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Hobe Sound Beach Shop's Turtle Times

Our History is a Treasure: Chapter Fourteen *By Jan Otten*

Artists paint it, photographers photograph it, brides and their grooms pose under it, bicyclists pedal through it, walkers revel in the cool shade of it, tourists marvel over it, and locals take great pride in its beauty. What is it? Stuart has its Sailfish; Jupiter has its lighthouse; and Hobe Sound has its tree-lined welcoming Arboreal Corridor that leads from the Hobe Sound mainland to the beautiful Jupiter Island/Hobe Sound Beach.



This canopy sprinkling sunlight through its leafy cover is most certainly a natural wonder for this little unincorporated village in the southern tip of the Treasure Coast. With busy Stuart to its north and burgeoning Jupiter to its south, Hobe Sound sits

like a "little bubble" surrounded by all thing's nature -- Jonathan Dickinson State Park on its southwest side, Blowing Rocks on the southeast side, the Hobe Sound Nature Center

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When's the Right Time to Retire?

Retirement is inevitable, but knowing exactly when to do so is often unclear. No matter when you actually begin your retirement, you'll benefit from planning your post-work life as early as possible.

According to Gallup, the percentage of Americans who expect to retire at age 66 or older has risen dramatically, from 21% in 2002 to 41% in 2018. People expect to live and work longer than ever, so it's never been more important to know when to stop working and how to carefully plan for the big event.

The Social Security full retirement age. For persons born in 1960 or later, the Social Security full retirement age is 67. You will receive 70% of your monthly benefit if you retire at age 62, and 86.7% at age 65. However, you'll get the maximum monthly benefit if you wait till age 70. These milestones might be an important consideration if your Social Security benefit will be a sizable portion of your retirement income.

Separate financial considerations from emotional ones. If you've successfully executed your long-term investment plan, you might be financially prepared to retire well before you are emotionally ready. Facing lifestyle changes at retirement might cause anxiety about how your life will evolve and how you'll spend your time. It's important to objectively evaluate your financial condition to support your decision-making, even as you contend with your feelings about retirement.

Many folks need more money than they think. It's virtually certain that life will offer you one or more surprises along the way. You might find you will need more money than anticipated to fund a comfortable retirement. Creating a post-retirement budget can give you a general idea if your retirement savings alone can

sustain you. As you near retirement age, it's important to regularly review your savings plan to manage risk and help put yourself in a position to save the maximum amount possible.

Retirement impacts small-business owners. It's not time to retire until you've worked out what to do with your business. If you plan to keep it in the family, retirement means executing a succession plan involving relatives or partners who have the knowledge and interest to keep your business going after you retire. Alternatively, you might want to sell the business, which requires extensive planning and preparation. Once sold, your planning should spell out how you'll deploy your sale proceeds to support your retirement in the most efficient manner.

The common theme is planning. Whether you want to retire at 55, 85, or any time in between, planning is the key to a happy life in your golden years. As your financial professional, it's my job to help you periodically review your retirement options. Call me today for a meeting to evaluate whether the time has arrived to wrap up your work life and start enjoying your retirement years.

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Life of a Ranger

For many of us, retirement is an end goal to a humdrum career. But for Park Ranger, Jane Shauan, her career has been her life for the past 38 years. Many of us switch jobs throughout our life but not Jane. She was hired as a Park Ranger at Jonathan Dickinson State Park in 1984 and retired from that same role in February this year (2022). She has literally given her blood, sweat, tears, and (most notably) her heart to Jonathan Dickinson State Park.



Ranger Jane Shauan, Photo courtesy of Jonathan Dickinson State Park

In 1984, Park Ranger positions were dominated by men, so being a female in the role certainly had its challenges but as the years passed, more females moved into the field and it has been a place of inclusiveness. Jane certainly was the right person for the Park Ranger job. Her skills with maintenance proved valuable and her other duties included park protection, resource management, historical restoration, and visitor services.

Park Rangers at J.D. will agree that Jane has the best stories. She is the park's unofficial historian and is the "go to" person when Rangers can't find a tool or buried water line. Her tricks and tips to help Park Rangers get through the day are affectionately called #JaneHacks. Even at the age of 61 in the last months of her ranger duties, she was seen driving the tractor around the park working on projects.

