



Mary Bondurant



Dr. Scott Crater, MD



Tom Drobnik



John Henshaw

Meet The City Council Candidates

by Wendy McMullen

Six candidates have thrown their hats into the ring to fill three vacant seats on Sanibel City Council, to be decided in a special election on Tuesday, March 2. They are: Mary Bondurant, Dr. Scott Crater, Tim Drobnik, John Henshaw, Jason Maughan and Mike Miller.

The *Island Sun* posed five questions to each of the city council candidates and



Jason Maughan

is publishing questions and answers in this week's and next week's issues. Candidates will be featured in alphabetical order, with



Mike Miller

continued on page 32

Southwest Florida Refuge Complex Has New Leader

Having filled the role of acting refuge manager at JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge on Sanibel since April 2019, Kevin Godsea now steps up to the position of permanent project leader managing the new Southwest Florida National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) Complex. The complex also includes Florida Panther, Ten Thousand Islands, Pine Island, Matlacha Pass, Island Bay and Caloosahatchee NWRs. Godsea has been serving as refuge manager for Florida Panther and Ten Thousand Islands NWRs for the past 10 years.

A 22-year veteran of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS), Godsea began his relationship with "Ding" Darling in 2000 as an education specialist and then supervisory refuge ranger. Following that, he served as refuge manager at Cape Romain NWR in South Carolina for two years before moving back to Southwest Florida and taking on the



Kevin Godsea

photo provided

western Everglades-area refuges. During his time there, Godsea earned the coveted National Refuge Manager of the Year (Paul Kroegel) Award and graduated from USFWS' Advanced Leadership Development Program.

"Management positions at places like
continued on page 6



Library staffers, from left, Margie Klein, Candy Heisse, Deanna Evans, Betty Anholt, Betty "B" Shewfelt, Danny Hussey and Ozzy Flores

photos provided

Library Is Number One In Florida

State library rankings are out, and Sanibel Public Library ranks at or near the top of Florida in many areas including materials borrowed, program

attendance and percentage of population with a library card. The 2020 ratings are based on fiscal year 2018 Florida Library Statistics, which measures 82 libraries/library systems in the state.

Sanibel was ranked number one per capita (per 1,000) for circulation (number
continued on page 26

BIG ARTS To Open Organic Exhibit

by Di Saggau

The sculpture of Ran Adler will be on display Thursday, February 4 through Sunday, March 14 in the Dunham Family Gallery at BIG ARTS. Hours of the exhibit are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Masks are required and there is a 25-person limit in the gallery. The virtual gallery will be available starting Wednesday, February 10 for the run of the show, on www.bigarts.org.

Adler is known for assembling a variety of natural elements into sculptural compositions that attach directly to a wall or may be free-standing. His work is spiritual, organic, sensual and richly textured. Many of his pieces are commissioned and customized to the space.

He is drawn to nature's roughness, randomness and disorder. He takes a meditative approach to life and his art. His exhibit is titled *In Praise of Shadows*. I asked Adler to tell us more. He said, "The title is borrowed from the 1933 essay by Jun'ichiro Tanizaki that discusses Japanese aesthetics. What I am presenting are my organic sculptures and installation pieces



Ran Adler finds inspiration in nature's roughness

photo provided

with intention to create shadows by natural light as well as artificial. The appreciation of impermanence is prominent in my work always and I hope that the viewers of this exhibition sense its beauty as I do.

"I would hope that people will leave my show with a feeling of calm... always an
continued on page 36

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From left, John Lai and Mick Denham with Jacki and Dave Saunders and their Yorkshire terrier, CiCi photo provided

First Facemask Challenge Winners

A mask in the shape of a sea turtle and another studded with Sanibel seashells won the first round of the Mayor's Mask Challenge for December entries. In partnership with the Sanibel & Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce, Sanibel Mayor Mick Denham is awarding cash prizes once a month through February for the most fashionable, flamboyant or ostentatious masks entered into the challenge.

Each month, one prize-winner from Sanibel and one from Captiva will receive a \$200 award. December's Captiva winner, Jacki Saunders, a seasonal resident, emailed the chamber a selfie of her wearing her turtle mask in The Island Store. Photo entries must be taken indoors at an island place of business. Lisa Smith from St. Louis Park, Minnesota shot her shell-themed mask selfie in 400 Rabbits Mexican Kitchen & Tequilaria on Sanibel and submitted it via Instagram.

"I went for a morning walk on Bowman's Beach and decided I was going to try and think of a creative mask to enter into the contest," said Smith, who worked remotely on the island while visiting family for two months. "Once I got back, it took me about an hour and a half to hand-sew the shells on. That night, I stopped by 400 Rabbits and went to the American Legion, and it was an immediate hit!"

"I really was not expecting to win anything, but just wanted to participate in a novel way to address the Sanibel-Captiva mask mandate," said Saunders. "I wanted to make something that resonated with people of Sanibel and Captiva. So, I thought blue for water and then a turtle."

"We had 12 entries in our first month, and we've already surpassed that number for January's contest," said John Lai, chamber president and chief executive officer. "Exactly as we were hoping, people are having fun with the challenge, which was meant to lighten the dire pandemic mood."

Denham will award more cash prizes, matched by the chamber, after the end of

January and February.

Entries can be made by the end of each month to the chamber's Instagram or Facebook page using #mayormaskchallenge or via email to island@sanibel-captiva.org. Once Denham and the chamber's executive board choose the month's two winners, they will award the cash prizes at the beginning of the following month.

"We all know wearing a mask helps keep the pandemic numbers down, so we're trying to ease the tension facing a very serious problem," said Denham. "It still has the same objective to keep the islands safe."

Entrants can submit as many photos as they wish, but cannot submit the same mask for more than one month. Business owners and city or chamber employees are ineligible to enter.

"The Mayor's Mask Challenge celebrates those doing their part to comply with the chamber's SanCap Safe initiative," said Lai. "We know that wearing a facemask is so important and will ultimately be a symbol of this time, so we might as well have some fun and work together to slow the spread and fight COVID-19."

For more information, visit www.sanibel-captiva.org.

City To Reuse 2016 Hurricane Reentry Passes

In the City of Sanibel's continuing efforts to control costs, it will continue to use the 2016 series hurricane reentry passes.

Everyone issued a 2016 series pass must keep their pass for use in 2021.

Used after an evacuation, the passes aid security, speed reentry and provide traffic control at a time when traffic must be kept to a minimum.

Owners and residents who have not been issued one of the passes should apply for one online. The pass program is all about safety and security, therefore getting a pass requires a short application and specific documentation.

Visit www.mysanibel.com/emergency-management for more information.



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Sanibel Historical Museum And Village

Looking Back: Refrigerator Clock

This curious item from the 1920s and '30s – a “refrigerator” clock – was a promotional item that was given when one purchased a General Electric (GE) refrigerator. It was designed to look like the popular GE monitor top refrigerator. This artifact was donated by the Gavin family of Sanibel and is displayed in the Morning Glories Cottage.

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 or call 472-4648.*



Refrigerator clock photo courtesy Sanibel Historical Museum and Village

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Churches/Temples

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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 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, 2050 Periwinkle Way, 732-780-2016.

HISTORIC CAPTIVA CHAPEL BY THE SEA

Rev. Larry Marshall. Outdoor services every Sunday at 11 a.m. Nov. 8, 2020 through April 25, 2021. Services posted on Chapel's Website for viewing. Weekly Bible Study on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. Masks are mandatory and social distancing will be in effect. www.captivachapel.com, www.facebook.com/Captiva-Chapel-By-The-Sea, 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 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, 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, 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, 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, 2050 Periwinkle Way, 433-4901.

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Recycling Event For Electronics At Sanibel Church

Americans throw away an estimated \$55 billion in e-waste material annually (more than the 2019 Gross Domestic Product of many countries.) Only 20 percent of e-waste is documented to have been collected and recycled, despite high-value recoverable materials such as copper and gold. Heavy metals from electronics, such as lead and mercury, are highly toxic substances that cause adverse health effects by contaminating air released from incinerators and groundwater leached from landfills.

To help make a difference, Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ will hold its 4th annual electronic recycling drop-off event on Saturday, January 30 from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the back of the church. The Green Team of Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ and members of Bat Yam Temple of the Islands offer this annual opportunity to get rid of your electronic waste for free. Masked volunteers will take them from your car as you drive through.

Bring all electronics (except for TVs, printers and copiers) in small cardboard boxes, separating ones that work from ones that don't. Mike Peterson from Computer Medics of SWFL will strip all personal data from working



From left, Robin Krivanek of Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ, Sally Sacks of Bat Yam Temple of the Islands and Mike Peterson from Computer Medics of SWFL loading up a vehicle with items brought to the 2020 recycling drop-off photo provided

computers before donating them to Computers for Kids. Working phones should be stripped of personal data prior to donating. They will be given to the police to distribute to victims of domestic abuse.

You may bring all kinds of electrical wire, computer mice and keyboards, laptops, notebooks, computer towers,

battery backups, hard drives, flat panel monitors, lithium batteries, automotive batteries, cell phones, standard phones and phone equipment, generators, industrial switching gear, hospital and medical test and monitoring equipment, gaming devices, VCR, DVD, Blu-ray and audio equipment, GPS items, mainframes, circuit boards, automotive

and industrial machinery and test equipment, electric motors of all kinds, routers, speakers, external hard drives, smart phones, florescent light ballasts, marine electronics, servers, video equipment, electrical switches, circuit breakers and panels, and starters and alternators. Everything will be reused and nothing will be sent to other countries, to prisons or to landfills.

Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ is located at 2050 Periwinkle Way on Sanibel.✱

Outdoor Exhibit Open At Bailey Homestead

More than a dozen locally created 3D works were submitted for the joint Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) and Sanibel-Captiva Art League Natives in the Garden outdoor exhibit at the Bailey Homestead Preserve. The show opened January 19 and viewing hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

The original works of weather-resistant, outdoor art featured in the exhibit were created by members of the art league and SCCF, and 20 percent of the proceeds of works sold will support SCCF's mission.

"The Natives in the Garden exhibit offers the opportunity to expand upon continued on page 11

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Campers had fun surfing in the gulf during winter camp photo provided

Sea School Hosts Successful Camp

Sanibel Sea School held one session of winter camp themed New Year, New Ocean during the last week of December.

In order to keep campers, employees and the community safe, the staff at Sanibel Sea School implemented several COVID-safe procedures throughout the week. The camp was limited to 20 participants that were split into smaller separate groups, and masks, social distancing and lots of hand-washing were

incorporated throughout the week. With these precautions, the education team was able to pull off a successful and safe winter camp.

This year's theme celebrated getting back to nature after such a challenging year for all. In addition to just enjoying the beautiful Sanibel outdoors, counselors shared the importance of environmental conservation and held a camp-wide "bioblitz" to learn what creatures are all around us. They cataloged all of the plants, animals and even shells that they encountered on the east end of Sanibel.

"It was so nice to get back to a small sense of normalcy, since we weren't able to hold our summer camps this year,"

said Director Nicole Finnicum. "We were thrilled to have campers back in our building and get back to our favorite activities, like surf paddling."

Campers also participated in Sanibel Sea School's annual Give Your Worries to the Sea ceremony. "Each camper writes down what's been troubling or worrying them over the past year and then we burn the papers in a small campfire," said Education Programs Manager Shannon Stainken. "Then we head down to our

favorite beach, and each throw a pinch of ashes into the sea, allowing the ocean to wash our worries away."

After a successful week of winter camp, Sanibel Sea School hopes to implement these procedures during summer camp in 2021. If you are interested in learning more about summer camp options, visit <https://www.sanibelseaschool.org/sanibel-camps>. Registration will open in February; details will be announced later this month.✪

Community House Events

Anita Force Marshall will teach Letting Loose with Watercolors on Tuesday, January 26 at 9:30 a.m. Participants will paint a sunflower. Cost is \$30 for members and \$35 guests. Beachcomber paint kits can be rented for \$10. The next class will be held on Tuesday, February 2 and the subject will be the manatee.

Suzette Heeres will teach an oil painting class on Monday, February 1 at 9:30 a.m. Students will create four oil painted heart necklaces. Cost is \$55 for members and \$65 for guests; all supplies included.

Shell Crafters are on site with their handmade items for sale on Mondays from 10 a.m. to noon. Classes are being offered at 10 a.m. with limited spaces available.

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

The Sanibel Party Bridge Club meets on Tuesdays at 1 p.m. All are welcome. Bringing a partner is preferred. Cost is \$5 suggested donation.

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.

Every Thursday at 1 p.m., Tommy Williams leads Living Life Current, an open forum discussion. All are welcome



The Community House photo by Logan Hart

to discuss what is going on locally, nationally and globally. Suggested donation is \$5. Masks and social distancing required.

Chair Stretching/Yoga with Mahnaz Bassiri is offered on Thursdays at 1 p.m.

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.

The Sanibel Hearts Club meets every Friday at 1 p.m. Play the card game Hearts. For beginners to experts, all are welcome. \$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 or call 472-2155.✪

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From page 1

Refuge Leader

'Ding' Darling only become available every so often. So, when I left Sanibel in 2008, I never really thought I would have the opportunity to come back and become the refuge manager," said Godsea. "I couldn't be more excited to lead our team here at 'Ding' Darling and continue our landscape conservation efforts at the refuges in Collier County. The diversity of wildlife, habitats and conservation issues are plentiful in Southwest Florida, and I look forward to continue to work with our partners and forge new relationships to further the conservation mission of the USFWS."

"Given his deep familiarity with 'Ding' and his strong leadership abilities, Kevin is a most welcome and obviously qualified person to lead our local refuges through the upcoming challenges of budget cuts and water quality issues," said Sarah

Ashton, president of the "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge.

"This has been and remains to be a long transition period for both Florida Panther and 'Ding' Darling as both refuges have had major staff reductions and changes in supervisors over the past couple of years," said Godsea. "Florida Panther is now operating at 35 percent and 'Ding' Darling at 48 percent of what the regional workforce plan prescribed three years ago. Thus, our efforts in the short term will be to rebuild the staffs at both stations. However, I find reason for optimism that we will have the opportunity to build a dynamic team with new personnel that will bring in new energy, skills and passions, which will inevitably refuel our own energy and passions for the work we do."

To support DDWS and the refuge with a tax-deductible gift, visit www.dingdarlingsociety.org or contact Birge Miller at 472-1100 ext. 4 or director@dingdarlingsociety.org✪

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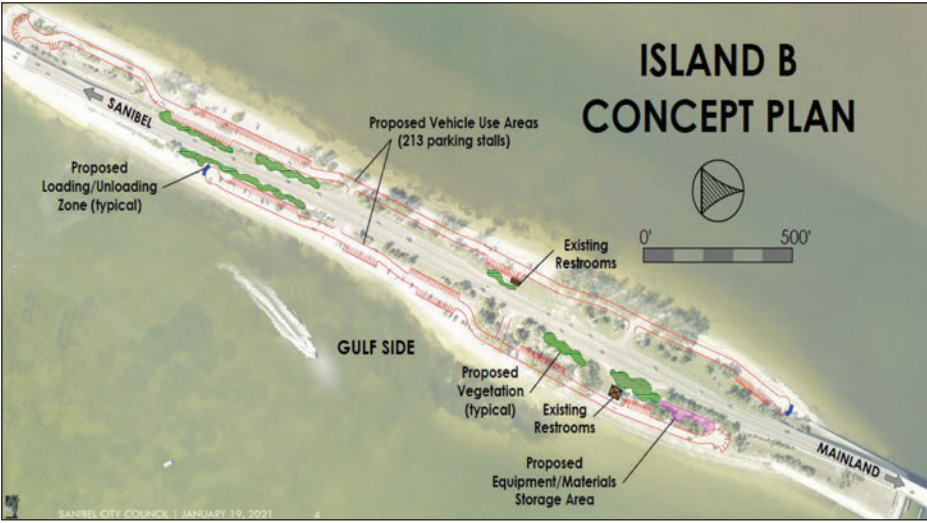
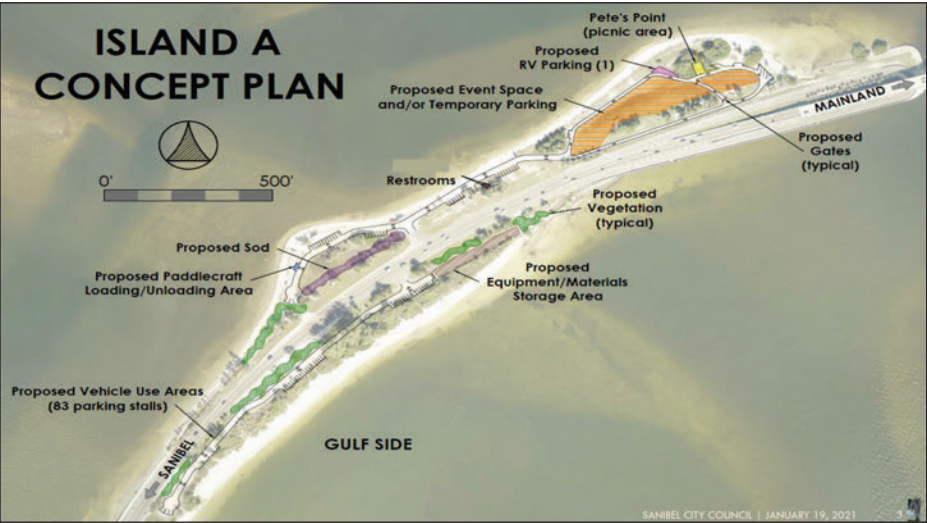
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Causeway Island A plan

Images provided

Causeway Islands Improvement Plan Presented

by Wendy McMullen

An \$8.5 million project planned by Lee County will make Sanibel's causeway islands safer and more convenient, Sanibel City Council members were told at their meeting on Tuesday.

The project involves formalizing the event space, providing more structured parking as well as pavilions and restrooms, and creating pathways and signs. There will also be new landscaping and renourishment of the beaches and T-groins where necessary.

Jesse Lavender, director of Lee County Parks and Recreation, presented Lee County's conceptual design for the project. Lee County owns the Sanibel Causeway and the causeway islands.

He assured city council that no additional events were planned for the event space on the northwest of Island A, which is the first island after going through the toll booth. The only events held in that space to date are the sunrise service on Easter morning and Sanibel Sea School events.

In the new plan, parking will be more

formalized and separate entries and exits will be established to replace the current haphazard driveways and parking. Some areas that are not suitable for parking will be eliminated.

There will also be a paddlecraft loading and unloading area, additional restrooms and an equipment storage area as well as additional vegetation and other erosion control structures.

Asked about the possibility of adding a fishing pier, Lavender said that it had not been projected in this plan.

Mayor Mick Denham asked Lavender to look into possible detrimental effects of the T-groins on adjacent beaches or beaches further away and Councilman Chauncey Goss suggested that planners consider establishing some sort of barrier between the main driving lane and the turning lane to prevent drivers using it for overtaking, which he said was a dangerous practice.

Lavender was also asked to look at potential swim zones or safe zones so that jet skis won't impact swimmers.

Vice Mayor Holly Smith lauded the efforts of Lee County to beautify the causeway islands.

"Although Lee County owns the causeway islands, we appreciate the effect it has on visitors to Sanibel as they come across the causeway," she said.

The causeway island project is being funded by \$4.5 million of tourist

Causeway Island B plan

development taxes and a \$4 million grant from the state of Florida. Lavender said that he did not expect the parking and other improvements to the causeway islands to be revenue producing at this time.

Work on the project is expected to begin in the summer of 2021 and be completed by the summer of 2024.✧

Council Gets Update On COVID Vaccine

by Wendy McMullen

System Director of Government Relations for Lee Health Michael Nacheff commended the city for its strong regulations regarding mask wearing and social distancing. He also defended the county's attempts to vaccinate Lee County's vulnerable population at Tuesday's city council meeting.

"I commend this council and the Sanibel-Captiva Chamber of Commerce for its strong and good behavior," he said, noting that the council's success shows in the low rate of COVID-19 infection on the island.

He also congratulated the county on their vaccination program, which has

been portrayed as chaotic on some local and national media. "The county has done an excellent job," he said, lauding the county's success in obtaining more Moderna vaccine and telling the council that the county could vaccinate 2,000 people a day if they had the vaccine.

However, he conceded that there is still a supply shortage and that there was a "policy perspective" and "governor preference" which opens up the vaccine to everyone over age 65 as well as first responders, nursing homes, assisted living facilities and those with pre-existing conditions.

"We have not vaccinated all our medical staff yet," he told the council.

Mayor Mick Denham said that the city council and administration is beset daily with the criticism that the reservation system does not work. This, he said, is something that the council cannot control.

"The things that we can control, we've done," Denham said. "Mask wearing is something that we could do and we've done. I'm on the phone every day with other mayors in the area and 98 percent of the available doses have been used.

"The criticism we get is that the reservation system doesn't work. But with the best reservation system in the world, if we can't get vaccines we can't vaccinate."

Peter Pappas, resident and former

continued on page 12

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Lorin Arundel

Accounting
Mike Terry


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Bob Petcher

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Contributing Writers

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
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| Constance Clancy, EdD | Kealy McNeal |
| Suzy Cohen | Capt. Matt Mitchell |
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FOR CITY COUNCIL

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Mary Bondurant is running to represent you on our Sanibel City Council. For 24 years, Mary has called Sanibel home and has raised her family here. As the most recent Past-Chair of our Chamber of Commerce, **Mary has a clear vision of what it takes to keep our city strong, economically sound and functioning efficiently.**

Mary is keenly focused on the things that concern and affect her fellow Sanibel residents. She is very aware of the issues surrounding the current coronavirus and will work as an advocate for our citizens' safety now and into the future. Mary's longtime success as a local realtor has fine-tuned her communication, negotiation and relationship-building skills. Her business has been built on her innate ability to listen to all points of view and provide an environment where everybody can be respectfully heard and solutions can be found.

Having served as a volunteer for more than a dozen Sanibel organizations and boards, Mary is now seeking to serve on our City Council. It is her fervent desire to use that opportunity to help ensure that our island retains its environmental harmony and economic vitality while preserving its historic culture and charm.

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OBITUARY



MARGARET ARCHER CUTLER

Margaret Archer "Margo" (Steers) Cutler of Hingham, Massachusetts died peacefully at her home on Friday, January 15, 2021. She was 80.

