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# The Palm Beach Post

Sunday, September 16, 2012

REAL NEWS STARTS HERE

Final edition | Two dollars

**IN THE NEWS**

**Turncoat killings up to 47 in 2012**

An Afghan policeman kills two NATO soldiers, the latest in a surge of attacks fracturing trust. **3A**

**NATION & WORLD**

**New U.N. envoy says he lacks a Syrian fix**

Lakhdar Brahimi's remark after days of meetings with the regime underline the obstacles to peace. **3A**

**Undeterred:** Russia's opposition movement draws tens of thousands to large anti-Putin rally. **2A**

**Protests in 40 cities:** Protesters throw rocks at Japan's embassy in Beijing over disputed islands. **2A**

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**LOCAL**

**FHP: Crash driver was on road illegally**

The woman who hit two parked trucks on I-95, leaving three dead, drove with suspended license. **1B**

**Suspect was acquitted:** Two deputies accused of lying to justify a 2009 drug raid won't face charges. **1B**

**4,600 hires:** Hiring from El Sol Neighborhood Resource Center hits its highest numbers ever. **4B**

**BUSINESS**

**Family roots run deep at nursery**

Abell's Nursery, west of Lake Worth, is run by two generations and a staff "with green in our blood." **1F**

**Malls:** Simon Property Group plans an open house for prospective entrepreneur tenants. **1F**

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**'Fins' 4-3 defense off to a good start**

Outside linebacker Koa Misi's 11 tackles against Houston last week almost doubled his career high. **1C**

**Nothing's easy:** UM beats Bethune-Cookman, 38-10, but the game felt more like a nail-biter than a rout. **1C**

**Make that 8 straight:** UF scores the final 24 points to beat the Vols 37-20. **1C**

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**POST COVERAGE CREATING JOBS**

## Measuring Obama jobs claims

Economists say the new-jobs numbers depend on when you start counting.

By John Lantigua  
Palm Beach Post Staff Writer

How many jobs have been created during the administration of President Obama?

While the president's campaign puts the number at 4.5 million private-sector jobs, supporters of GOP nominee Mitt

Romney insist that figure is inflated. They say the president doesn't start counting until 2010, but if you do your figuring from when Obama took office in January 2009, when the country was bleeding jobs, and include those negative numbers, Obama's job creation record is abysmal.

"Here is where the political debate begins," says University of Miami economist Maria Lorca-Susino. "Where do you start counting an increase in em-



President Obama puts the job-creation number at 4.5 million since 2010. But jobs were bleeding the year before.

ployment?" According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, from January 2009 through February 2010, Obama's first 13 months in office, the country lost 5.135

million nonfarm jobs, which includes the public sector. That came on top of more than 3 million jobs lost the previous year, under the George W. Bush administration.

Whether Obama's policies were the best way to stem the bleeding is a question on which there is deep disagreement, with some saying that his health care and financial industry reforms have slowed the re-

**Jobs** continued on 6A

**POST COVERAGE PRAYER AT MUNICIPAL MEETINGS**

## DOES GOVERNMENT NEED PRAYER?



BRANDON KRUSE / THE PALM BEACH POST

Wellington Vice Mayor Howard K. Coates Jr. leads an invocation before a council meeting. Half of the county's municipalities open meetings with prayer or invocation.

**Inside:** » The invocation that was said during a recent Wellington council meeting. **4A**

### Some say it sets tone; foes wary of church-state line

By Mitra Malek  
Palm Beach Post Staff Writer

The pledge comes first, hand over heart, swearing allegiance to the American flag.

Then comes the backward lean, the bend of the knees, as audience members — and there's always at least one — start to sit, before a voice startles their sagging bodies back to standing.

"Let us bow our heads," the invocation often starts at the urging of a pastor or a reverend. Sometimes a rabbi or a deacon leads the ritual at the start of Wellington's council meetings.

There is talk of blessings, courage and good decisions. Of grace and guidance. Every time it ends in "amen," sometimes in the name of Jesus Christ, usually with a mention of God, lord or the eternal father.