Notable stories from Ranger Jane Shauan include finding Trapper Nelson's lost treasure in 1986. While working on a restoration project in one historic building, Jane and other rangers discovered his "treasure." A well-placed hiding spot in his chimney concealed 5,005 coins totaling \$1,829.46. If you don't know who Trapper Nelson is, well, you will just have to visit Jonathan Dickinson State Park to learn about this Wildman of the Loxahatchee.

Another story from Jane is when she and 19 employees and their 29 pets hunkered down in one the park's bunkers while hurricanes

Francis and Jean passed in 2004. They all watched as the non-native Australian pine trees snapped in the hurricane force winds. Jane was part of the clean up crew and she and fellow rangers worked to clear all the debris using chainsaws.

Ranger Jane Shauan is a legend around Jonathan Dickinson State Park. She has been a role model for younger rangers and a rare person who has held the same position for more than a few years. Jane met and married fellow Park Ranger Dallas Shauan (who sadly passed in October 2020). They were even married in one of the pavilions by the river. Jane has seen the park change and evolve, a new visitor center built, rangers come and go. But the unique habitats of this park that she fell in love with are the same. While we are all sad to see Jane go, we are so happy to see her have time for her favorite hobbies. Don't worry, we have her cell phone number on speed dial so we can call her for more #JaneHacks!

by Sara Luering

Park Service Specialist at Jonathan Dickinson State Park



Jane giving a tour of Trapper Nelson's Homestead – 1986, Photo courtesy of Jonathan Dickinson State Park

I can help with your 401(k) options

Changing jobs? What should you do with the 401(k) money you've accumulated? You may have up to four options: leave the money where it is, roll it over to your employer's new plan, roll it into an Individual Retirement Account (IRA), or cash it out.

