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# Palm Beach Daily News

THE SHINY SHEET®

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2025 | PALMBEACHDAILYNEWS.COM
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## HILFIGERS AT HOME



Tommy and Dee Hilfiger pose with their convertible Rolls-Royce on the lakeside lawn of Coral House, their estate on South Ocean Boulevard. The photo is featured in a new book, "Hilfiger Homes." **Story and photos, Page 12A.** DOUGLAS FRIEDMAN, "HILFIGER HOMES," PROVIDED BY VENDOME

## Town OKs Griffin to replace groins

### Offshore structures help prevent erosion

**Kristina Webb**  
 Palm Beach Daily News  
 USA TODAY NETWORK

A plan for Palm Beach to work with billionaire developer Ken Griffin for a project along the Atlantic shoreline at his massive Billionaires Row estate is moving forward.

The Town Council voted unanimously at its Oct. 14 meeting to approve an agreement with Griffin that allows him to remove and replace four deteriorating groins along the properties he owns at 1247 and 1265 S. Ocean Blvd.

The agreement is with Blossom Way Holdings LLC and Providencia Partners LLC, the entities through which Griffin owns the land where he is building a large oceanfront estate.

Groins are structures that jut out from the beach. The network of groins along Palm Beach's coast was built from the 1930s forward to trap sand and help prevent erosion, officials have said.

The plan is to replace the aging groins as "like for like," so they will not perform at the same level as the current conditions, Public Works Director Paul Brazil said.

The council also voted unanimously to grant waivers to allow crews to work to replace the groins for extended hours during Palm Beach social season, to avoid having to work during the sea turtle nesting season that runs from March through generally the end of October. The waivers will allow for construction work between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday, with no work on Sundays or holidays. "Noisy work" such as pile driving will be done between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

**See EROSION, Page 6A**

## Work to remove illegal moorings gets boost from Police and Fire Foundation

**Kristina Webb**  
 Palm Beach Daily News  
 USA TODAY NETWORK

A large donation from a Palm Beach nonprofit will help cover costs of the town's efforts to remove unpermitted moorings and decrepit vessels from the Lake Worth Lagoon.

The Town Council on Oct. 15 voted unanimously to accept a donation of \$250,000 from the Palm Beach Police & Fire Foundation. That money will be put into a fund for "unbudgeted costs related to the enforcement of illegal vessel moorings, derelict vessel removal, and other enforcement methodologies for the Town's Lake Worth Lagoon Management Plan," according to a town staff memo.

Palm Beach announced Aug. 19 that it would begin removing unpermitted moorings as part of a larger effort to protect and restore the body of water between Palm Beach and West Palm Beach — which is part of the Intracoastal Waterway — under the town's Lake Worth Lagoon Management Plan.

The donation came as the council at the same meeting granted initial approval to new rules that limit anchoring and provide for more strict enforcement of mooring and live-aboard vessels in the lagoon.

Palm Beach Police in August mapped possible illegal moorings and began to remove those moorings from the chains that connected the mooring devices at the bottom of the lagoon to locator buoys on the surface.

The foundation's donation will allow Palm Beach Police Department to continue its work and provide money to cover any costs that arise that are not in the town's budget, said Tim Moran, co-founder and vice



**Palm Beach Fire Rescue Lt. James Weber, back, and police officer Ryan Burgoon remove an unpermitted mooring north of the Flagler Bridge on Aug. 26.** MEGHAN MCCARTHY/ PALM BEACH DAILY NEWS

chairman of the board of the Palm Beach Police & Fire Foundation. Tim Moran is married to Palm Beach Council Member Bridget Moran.

**See MOORINGS, Page 6A**

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# HOME&LOGGIA

PALM BEACH RESIDENCES



Picasso's 1972 work "Mousquetaire aux Oiseaux" hangs above the fireplace in the living room at Coral House, the Palm Beach home of fashion designers Tommy Hilfiger and Dee Ocleppo Hilfiger. The house is among the couple's residences featured in a new book, "Hilfiger Homes." "Neoclassical style is a balance between grandeur and classical elegance," says Tommy Hilfiger.

## THE HILFIGERS AT HOME

A new book, 'Hilfiger Homes,' prominently features Dee and Tommy Hilfiger's Palm Beach estate along with several other residences the fashionable couple has owned over the years.

Christine Davis Special to Palm Beach Daily News | USA TODAY NETWORK

**F**ashion designer Tommy Hilfiger easily ticks off the things he loves about Coral House, the ocean-to-lake estate he and his wife, Dee Ocleppo Hilfiger, renovated on the section of coastal road known as Billionaires Row in Palm Beach.

"We view the entire property as similar to a resort of our own. We have a tennis court, we have a dock, we have a pool, we have the pool house, we have the guesthouse, we have a spa. So we would really view it as our own resort," Tommy told the Palm Beach Daily News.