Half of Palm Beach County municipal-

**A JUPITER INVOCATION**

Jupiter's clerk often recites this invocation:

'May all who serve be ever mindful of their duty to seek what is true and gracious in promoting the well-being of the people of Jupiter. Give us courage, wisdom and foresight as we fulfill our obligations. Amen.'

ities start their meetings with a prayer or invocation. The other half: only the pledge and perhaps a moment of silence.

Pious practice opens government meetings in Delray Beach, where a reverend on Aug. 7 bellowed the Lord's Prayer, start to finish, opening the com-

**Prayer** continued on 4A

**POST COVERAGE DIGITAL DOMAIN**

## FSU's future in W. Palm questioned

Studio's fall endangers film program.

By Kimberly Miller  
Palm Beach Post Staff Writer

The multimillion-dollar partnership between Florida State University and Digital Domain sped by the school's two governing boards without a formal vote or debate on the merits of a marriage between FSU and the private animation company.

The move left West Palm Beach's gain for its \$2 million investment in doubt and ignited a bitter turf war with Boca Raton's Florida Atlantic University.

Some members of the Board of Governors, which oversees the state's 12 public universities, are now questioning the partnership, FSU's presence in West Palm Beach, and how a \$28,000 annual tuition didn't need their blessing.

"I don't want us to just assume we are now going to have an FSU digital film program in West Palm Beach without Digital Domain," said Board of Governors Chairman Dean Colson during a meeting at Florida Gulf Coast University in Fort

**FSU** continued on 5A

**UNREST IN THE MIDDLE EAST**

## New Arab unrest could test Obama

By Peter Baker and Mark Landler  
The New York Times

WASHINGTON — After days of anti-American violence across the Muslim world, the White House is girding itself for an extended period of turmoil that will test the security of U.S. diplomatic missions and President Obama's ability to shape the forces of change in the Arab world.

The tumult subsided Saturday. But amid a call by al-Qaida for more attacks on U.S. embassies to "set the fires blazing," senior administration officials said they had concluded that the sometimes violent protests in Muslim countries may presage a sustained crisis with unpredictable diplomatic and political consequences.

While pressing Arab leaders to tamp down the unrest, Obama and his advisers are left to consid-

**Attacks** continued on 14A

**POST COVERAGE ISAAC**

## Isaac's watery western wallop lifts interest in flood insurance

By Charles Elmore  
Palm Beach Post Staff Writer

There's nothing like floodwaters visible through the kitchen window to liven up a kitchen-table debate about whether to buy flood insurance.

Fewer than 10 percent of Wellington insurance agent Jim Boldon's clients have flood policies, he said.

But the phone's been ringing a good bit since Tropical Storm Isaac sent water cascading over streets and into yards before Labor Day, effectively trapping people in their homes in many of Palm Beach County's western communities.

"I just wrote a flood insurance poli-

**POLICIES IN EFFECT**

	Jan. 2009	July 2012
Florida	2.2 million	2 million
PB County	75,819*	72,212

\*Unincorporated areas  
Sources: Insurance Information Institute, FEMA

» **Local flooding:** Isaac's impact unpredictable, but problems mounted. **1B**

cy this morning," Boldon, an independent agent with Common Sense Insurance in Wellington, said last week.

Still, the trend has been going in the opposite direction in recent

**Flood** continued on 12A

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# Post Coverage: Prayer at municipal meetings



THOMAS CORDY / THE PALM BEACH POST

Boynton Beach officials pray before a city commission meeting. Leading the prayer are City Attorney James Cherof (from left), interim City Manager Lori La Verriere, City Commissioner Marlene Ross, Mayor Woodrow Hay and Vice Mayor Mack McCray.

## Efforts to halt prayers semi-successful

### Prayer

continued from 1A

mission meeting. Lake Worth and Lake Park invite religious leaders to launch their meetings too. Boynton Beach and Tequesta council members most often lead invocations there.

