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SANIBEL & CAPTIVA ISLANDS, FLORIDA

DECEMBER 22, 2017

DECEMBER SUNRISE/SUNSET: 22 7:12 • 5:41 23 7:13 • 5:42 24 7:13 • 5:42 25 7:14 • 5:43 26 7:14 • 5:43 27 7:15 • 5:44 28 7:15 • 5:45

Numbers Improve For Christmas Bird Count

by Jeff Lysiak

During last Saturday's annual Christmas Bird Count, conducted by members of the Sanibel-Captiva Audubon Society, 148 participants counted a total of 17,566 birds comprised of 105 different species. The results of the San-Cap count will be reported to the National Audubon Society and will become part of the 118th Audubon Christmas Bird Count (CBC).

Those totals show a dramatic improvement over last year, when 136 volunteers counted 10,920 birds comprised of 99 different species on the islands.

"Last year was a little bit low as far as bird counts go, but it was colder and there were some impacts of red tide," said Bill Jacobson of the Sanibel-Captiva Audubon Society. "This year, the weather has been



Volunteers who attended last Saturday's Christmas Bird Count, conducted by members of the Sanibel-Captiva Audubon Society, at the JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge photo by Jeff Lysiak

pretty good. Down here, we're blessed with a place that's crawling with birds and we have a lot of people who enjoy birding."

According to Jacobson, who along with Hugh Verry helps coordinate the island's annual bird count, Audubon Christmas Bird

Counts are conducted throughout much of the western hemisphere from mid-December through early January. "The CBC is a fertile source of historical information on the status and distribution of early winter bird populations and is studied by scien-

tists and interested individuals the world over," noted Jacobson.

At 8 a.m. on December 16, more than two dozen birders arrived at the JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge to

continued on page 30



The dramatic manatee rescue effort on December 4

photo courtesy Carol Nottage

Manatee Pair Rescued From Sanibel Canal

by Jeff Lysiak

A pair of juvenile manatees that had been trapped in a canal located within the Gulf Shores subdivision on Sanibel were rescued by officials from the Florida Fish and Wildlife

Conservation Commission (FWC), the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation Marine Lab, the JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge as well as volunteers from the neighborhood where the aquatic mammals had been stranded.

On December 4, it took the efforts of more than two dozen people nearly three hours to capture both manatees, stuck in the narrow canal since Hurricane Irma struck the island in mid-September.

According to eyewitnesses Carol and



Officials from the JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge, SCCF Marine Lab and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission manatee division rescued two manatees trapped in the Gulf Shores subdivision on Sanibel since Hurricane Irma

photo courtesy JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge

Rick Nottage, who live on White Ibis Lane, seeing a pair of manatees in their backyard came as quite a surprise.

"On the morning of September 19, I was sitting on my lanai when I heard a little noise in the water," recalled Carol Nottage. "When I looked into the canal,

I saw a manatee's head coming out of the water. My husband started taking video of them swimming right up along the shoreline."

However, it took some time before anybody believed what the Nottages

continued on page 26

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CARD OF THANKS



Momma and all six kittens are now in their new homes



photos provided

Like many Sanibel and Captiva residents, we at PAWS will be happy when 2017 comes to an end and the new year begins. Hopefully, we will be in the "no hurricanes" rhythm for a few years. We were very fortunate that, for the most part, Irma was kind to us.

I would personally like to give a big thank you to Bailey's General Store, Ace Hardware and all their employees. They were awesome before and after the storm. I live on the west end, but I've heard that Jerry's and all the other businesses were just as awesome.

The City of Sanibel did a fabulous job coordinating preparation and clean up and keeping everyone informed. I had 27 animals with me in a warehouse/office space on U.S. 41. Some of these animals belonged to the owner of the warehouse, but they were elsewhere for the storm. It was an interesting adventure, but I was very happy when we could all get back home.

In addition to the storm, PAWS had a huge scare in early October. One of the cats became quite ill and required in-patient care. The team of doctors was having a difficult time with it diagnosis but after several days, the likely diagnosis was Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP). FIP is highly infectious, usually fatal and very difficult to diagnose in a live patient. The threat of FIP is a major crisis for rescues and shelters. There is no immunization, no accurate test and no treatment. It is close to 100 percent fatal.

Because of the storm, all the cats had to be moved to the office space and were at higher risk of exposure. The disease can also be passed by the person caring for the animals.

The sick kitty was euthanized, and fluid and tissue sent out for examination. The doctors were 85 percent certain of FIP, but I wanted to know for sure. The fluid results came back from Auburn University after one week and it was negative. At that point, the tissue was sent to another lab, and after another 10 days, it came back negative as well. This was a huge relief for all the animals that could have been exposed. A feral momma kitty and her six kittens were with me, and the kittens would have been especially vulnerable to this horrible disease. Fortunately, this was not the case and we are all very thankful.

We would like to thank everyone who donated financially and in other ways to help support Sanibel and Captiva's lost, abandoned, injured and sick animals during this past year. Without the help from our community, we would not be able to continue to support the needs of our domestic animals. This past year, we've

provided for many animals, some for very long periods of time. It may take awhile, but we are almost always successful in finding the best forever homes.

Special thanks to Louise and Jerry Fitzgerald who have fostered several animals in their home on Sanibel. Huge thanks to Patti and John Wilson of Fort Myers for providing the building for us during the hurricane, assisting with transporting the animals, the food, water, litter and everything else in the event of a long term stay. Evacuation of the PAWS animals would not have been possible without that assistance.

We would also like to thank our local newspapers, the *Island Sun* and *Island Reporter*, for donating space for pictures and stories of our rescues. This is how we reunite some of these animals with their families, or find them a new forever home. Thanks to all the island businesses that keep PAWS donation containers on their counters. Special thanks to Bailey's General Store, Footloose and H2O Outfitters at Jerry's Market, and Huxter's Market and Deli. Thanks to the Center 4 Life for hosting the annual Justine Smith Memorial Bridge Tournament for the past seven seasons and donating the proceeds to PAWS, which was one of Justine's favorite organizations.

We are truly indebted to all the doctors and staff that provide the outstanding veterinary services for all our animals. Dr. Mark Mathusa at Beachside Animal Clinic on Sanibel, and all the staff at Coral Veterinary Clinic on Sanibel and in Fort Myers. Special thanks to Kimm Pontiff who always seems to manage all our crisis situations.

If you're considering year-end charitable contributions, please consider donating to PAWS. Critical care veterinary hospitals are very expensive. In addition to the ongoing vetting and other expenses, the illness of a PAWS cat and the possibility of FIP made for a very costly year. PAWS is a 501(c)3 not for profit and all contributions are tax deductible. Make checks payable to PAWS and mail to P.O. Box 855, Sanibel, FL 33957. Your cancelled check is your receipt, but if you prefer a letter, send us a note or call me at 472-4823. If you have a business on the islands and would be willing to display a donation container, let us know.

When shopping on Amazon, use the PAWS Amazon Smile link: smile.amazon.com/ch/65-0037174 and Amazon donates to Protection of Animal Welfare Society, Inc. (PAWS).

Happy New Year!

*Pamela D. Sullivan, President, PAWS
Sanibel Island, Florida*

The Community House



The next Colorful Sips painting class with Sissi Janku will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. on Wednesday, January 3 image provided

Duplicate Bridge

Duplicate bridge will be offered on Tuesdays in December from 12:30 to 4 p.m., led by bridge aficionado Susan Willoughby. Refreshments provided. Cost is \$10, paid to the organizer.

Holiday Mini-Golf

Holiday Mini-Golf will take place Tuesday, December 26 through Friday, December 29 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. The indoor course is newly designed. No equipment is necessary. Admission for open play is \$3 per person.

Fish Fry

The Community House will host a Fish Fry on Friday, December 29 from 5 to 7 p.m. Resident Chef Jarred Harris will prepare his own Point Ybel Beer-Battered Cod, Tropical Jicama Salad and Yucca Fries. Mac and cheese will be available for children. There will be a cash bar with Point Ybel Brewing Company beer. Cost is \$15 per person. A maximum of 300 tickets will be sold; available at The Community House and Bailey's General Store.

Mudra: The Art of Hand Yoga

Dr. Susan Pataky will host a one-hour class on yoga mudras on Thursday, December 28 from 1 to 2 p.m. Participants will be seated in chairs while working on breathing skills. Bring a notepad or journal. To register, call 472-2155. Cost is \$22 per person.

Colorful Sips

Sissi Janku's Colorful Sips painting class will be held on Wednesday, January 3 from 7 to 9 p.m. No experience is necessary. Students will explore new ways to paint with acrylics. Bring your favorite snack or beverage. Registration can be completed online. Cost is \$55 for members and \$60 for guests.

Foodies and Yogis

Foodies and Yogis with Dr. Susan Pataky and Chef Jarred Harris will be held

on Sunday, January 7 from 4 to 6 p.m. This new series starts with a one-hour themed beginner-friendly yoga session led by Dr. Pataky. Following the session, Chef Jarred will prepare and serve a delicious and nutritious meal. Each segment features a different healing herb or spice along with information on the applications in the kitchen as well as medicinal uses for the body and mind. Cost is \$49 per person. To register, call 472-2155 or sign up online at <https://sanibelcommunityhouse.net>.

Art By You

Jenny Licht's Art by You painting class will be held on Wednesday, January 10 from 6 to 9 p.m. Full instruction and materials provided. Registration can be completed online. Cost is \$40 for members and \$50 for guests.

Young Chefs Cooking Series

The next class in the monthly Young Chefs Cooking Series with Chef Jarred Harris will be held Monday, January 1 from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. Students will learn to make tapas and other dishes from Spain. Classes are designed for students 8 years old and up. Cost is \$35 per child and includes the meal made in class. Registration form required. To register, contact info@sanibelcommunityhouse.net or call 472-2155.

Post-Holiday Recovery Cooking Series

Chef Jarred will share techniques and recipes to help reset your healthy lifestyle. A hands-on class will be held on Thursday, December 11 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. featuring Smoked Mullet Pâté with Pumpernickel Crisp, Salad of Endive, Apple and Fennel with Pumpkin Seed Vinaigrette, Salt Crust Snapper with Chicory Crab and Watercress, and White Wine Poached Pear and Spiced Frozen Yogurt. Hands-on classes are \$75 for members and \$95 for non-members. Register online at sanibelcommunityhouse.net or call 472-2155. Prepaid reservations must be made 72 hours in advance.

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

CARD OF THANKS

To our Bike Path Angels:
Thank you so much to the Armstrongs who were at the scene of the San-Cap Road bike accident Saturday morning. You brought a calming influence and we thank you so much for dealing with one of the bikes. We are lucky that you were in the right place at the right time! And thanks to the others who stopped on the path and on the road – we felt that we were surrounded by friends. Also, thanks to Sanibel Fire and the EMTs. We are forever grateful to one and all.

Janie Howland and Jack Thomas*

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Children Spread Christmas Joy

located at 1740 Periwinkle Way. The last day of preschool before the Christmas break, the youngsters were wearing pajamas, making pancakes on the griddle and Christmas caroling for the staff.

For information about registration or a tour of the school, contact Andy Reidsma at the main campus at 482-7007.✱

photo provided



Gulf View Inn 1954

photo courtesy Captiva Island Historical Society Archives

This week's image is a 1954 image of the Gulf View Inn depicting the dining room and the office. It was owned and managed by the Wedekinds at this time. Presently this building is part of the Mucky Duck restaurant in Captiva.

The History Gallery, developed by the Captiva Island Historical Society, features many photos like this. All ages are welcome to step aboard a wooden replica of the old mailboat, *Santiva*, to capture the spirit of Captiva and learn through graphic and video panels about the events and people that shaped the island. The History Gallery is accessed through the Captiva Memorial Library, located on Chapin Lane and open during library hours. Call 533-4890 for information.

Visit www.captiva.islandhistoricalsociety.org/archives/research to view many more images to bring you closer to Captiva.✪

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Francis Bailey at Bailey's General Store

photos provided

Twilight Talk Will Honor Island Icon Francis Bailey

The Sanibel Historical Village will host its next Twilight Talk at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, January 10 at The Community House, located at 2173 Periwinkle Way. Francis Bailey's family and close friends will be there to talk about Francis and tell stories. The cost is \$10 per ticket and reservations are required.

Participating in the event will be Francis' daughters Mary Mead Bailey Johnson, Anne Bailey Hagerty and Jane Bailey Ward. Richard Johnson will also be there, as will Francis' brother-in-law Keith Trowbridge. Emilie Alfino, who helped Francis write his memoir, *My 92 Years on Sanibel*, will be there to take part.

Tickets must be picked up and paid for in advance. The village accepts cash, checks, Mastercard and Visa.

Two Twilight Talks remain after this one: Sanibel Restaurants of Yesteryear on March 20, and 55 Years After the Causeway on April 11. Both will take place at 7 p.m. at The Community House.

To purchase tickets, call 472-4648 or email info@sanibelmuseum.org.

The Historical Village's Twilight Talks are sponsored by Wayne and Linda Boyd.

The Historical Village is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays. The village is located at 950 Dunlop Road (next to BIG ARTS). Admission is \$10 for adults 18 and older; no charge for those under age 18. Docent-guided tours are available at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at no extra charge, based upon docent availability.



Vintage photo of Francis Bailey

There is handicap access at the village.

For more information, visit www.sanibelmuseum.org.

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OBITUARY



BERNICE RABINOWITZ KUPSAW

Bernice Kupsaw died peacefully at age 93 on December 28, 2016 in her Shell Point Arbor apartment with family at her side. She was born in New York City, April 24, 1923 to Russian-Jewish immigrant parents David and Fannie Rabinowitz. As a child, her father nicknamed her "Bunny," a moniker by which she was known the rest of her life. She grew up in the Bronx and commuted to Manhattan's Hunter High School and then Hunter College. During the Depression, her father owned a small candy store. Bunny and friends would spend childhood Saturdays with bags of

candy watching nickel movies at the local cinema.

At Far Rockaway Beach in Queens, at age 17, she met a friend of her older sister Jeanne's boyfriend. He was Murray Kupsaw of Paterson, New Jersey. Three years later during the height of World War II, they would marry. They lived in Austin, Texas until Murray's Army unit shipped out to the Pacific Theater. During the war years, Bunny returned to New York, finished her college degree and completed a master's degree in early childhood education at Columbia University.

After the war, Murray and Bunny moved to Newington, Connecticut and started a baby boomer family. Wendy arrived in 1951, Robert "Rusty" in 1953 and Edith in 1959. After volunteering for years running the library at her children's elementary school, Bunny obtained a master's degree in library science at Southern Connecticut State University. She then began a long tenure as the librarian at another of her children's schools, Martin Kellogg Junior High School.

After nearly 20 years running the junior high library, she retired in 1985. When Murray retired a few years later, they moved to Sanibel where their son Rusty and his wife, Lena, live. As grandma and grandpa, they were very involved in the lives of Rusty and Lena's six children. They spent much time at BIG ARTS volunteering, attending concerts and participating in programs. Bunny discovered a talent late in life after taking Newington High School's adult education painting course. She painted avidly in retirement. She also continued her lifelong passion for gardening.

In 2003, Bunny and Murray moved to a condo at Shell Point. True to form, she took on the task of organizing the library at the Shell Point Pavilion. She continued to be a major presence in the lives of her nine grandchildren. Even in the last years of her life, she would see them several times a week.

Bunny was predeceased by Murray in 2011. She is survived by her three children: Wendy Kupsaw (Shelley Rothenberg) of Oakland, California, Rusty Kupsaw (Lena) of Sanibel, and Edith Lawrence (Timothy) of Rochester New York; and her nine grandchildren: Griffin, Graham, Katherine, Claire, Samuel and Ava Kupsaw of Sanibel; Nathaniel and Eli Lawrence of Rochester; and Sarah Rothenberg of Oakland.

Bunny is still best described by her high school yearbook caption: "An old-fashioned bouquet of gentleness, generosity and happiness." She is sadly missed by all.✧

Lions Eyeglass Collections Up

The Sanibel Captiva Lions Club continues to collect unused prescription and non-prescription eyeglasses and sunglasses as part of its Recycle for Sight program.

In November, 235 glasses and 108 cases were collected for distribution to developing countries where eye care is often unaffordable and inaccessible. Collection numbers are on an uptick after low collections in September and October

due to Hurricane Irma.

"We still need everyone to donate their used eyeglasses," said Tom Nachazel, club president. "In most developing countries, an eye exam can cost as much as one month's wages and a single eye doctor may serve a community of hundreds of thousands of people."

The glasses are shipped to a regional Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center where they are cleaned, categorized by prescription and prepared for distribution by Lions and other groups. In addition to Recycle for Sight, the Sanibel-Captiva Lions have provided complimentary vision, hearing and diabetes screening for many years.

"Sight is undoubtedly one of the Lions defining causes," said Nachazel.

To donate used glasses, including reading glasses, place them in the specially marked Lions Recycle for Sight collection boxes located at the following businesses:

Sanibel – Ace Hardware, Bank of the Islands, Bailey's General Store, Island Pharmacy, Joey's Custard, Sanibel Captiva Community Bank (on Library Way and Periwinkle Way), Sanibel Community Church, Sanibel Public Library, Sanibel Eyecare, Santiva General Store, Center 4 Life.

Captiva – Captiva Memorial Library and Bank of the Islands.

The Sanibel Captiva Lions meet on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. at The Community House. Lions are a group of men and women who identify needs within the community and work together to fulfill those needs.

For more information, contact Rick Siders at rwsiders@mac.com or visit www.sanibelcaptivalions.org.✧

CHRISTMAS EVE AT SANIBEL COMMUNITY CHURCH Sunday, December 24

Christmas Eve Morning Services

Family Friendly Morning Worship

8 a.m. – Traditional in the Historic Chapel

9 a.m. – Contemporary In The Sanctuary

11 a.m. – Traditional in the Sanctuary



Candlelight Christmas Eve Services

Dramatic Presentation & Lighting of the Candles

4 p.m. – Contemporary In The Sanctuary.

6 p.m. – Contemporary In The Sanctuary.

8 p.m. – Traditional With Choir In The Sanctuary

A special offering will be received at all three afternoon/evening services for our fellow neighbors who can use a little extra help during the Christmas Season. This will include caring for folks in the SCC body and community as well as giving a gift to every household in Community Housing.

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Celebrate With Candles, Carols And Holiday Music

A series of Christmas season services at Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ – and one at Lighthouse Beach – will offer many ways to celebrate the holidays in meaningful, musical ways. Services on Christmas Eve, December 24, will be in both the church sanctuary and at the beach. Then, those who attend church on Sunday, December 31 will usher in the New Year with the peal of bells.

Professional musicians will play for all of the services and two of the services will feature a guest artist, German-American soprano Konstanze Niedung. The internationally-known vocalist received a bachelor's degree in voice from Vassar College and a master's degree in vocal performance with distinction and honors from the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston. She was a finalist and won third place in the Metropolitan Opera National Council New England Regional Auditions and was a recipient of a vocal fellowship to sing at the prestigious Tanglewood Music Center in Massachusetts. At home with art song and lighter classics as well as with opera, she has sung numerous recitals. She currently lives and works in Frankfurt, Germany.

Christmas Eve worship will begin at 10 a.m. with a service in the church



Konstanze Niedung photos provided

sanctuary. This traditional service will include music on the organ and piano featuring SCUCC organist Norm Libby and Choir Director Dr. Elwood Smith.

At 5 p.m., the Lighthouse Beach Christmas Eve Service will feature candle lighting, music and the Nativity story related by the Senior Pastor Rev. Dr. John H. Danner. Everyone will have a chance to sing carols, hold candles and hear Niedung sing *O Holy Night*. Thanks to amplifiers, the joyful sound will carry along the beach. This informal service of lessons and carols has been a traditional holiday favorite since 1979.

Shuttle transportation to Lighthouse Beach will be available by trolley from both the church, located at 2050 Periwinkle Way (across from the Periwinkle Place Shopping Center), and the Sanibel-Captiva Chamber of



Christmas Eve services will be held at Lighthouse Beach beginning at 5 p.m.

Commerce, located at 1159 Causeway Road. Additional vans will be on hand at the close of the service. There are bike racks at the beach. Everyone is asked to bring a chair or blanket, a flashlight and insect repellent.

The offering taken during the beach service will benefit two agencies working with people in need: Friends in Service Here (FISH), a Sanibel-based organization, and The Salvation Army.

At 9 p.m., the Christmas Eve Carols and Candlelight Service in the church sanctuary will feature special music by Niedung, as well as carols by the congregation and readings

of the Christmas story. The 12-foot decorated Christmas tree and numerous poinsettias indoors, as well as festive lights and greenery outdoors, will add to the joyful atmosphere.

December 31 is Bell Sunday, a church tradition when those who attend the 10 a.m. service bring or borrow bells to ring. This will be a blended service featuring Shawn Allison, song leader and saxophonist; Abbey Allison, pianist; and Dave Dust, guitarist.

All services are open to the public. For more information, call the church office at 472-0497 or visit www.sanibelucc.org.

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We Wish You A Merry Christmas And A Happy New Year



Your friends at *Island Sun* and *The River Weekly News*, from left, Justin Wilder, Sharon Terry, Ann Ziehl, Bob Petcher, Gerri Reaves, Amanda Hartman, Lorin Arundel, Chris Arundel, Di Saggau, Tom Rasi, Mike Terry and Jeff Lysiak
photo by Carol Orr Hartman

City Of Sanibel
Holiday Schedule

On Sanibel, refuse, recycling and vegetation waste collection by Advanced Disposal Services on Christmas Day will be one day later. Therefore, if normal pick-up is Monday, December 25, waste will be picked up on Tuesday, December 26. If normal pick-up is Tuesday, December 26, waste will be picked up on Wednesday, December 27. The altered schedule

will remain in place for the rest of the week. If you have any questions, call Advanced Disposal at 334-1224. Sanibel City Hall will be closed in observance of Christmas Day, Monday, December 25. Regular office hours will resume on Tuesday, December 26. If you have any questions, call 472-3700. The Center 4 Life will be closed in observance of Christmas Day, Monday, December 25. Regular office hours will resume on Tuesday, December 26. If you have any questions, call 472-5743. The Sanibel Recreation Center will be closed in observance of Christmas

Eve, Sunday, December 24, and Christmas Day, Monday, December 25. The rec center will resume regular operating hours on Tuesday, December 26. If you have any questions, call 472-0345. Register now for the Youth Holiday Camp, available for children in kindergarten through eighth grade. Visit www.mysanibel.com for more information. **Christmas Weekend Holiday Sidewalk Sales** The following retailers and shopping centers have obtained an annual Retail

Holiday Sidewalk Sales permit and may be holding special sidewalk sales over the holiday weekend:
Tahitian Gardens
Olde Sanibel Shoppes
The Village Shops
Huxters Liquors
Sanibel Sea School
Periwinkle Place
Heart of the Island
Gene's Books
Forever Green Shopping Center
Whitney's Bait & Tackle
Bailey's Center
Palm Ridge Place*

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Gospel Project Comes To Sanibel Church

Sanibel Community Church has joined many other congregations around the world in presenting The Gospel Project, a chronological, Christ-centered journey through the storyline of Scripture. Participants in this study will encounter God's plan of redemption in Scripture through study of Bible narrative, the essential doctrines of the faith, and the call to join in God's mission locally and globally. Here is a brief sample of the materials covered in the study this month:

"When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus. But since they could see the man who had been healed standing there with them, there was nothing they could say." (Acts 4:13-14, NIV)

According to a LifeWay Christian Bookstore review, "The Gospel Project is a gospel-centered Bible study material for the local church. The Bible is not a collection of stories. It is one story, the story of God's plan to rescue His people from sin and death. It is the story of redemption, the gospel message of Jesus Christ. And it's our



Peter and James heal lame man
image provided

story, too.

"The Gospel Project is a Bible study resource that invites adults, students and kids of all ages to dive deeply into God's story of redemption through Jesus Christ. In every lesson, participants are immersed in the gospel and learn how when the gospel works on them, they become a part of the story, too, the very hands and feet in God's gospel project."

The course will be held on Sundays at 9 and 10:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to attend, and the course is free.

Sanibel Community Church is an evangelical, non-denominational congregation with the church campus at 1740 Periwinkle Way. For more information, call 472-2684 or visit www.sanibelchurch.com.✱

Youth Group Fasting To Raise Awareness

On Thursday and Friday, December 28 and 29, the Sanibel Community Church's youth ministry, H2O, will be having an event called 30 Hour Famine. The purpose is to raise awareness for world hunger and poverty, and to help teens understand through firsthand experience what it feels like to be hungry. For the entire 30 hours of the event, students will be fasting and doing service projects focused on helping, or learning about hunger and poverty. There will be games, guest speakers, worship, a movie, a city built out of cardboard boxes and other activities. The "famine" starts at 10 a.m. on the 28th and ends at 4 p.m. on the 29th, followed by a dinner together to end the fast from 4 to 5 p.m. All monies raised will be sent to World Vision International, an Evangelical Christian humanitarian aid organization. Contact Pastor Kevin at kevin@sanibelchurch.com for more information.

H2O Student Ministries is a youth ministry program for 6th grade through



image provided

12th grade young men and women. H2O meets on Wednesday evenings from 5 to 7 p.m. for middle school students, 6 to 8 p.m. for high school students, and on Sunday mornings from 11 a.m. until noon in the youth center at Sanibel Community Church. All students on the island and surrounding communities are welcome to attend.