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Chapter Fourteen

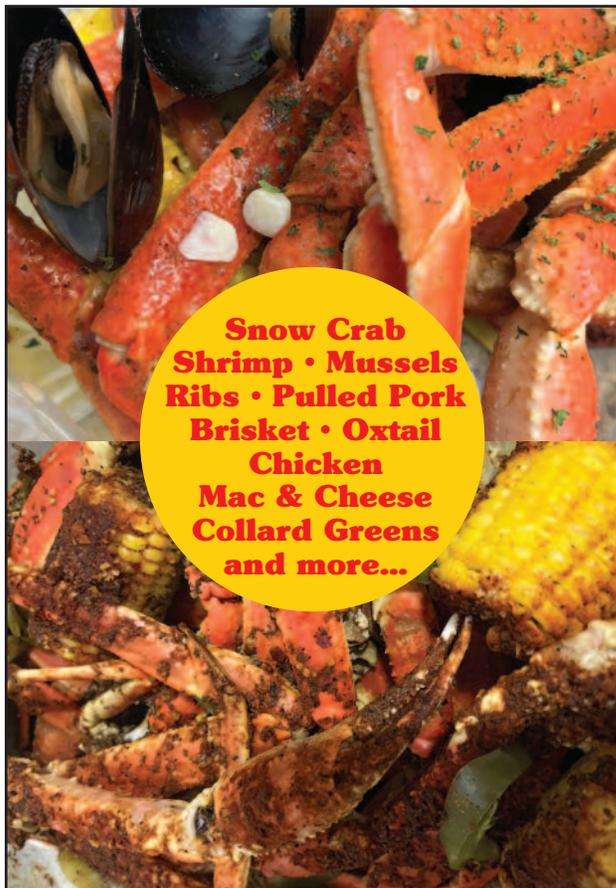
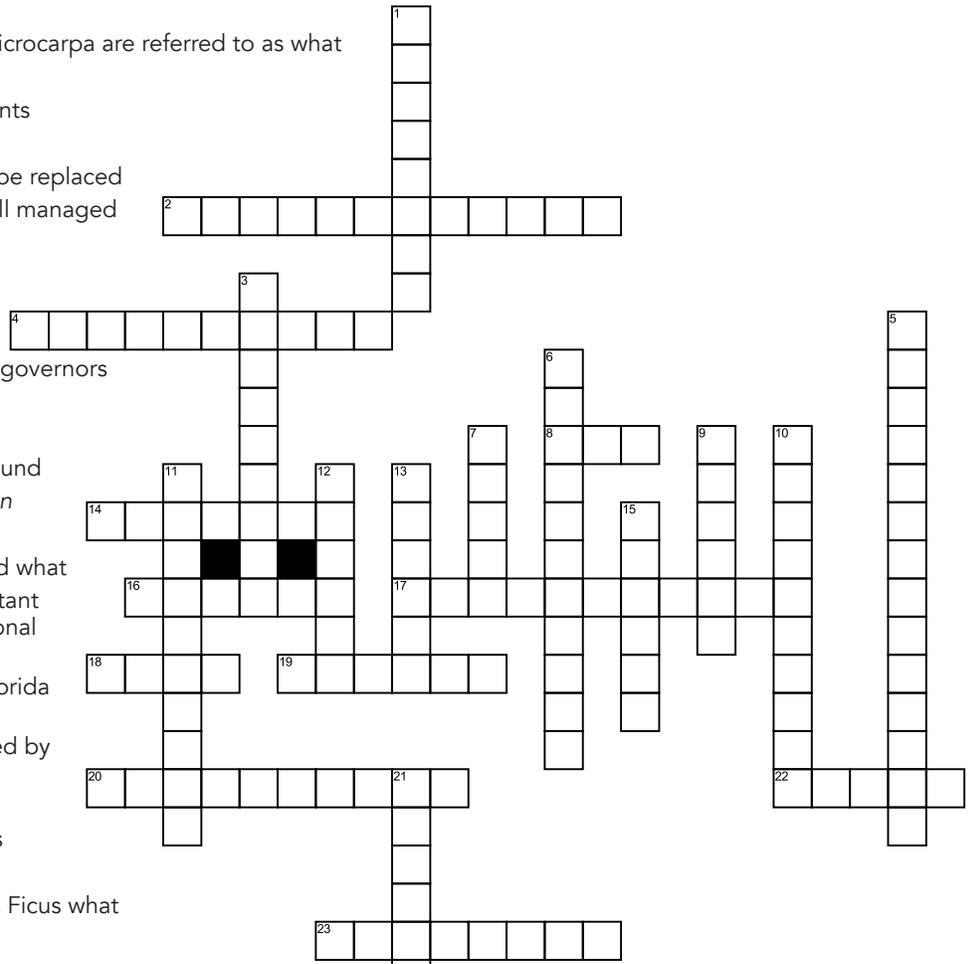
All Answers Can be Found in the Chapter Fourteen Article.

Across

2. In botany the shape of the leaves of the Ficus Microcarpa are referred to as what
4. The Bridge Road trees are Ficus what
8. Nathaniel Reed served under how many presidents
14. What kind of island is Jupiter Island
16. After the 1949 hurricane how many trees had to be replaced
17. Joseph and Permelia wanted the community well managed and preserved for future what
18. The trees have a smooth light-gray what
19. Lake Park used to be called what City
20. Jupiter's famous landmark
22. Nathaniel Reed served under how many Florida governors
23. Joseph Reed's wife's name

Down

1. What kind of corridor welcomes you to Hobe Sound
3. Which Reed authored the book *A Different Vision*
5. Hobe Sound is what kind of village
6. Nathaniel Reed, among other things, was an avid what
7. What president appointed Nathaniel Reed Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish, Wildlife & National Parks
9. What did the Reeds have different from other Florida developers
10. The Reeds wanted a small community surrounded by natural what
11. What important structure was first built in 1911
12. In 1989 what was harshly destructive to the trees
13. Botryosphaeria is a what
15. The Bridge Road trees are often misidentified as Ficus what
21. What town is known for its sailfish



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Our History is a Treasure: Chapter Fourteen continued from page 1



and Nathaniel P. Reed Wildlife Refuge in the center of things, the Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge to the north, the intracoastal all along its east coast, as well as the barrier island called Jupiter Island bordered by the gorgeous blue of the Atlantic Ocean. Yes, Hobe Sound exemplifies the best of nature in a quiet little corner of the busy southeast coast of the peninsula known as Florida.