Margo was the beloved wife for 46 years of the late Robert J. Cutler, who died in 2011. She was the devoted mother/mother-in-law of Robert J. Cutler, Jr. (Gretchen Kinder) of Hingham, Massachusetts; Cindy Swartwood (Alex) of Cohasset, Massachusetts; Aaron Cutler (Katie) of Scituate, Massachusetts; Ben

Cutler (Katie Doran-Cutler) of Hingham, Massachusetts; and Margaret, the dog (yes, she named her dog after herself).

Margo was a doting grandmother to Charlie, Sophie and Whit Swartwood, all of Cohasset; Libby, George and Bo Cutler, all of Scituate; and Lily Cutler of Hingham. She was the dear sister of Sally Clark, Nancy Bruno, Polly Weeks, Betsy Regan and Maryann Campisano, and sister-in-law to Alice Cutler. Margo was preceded in death by her siblings Judy, Bobby and Mike Steers. She is also survived by many loving nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family and friends.

Born in Dedham, Massachusetts on November 8, 1940, she was the daughter of the late Robert and Margaret (Liddell) Steers. Margo was raised in Dedham with eight siblings and a goat named Julius. She graduated from Dedham High School with the class of 1957. After high school, Margo lived in California before moving back to live and work in Boston.

Margo was the co-owner and vice president of Energy Retailers, a gasoline wholesaler in Massachusetts. She enjoyed her work and the relationships she built throughout the years. After retirement, she and Robbie enjoyed spending their winters in Sanibel and she continued to spend her winters there after his death.

Margo had a fierce sense of fairness and loyalty, a wonderful and giving heart, and always advocated for those less fortunate. Margo was a steadfast friend who reliably swooped in to help in times of need. She was a long-time volunteer at FISH of SanCap on Sanibel and The

Hingham Senior Center. She was a past member of the Hingham Garden Club and for years played on a bowling league at South Shore Country Club with her many friends. She was an avid reader of mysteries; an avid gardener and a harbinger of spring when she was seen pruning her prize roses; she loved travel, cheese, goats, flamingos, crosswords and scratch tickets. Margo loved her home in Crow Point and seized any opportunity to entertain there. Christmas Eve and her annual 4th of July celebration were just two long-standing events hosted by Margo, and there were many more impromptu gatherings throughout the year. There were always peanut butter cookies and chocolate chip cookies freshly made in her cookie jar. More than anything, though, Margo adored her family.

Margo loved her children and grandchildren unconditionally and showered them with gifts at every opportunity. A visit to her kitchen for dinner would inevitably result in the guest leaving laden with bags of food and knick knacks. Mimi, as she was known to her grandchildren, was a wonderful confidant with a treasure trove of gummy bears, chocolate salted caramels, excessive birthday and Christmas (and sometimes Hanukkah) gifts. In their eyes, she was chef extraordinaire who consistently produced unparalleled pancakes and grilled cheese. She was also a dear friend to them and made each one feel special in their own way.

Margo's graveside service will be held privately in Hingham Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent in Margo's name to: Crohn's & Colitis Foundation National Headquarters, ATTN: Financial Operations, 733 Third Ave., Ste. 510, NY, NY 10017; Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, P.O. Box 849168, Boston, MA 02284-9168; The McCourt Foundation, 100 Grandview Rd., Ste. 100, Braintree, MA 02184; Grampy's Charities, 261 Ledyard St., New London, CT 06320.

Although family and friends cannot gather together at this time, a memorial will be planned when it is deemed safe, so that they have an opportunity to come together to celebrate Margo's blessed life. Friends may still offer their support by visiting www.keohane.com and sharing a special memory or message. For those who cannot access the website, call 1-800-KEOHANE to have your message added.✽

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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CARD OF THANKS



Outdoor learning and play are key components of the curriculum at CECI

photo provided

submitted by Kerra Cook,
CECI Executive Director

The Children's Education Center of the Islands (CECI) has a lot to be thankful for in this new year. The year of 2020 has brought a lot of change, growth and evolution for this organization.

Despite the coronavirus and its repercussions, the center's efforts to enhance its nature-based educational offerings while supporting the young families within our community are being noticed and, more importantly, are providing support to our community during this challenging time.

Registration levels are on the rise as are the number of students from deserving working families. The center is receiving stellar feedback on educational outcomes and its nature-based approach. The philosophy as a nature preschool is to forge a bond between children and nature, so that they will grow to care for and love nature as adults. Now, even more so, CECI's approach to learning connects children and families to the

natural world in ways that are crucial for individual wellbeing and for the future of our sanctuary island.

Short of our \$50,000 year-end fundraising goal, CECI leadership is heartened by the positive outpouring of community support which brought in nearly \$20,000 in only one month.

We are grateful and wish to extend a public thank you to all of our donors. Your contributions – whether it be \$25 or \$10,000 – all greatly impact our children, our families and the future of our island. We hope that we can count on each of you for your continued support as this unprecedented time continues.

We are especially grateful for the overwhelming generosity of Marty and Brenda Hamity, David and Ellen Raisbeck, and the Merrill Family Charitable Foundation. CECI is also grateful for the continuous support of The Sanctuary Golf Club Foundation. The granting of \$25,000 for the scholarship program has allowed CECI to provide 25 percent of its students with financial assistance this year. With many of our working families in need of financial assistance, The Sanctuary Golf Club Foundation has been crucial in providing help to these families in their time of need.

While we remain shy of our immediate funding levels required to continue our mission, this strong start kicks off a year of active engagement and fundraising for our organization. To tackle 2021 operational shortfalls and continual repairs for aging buildings, CECI has a funding goal of \$140,000 for 2021 in addition to budgeted tuition. Additionally, CECI is establishing a building fund to aid in maintaining and improving our historic island facility. And, CECI remains dedicated to raising scholarship funds, in excess of our operational needs, to allow us to teach and connect more young children and families to nature within our community.

CECI will be debuting new 2021 sponsorship opportunities and a variety of fundraising and community activities, virtual and otherwise, in the coming months. For more information on how you and your organization can get involved, call 472-4538 or visit www.childrenseducationcenter.com.✱

From page 5 Exhibit

our previous collaborations with the Sanibel-Captiva Art League. We've been co-hosting indoor, 2D exhibits over the past couple of years," said SCCF Native Landscapes and Adult Education Director Jenny Evans. "This is a unique opportunity to display the artists' works in our gardens. We've received a great diversity of pieces that lend a bit of whimsy to our outdoor spaces. We couldn't be more excited to have visitors discover the art." The exhibit runs through March 12.

the Bailey Homestead Preserve is located at 1300 Periwinkle Way on Sanibel.✱



Turtle sculpture by Nancy Watkins

photo provided

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Plant Smart

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Pond Apple

by Gerri Reaves

Pond apple (*Annona glabra*) is a long-lived native semideciduous tree of the paw-paw and custard-apple family. It's usually under 20 feet tall but can grow up to 40 feet or more.

Mammals such as opossums, racoons, turtles and foxes eat the fruit, as well as American alligators, thus another name, alligator apple.

It is the host plant for the giant sphinx moth and attracts beetle pollinators.

Despite the name, it is not related to the commercial apple found in grocery stores. Its natural habitat is wet or swampy areas with mucky soil, such as mangrove thickets and the edges of ponds and canals.

However, it will grow in some shade and drier condition. But, for fuller foliage and higher fruit production, it needs full sun and wet soil with organic matter. It is unusual in being a freshwater tree that can tolerate brackish water and occasional salt inundation.

The short gray trunk has a swollen, or buttressed, base similar to a cypress tree's, and the crown is rounded and spreading. The fissured bark makes a good platform for epiphytes, including orchids, ferns and bromeliads.

The cork-like wood inspires another common name, corkwood.



In the wild, native pond apple grows in wet mucky conditions photos by Gerri Reaves

The dark green alternate leaves are glossy, aromatic and three to seven inches long. Leathery in texture, they are ovate or elliptic with pointed tips and a prominent midrib.

The white or greenish yellow cup-shaped flowers are about an inch wide. Three outer petals with red-spotted bases enclose three smaller inner ones.

They bloom in spring and open at night.

The large round or heart-shaped fruit is three to five inches long. It matures in late summer to autumn, hanging on short



The edible fruit is consumed by small mammals, as well as people, although it is unpalatable and bland. The seeds are toxic.

stalks and ripening to pale yellow.

The pale or pinkish creamy flesh is also edible for people, but is bland and unpalatable, although it can be made into jelly.

Take care, for the many large flat seeds – as many as 100 per fruit – are toxic.

The plant has been used by the Seminole for food and for making lye.

If you include it in your landscape, take into account the falling fruit, which can be messy. Self-sown trees will likely sprout too.

It has high wind resistance and is on the

Lee County Protected Tree List.

Sources: *A Gardener's Guide to Native Florida Plants* by Rufino Osorio, *National Audubon Society Field Guide to Florida* by Peter Alden et al., *Native Florida Plants* by Robert G. Haehle and Joan Brookwell, *The Shrubs and Woody Vines of Florida* by Gil Nelson, *Wild Plants for Survival in South Florida* by Julia F. Morton, <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu>, www.fnps.org, www.regionalconservation.org and <http://www.wildsouthflorida.com>.

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

From page 8

COVID Vaccine

city councilman, urged city council members to lobby the state to narrow the qualifications for people to get the vaccine, pointing out that the trajectory of death from COVID remains more or less flat up to the mid 50s and then begins to curve upwards.

"But it does not continue on an arc," he said. "It skyrockets."

"When you offer a limited vaccine to those over 65, people get in a car, stand face to face with other people in the heat in the cold, in the rain. Who can do that? The 80-year-old? No, the 65-year-old," Pappas continued, calling for the council and anyone hearing him, including the representative from Lee Health, to lobby the governor to change his dictate on who can get the vaccine.

"If you believe I have said something of value, you are compelled to pass it to someone else," he said.

Sanibel resident Larry Schopp suggested that Lee County change its reservation system.

"Giving out a telephone number and having every eligible person call at a given time on a given day is a terrible system," he said, suggesting instead that people apply online and that they are then selected at random."

Many residents who have called the reservation line at the assigned time have reported either a busy signal or a message that the call cannot be completed.

"The root cause is the supply," said Councilman Richard Johnson. "There are limited resources and extensive demand."

There are 250,000 permanent residents of Lee County who qualify for the vaccine but here are also a large number of winter visitors who also want it and with the age limit lower in Florida than in other states, it was reported that people are coming to Florida just to get the vaccine.

Sanibel's population is particularly vulnerable with an average age of 72.*

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Tree Dedicated In Memory Of Environmentalist

The City of Sanibel planted a pigeon plum tree (*Coccoloba diversifolia*) in honor of Dee Serage Century at the Community Park Preserve as part of its 2021 Arbor Day celebration on January 15.



Dee Serage Century



Pigeon plum tree planted at Community Park Preserve in memory of Dee Serage Century photo provided

that Dee planted and loved throughout the years," said Century. "Thank you for recognizing Dee and her deep care for the plant community that is integral in who we are as caretakers of this island."

"SCCF and the city have a long-standing partnership in working together to ensure that protecting and caring for nature is a deeply embedded ethic in our community," said SCCF CEO Ryan Orgera. "We are very pleased to have the memory of SCCF's longest-serving staff member honored through the 2021 Arbor Day dedication."

Arbor Day celebrations on Sanibel began 32 years ago when the city's vegetation committee, seeking to become recognized as a Tree City by the Arbor Day Foundation, recommended the city participate in annual observance of Arbor Day. Since 1989, Sanibel has celebrated Arbor Day by planting a tree in honor of a historical figure, local individual or organization.✧

Each year, the city celebrates Arbor Day by planting a tree. Serage Century was selected by the city's vegetation committee to honor her 37 years of service as an environmental educator and advocate with Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF).

"Through her love and appreciation of nature, Dee researched and developed programs and educational campaigns to help our community understand the rich diversity of plants and wildlife on our barrier island," said Pam Miller, member of the vegetation committee. "Her leadership, enthusiasm and creativity brought Sanibel to the forefront of programs and opportunities to share and educate residents and visitors alike, as to the environmental principles necessary for healthy co-existence with nature."

The pigeon plum was provided by McCallion & McCallion Realty and supplied by SCCF's Native Landscapes & Garden Center. A medium-sized shade tree, the pigeon plum was planted at Community Park Preserve, located at 2231 Periwinkle Way. It can be viewed from the hiking trail.

Luc Century, Serage Century's husband, was deeply touched to know that a tree would commemorate her legacy on the islands.

"The first tree she planted in our yard on Buttonwood Lane in 1985 was a pigeon plum. That same tree today is vital, strong and has many different native trees, shrubs and plants alongside of it

Facilities To Be Built At Linear Park Trailhead

The Lee Board of County Commissioners recently awarded a construction services contract for trailhead facilities at the southern end of John Yarbrough Linear Park. The facilities would be built on 1.4 acres of a roughly seven-acre parcel near Ben C. Pratt/Six Mile Cypress Parkway, purchased by the Board of County Commissioners in 2018.

The planned facilities will include: paved parking, including ADA-compliant parking; restrooms; and picnic pavilions.

The \$1 million contract is with Lee County-based Fowler Construction and Development. County officials accepted a \$180,000 grant from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to develop trailhead facilities at the park.

Construction of the facilities is expected to take about six months to complete, weather permitting.

The park opened to the public in 2005 and stretches for 4.8 miles between Colonial Boulevard and Ben C. Pratt/Six Mile Cypress Parkway along the 10 Mile Canal. It is a popular spot for walking, hiking, jogging, rollerblading, bicycling, fishing, birding and picnicking. It is dog friendly for dogs on a leash.

For more information on all Lee County Parks & Recreation facilities, go to www.leeparks.org.✧

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Where Are The Sheephead?



by Capt.
Matt Mitchell

During our colder winter months, sheephead are what many of my clients usually want to catch. Going home with a bag of tasty fillets has been relatively easy during our colder months. This has not been the case this year with very few being caught in all the usual places.

Everything I thought I knew about cold water fishing has been thrown out so far this winter. Water less than 60 degrees usually requires chunks of shrimp fished slowly to catch fish. This year, shiners

are still plentiful and snook are feeding like I have never seen in such cold conditions. Redfish of all sizes are also been caught in these same places. On most charters, we have also caught a few trout to complete the slam.

Although I don't know for sure what the difference is between this winter and winters past, a few things come to mind. First off, it's been cold now for almost a month straight. Once the water temperature plummeted, it has basically stayed in the low 60s. What seems to shut our snook fishing down is quick drops in temperature. It seems to me that these fish have become acclimated to this cooler water and just have to eat.

Generally during these cold water periods, our fishing switches over to shrimp, and the shiners disappear moving offshore. This year, shiners have stuck around and are being caught in the deeper water around the causeway bridges. Having a livewell packed full and being able to chum with live shiners has the snook, redfish and trout fired up.

Deeper sheltered channels along with canal mouths have been fish havens. For the past month, the fishing in these places can only be described as epic. During fast moving tide periods, the bite is as good as it gets with close to a fish every cast. Once set up in one of these places, its been hard to leave. I simply do not ever remember catching so many snook, redfish and trout during prolonged cold periods. Being able to share this amazing fishery with longtime winter clients who are used to catching sheephead is not a bad thing.

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.*



Rick from Minnesota got in on the unbelievable snook action this week while fishing with Capt. Matt Mitchell photo provided

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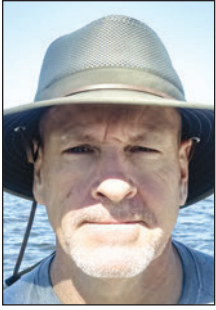
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Dave Doane

CROW Case Of The Week:

Striped Skunk



by Bob Petcher

The striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*) is larger and more common in Southwest Florida than the spotted skunk. Striped skunks prefer grassy fields, while spotted skunks try to avoid open areas.

At CROW, a female orphaned striped skunk was admitted in early December. Upon initial examination, the patient was quiet

in nature but otherwise an apparently healthy orphan. The patient was given supportive care and moved to an outdoor enclosure for rehabilitation.

"Based on the developmental characteristics, this skunk was likely a late juvenile when it came to the clinic. It had developed teeth and fur, which indicate it was not a baby, but it also was not adult size," said CROW Wildlife Rehabilitation Manager Breanna Frankel. "We did not fully determine whether the skunk was orphaned or if other outside factors caused the emaciated condition of the skunk. The history was not fully known. The skunk may have been found alone and assumed to be an orphan, and a good Samaritan was concerned for its wellbeing."

Five days after intake, the patient started to make improvements. Reportedly, she was steadily gaining weight, was described as bright, alert and responsive, and her coat was looking much healthier.

"It took a while to note any improvements because striped skunks are much more docile than spotted skunks," said Frankel. "This skunk's mental activity at first made it seem tame or neurologically inappropriate. It started eating right away but did not show fear of



Patient #20-5379 has no trouble eating during its rehabilitation

photo by Breanna Frankel

humans, so initially we were concerned that it could have been kept as a pet or have other trauma. Some of the behavior could have been caused by the skunk being emaciated and weak. Full radiographs were performed after about a week of being at the clinic. At that time, she had started to gain weight and appeared healthy overall – so it was good confirmation that she was headed in the right direction."

CROW staff continued to monitor the patient's behavior and offered a variety of environmental enrichment to encourage foraging.

"Environmental enrichment is very important to all

our wildlife patients. It stimulates the patient by using their natural physical surroundings, such as plants, trees, scents, leaves, dirt, bugs, etc., in a rehabilitation setting. Since the skunk is rather laid back, we need to make sure it knows how to survive in the wild. To simulate foraging for food, we bury food bits in piles of debris, we offer insects in leaf or dirt piles, and we offer natural climbing surfaces such as tree trunks, bark piles, palm fronds and more," said Frankel. "The goal of wildlife rehabilitation is for the patient to be completely successful on their own without human interference. If we introduced common human items that the skunk became reliant on, it would not be considered a successful release just returning to the wild. To be truly successful, the animal must know entirely how to fend for themselves and use their surroundings to find food, shelter, water, and to recognize predators."

During its care, the patient has gained a good deal of weight but more positive tests are needed for it to be released.

"The skunk has been here for over a month and is gaining weight appropriately. Its last weight was 1,500 grams, which is only about 500 short of an appropriate release weight. She is due for another weight check next week," said Frankel. "When she was admitted, she felt quite thin and her coat looked very disheveled and unkept, which can be a sign of poor grooming, lack of nutrition, or sometimes disease."

"There is more that goes into the release than just weight, so she will also be assessed on her climbing, foraging and predator recognition prior to being considered for release."

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

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Shell Found



Scott Lewis photo provided

Scott Lewis of Wilmington, Delaware found a Scotch bonnet on December 3. He said, “My wife and I were shelling on a sand bar several minute’s walk to the west of Knapp’s Point. I spotted a small part of a shell buried well in the sand bar and after pulling it out, found a Scotch bonnet! I was thrilled. There was a hermit crab in it, so after taking a picture, I returned it to the sea. Hopefully, someone else will find it again after that crab moves on to a new home. It was the best shell I’ve found since I’ve been visiting Sanibel.”✱✱

Shells Found



Molly and Kamie Rudisill photo provided

On January 3, Kamie Rudisill found a junonia and an alphabet cone, and her daughter, Molly, found an alphabet cone and a lion’s paw. They were shelling at Beach Access 6. Kamie Rudisill said, “I have been coming to Sanibel for 22 years. My mother lives on Rabbit Road. My family and I come often to visit her and the island. This is our family’s first junonia find and it was extra special as I launched a new business in November, named aptly ‘Junonia,’ www.shopjunonia.com is my website.”✱✱

Shells Found



From left, Josh, Micah and Lily Plath photo provided

The Plath family from Minnesota had a great morning shelling on the beach during their stay at Pointe Santo de Sanibel Condominiums. Maren Plath said, “The kids were real troopers, getting out of bed at 5:30 a.m.

to hit the beach at low tide. The early bird gets the worm! (Or rare shells, in this case!) We found a perfect true tulip, a giant whelk and a beautiful alphabet cone. vSpecial thanks to our friend, Betsy, for the shelling advice.”✱✱

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Jean Le Boeuf, News-Press



From left, Paul Tritaik, Supervisory Refuge Ranger Toni Westland, Acting Refuge Manager Kevin Godsea, DDWS Executive Director Birgie Miller, DDWS Emeritus Board Member Doris Hardy, DDWS President Sarah Ashton, DDWS Emeritus Board Member John McCabe. Not pictured, DDWS Immediate Past President Mike Baldwin. photo provided

Celebration Held For Retired Refuge Manager

Representatives from the “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS), along with refuge staff, gathered outdoors and informally on January 6 to bid farewell to and honor the accomplishments of Paul Tritaik, recently retired refuge manager for the JN “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge on Sanibel. Tritaik’s retirement on September 30 ended 12 years of service at “Ding” Darling and a career with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service that spanned 38 years.

DDWS representatives presented Tritaik with mementos of his time at the refuge in appreciation of his service and many accomplishments. Supervisory Refuge Ranger Toni Westland talked about some of those accomplishments, which included such highlights as the release of oil-spill victimized birds in 2010 after the BP disaster, unveiling new manatee and crocodile-alligator exhibits in the Visitor & Education Center, opening the Wildlife Education Boardwalk in 2013, installation of the Perry Tract beach life exhibit and restoration of Bailey Tract project in 2017, completion of solar paneling on refuge buildings, accepting the America’s Best Restroom Award and inaugurating Boy Scout Badge University in 2018, overseeing three major land acquisitions amounting to more than 80 acres, plus a number of improvements to the refuge campus since he took leadership in 2008.

DDWS Immediate Past President Mike Baldwin and Executive Director Birgie Miller joined Sarah Ashton, who, as the new president, thanked Tritaik for establishing a strong and healthy relationship with the community.

“I’m so appreciative, as the new president, to be stepping into a role where the refuge and society are so well-regarded by the conservation community here and around the country,” said Ashton.

“When Paul made his formal

announcement back in September, we had postponed having a real celebration due to COVID,” said Miller. “But the delays continued with COVID, and we just made the decision to celebrate on a much smaller scale, similar to how so many people around the country have had to cancel or reimagine their weddings, graduations, birthdays and retirement parties. Although our gathering necessarily was small, it sent a powerful message about our respect for a truly great part of ‘Ding’ Darling history.”

“I was fortunate to work with a great staff, great friends group and volunteers, great recreation concession, and a great supportive community on Sanibel,” said Tritaik. “Together we accomplished a lot, from land acquisition to habitat restoration to new and improved facilities, to expanded education and wildlife-oriented recreation.”

