

From the Desk of Vice Mayor Weinroth

Building update

With the structural failure of Champlain Towers South in mind, the BCC recently received assurances from county staff that over 100 county building inspectors have, and will continue to remain focused on responding to unsafe buildings, no matter the age.

With the next legislative session in Tallahassee set to convene in January, Commissioners agreed to defer implementing a reinspection program for high-rises to determine if a statewide system of oversight will be approved.

Residents are encouraged to continue to report any perceived unsafe condition they observe to facilitate quick remedial action, where necessary. If you see something, say something!

Additionally, the Building Department recently sent letters to property owners encouraging them to conduct safety inspections for buildings 25 years or older or waterproofing inspections for younger buildings to help prevent future deterioration.

The BCC also requested staff further enhance communications with the public to encourage people to report structural problems.

Electric airlines coming to PBI

Electric passenger airplanes are coming to Palm Beach International Airport (PBI)!

The vertical take-off and landing (VTOL) jets feature ultra-low-noise engines designed to travel short distances.

Recently, a lease was approved by the BCC with Ferrovia Vertiports Florida, a global infrastructure operator that is working with Lilium, the aviation company that develops and services the jets. PBI is part of its vision to create an alternative transportation network connecting locations across Florida.

The infrastructure development will generate over \$54 million in economic benefits for the county and create 150 jobs with salaries averaging \$67,000 while reducing Co2 emissions by 6,000 tons per year.

Ferrovia's initial capital investment is \$7 million, and operations are contingent on governmental approvals (i.e. FAA) and flights are anticipated to begin in 2023/24.

World Premiere of Machu Picchu and the Golden Empires of Peru Exhibit

The world premiere exhibition, Machu Picchu and the Golden Empires of Peru, recently opened at The Boca Raton Museum of Art, and it's a must see!

The exhibit features one of the most stunning selections of priceless artifacts, including an impressive collection of gold, to ever tour the globe.

It also features a multi-sensory virtual reality experience transporting visitors back 3,000 years for an immersive journey to the ancient ruins.

The exhibition ends March 6, 2022, before it travels to only two additional cities in the world.

For more information, visit bocamuseum.org.

Nonprofit highlight: Brain Bowl Events, Inc.

Brain Bowl Events, Inc. is a local nonprofit that raises awareness, understanding and support for residents in our community with Alzheimer's or Parkinson's disease or dementia.

In Palm Beach County, Alzheimer's disease or dementia affects approximately one in three individuals over the age of 65.

For more information on the organization or upcoming events, visit brainbowlevents.org or contact Pamela Higer-Polani at (561) 496-4222.

History corner

At the end of the American Civil War (1861-1865), southeast Florida was a wilderness only recently made safe from attack. The first settlers in what became Palm Beach County lived around Lake Worth Beach, which at the time was a 22-mile-long enclosed freshwater lake.

They built their houses on Hypoluxo Island, near the south end of Lake Worth Beach, and on the east side of the lake, which would later become the Town of Palm Beach.

If you require assistance, please contact our office at 561-355-2204 or email me at RWeinroth@pbcgov.org.