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VOL. 27, NO. 47 **SANIBEL & CAPTIVA ISLANDS, FLORIDA** MAY 22, 2020

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BIG ARTS Offers Virtual Gallery Experience

by Kathy Kurtz Ferrari

After canceling many of its events this season due to the pandemic, BIG ARTS organizers have come up with a new plan to showcase art by way of a digital experience.

Beginning Wednesday, May 27, the artwork of emerging mixed media artist Joshua Horkey will be featured in a new virtual art gallery offered through the BIG ARTS website.

The show, called Fight or Flight, was originally scheduled to open in April as part of BIG ARTS' regular season. The show was recently installed in the new Dunham Family Gallery at the facility, the way it normally would be shown.

"A lot of people have done virtual galleries in this area, with just putting photos online, but we wanted to do something more than that," said Michael Dest, BIG ARTS marketing manager. "So we had to have several different elements we're putting together for this."



Work by mixed media artist Joshua Horkey shows the influence of pop artist Roy Lichtenstein photos provided

The show will include 3D matter which allows the viewer to click through to move 360 degrees around the gallery. "You can kind of walk through the gallery digitally the same way you would in person and look around the same



Artwork by mixed media artist Joshua Horkey for the show Fight or Flight is installed in the Dunham Family Gallery at BIG ARTS

way. And when you come to a piece of artwork on the wall, you can click on it and it will open up, and you'll have the information about the piece," Dest explained.

Horkey is from Lee County and

his artwork was first featured at BIG ARTS about three years ago, in a juried show called After Rauschenberg, which featured artwork influenced by the late, world renowned modern artist who

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Shutdown Finds Family Sewing For A Cause

by Kathy Kurtz Ferrari

When the going gets tough, the tough get sewing. That could be the slogan for The Island Cow, as owner Brian Podlasek and his family came up with a creative way to help the community get through this time of crisis.

With the restaurant closed for nearly two months due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Podlasek's wife Elke and their daughters turned a hobby into an assembly line, making much-needed masks for first responders. Since the middle of March, the family has donated over 3,000 masks to staff members of Lee Health, as well as local police, fire departments and others. They are now selling the masks to the public to help fund the project.

Elke has always enjoyed sewing, making purses and other items using an industrial-style sewing machine. Hearing the desperate need for protective equipment, she gathered mask-making supplies, including procuring medical grade filters from friends in the health care industry.



Kristina Podlasek working on masks for first responders photos provided

She then turned the family's home near Fort Myers Beach into a make-shift mask-making factory, enlisting friends and family to help in the project.

"Of course, they are stuck at home so they are part of the crew, like it or not," Brian said of his daughters Amanda, 24, and Kristina, 14.



Elke Podlasek works at the sewing machine, preparing masks to send to first responders and others during the pandemic

Philanthropy had already been a part of the family effort, as Kristina started a nonprofit organization called Kids Care Disaster Relief to help recovery efforts after Hurricane Michael in 2018. By selling homemade bracelets, the organization donated thousands of dollars to those affected by the hurricane.

The mask assembly line begins with the sewing machine set up on folding tables in the kitchen and extends into the living room where the masks are prepared for shipping.

"It's crazy, our kitchen has become a full-on sewing factory," said Brian. "I feel

continued on page 28

Chamber Rolls Out Recovery Program

The Sanibel and Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce formed the Safe Business Restart Committee earlier this month to guide the island community in its recovery from pandemic shutdown since mid-March. As City of Sanibel legislation began to allow restaurants, retail operations and service businesses to open their doors according to state distancing and density guidelines, the 15-member committee of representatives from the chamber, Committee of the Islands (COTI), island businesses and nonprofits, safety and health agencies, and city council met to strategize.

With the city council’s latest vote to allow measured accommodations to reopen on May 16, the committee’s new initiative, called SanCap Safe, is taking steps to guide businesses through this uncharted territory and close the gap between economic and safety concerns.

“It’s got to be a unified effort,” said John Lai, chamber president and chief executive officer. “Not one faction – businesses – against another – residents.”

The committee’s three-pronged effort began on May 11 with a bulletin sent to all chamber members containing resources to put best practices into effect as their businesses reopen. They



Sanibel & Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce

photo by Lorin Arundel

received documents, which also are posted on the chamber’s website at www.sanibel-captiva.org, that range from American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) Reopening Guidance for the Retail Industry to a Food and Beverage Sanitation Checklist and Housekeeping Standards of Operation.

“We are acting as a clearinghouse for state and federal guidelines that businesses should follow to make the islands’ reopening as safe and compliant

as possible,” said Lai. “We’ve asked members to respond with a ‘We are SanCap Safe’ virtual pledge.”

Businesses that take the pledge receive a logo decal for their entryway, plus an 8- by 10-inch poster detailing the program for customers. Chamber representatives began delivering the materials last week and will continue for the next couple of weeks.

“This is not a regulatory agency,” said Lai. “It’s purely a self-monitored program. In fewer than 24 hours, we had more than 50 positive pledge responses.”

The committee is also producing two short SanCap Social Standards videos. A 45-second video will explain the SanCap Safe program; a 60-second video guides visitors on abiding by safe distancing and health and sanitary measures. Both are being broadcast on chamber social media outlets and on the chamber visitor center video boards. The videos are also available to chamber members to show on social media, on their websites and at their places of business.

Part two of the program provides supply support for local businesses in terms of gloves, signage, plexiglass partitions and other items they haven’t needed historically. The chamber is developing a sourcing page on its



image provided

website to assist businesses in finding the goods and services they need to reopen and keep replenished.

“Initially, the SanCap Safe program targets the three sectors that have opened in some fashion or will be opening soon – retail, restaurants and accommodations,” said Lai. “The second phase will likely address salons, spas and vacation rentals, depending how governments roll out. Then attractions and activities, such as tours.”

The third part of SanCap Safe strategies will be an upcoming Zoom meeting, free for chamber members and island residents alike. The chamber is working with Lee Health to bring a representative from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Infectious Diseases Department and the Florida Department of Health to organize a discussion on Living and Working in a Desirable Destination. The time and date of the meeting will be tentatively announced in late May, as plans are finalized.

“The business community is taking this reopening seriously and approaching it cautiously as we put the islands’ economic engine in first gear,” said Lai. “We are acutely aware of the importance of getting this right and are committed to being a part of the solution.”**

Shell Museum Opens Saturday

The Bailey-Matthews National Shell reopens this Saturday, May, 23. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Holiday hours are noon to 4 p.m. Safety measures have been put in place, and staff and visitors are required to wear face masks.

The museum is located at 3075 Sanibel-Captiva Road. For more information, call 395-2233 or visit www.shellmuseum.org.**

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City Update On Hurricane Season

The City of Sanibel continues to plan and prepare for hurricane season and urges you to do the same during the current pandemic. This year, every Sanibel citizen, property owner and business is urged to view the previous hurricane seminars. Due to the current social distancing recommendations, a 2020 live seminar will not be offered. Visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=28SOys4-5ZQ to directly access the previous 2018 City of Sanibel Hurricane Seminar.

The Sanibel Police Department reminds everyone that hurricane preparation season is an appropriate time to also confirm that you have registered for the alertLee notifications, the emergency notification system that replaced CodeRed in July 2019. The City of Sanibel and Lee County use this tool to send targeted emergency alerts. If you were previously registered for CodeRed, a new registration is required for the alertLee system. You can receive alerts on multiple devices in your home and/or on your cell phone. Go to: member.everbridge.net/index/892807736729346#/signup to directly access the alertLee registration.

The City of Sanibel is continuing to utilize the 2016 series hurricane re-entry passes. Now is the time to check that you have your pass and it is readily available in the event of an evacuation. Following is the procedure for new residents and businesses to obtain their hurricane re-entry passes.

Residential Hurricane Pass

If you are a new Sanibel resident or have yet to obtain a current hurricane re-entry pass, there are "no contact" options for obtaining your hurricane pass. To minimize contact and adhere to the CDC recommendations for social distancing at the Sanibel Police Department, there are several ways to obtain your pass:

Go to: files.constantcontact.com/97af97e6001/4a2128cd-c78d-4156-8b9f-4588d9b64381.pdf to access the Residential Hurricane Pass Application.

You will need to have one of the following: a driver's license, vehicle registration, voter registration, utility bill, or a screen shot from <http://leopa.org/Search/PropertySearch.aspx> listing your name as the property owner.

Email the completed application and proof of address to: emergency.management@mysanibel.com.

Mail the completed application and your proof of address verification to: Sanibel Police Dept., Attn: Lt. Towler, 800 Dunlop Rd., Sanibel, FL 33957

Or fax the application and proof of address verification to 472-6555; Attn: Lt. Towler.

You may also complete your application in person at the Sanibel Police Department. There is a poster board in the lobby outlying the CDC guidelines pertaining to best practices for social distancing.

When applying for a pass in person, proof of verification is required. To save you time, it is recommended that you bring the completed registration form with you.

Commercial Hurricane Pass

If you are a new Sanibel business, or have yet to obtain a current commercial

hurricane re-entry pass, there are "no contact" options for obtaining your pass:

Go to: files.constantcontact.com/97af97e6001/98d2d9c0-2c62-46a0-8c91-989a624482b2.pdf to access the Commercial Hurricane Pass Application.

Email the completed application and proof of address to: emergency.management@mysanibel.com.

Mail the completed application and your proof of address verification to: Sanibel Police Dept., Attn: Lt. Towler, 800 Dunlop Rd., Sanibel, FL 33957

Or fax the application and proof of address verification to 472-6555; Attn: Lt. Towler.

To obtain verification that your business taxes are paid, email steve.chapel@mysanibel.com or call 472-9615. A copy of your business tax receipt will be electronically or physically mailed to you for attachment to your application.

You may also complete your application in person at the Sanibel Police Department. There is a poster board in the lobby outlying the CDC guidelines pertaining to best practices for social distancing.

When applying for a pass in person, proof of verification is required. To save you time, it is recommended that you bring the completed registration form with you.

Questions regarding the City of Sanibel preparations for hurricane season should be emailed to: emergency.management@mysanibel.com or by calling Lt. Towler at 472-3111.

American Legion Opening Soon

American Legion Post 123 will reopen soon as a non-smoking facility. However, smokers can use Timmy's Nook, the historic venue outside.

Veterans and their immediate families are invited to join Post 123, Sons of the American Legion or American Legion Auxiliary.

Post 123 is located at mile marker 3 on Sanibel-Captiva Road. For more information, call 472-9979.



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In these times of uncertainty and growing needs, FISH remains steadfast in providing both **help and hope** to our island communities. Thanks to generous donors, volunteers and neighbors like you, **these FISH programs—our largest and most critical—have not missed a beat:**

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- Emergency financial assistance

Whether feeding families, providing financial relief for rent and medical bills, or making daily phone calls and visits via FaceTime, Skype or Zoom, we continue to help our neighbors in meeting their physical, mental and emotional needs. As always, we are committed to being a safety net for all. **At the end of the day, our message is simple—FISH is for everyone.**

IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW needs assistance during these difficult times, please call us at **239.472.0404**. For more info about FISH services, visit fishofsancap.org.



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FISH FACTS

Even before COVID-19, the need for FISH emergency programs has grown significantly over the past year. Thank you for helping to meet these very important needs in all circumstances.

FOOD PANTRY

January - April

2019	2020
66,836 lbs	78,514 lbs
equating to	
55,696 meals	65,428 meals

BACKPACKS DISTRIBUTED

January - April

2019	2020
315	482

MEALS-BY-FISH DELIVERY

January - April

2019	2020
1132	2234

EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

January - April

130% increase over 2019



The Ark Captiva Island Historical Society Looking Back: The Ark

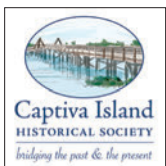
The Ark was originally a houseboat. It was brought up on shore by Capt. McFarland. There are additions on the right and left. The door and three windows are the original houseboat. It was owned by Sam and Francis Anderson of Richmond, Virginia and later by George and Louise Tuttle.

The History Gallery, developed by the

photo courtesy Captiva Island Historical Society Archives

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. The Captiva Memorial Library and History Gallery are temporarily closed due to the coronavirus. Call 533-4890 for information.

Visit the website at www.captivaislandhistoricalsociety.org/archives/research to view many more images to bring you closer to Captiva.✱✱



Churches/Temples

ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Rev. Father Dean Nastos, Orthos Service Sunday 9 a.m., Divine Liturgy Sunday 10 a.m., Fellowship Programs, Sunday School, Bible Study. www.annunciation.fl.goarch.org, 8210 Cypress Lake Drive, Fort Myers, 481-2099.

BAT YAM-TEMPLE OF THE ISLANDS

The Reform Jewish congregation has Friday night sabbath services and Saturday morning classes are provided by Zoom, www.Batyam.org and our Facebook. Rabbi Stephen Fuchs, President Michael Hochschild, 917-561-7888. www.batyam.org, 2050 Periwinkle Way, 732-780-2016.

HISTORIC CAPTIVA CHAPEL BY THE SEA

Rev. Larry Marshall. Services every Sunday 11 a.m. November 10, 2019 thru April 26, 2020. 11580 Chapin Lane, Captiva, 472-1646.

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST

The Christian Science Church of Sanibel-Captiva has suspended all services and events until further notice. The church Reading Room will also be closed. 2950 West Gulf Drive, 472-8684.

SANIBEL FELLOWSHIP, sbc

Join us for Bible study and Worship Sunday 10 a.m. at Island Cinema. Call Pastor Mark Hutchinson, 284-6709.

SANIBEL COMMUNITY CHURCH

As a precaution, all Sanibel Community Church on-campus events are postponed until further notice. The church is expecting

its new pastor, Jeramie Rinne, this summer. View our Sunday Devotional at www.sanibelchurch.com, 1740 Periwinkle Way, 472-2684

SANIBEL CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

The Reverend Dr. John H. Danner, Sr. Pastor. The Rev. Deborah Kunkel, Associate Pastor. Livestream service at 10 a.m., www.sanibelucc.org, 2050 Periwinkle Way, 472-0497.

ST. ISABEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Father Ed Martin, Administrator, Saturday Vigil Mass 5 p.m., Sunday Mass 8:30 and 10:30 a.m., Sunday May through October 9:30 a.m. only. Daily Mass Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 8:30 a.m. Holy Days call. 3559 San-Cap Road, 472-2763.

ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Rev. Alan Kelmereit, Priest-in-Charge 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 1st Wednesdays 6 p.m., Taizé Service 3rd Wednesdays 6 p.m. www.saintmichaels-sanibel.org, 2304 Periwinkle Way, 472-2173.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS OF THE ISLANDS

Meets 5 p.m. on the second 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. ryi39@aol.com, 2050 Periwinkle Way, 433-4901.✱



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Beth Jarrell with one of the masks she made

photo provided

Librarian Sewing Masks To Help Nonprofits

Sanibel Public Library's Beth Jarrell has been sewing up a storm in her home making cotton face masks. Instead of accepting payment, Jarrell asks people to send a donation to FISH of SanCap or Feeding America. As of May 7, Jarrell has sewn more than 150 masks, and has raised more than \$1,000.

"I'll keep making the masks as long as

they're needed," said Jarrell, who lives on Sanibel. "I'm thankful for the opportunity to contribute these masks. They also give me more purpose when I'm not working in the library, or taking my dog out for many, many, many walks."

These masks offer another level of protection, especially since people can be contagious without symptoms of COVID-19. Jarrell said the washable face mask design uses four ribbon ties rather than elastic bands for a more comfortable fit.

She usually makes quilts. "I'm sewing the masks on an '80s-era Kenmore," Jarrell said. "I've been sewing since I

was six years old, my mum taught me. She was a piecemaker and also taught sewing."

Jarrell began working as an intern at the Sanibel Public Library in July of 2019. She graduated with a bachelor of arts with honors in journalism from the University of Toronto in 2015, and earned a masters of library and information science from the University of Washington in June. Originally from Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, her family has been vacationing on the island for more than 20 years.

COVID-19 Testing Sites In Lee County

There are now five COVID-19 testing sites open in Lee County:

CenturyLink Sports Complex, 14100 Ben C. Pratt/Six-Mile Cypress Parkway in Fort Myers, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. seven days a week. Last car to be admitted at 3 p.m. No appointment, doctor's note, symptoms or prescription required, 18 years or older. Visit www.leegov.com/covid-19/testing.

Walmart parking lot, 4770 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers, 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. No appointment, doctor's note, symptoms or prescription required, 18 years or older. Call 866-448-7719 or visit www.MyQuestCOVIDTest.com.

Lee Convenient Care – Page Field,

"Beth is still working in her role as a librarian to help get books and other materials to patrons or answer questions over the phone," said Executive Director Margaret Monhundro. "She's dedicated in her commitment to serve the community."

The library facility is closed for now, but open for digital borrowing. The library is also offering contactless curbside pickup. For more information, call 472-2483, or email notices@sanlib.org. For more information and updates, visit www.sanlib.org.✱

4771 South Cleveland Avenue in Fort Myers, noon to 4 p.m. seven days a week. Must be screened by a physician, received lab orders and made an appointment via phone to 343-9800.

Walmart parking lot, 545 Pine Island Road in North Fort Myers, 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Must have symptoms, appointment required by calling 866-448-7719 Visit www.MyQuestCOVIDTest.com.

Walmart parking lot, 2522 Lee Boulevard in Lehigh Acres, 7 to 10 a.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Must have symptoms, appointment required by calling 866-448-7719 Visit www.MyQuestCOVIDTest.com.

The official sites to monitor for the most current information and to which you may access through direct links are: City of Sanibel – www.mysanibel.com Florida Department of Health – www.floridahealth.gov.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – www.cdc.gov.✱

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OBITUARY



RODNEY MOTT WEST

Rodney “Roddy” Mott West, 72, a resident of Sanibel Island and Minneapolis, died Sunday, May 10, 2020.

Roddy grew up in Excelsior, Minnesota, attended The Blake School and the University of Minnesota. He married Wendy in 1970, and they raised three children in Minneapolis. He had a long career with Knutson

Construction.

