



MARCO CASAGRANDE

BRIAN LARRABEE

GET ENGAGED

THE NEXT BIG THING

If you see eight Trojan horses converging on City Hall this month, don't be alarmed: It's the culmination of a community engagement project from the West Palm Beach Downtown Development Authority and Arts & Entertainment District aimed at seeking locals' input about their vision for the future of their city.

Created under the guidance of Finnish artist and architect Marco Casagrande, *Trojan Rocking Horses* consists of eight life-size rocking horses designed by local children and fabricated by Alaska native Marty Ross (a former pipeline worker and welder turned international artist) at the Loxahatchee home of retired master welder Jerry Hobbs. The eight design workshop locations, from the South Florida Fairgrounds to Palm Beach Public Elementary School to Esperanza Community Center, are also the starting point for the horses' procession downtown, which will begin March 6. Along the

way, residents can submit aspirational messages about the future of West Palm Beach to put into the horses.

On March 10, the horses will converge at the fountains and parade down Clematis Street to the City Hall courtyard, where the mayor will read select messages. Afterward, the horses will be adopted by "stewards" to display them in various downtown locations. If you've got a message you've been hoping to sneak straight to the higher-ups, now's your chance. ([downtownupb.com](http://downtownupb.com))—S.S.

NEW AT THE ROYAL

THE ROYAL POINCIANA PLAZA RECENTLY UNVEILED ITS NEWEST SHOPPING CONCEPT: THE CURRENT. LOCATED WITHIN THE HIBEL HOUSE AT 150 ROYAL POINCIANA WAY, THE CURRENT BRINGS THREE FEMALE-OWNED BRANDS UNDER ONE ROOF. STEEPED IN VINTAGE INSPIRATION, LA VIE STYLE HOUSE SPECIALIZES IN ONE-SIZE-FITS-ALL CAFTANS, WHILE MINNOW OFFERS CHILDREN'S SWIMWEAR AND RESORT ATTIRE. SINCE LAUNCHING WITH BEDDING IN 2016, HILL HOUSE HOME HAS GROWN ITS COLLECTION WITH READY-TO-WEAR APPAREL, ACCESSORIES, SHOES, AND THE BEST-SELLING NIGHTGOWN-STYLE NAP DRESS. "WE ARE THRILLED TO OPEN OUR THIRD HILL HOUSE STORE IN PALM BEACH," SHARES NELL DIAMOND, FOUNDER AND CEO OF HILL HOUSE HOME. "I'VE ALWAYS LOVED THE BRIGHT, CHEERY ELEGANCE OF THE AREA, AND I KNOW OUR FUN PRINTS AND VERSATILE STYLES WILL FIT RIGHT IN." ([THEROYALPOINCIANA.COM](http://theroyalpoinciana.com))—S.S.



HILL HOUSE HOME

MARY MCCARTY @MARYMCCARTYPHOTOGRAPHY

LOCAL LORE

LIVING History

The COVID drama of 2020 was destined to go down in history and make for some memorable stories someday. Palm Beach resident Deborah Goodrich Royce is already on it: Her new novel, *Reef Road*, was published in January and is set in Palm Beach during the lockdown. Inspired by a real-world crime, the novel unfolds in two separate fictional narratives that twist together, linking a brutal murder in 1948 Pittsburgh with a man's severed hand washing up on the shores of Palm Beach in 2020.

Royce began working on the novel while quarantining in Palm Beach during the early months of the pandemic. "Those long days alternated between writing at my desk, which overlooks the lake, and traveling the strangely empty island by bicycle," she says. "It was in my explora-



tions that I chose the setting of the actual Reef Road in which to locate much of the story. If you're anything like me, you enjoy reading fiction that is set in a real place with which you're familiar. As such, *Reef Road*

will treat you to a plethora of local sites—albeit through a very dark lens—as you try to unravel the intersecting stories of 'the writer,' obsessed with a long-past murder, and 'the wife,' whose life comes unglued on Reef Road."

This book—which is for sale at both the Classic Bookshop and the Palm Beach Book Store—is best devoured on the beach at the end of Reef Road. ([deborahgoodrichroyce.com](http://deborahgoodrichroyce.com))—S.S.



DEBORAH GOODRICH ROYCE