Tritaik began his career in September 1982 at Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in Maryland, working mostly with bald eagles and Andean condors. He then moved on to Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge in Georgia as an outdoor recreation planner refuge ranger in 1989, where he helped run visitor services.

In 1991, Tritaik transferred to Georgia to open a new refuge, Bond Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, as refuge manager. Two years later, he took the position of refuge manager at Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge, the first refuge in the entire system, on Florida’s East Coast. There, Tritaik oversaw the centennial celebration in 2003 and also the creation of nearby Archie Carr National Wildlife Refuge, a sanctuary for sea turtles, in 1991. He was hired as refuge manager of “Ding” Darling in 2008. While serving in that position, Tritaik was assigned to a detail with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service’s regional office in Atlanta since 2018. Most recently, he worked to expand and enhance regional efforts in hunting and fishing.

“It was my dream to work for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and an honor to work at some of the most exceptional

continued on page 20

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Shell Of The Week

The Multicostate Caecum



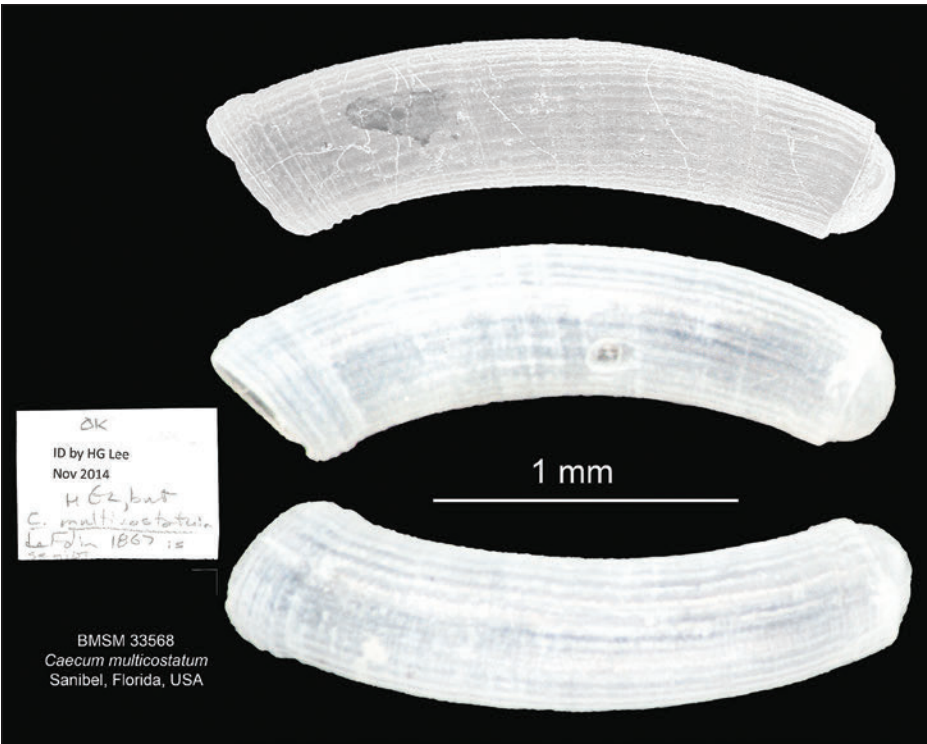
by José H. Leal, PhD, Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum Interim Director and Curator

Another small (and neglected) local species of the family Caecidae (the caecums),

Caecum multicostatum de Folin, 1867 has a tubular shell that rarely reaches beyond 2 mm (about 0.8 inch). The shell sculpture in this species shows a number of lengthwise, delicate ridges. The shell aperture (opening) is encircled by ring-like cords. The shell “plug” is blunt, hemispherical. The shell color is white or tan. The top image was taken with a scanning electron microscope. Read more about mollusks and their shells at www.shellmuseum.org/shell-guide and 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



The Multicostate Caecum, *Caecum multicostatum*, from Sanibel
photo by José H. Leal and Patricia A. Starkey

staff and animals remain healthy. To make a secure donation, visit www.shellmuseum.org.

The Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum is located at 3075 Sanibel-Captiva Road. For more information, call 395-2233.✪

American Legion Post 123

American Legion Post 123 is serving barbecued ribs and chicken from noon to 8 p.m. this Sunday, January 24. A ham dinner is on the menu for the following Sunday, January 31. All are welcome.



On Tuesdays, tacos are served all day. Spaghetti and meatballs are served all day on Wednesdays. Steak sandwiches and cheesesteak 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. Sunday specials are served from noon 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. Come out and watch the action.

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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First Baptist Academy students kayaking through Tarpon Bay as the first part of their daylong excursion photos provided

Naples Students Explore Tarpon Bay And Refuge

submitted by Adam Sauerland

On January 4, students from the First Baptist Academy of Naples journeyed to Sanibel to spend the day exploring the JN “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge. During

the students’ winter term, the school allocates a week’s worth of time to promote a particular interest of students. The subject of interest for this sub-set of students was environmental sciences. First Baptist Academy prides itself on educating through care, commitment and creativity. A field trip to explore one of the most productive and biodiverse areas in the U.S. is a creative way to inspire and muster enthusiasm for budding students. Thirteen high schoolers spent the day



Students prepare to take off on their bike ride along Wildlife Drive

on land and at sea. First, the students hopped into kayaks to explore Tarpon Bay’s winding Commodore Creek Trail with Naturalist Brie Coffman. A uniquely low tide made for superb birding. Enormous white pelicans could be seen by the dozens either flying overhead or swimming from nearby sandbars. A variety of wading birds peppered the edges of the mangrove roots, stalking for prey. “The birds have been awesome lately,” said Coffman. “Low tides create concentrated pockets of prey for birds to

easily feed on and it doesn’t disappoint.” The second part of the excursion was by bike. Students pedaled down to Wildlife Drive to search for other wildlife the refuge could offer. As usual, the birding off Wildlife Drive was spectacular. There were white pelicans galore, along with species not seen earlier like reddish egrets and blue-winged teals. “The students had such a great time,” said Jennifer Hannon, First Baptist Academy science teacher. “We are looking forward to coming back.”✱✱



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Safe Cycling On Sanibel



submitted by
Allison Havill Todd

Exploring Sanibel by bicycle is one of the best ways to experience the abundance of nature and beauty this island has to offer, and we are fortunate to have

such a bicycle friendly community. The city has invested in providing shared use paths that enable us to travel around the island by bicycle in a safe manner. Whether you are a visitor or a full-time resident, it is a privilege to be able to walk out your door and enjoy all the wonderful aspects of the island on wheels.

With this privilege comes a responsibility. It can be easy to forget to observe proper bicycling etiquette and rules while you are on vacation with friends or family. However, if we follow some basic guidelines, it can ensure a safe, fun and friendly time for all.

While bicycles and pedestrians have the right of way, this is not something to be taken for granted. It is best to treat each crosswalk as if it were a four-way stop. Don't assume that a car sees you or is going to stop for you. For your own safety, pause and look first before



Observe the rules of the road for a safe and fun time on the shared use paths

photo provided

crossing streets. Be especially alert where bike paths cross driveways or entries to and from shops and restaurants. Many times, a driver is not able to see you as you are approaching. Knowing that you have the right of way is not going to help you if you find yourself in the back of an ambulance!

Be aware of your surroundings while you are enjoying a ride on your bicycle. This is not the time for texting, taking selfies or wearing earbuds. Our pathways are surrounded by such beauty that it's understandable you may want to

stop and take photos. When doing so, make sure to keep the path clear. Move yourselves and your bicycles off to the side if you need to check a message, take a photo or help your child. Keep in mind that it is a shared use path. There are other cyclists, runners or pedestrians who may be coming around a corner and not see you in time to stop.

Cyclists should always observe the rules of the road: Stop at intersections where a stop sign is posted, signal with your arm when you are making a turn, stay to the right and warn others if you

are going to pass by ringing your bell or saying "passing on your left."

Evening and nighttime riders should be equipped with proper lighting so they are visible to motorists. Ryan Markosky of Billy's Rentals said, "Lights are a critical necessity while riding in the evening. Even if you are still able to see at dusk, it is very difficult for a motorist to see you." A flashing white light on the front and a flashing red light on the rear of your bike can be purchased at a nominal cost. He also shared that it is strongly encouraged for all riders to wear a helmet, and Florida state law requires anyone age 15 and under to wear a helmet. "We provide them at no additional cost for both adults and children who are renting a bicycle from us," Markosky said. He finds that many younger cyclists are reluctant to wear a helmet because they are afraid they won't look cool in their Snapchat pictures and videos. Ultimately, it is the parents' responsibility to ensure their children are observing the rules of safe cycling.

Riding a bicycle is a great way to get some exercise and experience this sanctuary island. Enjoy the many shared use paths while using courtesy, common sense and caution. Let's all be good stewards and promote the benefits of cycling in a safe, fun and friendly manner. Happy cycling!

Allison Havill Todd lives on Sanibel Island with her husband and two rescue dogs. She is an avid dog lover, business coach and active outdoor enthusiast. When she's not out with her dogs, you will see her running, cycling, paddling around the island. Follow her on @thedoggiemom and facebook.com/thedoggiemom.*

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From page 17

Refuge Manager

and historic places in the refuge system," said Tritaik. "To work on Sanibel the last 12 years and raise our son here has truly been a blessing for me and my wife. We appreciate all of the support we have received over the years, and we look forward to continuing our friendships in this one-of-a-kind community."

Kevin Godsea, who has been serving as acting refuge manager during much of Tritaik's regional detail, will continue to serve in that position until a new permanent manager is appointed. Godsea, who once worked under Tritaik as supervisory refuge ranger at "Ding" Darling, also currently serves as refuge manager for Florida Panther and Ten Thousand Islands national wildlife refuges in the Everglades.

"This is such a bittersweet moment for us," said Baldwin. "Paul has shown us extraordinary, brilliant leadership in the past dozen years and is deeply missed by all associated with the refuge and friends group. At the same time, we are happy to see he has reached a much-deserved opportunity to sit back with his family and look back at a fulfilling, purposeful career serving our nation's conservation mission in the most meaningful way."*

Lessons From The Deep Kicks Off Lecture Series

As founder of the nonprofit organization Ocean Doctor, dedicated to advancing ocean conservation worldwide, David E. Guggenheim will share Lessons from the Deep: What the Oceans Are Telling Us and Why it Matters at the first free "Ding" Darling lecture of the season. It will take place at The Community House, located at 2173 Periwinkle Way on Sanibel starting at 10 a.m. on Friday, January 29.

Guggenheim – marine scientist, conservation policy specialist, ocean explorer, submarine pilot and educator – is an adjunct professor at Johns Hopkins University and creator of the Cuba Conservancy. He has worked in Cuba for more than 20 years leading collaborative research and conservation efforts focused on advancing economically and environmentally sustainable solutions for coastal communities to protect and sustain coral reef ecosystems.

"Ding" Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS) hosts the 17th annual lecture series, and HighTower/Thomas & Swartz Wealth Management



David E. Guggenheim goes underwater for his research

photo provided

sponsors Guggenheim's lecture.

The upcoming season's "Ding" Darling Lecture Series evolves with the times and persisting distance protocols by moving to the larger venue with five scheduled lectures through March 19.

The complete schedule follows. There will be book signings after all starred (*)

lectures.

Socially distanced seating for the free lectures is limited and available on a first-come basis. Staff will be distributing 175 entry wristbands to drive-by attendees beginning at 9 a.m. that day. Doors open at 9:40 a.m. Facemasks are required.

Note: Opinions expressed in guest

lectures do not necessarily reflect the views of refuge and DDWS management, staff, and board of directors.

Schedule:

Friday, January 29 – Ocean Doctor David E. Guggenheim, Lessons from the Deep: What the Oceans Are Telling Us and Why it Matters, sponsored by HighTower/Thomas & Swartz Wealth Management

Thursday, February 4 – Photographers Clyde and Niki Butcher, The Everglades, sponsored by Wayne and Linda Boyd

*Friday, February 19 – Author Jack Davis, *The Bald Eagle: Symbol and Species in American History*, sponsored by Southwest Florida Eagle Cam

*Friday, March 12 – Author Paul Bannick, *Gray Owl: A Visual Natural History*, sponsored by Bill and Laurie Harkey

*Friday, March 19 – Author Kirk W. Johnson, *Feather Thief: Beauty, Obsession, and the Natural History Heist of the Century*, sponsored by Ashton Kirchner Group/Keller Williams Realty Sanibel & Captiva, HighTower/Thomas & Swartz Wealth Management, Geoffrey and Karen Moss, and Sanibel Carts

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

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The Community House
Celeriac



by Resident Chef Jarred Harris

Celeriac is a type of celery that is grown for its root and not for its stalks or leaves. Also known as celery root, turnip root celery and knob celery, this unusual looking vegetable is roughly the size of a grapefruit and tastes of celery, but with a slightly more intense flavor. The texture of celeriac is similar to jicama or potato.

Celeriac is very versatile winter vegetable. It can be eaten raw or cooked. I enjoy adding this tasty vegetable to soups, stews and salads. Its unique flavor adds texture and freshness to any dish.

Celeriac is an excellent source of dietary fiber, as well as magnesium, potassium, calcium and phosphorus. It also contains B1, B2 and E vitamins, which are powerful antioxidants.

Celeriac contains antimicrobial properties that fight infections. It's

been used in the treatment of kidney disease, ulcer prevention, to protect liver health and help lower cholesterol. This wonderful vegetable also boosts digestion and is an excellent natural expectorant when you have a cold.

Some people are somewhat skeptical and intimidated by this vegetable because of its appearance. It is unusual looking, however, once the skin is trimmed off of the vegetable, it is as easy to use as a potato.

Here is a simple recipe to try:

Celeriac Bisque

- 1/2 stick butter
- 2 1/2 pounds celeriac (peeled and rough diced)
- 2 stalks celery (fine diced)
- 1 lg. onion (fine diced)
- 6 sprigs fresh thyme (leaves removed and chopped)
- 1/2 tsp. ground coriander
- 1/2 cup dry white wine
- 2 1/2 cups chicken stock
- 2 cups heavy cream
- 1 cup short grain rice (cooked)
- Salt and pepper

Method

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

Add the celeriac, celery, onions and thyme. Cook until the onions are translucent, about 5 minutes, then add the coriander and mix thoroughly.

Add the wine to the pan and reduce by half.

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

Reduce heat to a simmer. Cook on

a low heat, gently simmering for 20 minutes.

Stir in the cream and rice and bring the liquid to a simmer. Remove from the heat and season with salt and pepper.

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

Serve hot with bread and butter.

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

Historical Society
Double Feature
On The Beach

On January 11, Captiva Island Historical Society (CIHS) showed two of its acclaimed documentaries – *Sands of Time* and *Earth, Water and Wind* – on the beach at Tween Waters Island Resort. The program was sponsored by Tony Lapi, CIHS board member and CEO of Sanibel Captiva Beach Resorts. An audience of about 50 people attended, wearing masks and social distancing.

The next film showing will be held on Monday, February 8 featuring the documentary *Queen of Swing* by Florida filmmaker John Biffar. The biography highlights the life and career of Norma Miller, a Harlem-born actress, dancer and choreographer. This event, called cart-in/walk-in cinema, will take place at McCarthy's Marina parking lot at 7 p.m. and guests are welcome to sit in their golf carts or in their chairs. There is no



The path lighting the way to the big screen
photo by Ginny Reiss

admission charge but guests are asked to sign up on Eventbrite as space will be limited.*



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BIG ARTS is offering the following workshops and seminars:

Portrait Drawing/Painting with Mary Klunk – Monday, February 1, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Member \$55; nonmember \$69.

Adobe Photoshop (Beginner/Intermediate) with Denny Souers – Mondays, February 1 to 22, 1 to 4 p.m. Member \$80; nonmember \$100.

Virtual Workshop: Figure Drawing from Photographic References with Francesco Gillia – Tuesdays, February 2 to 16, 9:30 a.m. to noon. Member \$93; nonmember \$116.

Pastels with Mary Klunk – Tuesdays, February 2 to 23, 9:30 a.m. to noon. Member \$85; nonmember \$106.

Glass Fusing with Petra Kaiser – Wednesdays, February 3 to 24, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Member \$99; nonmember \$124.

Glass Fusing with Petra Kaiser – Thursdays, February 4 to 25, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Member \$99; nonmember \$124.

Photography, Intermediate/Advanced with Denny Souers – Thursdays, February 4 to 25: first class, 9 a.m. to noon; classes 2, 3 and 4, 7 a.m. to noon. Member \$111; nonmember \$139.

Music and Art Series with Thomas Cimarusti – Tuesdays, February 9 to 23, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Member \$95;



nonmember \$118.

Art Evening: Life is Better in Flip Flops with Jenny Licht – Thursday, February 11, 6 to 9 p.m. Member \$58; nonmember \$73.

Virtual Workshop: Beginner Pastel with Donna Filomio – Friday, February 12, 1 to 4 p.m. Member \$85; nonmember \$106.

Basket Class: Un-Basket with Gisela Damandl – Thursday and Friday, February 18 and 19, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Member \$121; nonmember \$151.

Opera, DVD and Discussion (Giovanni Pergolesi, *La Serva Padrona*) with Thomas Cimarusti – Friday, February 19, 1 to 4 p.m. Member \$40; nonmember \$50.

Sunrise & Sunset: Capture the Glow in Watercolor with Patty Kane – Monday and Tuesday, February 22 and 23, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Member \$175; nonmember \$219.

One Day Drawing Workshop: the Nose with Francesco Gillia – Tuesday, February 23, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Member \$95; nonmember \$119.

Art Evening: Dirty Pour with Jenny Licht – Thursday, February 25, 6 to 9 p.m. Member \$99; nonmember \$124.

Virtual Workshop: New Techniques in Pastel Painting and Preservation

with Donna Filomio – Friday, February 26, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Member \$145; nonmember \$181.

BIG ARTS staff is following CDC recommendations in best practices safety standards. All students and instructors must wear a mask and social distance. Class seating is carefully spaced. Signage and procedures are posted in the facility. All rooms are sanitized between classes and class sizes are limited.

Pre-registration is required for all classes and workshops. For more information, call the box office at 395-0900, open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., or stop by BIG ARTS, located at 900 Dunlop Road on Sanibel. For complete course descriptions, workshop and class schedules, visit www.bigarts.org or email info@bigarts.org.

County Board
Approves Water
Quality Project

The Lee Board of County Commissioners on Tuesday voted to approve a contract to build a project adjacent to Yellow Fever Creek Preserve, which is a Conservation 20/20 site, to improve water quality and the ecosystem.

The project is located within the City of Cape Coral near Averill Boulevard and Del Prado Boulevard North. It is designed to improve water quality by diverting

excess flow from Gator Slough Canal into a reservoir. There, it will be treated before being released into Yellow Fever Creek, a tributary to the Caloosahatchee.

This joint project with the City of Cape Coral will help reduce the flow of freshwater toward Matlacha Pass and restore historic base flows to the Yellow Fever Creek watershed. The transfer of water will also enhance the rehydration of wetlands south of Del Prado Boulevard, restoring the habitat.

The Caloosahatchee estuary has a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) state designation for Total Nitrogen and an adopted State of Florida Basin Management Action Plan to lower this pollutant.

Commissioners spend millions of dollars annually on projects to reduce pollutants in the estuary. The project will provide Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) credit for Total Nitrogen and is partially funded by two grants from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) totaling \$992,000.

The \$1.5 million contract approved Tuesday with Fort Myers-based Cougar Contracting is for the installation of a reservoir, pumping station, water transfer main, submersible pumps and related equipment. Construction is expected to begin in February and take about six months to complete.

For more information on Lee County Natural Resources' efforts to protect and improve water quality, log on to <http://www.leegov.com/naturalresources/WaterQuality>.

RANKY TANKY COMES TO BIG ARTS!



RANKY TANKY

Saturday, January 30, 4:00 pm and 8:00 pm

Sponsored by Penny Wilkinson & Dick Boehning

Grammy-award winning Ranky Tanky is bringing Gullah music into the mainstream. Gullah music, food, language and culture were born of enslaved West Africans on The Sea Islands of South Carolina, Georgia and North Florida. The beautiful Gullah sound has reverberated through the generations; and South Carolina-based quintet Ranky Tanky's fun, soulful sound celebrates the rich Gullah culture. Their debut album was #1 on the Billboard charts, Amazon and iTunes.

\$55

To comply with physical distancing health recommendations, only 50%, approximately 200 seats, in Christensen Performance Hall are available for sale. First-come first-served on seating choice. Masks required throughout facility. Please put on masks prior to entering.

Tickets by phone only 239.395.0900



JANUARY 30

**For more information
visit www.BIGARTS.org**



Gator Sausage Gravy and Biscuits

1 pound alligator sausage, diced small
2-3 cups whole milk
2 tablespoons unsalted butter
2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
8 biscuits (prepared)
Oil for cooking
Sea salt and fresh ground pepper, to taste

Preheat large sauté pan to medium-high heat and add oil to coat. Add butter and sausage and cook for 2 to 3 minutes. Sprinkle in all-purpose flour and mix thoroughly. Slowly pour in milk, stirring constantly. Bring to a boil and reduce to simmer for 6 to 8 minutes or until thickened. Season with salt and pepper, to taste. Serve over warm biscuits.✱



Gator Sausage Gravy and Biscuits

photo courtesy Fresh From Florida

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Talking Points Series Opens With Gun Safety

Perhaps the worst nightmare for any parent is to learn your child has been shot in school. Fred Guttenberg's nightmare started on Valentine's Day, 2018, when his 14-year-old daughter Jaime was shot and killed at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida.

On Thursday, January 28 at 4 p.m., BIG ARTS will launch its 2021 season of Talking Points with a virtual conversation with Guttenberg. The talk will be the first in a six-week series of topical and engaging talks.

Guttenberg will describe his journey as a grieving parent searching for ways to give meaning to Jaime's senseless death, to advocate to make schools safer and to fight for gun safety, and to author an inspiring new book, *Find the Helpers: What 9/11 and Parkland Taught Me About Recovery, Purpose, and Hope*.

During his talk, Guttenberg will offer practical advice for parents and school officials to reduce the risk of gun violence impacting children and explain how he overcame his grief through the humanity of others.

