

JOHN GROGAN
Staff Columnist



Boca Raton: Like a David Duke rally

What came first in Boca Raton, the chicken or the egg? Let's say the chicken is the city's overwhelmingly white complexion and the egg is the city's sustained popularity as a place to live.

So what came first? The Boca mystique or its all-white popularity?

An argument could be made that the city's appeal has a lot less to do with its cultural amenities than with its racial homogeneity.

The Realtors will talk about good schools and stable neighborhoods — wink, wink — but the real message behind the code words often is this: If you're a little nervous about living near minorities, have we got a place for you! Boca Raton, where the buildings are pink, the faces are white and people of color need not apply.

A glance at the 1990 census tells the story: Boca Raton is about as segregated as a David Duke rally. In that regard it is unusual among Florida's coastal cities, nearly all of which have substantial black populations.

A vast sea of whiteness

Less than 3 percent of Boca Raton's residents are black. That's 1,784 blacks in a city of 61,492. And nearly all of those are neatly boxed within the city's Pearl City enclave.

Compare that with nearby coastal cities: Delray Beach, 26 percent black; Boynton Beach, 20 percent black; Pompano Beach, 28 percent black; and neighboring Deerfield Beach, 17 percent black.

Boca Raton is the county's second largest city after West Palm Beach, where one in three residents is black, yet it ranks 14th in percentage of African-Americans.

Not one City Council member is black, nor is a single city department head. What blacks are on the city payroll work predominantly on landscaping or sanitation crews.

The city's public schools continue to confound district integration goals — despite heavy busing of minorities from Delray Beach.

Spanish River High School, for example, has 171 blacks in a student body of 2,150. And that in a county where one in four students is black.

Usually to find such racial segregation, white flighters who can afford exclusive, barrier-island communities must move to the western suburbs. You give up convenience and easy access to urban amenities, but, to some, it is worth it to live in a minority-free zone.

Then along comes a community like Boca Raton: easy jump to the beaches, quick access to Interstate 95, a nice mall — and nearly no blacks.

White flight nirvana!

So what came first?

I popped my chicken-or-the-egg question to Art Evans, chairman of sociology at Florida Atlantic University. I wanted to know whether segregation came to Boca Raton by coincidence or design.

"This is not a random occurrence; this has been planned," Evans, co-author of *Pearl City, Florida: A Black Community Remembers*, told me. "The mystique of Boca Raton rests on the ability to keep its black population small."

He describes an ignoble racial legacy that began in 1918 when founding father Thomas M. Rickards designed the city with a segregated "colored town," now known as Pearl City, to house blacks who served whites.

Over the decades, the conscious placement of a variety of barriers — railroad tracks, streets, even walls — assured that the black community remained confined.

The isolationism continues today, as Evans knows first-hand. He is the only black in his neighborhood on the city's west end.

Boca Raton likes to boast about that certain — *je ne sais pas!* — something that gives the city its cachet.

Let's be honest here. I think we all know what that certain something is. And it's nothing to brag about.

INSIDE

LOCAL

A small group of people took to the streets on Saturday in front of the Haitian American Community Center to protest the expected influx of refugees. **3B**

Artists will show off their wares today in the second day of the fourth annual Downtown Delray Festival of Arts. Saturday's inclement weather did not stop crowds. **5B**



Staff photo/JOE RAEDLE

Blondie, left, and Trouble, who say they are prostitutes to support drug habits, with a friend.

Anti-hooker crusade grows

Officials join mayor's campaign against prostitutes, johns

By JIM DI PAOLA
and ERIC WILLIAMS
Staff Writers

Buying sex is a second-degree misdemeanor — the lowest criminal charge in the state books. So is prostitution. But they are the crimes that have put a local mayor in the national spotlight, have wrecked marriages and have pushed judges into changing their rules.