Sanibel Community Church is an evangelical, non-denominational congregation located at 1740 Periwinkle Way (next to Jerry's Market).✱

Captiva Chapel by the Sea Christmas Schedule

Sunday, December 24th at 11:00am

Christmas Wreath Dedication

Sunday Worship and names read of those remembered through our Christmas Wreath Dedication

Sunday, December 24th at 6:30pm

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Beautiful music begins at 6:30, seating either inside our historic chapel or outdoors under thousands of twinkling lights.

Monday, December 25th at 11:00am

Christmas Day Worship Service

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Christmas lights will stay illuminated until January 7th



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Bailey's Limited Edition Ornament

Bailey's General Store introduces the ninth in its series of limited edition collector ornaments. Keeping with tradition, this year's ornament is an icon well known to island residents and visitors alike. The 2017 ornament is a collectible depiction of the large Howard Miller wooden wall clock located on the front wall of Bailey's General Store. The clock overlooks the customer service area and is marveled at as visitors and guests check out with their groceries.

In memory of Francis Bailey, who passed away on June 8, 2013, the depiction of the clock shows the time as 6:08. For Bailey's, time truly stopped that day.

The clock's prominent location on the front wall just inside the store allows visibility from many locations in the store. It is the centerpiece for various displays on the front wall. As the clock works and time passes, you will see local paintings on Bailey's green bags from the Sanibel-Captiva Art League, fundraising events for FISH of SanCap, MDA, CHR, Relay for Life and Baileyfest, to name a few. No matter what may be displayed around the clock, as the centerpiece, it still takes all the glory.

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 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 stores or online at www.baileys-sanibel.com.



Bailey's 2017 ornament

photo provided

American Legion Post 123

American Legion Post 123 wishes everyone a Merry Christmas. Stop by Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24 for barbecued ribs and chicken from 1 to 8 p.m. On New Year's Eve, Sunday, December 31, the Legion is serving pork and sauerkraut. Stop by for some live entertainment during request and sing-a-long night



with Dan Smyth every Wednesday from 5 to 8 p.m.

On Tuesdays, tacos are served all day. Country fried steak is served all day on Wednesday. On Fridays, a six-ounce ribeye steak sandwich is on the menu. There are daily specials as well as half-pound burgers. Food is served from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

If you have a flag that needs to be retired, drop it off at Post 123, located at Mile Marker 3 on Sanibel-Captiva Road. It is open Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 9 p.m. The public is welcome. For more information, call 472-9979.

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Churches/Temples

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Reverend Father Dean Nastos, Orthos Service Sunday 9 a.m., Divine Liturgy Sunday 10 a.m., Fellowship Programs, Sunday School, Bible Study. 8210 Cypress Lake Drive, Fort Myers, annunciation.fl.goarch.org, 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 Stephen Fuchs. President Alan Lessack 579-0296.

HISTORIC CAPTIVA CHAPEL BY THE SEA

The Rev. Dr. John N. Cedarleaf Services every Sunday 11 a.m. November 12, 2017 thru April 29, 2018 11580 Chapin Lane, Captiva 472-1646

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SANIBEL FELLOWSHIP, sbc

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SANIBEL COMMUNITY CHURCH

Dr. Daryl Donovan, Senior Pastor Sunday Worship 8 and 11 a.m. Traditional in historic Chapel, 9 a.m. Contemporary and

childrens church. Childcare available at all services. 1740 Periwinkle Way, 472-2684

SANIBEL CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

The Reverend Dr. John H. Danner, Sr. Pastor. The Reverend Deborah Kunkel, Associate Pastor. 7:45 Chapel Service, 9 a.m. Blended Worship Service, 11 a.m. Traditional Workshop Service with Sunday School and nursery care at 9 a.m. 2050 Periwinkle Way 472-0497 www.sanibelucc.org.

ST. ISABEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Pastor Reverend Christopher Senk, Saturday Vigil Mass 5 p.m., Sunday Mass 8:30 and 10:30 a.m., May through October 9:30 a.m. only. Daily Mass Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 8:30 a.m. Communion Service Monday and Tuesday 8:30 a.m. Holy Days call. 3559 San-Cap Road, 472-2763.

ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Rev. Dr. Ellen Sloan, Rector. Saturday Eucharist 5 p.m. Sunday Eucharist 8 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Tuesday Morning Prayer 9 a.m. Wednesday Healing Eucharist 9 a.m. Prayer and Potluck first Wednesdays 6 p.m. Taizé Service - third wednesday 6 p.m. 2304 Periwinkle Way, saintmichaels-sanibel.org, 472-2173.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS OF THE ISLANDS

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



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Darling Birds, The Unique Vision Of Photographer

Canadian artist Isabelle Laflamme is exhibiting her works for the first time at the JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge on Sanibel.

Laflamme's photos, exhibited under the title Darling Birds, offer a unique look at the birds of Lee County and Sanibel. Thirty of them are showed presently at the refuge Visitor and Education Center every day from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. until December 30.

With her works, Laflamme tries to capture the very personal link that she has created with these beautiful

photos provided

and fragile creatures while exploring the lush seashores of Lee County and Sanibel.

"Each of those birds, for me, is a unique being with its own will and existence. I want to show them in their natural environment, where they belong," said Laflamme, who has been visiting Southwest Florida since a young age.

Through the lens of her camera, she wants also to be a witness to a world that is getting smaller. The relentless advance of human presence is pushing birds into an ever reduced habitat, where they struggle to feed and reproduce.

"In 10 years, 20 years or maybe 30 years, some species could be just a memory. I hope that my photos will contribute to help protect those beautiful and irreplaceable beings," said Laflamme.

The JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge is located at 1 Wildlife Drive, off Sanibel-Captiva Road. For more information, call 472-1100.*



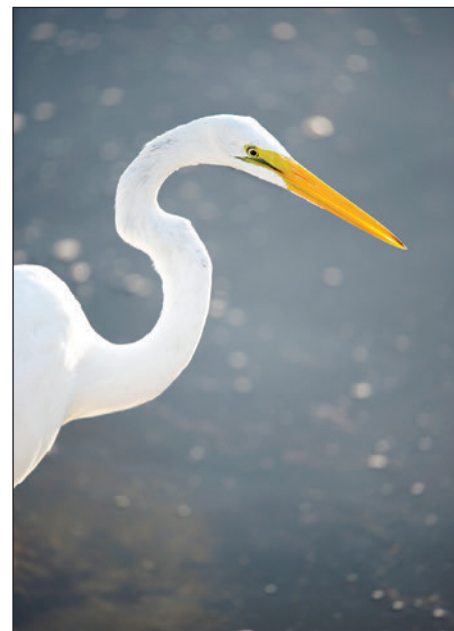
Spoonbill



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Sea School Offering Guided Discovery Walks



Johnny Rader, right, leads a guided walk along Buttonwood Beach photo provided submitted by Leah Biery

Sanibel Sea School will offer Guided Birdwatching and Shell Walks throughout the holiday season. Perfect for families and groups of all ages, these educational walks are led by one of the nonprofit organization’s marine science instructors, and provide an introduction to the topic in a fun, field-based setting.

Guided Birdwatching participants will take a birding walk around Sanibel’s east end as they learn to identify some of our island’s most common species. The instructor will discuss basic bird biology and behaviors, and you will also learn where to look for notable species on the island.

“This is a great program for anyone who wants to observe birds in their natural habitat, and we are always happy to adapt our lesson to suit the group’s interests and existing knowledge,” said instructor Johnny Rader.

Shell Walks offer a chance to learn about the basic biology of bivalves and gastropods. Your instructor will look for live shells to show you, and explain what makes this island a world class shelling destination. You will learn shell identification and find out where to look for some of the most coveted shells, so you’ll be able to make the most of your shelling experience on Sanibel.

“Our guided walks are designed to give you the knowledge you need to get started as a birder or beachcomber,” said Rader. “After you attend, you’ll be able to venture out on your own, and use what you learned to continue discovering our island environment.”

Guided Birdwatching is held on Thursdays from 9 to 10:30 a.m. The cost is \$15 per person, plus an optional \$5 binocular rental. Shell Walks are held on Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and cost \$20 per person.

To learn more and register, visit www.sanibelseaschool.org or call 472-8585.✧



Dahoon holly’s berries appear on the female plant and are a winter food source for birds and other wildlife photo by Gerri Reaves

Plant Smart

Holly For Christmas

by Gerri Reaves

For anyone missing the traditional holly found “up north,” dahoon holly (*Ilex cassine*) might be a perfect subtropical substitute.

Dahoon isn’t just another ornamental plant with evergreen leaves and bright berries. The fleshy fruit feeds many birds and other wildlife during the winter.

This moisture-loving native tree grows up to 35 feet tall. Its wild habitat includes swamps, wetlands, and stream banks, so it’s good for a wet or soggy spot in the landscape.

It is single- or multi-trunked and upright in form, with an open crown and smooth bark.

Small white four-petaled flowers appear most profusely in spring, with male and female ones blooming on separate trees.

The female tree bears the berries of about a fourth-inch across. They mature to bright red and contain four to eight seeds.

Dahoon has a moderate to slow

growth rate, moderate drought tolerance, and low salt tolerance. Give it full sun to partial shade.

It is on the Lee County Protected Tree List, so homeowners should familiarize themselves with tree-maintenance requirements.

It is also protected by law in the wild because the Florida Department of Agriculture considers it a commercially exploited species.

Don’t be tempted to try the berries, for they are toxic to people. However, Native Americans carefully prepared and consumed the roots.

Sources: *Florida Plants for Wildlife* by Craig N. Huegel, *A Gardener’s Guide to Florida’s Native Plants* by Rufino Osorio, *Native Florida Plants* by Robert G. Haehle and Joan Brookwell, *The Shrubs and Woody Vines of Florida* by Gil Nelson, *Wild Plants for Survival in South Florida* by Julia F. Morton, www.edis.ifas.ufl.edu, www.floridata.com, www.fnps.org, and www.regionalconservation.org.

Plant Smart explores the diverse flora of South Florida.✧

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LARC members get ready to take a ride through Wildlife Drive

photos provided

An Experience To Remember At Tarpon Bay

The Lee County Association of Remarkable Citizens (LARC) had a fun-filled, memorable eco-experience recently, provided by Tarpon Bay Explorers. For the past seven years, LARC has explored the JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge with the help of the refuge concessionaire via tram and boat.

Since 1954, LARC, Inc. has been dedicated to meeting, promoting and providing developmentally disabled people of Lee County with opportunities and services to gain independence and responsibilities.

"We look forward to this event every year. We have a few members who have come just about every year," said event coordinator Tom Hoover. "Tarpon Bay Explorers is an excellent partner to work with and within one of the most beautiful places in Southwest Florida."

The first portion of the day consisted

of a tram tour through Wildlife Drive. Led by Tarpon Bay Explorers naturalists Donna and Steve Yetko, the groups were able to sight a myriad of bird species including osprey, reddish egret and white ibis. The highlight sighting was a seven- to eight-foot alligator basking in the sun.

"The group went crazy. It was a great sighting for them, especially since the gator was fully emerged out of the water," said Donna Yetko.

After the tram, the group had hot dogs and chips supplied by George & Wendy's Seafood Grille, followed by an ice cream dessert. The next stop were the aquarium touch tanks, where the group learned all about wildlife that lives below the waters of Tarpon Bay, from sea stars and live shells to even a couple of skeletons.

The grand finale was the cruise on *Explorer IV*. To top off the alligator sighting, the group witnessed dolphins at play as well as manatees.

"The folks absolutely loved it. The manatees were especially active, which doesn't happen all the time," said Capt. Steve Yetko.

"You could hear the group's hooting



The group was able to witness an alligator basking along Wildlife Drive



George Schnapp of George & Wendy's Seafood Grille cooking up hot dogs for the group

and hollering from start to finish. We love this event, especially when we see members return year after year. You build a memorable relationship with



Members show off a loggerhead sea turtle shell with naturalist Donna Yetko in the aquarium touch tank area

these people and, for us, that's one of the best parts," added Wendy Schnapp, part owner and general manager of Tarpon Bay Explorers. ☆



LARC members having lunch provided by George & Wendy's Seafood Grille



Capt. Steve Yetko and LARC members aboard the pontoon on their way out to look for wildlife



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Slowly Warming Up



by Capt.
Matt Mitchell

With our water temperature crashing to 61 from a warm 75 degrees in just a few days, shiners disappeared (as expected) and to catch fish required making that switch

to using shrimp for bait. Fishing in and around our passes was the better bite during the coldest periods as the water was just a little warmer coming in from the Gulf than the water in the shallow sound.

Chunks of shrimp fished on a jig head or with a split shot cast close around the docks and jetties caught a wide variety of fish including sheepshead, black drum, redfish and mangrove snapper. As long as the tide was moving, the amount of action we found in and around the passes was surprisingly good for the cold conditions. As temperatures slowly began to creep back up, small mangrove snapper moved

into these same places and it was time to move on.

The legal size sheepshead we got to enjoy for a few days thinned out with the best action coming right after the cold front during the coldest temperatures. On back to back days, my anglers managed a few sheepshead up to about 16 inches while fishing with shrimp chunks up around the passes. As things warmed up, the sheepshead got smaller. This will be the pattern until the next cold front arrives and more sheepshead move in. January and February are the prime sheepshead months for our area so we are still a little early for this bite to kick into full swing.

Trout fishing over grass bottom in three to five feet up in the middle sound provided some good action while throwing popping cork rigs either with live shrimp or a plastic jig. Though most of these trout are on the small side of the slot, it's possible to get a limit if you work at it. Along with the trout, we caught ladyfish and jacks. With the water in the middle sound really clearing up, look for diving pelicans and terns feeding on small fry bait. The trout are there.

As temperatures gradually rebound, catch-and-release snook fishing will pick up with deeper mangrove creeks now holding hundreds of snook. During these cold periods, I see lots of snook from



"Lucky Mike" from Lexington Country Club with a black drum caught after the cold front while fishing with Capt. Matt Mitchell last week

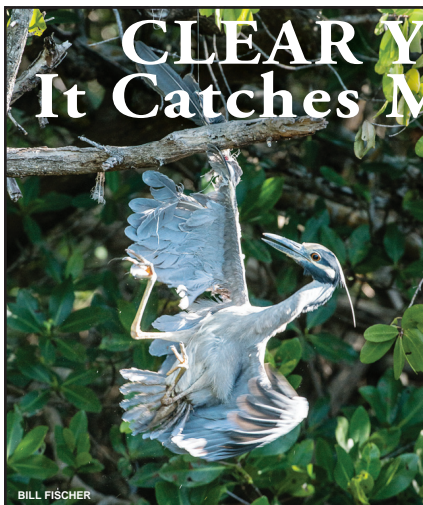
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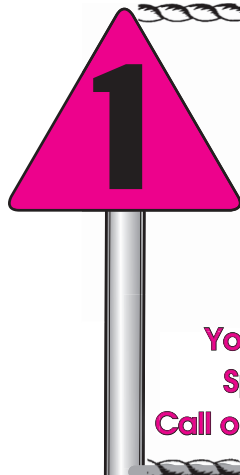


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Dave Doane

Special Dinner Engagement At Wildlife Refuge In February

Noted bird activist Dr. Stephen W. Kress will make an appearance at the JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge on February 22 for a catered dinner in his honor. He will speak about his work restoring tern and puffin populations in Maine and his latest book, *Puffin Project: An Improbable Quest to Bring a Beloved Sea Bird Back to Egg Rock*.

"Ding" Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS) will host the Dinner with Stephen Kress starting at 5:30 p.m. Only 75 tickets are available at \$100 each. All proceeds benefit research and education at "Ding" Darling.

Dr. Kress began Project Puffin in 1973 and remains its director. He also manages National Audubon's Maine Coastal Island Sanctuaries and directs the National Audubon Society's Seabird Restoration Program and the Audubon Camp on Maine's Hog Island.

As a laboratory associate at the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology in Ithaca, New York, Dr. Kress teaches an annual birding course called Spring Field Ornithology.

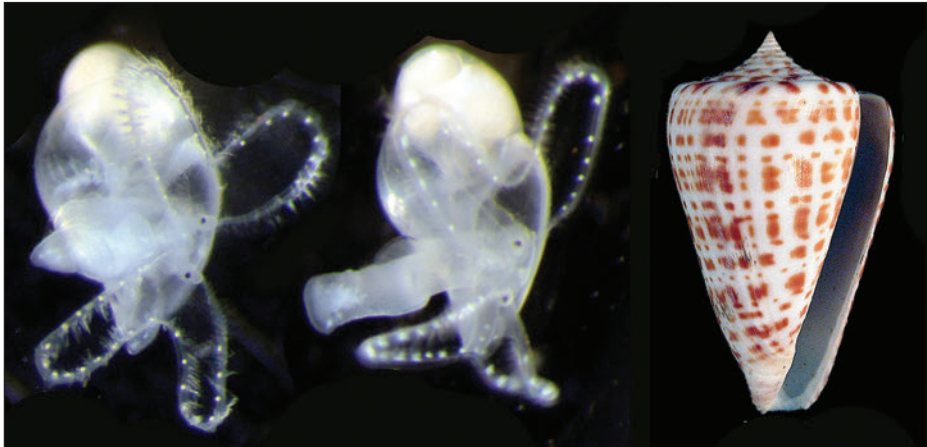
To purchase tickets for Dinner with Stephen Kress, visit tinyurl.com/kressatding or contact Sarah Lathrop at 472-1100 ext. 4 or sarah@dingdarlingsociety.org.✱



Dr. Stephen Kress with a puffin in Maine

photo provided

New Paper From Shell Museum Describes Newborn Alphabet Cones



Alphabet Cone larvae and adult shell. Notice translucent larval shells. The structures resembling elephant ears are the velar lobes typical of some molluscan larvae. The larva on the center has its foot distended; the foot is contracted on the larva on the left. The larvae measure about 1.5 mm (0.06 inch); the shell is about 50 mm (2 inches).

photo by José H. Leal

In a recent paper published in the prestigious peer-reviewed journal *American Malacological Bulletin*, Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum Science Director Dr. José H. Leal, University of Washington researcher Dr. Alan J. Kohn, and shell museum marine biologist Rebecca Mensch describe in detail and illustrate for the first time the larva of the local Alphabet Cone, *Conus spurius*.

The paper, published in mid-November, includes illustrations of the typical veliconcha larva of the species. The larvae were collected from egg cases found on the beach along West Gulf Drive on Sanibel and studied by the authors at the shell museum. Larvae measure about 1.5 mm (0.06 inch) at the time of hatching, and can swim for a few hours before settling to the bottom to begin their lives as young adult Alphabet Cones.

The Alphabet Cone is reported in the scientific literature as a worm-eating cone snail but, among other characteristics, features of the Alphabet Cone larvae resemble more closely those of the larvae of the mollusk-eating cone snails. Anyone interested in receiving a PDF copy of the paper should contact Dr. Leal at jleal@shellmuseum.org.✱



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Shell Of The Week

Gulf Oyster Drill



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

The Gulf Oyster Drill, *Vokesinotus perrugatus* (Conrad, 1846) is one of at least 10

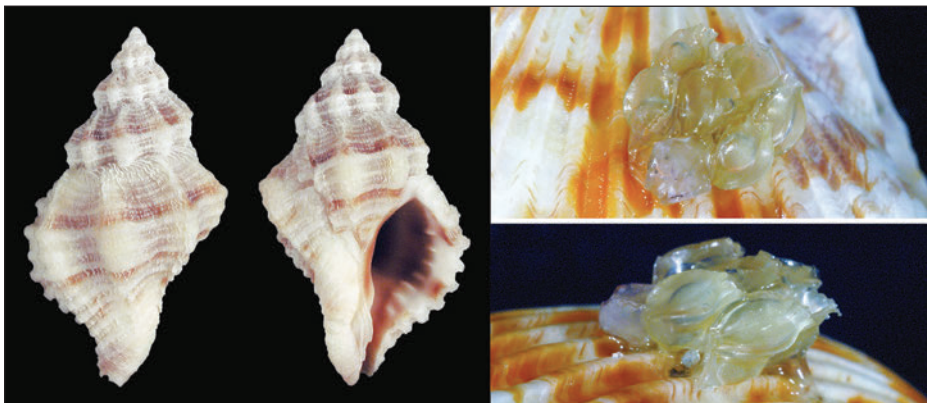
local shallow-water species of the family Muricidae. As the name implies, it uses its radula (ribbon of sharp teeth) to drill holes through the shells of oysters and other bivalve mollusks. The hole provides an avenue for the introduction of chemicals

that will initiate the feeding process. At about an inch long, its shell is shaped like a double cone, with a wide range of possible color variations. Females lay eggs in egg capsules that look like miniature amphorae. Egg capsules are attached by narrow stalks to hard surfaces, usually shells. Learn more about local mollusks at www.shellmuseum.org/shells/southwest-florida-shells.

Shell Museum Events

See truly giant shells. Watch a live tank talk. Take a daily beach walk. Check out our family programs. We are the only natural history museum in North America devoted entirely to shells. Let us inform and inspire you. Drop by or visit www.ShellMuseum.org.

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



The Gulf Oyster Drill, *Vokesinotus perrugatus*, from Sanibel. Egg capsules are about one quarter inch tall photo by José H. Leal

Coastal Keepers Offering Free Reusable Bags

On Saturday, December 30 at Bailey's General Store, Coastal Keepers will be holding an event to reduce the use of disposable plastic bags on the islands and educate locals and visitors about the harm plastic bags cause to the environment.

More than 100 billion disposable plastic bags are used annually in the United States, so it is not a surprise that they are one of the most common trash items collected on beaches worldwide. Plastic bags have a short usage time and are rarely recyclable, taking 1,000 years or more to decompose. They pose a threat to wildlife as countless animals become entangled or mistake them for food each year.

The solution to this problem is simple; bringing your own reusable bags when you shop eliminates the need for disposable plastic bags.

On December 30 starting at 11 a.m., Coastal Keepers and Bailey's General Store will be partnering up to hand out reusable canvas bags for free while supplies last.

Coastal Keepers, formerly the Sanibel-Captiva Chapter of START, operates as an independent branch of Sanibel Sea School to create and implement conservation initiatives that promote and improve the future of marine resources, and our coastal heritage. To learn more, contact coastalkeepers@sanibelseaschool.org.

Bailey's General Store is located at the corner of Periwinkle Way and Tarpon Bay Road.✽



Coastal Keepers recyclable bag

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CROW Case Of The Week:

Florida Softshell Turtle



by Bob Petcher

The Florida softshell turtle (*Apalone ferox*) is a freshwater turtle that has a smoother carapace than many other species of turtle. The aquatic animal has webbed feet and sharp claws

and is equally adept to both land and water.

Unlike the husky gopher tortoise, the Florida softshell turtle has a flatter body appearance. It is mostly distinguishable by its long stretching neck and its unique head that possesses an odd snout that sticks above water when the reptile is swimming.

Like its name implies, softshells do not have bony protective armor to safeguard it from predators or algae. Their shells are soft around the edges and are easily subject to injuries.

At CROW, an adult Florida softshell turtle was admitted from Lehigh Acres after it was found on the side of the road with a large fracture in its upper shell. CROW medical officials believe the turtle was hit by a car. When the wound was examined, veterinarians noted that one piece of the fractured shell was depressed

below the other piece at the break to the point that both pieces were not aligned or touching each other. Furthermore, an oblique angle to the fracture was detected and that would have made surgical repair complicated. It was explained that more of the shell would have had to be removed in order to bring the pieces back into alignment.

Due to risks and other complications, that procedure was decidedly not attempted.

Instead, CROW medical officials flushed and packed the wound with colloidal silver gel. Another mixture was applied to the wound to seal it from moisture, and a bandage with the edges sealed with silicone was placed.

"There are several different types of silver-based wound-dressings available for use," said Dr. Robin Bast, CROW veterinary intern. "In this case, it was used to treat the wound underlying the fractured shell to help prevent infection as well as prevent the wound from becoming a media for new bacteria to grow. The silver sulfadiazene cream that we used has anti-bacterial properties; it does not directly speed up the wound healing process, but indirectly helps the process by addressing infection."

With its bandage on, the patient was able to be placed in a large tank of water, mimicking its natural habitat.

Dr. Bast further explained the membrane underlying the shell which surrounds the internal cavity (coelomic membrane) would need to heal before the turtle could be released. Even with a visible defect, the patient should be fine.



Patient #17-4042 with its shell repaired was successfully released on Sunday

photo by Brian Bohlman

After less than two weeks at the clinic, the Florida softshell turtle was healthy enough to be placed back in the wild.

"The coelomic membrane which had been damaged in the initial trauma had sealed over and healthy granulation tissue was present in the wound with no evidence of infection," Dr. Bast said earlier this week. "The turtle was active in the tank and able to dive (and) swim to normal depths. It had also completed a course of antibiotic and pain medication

therapy, and was doing well for several days prior to being cleared for release. It was successfully released on Sunday."

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 P.O. Box 150, Sanibel, FL 33957. Call 472-3644 or visit www.crowclinic.org.

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Shells Found



Sherrie and Bill Parker photo provided

Sherrie and Bill Parker, visiting from Mason, Ohio, found a lion's paw and a fan scallop at Blind Pass Beach on December 1. They love shelling and got up at 6 a.m. for low tide. Wearing a light on his hat, Bill wades out into the water with his metal mesh scooper and brings his findings to the beach where Sherrie finds the treasures.*

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 David Waszmer, Visitor Education Center and gift shop manager at 472-3644 or dwaszmer@crowclinic.org. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. CROW is located at 3883 Sanibel-Captiva Road.