Guttenberg's professional life includes over a decade of experience in sales and management with Johnson & Johnson, followed by almost 15 years as an entrepreneur, having built a business of



Fred Guttenberg

photo provided

19 Dunkin' Donuts, which he sold in November 2016. Guttenberg was hoping to take time to relax before figuring out his next endeavor. Then the first tragedy struck.

Guttenberg's brother, Michael, one of the original first responders during 9/11 at the World Trade Center with a team of doctors, got trapped as it collapsed. Amazingly, Michael and his team survived and spent 16 days at Ground Zero caring for others. Tragically, as a result of the Ground Zero exposure, Michael was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and died in October 2017.

While Guttenberg was mourning the death of his brother, tragedy struck again in February 2018 when Jaime was one of 17 victims murdered in the Parkland school shooting.

"From that day forward, my life was forever changed," said Guttenberg. While grieving, Guttenberg found himself unable to stand still. The day after the murder, he attended a vigil and was asked to speak. "That was the start of my new life as an advocate for public safety," he said.

Guttenberg now spends time urging elected officials to do more to prevent gun violence. He is a regular on TV news programs and is interviewed regularly by the online and print media.

But perhaps his greatest achievement is helping others learn how to cope with grief. Guttenberg will focus on the lessons of healing, which include the importance of helping others move forward. Limited numbers of his book, *Find the Helpers*, have been donated to MacIntosh Books & Paper, 2330 Palm Ridge Road #6 on Sanibel. Ticket holders are eligible to receive a complimentary copy while supplies last by showing the receipt for their ticket.

Beginning January 28, Talking Points sessions will take place on Thursdays at 4 p.m. and offer a range of topics including school and gun safety, how to detect fake news, Internet privacy, race relations in Southwest Florida, reducing one's carbon footprint, and cooking at home.

Due to COVID-19 precautions, most of this season's speakers will make virtual appearances and not be physically present

in the hall. Participants can live stream the sessions from home. During or following the talk, they will be able to text questions and comments to the speaker. Tickets are available through the box office by calling 395-0900. Box office hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., located at 900 Dunlop Road. For more information, visit www.bigarts.org.✱

Women's March Virtual Rally

Women's March Fort Myers will hold a virtual rally on Saturday, January 23 from 10 a.m. to noon. The theme is Our Path Forward: A Rally for Unity, Equality and Humanity.

While it was scheduled originally as an in-person rally, the virtual event will include music played by local artists and comments from local spokespersons including Annisa Karim (Women's March Fort Myers board member and Collier County Democratic Party chair), Connie Bennett Martin (Women's March Fort Myers board member), Chantel Rhodes (a founding member of the Peaceful Protest of Lee County movement) and Jacquelyn Miller (former Fort Myers mayoral candidate).

To register, visit www.eventbrite.com/e/our-path-forward-a-virtual-rally-for-unity-equality-humanity-tickets-133984602553.

For more information about Women's March Fort Myers, visit www.womensmarchfortmyers.org and www.facebook.com/womensmarchftmyers.✱

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BIG ARTS Monday Night Film Series

Burning

by Di Saggau

The BIG ARTS Monday Night Movie on January 25 is *Burning*, a new film from South Korean master Lee Chang-dong. This is Chang-dong's first film in eight years and it is a bleak and almost Darwinian vision of the world, survival of the fittest. The three main characters look at each other with desire, mistrust and need, never certain of the accuracy of their perceptions. *Burning* is a great film; engrossing, suspenseful and strange, with explorations that require depth and space.

A young man, Jongsu, dreams of being a writer. Faulkner is his favorite because he sees himself in his stories. His life is hazy, with strange relationships, missing figures and blank spaces. His father is in trouble with the law and his mother took off when he was young. He runs into Haemi, a girl he grew up with, dancing outside a store and almost doesn't recognize her. She grins and says, "plastic surgery." They become involved, but after taking a trip to Africa, Haemi returns with Ben, a man she met on her travels and the two are clearly now an item. Jongsu is suspicious of Ben, for good reason.

Burning is a creepy, sad, weird, dreamy experience and is an undeniable masterpiece. The two main characters deliver bravura performances, and the haunting film stays true to the short story by Haruki Murakami, while also



image provided

forming its own identity as an engaging, modern thriller. It runs 148 minutes and will be shown at 7 p.m. in Christensen Performance Hall. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased online or at the box office. There will be no discussion following the film.

BIG ARTS is practicing the highest standards of safety. Visitors are required to wear masks and are asked to be mindful of social distancing. Only 50 percent of the seats in Christensen Performance Hall are being sold. 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. The air filtration system has been enhanced, 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. For more information, call 395-0900 or visit www.bigarts.org.



Linda Estep and Melanie Congress review the budget at a district board meeting

From page 1

Library

of books or items borrowed), availability of print, audio, video and other material to check out, staff service availability, local and state operating revenue, and square footage availability.

The high ranking is due to support from the island community and visitors who value cultural activities, reading and lifelong learning. The library can also attribute success to a publicly-elected library board of commissioners who ensure budget and infrastructure are in place to support strong services; outstanding staff with customer service as its core value; the private Sanibel Public Library Foundation grant support for enhancements to the library (such as Author Series, cutting edge technology, youth programming and volunteers).

Sanibel Public Library District Board of Commissioners President Melanie Congress, said, "Executive Director Margaret Mohundro and the knowledgeable and dedicated staff encourage development of new services, technology initiatives and staff creativity to help serve the needs of library patrons. The high state rankings confirm Sanibel Public Library's high level of service, and it's another indicator of how much our community values our library."

"We strive to provide the resources people need and want, and we are incredibly fortunate our community supports us as we innovate, try new things and adapt to changing needs of patrons," said Congress.

Sanibel Public Library has been at or near the top ranking for about 15 years. It has also won national Star Library Awards (top 200 public libraries of 9,000 measured nationally) for five of the last 10 years. The library has been #1 on TripAdvisor for "Things to Do on Sanibel" many times, has won a TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence every year since 2014, earning Hall of Fame status on the site.

The State Library of Florida based ratings on estimates of population: University of Florida Bureau of Economic and Business Research; Florida Department of State Division of Library

and Information Services; and U.S Institute of Museum and Library Services.

The Sanibel Public Library collection focuses on new and bestselling fiction and nonfiction, as well as subjects of particular interest to islanders including history; travel; lifestyle such as cooking, decorating, and gardening; health; biographies; and current events.

The library has remained operational during the coronavirus pandemic by offering 24/7/365 download and streaming services, as well as providing assistance via telephone and email regarding readers' advisory and library website assistance. After the State of Florida's stay-at-home mandate at the end of April, the building reopened to the public in early June, closing briefly in August for a deep cleaning. The library follows safety guidelines from the CDC, Florida government and public library national standard practices.

"The library put into place contact-free curbside pickup service so users could comfortably pick up their print books, DVDs, CDs, magazines and more while practicing social distancing. This service is working very well," said Candy Heise adult services coordinator.

The fiscal year 2020-21 budget, including gifts and grants, is \$2,445,881. The Sanibel Public Library District is an independent special district serving Sanibel with a publicly-elected board of seven members.

"As library commissioners, our job is to provide due diligence and ensure our tax investment is being well-spent, and we continually monitor expenses," said Linda Estep, district board treasurer. "We maintain and expand services and look for efficiencies in all areas, particularly in technology and utilities."

The library is open for normal hours, and its popular contactless curbside service continues, with hundreds of bags going out to patrons each week. Call or go online to place a hold, you will be notified when your items are ready for pickup.

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.

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Fishing, watercolor by Kathleen Taylor images provided



Pipe Dream, Carrara marble sculpture by John Merchant

Shell Museum To Host Exhibit In Partnership With The Alliance

The Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum and Alliance for the Arts are partnering to create an art exhibition focused on water. Works will be on view on the second floor of the museum during normal operating hours from Tuesday, February 9 through Friday, April 30.

The goal of the exhibition is to bring many interpretations and responses to infinite individual and communal connections to water. “I am excited that we are able to partner with a local organization to build momentum on a topic of great importance and common interest,” said José Leal, Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum interim director and curator.

All artwork on display will be offered for sale to the public at a labeled price set by the artist, and a commission will be donated to Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum.

Water is the source of all life and has been an inspiration for artists, writers and philosophers around the world for thousands of years. This exhibition will bring together scientists, artists of many different media, as well as historians and authors for an extended conversation regarding humans’ relationship and dependence upon water in all its forms.

Water is critical to life on earth. It’s the ocean, rain, rivers, lakes, waterfalls, snow, dew, fog, mist and ice. It’s around us all the time in the air we breathe. Most of life on earth lives, not on land, but in water. Florida is bordered by water on three sides and consumed by water-related issues. Water is also a place to play, a source of continual inspiration, critical to many people’s livelihoods, as well as Florida’s major tourism



Underwater Reflections, acrylic by Dan Abrahamsson

attraction. Water is both a calming release and a destructive force. It is featured in literature and song around the world and through the ages.

The Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum is 3075 Sanibel-Captiva Road. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. For more information, visit www.shellmuseum.org or call 395-2233.*

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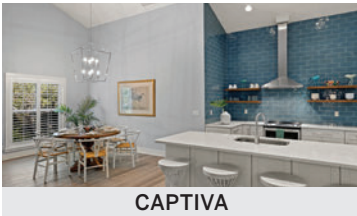
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- 3BR/ 3BA home closed to the Gulf Pines community beach path on Sanibel's west end
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3. BLIND PASS CONDO - SANIBEL

- 2 BR/2 BA bright ground floor condo in community just steps to world famous Bowman's Beach
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- 4 BR +den/ 4 bath home on Sanibel's East end, steps to the beach with private boat dock & 16k lift.
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6. DIRECT ACCESS CANAL HOME WITH PRIVATE DOCK - SANIBEL

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7. PRIVACY MEETS PARADISE IN THE DUNES - SANIBEL

- 4BR/3.5 BA home located at the end of a cul-de-sac with panoramic lake and golf course views
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8. CAPTIVA VILLAGE HOME WITH GULF VIEWS

- 4 BR home w/ pool located just property from the beach on Wightman Lane.
- Rental company estimates \$180k annually. New septic, roof, generator, & offered fully furnished

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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
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10. CAPTIVA VILLAGE HOME WITH STUNNING GULF VIEWS

- 3 BR/4 BA fully remodeled home just 1 back from the beach. Designed to take advantage of Gulf views from every level, interior features incld wood floors, stainless steel kitchen, & stone fireplace.
- Outdoor areas include multiple lanai's, a grotto inspired pool & spa, wet bar & shower.

• **\$3,395,000 EURO 3,021,269**

11. "ON A WHIM" - CAPTIVA

- 2 BR/ 2 BA cottage located steps to the Bay in the Captiva Village
- Newly painted, wood plan tile floors, multiple lanai's and colorful décor

• **\$1,195,000 EURO 1,059,848**

12. NEAR BEACH HOME OFF WEST GULF DRIVE - SANIBEL

- Fully furnished 3 BR/ 2 BA home (Currently configured as a 2 BR)
- Recently remodeled with coastal finishes, impact resistant windows

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Book Review

A Time For Mercy



by Di Saggau

John Grisham’s latest novel *A Time for Mercy* brings back Jake Brigance, the hero of *A Time to Kill*. In 1990 Clanton, Mississippi, Jake finds himself involved in a deeply divisive trial when

the court appoints him attorney for a 16-year-old boy accused of murdering a local deputy. Many in the town want a swift trial for Drew Gamble. Jake believes him innocent, and his fierce commitment to saving Drew from the gas chamber causes repercussions to his career, his financial security and the safety of his family.

Early on in the book, we learn what happened. A sheriff’s deputy comes home drunk and beats his girlfriend unconscious while her two teenage children cower upstairs. Drew grabs the deputy’s gun and kills him in a fit of fury. He’s charged with capital murder, which carries the death penalty. Jake knows that his decision to represent Drew will alienate him from many of the citizens. The work will pay him next to nothing, and half the town is furious with him. Even longstanding acquaintances turn their backs.

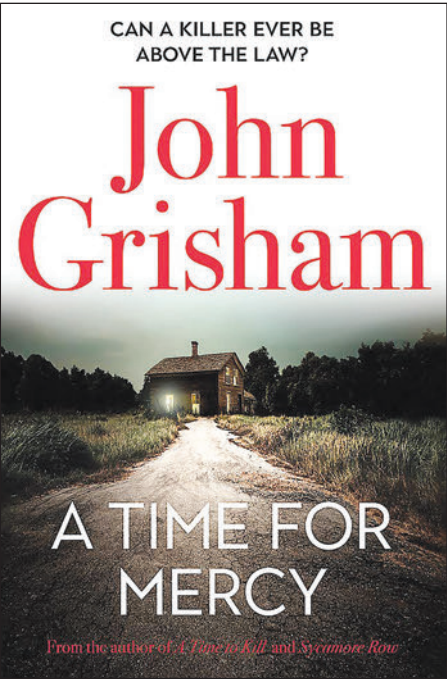


image provided

Grisham puts us inside the heads not just of Jake and Drew, but also a long cast of characters. The trial is riveting and suspenseful. Judge Omar Noose is especially interesting. He’s determined to see that justice prevails. *A Time for Mercy* is a powerful courtroom drama involved with courthouse scheming, small-town intrigue and stunning plot twists. The novel is timely, full of wit, drama and a lot of heart.✱

School Smart



by Shelley M. Greggs, NCSLP

Dear Shelley, My kids are in middle school and they seem to be changing so quickly. I really don’t know what to expect. When they were little, there were so many articles explaining their developmental milestones, but I haven’t found much about this new age group they are entering. What should I be looking for?
Kelly T, Sanibel

Kelly, Middle schoolers are a unique group, experiencing a major life transition. In middle school, kids meet developmental milestones at widely varied times. Just observe in any middle school and you can see the huge variation in physical maturity, very tall, short, mature, childlike, bearded or buxom students. Despite this huge physical range in development, there are specific cognitive and social skills all middle-schoolers need to acquire by the time they enter high school.

As puberty begins, your tween/teen will likely go through some big physical changes and periods of rapid growth are common, with girls generally developing earlier than boys. While there are significant physical variations, typically, middle-schoolers will:

- Become a bit clumsier as height and weight change quickly
- Start showing uneven development in skills like agility, balance, strength and flexibility
- Need more rest since so much energy is being used for growing
- Have a difference between body and brain growth; may be more mature physically than cognitively or emotionally

Cognitive skills like problem-solving and thinking skills develop significantly at this age. Kids also begin to pay more attention to decision-making and to organizing ideas, time and things. In middle school, children often:

- Start to understand concepts like power and influence
- Question things; don’t take everything at face value
- Think about how current actions affect the future; may worry about things like climate change and war
- Memorize information more easily
- Use flexible thinking, such as checking work and changing approaches as needed
- Begin developing a worldview, including a basic set of values
- Want to contribute and make money
- Language skills change in middle school, as well. You might notice that your child is better able to understand what people communicate through observation of non-verbal messages. In middle school, children often:
- Use metaphors, slang and different

ways of speaking
Are interested in having discussions, debates and arguments (sometimes just for the fun of it)
Have a better awareness of what is appropriate to say in a variety of situations
Middle school is a time of major social and emotional growth. Many children struggle to fit in and proclaim their individuality, hence the blue hair, strange clothes etc. Parents’ opinions seem to matter less, and it’s not unusual for kids to begin to question everything, including their parents’ authority and ideas.

- It’s not uncommon for middle-schoolers to do these things:
 - Give in to peer pressure to be like others; have experiences with verbal, physical or cyberbullying
 - Be extra sensitive to other people’s opinions and reactions; think the whole world is watching
 - Develop a sense of pride in accomplishments and enjoy challenges
 - Have and keep secrets

Remember that kids develop at different paces and this is particularly true of middle-schoolers. While the above stated are general guidelines, if your child isn’t meeting a number of these milestones, consider talking to her teachers or counselor to get their perspective.

It’s easy to become frustrated with this age group but remember their task now is to become an independent person and it’s not easy, so keep the lines of communication open with your child and give them the time they need to get through this developmental stage.

Shelley Greggs is adjunct faculty at Florida SouthWestern State College, where she teaches psychology and education courses. She is also a nationally certified school psychologist and consultant for School Consultation Services, a private educational consulting company. Questions for publication may be addressed to smgreggs@gmail.com. Not all questions submitted can be addressed through this publication.✱

Top 10 Books On The Island

1. *Deacon King Kong* by James McBride
2. *Anxious People* by Fredrick Backman
3. *Blindside* by James Patterson
4. *A Shell of a Problem* by Jennifer Schiff
5. *The Dutch House* by Ann Patchett
6. *The German Girl* by Mandy Robotham
7. *The Authenticity Project* by Clare Pooley
8. *Greenlights* by Matthew McConaughey
9. *The Queen’s Gambit* by Walter Tevis
10. *Becoming* by Michelle Obama
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GULF & SUNSET VIEWS

Kings Crow #104, 2nd floor over parking. Remodeled with comfy cork floors, impact glass, open kitchen, expanded master bath. Vacation ready, currently in seasonal rental program with 2-week minimum in "season". Solid healthy COA. Building exterior just updated. \$999,000



OVERLOOKING BEACH

Updated roomy 2nd floor 2 bedroom with den, White Sands #23. Small complex, just 14 owners. Easy-care plank-look tile floors & beach chic decor. Building exterior refurbished last year. Pool, tennis, BBQs, & storeroom below. \$1,099,000 furnished



EAST END & EASY INCOME

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From page 1

Candidates

Bondurant, Crater and Drobnik this week and Henshaw, Maughan and Miller in next week's newspaper.

1) What single issue is the most urgent short-term issue facing the city?

The COVID-19 global pandemic is the issue demanding the most urgent attention and action on Sanibel.

This virus has brought about economic uncertainty for our citizens, our businesses and their workers, and our tourism, which is the economic engine that drives our financial viability. It is imperative that we work together with state and local health departments to ensure our residents receive the most up-to-date information on the pandemic and the vaccine.

2) What three issues do you think are the most important long-term issues facing the city?

The three issues which must take precedence on our agenda are our city's economic stability, the improvement of our water quality, and the COVID-19 economic impact on Sanibel. These issues are interwoven and inextricable from one another. The quality of our water is the foundation of our ecosystem and wildlife, and is essential to keep our robust tourism industry strong year to year. We must remediate the effects of COVID-19 in every way possible by being proactive and informed, as this will directly affect our city's economic health. The efforts we take on any one of these key issues will benefit the other two and will synchronistically create long-term benefits for Sanibel.

3) What aspects of your experience will be valuable on Sanibel City Council?

As a resident of Sanibel for the past 24 years, I have lived most of my adult life on the island. During this time, I have built a network of relationships using my communication, negotiation and relationship building skills, both personally and professionally. This has been accomplished by my innate ability to listen to all people and provide a culture where everyone can be heard and respected and solutions can be found. I am able to obtain information because I work to gain people's trust and then continue to prove that I deserve that trust.

4) What measures do you think the city council can take to help business owners struggling as a result of COVID-19 closures and limitations?

As the most recent past-chair of our chamber of commerce, I know the value that chamber membership adds to local businesses and I would encourage business owners to join their Sanibel chamber. This will enable the city to continue working in conjunction with the chamber to advertise outside of the state of Florida to those targeted areas, well known to our rental and resort industries, which draw the greatest amount of our tourism guests. We can help to send the message that Sanibel



Mary Bondurant

is indeed open for business and that our local businesses are "SanCap Safe," committed to using industry-approved sanitization, hygiene and infection-control practices to ensure the safety and well-being of our visitors, residents and staff on our islands. The council can inform our local businesses of local and state financial resources as they become available. And, of course, I would encourage all islanders to shop their local businesses.

5) What do you think the city can do to combat the effects of global warming?

Sanibel can combat the effects of global warming by encouraging more energy-efficient ways for new construction and remodeling to go forward on the island. With the vast amount of construction that is constantly under way in our community, this would be a substantial step. We can also work to mitigate beach erosion, which would have benefits environmentally and economically, as our guests come here to enjoy our beaches. We can use this opportunity to help ensure that our island retains its economic and environmental wellbeing while preserving its historic culture and charm. In this way, we can work together toward a healthier and more sustainable future for all, and the future of Sanibel Island.

1) What single issue is the most urgent short-term issue facing the city?

COVID-19. We need to protect the health of every Sanibel resident and visitor, while ensuring that local business can prosper. As we all know, the majority of islanders are over 65, and therefore are vulnerable. We have been fortunate to avoid any fatalities on Sanibel, but that did not happen by accident. The swift actions by council helped prevent the spread of the disease. We need to continue our mask policy for indoor spaces through most of 2021, and beyond if needed. Wearing a mask is a small inconvenience to endure in order to possibly save the life of your neighbor. COVID-19 will be greatly improved by the end of the year after most of us are vaccinated, but it may never leave us. There may be mutations, surges in cases, need for repeat vaccination campaigns, etc.

2) What three issues do you think are the most important long-term issues facing the city?

Water Quality. Without clean water in the bay and gulf, our island will die. We must work diligently with state and federal elected officials to continue the funding for the EAA reservoir south of Lake Okeechobee, so it will be completed and we can send the dirty water south.

Financial Hangover from COVID-19, that may last for a few years. The city acted swiftly to reallocate resources when it became clear that city revenue would be reduced due to COVID-19. We need to anticipate a possibly prolonged decline in revenue from COVID-19 and make the adjustments necessary.

Home Rule. The state legislature has been moving to limit what rules the city of Sanibel can implement when it comes to



Dr. Scott Crater, MD

regulations regarding vacation rentals, the environment and quality of life issues such as noise. We have to fight this.

3) What aspects of your experience will be valuable on Sanibel City Council?

I am a practicing physician with two decades of experience. I plan to follow the science on COVID-19. I also plan to follow the science on water quality issues. I have a BA from Princeton University and an MD from the University of Virginia. I think having a strong science background is crucial to making sound decisions about the issues we currently face. I have lived here year-round for 13 years and raised my three children here. All have attended The Sanibel School. I was vice-president of the Sanibel School Fund, volunteered as a coach for youth sports on island, and served on multiple committees at the Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ. I am an avid cyclist. I am a business owner, and I know how to manage financial resources responsibly. My wife, Dr. Dana Crater, MD, and I have supported virtually every nonprofit on the island over the years. I do not intend to use my office on city council as a springboard for any higher office. I only wish to serve Sanibel.

4) What measures do you think the city council can take to help business owners struggling as a result of COVID-19 closures and limitations?

