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There is a service that provides a deep discount or free legal aid from the Palm Beach Bar Association. John Whittles, the outgoing president of the bar association, discusses the program.



BARRISTER AND BASSIST

Born and raised in North Palm Beach, local lawyer **Steve Mathison** cares for a community coming of age as large-scale developments unfold.

BY AMY WOODS
PHOTOGRAPHY BY IAN JACOB

Carefree, cool and creative—these are a trio of traits Steve Mathison embodies in his role: real estate attorney.

The managing partner of Mathison Whittles has made a major mark on the north county community by counting among his clients the developers of BallenIsles, Frenchman's Reserve, PGA Commons and The Gardens Mall.

The North Palm Beach native, who remembers roads in the village as two-lane, shoulderless stretches surrounded by scrub, sees change on the horizon.

"I think that development is inevitable," Mathison, 61, says. "Thoughtful, well-planned development that serves the needs of the community is the goal."

He and the flourishing firm established in 2014 with John Whittles are poised to take the next step this fall with more mixed-use projects in the works. Downtown at The Gardens will undergo a reimagining by Washington, D.C.-based Madison Marquette. Plans call for the addition of a boutique hotel, luxury residences and an office building, as well as the opening of the waterfront to restaurants and retailers. Loehmann's Plaza will look less like a strip mall and more like a health and wellness facility after Kimco Realty Corp. of New Hyde Park, New York, adds tenants that will improve the lifestyles of residents.

"Both projects are at the important stage of dialogue and listening to city staff, community and business leaders, and prospective users to achieve an understanding of what enhances our community and works financially," Mathison says.

A third project on 5,000 acres of land near Northlake Boulevard and the Beeline Highway—headed by Landstar Development Group in Coral Gables—will emphasize the environment. Called Avenir, half of the property has been designated as a preserve, and another 50 acres have been carved out for a park.

"To me, if you're in an environment that's beautiful, you're going to have a better vibe about it," Mathison says.

Much like the string bass he grew up playing—and continues to play today—Mathison sets the tone of what some could consider controversial construction.

"Creating special places and incorporating the highest standards of planning principles may cost more at the beginning, but in the long run they create much greater value for the project owner's investment," Mathison says. "To bring that experience to the community, to make something vibrant, is an honor."

The part-time plucker who gigs at Spoto's Oyster Bar during the season and writes lyrics in his spare time incorporates music into the modest mission of Mathison Whittles.

"Did you ever play, in your mind, and wander slowly through your life's garden to make the changes you would make with roads less traveled and hearts less hardened?" reads a line from "The Garden," a song Mathison says "sums up my attitude about life and what really counts." ■

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Happening People: Bar Association President Wraps Up Term, Looks Ahead

Attorney John Whittles of Mathison Whittles, LLP, is wrapping up his year-long term as the President of the Palm Beach County Bar Association with gratitude for the experience and excitement for future plans. Whittles' time at the helm of the nearly century-old association was eventful – from a fire nearly burning down the Association's headquarters in West Palm Beach to his recent interview of internationally-known trial law figure Amanda Knox.

"The past year has been so rewarding for me both professionally and personally," said Whittles. "I've been a board member for many years, but being president was a whole new experience. The relationships I formed and the charity work I was a part of really made the job satisfying."



Founded in 1922, The Palm Beach County Bar Association is an organization with a membership of just under 5,000 lawyers, judges and other legal professionals. Membership is voluntary, and the Association offers a myriad of services to their members, particularly for continuing legal education.

The Association also focuses on giving back to the community, namely through its support of the Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County, which provides free legal services to underprivileged residents. The Bar Association also supports Habitat for Humanity and Café Joshua, a catering company that provides education and experience to help the homeless

Happening Events

MAY 6 Sat
(http://palmbeach.happeningmag.com/calendar/action-one-day/exact_date~5-6-2017/)

all-day Amazing Butterflies
(http://palmbeach.happeningmag.com/event/amazing-butterflies?instance_id=3920321)

MAY 23 Tue
(http://palmbeach.happeningmag.com/calendar/action-one-day/exact_date~5-23-2017/)

6:00 pm Jardin Announces New Tasting Din...
(http://palmbeach.happeningmag.com/event/jardin-announces-tasting-dinners-launch?instance_id=3920399)