Roddy will be remembered for his energetic personality, ability to create and build anything, his love of his family, his fanatical interest in outdoor activities including fishing, windsurfing, sailing, biking, paddleboarding, golfing and hockey. Roddy was a natural mentor and coach in sports, on the job site, and in life in general. He was always outspoken and an advocate for social justice. Roddy loved planning and taking part in adventure travel with Wendy and their children. He loved sugary treats.

He is survived by his wife, Wendy; his daughters, Hannah O’Connor (Jim), Leah Raiche (Ken), and son, Brendhan (Caitlin); six grandchildren, Fiona and Liam O’Connor, Evan and Ella Raiche, and Olivia and Henry West; four siblings, Tupper Thomas, Dobson West (Jane), Susie Oppenheim (Frieda Gardner), and Gretchen West; 14 nieces and nephews; and many loving friends.

A celebration of his life will be held at a later date in Florida and Minnesota. Details to be announced via www.MullinsMemorial.com.

Memorial contributions in memory of Roddy West are suggested to Chequemegon Area Mountain Bike Association (CAMBA), www.cambatrails.org or P.O. Box 141, Cable, WI 54821.

Friends are invited to send condolences via the online guest book which can be found at www.MullinsMemorial.com.✽

OBITUARY

JOAN MARIE BECKE

Joan Marie Becke, nee Mason, passed away on Saturday, May 9 as a result of the COVID-19 virus, in Silver Spring, Maryland. Joan was the beloved wife of the late Herbert E. Becke, Jr., mother of David Rebsch, Gary Rebsch (Jennifer) and Elise Greene (Philip), and grandmother of Christine Nickell (Carter and step great-grandchild Kylie), Kaitlyn Rebsch, Hannah Greene, Madeleine Greene, and Olivia Greene. Joan looked forward to greeting a new great-grandchild in June. Through marriage, Joan was stepmother to Diane, Cheryl, Annette, Herbert III and Jennifer, and step-grandmother to their children and grandchildren.

Joan was born in New York City on March 28, 1937 and grew up in Brooklyn. She attended St. Joseph’s School of Nursing in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and received her bachelor’s degree in nursing at the University of Maryland. In her long and illustrious career as a registered nurse in Montgomery County, Maryland, Joan was an accomplished leader in many specialty areas. She found her passion in emergency medicine at Suburban Hospital in Bethesda, Maryland and

then worked at the Montgomery County Health Department in the tuberculosis clinic and in epidemiology.

She was married in New York City on November 29, 1958 to Donald Lamar Rebsch, the father of her three children. That marriage ended in 1976. She married Herbert E. Becke, Jr. on June 15, 1979. They retired to Sanibel Island, Florida in 1988, where they lived the bulk of their latter days, and found their paradise on earth. Here, Joan was very active in her island community with local conservation, wildlife rehabilitation, theatrical and other civic groups. Joan loved sunset walks on the beach, shell collecting, extensive travel with her husband Herb, time with her children and grandchildren, golf and tennis with friends, and she had a range of pets, including her last companion, Pilar, her beloved Siamese cat.

Joan will be missed for her tremendous heart, courage, compassion, warmth, intelligence and sense of humor.

A private prayer service was held at Collins Funeral Home in Silver Spring, Maryland on May 14, and a funeral mass and burial with her late husband will take place at Arlington National Cemetery, at a date to be determined. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW) of Sanibel Island at www.crowclinic.org.✽

FISH Offering Summer Camp Scholarships

As Florida begins its multi-phase reopening, many FISH of SanCap clients are struggling to find balance between work and childcare. Virtual school is still in session and parents are beginning to go back to work, but they’re finding that there are fewer childcare options, compounded with reduced paychecks.

Uncertainty surrounding childcare and summer camps creates an additional struggle for working families, and dedicated providers are deciding how, when, or if they will reopen for the 2020 summer season. Some determined they would cancel summer programs; others have adapted programming on a temporary virtual basis, while others will open as planned with social distancing and CDC guidelines in place for child safety. FISH understands the challenges this places on island neighbors with children, and continues to provide financial assistance, food for families and other services throughout this crisis.

“Our workforce is in a really difficult position right now; they desperately want to be back to work, but are unsure if they can financially balance the reduced number of hours while ensuring that their child is both completing their online school requirements and in a safe place while they’re at work,” said Alicia Tighe, FISH executive director. “We offer scholarships for summer programs every year to ensure children remain active and in enriching environments when they’re out of school, but this year

is undoubtedly more complex for our families.”

FISH remains in contact with area camp directors in order to refer families to local summer programs both on and off island. “Many camps are making adaptations in order to continue offering educational experiences at this important time of year for kids. For instance, the Sanibel Sea School will offer virtual camps for the month of June while Full Steam Ahead Fort Myers/Naples is offering in person experiences using ‘social distance learning spaces’ on campus,” said Tighe. “It’s all about finding a balance that makes sense, keeps children engaged and, most importantly, keeps them safe.”

FISH is ready to assist families in need through the FISH Summer Youth Scholarship program. This program provides financial assistance for children’s summer camp sessions and is supported by private donors and grant funding from the Sanibel-Captiva Kiwanis Foundation. FISH provides assistance for camps on Sanibel and Captiva as well as those offered in Fort Myers and other areas.

Scholarship assistance is evaluated on a case-by-case basis. The FISH Social Services Department determines eligibility for need-based financial assistance through a review of a family’s income and expense documentation. Scholarship amounts vary depending upon the length and cost of the program and the family’s financial status. Available funding is limited and scholarships may cover only a portion of the tuition cost. To learn more and to determine eligibility, contact Nitza Lopez, social services director, at 472-0404.✽



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Liquid Hand Sanitizer

St. Petersburg Distillery, makers of fine Florida spirits including Banyan Reserve Vodka, are now producing FDA formulated hand sanitizer. Profits from the sale of the sanitizer fuel their donations to first responders and the higher risk community. The 1.75L bottles are great for refilling individual bottles or to share with others.




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2340 PERIWINKLE WAY

Tribeca Hair Salon
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OLD SANIBEL SHOPPES

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Amy's Something Special
Island Paws
jb designs
On Island
Over Easy Cafe 
Sanibel Art & Frame
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Comment Fatigue And The Right To Be Heard

by Wendy McMullen

It was two hours and 50 minutes in to the Sanibel City Council meeting of May 12 and parched City Attorney John Agnew had read less than half of the 249 emails that had come into the city when city council put an end to public comment.

The issue of opening the beaches and vacation rentals to visitors was one on which the public had much to say. After an hour and a half, Mayor Kevin Ruane suggested time limits be placed on the duration of the email itself or on the total time allotted for public comment, noting that the Lee County Commission did not allow comment at all unless the person was in attendance and that the city of Cape Coral limited theirs to two hours.

Facing at least another two hours of listening to emails, many of which made extremely similar points, the council turned to their attorney for advice.

“There just needs to be a reasonable opportunity to be heard,” said Agnew. “Any kind of restrictions on public comment can be provided whether that is limiting an email to three minutes or setting a maximum of an hour.”

The city currently has unlimited public comment and in recent emergency meetings, public comment has been running over an hour. The public is discouraged from attending meetings due to COVID-19 distancing rules but all messages from the public are being read.

Councilwoman Holly Smith expressed reluctance to cut the time allowed for public comment. “I’d rather see having a time limit on the email itself rather cutting off some people because they weren’t lucky enough to have their email read in the first hour,” she said.

But at the end of nearly three hours, when not even half the emails had been read, even she acquiesced to cutting it short.

“As much of a struggle as I feel, we had 183 emails that were sent to us last night. We all diligently read those. They’re still coming in,” she said wearily, referring to the 183 messages that she had been sent the previous night.

Councilman Richard Johnson agreed, “I realize it’s important and we do need to listen to public comment. We all take the time to read these memos and we’re sometimes hearing these for the second and third times and we do need to move forward.”

“I really don’t want to sit here for another three hours of public comment before we have a public discussion,” Ruane said, ending the public comment. “I get the sentiment of what we have but I really didn’t envision being here for six hours of public comment.”

However, resident Arlene Dillon, who attended the meeting, said that most of the email messages were part of an organized campaign to sway city council.

“We analyzed the 249 letters sent to the council addressing this issue. We discovered an organized campaign by a group of hotel and vacation rental owners who instructed their non-resident owners and visitors to write letters urging the council to reopen,” she wrote in a letter to this newspaper. “These form letters – describing the date the owner discovered the island, their favorite businesses, weddings of their children, etc.– were read for three hours until the mayor finally put an end to reading letters.”

The letter, signed by Dillon along with residents Mary Ganske, Sarah Peck and Jennifer Scuteri, urged the council to improve transparency in public comment and prioritize the views of residents and local businesses and to include requiring full name and address of residency.

Councilman Jason Maughan also noted the number of letters that came from non-resident friends of the islands and commented that he would rather hear from residents who live on the islands and the people who own businesses and the employees whose lives are affected.

The problem of lengthy public comment is not new to city council. Former councilman Andrew Reding’s Dark Skies legislation in the early 2000s filled city hall to overflowing, and permitting for Doc Ford’s Rum Bar & Grille Tarpon Bay Road location flooded city hall and every adjoining chamber where the meeting was broadcast. Public comment at that time was also fueled by campaigns by interested parties.

But then commentators had to attend the meeting and listen to the deliberations. Now, attendance at city hall is discouraged

because of COVID-19 social distancing concerns. This means that people from all over the country have been able to type out a message and let their views be known to city council.

Council decided to limit the length of emails to two minutes and to only allow one email per person but, with lives and livelihoods still at stake, public comment will almost certainly continue to pour in. Council agreed that all comments will be uploaded but no decision was reached about reading them at the actual meeting.

Agnew also wanted the public to be aware of the beaches over which the city had no control because they are owned by Lee County. These are Bowman’s and Turner beaches and the Causeway Islands. He also pointed at that the Florida governor has issued edicts about vacation rentals and while Sanibel can be more strict than the state, they cannot be made weaker.*

Sanibel Public Beach Parking Reopens June 1

by Wendy McMullen

Beach parking at city-owned beach parking lots will remain closed until May 31, Sanibel City Council decided at a meeting last week.

Councilman Mick Denham moved to keep beach parking closed until the end of the month and open them on June 1.

Council members were concerned about the impact on Sanibel if the public beach parking lots at the lighthouse, Gulfside City Park (Algiers) and Tarpon Bay were to be open Memorial Day weekend when travelers from the hotspot areas on the east coast may visit.

“We have to be concerned with the shutdown on the east coast and the location of where the travelers are coming from,” said Councilwoman Holly Smith, observing that beach parking is closed in Miami-Dade County and advocating for keeping Sanibel’s public beach parking closed until the end of the month.

Mayor Kevin Ruane, however, said he struggled with the decision because the city receives funding from the Lee County

Board of Commissioners and keeping the city’s beaches closed while asking for funding could put the city in a precarious position with the county.

“We’re not opening our public beaches yet we’re asking for funding for them,” Ruane said, adding that Broward County has opened its beaches with numbers that are “off the chart.”

“I think we’re playing Russian roulette. We’re a tourist island. I don’t know how to defend Sanibel with public beaches that aren’t open,” Ruane said.

“On one side of the causeway, you have people in their mid-40s. On the other, you have people in their mid-60s,” said Councilman Jason Maughan, pointing out the distinction between the risk of COVID-19 to islanders compared to the risk to residents elsewhere.

“We fought for home rule and I’m doing nothing more than fighting for home rule,” added Denham, defending the right of the council to make decisions for Sanibel residents and not to copy what is being done elsewhere.

Denham’s motion to keep beach parking closed until May 31 and schedule a reopening on June 1 was approved 4 to 1 with Ruane opposed.*

Restrictions Lightened For Vacation Rentals

by Wendy McMullen

Hotels, motels, inns and resorts on Sanibel can now rent up to 50 percent of their occupancy rate, and owners of condominiums and homes on Sanibel may now rent their homes for one month, Sanibel City Council decided last week.

Councilman Richard Johnson proposed the motion to allow current restrictions to expire on May 15 and allow rentals at a 50 percent occupancy rate with the proviso that rental accommodations not accept reservations from the COVID-19 Florida hotspots of Broward and Miami-Dade counties. The motion also included following Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis’ restrictions regarding Louisiana, New York, New Jersey and Connecticut that

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Minute flowers line one side of scorpiantail's spike, blooming at the base upward
photos by Gerri Reaves

Plant Smart
Uncommon
Names: Tails,
Tongues And Feet

by Gerri Reaves

Do you ever wonder why some plants have their curious common names? Many derive from a resemblance or relationship to animals or animal features. Just a sampling of the more intriguing ones are fishfuddle (*Piscidia piscipula*),

used as a fish poison; catbrier (*Smilax spp.*), which has daunting thorns; maretail (*Conyza canadensis*); and non-native false hawksbeard (*Youngia japonica*) and foxtail fern (*Protasparagus densiflorus* var. *Myersii*).
Pictured here are three native species with at least one common name based on a resemblance to animal features. All are excellent low-maintenance additions to a butterfly or wildflower garden.
Scorpiantail's (*Heliotropium angiospermum*) undercurving spike of tiny flowers blooms first at the base of the "tail" and continue unfurling upward.



Deer-tongue is named for the shape of the leaves in the basal rosette

Each minute white flower has five petals and a pale yellow center. Pairs of them line one side of the spike, thus the curve.
Found in the southern half of the state, this perennial shrub of the borage, or forget-me-not, family is found mostly in coastal areas.
It blooms all year, attracting various small butterflies, and is resilient, fast growing, drought tolerant and somewhat salt tolerant.
Give it a spot in full sun with well-drained soil. It sometimes volunteers in yards.

Deer-tongue (*Carphephorus paniculatus*) is found throughout the state and adapts to a range of habitats.
The tongue-shaped basal rosette of leaves gives this member of the aster family the catchy name.
In summer to winter in long cylindrical spikes of pink to purple, rayless flowers appear that attract butterflies. When in bloom, the plant is about three feet high.
It prefers full sun and well-drained soil. It will even tolerate nutrient-poor soil but not drought or salt.
Because of the tall spikes and vivid flower color, it looks best planted in groups. Give plants space, and they'll spread into a mat of basal leaves one to three inches tall.
Goat's-foot vine (*Ipomoea pes-caprae* subsp. *Brasiliensis*) is named for the notched leaves resembling a goat's footprint. In fact, pes-caprae means goat's



Goat's-foot vine is named for the notched rounded leaves

foot.
The two lobed leaves are two to four inches long, and their overall shape is rounded or oblong with a fold along the midvein.
High salt tolerance equips this species for coastal environments. Give it a dry sandy spot in full sun.
It's a champion at preventing soil erosion, sending out runners, rooting at the nodes to bind soil, and sending down deep taproots as long as a yard.
A member of the morning glory family, it has large pink or purplish trumpet-shaped flowers of two to three inches across and made of five fused petals.
They bloom throughout the year, providing food for small wildlife and attracting a variety of pollinators.
The next time you hear a plant's catchy common name, take time to imagine what the person who thought of the name had in mind.
Sources: *Everglades Wildflowers* by Roger L. Hammer, *Florida Wildflowers and Roadside Plants* by C. Ritchie Bell and Bryan J. Taylor, *A Gardener's Guide to Florida's Native Plants* by Rufino Osorio, *The Guide to Florida Wildflowers* by Walter Kingsley Taylor, and *Wildflowers of Florida Field Guide* by Jaret C. Daniels and Stan Tekiela, www.floridata.com, www.fnps.org, and www.regionalconservation.org.
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Rachel Stokes conducting a Wildlife Zoom class

photo provided

CROW Offering Interactive Wildlife Classes

For a limited time, Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW) on Sanibel is offering an opportunity to enhance distance-based teaching curriculum. These interactive sessions allow classrooms to have an open dialogue with their staff.

CROW Education and Outreach Director Rachel Rainbolt served as a Zoom guest speaker for local Sanibel teacher Rachel Stokes' classroom at Lexington Middle School in Fort Myers this past week. Stokes, a lifelong resident of the island, said her students rarely get to Sanibel, so it's a unique way to showcase local wildlife. The class sponsored Gigi, the Virginia opossum and Lola, the American kestrel from CROW during distance learning from COVID-19.

Programs are customized based on individual needs, ranging from more formal programs to casual conversations with students about wildlife. All programs feature an animal ambassador, animals that have recovered from injuries or had circumstances resulting in their inability for release to the wild. These members of the education team provide positive interactions with students, thus fostering an appreciation for the connection between humans, animals and the environment.

CROW has the following ambassadors available for virtual programming: Mina, the great horned owl; Lola, the American kestrel; Gigi, the Virginia opossum; Cobb, the corn snake; Irwin, the Florida box turtle; and Sydney, the American alligator.

If you are interested in scheduling a Wildlife Zoom in your virtual classroom or sponsoring one for your child's class, contact Rachel Rainbolt by email at rrainbolt@crowclinic.org about costs and availability. ✨

Sea School Offering Virtual Camps In June

The Phase 1 reopening of Sanibel Sea School will offer meaningful, remote engagement for children. Starting Monday, June 1, Sanibel Sea School will offer a series of virtual Island Skills camps that include both weeklong options and à la carte sessions.

As a science-based organization, Sanibel Sea School is following the CDC's guidelines on gatherings and regional infection rates. Adhering to these recommendations and exercising an abundance of caution, the school will not be holding regular, in-person camps for the month of June.

"For the safety of our staff, our camp families and our island community, we have decided to hold virtual camp sessions in place of our regular in-person Island Skills camps," said

Operations Manager Nicole Finnicum. "Safety is our number one priority for all of our programs, so we feel that it is necessary to remain distanced until we absolutely know it is safe to engage in person."

Sanibel Sea School staff is planning a half-day, in-person camp for the second half of summer but will wait to commit to this Phase 2 reopening and make an announcement on plans in mid-June.

For those camp families that are registered for summer camp, they will have three options:

Roll tuition over to 2021 and guarantee your spot next summer with no tuition increase;

Apply tuition to virtual offerings with options to donate a portion of the remaining balance or receive a refund; A full refund of tuition.