National politics often calls for a nod to a higher being too: Democrats returned mention of God to their platform during the recent Democratic National Convention, after Republicans chastised the party for having removed it. And for more than two centuries, the all U.S. Senate sessions have opened with prayer, specifically citing faith in God.

Despite prayer's personal nature, few local meeting-goers or elected officials have complained about it, at least according to municipal clerks and the elected officials themselves.

In fact, some are dead-set on doing it.

"I refuse to go into a meeting without prayer," said Boynton Beach Vice Mayor Mack McCray. "We need to be led and guided. We all need prayer."

But opponents offer pointed arguments. And prayer at municipal meetings is routinely contested throughout the nation. In 1983, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in favor of prayer before government meetings – as long as it's nonsectarian. Some legal experts argue the use of "God" is unacceptable.

"People have made it more into a sermon, a time for preaching," said Boynton Beach Commissioner Steven Holzman. "If there is not a way to make sure that the invocation is as welcoming as possible to everyone, it shouldn't be done."

Holzman, who was raised with Jewish schooling, isn't sour on religion, he said. Rather, he's a proponent for the clear separation of church and state, which can get tricky in his city when the mayor – who is a minister – most often leads the meeting invocation. Holzman always declines to do it.

"Dear God," Mayor Woodrow Hay opened a meeting this year, "we wish to reach an agreement that is satisfactory to you."

He marked his prayer in the "lord and savior's name."

"There are times when it's a little bit uncomfortable," said Boynton Beach resident Barbara Ready, who doesn't identify with a particular faith. "Sometimes the invoking and evoking God to make the correct decision for our city, that just annoys me a little. I believe that's why they're all up there from the start."

About a year ago, Jupiter changed the "prayer" item on its agenda to "invocation" to align with its codes, said spokeswoman Kate Moretto.

And the recitation, which the clerk leads, is toned down a bit too: no mention of God. Instead it calls on an unnamed being for guidance. It still ends

### God and government

Half of Palm Beach County municipalities open commission or council meetings with prayer – sometimes referring to Jesus, the lord or God – or an invocation calling on an unnamed being for guidance.

Municipality	Prayer or invocation?	Municipality	Prayer or invocation?
Atlantis	No	Lake Worth	Yes
Belle Glade	Sometimes <sup>1</sup>	Lantana	Yes <sup>2</sup>
Boca Raton	Yes	Loxahatchee Groves	Yes
Boynton Beach	Yes	Manalapan	No
Briny Breezes	No	Mangonia Park	Yes
Cloud Lake	No	North Palm Beach	Yes
Delray Beach	Yes	Ocean Ridge	No
Glen Ridge	No	Pahokee	Yes
Golf	No	Palm Beach	Yes
Greenacres	No	Palm Beach Gardens	No
Gulf Stream	No	Palm Beach Shores	No
Haverhill	Yes	Palm Springs	Yes
Highland Beach	No	Riviera Beach	No <sup>3</sup>
Hypoluxo	No	Royal Palm Beach	No
Juno Beach	Yes	South Bay	Yes
Jupiter	Yes	South Palm Beach	No
Jupiter Inlet Colony	No	Tequesta	Yes
Lake Clarke Shores	No	Wellington	Yes
Lake Park	Yes	West Palm Beach	No <sup>4</sup>

**1. Belle Glade:** Moment of silence, but if religious leader is present the city might ask them to lead a prayer

**2. Lantana:** No one leads a prayer or invocation, but the agenda item is called 'Moment of Silent Prayer'

**3. Riviera Beach:** Moment of silence

**4. West Palm Beach:** Moment of silence

Source: Municipalities

CHRISTOPHER SMITH / THE PALM BEACH POST

### A WELLINGTON INVOCATION

Robyn Fields of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints said this invocation during a Wellington council meeting on July 10:

'Our dear kind heavenly father, we're so very grateful that we can meet here in this town meeting in Wellington, and we're grateful for the many blessings that thou have blessed us with: this wonderful country, the free country that we live in. We pray for the leaders in this community that they will do the best for the people here and they will be guided and directed by thee.