Friday, December 22, 11 a.m., adults \$12, ages 4 to 12 \$7, age 3 and under no charge – Patient Profiles: Virginia Opossums (daily presentation).

Virginia Opossums are the only marsupial, or pouched mammal, native to the United States. They are highly adaptable animals and can live in a variety of habitats, both natural and human made. Although it may not be obvious to some people, opossums are a unique member of Florida's wildlife, playing an important role in the function of a healthy ecosystem. One of CROW's animal ambassadors will be present.

Monday, December 25 – Closed Christmas Day

Tuesday, December 26, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., \$25 per person,

advance registration required – Wildlife Walk with Rehabilitators and Staff (hospital tour).

Wildlife Walks are approximately 1.5 hours: a 45-minute presentation with a 45-minute tour. Not recommended for children under the age of 13. Photography opportunity following the tour with an animal ambassador.

Tuesday, December 26, 11 a.m., adults \$12, ages 4 to 12 \$7, age 3 and under no charge – Patient Profiles: Gopher Tortoises (daily presentation).

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. One of CROW's animal ambassadors will be present.

Wednesday, December 27, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., \$25 per person, advance registration required – Wildlife Walk with Rehabilitators and Staff (hospital tour).

Wildlife Walks are approximately 1.5 hours: a 45-minute presentation with a 45-minute tour. Not recommended for children under the age of 13. Photography opportunity following the tour with an animal ambassador.

Wednesday, December 27, 11 a.m., adults \$12, ages 4 to 12 \$7, age 3 and under no charge – Wildlife

Rescue 101 (daily presentation). 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. One of CROW's animal ambassadors will be present.

Thursday, December 28, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., \$25 per person, advance registration required – Wildlife Walk with Rehabilitators and Staff (hospital tour).

Wildlife Walks are approximately 1.5 hours: a 45-minute presentation with a 45-minute tour. Not recommended for children under the age of 13. Photography opportunity following the tour with an animal ambassador.

Thursday, December 28, 11 a.m., adults \$12, ages 4 to 12 \$7, age 3 and under no charge – Patient Profiles: Owls of Southwest Florida (daily presentation).

Raptors are birds that prey on other animals in the wild to survive. Their specialized beaks and talons make them some of the most effective hunters. This presentation discusses the unique adaptations of the native and migratory raptors of Florida, specifically the five species of nocturnal hunters known as owls. One of CROW's animal ambassadors will be present.*

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by Walter
Cheatham

What's the difference between a kayak and a paddle board? The two options might seem interchangeable at first glance, but choosing the right vessel can make

or break your paddling experience, and each has its own advantages and disadvantages. Both are fun to paddle and available in a variety of sizes and styles, but there are a few factors to consider before making your choice.

Originally developed by the Eskimos, kayaks are basically enclosed canoes. Recreational kayaks are stable, beginner-friendly, and ideal for long-distance endeavors. The simple nature of the kayak paddle stroke makes them suitable for people who are new to the sport, or those with physical limitations that prevent them from engaging in other forms of water recreation. Kayaks can carry a lot of gear, which makes them perfect for an afternoon at a secluded beach or an expedition, and

multi-passenger models are an excellent choice for families.

Paddle boards are flat, buoyant boards that evolved from surf boards. Easy to transport and carry, these vessels also provide increased visibility, since the standing paddler is positioned high above the water, making them the preferred paddling platform for wildlife enthusiasts. Because paddle boards require a more complex paddle stroke, they provide an excellent full-body workout. Certain paddle board models are designed to accommodate children or pets as passengers, or include a special platform for yoga practitioners.

If your priorities are exercise and easy transport, stand-up paddle boarding is for you. There is a small but worthwhile learning curve involved. If you are primarily interested in days on water with family or long-distance adventuring, kayaks are your best vessel. Yes, they can be heavy and cumbersome, but they are steady and reliable adventure partners. If you're still not sure which to choose, consider a rental or lesson before making a commitment.

Walter Cheatham is an experienced paddler and ACA-Certified Paddling Instructor. Ocean Tribe Paddlers helps the Southwest Florida paddling community better explore, enjoy and understand the ocean. Visit oceantribepaddlers.org or follow us on Facebook to learn more. ✨

From page 1

Manatee Rescue

claimed they had seen.

"Everybody I told was shocked," Carol Nottage said. "They kept asking me, 'Are you sure?' And I kept telling them yes, I have seen manatees before."

Rick Nottage then placed a series of phone calls, first to the JN “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge and SCCF’s Marine Lab, and subsequently to officials at the FWC, informing them of the manatees residing within their canal. At that point, the only response they received were questions like “Can they get out?” and “Are they distressed?”

Finally, after several months of weekly phone calls, representatives from the FWC and the refuge arrived at the subdivision and toured the canal in hopes of finding the stranded manatees.

"They showed up with their kayaks, so we knew they were taking our calls very seriously," said Carol Nottage. "On December 4, people from the (SCCF) Marine Lab showed up and told us they were going to try and catch them."

One of the reasons for the increased efforts to rescue the pair of manatees was an impending cold front scheduled to arrive in Southwest Florida on December 9. Once temperatures dip below 68 degrees, manatees begin migrating towards warmer waters.

According to the Nottages, it took the group of nearly 30 officials and local volunteers to corral, trap and pull the manatees out of the water. An officer with the Lee County Sheriff's Department stood by with a shotgun, in case an alligator arrived to investigate and threaten the safety of the manatees and/or humans on site.

Once the manatees – later identified as a male and a female, each approximately two years old – were located, a net was stretched across the canal. The animals were coaxed

towards the shoreline by kayakers, who made splashing sounds with their paddles. Each of the manatees was captured in the netting before being lifted onto land with the use of large tarps and the manpower of wildlife crews and neighborhood volunteers.

“Both of them looked pretty healthy – the female had one little scratch on her nose,” said Carol Nottage, who added that she enjoyed having the manatees living in her backyard. “I treated them like they were my babies.”

"I liked watching them eating seagrass leaves that were hanging above the water," Rick Nottage said. "It was just phenomenal."

After both manatees had been lifted onto a truck, officials transported them to the Punta Rassa Boat Ramp, where they were medically assessed and released that same evening ✨

Triggerfish Harvest Reopens In March

Recreational harvest of gray triggerfish will remain closed in gulf state and federal waters through February 28 and reopen March 1. The season will also close June 1 through July 31.

When the season reopens, the daily recreational bag limit will be one fish per person (lowered from two fish earlier this year), and the minimum size limit will be 15 inches fork length (increased from 14 inches fork length earlier this year). Similar changes were approved for Gulf federal waters.

These changes should help maintain fishing opportunities for gray triggerfish in state and federal waters for 2018 and the future.

For more information on gray triggerfish, visit www.MyFWC.com/Fishing and click on Saltwater Fishing, Recreational Regulations and Triggerfish. ☆

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Shell Found



Patti Melatti photo provided

Just as Patti Melatti of Sanibel started her daily walk with her dog, she said to her friend, "I am not picking up shells today." She looked down and there was a junonia on the beach in front of Sundial Resort.✱

Shells Found



Logan and Ella Harrell with Tracy Hallett photo provided

Ella Harrell found an excellent alphabet cone and a seahorse at Lighthouse Beach. Her aunt, Tracy Hallett, also found an alphabet cone. Ella, Tracy and Ella's twin brother Logan were visiting the Harrell and Fay families over the weekend.✱

Shells Found



Dr. Rachel Briggs with her son Charlie Briggs-Draughon, 11 months, and Dr. Jeanne Briggs photo provided

Dr. Rachel Briggs of Chapel Hill, North Carolina and Dr. Jeanne Briggs of Clemson, South Carolina each found a junonia. Rachel found hers on December 11 while Jeanne found hers on December 10, both on the beach along Middle Gulf Drive. This is Jeanne's fourth junonia in 35 years, which she attributes to hundreds of hours patrolling the beach. This is Rachel's first junonia find after 15 years of shelling and her second favorite moment on the island. Her first was when her husband proposed at Blind Pass five years ago.✱



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Chamber Staff Celebrates At Holiday Party



Members of the Sanibel and Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce board of directors, visitor center staff and volunteers gathered to celebrate the holiday season with a dinner party held at The Sanctuary Golf Club on December 14

photos by Jeff Lysiak



Tom and Donna Puma



From left, Candy Thompson. Joyce Jacobs, Don Oylander and Evelyn Stewart



From left, Fred and Mary Bondurant, Calli Johnson and Evan duPont



From left, Phillip Starling and Adela Tranza with Joe and Joyce Sirken



From left, Ellen Lai, Daniel Thompson and John Lai



Chris and Becky Davison



Partygoers had a buffet dinner at The Sanctuary, which was meticulously decorated for the holiday season

Free Refuge Programs And Tours To Begin In January



Every Tuesday from January 2 through April 8, Calusa Shell Mound Trail guided tours run continuously from 1 to 3 p.m. photo provided

This year, JN “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge adds a new Horseshoe Crabs program to its calendar of daily free tours and activities. The seasonal calendar of free programs and tours begins on Tuesday, January 2 and runs through April 8.

Daily programs begin at 8:30 a.m. and include programs such as Nature Photography, Beach Walk, Birds of Prey in Southwest Florida, and Indigo Trail Walk.

“We have something for visitors of all ages,” said Supervisory Refuge Ranger Toni Westland. “The free refuge programs and tours last anywhere from a half hour to two hours.”

For a full calendar of programs and tours and descriptions, visit www.dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/free-refuge-programs. Free educational programs are made possible through support from the “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS).*

January Programs At Captiva Library

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

Adults

Coloring for Grownups – January 2 through 31. Available during normal library operating hours: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday; noon to 8 p.m. Wednesday; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

The repetitive motion involved in coloring has a calming effect and adults have found this childhood activity a refreshing way to reduce anxiety, create focus or bring about more mindfulness. Participants may bring their own materials or use those provided.

Pages, Brushes and Gems: Southwest Florida Pen Women – Saturday, January 20 at 1 p.m.

Southwest Florida Pen Women professional artists and writers will discuss what inspires their works of art whether it be a poem or a painting, glass work, a novel or a necklace. Registration is required.

Children

We Snow Like Reading – January 2 through 13. Available during normal library operating hours: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday; noon to

8 p.m. Wednesday; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Drop-in anytime during library hours.

There will be a picture book display featuring winter stories. Stop by and make a snowman craft.

Snow and Ice – January 16 through 31. Available during normal library operating hours: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday; noon to 8 p.m. Wednesday; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

Drop in and explore winter weather. There will be a nonfiction book display on snow and ice, and science experiments. Available during normal library operating hours.

We Snow Like Reading – January 16 through 31. Available during normal library operating hours: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday; noon to 8 p.m. Wednesday; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

A picture book display featuring winter stories will be available. Make a paper mitten craft.

The Captiva Memorial Library is located at 11560 Chapin Lane. For more information or to register, call 533-4890. Check the Lee County Library System’s website at 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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CHRISTMAS AT SUNDIAL.

Join us Monday, December 25 for a festive Christmas feast and live entertainment overlooking the Gulf at Sundial Beach Resort & Spa.

**SEATINGS AT
1PM, 3PM, 5PM, 7PM**

ADULTS: \$58
CHILDREN 4-12: \$27
CHILDREN 3 & UNDER: FREE
Plus tax and gratuity

Buffet Highlights:

<p>Breakfast Station (for 1PM and 3PM seatings)</p> <p>Pasta Display (for 5PM and 7PM seatings)</p> <p>Seafood and Shellfish Display</p> <p>Butternut Squash Bisque and Pumpernickel Crouton</p> <p>Whole Roasted Herb Marinated Leg of Lamb</p> <p>Oven Baked Whole Young North Carolina Turkey</p>	<p>Smoked Bone-in Virginia Ham</p> <p>Poached Salmon with Crabmeat and Saffron Dill Sauce</p> <p>Traditional Herb Bread Stuffing</p> <p>Roasted Garlic and Yukon Potato Mash with Sweet Marble Potato</p> <p>Roasted Root Vegetables, Curry Ginger Spices, Garbanzo, Tofu, Mushroom</p> <p>Unlimited Dessert Display</p>
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Call 239.395.6017 for reservations.

For complete Christmas and New Year's Eve menus and information, visit sundialresort.com/eat/holidaydining.



SUNDIAL

BEACH RESORT & SPA

1451 MIDDLE GULF DRIVE, SANIBEL ISLAND

From page 1

Bird Count

receive instructions from Judy Davis on where to go, how to observe and when to report their bird counts.

“This is a great place to do the Christmas Bird Count because there’s no snow,” said Davis, who noted that 2017 marked the 45th year the count had been conducted at the refuge. There, volunteers were divided into teams that were each assigned to cover one-quarter of the refuge property.

Jeremy Conrad, refuge wildlife biologist, was assigned to conduct the Christmas Bird Count by boat. “It’s the only part of the bird count that’s on the water,” he said, explaining that his team would travel from Tarpon Bay through Blind Pass and into Pine Island Sound. “We will see some species of shorebird that you typically don’t see from the land.”

Refuge Manager Paul Tritaik, who was participating in his first island bird count – although he had done counts on the east coast of Florida when he was stationed at Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge – shared some of the history of Audubon’s Christmas Bird Count with the volunteers. On Christmas Day in 1900, ornithologist Frank M. Chapman proposed a new holiday tradition of conducting a “Christmas bird census” rather than hunting them. At the time, bird plumage was coveted by the fashion industry



Brown pelican photos by Jeff Lysick for use on women’s hats and clothing accessories.

That first year, 27 people counted birds in 25 different locations across the United States and Canada. This year, several thousand participants are expected to count birds in more than 2,500 locations around the world.

Stationed in the conference room at the SCCF Nature Center, also known as “Bird Central,” Jacobson tabulated information gathered by this year’s volunteers who participated in the count.



Bill Jacobson, center, tabulating bird count information submitted by Joe and Gina Wagg

“We divide the islands into 10 different areas, from the lighthouse and causeway on the east end to Captiva on the west,” said Jacobson. “Some people start counting at dawn, and by the time I’m finished putting the information into my computer, it’s 4:30 p.m.”

One of this year’s volunteers, Barry Litofsky, has been participating in Christmas Bird Counts for more than a quarter of a century, a fact that surprisingly isn’t too unusual among local birding enthusiasts.

“We’re out here, rain or shine,”

said Litofsky. “It’s not fun doing this in the rain, but if we only did it in nice weather, that would be cheating.”

The Sanibel-Captiva Audubon Society sincerely thanked all those who took part in this year’s successful Christmas Bird Count. “Many thanks also to the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) for their count support and use of their facilities and the JN “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge for their count contributions and continued support,” added Jacobson.✱



Judy Davis, right, explaining the bird count procedure to a group of volunteers



Volunteer Stan Howard decorated the refuge toll booth for the holidays



Norm Honest, a bird count participant for more than 25 years, showing his collection of wildlife pins



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Kiwanis Club members broke out their "dress blue shirts" to welcome Il Cielo Chef Allen Casey and General Manager Marcus Preece as the first Platinum Sponsor of Spaghetti Dinner 2018. Kiwanians pictured, from left, Ed Riddlehoover, Bill Hay and President Jason Smith.

photo provided

Il Cielo Platinum Sponsor Of 2018 Spaghetti Dinner

submitted by Tom Sharbaugh,
Communications Chair

With the new year right around the corner, we can look forward to the return of one of Sanibel's classic annual events, and one of the most popular. The Sanibel-Captiva Kiwanis Club Spaghetti Dinner has been scheduled for Saturday, February 24.

This year's spaghetti dinner should be extra special as it will kick off Kiwanis' 45th anniversary year on Sanibel, and will be the 32nd annual installment of the pasta and meatball extravaganza that has become an island tradition. Festivities will be held in the newly renovated Community House, which will provide a first-rate setting for celebrating.

In recognition of this special year, Kiwanis has announced creation of a new top sponsorship level for the event and is pleased to welcome Il Cielo Restaurant to the position of Platinum Sponsor. Kiwanis members recently met with Il Cielo General Manager Marcus Preece and Chef Allen Casey to toast the sponsorship. Last year, Il Cielo participated as a Gold Level Sponsor. Stepping up to the new level caps a busy year for Il Cielo. The

restaurant recently hosted the James Beard Foundation Celebrity Chef Tour, featuring top chefs from around the country as well as their own Chef Casey and Pastry Chef Melissa Akin. In addition, they have continued their run of recognitions including Best of the Islands Best Fine Dining Award for the fourth straight year.

"We at Il Cielo are very gratified that our restaurant is recognized as one of the Sanibel's finest," said Preece. "We are also proud to be involved with Kiwanis at a significant level sponsoring the spaghetti dinner; this participation allows us to give back to the community through the good work Kiwanis does for island youth with the proceeds of this event. It's another way of saying thank you to our customers."

Kiwanis President Jason Smith underscored the importance of Il Cielo's top-level sponsorship, along with that of other island businesses, to the success of the spaghetti dinner. "Our sponsors are the major core of support which enables us to put on such a major event, and that combined with the participation of so many islanders who come out for the dinner, allows us to provide significant resources for programs benefitting island kids," said Smith. "We are particularly grateful to the owners of Il Cielo, the Bohler family, for taking a leadership position in sponsoring this year's spaghetti dinner."☆☆

County government. The selection criteria includes a positive attitude, knowledge of the objectives and activities of Lee County government, a demonstrated interest in community/county government partnerships and promotion of harmony between the community and county government.

Commissioners will select the winner. Nomination forms are available at Lee County libraries and recreation centers or online at www.leegov.com/citizenoftheyear. For library locations, visit www.leelibrary.net and for recreation center locations, visit www.leeparks.org.

The award was created in 1991 to honor Burton, a long-time Sanibel resident and government watchdog.☆☆

Nominations Sought For Citizen Award

The public can now to nominate an exemplary civic-minded citizen for the 2017 Paulette Burton Citizen of the Year Award. Lee County Commissioners are looking for nominees who are involved in the community and work diligently for causes in which they believe. Nominations are due by Friday, February 16.

The annual award strives to recognize a citizen who has provided outstanding civic contributions to Lee

SPEND NEW YEAR'S EVE UNDER THE STARS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31 7:00PM-12:30AM

Ring in 2018 overlooking the Gulf and underneath the stars. Sundial Beach Resort & Spa is offering an exciting lineup of family-friendly entertainment and games and an expansive buffet this New Year's Eve.

ADULTS: \$55

CHILDREN 4-12: \$19

CHILDREN 3 & UNDER: FREE

*Plus tax and gratuity

Private poolside cabanas with seating for 8 may be reserved ahead of time for an additional \$75

Menu Highlights:

Louisiana-Style Seafood Boil
BBQ Chicken
Whole Roasted Fish with Chili-Lime Sauce
Pizza Buffet
Gourmet Hamburgers & Hot Dogs
Macaroni & Cheese

Chicken Tenders
Freshly Popped Corn
Ice Cream Sundae Bar
Chocolate Dipped Bananas
Soda Station
Champagne Toast
Cash Bar

Games & Entertainment:

DJ
Karaoke
Fire Pits and S'mores
Ping Pong
Corn Hole
Way Too Tall Torrie Stilt Walker and Balloon Artist

Glow Beach Volleyball
Pie Eating Contest
Big Screen Sports Entertainment
"Fishing" in the Pool
Basket Ball Free Throw Contests
Wii Dance
Face Painting

For information and to purchase tickets, visit sundialresort.com/eat/holidaydining.



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1451 MIDDLE GULF DRIVE, SANIBEL ISLAND



Fancy Seafood Gumbo

- 12 ounces oysters, drained
- 8 ounces blue crab claw meat
- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 1/2 cup chopped celery
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1 teaspoon anise seeds
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 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 eight to 10 servings.✱



Fancy Seafood Gumbo

photo courtesy Fresh From Florida

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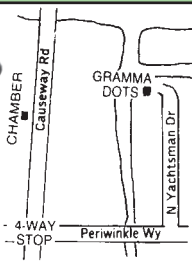


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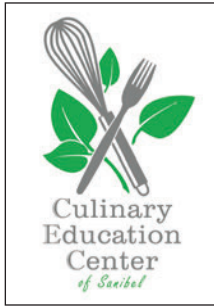
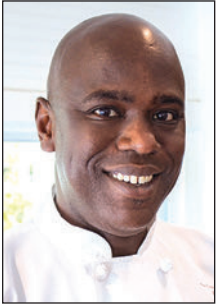
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The Artichoke



by Resident Chef Jarred Harris

The artichoke is a vegetable that you love, and if you don't love it, you haven't tried one yet. The globe artichoke plant is a member of the thistle family. In fact, the artichoke is the flower bud of the plant that has yet to flower. It is the only edible part of the plant.

Most people who have eaten artichokes have had the processed (canned) artichoke hearts. While tasty and delicious, processed artichoke hearts don't have the nutritional value of the whole vegetable. Certain types of artichokes can be eaten raw and are easy to prepare, fun to eat and available year-round.

Artichokes are one of the world's oldest cultivated vegetables. Originating in Ethiopia, Italy is the largest producer of artichokes in the world. California produces most of the artichokes in the United States. However, Florida has started producing artichokes in substantial amounts.

Artichokes have been used for many years in practical and medicinal applications. This delicious vegetable and its extracts (made from the leaves) are used in everything from flavoring digestive liqueurs, the treatment of liver problems, preventing the development of coronary disorders and the reduction of digestive issues. Ancient Romans and Egyptians believed the artichoke to be an aphrodisiac.

The artichoke contains high amounts of vitamins K, C, B4, B6 as well as copper, magnesium, phosphorus and manganese.

The artichoke is one of my favorite vegetables because it tastes good and the added nutritional value is a bonus.

Here is a wonderful recipe using canned or fresh artichoke hearts.

Artichoke Soup**Ingredients**

½ stick butter

6 large artichokes (trimmed and hearts removed and sliced) or 2 cans of artichoke hearts

2 stalks celery (finely diced)

1 large onion (finely diced)

½ cup dry white wine

2 ½ cups chicken stock

1 cup heavy cream

Salt and pepper

Method

In a large, heavy-bottomed pot, melt the butter over medium heat.

Add the artichoke hearts, celery and onions. Cook until the onions are translucent (about 5 minutes).

Add the wine to the pan and reduce by half.

Stir in the chicken stock and then bring to a boil.

Reduce heat to a simmer. Cook on a low heat, gently simmering for 20 minutes.

Stir in the cream, remove from the heat and season with salt and pepper.

In small batches, puree the soup at high speed in a blender, immersion blender or food processor. Strain the soup into a serving dish.

Serve hot with bread and butter.

Resident Chef Jarred Harris heads the Culinary Education Center at The Community House on Sanibel. For volunteer opportunities or questions, contact him at kitchen@sanibelcommunityhouse.net or call 472-2155.✱

Top Ten Books

1. *A Christmas Mouse in a Christmas House* by Sally Hanser
 2. *Dame of the Sanibel Sunset Detective* by Ron Base
 3. *Shell of a Problem* by Jennifer Schiff
 4. *American Spirit* by David McCullough
 5. *My Husband's Wife* by Jane Corry
 6. *Lilac Girls* by Martha Hall Kelly
 7. *Promise Me, Dad* by Joe Biden
 8. *German Girl* by Armando Lucas Correa
 9. *Orphan Train* by Christina Baker Kline
 10. *Red Notice* by Bill Browder
- Courtesy of MacIntosh Books and Paper.✱

LIVE ON THE ISLANDS

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

Island Cow on Periwinkle Way has live entertainment on Friday with Dan Confrey. Peter Redpath plays on Saturday. On Sunday, it's Dan Confrey.


Sea Breeze Café at Sundial Beach Resort & Spa has live island style entertainment on Mondays.

Traders Gulf Coast Grill & Gifts has live entertainment on Tuesday and Thursday with the Danny Morgan Band. Chris Workman plays on Wednesday.

Traditions on the Beach at Island Inn has live entertainment on Friday with Woody and Sasse. Dusk plays Saturday, Monday and Tuesday. Woody Brubaker and Barbara Dexter perform on Sunday. Woody Brubaker and Kathy Buda play on Wednesday. The Barbara Dexter Duo performs on Thursday.