What makes Hobe Sound and Jupiter Island this most unique natural wonderland is due in large part to the extraordinary foresight of the Joseph V. and Permelia P. Reed family, the Hobe Sound Company, and the Jupiter Island Club. When Joseph and Permelia first visited the Island in 1931, they were “so captivated that they immediately bought property and built a winter home.” Through the years they had a vision that was quite unlike that of other Florida land developers. They envisioned what it could be and diligently pursued that vision for the remainder of their lives. In his book published in 2010, *A Different Vision*, Nathaniel Pryor Reed reported that when his mother, Permelia Pryor Reed addressed an audience at the Jupiter Island Association she summarized the vision she and her husband Joseph Verner Reed held for Jupiter Island, “We wanted a small community surrounded by natural landscapes, well managed and preserved for future generations. That did not mean the land should never have a foot set on it – it was for the people to enjoy and to study Florida as it was made by God.”

As the years went by and Joseph and Permelia indeed did enjoy the beauty and nature of Jupiter Island, they instilled the same values in their children who continued to maintain the same legacy begun by their parents. Most of us are familiar with the name, Nathaniel P. Reed. He was an avid outdoorsman, fishing, hunting, and enjoying tennis and golf. All very much a part of his

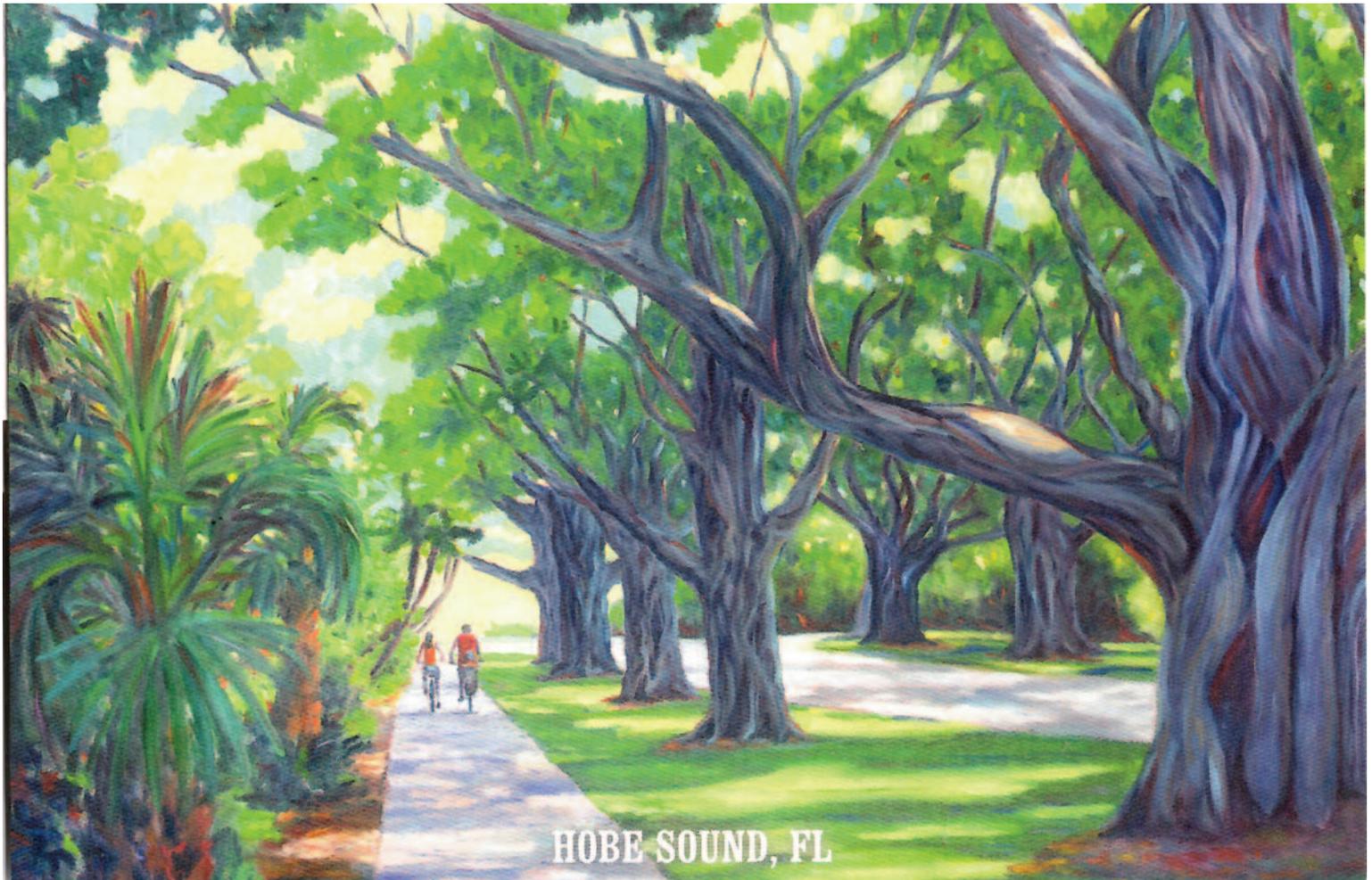


Our History is a Treasure: Chapter Fourteen continued from page 5

life on the Island. Nathaniel strongly advocated for conservation, not only in his home state of Florida, but also throughout the United States. He served under 7 Florida governors of both parties and most notably was appointed in 1971 by President Richard Nixon to be Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish, Wildlife and National Parks. He served in that capacity for 5 years under Presidents Nixon and Ford.

Not only did the Reed family enhance the natural wonders of Jupiter Island but also influenced much of the beauty of the mainland of Hobe Sound. With the Hobe sound Company, they donated much of the land that today remain as parks and other Hobe Sound landmarks. It was Permelia Reed in 1946 who commissioned the planting of trees to create a "Ficus allee" canopy over Bridge Road. And thus began the symbol of welcome that has remained through the decades since. The gateway to Jupiter Island and a remarkable signature representation that defines Hobe Sound.

