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SANIBEL & CAPTIVA ISLANDS, FLORIDA

FEBRUARY 24, 2017

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Blind Raccoon Connects With Singer's Music

by Jeff Lysiak

Music can bring together different generations, people from various locations around the world or – in a few rare instances – animals and humans.

Such is the case of Trouper, Southwest Florida's famous blind raccoon, and worldwide recording artist and classical crossover singer Jackie Evancho.

According to Trouper's caretaker Dot Lee, her furry companion first connected with the standout soprano – who became an overnight sensation after wowing audiences on NBC's *America's Got Talent* – about five years ago.

"I had been watching a special on PBS with Jackie and David Foster," recalled Lee, a resident of Fort Myers

who rescued the raccoon as a young kit. "Trouper was walking around in front of the television, and when Jackie started to sing, he stopped. He just sat there, listening to her voice. His ears went up, his eyes got wide and he stayed there for the entire show."

Lee knew that Trouper liked listening to music, but she had never seen the raccoon transfixed on one person's voice that intently. The next day, she went out and bought Trouper a Jackie Evancho CD and his own portable CD player, so he could listen to her music all the time.

Not too long afterwards, Lee and Trouper were attending an arts and crafts fair on Sanibel. While walking the grounds of The Community House, the raccoon seemed to be getting restless, so Lee put Trouper's specially-designed headphones on and played Evancho's *O Holy Night* CD for him to listen to. Immediately, the music calmed him down.

During appearances she made with Trouper, Lee often shared the story of how big a fan of Evancho's music

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Dot Lee holding Trouper the blind raccoon as he listens to a CD of his favorite singer, Jackie Evancho photo by Jeff Lysiak



Jackie Evancho will perform in Fort Myers on February 26 photo provided



Extraordinary shell collections

Time For Seashells At The Sanibel Shell Festival

submitted by Joyce Matthys

Over 80 years ago, the wives of sport fishermen visiting Florida's Sanibel and Captiva Islands walked the beaches collecting seashells

photos courtesy Joyce Matthys

while their husbands went fishing. At the end of the day, the women displayed their shells in boxes on the porches of the two island hotels, the Matthews Hotel (now the Island Inn) and Casa Ybel. Over time, this "end-of-the-day viewing" evolved into a competition between the two hotels. Then island residents and visitors eventually began saving their favorite shells to display them on a special "Shell Day," where prizes were awarded for the best shells.



Shell crafts

Now, 80 years later, shell collectors and shell artists from across the United States, Canada, Barbados, and even as far away as Japan and New Zealand have come to participate in the Sanibel Shell Show, the largest and longest-running shell show in the United States. It is held each March as a part of the Sanibel Shell Festival. Rare and exotic shells from around the world, as well as beautiful Sanibel shells, are displayed and entered into competition for awards

in the Scientific Division of the Shell Show. In addition, the show's Artistic Division displays bouquets of flowers, pictures, jewelry and exquisite Sailor's Valentines with their jaw-dropping intricate designs. All of these entries compete for prestigious trophies and all are made from seashells and sealife.

The grounds of The Community House, where the Shell Festival is held, are a continual bustle of activity. Shell

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Shell Tent

photo courtesy Joyce Matthys

From page 1

Time For Seashells

crafting demonstrations in the Creations Tent are ongoing and visitors have the opportunity to make their own shell flowers or shell animals. Beautiful shells can be purchased both inside at the Shell Show or outside at the Shell Tent where they sell for as little as 25 cents. Visitors have the opportunity to chat with the artists and collectors. Some bring their shells for identification. Local authors are on hand for book-signings. Tired feet can rest when taking a break to watch two outstanding videos that answer questions about shells and mollusks.

Visitors who have never seen a live shell have their chance during this Shell Festival. The sixth grade students at The Sanibel School study shells and mollusks, the animals that create the shells. These students host the Live Tank where various live species are on display. They share their knowledge with visitors, telling them how these animals eat, move and protect themselves.

For more information about the

Sanibel Shell Festival go to:

<https://sites.google.com/site/sanibelshellfestival/>.

The 80th annual Sanibel Shell Festival will be held Thursday, Friday and Saturday, March 2, 3 and 4. It is open Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

While there is no entrance fee to the Shell Festival grounds or parking fees, a \$5 donation is requested to attend the inside Shell Show. Anyone who gives the requested donation will also be granted free admission to the Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum during the Shell Festival, a \$15 value.

All the funds raised by the Sanibel-Captiva Shell Club are given in the form of grants to several local marine education and conservation organizations and for scholarship funds at the University of South Florida and Florida Gulf Coast University Departments of Marine and Ecological Science. All the funds raised by the outdoor activities go to the maintenance of The Community House.

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



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Campaign To Help Feed The Hungry Continues



Sharon and Mike Bulger photo by Jeff Lysiak
by Jeff Lysiak

Continuing their mission which began six years ago, Sanibel residents Mike and Sharon Bugler are preparing to launch the 2017 campaign for Feed The 5000 Now, a faith-based initiative which not only raises funds for regional food pantries but increases awareness about people who are hungry in the local community.

The couple started their first campaign in 2011 after Mike decided to go on a three-day fast. Instead of eating his usual three meals per day, the islander – originally from London, England – chose to forgo food and consume only water.

“I just felt compelled to do it,” recalled Bulger. “And during that time, I never felt as hungry as I did at that moment.”

On the day before his fast was about to end, Sharon, asked him what he planned to eat for his first meal. It was then that a compelling idea sprung into his mind.

“I thought to myself, how lucky I am to have the luxury of choosing whatever I wanted to eat, and how much I wanted, and whenever I wanted to eat,” he recalled.

It was on that first day following the fast that Mike and Sharon each decided to put aside \$1 for one meal, each and every day, which would be donated to helping feed the hungry. After doing some research, the couple discovered that the Harry Chapin Food Bank could turn each dollar donated to the food pantry into \$6 worth of food.

Since they started Feed The 5000 Now, more than \$750,000 worth of food has been purchased for area food pantries. “We are hoping that this year, we go over the \$1 million mark,” Mike noted.

On the island, the Buglers brought the idea for supporting the initiative to Sanibel Community Church, asking their fellow parishioners to donate whatever they could – 10 cents a day, \$1 a day, \$2 a day or more – towards their initiative. Following a 100-day effort, the church had collected \$12,000 in cash.

“A few years ago, the Harry Chapin Food Bank used to be able to purchase \$6 worth of food for every dollar donated,” the couple explained. “Now, they’re able to buy \$8 worth of food for every dollar.”

Sanibel Community Church’s annual Mission Month – which will begin on March 1 – will represent the sixth Feed The 5000 Now campaign.

“During the month of March, we are asking that people put aside whatever they can – a dime, a quarter, 50 cents or \$1 per day,” said Sharon. “We saw this as a way to keep the local food pantries going throughout the summer, when the pantries usually are running very low.”

The couple also noted that 100 percent of the money raised will be put towards purchasing food for the hungry.

In the United States, 49 million Americans are struggling with food insecurity. One in six adults, as well as one in four children, are at risk. In Lee County alone, there are 92,000 people affected by hunger.

“We really must change the perception of who our hungry neighbors are,” said Mike. “So often, they are the working poor. For minimum wage employees in Fort Myers, where even modest apartments command high rents, combined with utilities and other everyday living expenses, this often means there is little or no money left for food.”

Sharon also explained that a recent reduction of food stamps has served to enhance the problem. “Many jobs in the area are also subject to seasonality, which means that people are not guaranteed full-time employment,” she added. “This leads to food insecurity, which often results in children going hungry in the summer when they are not in school.”

To make a donation to Feed The 5000 Now, call Sanibel Community Church at 472-2684 or send a check – made payable to SCC with Feed The 5000 Now written in the memo line – to Sanibel Community Church, 1740 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel, FL 33957.

For additional information or to make a donation online, visit www.sanibelchurch.com.✽

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From page 1

Blind Raccoon

the remarkable raccoon was. On one occasion, during an appearance at Toys Ahoy in the Periwinkle Place Shopping Center, Lee received a call from Evancho's grandmother. Word had spread about Trouper's love of her granddaughter's vocals, and she asked if Lee could send her a copy of Kyle Miller's book *Trouper - The True Adventures of a Blind Raccoon: The Beginning*. Of course, Lee sent the book to be passed along to Evancho, later learning that the young singer read the story and shared it with her friends.

But the comical critter and famous recording artist had never met in person... until last year.

Evancho, who has released several Billboard charting albums since 2010 and has performed with artists including Barbra Streisand, Placido Domingo and Andrea Bocelli, met Trouper and Lee following her concert at The Lakeland Center.

Trouper, Lee and Judy Lewis (Lee's friend and assistant) were invited to see the show by Evancho's mother, Lisa, who had earlier reached out to Lee via phone after finding a young abandoned raccoon near the family's home in Pennsylvania.

"It was a great experience for all of us," said Lee. "We met her whole family. Trouper gave Jackie a bouquet

of roses and she sang a couple of songs to him. It was a very sweet moment."

"Jackie's dad, Michael, recorded the whole thing on his cell phone," added Lewis. "And, by the time we got home that night, he had already posted the video on YouTube!"

In the video - which has been view more than 38,000 times - Evancho receives a small bouquet from Trouper before she sings *Come What May* and *Amazing Grace* to him. In response, Trouper begins to purr. "You're a real life Dr. Doolittle," Michael Evancho tells his daughter.

"I was really honored when I learned that my voice soothes him and that he listens to my music every day," said the 16-year-old superstar.

This Sunday, February 26, Jackie Evancho will be performing for the first time in Fort Myers at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall. As you might expect, Trouper will be there, too.

"Jackie graciously invited us to come and see her perform again, and we are so grateful," added Lee. "It's so wonderful that she has connected with him and his message... of love, of peace and of respect for all living things. He might not be able to see, and he doesn't know what color, race or religion you are... and he doesn't care. He only knows that he wants to be loved."

For more information about Trouper, visit www.trouperandfriends.org.*

Historical Village Benefit Dinner And Dance



From left, Nanette Laurion, Ellen O'Neill and Maddy Mayor at a previous event

photo provided

The Sanibel Historical Village will host a "Let's Get Historical!" dinner and dance at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, March 15 on the village grounds. The benefit will support the ongoing needs of the historical village.

"Our needs range from everything from painting to roof repair," said Executive Director Emilie Alfino. "We need to paint the buildings where

possible, replace the garden fence, replace wood railing surrounding our walkway, and repair rotted windows. This is just a sample of the long list of projects we need to address."

The evening will include music by Kelly & Shelly, a husband-and-wife duo with a versatile style. According to the website, their special knack is including the audience in their performance. Performing together for more than 25 years, the Kelly & Shelly duo comes highly recommended.

One of Kelly & Shelly's specialties is dance music, and the evening will have dancing, as well as a sit-down dinner by Sanibel Catering Co. by Bailey's. There will be three dinner choices: English sirloin, chicken marsala and pesto-crusted Atlantic salmon.

Tickets are \$150 each, with sponsor levels available at the \$1,000 and \$500. For tickets, contact Emilie Alfino at 472-4648 or via email at info@sanibelmuseum.org.

The Sanibel Historical Museum and Village is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. It is located at 950 Dunlop Road (next to BIG ARTS). Admission is \$10 for adults over 18; those under 18 and members are free. Docent-guided tours are available at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at no extra charge, based upon docent availability. There is handicap access to all buildings. For more information, call 472-4648 during business hours or visit www.sanibelmuseum.org.*

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Captiva Island Historical Society

Looking Back: James And Signe Whiteman In The 1920s



James And Signe Whiteman photo courtesy Captiva Island Historical Society Archives

This week's image is James and Signe Wightman in the 1920s. James Wightman moved to Captiva in 1915. He met his future wife, Signe, a young Swedish immigrant, who was housekeeper for the Dr. John Dickey family.

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

Visit the Captiva Island Historical Society website www.captivaishistorical.com/archives/research to view many more images to bring you closer to Captiva.✧



A group of kayakers enjoying their trip through tranquil waters in Tarpon Bay

Low Tide Kayaking Tours

The JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge on Sanibel is world renowned for its incredible birding opportunities. Wading and shore birds flock to shallow mud flats, sea grass and oyster beds for feeding and foraging. But, as many birders or experienced refuge visitors may know, the abundance of birds and mass feeding activity does not happen every minute of every hour. Low tides are peak times in which not only mass-feeding events can occur but an abundance of wildlife take advantage of.

"Wading bird activity can be dependent on tides. Lower tides expose areas and create easier feeding opportunities for birds such as spoonbills, herons, egrets and more," said Tarpon Bay Explorer's Assistant Manager Adam

Sauerland. "Often, we have great birding in Tarpon Bay at low tides. Many folks are familiar with paddling through commodore creek or doing our kayak trail tour. The new low tide tour will allow people to enjoy seeing Tarpon Bay in a new way. Not only the birds, but wildlife that comes to life when the water is low."

The low tide paddle is led by experienced naturalists through the open waters and tidal flats of Tarpon Bay. The tour is 90 minutes with the naturalist and paddlers are able to keep the kayaks for the remainder of the day to continue exploring the open bay or head into the kayak trail.

The tour costs \$30 per adult and \$20 per child (age 12 and under). Since these extreme low tides occur typically with full or new moon phases, the opportunities for this tour are limited, so call 472-8900 for dates, times and reservations.✧

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From left, Sanibel Community Association board member Nicole McHale, office assistant Jan Rimmel and executive director Teresa Riska-Hall photos by Jan Holly

New Technology For Community Association

A special Capacity Grant to the Sanibel Community Association (SCA), given last year by the Charitable Foundation of the Islands (CFI), has brought The Community House's technological capabilities into the 21st century, according to SCA Executive Director Teresa Riska-Hall.

The new computer technology, installed with the latest software applications needed to run the activities, "has built our technology from the ground up," Riska-Hall said. "We have never had so much computer facility. It's a new day for The Community House."

CFI's grant, in the amount of \$6,000, enabled the SCA to acquire two computer hard drives, two monitors and two laptops. "This equipment streamlines association operations," SCA board member Melissa Congress said.

Congress, who also serves on the CFI board, but not on its Capacity Grants committee, is delighted with the outcome. "This new technology benefits Community Association staff members, as well as all island groups that locate their events in The Community House," she added. "It is a win-win for the island."

Both laptops and one hard drive and monitor are new installations for the house's technology system. "Only the hard drive and monitor in my office are a replacement of old equipment," Riska-Hall said. "With this additional hardware and software, we can convert our old file system to digital. No more searching for paper files and documents. It saves tremendous time and is very efficient. We carry around thumb drives now, instead of paper files."

One unforeseen benefit of the new acquisitions is an enhanced ability to control event-scheduling digitally. "We can run a whole week of events on our monitors, and the calendar is easy to



Sanibel Community Association Executive Director Teresa Riska-Hall, left, with SCA board member Melissa Congress

see and operate," said Riska-Hall.

The technology didn't arrive without its share of hiccups. "Some of the software we originally looked at were less compatible for us than anticipated," Riska-Hall explained. "Luckily, we found a specialist who researched the choices and found the perfect products for us. We now have exactly what we need."

The next challenge for the SCA is to train the staff and volunteers on the new software. "Because all hands were on deck when we reopened the house for business, we had to delay our training sessions, which takes about two weeks," noted Riska-Hall. "But once this last task is completed, there is no stopping us."

The Charitable Foundation of the Islands' partnership with The Sanctuary Community Golf Challenge and its many generous sponsors helps it to provide continuing financial support to worthy causes exclusively on Sanibel and Captiva. CFI's primary concerns are basic human needs, arts and education, the environment and unforeseen emergencies. Its mission is to promote philanthropy to help people in need on Sanibel and Captiva, and to strengthen non-profit organizations in order to build a spirit of community for generations to come.✧

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Ansel Bubel, environmental administrator for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, speaking during a 90-minute meeting on the Sanibel Slough held at the Sanibel Public Library last week photos by Jeff Lysiak

Health Of Sanibel Slough Is Focus Of Meeting

by Jeff Lysiak

More than 35 concerned city leaders and island residents gathered at the Sanibel Public Library last Friday morning to talk about the health of the Sanibel Slough – also known as the Sanibel River – which for many years has been impaired by excessive algal growth.

The 90-minute information sharing session, hosted by representatives from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), was called to discuss the draft Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the Sanibel Slough eastern and western basins, located within Charlotte Harbor.

According to the FDEP, human activities have added extra nitrogen and phosphorus to the Sanibel Slough, causing elevated growth of phytoplankton. Healthy fish and wildlife populations require that lower quantities of nitrogen and phosphorus reach the slough each year. The department is proposing new limits on nitrogen and phosphorus within the waterbody to bring the system back into balance.

“The specific action that we are taking is the proposal of a new TMDL,” said

Ansel Bubel, environmental administrator for the FDEP. “This will set a restoration goal and identify the amount of nutrient reductions necessary to restore the waterbody.”

During his presentation, Bubel explained that nutrients are contributed to waterbodies by both human and natural sources. A wide variety of human activities can contribute to nutrient loading, including septic tanks, fertilizer application, land development and agricultural activities.

“The City of Sanibel has strong leadership under James Evans at the Department of Natural Resources,” added Bubel. “The city has laid out a thoughtful nutrient management plan that identifies a viable path forward towards achieving the Sanibel Island TMDL.”

Evans, the most vocal local representative at the meeting, noted the importance of Sanibel residents understanding how their actions can influence water quality in the slough. “The fertilizers we use on our lawns and landscapes, the water we use for irrigation and types of plants we choose to install can influence water quality in our own backyards,” he said. “It is going to take everyone working together as a community to reduce the nutrient loading to the Sanibel Slough.”

During the meeting, the TMDL nutrient loading targets for the Sanibel Slough were discussed in detail. They included an 18 percent (401 kg/yr) reduction in



FDEP representative Pamela Flores

total nitrogen and a 27 percent (66 kg/yr) reduction in total phosphorus in the western Sanibel Slough basin; and a 31 percent (727 kg/yr) reduction in total nitrogen and a 74 percent (401 kg/yr) reduction in total phosphorus in the eastern Sanibel Slough basin.

“These are the target nutrient reduction goals proposed in the draft TMDL, which will need to be met in order for the Sanibel Slough to meet its designated use,” Evans explained.

In addition to Evans, the meeting was attended by Sanibel Mayor Kevin Ruane, city council candidate Jason Maughan, Public Works Director Keith Williams, Natural Resources Environmental Biologist Holly Milbrandt as well as representatives from the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation and the island’s three golf courses.

Fellow FDEP representatives Pamela Flores and James Albright also noted that citizens can make a positive impact on the Sanibel Slough by following local ordinances related to fertilizer use, cleaning up pet waste, planting native vegetation in their yards and by working with the city government to help support and implement activities such as those identified in the nutrient management plan.

To improve water quality in the Sanibel Slough, Sanibel residents will need to reduce the amount of nutrients (i.e. nitrogen and phosphorus) that leave their landscapes and enter surface and groundwater on Sanibel. They will need

to embrace Best Management Practices (BMPs), practices that reduce fertilizer and irrigation runoff and help remove nitrogen and phosphorus from waterbodies.

“As a community, Sanibel has implemented a number of important projects and programs to improve water quality on the island,” added Evans.

“These include converting the majority of the island from septic to central sewer, adopting stormwater regulations to hold more water on the landscape, a fertilizer ordinance for residential and commercial properties, BMPs and an annual report card system for the island’s golf courses, and development of a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan to identify the nutrient loading hotspots and guide nutrient reductions to meet the TMDL.”

For a complete list of the projects and programs that the city has implemented to address water quality in the Sanibel River, visit www.mysanibel.com/Departments/Natural-Resources/Protecting-Our-Water-Quality/Sanibel-H2O-Matters/On-Island-Water-Quality.

Written comments on the Sanibel Slough TMDL plan will be accepted through March 3, 2017 and should be directed to: Ansel Bubel, Environmental Administrator, Watershed Evaluation and TMDL Section, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Mail Station 3555, 2600 Blair Stone Road, Tallahassee, FL 32399-2400 or via email to ansel.bubel@dep.state.fl.us. ✪

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Captiva Chapel Lenten Season

Lent is the season which prepares us for Easter. In addition to Captiva Chapel by the Sea's regular Sunday services, during the 2017 Lenten Season, they also invite islanders and visitors to join them for upcoming events and services. Food For the Body and Soul will be offered at 11:30 a.m. on March 8, 15, 22 and 29 as well as on April 5 and 12. Following a brief service of Holy Communion in the historic chapel, attendees will meet next door in the casual atmosphere of the parsonage for soup and study. The first four Wednesdays, they will look at the topic "L is for Loving." In the final two weeks, they will discuss "E is for Empathy." Drop in to any or all of these dates for communion, soup

and conversation. There is no prior preparation necessary. Special Lenten Services will be held:

- March 1 – Ash Wednesday at 4 p.m.: Holy Communion and imposition of ashes.
- April 13 – Maundy/Holy Thursday at 4 p.m.: Holy Communion.
- April 14 – Good Friday at noon. Good Friday Liturgy
- April 16 – Easter Sunday Service at 11 a.m.

Captiva Chapel by the Sea is an interdenominational ministry serving Southwest Florida's winter season and is recorded in the National Register of Historic Places. The church is located at 11580 Chapin Lane on Captiva. Rev. John Cedarleaf will lead services this season. For more information, visit www.captivachapel.com, call the church office at 472-1646 or follow Captiva Chapel by the Sea on Facebook.✪



Captiva Chapel by the Sea

photo provided

Top Ten Books On The Island

1. *Heart of the Sanibel Sunset Detective* by Ron Base
2. *The Wisdom of Gift From the Sea* by Anne Morrow Lindbergh
3. *Honorable War* by Robert Macomber
4. *Clownfish Blues* by Tim Dorsey
5. *Sanibel Flats* by Randy Wayne White

6. *Britt-Marie Was Here* by Frederik Backman
 7. *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles
 8. *My Name is Lucy Barton* by Elizabeth Strout
 9. *Remarkable Women of Sanibel & Captiva* by Jeri Magg
 10. *The Little Paris Bookshop* by Nina George
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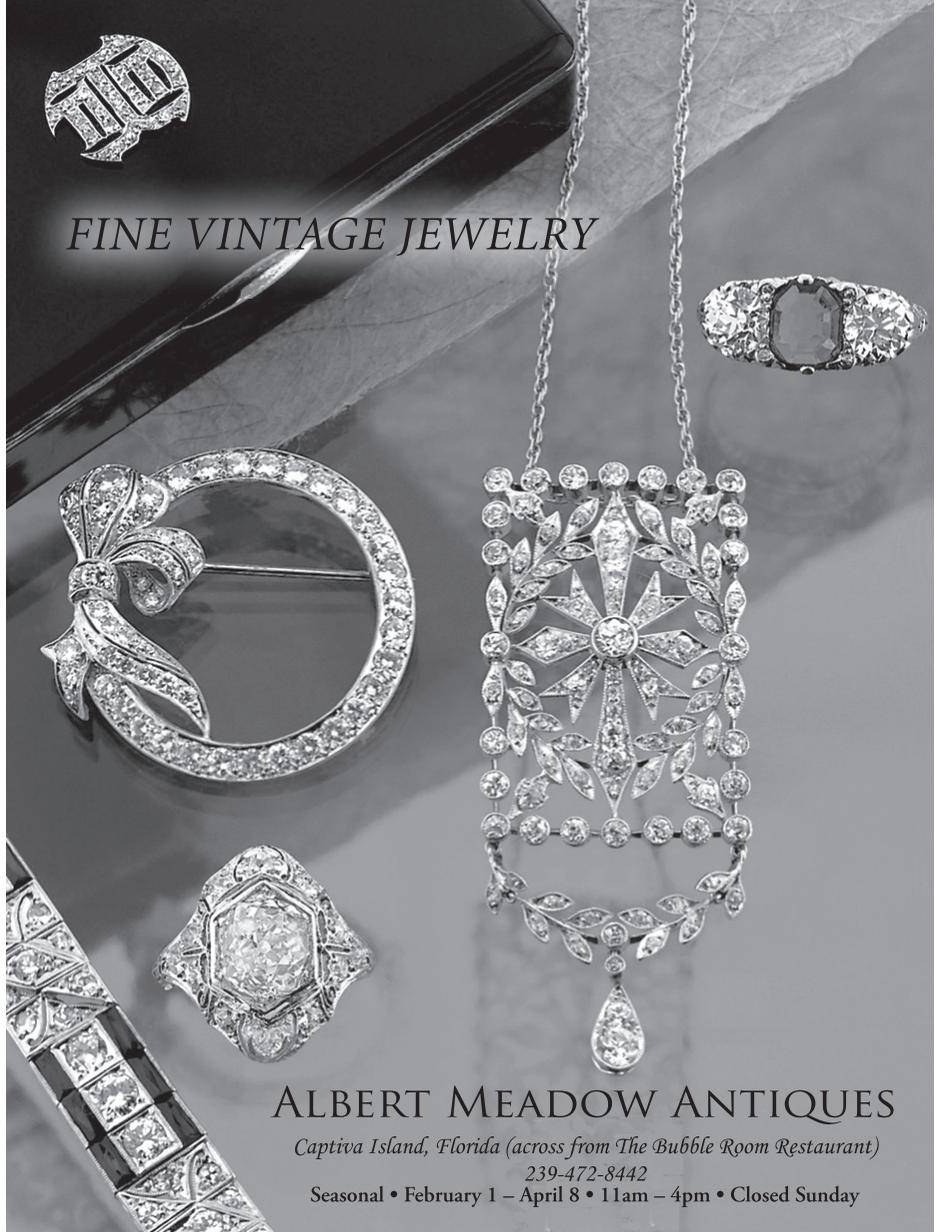
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OBITUARY



RALPH R. BOESER

Ralph R. Boeser, age 75, of Prior Lake, Minnesota, passed February 14, 2017. He was a charismatic man who loved fishing, boating and smoking a good cigar with friends. Ralph especially enjoyed spending winters on Fort Myers Beach with his wife. He is survived by his children, Christine "Bucky" Boeser, Colleen (James) Christensen, Brian (Cheri) Boeser, Julie Boeser; six grandchildren; and one great-grandson. He was preceded in death by wife, Carol Boeser; brother, Dennis Boeser. Services were held in Minnesota on February 20.✱

Ensembles To Perform

Two Wartburg College music ensembles will perform at Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ, 2050 Periwinkle Way, on Thursday, March 2. The concert is part of the ensembles' 2017 Southeast Tour.

The 7:30 p.m. concert will feature the Castle Singers and Kammerstreicher, a string ensemble from the Waverly, Iowa college. Free-will donations will be accepted at the door to fund scholarships and future tours. The choir also will participate in the 6:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday worship service on Wednesday, March 1, at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 777 Mooring Line Drive, in Naples.

Selections for the Thursday performance will include the premiere of a madrigal for voices and strings penned by Jacob Tews, Wartburg's Kammerstreicher conductor. The piece is an "energetic and humorous fairy tale sung in nonsensical English, which becomes understandable only when heard."

"We are thrilled to continue the collaboration between the Kammerstreicher and the Castle Singers that began last year," Tews said. "I am continually amazed by the

artistry of the musicians involved in the ensembles and encouraged by their fun-loving, joyful personalities."

The Castle Singers program includes Gerald Finzi's *My Spirit Sang All Day* and a collection of folk songs that includes *Rise Up, O Men of God* by Kenneth Jennings and *Softly and Tenderly* by René Clausen. The concert will conclude with U2's *With or Without You* and The Manhattan Transfer's *Operator*.

On this tour, Kammerstreicher will be represented by a quintet that will perform Percy Fletcher's *Folk Tune and Fiddle Dance*, Astor Piazzolla's *Libertango* and a Hungarian dance by Johannes Brahms.

The Wartburg College Castle Singers has been hailed as a model of musicianship since its inception in 1950. Under the direction of Nicki Bakko Toliver, this chamber ensemble continues to prepare a wide variety of repertoire from Byrd to the Beatles and beyond.

Kammerstreicher, the college's chamber string orchestra, was formed in 2014. Repertoire for the group includes Baroque and classical works, standard string orchestra pieces and arrangements of songs by the Beatles and Radiohead. Kammerstreicher even branches into the realm of improvisation, exploring jazz and bluegrass alongside contemporary

classical improvisations.

Wartburg College is a selective liberal arts college of the Lutheran Church (ELCA) internationally recognized for community engagement. ✱

American Legion Post 123

On Sunday, February 26, American Legion Post 123 will be serving barbecued ribs and chicken from 1 to 8 p.m. Cost is \$12 to \$14.

Every Monday is the 8-ball pool league tournament at 5 p.m. Stop in and watch some good shooting. On Tuesdays, tacos are served all day. Spaghetti and meatballs are served all day on Wednesday. On Fridays, a six-ounce ribeye steak sandwich is on the menu. There are daily specials as well as half-pound burgers. Food is served from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The Ladies Auxiliary has shell ornaments available.

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

For more information, call 472-9979.✱

Email editorial copy to: press@islandsunnews.com

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Lenten-Season Concert March 10



Dr. Charles Webb and Teresa Procter will perform a Lenten-season concert on March 10 at St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church photos courtesy SMAAE

Mezzo-soprano Teresa Procter and pianist Charles Webb return by popular demand to perform a Lenten-season concert starting at 7 p.m. on Friday, March 10 at St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church.

The performance, taking place in

the church's Sanctuary and titled Sunset Serenades for Sanibel, features Procter singing much-loved songs by such composers as Henry Mancini, Georges Bizet, Rodgers and Hammerstein, Cole Porter and Leonard Bernstein.

Procter and Webb will be joined

by pianist Anita Kruse. In addition to accompanying Procter, Webb appears as soloist, performing Chopin's popular *Polonaise in Ab Major*. Kruse performs her own compositions, in collaboration with Procter.

The pianists will play on a Bechstein 6-foot, 8-inch antique grand piano. The piano – a rare, handcrafted instrument provided by Euro Pianos Naples – was manufactured in 1898. With original soundboard and ivory keys still intact, its sonority is particularly well suited to vocal and instrumental chamber music. Its case and original spider web music rack are of a pomele sapele African flame mahogany veneer, and it is ornamented with octagonal legs and wood inlays on the rim and lid.

The concert is free and open to the public. Tickets are not required. A Meet-the-Artists reception follows the concert in the church's Parish Hall.

To inquire about the concert or other special events at St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church, located at 2304 Periwinkle Way, contact Rector Ellen Sloan at 472-2173 or visit www.saintmichaels-sanibel.org*

Chopin Piano Competition Winner To Perform

Pianist Eric Lu will amaze audiences on Tuesday, March 7 when he plays for the Sanibel Music Festival at the Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ, located at 2050 Periwinkle Way, beginning at 8 p.m.

Lu, 19, is rapidly building an international reputation as a young pianist with enormous promise and a distinctive musical voice. A native of the Boston area, he was admitted at age 15 to the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, where he currently studies. He won first prize in the 2015 National Chopin Competition in Miami (where he also received the



Eric Lu photo courtesy Sanibel Music Festival best concerto prize), and the IX Moscow International Chopin Competition for

Young Pianists.

At 17, Lu won the 4th prize at the 17th International Frederik Chopin competition in Warsaw, becoming one of the youngest winners in the history of the competition. Earlier awards include first prizes at the Ettlinger International and the Minnesota Junior Competition. Sponsored by Pat and Davis Thurber.

Lu's program will include:

Mozart, *Rondo in A minor, K. 511*
Schubert, *Impromptu in C minor, Op. 90, No. 1 (D899, No.1)*
Chopin, *24 Preludes, Op. 28*

Tickets may be purchased for \$45 each online at www.sanibelmusicfestival.org or by calling 344-7025. Tickets may also be purchased by cash or check only at the Bank of the Islands, 1699 Periwinkle Way, and Sanibel Captiva Community Bank, 2477 Library Way on Sanibel.*

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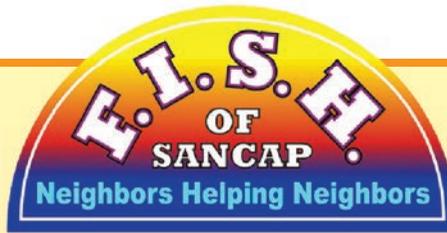
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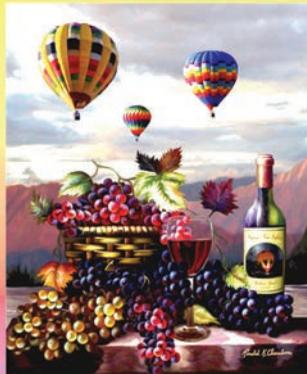
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Emily Kletzien shows off her Mardi Gras spirit at a previous year's service
photos courtesy SCUCC



At Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ, Tom Cooley prepares to join in the musical celebration

"Year after year, this is one of our most popular services," said Senior Pastor John Danner. "I think this year, more than ever, folks need the uplift that it can provide."

The days or weeks before Ash Wednesday, which marks the start of Lent, are festive times in many parts of the world. New Orleans stages one of the most famous Mardi Gras (Fat Tuesday) celebrations with a week marked by parades and parties. This year, Ash Wednesday falls on March 1. The church will mark that important day with a worship service complete with ashes. But before the days of fasting, the feasting and celebration of Mardi Gras begin.

Mardi Gras began as the time to clean out all the fats before the Lenten time of fasting. Hence the name, Fat Tuesday.

Church Mardi Gras Services

Members of the Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ (SCUCC) invite residents and visitors to join them at two special celebrative services in the spirit of Mardi Gras. These services will be held on Sunday, February 26 at 9 and 11 a.m. to mark the last Sunday before Lent begins. Both services will feature music by members of the Island Jazz band, plus balloons and beads.

Over the centuries, the day has evolved into a time of wider celebration.

Island Jazz is entering its 11th season of free outdoor concerts in the Bohler Garden at BIG ARTS every Sunday at 3 p.m. Island Jazz members were previously part of the church's annual Jazz Sunday. This time, members Harry Reiner (trumpet), Tom Cooley (washboard), Louis Pradt (clarinet), Bill Johns (bass) and Glen

Poling (guitar) will lead the Dixieland themed music

"We love to play at the church – as a Dixieland ensemble this time," band member Tom Cooley said. "Dixie is such happy music, even when it's sad."

The public is invited attend either service. For more information, visit the church website at www.sanibelucc.org or call the church office at 472-0497.*



Carolyn Graham and Ellen Full

photo provided

Society Thanks Shell Collector For Donations

Henry Samson Mayflower Colony Governor Ellen Full recently presented a thank you gift to Carolyn Graham for the Sanibel Island seashells she donated to be used as centerpieces at the Florida Mayflower Society annual state dinner at the Hilton Garden Inn in Fort Myers. It was attended by some 95 members.

Graham is a direct descendant of James Chilton, one of the 102 passengers who traveled the *Mayflower* in 1620. She collected the beautiful shells over a period of 40 years and has proudly shared her love of history with all her family.*

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Community House Events

Season is in full swing at the newly renovated Community House. On Friday, February 24 at 6 p.m., Florida Humanities speaker Peggy MacDonald will present a program on Marjorie Harris Carr. MacDonald will discuss Florida's "Three Marjorie(y)s" and how they used the power of the pen and grassroots activism to celebrate Old Florida and protect Florida's wildlife and wild places. Through historic postcards, photos and discussion, MacDonald provides audiences with an inspirational message about the power a small group of committed



Marjorie Harris Carr in Ocklawaha, Florida photo provided

citizens can have in defending Florida's environment.

The long awaited Kiwanis Spaghetti Dinner will be held on Saturday, February 25 from 4 to 8 p.m. Then it's time to set up for the 80th annual Sanibel Shell Festival, which runs Thursday through Saturday, March 2 through 4. On Sunday, March 5, there will be a sushi cooking demonstration.

