



# Island Sun

VOL. 28, NO. 26

SANIBEL & CAPTIVA ISLANDS, FLORIDA

DECEMBER 25, 2020

DECEMBER SUNRISE/SUNSET: 25 7:14 • 5:43 26 7:14 • 5:43 27 7:15 • 5:44 28 7:15 • 5:45 29 7:16 • 5:45 30 7:16 • 5:46 31 7:16 • 5:47

## New Art Programs To Kick Off At 'Ding' Darling

Beginning Tuesday, January 5, "Ding" Darling's 2021 artist in residence Rachel Pierce will kick off a series of free biweekly, plein air art demonstrations and monthly Friday Art Journal Walks at the JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge on Sanibel. The refuge and "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS) support the season of nature-art events, which will also include visits to underserved youth organizations and a grand finale exhibition.

Through April, Pierce will be doing her popup demonstrations along Wildlife Drive on the first and third Tuesdays and Thursdays of each month from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Visitors are encouraged to stop and chat with the artist, in a safe and distanced manner, while watching her create her brand of whimsical, impressionistic art.

The dates for her Friday Art Journal Walks are January 8, February 5, March 5 and April 2. Participation is limited to



**Rachel Pierce** photo provided  
the first 10 people to arrive at the Visitor & Education Center flagpole by 10 a.m. Free journals and pencils are included in the nature-walk art lessons.

Most well-recognized from her role as former NBC2 morning anchor for five years, Pierce recently retired from TV

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## The Community House Gala Reimagined

The new year has everyone looking for new ideas to safely break away from the "COVID doldrums" and enjoy life again. The Community House will lead the way by reimagining its annual 1927 Gala fundraiser, scheduled for Friday, January 22. Since it may be too soon to go out for a traditional banquet-style dinner, The Community House will offer multiple-course fine dining in the comfort of your own home.

Some of the islands' top chefs are teaming up in The Community House kitchen to prepare their special dishes for a take-home feast, complete with wine. In addition to pick up, a home delivery option will be available. Plan a romantic evening with your significant other, or invite a small group to share the feast.

In addition to a fabulous meal, the gala will include an online program of live music, entertainment and a live auction, streamed from The Community House stage. Details of the dinner menu are still being finalized, but those interested



image provided

should get their tickets early. Tickets are \$160 per person (tax deductible) and available at The Community House office, 2173 Periwinkle Way, online at [www.sanibelcommunityhouse.net](http://www.sanibelcommunityhouse.net) or by calling 472-2155. Sponsorships are also available.

In addition to breaking the COVID boredom, participants will be helping to sustain one of the community's most important civic facilities, the nonprofit Community House. The 1927 Gala commemorates the year The Community House was originally opened. The original cottage-style building, which faces Periwinkle Way, is now one of Sanibel's

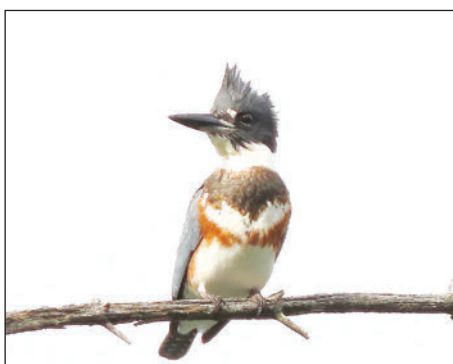
continued on page 26

## Season Lineup For Audubon Webinar Lectures

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, Sanibel-Captiva Audubon's iconic lecture programs, presented live for decades at The Community House, will be presented as a series of Zoom webinars at 7 p.m. on Thursday evenings in January and February. Dr. Jerry Jackson, local wildlife expert and host of WGPU's radio show, *With the Wild Things*, will kick off the series with a presentation focused on bird behavior. This year's lineup also includes lecture favorite Rick Bunting and a special joint presentation with The International Osprey Foundation by Dr. Alan Poole, noted osprey expert and author.

To join a webinar, on the scheduled date, go to the Programs section of the website (<http://www.san-capaudubon.org/programs.html>) and click on "JOIN" in the description for the specific desired webinar at or slightly before 7 p.m., or during the program. Program length will vary but is expected to be approximately one hour.

There is no charge to join the



**Kingfisher** photos by Rick Bunting

webinars. However, as the normal source of Sanibel-Captiva Audubon lecture support was the \$10 suggested attendee entrance donation for the live presentations at The Community House, it is suggested that webinar attendees donate directly by mail to the address on the website ([www.san-capaudubon.org](http://www.san-capaudubon.org)) homepage or via PayPal to: [Paypal.me/SanCapAudubon](https://www.paypal.com/US/merch/san-capaudubon). All donations, after costs, are used to promote conservation on Sanibel, Captiva and in Florida.

**2021 Lecture Webinar Schedule**  
7 p.m. Start Time – Waiting Room  
6:50 p.m.

January 7 – Dr. Jerry Jackson of



**Great egret**

FGCU and host of WGPU's public radio show, *With the Wild Things*, will speak on Bird Behavior.

January 14 – Florida Bay's Pink Wading Birds. Dr. Jerry Lorenz, state director of research, Audubon Florida, Everglades Science Center, will present some of his 30 years of scientific findings regarding both roseate spoonbills and flamingos.

January 21 – Cheryl Black, project coordinator for the Cape Coral Friends of Wildlife, will speak on burrowing owls.

January 28 – Captiva's falconer Mike Sawicki will speak on falconry.

February 4 – Dr. Lisa Korte, director of



**Prairie warbler**

Audubon Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary, will speak about the sanctuary.

February 11 – Peter Hawrylyshyn, world birder and photographer, will present Birds of Peru.

February 18 – Rick Bunting, subject to be announced.

February 25 – Ospreys 2021, The Revival of a Global Raptor, joint webinar with The International Osprey Foundation. Dr. Alan F. Poole, author of *Ospreys: The Revival of a Global Raptor*, will bring the audience up to date on one the best-loved birds of prey using part travelogue, part biography and part scientific detective story. ☆



From page 1

## New Art Programs

journalism to devote more time to her passion for art and to her husband and four children.

A lifelong artist, Pierce studied art in college, but eventually segued into broadcast journalism. She moved to Fort Myers in 2015 and became involved in community affairs as an emcee and celebrity artist for events. The latter once more ignited her love for creating colorful, nature-inspired oil and acrylic paintings. She sells her paintings and line of jewelry throughout Southwest Florida and on her website at [www.byrachelpierce.com](http://www.byrachelpierce.com).

Pierce’s artist-in-residence program will culminate in an end-of-the-year exhibition of her refuge-inspired and other wildlife art in the Visitor & Education Center Auditorium from October 1 through November 10.

“I love all things ‘Ding,’” said the artist, who in March emceed Project Refuge: A Couture Fashion Show Using Trash for the refuge’s 75th anniversary. “I am always in awe of the wildlife, especially the birds, during my visits. I often find my inspiration while there. How fitting and what an exceptional honor to be the artist in residence at the place where I source so many subjects for my artwork.”

“Our refuge was created by conservation artist Jay Norwood ‘Ding’ Darling in 1945, so our artist-in-residence program honors that history and tradition,” said Supervisory Refuge Ranger Toni Westland. “Darling created



The art of Rachel Pierce reflects her love of sea and nature

the Federal Duck Stamp program and designed the first duck stamp and the refuge system’s Blue Goose logo. He won

the Pulitzer Prize twice for his political cartoons, which were syndicated across the country throughout five decades

photo provided

starting in the 1920s.”

The refuge began its artist-in-residence program in 2019 as part of its 75th anniversary celebration, with hopes to continue it each year. Idaho wildlife-journal artist Ed Anderson served as the refuge’s first artist in residence. Whereas COVID-19 got in the way of plans in 2020, the refuge and DDWS are moving forward with their 2021 program.

For more information about the “Ding” Darling artist-in-residence program, visit [www.dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/artist-in-residence](http://www.dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/artist-in-residence). To support the program, contact DDWS Executive Director Birgie Miller at 472-1100 ext. 4 or [director@dingdarlingsociety.org](mailto:director@dingdarlingsociety.org).✱

## Top 10 Books On The Island

1. *A Promised Land* by Barack Obama
  2. *The Vanishing Half* by Britt Bennett
  3. *Perestroika in Paris* by Jane Smiley
  4. *Daylight* by David Baldacci
  5. *Greenlights* by Matthew McConaughey
  6. *Nothing To See Here* by Kevin Wilson
  7. *The Diplomat’s Wife* by Pam Jenoff
  8. *The Hunting Party* by Lucy Foley
  9. *The Guest Book* by Sarah Blake
  10. *How I Built This* by Guy Roz
- Courtesy MacIntosh Books and Paper.✱

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## FISH Of SanCap Always There In Times Of Need

**F**ISH of SanCap provides year-round emergency assistance to community members, workers and visitors. FISH works closely with community partners who assist in resolving crises on a case-by-case basis, to ensure the wellbeing of those they work with.

Monika, who has worked on Sanibel for many years, contacted FISH requesting assistance with her monthly mortgage payment. She is a single mother of two and pregnant with her third child. Now in her last trimester, Monika is having complications with her pregnancy, which has caused her to miss many days of work beyond her allotted sick and vacation time. Although her employer provides health insurance, her copay is high and she is paying an extra monthly amount to cover the deductible before her cesarean, scheduled for the end of December.

Due to all the extra expenses, Monika was not able to make her mortgage payment. Through grant funding from The Sanctuary Golf Club Foundation, FISH was able to assist with that payment. FISH staff signed her up for the food pantry, enrolled her children in the Backpack Program, and assisted with the holidays by providing



image provided

Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday meal baskets, gifts from the Adopt-A-Family program and extra toys from the annual toy drive.

Community support, in large part, is how FISH is able to help people like Monika in their greatest hours of need. Without the generosity of the community, local businesses and service organizations, FISH could not offer the programs and services that it does. FISH, for nearly 40 years, has been the social service organization on Sanibel and Captiva and continues to grow to meet the demands of the community, thanks to the generosity of donors and volunteers. Ninety two percent of every dollar spent goes directly to FISH programs and services.

If you have any questions about FISH services or programs, or if you need assistance, contact Alicia Tighe Orgera, executive director, at 472-4775 or email [alicia@fishofsanacap.org](mailto:alicia@fishofsanacap.org).

## Notice To Residents On Beach Cleanup

**A**t this time, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Foundation (FWC) and other agencies are reporting the presence of a patchy red tide bloom alongshore and up to 20 miles offshore of Lee and Collier counties. On December 15, the Lee County Health Department issued a red tide health alert for Lighthouse Beach Park. In the state of Florida, the health department is responsible for testing the waters at public beaches and informing the public of the water quality.

The extent of the bloom and its impacts to Sanibel beaches, including possible fish kills and respiratory irritation, can vary greatly from day to day and even hour to hour depending on winds, tides and currents. The City of Sanibel is monitoring conditions closely.

For current red tide conditions and forecasts, go to <https://myfwc.com/research/redtide/statewide/> or call 332-9501.

Currently, the Sanibel Public Works Department is picking up dead fish along the public beaches as conditions warrant. Property owners and

managers are authorized to remove dead fish from the beach along their respective properties.

Anyone removing fish from the beach must adhere to the following guidelines:

Only dead fish may be removed from the beach. This ensures that beach habitat for Sanibel's wildlife is protected during the cleanup process.

Dead fish may only be removed by hand, using hand tools such as pitch forks or grabbers. The use of shovels and mechanical equipment is strictly prohibited.

All fish should be double bagged and placed in an on site dumpster for disposal.

At this time, no large sea life has been impacted. If you have large fish, marine mammals or sea turtles that are too large to handle, contact the City of Sanibel Police Dispatch at 472-3111.

No motorized vehicles are permitted on the beach and only those vehicles authorized by the city manager may be used in cleanup activities.

To report a fish kill, call the FWC Fish Kill Hotline at 800-636-0511 or complete the online form at <https://public.myfwc.com/FWRI/FishKillReport/Submit.aspx>.

For more information, contact the City of Sanibel Natural Resources Department at 472-3700.\*



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Sanibel Tomato Pickers baseball team, circa 1910

photo courtesy Sanibel Historical Museum and Village

### Sanibel Historical Museum And Village

## Looking Back: Sanibel Baseball

This week's image shows that Sanibel has a proud baseball and softball heritage. The Sanibel Tomato Pickers were the 1910 Caloosa Valley baseball champs. Familiar team member last names included Reed, Doyle, Morris and Woodring. The traveling team name may seem hokey



today but Sanibel was known as far north as New York City for the best tomatoes money could buy.

The Sanibel Historical Museum and Village is located at 950 Dunlop Road, next to BIG ARTS. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Guided tours take place at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at no additional charge, depending on docent availability. There is handicap access to the buildings. Admission is \$10 for adults over 18, no charge for members and children. Masks are required and safety precautions are in place. For more information, visit [www.sanibelmuseum.org](http://www.sanibelmuseum.org) or call 472-4648.

## Churches/Temples

### BAT YAM-TEMPLE OF THE ISLANDS

Complete Shabbat Worship Service including Torah reading Zoomed from Fellowship Hall at SCUUC every Friday night at 7:30 p.m. Shabbat morning discussion led by Rabbi Fuchs at 9:30 a.m. (email [batyamsanibel@gmail.com](mailto:batyamsanibel@gmail.com) to request the Zoom links). Food and paper drive donation drop-offs on the first Thursday of each month from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ. Rabbi Stephen Fuchs, Cantor Murray Simon, President Michael Hochschild, [www.batyam.org](http://www.batyam.org), 2050 Periwinkle Way, 732-780-2016.

### CAPTIVA CHAPEL BY THE SEA

Rev. Larry Marshall. Services every Sunday at 11 a.m. November 8, 2020 through April 25, 2021. 11580 Chapin Lane, Captiva, 472-1646.

### CHAVURAT SHALOM

(Fellowship of Peace) Friday Shabbat services led by members at 6 p.m. Saturday morning Jewish current events at 11 a.m. Talks by members on topics of interest Thursdays at 11 a.m. Contact [ChavuratShalom@gmail.com](mailto:ChavuratShalom@gmail.com) to participate on Zoom.

### FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST

Services at the Christian Science Church of Sanibel-Captiva have resumed as follows: Sunday service at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday meeting at 4:30 p.m. Reading room open on Friday, 10 a.m. to noon. 2950 West Gulf Drive, 472-8684.

### SANIBEL COMMUNITY CHURCH

Contemporary Service at 9 a.m. and Traditional Service at 11 a.m. in the Main

Sanctuary. Now offering a "Masks Only" service via live stream at 9 and 11 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. View the Sunday Service online at [www.sanibelchurch.com](http://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 11 a.m., [www.sanibelucc.org](http://www.sanibelucc.org), 2050 Periwinkle Way, 472-0497.

### ST. ISABEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Father Ed Martin, Pastor, Saturday Vigil Mass at 5 p.m., Sunday Mass at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Daily Mass Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 8:30 a.m. 3559 Sanibel-Captiva Road, 472-2763.

### ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Rev. Bill Van Oss, Rector. View Sunday service online, through Facebook or YouTube. Most services and meetings have transitioned to online formats. Visit website for information on Bible studies and other offerings. Drive Up Communion every Sunday, 9:15 to 10:15 a.m., [www.saintmichaels-sanibel.org](http://www.saintmichaels-sanibel.org), 2304 Periwinkle Way, 472-2173.

### UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS OF THE ISLANDS

Meets 5 p.m. on the third Sunday of each month from December through April at Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ. A potluck is held at a member's home on the third Sunday of each month. [ryi39@aol.com](mailto:ryi39@aol.com), 2050 Periwinkle Way, 433-4901.

Email changes to [press@islandsunnews.com](mailto:press@islandsunnews.com) or call 395-1213.

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CARD OF THANKS



Tobie photos provided

submitted by Pam Sullivan of PAWS

As we come to the end of 2020, much of which we would all like to forget, PAWS is thankful that very few animals were abandoned. We are always grateful for the many people who helped our effort over the last year, especially all of our contributors and adopters.

We are also happy that with such an active hurricane season, we avoided a direct hit this year. We still had storms



Tucker to contend with, especially Sally, that brought record rainfall and flooding in August, but in comparison to other areas, we all should be thankful.

You may remember from last year's PAWS note the story about the white cat that lives on the causeway island nearest the high span. That's Tobie and he's been living out there for about four years now. He was captured as a feral cat by someone at a trailer park on Pine Ridge Road and taken to Lee County Domestic Animal Services (LCDAS) as part of the Trap/Neuter/Release (TNR) program.

Huge thanks to Yolanda Rivera and Rose Dakos for visiting him every night with a wonderful dinner. He is so lucky to have such kind people to care for him, and now he has grown to appreciate their kindness and has become very friendly, loving to be scratched, rubbed and petted.

We would love to find someone to adopt or foster him, so that at long last he would finally have a real home. It would take a special person, willing to put in some time, as he has become accustomed to his "waterfront property" on the causeway island.

We need someone who would truly enjoy making a huge difference in his life. He's somewhere around 8 years old now, and it would be wonderful for him to have a home. While he's much safer out there than he would be on Sanibel or Captiva – no 'gators, bobcats or coyotes – it's just not the same as a home where he would be safe from storms, cars and people.

In addition to Tobie, we have a beautiful cat that I trapped in late July. His name is Tucker. He is a sweet boy with special needs. He may be deaf and he also may have some neurological issues, but he is excellent health. We are searching for someone who wants to foster him. He needs someone that has the time and energy to work with him in hopes of finding him a forever home.

If you would be willing to foster Tobie or Tucker, please contact us at [sanibelcat@yahoo.com](mailto:sanibelcat@yahoo.com).

Over the years, PAWS has provided for the needs of many animals, some for very long periods of time. The majority are cats and dogs and usually claimed rather quickly. In most years, many young, injured and sick animals come our way that need veterinary care, medicines and intensive home care. We've provided for litters of kittens, as well as adult cats and found wonderful homes for all of them. Joan and Jim Bajek continue to foster cats for us, and Tucker has been with them since July.

They are our only foster home. Joan has spent an enormous amount of time with Tucker, and he's becoming a wonderful kitty. If you is able to foster kittens, cats or dogs, please let us know. We are so grateful to these great folks for providing a home and caring for our babies. There is no facility on Sanibel to house lost and abandoned animals. It can be really difficult to find a home to care for them until we find their people, or, as in most instances, find families to adopt and give them a forever home.

We are so very thankful for all they have done, and continue to do. Kudos to Joan and Jim, especially Joan, the primary caregiver!

We would like to thank our fabulous local veterinary care providers, Dr. Mark Mathusa at Beachside Animal Clinic, and VCA Coral Veterinary Clinic, Fort Myers. They provide quality care to our animals. Special thanks to Dr. Michael Rohlk, Mary Ann and Nick at Rohlk Animal Hospital in North Fort Myers. I discovered this hospital when helping out with TNR. They provide excellent services and care and a great discount for nonprofits, which is very helpful when you have a half dozen animals to "vet" at once.

A big thank you to all the folks that donated financially and in other ways to support our PAWS animals. Without the help from our community, we would not be able to continue to provide for these domestic animals that are in need of shelter and care.

Special appreciation to the Center 4 Life that, for the past 10 years, has hosted the annual Justine Smith Memorial Bridge Tournament and donated the proceeds to PAWS, which was one of Justine's favorite charitable organizations. Special thanks to our local newspapers, *Island Reporter* and *Island Sun* for donating space for pictures and stories about our rescues in their weekly papers. This is how we manage to reunite some of our PAWS animals with their families. In the event we don't locate their people, their pictures and stories help us locate a new forever home.

Thanks to all the island businesses that display our PAWS donation boxes on the counters; Bailey's General Store, Huxter's Liquors and Bank of the Islands. Special thanks to Footloose/H2O Outfitters at Jerry's Center. The staff makes it part of their job to continuously collect the largest amount of funds for us. Special thanks to Linda as she goes out of her way to insure folks are aware of the donation box! What they do is so appreciated. If you own or manage a business on Sanibel or Captiva and would be willing to have one of our donation containers, please let us know.

If you're considering year-end charitable contributions, please think of our domestic animals and donate to PAWS. Veterinary care, especially critical care hospitals, are extremely expensive.

PAWS is a 501(c)3 nonprofit, established in March 1987. We operate solely by financial contributions and donations from folks living or visiting our islands and surrounding area. Please make checks payable to: PAWS and mail to P.O. Box 855, Sanibel, FL 33957. Your canceled check is your receipt, but if you prefer to have a letter, email [sanibelcat@yahoo.com](mailto:sanibelcat@yahoo.com), call 313-6918 or 699-6310.

Here's hoping 2021 will be a much better year! Thank you.✧

Position Open On Contractor Review Board

Sanibel City Council is currently accepting applications to fill a Contractor Review Board partial term appointment for a member-at-large, with an expiration date of December 6, 2024.

Responsibilities include attending board meetings, which are held on an as needed basis at city hall.

Any resident wishing to serve may visit <https://mysanibel.granicus.com/boards/w/45346fd249bdd682> to link to the online Advisory Committee Application.

The deadline for submission is Monday, January 4 at noon.

If you have any questions, contact the city manager's office at 472-3700.✧

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# Safety First At Historical Village

The Sanibel Historical Village is a safe destination for visitors. The village is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The gift shop is open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. A unique item for sale is masks with chains, created and crafted by board member Sherry Halleran.

“We are so happy to be welcoming visitors once again,” said Emilie Alfino, executive director. “We have gone to great lengths to make sure the village is a safe place for our visitors, volunteers and staff. Everything is running smoothly. The village is the perfect outing not just for history lovers but also for those who don’t want to go to the beach, and those who are cold.”

All visitors and staff are required to wear masks and observe social distancing. Docent-guided tours are suspended until further notice. Guided tours are available by advance registration only and are allowed for a maximum of 10 people, all from the same household. Masks are required during tours. To schedule a tour, call Jan Symroski at 472-1856.