Since West Palm Beach Mayor Nancy Graham printed the names of 57 men accused of trying to hire hookers during a police sting operation on Nov. 20, other elected officials have jumped on the bandwagon.

Delray Beach Mayor Tom Lynch has asked his police department to make more prostitution arrests and print defendants' names in

■ Boca streets free of prostitutes. **8B**

newspapers. His recommendation is under consideration.

■ Palm Beach County's chief judge has required that arrested johns raise a \$250 bail or stay in jail.

■ County officials are saying the higher bail still may be too low and want it raised to \$1,000.

As politicians such as Graham make prostitution and solicitation of sex a high priority, some people are wondering what the big deal is, while others are grateful that police are cleaning up their neighborhoods.

Crime Watch groups having been asking city officials in the south county why they are not following Graham's lead. Now police officials in Delray Beach and Boynton Beach

are considering intensifying prostitution stings.

Since 1990, Boynton Beach police have arrested 55 johns and prostitutes — two fewer than West Palm Beach police arrested in one night. In Delray Beach, police have arrested 54 prostitutes and johns since 1991.

Some people argue that embarrassing the johns by publishing their names in the paper does nothing more than destroy careers and marriages.

"If you want to stop prostitution, there's more effective ways to do it," said Diane Ross-Glazer, a Malibu, Calif., psychologist who treats prostitutes. "Publishing the names of johns is just putting a Band-Aid on the problem."

Alan Bumgardner, 37, who lives

SEE PROSTITUTION / 8B

Experts: Johns get cheap thrill, lots of risks

By JIM DI PAOLA
and MARISA PORTO
Staff Writers

Any way you look at it, experts say, in the business of prostitution every-one loses.

For a cheap thrill, the johns take the chance of being arrested, contracting a series of communicable diseases including AIDS, and getting their names published in newspapers. If married, they face divorce and passing on diseases to their loved ones.

Prostitutes, selling their bodies for as little as \$2, face a jail stint, contracting diseases from their customers, and getting mugged, beaten or robbed by other criminals.

"From the man's point of view, [a prostitute] does what I tell her to do . . . She's my sex slave."

— William Samek, psychologist

Still, each night in Palm Beach County, the business never stops. Who are these people and why do they take such great risks?

Psychologists, police, judges and city officials have a variety of answers to the perennial question

about the world's oldest profession.

"You just never think you'll be the one to be caught," said Diane Ross-Glazer, a Malibu, Calif., psychologist who treats prostitutes.

"Why do people do 60 mph in a 55 mph zone?" said William Samek, a Miami psychologist who treats sexual offenders for the state. "If everyone knew they would get arrested when they drove 56 mph, they wouldn't do it."

The ability to think you can buck the system combines with a desire to do something dangerous, like hiring a prostitute in a city where West Palm Beach Mayor Nancy Graham

SEE WHY / 8B

New lasers can remove tattoos with little pain, without scars

By GLENN SINGER
Staff Writer

Susan Brennan of Margate remembers "a little experiment with alcohol" when she was a teen-ager. After imbibing, she and a girlfriend went to get tattoos.

Fifteen years later, at age 31, Brennan decided she wanted to have the ankle bracelet with a rose removed from her left leg.

"I just don't like it anymore," Brennan said. "Besides, my 8-year-old daughter, Leandra, thinks she's going to get one like her mommy. If I get rid of mine, she'll stop thinking about it."

David Goolsby, 49, a real estate broker from Okeechobee, got tattoos on both arms when he was 12 years old and living in Hollywood. He had the one on his right arm — a dagger and a skull and crossbones — surgically removed when he was 19. A big scar took its place.

What remained was a bird with a banner of his name on his left arm. He wanted to get rid of that too, but the previous surgery frightened him.

Brennan and Goolsby were among several patients who underwent treatment on Saturday at Delray Community Hospital west of Delray Beach during classes designed to acquaint area physicians with a new laser that can remove tattoos, virtually painlessly, in just a few treatments.