Sanibel should promote itself as a model of how to re-open safely, which it has been. We need to tell our residents and visitors that our entire community is committed to limiting the spread of COVID-19 as much as possible. Locals and tourists should be made to feel as comfortable as possible to dine and shop in a safe environment. The city has recently released rules to allow temporary additional outdoor dining space, which I applaud. Changes have been implemented at the farmers market as well, and they are working. We need to keep our beaches open and accessible going forward, since the science indicates that outdoor recreational activities are most likely safe. Sanibel is a safe place to enjoy the outdoors, dine safely and shop.

5) What do you think the city can do to combat the effects of global warming?

There are two parts to this: responding to climate change and preventing climate change. The city's response has begun, since we have joined the Southwest Florida Compact for Coastal Resiliency. We need to identify the most flood prone areas on the island and tackle them one by one. For example, places such as Dixie Beach Boulevard and Bailey Road should be evaluated and raised a bit when their turn comes for repaving. We need to make sure the weir at Beach Road is properly monitored and opened when appropriate to prevent flooding on the interior of the island, which happens with increasing frequency every summer. Also, we need to work with federal officials to ensure that the National Flood Insurance Program continues, so homeowners can continue to get mortgages.

Sanibel can do its part to prevent climate change by promoting alternative energy, energy conservation and electric vehicles (my family owns two), working with state and federal incentives. Bailey's

Center has already modeled an extensive solar installation and, over time, hopefully we can roll this out over the island.

1) What single issue is the most urgent short-term issue facing the city?

I believe the most pressing item is continuing to chart the course through the ongoing virus. There is a balance between having a level of protection for the citizens of Sanibel

and operating as normal as possible from a business perspective. Over the last nine to 10 months, society has evolved and has adapted with protocols of social distancing, masking, etc. There will be a need to continue to adapt as vaccines become more available.

2) What three issues do you think are the most important long-term issues facing the city?

The possible expansion of our sewer service into Captiva. While this may be a need for Captiva, we will need to control capacity levels in order to make sure the expansion does not provide an opportunity for over-development of Captiva.

Continuing to advocate for proper management of the Lake Okeechobee water discharges. Our existing city council has done a great job of advocating for Sanibel, and continuing the effort will be needed going forward.

Affordable housing. This has been a topic and issue for Sanibel for many decades, and there is no easy answer. The Sanibel Plan has outlined plans for land use as well as human services. CHR (Community Housing and Resources) has done a great job providing housing to our workforce, but I believe we will need to address this more earnestly, and creatively, as the cost of living on Sanibel continues to outpace workforce income levels.

3) What aspects of your experience will be valuable on Sanibel City Council?

I have been fortunate to have lived on Sanibel for 21 years now. Over the last decade, I have worked with the city through managing the youth sports programs. The majority of island children play at least one sport with us throughout the year. Even though my two children are now high school aged, I have been able to keep connected with the families of our younger citizens. I believe this connection will assist in influencing other families to get involved in our community in some manner.

4) What measures do you think the city council can take to help business owners struggling as a result of COVID-19 closures and limitations?

The city has done a good job of adjusting some regulations on signage, sidewalk sales, etc. Continuing to allow businesses to promote themselves as best as possible is a must. Most island businesses suffered greatly due to the mandatory virus shut-down last spring, and many need a strong season this spring to help make up for those losses. We, as a municipality, should not impose our own



Tom Drobnik

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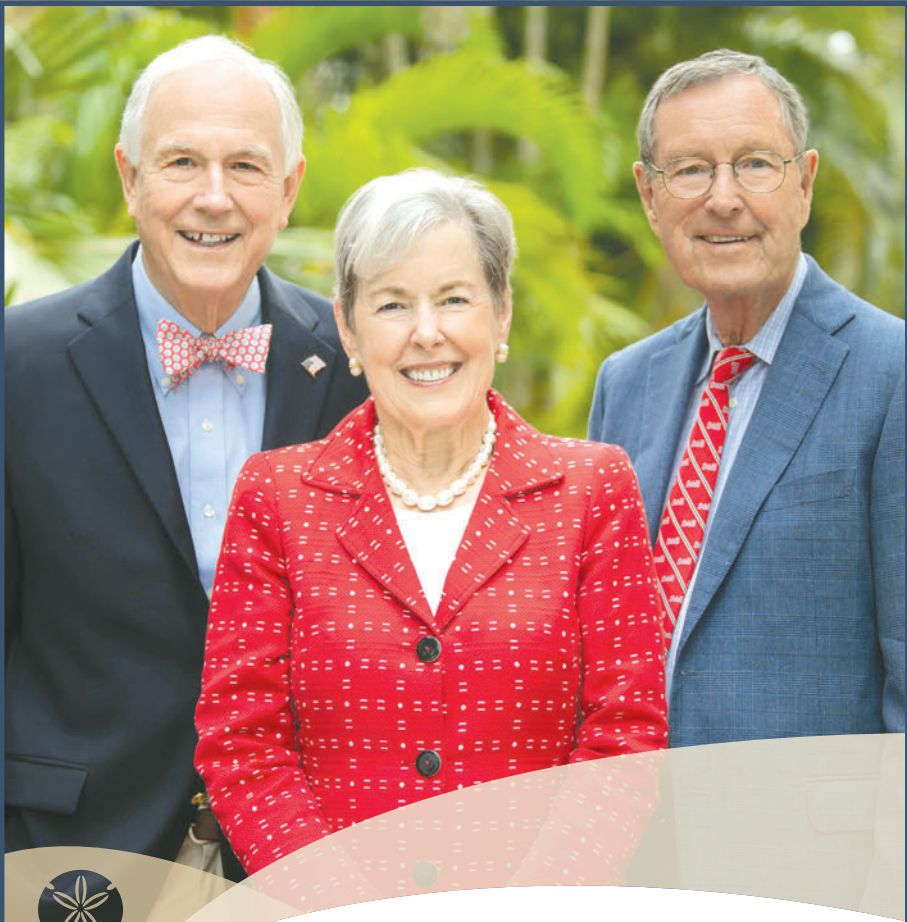
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Meet Zonta Grant Partner: CHR

submitted by Sure Denham

Every summer, the Zonta Club of Sanibel-Captiva, through its foundation, invites applications from 501(c)3 organizations in Lee County for grants to be awarded early the following year. Those selected become Zonta partners, each with a club member as liaison.

And every March since 2002, Zonta has raised grant funds through A Peek at the Unique, the home tour. In January 2020, Zonta distributed \$104,700 from its 2019 Peek to 16 local partners, including Community Housing and Resources (CHR), FISH of SanCap, SalusCare, Habitat for Humanity, Dress for Success, PACE Center for Girls and 10 more.

Despite cancellation of the 2020 Peek last March, out of concerns for health and safety, funds for distribution in January 2021 – while reduced – will be available through the generosity of benefactors, sponsors, and 2020 tour ticket-buyers. Zonta is proud to introduce some of the wonderful organizations supported by these funds.

Meet Sanibel’s Community Housing and Resources (CHR). CHR’s mission is to provide affordable housing for families and individuals who work in and serve the community of Sanibel. Steadily increasing housing prices make it an increasing challenge to support Sanibel’s workforce. According to CHR Executive Director Melissa Rice, “Housing is the foundation of a community: it supports our local economy; it enables the delivery of quality care and services; it is where individuals find stability and families grow.” Over the years, Zontians have contributed many hours of service to CHR, beautifying gardens at residential complexes, decorating for the Mardi Gras fundraiser, supporting Give Back Wednesdays, and some, most recently, participating in Manatee Madness.



CHR Executive Director Melissa Rice receiving her 2020 grant award from Zontian Sue Denham photo provided

CHR’s mission goes beyond housing. “Don’t forget the ‘R’ for Resources,” added Rice. CHR provides funds and information to residents who seek to further their education or address health or financial crises. Zonta funds support CHR women residents with the cost of classes, tuition, books and fees, helping them to obtain the knowledge and skills to improve their lives and the lives of their children. A woman’s life can change dramatically when she graduates from a technical school, finds a full-time job with a steady income and has a skill she can use for the rest of her life. Zonta 2021 liaison to CHR, Robyn Moran, has seen such changes: “Nothing could be closer to Zonta’s mission than to improve the life of one woman!”

Look for information soon about a “Repurposed Peek” set for Saturday, March 13. To support Zonta’s work, visit www.zontasancap.org and click on “Donate.”✧✧

Program On Recognizing Red Flags For Scams

FISH of SanCap, along with Lee County Sheriff’s Office, will offer a community presentation, entitled Scams, Identity Theft and COVID-19: Recognizing Red Flags, on Monday, February 8 beginning at 10 a.m. The presentation will be held virtually via Zoom.

Dr. Kim Swanson, Lee County Sheriff’s Office, will discuss new scam calls targeting the general public that relate to COVID-19 and the vaccine, pandemic updates or products, as well as other identity theft schemes. Dr. Swanson will offer ideas for self-protection and provide answers and tips to help citizens recognize red flags. Dr. Swanson has been working at

the Lee County Sheriff’s Office for the last 25 years, where she has served as a sheriff’s deputy and a public information officer. She is currently a crime prevention specialist in the Community Response Unit (CRU). She has been an instructor for the Florida Attorney General’s Office Crime Prevention Training Institute, Florida Crime Prevention Association, Royal Palm Coast Realtor Association and National Sheriff’s Association Triad organization. She also served as a board member for the Florida Crime Prevention Association and was the 2015 Florida Crime Prevention Practitioner of the Year.

The presentation is open to the community. RSVP by Thursday, February 4 by contacting Susan Alexander or Anthony Morales at FISH, 472-4775. Once registered, FISH will provide a link with Zoom call information.✧



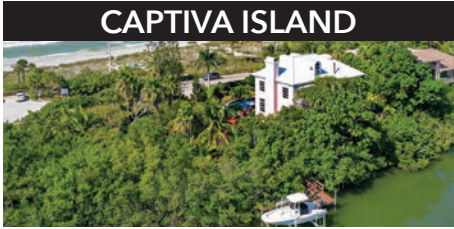
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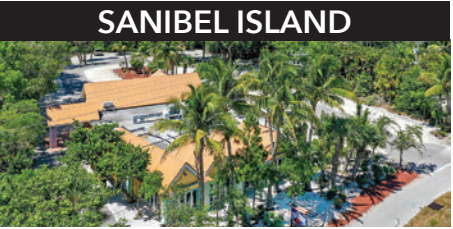
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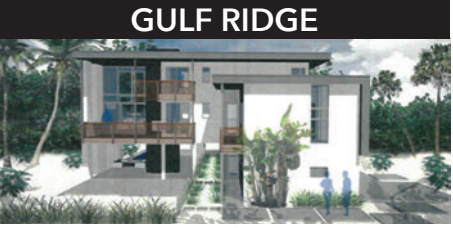
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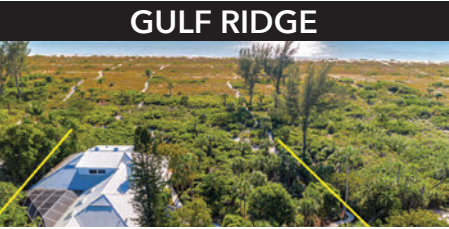
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 Brian Murty 239.565.1272

Captiva Panel Seeks Petitions For Iguana Removal

The Captiva Community Panel is collecting petitions to ask Lee County to form a Municipal Services Taxing Unit (MSTU), which will fund efforts to eradicate the iguanas that have proliferated on Captiva. A letter explaining the MSTU process and the iguana problem was mailed to all Captiva property owners in early November, and a follow-up letter will go out this month.

But if you support this drive and have not yet sent in your petition, the panel is offering a new service for a limited time.

Send the panel an email at captivacommunitypanel@gmail.com with your name and property address(es), saying you support the formation of this unit. You will receive an email back along with a PDF with your name, address and STRAP number already filled out, so all

you need to do is sign and date the form, write in where it was signed (city and state) and mail it to: Captiva Community Panel, P.O. Box 72, Captiva, FL 33924-0072. Unfortunately, the snail-mail return is necessary because the county requires original signatures on these petitions since they allowed them to be submitted without being notarized.

To find out more about the unit, go to <https://captivacommunitypanel.com/panel-info/invasives-mstu/> to find the following:

- A fillable PDF of the MSTU petition (you will need to add the STRAP number for your properties and your signature);
- A regular PDF of the petition (you will need to add your property's STRAP number here as well);
- FAQs concerning the MSTU and the iguana issue;
- A chart of the iguanas removed from the island since May 2019;
- Budget estimates for the MSTU for Years 1-6 (note: Year 1 is based on current taxable data, while Years 2-6 are

based on projected expenses against the current taxable data and will be subject to change);

A database of island properties (as posted with the Lee County Property Appraiser) to enable owners to look up their STRAP numbers;

Lee County Administrative Codes 2-1 and 3-15, which specify how MSTUs are structured by the county.

If you support forming this unit (which will cost the average island property \$52.68 in taxes the first year), review the

information online and complete your petition (one per Captiva parcel you own) and return the original signed petition to: Captiva Community Panel, P.O. Box 72, Captiva, FL 33924-0072. To form the unit, petitions must be received from 50 percent plus one of Captiva property owners, to be submitted to the county before April 1 – so they need to be delivered to the panel by March 25.

If you have any questions, email captivacommunitypanel@gmail.com.✧

Program On Climate Change, Coastal Resilience

Clara Anne Graham, president of the League of Women Voters (LWV) of Lee County, invites league members and the public to a virtual educational program on Coastal Resilience and Climate Change Preparedness in Southwest Florida. The program will be held on Saturday, February 6 from 9:30 to 11 a.m.

Michael Savarese, professor of Coastal Resilience & Climate Adaptation, The Water School, Department of Marine & Earth Sciences, Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU), will discuss local water issues and global consequences. Dr. Savarese is an expert in sea-level rise and environmental change; he studies the history of environmental change in coastal areas and how this can inform the future. His research has helped foster environmental management and restoration efforts in Southwest Florida and assisted archaeologists to understand the environmental context of the Calusa Native American cultural evolution.

The Water School at FGCU has an interdisciplinary approach to explore water-based issues of Florida's complex freshwater and saltwater systems. The health of waterways impacts surrounding ecosystems, regional and state economies and people who rely on water for life and leisure.

The LWV has a long history of concern and action for climate issues. The LWV promotes an environment beneficial to life through the protection and wise management of natural resources in the public interest. The LWV supports climate goals and policies that are consistent with the best available climate science and that will ensure a stable climate system for future generations.

To register and receive a link to the virtual event, visit <https://my.lwv.org/florida/lee-county/calendar>, email to reservations@lwvlee.org or call 278-1032.

The League of Women Voters of Lee County Florida is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues and influences public policy through education and advocacy. For more information, www.lwvlee.org.✧

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The artist strives for the viewer to leave with a sense of calm

From page 1

BIG ARTS

intention in my work... to create a sense of calmness. Hopefully, they feel that they are seeing something new to them or another interpretation of something familiar. “

Adler gathers organic materials while wandering such places as along the banks of the Mississippi River. That’s his inspirational first step. His rhythmic, repetitive process of sorting, cutting, weaving, threading, burning and inscribing induces a prayer-like state and clarifies his intention to share the harmonious transformation of chaos into order. Through his iconic assemblages, that purpose is achieved.

BIG ARTS has enhanced its air filtration system and sanitizing procedures. Masks and social distancing are required. BIG ARTS is located at 900 Dunlop Road on Sanibel. For more information, call 395-0900.✧

The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company

First Quarter Current Outlook, Portfolio Strategy



by Ian Breusch,
CFA, Chief
Investment Officer

This past year will undoubtedly be remembered for the global COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on the global economy and capital markets. As we

close out 2020 and look forward to a new year, we remain mired in the pandemic, but with a renewed sense of hope and optimism, as the first vaccines are being distributed here in the United States. Frankly, the vaccine developments over the past few months have been crucial for investors and consumer confidence at large. We have viewed a vaccine as the ultimate solution to the pandemic, and it looks as though several will emerge as viable options – an amazing scientific achievement, to say the least!

In early November, Pfizer and BioNTech were the first to announce promising efficacy rates (more than 90 percent) for their COVID-19 vaccine candidate. Moderna followed shortly thereafter with similar results using similar technology. Markets reacted

very positively, and we began to see a broadening in the market rally that began in late March. For several months, we have been highlighting the dispersion between growth and value stocks. Much of this dispersion was the result of technology-related companies (and other nascent businesses) profiting directly from the pandemic and the stay-at-home/work-at-home environment. The vaccine provided a clear path forward for the more traditional businesses that languished during the pandemic.

Global capital markets continue to perform rather well despite the backdrop of current economic malaise. Investors continue to look toward the expected improvement in economic activity in 2021, instead of focusing solely on the current environment, which remains challenged. Economic activity was significantly curtailed earlier this year, but worst-case scenarios were largely avoided, thanks in part to the aggressive and timely action by the Federal Reserve Board and Congress to provide economic stimulus. With more fiscal stimulus likely, alongside exceedingly accommodative Federal Reserve interest rate policies, we are optimistic as we head into 2021. Over the next few months, we expect renewed pressure on unemployment as local cities and states enact new policies to reduce the spread of COVID-19. As we move closer to spring and summer, a strong resurgence in employment, consumer spending and corporate earnings is expected to start taking shape.

With interest rates likely to remain exceedingly low, fixed income (bonds)

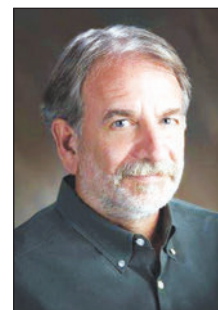
remains a safe-haven asset, but with limited upside potential going forward. If interest rates fall farther, near-term prices will certainly rise across the fixed-income landscape. However, given the amount of fiscal and monetary stimulus made available across the world, we believe there is a greater likelihood that interest rates move higher, not lower, causing bond prices eventually to fall. To be clear, the risk of rising interest rates for now is rather subdued. To the extent bonds are appropriate, we are intentionally favoring shorter-term bonds with good credit quality.

From a stock market perspective, we believe it makes sense for our clients to have a mix of both growth and value stocks that are reasonably well diversified across various sectors of the economy. However, we continue to find good values among many dividend-paying companies in particular. Income-producing stocks have largely been ignored by market participants over the past several years – a trend that only increased during the pandemic. However, with a low interest rate environment and a return to “economic normalcy,” these sorts of companies should perform rather well in the months and years ahead.

*This information is not intended to be and should not be treated as legal advice, investment advice or tax advice. Readers, including professionals, should under no circumstances rely upon this information as a substitute for their own research or for obtaining specific legal or tax advice from their own counsel.**

ISLAND SUN BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

VIP Realty Group



Dan Wexler



Dan Cohn



The Bell Team, from left, Sherrill Sims, Holly Peebles, Karen Bell and John Bates

The top producers for December at VIP Realty Group were: Dan Wexler, top sales; Dan Cohn, top listings; and Karen Bell and the Bell Team, top producers.*

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Rotary Happenings

submitted by Cindy Carter

Since its inception in 1979, BIG ARTS (Barrier Island Group for the Arts) has provided our community with entertainment, education and quality programs for all of our community members. Just last year, BIG ARTS underwent a huge renovation creating a magnificent gathering place for all to enjoy, just in time for very few people to be able to enjoy. Sadly, just seven weeks after the completion of the renovation, and only a month into their season, BIG ARTS had to close their doors to the public for everyone's safety. However, even though their doors were closed, it didn't stop their staff under the leadership of Lee Ellen Harder, executive director of BIG ARTS, from using their own artistic and inventive abilities to come up with creative ways to host programs and allow the community to join in.

During the tenure of Harder, BIG ARTS operating budget and endowment have more than quadrupled and the membership base has more than tripled. She has steered the expansion of artistic and educational programming, which has led to a broadened audience demographic, and has developed and



Lee Ellen Harder photo provided

maintained relationships with other nonprofit organizations, businesses and key stakeholders. She successfully oversaw the construction project of a new 27,000-square-foot facility that houses BIG ARTS performing arts center with a 414-seat theater, a fine arts gallery and education center. And, most importantly, even through the trying times of COVID, she and her staff has created programs that allow all of us to still enjoy, both virtually and in person.

During this challenging time, BIG ARTS is practicing the highest standards of safety. All visitors are required to wear

masks at all times while in the facility, and to practice social distancing.

On January 22, they hosted their first performing arts series and there are many more shows planned that should not be missed. Be sure to check out their webpage for their many upcoming shows at www.bigarts.org.

The Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club is holding hybrid meetings on Zoom and in person at The Dunes. To attend a meeting in person (limit 20), email Bill Harkey at william.harkey@gmail.com. Zoom meetings are held on Fridays. Log on as early as 7 a.m., meeting begins at 7:30 a.m.✪

FISH Of SanCap Sponsors Tax Return Assistance

The United Way Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program offers tax assistance for qualified taxpayers. Households who make \$66,000 or less and who need assistance in preparing their tax returns qualify for the VITA program. These households may have their returns completed and filed for them at no cost. VITA preparers are IRS certified trained volunteers that can inform taxpayers about special tax credits that may be applicable. Those wishing to have their tax return completed through the VITA program must bring the following:

- Photo identification;
- Social security cards for you, your spouse and your dependents;
- All wage and tax statements, including Forms W-2, W-2G, 1099-R, SSA-1099;
- Interest and dividend statements;
- Last year's tax return;
- Any other tax documents you received.

Beginning Friday, February 5, VITA will offer a socially distant tax



VITA tax preparer photo provided

preparation service at the FISH Walk-in Center from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Those seeking assistance will drop off their documentation at the side door of the FISH office and pick up approximately one week later. Additional appointment times will be offered on Fridays: February 12, 19 and 26; March 12 and 26; and April 9. Appointments are required and fill up quickly. Contact Susan Alexander at 472-4775 for more information and to reserve an appointment time.

To learn more about FISH, visit www.fishofsancap.org.✪

THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH



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From page 32

Candidates

restrictions, but rather support our local economy.

5) What do you think the city can do to combat the effects of global warming?

I believe we as a community have done

more than other communities due to our conservation efforts through the Sanibel Plan. We should continue to advocate when necessary, as well as being an example to other municipalities.

Residents qualified to vote on Sanibel may register at <https://www.lee.vote/Voter-Resources/How-do-I-register-to-Vote> or by calling 239-LEE-VOTE (533-8683).✪



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Are You Tired Of Your Living Room?



by Trinetta Nelson

Maybe it's time to redecorate. Sprucing up a "tired" living room will definitely give your spirit a lift! But where do you start? Well, as the song says, "Let's start at the very beginning!"