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

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BAILEY’S GENERAL STORE

Bailey's General Store has a full deli, bakery, coffee bar, daily lunch specials, take out and catering for cook-outs, picnics and parties. This is the oldest supermarket on the islands, established long before a causeway linked Sanibel to the mainland. Services include shopping for your groceries and delivering them to your home or vacation destination. Pick up the extensive list of gluten-free products near the entrance to the super-market. Bailey's has a second location at Sundial Beach Resort & Spa. 472-1516

BEACH PIEZ

Beach Piez New York style pizza offers carry out and delivery on Sanibel and Captiva. Opening hours are Monday through Saturday at 11 a.m. and Sunday at 4 p.m. Delivery available after 4 p.m. daily. With fresh ingredients, mouthwatering mozzarella, 'secret recipe' dough and amazing pizza sauce, Beach Piez Pizza delivers the best pizza, subs and salads the island has to offer. 239-472-3224

BLUE GIRAFFE

Family owned Blue Giraffe, offers casual island dining for "no wait" breakfast from 7 a.m. to noon daily as well as lunch and dinner seven days a week until 8 p.m. Dine outside in the garden atmosphere of Periwinkle Place or inside at hand-painted tables, inspired by local artists. The menu is full of traditional and unique breakfast items, signature burgers, custom sandwiches, fresh and local seafood, salads, steaks, pork and vegetarian options. There is a full liquor bar and various local beers on tap. 472-2525

BLEU RENDEZ-VOUS FRENCH BISTRO

Parisian Chef Christian Vivet and his Floridian wife Mari Vivet are hosts of the classic French bistro. Choose from an array of appetizers, the extensive a la carte menu, a Prix Fixe Tasting Menu, the Chef's Bleu Inspirations or Petite Plates. Pair your dinner with an extensive French and domestic wine list, dessert wines or French craft beers. Authentic French dishes and desserts are prepared from scratch in the open kitchen. You'll feel welcome by Mari's southern hospitality as you are greeted at the door. Open Tuesday to Saturday at 5 p.m. Reservations encouraged. 565-1608

CIP’S PLACE

Cip's Place is named for the late Jimmy Cipriani, a longtime islander and owner of the property on which the restaurant sits. In Jimmy's memory, Cip's styles itself as a local watering hole. A large mural shows many islanders through the ages – including "Cip" – and if you don't recognize them all, ask to see the "key." Food choices range from "comfort" to culinary with some Caribbean and island favorites as well. Try the home-made potato chips, fried buttermilk chicken with sage gravy and snapper tacos. Choose between the outdoor garden patio and front porch. Indoor seating and full bar are also available. Hours are 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. daily, with happy hour from 4 to 6 p.m. 472-0223

DOC FORD'S RUM BAR & GRILLE

Doc Ford's is a well-known local's restaurant, famous for its great food and service with plenty of indoor and outdoor seating boasting "Award winning flavors from the Caribbean Rim." The restaurant is named for the Doc Ford character in local author Randy Wayne White's best-selling mystery novels. With locations on Sanibel & Captiva Islands and Fort Myers Beach, all locations offer island favorites like Yucatan shrimp and fish tacos along with raw bar selections and fresh local seafood dishes. Premium rums and tropical drinks such as the Island Mojito are a specialty of the house. The combined menu offers both lunch and dinner daily from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. 472-8311, 312-4275, 765-9660

DUNES GOLF & TENNIS CLUB

The Dunes Golf & Tennis Club is open to the public and serves lunch daily from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Chef specials include an assortment of salads, wraps and sandwiches, soup buffet Monday through Friday, and the popular hand-battered coconut shrimp and steak sandwich. Dinner is available only on event nights from 6 to 9 p.m. or for special seasonal dinners.

Featured monthly events include Trivia Night, Karaoke and Themed Dinner Nights. There is a Friday a la

carte dinner menu with featured selections each week, such as steak and seafood.

Take in the sunset views while sipping on your favorite drink. Happy hour is every day from 3 to 6 p.m. Enjoy with the famous crab bisque as a starter. 949 Sand Castle Road, 472-3355

GRAMMA DOT’S

Gramma Dot's, the only dockside dining on Sanibel, offers a lunch and dinner menu seven days a week from "Sanibel's only seaside saloon" where you can dine at the Sanibel Marina in view of luxury yachts and fishing boats and watch the comings and goings of seagoing folk and fishermen. The menu features a full line of fresh seafood, salads, sandwiches and more. Appropriate dress is required. If you're arriving by boat, check in with dockmaster for a lunch slip, monitor VHF 16. You can tie up for a night or two at the available dockage if you wish. Gramma Dot's is open daily at 11:15 a.m. For dinner, arrive before 8 p.m. 472-8138

IL CIELO

Il Cielo offers creative American cuisine and internationally inspired specials in an upscale casual atmosphere. From locally caught fish, American lamb and grass-finished beef to farm-fresh organic produce, there is a thoughtfully prepared dish on the menu for everyone. Il Cielo is open 7 days a week from 4:30 to 9 p.m. Happy hour is from 4:30 to 6 p.m. and features signature small plates, appetizers and half-priced house wines, domestic beers and well drinks. There is live piano music by Scott McDonald Tuesday through Sunday nights beginning at 7 p.m. 472-5555

ISLAND COW

The Island Cow is a family favorite with its colorful indoor and outdoor seating and live entertainment. "Come as our guests... leave as our friends!" is the motto. The Cow serves breakfast, lunch and dinner featuring fresh local seafood and meats and has an extensive children's menu. Starbucks coffee is also on the menu. **Now serving full liquor island cocktails!** Breakfast is served between 7 and 11 a.m. Hours are 7 a.m. to 9-ish p.m. 472-0606

ISLAND PIZZA

Island Pizza is named so because it does pizza right. The dough is made daily and the ingredients include fresh produce from local vendors. That is why the "family-owned" restaurant has been voted "the best pizza on the island" from 2009 to 2016. Known as quaint and colorful, Island Pizza has more than 9 years of experience while specializing in home-cooked Italian cuisine. Besides pizza and classic Italian entrees, Island Pizza has a large selection of appetizers and salads as well as wings, calzones and seven choices for kids. Boar's Head deli meats are also served on subs.

Open seven days a week from 11 a.m. until late evening. Lunch is served 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. with buy-one-get-one drafts on happy hour from noon to 5 p.m. Eat in, take out or free local delivery. 472-1581

JERRY’S RESTAURANT AND DELI

Jerry's Restaurant and Deli in Jerry's Market is the next best thing to dining in a tropical garden. This family-style restaurant has large windows to view the lush garden with caged tropical birds that are favorites with visitors and residents. Daily specials are offered in the spacious restaurant and you can order a sandwich or hot food from the deli or help yourself at the well-stocked salad bar to take out. The restaurant is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner from 7 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. 472-9300

LA BELLA VITA RISTORANTE

Sanibel Island Beach Resort's new restaurant features Italian signature dishes with an emphasis on coastal flavors and fresh ingredients.

La Bella Vita Ristorante serves breakfast daily from 8 to 11 a.m. and dinner from 5:30 to 9 p.m.

There is also the Poolside Tiki Bar with casual fare and views of the beach and sand dunes. It is open daily from 11 a.m. to sunset with lunch available daily from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The eateries are a part of the boutique hotel on the edge of the Gulf of Mexico at the corner of Donax Street and Middle Gulf Drive. www.sanibelbeachresort.com. 472-4123

MATZALUNA ITALIAN KITCHEN

Are you in the mood for pizza? Matzaluna Italian Kitchen has a wood-fired oven to bake authentic pizzas, including gluten-free ones. That's in addition to a big menu, involving over 20 combinations of pasta dinners from \$11.95 (including soup or salad and fresh baked bread), affordable veal, tender chicken, choice steaks and seafood (Italian style) in a casual market-like setting. Gluten-free pizza is also available. Matzaluna offers a large selection of Florida craft beer, both on draft and in cans and bottles. Enjoy \$5 apps at the bar from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Hours are 4:30 to 9:30 p.m. daily and happy hour is 4:30 to 6 p.m. 472-1998

OVER EASY CAFE

Over Easy Café is a pet-friendly place with indoor and outdoor dining for breakfast and lunch. The covered patio is a popular spot. Choose from 22 different eggs benedict, scramblers and omelettes, 11 pancakes and French toast choices, 15 egg specialties and wraps, eight salads and 26 sandwiches and burgers, plus baked goods. Beer and wine is available. Breakfast is served all day. Hours are 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. 472-2625

PECKING ORDER

The Pecking Order features tender, juicy, fried chicken and all the fixins. The chicken is marinated and seasoned, and the high-pressure deep-frying system produces a crispy coating that seals in the juices without allowing the fat to penetrate. Homemade sides include slow-cooked collard greens, sweet and spicy baked beans, cheesy shell mac, rice and beans, cole slaw, mashed red potatoes and gravy, Harlem special, cheesy grits and veggie chili. Try the Black Betty, a warm, dark chocolate tortie filled with liquid dark chocolate, sprinkled with sea salt flakes and confectioners' sugar. Take out, delivery and outdoor dining available. 472-2534

SANIBEL BEAN

The Sanibel Bean coffee shop is java central on Sanibel Island. With its indoor and outdoor seating and free Wi-Fi, it's a popular venue for laptop-toting coffee lovers to relax and check their inboxes, have breakfast or lunch or recharge the batteries in the afternoon. Besides a big selection of coffee from around the globe and a variety of coffee drinks, The Bean has tea and other beverages and a variety of hearty sandwiches, pastries and muffins, plus other light fare. 395-1919

SANIBEL DELI & COFFEE FACTORY

Sanibel Deli & Coffee Factory offers a gluten free menu in addition to homemade regular choices, along with award-winning New York style pizza and wings, Boar's Head meats, frozen yogurt, New York style bagels and ice cream. There is indoor seating as well as outdoor tables shaded with umbrellas. Free Wi-Fi. Eat in or take out as well. 472-2555

SANIBEL GRILL

The Sanibel Grill has 19 big screen TVs with satellite TV tuned to every televised sporting event. The Grill shares a kitchen with The Timbers, serving the same fresh seafood, along with burgers, sandwiches, pizzas and salads. Crunchy Grouper and Crunchy Shrimp are signature dishes. Open seven days from 4 p.m. to midnight with happy hour from 4 to 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. to midnight. 472-3128

SANIBEL SPROUT

The Sanibel Sprout is the island's only 100 percent gluten-free/vegan/organic cafe: an oasis of health where the emphasis is on providing incredibly tasty and creative culinary creations designed to nourish and delight all of your senses. Order one of the fresh salads, Wizard Waffles, classic burger, Mexican plates and indulge in our Indian curry, Vietnamese pho and raw vegan lasagna. Pair your meal with a locally crafted beer, a glass of organic wine or housemade kombucha. The fresh juice bar is brimming with smoothies, herbal elixirs and custom juices, or come and enjoy an espresso or cappuccino with one of the delectable donuts, pies, cupcakes or truffles. The Sanibel Sprout is open for breakfast, lunch & dinner from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Saturday and from noon to 7 p.m. on Sunday. 472-4499

SEA BREEZE CAFÉ

Panoramic Gulf views await you at the Gulf-front Sea Breeze Café where the menu celebrates fresh local produce and seafood. Open 7 AM- 10 PM daily, enjoy breakfast, lunch and dinner on the outdoor terrace or dine indoors and watch the giant salt water aquarium. Happy Hour is every day from 3-5 PM. Celebrate the start of the week with Margarita Mondays, with \$5 margaritas from 4-10 pm and live island-style entertainment from 5:30-8:30 pm. Sea Breeze Café is located at Sundial Beach Resort & Spa. Visit sundialresort.com/eat for menus and to make a reservation. 472-4151

SHIMA JAPANESE STEAKHOUSE & SUSHI BAR

Voted Best Sushi, Best Steak and Best Chef on the Islands, discover an authentic experience at Shima Japanese Steakhouse & Sushi Bar featuring 'dinner and a show' at the hibachi grill. Shima offers sushi and teppanyaki perfectly orchestrated to delight the senses. Shima Grab N Go serves up the same award winning sushi for take-out. Visit shimasushisteak.com for reservations (highly suggested), menus and hours. Shima is located at Sundial Beach Resort & Spa. 472-4151

SWEET MELISSA'S CAFE

Award-winning Sweet Melissa's Café offers eclectic fine dining in a casual, relaxed atmosphere. The restaurant features handcrafted artisan cocktails, local craft beers, a *Wine Spectator* award-winning wine list and a farm-to-table chef-driven menu. Have lunch or dinner in the dining room, on the screened-in patio, or sit at our chef's bar and watch Melissa and her staff in action. There is live music Wednesday through Saturday featuring acoustic guitar by Michael David. Lunch is served Monday through Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Dinner is served Monday through Saturday from 5 p.m. until closing. Happy hour at the bar, featuring 2-for-1 draft beers, glasses of wine and well cocktails as well as a light menu for afternoon snacking, is Monday through Friday from 4 to 6 p.m. Call for reservations. 472-1956

TIMBERS RESTAURANT & FISH MARKET

The Timbers Restaurant & Fish Market and the adjoining Sanibel Grill are mainstays of the island dining scene, boasting 35 years of fresh fish on Sanibel Island. The restaurant offers 13 dinners for \$15 daily before 5:30 p.m. plus a large selection of local seafood, such as grilled shrimp, fried grouper, oysters, clams and crab cakes. Besides specializing in fresh local seafood, the restaurant has a seafood market that opens at 11 a.m. (except Sunday, when it's open at 2 p.m.) Restaurant is open seven days from 5 to 9 p.m. 472-3128

TRADERS GULF COAST GRILL & GIFTS

Traders Gulf Coast Grill and Gifts is unique in that it combines a bustling restaurant with a large shopping emporium with casual clothing, jewelry, accessories, home decorating and gift items, books and lamps.

The restaurant serves bistro cuisine with island flair, featuring such offerings as black beans and rice, blackened fish and fresh salads from an open kitchen. There's no fryer in the place. The tables are freshly wrapped in white paper for each party, and there's a pot of colored crayons for doodling, whether you're an adult or a child. Lunch is served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., happy hour from 3 to 6 p.m. and dinner 5 to 9 p.m. 472-7242

TRADITIONS ON THE BEACH

Traditions on the Beach, Sanibel's first dining room, has been delighting its guests since 1895. Offering "Contemporary Cuisine, Sanibel Style," Traditions provides the highest level of service in a relaxed beachfront setting. Both the tapas menu, served in the Sunset Lounge, and the full dining room menu capture the flavors of the gulf, complemented by the unique atmosphere of the historic Island Inn. Award winning Chef Aziz uses only the finest fresh, local ingredients to create vibrant dishes. Drink, dine and dance at Traditions on the Beach, featuring live entertainment. Tapas and cocktails are available in the bar and lounge beginning at 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Regular dinner menu beginning at 5 p.m. daily. Reservations are suggested. 472-4559

Polly Matsumoto Attends Artists Reception

Renowned artist Polly Matsumoto made an appearance at the Material Matters reception held on December 8 at BIG ARTS Phillip's Gallery.

Matsumoto was welcomed by a crowd that came to view the group exhibition, which is open throughout December. In addition to installations by Matsumoto, works by fiber artists Eliza Brewster, Donna Kjonaas and Vicki Kessler are part of the show.

Matsumoto explores her ideas with a variety of colors and elements like fibers, textiles and various small collectibles ranging from bottles and buttons to miniature animal figures. Different weaving patterns from several eras, such as the rose path pattern, are also immersed into her works.

Matsumoto was one of the founders of the Barrier Island Group for the Arts (BIG ARTS), and helped to organize the annual arts and crafts fair, as well as the scholarship program. In 1987, Matsumoto and her late husband, Ikki, opened an art gallery on Sanibel, which they successfully operated for more than 13 years.



Polly Matsumoto at the artists reception

Matsumoto became a BIG ARTS founder so that she could socialize with other artists. "We needed an outlet to support each other and the formation of BIG ARTS successfully provided that. The growth is unbelievable," she said.

photo provided

An artist of many forms, Matsumoto began working with fiber in the 1970s when her sister-in-law asked her to store a loom while she went overseas for an indefinite amount of time. "The loom was so large, it took up a whole room, and I

figured I might as well learn to use it," said Matsumoto with a smile.

To this day, she works in a bedroom, actually two bedrooms she turned into one. An avid painter, basket weaver, jewelry maker and ceramic artist, Matsumoto enjoys the peace of her surroundings and likes to work on her screened porch when the weather is nice. She also enjoys the company of her parrot, two love birds, four cats, a dog and chickens.

An exciting feature to this year's BIG ARTS Annual Benefit event will be a drawing for four carved and hand-painted chairs and table designed in 1989 by renowned artist, the late Ikki Matsumoto, valued today at \$1,500. The drawing will also include a yacht trip to Useppa Island and lunch at the private club, a gift certificate to Congress Jewelers valued at \$2,500 and a \$300 gift certificate to the Captiva House at Tween Waters Inn.

Ticket packets will be sold in bundles of three for \$100 with only 300 to be sold. Purchase tickets at the BIG ARTS box office or by calling 395-3900. Ticket holders do not need to be present to win.

Sponsorship opportunities for the 2018 BIG ARTS Annual Benefit and season are currently available. Contact Annie Campbell at 472-9700 or acampbell@bigarts.org for more information.

Learn more about BIG ARTS online at www.bigarts.org.✱

Academy Award Contender's Series

BIG ARTS Academy Award Series



by Stan Gembicki

The BIG ARTS 2018 Academy Award Contender's Series at Island Cinema begins Wednesday, January 3 at 12:30 p.m. and will continue for nine Wednesdays at the same time

through February 28. Each week, one of the top Academy Award contender films will be screened followed by a discussion

at the Island Cinema. The films will be announced as soon as they are confirmed, usually seven to eight days prior to the screening.

This popular series allows movie lovers to see some of the best films of the year and offers an opportunity to join others in a lively discussion led by experienced moderators.

Films to be shown will include some of the following: *Lady Bird*, *The Shape of Water*, *Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri*, *The Post*, *Call Me By Your Name*, *Darkest Hour*, *All the Money in the World*, *The Florida Project*, *Phantom Thread* and *The Big Sick*.

Mark your calendars now. Tell your friends and watch for notices in the *Island Sun* containing updates about the upcoming films in the series. Tickets are available at the door or in advance at the Island Cinema box office, located in Bailey's Shopping Center.✱

Student Art Contest

Keep Lee County Beautiful, Inc. (KLCB) is conducting its 29th annual art contest for all school students in Lee County utilizing the theme of "Leave The Scene Clean."

Students are asked to visualize a correct environmental action and transpose their thoughts into a work of art. Judges will select 12 winners, one from each grade – first through 12th – plus a "cover winner" whose work will grace the cover of the calendar. Artwork is judged on artistic execution as well as environmental theme, such as litter prevention, recycling, community cleanup and tree planting.

Winning artwork will be featured in

the 2019 calendar. In addition, winners will get their picture in the calendar and take part in an awards ceremony where they will receive prize packages. Each of the 12 first place winners will receive \$50, except the 12th grade and cover winners who will receive a \$500 cash scholarship.

The full color calendars are sold in schools and other community outlets. Participating schools keep 100 percent of the proceeds for in-school environmental projects.

Public, private and home-schooled students are invited to enter the contest. Deadline for entries is April 23, 2018. For more information on judging criteria, how to enter the contest or how to raise funds for your school through the calendar project, call 334-3488 or visit www.klcb.org.✱

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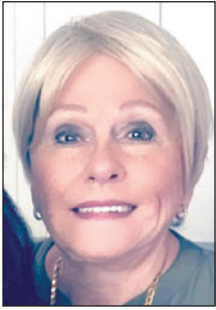
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Book Review

Sons And Soldiers

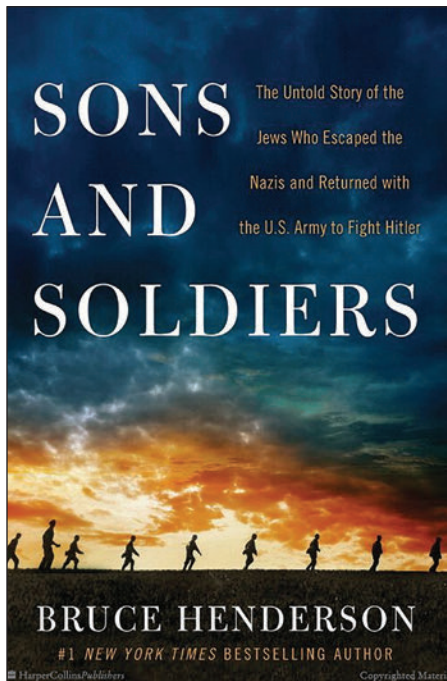


by Di Saggau

Sons and Soldiers by Bruce Henderson tells the story of young Jewish men who escaped from Germany and Austria to America and eventually joined the U.S. Army

returning to Germany to fight against Hitler for their adopted homeland and for the families they had left behind. The book follows six of the young men, known as the Ritchie Boys, after the Maryland camp where they were trained. There were 1,985 in all. The book focuses on Martin Selling, Gunther "Guy" Stern, Manfred "Manny" Steinfeld, Stephan Lewy, Werner Angress and Victor Brombert.

Knowing what the Nazis would do to them if captured, they still leapt at the opportunity to be sent in small, elite teams to join every major combat unit in Europe, where they collected key tactical intelligence on enemy strength, troop and armored movements, and defense positions that saved American lives and helped win the war. Because of their knowledge of the German language, their special units interrogated German prisoners of war. A postwar army report found that nearly 60 percent of the credible intelligence gathered in Europe



came from the Ritchie Boys.

I was fascinated by this little known story. These men had something no one else in the army had, a knowledge of the culture and psyche of Germans. Henderson draws on archival research, memoirs and interviews to visibly recreate the stories of these six men. One Ritchie Boy, Martin Selling, had already been incarcerated at Dachau when he left Germany days before the Nazis blocked further emigration of Jews. Stephan Lewy, placed in an orphanage for Jewish children in Berlin, survived an attempt by

Nazi rioters on Kristallnacht to murder the children by locking them in a synagogue as gas spewed into the room. He, along with other Ritchie boys, eventually accompanied the troops that liberated Buchenwald. Werner Angress, kept a diary in which he wrote: "The longer this war lasts, the more ugly sights I see and the more I get to know what death looks like, the more I am convinced that it will be our first duty after

this war to prevent a second one."

The Ritchie Boys innate understanding of the enemy could not be taught to someone born in the U.S. and made all the difference when it came to acquiring valuable tactical information from captured German soldiers. Henderson is a wonderful storyteller and *Sons and Soldiers*, about a never-before-told chapter of the Second World War, is a must-read.✪

School Smart



by Shelley M. Gregg, NCSP

Dear Readers

As we celebrate the holidays, you may find yourselves rushed, stressed and ungrounded. Children may not understand or realize what their parents

are feeling and may think that they have done something wrong as kids tend to pick up on their parents' tensions and then become anxious. An easy way to comfort and reassure your children is by using supportive vocabulary and language that expresses your belief and support for them. It's vital for a child to know that s/he is loved, understood and accepted and sometimes the usual pat on the back isn't enough.

I'd like to share a list of highly expressive and meaningful phrases that child psychologist Yekaterina Kes has put together to use with your child. This language will help your child to understand the depth of your love and affection for them. What could be more important than that?

Expressing belief in your child: I trust you; I believe in you; I respect your decision; It won't be easy, but I'm certain you'll do it; You're doing everything right; You understand this perfectly; How did you manage to do this so well?; Teach me how you do it, so I can succeed like you; You can do it better than I can; You're better at this than me.

Crediting their hard work: I can see how much work you put into this; I can see how hard you tried; You worked so hard on this, and you achieved it perfectly; You're making fantastic progress; I can see you spent a lot of time on this; I can

imagine how much effort you had to put in to achieve this; You must have worked so hard to get this result; All that hard work paid off.

Being thankful for the time you spend together: I really appreciate you spending time with me; I can't wait to play with you tomorrow; It's so interesting to do this with you; I really enjoyed playing with you; I'm so glad you're at home with me; I'm having so much fun being with you.

Helping them evaluate their own performance: What do you think about this?; You must be so proud; What's the thing you most proud of?; What's your opinion on this?; How would you evaluate your own work?; And what do you think of the result?; How do you wish it had gone?

Being thankful for their help: Thank you so much for doing this; I'm so grateful that you helped me with this; You really helped me out; Thanks for understanding; I don't know what I would have done without you; Without your help I wouldn't have succeeded; You helped me to get through this quicker; The house is so tidy thanks to you.

Describing what you see: Your bedroom is so clean; Wow, you've made your bed! Fantastic; There are so many beautiful colors in this picture; I can see that you really tried hard; I noticed that you cleared the table yourself. Well done!

Describing how you feel: I just love spending time with you so much; I'm so happy when you're at home; I love being part of your team; I love hearing your opinion; I'm so incredibly grateful that I have you; It makes me so happy when you're around to help me.

Shelley Gregg is adjunct faculty at Florida SouthWestern State College, where she teaches psychology and education courses. She is also a nationally 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.✪

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Youth Holiday Camp At Sanibel Rec Center

Chill out and have some frosty fun during this year's winter break at the Sanibel Recreation Center. Highlights include on-island field trips, crafts, games and a variety of frozen holiday treats.

The schedule will consist of two, four-day weeks of Holiday Camp this year. Holiday Camp will be Tuesday, December 26 through Friday, December 29 and Tuesday, January 2 through

Friday, January 5, with no camp held on December 25 and January 1.

Holiday Camp will operate from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Enrollment is available for children in kindergarten through eighth grade. Campers will need to pack a swimsuit and towel, and bring his or her own lunch for the day.

Cost to attend week one (December 26 to 29) is \$153 for members and \$201 for non-members.

Cost to attend week two (January 2 to 5) \$129 for members and \$167 for non-members if registered by December 26; afterwards, the fee is \$153 for members and \$201 for non-members.

For more information, call 472-0345 or visit www.mysanibel.com.✪

Christmas Classic Playing At Herb Strauss Theater

A Christmas Carol is now showing at BIG ARTS Herb Strauss Theater on Periwinkle Way. The show runs through December 29.

The adaptation of Charles Dickens' classic takes viewers from modern day to the world of Dickens through narration, the actors' stories, song, dance and violin accompaniment as well as sound effects by Kristen Weis of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

"The opening of the show is a little boy in his bedroom," said Bobby Logue, theater artistic director. "Mother calls out, 'Nicolas it's time for homework,' but he picks out a book and starts reading it."