"The results of our studies have been very impressive. This is the best way yet to remove tattoos, and there are tons of people out there who want to get rid

"The results of our studies have been very impressive. This is the best way yet to remove tattoos, and there are tons of people out there who want to get rid of them."

— Dr. Suzanne Kilmer

of them," said the course leader, Dr. Suzanne Kilmer, an instructor at the Wellman Laboratories of Photomedicine at Harvard University.

The laser, which delivers high-energy light — and heat — in a series of pulses, causes the tattoo pigment to break down into minute particles, which are then removed by the cells. What the patient feels resembles a rubber band snapping.

Called a Q-switched YAG laser, it can remove tattoos completely, without causing the scarring, pain and potential for infection that traditional methods do. It also can be far less expensive.

"This is just fantastic," Dr. Pamela Loftus of Boca Raton, who has been working with lasers since 1982, said after viewing the demonstration. "Previous lasers produced mediocre results and bad scarring — so bad that I asked patients to defer treatment until a new generation of laser became available."

Loftus and several other plastic surgeons, derma-

SEE LASER / 5B

Teachers go back to school

Educators shadow teen-agers for a day

By DEBBIE CENZIER
Education Writer

They were late to class, anxious to find a bathroom and embarrassed to learn they almost earned seats in detention hall.

Such traumas faced a handful of Atlantic High School teachers who opted to spend a day as students last month. Their initial consensus: students have it tough.

"We want to try to make the school a comfortable place. If they're starving to death, they're not going to learn."

— Paula Douglas, teacher

"It was hard for [the teachers] to find the time to go to the bathroom in between classes," said Paula Douglas, who heads the Delray Beach school's math department. "A few teachers admitted they were actually late, and if they were a student, they would be given a detention."

The school's Innovation Team, composed of educators aiming to find creative ways to improve the school, decided to follow unsuspecting students throughout the day.

Although full reports are not in, early results show one lesson learned may be that understanding sometimes should take precedence over rules, Douglas said.

"We're trying to be innovative and sensitive," she said. "We could do things in the future like, maybe between third or fourth period, give them an extra five minutes to grab a snack. We want to try to make the school a comfortable place. If they're starving to death, they're not going to learn."

Besides the basics, teachers also were observing the amount of homework assignments given to students, the time spent listening to lectures vs. hands-on instruction, and the amount of technology used. Principal Carole Shetler said.

The shadowing was not evaluative, but designed rather to document student experiences, she said.

"We won't in any way threaten the teacher," she said. "We won't flag them. We're real open to trying things to help kids do better."

The students were selected by computer and represented many different programs at the school, such as Exceptional Student Education, Instructional Baccalaureate and English for Speakers of Other Languages.

The teachers might shadow students again next month, Shetler said.

During this experiment, teachers had difficulty making it to class on time through crowded hallways, Douglas said. They also found that they got hungry waiting for the lunch period at

SEE SCHOOL / 7B



Staff photo/MARK RANDALL

Dr. Suzanne Kilmer uses a laser to remove a tattoo from the arm of David Goolsby.



China, left, who said she is a hooker to supply a drug habit, and Tanya, who said she is an addict, in Delray Beach apartment.

West Palm mayor fighting prostitution

West of Delray Beach, was the only man arrested and charged for solicitation twice by West Palm Beach police. Bumgardner was first arrested during the highly publicized sting ordered by Graham on Nov. 20. On Jan. 8, female police officers posing as hookers arrested him again. Bumgardner said that police officers are wasting their time arresting prostitutes and johns.

"They [police] should be looking for criminals, not [johns] who are buying [oral sex]," Bumgardner said.

But police officers, judges and Graham, who has gained nationwide attention for her efforts, say prostitution is a real crime, with real victims.

Prostitutes, they say, act as magnets that attract other criminal problems into the neighborhood where they work. Prostitutes also lure johns from as far as 50 miles.