To learn more about Sanibel Sea School's virtual options and to register, visit www.sanibelseaschool.org/sanibel-camps or email info@sanibelseaschool.org for more information. ✨

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Back To My Roots



by Capt.
Matt Mitchell

After a solid week of windy conditions, things finally let up for the weekend. Fishing in the wind is not always a bad thing, although it does make locating tarpon next to impossible. All it took was one calm day and the tarpon reappeared throughout the sound. Calm days are what we all dream of for tarpon fishing as these fish spend much more time up by the surface when its slick.

The eastern side of the sound held more tarpon than I have seen in a week as the winds relaxed. On a trip over the weekend, I had very low expectations after days of bad weather. I decided to ride through a favorite area in the middle sound and give it a quick look before going to plan B snook fishing. Within five minutes, we were greeted with rolling and free jumping fish. After setting up, we jumped a tarpon on a cut mullet within 15 minutes. The longer we sat there, the more fish appeared though they did not cooperate. I can't wait to get back on them tomorrow.

Smooth water creates the perfect conditions to take out my new 16-foot Silver King skiff. When I originally started guiding over 20 years ago, it was on a very similar 17-foot flats boat. More than 10 years ago, I switched to a 22-foot tower boat to accommodate larger groups and be able to fish more comfortably in choppy conditions. Although I love the classic 1969 Aquasport, there is a lot to be said about the stealth of a small boat. Silently moving on a push pole allows you to get much closer to the fish. This return to my roots is a great option to have, and I'm very excited about specific situations this little boat will excel in.

I plan on using this boat for working mangrove shorelines with artificial baits, stalking tarpon on the flats and taking my fly fishing enthusiasts.

The smaller boat seems to put you closer to nature and creates a more peaceful atmosphere. Being able to sight fish while push poling for a variety of species is another fishing experience I can now offer my clients.

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



Longtime client Keith Silar with a windy day Plan B snook caught with Capt. Matt Mitchell this week photo provided

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Back Down The Hill



by J. Bruce
Neill, PhD

At long last, we think we have passed the peak of COVID-19 cases in the United States; and are on the backside of the curve. The peak we have anxiously

and relentlessly awaited – inside, isolated and, for many of us, with waning patience.

Let us all take a moment to reflect that the peak we have awaited, is not only the number of COVID cases, but also the number of our friends, family and community members that have lost their lives to this new, 21st century disease. It is a somber peak we have summited; stacks of dots representing bodies of loved ones, a third again more than the number of U.S. soldiers killed in the Vietnam war. We should crest this ridge with determination and purpose, not joyful glee.

Rest assured, no one is more anxious to bug out of a house, and back into a larger, more communal world than I am. I do not sit still well, I rarely make it through an hour-long meeting in a chair; I cherish the Episcopal liturgy because it mandates we intermittently stand, kneel and walk. It's not that I like to keep moving, it's more like I will explode into a million tiny fragments if I sit still too long. Activity Deficient Disorder – I don't know that's a thing, but if it is, I have it. If not, someone should come and interview me and describe it. I can focus for a long time, I just can't stay in one place to do it.

See how quickly and smoothly I made this about me? I think we all tend to do that a little too easily, and we could all help our world be better if we didn't. If we spent a little more time thinking of others and how our actions may impact them. Maybe this is a great time to ponder whether our needs are truly that, needs, or just desires couched as needs so we can justify fulfilling them.

We do need to foster the economy, we need to care for our mental and emotional health; we need community, we need school and work – we need a sense of normalcy. But, as we build our new future, let's proceed with purpose, clarity and caution. None of us has been through a pandemic, and our actions impact many more people than we imagine.

Much research has been conducted on the tragedies that befall mountain-climbing expeditions. Numerically, most happen after the summit – on the way back down the hill. The adrenaline rush is over, fatigue has set in, confidence is high; we are just plain tired and we make mistakes, often deadly ones.

As we pass what hopefully will be the summit of COVID, let's all look to

continued on page 16

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Shell Of The Week

Elegant Dosinia



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

Dosinia concentrica (Born, 1778) is yet another member of the diverse venus

clam family, the Veneridae. Its shell reaches 70 mm (about 2.75 inches) and it's characterized by a circular shape, glossy surface and about eight to 10 commarginal ridges per centimeter (or 20 to 24 per inch). The color is pure white. Do not confuse with the also locally present Disk Dosinia, Dosinia discus, which has much narrower ridges that are twice as numerous. Read more about mollusks and their shells at www.shellmuseum.org/shell-guide and www.shellmuseum.org/blog.

The museum needs your help. The coronavirus just erased all our best-laid plans. The museum has no admission income and no store sales, but we still have 493 mouths to feed and 20 amazing employees to support. If you are able, we sure could use your help.

We opened our new aquarium exhibits on March 1. We had to close the museum on March 16. This should have been our busiest time of



The Elegant Dosinia, *Dosinia concentrica*, from Sanibel

photo by José H. Leal

year, providing income for the slower months. We know we'll have a massive cash shortfall.

And yet, our animals still need to be fed and cared for. We have the best group of employees I've ever had the pleasure to work with in my 25-plus

years here at the museum. We need to keep them.

Even closed, it costs about \$100,000 to run the museum each month. If you've already contributed, thank you. If not, your gift can help close the gap.

Your gift today will help us ensure

that our people and animals are still here and healthy whenever we're able to safely reopen. To make a secure donation, visit www.shellmuseum.org.

The Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum is located at 3075 Sanibel-Captiva Road.✪

Video Available On Resetting Irrigation Systems

The City of Sanibel, along with all of Lee County, is under a mandatory water restriction order from the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD), which requires all property owners to irrigate once a week on specific days during specific hours.

Lee County has developed a "how to" video to assist residents with resetting irrigation systems. Go to: www.youtube.com/watch?v=ztWFx0scmgo&feature=youtu.be to view the "How to Set Your Irrigation Timer" video.

Visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=tt6kgTorTwg&feature=youtu.be to view the Lee County Water Conservation and Restrictions video.

Visit www.mysanibel.com/Departments/City-Manager-s-Office/News/Countywide-Landscape-Irrigation-Restrictions-Ordered-by-South-Florida-Water-Management-District for further information regarding the current water restrictions.✪

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CROW Case Of The Week:

Bobcat Release

by Brian Bohlman,
CROW Marketing Manager

The Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW) treated and released a sub-adult, female bobcat on May 14 after it was struck by a vehicle on Buckingham Road in Fort Myers.

The cat was hit in the evening on May 7 as it was crossing the roadway. Tammy Streets was driving behind the vehicle that hit her and acted quickly by calling her high school friend, Cat Turner, a former senior staff rehabilitator and sea turtle tech at CROW. Cat and her husband, Kent Turner, rushed to the scene.

"When Tammy called us, she said she had just seen a bobcat get hit by a car and disappear into the brush," recalled Cat. "After about 30 minutes of searching, we gave up and headed for the car. That's when Kent glanced over and saw her in the ditch unresponsive with shallow breathing."

With her knowledge of working with injured wildlife in the past, Cat approached the bobcat slowly with a towel and was able to carefully place it into a cat carrier. Once secure inside the carrier, the bobcat was rushed to Blue Pearl Pet Hospital in Fort Myers, a 24-hour drop-off location for CROW. It was later picked up by a CROW staff member and taken to the wildlife hospital on Sanibel.

"We were very unsure of her chances of survival, but we knew her best chance was to get her to CROW as soon as possible," said Kent. "When we heard that she



A bobcat being released by CROW officials

photo provided

survived long enough to make it there, we knew she had a fighting chance."

The bobcat arrived at CROW quiet, but alert. Veterinarians suspected she had suffered head trauma from the accident based on how she was acting. She was sedated so that a full exam could be performed, including radiographs and an ultrasound to evaluate for internal injuries.

"She showed aversive behavior like avoiding eye contact, but she was not alert or strong enough to show normal wild cat behaviors like hiding or aggression," said Dr. Megan Cabot, a veterinary intern at CROW. Radiographs did not reveal any broken bones, but the ultrasound showed signs of trauma to the lungs. "No external trauma was appreciated which highlights how important further diagnostics

like ultrasound can be in an emergent situation."

An intravenous catheter was placed in the leg so that fluid therapy and medications could be provided. By the next morning, she was much brighter and more alert. She was kept in the intensive care unit for a couple days to monitor her recovery.

"Bruising in the lungs often gets worse in the first 24 to 48 hours, then resolves over time," said Dr. Cabot. "There is no direct treatment and she is likely still healing, but luckily was strong enough to overcome the initial damage."

The feline then moved to an outdoor rehabilitation enclosure where she continued to be monitored closely using cameras to reduce human interaction.

"She showed all normal behaviors and became increasingly stressed being confined in the enclosure," said Dr. Cabot. "Because she appeared fully recovered, when the risk from her stress became greater than the benefit of further monitoring, we cleared her for release."

On May 14, the female bobcat was returned to the area where she was rescued one week earlier. A suitable habitat that was away from the main roadway, thickly wooded and near a stream was selected for her release.

"She was hesitant to come out at first as she could hear and smell us in the area," Dr. Cabot said of the cat's release. "But after a short period of inspecting her surroundings, she shot off into the woods."

"We are both very happy to be a part of this beautiful cat's rescue and release," said Cat and Kent. "With everything going on in the world right now, it's very easy to forget the most vulnerable and innocent among us – the animals. Please consider donating whatever you can to help this fine organization continue helping wildlife."

As a 501(c)3 nonprofit, CROW relies on grants, donations and funds raised through its Visitor Education Center to provide the best care to its wildlife patients. With the ongoing pandemic, CROW's Visitor Education Center has been forced to close to the public, although its wildlife hospital remains open every day to receive and treat injured and orphaned wildlife of Southwest Florida. Donations help provide medical treatment, food and care for the thousands of animals admitted to the wildlife hospital each year. You can make a donation online by visiting www.crowclinic.org or on CROW's Facebook page.✧

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Good News For Critically Endangered Birds

In May 2020, the captive breeding and release program of the Florida grasshopper sparrow achieved an important milestone: researchers have detected captive-reared sparrows breeding in the wild and some of these birds have already successfully fledged young.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and partners released captive-reared sparrows into the wild in an effort to boost the existing population. In the past few years, the population of Florida grasshopper sparrows has declined sharply; without intervention, extinction is a real possibility. Surveys in 2019 indicated that only 30 breeding pairs remained in the wild. The multipartner recovery program's captive breeding and release efforts are part of a broader strategy to avoid extinction of these birds.

Between 2019 and 2020, the FWC and the USFWS released 150 captive-reared Florida grasshopper sparrows, with more releases planned for this year. Field researchers have detected more than 25 captive-reared and released sparrows defending territories, indicating they survived and made the Florida dry prairie their new home. This is just the start of the breeding season but even at this early stage, the proportion of released sparrows that has survived exceeds that observed in many other captive release efforts of



Florida grasshopper sparrow

similar birds. In addition, researchers have found nests of eight captive-reared sparrows, and parents at two of these nests have successfully fledged young so far.

"The finding that captive-reared sparrows can breed in the wild is a game-changer," said Juan Oteyza, lead sparrow research scientist at the FWC's Fish and Wildlife Research Institute. "This indicates that individuals bred in captivity can supplement wild populations and therefore reduce the risk of extinction."

"This initial success with captive-reared Florida grasshopper sparrows breeding in the wild is a testament to and confirmation of all the hard work our partners and individual scientists have put into this groundbreaking recovery effort for more

photo provided

than a decade. But while this is a major, major milestone, now is not the time to pop the cork on Champagne. It's more so a signal that we must redouble our efforts to keep this momentum going," said Larry Williams, state supervisor of Florida ecological services at USFWS.

Since 2012, USFWS, FWC and partners, including White Oak Conservation and the Fish & Wildlife Foundation of Florida, have dedicated significant financial resources and personnel to the recovery of the Florida grasshopper sparrow. The team developed a five-year strategic vision to guide management actions, including habitat management, nest protection, research, monitoring, and captive breeding and release. The captive breeding project

is funded in part by a grant from the nonprofit Fish & Wildlife Foundation of Florida via proceeds from the "Conserve Wildlife" license plate. Additional funding is needed to expand captive breeding and to support additional conservation research projects. Citizens who would like to join the effort to save these birds can donate to the Fish & Wildlife Foundation of Florida's sparrow fund at www.wildlifeflorida.org/funding-priorities.

Since its founding, the foundation has raised and given away more than \$45 million for conservation, outdoor recreation and youth programs and camps. Visit www.wildlifeflorida.org or call 813-358-8058.✱

From page 13

Down The Hill

the future, decide how we want it to be and craft our contributions with intention. Embrace a new normal in productive, kind and thoughtful ways.

If we are indeed on the way downhill – to the bottom, to our new normal – we have the longest and most dangerous part of this trip in front of us still.

Let's all be patient, remain close but maintain distance, be careful and wash our hands more than ever.

Dr. Neill is the co-founder and executive director of Sanibel Sea School. Part of the SCCF (Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation) family, Sanibel Sea School's mission is to improve the ocean's future, one person at a time.✱

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Jean Le Boeuf, News-Press



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Refuge Studies Effect Of Nutrients On Sea Level Rise

Mangroves may be a key component to mitigating climate change and sea level rise, an ongoing study at the JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge on Sanibel has determined. But could nutrients coming from the Caloosahatchee and Lake Okeechobee be comprising an age-old natural process whereby mangroves and coastal marshlands organically adapt to sea rise by gaining elevation?

That's the answer refuge lead biologist Jeremy Conrad chases as his six-year research project connects the dots between mangroves, carbon absorption, greenhouse gas, climate change, sea level rise and the effect of nutrients on the natural rise in coastal elevation.

The project began in 2014 when the United States Geological Survey (USGS) partnered with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), which oversees "Ding" Darling.

"The refuge was contacted by our FWS national ecologists about using our mangroves as a pilot research project to assess how much carbon is absorbed," said Conrad. "Mangrove forests were believed to be one of the most effective at taking carbon out of air and storing it in the soil. We supported that research as it would directly assist us in gathering more information as to how to best manage refuge mangrove resources. Our goal is to maximize the health of our mangrove



Jeremy Conrad installs research equipment in the field

photo provided

forests so they can store more carbon and help to offset climate change and sea level rise."

With that, the FWS partnered with the USGS National Land Carbon Team to initiate the "Ding" Darling Carbon Sequestration project. As a co-principle investigator on the project, Conrad designed a component to assess how water quality and nutrients affected the sequestration (absorption) process. "We quickly identified that a healthier mangrove system and ecological functions are tied together," said Conrad.

Healthy mangrove systems are more

resilient to rising sea levels, he added. Coastal wetlands can gain elevation through a few ecological processes. Mangrove root development, the build-up of detritus from leaves, and sediment from storm surge contribute to soil elevation in mangrove forests. Decomposition is the one process that causes the ecosystem to lose elevation. As such, a healthier mangrove forest may have better ecological function and build more elevation, allowing the forest to persist longer with rising sea levels.

The Land Carbon Team received a federal Unit Award for Excellence of

Service for their research in 2017, and now Conrad carries on refuge-based research, building on the national study.

As he analyzes collected data, in the next year Conrad expects results to provide a better understanding of when Sanibel will be under water due to sea level rise. With a reduction of nutrients, the mangroves may slow down that inevitability, he theorizes.

Funded by the refuge with assistance from the "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge, which supports interns who assist with the research, Conrad studies the effects of nutrients on all of the natural processes that dictate fluxing elevation in the mangroves. Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) has also supported the project by providing water quality support and access to its lab equipment for processing mangrove samples.✧

Top 10 Books On The Island

1. *Walk the Wire* by David Baldacci
2. *Camino Winds* by John Grisham
3. *Circe* by Madeline Miller
4. *Simon the Fiddler* by Paulette Jiles
5. *Nickel Boys* by Colson Whitehead
6. *On Ocean Boulevard* by Mary Alice Monroe
7. *The Turn of the Key* by Ruth Ware
8. *Normal People* by Sally Rooney
9. *City of Girls* by Elizabeth Gilbert
10. *Eight Perfect Murders* by Peter Swanson

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Alligator Stadium Dogs

photo courtesy Fresh From Florida



Alligator Stadium Dogs

- 1 pound alligator sausage, sliced 3/4 way through lengthwise
- 2 bell peppers (red, yellow, or green), sliced thin
- 1 onion, sliced thin
- 1 tablespoon garlic

1 tablespoon unsalted butter
Oil for cooking
Hot dog buns
Sea salt and fresh ground pepper, to taste
Preheat large skillet to medium-high and add oil to coat. Sear sausage on all sides until golden brown. Using same pan, add 1 tablespoon butter and 1 tablespoon oil. Add peppers and onions and sauté for 6-8 minutes or until slightly softened. Assemble by placing sausage in bun, top with peppers and onions and desired condiments.**



Snowy plover with chicks

photo provided

Give Nesting Shorebirds Space

Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) Shorebird Biologist Audrey Albrecht reminds residents and visitors to safely share the shore with nesting shorebirds.

"It's the time of year when nests start hatching and we need people to follow proper shorebird etiquette," said Albrecht.

Photographers are asked to read and follow these guidelines set forth by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and the Florida Shorebird Alliance.

All beachgoers are asked to follow these guidelines from the City of Sanibel's shorebird conservation video produced in partnership with SCCF:

Give wildlife space. Stay out of posted nesting areas.

Keep all dogs on a leash no longer than eight feet in length.

Never chase wildlife.

Do not feed wildlife. Food scraps attract predators such as crows and gulls to the area, which prey on shorebirds and their hatchlings.

Secure trash that may injure or entrap wildlife.

Remove all beach furniture and equipment from the beach by 9 p.m.

Fill holes and level sand castles.

Leave the wrack line undisturbed to provide shorebirds food and critical habitat.

Keep off the dune vegetation.

Teach visitors, neighbors and children these conservation tips.

If you have any questions about shorebirds, email shorebirds@sccf.org.