7:00 pm ELITE SOUL LINE DANCING
(http://palmbeach.happeningmag.com/event/elite-soul-line-dancing?instance_id=3913096)

7:00 pm Live Trivia at Mellow Mushroom
(http://palmbeach.happeningmag.com/event/live-trivia-mellow-mushroom?instance_id=3915234)

7:30 pm BOYNTON BEACH FISHING CLUB MEETINGS
(http://palmbeach.happeningmag.com/event/boynton-beach-fishing-club-meetings?instance_id=3913444)

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gain valuable work experience to land outside employment, with proceeds benefiting The Lord's Place.

"We are proud of our profession and the Association's effort to dispel the sometimes-negative perception of lawyers by using our legal skills to assist those in need," Whittles said. "We feel giving back to the community through both legal aid and just offering helping hands and our time is an important element of upholding the standards and ethics of the Bar."

In January, a car accident resulted in a downed wire that caught the Association's offices on fire. It happened overnight, so no one was hurt, but extensive damage had been done, and the cleanup process was something Whittles will never forget.

"It happened at a busy time of year," Whittles said. "We had to find alternative space for people to work, notify the members and start to rebuild. That took months. It was unfortunate, but also a learning experience for me in crisis management and teamwork."

Most recently, Whittles' position as Bar Association president afforded him the opportunity at an Association luncheon to interview Amanda Knox, whose story of imprisonment in Italy on murder charges led to global headlines for many years.

"Amanda Knox's story is fascinating from all angles, but especially the human-interest piece," Whittles said following the presentation. "I am grateful to have had the opportunity to get Amanda's account of what happened. As an attorney, I know there are two sides to every story, and this luncheon was the perfect opportunity to examine all angles."

Whittles' experience with the Bar Association only reinforced his strong support for the legal community in Palm Beach County.

"We are a unique climate for lawyers," Whittles said. "We have the best judges I've seen in my travels. Judges go out of their way to accept each other and the established network of lawyers. Expectations and understanding come from the top down, and it all comes down to



a high caliber of people. We have mentoring programs in place for more efficient and caring lawyers, and we work hard to push professional development.” Programs include the award-winning “Coffee and Bagels With The Judges,” which are regular meetings designed to connect judges and lawyers in a more candid environment outside the courtroom.

With almost 20 years of experience as an attorney, Whittles is now looking forward to spending more time with his wife, young daughter and dog. He’s also looking forward to playing more with his rock band, “Counselors of Rock.” The band recently won an all-attorney talent show benefitting the Gulfstream Boy Scouts of America.

The next president of the Palm Beach County Bar Association will take the position on June 17.

Mathison Whittles, LLP is a full-service law firm that pairs the talents of its two founders to efficiently and cost-effectively provide clients the entire spectrum of real estate, business, estate planning and litigation legal services. Steve Mathison and John Whittles are committed to offering a combination of “best of class” big-firm experience with the commitment and relationship focus of a small firm. Their specialties include real estate and title insurance, business and corporate law, probate and estate planning, commercial litigation, land use, zoning and election law. Examples of the firms’ project and client roster include The Gardens Mall, First Republic Bank, Comerica Bank, Frenchman’s Creek Country Club, Ballensles Country Club, PGA Commons, The Landmark Condominium, Esperante office tower, the recently approved community of Avenir, respected local business owners and real estate developers and institutions, as well as elected officials of all affiliations. Mathison Whittles maintains offices at 5606 PGA Boulevard, Suite 211 in Palm Beach Gardens and 301 Pine Street in West Palm Beach. Contact them at [561-624-2001](tel:561-624-2001) or [561-469-1160](tel:561-469-1160) or visit <https://mathisonwhittles.com/>.

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Monday

TODAY
74 / 60
70% chance of showers

TUESDAY
70 / 59
Showers

WEDNESDAY
70 / 43
Scattered showers



Weather news from The Post's Kim Miller:
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The Palm Beach Post

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BUSINESS, D1

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DEEP ROOTS
HELPED NORTH
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POST COVERAGE TRUMP IN PALM BEACH

'Trump Squad' gets to meet president



Boynton Beach resident Donald Tarca Jr. sets up Trump banners at the corner of Southern Boulevard and Flagler Drive while waiting for President Donald Trump's motorcade to pass by Sunday on the way to Mar-a-Lago. A day earlier, Tarca and others were invited to meet Trump. DAMON HIGGINS / THE PALM BEACH POST

Van pulls up, takes 16 faithful supporters into Mar-a-Lago.

