Thursday, Apr. 3rd: Our speakers will be Andrea Ruth Gundersen and a member of the Nova Southeastern University (NSU) Oceanographic Center. She will talk about the Nova Southeastern University Staghorn Coral Nursery Project. Researchers at the NSU Oceanographic Center are exploring scientifically sound approaches to understand, assess, monitor, restore and mitigate injured coral reefs. Ms. Gundersen is a recreational scuba diver and an attorney and a member of the Dive Bar, which has worked with NSU Oceanographic on the Staghorn Coral project.

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KING MANGO STRUT
– By Ina Oost Topper, Broward Sierra Chair

The Broward Sierra King Mango Strutters participated again this year, joining the Miami Sierrans for this hilarious yearly event.

For those of you not familiar with the purpose of the King Mango Strut, held in Coconut Grove on the last Sunday of the year, it's a satirical, tongue in cheek portrayal by various organizations and private groups, on the past year's happenings, political or otherwise.

Last year's Sierra theme was the rising sea levels due to global warming. This year's emphasis was on fracking.

Fracking, short for Hydraulic Fracturing, is a controversial process for the purpose of recovering oil and/or natural gas from sites deep down in our earth. Due to ever increasing gasoline prices, it has been deemed profitable by gas supplying companies to obtain fuel from wherever it may be extracted, even if it

Continued on page 4
The Broward Sierra News is available every other month in electronic format. Additionally, to keep you apprised of current Broward Sierra Club events, they will be listed on our website: http://florida.sierraclub.org/broward. If you would like to receive reminders of these events e-mailed to you, subscribe to our Yahoo newsgroup. The address is: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BrowardSierra. Simply click on the blue “Join this Group” icon and follow the instructions. You may have to create a Yahoo ID first, which is easy and free. This will also allow you to sign up for any of the other numerous Yahoo groups.

BROWARD SIERRA CLUB ELECTIONS

We’re pleased to announce that Stanley Pannaman, Barbara Ruge, Darryl Rutz, and Ina Oost Topper were all reelected to the Broward Sierra Executive Committee. The complete list of Excom members, officers and other Club leaders is to the left.

ALL ABOARD FLORIDA – THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY

– By Barbara Ruge, Broward Sierra Vice-Chair

Although Florida’s governor refused passenger high-speed rail funds allocated from the Federal Government (and by-the-way, the money went to California and New York instead), a private for-profit enterprise has stepped forward, planning to provide essential passenger rail service from Miami to Orlando with two stops, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach.

Florida East Coast Industries has the rights to develop passenger rail along the existing Florida East Coast freight railway corridor, Miami to Cocoa. However, the stretch of track needed to connect Cocoa to Orlando International Airport requires an additional deal. To lay track along the Beachline Expressway, the Orlando Orange County Expressway Authority must buy a sizable strip of land from Deseret Ranches, the Mormon Church property-owner.

If the deal is sealed, Deseret requires expressway expansion with numerous interchanges built in. This sets the stage for unprecedented development on the now pristine 300,000 acres of lakes, Florida citrus trees and 50,000 head of cattle raising. The Good: Florida residents need a long-awaited, clean and fast, express travel system through the state. The Bad: For-profit companies charging an estimated $100 per person from Miami to Orlando, and being held hostage to the wants of a private land owner. The Ugly: Wider expressway, expanded vehicle traffic, more polluted air, more concrete and asphalt covering our natural lands, more people moving to Florida, less water for all, drastically-reduced habitat for our precious wildlife.

Stay tuned for news and updates about “All Aboard Florida.” We may not be able to stop the development, and may not want to, but the Florida Chapter of Sierra Club is gearing up a campaign to mitigate for our natural resources. Let your voices be heard.

ENVIRONMENTAL MOVIE NEWS: “A FIERCE GREEN FIRE”

– By Ina Oost Topper, Broward Sierra Chair

The Sierra Club recommends seeing the movie “A Fierce Green Fire. The Battle for a Living Planet’, a big-picture exploration of the environmental movement (grassroots and global activism) spanning fifty years, to be shown at Cinema Paradiso.

This film (from a book by Philip Shabecoff), produced by Mark Kitchell and supported by the Sierra Club nationally, premiered at the Sundance Film Festival in 2012, and received nationwide acclaim. The movie is narrated by Robert Redford and Meryl Streep, among many others.

One topic of this film deals with the battle to halt construction of dams in the Grand Canyon. (As a side-note, how ironic that in recent years there has been considerable talk of revisiting the past, and actually blowing up some dams that now block natural flows of our rivers.)

Among many other topics, the movie also addresses the Love Canal debacle and the struggle of the area’s residents (does Erin Brockovich come to mind?), Paul Watson’s (the Sea Shepard) heroic efforts to stop the slaughter of whales in the Pacific, as well as the continuing struggle to save the Brazilian rain forest.

Date: Feb. 15, 2014
Place: Cinema Paradiso, 503 SE 6th St., downtown Ft Lauderdale (free parking available - get in touch with the Cinema)
Time: doors open at 6:30pm, film starts at 7:00pm.
General Admission: $10, Seniors & Students $8, Members $6.