We pray for the leaders of our state and for this wonderful country, that they will do thy will, that we can always remember thee and keep thy commandments and help each other and be kind to one another.

We pray for thy guidance to be here in this meeting this evening and they can be very productive and get things accomplished that they desire.

We say these things humbly in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.'

## 'We need to be led and guided. We all need prayer.'

**Mack McCray**  
Boynton Beach vice mayor

with "amen." Palm Beach has a similar practice.

"They are just pleasant words encouraging people to work together," said Jupiter Councilman Todd Wodraska. "To me it's just sort of what you do at the beginning of the meeting."

Boca Raton Deputy Mayor Susan Haynie, who sometimes leads the city council invocation, said the practice is important for setting the right tone.

"I don't believe that heavenly father or God is particular to any religion," said Haynie, a devoted Lutheran. "It's just a matter of asking for guidance and having the right frame of mind ... as we deliberate."

McCray said there's a simple solution for naysayers: "If you don't believe in it, you don't have to bow your head."

It's not that simple, critics argue.

"If you don't bow your head will they deny your request?" said Annie Laurie Gaylor, co-president of the Freedom From Religion Foundation. "You shouldn't have to worry about religion ... if you want a variance."

The Wisconsin-based nonprofit organization has logged 107 complaints of governmental prayer this year and sent 60 letters to governmental bodies asking them to stop the practice. Last year it sent 41. In the past three years, it has sent 19 letters to Florida governments, none in Palm Beach County.

Sometimes the letters work. The group stopped prayer during government meetings in parts of Virginia, Wisconsin and North Carolina in 2011 and 2012. "There is no point in invoking a deity when you're making a decision about liquor licenses or sewers," Gaylor said.

But the group couldn't stop the Manatee County Commission, on Florida's west coast, from opening meetings with prayer. County attorneys in late 2011 determined that the

commission wasn't breaking any laws or trying to impose a particular religion on the public. Then it made a pointed effort to invite leaders from a full array of religions.

Also in the Sunshine State, Atheists of Florida lost a 2010 lawsuit that opposed the Lakeland City Commission's opening prayers, which the group claimed were Christian-based. It's appealing the case.

"Individuals in the audience who don't want to pray have one of two choices: I can either stand and pretend to pray, so I'm not ostracized, or sit," said John Kieffer, Atheists of Florida's past president. "If you don't stand, you will be seen as a religious outsider not only by that council but by your community."

Wellington invites leaders from all religious organizations within its borders to open its meetings. Like many municipalities, the village doesn't have a written policy regarding the invocation, nor is it written in its charter or codes.

Wellington's longest sitting council member, Carmine Priore, who finished his most recent term this year, said he can't remember how the practice started.

"I'm naturally an individual who believes in the foundation of this country, the religious aspect of the country," Priore said. "I'm not one who would battle for removing God from the pledge. Our Declaration of Independence, all of our founding documents, all reflect a deference to God."

Priore's thoughts match the basis for the 1983 Marsh v. Chamber Supreme Court ruling.

"Basically the argument is, having prayers before government meetings has existed since the time of the founding," said Caroline Mala Corbin, a University of Miami associate professor of law specializing in the First Amendment.

So the First Amendment's Establishment Clause, which prohibits government from establishing an official religion, couldn't have meant banning prayer at the start of government meetings, Corbin said. "How far you can take this is the subject of much debate and litigation."

Even the "inspirational messages" in Jupiter and Palm Beach could be considered religious.

"That's a question that probably would go to litigation, and you'll get different answers depending on who is deciding the case," Corbin said.

It's those shades of gray that keep Royal Palm Beach's council from saying any type of invocation.

"You don't ever want to make anybody feel uncomfortable," Village Manager Ray Liggins said. "You don't want to gravitate toward something that would segregate the community."