And the beginning for any new decorating project is the creation of a master plan. One that will help guide you through all the decorating decisions you'll be making over the coming months.

First of all, determine how much you are interested in investing in your project. This figure will be a great help to you as it will guide all your decisions. Should you buy new furniture, flooring, draperies, lamps, accessories? Or can you keep some pieces, buy a few new, and spruce up what you're keeping.

Once you've established a budget, you're comfortable with, then it's time to take an inventory of your room... with a critical eye. This is where the help of a design professional is so very important.

Take a good look at your room and

ask yourself these questions: What is it used for? How much traffic does it get? Is it a sanctuary or a room which will welcome many guests? How is the room's lighting? Do you like your current furniture arrangement? Do you need to change the wall color or treatment? Are your window treatments dated? These questions and many more can go on and on. Write your thoughts down as a list so you'll stay on the right track both with your ultimate decorating decisions and your budget.

After you've considered these critical details, you can begin making some firm decisions about the four major elements in the room – flooring, walls, windows and furniture.

Flooring options are wide and varied. If new carpeting is in your plan, remember that it will provide your room with the greatest expanse of color.

Whether papered or painted, wall finish options will give the room its excitement and splash.

Window treatments can either take center stage or be a soft backdrop to your entire design plan. There is nothing, dollar for dollar, that can do more for a room that a beautifully designed window treatment.

Select furniture pieces wisely. Whether wood or upholstered, besides offering you beautiful and comfort, they will also help pull all your design elements together when well-coordinated with flooring, wall and window treatments.

Trinetta Nelson is an interior designer on Sanibel/Captiva Islands and can be reached at trinetta@coindceden.com.✧

CHR Resident Named New Assistant Director

Melanie Moraga recently joined Community Housing and Resources (CHR) staff as assistant director. In this new role, Moraga will assist with the daily operations of CHR, and with client communications and fundraising for CHR's work for the community.

As a CHR resident with her two daughters for the past six years, Moraga brings a true appreciation of the impact that CHR has on lives throughout Sanibel. "Being a CHR resident enabled me to both live and work on the island I love and to provide a safe, affordable home for my daughters. I can still remember the excitement and relief I felt when I first heard that I was going to be able to rent a beautiful two-bedroom apartment at an amount I could afford. Now, having the opportunity to work with this amazing organization, which was there for me when I needed it, is a dream come true," Moraga said.

Moraga is well-known on Sanibel and brings extensive local knowledge as she served for many years as the assistant director of the Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum. In that role, she was instrumental in the design and implementation of the expanded museum. Her work included operations, staff supervision, communications, as well



Melanie Moraga photo provided as managing the museum's membership and fundraising programs.

"We are thrilled to have Melanie join CHR at this important time. We are poised for growth and welcome her expertise, experience, and passion for our work. It's exciting to be able to hire a former CHR resident who has become a highly skilled professional and will bring great value to our organization," said CHR Executive Director Melissa Rice.

CHR is a 501(c)3 nonprofit whose mission is to provide affordable housing for families and individuals who work in and serve the community of Sanibel.✧



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Will Power

Why Now Is A Good Time For Advanced Estate Planning



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

Recently, I've fielded many calls about advanced estate planning strategies, most likely brought on since the transfer of power in Washington to the Democratic party. President Biden's election platform called for a vast reduction in estate and gift tax exemptions, and he apparently has the votes in Congress should he want to advance his tax agenda. A reduction of exemptions results in higher estate taxes paid when you die, if you have a "taxable" estate. As I write this, the gift and estate tax exemption approximates \$11.5 million. Should that exemption fall to \$5 million or even \$3 million, then more taxpayers will be caught by the tax.

That's why many clients consider advanced estate planning strategies to minimize transfer (gift and estate) taxes. What are advanced strategies? These consist of estate planning beyond your will or revocable trust, which should be anybody's foundation. A will or trust does not, however, reduce the potential federal estate tax your estate may one day pay. In order to reduce your future estate tax burden, generally speaking, you need to transfer assets out of your estate, which usually also involves the loss of control over those assets. Transferring assets can result in the loss of enjoyment of those assets, but it doesn't have to. There are a variety of strategies that allow you to retain control and the enjoyment of transferred assets while reducing the estate tax burden. Advanced estate planning strategies typically entail making "completed" gifts to irrevocable trusts. An irrevocable trust, by definition, is a trust that the grantor (you) cannot change once it is signed and funded. But then again, there are back door strategies that a qualified estate planning attorney can employ that may retain a significant amount of flexibility. There are dozens of traps for the unwary client and professional. A local trust company called me on one such example. The client created an irrevocable trust that contains powers vested in the client's spouse and children that would serve to undermine the planning. In other words, the gifts to the trust probably aren't "complete" as defined by our tax law, and therefore the value of the accounts and property transferred likely won't avoid taxation. To make matters worse, the

attorney who created the plan and filed the Form 709 Federal Gift Tax Return made critical mistakes on that return that will lead to complex problems when that client dies, if not sooner rectified. Which brings up yet another point. Federal gift and estate tax returns are not like income tax returns. They operate under an entirely different set of rules, under a different chapter of the tax code. As an example, "income" is defined differently under the income tax code chapter than under the transfer (gift and estate) tax code chapter. Unfamiliarity with these rules leads to big problems, especially true when you consider the audit rate of gift and estate tax returns is multiples higher than that of income tax returns. It will cost this client far more (perhaps two to three times more!) to clean up the mess than what he would have paid a qualified attorney to implement a solid plan from the beginning. Another element of advanced estate planning involves "leveraging" your tax exemptions. If John makes a gift by transferring \$1 million to his daughter Lori, then he has consumed \$1 million of his gift and estate tax exemption. This isn't good planning for those who may have larger estates. If John instead uses a strategy to transfer \$1 million of assets to Lori but only consumes \$500,000 of his exemption, all the better. This is how wealthy people transfer their estates while minimizing taxes. Family partnerships are one way to leverage gifts. The IRS frequently challenges family partnership planning. Those challenges may occur after the client's death rather than during his lifetime. Another client came to me with convoluted family partnership planning, and further, he hadn't adhered to partnership formalities. When reading the correspondence that he had with the attorney who put the plan in place, it was chock full of a discussion of the strategy's advantages, but there was little mention of the disadvantages to how they intended to use the partnership. Again here, the federal gift tax returns filed over the course of many years compounded the problem. This is a classic case of a partnership that was ripe for challenge after the client's death. So advanced estate planning can be extremely useful, if carefully strategized, implemented and maintained. Make sure you're aware of both the advantages and disadvantages of any strategy, and that you're talking to a professional who has the requisite experience to guide you to achieve the intended result. ©2021 Craig R. Hersch. Learn more at www.floridaestateplanning.com.✴

How's The Market? Ask Ann

"Waiting" to hear about a new listing on Sanibel? I can help you out. For example, a new listing not listed in the Sanibel-Captiva MLS system, came on the market through the Fort Myers system... a pool home in The Dunes. Better yet, a foreclosure. I previewed the property and was able to contact my prospects and FaceTime them as well.

Secondly, we are actually working with sellers who are considering a sale. Namely, a totally renovated beautiful canal home, three bedroom, two bath pool home in Shell Harbor. Also, a two bedroom, two bath near beach renovated condo under \$500,000 and a large custom near beach pool home in the \$975,000 price range. We also expect to be getting a very prime, large three bedroom plus den gulf front third floor penthouse priced just under \$2,000,000. This unit should go under contract quickly. Interested? Let me know and I will call you as soon as I get the listing.

Market conditions? Existing inventories continue to shrink. Just 62 homes for sale, 85 condos and 47 vacant lots. By the way, we have a great near beach lot priced attractively for sale at only \$249,900.

6 Closed Sales Going Back One Week: 4 Condos & 2 Homes

| | |
|---|---|
| 1260 Tennis Place Ct. B24 - \$350,000 | 760 Sextant Dr. 522 Mariner Pointe - \$484,900 |
| 1610 Middle Gulf Dr. F4 Spanish Cay - \$390,000 | 215 Hurricane Lane - \$1,029,000 |
| 1039 Beach Rd. 105 Beach Road Villas - \$479,000 | 1718 Jewel Box Dr. - \$2,725,000 |

Call or email me with any questions. Stay safe & have a successful New Year!

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Free Virtual Saltwater Fishing Clinics Offered

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) is offering a series of free virtual saltwater fishing clinics for beginner anglers ages 16 and older. Learn how to saltwater fish and help conserve marine resources for the future. Participants will be taught basic fishing skills and knowledge that can be used, shared and built upon for a lifetime. Fishing clinic sessions will prepare anglers for a day out on the water. Sessions will include topics on conservation, rods and reels, tackle, baits, rigs, knot tying, habitats, fish handling and best practices. Registration is required and must be completed two days prior to the session date. Participation is limited to 50 anglers per course; anglers who register after the 50-person limit has been reached will be put on a waiting list. Anglers must use Microsoft Teams to participate. Virtual Saltwater Fishing Clinics are offered as a course that includes seven separate one-hour sessions held every Tuesday evening from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. for seven consecutive weeks. Anglers

continued on page 42

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Audubon Presentation On Falconry

submitted by Bill Jacobson

On Thursday, January 28 at 7 p.m., Sanibel-Captiva Audubon Society will host a webinar program entitled Falconry in Florida presented by Captiva's falconer, Mike Sawicki. He will discuss the history, practice and his personal experiences with the ancient field sport of falconry.

Sawicki is a Virginia native and lifelong student of the natural world. He has harbored an intense interest in birds and falconry from a very young age. He eagerly shares his love of the outdoors.

This is the fourth of eight Sanibel-Captiva Audubon Zoom webinars to be held in January and February. To register for a webinar, go to the Programs section of the Sanibel-Captiva Audubon website (<http://www.san-capaudubon.org/programs.html>) up to five days prior to the specific webinar's scheduled date and click on "Join" in that webinar's description. After registration, a link to that webinar will be emailed to you. Each webinar has a different link. All are welcome to join. To view a video of a completed webinar, click on "Video" in that webinar's description.



Mike Sawicki

photo provided

There is no charge to join the webinars. The normal source of lecture support has come from a \$10 suggested attendee entrance donation for the pre-pandemic live presentations at The Community House. It is suggested that webinar attendees donate directly by mail to the address on the website homepage or via PayPal to its web page: www.Paypal.me/SanCapAudubon. All donations are used to promote conservation on Sanibel, Captiva and in Florida.

For more information, call 395-1878 or visit www.san-capaudubon.org.✧



From left, Mike Raab, David Lowden, Bill Rahe, Willy Ocasio, Lee Almas and Chef Sadler

photo provided

Bank Sponsoring Rotary Charity Golf Scramble

Bank of the Islands has signed on as a silver sponsor for the Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club's major golf fundraiser, the Charity Cup.

"Bank of the Islands is happy to be a silver sponsor of the Rotary's 2021 Charity Cup," said Willy Ocasio, bank vice-president and Sanibel-Captiva office manager. "As with other Rotary events we have sponsored in the past, we are proud to support the good work done by Rotary here on our islands and across the world."

The golf scramble will be held on Saturday, February 13 at Sanibel Island Golf Club. This fundraiser replaces the

Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Arts and Crafts Festival, which was canceled due to coronavirus concerns.

Highlights of the daylong Charity Cup include:

- Prizes for the Lowest Scoring Team;
- Skill prizes for Closest-to-the-Pin;
- Longest Drive and most Accurate Drive.
- A Hole in One tournament with a Yamaha Golf Cart prize; and
- Cash prizes for three balls Closest-to-the-Pin from a helicopter ball drop.

Registration for participation in the tournament can be completed online at www.sanibelrotary.org at the "Golf Charity Cup" tab. Registration forms are also available at the Bank of the Islands Sanibel branch, located at 1699 Periwinkle Way.

For sponsorship information or to make a personal contribution, contact Bill Rahe at 395-2147.✧



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Frankly Speaking



by Howard Prager

Thank goodness for sports. They unite us, they excite us, they can inspire us, and they remind us of simpler times. At a time when the country seems so polarized and scared, we need

to find ways to bring us together as the good news story of the day does. A few topics today. Let's talk about Dream Team II, or the Brooklyn Nets. Wednesday afternoon they acquired super shooting guard James Harden in a big trade with Houston and now have a trio of stars with Kevin Durant and Kyrie Irving making the Big 3 for the Nets. It reminds me of the "dynasty" of the Miami Heat with LeBron, Dwayne Wade and Chris Bosh and certainly can lead to an exciting showdown in The Finals against LeBron's Lakers. Of course Brooklyn has to get past the Bucks and surging Celtics, as well as all the COVID-19 protocols the league is adding because of the number of games postponed. For example as of now the Washington Wizards have not played a

game in 11 days due to the pandemic. Back to the bubble for the season? Who else is affected by COVID-19? The Australian Open. According to BBC News: "Since Saturday, at least 72 players – and other staff – have been ordered to stay in their rooms for two weeks without leaving, after arriving on one of three flights with infected travelers. A total of 15 chartered flights have brought over 1,200 players, staff and officials into Australia for the tournament on February 8. While most players touched down in Melbourne, superstars including Djokovic, Rafael Nadal, Serena Williams and Naomi Osaka instead flew into Adelaide – across two flights – for an exhibition tournament. The Australian Open had already been hit by the withdrawal of injured Roger Federer, while three-time major winner Andy Murray tested positive for the virus before departure so he did not fly to Australia." Glad the NBA is just in North America. And who else has big trades and free agent signings? Baseball. The White Sox, Padres and Mets seem to be the most active teams in upgrading their rosters. Of course, the Yankees are always making big signing deals, but no other team is as active as these three with new players. Time will tell if they each added the needed pieces to win their divisions and beyond. I was interested in three NFL games

this weekend, seeing how the Bills and Browns do and how the matchup of the ageless quarterbacks went. Both the Bills and Browns can be proud of how they performed, with the Browns taking the Super Bowl Champ Chiefs to, but not over, the wire. Whereas the Bills throttled the Ravens and like Mahomes on Sunday, Lamar Jackson was knocked out of the game Saturday. Mahomes is now on concussion protocol, and we'll see if they play him in the league championship next week, and if the Bills can pull off the upset to make their first Super Bowl start since the 90s. Anticlimactic is the only way to describe the third matchup between Brady and Brees. After crushing the Bucs twice during the season, Brees threw an uncharacteristic three turnovers as the Bucs won the opportunity to try and knock out Aaron Rodgers and the Packers. Good luck – they will need it. The good news story of the week appeared in the New York Times about a Dallas man, Frank Miller, 74, a former high school and college pitcher. Frank yearned to just play a game of catch with someone. His wife put an ad out on the Nextdoor app asking anyone interested to meet by the tennis courts in the nearby park at 3 p.m. the following Wednesday. She said her husband was in shape and still able to throw a decent ball. Not knowing if anyone would respond, they headed to the park at the appointed time carrying several baseballs, a couple of mitts and wearing colorful masks. "Between the dual curses of politics ("I've lost friends," Frank said) and the pandemic, people are ticked off, scared

and solitary. Frank reflected on the idea and said that, "I think people want to reconnect a little bit right now." A TV reporter greeted them who had seen the ad and thought there was a story here in the making. There was. Ten people, from high school age all the way to Frank Miller at 74. They exchanged elbow bumps and paired up, each pair tossing the ball back and forth for over an hour. The pairings themselves crossed the decades, from retired to a couple guys in their early 20s searching for work to three high school members of the local baseball team, all sharing one thing in common – the love of the game. And as they tossed their baseballs back and forth in the sun, they shared more than that: wisdom, encouragement and ideas. The simple act of throwing a baseball back and forth brought them all together. As the shadows started to grow, Frank took out a notebook and wrote down each person's name and contact information to schedule a time to do this again. As they scattered, Frank said, out loud but kind of to himself, "Isn't baseball beautiful? It's a piece of art, really." It was time for the Millers to go to their appointment for the coronavirus vaccine. "What a wonderful way to bring people together and start 2021 with a positive note," one neighbor wrote. "This makes me smile." We all need to. 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.✪



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SPORTS QUIZ

1. What Canadian boxer, known for a powerful left-handed punch he called "The Smash," lost two heavyweight elimination bouts to Mike Tyson in 1991?
2. Renowned college basketball broadcaster Dick Vitale compiled a 34-60 record as head coach of what NBA team from 1978-79?
3. Italy's Armin Zoggeler won six medals at the Winter Olympics from 1994-2014 competing in what sport?
4. What two New York Mets players reached the 30-30 club (30 home runs and 30 stolen bases) in the 1987 season?
5. What Los Angeles Sparks player was named both WNBA Rookie of the Year and MVP in 2008?
6. NBA great Shaquille O'Neal played the character of Neon Boudeaux in what 1994 basketball drama film starring Nick Nolte?
7. Name the Welsh golfer who won his lone major championship at the Masters in 1991.

ANSWERS

1. Donovan "Razor" Ruddock. 2. The Detroit Pistons. 3. Luge. 4. Howard Johnson and Darryl Strawberry. 5. Candace Parker. 6. Blue Chips. 7. Ian Woosnam.

From page 40

Saltwater Fishing

must be able to attend all seven sessions. Each course has the same content, so anglers only need to register for one course. Those who attend a course will receive a free starter tackle box. The Virtual Saltwater Fishing Clinic seven-week course dates are March 9 and April 27. If you don't have enough time to commit to a seven-week course, you can participate in the mini virtual saltwater fishing clinics instead and learn about saltwater fishing and conservation in a smaller format to fit your schedule. These 90-minute virtual events will be held once

a month on a Thursday evening from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Each session has the same content, so anglers only need to register for one single session. The Mini Virtual Saltwater Fishing Clinic single session dates are January 28, February 25, March 25, April 22, May 13 and June 10. If you are unable to participate in either format, later this year, videos of the virtual clinics will be posted on the FWC webpage so you can take the course sessions at a time and pace that works best for you. For more information, visit www.myfwc.com/marine and click Virtual Saltwater Fishing Clinics under Get Involved or contact marine@myfwc.com to learn more.✪



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Health First

Support Good Health With Better Breathing



by Julie Rosenberg, MD

Did you know that how you breathe affects your entire body? While breathing is an involuntary action, you can learn ways to voluntarily improve your

breathing. Using techniques for more optimal breathing will help you to relax, reduce tension, relieve stress and manage anxiety. In this article, I offer seven ways to support better breathing that also support your overall health.

Breathe Through Your Nose – When you breathe through your nose, tiny hairs and mucus inside your nose help to filter out most bacteria and air particles before the air is passed on to the lungs. Your nasal passages warm and moisten the air you breathe in before it gets to your lungs. Nasal breathing keeps air in your lungs longer than mouth breathing. When you breathe through your nose, there's significantly more resistance imposed on the incoming air stream as compared to breathing through your mouth, which provides 10 to 20 percent more oxygen in your bloodstream at any given time.

Deep Breathing – Shallow breathing limits the diaphragm's range of motion, and consequently the lower parts of your lungs are not completely oxygenated. Deep breathing, also known as diaphragmatic breathing or abdominal breathing, encourages full oxygen exchange – that is, the full exchange of incoming oxygen for outgoing carbon dioxide. Deep breathing slows the heartbeat and lowers blood pressure. Slow, deliberate breathing also helps you to relax and reduce stress and anxiety.

Try this:
Find a quiet, comfortable place to sit or lie down.

Breathe normally and observe your breath. Now, begin deeper breathing. Inhale slowly through your nose, allowing your chest and lower belly to rise as you fill your lungs. Hold your breath for a few seconds and then exhale slowly through your mouth with pursed lips.

Continue for two to five minutes.

Repeat daily, ideally at the same time of day so that this practice becomes a habit.

Move – When you are physically active, your heart and lungs work harder to supply additional oxygen to your muscles. Regular physical activity, such as walking, running and biking, help to expand your lung capacity, so that you can take deeper, fuller breaths. When you make exercise a priority, as your fitness improves, your body becomes more efficient at getting oxygen into the bloodstream and transporting it to the working muscles.

Laugh – Laughing is a fun way to exercise your lungs so they stay healthy. When you laugh, your diaphragm, chest and abdominal muscles tighten. This makes the lungs work harder by forcing stale air out and allowing fresh air into the lungs. Another health benefit of laughter is improvement in mood and decrease in stress. Laughter is indeed good medicine.

Drink More Water – Staying well hydrated by drinking plenty of water helps you to breathe better. Drinking water helps to thin the mucus lining of your airways and lungs. If the lining is moist and thin, you'll breathe easier. On the other hand, dehydration can cause the mucus lining to thicken, which slows down overall respiration and makes you more susceptible to respiratory problems.

Breathe Easier Through Your Mask – Wearing a face covering may make breathing more difficult. Try these tips: A) Don't slump when wearing a mask; good posture makes breathing easier. B) Take breaks from wearing the mask; step outdoors and be sure to socially distance when doing so. C) Take longer, slower breaths. D) Focus on expanding your ribcage and filling your lungs entirely with

air before exhaling.

Improve Indoor Air Quality – Use of a home air purifier will filter out fine particles from the air, which supports better breathing. These devices refresh stale air, reducing the chances of health issues caused by indoor pollutants that can trigger respiratory infections.

In summary, better breathing supports better health! I suggest that you practice deep breathing techniques five to 10 minutes per day. Once you get into deeper, calmer rhythms of breath, you'll likely notice health benefits, including reduced overall stress. We can all use some stress reduction during these turbulent times!

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. For consulting and speaking requests, email inquiries to info@drjulierosenberg.com.

Strides For Education Run To Benefit Youth

The Foundation for Lee County Public Schools is holding its 10th annual Strides for Education 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, February 6. Participants can run at Florida SouthWestern State College or sign up for the virtual option. CDC guidelines will be followed to ensure the safety of all participants.

The title sponsor is Suncoast Credit Union and funds will benefit the foundation's Take Stock in Children scholarship program. Check-in starts at 6:30 a.m. and the race will begin at 7:30 a.m.

Schools and businesses throughout Lee County are challenged to create the largest team. More than 1,300 business leaders, community partners and educators participated in last year's race. The first 1,100 registered participants will receive a long sleeve, dry-fit race shirt and goody bag.

Online registration is available until Friday, February 5 by visiting www.flcpsstrides5k.com. Registration will not be available the day of the event.