Registration is open for the next session of Beginners Bridge lessons and 2 Over 1 Bridge lessons with Susan Willoughby.

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

Update From The Democratic Club

On February 16, the Democratic Club of the Islands (DCI) presented another successful program, its first in the newly-renovated Community House. After holding monthly meetings in Meeting Room 4 of the Sanibel Public Library, the DCI has found a new home in the North Room of The Community House, where they have held their October "Welcome Back" potluck dinners for many years.

Since the election, membership and attendance at DCI's monthly meetings has greatly increased. Happy hours are at Traders on the first Thursday each month and monthly meetings, now at The Community House, are usually the third Thursday each month. All meetings are free and open to the public.

In November, 104 people packed the meeting room for an election analysis. In January, almost 70 people were a standing room only crowd for a Planned Parenthood meeting. February's meeting on Immigration had 85 in attendance. DCI's meeting on Thursday, March 23 will begin at 7 p.m. with another program relevant to today's issues.*

CARD OF THANKS

After a beautiful month on Sanibel, we decided to enjoy one last meal before leaving for the airport. On our way, our car broke down at Periwinkle and Tarpon Bay Road. My husband said he thought the alternator was out. Immediately, I took out my AAA card, wondering in my head how long it would take them to come onto Sanibel, and what in the world we were going to do with the car since we were leaving.

As I waved traffic around us, a couple stopped and asked if we needed help. They pushed us into the parking lot, and gave us a jump. As we were charging our car, we came to find out the couple was on their way to their place on Sanibel, and had just driven down from South Dakota. I couldn't believe they spent their time giving us a jump.

As we continued home, we once again broke down. Again, so many people asked if we needed help. Two women stopped and offered their assistance. It was clear as one of the women got out of her car, that she was faced with her own struggles. We once again started down West Gulf, and broke down two more times. The women followed us and jumped our car each time until we finally rolled into our garage, as the taxi awaited us to go to the airport. Unfortunately, in our rush to get to our flight, we failed to get the people's names so we could properly thank them.

Our dream for the past 40 years was to own a home on Sanibel because of its beauty. Now I can say how fortunate we are to own on the beautiful island due to its kind and generous people.

- Patti Tully*



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SCCF Benefactors Brunch Held At Bailey Homestead



More than 100 supporters, staff and volunteers attended last week's SCCF Benefactors Brunch, held at the new open air pavilion at the Bailey Homestead Preserve

photos by Jeff Lysiak

by Jeff Lysiak

Last Thursday morning, more than 100 Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation board members, supporters, staff and volunteers attended the annual Benefactors Brunch, held for the first time on the grounds of the Bailey Homestead Preserve.

"There are a myriad of stories represented here today," said SCCF Executive Director Erick Lindblad during his introductory remarks. "We are so appreciative for all that you've done in support of SCCF over the past 50 years."

Lindblad went on to offer details of some of the foundation's most recent acquisitions and accomplishments, along with some of the plans for the near future. They included:

- Acquiring 11 acres of land on Upper Captiva Island
- Continued water quality management efforts
- Hosting the recent Everglades Coalition Conference
- Breaking ground on a new Marine Laboratory facility at Tarpon Bay
- Continued sea grass and oyster bed restoration efforts
- A record-breaking year for sea turtle nests in 2016
- Discovering the presence of a new barn owl population on the islands
- Planning a number of prescribed burns – coordinated with the City of Sanibel – which will take place in May and/or June
- Establishing the Native Landscapes & Garden Center at the Bailey Homestead Preserve

"Come and visit the preserve during the early morning hours and walk the Shipley Trail," he encouraged the crowd. "The entire property is just buzzing with birds and wildlife activity."

Following brunch, SCCF Education Director Kristie Anders shared a 50-year history of the foundation's accomplishments, continuing its mission and thanking



Gwenda Hiett-Clements welcomed the crowd to the new pavilion at the preserve



Brunch co-chairs Diane Neitzel and Shelley Greggs



SCCF Executive Director Erick Lindblad, center, chatting with Nancy and Dick Curtin the benefactors for their generous support.

"From small gatherings in living rooms and back porches, you have mastered resources to bring us blazing into the 21st century," said Anders. "We hear about the heart and soul of communities and think of some ethereal spirit that holds places together and distinguishes them from everywhere else. SCCF is a tale of the commons – your community held vision of open green space where wildlife and humans thrive together."

For additional information, to volunteer or to make a contribution, visit www.sccf.org.

CHR's Annual Mardi Gras Dubbed Best Yet

Hundreds of hours and months of planning, dozens of volunteers, 50 generous sponsors, 250 guests and one night of merriment and revelry later, Community Housing and Resources' 5th annual Mardi Gras is officially a wrap. It was an evening of fun under the stars at The Dunes Golf & Tennis Club, and CHR announced that thanks to their generous sponsors and donors, they met their fundraising goal.

As emcee Victor Mayeron kept the crowd energized, Sanibel Catering Company was setting out stations of Cajun-inspired treats such as crawfish, shrimp and grits, oysters on the half shell and candied pork belly. In the speakeasy bourbon lounge, American Barrels gave party-goers a taste of their bourbons. Guests had their palms read in a mystical tent, took pictures with friends in the

photo booth, and donated to CHR in the Lowe's Homes of Love area.

The crowd was on its feet as they heard the Fort Myers High School marching band approaching and formed into a parade line, following the drummers and dancers across The Dunes' driving range to the pool in anticipation of the swim relay. The defending champs, Sanibel Captiva Trust Company's green team, put in a valiant effort but the team that ultimately triumphed this year was the Sanibel Captiva Beach Resorts' purple team. The crowd went wild as the purple team, adorned in matching floral swim caps, took to the podium to claim their trophy.

Three raffle prizes provided by Lowe's were awarded to winners in the crowd, including a power washer won by Steve Greenstein of the Sanibel Captiva Trust Company that was then graciously donated back and "auctioned off" to raise even more funds for CHR's mission. Mick and Sue Denham, the grand prize sponsors who donated a trip for two to New Orleans, drew the winning raffle ticket and the prize was awarded to none other



Crowd shot of the 5th annual CHR Mardi Gras event held February 11 at The Dunes

photo courtesy CHR

than Sanibel Mayor Kevin Ruane and wife, Doreen.

The evening ended with music and dancing, coffee and desserts, and – most importantly – an overwhelming feeling of gratitude to the people that made the 5th

annual Mardi Gras "the best yet," raising funds needed to rehabilitate CHR's units currently in most critical need. To learn more and to donate to CHR's Homes of Love campaign, visit www.sanibelchr.org/homesoflove.

Marty Harrity

For Sanibel City Council

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Re-Elect Marty Harrity on March 7th.



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— RANDY WAYNE WHITE



“Sanibel needs experienced leaders like Marty Harrity. A true champion of our Sanibel way of life.”

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“Marty has been a consistent common sense leader that the residents of Sanibel know they can trust.”

— DAVID WRIGHT, EXEC. VP
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“Marty has a proven track record of sound business leadership and fiscal policy for Sanibel.”

— RIC BASE, SANIBEL-CAPTIVA CHAMBER PRESIDENT



“Marty is a businessman and very community oriented. We can count on him to make the best decisions for our island.”

— LINDA NATON, HEAD OF CONDO ASSOCIATION OF SANIBEL

Across Sanibel, voters and community leaders are supporting Marty Harrity.

- Trusted Community Voice
- Proven Track Record of Results
- Sound Fiscal Leadership

**Join Marty’s supporters
this Election Day.
Vote for
Marty on March 7th.**

Political advertisement paid for and approved by Marty Harrity for Sanibel City Council.



Seahorses are common inhabitants of Sanibel's seagrass beds

photo courtesy Sanibel Sea School

Adult Seagrass Class At Sanibel Sea School

On Wednesday, March 1 from 9 a.m. to noon, Sanibel Sea School will host a course about our local seagrass ecosystems for adult students, focusing specifically on the seagrass beds located underneath the Sanibel Causeway bridges.

"Often, we don't think about what's under the bridge when we drive over it," said Nicole Finnicum, the Sea School's Director of Education. "But there are rich seagrass beds teeming with life right there, and they play an important role

in Sanibel's larger ecosystem. This class will offer a whole new perspective on our causeway islands."

During the class, Sanibel Sea School's marine educators will use a seine net to give students an opportunity to take a closer look at some of the creatures that call seagrass home.

"We might catch crabs, fish, live shells, and possibly even a seahorse or two," said Finnicum, who added that students are welcome to wade out to the seagrass beds or stay on shore.

Sanibel Sea School is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization whose mission is to improve the ocean's future, one person at a time. To learn more and register, visit www.sanibelseaschool.org/Sanibel-adult-classes or call 472-8585.*

City Of Sanibel Vegetation Committee Don't Plant Any 'Pest' Species

In conjunction with National Invasive Species Awareness Week, the City of Sanibel's Vegetation Committee invites you to stop by their Worst of the Worst invasive exotic species display at the Sanibel Island Farmer's Market on Sunday, February 26.

Initiated in 2010, National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW) is a week-long series of activities, briefings and events to highlight efforts across the nation and around the world to slow the spread of invasive species. In the United States alone, invasive species cost over \$120 billion annually in damage and control, and the cost they inflict on our natural heritage is immeasurable.

The city has been waging war against invasive exotic plants (and some animals, too) that threaten Sanibel's natural areas since the early 1980s. An invasive exotic plant is an exotic, or non-native, plant that not only has naturalized but is aggressively expanding on its own, displacing native plants and wildlife and disrupting natural ecological processes. In 1996, the city enacted legislation regulating eight invasive exotic plant species -Brazilian pepper, air potato, earleaf acacia, exotic inkberry (beach naupaka), java plum, lead tree, mother-in-law's tongue and melaleuca - that were determined to be the "worst of the worst" invaders on Sanibel. These eight species may not be intentionally planted,

transplanted, or otherwise introduced in any way on Sanibel and are required to be permanently removed as a condition of all city development permits.

Although the war is far from over, the city and its conservation partners, the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) and the USFWS at the JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge, have won several battles. Introduced as an ornamental and for its ability to dry up swampy environments, the last known melaleuca tree on Sanibel was cut down in September 1989. The city also continues to make progress with the island-wide Brazilian Pepper Eradication Program. As a result of this ambitious program, Brazilian pepper has been removed from all of Sanibel's conservation areas and from most of the islands residential and commercial properties. Additionally, Sanibel residents collected over 1,000 pounds of air potato bulbils as part of the city's Air Potato Exchange Day programs in 2012 and 2013.

There is still much work to be done.

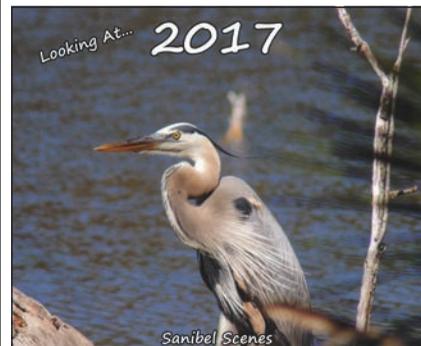
Whether you are acting as a steward for your own property, a local park or a far away natural area, invasive plants are likely to be a problem. In the face of such global threats to biodiversity as habitat destruction and climate change, we can each make a difference by preventing and controlling the spread of invasive species. The first step is to know what you're looking for. Stop by the city's booth at the Farmer's Market on Sunday, February 26 and learn how to identify the "worst of the worst".

For more information, visit www.mysanibel.com/Departments/Natural-Resources/Vegetation-Information/Exotic-Vegetation/Other-Invasive-Exotic-Vegetation or contact the city's Natural Resources Department at 472-3700.*

The Natural Resources Department section of the city's website, www.mysanibel.com, offers information and photos of native plants, a listing of licensed contractors, Sanibel's vegetation standards and codes, and the Environmental Reference Handbook prepared by the city's vegetation committee. The vegetation committee also offers free native plant tours of the grounds at city hall at 10 a.m. on the second Wednesday and fourth Saturday of the month from November to April. For more information, contact the Sanibel Natural Resources Department at 472-3700.*

2017 Sanibel Scenes Calendars

feature photos of local scenery and wildlife taken in and around Sanibel, so they are close to home.



In addition to the beautiful pictures, each month contains some tidbits of information or personal advice you should know.

This is the fourth consecutive year for these popular calendars, and they are available at these island favorite stores:

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- Island Pharmacy**
- Suncatcher's Dream**

I ♥ Sanibel bumper stickers are also available at these favorite island stores.

Audubon Bird Walk At Refuge

The next bird walk of the Sanibel-Captiva Audubon's 2017 season will be held on Saturday, February 25 at the JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge. Participants will meet in the overflow parking lot - to the left as you drive into the refuge - at 8 a.m. These bird walks are open to the public and all levels of experience; refuge fees will apply. The Duck Stamp and Federal Senior Pass are accepted.

For more information, visit www.san-capaudubon.org.*

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- **Created a more efficient and effective government**
- **Rallied Tallahassee and Washington officials to protect our water quality**
- **Defeated Washington politicians' scheme to raise flood insurance costs**
- **Reduced Sanibel's debt by nearly 62%**
- **Restored Sanibel's reserves from \$2 million to \$14 million**
- **Reformed Sanibel's pension plan, securing it for generations to come**

Kevin Ruane knows just how important delivering common sense results is to you.



➤ Vote for Results ➤ Vote for Kevin Ruane

Political advertisement paid for and approved by Kevin Ruane for Sanibel City Council.

Let The Tide Plan Your Days Fishing



by Capt. Matt Mitchell

With far from desirable tides this week, fishing was good as long as you chose to target the right species at the right time. As always, fishing while we have

moving water just makes things easier and will always be the better bite. During periods of any tide movement, the catch-and-release snook bite continued to be outstanding, along with some of the bigger trout I have seen while fishing in the mangrove bays and creeks. Once the tide quit moving, trying to get any species of fish to eat a bait is going to be tough. This proved very true this week.

One option for bending the rods during these no-tide periods was to get in or close to the passes. Our passes have at least a little bit of water movement when no where else does. Another good choice during windy days

is to set up on a wind-blown shoreline. Find any kind of water movement during the few hours of slack tide and your odds of catching fish are drastically increased. Most days this week, we had to deal with at least a few hours of slack tide. That was a little bit of a challenge. All species of saltwater fish just feed better in moving water as they stage up, letting the current bring the bait to them.

If you can plan your day's fishing according to what the day's tide movement is, you will catch more and better fish. Fish during the periods of the most water flow as this is when gamefish simply feed the best. During these fast moving water periods, target your more glamorous species of snook, redfish and trout. During the slack tide periods, sheepshead fishing is a good choice. Sheepshead saved quite a few days on the water this week. Wind-blown docks both in the sound and in the passes where productive for sheepshead even during zero-tide movement. If one dock was not happening, I would move to the next. Once we got these fish feeding, it was bite after bite all on chunks of shrimp.

Having some shrimp in your live well to fall back on when things get tough is a must have. Small chunks of shrimp



Dean Niehus from Sioux City Iowa with a 24 inch trout caught while fishing with Capt. Matt Mitchell this week

bounced across the bottom in narrow, shell-bottomed creeks will almost always get a strike when nothing else will. A few narrow creek entrances I fish had a wide variety of species including pompano, flounder and black drum that all ate the slow-moving, bottom-bounced chunk of shrimp during lousy tides. When the current is not moving, a slow-bounced jig head with a chunk of shrimp is a great way to cover some ground.

Learning how our tides work only comes from time served along with the

understanding of what certain species of fish do during the different stages of the tide. The tide decides what species, where and how I will fish on any given day and is the single most important factor to having a successful days fishing.

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

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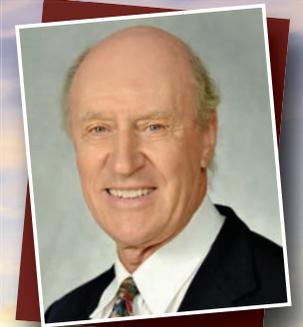
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Spearheaded water quality restoration projects



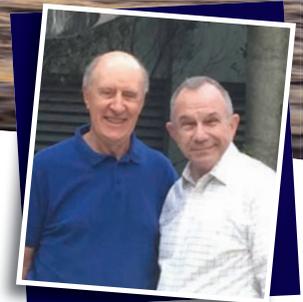
“Mick has been immensely supportive of Sanibel and especially through our fight for water quality; he understands how important it is to our economy, property values and our very way of life.”
 - **Ric Base**, Sanibel Captiva Chamber of Commerce President



“With Mick we can look forward to financial stability, low taxes, a focus on community and a path to water quality.”
 - **Richard Johnson**, Owner, Baileys General Store



“Mick has done a terrific job and, in particular, has worked very hard to improve our water quality.”
 - **Ann Moeder**, neighbor and community volunteer



“Much of the success our city has enjoyed is a result of the high-quality, dedicated leaders who’ve served on City Council. Mick Denham epitomizes that service.”
 - **J. Thomas Uhler**, financial planner



Record of Common Sense Solutions

- Worked to reduce damaging Lake Okeechobee water releases
- Successfully implemented programs to clean up toxic runoff, control fertilizer use near waterways, and increased wastewater treatment capacity
- Secured economic stability for Sanibel by increasing the city’s reserves to nearly \$10 million



Trusted Community Leader

- Vice Mayor
- Named Conservationist of the Year by the Southwest Florida Audubon Society
- Volunteer at Ding Darling Wildlife Refuge
- Florida League of Cities Hometown Hero Award for Legislative Advocacy

Political advertisement paid for and approved by Mick Denham for Sanibel City Council.

VOTE MARCH 7th!



The interior of this injured royal palm resembles a bunch of broken, knobby violin strings photos by Gerri Reaves

Countless strands like these are arranged cylindrically within the palm stem

Plant Smart

Palms, Not Really Trees

by Gerri Reaves

Most of us are accustomed to thinking of palm trees as just that, trees. After all, they have trunks topped by green leaves, flowers and fruit.

But chop down a palm and you won't see concentric rings like those you would see on the interior of a true tree.

Look at the photo of the injured royal palm (*Roystonea regia*) that looks like a bunch of knobby violin strings have popped out of it.

That photo illustrates one of the reasons that palms, strictly speaking, are not trees.

Simply put, palms are monocots and true trees are dicots. The two classifications of flowering plants differ in leaf, stem, flower and fruit characteristics.

"Mono-" and "di-" indicate that monocots have one embryonic leaf in the seed and dicots have two, respectively.

Palms, lilies, orchids, bananas, ginger,

onions, sugarcane, grasses, bamboo and grains such as wheat, corn, rice and millet are monocots.

Magnolias, legumes, roses, wild cotton and the red mangrove, for example, are dicots.

Monocots are the first modern plant family to be clearly present in fossil records. The palm family (*Arecaceae* or *Palmae*) has about 2,600 species, with palms appearing about 80 million years ago.

As monocots, palm have long strands of scattered vascular bundles within the stem (or trunk), forming a cylinder. Curiously, in palms, more bundles tend to be located near the outer part of the stem than in the center.

It's those strands that are visible in the photo.

That scattered arrangement versus a dicot's ring-like arrangement means that palms are not capable of what botanist term secondary growth because there is no cortex.

A palm's interior is herbaceous (soft

and succulent) versus a dicot's (usually) woody interior. Dicots can produce wood and bark and increase in diameter.

Palms are not capable of the same type of secondary growth as a live oak or red maple tree. However, unlike some other monocots, they do nevertheless manage what's called diffuse secondary growth.

The division, enlargement, and thickening of the cells that make up most of the plant mass makes possible an increase in the trunk diameter.

Those enlarged cells, in addition to overlapping leaf bases and prop roots, make it possible for an enormous and heavy royal palm to support itself.

So, there's a reason South Florida pioneers favored slash pine or oak for building houses, despite the wide availability of several palm species.

Sources: biology.stackexchange.com, diffen.com, newworldencyclopedia.org, and ucmp.berkeley.edu.

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

Master Gardeners To Meet March 2

The 89th meeting of the Master Gardener Lecture Series will be held on Thursday, March 2 at the Sanibel Public Library beginning at 10 a.m. The program will be presented by the biologists on the staff at the Sanibel Department of Natural Resources. Their presentation will discuss and illustrate with digital PowerPoint visuals the recently completed and current ongoing restoration projects.

Many cities of 150,000 or more do not have a Natural Resources Department; rather, they have a Parks and Recreation Department to maintain public recreation areas. Sanibel, by contrast, has a Department of Natural Resources staffed by four environmental biologists, supported by the city and augmented by funding from grants from county, state and federal government agencies. Additionally, the department partners with the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation and JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge on mutually important projects.

Recently completed projects include an island-wide comprehensive nutrient

plan, repairs to The Dunes' weir, and the creation of a Bailey Road living shoreline. Current projects involve Community Lake Best Management Practices (controlling algae, invasive vegetation and nutrient reduction), designing and engineering of the Jordan Marsh, initiation of the Lighthouse and Woodring living shorelines and updates on the island-wide Beach Management Plan. The department continues to have influence on important committees at the state level dealing with fresh - but polluted - water flow and storage from the Caloosahatche watershed.

The biologists monitor evaluate and grade the island's three golf courses, are an important team member of Sanibel prescribed burns, oversee exotic lizard control, monitor the city's new coyote problem, enforce sea turtle lighting codes, monitor exotic invasive vegetation and are involved with any new or recurrent insect infestation on the island. During the Master Gardener lecture, staff will answer questions during and after the presentation. This is your only opportunity to learn of their essential roles on our unique island.

The meeting is free and open to the public; seating is limited.*

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Sanibel School students Camryn Peach and Preston Hall measure a sand dollar during their research day at Sanibel Sea School
photo courtesy Sanibel Sea School

Sand Dollars Researched

submitted by Leah Biery

Students from The Sanibel School visited Sanibel Sea School to participate in the nonprofit organization's long-term study of our island's sand dollar population. Dr. Terrie Kielborn and 24 of her students in grades six through eight joined the school's marine educators to collect and measure sand dollars near the Colony beach access on Sanibel's east end.

After a brief introduction to basic research techniques, participants conducted quadrat samples, which can help scientists determine the size and abundance of sand dollars in a population. After they completed the field-based portion of the research, they also practiced computer data entry and were introduced to the tools used to analyze the frequency and monthly growth of the sand dollars in the study.

"I have dreamed of two things," said Dr. Kielborn, "First, to have class at the beach, and second, for my students to have the opportunity to conduct real scientific research using scientific tools. This was clearly my best day ever as a

teacher of 39 years."

"Our sand dollar study is an ongoing project, and we designed it to provide plenty of opportunities for community participation," said Carley Todd, an educator at Sanibel Sea School. "We have adult volunteers, local and visiting students, and a number of school groups that assist with this research regularly. There are even a few high school students carrying out their own mini-studies for next year's science fair." She expressed her enthusiasm for this new partnership with the Sanibel School.

"It's an incredible opportunity to work with kids who live and learn on our island. It was really cool to see their excitement grow after every sand dollar they found, and to expose them to the wonders that can be found right in their backyard. I'm looking forward to our next outing with them," she added.

Todd hopes that this early exposure to real research will inspire some of the Sanibel Sea School students she works with to develop a life-long love for marine science.

Sanibel Sea School is a 501(c)3 nonprofit whose mission is to improve the ocean's future, one person at a time. To learn more, visit www.sanibelseaschool.org.*

City of Sanibel Vegetation Committee

Guided Native Plant Tours

The City of Sanibel Vegetation Committee is offering guided native vegetation and landscaping tours of city hall grounds, planted exclusively with native plants. The next presentation will take place on Saturday, February 25 starting at 10 a.m.

Upcoming tours of city hall grounds will be held on:

- Wednesday, March 8 and Saturday, March 25
- Wednesday, April 12 and Saturday, April 22

Walk the grounds for ideas on planting native vegetation that requires no fertilizer. See how to plant a garden that reseeds itself with very little maintenance, is good for the environment and will attract birds and butterflies.

Vegetation committee members will provide valuable information on proper

planting and care of native vegetation. The City of Sanibel encourages planting of vegetation that is indigenous to the area as it requires very little maintenance, no fertilizer and no supplemental irrigation.

Registration is not required. Attendees meet at the main entrance to Sanibel City Hall, located at 800 Dunlop Road, in front of the main staircase. For more information, contact the city's natural resources department at 472-3700.

The Natural Resources Department section of the city's website, www.mysanibel.com, offers information and photos of native plants, a listing of licensed contractors, Sanibel's vegetation standards and codes, and the Environmental Reference Handbook prepared by the city's vegetation committee. The vegetation committee also offers free native plant tours of the grounds at city hall at 10 a.m. on the second Wednesday and fourth Saturday of the month from November to April. For more information, contact the Sanibel Natural Resources Department at 472-3700.*

Meet the filmmakers and discuss the documentary!

March 7
6:30 p.m.

the
Water Brothers 

ACID OCEAN



IS IT TOO LATE FOR US TO STOP OCEAN ACIDIFICATION?

Explore that question at a special screening of *Acid Ocean*, part of an award-winning series by Alex and Tyler Mifflin, the Water Brothers, on March 7 at 6:30 p.m. at the Shell Museum. The documentary will be followed by a fascinating discussion with the filmmakers.

TICKETS: \$20 per person (\$15 members). Limited seating.
239-395-2233 or www.ShellMuseum.org

Alex and Tyler, the Water Brothers, will join us on March 7 to discuss their film.

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BAILEY-MATTHEWS NATIONAL SHELL MUSEUM 

Shell Of The Week

Brown Baby Ear



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

The Brown Baby Ear, *Sinum maculatum* (Say, 1831), a member of the moon-snail

family Naticidae. It measures up to 1.2 inches and is similar in shell shape and size to its sister species, the White Baby Ear, *Sinum perspectivum*. Both species are present along the coast of Southwest Florida; both share the “open” shell with broad aperture, typical of the genus *Sinum*, and are not capable of fully withdrawing into their shells.

The Brown Baby Ear, however, is less commonly found, has a “taller” shell (its apex is more elevated), and displays brownish tinges on the outer shell surface.

Learn more about local mollusks at <http://shellmuseum.org/shells/southwest-florida-shells>.

Shell Museum Events

Daily programs are included with paid admission:

Live Tank Talks – Presented by a marine biologist throughout the day.

Mollusk Matinéés – Talks presented by staff every Wednesday from 2 to 3 p.m.



The Brown Baby Ear, *Sinum maculatum*, from Sanibel Island

photos by José H. Leal

Arts & Crafts – 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.
Please check our arrival board in the main lobby for updates to daily schedules.
The Bailey-Matthews National Shell

Museum is located at 3075 Sanibel-Captiva Road. Call 395-2233 or visit www.shellmuseum.org.*

Documentary Screening

On Wednesday, March 1 at 4:30 p.m., the Sanibel-Captiva chapter of Solutions to Avoid Red Tide (START) and Sanibel Sea School will host a second community screening of *Mullet: A Tale of Two Fish*. The documentary, part of WGPU Public Media’s Sustainable Seafood Series, provides an overview of the historical and economic significance of this species in Florida, and its potential to become a more popular source of sustainable protein in the future. After a successful screening of the film in August 2016, the organizations decided to partner for a second event to offer the same viewing opportunity to winter residents and community members who were unable to attend in the fall.

Attendees will once again have the chance to sample mullet hors d’oeuvres, which will be provided by Sweet Melissa’s Café.

“We hope the event will encourage people to become more open to trying sustainable seafood options that they might consider unusual,” said Dr. Bruce Neill, Sanibel Sea School’s executive director. “Mullet has a bad reputation in the restaurant industry, but it is actually delicious and can be prepared in so many ways.”

The screening will held at Sanibel Sea School’s Flagship Campus, located at 455 Periwinkle Way. The event is free but reservations are required; call 472-8585.*

VOTE

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Water Quality, Community and Conservation.

PAID FOR BY JASON MAUGHAN CAMPAIGN FOR SANIBEL CITY COUNCIL

Caloosahatchee & Storage South of Lake O

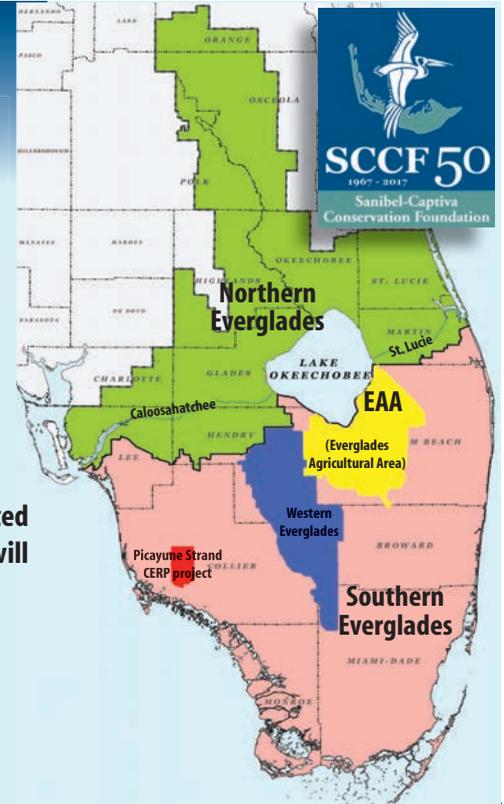
Thanks to Senator Joe Negrón (R-Stuart) there is a real opportunity to buy land for storage south of Lake Okeechobee in the Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) — which scientists have long said is the only real solution to the devastating excess flows down the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie Rivers.

Along with our partners, SCCF is actively engaging in moving this legislation forward. Sugar interests are pushing hard to kill the land purchase.

Here's How You Can Help:

1. Become informed about the issues, read widely, absorb the arguments for and against.
2. Take Action. Sign up for our Action Alerts at <http://blog.sccf.org/take-action/> We will send alerts when targeted communication will be most effective. Our alert will craft a message that you can personalize or change and will already be addressed to the targets we need to communicate with.
3. Let us know if you'd be willing to testify in Tallahassee this session. Email us at sccf@sccf.org.

We cannot emphasize enough how important it is for elected and appointed officials to hear from ALL of us with a unified message.



SCCF 50
1967 - 2017
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Conservation Foundation
472-2329
www.sccf.org

Visit the Demonstration
Gardens at the
Native Landscapes &
Garden Center,
1300 Periwinkle Way

SCCF Programs — All events are at the Nature Center (or meet at the Nature Center) unless otherwise specified. BHP is Bailey Homestead Preserve.

SCCF Nature Center — 3333 Sanibel-Captiva Road, 472-2329

SCCF Native Landscapes & Garden Center — 1300 Periwinkle Way, 472-1932

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
27 FEBRUARY Weeds & Seeds - 8:45 am	28 City That Almost Wasn't - 1:30 pm Guided Trail Walks at 11 a.m.	1 MARCH Making Land Work tour at Bailey Homestead - 10 am Gator & Croc Tales - 10 am	2 Turtle Tracks - 10 am	3 Butterflies/ Pollinators - 10 am @ Bailey Homestead
6	7 Beach Walk - 8:30 am - Meet @ Bowman's Tides & Currents - 1 pm Guided Trail Walks at 11 a.m.	8 Making Land Work tour at Bailey Homestead - 10 am Basil Tasting - 11 @ BHP	9 Shorebirds - 2 pm	10 Tank Talk - 10 am



SCCF Farm to Table Dinner at the Homestead

Benefiting the Native Landscapes & Garden Center
Friday, March 31, 2017
at the Bailey Homestead Pavilion

Join SCCF for its first ever Farm to Table Dinner at the Pavilion at the Bailey Homestead Preserve on Friday, March 31 at 6:30 p.m. The event will be limited to 100 guests. The cost is \$175. The four-course meal will showcase local products.

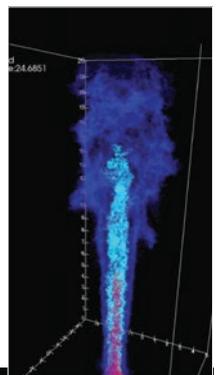
Tickets can be purchased at www.sccf.org, look for Farm to Table link to Eventbrite.



Thursday, March 23
Sanibel Community House
2173 Periwinkle Way
Doors open: 6:30 pm
Showing: 7 pm

Join SCCF for a showing of the documentary, *Dispatches from the Gulf*, and panel discussion about the findings and current research in the Gulf related to the Deepwater Horizon. Free.

Panelists:
Dr. Michael Parsons, Professor, Florida Gulf Coast University
Dr. Marie DeLorenzo Research Toxicologist, NOAA, Charleston, SC.



CROW Case Of The Week:

River Otters



by Bob Petcher

The North American river otter (*Lontra canadensis*) is known as a fun animal. Its youthful and playful antics with other otters involve sliding, belly flopping, somersaulting and wrestling.

The aquatic mammal, whose life span averages eight to nine years, is a strong swimmer that relies on its powerful tail and flexible, long slender body for propulsion. Couple

that with webbed feet and water repellent fur that is thick and protective to keep it dry and warm and you are only flippers shy of ranking as high as the seal in swim strength.

Interestingly, river otters have the ability to close their noses and ears underwater. In fact, the natural swimmers learn early when they are pushed in the water by their mother at less than two months old. Not bad for creatures that are blind and helpless at birth. As they age and acclimate to the water, adult river otters can hold their breath underwater for some eight minutes.

The nocturnal hunters also have long whiskers that are used to detect prey in dark or cloudy water and clawed feet that can grasp onto slippery prey. They also have scent glands near the base of their tails that produce a strong, musky odor as a scent mark.

The river otter, a member of the weasel family, is equally adapted to land. In fact, it can traverse on ground just as effective as in water and can reach speeds of 15 miles per hour when running. The river otter is known to be very sensitive to environmental pollution.

At CROW, two juvenile North American river otters arrived on February 12 after being found in a drainage ditch near a construction site in North Fort Myers. They came to the clinic in a weak condition suffering from

hypothermia and dehydration and were covered in flea bites and mud. It was reported that the mother had been trapped one week prior to their finding. The young otters were cleaned and warmed up before medical officials used a nebulizer chamber to treat them for possible signs of upper respiratory tract infections. There was also a chance for lower respiratory complications, such as pneumonia. Upon intake, they both weighed only about 800 grams, but were said to be eating well and increasing their weight.

After another weekend of care, an update on the two youthful patients was given on Monday. The larger of the two juveniles was reportedly healthier.

“The prognosis for the larger of the two, patient number 17-298, was ‘good’ and the smaller of the two, patient number 17-297, was ‘guarded,’” said CROW DVM intern Dr. Spencer Kehoe. “The smaller otter had dangerously low sodium levels, hyponatremia, which led to seizures and abnormal neurologic behavior. This has improved with very careful treatment and is still being monitored closely.”

Young otters have been typically known to stay at CROW for months at a time. In the wild, otters tend to be dependent on their mother during this early time period so that they may learn vital skills like hunting and swimming behavior.

Five days prior to the otter pups arrival, CROW received a juvenile otter (patient #17-252) that was transferred from a rehabilitation facility in Fort Lauderdale after it was orphaned by its mother. Officials were unsuccessful in locating her for a reunion. It is said to be a few weeks older than the two infants. Otters are very social creatures and depend on social interaction with other otters.

“At this time it is difficult to determine a release date,” Dr. Kehoe said. “Young North American river otters are usually in our care for up to nine months so they can learn skills that are key to survival.”

CROW (Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife, Inc.)



Patients #17-298 and #17-297 take a nap together

photo by Brian Bohman

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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Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation

Tank Talks

Meet the SCCF Nature Center ambassadors at 10 a.m. on the following Fridays: February 24, March 10 and 24. Meet Indie the indigo snake and Lucky the softshell turtle. There are also beautiful diamond back terrapins and mangrove snakes swimming in their tanks.