Let's look into what we know about the history of these remarkable trees. The most asked question regarding the trees is, "what kind of trees are they?" It's not an easy answer. In his book, Nathaniel Reed referred to the planting of "Ficus Nitida." However, according to Wikipedia: They are *Ficus microcarpa*, also known as Chinese banyan, Malayan banyan, Indian laurel, curtain fig, or gajamaru. It is a tree in the fig family Moraceae. It is native in a range from China through tropical Asia and the Caroline Islands to Australia. It is widely planted as a shade tree and frequently misidentified as *Ficus nitida*.



Mimi McCallum

Wikipedia goes on to describe the trees as, *Ficus microcarpa*, a tropical tree with smooth light-gray bark and entire oblanceolate leaves (Botany – leaf of the lance-shaped form, only more tapering toward the base than in the opposite direction) about 2-2.5 inches long which in Mediterranean climates grows to about forty feet (twelve meters) tall and with an equal spread of crown. Where conditions are favorable for the banyan habit (tropical and humid subtropical) it grows much larger, producing great numbers of prop roots.

Ficus microcarpa was widely distributed as an ornamental plant and is one of the most common street trees in warm climates.

Outside its original range, the species has been introduced to North Africa, Iraq, Pakistan, Japan, and Hawaii. In America, it was introduced in Florida and Central America and the South, where it is commonly grown as an ornamental species.

All that description being noted, let us talk more about "our" trees. Originally there were 130 trees planted that were paid for by Mrs. Reed at a cost of \$3,490.00. Sam Blakely, owner of Kelsey City Landscape (Kelsey City was the former name of Lake Park, Florida), was chosen to design and plant the trees.

The hurricane of 1949 came through and 12 trees had to be replaced, but a different species was chosen. By 1954 it was



quite apparent that these trees were incompatible and were replaced with the original species. Along came hurricane David in 1979 and the trees sustained damage from a direct hit. Fortunately, no trees were lost but heavy pruning was necessary.

Fast forward to 1981 and 1984 when freezes caused minimal damage, but the harsh freeze of 1989 was very destructive. At that point there was serious consideration for removal and replacement of all of the trees but after much discussion, including Nathaniel Reed and renowned landscape architect Richard Webel, the decision was made to keep the trees and nurture them as much as possible. Some of this damage is still evident if you look closely.

Remembering the hurricanes of 2004, Frances and Jeanne, 14 trees were uprooted and ultimately 7 of those had to be replaced. And now, over the past few years 4 additional trees have been replaced due to a *Botryosphaeria* fungus.