Board member Judy Addison during Christmas decorating photos provided

Guests can self-tour using written guides and audio recordings available in every building. Docents will be on hand in several outdoor locations to assist and direct people. Enhanced cleaning procedures are in place, and hand sanitizer is available in all buildings. Hands-free water stations are also available, with collapsible water bottles



Board member Sherry Halleran with her beaded facemask chains, for sale in the gift shop

for sale. HEPA filters are running in the busiest rooms.

Sanibel Historical Village is located at 950 Dunlop Road, next to BIG ARTS.

Admission is \$10 for adults over 18; no charge for members and children. There is handicap access. For more information, visit [www.sanibelmuseum.org](http://www.sanibelmuseum.org).



The sitting room in Morning Glories Cottage is a visitor favorite

## Qualifying For City Council Begins January 11

by Wendy McMullen

The qualifying period for candidates to run for Sanibel City Council begins on Monday, January 11 and ends on Friday, January 15.

Three city council seats are becoming vacant in March city council is urging qualified residents to apply.

Any person who is a Sanibel resident and registered to vote in Florida can run for city council. To register to vote in Florida, you must be at least 18 years old, a citizen of the United States and a Florida resident. Green card holders may not vote, nor can anyone who has committed a felony or been adjudicated as mentally handicapped without having his or her rights restored.

To apply for city council, candidates have to file campaign documents with the city clerk, Scotty Lynn Kelly. Campaign documents include qualifying forms,

the candidate’s treasurer’s report and a petition signed by 45 Sanibel residents who are qualified to vote. All nominations and elections for city council members are conducted on a nonpartisan basis without regard to political party affiliation.

Elections for Sanibel City Council are held every two years in March. City councilmembers have four-year staggered terms. The positions are unpaid.

The seats becoming vacant are those held by Mayor Mick Denham, who has served on city council for the past 15 years and who has decided not to run again, former Mayor Kevin Ruane, who resigned in September to successfully run for Lee County Board of Commissioners and who served on council for 13 years, and councilman Jason Maughan, who served on council three years and resigned to run for the Florida House of Representatives. Their seats are currently held by interim councilmembers Jerry Muench and Chauncey Goss.

Thirteen candidates expressed their interest in running for the interim council seats. This is expected to be a lively election as interest and concern about city actions have grown during the pandemic.

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## OBITUARY



### DORIS C. SOUTHERTON

**D**oris C. Southerton, 100, of Sanibel, Florida passed away peacefully on December 12, 2020.

Doris was born and raised in New Jersey, where she married Charles (Chick) Southerton in 1941. They moved to Germany in 1947 to aid in reconstruction after World War II. While living abroad, Doris and Chick explored

much of Europe before returning to New Jersey in 1951 to raise their family. Chick began working for Ocean Spray in 1964, bringing them to Massachusetts before they ultimately retired to Sanibel in 1981.

Doris was blessed with her health. She was the loving matriarch of her family for many years and a committed hospital volunteer throughout her life. Over the years, Doris could be found shelling the beaches with her extended family and beloved dogs (Heidi, Murphy and Willy), volunteering at the Island Seniors Center 4 Life, gathering with dear friends and enjoying the beauty of the gulf.

Doris was preceded in death by her husband, Charles Southerton. Surviving are her daughter Patricia Woliner (husband Alan) of Brick, New Jersey, her son Bruce (wife Mary Beth) of Duxbury, Massachusetts, six grandchildren (Debi, Daniel, David, James, Kathryn and Julia), 12 great-grandchildren, her cherished sister Rosemary, a loving extended family and an extraordinary group of friends, neighbors and caregivers on Sanibel.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in honor of Doris to Beacon Hospice in Plymouth, Massachusetts or the Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW) on Sanibel at [www.crowclinic.org](http://www.crowclinic.org).✽

## OBITUARY



### DR. RICHARD PETERSEN

**D**r. Richard Petersen, affectionately referred to as Dick by some, passed away on July 29, 2020 at 91 years old. He leaves his wife, Donna, of 44 years of marriage, his son and daughter-in-law, Scott and Karen Petersen, his daughter and son-in-law, Susan and Robert Tucker, and his grandson, Mark Petersen.

Born April 10, 1929 in Brooklyn, New York, Richard served three years in the U.S. Army and was stationed in Italy near the end of World War II. After receiving his master's in education, he taught world history

on Long Island, New York for several years and eventually obtained his doctorate in education. His love for education throughout his 45-year career eventually landed him a position as a school principal and later college professor until he retired with his wife in 1999. With ample free time to enjoy the new century, Richard and his wife became snowbirds, moving to Sanibel to enjoy the beauty of the island during the winter months and to celebrate the cooler summers of Upstate New York for the rest of the year.

Despite his departure, Richard is survived by his legacy and wisdom imparted on those friends and family he touched. Though his body may have grown weaker towards the end of his 91 years, his cognitive capabilities, coupled with his lasting love for education, never diminished. Whether it was an up-and-coming innovation, an insightful geopolitical commentary on the rapidly evolving state of the world, or even just a seemingly trivial history fact, Richard had an explorative mind that refused to be bound by Father Time, even at the end of his life. While Richard's death reminds us of the transient nature of life, his legacy reminds us of the melancholic nature of life – even in the face of incredibly grim news, he would always muster an appreciative smile for all that he had to be thankful for. Thus, he will be remembered fondly not in his death, but rather for his appreciation of life – an attribute of his that has touched friends and family alike.

There will be a service for Richard at Arlington National Cemetery in 2021.

"Fear not for the future, weep not for the past." – Percy Bysshe Shelley✽

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Members of the special choir of Saint Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church, from left, Martha Banghart, Amy Nowacki, Dr. Richard Mattern, Music Director Hank Glass, Dr. Anne-Marie Bouche and William Rahe photo provided

## Saint Michael And All Angels Online Lessons

A special choir of Saint Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church has been recording Lessons and Carols, which can be seen at [www.saintmichaels-sanibel.org](http://www.saintmichaels-sanibel.org) as a gift to the greater Sanibel community. This year, with COVID-19 safety protocols

in mind, it was filmed outdoors; with a small group of choir members masked and distanced from each other.

The annual service traces the Christmas story through Old Testament prophecy, through the story of the birth of Jesus Christ and the mystery of God becoming human. Appropriate carols are sung after each reading.

Saint Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church is located at 2304 Periwinkle Way on Sanibel. For more information, call 472-2173 ✨

## Community House Events

There will be an arts and crafts fair featuring local artisans on Sunday, January 3 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cost is a \$5 suggested donation.

A shredding event will be held on Saturday, January 9 from 9 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$5 per box or bag.

The Community House will host its reimagined 1927 Gala fundraiser on Friday, January 22 with multiple-course fine dining in the comfort of your own home. The gala will also include an online program of live music, entertainment and a live auction, streamed from The Community House stage. Tickets are \$160 per person (tax deductible) and available at The Community House, online or by calling 472-2155. Sponsorships are also available.

Shell Crafters are on site with their handmade items for sale on Mondays from 10 a.m. to noon. No classes are being offered at this time.

Line Dancing with Maria Di Rosa is offered on Tuesdays at 1 p.m. Cost is \$5 per class.

Painting with Friends is held on Wednesdays from 1 to 4 p.m. Bring your own supplies to paint with fellow artists; no instruction. Cost is \$10 per session.

Sissi Janku teaches painting classes on the first and third Wednesdays of the month, January through March. Cost per class is \$60 for members and \$65 for nonmembers.



The Community House photo by Logan Hart

Every Thursday at 1 p.m., Tommy Williams leads Living Life Current, an open forum discussion. All are welcome to discuss what is going on locally, nationally and globally. Suggested donation is \$5. Masks and social distancing required.

Aerobics with Mahnaz Bassiri is offered on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Participants can bring their own weights, \$5 suggested donation.

Play the card game Hearts on Fridays at 1 p.m. Open to all levels, \$5 suggested donation.

Shell Critter Kits are available for purchase or to ship. Choose four out of 13 critters to assemble. Cost is \$20 per kit, shipping is \$8 additional.

Camp to Go Art Kits are also available for purchase or to ship. There are eight different postcards to color and Zentangle. Marker and educational video link included. Cost is \$20 per kit; shipping is \$8 additional.

The Community House is located at 2173 Periwinkle Way. For more information, visit [www.sanibelcommunityhouse.net](http://www.sanibelcommunityhouse.net) or call 472-2155. ✨

## Community Thrift Store

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### MUSEUM TOURS:

Guided tours are available only by advance registration. Tours must be in groups of at least six and no more than 10 people, and masks are required.

ADMISSION: \$10.00 adults 18 & over; children are free

Donate or become a member today!

Visit [sanibelmuseum.org](http://sanibelmuseum.org) or call 239-472-4648

950 Dunlop Road, Sanibel, FL 33957





Sanibel-Captiva Art League member Anita Force Marshall, right, will be selling original paintings photos provided

## Arts And Crafts Fair Next Sunday

submitted by Renée Chasant

Sanibel's very own Community House is hosting a lively arts and craft fair on Sunday, January 3 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. This event is just the ticket for you to start a better, brighter new year. Talented vendors have been specially selected

to participate. The number of sellers has been limited for your protection, but the quality of arts and crafts will be exceptional.

You'll find a dazzling array of original art including clothing, crafts, culinary items, jewelry, pottery, children's books, handpainted scarves, mirrors and greeting cards. Vendors will surprise and delight shoppers with their handmade and homemade wares.

All sellers will be situated indoors at The Community House and safety



There will be a variety of jewelry artisans

protocols will be strictly followed for everyone's safety. Masks will be required. Temperatures will be scanned, and ingress/egress routes will be limited. The number of visitors will be monitored to enable social distancing.

You'll find cheerful artists and craftspeople who are happy to share their creations. You just might find that perfect thing you're looking for – or the perfect thing you didn't know you were looking for.

For more information, visit [www.sanibelcommunityhouse.net](http://www.sanibelcommunityhouse.net), [www.sancapart.org](http://www.sancapart.org), [www.facebook.com/sanibelcommunityhouse](http://www.facebook.com/sanibelcommunityhouse) or call 472-2155.

The Community House is located at 2173 Periwinkle Way on Sanibel. ✨



Shell crafts will be on sale



Handpainted tote bag and beach hat

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## Plant Smart

# Start The New Year In The Pink

by Gerri Reaves

One way we find comfort is by surrounding ourselves with colors that have a particular psychological effect, be it stimulating bright reds and oranges or calming soft grays or blues.

This principle can be as relevant in choosing species for the garden as in choosing throw pillows or rugs.

Pantone, in its year-end tradition, has announced the Pantone Color of the Year 2021, and it is ultimate gray and illuminating, a soft medium yellow. (Who knows why two colors and not the usual one?)

Pantone says those colors offer a host of qualities, from optimism to fortitude.

But in terms of the garden, you might find yourself thinking of more cheerful colors than that.

Pink, for instance, to at least counter-balance the relentless brash red of Christmastime.

Some of the qualities associated with pink are youth, good health and playfulness. It is said to evoke feelings of peace and compassion, and promote nurturing and understanding.

Here are three of the many native pink flowers that might make the transition from 2020 to 2021 a kinder, calmer journey.



**Blazing star's stalks of fringed flowers attract butterflies** photos by Gerri Reaves

Hardy blazing star's (*Liatris spicata*) fringed flowers attract butterflies and add dramatic vertical accents to the garden. Flower spikes appear on stalks as tall as five feet, blooming from the top down.

This member of the aster family grows in much of the state and tolerates adverse conditions, including poor soil, drought, heat and cold. Give it well-drained soil and full to partial sun. It will reseed, but can also be propagated with seeds or by dividing the roots.

Rose-of-Plymouth (*Sabatia stellaris*) produces star-shaped flowers throughout the year in South Florida but peaks in summer. A member of the gentian



**Rose-of-Plymouth's center is a study in color contrast, with a jagged red line dividing yellow-green from white and pink**

family, it pops up in coastal marshes, low pinewoods, wet prairies and vacant lots.

The five- or six-petaled flowers range in color from pink to white and measure up to an inch and a half across. They appear singly atop stems a foot or two tall.

A close look at the flower's yellow center explains the term "stellaris," which means star-shaped. In a striking contrast, a jagged red line separates the yellow-green center and the blush of white at the base of the pink petals.

Give this hardy low-maintenance wildflower moist rich soil and full sun. Propagate it with seeds or with cuttings.

The sprawling vine baybean (*Canavalia rosea*) produces long erect spikes of rose-pink flowers year-round. As with many members of the pea family, the showy one- to two-inch flowers are remarkably beautiful.

Two-lipped with a "hood" and white throat, they are often described as "upside-down" or hooded because the large lobed petal, or banner or standard, which is usually at the top, is below the



**Baybean's flowers have the elaborate beauty that is typical of the pea family wings (two petals) and keel (two fused petals).**

It isn't fussy about soil type and will tolerate full sun, drought, salt and salt spray.

Hardy and resilient, it can grow on dunes and beaches, as well as inland. On beaches, its rooting nodes stabilize dunes and the seed pods are dispersed on ocean currents.

Use it for a groundcover or on a trellis or fence. Propagate it with seeds or cuttings.

Sources: *Everglades Wildflowers* by Roger L. Hammer, *A Gardener's Guide to Florida's Native Plants* by Rufino Osorio, *Growing Native* by Richard W. Workman, *The Guide to Florida Wildflowers* by Walter Kingsley Taylor, *Native Florida Plants* by Robert G. Haehle and Joan Brookwell, *The Shrubs and Woody Vines of Florida* by Gil Nelson, *Wildflowers of Florida* by Jaret C. Daniels and Stan Tekiela, [enature.com](http://enature.com), [www.fnps.org](http://www.fnps.org), [www.regionalconservation.org](http://www.regionalconservation.org), and [wildflower.org](http://wildflower.org).

*Plant Smart explores the diverse flora of South Florida.✱*

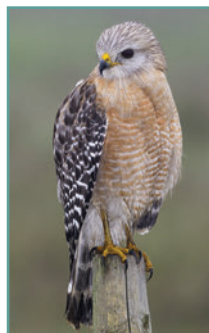
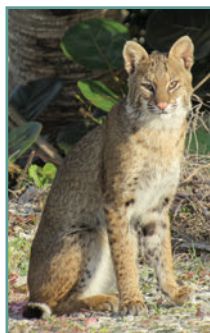
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Sanibel Sea School's boat-based private sessions are a great way to explore the waters around Sanibel photo provided

## Sea School To Offer Boat-Based Private Sessions

Starting in January, Sanibel Sea School will begin offering family boat-based private sessions. Boat-based private sessions are a great way to join Sanibel Sea School's marine science educators and expert captains to learn about and explore the pristine areas of Sanibel's surrounding waters.

Boat-based private sessions can be fully customized to suit group members' ages and interests. Educators can discuss barrier island ecology, or even topics such as mangrove forests, seagrass and estuaries. Dolphins, manatees, live shells, and many bird species are frequently

encountered on the water and the educators will share their knowledge of the area and the creatures that inhabit it along the way.

"Our boat-based private sessions are a great way to safely explore the ocean with your family," said Sanibel Sea School Director Nicole Finnicum. "We can tailor each session to the different levels of knowledge, so these sessions are great for multi-generational families."

Each session is three hours and can accommodate up to 12 participants. Sessions are scheduled by appointment and it is encouraged to schedule in advance. Email [info@sanibelseaschool.org](mailto:info@sanibelseaschool.org) or call 472-8585.

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.\*

## City Of Sanibel Holiday Closings, Refuse Collection

The City of Sanibel administrative offices will be closed in observance of Christmas on Thursday, December 24 and Friday, December 25. Regular office hours will resume on Monday, December 28. If you have any questions, call 472-3700.

Administrative offices will also be closed in observance of the New Year holiday on Thursday, December 31 and Friday, January 1. Regular office hours will resume on Monday, January 4, 2021. If you have any questions, call 472-3700.

Refuse, recycling and vegetation waste collection by Advanced Disposal Services regularly scheduled for Friday, December 25 (Christmas Day) will be one day later. If your regular waste collection day is Saturday, December 26, waste will be collected on Monday, December 28. The normal waste collection schedule will

resume on Monday, December 28. If you have any questions, call 334-1224.

Refuse, recycling and vegetation waste collection by Advanced Disposal Services regularly scheduled for Friday, January 1 (New Year's Day) will be one day later. If your regular waste collection day is Saturday, January 2, waste will be collected on Monday, January 4. The normal waste collection schedule will resume on Monday, January 4. If you have any questions, call 334-1224.

The Sanibel Recreation Center will be closed in observance of Christmas on Thursday, December 24 and Friday, December 25. The recreation center will resume operating hours on Saturday, December 26 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. If you have any questions, call 472-0345.

The recreation center will also be closed in observance of the New Year holiday on Thursday, December 31 and Friday, January 1. Operating hours will resume on Saturday, January 2 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. If you have any questions, call 472-0345.

Center 4 Life remains closed due to COVID-19.\*

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# Winter Weather Rollercoaster



by Capt. Matt Mitchell

Weather conditions kept anglers on there toes all week. Warm temperatures and shiner fishing quickly turned into cold water shrimp

fishing. The ups and downs of winter fishing require you to change your game plan to get the most out of the day's trip.

When we get these big drops in temperature along with super low minus tides, the playing field of places to fish gets really small. Finding deep water that is somewhat out of the wind makes even the most frigid 60-degree day very fishable. The passes and docks around the passes fill up with boats. Deeper mangrove channels offer clients my favorite option during cold windy days.

Some creeks close to home that have offered great action in less than favorable conditions include Tarpon Bay, Shell Creek and Jewfish Creek.

Getting to know these creek systems and how to navigate in them only comes from doing it. Google Earth is a great place to get started, too. Find the deeper holes and channels to fish during even the lowest tides. Many of the creeks that are four foot or deeper

water are the places the fish go during cold water periods.

Directly after the passing of our last cold front, I opted to go out and take only shrimp, and we had an amazing day's worth of action while hiding from an extremely cold day for south Florida. After starting our trip deep in a mangrove creek system, we caught snook, trout and redfish all in one favorite hole. While slow-bouncing live shrimp on a jig head during a low incoming tide, we noticed the bite was almost nonstop. Though none of these fish were trophies, there is simply not a better way to start off a charter than with everyone on board hooking up.

We changed it up later in the trip as the wind laid down, and I made the run further north down the sound heading to the pass. The plan was fishing shrimp chunks on a jig head to catch a few sheepshead for dinner. With the tide screaming in the pass, I opted to target some of the many docks on the inside. After setting up on an open dock, it did not take long to catch a few upper slot-sized redfish. As we continued to cast to each individual piling on the dock, we put a few respectable sheepshead into the box during the last hour of the trip.

Although we continue to hear about red tide, I have only experienced a few small patches of low levels around the east end of Sanibel. Over the past week, it's had very little effect on where I've been fishing. I did have an issue a few days ago while catching shiners on the causeway with the bait dying in the live well. With cooler water temperatures and a northerly



Highlights while fishing in mangrove creeks with Kemper and the boys this week

photo provided

wind pattern, everyone's fingers are crossed that it will quickly continue its movement south and break apart.

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](mailto:captmattmitchell@aol.com).✱

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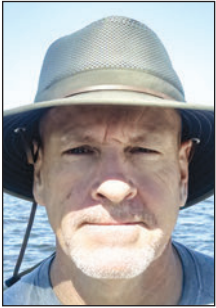
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Dave Doane



## CROW Case Of The Week:

# Eastern Screech Owl



by Bob Petcher

**T**he eastern screech owl (*Megascops asio*) is a king of camouflage, either appearing in gray or reddish brown coloring with bands and spots that hide well against tree bark. Due to this

expert concealment, this nocturnal bird of prey is definitely heard more than seen and is known for its spooky trilling sound... not a screechy noise.

This species of screech owl is short and stocky with a large head and possesses almost no neck. It has pointed and raised ear tufts. While the male eastern screech owl is smaller than the female, his voice is deeper.

At CROW, a fledgling eastern screech owl was admitted when found on the ground after falling from its nest. Upon initial examination, radiographs were administered and the patient was not found to have any injuries or developmental abnormalities. After examination, the patient was sent to rehabilitation for supportive care. The rehab team closely monitored the fledgling owl and reported it doing well and casting healthy pellets.



**Patient #20-5446 was reunited with its parents**  
photo by Breanna Frankel

"The patient received supportive care in the form of injectable fluids upon admission and was put on a feeding schedule. The fledgling graduated to regular food pieces and was being tongued three times a day up to the point of re-nesting," said Breanna Frankel, CROW rehabilitation manager.

Since there was no injury to the patient, CROW officials are calling it an abducted animal case.

"Yes, it was likely a case of an abducted animal since the bird was well-conditioned and being well taken care of," said Frankel. "If birds are seen on the ground during a typical 'baby' season, please call the CROW hospital hotline so we can help determine if the animal should stay put or come into the clinic. Fledging is a normal process that all birds

go through where babies are usually found on the ground, hopping around and flapping their wings. The parents continue to care for the fledglings while they are on the ground learning to fly. When any healthy animal is taken from the wild, we are interrupting their learning and normal growing processes. Luckily in this case, the bird was able to be re-nested."

Two days after intake, the patient was cleared for a re-nesting attempt. With the help of the finders, staff placed a nest box in a tree near where the owl was found, and the fledgling was successfully reunited with its parents.

"For fledgling re-nesting, we provided an owl nesting box, natural substrate and sticks to add inside the box, in addition to tools needed to mount the box onto the tree. We contacted the finders to play screech owl sounds outside near where the baby was found to see if they were able to visualize the parents. Upon arrival to the finder's house, they had a speaker outside playing the screech owl sounds, and they had seen the parents flying between the surrounding trees responding to the sounds playing," said Becca Wehmeier, hospital training coordinator. "We located a sturdy tree near where the baby was originally found that had a good location on the trunk to mount the nesting box. The nesting box was attached to the trunk of the tree with nails and bungee cords around the box and tree for added stability. After the box was mounted, the natural sticks and substrates were added prior to placing the fledgling inside."