Prostitutes habitually sell themselves because of a drug habit, and they bring drugs and drug dealers to the neighborhoods. They also frequently carry the AIDS virus.

Graham said prostitution forces reputable residents to move from their communities and the neighborhood begins to suffer.

Property values fall, and that affects the community's tax base, which pays for services such as police and fire. Graham also said a number of AIDS babies are born

to prostitutes. That adds to human suffering, and taxpayers must pay for their care.

"I've got a city to worry about. All [the prostitutes] care about is getting the next dollar to support their crack habit. If you get rid of a lot of the johns... the money will dry up," Graham said.

"It's far from being victimless," West Palm Beach Sgt. John English said.

The forgotten victims are the wives, the girlfriends and the children. These morons are bringing diseases to their families," English said.

"Prostitution is symptomatic of a greater problem," said Jeanne Kennedy, who is program director of prostitute/john counseling sessions for PRIDE Inc., a private probation company.

"It's exploitation of both sexes," she said. "Healthy and happy people don't stand on corners and healthy, happy people don't go looking on corners for sex. They're both exploiting each other without ever realizing it."

"Some of them say, 'Well, you can't get diseases from oral sex,'" English said. "Well, I've never seen one of these johns. We've arrested on the Surgeon General's staff. And forget AIDS — what about the other diseases? What about hepatitis and tuberculosis, gonorrhea and herpes? And these women have these diseases. It just boggles my mind."

For years, Palm Beach County Judge William Bollinger has sentenced hundreds of johns and prostitutes. As part of their sentence — usually probation — the johns must read a psychological evaluation of a prostitute who was diagnosed with AIDS and still walked the streets.

"She said, 'Hey, I could care less about them [johns].'" Bollinger

PROSTITUTION

said, summarizing the evaluation. "I need money to buy drugs."

Bollinger is trying to make a point: "What's the penalty for a burglary or robbery? A prison sentence. What's the penalty for AIDS? Death."

Despite the recent police crackdowns on prostitution, the vast majority of street walkers and johns do not get caught.

"[Graham] is still not arresting most of them," said William Samek, a psychologist with the Florida Sexual Abuse treatment program in Miami. "It's only an occasional arrest on an occasional night. If everyone knew there was a radar detector at a certain place at a certain time on I-95, they wouldn't speed past there."

Graham is working on her "radar detector" now. She is lobbying the county's legislative delegation to toughen prostitution and solicitation laws.

Graham said she wants to put pressure on businesses such as motels and bars that contribute to and support prostitution and illegal drugs, and she will attempt to close or demolish them. She said plans are being made to create an organization similar to Mothers Against Drunk Driving to combat prostitution.

Graham is seeking legislation that would:

- Make prostitution and solicitation the highest degree of misdemeanor or a felony.
- Take away customers' cars after their second arrest for solicitation. On their first offense, the customers would have to sign an agreement promising not to be caught in the area again on solicitation charges.
- Provide longer jail terms

and drug treatment programs for prostitutes who are repeat offenders.

■ Make it a felony for prostitutes or those soliciting them to pass on the AIDS virus.

Staff Writers Marisa Porto and Chele Caughron contributed to this report.

Johns buck system, don't think about risks, experts say

openly says she plans to publish in newspaper advertisements the names of those arrested on soliciting charges.

"The kind of sex you can have with a prostitute is illicit, forbidden," Ross-Glazer said. "The drive is greater than the potential cost."

Jeanne Kennedy, program director of prostitute/john counseling sessions for Pride Inc., a private probation company, has talked with hundreds of men and women arrested on prostitution-related charges. Through her work, Kennedy can offer a thumbnail sketch of the johns.

"Many of the men are blue-collar workers who have no family or support in the area," Kennedy said. "They are just lonely. We also get a segment of clients who are emotionally or physically disabled. Then there are those that are extremely shy or introverted or who have no social skills, for whatever reason."

