

# ACCENT + NOTABLES



Minnie Mouse and Mickey Mouse wave to the crowd as part of the Disney "Main Street Country" EP event at The Grand Ole Opry in Nashville on April 2. NICOLE HESTER/NASHVILLE TENNESSEAN

## Country music singers put a new twist on Disney classics

**Bryan West**  
Nashville Tennessean  
USA TODAY NETWORK - TENNESSEE

NASHVILLE – A little Disney magic found its way to Music City.

Country stars gathered at the Grand Ole Opry on April 2 to celebrate the release of Disney's Main Street Country EP. The five-song project features Kane Brown and Katelyn Brown on "Beauty and the Beast," Maddie & Tae on "You'll Be in My Heart," Restless Road on "The Climb," BRELAND on "Go the Distance" and Dasha on "She's So Gone."

The event featured performances and behind-the-scenes insights from each track, with artists sharing the personal stories that shaped their re-imagined takes on Disney classics.

"My favorite part was watching her light up, getting to sing the song, because she loves it so much," Kane Brown said of recording with his wife. The duo's take on "Beauty and the Beast" leans into the dynamic of their marriage, turning a classic love song into something that reflects their own story as a couple.

"I loved mapping out the song, how we wanted it to sound, learning our harmonies, you know, just kind of singing it, bringing out each other," Katelyn Brown said.

See **DISNEY**, Page 6D

## Your passport may still be valid, but you could be denied entry

**Eve Chen** USA TODAY

Time to check your passport if you're still planning to travel abroad this summer.

Even if your passport is still valid, some countries require at least six months of validity beyond your intended travel dates, according to the State Department, Delta Air Lines and United Airlines.

While less common, American Airlines adds, "Some countries require your passport to be issued at least 6 months before the day you arrive."

The State Department is holding Special Passport Acceptance Fairs across the country in April and May to help travelers get their passports processed.

According to the National Travel and Tourism Office, the latest data show a continued imbalance between international travel to and from the United States, with Americans traveling abroad in greater numbers than foreign visitors arriving.

If you need to apply for or renew your passport, here's what you should know.

### Can I still travel if my passport is less than 6 months from expiring?

It depends on your destination. You can find country-specific entry requirements on the State Department's website.

### Can I get a passport without going in person?

You may be able to renew your passport by mail or online, but first-time applications must be made in person, regardless of age.

- In-person applications are also required if:
- Your passport was damaged, lost or stolen.
  - You are an adult and your passport was issued

See **PASSPORT**, Page 6D

# Notables

SOCIETY | CHARITY | STYLE



Peter Robbins and Emily Pantelides, Cara and Michael DeBock, Sharon and David Tompkins [CAPEHART]

## Habitat for Humanity is celebrating a major milestone – and working hard to meet the housing challenges that lie ahead

During the organization's 40th anniversary year in Greater Palm Beach County, its mission to help make the dream of affordable homeownership a reality for families in need resonates more than ever.

By **Steve Dorfman** • Notables Staff Writer

Say the words "Habitat for Humanity of Greater Palm Beach County" and what's the first image that comes to mind?

If you're like most folks, it's probably some version of civic-minded community volunteers donning hard hats, carrying hammers and paint brushes, and pitching in to help build a modest, affordable house for a local family in need.

And this image would be accurate.

But 2026 is no ordinary year for Habitat for Humanity. Nationally, the organization turns 50 – and our local chapter is now in its 40th year of providing a pathway to affordable homeownership for hardworking residents.

It's a time for celebration – and, simultaneously, laser focus on meeting our region's future needs.

And for Palm Beach County, the needs – especially when it comes to helping typical

wage-earners meet their housing costs – are particularly stark. As the County Commission noted in a housing demand report last year "Palm Beach County has experienced an unprecedented affordable housing crisis since the COVID pandemic with increasing owner and renter prices, historic property appreciation, and a diminished housing supply."

"We're facing some of the most unique affordable housing challenges we've ever seen in South Florida and that's why we need the community's support

more than ever," said Habitat CEO Jennifer Thomason.

On Aug. 29, Habitat is inviting everyone to attend a Community Impact Day event in West Palm Beach.

And then on Oct. 9, the organization is hosting its first black-tie fundraiser in nearly a decade at The Breakers Palm Beach.