The boy chooses *A Christmas Carol* and the story begins to come to life in the center of the stage. By the end, the boy is invited into the story and becomes part of the actual company of six talented actors. Throughout the play, the boy and actors complement one another in a moving ensemble performance.

"They are all telling the story and being a part of it," said Director Jeff Stockberger.

Rob Sommers returns to Sanibel as the misery Scrooge; Aiden Flemming of Fort Myers is Tiny Tim and the narrator; Jake Delaney, Katie Pankow, Samantha Rotella and Galloway



From left, Rob Sommers, Samantha Rotella, Kristen Weis, Galloway Stevens and Katie Pankow. Above center is Jake Delaney

photo provided

Stevens play multiple roles with several fast-paced costume changes.

An appealing aspect of this version of *A Christmas Carol* is it being accessible to all ages and enjoyable for the whole the family.

"This one pays homage to all of the wonderful Dickens language, and the play itself and the lessons it teaches, but it is definitely more lighthearted than the original," added Logue. "The production is sure to get everyone into

the holiday spirit. Adults and children will walk out inspired and moved."

For tickets, call 395-0900. Visit www.bigarts.org for more information on the 2018 season.✪

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Winning photo by Cliff Beittel

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Monthly Photo Contest Winner

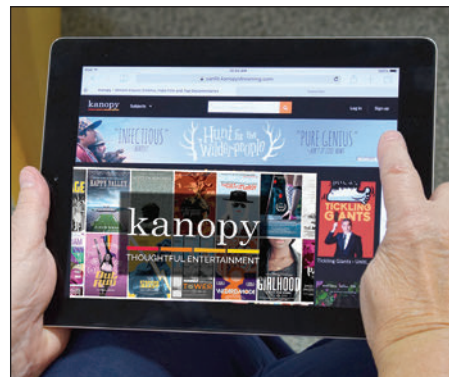
The winner of the RS Walsh Landscaping December photo contest is Cliff Beittel. The theme for the December contest was Boating and Fishing. Submitted photos were posted on the RS Walsh In The Garden Facebook page and at the company's Sanibel garden center. Visitors to the Facebook page and the garden center were able to vote on their favorites. Beittel's photo of a kayak and surf fishing rods at twilight on

Sanibel's East End received the most votes. He will receive a \$50 gift certificate to In The Garden and his photo will be printed in local newspapers. Honorable mentions go to Cheri Hollis, Alex Brown and Laurie Hafener.

The theme of the January contest is Bikes and Hikes and the deadline is January 2. Submissions should include the photographer's name, phone number, location of the photo and a short story behind the picture. Submissions can be sent via email to inthegarden@rswalsh.com.

For more information, call 395-5859 or visit www.rswalsh.com.✱

New Streaming Service At The Sanibel Library



Stream films, TV shows and documentaries with your library card photo provided

Your Sanibel Public Library card just got more valuable. The library now offers popular on-demand video streaming service Kanopy. Sanibel Public Library card holders can access Kanopy to start streaming films on demand instantly by visiting www.sanlib.org/eshelf.

Offering what *The New York Times* calls "a garden of cinematic delights," Kanopy showcases more than 30,000 titles including award-winning documentaries and acclaimed films, rare and hard-to-find titles, and classic films.

Users can access Kanopy through a variety of devices and platforms, including Roku, Apple TV, iOS and Android, and it's compatible for hearing- (with captions and transcripts) and visually-impaired patrons (compatible with technologies such as JAWS).

With the motto of "thoughtful entertainment," Kanopy provides Sanibel Public Library patrons with access to films of unique social and cultural value; films that are often difficult or impossible to access elsewhere, and programming that features diversity, with a wide array of foreign language films and films on current affairs. Sanibel Public Library cardholders have access to Kanopy at no charge, borrowing up to 10 movies per month for three days per movie.

"This is going to be a great addition to the DVD collection and the eShelf. I think locals in particular will enjoy and appreciate the high-caliber content offered – it's a fantastic resource for any film lover," said Margaret Mohundro the library's executive director. Library cardholders can also borrow movie with the Hoopla app; both are available at no additional cost.

The Kanopy collection includes indie hits like *A Girl Walks Home Alone at Night*, classic masterpieces like *Aguirre, the Wrath of God* and *Seven Samurai*, and award-winning documentaries like the 2017 Oscar-nominated *I Am Not Your Negro*. Kanopy also offers live performances like the 2006 production of *Mother Courage and Her Children*, starring Meryl Streep and Kevin Kline, with rehearsal footage. Patrons can stream *The Great Courses Lecture Series* and documentaries by Ken Burns.

In addition to checking out books,

movies, music, eBooks, cooking kits and magazines, cardholders can check out passes to the Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum, the Sanibel Historical Museum and Village, Golisano Children's Museum of Naples (C'mon) and CROW Visitor Education Center. Cultural passes may be reserved to check out for one week using a current Sanibel Public Library card. Call the library to reserve a pass and to get more information.

Sanibel Library also provides computers (at no charge) to use for Internet access, however, there is a 10 cent per page charge for printing. High-speed WiFi is available throughout the library for patrons bringing their personal laptops, smartphones and mobile devices. The library also offers a great selection of DVDs, large-print books, music CDs, magazines and more. Library cards are available to Sanibel and Lee County residents at no charge. Visitors may purchase a library card for \$10, valid for one year.

For more information, call 472-2483 or visit www.sanlib.org.✱

BIG ARTS Corner

Workshops And Seminars

BIG ARTS offers the following workshops and seminars.

Preregistration is recommended. For a complete listing of educational classes, workshops and lectures, visit www.bigarts.org or call the Marks Box Office at 395-0900.

Great Books by Julie Hopson, Tuesday, 10 to 11:30 a.m., January 2 through March 27.

Glass Fusing by Petra Kaiser, Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., January 3 through 24,

Collage by Bea Pappas, Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., January 3 through 24.

Decorative Painting Open Studio by Sally Parsons, Wednesday, 9 a.m. to noon, January 3 through March 28.

Clay 101/201: How to be Creative with Clay by David Hoggatt, Thursday, 9 a.m. to noon, January 4 through February 8.

Glass Fusing by Petra Kaiser, Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., January 4 through 25.

Experimental Master Class by Bea Pappas, Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., January 4 through 25.

Photography (first class meets at 9 a.m.) by Denny Souers, Thursday, 7 a.m. to noon, January 4 through 25.

Try Painting Paradise by Linda Benson, Friday, 10 a.m. to noon, January 5.

Life Drawing, Non Instructed Open Studio by Carol Rosenberg, Friday, 9:30 a.m. to noon and 12:15 to 2:45 p.m., January 5 through 26.

Call 395-0900 or stop by the BIG ARTS Center at 900 Dunlop Road to enroll. Preregistration is recommended. For complete course descriptions and the full season's workshops and class schedules, visit www.bigarts.org/workshops, or email info@bigarts.org.✱

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From left, Peg McGann, Grace Mannix, Nancy DeBenedictis and Sandie Travas from the Shell Islands Garden Club photo provided

Get In The Spirit With Your Sanibel Library Card

The Sanibel Public Library has a variety of seasonal offerings to get you into – or help you escape from – the holiday spirit. The library loans out cooking kits, which check out like books. The kits include a coordinating cookbook and instructions. Some of the kits are especially handy at this time of year, like the cookie kit, checkerboard cake kit, paella pan, crêpe pan, or the dip and chip serving tray. There are also cookbooks and magazines with holiday recipes, available to download and in print. OverDrive, Hoopla and Kanopy apps offer hundreds of seasonal eBooks, movies, and music.

Need a last-minute gift? Library tote bags are offered in 10 colors, are made in the USA, and cost only \$15.

Proceeds benefit the Sanibel Public Library Foundation.

Sanibel Public Library's weekly youth programs run through December 28.

Shell Islands Garden Club members embellished a Christmas tree with avian themed hand-painted ornaments. The club has donated a gorgeously-decorated tree to the library for the past 20 years.

Sanibel Public Library will be closed on Christmas, Monday, December 25 and closed Monday, January 1 for New Year's Day.

The library's Author Series begins with Amor Towles, *New York Times* bestselling author of *A Gentleman in Moscow*. Towles will speak at The Community House at 7 p.m. on Monday, January 29. Online ticket requests begin at 9 a.m. on Friday, December 29. On that day, visit the homepage at the library's website at www.sanlib.org.

For more information, call 472-2483 or visit www.sanlib.org.✱

Local Knitters Get To Work For Children In Need

Everyone who attended one of the three services at Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ (SCUCC) on December 10 was treated to a colorful display of dozens upon dozens of multicolored hats knitted of lofty yarn. While it may have looked like the opening of an exhibit of fine craftsmanship, it was Hazel's Hat Sunday.

Linda Bradbury Danner, whose husband is church Senior Pastor John H. Danner, tells the story:

For many years, her mother, the late Hazel Bradbury of Gloversville, New York, knitted hats and mittens to be distributed each winter to children in need. For the past seven years, Linda and SCUCC have continued the tradition she started, but with a twist. For every \$5 "paid" by someone at the church, a knitted gift goes north, and the money collected stays here in Lee County to provide gifts, outings and



Some of the handmade hats and mittens photo provided

supplies for children.

This year, Linda and a half dozen "elves" – as she calls her fellow knitters – made more than 175 hats. The generous members and friends of the church donated \$1,100 on Hazel's Hats Sunday.

Local groups that receive and distribute the money raised are Friends Who Care

on Sanibel, the Gladiolus Learning Center, and the Harlem Heights Food Pantry. The warm winter hats are sent to: Gloversville, New York; Somerville, Massachusetts; Lincoln, Nebraska; the Midnight Run in New York City; and the Lakota Indians in South Dakota.

The knitting is already under way for Hazel's Hats Sunday in 2018. Anyone who would like to knit hats, mittens or socks is invited to participate. Patterns are available in the office of the church, located at 2050 Periwinkle Way. For more information, call 472-0497.✱

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

Mirrors Ain't What They Used To Be

by Tanya Hochschild

I peer at the reflection,
blink to see who's there.
Lost is the Miss of the past.
A cast of familiar strangers peer back.
I glimpse my brother and my father,
Jack.
Same nose but not quite.
The eyes of my mother, same
wrinkles between.
The longer I stare I see my face

change,
rearrange itself,
with long dark hair,
no lines around my mouth...

This face ain't me.
How can it be?
I'm thirty three
busy driving kids to school
to soccer practice to ballet
with a quick stop at the supermarket
buy tonight's dinner.
But wait! Back then I was thinner,
Who is this dame in my mirror?
She with those flaws bedecked.
Not me! Not the last time I checked.

Mirrors do not reflect the me
of ideas, feelings and memory,
so I blink again. Aha! I see
a grandmother, aunt and wife
realize gratefully this is my life,
the here and now, my finest hour
a time of power, a true reflection,
not one lost in the myth of the past,
what can you say?
I've grown up - at last!
Tanya Hochschild is a member
of a Sanibel Writers Group, has
participated in Artpoems and Writer's
Reads on the island, and had three
books published.✱

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Donations Sought For Rockin' Christmas Fund



The Wolanin family - Ilona, Whitney and Vincent - created the Rockin' Christmas Fund
photo by Jeff Lysiak

by Jeff Lysiak

Now in its 17th year, the Rockin' Christmas Fund was established to assist students who have lost a parent suddenly from a death or due to other tragic circumstances. Created by Sanibel Island residents Vincent and Ilona Wolanin along with Dr. John and

Liz Kagan, the fund is one of the few 501(c)3 organizations in the United States where 100 percent of the money is dedicated to helping students.

The idea for creating the Rockin' Christmas Fund was born when PrivateSky Aviation Services founder Vincent Wolanin was planning to stage a

continued on page 22B



Committee members, from left: Chip Roach; Andy Phelan, director of golf; Steve Greenstein; Al Hanser; Charlie Sheetz, event co-chair; Gordon Coons; Ralph Clark; and John McCabe, event co-chair. Not pictured: Ken Kouril, COO of The Sanctuary Golf Club; Tom August; and Steve Brown.
photo provided

Charity Classic Golf Tournament Returns In January

The Sanctuary Charity Classic Committee members are diligently planning the upcoming January 27 golf tournament. The Sanctuary Charity Classic begins at 10:30 a.m. with a brunch, followed by a 12:30 p.m. shot-

gun start. Afterwards, golfers meet at the clubhouse for drinks and hors d'oeuvres, an awards presentation, and the popular helicopter drop.

There are numerous sponsorship opportunities ranging from the \$7,500 Diamond Partnership, which includes additional rounds of golf, lunch and dinner at The Sanctuary Golf Club, to a \$250 Hole Partnership. All proceeds go directly to the Charitable Foundation of

continued on page 18B

Top Regional Chefs To Gather For Showcase

A chance to get up close and personal with six of Southwest Florida's top chefs, such as Melissa Talmage of Sweet Melissa's Cafe and Wilhem Gahabka of Bay Colony Golf Club, is being offered next month at The Community House with Resident Chef Jarred Harris.

The chefs will take part in the annual Southwest Florida Chef Invitational, a January 27 fundraiser that will pair the celebrated culinary artisans with students in support of the Culinary Education Center of Sanibel.

Besides Talmage and Gahabka, also sharing their award-winning cooking skills for the multi-course tastings menu will be Werner Dietrich of the Olde Hickory Golf and Country Club, Steve Joynt of the Spring Run Golf Club, Craig Panneton of the Pink Shell Beach



Chef Melissa Talmage

Resort & Marina and John Wolff of Casa Ybel Resort.

"We're extremely proud and honored to be able to host these top chefs in the spirit of creativity and camaraderie," said

photo courtesy www.visitflorida.com

Harris, "while showcasing their artistry and knowledge in the culinary field."

For \$150 per person, guests can indulge their senses while supporting Sanibel's growing culinary community.



Chef Wilhem Gahabka

photo courtesy www.baycolonygolfclub.com

"This is a rare opportunity," said Marge Meek, host of the Southwest Florida Chef Invitational, "to taste some of the best cuisine in the region, while

continued on page 20B

"Best Golf Course in Lee County"

GulfShore Magazine




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Trust Company Sponsors Booth At Rec Center



Al Hanser and Steve Greenstein get ready to enter the Unique Photo Booth at the Sanibel Recreation Center anniversary celebration photo provided

The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company would like to thank Mayor Kevin Ruane, Sanibel Recreation Center Director Andrea Miller, and everyone who was on hand to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Sanibel Recreation Center on December 4.

"For a decade, the rec center has improved our quality of life for young and old alike, and become a community

treasure and a source of pride for everyone here on Sanibel," said Al Hanser, founder and chairman of The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company. "We are proud to have sponsored the Unique Photo Booth at the celebration as a way to demonstrate our support for the celebration event and to give the kids a chance to enjoy themselves and have some fun."*



Carol and William Rosenberg with Rudolphin photo provided

Attraction At Real Estate Office

Rudolphin, a colorful dolphin decoration sporting candy cane-striped antlers, is a new, seasonal decoration in front of the Kingfisher Real Estate building on Palm Ridge Road.

According to realtors at the office, Rudolphin has quickly become a favorite attraction for islanders and vacationers alike.*

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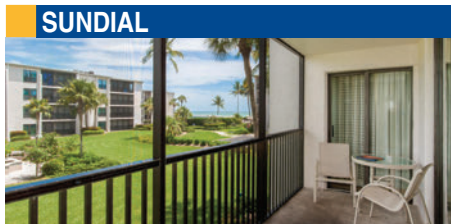
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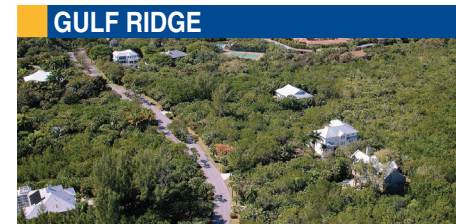
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From left, Birgie Miller, Richard McCurry, Marit Hansen Mouchou, Stan Howard, John Basher, John Jones, Nate Caswell and Toni Westland photo by Jeff Lyaick

Optimists Present Concert Proceeds To Wildlife Society

On December 12, members of the Sanibel-Captiva Optimist Club presented a \$5,000 check to the “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS), the proceeds from the 2nd annual Sanibel Blues & Jazz Festival held in November.✱

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ISLAND SUN BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

Realtors Join Local Agency

Realtors Brooke Brownyard and KC Cuscaden recently joined the Kingfisher Real Estate team. Brownyard has been a sales leader and multi-million dollar producer on Sanibel for the past 22 years, and is a designated Sanibel and Captiva Island Specialist. She was a founding member of the Sanibel Community Chorus and is a staunch supporter of Special Equestrians, Horses for Handicapped. Cuscaden is a long time island realtor. She and her family first arrived on Sanibel



Brooke Brownyard



KC Cuscaden

via ferry prior to the causeway being built. She is a past director for the Sanibel and Captiva Islands Association of Realtors and a past chair member for the Professional Development Committee on the Islands.✱

Top Producers



Mary Lou Bailey



Keith McMenemy



James and Penny Hetmanek

The top agents and sales teams at VIP Realty Group for the month of November were: Mary Lou Bailey, top listings; Keith McMenemy, top sales; and the team of James and Penny Hetmanek, top producers.✱

Top Associates

Kimberley Andrews was the top sales associate in November for RE/MAX of the Islands. She works as a team with her husband, Chuck Andrews. Sarah Ashton was the top marketing associate for November.✱



Kimberley Andrews



Chuck Andrews



Sarah Ashton

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GORGEOUS COASTAL BEACH HOME



Spacious home with 3BD/2.5BA, screen enclosed heated pool, volume ceilings throughout, chefs kitchen, incredible bonus space with extra storage, 3 car garage and boat dockage. This home is located in the prestigious Kinzie Island, a private, gated community with private beach access on the East End of Sanibel.

Asking price is \$1,295,000



*Merry Christmas &
Happy Holidays to all!*



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From left, Bonnie McCurry, Alycia Aucaterlonie, Richard Johnson, Calli Johnson, Melissa Rice, Stan Howard, Richard McCurry, John Basher, Marit Hansen Mouchou and John Jones
photo by Jeff Lysick

CHR Receives Donation From Optimist Club

Sanibel's Community Housing & Resources (CHR) received a \$5,000 check last week from members of the Sanibel-Captiva Optimist Club, proceeds from the 2nd annual Sanibel Blues & Jazz Festival held in November.✱

Rotary Happenings

submitted by Shirley Jewell

Sanibel-Captiva Rotary had a full schedule last week. Most important was the election of club officers.



According to Rotary International bylaws, our Rotary year is from July 1 to June 3. Why? After doing some research, it dates back to the first Rotary International Conference held on August 18, 1910. The auditors recommended that the organization end its fiscal year on June 30 to give the secretary and treasurer time to prepare financial statements for the convention and board, and determine the proper number of club delegates to the convention.

The same reasoning is used for holding elections for club officers by the end of each calendar year. This is meant to allow time for new officers to understand their responsibilities and coordinate ongoing projects and programs, development new projects and budget for the Rotary year beginning in July 1.

The Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club held elections for club officers on December 15 and the newly elected board will serve a three-year term starting July 1, 2018: Richard Green and Roger Grogman will join current directors James Cardle,

Cindy DeCosta, John Schwandke and Rodger Triftsauser with the immediate club past president for 2017-18, Holli Martin. Newly elected trust board officers serving a three-year term starting July 1, 2018 are Dorrie Hispchman and John Henshaw, joining current officers John Carney, Chris DeCosta, Barbara Ellis and Bill Rahe.

San-Cap Rotary has been extremely lucky to be attracting younger members to the club and proud to say, "that these younger members have become fully engaged in serving the club." Many of them volunteer to serve in leadership roles, from serving on our boards to taking leadership roles on important committees, from fundraising to community hands-on work projects. They are an outstanding group of younger professionals and are showing that age is not an issue when dedicated to serving others. As a case in point, excerpts from the following article appearing in our Rotarian magazine, January 2018 issue:

Be A Millennial In Rotary by Dominick Bonny, Rotary Club, Wenatchee North, Washington

"I'm 32. I joined Rotary three years ago." "At my first meeting, I didn't see a lot of faces my age, but I found that I fit in well with the Rotary mindset of Service Above Self. I remember thinking, "Oh, wow. I'm home." "I find that people in Rotary do a lot of good, but not for self-promotion. I really respect and want to emulate that." "I run a social media and marketing company. I manage web pages for our local newspaper, three

continued on page 15B

Happy Holidays! Merry Christmas! and a Happy and Healthy 2018 To All!



Diane



Carl & Ray



Cindy



Kassia



Gayle



Laura



Diane



Cheryl



Barbara

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- Grew up on a quintessential south Florida ranch east of the Everglades where she found her love of horses
- Enjoys boating, fishing and shelling
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Herb Strauss Theater Advisory Board
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 - Under building parking, 1-week rentals & pets OK
 - \$1,450,000 each (2171141 & 2171061)
- Lynda Traverso 472-5187 x 226**

**Uncompromised Design**

- Private/spacious 3/3+, LR w/clerestory windows, formal DR
 - Screen porches, stunning kitchen, family room, elevator, fireplace
 - 1+/-A parcel, close to beach path, lush landscaping, impact glass
 - Spa, subdivision pools/tennis, showcase home
 - \$1,595,000 (2171014)
- Mary Lou Bailey 472-5187 x 246**

**Captiva Charmer**

- 48 Oster Court in Sunset Captiva
 - 2 BR/2.5 BA with beach access path
 - Community Boat dock, pool and tennis
 - Close to Village Shops and dining
 - \$865,000 (2171011)
- Robin Humphrey/Martha Smith 472-5187 x 218/241**

**Stunning Custom Designed Island Home**

- Exclusive community of Kinzie I-land
 - Offering beach, gulf access, tennis pickleball & lap pool
 - Large 4bd/4.5ba, elevator, storage, gorgeous pool & spa
 - Enjoy gulf views and relaxed outdoor living
 - \$1,789,000 (2171111)
- Teresa Baker 472-5187 x 220**

**Rare Opportunity**

- Mixed Use Zoning
 - 3 BR/2.5 BA House
 - Plus separate 600 Ft. Commercial Space
 - Hardwood Floors throughout both!
 - \$995,000 (2171180/2171181)
- Karen Bell 472-5187 x 270**

**Move-In Ready**

- 2,426 sq ft of interior space
 - 400 sq ft screened outdoor space
 - Upgraded & updated, corner condo
 - Electric storm Shades, new a/c
 - \$599,000 (2171190)
- Ted Benjamin 472-5187 x 247**

**Near Beach Lake Front Home**

- Southern exposure, magnificent view of lake
 - 3 Bedroom/3Bath, plus large den, pool & spa
 - Remodeled kitchen & master bath, large laundry room
 - Spacious 2 car garage and deeded beach access
 - \$829,000 (2171194)
- Tina DiCharia/Glen Simmons 472-5187 x 259/332**

**Build Your Dream Home**

- Oversized homesite in Sanibel Highlands
 - 16,173 sq. ft. lot
 - Near beach on quiet street
 - East/West orientation catches the sea breezes!
 - \$219,555 (2171199)
- Charles Sobczak 472-5187 x 255**

**Custom Built Pool Home**

- 4BR/3BA on oversized lot near beach path
 - Stainless appliances, granite countertops
 - Fireplace, oversized pool, large screened lanai
 - Cathedral ceilings, tile floors, lots of privacy
 - \$1,349,000 (2171211)
- Jim Hall 472-5187 x 215**

**Sandpiper Beach 302**

- Pristine Gulf front 2 bed 2 bath unit
 - Just updated with all top end furnishings
 - Bring your most discerning buyers!
 - Great island investment
 - \$850,000 (2171217)
- David Schuldenfrei 472-5187 x 227**

**Most Affordable Home on Sanibel**

- Charming 2 Bed, 2 Bath Island Home
 - Soaring Vaulted ceilings, Open Kitchen
 - Spacious Master Bedroom with large walk-in closet
 - Perfect Island location!
 - \$419,000 (2170216)
- Arika Bjorkedal 472-5187 x 252**

**The Home You've Been Waiting For**

- 3BR/2BA in the Dunes
 - Gorgeous lake views!
 - Elevated, caged pool off living level
 - Meticulously cared for
 - \$799,900 (2170392)
- Rose Dakos 472-5187 x 233**



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Local Attorney Joins CHR Board



Aaron Pruss

photo provided

to the board at its November meeting. Educated at Rutgers University (BA in political science) and Wayne State University School of Law, Pruss is board certified by the Florida Bar in construction law and is a former chair of the Florida Bar Grievance Committee for the 20th Judicial Circuit in and for Lee County. He is a member of the American Bar Association's Forum on Construction Law, the Real Property, Probate and Trusts Law Section of the Florida Bar and the Litigation Section of the Michigan Bar and is admitted to practice law in both Michigan and Florida.

CHR President Richard Johnson said, "A successful nonprofit such as Community Housing and Resources can only be accomplished by a board of knowledgeable, dedicated and generous community leaders. Those willing to give of their time, energies and support bring a natural esprit de corps to our organization. Aaron Pruss is exactly that and will bring value to our board and organization well beyond our expectations. Welcome aboard, Aaron."

Following successful service with two Michigan law firms, Pruss came to Florida, serving with two Southwest Florida firms before advancing to his present position with Hewson & Van Hellemont, PC, in 2016. As a managing shareholder with the Florida office, he advises and counsels business and construction clients on complex transactions, risk management, bonding and insurance coverage issues, among other responsibilities.