But, Kennedy said, as police toughen their stance on prostitution and solicitation, she is seeing

a new client with alarming regularity. "The white-collar professional, middle-aged businessman, working a high-stress job, who are married and are in the mid-to-early 40s."

Psychologists say Chief Assistant County Attorney Daniel "K.C." Collette fits that profile. Collette, 46, was among 92 men who were arrested in a three-city prostitution sweep on Jan. 8.

Several days after Collette's arrest, he resigned as deacon of his church. County officials have suspended and demoted him. He publicly acknowledged he had made a mistake.

It is a good bet that many of the married johns who had their names published in newspapers are seeing their marriages crumble, psychologists said.

"It puts a tremendous stress on the family," Ross-Glazer said. "The family was probably in trouble before and this is just a symptom. It certainly would cause a lack of trust between husband and wife, which could undermine the family. The stress between parents causes stress on the children. It's a domino effect."

Many of the men have used the services of a prostitute before because they don't want to get entangled in a relationship with a woman in which they might de-

WHY

PUNISHMENT

Palm Beach County Judge William Bollinger has sentenced 31 men on charges of solicitation resulting from a Nov. 20 sting in West Palm Beach. Below is the sentence and requirements all defendants must meet.

- SIX months' probation at \$40 per month.
- TAKE an HIV/sexually transmitted diseases blood test.
- PAY \$25 to see a movie about safe sex.
- PAY \$175 in court costs.
- SERVE a minimum of eight hours' community service. Defendants are not allowed to give blood to meet the community service requirement. They also must call Comprehensive AIDS Program officials to see whether they are needed for community service work on behalf of the program before they can perform the service in some other manner.
- MUST sit through four first appearance court dates for women, many of whom have been arrested on drugs and prostitution charges.

* A defendant can terminate his probation early after he completes all of the other requirements.

velop some feelings, Ross-Glazer said.

"From the man's point of view, 'She does what I tell her to do,'" Samek said. "I'm in control for the time I've rented her. She's my sex slave."

Kennedy said prostitutes usually begin working the streets in their late teens and come from families in which they were physically or sexually abused. In almost every case, the prostitute is addicted to drugs.

Johns get stung in raid

Police arrested 57 men from a three-county area in a prostitution sting on Nov. 20 in West Palm Beach. Hometowns of those arrested shown below.



Staff photo/DIEGO V. deVALLE

and drug treatment programs for prostitutes who are repeat offenders.

■ Make it a felony for prostitutes or those soliciting them to pass on the AIDS virus.

Staff Writers Marisa Porto and Chele Caughron contributed to this report.

School district cafeteria incurs \$33,000 loss

By EARL DANIELS
Education Writer

WEST PALM BEACH — Some say the food is lousy, while others complain it's too expensive. Or maybe it is neither.

Whatever the problem, the cafeteria at Palm Beach County school district headquarters on Forest Hill Boulevard lost \$33,000 during its first six months of operation through Dec. 31, according to figures released by district officials.

That's about \$5,500 a month. The reason: Start-up costs and low usage, district officials said.

Because of the financial loss, the district is considering hiring an outside company that could operate the cafeteria more economically.

But rumors of the change have stirred a petition, which has been signed by about 300 district employees.

Cafeteria officials said the employees are showing a sense of solidarity for workers who could lose their jobs if the district brings in a private company.

Jeeti Puri, the district's assistant superintendent of business affairs, wondered at the reaction, since it would cost less for meals and could save the district money.

"I do not understand why they would not want a better quality product for possibly a cheaper price if we could provide that," Puri said.

The losses associated with the cafeteria are coupled with other unexpected expenses since the \$18.5 million building — called the "Taj Mahal" by critics — opened in the summer.

The district spent about \$15,000 to build a vault for personnel files when district officials discovered the vault was not in the original plans.