By Christine Stapleton and Pat Beall
Palm Beach Post Staff Writers

About 20 minutes after President Donald Trump's motorcade passed over the Southern Boulevard Bridge on its way back to Mar-a-Lago after golf on Saturday, a white van stopped near a group of supporters.

A man stepped out with an invitation that stunned the devoted sign-waving crowd.

The president would like to meet with you at Mar-a-Lago.

"It stunned me," said Mike Sims, of West Palm Beach. "I didn't know what to think."

Sixteen supporters piled into two white vans for a short drive across the bridge to the president's private club. No one expected the 90-minute visit to the president's "winter White House."

"I was wearing baggy pants," bemoaned one supporter of the sudden invite — and the photo she had taken with Trump.

The group went through the usual security sweep by the Secret Service and then met with the

president, who was still in his golf clothes and shoes.

He shook hands with the group near the pool and posed with each for photos. A White House photographer also shot pictures. The president gave a short history of Mar-a-Lago, built in the 1920s by cereal heiress Marjorie Merriweather Post, and gave each a magazine about the estate.

Trump bought the dilapidated estate in 1985 and restored it. In 1995, he opened Mar-a-Lago as

Mar-a-Lago continued on A9

Trump, Scott discuss major Florida issues

President and first lady visit Mar-a-Lago Club for New Year's Eve party.

By George Bennett
Palm Beach Post Staff Writer

PALM BEACH — Before a pricey New Year's Eve party at his Mar-a-Lago Club on Sunday night, President Donald Trump marked the final day of 2017 with a visit to his golf course and a meeting with Florida Gov. Rick Scott, a frequent presidential dining partner whom Trump has encouraged to run for Senate in 2018 against Democratic incumbent Sen. Bill Nelson.

A White House readout of the lunch didn't mention politics but said Trump and Scott discussed "ongoing hurricane recovery efforts, the need to improve the nation's aging infrastructure, and many other matters important to the people of Florida."

Scott spokeswoman Lauren Schenone said the Senate race did not come up during the lunch.

Scott spokesman John Tupps said the governor and president "spoke about issues that are

SEE A LIVE VIEW OF MAR-A-LAGO

Get a live view of Mar-a-Lago, the resort President Donald Trump calls his winter White House. Go to The Palm Beach Post's Trump in Palm Beach Facebook page.

COVERAGE OF TRUMP IN PALM BEACH

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important to Florida including the president's commitment to speeding the repairs to the federally operated Herbert Hoover Dike surrounding Lake Okeechobee and the need for federal aid for the recovery of Florida's citrus industry following Hurricane Irma. The governor looks forward to continuing to work with the federal government in 2018 so the issues important to Floridians are made a priority."

The president and first lady Melania Trump planned to ring

Trump continued on A9



Jane Justice (right) and Lucil Dico of Boynton Beach carry Trump signs Sunday near Southern Boulevard and Flagler Drive. DAMON HIGGINS / THE PALM BEACH POST

D | Local Business

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Steve Mathison, of Mathison Whittles LLP, specializes in real estate, estate planning and business law. He stands outside the PGA Commons shopping and dining plaza in Palm Beach Gardens. RICHARD GRAULICH/ THE PALM BEACH POST

Attorney helped shape growth in north county

He built firm's platform with projects such as The Gardens Mall, PGA Commons, others.

By Susan Sallsbury
Palm Beach Post Staff Writer

PALM BEACH GARDENS — Steve Mathison, a founder and partner in Mathison Whittles, a law firm based in Palm Beach Gardens specializing in real estate, estate planning and business law, grew up in northern Palm Beach County, and is, in part, responsible for a lot of its growth.

He was an author of the forbearance agreement for the PGA corridor, ensuring responsible and sustainable growth when the John D. MacArthur Foundation sold all its land in the late 1990s.