"Since the parents had been seen in the area multiple times that night, it is

likely the parents would hear and find their baby that same night. I advised the finders to watch for the parents going to the nest box, but if they had not personally seen the parents, then they should look for owl casts or 'pellets' as well as excrement near the base of the tree, which would indicate that the parents were caring for their baby. If they had not seen the parents or any signs that the baby was being cared for, they should call CROW and we would advise them on the next steps to take."

While it was probably premature for the finders to bring the young owl to CROW, they made up for it by helping in the reuniting with its parents.

"The fledgling's parents were happy to have their baby returned based on their response to the screech owl calls, as they had obviously been looking for their baby. The finders and neighbors were more than willing to help in any way possible to reunite the baby with its parents, and we could not have done it without their help," said Wehmeier. "Their aid in watching for the parents, playing the owl calls and showing us where the baby was found exactly so we could place the box as close to their original nest site as possible was extremely helpful."

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

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The "Ding" Darling Visitor & Education Center schedule will be Monday through Saturday starting in the new year. Hands-on exhibits remain closed. photo provided

## Refuge Announces Latest Scheduling

The JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge on Sanibel recently announced changes to scheduling due to the lingering effects of the pandemic. Starting Sunday, January 3, the "Ding" Darling Visitor & Education

Center will be closed every Sunday until further notice. The front desk and Refuge Nature Store will be open in the center Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. All exhibits remain closed.

The center's restrooms will stay open daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Wildlife Drive will continue with its seasonal schedule of Saturday to Thursday from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tarpon Bay Explorers recreation concession will operate according to its regular schedule.

For the holidays, the Visitor &

Education Center will close on December 24, 25 and 31, and January 1.

Tarpon Bay Explorers will be closed on December 25.

Beginning February 1, the refuge will begin offering a regular schedule of free programs five days a week. In January, it begins its free artist-in-residence programs, featuring Fort Myers artist Rachel Pierce. Watch for more details at

[www.dingdarlingsociety.org](http://www.dingdarlingsociety.org).

"Sunday has been our slowest day of the week since we reopened and the hardest day to get volunteers to help work the front desk," said Supervisory Refuge Ranger Toni Westland. "Closing that day also gives us a better opportunity to more thoroughly sanitize facilities to ensure the safety of our visitors and staff." ❄️

## Symphony Open House And Supply Drive

The Southwest Florida Symphony will host an open house on

Thursday, January 7 from 4 to 7 p.m. to introduce the community to its new home, located in the Sanibel Captiva Community Bank building at 7500 College Parkway, Suite 200, in Fort Myers. There will be performances by several Southwest Florida Symphony musicians and youth orchestra students throughout the afternoon and evening. Visitors are encouraged to bring donations of hygiene products for The Salvation Army of Lee, Hendry and Glades Counties.

To uphold this tradition of charitable service in these extraordinary times, Executive Director Amy Ginsburg continues to seek ways for the orchestra to give back to its community.

"We've been hosting a food drive at

our opening Masterworks for several years, but the needs of local families must still be met after the holidays. Our community is still suffering from the effects of the pandemic. We've been hit particularly hard since Southwest Florida's service industry provides a living to so many people. Hygiene products tend to be overlooked when supply donations are sought, so we're hoping to fill that void at our 'housewarming party'."

Capacity is limited to 12 visitors at a time. Temperature checks will be done upon arrival, and masks are required for entry. For those who aren't comfortable dropping hygiene product donations off in person at this time, donors have the option to participate online by ordering products and having them delivered to the Southwest Florida Symphony administrative office by Thursday, January 7 or to: The Salvation Army of Lee, Hendry & Glades Counties, 2400 Edison Avenue, Fort Myers, 33901.

Tickets to upcoming performances are available by calling the symphony box office at 418-1500 or visiting online at [www.swflso.org](http://www.swflso.org). ❄️

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## Shell Of The Week

## Virgin Nerite



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

At 12 mm  
(about 0.5  
inch), *Vitta  
virginea* (Linnaeus,  
1758) is another  
small nerite with

rounded, smooth shell. The parietal shield (the flat area inside aperture) is crescent-shaped, white and may bear a number of small, irregular teeth. The shell is very variable in color; the dominant color may be black, red, green, purple, with spots, wavy or zigzag lines, and bands of alternating colors. The single shell of this species from Sanibel present in the museum collection was collected in 1950 at Clam Bayou, by Dale Stingley. Read more about mollusks and their shells at [www.shellmuseum.org/shell-guide](http://www.shellmuseum.org/shell-guide) and [www.shellmuseum.org/blog](http://www.shellmuseum.org/blog).

The Bailey-Matthews National Shell is open from 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.

Your gift helps ensure that our staff and animals remain healthy. To make a secure donation, visit [www.shellmuseum.org](http://www.shellmuseum.org).

The Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum is located at 3075



BMSM 1809  
*Vitta virginea*  
Sanibel, Florida, USA

The Virgin Nerite, *Vitta virginea*, from Sanibel

Sanibel-Captiva Road. For more information, call 395-2233.\*

photo by James F. Kelly

a variety of athletic games, craft projects and outdoor activities. The program operates from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Each child will need to bring a lunch and water bottle, and wear a face mask. There will be no Fun Days on December 24, 25 and 31, and January 1. For more information or to enroll you child, call 472-0345.

The Sanibel Recreation Center is located at 3880 Sanibel-Captiva Road. Daily, weekly, semi-annual and annual memberships are available.\*

## Holiday Fun Days At Rec Center

Students in kindergarten through eighth grades can chill out and have some frosty fun during this year's winter break at Sanibel Recreation Center. The holiday Fun Days will offer

## American Legion Post 123

American  
Legion  
Post 123

is serving ham  
and scalloped  
potatoes on  
Christmas  
Day, Friday,  
December 25.

Barbecued  
ribs and chicken are on the menu for  
Sunday, December 27.

On Tuesdays, tacos are served all day. Spaghetti and meatballs are served all day on Wednesdays. Steak sandwiches are served on Fridays. There are daily specials as well as half-pound burgers. Food is served from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The third Thursday of the month is Open Mic Night from 6 to 9 p.m.

The 8-Ball Pool League plays at 5 p.m. on Monday nights.

If you have a flag that needs to be retired, you can drop it off at Post 123.

American Legion member eligibility dates are November 11, 1918 through present. All veterans are welcome.

Post 123 is a non-smoking facility with an outside area available for smokers. It is located at mile marker 3 on Sanibel-Captiva Road, open Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 9 p.m. For more information, call 472-9979.\*



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Jean Le Boeuf, News-Press



## Shell Found



Danielle Flatt

photo provided

**D**anielle Flatt from Villa Rica, Georgia found a junonia at Blind Pass Beach on December 20. She was staying with her brother-in-law, Wayne Flatt, who just bought a home on the island. This was only her second chance to look for shells and it just washed up in shallow water while she was wading around.✱

## Shell Found



Bridget Valentine

photo provided

**B**ridget Valentine of Columbus, Ohio found an alphabet cone on December 15 at Tween Waters Island Resort on Captiva. Bridget and her husband, John, were married on this beach six years ago, making it even more special.✱

## Last Minute Stocking Stuffer

**T**he Community House recently released a limited number of spiral-bound cookbooks, titled *Local Flavor: Recipes from The Culinary Education Center*. Based on Southwest Florida's fruit and vegetable offerings, Resident Chef Jarred Harris' recipes include interesting facts about the key ingredient.

The recipes were chosen by members of the kitchen guild; Nancy Black, Salli Kirkland, Marge Meek and Kathy Samson.

The Community House would like to thank three sponsors for helping make this project happen: Mike Kelly, Salli Kirkland and Marge Meek.

The cookbook is available for purchase at The Community House, located at 2173 Periwinkle Way. Cost is \$15. It makes the perfect stocking stuffer, Sanibel souvenir or educational cooking tool.✱

## local flavor

*Recipes from  
The Culinary Education Center*

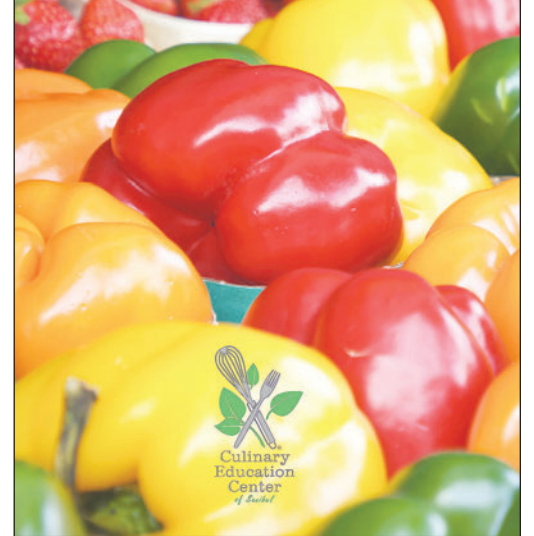


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# Using Solar Saves Money And The Environment

submitted by Bob Moore

If you've looked into solar in the past, you may be surprised to learn how quickly prices have dropped.

The rooftop solar I recently installed on my home will pay for itself in under eight years and save me tens of thousands of dollars over the 30 years that it's warranted. That will represent more than a 300 percent return on my investment. Business owners, Richard and Mead Johnson of Bailey's General Store on Sanibel, tell a similar story. In 2016, Bailey's completed phase 1 of its solar installation producing about 15 percent of its electricity needs. In just four years, that investment has already paid for itself. Bailey's just completed phase 2 of its installation, more than doubling the size of its solar production to 35 to 40 percent of the store's electricity usage. "As a business owner, I consider anything with a seven-year ROI to be a good investment," Richard Johnson said. "An investment like our solar panels that pay for themselves in four years is a no brainer."

Lee County Electric Cooperative (LCEC) was a pioneer among rural electric cooperatives in supporting the adoption of rooftop solar in 2009. By offering a robust solar net metering program, LCEC is helping both residential and business customers save money on electric

bills. While Florida state law requires investor-owned utilities like FPL and Duke Energy to offer solar net metering to their customers, electric co-ops and municipal utilities are not required to do so.

What is solar net metering? Typically, an electric meter serving a home or business offers a one-way connection to the electric grid. Electricity is generated by a utility and travels along the grid to power your home or business. Net metering offers a two-way street. When you have solar panels on your roof, the electricity being generated is used to meet your electricity demands. If you need more than you are producing, the net meter allows you to draw extra energy from the grid. If you are producing more than you need, the net meter allows you to send excess energy into the grid to be used by customers in the surrounding area.

The LCEC net metering program gives you a one for one credit for excess energy you produce. That means excess energy you put into the grid during the day when the sun is shining provides a credit that can be used for power you draw from the grid at night. As a result, you save money on your electric bill, which is good news for you. It also can be good news for your neighbors. In Florida, peak demand tends to be during the heat of the day when air conditioners are running. If power providers have to buy extra power on the open market to meet customer demand, that electricity is more expensive. Solar customers can be part of the solution of evening off peak demand requirements, which helps keep electricity prices down.

Here in southern Florida, we are particularly at risk from the effects of

climate change driven largely by the burning of fossil fuels. Stronger and more frequent storms, along with increasing sea level rise, for example, pose growing risks to residents, businesses and the natural world we so cherish here in Florida. "At LCEC, we are happy to support customers who are looking to save money on their utility bill and do the right thing for the environment," said Denise Vidal, LCEC chief executive officer.

In a fiscally conservative area like Southwest Florida, it would seem natural that solar would be front and center in local and regional energy planning. And solar energy has been growing rapidly in the Sunshine State. According to the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, the fastest growing job in the U.S. is solar installer followed by wind turbine technician. In Florida, solar production has more than quadrupled in the past five years and is projected to quadruple again in the next five years. But there is still a long way to go. Less than two and a half percent of the state's electricity comes from solar.

That presents a great opportunity for homeowners and businesses. The cost of solar energy has plummeted in recent years. Residential rooftop systems installed today cost less than half of what they did 10 years ago. And the cost of utility scale solar has dropped over 70 percent in that time. According to Bloomberg, "Today, more than two-thirds of the global population lives in countries where solar and wind are the cheapest sources of new bulk generation." And a study just published by the International Energy Agency states, "with sharp cost

reductions over the past decade, solar PV is consistently cheaper than new coal- or gas-fired power plants in most countries, and solar projects now offer some of the lowest cost electricity ever seen."

Federal tax incentives make the cost of installing solar even more attractive. Those incentives are set to expire at the end of 2021. If you are considering solar for your home or business, now is an auspicious time to act. In 2021, the federal tax incentive will be 22 percent. That means you can deduct 22 percent of the cost of a rooftop solar system off your 2021 federal tax bill. If you need to replace your roof, you can also deduct 22 percent of the cost of the portion of the roof covered by solar panels. When making a decision, speak with an accountant to understand your situation, but the savings can be significant. Once your solar system is installed, the electricity you generate from the sun is free.

In contrast, the cost of fossil fuel electricity will likely only increase in the coming years. And the indirect costs of burning fossil fuels make them even more expensive. Stronger storms, sea level rise, insurances increases and other effects of climate change are already costing taxpayers billions of dollars.

All of the LCEC customers that I interviewed for this story had nothing but positive things to say about their decision to go solar. Take John and Kathy McCabe, for example. The McCabes, Sanibel residents, first installed solar panels and solar hot water on their home in 2008. In 2013, they installed even more panels on their home and are now covering 100 percent of their electricity needs. They



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are even powering two electric cars from their solar panels. "Having no electric bill and no gas bill for the cars really made the payback on the system go faster. We have already more than paid back our investment," John McCabe said.

McCabe has also been paying back to the community. As a member of the board of directors of the "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society, McCabe spearheaded a solar co-op back in 2015. That solar co-op resulted in solar panels on the facilities of the "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge, where they are serving to not only save money but also educate the public on the environmental benefits of solar. The refuge has a display panel in the visitor center that shows the solar/electric generation and real time energy savings.

The co-op also resulted in solar installations on 20 homes and businesses that took advantage of the savings. One of those businesses was Bailey's General Store mentioned earlier. The owners of Bailey's are so positive about the savings from their solar projects that they are planning even more expansion.

A notable project in the planning stages at Bailey's is a reconfiguration of the parking lot at the store to allow for installation of shade structures that can also provide surface area for solar panels. "I see people drive around the lot today looking for a shady place to park their car. If I can provide that shade and generate more solar power from the structures, I think customers will really like that," said Richard Johnson. While the project is still a ways off, it will further increase solar generation and cost savings for the business.

In addition to the cost savings, the

Johnsons see their solar power as an important contribution to the community and one that their customers can get excited about. "One of the problems of my current solar panels is that they sit up on the roof where no one can see them. When people hear about what we are doing to reduce our carbon footprint, they truly appreciate the environmental stewardship," said Johnson. They are working on a project now with their solar installer to place a large monitor in the store that shows in real time the environmental benefits of their solar power – presenting, for example, the reduction of carbon emissions from the system as an equivalent to the number of cars kept off the roads or the number of trees that would need to be planted to sequester that much carbon. Johnson said, "I think it's just really cool that we can harness the power of that gigantic ball of gas Mother Nature is providing for us. We're just taking advantage of what she has to offer."

One of the major advocates for rooftop solar in the state is Solar United Neighbors (SUN). SUN advocates for solar-friendly policies in the state. In fact, SUN was recently part of a statewide campaign to save net metering in Florida. Net metering, like the program LCEC offers, is the lynch pin for making rooftop solar operate at a cost savings for homes and businesses. A consortium backed by utilities attempted to convince the Florida Public Service Commission to scrap its net metering rule. Utilities said customers are paying for infrastructure costs that solar users would have paid for, which they claim hurts low-income customers who shoulder these costs but can't afford

solar power. However, a comprehensive review of studies by the Brookings Institute disputes these claims. In fact, according to the report, the accumulating national literature on costs and benefits of net metering show that "the economic benefits of net metering actually outweigh the costs and impose no significant cost increase for non-solar customers. Far from a net cost, net metering is in most cases a net benefit – for the utility and for non-solar rate-payers."

As a show of how much support solar has in Florida, the commission received over 16,000 comments in support of preserving net metering – the most comments they have ever received on any one issue – and thankfully net metering was preserved.

SUN also helps homes and businesses get lower prices on solar installations by coordinating solar co-ops across the state. A solar co-op applies group purchasing power to bring costs down. This spring, they organized a co-op for Lee and Collier counties.

One person who participated in the coop was Jim Columbo, another LCEC customer. Columbo has had a longtime interest in renewable energy and energy conservation, but until recently, he felt the cost of solar was just too expensive. By participating in the SUN co-op, Columbo saved over 20 percent off the average cost of solar installations in Florida. With the federal tax incentive, which was 26 percent in 2020, Columbo decided now was the time to act. Based on his electricity bills, he expects a complete payback within eight years. "I would definitely recommend to others that they go solar," Columbo

said. "Unlike other home improvement projects where you don't see a return on your money until after you sell your house, with solar, you start making your money back right away."

The fact that rooftop solar provides costs savings and helps to address the growing effects of climate change makes it perfectly suited to the Sunshine State. And the LCEC net metering program helps make those savings possible. For businesses struggling in the current economy, reducing expenses can help to stabilize operations. And for home owners, I can tell you that running your home on solar and receiving a \$0 monthly electricity bill is an amazing feeling. There is a \$20 per month connection fee for the LCEC net metering program, but that compares to an average \$250 to \$300 per month we paid before our panels were installed. Solar provides proof that doing well financially and doing good for the environment can be one in the same undertaking.

Note: The individuals interviewed for this article will be a part of a panel presentation hosted by The Community House in early 2021. For more information, call 472-2155.

Bob Moore is senior vice president for a Boston-based healthcare company. He is also co-founder with his wife, Ariel Hoover, of the Lee County Chapter of the Climate Reality Project and volunteers his time with other local nonprofits. The couple powers their home with solar using the LCEC net metering program. For more information, contact [leeclimatereality@gmail.com](mailto:leeclimatereality@gmail.com).✧

# SOCIAL DISTANCING at Gramma Dot's



Out of respect for all those within my employ and for our loyal patrons who dine with us year after year. Gramma Dots shall practice "social distancing" in the air-conditioned inside (at 50% occupancy) and outside - all servers and employees shall wear masks at all times.

*-Myton Ireland*

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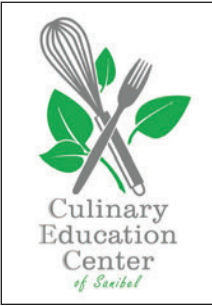
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The Community House

# The Pistachio



by Resident Chef Jarred Harris

Pistachios are the seeds of the pistachio tree, which is one of the oldest flowering nut trees in history. Native to Central Asia and the Middle East, the pistachio dates back 9,000 years and is considered the original prehistoric snack. Pistachios are related to the cashew, mango and the spice sumac.

The pistachio is one of two nuts mentioned in the Bible, the other nut is the almond. Moslem legend suggests the pistachio nut was one of the foods brought to Earth by Adam. The Queen of Sheba loved pistachios so much, she demanded that every pistachio harvested be set aside for her. King Nebuchadnezzar planted pistachios in the Hanging Garden of Babylon.

In Iran, pistachios are known as the “smiling nut” and they are called the “happy nut” in China. They’re also known as the “green almond.”

Pistachios are an excellent source of

protein. A one-ounce serving of pistachios contains the same amount of protein as an egg. Pistachios also contain dietary fiber and minerals such as phosphorus, potassium, calcium, iron, magnesium, manganese, zinc, copper, sodium and selenium. They are also a good source of vitamins A, K, C, E, B6, B1-thiamine, B2-riboflavin, B3-niacin and B9-folate. Pistachios contain powerful antioxidants. In fact, they contain more antioxidants than many seeds and nuts; only pecans and walnuts contain more.

This delicious nut has can help protect against cancer, lower blood cholesterol, improve blood pressure and lower the risk of heart disease.

Here is a simple recipe to try:

**Pistachio Ice Cream**

- 1 cup unsalted pistachios (shelled)
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 cups half and half
- ½ tsp. almond extract
- 4 egg yolks
- 1 cup heavy cream
- ¾ cup unsalted pistachios (shelled and coarsely chopped)

**Method**

Place 1 cup of pistachios and the sugar in a food processor and blend until the nuts are pulverized.

Mix the sugar and half and half together in a sauce pan and bring to a simmer, stirring until the sugar has dissolved. Remove from heat and mix in the almond extract.

Place the egg yolks and cream in a mixing bowl and mix until well blended. Gradually ladle the hot half and half mixture into the yolk and cream mixture. When all the half and half mixture is

added, return to low heat and stir until the mixture thickens slightly, about 3 minutes.

Cool the liquid over an ice bath.

When liquid is completely cooled, add the chopped pistachios, then pour into an ice cream maker and freeze according to manufacturer’s instructions.

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.\*

## New Initiative For Coastal Watch

submitted by: Kealy McNeal

Mangroves are a vital source of energy, provide nursery habitats for juvenile fish, nesting habitat for wading birds, stabilize shorelines by reducing erosion, and are a buffer against storm damage. Many people are familiar with these iconic trees, but few may understand how tightly linked they are to the marine ecosystem.

This year, Coastal Watch is embarking on a new initiative to teach the value of mangroves on our islands through community involvement. Through this educational initiative, Back to Our Roots, Coastal Watch is inviting residents to “adopt” their own mangrove to nurture so it can be planted at a mangrove restoration site on Sanibel or Captiva.

This new initiative includes a mangrove workshop where participants gain a deeper understanding of mangrove biology and their role in Southwest Florida’s marine ecosystem. Participants receive a starter kit to grow their mangrove at home until it is ready to be planted at a local restoration site during a community



**Two virtual workshops on the new initiative will be held in January** image provided

planting event this fall.

Save the date for the Back to Our Roots virtual workshops in January: Saturday, January 16 at 1 p.m. and Thursday, January 21 at 6 p.m. More information to be released soon.

