

SunSentinel

THE WEEKENDER

EARTH DAY 2023

Where to peruse recycled art, pick up litter, honor the planet in South Florida



Roman Emerson, 11, and his mother, Heather, carry their plants during the Boynton Beach Earth Day Celebration last year. MIKE STOCKER/SOUTH FLORIDA SUN SENTINEL



Iron Horse Dancer Nikki Dashner, of Walpole Island, Ontario, Canada, performs the Women's Fancy Shawl Dance during an Earth Day event at The Seminole Tribe of Florida's Okalee Indian Village in Hollywood on April 18. AMY BETH BENNETT/SOUTH FLORIDA SUN SENTINEL

By Kari Barnett | South Florida Sun Sentinel

The first Earth Day — on April 22, 1970 — began as a movement among organizations, faith groups, college students and others throughout the United States to protest the effects of 150 years of industrial development on humans and the environment.

Since Earth Day went global in 1990, millions of people have used the holiday to bring awareness to environmental issues, including clean energy and recycling efforts, according to EarthDay.org.

Here in South Florida, cities are planning to celebrate the planet this month through events that educate residents, clean up neighborhoods and beaches, and use art to make a visual statement about the environment's impact on our lives.

The Seminole Tribe of Florida's Okalee Indian Village in Hollywood celebrated Earth Day early, on April 18, with Barry Big Mountain and the Iron Horse Dancers performing American Indian songs and dances, along with Seminole Native musical performances by Rez Jamz. Tribal crafts and food vendors, workshops and environmental presentations also were part of the daylong event.

Coming up in Palm Beach County, the power of water and our interaction with it, as well as threats to clean water and its inhabitants, are themes explored at the Cornell Art Museum in Delray Beach through "The World of WATER," a free exhibit featuring 40 pieces by 20 South Florida artists. On display through June 30, the show is curated by the Delray Beach Downtown Development Authority's cultural arts director, Marusca Gatto, in collaboration with Debby Coles-Dobay, a consultant with Art Moves PB.

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VECTORSTOCK

Wine, food on Las Olas and Taylor Swift Drag Brunch in Dania Beach



Ben Crandell
Go Guide

After a weekend overrun with big-name country stars on Fort Lauderdale beach, we get back to our regular programming, the little idiosyncrasies that make life around here distinctive.

Dynamic duo Afrobeta (a personal favorite) will do a free show at the Miami Beach Band-

shell; culty pizza maker Stepdad has a rare dinner event in West Palm Beach; Lips femme fatale Crystal Ross Lepaige will lead the Taylor Swift Drag Brunch at the Dania Improv; and the still-feels-new Studio at Mizner Park in Boca Raton will host two performances by actor and unrepentant polymath (is that even legal in Florida now?) Alan Cumming.

Thursday

Free dancing: The Rhythm Foundation's free North Beach Social series presents the highly danceable aural doodling of hometown

faves Afrobeta at 8 p.m. Thursday at the Miami Beach Bandshell. Special guests Anemoia and Miamibloco also are scheduled to perform. The evening will include a display of images by longtime Rhythm Foundation photographer Luis Olazabal (who died in 2020), curated by son Luc. Tickets are free with RSVP (it will be a popular show) at MiamiB-eachBandshell.com.

Freaky Thursday: New York Times bestselling authors Em Schulz and Christine Schiefer

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Returning to downtown Fort Lauderdale on Friday, the Las Olas Wine & Food Festival is about food and wine, plus attitude and Instagram moments. JENNIFER LETT/SOUTH FLORIDA SUN SENTINEL



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bring the touring version of their hit paranormal-true-crime-comedy podcast, "And That's Why We Drink," to the Palm Beach Improv at 8 p.m. Thursday. Expect things to get weird. Tickets cost \$39+ at PalmBeachImprov.com.

SunFest trivia: The free Clematis by Night music series on The Great Lawn in downtown West Palm Beach — set for 6 to 9 p.m. Thursday — will celebrate the approach of SunFest with a performance by rock band Hot Pink and SunFest trivia, offering the chance to win swag and tickets to the festival. SunFest takes place May 5-7 with a lineup that includes The Killers, the Chainsmokers, 311, A Boogie wit da Hoodie, Ziggy Marley, Jack Johnson and more. Visit SunFest.com.

Friday

Food street: Drinks on Las Olas will be quite literal on Friday night when the Las Olas Wine & Food Festival shuts down the boulevard for cocktails and a cause (the American Lung Association). At least 40 top local restaurants and 150 domestic and international wineries, spirits brands and breweries will offer sips and samples at booths set up between southeast Sixth and 11th avenues from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$150 at LasOlasWFF.com.

Friday lunch: Fort Lauderdale's all-dolled-up Runway 84 has announced that its "old-school" Power Lunch on Fridays now runs from noon to 4 p.m., which may allow precious little time to get back to the office. Which may be the "old-school" point. Lunch menu highlights include the Double Wagyu Cheeseburger (two 5-ounce patties on a Gran Forno Bakery bun), Chicken Milanese and Arugula Salad, as well as a Pasta of



Former Metallica bassist Jason Newsted, seen in this file photo at his studio in Jupiter, will revive his old sound with reunited band Newsted at Revolution Live in Fort Lauderdale. **LEE HERSHFIELD/SOUTH FLORIDA SUN SENTINEL**

the Day. You can reserve a table, or find first-come, first-served seating at the bar. Visit Runway84.com.