On 3 acres with 300 feet on the beach and the Intracoastal Waterway, the estate is prominently featured in the new book, "Hilfiger Homes," which offers a visual entrée into the Palm Beach mansion. The book also showcases another home they own — a residence known as "Palm Beach House" on the Caribbean island of Mustique.

Four other homes, which the Hilfigers have sold, also are featured in the book — a New York City duplex apartment at The Plaza in Manhattan, "Round Hill" in Greenwich,

See **HILFIGER**, Page 10A

The cover of "Hilfiger Homes" features a portrait of Dee and Tommy Hilfiger by photographer Douglas Friedman, taken in the Palm Court at Coral House in Palm Beach. The couple spent three years remodeling and redecorating the ocean-to-lake estate, which they bought in 2021. PHOTOS BY DOUGLAS FRIEDMAN, "HILFIGER HOMES," PROVIDED BY YENDOME



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At the Hilfigers' home in Palm Beach, the dining room walls feature de Gournay panels with hand-painted lemon trees. In the new book "Hilfiger Homes," Dee Ocleppo Hilfiger says she wanted the room to be "light, bright and happy," inspired by the couple's summer trips to Capri.



A guest bedroom at Coral House in Palm Beach is decorated in one of the Hilfigers' favorite color schemes. "We love blue and white," says Tommy Hilfiger. PHOTOS BY DOUGLAS FRIEDMAN, "HILFIGER HOMES," PROVIDED BY VENDOME

## Hilfiger

Continued from Page 12A

Connecticut; "Villa Deniz" in Miami; and a "placeholder" lakefront estate on the near North End of Palm Beach known as "Villa Maria," where they lived while renovating Coral House.

The book also includes a chapter devoted to Flag, a superyacht they sold in 2024.

"Hilfiger Homes" (Vendome, \$75) was written by James Reginato with photos by Douglas Friedman. Anna Wintour, former editor-in-chief of Vogue, wrote the forward.

The book reveals that all of the houses are fun, stylish and noteworthy in so many ways. That's really no surprise, as Tommy Hilfiger and his wife are noteworthy designers whose fashion and accessory brands are infused with their design DNA.

As for Coral House, it was designed by Palm Beach society architect John L. Volk in 1970 for industrialist Hans Fischer. Later, after it was purchased by Canadian media magnate Conrad Black in the 1990s, the property underwent a major renovation and addition designed by the architectural firm of Fairfax & Sammons.

Once the Hilfigers had purchased the estate from another owner in 2021, they set about to transform it to better suit their tastes.

"All white walls and wooden floors — it was fairly simple. But it was in need of a lot of love, so we redecorated it from head to toe," Tommy said.

Although the couple's architectural changes were minimal, the house still took three years to renovate. The Hilfigers re clad the exterior in coral stone, inspiring the home's name "Coral House," and they created a master plan for the grounds.

"We put in a whole new (exterior) staircase in the front," Dee told the Palm Beach Daily News. "The house now looks very different. When people come to our house, they are like, 'Wait. Is this the same house?' I think it's safe to say we transformed it."

Inside, they modified the layout to suit them better. "We eliminated a whole floor of bedrooms," Tommy said.

Dee explained how they reworked the garage, adding car lifts accommodate six vehicles. They also "reconfigured the movie theater and gym," she added.

The Hilfigers, who are hands-on by nature, employed a team that included designers Cindy Rinfret of Rinfret LTD Interior Design in Greenwich and Palm Beach; and Los Angeles-based Martyn Lawrence Bullard. Landscape architect Mario Nievera and designer Keith Williams of Nievera Williams Design in Palm Beach drew up plans for the new landscape.

"We are very detail-oriented and were involved in every single decision," Tommy said. "As creative people and designers ourselves, we are control freaks."

It helps that he and Dee are often on the same page regarding creative decisions: "Dee and I are like-minded."

See HILFIGER, Page 11A

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# Hilfiger

Continued from Page 10A

ed, especially when it comes to taste in fashion and homes," Tommy said.

And, interestingly, their work in fashion crosses over into the design of their homes.

"We see a parallel between home design and fashion design. So we always like to have the connection between both," Tommy said.

For example, Tommy described the style of his eponymous fashion brand, for which he serves as principal designer, as "classic with a twist." His spring/summer collection of beachwear, for example, was "preppy, nautical and Palm Beach inspired." The brand is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year.

Dee said her fashion, handbag and accessory lines are "timeless and Old World" reflecting her European heritage and years living abroad.

"I did a whole line (of home accessories) for QVC — Mrs. H — based on and inspired by Coral House."

Many of their favorite pieces of furniture, art and accessories are on display at Coral House.

The living room walls are glazed in waxed coral dust, and above the fireplace is Picasso's 1972 "Mousquetaire aux Oiseaux."

