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SANIBEL & CAPTIVA ISLANDS, FLORIDA

DECEMBER 25, 2015

DECEMBER SUNRISE/SUNSET: 25 7:14 • 5:42 26 7:14 • 5:43 27 7:14 • 5:44 28 7:15 • 5:44 29 7:15 • 5:45 30 7:16 • 5:45 31 7:16 • 5:46

Holiday Cheer At The Strauss



Victor Legarreta, Tempestt Perrin, Juan Luis Espinal, Samantha Rotella, Bobby Logue

by Di Saggau

The BIG ARTS Herb Strauss Theater on Sanibel has been turned into a winter wonderland with sparkling trees and a beautiful backdrop that shows the magic snow can bring to a winter scene. What's even better, five talented singers and dancers are involved in the show *Happy Holidays: A Musical Celebration* that runs through New Year's Eve. If you are not yet in the holiday spirit, this show will change all that.

The first act starts with Victor Legarreta and Bobby Logue singing *Happy Holidays*. It is so great to see these two perform together. I have watched them perform for years, going back to the original Schoolhouse Theater on Sanibel, so it brought back wonderful memories. Both are extremely talented singers and dancers and have a stage presence that resonates with the audience.

Joining them are Juan Luis Espinal, Tempestt Perrin and Samantha Rotella. Together these five performers provide an evening of song and dance including the great music of

continued on page 11

Audubon Count Tallies 88 Species

On Saturday, December 19, the Sanibel-Captiva Audubon Society conducted its annual Christmas Bird Count and 129 participants counted a total of 14,494 birds comprised of 88 different species.

The results will be reported to the National Audubon Society and will become part of the 116th Audubon Christmas Bird Count.

Audubon Christmas Bird Counts are conducted throughout much of the western hemisphere from mid-December through early January. The count is a fertile source of historical information on the status and distribution of early winter bird populations and is studied by scientists and interested individuals the world over.

San-Cap Audubon thanks all those who took part this year.✽



Barb Kapinus from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania admires seashell artwork by Fabio and Jackie Morescalchi from Minnesota
photo by Fabio Morescalchi

Dashing Through The Sand

Fabio and Jackie Morescalchi from Minnesota created some holiday seashell artwork on the beach at Sanibel Surfside (near Donax Street), where they were staying. Neighbor Barb Kapinus, along with many beachcombers, stopped by to admire their work. According to Kapinus, the Morescalchis take plenty of time to gather their seashells in advance and sketch out their designs. The Morescalchis also created Halloween seashell artwork, which appeared in the *Island Sun*.✽

Sanibel Children Show True Christmas Spirit

Seven-year-old Kate Sawicki made her annual donation to CROW (Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife). This year's donation was \$20.38 and it came from money earned for chores and received for birthdays.

Saving her money to donate to CROW is very important to Kate, as she wants to be a "CROW doctor" when she grows up, said her mother Kirstin Sawicki. This is the third year Kate has contributed to CROW.

Sean, 8, this year donated his money to Team Ranstad, a non-profit in Minnesota that sends care packages to soldiers in combat.✽



Kate Sawicki and her brother Sean with Dr. Heather Barron of CROW

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The Beaches Of Fort Myers & Sanibel Introduces Resident Artist Program

Cailing all photographers, videographers and those with a passion for the arts. The Beaches of Fort Myers & Sanibel recently introduced its first-ever Resident Artist Program, an initiative aimed to give local photographers/vid-eographers an opportunity to connect with the people and nature of the Southwest Florida destination. Full- and part-time Lee County residents and students are encouraged to apply for the three-month residency, which will consist of capturing 15 to 20 varied photos and/or videos that express the unspoiled island paradise's unique sense of place in exchange for a \$5,000 stipend and use of the imagery in the destination's marketing efforts.

To apply, candidates will be asked to submit a 500-word statement about their approach for capturing elements of the destination and what they hope to gain from participation in the program; an online portfolio and active social channels are also required. The Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau will review submissions and choose the Resident Artist 14 days after the close of the application period.

The selected Resident Artist will join a roster of highly acclaimed, prolific artists, writers and musicians who have also found inspiration in this scenic locale, such as renowned artist Robert Rauschenberg, iconic inventors Thomas Edison and Henry Ford and best-selling author Anne Morrow Lindbergh, who penned the book *Gift from the Sea* based on her many visits to Captiva Island.

"As a destination of inspiration, we are thrilled to launch our Resident Artist Program to further encourage local residents to explore and embrace the arts right in their backyard," said Tamara Pigott, executive director of the Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau. "We are confident that those selected will capture the destination's ambience, all while encouraging travelers to visit our little piece of paradise."

For more information about the Resident Artist Program or to apply, visit www.fortmyers-sanibel.com.✧

Email your editorial copy to:
press@islandsunnews.com

**Calling all Islanders who love
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Five local family chefs share the history and preparation of their signature dish — tantalizing judges and audience during a fundraising event that will be the talk of the town!

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- **People's Choice** will star in a Real Food Real Kitchens TV segment produced by Craig Chapman
- **Judge's Choice** will be featured in Real Food Real Kitchens Fall 2016 book-a-zine



Applications available online at sanibelcommunityhouse.net or visit:

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Shell Crafters

If you are interested in learning a new craft and meeting new people, join the Sanibel Shell Crafters. No experience is necessary; there are instructors and assistants available. The lessons are free, all materials are provided but since the group is dependent on donations for the supply of shells, collections are welcome. You can make flowers, jewelry, animals and other creations out of shells and other sea life.

Instructors and assistants are there every Monday from 10 a.m. to noon (no classes in March). Dessert and coffee are provided, but bring a brown-bag lunch if you'd like, as the regulars meet until 3 p.m.

All shell creations made by volunteers are sold during the annual Shell Festival in March. The crafters have been meeting weekly since the late 1920s. The group was created in order to prepare for the shell fair.

Birds of Brazil



Bird of Brazil

The Community House is hosting the first of a lecture series, sponsored by The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company. Beautiful Birds of Brazil with Ron Clarke will be the subject on Saturday, January 2 at 7 p.m. Donations at the door are appreciated.

Clarke, who lives in Millburn, New Jersey and Sanibel, has been taking photographs of birds ever since the turn of the century. During that time, he has taken about 100,000 photographs.

The slides that will be shown were taken during two trips to Brazil. The first trip was to the Pantanal, a huge tropical wetlands spilling into Bolivia and Paraguay. The second trip was to the highlands of the Atlantic coast of Brazil between Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paolo. The birds pictured in the slides include macaws and parrots, toucans, storks and herons, raptors and hummingbirds.

McCormick Spices

Francis Tutt, principle scientist at McCormick and Company, will introduce you to the world of spices on Monday, January 4 from 7 to 8 p.m. There will be spice samples and specialty items as



Francis Tutt

well. A \$5 dollar donation is suggested at the door. The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company is the sponsor.

Economic Insights



Anne Krueger

Returning again to The Community House is Anne Krueger, who will use her common sense approach to explain her thoughts on the economic concepts that are shaping our world. Listen to her perspectives followed by a questions and answer session. Krueger will be there Wednesday, January 6 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company is the sponsor.

Free Energy Workshops

Karen L. Semmelman, director of Semmelman Energy Center, will host a series of workshops on Optimizing Your Health, based on Eden Energy Medicine (EEM). Six monthly two-hour workshops are on the agenda on the following Wednesdays:

- January 6, 4 to 6 p.m. Balance and coordination a challenge? Regain your rhythms easily with Energy Medicine exercises.
- February 3, 6 to 8 p.m. Pain over-riding your life? Loosen the congestion with Energy Medicine tools.
- March 9, 4 to 6 p.m. Use Energy Medicine tools to create movement and looseness for joints troubled by arthritis, stiffness and replacements.
- April 6, 6 to 8 p.m. Body, mind or spirit in overdrive? Unleash the innate ease with Energy Medicine

Semmelman, a matrimonial lawyer for 30-plus years, is an advanced Eden Energy practitioner, teacher and inspirational speaker.

For more information, email ksemmelmanenergy@gmail.com.

Colorful Sips

Evening art and wine parties with local artist Sissi Janku are designed to encourage the artist within to complete a masterpiece. Member price is \$45, non-members, \$55. The Colorful Sips painting classes will be held on the following Wednesdays from 7 to 9 p.m.: January 6, January



Proud Egret by Sissi Janku

20, February 3, February 17, March 16, April 6 and April 20.

No experience is necessary. All the materials will be provided. Bring your favorite wine and a snack for sharing with fellow artists. Call 472-2155.

Mini Golf

The 21st annual mini golf event will be held from Saturday, December 26 through Tuesday, December 29. There will be 18 holes of miniature golf play. It is open each day from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Admission is \$3 per adult and \$2 per child. Daily prizes in all 12 divisions will be awarded. Popcorn and refreshments will be available.

Love Your iPhone/iPad

The course covers set-up, navigation and safe use. An extensive handout recaps the course for

mastery to continue at home. Topics include techniques to improve efficiency, use of the Cloud, exploration of specific high value apps and how to fall in love with Siri. Cost is \$40 for members and \$45 for non-members.

Classes will be held from 9:30 to 11 a.m. with an hour open for questions. Beginner classes will take place on Thursdays: January 7, February 11 and April 7. The intermediate class will take place on Thursdays: January 28 and March 10. Update your iPhone's operating system to the most recent iOS option prior to coming to the class. Register by calling 472-2155 or online at www.sanibelcommunityhouse.net.

Cooking With The Islands' Stars

Cooking with the Islands' Stars on Wednesday, February 24 is open to family chefs; no professionals allowed. It is all about caring and sharing your passion for cooking and having fun doing so. So many islanders bring stories about family dinners, new or passed-along recipes, and unique heritage to the community.

There will be five contestants, three judges and two prizes. The Community House has teamed up with *Real Food Real Kitchens* to give everyday people the chance to be in a TV segment of the food show as well as in an article on why this recipe means so much to their family.

Stop by and pick up an application, go to www.sanibelcommunityhouse.org or call 472-2155.

The Community House is located at 2173 Periwinkle Way. For more information, visit www.sanibelcommunityhouse.net or call 472-2155.*



SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY HOUSE
<http://sanibelcommunityhouse.net/renovation-campaign/>

- * **Protect and Preserve the Heart of the Islands for our local organizations.**
- * **The bulk of the project will bring our house up to current code**

"The Community House is an integral part of Sanibel and brings a real sense of community to the island. It has served the JN 'Ding' Darling National Wildlife Refuge and the 'Ding' Darling Wildlife Society well in providing a great meeting place for volunteer gatherings and other events."

Birgie Miller





Artists Anita Force Marshall and Lynn Quigley

Artists Paint Scenes Of Historical Village

More than two dozen plein-air artists from the Sanibel Captiva Art League set up their easels at the Sanibel Historical Village last week hoping to capture its architecture and charm on canvas.

"The village oozes charm and history, and we love it," said Art League President Marcy Calkins. The league's artists "paint out" every Thursday at different locations on Sanibel and Captiva. "It's a challenge to paint outdoors, and everyone is paint-

ing something different. Some might paint just a tiny part of a building while others may paint the landscape."

"I like painting architecture, and these buildings are so charming. They have a lot of interest. It's a peaceful setting, and the landscaping is so attractive," said painter Dorothy McDowell.

Artist Suzanne Bennett added, "I like to paint period buildings because there is so much romance and mystery. I was really intrigued with the two old gas pumps [in front of the old Bailey store]. This is the third time I've been here, and many of our members have come many, many times."

The Sanibel Captiva Art League celebrated its 50th anniversary last year. "Some of our members are permanent



Paint-Out participants from the Sanibel Captiva Art League



Artists Merrie Jo Snow and Nory McNelis

residents, some are snowbirds, and we get visitors from other places," said Calkins. "The purpose of the art league is to grow our crafts and skills. We are a 501(c)3 that is interested in taking part in community activities in the way of education."

For more information, visit sancapart.com.

The Sanibel Historical Village is located at 950 Dunlop Road (next to BIG ARTS). Admission is \$10 for adults (18 and over). Members and children are free. For more information, call 472-4648 or visit www.sanibelmuseum.org.✧



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Island Seniors At The Center 4 Life

Meet your friends and make some new ones at the Center 4 Life. Browse through the following activities, then stop by to sign up.

The Center 4 Life will be closed Christmas Day, Friday, December 25 and New Year's Day, Friday, January 1.

Cycling Safety Notes

Ride to the right

Warn to pass

Wear a helmet

Use lights at night

Always be courteous



SANIBEL BICYCLE CLUB

Page Turners with Ann Rodman

– If you are not on the Page Turners list, and wish to be, email annrodman@aol.com or contact the Center 4 Life.

The featured book for Wednesday, January 13 at 2:30 p.m. is *All The Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr. “A World War II novel about children, and the kind of undertaking that requires a lot of work to rise above emotional manipulation. For the first hundred or so pages, the book seems to rely on ready signifiers of heartbreak and grandeur: a motherless blind girl, a white-haired orphan boy, a cursed diamond, lots and lots of bombs. But once he hits his stride, Doerr takes these loud parts and builds a beautiful, expansive tale, woven with thoughtful reflections on the meaning of life, the universe and everything.” – *LA Times*

St. Petersburg Mural Tour & The Dali Museum

– Tuesday, January 12. Cost is \$72 for members and \$77 for non-members. The trip includes round trip transportation, admission to Walking Mural Tour & The Dali Museum. Travel to St. Petersburg, Florida’s leading art destination throughout the country. Embrace the blossoming street art movement. Feast your eyes at the Acropolis Restaurant and then head down to the Dali Museum for the Dali & Disney Exhibit. Call the Center 4 Life for more information, 472-5743. Registration deadline is Monday, January 4.

AARP Driver Safety Course – Thursdays, January 21 and 28 from 1 to 4 p.m. Course fee is \$20 and AARP members receive a \$5 discount.

Island Seniors, Inc. is sponsoring the

AARP Driver Safety course. This is a fast-paced interactive six-hour class for drivers 50 and older to learn proven safety strategies, rules of the road, how to deal with aggressive drivers, and other tips to help you maintain confidence in your driving. Participants will be eligible for a discount on their auto insurance. Classes will be held at the Center 4 Life, 2401 Library Way. Register by contacting Ed VanderHey at 292-4012. You do need not be a member of the Island Seniors to attend but you must attend both classes in order to receive course certificate.

Games

Bridge – Monday and Wednesday at 1 p.m. Cost is \$2.50 for members and \$5 for non-members. Prizes will be awarded.

Mahjongg – Thursday at 1 p.m. Cost is \$2.50 for members and \$5 for non-members. Prizes are awarded.

Hand & Foot – Thursday at 1 p.m. Cost is \$2.50 for members and \$5 for non-members.

Tuesday Kayaking – December 29 (weather permitting) at 8:30 a.m. There is space for 16 people on eight two-person kayaks and limited space for those who own their own kayaks. Island Seniors will provide kayaks, paddles and life jackets. Bring water, a small snack, sun lotion, bug spray, sunglasses, towel, hat and change of clothing. Cost is \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members. Advance registration is required.

Fitness Classes

Classes are available and all ages are welcome. Island Seniors, Inc. members pay \$4 per class or visitors \$7 per class. Annual membership is \$20. Sanibel

Recreation Center members must show their membership card to attend.

Happy Hour Fitness – Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8 a.m. This class keeps your brain fit and your heart, lungs and muscles strong with a combination of aerobics and muscle conditioning exercises and balance. Hand weights, stretch cords and your body weight will be used. Class begins with a joke and ends with a positive thought for the day. Athletic footwear required. Silvia Villanueva is the instructor.

Essential Total Fitness – Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Cardio, muscle strengthening and flexibility training with hand weights, stretch cords, chairs and stability balls. Athletic footwear required. Mahnaz Bassiri is the instructor.

Power Hour Fitness – Tuesday and Thursday at 8 a.m. Hand weights, stretch cords, stability balls and mats are used. Improve core strength and balance. Athletic footwear required. Mahnaz Bassiri is the instructor.

Gentle Yoga – Tuesday and Thursday at 9:30 a.m. Stretch, tone and strengthen while improving flexibility, proper alignment and circulation. Mats are used to meet the needs of varying experience levels. Bring a towel. Kim Kouril is the instructor.

Chair Yoga – Tuesday and Thursday at 11 a.m. Similar to Gentle Yoga but all poses are done in a chair. Kim Kouril is the instructor.

For more information, call 472-5743 or stop by 2401 Library Way.✱

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Island Temptations Raffle Winners

The Sanibel-Captiva Optimist Club held its annual Island Temptations drawing on December 18 at The Sanibel Grill (The Timbers). This year, two winners shared the prizes of gift certificates donated by island restaurants totaling \$1,000 for each winner.

This year's winners were islanders Steve Kreter and Ed Osgood.

There were 31 restaurants participating including American Legion Post 123, Sanibel Sprout, Zebra Frozen Yogurt, Jacaranda, Sweet Melissa's, The Timbers, Traditions on the Beach, Sanibel Fish House, The Sandbar, Lighthouse Café, The Great White Grill, Bennett's Fresh Roast, Starfish Grill, Sanibel Sweet Shoppe, Rosie's Grill, Sanibel Deli, Traders, The Clam Shack, Over Easy Café, Bubble Room, Cheeburger Cheeburger, Doc Ford's, Lazy Flamingo, Pinocchios, Sanibel Café, Cip's, George & Wendy's Seafood Grill, Island Pizza, Bailey's General Store and The Pecking Order.*



The winning names are drawn by Terry Earle, center, of The Timbers during last week's Island Temptations raffle. Also pictured are Richard McCurry, left, and Randy Carson from the Optimist Club.

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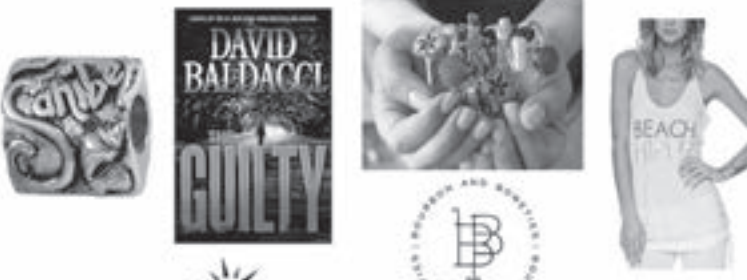
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American Legion Post 123

On Friday, December 25, American Legion Post 123 will serve a Christmas ham dinner all day.

Sunday, December 27, barbecued ribs and chicken will be available from 1 to 8 p.m., price \$12 to \$14.

Willy Jones' New Year's Day Pig Roast is scheduled for Friday, January 1.

On Mondays, the 8-Ball Pool League plays at 5 p.m.

Every Tuesday, tacos are served all day and on Fridays, it's a six-ounce ribeye steak sandwich. There are daily specials as well as the popular half-pound burgers. Food is served from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. The public is welcome.

Legion hours are Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 9 p.m.

The Ladies Auxiliary has cookbooks available for a donation of \$15.

If you have an American flag that needs to be retired, drop it off at your convenience.

American Legion Post 123 is located at Mile Marker 3 on Sanibel-Captiva Road. For more information, call 472-9979.✪



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The Sanibel & Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce would like to thank all of the sponsors and volunteers who helped make the 31st annual Luminary Festival a huge success. Luminary was another outstanding island event; the time for reconnecting with old friends and making new ones. We would like to thank the volunteers for their support this year. They include:

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Luminary Committee

Holli Martin

Beth Rizzo

"Without these great people and supportive businesses, this year's Luminary Festival would not have been possible," Ric Base, President of the Sanibel & Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce said. "Their support is much appreciated by residents and guests alike" he added.✱

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What's Happening At The House In 2015-16

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Cooking With The Island Stars

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Sat., Jan. 2; 7 pm
Donation

McCormick Spices

Francis Tutt, Principal Scientist
Mon., Jan. 4; 7 pm
Donation

Economic Insights

Anne Krueger, First Managing Director
of the International Monetary Fund
Wed., Jan 6; 10 am
Donation

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Members \$35/Guests \$40

Bridge Lessons and Sanctioned

Duplicate Bridge Tuesday, Jan. 5

Sissi's Colorful Sips

Wed., Jan 6 & 20 pm

Yoga

Mon., Thurs 8:30 am
*other dates/times available see website

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Energy Workshop

Wed., Jan 6 4-6 pm

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THE ISLAND WATER ASSOCIATION, INC

It is election time at IWA again, and next year two seats on our Board of Directors will be up for election. The seats are currently held by Ralph E. Sloan, and John R. Cunningham. Mr. Sloan is running for his 2nd term, and Mr. Cunningham is completing his 3rd and final term. IWA is governed by a five member Board of Directors who serve without pay. Directors must be residents of Sanibel or Captiva, so that they can attend all Board meetings, and must be IWA Members or an official representative of a condominium or other IWA Corporate Member. Directors must have no conflict of interest, including but not limited to, active involvement in an enterprise which could potentially do business with IWA or which could benefit from involvement with IWA. Meetings are normally held on the fourth Tuesday of every month. Directors are elected by the Membership at IWA's Annual Meeting to be held in April. Anyone who would like to run for one of the open seats should contact our Board Recording Secretary, Beau Stanley, at (239) 472-2113 (extension 114) or by e-mail at beau@islandwater.com by no later than January 8, 2016.

Background checks are required on all Board candidates.

Holiday Hours, Refuse Collection Schedule

Sanibel City Hall will be closed in observance of the Christmas holiday on Friday, December 25. City hall regular office hours will resume on Monday, December 28. If you have any questions, call City Hall at 472-3700.

The Sanibel Recreation Center will close at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 24 and will be closed on Friday, December 25 in observance of Christmas. The recreation center will resume regular operating hours on Saturday, December 26. If you have any questions, call 472-0345.

The Center 4 Life will be closed in observance of Christmas on Friday, December 25. The Center 4 Life regular office hours will resume on Monday, December 28. If you have any questions, call the Center 4 Life at 472-5743.

Refuse, recycling and vegetation waste collection by Advanced Disposal Services on Christmas Day will be one day later. Therefore, if normal pick-up is Friday, December 25, waste will be picked up on Saturday, December 26. The normal waste collection schedule will resume on Monday, December 28. If you have any questions, call Advanced Disposal at 334-1224.✱

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Lions Club Holiday Party



Third Vice President Roger Grogman, Sandy Grogman, 2nd Vice President Toby Clark, Cheryl Clark, Vice President Debi Gambee-Almeida, Nilou Peters and President Kurt Peters. The membership gathered recently for a holiday dinner and carol sing.

From page 1

Holiday Cheer At The Strauss

the holidays. The first act contains the more traditional songs such as *Jingle Bells* sung by Legarreta with a clever touch of Elvis. *Most Wonderful Time of the Year* has Logue putting his heart and soul into the lyrics. Rotella sings a beautiful rendition of *Christmas Cliches* and Espinal and Perrin have fun with *I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus*.

Act two is my favorite because it contains some of the most beautiful songs of the season. Legarreta and Logue do great justice to *Do They Know It's Christmas*,

while Rotella delivers a gorgeous rendition of *River*. Legarreta also sings a thrilling version of *Oh Holy Night*. The evening concludes with *Christmas Cannon Rock*, which is a delightful show-stopper involving the entire cast. The music is lovely and the falling snow adds a magical touch, leaving you thinking of happy holidays.