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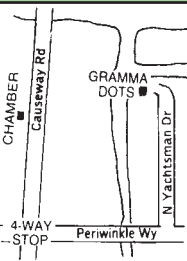
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SCCF Marine Lab Providing Data From Captiva

There is very little information collected regarding water quality and phytoplankton growing in the Gulf of Mexico. In fact, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has yet to evaluate any coastal waters around Florida to see if they meet water quality criteria, which are set to assure fish and sea life can survive and people can swim without getting sick. The main reason they haven't looked at coastal waters yet is because there is no data available to evaluate their condition.

As with most things, collecting the needed data takes funding, especially when it requires a big boat, expensive equipment, and lots of manpower for sampling, lab work and data analysis to make the effort possible.

The Vince family from Captiva wanted to support additional information for Captiva related to red tide events. With the funding support of Goldman Sachs Gives and the Vince family, the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) Marine Laboratory is using its big boat, equipment and manpower to look at water quality and phytoplankton around Captiva.

With the red tide events recently and fish kills, and large-scale die-offs of marine mammals, seabirds and most marine life, there is a real need to know what microscopic organisms are living in the coastal waters and what water quality



SCCF Marine Lab biologists collecting water samples

photo provided

components influence them.

The people involved in the politics of local issues, such as Captiva's consideration of septic to sewer conversion, can use this science to come to a better informed conclusion. The SCCF Marine Lab has worked with members of the Captiva Community Panel to enlighten them to the current conditions of waters lapping up on their real estate investments.

And the data SCCF has collected over the past year indicates there is reason for concern. To date, 68 percent of water samples at nine sites close to the waters

of Captiva have failed current state water quality criteria for nitrogen, phosphorus or chlorophyll (algae), or for multiple criteria. This was not expected or known before the effort began. SCCF can now provide Florida DEP with data which they can use to evaluate the Gulf of Mexico around Captiva for possible inclusion in the Impaired Waters List. Inclusion in this list helps focus more effort in improving local water quality.

And to help bring this data to everyone, the SCCF Marine Lab has now launched a website which allows anyone to access

the data from an interactive map. So far, the map contains only water quality data. It will include phytoplankton data in the near future as those samples are still being evaluated with tedious microscopy work.

SCCF Marine Laboratory tries to assure the data collected is pertinent, needed and used. To learn more about the work of the SCCF Marine Lab, visit <http://www.sccf.org/our-work/marine-laboratory>.✱

Quite A Circuitous Route

Sanibel resident Visna Gembicki, formerly of Croatia, received this poem from a Croatian friend, now living in northern Thailand:

"We fell asleep in one world,
and woke up in another.

Suddenly Disney is out of magic,

Paris is no longer romantic,

New York doesn't stand up anymore,

The Chinese wall is no longer a
fortress, and Mecca is empty.

Hugs and kisses suddenly become
weapons, and not visiting parents and
friends becomes an act of love.

Suddenly you realise that power, beauty
and money are worthless, and can't get
you the oxygen you're fighting for.

The world continues its life and it is
beautiful. It only puts humans in cages.

I think it's sending us a message:

"You are not necessary. The air, earth,
water and sky without you are fine.

When you come back, remember that
you are my guests. Not my masters."

— Author unknown✱

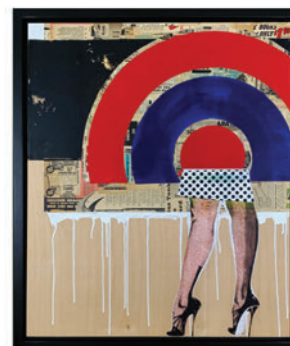


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The Community House

Sweet Corn



by Resident Chef Jarred Harris

Field corn, or maize, has been grown for over 8,000 years; however, sweet corn has only been around for about 1,000 years. Sweet corn first appeared in Brazil as a mutation on field corn. It spread through the Americas and was given to European settlers in 1779 by natives. Sweet corn is a member of the grass family and is grown on every continent except Antarctica. It is considered a grain worldwide, except for North America, which classifies corn as a vegetable. There are over 200 varieties of corn and sweet corn, and they are all used almost exclusively for culinary applications. Sweet corn has the highest sugar content of any variety of corn and the most popular way Americans use sweet corn is eating it straight off the cobb. The United States produces 42 percent of the world's corn, which makes America the largest producer of corn in the world.

Sweet corn contains potassium,

thiamine, fiber, vitamins A and C, and protein. It also contains zinc, copper, iron and powerful antioxidants. Some folks believe that yellow corn is sweeter than white, but that is a myth. Yellow corn is slightly better for your health than white corn because of the yellow coloration. The yellow comes from beta carotene, which our bodies convert to vitamin A.

Sweet corn is used for many nonfood items including fabrics, ink, aspirin, antibiotics, paint, plastics, adhesives, laundry detergent and cosmetics.

Here is a simple recipe for you to try using sweet corn:

Spicy Eggplant and Sweet Corn Beignets

- Ingredients
- 2 tbsp. extra virgin olive oil
 - 1 lg. onion (coarsely chopped)
 - 3 cloves garlic (minced)
 - 1 jalapeno pepper (seeded and fine diced)
 - 1 sm. eggplant (peeled diced small)
 - 1 cup fresh sweet corn kernels
 - 1 small red pepper (seeded and diced)
 - 3 sprigs thyme (leaves removed and stalks discarded)
 - 3 eggs (beaten)
 - 1 1/2 cups whole milk
 - 2 tsp. baking powder
 - 3 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
- Oil for frying
- Method

Heat the oil in a heavy bottom pan. Add onions, garlic, peppers, eggplant and thyme; cook over medium high heat for 5-10 minutes or until the onions are translucent and the eggplant begins to brown.

Add the sweet corn to the eggplant and

combine. Remove from the heat and set aside.

In a large mixing bowl, sift the flour and baking powder together.

Make a well in the center of the flour and add the milk and eggs.

Stir until combined, then add to the eggplant and corn mixture.

Mix thoroughly and carefully scoop into the hot oil.

Fry until golden brown. Remove from the oil and drain on a paper towel.

Serve hot.

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.*

Use Of Alcohol On The Beach Under Scrutiny

by Wendy McMullen

If you're someone who loves nothing more than a sundowner on the beach after a hard day's work, then you may have to seize the moment.

For there's a movement afoot to ban it from our beaches with a fine of \$200 in the offing for infringements.

The proposal was part of Police Chief Bill Dalton's proposal to increase fines for illegal beach parking and to quell fears of wild parties replete with bars, tables and a DJ directing the music.

"I'd like to remove alcohol from the equation when we have large gatherings at public parking areas," Dalton said.

The council was all in favor of the measure to increase parking fines from \$50 to \$200 but less unified on the alcohol issue.

"I don't know why anyone would want alcohol on the beach," said Mayor Kevin

Ruane while Councilman Jason Maughan said there was nothing he liked better than to sit with his wife and relax with "a jar" on the beach at the end of the day.

Dalton promised to look at it further with the aid of the city attorney.*

From page 8

Vacation Rentals

quarantine visitors coming from these states.

Councilman Jason Maughan voted for the motion to open up hotels and motels "in the interests of council unity." However, he expressed reluctance.

"Jumping back in again vitiates everything we have suffered," he said. "I don't want to waste the suffering that has gone before. We made a plan and we're jumping out to shore because we think it will be shallow."

Maughan did, however, move that homes and condominiums on Sanibel may now be rented for a month instead of the six-month rental imposed as a result of COVID-19.

Both motions passed unanimously.*

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Properties Of Water Highlight Of Nature Course

submitted by Nicole Finnicum

The seventh week of Nature Near You, Sanibel Sea School's e-newsletter, featured a topic that is vital to all of us – water.

Through emails delivered at 9a.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, Nature Near You participants learned how water cycles around the planet and tracked water flow through the environment. We shared several experiments this week to take a deeper look at water's unique properties.

On Monday, participants learned about how water is "sticky" through the properties of cohesion and adhesion. Cohesion is the process of water molecules being attracted, or sticking, to other water molecules. Adhesion occurs when water is attracted, or sticks to a substance that is not water. Sam Nowinski, marine science educator, shared three unique experiments, using a few jars, pennies and water to better observe these two forces in action and



Participants conducted a simple experiment at home to learn about cohesive bonds photo provided

to solidify key concepts like surface tension in water.

On Wednesday, we dove into the water cycle and learned about the

different states of water (solid, liquid, gas) and learned how water molecules move throughout Earth and the atmosphere. We took our participants through each stage of the water cycle – evaporation, condensation and precipitation. Then, we created a water cycle in a jar – an easy activity to observe evaporation and condensation right at home. Wednesday's activity was also paired with a nature journaling assignment where participants took a moment to investigate and observe signs of the water cycle in their own backyards.

On Friday, we focused on watersheds, also known as drainage basins, that are areas of land that collect water into creeks, streams and rivers. These various water sources connect into larger bodies of water, known as outflow points, such as lakes, bays and oceans. We learned how to model a watershed using just a piece of paper, a marker and a spray bottle full of water – simple, but a super visual for kids. This activity allowed participants to observe how water flows over land when it rains and shows where it collects – mimicking a map of a natural watershed.

Water is such an integral component

of our daily lives, so it is important to understand how it plays a role in our environments. As ocean educators, we especially see the role that the ocean plays in our community, our ecosystem and in our individual lives. I think that water's importance and, particularly, the ocean's importance, is best summed up in a quote by Sylvia Earle:

"Even if you never have the chance to see or touch the ocean, the ocean touches you with every breath you take, every drop of water you drink, every bite you consume. Everyone, everywhere is inextricably connected to and utterly dependent upon the existence of the sea."

Nature Near You will continue through June and be delivered via email. If you are interested in joining the mailing list, email info@sanibelseaschool.org. If you missed out on an issue of Nature Near You, all of the content can be accessed at <https://www.sanibelseaschool.org/nature-near-you>.

Nature Near You is Sanibel Sea School's offering to the community. If you would like to support our efforts, visit (<https://www.sanibelseaschool.org/support-the-cause>) or email for more information!✱

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Book Review

Becoming Mrs. Lewis



by Di Saggau

Becoming Mrs. Lewis by Patti Callahan is a work of historical fiction inspired by the life of Joy Davidman and her love story with author CS Lewis. Callahan had read many works of Lewis and then discovered that Joy was also a brilliant writer. While doing her research, she started to realize Joy’s influence on much of Lewis’s work. The book consists of letters and dialogue between Joy and Jack, as Lewis was called by his close friends. Lewis called Joy “my whole world.”

Theirs is one of the greatest love stories of modern times, and Callahan does a masterful job writing about it. Joy was a fiercely independent mother of two young boys when she met Lewis. She was also a passionate woman who changed the life of the respected author and inspired his books. Her love for Jack gave them both voices they never knew they had.

The book is written in first person from the viewpoint of Joy Davidman Lewis, and it paints a realistic picture of a woman’s struggle in the 1950s to defy society’s narrow definition of womanhood. We first

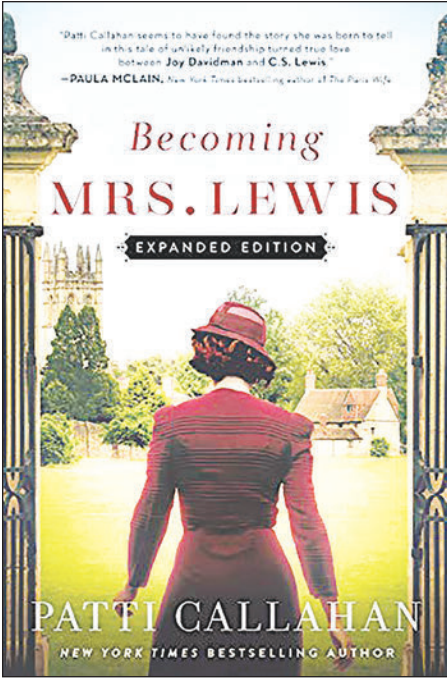


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meet Joy, as a young mother married to an abusive husband. Her search for answers ends up with her corresponding with CS Lewis. They were pen-friends for almost three years before they met.

As her marriage deteriorates, her friendship with Lewis grows until he becomes her closest friend. When she becomes very ill, she recuperates in England and, while she is gone, her husband begins an affair with her cousin. Once they are divorced, Joy and her two sons return to England where she soon

begins a loving, lifelong bond with Lewis. Callahan excels in describing the countryside in Oxford and the Kilns, where Lewis and his brother Warnie lived. She also has an understanding of the complexities and politics of English intellectual society and the rules of both Cambridge and Oxford. The dialogue between Joy and Jack is fiction but so convincing one feels it is how they actually spoke to one another. There are many references to their works, and I found myself often looking them up to learn more about their writing. Many of Joy’s Sonnets and passages from her other writings precede the majority of chapters. *Becoming Mrs. Lewis* is a beautifully written tale of a friendship that turned to true love. It’s a literary treasure.✧

School Smart



by Shelley M. Gregg, NCS

Dear Readers, My niece has been very concerned about her middle child, a darling 7-year-old boy. She told me that he has been having some rough

days and has not been doing well with the lockdown. I was dismayed to hear of the situation and got back to her with what I hoped were encouraging words. As I thought about my comments to her, it’s clear that the main focus of my response was about the resiliency of children. Children are resilient – This is cause for celebration – Children are resilient! We must remember this as we go through these difficult times. And we need to, as parents and child caregivers, provide an environment for all children so that they can develop their resiliency.

Virginia Smith Harvey, the director of the school psychology program at the University of Massachusetts Boston, has reviewed and completed significant research on the topic of resiliency and says that this research has revealed that resilience results from positive social relationships, positive attitudes and emotions, the ability to control one’s own behavior and feelings of competence (Doll, Zucker, & Brehm, 2004). She further reports that, “Resiliency is actually a normal trait that comes from inborn tendencies to adapt. If people’s natural tendencies to adapt are appropriate, then they can overcome even severe adversity. If not, problems can occur.”

Adversity is a natural part of life. At some point, we all face difficulties, so being resilient is important to dealing with adverse situations. While parents hope that their children never face extreme adversity, successfully facing tough situations can actually foster growth and give children the skills to be more resilient in the future. Approaches and habits that encourage resiliency can be from attitudes and emotions, feelings of competence, social competence, or physical health. Parents, teachers and other adults can foster children’s

resiliency in all of these areas. Dr. Harvey proposes these five ways to promote resiliency in your children and help protect them from long-term ill effects of difficult experiences:

Think positive! – Modeling positive attitudes and positive emotions is very important. Children need to hear parents thinking out loud positively and being determined to persist until a goal is achieved. Using a “can do” problem-solving approach to problems teaches children a sense of power and promise.

Express love and gratitude! – Emotions such as love and gratitude increase resiliency. Praise should always occur much more often than criticism. Children and adolescents who are cared for, loved and supported learn to express positive emotions to others. Positive emotions buffer kids against depression and other negative reactions to adversity.

Express yourself! –Resilient people appropriately express all emotions, even negative ones. Parents who help kids become more aware of emotions, label emotions appropriately and help children deal with upsetting events are giving them useful life skills.

Get fit! – Good physical health prepares the body and mind to be more resilient. Healthy eating habits, regular exercise and adequate sleep protect kids against the stress of tough situations. Regular exercise also decreases negative emotions such as anxiety, anger and depression.

Foster competency! – Making sure that children and adolescents achieve academically is great protection against adversity. Children who achieve academic success and who develop individual talents, such as playing sports, drawing, making things, playing musical instruments or playing games, are much more likely to feel competent and be able to deal with stress positively. Social competency is also important. Having friends and staying connected to friends and loved ones can increase resiliency. Social competency can even be created by helping others.

Protecting our children against all of life’s unexpected painful events is not possible. Giving them a sense of competency and the skills to face adverse circumstances can be a valuable legacy of all parents. Resiliency can be built by understanding these important foundations. The more we practice these approaches, the better able our children will be to weather whatever life brings.

Adapted from: *Resiliency: Strategies for Parents and Educators*, Virginia Smith Harvey, *Helping Children at Home and School II: Handouts for Families and Educators*, NASP, 2004

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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Good Reads And Curbside Service At The Library

Sanibel Public Library staff is available to answer questions and provide Readers' Advisory (book recommendations) over the phone on weekdays; call 472-2483. You can also ask for help via email at notices@sanlib.org. The library is providing contactless curbside service for materials requested on hold.

You can place item(s) on hold online, or make requests by calling the library. You will be notified when your items are ready for pickup. Patrons will have three days (excluding Saturday and Sunday) to pick up items.

Hours for curbside pickup are Monday through Friday from noon to 3 p.m. There will be a table set up outside the first sliding door entrance of the parking garage. Bags will be on the table in alphabetical order. Items will already be checked out and in a green bag with the patron's name on it. In the bag with borrowed library material, there are handouts with information about returning items and other library services.

"Curbside pickup has been very popular. Since we started this service on May 4, hundreds of patrons have placed holds and borrowed books, magazines and DVDs," said Candy Heise, Sanibel Public Library adult services coordinator. "We have many copies of new fiction, including Randy Wayne White's *Salt*



Call Wendy Lambrix at the library for book recommendations

photo provided

River, The Starless Sea by Erin Morgenstern, *The Boy from the Woods* by Harlan Coben, and *Treason* by Stuart Woods."

Patrons may return items to a book drop; one is located outside the west front entrance, the other is located in the second parking garage. Returned materials will be quarantined for a minimum of 24 hours.

Interlibrary Loan remains suspended. Watch the library's website, local newspapers and social media for updates.

To access all of the online services, choose "eShelf" from the homepage

menu. Your PIN is the last four digits of your library card.

Sanibel Public Library offers more than 6,000 eBooks and audiobooks via the OverDrive Libby app. Sanibel Public Library Foundation provided a \$5,000 grant for additional eBook support. The grant allows the library to increase the number of popular fiction and nonfiction eBooks.

The Hoopla Digital app allows users to stream movies, TV shows, comics, and music. Downloadable magazines, including *Newsweek*, *Prevention*, *Kiplinger's Personal Finance*, *OK!*

and *National Geographic* are available through the RB digital app. Library cardholders can stream from Kanopy, which showcases more than 30,000 documentaries, indies and classics. The Freegal music app offers access to about 15 million songs, and thousands of music videos.

