



Beach Shop

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9128 B SE Bridge Road Hobe Sound, FL

www.hobesoundbeachshop.com

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Hobe Sound Beach Shop's Turtle Times

Our History is a Treasure: Chapter Four By Jan Otten

Tradition—a word that conjures up all kinds of memories. Holiday season with Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukkah, Diwali (India's Festival of Lights) and New Year's is filled with traditions. Our memories abound with all kinds of stories, delicious food, gorgeous decorations, family gatherings, gift exchanges, cheerful music, beautiful hymns, a time for special prayers and resolutions for the new year.

Those of us lucky enough to live in Hobe Sound have experienced our very own holiday traditions unique to our community. Unfortunately, 2020 and the nasty COVID have necessarily cancelled most of those activities for this year, but we at the Hobe Sound Beach Shop thought it would be fun to look back through the years and take a brief peek at the way celebrations took place right here in our hometown.

Many years ago, several of the local business leaders sponsored a tree lighting. The corner spot where CVS now stands was an empty lot and so it made sense to decorate a large tree there to welcome people traveling on Federal Highway to Hobe Sound. Chris Johnston, formerly of Hobe Sound Jewelers, one of the instigators of the tree lighting events, remembers well the year that everyone was standing in the lot anxiously awaiting the lighting of the tree when suddenly everyone was jumping around, using some colorful language and swatting at their legs—you guessed it, fire ants.

Off and on over the years the tree lighting moved around to different locations including the spot where the Seacoast Bank now stands. There they had a wooden tree and the children could come and attach their letters to Santa on it. At one time tree lighting took place at the Boehringer Building on Bridge Road, then home to the Chamber of Commerce, currently housing H. Allen Holmes Gallery. In recent years the tree lighting was held at the newly renovated Apollo School. This year on December 4th in lieu of the parade a tree lighting ceremony will take place on the lot on Dixie Highway next to the new Place of Hope offices. And then it will be followed by another ceremonial lighting at the Apollo school.

In 1981 the Hobe Sound Chamber of Commerce was established and by 1985 the Chamber leaders made a decision to gift the community with a Christmas Parade. In cooperation



Mickey & Chris Johnston 1985 First Hobe Sound Christmas Parade
Shirt design by Mickey Johnston Note Pelicans pulling Santa's Sleigh

with the GFWC Hobe Sound Women's Club the parade stepped off to the delight of hundreds of local residents lining the parade route. The last few years the spectators were estimated at between 5,000 and 6,000 adults and children. 2020 would have marked 35 years of this amazing tradition. Through the years the parade grew substantially from approximately 20 entries to recent years with over 90. Notable among those first parade participants were the Boy and Girl Scouts, school bands and of course, the Shriners with their clowns, tiny cars and their antics. Debbie Fritz-Quincy noted that the Hobe sound Nature Center participated from the very beginning delighting all with live animals such as Spirit the Red Tailed Hawk, a baby alligator, snakes and an owl, among others.

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What's For Dinner?

As the Holidays approach, our minds are turning to decorations, gifts, family time, and of course, all the fabulous holiday food that comes along with it! Humans enjoy the ability to digest a wide variety of foods, which is reflected in the diverse diets that sustain people around the world. Like all organisms, though, early humans had to compete with their ecological counterparts for the food they obtained, and broadened their diets as they spread across the globe and began to domesticate plants and animals. A comparatively recent example is the spread of a mutation in a gene that allows adults to digest milk, which occurred around 8,000 years ago as Europeans began to domesticate cows, goats, and sheep. If you read last issue's installment, you will recall that this is an example of a 'niche', or 'space' that was opened in those folks' environment that hadn't been filled before, which since then has changed the human diet in a profound way.

Sea turtles are also global wanderers, and though of course they haven't domesticated anything, their diets are also diverse and have significant impacts upon their respective environments. Before I go on, though, a short story...I recall describing the diets of sea turtles to a group of young children many years ago when a young lady raised her hand and very politely asked "What do they eat when they're not on a diet?" Good point...nowadays diet means more than one thing! For now, however, we're sticking with the old definition as we peer into what's for dinner for our sea turtles.