The show is as much about dance as it is the music, and the cast combines the two with excellent precision. You will love everything about this show so plan on getting tickets now. It is one the whole family will enjoy. *Happy Holidays: A Musical Celebration* runs through December 31 at the Strauss Theater, 2200 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel. Call 472-6862 or go online to www.BIGARTS.org.

New Assistant At Nature Store

Jeanne Walsh first visited the JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge on Sanibel Island 15 years ago while on vacation with her husband and three children. She was awed by the birds, raccoons and alligators. Now she's back – living on Sanibel and working part-time at the Refuge Nature Store.



Jeanne Walsh

Formerly a resident of North Captiva Island, Walsh moved to Sanibel this fall with her husband, David, a retired reinsurance executive.

Walsh, a native of New York City, graduated from Georgetown University in Washington, DC. She worked part-time

for the Environmental Protection Agency while in school and later on Wall Street and for Merrill Lynch.

On North Captiva, Walsh worked for a retail operation at the popular Barnacle Phil's restaurant, helping to publish a calendar and host art shows to benefit the North Captiva Conservation Fund. She began working at the Refuge Nature Store in early December.

"I have been so impressed with the enthusiasm and passion for 'Ding' Darling exhibited by the 250-plus volunteers," Walsh said. "Staff members and interns of the society and the refuge are so welcoming and professional. They are dedicated to serving our wildlife as well as our visitors. The positive energy of the refuge is contagious!"

"Ding" Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge operates the Refuge Nature Store, proceeds from which benefit wildlife, habitat conservation, education and research projects.

To support the society and the refuge with a tax-deductible gift, visit www.dingdarlingsociety.org, contact Birgie Miller at 292-0566 or director@dingdarlingsociety.org.

To advertise in the *Island Sun* Call 395-1213

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OBITUARY

BENNO BENNINGA

Benno Benninga died peacefully after a short illness at the Shell Point Retirement Community in Fort Myers on December 11 at the age of 90. Benno is survived by his loving wife of 65 years, Carla; son Ron and daughter-in-law Gigi; and sister Mia. He is preceded in death by his daughter Irene in 1972.

Benno was born on June 27, 1925 in Leeuwarden, The Netherlands to Jacques and Reina Benninga. He grad-

uated from the University of Amsterdam in 1951 with a degree in economics and a MBA from Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio in 1956. He married Carla Meijer in 1950. After moving to Cincinnati, Benno worked for Kahn's Meat Packing Company (later a division of Sarah Lee Corp.) as director of purchasing for more than 30 years.

Benno was a generous and charming individual with a great sense of humor who loved his family and friends. Along with Carla, he loved living on Sanibel Island for 20 years, and they became an integral part of that community. His many friends cherished him and in turn enriched each other's lives.

Benno was passionate about educating the younger generation about the dangers of the Holocaust, which he experienced growing up in Holland during World War II. He had a book published based on his father's diary kept during this time called *In Hiding* and gave talks to groups of students as well as adults on this topic.

A memorial service is scheduled for Thursday, December 17 at 10:30 am at The Grand Cypress Room/Woodlands at Shell Point Retirement Community with refreshments to follow. All are welcome to attend and celebrate Benno's life. In lieu of flowers, send donations to The Holocaust Museum & Education Center of Southwest Florida 4760 Tamiami Trail N., Suite 7 Naples, FL 34103 or a charity of your choice. Condolences can be sent to www.harvey-engelhardt.com.

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Study. www.orthodox-faith.com, 481-2099

BAT YAM-TEMPLE OF THE ISLANDS

The Reform Congregation of Bat Yam
Temple of the Islands meets for Friday
night services at 7:30 p.m. in the
Fellowship Hall of the Sanibel
Congregational United Church of Christ,
2050 Periwinkle Way. Rabbi Myra Soifer.
For information call President Martin
Pokedoff at 239-395-2544.

CAPTIVA CHAPEL BY THE SEA

The Reverend George E. Morris
Services every Sunday 11 a.m. through
April 24, 2016. 11580 Chapin Lane on
Captiva. 472-1646.

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March), Friday 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. (summer
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11 a.m. Traditional in main Sanctuary,
10:15 a.m. Courtyard Fellowship, 9 and 11
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Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 8:30
a.m. Communion Service Monday and
Tuesday 8:30 a.m. Holy Days call.

ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

5 p.m. Saturday Eucharist, 8 and 10:30
a.m. Sunday Eucharist, 10:30 a.m. Sunday
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a.m. Wednesday Healing Eucharist, 6 p.m.
First Wednesdays Prayer and Potluck. 6
p.m. Third Wednesdays Taizé Service.
472-2173, www.saintmichaels-sanibel.org

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS OF THE ISLANDS

Meets on the first Sunday of each month
from December through April at the
Sanibel Congregational Church, 2050
Periwinkle Way at 5 p.m. A pot luck is held
at a member's home on the third Sunday
of each month. email ryi39@aol.com or
433-4901.✱

Sanibel Community Church Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Celebrate Christmas Eve
at Sanibel Community
Church at one of four
services of worship. At 4
p.m. and 6 p.m. in the sanc-
tuary, the church will host
contemporary worship ser-
vices with full Praise Team.
At 8 p.m., there will be a
traditional Christmas service,
with the Chancel Choir leading carols of praise. The message of the evening at all
services will come from shepherds who have just seen the newborn King. A final tra-
ditional service will be at 11 p.m. in the historic chapel, concluding with Communion
at midnight. Each of the services will include the lighting of the candles and singing of
Silent Night.

Because Christmas is a time of giving, a special offering will be received at each of
the services in support of Community Housing & Resources.

Sanibel Community Church is located at 1740 Periwinkle Way, next to Jerry's
Market. For more information, call 472-2684 or visit www.sanibelchurch.com.✱



Meditation Group Meetings

The Sanibel Meditation Meetup
is offering group meditation and
discussion gatherings on January
3, 10, 17, 24, and 31 at 4:30 p.m. on
Tarpon Bay Beach. At the end of the
beach boardwalk, look to your left for
the green and blue umbrella to find the
group. Bring your own chair, cushion,

or towel. Bug spray is a good idea, too.
All meditation sessions are free.

Sanibel Meditation Meetup is for any-
one interested in learning or practicing
meditation and from all meditative tradi-
tions, ages and backgrounds. The format
is a 30-minute silent meditation, followed
by open discussion.

Basic meditation instructions will be
provided for beginners. For more infor-
mation, visit [http://www.meetup.com/](http://www.meetup.com/Sanibel-Meditation-Meetup/)
[Sanibel-Meditation-Meetup/](http://www.meetup.com/Sanibel-Meditation-Meetup/) or email
sanibelmeditation@gmail.com.✱



*For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.*

*And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

ST ISABEL CATHOLIC CHURCH SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Christmas Eve

Thursday, December 24
Mass at 5:00 PM and 10:00 PM

Christmas Day

Friday, December 25
Mass at 10:30 AM

Telephone: 239.472.2763 Saintisabel.org

3559 Sanibel-Captiva Road, Sanibel Island at the intersection of Rabbit Road

Flower Designer Featured At December Meeting Of St. Michael's

At their year-end holiday meeting held on Monday, Dec. 14, the women of St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church were treated to a visually alluring flower-arrangement demonstration by floral designer Brenda Norris.

A master flower show judge for the National Garden Clubs, Inc., Norris is credentialed to adjudicate flower design throughout the United States. She has studied Ikebana, the Japanese art of flower arranging, for the past 10 years.

According to Norris, Ikebana floral design is over 600 years old. "It was connected to Buddhist ritual, which included floral religious offerings," she said. "The form consisted originally of three stems in one container gathered closely at the base and rising up as one." She explained that, unlike the West's more decorative system of flower arranging, Ikebana creates a harmony of linear construction, rhythm and color. "The beauty of the art form lies in its simplicity. Its three components symbolize heaven, earth and humankind."



Brenda Norris demonstrates the precision required to create a successful arrangement.

"Because the design is invariably asymmetrical, a successful arrangement requires precision," Norris says. "The longest branch must be exactly 1 ½ times the length of the base. The other branches are then arranged at specified, lower heights surrounding the long, main branch."

Norris says that mastery of Ikebana is a decades-long process. In an Ikebana class, she advises, "you must leave your ego at the door, but the results are worth the effort."

At the end of the demonstration, the beautiful floral arrangements that Norris fashioned during her talk were raffled off to lucky members of the audience.

The luncheon meeting was catered by Bailey's General Store. St. Michael's music minister Hank Glass and French hornist Phill Urion provided Christmas music for the occasion.

President Norma Emerson led the business meeting, and Betsy McCullough, vice president and program director, introduced Norris to the group.

To inquire about the activities of the Women of St. Michaels, contact Norma Emerson or Rector Ellen Sloan at St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church, 2304 Periwinkle Way, 472-2173/saintmichaels-sanibel.org.✱

Examining The Gospel Of Thomas

A course examining the Gnostic gospel known as the Gospel of Thomas will be offered by the Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ beginning Tuesday, January 12 at 10 a.m. The course will be led by the church's senior pastor, the Rev. Dr. John H. Danner.

A gospel is an account of the life or teachings of Jesus of Nazareth, specifically written to convince readers of the veracity of various claims about him. The Christian Bible contains four such gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. But in the early years of Christianity, many gospel accounts were written. Some scholars estimate as many as fifty. In time the church determined which accounts would be included in the scriptural canon. The Gospel of Thomas was not one of the books granted canonical authority.

Unlike the canonical gospels, Thomas is not presented as a narrative, but rather is a collection of very brief vignettes and sayings of Jesus. The manuscript for Thomas was uncovered along with many other manuscripts in 1945 in the Egyptian town of Nag Hammadi. Some of the sayings parallel sayings found in the canonical gospels.

The course will not only examine the 114 logoi, or sayings, that are in Thomas, but also explore various scholarly understandings of its meaning and importance. Copies of the gospel will be available for a nominal fee at the first class.

For further information, visit the church website at www.sanibelucc.org, or call the church office at 472-0497.✱

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History Comes Alive On Historical Cruise



Long-time islanders Mark McQuade with sister Deb Gleason, chair of the Sanibel Historical Preservation Committee

Passengers on the *Lady Chadwick* last week were treated to a dolphin show, a beautiful sunset and tales of the old "watering holes" of Sanibel and Captiva. In the first cooperative effort between the Captiva Historical Society and the Sanibel Historical Museum and Village, Commodore Paul McCarthy hosted an evening of reminiscing about the islands all the way back to the 1940s.

What is now McCarthy's Marina was known as Andy's dock on Palm Avenue, now Andy Rosse Lane. "Andy was a fishing guide since 1935," McCarthy explained. "Ding Darling was one of his customers. Andy lived in a palmetto shack with a shell floor and was a colorful character, loved by all."

Andy's dock became a gathering place and that was the beginning of Andy's saloon in the 1940s, where fishermen could get a beer at 3 a.m. because Andy's would still be open. "It was the only place you could take your girl for a beer," McCarthy said.

Timmy's Nook opened in 1950, and Buzz Murphy, who arrived in 1969, took it over when Timmy died. In those days, Murphy said, nobody had names because everybody had a nickname. There were Snake, Bear, Chopper, Lights Out Louie, and Rembrandt. A beer cost 48 cents, and Timmy's went through 300 to 400 cases of beer each week. The waitresses smoked cigarettes while they served the food, but no one complained. "There was no other place to go," Murphy recalled.

Rosse took turns tending bar with Jack Cole, the owner of Jack's Place on Sanibel. Jack's Place was located where Il Cielo is today. "Jack was a character," recalled Mark McQuade, who grew up on Sanibel. "Jack had a gun range right behind the restaurant – it was basically dirt mounds and plywood – and he and his wife Gertrude used to shoot all afternoon. There was gunfire on Sanibel all afternoon, and nobody said anything. That was just Jack and Gertrude."

Andy and Jack are just two of the colorful characters that are part of the islands' history. Learn more about Sanibel history at three upcoming Twilight Talks. Talks begin at 7 a.m. and cost \$10 per person. Call 472-4648 for a reservation:

January 7 – Premiere of the museum's new Black History film.

February 11 – Betsy Eidem on Sanibel tomatoes

April 5 – Discussion on the Sanibel Plan

The Sanibel Historical Village is open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Full guided tours take place at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at no additional charge, depending on docent availability. The Sanibel Historical Village is located at 950 Dunlop Road (next to BIG ARTS) and there is handicap access to all buildings. Admission is \$10 for adults (18 and over). Members and children are free. For more information, call 472-4648 during museum hours or visit www.sanibelmuseum.org.



A perfect sunset to finish the twilight cruise on the *Lady Chadwick*

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239-395-1350

Fish Caught



Kenneth Kopperl with the 42-inch, 26-pound redfish he caught in eight feet of water just off the Sanibel beach

Fish Caught



Ray Hitchcock and family
Ray Hitchcock and family from St. Pau, Minnesota caught and released a 31-incg redfish while on a Sea Reed Charter.✧

J. Charles McCullough II

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For more information, call (239) 472-4557

A black and white photograph of a man wearing a hat and a light-colored shirt, standing on a wooden pier or dock. The pier is over water, and there are some barrels or containers on the pier. The background shows a body of water and a distant shoreline.

Mardi Gras on Sanibel!

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Fast-growing native railroad vine is a member of the morning glory family

photo by Gerri Reaves

Plant Smart

Railroad Vine

by Gerri Reaves

Railroad vine (*Ipomoea pes-caprae*) is an evergreen perennial and one of a dozen morning glories native to Florida. It is also called goat's-foot vine, beach morning glory and bayhops.

In the wild, this mat-forming vine is found on beaches and on sand dunes above the water line. Its seeds are dispersed by wind and water, and wherever it takes root, it helps to prevent beach erosion.

It has high salt tolerance and has evolved to withstand wind, salt spray, heat, and brackish water. Therefore it's an excellent choice for coastal landscapes.

If you need a groundcover for a sunny, dry, or sandy spot, this vine might be the answer. It also can be trained to cover a fence or trellis.

A fast grower, it sends out succulent stolons, or runners, which creep along the soil, rooting at the nodes and binding sand together. The word *Ipomoea*, which means worm-like, refers to this habit.

The plant grows to be about one and one-half feet high and can be as long as 100 feet.

Starchy taproots extend deeply into the soil – three feet or more – one characteristic that makes it so drought tolerant.

The thick, two-lobed leaves of two to four inches long have a shallowly notched apex and a leaf stem of about six inches. Rounded or oblong, they are folded along the midvein.

That notch gives them a shape resembling a goat's footprint and the term *pes-caprae* means "goat's foot." They also resemble the leaves of the non-native Hong Kong orchid tree.

The rosy pink or purple flowers are about two to three inches wide with five fused petals that form a trumpet-shaped corolla. The flower's interior has a lovely star-shaped pattern formed by stripes radiating from the throat, which is darker than the rest of the flower.

Flowers bloom all year, lasting only a day, peaking in spring and summer. They are a food source for caterpillars, beetles, and grasshoppers.

Railroad vine also provides habitat for several native species and attracts a variety of pollinators.

It will tolerate a variety of soils, including nutrient-poor soil, but will not tolerate over-watering.

The small, round, hard, leathery fruit contains four seeds.

Propagate this vine with cuttings or scarified seeds

The vines and roots are edible, but only in very small quantities.

Medicinal uses include the treatment of jellyfish stings with the milky juice in the leaves. It is also used to treat fatigue, arthritis, rheumatism, and as a diuretic. And, it is traditionally used in spiritual practices in some cultures.

Sources: *Everglades Wildflowers* by Roger L. Hammer; *500 Plants of South Florida* by Julia F. Morton; *A Gardener's Guide to Florida's Native Plants* by Rufino Osorio; *Florida, My Eden* by Frederic B. Stresau; *Native Florida Plants* by Robert G. Haehle and Joan Brookwell; *Wildflowers of Florida* by Jaret C. Daniels and Stan Tekiela; edis.ifas.ufl.edu; floridata.com; lee.ifas.ufl.edu; miamidade.gov; regionalconservation.org; and sms.si.edu.

Plant Smart explores the diverse flora of South Florida.✱

CROW Case Of The Week:

American Bittern



by Patricia Molloy

The American bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*) is a solitary, heron-like wading bird that stalks its prey (such as fish, frogs, meadow voles and giant water bugs) by standing motion-

less in patches of tall marsh vegetation with its neck outstretched and bill pointed skyward. Its stand-and-wait hunting method is successful due to its perfectly camouflaging plumage: rich browns punctuated by black flecking, vertical tan streaks, black throat patches, and white stripes that go from the underside of its throat down to its belly. Its muted-yellow bill, thin (but short) legs of yellow-green and rusty-brown crown complete its disguise. It is such an expert at blending in that – if it spots, for example, a bird-watcher nearby – the bittern may slowly sway from side to side, imitating reeds gently swaying in the wind.

Despite being fairly numerous during breeding season around freshwater marshes, these secretive birds are difficult to spot. Their calls, however – particularly those of the males – are very distinctive and easily heard, even from lengthy distances.

In order to communicate with one another through thick vegetation, bitterns use low-frequency calls that carry farther than high-pitched ones. The calls of the males during mating season have been described as bizarre – the resonant *pump-er-lunk*, the hoarse *kok-kok-kok* or the continual *chu-peep*. These characteristic sounds have earned the American bittern several nicknames: stake-driver, water-belcher, thunder-pumper and mire-drum.

In early December, an adult American bittern was admitted to CROW as patient #15-3431. After a thorough physical exam, the bird was anesthetized to allow for radiographs. The bittern had suffered severe trauma, likely from a car collision, that resulted in numerous broken bones. While the bird was unconscious, its right leg was set and wrapped and its right wing was placed in a sling. Before being moved to a quiet room in the clinic's ICU for some much needed rest, subcutaneous (under the skin) fluids, an anti-inflammatory and a pain medication were administered.

Dr. Molly Lien, DVM intern, worked-up a schedule for the patient's continued care that included a species-specific diet, daily fluid injections, pain medication, an anti-inflammatory and tub time sessions.

After a week at the wildlife hospital, the bittern appeared to be more bright and alert, and had even gained a small amount of weight. While slow but steady improvement was noted, its recovery was not without a minor issue.

"The inside of his (left) leg is beginning

continued on page 38



This American bittern strikes a pose for the camera. The bird, patient #15-3431, is being treated for a broken leg and broken right wing, likely suffered in collision with a car.







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Cool Down Did Not Slow The Action



by Capt. Matt Mitchell

This week marks the official start of winter, although after we experienced a few cold mornings over the weekend the sun quickly came back out and our

temperatures rebounded. During the cooler, windy days fishing was a little tougher as expected but even during the worst conditions to fish we still managed to catch a great mixed bag including the first sheepshead of winter on my boat.

The 10-degree plus drop in water temperatures after the cold front had the fish hiding out in the deep warm water mangrove creeks and channels.

Once tucked away in these creeks and out of the windy rough open water, anglers were greeted by gin clear water and a very consistent bite. Chunks of shrimp fished on a jig head caught lots of sheepshead, snapper and even a few rat redfish. For non-stop action the shrimp chunks were hard to beat.

My go-to, catch-all shrimp jig rig for winter consists of a white 1/4 oz. jig head with a 2/0 hook. When the bite is slow or the water cold, pinch the tail off a live shrimp and thread the hook up inside the bait then pinch off the head. Threading a shrimp chunk on a jig head like this not only gives the bait a smaller profile, puts out scent but also makes it hard for small-mouthed fish to steal it. The weighted jig head keeps the bait down against the bottom, slowing down the drift in a moving tide. Fish this rig as slow as possible, just lifting the rod tip now and again to make sure it's not stuck on the bottom. Even during the toughest fishing conditions this rig will get bit when nothing else will.

As the days warmed I switched up the baits to live shiners and with a little help from live chumming had snook and snapper busting baits in the creeks right



Bob Lauver with a snook caught shiner-fishing with Capt. Matt Mitchell

Send Us Your Fish Tales

The *Island Sun* would like to hear from anglers about their catches. Send us details including tackle, bait and weather conditions, date of catch, species and weight, and include photographs with identification. Drop them at the *Island Sun*, 1640 Periwinkle Way, Suite 2, Sanibel, or email to press@islandsunnews.com; or call 395-1213.

on the surface. Sheltered, sun-warmed bays in these same creeks systems fished with shrimp and shiners under a popping cork were all loaded up with

trout of all sizes. Finding clear water to catch these trout has been the key, even during windy periods. If you can find somewhere sheltered and out of the wind the water will be clear and the perfect set-up for trout fishing

As our waters have only gradually cooled down we are lucky enough to still have great fishing action on many of the premiere species we usually only associate with the warmer months. While you're visiting or have family in town for the holidays, take a break, get away from the crowds and spend some quality time making memories out on the water.

Capt. Matt Mitchell has been fishing local waters since he moved to Sanibel in 1980. He now lives in St. James City and works as a back country fishing guide. If you have comments or questions email captmattmitchell@aol.com.*

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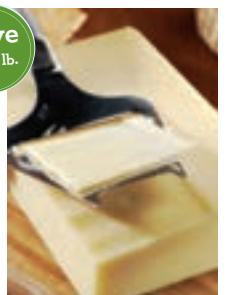
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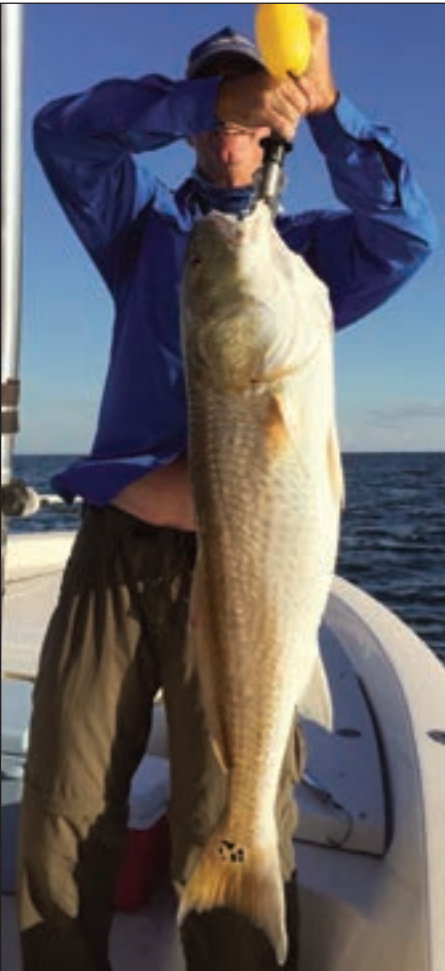
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Fish Caught



Redfish caught on a charter fishing trip with Capt. Paul Primeaux

Capt. Paul Primeaux went fishing with local Bob Moyle and Roger Blouin one recent evening off of Sanibel. The group caught three redfish to 40 inches, weighing between 28 and 30 pounds. They also caught a nice scamp grouper off of Captiva in 35 feet of water – a rare catch, especially in that shallow area.✪



Weighing one of the redfish

Shell Found



Cindy Cherny

Cindy Cherny, visiting Sanibel for the day from Naples, found a junonia while shelling on Lighthouse Beach. “I love Sanibel Island, and shelling is the most fascinating hobby,” said Cherny.✪

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Master Gardener Lecture Series

The next meeting of the Master Gardener lecture series (#76) will be held at the Sanibel Library on Thursday, January 7, at 10 a.m. The speaker will be Amy Bennett Williams, who will read some of her ORAI essays and observations and will entertain questions from the audience.