The Strides for Education 5K raises money for college scholarships to benefit students entering the Take Stock in

Children program. Take Stock in Children was established in 1995 as a statewide scholarship program that provides a unique opportunity for deserving low-income youth to escape the cycle of poverty through education. Students enter the program in sixth or ninth grade and commit to remaining crime- and drug-free, maintaining a 2.5 GPA or higher, and meeting with a mentor regularly. Having kept this commitment, students are awarded a four-year college tuition scholarship upon high school graduation.✴

Funding Available For Local Nonprofits

The United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades and Okeechobee has announced that it will accept applications from nonprofit organizations for funds to supplement and expand emergency food and shelter programs in Lee and Hendry counties through Monday, February 1.

Lee and Hendry counties have been awarded federal funds totaling \$291,340 for Phase 38. This funding is made available through the Department of Homeland Security (DHS)/Federal Emergency Management Agency under the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program.

The United Way board will determine how the funds will be distributed among the emergency food and shelter programs run by local human service agencies. The local United Way provides the coordination and administrative support for this program within the community.

Under the terms of the grant from the national board, local agencies chosen to receive funds must be the following: private voluntary nonprofits or units of government; have a functional accounting system in place; practice nondiscrimination; have demonstrated capability to deliver emergency food and/or shelter programs and, if they are private voluntary organizations, they must have a voluntary board. Qualifying agencies and organizations only are urged to apply.

Public or private voluntary agencies interested in applying for these emergency food and shelter program funds should contact Alexis Rodriguez of United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades and Okeechobee at 433-7551.✴

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Shell Club Awards Grant For Mollusk Studies

Preliminary data from surveys of mollusk populations taken from 300 sample stations in the eastern Gulf of Mexico suggests that the Florida fighting conch has lost as much as half of its former habitat.

A grant request was received from Dr. Greg Herbert at the University of South Florida for a project that will radiocarbon date some of the best preserved shells recovered from the deeper habitat of the outer shelf of the gulf to determine how recently the habitat may have been lost. This data may help to determine the cause of the loss from sources such as pollution. The shell club board approved the grant in late 2020 in the amount of \$2,500 for Dr. Herbert's study.

The Sanibel-Captiva Shell Club awards grants from the proceeds of its annual shell show. Grants are given towards education and research in the fields of



Dr. Greg Herbert photo provided
conchology and malacology, as well as for conservation and water quality projects, primarily in Southwest Florida. There will be a virtual shell show this March due to the coronavirus pandemic. For more information, visit www.sanibelshellclub.com.✱



From left, Noah's Ark representative Sue Sterrett, winner Nancy Tucker Cleaveland, Bank of the Islands Vice President - Private Client Relations David Lowden and The Rev. William "Bill" Van Oss photo provided

Bank Awards Donation To Local Nonprofit

Bank of the Islands made another nonprofit donation recently through its We Love Our Islands program. The winner, Nancy Tucker Cleaveland, was spotted with a "We Love Our Islands" decal on her vehicle, winning her the right to select which local nonprofit organization would receive a charitable contribution from the bank. Cleaveland chose to donate her winnings of \$200 to Noah's Ark, the thrift shop supporting St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church. That donation marks \$90,100 given away to date through the bank's program.

"Bank of the Islands is happy to

support Noah's Ark with this donation," said Willy Ocasio, Bank of the Islands vice president and sanibel-Captiva Office manager. "It is a great spot for bargain hunting, especially in these challenging times. Noah's Ark also helps St. Michael's give to local and regional charities as well as three international organizations. Helping Noah's Ark through our We Love Our Islands program is a great way to show how much we appreciate being your island bank."

All islanders are invited to visit the bank's Sanibel or Captiva office to learn more about the program and how you and your favorite charity can become the next winners.

Bank of the Islands is located at 1699 Periwinkle Way, at the corner of Casa Ybel Road, on Sanibel. The Captiva office is located at 14812 Captiva Drive, next to the Captiva Post Office.✱

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Beautifulife:

Champion



by Kay Casperson

This past week, our family had the opportunity to attend the College Football Playoff National Championship game in Miami. Our favorite team, Alabama, played

Ohio State, became the National Champions, and ended the season undefeated.

As I watched the game into the evening, it became clear to me what makes a champion. These teams, coaches and organizations broke through many hurdles this year just to be able to continue to play and to do what they love to do. I thought about how committed they are to the sport and to their passion, and realized that there are certain things we can all learn from them to become champions in our own lives.

There are obvious reasons for becoming champions. Like having a fantastic coach and a team that works together, respects one another, and has extreme passion and commitment.

I believe that we all can be champions regardless of whether we are involved in a sport. We can and should aspire to become champions in all that

we do. From our home to our work, to our giving back and everything in between, being a champion should be our number one priority.

Here are, in my opinion, a few of the top things that make a champion:

- Your dreams and vision
- Your commitment to the goal
- Your determination to succeed
- Your passion for the mission
- Your sacrifice to make it happen
- Your discipline to the end result
- Your confidence that it will happen
- Your faith that it is meant to be

It takes courage to continue moving forward even after setbacks and disappointments. You have to risk failing to learn lessons. Instead of throwing in the towel, a champion will keep learning, keep listening, and reaching new heights.

We can train our minds and our bodies at any age. I encourage each of you to never stop becoming the champions for your life, for your loved ones, and for your legacy.

My affirmation for you this week is: "I am a champion and I will continue to inspire those around me to be the best they can be"

Kay Casperson is a beauty and lifestyle expert, founder and CEO of Beautifulife by Kay Casperson. She owns resort spas on Sanibel and Captiva islands and manufactures beauty and lifestyle products sold across the country. To stay inspired, visit www.kaycasperson.com or follow on social media @kaycasperson.✧

dearRPharmacist

How Hawthorn Lowers Blood Pressure



by Suzy Cohen, RPh

Dear Readers:

Hypertension refers to high blood pressure, and while doctors sometimes define this differently based upon your age, it

is usually something like 140 over 90. These numbers are further defined as your systolic blood pressure over the diastolic blood pressure. The systolic is always the first number, whereas the diastolic is the second number, and it's most important because it shows what the pressure is at rest.

Hypertension occurs due to several factors, usually not just one. You might see this condition occur in people who are sedentary and eating too much salt or drinking too much alcohol. You might see it in a smoker who is stressed and getting older. Your genetics play a role too.

There is an age-old herb that I trust for all kinds of heart conditions including hypertension. It's called hawthorn and it is in the same family as roses. Hawthorn is available widely at health food stores and online e-tailors in all kinds of forms like pills, powders and extracts. It's not so much the leaf, it's actually the berry of the hawthorn shrub that does the heavy lifting. The berry contains a high concentration of natural compounds that support your entire cardiovascular system.

Hawthorn has been used for centuries to support all kinds of cardiovascular disorders, and it can relax tight, constricted blood vessels. By relaxing them, there is less pressure inside, and therefore blood pressure comes down over time. Hawthorn does effect the nervous system, it is calming and has a mild sedative effect. But I do not recommend hawthorn at bedtime though. The reason for this warning is

that hawthorn is a diuretic. Hawthorne was studied and compared to a placebo and found to help people with type 2 diabetes who also had hypertension. The participants took 1,200 mg of hawthorn extract in this particular study (doses vary greatly so keep that in mind), and those who took hawthorn had better (lower) blood pressures than those who took the dud pill. Hawthorn contains many polyphenols and antioxidants. It can be useful for many conditions including hypertension, a weak heart, congestive heart failure, shortness of breath and physical/athletic performance. For that reason, you might consider taking hawthorn, but of course ask your doctor if it's right for you. Because it reduces blood pressure, you will obviously see interactions with other medications used for hypertension. For example, hawthorn may exacerbate the blood pressure reducing effect of the following:

- Beta blockers
 - Calcium channel blockers
 - ACE inhibitors
 - ARBs (Angiotensin II Receptor blockers)
 - Diuretics
 - Digoxin
 - Others
- Side effects of hawthorn have been reported such as nausea, stomach upset, dizziness, insomnia, restlessness and headaches. Side effects often occur when people mix the hawthorn with other medications, which cause pressure to drop too low.

With hawthorn, it's best to use lower dosages of the herb and take it for a longer period of time than to take high doses for a short term. Ask your doctor if it's right for you.

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.✧

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Doctor and Dietician

Get Your ZZZs



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

We recently heard a survey on the radio asking what the most important aspect of physical fitness was: food, exercise, or sleep? The answer was sleep.

We all too often focus on diet and exercise but overlook sleep and its importance to overall health. What is often sacrificed during this time-crazed lifestyle we Americans lead? Sleep. Chronically staying up late to finish one more task or watch a program/movie or stay out with friends can lead to long-term negative effects on your health. Much research has been done that reveals how getting enough sleep can keep you not only physically healthy but mentally healthy as well.

Benefits of great sleep include the following: strengthens your immune system, reduces the risk of inflammatory diseases, boosts brain power, helps maintain weight, improves endurance, helps children grow, relieves stress and stimulates your creative side.

How much sleep should we get? The National Sleep Foundation suggests getting at least seven hours per night. However, teenagers require at least eight hours, where school children need at least nine hours. Some people require more, some less. The goal is to find the amount of sleep your body needs to function optimally and stick to it in order to optimize your health.

At Caring Medical, it is not uncommon for us to see patients with chronic insomnia. Many times, this insomnia is due to physical pain the patient is experiencing due to injury or chronic disease. When the pain is eliminated by getting to the root cause of it, patients

can often return to regular sleep habits. But for some, sleep deprivation has become a way of life. Nothing seems to help.

We recently discovered something quite amazing in a patient who came in with chronic insomnia (among other things.) We documented for the first time (never been published) that her brain arteries became hyperemic (dilated) in her sleeping position compared to her upright position. Why is this amazing? For good brain health, the blood supply and drainage must meet the demand of its metabolic activity. The areas of the brain of extreme importance, those that involve intelligence and problem-solving, have the highest metabolic demands and are very susceptible to injury by a clogged "brain toilet." When these areas become injured, the first symptom noticed is brain fog, followed by a host of other complaints that often elude medical providers. This patient's neck was unstable, causing blood flow irregularities. By correcting the underlying instability problem, this condition can be resolved.

If you suffer from poor sleep or lack of sleep, we encourage you to do something about it. First of all, take control of your schedule. Try to stick to regular sleep and wake times. Do not watch negative news or expose your eyes to blue light prior to bedtime. Keep the room cool. Use something soothing to encourage peaceful, harmonious thoughts as you drift into dreamland. And if you cannot get on a good sleep schedule, see a natural medicine provider who can help determine the underlying cause and get you back to your best beauty sleep. It will do the body good.

*This information is not intended to treat, cure or diagnose your condition. Ross Hauser, MD, and Marion Hauser, MS, RD, established Caring Medical in 1991. Caring Medical Florida and the Hauser Neck Center are located in Fort Myers. They can be reached at info@caringmedical.com.**

Be Cautious With Effects Of Soma

Soma abuse is very common, and Soma is being prescribed by many pain management clinics. Be cautious of the effects this medication could have on you or someone else.

A person abusing Soma also builds a tolerance and dependence for the drug. In a study of 20 Soma users, 13 of them admitted to using more than prescribed.

To learn more about Soma abuse, visit www.narconon-suncoast.org/drug-abuse/

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.

Below I will list 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.

soma-effects.html.

Narconon can help you take steps to overcome addiction in your family. Call 1-877-841-5509 for free screenings or referrals.*

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 lag and 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.

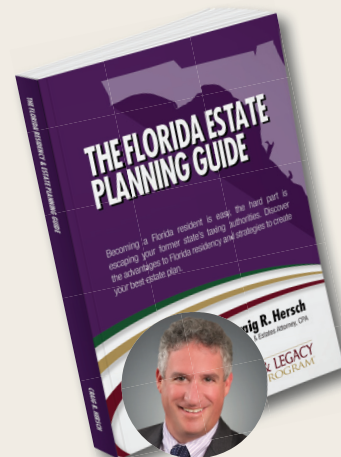
I wish for you to use the above techniques to help you in simplifying your life. They will help you to get a good start.

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 or visit www.drconstanceclancy.com.*

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by Craig R. Hersch
Florida Bar Board Certified Wills,
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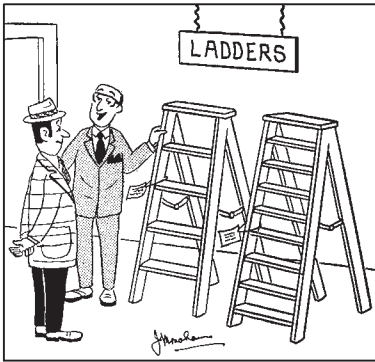


- Emergency 911
- Sanibel Police..... 472-3111
- Lee County Sheriff's Office 477-1200
- On Call Captiva Deputy..... 477-1000
- Fire Department, Sanibel 472-5525
- Fire Department, Captiva 472-9494
- Florida Marine Patrol..... 332-6966
- Florida Highway Patrol 278-7100
- Poison Control..... 1-800-282-3171
- Chamber of Commerce..... 472-1080
- City Council 472-4135
- City Building Department..... 472-4555
- City Manager 472-3700
- City Planning & Code Enforcement Department 472-4136
- City Public Works 472-6397
- Library, Sanibel 472-2483
- Library, Captiva 239-533-4890
- Lee County Mosquito Control 239-694-2174
- Post Office, Sanibel 472-1573
- Post Office, Sanibel (toll free) 800-275-8777
- Post Office, Captiva..... 472-1674
- Sanibel Community House..... 472-2155
- Center 4 Life, Senior Center..... 472-5743
- ARTS
- Arcade Theater..... 332-4488
- Art League Of Fort Myers..... 275-3970
- BIG ARTS..... 395-0900
- Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre 278-4422
- Fort Myers Symphonic Mastersingers 288-2535
- Gulf Coast Symphony..... 277-1700
- Herb Strauss Schoolhouse Theater..... 472-6862
- Lee County Alliance for the Arts 939-2787
- Naples Philharmonic..... 597-1111
- Sanibel Music Festival 336-7999
- Sanibel-Captiva Art League sancapart.org
- Southwest Florida Symphony 418-0996
- Symphonic Chorale of Southwest Florida 560-5695
- CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS
- ABWA..... <http://abwasanibelcaptiva.org>
- American Legion Post 123..... 472-9979
- Angel Flight SE 1-877-4AN-ANGEL
- Audubon of SWFL..... <https://www.audubonswfl.org/>
- Audubon Society..... 472-3744
- Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum 395-2233
- CHR Community Housing & Resources 472-1189
- Community Foundation of Sanibel-Captiva 274-5900
- COTI Committee of the Islands coti@coti.org
- CROW, Clinic For The Rehabilitation of Wildlife..... 472-3644
- Disabled Am Vets #108 (San-Cap Rep Ted Tyson) 211 984-5920
- FISH OF SANCAP Neighbors Helping Neighbors 472-4775
- FISH OF SANCAP 24-hr service..... 472-0404
- Horticultural Society of the Islands..... 472-6940
- Horticulture and Tea Society of Sanibel and Captiva 472-8334
- JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge 472-1100
- Kiwanis Club 677-7299
- League of Women Voters sanibelLWV@gmail.com
- Lions Club, Jeff MacDonald..... 302-521-1158
- Master Gardeners of the Islands 472-6940
- Military Officers Assc. of America, Alex MacKenzie .. 395-9232
- Newcomers 472-9332
- Notre Dame Club of Southwest Florida 768-0417
- Optimist Club..... 472-0836
- PAWS, Protection of Animal Welfare Society 239-313-6918
- Progressive Club of the Islands pcisancap@gmail.com
- Rotary Club 472-7257 or 472-0141
- Sanibel Bike Club sanibelbicycleclub.org
- Sanibel Beautification Inc..... 470-2866
- Sanibel-Captiva Orchid Society..... 472-6940
- Sanibel-Captiva Power Squadron ... www.sancapboating.club
- Sanibel-Captiva Republican Caucus..... 395-0819
- Sanibel-Captiva Shell Club..... 267-7291
- Sanibel Historical Museum & Village 472-4648
- Sanibel Island Fishing Club 472-8994
- Sanibel Youth Soccer..... 395-2040
- SCCF Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation..... 472-2329
- SCCF Sea Turtle Hotline..... 978-728-3663
- Shell Islands Garden Club 246-8875
- United Way of Lee County - 24 hour helpline 211 433-2000
- Zonta Club 728-1971

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

PUZZLES

Answers on page 55



"This one's _____."

SCRAMBLERS

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

Creak
ORGAN

Wild
FLARE

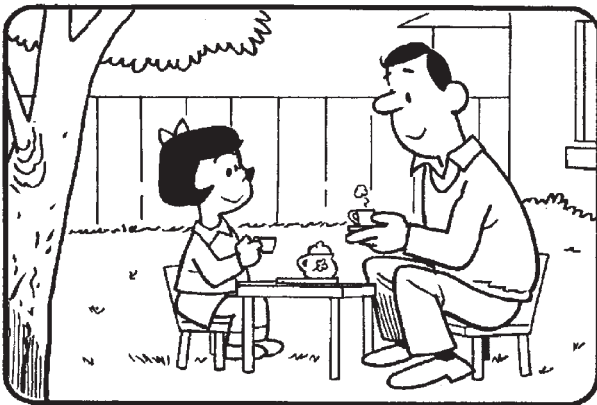
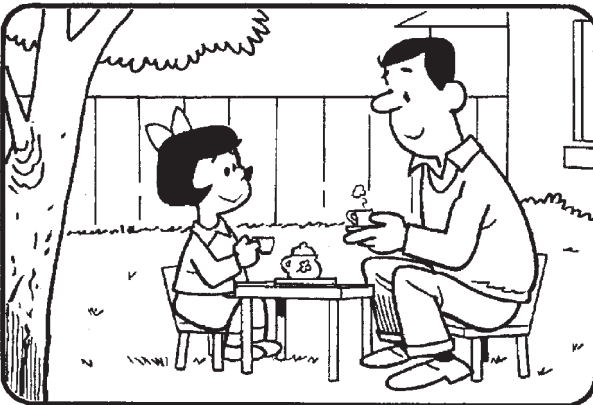
Lone
LOSE

Blunt
CREDIT

TODAY'S WORD

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Bow is smaller. 2. Skirt is shorter. 3. Table leg is missing. 4. Teapot is moved. 5. Hair is different. 6. Cuffs are missing.

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

PETS OF THE WEEK



Little Guy ID#A832261 photos provided
Lee County Domestic Animal Services

Little Guy And Diva

Hello, my name is Little Guy. I am a tan 3-year-old male terrier mix who is currently in foster after coming to Animal Services with an injury. I am now ready for my forever home and would do best in a family where I can go to work with them or where someone is home. I am potty-trained but needs potty breaks. I need my toys to know what to chew on as I still has some puppy in me. I am a very loving dog that needs lots of love. Email Kayla at KBritton@leegov.com to set up an appointment to meet me today. My adoption fee is \$30.

Hi, I'm Diva. I am a black 2-year-old female domestic shorthair. I have earned my name with my very independent personality. I am your typical feline that loves attention – when I love attention. I will let you know when I want some cuddles and simply walk away when I am done. If you have an active lifestyle, I am the perfect pet for you. I am a carefree



Diva ID#A847147

soul whose hijinks and antics for attention will no doubt entertain you and have you in love with me in no time. My adoption fee is \$50, and you can get a second kitty for free.

Each year millions of people make New Year's resolutions. Lee County Domestic Animal Services invites you to "Skip the Jog and Walk a Dog" as part of yours. Make pets a part of the plan for the New Year and consider that a new pet can help achieve many of the most popular goals set each year. The adoption fee for dogs has been reduced to \$30 for the entire month of January. All senior dogs (age 6 and older) are just \$25. So say goodbye to 2020 and hello to 2021 with a new best friend.

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 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.

Lee Health Subsidiary Earns Top Quality Score

Best Care Collaborative (BCC), a wholly owned subsidiary of Lee Health, achieved a 98 percent quality rating and \$7 million in shared savings in performance year 2019 as a participant in the Next Generation Accountable Care Organization (ACO) Model created by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

BCC, which is led by local physicians and providers, and is governed by an independent board of managers consisting of 75 percent or more practicing physicians, was one of 41 Next Generation ACOs in the country selected to participate in the initiative, the highest risk accountable care organization model. Next Generation ACOs differ from traditional models in requiring physicians to take financial risk of the total cost of caring for their patients. This structure incentivizes physicians to coordinate care, develop innovative care models, improve quality and reduce cost to the Medicare program. BCC achieved these cost savings by utilizing robust data analytics, high-risk care management and improved care coordination between primary care physicians, specialty physicians, hospitals, home health agencies and local nursing homes.

"As a patient-centered organization, participation as a Next Generation ACO provided us with the opportunity to partner with our patients to find improved ways to get patients the right high quality care at the right time," said Scott Nygaard MD, Lee Health chief operating officer. "Our Lee Physician Group participants and partner providers were instrumental in achieving these savings

while improving the quality of care for our region's Medicare patients. We look forward to continuing to lead the way in provider-led innovation for Southwest Florida."

In order to share in any savings generated, an ACO must demonstrate that it has met the quality performance standard for the year. Quality of care is measured on 23 quality measures in four key domains, including patient/caregiver experience, care coordination/patient safety, preventive health and at-risk populations. This is the first year BCC was eligible to earn the quality rating.

"Quality has always been a top priority at Lee Health. This achievement demonstrates that our focus, hard work and dedication to quality is paying off," said Venkat Prasad MD, MBA, MHA, FAAFP, chief medical officer of Lee Physician Group. "We remain committed to providing safe, effective, high quality patient-centered care across our network of physicians and partner providers."

ACOs participating in the next generation model preselect savings benchmarks and are committed to providing those savings to Medicare. If the savings are met, the ACO shares in the savings with CMS, while ACOs who fail to reach their savings threshold must reimburse CMS for the difference.

BCC's share of the total savings is used to cover operating expenses, and the remaining amount is distributed among participating partners including Lee Physician Group (LPG), Shell Point Retirement Community, Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida, Lehigh Pulmonary Associates and Dr. Pedro Ylisastigui for the 2019 performance year. BCC has participated in the Next Generation ACO Model since 2018 and plans to continue through 2021.

For more information, visit www.leehealth.org.

My Stars ★★★★★

FOR WEEK OF JANUARY 18, 2021

Aries (March 21 to April 19) Single Lambs looking for romance could find Cupid especially accommodating this week. Paired partners also find their relationships benefiting from the chubby cherub's attention.