Currently, there are seven species of sea turtles in the world. I like to remind people that when we speak of them as "ancient", they are, but it's really their lineages that are so impressive. With the exception of leatherback turtles, all of today's sea turtles have been around less than a half of the time that their overall lineages have. Somewhere around 100 million years ago, the ancestors of today's sea turtles split into two major groups, the Dermochelyidae, or leathery sea turtles (now represented by the leatherback), and Cheloniidae, or hard-shelled sea turtles. Then,



around 45 million years ago, those hard-shelled species began to diverge into the rest of today's sea turtle species (greens, loggerheads, hawksbills, ridleys, and flatbacks). One of the most important physiological splits that occurred at that time was the development of herbivory in green turtles, which (with no competition from the others) resulted in huge populations of large tropical marine vegetarians that have shaped vast seagrass ecosystems ever since.

The remaining species can be split into two overall groups, the 'specialists' and the 'generalists'. The specialists, by definition, are kind of picky, and have chosen narrow but abundant food sources. Leatherbacks may only eat jellyfish, but there are so many where they forage that all they have to do is practically swim with their mouth open to get plenty, even for three-quarter ton turtles. Hawksbills almost exclusively eat sponges, which are so poisonous that only a few other (much smaller) species can safely consume them, which means they'll never run out of food. Similar to the green turtles and seagrass pastures, hawksbills have profoundly shaped their environment by being by far the largest consumer of sponges on coral reefs. Alternatively, we have our generalists like the loggerheads and ridleys whose diets can shift with their environment as they forage for all sorts of crustaceans and other bottom-dwelling marine organisms. There are few other marine predators that can as effectively consume marine mollusks, and if you've ever seen a loggerhead pulverize a conch shell to get to the meat inside, you can imagine why they developed those thick, hard shells to begin with!

So this season, as you sit around the table (spread out at a really big outdoor table of course) you can pick out the green turtles of the group restricting themselves to the veggies, the leatherbacks and hawksbills eating a lot of the same few things, and of course, loggerheads like me who'll fill my plate with a little of everything! Happy Holidays Everyone!

Submitted by Larry Wood, Ph.D.

Research Coordinator
National Save The Sea Turtle
Foundation
www.savetheseaturtle.org



Turtle photo by Laz Ruda



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* *This offer applies to walk-in retail customers only. It does not apply to large quantity custom orders.*



Real Estate Corner HOME for the Holidays!

The Holidays are upon us already! Where did the year go? To all of us this was a crazy year for sure, but it seems like with all the changes, time just flew by! How about you? Do you feel the same way? Having moved many times in my life I always wonder where “home” really is and I guess it is wherever I am living at the moment, and yes, Hobe Sound, Florida is my home and has been for about 20 years, and I am fairly content on staying!

Let’s look at Real Estate for 2021: It appears a COVID vaccine, treatment, or both, will likely create an unprecedented good market in the New Year. While the market has been strong in 2020, both buyers and sellers have been sitting on the sideline due to the pandemic. I remain optimistic and totally confident that our slowly growing Hobe Sound Community will be a wonderful investment and comfortable place to call home in this unprecedented time of change

It just goes to show us all that change is inevitable, and regardless of whether we are quarantined, working from home, home schooling, or who the President is, Mother Nature rules us all and the clock keeps ticking away!

I do hope you are all “HOME” for the holidays and my wish for you is good health and much happiness and a stress-free Christmas Season followed by a fruitful New Year!

Just Saying!

Rich Otten, PSA, C2EX

The Keyes Company
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richardotten@keyes.com