"It's a special piece from a period where Picasso was very creative and very focused on the 'Mousquetaire' work," Tommy said. "We bought it with this house in mind. It was quite exciting, because we'd been looking for the right Picasso for a while."

"We just loved the imagery."

"We actually built the framework above the mantelpiece for it," said Dee, before her husband completed her sentence.

"With museum lighting, just to highlight it in the room," he said.

The trellised dining room, which the book describes as a "gazebo in an orchard," is highlighted by mirrored walls layered with de Gournay panels of hand-painted lemon trees.

"I found the verre eglomise table in my dining room after we had already purchased a dining room table," Dee said. "We were at the Surfside Diner (on South County Road in Palm Beach), and we decided to pop into F.S. Heneader Antiques next door. I saw this incredible table in the back, and I just sort of gasped. I was like, 'This table would be so good in our dining room.' And Tommy said, 'But we already bought a table.'"

"The woman working there said, 'Well, we could deliver it and you could see what it looks like.' And of course, once they brought it into the dining room, we were like, 'Okay, we need to get rid of this other dining room table that we just had purchased.'"

"And I mean, I love it. Every time I walk through the dining room, I'm just obsessed with it."

Dee collects fine china, and a photograph in "Hilfiger Homes" shows the dining table set with Flora Danica soup bowls, graced by botanical images and hand-painted gold edging. The bowls sit atop majolica plates and are complemented by antique Tiffany silverware and glassware.

"Flora Danica is quite rare and highly collectible," Dee said. "Historically, the plateware was commissioned for Catherine the Great. It's considered a Danish national treasure."

Additional pieces from her collection are showcased in her open-shelved Dish Room.

The decor in Tommy's office showcases his signature color scheme of red,



At the Greenwich, Connecticut, home once owned by the Hilfigers, a carved-wood staircase greeted guests in the entry hall. Built in the late 1920s, the house "was like a European chateau," as Tommy Hilfiger describes it. The Hilfigers sold the estate in 2021. PHOTOS BY DOUGLAS FRIEDMAN, "HILFIGER HOMES," PROVIDED BY VENDOME



Martyn Lawrence Bullard's design of the living room at Villa Deniz, the Hilfigers' since-sold house in Miami, showcased the collaborative Andy Warhol/Jean-Michel Basquiat painting "New Flame." "The striped rug was produced specifically by Martyn Bullard to pick up the colors in the painting," says Dee Hilfiger.



Dee Hilfiger catches some rays on the deck of Flag, the 205-foot Fleetship superyacht the Hilfigers sold in 2024. The yacht has its own chapter in the new book "Hilfiger Homes."

white and blue. Prominently displayed is a gift from Dee — a beaded surfboard by artist Stephanie Hirsch titled "Love."

There are other rooms decorated in favorite colors. A guest room in the main house, for instance, "is all blue and

white," Tommy said. "We love blue and white."

The room features an indigo palm-motif patterned Gracie wallpaper.

And is it any wonder that two fashion designers would have multiple dressing

rooms? The Hilfigers are firm believers that a dressing room should give you the feeling that you are in your own boutique.

Other rooms at Coral House featured in "Hilfiger Homes" include the custom Officine Gullo kitchen; the Coral Bar, ablaze with coral-tone lacquered walls trimmed in bamboo; and the Palm Court, with raw silk upholstered walls, custom embroidered by de Gournay with raffia and beading.

Local finds in their bedroom suite's sitting room include a chandelier and floor lamps from Circa Who Furniture in West Palm Beach's historic Northwood neighborhood.

Two other businesses in West Palm also lent flair to the house.

Christa's South Seashells (in West Palm Beach) did a beautiful job in all of our bathrooms, and also, we worked with Pete Hawkins from Devonshire," Dee said. "We worked with a lot of local people."

Tommy applauded the landscape team at Nievera Williams as well as Barbara Tatterfield of BT Architectural Stone for the stonework and fountains.

While each of their homes has expressed beauty and style, was there a favorite?

"I think I liked our Round Hill home the most, but I might say, I miss the boat the most," Dee said.

"Ditto," said Tommy. "And it was fun living in the penthouse in the Plaza for a few years."

Readers can get the full low-down on those projects in "Hilfiger Homes." And, the couple said they expect to follow up with a second volume somewhere down the road.

After all, there is no such thing as a forever house for the Hilfigers — just a forever house for the time being, they agree.

"Nothing is forever," Dee said.

Tommy took up that thought. "Home decorating and transformation is a hobby," he said. "We have three homes currently, this house and our Mustique house — and we just purchased a (California) home in Malibu."

So stay tuned. "Hilfiger Homes" is available in Palm Beach through Classic Bookshop and The Palm Beach Book Store in Palm Beach or wherever books are sold.

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