"It's an honor to have played a small part in creating such a special place for people to raise their families, grow a business, and have their children do the same," Mathison said. "That doesn't happen by accident. I truly believe we accomplished our mission — just look outside."

Mathison built the firm's platform with projects such as The Gardens Mall, PGA Commons, BallenIsles Country Club, Frenchman's Creek Country Club and many others. His current projects include the redevelopment of Downtown at the Gardens; Avenir, a multi-use development planned for Palm Beach Gardens; and Riverwalk Pointe at Mangrove Bay, an active adult community in Jupiter.

His extensive volunteer work includes being a founder and past chairman for the PGA Corridor Association, current chairman of the North Palm Beach

MONDAY MEETING

A Q&A WITH ...

STEVE MATHISON

Mathison Whittles LLP partner

Country Club, a member of the Palm Beach Gardens Charter Review Board and the ongoing economic development chair of the PGA Corridor Association.

He also provides legal counsel to Hospice of Palm Beach County and is involved in several banking and wealth-management institutions. Mathison was also a longtime chair and board member of the Palm Beach State College Foundation.

Age: 61

Hometowns: North Palm Beach and Palm Beach Gardens.

Education: Associate degree in music, Palm Beach State College; bachelor's degree and law degree, University of Florida.

Family: Married 30 years to Deb Mathison. Our son, Ian, is a senior at Georgia Tech studying civil engineering.

About your company: I established the firm in 1991 on PGA Boulevard, where it has grown to 14 employees. I created Mathison Whittles, LLP with partner John Whittles in 2014. A recent president of the Palm Beach County Bar Association, John is among the youngest double board-certified complex litigation specialists in Florida.

First paying job and what you learned from it: I began working as a union musician at age 14 for my grade school music teacher, playing in orchestras and bands in Palm Beach at such places as Royal Poinciana Playhouse and The Breakers. He taught me a strong work ethic, the ability to perform tasks as a team and the satisfaction in delivering a professional result.

First break in the business: Ray Royce, dean of land use and development law in Palm Beach County, and The Gardens Mall developer Sid Forbes taught me the value of creating the best possible environment for north Palm Beach County residents and businesses.

How your business has changed: Growth in Palm Beach County as well as the internet have changed the way our firm does business. Because the world has become "so small" we now represent wealthy individuals, companies, investment and development firms as far away as Stockholm and Prague. I travel frequently to these places to work with my counterparts to coordinate both business and private investment as well as wealth-planning activities.

Best business book you ever read: "Getting to Yes," by Roger Fisher and William Ury.

Best piece of business advice you ever received: Take the long view: the highest standards of ethics and quality are the best guides in both business and life. We believe that quality creates value for our clients. We both look for and are sought out by clients who understand this vision.

What you tell young people about your business: I want to help them

Monday continued on D2

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NEWSMAKERS & SHAKERS

GOPAL RAJEGOWDA

Gopal Rajegowda is a senior vice president at Related Companies, and a managing partner of Related Urban-Southeast, a development platform focused on sourcing, developing and managing best-in-class mixed-use properties within the southeastern United States. Gopal joined Related in 2004, and manages all aspects of mixed-use real estate acquisition and development. He holds a master's in Real Estate Development from Columbia University and a bachelor's in mathematics from Cornell University. Gopal currently serves as a Trustee and Board member of the Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches.



WHO'S WHO IN LOCAL BUSINESS

NEWSMAKERS



Damone

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Merchant Strategy has hired Michelle Damone as a government relations specialist. She has over 20 years of experience working in Palm Beach County, and has worked in the private business sector in the construction and mortgage industries, as well as for nonprofit organizations. Damone is a former state representative. She served four terms in a Florida special district. She was named a certified district official through the Florida Association of Special Districts and was awarded member of the year in 2010 for her work with statewide nutrient issues. "Caregiver" magazine gave her the Fearless Caregiver Award for her work with an autism and Alzheimer's disease community tracking program. Damone pioneered Nicole's Law of Florida, an equine helmet law for kids younger than 16.



Bowers

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Cultural Council of Palm Beach County has added Elizabeth A. Bowers to its 2017-18 board of directors. Bowers is an estate planning attorney and probate litigator; she works out of Gunster's West Palm Beach and Boca Raton offices. She received her JD and LLM in taxation from the University of Florida, and a bachelor's from Georgetown University. Bowers also serves on the executive council of the real property, probate and trust law section of the Florida Bar. She is a Palm Beach County native.



