

Delray Beach

### Why can't we keep city manager?

Some want more po

By Rich Pollack and Ji

It's back to square one for as a familiar pattern in the city leadership persists.

Once again, the chair behind manager's desk is vacant — 6 time in six years — following resignation, one earlier-than-expected and one terminated.

Once again, the city is open on a search firm hired to scout in hopes of finding qualified.

And once again, an interim is back overseeing a workforce not had steady leadership of two years at a time since the retirement of David Harden, city manager for 22 years.

"It is incomprehensible that gone through three city managers in 2013," says Joycelyn Patrick, a follower of city government as chairwoman of the West Palm Redevelopment Coalition and president of the Northwest N Alliance. "It is impossible to have a relationship with the community when such instability exists."

Differing opinions exist for follow municipal government Delray Beach has a revolving city manager's office, what the community and what can be the city's next top administrative tenure.

"I look at the reasons, not Mayor Shelly Petrolia said. D resigned in 2016 because of problems, she added.

Everyone agrees, however, Beach needs to find the right

See DELR

Lantana resident Don Ploskunak was one of the first air-ship pilots to cover sporting events.

Tim Stepien/  
The Coastal  
Star

Inside

Sand scan Ship surveys ocean floor for future beach renourishing.

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The COASTAL STAR

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Business Spotlight

## New iPic brings luxury to moviegoers in Delray

The big reveal for the new **iPic Delray** movie theater, the city's first new movie theater in 40 years, was held last month for media and friends.

A showing of 2019's best picture, *Green Book*, and a live magic show kicked off the theater's premiere.

Built by **Hamid Hashemi**, CEO of **iPic Entertainment** and creator of the Boca Raton Muvico Theater in 1999 (now owned by Cinemark), the Delray theater marks the 16th iPic nationwide.

"Delray hadn't seen a new theater in decades," Hashemi said. "There was a void. We wanted to bring a new form of entertainment to the downtown area. There's nothing like it here."

There are eight screens in the building at 25 SE Fourth Ave., with a total of 429 seats. Most of these are in pods — the arrangement of dual leather recliners separated by a swiveling table. A curved partition surrounding each one provides semi-privacy among the booths. Down in front, accommodations are arranged with easily accessible seats for people with disabilities.

Service at all seats includes food and drink delivery, pillows and blankets and complimentary unlimited popcorn.

The theaters also have stages for performing arts and are intended as a "social destination," promoters said.

Oversized contemporary art and green installations by up-and-coming artists chosen by Hashemi fill the lobby spaces in the four-story building, which will house offices and stores, and cover the curved walls around the 326-space parking garage. Valet parking is free to moviegoers for a three-hour time slot.

A cocktail bar is in the lobby area, with food such as lobster rolls, fillet sliders, buttermilk fried chicken and spicy tuna on crispy rice available from a Dine in the Dark menu designed by Sherry Yard, iPic's chief operating officer. She also

oversees the menu at Tanzy restaurant in Boca's Mizner Park iPic. A rooftop lounge is being considered for the future.

Hashemi also announced he is moving iPic Entertainment headquarters from Boca Raton to offices above the new theater.

Tickets and showtimes are available at [ipic.com](http://ipic.com). Moviegoers can sign up for special access membership programs there, too.

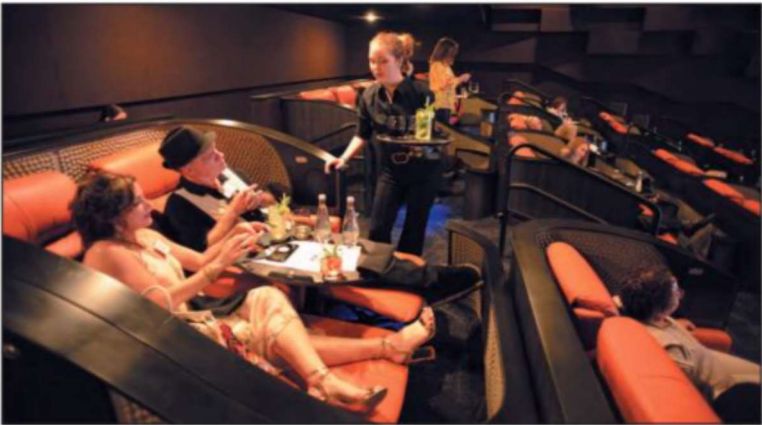
Don't worry, your favorite spot for crime hasn't gone far. Just head over to the **Delray Beach Public Library**, 104 W. Atlantic Ave. There in the library's retail space, you'll find **Murder on the Beach Mystery Bookstore** at its new location.