The Hobe Sound Beach Shop is featuring beautiful Holiday themed masks

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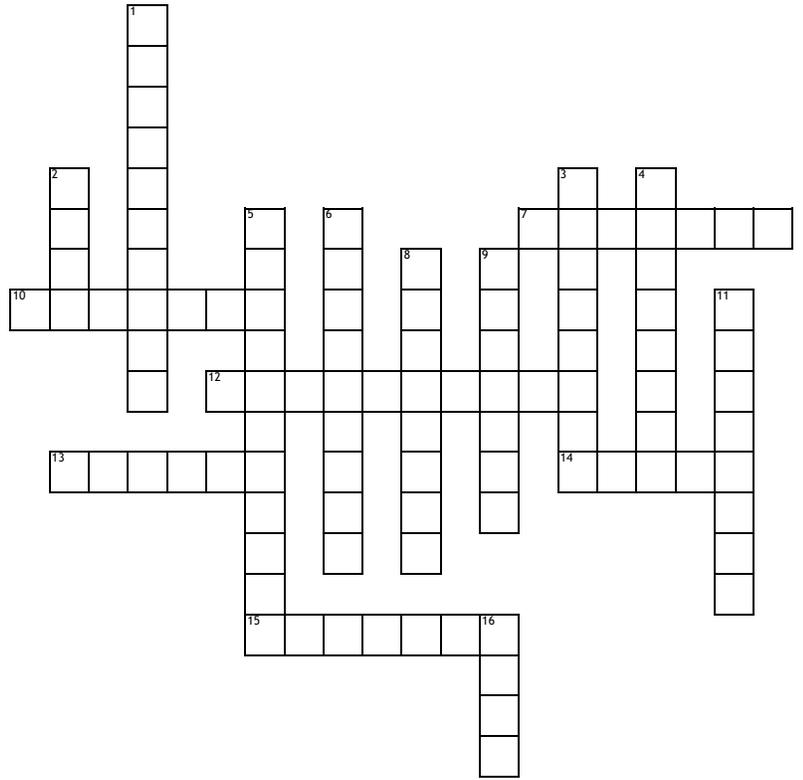
Chapter Four—Holiday Traditions Hint: All Answers Can be Found in the Chapter Four Article.

Across

7. Where did the first town decorations come from
10. What was attached to the wooden Christmas Tree
12. What 1903 vehicle won the first parade trophy
13. What is the name of the Red Tailed Hawk
14. Who always arrives in Hobe Sound in the Christmas Parade
15. What kind of tree does the Hobe Sound Bible College/Academy have

Down

1. What kind of flyover starts the parade
2. The Hobe Sound Nature Center won trophies for what kind of animals
3. How many residents watched the first parades
4. What kind of shop was Algozzini's
5. What do we make for the new year
6. How many residents recently watched the parade
8. Tradition conjures up what
9. What award was first given in 1992
11. What caused some chaos at a tree lighting
16. The parade is a what to the community



Men's Holiday Shopping Night

Enjoy refreshments, and specials while you shop the night away finding the perfect holiday gifts!

This is an exclusive event for husbands, dads, granddads, brothers, uncles, nephews, sons and boyfriends, to join us for a night of shopping. Much has been planned for this fun evening. Mark your calendar now so you don't miss out on this great opportunity.

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Our History is a Treasure: Chapter Four continued from page 1.

Since they were the only float for many years with “live animals” they always won that trophy. In later years horses and dogs became part of the parade and so others shared that honor.

Then, and as now 35 years later, Santa arrived in Hobe Sound at the end of the parade. For many years he arrived on a fire truck. More recently he arrived on an antique buckboard from TCIROOD, and even a specially decorated pickup truck. Winner of the very first parade trophy was Diamond Transfer for their entry of a 1903 vehicle. Danny Martin drove the Oldsmobile wearing his grandfather’s honeymoon suit complete with knee-length pants and high stockings. That trophy can still be seen proudly displayed in the shop located on the northwest corner of Dixie Highway and Bridge Road. Just ask Pat Martin to let you have a look at it.



Santa arrives in Hobe Sound

During the last 15 or so years, as the parade grew, entries included local commissioners riding in convertibles, and other dignitaries such as the Superintendent of Schools, the Tax Collector, Supervisor of Elections and during the last few years, Congressman Brian Mast, a military veteran, double amputee, walked the entire route. The parade is traditionally led by a huge contingent from the Martin County Sheriff’s office including a helicopter flyover to signal the beginning of the parade.

Grand Marshals of each parade were notable community members from a wide variety of backgrounds. Some of those honored in past years included Pauline MacArthur of Harry & the Natives; Phil Algozzini of the now closed Algozzini’s Hawaiian Shop; Sue Diamond Martin of Diamond Transfer; Grace Hall, known as the Poppy Lady, oldest member at the time of the H.S. Presbyterian Church; radio personalities Mo and Sally; Lillian Johnson and Bette Evans, longtime Chamber volunteers. Just before he passed away, Roy Rood of Rood Landscape and pioneer of Jupiter and Hobe sound rode the parade as Grand Marshal. Recently the Reed family were honored Grand Marshals representing the late Nathaniel P. Reed of Jupiter Island, notable resident and Hobe Sound benefactor.