Part of the SCCF (Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation) family, Coastal Watch creates and implements conservation initiatives that promote and improve the future of marine resources and the coastal heritage. For more information, visit [www.sancapcoastalwatch.org](http://www.sancapcoastalwatch.org) or contact [coastalwatch@sanibelseaschool.org](mailto:coastalwatch@sanibelseaschool.org).\*



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## BIG ARTS Monday Night Film Lineup

The BIG ARTS Film Committee released the lineup for the January and February Monday Night Film Series. The series, shown Mondays at 7 p.m. in Christensen Performance Hall, features a diverse collection of films selected by the volunteers of the committee. Chair Visnja Gembicki, Stan Gembicki, Di Saggau, Ron Green, Stefi and Don Irwin, Barbara Ruben, Judy Adler and JR Pascal carefully chose award-winning films from the world's major film festivals. Admission to all films is \$10 and tickets can be purchased online at [www.bigarts.org](http://www.bigarts.org) or through the box office at 395-0900. The lineup is:

January 4: *Those Who Remained*  
January 11: *The Reports of Sarah and Saleem*

January 18: *Just Mercy*  
January 25: *Burning*  
February 1: *A Bag of Marbles*  
February 8: *Invisible Life*  
February 15: *And Then We Danced*  
February 22: *The Last Vermeer*

BIG ARTS is practicing the highest standards of safety during this challenging time. All visitors are required to wear masks and are asked to be mindful of social distancing. BIG ARTS is selling only 50 percent of the



image provided

seats in Christensen Performance Hall. Until further notice, only 200 seats will be available for any event in the hall, and a maximum of 30 people will be allowed in the gallery at any given time. BIG ARTS has enhanced its air filtration system, all surfaces are wiped down between use, a professional sanitizing fogger is being used after each gathering, and there are hand sanitizing stations throughout the ground floor.

BIG ARTS is located at 900 Dunlop Road on Sanibel.✱



From left: Clair Beckman, shell club grant chair; Donald Dan of Conchologists of America; and Karen Silverstein, shell club president

## Grant Awarded To Conchologists Of America

The board of the Sanibel-Captiva Shell Club approved a \$1,000 grant this year for the Conchologists of America as the eighth installment of a \$10,000 perpetual grant award that will be called the Sanibel-Captiva Shell Club Award when the 10th year is reached. The grant is used for studies dealing with marine mollusca

from the Gulf of Mexico and the western Atlantic Ocean areas, with preference to Southwest Florida.

The Sanibel-Captiva Shell Club awards grants from the proceeds of its annual shell show. Grants are given toward education and research in the fields of conchology and malacology, as well as for conservation and water quality projects, primarily in Southwest Florida.

There will be a virtual shell show in March due to the coronavirus pandemic. For more information about the show or to join the club, visit <https://sanibelshellclub.com>.✱



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### Oysters Rockefeller

3 dozen oysters, shucked and on the half shell

2 cups spinach, cooked and squeezed dry

1 bell pepper (any color), diced small

3-4 slices of bacon, cooked and crumbled

1 cup mozzarella cheese, shredded

½ cup Parmesan cheese, grated

½ cup panko (Japanese breadcrumbs)

2 tablespoons fresh parsley, chopped

fine

1 teaspoon of hot pepper sauce

1 lemon, juiced

2 lemons, quartered for garnish

Sea salt and fresh ground pepper, to taste

Preheat oven to high broil. In a bowl combine and mix together the spinach, bell pepper, bacon, cheeses, parsley, hot sauce and lemon juice. Taste and adjust with salt and pepper, if needed. Place one tablespoon or so of the spinach mixture on top of each oyster and top with a touch of panko. Place on a sheet pan and put under the broiler for two

### Oysters Rockefeller

or three minutes. The cooking process will happen rather quickly, so observe

the whole time. Oysters will start to curl around the edges and filling will be golden

photo courtesy Fresh From Florida and bubbly. Remove and serve warm with quartered lemons.\*



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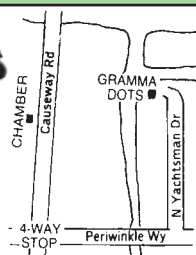
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Isla Mendez browses books

photos provided

## Books, News, Tech And More At Sanibel Library

Sanibel Public Library is open for normal hours and continues to offer its popular contactless curbside service, with hundreds of green bags going out to patrons each week. To use the service, place items on hold online, or make requests by calling the library at 472-2483. You will be notified when your items are ready for pickup. Patrons will have



Duane Shaffer prepares bags for contactless curbside pickup

three days (excluding Saturday and Sunday) to pick up items. Hours for curbside pickup are Monday through Friday from noon to 3 p.m. Holiday The library will be open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on New Year's Eve and closed on New Year's Day.

The library's book sale room has lots of new fiction, coffee table books and many illustrated children's books. Most books are priced under \$4.

Youth Services Librarian Deanna Evans shares virtual stories and songs online on the children's page at [www.sanlib.org/children](http://www.sanlib.org/children).

Digital archives are available online. With nearly a thousand items, this



Margie Klein at the Tech IT Out Kiosk

ever-growing collection is a dynamic view of Sanibel's past. From the first homesteaders to important events in the island's recent history, the digital archive collects, preserves and provides access to all items that are valuable to island history. To see the images, newspapers and oral histories, go to the homepage at [www.sanlib.org](http://www.sanlib.org). Seed development for this ongoing project is supported in part by the Roni Jo Freer Fund of the Sanibel Public Library Foundation.

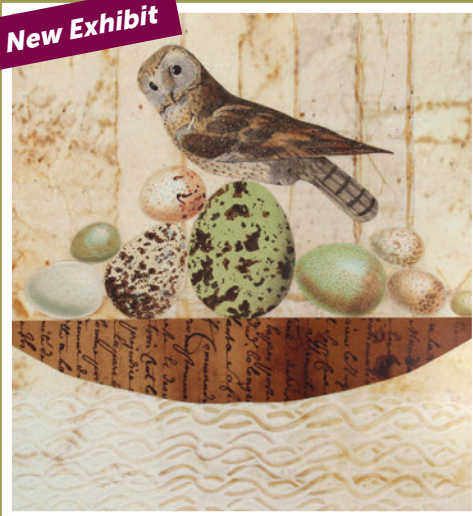
The Jay Norwood "Ding" Darling exhibit will be on view through the end of December, commemorating the 75th anniversary of the refuge. Stop by the

main entry lobby to use the selfie screen for a photo with "Ding" Darling, including his signature and birds of Sanibel overlaid on the photo.

The library continues to offer daily newspapers for patrons to read inside the facility. Library cardholders can also keep up to date on current events from home with RBDigital's PressReader. PressReader can be used on a computer or via an app, offering online access to U.S. newspapers plus publications from around the globe. A new accessibility mode – with navigation, audio, tab navigation, color contrast, large named buttons and larger font size – has

continued on page 29

### New Exhibit



**DIANA STETSON** – In Love with This Earth series: beautifully rendered paintings and small lithograph collages.



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### New Sculpture



**CAROLINE DOUGLAS** – "Spirit Travelers", 10"x7" and "Happy Hour Boats", 4"x 6-12". Uplifting, detailed ceramic sculptures.







From left, Ken, Kim and Kyler Kouril with Ronan, Jason and Babs Maughan photo provided

# Troop 1740 Braves Storm, Wins Cookoff

submitted by Kim Kouril

It was a blustery Saturday morning last month when Boy Scout Troop 1740 pulled into the parking lot at Boy Scouts of America (BSA) Southwest Florida Council in downtown Fort Myers. Many thoughts centered around the competition. Were there enough ingredients? Should there have been more spices? What about the tomato

cans? And would that brand new, three propane burner camping stove hold up in this windy weather? (oh yes, it did, and they don't call it "Chef King" for nothin'). But the real question was this: what would the judges (4th and 5th grade Webelos scouts) think of Troop 1740's savory Dutch oven dish, Chicken Curry? Curry? Yes, curry.

While scouts Ronan Maughan and Kyler Kouril got busy chopping, Scoutmaster Jason Maughan and wife Babs fired up the stove. My husband, Ken, and I fended off impending disaster by holding up the tent poles against the ever increasing wind. The intrepid crew cooked and cooked, regardless of the more than occasional gusts that sent paper plates, napkins and utensils flying. Who would've thought that this was the precursor to more hurricane weather in the month of November?

With barely a minute left on the clock, the dish was done, later to be dubbed "Hurry Curry," and the pint-size judges came in one after another as the troop dished out over 70 portions to the hungry crowd. There were whispers of "I've never had curry" and "Mom, you

gotta make this at home!" The troop was pleased, but full of restraint and composure. We all know how it can turn out on the Food Network. Finally, it was time for the awards ceremony with the event emcee, District Executive James Laughlin, to announce the winners. Third place went to the troop who made Cowboy Soup. Second

place went to the troop who made Rosarita Pie. And then it was time to call the first place winner and Laughlin said, "I wasn't quite sure how this dish was gonna go over with the kids, but apparently it did, because first place goes to Troop 1740." Hard work and Hurry Curry won the day.✧

## BIG ARTS Monday Night Film Series

# Honeyland

by Di Saggau

The BIG ARTS Monday Night Movie for December 28 is *Honeyland*, a documentary about how closely intertwined nature and humanity are, and how much we stand to lose if we ignore this fundamental connection. Deep within the Balkans, a woman named Hatidze lives with her ailing mother in a village without roads, electricity or running water. She's the last in a long line of wild beekeepers, eking out a living farming honey in small batches to be sold in a nearby city.

Hatidze's peaceful existence is thrown into upheaval when an itinerant family, with seven rambunctious children and a herd of cattle, arrives with their roaring engines. Hatidze optimistically welcomes them with an open heart, offering her tried-and-true beekeeping advice. It isn't long before Hussein, the family's patriarch, senses opportunity and develops an interest in selling his own honey. He casts Hatidze's advice aside in his hunt for profit, threatening her survival.

*Honeyland* is a tough and tender portrait of the delicate balance between humankind and nature, a glimpse at a fast disappearing way of life, and an unforgettable testament to one woman's extraordinary resilience. The film runs one hour and 27 minutes. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased online or at the box office. There will be no

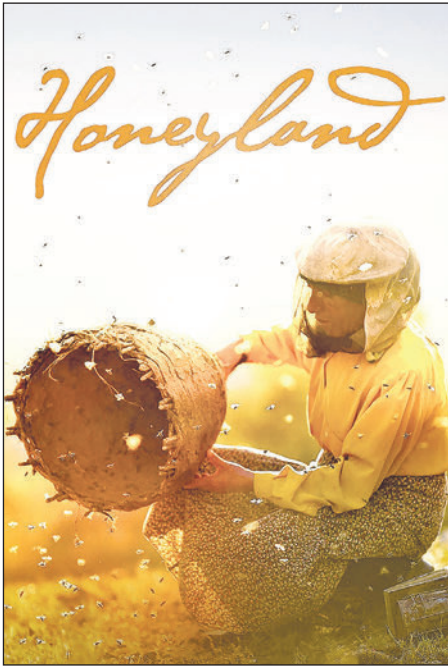


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discussion following the film. BIG ARTS is practicing the highest standards of safety during this challenging time. All visitors are required to wear masks and are asked to be mindful of social distancing. BIG ARTS is selling only 50 percent of the seats in Christensen Performance Hall. Until further notice, only 200 seats will be available for any event in the hall, and a maximum of 30 people will be allowed in the gallery at any given time. BIG ARTS has enhanced its air filtration system, all surfaces are wiped down between use, a professional sanitizing fogger is being used after each gathering, and there are hand sanitizing stations throughout the ground floor. BIG ARTS is located at 900 Dunlop Road. For more information, call 395-0900 or visit [www.bigarts.org](http://www.bigarts.org).✧

## From page 1 1927 Gala

designated historic landmarks. It was built by members of the community who donated the funds, materials and labor to create a place where all islanders could gather for social, civic, cultural and educational activities. Today, almost 100 years later, The Community House continues its important role as the "Heart of the Island" and the center for social and civic gatherings. A nonprofit 501(c)3 organization, it is operated by the Sanibel Community Association with support coming entirely from membership, user fees and private donations.✧



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Sissi Janku demonstrates many ways of painting a tropical landscape photos provided

## New Creative Painting Classes Begin January 6

Local artist and instructor Sissi Janku will introduce new classes at The Community House for beginning and experienced painters starting Wednesday, January 6.

Janku's goal is to provide inspiration so that anyone can learn to express themselves on canvas. She enjoys teaching classes to those who are interested in

expanding their creative abilities.

All art materials are provided, just bring an idea or a project you would like to work on. Janku will have some of her own paintings on hand as examples. Visit her website at [www.sissijanku.com](http://www.sissijanku.com) to get an insight into her art world.

Participants are welcome to bring snacks to class, which runs from 10 a.m. to noon on the first and third Wednesdays of the month, January through March.

Fee per class is \$60 for members and \$65 for nonmembers.

Call the Community House at 472-2155 for reservations or book online at [www.sanibelcommunityhouse.net](http://www.sanibelcommunityhouse.net).✱



These honeymooners created keepsakes to take back home

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Book Review

The Law Of Innocence



by Di Saggau

Defense attorney Mickey Haller is celebrating a big win, and as he steps outside the celebration to go home, he is pulled over by police. To make matters

worse, they find a body of a former client in the trunk of his Lincoln. Haller is immediately charged with first degree murder and a \$5 million bail set by a vindictive judge, that he can't pay.

Haller represents himself and prepares for his defense in his jail cell in the Twin Towers Correctional Center in downtown Los Angeles. Being an officer of the court, he is an instant target. He pays for protection from a fellow inmate named Bambadjan Bishop, an interesting character who later becomes Haller's driver.

Connelly writes, *The law of innocence* is unwritten. It's not a true legal term, can't be argued in a court of law and doesn't exist on the books. In the law of innocence, for every man not guilty of a crime, there is a man out there who is. And to prove true innocence, the guilty man must be

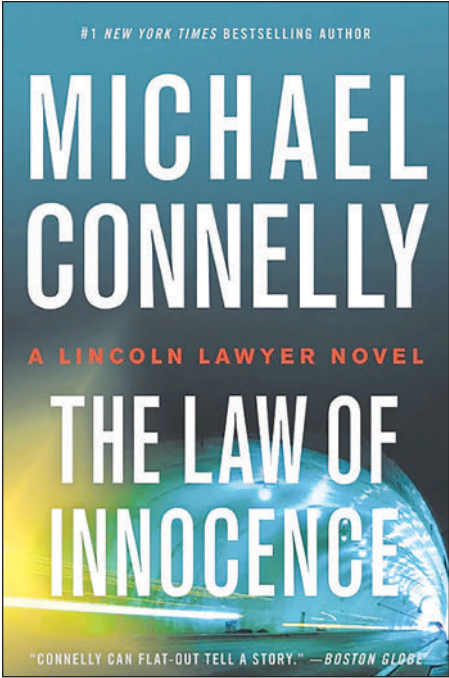


image provided

found and exposed to the world."

Haller knows he's been framed, but proving it isn't easy. His half-brother Harry Bosch joins the investigative team. They use all their skills to find out who really committed the murder and why. The case leads to the port of Los Angeles and a biofuel company run by a criminal who has mob ties, whom Haller put away years earlier.

Bosch suspects the company of running a complex scam and double-dipping on government subsidies

payouts. Meanwhile, 2020 is off to a weird start with reports of a deadly virus from China that threatens to spread worldwide. *The Law of Innocence* is a well-paced legal thriller by a master writer.✧

School Smart



by Shelley M. Greggs, NCSP

Dear Readers, I've presented these positive phrases to you for quite a few years, and 2020 is no exception. It's been a very tough year, and all of us

would benefit by saying and hearing positive words, our kids especially. So, here's a holiday gift for you to give to your children, some positive phrases. Using supportive vocabulary and language that expresses your belief and support for them is a powerful way to communicate. It's vital for your children to know that they are loved, understood and accepted because sometimes the usual pat on the back isn't enough.

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

Expressing belief in your child:

I trust you  
I believe in you  
I respect your decision  
It won't be easy, but I'm certain you'll do it  
You're doing everything right  
You understand this perfectly  
How did you manage to do this so well?

Teach me how you do it, so I can succeed like you

You can do it better than I can  
You're better at this than me

Crediting their hard work:

I can see how much work you put into this

I can see how hard you tried  
You worked so hard on this, and you achieved it perfectly

You're making fantastic progress  
I can see you spent a lot of time on this

I can imagine how much effort you had to put in to achieve this

You must have worked so hard to get this result

All that hard work paid off

Being thankful for the time you spend together:

I really appreciate you spending time with me

I can't wait to play with you tomorrow

It's so interesting to do this with you  
I really enjoyed playing with you

I'm so glad you're at home with me  
I'm having so much fun being with you

Helping them evaluate their own performance:

What do you think about this?

You must be so proud

What's the thing your most proud of?

What's your opinion on this?

How would you evaluate your own work?

And what do you think of the result?  
How do you wish it had gone?

Being thankful for their help:

Thank you so much for doing this  
I'm so grateful that you helped me with this

You really helped me out

Thanks for understanding

I don't know what I would have done without you

Without your help I wouldn't have succeeded

You helped me to get through this quicker

The house is so tidy thanks to you

Describing what you see:

Your bedroom is so clean

Wow, you've made your bed... fantastic

There are so many beautiful colors in this picture

I can see that you really tried hard

I noticed that you cleared the table yourself... well done

Describing how you feel:

I just love spending time with you so much

I'm so happy when you're at home

I love being part of your team

I love hearing your opinion

I'm so incredibly grateful that I have you

It makes me so happy when you're around to help me

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

Continental Women's Club

The Continental Women's Club will hold its monthly luncheon meeting at The Hideaway Country Club on Thursday, January 7 at 11:30 a.m.

The guest speaker will be Melissa Maher, representing the Wildlife on Wheels (WoW) mobile program, which is newly established by the JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge. She will speak about this urban mobile classroom designed to spread the message about the beauty and calm of the refuge on Sanibel.

The Hideaway Country Club is located at 5670 Trailwinds Drive in Fort Myers. Tables are socially distanced and masks are required. Cost to attend is \$24. Call 691-7561 for more information.✧

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## BIG ARTS Corner

Workshops  
And Seminars

**B**IG ARTS is offering the following workshops and seminars:

Adobe Lightroom with Denny Souers – Mondays, January 4 to 25, 1 to 4 p.m. Members \$80; nonmembers \$100.

Virtual Workshop: Figure Drawing from Photographic References with Francesco Gillia – Tuesdays, January 5 to 19, 9:30 a.m. to noon. Members \$93; nonmembers \$116.

Pastels with Mary Klunk – Tuesdays, January 5 to 26, 9:30 a.m. to noon. Members \$85; nonmembers \$106.

Glass Fusing with Petra Kaiser – Wednesdays, January 6 to 27, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Members \$99; nonmembers \$124.

Open Studio: Decorative Painting with Sally Parsons – Wednesdays, January 6 to March 31, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Members \$8; nonmembers \$8.

Glass Fusing with Petra Kaiser – Thursdays, January 7 to 28, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Members \$99; nonmembers \$124.

Beginner Photography with Denny Souers – Thursdays, January 7 to 28, first class 9 a.m. to noon, classes 2, 3 and 4 7 a.m. to noon. Members \$111; nonmembers \$139.

Beginners Watercolors with Sunny Krchmar – Fridays, January 8 to 22, from 9 a.m. to noon. Members \$156; nonmembers \$195.

Intermediate Watercolors with Sunny Krchmar – Fridays, January 8 to 22, 1 to 4 p.m. Members \$156; nonmembers \$195.

Life Drawing – Open Studio Non-Instructed with Carol Rosenberg – Fridays, January 8 to 29, 9:30 a.m. to noon. Members \$69; nonmembers \$86.

The Perennial Philosophy: Catching a Glimpse of Truth and Beauty in Each Religion and Every Branch of Science with Ran Niehoff – Tuesdays, January 12 to 26, 9:30 to 11 a.m. Members \$80; nonmembers \$100.

Beginner Pastel with Donna Filomio – Friday, January 15, 1 to 4 p.m. Members \$85; nonmembers \$106.

New Techniques in Pastel and Preservation with Donna Filomio – Monday, January 18, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Members \$145; nonmembers \$181.



The Joy of Writing with Vicky Lettmann – Mondays, January 18 to February 22, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Members \$110; nonmembers \$138.

Seed Bead Weaving: Spiral Rope Technique with Anita Gober – Wednesday, January 20, 9 a.m. to noon. Members \$57; nonmembers \$72.

Art Evening: Shorebird on Palm Bark with Jenny Licht – Thursday, January 21, 6 to 9 p.m. Members \$44; nonmembers \$55.

Zentangle with Meg Scott – Thursday, January 21, 9:30 a.m. to noon. Members \$35; nonmembers \$44.

Drawing Basics with Douglas David – Saturday, January 23, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Member s\$125; nonmembers \$156.

Paint Seascapes in Oil with David Douglas – Monday and Tuesday, January 25 and 26, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Members \$250; nonmembers \$313.

Virtual Workshop: One Day Drawing Workshop: Ears with Francesco Gillia – Tuesday, January 26, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Members \$95; nonmembers \$119.

Art Evening: Glitzy Jellyfish on Canvas with Jenny Licht – Thursday, January 28, 6 to 9 p.m. Members \$55; nonmembers \$69.

Palette Knife Painting in Oil from Landscape Photography with Jan Atkielski – Friday and Saturday, January 29 and 30, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Members \$160; nonmembers \$200.

The health and safety of instructors, students, staff and patrons is a priority at BIG ARTS. Staff is following CDC recommendations and asks for your cooperation in best practices safety standards. All students and instructors must wear a mask and social distance. Class seating will be carefully spaced. Signage and procedures are posted in the facility. All rooms are sanitized between classes and class sizes will be limited.

Call 395-0900 or stop by the BIG ARTS center at 900 Dunlop Road on Sanibel to enroll. Preregistration is recommended. For complete course descriptions, workshop and class schedules, visit [www.bigarts.org/workshops](http://www.bigarts.org/workshops), or email [info@bigarts.org](mailto:info@bigarts.org).