Due to the closure, Ancestry.com is available to Sanibel Public Library patrons from home. This service typically can only be accessed from within the library, but will be available remotely at this time. Users must enter a password to gain access; the password is books11. To get started, visit the Genealogy section of the library's website under Resources page. If you have questions about accessing Ancestry from home, call the library or email notices@sanlib.org.

During the closure, staff members have been creating "how to" videos from home. To see the videos, go to the News Blog at www.sanlib.org/blog.

All overdue fines and user fees are waived during the closure. The library is implementing automatic renewal of library cards. The eShelf and all online services remain available 24/7. All programs and meetings are postponed or canceled. Questions and comments may be directed to the email listed on the website: notices@sanlib.org.

Sanibel Public Library cards are available to all residents of Sanibel and Lee County at no charge. Visitor cards are available for a \$10 fee and are good for one year.

Sanibel Public Library is located at 770 Dunlop Road, Sanibel.✱

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Explore An Early Fishing Cottage On Sanibel

Visitors to the Sanibel Historical Village can explore Burnap Cottage, an 1898 fishing cottage built by Sam Woodring. The building sat on the tip of Tarpon Bay for about 100 years before being moved to the village. Photos of Esperanza Woodring, Sam's widow, adorn the walls. At Sam's death, Esperanza took over and became the leading fishing guide on the Sanibel. Her stove and sewing machine are on display in the cottage.

The building's name refers to Hiram Burnap, a retired businessman from Toledo, Ohio, who added the cottage to his southern fishing retreat in 1902. He and his friends used the cottage for tarpon fishing in the bay every November until his death in 1910.

A number of features of island life are on display in Burnap Cottage, including a Fresnel lens in the back room. This lens was on a lightship before it was moved to the Sanibel Lighthouse, where it was in use from 1962 to 1982. A lot of information about the Sanibel Lighthouse fills the back room, including schematics and a timeline of the lighthouse keepers, all of them with interesting stories to tell.

In one corner hangs a stained glass window above a small organ, reminders that this building was also used by itinerant preacher George Gatewood for Sunday services when Burnap was not using the cottage. At one time, the window lighted the stairs to the second floor.

Burnap Cottage also houses photographs and memorabilia from the *Algiers*, Sanibel's first "mega mansion." It all began in 1925 in a Cincinnati shipyard where a workhorse boat was built to haul automobiles across the Mississippi. The boat had been a car ferry for 25 years until a wealthy Boston couple with a fondness for quirky fixer-uppers bought it at an auction in 1958.

Lathrop and Helen Brown brought



Burnap Cottage with a replica of the Sanibel Lighthouse out front photos provided

the 155-foot boat to Sanibel in 1959 to the 25 beachfront acres they had bought after vacationing on the island. They were no ordinary vacationers, though. Helen was a shipping heiress and Lathrop was a New York congressman, and Franklin D. Roosevelt's college roommate and best man.

They gave the rather plain boat a glamorous makeover, retrofitting the exterior with antebellum trimmings, a huge paddlewheel, feathered smokestacks and vintage gingerbread. Inside, they created a palace with Italian terrazzo tiles, French marble countertops, and sinks inlaid with gold seahorses and gold-plated dolphin faucets. There was an elevator and a restaurant-equipped kitchen boasting a fairly new-fangled invention: the microwave.

To get the *Algiers* to its Sanibel destination, the Browns had it pulled by tugboat. They hired crews to cut a channel through the island's interior, which they filled in behind themselves as they went. The Browns had borrowed the volunteer fire department's pump truck to help move water in the canal.

Lathrop died suddenly soon



Fresnel lens that illuminated the Sanibel Lighthouse

thereafter.

Broken-hearted, Helen returned to Boston, never to return to Sanibel and never to sleep in her "dream boat." Eventually, she put it up for sale for \$550,000 and in 1979, when the newly incorporated City of Sanibel was looking to acquire more beachfront land, it was suggested they consider the Brown property. The deal closed in 1981, but by then, the boat was dangerously dilapidated. Though there was talk of using it as city hall or leasing it for a restaurant, it was beyond repair. After everything salvageable was stripped and auctioned, the city had the *Algiers* demolished in 1982. The one building left standing was the servants' quarters, which were converted into the restrooms at Sanibel's Gulfside City Park, also known as Algiers Beach.

From the boat itself, just a few things remain: the captain's wheel, the anchor, and the bell, all of which are on display at the Burnap Cottage in the Sanibel Historical Village.

Burnap Cottage eventually became a home, and an extension and second story were added. When the building was moved to the historical village, the volunteer group known as the "Hammerheads" restored the cottage to



Esperanza Woodring's stove



A stained glass window hangs above a small organ

its original condition.

Located at 950 Dunlop Road on Sanibel, next to BIG ARTS, the historical village is closed until further notice due to the coronavirus pandemic. A reopening date is uncertain. For more information, visit www.sanibelmuseum.org.✧



Closeup of the Algiers



Aerial view of the Algiers



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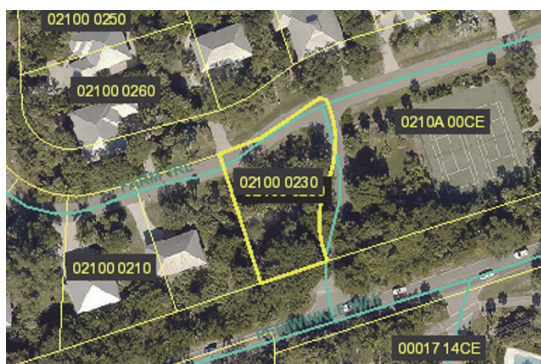
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Leatherback sea turtle on the west end of Sanibel

photos provided

First Sighting Of Leatherback In SCCF History

For the first time in Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) history, a nesting leatherback sea turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*) was encountered during nighttime surveys just after midnight on May 11.

Having first discovered her false crawl earlier in the night, the sea turtle team was excited to find her monstrous tracks once again, this time hopefully leading

up the beach to a turtle in the process of successfully nesting. Luckily, they were able to do just that and couldn't have been more thrilled.

"Having a total of three rare leatherback nests this season has been so encouraging. To finally be able to see one while she nested was an amazing experience," said SCCF Research Associate Jack Brzoza.

"A new turtle to our beaches, we named her "Juniper." We are very hopeful this isn't the last time we will get to see her this season," he added.

During the nighttime surveys that began on May 1, so far, the team has



Andrew Glinsky conducting a nighttime survey

encountered 39 sea turtles. Out of this sample size, 17 were previously tagged on Sanibel and two are from other tagging beaches on Florida's gulf coast. Tagging provides valuable data on nesting site selection, growth and site fidelity.

This season, the turtles are off to a great start and monitors have encountered more turtles than expected for mid-May. The average number of

turtles encountered by the night teams for May 12 is about seven; about five times as many as usual.

Overall, nesting is more than three times higher than usual for now, with a total of 67 loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*) nests on Sanibel and 21 loggerhead nests on Captiva.

To report any issues with nests, nesting turtles or hatchlings, call SCCF's Sea Turtle Hotline at 978-728-3663.✪



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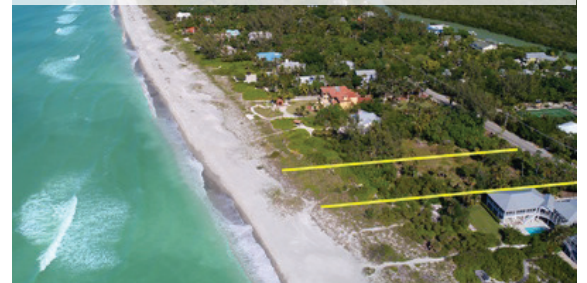
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Children get plenty of nature time at summer camp

photo provided

Registration Is Open For CECI Summer Camp

Explorations, adventures and discoveries await at the Children’s Education Center (CECI) Summer Nature Camp. CECI specializes in curating camps for curious kids. Whether your child is a budding ecologist, future veterinarian or outdoor explorer, CECI’s camps offer a unique summer experience.

There are eight weeks of camp themes to choose from including Cooking with Nature; Argh! Pirates!; Puddle Stompers; Water, Water Everywhere; and Hands on Habitat. All programs are designed and led by preschool environmental educators who bring their knowledge of science, nature and animals to each adventure. Camps are offered June 8 through July 31 for children ages 1 through 5. All the necessary precautions are being taken to keep children, families and staff safe during this time. Sign up online at www.childrenseducationcenter.com/register, or call 472-4538 for more information.*

Sewing For A Cause

From page 1
like I’m in another country.”
His role in the process is far from the sewing, near the end of the line where he helps package the masks.
“This sewing machine is complicated,” he said. “I fear I’ll lose a finger. This thing is dangerous, it’s crazy. I’ll handle any power tool well before that.”
With Elke managing the dreaded machine, the assembly line turns out about 50 masks over an eight-hour day. Elke often works more than that, and runs a tight ship, according to her husband. After 25 years of marriage, the couple makes a great team, although Brian worries the project will cut into his fishing time.
“But she keeps me in check,” he said with a laugh.

Despite the more recent availability of disposable masks, the family is seeing a high demand for their masks and is working hard to fill orders.
“To be honest, it’s such brainless work... It’s almost relaxing, like cutting the grass. It’s kind of a break mentally from everything that everybody’s going through,” he said, describing the steps he has to follow on his end of the line. “To revert to something that simple is sadly fun. Just thinking about it myself, I’m actually kind of looking forward to getting out of (the restaurant), and staring at these stupid things.”

A cow-print mask is available for purchase to the public for \$14.95 through the restaurant’s website or Facebook page. The masks feature a removable protective filter to allow for easy washing.
“The fact that we all have to wear masks is still mind-blowing,” Brian admitted.
While The Island Cow, located at 2163 Periwinkle Way, reopened a few of weeks ago, business has been slow. Brian balances his days between the restaurant and home, where he said he’s needed more to help fill orders.
“Obviously, we’ve all gone through hurricanes and red tides and the rest of it, and you put everything back together, clean everything and you open the doors and people are here. This has been, you open the doors and yeah, there’s some people here, but at what percentage of your usual sales,”



Handmade cow-print masks are available for purchase from The Island Cow
photo provided

he explained. “It’s quiet and it’s going to be quiet for a long time, unfortunately, I think.”
Having so much time together has been a special experience for the family. With a no-TV rule, they take turns picking music to accompany the work. They’ve instituted funny T-shirt day on Fridays, with a closing time of 4 o’clock followed by daiquiris.
“I’ve got to make this kind of fun, just to boost morale,” he added.
Brian admits there have also been some interesting conversations with his daughters.
“It’s been kind of fun, in that respect, to really hear what’s going on. Some of it I think I don’t want to know, honestly, like talk of old boyfriends coming back. I’m like, ‘What? He’s calling you? Give me your phone,’” he explained with animation. “And the chitter-chatter of little girls is a whole different mindset. It’s so fun. You wish you were 14 again.”
“To get to spend that much time with your kids is pretty enlightening, if you have a teenager and a struggling millennial, and your wife. There hasn’t been bloodshed, but,” he said, dropping the subject.
He also has enjoyed the forum to share his own stories of past conquests.
“They just want to hear my stories. I sound like a crazy old man sitting next to a fireplace with a pipe.”
To order a mask or to donate to the cause, visit www.sanibelislandcow.com/shop or The Island Cow on Facebook.*

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As I see it, the problem with the way term life insurance is offered today is that it eventually gets too expensive.

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guaranteed not to change for a set number of years. So you feel pretty good about your insurance program until you get the bill at the end of the guaranteed period. They lower the boom on you and increase the premium five-fold or 10-fold for the first year after the guaranteed period. And, as if that were not bad enough, it leaps again the next year and the next year and so on until you cannot afford it anymore and have to drop it.

It looks like they are happy to insure you for a low price while you are younger and healthy but when you are older and closer to dying, they will charge you an arm and a leg to keep your insurance going. It looks as though they are encouraging you to drop it before they have to pay on it.

Consider the case of Jane, a 35-year-old woman in good health who wants \$500,000 of life insurance. A major insurance company will charge her \$239 per year for a 15-year term policy... guaranteed to stay at that price for 15 years. If she keeps it beyond that time, she pays outlandish amounts: \$2,879 in the 16th year, \$3,189 in the 17th year, \$3,539 in the 18th year and so forth.

If Jane is like most people, she will want to keep the insurance for the long haul but, at these prices, she will not be

able to. If she is healthy, she can replace her policy with another policy and, if it is term insurance, then repeat the cycle over again. But, it will be far more expensive than her original policy. If she is not healthy enough to get new coverage, she is stuck with the original policy.

Now, one company has come up with an improvement. It is a universal-life (UL) policy that acts like a term policy in many ways. It guarantees a level premium and the death benefit for the initial period – up to 30 years – just like a term policy. Then, at the end of the initial period, the premium stays the same but the death benefit is reduced markedly like the old “decreasing term” insurance. In our example above, the death benefit becomes about \$200,000 in the 16th year when Jane is 50 years old. The death benefit continues to drop by about \$20,000 initially and then gradually at a slower rate each year until it reaches \$10,000 by age 83. At that time, the death benefit levels off and the guaranteed premium starts to increase annually. Throughout the whole life of the policy, it builds no cash value. The amount of premium required is guaranteed not to differ from the amount stated in the policy.

I find this policy to be a little more useful than a term insurance policy. It provides the full death benefit for the initial period and then a decreasing amount for another period. The cost is initially comparable to that of a similar term policy and then better than term for a period.

But the full amount does not last for the truly long haul. When people reach their 50s and 60s, they generally do not want to lose their insurance or reduce it, especially not keeping just \$10,000 of it. They want to use it to leave a legacy, to pay off the mortgage and other bills, to provide for the medical problems of other family members and to be sure the surviving spouse has enough to live on.

J. Brendan Ryan is a Cincinnati insurance agent. He can be reached at jbryanclu@aol.com.✴

Superior Interiors

Home Organization Tips



by Trinette Nelson

As we stay close to home, feelings of nostalgia, accomplishment and recollection surface. It's a great time to look back at all of the memories made

with family and friends, as well as the personal goals you set and achieved this year. It's also the perfect opportunity for a fresh start; to find a new purpose, look forward to the future and embark on new journeys with your loved ones. With this refreshing time also comes an opportunity to get your home back in order, as upkeep may have fallen by the wayside.

The business of our lives over the course of a year often creates a whirlwind of chaos, likely making your living space less orderly than you'd like. So, why not take advantage of this time for a fresh start and get organized? Before you commit to this task, you need to be in the right mindset. When approaching an organizing project, it's important to think of it in a similar way you think of fitness routines and diets. These things are most successful when they are approached in a way that can be maintainable with your lifestyle. Organizing is the same. If the systems you set up are not feasible to maintain, then they will not stick. Once your mind is in the right place, you can get coordinated with ease. Here are a few home organization tips to consider

during your time at home:
Donate unused items – Before you start reorganizing your items, get rid of everything you haven't used in months. These items are better off in the hands of someone who will utilize them, so instead of throwing things in the trash, take advantage of donating. Giving back is especially important during this time.
Start filing – Gone are the days of stacking your mail near the front door, only for it to pile up for months until it crashes down onto the kitchen floor. Put a filing system in place instead. Hangable storage is great because they can add character to a space while also being fully functional. Not only will this keep your mind at ease, it'll also make your living space look more sleek, stylish and put together.

Develop a regular cleaning routine – The last thing you want to do is put effort into a reorganized space in January only for it to fall to pieces by late February. Instead of letting your home get out of hand instantly, start prioritizing a regular cleaning routine. Each week reorganize everything in your living space that's out of place. Every other week, give each room a deep clean. Remember that it takes 21 days to develop a habit, so if you stay motivated and push yourself through the first month, your organization habits will stick.
Sometimes, getting your home back in order can seem like an impossible task. If you're worried about getting the job done on your own and you need some help maintaining an organized space as well, contact a design professional. They will provide helpful insight, tips and ideas to make your home more cohesive and organized.
Trinette Nelson is an interior designer on Sanibel/Captiva Islands and can be reached at linda@coindecden.com.✴

From page 1
BIG ARTS

called Captiva home. Horkey has been compared to pop artist Roy Lichtenstein, whose parodies of comic strips helped launch a new wave of art. Horkey's work is multi-faceted, using layers of wood, paper, old advertisements, stencils, paint and other mixed media. Organizers felt it was a good choice for the digital experience.

“We thought Josh was very different for BIG ARTS – still fresh, still approachable,” said Lauren Huff, programs and gallery manager of BIG ARTS. “It wasn't very harsh or dramatic. It's still very fun and light and colorful, which we found was great for the gallery.”

Those visiting the website will also be able to view a “walk and talk” video that was shot recently, featuring a tour with the artist describing his influences and how his artistic style came together. All works in the show are available for sale. Limited edition signed prints are also available.
“We wanted it to be really



Mixed media piece by Joshua Horkey

interactive, not just looking at the art. Something that gave you almost the same experience as if you went to the live opening, where Josh would have been there,” Dest added.

photo provided

Designing a show in this way was a challenge for the BIG ARTS committee, but the new space has given organizers opportunities to showcase artwork in creative ways.

“The show was designed to be seen in person, but obviously given the circumstances, we're unable to do that at this time,” said Dest. “But I think the digital piece will really still lend itself to showing everybody what the space looks like from head to toe, and include high definition images that you can really feel that you're looking at it as if you were there in person.”
The virtual exhibit will be available to view throughout the summer. It will also physically remain on the walls and floor of the gallery until a new show is planned, so that the public may be able to visit in person, “hopefully when things settle down,” Dest said.
“We're hoping this project will be successful, people will take an interest in it, not even just on the digital side but even just the content and how we're showing artwork and how we're setting up the gallery and utilizing it, that we might continue to do this for our solo shows in the coming years,” said Huff. “It's really great to have the space now to do something this different.”
For more information or to view the show beginning May 27, visit www.bigarts.org or on BIG ARTS' Facebook page.✴

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Rotary Happenings

submitted by Cindy Carter

The current pandemic has affected us all, in many different ways. For our young adults attending college, it seems to have been a double whammy. They have had to switch to an online learning platform, which honestly, with this generation, has not been a hard transition, albeit unwanted. They have also had to leave the freedom that all college-age students have begun to discover and cherish, just to come back home to the rule of Mom and Dad, which in our household at least, is a far cry from the freedoms of college. Chores and rules were the norm before they left to begin their educational journey of becoming an adult, and somehow, remembering to wash your own dish you used at midnight for ice cream seems so very difficult. Not to mention, reverting back to the “My House, My Rules” format has been a painful and frustrating experience for all affected, students, parents, siblings and anyone within earshot of our household (dramatic sigh and head lowering).