Williams is former editor of *Gulfshore Life* and current editor of *Tropicalia* published by *The News-Press*. She contributes weekly oral essays on WCGU/PBS Radio and is a senior writer for *The News-Press* column *Field Notes*. She is an essayist, naturalist, book author and ecologist.

Williams never lost her curiosity that she combines with her keen power of observation and reflection to take her readers and listeners to many diverse places while pointing out often unnoticed and unappreciated relationships and connections. Williams gives us a deeper appreciation of our natural environment, which is a complex ecosystem – delicate, dynamic and beautiful.



Amy Bennett Williams

Hear a naturalist with a wealth of experiences and the ability to communicate her observations in a wonderfully clear and poetic fashion.

The lecture is free and open to the public – seating is limited.✧

CROW Calendar Of Events

The Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW) has specialty programs available for residents and visitors. Meet the staff and learn what it takes to rescue, rehabilitate and release wildlife in Southwest Florida.

For reservations, contact Rachel Rainbolt at rainbolt@crowclinic.org or 472-3644 ext. 229 to register. Hours are Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; closed weekends. CROW is located at 3883 Sanibel-Captiva Road.

CROW will be closed Friday, December 25 and Saturday, December 26.

Monday, December 28, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., adults \$7, teens \$5, 12 and under no charge – CROW Case of the Week, presented by a CROW student.

CROW's teaching hospital offers externship, fellowship and internship opportunities for natural science and veterinary medicine students. While on site, students learn the ins and outs of conservation medicine and wildlife rehabilitation, and share their favorite patient stories.

Tuesday, December 29, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., adults \$7, teens \$5, 12 and under no charge – Wild About Rehabilitation, presented by CROW staff.

After a patient stabilizes in the hospital, CROW's rehabilitation staff provides them with a combination of balanced diet, husbandry and physical therapy. This supportive care is necessary to ensure success during the final step in the rehabilitation process. Ask the staff how they work their magic.

Wednesday, December 30, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., adults \$7, teens \$5, 12 and under no charge – Wildlife

Rescue 101, presented by a CROW volunteer.

After a patient stabilizes in the hospital, CROW's rehabilitation staff provides them with a combination of balanced diet, husbandry and physical therapy. Supportive care is necessary to ensure success during the final stage in the rehabilitation process. Ask the staff how they work their magic. There will be a live animal encounter following the presentation.

Thursday, December 31, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., adults \$7, teens \$5, 12 and under no charge – Patient Profiles: Gopher Tortoises, presented by a CROW volunteer.

The life of a gopher tortoise revolves around its burrow. These tortoises are found digging from southern Georgia to southeast Florida. Because of its contributions to the ecosystem, it is classified as a "keystone species." CROW's presenter explains why they are admitted and how the medical staff treats this species.

Friday, January 1 – closed for New Year's Day.✧

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'Ding' Darling Closes On Land Donation

“Ding” Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge accepted and closed on a 9.1-acre land donation on December 7. National Investment and Development Corporation donated the parcel, which is located on Sanibel Island near Clam Bayou and Bowman’s Beach. “The parcel of environmentally sensitive land will become part of the JN ‘Ding’ Darling National Wildlife Refuge complex and will be managed and maintained by refuge staff in coordination with the City of Sanibel,” said John McCabe, the DDWS board member who oversaw negotiations on the land acquisition.

Inaccessible by car, the parcel of environmentally sensitive wetland, mangroves, and sand ridges provides refuge for a number of wildlife species including gopher tortoises and one osprey nest. It was previously approved for construction of a single family home.

The Clam Bayou donation counts as the second land parcel acquired by DDWS in the past few years. In 2013, the friends group raised \$1.4 million dollars to help purchase 6.56 acres of land fronting Tarpon Bay at Woodring Point.



The newly donated refuge tract

“The board feels it’s important to help the refuge preserve as much of the dwindling island habitat as it can, since federal budget cuts preclude government acquisitions,” said Doris Hardy, DDWS president. “We are extremely grateful to National Investment and Development Corporation for helping us achieve our goals.”

Anyone interested in learning more about the work that the DDWS is doing in the area of land acquisition can contact DDWS executive director Birgie Miller at 292-0566.✱

Sanibel Captiva Sail & Power Squadron Cruises To North Captiva



Hosts George Campean, Harvey Padewer, Lynne Campean, Nancy Padewer and guest

On December 9, members of the Sanibel Captiva Sail & Power Squadron cruised from Sanibel and Fort Myers up to North Captiva Island. Eight boats, captained by squadron members, transported 38 people to Barnacles Restaurant for lunch. Hosts Lynne and George Campean and Nancy and Harvey Padewer greeted members at the dock with colorful leis and island-style music.

The power squadron hosts monthly Cruise & Rendezvous events during the season. The next cruise will be to Rumrunners Restaurant in Cape Coral on January 21. It will be hosted by Pat and Walt Knutzen and attendance can be by land or by sea.

If you are be interested in joining squadron members at Rumrunners for the lunch, contact Bob Orr at 579-0139 prior to January 14. At the luncheon, you can learn more about the social activities and boat education classes given by the squadron.✱



Pat Knutzen, Carol Allen and Bob Allen



Rita Simpson, Donna Mount and Joanne Heroy-Giller

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Go Wild For 'Ding' To Feature 'Eggstra Special' Chance Drawing

It has become a tradition for the annual "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge fundraiser to auction off a feather pin and membership in the Jim Sprankle Feather Club, named for the feathers' sculptor and a well-loved Sanibel Island character.

At this year's Go Wild for "Ding" event on Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2016, the tradition continues, but with an "EGGstra special" chance drawing instead of an auction.

Formerly the Trailgate Party, this year's Go Wild for "Ding" -- Dance of the Reddish Egret continues a series of bird-themed events to benefit the birds, other wildlife and conservation and education efforts at JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge on Sanibel Island.

In keeping with the theme, Sprankle will carve a reddish egret feather pin. DDWS will sell 150 replicated reddish egret eggs for \$150 each to be entered in the drawing. The winner need not attend the Go Wild event to claim the prize.

Besides a hand-carved and hand-painted Jim Sprankle pin, the winner becomes a member of the exclusive club, which hosts special events each year with the artist in attendance. Currently, the club includes nearly 50 members.

"In past years, a Sprankle feather has fetched up to \$7,000," said DDWS execu-



Sculptor Jim Sprankle and DDWS president Doris Hardy with a nest of eggs

tive director Birgie Miller. "We thought it would be fun to give more people a shot at the pin and exclusive club through a smaller, tax-deductible donation. Proceeds go to the first-of-its-kind reddish egret study, currently being conducted at the refuge by the Avian Research and Conservation Institute in Gainesville, plus other conservation projects at 'Ding.'"

Attendance to the Feb. 23 event is by reservation only. Tickets to the Go Wild at "Ding" party are \$100 each. Drawing eggs can be purchased as part of the reservation or separately. Visit dingdarlingsociety.org/go-wild for links to purchase reservations and eggs.

"Seating is limited, and we once again anticipate a sold-out crowd," said event committee member and DDWS president Doris Hardy. "We encourage people to reserve early."

For more information on the event or sponsorship opportunities, contact Birgie Miller at 292-0566 or director@dingdarlingsociety.org.

Sponsors for the 2016 Go Wild for "Ding" -- Dance of the Reddish Egret include: **Champion Level:** Mark & Gretchen Banks; **Protector Level:** Sarah Ashton & Jim Metzler, Peter & Paula Bentinck-Smith, Trader's Store & Café, Don & Ann-Marie Wildman; **Defender Level:** Big Red Q Quickprint, Cast About Charters, Hightower Advisors Fort Myers, Mike & Terry Baldwin, Gulf Coast Landscape Supply, George & Wendy's Seafood Grille, Queenie's Ice Cream.*



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Screech Owl Status Report: 2015 Was A Very Good Year

by Jeff Lysiak

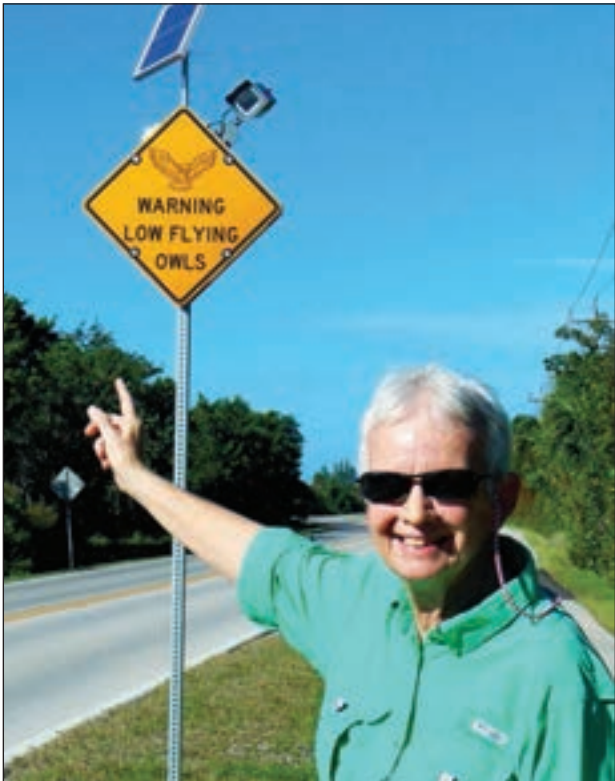
As the year began, long-time island resident and wildlife advocate Doris Hardy noticed a disturbing trend: an increasing number of Eastern screech owls were being struck and killed by vehicles driving along Sanibel-Captiva Road.

The Board President of the “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society, Hardy had personally come upon several dozen dead screech owls during strolls along San-Cap Road over the past several years.

But what could be done?

Hardy took to researching the flight patterns and foraging habits of the species online, compiled the data and brought her concerns before the Sanibel City Council.

“During the past two-and-a-half years, I have come upon 38 screech owls dead along San-Cap Road between mile markers 5 and 7 during early morning walks,” Hardy wrote in her plea to the city. “My neighbors and island birders believe this is due to the documented fact that screech owls fly low – from dusk to dawn – looking down for food. Their eyes are adjusted to the dark, thus they are temporarily blinded by the headlights of vehicles and cannot avoid being hit.”



Sanibel resident Doris Hardy points out the screech owl warning sign for motorists driving west along Sanibel-Captiva Road

photo by Jeff Lysiak

Her letter also proposed a simple solution: adding a pair of warning signs along the stretch of roadway where the low-flying birds were struck most often.

The city, most notably Acting Natural Resources Director Holly Milbrandt, took notice of Hardy’s concern for the local screech owl population. She, too, began doing research on the species. Millbrandt stated in her report to City Manager Judie Zimomra (dated January 30, 2015) that Eastern screech owls are common patients at wildlife rehabilitation centers throughout the eastern United States, including the Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife on Sanibel.

According to Hospital Director Dr. Heather Barron, 63 Eastern screech owls from Lee County were admitted to CROW in 2014, making them the most common owl species admitted (i.e. 50 percent of all owls admitted were Eastern screech owls).

“Of all the Eastern screech owls admitted, 29 (46 percent) were determined to have been hit by a vehicle or suffered unknown trauma,” Millbrandt wrote in her report. “Thirteen of the 63 Eastern screech owls were admitted from Sanibel. Of those, six (46 percent) were determined to be hit by vehicle, with an additional two described as unknown trauma. Two of the six were found on Sanibel-Captiva Road, in the vicinity of Mile Marker 4 (Chateau Sur Mer, Gulf Pines). Of the six determined to be hit by vehicles, four were released, a positive indication that screech owls can survive a vehicle collision.”

The city’s natural resources department, after reviewing a number of options (i.e. including signage, enhanced speed limit awareness/enforcement) to reduce owl mortality on Sanibel, recommended that a pair of warning signs be installed.

Rather than selecting a standard 30-by-30 diamond-shaped yellow sign reading WARNING – LOW FLYING OWLS (with a cost estimate of \$80 to \$100 per sign) a higher visibility option was selected. Similar in size, shape and message, the upgraded signage includes flashing warning lights, illuminated between dusk and dawn when triggered by oncoming traffic. Manufactured by Solar Traffic Signs, Inc. out of Rockdale, Illinois, each sign cost \$1,915.

In early April, city council approved the signage; installation was completed on June 9.

Last week, Hardy reported that the island’s Eastern screech owl population is doing better than ever.

“I think the new signs have made a huge difference,” she said on December 16, noting that she has seen only three owls struck by vehicles over the last six months. “The signs have become sort of a tourist attraction, too – I see people using the shared use path stop and take pictures next to it all the time.”

Hardy, whose bird house at her residence is occupied by a screech owl, offered thanks to the community – along with Millbrandt and Zimomra – for their support in her campaign to help protect the species.

“Holly and Judie were very helpful in getting this done,” she added. “My first thought in putting up a couple of signs – like they do with panthers and other endangered species – was that people will slow down to help wildlife. And these signs have definitely made a difference.”

Although the exact number of Eastern screech owls on Sanibel remains unknown (Millbrandt’s report included statistics from the 2014 Audubon Christmas Bird Count, which observed nine of the birds, the highest number over the previous five years), Hardy hopes to see more owls flying during her frequent morning strolls in the future.

“The signs do work,” she added with a smile. “I was out the other night and saw the lights on the sign flashing, and cars heading that way slowed down. It’s great to see people paying attention to them.”✧



Eastern screech owl photo courtesy Audubon Society of the Everglades

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Shell Of The Week

Giant Tun



by José H. Leal,
PhD, The Bailey-
Matthews National
Shell Museum
Science Director &
Curator

The giant tun,
Tonna galea
(Linnaeus,
1758) is a large
gastropod, with
a shell that may

reach in excess of 150 mm (6 inches). The shell globose, with a short spire, and ornamented with around 20 spiral, strong but flat ridges. A thin shell allows ridges to show on its internal surface. The giant tun has a broad distribution in tropical and subtropical areas of the world's ocean. The species includes a long-lasting, free-living (planktonic) larval stage that allows dispersal via currents over large oceanic expanses. Giant tuns feed on sea cucumbers, sea stars, and sea urchins, using a feeding apparatus that includes a pair of jaws and acidic saliva containing sulfuric acid. Although pieces of shells sometimes wash ashore on Sanibel, this illustration represents the first local record of a whole shell, found in December 2009 by Rob Meyer in shallow water at the eastern end of the island.

Shell Museum Events

The shell museum will be open on



The giant tun, *Tonna galea*. The shell was found on Sanibel by Rob Meyer; young oysters were living inside the shell when Meyer first found it.
photo by José H. Leal.

Christmas Day, December 25, and New Year's Day, January 1, from noon to 4 p.m.

Daily Island Inn Morning Beach Walks (Advance booking required): Join our marine biologist for a beach walk near Island Inn on Sanibel. Walks depart daily from the Island Inn lobby at 9 a.m. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$7 for children. Parking at the Island Inn is free for beach walk participants. Space is limited; book online at shellmuseum.org/events or call 395-2233 to make a reservation. All beach walk guests receive half-off museum admission. (Current Island Inn guests, please book through the Inn).

Mollusk movies and scavenger hunts run continuously throughout each day.

Daily Tank Talks, 11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.: Gain great insights into the fascinating world of mollusks.

Monday at 1:30 p.m.: Carolyn's Collection – A fun and engaging look at quality shells of a private collector (check shellmuseum.org to note any schedule changes).

Tuesday at 1:30 p.m.: Shell Bingo.

Wednesday at 1:30 p.m.: Midday Tank Talk at the museum's live mollusk tank.

Thursday at 1:30 p.m.: Cool Shells See some great shell treasures not on exhibit.

Friday at 1:30 p.m.: Arts & Crafts

Create marine-themed art and take it home with you.

Saturday at 1:30 p.m.: Sanibel Shells Discover the look, feel and subtle differences of local shells.

Sunday at 1:30 p.m.: Shell Bingo.

The Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum is located at 3075 Sanibel-Captiva Road. Call 395-2233 or visit www.shellmuseum.org.

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**LIVE
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CROW hospital director Dr. Heather Barron, left, and education coordinator Rachel Rainbolt photos by Jeff Lysiak

Lunch & Learn Program Added At CROW

by Jeff Lysiak

Earlier this year, the Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW) began offering visitors a behind-the-scenes look at Sanibel's renowned

veterinary hospital and rehabilitation facility. Based upon the positive response to their Wildlife Walk tours, CROW decided to expand the "insiders" program and are now offering Lunch & Learn.

The new 90-minute program features a sit down boxed lunch – catered by the Sanibel Deli – along with a casual conversation and Q-and-A with CROW's hospital director Dr. Heather Barron, and a personal tour of the 12-acre wildlife hospital and rehabilitation

facilities with education coordinator Rachel Rainbolt.

During last week's inaugural group of 10 Lunch & Learn participants, Dr. Heather shared her extensive background in veterinary medicine, talked about recent expansion of facilities and programs at the wildlife clinic, and discussed details involving some of the clinic's current patients.

According to Dr. Heather, several birds are being treated at CROW for red tide brevetoxicosis. Typically, avian patients suffering from the marine poisoning are treated and



Red-tailed hawk recovers in its outdoor enclosure



The soon-to-be-named animal ambassador, a gopher tortoise



During last week's inaugural Lunch & Learn program at CROW, tour participants met a pair of animal ambassadors at the wildlife clinic, including a gopher tortoise and an American kestrel – held by education coordinator Rachel Rainbolt – who call the 12-acre facility home

released with 5 to 10 days; sea turtles, however, take as much as one month for treatment.

"We've had a success rate (for releasing birds affected by red tide) of about 55 percent," she told the group. "Other wildlife hospitals are reporting between 25 and 35 percent success."

Another species Dr. Heather discussed were coyotes, first documented on Sanibel back in 2011. Asked where they were coming from, CROW's lead veterinarian noted that coyotes are good swimmers and may come across Pine Island Sound by water. "I've also seen them cross in the causeway at night; there are a large number of coyotes in the Iona area," she added.

In recent years, coyotes have greatly impacted the island's least tern population along with predation of sea turtle nests. "It's a huge concern to us," said Dr. Heather, who also talked about public education, conservation and preventative medicines and wildlife campaigns including If You Care, Leave It There.

Rainbolt joined the discussion, bringing one of CROW's animal ambassadors – an American kestrel nicknamed Lola – with her. Starting from the Visitor Education Center, the tour walked past the student housing facility down a short road to CROW's two-story hospital building, rehabilitation grounds and outdoor enclosures.

While Rainbolt described the patient admission process as well as the history of CROW, the group was able to peer through windows and watch two clinic staffers treat a juvenile brown pelican. The bird had just been brought in for a small laceration to its neck pouch.



An American kestrel, nicknamed Lola, has been an animal ambassador at CROW for more than two years

Participants also walked past CROW's surgical room – where more than 1,000 procedures are conducted annually – and recovery areas.

Back on the ground level, the group visited the hospital's laundry facilities, feeding area and patient rooms. These include individual rooms for recovering raccoons, opossums, reptiles (where a constant 85 degree temperature is kept) and other animals, large and small.

Behind the hospital are 17 individual enclosures, including several large aviary enclosures for rehabbing birds, plus areas for raccoons, opossums, otters and sea turtles.

CROW's Lunch & Learn with Dr. Heather will be offered once per month through "season" (in January, February and March) beginning at noon. Wearing closed-toed shoes and sunscreen is recommended. Cost is \$30 per person, which includes a boxed lunch with a choice of sandwiches and soft drinks. Limited space is available per tour, and reservations are required. Call 472-3644 ext. 228 or email rainbolt@crowclinic.org to check future dates and availability.

For more information, visit www.crowclinic.org.



HighTower representatives Jack Thomas (far left) and Trevor Swartz (right) recently presented Sarah Lathrop, DDWS assistant director, and Birgie Miller, DDWS executive director, funds to sponsor the 2016 Friday Lecture Series

'Ding' Darling Lecture Series

HighTower Advisors of Fort Myers, along with islanders Mike and Terry Baldwin, will be sponsoring the 2016 "Ding" Darling Nature Store Friday Lecture Series at JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge on Sanibel Island this winter season.

The free 13-lecture series kicks off on Friday, January 8, 2016, in the "Ding" Darling Visitors & Education Center Auditorium with *The Plant World of the Calusa: A View from Pineland*, featuring Cindy Bear from Randell Research Center on Pine Island and author Martha

Kendall. They team up to talk about how local flora helped the Calusa culture thrive centuries ago.

Other lectures will examine rain, red-dish egrets, lionfish, pythons, the Florida Trail and women's fight for the environment in the 20th century.

The "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS) host the lectures, which take place on Fridays at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

"We are pleased to welcome our new sponsors for this season," said Birgie Miller, DDWS executive director. "Their support helps us bring in some top-quality speakers on topics that really matter to our residents and visitors."

The season's complete schedule is listed below. Book signings follow all of the

starred lectures. Seating for the lectures is limited and available on a first-come basis.

There is a new seating policy. Arrive one hour early to assure seating. Early arrivals can save one seat each and then may explore the Visitor & Education Center or Indigo Trail before the lecture starts. Saved seats must be filled 15 minutes before lecture time or risk being reassigned.

As usual, Wildlife Drive is closed on Friday, but visitors are welcome to enjoy the free "Ding" Darling Visitor & Education Center, Indigo Trail and recreational opportunities at Tarpon Bay Explorers, the refuge's official concessionaire located at its Tarpon Bay Recreation Area.

Note: Opinions expressed in guest lectures do not necessarily reflect the views of refuge and DDWS management, staff and board of directors.

For more information, call 472-1100 (ext. 241) or log on to dingdarlingsociety.org/lectures for links to lecture descriptions. For the schedule of the 2016 DDWS Film Series, visit dingdarlingsociety.org/films.

As a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, DDWS works to support JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge's mission of conservation, wildlife and habitat protection, research, and public education through charitable donations and Refuge Nature Shop proceeds.

To support DDWS and the refuge with a tax-deductible gift, visit www.dingdarlingsociety.org or contact Birgie Miller at 292-0566, 472-1100 (ext. 4) or dingdarlingsociety@gmail.com.✪

Shell Found



Max Rosenfeld

Max Rosenfeld, 9, visiting from Glencoe, Illinois, found a lion's paw on the beach at Blind Pass while staying at Compass Point on December 18.✪

Celebrate the Season with Friends & Family

Island Hop – Enjoy lunch on Cabbage Key or Useppa Island, shell at Cayo Costa State Park Beach, dolphin watch while the sun sets into the Gulf of Mexico. Charter one of our boats for the perfect family outing.



For more information on daily cruises and private boat and beach parties call Captiva Cruises at 239-472-5300.