From page 25

## Library

just been added. This assistive technology can also convert digital newspaper text into speech read aloud.

From the *Tampa Bay Times*, to the *Chicago Tribune*, *Baltimore Sun*, *Los Angeles Times*, *New York Post*, *La Prensa* to the *South Florida Sun-Sentinel*, readers can get news from a variety of sources. Hundreds of periodicals in many languages have recently been added to the app, including many selections for children.

Public access computers, copiers, scanners and printers are available for use. The Tech IT Out service offers cardholders an easy way to borrow a Dell laptop or MacBook Air for use anywhere inside

the building. To make social distancing easier, patrons can sit at any table or chair in the library and use a laptop for up to three hours. The Macs offer apps like Keynote, Google Chrome, FaceTime, and GarageBand. The Dells have PowerPoint, Excel, Word and games like Mahjong.

Precautions are in place to help protect staff and patrons from COVID-19. Patrons have to maintain social distance inside the building and wear masks (except for children under age 6). Library staff is implementing safety and sanitizing procedures consistent with the CDC and Florida Department of Health guidelines.

Sanibel Public Library cards are available to all residents of Sanibel and Lee County at no charge. Visitor library cards are available for a \$10 annual fee. For more information, call 472-2483 or visit [www.sanlib.org](http://www.sanlib.org).



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Best Meat Dish: The Timbers Restaurant & Fish Market

photos provided

# Taste Of The Islands Winners

Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW) announced the winners of the 39th Taste of the Islands. This year's "Reimagined" event featured 31 restaurants from Sanibel and Captiva that diners visited throughout the month of November. Local judges Harold Balink, Gina Birch, Karen Feldman, Jarred Harris, Gloria Jordan, Norman Love, Patrick Nolan, and Geoff and Robbie Roepstorff, along with surprise celebrity guest judge Keegen Gerhard of Food Network, rated the restaurants' offerings in a variety of categories while passport holders voted for the People's Choice award sponsored by Rosier Insurance. And the winners are:

- Best Appetizer: Thistle Lodge
- Beachfront Restaurant – Lime Zest and Sesame Crusted Ahi Tuna
- Best Meat: The Timbers Restaurant & Fish Market – Lamb Lollipops
- Best Seafood: Old Captiva House – Cioppino
- Best Vegetarian: Sanibel Fresh – Vegetarian Burger
- Best Dessert: Spoon drift Islands Bowls – Coconut Tres Leche Cake
- Best Adult Beverage (tie): Doc Ford's



Best Dessert: Spoon drift Islands Bowls

- Toasted Coconut Colada and Tippy Turtle Restaurant & Bar – Shellshock Punch
- Taste of Taste: Old Captiva House
- Cioppino
- People's Choice: MudBugs Cajun Kitchen

"We really wanted Taste to be successful for both CROW and our restaurant partners and I think we can say it has been," said Alison Charney Hussey, executive director for CROW. "It took a little getting used to the new



Best Adult Beverage (tie): Doc Ford's Rum Bar & Grille



Best Appetizer: Thistle Lodge

format but I think the community really embraced it and enjoyed exploring the restaurants throughout the month. We are so blessed to have the support of such amazing sponsors, restaurants and patrons."

CROW thanks Bank of the Islands/ Edison National Bank for returning as this year's Presenting Sponsor. This is the 11th year in a row that the bank has led the sponsorship for CROW's signature fundraiser. CROW would also like to thank the event sponsors which



Best Vegetarian Dish: Sanibel Fresh

include: FOX 4 as Lead Media Sponsor; The Silverman Organization and VCA Sanibel Animal Hospital as Executive Chef Sponsors; Jensen's Marina & Cottages, The Inns of Sanibel, Rapid Response Team of Fort Myers and Royal Shell as Sous Chef Sponsors; and The News-Press, Naples Daily News and LOCALiQ, Happenings Magazine, Island Sun and The River Weekly News, Sanibel-Captiva Islander/Island Reporter and Santiva Chronicle as Supporting Media Sponsors.\*



Best Seafood Dish and Taste of the Taste: Old Captiva House



Best Adult Beverage (tie): Tippy Turtle Restaurant & Bar



## Surgeon General Addresses Local Committee

On the cusp of Florida's COVID-19 vaccination program, Florida Surgeon General Scott Rivkees addressed a virtual meeting of the Sanibel & Captiva Island Chamber of Commerce's SanCap Safe Committee on November 18. He, along with Lee Health's Michael Nacheff, emphasized the importance of maintaining exposure mitigation measures during the coming weeks and months as vaccines become more widely available.

"I also want to thank the community of Sanibel and Captiva and you all for the great work you have done," said Nacheff. "You have fostered individual responsibility in a way and you help people understand their role in protecting themselves and their families – not just with masking and distancing and following CDC guidelines. You've really taken it upon yourselves to do a great job in continued education and even incentivizing your neighbors with things like the mayor's mask campaign."

The chamber rolled out its Safe Business Restart Committee and SanCap Safe initiative in May. 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 acts as a clearinghouse of COVID-19 information and resources.



Dr. Scott Rivkees

photo provided

It asked local businesses to take the "We Are SanCap Safe" virtual pledge and display a decal alerting the public that they comply with the initiative's guidelines. To date, nearly 150 businesses have taken the pledge.

"With a virus that has respiratory transmission, this is why wearing a mask is such an important mitigation measure," said Dr. Rivkees. "Other thing too, this is a virus that likes crowds and likes close places."

SanCap Safe targets practices that discourage the spread of the virus. "Even as we are seeing a light at the end of the tunnel, we actively urge all businesses

to take the symbolic and practical step toward showing the public they stand behind the safety of residents and guests," said John Lai, chamber president and chief executive officer.

"I want to remind everyone that during the next few weeks and months to keep their great safeguards in place," said Nacheff.

"You're doing a great job down there," Dr. Rivkees told the committee. "Continue to focus on mitigation measures. We are on the path forward to getting back to normal."

The following businesses have already made the SanCap Safe pledge: Adventures in Paradise, AIP Outfitters, American Realty of Captiva, B Unique Boutique, Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum, Bailey's General Store, Beach Buddy Tours, Beach Daisy, Beach Floor & Décor, Beachview Cottages, Benchmark, BIG ARTS, Billy's Bike Shop, Billy's Rentals, Bleu Rendez-Vous French Bistro, Blue Giraffe, Bubble Room, Captain Brian on the Water, Captiva Cottages, Captiva Cruises, Captiva Island Inn, Casa Ybel, Castaway Cottages, Charitable Foundation of the Islands, Cheeburger Cheeburger, Chico's of Sanibel, Cielo, Congress Jewelers, Cottages-to-Castles, CROW, Crow's Nest, Dairy Queen, Dante's Restaurant, Decorating Den, "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge, Doc Ford's Rum Bar & Grille, Dream Vacation Rentals, Finnimore's Cycle Shop, FISH of SanCap, Florida Wedding Vows, Footloose, George & Wendy's, Gramma Dot's, Green Flash, Grog

Shop Sanibel, Gulf Breeze Cottages, Gulf Island, Accounting & Tax. H2O Outfitters, Heidrick & Co., Her Sports Closet, Hey Mon Sanibel, Hilton Grand Vacations, Huxter's, Huxter's Liquor, Island Inn, Island Pursuit, Island Rental Services, Island Therapy Center, Island Time Cruise, Island Vacations of Sanibel & Captiva, Jerry's Grocery, Jerry's Restaurant, Joey's Custard, Key Lime Bistro, Kingfisher Vacations, Latte Da, Lighthouse Restaurant, Lighthouse Café, Love Boat Ice Cream, Matzaluna, Mitchell's Sandcastles, New Wave Eco Charters, Normandie, Ocean's Reach, Offshore Sailing School, Old Captiva House, Palm View Inn, Paper Fig Kitchen, Pelican's Roost Condominiums, Pink Shell, Premiere Properties, Priscilla's of Sanibel, Rapid Response Team, RC Otter's, Regions Bank, RE/MAX of the Islands, Royal Shell Vacations, RS Walsh, SanCap Gateway Realty, SanCap Rotary Club, The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company, Sandalfoot Condos, Sanibel Arms West, Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation, Sanibel Captiva Vacation Rentals, Sanibel Carts, The Community House, Sanibel Custom Charters, Sanibel Day Spa, Sanibel Deli, Sanibel Double D. Taxi, Sanibel Grill, Sanibel Harbour Marriott, Sanibel Holiday, Sanibel Inn, Sanibel Moorings Resort, Sanibel Historical Museum & Village, Sanibel Public Library, Sanibel Rental Service, Sanibel Siesta on the Beach, Sanibel Skin Spa, Sanibel Captiva Community Bank, Sanibel Spirits, Savoury Spoon, Sea Shells of Sanibel, Seaside Inn, Select

continued on page 32

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# Rotary Raises Funds For People Of Guatemala

submitted by Rotarian Bill Rahe

For a number of years, the Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club has supported the Ixil people in the Chel, Guatemala region. The club has assisted with critical resources such as clean water and sanitation systems, efficient cooking stoves and agricultural tools. But recently, hurricanes Eta and Iota knocked out roads, electricity, sewers and phone service throughout Chel and surrounding villages. Now, 10,000 people are isolated and are desperately short of food and critical supplies.

Last week, the club received a desperate plea for help from the people of Chel. Rotarians responded with a sense of urgency with member Bill Harkey pledging a \$5,000 challenge grant. In less than a week, individual members contributed nearly \$15,000 and sent those funds to help with relief.

This is just another example of "Service Above Self," the Rotary motto. The Sanibel-Captiva Rotary meets



People of Chel, Guatemala

photo provided

via Zoom on Friday mornings at 7:30 a.m. To be included, call Rotary at 472-7257.\*

From page 31

## Surgeon General

Vacation Properties, Shalimar, She Sells Sea Shells, Simmons Law Firm, Song of the Sea, South Seas Island Resort, Suncatchers' Dream, Sundial Beach Resort & Spa, Sunny Island Rentals, Sunset Beach, Tarpon Day Explorers, The Cottages of Sanibel, The Dunes Golf & Tennis Club, The Pecking

Order, Thistle Lodge, The Timbers, Tuttle's Seahorse Shell Shop, Tween Waters Island Resort & Spa, U.S. Postal Service- Captiva, VIP Realty Group, VIP Vacation Rentals, West Wind Inn, Whims on Periwinkle, Yolo Water Sports.

To learn more about joining the SanCap Safe initiative, contact Ashley Pignato, chamber member services manager, at 472-8255 or Ashley@sanibel-captiva.org.\*

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## Bayfront Beauty With Boat Dock/Lift



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## Gulf-Front Condo With Income



On 2nd floor at 2311 West Gulf Dr, White Sands #23 is handy to elevator & has exterior storeroom below. Building exterior renovation just complete! This view from wide beachside screened balcony. 2 bedrooms plus den with closet & 3rd sleeping area. General living areas have easy-care wood-look tile floors. \$1,099,000 turnkey

## Easy-Access 3 Bedroom



#411 Mariner Pointe, 760 Sextant Dr, only 4 units in building. Ground-level with assigned parking just outside. Views waterside pool to bay. ~1,355 sq. ft. with glassed lanai off great room. Updated kitchen. 2nd lanai with storeroom off master suite. Lots of amenities including beach access & boat dockage. \$599,000 furnished

## Walk Out to Fishing, Boating, Pool



Mariner Pointe #541, ground-level 2 bedroom. This view from glass-enclosed lanai. Amenities include private fishing pier, boat dockage, 2 pools, tennis/pickleball, canoe/kayak launch & storage racks, bbqs, shuffleboard, & easy near-causeway peninsula living with East Gulf Dr beach access. Weekly rentals allowed too. \$515,000

## Nature Lovers' Delight



Known for its great shelling, Bowman's Beach is just over Clam Bayou via this bridge from Blind Pass condos. At 5117 Sea Bell Rd, #E101, is 1st level split-plan 2 bedroom with updated open kitchen, fenced patio, nearby assigned covered parking, & easy on-site rentals. Ready for vacations & earning income. \$499,000 furnished

## Lot in Community With Pool/Tennis



Just off Periwinkle Way, Island Woods is Sanibel's newest mid-island community of olde-Florida-style homes. Only this vacant parcel near entrance remains to complete this charming 38 home community with amenities. Build your home at 1894 Farm Trail. \$199,000

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# SanibelSusan Realty listings under contract, closing soon...



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Tarpon Beach #207  
2475 West Gulf Dr



1015 Fish Crow Rd  
Gulf Shores



4566 Buck Key Rd  
Sanibel Bayous



Lighthouse Point #117  
200 Periwinkle Way



# New Loan Specialist At Sanibel Bank

Richard Shera has joined the Edison National Bank/Bank of the Islands team in a newly created position of assistant vice president and loan specialist. Shera will be based at the Bank of the Islands Sanibel office. In his new role, he will support the bank's continued growth of commercial and personal loan portfolios in the Sanibel and Captiva markets.

Shera has extensive banking experience. He brings more than 19 years of banking knowledge to this new position in areas of loan origination, processing and compliance.

"Richard is a terrific addition to our professional banking staff and we're so pleased to welcome him on board," said Robbie Roepstorff, bank president.

Shera volunteers for many



**Richard Shera** photo provided organizations in Lee County and shares the bank's philosophy in supporting and giving back to local communities.✧

# Lee Health Gives First Round Of Vaccinations

On December 22, Lee Health administered the COVID-19 vaccine to its first employees. The Pfizer vaccine arrived at the health system on Tuesday and Samara Marin, RN, Henry Jackson, Transportation Services, and Dr. Stephanie Stovall, Pediatric Infection Prevention, were the first to receive the vaccine.

"We are ready. Lee Health has followed guidelines from the CDC and the State of Florida to establish our vaccination plan," said Larry Antonucci, MD, MBA, president and CEO of Lee Health. "This vaccine provides hope that we can soon put an end to this long, arduous journey. I am so proud of our frontline workers. Throughout this pandemic, they never wavered in their commitment to provide safe, compassionate care to our patients."

To ensure a safe and effective rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine, it is being administered at Gulf Coast Medical Center and Cape Coral Hospital where the health system has deployed deep freezers to keep the vaccine at the

appropriate temperatures. Vaccination of healthcare workers and patients in Lee Health's three skilled nursing facilities began on Tuesday as well.

Due to demand for the vaccine, supplies are limited at first. Currently, there is no official timetable on when the public will be able to receive the vaccination. Upon availability, Lee Health will begin to schedule appointments for those who want to be vaccinated. The health system will have more information to share in the coming weeks.

"While we wait for the vaccine to become widely available in our community, we ask that residents and visitors continue to practice physical distancing, wear a mask in public and wash their hands often," said Alex Daneshmand, DO, MBA, FAAP, chief quality and patient safety officer at Lee Health. "Until we reach herd immunity and the CDC changes its guidance on wearing PPE, Lee Health staff will continue to wear the appropriate level of PPE even after they are vaccinated."

The roll out of the coronavirus vaccine has paved the way for the biggest mass vaccination effort in U.S. history.

For more information, visit [www.leehealth.org](http://www.leehealth.org).✧

# Chronic Disease Management Program

Lee Health's Lee Health Solutions, in partnership with many local community agencies and supported in part initially by a grant from the Southwest Florida Community Foundation, is offering It's All About You – a research based Chronic Disease Self-Management program originally developed at Stanford University Patient

Education Research Center. The program is designed for people 18 years of age or older with chronic health conditions to help them learn ways to better manage their chronic conditions and the symptoms that often accompany chronic health conditions.

The virtual workshop is two hours once a week for six weeks and it is free.

Virtual workshops will be offered on: Tuesdays beginning January 12 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Thursdays beginning January 14 from 1 to 3 p.m.

For more information or to register, call 343-9264.✧

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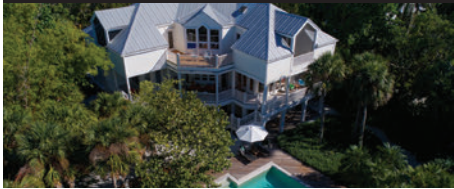
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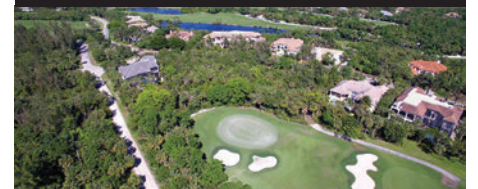
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Superior Interiors

Designing A Forever House



by Jeanie Tinch

According to the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), 87 percent of adults over the age of 65 want to stay in their current home and community

as they age. However, having been homebound for so long, many, of all ages, are re-evaluating features of their home and considering changes.

One of the most important considerations is deciding how long one desires to stay in the home.

Another consideration is the stages of life the home must accommodate. Will there be strollers rolling? Remote cars roaming? Craftwork or homework, or even schooling being done? Working from home? Multi-generations involved? Is aging-in-place a goal?

The term “forever house” has become popular in recent years. An Internet search on that term will produce a host of results, including the term being discussed on some real estate agencies’ websites. Having a forever house can make sense in many ways at many of life’s stages...young

parents, hosting grandparents with walkers, entertaining grandchildren. Be prepared for a medical situation so your home is a sanctuary, not your enemy.

The following are design tips for a forever house:

Let’s start with doors – A front door that is 42 inches wide can accommodate a power wheelchair and sure make it easier to roll in that stroller. For inside doors, 36 inches is minimum for width. Sliding or pocket doors can be an advantage through all stages. Use lever handles instead of doorknobs.

Smooth floors are better – Try wood or tile with few changes in texture or interruptions. Avoid carpet that will be too thick for rolling on. Also use area rugs wisely. Think about all stages of life when planning traffic patterns.

Create at least one accessible bathroom with a wide-enough entry and roll-in or walk-in shower – If you use 3/4-inch thick plywood behind sheetrock or tile walls, this will enable you to place grab bars anywhere, not just on studs.

Re-think the height of certain things – Outlets, for example, will be better for more people if they are 22 inches off the floor rather than the normal 12 inches. Lower windows can make those outdoor views and light more accessible through a variety of life’s stages.

Don’t forget the motion advantage – Motorized shades are not only convenient and easy to use, but they also eliminate cords that can be a hazard for toddlers. Motion chairs are

not your grandfather’s huge recliner anymore. They come in all sizes with added features like cup holders, more position options and lifts to help one stand up.

Overall, the goal is to make your home adaptable to lifestyle changes. Doing ample research or working with

a knowledgeable design professional can help you have more confidence in any changes you make, and make them lasting, functional and more enjoyable.

Jeanie Tinch is an interior designer on Sanibel/Captiva Islands. She can be reached at [jeanie@coindeciden.com](mailto:jeanie@coindeciden.com).✪

Real Estate Firm Makes Donation



From left, Julia Cacioppo, Phaidra McDermott and Lisa Lauther of Kingfisher Real Estate photo provided

Kingfisher Real Estate is in the giving spirit this holiday season. The company donated \$1,150 recently to Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW) to support the nonprofit hospital’s mission of care and rehabilitation for wildlife.✪

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## 1. Magazine Ready Home in the Sanctuary – Sanibel

- 5 BR/ 5/1 BA property situated on the bay & intercoastal waterway and framed in by the Sanctuary's signature 4th hole.
- Boasting 11,000sqft, the interior finishes include luxurious accent wall of glass, walk-in wine cellar, marble inspired Cambria counters, statement light fixtures & over a million dollars in updates.
- **\$2,998,000** Euro 2,658,932

## 2. Captiva Village Home with Gulf Views

- 4 BR home w/ pool located just 1 property from the beach on Wightman Ln
- Rental company estimates \$180k annually. New septic, roof, generator & offered furnished
- **\$2,395,000** Euro 2,031,701

## 3. Duplex Style Home on Sanibel

- Unique property in the heart of Sanibel fit for a family compound or vacation retreat
- Features two separate 3 bed/3 bath residences each with a 2 car garage. Pool, spa, & garden area
- **\$859,000** Euro 725,801

## 4. Remodeled in Victoria Cove – East End / Sanibel

- 4 BR + Den / 4 BA home, steps to the beach with private boat dock & 16K lift
- Gorgeously remodeled, large porches, private pool & spa, sundeck with Gulf views
- **\$2,300,000** Euro 1,936,499

## 5. Gulf Pines with Lake Views – Sanibel

- 3 BR/3 BA home close to the beach path
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- **\$725,000** Euro 596,781

## 6. Bright & Airy Condo in The Sanctuary

- Spacious 3 BR/ 3.5 BA condo with private garage & elevator to private entrance that lives like a home
- Tropical landscaped golf course views, abundance of natural light throughout, 10 ft ceilings with crown molding
- **\$749,900** Euro 632,117



## 7. Captiva's Gold Coast

- 3 BR/3 BA home located on the Roosevelt Channel with private boat house & lift
- Beautifully remodeled, tropical landscaping, channelside pool, and incredible water views
- **\$2,250,000** Euro 2,002,313

## 8. On East End Across from Beach w/ Boat Dock

- 3 BR/ 3.5 BA + den and loft in Eastwood Landings w/ tennis, boat dock, & beach access
- Main floor master, fully mitigated, high ceilings, & screen enclosed pool
- **\$1,390,000** Euro 1,173,466

## 9. Updated Tropical Beach Condo at Loggerhead Cay -Sanibel

- 2 BR/2 BA condo with remodeled kitchen, baths, French doors, plantation shutters, & Gulf views from lanai
- Large pool, pet friendly, & weekly rentals make this a great option for families and investors
- **\$699,000** Euro 590,172

## 10. Captiva Village Home with Stunning Gulf Views

- 3 BR/ 4 BA fully remodeled home designed to take advantage of Gulf views from every level
- Wood floors, stainless steel kitchen, stone fireplace, multiple lanais, large master suite, grotto inspired pool w/ hot tub, wet bar, & shower
- **\$3,395,000** Euro 3,021,269

## 11. 4 bedroom Home on Intersecting Canal – Sanibel

- 4 BR/ 4 BA home with boat dock, lift, and private pool
- Large kitchen, private elevator, multiple lanai's including rooftop deck with Bay views
- **\$2,195,000** Euro 1,853,259

## 12. Near Beach Home off West Gulf Drive – Sanibel

- Fully furnished 3 BR/ 2 BA home (Currently configured as a 2 BR)
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# Local Leaders Join Cause For Affordable Homes

Habitat for Humanity of Lee and Hendry Counties has a new chairman and five new board members for 2021. Chairman Carl Barraco joins new members Diana Giraldo, Heather Turco, Nancy Ramos, Sandra Stilwell Youngquist and Shiva Sharma.