Take a tour with a master naturalist to learn about the SCCF research and projects associated with these local critters. Cost is \$5 per adult. SCCF members and children are admitted free.



Diamond back terrapins

Croc And Gator Tales

The biology of alligators and crocodiles is an ancient tale of survival. Florida's history of these reptiles and humans is closely intertwined. To learn about these fascinating creatures and what you must do to ensure your safety and their survival on the islands, attend Croc and Gator Tales on Wednesday, March 1 at 10 a.m. The program will be held in the SCCF auditorium. Please, never feed an alligator.

Turtle Tracks

On Thursday, March 2 at 10 a.m., learn about the life cycles and habits of sea turtles that nest on island beaches and what SCCF is doing to protect them. Sea turtle nesting season is May through October. The program is free to SCCF members and children and \$5 for adults.

Gardening For Butterflies And Other Native Pollinators

Are you thinking about adding a butterfly and wildflower garden to your landscape? Meet Dee Serage-Century at the SCCF Native Landscape and Garden Center at the Bailey Homestead Preserve to learn which native plants will bring those native pollinators flying. Both nectar and larval plants will be discussed and for sale. Take a guided walk through the Wildflower and Pollinator Garden to get ideas for your home garden. Design and installation services are available through the SCCF Native Landscapes and Garden Center. Call 472-2329 for reservations.

Shorebirds Of Sanibel And Captiva

Join SCCF biologists to learn about the shorebirds species that nest on the beaches, including snowy plovers, least terns and Wilson's plovers. SCCF has been monitoring beach nesting birds on Sanibel since 2002. Learn how you can safely share the beach and help these feathered friends. Program will be held on Thursday, March 2 and 16 at 2 p.m. at the SCCF Nature Center. Cost is \$5 for non-members.



Least terns

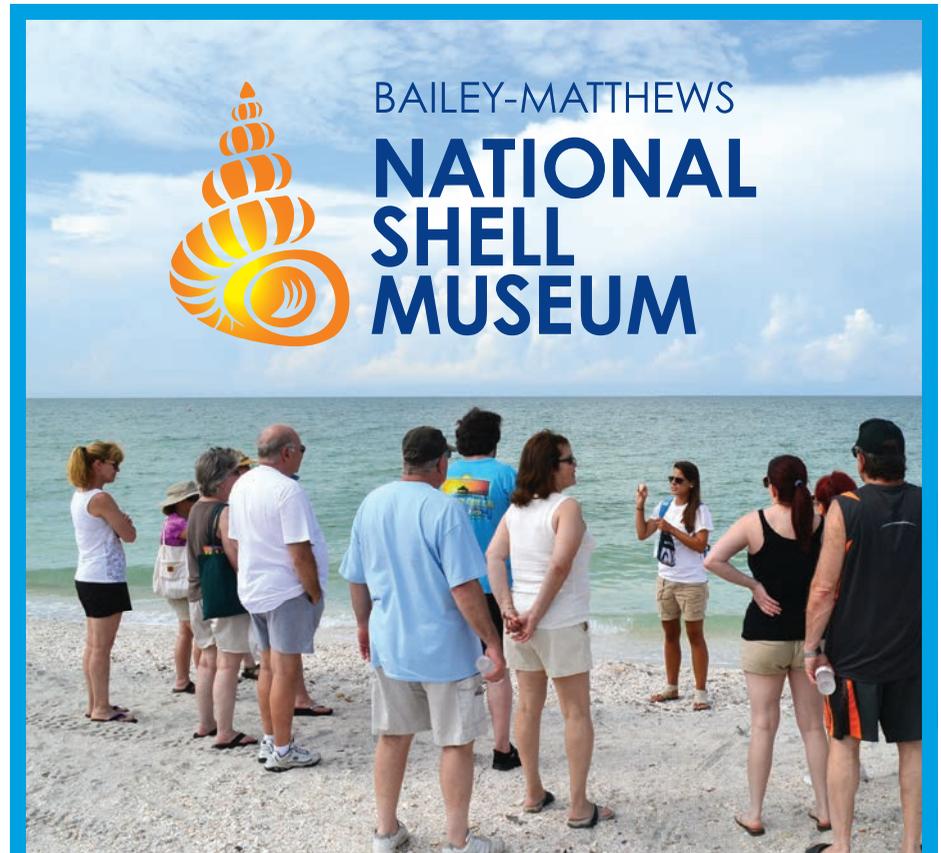
Guided Walk At Bowman's Beach

Meet your SCCF guide at Bowman's Beach for a 1.6-mile walk across the bayou, along the beach and then return on the path to learn about the coastal habitat, nesting shorebirds and other wildlife as well as the history of this ever changing area. Walks will be held on Tuesday, March 7 and 21 at 10 a.m. Meet at the children's playground near the bridge by 8:30 a.m. Hourly parking fee is required without a resident sticker.

Call SCCF at 472-2329 for more information on these programs. Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation is located at 3333 Sanibel-Captiva Road.*



Aerial view of Sanibel and Captiva



DAILY BEACH WALKS AT ISLAND INN

(ADVANCE RESERVATIONS REQUIRED)



PHOTO BY NIKORETRO (CC BY-SA 2.0)

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CROW Calendar Of Events

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

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

Friday, February 24, 11 a.m., adults \$7, teens \$5, 12 and under no charge – Why Animals Come to CROW.

Whether animals are sick, injured or orphaned, CROW aims to lead in their recovery. From fishing line entanglement to abducted babies, this presentation will address the most likely reasons patients are admitted to the hospital.

Friday, February 24, 2 p.m., adults \$7, teens \$5, 12 and under no charge – Wild About Rehabilitation, presented by CROW staff.

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

Friday, February 24, 2 to 3:30 p.m., \$20 per person, advance registration required – Wildlife Walk with Rehabilitators and Staff.

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

Saturday, February 25, 11 a.m., adults \$7, teens \$5, 12 and under no charge – Baby Care at CROW, presented by a CROW volunteer.

Wildlife parents are devoted to the care of their young and rarely abandon them, and juveniles found "abandoned" might actually be in a natural stage of development. Those needing assistance are placed in a specialized wing of the wildlife hospital and are provided supportive care around the clock until they are old enough to care for themselves.

Saturday, February 25, 2 p.m., adults \$7, teens \$5, 12 and under no charge – Wildlife Rescue 101.

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

Monday, February 27, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., \$20 per person, advance registration required – Wildlife Walk with Rehabilitators and Staff.

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

Monday, February 27, 11 a.m., adults \$7, teens \$5, 12 and under no charge – Opossums at CROW.

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

Monday, February 27, 2 p.m., adults \$7, teens \$5, 12 and under no charge – CROW Case of the Week, presented by a CROW student.

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

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

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

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

Tuesday, February 28, 4 to 4:15 p.m., adults \$7, teens \$5, 12 and under no charge – Speaker Series: Story of Ospreys, presented by Claudia Burns, volunteer for the International Osprey Foundation.

Ospreys are large brown and white raptors who breed in Southwest Florida from December through April and can be seen diving for live fish in shallow waters throughout the area. Because they build their nests right out in the open, their behavior is easy to observe, but not always easy to understand. Photos, videos and recorded vocalizations are used to explain their behavior.

Wednesday, March 1, 11 a.m., adults \$7, teens \$5, 12 and under no charge – Wildlife Rescue 101.

After a patient stabilizes in the hospital,

CROW's rehabilitation staff provides them with a combination of balanced diet, husbandry and physical therapy. Supportive care is necessary to ensure success during the final stage in the rehabilitation process. Ask the staff how they work their magic. One of CROW's animal ambassadors will be present.

Wednesday, March 1, 2 p.m., adults \$7, teens \$5, 12 and under no charge – Birds of Prey, presented by CROW staff.

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

Wednesday, March 1, 2 to 3:30 p.m., \$20 per person, advance registration required – Wildlife Walk with Rehabilitators and Staff.

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

Thursday, March 2, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., \$20 per person, advance registration required – Wildlife Walk with Rehabilitators and Staff.

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

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

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

Thursday, March 2, 2 p.m., adults \$7, teens \$5, 12 and under no charge – Wild About Rehabilitation, presented by CROW staff.

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

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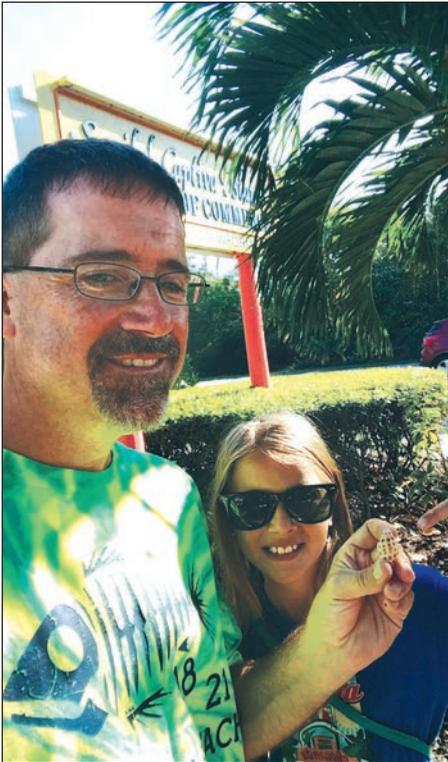
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Shell Found



Harley and Joanna Sampson photo provided

Harley Sampson, Jr. and Joanna Sampson, visiting from Fort Walton Beach, Florida, found a junonia while shelling along a Captiva Island beach on February 19.✪



Participants in Sanibel Sea School's Fishing Fridays course will learn practical fishing skills photo courtesy Sanibel Sea School

Sea School Offers Adult Fishing Course

Sanibel Sea School will offer a new learning opportunity for adults this spring called Fishing Fridays. The four-week course, led by lifelong fisherman and marine biologist Dr. Bruce Neill, is a chance to gain practical, hands-on fishing experience. Each week, students will visit a different location and focus on different target species. It is up to participants to decide whether to fish with a spinning or fly rod.

"This course is designed as a place to share ideas and knowledge, and to look at how we can become better fishermen and women from both a

practical and scientific perspective," said Dr. Neill. "Things like weather, fish migration patterns, and water temperature and quality can all affect fishing success. We'll go over these topics and also have a great time learning from one another in a more casual way."

Fishing Fridays will be held on four consecutive Fridays, beginning March 3 from 1 to 4 p.m., and is open to students of any level. Participants must bring their own gear. Weather permitting, the final session will be spent on a boat.

Sanibel Sea School is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization whose mission is to improve the ocean's future, one person at a time. To register, visit sanibelseaschool.org/sanibel-adult-programs or call 472-8585.✪

Audubon Bird Walk At The Bailey Tract



Kestrel photo by France Paulsen

The next Sanibel-Captiva Audubon bird walk will be held on Saturday, March 4 at the Bailey Tract. Take Island Inn Road across from Bailey's General Store and meet at the back entrance to the Bailey Tract at 8 a.m. There is free parking in field.

These bird walks are open to the public and all levels of experience. A \$2 donation is appreciated.

For more information, visit the website at san-capaudubon.org.✪

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<p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold;">Smirnoff Vodka</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">1.75 ltr.</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: red;">\$22.99</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold;">Kendall Jackson Chardonnay</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">750 ml.</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: red;">\$13.99</p>
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Fish Caught



Frank Maenhout

Frank Maenhout, visiting for the winter from Naperville, Illinois, caught and released this 37-inch redfish in the Pine Island Sound. Maenhout was fishing with Capt. Nelson Diaz, guiding out of Jensen's Marina, with his son-in-law Slade O'Keefe. ✨

Fish Caught



Jack David

Jack David reeled-in a 27-inch, seven-pound largemouth bass caught on an artificial worm in the Sanibel River on February 18. David reported he "finally got his whale" after numerous times throwing the hook or breaking the line. The fish was released safely and swam away. ✨

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Inaugural Island Jamboree Staged At Chapel By The Sea



The highlight of the Captiva Island Historical Society's first Island Jamboree fundraiser was a pie auction, with the top three pies entered sold to bidders supporting Captiva's historic Chapel by the Sea photos by Jeff Lysiak



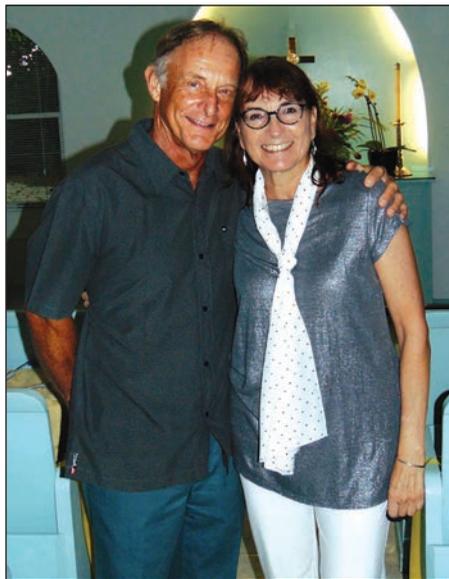
Vanessa "Queenie" Viglione and Susen Berg

by Jeff Lysiak

Last Wednesday evening, longtime friends and new neighbors gathered on the grounds of Captiva's Chapel by the Sea to attend the inaugural Island Jamboree, a festive community-oriented event that featured a sit-down picnic dinner, island games and a homemade pie auction with proceeds benefitting the historic chapel.

Tom Libonate, board chairman of the Captiva Island Historical Society (CIHS) – who served as host of the event – welcomed more than 100 people to the church grounds, where the island's first one-room schoolhouse originally stood more than a century ago.

"Tonight, we're reliving the island's picnics of the past," said Libonate, who also took time to recognize CIHS sponsors, supporters and past board chairman Jim Pigott. "We're following in a very rich tradition here... this place used to be known as the social and friendship center of the island."



Mark and Susie Twombly were married at the chapel 30 years ago, celebrating their anniversary at the February 15 gathering

In 1903, the chapel property was home to a school with 38 students who arrived by boat, mule or on foot. The school closed in 1919, reopening as a Methodist church two years later. It closed in the late 1920s but was re-established following the end of World War II.

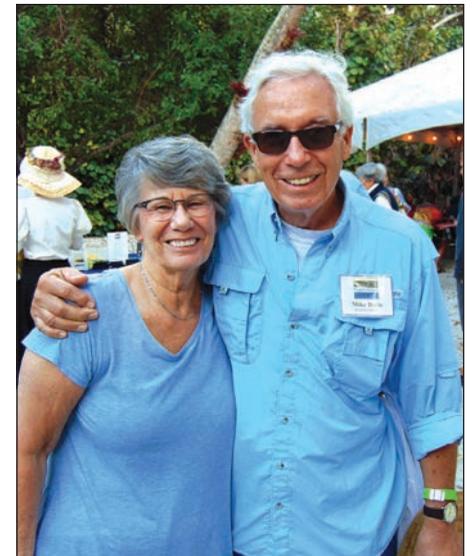
Kristie Anders also delivered a moving speech about the history of the chapel. "History is not baggage to be thrown overboard. It is an anchor to ground us," she noted. "Tonight, we make history. Now we have memories of this time and space. We have our own common ground, our own stories."

Contestants in the pie-making contest included Mary Jane Vinson (who made what she dubbed a *USS Missouri* buttermilk pie), Bob Rust (pumpkin pie), Dave Jensen (honey cream pie), Molly Downing (technicolor tart), Tom Libonate (pecan-palooza) and Mike Boris (apple).

The top three contestants' pies were sold at auction: Robin Cook's apple pie, which took third place, sold for \$300;



Robin Cook's apple pie was auctioned off for \$300



Patti Chipman and Mike Boris



Mary Jane Vinson and Molly Downing

Jim Pigott's French silk pie, the runner-up, sold for \$250; while Kristie Anders' blueberry sour cream pie – created from the original recipe made famous at Timmy's Nook – took top honors with the highest bid at \$500.

Proceeds from the pie auction were given to Chapel by the Sea's mission outreach program.

"Here, there is a sense of community and refuge. It is a sense of place among each other, those that came before, those that will come after," Anders added. "It is the hope of the Captiva Island Historical Society that we have made history with you here tonight. That stories will be told about a place in a moment of time with memories."

Upcoming Captiva Island Historical Society events this season include:

- Island Voices: Katie Gardenia on Tuesday, March 14 starting at 5:30 p.m. at the Captiva Civic Center – The author, artist and originator of Captiva's famous Bubble Room restaurant will share memories from her early days on the island. Seating is limited; first come, first served.

- Island Voices: Rae Ann Wessel on Wednesday, April 5 starting at 5:30 p.m. at the Captiva Civic Center – The Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation's Natural Resource Policy Director will talk about the history and importance of the Caloosahatchee and SCCF's 50th anniversary. Seating is limited; first come, first served.



Allison Knecht tosses a coconut during the milk can challenge

For additional information, visit www.captivaislandhistoricalsociety.org or call 472-2323.✪



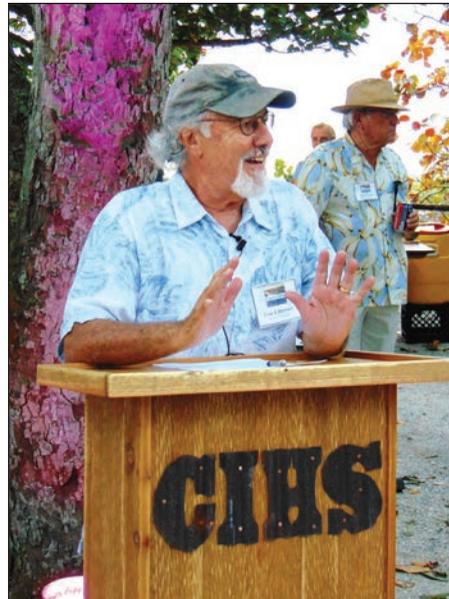
From left, Bob Vinson, Lee Childers and Dave Jensen



Sylvia Dodd, right, tries her hand at a ping-pong game while Marcia Simons waits her turn with Ron Rosse



Kristie Anders talked about the chapel's history



CIHS Board Chairman Tom Libonate



Contestants in the pie-making contest, from left, Jim Pigott, Bob Rust, Dave Jensen, Molly Downing, Tom Libonate, Robin Cook (obscured), Mary Jane Vinson and Kristie Anders



Attendees were welcomed to the Island Jamboree by Tom Libonate

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Sanibel Island Fishing Club angler Mary Laser became the first female captain to win one of the club's monthly fishing tournaments photos courtesy Mary Laser

First-Time Win For Female Captain

by Jeff Lysiak

During the Sanibel Island Fishing Club's most recent two-day tournament, Mary Laser became the first female captain to win one of the club's monthly fishing outings.

Laser and the other members of her angling team – Don Cook, Ron Fields and Hunt Ethridge – reeled in 33.5-pounds of sheephead (the target species of the February 11 and 12 tournament) aboard her vessel, *Nauti Mary*.

According to Laser, who had previously captained a team during a club outing only once before, she began to tremble when her vessel returned to the dock for the weigh-in.

"I was shaking because I saw how many sheephead we had caught," said Laser, who noted that the 33.5-pound effort topped the club's previous sheephead record by two pounds. "My initial reaction was 'Wow!' because I knew just how historic this was. We don't hold these outings for any prizes; they're just for recognition among our fellow club members."

Once the club's catches were counted, measured and weighed, the



From left, Don Cook, Mary Laser, Ron Fields and Hunt Ethridge display some of the sheephead caught during the monthly fishing club outing

group gathered at Laser's house where the sheephead were filleted, cooked and served to the 50-plus participating anglers. All of the fish that was left over from the post-tournament party – weighing nearly 17 pounds – was donated to FISH of SanCap to be distributed to islanders in need.

The Sanibel Island Fishing Club's next monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 14 at The Community House, located at 2173 Periwinkle Way. The evening will begin at 6:30 p.m. with pizza and mingling, followed by the meeting and guest speaker starting at 7 p.m. There is no admission charge to attend.

Laser explained that she joined the club because she wanted to learn how to

saltwater fish.

"My father taught me when I was young how to fish inland lakes up north," Laser explained, noting her experiences of fishing in Lake Michigan. "I'm the kind of person that my mind is always on. But when I'm fishing, everything else goes away. It's serene and makes me a little more tranquil."

For more information about joining the club, contact Warren Teigen at wwteigen@gmail.com or attend next month's meeting. The Sanibel Island Fishing Club has been an active social club for more than 30 years on the island. Visit www.sanibelislandfishingclub.com for additional details.✪

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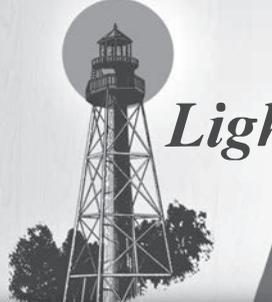
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BIG ARTS Documentary Series

The Wolfpack

by Di Saggau

On Wednesday, March 1 at 12:30 p.m., the Island Cinema will show the first in this year's BIG ARTS Critically Acclaimed Documentary Series. *The Wolfpack* is about six brothers who spent almost their entire lives inside a tiny Lower East Side housing project apartment, home-schooled and allowed out only rarely by their father, who had the only key. The Angulo brothers' main window on the world was cinema: watching films like *The Dark Knight Rises*, *Harry Potter* or *Reservoir Dogs*, then re-enacting them in exquisite detail.

The day they met director Crystal Moselle was one of their first excursions out of the apartment on their own. Over the next four years, they became the subject of *The Wolfpack*, Moselle's extraordinary documentary. Over the summer, she and the brothers hung out. Moselle brought her camera, and they would do little interviews with it. From the very beginning, the brothers' openness and creativity fascinated her. She was almost three years into the project before she understood the extent of the family's isolation. The boys' mother, Susanne, a Midwestern former hippie, yearns for her children to have the fields and woods with which she grew up. She met their father, Oscar, a Hare Krishna from Peru, on the trail to Machu Picchu. As the brothers tell it, their father wanted his own tribe. The film captures the stirrings of the brothers'



desire to leave the apartment and how cinema influenced their lives. It runs one hour, 30 minutes.

Tickets are \$5 for members of BIG ARTS and \$6 for non-members. Tickets are available at BIG ARTS and the day of the film at the cinema located in Bailey's Shopping Center. Following the film, a discussion will take place at Island Cinema.

Upcoming documentaries in the series are *Peggy Guggenheim: Art Addict*, *Janis: Little Girl Blue* and *The Jewish Cardinal*, which will be shown in that order on the following Wednesday's in March.✪

Designer Coming To Jewelry Gallery



Charles Krypell

photos provided

Lily & Co. Jewelers will host designer Charles Krypell for a three-day exclusive showing of his exquisite jewelry collection on March 3, 4 and 5. Krypell was a sculptor before becoming an internationally known designer and has seamlessly woven his beloved crafts together by sculpting pieces destined to touch the heart of those who wear it.

"Charles is a genuine people person who loves to meet collectors or those who admire impeccable pieces of jewelry," said Lily & Co. owners Dan Schuyler and Karen Bell. "When you meet him, you will fall in love with the man and his jewelry."

Krypell's Sweet Pea collection was



Krypell jewelry

unveiled at Lily & Co. in 2013. Each charm is made of sterling silver with bright accents of pink, blue or white sapphires symbolic of gender. The Precious Pastels collection is the heart of Krypell. He uses the best stones set in platinum and 18-karat gold.

"There are many occasions to purchase jewelry as a gift and not all of them are milestone birthdays or anniversaries," said Krypell. "Sometimes, we just want to celebrate the moment without spending a fortune."

Lily & Co. Jewelry Gallery is located at 520 Tarpon Bay Road on Sanibel. For more information, call 472-2888.✪



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ISLAND FARE

BAILEY'S GENERAL STORE

Bailey's General Store has a full deli, bakery, coffee bar, daily lunch specials, take out and catering for cook-outs, picnics and parties. This is the oldest supermarket on the islands, established long before a causeway linked Sanibel to the mainland. Services include shopping for your groceries and delivering them to your home or vacation destination. If you are on a gluten-free diet, pick up the extensive list of gluten-free products near the entrance to the supermarket. Bailey's has a second location at Sundial Beach Resort & Spa at 1451 Middle Gulf Drive.

2477 Periwinkle Way, 472-1516

BEACH PIEZ

Beach Piez New York style pizza offers carry out and delivery on Sanibel and Captiva. Hours are Monday through Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 9 p.m. With fresh ingredients, mouth-watering mozzarella, provolone cheese "secret recipe" dough, homemade pizza sauce and family recipe meatballs, Beach Piez will deliver the best pizza the island has to offer.

2441 Periwinkle Way, 472-3224

THE BLUE GIRAFFE

The Blue Giraffe, under new ownership, offers casual island dining for "no wait" breakfast from 7 a.m. to noon daily as well as lunch and dinner seven days a week until 8 p.m. Dine outside in the garden atmosphere of Periwinkle Place or inside at hand-painted tables, inspired by local artists.

The new menu is full of traditional and unique breakfast items, signature burgers, custom sandwiches, fresh and local seafood, salads, steaks, pork and vegetarian options. There is a full liquor bar and various local beers on tap.

2075 Periwinkle Way (Periwinkle Place), 472-2525

CIP'S PLACE

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

2055 Periwinkle Way, 472-0223

DOC FORD'S RUM BAR & GRILLE

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

Doc Ford's Sanibel, 2500 Island Inn Road, 472-8311; Doc Ford's Captiva, 5400 South Seas Plantation Road, 312-4275, Doc Ford's Fort Myers Beach, 708 Fishermans Wharf, 765-9660

DUNES GOLF & TENNIS CLUB

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

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



Chef Blaine Dry of Cip's Place

photo by Bob Petcher

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

Take in the sunset views while sipping on your favorite drink. Happy hour is every day from 3 to 6 p.m. Enjoy with the famous crab bisque as a starter.

949 Sand Castle Road, 472-3355

GRAMMA DOT'S

Gramma Dot's, the only dockside dining on Sanibel, offers a lunch and dinner menu seven days a week from "Sanibel's only seaside saloon" where you can dine at the Sanibel Marina in view of luxury yachts and fishing boats and watch the comings and goings of seagoing folk and fishermen. The menu features a full line of fresh seafood, salads, sandwiches and more. Appropriate dress is required. If you're arriving by boat, check in with dockmaster for a lunch slip, monitor VHF 16. You can tie up for a night or two at the available dockage if you wish. Gramma Dot's is open daily at 11:30 a.m. For dinner, arrive before 8 p.m.

634 North Yachtsman Drive, 472-8138

GREEN FLASH

The Green Flash has marvelous waterfront views of Captiva Island's bayside and Pine Island Sound. The Green Flash was built on the site of the historic Timmy's Nook, opened in 1950. Fittingly, seafood dominates the menu, although other options are offered as well. The Green Flash is easily navigable by boat and is located southwest of Marker 38 on the Intracoastal Waterway. Hours are daily from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for lunch and 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. for dinner. All seats have a view of the waterfront. Reservations are not accepted.

15183 Captiva Drive, 472-3337

IL CIELO

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

1244 Periwinkle Way, 472-5555

ISLAND COW

The Island Cow is a family favorite with its colorful indoor and outdoor seating and live entertainment. "Come as our guests... leave as our friends!" is the motto. The Cow serves breakfast, lunch and dinner featuring fresh local seafood and meats and has an

extensive children's menu. Starbucks coffee is also on the menu. **Now serving full liquor island cocktails!** Breakfast is served between 7 and 11 a.m. Hours are 7 a.m. to 9-ish p.m.

2163 Periwinkle Way, 472-0606

ISLAND PIZZA

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

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

1619 Periwinkle Way, 472-1581

JACARANDA

The Jac, as it is known to regulars, has been serving excellent seafood for three decades and offers the best of two worlds: dining room seating or dinner under the stars in the screened garden patio. The patio lounge is home to some of the best nightlife on the islands, seven nights a week, including live outdoor entertainment from 5 to 7:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. to midnight. Expanded happy hour menu and reduced happy hour drink prices from 5 to 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. to midnight. Dinner reservations are suggested.

1223 Periwinkle Way, 472-1771

JERRY'S RESTAURANT AND DELI

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

1700 Periwinkle Way, 472-9300

JOEY'S CUSTARD

Joey's Custard is a family owned and operated sandwich, coffee and ice cream shop in Bailey's Center. Owners Joey Almeida and mom Debi Almeida offer fresh-to-order paninis as well as Working Cow

ice cream products (custard, yogurt, sorbet, banana splits, sundaes, floats, smoothies, hard and soft serve ice cream) and coffee (five-bean house blend, Tim Horton, espresso, affogato). Try the Beach Box Lunch To Go (add \$2 to any sandwich and get a drink and bag of chips). Ask about BOGO with Island Cinema.

Joey's Custard is open from 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 10:30 to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday; and noon to 9 p.m. Sunday.

2467 Periwinkle Way in Bailey's Center, 472-7222

MATZALUNA ITALIAN KITCHEN

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

1200 Periwinkle Way, 472-1998

MUCKY DUCK

Historically known as the neighborhood pub, The Mucky Duck may well be the most famous restaurant on Captiva Island due to its longevity of 40 years in business and quirky name. Then there are the fabulous sunsets. Patrons gladly wait on the beach for tables. This place draws crowds – as customers sip cocktails and beverages until they can take their seats. Reservations are not accepted. The Duck, serving fresh seafood, pub-style food, sandwiches, steaks and other items, is open for lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and dinner from 5 to 9:30 p.m.

11546 Andy Rosse Lane, 472-3434

OVER EASY CAFÉ

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

630 Tarpon Bay Road, 472-2625

PASTURE & PEARL

Sanibel's newest restaurant, Pasture & Pearl is the latest collaboration from the well-traveled husband and wife team Chef Elaine Dammeyer and General Manager Christian Jego. Come as you're comfortable for a modern, fine dining experience. The cuisine celebrates locally, regionally, ethically and sustainably sourced ingredients, and wine selections are curated by resident sommelier Kory Lynn. The intimate atmosphere and attentive service evoke the hospitality of a dinner party. The menu offers seasonal vegetarian preparations, fresh, wild-caught and responsibly farmed seafood, and the finest cuts of freely pastured beef, lamb, chicken, duck and rabbit from White Oak Pastures, a 150-year-old, multigenerational farm in Southwest Georgia, including a custom cut especially developed for the signature dry aged bone-in ribeye.

The Village Shops, 2340 Periwinkle Way, 810-5514

PECKING ORDER

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

2496 Palm Ridge Road, 472-2534

ROSIE'S CAFÉ & GRILL

Rosie's repertoire includes crab cakes, grouper and shrimp entrees and steaks with all the trimmings, Southwestern dishes such as burritos and fajitas, soup and sandwich combos and salads. Among the most popular items is Rosie's Famous Cheesesteak made from shaved rib eye, grilled mushrooms, onions and green peppers, Ultimate Cuban and Classic Reuben, homemade muffins and cinnamon rolls and Key lime pie, root beer floats and banana splits. A children's menu is also available. Carry out, indoor or outdoor seating. Check out the new menu items for breakfast, served from 8 to 11 a.m. Monday through Saturday and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday. Happy hour is from 3 to 6 p.m. seven days a week with two-for-one draft beer and wine. The ice cream bar has 20-plus flavors of locally made Royal Scoop Ice Cream.

2330 Palm Ridge Road, 579-0807

SANIBEL BEAN

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

2240 Periwinkle Way, 395-1919

SANIBEL DELI & COFFEE FACTORY

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

2330 Palm Ridge Road, 472-2555

SANIBEL GRILL

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

703 Tarpon Bay Road, 472-3128

SANIBEL SPROUT

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

2463 Periwinkle Way in Bailey's Center, 472-4499

SUMMERLIN JAKE'S

Summerlin Jake's Seafood and Steaks, a sunset dining water view restaurant in Fort Myers, located near the Sanibel Bridge, offers new American cuisine prepared in the old Florida tradition. Paying tribute to the rich history of Punta Rassa, where Jake Summerlin owned a wharf that he used to ship his cattle to Cuba and the local waters that are famous for being the home to big game fishing, Summerlin Jake's offers freshly caught local seafood, tender, juicy prime steaks, smoked ribs, brisket & chicken and heart-healthy, vegan choices that are locally sourced,

hand-selected and artfully prepared. Summerlin Jake's is open Monday through Friday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. (Breakfast served 8 to 11:30 a.m.). Happy Hour is 3 to 6 p.m. daily. Live music on Friday and Saturday 5:30 to 10 p.m.

17501 Harbour Pointe Drive, 466-5377

TOTALLY BAKED ON SANIBEL

Totally Baked On Sanibel is the island's #1 source for fresh baked breads, specialty pastries, donuts, cakes, pies, candies and other confections. The unique eatery within Islander Center also offers coffees and breakfast sandwiches. For lunch, daily offerings include off-the-bone, hand-carved meats as well as soups, salads and other specialty items. Wedding cakes are made to order. Open seven days a week 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. Outdoor seating along the bike path.

2407 Periwinkle Way Suite 1, 312-4503

SUNDIAL BEACH RESORT & SPA

Voted Best Waterfront Dining in Southwest Florida. Awarded Best New Restaurant 2016, discover an authentic experience at Shima Japanese Steakhouse & Sushi Bar as your meal is artfully prepared right before your eyes. Panoramic Gulf views await you at Sea Breeze Café where the menu celebrates fresh local produce and seafood. Enjoy breakfast, lunch or dinner on the terrace or dining room, or expertly rolled sushi at the bar. Sanibel's favorite tiki bar, Turtle's Pool & Beach Bar, serves up island favorites at the bar or family-friendly patio. Choose from frosty drinks, signature sandwiches and classic favorites. Visit sundialresort.com/eat for menus, hours and reservations.

1451 Middle Gulf Drive, 472-4151

TIMBERS RESTAURANT & FISH MARKET

The Timbers Restaurant & Fish Market and the adjoining Sanibel Grill are mainstays of the island dining scene, boasting 35 years of fresh fish on Sanibel Island. The restaurant offers 13 dinners for \$15 daily before 5:30 p.m. plus a large selection of local

seafood, such as grilled shrimp, fried grouper, oysters, clams and crab cakes. Besides specializing in fresh local seafood, the restaurant has a seafood market that opens at 11 a.m. (except Sunday, when it's open at 2 p.m.) Restaurant is open seven days from 5 to 9 p.m.

703 Tarpon Bay Road, 472-3128

TRADERS GULF COAST GRILL & GIFTS

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

The restaurant serves bistro cuisine with island flair, featuring such offerings as black beans and rice, blackened fish and fresh salads from an open kitchen. There's no fryer in the place. The tables are freshly wrapped in white paper for each party, and there's a pot of colored crayons for doodling, whether you're an adult or a child. Lunch is served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., happy hour from 3 to 6 p.m. and dinner 5 to 9 p.m. There's live music from 7 to 10 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays with Danny Morgan and Wednesdays with Chris Workman.