Featuring daily dolphin and sunset cruises, family picnics and island adventures departing McCarthy's Marina and South Seas Island Resort Marina on Captiva Island.

BIG ARTS

Workshops
And Seminars

BIG ARTS offers more than 270 workshops and seminars this season – a myriad of opportunities to explore your creative skills and expand your mind. The following sessions begin soon:

DANCE

Adult Tap

Get a fun, well-rounded workout while learning the basic steps and techniques of tap dancing (for experienced dancers) with Bobby Logue, four weeks: members \$67, non-members \$84. Tuesdays, 12 to 1:30 p.m., January 5 to 26.

Beginners Tap

Introduction to tap, including basic techniques, concepts and styles with Bobby Logue, five weeks: members \$56, non-members \$70. Fridays, 10:45 to 11:45 a.m., January 8 to February 26 (no class January 15, 29, February 12).

Intermediate Tap

Learn more complex dance combinations and the ability to communicate through dance with Bobby Logue, five weeks: members \$84, non-members \$104. Fridays, 9 to 10:30 a.m., January 8 to February 26 (no class January 15, 29, February 12).

DISCUSSION

Drama Discussion Group: View, Read and Discuss the Theater (all levels) with Bob Ogden, 13 weeks, members \$60, non-members \$75. Fridays, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., January 8 to April 1.

DRAWING

Constructing the Human Figure in Simple Forms. Learn how to draw the human figure from simple yet characteristic shapes and forms (beginners and intermediate) with Francesco Gillia, four weeks: members \$85, non-members \$106. Mondays, 1 to 3:30 p.m., January 4 to 25.

Instructed Life Drawing

Introduction to gesture and structural drawing and applying various notions learned in class (beginners) with Francesco Gillia, four weeks: members \$115, non-members \$144. Mondays, 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., January 4 to 25.

Life Drawing (non-instructed open studio). Improve drawing skills by using the living human form as subject, in short and sustained poses (all levels) with Carol Rosenberg, four weeks: members \$64, non-members \$80. Fridays, 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., January 8 to 29.

FINE CRAFTS

Glass Fusing

Create different functional or expressive forms of glass using various forming techniques (all levels) with Petra Kaiser, four weeks: members \$99, non-members \$124. Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. January 6 to 27 or Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. January 7 to 28.

MUSIC

Community Chorus Rehearsals, Semester II (all levels) with Steve Cramer, 13 weeks: members \$110, non-members \$138. Tuesdays, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., January 5 to March 22.

PAINTING

Magic of Still Life

Learn how to select, arrange and paint beautiful still lifes like the old masters (all levels) with Mary Klunk, four weeks: members \$85, non-members \$106. Mondays, 1 to 3:30 p.m., January 4 to 25.

Portrait Painting

Learn to create an accurate representation of a portrait model (all levels) with Mary Klunk, four weeks: members \$85 non-members \$106. Mondays, 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., January 4 to 25.

Pouring Textures with Watercolors

Get down and dirty and create various stages of paintings using this method of watercolor pouring (beginners) with Bea Pappas, three weeks: members: \$131 non-members: \$164. Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., January 5 to 19.

Printing with Gelli Products

Gelli is an easy, speedy way to print monotypes or collage papers (beginners) with Bea Pappas, three weeks: members \$131, non-members \$164. Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., January 6 to 20.

Experimental Master Class

Work on your own projects in this advanced workshop with the teacher on hand for any guidance (advanced) with Bea Pappas, three weeks: members \$131, non-members \$164. Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., January 7 to 21.

A Gentle Introduction to Watercolor Painting

A great way for beginners to try watercolor painting and get a basic understanding of this art form

(beginners) with Mary Lou Peters, one day: members \$45, non-members \$56. Tuesday, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., January 5.

Palette Knife Painting

Learn how painting with a palette knife produces quite different results than painting with a brush (beginners and intermediate) with Herbert Sklar, four weeks: members \$170, non-members \$213. Wednesdays, 1:30 to 3 p.m., January 6 to 27.

Acrylics for Beginner and Intermediate Painters

Discover the joy of creating paintings from start to finish with acrylic paint with Jane Hudson, four weeks: members \$80, non-members \$100. Fridays, 9:15 to 11:45 a.m., January 8 to 29.

Painting Oil and/or Acrylics

Learn to paint from start – monochromatic under-painting, design – to signature (all levels) with Linda Benson, four weeks: members \$110, non-members \$138. Tuesdays, 9 to 11 a.m., January 5 to 26.

Decorative Painting/Creative Arts

Create new works of art by painting and decorating old pieces of furniture and accessories (all levels) with Lois Ferguson, four weeks: members \$100, non-members \$125. Wednesdays, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., January 6 to 27.

Watercolor: Realistic and Abstract

Achieve a higher level of satisfaction in watercolor painting with various new techniques (intermediate and advanced) with Anne Kittel, four weeks: m embers \$84k, non-members \$104. Thursdays, 1:30 to 4:30 p.m., January 7 to 28.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography, Beginners

Understand how your digital camera's icons and settings are used in photography with Denny Souers, four weeks: members \$111, non-members \$139. Thursday, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., January 7 to 28.

POTTERY

Clay, Sculpting, Ceramics & Pottery on the Wheel

If you'd like to try clay hand building, sculpture or making pots on the wheel, this is the class for you (all levels) with Marjorie Bronsted, six weeks: members \$98, non-members \$123. Wednesdays, 3:30 to 6 p.m., January 6 to February 10.

Wheel Throwing/Hand Building

Discover the almost unlimited ways to manipulate clay (all levels) with Joe Koch, six weeks: members: \$98, non-members: \$123. Tuesdays, 1 to 4 p.m., January 5 to February 9.

TECHNOLOGY

Adobe Elements, Beginner

Learn about Adobe Elements (Photoshop) as well as an overview of Windows Explorer file manager with Denny Souers, four weeks: members \$80, non-members \$100. Mondays, 1 to 4 p.m., January 4 to 25.

WRITING

Free Demo – Writing Poetry:

What Is Inside Shines Out

This free, one-hour class touches on how to find the poetry inside yourself with Myra Klahr, one day, Friday, 2 to 3 p.m., January 8

Creative Writing: Fiction/Memoir

Write and share compact vignettes of memoir or fiction in a supportive, congenial atmosphere with Steve Oberbeck, four weeks: members \$54, non-members \$68. Mondays, 1 to 3 p.m., January 4 to 25.

Let's Write Poetry

Stimulate your creativity in multi-media ways to initiate ideas for writing poems with Lorraine Walker Williams, four weeks: members \$75, non-members \$94. Wednesdays, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., January 6 to 27.

Call 239-395-0900 or stop by the BIG ARTS Center at 900 Dunlop Road, Sanibel, to enroll. For complete course descriptions and the full season's workshops and seminars schedule, visit www.bigarts.org/workshops, or email info@bigarts.org to request our Workshops & Seminars Guide.*

Holiday Cruises

Captiva Cruises Holiday Cruise schedule departing from Cape Haze Marina runs December 21 through January 2. Daily cruises include an Island Eco-Expedition to Don Pedro Island State Park from 9 a.m. to noon or 1 to 4 p.m. and a Dolphin & Wildlife Sunset Cruise from 4:30 to 6 p.m.

The Island Eco-Expedition offers passengers a narrated cruise on Lemon Bay to learn about wildlife and local history, as they travel through mangrove islands for great photo opportunities. The expedition includes a two-hour visit to this remote barrier island beach. The shaded beach pavilion with restrooms is perfect for family picnics. Bring snacks or pack a lunch.

Those with a sense of adventure may search the beach for shark's teeth which make memorable souvenirs. The crew will help identify the different species. Cost: \$20 adults, \$15 children.

Dolphins, eagles, manatees and other marine life can be viewed up close on the Dolphin & Wildlife Sunset Cruise. As the sun dips into the Gulf of Mexico, passengers will view a sunset at Stump Pass. The crew will help identify and spot birds and other wildlife in the waters of Lemon Bay. Cost: \$25 adults, \$15 children.

Reservations are required by calling 472-5100. Cruises depart from Cape Haze Marina, 6950 Placida Road.*

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Rachel Carson Lecture Set For February 26

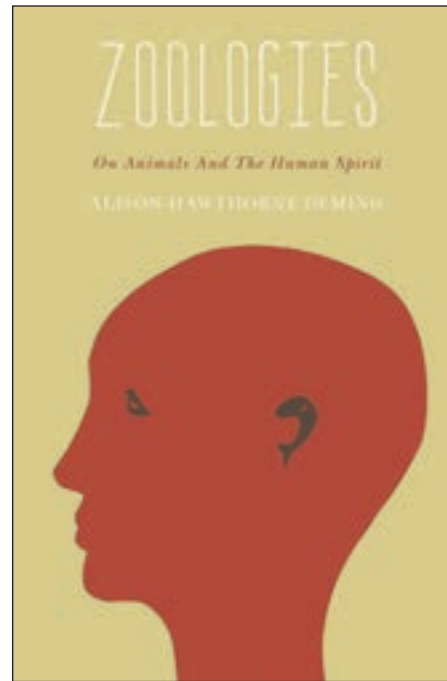
The Center for Environmental and Sustainability Education announced that poet and essayist Alison Hawthorne Deming will be presenting the 2016 Rachel Carson Distinguished Lecture. The 2016 lecture, entitled *Zoologies: Climate Change and the Spiritual Force of Animals*, will be held on Friday, February 26 at 7 p.m. at Saint Michael and All Angels Church on Sanibel.

During the lecture, Deming will explore themes from her latest book, *Zoologies: On Animals and the Human Spirit*. Her new book explores the mystery and wonder of shared early experience with animals and illustrates how much animals have contributed to the development of the human psyche. Deming's talk will examine what animals meant to early humans and what they mean to the contemporary imagination. In *Zoologies*, Deming writes, "Animals surrounded our ancestors. Animals were their food, clothes, adversaries, companions, jokes, artistic inspiration and their



Alison Hawthorne Deming

gods." Deming wants readers to know that today, however, most of us have a very different relationship to animals than our ancestors did. She explains, "In this age of mass extinction and the industrialization of life, it is difficult to touch the skin of this long and deep companionship...." Deming's lecture will illuminate why we must understand this



deep kinship with our fellow creatures and why this understanding may be the inspiration we need to renew hope and faith as we rise to the challenge of climate change.

In 2014, Deming was appointed the Agnese Nelms Haury chair in

environment and social justice at the University of Arizona. She is the author of *Science and Other Poems*, and winner of the Walt Whitman Award of the Academy of American Poets for *The Monarchs: A Poem Sequence*, *Genius Loci* and *Rope*. Her nonfiction books include *Temporary Homelands*, *The Edges of the Civilized World*, which was a finalist for the PEN Center West Award, and *Writing the Sacred Into the Real*. Deming edited *Poetry of the American West: A Columbia Anthology* and co-edited with Lauro E. Savoy *The Colors of Nature: Essays on Culture, Identity, and the Natural World*. Deming is a 2015 Guggenheim fellow, currently working on the essay collection *Lament for the Makers*. In 2016, Deming will be releasing two new books of poetry, *Stairway to Heaven* and *Death Valley: Painted Light* with photographer Stephen Strom.

Immediately following the lecture, the center will host a reception and book signing in the parish hall. The 2016 Rachel Carson Distinguished Lecture is free and open to the public. For more information, visit www.fgc.edu/cese, email thecenter@fgcu.edu or call 590-7025.✱

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Highlights Of The Captiva Holiday Village Golf Cart Parade



Hundreds of people lined the streets of Captiva last Saturday afternoon for the 6th annual Golf Cart Parade, with dozens of decorated carts driving along Captiva Drive and Andy Rosse Lane
photos by Jeff Lysiak



Event volunteers Mike Hanna, Debbie Bubley, Julian Codner and Jerry McClure



South Seas' Director of Recreation Rachele Noce, left, introduces judges Pam Rambo, Paul DeArmond and Queenie Viglione



Snowman-clad parade participants Susie Rathbone, Denice Beggs, John Beggs and Lisa Riordan



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First-place winners in the non-commercial category – Baking Spirits Bright – included Jaclyn, Betty and Julie Balan and Jessica DeCarlo



REMAX of the Island's parade entry – featuring Nichole and Ryan Block as Cindy Lou Who and The Grinch – won Best of Show honors



The Captiva Island Fire Control District drove Santa Claus along the parade route



Members of the McHale family, visiting from Florida and Pennsylvania



Sunny Island Adventures' parade entry, topped with a toppled inflatable Santa, also featured simulated snow



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Anne Frank Intolerance painting by Myra Roberts

Roberts Art Exhibit And Book Signing

The Sanibel Public Library announced that it will host an exhibition of works by renowned Sanibel-based artist Myra Roberts. The opening reception is Thursday, January 7 from 5 to 7 p.m., and refreshments are sponsored by No No-See-Um company founder Caroline Semerjian. The exhibition runs through January 29.

Retro Art of Myra Roberts by Brian Johnson, a brand-new book, will be available for purchase at the reception. Roberts will personally inscribe each copy sold. A portion of proceeds from book and painting sales will go to the Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife. The exhibition will include a portrait of Ozzie the eagle, works from Roberts's historical social commentary series, and a preview of her newest project, *Dream Peace*.

WGPU Public Media, in partnership with the Southwest Florida Community Foundation and the Women's Fund of Southwest Florida, has recently chosen Roberts as one of five 2016 Makers: Women Who Make Southwest Florida. Nominated by the public, the selection of Roberts was based on her impact in the arts and social justice in Southwest Florida.

Roberts's paintings are in public and private collections across the United States and Europe, including the estate of Robert Rauschenberg. Roberts received letters

of endorsement for her Faces of Anne Frank project from former Secretary of State Hilary Rodham Clinton, and the Jane Goodall Institute. Roberts donates works to be sold at auction by charities such as CROW, the Ecostudies Institute of Mount Vernon, Washington; the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation, and Sanibel-Captiva Cares/Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida.

For further information about the exhibition, contact Sanibel Library Director Margaret Margaret Mohundro at 472-2438. To find out more about Roberts's works, visit myraroberts.com.

Help Name CROW's New Animal Ambassador

A male gopher tortoise (patient #15-2068) was brought to CROW on July 3, 2015 after being hit by a car in Lehigh Acres. Injuries include the loss of nails on the right forearm leaving the tortoise unable to dig burrows or defend himself, thus making him non-releasable.

Animal Ambassador name suggestions can be emailed to crowrehab@gmail.com by Monday, January 4. CROW will then select the top five names and share them on Facebook for fans to make the final vote.

CROW's ambassadors are the backbone of the educational programs enabling audiences to get up close and personal while teaching respect for wildlife and the environment.



CROW ambassador gopher tortoise

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Bailey's Offers Another Limited Edition Ornament

Bailey's General Store introduces the seventh in its series of limited edition collector ornaments. This year's ornament keeps with the tradition of an icon well known to island residents and visitors alike, the National Cash Register, which is on display at the front of Bailey's General store for all to see as they finish their shopping and pass through the sales registers.

This brass cash register harks back to an earlier time in the history of Bailey's. While today's computer scanners and displays are efficient, this cash register represents the first generation of mechanized sales processing. No longer was money kept in a cash box and receipts recorded by hand in a ledger and cash book. This cash register actually would total up purchases made by a customer and display the total due on the window above the keys.

This model has a top sign saying Amount Purchased above the window with a hand pointing out the amount of purchase, today it permanently displays 00.00 Dollars and Cents. Below is a flap listing the individual identifying information for this machine, four rows of cash keys and a white marble coin shelf. Below the marble coin shelf is the cash and coin drawer which would open upon the total of the sale much like today's more modern registers.

This particular National Cash Register model was originally patented in 1896, but was put into active use some time following the many changes brought about by the hurricane of 1926 and



The 2015 limited edition Bailey's General Store collector ornament

would have been phased out of active use by the early 1950s with the advent of more modern equipment.

Each ornament is made of 24k gold on brass and comes in a presentation folder showing the Bailey's logo on the front. The folder contains a certificate indicating the limited edition ornament number and giving a brief description of the particular significance of the design. The ornaments, certificates and folders are produced by The Charleston Mint of Brevard, North Carolina.

The ornaments are available for sale exclusively at Bailey's service desk or online at baileys-sanibel.com.



Simplicity by Joan Klutch

Joint Exhibition At Phillips Gallery

Opposites Attract: Works on Paper and Canvas, will be on display through Saturday, January 2 at BIG ARTS Phillips Gallery.

Award-winning island artist Joan Klutch joins Heidi Schmitz and Francesco Gillia in a show that packs a solid punch with Klutch's bold abstract expressionism and fluid images using mixed media and collage. There's nothing tentative about her works which combine color, form and technique in powerful explosions of motion and emotion on paper and canvas. Gillia's work of nudes influenced by Greek and Roman marble statues are powerful and provocative. Schmitz's abstract paintings combine and unify col-

ors and forms in one in order to stress the tension and fascination of the painting.

The carefully curated show is a compilation of recent pieces by each artist. Klutch both calms and excites in *Simplicity*, one of the larger works in the exhibit. In stark contrast are the bold and powerful strokes of *Insight with Heart*. Klutch has described her artistic vision as "the ability to go to the extreme without going over the edge," and she has accomplished it here. Klutch is a poet with the brush as a poet is with verse.

Schmitz's paintings are colorful, large abstracts and floral motifs.

Gillia looks at the body as architecture and uses various aesthetic strategies to strengthen his nudes with a sense of beauty.

The Opposites Attract exhibition, which runs through January 2, is open to the public Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Summit Christian Students Entertain At Luminary



Harrison Jones, Kelyse Schafer, Daniel Tison, Taylor Peach, Jase Foster, Kahanu Otalvaro, Jony Chavez-Santana, Kekoa Otalvaro, Tegan Clark, Chloe Selby and Gretha Livermon

Students at Summit Christian Preschool were part of the Luminary celebration at Sanibel Community Church on Friday, December 4. This class of 3- and 4-year-olds (VPK) have preschool Mondays through Thursdays. For more information about registration or a tour of the preschool, contact Kathy Stanley at 482-7007.

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Monday Night Movie

Woman In Gold



by Di Saggau
The BIG ARTS Monday Night Movie for December 28 is *Woman In Gold* starring Helen Mirren in a tug of war over Gustav Klimt's masterpiece *Portrait of Adele Block-Bauer*. The

painting is called the *Mona Lisa* of Austria. The film rests heavily on the shoulders of Mirren, whose character, Maria Altmann, is a proud, elderly Austrian Jewish woman who fled the



Nazi scourge and settled in California. While attending her sister's funeral in 1998, she reflects back on the past and ends up waging a legal battle to regain possession of several masterpieces, including the priceless Klimt canvas the Nazis stole from her family 60 years earlier. The movie begins when Maria finds letters among her late sister's effects that mention the paintings. She calls upon J. Randol Schoenberg, grandson of famed Austrian composer Arnold Schoenberg, an inexperienced young lawyer played by Ryan Reynolds. He persuades her

to accompany him to Vienna, a city to which she vowed she would never return after fleeing the Nazis. For her, it's less about the money, and the paintings are worth millions, but about righting a terrible overlooked wrong. While in Vienna, Maria is reminded numerous times about her childhood. The film's most gripping scenes are flashbacks portraying the Nazis' triumphant entrance into Vienna. When the young Maria flees Vienna, her parents' final words to her are "Remember us." The bad guys in the film are modern-day Austrians who want to keep the famous painting in Austria. The good guys are Holocaust refugees who take Maria's case all the way to the United States Supreme Court. Mirren gives an excellent portrayal of a fearsome woman

who doesn't suffer fools. Her chilly reserve and aristocratic manners camouflage a reservoir of feeling. *Woman In Gold* is a complicated story with many debatable questions about artistic provenance and ownership. The film runs 110 minutes, Admission to BIG ARTS Monday Night Film Series is \$10 and all screenings begin at 7 p.m. in Schein Performance Hall. Each film is followed by a complimentary reception and discussion. Film Patrons: June Rosner and Russ Bilgore. Film Sponsors: Bank of the Islands, Stan and Visnja Gembicki, John R. Wood Properties, Penny Wilkinson and Hyde Tucker. Film Supporters: Sanibel Taxi and Jerry's Foods of Sanibel. BIG ARTS is located at 900 Dunlop Road on Sanibel. Tickets are available at the door or by calling 395-0900.*

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Academy Award Contender's Series
Contender Series Begins January 6



by Stan Gembicki
The 2016 Academy Awards Contender's Series at Island Cinema starts on Wednesday, January 6 at 12:30 p.m. and will continue for eight

Wednesdays at the same time through February 24. Each week, one of the top Academy Award contenders will be screened followed by a film discussion at the Island Cinema for those who wish to attend. Films will be announced as soon as they are confirmed usually a week prior to the screening. The eight films in the series will include some of the following: *Spotlight*, *The Revenant*, *Bridge of Spies*, *Room*, *Brooklyn*, *The Martian*, *Carol*, *The Big Short*, *Joy*, *The Danish Girl* and *The Hateful Eight*. Tickets are available in advance at the Island Cinema box office. Call 472-1701 for more information.*

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Kiwanis Christmas Poem

submitted by Eric Pfeifer

'T was the night before Christmas,
And all through the house,
Not a creature was stirring,
Not even a mouse.
Then all of a sudden
Arose a Kiwanis man,
"Let's take care of the youth
Around the this great land."
The money is raised,
Through *Diner Delight* books,
And spaghetti and meatballs,
By various cooks.
Our leader summoned
Our dubious Board,
And said, "Give it all out,
We shall not hoard."
It begins with some men
Donning an unfitting red suit,
They never look pretty,
And certainly not cute.
They load up the cars,
On the Santa Toy Run,
To make sure every child
Will have Christmas Fun.
In case there's a child
Who we don't know out there,
We give even more,
To Friends Who Care.
Then we keep going,
It doesn't end after Yule,
We are always supporting,
The Sanibel School.