Carvalho

LEGAL

Emily S. Carvalho has been hired by Jones, Foster, Johnston & Stubbs as an associate attorney in the firm's estate planning and tax department. Her areas of practice include estate planning, estate and trust administration, taxation and transactional corporate law. She received her Master of Laws in taxation from the University of Florida Levin College of Law in 2017, where she was a student editor and graduate research assistant of the "Florida Tax Review." Carvalho earned her law degree from the University of Florida and a bachelor's in English from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

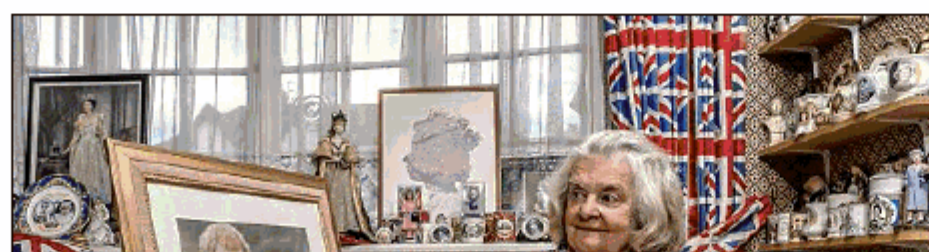
FOR MORE LOCAL NEWSMAKERS, D2

UNITED KINGDOM

Harry's wedding fires up big business of monarchy

Amie Tsang
©2017 The New York Times

LONDON — The cameras had barely finished flashing on the newly engaged Prince Harry and Meghan Markle. But Emma Bridge-



London with commemorative items, including a copy of the Issa dress that Kate Middleton wore during the announcement of her engagement to Prince William, and a little glass dish with a picture of Queen Elizabeth II

engagement, anniversary, anything," Hugo said.

When William married in 2011, the high-end British department store Fortnum & Mason sold a Wedding Breakfast Blend tea from Kenya, where he proposed. The

BUSINESS

LOCAL BUSINESS PEOPLE TO WATCH

BANKING

Skyway Capital Markets has hired Scott Thompson managing director. He serves clients around the country, and his focus is on Florida-based businesses. Thompson has experience in the technology, telecom equipment and cloud service provider sectors, and he has worked as an equity analyst at FBR Capital and Wedbush Securities. He earned a BSBA degree in management from the University of Missouri-Columbia and an MBA from Washington University. Thompson is a member of the New York Society of Security Analysts. He is a part-time resident of West Palm Beach.

CONSTRUCTION

Coastal Construction Group has added Patrick Erin Murphy as vice president. He served in this position prior to serving in Florida's 18th congressional district in the House of Representatives. He works part time in the company's West Palm Beach office. Murphy co-chairs the company's philanthropic arm, Coastal Cares.



Murphy

LEGAL

R. Lee McElroy IV has been elected a fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel. He is a shareholder of Downey McElroy, and practices trust and estate law in Palm Beach Gardens.



McElroy

West Palm Beach office litigation department. He has experience in commercial litigation and construction law, in addition to analyzing coverage issues regarding defect claims. Distel received his JD from the University of Miami School of Law, and BA from the Elliott School of International Affairs at George Washington University.

RECOGNITION

The Human Resource Association of Palm Beach County awarded three for 2017. Caroline D'Innocenzo, corporate human resources manager for OSC-WEBco, was named HR Professional of the Year. Boca Raton-based Modernizing Medicine was named HR Department/Company of the Year and Allan H. Weitzman was

given the Lifetime Achievement Award. Jones, Foster Johnston & Stubbs has been named a tier one best law firm for 2018 by U.S. News and World Report and Best Lawyers in America. The firm was recognized for its professional excellence and client satisfaction ratings.

Michael Spears has received an Apogee Award from South Florida Business & Wealth magazine for his dedication to his work as the National Council on Compensation Insurance's chief information officer and chief data officer. He oversees the company's data collection, quality validation,



Spears

coordination with industry groups on data reporting standards and the deployment of reporting tools for data providers. Spears has held management positions during his time at NCCI, in information technology, business development, product management, experience rating, customer service and assigned risk. He earned a BBA in computer information systems, as well as an MBA from the University of Miami.