The new officials and the rest of the board will work together to expand affordable homeownership opportunities for low-income families in need of a decent and affordable place to live. "Each of these individuals brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the board," said Habitat Lee and Hendry CEO Becky Lucas. "We couldn't ask for a better group of individuals to help govern, represent and advocate for the work we do here at Habitat."

Barraco is a professional engineer in the state of Florida, having received bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of South Florida. Along with his associates, he founded Barraco and Associates in 1998 and has been providing civil engineering services throughout Southwest Florida for 29 years.

Giraldo is the business development director at E3 Building Sciences. Born and raised in Colombia, she received a bachelor of science degree in architecture and urban design from Universidad de



Carl Barraco



Diana Giraldo



Heather Turco



Nancy Ramos



Sandra Stilwell  
Youngquist



Shiva Sharma

America in Bogota and a master of science degree in management at Hodges University. Giraldo is the president and co-founder of the nonprofit Streets Alive of SWFL. She is a sustainable communities leadership professional, a member of the Lee County Horizon Council, chairwoman for Run the Arts, as well as the operations leader for ArtFest Fort Myers.

Turco is a crime prevention specialist for the Lee County Sheriff's Office Community Response Unit (CRU). She works to establish and maintain grassroots partnerships designed to help deputies identify, address and resolve quality of life issues. Prior to joining the Lee County Sheriff's Office in 2017, Turco worked as a news anchor/reporter for NBC2.

Ramos has been a Florida state contractor since 1991. As the owner of Ramos Builders Incorporated, she has transformed her business into one of Cape Coral's premier single and multifamily home builders. As a member

of the Cape Coral Construction Industry Association's Building Industry Oversight Committee, Ramos is responsible for reviewing the annual financial budget and monthly financial reports for the Department of Community Development for the City of Cape Coral.

Stilwell Youngquist is the CEO and owner of Stilwell Enterprises & Restaurant Group, owning six local restaurants, inns, a marina and shopping centers based out of Captiva Island, Fort Myers and Conch Key. She serves as president of SWFL Children's Charities, on the executive board of directors for Hope Hospice Healthcare, on the

board of trustees for Lee Health, and as vice president of a performing arts organization called Player's Circle.

Sharma is an experienced business leader with 20-plus years of information technology (IT) experience in cyber security, ERP, CRM, data science and mobile applications. As an entrepreneur, he has founded and built multiple IT and non-IT businesses organically and grown them into multimillion-dollar corporations. Shiva serves on the board of advisors at Florida Gulf Coast University and a leading national retail organization as well as several local small business organizations.\*

## ISLAND SUN BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS



McMurray & Members



Maureen Ahmed



Brian Murty

### Royal Shell Real Estate

The top producers for November at the Royal Shell Real Estate Sanibel-Captiva office were: McMurray & Members, top listing producers and top sales producers team; Maureen Ahmed, top listings producer individual/partners; and Brian Murty, top sales producer individual/partners.\*

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5056 Joewood Dr • Sanibel  
9106 Mockingbird Dr • Sanibel  
1031 Sand Castle Rd • Sanibel  
9307 Dimmick Dr • Sanibel  
1021 Sand Castle Rd • Sanibel

987 Sand Castle Rd • Sanibel  
2265 W Gulf Dr 320B • Sanibel  
9128 Mockingbird Dr • Sanibel  
1410 Sand Castle Rd • Sanibel  
2737 W Gulf Dr 111 • Sanibel  
2065 Wild Lime Dr • Sanibel  
805 E Gulf Dr 2F • Sanibel  
1611 Sand Castle Rd • Sanibel  
910 SW 47th St • Cape Coral  
8120 Banyan Breeze Way • Fort Myers

312 Periwinkle Way 6 • Sanibel  
16268 Kelly Woods Dr • Fort Myers  
601 Periwinkle Way C3 • Sanibel  
3256 White Ibis Ct 27 • Sanibel  
2659 W Gulf Dr A301 • Sanibel  
16197 Crown Arbor Way • Sanibel  
1356 Jamacia Dr • Sanibel  
12476 Barrington Ct • Sanibel  
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*Happy Holidays* from the Bondurant Family Team

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Will Power

# Merry Christmas And Happy New Year



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

This column should first appear on Christmas Day, so from me and everyone at my law firm, we wish you and yours a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2021! Given COVID-19, it appears that many of us won't be with family as we might normally otherwise celebrate. So, the holiday might be bittersweet.

Thankfully, we do have modern technology, so we can FaceTime, Zoom, or use Teams as the case may be. Not too long ago, Patti and I enjoyed dinner at our kitchen table while our daughter, Courtney, a doctorate student in the physical therapy program at the University of Florida, joined us from her apartment

in Gainesville. We engaged in a normal conversation despite being separated by 250 miles.

I'm thankful that we have the opportunity to keep in touch that way.

Our daughter, Gabi, and her fiancé, Benji, will be driving down from New York City, where, as I write these words, a nor'easter blizzard consumes the city dumping more than a foot of snow. They don't want to brave airports or airplanes, especially with the numbers rising but did want to spend some time with us and enjoy the warm weather.

Holidays give us all a time to reflect on the past year (and what a year it has been, eh?). When the sun sets at its early hour, I tend to slow down, sit on my back porch and read. It's quite peaceful. It's nice to take a walk around the neighborhood and enjoy the lights and decorations many homes sport.

When Gabi and Benji are here, we plan to take the boat out to watch a sunset, enjoy a glass of wine and some hors d'oeuvres. If you live here and have never had the experience, I highly recommend. Last time a dolphin jumped clear out of the water, silhouetted by the setting sun.

Currently, it's also important to recognize that many families are suffering. Some have lost their jobs, their livelihoods and businesses, not to mention their lives. Hopefully, those of us who are most fortunate will assist those suffering. Our community tends to be especially good at helping the needy, of which I'm proud.

A few things that I've learned over the past year:

Mother Nature is powerful, but man's knowledge, persistence and ingenuity can temper her volatile nature;

Our nation, despite its division and differences, includes many who truly care about

those in need;

Politicians from both sides of the aisle better realize that it's not whether Republicans or Democrats come out on top, their duty is for Americans to survive and prosper;

It's difficult to have adult children move back into your home when they've been away at college and graduate school;

I feel lucky to be a Florida resident in that we can boat, bicycle, walk the beach and live a fairly normal life even during a pandemic;

Locally owned businesses and restaurants certainly need our support, now more than ever;

I miss going to sporting events, concerts and public festivals. All things I just took for granted before the pandemic.

Here's to a healthy and prosperous 2021!

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## Most Valuable Players Named For All-Star Classic

A player and cheerleader from each team were recognized as most valuable players at the recent Rotary Club of Fort Myers South 32nd annual All-Star Classic (ASC), supported by title sponsor Acentria Insurance and Tower Hill Insurance Group.

Each year, the ASC brings together some of Lee County's most talented high school football players for one more game before they move on to college. The game created teams from the north and south end of the county and welcomed 78 football players and 37 cheerleaders from Lee County high schools.

The 2020 Most Valuable Players (MVP) were Malik Curtis, wide receiver from Bishop Verot of the South All-Stars team, and Jason Joseph, wide receiver from Island Coast of the North All-Stars team. Cheerleaders who received the Spirit Winner award were Maddie Childers from Riverdale, who represented the North All-Stars team, and Anesha Elizer from Fort Myers High School, who represented the South All-Stars team. Every All-Star player and cheerleader participant also received a customized commemorative ring or charm. The South All-Stars won the game.

The classic was the first countywide high school football all-star game in Florida when it was founded in 1989. John Carrigan, a Sanibel resident, teacher, and referee wanted to showcase talented players who weren't getting their due. Since then, it's grown into a hotbed of top-level prospects. Nearly two dozen

players who have taken part in the game have gone on to NFL careers, including Sammy Watkins, Tommy Bohanon, Phillip Buchanon, Nate Allen and Jevon Kearse.✴

## Hole In One



Bjorn Olsson

photo provided

Bjorn Olsson aced the third hole on December 12 at Sanibel Island Golf Club during men's league play. It was Olsson's first hole in one.✴

## How's The Market? Ask Ann

It continues to be a strong Seller's market for Sanibel real estate. The inventory of existing condos and homes is 70% lower than a year ago. Homes listed below \$700,000 are in heavy demand and sell quickly. Lower priced condos under \$500,000 have vanished. The lower priced lot market is also doing very well. In the last 6 weeks, we have been involved in 5 lot sales that either closed or are under contract. Two of these transactions will close within 1% of the listing price and one over the listing price. In two of the sales, there were competing offers. The handwriting is on the wall... if you are serious about buying the property, make your offer, cash and as high as possible.

As a result of all this activity in our lower priced listings, both our median and our average price of homes and condos have increased. The average price of a home listed in our MLS system is \$1,857,170 and median price is \$1,395,000. Average price of a condo listed in the MLS is \$829,502, median price is \$749,900.

### 13 Closed Sales going back one week: 4 Homes & 9 Condos

1610 Middle Gulf Dr. F3 Spanish Cay - <b>\$310,000</b>	2605 Wulfert Rd. 4 Sanctuary Gulf Village - <b>\$725,000</b>
1501 Middle Gulf Dr. D309 Sundial West - <b>\$430,000</b>	543 Boulder Dr. - <b>\$784,000</b>
979 E. Gulf Dr. 332 Loggerhead Cay - <b>\$529,000</b>	1120 Olga Ave. - <b>\$940,000</b>
1142 Shell Basket Ln. - <b>\$560,000</b>	2957 Wulfert Rd. - <b>\$1,475,000</b>
979 E. Gulf Dr. 222 Loggerhead Cay - <b>\$570,000</b>	2959 W. Gulf Dr. 201 Sanibel Sunset - <b>\$2,195,000</b>
1340 Middle Gulf Dr. 9D Sunset South - <b>\$585,000</b>	999 E. Gulf Dr. B222 Plantation Village - <b>\$2,275,000</b>
671 E. Gulf Dr. E532 Sandalfoot - <b>\$650,000</b>	

Call or email me with any questions. Enjoy your holiday & Stay safe.

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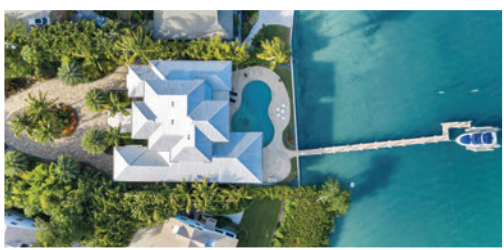
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Frankly Speaking



by Howard Prager

No surprises in college football, just hard fought games by Florida and my team, Northwestern. Hard to come so close and to lose. These opportunities don't

happen that often. Let's talk about the Negro Leagues. MLB said last week they recognize the Negro Leagues as Major Leagues. My sources for this column include Wikipedia, a gem of a film called *Only the Ball Was White* that is on YouTube, and baseball historian Ralph Moses. The Negro Leagues started as barnstorming teams that often folded for lack of funds. In the '20s, Rube Foster, manager of the Chicago American Giants, organized the first viable league which evolved into the Negro Leagues in the '30s. Why were they formed? Because blacks were not allowed to play in the Major Leagues until Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier in 1947 with the Brooklyn Dodgers.

The Negro Leagues played the same game and rules as the Major Leagues and played in some of the same parks rented from the Major League teams when they were out of town. The fan base was similar to MLB during the

Depression – very poor. However, Sundays were different. Fans came in their Sunday finest clothing, often right after church, and filled the parks. The annual East-West All-Star Game at Comiskey Park in Chicago was Negro League Baseball's greatest attraction, drawing thousands of people from all over the country each summer beginning in 1933. That was the same year and same ballpark that the Major League All Star Game started.

The Negro League stars may have even eclipsed Major League stars. Cool Papa Bell was said to be "faster than Ty Cobb and able to score from first base on a bunt." Satchell Paige pitched 2,000 games with over 100 no hitters in his three-decade career. It's been reported that, "On town tours across the United States, Paige would sometimes have his infielders sit down behind him and then routinely strike out the side."

In 1971, Paige became the first Negro League athlete chosen by the Negro Leagues committee inducted into the Hall of Fame (HOF). In 2010, sportswriter Joe Posnanski of *Sports Illustrated*, named "Paige as the hardest thrower in the history of baseball. He based this, in part, on the fact that: 'Joe DiMaggio and Bob Feller said that Paige was the best he ever saw. Hack Wilson said that the ball looked like a marble when it crossed the plate. Dizzy Dean said that Paige's fastball made his own look like a changeup.'"

Buck Leonard was known as the black Lou Gehrig in the '30s and '40s.

Even though he never played in MLB, he was elected in a special election to the HOF in 1972. Josh Gibson, playing from 1930 to 1946, found an identity in baseball hitting historic home runs. Gibson was known as the greatest hitter in the Negro Leagues, perhaps all of baseball, and batted .359 in his career. Oscar Charleston hit .348. He did not have Willie Mays' arm but he had all of his other skills. He was often compared to Ty Cobb, Tris Speaker and Babe Ruth. He was awesome! Monte Irvin hit .293 in the MLB but in his prime years in the Negro Leagues, he hit .358. Besides Irvin, other Hall of Famers' records who would be enhanced with the addition of their Negro League days include Roy Campanella who hit .324 in eight Negro League seasons before he became a Brooklyn Dodger and Larry Doby who starred with the Newark Eagles before joining the Cleveland Indians as the AL's first black player three months after Jackie Robinson entered in 1947. Doby was the first black to hit a home run in the World Series and the first to lead the Major Leagues in home runs.

Negro League Baseball was not just "a summer game." Players went wherever they could to earn money. Blacks especially liked playing south of the border where they were treated with respect. Monte Irvin became the favorite player of a very young Puerto Rican fan named Roberto Clemente. Cool Papa Bell said it best: "I played 29 seasons. Plus 21 winter seasons in Mexico, Cuba, Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic. That makes 50 Seasons. Did I ever get tired of it? No, I only got old." Exhibitions did take place between black and white teams. Black teams won about 60 percent of the time. Commissioner Judge Landis stopped the games, probably out of embarrassment. The Negro Leagues ceased playing in the '60s with so many players fully entrenched in the Major Leagues.

Our good news story of the week comes from NBC. "In high school, point guard Jason Preston had come to rely on basketball as his sanctuary after the death of his mother his junior year. His biological father was

never in the picture. But Preston's on-court maturation took too long, and he didn't even play in his final high school game. After averaging just two points his senior year at Boone High School in Orlando, he thought he was through. That summer, Preston enrolled in journalism classes at the University of Central Florida. But he grew four inches to six-foot-four, added muscle and became faster since high school. Three weeks before the fall semester, a basketball acquaintance recruited Preston to play in an Amateur Athletic Union tournament since the team needed an additional player. Preston played well enough to draw the attention of various coaches, and left for Believe Prep Academy in Athens, Tennessee. Two weeks after he got there, that coach left. With the remaining coaches unfamiliar with Preston's game, he was relegated to the second team. The school had four prep teams. He chose to go to the third team so he could showcase his talent. "He wasn't playing how he could really play," said former prep teammate Isaac Hill, 21. He recalled the times when they would dominate three-on-three pickup games. Preston's request proved successful, including one outing where he notched a triple-double. Eager to show his college potential, on an eight-hour bus trip back to school, he screen-recorded all of his highlights and had a friend create a mixtape reel. Ohio University came calling with a scholarship and since then, he's started to really shine. His breakout performance came last month against eighth-ranked University of Illinois. Though it was a 77 to 75 loss, Preston surprised the basketball world by scoring 31 points, grabbing six rebounds and dishing out eight assists, resulting in ESPN projecting him as a second-round NBA draft pick." Good luck, Preston, your mother would be proud.

Happy holidays, readers.  
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](mailto:press@islandsunnews.com).✱

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SPORTS QUIZ

1. What regulation-size piece of sports equipment is 1 inch thick, 3 inches in diameter and weighs 6 ounces?

2. "How about that!?" was the signature on-air catchphrase of what legendary New York Yankees broadcaster?

3. Name the former NFL quarterback who served in the U.S. House of Representatives for North Carolina's 11th congressional district from 2007-13.

4. What St. Louis Cardinals outfielder was injured when Busch Stadium's automatic tarpaulin rolled over his leg before a 1985 NL Championship Series game?

5. Handsome Dan the bulldog is the mascot for what university's athletic teams?

6. What NC State center scored a tip-in dunk to seal the Wolfpack's win in the 1983 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament championship game?

7. Of Ivan Lendl's eight career Grand Slam tennis tournament wins, how many were at Wimbledon?

ANSWERS

1. An ice hockey puck. 2. Mel Allen. 3. Heath Shuler. 4. Vince Coleman. 5. Yale University. 6. Lorenzo Charles. 7. Zero.



## Sponsors Needed For Charity Cup Golf Scramble

The Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club is hosting the Charity Cup, a golf scramble at Sanibel Island Golf Club on Saturday, February 13. The purpose is twofold: to raise money so Rotary can continue to support the organizations on and off the islands that they have helped in the past; and to provide a day of fun on the golf course. The tournament is a four-person scramble format playing best ball. Three sets of "T" boxes will be used.

Prizes will be awarded for the lowest scoring team for the champions, seniors, ladies, and mixed men's and women's teams. Mulligans can be purchased at the event. Skill prizes will be awarded for the ball closest to the pin, longest drive and most accurate drive. There will be a hole in one tournament with a Yamaha golf cart as the prize and a helicopter ball drop with minimum prizes of \$500, \$250 and \$100 for the three balls nearest to the pin. The purse could be larger depending on



**The Rotary Golf Scramble**  
BENEFITING The Sanibel Captiva Rotary Club

DATE: Saturday, February 13, 2021

TIME: Check-in 8:00 AM • Shotgun Start 9:00 AM

LOCATION: The Sanibel Golf Club  
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REGISTRATION QUESTIONS or SPONSORSHIPS INFORMATION  
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www.SanibelRotary.org

image provided

the number of balls sold.

Registration forms and sponsorship information are available online at [www.SanibelRotary.org](http://www.SanibelRotary.org), from any Rotarian, at Congress Jewelers, or by calling Bill Rahe at 395-2147.\*

## Drivers Eligible To Save Millions In Overdue Toll Fines

Effective immediately, there are 5,800 Lee County drivers who can save millions of dollars collectively on overdue toll fine citations filed with the Lee Clerk of Courts office prior to January 1, 2021. These overdue toll fines are now reduced to \$10 per citation. This represents approximately 36,268 citations as many drivers have multiple citations. The toll amnesty program, which has already helped thousands of drivers get their licenses reinstated, is a partnership between Clerk of Courts Linda Doggett and the honorable Lee County judges.

The effort was launched last month, closing 9,300 citations within the first two weeks and saving drivers more than \$1.55 million.

"This is an excellent opportunity for anybody who has an overdue toll citation to save hundreds of dollars. Paying these overdue toll fines in full may make these individuals eligible to reinstate their driving license," Doggett said. "Driving is an essential part of leading a productive life, especially as we navigate through the pandemic."

In addition to the toll fine reduction, all collection, delinquency and payment plan fees are waived. However, the Florida Department of Motor Vehicle's license reinstatement fee is still required to be paid. Customers who cannot pay their overdue fines in full may be eligible to set up a payment plan. Only overdue toll violation citations filed with the clerk prior to January 1 are eligible for this amnesty program.

The toll amnesty program was launched in tandem with Operation Green Light, a statewide event that gave customers with overdue court fines a break on their collection fees. Toll violation customers comprised approximately 85 percent of all customers during Operation Green Light.

To take advantage of this opportunity,

customers must contact the clerk's office. To make a payment, customers can visit [www.leeclerk.org](http://www.leeclerk.org) to schedule an appointment or connect with a representative via TeleClerk, a new video conferencing system. Payments can also be made by calling 533-5000. For more information, visit [www.leeclerk.org](http://www.leeclerk.org).\*

## Kiwanis Club Donates To Social Service Groups

submitted by Tom Sharbaugh

In advance of the holiday season and in recognition of the unique burden this year has placed on the social support network, Kiwanis of Sanibel-Captiva recently provided special grants to three local organizations. Those receiving a welcome year-end check were FISH of SanCap, Community Housing and Resources (CHR) and Friends Who Care.

Kiwanis President Bill Hay said, "It has been a difficult year for nonprofits, particularly the community service agencies, and in this holiday period, the needs of many of our fellow citizens are particularly great. Our club decided to depart from our normal cycle of awarding grants in the spring in order to provide some extra support now for some organizations which most directly respond to those fundamental needs."

The local Kiwanis Club has a long history of supporting island youth through its scholarship program and through grants to other nonprofits providing educational, recreational and developmental programs for young people. It's work is funded by those who participate in the club's major fundraising activities; the Diners Delight restaurant coupon books, the annual spaghetti dinner in February and the Kiwanis golf tournament in the fall.

Anyone interested in becoming a member can visit [www.sanibelkiwanis.org](http://www.sanibelkiwanis.org).\*



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Health First

# Understanding COVID-19 Vaccines



by Julie Rosenberg, MD

On December 11, 2020, the FDA issued the first Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for the Pfizer/BioNTech mRNA vaccine for prevention of coronavirus disease

2019 (COVID-19) in individuals 16 years of age and older. The authorization of this vaccine for prevention of COVID-19 infection, and the knowledge that more vaccines will soon follow, allows us to see the beginning of the end of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The COVID-19 vaccines have been developed at record speed. In less than one year, scientists were able to develop several efficacious COVID-19 vaccine candidates. The two lead candidates, the Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna vaccines, represent a new and exciting platform of mRNA (messenger RNA) vaccines. Previously, no new vaccine had been developed in less than four years.