This year was a biggie,
With the doctors and nurses,
For The Children's Hospital,
We dug into our purses.
At the hospital, if you look
Beyond all the carts,
We also support
Healthcare and the Arts.
We all think that learning
Is fun and so cool,
We gave out 31 scholarships
For kids and their school.
Learning begins
At the Children's Education Center,
When giving to kids,
We also help mentor.
As the boys then get older
And become young men,
We give our support to
Take Stock in Children.
BIG Arts needs our help
For kids in the Summer,
If they didn't learn music,
It would be a big bummer.
The Symphony benefits
From our annual giving.
The beautiful music
Makes life worth living.
There are more ways to learn
Beyond books and tough courses,
Special Equestrians teaches,
Kids on their horses.
And speaking of horses,
If you want a few kicks,
Come watch the Bike Rodeo
Filled with great tricks.
We like to support

The Sea School's Octifest,
What else do we do?
How about the rest?
FISH is our friend,
We can't seem to stare,
When we walk in and see
The cupboards all bare.
Sanibel has some shells,
And this we all know.
The Shell Musuem is our friend,
To learn Malacology, you must go.
When kids get sick,
We become fighters,
That's why we support
Southwest Florida's Candlelighters.
Some children need help,
And more than just bids,
Kiwanis always supports
Voices For Kids.
Animals need help too,
This we all know,
We never forget to support
Ding Darling and CROW.
We help kids on their quest
For Science Fair gold,
And the Sanibel Library,
Preserve books of old.
We want every child's future
To seem bright, never bleak,
So we add to our list
Autism Speaks.
Where else would you eat meatballs,
Showing off that new blouse,
If we didn't contribute to
The Community House.
Now soccer, now football,
Now tennis and SWAT,

We give to them all,
We love them a lot.
On baseball, on softball,
And tee ball too,
We help with gloves and bats,
And not just a few.
We support Island Night
To see kids on their floats,
Hoping for sunshine,
Not rain filled moats.
If you have ever wondered
Why our bellies are stout,
We love our cookies,
Ask any Girl Scout.
I hope you enjoy
This short little ditty,
We also took care,
Of some kids at the City.
After reading our story,
And checking it twice,
Do you think we can be
Even more nice?
Call any Kiwanian,
And say, "Do not forget,
To please include us,
In your next year's budget."
So if you think our world
Is happy dollars and bad jokes,
And parking is guided,
By yellow-shirted blokes,
Please read this again
And count all the groups,
If you like what you see
Thank our Kiwanian Troops.✱

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Arts & Crafts Fair

The Rotary Club of Sanibel-Captiva is preparing for the 33rd annual Arts & Crafts Fair on Saturday and Sunday, February 13 and 14, at the Sanibel Community House at 2173 Periwinkle Way. The event attracts more than 10,000 attendees each year.

The Rotary Arts & Crafts Fair is the premier arts & crafts fair in all of Southwest Florida. The event is a celebration of community, unique arts & crafts from around the country, entertainment, food and displays of community and charity projects supported by the Rotary Club. The public is invited to attend free of charge with a suggested \$5 donation at the entrance.

With more than 300 artists applying

from all across the nation, the selection committee was challenged in choosing the very best for the event. The fair runs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday. More than 100 participating artists will offer unique gifts, wearable art, sculptures, paintings, photography, wood working, painted furniture, jewelry and more. Many local businesses have donated outstanding items for the silent auction, including memorabilia, weeklong beachfront stays along with spectacular pieces donated by other artists.

Proceeds from the Sanibel Arts & Crafts Fair are used to meet community needs, fund local scholarships and for human service needs worldwide. For more information on the arts & crafts fair, call 312-3181 or visit <http://www.sanibelart-fair.com> or their Facebook page.*

From page 19

American Bittern

to get annoyed because of the sling. It's starting to get red," said Melissa Fox, certified vet tech and veterinary assistant. Dr. Molly interjected that the patient was scheduled for an extensive progress exam that day, and said, "When I sedate him, maybe I'll put something like Desitin, or

some other topical, to help the abrasions on his leg if we need to."

*CROW (Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife, Inc.) is a non-profit wildlife hospital providing veterinary care for native and migratory wildlife from our local area. The hospital accepts patients seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mail donations to PO Box 150, Sanibel, FL 33957. Call 472-3644 or visit: www.crowclinic.org.**

Book Review

Pursuit Of The Weapon From Hell

by Di Saggau

Sanibel author William Hallstead has written a new book dealing with the theft of nuclear warheads. *Pursuit Of The Weapon From Hell* is a fascinating read from start to finish. The book peaked my interest when I read an introductory note. Here's what it said. "In the late 1950s and early 1960s, U.S. scientists at California's Ernest O. Lawrence Radiation Laboratory (now the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory) were developing a nuclear-powered, multi-warhead cruise missile. Shortly after they successfully tested the missile's engine, the entire project was determined to have such an unacceptably huge mass-destruction potential, it was canceled." Now that's scary in itself.

Hallstead told me that he called the laboratory and they sent him information on the weapon. They built it and tested it and then abandoned what was known as Project Pluto. His book picks up from there and transports the reader to present day and a theft that has Air Force colonels and generals extremely nervous.

Brigadier General Oliver Madden realizes the significance of the theft. The weapon involved a Cruise missile with a load of multiple Hydrogen bombs. It was considered too dangerous to fly over friendly territory and now someone has stolen some of the components that were in storage. Madden passes the mess on to Major Pete Pappas, a capable officer he can trust to find the antiquated cruise missile. Pappas, in turn, seeks help from Captain Steve Gammon, a reserve officer who is willing to do whatever the country needs. His undercover partner is Captain Laura Gorcy, a no-nonsense officer trained in the intelligence field, gorgeous and feisty. Together they pose as husband and wife on a typical vacation in Mexico



to find the culprits and the weapon.

In addition to what was stolen, the culprits would have to supply fuel rods and booster rockets to make the weapon work. They would not be easy to replace, but not impossible for a determined group with sufficient financial and logistical resources. The Committee of Three could be the group to finish the job. Their code names are Lynx, Cheetah and Stallion. Their nationalities, Iranian, Iraqi and Libyan. They are determined in their quest and brutal in the way they carry it out. You would not want to run into them under any circumstance.

The book is a real page turner as the military rushes to find out who stole the warheads. And why? You will also enjoy reading the Author's Note at the end of the book which explains the Pluto Project. Hallstead told me he wrote an article about the project some time ago and then decided to write a novel about it.

Pursuit Of The Weapon From Hell is available online and at local book stores. Pick up a copy, then sit back and enjoy.*

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Library Programs

January At Captiva Memorial Library

The Captiva Memorial Library is offering the following free programs for children and adults in January:

Adult Programs

Foreign Film Screening: *Teddy Bear*
4 p.m. Wednesday, January 13
Danish with English subtitles

Physically massive but shy and socially inept, a 38-year-old Danish bodybuilder longs to fall in love – but finds it impossible under the disapproving eye of his mother. Traveling to Thailand, he learns some unexpected lessons about life and love. Sponsored by the Captiva Memorial Library Board and the Captiva Civic Association.

Seeds For Change: The Lives and Work of Suri and Edda Sehgal

4 p.m. Wednesday, January 20

Author Marly Cornell will discuss her book *Seeds For Change*. Crop scientist, seeds-man and agricultural visionaries Suri and Edda Sehgal will attend to share their enduring and lifelong commitment to helping others. Sponsored by the Captiva Memorial Library Board and the Captiva Civic Association.

Identity Theft

4 p.m. Wednesday, January 27

This powerful one-hour presentation by David B. Watts, legal investigator and fraud examiner, will change everything

you thought you knew about identity theft. Sponsored by the Captiva Memorial Library Board and the Captiva Civic Association.

Children's Programs

Cool Antarctica: Fun Facts about the World's Largest Desert

3 p.m. Saturday, January 2

Learn about Antarctica and do ice experiments.

Saturday Afternoon Movie Time - *Minions*

2 p.m. Saturday, January 16

The *Despicable Me* supporting characters get their very own spin-off. Rated PG. Children under the age of 8 must be accompanied by an adult.

The Captiva Memorial Library is located at 11560 Chapin Lane on Captiva. For more information about a program or to register, call the library at 533-4890. A sign language interpreter is available with five business days notice to library staff.

Check the Lee County Library System's website at www.leelibrary.net to find out about programs at other locations. Call the host library, or Telephone Reference at 479-INFO (4636), for more information about a specific program.✱

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Poet's Corner



We invite submissions from local poets. Anyone interested may submit their work via email to tutsie@centurylink.net. Each week, individual work will be showcased.

selected by Tanya Hochschild

Some Ogden Nash Limericks

by Ogden Nash

Limericks for 24th December, by Ogden Nash, America's laureate of light verse.

An exiled Iraqi went back to his home with a ewe in his pack. He said people all knew every Q needs a U so he put the ewe back in Iraq

A lama of outer Mongolia was seized with acute melancholia. When the Chinese asked why

he could only reply,
You'd chop off my head if I tolia.

There was a young girl of Milwaukee whose voice was scr-r-reechy and squawky. her friends were emphatic it sounded like static and called her their Milwaukee-talkie.

Asked a patient before appendectomy,

"What kind of a fee d'you expectomy?"

Said the doc, "If your pulse indicates the results, anything but a post-dated checktomy."

Ogden Nash published humorous poems in *The New Yorker*, he published more than two dozen books of verse, screenplays, lyrics and scripts for the theater, children's stories and essays. He performed on radio and at lecture platforms around the U.S., but the bedrock of his art are his poems and their wit.✱

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More than 120 new year's revelers took part in last year's Polar Bear Plunge, which is held every January 1 on Tarpon Bay Beach beginning at noon. Here, the brave "bears" took part in the traditional group hug/huddle in the Gulf of Mexico. photos by Jeff Lysiak

Polar Bear Plunge Planned For New Year's Day

by Jeff Lysiak

The 17th annual meeting of the Sanibel-Captiva Chapter of the National Polar Bear Club will take place at "the crack of noon" on Thursday, January 1 at Tarpon Bay Beach (the south/gulf end of Tarpon Bay Road) on Sanibel.

The Polar Bear Plunge was started on Sanibel by John "Papa Bear" Carney back in 2000. That year, 29 people showed up to "brave" the New Year's Day dip into

the Gulf of Mexico. Earlier this year, more than 120 bears took part in the plunge.

The meeting begins with the singing of the traditional Polar Bear anthem by the "Cubbies" (first-timers), "Juveniles" (one-time previous dippers) and seasoned "Adult" bears (those who took the plunge in previous years).

The Polar Bear Anthem (sung to the tune of *God Bless America*):

While the storm clouds gather far across the sea

Let us swear allegiance to our club that's free

Let us all be hopeful for a day with sun

As we raise our glasses and we have some fun

continued on page 23B



John "Papa Bear" Carney led the group in singing the Polar Bear Anthem prior to this year's plunge



During SCCF's annual meeting, held on December 15 on the Nature Center's porch, Campaigns & Legacy programs leader Cheryl Giattini speaks in front of more than 125 people who attended the gathering photos by Jeff Lysiak

SCCF Hosts Annual Meeting, Thanks Supporters

by Jeff Lysiak

A capacity crowd filled the SCCF Nature Center's porch to attend the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation's annual meeting, where

members of the board, staff, supporters and volunteers listened to a recap of the foundation's accomplishments over the past year, said goodbye to outgoing and welcomed incoming board members, and looked forward to 2016.

After beginning the late afternoon gathering and mingling with refreshments and snacks, outgoing board president Linda Uhler called the meeting to order. She noted that over the past 12 months,



Sandy Gross and Andrea Koss introduce the inaugural "Ding" Darling Brush of Excellence Award winner, Jaye Boswell, right

SCCF has been successful in achieving a number of its goals. They included improvements to the Bailey Homestead Preserve (which will open the main building early next year) and moving the Native Plant Nursery to the property; working towards expanding the SCCF Marina

Laboratory at Tarpon Bay; improving the foundation's public outreach program (through the hiring of outreach coordinator Alexis Horn); and establishing/expanding housing for interns and visiting scientists.

Executive Director Erick Lindblad lauded continued on page 2B



Cheryl Giattini and Gwenda Hiett-Clements

From page 1B

SCCF Annual Meeting

the accomplishments SCCF has witnessed during 2015, which led him to reminding attendees of the foundation's mission statement:

- Ensure the protection of land for wildlife habitat
- Enhance the ecological integrity of island habitats and quality of surrounding waters through responsible stewardship
- Inspire the community to increase its dedication to the preservation and stewardship of natural resources and wildlife habitat
- Enhance the capacity of the organization to achieve its mission



SCCF's outgoing board president Linda Uhler and Robbie Roepstorff

"Know that daily, that's our goal, and we have a great staff to help us



Executive Director Erick Lindblad

accomplish that," said Lindblad, who also thanked the foundation's many partners, in particular the City of Sanibel and the JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge. "There are no fences between our properties."

Lindblad also lauded the work on helping re-establish oyster reefs in local waters through an ongoing project coordinated by SCCF's Marine Lab. Since this past spring, staff and volunteers have moved more than 200,000 pounds of shell by hand and distributed into shallow waters within San Carlos Bay and Tarpon Bay.

During the nearly two-hour meeting, the audience heard reports from Treasurer Don Rice, Campaigns & Legacy programs coordinator Cheryl Giattini, plus a number of special guests.

Rice noted during his presentation that SCCF's finances are sound, with an endowment exceeding \$4.5 million. "We are viable, strong, and will continue to provide a valuable service to this community," he added.

Giattini introduced Roni Jo Freer, John Shorck, Gwenda Hiett-Clements and Len Clements, and Bill and Ruth Brooks as the newest Legacy Fund inductees recognized for financial pledges to the foundation. The Brooks' dedicated their funds towards the Marine Lab.

Jaye Boswell, local artist and retired teacher who helped establish the National Junior Duck Stamp art contest, was presented with the SCCF "Ding" Darling Brush of Excellence Environmental Art Program Award. The newly-established honor was awarded to Boswell by board trustee Sandy Gross and Andrea Koss, the wife of Jay Norwood "Ding" Darling's grandson, Kip Koss.

"I am so humbled by this," Boswell told the crowd, noting that she will use her \$1,000 prize to plant additional trees on the island. "'Ding' (Darling) was so wonderful and generous."

The award-winning painting created by Boswell, a colorful rendition of the "Ding" Fish House located off Captiva Island, will be raffled off on Earth Day in 2016 (April 22).

Also during the meeting, Claude Crawford, Paul Roth and Diane Neitzel were added to SCCF's Board of Trustees. Incoming officers for 2015-16 include President Ron Gibson, Vice President Gwenda Hiett-Clements, Treasurer Doug Ryckman and Secretary Ran Niehoff.✪

Happy Holidays

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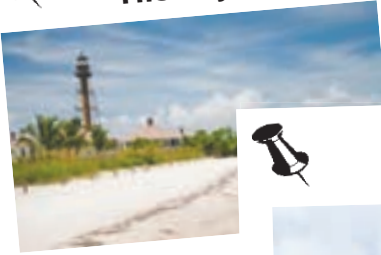
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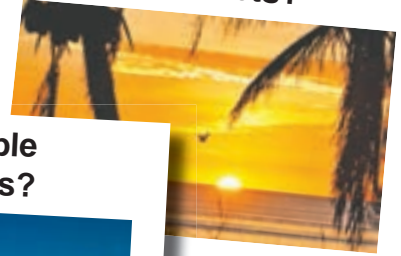
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Sanibel-Captiva United Way Campaign Committee members Lucy and Paul Roth

United Way 211 Is Here To Help

Lucy and I are pleased to be members of the Sanibel-Captiva United Way Community Campaign Committee. Why? Because we believe the United Way is essential to help those in need throughout Lee County, and that we have an obligation to reach beyond our islands.

United Way campaign funds go to 70 local human service agencies, and the money stays in Southwest Florida. But United Way does more, a lot more. The United Way helpline, United Way 211, is an example of how United Way helps all

citizens of our islands and the area. Imagine that your mother has just been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, and she is seeing her doctor and taking her medication. She says that she needs someone to talk to who understands what she is going through. How do you help her? Who do you call?

Dial 2-1-1; by dialing that number, you will reach United Way 211. The information and referral specialist will help her find a support group through the Alvin A. Dubin Alzheimer's Resource Center. United Way 211 is a free 24-hour, non-emergency helpline for finding information and referral to health and human services in our area.

When people don't know where to turn, United Way 211 helps them navigate their way to the right agency by providing information based on the caller's specific need. Perhaps the need is to find counseling for a person with a mental illness, or finding information about meeting healthcare needs, or food for a hungry family, United Way 211 is here to help.

In times of hurricanes or other natural disasters, United Way 211 becomes the storm information hotline for Lee, Hendry and Glades counties, offering information on shelters, evacuation routes and recovery services. For people needing health insurance, United Way has trained Healthcare Navigators and Certified Application Counselors to assist consumers. United Way 211 is truly here to help.

If you would like additional information on United Way 211, or the United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades and Okeechobee, visit www.UnitedWayLee.org. You can

also donate securely online, or call the United Way at 433-2000 to give today. Please join us in supporting our local United Way!✱

Sanibel-Captiva Beach Resorts To Sponsor 'Ding' Darling Film Series



Doug Babcock and Jeff Shuff with Sanibel-Captiva Beach Resorts, DDWS Executive Director Birgie Miller and Refuge Supervisory Ranger Toni Westland

Sanibel-Captiva Beach Resorts will be sponsoring the 4th annual "Ding" Darling Wednesday Film Series January 6 through April 14. The free bi-monthly showings include eight films that explore natural facets from vanishing bees and fish, to plastic overload.

"Ding" Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS) hosts the free film showings in the "Ding" Darling Visitor & Education Center.

"These are important issues our world faces and our film series examines," said DDWS Executive Director Birgie Miller. "We would not be able to offer the showings free to the public, as part of our education mission, without the generosity of Sanibel-Captiva Beach Resorts."

All showings begin at 2:30 p.m. Seating is limited and on a first-come basis. For full descriptions of the films, visit www.dingdarlingsociety.org/films.

The following are the season's scheduled films:

- January 6 – *From Billions to None: The Passenger Pigeon's Flight to Extinction*
- January 20 – *The Cove*
- February 3 – *Vanishing of the Bees*
- February 17 – *Sand Wars*
- March 2 – *Plastic Paradise: The Great Pacific Garbage Patch*
- March 16 – *Crash: The Tale of Two Species*
- March 30 – *The End of the Line: Where Have All the Fish Gone?*
- April 14 – *Bag It: Is Your Life Too Plastic?*✱

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Jay Jagodzinski, Patti Sousa, Mary Miller, Bill Sartoris, Diane Olsson, Karen Howard, Fred Fowler and Ray Luebbers. Missing from photo: Tom Batchellor

Sanibel Bicycle Club Holds Annual Meeting

The Sanibel Bicycle Club held its 2015 annual meeting and election of officers at the Sanibel Community Association on December 14. Club Vice President Patti Sousa reported that the club enjoyed a remarkable year. In addition to the club's ongoing weekly rides, off-island trips and social activities including monthly potlucks during the season, this year saw the release of the club's superb bike safety video --available on youtube.com at Sanibel Bike Club Final Edit Original Music 060215-- and completion of an important city-directed study of the path intersections.

Mike Miller described the progress of

the important path intersection study. He reported that the Sanibel City Council has voted to launch initial implementation of study recommendations as adopted by the council. Path signage revisions will soon start to appear.

Board member Bill Sartoris reported on the Sanibel Trails in Motion Fund. The fund, which bike club members established in 2004, is a 501(c)(3) organization that provides a way for anyone to support maintenance of the shared use paths for all path users --cyclists, joggers, walkers, roller bladers and others. Folks at the meeting were thrilled when a \$1,000 donation was volunteered from the floor. Sartoris noted that additional contributions can be made by check payable to Trails in Motion and mailed to Trails in Motion Fund, Southwest Florida Community Foundation, 8771 College Parkway, Building 2, Suite 201, Ft. Myers FL 33919.

Board President Diane Olsson thanked the club's numerous community partners for their help during the past year. These included the City of Sanibel, Island Sun, Island Reporter, Santiva Chronicle, Blue Ash Media, SCCF, Periwinkle Park, the Chamber of Commerce, Billy's Rentals and Bikes and graphics expert David Drotleff.

Officers for 2016 are Diane Olsson, president; Patti Sousa, vice president; Ray Luebbers, treasurer; and Mary Miller, secretary. Newly elected board members Jay Jagodzinski, Karen Howard and Fred Fowler join returning directors Tom Batchellor and Bill Sartoris to round out the 2016 club board.

As always, the Club potluck included great food and conversation among friendly bike club participants. A holiday spirit prevailed as folks exchanged greet-



Darla Letrneau, Mike Miller and Bill Sartoris

ings and shared stories about their recent cycling, travels and other adventures during the past year.

Members of the Sanibel Bicycle Club gather each Saturday morning to ride to breakfast and, during the season, on Wednesdays for a luncheon ride. During season, they also meet for monthly off-island rides in interesting locations in the South Florida area and hold monthly potluck dinners at The Community House. The club encourages cyclists of every skill level to join the club. For a membership application and information, visit the club website at www.sanibelbicycleclub.org.✱

Kiwanis Swim Team Readies For CHR Mardi Gras Relay Race



Co-chairs Melissa Rice (left) and Arlene Dillon (center) were on hand to receive the Kiwanis check for sponsoring the 2016 CHR Mardi Gras. Kiwanis members pictured, from the left, are: Coach Les Boyle, who is modeling the Kiwanis Team Purple robe, and swimmers Aaron Pruss, Eric Pfeifer, Chauncey Goss and Paul Gulbrandsen.

The annual CHR (Community Housing Resources) Mardi Gras is always a fun filled time, but this year's event, scheduled for Saturday, February 6 at the Dunes Golf & Tennis Club, is shaping up to be even more special than usual.

In addition to feasting on a New Orleans style dinner, Mardi Gras partiers will be able to stroll through a recreation of Bourbon Street as they are entertained by the distinctive Louisiana-style music Mardi Gras is famous for. But the biggest drama of the evening may be at the pool, where teams from three of the major Mardi Gras event-sponsoring organizations will compete in a sure-to-be-thrilling swimming relay race.

The local Kiwanis Club has signed up to be a sponsor and will compete in the swimming relay as "Team Purple." The Kiwanis team of intrepid swimmers has high hopes to demolish the competition, which will include teams from Sanibel Captiva Community Bank ("Team Gold") and the Sanibel Captiva Trust Company ("Team Green.") Swimming for the Kiwanis team are Aaron Pruss, Chauncey Goss, Eric Pfeifer and Paul Gulbrandsen. Coaching the team is Les Boyle, who plans to put the Kiwanis lads through a rigorous preparation to get ready for the competition. Training will be done at the Lazy Flamingo.

The Kiwanis team will arrive at the pool for the relay wearing distinctive purple-trimmed robes. There are no rules about swimming attire, creating some risk of fainting in the audience if someone shows up in a Speedo. In the relay, each swimmer will traverse one length of the pool by any means necessary, which means if they can use water wings or pool noodles for assistance, or walk if they can touch bottom or walk on water. Swimmers are also allowed to disrupt the progress of the other teams, which may lead to some surprising developments.

It would not be Mardi Gras without lots of beads, and spectators will be able to buy strings of beads in the color of their favorite team to cheer them on. With each string of beads purchased comes a raffle ticket to place into that team's raffle box, so the more beads collected the better one's chance of winning. The team that comes in first in the relay swim gets the honor of making the first draws of raffle tickets from its box, meaning their supporters will have the best shot at winning the choice raffle prizes of the evening.

continued on page 25B



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Tennis Team Working Out Well



Gib Harris from The Dunes Men's Red Tennis Team returns a volley during team practice

SPORTS QUIZ

1. In 1963, Pete Rose recorded his first base hit for the Cincinnati Reds, against Pittsburgh. What kind of hit was it?
2. Name the two left-handers who each won 20 or more games four times for the Baltimore Orioles between 1968 and 1974.
3. In 2014, Marcus Mariota became the all-time leader in career passing yards (10,796) for the University of Oregon. Who had held the mark?
4. The Portland Trail Blazers set an NBA record in 2015 for most consecutive wins in home openers (15 years). Who had held the mark?
5. When was the last time before 2015 that two U.S. players were among the top five picks in the NHL Draft?
6. Name the last time before 2015 that Japan won the world title in men's gymnastics.
7. Who was the last female golfer before Inbee Park (2013-15) to win three consecutive Women's PGA Championships?