Friday night live: The Drive-By Truckers will share music from critically praised new album "Welcome 2 Club XIII" at Fort Lauderdale's Culture Room on Friday, with Lydia Loveless opening. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. General-admission tickets cost \$48.50+ at CultureRoom.net. ... Argentina's beloved Los Auténticos Decadentes will bring their ska-flavored rock to the Miami Beach Bandshell at 8 p.m. Friday. The cheapest general-admission tickets (\$79.31+ for standing room) are waitlisted. For other ticket options, visit MiamiBeachBandshell.com. ... Earth Wind & Fire tribute band Let's Groove Tonight has shows at 9 p.m. Friday and 6 and 9 p.m. Saturday at The Funky Biscuit in Boca Raton. Tickets cost \$25-\$45 at FunkyBiscuit.com.

Sting tickets: Pop crooner Sting is bringing the tour supporting his "My Songs" album to Hard Rock Live at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Hollywood on Sept. 12, with

tickets (starting at \$105+) on sale at 10 a.m. Friday at MyHRL.com. Joe Sumner, Sting's son, will open. A presale begins at 10 a.m. Thursday at the Hard Rock's Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages.

Newsted comeback: Former longtime Metallica bassist Jason Newsted, also an accomplished painter living in Jupiter, will reunite his old metal band Newsted for its first U.S. show in nearly a decade at Revolution Live in Fort Lauderdale on May 20. Newsted will be joined by original members Jesus Mendez Jr., Jessie Farnsworth and new guitarist Humberto Perez. Tickets (\$27+) go on sale at 10 a.m. Friday at JoinTheRevolution.net.

Saturday

Wit and wordplay: Tony Award-winning Scottish actor Alan Cumming will deliver the invigorating wordplay of his touring show, "Alan Cumming is Not Acting His Age," at 6:30 and 9 p.m. Saturday in the intimate Studio at Mizner Park in Boca Raton. Tickets cost \$89+ at TheStudioAtMiznerPark.com.

Swiftie Saturday: Taylor Swift's tour has passed us by, so Lips showgirl Crystal Ross Lepaige and friends will offer the next best thing during the Taylor Swift Drag Brunch on Saturday at the Dania Improv in Dania Beach. The sing-along, dance-along celebration will have performances at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., with tickets \$18+ for each. Costumes are very encouraged. Looking ahead, the Dania Improv will offer the Pitbull-Jennifer Lopez Drag Brunch on May 6. Visit DaniaImprov.com.

Tacos all over: The Taco Fiesta on Saturday in Lake Worth Beach boasts a unique atmosphere at Bryant Park Amphitheater overlooking the Lake Worth Lagoon, but also a broad appreciation for hand-held food, which makes sense given its setting in such a diverse community. Expect to find tacos from Mexico, with variations from across Central and South America, along with live music, contests, a car show and family-style activities. The event is from 3 to 10 p.m. and admission is free. Visit Facebook.com/tacofiestalwb.



Greg Young outside his barbershop, Nobleman's Cut & Shave, in Fort Lauderdale's Progresso neighborhood. **MIKE STOCKER/SOUTH FLORIDA SUN SENTINEL**

Prime cuts: The Smoke on the Water BBQ Feast returns to Esplanade Park in downtown Fort Lauderdale from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, with food from Duke Honer's BBQ, Beef & Love, Meatheads BBQ and other favorite local pit masters, restaurants and food trucks, along with live entertainment and a beer tent. Admission to the all-ages event is free. Visit GoRiverwalk.com. Side note: Greg Young of Nobleman's Cut & Shave in Fort Lauderdale, a finalist in Wahl's charity-minded Benevolent Beards Contest last year, will be offering free beard trims. Wahl will donate \$100 for every trim to Young's work with the homeless via his Backpack Barber Foundation. Learn more at TheBackpackBarberFoundation.com.

How we do it: Lauderdale's ninth annual Jammin' in the Park festival, featuring '90s R&B star Montell Jordan ("This is How We Do It") and roots-reggae singer Gyptian, will take place from 4 to 10 p.m. Saturday at Central Broward Regional Park. The evening will include food trucks and bar booths. Other performers include Gucci Crew II, The Old Skool Gang, LeNora Jaye, Blade Martin & the Sons of David and sets by DJ Big Man Kelly. Event admission is free (park entry \$1.50 per person). Visit Lauderdale-fl.gov.

Sunday

Sunday pie: The last time Palm Beach Meats in West Palm Beach hosted an event featuring the pizza maker and independent rapper who goes by Stepdad, there was a line out the door that was still forming when they ran out of pizza. And he didn't even do any rapping. The chef may be unfamiliar to you, but you have likely had his pizza if you've ever enjoyed a slice at Elisabetta's in West Palm Beach, where he works. Bottom line: You'll want to get there early when Stepdad does his pizza thing for Palm Beach Meats' Sunday Supper Series, which runs from 5:30 to 9 p.m. The pizza will be sold a la carte. Visit PalmBeachMeats.com.

Dogs and food: Serious foodies will gather at Celebrity Chefs for Canines on Sunday from 5:30 to 10 p.m. at the Opal Grand Oceanfront Resort & Spa in Delray Beach. It's a fundraiser for Big Dog Ranch Rescue, the sprawling no-kill, cage-free dog organization in Loxahatchee Groves. The multicourse food-and-wine dinner, with live music and an auction, will feature a "battle" between outdoorsman and chef Alejandro Valdivia (as seen on "MasterChef USA" and "Ultimate Beastmaster") and Matt Foley (corporate executive chef at Isla & Co.). Tickets start at \$400. Visit BDRR.org.

Sunday drinks: No one has ever accused me of being a math major, but I think I'll come out ahead with the \$19 bottomless brunch special on Sunday at The Hidden Garden Las Olas in Fort Lauderdale. That's unlimited mimosas, bellinis, sparkling rose, Bloody Marys and Aperol spritz for \$19 with a lunch/brunch entree from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Visit Facebook.com/HiddenGardenLasOlas.

Staff writer Ben Crandell can be reached at brandell@sunsentinel.com.

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