

Palm Beach Daily News

THE SHINY SHEET®



THE LEADER IN COVERING THE ISLAND

SUNDAY, JAN. 15 2012

46 Pages \$1.50

Established 1897

Preserving history

Loan for Paramount impressive

A Palm Beach initiative just scored a victory with its successful bid to fund critical repairs for the landmarked Paramount Building.

The former movie palace that is now home to a church, shops and offices is both unique and historic. So it's fortuitous that a private low-interest loan of \$350,000 will now be used to repair the historic building.

One can only imagine the excitement when the Paramount originally opened as a theater in 1927, an era when Palm Beachers loved movie-going as much as charity balls.

The money is allowing work to begin on redoing the rooftop and repairing sections of the wooden deck railings surrounding the patio area on the second floor.

Palm Beachers John and Jana Scarpa, who recognized the Paramount's enduring beauty, offered the loan and others gave timely donations.

The loan came in the nick of time, too, since the church had been weighed down with more than \$6,000 in code-violation fines.

More contributions will be critical as the note is secured by a second mortgage.

If you need to get in the giving mood, attend a showing of one of the old movie classics the first Thursday evening of each month between now and May at the church.

A tip of the hat to attorney and history buff Leslie Evans for brokering the deal.