ANSWERS

1. He hit a triple. 2. Dave McNally (1968, '69, '70 and '71) and Mike Cuellar ('69, '70, '71, '74). 3. Bill Musgrave, with 8,343 yards (1987-90). 4. The Boston Celtics (1979-92). 5. It was 2007 (Patrick Kane and James van Riemsdyk). 6. It was 1978. 7. Annika Sorenstam (2003-05).

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With 45 College Football Bowl Games, Has System Gone Berserk?

by Ed Frank



Is the system broken, ridiculous or just plain money-hungry? The system I'm discussing is the current runaway lineup of 45 – count 'em – 45 college football bowl games that will saturate television from December 19 to January 11. By the time you read this week's paper, 13 already will have been played.

A good trivia game around the holiday dinner table this weekend would be a contest to see how many of the bowls you can even name.

If you love college football, then you're probably in heaven for the next few weeks despite the fact that many of the bowl games will be played in cold weather sites before seas of empty seats.

And some of the participating teams didn't even post regular-season winning records, yet received bowl invitations. Nebraska, Minnesota and San Jose State are 5-7 teams reaching post-season play.

I note that one of these sub-500 teams, San Jose State, won the Cure Bowl (whatever that means) last Saturday with a 27-16 victory over 6-6 George State.

The Rose Bowl, known as the “Granddaddy” of bowl games, was first held in 1902. By 1937, there were six college bowl games. Two years ago the count had leaped to 35, and this year 45, including the Shrine East-West, NFLPA Collegiate and the Senior Bowl.

Let's be honest: We have such a plethora of bowl games for one principal reason – money.

Football revenue is the bulwark for college minor sports. And studies have shown that schools that win major bowl games are recipients of increased alumni financial support.

But you've got to wonder how far this bowl game business will go? At the rate it has grown, the day may come that every college with a football team will play in a bowl game regardless of their records.

While we may question the wisdom of having all these bowl games, ratings show that the games do attract large viewing audiences, Maybe that's the reason ESPN actually owns and operates 12 of the bowls.

The Big 10 sent 10 of its 14 members in bowl games, including Michigan State

continued on page 9B

SANIBEL 8-BALL POOL LEAGUE 2015-16

Standings through December 21

Standing	Team Name	Won	Lost
First	Bunt's Ball Busters	139	81
Second	Sandycappers	109	111
Third	Sanibel Café	108	112
Fourth	Fresh Legion Crew	84	136

December 21 Results

Bunt's Ball Busters	13	Fresh Legion Crew	7
Sandycappers	11	Sanibel Café	9

Sanibel 8-Ball Pool League

Sandycappers Gaining Ground

Sandycappers edged Sanibel Café 11-9 to take sole possession of second place in the Sanibel 8-Ball Pool League. Dennis Bender posted a 3-1 win over Jimbo Gaubatz and Jack Dalton went 3-1 over the two-man team of Richard McCurry and Joe Mason.

Randy Carson showed masterful form for the losers as he won his last three games against Jeff Brown. Sandycapper captain Kevin Pottorf went 2-2 with Sanibel Café's Pete Mindel. This was their fourth meeting of the season.

Mindel leads Pottorf 9-7 with half the season gone.

Doc Lubinski used a barrage of miracle shots to subdue Bunt's Ball Busters' Rich Ennis 3-1. One was a bank kick of the 8-ball into the corner pocket. Cheers broke out but Lubinski called it "just another easy shot."

Gator Gates followed Lubinski and posted a 2-2 victory over Ken Rasi. Leading 5-3 at that point the Legion Crew sensed an upset in the making. It was not to be, however, as Noah Smith and Dave Doane went 3-1 against Nate Buffam and Kip Buntrock, and Terry Ricotta racked up four wins against the Crew's Tom Yorgev.

A total of 31 players have competed
continued on page 9B



Nick Bollettieri giving instructions

The Sanctuary Tennis Tourney Benefits Hospice

The Sanctuary Golf Club on Sanibel was title sponsor to the 13th annual Hope Hospice Tennis Tournament in November. The event produced over \$12,000 for Hope Hospice, totaling over \$130,000 over the years, and featured special guest Nick Bollettieri, an IMG pro, who taught clinics for over five hours offering personalized instruction to participants. He

also donated his book, with a personal message for each.

This event is one of the signature charity events at The Sanctuary Golf Club, the venue and title sponsor for 12 years.

This year's Green Group Champion is Fran Blakely, finalist is Jean DeWalt and semi-finalists are Diane Griffin and Laurie Long.

The Blue Group Champion is Ken Monahan, finalist is Pam Monahan and the semi-finalists are Sheri Coleman and Leonard Thatch.

The Red Group Champion is Mark Andrews, finalist is Alex Blagojevic and semi-finalists are Andrew Heuerman and

From page 8B

Ed Frank

as one of the four teams playing for the national championship. Iowa, which lost to Michigan State in the Big 10 Championship game, faces Stanford in the revenue-rich Rose Bowl on January 1.

A report this week showed that the average resale price for a Rose Bowl ticket has reached \$705, the highest by far of any bowl game, including the two semi-final national championship games.

Interestingly, Jim Delany, Big Ten commissioner, explained that Iowa will not reap the entire Rose Bowl money bonanza. The revenue will be divided

between all 14 conference members.

Any way you cut it, college football bowl games are big business. As a result, they will not diminish in number anytime soon.*

From page 8B

Sanibel 8-Ball

for the league's four teams through the first half of the season. The top two players so far are Noah Smith and Mike Dewitt. Both are shooting 88 percent. Only 14 players are below 50 percent.

Matches start at 5 p.m. on Mondays and spectators are welcome. Cheering or booing is permitted.*

The Dunes Golf Club

Something To Wine About Paint Party



The Dunes hosted a Something To Wine About Paint Party. Pictured from left is Nancy Carlile, Anicca Sivsov, Darlene Rizzo, Michele Fanning, Suzan Carlile and Kathee Jones.

Brandon Nash.

"Thank you to all the sponsors. In addition, thank you to all those competitors who participated in making the event so successful and a special thank you to our extraordinary guest, Nick Bollettieri. This was a fantastic event," stated Christie Bradley, director of tennis and fitness at the Sanctuary.

The Sanctuary Golf Club was the title sponsor. The Grand Slam Sponsors are Bank of the Islands, Tween Waters Inn, Lily & Co. Jewelry, Luc Century, Ritzman Tennis, Lamar Advertising and Wrigley Tennis. The Raffle Sponsors consisted of The Sanctuary Golf Club, Lily &

Co. Jewelry, Luc Century, Tween Waters Spa, Doves Jewelry and Wrigley Tennis.

"Christie does a fantastic job organizing and arranging the Hope Hospice Tennis Tournament. It has become more popular each year between island friends, neighbors, and members. It was a treat for everyone to meet and participate in a clinic with Nick Bollettieri. The Sanctuary Golf Club Members are proud to sponsor Hope Hospice," said Ken Kouril, general manager and COO of The Sanctuary Golf Club.

To donate to Hope Hospice, go to www.hopehospice.org for more information.*

Beachview Tennis Team Wins



Beachview Ladies tennis team beat Fiddlesticks on Thursday, December 17 in a series of games that lasted for more than two hours. Team members, from left, are Lisa Newmeyer-Cochrane, Arla Wiles, Jan Gworek, Lorraine Mazzucco, Nancy Elting, Sharon Nelson, Sarah Ashton, Inez Jerrett and Lisa Fox.

Happy New Year!

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The Sanibel Sprout

The Conscious Kitchen



by Chef Nikki Rood

Invite you to imagine a huge 100-year-old farm table set out in a field of verdant grass and wildflowers, somewhere in the magical rolling hills of Tuscany. The sturdy knotted pinewood is accented by simple mason jars filled with elegant purple flowers, all arranged in a long line, their moist stems leaning over the glass brims of their water-filled containers as if they were lazily laughing. If you've ever taken the time to listen to a flower chuckle, it is a joy that shouldn't be missed. Personally, I think they get a kick out of feeling the dew settle on their petals at the same time that a warm breeze blows by, but that's just me. The fact that the table used to be a tall majestic tree is worth a grateful thought.

That table is set for 20 – molded, well-used benches on each side are waiting for their dinner party to arrive – veteran benches that know the meal will last well into the late hours of the evening, when full bellies and smiling faces will settle in more and more comfortably, bantering for hours under

the stars and the rising moon. Rustic, well-used white pottery dishes are flanked by softest lavender cotton napkins lying under carefully cleaned silverware that has been lovingly handed down through the generations. A young child will eat tonight with the same spoon that her silver-haired, great-grandmother used to stir some hearty soup in a cast iron pot over a century ago. Someone will mention great-grandma's name – raising a toast – whereupon mirthful stories of her adventures will ensue, connecting those present with their ancestral roots and their distant past. Family and friends will be enveloped in an energy of indelible gratitude for the remembrance of their people, their blood, their tribe. The meal is made-from-scratch, with farm-to-table ingredients bursting with vibrancy and taste.

The tradition of making meaningful meals a very special part of life is part of the very fabric of love. Food has the ability to unite us on so many unforgettable rich and nourishing levels. As a technological, fast-food culture, we have forgotten this basic ritual to a large extent, instead reaching for our soul-less take-out food while checking our cell phones and updating our Instagrams. We barely have an awareness of chewing and swallowing our meal, while watching the latest episode of our favorite TV show or catching up on our work load while eating. It's easy to send the kids out for McDonald's and ice cream because that's what they want and it keeps them happy. But it doesn't keep them happy. It makes them sick and moody. We all are

beginning to know how toxic that food is and why it is poisonous. The corn our grandparents harvested wasn't sprayed with cancer-causing glyphosphates. The crops they tilled were not genetically modified. There is so much more to say there and we'll talk about it soon.

People can taste the difference when food is made with love, prepared carefully and with the intent to nourish. It begins with set, setting and thoughtfulness. If you've read Marcel Proust's *In Search Of Lost Time*, you will remember his experience of food and aroma and how the taste of the crumbs of a French madeleine as an adult brought him so vividly back to his childhood. In fact, our sense of smell directly connects to our body's limbic system, our center of processing emotions, taste and memory.

This holiday season, surround yourself with some roses and perhaps remind yourself of romance and love. Dot some jasmine oil on a warm lightbulb and breathe in sensuality. Place some sprigs of fresh aromatic pine branches out in the living room and feel how nature heals. Simmer some cinnamon sticks in a pot of water and notice how your home begins to feel like apple pie, family warmth and friends. Keep your favorite savory stew on low and notice how your dog curls up in the kitchen, fully content.

Let's all slow down and take the time to create and share beautiful moments. Eat well, laugh well, sleep well and love well. Until next time... Chef Nikki

Please join me in creating this Conscious Kitchen Community and feel free to reach me at www.sanibelfoodcoop.com. Helping you take responsibility for your health.✧

Superior Interiors

Soaring Ceilings And Windows



by Marcia Feeney

So many of today's homes feature gorgeous expansive windows showcased in lofty two-story rooms. While architects and builders design these beautiful rooms and windows for year-round enjoyment, they do pose a few decorating challenges. How do we fill all that empty space above our heads, and how do we treat those floor-to-ceiling windows?

Here are some ideas to help bring your lofty room a little more "down to earth":

- Curvaceous sofas and circular accessories will add softness to the angular features of these rooms.
- Oversized furnishings will help to add balance, scale and harmony.
- Steer away from small accessory items and lamps. They will be dwarfed by the size of your room.
- Add area rugs to help tame the echo challenges that lofty rooms tend to create.
- Window treatments featuring luxurious textiles will help add even more drama and style to your "centerpiece" windows.

continued on page 12B

Thomas R. Louwers, M.S.T.

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HeartWalk Series:

Trust Company Continues As Heart Walk Platinum Sponsor

The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company is continuing its Platinum Sponsorship of the Sanibel-Captiva Heart Walk. This is the third year they have generously contributed, starting with the inaugural year in 2014. The organizing team is extremely grateful, not only for their financial support, but also for their hosting of team meetings and the participation of Steve Greenstein.

“It is a great pleasure to sponsor the San-Cap Heart Walk again this year,” said Al Hanser, founder and chairman of the Trust Company. “Our company is dedicated to making a significant contribution to this community and to the organizations that that are its backbone. We are particularly proud of our many staff members who dedicate themselves to non-profits that benefit our community.”

“In the course of my job and in the organizations I work with, I frequently meet heart and stroke survivors” added Steve Greenstein, executive VP. “I know that without the research and education efforts of the American Heart Association, some of them would no longer be with us. This is very personal to me.”

This year’s Sanibel-Captiva Heart Walk will takes place on Sunday, January 31 at the corner of Island Inn



Al and Sally Hansen, attending last year's walk

and Tarpon Bay Roads, starting at 1 p.m. Additions to this year’s program include a silent auction, face painting, strolling magic, local musicians and photo ops through our giant heart. Guest speakers will include Dr. Paul DiGiorgi of the Lee Memorial Shiley Team and pediatric cardiologist Dr. Eric Eason. The non-competitive Heart Walk route will be 5K, with a shorter route available.

The American Heart Association is the largest voluntary health organization working to prevent, treat and defeat heart disease, stroke and other cardiovascular diseases. These diseases – the nation’s No. 1 and No. 5 killers – claim more than 813,804 American lives a year.

To learn more or become a sponsor, contact Kelly Goodwien at kelly.goodwien@heart.org, call 495-4901 or visit www.SanibelCaptivaHeartWalk.org.

Beach Piez Celebrates First Birthday



The staff of Beach Piez, located in the Bailey’s Shopping Center, celebrated their first year in business on Sanibel last week. Pictured from left is Chuck Bergstrom, Desiree Liggio and Chris Ventura. photo by Jeff Lysick



Chris Coile



Sheridan Snell

Helping Neighbors: FISH Elects New Board Members

By almost every measurement, 2015 was a very successful year for FISH as the nonprofit experienced unparalleled growth in service to meet the needs of its increasing client base and continued to be good stewards of the generous financial support received from individual donors and organizations. This good stewardship of funds enabled FISH to purchase its new office building at 2430-B Periwinkle Way in December 2014 and after six months of renovation work, staff was able to move into the new buildin,g. The increased space in the new Walk-In Center allows the nonprofit to provide many more services for the community.

FISH has a dedicated board of directors that continually provides the support needed to meet the increasing challenges faced. The director nominating committee recommended that the following be elected as new directors, each for a three-year

term beginning January 1 and ending December 31, 2018: Chris Coile and Sheridan Snell.

Coile is founder, CEO and president of Chris Coile & Assoc. Real Estate Company and Champion Realty, based in Maryland. He moved to Sanibel where he has been very active with both fishing and FISH. Coile has also been a musician/entertainer for many years and gives performances each year to benefit FISH. He assisted FISH in marketing efforts, including its rebranding and strategic planning.

Snell has had a full and varied career in voluntarism. She and her husband Dick have always given back to every community in which they have lived with a strong connection in the social services sector. “FISH is a wonderful organization where we can embrace its goals and objectives and lend a helping hand to our island residents and workers. I hope to make a difference,” she says.

Neighbors Club Hosts 2015 Final Rally

The Sanibel Captiva Neighbors Club hosted its final rally of 2015 at The Dunes Golf & Tennis Club, which recently unveiled its new remodel at a ribbon cutting on the island. Over 75 members attended, taking in views of the lush greens and waterways as well as the upscale interior.

Neighbors Club members thank Leilani Sivsov and Denise McKee of The Dunes for orchestrating the evening and providing a generous appetizer spread of beef, seafood and fruit. Members raised \$48 for “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society, and raffle prizes included a \$48 gift certificate to The Dunes, a Myra Roberts print, and tickets to the Florida Everblades.

Dance instructor David Flory of Island Ballroom partnered up with the ladies and served as DJ. The next rally will be at the Sanibel Public Library on January 7 for the new Myra Roberts art exhibit. Visit the Sanibel Island Bookshop or go to Sanibel-NeighborsClub.com to become a member.

From page 10B

Ceilings And Windows

And last, but not least, if you’re dealing with soaring ceilings and windows, be sure to work with a professional decorator. They will be able to pull out many magical secrets from their bag of tricks to overcome the architectural challenges that are causing you so many challenges.

Marcia Feeney is an interior designer on Sanibel/Captiva Islands. She can be reached at marcia@coindceden.com.



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School Smart



by Shelley M. Gregg, NCSP

Dear Readers, Instilling a love o reading in our children is one of the very best gifts we can give them. It takes time to do that and a supply of good books. To help you meet this goal, a wonderful organization called Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) has a unique gift for you and your children.

In 1966, RIF was the creation of Margaret McNamara, whose experience as a teacher convinced her that for many kids, mostly poor ones, one of the main barriers to proficient reading was simply access to books. She created RIF with some grant monies, and now RIF is the largest literacy program in the country. Reading Is Fundamental is a non-profit group that provides hundreds of thousands of free books annually to children age 8 or younger, in particular those from economically disadvantaged homes, where books are a and in shorter supply. RIF is dedicated to making reading a fun and beneficial part of everyday life. Since 1966, RIF has distributed more than 412 million books to more than 40 million children nationwide, improving their opportunity to read, learn and grow. RIF just began its 50th year of business and is honoring that milestone with some new approaches and a increased

resolve to spread its message even with the loss of about \$24 million in annual funding that it had come to count on. With more than two-thirds of its budget gone, RIF now needs more private contributions and consequently, gives away fewer books now than it once did. RIF's determination to get kids to read in whatever manner best accomplishes that mission is very clear. Despite and perhaps due to their dwindling funds, RIF has signed on as a partner with ustyme, a digital platform, which enables multiple users to read or play video games together. RIF has partnered with ustyme to give the gift of a billion free e-books to the communities they serve. All families across the nation can access 50 classic e-books absolutely free, without advertising or fees of any kind. This Billion e-Book Gift will provide access to a digital library of 50 previously selected children's titles, many in Spanish as well as English. Those titles can be downloaded by visiting RIF.org/50ebooks. "Reading follows an upward spiral," said Daniel Willingham, a professor of psychology at the University of Virginia and the author of *Raising Kids Who Read*, which was published earlier this year. "Kids who read more get better at reading, and because they are better at reading, it's easier and more pleasurable so they read still more. And kids who read well don't just do better in English class – it helps them in math, science and every other class, too." Reading transports children outside of themselves, connecting them to a wider world and filling it with wonder. It's more than fundamental. It's transformative.

Give the gift of reading this holiday season. Log on and start reading together today. Shelley Gregg is adjunct faculty at Florida SouthWestern State College, where she teaches psychology and education courses. She is also a nation-

ally certified school psychologist and consultant for School Consultation Services, a private educational consulting company. Questions for publication may be addressed to smgreggs@gmail.com. Not all questions submitted can be addressed through this publication.*

Sanibel School Math Team



Members of the Sanibel School Math Team

More than 1,200 students from across the state participated in the FGCU math competition on Monday, December 14. Congratulations to the Sanibel School Math Team and members Alayna Aracri, Daisy Arensman, Grace Ireland, Savannah Nippa, Caitlin Ross, Carley Ross and Peyton Yelenich. The core team (Daisy Arensman, Caitlin Ross, Carley Ross, Peyton Yelenich) finished in 9th place out of 23 teams in the Algebra I division. Caitlin Ross placed 9th out of 167 students who took the Algebra I test.*

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Will Power

Merry Christmas



by Craig R. Hersch, Florida Bar Board Certified Wills, Trusts & Estates Attorney; CPA

Most of us have many blessings to be grateful for. I certainly feel fortunate to have a loving wife and three daughters, a wonderful extended family, close friends, great colleagues, the most diligent, hardest working staff one could ask for, and a group of clients who lead interesting, productive and varied lives. Our lives are best judged by the relationships that we form and maintain, and on this count, I feel extremely privileged.

I also feel fortunate to have the opportunity to write this column on a weekly basis. I thank Lorin Arundel and Ken Rasi for allowing me to do so. I hope that I bring valuable insight into the world of estate planning, and make what could be a dreary topic into something interesting for you, the reader.

On that count, if you have an estate planning question that you would like for me to address in a future column, please feel free to email me at hersch@sbshlaw.com, or if you have a twitter account, tweet me @FLTrustlaw.

I write these words while on a JetBlue flight to Boston to help my oldest daughter, Gabi, move out of her dorm room at Brandeis University as she is going to study abroad this next semester... in Morocco. A young American woman residing for four months in a North African Muslim country certainly causes concern for her parents and grandparents. The university, the study abroad center, and those we know who have recently visited Morocco assure us that she will be safe.

We pray that they are right.

Gabi will become immersed in a culture vastly different from our own. She will study, among other things, the successful interaction between different religious cultures in this predominantly Muslim country. Gabi hopes to become a college professor teaching these subjects, and her mentors have encouraged her to undertake this challenge to promote her academic career.

Anyone who knows my oldest daughter comes away with a sense of her inquisitiveness, adventuresome spirit, poise, and warmth. While my wife and I both harbor concerns about this endeavor, we also feel that one shouldn't allow terrorists to dictate how we live our lives. In so doing, they win. An argument can be made that during these tumultuous times the world needs more knowledge and understanding

about those different from us, not less.

Mark Twain once said, "Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry and narrow-mindedness, and many of our people need it sorely on these accounts. Broad, wholesome, charitable views of men and things cannot be acquired by vegetating in one little corner of the earth all of one's lifetime." These words may be more true in our age of instantaneous worldwide communication capabilities than they were when first uttered in the 19th century.

Merry Christmas to you and to your loved ones. I wish you peace, joy, health and happiness.

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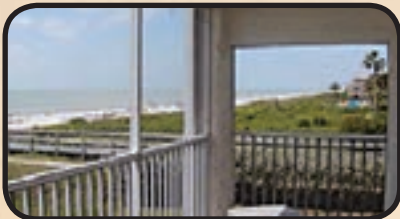
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Fancy Florida Seafood Gumbo

- 12 ounces oysters, drained
- 8 ounces blue crab claw meat
- ½ cup chopped onion
- ½ cup chopped celery
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1 teaspoon anise seeds
- 1 teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon sugar
- 1 teaspoon crushed red peppers
- 1 10-ounce package frozen okra
- 2 20-ounce cans diced tomatoes

Remove remaining shell or cartilage from oysters and crab and set aside. Cook onion, celery and garlic in butter until tender. Add anise, salt, sugar, peppers, okra and tomatoes. Cover and simmer for 15 minutes. Add oysters and simmer an additional 15 minutes. Add crab and heat thoroughly. Serve over rice.

Yields 8 to 10 servings.*



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The Gift Of Joy



by Kay Casperson

I love this time of the year because I feel truly joyful – and most importantly, deeply blessed – when I give to others. The joy that I get from giving is overwhelming, and I have come to realize

that it's not the size or expense, but rather the meaning behind the gift that brings the most joy to others – and to myself. Here are some of my favorite affirmations for a very merry, truly joyful Christmas!

