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Town to seek federal funds for Trump security

Law allocates \$300M for reimbursements

Jodie Wagner
Palm Beach Daily News
USA TODAY NETWORK

Palm Beach intends to seek federal reimbursement for costs related to providing security during President Donald

Trump’s visits to Mar-a-Lago. Police Department spokesperson Sgt. Michael Ogradnick said the town will apply for compensation for protection costs through a provision in the “One Big Beautiful Bill Act,” the federal law signed by Trump July 4 that outlines his second-term tax and spending priorities. The legislation allocates \$300 million for security reimbursements to local

and state law enforcement agencies when Trump visits properties such as his Bedminster estate in New Jersey or Mar-a-Lago in Palm Beach. Expenses incurred on or after July 1, 2024, would be eligible for reimbursement. Exactly how much law enforcement agencies will receive has yet to be determined. “We are planning to apply, and we will seek reimbursement for all costs as-

sociated with presidential and Mar-A-Lago security starting from July 1, 2024,” Ogradnick told the Daily News July 22. Local law enforcement agencies that protect Trump when he is in on the island include the Palm Beach Police Department, the Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office and the city of West Palm

See SECURITY, Page 8A

‘This may be a new normal’



People navigate through sargassum that has accumulated on Midtown Beach in Palm Beach on July 23. MEGHAN MCCARTHY/PALM BEACH DAILY NEWS

Town beaches see more sargassum in July; officials say climate change a factor

Jodie Wagner
Palm Beach Daily News
USA TODAY NETWORK

The amount of sargassum washing ashore in Palm Beach has surged in July, marking a noticeable uptick from earlier this summer. The smelly, brown-and-tan seaweed

has blanketed beaches on the island from end to end in recent weeks, far outpacing what was seen last year, said Diane Buhler, founder of the nonprofit Friends of Palm Beach. “There is a spike,” she told the Daily News on Friday. “It’s a lot more this year than last year. Who knows what next year is going to be like? I’ve always

found that sargassum is beneficial for the beach because of erosion protection. But there’s so much more. It’s even pretty dense down on Billionaires’ Row, which it usually isn’t. And Root Trail’s got it, and the Inlet’s got it. It’s pretty abundant right now.”

See SARGASSUM, Page 5A



A rendering of the new Family Entertainment Center at The Breakers. PROVIDED BY THE TOWN OF PALM BEACH

ARCOM OKs new family play center at Breakers

Diego Diaz Lasa
Palm Beach Daily News
USA TODAY NETWORK

The Breakers’ planned replacement for its aging family entertainment center is all but constructed, after the Palm Beach Architectural Commission approved — with conditions — the proposed building’s architectural detailing and landscape. Commissioners conditioned their July 23 approval on replacing the plan’s Jerusalem stone hardscape with coral stone or limestone and restudies of the building’s elevation

See BREAKERS, Page 5A

State budget a mixed bag for local arts funding

Kristina Webb
Palm Beach Daily News
USA TODAY NETWORK

A year after a sweeping veto of state arts-and-culture grant funding, some Florida organizations soon will see the return of grant money, while others wait to learn if they will get a sliver of the state’s \$117 billion total budget. Gov. Ron DeSantis on June 30 signed the 2025-26 budget that includes \$18.3 million for the Florida Division of Arts and Culture’s Cultural and Museum Grant and \$385,500 for Culture Builds Florida Grant. An additional \$2.5 million provision was set aside for more groups

to get grant money, with \$1 million of that dedicated to grants specifically related to America250, the U.S. celebration of the 250th signing of the Declaration of Independence set to take place nationwide next year. In Palm Beach County — which arts advocates have said took a \$3.1 million hit from DeSantis’ veto of two grant programs from the 2024-25 budget — 13 organizations will receive \$1,639,032, according to the budget. Another 35 groups could receive a slice of the provisional grants, with potential amounts yet to be decided. The 13 Palm Beach County groups that will receive money through the Cul-

tural and Museum Grant program are Boca Raton Philharmonic Symphonia Inc., \$90,000; Busch Wildlife Sanctuary Inc., \$150,000; Cox Science Center and Aquarium, \$150,000; Florida Atlantic University, \$60,500; Lighthouse Art-Center Inc., \$150,000; Lynn Conservatory of Music, \$150,000; The Morikami Inc., \$150,000; Palm Beach Opera Inc., \$150,000; The Palm Beach Symphony Society Inc., \$150,000; Raymond F. Kravis Center for the Performing Arts Inc., \$150,000; Resource Depot Inc., \$25,000; School of the Arts Foundation Inc., \$149,532; and Young Singers of the