"Black-tie galas are not really what we do, but this is a special year for us to reflect on our accomplishments – such as the 450 homes we've built and 900 more we've refurbished – and, more importantly, explain to our benefactors why we need their support and resources more than ever," said Habitat Chief Advancement Officer Julia Murphy.

See **FUNDRAISER**, 2D

**NOTABLES COVER STORIES** highlight local businesses, philanthropies, charities and individuals. Stories are sponsored. To be featured, contact Notables Editor Krystian von Speidel at notables@pbpost.com.

### Notable this week



**Jeannette and John Corbett**  
[TRACEY BENSON PHOTOGRAPHY]

**Community Partners of South Florida**  
\$75,000 raised at 40th Anniversary Celebration Luncheon.  
**NOTEWORTHY NEWS, 2D**



**Mish Tworkowski and Hillary Thomas** [CAPEHART]

**Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League**  
More than \$500,000 raised to support dogs and cats in need.  
**SOCIAL STUDIES, 3D**



**YSPB alumnae Peyton Hardesty, Lillian Lesser and Juliette Del Pozo**  
[PROVIDED]

**Young Singers of the Palm Beaches**  
Choir auditions are June 6.  
**EVENT PREVIEW, 5D**

OUT & ABOUT



# CareerReady's '7th Annual Golf & Give' draws sold-out crowd

Presented by Comcast, the evening brought together community and corporate leaders to raise nearly \$100,000 to support PBC's future workforce.



Jervonte Edmonds with CareerReady program participants. [TRACEY BENSON PHOTOGRAPHY]

An unexpected deluge of rain couldn't dampen the spirit — or impact — of CareerReady's 7th Annual Golf & Give fundraiser on Wednesday, April 8 at Drive Shack in West Palm Beach. The event brought together a sold-out crowd of nearly 200 business, civic, and community leaders for an evening spent supporting local students at Title 1 schools throughout Palm Beach County.

Chaired by Dave Markarian — with a committee that included Brandon Cabrera, John Carr, Roger Feicht, Stephanie Goldfuss, Steven Grant, Brienne Helm, Faye Johnson, Jeff Johnson, Gary Lesser and Mark Marciano — the high-energy event raised nearly \$100,000 to advance CareerReady's mission of preparing high school seniors for career, college, and life.

Funds raised will directly support CareerReady's core programming,

comprehensive college and career readiness, paid internships and scholarships, all designed to equip students with the skills, confidence, resources, and connections needed to thrive. Since its founding in 2015, the nonprofit — formerly known as Suits for Seniors — has grown to become one of Palm Beach County's strongest homegrown talent pipelines.

"This night is a testament to what happens when a community comes together with the purpose of ensuring our students have the resources they need to thrive," said Jervonte Edmonds, Founder and CEO of CareerReady. "Seeing our community's top leaders connecting with our students, hearing their stories, and then feeling their support — it was so powerful to see how invested this community is in helping CareerReady shape the next generation of Palm Beach County leadership."

— Krystian von Speidel



Gary Lesser, Dave Markarian, Roger Feicht



Ken West, Ashley Venturo



Mahogany Campbell, Ana Rodriguez, Katia Saint-Preux



Verdenia Baker, Phyllis Gilespie, Telusa Morgan

"This night is a testament to what happens when a community comes together with the purpose of ensuring our students have the resources they need to thrive."

Jervonte Edmonds, Founder and CEO of CareerReady

## FUNDRAISER

from 1D

Habitat leaders wanted to acknowledge the 40th Anniversary Gala would not be possible without presenting sponsor Top of Mind.

"The Top of Mind Foundation is honored to partner with Habitat for Humanity of Greater Palm Beach County for their milestone 40th Anniversary celebration at the Dream Builders' Ball," said Top of Mind CEO Maura Landers. "Together, we can make compassion and philanthropy top of mind for everyone we encounter. This will foster a community of care, support, and empowerment as we build more homes, hope, and opportunity for local families."

Thomason and Murphy both stressed that they're seeing the economic realities of runaway housing prices in ways they never had before.

"We are increasingly seeing individuals and families with good careers who, despite their decent income and hard work, are still unable to secure or sustain housing due to unaffordability," noted Murphy. "This is not a reflection of personal failure, but of a market where stable housing has simply become out of reach for everyday people."