1551 Periwinkle Way, 472-7242

TRADITIONS ON THE BEACH

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

3111 West Gulf Drive, 472-4559

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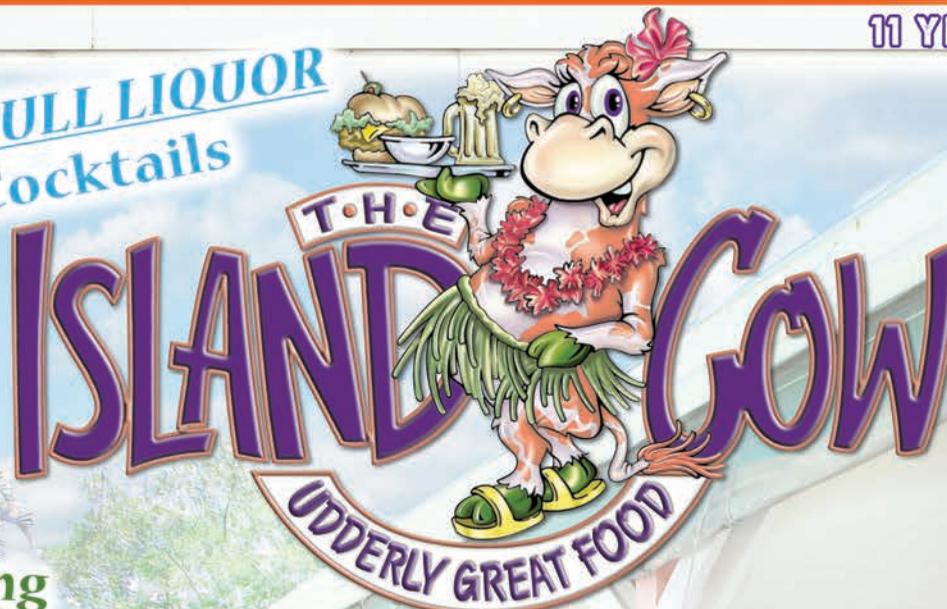
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BIG ARTS Corner

BIG ARTS March Workshops

Unleash your creativity, expand your horizons and meet terrific people this season at BIG ARTS on Sanibel.

For more information, visit www.BIGARTS.org or call the Marks Box Office at 395-0900.

Workshops and classes which will be starting in the month of March include:

- Bamboo Pen & Ink with Basic Drawing and Art Journaling by Linda Benson, Fridays, 10 a.m. to noon, March 3 through 24.
- Oil Painting: Make It and Take It by Linda Benson, Fridays, 2 to 4 p.m. from March 3 through 24.
- Open Studio, clothed model by Eleanor Gause, Tuesday, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., March 7, 14, 21 and 28.
- Instructed Life Drawing by Francesco Gillia, Mondays, 9:30 a.m. to noon, March 6 through 27.
- Constructing the Human Figure in Simple Forms by Francesco Gillia, Monday 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., March 6 through 27.
- Acrylics for Beginner and Intermediate Painters by Jane Hudson, Fridays, 9:15 to 11:45 a.m., from March 3 through 24.
- Glass Fusing by Petra Kaiser, Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., March 1 through 22, Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., March 2 through 23.
- Portrait Drawing/Painting by Mary

- Klunk, Mondays, 9:30 a.m. to noon, March 6 through 27.
- Acrylic Painting, Still Life by Barbara Lipman, Tuesdays 10 a.m. to noon, March 7 through April 11.
- Cyanotype Process: Sun Printing on Paper and Fabric by Sue Lynch, Thursdays, 9 a.m. to noon, March 2 and 9, March 16 and 23.
- Pouring Textures with Watercolors by Bea Pappas, Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., March 7 through 28.
- Printing with Gelli Products by Bea Pappas, Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., March 1 through 22.
- Experimental Master Class by Bea Pappas, Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., March 2 through 23.
- Decorative Painting, non-instructed open studio by Sally Parson, Wednesdays, 9 a.m. to noon, March 8 through 29.
- Life Drawing, non-instructed open studio by Carol Rosenberg, Fridays, 9:30 a.m. to noon, March 3 through 24., Fridays, 12:15 p.m. to 2:45 p.m., March 3 through 24.
- Creating Collages by Jane Runyeon, Thursdays and Fridays, 1:30 to 5 p.m., March 16, 17, 23, 24, 30 and 31.
- Clay, Sculpting, Ceramics & Pottery on the Wheel by Marjorie Bronsted, Wednesdays, 3:30 to 6 p.m., March 29 through May 3.
- Pottery Open Studio, non-instructed by Jerry Edelman, Mondays, 9 a.m. to noon; 1 to 4 p.m., March 6 through 27.
- Pottery on the Wheel by Kelly Flaherty, Tuesdays, 6:30 to 9 p.m., March 7 through April 11.
- Clay 101/ 201 by David Hoggatt,

- Tuesdays, 9 a.m. to noon, February 23 through March 30.
- Adult Tap Workout by Bobby Logue, Tuesdays, noon to 1:30 p.m., March 7, 14 and 21 (three weeks, no classes March 28).
- Intermediate Tap by Bobby Logue, Fridays, 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., March 3, 10, 24 and 31 (four weeks, no class March 17).
- Beginner's Tap by Bobby Logue, Fridays, 10:45 to 11:45 a.m., March 3, 10 and 24 (three weeks, no class March 17).
- Chorus Rehearsals by Steve Cramer, Tuesdays, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., January 3 through March 28.
- Voice Lessons, half-hour private by Lynn Martindale, Saturdays by appointment, January 21 through April 15.
- Learn to Write a Beach-Style Mystery Novel by Nancy Daversa, Wednesday, 10 a.m. to noon, March 1.
- Using Self-Hypnosis for Sleep by William Morrow, Mondays 9:30 to 11 a.m., March 6 through 20.
- The iCreate Series by Gerard Damiano:
 - iCreate Lesson 1: Acquiring Images, Wednesday, 9 a.m. to noon, March 1.
 - iCreate Lesson 2: The Digital Darkroom, Wednesday, 9 a.m. to noon, March 8.
 - iCreate Lesson 3: Drawing & Painting, Wednesday, 9 a.m. to noon, March 15.
 - o iCreate Lesson 4: Video, Wednesday, 9 a.m. to noon, March 22.
 - iCreate Lesson 5: Sharing Your Work, Wednesday, 9 a.m. to noon, March 29.
- The iPhone Series by Gerard Damiano:
 - iPhone Lesson 1: Basics, Thursday, 9

- a.m. to noon, March 2.
 - iPhone Lesson 2: Intermediate, Tuesday, 9 a.m. to noon, March 7.
 - iPhone Lesson 3: Email & The Web, Thursday, 9 a.m. to noon, March 9.
 - iPhone Lesson 4: Media, Tuesday, 9 a.m. to noon, March 14.
 - iPhone Lesson 5: Advanced, Thursday, 9 a.m. to noon, March 16.
 - iPhone Essentials, Thursday, 9 a.m. to noon, March 23.
 - The iPad Series by Gerard Damiano:
 - iPad Lesson 1: Basics, Thursday, 2 to 5 p.m., March 2.
 - iPad Lesson 2: Intermediate, Tuesday, 2 to 5 p.m., March 7.
 - iPad Lesson 3: Email & Web, Thursday, 2 to 5 p.m., March 9.
 - iPad Lesson 4: Media, Tuesday, 2 to 5 p.m., March 14.
 - iPad Lesson 5: Advanced, Thursday, 2 to 5 p.m., March 16.
 - iPad Essentials, Thursday 2 to 5 p.m., March 23.
 - Individual Classes by Gerard Damiano:
 - Recycling Electronics, Free Lecture, Friday 10 to 11 a.m., March 3.
 - Phone Photography by Herbert Sklar, Wednesdays, 9 to 10:30 a.m., March 8 through 22.
 - Adobe Lightroom, Intermediate/Advanced by Denny Souers, Mondays, 1 to 4 p.m., March 6 through 27.
 - The Empire of the Spirit: Abstraction in 20th Century Art by Anne-Marie Bouche, Mondays, 9 to 11 a.m., March 6.
- Call 395-0900 or stop by the BIG ARTS Center at 900 Dunlop Road to enroll. For complete course descriptions and the full season's workshops and seminars schedule, visit their website www.bigarts.org/workshops, or email info@bigarts.org.✪

LIVE ON THE ISLANDS

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

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

The Jacaranda has live entertainment Friday and Saturday with Cruzin Vibes. On Sunday, it's the Wildfire Band and Julius & Friends. Renata plays on Monday. On Tuesday, it's Karaoke. Wednesday is the Jerry B. Variety Show. Sir Mitch plays on Thursday.

The Mucky Duck on Andy Rosse Lane, Captiva features live music by Peter Redpath on Thursday and Sunday. Gary Earle plays Friday. Gene Federico performs on Saturday

and Wednesday. Mark Dupuy plays on Monday. On Tuesday, it's John McLane.

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

Traditions on the Beach at Island Inn has live entertainment on Friday with Woody Brubaker and Barbara Dexter. Dusk plays Saturday and Sunday. Mike Arnone plays on Monday. Woody Brubaker performs on Tuesday. On Wednesday, it's Dusk. Woody Brubaker and Barbara Smith play on Wednesday.

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

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

A Celebration Of ArtPoems

Poets and artists affiliated with ArtPoems, the collaborative multimedia project of Southwest Florida, celebrated their 11th year at Bonita Springs Center for Performing Arts on February 22 and will celebrate again at Alliance for the Arts on Wednesday, March 8. There will be a reception beginning at 7 p.m. with the presentation to follow at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10.

Ranging from Peace River to Sanibel, from Cape Coral to Fort Myers and Naples, the group of 11 artists and 11 poets has collaborated to produce poems inspired by artworks and artworks inspired

by poems. Poets will perform their poems while the paired paintings, sculptures, photography and mixed media artwork are exhibited on stage and on the screen.

This year, artists are Paul David Adamick, Maria Bouloux, Dennis Church, Honey Costa, Eleanor Dominek, Beth Everhart, Scott Guelcher, Linda Lally, Terry Lynn, Roy Rodriguez and Berry van Boekel.

Collaborating poets are Marissa Douglass, Dan Reed England, Joyce Berrian Ferrari, Christine Godwin, Sandy Greco, Mary Beth Lundgren, Doug MacGregor, Gary McLouth, Joe Pacheco, Sid Simon and Lorraine Walker Williams.

Alliance for the Arts is located at 10091 McGregor Boulevard in Fort Myers. Call 939-2787 for more information.

Visit www.artpoems.org to learn more.✪

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Living In Paradise by Sissi Janku

photo provided

Art And Wine Painting Party

Local artist Sissi Janku is well known on the island for her bright and lively tropical paintings on display in her Sanibel studio and in the Island Style Gallery. Janku will be teaching in a casual and relaxed atmosphere at The Community House every two weeks, with her next class scheduled for Wednesday, March 8 from

7 to 9 p.m. Janku will guide students through this fun acrylic-on-canvas painting using a wet in wet background technique.

All painting materials will be provided. Participants are encouraged to bring wine, snacks or finger food they might enjoy while painting.

Other upcoming dates for Janku's Color Sips painting classes are March 22, April 5 and April 19.

For registration information, call The Community House at 472-2155.*

Sanibel Public Library Programs

The Sanibel Public Library's weekly Youth Programs run through March 16 with the 3rd to 5th After-school Clique on Tuesdays at 3 p.m. There are two all ages storytimes on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. The K-2 After-school Crew is held on Thursdays at 3 p.m., with snacks provided. Bessie the READ dog is there on Thursdays at 4 p.m. The full youth program schedule can be found at sanlib.org. If you have any questions, contact Youth Services Librarian Deanna Evans at devans@sanlib.org or call 472-2483 ext. 201.

In February, the library is exhibiting more than 30 works by the Periwinkle Carvers of Sanibel.

At 10 a.m. on Friday, February 24, a library staffer will present a program about World War II: The Battle of Peleliu. Codenamed "Operation Stalemate II," this U.S. attack on Japan was fought in the Pacific in the fall of 1944.

The Lee County Sheriff's Office will hold its Residential Safety Class on Monday, February 27 at 2 p.m. Learn ways to reduce the likelihood of your home becoming a target for criminal activity and find ways to keep your home secure.

Licensed insurance professional Anthony Idaspe of Informed Choice

will present a program about Medicare choices at 10 a.m. on Thursday, March 2. This event is for educational purposes only, presenter is not connected with the Federal Medicare program. RSVP to Informed Choice at 208-7090. Informed Choice will repeat this program at the library at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, March 22.

The Battle of Monte Cassino was a costly series of four assaults by the Allies against the Winter Line in Italy held by Axis forces in 1944 during World War II. Duane Shaffer will present this encore of his program at 10 a.m. on Friday, March 10.

First Fridays – Stories for Grown Ups will be held at 2 p.m. on March 10. Dr. Sid Simon will entertain during the first half, then stories will be shared by volunteers in the audience.

Sanibel Public Library cards are available to all residents of Sanibel and Lee County, Florida, at no charge. Visitor library cards are available for a \$10 annual fee. For more information about the Sanibel Public Library, call (239) 472-2483 or visit online at www.sanlib.org.*

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Call 395-1213



Trent Armand Kendall plays Louis Armstrong
photos provided



NaTasha Yvette Williams plays Ella Fitzgerald

A Jazzical Journey At Strauss Theater

by Di Saggau

Wow! I was absolutely blown away by the two performers in *Louis-and-Ella*, now showing at the Herb Strauss Theater on Sanibel. Trent Armand Kendall is Louis Armstrong and NaTasha Yvette Williams is Ella Fitzgerald, "The First Lady of Song." Together, they regale the audience with their classic songs. The production, written by Kendall, is a story about redemption and has the

two musical icons meeting in heaven for one final jam session.

The show begins and ends with Louis and Ella dressed in white robes. In between, they have some costumes that reflect their characters' personalities, including a fur coat and fedora for Louis. Kendall plays Louis in a charming roguish manner. His gravelly voice and mannerisms are just what we remember from watching Satchmo over the years. Williams is a charming Ella with a wonderful voice and facial expressions.

The songs they sing include *Roll, Jordan, Roll*, *I Won't Dance*, *Let's Call the Whole Thing Off*, *Dancing Cheek to Cheek*, *Skylark*, *Basin Street Blues*,

continued on page 45

Il Cielo

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From left, Sotheby's realtor KC Cuscaden, Katie Gardenia and Sotheby's realtor Brooke Brownyard with copies of Gardenia's book *A Bubble Moment* photos by Diane L. Wynocker

Book Signing With Artist-Author

by Diane L. Wynocker

Premier Sotheby's International Realty, along with realtors Brooke Brownyard and Kara Cuscaden, is sponsoring a book signing for fiber artist Katie Gardenia at the company's Captiva office, located at 11508 Andy Rosse Lane, on Friday, March 3 from 4 to 6 p.m.

The public is invited to meet and mingle with Gardenia, a former Captiva resident and founder/owner of The Bubble Room restaurant, as well as Sanibel's Mermaid Kitchen from 2001 until 2003. Gardenia will sell and sign copies of her book, *A Bubble Moment*, while guests sip complimentary champagne and wine, and nibble on appetizers.

"If the book is about bubbles, why not have some?" said Gardenia.

A raffle provides the chance to win a personally autographed copy, and the free event will also have Gardenia's fiber art creations available for purchase.

"Fiber art consists of textiles," explained Gardenia. "Material can be cotton, wool, silks or threads, and I find it the most interesting art medium. There's no limit on what can be created, from shoes, couches, footstools and more."

Gardenia said she is "easily bored" by doing something over and over, so her fiber art pieces are all one-of-a-kind. And the mermaid theme often found in her work? "I never did learn to swim, so I always wanted to be a mermaid," she revealed.

On February 2, Gardenia was on hand to sign books, greet fans and showcase some of her work at Sanibel's Tower Gallery, which participated in an Art Under The Stars reception with Hirdie Girdie Gallery and Surroundings by Melinda.

"I was represented by Tower Gallery for eight years, and it was so kind of them to invite me back," said Gardenia. "I felt so comfortable at the show," and attending gave her "goose bumps." "I was overwhelmed by the kindness of people, some I haven't seen in a long time," she said.

Gardenia wrote *A Bubble Moment*,



Katie Gardenia, left, with Kay Sadighi who purchased a copy of *A Bubble Moment* during a book signing at Tower Gallery

which she describes as a "coffee table book/'uncookbook,'" to tell the intimate tale of what went on behind the walls of The Bubble Room, as well as share much-asked-for recipes and serve up local Captiva and Sanibel stories.

"Katie Gardenia is an icon," said Kay Sadighi, one of the first reception attendees to buy a book. "The Bubble Room is a favorite restaurant of my 93-year-old mother."

"I purchased *A Bubble Moment* to get 'dirt' on Sanibel and Captiva," said Phyllis Gibson.

Tower Gallery, an artists' co-op, is located at 751 Tarpon Bay Road. When Christine Reichow, president of the co-op, heard Gardenia was returning for a special show, "it was exciting for all of us," Reichow said.

Gardenia is in Southwest Florida for two to three months, fulfilling speaking engagements and attending arts and crafts festivals to showcase her work.

She recently purchased a 200-year-old post office in Flat Rock, North Carolina, living on one side, with the other serving as her gallery and studio. The space is open from May until the leaves change. She continues to create art, and is in the process of opening an online presence at etsy.com. In addition, Pandora's Box,



Jane Leman, left, and Katie Gardenia

located in Tahitian Gardens at 2015 Periwinkle Way on Sanibel, will carry her work beginning in May.

For additional information, visit www.katiegardenia.com or www.facebook.com/kgardenia. To learn more about the March 3 book signing, call Brooke Brownyard at 281-4179 or Lisa Cronin at Sotheby's at 472-2735.✧



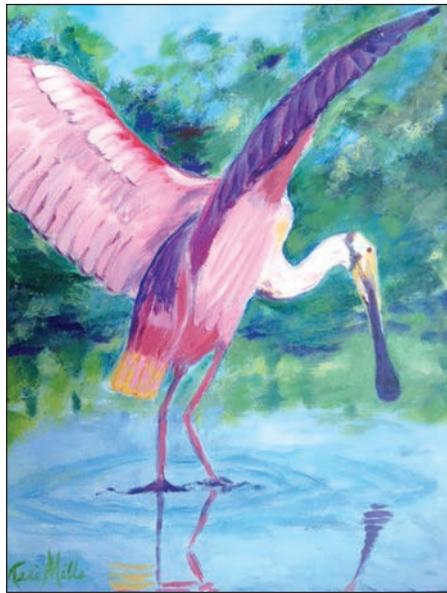
Bill and Mary Jo England with Katie Gardenia, center



From left, Rob Bennett, Katie Gardenia, Ron Luker and Brooke Brownyard



Jane Hudson's *Cara-Caras*
photos courtesy DDWS



Teri Mills' painting *Roseate Spoonbill*

"Unfortunately, Gale did not live long enough to do this project," said Bennett. "Almost all of the painters preparing the works for the Audubon exhibit... were students of his."

The inspiration group includes Marcy Calkins, Pat Dunn, Jane Geronime, Marilyn Hedlund, Sheila Hoen, Jane Hudson, Teri Mills, Caroline Nuckolls and Alicia Schmidt.

"The idea was to use Audubon's masterpieces as a jumping-off point for original new works depicting birds of North America," added Bennett. "I am confident Gale would have been thrilled to see his idea carried out by such an accomplished group of artists."

Visitors can view Audubon Inspirations in the refuge's Visitor & Education Center auditorium every day (except some holidays) from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Since the refuge also uses the auditorium for other events, staff advises visitors to call 472-1100 when planning a visit.*

His fresh, contemporary and totally "unorthodox" style has been delighting audiences from Hollywood to Montreal. His unique brand of humor appeals to everyone – synagogue and church crowds, colleges and theatres.

A native of Providence, Rhode Island, Alper is a graduate of Lehigh University and was ordained at Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati. He has served congregations in Buffalo and Philadelphia, where he continues to conduct High Holy Days services.

Alper resides in Vermont with his wife Sherri, a psychotherapist. Professionally, he makes people laugh while she helps people cry.

Advance tickets are \$18 per person. Mail your check with a note about number attending the performance to Bat Yam Temple of the Islands, P.O. Box 84, Sanibel, FL 33957. Admission at the door is \$25 per person by cash or check.

Contact Bat Yam's Rabbi Myra Soifer at myrabbims@gmail.com or 775-721-5508 for more information.*

Symphony Small Stage Concerts



Tim Berens photo provided

The Southwest Florida Symphony will host its final concert in the 2016-17 Small Stage Symphonies series, *Concierto de Aranjuez*, with special guest artist Cincinnati Pops guitarist Tim Berens. In addition to a performance of Joaquin Rodrigo's *Concierto de Aranjuez*, this concert features performances of Franz Joseph Haydn's *Symphony 101 The Clock*

and *Mater* by contemporary Italian composer Cristian Cararra at three Lee County venues.

Concerts take place at BIG ARTS on Sanibel on Wednesday, March 8; at Shell Point Village Church on Thursday, March 9; and at the Southwest Florida Performing Arts Center on Friday, March 10. All concerts start at 7:30 p.m. Ticket prices begin at \$25 and vary by venue. They may be purchased at www.swflso.org, by visiting the Southwest Florida Symphony Box Office located at 8290 College Parkway, Suite 103 in Fort Myers, or by calling the Symphony Box Office at 418-1500. Tickets may also be purchased at each venue.

Small Stage Symphonies are chamber orchestra concerts that take place at smaller venues throughout Lee County in order to provide patrons with a more intimate concert experience and an opportunity to sample an even broader variety of classical repertoire. Like Masterworks Concerts, Small Stage Symphonies feature internationally renowned guest soloists and conductors, including Maestro Nir Kabaretti.

Kabaretti is in his third season with the Southwest Florida and his 10th with the Santa Barbara Symphony in California, where he serves as music and artistic director. He has been described as "a conductor with immense musicality and warm personality" by Maestro Zubin Mehta. Maestro Kabaretti has earned an impressive reputation worldwide for his command of a vast symphonic and operatic repertoire.*

Audubon-Inspired Art Exhibition

A group of local fine artists will display their works at the JN "Ding" Darling Wildlife Refuge Visitor & Education Center on Sanibel from March 1 through April 30. The Audubon Inspiration exhibit is curated by Cello Bennett, widow of the late artist Gale Bennett (1939-2008), along with artists Marcy Calkins and Jane Hudson.

Before his death in 2008, Bennett, a local artist with an international reputation, taught for 40 years at art centers in the area. He was planning a series of paintings inspired by the works of famed bird artist John James Audubon.

Rabbi/Stand-Up Comic To Perform

Temple Bat Yam is sponsoring an unusual performer on Sunday, March 5 at 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall of the Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ, located at 2050 Periwinkle Way.

Bob Alper is an ordained rabbi who served congregations for 14 years until he fell for stand-up comedy. He also holds a doctorate from the Princeton Theological Seminary. Alper considers himself to be the world's only practicing clergyman doing stand-up comedy intentionally. He is certain that his background has prepared him well for his comedy career with unique material presented in a way that's intelligent, sophisticated and 100 percent clean.

There's a reason why Sirius/XM satellite radio plays Alper's comedy bits several times daily. *The Chicago Tribune* and *The New York Times* have warmly reviewed his performance.



Everyone Deserves A Slice of Paradise

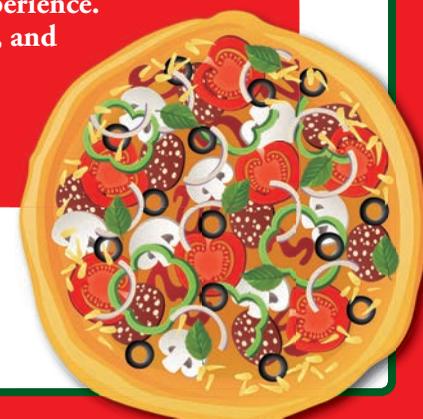
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BIG ARTS Monday Night Film Series

Embrace Of The Serpent

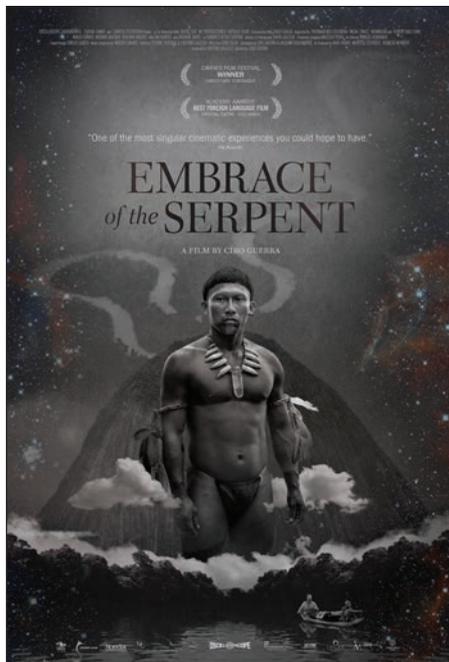
by Di Saggau



The Monday Night Movie for February 27 is *Embrace of the Serpent*, an enthralling, politically tinged, psychedelic, historical adventure film by *Ciro Guerra*. The film was shot along the border of Colombia and Brazil and it unfolds in two different historical periods, featuring a script developed in consultation with native tribes. It's intelligent and sensitive, and assembled with great care. Images of the jungle are often seen from the points-of-view of a canoe gliding across misty water, or a party of explorers moving through thickets of gnarled trees and shrubs.

The film's two major white characters are loosely based on real men. One is the German ethnologist Theodor Koch-Grunberg, who explored the Yapura River and the Rio Negro to the border with Venezuela in the early 20th century. The other is Richard Evans Schultes, the American psychedelic researcher and botanist who studied Amazonian ethno-botany in the 1940s.

In the film, the earlier researcher goes by Theo. He arrives in the story suffering from malaria and requiring homegrown medicine and a certain amount of nursing and hand-holding. Begrudgingly, Karamakate, the loincloth-wearing shaman, nurses him



back to health. The other man is called Evan, an American searching for a curative plant called yakruna, which grows on rubber plants.

The bulk of the film is devoted to dreamlike exploration, observing the folklore of individual tribes and learning about their greater spiritual belief system. A wonderful side trip comes across a Spanish mission, both in 1909 and again later. Research shows that the two westerners are based on real people, but the yakruna plant is fiction. Evan's work in the Amazon led to important developments in the

cultivation of rubber and medicine, and to crucial breakthroughs in psychedelics.

Embrace of the Serpent is filmed in shimmering black and white except for one mind-bending scene in explosive color. Enough can't be said about Karamakate, in both his old and new versions. He is a vision of pride and tragedy, a sorcerer and a saint. A rich, fascinating character. The film runs 125 minutes. Moderator for the evening is Alan Ruben.

Admission to BIG ARTS Monday Night Film Series is \$10 and all screenings begin at 7 p.m. in Schein Performance Hall. Each film is followed by a complimentary reception and discussion. Film Sponsors: June Rosner and Russ Bilgore, Stan and Visnja Gembicki, Hyde Tucker, Penny Wilkinson and the *Island Sun*.

BIG ARTS is located at 900 Dunlop Road. Tickets are available online at www.BIGARTS.org, at the door or by calling 395-0900.*

Poet's Corner



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

selected by Tanya Hochschild

Most Of Me Is Pretty Good

by Tanya Hochschild

When asked – that's what I say,
while parts have stood the test of time
others are prone to decay.
For me to see the printed page
I have to extend my arm.
Has this got something to do with age?

or is it cause for alarm?
For years I've sat in dentist's chairs,
not a thing could they find wrong,
now bridges and dentures need
hardwares;
hydrofloss, a curette and a prong.
Because at night I can't fall asleep,
I use products supplied by Pfizer,
but still I fail to count those sheep
despite a massage pillow and
vaporizer.

They say a drink before dinner is the foe

I know it will make me get up and go
see the slow clock-radio show
two a.m., three, then four...

Oh, for one long uninterrupted snore!

Everyone has a different diagnosis

on which we tend at parties to focus,
who takes what and how many doses.

Their organ recitals are music to my ears

make me temporarily forget my cares,

as soothing as an after-dinner mint
except, of course, we are talking
liniment.

But most of me is pretty good
although I no longer sprint.
If you ask, I will slip a hint.

My knee packed up last year
Yes, you heard about that meniscus
tear.

I don't yet need an assistive device
(although a youngster to operate
my computer would be nice).

But most of me is pretty good,
it's only when I answer a

questionnaire
I realize how many doctors are
involved in my care.

Although my past medical history's
checked with many no's

I'm no stranger to Medicare and
specialist medicos.

Yes, most of me is pretty good
but not when allergy season's upon
us.

Then I feel a certain minus due to
suffering from sinus

I've swapped northern cold for
southern mold...

but I Nasonex and bear it!

So, although parts of me are
becoming unfurled, it truly isn't the end
of the world,

and when you tell me you've a case
of streptococci,

my reply? Consider yourself lucky!

*Tanya Hochschild is member of a Sanibel Writers Group, has participated in Artpoems and Writer's Reads on the island, and had two books published.**

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Programs At Captiva Library

The Captiva Memorial Library is offering the following free programs for adults in March.

Comedy Magic Show – 3 p.m.
Wednesday, March 1. An hour of fun,
laughs and magic, just for adults.

Bird Safari – 8:30 a.m. Friday, March
10. This outdoor excursion will capture
views and auditory delights of the
spectacular birds around us. The walk
will take place on the beach at the library
and throughout the streets to the bay
side of Captiva. Registration is required.

Presentation & Exhibit: The
Smithsonian National Museum of
African-American History and Culture's
2016 Grand Opening Event – 3
p.m. Wednesday, March 15. A video
presentation of the museum's 2016
grand opening along with an exhibit of
Smithsonian posters.

Music of the '40s, '50s and '60s with
David Kilbride – 3 p.m. Wednesday,
March 22. Classics, country, audience
requests, you name it. A fun mix of live
music from the '40s, '50s and '60s.

The Captiva Memorial Library is
located at 11560 Chapin Lane on
Captiva. For more information or to
register, call 533-4890.*

Book Review

The Zookeeper's Wife



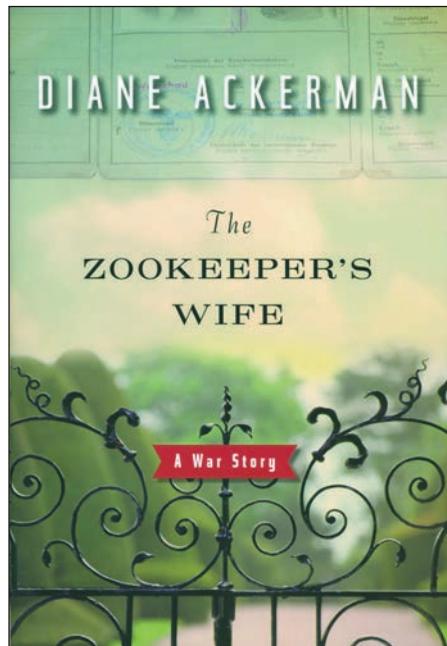
by Di Saggau

The Zookeeper's Wife by Diane Ackerman, has been around for many years, but I thought I'd review it for those of you who have not yet read it because it has been made into

a major motion picture that will be out soon. It's a true story of World War II.

In pre-war Warsaw, Antonina Zabinski and her husband Jan ran a zoo housing rare animals. Antonina, who had a rare gift for connecting with the creatures in her care, raised many of them by her hand. The animals roamed freely on the zoo grounds or through the villa she and Jan shared.

When war broke out, the valuable animals were seized by a German zookeeper for breeding animal purity.



Many zoos saw their animals shipped off for display and breeding experiments. By leaving the Zabinskis zoo empty, a sanctuary was created in the center of the city for "guests" placed by the Underground. Some stayed in the zoo's

or a 504 plan. If there is already plan for your child, it does not seem to be working, or it is not being followed and should be revisited immediately.

If you do not have a plan, I recommend visiting the American Diabetes Association website at www.diabetes.org. They have prepared excellent model 504 plans and health plans that you can use. Their format can be modified to cover other medical issues that arise at school. You will find a sample 504 plan and a Medical Management Plan for your use.

Download the example plan and revise it so it applies for your child's needs related to her asthma. You may want to discuss this plan with your child's pediatrician to make sure the plan is complete and covers all your child's health needs.

Keep one copy for your records and give one to her pediatrician. Ask for a meeting with the principal and school nurse and give them copies of the plan and an opportunity to answer any questions they may have. Depending on the complexity of the plan, they may be able to implement immediately or the principal may then refer you to the school's Section 504 coordinator to set a meeting to develop a more formal plan.

When you have taken these steps, you will have the proper documentation that your child's past absences were not due to truancy and a plan in place to reduce future problems.

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.*

villa and some in the emptied cages. The Zabinskis invented a stream of legal visitors, uncles, aunts, cousins and friends to stay for various lengths of time.

Giving refuge to a Jew during this time was punishable by death, and yet with the threat of discovery, the Zabinskis provided an atmosphere that was quite pleasant. In her diaries, she talks about the emotional needs of her guests and said sometimes they were almost happy. The Zabinskis saved the lives of approximately 300 Polish Jews. Antonina asked herself, "Why is it that animals can sometimes subdue their predatory ways in only a few months, while humans, despite centuries of refinement, can quickly grow more savage than any beast?"

Ackerman includes lots of information and facts that add to the enjoyment of the book. When talking about food that would give wintering animals plenty of vitamins, she tells us that word was

coined in 1912 by Polish biochemist Casimir Funk. She also includes the history of some of the rare animals. The Nazis treated animals better than humans, especially Slavs, Gypsies, Catholics or Jews. While Mengele's subjects could be operated on without any painkillers at all, a remarkable example of Nazi zoophilia is that a leading biologist was once punished for not giving worms enough anesthesia during an experiment.

It wasn't just the Zabinskis who helped save Jews. Between 70,000 and 90,000 people in Warsaw and the suburbs – or about one-twelfth of the population – risked their lives to help neighbors escape. Ackerman, with her profound understanding of nature, tells Antonina's story in a way that makes it clear about the connection between her role as the zookeeper's wife and heroine of the Resistance. *The New York Times* called it "A poignant and absorbing book."*

From page 41

Jazzical Journey

Jumping At the Savoy, Sentimental Journey and their trademark songs, *A-Tisket, A-Tasket*, and *What a Wonderful World*. Louis also sings *Lucille*, a loving tribute to his last wife. Their many duets and solo numbers are a musical treat. Louis even finds a few people in the audience to join him in repeating a couple scat lines. Ella does the same and then we hear what it really should sound like. These two are impressive.

The band is also impressive with talented musicians Mark Berman on piano, Joe Bruno on bass, Miguel Cintron on drums and Gary Greenstein on trumpet. They play a wonderful session before the second act begins. The show is closed with *Swing Low Sweet Chariot* and *When the Saints Go Marching In*, which really gets the audience in the spirit. *Louis-and-Ella* is a show not to be missed. Performances are selling out, so call now. It plays through February 28 at the BIG ARTS Strauss Theater on Sanibel. For tickets, visit www.bigarts.org or call 395-0900.*

School Smart



by Shelley M. Greggs, NCSP

Dear Shelley, My daughter has asthma, and her school continually sends her home. Now they have reported her truant. Where do I look for help on this matter?

Francine W., Port Charlotte

Francine,

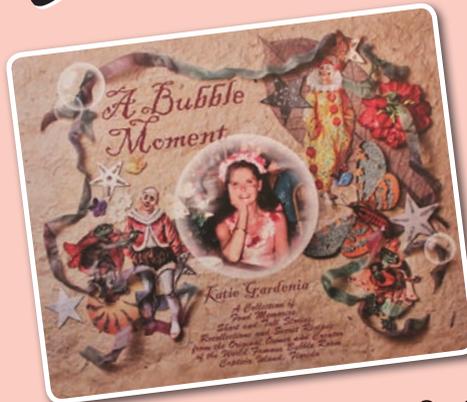
If the school has sent your child home because they think she is ill, how can they say she left school on her own and is truant? One situation rules out the other. You need to take steps to document that your child's absences were due to illness. You also need to prevent this from happening again by developing a plan.