Mark Kitchell, the Producer (himself the son of California environmentalists) will be personally attending this showing, and will hold a Q & A session after the movie!
We invite you to join our outings to beautiful and interesting natural areas with friendly and mutually supportive people, and enjoy the variety of experiences that few other places in the world have to offer. Our outings are fun and educational and some even offer the opportunity to provide hands-on service in some of our parks and natural areas. If you have any questions about an outing, please contact the certified Sierra Outing Leader listed for the outing. Some of the outings need no experience; others require some level of proficiency. All participants are required to sign a standard liability waiver. If you would like to read the Liability Waiver before you choose to participate in an outing, contact the leader of the outing or go to <www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms>.

Once you have made a reservation, we ask that you make a serious commitment to attend the trip. Cancellations are detrimental to our program. Our outings leaders are unpaid trained volunteers.

Trip expenses (some park fees, food etc.) are covered by participant donations. Some outings may require a refundable deposit to guarantee a place. Contact the outing leader for details. Because of changing costs, outing fees/donations listed may be changed at the opening of the trip. If you are interested in a trip, call or e-mail the trip leader and ask for details, or come to the sign-up table at the Sierra Club Broward Group's general meetings (first Thursday of each month). Please sign up early for planning purposes. Make all checks payable to Sierra Club Outings. Please write the name and date of your trip on your check and include your phone number. Please send all payments to the trip leader.

If you must cancel, contact the leader or assistant leader as early as possible. If you cancel less than 30 days in advance, you lose your deposit. If you cancel 7 days or less in advance, you will forfeit all fees at the discretion of the leader.

Florida Seller of Travel Ref. No. ST37115

Unless otherwise stated, the costs for each outing represent a best estimate of actual shared expenses, for food and transportation and other direct expenses.

For sign-up, payment and further information, please contact the outing leader.

LOOK FOR UPDATED INFORMATION ON OUR WEBSITE: <http://florida.sierraclub.org/broward>
You can help protect the Florida Panther and other native flora and fauna through litigation and education. This fund, The Sierra Club Foundation was created by your Broward Group. Your tax-deductible gift will support our conservation work and lawsuits challenging the National Park Service and other agencies that seek to reduce or cause harm to Florida's natural resources.

Please make your check payable to:
The Sierra Club Foundation
In the notes, write “Broward Sierra Group”
Mail your donation to:
Broward Sierra, P.O. Box 550561, Davie, FL 33355

King Mango Strut, continued from page 1

means causing ever increasing damage to Mother Earth. It is estimated that at least half of our fuel is supplied by these controversial methods, whereby millions of gallons of water, mixed with toxic chemicals, are forced deep into the earth in order to, yes, simply fracture layers of rocks to free oil or gas deposits. Needless to say, this highly compromising method costs us dearly, in terms of wasteful resources (think of the millions of gallons of water going into the ground) and significantly polluting side effects. Not only are the chemicals used in this process finding their way into our water supplies (and yes, the flaming faucet is REAL), the scorched earth left behind will saddle our future generations with decades of environmental misery.

GOING, GOING, GONE?

Sea turtles date back nearly 90 million years and are among the Earth's oldest surviving species. All 6 species of sea turtles are protected under the Endangered Species Act. Sierra Club has mounted a major effort to defend and preserve threatened habitats before their inhabitants are gone forever.

Help protect our animal friends; because once they're gone, they're gone.

Join the Sierra Club and receive a FREE Sierra Club Weekender Bag! (While supplies last)

☐ Yes, I want to join the Sierra Club! I want to help safeguard our nation's precious natural heritage and receive a free Sierra Club Weekender Bag. My payment is enclosed.

Name _________________________________________________________
Address _______________________________________________________
City _______________________________ State _____ Zip _____________
Phone (optional) (_____) __________________________________________
E-mail (optional)  ________________________________________________

☐ Check enclosed, payable to Sierra Club ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ AmEx
Cardholder Name _______________________________________________
Card Number ___________________________________ Exp. Date ____/____

Contributions, gifts or dues to the Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include $7.50 for a subscription to Sierra magazine and $1.00 for your Chapter newsletter.

Membership Categories

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For those of you who are interested, you can see a video of the entire parade at http://tinyurl.com/kingmango.

Thanks to all of you who collected signatures and signed the petition, Florida's Water and Land Conservation Amendment will be on the November 2014 ballot! (See www.floridawaterlandlegacy.org/.)

DONATE TO PROTECT FLORIDA'S WILDLIFE HABITATS

You can help protect the Florida Panther and other native flora and fauna through litigation and education. This fund, The Sierra Club Foundation was created by your Broward Group. Your tax-deductible gift will support our conservation work and lawsuits challenging the National Park Service and other agencies that seek to reduce or cause harm to Florida's natural resources.

Please make your check payable to:
The Sierra Club Foundation
In the notes, write “Broward Sierra Group”
Mail your donation to:
Broward Sierra, P.O. Box 550561, Davie, FL 33355