

Calling All Writers! Well, Maybe Not *All* Writers

We here at Biscayne Times World Headquarters are looking for some new correspondents to supplement our stellar cast. If you live in a condo in downtown Miami (between the river and I-395), and you'd like to chronicle life in that particular frontier, we want to hear from you. Ditto for these areas: Edgewater, North Bay Village, Bay Harbor Islands, and North Miami. Warning: This is not a path to riches.

Please send contact information and writing samples (if you have them) to editor Jim Mullin: jim.mullin@biscaynetimes.com

According to Seth: Flawless

As the subject of the *Biscayne Times* September cover story ("The World According to Seth"), I'd like to say that Myrna and I thought the writing of Margaret Griffis and the photography of Silvia Ros was nothing short of superb.

And unlike articles on history that have appeared in the *Miami Herald*, in which I usually have to write to correct errors, the *only* minor error in the entire piece was in a photograph of me holding a plate. The plate shown is the service plate from the Fleetwood Hotel on Miami Beach, not the Flagler-built Royal Palm Hotel in Miami.

Other than that, flawless.

Seth H. Bramson

Miami Shores

According to Rebecca: Viewable

I read with interest Margaret Griffis's article on Seth Bramson and his remarkable collection. Seth has always been generous in lending objects to the Historical Museum of Southern Florida for exhibitions, for which we are grateful.

I would like to assure *Biscayne Times* readers that when materials are given to the Historical Museum, we do not "hide the items in a basement, where only the occasional scholar would see it." Most items that are not on display can still be seen by the interested visitor in the museum's research center, which is open to one and all. To browse our catalogue, or to look at a selection of images from our collections, go to hmsf.org/collections-visiting-archives.htm. Then come visit us and take a look at some of our "hidden treasures."

Rebecca A. Smith

Curator of Research Materials

Historical Museum of Southern Florida

According to Glenn: Bizarre

I thank *Biscayne Times* for Erik Bojnansky's article "King Mango Strut Strife: Not Funny" (September 2009). While some of the facts were "off," it captured the essence of our parade's bizarre, unfortunate situation.

When Bill Dobson and I started it, we wanted a weird, small-town parade in this big city. We got one for 27 years. Now it may be becoming something else, one with a rapidly rising budget, jokes that aren't funny, and one in which any yahoo on a Harley can participate.

All we need to put on December's Strut 2009 is \$22,000. Would this fine publication like to sponsor it?

The Strut may be ending, but hey, if it does end, we had a helluva good run.

Glenn Terry

King Mango Strut co-founder

Coconut Grove

According to Elvis: Limited

In Frank Rollason's column about the 35-foot height limit proposed by Commissioner Marc Sarnoff for the MiMo Historic District ("The Beast That Cannot Be Tamed," September 2009), he asked, "Where the hell did that come from? Was he attempting to make good on some campaign promise to Morningside activist Elvis Cruz, a proponent of such limits?"

The answer is a resounding *yes*. Marc Sarnoff promised *all* voters, not just me, to bring a 35-foot height limit to the Upper Eastside. It was a central part of his 2006 campaign, a campaign he went on to win with 65 percent of the vote, then got re-elected the following year with 90 percent of the vote.

The 35-foot height limit will not create the doom and gloom Rollason predicts, the same way similar height limits did not harm Ocean Drive, Lincoln Road, Key West, New Orleans' French Quarter, and other historic areas. Just the opposite is true. The height limit will protect the integrity of the MiMo district, as well as the residential areas on either side. It will encourage sincere investors and discourage speculators.

Rollason is correct when he writes that parking issues have arisen. However, the culprit has been the hundreds of parking meters recently installed along the Biscayne Corridor. For reasons I don't understand, the MiMo Association favors those parking meters, even though common sense dictates that getting rid of them as an incentive to bring customers to the district would help the Boulevard's businesses thrive and would decrease spillover parking into the neighborhoods.

Elvis Cruz

Morningside

Feedback: letters@biscaynetimes.com