One way to address this issue is to use the school's records to straighten things out. Many people in the school keep records on children. School nurses keep health records on students. They also record visits to the nurse's office by students. Ask the nurse for a copy of the notes or forms she filled out about your child's visits to her office. If the nurse does not want to give these copies to you, ask your child's pediatrician to write a letter to the nurse requesting that she send the information to him/her. Then, get the records from the doctor. Depending on how the school keeps track of these visits, these notes should show that your child was sent home because he was too ill to attend school.

A more efficient and effective long-term solution is to develop a health plan for your child. Public schools are required by law to accommodate the health needs of students. The plan to accommodate health needs may be called a health plan

Katie Gardenia

Book Signing



Premier Sotheby's International Realty Realtors® Brooke Brownyard and KC Cuscaden are pleased to sponsor a book signing with the iconic artist and founder/owner of The Bubble Room, Katie Gardenia. The event will be held March 3, 2017 from 4 to 6 pm at our Premier Sotheby's office located at 11508 Andy Rosse Lane on Captiva. Katie Gardenia will sell and sign copies of her magical book, "A Bubble Moment" while guests enjoy champagne, wine and appetizers. There will also be a raffle to win a personally autographed copy of "A Bubble Moment." Katie, Brooke and KC look forward to seeing you in Captiva.

For more information please call 239-472-2735.

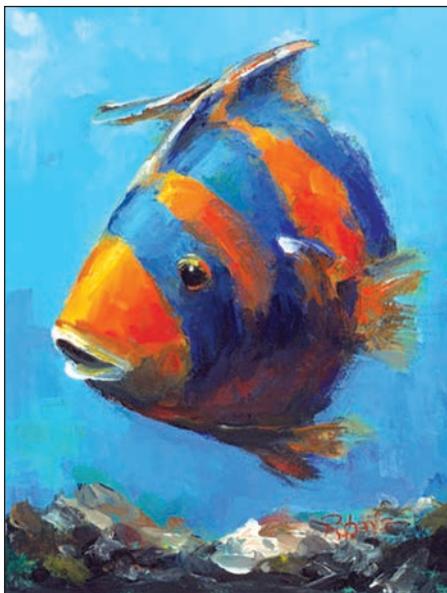
Galleries Host Art Under The Stars



Barbara Chloe Murdoch



Joan Roberts



Artwork by Joan Roberts



Artwork by Barbara Chloe Murdoch

Three of Sanibel's finest art venues will participate in Art Under The Stars, the third event in the continuing series. Tower Gallery will be featuring demonstrations by artists Barbara Murdoch and Joan Roberts. The Tower Gallery artists will all be displaying new art, fresh out of their studios.

Art Under The Stars will take place on Thursday, March 2 from 5 to 9 p.m. at Tower Gallery, located at 751 Tarpon Bay Road; Hirdie Girdie Gallery, located at 2490 Library Way; and Surroundings, located at 2480 Library Way, all on Sanibel.

For more information, contact events chair Eileen Johnson at 495-5876 or rjohnson435130@gmail.com, or Tower Gallery at 472-4557 or sales@towergallery.net.*



Brentano String Quartet

photo courtesy Sanibel Music Festival

Music Festival Season Opener

Opening the season on Saturday, March 4 for the Sanibel Music Festival is the Brentano String Quartet, who will perform at the Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ, located at 2050 Periwinkle Way, beginning at 8 p.m.

The Brentano is an American string quartet, founded at Juilliard in 1992. Within a year of its public concert debut, it had received the Naumberg Award and the Martin Segal Prize. The quartet became the first ensemble-in-residence at Princeton University, a position it held from 1999 to 2014. It is now the faculty quartet-in-residence at the Yale School of Music, succeeding the Tokyo String Quartet. The quartet performs all over the world, from

Carnegie Hall to the Edinburgh Festival to the Sydney Opera House. It also records widely. In the critically acclaimed independent film, *A Late Quartet*, the filmmakers turned to the Brentano SQ for the central music, Beethoven's Opus 131. Sponsored by Clare and Ted Sawyer and Festival Friends.

The March 4 program will include:
Bach, *Selections from The Art of Fugue, BWV 1080*

Mendelssohn, *String Quartet in E minor, Op. 44, No. 2*

Beethoven, *String Quartet in F major, Op. 59, No. 1, "Razumovsky"*

Tickets may be purchased for \$45 each online at www.sanibelmusicfestival.org or by calling 344-7025. Tickets may also be purchased by cash or check only at the Bank of the Islands, 1699 Periwinkle Way, and Sanibel Captiva Community Bank, 2477 Library Way on Sanibel Island.*

Musical Duo Performs At The Sanibel School

Sanibel School. The pair performed a full set of classical tunes. The students sat alert, taking it all in, and gave the Cotik-Lin Duo their undivided attention. Many even reacted with excitement when they recognized some of the preludes and verses.

After the performance, Cotik and Lin fielded questions from several students. Questions ranged from "What are your influences?" (too many to answer), "Where are you from?" (China and Argentina), to "How did you make a career of playing music?" (the answer is simple – keep playing and keep learning.) Many of the students expressed interest in forming their own groups and launching their own careers in the future and leapt at the chance for expert advice from the touring artists.

Both Cotik and Lin were happy to bring their music to the children. "It's not something you get to do so often," Cotik said. "It's a nice change of pace and awesome to see the reactions of those who've never heard playing like ours before."

This outreach program was made possible through the generosity of the Gillespie family, in memory of the late Norma Gillespie, a former member of BIG ARTS and the classical music committee. Sessions such as these are emblematic of BIG ARTS' commitment to education for students of all ages.*



Tomas Cotik and Tao Lin

photo courtesy BIG ARTS

Students at the Sanibel School are encouraged to follow, pursue and mature their passions – whether they are creative, scientific or mathematical. On January 27, grades three to eight were treated to a performance from two creative virtuosos who followed their passions to the top: Tomas Cotik and Tao Lin.

Before of their appearance at BIG ART, the duo gave an intimate performance in the auditorium of The

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History Of The Gavin And Walker Families On Sanibel

Imagine six dirt roads winding around Sanibel like a brown ribbon or having only one way to arrive on the island, by ferry. This is how the Gavin and Walker families remember Sanibel. The two families arrived on the island in the early 1900s when it was still sparsely populated. The Gavins and Walkers became related in 1934 when their children, Edmund and Elnora, were married. Elnora was the daughter of Harry and Pearl Alice Baker Walker. Edmund's parents, Isaiah and Hannah Gavin, were the first black family to establish residency on Sanibel.

Although Edmund and Elnora were still in their teens when they were married, Edmund was able to support his new wife working at the Island Inn. This Inn consisted of a restaurant and cottages where visitors could come to relax in Sanibel's peaceful environment. South Seas Plantation, 'Tween Waters Inn, Dean Mitchell's Motel and Casa Ybel were the only other cottages that existed on the island.

After working at the Island Inn for a few years, Edmund found he wanted to seek his own work. "My father was always a hard worker," said Eugene Gavin, one of Edmund and Elnora's many children. "He was his own person who liked to be in business for himself. Any work that was needed, my dad would do. I never remember him complaining about any work, he seemed to love it all."

He worked as a landscaper, paved driveways, and even sold shells to the Shell Factory in North Fort Myers. "When we were around 6 or 7, old enough to help Dad, we would go to the beach and collect shells for him," Eugene said. "During the winter months, we would collect three or four junonias a week. The beaches had the same type shells as today but they were more plentiful back then."

Eugene describes his father as "very strict, like a drill sergeant." However, he liked working with his father because "it was exciting to be away from home. I would work for my father, uncle or grandfather just so I could get away from the same routine at home. I loved to explore, to know about everything around the island," Eugene said.



Edmund Gavin standing with his first born daughter, Pearl, on one of Sanibel's sparse roads

photos courtesy the Gavin Family

In 1984, Edmund Gavin was acknowledged for his hard work and dedication to the community of Sanibel by being selected as Grand Marshal of the Sanibel Parade. The parade was held in November to celebrate the island's 10th birthday. As part of the festivities, Edmund rode in a Rolls Royce convertible in the parade.

Eugene remembers his mother, Elnora Gavin, as very loving and kind. Her arms were always open to all family members and outsiders. She was loved and respected by many," Eugene said.

An example of his father's strict upbringing and his mother's gentleness can be explained in a story Eugene still remembers today. "My dad had his truck parked outside our house. One of my brothers thought it would be funny to take the battery from the truck and drain the water. When my father asked my brothers, Ken, Edmund Jr. and me who did it, no one would confess so he punished all three of us. The next day, while my father was at work, my mother asked us who did it and Ken admitted it was him. When we went to school, Edmund and I beat him up!" Eugene said, laughing. "We still tease Ken about it today."

Elnora's sister, Virgil Walker Fuller, was also a very caring woman that helped influence the Gavin children. "She was a very loving aunt. We always felt very close to her," said Eugene. "Having a person like her always willing to help and listen shapes a child's behavior and helps them to develop."

The Gavin and Walker families were always very close and Eugene's uncle, Harry Walker Jr., had a large impact on all the Gavin children. He was the only person in that generation of Gavins and Walkers to finish high school, college and serve in the United States Military. "He was a role model to all of us. We really looked up to him and would love it when he would come back and visit Sanibel from college or the military," Eugene said. Because of Harry's influence, Edmund and Elnora's 20 children, 18 surviving infancy,

16 graduated from high school, nine furthered their education from college and trade schools, and three served in the military. "We have combined over 100 years of military and government service in our family," Eugene said. "My mother was also instrumental in getting all of her children to attend school. She always believed that education was essential."

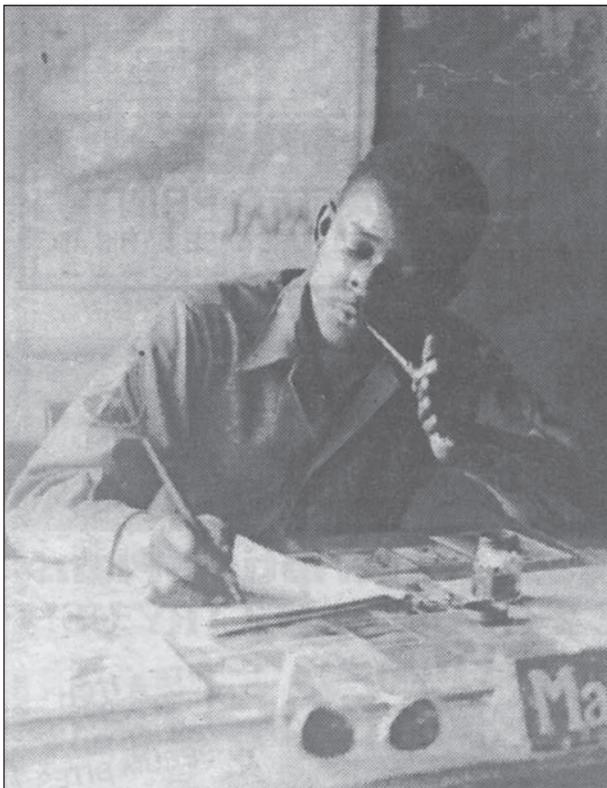
Another relative that left an impression in the lives of many was Eugene's aunt, Sally Gavin. She lived on Sanibel, but moved back to where her family originally resided, Tallahassee. In the late 1960s, after segregation had legally ended, many black people still sat in the rear of the bus. However, one morning Sally was riding the bus with her grandson and he wanted to sit in the very front, right behind the bus driver. As they took their seat, the bus driver turned around and told them the seat was reserved. "We've paid our money," Sally said sternly. "This is where we're sitting. Now, you just need to turn right around and drive this bus." The bus driver obliged.

The second generation of the Gavin and Walker families were very close and helped shape the lives of all Edmund's and Elnora's 21 children; 18 survived infancy. "We have all taken a little piece from each of our relatives that has affected our lives in some way," Eugene said. Indeed, with such a large family, and the tree continuing to grow, each family member has taken a leaf from the branch of every relative and let it blow through the wind, influencing their next journey in life.

First published July 5, 1996 in Island Sun*



Elnora Walker Gavin (top) and her sister, Virgil Walker Fuller, smiling for the camera



Harry Walker Jr., the first family member to attend college, studying intently



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Private Dinner With Douglas Brinkley

Douglas Brinkley, one of America's most renowned contemporary historians, returns to Sanibel for a private dinner and lecture in his honor and in honor of the National Wildlife Refuge System's anniversary on Tuesday, March 14 at the "Ding" Darling Visitor & Education Center. He will be speaking about his new book, *Rightful Heritage: Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Land of America*, with dinner to follow.

"Ding" Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS) is hosting the dinner, which begins at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$100, of which \$75 is tax deductible. All proceeds benefit refuge conservation efforts.

Seating is limited to the first 100 reservations. Contact Carrie Alexander at 472-1100 ext. 256 or carrie@dingdarlingsociety.org to reserve.

History commentator for CBS News, Brinkley is the best-selling author of a number of books, many of which have been listed on *The New York Times* Notable Books of the Year. His works include *The Wilderness Warrior: Theodore Roosevelt and the Crusade for America*, and a series of histories focusing on American conservation efforts.

Brinkley is a contributing editor to *Vanity Fair*, history professor at Rice University, former Roosevelt Scholar at Tulane, and fascinating speaker.*



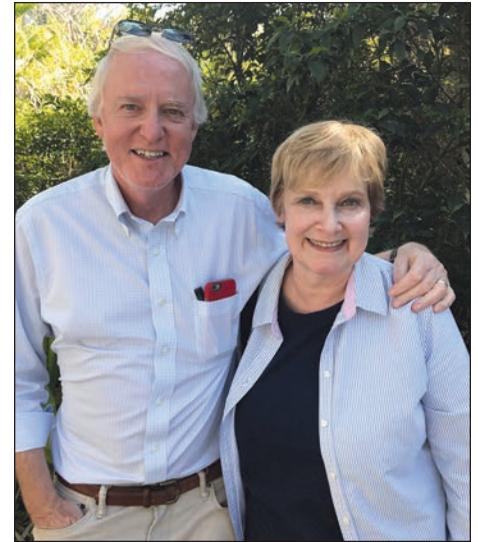
Douglas Brinkley photo courtesy DDWS

U.S. Ambassador To Russia Speaks At BIG ARTS

U.S. Ambassador to Russia John Beyrle spoke to a full house at BIG ARTS' Schein Hall last Wednesday evening hosted by RUSLEF (Russia-U.S. Legal Education Foundation) and Monday Current Events. Organizers Sidney and Jane Picker are the president and vice president, respectively, of RUSLEF, and in cooperation with Malcolm Martini of Monday Current Events brought this program to Sanibel, providing a speaker who is uniquely qualified to address the complex issues facing the Russia-U.S. relationship under Presidents Putin and Trump. Special thanks were offered to presenting sponsor The Sanibel Captiva Trust Company and reception sponsor Bailey's General Store.

Ambassador Beyrle served as the U.S. ambassador to the Russian Federation from 2008-12 under Presidents George H. Bush and Barack Obama.

Beyrle provided four key observations



John Beyrle with his wife Jocelyn Greene photo by Jane Picker

in regard to our two countries:

- Communication is key, and the military leaders on both sides must keep speaking to each other.

- In over 200 years, the U.S. and Russia have never warred against each

continued on page 2B

Lecture On Wildlife Forensics

Human and wildlife forensics both use science to link a suspect to a crime scene and victim. Yet while human forensic scientists deal with just one species of victim – homo sapiens – wildlife forensic scientists deal with thousands.

Using real life stories from around the world, Dr. Laurel Neme, author of *Animal Investigators: How the World's First Forensic Lab Is Solving Crimes & Saving Endangered Species*, will explain how innovative science uses a variety of techniques – from genetic analysis to morphology – to solve crimes against wildlife and reduce the scale of wildlife trafficking. Her two free presentations take place at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Friday, March 3 as part of the 2017 "Ding" Darling Lecture Series at the JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge on Sanibel.

Neme and her CSI For Wildlife program have been featured on ABC News' *Nightline*, C-SPAN and NPR's *Science Friday*. She is a contributor to *National Geographic* and hosts *The WildLife*, a podcast that explores the



Laurel Neme photo courtesy DDWS

mysteries of the animal world through interviews with scientists and other wildlife investigators.

Following her lecture, Neme will be signing copies of her book, which are available for purchase in the Refuge Nature Store, proceeds from which benefit wildlife and education at "Ding" Darling.

HighTower/Thomas & Swartz Wealth Management sponsors the free 12-lecture series with support from the "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society-Friends

continued on page 6B

Tickets On Sale For Food And Wine Festival

Donation tickets are now available for the Sanibel-Captiva Optimist Club's 10th annual Food and Wine Festival – Sanibel Uncorked. The festival will be held on Sunday, March 5 from 1 to 5 p.m. at Lily & Co. Jewelry Gallery, located at 520 Tarpon Bay Road, across from Bailey's General Store. There will be free valet parking.

Distributors of many fine wines will be on hand with tasting stations for attendees to sample and compare selections. Craft beers will also be available.

A number of local chefs will demonstrate methods for preparing some of their favorite dishes, with a taste for the onlookers. Chef Karl Hamme of Sanibel Catering Company, Chef Teh of The Timbers and Chef Philip of Doc Ford's will participate. Hors d'oeuvres by Sanibel Catering Company by Bailey's will be served.

There will be a silent auction with many fine prizes such as gourmet wines, jewelry, artwork, hotel and golf packages, and sports outings. Attendees can also bid on

dinners prepared in their own home by several of the chefs present. A 50/50 raffle will be also be held.

Tickets are available at Bailey's General Store, Sanibel Captiva Community Bank, Sanibel Café, at the door and from members of the Optimist Club. Donation tickets are priced at \$30, \$25 for

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From left, Malcolm Martini, Jane and Sidney Picker photo provided

From page 1B

U.S. Ambassador

other, and in fact, Russia was helpful to the U.S. during the Civil War.

- The Russian citizens are good, hard working people who have similar values and concerns as Americans.

- Regardless of who is in office in the Kremlin or the White House, keep the lines of communication open between our countries. This is the key to a successful relationship.

Generous with his time, Beyrle answered questions for at least 30 minutes, which spanned from Russian

concerns over the influx of Muslims to their country to how the U.S. should deal with President Putin. Hundreds of guests attended the onsite reception following the presentation to visit with Beyrle, where he answered additional questions.

“The evening’s event not only served as a fundraiser for RUSLEF, but was designed to raise awareness about the long-term importance of academic and cultural exchanges and connections, political conflicts notwithstanding,” said Jane Picker.

Sidney Picker added, “RUSLEF’s mission is to expose the next generation of Russia’s bench and bar to a rule-of-law

legal culture, which is a long-term investment in the future of an evolving Russian society and its relationship to the global community.”

While RUSLEF works in various ways

with Russian legal education, its primary program is to bring Russian law students to study in U.S. law schools for a year and then return to Russia to pursue their legal careers.✪

Sanibel Students Attend Regional Science Fair

Two eighth grade students from The Sanibel School recently attended the Thomas Alva Edison Kiwanis Regional Science & Engineering Fair.

Paris Bender did a project to determine which household substances could be used as a battery if the electricity goes out, using a lemon battery as a control group, in her project entitled Need Batteries? for which she received an honorable mention award in the Chemistry category.

Kira Zautcke discovered that she can make certain plants glow under UV light by watering them with tonic water, proposing that these plants could be used as sentinel plants for determining areas that are getting too much UV radiation in her project entitled Shining Succulents and Illuminated Ivies for which she received first place in the Plants category.

Over the past six decades, the Edison Fairs program has grown into the largest pre-collegiate STEM competition program in Southwest

Florida and includes three signature events:

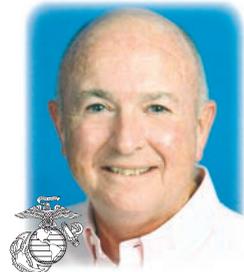
- Thomas Alva Edison Kiwanis Regional Science and Engineering Fair (since 1958)
- Thomas A. Edison Festival of Light Regional Inventors Fair (since 1988)
- Elementary Science Expo (since 2005)

The Thomas A. Edison Regional Science and Inventors Fairs (TAERSIF) steering committee works year-round to organize these regional STEM events, which annually host over 1,000 local students at regional competitions and engage nearly 20,000 students in research projects at a school level. TAERSIF is a sanctioned event of the Edison Festival of Light, as well as an affiliate of both the State Science and Engineering Fair (SSEF) of Florida and Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (Intel ISEF).

Through the Edison Fair program, student participants compete for approximately \$5 million in prizes, scholarships and special awards across local, regional, state and international levels of competition.

For a complete list of award winners from the 2017 Thomas Alva Edison Kiwanis Regional Science & Engineering Fair, visit www.edisonfairs.org/✪

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Sanibel School students, from left, Owen Rose, Caden Suslick, Cole Fields and Colton Sullivan at a barbecue prepared by Principal Chuck Vilardi as part of awards provided by the Principal Fund photos provided

Lions Support Fund Created By School Principal

The Sanibel-Captiva Lions Club recently provided support for the Principal Fund established by The Sanibel School Principal Chuck Vilardi.

"The Principal Fund allows me to recognize our students in various ways for awesome grades, academics and meeting their reading goals," said Vilardi, who hosts pool parties and barbecues for the students. "The Lions Club donation is specifically going to allow me to buy bracelets for the kids who earn these awards."

Vilardi's goal with the Principal Fund is to build the student's self-esteem and make many fond memories of their school experience. The fund is additionally used to purchase "pick-me-up" items when a child loses a parent or is diagnosed with a serious illness. He says school is not just about reading, writing, science or social studies; it's about having another person believe in you.

"I'm not just there to celebrate their successes, but when they are down and out," said Vilardi. "The Principal Fund promotes a sense of belonging to these children and it's crucial students see this school as an extension of their family."

The students consider Vilardi as their "school dad," and he takes that responsibility seriously.

"Our club members are delighted to make this donation," said Club President Debi Almeida. "It is important to partner with Principal Vilardi and The



Sanibel Captiva Lions Club President Debi Almeida, right, presents a donation to Sanibel School Principal Chuck Vilardi for the Principal Fund

Sanibel School to strengthen our future generations."

Lions Clubs are a group of men and women who identify needs within the community and work together to fulfill those needs. The San-Cap Lions are collecting used eyeglasses as part of the Recycle For Sight program. Specially-marked donation boxes are located throughout Sanibel and Captiva. The annual Lions Arts & Crafts Fair is coming in March, along with a complimentary health screening for diabetes, glaucoma, hearing and vision.

To learn more about the services offered by the club or to get involved, visit www.sanibelcaptivalions.org.*

Club Accepting Scholarship Applications

The Sanibel-Captiva Kiwanis Club is accepting scholarship applications for the 2017-18 school year.

Scholarships of \$3,000 per year, over a period of four years, will be awarded. Additionally, several one-year scholarships in varying amounts are available.

Eligible applicants must be Sanibel or Captiva residents, employed full time

on the islands or a family member of such (of any age) attending a college or vocational school.

The club collects the applications and an independent committee makes the selection.

Applications must be submitted by March 31. They can be obtained by directly accessing the Kiwanis website at www.SanibelKiwanis.org or by contacting any of the following: Loretta Kupper (579-0660 or loretta@sanibelinsurance.com), Bill Traum (561-2900 or billtraum@me.com) or Chris Heidrick (579-0660 or chris@sanibelinsurance.com).*

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 \$3,795,000 MLS 216001685
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San-Cap Lions Make Donation

Kurt Peters of the Sanibel-Captiva Lions Club recently delivered a 23-inch portable video magnifier to Lighthouse of Southwest Florida, represented by the group's Executive Director Doug Fowler.

The Lions' sight-based program partnered with FISH of SanCap for the gift to Lighthouse of Southwest Florida, an organization that enables people of all ages with visual impairment or blindness to remain independent, active and productive members of society.

"This is a testament to collaboration between two service organizations on the island and the good that comes from it," said Peters.✪



Doug Fowler and Kurt Peters

photo provided

Republicans To Speak At Caucus

On Saturday, February 25 at 10 a.m., Sanibel Vice Mayor Mick Denham and Sanibel attorney Jason Maughan will speak to the Sanibel-Captiva Republican Caucus. The meeting will be held at the Sanibel Public Library's Room 4 and is open to the public. They are candidates for the March 7 city council election.

Denham has been a long-time resident of Sanibel, was first elected to council in 2005, and was re-elected twice. He served as mayor in 2007-08, and has been vice mayor since 2010. In 2014, he became president of the Southwest Florida League of Cities, and has been appointed to the Environment and Energy Legislative Policy Committee. He is chair of the Regional Planning Council Water Committee, and received the Home Rule Hero

Award from the league for his work on local water quality control.

Maughan has lived here since 1986, earned his law degree from Gonzaga University, and has been licensed to practice law since 2000. He is the managing attorney of the Maughan Law Group, which has been voted the Best Law Firm on the island for nine of the 12 past years. He is active in the community, including serving on the board of directors of the Community Housing Resources and the Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife. He has served on the Sanibel Planning Commission, and is active in the local Cub Scouts.

There are a total of four candidates running for the three open positions on the city council. All are welcome to attend and join in a discussion about the candidates' goals for Sanibel and issues affecting the city. Refreshments will be served.

For more information, call Will Smith at 395-0819.✪

ACLU Forum To Be Held March 22

The American Civil Liberties Union believes in action. For nearly 100 years, the ACLU has worked to defend and preserve the individual rights and liberties guaranteed by the Constitution and laws of the United States. The ACLU has been at the front lines defending freedom in nearly every major civil liberties fight in our country.

The ACLU is growing and building new ways for ACLU supporters to create change. The challenges we face are significant and Florida is often the frontline for some of the biggest civil liberties battles we face as a country. In Florida, in addition to our traditional

areas of focus to defend the rights of all Floridians, we are looking into environmental concerns that have consequences across the state.

The group is creating a powerful mobilization effort that connects with the groundswell of grassroots support for the work of the ACLU of Florida. Now more than ever, we are standing together in our communities, leading the effort on the civil liberties issues that impact Floridians.

On Wednesday, March 22 at 7 p.m., ACLU representatives will host a forum discussing the current challenges and work of the ACLU from the ACLU of Florida's Executive Director Howard Simon and Legal Director Nancy Abudu at The Community House, located at 2173 Periwinkle Way. The event is free and open to the public.✪

From page 1B

Wildlife Forensics

of the Refuge (DDWS). The season follows. Book signings will be held with exception of the one starred (*) lecture.

Seating for the lectures in the "Ding" Darling Visitor & Education Center Auditorium is limited and available on a first-come basis. Early arrivals can save one seat each and then may explore the Visitor & Education Center or Indigo Trail before the lecture starts. Saved seats must be filled 15 minutes before lecture time.

As usual, Wildlife Drive closes on Friday, but visitors are welcome to enjoy the center, Indigo Trail, and recreational opportunities at Tarpon Bay Explorers, the refuge's official recreation concession located at its Tarpon Bay Recreation Area.

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

For more information, call 472-1100 ext. 241 or log on to dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/lecture-and-film-series.

Season schedule:

*March 10 – Researchers Dr.

Jennifer McCabe and Dr. Brian Olsen, "Migratory Birds in a Climate Changing World"

March 17 – Author-artist Julie Zickefoose, *Baby Birds: An Artist Looks into the Nest*

March 24 – Author Denege Patterson, *A Tour of the Islands of Pine Island Sound: Their Geology, Archaeology and History*

March 31 – Author Will Stolzenburg, *Heart of a Lion: A Lone Cat's Walk Across America*

April 7 – Photographer-sound recordist Gerrit Vyn, *The Living Bird: 100 Years of Listening to Nature*

April 14 – Author Charles Sobczak, *Alligators, Sharks, & Panthers: Deadly Encounters with Florida's Top Predator – Man*

*indicates no book signing to follow the lecture.✪

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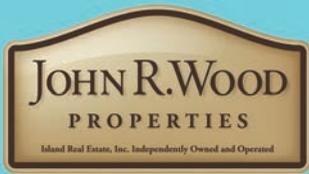


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14860 MANGO CT \$2,199,000
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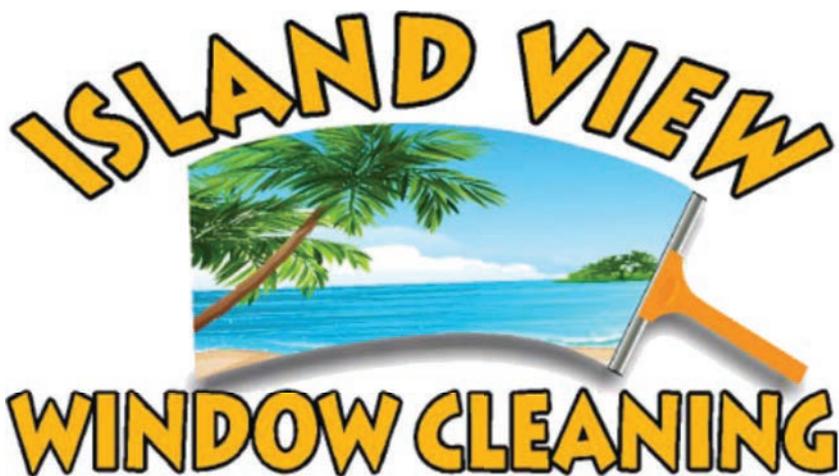
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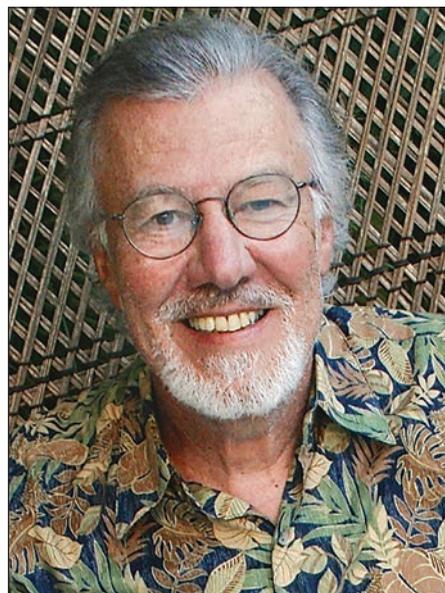
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New Chairman Appointed



Tom Libonate photo courtesy CIHS

The Captiva Island Historical Society (CIHS) Board of Governors has elected Tom Libonate as its new chairman. He succeeds Jim Pigott, whose capable leadership guided the

organization for six years from its inception to where it is today.

"It's an honor, and I'm humbled to follow in the footsteps of Jim Pigott in this leadership role. His are big shoes to fill," said Libonate.

A Captiva resident, Libonate has long been drawn to the history and lore of the island. Building his collection of old Captiva postcards originally sparked an interest in the stories of old Captiva. Many of these cards appear on display in the CIHS gallery at the Captiva Library. He joined the CIHS board in 2015, and co-chaired the events committee for the past year.

Prior to retirement in 2010, Libonate was vice chairman and co-founder of Ryan Partnership, that became a premier marketing agency, headquartered in Wilton, Connecticut. He spearheaded the growth trajectory of the company until it became the largest independently owned marketing agency in North America at the time of its sale in 2011. Clients included Unilever, Nestle, Heineken, Perrier, New Balance Athletic and Glaxo SmithKline.

Libonate and his wife Mernie spend winters on Captiva and summers in Farmington, Connecticut. He is most proud to be the father of four children and grandfather of three.✪

Sheriff Speaks To Chamber Members

Sanibel & Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce members heard from Lee County Sheriff Mike Scott during the business luncheon on February 14 at Sanibel Harbor Marriott Resort.

Scott was introduced by Sanibel Mayor Kevin Ruane, who gave his appreciation for the assistance of the Lee County Sheriff's Office following the November 2016 shooting of a Sanibel police officer who survived his injuries. The incident resulted in the loss of three police cruisers and loaners were provided by the sheriff's office.

"Sheriff Scott and his office really stepped up for our island community and we are grateful to have them as our law enforcement partners," said Ruane.

Scott, whose family roots in Lee County date back to 1910, was re-elected to a fourth term last year. His distinguished law enforcement career began in 1988. Scott has served during the worst and best economic times Southwest Florida has faced and is quick to credit his staff of more than 1,500 for the many successes of the agency.

"The safety of our community is a heavy responsibility," said Scott. "While we are a growing metropolitan area, Lee County remains a very, very safe place."

Scott said most crime in the county is linked to the drug trade, a "prolific problem throughout the country." He touched on operating the Lee County Jail, which currently houses 1,600



Lee County Sheriff Mike Scott photo provided

inmates, and handling an annual average of 700,000 service calls from concerned citizens. He fielded several questions ranging from the filming of the TV show *Cops* in Fort Myers to officers wearing a body camera.

The sponsor of the luncheon was Air Trek, one the nation's premier air ambulance and private aircraft charter services.

The next business luncheon will be held on Tuesday, March 14 at The Community House and is sponsored by Rotary Club of Sanibel-Captiva. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 472-1966 or online at sanibel-captiva.org.✪



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A very special thank you to the entire team of volunteers for their countless hours of work to make this Mardi Gras the best one yet!
Laissez les bons temps rouler!



Zontians Joyce Craig and Diane Haida-Johnson selling *Chance at the Unique* tickets at Bailey's General Store photos courtesy Zonta Club of Sanibel-Captiva

Zonta Adds New Elements To Home Tour Fundraiser

submitted by Sue Denham

Organizers of *A Peek at the Unique*, Zonta's signature home tour raising funds for programs that empower women, know not to mess with a winning formula. Now in its 16th year, the "Peek" has routinely broken records and is a favorite with more than 600 islanders, visitors and guests each year.

The format remains the same: "Peekers" are transported in

air-conditioned buses on a guided tour of four distinctive and normally private island homes. And there are still tickets available for afternoon departures on Saturday, March 11; email ZontaPeekTickets2017@gmail.com for details.

This busy Zonta club, which makes annual grant awards through a foundation, constantly seeks ways to increase the proceeds. Beginning with 2004, when the club introduced a keepsake program recognizing sponsors, and then adding *A Chance at the Unique*, a raffle open to everyone, the foundation has banked proceeds that climbed from \$26,000 to more than \$130,000 in 2016. Grants totaling \$117,260 were recently distributed,



View of Central Park, New York City

impacting potentially hundreds of women in Lee County and in the wider world.

Introduced last year, the exclusive VIP tour, with an earlier departure and premium ticket price, has again sold out quickly and is likely to become a perennial favorite, organizers said.

For 2017, two innovations may help bring in extra dollars, enabling the Zonta Foundation to help even more women in the coming year. Famed Sanibel artist Myra Roberts has created a painting titled *Peek at the Unique*, featuring one of her signature mermaids and a map of Sanibel with tiny houses perched on it. This art will be featured as the cover of the 2017 *Peek* program. The 24x30-inch original oil painting, currently on display at various island locations, is for sale, and Roberts will donate 60 percent of the proceeds to Zonta. If interested, contact the artist at myralynn51@msn.com.

Also new for this year: Long-time Zonta member Barbara Stelman and her husband, Dr. Hal Stelman, have again generously offered a six-day, five-night stay for two in their luxury New York apartment overlooking the Hudson River. For 2017, instead of a prize in the "Chance" raffle, the apartment is being offered in an exclusive auction open only to those going on the tour. Amenities include a concierge, doorman and special consultation with the owners. Setting an opening bid of \$2,500, the Stelmans hope this approach will



Myra Roberts' painting created as *Peek* cover art and for sale

raise more dollars for the cause.

Finally, islanders wanting to help the cause can purchase a "Chance" at one of six fabulous raffle prizes. Tickets are just \$10 each, available from any Zonta member or outside Bailey's General Store every weekend morning until March 11, and at the Sanibel Island Farmer's Market on March 5; winners do not have to be present to win. Every dollar raised goes toward programs that help empower women and girls.