If you are a visitor or a full time resident, each time you pass through our beautiful "arboreal corridor" it is our hope that this little historical information will help you appreciate even more, how special and important these lovely trees are to our community.

Some Trivia of interest:

- In 1931 when the Reeds first visited Jupiter Island there were 28 homes, in 2010 when Nathaniel Reed's book, *A Different Vision*, was published there were 504 homes.
- There were 5,100 residents in Martin County in 1931 and by 2010 there were 140,000.
- In 1911 the original drawbridge was built connecting the mainland Hobe Sound with Jupiter Island.
- The original drawbridge was replaced in 1987 by the current "modern" bridge.
- The Jupiter Island Garden Club was formed in 1952 and they held their first meeting in January 1953. During the next 4 years club projects included maintenance and care of the ficus trees on Bridge Road. Benches and trash cans were placed at intervals along Bridge Road from Hobe Sound to the public beach.
- The Town of Jupiter Island maintains the trees both on and off the Island by agreement with Martin County.

Some of the sources of information for this article include: Wikipedia; Harold Jenkins; *A Different Vision* by Nathaniel P. Reed 2010; *Island – Through the Years 1988*; bridal photos courtesy of Janelle and Isaac Bronniman.

Real Estate Corner

With the horrible crisis unfolding in the Ukraine, it is being speculated that there will be an impact on real estate here in South Florida, due to the imposed sanctions and rising inflation. New home construction costs are rising. As of October 2021, building material prices were up 12.2% year to date, as per the Bureau of Labor Statistics' latest Producer Price Index. At the National Association of Home Builders, studies show the cost of construction materials has spiked 22% due to inflation. And the costs are anticipated to climb even more this year!

This trend, coupled with interest rates climbing close to and above 3.75% and 4.00%, will have an impact on home purchases as well!

We are, as of today, importing 209,000 barrels a day of crude oil from Russia. That is 3% of the US imported crude oil! Will we lose that supply? In January this year the inflation rate rose to 7.5% according to the Bureau of Labor Statics and is anticipated it will climb higher regardless of shutting of the oil supply from Russia. Higher oil prices are resulting in higher transportation costs, and the trickle-down effect is the price of everything rises including the real estate home market!

Your home today is in great demand and home prices are higher than ever! If you're thinking of downsizing or moving closer to your grandkids, now is the time to list your home for sale. Don't wait to see what happens next!

We live in a great location of the world with a great climate and strong economy, but affordability is slowly slipping away from the middle class. I see more wealth moving in and an exodus of middle class due to the lack of affordable housing. North central

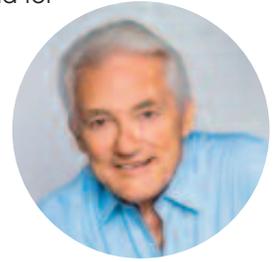
Florida does have lower costs of living, and many are moving to the Carolinas where housing costs are lower as well.

We live in uncertain times, but at least we have the sunshine on our faces and the sandy beach within reach, and for now, all is Good!

Just Sayin'!

Rich Otten, PSA, C2EX

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I recently had the privilege of visiting LW's Soulfood/Seafood Food Truck. I read about it in the *Turtle Times* and decided to give it a try.

This food truck is awesome! I visited on a Friday and experienced the oxtails – all I can say is "Yum!" It was so good I went back on Saturday and ordered the Seafood Bag—it had a little bit of everything and was very tasty. The delicious food and the reasonable prices mean I'll be back for more in the near future.

Submitted by Anonymous Restaurant Reviewer

Chapter Fourteen Answers

Across

2. In botany the shape of the leaves of the Ficus Microcarpa are referred to as what OBLANCEOLATE
4. The Bridge Road trees are Ficus what MICROCARPA
8. Nathaniel Reed served under how many presidents TWO
14. What kind of island is Jupiter Island BARRIER
16. After the 1949 hurricane how many trees had to be replaced TWELVE
17. Joseph and Permelia wanted the community well managed and preserved for future what GENERATIONS
18. The trees have a smooth light-gray what BARK
19. Lake Park used to be called what City KELSEY
20. Jupiter's famous landmark LIGHTHOUSE
22. Nathaniel Reed served under how many Florida governors SEVEN
23. Joseph Reed's wife's name PERMELIA

