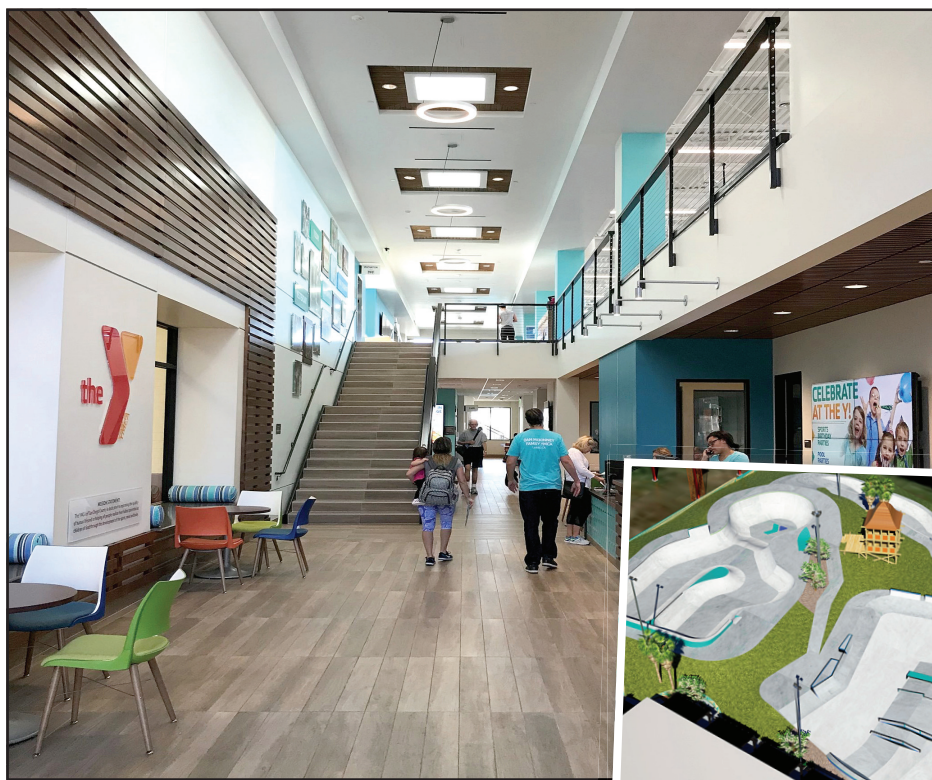


YMCA announces \$46 million capital project

The YMCA of the Palm Beaches recently announced a \$46 million capital project, in partnership with the Palm Beach County Parks & Recreation department, that will move and expand its flagship branch.

In 2021, the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners unanimously voted to approve a 50-year ground lease to the YMCA of the Palm Beaches, allowing the non-profit to build a state-of-the-art community center and Olympic-style skate park next to the county's new aquatic facility, which the Y will manage. This public/private partnership replicates a model in other municipalities with YMCA. The new facilities will be at Lake Lytal Park, just off Southern Boulevard and west of Interstate 95 in West Palm Beach.

The new Y will include a 55,000-square-foot community center; Olympic-style Skate Park & Gym de-



TOP: The lobby and entry of the YMCA of the Palm Beaches. **RIGHT:** The YMCA of the Palm Beaches will have a skate park.



The outdoor area of the new YMCA of the Palm Beaches.



Engagement and Resource Center. The center will be wholly focused on mentoring young people between the ages of 12 and 22, an underserved population in Palm Beach County. Some of the features of the center include a STEM lab, music studio, art studio and a culinary arts kitchen.

Palm Beach County Parks & Recreation also will build a new aquatic center with a FlowRider Surfing pool adjacent to the new YMCA.

Construction on Phase 1 of the two-phase project is expected to begin in late 2023.

Info: ymcapalmbeaches.org. ■

and families in Palm Beach County than the current location.

A hallmark feature of the new YMCA Community Center will be its Youth

signed by Team Pain; and the Y Pre-School Academy. The new facility will serve four times as many individuals



Stephanie Kahlert, Leslie Coughlan, Elisa Glazer, Telsula Morgan, Debra Ghostine and Bernadette O'Grady

Love of Literacy Luncheon raises \$250,000

The Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County is celebrating its most successful fundraiser to date.

The 32nd annual Love of Literacy Luncheon, presented by Bank of America, raised more than \$250,000. The proceeds will fund local literacy programs aimed at helping children and adults succeed in school and life.

Nearly 600 supporters attended the March 9 event to hear New York Times bestselling author Paula McLain share how reading has impacted her life. Ms. McLain is best known for her hit novels "The Paris Wife," "Circling the Sun" and "Love and Ruin." Her latest, "When the Stars Go Dark," is a suspense novel that weaves together actual cases of missing persons, trauma theory and a hint of the metaphysical. Ms. McLain drew from her experience growing



Chris Duke, Lindsay Reinhart, Pam Reinhart and Grasford Smith

up in the foster care system to create the lead character in the book.

Elisa Glazer of NCCI in Boca Raton and Telsula Morgan of Lewis, Longman & Walker P.A. in West Palm Beach co-chaired the luncheon.

Info: www.LiteracyPBC.org or 561-279-9103. ■

Arad ITEC Program and Exhibition, Wycliffe Golf & Country Club



ALAN FABRIKANT / COURTESY PHOTOS

Members of the Israel Tennis & Education Centers recently participated in the sixth annual Arad ITEC Program and Exhibition at Wycliffe Golf & Country Club in Wellington. For this event, special guest was Mika Dagan, the first ever female Israeli tennis player invited to play in an international tennis tournament in Dubai following the Abraham Accords Peace Agreement. The 23 ITEC sites in Israel use tennis to bring together youngsters of all religions and ethnicities. Info: Call Yoni Yair at 954-778-0940 or visit www.itecenters.org.

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