I receive the gift of joy when I give from my heart

I try to teach my children that some of the best gifts you can give come from the heart, items that you put lots of thought into or make with your hands, rather than just buying “things” or “stuff” you think those special people in your life might like. Receiving a gift from the heart is sure to bring a smile to their face and a warmth to their spirit, and in return, you will be filled with joy. I encourage you to take some time today or tomorrow to call (or text) someone with a simple holiday “hello,” or to drop by with something you made – whether it's a sweet treat, a cheerful Christmas craft, or maybe even a homemade card.

I am utilizing my talents to bless others

When you make the effort to bring joy to someone else during the holidays (and all year long), both you and the recipient of your gift will not only feel blessed, but happier and more fulfilled. During our staff holiday party, a few of my managers got together and decided to give all of our team members a Christmas bulb with a special descriptive word written on it – adjectives like kind-hearted, energetic, funny, enthusiastic, loyal, elevating, etc. – and it was such a delight to watch everyone get their bulbs and realize how others view and value them. It was something simple and sincere that brought great joy for each individual on our team (especially my managers).

Joy surrounds me and my light shines brightly

Remember, this is the time of year to celebrate our blessings and to give joy. If everyone focused on giving (instead of getting), the joy we would create could illuminate the whole world with hope and happiness. Give joy, give light, and be blessed this Christmas Day and every day.

Merry Christmas!

Beauty and lifestyle expert Kay Casperson lives on Sanibel with her husband, two daughters and dogs. She produces her own inspirational collections of skincare, cosmetics, wellness, apparel and accessories, and operates four Lifestyle Spa & Boutique locations in Southwest Florida and Orlando. Learn more at kaycasperson.com.✽

Got A Problem? Dr. Connie Is In



by Constance Clancy

Q: Can you offer some tips on how to be proactive in finding love?

A: Finding a truly authentic loving relationship can be challenging to say the least. Yet, it is most certainly

possible when one decides to take a proactive stance to attract a compatible partner.

The following steps can be most helpful in getting started to bring love into your life:

- Be Your True Best Self – Strive to be the best you can be in mind, body, spirit and emotions. You want to operate from a whole perspective. The whole is always greater than the sum of the parts. Strive to be your best intellectually. Using your mind to learn and become knowledgeable gives you self-confidence and will carry you in meeting potential partners. Work your body to it's fullest, which includes healthy nutrition, exercise your way as there is no one right or wrong way. You may want to work out with a buddy if you don't want to go at it alone. Find some kind of spirituality in your life. Read literature, take some yoga, meditation classes.

On an emotional level, check in with yourself and feel joy each day in your life. Find something to laugh about and seek fun. When you feel good, you put out a positive vibration that others pick up on.

- Attract Men By Embracing Your True Self – When you are content with your real authentic self, you exude an aura about you that is appealing to men. Men like an authenticity about a woman who knows who she is. She is not needy, rather she loves life and lives it to her fullest with or without a partner.

- Be Open To Love While You Continue Living With Your Own Passions – Join a ski club, take up golf, tennis, take some trips where you would like to go. When you are loving what you do and doing what you love, you are in the flow and the positive energy is evident.

- Realize That There Is Love All Around, Not Just Romantic Love – Love comes in many ways. When you are in the moment loving your family, friends, pets and making it your best life, you stand a better chance of attracting romantic love. It may sound redundant, yet love comes to you when you least expect it and you are fully embracing your life.

- Recognize That You Are Already Whole And Complete – When you feel complete, then you are not looking for a partner to complete you, rather see a partner as an expansion in your life. Be open to opportunities to meet new people. Don't close yourself off to any possibilities, be a dating service, meeting people through friends, social outings etc.

continued on page 22B

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dearRPharmacist

Pharmacist
Picks: Health
Gadgets 2015



by Suzy Cohen, RPh
Dear Readers:
At this time of year, while shopping for people you love why not consider some health gadgets that improve well-being or comfort. There are plenty of items in the health arena that

I find really interesting. In no particular order, here goes:
Water bottle – Fitness fanatics unite! This is the coolest invention ever, I can put a key, my gym ID, a credit card and even some cold, hard cash in my BPA-free water bottle. Ugh, makes me mad I didn't think of it, it's called the "Autoseal Kangaroo" at gocontigo.com.
Waterproof MP3 player – Just in case you want to listen to music or audio books while taking a shower, swimming laps or diving the Galapagos. Look for The Diver DB-10 which includes waterproof earbuds sold on Amazon.
Personal Steam Inhaler – Great if you have sinus problems. The Mabis allows you to adjust the amount of steam and the particle size. You can

add your own essential oil if desired.
Baseball cap with lights – Hunters wear these hats, but I keep one by my bed in case I have to get up in the wee hours of the morning. You see, once at 4:30 a.m., I tripped over Sam's sneaker (size 14), so I bought this light-up cap to keep from knocking myself out in the dark. The Panther Vision hat is very bright with four LEDs. Sold on Amazon.
Read easier – Placing a colored (but transparent sheet) over a page improves reading comfort, and possibly reduces headaches associated with eye strain. The best are IRLLEN Colored Overlays for Reading – Sample Pack of 10, sold on Amazon. You won't know what color you need till you try all the colors on a sheet of paper.
Sproutling Baby Monitor – The next generation baby monitor, think of it like a Fitbit for your baby. It tracks an infant's heart rate, body temperature and position. It's approximately \$300 and there's a waitlist at sproutling.com
Handheld Near-Infrared Light Machine – I love mine and use every day for one thing or another. It's just light frequency and you can place the paddle anywhere on your skin. A built-in timer automatically cycles through healthy frequencies, or individual settings can be selected. They're clean out now, so get on a waitlist at sota.com
Wireless bra – It's probably TMI, but I rarely wear bras with a wire because the wire prevents proper lymph drainage from the breasts. If your

lymph doesn't drain properly (due to wires and padding) toxins build up, and breast cancer risk increases. Finding a pretty wireless and un-padded bra that offer support is a challenge, most look frumpy. Check out Cosabella Amore brand of Love Lace or Adore bras, both sold at Kohls. And for a racerback option, get Free People's Racerback Crochet bra. I bought six different colors!
Get your socks on – After hip or spine surgery, or even if you have trouble bending, this Sock Aid with Foam Grip sold on Amazon can help get your socks on for about \$8.
This information is not intended to treat, cure or diagnose your condition. Suzy Cohen is the author

of The 24-Hour Pharmacist and is a registered pharmacist. To contact her, visit www.SuzyCohen.com.✱
From page 20B
Dr. Connie
When you are the best you can be and truly living your own authentic life, love will flow into your life and you will be amazed what a wonderful person you will attract.
Constance Clancy-Fisher, EdD is a licensed mental health therapist, hypnotherapist, author and holistic stress management instructor. She can be reached at constanceclancyfisher@gmail.com.✱

Mom And Me



by Lizzie and Pryce

Lizzie and Pryce answer your questions and give advice about aging concerns from a two-generational perspective. A mother and daughter team, Lizzie is a retired RN and health educator, and Pryce is a licensed psychotherapist in private practice who specializes in the care of elders and people with chronic illnesses.
Dear Mom & Me,
My husband and I both have multiple health problems and must see many doctors. We always go together for these visits. When the doctor asks me questions I always answer to the best of my ability. My husband won't answer the doctor's questions directly and becomes furious with me if I answer for him, and then we have big arguments for days after.
"Don't you tell him I have headaches and fainting spells when he asks," is his favorite response.

I can't see the point of going to doctors if you will not answer their questions – what is your opinion?
Shirley
Dear Shirley,
I agree. Why ask advice if you are unwilling to consider the advice? Why go to a physician if you are unwilling to be honest with the history? But your husband has the right to have his own opinion and behavior. He also has to assume the consequences of his choices.
Pryce

Dear Shirley,
Your husband probably in his professional life was accustomed to asking the questions – not having to answer them.
I once heard of a woman who was fed up answering her doctor's (irrelevant) questions, or so she thought, that she finally said, "I am not going to answer all of your questions. When people take their animals to the vet, the vet doesn't need to ask the animal questions, so why should you?"
If he doesn't want to cooperate with his doctors, I would also ask, why go? Does he not realize the possible consequences, financial, social and other major family problems, as the results of his actions his possible suffering and pain and the burden of his decision on the family.
Lizzie
Lizzie and Pryce's email address is momandmeaging@hotmail.com.✱

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Eden Energy Medicine

Integrate Comfort With Required Medication



by Karen L. Semmelman, Certified EEM, JD, AAML (03-12)

Does the medication you are required to take sometimes leave you feeling upset, sluggish, having an upset stomach, a headache, or just leave

you feeling "off"? Yet, you know it is imperative you take the medication your doctor prescribed. Today, learn two tools to do before and after you ingest the medication.

As a segue, Donna Eden and her husband, David Feinstein, Ph.D., have given up a normal life to take their mission "on the road" throughout the world – to empower others, one person at a time, to learn tools for their own self-healing. As part of the first-year Foundations program, Donna and David conducted a web-athon to answer questions from students throughout the world. The techniques in this column were one of the tidbits of knowledge that will benefit many.

1. Before taking the medication, do a

hook-up. This is part of the Daily Energy Routine (DER) – middle finger in belly button and other middle finger on third eye. Pull up on both and hold while you take several deep breaths. By doing this, you are calming the body and getting it ready to receive the medication. So, as Donna says, "The medication has a soft landing."

2. Tap the spleen meridian both before and after you take the medicine. The spleen thumb is part of the DER as well. For those not knowing it, an easy way to activate the spleen (which metabolizes everything that goes through the body – food, emotions, medicine, etc.) is by allowing both hands to dangle from the wrists. Raise the arms to the sides in a scarecrow posture and then tap the sides of the body starting about four inches below the armpits. Continue tapping for about 20 seconds as the index fingers and thumbs touch the body. We call this the chicken wing tap.

3. If there are side effects from the medication, then immediately do the DER, which activates all of the nine energy systems. This may entail doing this several times each day; that is just fine. You need it, and it will make you feel better.

Have fun with your energy! Next week's topic is Holiday Eating From Stress? Weight Gain Concerns – EEM To Rescue.

If you have a question, email Karen Semmelman at SemmEnergyCenter@gmail.com. Learn more at www.semmelmanenergy.com. EEM does not diagnose or cure illness, but working with subtle energies of the body has been shown to help many conditions.✧✧

Doctor and Dietitian

Maintaining A Sharp Memory



by Ross Hauser, MD and Marion Hauser, MS, RD

Recently, science is showing that brains continue to develop even beyond middle age. This is great news. The previous viewpoint maintained that the brain lost cells and the capacity to rewire itself with age. Now it appears the brain cells aren't really vanishing. Instead, they become somewhat hidden away in the folds of the neurons.

As folks age, many notice a difficulty in retrieving memories. Why does this occur? The neural connections that process information weaken with disuse and with age. The memories are there, they just need something to prod them to emerge or jump-start them back to recall.

How do we keep these brain connections in good condition? We actually have to challenge our synapses by thinking in different ways. Learning new things is a great place to start, but we need to make a special effort to confront the way we think. We do that by studying viewpoints that are different than our own, for example.

Joggle the brain by daring to consider a different perception. Try hanging around with people who don't think like you or reading something you don't necessarily agree with. How about taking a different route to the store, learning a different language, taking a different mode of transportation? In this way, we contend with those long established brain connections, and get out of our comfort zones and push and nourish our brain.

We all know as adults, we kind of like things a certain way. Year after year, our synapses get accustomed to doing the same thing in the same way. We need to mix it up, and tread new paths to keep our brain developing. Let's challenge our ingrained perceptions, sharpen our brains and keep those neural pathways engaged and developing.

This information is not intended to treat, cure or diagnose your condition. Caring Medical and Rehabilitation Services has two locations: one in Oak Park, Illinois, and one in Fort Myers. It was established in 1991 by Ross Hauser, MD, and Marion Hauser, MS, RD. They can be reached at info@carimgmedical.com.✧✧

From page 1B

Polar Bear Plunge

*God bless the Polar Bears
On New Year's Day
Stand beside us and join us
To the shore with a roar as we play
From the uplands, to the marshes
To the Gulf shore filled with ice
God bless the Polar Bears – it sure feels nice*

God bless the Polar Bears – we're bears, not mice!

Following the anthem, the Polar Bears will then enter the "icy" gulf waters backwards, facing the huge crowd of supporters, on-lookers, tourists and "mice" (those who wished they had the courage to join in). The traditional Polar Bear group huddle/hug (a body-warming activity) signals the end of the swim.

dle/hug (a body-warming activity) signals the end of the swim.

Participants then will have an opportunity to sip from the giant Polar Bear champagne glass, have their picture taken in the infamous shell pith helmet and engage in story-telling about their heroic experience with fellow Polar Bears from around the world.

Parking will be available for 89 vehicles at the city lot located on Tarpon Bay Road. Participants are reminded to pay the parking fee or display their new Sanibel beach parking sticker.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend the Polar Bear Plunge, now considered a traditional island event, which costs nothing to participate in. Participant registration and song sheet distribution will begin at 11 a.m.✧✧

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My Stars ★★★★★

FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 28, 2015

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Handle a potentially awkward situation by warming up your confidence reserves and letting it radiate freely. Also, expect an old friend to contact you.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) It's not too early for the practical Bovine to begin planning possible changes for 2016. A recent contact can offer some interesting insights.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) A request for an unusual favor should be carefully checked out. Also check the motives behind it. Your generosity should be respected, not exploited.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Party time beckons, but for some Moon Children, so do some workplace challenges. Deal with the second first, then you'll be free to enjoy the fun time.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) A warm response to an earlier request might be a positive indicator of what's ahead. Meanwhile, Cupid could pay a surprise visit to single Leos looking for love.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) How you respond to a proposed change in a project could affect your situation. Be prepared to show how well you would be able to deal with it.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) The revelation of a secret could cause some changes in how to deal with a workplace matter. It very likely also validates a position you have long held.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) An attempt to get too personal could upset the very private Scorpio. Make it clear that there's a line no one crosses without your permission.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) The savvy Sagittarian

might be able to keep a family disagreement from spilling over by getting everyone involved to talk things out.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Be careful not to push people too hard to meet your ideas of what the holiday weekend's preparations should be. Best to make it a cooperative, not a coerced, effort.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) An unexpected request could make you rethink a position you've had for a long time. Meanwhile, plan a family get-together for the weekend.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Someone might find that it was a fluke to try to use your sympathetic nature to get you to accept a situation you're not comfortable with. Good for you.

BORN THIS WEEK: You like challenges that are both mental and physical, and you enjoy always beating your personal best.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

- On Jan. 2, 1897, American author Stephen Crane survives the sinking of The Commodore off the coast of Florida. He will turn the harrowing adventure into his classic short story "The Open Boat."

- On Dec. 29, 1915, the French National Assembly formally cedes the land that holds the British war cemeteries to Great Britain, ensuring that even as World War I was being fought, its most sacred monuments would be forever protected.

- On Dec. 30, 1922, in post-revolutionary Russia, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR, also known as the Soviet Union) is established, comprising a confederation

of Russia, Belorussia, Ukraine and the future republics of Georgia, Azerbaijan and Armenia.

- On Jan. 3, 1938, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, an adult victim of polio, founds the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, later renamed the March of Dimes Foundation. The virus, which affects the central nervous system, flourished in contaminated food and water and was easily transmitted.

- On Dec. 28, 1954, Oscar-winning actor Denzel Washington is born in Mount Vernon, N.Y. In 2002, for his performance as a corrupt cop in "Training Day," Washington became the first black man to win the Best Actor Academy Award since Sidney Poitier in 1964.

- On Jan. 1, 1973, Roseann Quinn, a 27-year-old New York teacher, visits Tweed's Bar in Manhattan and is picked up by her soon-to-be killer. The incident inspired the cautionary novel "Looking for Mr. Goodbar," later made into a movie starring Diane Keaton.

- On Dec. 31, 1999, the United States hands over control of the Panama Canal, putting the strategic waterway into Panamanian hands for the first time. A ship heading from New York to San Francisco can save about 7,800 miles by taking the Panama Canal rather than sailing around South America.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

- It was 20th-century Nigerian novelist, poet and professor Chinua Achebe who made the following sage observation: "One of the truest tests of integrity is its blunt refusal to be compromised."

- Historians say that on April 4, 1968, Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. participated

in a pillow fight in the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee. This wouldn't be noteworthy, of course, except for the fact that he was assassinated at the motel that same evening.

- Those who study such things say that men without beards are 40 percent more likely to describe themselves as happy.

- In November of this year, a bulldog named Otto set a Guinness World Record. In the city of Lima, Peru, Otto rode a skateboard through the legs of 30 people, setting a new record for skateboarding through the longest human tunnel.

- You probably won't be surprised to learn that before horseradish was called horseradish, it was known as "stingnose" in many areas of the United States. However, you might be surprised to learn that it was sometimes rubbed on a person's forehead to relieve a headache.

- Lawmakers in Kentucky evidently once thought it necessary to pass legislation making it illegal to paint one's lawn red.

- You might not think of tarantulas as fragile, but they are. Despite their soft, furry appearance, if one of these spiders has even a short fall without catching itself on its thread, the drop likely will shatter its exoskeleton or rupture its abdomen.

- If you ever have the good fortune to encounter a group of bunnies, you'll know that you can collectively call them a "fluffle."

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"If I have any beliefs about immortality, it is that certain dogs I have known will go to heaven, and very, very few persons." -- James Thurber

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Red Sox Seeking Singers For Spring Training National Anthem

Think you have what it takes to sing in front of a sold-out crowd of more than 10,000 people? The Boston Red Sox are looking for new talent to fill approximately 14 spots to

perform the National Anthem for the upcoming 2016 Spring Training season at JetBlue Park.

Auditions will be held at JetBlue Park, located at 11500 Fenway South Drive in Fort Myers, on Tuesday, January 12 from 4 to 7 p.m. and on Wednesday, January 13 from 4 to 6 p.m. All ages are welcome to audition. Reservations must be made in advance by calling Brennan Whitley at 226-4783.

If anyone is unable to attend these dates, he or she may contact Whitley

about submitting an audio recording. All reservations must be made by Tuesday, December 15 at 4 p.m. Space is limited.

The Red Sox open its 17-game exhibition season Monday, February 29 at 1:05 p.m. with a single admission doubleheader against the Boston College Eagles and the Northeastern University Huskies.

For more information, call 226-4783 or email jbpevents@redsox.com.

From page 6B

Mardi Gras

In addition to its sponsorship of the Mardi Gras event, Kiwanis has provided past grants to CHR to support its work to provide affordable housing, which benefits more than 50 children on the island. The club also helped CHR construct a new kids' playground at its Airport Way neighborhood earlier this year.

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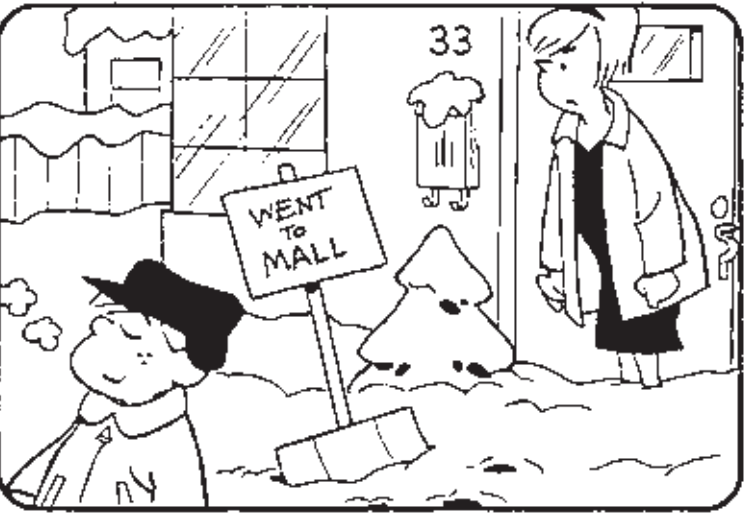
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF



FIND AT LEAST SIX DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS



Differences: 1. Lamp is missing. 2. Ear flap is smaller. 3. Sign is different. 4. Number is different. 5. Pocketbook is missing. 6. Wreath is missing.



He's _____."

SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Switch

Kindling

Snap

Smirk

TODAY'S WORD

answer on page 27B

		4	7					5
1				8		3		
	6	9			1		2	
	3				6	5		
6				4		1	7	
		8	9					4
		2		5			8	
	4				3			9
7			8		4	2		

SUDOKU

To play Sudoku: Complete the grid so that every row, column and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 (the same number cannot appear more than once in a row, column or 3x3 box.) There is no guessing and no math involved, just logic.

answer on page 27B

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PUZZLE ANSWERS

SUPER CROSSWORD

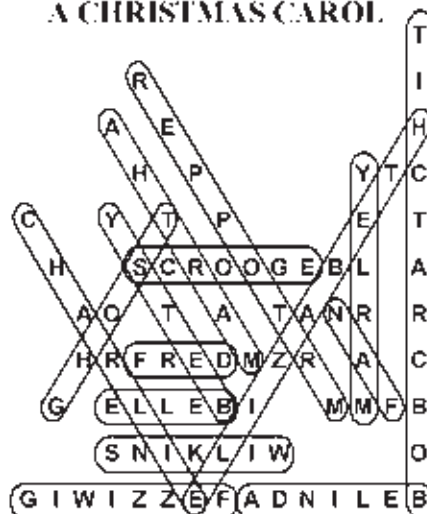
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
 REROLL ACTED MARSHALS
 ITALIAN BREAD BLUSTERS
 DEVALUED CLOT CREE
 MAMMIVE FRENCH GRN
 OVULES CRAN UM HCE
 POLISH SAUSAGE BEGS FOR
 SWEET TREAD CESTURE
 ETS IEVER ISLET
 SPLASH JAPANESE BEETLE
 PRIG AIO RATE ROSA
 HEBREW CALNDAR LOANER
 EFRON ANISE ALB
 REASIRS PUMAS ABATE
 ERSKINE SPANISH HOMCLCT
 AGA COALERS EATSAT
 LAI NCROSS END GME
 ALAS TIVO SOLSTICE
 SOMETIME GAYISH PASTRY
 THERAVEN RENE UPDATE
 SASSIEST EASED SEATER

KING CROSSWORD

DOPE LAMP ADS
 UPON ALEE LAP
 DELTADAWN PTA
 SNOOPY ASHES
 ME POLKA
 BLOB BRA IDEA
 RIM ROT OWN
 OPED ASS AGED
 GIDDY RN
 ALAMO PAGODA
 MOM ZETA JONES
 OVA ERAS RULE
 KEN NEXT ASIA

MAGIC MAZE

CHARACTERS FROM
A CHRISTMAS CAROL



SUDOKU

3	8	4	7	6	2	9	1	5
1	2	7	5	8	9	3	4	6
5	6	9	4	3	1	8	2	7
4	3	1	2	7	6	5	9	8
6	9	5	3	4	8	1	7	2
2	7	8	9	1	5	6	3	4
9	1	2	6	5	7	4	8	3
8	4	6	1	2	3	7	5	9
7	5	3	8	9	4	2	6	1

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the Publix just off the
island! I can't wait to
see you.*

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Change; 2. Tinder;
3. Crackle; 4. Simper

Today's Word
THINKING

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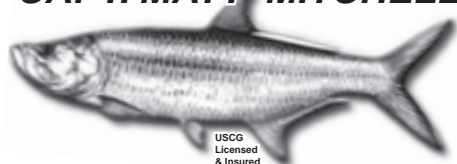
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*RS 12/25 CC 2/12

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*NS 12/18 CC 12/25

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For more information contact Kelly Collini at CHR 239-472-1189.
*RS 12/25 CC 1/8

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*RS 12/4 CC TFN

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LIVE ON THE ISLANDS

The Jacaranda has live entertainment Friday and Saturday with Renata, playing jazz,contemporary and dance. Sunday is CJ & Friends, playing oldies, Motown, rock 'n' roll and country. Renata plays funk, jazz, contemporary and dance on Monday. On Tuesday, it's Sir Mitch, playing classic rock, R&B and dance. Wednesday is Barbara Dexter, playing contemporary, oldies and current hits. Thursday is Eric Malibu, playing contemporary, reggae and dance.