CHR (Community Housing & Resources), provider of affordable housing on Sanibel since 1983, has added to its board of directors a Sanibel attorney with deep experience in commercial transactions and litigation related to construction law and real property.

Aaron Pruss was officially appointed

He is active in the island community, particularly with the Sanibel-Captiva Chamber of Commerce (as chair-elect of the board of directors, government affairs committee) and with the Sanibel-Captiva Kiwanis Club (vice president of the board). Pruss was recently appointed to the Sanibel Charter Review Committee and was elected chairman at its introductory meeting. Those who attended the 2016 CHR Mardi Gras fundraiser may recall his enthusiastic participation as a Kiwanis team member in the swim relay.

"I am honored and humbled to serve on the CHR Board of Directors,"

said Pruss. "CHR is fundamental to preserving the true character of our islands and is a shining example of the spirit of those who live and work here. I look forward to working with the CHR staff and its constituents toward an even brighter future for all involved."

As CHR readies for expansion, with the goal of providing more affordable housing for island workers and their families, Pruss' experience in all matters of construction law will be invaluable.

For more information, visit www.sanibelchr.org, stop by the CHR office located at 2401 Library Way or call 472-1189.*

Superior Interiors

With Lighting, Careful Planning Sets The Stage

by Trinetta Nelson



Often times, a beautifully designed room, can easily miss the mark without a well-thought-out and executed lighting plan. Have you ever walked into a fabulous room that

just seemed to miss the mark? Perhaps the ambience of the room seemed off-kilter. Or, maybe the room's lighting gave it a harsh cold feel.

Here are some specific tips you should consider when working up your own personal lighting plan. And, here's a word to the wise. The single best tip to insure a successful lighting plan is to work with a professional interior decorator. That way all the decisions you make the first time will be the right decisions for your home and your room.

Frequently asked lighting questions:

1. How much light does my room

actually need?

As an interior decorator, I typically calculate the amount of light needed in a room by multiplying the room's length by the room's width – in feet. Then that number is again multiplied by 1.5. I have found that this gives me the number of watts required to provide adequate ambient lighting for my client's room.

2. How much specific task lighting do I need?

Typically, I find that a good rule of thumb for task lighting is to multiply the room's square footage by 2.5 instead of 1.5 to find the proper wattage.

3. My hallway is dull and dreary. How much lighting do I need to brighten it up?

I recommend that a lighting fixture be placed every 8 to 10 feet. If my client's prefer using wall sconces, I suggest they be placed 6 to 8 feet apart. And wall sconces should always be hung 60 inches above the finished floor.

These are just a few of the many lighting questions most of my clients have. Again, making the right lighting decisions the first time will definitely showcase your new décor beautifully.

Trinetta Nelson is an interior designer on Sanibel/Captiva Islands and can be reached at linda@coindecaden.com.*

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Church Delivers Gifts For CHR Residents



From left, Bonnie McCurry, Doug Hummer, Alycia Auchterlonie, Brad Livermon and Melissa Rice with gift bags full of goodies for CHR residents photo provided

Last week, Brad Livermon from Sanibel Community Church dropped off presents for every household in CHR's rental program as a gift for the holidays.

"The reason we are doing this is to have a touch in the community and looking for a way to bless the folks on Sanibel and to be a blessing to the community," said Livermon.

According to Melissa Rice, CHR

executive director, Livermon called a few weeks ago asking if the nonprofit organization had any families that would accept a gift for the holidays. After some brainstorming, both groups decided on giving gift bags with lots of goodies, including a few Christmas-themed gifts as well as a gift card to the Carpenter's Cafe and Bookstore, an American Express gift card and a CD.*

Tax Benefits Of End Of Year Gifts

submitted by
Chauncey Goss

With an IRA charitable rollover gift, you can help the work of the United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades, and Okeechobee this year and enjoy valuable tax and income benefits.

Your gift will help local people and the 94 agencies that provide vital services in our community.

If you are age 70 ½ or older, you can roll over up to \$100,000 from your IRA to charity without paying federal income tax. Even better, your gift qualifies for your required minimum distribution (RMD).

Here are some of the ways you can benefit from an IRA rollover gift this year:

Reduce your taxable income. By rolling over some or all of your RMD from your IRA to charity, you can reduce your taxable income this year.

Lower your Social Security tax. Reducing your taxable income with an IRA



Chauncey Goss

rollover gift may also reduce the tax due on your social security payments.

Avoid IRS tax limits. IRA rollover gifts may be made over and above the normal cash gift limit (50 percent of your adjusted gross income).

Nonitemizers: Enjoy charitable gift benefits. If you do not itemize your deductions, you can still benefit from the reduction in income and tax resulting from an IRA rollover gift.

Gifts must be made by December 31, 2017.

How is a IRA charitable rollover done? It is simple. To complete an IRA charitable rollover, the first step is to contact your IRA provider and instruct them of your intention to give to United Way.

As an alternative, you can donate stock. Giving long-term, appreciated securities (owned more than a year) may provide greater benefits to you and United Way.

You may save current cash for day-to-day needs because a gift of stock does not come out of your cash flow.

You may save taxes two ways: the deduction is the fair market value of the stock, and the appreciation is never taxed.

For questions or more information on donating stock or making an IRA charitable gift, call Candie Roberts at United Way at 433-7213. Call today to help make a brighter new year for people in need in our community.*



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Gifting As The Year Ends



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

Another year is almost over. While 2017 was diverse and full of interesting happenings, can you believe another year end is almost here? Are you relieved? Scared about what 2018 is going to bring?

Me too.

But with the New Year inevitably comes questions about gifting and taxes. Most gifts to our loved ones are gift tax free, but you should know some basics before gifting anything of value to your children, grandchildren and other loved ones.

As of right now, the most that you can give tax free to any one person is \$14,000 in any calendar year. For 2018, the exemption will go up to \$15,000. This counts whether you give cash, a valuable painting, a car or any combination of items. Currently, a husband and wife together can therefore give \$28,000 worth of assets to any one person during a calendar year and count them as tax free. If the assets aren't gifted from a joint account, you can still treat the gift as coming from both the husband and the wife so long as a Gift Tax Return Form 709 is timely filed, and the spouse elects to "split the gift" by checking a box on the return and signing it.

Gift-splitting is more common in second marriage situations. An example might help assist in understanding this technique. Suppose that Frank is married to Suzanne, and that this is a second marriage. Frank has two sons from a prior marriage, Francis and Travis. Suzanne has two children from her prior marriage, Dorothy and Monica. Frank wishes to give each of his sons, Francis and Travis, \$24,000. Assume further that Frank and Suzanne maintain separate bank accounts.

So Frank transfers \$28,000 each to Francis and to Travis. This would be a taxable gift exceeding the \$14,000 per beneficiary rule unless Suzanne agrees to "split the gift" by signing a Gift Tax Return Form 709. Suzanne is not affected by splitting the gift, nor are her children affected. In this example, Frank is gifting money from Frank's separate bank account. Suzanne may therefore still give \$14,000 each to her children and grandchildren. In fact, Suzanne can ask Frank to split the gifts to her children, Dorothy and Monica, to give them \$28,000 each as well so Suzanne can write those checks directly from her account.

In addition to gifts of money, many of my clients tell me that they intend to give other items, such as valuable art or jewelry. In order for a gift to be considered "tax free" and to remove it from the estate for federal estate tax purposes, the donor must actually transfer custody of the asset to the donee. Let's illustrate this by another example.

Suppose that Suzanne intends to give a valuable Rodin sculpture to her daughter Dorothy. Suzanne tells Dorothy that the sculpture is hers, but that Suzanne intends to keep the sculpture in Suzanne's living room until she dies. "After I die I want you to take the sculpture off the mantle and put it in your home," Suzanne instructs Dorothy.

Suzanne has not made a tax free gift to Dorothy. In fact, Suzanne has not made a gift at all. If Suzanne dies with the Rodin still on her mantle, then under the tax law the sculpture is included in Suzanne's estate for federal estate tax purposes. Clients often ask me how would the IRS know whether the sculpture was still hanging in Suzanne's home at the time of her death?

The answer lies in a number of places. The most likely clue of ownership might be uncovered when the IRS requests a copy of Suzanne's homeowners insurance. The IRS would look to see whether at the time of Suzanne's death there was a rider on the homeowners policy covering the Rodin. If Suzanne truly transferred the Rodin to her daughter Dorothy, then there would be no reason for Suzanne to continue to insure it.

Some folks think that they are clever by "selling" something of value as opposed to gifting it. Suppose Peter "sold" a piece of property to his daughter Gabriele for \$10,000 when in fact the fair market value of the property at the time of the transfer was \$110,000. Here, despite the fact that Peter "sold" it, the IRS would consider the transaction to be a \$100,000 gift (calculated as a transfer of \$110,000 of property for \$10,000).

If you have any particular questions about gifting that may be affected by the tax laws, discuss them with your estate planning attorney prior to making the transfer.

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Doc Ford's Named Mardi Gras Sponsor

Last week, Community Housing & Resources (CHR) announced Doc Ford's as a Big Easy sponsor for the Mardi Gras 2018 fundraiser, which will be held on Saturday, February 10 at The Community House.

CHR is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to providing affordable housing to families and individuals who work on and/or serve the community of Sanibel. The agency oversees 74 rental units in 11 complexes and 14 limited equity ownership homes throughout Sanibel Island. CHR residents work at your local bank, grocery store, your favorite retail stores and restaurants. As longtime supporters of CHR, Doc

Ford's understands the importance of affordable housing on Sanibel.

Marty Harritty of Doc Ford's was a past president of CHR. During his tenure, he visited other affordable housing initiatives throughout the country and provided guidance for the current limited equity ownership program. He also worked on the Casa Mariposa housing initiative, which provides housing for older residents in CHR programs.

"CHR is a community organization that gives back and helps local businesses be successful. Affordable housing is very special and a worthy cause," said Harritty.

Sponsors of Mardi Gras 2018 can look forward to an exciting new riverboat theme for Mardi Gras. Guests will "roll down the river" while enjoying libations, games of chance, lounges and other entertainment. Mardi Gras 2018 will raise the bar once again for fun on Sanibel.

For more information on sponsorship and tickets, contact CHR at 472-1189.✱

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1743 Venus Drive

4 Beds / 3.5 Baths

Offered at \$1,670,000

LOT



5821 Pine Tree Drive - Construction Financing Available

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PRIVATE PARADISE W/ DOCK

Attention boaters and fishermen! Direct Gulf access double canal lot located in a secluded upscale community perfect for the most discerning Buyer. Parcel has over 180' of canal frontage. All you need is a boat and a dream to start living the Sanibel lifestyle!

NEW LISTING



Sanddollar #A-101

2 Beds / 2 Baths

BRING YOUR MOST DISCERNING BUYERS!

This elegantly remodeled direct Gulf front unit offers exceptional panoramic views from the large lanai. Spacious master bedroom features it's own private balcony. Complex has a heated pool and 3 tennis courts. Weekly rentals allowed in this highly sought after property.

Offered at \$1,195,000

NEW LISTING



500 Kinzie Island Court

3 Beds / 3 Baths

KINZIE ISLAND GEM

Gulf access multilevel custom-built canal home with covered dock nestled on a large corner cul-de-sac lot. Updated chef's kitchen, elegant formal dining room, large screened in lanai and private master retreat. Kinzie Island amenities include community pool, tennis courts and a beach side clubhouse.

Offered at \$1,599,900

NEW LISTING



585 Lake Murex Circle

3 Beds / 2 Baths

Offered fully furnished at \$725,000

LIGHT AND BRIGHT ON OVERSIZED LOT

Light and bright 3 bedroom 2 bath near beach home features tranquil lake views and lush tropical landscaping on an over-sized corner lot. Great room sliders open to a large deck making this the perfect home for entertaining.

NEW LISTING



302 Sandpiper Beach

2 Beds / 2 Baths

SANDPIPER BEACH 302

Immaculate and recently updated 2 bedroom 2 bath direct Gulf front unit ideal for family vacations or as an investment property. Condo features glass tile back splash, granite counter tops, stainless steel appliances and new furnishings. Offered at \$850,000.

Offered at \$850,000

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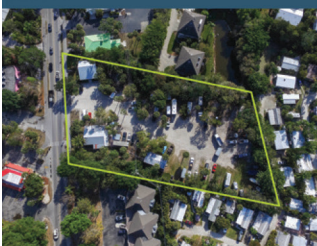
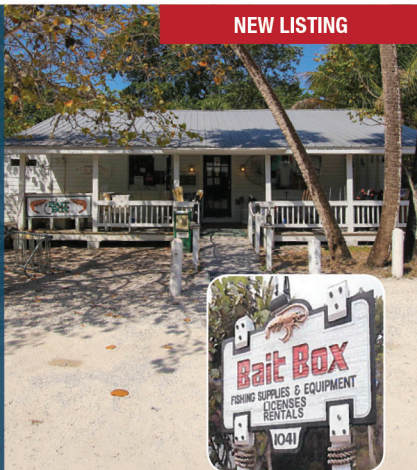
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NEW LISTING



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featuring 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms + den. Only 6 units have this floor plan! Beautiful kitchen features a tray ceiling, island and breakfast bar. Master bedroom sliders open to lanai.

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NEW LISTING



Pointe Santo • 2445 West Gulf Drive #C-42

2 Beds / 2 Baths

ROOFTOP SUNDECK DIRECT GULF VIEWS

Outstanding Gulf, lagoon and lush landscaping views from this 4th floor updated penthouse unit with rooftop sundeck. Property allows weekly rentals and features children's programs 5 days a week. Great family investment.

Offered at \$949,000

NEW LISTING



Sundial #F-201

2 Beds / 2 Baths

WRAP-AROUND LANI WITH EXPANSIVE GULF VIEWS!

Tastefully decorated 2 bed 2 bath unit offers expansive Gulf views from it's generous wrap around screened lanai. Bright and tropical beach themed interior lets you know that your island vacation has begun!

Offered at \$895,000

NEW LISTING



Pointe Santo • 2445 West Gulf Drive #B-2

2 Beds / 2 Baths

GULF AND LAGOON VIEWS - A SANIBEL ESCAPE

Come enjoy the Sanibel lifestyle in this ground floor condo - walk to 600 feet of white powder sand. Many upgrades - new kitchen, water filtration system, bathroom. Weekly rentals allowed.

Offered at \$799,000

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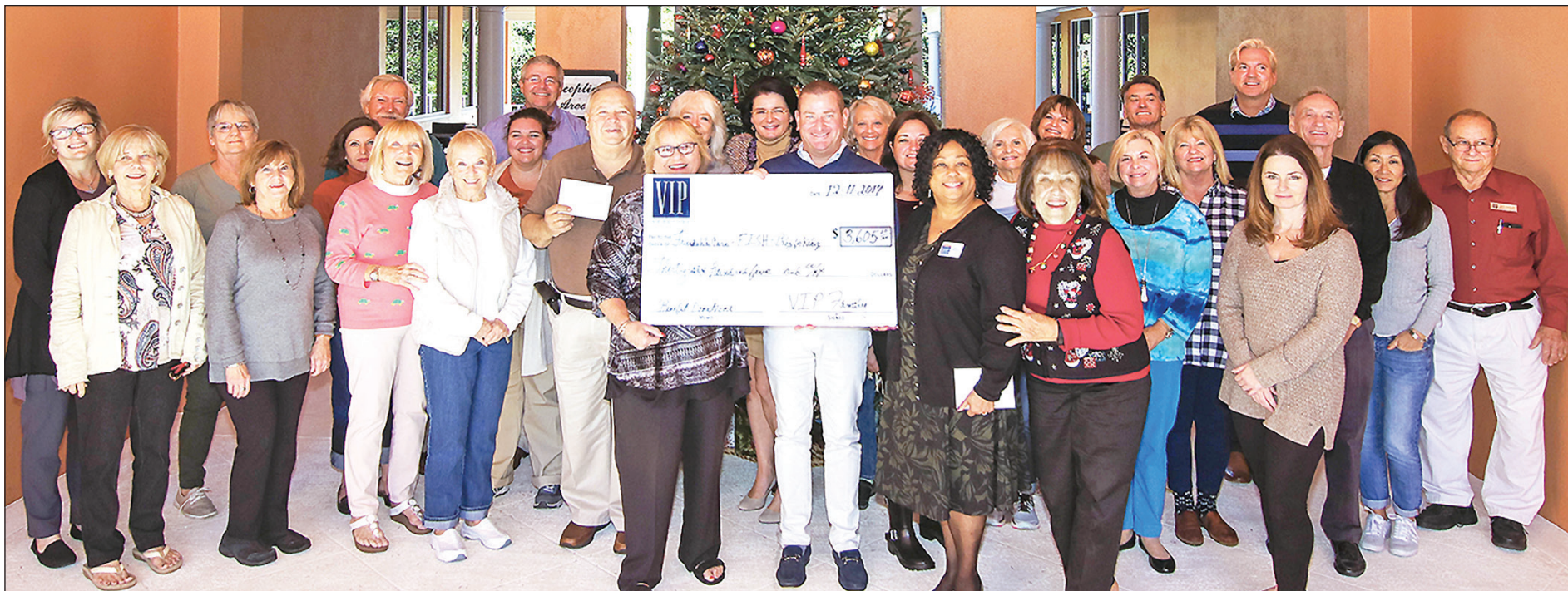
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The realtors and staff of VIP Realty Group present a check for \$3,605 to Cynthia Shafer, founder and president-CEO of Bedz for Kidz; Tom Louwers, co-founder and CEO of Friends Who Care; and Kathy Monroe, program director of FISH of SanCap

photos courtesy Jim Anderson and Cathy Gerasin

Christmas Bazaar Raises Funds For Local Charities

On December 11, VIP Realty Group presented a check for \$3,605 to three local charities from the funds it raised at its recent Christmas Bazaar. On hand to accept the donations were Cynthia Shafer, founder and president-CEO, Bedz for Kidz; Tom Louwers, founder and president, Friends Who Care; and Kathy Monroe, program director, FISH of SanCap.

VIP Realty thanks everyone who attended the event and contributed to its success, with special recognition going to Bart Daddato (who donated in honor of Grace Daddato) and Margie and Bob Davison, the three of whom donated 95 percent of the high end

items that were for sale; and James and Penny Hetmanek, who donated the island-themed quilt that raised \$500.

Bedz for Kidz, which is part of the Guardian ad Litem Program of Southwest Florida, was founded in 2001 by Shafer and her husband, John, to assist grandparents on fixed incomes who were taking in their grandchildren and unable to afford a children's bed. For more information about Bedz for Kidz, call 533-1435 or visit www.voicesforkids.org.

Friends Who Care is dedicated to helping adults and children who are experiencing crisis. The organization has been assisting island residents since 1983 by providing holiday dinners throughout the year, school supplies, collecting cereal boxes for the FISH Food Pantry, and collecting and wrapping children's toys for needy families. For more information about Friends Who Care, call 472-5152.



Guests of VIP Realty's Christmas Bazaar walked from room to room and purchased holiday items and other collectibles that were donated for the event. One hundred percent of the funds raised were donated to three local charities.

FISH of SanCap is a human services organization, focused for more than 30 years on "neighbors helping neighbors." Its mission is to lend a helping hand to those who live, work or visit Sanibel and Captiva. The FISH vision is to enrich the lives of everyone

on the islands through an array of food programs, island-based workshops, social services and helping hands. For more information about FISH, call 472-0404 or visit www.fishofsancap.org.

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From left, Richard Pyle, Robin Cook and Phyllis Gibson of The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company with CHR Executive Director Melissa Rice, trust company founder Al Hanser, Frances Steger of the trust company and Mardi Gras chair Calli Johnson photo provided

Trust Company Sponsoring CHR Mardi Gras

Community Housing and Resources, along with Big Easy sponsor The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company, announced that the 6th annual Mardi Gras fundraiser is set for Saturday, February 10. The fun begins at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are now available by calling CHR at 472-1189.

"We are grateful for the generosity of The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company and thrilled to have them as one of our sponsors for the sixth year," said CHR Executive Director Melissa Rice. "This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and we appreciate the trust company's belief in CHR and support of our community at large."

"We know that this year's Mardi Gras will not only be a great time, but will raise much-needed funds to renovate and maintain many of our homes. All Mardi Gras proceeds will support CHR's mission of providing affordable housing to families and individuals who work on and/or serve

the community of Sanibel," Rice added.

Mardi Gras was inaugurated in 2013 with the purpose of raising funds that are essential for maintenance, refurbishment, and repair of buildings and grounds operated by CHR. The rents for CHR properties are structured to be affordable based on residents' incomes, and rental income does not cover the complete cost of keeping the properties in good order.

"We are proud to sponsor CHR's annual Mardi Gras fundraiser," said Al Hanser, Sanibel Captiva Trust Company founder and chairman. "It is important to us at the trust company to support CHR, as it enables many to live and work on the island who may otherwise find it very challenging."

"CHR is one of the most important aspects of our Sanibel community," said Calli Johnson, Mardi Gras chair. "We are thankful for the trust company's sponsorship in the past and also this year. We will be able to offer new activities this year such as games of chance – such as craps, roulette and blackjack – because of their help."

For more information on other ways to support CHR, visit www.sanibelchr.org.

From page 8B

Rotary Happenings

school districts, and other organizations. I monitor comments from the public, which means I'm in a quagmire of social media trolls every day. People can be terrible online. While social media is good for a lot of things, it's not good for breaking down the walls we build between us. Rotary offers a neutral space." "Being in Rotary hasn't been a total honeymoon. I struggled with time, but I made a commitment to show up, so I stuck with it." "So, what's it like to be a millennial in Rotary? To most young people, Rotary is old-fashioned. For me, that's what make it cool. People in my peer group tend to isolate themselves. We are connected by technology, but not truly connected. Rotary is my antidote to that."

Our current president, Holli Martin, has brought a younger perspective to the club and direction on how to attract younger members. They do want to connect and have fun while dedicating some of their time to serving others. Martin has shown by example how that works... kayaking on the Peace River, regular monthly happy hours including a Halloween Happy Hour Costume Contest, and possible upcoming events such as the return of the club's infamous boating adventures and annual theater night. It's working. Particularly with new members. We are enjoying the camaraderie and while doing so, learning more about Rotary and its mission and vision for serving others.

The Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club meets Friday mornings at 7 a.m. at The Dunes Golf & Tennis Club. Guests are welcome.✱

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Kathy Haungs, Denice & John Beggs

Island Seniors At 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.

Christmas and New Year's Holiday Operation Schedule:

The center will be closed Monday, December 25 in observance of the Christmas holiday. Normal operating hours resume Tuesday, December 26. The center will be closed Monday, January 1 in observance of New Year's holiday. Normal operating hours resume Tuesday, January 2.

Page Turners with Louise Fitzgerald and Ann Hartman – If you are not on the Page Turners list and wish to be, email oceann@comcast.net or contact the center. The next book discussion will be held on Wednesday, January 13 at 2:30 p.m. The featured book is *A Walk in the Woods, Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail* by Bill Bryson.

Love Your Heart Presentation with Health Professional and Survivor Carole Fallon – Friday, January 12 at 1:30 p.m. Carole Fallon will hold an informational discussion on Tips to Keeping a Healthy Heart. There is no fee to attend, but you must register in advance to reserve your seat. Call 472-5743.

Museum of Fine Arts and

Walking Mural Tour, Central Arts District of St. Petersburg – January 23. Cost is \$80 for members and \$95 for non-members.

The day begins with audio guided tours of the visiting exhibit, Rebel, Jedi, Princess, Queen: Star Wars and the Power of Costume, the only Florida venue of the nationally traveling show. Sixty-one handcrafted costumes and concept drawings by top professionals in the film industry are included in the show. They have been culled from the archives of the Lucas Museum of Narrative Art, founded by filmmaker George Lucas, who created and directed the first *Star Wars* film in 1977 and developed it into a mega-franchise. Many of the characters in the saga have become iconic, closely identified with their attire (visit www.mfastpete.org).

Lunch is on your own in the MFA Café, with indoor and outdoor dining overlooking the waterfront. The walking tour is an hour and a half and covers a four-block area with over 30 murals painted on the outside of various buildings. Hear the inside stories about the murals that were commissioned to benefit the local St. Pete community. Advance registration is required. Limited to 30 participants, first come, first served.

Games

Cost for all games is \$2.50 for members and \$5 for non-members. Prizes will be awarded.

Bridge – Monday and Wednesday. Registration begins at noon; the game

begins at 12:30 p.m.

Mahjongg – Monday and Thursday at 12:30 p.m.

New: Rummikub – Tuesday at 1 p.m.

Hand & Foot – Thursday at 12:30 p.m.

New: Canasta – Thursday at 12:30 p.m.

Hearts – Friday at 12:30 p.m.

Fitness Classes – Island Seniors, Inc. members pay \$4 per class, visitors pay \$7 per class. Annual membership is \$20. Sanibel Recreation Center members must show their membership card to attend. Fitness class schedule is as follows:

Happy Hour Fitness – Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8 a.m. Keep your brain fit and your heart, lungs and muscles strong with a combination of aerobics and muscle conditioning exercises. Hand weights, stretch cords and body weight are used. Athletic footwear required. Connie DeCicco is the instructor.

Essential Total Fitness – Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9:30 and 11 a.m.

Cardio, muscle strengthening and flexibility training with hand weights, stretch cords, chairs and stability balls. Athletic footwear is 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. 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 the Center 4 Life, located at 2401 Library Way on Sanibel.✪

From page 1B

Charity Classic

the Islands (CFI), which in turn distributes the funds to assist island nonprofit organizations, individual island residents and workers who have experienced hardships such as medical and financial emergencies.