Taurus (April 20 to May 20) Keep your keen Bull's eye focused on your target, and shake off any attempt to turn your attention elsewhere. You should get some news later in the week that might answer some questions.

Gemini (May 21 to June 20) Your early enthusiasm for a project might have been somewhat premature. Although you feel positive about it, you might need more information in order to make an informed decision.

Cancer (June 21 to July 22) Taking on a new responsibility might seem like the politically correct thing to do. But even with the promise of support, was it the wisest? Consider reassessing your upcoming decision.

Leo (July 23 to August 22) Apply yourself to completing your task despite all the distractions that might be interfering with your work. Then reward yourself with a weekend of fun shared

with people who are close to you.

Virgo (August 23 to September 22) A business agreement from the past might need to be looked at again. Use this unexpected development to check out other matters related to it. A weekend venture proves to be rewarding.

Libra (September 23 to October 22) Don't ignore that uneasy feeling about making a commitment. It could be a case of understandably cold feet, or a warning that something isn't as right as it should be.

Scorpio (October 23 to November 21) A colleague could be more supporting of one of your efforts. But it's up to you to make the case for it, and that could mean opening up a secret or two, which might be a problem for you.

Sagittarius (November 22 to December 21) Expect some good news about a relative you've been worried about. But don't expect the full story to be told – at least not yet. A workplace matter might face shifting priorities.

Capricorn (December 22 to January 19) Despite some anxious moments, you could have good reason to be pleased with how things are turning out. An end-of-the-week call might hold some interesting

information.

Aquarius (January 20 to February 18) A long-overdue expression of appreciation could be offered soon. But admit it: You never really expected it would happen, right? Meanwhile, keep your weekend options open.

Pisces (February 19 to March 20) It's a good time to dive right into a new challenge, whether it's learning a computer app, or how to drive a stick shift, or making a new friend. Whatever it is, good luck.

Born This Week: You see the wisdom in honesty, and you help others appreciate your vision.

MOMENTS IN TIME

• On Jan. 25, 1776, the Continental Congress authorizes the first national Revolutionary War memorial in honor of Gen. Richard Montgomery, who had been killed during an assault on Quebec on Dec. 31, 1775, one of the first generals of the American Revolution to lose his life on the battlefield.

• On Jan. 30, 1835, Andrew Jackson becomes the first American president to experience an assassination attempt. Richard Lawrence, an unemployed house painter, shot at Jackson, but his gun misfired. A furious 67-year-old Jackson confronted his

attacker, clubbing Lawrence several times with his walking cane.

• On Jan. 29, 1845, Edgar Allan Poe's famous poem *The Raven*, beginning "Once upon a midnight dreary," is published in the *New York Evening Mirror*.

• On Jan. 28, 1855, the Panama Railway, which carried thousands of unruly gold miners to California via the dense jungles of Central America, dispatches its first train across the Isthmus of Panama. The Panama Canal would parallel the railway 50 years later.

• On Jan. 31, 1944, D-Day is postponed until June when several key leaders agreed that there would not be enough ships available by May. D-Day would later be postponed once more, by a single day due to high winds. Finally, on the morning of June 6, the long-awaited invasion of France began.

• On Jan. 27, 1965, the Shelby GT 350, a version of a Ford Mustang developed by American auto racer Carroll Shelby, is launched. The sports car featured a 306 horsepower V-8 engine and remained in production through the end of the 1960s.

• On Jan. 26, 1970, U.S. Navy Lt. Everett Alvarez Jr. spends his 2,000th

continued on page 54

PUZZLES

Answers on page 55

Super Crossword

MULTITUDINOUS

- ACROSS

1 Little rascal

6 Mosque officiants

11 Go for a dip

15 Spill the secret

19 Shinbone

20 Local theaters, in slang

21 Had on

22 Go very fast

23 City in which quadrennial games take place

25 Gumbo vegetable

26 R&B singer James

27 Japanese soup paste

28 Fit — queen

29 Sea cargo weight unit

31 Statistic associated with plane riders

35 Threatens to topple

36 Brouhaha

37 Ken is one

38 Viking 1 landing site

39 Fleecy boot brand

42 Guesses at LGA
- 45 Instructive example

47 "Siddhartha" author

52 Gotten larger

54 UNLV part

56 1977 Triple Crown horse

58 "— & Stitch"

59 Stinging hits

61 TV's Amaz

62 Not iffy

63 Whitewater transport

67 Vassals

69 Tongue-lash

70 See

117 Across

71 Goldie of "Laugh-In"

72 Unit of pressure

75 It surrounds the South Orkney Islands

80 Twin of Jacob

81 Secy., e.g.

83 Oozes

84 Jazzy Fitzgerald

85 Pile of trash

89 Enervate

90 Sacred song

91 Muscle twitch

92 Arthurian wizard

94 "Encore!"

96 "Science Guy" of TV
- 97 Pupil setting

99 Arthurian wife

101 Add- — (annexes)

103 Reviewer of tax returns

107 Disney World roller coaster

113 Moniker for a 1970s sitcom family

115 Go up

116 With

118 Across, bite-size Nabisco cookie

117 With

70-Across, Taj Mahal locale

118 See

116-Across

119 Statement about the end of each of nine answers in this puzzle

122 Meyers of "Late Night"

123 Ball field coverer

124 Candid

125 Cara of "Fame" fame

126 Canadian fuel brand

127 Gin flavorer

128 Burrito topper

129 Winona of "Beetlejuice"
- DOWN

1 Walk heavily

2 Paramecium hairs

3 Huge gulf

4 Cocktail at brunch

5 Dad, in dialect

6 Disguised, in brief

7 Gold-medal skier Phil

8 On a plane or train

9 Month, in Spain

10 Retired jet since '03

11 Cutlass, e.g.

12 Roused

13 Thorns in one's side

14 Scant

15 Favre of football

16 Starbucks offering

17 Many a Tony winner

18 Hits on the noggin

24 Alternatively

29 Artificial

30 Two-gender pronoun

32 Utopian site

33 Email giggle

34 Bullring calls

38 Sacred song

39 Wrinkled citrus fruit
- 40 Smile widely

41 Club game

43 Assuage

44 Bygone Swedish car

46 Smileys' opposites

48 Inherent natures

49 Slimy garden pest

50 Dried up, old-style

51 Rams' partners

53 Some babes in the woods

55 Sharp, broken-off piece

57 Purple blooms

59 Colonel Klink's camp

60 Mail status

64 — carte

65 Nutrition stat

66 Ventilates

68 "Sands of — Jima"

71 Big African beast, briefly

72 Tinkertoy bits

73 PDQ cousin

74 Gilbert of "The Talk"

75 Fire remains

76 Join (with)

77 Zest

78 Join (with)

79 Identify
- 82 Between urban and country

86 Friendly relationship

87 Letter before beth

88 — colada

90 "21 Grams" actor Sean

93 Cage, to his pals

95 City WNW of Paris

98 R2-D2 and others

100 Skin-related

102 "Our Lady" of churches

103 Humiliate

104 Beseeches

105 Pub missiles

106 Boise setting

107 Brand of mouthwash

108 Outward expressions

109 Port of Japan

110 Felt sickly

111 Words after two or hole

112 Stuff in gunpowder

114 Successor of Claudius I

119 Provisos

120 Refrain bit

121 Title for Ringo Starr as of 2018

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | |
| 19 | | | | | | 20 | | | | | | 21 | | | | | 22 | | | | |
| 23 | | | | | | 24 | | | | | | 25 | | | | | 26 | | | | |
| 27 | | | | | | 28 | | | | | 29 | | | | | 30 | | | | | |
| 31 | | | | | 32 | | | | | 33 | 34 | | | | 35 | | | | | | |
| | | | | 36 | | | | | 37 | | | | | 38 | | | | | | | |
| 39 | 40 | 41 | | 42 | | 43 | 44 | | 45 | | | 46 | | | | 47 | 48 | 49 | 50 | 51 | |
| 52 | | | | 53 | | | 54 | | 55 | | 56 | | | | 57 | | | | | | |
| 58 | | | | | | 59 | | | | 60 | | | 61 | | | | | 62 | | | |
| 63 | | | | | 64 | | | | | | 65 | 66 | | | | 67 | 68 | | | | |
| | | | | 69 | | | | | 70 | | | | | | 71 | | | | | | |
| 72 | 73 | 74 | | | | | 75 | | | | | | 76 | | | | | 77 | 78 | 79 | |
| 80 | | | | | | 81 | 82 | | | | 83 | | | | | | 84 | | | | |
| 85 | | | | | 86 | | | | | 87 | 88 | | 89 | | | | 90 | | | | |
| 91 | | | | | | | 92 | | | | | 93 | | 94 | | 95 | | | 96 | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 97 | 98 | | | | 99 | | | 100 | | | 101 | | 102 | | | |
| 103 | 104 | 105 | 106 | | | | | | 107 | | | | | 108 | 109 | | | | 110 | 111 | 112 |
| 113 | | | | | | | | 114 | | | | | 115 | | | | | 116 | | | |
| 117 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 122 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 126 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

King Crossword

- ACROSS

1 Opening

4 Cartoon frame

7 Vend

8 "Dallas" matriarch

10 Sleep problem

11 Court ham-mers

13 1998 Bruce Willis thriller

16 Shock partner

17 Hoodwinks

18 Water tester

19 Gum flavor

20 Roll call reply

21 Fry lightly

23 Belted area

25 Cooking fat

26 Uttered

27 Chemical suf-fix

28 Up and about

30 Quilters' get-together

33 Wimbledon champ of 2008

36 Wife of Jacob

37 Edition

38 Nodded off

39 D.C. baseball team

40 Picnic crasher
- 41 Ram's mate

9 Upper crust

10 Docs' org.

12 Bull's sound

14 Ancient letter

15 "My word!"

19 Wet dirt

20 Secreted

21 Less loony

22 Sports ven-ues

23 Banshee's cry

24 Delta, for one

25 Actress Tyler
- DOWN

1 Category

2 Sir Guinness

3 Enthusiastic approval

4 County of Ireland

5 Graceland idol

6 Fibs

7 Gush

8 Pharaoh's
- 26 Long-legged shorebird

28 Wan

29 Used a broom

30 Butter up the turkey

31 Flightless birds

32 Compass pt.

34 Bruins' sch.

35 Caesar's "vidi"

MAGIC MAZE ● "101 DALMATIANS" CHARACTERS

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: — DE VIL

- Amber

Anita

Dipstick

Horace
- Jasper

Lucky

Nanny

Pepper
- Perdita

Pongo

Roger

Rolly
- Sgt. Tibbs

Tripod

Whizzer

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FRIDAY
Mostly Cloudy
High: 73 Low: 62



SATURDAY
Mostly Sunny
High: 70 Low: 61



SUNDAY
Cloudy
High: 71 Low: 60



MONDAY
Sunny
High: 66 Low: 57



TUESDAY
Mostly Sunny
High: 71 Low: 60



WEDNESDAY
Sunny
High: 72 Low: 63



THURSDAY
Partly Cloudy
High: 71 Low: 60

| 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 | 10:21 am | 2:40 am | 7:36 pm | 12:35 pm | Fri | 9:26 am | 2:42 am | 6:41 pm | 12:37 pm | Fri | 8:29 am | 2:35 am | 7:56 pm | 1:43 pm | Fri | 12:31 pm | 5:56 am | 9:46 pm | 3:51 pm |
| Sat | 8:22 pm | 3:41 am | None | None | Sat | 7:27 pm | 3:43 am | None | None | Sat | 9:44 am | 3:27 am | 8:43 pm | 2:28 pm | Sat | 10:32 pm | 6:57 am | None | None |
| Sun | 9:11 pm | 4:34 am | None | None | Sun | 8:16 pm | 4:36 am | None | None | Sun | 10:53 am | 4:18 am | 9:38 pm | 3:09 pm | Sun | 11:21 pm | 7:50 am | None | None |
| Mon | 9:59 pm | 5:20 am | None | None | Mon | 9:04 pm | 5:22 am | None | None | Mon | 11:36 am | 5:07 am | 10:30 pm | 3:56 pm | Mon | None | 8:36 am | None | None |
| Tue | 2:18 pm | 6:02 am | 10:47 pm | 4:00 pm | Tue | 1:23 pm | 6:04 am | 9:52 pm | 4:02 pm | Tue | 12:12 pm | 5:51 am | 11:10 pm | 4:48 pm | Tue | 12:09 am | 9:18 am | 4:28 pm | 7:16 pm |
| Wed | 2:36 pm | 6:40 am | 11:32 pm | 4:48 pm | Wed | 1:41 pm | 6:42 am | 10:37 pm | 4:50 pm | Wed | 12:48 pm | 6:33 am | 11:42 pm | 5:36 pm | Wed | 12:57 am | 9:56 am | 4:46 pm | 8:04 pm |
| Thu | 2:50 pm | 7:16 am | None | 5:35 pm | Thu | 1:55 pm | 7:18 am | 11:23 pm | 5:37 pm | Thu | 1:26 pm | 7:14 am | None | 6:21 pm | Thu | 1:42 am | 10:32 am | 5:00 pm | 8:51 pm |

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From page 49

Moments In Time

day in captivity in Southeast Asia. First taken prisoner when his plane was shot down Aug. 5, 1964, during one of the first bombing raids over North Vietnam, he became the longest-held POW in U.S. history.

NOW HERE'S A TIP

- NB of Texas, writes: "I never could find the time to exercise. When I got home, I had to rush to get supper, etc., and afterward all I wanted to do was plop down and watch television. Then I got an exercise mat and a stationary bicycle. When I couldn't work out very long, I worked out during commercials. I've lost 3 pounds so far" Great idea for all those with fitness on their New Year's Resolution lists, Nancy
- Two wonderful tips came in from GK of Minnesota: "To protect floors from being damaged by chairs being pushed around, glue rounds of carpeting beneath the chair legs. They are easily removed for replacing as they wear down. Also, when making bread or

- rolls, warm the flour in the oven or microwave so as not to chill the butter. The dough will rise faster."
- BW of Colorado swears by brake cleaner to get rid of bad spots on carpets. "Regular automotive brake cleaner on the spot and a clean rag will remove almost all stains," he says.
 - "In cold winter months, keep your robe (and slippers or whatever else) under the covers with you when you sleep. Pull it next to or over you a few minutes before you get up. It'll be toasty and will help make the transition into the cold a little less harsh." – BM in New York
 - If your animals try to get out when you go into or out of the house, keep some toys or treats in your pocket or near the door to throw across the room, giving you a few seconds to slip in or out.
 - As tax time draws closer, try taping a large manila envelope to the fridge, leaving the top open. Immediately place all tax-related forms and receipts in the envelope as they come in. This way, when you are ready to start your taxes, all items will be together and easy to find.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

- To train new operatives during the Cold War, the Soviets built fully functional replicas of American towns. Their residents consisted of retired deep-cover operatives who taught the trainees everything they needed to know about blending into American life.
- In 1963, the Bronx Zoo had an exhibit called "The Most Dangerous Animal in the World." It was a mirror.
- The U.S. Navy has a tradition that no submarine is ever considered lost at sea. Subs that don't return, including 52 lost during World War II, are considered "still on patrol." Every year at Christmas, sailors manning communications hubs send holiday greetings to those listed as still on patrol.
- An outbreak of the common cold occurred at an Antarctic base after 17 weeks of complete isolation.
- In the category of Best Song Titles Ever, country music stars Loretta Lynn and Conway Twitty recorded a duet titled *You're the Reason Our Kids Are So Ugly*. (Despite which fact, the lyrics make clear that the couple is still in love.)

- After high school senior Allison Closs dressed up a cardboard cutout of Danny DeVito to go with her to prom, the actor returned the favor by bringing a cardboard cutout of Allison to the set of *It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia*.
- A \$3 million lottery winner was sentenced to 21 years in prison after using his winnings to finance a meth trafficking ring.
- Actual town names in the U.S. include Rabbit Hash (Kentucky), Two Egg (Florida), Ding Dong (Texas) and Bacon (Delaware).
- Ever have trouble finishing your veggies? Try taking a tip from Leigh Knight, who in 2006 sold an unwanted brussels sprout left over from his Christmas dinner for £1,550 (\$2,100.72 USD) to aid cancer research.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"May your coffee kick in before reality does." – Unknown

TRIVIA TEST

1. **Movies:** Who was the first African American to win the Academy Award for Best Actor?
2. **Astronomy:** How many phases

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1/22 ★ 1/22

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1/15 ★ 1/22

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- does the Moon go through each month?
- 3. **Medical:** What are leukocytes?
 - 4. **Television:** What are the names of the three animated “Powerpuff Girls”?
 - 5. **Inventions:** Who is credited with inventing the first battery?
 - 6. **Geography:** What is the largest country in Africa in land area?
 - 7. **Measurements:** What does a Geiger counter measure?
 - 8. **Literature:** What item did the crocodile swallow in *Peter Pan*?
 - 9. **Food & Drink:** What is grenadine made from?
 - 10. **Animal Kingdom:** What is a baby goat called?

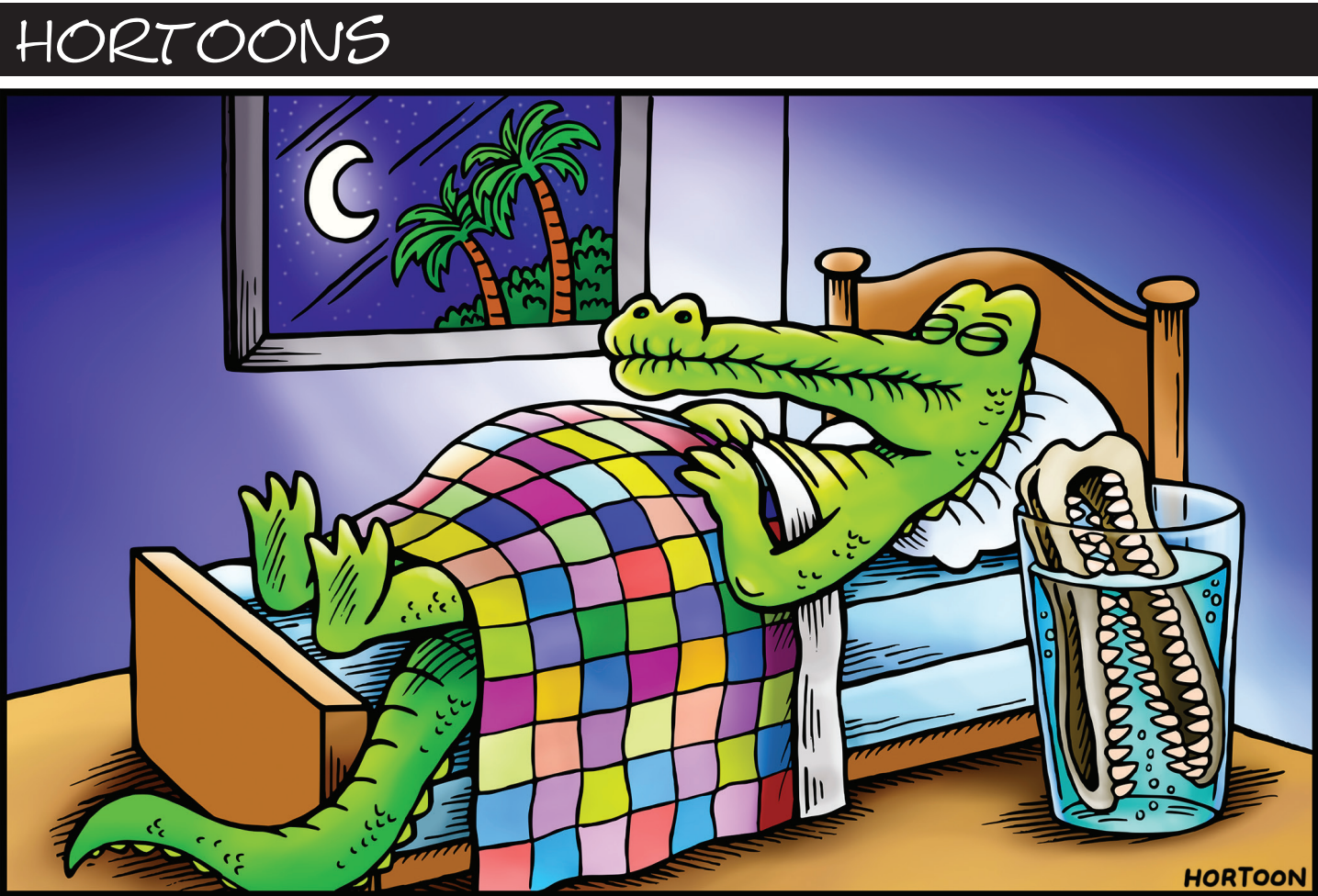
TRIVIA ANSWERS

- 1. Sidney Poitier, in 1964
- 2. Eight
- 3. White blood cells
- 4. Blossom, Buttercup and Bubbles
- 5. Alessandro Volta
- 6. Algeria
- 7. Radiation
- 8. A clock
- 9. Pomegranates
- 10. A kid

SCRAMBLERS ANSWER

1. Groan 2. Feral;
3.Sole; 4. Direct

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

Top 10 Real Estate Sales

| Subdivision | City | Year Built | Square Footage | Listing Price | Selling Price | Days On Market |
|----------------------------|----------------|------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| Cats Paw | Sanibel | 1999 | 4,940 | \$5,900,000 | \$5,550,000 | 70 |
| Bayfront Gardens | Bonita Springs | 1995 | 6,230 | \$4,795,000 | \$4,238,515 | 1 |
| Palmetto Point | Fort Myers | 2007 | 7,315 | \$3,950,000 | \$3,800,000 | 17 |
| Ancona | Miromar Lakes | 2020 | 4,068 | \$3,295,000 | \$3,171,189 | 250 |
| Dinkins Bayou | Sanibel | 2019 | 3,353 | \$2,494,900 | \$2,350,000 | 378 |
| Lake Forest At Shadow Wood | Estero | 2005 | 5,052 | \$2,125,000 | \$2,125,000 | 44 |
| Sanctuary At Wulfert | Sanibel | 1994 | 5,368 | \$1,995,000 | \$2,100,000 | 393 |
| Lynns Add | Fort Myers | 1994 | 3,939 | \$2,145,000 | \$1,950,000 | 168 |
| Matlacha Shores | Matlacha | 2001 | 5,050 | \$2,350,000 | \$1,890,000 | 10 |
| Tradewinds | Sanibel | 1997 | 2,566 | \$1,875,000 | \$1,835,000 | 0 |



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