The Crow's Nest Beach Bar & Grille at 'Tween Waters Inn on Captiva has live entertainment with Gatlin on Thursday. The New Vinyls play Friday and Saturday. Crab shows are on Mondays and Thursdays.

The Mucky Duck on Andy Rosse Lane, Captiva features music by Gary Earle on Thursday and Friday. Gene Federico plays on Saturday. Gary Earle plays Sunday; Mark Dupuy plays on Monday; Perry English plays on Tuesday; and Gene Federico plays on Wednesday.

*Restaurant owners/managers, please email or fax any changes to your entertainment schedule to press@islandsunnews.com or 395-2299.**

Sea Breeze Café at Sundial Beach Resort & Spa has live island style entertainment on Mondays and a Spanish guitarist on Wednesdays.

Traditions on the Beach at Island Inn has live music Friday, Saturday and Sunday with Dusk Duo, playing pop, R&B, country and jazz. On Monday, it's Woody Brubaker on saxophone, clarinet, flute, piano and vocals. On Tuesday, it's Dusk Duo. Wednesday is Barbara Smith and Woody Brubaker. On Thursday, Dana Paul performs with Joe McCormick and Marvilla Marzan.

Il Cielo has live entertainment with Scott McDonald on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

The Island Cow on Periwinkle Way has live entertainment on Friday with Gene Federico. Jay Helt plays on Saturday. Dan Confrey plays on Sunday.

RC Otter's on Andy Rosse Lane, Captiva, has live music daily with dining inside and out.

Top 10 Real Estate Sales

Development	City	Year Built	Square Footage	Listing Price	Selling Price	Days On Market
Bonita Beach	Bonita Springs	1961	3,260	\$2,950,000	\$2,700,000	100
Not Applicable	Sanibel	1958	1,817	\$1,198,000	\$1,024,000	224
Venetian Gardens	Fort Myers Beach	1978	2,528	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	48
Wildcat Run	Estero	2015	3,257	\$1,100,000	\$995,000	84
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2011	4,146	\$919,000	\$895,000	26
Grande Estates	Estero	2005	3,499	\$929,000	\$865,000	111
Lakewood	Fort Myers	2005	3,151	\$890,000	\$855,000	328
Arezzo	Bonita Springs	2006	3,430	\$843,500	\$825,000	443
Palm Gardens	Fort Myers	2015	3,375	\$774,405	\$750,000	137
Crown Colony	Fort Myers	2004	2,973	\$724,900	\$700,000	3

Courtesy of Royal Shell Real Estate

Pets Of The Week

My name might be Prancer but I'm not a reindeer. I will prance right into your heart, though. I'm a little timid so I would be happiest in a quiet home. Please adopt me soon so I will be home for the holidays and we can start being best friends. My adoption fee is \$75 (includes a free gift while supplies last during Animal Services' Home 4 The Holidays adoption promotion).

I'm Angelica and I could be your new angel if you adopt me. I'd be the perfect addition to your family. I'm playful, adorable and will bring tons of joy to your life. My adoption fee is \$50 (includes a free gift while supplies last during Animal Services' adoption promotion).

For information about this week's pets, call 533-7387 (LEE-PETS) or log on to Animal Services' website at www.LeeLostPets.com. When calling, refer to the animal's ID number. The website updates every hour so you will be able to see if these or any other pets are still available.

The shelter is open for adoptions from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday. The shelter is located at 5600 Banner Drive in Fort Myers, next to the Lee County Sheriff's Office off Six Mile Cypress Parkway.

All adoptions include spay/neuter surgery, age-appropriate vaccinations, rabies vaccination and county license if three months or older, flea treatment, worming, heartworm test for dogs six months and over, feline AIDS and leukemia test for cats, training DVD, 10-day health guarantee, and a bag of Science Diet pet food.


The adoption package is valued at \$500.✽



Prancer ID #647330



Angelica ID #643903

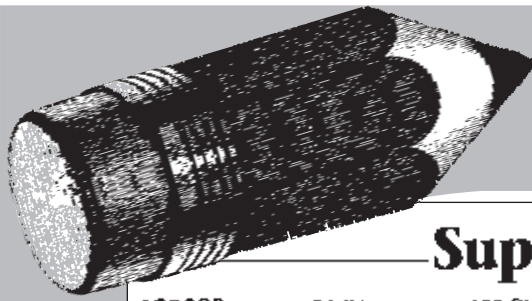


NEWSPAPER
Sanibel & Captiva Islands

CALLING CARD 239-395-1213

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Sanibel Police	472-3111
Lee County Sheriff's Office	477-1200
On Call Captiva Deputy	477-1000
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Fire Department - Captiva	472-9494
Florida Marine Patrol	332-6966
Florida Highway Patrol	278-7100
Poison Control	1-800-282-3171
Chamber of Commerce	472-1080
City of Sanibel	472-4135
Administrative Office	472-3700
Building Department	472-4555
Planning Department	472-4136
Library - Sanibel	472-2483
Library - Captiva	239-533-4890
Post Office - Sanibel	472-1573
Post Office - Sanibel (toll free)	800-275-8777
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Center 4 Life - Senior Center	472-5743
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Arcade Theater	332-4488
Art League Of Fort Myers	275-3970
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ABWA - American Business Women's Assoc.	565-7872 or 433-7798
American Legion Post 123	472-9979
Angel Flight SE	1-877-4AN-ANGEL
Audubon Society	472-3744
CHR Community Housing & Resources	472-1189
Community Foundation of Sanibel-Captiva	274-5900
CROW - Clinic For The Rehabilitation of Wildlife	472-3644
FISH of Sanibel - Friends in Service Here	472-4775
Sanibel Island Fishing Club	472-8994
Horticultural Society of the Islands	472-6940
Horticulture and Tea Society of Sanibel and Captiva	472-8334
Kiwanis Club	677-7299
League of Women Voters	sanibelLWV@gmail.com
Lions Club, Jeff MacDonald	302-521-1158
Master Gardeners of the Islands	472-6940
MOAA - Military Officers Assc. of America, Alex MacKenzie	395-9232
Newcomers	472-9332
Notre Dame Club of Southwest Florida	768-0417
Optimist Club	472-0836
PAWS	472-4823
Rotary Club	472-7257 or 472-0141
Sanibel Bike Club	sanibelbicycleclub.org
Sanibel Beautification Inc.	470-2866
Sanibel-Captiva Orchid Society	472-6940
Sanibel-Captiva Power Squadron	www.usps.org/localusps/sancap
Sanibel-Captiva Republican Caucus	395-1202
Sanibel-Captiva Shell Club	395-1770
Sanibel Youth Soccer	www.sanibelsoccer.org 395-2040
United Way of Lee County	433-2000
United Way 211 Helpline 24 hour	211 or 433-3900
Zonta Club	728-1971
ISLAND ATTRACTIONS	
Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum	395-2233
JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge	472-1100
Sanibel Historical Museum & Village	472-4648
SCCF Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation	472-2329

To be listed in calling card email your information to:
press@islandsunnews.com



BEACH CHAIR PASTIME

answers on page 27B

Super Crossword

LITERAL
LANGUAGE LESSON

ACROSS

- 1 Brings together
7 Refrain from
12 Wild prank
20 Toss again as vice
21 Rock steps
22 Wynton o' jazz trumpet
23 PANE
25 Blows stormily, as wind
26 Lessens in worth
27 Congeal
28 Plains tribe
29 Baby's first word, maybe
32 "— heard worse"
33 CORNE
35 Rudimentary seeds
37 Skull
41 Weed-chopping tool
42 KILBASA
44 Requests desperately
48 Sugary
49 Car tire's outer layer
50 "— la vie"
51 Suffix with press or prefect
52 UFO crew members

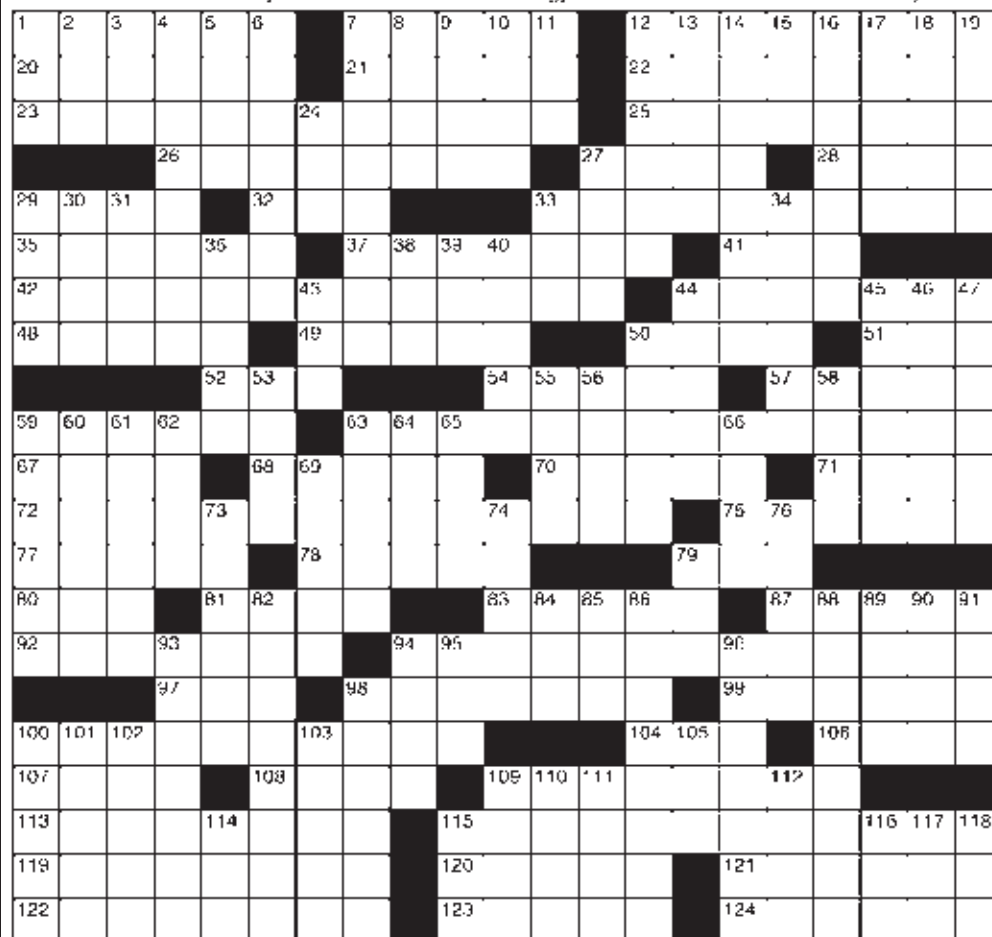
- 54 "How can thank you?"
57 Arch pedago part
59 Result of a belly flop
63 KOUCHILU
67 Prudish type
68 Garlic
69 seasoned mayonnaise
70 Howling mad
71 Artist
72 Bonheur
73 LUACH
75 Shylack, e.g.
77 Actor/singer
78 Pizzele
79 Flavong
79 Fur, country or Can.
80 Stephen of "The Heavy"
81 Old letter salutation
83 Mountain cats
87 Tail off
92 "Icebacco Road"
94 novelist
95 Caldwell
96 TORTILLA
97 Khan
98 Ships
99 Transporting
100 Toss, free!

- 100 CHUX
104 Finish
106 With 89- Down, side in a game that's not visiting
107 "How sad!"
108 DYK brand
109 Summer starts with one
113 At an unknown point in the future
115 BALSAPRK
119 Poe poem
120 Dunne of film
121 Make current
122 Most cheeky
123 Slacked off
124 Usner, often
DOWN
1 Israeli mentalist
2 Geller
3 Fish-catching mesh
4 Lyric-writing
5 Gershwin
6 Fibbed
7 Writer
8 Wiesel
9 Troubles terribly

- 7 Tramway vehicle
8 Light tan
9 Io (exactly)
10 Adriatic and Baltic
11 Roush of the Reds
12 Symbol
13 Beauty shop
14 They're leaned on for support
15 Horse cousin
16 Eye covers
17 New Olds of 1999
18 More terrible
19 Run city
24 Of wars: ps: Abbr.
27 Rock's Motley
29 Swabs
30 Declare openly
31 Equine hybrid
33 Pear-shaped
34 false fruit
36 Immobilize at a rodeo
38 Will of "Blue Bloods"
39 Wish to undo
39 Smile
40 Center
40 Comed of gymnastics

- 43 Holy people, Abbr.
44 Flat cap
45 Steamboat pioneer
46 Robert
46 Bully's threat
47 Rip anew
50 Labor activist
53 Chaver
53 Warm up
55 Writer
56 Baginold
56 Wang of fashion
58 Medicinal fluids
59 Orb
60 Opt for first
61 Many babies born in fall
62 Farming-related prefix
63 Rivers and Baez
64 "For — know..."
65 Pizzeria orders
66 Toll producer
69 Statement of empathy
73 Pulver's rank
74 Sherpa land
76 Hawaii-born president
79 Burning residue
82 Dominant
84 "A" in Brest
85 Earth orbiter until 2031

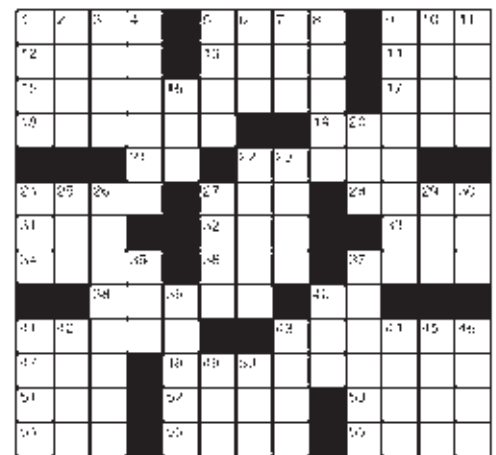
- 86 Gauged
88 Suburb of Washington, D.C.
89 To boot
90 See 106-Across
91 Smurf or Hook suffix
93 Old Austrian emperors
94 Mediocre
95 Speaker systems, for short
96 Sphinx riddle solver
98 London's — Garden
100 Makes it
101 Honolulu "hi"
102 Instills docility in
103 Singer
104 LeAnn
105 — power
109 Actress
110 Gilbert
110 Tip jar items
111 Queue (up)
112 Bullfight wear
114 — chi (martial art)
115 Stop existing
116 Rat-a —
117 Traveler's path: Abbr.
118 "Quit bellyachin'!"



King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Information, informally
5 Genie's home
9 Commercial
12 "Once — a time"
13 Sheltered
14 Once around the track
15 Holon
16 Reddy hit
17 Sci. org.
18 Charlie Brown's dog
19 Fire residue
21 Yours truly
22 Accordion rendition, often
24 Amorphous mass
27 Eugene item
28 Concept
31 Edge
32 Decay
33 Have
34 Newspaper pg.
36 Fool
37 On in years
38 Euphonic
40 Hosp. staffer
41 Memorable mission
43 Oriental temple
47 On-tattooed word



- 48 "Chicago" Oscar winner
51 Eggs
52 History chapters
53 Hold sway
54 Barbie's companion
55 Adjoining
56 Largest of the seven

- 7 Kitten's comment
8 Punishment-related
9 Pack leader, maybe
10 Appointment
11 Resorts
16 Gorilla
20 Take to the slopes
22 Common-place
23 Feedbag fill
24 Bud
25 Back talk
26 1971 Heston film, with "The"
27 Actor Pitt
29 Ram's mate
30 In addition
35 Poorly lit
37 Goat hair made into wool
39 Twelve
40 British rule in India
41 Uncontrolled
42 Lyncoln's subject, often
43 History
44 Responsibility
45 Sandwich shop
46 On the briny
48 Before
50 Wage earner's payment

CHARACTERS FROM A CHRISTMAS CAROL

MAGIC MAZE

X D A X U R O L J G D A X V T
S P N K R I F C A X V S Q M I
O L J A H E E C A X V T R I H
P N L J H I P F D B Y X Y T C
C V T Y R T P P O M K I E Y T
G H E D S C R O O G E B L N A
B Z A O X T W A U T A N R I R
T R I E R F R E D M Z R Q A T C
O G N E L L E B I L J M M F B
I G F S N I K L I W D C A Y O
G I W I Z Z E F A D N I L E B

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions: forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Belinda	Charlie	Fred	Mr. Topper
Belle	Elizabeth	Ghost	Scrooge
Betsy	Fan	Marley	Wilkins
Bob Cratchit	Fezziwig	Martha	

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Captiva Island, Fort Myers, Marco Island,
Naples, Ocala and Sanibel Island

North Carolina: Cashiers/Lake Glenville,
Highlands, Sapphire/Lake Toxaway



THE PERFECT BEACH COTTAGE



- Open and Bright, Totally Updated
- Gorgeous Lake Views
- Lots of Decking All Around
- \$730,000 MLS 2151016
- Andre Arensman 239.233.1414

GOLD COAST BEACHFRONT ESTATE



- Estate Zoned, Exclusive Location
- Gorgeous Landscaping & Setting on Over One Acre
- 5 BR, 5 BA, Private Elevator, Art Studio
- \$5,800,000 MLS 2150543
- McMurray & Nette 239.850.7888

CAPTIVA VILLAGE



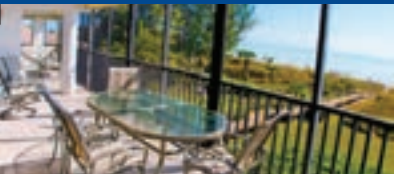
- 5 BR, 5.5 BA – In the Heart of Captiva Village
- Separate Guest House, 3 Floor Elevator
- Pool, Spa, Chef's Kitchen, Concrete Construction
- \$2,695,000 MLS 2141344
- Burns Family Team 239.464.2984

GREAT "VILLAGE OF CAPTIVA" LOCATION



- 5BR Home Ideal for Entertaining or Large Family
- Great Room Plan With Rooftop Sundeck
- Pool, Spa, Garage and More
- \$2,075,000 MLS 2150187
- Fred Newman & Vicki Panico 239.826.2704

SHOREWOOD OF SANIBEL



- Gorgeous Gulf Front 3 BR, 3 BA
- Amazing Opportunity, Rare-to-Market
- Low Density, East End Location
- \$1,395,000 MLS 2130410
- Burns Family Team 239.464.2984

SURFSIDE 12, UNIT B1



NEW LISTING

- Gorgeous 3 BR, 2 BA Condo
- Direct Gulf Front Views
- East End Location
- \$1,099,000 MLS 2151117
- Cindy Sitton 239.810.4772

SANCTUARY HERON CONDO



- 3 BR, 2.5 BA on Sanibel's Premier Golf Course!
- Timeless Design w/10 Ft. Ceilings Throughout
- <http://royalshell.me/5681baltusrolct>
- \$650,000 MLS 2150693
- The Radigan Team 239.691.6240

SANIBEL ESTATES



- Fantastic Lifestyle, Direct Waterfront Estate
- 4 BR, 4.5 BA, Grotto Style Screened Pool Area w/Spa
- Professionally Designed and Furnished
- \$3,495,000 MLS 2150966
- McMurray & Nette 239.850.7888

5 PEACEFUL TROPICAL ISLAND ACRES



- Live or Build – Up to 24,000 S.F.
- Deeded Beach Access Across the Street
- 2,000 S.F. 2 BR + Den Home + Pool
- \$2,200,000 MLS 2150689
- Cathy Rosario 239.464.2249

COLOOSA YACHT & RACQUET CLUB



- Masterfully Built, 3650 S.F. of Living on Premier Cul-de-sac Lot
- 4 Bedrooms, 4 Baths Plus Den, Open Floorplan
- Sweeping Riverfront Views & Gorgeous Sunsets
- \$1,595,000 MLS 2150661
- McMurray & Nette 239.850.7888

BETTS



- 152 Feet Bayou Bay Water Frontage
- Last Buildable Site All Fish & Wild Life Next Door
- Great Direct Boating Access
- \$1,379,000 MLS 2131372
- John Nicholson 239.849.3250

CATALPA COVE – BOATER'S DREAM



- 4 BR, 3.5 BA Lakefront, 2 Boat Docks
- Very Private Location on 2 Lots
- Den, Living Room, Family Room, Pool
- \$899,000 MLS 2150430
- Jason Lomano 239.470.8628

SANIBEL LAKE ESTATES



- Updated Kitchen & Low Maintenance Yard
- 3 BR, 2 BA Home With Lots of Charm
- Your opportunity to Have Your Home on Sanibel
- \$440,000 MLS 2150524
- Sarah Ashton 239.691.4915

PRIME LOCATION AT BEACH HOMES



- Direct Beachfront Just Outside Your Door
- Expanded Views from Both Floors
- Large 4 BR, 3 BA Floor Plan
- \$2,700,000 MLS 2150500
- Vicki Panico & Fred Newman 239.980.0088

EXQUISITE KINZIE ISLAND HOME



- 3 BR, 2.5 BA on Navigable Canal
- Beach Cabana Just Steps Away
- Private Dock and Boat Lift
- \$2,090,000 MLS 2150965
- Burns Family Team 239.464.2984

SHELL HARBOR CANAL HOME



- 3 BR, 3 BA, on Navigable Canal
- Boat Dock and Lift, Gulf Access
- Sparkling Pool/Spa, Lush Landscaping
- \$1,550,000 MLS 2150488
- Burns Family Team 239.464.2984

SURFSIDE 12, UNIT B3



NEW LISTING

- Stunning 3 BR, 2 BA Penthouse Condo
- Spectacular Views Of The Gulf Of Mexico
- Meticulously Remodeled
- \$1,249,000 MLS 2151116
- Cindy Sitton 239.810.4772

CAPTIVA "VILLAGE" NEAR BEACH



NEW PRICE

- 2 BR, 2.5 BA "Turn-key"
- Desirable Sunset Captiva
- Steps to Beach, Restaurants and Shopping
- \$879,000 MLS 2150391
- John & Denice Beggs 239.357.5500

STELLA DEL MAR



- Spacious Split Bedroom Floorplan
- 2 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms Plus Den
- Two Car Garage, Over 1,900 S.F.
- \$247,500 MLS 2150520
- Brian Murty 239.565.1272