"Islanders should come on out and participate in The Sanctuary Charity Classic," said event co-chair Charlie Sheetz. "The Sanctuary Golf Club is the majority supporter of the Charitable Foundation of the Islands, and with your help, we can increase the donation and help people in need on the islands throughout the entire year. It's a fun, fantastic event for an amazing cause."

Show your support by participating in any part of the day or all day. For more information, contact Andy Phelan at 472-6223 or aphelan@sanctuarygc.net.✪

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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 Bruce J. Neill PhD, and Ralph Sloan. Dr. Neill is running for his 2nd two year term, and Dr. Sloan is leaving the Board after completing his 5th year on the Board.

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) 395-4814 or by e-mail at beau@islandwater.com by **no later than January 5, 2018.** Background checks are required on all Board candidates.

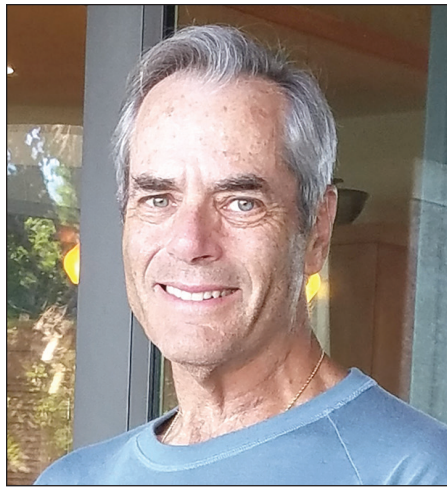
Two Heart Surgeries Later And Still Making A Difference

submitted by
Sandy Teger



Several months ago, I spotted an announcement in this paper that Stephen Fuchs was coming to Sanibel as the new rabbi for Temple Bat Yam. I decided to email him about this year's Sanibel-Captiva Heart Walk since Bat Yam has had a team walking every year. I expected a polite response; I did not expect to find someone who had two heart surgeries so generous to share his experiences and agree to be the featured survivor at this year's Heart Walk.

Rabbi Fuchs' story started in Nashville, where he served a congregation after earning his doctor of ministry degree from Vanderbilt University Divinity School. In a routine checkup by his internist, the doctor detected an abnormal murmur and sent him to a cardiologist for an echocardiogram. He was diagnosed with aortic stenosis, a progressive condition that would eventually result in the need for open heart surgery. It wasn't urgent since had no symptoms. The question was how long to wait. Fuchs knew that as people age, other physical conditions may arise, eventually making the surgery riskier.



Rabbi Stephen Fuchs photo provided

Several years later, he and his cardiologist decided it was time and scheduled the surgery for July 1, 1996. The date was chosen to give time to recuperate before he was to officiate at his niece's wedding and for the High Holy Days in September.

His surgery was successful, but after 10 days at home, he seemed to be regressing. His wife Vickie took him to see the cardiologist at the hospital and after a five-minute exam, they zipped him up to the operating room to treat pericardial effusion (fluid around his heart). The reality hit hard; despite his planning, he was not going to be ready in time for his niece's wedding. Although he had a mechanical heart valve and was taking coumadin, he eventually recuperated and returned happily to his sports passion, tennis.

A year later, the Fuchs' moved to Connecticut to lead a new congregation.

His new doctors monitored him closely, doing an echocardiogram every four to six months. After 14 years with the West Hartford congregation, he was ready to see more of the world. He became president of the World Union for Progressive Judaism and traveled for 18-months. During that time, he made 65 visits on five continents and lived both in Israel and in New York City.

He saw his Connecticut cardiologist every four to six months. In 2012, his cardiologist became concerned about his mechanical heart valve and also discovered an aneurism. Rabbi Fuchs learned that repairing an aneurism and replacing a valve during the same operation was not routine. He and Vickie did extensive research and they decided on a specific surgeon at Cleveland Clinic. After he had scheduled his surgery, life threw another monkey wrench into his plans. Fuchs parted ways with his employer – not a positive prelude to heart surgery.

After heart surgery, depression is very common. Questions like "What should I do with the rest of my life?" have a new urgency. The period that followed Fuchs' surgery was difficult, but the enforced quiet time made space for Fuchs to finish the book he had in his head for 40 years. During his time in Cleveland, Fuchs became an active Facebook user and discovered how meaningful words of encouragement from friends and former acquaintances can be.

Through coincidental connections, Rabbi Fuchs and his wife ended up going to Milan, Italy and Germany for the next few years. Germany was a strange place for two people whose parents had suffered

at the hands of the Nazis, but led to some fulfilling experiences. Fuchs spoke in more than 20 churches where a rabbi had never spoken before and where many of the worshippers had never seen a living, breathing Jew. Fuchs speaks of this period as providing "divine interventions" in his life and path forward.

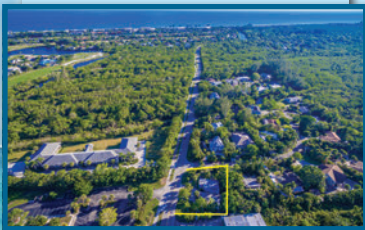
It was pure serendipity that led Fuchs to learn of and accept the position as rabbi at Temple Bat Yam. How many times do you get to consider a position based in Sanibel that involves a commitment only from September through April? The people of Sanibel are fortunate to have him here to exemplify his message: that the essence of Jewish values are found in concrete acts of caring and kindness that make a difference in the lives of others.

Please join Rabbi Fuchs and Vickie for the 5th annual San-Cap Heart Walk. It takes place on Sunday, January 28. Festivities for the walk begin at 2 p.m. and the non-competitive, family-friendly walk begins at 3 p.m. at The Community House, located at 2173 Periwinkle Way. Walkers enjoy a safe, closed loop, and may do as many as laps as they wish to complete a 3.2-mile 5K or optional one-mile course.

The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company and Il Cielo are once again the Platinum Sponsors for the walk.

To join a team or donate, visit www.SanibelCaptivaHeartWalk.org. If you are interested in becoming one of our sponsors or for further information regarding the walk, contact Lee Heart Walk Director Kelly Glewa at 340-2407 or Sandy Teger at 973-420-3233. The social media hashtag for the walk is #sancapheartwalk.✱

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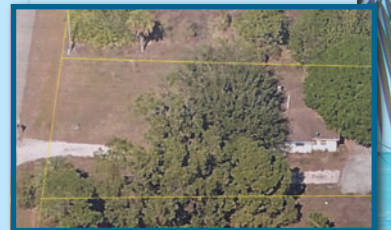
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Ownership Dismantles Miami Marlins While ‘Hiding’ From The Media



by Ed Frank

You’ve got to wonder what the future holds for our neighbors to the east, the Miami Marlins, a long-struggling baseball franchise, which is undergoing demolition under the team’s new ownership headed by former New York Yankee star Derek Jeter.

Adding to the baffling upheaval of the Marlins is Jeter’s sudden personality change. For decades the Yankee captain was the darling of the Big Apple and the tough New York press. But once his partnership cobbled together \$1.2 billion (a figure many thought was way too much) to buy the Marlins from the despised Jeffrey Loria, Jeter has virtually hidden from the media.

“One thing that has been consistent with me throughout my career is I do not operate through the media,” he said during an introductory conference call.

The Marlins faithful hoped the transition from Loria, who at least three times dismantled the team roster in “fire sales,” to Jeter would improve community relations as well as team performance.

Perhaps that time will come.

Unless you’ve been living on another planet, you know that Jeter’s first move was to jettison National League MVP Giancarlo Stanton and his \$325 million contact in a trade with the Yankees. Admittedly, that contract was one of the worst in baseball history, but Jeter got little in return except for freeing the franchise of that huge financial burden. Second-baseman Starlin Castro and two prospects were sent to the Marlins in the Stanton deal – and many don’t think Castro will be around long.

In addition to Stanton, Jeter also dealt away two other All-Stars, second baseman Dee Gordon and outfielder Marcell Ozuna. And he’s probably not done yet.

In defense of Jeter, you need only to look at the last two World Series Champions, the Houston Astros and the Chicago Cubs. Both suffered multiple 100-loss seasons while rebuilding from the bottom up, including their farm systems.

In that rare public comment via a conference call, Jeter said, “If you want to

be sustainable as an organization, you have to be good from top to bottom. We’re going to invest in building this organization the right way so we can year in and year out compete.”

Starting from scratch, Jeter needs to win over the Marlins fan base through open communications and dialog. He needs to charm those South Florida baseball fans just as he did for decades in New York.

Twins Love The “Old Timers”

A year ago, the Minnesota Twins in midseason signed pitcher Bartolo Colon at 44 years old, the oldest player in the Major Leagues.

Coming over from the Atlanta Braves, the ageless Colon posted a 5-6 record with the Twins and was an important factor in their post-season playoff run.

Last week, the Twins signed veteran closer Fernando Rodney, 40, who with Arizona in 2017 recorded 39 saves. Rodney has played in parts of 15 Major League seasons with eight different teams. He is a three-time All-Star, 2012, 2014 and 2016.✱

From page 1B Top Chefs

supporting the growing culinary program.”

The Community House and Harris, a formally trained and seasoned chef with 35 years of experience, are committed to the Farm-to-Table movement by using fresh and local ingredients. Their future goals are to become self sufficient through property gardens and local relationships with meat providers and growers.

Harris, a Florida native who has a passion for food and teaching others about food, moved to England in 2005 where he worked as a private chef and gastro pub owner, both sourcing meat and produce locally in his effort to embrace the Field-to-Fork ethos.

He returned to Sanibel in 2015 with a new outlook on organic farming and sustainable food sources, and is eager to teach others and be a part of the new Culinary Education Center of Sanibel.

“It is such a joy to see our students learn cooking techniques in The Community House’s beautiful new state-of-the-art kitchen,” said Meek.

“Working together with other students, they have learned to cook in a hands-on, fun and safe learning environment led by our resident chef Jarred Harris. The comments from students have been priceless and parents have been extremely pleased.”

The event is designed “to serve an extravaganza of flavors presented in small plate tastings,” noted Harris.

On Sanibel for seven years, Talmage’s Sweet Melissa’s Cafe, famous for her fish stew recipe, was named Best Dining in Lee County by *Gulfshore Life* and placed on *USA Today’s* 10 Best Restaurants in South Florida for 2017.

Gahabka, CEC, has served at the helm of Bay Colony Golf Club’s culinary team with great distinction for more than a decade. He has been awarded over three gold medals, four silver medals and one Best in Show in national ACF competitions. Gahabka has been featured on CNN’s *On The Menu* series as well as the Discovery Channel’s *Great Chefs of the South*. In 2011, He published his first cookbook, *The Bay Colony Golf Club Cookbook*, which features recipes from his signature cooking classes held monthly for members in the Bay Colony Golf Club kitchen.

Teresa Riska-Hall, The Community House director, said she expects the reservations for this rare opportunity to fill up fast.

“Everyone will want to save the date and register early,” said Riska-Hall.

“Our mission is building community by joining education, health awareness and social activity through food. Education is an important component of our mission, so we’ve been thrilled to see the growing interest in our Culinary Education Center of Sanibel by adults and students.”

The Community House is located at 2173 Periwinkle Way. Call 472-2155 or visit www.sanibelcommunityhouse.net for more information.✱

SPORTS QUIZ

1. When was the last time before 2016 that a New York team won the Little League World Series?
2. Who was the only player in the 1950s to have at least 20 doubles, 20 triples, 20 home runs and 20 stolen bases in the same season?
3. Entering 2017, how many Oklahoma Sooners had won the Heisman Trophy?
4. In 2017, the Golden State Warriors became the fifth team to start the NBA playoffs 10-0. Name two of the other three to do it (one did it twice).
5. Pittsburgh’s Jake Guentzel in 2017 tied an NHL record for the most points by a rookie in one postseason (21). Who else did it?
6. Toronto FC set a Major League Soccer mark in 2017 for the highest points total in the standings for a season (69). Which team had held the mark?
7. Who was the last fighter that boxer Floyd Mayweather Jr. notched a knockout or TKO against before Conor McGregor in 2017?

ANSWERS

1. Staten Island, N.Y., won in 1964. 2. Willie Mays had 26 doubles, 20 triples, 35 homers and 38 stolen bases in 1957 for the New York Giants. 3. Billy Vessels (1952), Steve Owens (1969), Billy Sims (1978), Jason White (2003) and Sam Bradford (2008). 4. The Los Angeles Lakers (1981) and Philadelphia’s Villie Leino (2010). 5. Minnesota’s Dino Ciccarelli (1981) and Philadelphia’s Villie Leino (2010). 6. The Los Angeles Galaxy (68 points in 1998). 7. Victor Ortiz, in 2011.



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Happy Holidays

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Grampy's Charities Paves The Way For Care Mobile In Southwest Florida



From left, Ley Chisholm, Justin Hunkins, Alex Koester, Ronald McDonald, Craig Albert and Justin, the assistant pro at Fiddlesticks photos courtesy danovision productions



Ronald McDonald doing the ball drop

Grampy's Charities held its first Southwest Florida Pro-Am tournament on December 8 at Fiddlesticks Country Club. The staff hosted 20 foursomes of golf professionals and charitable sportsmen. The tournament featured a \$10,000 purse as well as a raffle, ball drop and putting contest. Over \$80,000 was raised for the Ronald McDonald House in Fort Myers and for the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile, a mobile child care unit that was delivered last week.

Sanibel Captiva Community Bank



Jim Castle and Ronald McDonald

was the presenting sponsor, with bank President and CEO Craig Albert shooting a respectable round. Marty Harritty and the folks at Doc Ford's underwrote a foursome filled with first responders from the Sanibel Fire and Rescue District. The South Trail Fire Department not only raised \$1,000 for Muscular Dystrophy, their charity of choice, but also raised Ronald McDonald himself some 15 to 20 feet in the air on their ladder for the ball drop.

Grampy's has pledged \$500,000 to support the Care Mobile that treats children with limited access to medical and dental care. The Care Mobile will be on the road in early January.



Doc Ford's team of Sanibel's first responders, from left, John Reitenback, Arian Moore, visiting PGA golf pro, Ronald McDonald, John Murray and Tim Carroll



From left, Ken Rasi, Dave Essig, Jack Richards, Bob Risch and Jim Castle



Scot Congress and Ronald McDonald

Hats off to Grampy's and all the folks who helped make this worthwhile event a success.

The 2018 event is scheduled for December 7. For more information, visit www.grampys.org.✱

Beautifulife:

Just Believe



by Kay Casperson

We all have quite the juggle at this time of year between wrapping up end of year business, holiday preparation and parties, hosting family visitors and keeping kids,

spouses and animals all heading in the right direction. On top of that, you throw in making a gift list, Christmas shopping, wrapping, and of course hiding gifts for the littlest members that still believe in Santa. Then, when we are absolutely exhausted from all of the before Christmas preparation, some of us have to stay up late enough and be quiet enough on Christmas Eve to escort Santa in and out of the living room before little ears hear anything or wake up.

I am not quite sure how we do it, but we do and it is all in the spirit of Christmas and making sure that the holidays are special for everyone. We do this because we believe in the message of Christmas and we do it because we believe that helping others to experience the joy of Christmas and the beauty of the holidays brings a happiness that can be carried throughout the year.

One of the most important things you can do for yourself and for others is to believe in something. Believing is the fuel that keeps you going and the power that gets you to the finish line. So, what do you believe? What are the things that keep you pushing through the good days, the bad days and this thing called life? I challenge you to make a list of the things you believe and hold them close to your heart to carry you through not only Christmas time and the holiday season but all through the year.

I have come up with some examples for you, and feel free to borrow some of

these to add to your own personal list:
I believe that we can all work together to make the world a better place;
I believe that dreams can be achieved with persistence and determination;
I believe that a smile can change your attitude as well as others;
I believe that each of us is unique and has exclusive gifts and talents to share;
I believe that we are all blessed and can live a life full of love and prosperity.
And, among many other things, I believe that you are destined to live your most balanced and beautiful life today and everyday. May the spirit of Christmas and the joy of the New Year bring you all that you are believing for.

Much love, Kay
*Kay Casperson is a beauty and lifestyle expert, founder and CEO of Beautifulife by Kay Casperson. She owns resort spas on Sanibel and Captiva Islands and in Disney. Casperson has lived on Sanibel and Captiva Islands for many years with her husband and two daughters and enjoys her beautifulife everyday. For more information, visit www.kaycasperson.com or follow her on social media @kaycasperson.**

Vision Loss Expo

Those experiencing vision loss should join the Southwest Florida Council of the Blind (SWFCB) for its Living the Good Life with Vision Loss expo at the Downtown Regional Library on Saturday, January 13 from 9 a.m. to noon.

The expo offers hands-on experience with tips, tricks, techniques and technologies shared by SWFCB members. Meet with agencies that serve those with vision loss and apply for their services.

SWFCB is a community of those navigating through vision loss and sharing experiences.

Downtown Regional Library is located at 2450 First Street in Fort Myers. Use the Lee Street entrance to access library meeting rooms A to D.*

Doctor and Dietician
Happiness



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

It may not be possible to be happy all of the time, but being happy more frequently is a great goal. For many of us, happiness is dependent on the way we are treated by others, which can be disappointing. On the other hand, even when people treat us great, we may have difficulty finding happiness, because we are unhappy with ourselves, our job, or our health.

Simple changes can make a big difference. Some small changes can shift our frame of mind from negative to positive. It may seem trite or cliché, but include more gratefulness in your daily routine. Take time to notice and enjoy nature. Appreciate people too! Say more positive comments to family and friends. Focus on things and activities you like

instead of dislike. Smile!
Help others. You never know what people are going through, and how even a small gesture can change someone's day. Hold the door for someone at the grocery store. Say a kind word to a stranger. Your perspective and your day may very well turn around too!
Take walks with friends. Social activity has been shown to boost our happiness meter, as well as regular exercise.
Learn something new. People get into ruts, doing the same thing day after day. Challenging ourselves helps us to grow and gives us purpose, which makes us happier.

Organize! Clearing the outside clutter can actually contribute to inner calm. Excessive possessions can weigh us down. If you have more than you can productively use, donate it.

Get enough sleep and make your sleep surroundings more comfortable. If they are too hot, cold, or noisy, make the simple changes to make you sleep better and feel more relaxed.

Finally, do everything possible to strengthen your relationships because they are key to happiness.

*This information is not intended to treat, cure or diagnose your condition. Caring Medical Regenerative Medicine Clinics 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@caringmedical.com.**

From page 1B

Christmas Fund

holiday party for his employees at their newly-built facility at Southwest Florida International Airport. With Wolanin's well established background in music, the idea to hold a concert to help raise funds for students in need led to a series of annual Rockin' Christmas parties in Fort Myers and Sanibel. Those concerts featured all-star band quality performers including Wolanin's daughter, singer/songwriter Whitney Wolanin.

One student, who last year received financial assistance through the Rockin' Christmas Fund (RCF), is a young man whose father passed away due to a heart attack. Although the family had to regroup and get through this devastating tragedy, the student was able to attend school with assistance from the fund. When he is not attending college, where he also participates in athletics, this young man helps paint elder senior homes and participates in a Meals on Wheels program.

Another 2017 scholarship recipient from the RCF is a college freshman whose father is serving a life sentence in prison. Now being raised by his widowed grandfather, this student is a member of the school's football and track teams, and is active in his church. He works throughout the academic year as a helper and also plans on getting a summer job.

"This year again, we have some real heart-wrenching worthy student applications submitted by the academic institutions to RCF," said Vincent Wolanin. "If you are inclined to donate, please also know that I will match every dollar given, so your donation becomes doubled."

All donations qualify as a legal deduction under IRS rules, and a signed donation proof of receipt will be sent to every donor to file with their 2017 tax return.

Donations may be made by sending a check to the Rockin' Christmas Fund, P.O. Box 1515, Sanibel FL 33957-1515. For more information, email donations@rockinchristmas.net.*



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dearRPharmacist

Natural Remedies For High Blood Pressure That Work



by Suzy Cohen, RPh

Dear Readers: While waiting for a prescription, a friend of mine decided to check his blood pressure. He was dealing with a bout of walking pneumonia and his blood pressure (BP) spiked

to 140/100.

Has this ever happened to you where you checked your BP at the pharmacy and it was suddenly high?

You can blame stress, the modern diet, lack of exercise or a bad infection like my buddy had. You can blame other lifestyle

factors too like smoking too. Or it could simply be your genes, as high blood pressure, termed hypertension, tends to run in families. If left untreated, hypertension can cause or lead to blindness, stroke, kidney failure, atherosclerosis and heart failure.

Now, the good news. Here are five natural remedies that are proven to really (really) work.

1. Hibiscus Tea

Hibiscus tea is a wonderful remedy for high blood pressure. It's been used to lower blood pressure in other countries for decades, and it really works. In one study, researchers found that drinking hibiscus tea for just 12 days reduced systolic pressure by an average 11.7 percent and diastolic pressure by 10.7 percent. You can buy commercially prepared teabags or you can easily make your own fresh hibiscus tea each morning. It's fabulous for memory. In fact, if you email my customer service team (customerservice@suzycohen.com), I'll send you the recipe card by email for "Memory Mint Hibiscus Tea."

2. Magnesium Threonate

Some forms of vitamins are better for certain conditions. With hypertension look for the mineral magnesium threonate because this form of magnesium leaves 'the tube' meaning it leaves your gut. This type of magnesium can get into the bloodstream and get across your blood brain barrier, is easily absorbed by the cells and has been proven to lower blood pressure and be stroke preventative as well. Magnesium threonate is also great for helping promote good, healthy sleep and relaxation as well.

3. Garlic

Garlic cloves and garlic supplements have been proven to lower blood pressure. Garlic is an allium vegetable that is rich in antioxidants, good-for-you phytochemical and polyphenols, and sulfur-containing compounds called allicin (which are wonderful for collagen promotion too). Garlic is especially effective at lowering systolic blood pressure.

4. Omega 3 Fatty Acids

Omega 3 fatty acids are found in fatty fish and some plant foods like nuts,

seeds and cruciferous vegetables. Fish oil is wonderful for lowering high blood pressure, because it contains EPA and DHA, two wonderful compounds for lowering blood pressure and for keeping your heart healthy overall. Fish oils help reduce triglycerides and that reduces risk for heart attack and stroke.

5. Berries and Dark Chocolate

I saved the best for last. Berries and dark chocolate... Mmm! This sounds like a wonder-combo all of you can get on board with, right? Raspberries, blueberries, blackberries, goji and acai are rich in compounds called polyphenols which are blood pressure lowering. Dark chocolate contains flavonoids which dilate blood vessels reducing pressure. A tasty combo comes to mind. Try chocolate covered blueberries, or dark-chocolate dipped strawberries.

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.✱

Got A Problem? Dr. Connie Is In



by Constance Clancy-Fisher

Dear Readers: Happy Holidays From Dr. Connie. I would like to share some words of wisdom from one of my favorite authors, the late Louise Hay of Hay

House Publishing.

"I accept with Joy and pleasure and gratitude."

Louise Hay

The Universe loves gratitude. The more grateful you are, the more goodies you get. Not in the material sense, rather all the people, places and experiences that make life so wonderfully worth living. You recognize how great you feel when your life is filled with love and joy and health and creativity. You get green lights and good parking spaces.

This is how our lives are meant to be lived. The Universe is a generous, abundant giver, and it likes to be appreciated.

Gratitude brings more to be grateful about. It increases your abundant life. Lack of gratitude, or complaining brings little to rejoice about. Complainers always find that they have little good in their life, or they do not enjoy what they do have. The Universe always gives us what we believe we deserve. Many of us have been raised to look at what we do not have and to feel only lack. We want to shift that to look at what all we do have and to be grateful. If we come from a belief of scarcity and then wonder why our lives are so empty, then we are putting our lives on hold.

We even want to be grateful for the lessons we have. Don't run from lessons; they are little packages of treasure that have been given to us. As we learn from them, our lives change for the better. I know this.

So let's spend as many moments as we can every day being grateful for all that is in our lives. If you have little in your life now, it will increase. If you have an abundant life now, it will increase. This is a win-win situation. You are happy and the Universe is happy. Gratitude increases your abundance.

If you have not done this, start a gratitude journal. Write something to be grateful about each day. On a daily basis, tell someone how grateful you are for something. Tell sales clerks, waiters, postal

workers, employers, employees, friends, family and even strangers! Share the gratitude secret. Let's do something each day to make the world a better place.

Remember to practice attitude with gratitude and while you want to practice extreme self-care, go out and volunteer either this holiday season or throughout the year and make a difference... you will be better for this!

These are some tips for holiday fulfillment in mind, body, spirit and emotions.

I wish you all a very happy and healthy holiday season! I look forward to seeing you this holiday and in the coming year.