How was the speed of development of these mRNA COVID-19 vaccines possible? SARS-CoV-2 Structure – Within

weeks of identifying the virus responsible for COVID-19, SARS-CoV-2 (severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2), scientists in China had determined its genetic structure. SARS-CoV-2 is composed of a single-stranded ribonucleic acid (RNA) structure, which belongs to the  $\beta$ -coronavirus ( $\beta$ -CoVs). SARS-CoV-2 contains four main structural proteins, namely spike (S), membrane (M), nucleocapsid (N) and envelope (E) proteins. To make these proteins, the RNA genes of the virus make messenger RNA (mRNA); which then makes the proteins. An mRNA of a specific structure in turn makes a protein of a specific structure.

Designing mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines – Once the genetic structure of the SARS-CoV-2 was known, scientists began working on the design of an mRNA vaccine. While some traditional vaccines are developed through use of weakened (attenuated) virus, the COVID-19 vaccines of Pfizer/ BioNTech and Moderna contain a small piece of the SARS-CoV-2 virus' mRNA that instructs cells in the body to make the virus' distinctive "spike" protein. When a person receives this vaccine, their body produces copies of the spike protein, which does not cause disease, but rather triggers the person's immune system to produce an immune response against SARS-CoV-2.

The mRNA technology offers new efficiencies in vaccine development, as the process can be standardized and scaled up quickly. Traditional vaccine development – growing large amounts of a virus and then weakening the virus or extracting the critical piece – takes a considerable amount of time. It is relatively easy to make

mRNA in the laboratory in large amounts. Decades of work on the mRNA vaccine platform preceded the development of COVID-19 vaccines. In fact, mRNA vaccines have been studied before for flu, Zika, rabies and cytomegalovirus. Once the COVID-19 mRNA sequence was determined, the specific sequence could be inserted into the existing vaccine platform, bringing this important technology to the forefront at this critical time.

Rigorous Scientific Evaluation – The mRNA COVID-19 vaccine candidates are presently undergoing rigorous clinical evaluation. Prior to granting Emergency Use Authorization of the Pfizer/N, the FDA conducted a thorough evaluation of the available safety, effectiveness and manufacturing quality.

As relates to development of the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, prior to granting the EUA, the FDA evaluated safety and efficacy data in over 37,000 individuals who participated in an ongoing randomized, placebo-controlled international study. Data on the vaccine, which is delivered in two doses 21 days apart, showed that the vaccine was 95 percent effective in preventing COVID-19 disease. Side effects were mild. The most common side effects were pain at the injection site, fatigue, headache, muscle

pain, chills, joint pain and fever.

Pfizer BioNTech will continue its clinical trials to obtain additional safety and effectiveness information and pursue approval (licensure). More data are also needed to understand how long the vaccine will provide protection and whether it prevents transmission of COVID-19 from person-to-person.

In summary, COVID-19 vaccine candidates are undergoing careful scientific evaluation and scrutiny. In the United States, FDA has rigorous scientific and regulatory processes in place to facilitate development and ensure the safety, effectiveness and quality of COVID-19 vaccines. The federal government has implemented a centralized system to order, distribute and track COVID-19 vaccines. To end this pandemic, public health officials hope that at least 70 percent of the population will get vaccinated to achieve herd immunity and stop the virus' spread. We are all part of the solution.

Julie Rosenberg, MD, is a global healthcare leader, medical consultant and the author of two books, *Beyond the Mat* and *Be True*. For more information, visit her website at [www.drjulierosenberg.com](http://www.drjulierosenberg.com). For consulting and speaking requests, email inquiries to [info@drjulierosenberg.com](mailto:info@drjulierosenberg.com). ✨

## Red Tide Health Alert On Captiva

The Florida Department of Health in Lee County (DOH-Lee) is notifying the public of a red tide bloom near South Seas Island Resort beach access. Some people may have mild and short-lived respiratory symptoms such as eye, nose and throat irritation similar to cold symptoms. Some individuals with breathing problems such as asthma might experience more severe symptoms. Usually, symptoms go away when a person leaves the area or goes indoors. Health officials recommend that people experiencing these symptoms stay away from beach areas or go into an air-conditioned space. If symptoms do not subside, contact your healthcare provider for evaluation.

The Department recommends that you:

Do not swim around dead fish at this location.

If you have chronic respiratory

problems, be careful and consider staying away from this location as red tide can affect your breathing.

Do not harvest or eat molluscan shellfish and distressed or dead fish from this location. If fish are healthy, rinse fillets with tap or bottled water and throw out the guts.

Keep pets and livestock away from water, sea foam and dead sea life.

Residents living in beach areas are advised to close windows and run the air conditioner (making sure that the filter is maintained according to manufacturer's specifications).

If outdoors, residents may choose to wear paper filter masks, especially if onshore winds are blowing.

Florida Poison Control Centers have a toll-free 24/7 Hotline for reporting of illnesses, including health effects from exposure to red tide at 1-888-232-8635.

Visit the Florida Fish and Wildlife Research website for additional information on the locations where red tide has been found: [myfwc.com/research/redtide/statewide/](http://myfwc.com/research/redtide/statewide/). ✨

# Merry Christmas FROM CARING MEDICAL!

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## Hospitals Earn High Marks For Patient Safety

For the fourth straight report card, all four of Lee Health adult acute care hospitals have earned the highest national marks for safe care.

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

"Every patient should feel confident they are receiving safe healthcare when they visit one of our hospitals. We thank all of the doctors, advanced providers, nurses and support staff for their commitment to providing safe and compassionate care to our patients," said Larry Antonucci, MD, MBA, Lee Health president and CEO. "Leapfrog is a national leader in moving quality healthcare forward, and we are honored to be recognized during this critical time for the level of care we are providing patients in Southwest Florida."

The Safety Grade assigns an A, B, C, D or F grade to all general hospitals across the country. It is based on a hospital's performance in preventing medical errors, injuries, accidents, infections and other harms to patients in their care.

"It is an honor to receive the highest grades for safe care for the fourth straight report card. These scores are a testament to the efforts we have taken to reduce hospital-acquired infections and improve overall patient safety throughout the health system," said Scott Nygaard, MD, MBA, chief operating officer at Lee Health. "It takes leadership, teamwork and focus to achieve this award, especially during this pandemic. We thank our amazing staff for their dedication and commitment to providing our patients safe, high-quality care."

Since 2000, The Leapfrog Group has promoted improved healthcare safety, quality and affordability in the United States through a commitment to transparency. The nonprofit organization releases its hospital safety grades twice a year, rating hospitals on 27 measures of safety data. Only 34 percent of the more than 2,600 acute care hospitals Leapfrog graded received an "A." To earn a top grade, hospitals must receive a raw score of at least 3.159.

"We are extremely grateful to hospital leadership and healthcare workers who have remained steadfast in prioritizing patient safety as our nation battles COVID-19," said Leah Binder, president and CEO of The Leapfrog Group. "This 'A' is a testament to the care and commitment of those who work for Cape Coral Hospital, Gulf Coast Medical Center, HealthPark Medical Center and Lee Memorial Hospital. With the current pandemic exposing existing flaws within the U.S. healthcare system, we appreciate you putting patient safety first. Lives depend on it."

Lee Health's full report card is as follows:

Cape Coral Hospital, A, 3.2512  
Gulf Coast Medical Center, A, 3.1650  
HealthPark Medical Center, A, 3.2944

Lee Memorial Hospital, A, 3.3848  
To learn more about Leapfrog's Fall 2020 Hospital Safety Grades, visit [www.hospitalsafetygrade.org](http://www.hospitalsafetygrade.org).✱

## Lee Health Auxiliaries Allocate Funds

The Lee Health Auxiliaries of Lee Memorial Hospital/HealthPark Medical Center/Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida, Cape Coral Hospital and Gulf Coast Medical Center have made commitments totaling more than \$1.11 million for Fiscal Year 2020 to benefit Lee Health patients, their families, staff, physicians and the Southwest Florida community. This continues the auxiliaries' legacy of compassion, service and support.

Funds raised are earmarked for projects, programs, technology, equipment, supplies and education. Auxiliary donations are made possible because of the generous support of Lee Health employees at fundraising sales, gift and uniform shops, thrift shops, Scooter's coffee bars, onsite U.S. Post Offices, and other events and programs. Additionally, volunteers, auxiliaries, visitors and patients contribute to this success.

The 2020 highlights include:  
\$150,000 was donated to the SWFL Stronger Together campaign to help protect and recognize caregivers and other staff at Lee Health. These individuals put themselves at risk every day to serve patients and their families in this time of COVID-19. An additional \$13,843 was donated to purchase masks for visitors, and iPads and stands for COVID-19 patients to connect with their loved ones.

\$165,000 was allocated to the Lee Health Education Grant Fund which helped 123 recipients fulfill their dream of furthering their health care education. This program helps Lee Health as it strives to maintain quality staffing to meet the area's growing healthcare needs.

\$785,581 was earmarked for Cape Coral Hospital, Gulf Coast Medical Center, HealthPark Medical Center, Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida, The Rehabilitation Hospital, the Regional Cancer Center, Skilled Nursing Center and many outpatient centers and physician offices throughout the area. These funds support programs such as the Compassionate Blanket Program to bring comfort to families of terminally ill ICU patients, provide advanced technology such as patient monitoring devices and other items, purchase equipment for increased staff efficiency, buy furniture for patient rooms and common areas, and address other needs throughout the system. The focus is excellence in patient safety, care and comfort.

From birth through the end stages of life, this auxiliary support encompasses both complicated technology and the emotional support needed to help in the healing process.✱

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dearRPharmacist

## The New Medications In 2020



by Suzy Cohen, RPh

### Dear Readers:

It's time for my annual report about the novel medications that were approved in the year 2020. I've been writing this

yearly article for more than 20 years! Many drugs in 2020 were fast-tracked in order to come to market faster. While you read this, keep in mind that I'm read worldwide, but I am only listing the American brand names, so please ask your doctor what the brand name is in your country. Also, the two COVID vaccines from Modern and Pfizer are not yet FDA-approved, however an Emergency Use Authorization has been signed, and therefore distribution is occurring as we speak. FDA approval will come shortly.

Pizensy (Lactitol), Rx, Oral – This medication is used for constipation, especially the unrelenting type that has no obvious cause (termed “idiopathic”). Lactitol is the active (generic) ingredient name which is a common additive in many prescription drugs. It has been around and used as a sweetener for low-calorie foods. You may have heard of its cousins which are also used so sweeten foods... erythritol, sorbitol and xylitol.

Ayvakit (Avapritinib), Rx, Oral – This medication is for stomach tumors, and it's taken once daily on an empty stomach. The FDA fast-tracked approval for this medication based upon a nationwide test conducted on 204 patients with a metastatic gastrointestinal stromal tumor

(GIST), or one that could not be surgically removed. The drug seeks to shrink the tumor.

Tepezza (Teprotumumab-trbw), Rx, IV injection – This medication is given as an infusion to people with a specific eye problem caused by Graves' disease. The disorder sometimes causes a person's eyes to bulge out, and Tepezza helps over time. It does not stop the autoimmune process. It seems to flare up problems for people who have pre-existing inflammatory bowel disease.

Nurtec ODT (Oral Disintegrating Tablets), Rimegepant, Rx, Oral – These quickly dissolving pills work for a day or two and help with symptoms of a migraine. In a study of 1,351 people, those who took the drug experienced improvement from light and sound sensitivity, as well as nausea at the two-hour interval (compared to the placebo group). This is a treatment, not a preventative agent. If you have migraines, you would love my book *Headache Free* available on Amazon.

Sarclisa (Isatuximab), Rx, Injection – Used for the treatment of resistant multiple myeloma, this newer agent is slightly easier to administer because it's faster for patients. As part of its mechanism of action, it acts like a CD38 inhibitor, binding to myeloma cells and blocking growth or slowing spread. Before Sarclisa, one had to also take an FDA-approved CD38 inhibitor such as daratumumab along with other treatments. This new drug is not a first line agent, it is for people who have not responded to other meds.

Retevmo (Selpercatinib), Rx, Oral – This treats people with either thyroid cancer or non-small cell lung cancer. It's in a category of drugs called “kinase inhibitors,” and it's not like traditional chemotherapy. It is very targeted so there are fewer side effects.

*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](http://www.SuzyCohen.com).✱*

Beautifulife:

## A Child



by Kay Casperson

When I became a mom, my life changed in many ways. The impact that a child has on many lives is amazing, to say the least. Children bring so much joy and happiness and at the

same time, we can all learn things from them as well.

We are designed to be examples for a child to learn and grow from. We are here to teach and lead our young children to ultimately become strong, solid individuals that can make good decisions in life and ultimately learn to care for themselves and others. But children actually teach us more along the way than we will ever learn elsewhere.

A child can teach us patience and kindness as well as how to let go and focus on things that are important versus things that can wait. We can also learn how to be more humble, flexible, understanding and giving from a child. Children help us understand and connect with our emotions in order to help them navigate through their growing years.

Many sacrifices come from having a child enter your life. From lack of sleep and personal time, to setting aside dreams and goals for a while, to focus on the present. But, the blessings that come are plentiful and life changing. You take better care of yourself knowing that you need to stay healthy to care for someone else. You tap into a newfound strength and understand things at a deeper level than you could have ever imagined.

Regardless of whether you have had your own child or not, you have most definitely made an impact on a child somewhere at some point in your life. And, I believe that a child has made a difference in your life somewhere along the way as well; it is inevitable.

At Christmastime, we are reminded of the importance of “A Child” and the impact that this little child was designed to have on our lives. Isaiah 9:6 in the Bible reads: “For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

My hope is that you will continue to lead a child by example and allow yourselves to learn from the lessons a child can teach us along the way. Children can help us in many ways continue to live our best and most beautiful lives.

My affirmation for you this week is:

“I am living my life as an example for a child to learn and grow from, and will also embrace the lessons a child can teach me along the way.”

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](http://www.kaycasperson.com) or follow on social media @kaycasperson.✱

## Lee Memorial Auxiliary Installs New Board

The Lee Memorial Auxiliary celebrated the installation of its 2020-21 board of directors at an outside ceremony in the garden at Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida. Officers donned masks and practiced social distancing while Chief Human Resources Officer Mike Wukitsch did the honors and also recognized the outgoing board.

Founded in 1950, the auxiliary recently celebrated its 70th anniversary and legacy of love and assistance to Lee Health patients, their families, staff and the community.

New officers include: Sue Lester, president; Jim Andrews, president-elect/secretary; Sandy Heise, immediate past president and vice president of fundraising; Ketki Shah, vice president of HealthPark Medical Center; Jean Perkins, vice president of Lee Memorial Hospital; Bob Lotz, vice president of Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida; Karen Endersbee, vice president of membership; and Phil Fortin, treasurer. Board members-at-large include Ron Currie, Cathy Miller, Mary Jane Rockas, Tommie Schott and Patrice Swift.

As part of Lee Health, the Lee Memorial Auxiliary continues its mission by supporting healthier lives through care, compassion, volunteer service, funding, education and advocacy.✱

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

Some of the “strange sensations” we see at Caring Medical are swallowing and speaking difficulties, which most people associate with having a stroke. However, many patients have not experienced a stroke, just progressively worsening swallowing/speaking abilities. They report regularly getting food stuck in their throat or experience a “choking” or “suffocation” feeling, often with excessive secretions in the throat.

As you know, we strive to find the underlying cause of any condition, which we do by following the neurological aspects that gives rise to them. In cases of speech and swallowing problems, these originate in the neck so we must look there. Cervical (neck) spine instability is at the core of cervical, head, thoracic, TMJ, face, mouth, and hyoid bone relationships, stability, alignment and curves.

Some patients experience a weird clicking sensation in the neck and/or tongue. Others feel like they cannot push the food back for a complete swallow because they sense their tongues are not working. Interestingly

enough, the tongue is a muscle innervated by the hypoglossal nerve that originates on a bone called the hyoid bone. This hyoid bone, like any other, can become unstable, affecting nerve and muscle function. Sometimes, the muscles in the neck become extremely tight trying to compensate for the weak structures that are supposed to be supporting the bones. People will complain of pain in these areas of the neck as well.

Stability of the cervical spine is also essential for proper vagus nerve functioning. The vagus nerves are the longest and most important nerves in the human body. They border C1 and C2 (our upper cervical spine) and travel down the neck and through the body, innervating our vital organs as well as the laryngeal muscle which is necessary for swallowing and speech. Vagal nerve injuries can limit vocal nerve function and affect the pitch, quality and power of the voice. Symptoms of vagopathy affecting the larynx can be chronic coughing, difficulty swallowing, hoarseness and loss of singing ability, or voice power.

So, what we are saying is that loose head, neck and spinal structures could be causing your unusual speech and swallowing symptoms. Our approach to treating these symptoms is often a combination of chiropractic cervical curve correction in conjunction with reparative injections to the ligament-bone junctions. Until these structures are stabilized, they will not return to normal function, and the patient's condition typically continues to worsen. As many people sadly experience, speech problems do not present a benign situation – it is progressive and worsens over time.

*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](mailto:info@caringmedical.com).*

Got A Problem?  
Dr. Connie Is In

by Constance  
Clancy

**Q:** I want to simplify my life, and I don't know where to begin. Can you give me some suggestions to get started?

**A:** The fact that you have an intention to simplify your life is a terrific start. It's natural for most of us to take on too much, then become too overwhelmed.

The following are some steps to simplify your life:

**Unclutter your life** – Decide what you no longer need in your life and let it go. Think of the motto... when it doubt, throw it out and donate.

**Start your day with meditation and inspiration** – Sit quietly and be in the present moment. That is all we have.

**Spend time in nature** – It can be a walk, a hike, planting a garden, being near the water. It is the antidote to a less complex and tumultuous life.

**Be in tune with your health** – Check in with yourself, get wellness checkups, be proactive and eat healthy by practicing good nutrition.

**Enjoy yourself and have some fun** – This means play. Balance your life by playing and laughing daily no matter how much work you have to do. Play and

break it up so there is play through the daily stress of life.

**Slow down** – We are on such a fast track in our culture. This leads to stress and anxiety. Take your time, relax, get enough sleep, let yourself feel peace in your life everyday.

**Feel inspired** – What and who inspires you? Who do you inspire? Stop and reflect on your own spirit when life gets too overwhelming and complicated. Remember who you are and what you want... to simplify.

I wish for you to use the above techniques to help you to simplify your life. These steps will help you to get a good start.

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](mailto:drconstanceclancy@gmail.com) or visit [www.drconstanceclancy.com](http://www.drconstanceclancy.com).

Grief Support  
Group Meetings

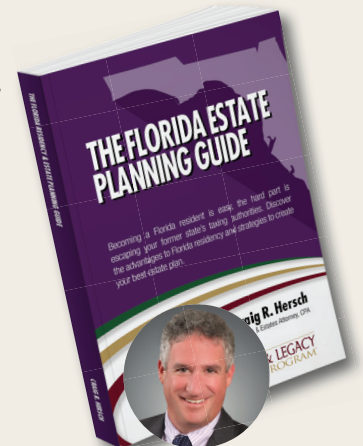
Sanibel Community Church is offering a GriefShare program in the Family Life Center on Tuesdays at 5 p.m. The program is open to anyone who has lost a loved one, and there is plenty of room for social distancing. Sessions feature a video, book, discussion and support.

Sanibel Community Church is located at 1740 Periwinkle Way. For more information, contact Maryelle Pavelka at 850-4221 or Robert Adams at 408-569-5440.

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- offering PROTECTION for you and your loved ones in times of incapacity or uncertainty
- providing the PEACE OF MIND knowing everything goes where you want when you pass
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by Craig R. Hersch  
Florida Bar Board Certified Wills,  
Trusts & Estates Attorney, CPA &  
Island Sun Columnist

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PUZZLES

Answers on page 55



"I can't cook, but my husband says I'm the best little \_\_\_\_\_ in the world."

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!

Bent

WEAKS

Pop

TRUBS

Defend

DELISH

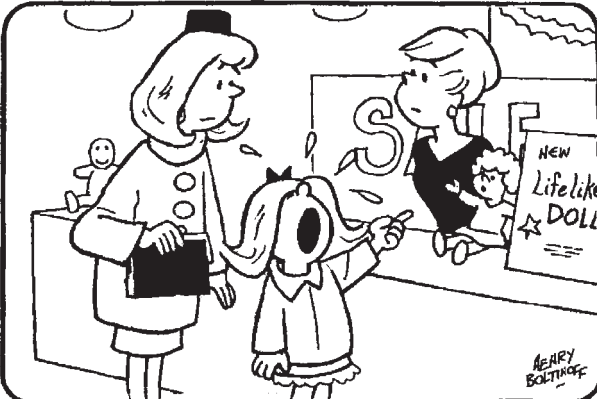
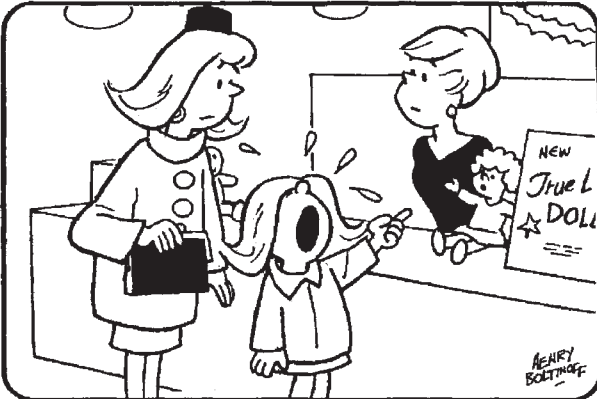
Bottum

NDURE

TODAY'S WORD

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Mom's hair is different. 2. Doll on left has ruffle. 3. "Sale" sign is added. 4. Girl's skirt has been moved. 5. Doll ad is different. 6. Girl has hair bow.

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.