Down

1. What kind or corridor welcomes you to Hobe Sound ARBOREAL
3. Which Reed authored the book *A Different Vision* NATHANIEL
5. Hobe Sound is what kind of village UNINCORPORATED
6. Nathaniel Reed, among other things, was an avid what OUTDOORSMAN
7. What president appointed Nathaniel Reed Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish, Wildlife & National Parks NIXON
9. What did the Reeds have different from other Florida developers VISION
10. The Reeds wanted a small community surrounded by natural what LANDSCAPES
11. What important structure was first built in 1911 DRAWBRIDGE
12. In 1989 what was harshly destructive to the trees FREEZE
13. Botryosphaeria is a what FUNGUS
15. The Bridge Road trees are often misidentified as Ficus what NITIDA
21. What town is known for its sailfish STUART

A little Trivia from Dictionary.com:

jovial [joh-vee-uhl] adjective

endowed with or characterized by a hearty, joyous humor or a spirit of good-fellowship.

The jovial staff at the Hobe Sound Beach Shop is sure to lift your spirits when you stop in to pick up a gift, a souvenir, a new tropical outfit, a custom tee shirt, or a towel or beach chair on your way to the seashore. There are so many fun things to see that you are bound to leave with the items you needed, a spring in your step, and a jovial outlook as you plan to come back again soon!

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Welcoming our Feathered Friends

Now that springtime is upon us, our local coastal environment will again make the transition from the cooler, dryer S. Florida climate to the wetter, hotter, tropical season that triggers an annual mass-migration of humans heading northward to their summer refuges. As most of us year-round residents are well-aware, the opposite occurs for a number of other coastal species as they instead make their way to Florida during those months to complete their reproductive cycles, the most famous being the three species of sea turtles that collectively deposit over 100,000 nests (100 eggs in each, btw) over Florida's long coastline.

Though perhaps not as captivating to some as sea turtles, I thought I'd dedicate this issue's article to the less famous but still fascinating true "snowbirds" that come to Martin County in the form of seabirds, shorebirds, and wading birds. Though



Photo by Dave and Lindsay Addison

sometimes similar in appearance, these three groups of birds each have their own distinguishing characteristics. Seabirds are true to their name, they actually do live at sea and typically don't come near land until they need to rest or breed - think local birds like pelicans and cormorants, and seasonal visitors like terns and gulls. Shorebirds, on the other hand, are highly migratory, usually smaller than sea birds, and typically sport pointed beaks and wings. You can't miss these types as you walk the beach; all the little sandpiper-like species that scurry back and forth in the wave-wash poking their beaks into the sand belong to this group, as do terns. Wading birds, by contrast, often prefer brackish to freshwater environments, and are more common in our estuaries than the beach itself. They are typically long-legged and long-necked, and best represented around here by the beautiful egrets, ibis, and herons that search for food in and around marshy areas. A quick internet search quickly reveals that Martin County's famous "Bird Island" is considered by biologists to be one of the top 10 nesting sites in South Florida based on the abundance and diversity of species using the island, so great birding isn't far away for Hobe Sounders!

For the beachgoers, this is the time of year you'll start to see the familiar sea turtle nest markers scattered along the mid- and upper beach, but let's not forget the protected areas set aside for shore- and seabird nesting. Species such as least terns, oystercatchers, snowy plovers, and black skimmers use open-beach habitats in South Florida to lay their eggs. Though perhaps counterintuitive at first, the "hide-in-plain-sight" egg laying strategy works via camouflage and subterfuge; the eggs are colored and speckled to closely match the terrain, and adults often use 'distraction displays' to cleverly lure predators away from their eggs and chicks. Problem is, it's also very difficult for people to see the eggs, resulting in often unintentional destruction by foot traffic and/or off-leash pets. Much like for sea turtle nesting, there's a team of bird surveyors around the State that do what they can to monitor and protect these beach-nesting birds. Here's to welcoming our avian friends to town! For more information, visit www.fl.audubon.org.

Submitted by **Larry Wood, Ph.D.**

Research Coordinator

National Save The Sea Turtle Foundation

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See page 10 for new additions to shop, such as these adorable stuffed mermaids



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Janet Kleine Otten
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