Love and Peace,

Constance Clancy, Ed.D., LPC, LMHC, NCC, HSMI

Constance Clancy-Fisher, EdD is a licensed mental health therapist, hypnotherapist, author and holistic stress management instructor. If you have a question, email Constance at constanceclancyfisher@gmail.com.✱

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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
Post Office - Captiva	472-1674
Sanibel Community Association	472-2155
Center 4 Life - Senior Center	472-5743
ARTS	
Arcade Theater	332-4488
Art League Of Fort Myers	275-3970
BIG ARTS - Barrier Island Group for the Arts	395-0900
Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre	278-4422
Fort Myers Symphonic Mastersingers	288-2535
Gulf Coast Symphony	472-6197
Lee County Alliance for the Arts	939-2787
Naples Philharmonic	597-1111
The Herb Strauss Schoolhouse Theater	472-6862
Sanibel Music Festival	336-7999
Sanibel-Captiva Art League	sancapart.com
SW Florida Symphony	418-0996
Symphonic Chorale of SW Florida	560-5695
CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS	
ABWA - American Business Women's Assoc . . .	http://abwasanibelcaptiva.org
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
COTI Committee of the Islands	coti@coti.org
CROW - Clinic For The Rehabilitation of Wildlife	472-3644
Democratic Club of the Islands	Demclubislands@gmail.com
FISH OF SANCAP Neighbors Helping Neighbors	472-4775
FISH. OF SANCAP 24-hr service	472-0404
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 Assoc. 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.	facebook.com/sancapshellclub
Sanibel Youth Soccer	www.sanibelsoccer.org . .
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

PETS OF THE WEEK

Lee County Domestic Animal Services

Diamond And Trixie

Hello, I am Diamond. I'm an 11-year-old female pit bull mix who is a Super Senior. I live up to the saying that "diamonds are a girls- or guys- best friend." Much like fine wine, I have truly gotten better with age. I am well-mannered and have none of the bad habits of my younger peers. And as you can see, I can dress up well for any occasion.



Diamond ID# 338232
photos provided

My adoption fee is \$25. Hi, I'm Trixie. I'm a 10-year-old female domestic shorthair who is another Super Senior. I have more of a human personality than a feline one. I definitely prefer to be the only cat. I am very independent and like to be a free spirit and live life as it comes. My holiday wish this year is a home to live out my retirement in style.



Trixie ID# 384891

My adoption fee has been sponsored. I am free to adopt. 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.✱

Haven on Earth Animal League

Moe And Sparkle

Hello there! I'm Moe – short for Maureen. I am a very sweet girl just waiting for someone to take me home! I just have one request. I'm not real crazy about other cats, so I want to be your one and only. I'm 2 years old, up to date on all vaccines and spayed. Just look at my beautiful green eyes and pink nose – don't you want to kiss me on the head? I'm currently residing at PetSmart on Six Mile Cypress Parkway. My adoption fee is \$75.



Moe
photos provided

Hi, I'm Sparkle. I am just the cutest little fuzzball you will ever find. I'm a fluffy tortoiseshell girl, and I'm only 3 months old. My three siblings and I are living with a foster mom. We would love it if someone would adopt two of us together. Our adoption fee is \$100 each and includes spaying and vaccinations.



Sparkle

We are being cared for by Haven on Earth Animal League. For more information, call Diane at 860-833-4472 or email havenonearthanimalleague@yahoo.com.✱

Become Trap-Neuter-Return Certified For Free

Gulf Coast Humane Society will host a free certification workshop for Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) on Saturday, January 6 from 10 a.m. to noon. Presented by Fortunate Ferals and Gulf Coast Humane Society, the workshop provides information and education on ways to help lower the feral cat overpopulation problem. Participants will receive five free spay or neuters for feral cats, which can be used at any time, but is a one-time offer.



Feral cats can be trapped and transported to Gulf Coast Humane Society to be spayed or neutered
photos provided

"The ultimate goal of TNR is to spay and neuter every cat, because if only one female is left out there, it can produce many litters," said Fortunate Ferals organizer Glenda Sparnroft. "We've been having great numbers turn out for our workshops, so we are hoping to continue that momentum. TNR participants earn a certification and learn how to trap feral cats as well as how to bring them to the GCHS spay and neuter clinic. They learn how to care for the cat pre- and post-surgery as well

as how to respond to upset neighbors. After the cats are spayed and neutered, they are returned to where they were trapped and released back into their colony. TNR is the best method for feral cats because they are not socialized enough to be inside, as well as there is just simply not enough homes to take in the amount of cats that are stray.



Feral cats are returned to their maintained colonies after they are spayed or neutered

"This is such a great program to help control the feral population," said GCHS Executive Director Jennifer Galloway. "We are more than happy to partner with Fortunate Ferals to help alleviate the feral cat population through the most humane way possible and that's through TNR."



The TNR workshop will teach how to keep care of the cat colony in terms of feeding and other tips

GCHS is located at 2010 Arcadia Street in Fort Myers. For more information or to register, call 347-403-1674. You can also register online at www.signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/2154077/true#/invitation or visit the Fortunate Ferals website at www.fortunatferals.org/events.html.✱

PUZZLES

Answers on page 29B

Super Crossword

LINKING VERBS

ACROSS

1 Defers (to)
5 Pretenders
11 Animistic religion of northern Asia
20 Adored star
21 How bed linens are often sold
22 Audio product introduced by Bose in 1993
23 CHARM
26 Spending jag
27 "— ed Euridice"
28 "Ben- —"
29 SEE
34 Citi Field MLB team
37 Clothed very shabbily
38 Prefix with color
39 Fleecy beast
42 Lose vigor
43 Not difficult
44 HEIGHTEN
48 Grows older
50 Daisy cousin
51 California's Point —
52 Was of use to
56 See 29-Down

58 "Nothing — it seems"
60 FALL
65 Suffix with host
68 Certify
69 Actress Ortiz or Gasteyer
70 Ghost shout
71 Marketing space in a newspaper, e.g.
74 "Li'l ol' me?!"
75 STEAL
79 Donne, e.g.
81 Lead-in to history
82 E.T.'s human friend
83 Ranch rope
86 Fizzy drinks
90 Holiday song
91 SUPPLY
95 "Aloha Oe" instruments, for short
99 Crux
100 Czar's edict
101 See 103-Down
102 Mint-family herbs
104 Gets more narrow
107 CHANGE
110 "... — mouse?"
111 Davis of "Hot Stuff"

113 Eventual oak
114 ERASE
122 Proper noun in an atlas
123 Ripped thoroughly
124 Huge-scale
125 Person on both sides of an issue
126 Treats with malice
127 Gas brand

DOWN

1 Spill-catching wear
2 Poem of laud
3 "Amazing!"
4 Ramp for accessing a ship
5 Gem sides
6 Ghostly pale
7 Jay-ell linkup
8 Psychic "gift"
9 Stimp's bud
10 Small porch
11 Small bird that builds edible nests
12 Visible air
13 Chevy's Sonic, before 2011
14 Many adults

15 Don Marquis' "— and Mehitabel"
16 Poet Tate
17 "It really seems to me ..."
18 Moral failure
19 Pithy remark
24 Math subj.
25 Cave beings
29 With 56-Across, compete to obtain
30 Suffix with czar
31 LAX info
32 Madras "Mr."
33 Female sib
34 Turner of an insurrection
35 "Tall" story
36 Mil. officers
40 Rd. relative
41 Physicist Curie
44 Funny Foxx
45 English noble
46 Special time
47 Strikes (out)
48 Heady drinks
49 Docile
52 Actor Driver
53 "No" from a higher-up
54 Italian wine area
55 Luge surface

56 Arial, e.g.
57 Large elliptical fish
59 Not volatile
61 Flying British mil. branch
62 Ridesharing app
63 Stir
64 Curly's bud
65 Ferrari who founded
66 Riverbed deposit
67 "Keep it in"
72 Secluded valley
73 Arm of Israel
76 "Don't worry" — dixit (unproven assertion)
78 Cat cry
79 Chi-omega linkup
80 Alley —
83 Gave temporarily
84 Kind of blue
85 Of the region just north of the Antarctic Circle
87 Female gametes
88 Catastrophe
89 Antarctic penguin

90 Scale part
92 Toys — (chain for kids)
93 TV "Science Guy"
94 Ruhr article
95 Turnpike toll, e.g.
96 Takes for ransom
97 Wallach of "Nuts"
98 Old aviation inits.
102 What pull-ups work
103 With 101-Across, thus far
105 Actress Durance
106 Evaluated
108 Sends cell messages
109 Unclear
111 Kind of gel
112 Unchanged
114 Photo —
115 Deli staple
116 Cut off
117 Fizzy drink
118 Geller from Israel
119 Bottom-line
120 Prefix with gender
121 Prefix with friendly

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19

20 21 22

23 24 25

26 27 28

29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36

37 38 39 40 41 42

43 44 45 46 47

48 49 50 51

52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59

60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67

68 69 70 71 72 73

74 75 76 77 78

79 80 81 82

83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90

91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98

99 100 101 102 103

104 105 106 107 108 109

110 111 112 113

114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121

122 123 124

125 126 127

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Piece of beef-cake?
5 Chevy Equinox, for one
8 Competent
12 Stretch out
14 Hoofbeat sound
15 News correspondent
16 Golf target
17 Air safety org.
18 Big drip?
20 Get more magazines
23 In the twinkling — eye
24 Chopped
25 One with an exciting social life
28 "Absolutely" (out)
29 Sand formations
30 Homer's interjection
32 Wasp's weapon
34 Culture medium
35 Jaromir of hockey
36 Odds' opposites
37 Fluffy dessert
40 "Hail!"
41 Mischievous tykes
42 TV host Jerry
47 Apportion

7 Fact-checker, often
8 Sore
9 United nations
10 Lounge about
11 Dueler's sword
13 Eat away at stack
19 Supermarket
20 Shaft of sunlight
21 Former mates
22 Birds' home
23 Title holder
25 Hints at
26 Advantage
27 Reddish

DOWN

1 "For — a Jolly Good Fellow"
2 Last (Abbr.)
3 Neither partner
4 Stabbed
5 Long story
6 Salt Lake athlete

29 "CSI" collections
31 Day fractions (Abbr.)
33 Dutch river
34 Get back at
36 Satanic forte
37 Marceau's
38 Portent
39 Doing
40 Operatic solo
43 Drivel
44 Joke
45 Greek H
46 Scarlet

MAGIC MAZE • JOYFUL WORDS

J R J H E B Y V T Q O L L I G

D B (E N J O Y M E N T) U K Y S

W T R N O O P M K C F I I F U

D B Y W Y U Y J S Y Y J L R O

Q O M K S O I R O F O O L E Y

D B Z X T W J J O Y J U J Y O

S Q O N I L A T L D R J O O J

H F D C C R A E N Y E I Y J E

W V T S K Q S P N U V L D N V

K I H F E S C D E Y O J N E O

B Z Y W V U S R Q P N M M L L

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

- Enjoyed Joyful Joyride Mountjoy
Enjoyer Joyless Joyrode Overjoy
Enjoyment Joyner Joystick Rajoy
Joyce Joyous Lovejoy



"Remember, that's just a license, it's not a _____!"

answer on page 31B

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!

Active
LATER

Shrink
WRITHE

Carry
LAYER

Mix
LEMING

TODAY'S WORD

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

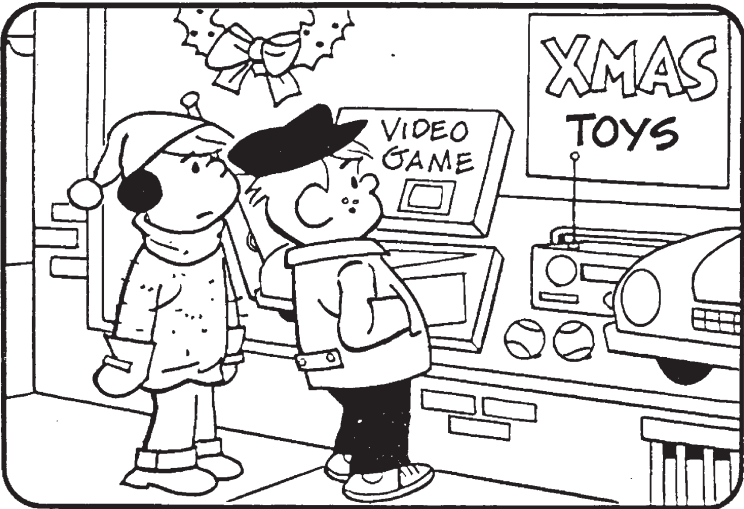
SUDOKU

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.

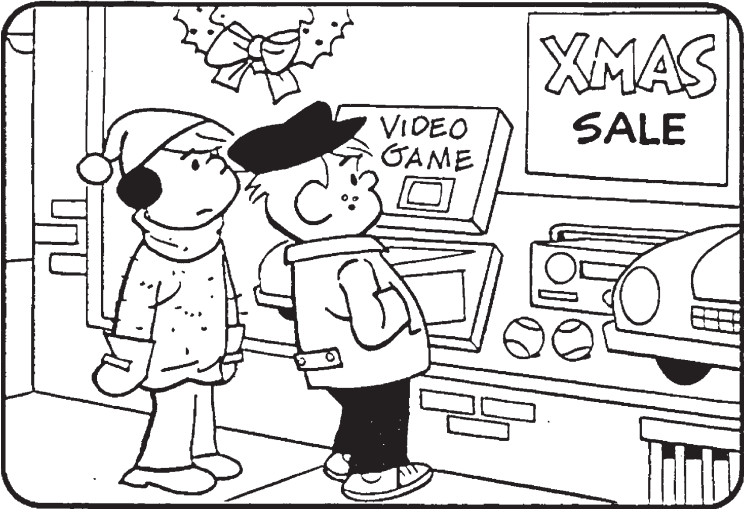
answer on page 29B

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



FIND AT LEAST SIX DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS



Differences: 1. Tassel is shorter. 2. Cuffs are missing. 3. Baseball bat is missing. 4. Arm is moved. 5. Sign is shorter. 6. Antenna is missing.

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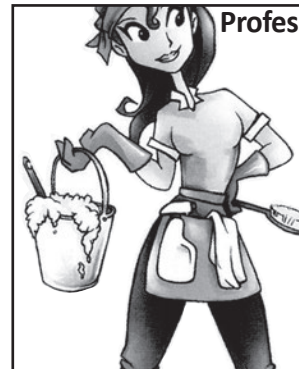
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Redfish Pass Tides					Point Ybel Tides					Punta Rassa Tides					Cape Coral Bridge Tides				
Day	High	Low	High	Low	Day	High	Low	High	Low	Day	High	Low	High	Low	Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	2:00 am	9:30 am	4:44 pm	8:36 pm	Fri	1:05 am	9:32 am	3:49 pm	8:38 pm	Fri	1:33 am	9:38 am	4:20 pm	9:05 pm	Fri	4:10 am	12:46 pm	6:54 pm	11:52 pm
Sat	2:46 am	10:09 am	5:21 pm	9:44 pm	Sat	1:51 am	10:11 am	4:26 pm	9:46 pm	Sat	2:18 am	10:08 am	5:02 pm	9:50 pm	Sat	4:56 am	1:25 pm	7:31 pm	None
Sun	3:41 am	10:52 am	6:00 pm	11:05 pm	Sun	2:46 am	10:54 am	5:05 pm	11:07 pm	Sun	3:16 am	10:40 am	5:46 pm	10:49 pm	Sun	5:51 am	1:00 am	8:10 pm	2:08 pm
Mon	4:48 am	11:37 am	6:41 pm	None	Mon	3:53 am	11:39 am	5:46 pm	None	Mon	4:22 am	11:19 am	6:30 pm	None	Mon	6:58 am	2:21 am	8:51 pm	2:53 pm
Tue	6:14 am	12:31 am	7:21 pm	12:25 pm	Tue	5:19 am	12:33 am	6:26 pm	12:27 pm	Tue	5:57 am	12:39 am	7:12 pm	12:22 pm	Tue	8:24 am	3:47 am	9:31 pm	3:41 pm
Wed	7:55 am	1:50 am	8:02 pm	1:14 pm	Wed	7:00 am	1:52 am	7:07 pm	1:16 pm	Wed	7:38 am	1:58 am	7:51 pm	1:33 pm	Wed	10:05 am	5:06 am	10:12 pm	4:30 pm
Thu	9:35 am	2:59 am	8:44 pm	2:03 pm	Thu	8:40 am	3:01 am	7:49 pm	2:05 pm	Thu	8:57 am	2:56 am	8:32 pm	2:26 pm	Thu	11:45 am	6:15 am	10:54 pm	5:19 pm

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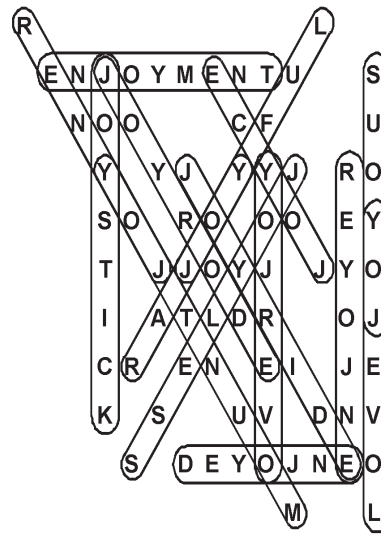
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SUDOKU

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

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My Stars ★★★★★

FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 25, 2017

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) An old adversary wants to make amends over the holidays. The decision is yours. But wouldn't it be nice to share the upcoming new year with another friend?

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) As news of your work gets around, expect to receive a special holiday "gift" from influential contacts who could help you launch your new projects in the new year.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Instead of fussing over what you didn't do to prepare for the holidays, relax and enjoy the kudos for a job truly well done. A happy surprise awaits you early next year.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) The best way to shake off lingering holiday blues is to join loved ones in the fun and festivities of this special time. A confusing situation starts to make sense in upcoming weeks.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Special emotional rewards mark this holiday time for Leos and Leonas who are able to open up to new relationships and the possibilities they offer in the upcoming year.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Your efforts to make the holidays especially memorable for some people will be rewarded in some unexpected (but very welcome) ways in the upcoming year.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Be assured that your efforts to make this holiday special for everyone won't go unnoticed by those who could make some important changes in your life.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Lots of folks want you to light up their holiday parties. But try to take some quiet time 'twixt those glittering galas to spend with some very special people.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) While the current round of holiday revels has your social life on the fast track, someone special might want to keep pace with you next year, as well.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Enjoy all the fun you deserve at this holiday time. However, don't lose sight of the need to check out some of the changes the new year is expected to bring.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) What happens during this holiday time can help clear up some of the

confusion jeopardizing a once-stable relationship. Follow your instincts on what to do next.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Your holidays are brightened by new friends eager to become part of your life. But don't forget to spend time with that one special person. (You know who!)

BORN THIS WEEK: You have the ability to encourage people to reach their potential by setting an example with your own efforts.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

- On Dec. 25, 1914, just after midnight on Christmas morning, the World War I troops of Germany, Russia, France and Britain cease fire and come out of the trenches for singing carols, exchanging presents and even a game of soccer. It was one of the last examples of chivalry between enemies in warfare.
- On Dec. 26, 1973, "The Exorcist," a horror film starring actress Linda Blair as a girl possessed by an evil spirit, makes its debut in theaters. It earned a reputation as one of the scariest movies in history.
- On Dec. 27, 1941, the federal Office of Price Administration initiates its first World War II rationing program: No driver would be permitted to own more than five automobile tires. To conserve rubber (and gasoline), the national "Victory Speed Limit" was set at 35 mph.
- On Dec. 28, 1869, The Knights of Labor hold the first Labor Day ceremonies in American history. First established as a secret society of Philadelphia tailors, it pushed for an eight-hour workday during the labor movement of the late 19th century.
- On Dec. 29, 1878, the Cuban professional baseball league holds its first game. Baseball was introduced in Cuba around 1864 by students returning home from studying in the U.S.
- On Dec. 30, 1803, Francis Lewis, signer of the Declaration of Independence, dies in New York City, at the age of 90. Lewis' patriotism came at a high cost. The British army destroyed his Long Island estate and took his wife prisoner in 1776.
- On Dec. 31, 1968, the Soviet Union's TU-144 supersonic airliner makes its first flight. In 1973 at the Paris Air Show, the TU-144 broke up from stress at 1,500 feet when a French Mirage spy aircraft photographing the TU-144 from

above forced its pilot to abruptly level off.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

- It was noted American journalist, satirist and cultural critic H.L. Mencken who made the following sage observation: "Whenever 'A' attempts by law to impose his moral standards upon 'B', 'A' is most likely a scoundrel."
- You're certainly aware that the Middle East has large deposits of petroleum. It makes a kind of sense, then, that one of the first uses early discovers put the substance to was to treat their camels' mange.
- As the holiday season approaches, there are some interesting traditions you might want to keep in mind:
 - You'll have bad luck on Christmas Day if you refuse mince pie on Christmas Eve.
 - If you eat an apple on Christmas Eve, you'll have good health throughout the following year.
 - If you eat a raw egg before eating anything else on Christmas morning, you'll be able to lift heavy weights.
 - If you don't eat plum pudding on Christmas Day, you'll lose a friend within a year.
- Those who study such things say that Julia Grant, the wife of Ulysses S. Grant, our 18th president, initially refused when it was assumed that she would be interred beside her husband.

wShe didn't change her mind until she was assured that Grant's Tomb would never be equipped with public restrooms.

- The first state to declare Christmas an official legal holiday was Alabama, back in 1836.
- You might be surprised to learn that the best-selling flowering potted plant in the United States is the poinsettia. You probably won't be surprised to learn, however, that the best-selling Christmas song of all time is Bing Crosby's "White Christmas."

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"The people of these United States are the rightful masters of both Congresses and courts, not to overthrow the Constitution, but to overthrow the men who pervert the Constitution."
-- Abraham Lincoln

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Alert; 2. Wither; 3. Relay; 4. Mingle

Today's Word

WARRANTY

HORTOONS



Top 10 Real Estate Sales

Subdivision	City	Year Built	Square Footage	Listing Price	Selling Price	Days On Market
Cassina	Miromar Lakes	2017	3,385	\$1,799,900	\$1,716,000	34
Cassina	Miromar Lakes	2017	3,015	\$1,513,700	\$1,577,842	0
Carolands	Bonita Springs	2000	2,221	\$1,325,000	\$1,225,000	22
Cape Harbour	Cape Coral	2011	2,985	\$1,299,000	\$1,000,000	146
Summerfield	Estero	2000	3,224	\$1,200,000	\$1,080,000	66
Longlake	Bonita Springs	1995	3,702	\$975,000	\$975,000	224
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	1987	3,940	\$900,000	\$815,000	37
Imperial Shores	Bonita Springs	1963	2,144	\$899,000	\$810,000	124
Chateaux Sur Mer Unrec	Sanibel	1977	2,285	\$799,000	\$737,500	275
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2013	2,348	\$759,000	\$737,500	157

Merry Christmas from The SanibelSusan Team



SEAGULL ESTATES

In community known for old-Florida charm, beach access & amenities with clubhouse. Main living level focuses around great room with fireplace, vaulted ceilings, bamboo floors, porches, & 2 guest rooms. Master suite with den above. \$1,069,000 furnished



SANIBEL ESTATES

Remodeled ground-level split-plan 3 bedroom with dock near end of Anchor Dr cul-de-sac. New windows & doors, kitchen, baths, & limestone floors. Custom cabinetry & high-end finishes. Huge lanai plus 2 decks. Beach access. Furnishings available. \$999,000



BANYAN BAY

In gated community close to Sanibel. Large 3 bedroom with loft plus office. Features master suite on main living level, private pool, 2-car garage, & lake view. Preserved land across street. Near shopping, restaurants, & hospital. \$389,900



GUMBO LIMBO

Privacy plus, on back circle in Gumbo Limbo backing to conservation land. Wide residential parcel with backyard that faces west, plenty of room for new pool home. Convenient to causeway, bay, beaches, shopping, & bike path. \$249,000



SAND POINTE

One of the few West Gulf Dr complexes allowing weekly rentals. 2nd floor 2 bedroom, with gulf view, updated kitchen & baths, & recently-restored balcony. Overlooks courtyard to gulf & sunsets. Years of vacation rental history. \$699,000 furnished



COTTAGE COLONY WEST

Gulf-facing condo at Casa Ybel Resort. Just a few steps up from ground-level with private stairs from screened lanai to beach. Easy income-producer, potential up to \$100K/year in nightly rental program. Resort handles it all. \$674,000 furnished



MARINER POINTE

Bayfront reconfigured & remodeled 2 bedroom like no other. Custom design with new kitchen, baths, doors, floors, & more. Water view is like you are on a boat! Complex has boat dockage, private fishing pier, 2 pools, tennis, & beach access. \$599,900



LOGGERHEAD CAY

Known as "Sanibel's Rainbow". Gulf-view from top floor 2 bedroom 2 bath with updated bright white kitchen & super rental income. Grosses up to \$60K/yr depending on owner use. Fully equipped including future bookings. \$598,300 furnished



POINTE SANTO

Middle-tier 3rd floor 1 bedroom looking straight over lagoon to gulf with water views galore. Cute beach décor & years of rental income, grossing \$45K/year. Stack washer/dryer. Separate exterior storeroom. Resort-like amenities. \$589,000 furnished



SPANISH CAY

Lowest-priced near-beach condo on island. 2nd floor roomy 1 bedroom with large owners' closet, screened balcony, & beach access across street. Handy to community pool & riverside docks. Income too. 2-week rental minimum applies. \$299,000 furnished



CAPTAINS WALK

Easy-access 1 bedroom with carport, new air conditioning system, remodeled bath, & updated appliances. Handy east-end location with canal access. Community docks & laundry. Most affordable condo on Sanibel! \$274,000 furnished

2242 Periwinkle Way
Sanibel Square,
Suite 3

Sanibel
REALTY ASSOCIATES *Susan*

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More info & real estate blog at SanibelSusan.com