So this week’s speaker of the Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club allowed me specifically, to empathize with the colleges and universities that had to send all their students home due to COVID-19.



Dr. Mike Martin photo provided

We welcomed, by Zoom meeting, FGCU President Dr. Michael V. Martin. Dr. Martin has been the institution’s president since July 1, 2017. He shared the unprecedented challenges he and his staff have encountered during the COVID-19 pandemic, which has created the need for some extreme out-of-the-box thinking. They have had to deal with the initial heart-wrenching decision to close their doors to students and transition, over a single weekend, to online distance learning. They have been faced with issues of the deep cleaning of their buildings against a new and unknown virus, retaining as many employees as

possible while there are no physical students on campus, to finding solutions to paying for empty buildings.

Dr. Martin shared that FGCU will not be making an reopening decision until July, choosing to wait and see more current statistics before making a final decision, unlike many other colleges and universities. The format of how they will reopen will also be determined, such as completely online for the fall semester, starting online then transitioning to classrooms mid-semester, or starting a half classroom/half online format. Dr. Martin’s optimism and honesty was reassuring all the while, keeping in mind his number one priority: the safety of the students and staff of the university.

Dr. Martin became FGCU’s fourth president in 2017, following Dr. Wilson G. Bradshaw’s retirement. He has more than four decades of experience in public higher-education institutions across the nation, including the University of Florida. He earned a PhD in applied economics at the University of Minnesota in 1977 and master of arts in economics and bachelor of science in business/economics degrees at Mankato State College in 1971 and 1969, respectively. He has published research extensively and specializes in topics such as marketing, international trade, and public policy related to economics, transportation and business logistics.

*The Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club normally meets at The Dunes Golf and Tennis Club on Friday mornings at 7 a.m. However, due to the COVID-19 crisis, we are meeting by Zoom meetings. Contact rotarycindycarter@gmail.com if you would like to be included.**

envelope and should provide your phone number and email address so you can be contacted by the Lee County Supervisor of Elections if there are problems with your ballot. Your signature will be compared to the signature that is on file with the SOE; it is the one you used when you registered to vote. This is usually, but not always, the signature on your driver’s license. If you are concerned that your signature might have changed, you can download a form at www.lee.vote to submit a new signature or call the Lee County SOE directly at 533-8683.

Voters can track the status of their VBM ballot. Go to the www.lee.vote homepage or voting page, and choose the Track Your Ballot option. You can see when your request for VBM was received and also when your ballot was mailed, received and counted.

You must request your VBM ballot anytime before Saturday, August 8 for the Tuesday, August 18 Primary Election.

For the November 3 General Election, you must request it anytime before October 24.

Click on www.lee.vote or www.Vote411.org to register to vote, check your registration status, change your address, or see what’s on your ballot.

For more information, contact the League of Women Voters of Sanibel at lwvsanibel@gmail.com.*

ISLAND SUN BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

Pfeifer Realty Group



Gregory Demaras



Wendy Kirschner

The top producers for April at Pfeifer Realty Group were: Greg Demaras, top listing agent; and Wendy Kirschner, top sales agent.*

RE/MAX Of The Islands



Chuck Andrews



Chris Kirchner

The top producers for April at RE/MAX of the Islands were: Chuck Andrews, top selling associate; and Chris Kirchner, top marketing associate.*

Submit Your Request Early To Vote By Mail

The League of Women Voters of Sanibel is recommending that all registered voters request their Vote-by-Mail (VBM) ballots now. In these challenging times, some things may change, but VBM is always a great choice for safe, convenient and effective voting.

All registered voters are eligible to vote by mail. Ballots can be requested from the Lee County Supervisor of Elections (SOE) online, by phone, by email or in person.

Once you have requested to VBM or have voted previously by mail, you must renew your request every two general elections. VBM ballots will not be forwarded but you can change the address to which they will be mailed. Call the SOE office at 533-8683 for more information.

As circumstances change, you may opt to vote early, or you can still go to the polls on election day.

Requesting your VBM ballot now provides assurance that your voice will be heard, regardless of how things change relative to the pandemic, potential hurricanes, or long lines at the polls.

When you vote by mail, you must sign the back of the ballot certificate

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The Irony Of Keeping It Simple



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

When a new client first visits with me to update their estate plan, it isn't unusual for them to say, "I just want to keep it simple."

The irony of that statement is that almost none of my clients has a "simple" situation. If all I had in my estate was a checking and savings account of less than \$100,000, and if I want to leave it all to my wife, then all I do is own the account jointly with her as "husband and wife."

Simple. Problem solved.

But that's not what most people have nor is it what they really want. What they really want are several things.

Privacy: They want their plan to be private, not public. This usually requires the use of a trust as opposed to a will. They have a certain idea how they want to take care of their loved ones when they're no longer around, and don't want their family to scramble in a time of crisis. So they want an ongoing relationship with seasoned professionals, which is different than a transactional experience, which many assume creating an estate plan is.

Protection: They want to protect the inheritance they leave their children from a divorcing spouse, a business lawsuit or creditors. Simple outright or staged distributions over time won't achieve that goal. We need something a bit more complex.

Taxes: Another goal is to minimize taxes. Even though federal estate tax exemptions are high and don't affect many, income tax planning is becoming more important as many clients have significant balances in their IRA and 401(k) accounts. Tax planning requires careful thought and consideration of various strategies.

Avoid Court Processes: No one wants unnecessary court processes to interfere with their lives, such as guardianship and probate. This goal coincides with the universal desire to minimize legal, accounting and financial service firm expenses. Who we designate as trustee, our power of attorney agent and health care surrogate comes into focus, along with the instructions we leave behind.

Family And Financial Dynamics: There's no such thing as a static family or financial situation, is there? Our families grow with the birth of new children and grandchildren, and our adult children's needs change as they raise their own families.

As recent stock market gyrations caused by the global COVID-19 demonstrate, our financial situation is dynamic, perhaps more so than anyone cares to acknowledge. Some of us don't look at our monthly portfolio statements as we don't want to know the bad news. Consequently, we need an estate plan that can adapt to these changing circumstances.

Some clients are part of a blended family, where his children and her children are not the same. These clients generally want to take care of one another, but then have assets eventually filter back to their respective bloodlines. What does one do when a significant portion of their portfolio is held in an IRA or 401(k) account, for example? If Janet names George as her primary beneficiary, this is simple, right? But assume George survives Janet. He rolls over the IRA account and may select anyone that he wants to be his beneficiary. In other words, he has no obligation absent a nuptial agreement that expressly speaks to that point to name Janet's children.

Even if George is true to his word to name Janet's children, assume that after her death, George remarries without a nuptial agreement. His new spouse, should she survive him, will have rights to the IRA account.

It's Not So Simple After All

I believe I've made my case that most of us really don't have "simple" situations.

It's my feeling that when my clients say they want a "simple" estate plan, what they really mean are two things – first that their loved ones aren't trapped in endless meetings with attorneys, CPAs and financial advisors having to make important decisions about complex matters while they're grieving and vulnerable.

Second, they want to understand the plan. Most of our clients have already put an estate plan in place before they moved to Florida and met with us. Their prior attorneys did a lousy job with cookie cutter plans and didn't address their clients' emotional concerns. The clients walked away from that experience with an incomplete plan that they don't understand.

This is where having relationships with qualified professionals will keep things "simple." A good estate plan is one thought out, where different scenarios are considered, to ensure the plan remains consistent with the client's intent. Keeping that plan on track also requires consistent reviews so the attorney knows the current family dynamics.

When that happens, the plan works for the family. It's ready when it needs to be. Now that's simple.

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How's The Market? Ask Ann

Here's a look at the market conditions for the middle of May, during the 7th week of the "Shut Down." Going back 7 days, our MLS system reported 8 NEW pending sales on Sanibel and 2 Sales on Captiva. We are encouraged by this activity in recent "NEW" sales. Particularly with our resort rental business being closed during this time period.

Sanibel's City Council met on May 11. The decision was made to keep city-owned paid parking closed until June 1. Restaurants are to remain open at 25% capacity and everyone in retail and other businesses that deal with the public are strongly encouraged to wear masks. There was a long discussion as to whether to make this mandatory. Limits on resorts and hotels were allowed to expire on May 15. Resorts and hotels can now rent at 50% capacity. The limit of 30-day rentals remains in effect for privately-owned condo rentals.

Do I need a property survey when purchasing a home? If you are getting a mortgage, the bank will require one. If you have intentions to put on an addition, add a pool, or add or change a boat dock, the City of Sanibel will require a survey. It is best to work with a local survey firm familiar with the city's coverage requirements. Make sure your contractor is heavily involved in the survey process when you start a project. Surveys are a wealth of information. Issues that may be addressed prior to closing include encroachments, wetland areas, gopher tortoise habitats, utility and drainage easements, and roadway rights of way. When ordering a survey, also order a flood elevation certificate, which you will need for insurance.

If you have any questions, feel free to call or email.



Ann Gee
Broker/Owner



FISH Prepares For Hurricane Season

Every year, FISH of SanCap works with experts from the City of Sanibel, Lee County Emergency Management Coordinator Debbie Quimby and others to discuss and plan for hurricane season, which begins June 1 and runs through November 30. From that collaboration, FISH develops its Hurricane Resource Packet, available to anyone who requests it.

The FISH Hurricane Resource Packet provides information on where to go, what to do and how to prepare in the event of an approaching storm. FISH and a team of volunteers verify evacuation routes, flood zones, hotels with generators and other safety measures in order to update the packet. "The safety of our neighbors is of utmost importance. We want to make sure everyone has



reliable information on hand in case a storm approaches. Just knowing what to pack and where to go can help alleviate stress and confusion during an emergency," said Sharon Thomas, hurricane committee chair.

Throughout hurricane season, FISH maintains a list of those most vulnerable, such as elderly, those with health and medical conditions, and those who are alone. If a storm is approaching, FISH staff, committee members and volunteers will connect with those on their list to confirm evacuation. If you would like to become part of that list, contact Anthony Morales at 472-0404.

FISH stresses the importance of making an evacuation plan, gathering emergency supplies, and creating lists of contacts and medicine. It is also important to frequently check in with local officials or FISH to ensure you have the most up-to-date information as things may change due to COVID-19. To receive a Hurricane Resource Packet, call 472-0404 or email anthony@fishofsancap.org. Phone calls may be arranged for those who would like more detailed discussion on how to prepare during hurricane season.✪

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Save the Manatee 5K participants Cora and Chuck wearing this year's T-shirts, race bibs and finisher's medals at Blue Spring State Park in Orange City, Florida photo provided

Registration Open For Virtual Save The Manatee 5K

Registration is open for the Virtual Save the Manatee 5K. Participants can run, walk, cycle, swim, kayak or rollerblade on a

favorite course or trail near home – all in support of manatees. The event can be completed anytime, anywhere, by racers of any age. All finishers will receive a manatee T-shirt, finisher's medal and race bib in the mail. Proceeds from the race are donated to Save the Manatee Club to support manatee conservation efforts.

The annual Save the Manatee 5K in-person race normally takes place each

May in Harrison Township, Michigan. This year, as with all large gatherings, the race has been postponed to September 27 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. While Michigan is miles away from manatee habitat, thousands of racers have shown up over the last 16 years to run for the manatees. Fundraising efforts have contributed to a variety of education and conservation projects produced by Save the Manatee Club, furthering its mission to protect imperiled manatees.

The Save the Manatee 5K was started by Lesley Argiri and her husband Brian McDonald, who are both teachers at LAnse Creuse public schools in Harrison Township, Michigan. Their efforts have raised more than \$243,000 to help manatees. This year, Argiri, race director, has shifted her focus from the Michigan event to the worldwide virtual event. While the virtual event

has been successful in the past, uniting racers from all 50 U.S. states and over 16 countries, it is even more pertinent this year as the world stays home and participates in events virtually.

"Our main goal is to keep everyone safe," Argiri said. With her usual team of student volunteers staying home, Argiri and McDonald are the ones mailing out the hundreds of race packets. "We hope the race can bring smiles to faces in this crisis and give families something to do to get outside."

Racers can register online through September 27 and share their finisher's photos with the T-shirt, race medal and race bib on the Save the Manatee 5K Facebook page at www.facebook.com/savethemanatee5K.

"It's great to see a global passion for helping our precious wildlife," Argiri said. Register to run for the manatees at www.savethemanatee5k.com.

ISLAND SUN BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

VIP Realty Group

The top producers for March at VIP Realty Group were: David Schuldenfrei, top sales; Connie Walters, top listings; and Janka Varmuza, top producer.✪



David Schuldenfrei



Connie Walters



Janka Varmuza

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Frankly Speaking



by Howard Prager

A beautiful diamond, manicured grass, the crack of the bat and the (softer) sound of cheers. Baseball is back – Korean baseball (KBO) that is. I watched live baseball last week (actually I taped it) and am pleased to say it’s quite satisfying. The game is well-played. They have stars, teams and uniforms just like we do. Good fundamentals. Welcome to Korean baseball, where the uniforms and teams are known by their sponsors and their cities. The announcers are American and are quite good. I heard Jon Sciambi and Eduardo Perez, and they kept the play-by-play exciting enough, sharing background information even though I didn’t know the players. To break things up they had several interviews with Major League Baseball (MLB) managers during the game. I saw Trey Hillman interviewed about the differences managing in Korea and Japan, where he each won championships versus the U.S. He’s currently a Marlins coach. He said he listened a lot more when managing in Korea and Japan and had two interpreters, but said even in the U.S. you have interpreters with Latino ballplayers who don’t speak English. Craig Counsell, manager of the Brewers, was also interviewed.

In Korean baseball they use video reviews of questionable plays and have a clock to limit them to three minutes. I saw that happen a couple of times with a close play at the plate where a replay angle showed the runner safe. It is a more pitching-friendly league – 4.18 league ERA versus 4.51 in MLB in 2019 – and hitters are more focused on contact and putting the ball in play.

Some COVID-19 rules. Anyone not in uniform is required to wear a mask and gloves. Umpires wear masks, and players have the option of wearing masks. I saw some wearing them in the dugout. No spitting. No fans in the stands, although there were some people – from the teams? – who did appear in some of the seats behind home plate and another group in the grandstands.

What’s strange or different? Seeing all the signs and stadium ads in Korean. Cheerleaders for baseball. No organ or music. I thought it would be a silent game, but the scattered fans and players made enough noise to keep it interesting. Other differences include games ending in a tie if they aren’t decided in 12 innings. The mounds don’t have a uniform mound height – slight differences but still an adjustment. And, before 2016, they did not have a uniform baseball – there were six different baseballs and the home team provided them. Each team had to have and practice with six types of baseballs because it all depended on the home park.

My wife Laurie said it was hard for her to get excited about baseball teams and players she didn’t know. That wasn’t true for me, but I must say after seven innings of a close game, my interest was starting

to wane. If you miss baseball, give KBO a try – it’s fun to watch live games and I loved the patter and interviews.

Last weekend, some American sports restarted, NASCAR at Darlington Raceway and golf at Seminole Golf Club, both played without any spectators and with distance and masks. Kevin Harvick won his 50th NASCAR race. Rory McIlroy and Dustin Johnson won the TaylorMade Driving Relief, earning \$2,075,000 for charity while Rickie Fowler and Matthew Wolff earned \$1,555,000 in defeat. Adding in viewer donations, the event raised \$5,503,959 for COVID-19 relief. A nice way to get started. PGA events start June 11.

And, I have been remiss in sharing a good news story of the day. Let’s hear two. First about a bridal shop in the Little Village neighborhood of Chicago, a highly Hispanic neighborhood that has been hit with nearly 2,400 COVID-19 cases and is not far from U.S. Cellular Field (White Sox). The owner decided that during these times instead of making gowns they would make masks. So far, they’ve made 17,000 of them! Up and coming Sox star Eloy Jimenez heard about this and gave \$500 cash and \$500 gift cards to each of the workers to thank them and taped video messages of encouragement while arranging for the Sox to donate jerseys to use to make masks for first responders. This was greatly appreciated. There are many causes athletes and owners are supporting during these times, and these stories often go unreported and need to be shared. Share any extraordinary humanitarian stories that you hear during these times.

Second, Hall of Famer and Cubs and Expos great Andre Dawson was featured on the network news last weekend. He was an investor in a funeral home in Miami, and the owners wanted out. “The Hawk” decided it was his calling, and he and his family have become very involved as owners and managers of the home. He believes whatever he can do to support grieving families who have lost loved ones from COVID-19 and other causes is his personal calling right now. Andre, we keep cheering for you.

Stay safe and healthy! In the near future we’ll talk about *The Last Dance* to give you a chance to catch it in case you haven’t.

Howard Prager is the son-in-law of longtime columnist Ed Frank. Prager is a sports enthusiast from the Chicago

area who also writes and blogs about leadership. Email comments or questions to press@islandsunnews.com.✪

Emergency Funds Available For FSW Students

Florida SouthWestern State College (FSW) students who have experienced financial hardship due to COVID-19 can now apply for CARES Act Student Emergency Funds. These grants are intended to assist students in need and do not need to be repaid.

The following is a list of expenses that can be considered for emergency grant funds if they were incurred in direct relation to the disruption of campus operations due to COVID-19: housing; food; childcare; technology (assistance with Wi-Fi access or purchasing computer hardware or software); and course materials.