Staff researchers Michelle Quigley and Niels Heimeriks contributed to this story. mmalek@pbpost.com

You, too, can see, feel, know, and...

# Hear Your Angels



As a teenager Patrick Kilhenny almost skied off a cliff on a snowy day in the Alps. Something inside said "Stop." He slowly moved forward to realize there was a big drop off that he almost went off.

He's had other experiences over the years and now knows he's had help. Maybe you, or people you know, have had experiences where you received assistance.

Through understanding and practicing techniques, Patrick has found how to tap into this more consciously. He learned to have two-way communication with angels.

Headlines about Patrick: "Getting That Dream Job" - NY Post

"Instincts & Hunches No Longer Nasty Words in Business" - Fort Worth Star Telegram

"Celestial Navigation" - New Yorker Magazine

Patrick says: "Working with and trusting my angels has been the key. It's knowing and living my purpose – with my family, and in having successful businesses."

Over the last 25 years, he has shared with thousands how to have conscious communication with angels.

Feedback from his programs: "Suspend your disbelief and try it. It works!" Julia White, Melbourne, FL.

"It was wonderful to receive insights from my angels each morning and then see how this was a key to what happened during the day." Francia Yaffe, West Palm Beach

"This has given me confidence to go forward with my dreams. I was able to connect with my angels." Eleanor Martin, Dublin, Ireland

Joining Patrick is Estelle Small, an International Lecturer and Angel Consultant from Toronto.

They are both here to show how you can receive direct and helpful insights from your angels.

Many people are thrilled to realize they can directly communicate with their angels at this first meeting. This will be held:

• **Mon, Sept 17, 1pm or 7pm**, The Comfort Inn, 6752 W Indiantown Rd, Jupiter 33458 or

• **Tues, Sept 18, 1pm or 7pm**, Springhill Suites by Marriott, 2437 Metrocentre Blvd, West Palm Beach 33407 or

• **Wed, Sept 19, 1pm or 7PM** Courtyard by Marriott, 1601 N. Congress Ave. Boynton Beach 33426 Fee \$10, 1 1/2-2 Hrs. See

[www.HearYourAngels.com](http://www.HearYourAngels.com)

• For Free Report on *Angels in Our Life*

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NO. 6906909R

## NOTICE OF INTENT TO CONVEY REAL PROPERTY

This notice is published to satisfy the procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the Lake Worth Community Redevelopment Agency, and be deemed to comply with the requirements of Section 163.380, Florida Statutes.

Pursuant to Section 163.380(3)(a), Florida Statutes, the City of Lake Worth Community Redevelopment Agency ("CRA") hereby provides notice of its intent to convey, to qualified individuals and consortium members participating in the Neighborhood Stabilization Program-2 (NSP2), real property within the NSP2 Target Area which is depicted in the following map, or in the area of greatest need as reflected in the NSP-2 grant application:



The property addresses to be conveyed are as follows:

- 207 South D Street, Lake Worth FL 33460
- 130 South E Street, Lake Worth FL 33460
- 209 South E Street, Lake Worth FL 33460

The CRA will be conveying the aforementioned properties which are located within the NSP2 Target Area or the area of greatest need, and which were acquired with NSP2 funds, only to qualified individuals and/or consortium members pursuant to the NSP2 guidelines, and in a manner consistent with the Funding Approval and Grant Agreement for Neighborhood Stabilization Program 2 Funds as authorized and appropriated under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, dated February 11, 2010.

Additional information related to available properties, qualification requirements, and applications may be obtained from the Lake Worth Community Redevelopment Agency which is located at 29 S. "J" Street, Lake Worth, Florida, 33460, Telephone Number (561) 493-2550, or at the CRA's website, [www.lakeworthcra.org](http://www.lakeworthcra.org). As provided by Section 163.380(3)(a), Florida Statutes, interested parties must submit proposals related to the conveyance of the NSP2 acquired properties to the CRA within thirty (30) days from the date of publication of this notice.

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