David Donten was awarded the Companion Medal by Palm Beach Atlantic University during its American Free Enterprise Day 2017. He was recognized for exemplifying the American free business system. Donten is a shareholder with Caler, Donten, Levine, Cohen, Porter & Veil. He has more than 35 years of experience in public accounting, and specializes in corporate, individual, fiduciary, real estate and construction taxation. Donten is on the board of directors for The Baxter Foundation, The Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County and Easter Seals Florida. He is also on the advisory board for The Place of Hope and The Quantum House.

NONPROFIT

Thrive for a Change is opening a center in Riviera Beach. The organization works with families of those incarcerated, and aids in rehabilitation of released convicts. Thrive for a change is operated by County Commission District 6 candidate Tyron "Ty" Hanna.

To submit an announcement for Local Business People to Watch, please email a short description of the new hire, promotion or award, along with the location of the business and a high-resolution photo of the person to pbbusiness@pbpost.com.

TECH REVIEW VR RIDE AT SIX FLAGS OVER TEXAS



Staff members of 94.9 KLTU-FM adjust their VR goggles before riding the Galactic Attack during a media tour at Six Flags Over Texas. The ride is totally immersive, and action in the headset matches perfectly with the movement of the roller coaster. TOMMY NOEL/DALLAS MORNING NEWS

Six Flags' VR roller coaster performs like virtual spaceship

By Jim Rossman
Dallas Morning News

Samsung and Six Flags Over Texas team up once again this season to bring Gear VR technology to the Shockwave.

So are you a roller coaster person?

I go back and forth. Since my youth, I've loved roller coasters and ride them when I have the chance, but as I've grown older (and wider), I see these new coasters on TV and say, "No, thanks."

I have to admit when I saw the news a year ago that Six Flags Over Texas and Samsung were teaming up to bring a new virtual reality roller coaster experience, I wasn't rushing to be the first in line. In fact, I was pretty sure I wouldn't like it.

I was wrong. Recently I got an email announcing a new VR experience called Galactic Attack at Six Flags Over Texas in Arlington.

The ride takes place on the Shockwave, an older coaster at the park.

This year the experience is mixed reality. Riders wear a Samsung Gear VR powered by Oculus headset (equipped with a Galaxy S7) during the ride.

When you start out, the goggles are showing you a live view out of the phone's camera along with some onscreen graphics.

You can see your surroundings and your seatmate, but when the coaster gets to the top of the hill, your vision starts to ripple and you appear to be entering a wormhole. The view of your surroundings disappears and you're immersed into virtual reality as the pilot of a spaceship.

When you start down the first drop, it's obvious you are in a space battle. You don't

get to steer the fighter, but you can control a laser that aims as you move your head around.

There is an underlying game going on, and you get to see your point total when you finish, but the points are just for fun.

The game has three different outcomes. During the ride you can turn your head to fly through one of three drone bays that offer a different ending.

I also found out there's a hidden fourth ending that can only be accessed by the best of the best pilots.

I guess if you ride often enough, you'll figure it out. The ride is totally immersive. The action in the headset matches perfectly with the movement of the roller coaster. Since riding in a roller coaster is one of the closest experiences we have to flying in a space fighter, you can really forget where you are.

I was impressed with how fluid the experience was — especially knowing that 26 people can be looking in 26 different directions at the same time. The 360-degree view in all those headsets is being driven wirelessly from a single computer on a moving roller coaster.

I was also impressed with the presentation of the ride and the technology involved.

The headsets don't take a whole lot of time to put on, but getting 26 people fitted with VR goggles will take a bit of extra time as people are getting loaded into the cars. There are no wires attached. There is a safety lanyard you put around your neck, and a chinstrap you cinch up under your chin. A knob on the headband is used to loosen or tighten the fit.

I appreciated the live view

at the beginning so I wasn't just thrust into darkness. It takes a little time to get your bearings.

That said, once the action starts, it's a little strange (OK, a lot strange) to be dropped into a video game where your whole body is being slammed from side to side, climbing and dropping with twists and turns.