Visit www.zontasancap.com for information about the event in general, about Zonta and how to donate.✧

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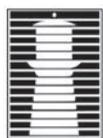


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CHR Board President Richard Johnson, right, welcomes Norm Essey as the newest member of CHR's board of directors photo courtesy CHR

CHR Welcomes New Board Member

Community Housing and Resources (CHR) recently welcomed Norm Essey as the newest member of their board of directors. Essey is an attorney and former national manager in the commercial real estate and title business and currently maintains a consulting practice in his former industry space. He and his wife are long-time Sanibel visitors who now spend the majority of the year in residence here. Essey has most recently assisted CHR as a member of the Coast and Islands Community Land Trust Board, the entity that oversees CHR's Limited Equity Ownership home program.

CHR's board of directors leads the organization in its mission of providing affordable housing on Sanibel for the island community workforce and knows

Essey will be a valuable addition.

"I am honored to welcome Norm Essey to our board of directors," CHR Board President Richard Johnson stated. "This addition continues to deepen our bench as we serve our community through our housing initiatives."

Essey has a long-standing interest in community affairs. Upon retiring here several years ago, he researched a number of civic groups and organizations to become more involved in in the Sanibel community and CHR seemed a logical fit, given his real estate background and experience.

"I believe strongly in the mission of CHR in assisting those in need of affordable housing on the island, and have been impressed by the level of commitment of the organization's leadership," said Essey. "I look forward to assisting in furthering the mission of CHR as a member of its board."

For more information, visit www.SanibelCHR.org, or call 472-1189.✪

Blind Pass Public Meeting March 24

The next public meeting to discuss the Blind Pass Inlet Management Plan Study, conducted by the Lee County Division of Natural Resources, will be held in the Pelican Room at the Sanibel Recreation Center on Friday, March 24 from 10 a.m. until noon. Please note that the facility requires everyone to show identification upon entry.

Maintenance dredging along the inside of Blind Pass (the north side of bridge) began earlier this week. The dredged sand will re-nourish portions of eroded beach south of Blind Pass and the north end of Bowman's Beach. Upon completion of the inside of the channel, the equipment will be moved seaward of the Blind Pass bridge. This should take place on or around March 11, with an estimated completion date of May 2.

Beachgoers should use caution when construction equipment is present on the beach. Fishing from the Blind Pass Bridge may be intermittently restricted during the project, which is expected to last for approximately 84 days.

This project is funded via tourist tax revenues from Lee County and a grant from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

For additional information regarding Lee County's Blind Pass dredging project, visit www.leegov.com/naturalresources/blind-pass-2017-construction or call the Lee County Department of Natural Resources at 533-8109.

Community Panel Meeting March 14

The next meeting of the Captiva Community Panel is set for Tuesday, March 14 beginning at 9 a.m. at South Seas Island Resort. This meeting is

open to all interested islanders and the public.

- Among the agenda items:
- Review of county staff report on proposed Captiva Plan update
 - Update on priority committees including wastewater and Captiva Drive bike/ped improvements
 - A Captiva Erosion Prevention District update
 - A Captiva Fire District update
 - Other business as necessary

Public participation is invited and encouraged. The next Captiva Community Panel meeting will tentatively be held on April 11. Information and background documents are available online at www.captivacommunitypanel.com.

CEPD Meeting March 8

The Captiva Erosion Prevention District board will hold its next monthly board meeting on Wednesday, March 8 beginning at 1 p.m. at Tween Waters Inn. Call the district at 472-2472 or go to www.mycepd.com for further information.

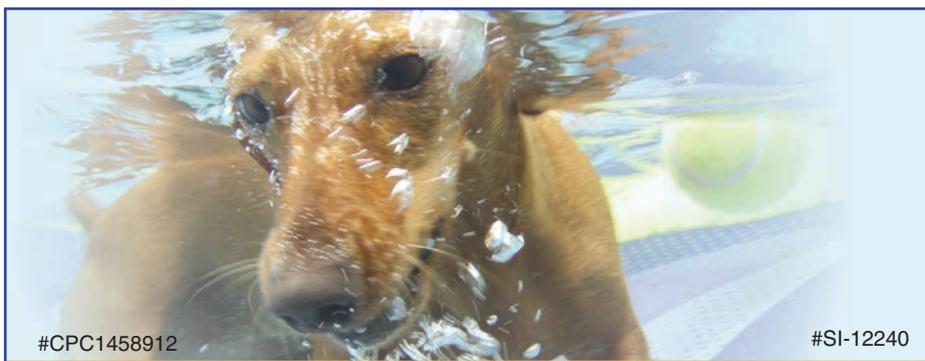
Hurricane Passes Still Good

In the City of Sanibel's continuing efforts to reduce costs, the city is going to keep the 2016 series pass active. People who have been issued a 2016 pass should keep their pass for use in 2017.

App Lets You See Traffic

A free Apple App is now available for your mobile Apple device to access the popular City of Sanibel Street Cams. Last year, the city installed six cameras that provide residents and commuters access to real-time streaming of Sanibel road conditions at key locations.

To install the Apple App, go to www.mysanibel.com/live-street-cams from your Apple mobile device and click on the button "Download on the App Store." The Android version of this app is currently in development and will be available soon.✪



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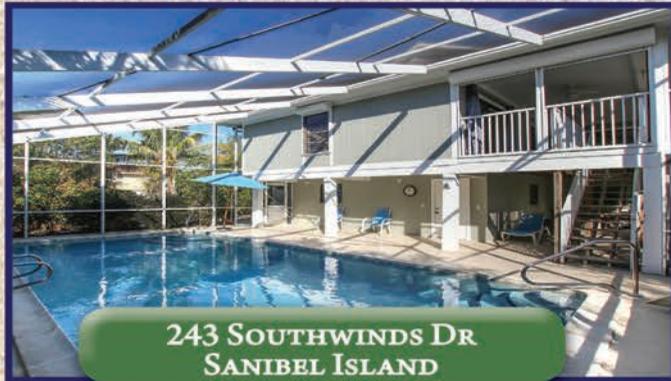
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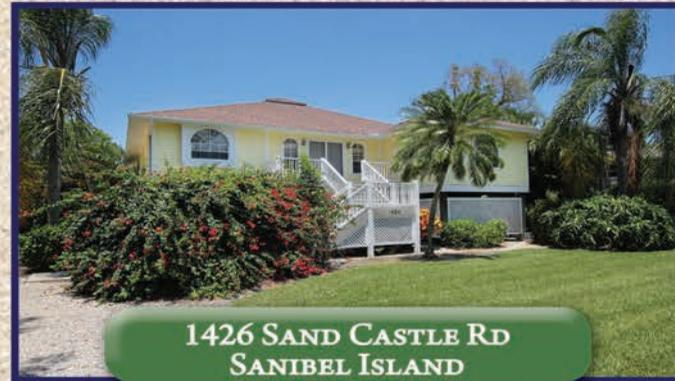


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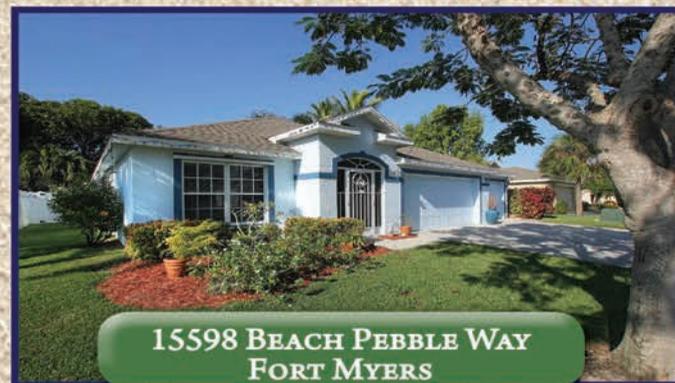
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Firefighter Rob Wilkins, center, prepares to be lowered into an empty lift station behind Sanibel Fire Station #1 last week during confined space training. Also pictured is firefighter/paramedic Rob Doerr, left, and training officer Tim Barrett.

photos by Jeff Lysiak

Alma McClure and John Murray using a pulley system to raise a fellow crew member from the lift station

Tim Barrett and John Murray inspect a pulley apparatus

District Conducts Confined Space Training Drill

by Jeff Lysiak

Members of the Sanibel Fire & Rescue District took part in three days of confined space training last week behind Fire Station #1, testing equipment and procedures involved with rescue operations that may require crews to access confined areas in order to save trapped or incapacitated victims.

On February 15, shift personnel – under the direction of training officer Tim Barrett – accessed an empty lift

station located next to the district’s three-story training tower. Using a harness and pulley system attached to a tripod rig, firefighters were lowered into a 15-foot deep chamber where they were required to rescue a “dummy” before being raised – along with the victim – back to ground level.

“There are lift stations all over the island,” noted Barrett, “so we have to be proficient in working in and around them.”

Upon finding the victim trapped and unconscious at the bottom of the hole, firefighters went through a checklist of steps in order to complete the staged rescue. They included:

- Lowering an air quality monitor into the hole to determine if gasses are present

- Erecting a steel tripod, anchored and stabilized on top of the open lift station

- Attaching the harness and safety equipment to the rescuer

- Lowering the rescuer via a rope system of pulleys

- Giving sufficient slack on the ropes, making periodic adjustments depending upon the needs of the rescuer and other attending personnel

Throughout the staged drill, firefighters communicate with one another, giving specific orders about whether to raise or lower the rescuer, ensuring all of the equipment was working correctly, and offering helpful advice to improve upon carrying out each scenario.

Following the first drill of the

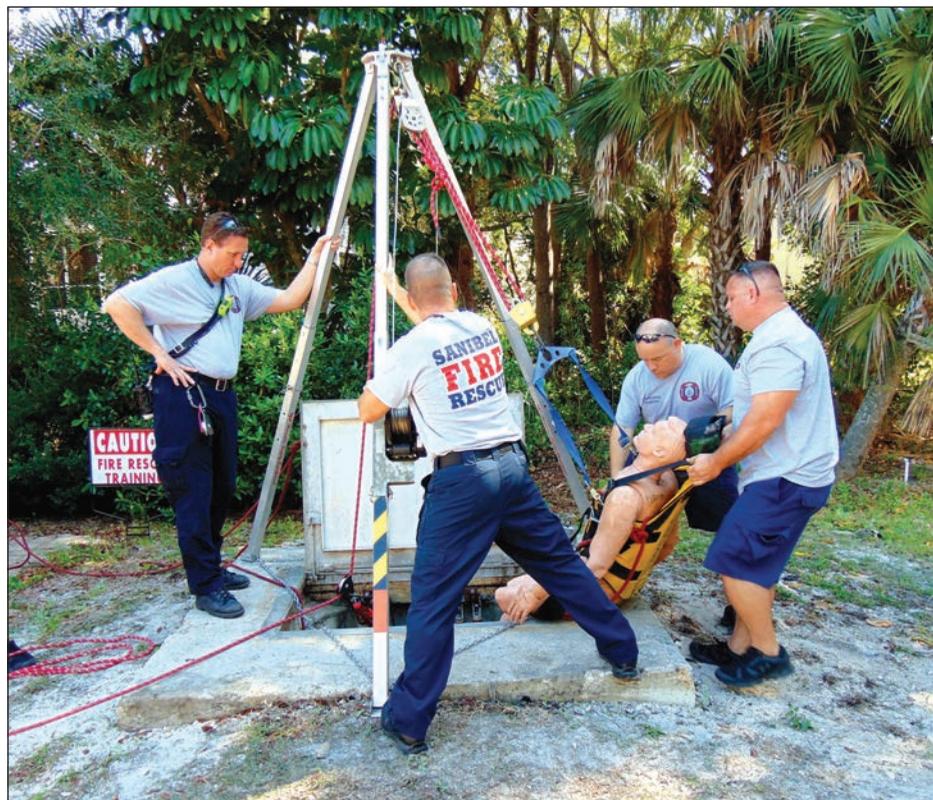
morning, firefighter Rob Wilkins – the initial rescuer to take part in the training session – offered his assessment of working in the confined space of the lift station. “There’s not a lot of space to work down there,” he told his fellow crew members. “It’s tough.”

Using two rope lines, Wilkins secured the secondary line and a vest harness to the dummy, allowing the ground-level personnel to lift the victim to safety. Once the victim was removed, Wilkins was brought out of the open lift station.

Each member of the “C” shift team took part in Wednesday’s training session, with other district personnel following similar rescue scenarios on other days.*



From left, firefighters Michael Martin, Rob Wilkins, Rob Doerr and Tim Barrett conducting an equipment safety check



Sanibel firefighters pull a “victim” out of a lift station

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Superior Interiors

Today's Decorating Trends



by Jeanie Tinch

Decorating trends can add life, excitement and fun to our rooms. Here's a look at some hot new decorating trends that you might consider for your next decorating project.

It's in the details – High style details leave the fashion runways and strut their way to you home. Accent pillows and other soft textiles will sport gorgeous tailored details, from belts with organic details to glamorous beading.

Safe Haven – Increasingly, people are looking at their homes as a shelter from a stressful world. Instead of going out, we are staying in with family and friends. Now, more than ever, our homes need to be restful and soothing, yet stylish at the same time.

Going Green and Beyond – Being green is taken to the next level as homeowners want to know that the products they purchase are truly green. We are seeking out the process and questioning the production standards. We want products that are green, sustainable and adhere to Fairtrade Standards.

Make It Personal – Decorate your home to suit your personality and style. Only bring in to your home things that you like and do not be swayed by all the trends. Ask yourself if the item inspires you before it stays as a fixture in your home.

Exciting Classics – Traditional furniture styles are re-invented in a fun, colorful and bold manner. Many period pieces are being re-interpreted in fresh, bold, new designs such as Berger chairs painted in silver metallic with a bold graphic fabric.

Let There Be Light – Because residential interiors are incorporating more intense paint colors, more light is needed to properly illuminate a room. Lighting manufacturers are making chandeliers with more arms as well as pendants and wall-mounted fixtures that illuminate these areas with personality.

Wall Dressed – Wall murals and wallcoverings continue to be in high demand. Bold graphic patterns, contemporary designs and murals inspired by nature are hot for contemporary rooms. Grass cloth and textured wallcoverings such as damasks, florals and stripes are hot for both traditional and transitional rooms.

Creatures of Comfort – Furniture that is comfortable and practical, yet still elegant is important. We are interested in creating a personal space that is cozy, inviting and easy to maintain. We want to be able to relax and unwind at the end of a busy day in an environment that makes us feel good.

Exotic Prints and Accessories – Prints with global influence continue to be a

popular trend for the contemporary home. Add vibrant toss cushions to your sofas or bed or add woven rugs to your floors.

When incorporating trends into your home decorating, it's best to follow the 10 percent rule. Ten percent of the items in any one room should be trendy to keep

the space fresh and 10 percent of your decorating budget should be allocated towards purchasing these fashionable finds.

*Jeanie Tinch is an interior designer on Sanibel/Captiva Islands. She can be reached at jeanie@coindeciden.com.**

Business Climate Survey Shows Rise

Following a small increase in the previous quarter, the Executive Business Climate Index for Lee County rose five index points to 68, according to a report recently released by the Horizon Council and Florida Gulf Coast University's Regional Economic Research Institute.

The two quarters of consecutive increases followed three quarters of decline.

"It's a big jump which might reflect the passing of a particularly acrimonious election cycle that was affecting consumption and investment decisions in our region," said FGCU economist Christopher Westley. "There is more certainty in the economy today that wasn't there before the election."

The index results from calculations made to survey responses of Lee County business executives and is measured on a scale of 0 to 100.

The remainder of the survey queried executives on their level of business optimism as well as on perceptions of the incoming Trump Administration

effect on their businesses. Also included in the survey were questions regarding executives' opinions about President Obama's greatest success and failure as president.

The results are compared with national surveys considering the same topics.

One question – "Do you think the actions the new president and Congress will take next year will make your company better off, worse off, or have no effect on your business?" – had a reply of 64 percent of local respondents indicating better off compared to 51 percent nationally. Only 7 percent of local respondents indicated worse off, compared to 17 percent nationally.

"What's interesting to me is the difference between local and national impressions about the economy," Westley said. "It provides a measure of the disconnect that can exist between economic actors in our region and those in other parts of the country."

The full report is available on the FGCU's Regional Economic Research Institute website at www.fgcu.edu/cob/reri/bcs_current.pdf.

For details, contact Chris Westley at 590-7090 or cwestley@fgcu.edu.*

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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH • ALL DAY 9AM - 4PM

518 N Yachtsman Drive - Yachtsman Cove

Fully updated 3BR, 3BA + loft, elevator, enclosed lower level storage, hot tub, direct access boat dock & community pool. \$1,399,000

1862 Farm Trail - Island Woods

Nestled among nature - 3BR/2BA Island home with open floor plan and fireplace. \$675,000

Somerset at the Reef E202 - 3215 West Gulf Drive

Upscale 3BR/2.5BA, beautifully renovated, large open floor plan, decorator appointments, glass-enclosed lanai facing the Gulf. Pool & tennis. \$1,699,000

702 Durion Court - East Rocks

3 Bedroom ground level home very close to the beach with vaulted ceilings and awesome water and conservation views. \$649,900

4619 Brainard Bayou Road - Sanibel Bayous - The Ridge

Private 3BR, 2BA updated home with lots of natural vegetation and serene path leading back to small lagoon. \$549,900

1PM - 4PM

15960 Chatfield Dr - St. Charles Harbour, Fort Myers - 11 am - 3pm

4BD/3BA, Lake Views, LR w/Fireplace, Family Room, Outdoor Kitchen, Pool & Spa - Social & Boat Membership Avail. \$619,000

15795 Caloosa Creek Circle - Caloosa Creek, Fort Myers

3BR, 3BA +den - updated - community pool & tennis nearby. \$499,000

12645 Coconut Creek Court - Coconut Creek, Fort Myers

Classic Olde Florida lakefront with Key West flare. \$455,000

Tanglewood 1A - 1101 Seagrape Lane - 1pm - 3pm

Gulf Front 3 Bedroom - Updated - Gorgeous Gulf Front Views
Corner Unit - Extra Windows \$1,074,900

752/754 Cardium Street

Duplex with Two Updated 2BD/1BA Units - Near the beach \$629,000

1447 Albatross Road - Dunes

Dunes 3/2 elevated home with pool and sanctuary views. \$579,000

1525 San Carlos Bay Drive - Sanibel Harbor

Amazing 4BR, 2BA, tile throughout, Chef's kitchen, wet bar, pool, on 150ft of canal w/ 2 boat lifts - Seconds from the Bay. \$1,995,000

1029 Dixie Beach Blvd - Gumbo Limbo

Best value on Sanibel - 2BR, 2BA elevated home on an oversized lot adjoining conservation lands. \$450,000

9436 Yucca Ct - Gumbo Limbo

3BR/2BA home with beautiful lake views from almost every room. Large, open floorplan with spacious lanai & pool. \$649,000

High Tide C101 - 2659 West Gulf Drive

Only 2 condos in building - 1 per floor. 2 BR, 2 BA, with 2,600sf feels like a home. \$1,195,000

4239 Gulf Pines Drive - Gulf Pines

Lakefront home - 3BR/2BA + Den - Nature lover's dream - Walking paths - Community Pool, Tennis - Near the beach. \$549,000

1052 Fish Crow Road - Gulf Shores

Private Beach - Gulf Shores - 3BR/2BA - Vaulted Ceilings - Private
New Hardwood Floors, AC, Metal Roof 2017. \$749,000

1020 White Ibis Drive - Gulf Shores

Listen to the surf from this 3 BR, 3 BA lakefront home, steps to the beach. \$739,000

1429 Jamaica Drive - Tradewinds

Totally Remodeled Spacious 3BR, 3BA - Wood & Tile Floors - Caged Pool
Paver Deck - Tropical Landscaping & Fruit Trees \$699,900

5657 Sanibel Captiva Drive

Clam bayou home. 3BR/2BA built in 2013. Heated pool, elevator, waterfront. \$995,000

16464 Captiva Drive, Captiva

Prime Gulf Frontage - 3BD+ Office 4BA Main House - 4 BD, 4.5 BA Guest House
Pool \$6,295,000



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH • ALL DAY 9AM - 4PM

15795 Caloosa Creek Circle - Caloosa Creek, Fort Myers

3BR, 3BA +den - updated - community pool & tennis nearby. \$499,000

518 N Yachtsman Drive - Yachtsman Cove

Fully updated 3BR, 3BA + loft, elevator, enclosed lower level storage, hot tub, direct access boat dock & community pool. \$1,399,000

900 Almas Court - Eastwood Landing

BEACH! BOATING! TENNIS! Large custom built 3BD, 3.5BA with large pool & spa.
Located off E Gulf Dr with easy on & off access. \$1,289,000

Sanibel Surfside 225 - 610 Donax St

Remodeled 2 BD / 2 BA Gulf views - Great investment or vacation condo \$799,000

1862 Farm Trail - Island Woods

Nestled among nature - 3BR/2BA Island home with open floor plan and fireplace. \$675,000

702 Durion Court - East Rocks

3 Bedroom ground level home very close to the beach with vaulted ceilings and awesome water and conservation views. \$649,900

4619 Brainard Bayou Road - Sanibel Bayous - The Ridge

Private 3BR, 2BA updated home with lots of natural vegetation and serene path leading back to small lagoon. \$549,900

5657 Sanibel Captiva Drive

Clam bayou home. 3BR/2BA built in 2013. Heated pool, elevator, waterfront. \$995,000

16464 Captiva Drive, Captiva

Prime Gulf Frontage - 3BD+ Office 4BA Main House
4 BD, 4.5 BA Guest House - Pool \$6,295,000

9AM - NOON

752/754 Cardium Street

Duplex with Two Updated 2BD/1BA Units - Near the beach \$629,000

1525 San Carlos Bay Drive - Sanibel Harbor

Amazing 4BR, 2BA, tile throughout, Chef's kitchen, wet bar, pool, on 150ft of canal w/ 2 boat lifts - Seconds from the Bay. \$1,995,000

376 Lake Murex Circle - Lake Murex

Near beach cottage, 3 BR, 2 BA, heated pool, great neighborhood. \$589,000

Somerset at the Reef E202 - 3215 West Gulf Drive

Upscale 3BR/2.5BA, beautifully renovated, large open floor plan, decorator appointments, glass-enclosed lanai facing the Gulf. Pool & tennis. \$1,699,000

5838 Pine Tree Drive - Castaways Estates

Ground level 3BR/3BA, pool, boat dock, water views. "Pop-up" master bedroom suite/separate sitting room upstairs. Upstairs screen enclosure lanai. \$1,295,000

1PM - 4PM

16231 Bentwood Palms Drive - Coconut Creek, Fort Myers

Meticulous 4 BR, 3BA with long lake views, 3-car garage, community pool & tennis. \$549,000

16171 Bentwood Palms Drive - Coconut Creek, Fort Myers

Spacious 3BR, 3BA PLUS Office PLUS Workshop/Bonus Room, LR, DR, FR, Chef's Kitchen, 2-Car Garage & Pool. \$595,000

12645 Coconut Creek Court - Coconut Creek, Fort Myers

Classic Olde Florida lakefront with Key West flare. \$455,000

1029 Dixie Beach Blvd - Gumbo Limbo

Best value on Sanibel - 2BR, 2BA elevated home on an oversized lot adjoining conservation lands. \$450,000

2030 Sunrise Circle - Periwinkle Properties

Spacious 3BR/3BA lakefront home, screened/open porches, light & bright, workshop/studio/storage, elevator, screened pool. \$699,000

4694 Rue Bayou - Rue Belle Mer

3 Bedroom, 3 bath ground level with pool. Walk to the beach. \$699,000

1429 Jamaica Drive - Tradewinds

Totally Remodeled Spacious 3BR, 3BA - Wood & Tile Floors - Caged Pool
Paver Deck - Tropical Landscaping & Fruit Trees \$699,900

5105 Sanibel Captiva Road

Remodeled 4BR/3BA + In-Law Suite - Private Pool - Ground Level, 5 minutes to beach
Near Ding Darling, School & Rec Center. \$649,000

5299 Umbrella Pool Road - The Ridge Sanibel Bayous

West end 3BR, 2.5BA near beach home near Bowman's Beach. \$595,000

5305 Umbrella Pool Road - The Ridge Sanibel Bayous

Near beach split plan 3BR/2BA with Community Pool & Tennis.
Value priced & furnished. \$599,995

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Will Power

Married Couple Can't Split Residency To Retain Dual Homesteads



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

At the conclusion of our recently held client workshops, we open the floor for questions. At all three of the venues, a common question arose, "Can I be a Florida resident

an exemption in another state while you claim an exemption here in Florida.

Assume, for example, that Harry owns a Florida home and his wife Sally owns their Michigan home, which they have previously homesteaded. Harry claims Florida residency while Sally remains a Michigan resident. Harry then applies for Florida homestead exemption. They have just broken the law, unless Sally renounces her Michigan homestead benefits.

The penalties for fraudulently claiming exemption are severe. According to §193.155 (9) and §196.161 of the Florida Statutes, owners who intentionally cheat on homestead and other exemptions will have a tax lien placed against their properties, be back taxed for up to 10 years (as applicable), be required to pay a substantial penalty (50% of the unpaid taxes for each year) and pay an interest rate of 15% per year.

You don't want those problems. There are hotlines established to report homestead exemption fraud, which is how most of the violators of these provisions are caught.

Assuming that you have made an honest mistake that you want to correct, you would want to document the removal of other exemptions. You can do so by obtaining a statement from the jurisdiction indicating either that there are

while my wife remains a resident of a northern state?"

My follow up question in each case was, "Why would your wife still want to remain a resident of a state that has income taxes?"

The answer in each case was, "Because I declare our Florida home as our homestead here and she declares our home up north as her homestead there."

Unfortunately, that is illegal.

Under our Florida law, specifically Florida Statutes §196.031 and Section 6(b) Article VII of the Florida Constitution state that no more than one exemption is allowed to any individual or family unit. Thus, not only can you not claim two Florida homestead exemptions, but you also cannot claim an additional residency-based exemption in another state. Because this applies not only to individuals, but to family units, a spouse cannot claim

no residency based benefits applied, or if there were residency based tax credits or exemptions being applied, then evidence of their removal is required by filing an Out of State Exemption Removal Form.

So, in Harry and Sally's example, Sally would obtain a confirmation from Michigan that she has renounced her homestead, and would file an Out of State Exemption Removal Form with the county in which Harry is claiming his Florida homestead exemption.

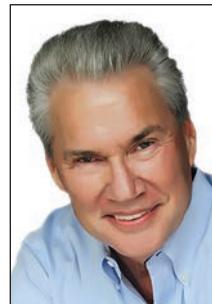
There are limited exceptions to the rules, such as when both spouses are working and must maintain their respective residences. Generally speaking, retired individuals will not qualify under these exceptions. If you have any questions, the Lee County Property Appraiser's website has a plethora of information. Go to www.leepa.org/GeneralExemptionInfo.aspx

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ISLAND SUN BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS



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Debbie Hooper



Linda Naton

Top Producers

The top producers at John Naumann & Associates for the month of January were: Meredith Dyer, top listing agent; Larry Hahn and Debbie Hooper; top sales team; Linda Naton, top sales agent; and Harrell, Tolp & Albright, top team.✪



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KINZIE ISLAND: Recently updated and situated on the navigable canal, this Bermuda Style home offers a spacious floor plan with 3 bedrooms and 5 full baths, screen enclosed pool and spa, wonderful outdoor living, dock and boat lift. Striking in every detail. Kinzie is a gated community on Sanibel Island, beach access with cabana, association tennis, pickle ball and basketball court.

Asking price is \$2,350,000

GORGEOUS COASTAL BEACH HOME



SANIBEL EAST END: Spacious home with 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, screen enclosed heated pool, volume ceilings throughout, chefs kitchen, incredible bonus space with extra storage, 3 car garage and boat dockage. This home is located in the prestigious Kinzie Island, a private, gated community with private beach access on the East End of Sanibel. Association pool, tennis, pickle ball courts and beach access with cabana. An Island dream come true on Sanibel!

Asking price is \$1,395,000

BEACH DUPLEX CLOSE TO GULF BEACHES



So close to the Gulf you can hear the waves! Adorable duplex 3 lots away from the Gulf of Mexico. Fantastic Opportunity to live in one side and rent out the other. So many options. Tradewinds offers one of the most beautiful stretch of the beach on the Island, and beach access seconds away with parking- Private and remote!

Asking price is \$595,000.

CANAL-FRONT LOT IN SHELL HARBOR



Here's your chance to build your dream canal front home on East End of Sanibel. This beautiful lot is surrounded by the Gulf of Mexico and Bay offers a seawall canal with dock and boat lift already in place. The private deeded beach access with parking is just moments away. One of the very few remaining canal lots on the Island!

Asking price is \$719,000

ADORABLE COTTAGE BY THE SEA!



Perfect floor plan for the family. Open kitchen, dining and living room, plus 4 bedrooms and 2 baths. Dreamy cottage style home with wood floors through out, high ceilings on a private, tropical lot. Watch the manatees and wildlife. Wonderful canal views, boating access to the Gulf of Mexico. Beach access close by.

Asking price is \$849,000



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Web ID 216067960 \$2,599,000



1360 Eagle Run Drive
Burns Family 239.464.2984
Web ID 216024871 \$2,495,000



17160 Scout Camp Road
Stephanie Bissett 239.292.3707
Web ID 216007718 \$2,195,000



11411 Old Lodge Lane
Burns Family 239.464.2984
Web ID 216027957 \$1,775,000



16167 Captiva Drive
Burns Family 239.464.2984
Web ID 216042323 \$1,699,000



932 Whelk Drive
Burns Family 239.464.2984
Web ID 216056266 \$1,425,000



14981 Binder Drive
Burns Family 239.464.2984
Web ID 217002872 \$1,149,000



Riva Del Lago PH 32
Burns Family 239.464.2984
Web ID 217001608 \$849,000



17280 Frank Road
Stephanie Bissett 239.292.3707
Web ID 216060226 \$775,000



Snug Harbor #312
Burns Family 239.464.2984
Web ID 216073046 \$739,000



16648 Bobcat Court
Burns Family 239.464.2984
Web ID 216031655 \$634,000



1040 Sand Castle Road
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Web ID 216055183 \$619,000



Loggerhead Cay #D402
Burns Family 239.464.2984
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Mariner Pointe #712
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Brooke Brownyard 239.281.4179
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Village of Sanibel Commercial #R1
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Tennis Villas #A-205
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4. Spectacular Pool Home In The Dunes - Sanibel

- 3 BR/3 BA home with lake and golf course views
- Situated at the end of the cul-de sac
- **\$729,000** EUR €686,734

5. Canal Home on Quiet Cul de Sac – Sanibel

- 4 BR/4 BA Gulf access canal home
- Spacious home with large caged pool
- **\$1,965,000** EUR €1,879,843

6. Ferry Landing - Bayfront on Sanibel

- 3 BR/2 BA with stunning Bay Views
- Community boat dock, swimming pool & tennis
- **\$2,195,000** EUR €2,098,159



7

10. Heart of Captiva Village; "Belle Mar"

- 5 BR/ 5.5 BA stunning courtyard pool home
- Concrete construction, Steps to the beach
- **\$2,599,000** EUR €2,383,113

11. Snug Harbor Town Home - Sanibel

- 3 BR/2 BA with partial Gulf views
- Updated throughout, under bldg. parking
- **\$739,000** EUR €706,396

12. Dunes Golf & Tennis Community - Sanibel

- 3 BR/2 BA bright cheery beach retreat with pool
- Recently remodeled open floor plan
- **\$619,000** EUR €578,921



2



3

1. Stunning Gulf Front Home - Captiva

- 4 BR/3.5 BA with expansive Gulf views
- Featuring 157 ft of beach frontage AND a boat dock on Roosevelt Channel
- **\$4,499,000** EUR €4,238,162

2. Bay Front Views – Sanibel

- 3 BR/4 BA direct Gulf access canal with dock and lift
- Elevator, fireplace, multiple lanais with Bay views
- **\$2,895,000** EUR €2,767,276

3. Colony Beach Estates - Sanibel

- 4BR/4BA Direct Gulf front gated community
- Gorgeously updated throughout
- **\$2,999,000** EUR €2,829,512



4



5



6



8



9

7. Gulf Front, South Seas - Captiva

- 4 BR/3 BA completely renovated & decorator furnished
- Nightly rentals, excellent income
- **\$3,495,000** EUR €3,340,805

8. East End Canal Home - Sanibel

- 4 BR/3.5 BA with boat dock & lift
- Updated throughout, stainless appliances
- **\$870,000** EUR €831,616

9. Shell Harbor Gulf Access Canal Home - Sanibel

- 3 BR/2 BA w/den on navigable sea walled canal
- 200 steps from beach access, tray ceiling, stainless appliances
- **\$979,000** EUR €915,612



10



11



12

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Life Insurance

Latest In 1035s



J. Brendan Ryan, CLU, ChFC, MSFS

For many generations, Congress has granted to life insurance many tax breaks because of the benefits it brings to society. Life insurance produces

emergency funds for struggling policyholders in the form of the cash value (loans or surrender). But, especially, it supplies cash for family members who have been widowed and orphaned by the untimely death of a breadwinner.

The very event that creates the need for the cash (the death) instantly creates the cash (the death benefit) in lump sum. Delivery of the check may require a few weeks but, by contract and by law, the fund immediately belongs to the named beneficiaries. So, the benefit is supplied untouched, untaxed and on time.

One of the principal tax benefits is the deferral of taxation of the growth in the cash value. This allows the gain to be credited but not taxed as long as the policy remains in force, contributing to the policy's strength. If and when the policy is surrendered, all that gain becomes taxable at ordinary income rates.

But new life insurance policies appear from time to time that improve in one way or another on the older versions. In recent memory, the introduction of an updated mortality table, reflecting improved life expectancy, has reduced the cost of new life insurance a great deal. So, for a given amount of life insurance, a 40-year-old today will pay far less than his father did at the same age.

It would be a shame if taxable gain would result from the surrender of one policy in order to take advantage of improvements available in a more modern policy. But Congress realizes that things change and that, what is a valuable instrument when originally acquired, may not remain valuable down the road. So, under certain circumstances it allows a tax-free ("Section 1035") exchange of policies. And this is even possible for policies that have outstanding loans against them.

Allow me to change topics temporarily and circle back to such exchanges momentarily.

Many people need protection against the potentially devastating cost of home-health care, assisted living, or nursing-home care, but they do not have long-term-care (LTC) insurance to rely on. I believe that coverage linked to life insurance and annuity policies is the best way to address the problem. This would be a perfect fit for many people if only they had the lump sum cash or annual cash flow to be able to afford it. But they consider their income and they

consider their reserves and decide that these vehicles are simply out of reach.

However, they may have resources available in their existing permanent life insurance policies. It is possible to roll tax-free the cash values of these policies into a life insurance or annuity policy that is linked to LTC coverage and to thus get a benefit not included in the original policy. Additionally, an annuity can be rolled tax-free to a LTC-linked annuity, though not to life insurance. Again, even a life policy with an outstanding loan can be used in this way.

Take Charley, a healthy nonsmoker in his early 60s. He can take his \$300,000 life insurance policy and roll it to a LTC-linked universal life insurance policy. His present cash value of \$80,000, including \$40,000 of untaxed gain, all goes untaxed into the new policy of \$300,000. He now has the same death benefit as before.

But he also has as much as \$300,000 in LTC benefits available to him. And, he can draw out those untaxed dollars tax-free for LTC needs. (Any dollars consumed for LTC reduces the death benefit dollar-for-dollar.) And perhaps he will not have any more premiums to pay.

