

## Hidden Talents: Bob Hoose and His Orchestra

“Who is Bob Hoose?” you may ask. Bob Hoose started his employment with the County in 1985 and is currently a Senior Computer Operator at ISS. Besides working for the County full time, he also is a vocalist who sings with his very own 16-piece Big Band that specializes in paying tribute to the legendary music of Frank Sinatra.



*Hoose and his band performed at Christine's on a regular basis.*

Hoose started his musical career by playing lead guitar and singing background vocals in rock and roll bands as a teenager in Middletown, New York but had an experience about four years ago that inspired him to switch his style of music to that of the Big Band Era.

For years, Hoose's friends told him that he sounded like “Old Blue Eyes,” and he would occasionally sing Sinatra tunes for fun, but it was really intended as a joke. When he eventually wanted a new musical outlet to supplement his job as a computer operator, his wife suggested that since he naturally sounded so much like Frank Sinatra, he should do something about it. Hoose dismissed the idea, and besides, one thing he did NOT want was to become a Sinatra impersonator! But, the idea was officially planted, so he would occasionally give it some thought.

In the fall of 1998 on a trip to Palm Springs, California, Hoose and his wife made a visit to Sinatra's gravesite in Cathedral City. While pondering his situation, Hoose experienced a revelation. He pictured himself performing Sinatra's tunes with a full Big Band orchestra and felt eerily compelled to follow through with this idea.

This experience led to the formation of The Bob Hoose Orchestra that is composed of talented professional musicians who also currently play with The Palm Beach Pops, The Woody Herman Orchestra, The Ray Charles Orchestra and Gloria Estefan. About half of the musicians even performed with Sinatra himself. They call their show “A Celebration of Sinatra.”



The Bob Hoose Orchestra used to play weekly to standing room only crowds at Christine's in Jupiter until the restaurant closed recently, but the orchestra still performs at country clubs, corporate events and private parties. They are currently in the process of locating a new public “home base.”

According to Hoose, “I've never had a musical venture come together so quickly, and I'm having the time of my life! I don't consider myself an impersonator at all, just a singer paying homage to an icon.”

The band's next public gig is a fundraiser dance for the Hospice of Palm Beach on Friday, August 8 at the Tavern On The Greenery in Boca Raton at 8pm. For ticket information, call 1-888-848-5200 or visit [www.bobhooseorchestra.homestead.com](http://www.bobhooseorchestra.homestead.com) for more information.

### Send In Your Stories

Do you have a hidden talent, hobby, passion, past time or personal accomplishment? Whether you are a singer, dancer, musician, artist, race car driver, cake decorator or aerobics instructor, we want to hear your stories.

All County employees are welcome to email their news and photos to Pat Truscello (GroupWise) or [ptruscel@co.palm-beach.fl.us](mailto:ptruscel@co.palm-beach.fl.us). Stories can also be sent via fax at 355-3819 or interoffice mail to County Line, Suite 1102, Governmental Center, 301 N. Olive Avenue. All snap shots sent will be returned.