While the cafeteria draws a meager crowd during the lunch

The financial bath absorbed in the cafeteria's first six months of operation was blamed by school officials on start-up costs and low use.

hour, it is virtually deserted in the morning and in mid-afternoon.

Gloria Woods, a bus driver who attended a meeting at district headquarters last week, complained about the quality of the food.

"It was my first time eating here and it did not make an impression on me," Woods said. "It is a nice atmosphere, roomy, clean and air-conditioned, but the food is not up to par. I could see why people are not eating in here."

She had a lunch that included broccoli casserole and meatloaf and cost about \$4. The meatloaf was cold and dry-looking, she said.

"When I got to the register I wanted to say, 'Miss, can I take this back?'" Woods said.

Cafeteria manager Francesca Stevens said that because the cafeteria is new, it is suffering growing pains.

Larry Zabik, assistant superintendent of support services, agreed and equated the start-up problems of the cafeteria to the start of any business venture.

The district will reduce labor costs and the hours of operation to see whether it can recover the money lost until now, Zabik said. Labor represents about 60 percent of the total costs.

"When you start a new business, you start behind the eight ball," Zabik said.

Boca's illicit sex is very discreet: Not on city streets

By MARISA J. PORTO
Staff Writer

While other law enforcement agencies search for innovative ways to keep hookers off the streets, Boca Raton's police officers say they don't know why they don't have any on their streets.

"You drive up and down Federal Highway in Boca and see if you spot one," Sgt. Mike McCutcheon said. "It's just not happening here. We don't see any prostitution on our streets. I can't tell you why."

According to Boca Raton police records, only one prostitution arrest has been made inside city limits in the past 10 years.

That was in July when James G. Mackay, 56, of Boca Raton, was arrested after placing a newspaper advertisement for a masseuse.

A female Boca Raton officer answered the advertisement after the Police Department received complaints that the man wanted sex. Mackay was arrested after an interview in his home with the officer in which he offered her \$30 an hour for sex. Mackay pleaded guilty and was given a fine and ordered to perform community service.

The only other prostitution investigation in recent memory took place in 1989. No arrests were made, officials said.

No one seems to have a definitive reason why Boca Raton does not have a prostitution problem.

Psychologists who study the problem nationwide say they can only guess at why hookers steer clear of the city.

Their guesses include:

■ The prostitution that occurs within Boca Raton is not on the street, but is in well-organized rings or escort services where the negotiation for sex is conducted more discreetly — making arrests more difficult.

"I would say that that area doesn't have a lot of street prostitutes, who are the easiest to arrest," said Diane Ross-Glazer, a Malibu, Calif., psychologist who operates a clinic to help prostitutes get back into the "straight

"You drive up and down Federal Highway in Boca and see if you spot one. It's just not happening here. We don't see any prostitution on our streets."
— Sgt. Mike McCutcheon

life."

A Delray Beach prostitute who calls herself Blondie said prostitution occurs in Boca Raton, but it's just not as noticeable. She and a friend, Trouble, say they have no desire to take their trade to Boca Raton; they consider Delray Beach their home.

■ Boca Raton is not conducive to street prostitution. There are no cheap hotels, street corners with easy access.

"It could be a town with a higher class of prostitutes," said William Samek, a clinical psychologist who works with the state's Sexual Abuse Treatment Program.

■ The affluence of the city keeps prostitutes off the streets. Prostitution usually occurs in low-income areas. "Prostitutes don't collect in places like Coral Gables where you have multimillion-dollar houses," Samek said. "It's too upscale."

Delray Beach police Sgt. Jeff Rancour agreed that prostitution is practiced more discreetly in Boca Raton. "It's the nature of Boca — they don't have the poor communities that Delray does."

A prostitute who would not give her name said she remains in Delray Beach "because that's where the drugs are." She has a crack cocaine habit and sells her body to support her habit.

Boca Raton police are not concerned about the whys. They're just glad they don't have the problem.

Staff Writer Eric Williams contributed to this report.