I said earlier that I loved roller coasters, and I do, but a big part of my enjoyment is from knowing what's about to happen during the ride.

I like knowing when to brace myself for a sharp turn or a sudden drop. I can get my body ready for the pounding it's about to take. With the Galactic Attack Virtual Reality Coaster, the twists and turns and drops take you by surprise, which made for a bit rougher ride for me.

I loved the ride, and I'll likely ride it again if I'm at Six Flags in the near future.

I felt good before I got on, and I was a little worried about how I'd feel after riding, as I tend to get dizzy.

It turns out one ride was enough for me, at least for now.

I didn't get that strange off-kilter feeling, which was great. I also marveled at the experience for the next half hour or so.

This is a great second life for the Shockwave. On some of my last visits to Six Flags, I kind of overlooked it, as there are plenty of newer and more exciting coasters to ride, but with the addition of VR, there's a great reason to put the Galactic Attack Virtual Reality Coaster first on your ride list.

The Galactic Attack will debut to the public March 9 and run through Memorial Day weekend. The VR experience is included with park admission.

Monday

continued from D1

understand there is a higher calling and goal than "profit." Each time one of our attorneys makes a difference in the community, I feel I have succeeded in passing forward what has been given to me.

Many successful people learn from failure. Do you have a failure you can share and what you learned from it? Take time for family. I worked so hard establishing our firm that I missed out on time with my family that can never be replaced. MW encourages our young lawyers to focus on family first.

What do you see ahead for Palm Beach County? Growth is inevitable. Thoughtful and well-planned growth that contributes to the community

'Take time for family. I worked so hard establishing our firm that I missed out on time with my family that can never be replaced. MW encourages our young lawyers to focus on family first.'

Steve Mathison
Mathison Whittles LLP partner

is our goal.

Power lunch spot: Prosecco is great, it's intimate enough to have meaningful conversations and casual enough to relax. The Italian coffee is great!

Where we'd find you when you're not at the office: Writing or practicing music, golfing or training to be stronger for golf. I also enjoy mountain trekking and snow skiing with family.

Favorite smartphone

app: I play in a band and sing at Spot's Oyster Bar on Friday evening each season. "Chordie" is an invaluable tool that helps me constantly learn new tunes.

What is the most important trait you look for when hiring? A passion for learning and excellence as well as a desire to make a difference in our community.

ssallsbury@pbpost.com
Twitter: @ssallsbury

TECHNOLOGY

How to protect your internet-of-things devices

Devices can be targets for hijacking by criminals.

By Sam Wood
Philadelphia Inquirer

Internet-connected devices are nearly ubiquitous, with computer circuitry now found in a variety of common appliances. They can include security cam-

later exploited to bring down vast swaths of the internet in a sustained attack on Oct. 21, 2016.

Paras Jha, a former Rutgers University student, pleaded guilty Dec. 8 with two other men who admitted they wrote the Mirai code. Named after an obscure anime film character, Mirai scoured the internet for unsecured devices and easily found them.

The attacks on Rutgers' computer system may have cost the school \$9 million, prosecutors said. Rutgers officials told NJ.com the cost of enhancing security was one of the reasons the school hiked tuition in 2016.

When Jha discovered federal investigators were closing in, he released the Mirai source code to the world to cover his tracks. The code is still circulating online and

make sure things like UPnP (Universal Plug and Play — which can easily poke holes in your fire wall without you knowing it) are disabled.

Avoid Internet-of-things devices that advertise built-in Peer-to-Peer (P2P) capabilities. P2P internet-of-things devices are notoriously difficult to secure, and research repeatedly has shown that they can be reachable even through a fire wall remotely

The Department of Justice also offers these tips to protect internet-connected devices.

Do your research. Consider the security features of your internet-of-things devices before buying. If the device uses a password, make sure it allows you to change it.

Update firmware when available. Internet-of-things devices can be susceptible if

Protect routers and Wi-Fi networks. Use your router's built-in fire wall, confirm it's enabled.

Avoid using public Wi-Fi to check internet-of-things devices from a smartphone. Use antivirus and intrusion-detection products.

Ask for help, or hire help, if you can't figure out fire walls or how to "segment" your network of internet-of-things devices.