See ARTS, Page 7A



From left: Palm Beach Symphony percussionist Scott Crawford talks to Sophia Derilis, Mekhi Zephirin-Belle, Janiyah Zephirin-Belle, Alaani Green, and Jada Green at the Palm Beach Symphony Instrument Petting Zoo at the Kravis Center in October. MEGHAN MCCARTHY/PALM BEACH DAILY NEWS



Today

SHINY SHOTS



Jennifer Parker, Cathy Federico and Nicole Cassidy at the Richard David Kann Melanoma Foundation fundraiser March 13 at The Breakers. PROVIDED BY CARRIE BRADBURN/CAPEHART

WEATHER
Today will be mostly sunny, with a high near 90 degrees and light winds becoming northeast at 5 to 10 mph in the morning. Tonight will be mostly clear with a low of 78 and east winds of 5 to 7 mph becoming calm in the evening. Through Wednesday, temperatures will be in the low 90s during the day and upper 70s at night. Rain chances increase to 30% Tuesday and Wednesday.
The marine forecast calls for northeast winds of 5 to 15 knots. Seas 2 feet or less. Intracoastal waters a light chop. Tonight, east winds of 5 to 10 knots. Seas less than 2 feet. Intracoastal waters a light chop. Conditions are expected to remain the same through Wednesday, with winds shifting to the southeast Tuesday.
Palm Beach Inlet: High tide is at 10:39 a.m. and 11:04 p.m. Low tide is at 4:33 a.m. and 4:43 p.m.
Sunrise: 6:42 a.m. **Sunset:** 8:10 p.m.
TO REACH OUR EDITORIAL STAFF
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TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Sunday, July 27, the 208th day of 2025. There are 157 days left in the year. On this day:
1789: U.S. President George Washington signed legislation that established the Department of Foreign Affairs. It's known as the first federal agency of the newly formed United States and was later renamed the Department of State.
1949: The world's first commercial jet-propelled airliner, the British De Havilland Comet, made its maiden test-flight out of Hatfield Aerodrome.
1953: The Korean Armistice Agreement was signed by the United States, China and North Korea, ending armed hostilities and bringing an unofficial end to the Korean War.
1974: The first article of impeachment – for obstruction of justice – against President Richard Nixon was passed by the House Judiciary Committee on a vote of 27-11.
1981: A 6-year-old, Adam John Walsh, was abducted from a department store at the Hollywood Mall in Hollywood, Florida. His remains were later found in a canal. His death led his father, John Walsh, to become an advocate for child victims and the creation of the long-running TV show "America's Most Wanted."
1995: The Korean War Veterans Memorial, located on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., was dedicated.
– Hoang Tran, USA TODAY Network

THE DISH

Palm House offers guests trip to Michelin-starred restaurant

M.M. Cloutier

Special to Palm Beach Daily News

Guests to the Palm House hotel in Palm Beach this summer can opt for a two-night suite-stay package featuring a culinary experience at South Florida's only two Michelin-starred restaurant.

Palm House, which Time magazine in March named among its 2025 World's Greatest Places, is offering a Michelin Moments package that includes private-car transportation to and from two-starred L'Atelier de Joël Robuchon in Miami for "an unforgettable" dinner.

The 79-room Palm House reopened on the island in November after a luxe renovation. Hotel officials said they partnered with the Robuchon restaurant to offer guests "a first-of-its-kind culinary experience."

L'Atelier de Joël Robuchon is the only South Florida restaurant the 125-year-old Michelin Guide bestowed with two stars after the guide entered Florida in 2022.

Michelin Moments-package guests at Palm House should note: The dinner bill at the Robuchon restaurant is not included — diners there often prefer to order as they please and with high-end wine or drink pairings — but round-trip private transportation is included along with "priority" reservations, "prime" seating and gratis wel-

come drinks.

The package centers on a two-night stay in Palm House's Flagler Suite with a spacious living area, two full bathrooms and private balcony. Also included: dinner one night in the Palm House dining room with its Nobu-influenced Japanese cuisine enhanced by Peruvian ingredients.

Depending on the dates booked and availability, the two-night Michelin Moments package — available for a limited time with an end-date not yet determined — starts at \$4,000 (\$2,000 a night), hotel officials told the Daily News.

Palm House's November reopening marked the debut of the first U.S. property by London-based L+R Hotels' Iconic Luxury Hotels collection. L'Atelier de Joël Robu-



Palm House guests who chose the Michelin Moments package will receive free round-trip transportation to L'Atelier de Joël Robuchon in Miami, with priority reservations. PHOTOS PROVIDED BY PALM HOUSE

chon is part of The Bastion Collection, an international portfolio of dining concepts.

For more information or to book the Michelin Moments package, visit palmhousehotel.com/palm-house-x-l-atelier. For general information, call Palm House at 561-858-1600 or visit palmhousehotel.com.



The Michelin Moments package at Palm House centers on a two-night stay in the hotel's spacious Flagler Suite, which has a private balcony.

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