The emergency grant funds are not intended to be used to replace a loss of income or to pay for student expenses that are not directly related to the disruption of campus operations due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Emergency grant funds are limited and will be disbursed to eligible students based on order of application until all CARES Act funds are depleted. In order to be eligible to receive CARES Act Student Emergency Funds, students must meet the eligibility criteria found at www.fsw.edu/caresact.

For more information, eligibility requirements and instructions, visit www.fsw.edu/caresact.✪

Saturday Vehicle Registration Day Canceled

The Lee County Tax Collector’s Single Payment Saturday for vehicle registration renewals on May 23 has been canceled.

The Saturday registration date was to be held at service centers located in South Fort Myers, downtown Fort Myers, Cape Coral, Bonita Springs, North Fort Myers and Lehigh Acres.

For more information, visit www.leetc.com/saturday.✪

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SPORTS QUIZ

1. What former New England Patriots tight end was the host of WWE’s *WrestleMania* 36 event?

2. In 2014, who became the first to drive the No. 3 car in the NASCAR Cup Series since Dale Earnhardt at the 2001 Daytona 500?

3. What player – nicknamed the “Clown Prince of Basketball” – had his No. 36 jersey retired by the Harlem Globetrotters in 2001?

4. Who is the only player inducted into both the Arena Football Hall of Fame (2011) and the Pro Football Hall of Fame (2017)?

5. Three-time Indianapolis 500 champion Helio Castroneves also was the Season 5 winner on what ABC TV competition series?

6. What former Major League Baseball player had a 44-game hitting streak as a member of the Cincinnati Reds in 1978?

7. WebstUR is the mascot for what university’s athletic teams?

ANSWERS

1. Rob Gronkowski. 2. Austin Dillon. 3. Meadowlark Lemon. 4. Kurt Warner. 5. Dancing With the Stars. 6. Pete Rose. 7. The University of Richmond Spiders.

Beautifulife:

Footprints



by Kay Casperson

I walk the beach barefoot every morning. It is my wellness time, my quiet time, my prayer time and my rejuvenation. It is something that I need and would miss if I could not do it. This past

week, I began to realize how important it is to put your feet in the sand now and then, and noticed the various footprints that were left behind. There were people's footprints, big and small. There were dog prints, bird prints, and even marks left from the sea turtles coming in to lay their eggs in the sand.

I started to think about how healthy I feel when I am breathing the air, soaking up the sun and feeling the sand between my toes. In fact, there are health experts who say that walking barefoot on the sand connects us to the beauty of nature. This, in turn, can help manage stress and make you feel better overall in many ways. It can awaken our senses, which is relaxing and energizing at the same time.

Seeing footprints in the sand reminded me of how important it is to leave our footprints behind for others to see and be inspired to keep going, keep pushing forward, to endure and survive



Footprints in the sand photo provided

all that life throws our way. There will always be times in our lives filled with sorrow, grief or disappointment, just as there will be joy, peace and celebration. Seeing footprints in the sand is a symbol that life keeps moving no matter what, and we are destined to keep moving forward.

This also reminded me of a famous poem that many of you have heard before. It was originally written by a woman named Mary Stevenson in 1936 and it goes like this:

"One night I dreamed I was walking along the beach with the Lord. Many scenes from my life flashed across the sky. In each scene, I noticed footprints

in the sand. Sometimes there were two sets of footprints; other times there was only one set of footprints.

This bothered me because I noticed that during the low periods of my life, when I was suffering from anguish, sorrow, or defeat, I could see only one set of footprints. So I said to the Lord, 'You promised me, Lord, that if I followed you, you would walk with me always. But I have noticed that during the most trying periods of my life there has only been one set of footprints in the sand. Why, when I needed you most, you have not been there for me?'

The Lord replied, 'The times when you have seen only one set of footprints, is when I carried you.'

There will always be times in our lives where only one set of footprints shows up, because we will all need to be carried now and then. Carried out of sorrow, carried out of pain, carried out of fear or loss. But if we hold tight to knowing that there is always a light that will shine through the darkness to get us to the other side, we will be able to continue our journey to our most blessed and beautiful life.

My affirmation for you this week is:

"I will leave my footprints in the sand and on the hearts of those I am blessed to know. I will keep walking forward and will cherish all of my blessings from yesterday, today and tomorrow."

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 manufactures

beauty and lifestyle products sold across the country. To stay inspired, visit www.kaycasperson.com or follow on social media @kaycasperson.*

Hole In One



Frank D'Ambrosio photo provided

Frank D'Ambrosio made a hole in one on hole 17 at The Dunes Golf and Tennis Club on March 13. D'Ambrosio's ace was witnessed by fellow member Jack Camillo.*



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 FRIDAY Sunny High: 83 Low: 79	 SATURDAY Sunny High: 84 Low: 80	 SUNDAY Sunny High: 85 Low: 81	 MONDAY Sunny High: 88 Low: 83	 TUESDAY Partly Cloudy High: 84 Low: 80	 WEDNESDAY Sunny High: 87 Low: 82	 THURSDAY Sunny High: 84 Low: 80
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Redfish Pass Tides				
Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	2:51 am	6:20 am	12:48 pm	8:18 pm
Sat	3:38 am	6:35 am	1:15 pm	8:56 pm
Sun	4:27 am	6:51 am	1:47 pm	9:38 pm
Mon	5:26 am	7:08 am	2:24 pm	10:25 pm
Tue	3:08 pm	11:17 pm	None	None
Wed	3:58 pm	None	None	None
Thu	5:00 pm	12:14 am	None	None

Point Ybel Tides				
Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	1:56 am	6:22 am	11:53 am	8:20 pm
Sat	2:43 am	6:37 am	12:20 pm	8:58 pm
Sun	3:32 am	6:53 am	12:52 pm	9:40 pm
Mon	4:31 am	7:10 am	1:29 pm	10:27 pm
Tue	2:13 pm	11:19 pm	None	None
Wed	3:03 pm	None	None	None
Thu	4:05 pm	12:16 am	None	None

Punta Rassa Tides				
Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	1:43 am	7:08 am	12:59 pm	8:27 pm
Sat	2:25 am	7:31 am	1:11 pm	9:09 pm
Sun	3:17 am	7:57 am	1:32 pm	9:53 pm
Mon	4:19 am	8:31 am	2:05 pm	10:37 pm
Tue	5:19 am	9:14 am	2:50 pm	11:24 pm
Wed	6:16 am	10:02 am	3:51 pm	None
Thu	7:12 am	12:17 am	5:06 pm	10:54 am

Cape Coral Bridge Tides				
Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	5:01 am	9:36 am	2:58 pm	11:34 pm
Sat	5:48 am	9:51 am	3:25 pm	None
Sun	6:37 am	12:12 am	3:57 pm	10:07 am
Mon	7:36 am	12:54 am	4:34 pm	10:24 am
Tue	5:18 pm	1:41 am	None	None
Wed	6:08 pm	2:33 am	None	None
Thu	7:10 pm	3:30 am	None	None

My Stars ★★★★★
FOR WEEK OF MAY 18, 2020

Aries (March 21 to April 19) You might be a bit shaken by a friend's request. But before the Lamb leaps to conclusions, insist on a full explanation. You still might say no, but at least you'll know what you're saying no to.

Taurus (April 20 to May 20) Seeing red over those nasty remarks by someone with an ax to grind? Of course you are. So get out there and give your supporters the facts they need to get the truth out.

Gemini (May 21 to June 20) A changing situation should get you to reassess your vacation plans and make any adjustments as soon as possible. And don't fret – the change most likely will turn out for the better.

Cancer (June 21 to July 22) Don't put off dealing with any negative feelings that might be left over from a recent confrontation. The sooner all is resolved, the sooner you can move forward with fewer complications.

Leo (July 23 to August 22) Leos and Leonas might feel the urge to redecorate their dens, and that can turn into a good opportunity to strengthen family ties by putting the whole pride to work to make it happen.

Virgo (August 23 to September 22) Look for the most efficient way to get a job done quickly and well. Taking more time than you need to make it look more challenging is a short-sighted move you might regret later on.

Libra (September 23 to October 22) A pesky problem should be dealt with immediately so you can put your time and effort into something more important. Someone from your past could have significant news for you.

Scorpio (October 23 to November

21) A workplace situation becomes a lot more bothersome than you'd expected. Be careful not to be pulled into all that anger. Look for support among others who also want to avoid trouble.

Sagittarius (November 22 to December 21) Cheer up, lonely lovers, wherever you are. Just when you thought you'd been deleted from Cupid's database, the chubby cherub proves that's just not so. Congratulations.

Capricorn (December 22 to January 19) A casual relationship could take a more serious turn. Are you ready for it? Your stars say you are. Paired Sea Goats also will find a renewed richness in their relationships.

Aquarius (January 20 to February 18) Meeting a collaborator with new ideas seems to be a dream come true. But for both your sakes, be sure all your legal i's are dotted and t's are crossed before you start working together.

Pisces (February 19 to March 21) A romantic overture flatters the usually unflappable Fish. But since it's a sincere from-the-heart gesture, go ahead and enjoy it. A minor health problem responds well to treatment.

Born This Week: You have the warm heart of a Taurean and the sensitivity of a Gemini. You would make a wonderful leader. So go ahead: Run for office.

MOMENTS IN TIME

- On May 30, 1899, amateur bandit Pearl Hart and her boyfriend Joe Boot hold up an Arizona stagecoach. After taking \$421 in cash from three passengers, Hart took pity on them and handed each back \$1 so they could buy something to eat when they arrived in town.
- On May 28, 1902, Owen Wister's *The Virginian* is published. It was the

first "serious" Western. The book became a sensation almost overnight, selling more than 1.5 million copies by 1938 and inspiring four movies and a Broadway play.

- On May 26, 1927, Henry Ford and his son Edsel drive the 15 millionth Model T Ford out of their factory, marking the famous automobile's official last day of production. The "Tin Lizzie" averaged about 17 mpg and could travel up to 45 mph.
- On May 27, 1939, a ship carrying 937 Jewish refugees is turned away from Cuba. The ship sailed close to Florida, hoping to disembark there, but a State Department telegram stated that the asylum-seekers must first "await their turns on the waiting list and qualify for and obtain immigration visas." After appeals to Canada also were denied, the ship was forced to sail back to Europe.
- On May 29, 1953, Edmund Hillary of New Zealand and Tenzing Norgay, a Sherpa of Nepal, become the first explorers to reach the summit of Mount Everest. News of their achievement broke on June 2, the day of Queen Elizabeth II's coronation.
- On May 31, 1962, in Israel, Nazi SS officer Adolf Eichmann is executed for his crimes against humanity during World War II. Following the war, Eichmann had fled to Argentina, where he was found by Mossad agents.
- On May 25, 1977, Memorial Day weekend opens with an intergalactic bang as the first of George Lucas' blockbuster *Star Wars* movies hits American theaters.

NOW HERE'S A TIP

- If you have a stubborn stain on the driveway or garage floor, try oven cleaner. Spray the spot and cover it (to keep pets out) and then let it sit for several hours. Give it a good scrub and rinse with the

hose. It might just do the trick!

- "I have a tip for you. When pouring water in your coffee pot, use a 4-inch funnel by placing it in the tank. Helps from spilling water. Pour slowly!" – PT in Illinois
- Three ways to honor veterans on Memorial Day: pause for the National Moment of Remembrance (3 p.m. local time), a minute-long pause to remember those who lost their lives in service to our country; donate flowers or place flowers on the graves of veterans in your local cemetery; listen to the stories of veterans through StoryCorps' oral history project (www.storycorps.org/discover/military-voices).
- "Here's a recipe tip from my brother's man cave: Take a can of beer and mix it with a cup of barbecue sauce. Add a couple drops of hot sauce if you're feeling spicy. Use the mix to marinate chicken thighs for several hours before slapping them on the grill. He says the beer helps the chicken absorb the flavor, and he must be right, because it's so yummy." – ED in Arkansas
- Clean hairbrushes and combs by soaking them in a baking soda/water solution. Put them bristles down in a large cup and add the solution. Don't do this to wood handle brushes.
- "Here's a convenient way to measure oil and not have to wash an inconveniently shaped measuring cup: Label a glass jar with marks for common kitchen measurements: 1/4, 1/3, 1/2, 2/3, 3/4 and 1 cup. So easy." – JK in Vermont

continued on page 46



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dearRPharmacist

Popular Meds Are Derived From Plants



by Suzy Cohen, RPh

Dear Readers: Most people believe that medications are synthetic substances that the FDA has approved for the clinical treatment of disorders, without realizing they were derived from a plant.

Thousands of FDA-approved medications began as natural plants and flowers! You may not realize this, but no morphing and patenting is necessary... the natural plants actually provided what humans needed for eons.

Only recently have we begun to turn them into patented chemicals by altering their original form. But their original form is available as herbal medicine, and sold in health food stores nationwide. Maybe not in all cases like morphine, but certainly in thousands of examples.

The beautiful opium plant ultimately led to powerful natural analgesics (think of opium, codeine and morphine) that scientists took to a lab and chemically morphed into patentable (but more potent and addictive) synthetic "opiates," the most infamous of which is oxycodone.

But again, the raw material that was sourced originally from the Earth provided good medicine to begin with.

Another example is penicillin, which was derived from a fungus growing on an agar plate that was accidentally left out on the laboratory counter. The mold was quite visible to scientists. The mold of penicillin had killed the bacteria that was growing on the agar plate. In other words, many antibiotics are fungus-based, and they can kill bacteria.

Before drug companies made a bazillion dollars with aspirin, we did have white willow, which was (and still is) the natural pain killer hidden within the white willow tree's bark. The active ingredient that acts as medicine is called salicin. When you use the herb, the salicin gets metabolized in your body to form salicylic acid which is even stronger.

There is another compelling story I

can share with you about digoxin. This compound naturally occurs in the Foxglove plant (*Digitalis purpurea*). Centuries ago, people used to put these plant chemicals on the tip of their arrowheads in order to kill people.

Quinine is derived from a plant. From quinine we get hydroxychloroquine (HCQ) which may be useful for certain patients with COVID-19, depending on when it is given, and the dose. The Cinchona tree in Peru gave us quinine.

Paclitaxel (Taxol) is the most popular chemotherapy drugs for ovarian, esophageal, breast cancer, lung cancer, Kaposi sarcoma, cervical cancer, pancreatic cancer and others. It is derived from the beautiful Pacific Yew tree.

And finally, we should talk about cocaine. This was used by the Incas 3,500 years ago to produce anesthesia. It came from the Coca plant (*Erythroxylon coca*) and was widely available. Hard to believe!

There was a time and place, before some of us were born, when natural compounds from plants were widely used in our food, beverages and pharmacies. Older pharmacists don't even recognize the big stores today with drive-up windows. It is so very different than those apothecaries that used Mother Earth's original medications, not the mass produced synthetic ones.

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. ✨

Hospitals Earn High Marks For Patient Safety

Patient safety is a top priority at Lee Health and, for the third straight report card, all four of its adult acute care hospitals have earned the highest national marks for safe care.

The Leapfrog Group recently announced its Spring 2020 Hospital Safety Grades, awarding Cape Coral Hospital, Gulf Coast Medical Center, HealthPark Medical Center and Lee Memorial Hospital each "A" grades.

"Leapfrog is a national leader in driving quality healthcare, and it is an honor to be recognized for our commitment to patient safety," said Scott Kashman, chief officer of hospital operations for Lee

Health. "This recognition is a reflection of our dedicated team of doctors, advanced providers, nurses and support staff and the amazing work they do every day to provide safe and compassionate care."

The Leapfrog Group, a nonprofit organization, releases its hospital safety grades twice a year, rating hospitals on 27 measures of safety data. Only 33 percent of the approximately 2,600 acute care hospitals Leapfrog graded received an "A." To earn a top grade, hospitals must receive a raw score of at least 3.151.

"As the nation copes with a challenging pandemic, our gratitude extends to hospital leadership and healthcare workers everywhere for their tremendous

dedication," said Leah Binder, president and CEO of The Leapfrog Group. "We hope this 'A' helps to thank the people who work and volunteer for Lee Health hospitals. They are role models in putting patients first, and their service has been extraordinary in our country's time of need."

Lee Health's report card with raw scores:

Cape Coral Hospital: A – 3.4501

Gulf Coast Medical: A – 3.3596

HealthPark Medical: A – 3.1602

Lee Memorial Hospital: A – 3.2652

To learn more about Leapfrog's Spring 2020 Hospital Safety Grades, visit www.hospitalsafetygrade.org. ✨

Got A Problem? Dr. Connie Is In



by Constance Clancy

Q: I live in the city and cannot get into nature now with shelter in place. What should I do?

A: Nature can be your aspiration and inspiration right now in these difficult times. Being one

with nature, which is so healing now, is essential. The next best thing to being out in nature is to listen to nature sounds or songs that inspire you on Pandora or Spotify. You can go to www.jackkornfield.com who has a beautiful meditation on

connecting with the earth. You may also want to google search for other meditations that connect with nature.

You can also use your own guided imagery and see, feel or imagine yourself in nature through imagery. Perhaps have some instrumental relaxation music in the background. It's a wonderful gift to connect to yourself through guided imagery. If you like to draw, get some colored pencils or crayons and draw nature scenes. Now is the gift of being creative and while there is nothing like actually being out in nature, I hope that you will be soon and, meanwhile, I hope these suggestions will be the next best thing.

Constance Clancy, EdD, LMHC, LPC, NCC is a licensed mental health therapist, hypnotherapist, author and holistic stress management instructor. If you have a question, email Constance at drconstanceclancy@gmail.com or visit www.drconstanceclancy.com. ✨

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Doctor and Dietician

Thriving Immune System



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

As in sports, the best offense is a good defense. Those with strong immune systems are better able to ward off infection and stay strong. Let us use this time to take inventory and tweak our daily habits:

- 1. Sleep – Minimum 7 hours. No two ways about it. We need it. Our bodies need to recharge and make those restorative hormones we all need to stay healthy. If you are having trouble sleeping, try keeping the room cool and dark, listen to something positive prior to sleeping, do not use your devices with the blue light before bed (or use blue blocker glasses), consider taking magnesium powder mixed in water.
- 2. Stress – We are all experiencing some stress during these current times.