Parade Co-chair for many years, Mike Ennis, recalled that the first decorations used around town were garnered from Jupiter when they got new ones and wanted to discard their old ones.

In 1992 the very first Pelican Award was given for the “Best Dressed Most Festive” storefront. The downtown businesses really got into the spirit of the season and Hobe Sound sparkled and shined for several years as they competed for the highly prized Pelican Award.

Another tradition that has marked the start of the Christmas season has been the “Singing Christmas Tree” at the Hobe Sound Bible College/Academy. That event started as a much smaller holiday celebration. It was first a musical presentation by the college chorale. Later, an outdoor event was added with live animals depicting the story of Christmas. As time went by the production grew along with attending crowds. An amazing “People” tree was created with approximately 75-80 voices presenting the music of Christmas, now including angels descending from the ceiling, a beautiful nativity scene complete with living representatives of Mary, Joseph and the baby. There is snowfall, and grand entrance by the “Three Kings.” Children from the elementary school up through the college students appear in this most inspiring spectacular event. It is estimated that over the 4 nights 6,000 to 7,000 people come from all over Florida to experience this FREE presentation and in addition, approximately 10,000 follow it online. The donations they receive are used to upgrade the technology, and AC was added a few years ago for the comfort of attendees. 2020 has halted the performance for this year, but the College’s concert series will go forward for Bible Church members with appropriate measures for COVID safety in place. On December 13th they will webcast the musical concert from the Bible Church. You can join in at hobesoundconcertseries.com

Thank you to all who contributed memories to this article: Chris Johnston, first Chamber President; Sue Diamond Martin, Diamond Transfer and lifelong Hobe Sound Resident; Michael Ennis, Chamber volunteer, local businessman; Bette Evans, Chamber volunteer; Debbie Fritz-Quincy, H.S. Nature Center; Kathy Spurgeon, Apollo School Foundation; Paul Stetler, H.S. Bible College/Academy.



Hobe Sound Bible College/Academy Singing Christmas Tree

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- Sea Inspired jewelry
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- Color changing beach toys—frisbees, footballs, and more
- Sea Life stuffed toys
- Hobe Sound wine sippers, travel mugs and cutting boards
- Hobe Sound turtle USBs
- Hobe Sound mugs, shot glasses, and flasks
- Hobe Sound Christmas and New Years custom ornaments and shirts



Chapter Four ANSWERS

Across

7. Where did the first town decorations come from – Jupiter
10. What was attached to the wooden Christmas Tree. – Letters
12. What 1903 vehicle won the first parade trophy – Oldsmobile
13. What is the name of the Red Tailed Hawk – Spirit
14. Who always arrives in Hobe Sound in the Christmas Parade – Santa
15. What kind of tree does the Hobe Sound Bible College/Academy have – Singing

Down

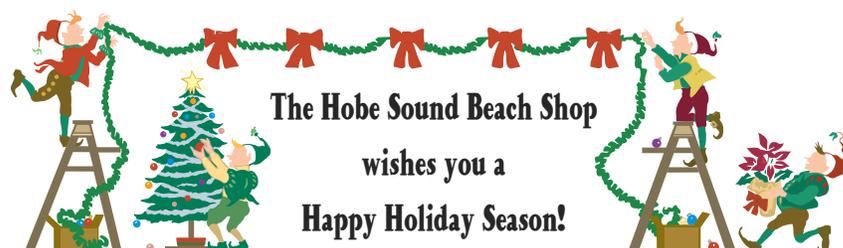
1. What kind of flyover starts the parade – Helicopter
2. The Hobe Sound Nature Center won trophies for what kind of animals – Live
3. How many residents watched the first parades – Hundreds
4. What kind of shop was Algozzini's – Hawaiian
5. What do we make for the new year – Resolutions
6. How many residents recently watched the parade – Thousands
8. Tradition conjures up what – Memories
9. What award was first given in 1992 – Pelican
11. What caused some chaos at a tree lighting – Fire Ants
16. The parade is a what to the community – Gift

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A little Trivia from Dictionary com

reindeer games

[reyn-deer geymz]

What does reindeer games mean?

Reindeer games is a colloquial expression generally used for the bullying activities of a clique or for festivities around the Christmas season.



Hobe Sound Beach Shop

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Check out a large selection of
the **Holiday Gift** ideas on page 7



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