If the rollover amount is not enough to carry the new policy for life, Charlie can reduce the face amount to bring it in line with what the rollover can pay for. Or he can choose to put in some additional lump sum or a series of annual premiums. And, if he can afford it, he can even increase the amount of the life insurance and LTC benefit.

This technique can create LTC insurance protection that people in some cases had given up on.

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

Florida Economic Almanac Release

Florida Gulf Coast University's Regional Economic Research Institute (RERI) has released the 2017 *Southwest Florida Economic Almanac*, a 352-page resource publication presenting socioeconomic and demographic data for the region.

"The publication turned out to be a much bigger deal than we expected a year ago," said RERI Director Christopher Westley. "Back then, our goal was to produce an annual supplement to our popular monthly publication, *Regional Economic Indicators*."

But the need for a comprehensive almanac for the region became obvious once Westley started talking about the project with area business and community leaders. "It turns out that the RERI collects and uses lots of useful information that traditionally does not see the light of day. The idea was for

a publication that would make this information available to the public in a format that could be updated annually."

The almanac is divided into sections covering socioeconomics, agriculture, health, education, housing, income and finance, charitable giving, government spending and assistance, real estate, and many others. There is even a section on innovation that measures patents, computer and Internet access, and an innovation index.

Data primarily focuses on the five-county region encompassing Southwest Florida: Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry and Lee counties.

"The idea is for a resource that would prove invaluable to anyone researching our area, whether it's an out-of-state firm investigating our market, a law office working on a case, a member of the media working on a story, or even a middle-school student completing a report," Westley said.

The almanac is quite detailed. Here are examples: Southwest Florida

continued on page 28B

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Junior Achievement To Induct Business Owners Into Hall Of Fame



Teri Hansen

photos provided

Sandy Stilwell

Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida will induct Teri Hansen, APR, owner and president of Priority Marketing, and Sandy Stilwell, CEO and owner of Stilwell Enterprises & Restaurant Group, into the 2017 Business Hall of Fame, Lee County, during a dinner and awards ceremony on Tuesday, May 2 with a cocktail reception at 5 p.m. and dinner at 6:30 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort & Spa in Bonita Springs.

The prestigious award recognizes outstanding entrepreneurs who serve as role models for youth through their professional accomplishments and commitment to the community. Hansen and Stilwell will join a distinguished group of individuals who have been inducted into the Business Hall of Fame since it was founded in 1999. To learn more about the upcoming event, or for information on sponsorship opportunities and individual tickets, visit www.JASWFL.org.

Hansen is owner and president of Priority Marketing, which she founded in 1992. A native of Fort Myers, her 32-year marketing career has earned her a reputation for

exceptional integrity, leadership and spirit. During her career, she has been the recipient of many honors. In 1992, she was the first person to be named Marketing Director of the Year by the Lee Building Industry Association, and she was the Florida Public Relations Association (FPRA)'s PR Professional of the Year in 1999. In all, Hansen has been honored with more than 150 local, state, national and international awards.

Stilwell is the CEO and owner of Stilwell Enterprises & Restaurant Group. She owns Keylime Bistro, Sunshine Seafood Café and Wine Bar, RC Otter's Island Eats, Latte Da Coffee Shop, Captiva Island Inn, Celebration Center of Captiva, Paradise Shopping Center and Cantina Captiva on Captiva Island, and Summerlin Jake's Seafood & Steaks in Fort Myers.

She serves as immediate past-chairman of the board of PACE Center for Girls of Lee County, and sits on the board of trustees for Hodges University and Hope Healthcare Board of Directors. Stilwell is a trustee and treasurer of Children's Charities of Southwest Florida. She is a member of the Advisory Board of Florida Gulf Coast University School of Resort & Hospitality, *Gulfshore Life Magazine*, Stoneygate Bank and Uncommon Friends Foundation, and serves on the Captiva Community Panel and the Healthy Lee Steering Committee.✱

Walk For Suicide Prevention Awareness

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) will host its 3rd annual Out of the Darkness Campus Walk to benefit The American Foundation of Suicide Prevention Saturday, March 18 on the FGCU campus.

"We walk to raise awareness about this important health issue," said Julie Rego, LMHC, EdD. "Suicide is the second leading cause of death among U.S. college students. We hope that by walking we can save lives and bring hope to those affected by suicide."

Support of this walk will help raise funds for suicide prevention research and educational programs, eliminate the stigma

surrounding suicide and its causes, and encourage those who are suffering from mental illness to seek treatment.

Event sponsors are needed; contact jrego@fgcu.edu for more details. Event sponsors for the Out of the Darkness FGCU Campus Walk include Coca-Cola and Gulfcoast Mental Health Counselors, Inc.

Registration begins at 11 a.m. at the FGCU Campus Student Plaza. The opening ceremony will start at noon. Register online at www.AFSP.org/FGCU. Online registration closes at noon on Friday, March 17, however, participants can register in person at the walk.

Walk donations will be accepted until June 30. There are three different registration types: Walker (individual, team or captain); volunteer (to volunteer at the walk); and virtual walker (if unable to attend but still want to donate or spread the word).✱

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Dreams Of Reaching Major Leagues Can Come True



by Ed Frank

For the hundreds of Major and Minor League ballplayers, managers, coaches and administrative staff that gather here in the next month or so for spring training, there is a human interest story attached to



Jeff Smith photo courtesy Minnesota Twins

nearly every one of them.

This week, we're going to tell you about the dream-come-true for Naples resident and former manager of the Fort Myers Miracle baseball team, Jeff Smith.

His dream, like those who ever played baseball, was to reach the Major Leagues. But his 22-year circuitous route to the "big show" is not as ballplayer, but rather as the new first-base coach for the Minnesota Twins.

"It's been a long journey, but I wouldn't change it for the world," he was quoted recently.

The 42-year-old Smith was drafted by the Twins in 1995 out of Stetson University as a catcher. He played in the team's Minor League system with such future Major League stars as David Ortiz, Torii Hunter, Doug Mientkiewicz and A.J. Pierzynski.

He advanced to Triple A before a series of knee injuries ended his playing career. In 282 Minor League games, he batted a solid .282.

With his dream of wearing a Twins Major League uniform as a catcher over, he began a coaching career at the lowest level of Minor League baseball, batting coach for the Twins rookie Gulf Coast League team.

The next year, he started an 11-year coaching career for the Twins in Low A, High A and Double A teams.

That included two stints as manager of the Miracle, 2008 and 2009, and 2015 and 2016. He compiled a record of 303-248 with the Miracle including an 80-58 record in 2009 when he was named Florida State League Manager of the Year.

He had a winning record all four years as the Miracle manager.

In selecting Smith as his first-base coach, Twins manager Paul Molitor told MLB.com, "I've always been impressed with my time in player development when I went to his (Smith's) clubs with his preparation and thoughtfulness. He certainly improved tremendously in his ability to teach and coach."

Smith grew up in the Naples area and still resides there so there is one negative aspect to his new Major League career – leaving the area for the long baseball season.

When he discussed the new opportunity with his wife, Ronna, he said she responded quickly, "You've worked your butt off for this for 20 years. You better take it and enjoy it."

His long days and nights of long bus rides trekking through the Minor Leagues has ended. Jeff Smith's dream has come true at last.✪

SPORTS QUIZ

1. When was the last time before 2014 that Oakland had six players named to the All-Star team?
2. Name the last major-league player before Bryce Harper in 2015 to have 30 home runs and 100 walks in a season in which he was 22 or younger.
3. Jay Cutler holds the Chicago Bears record for most TD passes in a career (154). Who is No. 2?
4. Lon Kruger was the first men's basketball coach to take five different teams to an NCAA Tournament. Who was the second?
5. What was hockey legend Gordie Howe's age when he won the World Hockey Association Most Valuable Player Award in 1974?
6. Bill Elliott won the Daytona 500 twice during his NASCAR career. How many times did he have the Daytona 500 pole position?
7. In 2016, Angelique Kerber became the oldest women's tennis player (28) to debut at No. 1 in the WTA rankings. Who had been the oldest?

ANSWERS

1. It was 1975, when the A's had seven players be part of the team. 2. Eddie Mathews, in 1954. 3. Sid Luckman, with 137 (1936-50). 4. Tubby Smith (Tulsa, Georgia, Kentucky, Minnesota, Texas Tech). 5. He had just turned 46 years old. 6. Four times, including for both of his victories. 7. Jennifer Capriati, who was 25 years, 200 days old when she became No. 1 in October 2001.

SANIBEL 8-BALL POOL LEAGUE 2016-17 Standings through February 20

Standing	Team Name	Won	Lost
First	Bunt's Ball Busters	278	122
Second	Sandycappers	178	209
Third	Fresh Legion Crew	169	231
Fourth	Sanibel Cafe	162	238

February 20 Results

Bunt's Ball Busters	15	Fresh Legion Crew	5
Sandycappers	13	Sanibel Cafe	7

Sanibel 8-Ball Pool League

Busters Lead Insurmountable

Third place Fresh Legion Crew was well on its way to an upset win or tie of first place Bunt's Ball Busters when the roof fell in. From a 4-4 tie after the first two players in the match, the Legion lost 11 out of the next 12 games. Final score was Bunt's 15, Fresh Legion Crew 5. Kip Johnson posted four wins over Tom Yorgey; Terry Ricotta followed with three wins over Tarzan Russell; and Bob Buntrock chalked up a 4-0 effort against Becky Skog. This match puts Bunt's Ball Busters into an insurmountable

lead of 87 games with four weeks of season play left.

Sandycappers opened a 14-game lead over Fresh Legion Crew in the battle for second place by posting a 13-7 victory over Sanibel Cafe. John Bates led the Sandycappers with a 4-0 outing over Kayla McCurry. John Reigert backed him up with three wins over Chip Gelpi. Gary Murza, Jeff Brown and Kevin Pottorff had two wins over Rich McCurry, Randy Carson and Pete Mindel to complete the scoring for Sandycappers.

A big match coming this week is Sandycappers versus Fresh Legion Crew. The Crew needs a decisive win over the Cappers to retain a chance of finishing in second place. Come view the action at Legion Post 123 at 5 p.m. on Monday.✪

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Golf Tournament To Benefit Breast Cancer Care

Heron's Glen Ladies Golf Association will hold its 3rd annual Pretty in Pink Golf Tournament on Wednesday, March 15 at Heron's Glen Golf Course, located at 2250 Avenida Del Vera Drive in North Fort Myers.

The tournament is benefitting Partners for Breast Cancer Care, a community funded non-profit organization that helps Lee County residents with low income and no health insurance receive breast screening, diagnostic testing, surgery and treatment including mammograms, ultrasounds, biopsies, MRI, lumpectomy, mastectomy, radiation and chemotherapy at no cost to the client. The program is funded by grants and donations from Southwest Florida residents.

Fuccillo Kia of Cape Coral is the tournament title sponsor for the second year in a row. The automotive dealer is hosting a Hole-In-One Contest for all tournament players and donating an iPad mini 32GB to the silent auction held during the tournament's luncheon. In addition, a \$1,000 donation will be made to Partners for Breast Cancer Care.

The tournament will kick off at 7 a.m. with arrival of the Pink Heals pink firetruck. Pink Heals is a non-profit volunteer group dedicated to supporting women and families who are fighting

illnesses through fundraising and awareness campaigns. The local chapter started in 2013 and has since been touring its signature pink fire truck across Southwest Florida. Breast cancer survivors at the event will have the chance to sign the truck.

The tournament will begin at 7:45 a.m. with a shotgun start. The luncheon will run from noon to 2 p.m. with a raffle and silent auction. This year's silent auction will have over \$14,000 worth of items donated by Fuccillio Kia of Cape Coral, Kelley Fine Art, Sozio Builders, AIS Shower Door, Atlantis Paradise Island in the Bahamas and many others.

According to Bernadette Schirra, Heron's Glen Ladies Golf Association Pretty in Pink Golf Tournament co-chairwoman, "Our community has been involved with raising funds for breast cancer for years as it has touched many of our residents' families and friends. Last year, we raised \$28,000 and are looking forward to beating that amount this year."

"We are pleased to work with Partners for Breast Cancer Care to help Lee County residents struggling with this disease. We feel strongly about giving back locally and we chose Partners because of their amazing work and what they have been able to accomplish with limited funds," Schirra said.

Partners for Breast Cancer Care Executive Director Janet Darnell said there are over 54,000 women in Lee County with no health insurance and who are very low-income, desperately seeking help.

"We are pleased to work with the women of Heron's Glen to offer hope to those who otherwise would have little or no resources to deal with this illness," Darnell said.

The tournament is open to all members of the Heron's Glen Ladies Association. Resident non-members will be able to play in the tournament, space permitting.

Tickets are \$50 and include lunch. For those wishing to attend the luncheon only, tickets are \$37. Ticket prices include a donation to Partners for Breast Cancer Care.

For more information, call Bernadette Schirra at 543-0062 or Linda Birecree at 470-5932.✪

Meditation Class

On Sunday, February 26 starting at 5:45 p.m., enjoy a guided meditation on the beach as the sun sets and the moon rises. Participants will meet at Alison Hagerup Beach Park, located at 14790 Captiva Drive on Captiva. Note: this beach is labeled "South Beach" or Location #30 on South Seas Island Resort maps. The suggested donation is \$10 to \$15, with all proceeds going to benefit Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation's sea turtle research program. Participants should bring a towel or blanket to sit on.

For more information, visit www.ambuyoga.com or call 314-9642✪

The Dunes Golf Club

Hole In One



Bob Schoen

The Dunes Men's Golf Association President Bob Schoen made a hole in one on the 17th hole at The Dunes Golf & Tennis Club on February 8. Playing and witnessing the hole in one were Mike Voss and Norbert Kunz.✪

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ISLAND SUN BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

Top Agents



Mary Lou Bailey



Deb Smith



Kevin Montore



Valerie King

New Agents

Kevin Montore, Valerie King and Jamie Stout have joined the team at John R. Wood Island Real Estate.

Montore is originally from New Hampshire. He moved to Southwest Florida in 1991 where, for many years, he lived and worked on Sanibel.

King has been providing professional customer service to buyers and sellers throughout her 25-year real estate career.

Stout is committed to enhancing the lives of others by helping them with their real estate sale or purchase.*



Jamie Stout

Top Producers



Phaidra McDermott



Dave Russ



Rob Starr



Susan Yarab



McMurray and Nette



Cathy Rosario



Sally Davies



Lynda and Kit Traverso

VIP Realty Group's top agents and sales teams for the month of January were: Mary Lou Bailey, top sales agent; Deb Smith, top listing agent; Lynda and Kit Traverso; top producers.*

Top Producers

The top producers for January at Royal Shell Real Estate on Sanibel and Captiva were: McMurray & Nette, top listing producers team; Cathy Rosario, top listing producer individual; McMurray & Nette, top sales producers team; and Sally Davies, top sales producer individual.*



Elise and Tom Starr

The top producers for John R. Wood Island Real Estate for January were: Phaidra McDermott, top closed sales; Dave Russ, top new listings; The Starr Team, top pending sales; Susan Yarab, productivity award.*

New Associate

Shelley Byers recently joined RE/MAX of the Islands. Byers is a Minnesota licensed realtor and general contractor. She has 25 years of experience in remodeling properties for private and corporate clients.*



Shelley Byers

Top Associates



Chuck Andrews



Steve Fisher

Chuck Andrews was honored by RE/MAX of the Islands as the most productive marketing associate in January.

Steve Fisher was honored as the top selling associate in January.*

Realtor Earns Designation

Ryan Block, co-owner and vice president of RE/MAX of the Islands Vacation Rentals, recently earned the designation as a Certified Guest Service Professional (COSP).

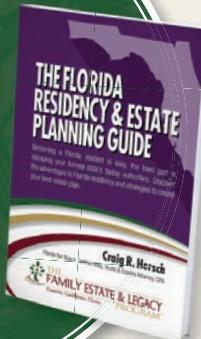
Block took the required educational programs and passed the examination. He was awarded the designation by the Tourist Development Council (TDC) at its meeting held on February 9.*



Ryan Block

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BeautifulLife:**Behind The Mask**

by Kay Casperson



When did you last put on a mask?

This week, it is fitting to talk about masks since we are in the middle of Mardi Gras and masks are such a big part of that

ongoing celebration.

There are many reasons throughout the year for wearing a mask and they have different purposes. The purpose of wearing a mask for Mardi Gras is to protect your identity. The traditional mask colors are gold, green and purple, which also have a purpose. Gold symbolizes power, green symbolizes faith and purple is justice.

There are various other times of the year that masks are worn such as Halloween as a costume to become someone different for that day or event. Seasonally, we wear masks to protect our faces from cold, wind or sun.

We also wear masks as a part of our skincare routines. Masks can correct, heal and enhance the skin as well as bring out impurities for a deep clean, fresh look. I happen to believe in masks for many purposes and developed one as a part of my skincare product line that does exactly that.

The idea behind wearing a mask can change with the event or purpose and there is a good reason to wear one for that time. What we need to remember is that masks are never to be something

we hide behind for too long. Our true selves need to be revealed and we must feel confident when taking them off.

I challenge you this week to look in the mirror and make sure that the person looking back at you is who you really want to be. Are you wearing an invisible mask when you are out and about, with others or at work? Or are you being true to yourself and feeling confident in who you are and have become?

My affirmation for you this week is: "I will remove my mask and reveal my fabulous, bold, beautiful self to the world."

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

Lions Club Offers Retinal Screenings

The Sanibel-Captiva Lions Club will offer a complimentary retinal screening from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday, February 27 at the Sanibel Recreation Center, located at 3880 Sanibel-Captiva Road. No appointment is necessary.

The next retinal screening will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. on Friday, March 3 at the Center 4 Life, 2401 Library Way. The final complimentary adult health screening of the season will be held on Wednesday, March 29 at the Sanibel Recreation Center. For more information or to get involved, visit sanibelcaptivalions.org.*

Helping Others By Way Of FISH

Jack and Inky Meng are committed to helping others. Early in their 50-year marriage, they adopted the mantra "We get a living by what we get, but a life by what we give."

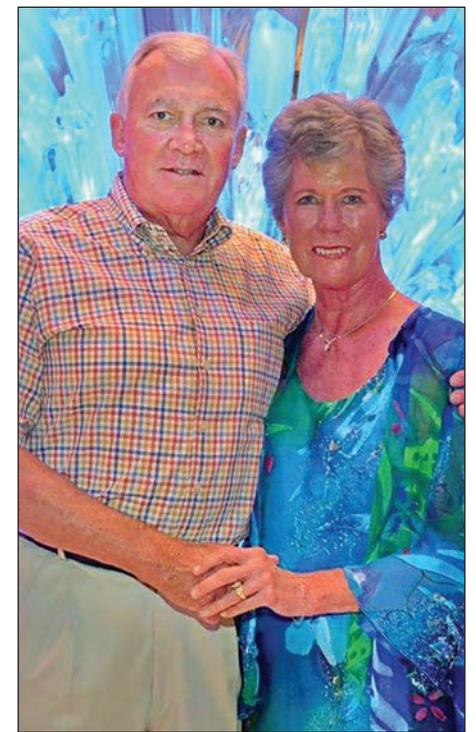
Several years ago, the couple heard about FISH of SanCap at their local church, Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ.

"After exploring it further, we learned that FISH is very efficient with 94 cents of every \$1 going to programs. All their funding assists those who live, work or visit Sanibel and Captiva Islands, and there is no state or national organization to support," stated Jack. "FISH is more than just a food pantry. There are more than 40 different programs to meet the multiple and complex needs of over 2,100 neighbors on our island."

"Both myself and Jack volunteer our time," added Inky. "Jack is a driver and feels that he is helpful when he drives men and women who need their medical treatments done off island. I like working in the Walk-In Center, where I assist those participating in the food pantry program. Often, the recipients tell how they work here on the island yet have difficulties during off-season making ends meet. They are thankful for the temporary assistance from FISH."

Inky also said that she likes making "Reassurance Phone Calls" to people living alone to check on how they are doing and add cheerful conversation to their day. The FISH Backpack program is also very important to Inky. With this program, children receive a backpack of food on Friday afternoon so they have something they can prepare easily over the weekend while a parent is working.

Jack and Inky Meng encourage everyone to consider FISH with a time or treasure commitment. Both believe



Jack and Inky Meng photo courtesy FISH

they get back more than they give to this worthwhile organization. As it says in the FISH logo, this is a way to be a "Neighbor Helping Neighbors" that live, work or visit Sanibel and Captiva islands.*

Tickets Available To Twins Game

Join your friends and neighbors on Wednesday, March 8 for a night at the ballpark with the Minnesota Twins as they take on Team USA. Game time is 7:05 p.m. at CenturyLink Sports Complex (Hammond Stadium) in Fort Myers. Tickets are now on sale at the Sanibel Recreation Center. Cost is \$28.25 per ticket, sold on a first come, first served basis due to limited ticket availability.

For more information, call 472-0345.*

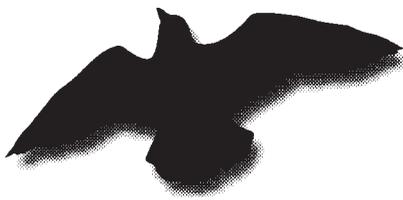
From page 1B

Food Festival

designated drivers. Each paid guest receives an engraved, commemorative wine glass.

The Optimist Club thanks its hosts and contributors: Bailey's General Store, Sanibel Catering Company by Bailey's, Lily and Co., The Timbers, and Doc Ford's for providing space for the valet parking.

The Sanibel-Captiva Optimist Club is a non-profit organization with all proceeds from fund-raising events going to help kids in need, especially with college scholarships. For more information, call 472-0836.*



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Island Seniors At Center 4 Life

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

Page Turners with Louise Fitzgerald and Ann Hartman – If you are not on the Page Turners list and wish to be, email oceann@comcast.net or contact the center.

The featured book on Wednesday, March 8 at 2:30 p.m. is *The Nest* by Cynthia D'Aprix Sweeney.

Minnesota Twins Spring Training Baseball Tickets – Friday, February 24 vs. Tampa Bay Rays at 7:05 p.m. Ticket cost for members is \$22 and \$27 for non-member guests. Must be a current Island Seniors member to purchase baseball tickets. Ticket sales are for limited time only. All sales are final. Transportation is on your own.

ECHO Global Farm Walking Tour – Monday, February 27. Cost is \$15 for members and \$25 for non-members.

Take a fascinating guided, walking tour of this creative working farm. Experience the seven settings of the Global Farm. See goats, chickens, ducks, fish and rabbits, all residents of the farm. ECHO is home to one of the largest collections of tropical food plants in the United States. There will be demonstrations in the Urban Garden, which features some

unconventional, yet effective ways to grow crops where there is little or no soil. Lunch is on your own at Farmers Market Restaurant. Advance registration is required. Minimum 10 and maximum 25 participants on a first come basis.

Chihuly Collection & Dali Museum (Frida Kahlo at the Dali) Trip – Friday, March 24. Cost is \$75 for members and \$85 for non-members.

Trip includes round trip transportation including a docent-led tour of the Chihuly Collection, Dali Museum and a special exhibition of Frida Kahlo at the Dali. Lunch will be on your own at the Banyan Café. Advance registration is required. The trip is limited to 27 participants on a first come basis.

Keeping up with Technology with Gerard Damiano – Lesson 2: iPad Intermediate – Tuesday, February 28 from 1 to 4 p.m. Cost is \$50 for members and \$75 for non-members.

Discover the powerful built-in apps that come on your iPad. Get organized with the Contacts and Calendar apps, then Sync with all of your Apple devices instantly using iCloud. Connect with others using Text and Multi-Media Messaging or Video Conference with FaceTime. Register in advance. Bring your own device. You will need your Apple ID and password.

Sanibel Health Fair – Friday, March 3 from 1 to 4 p.m.

Free screenings by health care professionals, plus information about FISH on SanCap, Hospice and other

services. Senior resource guides, healthy snacks and door prizes provided. Sponsored by Parish Nurses of Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ, St. Isabel's Catholic Church, Sanibel Community Church, Sanibel Fellowship Church and St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church.

Beginner Bridge Basics with Christl and Bruce Smith – March 6, 8, 13 and 15 from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Cost is \$20 for members and \$35 for non-members. Class is limited to eight students and you must register in advance and attend all four classes.

Session 1: The Basics (Players, trick taking, choosing a trump suit and the bidding ladder.)

Session 2: No Trump Opening Bids and Responses
Session 3: Major Suits Opening Bids and Responses

Session 4: Major Suit Opening Bids and Responses.

AARP Driver Safety Course – Thursdays, February 23 and March 2, 1 to 4 p.m. Course fee is \$20 and AARP members receive a \$5 discount.

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

Games

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

Bridge – Monday and Wednesday. Register by noon; the game begins at 12:30 p.m.

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

Hand & Foot – Thursday at 12:30 p.m.

Hearts – Friday at 12:30 p.m.

BINGO – Friday, February 24 at 1 p.m.

Kayaking on Tuesdays and

Thursdays – February 28 and March 2 (weather permitting) at 8:30 a.m. There is space for 16 people on eight two-person kayaks and limited space for those who own their own kayaks. Island Seniors will provide kayaks, paddles and life jackets. Bring water, a snack, sun lotion, bug spray, sunglasses, towel, hat and change of clothing. Cost is \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members. Advance registration is required.

Line Dancing Classes – Tuesdays, 12:30 p.m. Cost is \$5 for members and \$8 for non-members.

The instructor will review dance steps then turn up the music so you can dance. Bring a friend. Call to register.

Fitness Classes

Members cost is \$4 per class, visitors \$7 per class. Annual membership is \$20. Sanibel Recreation Center members must show their membership card to attend.

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

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

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

Gentle Yoga – Tuesday and Thursday at 9:30 a.m. Stretch, tone and strengthen while improving flexibility, proper alignment and circulation. Bring a towel. Kim Kouril is the instructor.

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

For more information, call 472-5743 or stop by the Center 4 Life, located at 2401 Library Way on Sanibel.*



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From page 22B

Almanac Release

surpassed \$1 billion in 2012, the last year this data was collected; there is an almost 3-to-2 ratio of men to women in Glades County for the population aged 45 and lower, significantly higher than the ratio found in the rest of Southwest Florida; there are well over 2,000 farms in Southwest Florida covering more than one million acres of land; Southwest Florida's population is now well above the 1.2 million mark, with Lee County population alone accounting for more than half of that number; Southwest Florida generated more than 1.4-million tons of municipal solid waste in 2015, 38 percent more than the figure recorded in 2011?

"It has every piece of data that you'd expect to find in an almanac," Westley said. "But I expect even more detail to be added in years to come."

Westley is soliciting sponsorships for the inaugural edition and for the 2018 edition as well. Since the RERI is financed through projects such as this, these funds will be put toward the eventual creation of an online portal for the almanac, allowing users to download data. Westley thinks this portal can become a reality in two years.

Until then, the *Southwest Florida Economic Almanac* can be accessed and downloaded at www.fgcu.edu/swflalmanac.

For details, contact Chris Westley at 590-7090 or cwestley@fgcu.edu.*

dearRPharmacist

Supplements That Make You Look Younger



by Suzy Cohen, RPh

Dear Readers: I can spot a smoker or a sunbather really fast because they look older than they should from the free radical damage. Maybe you thought beauty is only skin deep, but it's not. A radiant youthful-looking face is actually

an inside job. It helps to drink fresh water, exercise regularly and eat healthy foods to get the nutrients which provide the building blocks of healthy skin. Your gut and liver enzymes (glutathione and catalase) must remove toxins and free radicals every second of the day, otherwise the junk inside your cell damages your skin.

I've tried various supplements over the years (on and off) to keep my skin looking as good as it can. At 52, some level of aging is inevitable but it's amazing what your face can look like if you neutralize free radicals before they age you and use high-quality skin care products. Here are some of my favorite skin-loving herbs and nutrients:

Milk Thistle – It's a food, but also a supplement. Your liver processes everything that goes in your mouth, including alcohol, prescription medications, pesticides, preservatives, additives and artificial colors. Your liver detoxifies everything your body doesn't need. This reminds me of that episode on *I Love Lucy* where she's struggling to keep up with the conveyor belt of chocolates coming down the line. When your liver

falls behind on its job, poisons come out through your skin, causing rashes and itchiness. You'll age faster. Avoid milk thistle if you're allergic to ragweed, chrysanthemums, marigolds or daisies.

Collagen – Collagen is a natural component of skin that declines as you age, resulting in thinner, less elastic, more saggy skin. Two 2014 studies found that oral supplementation with this may improve skin elasticity and diminish wrinkles.

Silica – This makes hot springs pretty and blue in color. Silica is a trace mineral that helps soothe psoriasis, eczema and rashes when applied topically. Taken internally, silica helps you make collagen naturally, strengthening your nails.

Vitamin E – You may think of rubbing vitamin E oil directly on your skin to prevent scars, but taken orally, vitamin E is a powerful cellular antioxidant, which means it gobbles up free radicals that could otherwise potentially damage your skin cells and lead to premature aging.

Zinc – It's not just for your prostate, or for colds. This mineral reduces skin inflammation and irritation, whether that's associated with acne, pimples or rashes. It also plays a role in managing the production and turnover of skin cells. When I worked in nursing homes with residents who had painful diabetes-related wounds, or decubitus ulcers, we always put them on zinc and vitamin C. Be careful with zinc, don't take too much. In fact, avoid it if you take ginkgo biloba, ibuprofen or warfarin because it slightly increases risk of bleeding. If you'd like to read the longer version of this article, it's available at my website, suzycohen.com Please make sure to ask your doctor if these supplements are 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. ✨

Alzheimer's Symposium

Florida Gulf Coast University College of Health Professions and Social Work and the Alvin A. Dubin Alzheimer's Resource Center will host the 5th annual Symposium on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias on Wednesday, March 8 from 8 a.m. to noon. The symposium will be held at the Cohen Center on FGCU's campus, located at 10501 FGCU Boulevard South in Fort Myers.

Featured speakers include:

- Kevin M. Guskiwicz, PhD, ATC Dean, College of Arts & Sciences
- Kenan Distinguished Professor Research director, Center for the Study of Retired Athletes

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Presentation: The State of Sport Concussion: Legitimate Concern vs. Paranoia?

- Daniel I. Kaufer, MD Associate professor, neurology Division chief, cognitive neurology and memory disorders Director, UNC Memory Disorders Clinic

Co-director, Carolina Alzheimer's Network

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Presentation: Chronic Sequelae of Traumatic Brain Injury: A New Twist on Neurodegenerative Disorders

- Ronald L. Hayes, PhD

Co-founder and president of Banyan Biomarkers, Inc.

Director of Banyan's Clinical Programs and Banyan Laboratories Past-president of the National Neurotrauma Society

Scientific advisory member:

International Brain Injury Association and International Neurotrauma Society Presentation: Blood-based Biomarkers of Traumatic Brain Injury and Related Dementias

The symposium is designed for family caregivers, health care professionals and others interested in the care of memory-impaired persons. There is no charge to attend.

Three continuing education units are available for nurses, nursing home administrators, guardians, social workers, occupational therapists and physical therapists.

Register by Friday, February 24 by calling 437-3007. ✨

Eden Energy Medicine

Hand To Heart With Partner Creates Bonding



by Karen L. Semmelman, Certified EEM, JD, AAML (03-01)

No relationship is free of turmoil. After all, each of you has your own unique view of the world, knowing the best way to clean the

counter, wash the car, locate the car keys, where to put tools after using them, etc. Sound familiar? But sometimes, one gets tired of being "nice," may get frustrated and lash out... and off we go into a chain reaction of "you said" and "you did."

Today, learn a great technique to stop the cycle. Donna Eden and David Feinstein wrote a book titled *Energies of Love*, which summarizes many strategies to create a loving relationship and understand one's unique way of perceiving the world (each of us has a primary sensory type), of which I wrote several columns in the past. However, before this book, they both lectured extensively on creating a loving energetic connection when the relationship runs aground.

My husband and I have found one technique very effective and use it regularly. After the "you did" starts, we take a break, call time out and do the following:

1. Each partner turns away from the other and comes home to themselves. A good way to do this is to place both hands on your heart, close the eyes and find center inside. Hold this space for several breaths.

2. Check in with your partner and see if they are ready to connect.

3. When ready, face each other with hearts across from one another. Each places their left hand on their own heart and with the right hand reaches out to the other placing the right hand on the other's hand over his/her heart. You are now linked.

4. When ready, raise your eyes to meet your partner and hold the gaze until you each take a deep breath.

What did we learn last week that just happened? We just released the "love hormone" oxytocin, activated the solar plexus chakra (which stimulates the thymus gland and thus boosts the immune system, too) and helped balance the nervous system. Happy Loving Day! This works with anyone, including your kids, friends and family.

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

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Singing For Health



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

Music and singing bring people together and promote a feeling of connectedness. There's nothing quite like getting lost in the feelings of a meaningful song, or caught in the groove of music with a catchy riff. Those feelings alone can be great, but there's more. A host of studies show the benefits of both listening to music and performing music, linking them to physical and psychological health. Performers note a particular bonding when singing and playing with a group, and audience members share their own sense of cohesion. It goes even deeper than that! Music affects our health and well-being at the neuroendocrine level, meaning it increases our feel good hormones and decreases our stress hormones. It appears that oxytocin, which regulates stress and anxiety,

may be responsible for the social and health benefits of music, while adrenocorticotropic hormone (ACTH) may encourage the engagement and arousal effects of music. Overall, the results showed that group singing reduces stress. Keep in mind that stimulating music, such as techno, increases the stress response, where relaxing music reduces it.

The literature indicates that listening to, composing, and performing music encourages social interaction. An intense oneness is reported by musicians who merge their musical talents into a performance or product, because it requires cooperation, communication and listening skills which result in increased bonding. Even in groups of relative strangers, bonding is quickly achieved through singing.

And if you're not interested in group singing, don't worry. The health benefits and stress relief from singing occur when we enjoy it on our own as well. Singing for health is certainly an activity that promotes positive physical, emotional and mental health outcomes. So why not sing a song or two for your health?!

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

Mom And Me



by Lizzie and Pryce

Lizzie and Pryce answer your questions and give advice about aging concerns from a two-generational perspective. A mother and daughter team, Lizzie is a retired RN and health educator, and Pryce is a licensed psychotherapist in private practice who specializes in the care of elders and people with chronic illnesses.

Dear Mom & Me,

I am fed up being treated as if I am an inconvenience at my medical center. I would leave in a flash, but no one else around here takes Medicare. I am not a nuisance, having been their only once in a year.

I called and, after going through all of their hoops on their telephone system, I finally reached a "live one." She asked my name and birth date and then asked, "Why do you want to see the doctor? What's wrong with you?" The earliest appointment was in six weeks, and then she said, "If you're not satisfied, call 911 or go to the hospital emergency."

It is bad enough being old, but being

abused along with it is getting hard to take. Is it like this where you live?

Doris

Dear Doris,

Medical care is an industry, a very complex industry. To stay in business, medical practices need more revenue coming in than expenses going out. Unfortunately, the strategies for reducing expenses include reducing the number of support staff, using technology (i.e. phone routing systems) to increase productivity, minimum education requirements for staff and increasing the number of patients seen per day.

What all of this seems to mean to patients is that we have become "work units," "tasks" and – to some office staff – "interruptions" in their productivity.

To the credit of some offices I have found, the physicians and support staff have found a way to practice medicine and run a business in a way that does not forget the patient. I hope you can find a similar office.

