimes to fish, but this is the first time we have been to this event," said Jill Cardozo, who came out from Coconut Creek with her 13- and 7-year-old kids. "We are planning to come every year."

Staff from Gumbo Limbo were on-hand under their own tent to talk about the importance of protecting marine wildlife, like sea turtles. They offer monofilament (fishing line) recy-



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cling, so the line doesn't end up wrapped around turtles. The line can end up being swallowed by the turtles or if it gets wrapped around them it can cause damage, or slow them down and they end up with barnacles growing on them, which further slows them down and is destructive.

"The pier gives us a call when a sea turtle gets hooked, so we can rehabilitate them. We had a roughly 15-year-old with line wrapped around its flipper. It caused poor circulation and we had to use leeches to help. Another turtle had a broken flipper and we had to do surgery," said Marine Turtle Specialist Sarah Koerner.

Chaos Fishing offered free casting lessons.

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Environmentalists attend Deerfield Commission meeting. (Pictured with Vice Mayor Gloria Battle)

## Deerfield bans plastic straws Mandates bikes be walked over Hillsboro Bridge sidewalk

By Diane Emeott

Chelsea Krebs, who kayaks in Deerfield, is "for" a ban on plastic straws. In addition to working for Broward County Parks & Recreation, she has been volunteering with South Florida Wildlife Center by Snyder Park since high school. She vividly recalls being pulled in by a veterinarian on one of the autopsies they perform when an animal such as a turtle, raccoon or bird becomes sick and dies. The autopsy inevitably reveals they have a gut full of plastic, she said.

Krebs was one of more than a dozen environmentalists who came to the Monday night, Sept. 17 Deerfield Beach Commission meeting, many from as far away as Ft. Lauderdale. The group, which included a few Deerfield, Pompano and Boca residents, went home happy after the commission narrowly banned plastic straws.

The ordinance, which ultimately passed 3 to 2 on second and final reading, prohibits the distribution, sale or use of plastic straws in Deerfield Beach by special event permittees and businesses. It also incorporates specific language for those with disabilities who may require a plastic straw.

Commissioners Joe Miller, Bernie Parness and Mayor Bill Ganz voted for. Voting against were Commissioner Todd Drosky and Vice Mayor Gloria Battle.

The citywide ban on plastic straws takes effect April 1, 2019 — on April Fool's Day — when the city's Code Enforcement Dept. will be charged with enforcing it.

Before his last minute "yes" vote for the ordinance, Mayor Ganz argued the other side of the issue, expressing concern with "putting forth an ordinance which cannot be enforced."

"We can pass it tonight and make you all feel really good walking out of here. I applaud the City Attorney for putting in language for those with disabilities. However, I'd rather see a different approach. For restaurants that are doing this voluntarily, let's advertise that. It's what the public wants. A restaurant that doesn't want to do this can just say all of their patrons have disabilities [and require plastic straws], similar to what people do now with service animals, everyone has one," he said.

Commissioner Joe Miller, who sponsored the ordinance, responded, "I appreciate your sentiment, but think you are absolutely wrong. I think we could issue a warning. Then in six months enforce it. Otherwise, our Mt. Trashmore is going to wind up the size of the Empire State Building!"

(Miller announced he was ready to make a motion to approve the ordinance, which Parness seconded — once all the commission rang in.)

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