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



# PETS OF THE WEEK



Cherry ID# A831267

photos provided

Lee County Domestic Animal Services

## Cherry And Bandit

Cherry is a 3-year-old femal pitbull mix who is all dressed up and needs somewhere to go; like a home for the holidays. She is one of the volunteer favorites because of her sweet nature. One look at her soulful eyes and you will no doubt fall in love. Cherry's adoption fee is \$75.

Bandit is an 8-year-old male domestic shorthair and a "Super Senior" who is quite debonair. He is a handsome fellow and like any true bandit, he will steal your heart, but no



Bandit ID# A836104

doubt pay it forward with unconditional love and loyalty.

The adoption center has dogs, cats, bunnies and guinea pigs looking for a home just in time for the holidays. Visit the website at [www.leelostpets.com](http://www.leelostpets.com) to see pets available for adoption.

Lee County Domestic Animal Services is located at 5600 Banner Drive in Fort Myers. Adoptions are available by appointment Monday through Saturday from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Visit [www.leelostpets.com](http://www.leelostpets.com) to complete an online application. As always, cats and kittens are adopt one and get a feline friend at no additional charge. For more information, call 533-7387.\*

## Southwest Florida Reading Festival Goes Virtual

After more than 20 years celebrating the power of reading in the community, the Southwest Florida Reading Festival will carry on its traditions in a new way this March by adopting a fully virtual format.

Nearly 30 acclaimed and bestselling authors are scheduled to give virtual presentations and participate in live, interactive meet and greets on the event website from March 1 to 13. All of the virtual author presentations will be recorded for on-demand viewing throughout the month of March. The event website will be available the week of February 22 to familiarize attendees with the new, online Event Hub platform.

In addition to engaging with the bestselling authors, this year's attendees can experience activities for all ages, including an online reading challenge, grab-and-go crafts, and online STEAM contests challenging participants to create masterpieces with LEGO and art materials. As in previous years, the festival will provide each participating child and teen with a free book. This year, the free books will be distributed in age-appropriate, grab-and-go craft bags, which can be requested from any of the 13 Lee County Library System branches starting Monday, February 22, while supplies last.

"We are pleased to be able to continue reading festival traditions in a new and engaging online format this year," said event coordinator Melissa Baker. "The expanded timeline will allow all of our attendees to enjoy the

content from wherever they are and at their own pace."

The lineup of award-winning authors scheduled to attend the festival includes adult authors Jennifer Chiaverini, Gregg Hurwitz, Jayne Ann Krentz and Kyle Mills, as well as youth and teen authors JC Cervantes, Greg Pizzoli, Julie Berry and Ryan LaSala.

Another feature adapting to the online format is the return of the Local Author Marketplace, which for years was a hallmark of the Southwest Florida Reading Festival. A select number of approved authors will be granted virtual vendor booths on the event website to promote and sell their work and engage with attendees using video and text chat functionality. Applications are now being accepted with a deadline of Friday, January 15. Local authors will have the opportunity to participate in the interactive Author Hour Meet & Greets offered from 1 to 3 p.m. the first two Saturdays in March. Interested authors should apply online to book an event space at [www.eventhub.net/events/Southwest-Florida-Reading-Festival-2158](http://www.eventhub.net/events/Southwest-Florida-Reading-Festival-2158).

The Southwest Florida Reading Festival is free and community-supported through donations, sponsorships and grants. For more information, a complete list of authors or to donate, visit [www.readfest.org](http://www.readfest.org) or call 533-4832.\*

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## My Stars ★★★★★

FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 21, 2020

**Aries** (March 21 to April 19)

Although taking advice isn't always easy for the headstrong Sheep, you might want to consider what someone you respect says about an upcoming decision.

**Taurus** (April 20 to May 20) A new offer is tempting, but don't be bullied into a quick decision. Rely on your keen Bovine business sense to alert you to anything that might be questionable.

**Gemini** (May 21 to June 20) Your Gemini Twin nature rallies to help you deal with this week's hectic schedules, both in your personal and professional lives. One caution: Watch your diet.

**Cancer** (June 21 to July 22) Avoid rushing to make up for time lost on a stalled workplace operation. Best to set up a schedule and pace yourself. Welcome the help of colleagues.

**Leo** (July 23 to August 22) Despite those glittering holiday distractions you love so well, be sure to keep your feline senses set on high to alert you to anything that might require fast action.

**Virgo** (August 23 to September 22) Making an effort to restore fraying

relationships proves to be more successful than you dared hope. The holidays also bring new friends into your life.

**Libra** (September 23 to October 22) Private and professional matters compete for your attention. Be honest in your assessment of which should get more of it, and for how long.

**Scorpio** (October 23 to November 21) A seemingly endless list of must-do tasks is best handled by tackling them one by one, and taking energy-restoring timeouts between each job.

**Sagittarius** (November 22 to December 21) A vexing relationship seems destined to deteriorate no matter what each side tries to do. A third party's advice just might prove helpful.

**Capricorn** (December 22 to January 19) Reach out to ease any tensions caused by home or workplace pressures before they threaten the relationship-building progress you've made.

**Aquarius** (January 20 to February 18) You often go out of your way to show kindness to others. So, don't be surprised if other people want to do something nice for you this week.

**Pisces** (February 19 to March 20)

People in your life respect your Piscean wisdom, so don't hesitate to speak up about a matter that you feel isn't being handled quite the way it should be.

**Born This Week:** Your personal warmth helps you make friendships, and your sense of fair play helps you keep them.

## MOMENTS IN TIME

• On Jan. 1, 45 BC, New Year's Day is celebrated on January 1 for the first time as the Julian calendar takes effect. Julius Caesar enlisted the aid of Sosigenes, an Alexandrian astronomer, who calculated a year to be 365 and 1/4 days.

• On Dec. 30, 1862, the USS Monitor sinks in a storm off Cape Hatteras, North Carolina. Just nine months earlier, the ship had been part of a revolution in naval warfare when the ironclad dueled to a standstill with the CSS Virginia (Merrimack) off Hampton Roads, Virginia.

• On Dec. 28, 1895, the world's first commercial movie screening takes place at the Grand Cafe in Paris. The film was a series of short scenes from everyday French life. Admission was

charged for the first time.

• On Dec. 29, 1940, London suffers its most devastating air raid when German planes firebomb the city. The next day, a newspaper photo of St. Paul's Cathedral standing undamaged amid the smoke and flames seemed to symbolize the capital's unconquerable spirit.

• On Jan. 3, 1952, Sgt. Joe Friday's police drama *Dragnet* comes to television. A popular radio series, it became one of the first TV series filmed in Hollywood, instead of New York, and began a long line of crime and police dramas.

• On Dec. 31, 1972, Roberto Clemente, future Hall of Fame baseball player, is killed when the cargo plane in which he is traveling crashes off Puerto Rico. Clemente was on his way to deliver relief supplies to Nicaragua following a devastating earthquake.

• On Jan. 2, 1981, the so-called Yorkshire Ripper, Peter Sutcliffe, is finally caught by British police. For five years, investigators had pursued the serial killer who terrorized Northern England. Sutcliffe had been interviewed nine times but always convinced

continued on page 54



PUZZLES

Answers on page 55

Super Crossword

POP TRIOS

- ACROSS
- 1 Dreamworld

9 Pa

12 Incline

16 Big — whale

19 Person copying another

20 Straight-ahead view

22 Dandy sort

23 “That raving guy is lying!”? [1958, 1999, 1983]

25 Regret a lot

26 Mythical ship

27 Plane-related

28 Compass dir.

29 Growing field

30 Franklin brought a certain continent’s nations back together? [1972, 1979, 1983]

36 Very reactive element

40 Actor Ely

41 Inflexible

42 Assist an unwise fugitive? [1965, 2002, 1961]

49 Like cold fish

50 Muscular jerk

51 Organic compound

52 Castle encirclers

56 Join others in the attack

59 Poetic foot

61 — long way

62 Effortless progress with zero snags? [2017, 1999, 1980]

69 Certain scroll key on PC

70 — Dhahi (emirate)

71 Mr. — (“Fantasy Island” host)

72 Kings and queens hold agave liquor dear? [2013, 1966, 1958]

79 High peak

80 Revered sort

81 Directs

82 Cantata kin

85 Dirt clump

87 Ph.D. or MBA

88 Allergic reaction?

93 City’s main business section during a tornado? [1982, 1967, 1965]

98 The Everly Brothers’ “— Clown”

101 Bovine cry

102 Old Fords

103 Rigg made Rooney go “Wow!”? [1957, 2000, 1982]

110 Many a seized car

111 Honest prez

112 Revered sort

113 Messy stack

117 Bitter brew

118 This puzzle’s long answers each consist of three of these

124 Actor Gulager

125 Extolling

126 Analgesics

127 “Keystone” lawman

128 Move upward

129 Heckling cry

130 Fresh beginning

DOWN

1 Mother of Helen of Troy

2 Love deity

3 Chest organ

4 Choir voice

5 Test facility

6 Gobbled up

7 Actor Lloyd

8 Less sweet, as wine

9 Gobbles up

10 In-favor vote

11 JFK, e.g.

12 High-strung

13 Vine-covered

14 Grassy area

15 Mom’s skill, in brief

16 Fright-filled

17 Wellspring

18 Epithet for Tarzan

21 Most recent

24 Before

29 Sorbet alternative, for short

30 Shine up

31 Broody rock genre

32 Japanese dance-drama

33 Concerning

34 “So cute!”

35 Beer bubbles

36 “— ching!”

37 Slim fish

38 — -Blo fuse

39 NYSE debut

43 Of ears

44 Jaunty tune

45 Frosts

46 Modular part

47 Ark-itect?

48 Charity

53 Katy Perry’s “I Kissed —”

54 Toy truck maker

55 Wise guy

56 Cola biggie

57 Actor Epps of “Shooter”

58 “Ora pro —” (“Pray for us”)

60 Root beer brand

62 Filmmaker Pier — Pasolini

63 Nile’s home

64 Stephen of “Ondine”

65 Suffix with play or faith

66 Kick out

67 Debt slip

68 Chou En- —

69 Soho stroller

73 Roman 350

74 Consecrated

75 Sufficient, in poetry

76 Lamarr of “Comrade X”

77 Ticked (off)

78 Accordingly

83 Prefix with botany or biology

84 “— Little Tenderness”

86 Lightest coin

88 Actor Griffith

89 Dol. parts

90 Farming tool

91 Barn percher

92 Slip- — (mules, e.g.)

94 D.C.’s land

95 Silent “OK”

96 Santo —

97 Diminutive

98 Audiophile’s storage item

99 Danny of “Ruby”

100 Wrap, as a weak wrist

104 Papas’ partners

105 Activist Hoffman

106 Final letters

107 Chemical suffix

108 “Over There” composer

109 Kevin of “Silverado”

113 Pitcher — Wilhelm

114 Central Sicilian city

115 Golden — (senior)

116 “Hey ... over this way!”

118 “Car Talk” network

119 “Mystifier” Geller

120 Chest bone

121 Artist Yoko

122 Job for AAA

123 1960s univ. radicals

King Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Porter’s burdens

5 Before

8 Dull sound of impact

12 Enticement

13 Blend

14 Abundant

15 Opera show-stopper

16 U.K. broadcaster

17 Black, in verse

18 Fight

20 Like a lot

22 Solid ground

26 Entire

29 Smack

30 Zilch

31 Bees’ home

32 Parsons or Gaffigan

33 Slangy negative

34 — out a living

35 One of the Brady Bunch

36 Grown-up bug

37 Brownish orange

40 Warmonger

41 Barbershop tools

45 First victim

47 Luau bowlful

49 “American —”

50 Ring out

51 Barn bird

52 Alaskan metropolis

53 Vortex

54 — Aviv

55 Get larger

7 Cry out

8 Italian fountain site

9 Ireland

10 Venusian vessel?

11 Lair

19 Appomattox surrenderer

21 Frequently

23 Serengeti beast

24 Chinese dynasty

25 Choir member

26 Sharpen

27 Raise

28 Above

32 Lotto win

33 Incredible

35 Mandible

36 Call — day

38 Make a comeback

39 Warble

42 Bloodhound’s clue

43 Quarterback Tony

44 Dispatched

45 Mimic

46 Foundation

48 Didn’t pay yet
- DOWN
- 1 Spill the beans

2 Emanation

3 Determination

4 Birthplace of Starbucks

5 Fireplace bit

6 Cage component

MAGIC MAZE ● — BLUES

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally  
Unlisted clue hint: THE MOTOR CITY

- African

British

Canadian

Chicago
- Country

Delta

Electric

Gospel
- Jump

Kansas City

Louisiana

Memphis
- Punk

Soul

Swamp



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 FRIDAY Mostly Cloudy High: 74 Low: 63	 SATURDAY Sunny High: 73 Low: 64	 SUNDAY Mostly Cloudy High: 69 Low: 58	 MONDAY Sunny High: 72 Low: 63	 TUESDAY Sunny High: 71 Low: 60	 WEDNESDAY Sunny High: 72 Low: 62	 THURSDAY Mostly Cloudy High: 71 Low: 61
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Redfish Pass Tides					Point Ybel Tides					Punta Rassa Tides					Cape Coral Bridge Tides				
Day	High	Low	High	Low	Day	High	Low	High	Low	Day	High	Low	High	Low	Day	High	Low	High	Low
Fri	11:23 am	4:14 am	9:27 pm	2:55 pm	Fri	10:28 am	4:16 am	8:32 pm	2:57 pm	Fri	10:20 am	4:04 am	9:46 pm	3:33 pm	Fri	1:33 pm	7:30 am	11:37 pm	6:11 pm
Sat	12:28 pm	4:57 am	9:56 pm	3:28 pm	Sat	11:33 am	4:59 am	9:01 pm	3:30 pm	Sat	11:14 am	4:50 am	10:25 pm	4:13 pm	Sat	2:38 pm	8:13 am	None	6:44 pm
Sun	1:24 pm	5:37 am	10:26 pm	3:57 pm	Sun	12:29 pm	5:39 am	9:31 pm	3:59 pm	Sun	11:52 am	5:32 am	10:59 pm	4:50 pm	Sun	12:06 am	8:53 am	3:34 pm	7:13 pm
Mon	2:11 pm	6:15 am	10:59 pm	4:23 pm	Mon	1:16 pm	6:17 am	10:04 pm	4:25 pm	Mon	12:26 pm	6:13 am	11:25 pm	5:24 pm	Mon	12:36 am	9:31 am	4:21 pm	7:39 pm
Tue	2:51 pm	6:52 am	11:35 pm	4:50 pm	Tue	1:56 pm	6:54 am	10:40 pm	4:52 pm	Tue	1:03 pm	6:52 am	11:46 pm	5:54 pm	Tue	1:09 am	10:08 am	5:01 pm	8:06 pm
Wed	3:24 pm	7:28 am	None	5:23 pm	Wed	2:29 pm	7:30 am	11:19 pm	5:25 pm	Wed	1:44 pm	7:33 am	None	6:25 pm	Wed	1:45 am	10:44 am	5:34 pm	8:39 pm
Thu	12:14 am	8:06 am	3:52 pm	6:05 pm	Thu	2:57 pm	8:08 am	None	6:07 pm	Thu	12:08 am	8:13 am	2:35 pm	7:03 pm	Thu	2:24 am	11:22 am	6:02 pm	9:21 pm

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\* Not Valid With Any Other Coupon Or Offer

\* Price Match Guarantee Applicable With Proof Of 2 Other Estimates From A Licensed Contractor



From page 48

# Moments In Time

detectives that he wasn’t involved. He finally confessed when confronted with evidence.

## NOW HERE’S A TIP

- BB in Massachusetts writes: “I have a rubber disc (used for taking covers off jars) that I keep in my shower. When showering, I put the disc over the drain so the water can accumulate, then I soak my feet at the same time.”
- To save yourself some time and aggravation, make a safety set of keys that match your current set exactly. You will never have to go looking for your keys when you are in a hurry, and you won’t have to determine if the key you need is on the ring. It is!
- “Re: your recent tip about storing heirloom quilts in a cedar chest: No, no, a thousand times no! Nothing is worse for quilts – heirloom or otherwise – than storing them in cedar chests. Acids will not only stain them but break down the fabric over time.” – BR in Washington. Thanks BR Although my

grandmother did store quilts and other fabric items in her cedar chest, according to sources at the National Quilters Circle, the best place for an heirloom quilt may be on a bed. You can stack them, but rotate so that no quilt gets too much sun. – JoAnn

- “For squeaky door hinges, forget about graphite, WD-40 or any of those other messy lubricants that may last for only a few months. Pull the hinge pins, wipe them clean with a dry rag, and then apply a thin coating of Vaseline with your finger. Properly done, your hinges should remain free of squeaks for at least a year.” – FB in Colorado
- “If you live in a cold area where you might experience icy sidewalks and you have a dog or cat, don’t forget to protect your pet’s feet from the salt and/or chemicals that are frequently used to melt ice. Be sure to wipe down your pet’s feet after a walk outside.” – FF in Alaska

## STRANGE BUT TRUE

- Doc Martens come in all different colors and sizes now, but the first pair was created using old tires.

- There actually aren’t “57 varieties” of Heinz ketchup, and never were. Company founder HJ Heinz thought his product should have a number, and he just happened to like 57.
- March 3 is known as “What if Cats and Dogs Had Opposable Thumbs Day.”
- The number of permutations within a deck of cards is mind-bogglingly large: an 8 with 67 zeroes after it. That means there are more card combinations than stars in the Milky Way, which amount to as many as 400 billion!
- Cataract surgery was possible as early as the 6th century BC.
- Barbie’s physical appearance was inspired by a German doll named Bild Lilli, created in 1952 and based on a high-end call girl named Lilli who was featured in the comic strip *Bild-Zeitung*. She was sold as an adult novelty in bars and tobacco shops – definitely not as a children’s toy. Barbie inventor Ruth Handler saw the doll while vacationing in Europe and brought it home.
- Sunsets on Mars are blue.
- The Gate Tower Building in Osaka, Japan, has a highway that passes through the building, between the fifth

- and seventh floors.
- A Paris morgue needed help identifying bodies in the 1860s, so decided to open its doors to the public. They probably underestimated people’s morbid curiosity, though, as soon 40,000 people a day were coming to look at corpses.
  - Mob boss Vincent Gigante would wander around New York in his bathrobe to convince the police he was insane, and thus avoid capture.

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

“Life is mostly froth and bubble. Two things stand like stone. Kindness in another’s trouble, courage in your own.”  
– Adam Lindsay Gordon

## TRIVIA TEST

1. **Measurements:** How many tablespoons are in 1 fluid ounce?
2. **Literature:** Which famous gothic novel features the beginning sentence, “Last night I dreamt I went to Manderley again”?
3. **Geography:** What is the capital of New Zealand?
4. **Business:** When was the first


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## iPhone released?

5. **Television:** What was the name of Norm Peterson's unseen wife in the sitcom *Cheers*?
6. **Personalities:** Which former pro football player earned the nickname "Broadway Joe"?
7. **Animal Kingdom:** What is a female donkey called?
8. **Medical:** A deficiency of vitamin A causes what condition?
9. **Music:** Which 1980s pop hit starts with the line, "Dearly beloved, we have gathered here today to get through this thing called life"?
10. **Movies:** What was the name of Charles Foster Kane's estate in *Citizen Kane*?

## TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. 2 tablespoons 2. "Rebecca" 3. Wellington  
4. 2007 5. Vera 6. Joe Namath 7. A jenny  
8. Night blindness 9. Let's Go Crazy by  
Prince 10. Xanadu

## SCRAMBLERS ANSWER

1. Askew 2. Burst;  
3.Shield; 4. Under

*Today's Word*  
**THAWER**

# HORTOONS



# PUZZLE ANSWERS

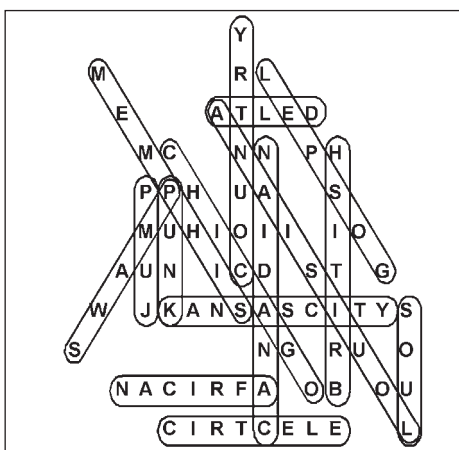
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				B	E	N	R	E		U	N	I	T	E	D		A	F	R	
C	E	S	I	U	M					R	O	N				W	O	O	D	
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## KING CROSSWORD

B	A	G	S		E	R	E		T	H	U	D
L	U	R	E		M	I	X		R	I	F	E
A	R	I	A		B	B	C		E	B	O	N
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## MAGIC MAZE



## SUDOKU

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

## Top 10 Real Estate Sales

Subdivision	City	Year Built	Square Footage	Listing Price	Selling Price	Days On Market
Spring Ridge	Bonita Springs	2000	8,825	\$4,500,000	\$4,000,000	63
Barefoot Beach	Bonita Springs	1993	3,000	\$3,800,000	\$3,800,000	0
Cases	Fort Myers Beach	2014	5,344	\$4,300,000	\$3,625,000	918
Marina Pointe	Bonita Springs	1997	4,950	\$3,895,000	\$3,400,000	0
Magnolia Pointe	Fort Myers	2002	6,321	\$2,990,000	\$2,650,000	376
Sanibel Harbours	Sanibel	2003	4,407	\$2,749,000	\$2,600,000	486
Sanibel Isles	Sanibel	2012	2,487	\$2,268,000	\$2,150,000	71
Flamingo Harbour Condo	Fort Myers Beach	1991	3,217	\$2,395,000	\$2,100,000	170
Not Applicable	Fort Myers	2002	6,011	\$1,895,000	\$1,895,000	26
Tuscany Isle	Bonita Springs	2005	4,549	\$2,175,000	\$1,850,000	34

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