Pryce

Dear Doris,

Exactly the same – this seems to be the way modern medical offices are going. No longer will physicians know our name or even care because it is only a business. However, some people do have physicians who do care, will call on the phone and run their offices "the old fashioned way."

My husband goes out of state and has a team of physicians who are wonderful, and it's no wonder Johns Hopkins has been rated number one for patient care for about the last 20 years.

Lizzie

Lizzie and Pryce's email address is momandmeaging@hotmail.com.*



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Be part of the Million Mile Movement!

WHO? Lee County residents of all ages and fitness levels can participate as an individual or as a group

WHAT? Any form of movement qualifies, walking, running, biking, swimming and even weight training

HOW? Register at www.HealthyLee.com and on Jan. 9, start logging your miles on the Challenge Portal, powered by Fit Nation

The Million Mile Movement is part of Healthy Lee's mission to empower and inspire the people of Lee County to make healthy lifestyle choices through education and action.

For more information, visit www.HealthyLee.com

Got A Problem? Dr. Connie Is In



by Constance Clancy

Q: What are some questions to ask a guy on a first date?

A: A first date can come with feelings of excitement yet some jitters of wondering what

the two of you will discuss. It's a good idea to be prepared to ask some questions to break the ice and to begin a comfortable conversation. The questions may vary, depending on the age group and if you already know something about him.

Whether you were introduced by friends, met online or through a dating service, that first date comes with some trepidation and can feel like an interview, yet it's a part of the process. While you may already have a little insight into your guy, you will want to know more.

In the initial phase of your date, perhaps you could ask some basic general questions such as:

- Where are you originally from?

- What type of occupation are you in?
- Where did you go to college and what did you major in?

These starter questions lay the foundation of his roots and add an element of who he is.

Once you get past the initial general questions, make a mental note and on how elaborate he is with his answers and if he asks you questions as well. It should be a mutually expansive conversation.

You can continue your conversation with getting more information about what he likes regarding hobbies, sports, interests, music, travel, and leisure time. You may want to add some additional conversation questions:

- Do you have siblings and where do they live?
- Do you have any pets?
- If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would it be?

You can always turn the question into a "tell me about..." So it doesn't seem like you are grilling him. Regardless of what happens next, it is a learning experience and it is usually nice to meet someone new.

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



Grilled Swordfish with Mango Citrus Salsa

- 1 cup pink grapefruit sections
- 1 cup orange sections
- 1 cup papaya cubes
- 1 star fruit, diced
- 1 cup mango cubes
- 1 medium red onion, finely diced
- 1 tablespoon fresh cilantro, chopped
- 1 tablespoon mint, chopped
- 2 tablespoons orange liqueur (optional)
- 4 six-ounce swordfish steaks, 1½ inch thick, skin removed
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- sea salt
- black pepper
- mint sprigs for garnish

Make the Mango Citrus Salsa by combining all ingredients except swordfish, oil, salt and pepper in a medium bowl. Mix well and set aside to let flavors blend. Brush swordfish steaks with olive oil then season with salt and pepper to taste. Grill steaks over medium-high heat for 4

Grilled Swordfish with Mango Citrus Salsa

minutes per side or until cooked through. To serve, spoon the Mango Citrus Salsa over the swordfish steaks and garnish with mint sprigs.

Yield four servings

Nutritional Value Per Serving
 Calories 333, Calories From Fat 95,
 Total Fat 11g, Saturated Fat 2g, Trans
 Fatty Acid 0, Cholesterol 66mg, Total
 Carbohydrates 24g, Protein 35g, Omega

photo courtesy Fresh From Florida
 3 Fatty Acid 1.44g
 Look for Fresh from Florida ingredients at your grocery store.*

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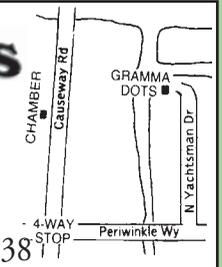


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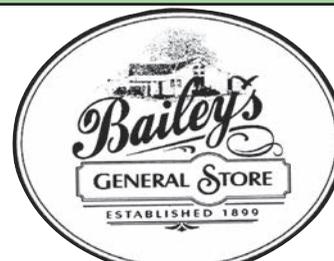
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Island Sun

NEWSPAPER
Sanibel & Captiva Islands

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On Call Captiva Deputy	477-1000
Fire Department - Sanibel	472-5525
Fire Department - Captiva	472-9494
Florida Marine Patrol	332-6966
Florida Highway Patrol	278-7100
Poison Control	1-800-282-3171
Chamber of Commerce	472-1080
City of Sanibel	472-4135
Administrative Office	472-3700
Building Department	472-4555
Planning Department	472-4136
Library - Sanibel	472-2483
Library - Captiva	239-533-4890
Post Office - Sanibel	472-1573
Post Office - Sanibel (toll free)	800-275-8777
Post Office - Captiva	472-1674
Sanibel Community Association	472-2155
Center 4 Life - Senior Center	472-5743
ARTS	
Arcade Theater	332-4488
Art League Of Fort Myers	275-3970
BIG ARTS - Barrier Island Group for the Arts	395-0900
Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre	278-4422
Fort Myers Symphonic Mastersingers	288-2535
Gulf Coast Symphony	472-6197
Lee County Alliance for the Arts	939-2787
Naples Philharmonic	597-1111
The Herb Strauss Schoolhouse Theater	472-6862
Sanibel Music Festival	336-7999
Sanibel-Captiva Art League	sancapart.com
SW Florida Symphony	418-0996
CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS	
ABWA - American Business Women's Assoc.	565-7872 or 433-7798
American Legion Post 123	472-9979
Angel Flight SE	1-877-4AN-ANGEL
Audubon Society	472-3744
CHR Community Housing & Resources	472-1189
Community Foundation of Sanibel-Captiva	274-5900
COTI Committee of the Islands	coti@coti.org
CROW - Clinic For The Rehabilitation of Wildlife	472-3644
FISH OF SANCAP Neighbors Helping Neighbors	472-4775
FISH. OF SANCAP 24-hr service	472-0404
Sanibel Island Fishing Club	472-8994
Horticultural Society of the Islands	472-6940
Horticulture and Tea Society of Sanibel and Captiva	472-8334
Kiwanis Club	677-7299
League of Women Voters	sanibelLWV@gmail.com
Lions Club, Jeff MacDonald	302-521-1158
Master Gardeners of the Islands	472-6940
MOAA - Military Officers Assc. of America, Alex MacKenzie	395-9232
Newcomers	472-9332
Notre Dame Club of Southwest Florida	768-0417
Optimist Club	472-0836
PAWS	472-4823
Rotary Club	472-7257 or 472-0141
Sanibel Bike Club	sanibelbicycleclub.org
Sanibel Beautification Inc.	470-2866
Sanibel-Captiva Orchid Society	472-6940
Sanibel-Captiva Power Squadron	www.usps.org/localusps/sancap
Sanibel-Captiva Republican Caucus	395-1202
Sanibel-Captiva Shell Club	facebook.com/sancapshellclub 267-7291
Sanibel Youth Soccer	www.sanibelsoccer.org 395-2040
United Way of Lee County	433-2000
United Way 211 Helpline 24 hour	211 or 433-3900
Zonta Club	728-1971
ISLAND ATTRACTIONS	
Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum	395-2233
JN "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge	472-1100
Sanibel Historical Museum & Village	472-4648
SCCF Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation	472-2329

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

PETS OF THE WEEK



Patches ID# 687173



Alfie ID# 687544

Lee County Domestic Animal Services

Patches And Alfie

Patches is a 1-year-old domestic shorthair female black cat that will match anything. She is very content being the only cat in the home; she does not like to share attention with anyone. She is very friendly and loves people. Adoption fee is \$50.

Alfie is a 6-year-old west highland terrier male pint-sized West Highland terrier with the cutest underbite. He is a bit nervous at first but will quickly climb into your lap. He does prefer women to men, so he is the perfect companion for all you single ladies. Adoption fee is \$25.

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

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

All adoptions include spay/neuter surgery, age-appropriate vaccinations, rabies vaccination and county license if three months or older, flea treatment, worming, heartworm test for dogs six months and over, feline AIDS and leukemia test for cats, training DVD, 10-day health guarantee, and a bag of Science Diet pet food. The adoption package is valued at \$500.*

PAWS Of Sanibel

Miss Kitty

Hi there, my name is Miss Kitty. A very nice lady found me all alone, in the wild, and took me inside her home. She could tell I was a really sweet girl that just needed a chance. She took me to the vet hospital and had me combo tested and spayed. I'm approximately 6 to 7 months old and a beautiful (if I do say so myself) Calico kitty. My foster mom would love to keep me, but someone in the household doesn't do well with cat fur. She is going to keep me until she finds me the "purr-fect" home.

If there is someone out there that's looking for an extremely sweet, beautiful kitty, and knows they must keep me totally inside, call my foster mom, PAWS of Sanibel volunteer Jenny at 699-1149.*



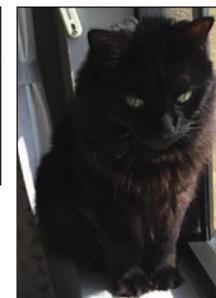
Miss Kitty

Haven on Earth Animal League

Smokey And Amber



Smokey



Amber

This brother and sister pair have never been apart, so they need to be adopted together. They are both five years old with a very sweet disposition, extremely lovable and front declawed. Amber is black, and Smokey is a grey and white long-haired kitty. They are both up to date on all shots, spayed and neutered. Adoption fee is \$150 for the pair. They are currently residing with a foster mom.

We are being cared for by Haven on Earth Animal League. For more information, contact havenonearthanimalleague@yahoo.com.*

HORTOONS



HORTOON

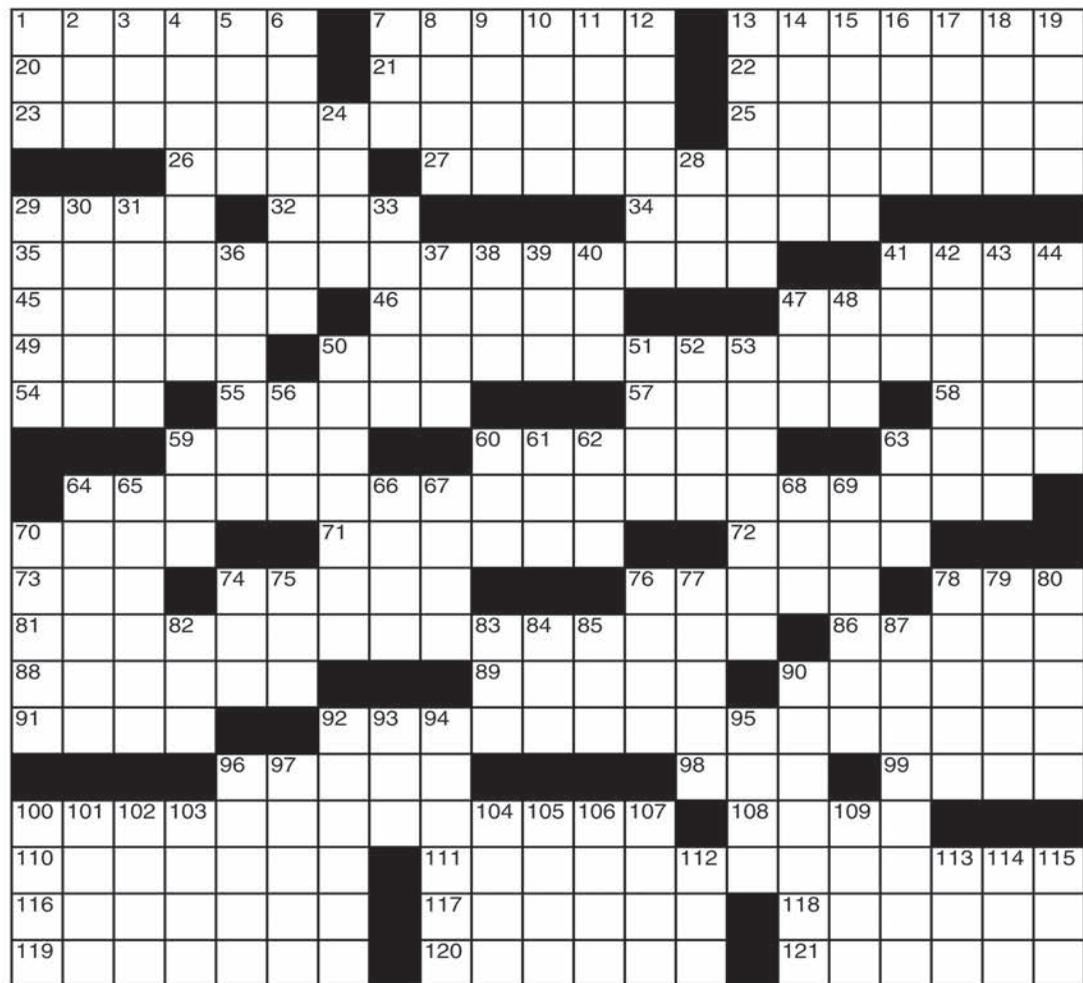
PUZZLES

Answers on page 37B

Super Crossword

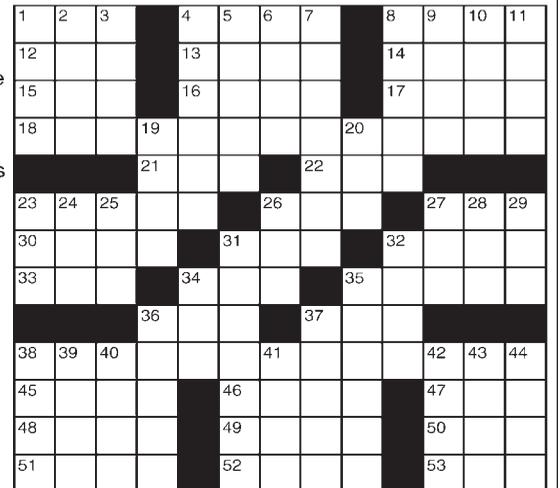
THE BROOKLYN SOUND

- ACROSS**
- 1 "The Georgia Peach" of baseball
 - 7 Black Sea seaport
 - 13 Indy 500 tire changers
 - 20 Neat and trim
 - 21 Raleigh's neighbor city
 - 22 Lift forcibly
 - 23 Egyptian river's condition?
 - 25 "Howards End" novelist
 - 26 — la Douce (1963 title role)
 - 27 How complex a story is?
 - 29 Knighted Guinness
 - 32 Prefix similar to equi-
 - 34 Maya Angelou's "And Still —"
 - 35 When designer Calvin was most popular?
 - 41 Band worn by Miss USA
 - 45 Chalet shape, often
 - 46 Piece's pace
 - 47 Robust
 - 49 Cherry part
 - 50 What a bowler analyzes for a second roll?
 - 54 Medit. nation
 - 55 Steed steerers
 - 57 Safari noises
 - 58 Hopper, e.g.
 - 59 Some Greek letters
 - 60 Decide on
 - 63 Met queen
 - 64 Bureau overseeing a boundary barrier?
 - 70 Inferior — cava
 - 71 Virgil hero
 - 72 Apollo's gp.
 - 73 "— changed man!"
 - 74 Many a yogi
 - 76 Abrupt
 - 78 Cellphone game, often
 - 81 What an angler may bring up for discussion?
 - 86 Mac maker
 - 88 Hollywood's Dahl
 - 89 Precise
 - 90 86-Across music player
 - 91 Thing to sow
 - 92 TV shopping channel that sells chairs?
 - 96 Sluggish sort
 - 98 Penpoint
 - 99 Give cheek
 - 100 Woe for someone who's been walking all day long?
 - 108 Hardly hard
 - 110 Sicilian port next to Mount Etna
 - 111 Inscriptions on a penny?
 - 116 Like deductive reasoning
 - 117 Minute Maid Park's team
 - 118 Knight who had Pips
 - 119 Request a new supply of
 - 120 Wind sound
 - 121 Consumes completely
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Six-pt. plays
 - 2 Sun — -sen
 - 3 Tax pro
 - 4 Eye care worker
 - 5 Ballpark brew
 - 6 Trite saying
 - 7 Quirky
 - 8 Face-off
 - 9 Ocean eagle
 - 10 Hood's knife
 - 11 Store draw
 - 12 2001 Audrey Tautou film
 - 13 Black-and-white seabird
 - 14 86-Across music players
 - 15 Six halved
 - 16 "— la vie!"
 - 17 — -tat-tat
 - 18 Risk-taking Knievel
 - 19 Lived
 - 24 Burkina —
 - 28 "... — quit!"
 - 29 Take — (turn down the offer)
 - 30 One not right-handed
 - 31 Misprint, e.g.
 - 33 Habitually
 - 36 Capo's code of silence
 - 37 Amounts added to bank accts.
 - 38 First-aid pro
 - 39 Non-U.S. speed-limit abbr.
 - 40 — Alamos
 - 41 Drain away
 - 42 Language of Yemen
 - 43 Endeavor
 - 44 Serengeti laughter
 - 47 That lady
 - 48 Curvy letter
 - 50 Remote
 - 51 Carl who composed "O Fortuna"
 - 52 See 104-Down
 - 53 Be too fearful to
 - 56 Anvil's organ
 - 59 Clean air gp.
 - 60 Unified
 - 61 Educ. group
 - 62 How- — (DIY books)
 - 63 Genetic ID
 - 64 Bashful
 - 65 Activate
 - 66 The Beatles' "Love —"
 - 67 Ample, informally
 - 68 Remote
 - 69 Will topic
 - 70 Entry permits
 - 74 Cackler
 - 75 H₂O at 31 degrees F
 - 76 Santa's bag
 - 77 Discover
 - 78 Sleep clinic concern
 - 79 Entreaties
 - 80 Raid targets
 - 82 TV's Pa Clampett
 - 83 Dawn drops
 - 84 Outer: Prefix
 - 85 Gin joint
 - 87 Tabby
 - 90 Company pin-on
 - 92 "Hey, that's cheating!"
 - 93 LAX guess
 - 94 Felons run afoul of it
 - 95 Feudal domain
 - 96 Assembly of ecclesiastics
 - 97 Nantes' river
 - 100 Dollar Rent —
 - 101 Be wide open
 - 102 Other, in Spanish
 - 103 Hair removal brand
 - 104 With 52-Down, flakes sprinkled into an aquarium
 - 105 Opposite of 84-Down
 - 106 Architect Saarinen
 - 107 General — chicken
 - 109 TV's Ward
 - 112 —Kosh B'Gosh
 - 113 Mag staff
 - 114 Manhattan sch.
 - 115 Cooking qty.



King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 One of the kin
 - 4 Genie's home
 - 8 Green or Rogen
 - 12 Noshed
 - 13 Bloodhound's clue
 - 14 Temptation
 - 15 Cribbage scorer
 - 16 Unescorted
 - 17 Belligerent deity
 - 18 Insignificant sum
 - 21 Still
 - 22 Last letter
 - 23 Pollster's find
 - 26 Moment
 - 27 Moo goo gai pan pan
 - 30 Deception
 - 31 Solidify
 - 32 Marathon fraction
 - 33 Mel of Cooperstown
 - 34 "Family Guy" ainer
 - 35 Annie's dog
 - 36 Botheration
 - 37 Erstwhile acorn
 - 38 Universe explanation
 - 45 Vicinity
 - 46 Greek vowel
 - 47 Court
 - 48 Inmates
 - 49 Watchful one
 - 50 Drag along
 - 51 Dandling site
 - 52 Whodunit writer
 - 53 Vast expanse
 - 10 Almond or pecan
 - 11 Pianist Dame Myra
 - 19 Bobcat kin
 - 20 Early nuclear org.
 - 23 However, in verse
 - 24 Deterioration
 - 25 Dine on
 - 26 Driver's license datum
 - 27 Triumph
 - 28 Bygone
 - 29 Crucial
 - 31 Treasure seekers in a 1985 movie
 - 32 Create
 - 34 Rx watchdog grp.
 - 35 About 30 percent of Africa
 - 36 Lower in rank
 - 37 Playful water critter
 - 38 Endorse
 - 39 Press
 - 40 Heredity unit
 - 41 "The Third of May 1808" painter
 - 42 They give a hoot
 - 43 Libertine
 - 44 Relaxing practice
- DOWN**
- 1 Fools
 - 2 Thing
 - 3 Genesis maker
 - 4 Hung lazily
 - 5 Take as one's own
 - 6 Stereo fore-runner
 - 7 Tavern snack
 - 8 Chalkboard
 - 9 Continental

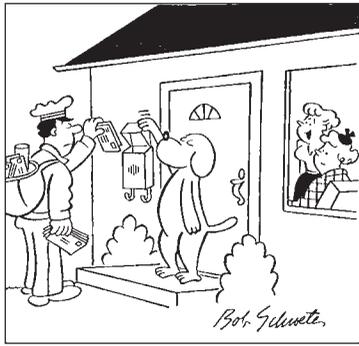


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 L J M H T O F E D B E S Y X V
 T R P O F A I S H S P Y M K I
 G E D B Z R N T S C M E A X W
 U T N O I D R O C C A K R L Q
 O N L J I A N O S A D E G F P
 D C A Y B X W L R E N U T V T

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

- | | | | |
|-----------|----------|--------|---------|
| Accordion | Forte | Maker | Teacher |
| Action | Keyboard | Man | Tuner |
| Bar | Keys | Player | Wire |
| Damper | Lesson | Sonata | |



"Sending him to school seems to have been the answer!"

answer on page 35B

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!

Rattle **HASBA**

Annul **DISCERN**

Answer **LOVES**

Cause **DUNCIE**

TODAY'S WORD

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

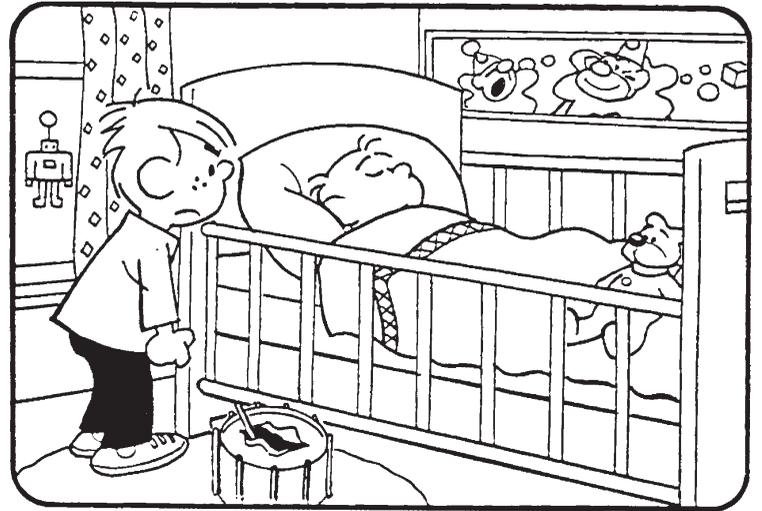
SUDOKU

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

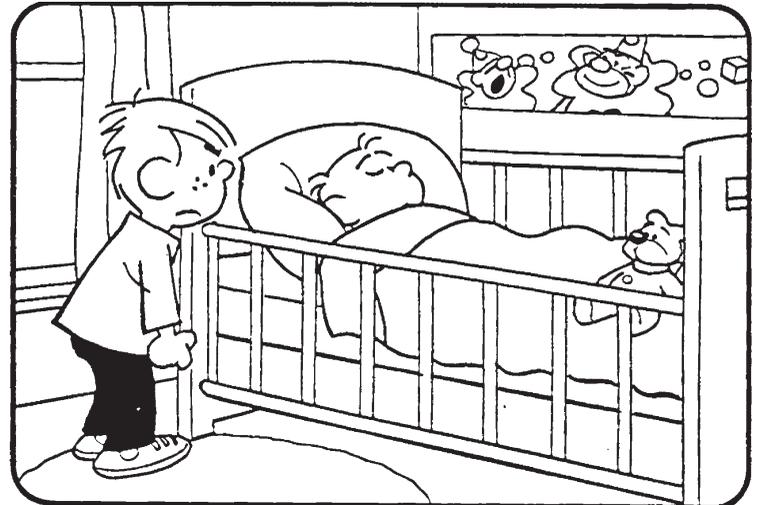
answer on page 37B

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



FIND AT LEAST SIX DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS



Differences: 1. Robot is missing. 2. Curtain is different. 3. Drum is missing. 4. Bedcover hem is missing. 5. Frame is missing. 6. Teddy bear is smaller.

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FOR WEEK OF FEBRUARY 27, 2017

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) The adventurous Aries won't be disappointed with taking on a new challenge, despite some initial misgivings. Look for this move to open other opportunities down the line.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Let that beautiful Bovine smile not only put you at ease, but also show that you're ready, willing and more than able to confound the naysayers around you. A new admirer has important news.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Be careful how you handle a relationship that you're hoping to save. You already have the facts on your side. Avoid weakening your position by embellishing it with unnecessary dramatics.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Taking definitive stands isn't easy for the often-wavering Moon Child. But you not only need to stay with your decision, but also reassure others it was the right thing to do.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) As a proud Lion, you're right to be upset about those who might be lying about you to others. But the best revenge is proving them wrong by succeeding at what you set out to do.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)

Caution is still advised before making a financial commitment to a "promising" project. Look for the facts behind the fluff. Devote the weekend to loved ones.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) A Taurus offers comfort and advice as you deal with an upsetting event. Use this as a learning experience that will help you avoid similar problems in the future.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) A romantic situation creates some chaos for single Scorpions. But it's well worth the effort to work things out. A trusted friend can offer some helpful advice.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Expect to make new friends as your social circle expands. Also, remember to tell that family member how proud you are of his or her achievements.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) New ventures continue to be favored. And with your self-confidence rising all the time, you'll want to see how well you can do with a new challenge. So, go to it.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) This is a good time for the usually "serious-minded" Aquarian to let loose and enjoy some fun times. Expect to get good news about a workplace issue.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Changed plans might upset some people,

but your needs should be respected. Offer explanations when necessary. But don't let yourself be talked into changing your decisions.

BORN THIS WEEK: You have a gift for bringing people together. You would make a fine judge or counselor.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

• The next time you're dining at a seafood restaurant, consider this tidbit: Those who study such things say that 80 percent of a crab or lobster's dry weight is wax.

• Researchers at Cornell University have determined that if chickens are kept in a coop that is artificially lighted to simulate a 28-hour day, the eggs laid by those chickens will be larger and have stronger shells.

• If you try to come up with an image of the pioneers' westward trek in search of land, gold and new futures, what comes to mind is likely to be covered wagons (also known at the time as Prairie Schooners) crossing vast grasslands. A group of wagons circling up at dusk has become emblematic of that long journey. Most people assume that the wagons were placed in a circle for protection, to keep potential intruders out, but that's not entirely true. While that may have been an advantage to the arrangement, the primary motivation was to keep livestock from

wandering off.

• The English word "infant" comes from a Latin term whose literal meaning is "one unable to speak."

• You might be surprised to learn that fruit flies can become intoxicated, too – and they don't even have to take a drink. Just the smell of alcohol affects them.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"The people can always be brought to the bidding of the leaders. That is easy. All you have to do is tell them they are being attacked and denounce the pacifists for lack of patriotism and exposing the country to danger. It works the same way in any country." – Hermann Goring

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Abash; 2. Rescind;
3. Solve; 4. Induce

Today's Word

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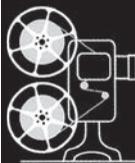
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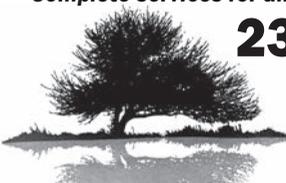
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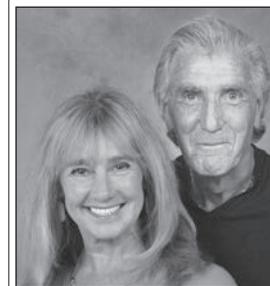


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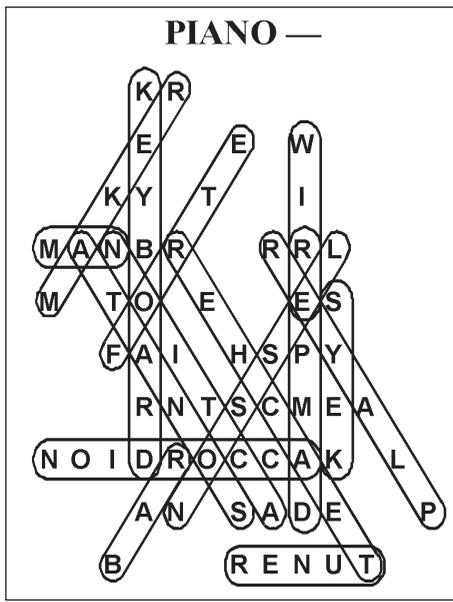
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 STATE OF DENILE FORSTER
 IRMA LEVEL OF DETALE
 ALEC ISO IRISE
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 STONE DEPTHS OF DESPARE
 SYR REINS ROARS BIN
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 IMA HINDU SHORT APP
 SUBJECT OF DEBAIT APPLE
 ARLENE EXACT ITUNES
 SEED NETWORK OF DESEAT
 SLOTH NIB SASS
 AGONY OF DEFEET EASY
 CATANIA LINES OF DECENT
 APRIORI ASTROS GLADYS
 REORDER WHOOSH EATSUP

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SIS LAMP SETH
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 TREND SEC WOK
 HOAX GEL MILE
 OTT FOX SANDY
 ADO OAK
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 AREA IOTA WOO
 CONS EYER LUG
 KNEE SARA SEA

MAGIC MAZE



SUDOKU

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

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CONTINUING EDUCATION

SEMINAR CLASS FOR LAWYERS
 2017 Sanibel Construction CLE
 March 9 and 10,
 8am-12pm
 Hosted by DeWitt Ross & Stevens S.C.
 Accreditation will be sought
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 Please call 608-283-5525
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2006 TOYOTA SCION ON SANIBEL

 87K miles - 33mpg - 5 speed
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Layla and Gema
 photos courtesy GCHS



Willie Wonka



Gema

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World Spay Day

It's time to "Pick Your Price" at the Gulf Coast Humane Society's Spay and Neuter in honor of World Spay Day on Tuesday, February 28. World Spay Day is the first and only international day of action to promote the spaying or neutering of cats and dogs. It was originally created as Spay Day USA by the Doris Day Animal League in 1995 and is now a program of The Humane Society of the United States, Humane Society International and Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association. Spay and neutering is an important initiative of GCHS' and its Spay and Neuter Clinic, which is located at 2010 Arcadia Street in Fort Myers. The Spay and Neuter Clinic will be participating in World Spay Day by bringing awareness to the importance of spaying and neutering to help curb animal population.

"Spay and neutering your pets is one of our most important messages to pet owners," said GCHS Executive Director Jennifer Galloway. "Having an international day to recognize how important spay and neutering is something we fully support." The "Pick Your Price" World Spay Day special gives great opportunities to pet owners who bring their pets into the GCHS Spay and Neuter Clinic to win some big savings by drawing your price. Not only will the pet owner have potential to earn big savings on February 28, but they will know they are supporting the initiative of controlling animal overpopulation.

Overpopulation is a problem in the United States, with nearly three million cats and dogs being euthanized in shelters per year, according to the Humane Society of the United States. That equals to one homeless pet being euthanized every 12 seconds.

Although it's impossible to determine how many

stray dogs and cats there are in the U.S., cats on average produce two litters each year, with four to six per litter. For dogs, a fertile female will have one litter per year with four to six per litter.

Of the animals which are brought to shelters, only 10-percent have been spayed or neutered.

"It's in our mission statement to educate about the importance of spaying and neutering," added Galloway. "Spaying and neutering your pet is the best way to control animal population, as well as giving them a healthier and happier life."

The GCHS Spay and Neuter Clinic has performed 5,233 spay and neutering surgeries since it opened on August 25, 2015. That is literally tens of thousands of pets' lives saved, due to controlling the pet population.

Several other top reasons to spay or neuter your pet include:

- Avoiding the "dreaded" heat: Female felines go into heat for up to four to five days every three weeks during breeding season. They will yowl and urinate more frequently, while female dogs will discharge blood. Spaying will end these symptoms.

- Better behavior: Many aggression problems by male cats and dogs can be lessened if they are neutered, as well as roaming problems can be cut down.

- Your pet will not gain weight after being spayed/neutered: The lack of exercise and over-feeding is the cause of overweight pets, not spaying or neutering.

- Fighting pet overpopulation: Millions of unwanted cats and dogs are euthanized annually, or suffer as strays. Gulf Coast Humane Society is dedicated to provide a non-lethal solution to the problem of shelter pet overpopulation.

For more information about the GCHS Spay and Neuter Clinic and to set an appointment for your pet, call 332-1573 or visit www.gulfcoasthumanesociety.org.



Top 10 Real Estate Sales

Subdivision	City	Year Built	Square Footage	Listing Price	Selling Price	Days On Market
Sorrento	Miromar Lakes	2016	5,403	\$3,999,900	\$3,700,000	336
Fa Lanes Bayview	Captiva	2011	4,200	\$2,695,000	\$2,250,000	173
Shell Harbor	Sanibel	1974	2,250	\$1,595,000	\$1,600,000	29
Oakbrook	Estero	2005	4,064	\$1,550,000	\$1,450,000	19
West Cape Estates	Cape Coral	2007	4,917	\$1,300,969	\$1,200,000	21
Sanibel Isles	Sanibel	1984	2,198	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000	13
Catalpa Cove	Fort Myers	2000	3,396	\$869,900	\$765,000	612
Bonita Lakes	Bonita Springs	2013	3,122	\$775,000	\$750,000	48
Cape Coral	Cape Coral	2001	2,744	\$749,900	\$705,000	192
Briarcliff	Fort Myers	2005	3,256	\$695,000	\$665,000	152



Gulf Views from Every Window
Nutmeg Village penthouse with bright updated open kitchen. Residential community with great amenities. \$774,000



East-End Right on the Beach
Large Beachcomber condo. Covered parking & storeroom below. Only six units in building. Pool & tennis. \$1,495,000



Investor's Delight, This View
Beach-front Casa Ybel Resort condo. Nightly rentals in guaranteed-income program. Resort handles it all. \$674,000



Residential Condo Community
Bayview 3 bedroom, Lighthouse Point #129. Easy-living walk-out, 29 steps to beach, handy to pool & tennis. \$574,000



Grossing ~\$60K/Yr in Rental Income
Top-floor 2 bedroom at Loggerhead Cay. New kitchen & fully equipped, with years of rental history. Bookings too. \$598,300



This View at Pointe Santo
3rd floor with beachy island-style décor. Excellent income, as much as \$45K/yr, with \$31+K already on 2017 books. \$599,000



Gulf View at Sand Pointe
West Gulf Drive 2nd floor 2 bedroom with rental income. Complex balconies were restored & rescreened in 2016. \$724,000



Mid-Island Convenience
Residential lot in Sanibel Center, one block north of Periwinkle. Handy to shopping, bike path, causeway, bay/beach. \$199,000



Build in Gumbo Limbo
Wide Peaceful Dr parcel with sunny backyard facing preserved land. Plenty of room for pool home with privacy. \$274,000



Decorator Furnished in Seagull Estates
3 bedroom plus office or 4th bedroom. Borders conservation land & handy to beach access/amenities. \$1,099,000



Near Beach in Little Lake Murex
3+bedroom piling home with pool, spa, & elevator, plus new kitchen, windows, HVAC, pool heater, & more. \$899,000



Lakefront Privacy
4-bedroom pool home on cul-de-sac. Has great room with fireplace, family room, 5th bedroom or office. Elevator too. \$799,000

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More info at SanibelSusan.com

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