- Try to focus only on what you can control. Stay positive. Be thankful. Monitor your heart rate variability (HRV) if you want to know how you are doing.
- 3. Human interaction – These times have been tough with social distancing. Humans are meant for interaction. As able, connect with friends, get together for a beach walk, bike ride, coffee, or just a chat in the driveway. Use virtual meeting applications too. Most people have now heard of Zoom, Teams and others!
 - 4. Gratitude – We are all blessed to live in this country whether we agree with our politics or not. What a great country we live in! Find positive things to be thankful for and have a grateful heart versus a complaining heart.
 - 5. Healthy eating – You have heard us talk about this many other times. Eat real food. Simple as that. Right? Just like mom said, eat your veggies!
 - 6. Keep moving – Movement is life. Sedentary, sitting, inactivity = death. Take a walk. Use your pool. Ride your bike. Walk around your yard or a park.
 - 7. Supplements – Studies show that many supplements boost the immune system. We are fans of Vitamins A, D, C, elderberry, mushroom extracts, bovine colostrum, and many others. We also encourage diffusing or ingesting immune stimulating essential oils such as lavender, lemon, eucalyptus, peppermint, tea tree, oregano. We personally love On Guard from doTerra.
 - 8. Eliminate pain – Use massage, PT, chiropractic, or regenerative

medicine providers as resources to help you out of pain. Bacteria thrives on pain. The body is under more stress when in pain. Get rid of the underlying cause of the pain so you can thrive. Stay strong! Hope to see you out there. 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.*

University Waives Application Fees

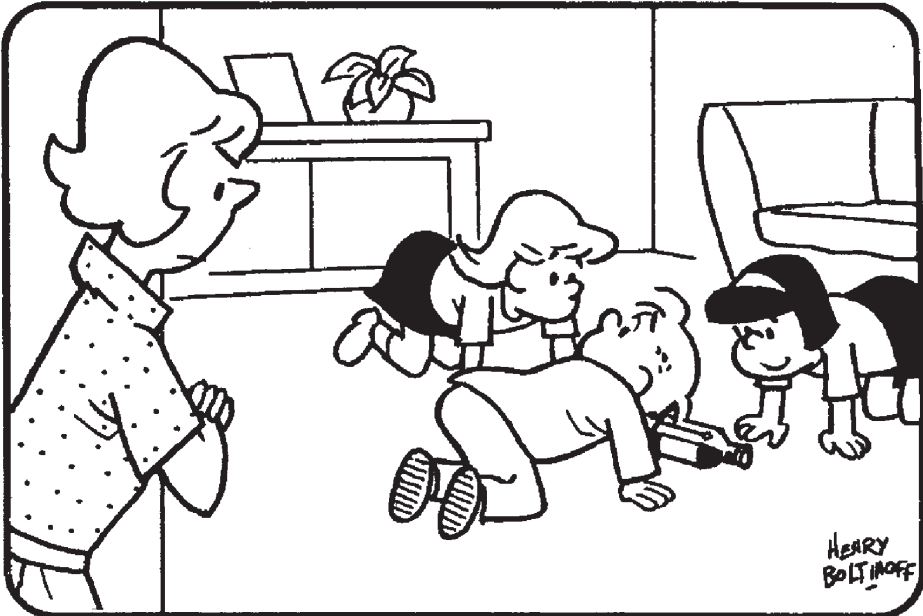
New and returning students to Hodges University will not pay application fees for undergraduate, graduate or English as a second language (ESL) programs through May 31. “We believe in our students, and for the month of May, the application fee

they would normally pay when they apply is being waived,” said Dr. John Meyer, president of Hodges University. “We’ve been teaching online since 1995, long before it was cool, so a lot of our programs are already online. Even during these challenging times, our students can continue to achieve their academic and career goals.” For more information, visit www. hodges.edu.*

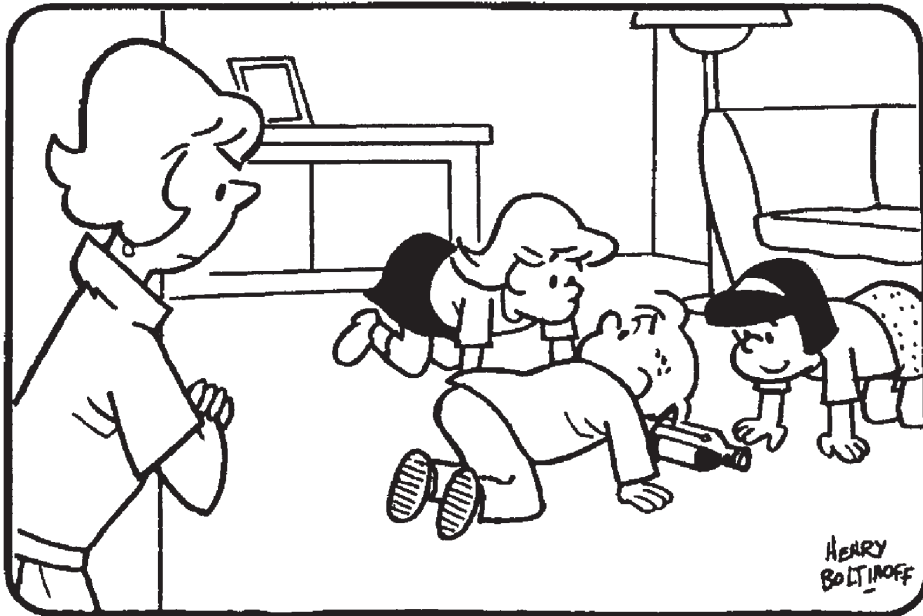
PUZZLES

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Plant is missing. 2. Frame is added. 3. Woman's blouse is different. 4. Lamp is added. 5. Girl's skirt is different. 6. Woman's earring is added.

Help SCCF Bring Back the Barn Owls

Poisoned rats can kill the eagles, hawks, bobcats and owls that eat them.

Tell your pest control professional to NOT use these rat poisons:

- brodifacoum • bromailone • difenacoum • difethialone

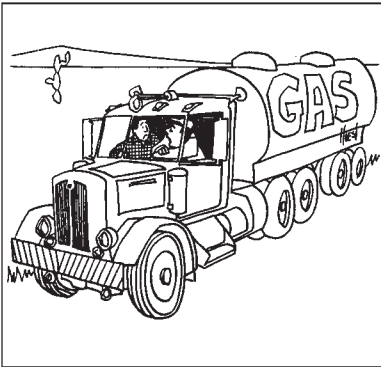
Or consider not using any rat poisons at all. Instead, seal all entry points to your home.

 Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation



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PUZZLES Answers on pages 46 and 47



"You'll never guess why we
_____!"

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!

Notable
SALTINE

Choice
PITTOON

Remove
SPEEDO

Extent
PECOS

TODAY'S WORD

SUDOKU

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

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.



Emergency	911
Sanibel Police	472-3111
Lee County Sheriff's Office	477-1200
On Call Captiva Deputy	477-1000
Fire Department - Sanibel	472-5525
Fire Department - Captiva	472-9494
Florida Marine Patrol	332-6966
Florida Highway Patrol	278-7100
Poison Control	1-800-282-3171
Chamber of Commerce	472-1080
City of Sanibel	472-4135
Administrative Office	472-3700
Building Department	472-4555
Planning Department	472-4136
Library - Sanibel	472-2483
Library - Captiva	239-533-4890
Post Office - Sanibel	472-1573
Post Office - Sanibel (toll free)	800-275-8777
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	277-1700
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.org
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 of SWFL	https://www.audubonswfl.org/
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
Disabled Am Vets #108 (San-Cap Rep Ted Tyson) Help 211	984-5920
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 Assc. of America, Alex MacKenzie	395-9232
Newcomers	472-9332
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PUZZLES

Answers on page 47

Super Crossword

APPELLATION TRUNCATION

ACROSS

1

Duelist's weapon

5

— Club (retail chain)

9

Weds on the sly

15

Swine food

19

Carter of "Gimme a Break!"

20

"Stat!"

21

Film director George A. —

22

Bluish hue

23

Cruel Curry in a London borough?

26

Kitty chip

27

The real —

28

Skirt's edge

29

Give Mason the ax?

31

Make do with Paul?

34

—"a Letter to My Love" (1981 film)

35

Road goop

36

Song syllable

37

Acne care brand

38

Physics prize of note

42

Show penitence

44

College founded by Hagen?

51

Heredity determiner

52

Attired

53

Flummoxed

54

Mrs., in Bonn

55

Question for

98

Coll. dorm supervisors

99

— -haw (donkey's sound)

101

Moose kin

102

With 111- Down, connect two dots, maybe

106

Battling it out with Murdoch?

109

Put Arthur on mood-stabilizing medication?

113

Regatta tool

114

Poet John

115

Exclude

116

"Whew, such a relief that Kahlo arrived!"

120

Area

121

Samplings

122

Kin of beige

123

Prep school on the Thames

124

Tram loads

125

Ukrainian port city

126

Exclude

127

Unit of force

1

Sheffield loc.

2

Pervade

3

It's negatively charged

4

Vote in

5

Twain's Tom

6

—"live and breathe!"

7

Very virile

8

Nearly globe-shaped

9

Palindromic "before"

10

Lounges idly

11

All: Prefix

12

Lab's — dish

13

Great Lakes tribesmen

14

Northern French river

15

Commence

16

Monocle, e.g.

17

Pledge

18

Answer from the accused

24

"Warrior" co-star Nick

25

2,065, in old Rome

30

Year, in old Rome

31

Fawn's father

32

Defective

33

Uvea's organ

39

Cat breed

40

Virtual marketer

41

Victors' wreaths

43

Sir Isaac —

45

Slangy negative

46

Shaft of light

47

Call a halt to

48

"The jig —"

49

Turner and Kennedy

50

Ming of basketball

52

Elliot of the Mamas & the Papas

56

Feature of "gum" but not "gem"

57

Pledge

58

Download for a Kindle

59

Bible book before Habakkuk

61

Give a hug to

62

Fill with a crayon

63

Not dynamic, as a verb

67

Expand

70

—"so much"

71

Lug

73

"Who's there?" answer

74

Make — deal out of

75

Speed-of-sound ratio

77

Scorching

78

"The — Coochi Coo" (1961 hit)

81

Musicality

82

Winter hrs. in Wichita

83

"... — iron bars a cage"

85

When shows are broadcast

89

Forever

90

Had faith in

91

Inquires

93

Bereft

94

— Lanka

95

Myopic "Mr."

96

"I — You" (hit for Elvis)

100

Concludes

103

Hard — follow

104

"I thought — a deal!"

105

Humble

106

Phonies

107

Fast one

108

One way to mark losses

109

Clown name

110

Love deity

111

See 102- Across

112

Sinus docs

117

Cookie-pushing org.

118

Hexa-halved

119

Hex- ending

King Crossword

ACROSS

1

Work units

5

Urban carrier

8

Wanders

12

Hoodlum

13

Bobby of hockey

14

Leave out

15

Atmosphere

17

With skill

18

Godlike

19

Indefinite interval

21

To and —

22

Regimen

23

Sheepish comment

26

Mess up

28

Manicurist's concerns

31

Mater preceder

33

Insult (Sl.)

35

Nike slogan, "Just —"

36

Unpaid bills

38

1960s Pontiac

40

Homer's neighbor

41

Faraway fleet?

43

Actress Thurman

45

Help

47

Least adorned

51

Physicist Niels

52

Food of the gods

54

Tourney situations

55

Wire measure

56

Soda fountain treat

57

Right on the map?

58

Snoop

59

Arctic diving birds

5

Massachusetts city

6

Joan of —

7

The staff of life

8

Proceed

9

Drive

10

Pickling herb

11

Eyelid woe

16

Ireland

20

Victory

23

Evil

24

Brewery product

25

Surprise attacks

27

Tractor-trailer

29

Falsehood

30

Norm: Abbr.

32

Originally

34

Unshaven, in a way

37

"Mayday!"

39

Mr. Sharif

42

Postage buy

44

Scent

45

Singer Lane

46

Protein-rich bean

48

Birthright barterer

49

Symbol of smoothness

50

Body pics

53

Russian space station

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: **Most Crooked Street in the World**

- Across the Back

Basin

Bourbon
- Dead-end Downing

Easy

Fleet
- High Main

Narrow

One-way
- Sesame Two-way

Wall

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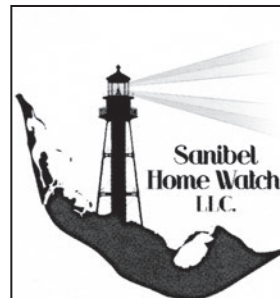
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From page 38

Strange But Trus

parked, but were back the next day, as the queen was still inside.

• Peter Ostrum, who portrayed Charlie Bucket in the original *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, declined the offer of a three-picture deal and bought a horse with his movie earnings. His resulting love for animals led him to pursue a career not as an actor, but a veterinarian.

• During World War II, Coca-Cola wanted soldiers to have a taste of home and opened bottling plants near Europe. However, the soda was synonymous with the States, making it problematic for non-Americans to be seen drinking it, especially in the Soviet Union where it was viewed as a symbol of American imperialism. Soviet Gen. Marshal Georgy Zhukov, a fan who didn't want to be seen consuming it himself, appealed to the company to make a clear version. A chemist at the Austrian bottling plant obliged by removing the drink's coloring, after which "White Coke" was bottled in clear glass with a white cap and red star.

• *Jeopardy* fan Cindy Stowell dreamed nearly her entire life of being a contestant on the show. In 2016 she successfully auditioned and became a six-time champion even while battling Stage 4 cancer during filming. Sadly, she didn't live to see her episodes air, but her \$103,000 in winnings was donated to

cancer organizations.

- *Alice in Wonderland* author Lewis Carroll wasn't the best at personal finance. Sure, he paid his debts on time, but would also often overdraft upwards of 7,500 pounds sterling – in spite of being a mathematics scholar at Oxford!
- The Vatican Bank is the world's only bank that allows ATM users to perform transactions in Latin.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"Failure is a bruise, not a tattoo."
– Jon Sinclair

Energy Tips While Staying At Home

With people spending more time at home to help slow the spread of COVID-19, it is more important than ever to conserve electricity. Not only does conserving energy reduce your carbon footprint, it can make a big difference in your electric bill. Lee County Electric Cooperative (LCEC) reminds customers to follow these recommendations to avoid using more energy than you absolutely need during this trying time:

When cooling your home, set the thermostat at 78 degrees Fahrenheit. Each degree below adds 8 to 12 percent to the cooling costs.

Be sure your thermostat fan switch is set on the "auto" setting. This is more economical for temperature and humidity control.

Do not close A/C vents or interior doors when the A/C is running. Check the attic for areas where insulation is missing or may have been moved during repairs or cable installation.

Change or clean filters monthly. Keep windows and exterior doors closed when running your air conditioner or heater. Also, use caulk and weather strip around windows and doors.

Replace standard light bulbs with compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs), which use 75 percent less energy, or LED lamps (light emitting diode), which use 85 percent less energy with a life expectancy of 30,000 to 50,000 hours of run time.

Turn off fans when the room is not occupied. Each continuously running fan costs approximately \$7 per month on your electric bill.

Install reflective window tint/film that will reflect 65 percent or better on windows facing east, west or south. You can buy this at your local home improvement store and install yourself.

Visit the Energy Efficiency pages at www.lcec.net for more tips and tools to help you save electricity. Keeping your family, yourself and your community well is your number one priority. Help

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4/24 * TFN

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1. **Geography:** The island of Hispaniola is divided into which two countries?
2. **U.S. States:** Which state is known as the Badger State?
3. **Medical:** Which human organ is involved in the development of diabetes?
4. **Ad Slogans:** Which company advises clients to “leave the driving to us”?
5. **Monuments:** How long ago was Stonehenge built?
6. **Entertainers:** Which singer/actress was born with the name Anna Mae Bullock?
7. **Comics:** What kind of dog is Snoopy in the *Peanuts* comic strip?
8. **General Knowledge:** How many official languages does the United Nations have?
9. **Measurements:** How many drops are in a teaspoon?
10. **Music:** How many members sing in the Mormon Tabernacle Choir?

TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. Haiti and the Dominican Republic
2. Wisconsin 3. Pancreas 4. Greyhound bus lines 5. About 5,000 years ago 6. Tina Turner 7. A beagle 8. Six: English, Spanish, French, Russian, Arabic and Chinese 9. 76 10. 360

HORTOONS



PUZZLE ANSWERS

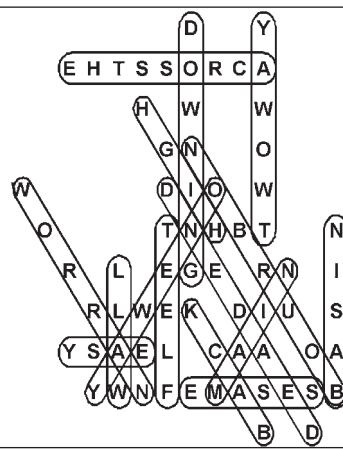
SUPER CROSSWORD

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

KING CROSSWORD

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

MAGIC MAZE



SUDOKU

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

Top 10 Real Estate Sales

Subdivision	City	Year Built	Square Footage	Listing Price	Selling Price	Days On Market
Captiva Beach	Captiva	2000	4,376	\$3,200,000	\$3,080,000	70
Woodrings Subd	Sanibel	1959	1,189	\$2,650,000	\$1,700,000	307
Savona	Cape Coral	1993	2,713	\$1,199,000	\$1,100,000	67
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	1970	3,315	\$1,000,000	\$782,500	525
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	1979	2,718	\$995,000	\$870,000	92
Whiskey Creek	Fort Myers	2003	3,215	\$995,000	\$900,000	125
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	1995	4,376	\$949,900	\$909,000	0
Whiskey Creek Club Estates	Fort Myers	1982	4,289	\$874,900	\$830,338	29
Edgewater	Fort Myers	1997	3,478	\$850,000	\$775,000	133
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2020	2,477	\$799,000	\$781,000	24

Courtesy of Royal Shell Real Estate



Randy Wayne White ©

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