The independent locally owned store, specializing in mystery, suspense and thrillers, opened in 1996 in Sunny Isles Beach before founder **Joanne Sinchuk** moved it to Delray Beach in 2002. She and store owner **David Wulf** both said that they love Delray and are happy to keep Murder on the Beach "in the most fun small town in the USA."

On the library's part, "we are thrilled to have them as our new tenant," said **Karen Ronald**, the library's executive director. "There is an exciting synergy between the library and the bookstore. We both attract people who love to read and appreciate great stories. We look forward to celebrating the great joy of reading and collaborating in the future."

When the Delray Beach Public Library opened in 2006, the retail space was occupied by the Cookbook Café. Most recently, The Buzz Agency operated out of the space from 2012 until fall 2018, when the public relations firm consolidated and moved to its Palm Beach office.

**Florida Atlantic University's College of Business** announced a new three-year executive doctorate in business, with focuses on accounting, economics, finance, information technology, management or marketing. To be launched for



Drinks like this grilled pineapple sour (above) can be delivered to your seating pod, part of the luxury experience that Hamid Hashemi, the CEO of iPic, is using to build the success of his theaters. **Photos by Jerry Lower/The Coastal Star**



the fall semester, the program will be offered on weekends with concierge service, and will include face-to-face lectures and presentations, along with supplementary online materials. For information, visit [business.fau.edu/masters-phd/phd-program/executive-phd/](http://business.fau.edu/masters-phd/phd-program/executive-phd/).

The public is invited to watch the Boca Chamber's **Young Entrepreneurs Academy** investor panel competition at 4:30 p.m. April 10. High school students will pitch their business ideas to industry leaders for the chance to win startup money during the program's annual Shark Tank event. It will be held at Office Depot, Inc., 6600 N. Military Trail, Boca Raton.

The **Douglas Elliman Real Estate** team of Randy Ely and Nicholas Malinosky of Delray Beach and the Senada Adzem

team of Boca Raton were named Pinnacle Club winners for making more than \$1 million in commissions in 2018. They were honored during the company's awards ceremony last month in Miami Beach.

Douglas Elliman Real Estate acquired Manalapan-based **Scott Gordon Realty** in February. Founder and CEO Scott Gordon has been a Palm Beach County condominium marketing and sales specialist since 1987. He and his wife, Mindy Gordon, with their team of real estate agents, will continue to work at 270 S. Ocean Blvd., Manalapan.

**Claire Sheres** recently joined Douglas Elliman Real Estate at 444 E. Palmetto Park Road, Boca Raton, as executive director of luxury sales.

Real estate agents Steven Ochoa and Stephanie Vorcheimer have joined the **Posh Properties** team at 103 NE Second Ave., Delray Beach. Ochoa, originally from Barranquilla, Colombia, has lived in South Florida for 19 years. Vorcheimer, who grew up in New Jersey, moved to Florida in 1986.

**Richard and Eileen Tang** purchased the 7,629-square-foot home at 1405 Lands End Road in Manalapan for \$5.5 million. The sale was recorded on March 4. The sellers were Thomas and Loren Donino, who bought the property for \$6.1 million in 2008. Richard Tang works for

Element Capital Management, according to media reports. Previously, he headed North America sales at Royal Bank of Scotland Group. Jack Elkins, with William Raveis South Florida, represented the seller in the deal, and Paulette Koch and Dana Koch of the Corcoran Group represented the buyer.

The Delray Beach City Commission granted final site-plan approval in March for **Ocean Delray**, the condominium development planned for the Wright by the Sea site at 1901 S. Ocean Blvd. National Realty Investment Advisors and US Construction Inc. plan to demolish the hotel in late April and start construction of the 19-unit Ocean Delray, with an expected end date set for the fourth quarter of 2020. IMI Worldwide Properties is handling sales of Ocean Delray's units.

**Noreen Payne**, a partner of the All About Florida Homes team of **Keller Williams Realty**, was named 2018 Director of the Year by the **Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce**. Noted for her leadership and commitment to the chamber and the city, she has worked with the chamber's board members and staff to develop and implement strategic goals focused on service. Payne is the chamber's vice chair of programming.

**Evan Golden** of **The Berman Law Group**, which has an office in Boca Raton, has been

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