And Thomason explained why this affects all of us — even if we're able to afford our own housing costs: "These are essential workforce employees — we're talking schoolteachers, nurses, firefighters, police officers. If they can't live and work here, we all suffer."

Habitat houses do not happen in a vacuum. They require land, funding, community volunteers, and both the leadership and buy-in of elected officials and the private sector.

In addition, families participate in the actual building of their future abodes and are deeply engaged in learning how to become homeowners. This is a step-by-step process Habitat has perfected.

"Families are not 'given' homes — they earn them via sweat equity while also receiving financial mentorship and training as they assume a mortgage and long-term responsibility," explained Murphy.

Both Thomason and Murphy lament that most private sector affordable housing initiatives are



Mike and Tracy Caruso [CAPEHART]

based solely around rental units — ones whose pricing is determined in large part by the county's median income at the time of construction.

We've all seen what can happen with rental rates in South Florida, which is why Thomason believes "investing in affordable homeownership ensures our region's future economic viability for everyone."

And this is especially for the little ones who are truly our future. Studies show that, once they experience stable housing, children tend to do better in school, suffer fewer illnesses, and have better opportunities for educational and professional advancement later in life.

To learn more about Habitat for Humanity of Greater Palm Beach County and how you can become involved, visit [habitatgreaterpbc.org](http://habitatgreaterpbc.org).

### TICKET INFORMATION AND CHAIRS

**What:** Dream Builders' Ball presented by Top of Mind.

**When:** Friday, Oct. 9; 6 p.m.

**Where:** The Breakers Palm Beach

**Tickets:** Tables of 10 are available for \$15,000.

**Website:** [habitatgreaterpbc.org](http://habitatgreaterpbc.org)

**Contact:** Julia Murphy at [julia.murphy@habitatgreaterpbc.org](mailto:julia.murphy@habitatgreaterpbc.org) for more information.

**Honorary Co-Chairs:** Binky and Doug Fash, Mike and Tracy Caruso

**Co-Chairs:** Emily Pantelides and Peter Robbins, Michael and Cara DeBock, Sharon and David Tompkins

**Junior Co-Chairs:** Charlotte and Connor Lewis

SPONSORED CONTENT

### NOTEWORTHY NEWS

## Community Partners of South Florida celebrates 40 years of impact

Community Partners of South Florida (CPSFL) marked a historic milestone on April 10, hosting a sold-out 40th Anniversary Celebration Luncheon at the Belgrove Resort & Spa in West Palm Beach.

The inaugural event drew a capacity crowd of 200 community leaders and philanthropists; all gathered to honor four decades of integrated housing, mental health, and community-based services.

The energy in the room reached its zenith when Board Chair Brian Lynott took the stage to announce a significant philanthropic opportunity. To commemorate the anniversary, a generous anonymous donor issued a challenge grant for all donations, dollar for dollar (up to \$100,000) received through June 30.

The afternoon was a resounding success and raised \$75,000 toward the goal. This funding will be used to further CPSFL's mission of strengthening families and neighborhoods.

Distinguished guests in attendance included Eric Kelly, President of Quantum Foundation, Danita DeHaney, CEO of Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties, Lisa Williams-Taylor, CEO of Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County, Ike Powell III, Director of Outreach and Community Programming at the Palm Beach County Youth Services Department, and former Palm Beach County Commissioner Jeff Koons.

"I've seen firsthand how much stability at home and access to care can change the trajectory of a family's life," said CPSFL CEO Kelly Powell. "Our focus is simple but urgent, ensuring every family has a safe place to call home, access to the care they need, and a real sense of hope for the future. That means making tough decisions today so we can build a stronger, more sustainable



Charlotte Pelton, Brian Lynott, Kelly Powell [TRACEY BENSON PHOTOGRAPHY]



Shekeria Brown, Debbie Rahamim, Keely Gideon-Taylor

organization that can serve this community for the long term."

Since its founding in 1986, CPSFL has evolved into a "one-stop shop" for holistic support, serving more than 8,000 individuals annually.

Proceeds from the luncheon and the challenge match will provide essential funding ensuring a sustainable future for Palm Beach County's most vulnerable residents.

For more information about the challenge grant or to donate, visit [cpsfl.org](http://cpsfl.org) or contact Amy Brand, Vice-President of Advancement, at [abrand@cpsfl.org](mailto:abrand@cpsfl.org).